

First Family News



April 2014

Our Second Century Together

Thoughts of Easter

Christmas is so beautiful! Majestic angels, dazzling lights, manger scenes with wise men and the star of Bethlehem adorn our homes. We've even added Santa Claus and bright packages under the tree. We celebrate a time of spectacular joy, peace and happiness.

BUT what of Easter? How do we adorn a graveyard? Even the Gospels do not help. The details are unclear and mixed. It began in darkness, with baffling factors that paint a picture of mystery. Only Matthew includes an earthquake. In one portrayal, there are 2 angels, in another only one at the tomb. Mary Magdalene mistakes the seraph as a common caretaker. One account has Peter traveling with the women to the tomb, in another there is only the women with the men folks huddled at a much safer distance. People running, a feeling permeates the scene with "fear and great joy", confusion emerges everywhere. There isn't even an agreement on the role of Jesus. Did he appear at the tomb or only later? The story is disjointed, vague and incomplete. The details leave us with a striking sense of uncertainty. However, something inconceivable happened, that one detail of the stories is definite.

The symbol of Easter is the empty tomb. How do you decorate emptiness? An empty tomb doesn't move people to give gifts, sing carols or string lights. As Frederick Bechner said, "even the great choruses of Handel's Messiah sound like a handful of crickets chirping under the moon."

Christ arose. A few saw him and even fewer talked to him. Nothing more is given. If the story is true, it says everything. If it is not true, it also says everything. For all of us, things can never be the same. **Easter is a story of emptiness**- either a tomb or life. That one perspective makes all the difference.

Camp Christian Giving Tree

Our church raised \$1150.00 to help supply the following: water bottles, balls and other recreational equipment, gardening supplies, craft items and possibly a few other things.



Mark Your Calendar

The church will hold a car wash on Saturday, April 12th, beginning at 9:00 a.m.



The Disciples Women will host a yard sale on Saturday, May 10th with three sale sections: love offering, priced items, and seller tables.

The resurrection gives my life meaning and direction and the opportunity to start over no matter what my circumstances.

~Robert Flatt

Our Lord has written the promise of the resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in spring-time.

~Martin Luther



Camp 2014 Schedule

Date	Event	Grade (Complete as of June 2013)	Early Bird Registration (Prior to May 1st)	Directors
June 2 - 6	Junior 1	3rd, 4th, or 5th	\$275	Teresa Bensch Brandy Alsobrook
June 9 - 14	CYF	10th, 11th, or 12th	\$310	Danny Gulden Meredith Westbrook
June 16 - 21	Chi Rho	6th or 7th	\$310	Libby Ballew Jay White
June 23 - 28	Mid-High	8th or 9th	\$310	Darrell Vandevort Sheila Hunter
June 28 - July 3	<u>Balaam</u>	For qualifying 11th and 12th graders	\$185	Bryant Gibson Hannah Gunter
July 14 - 18	Junior 2	3rd, 4th, or 5th	\$275	Stephen Westbrook Sarah W. Torbert
July 14 - 16	Chrysalis	1st or 2nd	\$185	Jimmy Peebles Suzanne Cole Wages
July 18 - 20	Genesis	Kindergarten, accompanied by an adult relative (over 21)	\$240 (for adult & child)	Pam Van Dusen Marilyn Parks

Youth News

A Note From Hillary...

April in the Youth group is bound to be a great month! In March, we had a great fellowship at Sparkles Skating Rink (where the youth had the pleasure of watching the youth director wipe out in spectacular fashion while trying to show off her "speed"), and we began planning for our Youth Sunday! Youth Sunday this year will take place on Mother's Day, and in April, we will continue planning an exciting worship experience for our church. The theme, like Youth Assembly, will be "shining on" and carrying the light of Christ into the world.



Also, on April 7th and 8th, we will be taking an overnight trip to Camp Christian for a work day. Marilyn Parks is working hard to organize projects for our youth families to work on. The youth and I look forward to serving the mission of Camp Christian by giving of ourselves and our labor! This trip will be a fun and productive experience.

We will not have Youth on April 20th, as this is Easter Sunday and we want everyone to have time with their families. The next Sunday, April 27th, we hope to celebrate the baptism of the youth going through the pastor's class! Also on the 27th, we will be having a celebration for Kameron Carter, our graduate this year! April is filled with excitement. As always, I am pleased to be on this journey with you.

Hillary B. Kimsey

Deadline for Camp Registration is Sunday, April 20th.

Disciples Women



Family Promise News



We may need volunteer help at the Day Center on Easter Sunday, April 20th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We are partnering with Sugarloaf

United Methodist Church that day. The next Volunteer Orientation will be on Monday, April 14th from 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. at LFCC. Contact Laura at volunteer@familypromisegwinnett.org if you plan to attend. The next Saltlight Training will be on Saturday, April 26th from 10:00a.m.-12:00 p.m. at Lawrenceville Church of God, Building G. Contact Carol Karpf at slc@familypromisegwinnett.org if you plan to attend. Family Promise needs laundry detergent. If you would like to donate, take the items to the Day Center Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., or bring them to Karen and she will deliver them. Thanks to our church family for all of the support!

Co-Op Concert

Don't miss the Peachtree Symphonic Winds concert to support the Lawrenceville Co-Op on April 3rd at 8:00 p.m. at Lawrenceville Church of God at 329 Grayson Highway, Lawrenceville. Only \$10 donation, plus much needed canned goods.



Disciple Women News

A General Meeting of Disciple Women will be Saturday, April 12th when we will make Easter Basket for folks (approximately 10) who are unable to join us in church. Please bring items for the baskets, such as small Kleenex packs, peanut butter/cheese packs, some candy, note pads, pencils, pens, greeting cards with a stamp, small sachets, small hand cream, etc. Also, MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR MAY 10TH ... Church Wide Yard Sale. Bring items for the sale after Easter. We will need lots of help on May 10th so see Jan Baker to volunteer.

Financial Update

The treasury of the church would like to let you know the financial status of Lawrenceville First Christian Church. We have two separate Funds in which we operate. Our first is the general fund which pays our monthly bills and is tied to the budget we pass on a yearly basis. This fund is our regular checking account which is where salaries, utilities, insurance, and other expenses are paid from. Our second fund is our Capital fund. This fund is in a Money Market account and is where the mortgage for our facilities is paid from. The following is a breakdown of our Income and expenses in both accounts for February 2014:

February 2014

General Fund

February Income (Tithes and Offerings)	\$10,631.17
February Expenses	\$13,387.17

Capital Fund

February (Pledges)	\$ 2,405.00
February Mortgage Payment	\$ 3,303.85
Mortgage Balance	\$241,960.08



First Family News

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
3495 Sugarloaf Parkway
Lawrenceville, GA 30044

Phone (770) 963-9922
Fax: (770) 963-6800
Email lgafcc@gmail.com
lawrencevillefirstchristian.org

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 34
Lawrenceville, GA

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

LFCC Staff

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jay White
Music Director: Kim Peeples
Youth Director: Hillary Kimsey
Office Manager: Linda Rowe

Joy and Concerns

We never cease in praying for the needs of: ... Eileen Mc; Nancy W; Betty Huff; W.O.; Mildred P; Bill & Barbara P; Reba & Virgil T; Chris K; Peggy R; M.L. & Faye R; Ray, Blanche, & Harry E; Kris J; Alma F's brother, Paul; Marilyn's co-worker's daughter; Nancy M's family; Ashlyn & Sha's family; Marilyn's friend; Marilyn's co-worker's daughter; Rod's co-worker's family; Mary Jo's family; Elizabeth Mc's family; Jan T's friend; those suffering from depression.



We give thanks and praise to God for... Alma F's sister-in-law, Lou, recovering.

Lenten Schedule

April 2 - 7:00 p.m. Lenten Bible Study with Clay Manley
April 9 - 7:00 p.m. Lenten Bible Study with Clay Manley
April 13 - 8:45 a.m. & 10:50 a.m. Palm Sunday Service
April 17 - 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service
April 18 - 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service with Salvation Army
April 20 - 7:00 a.m. SonRise Service
8:45 a.m. Early Service
9:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast
10:50 a.m. Late Service

Lent 2014



Deadline for May 2014 Newsletter is Thursday, April 24th

April Birthdays

2 Hoyt Huff
5 Matt Klimshuk
6 David Baber
7 Josué Machado
10 Kali Parks
11 Jim Welty
11 Scott Britt
15 Bessie Kirby
15 Chris Klimshuk
18 Leigh Britt
18 Don Bell
24 Lee Thompson
24 Alyna Lee
27 Beth Thompson
30 Libby Ballew
30 Braxton Holden



April Anniversaries

16 Stephen & Meredith Westbrook
18 Al & Patricia Taylor
27 Al & Nancy Groves
28 Lee & Connie
Thompson

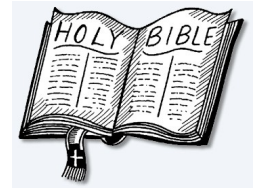


Sign-Changers

April 6: Joey Baker
April 13: Jim McCollough
April 20: Brian Ballew
April 27: Jay White

Youth Responsive Readers April

April 6: Annie Ballew
April 13: Matthew Britt
April 20: Kameron Carter
April 27: Gabriel Evatt-Machado



Worship Helpers

April 6: 8:45 Reader - Jan Trinks
10:50 Reader - Bruce Johnson
Communion Meditation - Lee Thompson

April 13: 8:45 Reader - Tadd Huff
10:50 Reader - Rafael Evatt-Machado
Communion Meditation - Ann Kersey

April 20: 8:45 Reader - Lynn Lane
10:50 Reader - Gerald Kersey
Communion Meditation - Joey Baker

April 27: 8:45 Reader - Rosie Tripp
10:50 Reader - Pamela Evatt-Machado
Communion Meditation - Josué Machado

Nursery Help

April 6: Linda Gulden & Rosie Tripp
April 13: Libby Ballew & Rosie Tripp
April 20: Julie Thompson
April 27: Elizabeth McElhanon &
Pamela Evatt-Machado



Knock knock Joke

Knock, knock
Who's there?
Easter Egg
Easter Egg who?



April Elders/Deacons

Serving at the Table

Elder: Tadd Huff

Deacons: Pamela Evatt-Machado, Josué Machado, Julie Lee

Deacon-in-training: Gabriel Evatt-Machado



Servant-Leaders

Greeter/Bulletins: Charlie Alvord (6th), Libby Ballew (13th), Pamela Evatt-Machado (20th), Josué Machado (27th)

Communion Preparation: Mary Jo Alvord, Nettie Patterson, & Gen Ashby