CONNECTIONS

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Lilburn Christian Church

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CONNECT WITH US









MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Scripture is challenging in numerous ways. It challenges us individually to look at our sin, confess it, and renew our trust and confidence in the Holy Spirit to become more like Jesus. It challenges us to conform to God's will rather than to culture. It challenges us to renew the way we think and then live in a such a way that society deems unacceptable and outlandish. Perhaps one of the most difficult challenges is for the local church to practice church discipline. The New Testament churches had this difficulty as well, but as difficult as it is, it must be done to be obedient to Christ.

One NT example of church discipline is found in 3 John. The Apostle John wrote: "I wrote something to the church; but Diotrephes, who loves to be first among them, does not accept what we say. For this reason, if I come, I will call attention to his deeds which he does, unjustly accusing us with wicked words; and not satisfied with this, he himself does not receive the brethren, either, and he forbids those who desire to do so and puts them out of the church" (3 Jn 9-10; NASB).

There are several points to note about this passage.

First, it is clear that the Apostle John and the other leaders (whoever the "we" are in this text) have authority, and the church is expected to submit to that authority. God has given pastors/elders to the church to lead, teach, and correct the local church. When a person or group fails to submit to the leadership of the church, it is rebellion against, not just the leadership, but Christ. This is a grave sin.

Second, we should note that church discipline often requires identifying the person who is causing division in the body. The Apostle John explicitly names Diotrephes as the problem. Note, too, that he lays out the specific sin he has committed: pride. He "loves to be first" in the church. Diotrephes wants and demands recognition. He wants the spotlight on the stage. And, evidently, he demands that he receives this spotlight over and against what the leadership says because he "does not accept what we [the leaders] say."

Third, the Apostle John says that when he visits the church, he will directly call out Diotrephes' deeds. John is not going to pull any punches. He is going to lay out exactly what the problem is and face it head on. The specific issue is that Diotrephes is unjustly accusing the leadership of saying things they did not say, and he does not receive other Christians who are associated with John. Instead, he does his best to throw them under the bus and get them to leave the church.

Imagine if the Apostle John lived today and wrote such a letter to a church and actually went through with his church discipline. Many churches would turn on John and say that he is the divisive one, that he is uncaring, unloving, and not following Scripture. Many would accuse John of being harsh and insensitive. Many would revile him, saying, "Who are you to judge? You have your own sins. Take care of those first." Still yet, others might say, "Diotrephes is our friend, and he's been here for years. You can't treat him like that!" John would be tarred and feathered in many American churches and branded as a heretic.

This is where the rubber meets the rode for us Christians: when Scripture challenges us to do difficult things, do we come up with excuses or do we bow the knee and obey? Do we cower in fear or push forward in faith?

A saying became popular during the pandemic: faith over fear. Although somewhat cliché or bromide, this phrase rings true in our daily walk with Christ. We must have faith over fear when it comes to obeying the difficult things Scripture exhorts us to do. Interestingly, when we bow the knee and obey, much better things lay ahead. God will bless those who obey him in ways unimaginable.

Stay strong and obedient, my church family! Especially when it is difficult!

Your Friend and Minister, Dr. Pete



Rehearsal

Hosted at Lilburn Christian Church UNITED Working Might Sunday September 21st at 5:00pm Come worship, gray and fellowship with churches from all over Georgia www.lilburnchristianchurch.org

October

• 10/17 Friday evening 6:00pm ~ Lifeline is playing. Come see them located at "A Bite to Eat", which is an outdoor restaurant in Loganville. Bring your appetite and some friends too. The Lord's name will be lifted high. Address is 4447 Atlanta Highway, Loganville,

November

• 11/16 Sunday evening 6:00pm ~ MSSO Concert, Mainstreet Symphony Orchestra will be performing at LCC. Come enjoy the music and support the LCC orchestra members who also are in Mainstreet.

December

- 12/07 Sunday afternoon 4:00pm LCC Choir and Orchestra will be sharing our Christmas Program with the residents at the Gwinnett Christian Terrace.
- 12/14 Sunday evening 6:00pm
 Come Adore" Christmas Program at LCC
- 12/24 Wednesday Christmas Eve Service 6:00 pm at LCC with choir & orchestra



What a wonderful time we had partnering with area churches to come together to prepare and share a powerful night of worship called UNITED on Sept. 21, 2025. Shown are some photos from our combined group rehearsal.







This year we will continue with our Thanksgiving Outreach by supporting Lilburn Co-Op and Lilburn Elementary School. Plans are to fill 30 of our green bags with requested food items for Lilburn Elementary School and collect food items requested by Lilburn Co-Op,

There will be a list of items needed in the Foyer.

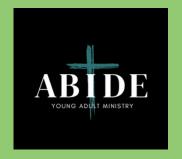
Watch for more information.



For our Christmas Outreach this year we will be supporting Lilburn Co-Op with unwrapped toys.

There will be a list of toys requested in the Foyer.

Watch for more information.



The Gospel of John, what an amazing book!! Abide Young Adult ministry has begun a new study involving the Apostle John and his Gospel. Jesus begins to comfort his disciples as His earthly ministry is coming to an end. The class is using two video series from Right Now Media. The first one explores Jesus, his message and his intimacy with his followers. In the second series we are able to travel to the geographical location of where John wrote his Gospel and his ministry in those locations.

Perhaps one of the more well-known passages in John's Gospel is John 14:5 thru 7, "Thomas said, "Lord, we don't know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus replied, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you have known me, you will know my Father too. And from now on you do know him and have seen him."

A simplistic but effective way for us to individually convey some of the message of our study are these points when talking with those searching for answers. John's Gospel contains most, if not all, of these points.

Gods loves us and has a plan for us.
Sin separates us from God.
Jesus is The Way, the only way to God.

The decision to follow Jesus is a personal one, one that only you can make.

If you know of any young adult form 18-29, please have them come join us as we study what God wants from us. We have also been known to have a lot of fun!!





As we start our new school year, I am encouraged to see the students return to Thrive.

The Lord has some great things in store for use this year, and I look forward to seeing Him move in the lives of our Thrive students.

We had a visitor last week from Berkmar whom I had not seen in quite some time. Armani came by to see us, and it was great to have him back.

Please pray that God brings students to our ministry at LCC who need to hear the good news of the gospel. It's the reason we are here. To bring students to the Lord.

God speed.

Alex Aleman Youth Pastor We've had a beautiful start to the fall season! Our preschool room has been full. I was excited to see our newest Shine child attend with his family this past Sunday. What a true blessing the babies are!

With everything happening in our country, I had a lesson with our older kids about loving our enemies. How can we love them? It is rooted in Genesis 1. We are ALL image bearers. We looked up the story regarding David giving mercy to King Saul when they were in the cave. Then, we looked up in the Scriptures what Jesus said regarding loving our enemies.

I pray that our children will grow up to live their lives for the glory of God, following in the footsteps of our Savior.

For His kids, Jennifer











There's a lot going on with Missions! The Missions Team is very active here at LCC. We'd love for you to be a part of the team! If you are interested in joining the mission team, reach out to one of the members (Bill Michael, Katherine Keahey, Rosie Bengtson, Kathy Huddleston, Jeff or Debbie Stephens). We do a lot by email and have meetings approximately once a quarter and conduct a lot of activities electronically. Here's a few we encourage you to take part in:

Upcoming- we're helping to serve a meal for BREAD Kennesaw on Thursday, OCT 2nd. If you are interested in helping with this, please let Rosie or Debbie know! This is a great way to interact with the students and see the great work being done to share the Gospel to students of Kennesaw!





Secondly, we have churchwide membership for ICOM (International Conference on Missions) and SICOM (6th-12th Grade Student International Conference on Missions) (right around the corner- this is HUGE!) NOV 20-22nd. The main session will be Friday evening at 7:00pm. The entire church is registered so everyone can attend! Many of the missions supported by Lilburn Christian Church will be in attendance so we encourage all of you to attend and plan to meet with them in person! The event will be at the Georgia International Convention Center in College Park, GA so many of us will plan to take the church van and carpool!

Because the entire church is registered, SICOM is free for those attending. Registration includes entrance to the main sessions, workshops and the exhibit hall.

Information on SICOM: The Annual Student International Conference on Missions

ONE Place... ONE Space... ONE Kingdom converged into ONE weekend that can change ONE's life. This is more than an event; it is an experience you must try. Middle and High School Students from all over collide with God's Kingdom like never before. SICOM is where life decisions are made, and memories created that will last a lifetime!

- Missionary Encounters
- Challenging Messages
- Equipping Workshops
- Dynamic Worship
- Immersive Serving Opportunities
- 300 Exhibitors to Engage
- Free SICOM T-Shirt
- · Relationships Deepened

You will receive all of the above with NO additional costs since Lilburn completed a Churchwide Registration!

Lastly CMF (Christian Mission Fellowship) is having its annual Celebration encouraging God's faithfulness told through CMF ministries worldwide! Celebration will take place at Southwest Christian Church in Newnan, GA on Monday, 11/9, 6:30-8:30pm. Registration is open Sunday Oct 19th. Attendance is free, however, you can make a donation on-line if you choose to do so.

Please pray how you can get involved in one of all of these events coming up because spreading the Gospel is what we're called to do as Christians, and we're supporting people and organizations in places that many of us can't reach!



ICOM (International Conference on Missions) 2025 is here in Atlanta! If you have never attended a Missions Conference, here is your chance. Many of the missions we support will have booths set up in the Exhibit Hall. It's a great chance to speak to them, as well as other missionaries from around the world. The main sessions and workshops are always wonderful and inspiring.

Nov 20-22 at Georgia International Convention Center in College Park, GA

If you plan to attend, tell them that we pre-registered as a church when you check in. Church-wide registration allows you access to workshops, main sessions and the exhibit hall. There are also ticketed events you can purchase (denoted on schedule with **).

See their website for details. https://www.theicom.org/events/icom-2025/info

Thursday, November 20th

1:00 pm - ICOM Registration & Exhibit Hall Opens

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm - Opening Main Session

8:30 pm - 10:00 pm - Visit Exhibit Hall & Anniversaries/Receptions

Friday, November 21st

7:30 am - 8:30 am - Bible Study Breakfast with Johnny Pressley**

8:00 am - ICOM Registration & Exhibit Hall Opens

9:00 am - 10:00 am - Workshop Period 1 (F9)

9:00 am - SICOM (6th-12th grade) Student REV-UP Pre-Con Session

10:30 am - 11:45 am - Morning Main Session

10:30 am - SICOM (6th – 12th grade) Student REV-UP Pre-Con Session

12:00 pm - 2:00 pm - Break for Lunch & Lunch with Missionaries**

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm - Workshop Period 2 (F2)

2:00~pm - SICOM (6^{th} – 12^{th} grade) Student REV-UP Pre-Con Session

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm - Workshop Period 3 (F4)

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm - Break for Dinner

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm - Evening Main Session

8:30 pm - 10:00 pm - Visit Exhibit Hall & Anniversaries/Receptions

Saturday, November 22nd

7:30 am - 8:30 am - Bible Study Breakfast with Johnny Pressley**

8:00 am - ICOM Registration & Exhibit Hall Opens

9:00 am - 10:00 am - Workshop Period 4 (S9)

10:30 am - 11:45 am - Morning Main Session

12:00 pm - 2:00 pm - Break for Lunch & Lunch with Missionaries**

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm - Workshop Period 5 (S2)

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm - Women of Purpose**

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm - Workshop Period 6 (S4)

5:00 - 7:00 pm - Break for Dinner

7:00 - 8:30 pm - Closing Main Session

8:30 pm - ICOM Ends, Exhibitor Move Out Begins



October

05 Bridal shower for Schyler Umberger, 12:30 - 3:30 pm

06 Prayer Meeting 7-8 pm

31 Fall Festival

November

03 Prayer Meeting, 7-8 pm

04 Election Day

15 OCC Packing Party 1-3 pm

16 Mainstreet Concert at LCC at 6:00 pm

20-22 ICOM

27 Thanksgiving Day

29 Blankets & Bibles Give-Away 1-3 pm



Ordination of Jimmy Hendricks as Elder on September 14, 2025



Prayer Requests

Linda Proctor
Dennis & Marcia Heinz
Ron & Carol Hill
Richard Blankenship
Teresa Elias
Terri Randall
Wanda McClanahan
Clare Mescher
Byron & Kandy Davidson &
Family
Eddie Ballew





Arely Ramos September 10, 2025

BIBLE READING PLAN



NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF THE BIBLE.

October 2025

- 1 Jeremiah 11-13; Hebrews 1
- 2 Jeremiah 14-16; Hebrews 2
- 3 Jeremiah 17-18; Psalm 35; Hebrews 3
- 4 Jeremiah 19-22; Hebrews 4
- 5 Jeremiah 23-24; Hebrews 5; Ps 110
- 6 Psalm 75; Jeremiah 25-26; Hebrews 6
- 7 Jeremiah 27-29; Hebrews 7
- 8 Psalm 87; Jeremiah 30-31; Hebrews 8
- 9 Jeremiah 32-33; Hebrews 9
- **10** Jeremiah 34-35; Hebrews **10**
- 11 Jeremiah 36-37; Hebrews 11
- **12** Jeremiah 38-40; Hebrews **12**
- **13** Jeremiah **41-43**; Hebrews **13**
- 14 Jeremiah 44-45; Psalm 13; Jer 46-47
- 15 Psalm 123; Jeremiah 48-49
- 16 Jeremiah 50-51; Psalm 137
- 17 Jeremiah 52; Psalm 74; Lam 1
- 18 Lamentations 2; Psalm 77
- 19 Lamentations 3; Psalm 140
- 20 Lamentations 4-5; Psalm 85
- 21 Daniel 1-2; Psalm 136
- 22 Daniel 3-4; James 1
- 23 Daniel 5-6; James 2
- 24 Daniel 7-8; James 3
- 25 Daniel 9-10; James 4
- 26 Daniel 11-12; James 5
- 27 Ezekiel 1-3; Galatians 1
- 28 Ezekiel 4-7; Galatians 2
- 29 Ezekiel 8-10; Galatians 3
- 30 Ezekiel 11-12; Galatians 4
- 31 Ezekiel 13-15; Galatians 5

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