
Subject: Fw: News from Lanier Christian Church

From: lanierchristian (lanierchristian@bellsouth.net)

To: bryan.griffin@agilysys.com;

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On Wednesday, October 4, 2017 3:12 PM, Lanier Christian Church <lanierchristian@bellsouth.net> wrote:

THE ANCHOR LINE

This Week's Devotion and News from Lanier Christian Church!



Lead Me to the Rock

Just one year ago, the family and I climbed to the top of Chimney Rock in North Carolina. It was quite a hike to get there, but the view was worth it! You could see for miles around. The beauty of the changing leaves combined with mountain vistas, along with the twisting streams and valleys below made for a glorious sight. What you could not see were the struggles below.

From our mountain top perch, we were too far removed to see the people. There was a calming peace and a soothing quiet on top of that mountain that replaced the noise and struggles down below. One gains a different

perspective when viewing things from above.

That mountain top view, gave us a heavenly perspective of sorts. We were removed from the hustle and noise and brokenness of the world below. It was refreshing for a time. Yet, we knew we had to return to reality eventually. As we made our way back down, I said: "Now, it's back to the real world."

From a higher perspective, things appear calm. But, up close there is a lot of beauty and evil mixed together. There are victories and disaster. Laughter and sorrow. Mercy and mischief. Pleasure and pain. Life and death.

The absolutely amazing truth about Almighty God is that He left his heavenly perspective and entered our messy world. John 1:14 says: *"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us."* (NIV). But, I love the Message paraphrase of this verse: *"The Word became flesh and blood and moved into the neighborhood."*

God could have remained in His heavenly home and only looked down on us and ignored our pain and struggles. But He didn't. He could have said that the brokenness we now experience was our own fault and left us alone. But He didn't. God entered our messy world through Jesus and remains with us to this day through His Holy Spirit. No matter what crisis we may face. No matter what tragedy may occur. No matter what evil Satan casts upon us. Know this today. God is with us. Jesus told his disciples: "I am with you always..." (Matthew 28:20)

Many of our generation may have given up on God. But, God hasn't given up on us. Psalm 46:1 says: *"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."* He is present. He is a refuge. He is strength for each day.

Only in the heaven God has promised His children will we experience the perspective of no more pain, no more sorrow, no more crying, and no more death. Until then, He is with us. Yes, His gift of freedom of choice has often caused His creation to choose poorly, but He has never abandoned us. That same freedom of choice also allows us to love Him willingly and love our neighbors as well. The Light of Jesus will always break through the darkness. And to this day, no matter what, we have a God who cares. A God who loves. A God who provides.

Psalm 61:1-2 says:
*"Hear my cry, O God;
listen to my prayer.
From the ends of the earth I call to you,
I call as my heart grows faint;
Lead me to the rock that is higher than I."*

I need you Lord. Our nation needs you. Our world needs you. Lead us all to YOU, the rock that is higher!

Agape,
David



BIBLE STUDIES

Join us **TONIGHT - WEDNESDAY** for a Study entitled: "The Story of Heaven" by Max Lucado. We begin at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary.

The Ladies Bible Study meets **TONIGHT - WEDNESDAY** at 5:00p.m. at Midland

Station, downtown Gainesville. Join the group for a study using the book: "The Faith Dare - 30 Days to Live Your Life to the Fullest," by Debbie Alsdort.

The **THURSDAY MORNING** Bible Study **WILL NOT MEET** this Thursday, Oct. 5, due to Fall Break for David & Faith. See you next Thursday, October 12 as we continue the study: "If God is good, why do we hurt?"



Opportunity for Service

We're looking for dedicated volunteers to help on our Family Promise Ministry Team! Be one of 30-40 people who offer a few hours

to help those in need! We have some dedicated members now, but we need more! **THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY!** It is a rewarding and valuable service to the Lord and our community. It may be preparing a meal, or visiting and playing games with the kids and families, or spending the night. **WE NEED YOU!** See Ann Loyd or Kayla Conner or Mac Hill to get more information and offer your life for a few life-changing hours during our Family Promise Ministry to homeless families. Our next hosting week is November 5th, so volunteer now! You can also simply reply to this email that you want to help!

ANGEL BAGS

Each year, LCC support the work of SOAR Ministries as they deliver gift bags (angel bags) for the children of Mexico. Pick up your bag in the Anchor Room at Church and return it by October 15th. A list of items you can place in the bag is available at that same table! If you have any questions, please see Rose Riddle.



Prayer Updates

Bobby Voyles spent several days in the hospital, but is now recovering at home. He has an MRI scheduled at Emory later this month.

Ron Loggins was released from the hospital on Tuesday after suffering from kidney issues. He is improving and recovering at home.

Our sympathy to two former LCC members who now live out of state but stay in touch with their LCC family here:

Marqui DeMaria - our sympathy upon the death of her grandmother.

Becky Wenzel - our sympathy upon the death of her mother.

Thanksgiving for a **great kick-off last Sunday to our Lakeside 9:00am Bible Study!** Our thanks to Mac Hill for leading this study. The Lakeside Service continues to reach more people than ever before! Our thanks to John Simpson (Preaching) and Joy Griffin, Brandon Paul, Haughton Carswell (Worship) along with our set up team of Jonathan & Kayla Conner, David & Pam LeFrois, Bryan Griffin, Bruce Cavell and others!

** There are many more prayer requests, but these are some updates since last Sunday. Please refer to your church bulletin for all of our prayer needs.*

Men's and Women's Events

The Men's Breakfast will meet on **Saturday, October 14th, 8:00am.** at the Church. Come enjoy great food and a

Men's & Women's Fellowship

challenging devotion by John Simpson.
(Please note - moved one week ahead)

The Women's LIFT event will be **October 17th**, 6:30p.m. at the Church. It will be Casserole Recipe Swap Night! Set aside the date now, ladies, for a fun evening together!



[Visit Our Website!](#)

David Simpson, Minister | david.simpson@lanierchristianchurch.com
Monica Miller, Secretary | laniersecretary@bellsouth.net

Thanks to all of the dedicated servants of Lanier Christian Church who give of their time and talents to serve in so many various ways!

STAY CONNECTED:



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

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