



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.*

A Church Newsletter

JUNE 2020

Pastor Steven Hayden  
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Secretary Deb Krahling  
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Instrumentalist Lev Rybanin  
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Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.  
1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, & 5<sup>th</sup> Holy Communion  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.lakeoconeelutheran.org)


**D**ear Friends in Christ,

Grace and peace to each of you whom God has called to be His child and to be a part of His family here at Lake Oconee.

As individuals and as a congregation, we have been through unique times during the past 2-3 months. Of course, it's not over yet. Now comes the hard decisions about when is the right time to resume meeting in person. Many people have differing opinions on what to do. We want to be responsible, but all of us desire to worship together again when possible. But when is the right time?

Our church council has faced the question of when is the right time to join together again. In making that decision, we had several things in mind.

1. First of all, there is no one right answer that works for every person within our family. If you do not feel comfortable being around others yet, perhaps due to other pre-existing medical conditions, please do not come. Lake Oconee Lutheran will continue to have our worship on Facebook, YouTube and our website. You may join us

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- there and fully be a part of our gathering remotely. You are not wrong to stay home.
2. Secondly, if you have a fever, have a persistent cough, have tested positive to Covid, or have been exposed to someone who has tested positive, please do not attend for right now. Join us online and hear God's Word and promise in that way.
  3. Thirdly, while we worship, we remember that we are also responsible for one another. There will be certain restrictions on our worship together, but even if we do not believe they are necessary for ourselves, we willingly submit for the sake of those around us. In 1 Corinthians 8 Paul faced a very similar situation and writes, "Take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block..." (v 9). We also remember that those all around us are watching our decisions and we do not want to give a poor reflection of God's love and presence through our own stubbornness.

In light of the above, the Church Council has decided to reopen public worship here at Lake Oconee in stages, beginning the week of May 31st at 10:30am. Our worship during this first stage will still not look or feel like it did before the shelter in place, but we know that God is still among us.

- First, there will be no Bible class, Sunday school or choir. Those wonderful gifts will come in a later stage. For now, only worship.
  - Also, all people attending will wear a mask through the service. This is to protect those around you. Bring a mask from home, or if you don't have one now, one will be provided. You will not be allowed to stay without a mask in place.
  - Strict social distancing will be enforced. While we can certainly wave to one another (and smile behind our masks), there will be no greeting, handshaking or hugging. I know that our desire is to reach out to one another, but for now it must be enough to be together. Everyone will need to enter through the main doors of the church and will immediately go into the sanctuary and sit down. We will all leave through the east door by the choir room so as to avoid interaction. Upon leaving, please go directly to your cars and do not mingle in the parking lots. The west parking lot door will remain locked.
  - Upon entering you will pick up a mask (if necessary) use the hand sanitizer, then pick up your own bulletin and communion. These you will take to your seat for use later on. Offering plates will not be passed around, but are available upon entering and leaving the church.
  - We will offer communion during the service. We will go through the normal liturgy, and when it is time for the distribution, we will partake in our seats. Directions will be given.
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- At the end of the service, we will be dismissed in rows. There will be no fellowship time, and we will head out the east door and get in our vehicles.

In future stages, when the time is right, we will return to Bible class, fellowship, and more interaction. We want and miss those gifts. For the immediate now however, Wednesday Bible class and all meetings will continue to be on Zoom. Our online presence will continue; although it may look different as we transition to new equipment and we will continue to improve its look and performance.

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In the past months Lake Oconee Lutheran has pre-recorded our worship service and then posted it online. Beginning Sunday May 31st, we are attempting to live stream our worship. That means it will be broadcast live on Sunday mornings at 10:30 am. Join us as we all come together in worship. See below for details.

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.

God's blessings to each of you!




## **HOW TO WATCH SUNDAY WORSHIP ONLINE/LIVE STREAM**

We understand that many people do not feel comfortable worshipping in person yet, or are unable to worship in person due to pre-existing health concerns. Because of this, we are continuing the practice (ongoing) of posting our worship online.

Our online presence is changing, though. Using new equipment which the Church Council approved the purchase of, we are now working to Live stream our worship (Broadcast the image and sound live online as it happens.) This means you can join us from home and be a part of worship even as we are every Sunday at 10:30 am. The recorded version of worship will remain online after the service ends, so if you are unable to join us live, you will still be able to view and participate at a later time.

As always, there will be a learning curve with this new equipment and technology. Please be patient with us while we try to continually improve what we are offering.

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**Here's how to join us:** Join us live at 10:30 am on Sunday on Facebook. Search for our church page [@lakeoconeelutheranchurch](#). If you “follow” the page (button under the picture at top) anything we post will also show up on your own Facebook wall. As always, the service will remain even after the “Live event” is over. You may also see the service live on Sundays on YouTube if you do not have a Facebook account. Go to YouTube.com and search for the Lake Oconee Lutheran channel or click this link: [Lake Oconee Lutheran Church channel](#). You may “subscribe” to this in order to be notified about any future videos from Lake Oconee Lutheran. Here too, the service will remain even after the “Live event” is over.

If you have watched the worship service on our website ([www.lakeoconeelutheran.org](http://www.lakeoconeelutheran.org)), it will still be there, but because we are now broadcasting live, it will not show up on the website until Monday. However, if you go to the website and click on the button that says “View All Service Here”, you will be able to watch the most recent service even before it appears highlighted in the gold frame.

Thank you and God bless you all. As always, please let us know if we can be of help in understanding all these new options.

--Pastor Steve

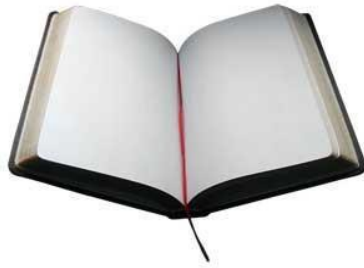
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**YOUR CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS:** A time like this can truly hurt our congregation financially. While the world shuts down during this crisis, our bills and responsibilities of the Church do not go away. Utilities must be paid, and most importantly, our mission work must continue. As your pastor I ask that you keep your offerings current and mail them to the Church weekly (or on the schedule that you normally keep). You may also be able to add the church to your online banking bill pay app. This is a responsibility that we, the Lord's children, all bear.

Please mail your offerings to the Church Address here:  
Lake Oconee Lutheran Church  
1089 Lake Oconee Parkway Eatonton, GA 31024

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# 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.



# Update on Our New DCE Intern – Katherine Lutz



Our new DCE has moved to Georgia and will be joining us very soon. We want everyone to feel as if they know her when she arrives.

Katherine was born on January 29 and raised in the Fort Worth area of Texas. She is the oldest child, having a brother and 2 stepsisters who are all younger. Her father currently resides in Fort Worth, Texas and her mother and stepfather reside in Concord, North Carolina (where, incidentally, she

was visiting when I spoke with her).

Katherine states in her message to Pastor Steve that, over the past few years, the Lord has placed a calling on her life to serve His people through simply loving and being in relationship with many people in many places. The past few summers she has lived in Malawi, Louisiana and Kentucky and has also led many visiting short term mission teams. She states these experiences have given her the ability to learn more of the Lord's faithfulness and the beauty of sharing His love.

Katherine's hobbies include being outdoors, low key hiking, playing games and painting (watercolors and oils). We discussed at length ways in which she may be able to incorporate these hobbies into outreach activities for the church. So be sure to keep her hobbies in mind as you think of things to suggest to her for future activities.

Katherine got her dog! His name is Bodie and is a chocolate lab.

Katherine states she is a definite people person and a sucker for long conversations and a good glass of lemonade (or sweet Georgia tea).

We are thrilled to be having Katherine come and be part of LOLC's community outreach program and I feel certain many of you will have a pitcher of cold tea or lemonade and a rocking chair or 2 on the front porch just waiting for a visit from her.

Her Induction service as DCE Intern Mission & Service Coordinator will be during the worship service on Sunday June 14<sup>th</sup>. Let's welcome and celebrate with her on her special day.

## **Council Meeting Minutes – Tuesday May 12 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.

The minutes from the 4/14/20 Council Meeting were approved.

#### **Council Committee Reports:**

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

**Treasurer: Kathie Kueven-**Presented the April, and YTD Financials. Income continues to run ahead of budget YTD, LOLC is showing a positive cash flow of \$59,699 YTD. The transfer of the April/May mortgage payments (\$7,364.38) to LCEF will be reflected on the next report. The expenses for the DCE Intern expenses will be coming from the Anderson fund. Any funds already spent from the operating budget for this will be reimbursed by the Anderson fund to the operating fund.

**Financial Secretary: Walter Krause-**No report was filed.

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

**Church Properties: Barney Ross** – Raccoons got into the Choir room and created miscellaneous damage. Pest control has been contacted and will handle for a cost of \$695. A limb overhanging the church is being removed by the landscaper, which is the suspected culprit for the entrance by the raccoons.

New bushes for the front are scheduled to be added at a cost of \$2700. An anonymous member will be paying for this expense. A new lock with code will be installed at the Community Center after closing.

**Lay Ministry: Alan Oberdeck-** All elders were contacted by Alan, and none of the members of the congregation have experienced issues related to Covid-19. The recording equipment has been ordered, to record the services, and will not need any installation. The current wireless capabilities will be reviewed to confirm signal strength. It was also discussed that Mike Joost will take charge of researching and recommending a system to extend internet to the Harmony Center from the current church internet service.

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

**Christian Service/Outreach: Laura Ringer-** Lake Oconee Breeze is providing a special edition magazine, focusing on the local schools. LOLC will be advertising in this addition for \$295.



**Pastor's Report: Pastor Hayden-** Restarting services was discussed and shown below in new business. Pastor Hayden will be taking vacation over the Memorial Day Holiday and will be gone for 5 days. He will provide the recorded sermon for 5/24.

### **Old Business:**

1. **Harmony Building Purchase-** The closing is on 5/18. The walkthrough by the Community Center committee is scheduled for 5/14. The local press has been notified of the change of ownership, and a mailer is being completed to previous renters.
2. **Music Director Search Committee Update-** No update
3. **The Harmony Community Center Rental Committee-** consists of Robbie Peebles, Susan Larson, Terry Pedersen, Tom and Sandy Mathson, Kathie Kueven and Alan Oberdeck.
4. **Video System Purchase-** The system has been ordered. This will allow us to continue published our service online.
5. **DCE Intern Housing-** The apartment behind Sweet Kneads was contracted beginning on 5/15. Our new intern, Katherine, will be moving in at the end of May, and beginning her duties on or about June 15<sup>th</sup>.
6. **Staff continuation during current shelter in place mandate-** The church secretary continues to work from home. Lev, our organist, has donated his pay back to LOLC.

### **New Business:**

1. **Harmony Building Signage-** Two new sign examples were shown for the new LOLC Community Center. Choice #2(larger LOLC logo) was selected by the council. However, it was requested that the committee consider adding the LOLC website to that choice by replacing the street address. This could provide exposure to the LOLC website, and another option for rental information other than a phone contact.

**A motion was made by Laura Ringer and seconded to authorize spending approximately \$1,000 to modify the Lake Oconee Lutheran Community Center sign. The motion passed.**

2. **Restarting Services-** From the Pastors report- In-person Church services are tentatively scheduled to begin on 5/31. There will be modifications, including no ushers or greeters, no post fellowship, and seating and communion adjustments. Bulletins, and offering plates will be stationed in the back of the church. Masks will likely be required. Entrance and Exit into the church pattern will be modified. A final decision will be made nearer to 5/31, based on the up to date conditions.

The meeting was adjourned. Pastor Hayden closed with a prayer

Respectfully Submitted by: Larry Davis, Congregational Secretary



# LOLC Treasurer Report – April 2020

## LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Treasurer's Report - April, 2020

	Period <u>Activity</u>	Monthly <u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>	Y-T-D <u>Activity</u>	Y-T-D <u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>	Restricted Fund Balances
<b>INCOME</b>							
General Fund	33,454	27,300	6,154	143,743	109,698	34,045	Anderson \$136,405
Debt Reduction	1,380	3,682	-2,302	21,685	14,729	6,956	Organ \$478
Special Fund Income	<u>7,979</u>	<u>417</u>	<u>7,562</u>	<u>10,283</u>	<u>1,667</u>	<u>8,616</u>	Scholarship \$2,098
<b>TOTAL OFFERINGS</b>	<b>\$42,813</b>	<b>\$31,399</b>	<b>\$11,414</b>	<b>\$175,711</b>	<b>\$126,094</b>	<b>\$49,617</b>	A/P \$4,656
							Sign Fund <u>\$2,500</u>
							<b>TOTAL \$146,137</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>							<b>A/P:</b>
Pastor Expense	10,856	11,189	-333	46,659	50,700	-4,041	District \$3,345
Worship Expense	590	2,010	-1,420	5,190	8,038	-2,848	P/R \$1,311
Property Expense	5,000	5,682	-682	17,958	22,727	-4,769	<b>Mortgage Balance:</b>
Bus. & Administrative Expense	2,297	2,600	-303	10,478	10,400	78	<b>\$0.00</b>
Education Expense	86	58	28	105	233	-128	
Evangelism/Outreach Expense	188	607	-419	1,285	2,430	-1,145	<b>BANK BALANCES:</b>
Stewardship Expense	0	0	0	0	0	0	BankSouth \$198,918.52
Fellowship Expense	14	192	-178	248	767	-519	LCEF \$18,880.91
Mission Expense (District)	10,804	0	10,804	10,804	8,212	2,592	Anderson \$136,404.54
DCE Expenses	350	0	350	350	0	350	Comm. Ctr. <u>\$3,604.44</u>
Other Expenses	<u>9,764</u>	<u>4,530</u>	<u>5,234</u>	<u>22,935</u>	<u>18,119</u>	<u>4,816</u>	<b>TOTAL \$357,808.41</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$39,949</b>	<b>\$26,868</b>	<b>\$13,081</b>	<b>\$116,012</b>	<b>\$121,626</b>	<b>-\$5,614</b>	
<b>TOTAL INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$2,864</b>	<b>\$4,531</b>	<b>-\$1,667</b>	<b>\$59,699</b>	<b>\$4,468</b>	<b>\$55,231</b>	

NOTES: Payoff of old mortgage is not reflected here as it was paid from LCEF account and not operating account. Other Income and Other Expenses reflect the transfer of April and May normal mortgage payments from operating account to LCEF account. Note there is a new line item for DCE expenses, which, for this month, is the deposit we paid on an apartment for her.

# Opportunities to Serve

## 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](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*

## 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.




## Recycling Projects

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



# Lake Oconee Lutheran Church Event Calendar

## JUNE 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4 <i>Connie Piepenbrink's bday</i>	5 <i>Marlo &amp; Bonnie Neuleib's anniversary</i> <b>Pastor's and secretary's day off</b>	6 <b>3:30 PM</b> Episcopal Church Bible Study <b>5:00 PM</b> Episcopal Church Service
7 <i>Jack &amp; Rosalyn Carson and Pastor Ron &amp; Karen Schornhorst's anniversary</i>  <b>10:30 AM</b> Worship Service - Dr. Kruger preaching	8 <i>Donna Hansen's bday</i> <i>Gary &amp; Kathryn Roper's anniversary</i>	9 <b>ELECTION POLLING</b>	10	11 <i>Ed Fritch's bday</i> <i>Jim &amp; Kathie Kueven's anniversary</i>	12 <i>Donald Menke's bday</i> <i>Pastor Steve &amp; Linda Hayden's anniversary</i> <b>Pastor's and secretary's day off</b> <i>Rosalyn Carson's bday</i> <i>Tom &amp; Connie Sauer's anniversary</i>	13 <i>David Heimer bday</i> <i>Steve &amp; Tonda Wiker's anniversary</i> <b>3:30 PM</b> Episcopal Church Bible Study <b>5:00 PM</b> Episcopal Church Service
14 <i>Ed &amp; Lillian Blosser's anniversary</i> <b>10:30 AM</b> Worship Service - LIVE STREAM on Facebook <b>11:45 AM COUNCIL MEETING - on ZOOM</b>	15	16	17 <i>Joan Lucas' bday</i> <b>10:30 AM Bible Class on ZOOM</b>	18	19 <b>Pastor's and secretary's day off</b>	20 <b>3:30 PM</b> Episcopal Church Bible Study <b>5:00 PM</b> Episcopal Church Service
21  <i>Elizabeth Fleming's bday</i> <b>10:30 AM</b> Worship Service - LIVE STREAM on Facebook	22 <i>Jim Cerny's bday</i> <i>Tom &amp; Peggy Uehlin's anniversary</i>	23 <i>Alan &amp; Eileen Oberdeck's anniversary</i> <i>Elizabeth Fleming's bday</i> <i>Joseph Peeples bday</i> <i>Monica Ketchie's bday</i>	24 <i>Janis &amp; Ana Mara Lipacis' anniversary</i> <i>Karen Schornhorst's bday</i> <i>Leroy &amp; Linda Horst's anniversary</i> <b>10:30 AM Bible Class on ZOOM</b>	25 <i>Kathryn Roper's bday</i>	26 <i>John &amp; Janie Seglund's anniversary</i> <b>Pastor's and secretary's day off</b>	27 <b>3:30 PM</b> Episcopal Church Bible Study <b>5:00 PM</b> Episcopal Church Service
28 <b>10:30 AM</b> Worship Service - LIVE STREAM on Facebook	29 <i>Robert &amp; Marcia Elkins' anniversary</i>	30	1 <b>9:00 AM</b> Elders Meeting  <b>10:30 AM</b> Bible Class on ZOOM	2 <i>Dave &amp; Kayleen Ringer's anniversary</i>	3 <i>Jim &amp; Judy Cerny's anniversary</i> <b>Pastor's and secretary's day off</b>	4  <b>4th OF JULY HOLIDAY</b> <b>3:30 PM</b> Episcopal Church Bible Study <b>5:00 PM</b> Episcopal Church Service

## Lutheran Laughter



Mrs. Jones got a little too used to watching online worship from home.