

~~CONNECTIONS~~

Volume 152 Issue 1

January, 2019

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

What to preach? Ahh, this is the minister's conundrum! Of course, the Bible is loaded with material. But that's part of the issue! Which part of the Scriptures this week? Old Testament? New? A Chapter? A story? A character? A life-issue? I like to preach different series during the course of the year. "How to Have a Happy Marriage." "The Book of James." During the recent Christmas season we had a series, "My Gifts to Jesus", where we looked at certain characters who gave Jesus gifts and asked ourselves whether we couldn't give gifts to Him like they did.

What about 2019? What if...we went through the whole Bible in a year? What if we literally covered the entirety of the Scriptures in one calendar year? Of course, you couldn't cover *everything*. But one could hit the high points. One could give the people the flavor of the whole Bible and increase their understanding of the various parts of what God has given us in His Word...

Yes, let's do that! We will, Lord willing, do just that! We'll call the series, "I *Know* This is True: Thru God's Word in '19." We'll divide the Scriptures into sections, and each time we get to a new section, we will have available info sheets giving specifics of what this part of God's Word is covering. We'll also make available cards with an everyday reading plan of that particular portion of the Bible, and we'll read through the whole thing (as we encourage each year) together. Here's how we'll plan to "divide and conquer" with this ambitious idea:

January-April: the 4 Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John)

May: the book of Acts

June-August: the Old Testament (We'll cover the 13

Greatest OT Heroes)

September-November: the Epistles (Romans,

Corinthians, the letters of John and Peter, etc.)

December: the book of Revelation

Buckle up! I encourage you to be ready to read through the whole Word of God with us during 2019. We'll have the 1st reading card, the Gospels, for you on January 6. Pray for me and Josh (he will be preaching these messages, too) as we prepare these important sermons.

John 21:24 says, "This is the disciple who testifies to these things and who wrote them down. We know that his testimony is true." How do you know anything is true? John said his testimony could be relied upon and accepted. Our goal during this series will not be simply or merely to communicate Bible information (nothing wrong with that, by the way), but to present testimony that you can believe, material which can change your life! Wouldn't it be something if you could say about the Bible: "I *Know* this is true"? Lord, help us to be able to say that, and mean it!

God bless you and your family with a happy and joyful and Spirit-filled 2019! I love you all—

Tony

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

SERMON SERIES

Message Series for 2019: "I *Know* This is True Thru God's Word in '19"

Jan. 6: "I Know This Is True", Luke 1:1-4; John 20:30-31; 21:24-25

Jan 13: "Like Us", John 1:14

Jan 20: "An Irresistible Call",

Matthew 4:18-22

Jan 27: "As One Who Had Authority", Mark 1:21-28

Wednesday Menu

- 2 No Meal
- 9 Tacos
- 16 Chicken Pot Pie
- 23 Vegetable Beef Soup
- 30 Spaghetti





Please remember and pray for those in India who accept Christ. Many of them are being persecuted as well as having their own family's turn against them. In one case "Brother Gaj" has his own father join with extremists and charged the mission's evangelist for converting Gaj to a Christian. The father along with the extremists attacked his own son's house, beat him badly and stabbed him in the stomach. Because of the faith of Gaj, and the impact this had on his father, he ended up accepting Christ as his Savior. We forget sometimes because of our freedoms to worship that many are still being persecuted for their faith. Visit midindia.org for more examples of persecution and ways that you can get involved in this ministry.







This truly was "A Christmas to Remember".





Here are a few pics from our Christmas Party, which FORTY PEOPLE ATTENDED!!! We had a laugh-filled evening eating food, playing games, and stealing Christmas gifts from one another! Thanks to Pam Straughan and Eric West, who picked up kids in the church van, as well as to Sara Martin, Sophe Goodwin, Mariah Ammons, Heather Fox and Sharon Osuna for helping with the delicious food! On Sunday mornings, our middle and high school classes are continuing through Moses' story. On Wednesday nights, we've finished our series BLOCKBUSTER STORIES. Remember, we are not meeting on December 26th or January 2nd, but when we resume on the 9th, our new study will be about the church (AN UNSTOPPABLE FORCE). Below, you'll find our upcoming events! They include an opportunity for you to learn what 2019 holds for your students by joining us for a free lunch after church on January 13th! I'll provide a list of dates for the year's events (and their costs), as well as the goals I have for our student ministry! If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at josh@lilburnchristianchurch.org or at 706-499-9773. Please know that I'm here for you and your family. Also, if your students are involved in extracurricular activities, I'd love to support them. Send me schedules for their concerts, basketball games, swim meets, etc. Thanks! Looking forward to what this upcoming month has in store for us! - Josh



Saturday, January 12th Meet at the church @ 2:00 pm Bring \$ to eat in the food court

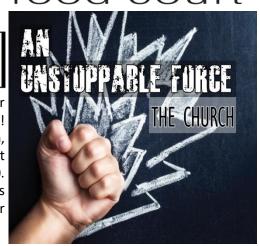
PARENT & CHILDREN LUNCHEON

Sunday, January 13th @ 12 pm Family Life Center For all kids through 12th grade & their parents

DISCOVER WHAT 2019 HAS IN STORE!



The next Wendy's Wednesday for the 6th-12th graders is January 9th! 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.





We had an amazing year in 2018! Here is highlight of some of the big events and happenings:

For Heaven on Earth we had 34 second to 6th graders attend this all day event where we learned what heaven is like, how we bring heaven to earth and what walking in the spirit is like! We worshipped a lot, played a bunch of fun games, ate a bunch of good food and really got to know each other better!

At Vacation Bible School, we had 113 kids learn and hear how God Rescues! My favorite part about Vacation Bible School is watching our church come together to love the children in our church and the community! And even though we are exhausted by the end of the week, I always feel energized by how lucky and thankful I feel to be a part of this church!

In July, Jeff and I took a van load of kids to North Georgia Christian Camp. In total, we had 17 people in our entourage! Two adults, 2 teens, and 13 third to sixth graders!! Camp is such an amazing experience for our children! I truly believe camp is an unforgettable experience for the kids. I love watching them experience so many new things...for some it is was their first time away from home, their first time sleeping on bunk beds, their first time canoeing, climbing rock walls, shooting a bow and arrow, first time playing kick ball, etc., etc. But most of all I love getting to spend the week, and not just the usual 4 hours a week, showing and teaching the loving of Christ to the children!

In October, Jeff and I took a group of 13 fourth and fifth graders to a CIY conference called SuperStart. We also had a lock-in at the church and were joined by a group from Albany Christian Church. We had a blast sleeping at the church (although I am not sure much sleep was had) and spending time together and with our friends from ACC.

On Sundays the Wee Worship class (k/1st grade), dove into the old testament, starting with Creation last January. By the end of the year, we were finishing up Kings and Chronicles. In the New Year, we will review the Major Prophets and special people in Hebrew History and then move on to the New Testament. Our Toddlers have learned a range of things from Creation, to obedience, to being a child of God. The upper elementary class started 2018 learning about the 10 commandants, followed by many lessons in obedience, specifically how obedience brings blessing, suffering, and holiness.

On Wednesdays, all classes have focused on what Christians believe and how we should act and how we become like Jesus.

Watching the kids grow closer to God and to each other is the greatest blessing of being a children's minister. I am very thankful for this opportunity and thankful for all the support! We have over 65 volunteers that help in the KUC on a regular basis. They are most definitely needed and appreciated! Thank you to everyone who supports the children's ministry, including the parents who are dedicated to bringing their children and encouraging them to be a part of the body of Christ, even at a young age. I pray that the children, their parents, and all of our church will be bright light to our community and those around us. I pray in the next year we continue to love the Lord with all our hearts, minds, souls and strength, and secondly that we love each! I look forward to seeing God move in our lives in 2019!



Parents, please join us on January 13th after church to hear about all the things we have planned for the new year! Lunch will be served. Don't miss it!

Love and Blessings to all!



On the evening of December 13, 2018 the Sisters of Grace Women's Ministry Leadership Team hosted the Annual Ladies Christmas Party in the Family Life Center following a meal of Chicken Breast Magnific, Browned Rice, English Peas, Oranged Carrots, Hot Rolls and assorted cookies and mini cheesecake squares. The ladies shared their favorite Christmas memories with the guests around the table. The best memories were then shared with the entire group of 60 ladies. Door prizes of decorative candles were distributed to the winners in a drawing. An inspirational candlelight devotional on the birth of Jesus closed out the evening. \$1,075 in gift cards were given by the guests for Lilburn Co-Op's use for Christmas gifts for those in need so they can have a Merry Christmas.





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

Lynn Akins	770-923-6413	Kandy Davidson	404-697-7367
Pat Ferguson	770-466-5212	Dixie Grimm	404-932-5990
Betty Hubbard	678-446-7926	Pam Morgan	404-697-4293
Cathy Wade	404-867-6102	_	

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

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

Hopefully, you took the opportunity to buy some great material in the last few months since we first announced our 'Christmas in July' Folded Fabric Christmas Ornament no-sew craft project!!





Joann's Fabrics had some great sales and coupons during the month of November. Plus, holiday fabric will be on clearance before you know it!!

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.

It does not have to be Christmas prints, at all. Think fall colors, your favorite sports team colors, pastels for Spring/Easter or patriotic (red, white and blue)
By planning ahead, you can find appropriate fabric for the **next 7months**, including all of your favorite seasons and holidays. (Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Easter, Fourth of July....)

We are trying to narrow down a date in July of 2019. We will let you know once a date has been approved on the church calendar. Several ladies from LCC learned how to make these a couple of years ago and we look forward to teaching **you** how to make them!!

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

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

1/4 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)

Any questions: contact Rosie Bengtson or Pam Straughan



Geraldine Coleman
Bob Collier
Jim Gurr
Jamila Coleman
Russ Burchfield
Barbara Johnson
Donna Anderson
Diane Shelton
Betty Hubbard
Sandra Amrhein
Gensie McDonald

Sandra Denton
Augustus & Mary
Lakpor
Teresa Herring
Scott Phillips
Pam Morgan
Jason Newma
Eddie Ballew
Marcia Heinz
Linda Proctor
Glenda Middleton
Wayne Starling

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





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 two 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 has been diagnosed with bone cancer in her lower back. The doctor is pleased with the treatment she has undergone so far. 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 to her. Thank you.

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

Here is the message you will hear — Hello, you have reached the prayer beeper for Jamila Coleman. She is scheduled for surgery on October 9th. Please pray for peace and comfort in mind and body. Also, pray for God's perfect plan to be accomplished in her life. 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

January

- 1 New Year's Day
- 2 No Wednesday Night Activities
- 4 Small Group begins at the McAlister's home
- 12 "Understanding Islam" in Chapel
- 13 Parent/Child Luncheon in FLC at Noon.
- 21 Martin Luther King Jr. Day

February

- 6 Grief Group in Ladies Classroom 6:30 8:30 pm
- 13 Grief Group in Ladies Classroom 6:30 8:30 pm
- 18 President's Day Holiday
- 20 Grief Group in Ladies Classroom 6:30 8:30 pm
- 27 Grief Group in Ladies Classroom 6:30 8:30 pm

Every Week

Sunday:

9:30 am Sunday School Classes 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:

6:30 pm KUC, Youth, Choir, Tech &

Orchestra

7:00 pm Adult Bible Study

Wednesday Night Activities

We encourage you and your family to join us on Wednesday evenings as our meal and then activities for all the family resume on Aug 1! 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

Read Through the Bible With Us in 2019!

We encourage everyone to read through God's Word every year, but we are going to offer a different approach in 2019. We will be reading through sections of Scripture together was we go through the year. For instance, we will plan to read through the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) during January-April. Cards with a reading plan will be available for you to begin this with us on January 6.



Lilburn Christian Church

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"LCC: Where Cultures Meet Christ"

