

# Spotlight



Newsletter of the Lake Oswego United Methodist Church

LOUMC: A Place to Connect—to God, to each other, and to the World

February 2018

## Worship with Us

### February 4

#### Communion Sunday

8:30 Sunday Morning Alive!

Music: *Flipside*

10:00 Sanctuary Worship

Music: *Chancel Choir*

### February 11

8:30 Sunday Morning Alive!

Music: *Flipside*

10:00 Sanctuary Worship

Music: *Lake Carillon & Chancel Choir*

### February 18

8:30 Sunday Morning Alive!

Music: *Flipside*

10:00 Sanctuary Worship

Music: *Chancel Choir*

### February 25

8:30 Sunday Morning Alive!

Music: *Flipside*

10:00am Sanctuary Worship

Music: *Vesper Bells & Chancel Choir*

## Nursery care at all services

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## Are You Ready for Lent?

Though it seems as if we have just finished the Christmas season and put away the decorations, Lent is right around the corner!

The 40 days of Lent are a time of reflection, prayer, study and sacrifice. This time leading up to Easter is a time to prepare ourselves and renew our faith.

It begins with Ash Wednesday, which falls on February 14 this year. (Yes, that IS Valentine's Day!) [But, wait! Easter Sunday happens to be on April Fool's Day this year too! Hopefully, these amusing date overlaps will help people remember the dates in Lent and not cause confusion!]

At LOUMC, we begin the Lenten season with our Pancake Supper and Ash Wednesday service on February 14 (see page 5). Then, on Tuesday evenings, we continue the longtime LOUMC tradition of Soup Suppers, "My Best Thought" and the Pastor's Lenten Study. These evenings give us an opportunity to take time out, focus

and learn more about our faith each week. If you have never experienced them, I recommend you give them a try this year!

Soup Suppers begin at 6:15pm and are simple, delicious meals, shared with your church family. No need to fix dinner for the family! All are welcome! (donations are gratefully accepted to offset the cost of the ingredients for John Milner's wonderful soups!)

"My Best Thought" follows at 7:00pm. Members of our church community share their faith journey with us. The stories are always moving, sometimes funny, sometimes sad and always interesting! Watch the QuickNews to see who will be sharing this year!

After MBT, you are welcome to stay on for a Lenten study with Pastor Michelle. This year's discussion and video series will be based on the Adam Hamilton book, *Seeing Gray in a Black and White World*.

**Join us for these Lenten activities, as we prepare for Holy Week.**

## From the Pastor's Pen

As I pen these words in the lovely and peaceful church parsonage, I remain eternally thankful to be serving as your appointed pastor at LOUMC! What many of you have heard me say is six months later still true: 'I pinch myself daily to realize I am really living in Oregon and serving the church here at Lake Oswego.' My husband, Gary, is equally happy in his role as the Music Director at Tualatin Presbyterian. Thanks be to God!

While there is so much I want to say here, I realize we all have limited time, so I will bullet my points. Please note one item includes an invitation/link to a **vitaly important** and time-sensitive congregation-wide survey. Please take the time to complete it. So, here goes!

- Thanks for your over-the-top patience as we finalize our new bulletin format. While it appears the 11x17 tri-fold was a BIG HIT, we need to determine the value of SMA having a separate bulletin (as a unique service in its own right) or whether inclusion in the 11x17 tri-fold makes more all-around sense. Both services can use more space!
- Kudos to our UMW, Gifts of Hope Committee, Music Department and Worship Team for making the Advent/Christmas Seasons such a memorable experience! Please tell me if I have forgotten to highlight any other groups here! Still learning!
- Hats off to our new slate of 2018 Leaders, elected at our November 2017 Charge Conference who are now at service in their respective posts. Find a copy of the Leadership Team 2018 in the church office or on the website on or around February 15!



Please take 12-15 minutes to click on the link (refer to [your latest Quick News](#) for more details) and complete a formative and vital congregation-wide survey. This tool will be used at a February 17-18 Leadership & Congregation workshop at LOUMC to measure our congregational health, vitality and potential to reach new people in worship and beyond AND to effectively engage our church community. WE WANT YOUR INPUT!

My door remains open to you for coffee, conversation, coaching and counsel. As ours is an active church that keeps me hopping (both in and beyond the church walls) please be certain to contact either Sally, in the church office, or me to schedule an appointment! I don't want to miss an occasion to deepen my relationship with you!

With Joy,

Pastor Michelle



*In the last month we have been keeping the following people in our prayers:*

**Lisa Lowenberg** has moved to Bolton House in West Linn.

**Becky Huntting** is happy to say that she does not need to have back surgery! She will be back at church, but taking it slowly!

**Stan Aschenbrenner** suffered a stroke and has been at the Pearl recuperating and working with the physical therapist.

**Jean Northrup** was hospitalized with colon problems.

**Barbara Parker Wells** had hip surgery and is doing well.

**Vicki Boyle** had a bout with the flu, but is slowly feeling better and back at church.

**Howard Kusler** is at home recuperating from back surgery.

Please keep our longtime friend, **Jessie Quick**, in your prayers as she had a stroke last week which is affecting the left side of her body.

**CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES!!**

**Pete and Marty Stiven** are new grandparents again and **Scott and Courtney Stiven** are new parents! **Knox Thomas Stiven** was born on Tuesday morning at 7lb 14oz!!

**Welcome Baby Knox!**

Best wishes to **Heléne Barkhuizen** who became engaged to Samuel Hancock on New Year's Day!

# Upcoming Events

## Sunday, January 28

9:45am – Bible Study  
11:15am – Methodism 101  
6:00pm – Confirmation Class

## Thursday, February 1

2-7:00pm – Red Cross Blood Drive  
7:00pm – Admin Council Meeting

## Sunday, February 4

*Souper Bowl Sunday*  
*Spaghetti Dinner Tickets Go On Sale*

## Tuesday, February 6

11:30am – Care Partners Ministry Training

## Sunday, February 11

9:30am – Valentine Bake Sale  
11:15am – Technology Team  
11:30am – Methodism 101  
6:00pm – Confirmation Class

## Tuesday, February 13

2:00pm – Circle of Purls – Knitting

## Wednesday, February 14

*Ash Wednesday*  
*Valentine's Day*  
6:00pm – Pancake Supper  
7:00pm – Ash Wednesday Worship

## Sunday, February 18

*Lenten Food Box Distribution*  
9:30-11:30am – Blood Pressure Checks  
11:30am – Methodism 101  
6:00pm – Confirmation Class

## Monday, February 19

*Presidents' Day - Office Closed*  
12:00pm – Spotlight Deadline

## Tuesday, February 20

6:15pm – Soup Supper and My Best Thought

7:00pm – Pastor Michelle's Lenten Study

## Sunday, February 25

*Membership Sunday*  
*Lenten Food Box Distribution*

## Monday, February 26

12:00pm – Lunch Bunch

## Tuesday, February 27

2:00pm – Circle of Purls – Knitting  
6:15pm – Soup Supper and My Best Thought  
7:00pm – Pastor Michelle's Lenten Study

## Thursday, March 1

7:00pm – Admin Council Meeting

## Saturday, March 3

4-7:00pm – Spaghetti Dinner and Auction

### **Please Note!!**

**Beginning the first week of February, the Play Park will be open Wednesdays as well as Tuesdays and Thursdays!**

## To My Church Family!

*I would like to thank all of you for the prayers, cards and phone calls you shared with me while I was ill. You are indeed family.*

God Bless You!  
Vicki Boyle

## Thank You!

*Prayers, cards, food and telephone calls are some of the ways you've ministered to Ron and me during my illness. Thank you for your caring love!*

**Blessings, Jean Northrup**

## Finance Matters

### **December Numbers**

Amount pledged \$30,667  
Amount Received \$72,386  
Total Monthly Expenditures \$81,517 which include:

- Facilities \$9,564
- Payroll/Admin \$20,249
- Programs \$252
- Outreach \$10,292
- Apportionments \$41,160

Mortgage Principal paid down this month \$23,265  
Mortgage Principal paid down since 2020 VISION began (as of the end of December) \$466,425

# Upcoming Events and Classes



A new class, led by Pastor Michelle, started on January 21 and continues from 11:30 to 1:00pm on **January 28** (The Beliefs of the United Methodist Church), **February 11** (The Structure of the United Methodist Church), and **February 18** (Meet our Staff, learn opportunities to be involved, and tour the church building). *Please note, there is no class on February 4.*

The classes are for new members, seasoned members, and anyone who just wants to learn more about our denomination. *Those who are interested in joining the church will have an opportunity to join on February 25 but joining is not a requirement.*

## New Book Club Forming

*Come to the First Meeting  
January 25  
6:30-8:30pm*

Joyce Sluss will get the ball rolling for this new group. You can begin reading now: *The Dovekeepers* by Alice Hoffman. This book is easily available at your public library. Come and be a part of a very lively discussion!

## LO Sustainability Network Invites You!

The Lake Oswego Sustainability Network invites everyone interested to its Annual LO Sustainability Celebration on Thursday, January 25th from 5:30 to 8:00 at LOUMC. Come and find out what your neighbors are doing to personally help combat global climate change and to improve livability in our community.

If you are interested in attending, please notify Lisa Adatto at 503-914-9678 or Dianne Carlson at 503-636-9733.

## The Great Decisions Series Has Started! Join in the Discussions!

Great Decisions is America's largest discussion group on world affairs. It is sponsored by the Foreign Policy Association. Each week includes a video on a particular issue and discussion. There are six weeks left in the series. Meet in the Library at 8:30 for coffee. Discussion begins at 8:45. All are welcome!

Remaining topics and leaders are: **January 28 – Media and Foreign Policy** – Susan Ford; **February 4 – China and America: the New Geopolitical Equation** – Richard Stratton; **\*\*February 11 – Turkey: A Partner in Crisis – Special Guest, Professor Jon Mandaville, Portland State University;\*\*** **February 18 – U.S. global engagement and the military** – Eric Carlson; **February 25 – South Africa's Fragile Democracy** – **March 4 – Global Health: Progress and challenges.**

## Urgent Need!

### Red Cross Blood Drive

**Thursday, February 1**

The Red Cross has issued an **urgent request for all blood types due to busy holiday schedules, winter weather, and illness impacting donations.** The shortage is urgent enough to potentially impact patient care and to cause donations to be distributed to hospitals as soon as they come in, according to the Red Cross. The Red Cross has simplified the donation process through their online Rapid Pass, which allows donors to fill out paperwork and review blood donation guidelines before they come in to donate blood.

The next LOUMC blood drive will be Thursday, February 1, from 2:00 to 7:00pm.

Please go to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and enter LOUMC in the "Find a Blood Drive" box in the upper right hand corner. If you have questions or problems, please contact Michelle Kitto at [michellekitto@gmail.com](mailto:michellekitto@gmail.com) or 503-313-1241.

**Thank you for taking the time to 'Give the Gift of Life' during this challenging time of year!**

## Craft Group Valentines Bake Sale

*Feb 11*

**Between Services**

**Come support the Craft Group  
and help send Rag Dolls 2 Love  
All Around the World!**

**We Need  
Bakers and Buyers!**

# Upcoming Events and Classes

## February 4 is Souper Bowl Sunday!

Watch for our youth after each service that day and fill the soup pots to fund the monthly meals they cook for Outside In!



Outside In is an organization in Portland whose mission is to help homeless youth move towards better health and self-sufficiency.



**February 26  
at Noon!**  
\$4 per person

Sign up on the Lunch Bunch Signup sheet in the Fellowship Hall!

## Special Lenten Activities

### **Pancake Supper** and **Ash Wednesday Service** **February 14, 6:00pm** **“From Feasting to Fasting!”**



Pancake Supper

Join your church family at 6pm for pancakes, fruit and sausages as we celebrate a traditional Mardi Gras/Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper a day late!



Then, at 7pm, we will turn in our beads for crosses and head to the sanctuary to sing songs, read scripture and receive the imposition of ashes.

### Tuesday Night

### **Soup Suppers & My Best Thought**

Begin  
February 20  
at 6:15pm!

### Pastor Michelle's

### 5-Week Lenten Study, **Seeing Gray in a World of Black and White**

Begins  
February 20  
at 7:30pm

### Starting Soon!

Pastor Michelle's Lenten Sermon Series  
(Sundays February 18 through April 1)

### **“Giving It Up”**

# Around the Church

## Items From the Greater Church!

### Got Questions About the United Methodist Church? Ask the UMC!

If you have questions about the beliefs and practices of the United Methodist Church, we have answers!

Pastor Michelle's class, Methodism 101 (explained on page 4), is a great start! But if you are unable to attend the classes or you still have questions, the United Methodist Church has a new section on their website called "Ask the UMC" where you can access all kinds of information about the church.

Check it out!

<http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/ask-the-umc>

### From Our Oregon/Idaho Conference

Here is an interesting article, in our conference news, about a small church in Idaho who is reaching people far outside of their area by broadcasting their worship services online! Read the story and watch the video on the Oregon/Idaho Conference website, at <https://www.umoi.org/blogdetail/10603783>



### Beautiful Addition to the Fellowship Hall!

Have you noticed the new cross in the Fellowship Hall?! Several months ago, Ann Hageman and the Worship Team had the idea to repurpose the old kneelers from the Sanctuary, which were gathering dust in a storage room, into a covering for the large vent behind the stage in the Fellowship Hall. From this idea came this beautiful cross! Ann recruited Larry Zeigler to draw up some design ideas and Tim Gantick to do the actual handiwork! Now we can all enjoy this beautiful cross, made from reclaimed wood, created by these talented folks!  
*Thank you Ann, Larry and Tim!*

### Did you know?

Our Facebook page is like a little bit of free "advertising" for the church. When you "like", "follow" and comment on our page, not only do you get to see information about our upcoming events and photos from our past events, it also helps to give our page better ratings, which, in turn, helps us to grow our online community. The more active you are on a post, the higher our post will rank!

Find us on Facebook  
"Like" and "Follow"  
our page!



### Trustees Report

- Approved \$1400 to replace the broken lighting for the two LOUMC signs facing South Shore Drive.
- Approved \$114 for a window in Michelle's office door to meet safe sanctuary requirements.
- Getting quotes for maintenance of the rear parking lot lights.
- Reviewing the Church usage policies for events and weddings.
- Trustees looking for Church members with skills that are interested in helping with Church/Parsonage maintenance and projects. Contact David Rudawitz ([rudawitzd@acm.org](mailto:rudawitzd@acm.org))
- Next All-Church Work Party – Saturday March 17

# Around the Church

## Many Thanks to All Who Made the 2017 Bazaar a Great Success!

On behalf of UMW, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all who helped make the annual "Home for the Holidays" Bazaar a wonderful success. Our craft group works all year to create new items as well as the traditional favorites. We had 3 well attended and productive work parties in the Fall. Our youth group offered their time and positive energy and created our popular suet cakes as well as supervised the "children's craft room." Projects were created at home and donated by members, friends and family members!

Many teams of individuals make this event possible. Loren and Nan Olson graciously offered their talents again this year. Loren is the facilities person who made sure that tables, chairs, etc were in their place and Nan and her kitchen crew, worked hard to ready the Cafe' for the lunchtime crowd.

Tomoko Clyde and Sherry Heatherly oversaw their team of volunteers and made sure the candy and bakery sections were ready for customers. JoAnn Parsons and Linda Driscoll worked their merchandising magic, making the vintage area a fun place to shop. My daughter, Hayley Vause and Linda Davis created their popular slice and bake cracker and cookie logs again this year. Donna Wilson procured donations from Palisades Market that were sold at the event. My sister, Cheryl Bell, worked diligently to secure vendors for the event. My mom, Patsy Herder, continued a long family tradition of welcoming everyone with a warm cup of Russian tea. And, it was great to have Pat Lockard back this year in her role as "official greeter!" I was especially grateful to Shelly Haver and Ann Hagemann, who offered extra help and support throughout the

week.

It takes many hands and countless hours to coordinate the bazaar year after year. For many, in our church family and our community, this event launches their holiday season. Thank you to all who helped with the preparation, gave of your time and worked a shift and invited your friends and family to come and be a part of the festive occasion.

Warmly-

Cathy Vause

"Home for the Holidays" Chair 2017

***\*\*Many thanks to Cathy Vause for her years of leadership, energy and dedication to the bazaar! We couldn't do it without you!!\*\****

## Sign Up for Altar Flowers!!

Altar flower dates are out for 2018, so sign up now! Placing flowers on the altar for our worship services is a wonderful way to honor someone you love and appreciate or to remember a departed loved one.

### Sign up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall!



Choose a date and write in your name. Add the dedication you would like printed in the bulletin. Pat Wagner orders the flowers, and the florist delivers them. Let Pat know if you have a special request or would like to use flowers from your own garden!

Your check for \$50, with Flowers in the memo line, can be turned in to the office, placed in the offering plate, or you can pay online through our website "giving" page.

**Flower sheets are on the Sign Up Board in the Fellowship Hall!!**



## All Church Yard Cleanup Day

### WITH DOUGHNUTS!!!

Please join your fellow Church members and help us clean up the church grounds for Easter, and eat donuts (that you bring!). We need help picking up the leaves and tree debris, pulling weeds, sweeping and trimming back the blackberries. Everyone is invited. Bring appropriate tools and gloves.

**Everyone is invited for Doughnuts!\***

*Many hands make fast work!!*

**\*Bring your own doughnuts!**



# Outreach

## **Care Partners Ministry Caring for Our Church Family!**

There was a good turn out for the Care Partners Ministry Team informational meeting held on January 10! They will begin training sessions on February 6 from 11:30am to 4:00pm.

Care Partners Ministry will provide caring visitation to our homebound and those dealing with longterm illness. Their ministry will help us to stay connected with our church family who may be lonely and unable to attend worship or other activities. If you are interested in being a part of this essential team, contact Debra Gice at [debra\\_gice@sbcglobal.net](mailto:debra_gice@sbcglobal.net) or 503-882-2996 or Jeanie Mattern at [mattern3336@comcast.net](mailto:mattern3336@comcast.net) or 503-636-3336.



## **Help a Family in Need**

### **Fill a Lenten Food Box in 2018**

LOUMC's annual Lenten Food Box drive will begin Sunday, February 18. You can take a food box and purchase the foods on the enclosed shopping list to fill it. Each box provides a family of four dinner for one week, and LOUMC has donated 80 - 100 boxes each year for the past ten years! Don't have time to shop? Make a donation of \$45 or more to fill a box! Food boxes and cash will be collected by Sunday, March 25 to get them in homes by Easter. Please help commemorate this sacred season by helping those who are hungry in our local community.



LOUMC is in a covenant relationship with Teri and Evelyn Erbele, United Methodist Missionaries with the General Board of Global Ministries serving in Ketchikan, Alaska.



The "Fill a Heart for Missions" drive will begin on January 28! On that day and February 4, red felt hearts will be handed out after church. Collect your donations (change, bills and/or checks) over the following weeks and place in the felt hearts. Hearts will be collected on Sunday, February 11. If every heart contains \$20 (or more), we should reach our commitment of \$2500 for this year! Thanks, in advance to the junior high youth who will help prepare and hand out hearts!



**The Spaghetti Dinner and Auction date is right around the corner! Save the date of SATURDAY (YES, SATURDAY!), March 3, from 4:00-7:00. Tickets go on sale on Sunday, February 4, after both services.**



The RAD youth program is open to all children grades 3-5. This program is designed to be an introduction to youth group and they meet on the first Sunday from 11:30-1:00 and third Sunday from 5:00-6:30.

On Sunday, February 4, the group will meet from 11:30-1:00 to decorate cookies and make Valentines Cards.

Sunday, February 19 — Scavenger Hunt around the church! (5:00-6:30)



January 28—Spaghetti Dinner and Auction  
Commercial Filming!

February 4—11:30-1:00 and “Souper” Bowl  
Sunday of Caring. Community Service Time—  
Wear your grubbies! We have lots of good work to do.

February 11—Minute to Win It!

February 17/18—Mystery Tour Overnight!  
(See Details below)



Confirmation Classes have started! Below is the information regarding the upcoming classes!

We will gather for games and dinner each Sunday from 5:00-6:00. Classes will run from 6:00-7:30.

January 28, February 11, February 18, and February 25.

We will have Youth Group on February 4, from 11:15-1:00. ***You “Can” Do It!”***

*Collect your pop bottles and cans from your house, your neighbors, or friends and bring them to church today. We will be returning them to the local bottle returns and use the cash collected for to support a local charity! We will vote on your ideas! Do your research and come prepared to present your favorite local charity!*



Senior High is taking a Mystery Tour on February 17 and 18! Plan to come to the church at 1:00 on Saturday and we will take off from there! Your leaders have lots of fun activities planned! We will return to the church before 10:00 on Sunday for pick up! Please RSVP no later than February 11!

# Spotlight

The Spotlight is published  
monthly by the Lake Oswego  
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED  
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[LakeOswegoUMC/](https://www.facebook.com/LakeOswegoUMC/)



*Spaghetti Dinner*

LOUMC YOUTH PROUDLY BRING YOU  
**THE 23rd ANNUAL**

## **“Taste of Italy”**

Saturday, March 3, 2018

Dinner and Silent Auction from 4:00-6:00 pm

Oral Auction begins at 6:00 pm

Please join our youth for another Senior High Spaghetti Dinner and Auction to help support the Mission Trip and other youth programs throughout the year. This summer the mission team will travel to a less fortunate community where they will work with local non-profits to perform miscellaneous jobs to improve the area.

**Dinner tickets are \$10.00 for adults, \$7.00 for children 10 and under and a family price of \$30.00. Tickets will be on sale in the breezeway beginning February 4, 2018.**

Your donation of an auction item will be much appreciated and will help fund this important project. **Donor forms are available on the counter entering the Fellowship Hall and in the church office!** If you would like your item picked up or have any questions, please contact Stacey Bernal at the church office, 503-636-8423 or email at [stacey@lakeoswegoumc.org](mailto:stacey@lakeoswegoumc.org). Thanks again for your support of the LOUMC Youth. Donated items must be in to the church by February 25.

**SPOTLIGHT DEADLINES:** Please email submissions for the Spotlight to [pam@lakeoswegoumc.org](mailto:pam@lakeoswegoumc.org) by noon of the deadline date. Articles received after the deadline may not be printed. Articles may be edited for length.

**March Issue (Published February 26) Deadline February 15 April Issue (Published March 26) Deadline March 19**