

December 10, 2023

The Weekly

Pastoral Transition Update: Page 4

Special Needs Cobb Christmas Stockings

Santa and the elves were out again this year bringing joy to the residents of 20 group homes supported by Special Needs Cobb. 40 house bags and 77 resident bags in total were delivered. Thanks to the Mary and Martha Bible Study for packing all the bags and to our Santas and elves for making the deliveries. And thank you to all of you for your financial support!



Pastries for Peace, December 9

This Saturday from 9:00 - 10:30 am, come for brunch in the Gathering Room with Middle Eastern pastries and a time to learn about the current violence in Israel and Gaza. This event is a fundraiser for Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP). Rev. Dr. Mae Elise Cannon, the Executive Director of CMEP will update guests on the latest news from the region and share insights from our partners on the ground. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions and learn how they can get involved during this critical time.

To register and learn more, [click here](#).



CALENDAR

DECEMBER 9

Pastries for Peace
9:00 - 10:30 am
Gathering Room

DECEMBER 10

Toy Shop Drive Ends

Advent Dinner
Taste of Christmas
5:00 pm
Gathering Room

DECEMBER 11

Women's Book Club
6:30pm
In-person or online

DECEMBER 13, 20

Advent Mid-Week
Worship - Noon
Dinner - 6:00 pm
Worship - 7:00 pm

DECEMBER 23

Build Blessing Bags
9:00 - 11:00 am
Gathering Room

DECEMBER 24

Combined Morning Worship
10:00 am

Christmas Eve Worship
4:00 pm and 8:00 pm

DECEMBER 25 & 26

Church Office Closed

DECEMBER 31

Combined Morning Worship
10:00 am



[Worship
Online](#)



[Give](#)



[Prayer
Requests](#)



[Sign-Ups
& RSVP](#)



[Email & Text
Preferences](#)



[Communication
Request](#)

SERVE: MAKE A DIFFERENCE

MUST Ministries Toy Shop: Deliver Gifts by December 10

Every year, MUST Ministries makes Christmas happen for more than 6,000 children in our area through their Toy Shop program. We will be collecting donations of toys and other gift items through December 10. Look for the Christmas tree in the Gathering Room to select gifts for a boy or girl and age range.

Please deliver new, unwrapped gifts to LCR by Sunday, December 10.

Contact [Heather Boyer](#) or [Dana Jelinek](#) if you have any questions.

Donate and Build Blessing Bags for MUST Ministries

We are organizing a Youth Service Project where kids will build blessing bags for MUST Ministries.

Please deliver items to the collection bin in the LCR Gathering Room by Sunday, December 10. Monetary donations will also be gladly accepted and can be made out to "Blessing Bag Ministry".

Donate the following items:

1. Non-perishable food items (i.e. trail mix, granola bars, peanuts, apple sauce)
2. Hygiene items (soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, hand sanitizer, comb)
3. Bottled Water
4. Socks
5. Band Aids
6. Lip Balm

Help us build the bags:

Join us from 9:00-11:00 am on December 23 in the Gathering Room to help assemble the bags!

For questions, reach out to [Stephen Goodnough](#) or call (770) 757-0942



A Fun Thanksgiving Tradition

Five people from LCR participated in the MUST Gobble Jog walk on Thanksgiving morning. Thanks to those who participated and donated in support of MUST Ministries. Consider participating next year by walking, running, or raising funds...and be watching for updates on the Hunger Walk coming this spring!



Mike Frey and his family in Marietta Square before walking in the Gobble Jog.

Gala For Good

The 20th annual Vintage Affair fundraising gala raised \$340,000 for emergency assistance work in our community through the Community Assistance Center (CAC)! The Paris-themed 'party with a purpose' was held on October 21 at Mercedes-Benz USA headquarters. Every corner of the community pulled together to make the evening a success, including members of LCR. CAC is an LCR mission partner. We recently held a food drive to support their food pantry in Sandy Springs.



LCR members Ken Carlson (middle) Kari Bjorhus (right) enjoy the gala

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Sunday School

Sunday School for children ages 2 years old through 6th Grade takes place most Sundays at 9:45 am on the lower level of the Family Life Building.

Sunday School will take a break December 24 & 31

YOUTH NEWS

Confirmation

Sundays - 9:30 am - 10:30 am

7th-9th Graders | The Pavilion

Learn what it means to be a Lutheran Christian and discover the difference following Jesus can make in your life.

Confirmation will take a break December 24 & 31

Men's Retreat

February 2-4, 2024, the men of LCR will gather at beautiful Lutheranch in Tallapoosa, GA.

We'll be taking a deeper dive into the New Testament book of Philippians and its impact on our personal faith walk. Lots of time for community building, reflection, and great fun.

Contact [Mark Olson](#) or [John Whetstone](#).

Women's Retreat

March 15-17 a group from LCR will be attending the Wild Women's retreat at Lutheridge in Arden, NC. Cost is \$250 per person. The theme is *"This is My Body - Every body has a story to tell!"* Find healing, compassion, and holiness in our bodies.

Register by December 17. Payment is due at registration. Financial aid available. Contact [LeAnn Haack](#) for more. [Register online.](#)

College Care Packages

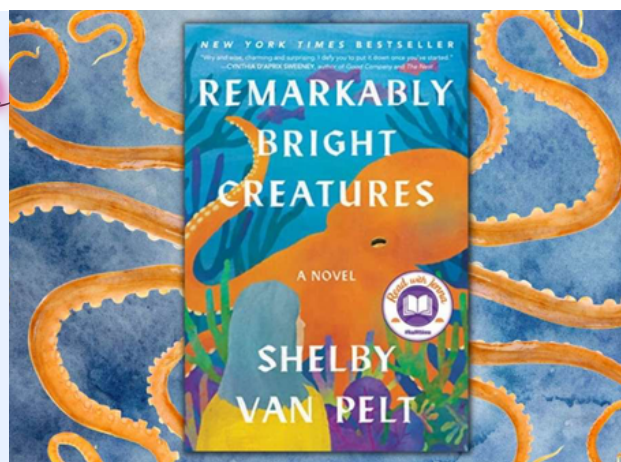
If you have a child in college, we'd like to send them a personal care package from their LCR family. Please submit your child's name and address to [Trish Davis](#) by December 20th so they can receive one this January with the new semester.



Women's Christmas Book Club

Join us this Monday as we discuss "Remarkably Bright Creatures" by Shelby Van Pelt and celebrate Christmas! If you would like, bring an appetizer, snack or desert to share. *Note: We will start at 6:30 with food and fellowship.*

See book selections for this year on the [website](#).





Advent Mid-Week Continues

Wednesdays, December 13 and 20

Make some time for reflection and community this Advent season. Join us at 12:00 noon for our Joyous Light prayer service, with sung psalms and a meditation on the verses of O Come, O Come, Emmanuel; or skip the dinner prep and join us at 6:00 pm for dinner in the Gathering Room ([RSVP for dinner here](#)), followed by the prayer service in the Sanctuary at 7:00 pm.

Christmas Eve Services

Sunday, December 24

4:00 pm: Contemporary/blended Candlelight Service with Holy Communion, featuring your favorite Christmas carols led by the Praise Team and accompanied by piano, guitars, drums, and strings.

8:00 pm: Traditional Candlelight Service with Holy Communion, featuring music from the Renaissance and Baroque eras along with familiar Christmas carols lead by the LCR Choir and accompanied by organ, strings, and handbells.

Pastoral Transition Update

Catherine Strate, Council President

It was a joy to begin the Advent season with a meet and greet for our new pastoral candidate last Saturday. The good turnout was a witness to the great hope we hold in the future of LCR and all that God has in store for us. ***Please remember to keep the information about the candidate and the results of the congregation meeting confidential until you hear from us.*** As council member LeAnn Haack wrote, "It is striking to me that during Advent when we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus, we are preparing to launch into a new phase for LCR."

A special thank you to the Call Committee - Stephen Goodnough, Trish Davis, Suzanne Demosthenes, George O'Donnell, Mark Olson, and Emily Glass Stinson, and all our leaders for their devoted work - listening to our congregation and to the spirit - over these past months.

Advent Dinner Taste of Christmas

*December 10, 5:00 - 7:00 pm
Gathering Room*

Join us as we celebrate Advent with food, fellowship, and a fun craft! Bring your family's favorite food or best Christmas dish to share! Drinks and paper products will be provided. This event is a favorite among the members and friends of LCR, so please join us!

[RSVP with your food selection](#) so we can plan accordingly.

Poinsettias

You can sponsor a poinsettia again this year to adorn our altar on Christmas Eve. They are 6" pots and cost \$10 each. You may write a check indicating your designation ("in honor of" or "in memory of," using the Designated Giving envelopes found in the pews) or go online to make the payment and designation or use this QR code.



***Deadline
to sponsor
is Dec. 17***

10:00 am Worship

On December 24 and 31 we will gather together for one morning worship service at 10:00 am