

First Family News

Our Second Century

October 2017

Advice from an Old Farmer

Your fences need to be horse-high, pig-tight and bull-strong.
Keep skunks and bankers at a distance.
Life is simpler when you plow around the stump.
A bumble bee is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor.
Words that soak into your ears are whispered... not yelled.
Meanness don't jes' happen overnight.
Forgive your enemies; it messes up their heads.
Do not corner something that you know is meaner than you.
It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge.
You cannot unsay a cruel word.
Every path has a few puddles.
When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.
The best sermons are lived, not preached.
Most of the stuff people worry about ain't never gonna happen anyway.
Don't judge folks by their relatives.
Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.
Live a good, honorable life... Then when you get older and think back,
you'll enjoy it a second time.
Don 't interfere with somethin' that ain't bothering you none.
Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a Rain dance.
If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'.
Sometimes you get, and sometimes you get got.
The biggest troublemaker you'll probably ever have to deal with,
watches you from the mirror every mornin'.
Always drink upstream from the herd.
Good judgment comes from experience, and a lotta that comes from
bad judgment.
Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier than puttin' it back in..
If you get to thinkin' you're a person of some influence, try orderin'
somebody else's dog around..
Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly. Leave the
rest to God.
Don't pick a fight with an old man. If he is too old to fight, he'll
just kill you.
Most times, it just gets down to common sense.



Trunk or Treat

We're joining the Salvation Army for Trunk or Treat on Wednesday, Oct. 25. Please bring candy donations this Sunday, Oct. 22. We are still working on the details but donations of candy would be greatly appreciated. Thanks very much!

Harvest Dinner - November 5, 2017

The Harvest Dinner is on Sunday November 5, 2017. Dorrie Toth will be getting touch with everyone soon to organize this event.

Annual Fall Youth Rally

Sandy Springs Christian Church will have the youth rally on November 5th from 4-6:30 pm.

October Birthdays

7 Larry Roberts
8 Maggie Joy Westbrook
12 Jim McCollough
19 Sandy White
23 Rod Baker
24 Clayton Moss
25 Eva Krahwinkel

Other News

Please sign up to help in worship through December. Schedules available in the gathering area. The YMCA early learning program has resumed activities at LFCC on Monday and Wednesday mornings.

Serving at the Table in November

Elders: Lee Thompson and Connie Thompson

Deacons: Dorrie Toth and Karla Johnson

Communion Preparation: Mary Jo Alvord

Worship Helpers

October 22: Scripture Reading - Marilyn Parks
Communion Meditation – Joey Baker

October 29: Scripture Reading – Joey Baker

November 12: Scripture Reading – Marilyn Parks
Communion Meditation – Dorrie Toth

November 19: Scripture Reading – Anna Harrison

November 26: Scripture Reading – Dorrie Toth

Search Committee

The Search Committee continues to meet every week in the process of looking for a new minister for LFCC. Currently we have reviewed over 50 profiles, contacted 10 possible candidates and conducted 3 interviews. Please continue to pray for our church and Search Committee.



First Christian Church (DOC)

3495 Sugarloaf Parkway

Lawrenceville, GA 30044

(770) 963-9922

lgafcc@gmail.com

<http://lawrencevillefirstchristian.org/>

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jay White

Music Director: Kim Peebles



Halloween

... is just a few days away, the day on which normally well-behaved boys and girls become zombies and scream queens. And it is not just a children's holiday anymore: Adults currently spend an average of \$68.56 per person on their Halloween costumes. The holiday has expanded to include a month of lawn decorations, plus weekend parties for adults and children. The National Retail Federation estimated that 68.6 percent of Americans celebrated Halloween last year, spending \$6.86 billion.

That's a lot of money. And spending has doubled since 2005.

As Americans, we clearly like to be scared by horror movies. We also enjoy dressing up on Halloween and letting out our inner witch, vampire or zombie. What's going on with this? Should Christians be concerned that a pagan holiday has become big business in the United States, involving almost 70 percent of the population? What are the problems and the possibilities associated with this day of dressing up and trick-or-treating?

The History

The name Halloween has Christian origin -- it means "All Hallows' Eve," the night before All Hallows' Day, more commonly called All Saints' Day. But even though it has a Christian name, Halloween has pagan roots that go deep into the Celtic festival of Samhain, which means "summer's end." Samhain was a time of transition, in which farmers prepared for the cold winter months that were coming; it was also a time when the physical and supernatural worlds were believed to be very close to one another. Magical things could happen, according to the Celts.

Once Christianity became the dominant religion of Europe, these ancient beliefs took on a Christian flavor. The souls of the dead were believed to wander the earth until All Saints' Day, and Halloween was the last chance for angry ghosts to gain vengeance on their enemies. So what did Christians do? Put on masks and costumes to disguise themselves. The tradition continues when we dress up as witches, vampires and zombies.

Let US Not Forget

Halloween points us to All Saints' Day. It is, after all, All Hallows' Eve. Halloween reminds us that "we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12:1), a heavenly congregation of faithful servants of God who have gone before us. On Halloween, we should remember that the barrier between the physical and spiritual is really quite thin -- thin in the sense that we can easily see the examples of the graceful and loving relatives, friends, colleagues and fellow church members who have entered everlasting life with God.

On *All Hallows' Eve*, let's not focus so much on the living dead -- zombies that pop up on movie screens. Instead, let's remember the dead who are still living as saints of God, and as inspirations to us.

Jay