

The LINK

February 2021

Please check our website for further any changes regarding any posted events.

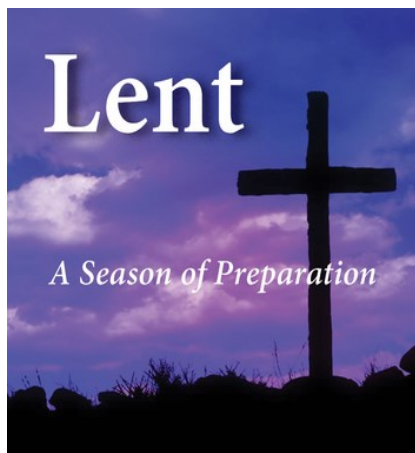
DRIVE-THRU LENTEN PREPARATIONS

While we are taking further steps toward adding in-person worship back into our schedule as soon as it is safe to do so, we also realize that on-line livestreamed worship will continue to be a preferred option for many until we have been fully vaccinated and given the “all clear.” Believe it

or not, Lent is right around the corner beginning with Ash Wednesday on February 17th.

O my! So, we will be offering a special pick-up of Lenten materials – including ashes for Ash Wednesday, a calendar, a communion cup, and a Lenten devotional – on the previous **Sunday, February 14th** (Valentine’s Day) after worship from **11:30-12:30 in the Anderson Street parking lot.**

Who knows? There may be some Valentine goodies too! We don’t have a fancy name for the initiative yet. “Loot for Lent” was one thought. “Love and Lent Packets” was also suggested because of Valentine’s Day. If you have any great suggestions for a name, let us know!



Do You Know About Lent???

Chances are you'll see a bunch of folks walking around with schmutz on their foreheads on Wednesday (February 17th). The 'Splainer asks what having a dirty forehead has to do with being a Christian and why this ritual is gaining in popularity.

Q: Excuse me, but why do you have dirt on your forehead?

A: Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, the day many Christians mark as the first day of Lent, the time of reflection and penitence leading up to Easter Sunday. Clergy all over the world dispense ashes, usually made by burning the palm fronds distributed on last year's Palm Sunday, making the sign of the cross on the bowed foreheads before them. As they "impose" or "dispense" the ashes, the pastor or priest reminds each Christian of Genesis 3:19: "For dust you are and to dust you shall return."

Q: Well, that's cheerful. Why would anyone want to start a workday on such a downer?

A: It isn't intended to be a downer. It's supposed to be a reminder that our lives are short and we must live them to the fullest. OK, maybe it's a little bit of a downer — that verse from Genesis is what God said to Adam and Eve when he expelled them from the Garden of Eden for their sins. But there's a big party the night before Ash Wednesday. That's Mardi Gras, or "Fat Tuesday," a secular observance that evolved out of "Shrove Tuesday," the last hurrah — usually marked by eating of pancakes or other sinfully sweet foods — before the solemnity and penance of Lent set in.

.Q: OK, so don't invite me over for dinner until Lent is over in 40 days

A: Fun fact: Lent is actually longer than 40 days. There are 46 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter, but most churches don't count the Sundays as part of Lent.

Q: I thought only Catholics marked Ash Wednesday?

A: Not anymore. It used to be true that Catholics made up the lion's share of people celebrating Ash Wednesday. But today, most "liturgical churches" — those with a regular, calendar-based liturgy, or set of rituals and observances — mark the day,

including Methodists, Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Lutherans and other Protestants. Some evangelicals are even beginning to get into the spirit as Baptist churches in Alabama, Texas and Arkansas have smeared some ash in recent years. But the majority of evangelical and Pentecostal Christians don't observe the day, and neither do Mormons.

Q: I don't remember reading about Ash Wednesday in the Bible. Where did the practice come from?

A: That's true; there is no mention of Ash Wednesday in the Bible. But there is a tradition of donning ashes as a sign of penitence that predates Jesus. In the Old Testament, Job repents "in dust and ashes," and there are other associations of ashes and repentance in Esther, Samuel, Isaiah and Jeremiah. By the 10th century, the monk Aelfric tied the practice, which dates to the eighth century, to the period before Easter, writing, "Now let us do this little at the beginning of our Lent that we strew ashes upon our heads to signify that we ought to repent of our sins during the Lenten fast." By the 11th century, the practice was widespread throughout the church — until Martin Luther, the Protestant reformer, threw the practice out in the 16th century because it was not biblically based. There's no Lent in the Bible, either, though many Christians see it as an imitation of the 40 days Jesus spent fasting and battling with Satan in the desert.

Q: When can you wash the dirt off your face?

A: No one is required to keep the ashes on his or her face after the ritual. But some Christians choose to, perhaps as a reminder to themselves that they are mortal and fallible, while others may choose to leave them on as a witness to their faith in the hope others will ask about them and open a door to sharing their faith.

Lenten prayer

Dear God,
We thank you for your Son
Jesus, we thank you that
he came to teach us and
help us. We thank you
that he died for us and
rose from the dead.
Amen



Small Group Opportunity!

Genealogy: The Basics – an introduction to the basic concepts and tools used in family history research. We will discuss census records and vital records to begin your research and introduce you to online sources (websites and search techniques) and finding research done by others. If you have already done some previous research and created a family tree, we can explore other ways to access additional information to fill in the gaps! Group can meet in person (when small groups start back up at the church) or via Zoom. Meeting day TBD. **Contact: Linda Matola at (248) 390-5685 or lmatlo@aol.com if you are interested!**

Winter Walkers Description: Beat the winter blues by starting your week walking with friends. We will meet at the church at 11:30 on Monday mornings. We can choose to walk the Paint Creek Trail or around the village. Join us for refreshing exercise and conversation.

Text, Email or Call Gail Vettraino 248-563-9075
gailannvettraino@gmail.com

Virtual Book Club Description: Winter is a great time to curl up with a good book! What is more fun than chatting about it with good friends and your favorite beverage? Books will be selected from suggestions by group members. Time: 7:00 PM
Text or Email Jeanne Draggoo (586)850-0074
Draggoo4@aol.com

Missions is organizing a collection for Baldwin Center. Baldwin has always supplied bag lunches at their facility and through Hope Warming Center (across the street from their location). Because of the need this winter they are expanding their efforts to include Lighthouse and other Pontiac warming locations. They were heartened by the possibility of our church helping! Requested items include the following (in order of urgency):

Diapers (all sizes welcome)

Formula (Powder)

Gallon zip lock baggies

Brown bags (preferably large size)

There will be a collection bin outside the Slater Street entrance by the office from **February 1 through February 12**. There is also a “baker’s rack” inside the door for items dropped during church hours. The bin will be monitored daily so you can have confidence in your donations going to Pontiac warming centers through Baldwin. Questions: Susan Montgomery 248 921.4518



AMAZONSMILE Shop and benefit the church at the same time. Visit smile.amazon.com and select *United Methodist Church of Lake Orion* as your charitable organization. Make future purchases through smile.amazon.com and the church will receive .5% of the price of your eligible purchases. Same products, same prices and same service with no cost to you for the benefit to LOUMC. Prime members use in the same manner. Questions? Contact Trudy Carney trudycarney@aol.com (248-693-2558).

The Finance Committee is looking for one or more individuals who would be willing to help with the Audit Committee. You do not need to be a CPA in order to facilitate in this endeavor. A fairly simple procedure is already in place. This can be done at your leisure in coordination with whomever you would be working with. Carol Hermann and Sandy Weaver have been having fun doing this for the past few years, but feel that it is time to share this opportunity with others. For further information, please contact either Carol Hermann (248)391-9251 or Sandy Weaver (248)693-2644.



God Winks

I have been ringing for Salvation Army for over 25 years and have been blessed with so many “God Winks” while doing so. As I was leaving the parking lot in the dark on December 19, I felt a pang of disappointment that there were no God Winks on my time slot. Well, I thought, maybe someone else had a God Wink. It wasn’t until much later that I realized we, the ringers, were the miracle. By showing up in a pandemic and caring enough to ring for others, we were providing an opportunity for our generous community to help. For me it started right away with more than a handful of people telling me “You are the first ringer I have seen here this year. Thank you for being here!”. It continued with other people simply stating “So glad to see you out here!”.



Today I logged in to my Salvation Army page to find the post for our kettle contributions from December 19, 2020. It was not available when I submitted my LINK article for January. I feel it warrants a second article. **LOUMC collected \$1,148.63 for the Salvation Army in our 9-hour shift!!!** Now I know that we had a high school youth (Andee & Michael Francek) and we had Kathy McMinn and Sarah Hauxwell and that Kathy actually sang during her shift. But that is **more than double what our 9-hour shifts have brought in other years**. So once again, thank you to the Salvation Army volunteers!

Susan Montgomery, Missions



Febr



Presidents Day

Weekly Scheduled Events:

Sunday

10:00 Online Worship

Monday

10:30 Bible Study (Sh)

11:30 Winter Walkers

07:00 Disciple II class (120)

Tuesday

10:00 Disciple II class (120)

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Daily

08:00 PM-Narcotics Anon.
(123/124)

Sun	Mon	Tue
	1 Bible Study 10:30am Disciple Class ZOOM 7pm	2 Disciple Class 10am 
7	8 Bible Study 10:30am Disciple Class ZOOM 7pm	9 Disciple Class 10am
14 Valentine's Day 11:30-12:30 Anderson St pickup	15 President's Day Bible Study 10:30am Disciple Class ZOOM 7pm	16 Disciple Class 10am
21	22 Bible Study 10:30am Disciple Class ZOOM 7pm	23 Disciple Class 10am
28		

February 2021



	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	3	4	5 Office closes at noon on Fridays	6
	10 NAMI Zoom Mtg To register: desteffes@charter.net Contact Bryan or Deb Thom for info bryan@debthom@gmail.com	11 Trustees SPRC	12	13
	17 Ash Wednesday	18 Trustees SPRC	19	20
	24	25 Church Council	26	27



FEASTING ON HIS PRESENCE

A LENTEN BIBLE READING GUIDE

Day 1 begins on Ash Wednesday and Day 40 ends on Holy Saturday.
Taking Sundays off.

Day 1	Isaiah 6:1-7	Day 21	Malachi 4:6
Day 2	Psalms 139	Day 22	Psalms 122
Day 3	Revelation 4	Day 23	Isaiah 9:1-7
Day 4	Psalms 19	Day 24	Isaiah 7:10-16
Day 5	Isaiah 11:1-10	Day 25	Luke 1:26-38
Day 6	Psalms 27	Day 26	Luke 1:46-55
Day 7	Lamentations 3:19-26	Day 27	Luke 2:1-14
Day 8	Psalms 30	Day 28	Isaiah 61
Day 9	Isaiah 43:1-13	Day 29	Luke 4:14-21
Day 10	Psalms 136	Day 30	Psalms 95
Day 11	Job 38: 1-11	Day 31	John 10:11-18
Day 12	Psalms 42	Day 32	Psalms 23
Day 13	Job 38:12-38	Day 33	Zechariah 9:9-10
Day 14	Psalms 16	Day 34	John 12:12-19
Day 15	1 Kings 19:11-13	Day 35	John 16:5-14
Day 16	Psalms 34	Day 36	Isaiah 53
Day 17	1 Chronicles 29:11-13	Day 37	Matthew 27:33-54
Day 18	Psalms 121	Day 38	Psalms 22
Day 19	Exodus 15:1-21	Day 39	Mark 16
Day 20	Psalms 103	Day 40	Revelation 21:1-7

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If you receive a paper copy of the LINK, and you prefer to read it online or pick up a copy at the church, let the office know to remove you from the Post Office mailing.

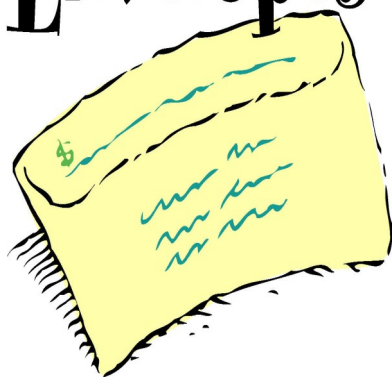
*We are currently printing and mailing over 325 copies of the LINK, and in an effort to save funds we are hoping to reduce printing and mailing costs. You should know that the LINK is always available online. If **you wish to be REMOVED from the postal copy**, please call the office or send a note to LOUMC1@lakeorionumc.org with your name and REMOVE in the subject line. If we don't hear from you, we will keep you on the mailing list.*

Thanks so much!

Pat Matthews

2021 Giving Envelopes –If you would like to received Offering Envelopes for 2021, please send a note or call the office. We are preparing the envelope packets with your numbers and hope to distribute them. They will be available at the church office. If you have signed up once, you don't need to keep signing up. We are keeping a list of those requests and will have the envelopes available. Any questions, please see or call Pat in the office.

Offering Envelopes





Over the past couple years, LOUMC has given several hundred new coats, hats and gloves to children and youth in need in Lake Orion and Oxford. Our supply is running low. If you are able, please consider purchasing and donating a **NEW coat**

to our coat ministry. We also can use warm **NEW hats and gloves** as well.

We are accepting coats Infant through adult sizes. If you have any questions, please contact Dawn Ames at (248) 563-2399 or dawn.ames@lakeorionumc.org.

CARDMAKERS FOR CHRIST - Greeting Cards are available for Birthday, Get Well, Sympathy, Thinking of you, and note cards in the church office. Proceeds benefit mission outreach. \$2 each or 3 for \$5.





February

28 DAY SCRIPTURE WRITING PLAN

EACH OF THE SCRIPTURES BELOW TAKES TEN MINUTES OR LESS TO COPY OUT. COMMIT TO SPENDING TEN MINUTES EACH DAY LISTENING TO GOD'S VOICE AS YOU SIMPLY COPY THESE TEXTS OUT OF YOUR BIBLE.

Week 1

DAY 1- MARK 12:28-31
DAY 2- LUKE 6:27-36
DAY 3- ROMANS 12: 9-16
DAY 4- ROMANS 13: 8-10
DAY 5- 1 CORINTHIANS 13: 1-7
DAY 6- 1 CORINTHIANS 13: 8-13
DAY 7- EPHESIANS 4:1-6

Week 2

DAY 8- 1 PETER 4: 7-11
DAY 9- 1 JOHN 4: 7-12
DAY 10- 1 JOHN 4: 13-16
DAY 11- 1 JOHN 4: 17-21
DAY 12- JOHN 15:9-13
DAY 13- JOHN 3: 16-21
DAY 14- DEUTERONOMY 10: 12-19

Week 3

DAY 15- DEUTERONOMY 11: 13-15
DAY 16- DEUTERONOMY 11: 18-23
DAY 17- MATTHEW 22: 37-40
DAY 18- MATTHEW 5: 43-45
DAY 19- JOHN 13: 34-35
DAY 20- JOHN 14: 15-21
DAY 21- ROMANS 5: 1-8

Week 4

DAY 22- ROMANS 8: 28-30
DAY 23- MICAH 6: 8
DAY 24- 1 JOHN 2: 15-17
DAY 25- 1 JOHN 3: 1-3
DAY 26- HEBREWS 10: 24-25
DAY 27- DEUTERONOMY 6: 4-9
DAY 28- LUKE 10: 25-28

Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.
Psalm 119:18

*You are in my thoughts
and prayers.*

*Please stay strong
and safe.*

Hugs.



***Our prayers and sympathy go out to all of
our families and friends who have
suffered losses.***

About People

Jyl Acker, Chloe Booth, Linda Carpenter, Kallie Charlton, Howard Daenzer, Sr., Shareen DiGasbarro, Paulie Egner, Jan Heyse, Don Johnson, Janine Langegger, Joy Makedonsky, Joy Marker, Carol McCormick, Maxine McManus, Sandy McSwain, Jack Morrison, Patti Miechiels, Edward and Jennifer Naylor, Pamela and Leonard Nichols, Ron Nordquist, Don Northcote, Jim Pearce, Jill Remick, Sherry Reseigh, Garry Reynolds, Randy Riley, Barry Schwerin, Laurie Trafton, Roger Waite, Jim and Judy Wright, Kathy Young, Community Meals Family, LOUMC Family Members & Friends.

Prayer Chain: Kathy McMinn @ 248-770-8390 (text)
KathyMcMinn@cavtel.net

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, ongoing spiritual development, intergenerational family ministries, relational mission, and joyful stewardship.

SUNDAY MORNING LIVESTREAM WORSHIP 10:00 AM
www.lakeorionumc.org

ELEVATOR available at the Slater Street entrance

OFFICE HOURS: Mondays –Thursdays: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
FRIDAYS: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Office Closed afternoons

LINK DEADLINE: February 15th for March 2021 LINK

Call the church office if you would like to be taken off the mailing list.

Phone: 248-693-6201, Email: Loumc1@lakeorionumc.org
www.facebook.com/lakeorionumc www.lakeorionumc.org

STAFF

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Secretary

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Custodian

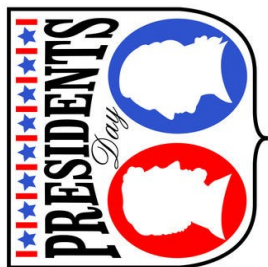
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FEBRUARY



*Valentine's
Day*

