Christian Church

~~CONNECTIONS~~

Volume 155 Issue 1

April, 2019

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

I just heard about this guy who had achieved these marvelous things in his chosen field, perhaps ranking him first in the entire world. He's a rock-climber. He can climb up the sheer face of a mountain of rock, 1000's of feet up, with no ropes or aids of any kind. I decided to check him out on Wikipedia, and, sure enough, the guy is incredibly accomplished, going up peaks no one else has ever climbed. But what struck me most about him was the fact that he is self-identified as a "militant atheist." Now, what does that mean? I suppose it could mean different things. Maybe it is a proper noun, and there is a group of "Militant Atheists"? Maybe it is used as a put-down by believers, given to someone who simply likes to speak out about his views? Maybe it describes someone who is angry, hostile in his views, and wants to push them upon others? I don't know. At the least it seems to infer the guy is not timid or bashful in what he believes! A "militant atheist." Hmm. I wanted to ask him, "So, you believe not only that 'something came from nothing', but also you are fired up about it too?"

How'd he get to that position, that there is no God? Did a believer break his heart by mistreating him? Could happen, we believers can do some pretty rotten things. I read that Billy Graham himself, when asked how good of a person he was on a 1-10 scale, said, "With all the sin in my life, I think I would probably be a 2 or a 3." I don't know why this guy doesn't believe.

But I would be surprised if he became an atheist, militant or otherwise, because he studied the evidence for Jesus' Resurrection and concluded: "Didn't happen." The evidence is surprisingly strong for those who will give it a chance. There are multiple eyewitness accounts in the Scriptures, up to 500 people seeing Jesus alive again at one time; there are the changed lives of the disciples who go from not expecting a resurrection to being willing martyrs after seeing Him; there is the existence of the church formed on the basis of a Living Savior, and so forth.

Years ago a journalist named Frank Morison was an unbeliever (I don't know if he was "militant" or not) and set out to write a book debunking the Jesus-thing. He studied and prepared...and discovered that, much to his surprise, that he thought it was true! He wrote another book, stating the truth of Christ's Resurrection! It is called *Who Moved the Stone*, and it has influenced a great many people throughout the years. I wonder if the rock-climbing guy ever asked himself that question, *Who DID Move the Stone*? Not the Romans, a death-penalty awaited them! Not the Jews, the Romans were stronger than they! Not the disciples, they thought He was dead! Who, then? I hope that the guy my son spoke of, world-renowned for his ability to climb rocks, will think of this stone and reconsider!

I'm sure it is a thrill to climb a rock-mountain (he has climbed *El Capitan* in Yosemite, look that up!), but the greatest thrill is to know that no stone could hold our Savior in, and the life He lives now is our hope and assurance of everlasting life ourselves!

It's time for Easter. I pray for new life for you and your family, and for me and mine, and for all of those who have yet to believe! Tell someone Jesus is alive, and bring them with you Sunday—I'll plan to see you there—

Tony

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Please email articles to *Office@LilburnChristianChurch.org* by the **23rd of each month!!**

C	SERMON SERIES Message Series for 2019: "I Know This is True" continues				
	April Messages				
	April 7:	"A Crown of Thorns", Matthew 27:27-31		Wednesday APRIL	
	April 14:	"Blessings", Choir and Orchestra program		3	Pizza
	April 21:	"Afraid of a Dead Man", Mark 16:1-8		10 17	Vegetable Beef Sub Sandwiche
-	April 28:	"Stay Until You Get the Power", Luke 24:36-53	24	24	
		1		10000	

Menu

Soup

es



Please remember Lilburn Christian Church collects food and other non -perishable items such as shampoo, toilet paper, etc. each week to help those in need. As you're shopping each week, purchase a few items to help those in need! There's a shopping cart set up in the lobby where you can place those items each week.

Their mission:

- Glorify God and demonstrate Christ's love to others as a Christian co-operative ministry.
- Utilize community resources to minister to the material and spiritual needs of those in crisis.
- -Preserve the client's dignity, encouraging self-responsibility and spiritual growth.

Remember the Co-op not only helps with food items, they have other services which include, emergency funds, clothing, referrals, employment assistance, follow up and much more!! The Co-op is also sponsoring a Golf Tournament to benefit the Lilburn Co-op on Saturday July 28th at the Stone Mountain Golf Club, Lakemont Course if you're interested in helping this way. Please visit our website for more information and ways you can help this wonderful ministry at lilburnchristianchurch.org.

LCC Music Ministry



STUDENT MINSTRY

March was certainly an exciting month! It doesn't seem to stop once the calendar flips to April! In Sunday School, we completed our study on the life of Moses and began a new one examining what scripture is and why we can trust it! On Wednesdays, we've introduced a new series about Jesus' Sermon on the Mount entitled AND THE MOUNTAIN *CRUMBLED.* In Matthew 5-7, Jesus deconstructs many things his audience had heard growing up in order to reveal to them a new way to live. Encourage your students to join us for these studies! And encourage them to follow along with the church's daily Bible reading plan, as we discuss it in small groups each Wednesday. In April, the youth group has events such as Wendy's Wednesday on the 10th and an overnight, service-oriented retreat at North Georgia Christian Camp on the 26th-27. This event was not included on the events calendar distributed in January. The camp has provided details below. Our group will plan to leave the church on 6pm that Friday. If you need help with the cost, which covers room/food/retreat, let me know. (Speaking of camp, this year, the earlier you pay, the less expensive it is: March (\$195), April (\$205), May (215), June/July (\$225). I'll be taking rising 6th-8th graders to Teener 1 (June 9-14) and rising 9th-12th graders to Senior 2 (June 30-July 5). For more info about North Georgia Christian Camp, visit its website at www.christiancamp.net.) I also urge you to participate in our church-wide events, such as the Easter Program on the 14th and the Disciples Service on the 18th. I'm here for you and your family! Keep me updated on activities your students are involved in! - Josh

AND THE MOUNTAIN WEEKEND OF BONDING, LEARNING, & SERVING TOGETHER. A WEEKEND OF BONDING, LEARNING, A SER ING FOGETH FRIDAY, APRIL 26TH, 7 PM - SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH, 7 PM... FOR MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOLERS! // BRING WORK CLOTHES T: \$20 FAMILIES, AND CHURCHES WELCOME FOR OUR WORKDAY POWER EQUIPMENT, CHAINSAWS, ETC. ATURDAY! BRING TOOLS WEDNESDAY The next Wendy's Wednesday for the 6th-12th graders is April 10th. Following an abbreviated lesson, our adult sponsors will transport our students to Wendy's at 7:30. They can be picked up at Wendy's before 8:25 or at the church after 8:30.



Children's Ministry of Lilburn Christian Church

Recap:

We had a great time at our 2nd Annual Heaven on Earth Retreat. It was a day filled with fun, faith, fellowship and food! Our focus, this year was, "Thy Kingdom Come". Kids learned that God is the king of kings and that in His Kingdom if you want to be great you must be a servant to all. They also learned about the differences between Earthly Kingdoms and God's Heavenly Kingdom and thought about which kingdom we want to belong. We had 44 kids and 20 volunteers in attendance. Of those, 14 were from Albany Christian Church, who, thanks to the sponsors, who were able to come free of charge! Thank you to Pam, Rob, Tim, and Jeff for decorating, to all who came and served in the kitchen and as chaperones, Deana for running AV/tech and for cleaning up, Doug Grimm for making and donating the t-shirts (a wonderful surprise and blessing), the parents for bringing your children, and all the sponsors. It's my favorite event, and it wouldn't be possible without all of you and the prayers of so many!!!!



April 20th (10AM-noon): Easter Egg Event. We began collecting candy and Easter eggs in the Month of March. Be on the lookout for emails with more details!

Save the Dates: June 2nd-6th: Vacation bible school





Sundays:

The toddler/preK class is finishing up a series where they learned that there is no greater hero than Jesus. The memory verse for April 7th is Psalm 89:13 (NIRV), *"Your arm is powerful. Your hand is strong. Your right hand is mighty.* Next, they will begin an Easter series, learning about how Jesus came to save us. The memory verse for this set of lessons is *"Jesus Christ has rescued us."* **Galatians 3:13.**

The K/1st grade class will examine what it looks like to have victory over trials and temptations. Looking at pop culture heroes and others through the lens of faith, kids learn Jesus turned the definition of hero upside-down. For this series, they will get a memory verse each week.

Wednesdays:

All classes are continuing through our Believe Study. This month, we will be studying the following topics: Faithfulness, Easter, Gentleness, and Humility. They get a memory verse every week, which can be found on the Parent Take Home Sheet, and it will also be good for them to memorize Galatians 5:22-23.





A wonderful time was had by all that attended our Ladies Mystery Fun Day on Sat., March 16. We had 42 ladies that gathered in the FLC for a devotion and then headed for a day of fun and fellowship. We had a delicious lunch at the Magnolia Café in Tucker. We then went to Custom Crafts By You, also in Tucker, where we chose from four different designs to stencil onto a piece of wood. There was a lot of hammering going on to distress the wood before stenciling. Everyone made a home décor piece to take home.

If you are interested in the Women's Ministries, or even if you're just curious, call:

Lynn Akins Pat Ferguson Betty Hubbard Cathy Wade 770-923-6413 770-466-5212 678-446-7926 404-867-6102 Kandy Davidson Dixie Grimm Pam Morgan

404-697-7367 404-932-5990 404-697-4293

Attention All Ladies (or anyone interested in a fun craft project)

You are invited to a 'Christmas in July' event.



We are really excited to announce our date for 'Christmas in July'!!

Several ladies from LCC learned how to make No-Sew Folded Fabric Ornaments a few years ago, and we want to share this process with you on <u>Saturday</u>, July 20th from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm in the Family Life <u>Center.</u>

If you have not purchased your material, there is still plenty of time. We wanted to give you <u>advanced notice</u> so you can shop for fabrics you would like to use. You can watch for coupons and sales or go to Fabric World in Snellville.

These no-sew Folded Fabric Ornaments are really easy to make and do not have to be Christmas colors or fabric. Think fall colors, beach colors, your favorite sports team colors, pastels for Spring/Easter or patriotic (red, white and blue)...

By publishing this event for the past several months, we have given you time to plan ahead and find some amazing fabric. You still have time to find great fabric for the **next 4 months.** We just passed a few fun and colorful holidays (Valentine's Day & St. Patrick's Day) and still have some of your favorite holidays coming up (Easter, Fourth of July...)

Materials (per ornament – in case you want to make more than one):

- Polystyrene/Styrofoam ball (7 inch circumference, approx. 3 inch in height)
- •3 or 4 coordinated fabrics dark, medium, and light hues work well
 - Select cotton blends
 - ¼ yard of each color or you can buy fat quarters
 - Small prints work best (although solid colors work, too)
- Dressmaker pins (these have small, flat heads available at Walmart)
- •Ribbon (½ inch width)
- •Note: if you would rather use a strip of material to finish off your ornament instead of ribbon, you will need a strip of material approximately 3 inches by 10 inches.

If you want to cut your fabric in advance, you are welcome to do that.

- •They are 3 inch squares
- •You will need 8 of one color/fabric
- You will need 16 each of your other colors/fabric

If you do not want to cut your fabric in advance (or need help doing it), we will have all of the other supplies you will need to cut your fabric that day (rotary cutter, straight edge, scissors, etc..)

If this is the first time you have seen this article and want to use Christmas material, let us know. I'm sure others have fabric they are willing to share!

Any questions: contact Rosie Bengtson or Pam Straughan.



Bob Collier Jim Gurr Jamila Coleman Jasmine Coleman Russ Burchfield Barbara Johnson Donna Anderson Diane Shelton Betty Hubbard Sandra Amrhein Gensie McDonald Sandra Denton Augustus & Mary Lakpor Teresa Herring Scott Phillips Jason Newman Marcia Heinz Glenda Middleton Wayne Starling Trish Elkins Robert Humphrey Norah Nguyen

If any of these listed on our prayer list need to be taken off, please contact the church office. We appreciate your help.

<u>Marcia Heinz</u>- prayer beeper number is 770-929-5114.

Here is the message you will hear -

Hello, you have reached the prayer beeper for Marcia Heinz. She is going to Hyperbaric Oxygen Treatments for several weeks to aid in the healing process after her surgery. Please pray for complete healing and for lifted spirits. This has been a long process for her and her family. Please press 1 and the # sign. Your prayer beep will be sent to her. Thank you.



Prayer Beepers - Did you know that LCC has several 'prayer beepers'? When requested, we assign one of the beeper numbers to an LCC member who is ill or needs prayer for a specific reason or time period. Basically, after assignment, we notify the congregation via e-mail with the name, beeper number and prayer request. When you pray for that person, you call the beeper number and it signals them. That way, they know someone just prayed for them. If you would like to receive a prayer beeper or just want more information about them, please contact Paul Bengtson. Many people who have used a prayer beeper in the past found great comfort and encouragement from them (even when they go off in the middle of the night!). Currently, we have three prayer beepers out.

<u>Gensie McDonald</u> – prayer beeper number is 770-929-5130.

Here is the message you will hear – Hello, you have reached the prayer beeper for Gensie McDonald. She is recovering nicely from her recent surgery. She also received wonderful news that she currently has no sign of cancer. However, she will continue chemo-therapy as a precaution. Please continue to pray for complete healing. Thank you for your prayers on Gensie's behalf. Please press 1 and the # sign. Your prayer beep will be sent

<u>Jamila Coleman</u> - prayer beeper number is 770-929-5157.

Here is the message you will hear –

to her. Thank you.

Hello, you have reached the prayer beeper for Jamila Coleman. Her current prayer request is for improved muscle strength and endurance as she continues physical therapy in a rehab facility in Marietta. She has made great improvement in the last month. Thank you for your prayers on Jamila's behalf. Please press 1 and the # sign. Your prayer beep will be sent to her. Thank you.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April

- 7 No Spanish Breakfast
- 10 LifeLine Screening
- 10 Grief Group Meeting at 6:30 pm
- 14 Palm Sunday, CTO Easter Program
- 18 Disciples Service at 7:00 pm
- 20 Easter Egg Event
- 21 Easter Breakfast; No Sunday School; Directory Photo Shoot
- 24 Grief Group Meeting at 7:30 pm
- 26 Gwinnett College Graduation
- 28 Directory Photo Shoot

Every Week

Sunday:

9:30 am Sunday School Classes, Bell Choir Practice 10:15 am Coffee & Fellowship 10:45 am Worship Service Monday: 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study **Tuesday:** 9:45 am Ladies Bible Study Wednesday: KUC, Youth, Choir, Tech & 6:30 pm Orchestra 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study

May

- 02 Berkmar Graduation
- 04 Youth Laser Tag; VBS Prep Day
- 5 Spanish Breakfast; Classic Sunday Night at 5:00 pm
- 8 Wendy's Wednesday; Grief Group
- 11 VBS Prep Day
- 12 Mother's Day
- 18 VBS Prep Day
- 19 Youth Senior Night
- 22 Grief Group
- 25 VBS Prep Day
- 27 Memorial Day

Wednesday Night Activities

We encourage you and your family to join us on Wednesday evenings for our meal and then activities for all the family. Here's the way our schedule looks:

- 5:45 pm Meal
 - (Adults \$3, Children \$2, Family \$11)
- 6:30 pm Children and Youth Activities
- 6:30 pm Choir and Orchestra Rehearsal
- 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study

Wednesday Night Adult Electives

We encourage everyone to join us on Wednesday nights! The musically inclined have Choir and Orchestra rehearsal each week at 6:30 pm. Children and teens have activities and Bible studies for them each week also beginning at 6:30 pm. And everyone has a meal beginning at 5:45 pm! Now, for adults, we offer 3 Electives at 7pm to choose from:

1) "Unique, Unknown, and Udderly Interesting Stories of the Bible"—this Bible study is in the FLC and is taught by a Cast of Characters

2) "Happiness", a Bible study led by Tony Dyer meets in the Open Circle room in the Sanctuary. This study will meet all the way through the month of March.

3) An "Open" Grief Recovery support group meets on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays and began 3/17/19 in the Ladies classroom, also in the Sanctuary. This group is called "Open" because it truly is open for you to come and be a part of it without long-term commitment. It is available for anyone who is experiencing grief and is led by Deana Porter.

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