



## The Encourager September 20, 2011

### **September 11th Service Project:**

Thanks to all who made and delivered goodies to our First Responders on September 11. The response was great. Thanks for showing your concern for our community.



**We had 7 men attend the Men's Night Out at North Georgia Christian Camp on Friday, September 9.** They were Britt Johnson, David Simpson, Jay Tomaseski, Virgil Mullennix, Joe Stembridge, David LeFrois, and Bobby Voyles.



### **Our Youth Minister Speaks for Middle School Retreat at North Georgia Christian Camp**

The middle school Deeper Life Retreat was held September 16th-18th at NGCC, for which Britt Johnson was one of the speakers. Britt joined Pedro Sims of Mount Carmel Christian Church, Adam Scott of Antioch Christian Church, and Kurt Petersheim of Eastridge Community Church to teach this year's theme of "elements". The weekend helps students learn how to discover our creator in the elements of Fire, Earth, Water, and Wind, as well as how He uses each in the Bible. Britt spoke for the Saturday evening session about water, and will speak again for the High School retreat in November with

the same theme.

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**North Georgia Christian Women's Retreat at North Georgia Christian Camp on September 23 & 24.** *"Tea Time with God"* Guest Speaker: Sherri Dodd. Cost is \$30. Come restore and renew your relationship with God. Let Him fill your cup as you fellowship with other Christian women. If you would like to go, please reply to this email address or call Faith Simpson or Melanie Terrell for more information.

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**Special Women's Event at Galilee Christian Church**

If you would like to attend the Galilee Christian Church worship event for women, Tuesday, September 27th, 7:00pm, please contact Melanie. The event there will feature Babbie Mason, Christian singing artist, and the cost is \$15.

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**Sunday, October 2 - Ekklesia  
(An annual gathering of the Northeast Georgia Christian Churches)**

The guest speaker for the adult session is Tim Hudson, retired UGA campus minister. Dwayne Wylds and team from Lilburn Christian Church will lead worship.

Son Safari director, Fledge Fiamingo, will lead our children's session with wonderful lessons about God and the Serengeti.

The Middle & High School Event costs \$5 to cover food. Food will be served from 5-6 p.m. and the worship service will begin at 6 p.m. *True Story* will be leading worship and Ben Hardman, Lead Pastor at The Avenue Church, will be speaking.

We will leave from LCC at 5:00 to ride to Galilee Christian Church in Jefferson, Georgia for this event.

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**Thanksgiving Thank You Letters**

Write a heartfelt thank-you letter for a service man or woman this Thanksgiving. Letters need to be handwritten on a standard 8.5" x 11" size piece of paper in pencil, ink, or crayon. No cards, glitter, glue of any kind, or attachments. Please do not fold. It is asked that the letters be non-political in nature.

Let's show our deployed troops how much we appreciate all they do to keep us safe! They will be distributed to the 400,000+ troops throughout the world on Thanksgiving.

Please return to Wendy Merry or place in the basket in the Anchor Room by Sunday October 16th.

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**VBS Thanks!**

The month of August was a special VBS (Vacation Bible

School) theme: "Inside Out and Upside Down on Main Street." Thanks to Joy Griffin for leading this program and all who helped with snacks, crafts, songs, teaching, displays, etc. Our children learned so much and enjoyed this special time. It was good to see them on stage as they kicked off the opening part of our worship time each week! We all learned: Jesus Makes a difference every day!"

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#### **Welcome to the Family!**

Austin Smith and Bethany Norman were baptized on August 28 at the 11:00 service. Jeff, Maria & Joel Ryder joined LCC on September 11 at the 11:00 service.

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Reserve October 30 for **Celebration Sunday** (a new "Start Up" event outside here at the church). More details later.

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#### **Our Sympathy**

Our sympathy and prayers to the following who have lost loved ones in the last few months: Mike Wallace at the loss of his sister-in-law, Grace Wallace; Gina Morgan at the loss of her husband, Joe; Keith & Angie Hansard at the loss of their cousin, Mike Thomason; Clarice Simons and Kim Cook at the loss of their son & brother, Scott Simons; Steve Scott at the loss of his cousin, Winona Payton; Rose Riddle at the loss of her dad, Rome Stephens; Jessica Corn at the loss of her grandmother, Lillian Osborne Taylor; and Kristi Goodwin at the loss of her cousin, Jack Trusty.

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#### **Attendance/Offerings**

During this difficult economy, many in our church family have struggled financially and lost jobs. But, God is still God and he cares... even about our finances.

As a church we are still behind budget for the year (\$9,000+). Your faithful tithes and offerings are essential for the work of the church. God is honored with our giving for His work. Our budget was reduced this year, but we have still fallen behind. We are able to pay expenses, but have had to use some reserve funds set aside from previous years. Someone said to me recently: "The first financial obligation I pay each month is to the church." What a great example! 2 Corinthians 9:7 says that God "loves a cheerful giver." May we be just that!

Our attendance this year and throughout August has improved over recent years! We averaged 183 in August. New people are here to worship every Sunday! Twenty new members have been added so far this year! Each Sunday we gather becomes an encouraging and growing time for each of us. Invite someone to join you next Sunday in worship!

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#### **LCC Children**

We hope everyone has had a chance to see the newly constructed playgrounds at the church! They are beautiful

additions to our campus and will serve our children well. We would like to extend our most sincere thanks to everyone who helped on the project to give our children a safe and fun place to be a kid here at church! The workers are:

### **PLAYGROUND WORKERS**

|                |                |                 |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| David Lefrois  | Josh Merry     | Melanie Terrell |
| Pam Lefrois    | Wendy Merry    | Mike Wallace    |
| Bryan Griffin  | Jocelyn Merry  | Chris Watson    |
| Joy Griffin    | Philip Vincent | Anne Watson     |
| Jacob Griffin  | Silas Vincent  | Susan Ousley    |
| Rhett Griffin  | Micah Vincent  | Kevin Flannery  |
| Irv Gibson     | Eli Vincent    | Joshua Flannery |
| Mac Hill       | Nate Vincent   | John Simpson    |
| Brandon Paul   | Mark Matt      | Faith Simpson   |
| Jason Vallier  | Remi Lema      | David Simpson   |
| Angela Vallier | Ryan Packard   | Randy Griffin   |
| Julia Vallier  | Britt Johnson  |                 |
| Sydney Vallier | Shaner Johnson |                 |

The next phase of our Children's portion of the Forward in Faith campaign is under way with the repurposing of our fellowship hall to become a full-time children's facility. We are very excited about the plans that have been made so far, and construction of pieces for the room has already begun! Keep your eyes open in the coming weeks to see our new children's worship area come to life! If you would like to be a part of this team, please contact Britt.



### **LCC Work Days**

Many of those who worked on our playgrounds also helped in other areas on our work days. In addition to our Playground workers (listed above) were these who helped with different projects around the church: Gary Cullen, Clark Cullen, Kim Cook, Luke Cook, Keith Hansard, Joe Stenbridge, Brenda

Stembridge, Jeff Ladd, Iris Ladd, Mike Mooney, Virgil Mullennix, Jay Tomaseski, Carol Tomaseski, Cathy O'Dell, Elizabeth Schnitzler, Tyler Harmon, Ashley Simpson, Shelley Vincent and others that I'm sure we missed! (Let us know and we'll include you in the next update!)

### **Forward in Faith**

Our church theme throughout the summer has been "Forward in Faith!" Our God is a great God who can supply our every need! The initial priorities for this campaign have been children and facility improvements. After numerous work days from committed volunteers, we now have a new Nursery Playground featuring a ship and lighthouse that all of our youngest children really love! In addition to that, a new elementary age playground area with swings, climbing dome, and tether ball has been constructed behind the sanctuary. Also, we've been cleaning, painting, pressure-washing, throwing away, organizing, cutting limbs and brush, putting down wood chips, new striping and arrows in the parking lot, etc. There is more to accomplish but what great progress so far!

Your special offerings for this campaign have helped so much! We have spent \$2,670 through mid-September and received \$3,510 in special donations. That's wonderful, but more is needed toward our projected expenses of up to \$20,000. The next big obvious project will be the transformation of our fellowship hall into children's space. This will begin taking shape over the next few weeks.

Because of the Fellowship Hall changes our Breakfast format will change. We will no longer have the seating available for a big breakfast each week, but we will be offering coffee and simple breakfast items. This is still a work in progress, but our current breakfast format will end on September 25th. More details on this change will be in our next newsletter.

We are moving forward in faith and God is blessing! Keep praying, keep giving, keep serving, keep inviting others, keep sharing your faith!

[Forward email](#)



[lanierchristian@bellsouth.net](mailto:lanierchristian@bellsouth.net) |

Lanier Christian Church | 2235 Dawsonville Hwy | Gainesville | GA | 30506

