

## ~~CONNECTIONS~~

Volume 209 Issue 1

October, 2023

## **MINISTER'S MESSAGE**

Church Family,

Creak! One of the most annoying sounds is a creaky door. The only worse sound I can think of is fingernails down a chalkboard. Remember those days when a schoolteacher would be erasing the chalkboard and accidentally scratch her nails down it? Yikes! Or what about scraping a fork on a plate?

Another personally annoying sound is my dog dreaming in the middle of the night. She sleeps in our bedroom, and she frequently dreams and begins to make fussing and whining noises, waking us up. Frequently, we can't get her to wake up so she will be quiet. Sometimes, I wish I had a hacky sack to throw at her (gently, of course) to wake her up so I wouldn't have to get out of bed to do it.

There are many sounds that annoy us, but there is one thing that is common to all of them: we want them to stop. This is also true of people who complain and argue. As a father, there are times when my children have complained or argued with each other, and I just want them to stop. It's like a creaky door, a fork scraping a plate, or my dog whining while sleeping. No one likes hearing constant complaining or arguing. It stresses out those who have to listen to it. It rouses anxiety. It causes division. It's tapping into our sinful nature.

The apostle Paul wrote to the Philippians and instructed them to avoid complaining and arguing. "Do everything without grumbling and arguing," he wrote (Philip. 2:14; ESV). Then, he says why: "so that you may be blameless and pure, children of God who faultless in a crooked and perverted generation, among whom you shine like stars in the world" (Philip. 2:15).

Did you catch that that? The reason why we ought to avoid grumbling (i.e., complaining) and arguing is so that we can be blameless. When we complain and argue, we act just like the fault-finding, guilty world who has little to no peace, gentleness, or love for others. As Christians, we are called to be something different! We have the fruit of the Spirit-love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control! We are to be "like stars" in the lost world, letting the light of the Gospel shine!

The next time we are tempted to complain or argue (which is very easy, indeed!), let us remember those sounds that annoy us that we just want to stop. Then, just stop! Besides, what do we have to complain about? God has blessed us beyond measure. Let us glorify him in all we do. Let's pray for one another!

Your Friend and Minister, Dr. Pete

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Please email articles to Office@LilburnCC.com by the 23rd of each month!!

## SERMON SERIES

**October Sermon Series** 

## •Series Title: Good News: Grace! A Look at Galatians

- 9/24 You are Called Gal. 1:1-5
- 10/1 You are Called to One Gospel Gal. 1:6-10
- 10/8 The Gospel is Revealed Gal. 1:11-24
- 10/15 The Gospel is to be Affirmed Gal.
  2:1- 10
- 10/22 The Gospel is to be Defended Gal. 2:11-21
- 10/29 The Gospel is Received Gal. 3:1-14

Bethshean supports. His role is to hold the ministers accountable, help them to organize and plan for the future. He is also in charge of planning camp activities, like retreats, camps, seminars, etc. He has been a great addition to our staff and a support for us. Please continue to pray for the hard work and sharing of the Gospel in the town of Estancia de Animas which is approximately a two hour drive due west of San Luis Potosi, Mexico (north of Mexico City).







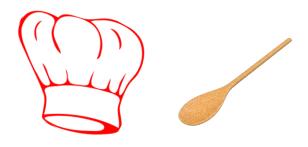




#### Intermediate Camp 2023

There were two summer camps this year, one for preteens and one for teenagers. The theme for the first was "Jesus, my Friend" and the second was "Let Yourself be Molded in the Potter's Hands." Both had an attendance of about 60 campers. During the week with the teenagers, there were 2 baptisms and 3 confessions of faith of young people who wanted to go back to their congregations to be baptized! God is so good! The Bethshean Camp has been such an amazing instrument for people of all ages to hear the gospel!

Update on churches; Fernando and Rosy continue to minister in the Loreto church, Manuel and Fernanda in the Sauceda church, Jose and Yazmin in the Maravillas church and Abdiel and Shannon in the Villa Gonzalez church. They have added Eliu Rocha to the Bethshean Staff as a counselor/advisor to the ministers and churches that



## LCC Wednesday Night Meal Ministry

We are a self-sufficient ministry. As food prices continue to increase, we made the decision to raise the cost for the meals to \$4.00 per person, with a Family Max of \$15.00. Children under 3 eat free.

Dinner is served from 5:45 pm - 6:15 pm. The serving window will be closed at 6:15 pm so we can clean up the kitchen and put everything away before Bible Study begins at 6:30 pm.

#### **Meals for October:**

- 10/04 Beef and Bean Rice Bowl and Cakes
- 10/11 Baked Potato & Salad Bar and Ice Cream Sandwiches & Drumsticks
- 10/18 Vegetable Beef Soup and Banana Pudding
- 10/25 Hamburgers & Hot Dogs and Brownies & Ice Cream

# Opportunity to Serve Wednesday Night Meals

You will notice a change in the Sunday Bulletin. We are giving you an opportunity to serve one item, one recipe, one meal at a time. We will list the tasks needed for that particular meal, as well as things that need to be done **Every Week**. Please let us know who, what when, where and how you are willing to help.

Thanks, The Kitchen Crew Rosie Bengtson 404-403-5765 Marilyn Nelson 770-363-2681 Kim Simon 404-374-8367



#### **OCTOBER**

- 1 Prov 31, Gal 3:1-18
- 2 Eccles 1-4, Gal 3:19-4:7
- 3 Eccles 5:1–8:1, Gal 4:8-31
- 4 Eccles 8:2–12:14, Gal 5
- 5 Song 1:1-5:1, Gal 6
- 6 Song 5:2-8:14, Eph 1
- 7 Isa 1-2, Eph 2
- 8 Isa 3-6, Eph 3
- 9 Isa 7:1-10:4, Eph 4:1-24
- 10 Isa 10:5-13:22, Eph 4:25-5:14
- 11 Isa 14-16, Eph 5:15-33
- 12 Isa 17-20, Eph 6
- 13 Isa 21-23, Phil 1:1-18
- 14 Isa 24-27, Phil 1:19-2:11
- 15 Isa 28-29, Phil 2:12-30
- 16 Isa 30-32, Phil 3:1-4:1
- 17 Isa 33-36, Phil 4:2-23
- 18 Isa 37-38, Col 1:1-23
- 19 Isa 39-41, Col 1:24-2:23
- 20 Isa 42-43, Col 3:1-17
- 21 Isa 44-46, Col 3:18-4:18
- 22 Isa 47-49, 1 Thess 1:1-2:12
- 23 Isa 50-54, 1 Thess 2:13-3:13
- 24 Isa 55-58, 1 Thess 4
- 25 Isa 59-62, 1 Thess 5
- 26 Isa 63-66, 2 Thess 1
- 27 Jer 1-2, 2 Thess 2
- 28 Jer 3-4, 2 Thess 3
- 29 Jer 5-6, 1 Tim 1
- 30 Jer 7:1-9:16, 1 Tim 2:1-3:7
- 31 Jer 9:17-11:23, 1 Tim 3:8-4:16











This month at Thrive we continue to dive deeper into God's Word, and I have seen some spiritual growth within our teens.

Brandon Cooper (College Freshman) has stepped up as a Youth Leader, leading our "Break Out" groups during the small group discussion time. He invites his friends to youth group and really shows his heart for the Lord.

He also has a servant's heart, meeting me at the church to help me get some things accomplished. I am blessed by his heart and his love for this church. It's amazing.

Last week we opened the "cold weather" season with a bon-fire. The discussion was awesome. Pray for us as the year progresses, that God will fan our fire into a roaring flame.

God Speed.

Alex Aleman Youth Pastor







### **Recharged (Adult Singles)**



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The Recharged Single Adult group was given some free tickets to attend the Fox Summer Movie Series.

Although, only a few of us attended, it was a great time! We ate at The Varsity, then saw 'Star Wars; Return of the Jedi' on Thursday, August 31. One participant had never been to The Fox, so our favorite usher gave her a mini-tour. We did not take a group picture that night - sorry.

The Recharged Adult Singles group tour of the Elisha Winn House in Dacula, GA, on Friday, September 15th was cancelled because we did not have the minimum attendance.

#### Planned Events for the rest of 2023:

Event	Date/Location	Notes:
Gibbs Garden	Friday, Oct 6	Sign-up sheet in foyer: 9/17 – 10/4
	Ball Ground, GA	Tickets \$18 plus tax, senior rate
<b>Gospel Music</b>	Saturday, Nov 4	Two sessions at 1:00 pm & 7:00 pm
Festival	McDonough, GA	Tickets \$35 plus tax, per session
<b>Christmas Lights</b>	Thursday, Dec 14	Dinner at Cracker Barrel & drive-thru
Adventure		Neighborhood Christmas Lights



If you would like to be involved in a planning session for 2024, or if you have some ideas of where to go and what to do as a group, please contact Karen Throckmorton or Rosie Bengtson.

## Homecoming 2023

For our 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Homecoming on September 17, we welcomed the Rasor Family to LCC. A heartfelt thanks to everyone that helped organize, set up, clean up and to all those that brought such delicious food.





















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## Prayer Requests

Teresa Herring
Loetta Benton
Linda Proctor
Glenda Middleton
Marcia Heinz
Richard Walker
Carol Hill

Carolyn Ballew
Gensie McDonald
Kathy Hill
Max Schiefer
Tim & Toni McClure
Trish Elkins
Henriette Wilke



#### **October**

- 19 CTO Rehearsal 6:30-8:30 pm
- 25 Thrive Youth Group Halloween Party @ 6:30 pm
- 29 CTO at Whistleville Christian Church for Revival at 6:00 pm
- 31 Trunk or Treat 5:30-7:30 pm



#### **November**

- 4 Recharged going to Gospel Music Festival
- 7 Election Day
- 11 Operation Christmas Child packing party in the FLC 1:00-3:00 pm
- 12 CTO Rehearsal 1:30 3:00 pm
- 12 Thanksgiving Outreach Bags Due
- 18 Distribute Thanksgiving Bags
- 22 No Wed. Night Activities
- 23 Thanksgiving

Trunk or Treat is Oct 31st! We still need volunteers to host a trunk. Since this will be an alternative to Halloween, we expect a lot of people. We need help with people hosting a trunk, serving food, managing bounce houses, bringing candy, and most importantly PRAYING! There is a role for everyone. Please see Schyler Umberger or Debbie Stephens if you are interested. We do need more candy, please.



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