# Circle of Friends A Program for People With dis-Abilities and their Families

# Lutheran Church of the Resurrection 4814 Paper Mill Road – Marietta, Georgia 30067

(770)953-3193-www.lcrmarietta.org-info@LCRMarietta.org



Lutheran Church of the Resurrection (LCR) sponsors a program designed to provide events of fun and fellowship for people with developmental disabilities. At the same time the program provides a "break" for parents and other caregivers. The program also is designed to develop friendships between church members and our guests. Participants and their families are of course welcome to join us for worship and other church activities, but the program is not tied to worship attendance.

### Who - Our Visiting Friends

"Circle of Friends" is designed with young adults in mind, but there are no age restrictions. The program is made available first to individuals living with their families, but a number of our participants live in group homes or supervised living programs. The program coordinators work with interested families and potential participants to ensure that the program is suitable for them. We ask that a family member or caregiver attend with the individual for his/her first time.

#### Who - Our LCR Member Friends

The LCR team is comprised of about 20 members with varying interests and experiences in the field of disabilities. Several team members are certified in CPR and first aid, and at least one will be present at all sessions. There always is a consistent group of LCR team members present for each session, but other church members also participate, including youth of the congregation. Our key team members have received training from professionals in the field of disabilities.

**Schedule**: 4:00 to 7:00 PM on the second Sunday of each odd month, with the exception of May, when we meet on the third Sunday to avoid Mother's Day. There may be special events scheduled through the year on the even months. Please see the church's website and calendar for current program dates.

<u>Important</u>: Reservations are requested for all sessions. *Please call or e-mail the Kirks* (see "more information" below) or the church a week before session.

#### **Activities**

Each program is based on a theme and involves fellowship and recreational activities for guests and church members alike. Activities are planned to meet a broad range of interests and ability levels and include crafts, gardening, music and dancing, and sharing experiences in our "circle" (sharing) experience. There is a light meal served at each session.

## **Application and Medical Release**

Interested families must complete an <u>application and medical release form</u>. These may be obtained by calling or e-mailing the church office or by downloading the form from the church web site (Adobe PDF file format – free <u>Adobe Reader link</u>). The number of participants is limited by the number of LCR volunteers and the need for supervision of participants. Our first priority is always the health and safety of our guests. This is a voluntary program provided by LCR, and the church reserves the right to accept potential participants based on the needs of the individuals and the ability of LCR to meet those needs.

#### **Donations**

There is no fee for the program, but a donation of \$5 for each session is requested to help defray our costs.

#### Location

Most sessions are held at the church, which is located on Paper Mill Road, two blocks off Johnson Ferry Road in East Cobb County. Some sessions may involve traveling short distances, with advance notice to, and written permission from parents/caregivers. <u>Click here for a map</u> to the church.

### **Transportation**

Transportation to and from the program is **not** be provided. However, the church may be able to help families coordinate car pools.

# **For More Information:**

Contact the church office at (770) 953-3193 or Barbara or Jim Kirk at (770) 421-9194 (mailto:jbkirk1@att.net).