



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 2020

Pastor Steven Hayden
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DCE Intern Katherine Lutz
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Secretary Deb Krahlung
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Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
1st, 3rd, & 5th Holy Communion
2nd & 4th Morning Prayer

Bible Class 9:00 a.m.


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

Visit our web site: www.lakeoconeelutheran.org

Dear Friends in Christ,

We all take vacations. When the kids were small, summer was always vacation time because the schools were out. Now? For many of us vacations can happen at different times of the year. One thing stays the same, however, no matter when we go on our vacation. Before we leave, we need to pack for the trip. Swimsuit? Check. Enough clothes for each day? Check. Plenty of money? Check. Check. We may pack differently for a skiing trip to the mountains than a beach trip to Florida, differently for a cruise than a tour of Europe, but we still make sure that we have everything that we think we will need; even to the point of "over-packing". (Not that any of you know what that means).

Jesus was not on vacation as He traveled through Galilee. He was working, proclaiming repentance and the presence of God's kingdom. And on top of that, all during His traveling, He was also preparing those who would follow Him to do the same. On two different occasions Jesus sent out His workers two by two. (Luke 10:1 and Mark 6:7).



Here is the account in Mark chapter 6:

⁷ And [Jesus] called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸ He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff – no bread, no bag, no money in their belts – ⁹ but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics. ¹⁰ And he said to them, “Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you depart from there. ¹¹ And if any place will not receive you and they will not listen to you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” ¹² So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent.

As He sent them out, Jesus gave his followers unusual instructions, unusual packing instructions in specific. For these journeys they were told to take nothing with them except a staff – no bread, no bag, no money. They were to trust that God would provide everything that they needed including food and lodging. There would be no luggage to slow them down.


After Pentecost the apostles again went out on a mission, this time a permanent one. And again, these messengers of Christ traveled light. Peter would say that he had no gold or silver; but something better; the name and power of Christ.

Our life today, as believers in Christ and children of God, is also to be a missionary journey. We are Christ’s witnesses to the world. It’s easy to treat this “trip” like any other, delaying our departure until we feel that everything we will need is packed and ready to go. Delaying our departure because we don’t “feel prepared”, we don’t “know if we can do this”, we don’t “know if we have everything that we need”. Unfortunately that often means that we never actually get around to the “going”. We act as if we can’t leave without all our luggage.

Christ, however, has a different call, even for you and me today. Go! Now! Travel light! Don’t worry about having enough but trust that He will provide everything we need for the task ahead. We are called to travel light, unencumbered by cares, pleasures and greed. Travel light and leave behind the things and worries that would distract you from the mission at hand. Go and know that He will provide all that we need, no packing necessary.

The only thing we need on this trip is the one thing we always will have....the love, power and presence of Jesus who is always with us. Go with us on this journey together at Lake Oconee.

Your fellow traveler,
Pastor Steve



Worship Update -- Live streaming

In the past months Lake Oconee Lutheran has pre-recorded our worship service and then posted it online. Now we are attempting to live stream our worship. That means it will be broadcast live on Sunday mornings at 10:30 am on Facebook. Join us as we all come together in worship.

If you are unable to be online at 10:30 am, do not worry. The recorded service will remain available for you to watch later as well. You may find it on the [@lakeoconeelutheranchurch](#) page on Facebook. The service will also be posted on the church website by Monday or Tuesday of each week. God's blessings to each of you!

Thank you from the Haydens

1 John 4:19-21

We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

What a blessing that God has given to us! We could have simply been called to follow Him, alone and by ourselves. Yet, He has not only blessed us with His Grace and Forgiveness, He has given us one another to strengthen, encourage, love and support each other in our walks of faith. For He knew that we would need each other in the midst of our own hard times.

Linda and I are thankful for the loving, caring people in our lives, and this includes Lake Oconee Lutheran Church, loving us even as God has loved us. Thank you to the members (our brothers and sisters in Christ) who individually reached out by card or personal greeting to Linda at the death of her mother. Thank you to the congregation for the memorial gift which you sent in remembrance of Marg Holmes, Linda's mom, at the time of her funeral. Your sympathy and kindness at this time mean a great deal to us. Thank you for being the love of God in the flesh to care for us during this time.

Linda and Pastor Hayden



Katherine's Chronicles

Lake Oconee Church Family,

I am so glad to have the opportunity to be with all ya'll here in the beautiful Lake Country. It has been a blessing to me to be welcomed into such a loving and active congregation. I look forward to meeting each of you and growing in faith at Lake Oconee Lutheran over the next year.

Today I wanted to take some time to share with you a quote from one of my favorite authors. Bob Goff wrote, "Love is never stationary. In the end, love doesn't just keep thinking about it or keep planning for it. Simply put: love does." Often times we think about love as something that is relational or something we feel. I want to challenge you to think about what love looks like in a different way. What looks like love to the people around us?

As followers of Christ, the Lord calls us to love a multitude of times throughout the scriptures but one time in particular always sticks out to me. Jesus says "**Love** the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: '**Love** your neighbor as yourself.'" Matthew 22:37-39

When we love our neighbors well, near and far, we are showing them what the love of the Lord looks like when it is lived out. Something I challenge myself daily with is whether or not I look like love. Am I treating people how I want to be treated? Am I being patient, kind and creating a safe place for people through how I interact with them? Am I making excuses to not love people because it may be challenging or uncomfortable?

As we look to love one another well, we have the opportunity to be like Jesus. Here at Lake Oconee Lutheran, we strive to love and serve our community well. I am so excited to see how the new community building will allow for opportunities to meet and share the love of Christ to new folks from our community. What an opportunity to respond to the world and each other with love as we interact with new people from all over. It is not always easy, but one choice at a time and the ripple effect of love begins!

My challenge this month for myself that I hope you will join me in is simply this: What does it look like for you to practically show your neighbor that you love them?

I look forward to hearing how you choose to love one another!

Katherine

EOEC offers Bible Study and Ministry



Stephen's Ministry

Stephen Ministers are members of Lake Oconee Lutheran church who have been extensive training and provide confidential, one-on-one, Christian care to people who are experiencing a difficult time. They listen, care, encourage, pray, and provide weekly support for as long as the need persists.

If you or someone you know of are hurting, find out more about Stephen Ministry by talking with Virginia Daley, 706-485-3564. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to bring God's love and care to those in need.



Mid - Week Bible Class

“The Apostles’ Creed”

What is a creed? A creed is a statement of what we believe, teach and confess. One of the creeds that we use regularly in worship is The Apostles' Creed. It is called this, not because it was written by the apostles themselves, but because it states briefly the doctrine or teaching which God has given to us through the apostles in the Bible.

On Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am, join us on Zoom for a Bible study where we are examining the Apostles' Creed, and through it, our faith itself.

NOTE: Wednesday July 15th Bible class will be CANCELLED. Pastor will be on vacation. The class will resume on July 22nd.

New Addresses for Marge Braun & Donna Hansen

Marge Braun

2450 N Stone Ridge Dr
1203
Broken Arrow, OK 74012

Donna Hansen

2881 Monroe Highway
Bogart, GA 30622

Council Meeting Minutes – Tuesday June 16 2020

[Meeting held via ZOOM]

The meeting was called to order by President Tom Mathson, followed by an opening prayer by Pastor Hayden.

Walter Krause was not in attendance. Pastor Hayden introduced Katherine Lutz, our new DCE intern, who will be attending council meetings and providing reports.

The minutes from the 5/12/20 Council Meeting were approved.

Council Committee Reports:

VP/Personnel: Mike Joost- The locks have been changed at the Community Center and replaced with an electronic lock. WIFI has been delivered to the outside door locks, but not to the inside of the center. This would cost an additional \$200 to extend the WIFI inside.

Treasurer: Kathie Kueven- A written copy of the Treasurer's report will be distributed following the meeting. Memorial Fund donations will be shown as a separate category on the report going forward. Beginning with the June report, the Community Building and the Anderson Fund will have separate reports. The Church operating fund is being reimbursed for expenses for the DCE Intern from the Anderson fund, for previous and new expenses. LOLC is showing a positive cash flow of \$35K through May.

Financial Secretary: Walter Krause- There were no questions regarding the May written report.

Congregational Secretary: Larry Davis- no report

Church Properties: Barney Ross – A dead tree was removed near the church building. Two new security lights were installed on telephone poles on the entrance road to the church. The area between the Community Center and the church has been cleaned up with small tree removal and thinning of the vegetation. New bushes have been installed at the front of the church and were a donation. Irrigation is in process on the right side of the church. The audio specialist, Steve Smith, will attend the 6/21 service to diagnose and correct the audio recording issue.

Lay Ministry: Alan Oberdeck- The members who helped with the opening of live services were commended for their help, which was led by Barney. Virginia Daley has provided homemade masks, and Dave Heimer worked with the organ/sound system. No members have contracted the virus. It was recommended by Alan to provide the pastor a clip-on microphone, which could be taken out the Elder budget. It was also noted that there is sound system equipment in the Community Center.

Christian Education: Joshua Ringer- Will be meeting with Katherine Lutz this week.

Christian Service/Outreach: Laura Ringer- Will be meeting with Katherine this week, and hopes to schedule a reception for Katherine in the future.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Hayden- Thanked the members for all the support during the recent passing of Linda's mother and is appreciative of the card and gift celebrating their 38th wedding anniversary. Katherine is now officially in her position of DCE intern, and he is working with her daily. Katherine's immediate priorities include getting to know the membership and the needs of the church. Our live church attendance is growing weekly. We are continuing to work on making the live and recorded services a better technical presentation. These are new venues and we are committed to providing a better result.

Katherine introduced herself and is looking forward to getting to know us and our needs. She is grateful for all the welcoming cards and gifts.

Old Business:

1. **Community Center** - The Center is now accepting rentals, and rentals have been booked. The committee was commended for the good work done in cleaning and preparing the space for rental. Terry Pedersen has been given check writing authority for the space. It was discussed that we will assess the need of renters to need WIFI in the space prior to spending money on electronic upgrades. It was discussed that renters had inquired on the availability of round tables. After discussion, the following motion was made:

A motion was made by Larry Davis that the council will authorize an exchange of up to 10 round tables for rectangular tables for the Community Center. The exchange decision is up to the Community Center Committee. The motion passed.

New Business:

1. **Community Center Signage-** Two new sign examples were shown for the new signage for the top of the Community Center. It was discussed and the council does not want to put a sign on top of the building, since there is already a sign at the road, and the building appears better without the sign. A recommendation is being sent back to the committee to pursue a sign/decal on the front door, that is a similar depiction of the road sign, but to be decided by the committee.
2. **Electronic Infrastructure in the Church-** Mike Joost discussed the status of our electronic infrastructure. Two 6-7-year-old desktop computers use windows 7 which is no longer supported with updates. The wireless network in the church is in most part not functioning. Mike will research and provide a recommendation to the council on upgrading our entire electronic infrastructure, including any recommendations for the Community Center.

The meeting was adjourned.

Pastor Hayden closed with a prayer

Respectfully Submitted by:

Larry Davis

Congregational Secretary

LOLC Treasurer Report – May 2020

LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Treasurer's Report - May, 2020

	<u>Period</u> <u>Activity</u>	<u>Monthly</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u> <u>Activity</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Restricted Fund Balances:</u>	
INCOME							Anderson	\$136,488
General Fund	18,510	27,300	-8,790	162,253	136,998	25,255	Organ	\$478
Debt Reduction	1,525	3,682	-2,157	23,210	18,411	4,799	Scholarship	\$2,098
Memorial Fund	767	0	767	1,167	0	1,167	A/P	\$9,176
Special Fund Income	<u>1,214</u>	<u>417</u>	<u>797</u>	<u>11,097</u>	<u>2,083</u>	<u>9,014</u>	Sign Fund	\$2,500
TOTAL OFFERINGS	\$22,016	\$31,399	-\$9,383	\$197,727	\$157,492	\$40,235	Special Funds	<u>\$1,167</u>
							TOTAL:	\$151,907
EXPENSES							A/P:	
Pastor Expense	10,649	11,189	-540	57,308	61,890	-4,582	P/R	\$3,980
Worship Expense	0	2,010	-2,010	5,190	10,048	-4,858	District	\$5,196
Property Expense	6,218	5,682	536	24,177	28,408	-4,231	Mortgage Bal.	\$349,000.00
Bus. & Administrative Expense	1,887	2,600	-713	12,365	13,000	-635	BANK BALANCES:	
Education Expense	0	58	-58	105	292	-187	BankSouth	\$191,842.28
Evangelism/Outreach Expense	235	607	-372	1,520	3,038	-1,518	LCEF	\$26,258.39
Stewardship Expense	0	0	0	0	0	0	Anderson	\$136,488.40
Fellowship Expense	0	192	-192	248	958	-710	Comm. Ctr.	<u>\$3,604.44</u>
Mission Expense (District)	0	0	0	10,804	8,212	2,592	TOTAL	\$358,193.51
DCE Expenses	1,521	0	1,521	1,871	0	1,871		
Other Expenses	8,485	4,530	3,955	39,905	22,648	19,849		
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$28,995	\$26,868	\$2,127	\$153,493	\$148,494	\$4,999		
TOTAL INCOME LESS EXPENSES	-\$6,979	\$4,531	-\$11,510	\$44,234	\$8,998	\$35,236		

Notes: See attached

NOTES ON MAY 2020 TREASURER'S REPORT

You will note in the income area, I have added a line for Memorial Fund. This money is normally reflected in Special Fund Income and becomes part of the general fund. Pastor has asked that I keep a separate record of it as he often likes to ask families for whom memorials have been donated if they would like that money to go to a specific project. I have adjusted it for the year to date also.

We will eventually be doing a separate report for the Community Center and also for the Anderson Fund. At this point, I have ordered checks for the Anderson Fund and when I get them we will reimburse the church for all of Kathryn's expenses – to date this includes deposit and prorated rent of \$1145 and moving expenses paid to her of \$755.63. The Anderson family has approved paying all of her expenses from this fund.

When we make a few decisions on where funds will come from and we begin getting rental income, we will reimburse the church account for expenses incurred for the Center. To date this includes a \$350 deposit on the sign and reimbursement of \$150 on a cancelled rental (the rental money was used to open the Center account before we knew it was cancelled). We will need to decide what account will pay the \$7144.55 closing costs.

Opportunities to Serve

(After COVID)

Habitat for Humanity ReStore

Two of our LOLC members, Janis & Mara Lipacis, are faithful volunteers for Putnam County Habitat for Humanity, a vital organization that does much to benefit our community. According to Janis, the Habitat Furniture ReStore affiliate is in dire need of more volunteers.

Please consider that the amount of time you donate is flexible and at your convenience plus you can meet new people. In addition, the variety of things you can volunteer for is tremendous. The organization especially needs:

- Thursday afternoon cashiers;
- Mentors who give support and friendship to families selected to be homeowners and keep a record of their sweat equity hours;
- Friday and Saturday volunteers at the store;
- Construction team members;
- Help with pickup of donations that includes driving the truck; and
- A secretary to the board.



Help us to spread the word to anyone else—friend or family—who might be a willing volunteer. For even more first-hand information, talk to Janis after church or contact him at 706-484-0543.

Worship Service

You can become a vital part of the Sunday Worship service.

To become:

- an Usher – contact Terry Pedersen
- a greeter – contact Barbara Hardesty
- a communion assistant – contact Deb Krahling
- an Altar care giver – contact Donna Crouch
- a soundboard operator – contact Pastor Steve
- a reader! – contact Peggy Uehlin



To volunteer for the abovementioned opportunities you may contact the church office or contact the chair listed.

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.

Recent mites' collections (Feb): \$80.00

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

Choir Notes



Choir meets for practice on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m.
(Cancelled during COVID19)



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 also want to continue to enjoy the coffee fellowship so we are asking everyone to help. You can sign up for snacks, drinks and clean up. Tom Uehlin will be providing coffee and ordering kitchen supplies. If you would like to serve and have questions or need assistance please talk to Barbara Hardesty. *[This will resume after all worship restrictions are removed]*

Recycling Projects



Remember the LOLC paper recycling program only includes weekly bulletins and other white paper products.

Lake Oconee Lutheran Church Event Calendar

JULY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 10:30 AM Worship Service - LIVE STREAM on Facebook	29 <i>Robert & Marcia Elkins'</i> <i>anniversary</i>	30	1 10:30 AM Bible Class on ZOOM	2 <i>Dave & Kayleen</i> <i>Ringer's</i> <i>anniversary</i>	3 Office Closed	4  Independence Day HOLIDAY 3:30 PM Episcopal Church Bible Study 5:00 PM Episcopal Church Service
5 <i>Eileen Oberdeck's bday</i> 10:30 AM Worship Service - LIVE STREAM on Facebook	6	7 <i>Susan & Robin</i> <i>Larson's anniversary</i>	8 9:00 AM Elders Meeting 10:30 AM Bible Class on ZOOM	9 <i>Frank Whitten's</i> <i>bday</i> <i>Pastor on vacation</i>	10 Office Closed <i>Pastor on</i> <i>vacation</i>	11 <i>Pastor on vacation</i> 3:30 PM Episcopal Church Bible Study 5:00 PM Episcopal Church Service
12 <i>Pastor on vacation</i> 10:30 AM Pastor George Earhart preaching Worship Service - LIVE STREAM on Facebook	13 <i>Pastor on vacation</i>	14 <i>Pastor on vacation</i>	15 <i>Pastor on vacation</i> <i>Walter & Susan</i> <i>Krause's anniversary</i>	16 <i>Pastor on vacation</i>	17 <i>Pastor on</i> <i>vacation</i> Office Closed	18 <i>Pastor on vacation</i> 3:30 PM Episcopal Church Bible Study 5:00 PM Episcopal Church Service
19 10:30 AM Worship Service - LIVE STREAM on Facebook	20	21 <i>Laura Ringer's bday</i> 7:00pm COUNCIL MEETING	22 <i>Kathryn Noble's bday</i> 10:30 AM Bible Class on ZOOM	23	24 <i>Kent & Marlene</i> <i>Matson's</i> <i>anniversary</i> Office Closed	25 <i>Kathie Kueven's bday</i> 3:30 PM Episcopal Church Bible Study 5:00 PM Episcopal Church Service
26 <i>Brant Moore's bday</i> 10:30 AM Worship Service - LIVE STREAM on Facebook	27	28	29 <i>Robin Peeples bday</i> 10:30 AM Bible Class on ZOOM	30	31 <i>Ed & Janie</i> <i>Fritch's</i> <i>anniversary</i> Office Closed	1 3:30 PM Episcopal Church Bible Study 5:00 PM Episcopal Church Service

LOLC JULY'S MISSION OF THE MONTH:

LITTLE FREE PANTRY RESTOCK AT OCONEE VALLEY HEALTHCARE

The "Little Free Pantry" is a place in Greensboro where people can go & receive goods they need.

Folks have the option to replace an item they take with one they didn't use.

Contact Katherine at dcekatherine@gmail.com with any questions.

We will be collecting the following goods (there are bins both inside & outside for collection):



Non-perishable canned veggies & pasta



snack bars



Diapers & wipes



shampoo/conditioner