

January 7, 2024

The Weekly



Taking Flight with the Force in 2024

Catherine Strate, Church Council President

Happy New Year, LCR Community, as we welcome 2024!! I have just had the wonderful experience of spending a week with my 4 grandchildren (who had not been together in the same space since 2019 – pre-Covid and minus one grandchild).



During that week, as I watched the building of Star Wars Lego sets, I was reminded of the storyline of the Star Wars movie and the wonder, belief, and hope in the “force” who directed the vision of justice, kindness to all persons, and truth. I’ve always thought there were similarities between the “force” and the Holy Spirit ... God’s power at work within us. I believe there is a force (God’s Spirit) that is leading LCR into 2024 and I believe this is a year that will see LCR take flight.

At the beginning of 2023, we were embracing the Appreciative Inquiry exercise to reimagine LCR’s mission and vision as we began the call process for a new pastor. As we enter 2024, LCR continues to embrace its mission to serve others and each other under Bridge Pastor Bonnie Lanyi as we await, with anticipation, the arrival Pastor Rich Leseganich on January 25th.

In the meantime, the Church Council is engaged in an assessment of LCR’s current needs and goals for the future of the Church. The areas of consideration are wide-spread and include, under no particular order, faith formation opportunities for children, youth, and adults on multiple levels, the physical appearance and external messaging to enhance LCR’s visibility in the community, the continued improvement of the quality of musical offerings, including instrumentalization, needed for spiritually fulfilling experiences at both the 8:30 and 11:00 services, the physical infrastructure of LCR’s facilities, the continued heightened communication efforts internally and externally, etc.

I sincerely believe that the year-long anticipation of 2023 has prepared LCR for 2024, ready to take flight and spread the vision, mission, and hope of LCR’s commitment to serve East Cobb, Marietta, Sandy Springs, and extended community areas beyond the Atlanta area that LCR serves, and to welcome all join us in joyful worship.

I am so looking forward to sharing this incredible opportunity with all of you. It will be an incredible experience of wonder, belief, and hope.

Thank You from Staff

Staff would like to thank you for your very kind and generous Christmas gifts you gave us this year. We deeply appreciate your generosity and appreciate the shared ministry that all of us participate in at LCR. Wishing you a Happy New Year!

CALENDAR

JANUARY 7

Traditional Worship
8:30 am | Sanctuary

Fellowship Hour
9:30—10:45 am
Gathering Room

Faith Formation Classes
9:45—10:30 am

New Testament Study
Conference Room

New Beginnings in the Bible
Lower Level Room 8

Children's Sunday School
Lower Level

Confirmation
Youth Pavilion

Contemporary Worship
11:00 am | Sanctuary

JANUARY 14

MLK Service ([details](#))
Trinity Lutheran, Lilburn

JANUARY 20

Family Movie Matinee
Gathering Room

FEBRUARY 2-4

Men's Retreat

FEBRUARY 14

Ash Wednesday

FEBRUARY 10

Women's Tea

FEBRUARY 24

Electronic Recycling Event
LCR Parking Lot

FEBRUARY 25

Pastor Rich Installation
3:00 pm

MARCH 15-17

Women's Retreat



[Worship Online](#)



[Give](#)



[Prayer Requests](#)



[Sign-Ups & RSVP](#)



[Email & Text Preferences](#)



[Communication Request](#)

SERVE: MAKE A DIFFERENCE



A Crowded MUST Lunch December 20

What a special afternoon it was to serve 130 guests a nice warm meal with all the sides. Absolutely nothing went to waste with a larger crowd than usual. Mark B and Dana prepped and served, and Matteus, Mark O, Stephen, David served. Thank you to all of you for your faithful service!

Celebrating all that God has done in Guatemala in 2023!

Our partnership with the Lutheran Church in Guatemala (Iglesia Luterana Agustina de Guatemala) continued in 2023. Here is a look at a few of the events that took place because of your generosity and support. We look forward to what God does in this coming year!



First Communion celebration



A child exploring the Advent wreath during worship



Vacation Bible School at one church location



A graduate from the Women's Education program

Giving Envelopes

If you are using giving envelopes, new envelopes for 2024 are available in the Narthex. If you would like to give online, you can sign-up [on our website](#).

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. There will be lots of time for community building, reflection, and great fun. The cost is \$175 per participant (double occupancy) or \$250 per participant (single occupancy) and includes 5 meals.

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



Tuesday Bible Study Christmas Luncheon

Tuesday Morning Bible Study ladies gathered for their Christmas luncheon in the Gathering Room in December. Delicious food, sharing Christmas memories and great fellowship were enjoyed by all.. Delicious food, sharing Christmas memories and great fellowship were enjoyed by all.



Women's Retreat: Registration Deadline

March 15-17, 2024, a group from LCR will be attending the Wild Women's retreat at Lutheridge in Arden, NC. Cost is \$250 per person. The 2024 theme is *"This is My Body - Every body has a story to tell!"* Find healing, self-compassion, and holiness in our bodies.

Payment is due at time of registration. Financial aid is available. Contact [LeAnn Haack](#) for info.

[Register online](#) before January 7, 2024.



FREE

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING DAY

PLUS SECURE PAPER SHREDDING

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 9 AM - 1 PM
LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION PARKING LOT
4814 PAPER MILL RD SE, MARIETTA

We are partnering with Data Delete Recycle to responsibly dispose of obsolete electronics while supporting Brumby Elementary School. RAM Shredding will also be present to securely shred and recycle paper.

 ENSURE SECURE DATA DESTRUCTION

 PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT

 SUPPORT BRUMBY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

 FOR DETAILS AND ACCEPTED ITEMS VISIT [LCRMARIETTA.ORG](#)

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Sunday School Resumes

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

Child Friendly Room Available During Worship

Kids are always welcome in worship. If you prefer, feel free to make use of our Child Friendly Room off the sanctuary.

Family Movie Matinee

Join us on January 20 from 4-6 pm in the Gathering Room for a Family Movie Matinee featuring a family-friendly movie (Monsters, INC) and snacks.

YOUTH NEWS

Confirmation Resumes Jan. 7

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.

Upcoming Events



February 23-25

All Georgia Youth Gathering
Camp Glisson, Dahlonega, GA



June 9-14

Affirm
University of West Alabama

Blessing Bags Packed

On December 23, some of LCR's youth and their friends gathered to pack Blessing Bags to be shared with unhoused folks through MUST Ministries. The bags included food, hygiene, and personal care items. The idea for the youth to pack these bags was born among the Goodnough kids during a sermon on the Parable of the Talents a few weeks ago. Thanks to everyone who helped donate supplies and pack these bags!

