

Garden of Eden (GOE) Church Information Sheet

We are a mainstream non-denominational nudist/naturist Christian church which follows the Apostles Creed. Our services are held on Sunday at 10am in the Recreation Hall, a common use building on the grounds of the Lake Como Family Nudist Resort and Community in Land O' Lakes, Florida.

We are a small congregation of believers, and our services are informal with all of us sitting around tables. Pam St. Mary (the founder and pastor) usually leads the services.

The church's ministry is focused on nudists/naturists at Lake Como or wherever else they may live. All work of the church is done by volunteers and the GOE church owns no physical structures.

From a Christian viewpoint the GOE church believes that there is no scriptural mandate to wear clothes (and there never was) and that hiding our bodies and seeing them as something shameful or inherently sexual is a lie that originally came from Satan.

We choose to see our natural selves as we believe God sees us, the physical manifestation of the soul and spirit.

God created us to live nude and there was no part of our bodies that he chose to cover, he saw our nude body as "very good" and we choose to see it the same way.

Nudity is always encouraged and preferred by both Lake Como and the church whenever conditions permit.

Furthermore, the GOE church believes that the modern-day organized church is wrong in perpetuating the dogmatic belief that the human body is shameful, inherently sexual, and must always be at least partly covered.

The long-term psychological damage that so many suffer from as the result of this way of thinking and teaching is a shameful legacy of the organized church.

With the prevalence of this teaching in the organized church and our society in the US, many have come to hate everything that is real about themselves and fail to see the purity of our naked body as God created us.

We believe that with this body shaming and sexualization the organized church and society have unintentionally created fertile ground for all manner of depravity to grow and spread.

Our worship team leads by example by being nude whenever possible as we believe that being nude literally strips us of the pretense that so often accompanies clothing.

Nude worship brings us before the Lord in a special and unique way and serves to remind us that God sees us naked in mind, body, and spirit; we hide nothing from him.

Hopefully this will help you understand why Christians can see nudity as something good and something to be encouraged. We truly believe that being nude brings us closer to the original plan that God has for our lives.

That plan is that we would all seek and maintain a personal relationship with God.

If you are reading this and you are not a Christian, or you once called yourself a Christian, but you don't anymore, please stop and listen with a prayerful heart and you will find that God is calling to you.

You can be part of the greatest love the world has ever known. From the bible here is the Romans Road to Salvation:

1. We must recognize that we are sinners. Romans 3:23 "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,"
2. We must understand that sinners may not enter into eternal life and fellowship with a perfect and holy God. Romans 6:23a "For the wages of sin is death..."
3. We believe that God wants to cleanse us from all our sin so that we may spend eternity with Him. Romans 6:23b "...but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."
4. We take God at His word and accept His gift of eternal life through faith in his only Son Jesus, the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Romans 10:9 "If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

Our prayer for you is that you would join us, at the church where you can learn a new way of accepting yourself and the great gift of life given to you, and as a brother or sister in Christ, born to a new life in this world and the world to come.

To learn more about the services at the GOE church please turn this sheet over.

Garden of Eden (GOE) Church Sunday Service Bulletin

*“So why do you worry about clothing?
Consider the lilies of the field, how they
grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I
say to you that even Solomon in all his glory
was not arrayed like one of these.”*

Matthew 6:28–29

Welcome Visitors!

We would love to know who you are, where you call home, and if you have prayer requests or want someone from the worship team to contact you.

We send weekly emails with the Sunday message and occasional emails with event notices, praise celebrations, and prayer requests. Please let us know if you would like to be on this email list.

If you would like someone to talk to and/or pray with today, please see the worship leader after the service.

If you have not accepted Christ as your lord and savior, we invite you to do so today.

Order of Worship

*Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his
presence with singing!... Enter his gates
with thanksgiving, and his courts with
praise!... Psalm 100: 2–4*

- ❖ Announcements
- ❖ Welcome

Welcome to this meeting of the Garden of Eden Church. We are here to grow in the knowledge of God’s Word and how to apply it to our lives. We seek to honor God through the Lord Jesus Christ as we gather together in the context of our nudist

community for mutual encouragement and the fellowship of believers in prayer and worship. We affirm the goodness of our bodies exactly as God created them and invite you to join us in being “Naked Before God”.

- ❖ Opening Prayer
- ❖ Opening Hymn (see insert)
- ❖ Responsive reading (see insert)
Ladies read odd verses; gentlemen read even verses.
- ❖ Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen. (from the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer.)

- ❖ Scripture reading
- ❖ Message (see insert)
- ❖ Prayer requests
- ❖ Closing prayer and the Lord’s Prayer
- ❖ Closing Hymn (see insert)
- ❖ Benediction

Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you

complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.
Hebrews 13:20–21

The Sunday service bulletin also contains a single sheet insert every week with information specific to each service as well as a visitor slip that visitors can optionally use to let us know who they are.

Once a month the church also adds communion to the order of service and after every service there is a fellowship time so that people can get to know one another better.

The GOE church also offers a discipleship meeting after most Sunday services and there is a weekly prayer meeting on most Monday evenings.

At least once a month the GOE church holds planning meetings that are open for those who attend the church regularly.

The GOE church has a book and handout ministry where printed materials are given to anyone who attends free of charge.

The GOE church is a 501(c)(3) religious organization supported by charitable donations. The church does not pass an offering plate and the church’s finances are open for anyone to inspect upon request.

The church can be contacted at:
Website - gardenofedenchurch.org
Email - worshipteam@lcgoechurch.org
Text or Call - 656-201-0280

To learn more about what the GOE church believes please turn this sheet over.