

Shout to the Lord with thanksgiving



Join us on Sunday, November 19, to celebrate and give thanks to God. All three services will include special music and reflections that draw us into a deeper adoration of Christ to declare our thankfulness to him. Holy Communion will be served during each service. *See page 3*

Outreach teams serve the community



During Home Helps weekend teams assisted 30 homeowners, and the Mechanics Ministry repaired the cars of six eligible car owners. The cooking teams served the Brisben homeless shelter on Thursday, and more people are attending Sunday services at the Germanna Heights Apartments. *See page 4*

Golf Classic raises more than \$21,000



On the heels of a hurricane, God provided a beautiful day for the golfers to experience one of the nicest courses in Virginia. All proceeds will go to support the work God is doing in and through students in the community and around the nation. *See page 6*

LWCC is the Partner of the Month



The Living Water Community Clinic provides free medical, dental, emotional, and spiritual care to eligible patients in the Locust Grove and Lake of the Woods communities. Since opening, the clinic has served more than 500 patients during more than 3,500 visits. *See page 8*



Molly Medas is baptized with the help of Jesse Owens and her dad, Pastor Medas.



A hug of congratulations is extended from one friend to another.

Baptisms confirm new life in Christ

Sunday, October 1, 2023 was a glorious day at The Lake of the Woods Church as 23 adults, teens, and children were baptized to proclaim their decision to follow Jesus Christ. Baptism ceremonies were celebrated during two services at the church and one service at the Lake of the Woods Clubhouse Point beach at 4 p.m. Families, friends and members of the church participated as witnesses and sponsors for the transformation of their loved ones in this important step in their faith journeys.

Those receiving the holy sacrament of baptism previously received instruction on the significance of baptism as an "outward and visible sign of the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ through which we become partakers of his righteousness and heirs of life eternal."

During each baptism ceremony the congregation was reminded that "through baptism we come into the fellowship of Christ's church, and our Lord Jesus has

given us the example of his own baptism in the Jordan river at the beginning of his ministry. Because Jesus instructed his followers to be baptized, baptism is also an act of obedience. If you have put your faith in Jesus, by asking him to be the forgiver of your sins and the leader of your life, then you are a follower of Christ and ready to be baptized. Just like a bride and groom show their devotion for one another by wearing wedding bands, your baptism is your opportunity to show others you are now a follower of Jesus Christ."

To the delight of his fellow RISE (Religious Instruction in Special Education) Friends and church family, Jon Shaw was baptized by Senior Pastor Adam Colson during the traditional 9:30 a.m. service. Many of the RISE Friends were previously baptized in ceremonies on January 8, 2023. Earlier this year Jon had asked for his own Bible and expressed his desire to become baptized.

Continued on page 2

Baptisms

Continued from page 1

At the 11 a.m. contemporary service, three children and one infant were baptized by Senior Pastor Colson to signify their family's commitment to raise their children to know and love Christ. The congregation affirmed their approval, celebrating with joy the new lives in Christ and the promised blessings of God.

Something was special about the afternoon baptisms in the lake that began at 4 p.m. A huge crowd of witnesses, families and friends from The Lake of the Wood Church had gathered to support the many children and teens who were being baptized.

The sense of expectation wove through the crowd as the pastors waded into the water and then gestured to each person, individually, to be baptized. Eighteen teens and children waded into the water... one by one... stopping to hug the person who had just been baptized before them. The hug was a visible gesture of how much these young people mean to one another. In the name of Jesus... baptized as one of his own... these new followers of Jesus proclaimed their desire to be baptized and to follow him the rest of their lives. Those on the shore watched with deep feelings of awe and gratitude that the Lord Jesus was being proclaimed to the youth and that they were rising to receive his blessing and salvation. "I have decided to follow Jesus..."

The entire day was filled with joy and love as the church witnessed families, children and adults declare their commitment to follow Christ.



Sr. Pastor Adam Colson baptizes Jeremy Evans.



... and Kamryn Peterson.



... and Aria Rivera.

and Katalina Rivera.



*CrossCurrents is a publication of
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View online at lowchurch.org

From the Senior Pastor

On November 19, Shout to the Lord with Joy and Thanksgiving

"Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth." Psalm 100:1



Rev. Adam Colson

My wife, Johanna, and I are diehard Duke basketball fans. Yes, we are part of the "Cameron Crazies". When Duke plays its rival team, archenemy North Carolina, at the Cameron Indoor Arena, the fans ("Crazies") are given this instruction, "Cameron Crazies, hear me now, this is the game you have been waiting for. There are no excuses; give the players everything you've got." Sitting in the house or arena and witnessing the roar of the fans follow those instructions is stirring. It conjures up the same emotion and excitement that fills Lane Stadium when "Enter Sandman" comes over the loudspeakers at a Virginia Tech home football game. Clearly, college fans take their allegiances very seriously.

I love King David's allegiance to the Lord. He was "sold out" - dedicated to God, and he wanted others to be, as well. In Psalm 100 he tells us:

"Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth
Worship the LORD with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.
Know that the LORD is God.
It is he that made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise.
Give thanks to him, bless his name.
For the LORD is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations."

King David wants those who hear this song, or Psalm, to freely express their praise to God, because he was the promise keeping God of Israel, and he is the promise keeping, covenant God of all of us as described in Psalm 145. He wanted those, who heard or read this song, to be motivated by God's promises and love, to focus all our energies on worshiping him and expressing our love and thanksgiving to him.

This month we, as a nation, set aside time to say "Thank You" to God for his goodness and provision. As a congregation we

will set aside Sunday, November 19, as a day to celebrate and give thanks to God through our joyful worship and singing. The three services will be filled with hymns and choruses that exalt God's name and declare our thankfulness to him. There will be special music and reflections that draw us into a deeper adoration of Christ. All members of the clergy will be involved in all services taking part in readings, prayers, and a shortened homily. Each service will end with celebrating the Lord's Supper through Holy Communion. Plan now to attend and invite your friends, neighbors, and family members. Worship will be a time to focus on our Creator, Redeemer, and Shepherd, and to celebrate what he has done. See you there!

Rev. Adam Colson

*The Colors of
Christmas*

*Come see how the colors of Christmas
tell the story of Jesus Christ.*

Sermon Series during Advent
Nov. 26 - "It's a Wonderful Life" (Gold)
Dec. 3 - "How the Grinch Stole
Christmas" (Dark)
Dec. 10 - "The Christmas Story" (Red)
Dec. 17 - "Miracle on 34th Street" (Clear)
Dec. 31 - "Elf" (Green)

Christmas Cantata:
Friday, December 15, 7 p.m.
Saturday, December 16, 7 p.m.

Community Outreach

Outreach teams in the community are the hands and feet of Jesus

This fall has been extremely busy for all community outreach ministries. The two-day Home Helps weekend was held on October 20 and 21. The Mechanics Ministry finished the 2023 season on October 21 assisting six more people in maintaining their vehicles in good working order. To better share their faith with friends and family, the Religious Instruction in Special Education (RISE) Friends are embarking on a new Bible study program. The Brisben cooking team continues to serve the Fredericksburg homeless shelter several times each month. Additionally, more residents are now attending Sunday services at the Germanna Heights Apartments.

RISE team learns to share Jesus

The RISE team began regular Thursday evening gatherings on September 14 with pizza for dinner, a monthly birthday celebration and a new Bible study titled, "Who is Jesus and Why is He Important to Me?" This is another way of expressing The Lake of the Woods Church motto of "Knowing Christ and Making Christ Known." The objective of this new Bible study program is to help each of our uniquely gifted RISE Friends to learn how they can better understand Jesus and share their love for Jesus with others. Each Friend will learn how to share Jesus in his or her own way.

Ministry Steward, Rich Kurz, reports that RISE Friend, Jon Shaw, was baptized on October 1 during the traditional 9:45 service to the delight of his fellow RISE Friends who were baptized last January. Earlier this year Jon had asked for his own Bible and expressed a desire to become baptized. Harry and Margie Lee nurtured Jon on his baptismal journey and stood for him as Godparents.

Home Helps completes 30 projects

More than ninety adults, teens and Boy Scouts from The Lake of the Woods Church served during the Home Helps weekend in October. The teams completed thirty projects in 18 homes including several landscaping projects around the neighborhood and church. Additionally, five homeowners were served by visitation teams who offered fellowship and encouraging prayers during the weekend.

Participating homeowners expressed their appreciation for the project team members who worked on their homes, listened to their stories and shared with them. Several teams fixed additional items that needed to be done in and around the homes. One homeowner wrote, "Home Helps together with LOW Church goes beyond the call of reaching out to help those in need and give a helping hand in our worst times. They make you feel you belong and are a part of the house of the Lord."

Home Helps project director, Elder David Blackistone, summed up the weekend by complimenting the Home Helps teams, saying, "Thank you for your hard work, skill and flexibility... Thank you for your warm hearts and willingness to serve and to share... May God bless you all..."

See photos of Home Helps on page 5

Save the date...

November 18 from 12 - 2 p.m.

Distribution of Baskets

Drop off food donations in The Gathering Place

THANKSGIVING

To feed a family of four, it costs \$50. You can donate online at www.lowchurch.org/give or by check, with 'Community Outreach' in the memo.

Home Helps completes 30 projects



Friday's Home Helps work crew



Saturday's Home Helps work crew



Project planning



Tree trimming



Repairing stairs



Raking leaves



Fixing drywall



Powerwashing

Youth Ministry

Beautiful Fall Classic Golf Tournament raises more than \$21,000 for teen missions

As God continues to move in the hearts of teenagers around the community, The Lake of the Woods Church Student Ministries recognizes fundraising as a critical component to ensure that teens continue receiving training and opportunities to “know Christ and make Christ known.” On October 25 Fawn Lake Country Club hosted the Fall Classic golf tournament with all proceeds supporting the church Student Missions.

On the heels of a hurricane, God provided a beautiful day for the golfers to experience one of the nicest courses in Virginia. Following the event, players and sponsors met at the Fawn Lake Cove for a delicious meal and to hear testimonies from Minister Owens and the student missionaries. This event raised \$21,121 toward the work God is doing in and through students in the community and around the nation.

The Lake of the Woods Church Student Ministries is grateful for all of the members of the congregation, community, corporate sponsors, and local businesses who have invested in the eternal work God has planned through these spectacular teens.

Fall Classic Sponsors listed below

Tournament Sponsor: Jubilation by Silver Companies

Mission Sponsor: Foundation Homes

Benefactors: Kathy Flanagan & Ron Morris

Partners: Dan & Kathy Harris; Jim Flood

Driving Range Sponsor: Turning Point Construction

Green Sponsors: Bruce Campbell EXP Realty; Ed Smariga; Old Dominion Professional Services

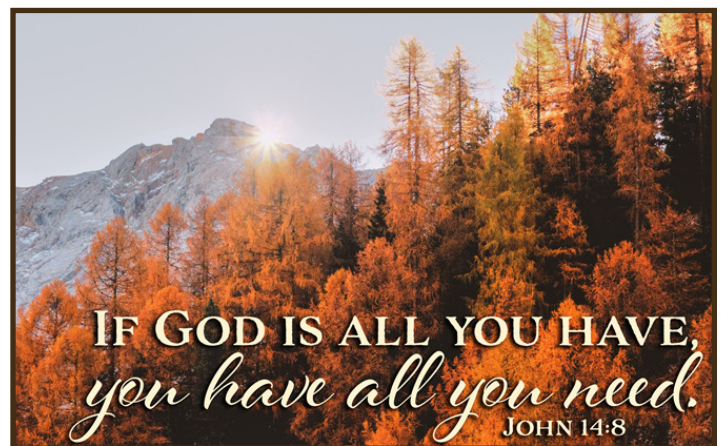
Hole Sponsors: Joe & Sandy Roth; Battlefield Dental of Fredericksburg; the Lentine Family; L.D. Gooch & Sons Inc., Plumbing; Mike & Martta Edwards; WorthMore Counseling; Yates Family: In memory of Jeff, Lee, & Duncan; Getty & Associates; Action Jackson Pressure Washing; David & Donna Blackistone; Bill & Donna Falls; Dave Karfigan; Jane Ulrey; Lee Frame;

Gift in Kind Sponsors: Fawn Lake Country Club; Mama's Pizza; Thrivent Financial; Augustine Country Club; Lee's Hill; Forrest Greens; Gauntlett; Harry's Taphouse; LOW Clubhouse; Texas Roadhouse; Chick-Fil-A; LOW Marine; LOW Golf Course; anonymous donor

The Student Ministries of The Lake of the Woods Church extends a special thank you to the Fall Classic Committee who met regularly over six months to make this tournament a huge success: Shannon Smith (Chair), Jesse Owens, Beth Richards, Spike Richards, Ken Lardie, Dan Harris, Bob Stumpf, Joe Lentine, Ed Smariga.



Enthusiastic golfers enjoy a beautiful day at the Fall Classic.





THREE WAYS TO GIVE

- 1 GIVE BY MAIL (OR DROP OFF)**
(Cash, Check)
1 Church Lane
Locust Grove, VA 22508
- 2 GIVE ONLINE**
(Checking, Debit/Credit)
www.lowchurch.org/give
- 3 GIVE BY TEXT MESSAGE**
(Checking, Debit/Credit)
Text "GIVE" and any amount to
540-625-1492



Baptism at the lake

Continued from page 2



Youth Minister Jesse Owens poses with newly baptized children and youth.



Pastor Josh explains to Lexie Keller about being baptized.



Maddie Mitchell arises to a new life in Christ.



Pastor Josh and Jesse Owens encourage Killian Varela before he is baptized.



Benjamin Williams joyfully waits to be baptized.

Missions

The Living Water Community Clinics provide care for the body and soul of eligible patients

The Living Water Community Clinic (LWCC) is the Mission Partner of the month for November. What began as a vision of Senior Pastor Adam Colson and Pastor Emeritus Tom Schafer for outreach and ministry of The Lake of the Woods Church in 2015, has become a community blessing for many underinsured people in our region. The LWCC has been providing free medical, emotional, and spiritual care to eligible patients in the Locust Grove and Lake of the Woods community since May 2016. Free dental care was added in 2021.

The medical clinic originally began as an acute care facility, but now provides primary care including chronic care management. Since the beginning, the Living Water Community Clinic has seen more than 500 patients during more than 3,500 visits. So far this year, the clinic has seen more than 200 medical and dental patients. Patients receive free diagnostic tests and free prescriptions. During 2022 patients received more than \$800,000 in free medical and dental care.

Approximately 60 volunteers, including doctors, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses, dentist, hygienists, dental assistants, counselors, administrative staff, security and chaplains, provide their skills, guidance and valuable time to provide quality care to our patients. They keep the clinic operating.

Oral health is integral to general health. Since the dental clinic opened in May 2021, it has had full patient schedules and often waiting lists for dental treatment. The dental clinic now has a laboratory equipped with 3-D scanning equipment to facilitate the production of dentures and crowns for patients.

The clinic has provided free counseling and emotional support since opening its doors. Counselors have provided patients with a safe environment to talk about life concerns. Through the counseling arm of the clinic, marriages have been saved, patients have been able to deal with anxiety and depression, and patients have been equipped with information to handle difficult life challenges.

The clinic continues to grow and provide new services and programs for the community. Nathaniel Arnatt, NP-C, has



rejoined the clinic medical providers and is seeing patients in the clinic every Monday morning. The dental clinic is now open one evening a month in addition to Saturday mornings, through a partnership with Burns Family Dentistry of Fredericksburg, ensuring more time for additional patients.

Clinic Director, Debbie McInnis, reports, “We continue to be blessed to take care of our community neighbors with the support of others – through prayer, volunteerism, and donations. We could not keep our doors open without the generosity of our donors. We exist solely from donations from individuals, businesses, organizations, churches, and grants. Thank you.”

Continued on page 9

Prayer for Missions

Lord God, you commissioned us to heal the sick, and bind up the broken-hearted; we give you thanks for the Living Water Community Clinics, which bring medical, dental, emotional, and spiritual care to the uninsured in our community. Thank you for your faithful servants who provide this ministry each week. We pray that all who visit will experience your love, peace, and comfort through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

LWCC

Continued from page 8

Patient testimonies confirm their experiences:

Mr. Boubé Dan Malka writes, "I was not able to get the surgery I needed because I did not have insurance. After the clinic worked with me to get my blood pressure under control, and worked with clinic partners, I was able to have my surgery. I'm doing well and am back to work. I could not have gotten this surgery without the help and care of this clinic. All of the staff at the clinic are caring, and I'm so happy I came here. Thank you, thank you, thank you."

James Owens said, "I've had issues with my teeth for years. I'd have to have 3-6 teeth pulled at any one time. Dr. Sellers and his team have been working with me for the last few months removing teeth, taking care of my gums, and getting me ready to be scanned for dentures. I'm beyond grateful for their great care. The dental clinic and staff have given me a new lease on life."





Friday Prayer Service

9 a.m. Sanctuary


Hosted by Pastor Colson
For more information contact
Mike and Linda Green at mlkjj@msn.com
All are welcome and encouraged to attend.



Stay Connected...

Find us on    YouTube

Just search "The Lake of the Woods Church"




LIVING WATER COMMUNITY CLINIC

Helping to Build a Healthier Community
Clinical | Dental | Mental | Spiritual

9th Annual Trees of Life Gala

NOVEMBER 17, 2023, 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.



Lake of the Woods Clubhouse
Limited Seating - 108 Seats
Ticket sales begin OCTOBER 2
Tickets \$100

GALA INCLUDES PROGRAM,
RECEPTION, DINNER AND LIVE AUCTION

Visit livingwaterclinic.life for tickets.



Holiday Bazaar coming soon...

Mark your calendar...

November 11, 9-4 p.m.
and
November 12, 9 - 1 p.m.

All proceeds go to the youth ministry.
Donations welcomed!

Visit our Bargain Barn as well as
The Village Shoppes - new this year!

Celebrate Advent at the Christmas festival

Mark your calendars. The second annual Christmas Festival at The Lake of the Woods Church will be held on Saturday, December 2, from 11 am to 4 pm. The theme of this year's celebration will be "The colors of Advent."

The Christmas Festival is an extended invitation to the entire community to visit the church facility and grounds to begin the joyous church season of Advent. Fun and creative activities will be offered for all ages to enjoy. Last year's inaugural event was a huge success with over 800 people attending, and this year more people are expected to attend.

Activities planned for this year include the all-weather skating rink, arcade games, Christmas ornament crafts and cookie decorating, a bouncy house, and train ride. Three food trucks are planned to offer hot drinks, sweets, and county fair or concession-style food. Activities will be provided for all ages and will be located outside and inside the church, encouraging people to explore the entire facility. This is a perfect opportunity to introduce the church to neighbors and friends and to those who may not know anything about The Lake of the Woods Church.

Volunteers are needed for greeters, game operators, set-up and tear down assistance. Sign up on the church website at lowchurch.org and join the fun. Please be sure to invite friends and neighbors.



Everyone loves to ice skate.

FOSTER CARE INFO

ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, AFTER THE 11 A.M. SERVICE, PASTOR JOSH MODISSETTE WILL CONDUCT AN INTEREST CLASS GATHERING TO DISCUSS THE VISION FOR THE FOSTER FAMILY PROGRAM IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.



CHRISTMAS Festival

Saturday, Dec. 2

Food Trucks | Ice Skating
Games | Special Guests
Children's Musical | Crafts

Congregational Care

PRAYER & CARE

Please remember in your prayers the following members of our congregation who are ill or in the hospital:

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Heather Austin | Foster Billheimer |
| Connie Chapin | Lindsay Cole |
| Johanna Colson | Carl Cornwell |
| Danny Delongis | Susan Dyer |
| Joyce Hetrick | John Hughes |
| Olivia Knights | Carol Lee |
| Bud Lewis | Janice Mackes |
| Clark Munsell | Ann Nadwodney |
| Rick Nelson | Tom & Lois Northam |
| Dave O'Hara | Mary & Lonnie Paxton |
| Selena Rave | John Sawyer |
| Shelly Seymour | Marvin Snoddy |
| Martha Somerville | Beth Sundberg |
| Henrick & Margaret Thode | Rose Tuminaro |

Celebration of Life Services:

John Rueckert - Nov. 2 at 12 p.m. - Sanctuary

Maynard Matthies - Nov. 3 at 11 a.m. - Sanctuary

Joyce Bowers - offsite - private interment

GOT A HURT,
HABIT OR
HANG-UP?

CELEBRATE RECOVERY

A CHRIST-CENTERED RECOVERY PROGRAM



Come join us on Wednesday Nights!

Dinner starts at 5:30 until 6:30 p.m.

Worship starts at 6:30 p.m.

Groups til 8 p.m.

All Welcome!

Day of Remembrance

Our Annual Day of Remembrance will be
**Sunday, December 3, 2023, at 4 p.m. in
the Sanctuary. This will be a candlelight
service for those who have lost a
loved one during the past five years.**
Visit lowchurch.org or
call the office at 972-9060 to register.



GRIEF SHARE

HELP & ENCOURAGEMENT
AFTER THE DEATH
OF A LOVED ONE

MONDAYS
7 P.M. - 9 P.M.
FOUNDERS ROOM
CALL 540-972-9060 TO REGISTER
OR VISIT GRIEFSHARE.ORG

November Birthdays

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Barbara Norton | 16 Anna Nellis |
| Cindy Prol | James Divelbiss |
| Jordan Moore | Tamara Sherman |
| Walker Merryman | 17 John Bell |
| 2 Richard Millman | Kara Paxton |
| 3 Andrea Leon | Tom Browne |
| 3 Barbara York | William Glidden |
| Dorothy Cunningham | 18 Coby Gilyard |
| Evelyn Dixon | Donald Cope |
| Ruth Fraser | Linda Donahue |
| 4 John Howe | Michael Mishkin |
| Robbie Royce | Ralph Rupard |
| 5 Daphne Gaines | 19 Carrie Bernd |
| Katherine Gazzetta | 20 Ann Walker |
| Lynn Gardiner | Devin Jackson |
| Rita Millman | Ed Suche |
| 7 Constance Volkstadt | 21 Andrew Rayne |
| Lois Northam | Ben Van Der Vliet |
| 8 Carl Coffee | 22 Elizabeth Garland |
| Douglas Thompson | 23 Krista Ulman |
| Leeah Tidman | Paul Bernd |
| Terry Maple | Richard Kurz |
| 9 Allison Richards | 24 Dale Smith |
| Steve Roberts | Vicki Gingrich |
| 10 Janet Skidmore | 25 Marvin Snoddy |
| Mitch Fournet | Marcy Modisette |
| Vicki Greenan | 26 Charles DeLeon |
| 11 Dominic Naples, Jr. | Dr. Connie |
| Geoffrey Tiblin | Hedgepeth-Smith |
| Jenny Taylor | Joe Roth |
| Linda Oliver | Melvin Hall |
| 12 Christie McClave | Paul DeNicola |
| Dolores Johansmeyer | Susan Gill |
| Laurel Buongiovanni | 27 Donna Nettleton |
| 13 Jason Richard | Jacob Dement |
| Roland Hamilton | Sonja Edwards |
| 14 Eric Fox | 28 Darrow Strain |
| Janet Richards | 29 Judy Brownlow |
| Janine Wilson | Melissa Liebold |
| JoAnn Fox | Ruth Taylor |
| Malia Dates | Shirley Palmer |
| 15 Beverly Jones | 30 Nicole Greenan |
| Josephine Davis | Troy Moore |

November Anniversaries

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 6 Deryl & Shirley Scott | 23 Jordan & Lisa Medas |
| 7 Tom & Anne Tower | Richard & Rita Millman |
| 8 Jerry & Gloria Whitmore | 24 Philip & Betty Herron |
| 9 Tom & Betty Collins | 25 Mark & Kathy Strickler |
| 13 Mark & Carla Everhart | 26 Christopher & Emmy |
| 17 Noah & Terry Hoffman | Robertson |
| 19 Robert & Ellen Schwartz | 26 Steve & Gail Atkinson |
| 20 Paul & Debbie DeNicola | 28 Tom & Barbara Schach |
| 23 Jim & Laurel Buongiovanni | 30 Tony & Tracey DeMarco |



PACK A SHOEBOX!

Any questions, call:
Linda Green 703-850-2157 or
Debbie DeNicola 540-406-2112



samaritanspurse.org/occ

VIEW SHOEBOX FILLING INFORMATION FOR SAMARITAN'S PURSE ONLINE AT SAMARITANSPURSE.ORG/OCCLINKS.

Help bring joy into a child's life and spread the Good News of Jesus Christ by filling an Operation Christmas Child shoebox!

Boxes will be available in the Gathering Place beginning Sunday, October 8th, and must be returned to the church by Sunday, November 12.

WELCOME!
NEW? NEED INFO?
SCAN HERE



SCAN ME

or go to lowchurch.org

WE GIVE because GOD GAVE FIRST
Scan here to give online.



SCAN ME

or go to lowchurch.org/give