



Our Second Century Together

Spring Sermon Series

When I went to seminary, my first year was filled with Greek, Church History, Old Testament and New Testament classes, which was quite a difficult task for an "older" student. One of the hardest subjects my second year was the dreaded and required Systematic Theology. It was a bear, but I came to love the concept. Systematic Theology is basically a course about how we think about God and what we believe as Christians.

Being a Disciple of Christ, I've wanted to teach a sermon series that would bring what I consider the great truths of our faith home to the people in the pew. I hope they help us grasp the basics of our philosophy, build a solid foundation and maybe even share in the joy of learning. These messages are primarily for those folks who want to know more about the nuts and bolts of our Biblical Christian convictions.

The series, starting in April covers the following topics:

God- *In and Outside the Universe*

Jesus Christ- *the Incarnation- Who and What is/was Jesus the Christ*

The Holy Spirit- *Without flesh and bones*

Revelation- *How Do we Know there's a God?*

Creation- *In the beginning- The Big Bang and beyond-*

S in- *At Odds with Ourselves*

The Atonement- *Why Did Christ Die? You May be Surprised...*

Salvation- *In 3 Tenses*

Church- *What does that word mean?*

Worship- *The 3 R's of Worship*

The Christian Life- *Are Christians Any Different?*

Providence- *Is God in Control?*

Prayer- *Does it really help? How?*

Baptism and the Lord's Supper- *2 Ordinances We as Disciples Practice*

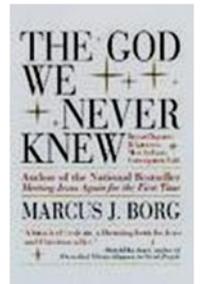
Eschatology-*How will it all end up?*

Hope to see you there!

What's The Pastor Reading?

In his 1998 book, Borg examines God from an intellectual, theological and experiential standpoint. He gently dismantles images of God that, in the last 30 or 40 years, have ceased to be persuasive to many, and offers a new and compelling portrait of God that invites readers to reconsider their relationship with the sacred.

Borg argues that older images of a monarchical God who is distant from us discourage intimacy with God. These models' images of domination and subjection, according to Borg, carry over into our relationship with nature, politics and one another. Borg's alternative image of God, "the belonging model," portrays a compassionate God who is always with and amongst us, seeking relationship. Writing clearly, summarizing some of the best of contemporary theology in nontechnical language, Borg continues to speak to, and to challenge, the widest possible audience



As a pastor, I found Borg's book very helpful in my journey of faith. It gave me a different perspective to approach "absolute truth" and the dialogue we are now forced to have with people from all walks and faiths. I also deeply appreciate the stress it places on living out one's faith today rather than focus on one's eternal security.

Outside The Walls

Lawrenceville Cooperative Ministry News

Thank you Lawrenceville First in supporting the 2012 Flashlight 5K Run. We had seven runners and around fifteen Flashlight holders. Which this year we actually needed as we were running in the DARK. The Co-op was the beneficiary of over \$10,000 Praise God.

Our next opportunity to support the Co-op will a program presented by the Peachtree Symphonic Winds and Band of Jazz on Friday April 19 2013. This is a fabulous program with professional musicians. They have moved to Friday night with the intent of more youth being able to attend. More details will be coming, but mark your calendar now.

Remember your First Sunday Food donations are always needed and appreciated. Currently the most needed food items are:

- Canned Meat
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Dry Cereals, Oatmeal and Grits
- Canned Fruit
- Canned beans and dried beans

They typically have more than enough canned green beans. The Co-op also accepts personal items such as shampoo and soap.

The Co-op works closely with the First Baptist Clothing Ministry. They are always in need of clothing donations plus new socks and underwear. So as you are doing your spring cleaning, this is the place to take the things your children have out grown or you have not worn in the past year.

Family Promise Bed Race

The Family Promise Bed Race will be on March 16th at 11:00 am at the Gwinnett County Historic Courthouse in Lawrenceville. Information is posted on the bulletin board. This year's race is part of the Spring Green Festival which includes fun for the whole family (inflatables, face painting, music, food and more)! Admission is free for spectators!



Family Promise News

Thank you to the volunteers who fulfilled needs during the host week at Peachtree Corners Christian Church. Mark your calendars for our next opportunity to help at PCCC during the week of April 21.

The next SaltLight Center (emergency shelter for women and children) training will be on Saturday, March 2nd from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Lawrenceville Church of God, Building G. Contact Carol Karpf at slc@familypromisegwinnet.org or (770) 885-2947 for questions and to RSVP for training. The SL Center has needs for disposable bowls for cereal, women's pj's-S to XL, and bleach.



Please consider becoming involved with Family Promise this year. Family Promise is the ONLY shelter for homeless families in Gwinnett County. We are fortunate that Family Promise training is held at our church. FP training will be held on Monday, March 11 from 7 p.m.-9 p.m. and on Sunday, March 24 from 2 p.m.-4 p.m. Please RSVP with Holly at volunteer@familypromisegwinnett.org, or (770) 329-5498. Family Promise has a need for used furniture for graduates. They especially need used mattresses, boxsprings, tables and chairs. For more information on this program visit www.familypromise.org.

Christian Women's Fellowship

March Disciple Women's Meeting

ALL WOMEN INVITED – MARCH DISCIPLE WOMEN'S MEETING

All women are invited to join DW for a General Meeting on Saturday, March 23rd at 10:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall at the church. We will be putting together Easter goody bags for our church members who are no longer able to attend church. See the article about baskets for ideas of items to donate for the bags.

There will also be a BRIEF business meeting to vote on changing our officers' terms from the current cycle from July to June to coincide with the church calendar year which runs from January to December. The DW Executive Committee has approved this change, and we will ask for women's approval.

March Supper/Lunch Club

All women are invited to join us for lunch immediately following the March General Meeting on Saturday, March 23rd. We will be going to Tweedy's at 3153 Sugarloaf Parkway, Suite 115. Eva Krahwinkel will be hosting this event.

SAVE THE DATE!

April 20: The women of Lawrenceville First Christian Church are hosting the Disciples Women's Spring Conference for North Georgia. We expect to have about 75 to 80 women from the metro Atlanta and North Georgia area. We would love to have a good showing of women from LFCC at this event to welcome our guests!

Our lunch is being catered by our own Linda Rowe, and all you will have to do is come and enjoy! We will need a few volunteers to help people find where they are going as well as help with decorating tables and lunch set up. Let Beth Thompson know if you are willing to help.

The theme is "Women of Strength: Growing Strong in the Christian Life." The event will include the opportunity to attend 3 workshops and enjoy a delicious lunch. The Conference will begin at 9:30 a.m. and end by 2:30 p.m. The cost is \$15 if paid in advance, \$20 at the door (but we still need reservations for all attendees so lunch and conference materials can be prepared). If you want to attend, there will be a sign-up form on the bulletin board in the main hallway or you may register online at www.gadisciples.org. Registration materials are not available yet, but should be here soon!

There will be a "gently-used" book sale. Please consider donating a few selective books which you think a sister might enjoy. Proceeds will support regional women's ministry. Service project information will be available when we receive registration materials.



Easter Bags for the Homebound

On Saturday, March 23rd, we will make Easter bags for the home bound at our general meeting. We will make 7-8 Easter Bags. Suggestion of items to bring: small packets of cheese/peanut butter crackers, small bags of cookies, individual Kleenex, small bags of dried fruits-cranberry, raisin, etc, all purpose greeting cards- that can be sent for any



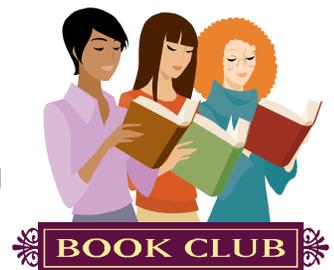
occasion, note pads/pencil/pen, small hand lotion, a small quantity of candy. If you bring items before Saturday 23rd, please mark for Easter bags and leave in the church office.

Disciples Women (CWF) Book Club

We plan to meet on Sunday, March 17th after 10:50 a.m. worship service and have lunch at

Hometown BBQ for a discussion about the book. Also, if you have a suggestion for a book you would like to read, let Patricia Taylor know and we can

read it for the next Book Club meeting. Contact Patricia for more information.





First Family News

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
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LFCC Staff

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jay White
Music Director: Kim Peeples
Administrative Assistant: Linda Rowe

Joys and Concerns

We never cease in praying for the needs of: ... Susan G; Chris K; Kris J; Eileen Mc; Nancy W; Dorrie T; Betty H; Reba & Virgil T; ML & Faye R; Ray E; Connie T's family; Mildred P; Nettie P; Harry E; Anna H's family; Gen A; Deborah S's mom; Jan T's friend; Judy K's Mom; Jim M's co-worker; Candace R's friends; Rosie T's father; Leona C's aunt passed away; Karla J's co-worker's husband; Connie W's sister; Lynn B; Eva's brother; Ada E passed away this week; continued prayer for the School Resource Officer who was struck by a car; those suffering from depression.

We give thanks and praise to God for... Nettie is a great grandmother; Nancy G is a grandmother.

Daylight Savings Time Begins

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed on Saturday

night, March 9. Daylight Savings Time begins at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 10.



Easter- the most exciting time of the year...

Somebody ought to write a book titled, "Preachers Are Funny Creatures." It makes no difference if they are pastors, priests or rabbis--people who have the wonderful privilege as I do of standing in a pulpit each week are somewhat weird. Like the Reverend Eugene Magee. Magee is an enthusiastic pastor who does not wear a robe. His sanctuary is plainer than most, adorned only by a cross and an American flag. Magee likes to wave his arms to emphasize important points in his sermons. Unfortunately, he is so animated that he has trouble keeping his shirttails in his trousers. To solve this he has developed the habit of periodically stuffing his shirttails back into his trousers as inconspicuously as possible, even while he is preaching.

One **Easter** Sunday, while admonishing the faithful with great excitement, he fished around behind his back in the usual way, and found more material than usual to push out of sight. He persisted doggedly, however. On he preached and on he stuffed. At the close of his sermon he discovered that he had about half of the American flag stuffed into his pants.

He felt foolish, of course. But what would you expect? It was **Easter** Sunday! What pastor can help but get excited on **Easter** Sunday? Hopefully, that will not happen to me.

**Deadline for
April Newsletter
Thursday, March 21st**

March Birthdays

5 Bruce Johnson
7 Riley Ballew
13 Lynn Boren
15 Tyler Treadwell
19 Kim Peeples
19 Mary Vogt
20 Sydney Jerkins
21 Emma Johnson
24 Charlie Alvord
30 Molly Ballew



March Anniversaries

2 Ray & Blanche Emerson
3 John & Julie Lee
6 Hoyt & Betty Huff
15 Jim & Nancy Welty
16 Matt & Chris Klimshuk
22 Ken & Maribeth Fisher
22 Doug & Evelyn Carlisle



Sign-Changers

March 3: Joey Baker
March 10: Jim McCollough
March 17: Brian Ballew
March 24: Tommy Hlass
March 31: Vacant

**Young Helpers in Worship -
March**

March 3:
Youth Responsive Reader: David Trantham
Acolytes: Riley Ballew
March 10:
Youth Responsive Reader: Annie Ballew
Acolytes: Alyna Lee
March 17:
Youth Responsive Reader: Matthew Britt
Acolytes: Molly Ballew
March 24:
Youth Responsive Reader: Kameron Carter
Acolytes: Grace Fisher
March 31:
Youth Responsive Reader: David Britt
Acolytes: Riley Ballew



Children's Worship Leaders:

March 3: Anna Harrison & Helper
March 10: Josué Machado & Gabriel Evatt-Machado
March 17: Karen Jensen & Helper
March 24: Vacant
March 31: Vacant



Youth Schedule

Sunday, March 3rd:
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
4:30 p.m. Youth Group
Sunday, March 10th:
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
4:30 p.m. Youth Group
Sunday, March 17th:
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
Metro Youth Event
@ Peachtree Corners

Sunday, March 24th:
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
4:30 p.m. Youth Group
Saturday, March 30th:
11:00 a.m. Help with Easter
Egg Hunt
Sunday, March 31st:
Easter - no meeting

March Elders/Deacons

Serving at the Table

Elders: Jimmy Peeples & Libby Ballew
Deacons: Charlie Alvord, Rosie Tripp, Brian Ballew, Marilyn Parks
Lead Server: Jimmy Peeples, lead server, can be reached at 770-963-8966. If you can't be present on any Sunday, please call him as soon as you know.



Servant-Leaders

Lead server: Jimmy Peeples
Prepare Communion/Cleanup: 8:45 a.m. - Melissa McAfee & 10:50 a.m. - Charlie Alvord
Supply Juice: Rod Baker
Greeter/Bulletins: Charlie Alvord
Coordinate acolytes/youth: Joey Baker
Fill Candles with Oil: Marilyn Parks
Check paper supply/restrooms: Melissa McAfee