



LAKE OCONEE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lake Oconee Lutheran Church

*God writes His Word on our Lives,
Building us into a Family engaged in Spirit-filled Service.*

Our Church Newsletter

August 2022

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Secretary Sonya Plunkett
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Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays Holy Communion
2nd & 4th Sundays Morning Worship
Bible Class 9:00 a.m.
Children's Sunday School 10am

1089 Lake Oconee Parkway
Eatonton, Georgia 31024
Church Office 706-485-4600


Visit our web site: www.lakeoconeelutheran.org

Dear Friends in Christ,

As I write this, we have pushed into the heart of summer and the thermometer has been reminding us of that fact by moving higher and higher. As I look around, I don't see windows open with their curtains billowing softly in the breeze. Now the windows and doors are shut, the curtains or shades are pulled down tightly and the air-conditioners are roaring. As a part of my devotions, I read an article by Dr. Stephen Carter and I wanted to share it with you.

We walk out of air-conditioned buildings and face a blast furnace of hot, humid air. Soon the sweat begins to pour out. We hurry to complete our business so that we can again seek air-conditioned shelter. The heat and humidity create an environment that doesn't only control our schedule, it threatens to control our life!

We Christians also face the "heat and humidity" of a hostile world. Our Lord repeatedly warned His disciples to expect persecution. Peter speaks of a "fiery trial" that the early



Christians should expect. (1 Peter 4:12). But we today also face a culture that causes us as much trouble as the heat and humidity.

However, within the family of God's people, we can gather around Word and Sacrament and experience God's cooling refreshment before we walk out into the hostile world. As Jesus tells His disciples in John's gospel, **"In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."** (John 16:33b)

When faced with the blast furnace of temptation and ridicule, we begin to sweat. But Jesus, who faced the world's hatred and went to the cross in payment for our sins, offers us strength to face the world's heat and humidity. He has overcome. We can live boldly in the midst of the world's anti-Christian culture as He continues to refresh us in the air-conditioning of worship with God's people.

Dr. Stephen Carter: 1982 My Daily Devotions

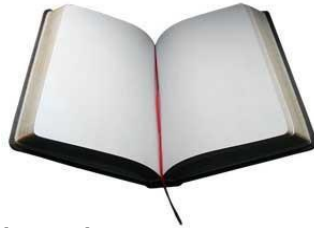
Join us this summer in the cooling refreshment of worship together. Refreshed, renewed and re-energized we can then walk out in service together, even as God has called us to do.

Pastor Steve

Worship Update -- Live streaming

Remember, we are now live streaming our Sunday Bible Class and Worship. This means both services will be broadcast live as they happen on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am and 10:30 am on Facebook. Join us as we all come together in worship. If you are unable to be online while they are live, do not worry. The recorded services will remain available for you to watch later as well. You may find it on the @lakeoconeelutheranchurch page on Facebook. God's blessings to each of you!

LOLC offers Bible Study



Sunday Morning Bible class

What is prayer? It's a simple enough question and a natural place to start. Perhaps just as good a question is "What isn't prayer?" Prayer, quite simply, is speaking to God what is in our hearts. Prayer is not a means through which God speaks to us; God speaks to us through His Word. In prayer, then, we have the privilege of striking up a conversation with our Creator. Join us on **Sunday mornings at 9am** in the Sanctuary or live-streamed on Facebook for **Prayer**.

Mid Week Bible Class

Since the Reformation, we have generally agreed that the doctrine of justification is "the article on which the church stands or falls." That is, justification is the foundation and cornerstone of the Christian Church and its faith. What we have not so often understood is what does this mean? Very closely related to this question, is the definition of sanctification and how this also takes place. **Join us on Wednesday mornings on Zoom at 10:30am** as we see just what Justification and Sanctification are and how intimately they are related.

Women's Bible class

Women's Bible class meets every Tuesday @ 10 am in the choir room.



Operation Christmas Child 2022

Please continue to pray to God to prepare the hearts of children and their families to receive the Gospel and the Ministry Partners who are taking the 2021 shoebox gifts to children all over the world. Over 10.5 million shoeboxes were packed and donated worldwide in 2021. This number includes over 9.1 million boxes donated in the U.S. Lake Oconee Lutheran Church contributed 150 shoeboxes and received 415 shoeboxes during National Collection Week. LOLC's shoeboxes went to Burkina Faso, Republic of the Congo, Angola, and a "Hard-to-Reach" Area (difficult to access due to customs, cultural, or religious reasons). Thank you for your support and prayers.


We now prepare to begin our 2022 Operation Christmas Child (OCC) journey. OCC is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organization. Their mission is to provide local Ministry Partners around the world with shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of reaching out to children in their communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ. The shoebox gifts are shipped outside the US to children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, and disease.

Our goal is to pack **150 boxes** for children ages 10 to 14 years old. We will be collecting items and donations of money starting in March and going through October focusing on groups of items needed each month. The items for each month will be outlined in an insert in our weekly church bulletin and email.

Overall, the items we will be collecting are:

Sewing kits	Deodorant	Recorder/ Harmonica
Fishing kits	Bar Soap	Water bottles
Reusable cloth menstrual pads	Nail clippers	Bandanas
String backpacks	Jump ropes	Underwear
Flip flops	Playing cards	Socks
Toothbrushes	School supplies	Postage
	Hats	

We have tried to make it easy again this year for everyone to order these items by setting up an Amazon Wish List for Operation Christmas Child. All you need to do is click on the link provided each month, purchase your item(s) and they will be shipped directly to the church. Just like a gift registry, you will be able to see how many of each item was purchased and how many are still needed. Takes all the hard work out of shopping! You may also purchase these items in any of our local stores such as



Walmart, Dollar Tree, CVS, etc. and drop them off in the bins we will have available in the narthex.

SAVE THE DATES: We plan have a Packing Party to pack each box, like we did last year, as a team on **November 5th**. National Collection Week is **November 14 – 21, 2022**.

Thank you so much for your kind generosity as we spread the Good News of Jesus Christ to children in need across the globe.

Isaiah 6:8 And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.”

Lake Oconee Lutheran Church
Congregational Meeting

July 10, 2022

The meeting was called to order by President Tom Mathson, Pastor Hayden opened with a prayer.

Margaret Pedersen was not in attendance.

Council Committee Reports:

VP/Personnel: Mike Joost- no report

Treasurer: Kathie Kueven- The three Treasurer's Reports were distributed. There were no questions.

Financial Secretary: Walter Krause- no report

Congregational Secretary: Larry Davis- no report

Church Properties: Barney Ross – Bughouse has been contacted to address the squirrel problem in the attic. The problem with the timer for the lights for the steeple is being addressed.

Lay Ministry: Joe Peeples- no report

Christian Education: Joshua Ringer- no report

Christian Service/Outreach: Margaret Pedersen- no report

Pastor's Report: Steve Hayden- We have six new members in the last 12 months.

Jean Steinburg, Jan Sollenberger, Roy and Candy McAllister, Sherry Jones, and Bruce Pungler


New Business:

1. Amending Article III of the LOLC By-Laws.

The proposed change to Article III was distributed and reviewed by President Mathson. The number of annual congregational meetings required will be reduced from four to two. The document of the proposed changes is attached.

A motion was made by Dr. Ringer, and seconded by Barney, "I move that we accept the proposed changes to Article III as presented." The motion passed unanimously.

President Mathson updates:



1. **Security Systems-** The security systems for the Church and Community Center have been installed and are working as planned.

2. **Piano move and choir microphones-** The piano has been moved up from the floor and there have been new choir directional microphones installed.

3. **Highway 44 expansion-** GDOT has presented an offer to buy .33 acres of the corner lot for Highway 44 widening. LOLC would receive approximately \$100K which would include the cost of moving the sign. GDOT will come back with an additional proposal for the Community Center. Both proposals will be considered at that time.

4. **Post Service Coffee Fellowship-** The congregation was asked to contact a council member or Elder to express a preference to have the fellowship food be provided by a local business or continue as it is now to be homemade by members.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Larry Davis

Congregational Secretary

The current By-Laws of Lake Oconee Lutheran Church contain several terms and phrases that don't accurately represent our current practices or needs of the congregation. Below is Article III – GOVERNING BODIES, specifically section A. The current By-Law and the same section with the proposed changes are printed below with areas of change printed in red.

Current By-Law

Article III – GOVERNING BODIES

A. Voters Assembly. Any confirmed member who has reached the age of eighteen (18) years, and has read and signed the Constitution of this congregation shall be accepted as a voting member of this congregation. The Qualified members at any meeting constitute a quorum, and the meetings shall be governed by generally accepted parliamentary procedures. All meetings shall be announced at the regular worship services. The Voters Assembly shall meet four times a year on a quarterly basis and the dates of such meetings shall be determined by the Church Council. One meeting shall be held in the fall (preferably October) and will include consideration of the following years preliminary budget which will be finalized for adoption at the next quarterly meeting. The fall meeting will also include election of church officers and officials. Special meetings of the Voters Assembly may be called by the Pastor, the President of the congregation, the Church Council, or in response to a written request signed by at least ten (10) percent of the qualified voting members.

Proposed By-Law

Article III – GOVERNING BODIES

B. Voters Assembly. Any confirmed member who has reached the age of eighteen (18) years, and has read and accepted the Constitution of this congregation shall be accepted as a voting member of this congregation. The Qualified members at any meeting constitute a quorum, and the meetings shall be governed by generally accepted parliamentary procedures. All meetings shall be announced at the regular worship services. The Voters Assembly shall meet two times a year on a semi-annual basis and the dates of such meetings shall be determined by the Church Council. One meeting shall be held in the fall and will include consideration of the following years budget.. The fall meeting will also include election of church officers and officials. Special meetings of the Voters Assembly may be called by the Pastor, the President of the congregation, the Church Council, or in response to a written request signed by at least ten (10) percent of the qualified voting members.

LOLC - COMMUNITY CENTER

Treasurer's Report - June 30, 2022

	Monthly Budget	Period Activity	Difference	Y-T-D Budget	Y-T-D Activity	Difference
INCOME						
Rental Income	\$1,000.00	\$1,777.09	-\$777.09	\$6,000.00	\$9,941.85	-\$3,941.85
Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,000.00	\$1,777.09	-\$777.09	\$6,000.00	\$9,941.85	-\$3,941.85
EXPENSES						
Rental Refunds	\$0.00	\$268.15	-\$268.15	\$0.00	\$1,067.32	-\$1,067.32
Utilities	250.00	231.00	19.00	1,500.00	1,245.00	255.00
Pest Control	59.00	0.00	59.00	354.00	590.00	-236.00
Yard Maintenance	150.00	100.00	50.00	900.00	600.00	300.00
Janitorial	250.00	360.00	-110.00	1,500.00	1,665.86	-165.86
Supplies	30.00	0.00	30.00	180.00	114.87	65.13
Repairs & Mtce.	186.00	131.93	54.07	1,116.00	383.94	732.06
Equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	611.95	-611.95
Other Expenses	75.00	0.00	75.00	450.00	0.00	450.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,000.00	\$1,091.08	-\$91.08	\$6,000.00	\$6,278.94	-\$278.94
TOTAL INCOME LESS EXPENSES	\$0.00	\$686.01	-\$686.01	\$0.00	\$3,662.91	-\$3,662.91
Bank Balance	\$11,193.59					
Accounts Payable	\$0.00					

LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Treasurer's Report - June 30, 2022

	Monthly Budget	Period Activity	Difference	Y-T-D Budget	Y-T-D Activity	Difference	Restricted Fund Balances
INCOME							
General Fund	30,278	19,173	11,105	182,265	182,329	-64	Organ \$478
Tax Reduction	3,684	1,990	1,694	22,107	12,210	9,897	A/P \$2,074
Memorial Fund	0	0	0	0	5,050	-5,050	Memorials \$11,453
Sunday School	0	0	0	0	0	0	OCC Fund \$1,967
Special Fund Income	32	1,438	-1,406	190	11,675	-11,485	Little FP \$200
TOTAL OFFERINGS	\$33,994	\$22,601	\$11,393	\$204,562	\$211,264	-\$6,702	M-of-M \$454
							TOTAL \$16,626
EXPENSES							
Histor Expense	14,067	20,913	-6,846	84,399	87,153	-2,754	A/P: District \$0
Worship Expense	3,065	1,596	1,469	18,392	9,557	8,835	P/R \$2,074
Property Expense	5,649	5,187	462	33,896	32,792	1,104	Mortgage Balance: \$255,793.77
Bus. & Admin. Expense	2,525	3,183	-658	15,148	13,582	1,566	
Education Expense	158	21	137	950	178	772	
Evangelism/Outreach Exp.	784	376	408	4,705	2,343	2,362	BANK BALANCES:
Stewardship Expense	0	0	0	0	0	0	BankSouth \$134,751.93
Stewardship Expense	200	25	175	1,200	545	655	LCEF \$101,622.28
Mission Expense (District)	8,325	7,911	414	16,650	18,229	-1,579	Anderson \$124,458.75
CE Expenses	769	0	769	4,613	0	4,613	Comm. Ctr. \$11,193.59
Other Expenses	4,185	3,755	430	25,110	53,698	-28,588	Mortensen \$150,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$39,727	\$42,967	-\$3,240	\$205,063	\$218,077	-\$13,014	TOTAL \$522,026.55
TOTAL INCOME LESS EXPENSES	-\$5,733	-\$20,366	\$14,633	-\$501	-\$6,813	\$6,312	

TREASURER'S REPORT - LOLC ANDERSON FUND

31-May-22

	<u>Period</u> <u>Activity</u>	<u>Period</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u> <u>Activity</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income						
Interest Income	<u>13.64</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>13.64</u>	<u>64.35</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>64.35</u>
Total Income:	\$13.64	\$0.00	\$13.64	\$64.35	\$0.00	\$64.35
Expenses						
DCE Salary	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
DCE Rent & Utilities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
DCE Internet	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Evangelism Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Expenses	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Expenses:	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00
Total Income Less Expenses:	13.64	0.00	\$13.64	64.35	0.00	\$64.35

Bank Balance: \$124458.75

Mites

The Widow's mite of Mark 12: 41-44 is the inspiration for the LWML mite boxes.



The Ladies of the Church organize mites' collections on a continuous basis. The third Sunday of each month is the official Mites Sunday after which the monies gathered go to the Lutheran Women's Missionary League to support various ministries around the world.

Detailed information is available at www.lwml.org and on Facebook. The third Sunday of the month is designated Mite Sunday, but donations are always welcome.

We express heartfelt thanks for your charitable generosity.

Susan Larson

Coffee & Fellowship



The coffee fellowship that follows the Sunday church service gives us an opportunity to welcome visitors, meet new members and visit with each other. We have missed it, But now it has returned. You may still leave after church if you do not feel comfortable yet with the in-person gathering. We want you to feel free to make the best decisions for your own care. We do want to continue to enjoy the coffee fellowship, so we are making a few temporary adjustments for the time being.

*We are asking you to give each other lots of room and keep in mind the need for social distancing. We can still talk with one another, just standing further apart.

*Wearing a mask is now optional.

*We are also need volunteers signing up for snacks and serving.

Look for the signup sheet in the narthex on the table if you'd like to volunteer. We are thankful for one small step back into the familiar friendliness of our church family.

Choir Notes



Choir will resume in September

Opportunities to Serve

Little Free Pantry

Lake Oconee Lutheran has an opportunity to serve our community on a daily basis. We now have our own Little Free Pantry where members of the community can come and take groceries at any time that they need and leave anything that they do not need. Our mission is to stock up on items so that we can have a supply of Groceries to share!

Items to purchase

Please make sure they are not expired and in good condition

- pasta products/rice/Ramen noodles
- peanut butter/jelly
- canned vegetables/fruit
- pasta sauce
- canned meat

Please NO glass containers

Volunteers

Altar Care there is a signup sheet in the narthex on the front table.

Sunday service camera operator. It will be controlled with an iPad and we will provide training on how to manage it.

signup sheets are in the narthex on the front table, or you can call/email the church office.

Ushers' signup sheets are in the narthex on the front table, or you can call/email the church office

Coffee Fellowship signup sheets are in the narthex on the front table.

Little Free Pantry signup sheets are in the narthex on the front table.

Sunday School

We are looking for children's Sunday school teachers for Sept – Dec, we will need 2 teachers per Sunday. It will be held from 9:30am-10 am. Sign up sheet is on the blue table in the entryway.

Blood Drive

The next blood drive is scheduled for August 4, Sept 15, Oct 6,& Nov 17. If you are interested in volunteering email Pam Kunz at Kunzpd3@outlook.com. To sign up to donate blood go to redcrossblood.org and use code LOLC. **Times will be from 1pm to 6pm.**

UPSCALE RESALE
Designer quality new or
gently loved handbags
and jewelry



Accepting donations now for
our next sale.

Date: October 1

Location: Lake Oconee Community Church
10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Text: (803) 394-0064

Email: littlechurch2018@gmail.com

We turn handbags and jewelry
into cash and give it to Greene and
Putnam County Food Pantries

Sponsored by:



The
Episcopal Church
of the Redeemer



Lake Oconee
Community
Church

August 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9:00 AM Adult Bible School 10:30 AM Worship Service Communion	1	2 10 am Women's Bible Class	3	4	5 Happy Birthday Sue Davis Roger Fleming	6 5:00 PM Episcopal Church Service Happy Birthday Mike Langan Janis Lipacis
7 9:00 AM Adult Bible School 10:30 AM Worship Service Communion Elders Meeting	8 Happy Birthday Will Ringer	9 10 am Women's Bible Class Happy Birthday Rosemary Bonnough Cindy Helms Happy Anniversary Dave and Margie Heimer	10 10:30 ZOOM Bible Class Happy Birthday Peggy Uehlin	11 Happy Birthday Charlie Helms	12	13 5:00 PM Episcopal Church Service Happy Anniversary Bob & Shirley Mai
14 9:00 AM Adult Bible School 10:30 AM Worship Service Council Meeting Non-communion	15 Happy Birthday Linda Hayden	16 10 am Women's Bible Class 2 pm Community Center Meeting	17 10:30 ZOOM Bible Class Happy Birthday Kathy Lockwood	18 Happy Anniversary Isaac & Laura Ringer	19	20 5:00 PM Episcopal Church Service Happy Anniversary Margaret & Terry Pedersen Harold & Jan Sollenberger
21 9:00 AM Adult Bible School 10:30 AM Worship Service Communion	22	23 10 am Women's Bible Class	24	25	26	27 5:00 PM Episcopal Church Service Happy Birthday Jim Kueven
28 9:00 AM Adult Bible School 10:30 AM Worship Service Non-communion	29	30 10 am Women's Bible Class	31 Happy Birthday Louise Moore Bailey Ringer	1	2	3 5:00 PM Episcopal Church Service