December 1, 2014

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The LINK
December 1, 2014
LINKing members and friends
of the United Methodist Church of Lake Orion
Phone: 248-693-6201
Email: LOUMC1@lakeorionumc.org
www.facebook.com/lakeorionumc

This last Sunday was Love INC (In the Name of Christ) Sunday. Sandy Weaver, as Executive Director of Love INC, gave the message. But she turned over a portion of the message time to a member of our congregation, Kirk Davis. Kirk gave a powerful testimony of his experience.

"VIEW THE PRESENT THROUGH THE PROMISE."

That is our theme this Advent and Christmas. We are both honored and challenged, as people of faith, to be among those helping bring fulfillment to God’s promises in the world. In a way, what we hope to do is to “re-birth” Christ into the world, living out his love in our relationships with all people.

There are many activities that you will see throughout this issue of the LINK. The Christmas season is perhaps the busiest of the entire year. And while it is awesome to have as many people as possible participate in all the things we are doing here at LOUMC, that “doing” is not the ultimate reason for Christmas or for our church’s existence.

So choose wisely from ALL the opportunities that present themselves to you this season. Choose those activities that will bring happiness, healthiness, and holiness. Choose opportunities for connection to God, to the kingdom work of Christ, and to meaningful relationships with other people. There are many ways to give of yourself this Christmas, and in the New Year. Our hope and prayer for you is that you will give and participate in such a way that it is a JOY and a blessing.

Pastor Larry & Pastor John
LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS
Sunday, December 7, 2014 at 4:00 p.m.

A worship service of Hope, Encouragement and Support for those who are experiencing grief and loss, and those who are struggling spiritually during the Advent and Christmas season. The service will be held in the sanctuary with light refreshments to be offered after the service.

CHILDREN PARTICIPATE IN ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

For three weeks in December, the children in our Kids on the Rock classes will participate in various ways with the lighting of the Advent Wreath in Worship. You will hear singing, recitations, melody bells and more! Parents, if you did not receive an email about this, please contact Donna Waite at 248-693-6201, ext. 206 or send an e-mail to donna.waite@lakeorionumc.org for more information.

SECRET SANTA COLLECTION

Once again Stephen Ministry will be collecting monetary donations to help members of our church family that are in need during the Christmas Season. 2014 donations will be collected through December 7, 2014. Please mark your donation as "Secret Santa." Thank you and God Bless!

HANGING OF THE GREENS
Friday, December 5th at 6:00 p.m.

Please join us in the sanctuary for the “Hanging of the Greens” to decorate the sanctuary and exterior of the church for Christmas. This is a great event for the whole family. Please sign up in Fellowship Hall during Coffee Hour so we will know how much pizza to order. Please contact Nancy Ochoa if you have any questions.

United Methodist Church of Lake Orion

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 8:00, 9:15 & 11:00 a.m.
NURSERY CARE is available during the 9:15 & 11:00 services
KIDS ON THE ROCK (Age 3-Gr. 5) is during the 9:15 & 11:00 services
[youth café ] (Grs. 6-12) is during the 9:15 service
ELEVATOR available at the Slater Street entrance
HEARING IMPAIRED AIDS are available for worship services
OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Friday: 9:00 AM—5:00 PM with lunch from 12-1
BULLETIN DEADLINE: Wednesday at 3:00
LINK DEADLINES: December 15th for January 1st LINK

*Call the church if you would like to be taken off the mailing list at 248-693-6201.

We at Lake Orion United Methodist Church (LOUMC) are a diverse, inclusive, caring, and Christ-like community.

Our mission is to connect people to God, one another, and the world, through engaging worship, spiritual formation, intergenerational family ministries, relational mission, and grateful stewardship.

Pastor:
Rev. Larry Wik  office ext. 203
248-732-7739 home
734-735-1334 cell

Associate Pastor:
Rev. John Ball  office ext. 207
989-980-7699 cell

Children’s Ministries Director:
Donna Waite  office ext. 206

Stephen Ministry Coordinator:
Lisa Goyette  office ext. 202

Organist/Choir Director:
John Potter  office ext. 208
248-265-4687 home

Secretary:
Debbie Heyboer  office ext. 209

Youth Director
Aaron Gross  office ext. 205

Nursery Director:
Jeri Melton

Accompanist:
Cristie Tyrrell

Custodian:
Curtis Bussell
We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the following people for their help in and around the church this past month:

To Rick & Patty Kalso, Joe Rowden, Nadine Jaecques, Pam Nichols, Janet Salswedel, Joyce Suzore, Trudy Carney, Jeff & Jenny Koncelik, Paul & Sandy Reile, Rob Charlton, Becki Doyle, Dawn Figueroa, Dan DiGasbarro, Jim Wright, Joyce Cumo, Jeanne Draggoo, Tim & Joyce Marker, Mark Lantzy, Brad Smiles, Paulie Egner, Linda Nixon, Sharon Keener and Bob Butler for ushering & greeting.

to Anna Graffeo, Joy Tomlinson, Sydney Brzezinski and Becca Smiles for serving as acolytes.

to Gina Adams, Jason Waite, Lynne Winter and Meaghan Cole for being lay readers.

to Barry & Amy Schwerin, Martha & Don Northcote, Pamela Nichols, Linda Leavens, Jeanne Draggoo, Diane Hanson and Cindy Katz for hosting Fellowship Time.

to Jim Childers, Pauline Egner, Ron Nordquist, Angela Weaver and Tim & Joyce Marker for being Fellowship Time Greeters.

To all those who planned, shopped, prepared, served or cleaned-up for the Community Meals throughout the past month.

Mission Team Fundraiser

Do you have an over-abundance of Christmas Decorations or are you just plain getting tired of the ones that you have been using for the past few years? Well, now is your chance to “weed through them” as you are preparing to do your decorating this year! The Missions Team will be selling several types of items during the Green’s Market this year. They will be taking Christmas Trees, Bows, Garland, Ornaments, fancy Christmas plates, etc. Please bring your items to the church beginning Thursday, December 4th from 9 until 7 and leave them in Room 105, which is the classroom right off from Fellowship Hall. All proceeds from these sales will benefit the Mission Trips such as Red Bird Mission, and the Youth Mission Trips. Any left-over items will be taken to the Love INC Household Goods Ministry and the Baldwin Center. (Sorry, but we do not have any type of storage available at the church for items prior to that time).

If you have any questions, please contact Sandy Weaver at (248)693-2644 or (248)321-5218.

3rd ANNUAL FEAST OF STEPHEN
STEPHEN MINISTRY FUNDRAISER DINNER
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12th at 6:30 p.m.

Stephen Ministry is excited to host our 3rd Annual Feast of Stephen Dinner!! One of the goals of Stephen Ministry is to be able to provide the best care possible. Through our training we realize that sometimes that care may come from the service of a licensed therapist educated in helping people work through life issues. Our community has many skilled clinicians that can offer this service but these services are not free. Often we meet with men and women that cannot afford to pay for a licensed therapist.

On 12/12/14 at LOUMC Stephen Ministry will again be hosting a gourmet dinner to help raise funds that allow us to help the men and women we encounter daily that could benefit from seeing a counselor but cannot afford to pay for one. LOUMC is the only church in Oakland County that offers this type of free support to those in need. Last years dinner was a huge success and we have been able to pay for counseling for several individuals and families in need.

This years dinner will consist of a choice of prime rib or salmon along with all the delicious side dishes. Women who host the tables and will decorate them in their Christmas finery. Each candlelit table will be decorated differently and will allow the guests to enjoy the beauty and uniqueness of each seating area.

Through this fundraising we want to meet a great need in our community and continue to provide the best care possible. As our fundraising grows, our ability to help those in need increases in parallel. We are working with several highly qualified therapists in our area that will help support this by offering services at reduced rates.

For each ticket sold at a price of $50 per person we can provide one half hour of counseling plus a delicious meal. Tickets will be sold in Fellowship Hall on Sundays following the 9:15 a.m. service. Seating is limited so if this is a cause you would like to support please buy your tickets as soon as possible. What a great way to help others this blessed holiday season while breaking bread with friends.

By helping each other bear our burdens we can provide the care that is needed. On behalf of Stephen Ministry at LOUMC, thank you and God Bless.

Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Galatians 6:2
Greens Market and Craft Fair
Lake Orion United Methodist Church
140 E. Flint Street

Friday December 5 – 9:00am-7:00pm
Saturday December 6 – 9:00am-4:00pm

Wreaths, Roping, Swags, Handcrafted Items, Clothing and Accessories, Gifts, Jewelry, Skin Care, Home Décor, Food Items, Bake Sale…

If you are interested in reserving a table during the market to showcase your crafts or other items, please contact Jessica Brennecke at (248) 496-3928 or send an e-mail to orionbrennecke@comcast.net. Tables are free to church members. Sign-up boards are located outside of the church office and Fellowship Hall.

Sponsored by the Youth Café

ATTENTION, ATTENTION!!

The Youth Mission Team is sponsoring a used book sale at the Greens Market. Please bring any gently used books to the church any day the church is open. Place books in the large cardboard boxes in Fellowship Hall labeled Book Sale.

GIFT CARDS FOR CHRISTMAS AND ALL YEAR LONG

Please think about using the Scrip Program at LOUMC to purchase gift cards. This program goes thru Great Lake Scrip, a national program, and we are able to purchase hundreds of gift cards at a discount for you to purchase at face value. Major retailers, restaurants, gas stations, hotels and movie theatres are available in different denominations. Retailers include Home Depot, Lowes, Bass Pro Shop, Macy’s, GAP, Barnes and Nobles, Toy-R-Us, and Kohl’s (which can be use to pay Kohl’s credit card bills) are among the hundreds available. Restaurants include Darden cards (use at Olive Garden, Longhorn Steakhouse and Bahama Breeze), Applebee’s, Logan’s, Starbucks, Tim Horton’s, Subway and Panera Bread among many others.

This program benefits many of ministries of the church, the General Fund and outreach such as LOVE, INC. and Community Assistance Fund.

Please check out the cards available on the website brochure on the end of the mailbox by the office, stop by the Scrip table during Fellowship Time or contact Trudy Carney at 248-693-2558 (trudycarney@aol.com) or Sharon Keener at 248-790-9041.

UMCmarket

Our church is spreading the warmth of Christ's love this season.

Experience the joy of giving with UMCmarket’s top holiday stores! Finding the perfect gift for those you love can mean even more this year. From Amazon to Kay Jewelers, there is something for everyone. Avoid the crowds and shop through UMCmarket and a percentage will be given to your ministry. You shop. We give. UMCmarket stores will have some amazing online sales for Black Friday (November 28th) and Cyber Monday (December 1st).
In Thanks

Thank you for your kindness and the beautiful luncheon after Vickie’s service. We appreciate all of your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Jim & Tim, The Kalohn Family

Thank you to Mark and Joey Lazzara for their work on the dumpster enclosure!

Dear church family,

Thank you so much for all the wonderful birthday cards, birthday luncheon and good wishes for my 101st birthday. The Lord was present at every event through all of you, and I felt so blessed. My church family means the world to me. I’ll see you in church again soon.

Love, Pat Elliott

The staff would like to thank everyone for their cards, encouraging words and thoughtful deeds during staff appreciation month. We are truly blessed to have a wonderful congregation that appreciates us and the work that we do.

LOUMC goes Christmas Caroling

Come and join our Three-in-One families as we go Christmas caroling on Wednesday, December 10th at 6:45 p.m. for about an hour. Some of us will be walking around our neighborhoods and some will be driving in cars to various shut-ins. Then we’ll all come back to the church for hot chocolate and cookies. Everyone is invited to join us! The more people who come, the more places we can go. We also invite you to have pizza with us at 6:00. Just call the church ahead of time so we know how many pizzas to order that night. Help us spread the joyful news about Jesus’ birth to our community!!

LOUMC in Lake Orion’s Christmas Parade

The little church which sits in our Slater Street parking lot will once again appear in the parade, thanks to our United Methodist Men. The parade is on Saturday, December 6th at 6:00 p.m. We are looking for people who would be willing to walk before the parade and pass out candy canes and information regarding our church. You can also help ahead of time by stapling the candy cane wrappers to the information card. If you are interested, contact the church office.

Working in the Baldwin Avenue Kitchen

Thanks to those who worked at Baldwin Avenue Kitchen on November 19: Jack & Charlotte Brown, Jim Childers, Michele Kellogg, Ginny Lavender, Barbara Shulze, Myrna Sweetland and Jay Verran.

This is a reminder to those scheduled to work in the kitchen on Wednesday, December 17: Jim Childers, Marilyn Gaskins, Michele Kellogg, Nancy Ochoa, Jim Pearce, Bill Porritt, Myrna Sweetland and Jay Verran.

Please contact Charlotte Brown at 248-391-0753 if you can help or know of someone that would like to help.

United Methodist Women Meet

“Sisters in Faith” will meet on Tuesday, December 9th at 9:30 a.m. in Shalom.

“Circle of Hope” will meet on Monday, December 15th, 7:00 p.m. in Room 103 for our Christmas program. All women are invited to join us. If childcare is desired, call Donna Waite by Friday, December 12th at 248-391-6864.
Come and celebrate with your church family at our

EPIPHANY PARTY!!

January 4th, 2015
11:00 a.m. at the church.

Two worship services at 8:00 and 10:00 followed by fellowship and activities and the ever-famous POTLUCK!!

Epiphany is the twelfth day of the twelve days of Christmas. It is also the celebration of the visit of the wise men to the Christ Child. Our party activities will include: Minute to Win It games, intergenerational Scavenger Hunt, taking down Christmas decorations, and “Kingo” (our Epiphany version of Bingo).

For the luncheon, please bring a dish to pass and your own table service. We will provide the beverages. If your dish is homemade, we would also like you to bring the recipe so we can make it available for those who want it.

Doesn’t this all sound like fun? There will be something for everyone to do OR you can just sit and visit with your church family. What a great way to start the new year as a church!! Hope to see you there!!

If you have any questions, please contact Donna Waite at 248-693-6201, ext. 206 or donna.waite@lakeorionumc.org.

Spotlight on Staff – Sr. Pastor Lawrence Wik

What do we really know about Pastor Lawrence Wik? We know he goes by the name Larry. We know that he’s married to one awesome woman named Jennifer and has three children – James, Aaron and Sarah. We may know that the Wik’s enjoy the company of their cats Charlie and Chester. We’ve heard in his sermons that he grew up in Farmington and some may have heard that he loves music! Well…now it’s time for “The Rest of the Story”!

Larry met Jennifer in the Renaissance Voices Choir at Oakland Community College. A shy boy singing in the choir caught the eye of a young girl and it took Jennifer to ask Larry out on a date to begin their history together. Their first date was dinner at Lelli’s in downtown Detroit and then they took in the musical A Chorus Line. Larry & Jennifer were married in December 1993 and took their honeymoon along the east coast of the U.S. They had Christmas Eve at The National Cathedral in Washington DC and saw the musical Cats on Christmas Day!

Larry and Jennifer spent some time in Atlanta, Georgia while Larry was attending seminary and then moved back to Detroit where Larry was appointed at Ford Memorial UMC. Larry has also been appointed to Cherry Hill UMC in Canton, Manchester UMC, and then most recently to us at Lake Orion UMC!

I asked Larry what his favorite thing to do on his days off and he said, without missing a beat, “Seeing a movie almost every Friday night with Jennifer”! His movie of choice most Fridays are comedies. I wasn’t too shocked by that answer as we all know and appreciates Larry’s sense of humor! Larry is also a big Detroit sports fan with the Piston’s and Red Wings being his favorites followed closely by the Tigers and then finally the Lions. Of the Lions he said that “it’s kind of like a relationship with an ex-girlfriend…you want them to do well but when they don’t, you just laugh”! Very well said Pastor Larry!

I asked about his childhood and a fond memory. Larry’s favorite vacation was the Wik family reunion in Norbeck, South Dakota and also remembers Christmastime fondly as a child. The family members would all exchange Christmas ornaments instead of gifts and would take care in choosing ornaments that expressed their family. He said many of their current Christmas ornaments came from many family members throughout the years. And no Wik holiday season was complete without a chicken dinner at Zehnder’s and ornament shopping at Bronner’s!

The last question during my time with Larry seemed to make him think long and hard. I asked what he feared the most when making the move to Lake Orion UMC. After a few moments Larry said that his biggest nightmare was that he was going to go to a church where people didn’t socialize, interact with each other and just didn’t have fun. He said that he was overjoyed to learn that all of LOUMC are “down-to-earth, good salt-of-the-earth people. Everyone at LOUMC including our staff is just awesome.”

And now you know a little more about “The rest of the story” of Sr. Pastor Lawrence Wik!

Next month you’ll learn more about our Nursery Coordinator, Jeri Melton!

About People

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Sue Anglea, Juanita Brandeberry, Chris Falls, Mary Jean Hanson, Carol McCormick, Gerry Melton (husband of Jerri), Patti Miechiels, Chuck Myers, Don Northcote, Garry Reynolds, Randy Riley, Anne Rossier, Larry Royster, Roger Shulze, Wendy Sylvain, Judy Wright, Community Meals Family, LOUMC Extended Family Members & Friends
Sunday Mornings Worship for Advent & Christmas

Sunday services are 8:00, 9:15, and 11:00

Sermon Series:
“View the Present through the Promise”

November 30th
First Sunday of Advent
THE PROMISE OF THE PROPHETS

December 7th
Second Sunday of Advent
THE PROMISE OF THE ANGELS

December 14th
Third Sunday of Advent
THE PROMISE OF THE SHEPHERDS

December 21st
Fourth Sunday of Advent
THE PROMISE OF THE HOLY FAMILY

December 28th
Christmas Carols & Message
(Services at 8:00 & 10:00)

January 4th
Epiphany Sunday
THE PROMISE OF THE WISE MEN
(Services at 8:00 & 10:00)

Epiphany Party!
at 11:00
Intergenerational activities,
Holiday Potluck Luncheon,
Un-hanging of the Christmas Greens,
Special Children’s Activities

Feast of Stephen
Stephen Ministry Fundraiser Dinner
Friday, December 12
7:00 PM
Fellowship Hall
Gourmet Dinner of Prime Rib or Salmon in a beautiful atmosphere. Funds raised help those that would benefit from seeing a counselor but can’t afford to pay for one. Tickets on sale Sundays after the 9:15 service or through Lisa Goyette.

Carols in the Village
Sunday, December 14
4:00 PM
A traditional Christmas concert with music by our choirs, and singing of favorite Christmas carols. Refreshments served in the Fellowship Hall by Youth Ministry.

Light in the Darkness
Worship service
For Those who Grieve
Sunday, December 7
4:00 PM
A service of prayer and healing for all who have experienced loss, grief, or illness of body, mind, or spirit. The service will include Holy Communion and candle lighting. Rev. Larry Wik, preaching

Greens Market
Friday, December 5
9:00 AM — 7:00 PM
Saturday, December 6
9:00 AM — 4:00 PM
Fresh greens: roping, swags, wreaths and a few new items!
Gift items available: handcrafted items, jewelry, edible gifts, skin care, gift cards (for gift giving or your own shopping), bake sale and many more unique gift items!

Hanging of the Greens
Friday, December 5
6:00 PM
A pizza party, Christmas cookies and a fun time for all as we decorate the sanctuary and entrances for the holiday season. Come join us.
### Weekly Scheduled Events:

#### Sunday
- 8:00, 9:15, 11:00 Worship Service
- 09:15 Kids on the Rock
- 09:15 [youth café]
- 10:15 Fellowship Time (FH)
- 11:00 Kids on the Rock
- 11:00 Adult Bible Study (108)

#### Monday
- 10:30 Bible Study (Sh)
- 11:45 Tai Chi Sword & Tai Chi (104)
- 05:30 Community Meal (FH)
- 07:00 Testify Practice
- 07:00 Small Group (51 North)

#### Tuesday
- 09:00 Mother’s Morning Out (Nur)
- 09:30 Staff Meeting (103)
- 07:30 Chancel Choir

#### Wednesday
- 10:00 Bible Study (103)
- 06:00 3-in-1 (AC)
- 06:45 CODA (Sh)

#### Thursday
- 09:00 Yoga (203/4)
- 09:00 Mother’s Morning Out (Nur)
- 09:30 Hallelujah Handbells
- 05:30 Oakland County Services

#### Friday
- 28 & 10 Worship
- 10 AM—KOTR
- 11 AM-Fellowship Time
- 11 AM-Blood Pressure Screening

#### Saturday
- 8 & 10 Worship
- 10 AM—KOTR
- 11 AM-Fellowship Time
- 11 AM-Blood Pressure Screening

#### December Calendar

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<tr>
<td>8:00 PM-Peer Support (105)</td>
<td>07:00 PM-SPRC (51 North)</td>
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<td>08:00 AM-Green’s Market Set-up (FH &amp; 105)</td>
<td>09:00 AM-Green’s Market (FH &amp; 105)</td>
<td>06:00 PM-Hanging of the Greens (AC)</td>
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<td>07:30 AM-Sisters in Faith (Sh)</td>
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<td>08:00 AM-Feast of Stephen Set-up (FH)</td>
<td>09:00 AM-FISH (Sh)</td>
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<td>2nd-Sunday Advent</td>
<td>3rd-Sunday Advent</td>
<td>10:15 AM-Confirmation Class</td>
<td>04:00 PM-Church Service</td>
<td>06:00 PM-Circle of Hope (103)</td>
<td>08:00 AM-Feast of Stephen (FH)</td>
<td>06:30 PM-Feast of Stephen (FH)</td>
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<td>11:00 PM-Mother’s Morning Out (Nur)</td>
<td>09:30 PM-Church Service</td>
<td>07:00 PM-Finance (Sh)</td>
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**Office closed on December 31st**

*December Events*
- Office closed on December 26th
- Office closed on December 27th

*Weekly Worship Services*
- 8:00, 9:15, 11:00

*Additional Events*
- 11:00 AM-Blood Pressure Screening
- 11:00 AM-Fellowship Time
- 10:00 AM-LINK Assembly