

LOPC NEWSLETTER JUNE 2023



From Jeff Birch, Senior Pastor

A Word of Thanks

Last Sunday was an amazing Sunday here at LOPC. Worshipping outside, the incredible picnic, seeing friends and family alike, and most importantly of all, lifting in praise and worship our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. I love being a part of a church that throws great parties. And this past Sunday was one of the best. My first word of thanks is to the Fellowship Team, Deacons, and everyone who made this celebration possible.

If you were here on Sunday, you experienced the reopening of our refreshed Narthex and Sanctuary. Wow! Again, I love being a part of a church that is committed to displaying the beauty of our Lord. We want our physical facilities to be able to be used to serve the ministry goal of gospel transformation that we have, and our refreshed narthex and sanctuary are incredible. Again, a huge word of thanks to our Facilities Task Force of Bob Patton, Tommy Evans, Dick Forrester, Brent Johansen, Gale Weaver, Cornealia Patton, as well as the Deacons and everyone who helped moving all the furniture out of and then back into the sanctuary.

Now that we are back in the narthex and sanctuary, let me again give us some reminders as to why we are making these renovations. How do they serve the

vision and mission of being rooted in the gospel in order to reach Lake Oconee to bring renewal to the world?

The following is from our Facilities Task Force as they carry out their commission as given by our session:

As we have shared before, we've had the privilege of working with Lindsay Hoffman, who is a godly woman and a very talented designer out of Atlanta. Our LOPC 2.0 design theme has been to make our church lighter, brighter and more welcoming to the community we serve. Following are the changes you will see.

- **Narthex:** *LOPC 2.0 is a call to be more missional, to be more outward focused. Everything we are doing is in service to that mission, compelled by the love of Christ and motivated by a desire to be obedient to scripture. Christian research tells us that visitors make a decision about a church within the first 2-5 minutes. We want our Narthex to serve less as an information center and more as a true welcome center. For this reason, the LOPC Session approved a plan to create a coffee bar environment in our Narthex where visitors and our members can grab a cup of coffee and a pastry and mingle with one another. Community connection and Christian fellowship is our highest priority for this space. Our walls will be painted swiss coffee and our trim will be painted urban bronze to match the exterior color theme. We will put down commercial grade LVT (luxury vinyl tile) in a herringbone pattern and we will update our ceiling tiles.*
- **Sanctuary:** *Our sanctuary design will continue the theme of lighter, brighter with a focus on maintaining the recessed area that houses our cross and our stain glassed window as the centerpiece of this beautiful room. We will paint the walls in our Sanctuary swiss coffee and the trim urban bronze. We will also update our flooring by applying the same LVT product in the Sanctuary as in the Narthex in a standard, straight pattern. There are many reasons we selected this commercial grade LVT flooring. LVT is easy to clean, doesn't stain, and is far more sanitary than carpet when dealing with spills which is important given the fact that our sanctuary is a multi-purpose facility. LVT is also scratch and scuff resistant. Lastly, our LVT is 5mm thick and has strong sound and acoustic performance. We have re-carpeted our chancel and we have expanded our choir area. The piano has been moved to the sanctuary floor, realigning our choir to face the congregation directly and by so doing we will significantly increase our choir capacity. Our praise team will go to wireless microphones, and we will streamline our chancel area to promote better engagement between those leading our worship and our congregation. Lastly, we have re-tinted our sanctuary windows to allow of us to enjoy our beautiful windows while managing light.*
- *We will be replacing the chairs in our sanctuary as our current chairs are over 20 years old and many are worn and /or faded. Our new chairs are on order, and we expect them to arrive by the end of the summer.*

I hope you are as excited as I am about what God is doing in our church and in our community. Thank you again for all the many ways you are supporting our LOPC 2.0 vision to be a missional church and to be a light for Jesus Christ in our

community.

Pastor Jeff Birch

Missional Community Lifestyle Training



MISSIONAL COMMUNITY
lifestyle training

3rd WEDNESDAYS
5:30-7:00pm

May 17
June 21
July 19
August 16

Summer 2023: Family Fun Night(s)



KIDS CLUB
AT LOPC

FAMILY FUN NIGHTS

- ✓ FREE DINNER
- ✓ FUN ACTIVITIES
- ✓ FOR KIDS & FAMILIES OF ALL AGES
- ✓ REGISTRATION APPRECIATED
- ✓ TOTALLY FREE!

REGISTER AT:
LOPC-PCA.ORG

JUNE 23, JULY 28, AUG 25

Families of all ages are invited to join us for our first Family Fun Night of the summer on **Friday, June 23, at 5:30 pm!** The theme is "pizza, painting, & percussion." This is for both our church family and the community so please invite friends and neighbors! [Click here to register through Realm](#)

July 16: A Special Night of Music



HYMNS & STORIES TOUR 2023

with KEVIN & COOPER TWIT

 *founder of Indelible Grace Music*

Join us **Sunday, July 16, at 6:00 p.m. at LOPC** for "Hymns & Stories" led by Kevin Twit, founder of Indelible Grace Music. Kevin and his son, Cooper, will lead us in singing and will share the stories behind the hymns.

The gospel depth and rich meaning of the hymns we'll be singing make this evening a wonderful opportunity to invite friends, and it's **FREE**. Following the concert, there will be a "Merch & Mingle" opportunity with Kevin & Cooper Twit. **[Click here to reserve your seat\(s\)!](#)**

Save the Date!

PATRIOTIC PICNIC

Sunday, July 2 ★ 12 pm ★ The Pavilion



Women's Ministry

May Highlights: First Call Fashion Show

May was a busy month for the Women's Ministry, beginning with the annual Fashion Show on May 9th to benefit First Call Pregnancy Center. We had a great group of ladies from LOPC gather together and fellowship while enjoying a fashion show and raffle and live auction. All to support a great cause raising funds for First Call!



May Highlights: Better Together

On Saturday, May 20, we hosted the Better Together Day Retreat here at LOPC. We had an amazing time of fellowship and a time filled with deep and rich learning filled with God's word.



Women Connecting to Women in Prayer

Our core group of women met again this past Tuesday (May 16) to pray for our church ministries, our pastors and staff, our elders, our church families, as well as our community & world needs. As we continue to be faithful to the biblical command to “pray without ceasing...” (1 Thessalonians 5:17), we are being blessed with many prayer needs. We are grateful there are so many opportunities to share this ministry with our women. Any may join us in prayer. We prayed for the RUF ministry this month asking for endurance as these ministers conclude the school year with their students, asking that graduating seniors go back to their communities and begin to serve with wisdom of the word. Many praises for our church family were lifted up this day and May 4th at our community National Day of Prayer event. Join us next month, **June 13th, at 1:00 pm in room 109** for



another faithful time of prayer. Karen Tepper will be the facilitator.

Women's Prayer Ministry



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. Please contact Sue Burmeister at 706-294-3439.

Church App


Join realm[®]
and stay connected!

*Call or come by the church office for assistance
with installing the church's mobile APP!*

Check us out on podcasts and social media!



MISSED A SERMON? SHARE A SERMON!



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MNA Disaster Response



Sheds of HOPE

June build dates:

- Monday, 6/5 (1-4 pm)
- Tuesday, 6/6
- Wednesday, 6/7
- Friday, 6/8



Unless otherwise noted, build times are 8 am - 4 pm.

Sheds of HOPE

The next Sheds of HOPE build is scheduled for June 5-8. Newcomers are welcome, and woodworking skills are always appreciated but not necessary! We'd love to have you join us!

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

June 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">Early Morning Ladies' Bible Study 01(CBS) Men's Community Bible Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Mid-Morning Ladies' Bible Study 02Parker Home Fellowship Group (HFC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">(CBS) Ladies' Community Bible Study 03Choir Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Bulletin Helpers 04	5

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.

Lake Oconee Presbyterian Church | 113 Scott Rd., Eatonton, GA 31024

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