



Lake Forest FOCUS

July 2023



Volume 51

Issue 7

Isaiah 55:6-7

Seek God while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;
let the wicked abandon their path,
and the unrighteous their ways of thinking;
let them turn and face the Lord,
so that God may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Throughout scripture, when people are in trouble, lost, or looking for direction, God says to them, "Look for me! I'm right here!" Even in the New Testament this thread of seeking after God runs through Jesus' teaching. "Seek and you will find. Knock and the door will be opened."

I don't know about you, but when I read passages like the Isaiah passage above, and I hear God asking to be sought, my gut response is often: "Can't you just show yourself?" Couldn't God just do the pillar of cloud thing? The burning bush thing? But even when Moses meets God in the burning bush, the scripture tells us that Moses had to stop what he was doing and turn aside to see... Then it says: When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush" (Exodus 3:4)

'Seek me,' God says, 'because I have healing for you.'
'Find me,' God says, 'because I have comfort for you.'
'Turn your face towards me,' God says,
'because I can see a better way for you.'

And yet, too often we don't turn aside to see what God is up to - and this is understandable given the world we live in. It is so easy for me to fill every moment with some task, or email, or chore, or media... It is so rare that I am present to Reality around me; to the people I pass who might be Christ to me, or for whom I might be Christ's hands and feet. (Matthew 25:37-40)

How many burning bushes do we walk past each day?
How many whispers of the Spirit do we drown out with distraction?
How many encounters with Jesus do we opt out of subconsciously?

Wherever this word finds you, I pray that this summer is a time that creates the space you need to seek the Lord and that opens you up to the many ways Christ might meet you - in new places, in fresh ways, and through unexpected people. I can't wait to hear how God is moving in your life. Let me know.

Grace and Peace,
- Chad



At Lake Forest Presbyterian Church
We Gather for an In-Person Worship Service
each Sunday morning at 10:45 a.m.



We continue to offer a variety of options for joining in worship with us:

- Participating in person at our 10:45 a.m. worship service
- Participating in our live streamed service during the regular 10:45 a.m. worship time through our Facebook page.
- Viewing an archived video of our worship service, found on our Facebook page.

At this time, wearing masks is optional at all our church gatherings.





Our 10:45 a.m. worship service streams live each Sunday morning on the church's Facebook page. If you can't join us in person we invite you to participate with us in worship as our worship service streams online. In our Sunday Worship Email, we send a link to our Facebook page where our live video feed is available. You will also find a .pdf of the bulletin in the weekly email as well, so that you can fully participate in the liturgy. If you miss viewing the service as it is streaming live at 10:45 a.m., an archive of the service will be available for viewing at your convenience almost immediately after our 10:45 a.m. service ends on our Facebook page.

(The link to our Facebook page as well as the audio of each week's sermon and anthem can be found on our church's website as well.)





SUMMER CAMP

**2023 Summer
Sunday School
for Kids K-12**

Join us to get to know our LFPC family a little better and discover God's call for us together. We'll meet each Sunday from 9:30-10:30 in the Fellowship Hall.

Schedule:

- June 4 - John Maples
- June 11 - Michele Galindo & LaVerne Stern
- June 18 - Michael Kelley
- June 25 - Christie Irvin
- July 2 - Andy Vinson
- July 9 - Brad Johnson
- July 16 - Mary Elizabeth Thomas
- July 23 - Andy Graf
- July 30 - Family Camp @JKC
- August 6 - Penny Babelay
- August 13 - TBD
- August 20 - TBD

Our topics will include worship, knitting, baking, building, and so much more!



**Church-wide Ice Cream Social
Sunday, July 9 at 5 p.m.
in the Fellowship Hall**



Just bring a
churn of your
favorite ice
cream and join
us for some
summer fun and
fellowship!



Join us for the
Lake Forest Pool Party

Wednesday night, July 12,
from 6-9 p.m.

Arrowhead Pool
6001 Rawhide Trail
Knoxville, TN 37920

There will be free food and lots of fun!

Please RSVP by phone (865)577-2800, or
email us office@lakeforestpc.org
to let us know that you will be attending and
how many so that we can
make sure how much food to prepare.



This event is open to everyone, but
teachers and volunteers are
especially encouraged to attend!

The morning (9 a.m. - 1 p.m.) will
be CPR and First Aid training with
a continental breakfast provided.
Then we will have a taco bar and
fellowship, followed by new
information to help support our
Sunday School teachers and
discipleship volunteers this year!

We really hope to see you there!
Please RSVP if you can attend.



Every Child Deserves a Home 



Our next Family Promise Host Week is July 16-23. If you would like to volunteer please let us know by calling or emailing the church office at 865-577-2800 or office@lakeforestpc.org

FAMILY CAMP

July 28-30
at John Knox Center
Ten Mile, Tennessee

Everyone is invited to attend our annual Family Camp, July 28-30 at the John Knox Center in Ten Mile, Tennessee. The cost for this year's camp is \$80 for adults (ages 11+), \$40 for children (ages 3-10), and \$20 per person for Saturday only.

If you have questions, please talk with Lindsay Johnson.
Payment is due by July 9
(Please make checks payable to LFPC)



Our 5th Sunday Offering for July
will be collected on July 30
to benefit

Dogwood Elementary School

When students go back to school in August the funds collected as a part of our July 5th Sunday Offering, will help purchase items needed to make their experience this school year something that the students will greatly benefit from and long remember.

Please prayerfully consider how you can give to help the teachers right here in our community better serve the needs of their students. Together we can help these students get off to a great start in the fall by helping their teachers provide them with the resources they will need to succeed. With Family Camp, as well as many of our church family's vacations falling in July, you may give your 5th Sunday offering on any Sunday in July. Please simply put "5th Sunday Offering" and the amount you wish to be given to Dogwood Elementary on the outside of your offering envelope or in the memo blank on your check.



MAY 2023	Operating
Giving	12,953.05
Expenses	27,789.19
Surplus (Deficit)	(14,836.14)
YEAR-TO-DATE 2023	Operating
Giving	77,141.72
Expenses	71,625.12
Surplus (Deficit)	5,516.60



God has blessed us with musicians who provide a rich and vibrant worship experience through every piece that is played or sung in our church. This beautiful array of sacred music is the culmination of the devoted preparation of those who serve our church family with their musical gifts. As we join them in praise and worship, let's do so with grateful hearts for those who lead us into the very presence of God through music.

Summer choir rehearsal schedule:

Handbell Choir will not rehearse during the months of summer

Chancel Choir will rehearse only one time each month during the summer.

Here's a list of the chancel choir summer rehearsals:

- Tuesday, July 11 - 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, August 9 - 6:30 p.m.

Our regular weekly choir rehearsals will return to their normal schedule, with handbell choir rehearsing at 6:00 p.m. and chancel choir rehearsal following at 7 p.m., on Wednesday night, September 6.



Our church library is open and three new hardback Bible story books have been added to our shelves.

J 220.9 Bible Stories for Children
(oversized book)

J 220.0 Jesus Storybook Bible

C 221.9 Read Aloud Bible Stories

Come visit our church library!



Our Youth Group is a Wednesday night program filled with fun, games, music and listening for God's Word. We also look for opportunities throughout the school year to get outside the walls of the church to have fun as a group at some exciting events.

Our youth group meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday night of each month throughout the school year. Our weekly Wednesday night programming for youth is currently on a break for the summer but will resume on Wednesday, September 6.

Our Sunday School class for our youth will not meet during the summer. Our youth are included in our Summer camp Sunday school for all our Lake Forest kids in grades K-12. Summer camp will meet each Sunday morning throughout the summer from 9:30 - 10:30 in the Fellowship Hall. (See the announcement above for details.)

For more information or if you would like to volunteer to be a part of the team that leads our youth on Wednesday nights throughout the school year, please email the church office at office@lakeforestpc.org.



Children's Worship Group

is a fantastic way to teach our kids about God and have a blast doing it. We gather on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday nights of each month from 6-7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We hope you will invite your friends to join us for this awesome part of our Wednesday night lineup of activities.

Our Children's Worship Group is currently on summer break but will resume in September with Children's Worship Group meeting on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month.

Our regular weekly Sunday School classes for children are also on a break for the summer. Instead, we are having a special summer camp program each Sunday morning throughout the summer from 9:30 - 10:30 in the Fellowship Hall. This summer program is for all our Lake Forest kids in grades K-12. See the announcement above for details. Our preschool Sunday School will continue to meet every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. throughout the summer.

If you would like more information on our Children's ministry or have any questions concerning our children's program, you can contact our Christian Education & Discipleship Committee Chairperson - Bethany Maples or email us in the church office (office@lakeforestpc.org)



THANK YOU

Prayers & PRAISES

Our Lake Forest Church family gets to see the love of God in action in response to our prayer. God has worked in miraculous ways among us and we consider it a joy and privilege to pray for each other and watch to see how God answers our prayers.

If you have a need - if you are facing a healthcare concern or crisis, have experienced the loss of a job, are grieving the loss of a loved one, or are asking God to work in a specific situation in your life that needs His powerful touch, please let us know so that we can pray for you.

You can email us at office@lakeforestpc.org whenever you have a prayer need that you would like to share. We send out a Prayers & Praises email each Thursday morning so that we can know how to pray for each other and celebrate what God is doing in our body.

If you know someone who is not currently receiving the Prayers & Praises email and would like to be added to our list, please ask them to let us know by sending their email address to the church office at the email address above.

And don't forget to send us updates of how God has responded to your prayer need or anytime you have something that we can celebrate with you. We want to make sure that we are as attentive to the praises part of our list as we are to each individual prayer need. So be sure to let us know how God has been working in your life by emailing us in the church office as well.

Thanks for being a praying church family!

Mom & I would like to thank Kristy and all involved in making the prayer shawl. It was so thoughtful and absolutely beautiful. Also a special thanks to Kristy for the beautiful clawys and delicious Lemon Poppyseed Bread. To everyone at the Church who have prayed for us and sent cards, we are so blessed and appreciated. Mom's health has failed but we still try to keep her going. She so much enjoyed the visit. Again thank you! Blessings, Debbie Robinson

OUR COMMITTEE CHAIRPEOPLE

BUILDING & GROUNDS

BRAD JOHNSON

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & DISCIPLESHIP

BETHANY MAPLES

FINANCE

JOSH MCGILL

PERSONNEL

JOSH MCGILL

SPIRITUAL CARE

CATHY MAPLES

WORSHIP

SETH MAPLES





This Year's Vacation Bible School Was A Blast!



Would you like to hear the stories of the Bible come alive to our Lake Forest kids?
Why not consider becoming one member of our rotating team of Children's Time Speakers?

Children's Time is a special moment in our Sunday morning worship service. During this time we teach the truth of God's Word in ways specifically designed to touch the hearts of our children.

If you would be open to learning more about leading our Children's Time, or participating in training so that you can join the team of volunteers that serve our children in this way, please contact the church office at office@lakeforestpc.org.



Did we miss wishing a "Happy Birthday" to someone who is a part of our church family? If so, please help us keep our birthday list up-to-date by emailing us at office@lakeforestpc.org.

July 1 – JUDY KING

July 3 – MELISSA LLOYD

July 5 – PAT GASPERSON
SUSAN MCKINNEY
LAVERNE STERN

July 7 – ANDY VINSON

July 10 – ALEX BROOKS

July 12 – DRAKE RICKARD

July 14 – RONALD RAY

July 16 – DAVID VINSON

July 17 – HAYLEY JACKSON

July 18 – MCKENLEE BOREN

July 22 – STAN BOREN
ANDY GRAF

July 29 – MARIE DOYLE



If you have an announcement about an upcoming event, a volunteer list, a committee meeting date and time, or any other information that needs to be included in the June 2023 issue of the Lake Forest FOCUS, please take a few minutes, as soon as you know the details, to email that information to: office@lakeforestpc.org

The deadline for information to be included in the August FOCUS is Tuesday, July 25

Our Session Meets on the third Sunday of each month immediately following our 10:45 a.m. worship service in the YAYF classroom.

The Session Will Meet: **Sunday, July 16**

Our Elders of the Month for July are:

Melinda Kelley and Ryan Pierce

JULY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. In-person Worship Service at 10:45 a.m. Livestream of our 10:45 a.m. service on Facebook	3 <i>Lake Forest Neighborhood Association</i> 7 p.m. 	4 <i>Happy 4th of July</i>  AA Meeting 7 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)	5 No Wednesday Night Activities	6	7	8
9 Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. In-person Worship Service at 10:45 a.m. Livestream of our 10:45 a.m. service on Facebook  Ice Cream Social 5:00 p.m.	10	11 Chancel Choir Rehearsal at 6:30 p.m. AA Meeting 7 p.m.	12 LFPC Pool Party 6-9 p.m. 	13	14	15 <i>Taco 'Bout Terrific Teachers Training Retreat</i> 9-5 p.m. 
16 Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. In-person Worship Service at 10:45 a.m. Livestream of our 10:45 a.m. service on Facebook  <i>The Session will meet immediately after the service</i>	17 	18 AA Meeting 7 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)	19 No Wednesday Night Activities 	20	21	22 
23 Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. In-person Worship Service at 10:45 a.m. Livestream of our 10:45 a.m. service on Facebook 	24	25 AA Meeting 7 p.m. (YAYF classroom)	26 No Wednesday Night Activities	27	28 	29 
30 Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. In-person Worship Service at 10:45 a.m. Livestream of our 10:45 a.m. service on Facebook  <i>5th Sunday Offering for Dogwood Elem.</i>	31					



**COMING
SOON**

BACK TO SCHOOL

1st Day Back for
Knox County Teachers
is August 1

1st Day Back for
Knox County Students
is August 8



RALLY DAY

Sunday, August 27



LAKE FOREST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
714 Lake Forest Drive
Knoxville, TN 37920
(865) 577-2800



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