



THE COMMONS



Lutheran Church of the Incarnation
Rev. Jerry Reynolds, Pastor
January 2012

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View from the Pulpit...

“Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord!”

At the end of each worship service we dismiss with “Go in Peace” and words similar to the above. All too often we hear and say these words in the same manner as we say, “Play ball!” after singing the national anthem at a baseball game. It is an ending or dismissal to one event, and anticipation of what is to come in the next.

“Go in peace” is truly our Christian call to action—a reminder that we are freed from sin and death and sent out to share that Good News, who is Jesus the Christ, with the world. Jesus frees us to go in peace. God’s Word is incarnate and we have seen the light of our salvation. “Go in peace” is also our prayer as life ends—a reminder of God’s love that is more powerful than death.

As we transition into 2012, we can say, “Go in Peace!” to the year 2011. For many people and families 2011 has been a very difficult year. It has been a tough year for our congregation as well. Our world economy is still very unstable, which seems to loom over all of us in our daily lives. We are fraught with unemployment and under-employment, the housing market crisis continues, and there is a general sense of uncertainty in much that we do. Yes, 2011 “Go in Peace!”

To 2012 we say, “Happy New Year!” Despite our individual New Year’s resolutions of what we may or may not do to change our lives, we greet the New Year with hope and anticipation of good things to come. We pray that Christ will work in us in our lives!

On New Year’s Day we will hear in the gospel of Luke, Simeon’s Song. You may recognize it sometimes sung as a gospel or post-communion canticle: “Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.” (Luke 2:29-32 NRSV.)

So what feelings, memories and images do you associate with the words, “Go in Peace?” Has it just been a rote response before we leave worship? Or

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is it the “call to action” to be Christ’s presence in thought, word and deed to this world? St. Paul reminds us, “Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,” and “let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.” (Col. 3:15-16 NRSV.)

We pray, “Rejoicing in this new year of grace, Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.”



Go in peace 2011! Go in peace and Happy New Year to you all in 2012!
My love to you in Christ,
Pastor Jerry

Council President
Bobby Bullock
president@lclutheran.org
770-993-7191

2011 has been an eventful year at LCI and we have a lot to be thankful for, but we still need your help. The week of December 12 an appeal letter was mailed to all LCI members asking that they prayerfully consider making a one time donation to help get caught up on our past due bills, at the time of the mailing LCI was approximately \$14,000.00 behind but if each family gave \$250.00, we could be current soon. To date the donations have not been as great as we had hoped they would be; needless to say we are still behind, and we still need your help and it is not too late to contribute a one time \$250.00 donation, if you cannot give \$250.00, please give whatever you can over and above your regular pledge.

Thank you for your help.

Bobby T Bullock
Council President

Social Ministry
Jim Powell
socialministry@lclutheran.org
678-594-0508

Please remember to bring donations for the MUST barrel in the narthex. The food pantry needs all of the usual items: Spaghetti and sauce, macaroni & cheese, baking mixes, canned fruit, vegetables (except green beans) and canned meats.. Other needs include towels and washcloths, personal care items in sample/travel sizes, paper towels and new underwear in all sizes, both adult and children, rain ponchos and school supplies.



Upcoming Dates and Events



- Jan. 4, 11, 18 & 25 Men's Prayer Breakfast
7:00a.m. at IHOP on Johnson Ferry near Shallowford. All are welcome
- Jan. 6 The Epiphany of our Lord
- Jan. 8 Fellowship Luncheon—A Southern New Year's Celebration
- Jan 15 MLK Day Commemoration Service 3:30p.m. Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 3050 Cascade Rd, Atlanta, 30311
- Jan 16 MLK Day of Service
- Jan. 17 Church Council Meeting at 7:00p.m.
- Jan. 21 Saturday Work Day from 8:00a.m until Noon.
- Jan 27 Spaghetti Dinner, 5:50—8:00p.m. at St Ann's, benefits MUST and Covenant Churches Build

Worship and Music in January

The busy and spiritually enriching seasons of Advent and Christmas are now appearing in the rear view mirror.

On behalf of the Worship and Music Committee, a big **Thank You** to all who participated in so many ways. From our wonderful Alter Guild who ensures the appropriate Church service environment is setup, to our spectacular musicians, service leaders and organizers, and all of you filling in the pews – **Thank You**.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to mention by name, those who have been working tirelessly choosing hymns, organizing our music programs, and helping with our Music Director/Accompanist search:

Cathy Shuman
Margaret Rhodes
Heather Vincenty
Judy Flint

Lindey Maza
Diana Binger
Sally LeFevre
Pastor Jerry

Now we rapidly move toward the Season of Epiphany officially starting Friday January 6th.

At our Worship and Music planning meeting, where we planned all our hymns through Epiphany (February 19th), we were reminded of what great and beautiful hymns are part of this season. During Epiphany we'll be singing wonderful hymns like: "I Love to Tell the Story," "When Morning Gilds the Skies," "Shine Jesus Shine" and many other classics of our Lutheran liturgy.

Music Director/Accompanist Search Update

So far we've heard 3 of our 4 candidates for the available position, Joel Evans, Denita Yeomans, and Colin Forde. Now January 8th and 15th we will be blessed with the services of our 4th candidate, Roger Adams. Roger comes to us from Anaheim California, with many years experience in Lutheran music, including bell choir direction. We're looking forward working with Roger on these two Sundays, then interviewing our candidates, and making an offer in the not too distant future.

Before you know it, Ash Wednesday will usher in our Lenten Season (February 22). We hope to see you at Church each Sunday morning to join in the celebration that is Epiphany.

Property
Paul Johnson
property@lci.lutheran.org
770-912-4667

We want visitors and neighbors to see how much we care about our church so we all need to pitch in and help keep it looking presentable. Our monthly clean-up day is Saturday, January 21st. For the early risers, Paul Johnson will be there around 8:00 a.m. We plan to work no later than 12:00 noon. Our plan for this month is to tackle the shed while it is still cool outside and get it cleaned out so we can use it for additional storage. For those who do not wish to work outside, there is always the monthly inside maintenance of vacuuming, dusting, cleaning the kitchen and bathrooms, mopping the tile floors ... just generally making our church look like we care for it. For those who like to work outside, there is always plenty of cleanup around the building to be done. Whether you are able to give 1, 2, 3, or 4 hours of your time, give whatever you can to help out. See you on the 21st!

Paul Johnson, Property

Oh, one more thing, please observe the placards on the thermostats in the sanctuary. These thermostats are preset by day and hour to conserve energy when the sanctuary is not in use. If you must change a setting, please remember to press the "run program" button on each to return the thermostats to their energy saving setting. Thank you.

Fellowship
Kimberly Greer



Fellowship Lunch, January 8: Southern New Year's Traditions

Our January fellowship lunch will be on the second Sunday and will feature a traditional Southern New Year's menu. Our congregation is blessed with members from far and near.

Do you know why these foods have become a Southern tradition?

- Collard (or other) Greens: Symbolize good fortune, the color of money.
- Black-Eyed Peas or other legumes: Also for good fortune (shaped like coins), but for good luck be sure to eat at least 366 peas for each day of the new year. (It's a leap year in 2012.) In many areas, the peas are cooked with rice to make Hoppin' John.
- Cornbread: The color of gold -- another food symbolizing good fortune!
- Pork or Ham: Pigs root forward in the ground, as we look forward to the new year.
- Chickens scratch backwards (symbolizing regrets of the past) and they may let good luck fly away!

Bring one of these dishes to share, or a salad, dessert or other favorite dish. Watch the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for more information.

Do you have a New Year tradition you'd like to share with your LCI Family? If so, bring it on January 8.

Sunday Servants

	January 1	January 8	January 15	January 22	January 29
Asst. Minister	Colleen Harris	Molly Golladay	Rob Maza	Lindey MAza	Larry shuman
Lector	Steve Henke	John Nuttall	Cathy Shuman	Jeff Rhodes	Chris Langub
Acolyte	Asst. Minister	Asst. Minister	Asst. Minister	Asst. Minister	Asst. Minister
Crucifer	Darbey Maza	Madeline Hughes	Ted Nuttall	Darbey Maza	Madeline Hughes
Greeters	Terre Smith	LCI Members	Linda Hughes	Reba Nyen	Terre Smith
Communion Assistants	Pat Bullock & Reba Nyen	Ashlee & Robert Harris	TBD	Pat Bullock & Reba Nyen	Ashlee & Robert Harris
Ushers	Linda & Madeline Hughes	Kimberly & Daniel Greer	Nate McDonald & Bob Sauer	Linda & Madeline Hughes	Kimberly & Daniel Greer
Prayer of Day	Darbey Maza		Erin McNeal	Darbey Maza	
Children's Msg.	Anne Cardenas	Nichole Begerow	Cathy Shuman	Lauren Simerly	Darbey Maza
Sunday School	TBD	Chela Ngetich	Cathy shuman	Kimberly Greer	Ashlee Harris
Altar Guild	Pat Bullock	Leslie Wright	Linda McNeal & Linda Hughes	Linda McNeal	Leslie Wright
Fellowship					
Tellers	Linda McNeal & TBD	Linda McNeal & TBD	Linda McNeal & TBD	Linda McNeal & TBD	Linda McNeal & TBD

Doers and Doings

Pastor	Rev. Jerry Reynolds	770.242.7886	pastor@lclutheran.org
Organist			organist@lclutheran.org
Parish Secretary	Sally LeFevre/Margaret Rhodes	770.971.2738	office@lclutheran.org
Church Council			
President	Bobby Bullock	770-993-7191	president@lclutheran.org
Vice President	Rob Maza	770-640-9571	vicepresident@lclutheran.org
Secretary	Cynthia Wright	770-565-9974	secretary@lclutheran.org
Treasurer	Daniel Greer	706-614-7714	treasurer@lclutheran.org
Communication Chair	TBD		communications@lclutheran.org
Evangelical Outreach	Paul Johnson	770-912-4667	evangelism@lclutheran.org
Fellowship	Kimberly Greer	706-614-7714	fellowship@lclutheran.org
Property	Paul Johnson	770-912-4667	property@lclutheran.org
Stewardship	TBD		stewardship@lclutheran.org
Worship & Music	Rob Maza	770-640-9571	Worship@lclutheran.org
Mutual Ministry	Rob Maza	770-640-9571	vicepresident@lclutheran.org
Non-Council Positions			
Christian Education	Anne Cardenas	770-722-9559	christianed@lclutheran.org
Social Ministry	Jim Powell	678-594-0508	socialministry@lclutheran.org



- Jan. 1** Given by Sally LeFevre in memory of Mama
Jan. 8: Available
Jan. 15 Available
Jan. 22 Available
Jan. 29 Given by Reba Nyen in memory of her husband, Roger

*The 2012 flower chart is posted
in the Fellowship Hall.
Please sign up to mark special occasions or honor your loved
ones. Altar flowers with dedications are \$45.*



January Schedule

- Sunday** 10 a.m. Sunday School -- Children begin with music in the sanctuary
10 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal
11 a.m. Worship/Holy Communion
12 p.m. Fellowship
- Tuesday** 7:15 p.m. Adult Handbells



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Where We Do God's Work with Our Hands

Return Service Requested