

CONNECT GROUPS

SERVE • GROW • IMPACT...UP CLOSE

Spring 2024 Connect Groups

If you plan on attending one or more of these Connect Groups...it is important that you sign up at risensaviorgeorgia.com/connect-groups.

God did not design us to face life on our own. Instead, he intended for believers to be woven together in a community so that they might encourage one another as together they walk the often-difficult path of life. Consider these words of direction from Scripture, intended for all Christians:

- Be devoted to one another in love. Romans 12:10
- ◆ Encourage one another and build each other up. 1 Thessalonians 5:11
- Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Hebrews 10:24
- Offer hospitality to one another. 1 Peter 4:9

Connect Groups are intended to bring the members of our church family together to do those very things. Their purpose is to knit Christians together in community that they might share each other's joys and burdens, help each other in time of need, and support each other in their spiritual life.

At Risen Savior, our mission is "to make Christ and the power of his resurrection known in this messy world". We divide that mission into three areas: connect (social), grow (study), and impact (service). Connect Groups are not a mission in and of themselves. Rather they are a strategy for helping us carry out all three areas of our mission.



It is also important for you to act quickly if you see a Growth Group that you like. We will cap our Growth Groups at 10-12 people. (Social Groups and Service Groups may be larger.) Good discussion is difficult if Growth Groups get too large.

May God bless you as you connect to Christ and to each other!

SPRING CLEAN-UP

Type: Service group (impact service together)

Description: This is our Spring Clean-Up Day.

We need the following:

pine straw spread around the shrubs and trees.grass mowed, sidewalks edged, edges trimmed.

• especially need someone who can do sheetrock installation and some minor plumbing.

• also, some inventory taken and recorded.

• anyone wishing to provide drinks, and/or a light lunch, this would be very much

appreciated!

Coordinator: Greg Long 912.312.3209

fire.fighter@comcast.net

Intended for: Every single person that we can have. From Accordion players to Zamboni drivers, ages 8 to

80.

The pitch: Can't do this without your help. We need to take care of our house.

Easter is coming, and we want to be prepared.

Costs: Absolutely *Free of Charge*, but only for the first 100 entries.

Meeting: Saturday, March 9th – 8:00a-12:00p

RISEN SAVIOR CHOIR

Type: Service group (impact service together)

Description: The role of choir is to lead in worship through singing worship songs and guiding the

congregation in prayer and praise through song.

Coordinator: Angie Pechman 912.308.6889

a.pechman@risensaviorgeorgia.com

Megan Blanton 814.671.4680

megblantonmusic@gmail.com

Intended for: Any adult who wants to sing

The pitch: This is the perfect time to join the choir at Risen Savior Lutheran. No audition necessary and

you do not need to bring anything except your singing voice! We will be singing music for worship throughout the spring, including special music for Lent and the Easter seasons, and a

selection for Confirmation (May 19th).

Costs: None

Meeting: Sunday, January 28th – 9:00a

Every Sunday morning for 9:00a practices before worship (practices maybe schedule early depending on preparation that needs to be accomplished). Gather around the grand piano in the

sanctuary.

FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH

Type: Study group (growing with others)

Description: Exploring the foundational teachings of the Bible.

Coordinator: Pastor Pechman 912.925.9431

pastor@risensaviorgeorgia.com

Intended for: Adults

The pitch: What's the foundation on which the Christian faith is built? Does that foundation stand the

test of time? Do the age-old truths of the Christian faith still hold up under the scrutiny of the

modern mind? Whether you have guestions of your own or want to be able to talk to

someone who does, this class is for you! This class is intended to give a basic overview of the

Bible's teachings.

Costs: none

Meeting: All classes will be at Risen Savior | 1755 Quacco Rd., Pooler

SESSION #1 SESSION #2

Tuesday, January 16th @ 6:30p TBD

Tuesday, January 30th @ 6:30p

Tuesday, February 6th @ 6:30p

Tuesday, February 13th @ 6:30p

Tuesday, February 20th @ 6:30p

Tuesday, February 27th @ 6:30p

Tuesday, March 5th @ 6:30p

FEEDING FOUNDATIONS

Type: Service group (impact service with others)

Description: Provide a light meal on Tuesday evenings for participants of this session of Pastor's

Foundation of Faith class. Class starts at 6:30p, so food should be set up between 6:00-

6:15p.

Class resumes on 1/30/24 and will be held for 6 weeks.

Coordinator: Susan Aberson 678.333.1089

grits_100@hotmail.com

Intended for: Anyone wishing to help support the Foundations of Faith class

The pitch: It is often difficult to have something to eat before getting to the class by 6:30. This helps to

get people to class on time with one less thing to worry about.

Costs: You will provide the food for the meals. Usually there are 10 or fewer participants and not

everyone eats. The meal can be anything you wish to provide. In the past we have provided pizza, sub sandwiches, taco Tuesday, lasagna, etc. Bottle water or some sort of drink is usually

provided by you also.

Meeting: Tuesday evenings, 6:15, at Risen Savior for the duration of the class.

Tuesday, January 30th

Tuesday, February 6th

Tuesday, February 13th

Tuesday, February 20th

Tuesday, February 27th

Tuesday, March 5th

FOUNDATIONS CHILDCARE

Type: Service group (impact service together)

Description: Serve your community and others by volunteering to provide childcare for parents who are

taking Foundations class.

Coordinator: Angie Pechman 912.308.6889

a.pechman@risensaviorgeorgia.com

Intended for: Teens and adults

The pitch: We want to create a comfortable learning environment for parents and Academy families

who plan to attend the Foundations Class, traveling the path to membership here at Risen Savior or learning more about what foundational truths their child is learning at RSCA. You would be asked to watch and interact with children during these weekly classes from 6:30-

7:45p

Costs: None

Meeting: All classes will be at Risen Savior | childcare held in the nursery classroom

SESSION #1 SESSION #2

Tuesday, January 16th @ 6:30p

Tuesday, January 30th @ 6:30p

Tuesday, February 6th @ 6:30p

Tuesday, February 13th @ 6:30p

Tuesday, February 20th @ 6:30p

Tuesday, February 27th @ 6:30p

Tuesday, March 5th @ 6:30p

RISEN SAVIOR ALTAR GUILD

Type: Service group (impact service together)

Description: Function of Altar Guild 2024:

1.) Set up/take down communion ware on communion services.

2.) Clean and maintenance of Communion Ware, Altar Cloth, Communion cloth, Altar area,

and Sacristy.

3.) Change banners/paraments according to church year.

4.) Place flowers on altar and for special occasions.

*full responsibilities posted on wall in sacristy and through email

Coordinator: Dawn Burgstiner 912.658.7289

daburgstiner77@gmail.com

Intended for: Any confirmed member of Risen Savior Lutheran Church.

The pitch: This group serves the Lord, RSLC, and it's members behind the scenes. If you want to humbly

and quietly serve the Lord this the group for you.

Costs: There is no cost except your time.

Meeting: We will meet at church for 1 meeting in the next 3 months for training and overview of

responsibilities.

Date/time: TBD

BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS

Type: Study group (growing with others)

Description: This will be a short study on conflicts and reconciliation using the book, "Blessed are the

Peacemakers".

Coordinator: Gregory Lucas 912.659.7150

gplucas7@gmail.com

Intended for: Adults who want to improve how they deal with conflict and parents who want to help teach

their children to respond to conflict in a God pleasing way.

The pitch: The study material is only 32 pages and simple to understand. The difficult part will be putting

it into practice in your daily lives. Just following Easter, we will examine how we were

reconciled to God through Jesus, and how we can be motivated by the love of God, also seek to reconcile with those we are in conflict with, regardless of fault. Even as reconciled children of God we still wrestle with our sins and conflict against God and our neighbor (family, friends, strangers, and even with our fellow church members). We should not be surprised when conflict happens but be prepared! We should be ready to respond to any conflict, small

or large, in a God pleasing way as His children. When we through the strength God's Word provides react to conflict in a God pleasing way vs. a worldly way, we are witnessing the love of God in a way that not only heals our relationships but also might prompt someone who doesn't know Jesus to ask why you acted differently. Then we should also be prepared to give

an answer as it says in 1 Peter 3:15.

Costs: Book is \$14

Meeting: The Lucas'

25 Glenwood Court Pooler, GA 31322

Saturday April 6th 10-11:30am Saturday April 13th 10-11:30am Saturday April 20th 10-11:30am Saturday April 27th 10-11:30am Saturday May 4th 10-11:30am Saturday May 11th 10-11:30am

EASTER 4 KIDS

Type: Service group (impact service together)

Description: Volunteer at E4K! We are looking for station leaders, registration table help, and group

leaders. There are plenty of opportunities to serve!

Coordinator: Elizabeth Henke 414.303.6478

henkeelizabeth22@gmail.com

Intended for: This group is for anyone who enjoys working with children and sharing God's Word!

The pitch: Come enjoy a Saturday working with children and telling them the Greatest Story Ever Told!

You can help with crafts, music, bible story, gym, and snack! You can also lead an age group

around from station to station! Children age 3 through 10 are welcome to attend

E4K...which includes the Good Friday and Easter story. There is minimal training needed, if you love to watch kids learn about the Easter story, then this is the group for you. Morning

includes a short service at the end for all E4K families.

Costs: No cost

Meeting: E4K: Saturday, March 23rd – 9:00a-12:30p

EASTER WORK PARTY

Type: Service group (impact service together)

Description: Preparing the Risen Savior for Easter Vigil and the celebration of Jesus' resurrection.

Coordinator: Pastor Pechman 530.917.0682

pastor@risensaviorgeorgia.com

Intended for: This group is for anyone who enjoys Easter and wants to welcome our Easter weekend

guests.

The pitch: Main goals for this work party are: placing the lilies, arrange the altar furniture and place the

Easter paraments, prepping candles and firepit for the Easter Vigil, preparing the fellowship

hall for the light brunch, and prepping the resurrection egg hunt.

Costs: No cost

Meeting: Saturday, March 30th | 10:00a-12:00p

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH

Type: Study group (growing with others)

Description: In this study group we will be looking at the roles and importance of greeters and ushers in

our church. We will be using the book, "Welcome to Our Church: A Handbook for Greeters and Ushers". We will discuss things like the visitor's point of view, dos and don'ts, name tags and name remembering, members are still important, watching for needs, involving the children,

the follow-up, emergencies, special Divine services, supplies, etc.

Coordinator: Gregory Lucas 912.659.7150

gplucas7@gmail.com

Intended for: For those who serve, or would like to serve as ushers and greeters

The pitch: Whether you have a lifetime of experience as either an usher or greeter, or you never have

done either, but you know it's only a matter of time before someone comes up and says...."can

you fill in today...all you have to do is....", this group is for you.

We will discuss how to care for everyone who shows up on Sunday. Such as the fellow member who has their hands full with the food for after worship Bible study, or the first-time guest who might also be in Church for the first time ever. Letting them know where the restroom is or handing them a coloring activity bag for their small children and introducing them to other children. Knowing where the first-aid kit is or how to help if the fire alarm goes

off, or the power goes out.

There are many useful suggestions for each role of greeter and usher, and we will also be able to share experiences and useful tips of our own. All this with the goal of connecting and keeping the focus on Jesus and loving and supporting one another in the body of Christ.

Costs: The book cost is \$5

Meeting: Risen Savior Lutheran Church

1755 Quacco Road Pooler, GA, 31322

Sunday, February 4th 8:45am-9:30am Sunday, February 11th 8:45am-9:30am Sunday, February 18th 8:45am-9:30am Sunday, February 25th 8:45am-9:30am

THUNDER CAFÉ CREW

Type: Service group (impact service with others)

Description: Providing homemade or store-bought muffins, cinnamon rolls, donuts, or other breakfast-

type goodies for Academy Thunder Cafe events. Getting to know Academy parents and

students.

Coordinator: Susan Smalley 931.216.5325

ssmalley@live.com

Intended for: Anyone who wants to bake or provide goodies. Anyone who wants to provide hospitality to

our Academy parents and students.

The pitch: One of the best ways to make people feel welcome somewhere is to give them food! We

would like to make our Academy families feel welcome at RSCA and at chapel. You can help by providing some breakfast-type goodies to be served to our Academy students and parents

in the fellowship hall. Everyone is invited to attend chapel following Thunder Cafe.

Costs: Any costs associated with baking or buying your goodies.

Meeting: Not all group members need to be present at each event. Group members just need to ensure

that enough baked goods are provided for each event, that they are ready to be served, and that clean up occurs after the event has concluded. Some juice or milk would also be

recommended to serve along with the baked goods. Group members are encouraged to

mingle with Academy parents and students.

Friday, January 26th, 8:30-9:30a...(7th-8th...serving 23 students plus parents)

Friday, February 9th, 8:30-9:30a...(5th-6th...serving 21 students plus parents)

Thursday, February 15th, 8:30-9:30a...(3rd-4th...serving 26 students plus parents)

Friday, March 8th, 8:30-9:30a...(2nd...serving 16 students plus parents)

Thursday, March 28st, 8:30-9:30a...(1st...serving 18 students plus parents)

Friday, April 5th, 8:30-9:30a...(kindergarten...serving 16 students plus parents)

Friday, April 26th, 8:30-9:30a...(PS4...serving 14 students plus parents)

Friday, May 10th, 8:30-9:30a...(PS2-3...serving 26 students plus parents)

FUELING THE WARRIORS

Type: Service group (impact service with others)

Description: Risen Savior will be hosting the Wisconsin Lutheran College Choir for a sacred concert on

Tuesday, March 12th @ 7:00p

Coordinator: Kim Wellman 814.671.2411

dk wellman@hotmail.com

Intended for: Anyone who loves music and would like to help provide a meal to fuel Wisconsin Lutheran

Choir before their concert.

The pitch: Risen Savior is being asked to prepare and provide a pre-concert meal for 62 members of

Wisconsin Lutheran Choir. This meal will be the fuel for a lovely evening concert that you will

not want to miss.

Costs: Cost will involve meal items.

Meeting: TBD

Wisconsin Lutheran Choir Concert, March 12th – 7:00p

Meal @ 5:00p

Mom's Morning Out

Type: Social group (connecting with others)

Description: Meeting 1-2 times per month for a morning out to develop friendship and fellowship over a

cup of coffee or tea. We will plan to start the morning with a short devotional. Then have time

to chat and get to know each other and support each other in the journey of parenting.

Coordinator: Nicole Mula 912.351.5820

nicolen123@gmail.com

Intended for: For all moms who would like to join. Come once or come every time. Encouraging both church

and academy families to join in. Little ones are welcome to tag along!

The pitch: Gather for a mom's morning out to build friendship and support on this journey of

motherhood. We will meet 1-2 times per month for a morning out at a local coffee shop to develop friendship and fellowship over a cup of coffee or tea. We will plan to start the

morning with a short devotional on gospel-centered motherhood. Then have time to chat and

get to know each other and support each other in the journey of parenting.

Little ones are welcome to join!

Costs: Buy your own coffee/treats/etc at the coffee shop of choice for the week.

Meeting: We will meet on the following THURSDAYS at 09:15a (after school drop off). Location TBD

based on RSVPs (But likely will be at Three Tree Coffee at the Porch or Stir Coffee Co or Starbucks). Other

possible locations: neighborhood community centers or parks.

Feb. 8th

Feb. 22nd

Mar. 7th

Future dates | TBD

BUNCO BEAUTIES

Type: Social group (connecting with others)

Description: We will be meeting together once a month to play a dice game called BUNCO.

Coordinator: Katie Hefti 419.787.9251

k1m0h@hotmail.com

Intended for: Women. Teens will be available for babysitting if needed!

The pitch: Roll the dice and try something new!

Food...√ Fun...√ Fellowship...√

... and did I mention there will be PRIZES??

Costs: Each BUNCO night will have an appetizer potluck, so you'll be asked to bring a dish to share.

Meeting: BUNCO nights will be in the church fellowship hall from 6:00-8:00(ish)pm

Friday, February 23rd Friday, March 22nd Friday, April 26th Friday, May 17th

It's ok if you can't make it to all 4 nights!

BEAUTIFUL FEET

Type: Study group (growing with others)

Description: In this study group we will be going through the book, "The Reluctant Witness" by Don Everts

with research from Barna. Looking at the data from Barna that compares witnessing efforts surveys from 1992 and the same survey questions again in 2017, and some case examples in the book. We will discuss how those examples and the data provided might impact each of our own witnessing efforts. Also, we will each share past witness experiences, look forward to

new ones, play a fun card game, eat snacks, and have fun!

Coordinator: Gregory Lucas 912.659.7150

gplucas7@gmail.com

Intended for: This study group is intended for adults who have a heart for witnessing and outreach,

regardless of if you are a reluctant witness or an eager witness.

The pitch: Do you have beautiful feet? Are you a reluctant witness, or an eager witness? Either way, I

believe this study group will not only benefit you, but also those you witness to (reluctantly or not). There are many funny moments in this book, as well as sad, shocking, and encouraging ones also. There are plenty of encouraging Scripture references for a reluctant witness and reaffirming for those who are already eager. There is data from Barna covering 25 years. Not to mention the personal story that the author opens with, sharing how it wasn't until 13 1/2 hours into his trip on a Greyhound bus, that he finally said "hi" to the person sitting next to

him, all while reading a book encouraging witnessing and evangelism.

Do you want beautiful feet? Bring Good News, witness to others! (Isaiah 52:7; Romans

10:15)

Also, participants who make every class will be entered to win a pedicure gift card!

Costs: The book cost is \$10

Meeting: The Lucas'

25 Glenwood Court Pooler, GA 31322

Saturday, February 3rd 10:30-12pm Saturday, February 10th 10:30-12pm Saturday, February 17th 10:30-12pm Saturday, February 24th 10:30-12pm Saturday, March 2nd 10:30-12pm Saturday, March 9th 10:30-12pm Saturday, March 23rd 10:30-12pm

OFFERING COUNTERS

Type: Service group (impact service with others)

Description: You will be a part of a rotating 2-person team who processes the donations received each

service in the offering plates.

Coordinator: Susan Aberson 678.333.1089

grits 100@hotmail.com

Intended for: Anyone who would like to help with this very important function for our church. No prior

knowledge or experience is required.

The pitch: It takes 2 people each week to verify and process the offerings in order to prepare the

deposit. By adding additional helpers, each person will have fewer Sundays assigned.

Costs: Just your time. This process takes 15-20 minutes to complete after each service.

Meeting: Takes places at Risen Savior after each church service. It usually occurs during the snack

period and often a portion of Power Hour.

TEACHING THE FAITH @ HOME

Type: Study group (growing with others)

Description: We will be reading and using a book called, "Teaching the Faith at Home: What does this mean?

How is this done?" by Dr. David L. Rueter. There is a study guide that comes with the "Teaching the Faith at Home" book. Why it is important to have daily family devotions and catechesis? How to teach the faith at home. Resources for teaching the faith at home. Discussing who is responsible for teaching the faith. How to fit teaching the faith into our crazy daily schedules.

Coordinator: Gregory Lucas 912.659.7150

gplucas7@gmail.com

Intended for: It is primarily for parents, grandparents, married couples who are expecting or planning on

having children. It is never too early or too late to learn how to teach the faith at home for any

age of your children; even before they are born. Anyone is welcome.

The pitch: Making it to church every Sunday and having your children attend Sunday School classes is a

great start to making sure your children learn about the gift of faith that God provides through His means of grace. But is it only the church's responsibility to teach the faith or is it also yours? What does the Bible say? Is it difficult? How is it done? Why is it done? What age

should I start with my children? Come find out and join the discussion!

Costs: The book cost is \$19.99

Meeting: The Lucas'

25 Glenwood Court Pooler, GA 31322

Friday, February 9th 6:30-7:45pm Friday, February 23rd 6:30-7:45pm Friday, March 1st 6:30-7:45pm Friday, March 8th 6:30-7:45pm Friday, March 22nd 6:30-7:45pm Friday, March 29th 6:30-7:45pm Friday, April 5th 6:30-7:45pm

SUMMER LAWN CARE/MOWERS

Type: Service group (impact service with others)

Description: For anyone that wishes to assist with the lawn maintenance during the summer. We will go

over the operation of our equipment, and schedule days that you can be available. This is to

replace the signing up for a month at a time.

Coordinator: Greg Long 912.312.3209

fire.fighter@comcast.net

Intended for: Adults and teenagers. We kindly ask that the operation of power equipment be done by

adults for safety reasons.

The pitch: What will draw strangers to our Church? A beautiful and well kept campus is one way to catch

their eye!

Costs: All equipment is provided along with gasoline and oil. All this requires is a small amount of

time to keep our grounds clean.

Meeting: Please provide days that you would be willing to care for our campus. It can be any day of the

week.

HOME PUB NIGHT

Type: Social group (connecting with others)

Description: Meeting Friday nights once a month for fellowship.

Coordinator: Andrew Schmidt 425.263.1453

schmi146@gmail.com

Intended for: Anyone...especially families.

The pitch: Greasy food, cold beverages, conversation.

Costs: Appetizers, and/or drinks to share

Meeting: One Friday a month @ Schmidt house.

February 16th | Wine & Charcuterie

March 15th | Irish Pub

April 19th | BBQ

May 10th | Cantina

RISEN SAVIOR J-WALKERS

Type: Social group (connecting with others)

Description: The J-Walkers will meet monthly to grow in God's Word, socialize with other teens, and enjoy

fellowship and food with others.

Coordinator: Josh Wong 507.340.0563

j.wong@risensaviorgeorgia.com

Intended for: Any 7th-12th grader in the Risen Savior community.

The pitch: There are three core principles for the J-Walkers: faith, friends, and food. Each get-together

gives you the unique opportunity to investigate the teachings of the Bible in a way you have never done it before, try out new experiences with friends, and enjoy delicious food prepared by Mr. and Mr. Douglas. Come to many or all the activities this season and feel free to bring a

friend.

Costs: The costs will be minimal to help cover a small part of the activities that the group will do.

These costs will vary based on the event of the month.

Meeting: All dates are activities are tentative and are subject to change. A clearer picture of each

gathering will be communicated as the date approaches.

Saturday, February 10th | 1:00-3:00p | Ice Skating @ MLK Arena in Savannah

Saturday, March 9th | 6:30-8:30p | Bowling

Saturday, April 13th | 3:00-4:00p | Community Volunteer event

Saturday, May 11th | 1:00-3:00p | Pool Party @ the Wong House

Darts, Board Games, and Food

Type: Social group (connecting with others)

Description: We will be playing darts, board games, corn hole, and more. All while also enjoying some food

and drinks together.

Coordinator: Gregory Lucas 912.659.7150

gplucas7@gmail.com

Intended for: Anyone

The pitch: Just would like to host a fun get together where people can meet and have fun playing various

games and enjoy some food together. Kids are also welcome! We can probably accommodate

around 10-12 adults max depending on cars and parking, but we will do our best.

Costs: If you want to provide any snack, drinks, or food. It's up to you.

Meeting: The Lucas'

25 Glenwood Court Pooler, GA 31322

Friday, April 12th 6:00-8:30pm Friday, May 3rd 6:00-8:30pm