



The CCLC Challenger

SEPTEMBER 2025

The Christian Church
of Loudon County
12210 Martel Road
Lenoir City, TN
37772

Website:
www.CCLCTN.com

Church Office:
(865) 986-7050



Sunday Services

Study Hour & Gospel's Study 10AM
Worship Service 11AM
Livestream available every Sunday

Small Groups (E3 Groups)

Contact the church office to find a group near you.

Our Leadership

Elders:

Macklin Allan: 239-438-6608
Randy Kania: 253-820-4509
Jim McPeak: 419-439-0315
Steve Sollman: 865-657-3307

Deacons:

Jim Funari: 610-986-7587
Emmanuel Hyde: 865-335-8912
Joseph Kania: 865-805-2808
Randy Lee: 865-748-3582
Brandon Lindermuth: 443-867-8870
Jason McKinny: 865-801-1978
Rick Young: 865-256-1380

Lead Minister

Dustin Cooper: 239-404-0353

Youth Ministry Director

Mikah Wheeler: 540-451-0960

Children's Ministry Director

Jen Cooper: 615-830-6152

Worship Ministers

George & Kelly Colyer:
239-672-0771 / 864-551-3562

Treasurer

Jim Derrick: 865-988-3330

Church Secretary

Susan Wright: 865-986-7050

CCLC Purpose Statement

"We are Christ's followers who EMBRACE lost people and EMPOWER individuals to EXTEND the Kingdom of God."

We Are Committed To:

- Being a Bible-based church in all that we teach, preach and do.
- Developing growing, mature, dedicated Christians who are equipped to use their spiritual gifts for ministry in the Body of Christ.
- Meeting people where they are and sharing the gospel with them in a relevant way.
- Seeking God's guidance for our lives and being obedient to His will.
- Maintaining unity and trust within our congregation.
- Regularly bringing our people into the presence of God through authentic worship.
- Praying for the needs of our church and our community.
- Sharing the love of Christ by reaching out to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of our church and community.
- Changing the world around us by adhering to, and promoting the standards of the Word of God.

From The Pastor CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF LOUDON COUNTY

"Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins" (1 Peter 4:8)

In a world where conflict and loneliness are common, the idea of unity holds great significance spiritually and practically. Throughout the Bible, the importance of community and togetherness is emphasized. What are the biblical principles that highlight the strength and blessings that come from unity.

In the book of Genesis, God created humans in His image, emphasizing our individuality and our inherent desire for connections and community (**Genesis 1:26-27**). God recognized that it was not good for humans to be alone and intended for us to live in companionship and unity with one another (**Genesis 2:18**).

The New Testament provides examples of how unity within the Christian community can lead to motivation, support, and spiritual growth. In **Hebrews 10:24-25** believers are encouraged to gather regularly to inspire and encourage each other in their faith.

We are also called to support and share each other's burdens (**Galatians 6:2**). When we come together as a community, we can create a supportive environment where healing and restoration can occur. By sharing responsibilities, we demonstrate Christ's love and foster an atmosphere of care and unity.

In **1 Corinthians 12:12-27**, the Apostle Paul describes the Christian community as the "body of Christ." Each member has a unique role and purpose, and the body functions best when all parts work together harmoniously. Believers are interdependent within the body of Christ, and unity allows everyone to contribute their God-given abilities and gifts to benefit the whole community. Collective worship and prayer also provide an opportunity to experience the strength of unity. In **Matthew 18:20**, Jesus promised that He would be present when believers gathered in His name. Singing hymns, praying together, and studying God's Word as a community deepen our spiritual connection with God and strengthen our bond with each other.

The Bible consistently highlights the importance of unity within the community of believers. From God's original plan for communal life to the support and collective worship found in the New Testament, unity has a transformative power.

Grace and Peace, Dustin Cooper



Children's Ministries



Happy Autumn CCLC Families!

As we step into this season, we want to take a moment to celebrate all of the amazing grandparents connected to our children's ministry. Grandparents' Day is on September 10th, and we pray each grandparent feels appreciated for the love they give and the faith they help pass on to future generations. You make such a big difference in the lives of your grandchildren!

Looking ahead, our annual Trunk or Treat will be held on Sunday, October 26 from 5–7 pm. We will begin collecting candy at the end of this month to prepare for the many sweet visitors we hope to have. Thank you for your continued support—we're excited to enjoy this season of gratitude, community, and fun together!

With grace,

Jen



The Leader's Corner

Jim McPeak

"NO LONGER INSIGNIFICANT"

Years ago while sitting in a ministers' monthly meeting our guest speaker was a licensed psychologist. He began his remarks by asking each of us to define who we were with one caveat. "Tell me who you are but you can't do that by telling me what you do." I had never thought in those terms before. It was a much needed wake up call. My primary response was "I'm a child of God."

Let me expand this idea by asking "as a Christian, who am I really?" Please think with me collectively as well as an individual. As Christians we need to understand we never operate solo yet at the same time we are individually accountable. Collectively we are a Royal Priesthood, body of Christ, ambassadors of Christ, witnesses and several other important identities. All of which are to be a reflection of Christ in us our hope of glory. It is an ironic paradox to understand that although we are individually accountable to God for our stewardship of these identities we can never succeed or be fruitful by flying solo. The important principle to remind ourselves about is that it is no longer about ourselves because it is Christ in us our hope of glory.

Years ago while listening to a Christian song the words that stuck with me were, "when Christ was on the cross He had me on His mind." Paul put it a different way in Romans chapter five verses 6 and 8. First in verse 6 Paul writes "while we were still helpless Christ died for us." Then in verse 8 he said "while we were still sinners Christ died for us." John said it best in John 3:16. "For God so loved the world that He gave His One and Only Son~~~~" God has valued us significant and so much so that He has invited us to join Him in His eternal purpose to reach any and all who are lost without Him. That brings me to my final thoughts for this short essay. What is the role for each of us in God's eternal plan?

The first thoughts are about us being a Royal Priesthood. Please don't underestimate the word Royal. It involves being part of God's Kingdom. The function of a priest is to be the go-between with God and the people who need to be brought near to Him. That would be a praying people and a serving people. Second, when we are described as the body of Christ, that means we have to work together. Years ago I used to play competitive sports. In order to be at my best I had to depend on every part of my body. In other words my legs could not be going in opposite directions. The third illustration is that we are ambassadors of Christ. Wow!!! Think about that. We are His representatives to bring His terms of peace to who is at war with the image in which they were created. Help us Father to bring many to the peace table. The final illustration is that we are His witnesses. A witness must understand that lip service is not sufficient. Jesus said, "I was hungry and you fed Me, I was thirsty and you gave Me water, I was a stranger and you invited Me in, I was needing clothes and you gave Me something to wear, I was sick and you comforted Me and I was in prison and you visited me. If you have done it unto the least of these you have done it to ME."

Let me conclude by reminding myself and hopefully each of us that Christ is all we need and we are His church. His Church literally means He has called us out of the world to reach the world. Remember these truths. "Christ in me is the hope of glory." "Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world." "I can do all things through Christ." And don't forget God has personally invited us to join with Him to be disciple makers from every ethnic group who inhabit the earth. That is significant!! Don't believe the devil who tries to convince us that we are helpless without hope but that the Truth that sets us free has already overcome the world. John 16:33 quotes Jesus, "in this world you will have trouble, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."



Greetings from Haiti!

Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain.
Unless the Lord watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain.
Psalm 127:1

Forty years ago, Roger and Norma Alexander started a school in their living room. They weren't sure how it was going to go, but knew God was calling them to start a school. So they built a classroom in their yard for the next year, and another one the following year. As interest and enrollment grew, they knew they would need a bigger building. In 1989, a huge building project began with a purchase of property and the start of construction for a full-size school.

Hundreds of people gave thousands of dollars to complete the school building, and then later, in 2012, to complete SonCenter. The missionaries who are here in Haiti have lived here a collective 133 years, working to teach Haitians to reach others for Christ. Untold numbers of visitors have come and taught, built, cleaned, encouraged, tutored and played with our students. The physical labor of building Sonlight, and the conceptual labor of growing enrollment, developing teacher training and procedures has taken years and more work by more people than we could imagine.

For all the work you and we have all put in, for all the funds, resources and time you and we have put in, Psalm 127:1 tells us 'Unless the LORD builds the house, the builders labor in vain.' Our labor and funds and time and effort can only do so much and go so far. For it to be fruitful and grow, the Lord has to watch over the city and build it.

This year, the Lord has done some amazing things!

- We graduated 14 seniors this year bringing our total graduates to 295.
- Every year at Kentucky Christian University the freshmen take a Bible entrance exam, this year, the top 3 scores belonged to Sonlight freshmen!
- Ten Sonlight Academy students were baptized this year!
- Sonlight Church baptized 13 this year.
- Dylan Smith is joining our teaching team in August - pray for him and support Him if you can.
- Academy graduates, Nicholson François and Marie Lourdes Decius, were awarded Ph.D. degrees this spring!

At the end of Ps 127, it says that if God is not guarding the city the guards watch in vain. With all the gang violence and chaos in the capital and around us we truly feel God is guarding our city. Please pray for stability in Haiti. We hate to leave our students, pray both for continued safety over the summer and that they stay close to God.

Many thanks, we couldn't do it without you!
John, Carmen and Bella

What's Happening On The Hill?

Check out our website at CCLCTN.com for up to date info and events.

		SEPTEMBER 2025
9/1-9/30	*****	Leadership Nominations—Through September We come from an elder led congregation and are seeking leadership nominations through September. If you have someone in mind that you would like to nominate, please let us know.
9/4	3:00pm-4:00pm	E3Together Bible Study Our Thursday afternoon E3 group starts again for a brand new lesson. We would love to have you!
9/5,9/19	6:30pm	Young Adult Group (@ the McPeaks Home) Come meet with our Young Adults as they work through Revelations and fellowship through the challenges of life, while walking in the Spirit of our Lord.
9/13	9:00am	Men's Breakfast Sharing meals is a wonderful way to build community with other believers. Join our men in meaningful conversations, building relationships, and supporting one another in faith, while enjoying a delicious breakfast.
9/13,9/27	7:00-7:30pm	Prayer Group Join our group of prayer angels as they focus on the direction of our church in the upcoming year and our congregations needs .
9/21	10:00am (Fellowship Hall)	Missions Speaker: Guy Domec Please plan to join us as we welcome guest speaker, Guy Domec, from our mission initiative, Master Provisions, as he speaks on our position to serve God through connecting resources to those in the community. * this is a Church wide invitation *
9/21 NEW DATE	12:30pm (after Service)	E3 Potluck Together Lunch Eating and sharing a meal together is a wonderful way to develop intergenerational relationships with your faith family. Bring your favorite dish and let's fellowship and we will be sharing our meal with our guest speaker of the day, so please reach out and introduce yourself.
		<u>REGULAR HAPPENINGS:</u>
Sunday	10:00am 10:00am 11:00am	Study Hour in Fellowship Hall Gospel's Study Hour—SHALOM Worship Service
Monday	6:00pm	E3 Bible Study with kids
Tuesday	5:30pm 6:30pm	Celebrate Recovery at CCLC. Meal at 5:30, followed by Large Group at 6:00, and Small Group at 7:00 Young Adult Group (2nd & 4th Tuesday) @ The McPeaks Home
Wednesday	9:30am 1:00pm 5:00-7:00pm 7:00pm	Wednesday's in The Word Craft Group (last Wednesday of each month) Youth Group Prayer Group (every other Wednesday)
Thursday	10:30am 1:00-3:00pm 3:00-4:00pm	Ladies Bible Study (NO study till October) Soul Food Pantry E3 Bible Study (Starts September 4th)
Saturday	10:00-1:00pm	Quilting Club (Fourth Saturday of the month)

Serving This Month



Welcome Desk	Church Greeter	Communion Prep & Clean Up	Building Lockup & Outside Supervisor
Hannah Hyde	Judy Derrick	Jim & Linda Funari	Steve Sollman

<u>SEPTEMBER</u>	Nursery 9:45	Toddler 9:45	Nursery 11:00	Toddler 11:00	K-5 11:00
9/7	Susan	Mack	Kayden	Linda	Pat
9/14	Kayden	Jen	Kaitlyn	Pat	Megan
9/21	Susan	Linda	Megan	Kayden	Jen
9/28	Kayden	Mack	April	Linda	Gaye

GIVING STATS

DATE	BUDGET	OFFERING
8/3	\$3,452.00	\$6,144.09
8/10	\$3,452.00	\$849.09
8/17	\$3,452.00	\$2,578.09
8/24	\$3,452.00	\$4,265.00

Budget Through 8/24

Budget	\$117,368.00
Received	\$103,595.75
Difference	\$-13,772.25

Happy Birthday to:

9/2—Faye Stiles
 9/3—Rick Davidson
 9/5—Jan Lovelace
 9/6—Mack Allen
 9/11—Alexis Kania
 9/12—Rex Ingraham
 9/15—Virginia Tharp
 9/20—Deborah Ingraham
 9/25—Ray Curtis
 9/29—Dustin Cooper