

~~CONNECTIONS~~

Volume 23 Issue 1

April, 2024

# **MINISTER'S MESSAGE**

Church Family,

April Fool's! When I was young, I would pull an April Fool's joke on my mother every year, and every year, she would fall for it. This gave not only me but my brother such glee.

The joke would be pulled on her every April 1<sup>st</sup> morning as we prepared for school. While my mother was in the bathroom readying herself for work, I would take the phone off the hook and yell that someone was on the phone for her. Like clockwork, she would emerge from the restroom and retrieve the phone with a confident, "Hello?" Of course, no one was on the other end. Still, she would repeat, "Hello?" several times while my brother and I laughed ourselves silly from the other room.

I would then appear, innocently asking my mother, "Who was on the phone?" Her response was always the same: "I dunno. I guess they hung up."

"April Fool's!" I would yell. "Doggone it, Peter!" she would retort with a smirk. "I fall for this every year!" Every year. Every morning. The same April Fool's joke. I tricked my mother into expecting to talk to someone on the phone. An anticipated outcome gone unfulfilled.

Have you ever been tricked into believing something or hoping for something to occur, but it went unfulfilled? Perhaps you were promised a birthday party that never happened, or maybe someone promised to meet you at a restaurant but were stood up. More seriously, maybe you promised your spouse in your wedding vows "to death to us part" but he or she ended up leaving you. Whatever the case, you were promised something, and it was never fulfilled.

Thankfully, God is not like this. When He makes a promise, it is guaranteed to be fulfilled. The Scriptures teach us that God is faithful. "Your lovingkindness, O LORD," says Psalm 36:5, "extends

to the heavens, Your faithfulness reaches to the skies" (NASB). God's Faithfulness is the idea of always doing what He says He will do. If God says it, it will infallibly come to pass. Speaking of God, Balaam prophesied to Balak in Numbers 23:19, saying, "God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent; Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?" If God says it, we can take it to the bank!

One promise (among many) God has made to his people is He will save them from their sins and live eternally with Him. Recall John 3:16: "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life" (NASB). This is a promise! It is 100% certain! God has also promised to cause "all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose" (Rom. 8:28; NASB). God causes all things to work for good—no matter if they are obstacles, struggles, persecutions, or evil—for those who love Him and are called according to his purpose. This is not an "if" or wishful thinking. It is a promise!

Although we may not be able to have confidence in the promises or expectations of some people in this world, we can always be confident in God's promises! God is faithful and true. Remember this the next time you are tempted to waiver in your faith in God. He is no trickster. He doesn't pull April Fool's jokes.

•"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" (1 Peter 1:3; NASB).

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

### **Sermon Series**

Series: Contend for The Faith! A Look at Jude

4/7 - Part 1: "Contend for the Faith Against: Those Who Turn Grace into Sex" - Jude 1-4

4/14 - Part 2: "Contend for the Faith Against: Those Reserved for Punishment" - Jude 5-7

4/21 - Part 3: "Contend for the Faith Against: Those Who are Driven by Their Own Dreams" -Jude 8-10

4/28 - Part 4: "Contend for the Faith Against: Those Who Hide Among You" - Jude 11-13

# DID JESUS NEALLY 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 ARCADO 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







Mountain Mission School continues to minister to the children in need in the Grundy Virginia area. They provide housing, education and spiritual guidance to those attending and most importantly lots of love to children for whatever reason brought them to the school. They provide refuges, resource and relief for children in need by giving them a loving home, first rate education, including core academic classes, Biblical studies, vocational training and a wide variety of extra – curricular activities. They also provide intentional opportunities to encounter Christ through regularly scheduled worship service, prayer time and residential devotions with small groups and more. Their mission is "Rescuing Kids. Raising Leaders. Reaching Nations" What a better way to serve the community and honor God! Through our support at LCC, we help with a small portion of that. Thank you for your continued faithfulness with your offerings as a portion of our offerings goes towards the mission fund which allows us to support fine ministries such as this. Please pray for this important ministry this month and lift those children up that are attending the schools that they will accept Christ and grow up to spread the Gospel for Him!

As March comes to a close, I want to focus on something that I think might get missed since the work day is not something that the entire church family sees.

We are serving the Berkmar track and field team right now, and I was so happy to see some of the teens from the team show up to help during the work day.

These kids could have found ANYTHING ELSE to do, but they came to lend a hand. They came to show their appreciation for what we do for them, and we are grateful that for that. A couple of the coaches came as well. I just love this team!

In other news. Alyssa Rasor is out ministering in France, and we have a few photo that she shared with us.

Please keep her in your prayers as she does Gods work in France.

God Speed,

Alex Aleman Youth Pastor



It only took 3 hours to fill the bin!!







Roman Amphi Lyon



## **APRIL 2024**

1 1 Samuel 28-29: 1 Chr 9: Acts 19 2 1 Samuel 30-31; 1 Chr 10; Acts 20 3 2 Sam 1-2; 1 Chr 11; Ps 96; Acts 21 4 2 Sam 3-5; 1 Chr 12; Ps 122; Acts 22 5 2 Sam 6; 1 Chr 13; Ps 60; Acts 23 6 1 Chr 14-16; Acts 24 7 2 Sam 7-8; 1 Chr 17; Ps 132; Acts 25 8 2 Sam 9-10; 1 Chr 18-19; Ps 89; Acts 26 9 2 Sam 11-12; 1 Chr 20; Ps 51, 32; Acts 27 10 2 Samuel 13-14; Acts 28 11 2 Sam 15-17; Ps 3, 63; Romans 1 12 2 Sam 18-20; Ps 34; Romans 2 13 2 Sam 21-23: Ps 18: Romans 3 14 2 Sam 24; 1 Chr 21; Romans 4 15 1 Chr 22-25; Ps 78; Romans 5 16 1 Kings 1; 1 Chr 26-28; Romans 6 17 1 Kings 2; 1 Chr 29; Romans 7 18 1 Kings 3; 2 Chr 1; Ps 42; Romans 8 19 1 Kings 4; Prov 1-2; Ps 43; Romans 9 20 Proverbs 3-5: Romans 10 21 Proverbs 6-7; Ps 7; Romans 11 22 Proverbs 8-10; Ps 144; Romans 12 23 Proverbs 11-13; Ps 8; Romans 13 24 Proverbs 14-15; Romans 14 25 Proverbs 16-18; Romans 15 26 Proverbs 19-21; Ps 40; Romans 16 27 Proverbs 22-23; Ps 117; 1 Thess 1 28 Proverbs 24-25; Ps 41; 1 Thess 2 29 Proverbs 26-28; 1 Thess 3 30 Proverbs 29-31; 1 Thess 4



## Road to the Resurrection

Jennifer did a great job getting volunteers in place to teach, sing, and love our community of children. Worship, drama, centers, bible readings, crafts, food, and hugs all combined to make this an amazing event.







I just wanted to thank everyone who came on our Work Day and helped us out in our Shine area. Bookcases were built, paper cabinet was organized, equipment was hauled out, cabinets and toys were cleaned, and over 1000 eggs were stuffed for our Road to the Resurrection event. A HUGE thanks to everyone who helped to give our Shine area a lift! I couldn't do it without the support of our LCC family.

This month I would love to focus on prayer needs for April. Please join me in prayer as we seek to listen and follow God's will for Shine and LCC.

Praises:

-Children's attendance is increasing on Sunday mornings! We had 15 children during the worship time this past Sunday.

-The children are learning how to pray and are working on memorizing the New Testament books. One child has already attained her goal of memorizing the NT books.

-For the dedication of our teachers who prepare lessons and truly care about our children and families.





Prayer needs:

- Please pray that God will bring the families and children to LCC that need to hear the Gospel.

- Please pray for Vacation Bible School and that God's glory would be shown to our community through the love and teaching of His Word. Please pray for the many volunteers who are preparing their lessons and stations.

-Please pray for Schyler, me and all of our volunteers that He would work through us and give us the strength and wisdom we need to minister to and teach our young ones.

- Please pray that our children would grow in their knowledge of Him and that the seeds we plant will go deep into their hearts so that they may live a life dedicated to the Lord.

"Being confident of this, he who began a good work in you will carry it to completion until the day of Christ Jesus, our Lord." Philippians 1:6



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

'Recharged' (the Single Adult Group) will be going to Gibbs Garden on Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup> – which happens to be Arbor Day! We will carpool from the church that morning. We will have lunch at the Arbor Café on the grounds of the gardens. The sign-up sheet will be in the foyer for 3 Sundays (April 7, 14 and 21). Ticket price for Seniors is \$18 plus tax.

If you are interested in joining us, please sign up. Any questions? 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>	Tuesday, Feb.	On Stage Walton in	"I Love You, You're Perfect, Now
Quarter	27	Monroe	Change"
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Friday, April 26	Gibbs Garden	Lunch at the Arbor Cafe
Quarter			
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Friday, July 19	Booth Western Art	Lunch at Blevins Bistro
Quarter		Museum	
4 <sup>th</sup>	То Ве	Possible: Gospel Music concert, another play or Christmas concert ???	
Quarter	Determined		





## LADIES MYSTERY FUN DAY Saturday, May 4, 2024

Be at the church by 9:15 am. Cost: \$25 per person Sign-up in the Foyer.

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Save the Date

LCC Wednesday Night Meal Ministry

### Meals for April, 2024

04/03: Spring Break (meal provided by LCC staff) 04/10: Sloppy Joe's with Brownies and Ice Cream 04/17: Poppyseed Chicken with Cakes 04/24: Chicken Tortilla Soup with Banana Pudding

The assigned Clean Up Crew for April is the Wednesday Bible Study. 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.



## April

- 1-5 Spring Break
- 06 Make decorates for VBS, 10 am Noon
- 13 Speaker Mike Licona at LCC 7:00 8:00 pm
- 14 Chris Hylton from enVivo Salamanca will be speaking during our Sunday School hour.
- 19 LifeLine Concert at 7:00 pm

## May

- 4 Ladies Mystery Fun Day
- 5 VBS Volunteer Meeting after the service
- 18 Put up decorations for VBS upstairs in the FLC,9:00 am Noon
- 19 Graduation Sunday; Pre-register for VBS
- 27 Memorial Day

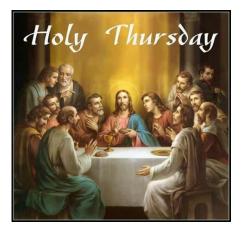


Teresa Herring Linda Proctor Glenda Middleton Marcia Heinz Richard Walker Carol Hill Dotty Zetty Clare Mescher Josh & Lucy Vincent and Baby Lily Family of Beverly Underwood Wayne Starling





David & Mary Indiya March 3, 2024



"The vail is torn, and the doors fling wide, I see glory as I run inside".

It was awesome to worship our risen Lord with our church family this Sunday.

" Be Still "

That's what the Disciples Service gave to me. A moment to be still with my Lilburn Christian Church family and be with God. Pam Straughan



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