



Lake Oconee Lutheran Church

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

Our Church Newsletter

June 2023

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Secretary Sonya Plunkett
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Instrumentalist Dr. Lev Rybanin
Choir Director Dr. Youngmi Kim

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,

1 Corinthians 15 is known as the Resurrection Chapter. Paul writes in verses 3-4: ***“For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures...”***

Are these words new to you? Certainly not! You've heard the message every Easter and probably several Sundays in between. As Paul says, it's the message of first importance. Unless Christ has died for our sins and unless He is risen from the dead, we have nothing on which to base our faith. Only the Christian religion has a God, who out of love for us, has come down to be among His people to live the perfect life in our places and to pay the price for our failure to meet the mark.

Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, Paul teaches us many things. His epistles are full of information, exhortation, encouragement, and edification. But he says that this message of what Christ has done for us is the one of first importance. As he writes in verse



14, ***“And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain.”*** Paul says, ***“For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received.”*** Paul, like our Lord, no longer walks this earth, spreading this message. Of course, Paul passed on this message in written as well as in verbal form. We have God’s Word and are privileged to read and study it whenever we want. Many people don’t, however. Many don’t even know that the Bible is Truth.

That’s where we come in. We now walk the earth. Jesus said, ***“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”*** (Acts 1:8). As recipients of that power, we are enabled to be His witnesses. We now have the task of passing on what we’ve received, the beautiful Gospel message that Christ died for our sins and was raised again that we, too, may have eternal life.

As we continue to pray for wisdom in expanding our ministry to Milledgeville, remember that this is more than a question of money, or time, or work. This is about the opportunities to share this Gospel message with families and individuals who are spiritually dying. It’s about passing on the beautiful message of the Gospel. We are called to pass along what we have received. Thank you for being a part of it.

Pastor Steve

LOLC offers Bible Study



Sunday Morning Bible class

The Good Samaritan. The Prodigal Son. The Pharisee and the Tax Collector. These stories from Jesus—recorded exclusively by St. Luke—are some of the most beloved in Holy Scripture. But despite the popularity of these passages, many students of Scripture would find it hard to describe what's unique about Luke's account of Jesus' life. They could not tell you what concerns drove Luke to take up his pen and write.

Luke's Gospel is a careful history of Jesus' life, death, resurrection, and ascension. But Luke's history, and Jesus' story, does not end with Jesus rising above the clouds. Prior to ascending into heaven, Jesus opened the minds of the apostles so that they could understand the Scriptures. He then commissioned them to preach the Good News about Him to all the nations (Luke 24:45–47). Thus, Christ's work continues today as He applies the benefits of His life, death, and resurrection—through His Word and Sacraments—personally and individually through the ministry of His Church. Luke is indeed a narrative about Christ, but it is even more. Through His means of grace Christ includes our story into His own.

Join us on Sunday mornings @9am for The Gospel of Luke in person at church or live streamed on Facebook

Mid Week Bible Class

The opening words of Ruth reveal that this story took place during the time when God provided judges to bring justice to Israel and to call God's people to repentance and faith. During these historically evil days, an Israelite woman named Naomi and her family journeyed to Moab, a land filled with idol worshipers. There God brought into her family a young Moabite woman named Ruth.

God drew Ruth to Himself in love, kindling a relationship that one day prompted her to speak these words to Naomi: **"Where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God"** (Ruth 1:16). Not surprisingly, we see in the story of Ruth that God's mercy extends to the Gentiles, that is, to you and me.

Join us as we look at the book of Ruth in our **Wednesday morning Bible class on Zoom beginning at 10:30am.**

Women's Bible class

The next study will be on Acts, the Power of the Holy Spirit by Brian Simmons. This 12 week study picks up where Jesus' story left off in the gospel of Luke by exploring the continuing presence of Christ on earth: the church. This inspired account of church history will awaken your soul with transforming power and give you courage to be a witness for Christ wherever he sends you. We on **Tuesdays**, in the Choir Room at **10:00 am**. Please plan to join us as we explore the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

TREASURER'S REPORT - LOLC ANDERSON FUND

Feb. 28, 2023

	<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>
Income						
Interest Income	<u>66.31</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>66.31</u>	<u>192.41</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>192.41</u>
Total Income:	\$66.31	\$0.00	\$66.31	\$192.41	\$0.00	\$192.41
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:	66.31	0.00	\$66.31	192.41	0.00	\$192.41

LOLC - COMMUNITY CENTER

Treasurer's Report - April 2023

	<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>
INCOME						
Rental Income	\$1,000.00	\$1,686.62	-\$686.62	\$4,000.00	\$8,041.59	-\$4,041.59
Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Income	<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 INCOME	\$1,000.00	\$1,686.62	-\$686.62	\$4,000.00	\$8,041.59	-\$4,041.59
EXPENSES						
Rental Refunds	\$0.00	\$441.97	-\$441.97	\$0.00	\$806.46	-\$806.46
Utilities	250.00	201.00	49.00	1,000.00	936.00	64.00
Pest Control	50.00	0.00	50.00	200.00	0.00	200.00
Yard Maintenance	150.00	0.00	150.00	600.00	0.00	600.00
Janitorial	360.00	270.00	90.00	1,440.00	1,350.00	90.00
Supplies	29.17	0.00	29.17	116.68	54.54	62.14
Repairs & Mtce.	125.00	0.00	125.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
Equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Expenses	<u>35.84</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>35.84</u>	<u>143.36</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>43.36</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,000.01	\$912.97	\$87.04	\$4,000.04	\$3,247.00	\$753.04
TOTAL INCOME LESS EXPENSES	-\$0.01	\$773.65	-\$773.66	-\$0.04	\$4,794.59	-\$4,794.63
Bank Balance	\$18,994.37					
Accounts Payable	\$0.00					

LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Treasurer's Report - April 30, 2023

	<u>Monthly</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Period</u> <u>Activity</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u> <u>Activity</u>	<u>Difference</u>	
INCOME							Restricted Fund Balances
General Fund	30,300	24,372	5,928	120,600	106,529	14,071	Organ \$478
Debt Reduction	3,684	1,475	2,209	14,738	3,690	11,048	A/P \$14,747
Memorial Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	Memorials \$13,228
Sunday School	0	0	0	0	0	0	OCC Fund \$2,773
Special Fund Income	<u>490</u>	<u>787</u>	<u>-297</u>	<u>1,961</u>	<u>7,325</u>	<u>-5,364</u>	Little FP \$4,135
TOTAL OFFERINGS	\$34,474	\$26,634	\$7,840	\$137,299	\$117,544	\$19,755	M-of-M \$387
							M'ville Min. <u>\$5,000</u>
							TOTAL \$40,748
							A/P:
EXPENSES							District \$0
Pastor Expense	14,787	13,322	1,465	59,148	62,294	-3,146	P/R \$1,747
Worship Expense	2,640	4,027	-1,387	10,560	12,699	-2,139	
Property Expense	7,030	4,498	2,532	25,595	19,194	6,401	Mortgage Balance:
Bus. & Admin. Expense	2,600	1,700	900	10,398	8,541	1,857	\$102,099.79
Education Expense	158	31	127	633	437	196	
Evangelism/Outreach Exp.	767	222	545	3,067	1,319	1,748	BANK BALANCES:
Stewardship Expense	0	0	0	0	0	0	BankSouth \$49,695.14
Fellowship Expense	217	191	26	867	485	382	CD \$100,000.00
Mission Expense (District)	0	10,399	-10,399	8,250	10,399	-2,149	Anderson \$124,977.58
DCE Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	Comm. Ctr. \$18,994.37
Other Expenses	<u>4,147</u>	<u>4,324</u>	<u>-177</u>	<u>16,589</u>	<u>142,199</u>	<u>-125,610</u>	Mortensen <u>\$150,189.97</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$32,346	\$38,714	-\$6,368	\$135,107	\$257,567	-\$122,460	TOTAL \$443,857.06
TOTAL INCOME LESS EXPENSES	\$2,128	-12,080	\$14,208	\$2,192	-\$140,023	\$142,215	

Notes: Other expenses includes \$100,000 transferred from operating account to a 6 month CD

Y-T-D Mission expenses higher than budget but that is good! Means general fund and special fund revenue is higher than budgeted.

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!

Operation Christmas Child – 2023

This year our Operation Christmas Child (OCC) Ministry will look a little different. We will have shoeboxes with instructions for you to **pack your own boxes** available after Easter. This way you can personalize your shoeboxes and encourage family and friends to participate with you. Include your neighbors, pickleball or tennis team, craft group, or co-workers. Pack a box with your grandchildren. Celebrate your birthday, anniversary, or other special event by packing a shoebox with your family or friends. Feel free to pack multiple boxes. Remember, school supplies go on sale in July! Drop off your filled shoebox gifts throughout the year at the church before **November 10**.

Another option that you may find more convenient is to **build a shoebox online**. Shoebox gifts built online go to the ends of the earth to children in some of the hardest-to-reach places. Online boxes are carefully prepared, abiding by strict customs regulations to safeguard partners who will deliver the gifts, as well as the boys and girls who receive them. The suggested donation is \$25 per shoebox. The link and instructions are available at:

(Ctrl+ click to follow the link)

<https://build-a-shoebox.samaritanspurse.org/view/fc231373-e88f-419b-94d9-5b8845433e26>

You can also scan this QR code below with your cell phone camera:



Select “**BUILD A SHOEBOX ONLINE NOW**” and follow instructions. By using this link, we will be able to track our church’s progress toward our shoebox goal.

Our “faith goal” this year is **200 boxes**. Let us **pray and rejoice** as God works through us to reach children with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

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.

*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 Meets Sunday Morning at 9 am for rehearsal.

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.

Scripture readers You can contact the office for Sonya to put you on the email list

Communion assistants you can contact the office for Sonya to put you on the email list

Blood Drive

The next blood drives are scheduled for June 1, July 13, & Aug 3. 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.



Our Mission Remains the Same...
Living as Christ's Witnesses
Celebrating 75 Years of Mission



The Goal

Our GOAL is to raise \$1.5 million by September 2023. These funds will enable us to provide \$150,000 in grants to start ten congregations over the next five years.

For every \$2 given, \$1 will be matched.

Help us reach this goal to connect many more people to Jesus!

flgadistrict.org/give

"New starts reach more new people for Christ."



"Living as along, sisters means going to where people are."

Celebrating 75 Years of Mission & Growth

The Florida-Georgia District began in 1948 with 22 congregations, today we are 192 strong. Less than 45% of the US is connected to the Body of Christ and the population of our states continues growing by nearly 2% per year.



Living As Christ's Witnesses So That All People Come to Faith

- 192 Congregations working together
- 59 Schools and Early Learning Centers
- Mission driven since 1948
- Sharing God's love with all people in an ever-diverse society
- Offering the only true and unchanging hope for this life and eternity!

"For such a time as this!" God has brought us together to be His hands and feet to a lost and hurting world.

The people of the Florida-Georgia District are committed to being a beacon of hope through the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ to all people!

Our task is urgent! We ask for your prayers and financial partnership so that many more will experience Christ's love now and in eternity!



"Every congregation is a mission planting congregation. Start something new!"



Imagine... together, we can do this!
 Imagine... if each person and every congregation gave a thank offering, we would reach our goal!

Imagine... the joy over lives transformed and each new believer.
 Imagine... the renewed excitement and revitalization in our congregations.

Visit the FLGA District website to learn how you can be Christ's Witness with your financial support.



Scan the QR code or visit flgadistrict.org/celebrating75years

June 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>28</p> <p>9:00 AM Adult Bible School</p> <p>9am Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>10:30 AM Worship Service</p> <p>Communion</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Memorial Day</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>10:30 ZOOM Bible Class</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>5:00 PM Episcopal Church Service</p>
<p>4</p> <p>9:00 AM Adult Bible School</p> <p>10:30 AM Worship Service</p> <p>Elders Meeting</p> <p>Communion</p> <p>Happy Birthday</p> <p>Connie Piepenbrink</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10am Quilt Guild</p> <p>Happy Anniversary</p> <p>Marlo & Bonnie Neuleib</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9 am Quilt Guild</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10:30 ZOOM Bible Class</p> <p>Happy Anniversary</p> <p>Rosalyn & Jack Carson</p> <p>Ron & Karen Schornhorst</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Happy Birthday</p> <p>Donna Hansen</p> <p>Happy Anniversary</p> <p>Gary & Kathryn Roper</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>5:00 PM Episcopal Church Service</p>
<p>11</p> <p>9:00 AM Adult Bible School</p> <p>10:30 AM Worship Service</p> <p>Council Meeting</p> <p>Non-communion</p> <p>Happy Birthday</p> <p>Ed Fritch</p> <p>Happy Anniversary</p> <p>Jim & Kathie Kueven</p>	<p>12</p> <p>5pm Lake Country choir rehearsal</p> <p>Happy Birthday</p> <p>Rosalyn Carson</p> <p>Don Menke</p> <p>Happy Anniversary</p> <p>Pastor Steve & Linda Hayden</p> <p>Happy Anniversary</p> <p>Tom & Connie Saner</p>	<p>13</p> <p>10 am Women's Bible Class</p> <p>Happy Birthday</p> <p>Dave Heimer</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10:30 ZOOM Bible Class</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>5:00 PM Episcopal Church Service</p> <p>Happy Birthday</p> <p>Joan Lucas</p>
<p>18</p> <p>9:00 AM Adult Bible School</p> <p>10:30 AM Worship Service</p> <p>Communion</p> <p>Father's Day</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>10 am Women's Bible Class</p> <p>2 pm Community Center Meeting</p> <p>Happy Birthday</p> <p>Elizabeth Fleming</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10:30 ZOOM Bible Class</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Happy Anniversary</p> <p>Tom & Peggy Uehlin</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Happy Birthday</p> <p>Monica Ketchie</p> <p>Happy Anniversary</p> <p>Al & Eileen Oberdeck</p>	<p>24</p> <p>5:00 PM Episcopal Church Service</p> <p>Happy Birthday</p> <p>Karen Schornhorst</p> <p>Happy Anniversary</p> <p>Janis & Mara Lipacis</p>
<p>25</p> <p>9:00 AM Adult Bible School</p> <p>10:30 AM Worship Service</p> <p>Non-communion</p> <p>Happy Birthday</p> <p>Kathryn Roper</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>10 am Women's Bible Class</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10:30 ZOOM Bible Class</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Happy Anniversary</p> <p>Robert & Marcia Elkins</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>1</p> <p>5:00 PM Episcopal Church Service</p>