

# LCC CONNECTIONS

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# MINISTER'S MESSAGE

After Jesus had risen from the dead, John records a third time in which Jesus appeared to his disciples. On this occasion, Jesus approaches Peter and asks, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these?" (John 21:15; NASB). Peter responds affirmatively. Jesus goes on to ask Peter this same question two more times. Each time, Peter responds that he does, indeed, love Jesus.

How would you respond to Jesus' question? Most of us would probably reply just like Peter: "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love you" (John 21:17). Of course, our positive answer most likely comes from a conviction that we do, in fact, love Jesus. We truly are convinced that we love Jesus. But do we really? And how would we know?

There is only one practical litmus test to answer whether we really love Jesus. That test is summed up in one word: obedience. Jesus iterated time and again that if we truly love him, then we will obey his commands:

"Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?" (Luke 6:46).

"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments" (John 14:15).

"He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me" (John 14:21a).

"If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word" (John 14:23).

"He who does not love Me does not keep My words" (John 14:24).

"If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love" (John 15:10).

These are just a handful of statements. There are many more, especially when we include the remainder of the New Testament teaching on this subject.

So how does the church fair in showing its love for Christ through obedience? Unfortunately, American church-ism has gravitated toward answering Paul's following question in the affirmative: "Shall we continue in sin so that grace may increase?" The American church has exclaimed, "Yes!" It has not particularly vocalized this answer, but through its actions it has answered in this way. "How so?" you ask.

There is little to no difference between how self-proclaimed Christians think and act and how unbelievers think and act. Studies show that a large percentage of American Christians do not believe objective moral right and wrong exist. This statistic has played out in their lives in the exact same way as it has for unbelievers. Christians are just as likely to have multiple sexual partners before marriage. Christians are just as likely to live with each and not be married. Christians are just as likely to get a divorce. Large percentages of self-proclaimed Christians believe that abortion ought to be permissible. Some believe it is morally permissible to steal, lie, and cheat, depending upon the circumstances.

The American church has largely failed to emphasize that following Christ—being his disciple—includes holiness, or sanctification (i.e., obedience). Perhaps the reason for American church-ism's failure here is due to a fear of mixing salvation by works with salvation by grace. Surely, such a motive is good (as far as it goes), but the pendulum has swung too far in the other direction. Becoming like Jesus is not salvation by works. It is the message of salvation by grace: being renewed in our souls is what the business of heaven is all about.

Let's turn the tide. Let's show the world that we, in fact, love Jesus by obeying his commands. Let us pursue righteousness and holiness. This is why, after all, we were saved! We were saved by grace through faith for good works (holiness).

Your Friend and Minister,  
Dr. Pete

# Mission Spotlight



The mission team supported a project with the Kennesaw BREAD to help victims of sex trafficking (women and children) financially. We received a note from Mandy our contact at the Kennesaw BREAD location: "I just wanted to update you on the money you donated for our Love in Action (community service) events. The money you donated helped us purchase the items necessary to make sandwiches and pack lunch bags for Table on the Delk, a ministry serving those that have been victims of sex-trafficking, women and children. With your help, we were able to make 280 bags, over three different sessions. The students dove into this opportunity and it's one that we'll pick up again in the fall. Thank you so much for assisting us in doing this project. I hope we can continue working together in the fall to make this opportunity a success! So very very thankful for you all! "



## 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.



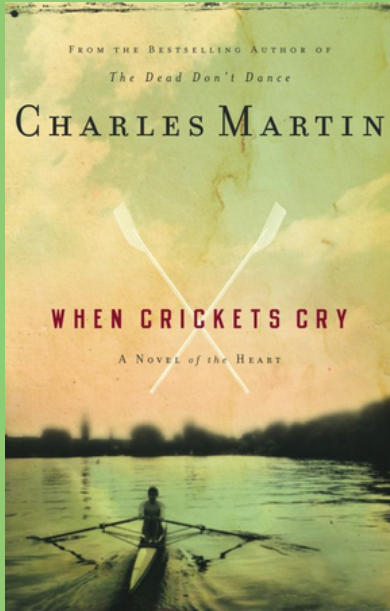
**Please do not wear scented lotions, perfumes, essential oils, or colognes to rehearsal and worship.**

Easter worship was incredible, and we are thankful to all who participated in the choir, orchestra, sound, tech and live stream to make it happen. THANK YOU!

## Upcoming events:

- May 23, 7:00pm ~ LCC's Brass and Winds are joining MSSO Concert at Suwannee Town Center Park, "Red, White, and Bluegrass and Bach". Bring a lawn chair and enjoy the evening.
- June ~ The choir and Orchestra will preview our upcoming Christmas Program "Come and Adore".
- July 27 pm ~ Mark your calendars ~ LCC worship ministry is joining Antioch Christian Church in Watkinsville with their revival service. More details will be made available soon.





**B.A.S.H.**  
**(Book and Salad Hour)**

**July 8, 2025**  
**6:30 pm**

**Sign-up in the Foyer**

# **GAL'S GET-AWAY**

# **AUGUST**

# **15-17, 2025**

**FOREST HILLS**  
**MOUNTAIN RESORT**  
**DAHLONGEGA, GA**  
**(HOT TUBS, POOL AND MORE)**

**COST: \$300 PER PERSON**  
**INCLUDES 2 NIGHT'S LODGING AND 4**  
**MEALS. SATURDAY IS FREE TIME SO**  
**YOU ARE ON YOUR OWN FOR LUNCH.**

**DEPOSIT SCHEDULE:**  
**\$100 DEPOSIT DUE BY APRIL 27,**  
**\$100 DEPOSIT DUE BY JUNE 8,**  
**\$100 DEPOSIT DUE BY JULY 13.**

**DEPOSITS CAN BE PLACED IN THE**  
**ENVELOPE PROVIDED NEAR THE SIGN-UP**  
**SHEET OR GIVEN TO A GET-AWAY TEAM**  
**MEMBER.**

**PLEASE SIGN-UP IN THE FOYER.**

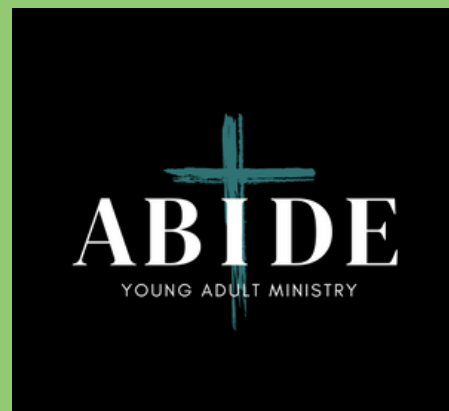




## Recharged (Adult Singles)

The 2nd quarter Recharged hosted trip to Gainesville Botanical Gardens was postponed due to the rain. The rescheduled date for May will be determined later.

If you have a suggestion for a 3rd quarter event, please contact Rosie Bengtson.



What an amazing month it was for an amazing group of people. The Abide Young Adults have been studying on a deeper level, The Beatitudes. The class is currently in the middle of the Beatitudes as part of the entire Sermon on the Mount. Wow, there is so much here in this passage. It's not too late to jump in and join us for further study. If you are a young adult, or know someone to pass the word along, have them join us.

All of us in Abide want to thank those who attended and those who participated in the combined Wednesday night program, just before Easter. Abide led Thrive (our Teens), and the Adult Bible study group in a combined program of meaningful music and a very passionate video speaker who talked about Good Friday and Easter. Then we all participated in a communion service where we had the opportunity to have an "intimate conversation" with God, as we remembered what he did for us on that cross, 2000 years ago.

Special thanks for that night goes to Alex and Thrive for allowing us to "invade their space". And also to Faith Alewine for all of her behind the scenes work. Also Kandy Davidson prepared over 50 bags of goodies for everyone after the service. It was a good night!!!

Abide has a lot of things going on, not only for the group itself but also volunteering in other church wide events. Come and See!!!

Colossians 1:13-14- "For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption the forgiveness of sins."

Do you know the difference between "dominion" and "kingdom"? A dominion is just a small part of a kingdom, ruled over by a lesser lord. God's kingdom is so much bigger than the "dominion of darkness" that seems to overwhelm us. But, praise God! He has the victory over Satan! He is the Light that has overcome the darkness! Satan's dominion is small compared to the Kingdom of our great God!

What an EGGSTROARDINARY time we had at our Easter Eggstravaganza! We doubled our attendance from last year, with approximately 100 people attending! I thank God for each and every person who helped out in any way. I couldn't do any of this without my faithful church family.

Looking ahead, VBS is just a month away! It's June 1-5, with our 2nd annual swim party at Bethesda Aquatic Center on Saturday, June 7. Several people signed up for VBS at our Easter Eggstravaganza. Slowly, we are building relationships with our families, and they are trusting us to teach their kids about Jesus. There is nothing greater in all of the world than to have the privilege of sharing the good news of Jesus Christ!

**UPCOMING**

**EVENTS**

## May

- 05 Prayer Meeting on Spiritual Growth, 7-8 pm
- 07 New Bible Study with Peter Rasor & Jimmy Hendricks using Dallas Wilard's book "The Great Omission". See Jimmy to get your book.
- 09 Abide & Thrive Movie Night, 6:30 - 8:30 pm. Ages 15 & up are welcome to attend. They will be watching "Nefarious".
- 18 Graduation Sunday
- 24 Decorating FLC for VBS 9 am - 12 pm. Pizza will be provided.

## June

- 1-5 True North VBS 6:00 - 8:30 pm.
- 07 Free all church event after VBS at the Bethesda Aquatic Center, 6:30 - 8:30 pm.
- 09 Prayer meeting 7:00 - 8:00 pm
- 22 BBQ Bash & Bingo



## Prayer Requests

### Prayer Requests

Linda Proctor  
Glenda Middleton  
Dennis & Marcia Heinz  
Richard Walker  
Ron & Carol Hill  
Richard Blankenship  
Janet Curtiss  
Harold Holcombe  
JoeAnn Toney  
Carolyn Ballew  
Cindy Slater & Family

**Congratulations to  
Matt Yearick as he was  
ordained as an Elder at  
Lilburn Christian  
Church on Sunday,  
April 27, 2025.**







# BIBLE READING PLAN



NEVER UNDERESTIMATE  
THE POWER OF THE  
BIBLE.

May 2025

- 1 Ruth 3-4; Proverbs 31
- 2 Psalm 119; 1-88
- 3 Psalm 119: 89-176
- 4 Judges 1-2; Psalm 50
- 5 Judges 3-4; Psalm 20
- 6 Judges 5-6; Psalm 121
- 7 Judges 7-8; Psalm 83
- 8 Judges 9; Psalm 120
- 9 Judges 10; Psalm 44; Judges 11
- 10 Judges 12-14; Psalm 143
- 11 Judges 15-17; 2 Peter 1
- 12 Judges 18-19; 2 Peter 2
- 13 Judges 20-21; 2 Peter 3
- 14 1 Samuel 1-2; Psalm 113
- 15 1 Samuel 3-6; Psalm 97
- 16 Psalm 124; 1 Samuel 7-9
- 17 1 Samuel 10-12; Titus 1
- 18 1 Samuel 13-14; Titus 2
- 19 1 Samuel 15-16; Titus 3
- 20 1 Samuel 17; Psalm 27
- 21 Psalm 55; 1 Samuel 18-19; Psalm 42-43
- 22 1 Samuel 20-22; Psalm 52
- 23 Psalm 54; 1 Samuel 23-24; Psalm 63
- 24 1 Samuel 25-26; Psalm 7
- 25 Psalm 57; 1 Samuel 27-29; Psalm 31
- 26 1 Samuel 30-31; Psalm 18
- 27 2 Samuel 1-3; Psalm 141
- 28 Psalm 58; 2 Samuel 4-6
- 29 Psalm 21; 2 Samuel 7-9
- 30 2 Samuel 10-12; Psalm 51
- 31 Psalm 36; 2 Samuel 13-14

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