

Christ Notes April 8, 2010

Keith's Corner

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! What a great worship we had for Easter. Thanks to all our musicians. Thanks to our ushers and greeters. Thanks to all who helped with the children. Thanks to all who invited guests. And thanks especially to each of you for being there!

This Sunday we continue in John's account of the first Easter with appearances in the Upper Room. What we remember about this is Thomas' doubt. In fact we label all who have doubts with just about anything as doubting Thomases. When you think about it, however, we all have doubts from time to time. Perhaps this story resonates with us because we see ourselves in the middle of it. Yet I think the story is more about God's grace and gifts to us than about Thomas messing up. I hope you will come Sunday to hear my take on this!

Slight changes to worship order

This Sunday we will slightly alter the beginning of our worship time. *Announcements and exchange of the peace will begin at 3 minutes before 11:00.* Therefore Sunday school classes will need to let folks out by 10:50 at the very latest so kids can be picked up and we can begin our worship with the chiming of the bells at 11:00. This is in response to numerous suggestions that we smooth out our opening and begin on time. Thanks in advance for your help with this.

Monday Evening Bible Study

This Monday night we will continue our study of Ephesians. Bring your Bible and join us at 7:15 in the Fellowship Hall. We need you!!!

Tuesday Morning Bible/Book Study

Our new Morning Bible Study on Tuesdays at 9:45-11:00 am in the Annex. Is the book Prayer does it make a Difference? by Phillip Yancey. We are still early in the book so now is a great time to join in. Books are available at most retail booksellers and Christian bookstores.

Reality sets in!

I am sure you've been reading the note on collections in the weekly bulletin. Even though we have had a good Easter, the real story is that it is very hard to support a facility this size and age with our current level of financial giving. So, what can we do? Well, folks could simply give more, but I know many who are struggling mightily in this economy, so I just don't think that is the solution. Folks are certainly giving of their time and talents already, so that's not a realistic solution either. What makes the most sense to me is for us to grow. To grow is to follow the biblical mandate to share the gospel. But to grow requires a concerted effort of all if it is to come to pass. First of all we need to pray about it. I ask that each of us pray at least once each day that God would bless this church with visitors. Secondly we need to be ready for visitors when they come. We need help in the nursery and in the children's Sunday school classes. We need help getting a children's program going this fall. We need help with our youth program. And none of our efforts will succeed unless each of us takes it as our personal responsibility to invite others to worship with us. Every study I see says the same thing. It is a person invitation which usually gets folks to come visit a church for the first time.

I believe in Christ Church. I believe we have something special here. And I believe that growth will affect us in positive ways. This is a matter of great urgency to our congregation. God has put it on my heart to share this with you. I pray that you will also feel the urgency of this appeal and respond. Thanks for reading this.

Keith

UPCOMING EVENTS:

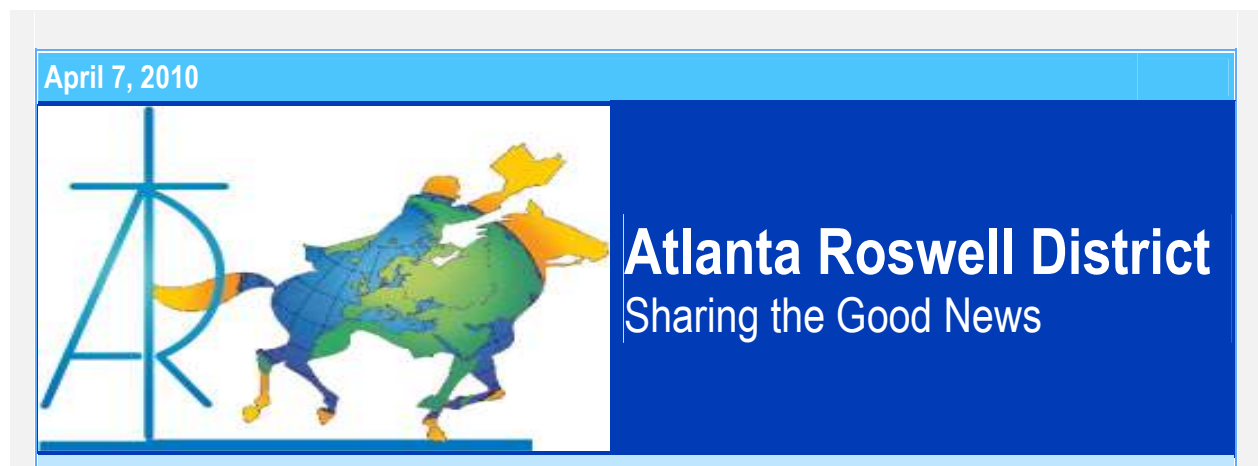
April 11 Meeting of Finance Committee at 1:15 pm
Administrative Council at 1:30 in the annex

Please have reports in writing to Larry Poos in advance of the meeting.

April 18 Joint worship service with RHEMA

May 9 Mother's Day

Some helpful News Items from the AROS Newsletter



News or Ideas to Share?



Please send all news or ideas (plain text, jpeg pictures, or WORD document format, please) to the editor, Mary Williams, at mrs1swjr@bellsouth.net. The newsletter is created weekly on Wednesday evening so please send all articles before 5 pm on Wednesdays.

The best format for articles are those that are short with a link to the full details on your church webpage.

Revival



Woodstock UMC Spring Revival May 2-5

Speakers are: Rev. Juan Quintanilla, Rev. Seven Mossinger, Rev. Chuck Savage, and Rev. Gary Boggs. Phone: 770-926-6440 or e-mail: woodumc@bellsouth.net

Parish Nurse/Director of Cancer Ministry Mary Lawder

Happy Easter to each of you! What an awesome Lord and Savior we serve! All the beautiful signs of spring have arrived along with some of the annual pollen and allergy issues. Spring is a great time to focus on the new life and beginnings Christ has made possible for us. Spring is a great time to make some changes or improvements for a healthier life as well. Walking or exercising 30-60 minutes a day will actually increase your energy levels so that you'll feel like spending more time doing the things you enjoy.

Eating the right foods also plays an important role in your overall health. Cancer is the leading cause of death in both men and women in the U.S. and throughout the world. There are several risk factors that affect your risk of cancer, but one risk you can control is your diet. Eating a healthy diet with the right amount of calories is good for your health and may help to loser

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your risk of cancer (plus diabetes and heart disease). To **boost your diet's cancer fighting potential**, add these **seven super foods to your diet: APPLES, BLUEBERRIES, BROCCOLI SPROUTS, CARROTS, GREEN TEA, OLIVE OIL, TOMATOES**. These super foods all contain phytochemicals that work as antioxidants to protect your cells from damage and may help to reduce your risk of cancer.

For more information go to cancer.about.com/

Health Related Events



Balancing Cancer and Careers Seminar will be held April 14, 6 p.m. at the Westin Buckhead Atlanta; free and free valet parking included. Please contact cancerandcareers@webershandwick.com or call 212-445-8089

by April 9th for more information. At an average company one in four employees will be diagnosed with cancer. Is that person you? Or your colleague? Do you know what to do? And what not to do? The expert speakers at this seminar will address many of these questions and issues.

EyeCare America has launched its National Give the Gift of Sight Campaign! As part of the campaign, the organization is offering free downloadable certificates with information on their no cost medical eye exams and eye care offered through its Senior EyeCare Program. This program is designed for people age 65 older, U.S. Citizens or legal residents, have not seen an ophthalmologist in three or more years, and do not belong to an HMO or VA. call 1-800-222-3937 or go to www.eyecareamerica.org/eyecare/care/senior-eyecare.cfm

Fund Raiser



**Relay For Life
Fundraiser
April 24, 11 am to 3 pm
Lanier United Methodist
Church**

Something for everyone including:

Trunk sale and tag sale, plant sale, crafts, quilts, jewelry
Bake sale with cookies by the pound, cakes and pastries

Silent auction items

Children's activities (Face painting, balloons, games, inflatables)

Car wash

Picnic lunch

For trunk sale vendors, spaces are available for \$15.00 or \$10.00 for Seniors (Fill up the trunk of your car with items you would like to sell and make some extra cash)

For more information, call the church office at 770-887-0615. Lanier UMC is located at 1979 Buford Highway, Cumming, GA 30041. Visit our website at lanierumc.org.

**AROS District Youth End of School Main Event
@ *Laser Quest***



May 28th 6-12 grades 7-11pm Cost: \$30

Includes Laser Tag and Dinner

Register your group by calling or emailing Rev. Stephen R. Streett, AROS Youth Coordinator, 770-394-0675 ext. 124 or

stephen.streett@dunwoodyumc.org

Meet at Laser Quest in Gwinnett at 7pm. Event ends at 11:00pm. Deadline to register is May 24th.

Vacation Bible Camp

ATTENTION ALL VACATION BIBLE CAMP FAMILIES AND VOLUNTEERS

The time has come to start thinking about singing, crafts, bible study, and lots of fun at the 2010 CUMC Vacation Bible Camp! This year's theme will be GALACTIC BLAST where "cadets will voyage into outer space praising God."

Please save the dates **June 14 - 18** so you won't miss the fun!

Please contact Liz Huff (770)650-9442 if you are interested in working VBC. We need lots of volunteers, so don't be shy!

United Methodist Women

All women who attend Christ UMC and their guests are invited to monthly circle meetings.

The Martha Circle will meet for breakfast next Saturday 4/17/10 at 10:30 at the Diner at Crabapple. It's located at 12460 Crabapple Road across from the silos. Please give Alice Blanco a call to get a head count. Her home phone is 770-642-7075; cell phone is 770-235-0273 and e-mail is aliceblanco@bellsouth.net. This has been reset to the third Saturday due to spring break occurring this week.

The La De Da Circle will meet on Tuesday, April 20, at 10:30 at the home of Chrissie Thead. Directions to both meeting locations will be e-mailed prior to meeting dates.

Open Altar for Prayers

Our altar rail will be open for prayers following every worship service. “Prayer Warriors” will be available to pray for and with you. A growing and caring church is a praying church.

Pledge Campaign and Budget

We received \$6281.00 against a weekly need for \$4650.00.

Need Pastoral Help?

Pastor Keith is available for short term counseling. He is generally in the office Monday through Thursday, but is subject to meetings and often makes visits outside the church. It’s best to call and set an appointment through the church office. In an emergency, please call his cell phone 404-906-1425.

Member Services Directory

In these hard economic times, we can help our brothers and sisters in the Church by utilizing their businesses for necessary services. Many of our members are self employed. I would like to include a list of services offered by our members on our website and in this e-newsletter. If you would like to be listed, please email the church office a brief (no more than two lines) description of services offered and contact information.

◆ **Joanne Rooks** has a company called Moms Table.
www.momstableonline.com or 1207 Canton St. in Roswell.

◆ **Susan Smith** is a licensed Christian Counselor. She can be reached at 404-861-2077.

- ✦ **Mary Jane Warren Stone Fine Art and Illustration** Realist portraits of people, animals and places, and exhibits and illustration in support of educational and environmental concerns. 770-578-8881
- ✦ **Jeanette Storey** works for a Home Care company located in Roswell called Golden Home Services. If you need a carefully screened, trained, bonded, and insured home services provider for a loved one, please call Jeanette at 678-242-0084
- ✦ **Chrissie Thead** is Christina's Interior Finishes. Her company offers color consultations, decorative painting and faux finishes for walls, ceilings, cabinets, mantles and furniture.
www.christinasinteriorfinishes.com or 404-317-2090
- ✦ **John Clark** provides private music instruction for piano, voice, and composition. He teaches classical, rock, and jazz styles and trains students to read music as well as play by ear. For more information visit www.JohnClarkStudio.com or call 404-218-9150.