

# Spotlight



Newsletter of the Lake Oswego United Methodist Church  
Summer 2026

## *Singing and Playing for Camp Magruder*



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### *Worship with Us*

**Sundays at 10:00am**

**May 24 - July 12  
In the Sanctuary and Online**

**July 19 - September 6  
In the Fellowship Hall and Online**

Our church family enjoyed two fantastic concerts in support of Camp Magruder last weekend! John Nilsen, renowned musician and longtime member of the LOUMC and Camp Magruder families, performed on Saturday May 30th to raise funds for the Smith Herron Lodge Renovation, and a love offering was accepted at the LOUMC Spring Concert on Sunday, the 31st for scholarships to the Camp Magruder "Q" Camp. LOUMC youth, families and adults have enjoyed camping, working and volunteering at Camp Magruder as long as (continued on p. 10)

# A Word from Pastor Clay

## A Church for Every Child of God

I love this summer season – we live in such a bountiful and beautiful part of God’s good creation. What a joy to spend time in the sunshine near some water! What a joy to enjoy fresh strawberries and raspberries and all the other produce of local farms! What a joy to sit late into the dimming light of the evening around a fire with some friends. We are truly blessed to live here.

We are also truly blessed to be part of a faith community like ours. What a joy to worship with so many gifted musicians leading our singing! What a gift to be loved by a community who help us carry our burdens and who multiply our joys! What a joy to serve alongside so many inspiring servants who give themselves to the work of caring for our neighbors! What a gift to experience the love of Christ in and through this congregation! We truly are blessed by God’s presence here.

In these beautiful days of summer, I always wish all of my friends and family could be here to experience what Oregon has to offer. Similarly, I always hope that everyone who is searching for a faithful, loving community could experience what we have at LOUMC.

We are most faithful to Christ when we commit ourselves to radical hospitality in the Church. Radical hospitality is not just opening our doors and saying “Y’all come on in!” It has to include intentional work to make sure that a wide swath of God’s diverse people feel welcomed. Without meaning to, we can do and say things that make it clear to some of our siblings that they don’t really fit. So we need to unlearn those unconscious practices and learn some new ones. We need to embrace our curiosity and sometimes set aside our own preferences to let the Spirit teach us something new. It’s hard work! But it’s faithful work.

I hope this summer you might invite some of your friends to join us – maybe in worship, or maybe at a potluck, or maybe for a small gathering at your home. I don’t want you to invite folks because “we need new members,” but because we have something good that we want to share, and we trust that those we invite also have something to share with us. Let’s spend some time this summer listening for ways that the Spirit is inviting us to welcome every child of God.

I’m grateful to serve alongside you, and grateful for our journey together.

Peace,

Clay



### We have been keeping the following people in our prayers:

**Eric Carlson**, longtime member and friend, passed away on March 16. We celebrated his life at the church on May 23 and have been keeping Dianne and her family in our prayers. **Leanne Bilstrom** was hospitalized for treatment of a-fib and is doing well. **Dale Cook** had spine surgery on May 20 and is recovering at home. Healing prayers are welcome. **Debbie Craig's** sister, **Nikki Freepons**, passed away on March 21st. We have kept their whole family in our prayers. **Molly Gearn** has been in our prayers during her time in hospice care. **Mark Davis** suffered a massive heart attack in April but has had great care and a miraculous recovery. Continued healing prayers are appreciated. Friend and longtime member, **Jan Rogers**, passed away April 22nd following a massive stroke. Her celebration of life was held on May 21 at the church. **Wayne Richards'** daughter, **Nikki**, died unexpectedly in April. He has been in our prayers for this and the recent death of his son as well. **Alex Burson** had open heart surgery and is recovering at home. **Vicki Hook** took a fall and was in the hospital for a few days in May. Healing prayers are appreciated. **Laura Kramer's** father had surgery to repair his collarbone. Prayers are welcome.

Annual Conference June 18-20  
Information about  
Annual Conference can be found at  
<https://www.umi.org/ac>



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Serve Joyfully  
Lead Courageously  
OREGON-IDAHO ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH • 2026



## Congratulations & Best Wishes!

Danna Drum and her partner, Paul Medica who have a new granddaughter, Lily Denise Trantel.

Grant Noel celebrated his 85th birthday!

Clare Andrews celebrated her 13th birthday!

Kiera Kuehn took second place in debate at the state tournament!

Congratulations and best wishes to Samantha Bernal and David Blum who got engaged on May 27!

## Please Help This Summer! Don't forget your pledged giving.

To all our church family, congratulations that summer is almost here. A time for family, friends, travel and new adventures.

Many of our normal routines are disrupted in fun ways, but the mission of the church remains and even increases over the summer,,, Bible School, Ministry, Outreach continue a full force.

Unfortunately, summer is often a difficult time for the church to meet its financial commitments. Vacations and other activities cause our regular giving plans to be overlooked or simply delayed. The expenses of the church do not take a break. We would REALLY appreciate it if you could keep your pledges current, and if you plan to travel to prepay summer commitments if you are able. In the past, this greatly eased the summer slump.

Praying for you all to have a blessed, safe, and fun season. Thanks for your continued support of our church and mission.

*Joan Hall Sakaguchi*, Treasurer  
joan.sakaguchi@hotmail.com

The Spotlight -Summer 2026

# LOUMC Calendar

### June

- 7 Senior Recognition Sunday  
*10:00 during worship*  
LO Pride Festival Booth  
*Millenium Park Plaza*
- 9 Father's Heart Lunch Making  
*9:30am Fellowship Hall*
- 14 1946 Reconciling Ministries  
Movie Night  
*6:00pm TBD*
- 15 Lunch Bunch Picnic  
*12:00pm Fellowship Hall*
- 18- Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference  
*20 Boise*
- 21 **Father's Day!**  
All Church Potluck  
*11:00 Fellowship Hall*
- 22- Vacation Bible School  
*25 9:00am-12:00pm*
- 24 1946 Reconciling Ministries  
Movie Watch Party  
*1:30pm TBD*
- 28- Summer SLAM/Mission Trip  
*July 3*

### July

- 6- Science Adventure Camp  
*10 9-12 or 9-3pm Downstairs*
- 10 Red Cross Blood Drive  
*12-6 Fellowship Hall*
- 12 Youth Mission Trip Sharing  
*10:00 during worship*  
Worship & Potluck Picnic  
with Korean UMC  
*11:00 at Portland Korean UMC*
- 17 Phoenix Choir Concert  
*7:30pm in the Sanctuary*
- 19 All Church Barbeque  
*11:00 on the Back Lawn*

### August

- 7 Wayne's World Coffee House  
*7:00pm Fellowship Hall*
- 6 All Church Potluck  
*11:00 in the Fellowship Hall*

### Ongoing Meetings

#### Mondays

Spiritual Practices 5:30pm  
Pickleball 7:00pm

#### Tuesdays

Men's Group 8:30am  
Craft Group (1st& 3rd) 9:30am  
Quilt Group (2nd & 4th) 10:00am  
Knitting Group 2:00pm  
(2nd & 4th)

#### Thursdays

Open Hearts 10:00am  
Pickleball 7:00pm

#### Fridays

Friday Bible Study 10:00am

#### Sundays

Probers 9:00am

## Many Thanks for a Beautiful Ministry

To the Prayer Shawl Team,

We all have dark moments when our job is to take a step and then another back into the light that's life.

The precious loving gift of one of your hand made shawls is a warm and glowing lamp for my journey. Not only is it a kind, thoughtful and beautiful thing, your hands have created something that I'll treasure until my last day. God Bless You!

*Wayne Richards*

# Around the Church

## What is YOUR Creative Outlet? Please Share with Your Church Family!

Creativity is a gift from God. There are so many creative, talented and gifted people in our church family! Many of you are professional artists and/or musicians. Some are hobbyists, and some are crafters who make items to be sold or given to others for a good cause. Maybe you paint, take photos, act or debate! We know there are some fantastic musicians, as well as some who are learning. Whatever your unique gifts and talents are, sharing them with your church family and community is a great way to make connections with others, grow closer to God and even inspire others in their own creativity.

## A Beautiful Ministry

Did you read Wayne's note of thanks on page 3? If you are new to this church, or just haven't happened to be in church on a Sunday when the prayer shawls are blessed, you might not have heard of our prayer shawl ministry! Prayer shawls have been a part of this church longer than most of us have been here! Our knitters and/or crocheters create soft, beautiful shawls and lap blankets to be given to people in our church family who are suffering illness, loss or a difficult time. The shawl is blessed by the congregation and accompanied by a short prayer. The shawls are tangible comfort, love and hope to those who receive them.



We'd like to carve out a little place in the Spotlight to share some of your gifts! To let people know when you have a play coming up, or a musical show. We'd love to showcase some art pieces and/or let people know when your work will be on display! Contact Pam at [pam@lakeoswegoumc.org](mailto:pam@lakeoswegoumc.org) and share some of your talent (or the talent of a family member - with their permission, of course!) with the church family! Life is good! God is great! Beauty and talents are there to be shared and enjoyed! Share the love!

## Sharing His Gifts Thru Bike Repair!

Here's another interesting gift, from Jay Stewart, a gift to both the church, through the donations, and to the church family members, who get very reasonably priced help with their bike repairs!!

"Hello LOUMC. This is Jay, the bicycle guy. It's almost summer and we have already had some really nice bicycling weather. Please contact me if you have a bicycle that you want to get road ready or give away. I can fix most common bike issues (flat tires, shifter problems. Rusted cables, worn out brakes. etc). I charge about \$10/ hour which I donate to LOUMC, plus any parts I have to purchase. Contact me at 775-378-8866 or [ezridernv@gmail.com](mailto:ezridernv@gmail.com)."



## The Phoenix Choir is Back!



Tickets are \$15; available at the door! Help send them off to Spain! July 17 at 7:30pm!

## Summer Worship Schedule One Combined Service Sundays at 10:00am



## It's Like Having a Family Reunion All Summer!

# Upcoming Activities



We hope you can stop by our booth at the LO Pride celebration on Sunday, June 7 from 12-4:00pm! Help us to show our support of the LGBTQIA+ community and that we are a safe, welcoming place for all.

Contact Deb Gice (debra\_gice@sbcglobal.net) if you are interested in helping out the day of the event.

## Youth Mission Trip Sharing July 12 in Worship

Our youth will be heading out to another Summer SLAM event this summer from June 28 through July 3. SLAM is a "cross cultural service and learning trip led by Native-Americans on the Yakama Reservation.

Our youth will share what they have learned and experienced during worship on July 12 at 10:00am! Come listen and learn about this incredible learning and serving adventure!

## Save the Date! Sunday, June 14, 6:00pm or Wednesday June 24, 1:30pm

Reconciling Ministries will host two movie watch parties at the church as part of our process of discerning whether to become a Reconciling Church. We invite you to join us as we watch the informative and thought-provoking film listed below, followed by a time of discussion and reflection. All are welcome! Please watch the QuickNews for the location within the church.

**1946: The Mistranslation That Shifted Culture** is a feature documentary that follows the story of tireless researchers who trace the origins of the anti-gay movement among Christians to a grave mistranslation of the Bible in 1946.

It chronicles the discovery of never-before-seen archives at Yale University which unveil astonishing new revelations, and casts significant doubt on any biblical basis for LGBTQIA+ prejudice. Featuring commentary from prominent scholars as well as opposing pastors, including the personal stories of the film's creators, 1946 is at once challenging, enlightening, and inspiring.



## Worship & Picnic Potluck with Portland Korean UMC on July 12

Our siblings at the Portland Korean UMC (located here in Lake Oswego) have invited us to join them for a Sunday worship and potluck picnic on Sunday, July 12 at 11:00 am.

The worship will be about 45 minutes and will have an English translation. The potluck picnic will follow. We've been invited and encouraged to participate in worship AND the picnic potluck.

*We will hold worship at 10:00 at LOUMC.* We'll aim for a slightly shorter service to allow those partici-

pating with Portland Korean UMC to participate in worship at LOUMC *and* PKUMC – and of course, you could just attend worship at Portland Korean and not at LOUMC that day!

If you'd like to participate, please contact the office and make an RSVP by THURSDAY JULY 2, so that our friends can make sure to prepare enough space for us.

This will be a great way to connect and build community with fellow United Methodists – and the meal should be amazing! Thanks be to God for this great gift to share faith and fellowship.

# Build Connections: Small Groups & Classes

## Women's Evening Group

This summer, we'll be diving into *See No Stranger* by Valarie Kaur. Our women's evening group gathers every other Tuesday night. We share a meal, discuss life, and delve into the book together. Feel free to bring your children along; we have a group of kids who enjoy playing while we meet. Whenever the weather permits—when it's not too hot or raining—we'll gather outside by the play yard! Dinner will always be provided, and you can expect plenty of laughter and perhaps a few tears!  
Contact Liz@lakeoswegoumc.org

## Pickleball Come and Play!

Meets Mondays and Thursdays from 7- 8:30pm in the Fellowship Hall!  
Contact Bob Pearson for more info!  
marybob.pearson@gmail.com

## Friday Bible Study

Friday Bible Study meets Fridays from 10am-12pm at the Hunting home. They just started a new study of I and II Thessalonians on May 29! This is a great time to join. Please contact Becky for more information!  
503-636-6339

**Have an idea for a new small group?**

**Contact Pastor Clay or A Staff Member for Help Getting Started!**

## Open Hearts

Open Hearts women's study and fellowship group meets on Thursday mornings at 10:00. Join them in the Conference Room. They have just started a new 5-week study on forgiveness and are always happy to welcome new women to the group! *All are welcome!!*

**LUNCH  
BUNCH**  
**Monday, June 15**  
**@ 12:00pm**  
*Will be the picnic Lunch!*  
Be sure to contact Nan Olson or call the Front Office to make your reservations!  
\$6 per person *All are welcome!*  
**Last Lunch Bunch This Season!!**

## Men's Group

Men's Group meets on Tuesday mornings at 8:30 in the Conference Room. They will continue meeting through the summer with a study of *God the Science The Evidence* (how modern scientific discoveries in physics, cosmology, and biology provide compelling evidence supporting the existence of a creator God) as well as some outdoor fun. Contact John Milner with questions!  
(johnwilliammilner@gmail.com)



## Craft Group

The Craft Group meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays. They create handcrafted gifts for the Home for the Holidays Bazaar as well as Rag Dolls 4 Luv and Cardiac Hearts! They will be meeting in the summer! Contact Carol Richard with questions!

## Quilters

The Quilters meet 2nd and 4th Tuesdays. Since their beginnings in 2020, they have given 190 quilts, 92 receiving blankets, 8 fleece quilts and a few to Family Promise and Road to Hope. They will be meeting through the summer. Join them! Contact Nan Olson with questions.  
(nanandloren@centurylink.net)

## Circle of Purls Knitting Group

The ladies who knit continue their knitting on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from 2:00–4:00pm in the Conference Room!  
Bring your personal projects and/or work on items for the bazaar, prayer shawls, hats for preemies or any other items you wish!  
Contact Marty Stiven with questions.  
(martystiven503@gmail.com)

## Probers Class Sundays Online!

The Probers class meets on Zoom at 8:30am each Sunday!  
**All are welcome** to join the discussion!  
Contact Susan Ford, tsuzef@msn.com for the Zoom link.

# LOUMC Connections

## LO Indoor Play Park

If you missed the article about the history and purpose of the Indoor Play Park in our last issue, definitely read it [here!](#) Our parking lot is full on Wednesdays as our play park reaches hundreds of families in our community! This note was sent to our "play park ladies" to be shared with all of our Church family and shows what radical welcome and Christian love are all about!

### To the Wonderful Ladies at Our Play Space ♥

I honestly don't think you fully realize how much you have meant to our family over the last few years.

Week after week, you have created such a warm, safe, joyful place for my children. The way you greet them by name, look out for them, encourage them, and genuine care about all of the kids is something truly special.

As a mom, there are very few places where I can take a breath knowing there are extra loving eyes helping keep my children safe - and your kindness and attentiveness have given me that gift every single week.

My kids have seen you more consistently than much of our extended family, and I know the love and care you have shown them has become part of their childhood memories in the very best way.

Thank you for your time, energy, patience, and heart you pour into this space. What you do matters more than you probably know, and our family is grateful for each of you.

With love and appreciation,  
*Tara, Csyden & Kameron*



*Early in the day at the Play Park!*

## Summer Potlucks!

Join us for monthly gatherings throughout the summer where we can share meals, games and formation activities, and strengthen our connections. Potlucks will take place after worship on the *third Sunday of each month: June 21st, July 19th, and August 16th.* (July 19 will be on the Back Lawn - Men's Group will provide hot dogs and burgers - please bring sides or desserts!)

- **Food Drop-off:** Please bring your dishes before the service begins.
- **Eco-Friendly Practices:** We encourage you to bring your own plates, cups, and utensils to minimize waste. If that's not possible, we will provide disposable items for your convenience.

Our Summer Potlucks are a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community, and it requires everyone's involvement to prepare, set up, and clean up. Please let Liz know how you can contribute to these events at [liz@lakeoswegoumc.org](mailto:liz@lakeoswegoumc.org).



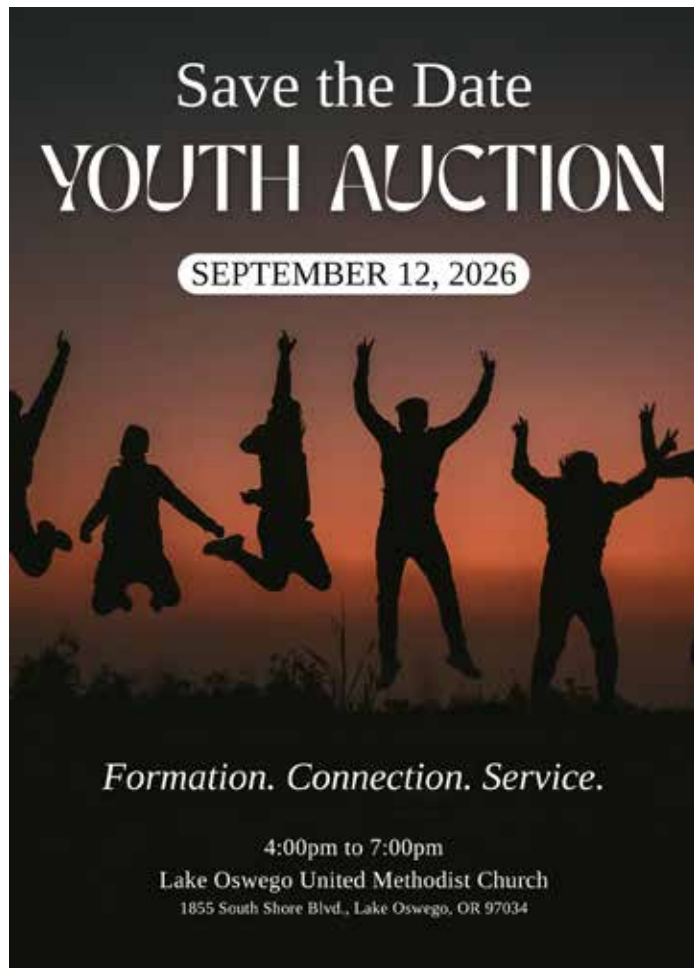
## Father's Heart Lunch Making is Fun and Helpful!

On the second Tuesday of every month (June 9, this month) a group of volunteers gather in the church kitchen at 9:30am to make items for The Father's Heart. In an hour's time they make about 100 peanut butter and jam sandwiches, 60 or more individual salads, lots of oatmeal packets, bag rolls of plastic bags, and other things as needed. Come enjoy fun fellowship and helping others at the same time! It is a great way to get to know each other better! *Join us!*

# LOUMC YOUTH



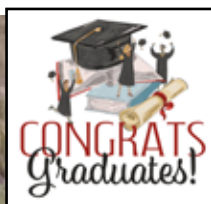
There are still spots available in our local United Methodist Church summer camps! Heidi will be the dean at Suttle Lake July 13-17 for mid-high and July 20-24 for elementary. Other times are also available! To see what weeks are available at Suttle Lake, [click here](#). To see what's available at Magruder, [click here](#). Or go to [gocamping.org](http://gocamping.org) and click on the tab for events/registration.



## Celebrating Our LOUMC 2026 High School Graduates!



**Ewan Anderson** is graduating from Wilsonville High School. He will be attending Oregon State University Honors College this fall to study engineering. He is an AP scholar with distinction.



**Keegan Cook** is graduating from West Linn High School with honors from the National Honor Society, French Honor Society, Thespian Honor Society, Technical Theater CTE Honors Program and received an OSAS Honors certificate. and will be attending Keegan is going to Massey University in New Zealand to become a veterinarian.

# The Kidz Zone!

## Emilie and Freyja's Friendship Journey

Emilie and Freyja's friendship blossomed about two years ago. As Emilie worked with the children, she warmly welcomed Freyja and her sisters when they arrived at LOUMC. Emilie possesses a special gift for connecting with others and recognizing their unique talents. The two often share meaningful conversations about significant aspects of their lives. Both are passionate advocates for social justice and have a deep love for Jesus!

Emilie holds a special place in Freyja's heart. She frequently looks for Emilie before services, even on Sundays when Emilie isn't scheduled to serve.

This summer, we invite you to join the children's ministry! You can serve behind the scenes (prepping for VBS or the Summer Camps), you can serve Sunday mornings or on the weekdays for VBS or the Summer Camps. Please consider saying "YES" to fostering new and meaningful relationships. The children need your support, and you might discover that they enrich your life as well!



Please contact [Liz@lakeoswegoumc.org](mailto:Liz@lakeoswegoumc.org) or Text (503) 310-0720



## LOUMC Preschool Summer Adventure Camps

This summer, we are thrilled to host preschool summer camps! If you have a preschooler eager for adventure, look no further! Liz Whitson, our Children's Ministry Director, will lead the camps alongside a wonderful and caring staff. These camps represent our commitment to loving and serving the community. With several preschools in our area closing for the summer, Liz wanted to provide a bridge from the end of the school year to the start of the next, fulfilling an important need for preschoolers in our church family. Contact Liz for more information: [liz@lakeoswegoumc.org](mailto:liz@lakeoswegoumc.org). Register using the QR codes below.

## Vacation Bible School!!

Are the kids in your life registered for VBS yet? The week promises to be packed with joy, fun, and connections! Children aged 4 years to 5th grade are invited to participate in this special event! The camping adventure will kick off from June 22 and conclude on June 25!



# Spotlight

The Spotlight is published monthly by the Lake Oswego United Methodist Church  
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Lake Oswego, Oregon 97034

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## LOUMC Staff

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most of us can remember! Camp Magruder has helped us to develop our faith, enjoy and create community and find another way to connect with God, each other and the world.

Now we have a chance to give back!

You can still donate to both the Q



Camp scholarships and/or the Smith Herron Lodge Renovation! Troy Taylor, Camp Director at Magruder, joined us in worship on May 31 and invited us to come and enjoy some fun and meaningful time at camp. He also encouraged us to give



Our own Max & Emma have both camped, worked and volunteered at Camp Magruder for many years!

the *gift* of time; to each other and to the camp! There are many opportunities to be a part of Magruder, to work and/or volunteer at camp for everyone! Check them out [here!](https://www.campmagruder.org/serve.html) (<https://www.campmagruder.org/serve.html>)

**Spotlight Deadlines:** The next deadline is August 13 to be published on August 20.

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.