



OUR SECOND CENTURY TOGETHER

Called to Be the Church

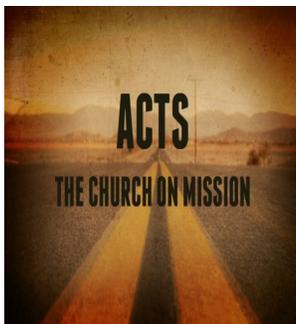
12 Weeks Sermon Series

beginning in May –

The Book of Acts

The church today is living in the era after the heyday of American Christendom; it is also the era of post modernity. Truly today's church must answer anew: Now What?

We are at a place of rediscovery and transformation which makes the Book of Acts uniquely relevant for our time. In Acts we see the



church advancing the ministry of Jesus, doing what he did, saying what he said, disturbing and delighting a world that is both sorely in need of the gospel and yet resistant to it.

Perhaps no single issue is more relevant for today's church than how Acts shows the church negotiating life and faith in a multicultural world.

Will a study of Acts answer all our questions? Probably not. But we will find the church-as church. We will find the church negotiating a new world, filled with both risk and opportunity, and doing so with faith that is bold and a witness that is compelling. I cannot think of anything more needed for us today. It may help us reframe our own story in such a way that this story becomes our own; or better, that this story absorbs our story, giving it new context, meaning, hope and promise. That is my hope.

Join Us For a New Sunday School Study Beginning in May

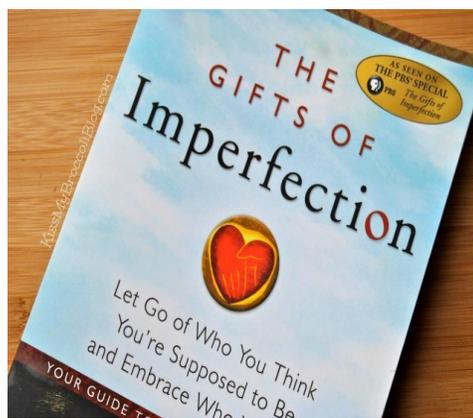
In *The Gifts of Imperfection*, Brené Brown, a leading expert on shame, authenticity, and belonging, shares ten guideposts on the power of Wholehearted living—a way of engaging with the world from a place of worthiness.

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 her ten guideposts, Brown engages our minds, hearts, and spirits as she explores how we can cultivate 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," and to go to



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

"This important book is about the lifelong journey from 'What will people think?' to 'I am enough.' Brown's unique ability to blend original research with honest storytelling makes reading *The Gifts of Imperfection* like having a long, uplifting conversation with a very wise friend who offers compassion, wisdom, and great advice."

Meagan's Memos

April was a great month with LFCC youth! We went down to Camp Christian for a work day. I loved getting to see the place that the youth love so much. We end April with a Senior Banquet to celebrate Gabriel Evatt-Machado and his graduation from high school! Thanks to everyone who signed up to bring food, it will be a great time of fellowship.

We are looking forward to Youth Sunday coming up on May 10. The youth have been working hard to prepare, and we are excited to lead in worship. Youth Sunday is a wonderful way for the church to empower youth to be active participants in the church. I am thankful to be a part of a church family that loves its young people so well.

Peace,
Meagan



May Youth Schedule

May 3
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
4:30 p.m. Youth Group

May 10
Youth Sunday Practice @9:45 am
No Youth Group

May 17
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
4:30 p.m. Youth Group

May 22
Lock in @ 7:00 p.m.

May 24
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
No Youth Group

May 31
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
No Youth Group



Summer Camp 2015

Camp	Dates	Campers/Directors
CYF	June 8 - 13	Elizabeth A Elizabeth C Kayla L Ashlyn P Rebecca T Meredith W
Chi Rho	June 15 - 20	Riley B Alyna L Tara M Mason T Libby B Jay W
Balaam	June 20 - 25	Rebecca T
Mid-High	June 28 - July 3	Annie B Rafael E-M
Junior 2	July 13 - 17	Braxton H Caleb M KJ M Brooks T Perry W Stephen W
Chrysalis	July 13 - 15	Molly B
Genesis	July 17-19	Marilyn P

Disciples Women (CWF) News Book Club

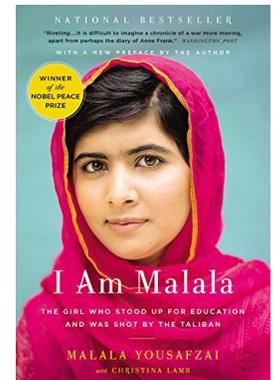


The Disciple Women's Book Club will be reading "I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban."

Amazon.com has a synopsis of what the book is

about. Everyone is invited to read the book and join us for a book discussion and light lunch on Sunday, June 28th, following the worship service. The book can be ordered from amazon.com through the Georgia Disciple website

(www.gadisciples.org) or you can purchase at a book store. If you use the Ga. Disciple website, scroll down until you see SHOP – amazon.com on the left, click and you can go to amazon.com. Camp Christian earns a commission on everything you buy through the Georgia Disciples website. Please let Rosie know if you plan to participate.



Deadline for June Newsletter is Thursday, May 21

May Birthdays

- 1 Matthew Britt
- 1 Gabriel Evatt-Machado
- 3 Rosie Tripp
- 5 Lynn Lane
- 10 Barbara Bagwell
- 13 Kayla Lee
- 14 Thomas McAfee
- 15 Tony Ramirez
- 16 Brendon Parks
- 18 Debbie Huff
- 23 Tommy Hlass
- 25 Eileen McCollough
- 27 Julie Lee
- 29 Karla Johnson
- 31 Mabel Simmons



May Anniversaries

- 21 Tadd & Debbie Huff
24 Josué & Pamela-Evatt Machado

Treasurer's Report

As of March 31, 2015

General Fund:

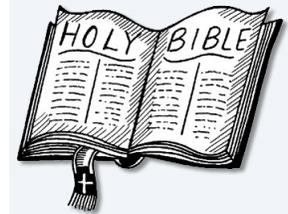
March Inflows: \$16,557.19
March Outflows: \$15,682.73

Capital Fund:

March Inflows: \$2,925.30
March Outflows: \$3,303.85

Youth Responsive Readers - May

- May 3: Elizabeth Clackum
May 10: Youth Sunday
May 17: Annie Ballew
May 24: Rafael Evatt-Machado
May 31: Gabriel Evatt-Machado



Worship Helpers

- May 3:** 8:45 Reader - Melissa McAfee
10:50 Reader - Jimmy Peeples
Communion Meditation - Ann E Kersey
- May 10:** 8:45 Reader -
10:50 Reader - Youth Sunday
Communion Meditation - Youth Sunday
- May 17:** 8:45 Reader -
10:50 Reader - Patricia Taylor
Communion Meditation - Rod Baker
- May 24:** 8:45 Reader - Lynn Lane
10:50 Reader - Linda Gulden
Communion Meditation - Jimmy Peeples
- May 31:** 8:45 Reader - Rosie Tripp
10:50 Reader - Marilyn Parks
Communion Meditation - Gerald Kersey

FRF

Join us on Tuesday, May 19th at 7:00 p.m. for our next FRF at Red Robin Gourmet Burgers, located at 1250 Scenic Highway, suite 1500, Lawrenceville, GA 30045.



May Elders/Deacons

Serving at the Table

Elders: Patricia Taylor & Beth Thompson

Deacons: Karla Johnson, Dorrie Toth, Gen Ashby

Deacon-in-training:

Lead Server: Gen Ashby, lead server, can be reached at 770-856-1827. If you can't be present on any Sunday, please call her as soon as you know.

Servant-Leaders

Lead Server: Gen Ashby

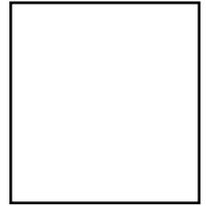
Greeter/Bulletins: Gen Ashby

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



First Family News

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



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

LFCC Staff

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

Family Promise Updates

Volunteers are what makes Family Promise and the Salt Light Center successful. Both programs have been full or nearly full 7 nights a week. Thanks for all of your support! The next training for the Salt Light Center is on May 9th from 10:00 a.m.-11:30 at Lawrenceville Church of God, Building G. Contact Cristina at slc@familypromisegwinnett.org for more information. Family Promise Volunteer Orientation will be on May 17 from 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. at Lawrenceville First Christian Church. All volunteers planning to attend need to RSVP with Laura at volunteer@familypromisegwinnett.org Donations of disposable plates, bowls, and cups are needed for the Salt Light Center. They may be taken to the Day Center. We will be co-hosting at Peachtree Corners Christian Church in Norcross during the week of June 28. Check out the Family Promise of Gwinnett Facebook page for additional updates.



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; Ray & Blanche E; Kris J; Dorrie T; Peggy R; Bessie's niece, Joanne; Greg M; Mary Jo; Melissa Mc's friend, Joe; Terressa A; Rev. Bill N's family; Chris K's friend Nicole's friend and grandmother; Anna H's family; Claire B; Connie W's sister; pray for persecuted Christians around the world; those suffering from depression.

We give thanks and praise to God for... Mary Jo had excellent news from her doctor.

Hey Church - Let's Talk

Here are some subjects and ideas that have been a part of the Leadership Council meetings this year. If you have an interest in one or more of these let us know.

Need to support business and programs that have the principals that are aligned with our Disciples ideals.

Looking for baked goods go to Special Kneads and Treats at 138 E Crogan St on the square in Lawrenceville.

Special Kneads and Treats, Inc. is a non-profit specialty goods company located in Lawrenceville, GA. focused on providing Special Needs adults within the surrounding community a place to learn a skill and develop a sense of accountability and pride. We provide valuable work experience and training to special needs adults, encouraging self-confidence, a sense of value and the opportunity to enjoy success and socialization. Sharing the love of Jesus Christ through caring, serving, equipping and educating, we cater to local Food Ministry Cooperatives, Elderly Care Facilities, Battered Women and Children's homes, Medically Fragile Children's Homes as well as many small locally owned businesses and community outreach programs. Our program allows this special group of people an opportunity to provide for those less fortunate or in need with specialty baked goods and services. Profits from standard sales are injected back into community programs to further assist Special Needs awareness, research and many other areas of need. Special Kneads and Treats, Inc. provides support to disadvantaged children and adults living in impoverished communities in both the local area as well as similar communities across the U.S.A. and abroad. Our program provides strategic partnerships between local business and government enterprises to these same communities. Special Kneads and Treats, Inc. facilitates the efforts of job skill training in the bakery by providing a safe environment for the workers and a resource center for individuals in the community while providing a holistic life skill development through love and caring for all residents in these same aforementioned communities.

Want to help with a Fund Raising project?

Scripts gift card

Good news: It's really simple! The Basics of a Scripts Program

Your members buy retail gift cards through your scrip program at face value.

They choose from nearly 400 national retail stores where they already shop. .

Your organization buys the gift cards at 1-13% less than face value (varies by retailer).

The difference between face value and what your organization pays = your organization's earnings.

Equal Exchange Coffee – Beth is volunteering to make the first order and begin selling this fall Fair Trade is for small farmers and small producers who are democratically organized. If you take the democracy out you have traditional aid or world bank development or what the TransFair USA and the European certifiers are now trying to call Fair Trade...If you want the fastest supply chain that produces the most tea or coffee or bananas at commercial terms you have entered into some socially responsible product world of which there are many examples. It just ain't Fair Trade, and it won't have the same positive benefits.

-Rink Dickinson, Equal Exchange Co-Founder and Co-Director

Should our Church become a Co-op location?

Nature's Garden Express

Nature's Garden Express is an Atlanta based Grocery Delivery service offering home and office delivery of the finest **Naturally & Organically grown fruits & vegetables, free-range eggs, farm fresh dairy, grass-fed meats, breads, coffee, honey, artisan cheeses, almond butter** and more!

By joining the Nature's Garden community, you'll enjoy easy access to **nutritious and affordable food that's sustainably grown.**

All that is needed to form a co-op is a "host", a drop off location, and a minimum of 4 orders.

The benefits are simple:

We pass our fuel and time savings on to you. The members of the Co-op receive a discount on their box.

Each member of the co-op will have their own profile and subscription with personalized size, type, frequency, preferences, and hold options.

These arrangements work well in neighborhoods, schools, gyms and also at the office.

Should our Church have a Community Garden?

We can get information from Chestnut Ridge Christian Church

CrossRoads Community Garden

The first phase of the garden, thanks to our own Master Gardener, Debbie Abernathy, was begun in 2009 on the back property of Chestnut Ridge Christian Church. Three, 4x4 raised beds were constructed, from which vegetables were harvested and donated to local food pantries. The "Feed the Hungry" garden grew to 10 beds the following year.

In 2011 we officially became the **CrossRoads Community Garden**, adding additional beds and providing lease opportunities for 21 local gardeners. In partnership with Chestnut Ridge Christian Church, the Boy Scouts, Cobb County, local sponsors, and the Master Gardeners, we now have about 70 garden plots cultivated by more than 40 garden families who continue to support the "Feed the Hungry" mission by donating 10% of their yield. In addition, the support of our partners has resulted in the creation of a garden shed, composting bins, picnic tables, benches, an arbor, a Children's garden and a Memorial Garden. We invite you to tour our garden and see the progress!

Should our Church go Green?

We have submitted an application to Georgia Interfaith Power & Light and will be scheduling a site visit soon.

Since 2003, GIPL has equipped congregations to care for creation through worship, education, and the stewardship of our natural resources. Our Power Wise Energy Audits help our members save precious energy and money through energy efficiency. In 2012, we launched the first state-wide green certification program for congregations called Creation Wise. This program provides a framework for congregations to practice environmental stewardship and earn points towards certification.