

September 2026



ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC

The Church held its Annual Picnic, and prayers were answered with no rain. Hamburgers and Hot Dogs were the stars, and many thanks to the hard-working cooks slaving over hot flames in the heat of the day to ensure everyone left with a full belly. The kids displayed endless energy in the ever-popular bounce house as parents and adults looked on enviously, wishing they were younger! Many thanks to all the volunteers involved in the setup, cooking, serving, and tear-down; without them, we couldn't have the picnic.

From the Pastor: STOP: Turning the School Bus into a Prayer Prompt

You know the feeling. You are headed to work or an appointment, or perhaps you are simply trying to get somewhere on time. Traffic is moving along nicely when suddenly you see the yellow lights on the school bus ahead of you begin to flash...then the red lights come on. The little red STOP sign swings out.



Rev. Adam Colson

You wait... the bus moves forward a few hundred yards... and stops again, and again, and again.

During the morning and afternoon commutes, getting behind a school bus can test even the most patient among us! What should have been a quick drive suddenly becomes a lesson in stop-and-go patience. But perhaps those stops can become something more.

Viktor Frankl famously wrote: *“Between stimulus and response there is a space. In that space is our power to choose our response. In our response lies our growth and freedom.”*

We cannot control how many times the school bus stops. But we can control what happens in our hearts every time it does. So here is a challenge: Instead of allowing that flashing red STOP sign to become a source of irritation, make it a prayer prompt.

Every time the bus stops, pray **S-T-O-P**:

S — STUDENTS

When those doors open and you see children climbing aboard or heading home, pray for the students. Pray for their safety as they travel to and from school. Pray for their education and their ability to learn. Pray for students who are struggling academically, socially, emotionally, or at home. Pray for friendships and for wise choices. Pray especially that their hearts would be drawn to Jesus and that Christian students would have the courage to live out their faith.

“Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.” — 1 Timothy 4:12

And remember the words of Jesus: *“Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.”* — Matthew 19:14

» *Lord, protect our students, guide them, surround them with godly influences, and draw their hearts to You.*

T — TEACHERS & ADMINISTRATORS

Next, pray for the adults who will spend much of the day teaching, leading, protecting, encouraging, correcting, and caring for those students. Pray for teachers, principals, administrators, counselors, aides, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, coaches, custodians, school nurses, resource officers, and support staff.

Pray for wisdom when they face difficult decisions. Pray for patience with challenging students. Pray for encouragement when they feel exhausted or unappreciated. Pray that Christian

Continued on page 3

STOP: Turning the School Bus into a Prayer Prompt

Continued from page 2

educators will demonstrate the character and love of Christ in the way they teach and serve.

“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach.” — James 1:5

“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.” — Colossians 3:23

» *Lord, give our teachers and administrators wisdom, patience, strength, compassion, and perseverance.*

O — OUTREACH

That school bus is also a reminder of an enormous mission field right here in our own community. Pray for the ministries that are reaching children, youth, teachers, coaches, and families with the love of Christ.

» **Pray for our church’s Backpack Ministry and the children and families who receive help through it.**

» **Pray for the Good News Clubs serving children in our Primary and Elementary Schools.**

» **Pray for Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) and Young Life as they reach students in our Middle and High Schools.**

» **Pray for church youth groups, children’s ministries, clubs, camps, volunteers, coaches, mentors, and every Christian who has an opportunity to build relationships with young people.**

» **Pray for open doors.**

» **Pray for workers.**

» **And most importantly, pray that children and teenagers will come to know Jesus Christ.**

“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” — Matthew 9:37–38

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations.” — Matthew 28:19

» *Lord, open doors into our schools and community. Bless those who serve. Raise up workers for the harvest, and use us to make Christ known to the next generation.*

»

P — PARENTS

Finally, pray for the parents and families waiting at home. Parenting has never been easy, and today’s families face pressures and challenges previous generations could hardly have imagined.

» **Pray for parents who are tired.**

» **Pray for single parents carrying enormous responsibilities.**

» **Pray for grandparents raising grandchildren.**

» **Pray for foster and adoptive families.**

» **Pray for parents worried about their child’s friendships, grades, behavior, mental and emotional well-being, or future.**

» **Pray that parents will have wisdom to know when to speak, when to listen, when to correct,**

continued page 4



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STOP: Turning the School Bus into a Prayer Prompt

Continued from page 3

and when simply to hug their children and remind them that they are loved.

» Most importantly, pray that Christian parents will intentionally disciple their children and make Christ the center of their homes.

“These words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children.” — Deuteronomy 6:6–7

“As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.” — Joshua 24:15

» *Lord, strengthen our parents and families. Give them wisdom, patience, grace, and courage. Help our homes become places where children experience love and learn to follow You.*

THE SCHOOL BUS CHALLENGE:

So here’s my challenge. The next time you are driving down the road and suddenly...FLASH! FLASH! FLASH...out swings that big red STOP sign, resist the temptation to groan. Don’t reach for your blood pressure medication just yet!

Instead, smile and remember:

S — Students

T — Teachers & Administrators

O — Outreach

P — Parents

You may only be stopped for thirty seconds, but thirty seconds is plenty of time to pray. And if that bus moves another hundred yards and stops again? Wonderful! God just gave you another prayer meeting. Perhaps the school bus isn’t interrupting your commute after all.

Perhaps God has simply placed a flashing red reminder along your road: STOP...and pray.

COME PRAY WITH US:

Prayer is not only something we do individually; God’s people are also called to gather together in prayer. We invite you to join us for corporate prayer every **Friday morning at 9:00 a.m.** Join us on **Wednesday evenings at 5:00 p.m.** for Vespers, as we gather around Scripture and prayer for our church, community, nation, world, missionaries, ministries, and those in need.

And remember, our Prayer Chapel is ALWAYS open whenever the church is open. Come spend some quiet time alone with the Lord or gather with two or three others to pray together. Whether it’s in the Prayer Chapel, at Vespers, on Friday morning, or sitting behind a school bus with its red lights flashing, there is always a good time to STOP and pray.

Musical Notes

A Mighty Fortress is Our God (AKA The battle hymn of the Reformation)

PS 46:1-2 IS 41:10 RM 8:31 2SM 22:3

You may know Martin Luther as the initiator of the Protestant Reformation. Do you know he was also an accomplished musician? Born in an area of Germany known for music, he grew up singing in a boys’ choir and also became proficient at playing the lute and the flute. He wrote, “Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world....a person who does not regard music as a marvelous creation of God does not deserve to be called a human being...”.

The rapid dissemination of the Gutenberg press enabled him to encourage the translation of the Bible and church music from Latin to German. He created 40 pieces of new music and brought congregational singing back to the church.

Often in danger and always in the challenging position of leadership, he would call upon his associates to sing this anthem with him as a reminder that trials are always with us, yet God’s support is always present.

This is a difficult piece to translate from German. There are at least 80 English versions. Our hymnal uses the most popular American version by Frederic Henry Hodge. All emphasize deep faith in God and our reliance on Him as our Protector and Refuge.

Donna Chernowetz.



Calendar for church activities for the next 90 days...See lowchurch.org for latest information

September	October	November
9 - Weds Night Family Activities Resume	12 - Columbus Day Office Closed	6 - 7 - Holiday Craft Bazaar
13 - Discovery Class Begins	14 - Baptism Class	11 - Veterans’ Day OFFICE CLOSED
18 - Movie Night NOAH LWOC	16 - Movie Night JOSEPH LWOC	20 - Movie Night “It is a Wonderful Life” LWOC
26 - Youth Golf Tournament LOW Golf Club	17 - Women’s Ministry Fall Retreat	26 & 27 - Thanksgiving Office Closed
29 - Life Line Screening	18 - Baptism Sunday	
	25 - Membership Sunday	
	30&31 - Home Helps	

Church Is More Than Sunday... Find Your “More” This Fall

As we step into our new season of ministry, one truth rises again and again: church is more than Sunday. The Lord has designed His people not only to gather for worship, but to grow, serve, and walk together throughout the week. In a world that pulls us in a hundred directions, God invites us to discover the “more” that strengthens our faith, deepens our relationships, and anchors our hearts in Him.

This fall, we are asking one simple, life shaping question: What is your “more”?

Why “More” Matters

Spiritual growth rarely happens by accident. It happens when we place ourselves in environments where God’s Word is opened, prayers are shared, friendships are formed, and lives are shaped. Sunday worship is the foundation—but it is not the whole house. The early church met in the temple courts and from house to house. They worshiped publicly and walked together personally. Their “more” became the very place where faith took root and flourished.

This fall, we want every person in our church family to find their “more”—the place where you connect, grow, and serve beyond Sunday morning.

Your “More” Might Be...

- **Wednesday Night Family Night** A midweek gathering that brings all ages together for discipleship, Bible study, activities, fellowship, and shared meals. It’s a place to breathe spiritually in the middle of your week and reconnect with your church family.
- **Home Groups** Our growing network of home groups offers community, Scripture, prayer, and shared life. If you’re longing for deeper relationships and meaningful conversation, this may be your “more.”
- **Women’s First Friday** A warm, welcoming space for women to connect, worship, learn, and grow together. If you’re seeking fellowship and spiritual renewal, this may be your “more.”
- **Supporting Youth Ministry** Our teens need prayer partners, encouragers, helpers, and adults who will invest in their spiritual journey. If you have a heart for the next generation, this may be your “more.”
- **Bible Studies** Throughout the Week Tuesday mornings, Wednesday evenings, Thursday mornings, Saturday mornings, and of course Sunday morning classes give you a chance to dig deeper into God’s Word. If you’re hungry to grow in Scripture, this may be your “more.”
- **Serving in Children’s Ministry** From Good News Clubs to Sunday classes, children’s ministry is a joyful place to plant seeds of faith. If you love seeing young hearts learn about Jesus, this may be your “more.”
- **Supporting Our Mission Partners** Each month we highlight a ministry we partner with—local, national, or global. If you want to live out the Great Commission in practical ways, this may be your “more.”
- **Special Events & Outreach** Whether it’s the fall golf tournament, support for the Bazaar, seasonal

continued on page 7

Church Is More Than Sunday... Find Your “More” This Fall

continued from page 6

service projects, or community outreach, these moments open doors for fellowship and Gospel impact. If you enjoy serving through events, this may be your “more.”

- **Vespers & Communion Services** Quiet, reverent midweek worship that nourishes the soul. If you long for reflective worship and communion with Christ, this may be your “more.”
- **A Call to Prayer** Joining others in prayer gatherings, prayer chains, and intercession for our church and community. If you feel drawn to pray for others, this may be your “more.”

A Season of Purpose

The Lord is calling us to more than attendance—He is calling us to engagement, connection, and shared mission. When you find your “more,” you find your people, your place, and your purpose within the body of Christ. You discover that God uses ordinary weeks, ordinary gatherings, and ordinary moments to do extraordinary work in your life.

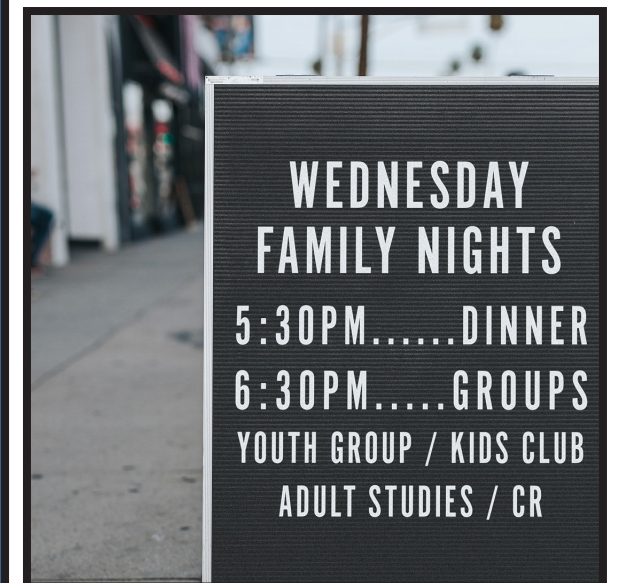
This fall, pray and ask the Lord: “**Where do You want me to grow? Where do You want me to serve? What is my ‘more’?**”

And then step into it with joy, knowing that God meets His people wherever they gather in His name. Questions send an email to info@lowchurch.org

John Gingrich, Chairman, Board of Elders

A poster for a 'Chaplain 101 Class'. The background is a dark blue triangle pointing upwards, with a lighter blue triangle pointing downwards in the center. The text is white and centered. It says 'Chaplain 101 Class' in a large font, followed by 'Begins September 13th' and 'Sundays 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.' in a slightly smaller font. Below that, it says 'Cost: \$300' and 'Signup at lowchurch.org/events' in a smaller font.

**Chaplain 101
Class**
Begins September 13th
Sundays 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Cost: \$300
Signup at
lowchurch.org/events

A poster for 'Wednesday Family Nights'. The background is a dark blue rectangle with a lighter blue rectangle in the center. The text is white and centered. It says 'WEDNESDAY FAMILY NIGHTS' in a large font, followed by '5:30PM.....DINNER' and '6:30PM.....GROUPS' in a slightly smaller font. Below that, it says 'YOUTH GROUP / KIDS CLUB' and 'ADULT STUDIES / CR' in a smaller font.

**WEDNESDAY
FAMILY NIGHTS**
5:30PM.....DINNER
6:30PM.....GROUPS
YOUTH GROUP / KIDS CLUB
ADULT STUDIES / CR

MISSION PARTNER OF THE MONTH

The Mission focus of the month is Victory1:27. Victory1:27 has an amazing team in Uganda and many children eager to learn. Through our financial and prayer support, V127 provides food, shelter, and education for those who need a helping hand. Most importantly, your donation gives them something very hard to find on their own – hope.

The bakery project is close to completion! The electrical systems are ready and awaiting connection, and the equipment has been delivered and is being installed. Funds have been provided to pave the lot around the bakery to reduce dust. This will be a huge blessing to many! Plans include hiring graduates, working closely with the school to provide baked goods, and becoming a self-sustaining business that enriches the community.



Prayer for Victory 1:27

Holy and compassionate Lord, we pray for the ministry of Victory 1:27 and their continued dedication to serving vulnerable children and families in accordance with Your teachings. Bless their efforts as they strive to provide love, support, and resources to those in need. Grant them wisdom, strength, and perseverance in their mission. May Your guiding light illuminate their path, and may their work continue to bring hope and transformation to communities around the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

MISSION PARTNER OF THE MONTH

Continued from page 8

Victory1:27 supports 16 college students, 12 vocational students, 48 secondary students, and 112 kindergarten and primary students. That's 188 children and young adults who are under V127 care, learning, growing, changing, and seeking to break the cycles of poverty that surround them. One of the college students sponsored by The Lake of the Woods Church, Hawa Nakato, is studying Biomedical Engineering and doing amazing things. She is the head of the Society of Biomedical Engineers and travels to organize conferences, etc. She is incredible, and it's all because of your support. For that, we say a big thank you!



These questions of interest, provided by Jan Crouthamel, about the Victory 1:27 Ministry.

- **Is Victory Primary School self-sustaining?** The answer is yes! Currently, there are 281 students, and about 80 of them are V127 kids. The school has a great reputation. The playground, purchased a few years ago, has also been a big draw!
- **What are some upcoming financial needs?** We need to raise 19k to complete the purchase of our secondary school land by the end of the year. We also need a tractor for our farm. It has been difficult to rent one, which has affected the productivity of the Victory farm.
- **What are the current prayer requests?** Pastor Herbert has been battling an undetermined illness for the past month, and it has been sapping his energy. Pray for his healing. Pray for our students, as many of them are battling illness as well. Pray for them as they face the realities of everyday life in a very difficult land.

"Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world." James 1:27

The message for all of us today is to "Rejoice in hope, be patient in affliction, be faithful in prayer."

Women's Ministry: A New Season of Connection, Growth & Joy

Ladies, we are stepping into a new ministry year. This fall, our Women's Ministry is coming together as one cohesive ministry with many pathways for fellowship, discipleship, and outreach. No matter your age, stage of life, or where you are in your walk with Christ, there is a place for you.

Here's a look at what's ahead as we begin this new season together.

FIRST FRIDAYS: Fun, Food & Fellowship

A brand new ministry is launching—and you're invited to be part of the very first one!

First Fridays is a monthly gathering designed to bring women together for fun, food, laughter, devotion, and genuine connection. It's a chance to step away from the busyness of life and enjoy an uplifting evening created just for you.

Friday, October 2 • 7:00–8:30 p.m. • Friendship Hall

We're kicking off with a festive Fall theme featuring simple, creative decorating ideas you can easily use at home. No crafting skills needed—just come ready to enjoy the evening.

Registration: Visit lowchurch.org/women to sign up so we can prepare food, supplies, and seating. If you're not comfortable driving at night, let us know—we'll gladly pair you with someone who can give you a ride.

Our prayer is that First Fridays becomes a place where friendships deepen, laughter fills the room, and women look forward to gathering month after month.

THIRD THURSDAYS: The Women's Gathering

For nearly five decades, The Women's Gathering has been a faithful ministry rooted in fellowship, Bible study, prayer, and community service. Founded in 1979 as the Women's Guild, this multidenominational group continues to welcome women from both inside and outside the church.

Each month, the Gathering also highlights a mission or ministry—sharing stories, needs, and opportunities to support the work God is doing through our church and community.

Meets the Third Thursday of Each Month • 10:00 a.m. • Friendship Hall Potluck Lunch follows the meeting—bring a dish if you're able!

If you're looking for a warm, welcoming group with deep roots and a heart for service, this is a beautiful place to belong.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Our Tuesday Morning Bible Study continues to be a source of strength and encouragement for women who attend. **We meet at 10:00 a.m. in the Founders and Charter Rooms** and are currently studying Ephesians—a powerful book that deepens our understanding of identity, unity, and spiritual maturity. Come join us as we open the Word together and grow in Christ.

WEDNESDAY FAMILY NIGHT & LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Beginning Wednesday, September 9, Family Night resumes with dinner at 5:30 p.m. in Friendship Hall—open to everyone.

Women's Ministry: A New Season of Connection, Growth & Joy

At 6:30 p.m., the Ladies Bible Study meets in Room 210/211, offering an enriching time of Scripture exploration, discussion, and fellowship. This fall we'll be studying Galatians together—a wonderful midweek opportunity to grow in the Word and connect with other women.

MomCo Returns This Fall!

We are delighted to announce that MomCo resumes on **Wednesday, September 2 • 10:00 a.m.–12:00 noon**, meeting on the first and third Wednesdays through May.

MomCo provides moms with a much needed space for peace, friendship, and biblical encouragement. We meet in the Discovery Zone downstairs—please use the lower parking lot and enter through the downstairs doors. Our team will greet you, guide you to Room 508, and help sign your children into childcare.

Whether you're returning or joining for the first time, we look forward to welcoming you, refreshing you, and walking alongside you in this season of motherhood.

Our Fall Retreat – Abide in Christ

On Saturday, October 17, we will gather at the church for our Fall Retreat: Abide in Christ, exploring Jesus' words in John 15 and what it means to walk closely with Him each day. More details will be shared soon—but mark your calendar now. It will be a meaningful time of renewal and spiritual growth.

One Unified Ministry—Many Beautiful Pathways

This year, our Women's Ministry is intentionally weaving all these opportunities into one vibrant, unified ministry. From fellowship to Bible study, from outreach to encouragement, from young moms to seasoned saints—there is a place for every woman.

Our prayer is that each woman in our church and community will find a space to grow, connect, serve, and flourish.

Ladies, this is your year. Your ministry. Your place to belong.

We can't wait to see you—at First Fridays, Third Thursdays – The Gathering, Bible studies, MomCo, the Fall Retreat, and everywhere God is moving among us.

If you have questions, call the church office or email womensministry@lowchurch.org.

Youth Ministry: A Season of Energy, Discipleship & Community Impact

This summer has been extraordinary for our Youth Ministry. From Teen Camp to Good News Across Sports, from serving at VBS to ministering in New Mexico, our teens stepped boldly into every opportunity God placed before them. They worshiped, served, learned, and grew—and their joy blessed our entire church family.

Now we step into a fall filled with connection, discipleship, outreach, and meaningful moments together. God is moving among our teens, and we are grateful for what He is doing.

Wednesday Nights Return September 9

Youth Ministry kicks off its fall season on Wednesday, September 9, with weekly gatherings from 5:45–8:15 p.m.

Families are warmly invited to join us for dinner every Wednesday at 5:45 p.m. Sharing a meal together is a wonderful way for parents, siblings, and teens to connect with leaders and feel part of the ministry community.

After dinner, teens enjoy worship, teaching, games, and small group discipleship—creating a space where they can grow in faith and build lasting friendships.

This fall includes several fun theme nights such as Hawaiian Night, Twins Night, Costume & Game Night, and our always popular Onesie Night in December.

A Key Night for Parents: September 23

We strongly encourage all parents to attend the **Parent Meeting on Wednesday, September 23, from 6:30–7:00 p.m. in Higher Grounds.**

This short but important gathering will:

- **Introduce the youth program for the year**
- **Provide space for questions**
- **Explain expectations and safety procedures**
- **Offer approval forms for teen activities and events**

Your partnership is essential, and this meeting helps us serve your teens with clarity and care.

Special Events This Fall

The calendar is full of opportunities for teens to serve, grow, and enjoy time together:

- **Bob Ross Night – September 11**
- **Youth Golf Tournament – September 26 All proceeds support youth missions—volunteers welcome!**
- **LOWA Fall Fest – October 3**
- **Friendsgiving – November 20**
- **Christmas Festival & Youth Christmas Night – December 6 & 16**

These events help teens build community, serve our neighbors, and experience the joy of belonging to a church family that loves them.

Sunday Mornings: Worship & Discipleship

Each Sunday, teens gather at 9:45 a.m. for Higher Grounds Youth Service—a time of worship, teaching, and fellowship. Afterwards, they attend the 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Service together.

Looking Ahead

The new year offers more opportunities—**Winter Missions Retreat, Glow Dance, Missions Week, Senior Night, and summer camps and outreach.** Our youth eagerly step forward, and we thank God for every moment to disciple them. **Thank You for Supporting Our Teens**

Questions? Mike Phillips, Elder for Youth – elder.youth@lowchurch.org Susan Mahnel, Young Family Ministry Assistant – susan.mahnel@lowchurch.org



THE MOMCO

THE LAKE OF THE WOODS CHURCH

1ST & 3RD WEDNESDAYS @ 10AM
DISCOVERY ZONE

LOWCHURCH.ORG/MOMCO



Teen & Adult Sewing Class

Mondays, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Room 210/211 · Oct 12 – Nov 16

Signup at lowchurch.org



Scouting America

Pancake Breakfast
Sunday, Oct. 4
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Join us after each Scout Sunday service!



Children's Ministry: A Summer of Joy & A Fall Full of Promise

This summer has been one of the most joyful and fruitful seasons our Children's Ministry has ever experienced. God's hand has been unmistakably present—from the first day of VBS to the final whistle of Good News Across Sports—and now we step into an exciting fall filled with new opportunities to reach children and families with the love of Christ.

Vacation Bible School: A Week Overflowing with God's Goodness

What a week it was. More than 125 children filled our halls—singing, laughing, learning Scripture, and hearing the Gospel clearly and joyfully. Nearly 100 volunteers served with remarkable energy and love, creating an atmosphere where children felt welcomed, known, and cared for.

The worship was vibrant, the lessons were meaningful, and the conversations with children reminded us again that God is at work in young hearts. Seeds were planted that we trust the Lord will continue to grow.

Good News Across Sports: Faith, Fun & Teamwork

Right after VBS, our building came alive again with Good News Across Sports. Over 50 children and more than 20 volunteers gathered for a week of games, teamwork, encouragement, and daily Bible lessons. The laughter, the cheers, and the moments of quiet reflection during devotions created a beautiful picture of ministry that reaches both children and families.

We are deeply grateful for every volunteer who invested their time, gifts, and love into these children.

A New Season Begins: September Children's Ministry

September is a full and exciting month as we launch our fall programs. Please be in prayer for all who serve—not only the children, but also the families who are touched by these ministries.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS BEGIN SEPTEMBER 9

- **Kids Choir** – 2nd & 4th Wednesdays
- **Kids Club** – Every Wednesday A joyful midweek gathering where children learn, grow, and build friendships rooted in Christ.

GOOD NEWS CLUB RETURNS SEPTEMBER 14

Good News Club begins again at Locust Grove Primary and Locust Grove Elementary. These clubs continue to be one of our most meaningful outreach ministries, bringing the Gospel directly into the schools where children learn each day.

SUNDAY MORNINGS CONTINUE TO GROW

Home Groups: A Six-Week Journey to Grow, Connect, and Live Out Acts 2:42



Home Groups are beginning this month as we launch our fall 40 Days of Home Groups journey. Across our church family, people will be gathering in living rooms, around kitchen tables, and in quiet corners to open God's Word, share life, and grow together. If you missed the August sign-up window, don't worry—a new round of Home Groups will open again in November. This fall is just the beginning.

What Are Home Groups?

A Home Group is a small gathering of people who meet regularly to grow in faith, build relationships, and live out Acts 2:42 together. It's simple, welcoming, and designed to help you experience authentic Christian community.

What Is the 40 Days of Home Groups?

From September 20 to November 1, our church is walking through a six-week study built around Acts 2:42—Worship, Instruction, Fellowship, Expression, and Evangelism. Each week includes a short video from one of our pastors, a Bible passage, and thoughtful discussion questions. It's a focused season of spiritual growth that anyone can participate in.

Why Join a Home Group?

Because spiritual growth happens best when we walk together. Home Groups give you a place to connect, ask questions, share stories, and build friendships. And it's only six weeks—you can do this. Many who join for the first time discover that this simple step becomes one of the most meaningful parts of their faith journey.

This gives everyone another opportunity to connect and grow as we continue building a strong culture of community throughout our church.

Missed the Sign-Up?

If you weren't able to join a group for the September launch, contact Pastor Valentine.

Questions or Want to Learn More?

Pastor Dave Valentine dave.valentine@lowchurch.org

Children's Ministry: A Summer of Joy & A Fall Full of Promise

- **Sunday School – 9:45 AM**
- **Kids JAM – 11:00 AM**

We are encouraged by the steady growth in both ministries and are already planning several exciting new opportunities for the fall and winter seasons.

We Need You—And We Need Your Prayers

As our ministry grows, so does our need for volunteers. Please pray about who God may be calling to step forward and help fill the gaps so we can continue to minister effectively to our children and their families. We especially need Sunday morning volunteers and some behind the scenes support.

Thank you for praying, serving, and investing in our children. The Lord is at work, and we are grateful to be part of what He is doing.



WOMEN'S FIRST FRIDAY

October 2nd - 7 p.m.

We're kicking off with a festive Fall theme featuring simple, creative decorating ideas you can easily use at home. No crafting skills needed—just come ready to enjoy the evening.

Signup at lowchurch.org/events

Come Discover What God Is Doing at The Lake of the Woods Church

DISCOVERY CLASS



SUN @ 9:45 A.M.
SEPT. 13 - OCT. 4

register at lowchurch.org

Are you new to The Lake of the Woods Church? Have you been attending for a while but want to learn more about what makes this community special? Or perhaps you're considering becoming a member and want to know what that means. If so, we invite you to join our upcoming Discovery Class, a welcoming and informative opportunity to take the next step in your faith journey.

The Discovery Class is a four-week class, meeting on Sunday mornings beginning September 13 at 9:45 a.m. in Rooms 210/211 designed to give you an introduction to some of the things we believe are unique, wonderful, and exciting about The Lake of the Woods Church. During this class, you'll hear

about our history, our mission, and the values that shape everything we do. You'll also learn more about the mission, ministries, and opportunities available for you and your family, and how you can become connected in meaningful ways.

But Discovery is more than just information—it's also about connection. You'll meet pastors, staff, and fellow participants who are exploring membership alongside you. There will be time for conversation, questions, and reflection, as you discern how God may be leading you to become more deeply rooted in this community of faith.

Whether you're simply curious, or you're ready to take the step of membership, the Discovery Class is the best place to start. It's a welcoming environment for anyone seeking to discover who we are, what we believe, and how you can grow with us.

We encourage you to register online to reserve your place in the class. Visit lowchurch.org/events to sign up today.

Come discover what God is doing at The Lake of the Woods Church—and how you can be part of it. We look forward to walking this journey of faith with you!

Fore The Youth

GOLF

TOURNAMENT

SEPT. 26TH
9:00 AM Shotgun Start
 Lake of the Woods Golf Course

REGISTER NOW
www.lowchurch.org/events

Join us for a day of swings, sunshine, and sportsmanship as we support the Youth Ministry of Lake of the Woods Church!

REGISTRATION FEE

- \$125 per player
- \$100 Hole sponsorships
- Additional sponsorship opportunities available!




Fore the Youth...a LOW Church Golf Tournament

This special golf tournament focuses on having fun and glorifying the Lord, making it a truly memorable event. We'll celebrate everyone, whether they win or not.

More than just a game, it's a wonderful opportunity to support youth activities at LOW Church. **All proceeds benefit exciting programs such as the Winter Mission Trip, Camp, Navajo Nation projects, and Kingdom Builders.**

Gather your friends and form your foursome for just \$125 per player to enjoy a round at LOWA Golf Course on September 26, 2026.

Not a golfer? Consider sponsoring one of our youth attendees (\$100) or becoming a designated sponsor for an individual hole (\$100). Additional sponsorship opportunities include Par Sponsors (\$200), Birdie Sponsors (\$500), Eagle Sponsors (\$1,000), or Mission Sponsor (\$2,500).

Volunteers are also needed on the day of the event to help with registration, directing golfers, preparing gift bags, and selling tickets for the many raffles.

Sign-ups have started and are available at both Sunday services and online at our church website events page. Keep an eye out for updates and get ready for a joyous day of fun and fellowship!

Church Picnic 2026



Left: Cooks keeping the food coming. Above: Enjoying Fellowship & Food
 below left: Adults wishing they were younger to get in
 Below: Kids being kids



September Birthdays

Amanda Alessandra	Raymond Massie
Mary Altman	Liz McFadden
Stephanie Austin	Barbara McWhirt
George Breuninger	Rosalinda Raguckas
Sparkle Capitano	Patrick Rave
Patricia Cetrone	Al Rico
Jenny Chinault	Barbara Robinson
Melissa Daly	Luke Rossi
Janet Davis	Laura Saathoff
Belinda Divelbiss	Daniel Schofield
Susan Dyer	Elaine Shirkey
Ralph Ericksen	Jan Simons
Lois Ferguson	Michelle Sjolinder
Sandra Foutz	Barbara Strain
Betty Gosnell	Tina Sweet
Larry Graves	Denise Thompson
Janite Hamilton	Ann Turner
Robby Johnson	
Frank Kalder	
Stacy Kalder	
John Kelley	
Daphne Klein	
Brenda Lackey	
Margie Lee	
Dawn Leighty	
Christine Leitz	
Kristen Maris	
Bonnie Martin	

September Anniversaries

Gerald & Celine Baker
 Michael & Marianne
 Brancato
 Raymond & Barbara
 Farmer
 Jerry & Cynthia Garegnani
 Joe & Liz McFadden
 Stephen & Debbie McInnis
 Michael & Angela Neely
 Thomas & Lois Northam
 Jack & Julie Phend
 Al & Eva Rico
 Ramin & Nancy Sargis
 Kerry & Linda Sipe
 Darrow & Barbara Strain
 Edward & Ruth Taylor



Please pray for members of our church family who are ill, recovering, homebound, or grieving:

Heather Austin	Steve Gaines
Silvana Babikow	Betty Herron
Janet Bocook	Andres Idrovo
Laurel Buongiavanni	Olivia Knights
Lindsay Cole	Herbert McKittrick
Millie Davis	Lee Moore
Danny DeLongis	Ann Nadwodny
Jim Divelbiss	Tom & Lois Northam
Nancy Doseff	Barbara Rakes
Susan Dyer	Selena Rave
John Eckman	John & Ann Sawyer

Bob & Ellen Schwartz	Darrell Turner
Shelly Seymour	Pat Watterworth
Normajeane Solebello	Newt Wilson
Martha Somerville	Carolyn Woosley
Bobbie Stone	
Greg Soukenik	
Beth Sundberg	
Don Trent	

Cross Currents is published monthly. Comments, suggestions, interests in helping with content should be directed to:
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