

FIRST FAMILY NEWS



April 2015

OUR SECOND CENTURY TOGETHER

Easter Is All About a Four Letter Word - And Christians Are Full Of It

Or at least we're supposed to be full of it. The four letter word is LIFE. New life. Whole life. Abundant Life. Redeemed life. Resurrected life. The purpose of life is not death, Easter says. The purpose of life is life . . . a life that triumphs over death forever. Celebrating Easter is the best thing that the church can do because it is a celebration of all that is good, all that is true, and all that is beautiful.

In fact, I would make the case that celebrating Easter is the greatest public service the church can perform for the world. Why? Because it is the reality of Easter that makes everything else we would do possible.

Remember Jesus' final words on the cross? "It is finished." When the soldiers taking Jesus' body down from the cross stabbed him with a spear point, "blood and water came out" (John 19:34). That rush of fluids revealed what was the actual final cause of death for Jesus - a burst aorta. Jesus died of a broken heart. The breaking of Jesus' heart was what "finished" Jesus' life. On Easter morning the great surprise is that sacrifice was not the end of Jesus' mission. Out of Jesus' broken heart there emerged a new heart, a resurrected heart, an unbreakable, unstoppable heart.

On Easter "It is finished" becomes "Now it begins." Life begins anew with the resurrected rhythms of that Easter heart. It is an Easter heart that the resurrected Jesus offered to all who believed in him, all who read the signs and symbols of new life God had left at the empty tomb.

April 19th - One Service at 10:50 a.m.

On Sunday, April 19th, there will be one service at 10:50 a.m. Linda Freund, director of the Lawrenceville Co-Op will be preaching while Jay is participating in the Disciple Men's Retreat.

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

March 29

Special Palm Sunday Worship 8:45 a.m. & 10:50 a.m.

April 2

Joint Maundy Thursday Worship with the Salvation Army at our church 7:00 p.m.

April 3

Joint Good Friday Service with our neighbors at the Salvation Army 7:00 p.m.

April 5

Joint Early Easter Celebration in our Prayer Garden 7:30 a.m.

Annual Easter Fellowship and Breakfast by our men 9:00 a.m.

Easter Sunday Worship 10:50 a.m.



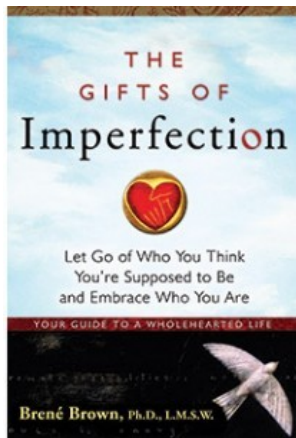
New Book Study Starting in Late April- We Hope You'll Join Us Each Sunday morning

Each day we face a barrage of images and messages from society and the media telling us who, what, and how we should be. We are led to believe that if we could only look perfect and lead perfect lives, we'd no longer feel inadequate. So most of us perform, please, and perfect, all the while thinking,

- What if I can't keep all of these balls in the air?
- Why isn't everyone else working harder and living up to my expectations?
- What will people think if I fail or give up?
- When can I stop proving myself?

In *The Gifts of Imperfection*, Brené Brown, Ph.D., a leading expert on authenticity, shame, and courage shares what she's learned from a decade of research on the power of Wholehearted Living.

Wholehearted living is about engaging in our lives from a place of worthiness. It means cultivating the courage, compassion, and connection to wake up in the morning and think, "No matter what gets done and how much is left undone, I am enough." It's going to



bed at night thinking, "Yes, I am imperfect and vulnerable and sometimes afraid, but that doesn't change the truth that I am also brave and worthy of love and belonging."
— *The Gifts of Imperfection*

Dr. Brown's most unique contribution comes from her 10-year groundbreaking study on vulnerability and shame. In this new book, she not only gives us direction for living a more authentic life, but courageously talks about "the things that get in the way."

For example, in the chapter on cultivating rest and play, Brown addresses the challenges of letting go of exhaustion as a status symbol and productivity as self-worth. In her chapter on creativity she explains the paralyzing properties of comparison. Brown may be one of the only writers in this genre that offers us a path for change and an honest look at the obstacles.

As a nationally renowned researcher and speaker, Dr. Brown's perspective is fresh, honest, and always delivered with warmth and humor. Using personal stories of her own struggle to "embrace vulnerability" she writes about the experiences we all have, but few of us are willing to discuss.

10 MINUTES COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE

First Christian Church of Lawrenceville is pleased to offer a preventive health event. Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will host their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings on Saturday, April 18, 2015. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. **In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners.**



Treasurer's Report

As of February 28, 2015

General Fund:

February Income: \$14,207.61
February Expenses: \$15,647.62

Capital Fund:

February Income: \$5,880.37
February Expenses: \$7,607.70

Disciples Women (CWF) News



Save the Date:

September 13: Church Picnic/Ice Cream Social @ 5:30 p.m.

November 7: Harvest Dinner @ 5:30 p.m.

December 5: Christmas Tea @ 11:30 a.m.

Meagan's Memos

April in the Youth group is bound to be a great month! In March, we began planning for our Youth Sunday! Youth Sunday this year will take place on Mother's Day, and in April, we will continue to plan for the service. Our theme, taken from the Youth Assembly, is Reflect, Refresh, Rejoice and will center around the Joseph narrative in Genesis.

On April 9-10, we will be taking an overnight trip to Camp Christian for a work day. This is a great way for our us to serve the mission of Camp Christian and get excited for camp this summer! We will not have youth on April 5th, Easter Sunday. I am going to begin publishing a youth newsletter each month – which will be available on Youth Page of the website in the coming week.

Blessings,
Meagan Smith



April Youth Schedule

April 5
Camp Christian Registration Deadline
Easter - no SS or Youth

April 9-10
Camp Christian Work Days

April 12
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
4:30 p.m. Youth Group

April 19
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
4:30 p.m. Youth Group

April 26
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
12:00 p.m. Graduation Recognition Pot-luck Lunch



Camp Christian



Summer Camp

Date	Event	Grade (Complete as of June 2015)	Registration (After May 1 add \$15)	Directors
June 1 - 5	Junior 1	3 rd , 4 th , or 5 th	\$275	Teresa Bensch Brandy Alsbrook
June 8 - 13	CYF	10 th , 11 th , or 12 th	\$310	Danny Gulden Meredith Westbrook
June 15 - 20	Chi Rho	6 th or 7 th	\$310	Libby Ballew Jay White
June 20 - 25	<u>Balaam</u>	For qualifying 11 th and 12 th graders	\$200	Bryant Gibson Hannah Gunter
June 28 - July 3 NOTE DATE CHANGE	Mid-High	8 th or 9 th	\$310	TBA
July 13 - 17	Junior 2	3 rd , 4 th , or 5 th	\$275	Stephen Westbrook
July 13 - 15	Chrysalis	1 st or 2 nd	\$185	Jenny Miller Carolyn Money Grant
July 17 - 19	Genesis	Kindergarten, accompanied by an adult relative (over 21)	\$240	Marilyn Parks Pam Van Dusen

Deadline for April Newsletter is Thursday, April 23

April Birthdays

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



April Anniversaries

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

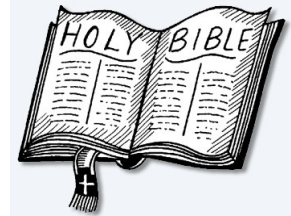


FRF

Join us on Tuesday, April 21st at 7:00 p.m. for our next FRF at Newks, located at 911 Duluth Hwy Suite F, Lawrenceville, 30043.

Youth Responsive Readers - April

April 5: Annie Ballew
April 12: Rafael Evatt-Machado
April 19: Gabriel Evatt-Machado
April 26: Rebecca Thompson



Worship Helpers

April 5: 10:50 Reader - Julie Thompson
Communion Meditation - Libby Ballew
April 12: 8:45 Reader - Lynn Lane
10:50 Reader - Bruce Johnson
Communion Meditation - Joey Baker
April 19: 8:45 Reader - Tadd Huff
10:50 Reader - Pamela Evatt-Machado
Communion Meditation -
April 26: 8:45 Reader - Jan Trinks
10:50 Reader - Linda Gulden
Communion Meditation - Meagan Smith



Graduation Recognition Luncheon

There will be a graduation luncheon on Sunday, April 26th at noon to honor Gabriel Evatt-Machado. It will be pot-luck. There will be sign-up sheets available soon. Check with Meagan.

April Elders/Deacons

Serving at the Table

Elders: Sanford & Julie Thompson
Deacons: Lynn Boren-Parris, Margaret Parris, Rosie Tripp
Deacon-in-training: Rebecca Thompson
Lead Server: Rosie Tripp, lead server, can be reached at 404-583-2313. If you can't be present on any Sunday, please call her as soon as you know.

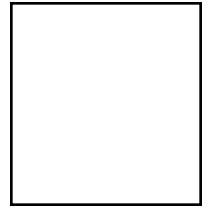
Servant-Leaders

Lead Server: Rosie Tripp
Greeter/Bulletins: Libby Ballew
Communion Preparation: Mary Jo Alvord, Nettie Patterson, & Gen Ashby



First Family News

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lawrencevillefirstchristian.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

LFCC Staff

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

Family Promise Updates

Come join the festivities for the **Sixth Annual Family Promise Bed Race on Saturday, April 18th**. The parade begins at 10:00 a.m. and the races begin at 11:00 a.m. at the Historic Square in Downtown Lawrenceville.

WSB Meteorologist, Brad Nitz, will be the Grand Marshall. If you are interested in volunteering for this event, contact Karen.

Marta cards or Gwinnett bus tokens are needed for Family Promise and Salt Light Center guests. If you can donate these items, take them to the Day Center from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. during weekdays, or give them to Karen.

The next volunteer training will be on **April 13th** from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at the LFCC Fellowship Hall. Consider becoming a FP Volunteer in 2015 if you haven't been involved.



Joys and Concerns

We never cease in praying for the needs of: ... Eileen Mc; Nancy W; Mildred P; Barbara & Bill P; Reba T; Chris K; Bessie K; Our Homebound members; Ray & Blanche E; Kris J; Lenora's twin, Leola; Mabel's granddaughter-in-law; Candace R's brother; Rosie T; Jay's nephew, Matt C; Dorrie T; Judy K; Mary Jo; Donna B's family; Gerald & Ann K; Brian & Molly B; John L's family; Sue S; Larry R; Peggy R; Gen A; Mary Jo; Jay's kids, Fred C's family; Clay M; Tadd's co-worker; Bessie's niece, Joanne; those suffering from depression.

2015 GEORGIA DISCIPLES MEN RETREAT

"Men, Mission and Ministry in the 21st Century"

Christmount Christian Assembly
Black Mountain, North Carolina
April 17-19, 2015

Still time to sign-up. Jay will be doing Vespers Friday and Saturday nights.

Retreat prices are as follows: Guest lodge is \$271.00 single and \$190.00 double. Group lodge is \$153.00 with linens and \$145.00 without linens. You can register at www.gadisciples.org.