



A picture taken of the Loganville Christian Church congregation during Easter in 1962.



A picture of the original structure of Loganville Christian Church before 1914, a time when there were two doors because women and men were not permitted to sit together.



Past church leader the Rev. William Tenny-Brittian used to greet commuters on Monday mornings from the parking lot next to Highway 78. The effort earned him recognition in 1995 with several news stories and TV interviews.

Church has had to deal with the state agency. Allegedly “impeding” progress, in 1984 the church was standing in the way of the expansion and relocation of Highway 78. Congregation member Doris Hodges held the GDOT officials at bay with facts that showed the significance of the church as a historic landmark. Negotiations concluded with an agreement that the church would be moved 110 feet back without altering the structure itself. GDOT even paid for the basement to be rebuilt, with the only real evidence of the move sitting inside the front door, as some wood was rotted beyond repair and was replaced with tile.

But while steps are being taken to preserve the historic sanctuary and building itself, members are very proud of the rich history of the congregation itself.

James L. Moore donated the land for the church in 1884, which at the time had a congregation of about 21 members (not too far off of today’s consistent churchgoers, which averages between 30-40 active members. Descendants of the original members are still active in the church of today, including Morgan David Hodges, who joked it is hard to recall what his first memory is since his mother carried him in her arms.

“I grew up in the church,” he said. “I can remember the summer when I was 7 years old. My brother was 9 years old at the time and I did everything he did. He said he was going to join the church, so I joined too. That was 79 years ago when we were baptized in the pool in the woods out back of the church.

“I have stayed faithful to this church because of my family history. My grandfather, my father and lots of

family members came here. There was a time when half the people that went to this church were kinfolk. Folks use to call it Hodges Church. My daddy married my momma, who left her church to join here. When I married my wife, Doris, she also left her church to join here. We came every week together for 62 years. We were faithful because it’s just our church. It was the way it was.”

The original sanctuary has changed, as there are no longer two doors — one for men and one for women, as the two sexes were not permitted to sit together until 1914. But little else changed until a total of six Sunday school rooms were added to the church in 1950, with an acre of land gifted to the church in 1955 and an indoor baptistry installed in 1956, which meant baptisms no longer took place in “pool” of the creek along the back of the property. A few years later the church furnishings were replaced with mahogany pews, pulpit, communion table and chairs — most of which are still in use today. Another gift of 1 acre was donated to the church in 1993. One of the gifts of land noted that if the property were ever to cease being used by the church and was sold, the family would have to be repaid based on the value of the land when it is sold.

Loganville Christian Church is a member of the greater Disciples of Christ Church and, despite being a small congregation, the church boasts no outstanding debt, though some employees have gone without pay so that the church can meet its financial obligations. The church utilizes two pastors — Doug Watson and Joel Martinez, the latter a recent addition to Loganville along with his wife, Nancy. Both spent 37 years as missionaries and happen to come across the church as they rode by on Highway 78. Their interest piqued, the two came back and instantly fell in love with the church.

While there is already a rich history, there is still much to be written as future efforts work toward expanding membership.

“Over the years, this church has divided at least four times, with members going off and starting other churches, but it remains strong today,” Bienstock said. “I think that those divisions are why the church never really expanded and was able to preserve a lot of its history. And it is that history, the atmosphere of attending a service here, and what a dedicated group of people can do that is going to ensure that the Loganville Christian Church remains an important part of this city.”

The church is located at 4339 Highway 78. Learn more by calling 770-466-0863 or by liking Loganville Christian Church-DOC on Facebook. L

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If it were anywhere else, seeing a group of students walking on crutches or performing CPR might make a teacher nervous.

At Loganville High School, it was just another day in the Essentials of Healthcare class, one of the requirements for the newest pathway: sports medicine.

“Through this pathway, students are able to explore different career options in healthcare while gaining knowledge and insight that will allow them to determine if this college and/or career path is right for them before leaving high school,” said Gina Carpenter, who leads the healthcare effort as part of the school’s Career, Technical and Agriculture Education program. “This pathway allows students to earn CPR certification and gain lifelong skills through

hands-on experiences to better prepare them for the college classroom and/or workplace. And by completing this pathway, students will be able to earn both high school and college credits simultaneously.”

The sports medicine pathway shares both the Introduction to Healthcare and Essentials of Healthcare with other Healthcare Science pathways.

In the introduction class, students cover a wide array of healthcare careers, soft skills, career plans, ethical and legal issues in healthcare, CPR, first aid, infection control, stages of development and career competition as well as networking. In the essentials class, students cover the human anatomy and physiology including all the body systems, blood pressure, pulse, temperature and respiration.

Revisiting Carpenter’s classroom, the students were broken down into five different groups that were doing tasks such as practicing CPR and taking blood pressure, learning how to use crutches as well as the AED and using Choking Charlie to practice the Heimlich maneuver.

“I think this is very beneficial because I have been thinking about a career in pediatrics,” said Connor Tighe, adding so far he has enjoyed learning how to take blood pressure the most because “when I was a little kid I always wondered what they were doing.”

For Grayson Hoffer, the pathway is valuable as she considers a career as a trauma nurse.

There are currently 95 students enrolled in healthcare classes at Loganville High School and for those who choose the sports medicine track, their final class will be Sports Medicine, where they will cover anatomic positions, movements,

medical terminology, injury classification and evaluation, concepts of healing, range of motion, muscle testing, nutrition, vital signs and pharmacology.

There are a number of factors that led to the formation of the sports medicine pathway at Loganville High School, including an increase in the interest in sports medicine-related careers such as physical therapy as well as an examination of the Youth Apprenticeship trends and data from student career advisement which indicated that a medical pathway should be added specifically for sports medicine.

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finding a pathway to success at LHS

McKenzie Wages, an 11th grader at Loganville High School, practices taking blood pressure as part of the Healthcare Essentials class.

