

# LOPC NEWSLETTER APRIL 2023

Palm Sunday, April 2	Worship @ 10:30 am
Maundy Thursday, April 6	Communion @ 7 pm
Good Friday, April 7	Service @ noon Family Movie Night @ 4 pm
Easter Sunday, April 9	Easter Brunch @ 9 am Worship @ 10:30 am

**Holy Week**  

From Jeff Birch, Senior Pastor

## ***Resurrection Power***

***But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ – by grace you have been saved – and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 2:4-6).***

Do you realize that one of the realities of Christ's resurrection is that the believer, through their union with Him, is now raised with Jesus and placed in the heavenly places. Positionally, our life is now considered to be with Christ in heaven. Do you recognize the power that this reality gives you now in this life?

And what is this power to be used for? It is to be used to partner with Christ in His mission of bringing the gospel to the nations for His glory. For us, that mission, that resurrection power, begins right here in Lake Oconee. What does this mean practically? According to C. John Miller, in his book *Outgrowing the Ingrown Church*, "We need to personalize the biblical teaching about Christ's atoning death for people in "darkness," His subsequent exaltation by resurrection and ascension, and the giving of the Great Commission. I must see that the risen Lord has told me personally to go and disciple the nations for His glory. He also assures me that the power for doing this issues from the majesty of His authority. To accomplish His missionary will, Christ also gives me His Spirit as the enabling power for taking the gospel to all the nations."

If this is true (and it is) and we have been raised with Christ, given His Spirit as our enabling power, obviously just doing church is not an option. Or at least not

an obedient option. We have been given a commission by our risen, glorified Lord to disciple Lake Oconee, to be His instrument in bringing healing, renewal, and peace to our area, and we have also been given the enabling power to accomplish this. We do not do this on our own, in our own strength. This is Christ's promise. The only question is do we really believe this?

And here is one other exciting thing. This not something that any one of us does all by ourselves. It is the job of the entire church. This is why it is so exciting that we now have Mike, Travis, Ellen, our session, and leaders here to help equip all of us to do this work of discipling together for the glory of God. It is an adventure that we are all on together. Let's commit to not simply doing church, but to live in resurrection power bringing resurrection power to Lake Oconee and the nations for God's glory.

Pastor Jeff Birch

## Holy Week Venue Updates

As we move closer to Easter weekend, the weather forecast for our area is affecting our original plans for outdoor events at the pavilion. Please note the following changes:

### **Friday, April 7 - Easter Family Movie Night from 4-7 pm**

Easter Family Movie Night will now take place inside the narthex and sanctuary areas. We will still offer all the original activities, and Kona Ice will park under the portico for easy access.

### **Sunday, April 9 - Easter Brunch @ 9 am**

The Easter brunch has been moved to rooms 108, 109, 110, and 111.

## Women's Ministry



### **Madison Tour of Homes**

Friday, April 14, we are going to travel to Madison for the 2023 Spring Tour of Historic Homes and Gardens. We will meet in the church parking area and be ready to leave at 10 a.m. to carpool to historic Madison. The self-guided walking tour includes tours of private homes and gardens, as well as historic churches, home museums, and the 1895 school building which now houses the Cultural Arts Center. All this is included in the price of the \$30 ticket. Sign up in the narthex by April 9. We will eat at one of the many restaurants in downtown Madison (not included in the ticket price) before ending the day.

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## Daughters of the King Tea

Come meet our two newest LOPC women on Monday, April 24, from 6-7:30 pm out at the LOPC pavilion! Whitney Palombo is the wife of our new Assistant Pastor, Mike Palombo. Ellen Skillingstad is our Children's Ministry Director and is married to Travis Skillingstad, our Youth Director. Whitney and Ellen will be our guest speakers at a free catered event hosted by the Women's Leadership Team. Join us for an evening of new faces, encouraging conversation, and exciting new women's ministry events! Nursery will be provided for children up to age three. Sign up in the narthex to attend.



Ellen Skillingstad (L) & Whitney Palombo (R)



## First Call Fashion Show

The First Call Spring Fashion Show is Tuesday, May 9, 11 a.m. at the Festival Hall, downtown Greensboro. The LOPC Women's Ministry has arranged to sit together. Tickets are \$45, light lunch included. To reserve a spot, sign up in the narthex.

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## Women Connecting to Women in Prayer

All women are invited to join with other women to pray. We meet in Room 109 at 1:00 pm on the 2nd Tuesday of every month.



## Meal Support

The Women's Ministry will coordinate meals to be provided for those in need due to illness, injury, recovery from hospitalization, or after childbirth.



# Join realm<sup>®</sup> and stay connected!

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with installing the church's mobile APP!*

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**MISSED A SERMON? SHARE A SERMON!**



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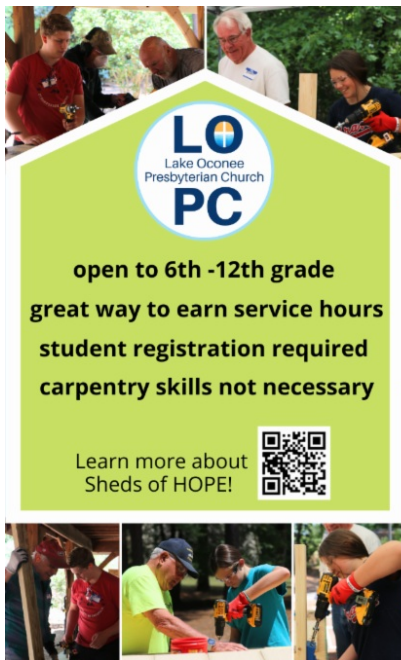
[instagram.com@lakeoconeeepca](https://instagram.com/lakeoconeeepca)





## Sheds of HOPE




The LOPC Sheds of HOPE team will add more fun to our next shed build scheduled for **April 21-22** (9am – 4pm) and April 25 (if needed). We are inviting our LOPC Youth to join us, along with other teens from the lake area. Our guests will have a hands-on opportunity to learn and help build shed kits—everything needed to build a Shed of HOPE. These shed kits go to families recovering from losing their homes to a disaster. Sack lunches will be served on site.



**LO**  
Lake Oconee  
Presbyterian Church  
**PC**

open to 6th -12th grade  
great way to earn service hours  
student registration required  
carpentry skills not necessary

Learn more about  
Sheds of HOPE!



## Sheds of HOPE youth build

- **Friday, April 21 (9 am - 4 pm)**
- **Saturday, April 22 (9 am - 4 pm)**  
*Students are invited to join us during these times!*

### HELP PROVIDE DRY STORAGE

for families who have lost homes to disasters

Public welcome. Church membership is not required.

## Children's Ministry



During the Doxology, children ages 4 years - 2nd grade are dismissed for

Children's Worship. We will be using the curriculum from Grapevine Studies. Grapevine's mission and vision are to, "Provide teachers a tool to confidently teach God's Word to their students while introducing them to the Gospel. We believe all students can understand the Bible and respond to the Gospel. Our desire is to see all students learn the process of Bible study in order to become confident and skilled in studying and eventually teaching God's Word."

*God established a testimony...which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children that the next generation might know...so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God...*

*Psalm 78:5-7a*

## April Calendar of Events

The best way to see upcoming LOPC events is by visiting our website. You can view upcoming events in three user-friendly formats.

LOPC  
Lake Oconee  
Presbyterian Church

### Events

Click on any of these three for viewing options.

Featured Events | Calendar View | List View

March 2022 Filter by Category

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Early Morning Ladies' Bible Study</li><li>(CBS) Men's Community Bible Study</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Mid-Morning Ladies' Bible Study</li><li>Parker Home Fellowship Group (HFG)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(CBS) Ladies' Community Bible Study</li><li>Choir Practice</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Bulletin Helpers</li></ul>	

Love God, Love One Another,  
Love the Community

### Our Vision

Lake Oconee Presbyterian Church exists to worship God, nurture and equip God's people, and mobilize the church to build his kingdom.

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