



LAKE GROVE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Real. Active. Faith.

2024

ANNUAL REPORT

Contents



LAKE GROVE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Real. Active. Faith.

Go, therefore, and make
disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of
the Father and of the Son and
of the Holy Spirit, teaching
them to observe everything
I have commanded you. And
remember, I am with you
always, to the end of the age.

Matthew 28:19-20

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION



WORSHIP

MISSION OUTREACH



LAKE GROVE KIDS

LAKE GROVE YOUTH



NOAH'S ARK

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP



MUSIC MINISTRY

CONGREGATIONAL CARE



**“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD,
“plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”**

Jeremiah 29:11

A Message from our Pastors

IN THE FOLLOWING PAGES, WE THINK YOU’LL SEE EVIDENCE THAT GOD CLEARLY HAS PLANS FOR LAKE GROVE CHURCH. SIGNS OF GOD’S FAVOR CAN BE SEEN IN EVERY ASPECT OF MINISTRY AND LIFE TOGETHER IN OUR CONGREGATION.

Energy and vitality have been almost palpable as faithful volunteers, staff, elders, and deacons joined in the many forms of connection and ministry within our church facility as well as outside our walls.

2024 saw us move beyond some of the challenges and uncertainty we experienced the previous year. We thank you for staying the course with us, and with the Lord we serve and worship. The good ship Lake Grove has stabilized and is charting a confident course into its second century.

We celebrated our Centennial marvelously and meaningfully in 2024! Like the ancient Israelites, we intentionally recalled our history and God’s goodness and steady faithfulness during the first 100 years. In all ten decades, during peaks and valleys, the call and blessing of God were constant. We trust that they will remain so as we enter the next 100 years. We celebrate a past of significant impact as we take up the challenge of embracing an equally

impactful future unfolding under God’s good guidance. Vibrant worship, discipleship, mission outreach, fellowship activities, and caring connections marked our life together in 2024, and there are highlights of this on every page. We have so much to be grateful for and also so much to look forward to!

Last year this page was signed by just two of us, but this year we added a veteran transitional pastor to strengthen our leadership team as we worked through a season of prayer and data gathering, reflecting, and preparing a refreshed vision and clarity of direction for the way before us. The three of us, echoing Paul’s words to the Philippian church, thank God for you and pray for all of you with joy because of our shared partnership in the Gospel. And we are confident that the good work God began at Lake Grove in our first century will be brought to completion as we journey together with Christ until He comes again. (Philippians 1:3-6)

Pastor Graig Flach

Pastor Susan Graham



Pastor Conley Zomermaand



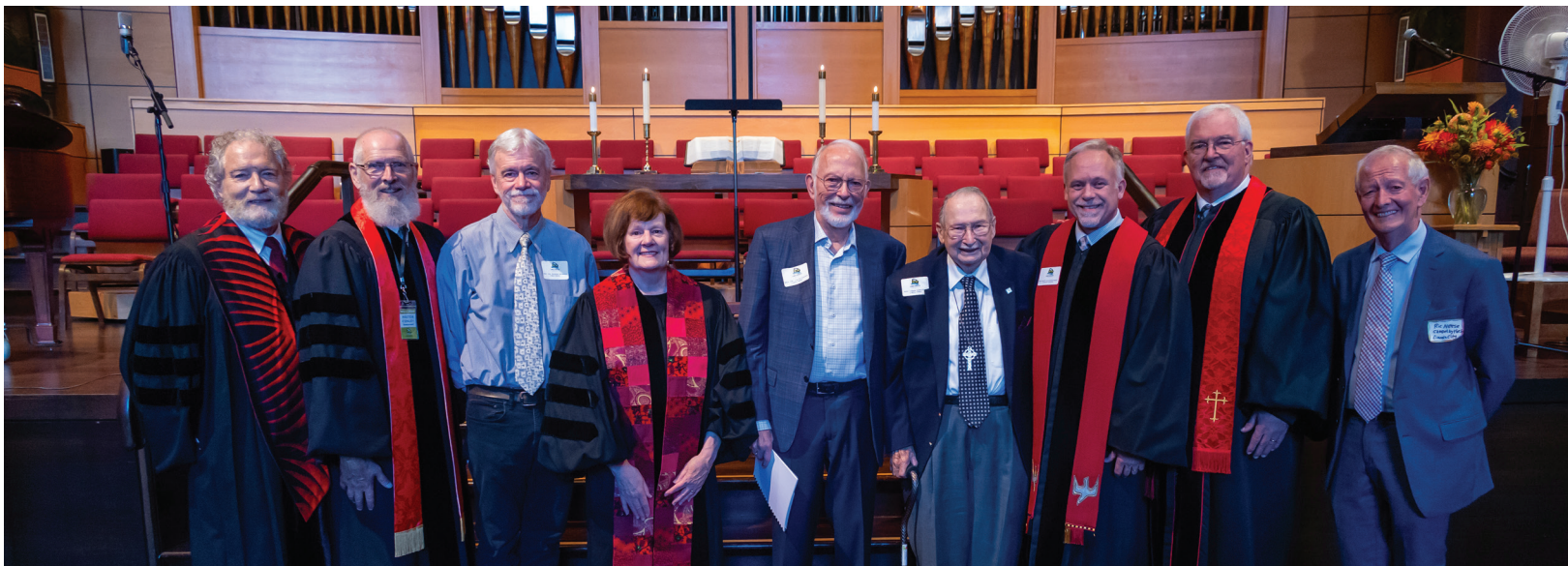




Celebrating 100 Years

CELEBRATING THE PAST, EMBRACING THE FUTURE

In 2024, our faithful congregation honored and reflected on the rich ministry history of Lake Grove and God's goodness through worship, monthly lectures, music, conversations, and local and international mission service projects. On Sunday, September 15, our collective focus culminated with celebratory worship services, reception, and fellowship in honor of our past and present, and anticipation of our next 100 years in ministry.





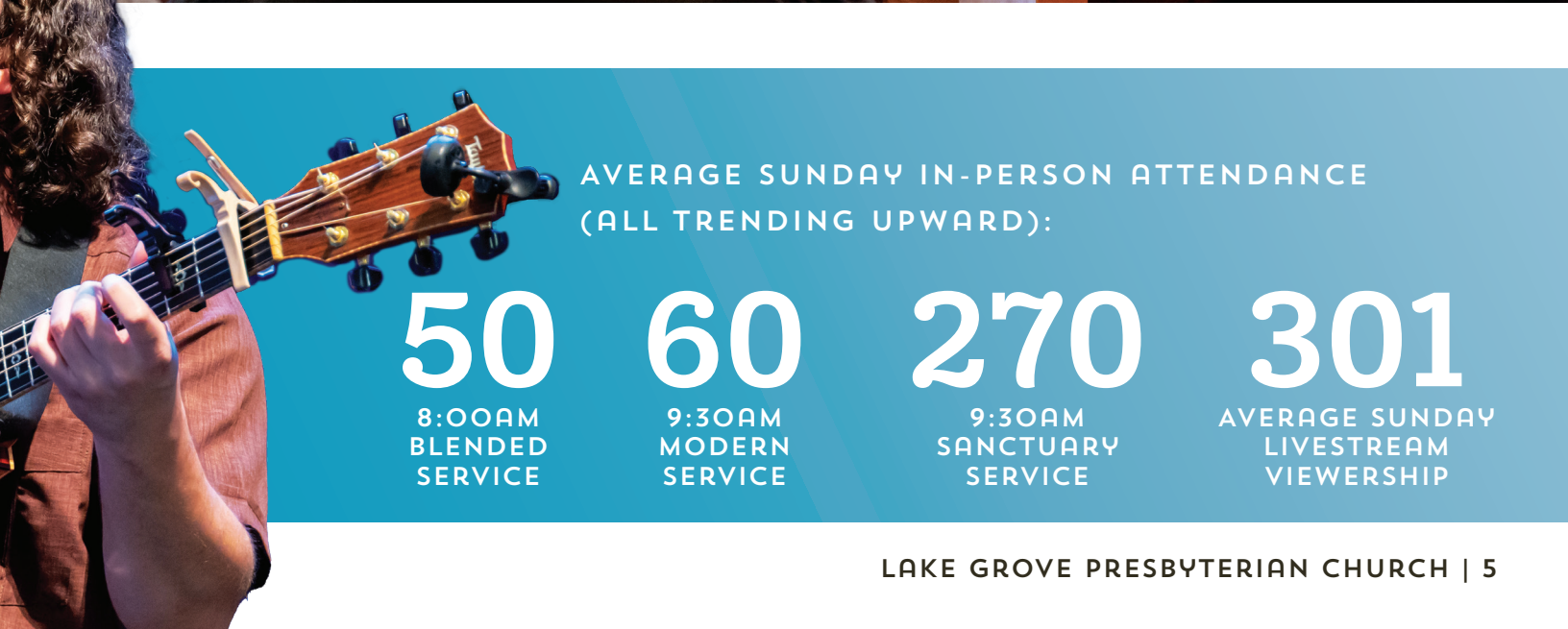
Worship

**WE CONTINUE TO BE BLESSED WITH
FOUR WORSHIP OPTIONS AT LAKE GROVE!**

Our 8:00 Blended and 9:30 Modern Services are led by our pastors and music leader Joe Sanchez in our updated Fellowship Hall.

Our 9:30 AM Traditional service, both in-person and livestream, is held in our majestic sanctuary. Services are accompanied by our beautiful 1,500-pipe organ, along with a rotating schedule of choirs like the 90-voice Sanctuary Choir, our Children's and Youth Choirs, and the Covenant Bell Choir.







Mission Outreach

EVERY MEMBER ENGAGED IN MISSION

If you support Lake Grove financially, you have a stake in all our mission partnerships. We hope all our members will also “adopt” at least one of our mission efforts in a hands-on way. Or go on an international mission trip or a local mini-mission trip to serve the hungry. Or give generously to our quarterly offerings. Or pray intentionally for our mission partners...or all of the above!

Mission outreach is part of the fabric of Lake Grove’s ministry, with almost every group or team developing “mission-mindedness.” And “outward focus” is a sign of a healthy congregation.





LAKE GROVE
Real. Active. Faith.

Sharing Essentials in Jesus' name: near and far, in word and deed

FOOD

- Afghan Refugees
- Agros International
- Care & Share
- Family Promise
- Manna Ministry
- Pink Eraser
- Portland Rescue Mission
- Salvation Army Shelter
- Shepherd's Door
- Woodburn Farmworker Families
- World Vision Sponsorship

WATER

- Agros International
- Water Africa
- World Vision Sponsorship
- YD Adventures
& Salaam International
(*sharing "Living Water":
evangelism*)

SHELTER

- Afghan Refugees
- Agros International
- Family Promise
- L.O. Transitional Shelter
- Pink Eraser
- Portland Rescue Mission
- Shepherd's Door
- World Vision Sponsorship





45

KIDS ON AVERAGE
EACH SUNDAY

21

SUNDAY MORNING
VOLUNTEERS

4

PAID CAREGIVERS

7

NEW FAMILIES

13

LGK KIDS BAPTIZED



Lake





Grove Kids

OUR GOAL AT LGK IS SIMPLE AND IT IS TO HELP KIDS DISCOVER THEY ARE LOVED BY JESUS AND THAT THEY HAVE A PLACE IN GOD'S STORY.

We do this by creating a fun and safe place that is inclusive and allows kids to be exactly who God has created them to be—wiggles and all.

We also strive to provide many different opportunities for children and their parents to connect in community together. In 2024 LGK offered many opportunities outside of a Sunday morning for these connections, such as once a month Saturday family events, monthly Second Sunday events, open gym, Family Fellowship, Parents Night Out, Guys Night Out, Ladies Night Out, Parent Coffee and 345ers. This year we were able to bring back our Bible Class and we had 5 3rd-5th graders go through a one-day class with their parents and receive their very own Bible.

We continued partnering with MomCo to provide a place where moms of younger kids can join together twice a month in community. In the summer we partnered with Noah's Ark and offered 5 summer camps: 3 camps for kids in K-2nd grade, a summer of service camp for 3rd-5th graders, and a one-day family camp at Champoeg Park for kids and their parents.

All year long we partnered with some of our church's mission partners to participate in monthly mission opportunities like collecting money in our fish boxes for One Great Hour of Sharing, LGK parents running Angel Tree, and collecting snacks and activities for Family Promise and Salvation Army.

Lake Grove Youth

OUR LAKE GROVE YOUTH IS A PLACE WHERE EVERY STUDENT IS INVITED TO EXPERIENCE THE LOVE AND WELCOME OF JESUS.

This is a space where students can have fun, build community, and draw closer to Jesus in new and exciting ways.

Some of our fun and community events for this year have included our Middle School summer camp at Washington Family Ranch, Lake Day at Lake Oswego, our Midnight Maize Run on Sauvie Island, and our year-end LGY

Christmas Party. In addition to these fun events, our youth have been active in serving inside and outside this church with our summer SLAM mission trip to Yakima, helping serve at the LGPC Advent Dessert, as well as many of our Lake Grove Kids activities.

Though this has been a bit of a transition year for our LGY ministry, we are blessed with where we are and excited for where we are going.





This Fall we welcomed our new Youth Director **Nick Miller** to our LGPC team. He comes with experience serving in Youth Ministry, Men's Ministry, Intercultural Ministry, Senior Outreach Ministry, I/DD Ministry work, and a MDiv in Biblical Languages. We are excited to add him to our team and to see the impact he will have in serving our Lake Grove Youth.

11

**AVERAGE
SUNDAY
GATHERING
ATTENDANCE**

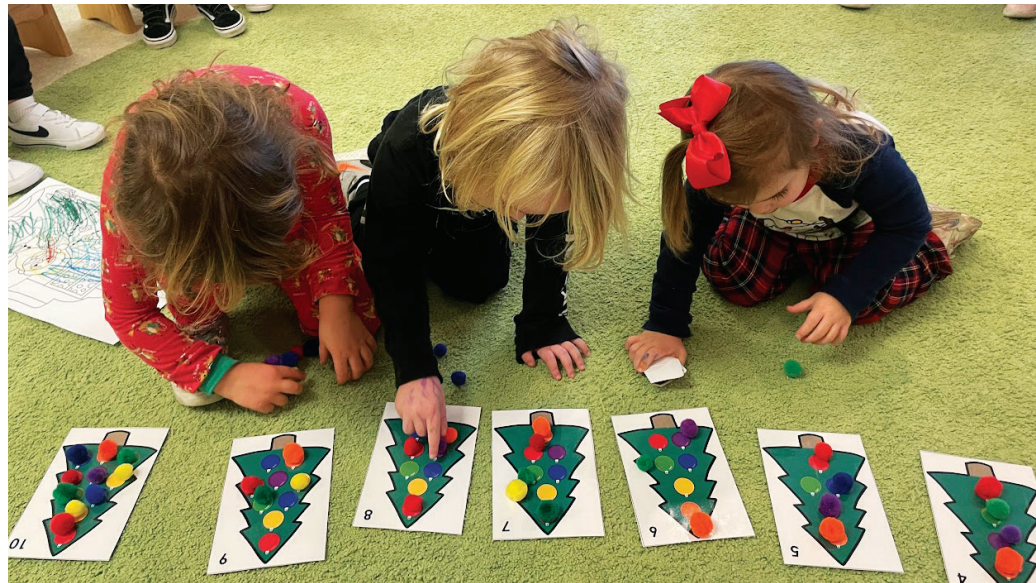
9

**AVERAGE
HIGH SCHOOL
YOUTH GROUP
ATTENDANCE**

5

**AVERAGE
JUNIOR HIGH
YOUTH GROUP
ATTENDANCE**





“I love that Noah’s Ark exceeds all of the hopes and desires our family had for our children’s preschool experience—it’s magically play-based, academic, and Christ-centric. And every child is given such genuine love and dedication from the school and church staff.”

KATE BETHELL, *Noah’s Ark Parent*



Noah’s Ark Preschool

42
STUDENTS

IN 2024, NOAH’S ARK CELEBRATED ANOTHER YEAR OF PROVIDING EXCEPTIONAL EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION TO CHILDREN AGES TWO TO FIVE.

10
TEACHERS

We expanded our program by opening Covenant Kids enrollment to children in the greater community and adding Pre-K Fun Friday Mornings. Noah’s Ark looks forward to celebrating its 27th graduating class in May 2025 and continuing its legacy well into the future.

SUMMER CAMP

The fun did not stop over the summer! Noah’s Ark held nine weekly camps open to all children in our community ages three to five.

CHAPEL TIME

Noah’s Ark offered a monthly chapel time for teachers, students, and their families. Family Chapel Time included worship through singing, story, and prayer. Ms. Susan led the chapel time with support from Abby Krawson, Laura Fuller, and the LGK Team.

3
CLASSES

COVENANT KIDS

We offered extended care with an enrichment program. Students stay up to two hours and enjoy time for lunch, play, and special activities.



Adult Discipleship



17

ONGOING SMALL GROUPS



4

NEW MINISTRIES LAUNCHED:

- HELPING HANDS
- WOMEN'S MINISTRY LEADERSHIP TEAM
- MONTHLY BOOK CLUB
- NEURODIVERGENT PARENTING COMMUNITY



4

RECREATIONAL FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES INCLUDING HIKING AND WHITE WATER RAFTING



47

WEEKLY SERMON SERIES STUDY MATERIALS SHARED







LAKE GROVE

50

MEN AT
HALF-DAY
RETREAT

116

ATTENDED
OKTOBERFEST



LAKE GROVE

52

WOMEN AT
MAY RETREAT
AT TWIN ROCKS

1st

ANNUAL
CAROLING,
CAROLING!

Library



80

NEW ITEMS
FOR THE
LIBRARY



5

MONTHLY
DISCIPLESHIP
RESOURCE
RECOMMENDATIONS



MARK L. STRAUSS



— SECOND EDITION —

**FOUR PORTRAITS,
ONE JESUS**

A SURVEY of JESUS and the GOSPELS

Also available as audio lectures. To listen to a preview, scan the QR code.



“This is a stellar book for anyone wanting to take a deep academic dive into the four Gospels. The first part of the book looks at each Gospel one at a time, examining such features as historical, literary, and socio-cultural contexts as well as literary devices, themes, audience, and overall message. Then it examines Jesus’ story chronologically weaving input from all four Gospels together. I used it often for my “Life of Christ” classes at George Fox University, and students found it very engaging and user-friendly with lots of pictures, charts, study questions and summary of key points.”

Jeannine Graham



LAKE GROVE CHURCH LIBRARY:
[HTTPS://LAKEGROVEPRES.ORG/RESOURCES/LGPC-LIBRARY/](https://lakegrovepres.org/resources/lgpc-library/)



Music Ministry

**THANKS BE TO GOD THAT WORSHIP IS VITAL AND VIBRANT
AT LAKE GROVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.**

Through the grace of God, and your generous support, the Music Ministries at LGPC continue to be a dynamic and active part of the worshiping, caring, equipping, and witnessing life of our church. Music ministries provide leadership for worship services and other musical programs throughout the year, providing opportunities for more than

200 regular participants of all ages to express their faith through music. In addition to its more visible aspects, the music ministry provides children, youth, and adults with significant opportunities for spiritual and musical growth and Christian fellowship through weekly rehearsals, workshops, and music mission trips.

We're thrilled at what the Lord has enabled us to do together!



Come, Thou Fount of every blessing

Tune my heart to sing Thy grace

Streams of mercy, never ceasing

Call for songs of loudest praise.

8AM/MODERN WORSHIP

These services continue to find their footing within the greater church context. They have become a place to receive both comfort and challenge through music and word. Upgrades to the Fellowship Hall make way for greater visibility and growth, and leadership is excited to adapt to new opportunities that will surely come from the consultation and pastor nomination process.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH CHOIRS

MARCH: **Hope and Peace Choirs** joined the LG Concert series by singing in the “Tapestry” concert.

APRIL: 4 youth choristers joined a workshop and concert with the **Portland Symphonic Girls Choir** and had the opportunity to work with one of our favorite composers, **Jim Papoulis**.

JULY: Lake Grove’s first musical theater camp was offered for the community, and we achieved our goal of having 20 participants!

DECEMBER: **Hope and Peace Choirs** were blessed to be joined by **Pam Baker** for a special Gospel Christmas anthem.

SANCTUARY CHOIR

JUNE: **The Sanctuary Choir** celebrated Lake Grove’s Centennial by presenting the Oregon Premiere of “Illuminare” by composer **Elaine Hagenberg**, and simultaneously raising \$7300 for Beer Sheba school in Senegal.

SEPTEMBER: **Pam Baker** joined the Sanctuary Choir on Centennial Sunday featuring a new special arrangement for the occasion by **Jeff Wood**.

DECEMBER: For our annual Worship through Music services we sang “A Celebration of Carols” to two full sanctuaries.

The Sanctuary Choir welcomed special guest singers at Easter and Christmas and many have chosen to stay on, bringing our roster back up to pre-pandemic levels!

COVENANT BELLS

MARCH: **Covenant Bells** director **Leanne Bilstrom** retired with a final performance and celebratory reception. We appreciate her 30-plus years of service! New director, **Aaron Waite** (previously of Salt Lake City’s Bells at Temple Square) immediately brought a fresh perspective to the group’s musicianship, professionalism, and testimony.

MAY: The bells began regular monthly performances of two pieces during communion services.

DECEMBER: The 24th Annual Bells & Brass Concert was presented twice as part of the Lake Grove Concert Series, and the demand was undeniable as we had more attendees at the first concert alone than last year’s single concert (almost 800 total attendees this year)!

CONCERT SERIES

We welcomed over 3000 community members in person and online for our free concerts.

The Lake Grove Concert Series is Lake Oswego’s regional hub for world-class music, presenting the area’s finest talent performing uplifting music in a beautiful and welcoming space. The concerts are free and easy to attend given their single hour length and ample on-site parking. With close connections to members of the Oregon Symphony, the series was created in order to open the building’s doors to the entire community, sharing both the awe-inspiring space and the rich cadre of musical talent. The result is a community-based, family-friendly series that provides an easily accessible concert experience in the heart of Lake Oswego.

MUSIC STAFF UPDATES

We welcomed 2 new “Aaron’s” to the music team! **Aaron Waite** became our Director of Handbells and **Aaron Lange** became our Program Manager for Worship and Music.

In 2024, we also celebrated the 30th anniversary of our Joy Choir director, **Julie Strong** and the 25th anniversary of our Director of Music, **Wendy Bamonte**.

The choir and congregation presented Wendy with a water well in Zambia in honor of her 25 years in ministry at Lake Grove.



Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God.

Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

1 John 4:7

Congregational Care

THIS CONGREGATION STRIVES TO LIVE THE LOVE OF GOD SO BEAUTIFULLY AND NOWHERE MORE CLEARLY THAN IN CONGREGATIONAL CARE.

It is inspiring to see the many ways members have reached out to one another and our community with loving arms and tangible help. Here are a few highlights from 2024:



THROUGH YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS THE DEACON'S FOOD PANTRY DONATED MORE THAN

4,000

POUNDS OF FOOD TO LAKE OSWEGO HUNGER FIGHTERS



OVER

1,000

CARING CALLS AND VISITS THROUGH OUR CARE AND FRIENDSHIP VISITATION TEAM



20

MEAL TRAINS ORGANIZED



AN AVERAGE OF

18

PEOPLE RECEIVE HOME COMMUNION EACH MONTH



ONGOING GRIEF CARE INCLUDING THE ANNUAL LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE



hundreds

OF CARDS TO COMFORT AND ENCOURAGE AND TO CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS HAVE BEEN SENT



1

BEAUTIFUL AND ENERGETIC CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION PUT ON BY THE EVENTS TEAM



3

RESIDENTIAL CONNECTORS HOSTED REGULAR FELLOWSHIP GROUPS IN THREE RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES




36
HOURS OF PRAYER
DEVOTED BY OUR
PRAYER TEAM ON
TUESDAY MORNINGS
AND COUNTLESS
HOURS OUTSIDE
THAT TIME


1 month
DEDICATED TO PRAYER
FOR OUR CENTENNIAL
CELEBRATION
WITH DAILY PROMPTS
PROVIDED BY DEACONS


16
MEMORIAL RECEPTIONS
HOSTED BY OUR
MEMORIAL RECEPTION
TEAM—AND ONE 100TH
BIRTHDAY PARTY!


1
IN LIFE
AND IN
DEATH
SEMINAR
HOSTED


24
GRIEVING FAMILIES
RECEIVED
GRIEF BOOKLETS


50+
RIDES
GIVEN BY OUR
TRANSPORTATION
TEAM


NEARLY
100
PIECES OF MEDICAL
EQUIPMENT HAVE
BEEN LOANED OUT
THROUGH THE MEDICAL
SUPPLY CLOSET


13
CONGREGANTS AND
COMMUNITY MEMBERS
ASSISTED FINANCIALLY
THROUGH THE
BARNABAS FUND



LAKE GROVE
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LAKEGROVEPRES.ORG

Lake Grove Presbyterian Church

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