

Easter doesn't always come in April, but it does most of the time, and it's enough to cause us to think when April rolls around: "Easter is here!" Easter isn't just the biggest date on the Christian calendar. It's everything, more than all the other dates of seeming importance rolled into one. It's huge, gigantic.

The New Testament writers locked themselves in on Easter. They went all in. They doubled down. They said, in effect, "Without a Resurrection, we've got nothing. We'll just quit and go home." They said, "you ought to feel sorry for us if it didn't happen." They said, "We're putting everything we have on this. We'll die before we renounce it." As Paul wrote, "If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith." (1 Cor 15:13-14) More, he says, "If all we get out of Christ is a little inspiration for a few short years, we're a pretty sorry lot. But the truth is that Christ has been raised up, the first in a long legacy of those who are going to leave the cemeteries." (1 Cor 15:19, The Message)

Many of us have been hearing about Jesus' Resurrection for years and years, for all of our lives. We've believed it, too. But I wonder if it makes as big a difference in our daily lives as our Lord wants it to? I read about an old British preacher named R.W. Dale who, over a century ago, was writing his Easter sermon, when, all of a sudden, the fact of the Resurrection broke in on him as it never had before! "'Christ is alive, 'I said to myself, 'Alive!', and then I paused—'alive!', and then I paused again, 'Alive!' Can that really be true? Living as really as I myself am? I got up and walked about repeating, 'Christ is living! Christ is living!' At first it seemed strange and hardly true, but at last it came upon me as a sudden burst of glory."

May that "Sudden burst of glory" come to all of us this Easter! May the power and reality of the Risen Christ enter our hearts and drive away our doubts and our fears, send running off into the night all of our worries and anxieties, the awful things scampering away never to return! He's Alive! It really is true! Alive! As real as I am! And now life will never be the same, and it will never end!

God bless you and your family during this Easter Season-

Tony

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

SERMON SERIES

Sermon Series: "7 Words from the Cross from Jesus to You", continues:

April Messages

Apr 2: "You and I Are Safe With Him", Luke 23:46, Tony preaching

Apr 9: Resurrection Sunday, Peter preaching

"God's Letters To Us" Apr 16: "Turn Back!", Rev 2:1-7

Apr 23: "Realize You're Rich!", Rev 2:8-11

Apr 30: "Stand Strong!", Rev 2:12-17

Wednesday Menu

APRIL

- 5 Pizza & Salad
- **12 Roast Pork**
- 19 Sub Sandwiches
- 26 Tacos

FYA (Families and Young Adults)

Peter will be teaching Sunday School for this group beginning May 7.

Disciple's Service April 6 at 7 pm

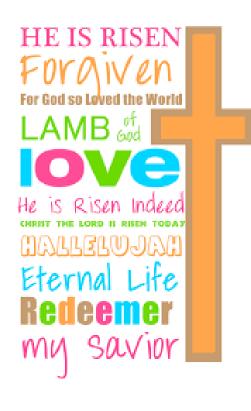
Join us at 7 pm on Thursday April 6 as we gather for a special service of prayer, the Lord's Supper, singing, and reflection on Jesus going to the Cross.

Easter Breakfast at 9 am

We plan to gather for breakfast on Easter morning at 9 am! You and your family are invited. We will not be having Sunday School on Easter, but will go straight from the Breakfast to Worship.

Resurrection Celebration on April 9 at 10:30 am!

We plan to start worship 15 minutes earlier on Easter in order to have time for special music and praise! Plan to share this Triumphant service with us!



Missions Spotlight











We have a new mission that we support:

A World Aware is located in Africa. Their Mission is to educate, empower, and encourage people from historically disadvantaged & impoverished communities, primarily in South Africa's Limpopo and Gauteng provinces. They work with teachers, schools, families, and other strategic partners to serve crèche-level (preschool or daycare) children. AWA is a volunteer-driven organization founded by Michael and Lois Calamia. Since its start in 2005, AWA has impacted thousands of people in South Africa by generating lasting, positive change.

Their Story-

When founders Michael and Lois Calamia visited South Africa in 2003, they were shocked at the conditions children were being raised in. They immediately began searching for ways to improve these children's lives. Soon, they were working with the community, crèches, schools, and teachers to find solutions – and they never stopped. Since the nonprofit's founding in 2005, AWA has impacted thousands of people in South Africa by generating lasting, positive change. www.lilburnchristianchurch.org/missions Founders Michael an Lous Calamia





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This month has been a busy one for sure.

One of the things that I find most joyful and fulfilling is to have youth over to the house. It gives us a time to get to know them better and on a deeper level.

I find that when you get the kids away from the larger group setting, they are more likely to open up and be themselves.

Carrie and I love these kids as our own. We can't help it. They are the best!

In other news, I was blessed to have the help of Aalijah and Brandan with the replanting efforts by the fire pit.

We took up the old, dead bushes and planted some Sky Pencils. I could not have done it without them. Thank you both!!

Though all this fun stuff was amazing, nothing compares to seeing Mariah give her life to Christ. (See page 7)

She is a beautiful soul and her love and commitment to Christ has been encouraging.

Christ came to save the lost. She realized she was lost, and with ALL HER HEART, reached out to Jesus for the gift of salvation through His sacrifice on the Cross.

Keep her in your prayers as she strives to deepen her walk with Him!



God Speed.

Alex Aleman Youth Pastor







Recharged (Adult Singles)



Recharged (Single Adult Group) is going to <u>On Stage</u> <u>Walton</u> in Monroe to see the play 'Driving Miss Daisy" on Tuesday, May 2nd. If you are unfamiliar with the story: Daisy is an elderly Jewish widow determined to maintain her independence. After crashing her car, her son decides she needs a chauffeur, and hires an African American called Hoke. Their relationship gets off to a rocky start, but they gradually form a close friendship over the years that transcends racial prejudices and social conventions.

Date: Tuesday, May 2nd (Ten Dollar Tuesday). Total ticket cost is **\$11.50**.

The sign-up sheet will be in the foyer until Wednesday, April 5th.

Tickets go on sale April 7th. Rosie will order the tickets on-line that day.

We will meet somewhere in Loganville (To Be Determined) for dinner at 5:00 pm.

The theater doors open at 6:45 pm and the play starts at 7:30 pm.

Any questions: see Rosie Bengtson or Karen Throckmorton.







<u>Invitation</u> to all LCC adults Worship attendees, Sunday School classes, choir & orchestra, including adults that serve in children's or teen's area). "Recharged" (Singles Adult Group) is hosting a Cinco de Mayo Fiesta.

Please join us for a night of Mexican food, conversations and entertainment.

Date: Friday, May 5, 2023. Time: 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm.

Place: Family Life Center. Cost \$3.00 per person.

We will enjoy a taco bar, Mexican influenced dishes and desserts.

Mark your calendars, sign up in the foyer and line up your babysitter (as needed).

Sign-up sheet will be in the foyer from Sun, 4/16 thru Weds, 5/3.

Questions and Payment: See Karen Throckmorton or Rosie Bengtson.



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY 2 PETER 3:18





What a surprise awaited the 28 ladies who entered the Eco Friendly Craft Store in Lawrenceville on Saturday, March 25 for the Sisters of Grace Mystery Fun Day!

In the center of the showroom stood a pen containing Angora rabbits. After oooing and awing and picture taking, the group was ushered into the workroom where tables, stools, pottery greenware and paints waited them. Selections were made from a variety of pieces including mugs, trays, banks, flower pots, etc. Laughter and fellowship emerged as the ladies created "works of art".

A devotional was given by Lynn Akins followed by a Chick-fil-A box lunch.

The artwork will be on display in the church foyer on April 2. Take a look!





The Annual Gal's Get-Away will be held Sept. 29, 30 & Oct. 1 at Epworth by the Sea on St. Simon's Island. This facility is a Methodist Retreat Center which provides room with two Queen beds, a meeting room and six meals per person. Cost for the Get-Away **per person** will be:

\$240.00 for two people in one room \$220.00 for three people in one room \$210.00 for four people in one room

Registration will begin on June 4 with a **nonrefundable deposit of \$80.00**, which must be received by **July 9**. The **balance** must be paid by **August 20**. Please make your checks payable to the church but write "Gal's Get-Away on the memo line.



Teresa Herring Loetta Benton Linda Proctor Glenda Middleton Marcia Heinz Richard Walker Chris, Vicki & Josh Fontana Cecil & Catherine Hallman Rob Krakeel Sandy Dunbar Karlyn Miller Jesse Spindler Michael Rose Rasor Family





Matt & Lori Yearick 3/5/2023



Mariah Ammons was baptized by her grandfather, Jeff Stephens on Sunday, March 16, 2023. Mariah is active in the youth group at LCC. She is the daughter of Nichol Ammons and granddaughter of Jeff and Debbie Stephens.

The heavens rejoice!!!!



April

- 2 Palm Sunday Service
- 5 Wed. night meal
- 6 Disciples Service, 7:00 pm
- 9 Easter Sunday, Directory Photos Taken
- 16 Directory Photos Make-up Day
- 22 Parent Night Out, 4-9 pm

Bible Reading Plan

APRIL

- 1 Deut 5-6, Luke 6:6-26
- 2 Deut. 7-9, Luke 6:27-49
- 3 Deut. 10-11, Luke 7:1-23
- 4 Deut. 12-13, Luke 7:24-50
- 5 Deut. 14:1-16:8, Luke 8:1-21
- 6 Deut. 16:9-19:21, Luke 8:22-39
- 7 Deut. 20-22, Luke 8:40-9:11
- 8 Deut. 23-25, Luke 9:12-36
- 9 Deut. 26-27, Luke 9:37-62
- 10 Deut. 28, Luke 10:1-16
- 11 Deut. 29:1-31:8, Luke 10:17-37
- 12 Deut. 31:9-32:52, Luke 10:38-11:14
- 13 Deut. 33-34, Luke 11:15-36
- 14 Joshua 1-4, Luke 11:37-12:12
- 15 Joshua 5-7, Luke 12:13-34
- 16 Joshua 8-9, Luke 12:35-59
- 17 Joshua 10-11, Luke 13:1-17
- 18 Joshua 12-13, Luke 13:18-35
- 19 Joshua 14-15, Luke 14:1-24
- 20 Joshua 16-18, Luke 14:25-15:7
- 21 Joshua 19-20, Luke 15:8-32
- 22 Joshua 21-22, Luke 16:1-18
- 23 Joshua 23-24, Luke 16:19-17:10
- 24 Judges 1-2, Luke 17:11-37
- 25 Judges 3-4, Luke 18:1-17
- 26 Judges 5-6, Luke 18:18-43
- 27 Judges 7-8, Luke 19:1-27
- 28 Judges 9-10, Luke 19:28-48
- 29 Judges 11-12, Luke 20:1-18
- 30 Judges 13-15, Luke 20:19-38



- 14 Mother's Day
- 23 Primary Elections
- 29 Memorial Day Holiday
- 31 No Wednesday Meal

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May all your prayers be answered and may you feel the Lord's presence near you... not only for Easter, but always.

Happy Easter!