

## MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Church Family,

"Redo!" This is what kids say a lot when they do not like how things are going in a game. I recall many years ago when a friend of mine kept claiming a "redo" every time he didn't make a point in a game we were playing. "Redo, redo, redo." It was like a mantra with him, and it was certainly unfair. His "redo's" effectively guaranteed he would win the game. This was not exactly just, and it was no way to play a game! A game is supposed to be competitive, and may the best man win!

Life is quite different than a game. There are no redo's. If you make an error in how much money is in your account and overdraw it, you get penalized. If you do not pay your bills on time, you receive late fees or your utilities get turned off. If you don't pay your rent, you get evicted. There are no redo's in life to guarantee a positive outcome.

As we face yet another end of a year and a new one on its way, we often want a re-do or multiple ones. We look back over the previous year and often think, "Wow. That was not a good choice. I wish I would have chosen differently in that situation!" As we ponder our past, we have regrets. Some are bigger than others, but the fact remains that we wish we could do it all over again, but correctly.

There is, however, good news! We may not be able to have any redo's (what is done is indeed *done*), but we can have all our regrets, guilt, and sins removed! This is the primary messages of the Gospel: Jesus came to die on a Roman cross for our sins and conquer death through being raised from the dead. If we believe and trust in Jesus and his work he did on our behalf, our regrets, guilt, and sins

are all forgiven. We receive a clean slate, a righteousness that is not our own but Christ's.

This is better than a redo! This is renewal—a *recreation*. A redo would simply be attempting to go back to a situation to make a sinless choice with the hope of a better outcome. Being recreated, on the other hand, is forgiveness for our past sinful choices *and* our future ones. It is the putting to death of the old self and God making a new one who is empowered to live for Him. It is a promise of eternal life with Jesus! A redo would leave our guilt, regrets, and sin while recreation removes all of it. Moreover, because recreation is based upon the grace of God, we actually receive the very opposite of what we deserve.

As I think about it, I don't want any redo's. God's salvation is so much better. We can leave our regrets, sin, and guilt behind us. Christ took it all for us. As we face the coming of a new year, put your hand to the plow and don't look back. Keep your eyes on Jesus!

*"Jesus said to him, 'No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.'"*  
~Luke 9:62; ESV

Your Friend and Minister,  
Dr. Pete

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Please email articles to  
[Office@LilburnCC.com](mailto:Office@LilburnCC.com)  
by the **23rd of each month!!**

*Thank You For Your Support And All You Do  
For The Students At Lilburn Elementary*

I wanted to give an update on the family that we helped from Lilburn Elementary who lost everything in a house fire a couple of weeks ago. The school was blown away by the love and support from LCC for this family. We collected enough clothes to fill 11 bags, there was something for everyone in the family. We also collected \$400 and was able to give the family several gift cards to help with clothes or other household items. I also wanted to share that the school gave me the artwork (pictured below) as a thank-you for our help and support of this family. I was also told that the mother was very appreciative of everything that we collected for them. Thank you again, LCC for all your prayers, love, and support of this family.

The collect box will be in the foyer for a couple more weeks if anyone should have anything else they would like to donate.

Melissa Daniell



## Missions Spotlight



The mission team was finally able to meet with Brock and Kerry Johnson from Guatemala to learn more about their new project, The Quiché Project. Quiché is located in central Guatemala.

Since 2010, BVSA has been committed to teaching the true biblical gospel to young men and discipling them to maturity in Christ. As a result, the Lord has been calling many to full time ministry, which led to the vision for the Quiché Project. At their Academy in Quiché Guatemala, they are committed to the training and sending of Spanish and English speaking missionaries and pastors. Available not only to BVSA graduates, but any applicants. They're still a soccer academy! Discipling young men remains their passion, and they use the global game of soccer as an inroad to that end. BVSA Quiché will include a Soccer Academy just like their other locations. Our Rhino FC Soccer Academies are truly a training ground - in more ways than one!

Land has already been purchased and paid for so that's a great start! If you're interested in learning more about this, feel free to connect through the website [lilburnchristianchurch.org/missions](http://lilburnchristianchurch.org/missions) to learn more about this mission.





# LCC Music Ministry

What a wonderful evening of worship and praise! So many families, co-workers, and neighbors joined us for this amazing service. The message was all about God's plan to bring Jesus to us. Including the audience in a round of Christmas carols is always a fun way to start the season. The living nativity with Carrie singing "Noel" was a beautiful and touching moment. "Noel" was the perfect ending encouraging everyone to "Come and see what God has done. The story of amazing love."

Thanks to everyone who helped make this worship service everything that it was - a healing, encouraging and peaceful evening.

Pam Straughan





The year has come to an end, and we are looking into 2024 with the expectation that God will continue to do an amazing work within the Thrive Youth Group.

Last Wednesday we spent time together just having fun and enjoying each other's company.

We did our annual Christmas Party and played some games. The kids had a blast.

With all that I do in Thrive at LCC, none of it would be possible without the support of my Youth Leaders and my committed wife, Carrie. Colin, Kelly, Christian, Faith, Brandan, William, Pam, and Steve. Thank you so much for your commitment to Thrive and to me. Your dedication and sacrifice are not lost on me, and I am eternally grateful for your support.

I would also like to say thank you to the Church family for your support. The words of encouragement, the listening ear. Never have I not had the help I needed. You have always been the support structure for this ministry.

Finally, and most importantly, I thank the Lord for his guidance and wisdom. The miracles and divine help within all areas of my life. He has never left me nor forsaken me. Regardless of all the help that I receive from others, this would be impossible if I did not have God's help.

God Speed,  
Merry Christmas

Alex Aleman  
Youth Pastor



Happy New Year! I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas, celebrating the birth of our Savior. We started the month of December off with a "Happy Birthday, Jesus!" party and combined it with a Parent's Night Out. We decorated ornaments and our Christmas tree, had an epic snowball fight, ate pizza and homemade cupcakes provided by Lynn Knight, and listened to our Christmas book, *God Gave Us Christmas*. We also made Christmas cards for those who live in Gwinnett Terrace which went out in the holiday bags. Thank you to everyone who came and helped make this a success.

We are ending the month with Family Sunday on December 31. The elementary age kids will be playing a song on the bells during the service. They will be staying in the service during the sermon time. Parents, there will be activity packs at the back of the sanctuary. Make sure that your child gets one!

Our kids have also been practicing a fun Fruits of the Spirit song. Be on the lookout for that cute song being performed very soon!

Looking ahead, we have some very exciting events taking place that are for everyone! Saturday, Jan.13, from 9:00-11:30 a.m. is our Children's Ministry Launch! This is for everyone who is currently involved, wants to be involved in some way or is just curious on what takes place in the children's wing. I will be revealing the NEW NAME, THEME and MISSION for our Children's ministry! Come help me appreciate our teachers and volunteers as we pray for our children and learn how we can use our talents to minister to children and their families in our church family and in our community. Breakfast and snacks will be provided.

Now, what some of you have all been waiting for...

YES! We are having VBS this year! I have heard some amazing stories of how LCC knows how to throw a great VBS shining, and I am ready to join with you this year. Our first VBS meeting of the year will be Sunday, Jan. 21 right after church. A light lunch will be served. We will be revealing the VBS theme for this year and dividing up the main areas (crafts, games, group leader, music, etc.) of VBS, so please come with an enthusiastic and willing spirit to let your light shine for Jesus. Mark your calendars for our VBS dates, June 2-6. This is one of the BEST ways we can reach our community with the gospel.

I would ask one thing of you. Please be in prayer for the families of our church and community. Please pray that God would strengthen them and give them the grace, patience and wisdom to raise their children in the Lord. Please pray that God would bring the families to LCC that need to hear the gospel and to know the love of God. Pray for our teachers and volunteers that they would be strengthened and encouraged to teach the Word of God and to love these children. Prayer is our most important weapon. I covet and deeply appreciate them.







# Recharged (Adult Singles)

## Recharged (Singles Adult Group): December is Double Event Month!

### Recharged (Singles Adult Group): December was a Double Event Month!

On Thursday, 12/14/2023, we had six participants for our Christmas event. We ate at Cracker Barrel up in Suwanee. We carpooled to Hidden Falls subdivision in Buford to see lots of Christmas lights. About 95% of the houses in this subdivision participate in decorating their houses and yards with all kinds of lights, blow-ups, assorted signs, and other characters. It was great fun to drive thru and look at all of it. We even voted on which house we thought was the prettiest! Afterwards, we were invited to a Recharged member's house in Dacula to share cookies, hot apple cinnamon cider, and hot cocoa with marshmallows. We had a wonderful devotion called 'God Decorates His Tree' with discussion on the Fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23 (KJV). What a great reminder of how we should act, speak, and live. May we all demonstrate these qualities of Love, Joy, Peace, Longsuffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness and Temperance in 2024!

On Tuesday, 12/19/2023, we had six participants for 'Mighty Mo and More' at the Fox Theater. We had a quick dinner at Chick-fil-A, we sang Christmas carols, listened to the beautiful pipe organ, and watched the movie 'Home Alone' on the magnificent Fox screen.

**Note:** We will have a Recharged Potluck luncheon on Sunday, 01/28/2024 in the Chapel immediately following the worship service. Please sign up in the foyer. We will discuss the future of the Recharged (Singles Adult Group) and our plans for 2024. If you are interested in participating in our events, please attend, bring a dish to share and any ideas you have. What are you interested in doing? What days of the week works best for you?

Recharged (Singles Adult Group: Calendar for 2024 (Quarterly Events Planned)			
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	Tuesday, Feb. 27	On Stage Walton in Monroe	"I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change"
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	Friday, April 26	Gibbs Garden	Lunch at the Arbor Cafe
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	Friday, July 19	Booth Western Art Museum	Lunch at Blevins Bistro
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	To Be Determined	Possible: Gospel Music concert, another play or Christmas concert ???	





54 ladies signed up and 42 showed up so there was an abundance of “old fashioned down home” food at the Annual Women’s Christmas Party on Dec. 2 in the FLC.

Rosie Bengtsen volunteered to plan and present the party again this year. The theme was “Christmas Jar”. The dining tables were topped with white tablecloths & center pieces of golden chargers containing sprigs of evergreen, pinecones and jars containing fairy lights and greenery, surrounded by decorated pint jars. The serving table was covered with white cloths with a runner of buffalo plaid.

The meal consisted of Chicken Devan, Baked Ham, Macaroni Supreme, Green Beans, Tossed Salad, Corn Muffins, Rolls, Banana Pudding, Cherry & Blueberry Cobbler, along with Iced Tea. After lunch each lady wrote scripture, poems and words of encouragement on slips of paper and inserted them into one of the decorated jars.

A game was played as the ladies passed the jars around in a circle as they spelled out words of encouragement. Each lady went home with a Christmas Jar filled with encouraging words.

The Service Project for the event was gift cards to be given to the Lilburn Co-op, a total of \$620 was received.







## LCC Wednesday Night Meal Ministry

### Meals for January:

- Jan. 3 No meal (Teacher's Planning Day)
- Jan. 10 Breakfast for Dinner with Fruit Cup
- Jan. 17 Beef & Bean Rice Bowl with Cakes
- Jan. 24 Pineapple Chicken Salad with Banana Pudding
- Jan. 31 Tacos with Ice Cream Sandwiches & Drumsticks

The assigned Clean Up Crew for January is Wednesday Night Bible Study. Clean up starts at 6:20 pm. There is a task list of what needs to be done, as well as a yellow folder with a Kitchen Map to show you where items belong. With many hands it only takes about 10-15 minutes. The Kitchen Crew truly appreciates the extra help.

## Opportunity to Serve Wednesday Night Meals

We can always use additional help to prep, cook and serve – one item, one recipe, one meal at a time. We will provide a task list, recipe, and ingredients for the meal each week. The amount of help needed varies based on the menu. Please let us know if you are willing to help.

Thanks,  
Rosie Bengtson 404-403-5765



## JANUARY

- 1 Genesis 1-2; Psalm 19; Mark 1
- 2 Genesis 3-5; Mark 2
- 3 Genesis 6-8 Psalm 104; Mark 3
- 4 Genesis 9-11; Mark 4
- 5 Genesis 12-15; Psalm 148; Mark 5
- 6 Genesis 16-18; Mark 6
- 7 Genesis 19-20; Psalm 1; Mark 7
- 8 Genesis 21-23; Psalm 107; Mark 8
- 9 Genesis 24-25; Psalm 4; Mark 9
- 10 Genesis 26-27; Mark 10
- 11 Genesis 28-29; Mark 11
- 12 Genesis 30-31; Psalm 11; Mark 12
- 13 Genesis 32-34; Psalm 145; Mark 13
- 14 Genesis 35-37; Psalm 12; Mark 14
- 15 Genesis 38-40; Mark 15
- 16 Genesis 41-42; Mark 16
- 17 Genesis 43-44; Psalm 24; Galatians 1
- 18 Genesis 45-46; Psalm 108; Gal 2
- 19 Genesis 47-48; Psalm 25; Gal 3
- 20 Genesis 48-50; Gal 4
- 21 Exodus 1-3; Gal 5
- 22 Exodus 4-6; Gal 6
- 23 Exodus 7-9; Psalm 105; Eph 1
- 24 Exodus 10-12; Eph 2
- 25 Exodus 13-15; Psalm 114; Eph 3
- 26 Exodus 16-18; Eph 4
- 27 Exodus 19-21; Psalm 33; Eph 5
- 28 Exodus 22-24; Psalm 109; Eph 6
- 29 Exodus 25-27; Psalm 90; Philippians 1
- 30 Exodus 28-31; Phil 2
- 31 Exodus 32-34; Phil 3



# HEAT



AND

# sweets

## Family Game Night!!!!

## Chili Bake Off and Bake Goods!!



**Where:** Lilburn Christian Church  
314 Arcado Road  
Lilburn, GA 30047

**When:** February 24, 2024 at 5pm to 7pm

**What to Bring:** You, Your Family and Friends!



From the stage to the audience, ugly attire was everywhere at LCC this Sunday, December 3, 2023.



**MEALS**

*working together to feed more*

Five representatives from the city of Lilburn attended our church service Sunday, Dec. 3 and were given 20 meal bags to be delivered to City of Lilburn families in need.

Our team also gave out 50 meal bags at the Gwinnett Terrace worship service Sunday evening.

We worshiped in song, praise, communion, fellowship and giving.

I want to thank our team and our very supportive congregation and Elders for their gifts, service and prayers

Pam Straughan

# Upcoming EVENTS

## January

- 01 New Year's Day
- 03 No Wed. night meal nor activities
- 13 Children's Ministry Launch 9-11:30 am
- 21 Vacation Bible School (VBS) Kick-off after the service
- 28 Recharged Potluck Dinner in the Chapel after the service.

## February

- 24 Chili Cook-off 5:00 – 7:00 pm in the FLC.

## BAPTISM



**Sierra Taylor**  
**12/10/2023**



**Jesse Spindler**  
**12-24-2023**

## Prayer Requests

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



Congratulations to Jerron & Lauren Straughan on the birth of Laurel Ruth Straughan born on Dec. 22, 2023 at 10:06 am. She weighed 7 lbs. 12 oz and was 19 ½" long.

Congratulations to the proud grandparents, Steve & Pam Straughan as well.



**Lilburn Christian Church**

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We're on the web:  
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