

# LCC CONNECTIONS

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# MINISTER'S MESSAGE

William Tyndale (ba. 1494-1536) was an English Christian scholar, chaplain, and professor of Greek. He came under the influence of the Protestant Reformation and became convinced that the Bible ought to be translated into English so his countrymen could read and understand it for themselves. Tyndale took it upon himself to begin translating the New Testament Greek manuscripts into English. This effort put him at odds with the Church of England, and it eventually led to his execution by strangulation and his body burned at the stake.

Many other Christians in the fourteenth through sixteenth centuries attempted, and often succeeded, to their own peril to translate the Bible into the common language of their people. A few of them were John Wycliffe (ba. 1330-1384), John Rogers (ba. 1500-1555), and Jan Hus (ba 1370-1415). Each sacrificed his own life so the Bible could be read by everyone.

Fast forward to today. We live in one of the most prosperous nations with the privilege and access to education that teaches the American populace how to read and write. We stand on the shoulders of those Christian martyrs who paved the way for such access to the Bible and the ability to read it. But study after study shows that the majority of Americans no longer know how to read and write past a sixth-grade school level. In fact, the National Literacy Institute reported that America ranks 36th in literacy compared to other countries.

This functional illiteracy makes reading, comprehending, and learning the Bible very challenging. If the majority of Americans read and write below the sixth-grade level, they will have great difficulty reading the most popular translation of the Bible, the NIV, because it is written at the seventh-grade level.

Just as concerning are the reading habits of Americans. Wordsrated did a study in 2022 that found that more than 50% of Americans had not read one book in the past year. From my personal experience, students consistently indicate that they do not like to read and do not read. This makes reading and understanding the Bible even more challenging.

What shall we say about this? It seems clear that many Christians most likely do not read their Bibles. If they do, they probably cannot comprehend it well because it is translated above their grade level. It also follows that others just do not read the Bible because they do not like to read, period. Church, this is a big problem.

Christianity is a word and text-based faith. God spoke the universe into existence using words. God communicated with the prophets and apostles using words. He directed the prophets and apostles to write his words down in what we now know as the Bible. God has chosen to reveal his message to the world through words and specifically the written Word (the Bible). How can we, who are privileged and blessed to know how to read, excuse ourselves from reading and studying the Bible? How can we, in effect, tell Tyndale and Wycliffe that their martyrdom was pointless because “we do not like to read”? Moreover, how can we neglect such a revelation and work of God?

The question that faces us is this: for those of us who know how to read, will we put effort into reading and studying God’s Word over and above all else? Or will we keep it on the shelf collecting dust? We as the people of God cannot expect life transformation while our Bibles are still dusty.

Your Friend and Minister,  
Dr. Pete



# Mission Spotlight



The mission is spread out in various countries (Cambodia, Philippines, North Korea and China). There are various programs such as the Sharon House, where they help young girls in the Philippines. The crisis - Hundreds of thousands of young girls in the Philippines are falling victim to child sex trafficking. Traffickers exploit these young girls who need to find a way to support themselves and/or their families. Along with the trauma faced by these girls, their exploitation also results in infections, diseases, teen pregnancies, a lack of education, and rejection by society. They also have a child ministry where you can become a sponsor of a child. There are children in the Philippines who need sponsorship. Rosie Bengtson, on the mission committee, can provide more information around this if you're interested. Lastly, please pray for CY Kim as he continues his travels over the next couple of months and for the ministry of CRAM and how they service those who need Jesus.



## Rehearsal

**Wednesdays:** We rehearse in the sanctuary on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 - 8:00 pm.

**Sunday Mornings:** We rehearse from 9:00 - 9:30 am.

Please remember that we are a **FRAGRANCE FREE** group.



**Please do not wear scented lotions, perfumes, essential oils, or colognes to rehearsal and worship.**

"We are excited about the growth of our ministry. We invite YOU to join us in the excitement of what God is doing in the Worship Ministry."

"Thank you so much to those who graciously donate water for the music ministry. It is such a blessing to notice that as soon as it gets low, it's quickly restocked anonymously. We appreciate your serving hearts."

"We are preparing for Disciple Service and for Resurrection Sunday. It's not too late to join us".





**Alex Aleman**  
**Youth Pastor**



This past month we said goodbye to a very faithful servant here at LCC, especially in the youth group.

In my time here, William has been a voice of reason and shoulder to lean against when things got tough.

I will greatly miss him and Jamie, and I pray that the Lord will guide them in this new journey in their lives, wherever God might lead them.

Thank you, William, for your willingness to serve and love on these kids in Thrive. Your wisdom and jokes are greatly appreciated and will be missed.

We love you brother!!!

Below is William's "goodbye message" to all the LCC youth group members that he has taught over the years.

LCC Youth,

I didn't get much of a chance to say goodbye to all of you on my last Sunday at LCC. I was overcome with such emotion at my leaving my church family of 37 years that I couldn't communicate with much coherence.

I just wanted to take this time to thank each of you for how much fun it has been teaching you. This has been my favorite age group to teach (and why I stayed at this post for so long). You are so open to new ideas and question everything and your thinking has not yet calcified. The current youth group personifies that - we've had some great discussions over the years.

In Colossians 3:22-24, Paul talks about how we are to work in this world and who our boss really is. What a great boss we work for! He solved a problem that exceeded all mathematical problems ever formulated by figuring out how to reconcile Him being a God of Love and at the same time being a God of Justice. You and I never could have cracked that code, yet He solved it with grace and love.

Remember that you work for a great boss, and you are fighting behind enemy lines in this world. Keep questioning everything - and stay peculiar!

I love you all.

Your brother in Christ,

William



Spring is here and that means celebrating the Resurrection! Our Easter Eggstravaganza is coming on Saturday, April 19 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.! We have several families from the community already signed up. Please consider volunteering at this fun family event! Also, if you want to stuff our 2000 Easter eggs with candy, we will be meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, April 7 before the prayer meeting in the SHINE area.

One piece of sad news: we said goodbye to one of our most faithful teachers, Mrs. Jamie Renshaw. She has been a pillar of LCC's kids' ministry for over 30 years. Her knowledge of the Bible and ability to teach it to our children over the years has been such a blessing to so many. She and her family will be greatly missed! That also means that we have an opening for teaching Children's Church. If you are interested in sharing a teaching role for our elementary age children during our Sunday service time, please see me (Jennifer).

Please keep our Easter event and VBS (coming in June) in your prayers. We want to SHINE the light of Jesus in our community! That takes all of us working together. Thank you so much for your support for our SHINE ministry at LCC.







## Recharged (Adult Singles)

### Recharged Hosted Events

Our 2nd quarter event will be a day trip to visit the Gainesville Botanical Gardens on Friday, April 25th. Tickets are \$15 each. The sign-up sheet is in foyer.

We will carpool from the church, leaving at 9:15 am. We will have 2 options for lunch in the gardens.

Any questions - see Rosie Bengtson.

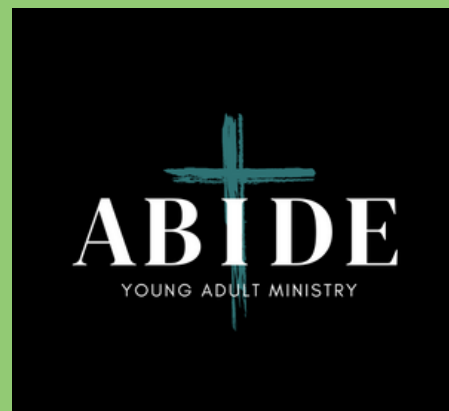
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We have a group of ladies who are going to be making Pocket Prayer Squares for the 'Ignite' youth conference being held at LCC in August. We will have a workday on Saturday, April 26 in the FLC from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

If you are interested, come on in! Bring your sewing machine, fabric scraps, thread, batting scraps, thin ribbon, scissors, pinking shears, etc.

If you want to help, but don't know how, come on in! We will teach you how!

Any questions - see Rosie Bengtson.



Abide finished Season 2 of the Series, The Chosen. What an amazing series to show us what it could have truly been like for Jesus and His Apostles. We seek out Biblical truths and scripture for us today and what it could have been like for early followers of "The Way". For a time we will begin a new series for our young adults to dig deeper into scripture relating to the time of Jesus in His early ministry.

On Thursday evening March 27th, Abide had Trivia Night in our classroom in the FLC!! Many showed off their Trivia knowledge, or like many of us, faked it with some really interesting answers. We may not have won, but it sure was fun!!!

Wednesday night, April 16th, the Wednesday evening before Easter, Abide will be leading a combined class with Thrive (our teens) and the Adult Bible study class. Abide will be leading with moving music, great video lessons about Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday and then a special Communion service. Be sure to be join us!!





Suppose you were transported in time to the mid 19th century. Which one of your conveniences would you miss the most? Perhaps it would be your washer & dryer, or the dishwasher, or central heat & air! The 30 ladies who attended our Annual Mystery Fun Day on March 29 got an opportunity to see what life was like in the 1840's.

The event began in the Family Life Center where Lynn Akins presented an inspiring devotional, comparing the building of a house to developing a Christian life. After prayer and grace, the group traveled to the Bleu House Restaurant in Norcross where each lady ordered their lunch choice from the menu, which included salads, sandwiches & full plated meals. The group then traveled to Roswell to visit two historic houses: The Smith Plantation where they toured the farmhouse and out buildings, which dated back to 1840, and the Barrington House, home to Roswell's founder was also included on the tour.

Iced & decorated sugar cookies were shared as the group traveled from place to place.

A donation of \$127 was given to the Roswell Historic Society and was the balance after the meal charge of the \$25 each lady paid for the day's outing.

The next event planned by the Sisters of Grace Fellowship Ministry will be B.A.S.H. (Book & Salad Hour) on July 8. Save the date and join in the fellowship meal and discussion. More information will be forthcoming.

**UPCOMING**

**EVENTS**

## April

- 01 VBS Registration Begins
- 07 Stuffing eggs 5:30 - 7 pm, then Prayer meeting at 7:00 pm.
- 13 Palm Sunday
- 16 Easter Special with Thrive, Abide & Adults
- 17 Disciples Service at 7:00 pm
- 19 Shine Easter Program/Event 10 am - Noon
- 20 Easter Sunday
- 26 Make pocket squares for Ignite 10 am - Noon

## May

- 18 Graduation Sunday
- 24 Decorating FLC for VBS



**Vlad Rudyk**  
3/02/25



### Prayer Requests

Linda Proctor  
Glenda Middleton  
Dennis & Marcia Heinz  
Richard Walker  
Ron & Carol Hill  
Richard Blankenship  
Janet Curtiss  
Harold Holcombe  
Phyllis Macheski  
JoeAnn Toney  
Carolyn Ballew  
Eddie Herring  
Teri Wilson



**Dawn Hancock**  
3/02/25



**Matt Florant**  
3/16/25



**Steve & Anne Hall**  
3/16/25



**Javier Solano & Rosmeri Solis**  
3/23/25





# BIBLE READING PLAN



NEVER UNDERESTIMATE  
THE POWER OF THE  
BIBLE.

May 2025

- 1 Deuteronomy 5-6; Proverbs 1
- 2 Deuteronomy 7-9; Proverbs 2
- 3 Deuteronomy 10; Proverbs 3; Ps 37
- 4 Deuteronomy 11-12; Proverbs 4
- 5 Deuteronomy 13-14; Proverbs 5
- 6 Deuteronomy 15-16; Proverbs 6
- 7 Deuteronomy 17-18; Proverbs 7
- 8 Deut 19-20; Proverbs 8; Psalm 128
- 9 Deuteronomy 21-22; Proverbs 9
- 10 Deut 23; Philemon; Proverbs 10
- 11 Deut 24-25 Proverbs 11; Psalm 49
- 12 Deut 26-27; Psalm 19; Proverbs 12
- 13 Deuteronomy 28; Proverbs 13
- 14 Deuteronomy 29-30; Proverbs 14
- 15 Deuteronomy 31; Proverbs 15; Ps 139
- 16 Deuteronomy 32; Proverbs 16
- 17 Deuteronomy 33-34; Proverbs 17
- 18 Psalm 1; Joshua 1-2; Proverbs 18
- 19 Joshua 3-5; Proverbs 19
- 20 Joshua 6-7; Proverbs 20
- 21 Joshua 8; Proverbs 21; Psalm 33
- 22 Joshua 9-10; Proverbs 22
- 23 Joshua 11-12; Psalm 149; Proverbs 23
- 24 Joshua 13-14; Proverbs 24
- 25 Joshua 15; Proverbs 25
- 26 Joshua 16-18; Proverbs 26
- 27 Joshua 19-20; Proverbs 27
- 28 Joshua 21-22; Proverbs 28
- 29 Joshua 23-24; Psalm 115; Proverbs 29
- 30 Ruth 1-2; Psalm 129; Proverbs 30



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*Have a blessed  
Easter!*

**"I am the resurrection and the life. He who  
believes in Me, though he may die, he shall  
live. And whoever lives and believes in Me  
shall never die."  
--John 11:25-26**