

LAFAYETTE-ORINDA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

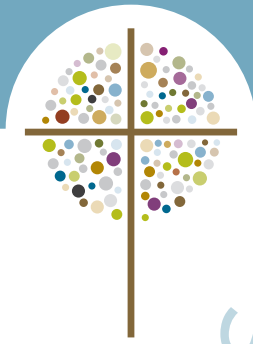
NOVEMBER 2024

FOCUS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

A welcoming and loving community of faith
that learns, grows, and serves together.

LOPC.ORG



At The Time Of An Election

By Peter Whitelock — Head of Sta

Under your law we live, great God, and by your will we govern ourselves. Help us as good citizens to respect neighbors whose views differ from ours, so that without partisan anger, we may work out issues that divide us, and elect candidates to serve the common welfare; through Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.



I think you'll find this November edition of Focus, our monthly newsletter, to be full of interesting events, reports, and useful information. LOPC is a busy church! We are not unaware, though, that this month brings with it a very important national election that many believe will determine, for ill or well, the future of our great nation. In a time like this, how should we pray?

We have a wonderful resource to help us ponder this question in our Book of Common Worship. This worship resource of the church has a wide range of liturgy to assist us in planning services, but it is also for personal reflection. The above prayer is offered for us to use in a time of national election, and it has great perspective to offer us in this season

We are Americans, that is true, but as believers we ultimately order our lives under God's direction, and it is by God's decree that all human government is authorized. Even in times of profound disagreement, respect and humility are the order of the day, and working through difficult matters to seek the common good is the path God calls us to take. As I write this column, I have no idea how this election is going to turn out, but the prayer above helps me remember what kind of behavior God expects from me regardless of who sits in the Oval Office.

Grace and peace,

Peter Whitelock

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Pastoral Sta

- Peter Whitelock - Head of Sta
- Lauren Gully - Pastor, Mission & Outreach
- Jaime Polson - Pastor, Care & Executive Leadership
- Chris Baldwin - Pastor, Community & Formation
- Jane Doty MacKenzie - Temporary Pastor

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- Susan Wentworth - Children's Ministry
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- Pamela Moidel - Design
- Lexi Morrissey - Editor

Submissions & Deadlines

Please send requests for submissions to: communications@lopc.org
no later than November 1 for the December issue.



Staying Connected: Sign up for our weekly email to stay up-to-date on all things LOPC! **Visit: lopc.org/email.**

Need to reach us?

info@lopc.org • 925-283-8722



A Musical Remembrance for All Souls

Sunday, November 3
4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Featuring Durufle's Requiem performed by
LOPC's Chamber Singers and Orchestra

Join us for a time to remember all those we have loved who have died, whether recently, or long ago. We will speak their names, listen to the music of Durufle's Requiem, and light candles in their memory. As we gather together, we will lean into God's promise of life beyond our lives here on earth and seek the comfort of the Spirit.



worship



Stewardship Series Amazing Grace: How Sweet the Sound

Through November 3

Grace, from a Christian perspective, is love demonstrated by giving. In the gospel, it is unmerited divine favor which utterly transforms our lives. It is also something we model in our own behavior and consequently build up in the world around us. Out of all our motivation to give, glorifying God should be at the top of the list. We are called to be *A Graceful People Who Give To Glorify God.*



Sanctuary Flower Sponsorships

2025 Calendar Opens November 15!

Each week, LOPC's talented and creative flower team design the large Sanctuary chancel arrangement to enhance the worship experience. Sponsoring the flowers for a Sunday worship service is a beautiful way to celebrate or honor your loved ones. For a \$150 suggested donation to our Flower Fund, your personal dedication will be published in the worship bulletin on the Sunday of your sponsorship, and the flower team will do their best to accommodate any special requests for the arrangement.

Sign up beginning November 15 at lopc.org/flowers to confirm your Sunday of choice for 2025.

Quilters

By Louise Tanno



The LOPCided Quilters are a dedicated group who combine mission and passion. We love to make quilts, and even more we love giving them to children in our community who are in need. We provide around 200 quilts per year.

Our main focus is to create baby quilts for the Layette Project at Hillcrest Congregational Church in Pleasant Hill. They provide new mothers with a bag of clothing and other items including quilts which are distributed by the county public health nurses.

We also provide quilts to each child who is a guest at LOPC during Winter Nights. Children are able to choose the quilt they want from our "collection."

The LOPCiders also enjoy sharing our quilts with each other before they are donated. We enjoy the fellowship and creativity that our group provides.

We welcome all quilters to our meetings on Monday afternoons. Please contact Louise Tanno at louisetanno@gmail.com for further information.

Kurth Memorial Garden is Open!

The Kurth Memorial Garden (KMG) refurbishment and expansion project that began last summer is complete! It included the installation of additional niches on the outside of the Sanctuary walls as well as along the low wall opposite. This expansion has increased the capacity of the Garden by approximately 75%. If you are a member of LOPC and are interested in planning for the future for yourself or immediate family members, you are eligible to reserve space in the Garden. To make an appointment, please contact Lynn Trowbridge at lynntrou@comcast.net. Look for communications soon regarding a grand re-opening event.

For more information, current pricing, and contact details, visit lopc.org/kurth.



LOPC FOUNDATION



Estate planning is for everyone, regardless of age or assets. Having an estate plan will bring you the peace of mind and assurance of knowing that your legacy giving will help the people and causes you care most about.

By creating a will or trust and naming the LOPC Foundation as one of your beneficiaries, your legacy gift will be an act of clarity for your family and loved ones and a demonstration of love and faith in the future of our LOPC community.

The LOPC Foundation strives to be a permanent, reliable source of significant funding for LOPC's ministries. To learn more about legacy giving, please reach out to a Foundation trustee or visit lopc.org/foundation.



thursday Fellowship

caring • sharing • loving

A program for Senior Care Ministries

Every Thursday
11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

By Julie Peterson, Coordinator

In October, we offered a variety of programs and activities. We expressed ourselves creatively and also participated in gentle chair exercises. Our first afternoon program featured Magician Kenny Spade. The four-year-old Seedlings classes joined the fun and their energy and excitement made the day “magical”. On October 10, guests and volunteers shared travel experiences for our “Trip Down Memory Lane” day. We traveled far and wide and never left our chairs. What fun it was to hear about the vast and varied travels of our participants. Mike Kistner and his brother John performed on October 17 and their warmth and musical talents felt like a big warm hug. On October 24, Oktoberfest was in full swing as we could not stop our toes from tapping to the wonderful accordion player, Dan Cooper. On October 31, we celebrated Halloween with special treats, played Halloween Bingo, and had a costume parade. We celebrated 10 birthdays in October and honored one of our long time volunteers, Stan Morner who celebrated his 90th birthday. Stan has been a vital part of our program for over 20 years, and it was a very special day.



Celebrating Stan Morner's 90th birthday!

November promises to be just as delightful.

- **November 7:** Veterans Day Celebration.
- **November 14:** Joe and Gillian Roebuck's musical backgrounds go back to childhood with Joe playing piano and Gillian singing. The talented duo has performed in musical theatre, and both currently sing in the choir at LOPC. We look forward to their program, “Music from the Movies.”
- **November 21:** Michael Kistner sing-a-long.
- **November 28:** Thanksgiving/ No Thursday Fellowship.

Mark your calendars and join our community for some fun, fellowship, and friendship as we share activities, a meal, and enjoy a fabulous afternoon. Come and be a part of our welcoming community!

Our typical daily schedule is as follows:

- 11:00 a.m. “Meet and Greet” with snacks and beverages.
- 11:15 a.m. Creative arts and crafts, activity, or light exercise program.
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch: Bring a sandwich, and we will provide salad, beverages, and dessert.
- 12:45 p.m. Entertainment.
- 1:30 p.m. Program ends.

We are so thrilled to have welcomed new guests and volunteers in September and October. Come and see what we are all about.

We meet every Thursday September through early June (except for holidays) in Fellowship Hall from 11:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

Questions? Contact Julie Peterson at julie@lopc.org for more information.



YOUTH



► **Questions? Email
Jaime Polson:
jaime@lopc.org**



Service at Winter Nights for BTW students November 3

Join us for this special time of service and fellowship as youth help prepare dinner and entertain our guests in Fellowship Hall.

For more information, please contact Jaime Polson at jaime@lopc.org.



LIGHTHOUSE
at Hope Solutions

Lighthouse Youth Program at Hope Solutions

Saturday, November 16, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Throughout the year, middle and high school students come together to connect with local youth through fun games, arts and crafts, and lunch at Hope Solutions community center in Concord. Parents and caregivers are also welcome to join but their attendance is not required.

Additional dates are February 8, March 15, and May 3. Questions? Contact Michelle Browning at michelle@lopc.org. To register, visit lopc.org/registrations.

Girl Scouts Gold Award Project and LOPC Mission Partner Hope Solutions



Ashlyn Browning, a confirmand and new member of LOPC as of February 2024, has been an active participant and leader in the youth group since fifth grade. Additionally, she

works in The Garden and consistently volunteers at our big church-wide events, demonstrating her dedication to both her faith and her community. In 2018, Ashlyn began her journey with “Lighthouse,” LOPC’s youth service program in support of Hope Solutions that regularly meets throughout the year cultivating friendship through play and crafts. Inspired by the children, the relationships she formed, and the dedication of Hope Solutions Youth Enrichment Coordinator Jessica Albaring, Ashlyn decided to take action to brighten the lives of those she served.

As a lifelong Girl Scout, Ashlyn chose to focus her Gold Award project on the critical issue of literacy while supporting one of LOPC’s mission partners. Her initiative involves building a library and creating a reading engagement program for the Hope Solutions community at Lakeside Apartments in Concord.

Working closely with Jessica, Ashlyn identified a pressing need to transform the Homework Club library into an inviting reading nook filled with diverse books that reflect the backgrounds and experiences of the resident children. She cataloged and organized existing books by genre and author and continues to add new titles to their library collection that better serve the community’s needs. Currently, Ashlyn is redecorating the space with new bookshelves, flexible seating options, wall decor, and cozy area rugs.

To complement the library, Ashlyn developed an after-school literacy program called “Reading Rocks,”

which runs throughout the year. In this program, Ashlyn and her volunteers read stories, facilitate discussions, and lead craft activities that relate to the themes of the books. The program has ignited enthusiasm for reading, and Ashlyn’s efforts have not only fostered a love for literature but also created a sense of belonging, allowing children to see themselves represented in the stories they explore.

Ashlyn’s project exemplifies the values of the Girl Scout Gold Award: leadership, dedication, and community service. Her impactful work at Hope Solutions promises to leave a lasting legacy, enhancing literacy and self-esteem for children who might otherwise feel overlooked. As she continues her journey, Ashlyn proves how one individual can make a profound difference in the lives of others

For more information about Ashlyn’s project, email Ashlyn at reading.rocks2024@gmail.com.





CHILDREN



*"Help wanted, God!"
A dramatic enactment of a Psalm.*

PLAY on Wednesday inaugural performance!

**Wednesday, November 6
4:15 – 5:00 p.m.**

We invite the LOPC community to see a culmination of our fall sessions of PLAY on Wednesday; a weekly arts-integration class that explores Bible stories with kindergarten through 4th grade students. Our 13 students have been building, making, writing, performing, collaborating, etc., and the results of their efforts will be put together in a "window on the work" showcase for all to enjoy. Please join us in the Oak Room for this unique and entertaining event. Free & no registration required.

Interested in joining PLAY on Wednesday? We begin a fresh semester of sessions in January!

Learn more or register by visiting lopc.org/playon.



Volunteer Nancy shows the Pre K – 1st graders how Jesus shines his light for us.



Play on Wednesday begins with ensemble warm-up.



Creativity abounds!



Handing out Bibles to our rising PreK kids

Thank you!

In this season of gratitude, the Children's Ministry department would like to take a moment to express our gratitude for all our volunteers and their many helping hands. Whether it is running Vacation Bible Camp, setting up for events, prepping materials and spaces, or teaching weekly in the Garden, your presence and efforts make our programming possible. From the bottom of our hearts, THANK YOU for loving the kids of LOPC and walking faithfully beside us.

Love,
Emily & Susan



mission

Monument Crisis Center is 21 years old!*A Historical Perspective By Jim Boyd*

Monument Crisis Center (MCC) is celebrating 21 years of service to the community! In 2003, it opened its doors on the Monument corridor. There it assisted 84 families on the first day. In 2006, MCC moved down the street to a larger storefront near Costco, where it established its core programs including food distribution, resource and referrals, youth/senior programming, and community engagement.

In 2014, MCC relocated to 1990 Market Street where it developed a comprehensive family resource center. In early 2021, it launched a successful capital campaign for the building's down payment. At that time, State Senator Steve Glazer stepped forward surprising MCC with funding from the state's surplus to pay off its entire mortgage, making Monument Crisis Center debt-free and 1990 Market St. officially home sweet home.

In the past fiscal year ending in June 2024, LOPC has helped the Monument Crisis Center serve over 5,200 unduplicated households, provided support for over 14,500 individuals of whom almost 40% are children and 15% are seniors. In 2024, LOPC alone gathered 45.5 barrels (approximately 9,100 lbs.) of food for MCC, and to put this in perspective, MCC distributes approximately 40,000 lbs. of food each week. LOPC provided 65 backpacks of the 1,500 distributed to students in the fall. LOPC also provided 121 holiday food boxes of the 1,500 distributed to MCC's families for the holiday season. We can't forget the 10,000 diapers that were bagged for *love does*, a major contribution to the 63,500+ diapers that were distributed.

Since January of this year, several groups from LOPC have assisted in the Senior Moments bi-monthly activity.

Many volunteers work in the food room each week sorting and packing bags for food distribution which today serves more than 300 families three days a week. Dedicated members of LOPC have worked diligently for over a year with the SF Presbytery to develop a two-year grant to examine homelessness and poverty in east Contra Costa County. As a result, an additional 200 families in that area receive food every other week. In addition to the food distribution, these families/individuals receive additional support through MCC's resource and referral programs and community engagement.

With an increase in demand, MCC is embarking on a much anticipated (and necessary!) expansion of its food pantry warehouse by staying within the building's footprint, but essentially doubling the warehouse space to 4,000 sq. ft. by enclosing the side yard.

This pantry warehouse addition will undoubtedly make a huge difference. In 2023–24, over 35,000 households visited the food pantry which provides shelf-stable groceries, fresh fruits, vegetables, milk, and eggs. MCC also includes toiletries, feminine products, baby and adult diapers, and even pet food, as well as Thanksgiving turkeys, holiday food boxes, and groceries for the Senior Moments program and east Contra Costa food distributions. The pantry expansion will enhance workflow, expand storage capacity, boost access to delivery and distribution areas, and improve workplace safety, while providing major improvements to warehousing, preparation, and distribution abilities.

Currently, MCC has raised the first \$800,000 for the estimated \$1.8 million project. It has recently received a matching gift of up to \$100,000.

To learn more about the much-needed pantry expansion, go to monumentcrisiscenter.org.

Thank you LOPC for your continued support for the last 20 years!



holiday hope

Giving Opportunities 2024



Monument Crisis Center Food Box Assembly

Help a family struggling with food insecurity this holiday season by putting together one or more food boxes. This can be a fun activity to do with family, friends, or a fellowship group. Boxes will be distributed to clients of Monument Crisis Center. Food in these boxes not only provide holiday meals, but more importantly, helps sustain families after the holidays. Empty boxes will be available beginning on November 17.

1. Pick up an empty box and instructions on the plaza on 11/17, 11/24, 12/1, or in the Ministry Center during the week.
2. Return your filled box to LOPC on 12/8 ONLY. A van will be parked in front of the Oak Room to receive your donation. Thank you!

Please go to lopc.org/lovedoes for more information.

Mission Christmas Fellowship and Giving Opportunity

December 8 at the Jingle Bell Jamboree

New this year! Join us at the JBJ for a fun Christmas volunteer opportunity to assemble food boxes for Monument Crisis Center. Volunteers will work together to assemble food boxes while listening to Christmas music, drinking hot cocoa, and eating gingerbread cookies. Participants are encouraged to create a card for each MCC family with holiday wishes. Each box contains \$85 worth of goods. To participate, there is a suggested donation of \$25.

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

White Pony Express Giving Tree Opportunity

The mission of White Pony Express is to eliminate hunger and poverty by delivering abundance all around us to those in need — with love. This Christmas they are helping to fulfill holiday wishes by collecting gifts to be distributed to clients who would otherwise go without. Look for the Giving Trees located on the plaza after Worship between November 11 – December 1. All gifts must be returned to the Ministry Office on or before Sunday, December 8.

1. Choose a star from the tree on the plaza after service.
2. Purchase the item on your star.
3. Return the **unwrapped gift with the star attached** and deposit in the barrel inside the Ministry Center. The last day to return gifts is December 8.



seedlings

Giving Thanks and Celebrating Our Community

As we step into the month of November, a time often associated with gratitude and reflection, we want to take a moment to express our deepest thanks to the heart of our preschool community — our incredible teachers and staff. Every day, they nurture, guide, and inspire our children, creating a warm, caring environment where curiosity thrives and little minds grow.

Our teachers pour their passion and dedication into every activity, fostering not only academic learning but also emotional and social development. Whether it's through a simple storytime or a creative art project, they ensure our children are learning in ways that spark joy and wonder. We are so grateful for the love and attention they give, helping our preschoolers feel safe, happy, and excited to explore the world around them.

A Spooktacular Success: Trunk or Treat

We also want to extend a huge thank you to everyone who participated in our recent Trunk or Treat event! It was a fantastic success, with creative costumes, decorated trunks, and smiling faces all around. The sense of community was palpable as families came together to celebrate with treats and trunks. Thank you to all the parents, volunteers, and staff who made it possible — it truly was a magical day!

As we head further into the season of giving, let's continue to celebrate the wonderful people who make our preschool such a special place. Thank you for your continued support, and here's to a joyful and thankful November!

With gratitude,
Seedlings Preschool

care



Stephen Ministry

You may not have heard of the Stephen Ministry program at LOPC because of the strict confidentiality surrounding it, but its services are open to all adult members of the congregation and their friends. We all will have low points in our lives — times of grief, illness, relationship problems, employment issues, and such. Highly trained Stephen Ministers are at the ready to listen, pray with and for you, and to meet with you on a regular basis during those times... for as long as it takes.

Contact Pastor Jane MacKenzie at jane@lopc.org to connect with a Stephen Minister.

Dementia Caregivers Support Group

November 6 and 20

Join this one-hour support group for those caring for someone with dementia. The group meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 10:30 a.m. on Zoom.

To register, please contact Linda Fodrini-Johnson at lindafj620@outlook.com.

staff announcement

Welcome Suzanne Ferraro, Treasurer



Suzanne is originally from Thousand Oaks in southern California and attended UC Santa Barbara before transferring to CSU Chico where she received a BS in Finance. She obtained her California CPA license in 1995 and MBA from CSU Hayward in 1997. Suzanne retired from public accounting in 2021 where she spent most of her career preparing income tax returns for individuals and small businesses. Suzanne is a lifelong Catholic and member of Christ the King parish in Pleasant Hill. She is excited to join LOPC as part-time treasurer and working in the vibrant church community. Suzanne enjoys trail running, traveling and spending time with her husband, John, and adult daughter, Jessica.

session

September Session Highlights

By Mark Weaver, Clerk of Session



Elder Leslie Vallee began our session meeting on September 17 by sharing her faith journey. Session then voted to approve

the consent agenda,

which included a motion from CNC to approve the presented slate of nominees for elder and deacon terms that begin in 2025. These nominees were later approved by the congregation at the congregational meeting on September 29. Session also approved motions from our finance team to receive additional designated gifts from individuals and a \$167,000 grant from the LOPC Foundation, and also to approve the use of prior and current Foundation grants to fund capital projects and campus refurbishments.

Pastor Peter Whitelock discussed the possibility of bringing back a second Sunday worship service. Worship attendance has recently strengthened, and a second service would allow for additional growth. Peter shared that a survey would be distributed to the congregation in October to request feedback. Based on feedback received, session will determine if there will be an additional service added to Sunday mornings.

Pastor Chris Baldwin reported that recent membership classes of 12 to 25 attendees each has resulted in a bumper crop of new members who will join LOPC in November: 43! In addition, as many new families have joined us, the congressional will be seeing a

significant increase in baptisms during worship.

We received good news from Pastor Jaime Polson who shared with us that the top candidate for the Director of Youth Ministry position has accepted the position, and she will begin in January. Because this position has been under-resourced when it comes to administrative support, Robin Freeberg will now provide such support to the new director and will also provide support to Senior Ministry and Thursday Fellowship. Robin will continue to serve as the Associate Director for Mission until later this year.

Elder Jim Nagle told us that the finance team is hard at work on the 2025 budget and will provide us with a report next month. Finally, Generosity Elder Linus Eukel reported that the materials for the pledge campaign are nearly complete and will be presented to session at our next meeting.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer. Our next meeting will be held on October 15.

hold in PRAYER

Prayers of comfort and peace go out to the families and friends of:

Trudy Ausfahl,

who passed on July 4. A service will be held on January 4 at 1:00 p.m.

Roz Breuner-Phair,

who passed on August 1. A service will be held on November 15 at 1:00 p.m.

Richard "Dick" Clark,

who passed on September 10. A service will be held on November 9 at 11:00 a.m.

Todd Maiden,

who passed on September 16. A service will be held on November 16 at 11:00 a.m.

Thomas Wilson,

who passed on September 21. A service will be held on November 9 at 3:00 p.m.



Twelve Days of Christmas

with the LOPC Choir and Orchestra



Saturday, December 7
1:00 & 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 8
4:00 p.m.

Reserve tickets beginning November 15
at lopc.org/christmas



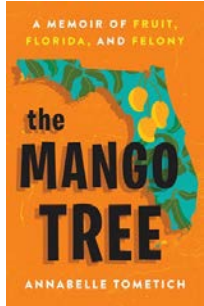
**Join us for this musical countdown of
cherished traditions and fresh favorites!**



community

Book Groups

Due to the upcoming holidays, the November and December schedules will be combined and will meet at the beginning of December.

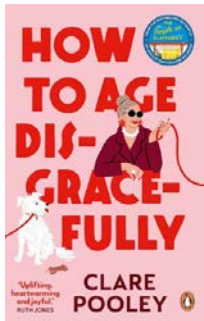


Fourth Monday Book Group

December 2 at 2:00 p.m. on Zoom

The group will discuss *The Mango Tree* by Annabelle Tomelich.

To join the group, email Leslie Finertie at leslie-finertie@comcast.net



Fourth Friday Book Group

December 6 at 4:00 p.m. on Zoom

The group will discuss *How to Age Disgracefully* by Claire Pooley.

All are invited. Email Catherine Coleman for the Zoom link at awaitingword@gmail.com.



New Member Class

November 3, 11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. in the Oak Room

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, meet Pastor Chris Baldwin, and learn how to get more deeply connected to the community.

Email Michelle Browning at michelle@lopc.org for more information. Register at lopc.org/registrations.

Young Families Connect

First Sunday of the month following Worship

Are you a family with young kids (infant–4th grade) looking to hang out with other families? Join us on the back playground where kids can play on the playground and parents can hang out with each other while enjoying breakfast bites and coffee.

Email Michelle Browning at michelle@lopc.org for additional information.



We are excited to connect with you!

Get in touch here and let us know how you might like to get involved!



FALL fest

THANK YOU

to everyone who helped make the Fall Fest on October 6 such a success! We had a beautiful day filled with great entertainment and lots of fun activities for families. Special thanks go to the LOPC Foundation for providing the delicious food!



financ

Financial Update

Submitted by Jim Nagle & Staci Johnston

LOPC was blessed to end September 30, 2024, in a solid position, with a year-to-date \$22,915 deficit, which is an improvement from the projected year-to-date budget shortfall by \$253,783. The improvement relates to strong congregational giving and lower ministry team expense.

Congregational giving was \$146,233 higher as compared to budget. LOPC received \$74,568 as a gift of thanks from a member, \$71,521 in higher pledge giving, \$46,122 in higher special gifts and offerings, offset by a reduction from plan of \$45,978 in non-pledge and loose offerings, primarily relating to a shortfall in non-member loose offerings. Non-congregational giving includes an additional contribution from Seedlings of \$18,897 to offset shared costs, \$45,612 of higher investment income, resulting in \$2,673,515 of year-to-date total giving which is a \$223,006 increase from plan.

Ministry Team spending, of \$2,577,454 was less than budget by \$76,899, excluding additional spending for mission and special gifts. Overall ministry teams are spending consistent with or favorable to ministry budgets.

Thank you to everyone who has given generously of the time, talents, and treasure in 2024 so LOPC can be a welcoming and loving community of faith that learns, grows, and serves together.

Giving at LOPC

One of the most practical ways you can help is through your financial support so LOPC can share God's love through our ministries.

To give, visit lopc.org/giving, or scan the code on your mobile device.



Statement of Income & Expense

September 30, 2024	2024 YTD Actual	2024 YTD Budget	fav (unfav)
Congregational Giving:			
Pledge Income	\$ 1,614,521	\$ 1,543,000	\$ 71,521
Non-pledge, Loose, & Other	190,546	236,524	(45,978)
Bequests & Gift of Praise	74,568	–	74,568
Faith Component	150	150	–
Congregational Giving w/o Special Gifts	1,879,785	1,779,674	100,111
Giving: Mission & Special Gifts & Offering	118,976	72,854	46,122
Total Congregational Giving:	1,988,761	1,852,528	146,233
Seedlings	162,997	144,100	18,897
User Fees & Memorial & Investment Income	87,092	32,621	54,471
Foundation	424,665	421,260	3,405
Total Giving:	2,673,515	2,450,509	223,006
Expense:			
Ministry Teams Spending	2,577,454	2,654,353	76,899
Mission & Special Gifts & Offerings Spendin	118,976	72,854	(46,122)
Total Expense	2,696,430	2,727,207	30,777
Expense in Excess of Contributions:	\$ (22,915)	\$ (276,698)	\$ 253,783

December Giving Tax Deadline

If you plan to make a year-end gift, LOPC must receive your mailed donation postmarked 12/31/2024 or in-person by 5:00 p.m. on 12/31/2024. There can be no exceptions.

If you are making a stock gift, please notify our accountant, Farah Mohammadzai at farah@lopc.org (x229) with the type of stock and how the gift should be applied. The stock must be received in LOPC's brokerage account by 12/31/2024.

Please do not file your 2024 tax return until you receive your year-end LOPC statements, with written acknowledgment of your gifts to LOPC, which will be made in January 2025. Thank you for your generous giving to LOPC!

Double Your Blessings

There are many ways to give of your time, talent, and treasure to LOPC. In the past few years, some of LOPC's seniors have found that recent federal income tax law changes provide an even more tax efficient pathway for giving arising from Investment Retirement Accounts (IRA's.)

Seniors may benefit more directly from federal tax law changes because qualified contribution deductions directly reduce adjusted gross income. This has allowed some members to increase their giving because of these income tax benefits

If you are a senior and interested in learning more, please confer with your tax advisor to learn if it is advantageous to fund your LOPC giving out of your required IRA distributions. Thank you for remembering LOPC in your end-of-year giving.

Amazing Grace

Pledge Campaign for 2025 Ministry

How can you help LOPC

GROW GRACEFULLY

and continue to be
a vibrant community of faith?

Pledge Challenge

ARE YOU:

CALL TO ACTION

Already pledging?

Please consider increasing your pledge this year.

Giving to LOPC
but not pledging?

Pledging helps us prepare a thoughtful budget
for the coming year.

Not giving or
pledging?

Now, more than ever, LOPC needs full
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**LAFAYETTE-ORINDA
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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IMPORTANT

Dated Material
PLEASE DELIVER
BEFORE 11/1/24

Thank you!

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U.S. POSTAGE
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JINGLE BELL JAMBOREE

SUNDAY DECEMBER 8
FOLLOWING WORSHIP
FELLOWSHIP HALL

CRAFTS COOKIES
MUSIC SMILES PLAY



QUESTIONS? EMAIL MICHELLE@LOPC.ORG