

# The Vine



**MAY 2024** 

3612 OLD OAKWOOD ROAD OAKWOOD, GA 30566

770-535-9938

P.O.BOX 1298 OAKWOOD, GA 30566



## From the Pastor's Desk....



"Abide in me..." ~ Jesus, to his disciples.

This can be challenging. HOW do we abide in God's presence?

Jesus says, getting rid of the dead stuff!

I took about 30 minutes at lunch yesterday to rake my front lawn areas before it started to rain. It's a yearly ritual that I dread. When I spend time on my lawn, I want the finished product to be nice looking, lush and full, like you could lie down on it and take a nap on the green, soft grass. But spring raking is nothing like that. It seems like I'm actually making it worse. Chunks of thatch and moss and dog stuff and leaves are uprooted, showing off more brown dirt and red clay as an end result than lush green grass.

But as I rake, I just keep telling myself that this will be worth it. Pulling out the dead stuff makes more room for new life to flourish. More room for new seed. More room for water and sunshine to penetrate and do their thing.

Jesus instructions aren't much different to his followers. It you want to be better at abiding in Jesus, being centered in faith, being immersed in God's already present love, get rid of the dead stuff. And here's the best part, God offers to help do it!!

God will help us rake. (continued on next page)

#### **CLC STAFF**

Pastor: Rev. Andrew Seibert 770-403-1194 pastor@clcga.net

Office Communicator: Sarah Caruso 770-535-9938 officeadmin@clcga.net

> Musician: Diane Mulkey 770-842-1582 dianemulkey@bellsouth.net

Youth Director: Sarah Caruso 678-865-7911 clcyouthdirector@gmail.com

#### 2024 Church Council President

Eugene Ferg.......724-422-8008 eaferg@hotmail.com

#### Vice-President

Jeff Winiesdorffer......770-965-8635 jwinni@charter.net

#### Secretary / Scribe

Eric Bowman......256-652-8264
Richard.bowman75@gmail.com

#### Treasurer

#### **Property**

#### **Members**

Michelle Bair......843-602-5038 shelbel1of5@yahoo.com

Shaun Baumgartner.....516-413-5339 emssmb5928@gmail.com

Cindy Grastat......678-231-9731 02hounds@comcast.net

Jodie Massar.....706-684-0095 jmassar6208@comcast.net

#### Continued....

Jesus wants us to regrow...daily, seasonly..by removing the "dog stuff" in our lives and letting the waters of baptism sink in more deeply to nourish... the light of love and grace warm our new seeds to grow. What needs to be removed from your front lawn today? What's holding back new life that God is offering? What "dog stuff" have you found yourself ignoring or hanging on to that God is offering to help you remove? You may only need 30 minutes to address it. Or it might take longer. And when you're done, it may look a little rough at first. But God's promise is to help you through the raking process. Because by doing it, it's how we abide in Jesus. Lord, I'm grabbing the rake. Please help me remove the dead stuff. Amen

Blessings, Pastor Andy



Our next LWR sewing, cutting and ironing meeting will be the 3rd Wed., May 15th from 1-5 in the Fellowship Hall. We have all materials, we just need you.



Thanks so much to Nancy Garland and the Caruso family for being our cooks for family Promise. My cocoordinator Cheryl Neller had to manage things without me that day and I am so grateful things went smoothly and the familys got their meal. Also I want to thank everyone who helped fill our list for their pantry needs or donated cash for our shopping trip. This ,ministry continues to grow and serve local families in need. Everyone's help is greatly appreciated. Thanks all! Toni Zavadil and Cherly Neller



# Women of the ELCA

The Magi Cluster 4
meeting was held on
Saturday, April 20, 2024
at Trinity Lutheran Church
in Lilburn. Our WELCA
group had 6 ladies attend.
Sue Cordial was elected
Cluster 4 Member At
Large. Congratulations to
Sue!





WELCA Women of Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will meet on Monday, May 13 at 11:30 a.m. Lunch will be provided by Cheryl Fuller and Phyllis Solgere and the devotion by Jennifer Sawyer. All women of the church are welcome. Please come and join us.

The 36th Annual convention of the Southeastern Synod of the

WomenELCA will be September 20 -22, 2024 in Huntsville, Alabama. The theme for this convention is Created To Shine Like Stars. Early registration deadline May 15, 2024 Final Registration deadline August 31, 2024 All women are welcome to attend. Website for registration forms

Contact Zona Buchen for any questions

www.seswelca.com

WELCA will begin to collect items for the Lutheran World Relief. For the month of May new bath towels will be needed to be packed in personal care kits. Shop for light to medium weight towels in dark colors.

The size guide lines are: 20" x 40" to 52" x 27".

There will be a box in the narthex labeled for the towels.

They will be collected for the entire month of May.



Thank you so much for allowing our group to meet every month at your church. Your generosity is felt every day. God Bless!

#### Silvertones Gospel

Celebration,"HEAVEN" May 4th & 5th at 6pm Buford First Baptist Church, 4550 Hamilton Mill Road, Buford, GA. Our own Joel Parmer and Edna Jackson will be singing with them.

## Bible +



Jodie will be teaching the most important Bible lessons chosen from The Lutheran Handbook. We hope you will grab your coffee and join us Sunday's in between services,



#### SOUTH HALL



#### COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

Thank You! In April CLC donated over 225 lbs of spaghetti sauce to South Hall Community Food Pantry. Thank you so much for your support.

> For May we are looking for 15 oz cans of fruit.. If you bring it to the church we will get it to the pantry.





5/1 Youth Group 6 PM 5/8Youth Group 6 PM 5/15 End of School Party



AFFIRM Lutheran
Camp is open to all
middle and high
schoolers. See Sarah
for more information.

# **Vacation Bible School**









VBS Volunteer Training Saturday May 11th 9:00 AM







# Thank you to all those who came out on April 27th and helped tidy up the church! You are appreciated!



## **Volunteer Opportunities**

CLC provides lunch the 2nd Wednesday of each month the Good News at Noon. If you are interested in volunteering please see Cheryl Fuller.





#### CONGREGATIONAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

The Congregation Council has decided to develop a Disaster Response Plan using the ELCA Congregational Disaster Preparedness Guidebook, which can be found at the ELCA web site searching for disaster response guidebook. The purpose of this is to provide a plan for answering the "what if ... and what do we do now" questions in the event of any type of disaster, be it a fire, storm damage or other situation that impacts our ability to operate and or serve the wider community. The guidebook provides a step-by-step process for us to create a plan unique to our situation.

This is no small task and too much for the council to do by itself. That said, we are in need of volunteers to serve as a collaborative team in the development of the plan so that the congregation is ready to respond to a threat of and actual impact of a disaster.

If you are willing to serve on this team, please contact Eugene Ferg, 724-422-8008 or at <a href="mailto:eaferg@hotmail.com">eaferg@hotmail.com</a>.

Also, copies of the guidebook are available at the church office for your review before making your decision. Thank you.



5/15 Mike & Beth Marien 5/18 Dane & Jan Clark 5/22 Derek & Dawn Johnson 5/24 Arnie & Sue McCleese







# SHAPPYSBIRTHDAY

5/3 Noah Johnson
5/20 Beth Marien
5/22 Emma Seibert
5/23 Sarah Hackney
5/24 Signy Uyl
5/27 Sondra Lightfoot
5/27 Dawn Johnson
5/29 Tina Crews
5/29 Zona Buchen

# Congratulations Class of



Corey Bryson- Graduating from Lanier Christian Academy. Corey will attend Piedmont University majoring in business.



Madalyn Caruso is graduating from Flowery Branch High School. Madalyn will be attending UNG in the fall majoring in Pre-Veterinary Science.



Bobby Falcey is graduating from Savannah College of Art and Design with a Bachelor in Fine Arts with a concentration in Documentary Photography. Bobby plans to work for a local news outlet while also growing his own freelance company on the side.



Emma Seibert is graduating from Lenore Rhyne University with her bachelors in psychology. Emma plans to take a gap year before going to graduate school for Theatre Education.



Richard Simpson is graduating from Millcreek High School. Richard plans to attend Gwinnett Technical College in the fall, getting a degree in HVAC and business.

A reception to celebrate our graduates will be held in the fellowship hall Sunday May 26th after the 11:00 service.



# Thank you for serving...

### 8:30 AM Worship Service

#### **Readers**

5/5- Edna Jackson

5/12- Jenna Abney

5/19- Cathy Schueler

5/26- Toni Zavadil

#### **Alter Guild**

5/5- Beth Marien

5/12- Sue Joninas

5/19- Cathy & Mitch Schueler

5/26-Lisa Sage

#### **Assisting Ministers**

5/5 SueMcCleese

5/12 Alan Clark

5/19 Sue McCleese

5/26 Alan Clark

#### Ushers

5/5- Dale Osterloh & Gerry Travis

5/12 Ana Mouthaan & Cheryl Neller

5/19 Paul Evans & Toni Zavadil

5/26 Richard Scott & Dale Osterloh

### 11:00 AM Worship Service

#### Readers

5/5- Michelle Bair

5/12- Phyllis Solgere

5/19- Joel Parmer

5/26- Zona Buchen

#### **Alter Guild**

5/5- Elke Baumgartner

5/12- Denise Simpson

5/19- Diane Morhard

5/26- Sharon Stevens

#### Bread

5/5- Diane Bohn

5/12- Diane Bohn

5/19- Gerry Travis

5/26- Gerry Travis

#### **Assisting Ministers**

5/5- Cindy Grastat

5/12- Dr. Hank Lewis

5/19-Karin Bowman

5/26- Jenny Goodwin

#### **Ushers**

5/5- Phyllis Solgere & Carol Farrel

5/12- Ron Goetzke & Chris Beck

5/19- Janet Seibert & Michelle Bair

5/26 Joel Parmer & Dr. Hank Lewis



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The second of th	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				7:30 am Men's Breakfast 10:00 am Zoom Bible Study	9 am Morning Miracles AA 10 am SHFP 6:30 pm Prayer & Pericope	3 8 pm 4th Dimension AA	4
	5 8:30 Worship 9:45 Bible + 11:00 Worship w/ Kids Worship 1:00 pm Iglesia Luterana de Cristo	6 8 pm 4th Dimension AA	7 9 am Morning Miracles	8 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 10:00 am Zoom Bible Study 6 pm Youth Group	9 9 am Morning Miracles AA 10 am SHFP 6:30 pm Prayer & Pericope	10 8 pm 4th Dimension AA	11 9:00 am VBS Volunteer Training
	12 Happy Mother's Day 8:30 Worship 9:45 Bible + 11:00 Worship w/ Kids Worship 1:00 pm Iglesia Luterana de Cristo	13 WELCA 11:30 AM 6pm Church Council Meeting 8 pm 4th Dimension AA	14 9 am Morning Miracles	15 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 10:00 am Zoom Bible Study 1pm LWR Quilters 6 pm End of School Party	Sarah out of 16 office 9 am Morning Miracles AA 10 am SHFP 6:30 pm Prayer & Pericope	Sarah out of 17 office	18 9am -3 pm Newborns in Need
	0.00	20 8 pm 4th Dimension AA	21 9 am Morning Miracles  Vine Submissions Due	22 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 10:00 am Zoom Bible Study		24 8 pm 4th Dimension AA	25
	26 8:30 Worship 9:45 Bible + 11:00 Worship w/ Kids Worship Graduate reception 1:00 pm Iglesia Luterana de Cristo	27 8 pm 4th Dimension AA	28 Sarah out of office 9 am Morning Miracles	29 Sarah out of office	30 Sarah out of office	Sarah out of office  8 pm 4th Dimension AA	