

December 2023



"Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me." -Revelation 3:20 (*NRSV*)

The NKJV says that first part this way, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock."

Jesus is right there, right outside the door to our heart, standing, knocking, waiting for us to welcome him in.

What are we waiting for? It is true that Advent is about waiting ... expectant waiting, believing that at any moment, Jesus Christ will cross the threshold of our lives, answering the deepest longings of our hearts. Each year, as we enter this time of preparation and expectant waiting, we look with hope and joy, for we know what God has done in Jesus Christ. Our Lord comes to us in the innocence of a baby, born to a peasant family. A birth told with the rising star, with angels singing and the visit of shepherds. Even Magi come with gifts from afar.

And yet, even with the magic of Christmas, can we let Jesus cross the threshold of our hearts, that we might experience once again the transforming grace that completes our souls?

May we all get swept up in God's amazing power to bring light to our darkness.

Blessings and Peace, Pastor Ron

WORSHIP SERVICE – 8:30 & 10:30 A.M.

MINISTRIES & COMMITTEES UPDATES

BIBLE STUDY

We have Bible Study each Tuesday at 1:30pm. We will be studying the Gospel of Luke.

I hope you will join us!

Blessings and Peace, Pastor Ron

CARE CONNECTION (FOR DECEMBER)

Bea Black (573) 365-0412 Teresa Tabor (573) 480-0052

Christian Men's Fellowship

CMF's breakfast meeting is the 3rd Saturday of each month at 8:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. Please sign up at the information table so we know how much food to prepare. **No breakfast meeting in December.**

DISCIPLES WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

The DWM meets the first Wednesday of each month at 10:30 am in the MPR. The next meeting is December 3, 2023. All women are invited. Please join us.



DIRECTORY

New photo and/or corrections may be submitted at any time: <u>office@lakeozarkdisciples.org</u> There are directions to download an app for the Instant Church Directory to your phone. Once you have this app on your phone, it will allow you to call someone or get directions to their home directly from your cell phone.

PICKLEBALL

Pickleball is each Friday at 10:00 am.

<u>GAME DAY</u>

Game Day December 1 and December 15 at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall and Kitchen. Bring your favorite beverage and a snack to share.



HOPE HOUSE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

December 18 & December 20-21, 8:30 am – 2 pm Volunteers are needed for the Thrift Store & Food Pantry: cashiers, sorting, restocking, bread pick-up, order fulfillment, etc.

Sign up or contact LOCC church liaison: Barb Davis (573) 280-4435

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING

Date January 18, 2024 Chair: Tim Kirchner (563) 929-1217

PRAYER GROUP

We meet every Tuesday at 3 pm in the Multi-Purpose Room. We are honored and privileged to pray for the concerns of the church. We believe God hears and answers prayers. Because the list has become very lengthy, we have determined to return to the previous policy of removing the concerns after 30 days. If the concern has been updated, it will remain on the list as we know there are some requests that are on our hearts for extended periods of time. The military and nursing home residents will remain on the list until notified otherwise.

SHELTER IN A STORM/PANTRY OF BLESSINGS

Next meeting is Tuesday, December 7 at 1 pm. (MR) Special request for *December: Peanut butter and soup*

Deadline for information in the January Chimes is December 18, 2023.



a few Notes:

LOCC Choir rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 5:30 pm in the choir rehearsal room. New members are welcomed.

Come and make sweet music to the Lord with us.

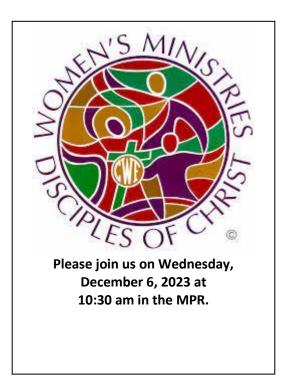
Blessings

Michael

P.S. Looking for vocal soloists, instrumentalists(guitar, strings, brass, woodwinds) AND,

Bell Ringers! [Leave a message for Rich Reinwald at the church's phone]

Call or leave a message for Michael at 573-365-3366 or text 573-480-7492 (Michael's phone). Email Michael at: musicdirector@lakeozarkdisciples.org OR mical2274@charter.net





OPERATING FUND Weekly Need Budget \$5,060 <u>WEEKLY OFFERING</u>		BUILDING FUND Weekly Need/Budget \$1,800 <u>WEEKLY OFFERING</u>	
Oct 29	3,157	Oct 29	450.
Nov 5	7,983	Nov 5	3,639
Nov 12	7,598	Nov 12	470
Nov 19	18,841	Nov 19	10,625
	/ 19 <u>Budgeted</u> / 19 "Actual"		



Sunday Morning

If you have an announcement that you would like shared, please contact the church office. Thanks!

2023 Flower List is now available Please sign up at the information table.



Adult Sunday School at 9:30 am! Adult Bible Study meets every Sunday morning at 9:30 am. Tim Tabor and Joe Weber will lead the class. We'll be using the Augsburg Adult Bible Studies. You can pick up your booklet in the office, in class, or see Tim or Joe. No Bible Study December 10

Gospel of Luke Bible Study

Each Tuesday, we have our study on the Gospel of Luke. We start at chapter 1 and the subsequent story of Zechariah. I hope you will join us!

Bible Study on Luke Tuesdays at 1:30pm in the Multi-Purpose Room

-Pastor Ron

No bible study on the following dates. December 19, December 26, January 2 and January 9

Nursing Home Services at Stonebridge

We are now providing a short worship service at Stonebridge (872 College BLVD, behind Hy-Vee) on the 4th Thursday of every month at 2:30 pm. Pastor Ron will offer a brief reflection and prayer, and we will sing! We need your welcoming presence! A kind word, a welcoming smile, and an encouraging Spirit can bring great comfort, assurance and joy to the residents! I hope you will join us! The next service will be Thursday, December 28 at 2:30 pm.

55ALIVE UPCOMING EVENTS

Signups are now being taken for the following events: December 3 at 12:00 pm - Christmas Brunch/White Elephant at Porto Cima Club House January 10 at 11:00 am – Chair Exercise begins on Wednesdays & Fridays in January Additional events are being planning, please watch for details coming soon. Invite your friends and family to join 55Alive events. Everyone is welcome and these are great opportunities for fellowship and fun.



55 Alive Chair Exercise To Begin Soon

Everyone wants to be healthier and able to move better! Many of us set a new year's resolution to eat better and exercise more. We want to help you with the exercise. We are going to offer beginner's chair exercise starting on Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. We will meet on Wednesdays and Fridays through January in the Multipurpose Room.

You will need to wear comfortable clothes so that you are able to move and stretch. Please bring a set of hand weights that are manageable for you. They have these at Walmart in the sporting goods section or you can order them online. Probably 1, 2, or 3-pound weights would work for most people. Also, bring a necktie or exercise band.

All exercise will be done while sitting. As we advance, some may want to stand. We will not be getting down in the floor! This is a class that everyone can do, no matter your physical ability. We hope to have a good time and be in better physical shape when we finish.

See you on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at 11:00 am in the Multipurpose Room!

Highlights from the Leadership Council Meeting on November 16, 2023

- Discussed congregational meetings in fellowship hall during luncheon. Though there were some interruptions and distractions, overall, the council thought it was better to hold the meetings during a luncheon. However, the council will work towards more efficiency and less disruptions.
- We realized that we need two more members for the Leadership Council. We hope to have these members chosen by next meeting.
- The Elders and Deacons are meeting on November 30 and will choose an Elder to chair the committee. This chair will automatically be a member of the Leadership Council.
- Tom Wiltshire agreed to continue to chair the Pastoral Relations Committee. Sandy Wolfgang will step down and Shirley Wicker will serve.
- Pastor Ron shared several of the things we have accomplished in 2023: New bylaws, Shelter in a Storm expanding, 55 Alive Events, more fellowship groups, shoe box ministries, Wednesday program for children, new paving on parking lot, van wrap, outdoor pews stained, a great Halloween event. We have increased fellowship and outreach.
- Treasurer Matt Redd said nothing has changed since congregational meeting. The church is doing fine financially, although we are about \$20,000 behind in giving. Because December is often one of our best months for offering, Matt thought we would make most of that back.
- Matt noted that next year, the 2025 budget will need to be approved by the Leadership Council before the congregational meeting in November.
- Matt indicated that at least two donors have come forward offering to help financially with a plan on church growth for the church. The Council thought the Membership/Evangelism committee could work on growth and involvement of members and potential members. A chair needs to be chosen and a committee formed.
- With change in membership of the council and other committees, keys to the church will need to be returned and redistributed.
- After a closed meeting, the council decided to give Pastor Ron a Cost of Living Adjustment for next year.

Church Office

NEW CHURCH OFFICE HOURS Monday 7:30 am - 3:00 pm Tuesday - Thursday 8:00 am - 2:30 pm Friday - Closed

These are the hours on the church doors. Angi is normally here before and after these times. If you need assistance or have any questions please contact her.

New Bulletin Insert

Everyone has hopefully had enough time to see the new insert in the bulletin. The prayer side did not change; however, the announcement side now shows reoccurring church events and special events/meetings. Please watch for any email blasts or Friday Teasers for any cancelations or updates. As always, the online calendar is still available or call the office with any questions or concerns you may have. Thank you!

HANGING OF THE GREEN 2023



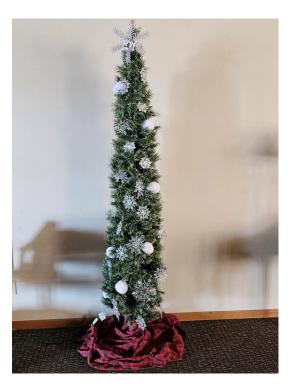














A special thank you to Matt Bentz for building the stable for the nativity scene along with everyone that helped.

LAKE OZARK CHRISTIAN CHURCH 1560 BAGNELL DAM BLVD. LAKE OZARK, MO (573) 365-3366

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE NEWS

The LOCC Transportation Ministry began approximately 4 years ago. Initially, the primary purpose was to assist members of LOCC by providing rides to medical, dental, and physical therapy appointments in Lake Ozark, Osage Beach, Camdenton, Eldon, Jefferson City, and Columbia. A second purpose was to provide rides to members needing transportation assistance in order to attend services at LOCC.

A survey of LOCC's membership was conducted and many members offered to provide transportation to one (1) or more of the locations listed above. Over time, several of our original group of volunteers have relocated, had changes in their family, or unfortunately passed away. This has created a much smaller "pool" of volunteers.

As a result, we are once again asking for volunteers to provide transportation to locations. Please consider helping us by selecting one (1) or more locations on the sign-up sheet at the information table so we can continue to assist LOCC church members.



SHELTER IN A STORM

Have you ever had a "storm" in your life?

Many people in our area have storms of life and need some help. Through this ministry, we are able to help them by providing food and toiletry items, gas cards, and/or emergency short-term lodging or long-term housing assistance. The fire at Lake Ozark Village (a senior living, income-based, 24-unit apartment complex) on November 17th left 12 tenants without a place to live and damaged all of their belongings. (The other 12 tenants could move back into their apartments.) After the local fire and police departments, another church, the Red Cross, and others helped, we learned through one of our local business partners about a man who had resorted to living in his car. We were able to give him a place to live at a local hotel for an extended stay. What a wonderful Thanksgiving blessing! He also received other help providing him food and clothing. We are currently working with two other tenants helping them find another place to live temporarily. Because of your cash donations, we were able to help these fire victims through their personal storm. Thank you!

OUR NEEDS FOR DECEMBER: Peanut butter and soup. Cash donations are also extremely encouraged to sustain this ministry's work helping people in our community.

Audrey Tanner is the Committee Chair of "Shelter in a Storm". Other committee members are Sandy Wolfgang (shelter support), Cindy Wiltshire (communications), Paula Elkin (administrative assistant), Joe Weber (gas cards), Margaret Weber (grants), Greg Andrews (donors), Connie Schluter (warming center assistance), Pastor Ron Trimmer (advisor), Barb Davis and Gayle Sheffer (pantry stocking)

Our next quarterly meeting is December 7th, at 1:00pm in the MR. Please plan to attend if you have an interest in this outreach project. We ask for your prayers for those we are helping and for those who are serving in this way. This church is making a difference in lives that are important and loved by God, including all those served and those serving and praying.



Our Prayers

Prayer Requests

Ukraine – LOCC U.S. Country leaders - Prayer team After-school program - LOCC William Davis - Mary Kay Quiett Mary Jo Ferrell and Dan – Susan Bowden Doug & Rachel Smith – Donna & Chance Foster Jimmy Springer – Donna & Chance Foster Dan Kesterson – George & Kris Walker Pierre Torres – LOCC Hamas Israel conflict - LOCC Becky Sessums – Barb Davis Susan Robinson – Victoria Kennedy Michael Lindeman – LOCC Ron Hutsler – Carol Cummings James Marco – LOCC Gary & Mary Andeline – LOCC Ted & Martha Sloan – Cliff Sloan Ryan - Sandy Wolfgang Ethnic cleansing in Myanmar – Margaret Weber Bryce Andrews - Gregg & Debbie Andrews The People of Gaza - Tom & Cindy Wiltshire Charli Elkin – Paula Elkin Bodi Lee Ochs – Paula Elkin Becky Mitchell - Patty Savage Tate – Sharon Spencer Lou Thoma – LOCC Debbie Robinson - Tom Robinson Steve Alkire – Alan & Marleen Schooler Conway Jones - Mike & Janell Jones Susan Baker – Bob & Wally Balfanz Annette Juhl - Bob & Wally Balfanz Patrick Brewster – Jane Daniels

Prayers for the release of all the captives on 10/7 – Terry Edwards Marilyn Merlo – Paula Elkin Donna's mother – Donna Foster Carissa – Donna Foster Eisa - LOCC

Nursing Home & Senior Care

Nancy Woodward - Lutheran Manor Dwight Ayer – Pines Adult Care Center Maureen Milligan - Orchid Terrace Jean Smithson – Ridgefield Station Ruth Payne – Garden Villas of O'Fallon Jill Ward – Rock Island Village Sandie West – Miller County Care & Rehab Center Verna Woodson – St. Agnes Home Mark Woodson – Heritage House Dale Miller – Eldon Nursing & Rehab

Military

Blake Barrow - Fred Braun & the late Helen Barrow Tammy Cramer - Bob & Wally Balfanz John Michael Hubbart - Debbie Ferrell David Kuffel - Kuffel's Alex Mitchell - Rader's Chris & Stephanie Thibeault - Green's Brendon Owings - Wicker's Sam LaChance – Miller's Brandon Miller – Carson's Tyler Gift – Peggy Strauch

Our Community and Our World

Military, Police & Firefighters Community & Government Leaders Those affected by natural disasters & war The poor, hungry, homeless & disenfranchised

Lake Ozark Christian Church

Senior Minister: Rev. Ron Trimmer Administrative Assistant and Office Manager: Angela Edwards Music Director: Michael Lindeman Cleaning: Shelley Belk Sound and Video: Patty Savage/Ben Trimmer Sunday Morning Nursery: vacant

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Chair: Tim Kirchner Vice Chair: Joe Weber Treasurer: Matt Redd Elder Representative: Joe Weber Directors: Susan Bowden, Donna Foster, Tom Robinson, Barb Reinwald, Barb Davis

COMMITTEES

Elders/Deacons: Sandy Wolfgang
Education: Patty SavageCommunications: Patty SavageEducation: Patty SavageMembership and Evangelism: OpenOutreach: Debbie Andrews
Pastoral Relations: Tom WiltshireWorship: Susan Rader/Debbie AndrewsPersonnel: Rich ReinwaldHospitality and Fellowship: June Heckel, Joe and Margaret Weber

ELDERS

Sandy Wolfgang (Chair), Stephanie Biggs, Jane Daniels, Todd Miller, Sharon Spencer, Joe Weber, Matt Bentz, Randall Bunch, Susan Rader, Teresa Tabor, Tim Tabor, Shirley Wicker, Tim Kirchner, Matt Hendon, Heather Hendon, Patty Savage

DEACONS

Donna Foster, Velma Kirchner, Jerry Rader, Jerry Wicker, Rich Wolfgang, Bea Black, Paula Elkin, Matt Redd, Katrina Redd, Debbie Andrews, Gregg Andrews, Dale Homan, Marcia Homan, Steve Carson, Becky Collins, JoAnn Brown

PASTORAL RELATIONS

Tom Wiltshire (Chair), Randall Bunch, Jane Daniels, Sue Rader, Sandy Wolfgang

MINISTRIES

Disciples Women Ministry (DWM) meets on 1st Wednesday of the month at 10:30 am in the multipurpose room, chair Cindy Wiltshire. Christian Men Fellowship (CMF) meets on 3rd Saturday of the month at 8:30 am for breakfast in the fellowship hall, chair David Kirchner. Bell Choir meets on Wednesday at 4:30 pm in the sanctuary Choir meets on Wednesday at 5:30 pm in the choir room (behind organ) Lunch Bunch meets every Tuesday at 11:45 am at a local restaurant Shelter in a Storm, Audrey Tanner – Quarterly meetings in MR at 1:00 pm Hope House Volunteers: Barb Davis Prayer Group Meeting – Each Tuesday at 3:00 pm in the Multi-Purpose Room Care Connection Coordinator: Georganna Carson Special Event Coordinator: Debbie Andrews Kids Program and Youth: Patty Savage Game Day in Fellowship Hall: 1 pm First and Third Friday of month Pickleball: Fridays 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

DECEMBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 10:00 am Pickleball (FH, G) 1:00 pm Game Day/Mexican Train (FH, K)	2 9:00 am LOCC Fall Clean Up
3 9:30 am Adult Bible Study (MPR) 10:30 am Worship (S) 12:00 pm 55Alive Christmas Brunch & White Elephant – Porto Cima 7 pm AA Meeting (MPR)	4 6:00 pm Boy Scouts (FH, K, G, CRM)	5 10:00 am Staff Meeting (VR) 11:30 am Lunch Bunch – Wobby Boots Roadhouse 1:30 pm Bible Study (MPR) 3:00 pm Prayer Team (MPR) 7:00 pm Orchestra Concert(S, FH)	6 10:30 am DWM Meeting (MPR) 3:30 pm After-School Kids Program (FH, K, G) 4:30 pm Handbells (S) 5:30 pm Choir (CR)	7 1:00 pm Shelter in a Storm (MR) 6:00 pm Cub Scouts (FH, G)	8 10:00 am Pickleball (FH, G)	9
10 10:00 am Bell/Chime Choir 10:30 am Worship (S) 7 pm AA Meeting (MPR)	11 8:30 am PEO-NF (MPR) 10:30 am Pages for All Ages Book Club (MR) 6:00 pm Boy Scouts (FH, K, G, CRM)	12 10:00 am Staff Meeting (VR) 11:30 am Lunch Bunch – Yankee Peddler Tea Room 12:30 pm PEO Chapter MZ (FH) 1:30 pm Bible Study (MPR) 3:00 pm Prayer Team (MPR) 5:00 pm Orchestra (FH, G, K, CRM)	13 3:30 pm After-School Kids Program (FH, K, G) 4:30 pm Handbells (S) 5:30 pm Choir (CR)	14 6:00 pm Cub Scouts (FH, G)	15 10:00 am Pickleball (FH, G) 1:00 pm Game Day/Mexican Train (FH, K)	16
17 9:30 am Adult Bible Study(MPR) 10:30 am Worship (S) 7 pm AA Meeting (MPR)	18 8:45 am-2 pm Hope House volunteers 6:00 pm Boy Scouts (FH, K, G, CRM)	19 10:00 am Staff Meeting (VR) 11:30 am Lunch Bunch – Lil' Rizzos 3:00 pm Prayer Team (MPR) 5:00 pm Orchestra (FH, G, K, CRM)	20 8:45 am-2 pm Hope House volunteers 4:30 pm Handbells (S) 5:30 pm Choir (CR)	21 8:45 am-2 pm Hope House volunteers 1:30 pm Hospitality Committee (MR) 6:00 pm Cub Scouts (FH, G) 7:00 pm Scouts Round Table (CRM)	22	23
24 9:30 am Adult Bible Study (MPR) 10:30 am Worship (S) 6:00 pm Worship - Evening Candlelight Service (S) 7 pm AA Meeting (MPR)	25 6:00 pm Boy Scouts (FH, K, G)	26 10:00 am Staff Meeting (VR) 3:00 pm Prayer Team (MPR) 5:00 pm Orchestra (FH)	27 4:30 pm Handbells (S) 5:30 pm Choir (CR)	28 2:30 pm Stonebridge Service 6:00 pm Cub Scouts (FH, G)	29 4:00 pm Trimmer Wedding Rehearsal (S)	30 2:00 pm Trimmer Wedding (S, FH, K, MPR) 4:30 pm Alexander Wedding Rehearsal (S)
31 9:30 am Adult Bible Study (MPR) 10:30 am Worship (S) 1:00 pm Alexander Wedding (MPR) 2:00 pm Alexander Wedding (S)						