The LINK

July 2026

Please check our website for changes regarding any posted events.

Lake Orion United Methodist Church

Rainforest Falls VBS 2026

Monday July 13th - Thursday July 16th

Times: 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Please contact Madie Parker-Zurkan to be on the VBS Team!

As we get closer to the big day more donating opportunities will be available

To register: please use the link or the QR code below:

https://vbspro.events/p/loumcrainforestfalls

Decorating days: July 6th - 11th (Time TBD)

Wednesday, July 15th: 1:00 p.m.

Those that can help sew and complete our snakes!

Hello everyone!

As we continue to plan for our ***Rainforest Falls Vacation Bible School*** we are wondering, what other things are happening this summer in the lives of our church community! Like last summer, we would love to know where you go and/or what you are doing! So, here are a few creative ways we can stay connected this summer!

First, grab yourself another "Little Jesus" or two, and take a picture with Him on your summer journey, or in your garden or even at your dining room table! Send us this fun picture and we will share it in the hallway by the front office! Let us know what you and Jesus are up to!

And second, **(back to VBS)** come and assist with our **Rainforest Falls** fun the week of July 13th! We still need volunteers to be present for one morning or all 4! It is going to be so much fun and meaningful to the children that are here! Let's continue to build those inter-generational bonds by showing up and hanging out together! Contact Madie or Pastor Linda.

Did you know???

Did you know that we have bins to collect eyeglasses? They are located at the east and west entrance doors. The Lions Club takes your donations and sends them overseas to those who need them. Doesn't matter what frame, or what prescription, they will be checked and refurbished by their doctors. So look in those drawers and find those glasses that you don't use and pass them along to the Lions Club so they can pass them on for continued use. For any info, contact Jim Childers.

UMCOR
United Methodist Committee On Relief

UMCOR donation of $983.55, which included a $400 memorial designated gift, was mailed out in May. Thank you for all those who contributed.

BBB donation of $370.65, was gifted from WOJO's Fundraiser. Thank you for all those who contributed.

I am so very thankful for our funeral luncheon ministry and the team that makes it happen. Below is an article from Emily Graffeo explaining the philosophy of the ministry and just what the team does. If you're so inclined, you may want to help out too!

Funeral Luncheon Ministry

At Lake Orion UMC, we have a great funeral luncheon ministry – made possible by a group of dedicated volunteers who set up the Fellowship Hall to be warm and welcoming, then serve food for the family and do all the cleaning up after. This allows the family to visit with each other without anyone needing to clean their house or worry about how to accommodate the people who will be coming. The family provides their own food, with some suggestions from us, if desired. It's very affordable (we charge a minimal fee for non-members) and much appreciated by the families.

There are a few suggestions that have proven to be valuable:

- Fewer food choices are better. A main dish, starch, and vegetable work really well – like Mostaccioli or chicken, bread sticks or potatoes, and salad. Chicken without bones is MUCH easier to eat!
- Everyone can eat again in a few hours! Don't stress about the amount of food.
- Don't forget dessert – cookies are great! Easy to hold, easy to bring, wonderful to eat!
- Don't worry about dealing with everyone's dietary needs. If one of the close family members has a particular dietary issue – accommodate it. Let everyone else deal with it.
- Above all else, remember that the food is secondary. It is actually something to do with your hands while you reminisce about your loved one with all the other folks who are also remembering.

If you would like to join our group of Funeral Luncheon volunteers, please let me know. Joanne Purdon and I co-chair this ministry. I send an email to everyone, and you let me know if you are able to help with that particular luncheon. We have people who come to set up about 2 hours before the luncheon, others who serve the meal, and still others who clean up. We are usually finished about 2 hours after the meal is served. You can do one or more of the jobs and no prior experience is required!

I remember when my Daddy died many years ago. The time spent visiting with people who knew him at different times of his life and hearing about his impact on others was so valuable to me. This is such an important ministry. I am so very glad to be a part of it. Please let me know if you would like to be a part of it too.

Emily Graffeo (248-705-2025)

Add a Tribute to our “Celebration of Life” Walk

Years ago, in honor of LOUMC’s anniversary, we created a beautiful Memory Garden and Walk. Along the walk are engraved bricks that honor loved ones, leaving a lasting tribute.
Each brick is 8” x 4” and costs $50, which includes engraving (up to 3 lines, 14 characters per line) and placement in the walk.

Ordering is simple:
Just fill out the form and place it in an envelope with your payment - cash or check (made out to LOUMC with “Brick” in the memo line).
If ordering more than one brick, complete a separate grid section for each. One check is fine for multiple bricks.
Help us continue building this space of love and remembrance.

Orders will continue on an ongoing basis. Thank you for supporting LOUMC’s Celebration of Life and Memorial Garden and Walk. Please contact Kathy McMinn via text at 248-693-1895 or email at kathymcminn@cavtel.net if you have any questions. Order forms are available at church.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14

Financial Report

Thank you for your faithful giving to Lake Orion United Methodist Church operating budget.

Below is detail of 2025 giving and May 2026 as well as average attendance information.
Below are details of our 2025 giving as well as May 2026.

Attendance figures are also included.

2025	
General Income Giving	$ 485,431.32
General Expenses	$ 515,570.55
from reserve transferred to cover shortfall	**$ 30,139.23**
2026 Year to Date May	
General Income Giving	$ 215,424.88
General Expenses	$ 233,551.03
Shortfall	**$ 17,126.15**

Attendance (average weekly)

	In Person	Logged in Computers
2025	104	55
Year to Date May 2026	118	33

Monthly financial statements are available in the office which includes the budget figures. Questions, please contact Financial Committee Members:

Don Tyrrell, Chairperson
Carol Hermann, Secretary
Kathy Castillo, Financial Secretary
Trudy Carney, Treasurer
David Fairchild, Gayle Cater, Larry Wik

Creative Bible Journaling

Scripture Writing Plan

July 2017

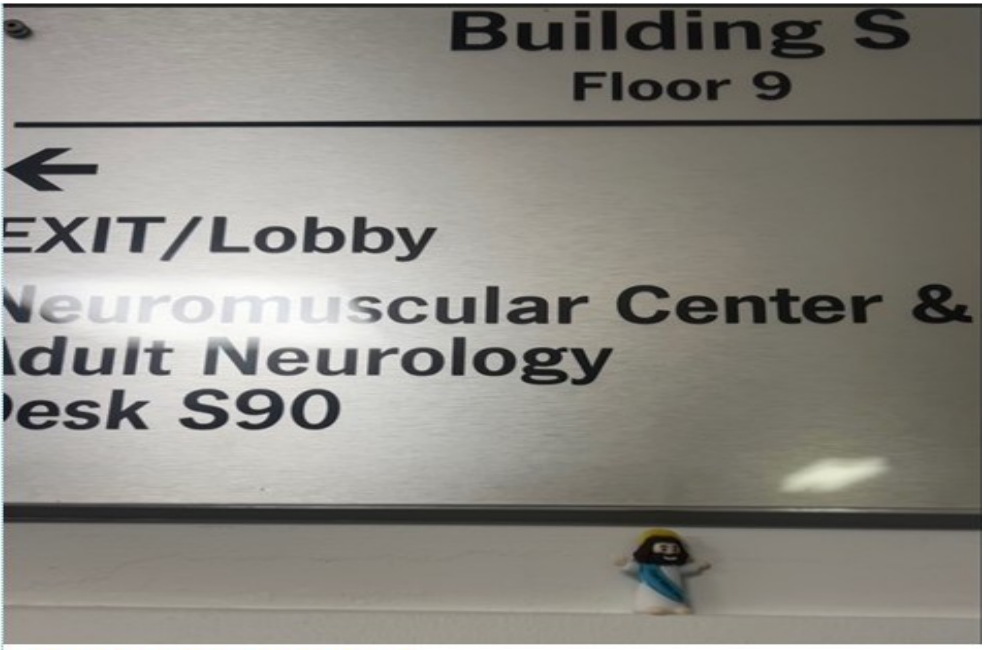
Each day in the month of July focus on and write the corresponding Bible verses.

Use a spiral notebook and WRITE the Scripture at least once. Maybe 3 or 4 times? Use Different Colored Pens? From Different Translations? Use a Hand-Lettering Style? You may also ILLUSTRATE the verse?

The theme for July is "Freedom"

1. Matthew 1:21
2. Romans 8:1-2
3. II Corinthians 3:17
4. Galatians 5:13
5. Ephesians 3:12
6. John 3:16
7. Psalms 119:45
8. Acts 13:39
9. Romans 6:22
10. John 8:36
11. 1 Peter 2:16
12. Colossians 1:22
13. Galatians 5:1
14. Luke 4:18
15. 1 Thessalonians 1:10
16. Galatians 6:9
17. Romans 6:23
18. II Timothy 1:7
19. II Choronicles 7:14
20. John 15:13
21. Phillipians 3:20
22. Psalms 33:12
23. Romans 8:15
24. Exodus 6:6
25. Psalms 119:32
26. Romans 119:32
27. John 8:32
28. II Corinthians 3:17
29. Romans 7:6
30. Galatians 2:4-5
31. Psalms 118:5

www.Creative-Bible-Journaling.com
www.facebook.com/groups/CbibleJ/
susan@Creative-Bible-Journaling.com



Joyce & Tim Marker:

Little Jesus placed as we left Cleveland Clinic yesterday. Hoping to hear diagnosis and treatment after 2 years of progressive muscle weakness and pain. Appreciate all your prayers

Pastor Larry:

Little Jesus spotted while walking at Great Lakes Crossing!

Donate Pill Bottles

UMW are recycling used pill bottles. This is an easy way to help people in need. They can be dropped off by the office or fellowship hall. Thank you for your help!

Matthew 25: Ministries accepts donations of empty plastic pill bottles for inclusion in shipments of medical supplies. Pill bottle program fulfills the dual needs of improving medical care in developing countries and caring for our environment.

Acceptable collection items include:

- Prescription and over-the-counter pill bottles
- Large and small pill bottles
- Pill Bottles with and without secure caps (child resistant)

Pill bottles that are not appropriate to include with shipments of medical supplies are recycled for cash that goes towards Matthew 25: Ministries' programs. If you wish to prepare bottles for shipment rather than recycling, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Bottles included in shipments of medical supplies must have an all plastic lid.
- Remove labels, leaving no glue or residue.
- Wash bottles in very hot water and dish soap.
- Rinse and dry thoroughly.
- Replace lids on clean, dried bottles.
- Put in plastic bags to keep them clean.

Upcoming Work dates:
Wednesday July 8th, Thursday July 9th
10am - 12 noon

In Honor and Memory

On June 14th, our Chancel Choir sang a new anthem during the worship service, All Things New. The choir purchased and performed it in honor and memory of our beloved former pastor, Rev. Bruce Denton. The anthem's message of comfort, evoking scripture from Revelation as well as from the letters of Paul, was especially appropriate as an homage to Pastor Bruce. For Bruce was known, both in his preaching and his presence, as a compassionate bearer of comfort.

The lyrics of the anthem are particularly profound. As a result, each time the choir rehearsed it, the message of the words became even richer and all the more meaningful to them. While the choir's diction was excellent - you could likely hear most or all of the words - nonetheless, I thought it might be meaningful for you to see the words in print and be able to take them in more fully as the choir had the opportunity to do. I hope you will enjoy reading and prayerfullly pondering them.

All Things New

Light after darkness, gain after loss
Strength after weakness, crown after cross;
Sweet after bitter, hope after fears
Home after wandering, praise after tears

Alpha and Omega
Beginning and the end
He is making all things new
Springs of living water
Shall wash away each tear
He is making all things new

Sight after mystery, sun after rain
Joy after Sorrow, peace after pain;
Near after distant, gleam after gloom
Love after wandering, life after tomb

Alpha and Omega
Beginning and the end
He is making all things new
Springs of living water

July 2

Weekly Events:

Sunday
10:00am Worship
11:00am Coffee Hour (FH)
11:30am Adult Bible Study

Monday
10:30am BibleStudy(Sh-106)
5:30-6:30pm In person
Community Meals (FH)
7pm Disciple Class

Tuesday
10:30am Sermon Study

Wednesday
7am Local Business LBN

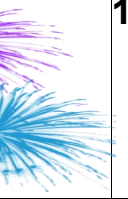
Thursday
7:30am Rotary Club

Friday
Office Closes at noon

Daily
8 PM-Narcotics Anon (123)

Sun	Mon	Tue
5	6	7
12	13	14
19	20	21
26	27	28

026

es	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 *Office CLOSED for the HOLIDAY* ***FLARE NIGHT***	*4*
	8 ***Pills***	9 ***Pills*** *SPRC*	10	11 *:30 UMM Breakfast* *10am Widows Fellowship*
	15 *10:30 am Book Club*	16 *Finance*	17 *10 am Prayers & Squares meeting*	18
Vacation Bible School				
	22	23 *Church Council*	24	25
	29	30	31	

Just a thank you from my heart **for everyone who has stepped in and stepped up to help out. Thanks to our volunteers - for our projection team, our kitchen workers, our study groups, our ushers and greeters, our nursery and Sunday school helpers, our Council, Finance, SPRC, Trustees, Counters, our garden crew, electrician helpers, VBS teams, our choirs, as well as the many others who are behind the scenes and not often thanked that help this church. I know we don't say it often enough, but you make our jobs a little easier knowing that you are helping out.**

Musical Notes - Summer is here and since the choir has taken a break for the summer, we're looking for people who feel called to provide music during worship services. Music can be sung (solo or a group), instrumental, or a combination of both. Please contact Janice 248-705-4769 at your earliest convenience if you are interested in providing music for at least one summer worship service.

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

Jack and Charlotte Patton celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Pentecost Sunday with a surprise gift for the church from their children. They placed a brick in our “Celebration of Life” Memorial Garden and provided some cast iron grill pans for our kitchen to honor Jack for all he does in our kitchen.

Thank you to Betsy, Andy, and Luke Patton for the opportunity to celebrate with your family and honor their commitment to LOUMC with these gifts. It was a surprise that Charlotte and Jack were not expecting - especially in front of the whole congregation!!

Welcome to our New Members

Pictured: Pastor Larry Wik, Jim and Karen McPherson, Craig and Kristy Plesscher, Chuck and Mary Alice Bestle, Lois Renee Hills, Kelly and Tom Herron.

LOUMC *LIVIN' IN THE MITTEN*
DINNER AND AUCTION INFORMATION

We hope you will attend the First Annual LOUMC Dinner and Service Auction on September 19th from 5-8pm at the Legacy Center, 925 N. Lapeer Road, Oxford 48371. You are welcome to bring friends and family to join in the fun!

Attendees will enjoy a delicious dinner featuring two pasta selections, pizza, salad, dessert, coffee, and soft drinks. A cash bar will also be available. Following dinner, attendees will have the opportunity to bid on a variety of events, experiences, and services donated by members of our congregation. Tickets for the dinner and auction are $25 and will go on sale in July. Childcare will be provided at the church during the dinner and auction.

We have many special events and services already donated for the auction. Some of these include; euchre party, bunko party, guitar lessons, desserts delivered to your home, leaf pick up, garden tour, bee-keeping experience, high tea, family feud party, tile making, chili cook-off/karaoke, women's weekend at a Sugar Springs cottage, Traverse City getaway, Arctic Circle travelogue, prime LOUMC parking spot, cook-out/corn hole tournament, and much more.

Dinner and Auction Schedule:

5:00 -5:15 Arrive and get your registration number, paddle and program
5:15- 6:00 Dinner
6:00 – 7: 30 Auction
7:30-8:00 Payments and Clean up

Upon arrival, you will receive a program listing all auction items. Some items will offer unlimited attendance and will be available at

a set price. Others will have limited availability and will be awarded to the highest bidders. Auction items begin at just $5, making participation affordable and fun for everyone.
Below are a couple of examples of what you might find in the auction program:

Item B1 Euchre Fun in Fellowship Hall – Saturday, Oct 10, 2026 7pm
Description Join in the fun of a friendly Euchre event. All abilities welcome. Snacks and beverages provided.
Qty Unlimited
Min/Max Bid $10
Donated by Church Council Members

Item B2 Weekend Stay in Traverse City – June 4-6, 2027
Description Join the Vettraino's at their 4bedroom/3bath home overlooking Lake Leelanau. Do your own thing or join a tour of the Leelanau peninsula, visiting sand dunes, beaches, wineries, beach towns and lighthouses. Breakfasts, snacks, and one dinner provided. Based on double occupancy of bedrooms.
Qty 6
Min Bid $40
Donated by Mario and Gail Vettraino

At the conclusion of the auction, your purchases will be totaled and payment may be made by cash, check, or credit card. You'll leave with exciting activities and services to enjoy throughout the coming year, while building new friendships and strengthening connections within our church family.
We are still seeking additional auction events and services. This is a wonderful opportunity to share your talents, interests, and hospitality with others in our congregation. Consider partnering with friends to host an event together. If you would like to donate an event or service, information and registration forms are available in the church office and in Fellowship Hall after worship. You may also speak with any member of the Auction Committee.
Whether you participate as a host, bidder, or both, your involvement will help strengthen our church community and make this event a joyful success. All proceeds will support our church ministries, programs, and building needs.
We look forward to celebrating an evening of fellowship, generosity, and fun with you!
With appreciation,

LOUMC Auction Committee
Paul Reile, Brad and Patty Smiles, Gail Vettraino, Linda Cochran, Jan Harp, Rosemary Ford, Jill Brzezinski

Contributions Welcomed!

Sign up sheets are available posted in the hallway next to the church office. The fee for ***altar flowers is $33*** for the arrangement and you take the flowers home with you to enjoy following the service.

There are also sign up sheets for ***Steeple lighting for $10 a week***, which helps with the electric utility bill; and ***Livestream which pays for the broadcast of the worship services, by the week for $30 or $100*** for the month. We appreciate those who assist us in creating a welcoming sanctuary.

Thanks for those who have chosen to decorate our church with the altar flowers and other gifts:

June 21st - Altar Flowers in loving memory of our son Michael (Micky) Lavender, given by Ginny and Phil Lavender.
June 14th & 21st – Steeple Lighting given in memory of Don White and his dog Parker, given by Lissa White.

SMALL GROUPS

Sunday mornings Adult Sunday School is meeting in the Library off of the Fellowship Hall following worship service. The group is using the ***Adult Bible Studies*** series curriculum, and is open to anyone. Grab a coffee from Fellowship Hall and join in.

On **Monday mornings** at 10:30, a small group of ladies study the Bible for anyone interested. Class members, who are willing, take turns facilitating each session. They meet in the Shalom Room 106.

On **Monday evenings** from 7:00-8:45, **Disciple Bible Study is** a small group available for anyone interested. They meet in the Overflow Room 120 and ZOOM is available.

On **Tuesday mornings** at 10:30, a small group is available for anyone interested. Class members, who are willing, take turns facilitating each session. They meet in the Overflow Room 120.

If you've never availed yourself of a study here at LOUMC, this might be the time!

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all of our families and friends.

Chloe Booth, Linda Carpenter, Sue Erickson, David and Linda Fairchild, Susan Houle, Marilyn Joul, Marcia Keller, Jack Kiyoshk, Jo Knotts, Janine Langegger, Joy Makedonsky, Joyce Marker, Marian Middleton, Edward Naylor, Kareen Olson, Pat Parkin, Sherry Reseigh, Carol Richardson, Randy Riley, Bill Stark, Laurie Trafton, Jack Ward, Sharon Waite, Community Meals family, LOUMC families & friends.

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

Visitation Ministry Coordinator: Melanie Kursinsky @ melanie.a.kursinsky@gmail.com

If you wish to be removed from this list or have someone to add, please let Kathy, Melanie, or Pat know. Thank you!

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 SERVICE & 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 Friday afternoons

LINK DEADLINE: July 22nd for August LINK

Contact the church office if you wish to be taken off the mailing list.
Phone: 248-693-6201, Email: Loumc1@lakeorionumc.org
www.facebook.com/lakeorionumc

STAFF

Senior Pastor
Rev. Dr. Larry Wik
734-735-1334 cell
larry.wik@lakeorionumc.org

Intergenerational Ministry Coordinator
Rev. Linda Cochran
586-549-8657 cell
LCochranrun@gmail.com
IMC@lakeorionumc.org

Music Director
Dr. Janice Hammond
janice.hammond@lakeorionumc.org
248-705-4769

Children's Ministry Teacher
Madie Parker-Zurkan
mpzurkan@lakeorionumc.org

Nursery Coordinator
Jasmine Sly

Secretary
Pat Matthews
248-693-6201 office
loumc1@lakeorionumc.org

Janitor
Anthony Graffeo

Lake Orion
United Methodist Church

140 E. Flint St.
Lake Orion, MI 48362
Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Lake Orion, MI 48362
Permit No. 24