

## MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Church Family,

"Love is love." This has become a very popular slogan in our culture. Exactly what it means is left to the imagination. It is the same as saying "red is red" or "Peter is Peter." It just states the obvious and thus leaves us with wondering what we are specifically talking about. Thankfully, when it comes to the Christian worldview, we do not have to wonder what love truly is or how it is defined. This month in which we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus, love is not only defined but exemplified clearly through the words and actions of our Savior as an agape, or self-sacrificing, kind of love.

In the final week of Jesus' life, known as the Passion week, we see Jesus showing repeatedly his disciples the meaning of love. In the upper room as the Passover Feast was about to begin, Jesus washed his disciples' feet, something only a servant would do. During the meal, Jesus institutes the Lord's Supper with powerful words of love: "This is my body which is given *for you*. . . . This cup which is poured out *for you* is the new covenant in my blood" (Luke 22:19, 20; NASB). Jesus then teaches his disciples a very important lesson about what love looks like: "The one who is the greatest among you must become *like the youngest*, and the leader *like the servant*" (Luke 22:26). Jesus then turns to Peter and prophesies that he will deny him three times but encourages him that he will still love him, saying that Peter ought to strengthen the other disciples once he repents (Luke 22:31).

Even later in the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus shows what true love is when he prays not only for his disciples but for those who will believe in him because of them (John 17:20). At every turn during the Passion week, Jesus shows that true love is agape: unconditional, self-sacrificing, and outward focus toward others. The Passion week, as we know, culminates in the most dramatic, exemplary act and display of love in human history. Jesus, God in the flesh, lays down his life and is crucified for the sins of the world. He takes the penalty reserved for sinners, which he was not. He becomes our substitutionary atonement. But the story and display of love did not end there. Jesus is raised from the dead on the third day, conquering death and all that is evil. Love triumphed even over the grave!

This is what love truly is. Love seeks the good of others. It is laying down one's life to fulfill what is the best good for others. As the Apostle Paul would go on to say in his letter to the Corinthians: love is patient, love is kind, and it is not jealous. It does not brag, it is not arrogant, *it does not seek its own*. "Love never fails" (1 Cor. 13:8). The cultural slogan "love is love" is empty, but the love as defined by the words and actions of Jesus are rich with meaning. It is the salvation of mankind!

*"In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins." ~1 John 4:10 (NASB)*

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!!**

# SERMON SERIES

## Sermon Series

Series: What is a Church Member?

(Based upon Thom Rainer's book, *I am a Church Member*)

3/3/2024 - Part 5: Church Members Lead Their Families to be Healthy Church Members - Eph. 6:1-4 (w/ a view to Deut. 6:4-8)

3/10/2024 - Part 6: Church Members Treasure Their Membership - 1 Pet. 1:3-9 (w/ a view to Matt. 13:44-45)

## DID JESUS *REALLY* RISE FROM THE DEAD?

### A HISTORICAL INVESTIGATION



**SATURDAY, APRIL 13TH**

**7:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

**Q/A SESSION TO FOLLOW**



LILBURN CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
314 ARCADE ROAD  
LILBURN, GA 30047

#### DR. MIKE LICONA

Dr. Licona, Professor of New Testament Studies at Houston Christian University and President of Risen Jesus, Inc., has a Ph.D. in New Testament Studies from the University of Pretoria. He is the author of numerous books and has spoken on more than 100 university campuses and has appeared on dozens of radio and television programs.



## Missions Spotlight



This month's spotlight is our Campus Ministries! These are a fantastic way for college students to stay connected, hang out with other Christians, have fun, and grow in their relationship with Christ! If you know a student who attends the university in Salamanca Spain, GA Tech, UGA, Kennesaw State, Oxford, or Emory University, encourage them to get involved in the campus ministry there! We have contacts for each and would love to connect you and your student with the campus ministers there. Please pray for these campus ministries this month.

This is a great ministry opportunity as well. The campus ministries are always needing support to help prepare meals for the students (even the campus in Spain!) If you are interested in helping with one of these contact Jeff Stephens ([Jcs58@comcast.net](mailto:Jcs58@comcast.net)) or the church office.

# Thrive



## MARCH 2024

In this new letter, I want to take the opportunity to give God the thanks for all of my youth leaders, and I would like to specifically highlight one of them.

Faith Alewine is a faithful servant here at LCC and specifically in Thrive.

She wears many different hats and is vital to the youth ministry and to me personally.

From making goodie bags for our visitors, to running the A/V on Wednesday night, sharing her wisdom during our discussion time, loving the kids like they were her own, running up to the church to help me with some computer issue before Wednesday night... there is little that she can't do.

I am thankful for her willingness to serve and for the heart that she has for our youth group. I am forever grateful Faith, thank you!

God Speed,

Alex Aleman  
Youth Pastor



- 1 Deut 27-31; Luke 12
- 2 Deut 32-34; Psalm 13; Luke 13
- 3 Joshua 1-4; Psalm 143; Luke 14
- 4 Joshua 5-8; Psalm 14; Luke 15
- 5 Joshua 9-13; Luke 16
- 6 Joshua 14-17; Luke 17
- 7 Joshua 18-21; Psalm 15; Luke 18
- 8 Joshua 22-24; Psalm 116; Luke 19
- 9 Judges 1-3; Psalm 16; Luke 20
- 10 Judges 4-6; Luke 21
- 11 Judges 7-8; Luke 22
- 12 Judges 9-11; Psalm 17; Luke 23
- 13 Judges 12-16; Psalm 146; Luke 24
- 14 Judges 17-18; Psalm 21; Acts 1
- 15 Judges 19-21; Acts 2
- 16 Ruth 1-2; Acts 3
- 17 Ruth 3-4; Psalm 37; Acts 4
- 18 1 Samuel 1-2; Psalm 120; Acts 5
- 19 1 Samuel 3-5; Psalm 23; Acts 6
- 20 1 Samuel 6-8; Acts 7
- 21 1 Samuel 9-10; Acts 8
- 22 1 Samuel 11-13; Psalm 38; Acts 9
- 23 1 Samuel 14; Psalm 124; Acts 10
- 24 1 Sam 15-16; 1 Chr 1; Ps 39; Acts 11
- 25 1 Samuel 17; 1 Chr 2; Acts 12
- 26 1 Sam 18-19; 1 Chr 3; Ps 59; Acts 13
- 27 1 Sam 20; 1 Chr 4; Ps 56, 57, 142;  
Acts 14
- 28 1 Sam 21-22; 1 Chr 5; Ps 52; Acts 15
- 29 1 Sam 23-24; 1 Chr 6; Ps 54; Acts 16
- 30 1 Samuel 25; 1 Chr 7; Acts 17
- 31 1 Samuel 26-27; 1 Chr 8; Acts 18



"The light **shines** in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it." John 1:4

What a great start to 2024 we have had! We are planning for our family Easter event, Road to the Resurrection, on Saturday, March 30, from 10:00-11:30 a.m. Please invite anyone ages 0-11 to join us as we learn about the real meaning of Easter and the events of Holy week. We will have an EPIC egg hunt and cupcakes at the end! There is a sign-up in the lobby. Parents and grandparents are welcome to attend this with their children.

We are also super excited about our SCUBA Vacation Bible School on June 2-6, from 6:00-8:30 p.m. Please let me know if you want to be involved in any way with either of these two great events. Adults and teens are welcome to join our volunteer team.

On another note, the Shine kids' choir sang "Priceless Treasure" this past month. I just loved their energy and enthusiasm as they shared their dance moves with all of us. More importantly, they shared the message that we are God's treasure, forgiven and chosen to be His children. It is so important for us to teach children how loved and valued they are in the sight of God.

Our next performance will be on Palm Sunday. You won't want to miss it! All kids, 0-11, are invited to join us. There will be a very special "Jesus" joining us! We will practice on Wednesday evenings, but we will make sure that our Sunday-only kids know what we are doing also. We don't want anyone to be left out!

Also, registration is OPEN for church camp at North Georgia Christian Camp! Please see me as soon as you can if your child is interested in attending this summer. Registration fills up quickly. They need to be signed up by the end of March, or they could be put on a waiting list.

Please continue to pray not only for our children and their families, but also for the volunteers who make this vital ministry a success through their love and dedication to our children. I appreciate each and every one of you!

"Let your light **shine** before men, that they may see your good deeds and **glorify** your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16





## Recharged (Adult Singles)

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

‘Recharged’ is the Adult Singles Group at LCC. Anyone who is single (was married or never married) is welcome to come and join us for our events. We formed this social group a couple of years ago. The name was designed around the connection and friendships that are developed in a social setting. Sometimes, we just need to recharge our batteries by being around others in similar circumstances. Other times, we can be the little charge of encouragement someone else needs. We enjoy talking, laughing, eating, going to the movies, short road trips and just doing things together. We always have a great time whatever we decide to do!

If you are interested in joining us, please see Rosie Bengtson, Karen Throckmorton, Bill Michael, Marilyn Nelson or Beverly Miles.

#### 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 ???	

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## Join Us As We Celebrate Easter Week

Palm  
Sunday

3/24  
10:45am

The Disciple's  
Service

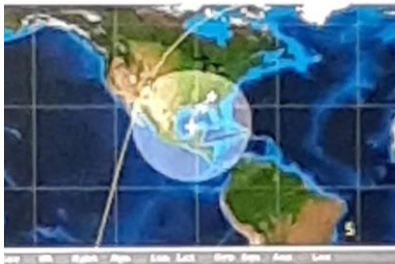
3/28  
7:00pm

Easter  
Celebration

3/31  
10:45am



Back in January, LCC was asked by Lilburn Elementary to be a part of an event at their school in February. After the event, the school wanted to provide students, parents, and staff a reception, and they asked if LCC would be willing to provide the food and stay to serve it. The school had received a grant from ARISS, which is a program where the students in the STEM program would be able to talk to an actual astronaut while traveling in space. Lilburn Elementary also allowed the volunteers from LCC to attend the program. It was absolutely amazing to be a part of that. It brought tears to some of our eyes and some of us even got chills sitting there listening to an actual live astronaut talking to the children from space. LCC is/was so grateful for this opportunity - we were able to serve the community while sharing God's love and good works. Below is a Thank you note that the church received from the School after the event.



*Dear Lilburn Christian Church,*

*Thank you all so much for hosting such a lovely reception for the ARISS event last week. Please extend my thanks to all of the volunteers who served. It was such a pleasure getting to meet everyone, and you all are truly the dream team! 😊 I also want to say thank you to Melissa for all of her planning and collaboration before the event. We are still on "Cloud 9" reminiscing about the whole day, from talking to the astronaut to how delicious the food was! I am so glad that we have a great partnership formed with LCC and that you all were a part of such a historic and exciting event here at LES! As always, thank you for your continued support of Lilburn Elementary and for your kind and generous ways.*

*Kind Regards,*

*Lucy Torp*

Here is the YouTube link if you would like to hear the conversation with the astronaut in space. If you fast-forward the video to 23:20 that is when the actual conversation begins.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/hlwg2rof0LA?feature=shared>

Thank you again to Peter, Jennifer, Leah, Gloria, Jamie R., Jamie Hux, and Yvonne for all your help, this event wouldn't have happened without you! And a huge Thank you to LCC for your continued support and donations. Without them we wouldn't be able to serve in these schools.

Melissa Daniell



# HEAT

AND



# Sweets

## Family Game Night!!!!

## Chili Bake Off and Bake Goods!!



On February 24, 2024 we had 74 people gather together to eat amazing chili and desserts for the annual Heat and Sweets Chili Cook-Off. There were 2 chilis entered in the youth category, 2 chilis entered in the hottest category and an outstanding 13 chilis entered in for best all around. As people tasted, judged and compared, the fellowship was uplifting to watch. The night concluded with Rob Hubbard winning hottest chili, Sophie Tang winning for youth category and Sharee Robinson winning best all around. It was such a fun night with competitive spirits and laughter abound. Thanks to all who participated and helped out!

\* \* \* \* \*



### •Meals for March, 2024

03/06: Spaghetti with Apple & Peach Cobblers

03/13: Poppyseed Chicken with Green Desserts

03/20: Baked Potato and Salad Bar with Cookies and Ice Cream

03/27: Vegetable Beef Soup with Ice Cream Sundaes

LCC Wednesday  
Night Meal Ministry

The assigned Clean Up Crew for March is the Choir & Orchestra. Clean up starts at 6:15 pm. There is a task list of what needs to be done in the gym, as well as the kitchen. With many hands it only takes about 10-15 minutes to complete. The kitchen crew appreciates the extra help.

# Upcoming

EVENTS

## March

- 10 Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 12 Presidential Primary Election
- 16 LCC Work Day 9 am – Noon
- 17 MainStreet Concert at 6:00 pm
- 21,22,23 Church Directory Photos will be taken in the gym
- 24 Palm Sunday
- 28 The Disciples' Service at 7:00 pm
- 31 Easter Sunday

## April

- 1-5 Spring Break
- 13 Speaker Mike Licona at LCC 7:00 – 8:00 pm
- 19 LifeLine Concert at 7:00 pm

**WELCOME**  
NEW MEMBERS



**Webley Grant &  
Tina Adepo**  
Feb. 25, 2024

**SIGN UP NOW ONLINE!**  
**Be a Part of  
Our New  
Directory**

Thurs., Mar. 21: 2:00 – 8:30 pm  
Fri., Mar. 22: 2:00 – 8:30 pm  
Sat., Mar. 23: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Go to [www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com)  
Enter the Church Code: GA184  
Enter the Password: photos  
or sign-up in the foyer.

Invite family & friends to come have their photo taken, and they receive a free 8x10 photo.

Members having their photos taken will receive a free 8x10 photo and a directory.

Slots are filling fast so book your appointment today.

## Prayer Requests

Teresa Herring  
Family of  
Loetta Benton  
Linda Proctor  
Glenda Middleton  
Marcia Heinz

Richard Walker  
Carol Hill  
Dotty Zetty  
Clare Mescher  
Josh & Lucy Vincent  
and Baby Lily  
Neville Hawkins



## Work Day at Church

**Sat., March 16**  
**9:00 am – Noon**

Put our pinestraw  
Kill weeds  
Help in Children's area  
Help in the Chapel  
Dust & polish furniture & pews  
Clean up grounds  
Just to name a few items to be done.



**Come and  
Join Us!**

**Lilburn Christian Church**

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We're on the web:  
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Spreading the gospel to  
every tribe and nation

