

~~CONNECTIONS~~

Volume 210 Issue 1

November, 2023

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Church Family,

It is November—the month of Thanksgiving! This is one of my favorite times of the year. I enjoy it for many reasons. One is because the weather is cool and crisp. Another is because it is a time to be with family. Yet another reason is because it is a time to reflect upon what I am thankful to God for. I, like many others, have innumerable blessings. Giving thanks to God—setting apart a time to celebrate—for the good gifts we have is the least we can do.

Admittedly, living in a country of wealth, health, and prosperity can often blind us to the reality of our blessings. We tend to take these for granted. We come to expect them. I expect my hot cup of java in the morning. I expect to eat three meals (at least) per day. Then, I expect a cozy bed to sleep in at night. If anything goes wrong, I have a phone to use to contact someone to fix the issue—whether it is with the electricity, plumbing, or even my health. In short, the blessings and wealth that I have come to expect every day often warp my sense of reality. Regrettably, I must admit I have a sense of entitlement.

Do you have a sense of entitlement? Several years ago, authors Jean Twenge and W. Campbell wrote a book entitled *The Narcissism Epidemic: Living in the Age of Entitlement*. This text documents the attitude Americans have concerning their wealth. The title of the book says it all: Americans are entitled, believing they deserve all the material wealth they have. And note the effect: narcissism. Numerous other studies confirm these findings. Obviously, from a Christian perspective, this is a problem. How do we avoid falling into this sinful lust for more and self-aggrandizement?

There are a variety of things we can do to avoid these sins. I will point out just three here. First, we can remember that this world is not our permanent home. As such, we need to focus on what is to come. Paul reminds us to "look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal" (2 Cor. 4:18; NASB).

Second, since the things of this world are temporal, we need to remember that our objective in this world is not the accumulation of "stuff." Rather, the goal is to love God, love others, and build the Kingdom of God. We are not here for ourselves, but for others.

Finally, we can take the opportunity every day this month leading up to Thanksgiving to thank the Lord each day for a different blessing. The blessing can be as simple as the ability to get out of bed in the morning. It can be the answer to a prayer. Whatever the blessing, let us remember where every good gift comes from: God, not us. Let us remember, too, that these are *blessings*, not things we deserve. They may be here today, but they may be gone tomorrow. But this much is true: the Lord and His salvation are here forever! Let us be thankful for this!

Your Friend and Minister, Dr. Pete

LCC Staff:

Peter Rasor, Senior Minister peter@LilburnCC.com Dwayne Wylds, Minister of Music

dwayne@LilburnCC.com

Alex Aleman, Youth Minister

alex@LilburnCC.com

Jennifer Rasor, Children's Director,

Jennifer@LilburnCC.com

Lynn Akins, Financial Secretary lynn@ LilburnCC.com

Kandy Davidson, Office Manager,

office@LilburnCC.com

LCC Elders:

Ken Akins:678-754-5422Wally Curtiss:770-231-5200Jim Gurr:770-925-8680William Renshaw:678-270-8265Jeff Stephens:770-722-8553Sherman Wade:404-867-6101

Editor: Kandy Davidson

Photographer: Pam Straughan

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

SERMON SERIES

November Sermon Series

"Good News: Grace! A Look at Galatians" continues

Nov. 5 "Grace is a Promise", Gal. 3:15-25

Nov. 12 "You are Sons of God", Gal 3:26-4:7

Nov. 19 "I Beg You ... Don't Be Enslaved", Gal. 4:8-20

Nov. 26 "Be Free!", Gal. 4:21-5:1





Missions Spotlight



"Trash Mountain Project exists to develop Christ-centered environments for children and families living in trash dump communities worldwide."

WHO WE THEY?

Established in 2009, Trash Mountain Project (TMP) is a U.S.-based non-profit organization that works internationally in developing countries and partners with local churches, individuals and organizations to bring sustainable change in communities that surround and/or depend on a landfill to live.

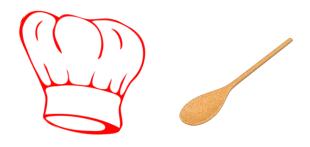
WHAT IS A TRASH DUMP COMMUNITY?

This is a community where many of the people make their livelihoods working each day at the landfill searching for recyclables and even food. Many times it is not only the parents that work but their children as well. These areas are severely poor, crime is high, and they lack the most basic necessities including clean water and sanitation. We do not find communities like this in the United States due to regulations and human rights standards.

WHAT THEY DO

They work stateside developing strategies and obtaining funding to assist our on-the-ground partners. We obtain donations through churches, individuals, organizations, grants and fundraisers. Each of their <u>U.S-based staff</u> live and work primarily here at home but travel internationally at times to work directly with their <u>local partners</u>. When the funding is available, their local partners carry out our combined plans in these communities in areas including, nutrition, discipleship, education and <u>more</u>.

Please pray for this very important ministry this month and for those families that are living in these conditions that they will be uplifted.



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 November:

Nov. 08 – Grilled Pork Loin / Cakes

Nov. 15 – Chili Mac / Little Debbie Cakes

Nov. 22 – No meal

Nov. 29 – Poppyseed Chicken / Cookies & 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



NOVEMBER

- 1 Jer 12-14, 1 Tim 5
- 2 Jer 15-17, 1 Tim 6
- 3 Jer 18-20, 2 Tim 1:1-2:13
- 4 Jer 21-23, 2 Tim 2:14-26
- 5 Jer 24-25, 2 Tim 3
- 6 Jer 26-28, 2 Tim 4
- 7 Jer 29-30, Titus 1:1-2:10
- 8 Jer 31:1-32:25, Titus 2:11-3:15
- 9 Jer 32:26-34:22, Philemon
- 10 Jer 35-37, Heb 1:1-2:9
- 11 Jer 38-40, Heb 2:10-3:15
- 12 Jer 41-43, Heb 3:16-4:16
- 13 Jer 44-46, Heb 5:1-6:8
- 14 Jer 47-48, Heb 6:9-7:10
- 15 Jer 49-50, Heb 7:11-8:13
- 16 Jer 51, Heb 9:1-22
- 17 Jer 52, Heb 9:23-10:10
- 18 Lam 2, Heb 10:11-39
- 19 Lam 3-5, Heb 11:1-22
- 20 Ezek 1-3, Heb 11:23-40
- 21 Ezek 4-6, Heb 12:1-17
- 22 Ezek 7-9, Heb 12:18-13:6
- 23 Ezek 10-12, Heb 13:7-25
- 24 Ezek 13-15, James 1
- 25 Ezek 16, James 2
- 26 Ezek 17-19, James 3
- 27 Ezek 20, James 4-5
- 28 Ezek 21-22, 1 Pet 1:1-21
- 29 Ezek 23-24, 1 Pet 1:22-2:10
- 30 Ezek 25-27, 1 Pet 2:11-3:6



Hi LCC Fam.

I wanted to share this image with you.

This image says so much. We don't have a full band. We don't have a bunch of musicians on the stage, smoke, 1000 lights... we have a video of a worship song with lyrics... That's it. Nothing fancy on the day this was taken.

Yet these kids stand together and sing their praises to the King of Kings.

They worship with all their hearts.

They put their arms around each other, and they lift up a song of praise.

Simple, quaint, and real.

God has blessed us with musicians and many weeks we have them sing and play, but some weeks they can't make it, and still we worship. In the sunshine and in the rain, we worship. In plenty and in famine, we worship. In the good times and in the bad... we worship. With musicians or just a video... we worship our Lord from the heart.

God Speed,

Alex Aleman Youth Pastor





What an exciting time to come to LCC and become a part of the Children's ministry! By the time you read this, all four rooms in the children's area will be painted, and hopefully, the rooms will be put back together as well. Please pray that the Lord will fill these rooms with children who need to hear the good news of Jesus.

<u>Looking back</u>: Last month, the 4th-6th graders had a swimming party! We had four adults and five children attend. We ate pizza and cookies and enjoyed games in the pool. Thank you to Schyler and Jill Lyew for organizing that fun event!

By the time you read this, we will have traveled to Gainesville to support one of our young friends as she cheerleads for her school's football team. I am looking forward to spending time with our LCC friends.

<u>Looking forward</u>: Schyler and Debbie Stephens planned an epic Trunk or Treat on October 31! So many of you were involved in making this event happen, which is super exciting. Please be in prayer that God would bring the children and families to LCC who need to be introduced to the true Light who has come into the world.

Our next event will be on November 11 from 1-3 p.m. We are having an Operation Christmas Child packing party! This is a family event, and ALL members of LCC are invited to attend. We will be packing shoeboxes with donated items, as well as making cards and bracelets to put into the boxes. If you packed a box at home, you may bring it back to us on that day.

Another fun event we have planned is a Parent's Night Out combined with a Happy Birthday, Jesus party for the kids on Friday, December 1 from 5:00-8:30 p.m.. All kids, ages 0-12, may attend. Sign-ups will be out in the lobby soon! Please reserve a spot for your child by Sunday, November 26. We will be playing games, eating dinner, singing Christmas songs, doing crafts, decorating a Christmas tree in the Children's wing and watching a short Christmas Veggietales movie. Whew!

Needless to say, I would love to have help for both of these events. If you feel so led, please contact me if you want to join in the fun and get to know our kids better. Thank you all for all of your support and care for the children at LCC and all of those who God is going to bring.

For Him, Jennifer and Schyler



Recharged (Adult Singles)





Several of the Recharged group headed up to north Georgia to the mountains to visit Gibbs Gardens in early October. The flowers were absolutely beautiful, especially in the Japanese Gardens! We made it to the very top to visit the Gibbs Estate and viewed the scenic mountains from their back sunporch. It was a great day trip for our group of sightseers.





Planned Events for the rest of 2023:

Gospel Music Festival – Sat., Nov. 4, Two sessions, one at 1:00 pm and one at 7:00 pm. Tickets \$35 plus tax, per session.

Christmas Lights Adventure, Thurs., Dec. 14, Dinner at Cracker Barrel & drive-thru 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.

PLANNING MEETING SUNDAY, on Nov. 5th after church.

If you would like to be involved in planning activities / events for 2024, or if you have some ideas of places to go or what you would like to do as a group join us for our planning session on Sunday, Nov. 5h after church. We'll have lunch together to discuss some dates for the coming new year.

This is a great time to become involved in this fun group of singles in our church.



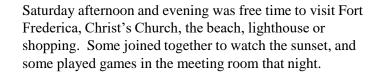






Epworth by the Sea on St. Simon's Island was a perfect place for the Fifteenth Annual Gal's Get-Away for the women of Lilburn Christian Church on September 29 – October 1. The Spanish Moss draped live oak trees and faux shell buildings added to the charm of relaxed "Southern Living".

The seven sessions of WonderFull World each began with a brief overview of the world's continents, but the main point of each session was the story of the woman with the issue of bleeding, who was healed by Jesus by simply touching His garment. As the 34 women in attendance sat in groups of four and discussed the "wonders" they had about life and their desires to know and serve God, friendships grew and fellowship developed.



After breakfast on Sunday morning, the group attended the Worship Service in the Lovely Lane Chapel.

The Center of Hope Pregnancy Crisis Center in Monroe was the service project this year. The ladies donated blankets, baby clothing and \$400 in cash to the center.

Next year the Get-Away will be a one nighter and closer to home. All the women of LCC are invited to attend. It is a great way to get to know those with whom we worship.































Ladies Christmas Party

Saturday, Dec.2nd
Family Life Center
12:30 pm to 2:30 pm

All ladies are invited.

Christmas Jars will be displayed, discussed, and filled!

Lunch will be served at 12:30 pm

The cost is \$8.00 per person.

For our service project – please bring gift cards (in small denominations of \$5, \$10, \$15, \$20) for Kroger, Public, Walmart, or Target to be donated to Lilburn Co-op.

Be thinking about your favorite scriptures or quotes of Love, Hope, Joy, Comfort, Inspiration, Encouragement. Even bring your Bibles to look up scripture if you want. These will be placed in the jars.

Sign-up in the Foyer.







November

- 4 Recharged going to Gospel Music Festival
- 10 Georgia Worship Choir at LCC at 7:30 pm.
- 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
- 18 Decorate LCC for Christmas at 10:00 am.
- 19 Mainstreet Concert at LCC @ 6:00 pm.
- 22 No Wed. Night Activities nor meal
- 23 Thanksgiving



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

Gensie McDonald Kathy Hill Henriette Wilke Peggy Newton Frank Umberger Nevelle Hawkins and her family Steve Simon

December

- 1 Happy Birthday Jesus Parent's Night Out 5:00 8:30 pm.
- 2 Ladies Christmas Party in the FLC at 12:30 pm.
- 3 Congregational Meeting to vote on Budget; Ugly Christmas Sweater Sunday
- 9 CTO rehearsal 10 am Noon
- 10 Christmas Program at LCC at 6:00 pm
- 14 Recharged: Christmas Light Adventure
- 17 Christmas Program at Whistleville Christian Church at 6:00 pm
- 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service at 6:00 pm
- 25 Christmas Day
- 27 No Wed. meal nor activities
- 31 De-decorate LCC after Worship



Glenda Price 10/22/23



Lilburn Christian Church

314 Arcado Road Lilburn, GA 30047 Phone: 770-921-2993

Fax: 770-921-6569



