

STORIES OF Resurrection

September 2024

The Monthly Magazine of Lutheran Church of the Resurrection in Marietta, Georgia

Our Walk with ILAG

A Decade of Partnership, Service, and Transformation, page 7

Lutheran
Church of the
RESURRECTION



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A Note from our Director of Music

Celebrate Faith Through Music

LCR's Fall Concert "Credo: We All Believe in One True God" on October 20

By: Julian Calvin, Director of Music



Mark your calendars! The LCR Music Ministry is excited to announce our fall concert, which will be held on Sunday, October 20, at 4:00 pm. There will be a reception following in the Gathering Room. This year we are honored to be joined by Thomas Eisnor, director of music and organist at Holy Trinity Lutheran, along with many of their choir. It is a pleasure to be able to collaborate with one of our ELCA partners, and we hope this will be one of many collaborations to come. The combined choir of about 35 singers will be accompanied by an orchestra of strings, oboes, trumpets, organ, piano, and percussion, in a variety of musical offerings with something for everyone.

The theme for this concert is "Credo: We All Believe in One True God." We will perform choral works that explore statements of faith: the robust Lutheran exploration of the creed in Martin Luther's chorale *Wir glauben all' an einen Gott* (We All Believe in One True God), Mozart's effervescent "Credo" Mass in C major, and the heartfelt witness of the southern gospel hymn *I Believe in a Hill Called Mount Calvary*. You will also hear the string ensemble perform Mozart's instantly-recognizable *Serenade in G major*, known by its nickname *Eine kleine Nachtmusik* (A Little Night Music), as well as a couple other choral and instrumental works. Ranging from the profoundly theological, to the lighthearted and joyous, to the deeply emotional, the music on this concert will capture the many ways of expressing what we believe.

Because we expect an increase in attendance from last year and seating in our sanctuary is limited, we have set up an online registration page where you can reserve a ticket to ensure you have a seat for the concert, and we can keep track of our seating capacity. On October 1, we will open the registration up to the outside community, so we encourage you to register early. On the registration page you will also have the opportunity to make a monetary contribution to the music ministry so we can continue offering concerts like this in the future. Thank you for your generosity in supporting the future of music at LCR!

Be on the lookout for other exciting musical offerings in the future, including solo piano, chamber music, and voice recitals, and smaller-scale choral concerts and hymn sing-alongs, as we continue to expand the LCR Music Ministry. We hope to see you at many more recitals and concerts to come!



Visit our [events page](#)
to register for this
exciting concert!



SEPTEMBER 2024

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:30 am

Traditional Worship | Sanctuary

9:40 - 10:45 am

Fellowship Hour | Gathering Room

9:45 - 10:45 am

Adult Faith Formation | Conference Room
Topic: Lost Christianities by Bart Erhman
(not meeting September 8)

Children's Sunday School | Lower Level
(Beginning September 15)

11:00 am

Contemporary Worship | Sanctuary

Fellowship Hour Returns!

Join us Sunday September 8th for coffee hour celebrating God's Work Our Hands and Sunday September 15th hosting Pastor Karen Castillo from our Milagro partner in Guatemala. Coffee Hour will continue every Sunday through May in the Gathering Room from 9:40 - 10:45 hosted by different ministry teams each month. We are also excited to welcome Jen Haehn to the Fellowship team as the Coffee Hour Lead! Cristi Minard will continue as Events Lead while Annette Alexa and Sarah Kirwan will be the Council Liaisons.

COMING SOON: A new Keurig single cup coffee machine that will be placed in the Pantry year round for occasions that don't need a full caraffe brewed - a goodwill offering of \$1/cup is appreciated to help defer the costs.

SPECIAL EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 7-8

God's Work Our Hands Service Projects

SEPTEMBER 13

Taste of Habitat

SEPTEMBER 14

Guatemala Gala

SEPTEMBER 15

Guatemala Sunday

Faith Formation Resumes

Children's Sunday School Resumes -
[Register Online](#)

SEPTEMBER 16

LCR Book Club (Puddy's Pages)

SEPTEMBER 29

One Blended Worship Service
10:00 am | Sanctuary

LOOKING AHEAD

OCTOBER 11

Sunset Social ([sign-up](#))

OCTOBER 20

Fall Concert & Reception ([register](#))

OCTOBER 26

Trunk or Treat, Games, and
Kid-Friendly Halloween Music

Relationships to Support You

Join Us for Book Club!

by Christi Minard

Puddy's Pages book club, formerly the LCR book club, is named after our beloved leader Meribeth Cooper. Puddy was her nickname and after her passing, the book club wanted to remember Meribeth, her love of books and her ability to bring us together. She was the leader for 6 years and the book club has met for more than 20 years!

My favorite aspect of Puddy's Pages is the casual setting where we discuss the books, and members share opinions as well as life experiences. Members have even shared memories and photos from travels in regions related to the books. Hearing their firsthand experiences makes for great discussion and provides a deeper perspective on a topic or setting. We even learned how an elephant chased a member!

The club meets every 6 weeks, and readers are welcome to bring food and drinks to share. At the end of the year, readers suggest books for the next reading season. We then vote on the books we would like to read. Each month, we ask a volunteer to lead that month's book discussion which can be done either in-person or virtually using whatever format they prefer.

Puddy's Pages will have their kick-off party in September for the 2024-25 reading season. A Zoom link is also available each month for anyone who cannot attend in person. Please join us for the season or even just a month. All are welcome!

Monday, September 16, 2024 @ 6:30 pm

LCR Youth Pavilion

Book discussion: The Covenant of Water by Abraham Verghese

2024-25 Book Club Meeting Dates

- September 16, 2024 @ 6:30 pm Kick-off Party
- October 28 @ 7:00 pm
- December 9 @ 6:30 pm: Christmas Celebration
- January 20, 2025 @ 7:00 pm
- March 3 @ 7:00 pm
- April 14 @ 7:00 pm
- May 26 @ 6:30 pm: Book End Celebration



2025 Men's Retreat

Join us for the Seventh Annual Men's Retreat from Friday, January 31 to Sunday, February 2, 2025, at Lutheranch in Tallapoosa, Georgia. This retreat is all about ordinary men stepping up to do extraordinary things for God. Whether through reflection, community building, or simply having fun, this weekend promises to be a meaningful experience. More details will follow, but mark your calendars now!

Faith to Center You

The Power of Kindness

For our Back to School Blessing last month, we shared a backpack tag that said "Be Kind." Kindness is a powerful force in the universe and a much needed commodity in our current political and social climate. As we continue into the fall and the 2024 presidential election heats up even more, we wanted to offer an excerpt from a sermon by Rev. Adam Hamilton, the Senior Pastor, United Methodist Church of the Resurrection near Kansas City, as a witness to kindness in politics.

What does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8

Someone asked, "If we believe the other party is wrong about some really critical issues, are we simply to be nice and not address these serious differences?" No—we should stand up for what we believe in. But too often we do that with rancor, in a way that merely pushes people away from what we believe. That only further polarizes us. Micah 6:8 offers us a better way.

Today we'll focus on kindness, and how it might just be the key to saving American democracy. We find one model for this in the relationship between Senator Orin Hatch, conservative Republican from Utah, and Senator Ted Kennedy, liberal Democrat from Massachusetts. These two were often adversaries in the Senate but cared for one another as friends. Shortly after Kennedy's death in 2009, Hatch noted, "I have to say that we became very dear friends. That doesn't mean we didn't fight each other. We fought each other like tooth and tongue but afterwards, we'd put our arms around each other and laugh about it... and we passed a lot of very important legislation together, and I will greatly miss him."

Kennedy and Hatch both fought for justice as they understood it. Their understandings of what justice looked like, and the proper role of government in how to achieve it were at odds with one another, at times. Yet even in fighting for justice, their fight was tempered by kindness.

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The Hebrew word for justice was mishpat. But with it, we also need to learn the Hebrew word for kindness, hesed. The word hesed appears 250 times in the Hebrew Bible, pointing to its critical importance for the Bible and the Jewish faith. Like the New Testament Greek word AGAPE, it is so important in the Bible, and with such varied nuances, that it is impossible to capture the full depth of its meaning with a single word.

Hesed includes a concern for another person, and in this sense it is sometimes translated as COMPASSION. It is a commitment to provide care or help for another person, and in this sense it is sometimes translated as KINDNESS. It is at times providing aid to someone who has no right to expect this kindness from you, and in that sense it is MERCY.

And there are times it expresses a deep commitment to and relationship with another person, and in this sense it is often translated as STEADFAST LOVE or LOYALTY. In this last sense, a husband and wife can show hesed to each other. Friends are meant to show hesed – steadfast love – to each other. Steadfast love is a primary attribute of God's character and relationship to humanity. It is with reference to God's care for humankind that we find the word most often appear in Scripture. In the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, 174 of the 250 times hesed is used are translated as steadfast love.

What God demonstrates towards us—compassion, kindness, help, mercy, loyalty and steadfast love—is what we're meant to do for others. This was why Micah said that the LORD requires mishpat and hesed of us.

At a wedding I tell couples, "This is what you are signing on for—compassion, kindness, mercy, and steadfast love." It is not just a feeling, and often it is not a feeling at all. It is an orientation towards others, a dogged determination to help, care for and bless them. This is how we're meant to live our lives towards all others, not only spouses. It is how God cares for you, and how you are called to care for one another. It is how we are to live towards our fellow human beings. This is what Orin Hatch and Ted Kennedy shared in their relationship.

Hesed—kindness, compassion, and mercy—might just be the critical answer to our polarization and divisions. It won't instantly solve our differences. At times, our differences are our strength—they are meant to make us better, stronger, smarter and coming up with better solutions. We should have vigorous debate about our challenges and problems, with two or more sides working to come up with our best assessment of the challenges and problems we face, and the best solutions to address these. The debate in politics is intended to be constructive, but that often requires compromise, and always must have the best interests of our country at heart and not just of "our" side.

What does the LORD require of you? To do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.

Want to learn more about how you can engage in a campaign for kindness? Visit <https://campaignforkindness.com/>





OUR WALK WITH ILAG

Iglesia Luterana Augustina de Guatemala

By: Suzanne Demosthenes

To understand our partnership in this ministry one needs to come to know our partners. ILAG's focus has always been to minister to those on the fringe of society, the forgotten, the discounted. At the end of the 16 year civil war in Guatemala those who had fled largely to Mexico but also beyond returned to their homeland. However these refugees were not allowed to reclaim their homes, but rather were deposited in rural regions that were unfamiliar and undeveloped with no infrastructure or resources. Essentially they were left to make their own existence. These were the individuals that ILAG chose to minister to and this was the nidus of the rural communities that now comprise the eighteen congregations of ILAG. They span the various regions of Guatemala. From the outset ILAG recognized that to teach and embody the love of Christ and the saving grace of the Gospel encompassed addressing the quality of the people's daily lives: their health, education, nutrition, and livelihood and so the ministry of this church has struggled to do.

In 2012 LCR began its walk alongside ILAG. **Pastor Bob Bear** was among the first... "I have always been amazed as to the effect global missions have, not only on those we serve and visit, but also on the lives of those who participate. Because of the personal relationships shaped over many years in our partnership with ILAG, our ministry in Guatemala has been especially meaningful and will always remain so to me, locked in my heart."

AND THE MEMORIES IMPACT US STILL:

Mike Mynhier: "On one of our trips to the village of La Israel we helped families install efficient and vented wood cooking stoves in their homes to replace the open fire cooking rings they were using. These new stoves used less wood, eliminated burn hazards to the young children, and reduced health issues of smoke inhalation to the women. For a couple of nights I was a guest of one of the families who had just received a new stove. The last night, before going to bed I went outside to wash in the rain barrel at the back of their house. I will never forget seeing the young mother of the house, alone in the cooking area, lightly patting her new stove with one hand as she slowly walked all the way around it with a contented smile on her face. Yes, what we do for Guatemala has a great impact and is worth it!"

Jill Gadebusch : "We traveled with 8 members of LCR to ILAG in February 2012. (Pr. Bob Bear, Mike Mynhier, Betty Didicher, John Didicher, Karl Sidor, Kirk Gadebusch, Jill Gadebusch and Adele Dengel (Jill's mother). The theme of the mission trip was Puedo Ayudarles? (May I help you). During our time at ILAG Betty, John, Bob and Mike prepared meals for the leader's conference, while the rest of the group painted, reinstalled a tile floor and repaired the water system. A satisfying part of serving was watching the participants in their studies intently learning more about Christ and the church. The participants were warm, compassionate and very dedicated to the ministry God had given them. They were clearly appreciative of what little we were able to do for them."

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Betsy Olson: “As far as memories go nothing will replace ‘my early to bed to read’ only to be serenaded by the heavenly sounds and voices from the girls in choir practice just upstairs from our room. God was in that place and still is.”

Marge Mynhier: “When I visited one of the villages on a mission trip to Guatemala, I stayed with one of the midwives, Anna, who we brought delivery kits to for their use. She and her granddaughter Katerina shared their home with Jenn and I during our stay. To my surprise Katerina was one of the Milagro girls that we met on our next visit. It was such a joy to see that she was being given a chance to escape the cycle of early marriage and motherhood that is so common in the villages.”

John Mellott has been instrumental in advising Pastor Karen of ILAG over the past decade: “I remember sitting with Pastora Karen, with tears in her eyes, listening to her describe the lives of young women in rural Guatemala. I remember her saying how we needed to find a way to help them..... If you have doubts that God remains active in our world - you need only visit Milagro.”

Karen Bear: “Hearing the Milagro’s girls sing hymns enthusiastically and beautifully, is music that transcends all language, and fills my heart with joy.”

Suzy Mellott: “When Milagro first started, Bob Bear asked me to paint quick watercolor portraits of each participant and their teacher. These were made into notecards and each student wrote her story for the backs of the cards. As I painted each participant and read her story, I could feel her joy and gratitude for the Milagro program.”

Suzanne Demosthenes: “I recall on one visit to Milagro hearing the girls each speak of their dreams ...mirroring those stories Suzy spoke of. They spoke confidently and eagerly...”

Sonia: “I see myself as a teacher in a school but also a teacher for my village, giving new skills to my people and making a better living.”

Karen: “My dream is to finish high school, to help my family develop all together, to be a leader in my church. I want to create a new environment to live peacefully and equally regardless of gender.”

Paulina: “I want to be a lawyer, a leader, a helper in my church, and with a good job to help my family. I’m going to be able to change my future and also the future of my church and family.”

Violeta: “In my future I see myself getting a lot of experience and becoming a leader in my community, an agent of change. My dream is to become a nurse, to give that benefit to my village, and to create my own clinic to help people who are sick or hurt.”

Brenda: “I am in the Milagro house because I want to learn new things, be a brave woman, and good leader. My dream is to start my own business, to become a chef.”

Johana: “My dream is to share my new skills with the girls and boys in my community, to reproduce that knowledge. I have a new vision.”

And we have seen many of these young women realize their dreams, becoming teachers, lawyers, nurses, bakers, accountants. And they are each very brave women and good leaders. We thank you Pastora Karen and the staff of ILAG for your vision and perseverance that shaped this ministry that you so willingly shared with us at LCR.”

**We invite you to join us in this ministry,
expect to see this miracle for yourself.**



Take a moment to listen to these young women as they tell their stories on video.

Gala Gathering

Carpool with us Saturday evening September 14th to the gala gathering at Epiphany Lutheran Church in Suwannee.

Visit our online calendar for the link to carpool.

Hear Pastor Karen preach

Sunday morning September 15th at LCR



Get Involved: Exciting Events to Support Our Outreach Partners

It doesn't take much time to notice that Lutheran Church of the Resurrection is incredibly engaged in our community through a number of amazing outreach partners! If you've been trying to find a way to get more involved with one of those organizations but don't have the time to volunteer regularly or can't do some of the manual work involved...don't worry! We have three opportunities coming up to enjoy good food, drinks, and entertainment all in support of great causes!



Guatemala Gathering

Support the work of the Lutheran Church in Guatemala and the MILAGRO women's empowerment center.

September 14 at 5 pm, Epiphany Lutheran, Suwannee



Taste of Habitat

Join us on September 13th for the 20th Annual "Taste of Habitat" to enjoy great food and auctions while supporting affordable housing in metro-Atlanta.

September 13 at 7 pm, Phase Family Center, Alpharetta



Community Assistance Center Fall Gala

Enjoy a night of food, fun, and philanthropy as you spend a night Under the Big Top for the annual gala of our mission partner, Community Assistance Center (CAC)!

October 26 at 6-10 pm, Sandy Springs Performing Arts Center



Building Homes and Hope

20th Annual “Taste of Habitat” Fundraiser, Banquet and Celebration

by Jon Osberg

Increasing the availability of affordable and safe housing is one of the most urgent needs in the United States today.

For more than 35 years, twelve north Atlanta Lutheran congregations, including LCR, have sponsored the Lutheran Coalition for Habitat. In affiliation with Habitat for Humanity, it helps to address that need through raising funds and enabling volunteers to build houses for deserving families in the metro-Atlanta area each year.

Participating in the annual fundraiser, “Taste of Habitat” is just one way (but the most fun way) to support this ministry. Hundreds of Lutherans and other guests will gather at the Phase Family Center in Alpharetta to eat great food carefully prepared by more than 60 volunteer chefs, drink, chat, play trivia, and bid on artwork, gift packages, trips to Tuscany (Italy), an African safari, wine, and other interesting items in the Silent Auction. This year’s Taste is Friday, September 13, 2024 from 7:00-9:00 p.m.



How can you contribute/participate?

- Volunteer to be a chef: Prepare “tastes” of your specialty - appetizer, salad, entrée, or dessert.
- Contribute gift packages, dinners, theatre, or concert tickets, , a special item, or artwork for the auction.
- Be a sponsor or ask your workplace to sponsor the event. Sponsorships are Bronze (\$250), Silver (\$500), Gold (\$1000) and Platinum (\$2,500).
- Attend the “Taste” - buy individual tickets for \$40.

For more information, contact John Osberg at 678.678.3232 or josberg@bellsouth.net



Our awesome LCR crew cooked and served lunch to 105 guests at MUST Hope House! Not a morsel went to waste as many enjoyed seconds and even thirds. Thank you to Jackie and Dell for prepping and cooking and to Lance, Miriam, Stephen, and Matteus for serving.

LCR is on the rotation to prepare and serve meals monthly at the Elizabeth Inn. We collect dry food all year long to keep the food pantry at MUST well stocked. We also work with Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church to provide a Sunday lunch several times a year.

[Sign-up to serve on the website.](#)

September Serving Opportunities

LCR Blanketeers

Since 2000, the LCR Blanketeers have created fleece, crocheted, and knit blankets for children, supporting [Project Linus](#) and local groups like MUST Ministries. New members and donations of fleece or yarn are welcome.

Contact: Marge Mynhier

Knitters for Peace

Knitters for Peace, active since 2000, craft baby hats, blankets, scarves, and comfort items for NICU babies and those in need. They meet twice a month, and donations of soft, washable yarn are appreciated.

Contact: Lyn Ruswinkle

YELLS

[Youth Empowerment through Learning, Leading, and Serving, Inc. \(YELLS\)](#) empowers youth to rise as active, healthy, and productive servant-leaders within their communities. LCR supports the work of this organization on Franklin Gateway.

Contact: George O'Donnell, Richard Leon

Promise Garden

LCR's community garden impacts so many parts of our community! From the preschoolers who learn about growth and food and all the volunteers who plant, weed, and care for our garden. The produce is donated to the Sandy Springs Community Assistance Center's Food Pantry.

Contact: Margaret Perry

Community Assistance Center

Make a direct, immediate impact in our community by helping our neighbors in need by volunteering in a variety of roles. [Learn more.](#)

Meals on Wheels

Every Monday morning, LCR volunteers delivers [Meals on Wheels](#) to low-income and/or limited mobility seniors in the Sandy Springs area. We currently have a small route that takes about an hour to complete. Our volunteers usually sign up to deliver between 3 -10 times a year. This outreach ministry may not seem significant, but we are an important part of a much larger volunteer program that provides over 50,000 daily nutritious meals a year to those elderly folks who can't cook for themselves.

Contact: [Ron Jolly.](#)

News & Updates

Caring for Our Church Family Extending Christ's Love Through Shepherd Staff

by Karen Bear

Shepherd Staff is a group of people caring for our church family through activities such as

- sending cards, making phone calls, making in home visits
- sending Journeying Through Grief booklets to those who have suffered a recent close loss
- making and delivering Easter and Christmas care packages
- preparing and delivering meals on a short term basis for those who need a little extra help
- delivering donated altar flower arrangements to members or nearby facilities
- welcoming new babies into the church family through a gift and a meal

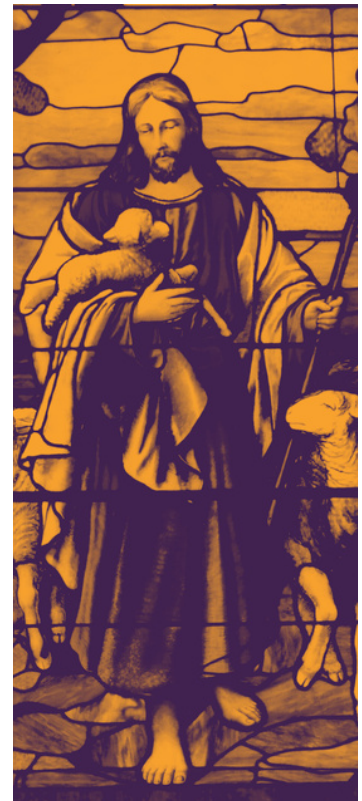
It is one way of showing God's love and compassion to each other and to be the hands and feet of Christ to each other and to the community. From the many cards and notes we get from recipients, we know it is very meaningful to them to be cared for and thought of, but it is also a great blessing to those who do this work. So we are blessed in both receiving and in giving!

For God's Work, Our Hands Sunday, we have two activities planned: One is to make some LCR ornaments to go with our Christmas care packages. Both kids and adults are welcome to join us in crafting!

The second is that we are asking for help with the making of some meals for us to have on hand in the church freezer. These can then be brought to those who could use a meal following surgery, for example, or during an illness, during some type of crisis, for someone who is homebound, and for a variety of other reasons. There are times it is difficult for Shepherd Staff to get a meal made on short notice, so we would like to have some available at church to bring to folks.

On GWOH Sunday, we will have containers for soup/chili that you can bring home, fill, and bring back to church for us to put in the freezer, as well as some 8 x 8 foil containers for casseroles. And of course cookies to freeze are always welcome! There will be sign ups by month, so that we do not get overloaded with meals at any one time, so for example, if you chose January, you could pick up a container now, we'll label it, and you can bring it back to us filled in January.

Look forward to seeing you September 8th!





Ukrainian restaurant Lviv Croissants set to open its first U.S. location in Roswell

By Yvonne Zusel

Our mission partner, Inspiritus, is proud to share the inspiring story Petro Dudnyk, featured in the [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#). [Lviv Croissants](#), a cherished Ukrainian eatery, is opening its first U.S. location in Roswell, GA thanks in part to the support of [Thrive Community Lending](#), an innovative new program launched by [Inspiritus](#) this year. Petro, a Ukrainian pastor and franchisee, has brought this beloved brand to our shores, blending culinary tradition with a commitment to raising awareness for important causes. We invite you to read the full article from the AJC, which captures the spirit of this venture and the impactful work being done through Inspiritus.

A Ukraine-based eatery that's gained popularity since debuting in 2015 is set to open its first U.S. location in Roswell

Lviv Croissants opened Aug. 10 at 610 W. Crossville Road.

Founded in the city of Lviv, Ukraine, the chain has since expanded to 189 stores across Ukraine, Poland and Slovakia.

The store is majority-owned by Lviv Croissants corporate and Brett Larrabee, CEO of Lviv Croissants USA. Ukraine native Petro Dudnyk also serves as a franchisee for the location. Dudnyk, a pastor who also co-owns a Lviv location in Kramatorsk, Ukraine, came to the U.S. in 2022 for his son's wedding and stayed after war broke out in the country. He funded his portion of the U.S. location through Thrive Community Lending, which provides microloans for refugees and immigrants.

Larabee, who has been in the food franchising business for nearly 40 years, said he and co-founder Andrii Galytskyi have been wanting to bring Lviv to the U.S. for years. Larabee was traveling in Ukraine for work when he began noticing the long lines that would form outside Lviv restaurants.

"Every time I went by a Lviv, they were packed," he said. "After 37 years, I know what works and what doesn't, what consumers want and don't want. Lviv has a high-quality product and offers great coffee, great food and a great ambience where people can go and hang out and be part of a community."

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While the menu for the Roswell restaurant will be very similar to European locations, some minor tweaks have been made, including removing the cheeseburger and teriyaki croissants.

Savory sandwiches on the American menu include the pastrami croissant; the Lviv croissant with salami, ham, Swiss cheese, lettuce, cucumber, tomato and garlic sauce; roasted pepper chicken; Italian charcuterie with salami, prosciutto and capicola; and a turkey avocado BLT

Sweet croissant offerings including a strawberry and mascarpone croissant and an option filled with pistachio cream, while savory breakfast croissants include one filled with cabanossi sausage, Swiss cheese, egg and Sriracha aioli and another with lox and cream cheese.



Petro Dudnyk (right) with Inspiritus President & CEO John R. Moeller Jr. (left) at the opening of Lviv Croissant in Roswell, GA.

Rounding out the menu are a handful of salads, soups and sides, as well as an extensive beverage list with espresso drinks, teas, lemonades and smoothies.

In addition to bringing a flavor of his home country to the U.S., Dudnyk also hopes to bring awareness to events unfolding there

The cups at the Roswell location will feature a QR code enabling guests to get information on United for Ukrainian (U4U) Kids, a program that Dudnyk and his wife started to connect orphans from Ukraine to host families in America for one month. Last year, they connected 100 kids — many of whom lost a parent to the war — with host families in the U.S.

Larabee said Lviv “checks all the boxes” when it comes to brands that are set up for success, and he has plans, along with Galytskyi, to open hundreds of Lviv locations across the U.S. in the coming years

“One of the things I look for are brands that can withstand challenged and work in tough environments,” he said. “What this chain has proved to me is that it’s a very resilient brand and product that consumers really appreciate.”



To support micro-loans for refugee small businesses like Lviv Croissant, scan the QR code or donate through Inspiritus and select the "Thrive Community Lending" fund.

Blended Worship Services: Fifth Sundays and Special Dates

By LeAnn Haack



LCR provides two formats of Sunday morning worship to provide for the spiritual needs of the LCR community. Both services are an expression of our Lutheran faith, and we welcome all people to receive God's gift of grace. There are benefits, too, to a combined blended service that promotes unity and provides energy and excitement when we worship as one faith community.

For the 2024-2025 church year, we will hold a single blended service at 10 am on dates where there is a fifth Sunday in a month. This will be on September 29, December 29 and March 30. Palm Sunday on April 13 will also be a combined service, where we can process with our palms and celebrate as one church.

Coffee Fellowship hour will be held following service. Children's Sunday School will not be held on Sundays where there is a blended service, but opportunities for children to engage in the worship will be provided. Adult Sunday School classes will have the option to meet before or after service.

I look forward to seeing you all on September 29 at 10 am.

STAFF

Rev. Rich Leseganich
Lead Pastor

Julian Calvin
Director of Worship & Music

Sigrid Thies-Smith
Office Manager and Bookkeeper

Sharon Leon
Director of Children's Ministry

Common Good Creative
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Opportunities to Make a Difference



God's Work, Our Hands

A Weekend of Service and Community

Join us on September 7 and 8 in acts of service big and small as we join other Lutheran churches around the country in a weekend of service and community called "God's Work, Our Hands."

LCR Teams will be at YELLS, MUST and in the Promise Garden on Saturday, September 7. We will also have a number of fun and meaningful activities in the Gathering Room and in the Promise Garden on Sunday September 8, between services. Sunday activities will include support of our Guatemala partnership, Shepherd Staff meal making take home kits, MUST, Promise Garden, Knitters for Peace and LCR Blanketeers ministries. Food will be served for all on Sunday.

Schedule and contact information [on our website events page](#).

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Worship with us Sundays at 8:30 am & 11:00 am

lcrmarietta.org