

Lake Oconee Lutheran Church

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

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

A Church Newsletter

July 2019

Pastor Steven Hayden
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Secretary Deb Krahling
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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.lolc.info

Dear Friends in Christ,

You have probably already seen the bulletin inserts on the Mission Challenge for the Florida-Georgia District in a Sunday morning bulletin. Since the late 1940's, the Florida-Georgia District has been focused on missions – missions that connect people to Jesus. President Walton has set the district's theme this year as "Let Jesus Be Seen in 2019". To keep the mission going and to fund future mission plants and ministries in our District, President Walton is encouraging each member of the District to give \$70 (\$1 for each of the District's 70 years of existence). This money is asked as an "over and above" gift on top of your congregational giving. Members of the District are all of the members of its congregations. If all our members did this, we would raise \$3.5 million for reaching out to people living in the states of Georgia and Florida with the saving grace of Jesus Christ!

We know not everyone will be able to contribute to this effort, but if many of us gave (and some at Lake Oconee Lutheran already have) – some more and some less than \$70 –we could give a powerful boost to the spreading of the Gospel in our two states!

All the money collected will be put into a “Mission Fund” and loaned out for new mission starts at 0% interest. As these new mission starts are able to repay the loans, the money will be turned right back around and used to start more missions...and more and more and more in a never-ending cycle! Just think, the monetary gifts we contribute to celebrate the 70th anniversary of our District could still be helping to start new missions at the 140th anniversary of our District, long after most of us have gone to be with our Lord in heaven.

<p>THE 70th ANNIVERSARY CHALLENGE</p> <p>Raise \$3,500,000 for a perpetual mission fund in the Florida-Georgia District.</p> <p>...Honoring the mission spirit of the founders in 1948...</p> 	<p>WHAT</p> <p>These donations will be set aside for 0% interest loans for mission starts - to include churches and other ministries who will be the hands and feet of Jesus in their communities. The dollars loaned are repaid directly back to the perpetual mission fund for another ministry to use!</p> <p>WHY</p> <p>Starting a mission can cost money. Renting or purchasing a building, buying supplies, creating websites, signage and salaries are real costs. Missions and ministries need money to cover these costs, especially if there isn't a congregation that supports them.</p> <p>HOW</p> <p>Each loan requires an extensive application process and will be approved on a case by case basis to ensure good stewardship of this mission fund. Funds to each mission will be disbursed by the District Office. Repayment will begin 6 months after the initial disbursement.</p>
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I would encourage you, if you are able, to support this mission project in our two states. You may contribute either directly or through the congregation. If you would like to send your gift directly, you may make out a check to the Florida-Georgia District LCMS and put “70 Anniversary” on the memo line. Then send it to Florida Georgia LCMS, 5850 T. G. Lee Blvd., Suite 500, Orlando, Florida 32822. You may also contribute by going to the District website www.flgadistrict.org and click on the online giving button at the top right. While there watch the Anniversary video at the bottom of the page. Finally you may also write out a check to Lake Oconee and label or designate it as “District Anniversary Gift” and we will forward it to them.

Let’s have a wonderful summer and don’t forget to make weekly Bible class and worship a part of your summer schedule as we continue to gather to worship and praise our great and loving God.



PASTOR’S VACATION: Pastor Steve & Linda will be on vacation Monday July 8th through Wednesday July 24th. Josh Ringer & Pastor George Earhart will be our guest preachers, Sunday July 14th and 21st, consecutively. If you are in need of care, contact your Elder. In the case of an emergency, Pastor Ron Schornhorst will be filling in for Pastor Steve while he’s away.

EOEC offers Bible Study and Ministry



Mid-Week Bible Class

There is a mid-week Bible Study here at Lake Oconee Lutheran. We are meeting at the church every Wednesday from 10:30-11:30 a.m. We are talking about "God, are You talking to Me?"

During "God, are You talking to Me?" we will be looking at 13 different New Testament Bible events and realize that God wrote those down for us. They are not just stories about dusty history but here God is talking to us, about our life, in His New Testament.

Join us every Wednesday and be a part of "God, are You talking to Me?" Our class will begin at 10:30 am in the Choir Room.

There will be NO WEDNESDAY BIBLE CLASS for July 10th, July 17th and July 24th

Stephen's Ministry

Do you have a friend, neighbor, co-worker, or relative who has been struggling with the loss of a loved one, loneliness, cancer, a layoff, relocation, divorce, a spiritual crisis, recuperation, single parenthood, or any of countless life challenges? Our Stephen Ministers can provide them with focused care, encouragement, and the support they need to make it through the crisis.

If you know of someone who is hurting or you would like someone to talk with, please let Pastor Steve know and one of our Stephen ministers will contact you.

Life of Jesus Bible Class



Wouldn't it be great to just hear Jesus Himself preach a sermon? What if we were there, along with the disciples, hearing the words directly from Jesus' mouth; imagine how that would change our understanding.

Well, we do have that opportunity. The new Adult Bible study on **Sunday mornings at 9 a.m.** called "*Life of Jesus*" where we will spend time digging into Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. Now we can get "up close and personal" and hear directly from Jesus Himself. As we spend time looking at Jesus' words in Matthew 5-7, we will quickly become aware that Jesus' teaching is dynamically different from the world's teachings. In fact, Jesus will challenge us again about what it means to live a life of faith.

Join us on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. in the church for "*Life of Jesus*"

Sunday morning Bible Class will continue to meet every Sunday during Pastor's vacation

BRINGING HOPE TO OUR HEROES THROUGH THE BIBLE



Lake Oconee Lutheran Church raised money during May for Military Biblesticks for our troops. As a reminder, these are small digital audio players are designed specifically for the safety of deployed troops. Each one includes the complete Audio New Testament along with 65 minutes of selected Psalms. We wished to raise money to send our current troops the hope they need during their deployment.

"... your church family can actually DOUBLE their giving and ministry opportunity to our Troops if your church donation is received no later than 4:00 pm MST on May 31, 2019."
-- Debra Curry, Church Development Specialist, Faith Comes By Hearing

That hope turned to reality.
Your gift of \$1,050 was doubled to \$2,100 - and even more donations arrived after the deadline. The total amount contributed was \$3,042.
Because of your very generous offering and their match over 122 Military families will be brought the Hope of The Word!!



Lake Oconee Lutheran and the future...

Three laborers were making bricks in the hot desert sun. Someone came by and asked them what they were doing. The first answered, "Can't you see that I'm making bricks?" The second one said, "I am building an important wall." The third one paused, looked out into the distance and replied, "I am building a beautiful cathedral. And it's going to be one of the most beautiful cathedrals of all time."

All three laborers were doing the same thing. Each, however, looked at their job from a different point of view. Only the last saw the big picture. Here at Lake Oconee Lutheran Church we have been involved in discussions to help us see the big picture of why we are here. Christian author Will Mancini writes, *"The church of God does not have a mission, the mission of God has a church."* So what is the mission of God for us here in the Lakes area?

We have now held 2 congregational planning meetings. I appreciate those of you who took time out to be a part of planning for our future. As a result of those meetings, we have adopted the following mission statement.

God Writes His Word on our Lives, Building Us into a Family Engaged in Spirit-filled Service

Lake Oconee Lutheran is "Built for a Purpose"

Now comes the fun! It is said that vision is about the picture of your church's future. The vision answers the question "where is God taking us?" We have addressed that by confirming that we believe God, through His Word in our lives, is building us into a family engaged in Spirit-filled service. If that is our vision, now it is time to set a plan. A plan is the steps we need to take to reach our vision. Our plan will answer the question "what are the things we need to accomplish in the next year to reach our vision for LOLC?" We began this work at our last meeting and will continue working on it through the Council.

Where do you see God taking us as a church in 3 years? What do you dream of that is keeping within the vision that God has given to us? What do you think we need to do next? Talk to me. I will be happy to hear from you. We are a family.

This is more than just making bricks. By the power of the Spirit, we are building a beautiful church here at the Lakes. I am excited for the journey.

Pastor Steve

Meet Our New Members!

MEET Jerry & Carol Campbell

The Campbells come to us by transfer all the way from Trinity Lutheran in Fountain Hills, Arizona. They have been here about 6 months, coming to be closer to their “spread out” children’s families. The Campbells have a blended family with a daughter and family in Charlotte, NC; a son and family in Raleigh, NC; a son and family in Tampa, FL and a son and family in New York. They have 6 grandchildren. Looks like there’s still a lot of traveling in their future!

Jerry and Carol are currently looking forward to moving into the home they are building in Reynolds Plantation. It would seem Jerry chose the right place to relocate as his favorite pastime is golfing (no trouble finding courses or playing partners here). Carol prefers to spend her spare time reading, exercising or playing bridge. They also like spending time with the cocker spaniel.

Jerry and Carol have been married 22 years; having met on a blind date arranged by one of Carol’s co-workers and friend. They met in Toledo, Ohio, where Carol was the HR manager in a large firm and Jerry worked in the sales department of a large steel company.


We are happy to have Jerry and Carol in our church family and look forward to seeing more of them and getting to know them better.

MEET Pam & Don Menke

The Menkes come to LOLC by transfer from Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church in Peachtree City, Georgia. They have been in our area for about 3 years.

The Menkes have a son and daughter, both of whom are doctors who own and operate DaVinci Foot and Ankle here. When Don retired as financial manager of a Kia Dealership they decided to move to Lake Oconee so he could help out at the Foot and Ankle Clinic and Pam could be closer to help spoil their 2 granddaughters. Isn’t that a nice change – instead of the kids going to work for the parents, dad is working for the kids!!! I like that.

Pam originally comes from New York while Don hails from Iowa. They met while they were both on a skiing vacation and have been married 42 years. In their spare time they enjoy boating on Lake Oconee and gardening as well as caring for their 2 beloved dogs – Mutt and Jeff as Pam calls them (a border collie and a tea-cup Yorkie).



They also love to travel and do a lot of that – when I spoke with them they were preparing to go on a trip to Aruba.

Ladies might be interested to know Pam also sells jewelry. She has been selling a wide range of custom and costume jewelry for about 10 years, selling primarily at shows but also loves to sell at parties so if you are interested in hosting one be sure to give her a call – but give her time to enjoy Aruba first.

We welcome the Menkes and look forward to seeing more of them when they are not traveling.

--articles submitted by Kathie Kueven

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.



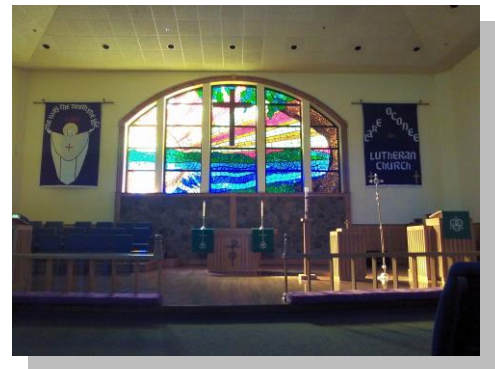
Help us to spread the word to anyone else—friend or family—who might be a willing volunteer. For even more first-hand information, talk to Janis after church or contact him at 706-484-0543.

Worship Service

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

Become an

- usher,
- a greeter,
- a communion assistant
- an Altar care giver
- soundboard operator
- or a reader!



Contact Peggy Uehlin to sign up as a reader. To volunteer for the other opportunities contact the church office or sign up on the designated sheet on the sanctuary back wall.

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 last month: \$74.00

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 is on sabbatical during the summer.

COFFEE
FELLOWSHIP

Join us!



IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP SERVICE
Make yourself at home!

Coffee after Church

Check your calendars and sign up for a turn preparing coffee and light refreshments for Coffee Hour after service each Sunday. A sign-up sheet is on the sanctuary wall at the back of the church.

Recycling Projects

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



Lake Oconee Lutheran Church Event Calendar

JULY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 9:00 AM Adult Bible School 10:30 AM Worship Service	1	2 <i>Dave & Kayleen Ringer's anniversary</i>	3 <i>Jim & Judy Cerny's anniversary</i> 10:30 AM God, are You talking to Me bible class	 Independence Day OFFICE CLOSED	5 <i>Eileen Oberdeck's bday</i> OFFICE CLOSED Pastor's day off	6 3:30 PM Episcopal Church Bible Study 5:00 PM Episcopal Church Service
7 <i>Susan & Robin Larson's anniversary</i> 9:00 AM Adult Bible School 10:30 AM Worship Service	8 Pastor on vacation	9 <i>Frank Whitten's bday</i> Pastor on vacation	10 Pastor on vacation	11 Pastor on vacation	12 Pastor on vacation	13 Pastor on vacation 3:30 PM Episcopal Church Bible Study 5:00 PM Episcopal Church Service
14 Pastor on vacation 9:00 AM Adult Bible School 10:30 AM Worship Service - Josh Ringer preaching	15 Pastor on vacation <i>Walter & Susan Krause's anniversary</i>	16 Pastor on vacation	17 Pastor on vacation	18 Pastor on vacation	19 Pastor on vacation	20 Pastor on vacation 3:30 PM Episcopal Church Bible Study 5:00 PM Episcopal Church Service
21 <i>Laura Ringer's bday</i> Pastor on vacation 9:00 AM Adult Bible School 10:30 AM Worship Service - Pastor George Earhart preaching	22 <i>Kathryn Noble's bday</i> Pastor on vacation	23 Pastor on vacation	24 Pastor on vacation	25 <i>Kathie Kueven's bday</i>	26 Pastor's day off	27 3:30 PM Episcopal Church Bible Study 5:00 PM Episcopal Church Service
28  Reda Joost's bday 9:00 AM Adult Bible School 10:30 AM Worship Service 11:45 AM COUNCIL MEETING	29 <i>Robin Peeples bday</i>	30	31 <i>Ed & Janie Fritch's anniversary</i> 10:30 AM God, are You talking to Me bible class	1	2 Pastor's day off	3 3:30 PM Episcopal Church Bible Study 5:00 PM Episcopal Church Service