



Finding

YOUR WAY

at LOPC

Fall 2023

BELONG • GROW • CARE



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BELONG

connect with others

shared interests • shared season of life • bring a friend • open groups

Contact the group moderator to join or learn more!

All-Church Events

There are several all-church events for fun, fellowship, and connection! The Ministry Fair on August 27 is up next, and then Fall Fest on October 8 following Worship service.

For more information about the next all-church event contact Michelle Browning at michelle@lopc.org.

Chancel Choir

Do you love to sing? Join the Chancel Choir! We sing approximately three Sundays of every month with rehearsals on Thursdays from 7-8:30pm. We take a music-first approach, leaving singers feeling inspired and fulfilled.

Email Bryan Dunnewald, Director of Music, at bryan@lopc.org if you're interested in joining.

Congo Necklace Team

The Congo Necklace Team creates a variety of products to raise funds for Build Congo Schools. No experience is necessary.

Contact Bobbie Dodson-Nielsen at bobbiedodson@comcast.net for more information or to make an appointment to purchase a necklace.

Chicks w/ Sticks Knitters & Crocheters

Tuesdays from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room.

In addition to knitting and crocheting they collect new and gently used baby clothes and related items for the Layette Project.

Contact Dianne Schneider at dianneschneider@hotmail.com for more information.

Congo Team

The LOPC Congo Team supports the Education and Trauma Healing work of the Presbyterian Church in the Democratic Republic of Congo as well as being advocates for the Congolese people. They meet on the first Sunday of each month following Worship. All are welcome to attend.

Contact Herb Long at herblong7@gmail.com for more information.

4th Monday Book Group

This group gathers monthly from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. on Zoom. We discuss a mix of fiction and non-fiction books, often with themes based on social issues. Visitors and new members are welcome.

Contact Jean Fiske at jdfiske@gmail.com for more information.

4th Friday Book Group

The Fourth Friday Book Club reads fiction and nonfiction titles monthly on Zoom at 4:00 p.m. for one to two hours.

If you are interested in joining, reach out to Catherine Coleman at awaitingword@gmail.com.

Freebirds

A social group for adults who are new/recent empty nesters (or have never had kids) and want to make a connection with others through shared activities such as meals, hikes, social hours, and service work. Group members take turns planning the activities that are scheduled monthly from September to May.

Contact Sue Nagle at suenagle@sbcglobal.net for more information.

Floral Design Team

Design and assemble the Sanctuary flowers for Sunday morning worship services.

Contact Jane Ebe at ebe.jane@gmail.com for more information.

Guy's Hang Outs

Guys (aged 20-50 somethings) get together for good food and hang out time! Program is year-round and generally meets on Monday evenings.

Contact Chris Baldwin at chris@lopc.org for more information and to join!

LOPCiders (Quilting)

Mondays, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Quilters of all levels are invited. Quilts are donated to local groups that provide comfort to babies and children.

Contact Louise Tanno at louisetanno@gmail.com for more information.

Interfaith Dialogue

Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County, a not-for-profit corporation with 108 congregations representing a wide variety of faith traditions. A variety of events are hosted throughout the year.

Please visit lopc.org/interfaith for details about many upcoming events.

Membership Class

Are you ready to make LOPC your church home?! We would love to invite you to consider joining the church as an active member. Attend this 90-minute class to learn about LOPC's vision, our pastors, rub elbows with Peter Whitelock, and learn about how to get more deeply connected to the community.

Contact Michelle Browning at michelle@lopc.org.

Rossmoor Parishes

For all who live at Rossmoor, the parish has a get together each year to offer support and social interaction.

Please contact Bev Fellows at beverlyfellows@comcast.net.

Thursday Fellowship (Senior Adults)

Thursday Fellowship is a joyful community of guests and volunteers who gather for a midday dose of fun, friendship and entertainment. They come together to share a meal, engage in arts and crafts, enjoy musical entertainment, and participate in light exercise. Volunteers prepare and serve lunch, secure entertainment, and socialize with our guests. Thursday Fellowship meets every Thursday September through May from 11 AM to 1:30 PM in Fellowship Hall.

Volunteers are needed. Please contact Julie Peterson at julie@lopc.org for more information.

Voyager Ships (65+)

There are seven ships that generally meet the third Saturday of each month. Planned events cover a wide range of activities, including museum visits, dinners out or in homes, trips to the theater, outdoor activities, service opportunities, and much more.

Contact Bev Fellows at beverlyfellows@comcast.net for more information.

Young Families Connect Families with children ages infant - grade 4

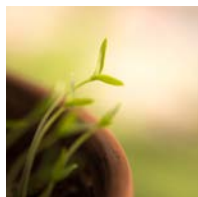
Young Families Connect meets on the first Sunday of the month on the back playground. Kids get to play and adults enjoy some coffee and breakfast bites. Come out and connect with other families.

Contact Michelle Browning at michelle@lopc.org.

Women's & Mom's Group with Pastor Jaime Polson

There are three different Mom's groups that meet Sept. through April during the church program year. Join other women and moms in friendship and conversation as we discuss various books about our faith and engage in Bible Study together.

For more information and to join, contact Lexi Morrissey at lexi@lopc.org



GROW

grow your faith

various seasons of life • short-term groups • studies and learning • speaking series

Contact the group moderator to join or learn more!

Book/Bible Study & Fellowship Group

Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. in the Library

Open to all, this group meets weekly in the library on Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. for discussion and fellowship

For more information, contact Darlene James at darlene.james@comcast.net.

Christian History and Theology Discussion Group

12-week study beginning on October 19

Open to all, this group led by Jim Davis will discuss A History of Christian Thought, Vol. 3: From the Protestant Reformation to the Twentieth Century by Justo L. Gonzalez. This group meets on Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., for twelve weeks over Zoom.

For more information, contact Jim Davis at james.colvin.davis@gmail.com.

Companions for the Journey

A unique opportunity to be with fellow seekers reflecting on scripture and life, spoken word, and silence to find God's presence and guidance in ordinary life. Companions helps us experience God in our lives. We meet monthly from October through May.

Registration is required. For more information contact Carl Grant at clgrantsd@gmail.com or Robyn Dean at r2dean@sonic.net.

First Friday Forum

First Friday Forum provides engaging monthly speakers on topics that are relevant, interesting, accessible, and informative about this ever-changing world. The program runs January through June and is available live on the LOPC campus, on Zoom. Past recordings are available on the LOPC Website.

For more information on upcoming speakers and to register, please visit lopc.org/forum. Contact fff@lopc.org with questions.

Community Life Small Groups

Starting in the fall, Community Life Small Groups are returning! These groups give people an opportunity to grow in their relationship with God and others at LOPC! Groups are typically 8-12 people, 4-5 weeks in length, and have a leader who facilitates the discussions either in-person or on Zoom. We're hopeful this program can be a path for many to delve deeply in community and grow in their faith.

Please contact Michelle Browning at michelle@lopc.org for additional information.

Men's Bible Study & Fellowship Group

Saturday Mornings, 8:00 a.m. via zoom, twice per month.

Open to all men especially those ages 60 and above. The first half of each meeting is spent sharing about our lives and the second half spent studying a biblical text or theme.

For more information, contact Larry Ricksen at lricksen@comcast.net.

Women's Spiritual Journey Groups

Second Monday each month, 9:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The Women's Spiritual Journey Group provides a unique spiritual community where women seek a closer relationship with God through book study, spiritual practices, prayer partnering, small group discussion and individual reflection. Visitors and new members are always welcome.

For more information, contact Mary Lou Browning at mlbrowning1116@gmail.com.

Presbyterian Women's Circle

Presbyterian Women is active in circles – small groups of women who meet monthly for bible study and fellowship. PW is committed to nurturing faith, supporting the church's mission, working for justice, and building community.

For more information, contact Chris Baldwin at chris@lopc.org.



CARE

find care and support

various seasons of life • short & long-term groups • shared experiences • safe places

Contact the group moderator to join or learn more!

Al-Anon

Tuesday, 7:30 - 8:45 p.m., Chapel

Al-Anon is a mutual support program for people whose lives have been affected by someone else's drinking.

Email info@lopc.org for more information.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Wednesday, 12:00 - 1:30 p.m., in the Chapel.

AA is a fellowship of people who come together to help each other in their recovery.

Email info@lopc.org for more information.

Dementia Support Group

First and third Wednesdays of each month, 10:30-11:30 a.m. on Zoom.

Join our ongoing support group to give you ideas for self-care and other-care.

Contact Linda Fodrini-Johnson at lindafj620@outlook.com for more information.

Deacon Community Care Fund

The Deacons have funds available to help members and friends with temporary financial needs. The Deacon Community Care Fund process is a confidential process for people seeking help.

Email info@lopc.org or leave a message on the Deacon line, (925) 283-9990 extension 274.

Home Visits/ Home Communion

If you or someone you know needs a visitor, LOPC deacons and other Senior Ministry team members can help! They can also serve communion at your home, or they can deliver a communion kit to you so that you can participate with the Livestream service on the first Sunday of each month.

Email info@lopc.org or leave a message on the Deacon line, (925) 283-9990 extension 274, or contact Pastor Jaime Polson at jaime@lopc.org.

Prayer Team

Tuesday mornings, 10:00 a.m. on Zoom. First and Second Tuesdays of the month in-person.

The team prays for every request that is received from the Sunday morning worship services.

For more information and to join, contact Leslie Finertie at leslie-finertie@comcast.net.

Spiritual Direction

A reflective process in which a trained companion walks with you to help you pay attention to God's work in your life and your most important questions.

For more information, contact Diane Grant at dianebeegee@yahoo.com.

Stephen Ministry

Our congregation's Stephen Ministry group is available to provide one-on-one Christian care to people in our congregation and community who are experiencing challenging transitions in their lives.

To learn more, contact Pastor Jaime Polson at jaimelopc.org or Shirley Moore at shirleymoore18@gmail.com or 925-324-6466.

Widow/Widowers Grief Support

Sharing our experiences during this 10-week class is extremely helpful to our healing process. The class is held two times per year. Pre-Registration required and the workbook is \$20.

If you would like to register or need more information, contact Bev Fellows, 925-949-7628 or beverlyfellows@comcast.net.



SERVE

locally & globally

love does

love protects, love hopes, love never fails

One of the most important things that we can do as Christians is to demonstrate God's love for the world and our community. love does is LOPC's aptly named program that provides opportunities to serve locally and globally and show our love to those who are in need. Serving others is a demonstrable way to say we care for them and love them as Christ encourages us to do.



Visit to lopc.org/lovedoes
to see what service activities need your help.

Contact Robin Freeberg at robin@lopc.org with questions.



Monument Crisis Center Food Barrels

MCC is continuing to ask for donations of non-perishable food items, and especially in demand are cereal, peanut butter, beans, rice and pasta. Food can be placed in barrels located outside the Oak Room any time of day, 7 days a week.

For more information contact Robin Freeberg at robin@lopc.org.

Winter Nights Family Shelter

October 23 - November 6

Winter Nights Family Shelter is a traveling shelter for families experiencing hardship whether it be from loss of a job, death in the family, domestic violence or other unfortunate circumstances. Opportunities to volunteer include preparing meals and snacks, tutoring and creating fun activities for guests to participate in such as movie nights, outdoor games, crafts, music and even sharing a family pet with guests.

**To volunteer individually or with a fellowship group go to LOPC.org/lovedoes.
Registration opens 9/24/2023.**



SERVE

at lopc

All-Church Big Events Team

Help organize and throw Fellowship events for the entire LOPC community! We have service opportunities available such as decorating, hospitality/ welcome, ticket distribution, and more!

Contact Michelle Browning at michelle@lopc.org for more information.

Children's Ministry

Help lead in the Garden on Sunday Morning or volunteer for other Children's Ministry programs for preschool and elementary age children, such as Vacation Bible Camp and Kids Rock (Wednesday afternoons). Volunteer age 14 and up.

Contact Susan Wentworth at susan@lopc.org.

Cookie Bakers

Our Memorial Reception Team serves cookies at every memorial service reception. If you like to bake, we would love to have your name on our "Cookie Bakers" list. When there is a need for cookies, you will be contacted by a Deacon.

Email info@lopc.org for more information.

Connecting Team Advisor

A team that works to find ways for people to connect at LOPC in a meaningful way.

Contact Chris Baldwin at chris@lopc.org or at for more information.

Friday Fun Night

Be a buddy for a child with special needs at Friday Fun Night. Under age 14, with a parent.

Contact Susan Wentworth at susan@lopc.org.

Kurth Memorial Garden

The Kurth Memorial Garden is a place to find comfort and to remember those we have loved. KMG is always looking for volunteers to help with writing projects and administrative tasks.

For more info, contact Lexi Morrissey at lexi@lopc.org.

Reception Desk Volunteer Team

This talented team of volunteers intermittently helps staff the front desk when needed. Your cheerful attitude is the only requirement!

Email Ciara Bird at ciara@lopc.org for more information.

Sanctuary Guild

Help prepare the sanctuary, 1.5 hours per week, with each team member volunteering to work one week per month.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Carol King at caking53@pacbell.net or Bettie Graves at bettiegraves@earthlink.net.

Welcome Center Volunteer

Be an LOPC ambassador and welcome all on Sunday mornings in the Welcome Center.

Contact Michelle Browning at michelle@lopc.org.

Worship Hospitality

The Worship Hospitality Team is comprised of four 5-6 person Usher and Greeter Teams that work one Sunday a month and Special Services during the year. The Team meets and greets, hands out Bulletins, collects the Offering and Friendship Pad entries, counts the Offering, directs Communion, and readies the Sanctuary for the next week. We are always looking for new Team members and Substitutes.

If you are interested, please contact Carol King at caking53@pacbell.net.

Youth Ministry

Volunteers are needed to share God's love with youth.

Contact Youth Director Keris Dahlkamp at keris@lopc.org for info.



CHILDREN, YOUTH, & SPECIAL NEEDS

Children's Ministry

Ages: six months - 4th Grade

The Garden

Year Round

Sunday morning program for children, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. For kids from six months old through fourth grade.

For questions, contact Susan Wentworth at susan@lopc.org.

Kids Rock

Wednesday afternoons, 3:15 - 5:00pm, mid-September - March

This Wednesday after-school program welcomes kids to campus where they enjoy one another's company, explore their faith, & cultivate the Jesus Ways of Kindness, Mercy and Justice.

Vacation Bible Camp

Early June (see website for exact dates) Monday - Friday, 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Children's Ministry has an amazing summer program for kids' Pre-K (4 yrs. old) through completed 4th grade full of songs, stories, crafts, games, and more. Registration opens mid-March for campers and volunteers.

For general children's ministry program information, contact Susan Wentworth at susan@lopc.org.

Friendship Circle

For high school freshman through young adult transition program youth with special needs.

Our group gathers from 5:00 - 6:30 p.m in the LOPC Upstairs Youth Room.

It is an evening of fellowship, art and craft projects and games. Pre-registration required and space is limited. This is also a service opportunity for high school students to come and be a buddy and hang out with our guests.

For dates and information contact Susan Wentworth at susan@lopc.org.

Friday Fun Night

For Parents who have children and youth, ages Kindergarten – 22, with special needs

Friday Fun Night is an opportunity for parents to drop off their children with special needs and their siblings at LOPC for a fun-filled event while our trained, background-checked staff will care for them. Advance registration is required and space is limited.

For dates and information contact Susan Wentworth at susan@lopc.org.

Youth Ministry

Youth Groups for 5th-12th Grade

Our youth groups meet weekly
September through March!

Contact Youth Director Keris Dahlkamp
keris@lopc.org for more information.

Youth Alive

Sundays, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m., 5th-8th
grade youth (August through May)

Youth in 5th-8th grade take part in
fun games, activities, and Bible-based
discussions relevant to their lives
while connecting with peers. Students
learn about how God has connected
with people in Scripture and how we
continue to see God at work in our
lives today.

Youth on Wednesdays (YOW):

Wednesdays at 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
for 5th-8th grade youth

Middle school youth enjoy high-
energy games, worship songs, a short
devotional lesson, & time to share
“highs and lows” about their lives in
small groups. Optional \$5 pizza dinner
at 5:30pm.

By-The-Way (BTW):

Sundays at 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
for 9th-12th grade youth

High school youth socialize with peers,
play games, sing worship songs led
by our youth band, hear a devotional
lesson, & support and encourage one
another in small groups led by an adult
advisor.





LAFAYETTE-ORINDA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

49 Knox Drive, Lafayette, CA 94549

(925) 283-8722 • lopc.org

