Meeting Notes – Aug. 2, 2022 –

The LaFayette Rotary Club met on Tuesday, August 2, 2022. Stanley Tucker brought a first-time guest with him, Steven Dobbs, a member of LaFayette Heights Baptist Church and a co-worker at Farmer's and Merchant's Bank. Steven spoke to us about his experiences with Camp ELBA (East Liberty Baptist Association). Camp ELBA is a day camp for students who have finished grades K through 6. It operates one week each summer, the last full week of June. It has a capacity of 75 students but could serve more if there were more volunteers. It is set up similar to a Vacation Bible School experience, except it is held entirely outdoors. The cost is kept low, $55.00 per student, and scholarships are available.

Steven first attended Camp ELBA at the age of eight. By age 13 he was helping at the camp. He is now the facilities manager. The Camp has a set activities schedule. On Mondays, the children do trails. Tuesday is canoe day. Wednesday is archery. Thursday is rifles. Friday is a short day and is water day. The children come back that evening with their families for Family Night. The theme for this year's camp was Making Waves for Jesus. Eight children made the decision to follow Christ. The camp does follow-up after the camp to pair up unchurched children with a local church and to communicate with pastors about any decisions made.

Dr. Butch Busby also gave an update on LaFayette's MainStreet project. There will be an important meeting this Thursday at 5:15 PM CST in the Fellowship Hall at First Baptist Church. This meeting will focus on the organizational structure of the project. Interested citizens are encouraged to attend, even if they have not been previously involved with the project.

An update was also given on Operation Wipeout, the initiative to reduce the occurrence of cervical cancer here in Chambers County. Cari Oliver from UAB Medical Center was able to give a brief overview to all employees of the Chambers County School System during their Institute this morning. Afterward, she was able to meet with the school nurses to begin a discussion of how they and the school system can be involved in the initiative.

Diane Sherriff