

September 3, 2023

The Weekly



Celebrate the many ministries of LCR!

Next Sunday, September 10, between services, (9:30 to 11:00 am) we are having a combination of Rally Day and God's Work, Our Hands Sunday.

We will be celebrating all of the many ministries of our church, both internal and external. Come learn about the amazing impact that all of these ministries have on our church and our larger community. Each ministry will have information available about what they do and how to become more involved.

All attendees will also have the opportunity to help create "Blessing Bags" for the unhoused.

In addition, the Fellowship Team will be organizing special complimentary food and refreshments. Please come and enjoy some wonderful fellowship and learn more about the ministries of LCR.



Support Guatemala with a Gathering at LCR Sept. 16

You can support the MILAGRO Women's Education center and our ongoing partnership with the Lutheran Church in Guatemala by attending the Guatemala Gathering Fundraiser September 16 at LCR. Tickets are \$50.

[Register here.](#)

CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 6

Men's Group
Wednesdays - 7:30 am
In-Person or via [Zoom](#)

SEPTEMBER 9

Habitat Build, Marietta

SEPTEMBER 10

Children's Sunday School
Resumes ([register](#))

Backpack Blessing

God's Work, Our Hands
Outreach Event

SEPTEMBER 15

First Deck 20 Gathering
6:00-8:00 pm ([register](#))
LCR Deck

SEPTEMBER 16

Guatemala Gathering
5:30-8:00 pm ([register](#))
Gathering Room

SEPTEMBER 18

Women's Book Club
7:00 pm
In-Person or via Zoom

SEPTEMBER 21

Life Line Screenings
([register](#))

SEPTEMBER 22

Taste of Habitat
7:00-9:00 pm
The Metropolitan Club,
Alpharetta

OCTOBER 29

Reformation Sunday

Reformation Day Concert
4:00-5:00 pm - Sanctuary

Community Dinner
5:00 pm - Gathering Room



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SERVE: MAKE A DIFFERENCE AT LCR & IN OUR COMMUNITY

Why I Serve...

A new series of reflections on why people serve with LCR.

This Week: Dan Steidle

For many years, I was busy working and helping Carol raise our family. Traveling often, my time was limited and volunteering at Church was not on my list of weekly things to do.

Fast forward to 2020, I retired from my job, started my own business and Covid gave me an unexpected opportunity here at LCR. I was asked to be a parking lot usher.

I proudly wore my yellow vest through all kinds of weather. I especially remember that very rainy Christmas Eve service. I felt much joy in serving LCR during this time and I have continued to usher since. It is wonderful to be a friendly face to our congregation and welcoming visitors to our worship service.

Serving has been a great way for me to develop and grow friendships at LCR. It's harder to do this when you are just going to services on Sunday. It's my way of helping to see the mission of our Church fulfilled. I'm now a participant in the Gospel, not just a consumer of it. Plus you never know what God may show you as you serve. This is "why" I serve.

His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master." Matthew 25:21

If you are looking for an opportunity that brings you joy, allows you to meet your fellow church attendees, and just overall fills your cup; join Dan by serving in one of [many opportunities at LCR](#).

What will be your "Why"?



"God's work. Our hands." Sunday



Stop by the Gathering Room between services next Sunday (September 10) to help pack care bags for the unhoused and learn more about the various serving opportunities to make a difference at LCR and in our community.

Taste of Habitat

Support Habitat for Humanity by joining us at the 19th Annual Taste of Habitat fundraiser where more than 60 chef volunteers (this could be you) from North Atlanta Lutheran congregations each prepare 150 "tastes" - appetizer, salad, entrée, or dessert.

Tickets are \$40. The event takes place at The Metropolitan Club in Alpharetta on Friday, September 22, 2023 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. For more information, contact John Osberg at 678.678.3232 or [email](#).



New Habitat Build Coming

Our next Habitat Build begins Saturday, September 9. The homeowner is an inspiring woman who has been working for the city of Marietta and will be blessed greatly by this home. The first project will be one of the most dramatic - the exterior framing where we build and raise the exterior house walls. Want to get involved? Contact: [John Osberg](#) or call (678) 687-3232.

Make New Connections This Fall



Come enjoy a relaxing evening on the LCR deck with other members and friends of LCR at our Deck 20 Gatherings. You are welcome to invite friends. Please bring an appetizer and beer, wine, or another beverage of your choice.

[Sign-up online for Sept 15, Sept 23, Oct 7](#)

Questions for the Pastor

What is the purpose and meaning of sharing peace with each other during worship?

In the flow of the service, the prayers are concluded by the peace. The peace is both a prayer and a proclamation. Christians remember the word of Jesus in the Gospel of Mark: "Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone; so that your father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses" (11:25). The peace functions as a sign that we are serious about our praying. It's as if we were saying, "O God, help the world with the very peace and mutual forgiveness we are trying to show here."

The peace of the risen Christ is also the answer to our prayers, God's gift to us all. As Christ stood among the disciples, saying "Peace be with you" (John 20:19, 26), so we speak this very same gift to each other. In fact, the presiding minister's words make it very clear that this is the gift of the risen Christ: "The peace of Christ be with you always." The assembly responds, extending to the presiding minister this same peace of Christ with the words, "And also with you." Then the assembly may turn to greet each other with this same peace as well. It is as if each member of the assembly becomes the risen Christ to his or her neighbor.

The exchange of peace is a ministry, an announcement of grace we make to each other. This ministry that we do for each other is far greater than a sociable handshake or a ritual of friendship or a moment of informality. Because of the presence of Jesus Christ, we give to each other what we are saying: Christ's own peace. Then, having been gathered by the Holy Spirit, we turn to celebrate Christ's meal. The community that comes to this supper prays for and has been given the gift of reconciliation in Christ.

Adapted from The Sunday Assembly: Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

This is the first of an occasional series where I answer questions you have about worship, the ELCA, LCR, or whatever. Feel free to send your questions to PastorRuth@lcrmarietta.org.

Photo Directory

We are creating a new Photo Directory for LCR. Submit a picture for your household [via email](#).

Office Hours

Through September 15, the office will be open Monday – Thursday from 10 am – 2 pm and closed on Fridays. Thanks to the volunteers who are covering during this time!

If you are requesting a reimbursement or invoice paid, please turn in documentation by Tuesday, September 5.

Online Giving

We are excited to announce our new and improved online giving page is live [here](#). Nothing about our online giving has changed except the look of the page. You can adjust existing donations, set up a new gift, and update personal information from this new page. Check out this [How-To Guide](#) for step-by-step instructions for current and new online givers.

Note of Thanks

Dear LCR family, thank you for your words of comfort that you so lovingly have shared with Charles and I these past few weeks. Your prayers have returned us again and again to feel God's presence despite circumstances that said otherwise. You have been our strength and our refuge echoing God's faithfulness, all that we needed most. We look forward to eventually returning to worship with you as we help our daughter maneuver the day to day demands of the children and the farm.

God's peace,
Charles & Suzanne

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Could You Teach Sunday School?

If you love Jesus and kids, we would love for you to consider teaching Sunday school this year for kids age 2 through 5th grade.

Interested? Have questions? Contact [Sharon Leon](#) so we can help you complete the safety training and be ready for our kick-off on September 10.



Backpack Blessing September 10

Come with your school backpack and receive a special blessing at either worship service on Sunday, September 10th.

YOUTH NEWS

Upcoming Youth Events



February 23-25

All Georgia Youth Gathering
Camp Glisson, Dahlonega, GA



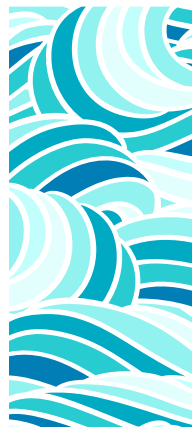
June 9-14

Affirm
University of West Alabama



July 16-20

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering
New Orleans



Confirmation Interest

Do you have a child in 6th through 8th grade? Would you like them to be grounded in some of the basics of the Lutheran faith and the way of Jesus?

We are exploring the possibility of offering Confirmation Classes for 2023-2024. If interested, please email [LeAnn Haack](#) or call (678) 521-6536