



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

July 2022

Pastor Steven Hayden  
[revshayden@gmail.com](mailto:revshayden@gmail.com)

Secretary Sonya Plunkett  
[officelolc@gmail.com](mailto:officelolc@gmail.com)

Instrumentalist Lev Rybanin  
[lryabinin@gmail.com](mailto:lryabinin@gmail.com)

Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.  
1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, & 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays Holy Communion  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.lakeoconeelutheran.org)

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we move into July, I thought you would enjoy something that is on the lighter side of things. Linda found this on Facebook recently. We are not certain who originally wrote it and I apologize if you have already seen it but I thought it worth sharing again.


Pastor Steve

Dear Member,

We do not have a happy report, as we have not been able to find a suitable candidate for pastor of our church thus far. We do, however, have one promising prospect. The following is our confidential report on all the candidates:

**Adam:** Good man, but has problems with his wife.

**Noah:** Former pastorate of 120 years with no converts. Prone to unrealistic building projects.



**Joseph:** A big thinker, but a braggart. Interprets dreams. Has a prison record.

**Moses:** Modest and meek, but poor communicator; even stutters at times. Sometimes blows his stack and acts rashly in business meetings.

**Deborah:** One word—female

**David:** The most promising candidate of all, until we discovered the affair he had with a neighbor's wife.

**Solomon:** Great preacher, but serious woman problems.

**Elijah:** Prone to depression; collapses under pressure.

**Jonah:** Told us he was swallowed by a huge fish. He said the fish later spit him out on the shore near here. We hung up.

**Amos:** Backward and unpolished. With some seminary training, he might have promise; but he has a problem with wealthy people.

**John:** Says he's a Baptist, but doesn't dress like one. Sleeps in the outdoors, has a weird diet, and provokes denominational leaders.

**Paul:** Powerful CEO type and fascinating preacher. But he's short on tact, unforgiving with young ministers, harsh, and has been known to preach all night.

**Timothy:** Too young.

**Judas:** His references are solid. A steady plodder. Conservative. Good connections. Knows how to handle money.

Recommendation: We're inviting Judas to preach this Sunday with great hopes that he will accept our offer!

## **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

The Book of Judges covers the time following the death of Joshua until the prophet Samuel, who anointed David king over Israel. Covering almost 450 years, Judges shows how God faithfully sought after His people even after they broke His covenant with them. God commanded Israel to drive out the Canaanites from the Promised Land. However, Israel disobeyed. Instead, Israel “did what was evil in the sight of the LORD and served the Baals” (Judges 2:11). In their disobedience, God’s beloved people forfeited many blessings and instead were visited by anarchy and chaos. Israel forgot God, but He never forgot them. He sought after them to restore His blessings to them. We call that grace.

Our study of the Book of Judges will focus on God’s assuring words found in its pages, “I will never break My covenant with you” (Judges 2:1). That covenant is fulfilled, offered, and delivered in the new covenant through His Son, Jesus Christ. Join us on Sunday mornings at 9 am in the Church or live-streamed on Facebook for Judges.

## Mid Week Bible Class

In the Letter to the Hebrews, God gives us hope and courage in our discipleship so that we “will not grow weary and lose heart.” He directs us to Jesus “who for the joy set before Him endured the cross” on our behalf. The Letter to the Hebrews is filled with all kinds of practical applications for Christian life today. But above all, it points us to the Fulfillment of Faith—Jesus Christ—the one who saves us and empowers us to live our new life. **Join us Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am on Zoom for our Bible Class on Hebrews.**

## 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.”*

### **Let’s welcome our new LOLC members**

We would like to welcome our new members to LOLC. Bruce Punger and Sherry Lynn Jones

Bruce Punger  
344 Reynolds Drive  
Eatonton, GA 31024  
Cell: 516-662-3978

Sherry Jones  
1061 Branch Creek way  
Greensboro, Ga 30642

---

Lake Oconee Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting  
June 22, 2022

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

Barney Ross and Josh Ringer were not in attendance.

The minutes from the May 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting were approved by council.

**Council Committee Reports:**

**VP/Personnel:** Mike Joost- no report

**Treasurer:** Kathie Kueven- The three Treasurer's Reports were distributed and reviewed. Receipts are over budget by \$18K YTD. Expenses are \$10K over budget, however an extra mortgage payment of \$25K has been made. Income exceeds expenses by \$8K YTD. The Community Center continues to operate in the black by \$3K YTD.

**Financial Secretary:** Walter Krause- report was distributed and discussed. Regular donations of \$160K are in line YTD with 2021.

**Congregational Secretary:** Larry Davis- no report

**Church Properties:** Barney Ross – Bughouse has been contacted to provide an estimate for wildlife exclusion in the attic.


**Lay Ministry:** Joe Peeples- Pastor's vacation requests for the rest of the year have been covered except for Thanksgiving week. Continuing to work on that week.

**Christian Education:** Joshua Ringer- no report

**Christian Service/Outreach:** Margaret Pedersen- The blood drive was on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, and they met their goals. The food pantry and Operation Christmas Child continue as usual. A suggestion was made to provide the food for the post-service fellowship from Publix. This would be paid for by LOLC. The weekly volunteers could pick it up and set it up. The Pastor will discuss this during announcements on June 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Pastor's Report:** Steve Hayden- Pastor will be taking all of his annual vacation days in the second half of 2022.

A memorial donation of \$5,000 was made by Ed Blosser to use to benefit children in memory of Lillian's work in helping children in her life. The council will discuss suggestions to best use this memorial donation in keeping with Ed's wishes.



A job description is being passed on to Dave for use to pursue an intern from UGA for a choir director. The church will need to hire a piano mover to reposition the piano.

**A motion was made by Margaret, and seconded by Mike, “I move that we contract a piano mover to reposition the piano. “The motion passed.**

**Old Business:**

**1. Mortenson Memorial Fund Update-** A visit is scheduled to visit the Gwinnett County Food Cooperative on 6/22.

**UGA Interns-** Discussed in Pastor’s report.

**Janitorial staff changes-** Sonya has taken over the janitorial responsibilities every Friday.

**Rodent Roundup-** Discussed in Barney’s report.

**Microphone Update-** Mike has obtained Choir microphones for \$385 and a wi-fi device for the Community center for \$131. Installation will be complete in the coming weeks.

**New Business:**

**1. Voter’s meeting-** We will hold a Congregational Voters meeting on July 10<sup>th</sup>. One piece of business will be an amendment to the by-laws to reduce the requirement for Quarterly Congregational meetings.

The meeting was adjourned followed by the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Larry Davis

Congregational Secretary

---

## LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Treasurer's Report - May 31, 2022

	<u>Monthly Budget</u>	<u>Period Activity</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Y-T-D Budget</u>	<u>Y-T-D Activity</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Restricted Fund Balances</u>	
<b>INCOME</b>								
General Fund	30,278	34,214	-3,936	151,988	163,156	-11,168	Organ	\$478
Debt Reduction	3,684	2,415	1,269	18,422	10,220	8,202	A/P	\$10,133
Memorial Fund	0	5,000	-5,000	0	5,050	-5,050	Memorials	\$11,453
Sunday School	0	0	0	0	0	0	OCC Fund	\$1,967
Special Fund Income	32	703	-671	158	10,238	-10,080	Little FP	\$200
<b>TOTAL OFFERINGS</b>	<b>\$33,994</b>	<b>\$42,332</b>	<b>-\$8,338</b>	<b>\$170,568</b>	<b>\$188,664</b>	<b>-\$18,096</b>	M-of-M	\$454
							<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$24,685</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>								
Pastor Expense	14,067	11,481	2,586	70,333	66,240	4,093	<b>A/P:</b>	
Worship Expense	3,065	1,505	1,560	15,327	7,961	7,366	District	\$5,993
Property Expense	5,649	11,110	-5,461	28,247	27,605	642	P/R	\$4,140
Bus. & Admin. Expense	2,525	2,081	444	12,623	10,399	2,224	<b>Mortgage Balance:</b>	
Education Expense	158	0	158	792	156	636		\$260,061.80
Evangelism/Outreach Exp.	784	579	205	3,921	1,967	1,954	<b>BANK BALANCES:</b>	
Stewardship Expense	0	0	0	0	0	0	BankSouth	\$155,118.99
Fellowship Expense	200	310	-110	1,000	520	480	LCEF	\$101,611.14
Mission Expense (District)	0	0	0	8,325	10,318	-1,993	Anderson	\$124,445.11
DCE Expenses	769	0	769	3,843	0	3,843	Comm. Ctr.	\$10,507.58
Other Expenses	4,185	3,684	501	20,925	49,943	-29,018	Mortensen	\$150,000.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$31,402</b>	<b>\$30,750</b>	<b>\$652</b>	<b>\$165,336</b>	<b>\$175,109</b>	<b>-\$9,773</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$541,682.82</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$2,592</b>	<b>\$11,582</b>	<b>-\$8,990</b>	<b>\$5,232</b>	<b>\$13,555</b>	<b>-\$8,323</b>		

## LOLC - COMMUNITY CENTER

Treasurer's Report - May 31, 2022

	<u>Monthly Budget</u>	<u>Period Activity</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Y-T-D Budget</u>	<u>Y-T-D Activity</u>	<u>Difference</u>
<b>INCOME</b>						
Rental Income	\$1,000.00	\$1,785.32	-\$785.32	\$5,000.00	\$8,164.76	-\$3,164.76
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
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,785.32</b>	<b>-\$785.32</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$8,164.76</b>	<b>-\$3,164.76</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
Rental Refunds	\$0.00	\$144.44	-\$144.44	\$0.00	\$799.17	-\$799.17
Utilities	250.00	254.00	-4.00	1,250.00	1,014.00	236.00
Pest Control	59.00	295.00	-236.00	295.00	590.00	-295.00
Yard Maintenance	150.00	100.00	50.00	750.00	500.00	250.00
Janitorial	250.00	680.00	-430.00	1,250.00	1,305.86	-55.86
Supplies	30.00	114.87	-84.87	150.00	114.87	35.13
Repairs & Mtce.	186.00	236.52	-50.52	930.00	252.01	677.99
Equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	611.95	-611.95
Other Expenses	75.00	0.00	75.00	375.00	0.00	375.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,824.83</b>	<b>-\$824.83</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,187.86</b>	<b>-\$187.86</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$39.51</b>	<b>\$39.51</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$2,976.90</b>	<b>-\$2,976.90</b>

Bank Balance                      \$10,507.58  
Accounts Payable                      \$0.00



## TREASURER'S REPORT - LOLC ANDERSON FUND

30-Apr-22

	<u>Period Activity</u>	<u>Period Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Year-to-Date Activity</u>	<u>Year-to-Date Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
<b>Income</b>						
Interest Income	<u>12.36</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>12.36</u>	<u>50.71</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>50.71</u>
<b>Total Income:</b>	\$12.36	\$0.00	\$12.36	\$50.71	\$0.00	\$50.71
<b>Expenses</b>						
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>
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00
<b>Total Income Less Expenses:</b>	<b>12.36</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$12.36</b>	<b>50.71</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$50.71</b>
<b>Bank Balance: \$124,445.11</b>						

# 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](http://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.

## Blood Drive

The next blood drive is scheduled for July 14. If you are interested in volunteering email Pam Kunz at [Kunzpd3@outlook.com](mailto:Kunzpd3@outlook.com). To sign up to donate blood go to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and use code LOLC. **Times will be from 1pm to 6pm.**

Greene County Senior Center is in need of drivers for their home delivered meals in Greensboro and Union Point. Volunteer one or two days per month on their regular monthly schedule or as a substitute. Call Deanne Holcomb 706-453-7463 at the Greene County Senior Center or contact Margaret Pedersen 404-295-0331 or [margaretped@gmail.com](mailto:margaretped@gmail.com) for more information.



## Lake Oconee Lutheran Church

### Dinner Club 2022 -2023

Join in the fun of sharing a meal and fellowship with your LOLC family. Each dinner is made up of six people, comprised of three pairs. A pair can be a couple or two singles. The dinner groupings will be chosen randomly. Each pair will take a turn hosting. As a host, you will be responsible for:

- Calling the other people in their group and setting up a day and time to get together.
- Providing the entrée and beverages, and the home to meet
- Arranging for each guest couple to bring a dish from among a dessert, a vegetable, or salad

Dinners will be scheduled for September/October, January/February, and March/April. This schedule allows the host a two-month window to schedule your dinner and it avoids the busy holiday season.

A sign-up sheet will be on the blue table in the church entryway. Deadline to sign up is Sunday, July 31. If you have any questions, contact Margaret Pedersen (404-295-0331) or Terry Pedersen (770-314-3596).

---

# July 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	1	2  <b>5:00 PM</b> Episcopal Church Service Happy Anniversary Dave & Kayleen Ringer
3 <b>9:00 AM Adult Bible School</b> <b>10:30 AM Worship Service</b> Communion	4 Independence Day <b>Office Closed</b> Happy Anniversary Frank & Joan Whitten	5 10 am Women's Bible Class Happy Birthday Eileen Oberdeck	6 10:30 ZOOM Bible Class	7 Happy Anniversary Robin & Susan Larson	8	9  <b>5:00 PM</b> Episcopal Church Service Happy Birthday Frank Whitten
10 <b>9:00 AM Adult Bible School</b> <b>10:30 AM Worship Service</b> Voters Meeting Non-communion	11	12 10 am Women's Bible Class	13 10:30 ZOOM Bible Class	14 1-6 pm Blood Drive	15 Happy Anniversary Walter & Susan Krause	16  <b>5:00 PM</b> Episcopal Church Service
17 <b>9:00 AM Adult Bible School</b> <b>10:30 AM Worship Service</b> Communion	18	19 10 am Women's Bible Class	20 10:30 ZOOM Bible Class	21 Happy Birthday Laura Ringer Happy Anniversary Jaye & Cindy McCre	22 Happy Birthday Kathryn Noble	23  <b>5:00 PM</b> Episcopal Church Service
24 <b>9:00 AM Adult Bible School</b> <b>10:30 AM Worship Service</b> Non-communion	25 Happy Birthday Kathie Kueven	26 10 am Women's Bible Class Happy Birthday Brant Moore	27	28 Happy Birthday Reda Joost	29 Happy Birthday Robin Peebles	30  <b>5:00 PM</b> Episcopal Church Service
31 <b>9:00 AM Adult Bible School</b> <b>10:30 AM Worship Service</b> Communion Happy Anniversary Ed & Janie Fritch	1	2	3	4	5	6