



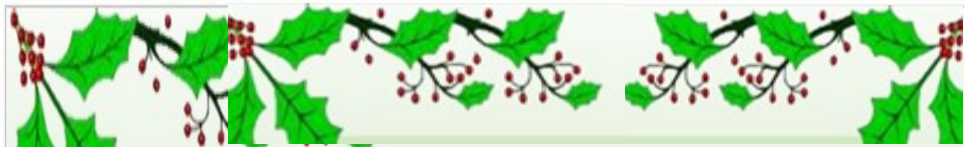
The LINK

December 2020

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



Advent begins Sunday, November 29th



Advent Candles

Four little candles sit in a ring,
Three of them purple, one of them pink,
Each of them has it's own special meaning,
The glow of their light has a message to bring.

The first is of hope for the road ahead,
The second of faith about what has been said,
The third tells of joy about what is to come,
The fourth speaks of peace for everyone.

Four little candles sit in a ring,
Rejoice in the Christmas message they bring.



Care and Connect

Over the past couple of months we have been working on launching our “Care and Connect” initiative that has been designed to provide a point of connection for you as a person who is part of the congregation at LOUMC. Most of you should have received contact from a “Connector”. Their role is simply that, someone that we hope that you will seek to build a relationship as we traverse these most challenging times. If you have not received a call from a “Connector” and would like to have one, please be sure to contact me.

In addition, for those of you who are facing more extensive challenges and would like someone to chat with on a more in depth level which may go beyond the scope of a connector, we have Stephen Ministers who are eager to offer you the support that you might be seeking.

As we enter into the winter months and consider the trajectory of how COVID numbers are continuing to rise, as a staff we are fully aware that these will be challenging and isolating times for many. We would invite you to step forward and consider the following:

1. Reach out to one of us on staff and ask for the support that you might need. It might mean that you simply need to hear our voice or share your challenges via email or text. Asking for help can be challenging for some, but when we do, it opens the door for the love and support that we desperately need.
2. We also would invite you to consider facilitating a small gathering either in person in a safe fashion or virtually via ZOOM or some other platform. If this is something that you might want to consider, we again would invite you to reach out to us and share your interest.

Please don't hesitate to contact us:

Pastor John: john.ball@lakeorionumc.org

or by phone 989.980.7699

Pastor Larry: larry.wik@lakeorionumc.org

or by phone 734.735.1334

We love you all greatly. Even though these may be challenging times that we are working through, we continue to believe that we will come out stronger in the end.

*Much Love,
Pastor John*

JOURNEY

December 13th and 20th...

*“On Our Way to the Manger” – a **JOURNEY** of several stations through the church, offering time and space for prayer, devotion, learning, and reflection on the events leading up to Jesus’ birth (and a little beyond!).*



Sundays 12/13 and 12/20, beginning at noon, we will make time slots available for individuals and families to make their way through the stations. We will send out a link that you can use to sign up online, or you’re welcome to call Pat in the office and she will gladly sign you up. We will start signups within a limited block of time for each of the days, and then lengthen the time available, as those slots are filled, up to five hours.

I am personally excited about this event as the preparations unfold. While we are designing this experience with these tenuous times in mind, it may be just the sort of activity we continue beyond COVID for Christmases to come.

These events are pending on State’s coronavirus restrictions. We are hopeful that we will be able to proceed with these planned events. Please check the website and our weekly All Church messages.

Message from the Pastor

Due to recent COVID restrictions from the State of Michigan Department of Health - and recommendations from the Bishops office - our Staff, the Staff-Parish Relations Committee, and the Church Council have made the following decisions:

The church building will be closed to the public effective 11/16/2020 - 12/8/2020 or until the state restrictions are lifted. Please contact staff directly if you have questions or concerns. Our secretary, Pat Matthews, will be in the office at various times during the week for essential work.

In-person small groups that are currently meeting will be unable to meet inside the church building effective 11/16/2020 - 12/8/2020 or until state restrictions are lifted. Small groups are encouraged to meet remotely using Zoom or another on-line platform.

Filming which our Family Ministry Director, Dawn Ames, had scheduled to take place this week for the children's Christmas video has been cancelled and will not be rescheduled. Due to the time it would take to create and edit the video, we will unfortunately be unable to make it happen this year.

Community Meals (Drive Thru), which was slated to re-start November 23rd, has been suspended and a tentative re-opening scheduled for December 14th.

Our Music Director, Janice Hammond, will reschedule the choir rehearsal and recording of music for the Christmas Eve service that was scheduled on December 1st & 3rd until after the restrictions have been lifted.

The **On Our Way to the Manger** prayer station event planning will continue, since the dates fall outside the current restrictions. We will plan to have the events on December 13th & 20th provided the current restrictions are lifted.

Following Bishop Bard's strong urging, our **Christmas Eve service** will be on-line only this year. It will be pre-recorded, so you can watch and participate at your convenience, and invite others to join in as well. (See a link to the Bishop's video address below.)

These are difficult decisions, none of which have been made lightly. Yet at the same time, we make these decisions in hope – hope that one season of sacrifice can carry us all through this last period of Advent waiting to the joy that awaits on the other side. The wisdom that God has given to scientists, the strength God has given to our health care workers, and the freedom God has given each of us to live responsibly for one another - these are the gifts we need to focus on this Christmas, and put to good use.

So, harness your germs, and hold your tongue. Keep your hands clean, and your hearts pure. Stay distant in body, yet close in spirit. Pray for patience, and power through with perseverance. We can do this by God's grace, and we will.

Bishop's video address <https://youtu.be/cbho493vH5c>





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.

We have been issued an **\$82.63** donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between July 1 and September 30, 2020.

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 your for the benefit to LOUMC. Prime members use in the same manner. Questions? Contact Trudy Carney trudycarney@aol.com (248-693-2558).



Year Round Stewardship picture

Electronic Giving is a convenient, consistent way to help our church year round – consider scheduling a recurring electronic contribution today. It's easy! You will no longer need to write out checks and prepare envelopes each week. Even when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, your electronic contributions will continue to be received on an uninterrupted basis. The church has a unique webpage that will allow you to sign up for electronic giving and manage your secure account. This webpage will enable you to make one-time or recurring gifts from your bank account or credit card. You can make changes to your account at any time and view a summary of your giving whenever you want. Your giving will be credited to your church giving number and included in the financial statements you receive from the church. Visit the LOUMC website at www.lakeorionumc.org for the link that will take you to the LOUMC giving webpage to set up your online contribution.



Merry Christmas!

CAN WE HELP YOU AND HELP THE CHURCH MINISTRIES TOO????

The Scrip Program continues to function during these challenging times as a program that costs you nothing and the need for the benefit to our church ministries continues also.

The Scrip program continues to function either online purchasing (contact us or check out their website at Great Lakes Scrip), the new App that is described for you in this LINK and is really exciting and will be a great means to help and through direct ordering and purchase through a Scrip volunteer. The Christmas holiday has always been a special time for Scrip when we have helped the congregation and friends shop and also benefited the church.

This program and Kroger Rewards program have been around since 1993 and has benefited the church with over \$150,000 in profit and still cost you nothing more than the face value of the gift card you are purchasing. If you need Scrip cards purchased or we may have in our inventory for immediate pick up or delivery contact Trudy Carney (trudycarney@aol.com or 248-693-2558). Payment submission and delivery/pick up can be coordinated and shared at time of your order. Please remember the many cards available (too many to list but almost anything you would like except Costco, McDonald, Kroger and Whole Foods. Some Cards available are Kohls (can be used to pay your bill also), Amazon, Meijers, Walmart/Sam's, Home Depot, Speedway, Olive Garden, Tim Hortons and Starbucks to name just a very few! This Scrip Mission continues to benefit Outreach 40% which has helped with the Haiti Hot Lunch, Brown Bag and Community Assistance (just a few of the outreach made), 20% to General Fund and 40% to many specific ministries in the church such as Community Meals, VBS, Family Ministry, Memorial Garden, Gardening Fund, Music Fund, Help Kids Succeed, Worship and the Arts are some of the 12 different monthly programs,

Thank you for considering this program!!!!

SCRIP -

GLScrip Company has come up with a fun, new way to purchase gift-cards!

The following instructions will help you get started with their new RaiseRight App. Once you sign up, an e-mail will be sent to Trudy Carney to alert her of your enrollment. Thanks in advance for participating!

RaiseRight Fundraising App Instructions

- Login to App Store
 - Download “RaiseRight Fundraising” App
 - Open the App
 - Click “Join A Program”
 - Enter **79A6B19F4366** in the Enrollment Code
 - Create your account
 - Fundraising for “United Methodist Church of Lake Orion”
 - Create Sign-In Information
 - Create Security Questions
 - Enter Cell Phone Number
 - Enter Verification Code
 - Use Search Bar to find desired card
 - Click “Add to Cart”
 - When finished shopping click “Go to Cart”
 - Click “Continue to Checkout”
 - Select Payment Method
 - Credit Card – 2.6% fee per transaction
 - Bank Account - \$0.15 fee per transaction
 - Click “Continue”
- ENJOY!**

Let’s get excited about Scrip again!

Upcoming Groups to Join

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.
Starts 12-7-20

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

unlimited enrollment



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
Starts: 12-8-20

Text or Email
Jeanne Draggoo
(586)850-0074
jeanne.draggoo@gm.com

unlimited enrollment




Dece

Sun	Mon	Tue
		1 <i>Disciple Class</i> <i>ZOOM 10am</i>
6 	7 <i>Disciple Class</i> <i>ZOOM 7 pm</i>	8 <i>Disciple Class</i> <i>ZOOM 10am</i>
13 <i>Journey</i> 	14 <i>Community Meals</i> 5:30-6:30 pm <i>Disciple Class</i> <i>ZOOM 7 pm</i> <i>Disciple Class</i>	15 <i>Disciple Class</i> <i>ZOOM 10am</i>
20 <i>Journey</i> 	21 <i>Community Meals</i> 5:30-6:30 pm <i>Disciple Class</i> <i>ZOOM 7 pm</i>	22 <i>Disciple Class</i> <i>ZOOM 10am</i>
27	28 <i>Community Meals</i> 5:30-6:30 pm <i>Disciple Class</i> <i>ZOOM 7 pm</i>	29 ALL 2020 Contributors DUE for credits

ember 2020



	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	2 Book Club (ON HOLD)	3	4 Office closes at noon On Fridays	5
	9 NAMI Zoom Mtg To register: desteffes@ charter.net Contact Bryan Thom for info bryan debthom@gmail.com	10 Trustees SPRC	11	12
	16	17 Church Council	18	19
	23	24 Christmas Eve Services ONLINE ONLY	25 Christmas	26 
20 ions tax	30 Year end tithe counting 9am	31 New Year's Eve	January 1st	



Did You Know????

That there is now a church dropbox at the Slater Street door. If you happen to stop by to drop something to the office, and building doors are closed, feel free to drop your item into the dropbox.

It is emptied weekday mornings. The office has the key, so it can't be left for anyone other than staff. This is an easy way to drop off your year-end tithe to be counted on December 30th. Just an easy way if your time is rushed and it's too late to put into the US Mail, it can still be counted for tax purposes.



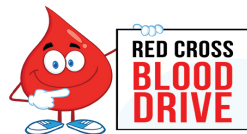
Just a reminder that **all** 2020 tithe/donations ***must be received by 9:00 AM*** on December 30th to be counted.



KITCHEN NEWS

We are thrilled to announce that our kitchen is complete due to a generous donation from Jean Taylor, which specified the church kitchen/s, as well as many other Memorial Fund gifts in memory of Cathy Piazza, Phyllis and Wilfred Wiseman, June Rupert, Charlie Robertson, Lee Umpstead, Charles Kolen, Connie Barnard, Chris Egner and Marv Vanderver enabled us to proceed with the renovation of the Fellowship Hall Kitchen! This fund has also received kind donations from many of you towards achieving this goal. A committee was formed under the leadership of Ralph Reseigh for design plans and bids. We have many folks to thank for this updated space.

WE NEED YOU!!!!



The next blood drives are:

***January 21st, 12 noon - 6 pm
and January 28th, 10am—4 pm***

Where: Lake Orion United Methodist Church

***Sign up online at: redcrossblood.org
(sponsor code: LOUMC1)***

You can also do Rapid Pass online on the day of the blood drive and bring a printed copy with you. This will make the process quicker for each of you. The “Blood Donor” app from the American Red Cross also makes the donation process easier, and includes Rapid Pass on your smart phone.

***Any questions please email Kathy Castillo at
taxkat@comcast.net, including assistance with advance
registrations **as no walk-ins will be permitted.*****

More details about the safety procedures is available at our website
in Upcoming Events at

<http://www.lakeorionumc.org/upcoming-events.html>

During the closure of our church for gatherings we have suspended collection of pill bottles. We do not have the ability to collect bottles inside the church, but you may meet Kathy Castillo at the Anderson street entrance on the first Monday of the month at 4:30 pm for drop-off into her car in the parking lot. This will begin on **Monday, January 4th, 2021.**

Please wear a mask, even though meeting outdoors. Kathy will keep the pill bottles in storage tubs until we are ready to resume our working meetings for cleaning, sorting and packing.

Kathy Castillo



\$300 CHARITABLE DONATION TAX DEDUCTION ALLOWED FOR ALL FILERS IN 2020

Previously, charitable contributions could only be deducted if taxpayers itemized their deductions. However for Tax Year 2020, taxpayers who don't itemize deductions may take a charitable deduction of up to \$300 for cash contributions made in 2020 to qualifying organizations. For the purposes of this deduction, qualifying organizations are those that are religious, charitable, educational, scientific or literary in purpose. The law changed in this area due to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. It was previously indicated that \$300 was per individual, and presumed to be \$600 for joint filers. IRS has provided clarification. \$300 is the maximum allowed. Per the draft instructions for preparation of the 2020 Form 1040 Line 10b, "don't enter more than \$300".



David and Linda Fairchild would like to thank the Project Shalom team of Chad and Colleen Griffith and the 6 Oxford honor students for their excellent work. Thanks again.

Thanks also goes to Project Shalom Team of Janine Bishop and her three daughters who were able to help Pat Matthews get her yard cleared. It was much appreciated!

Do you: LOVE to SING or
PLAY an INSTRUMENT?

We would love to have
you be part of our worship
services!! If you would be
interested in submitting a
video of you performing,
or, if you would like to
come into the church to record your performance,
please contact Janice Hammond with your ideas! We
would love to see and hear you be a part of worship!



Thank you to all who participate in the (Virtual) Angel
Tree Christmas program for Methodist Children's
Home TIPS program! The registry is still in place at
Target through December 6, 2020 and will be deleted
after that to comply with MCH time requirements for
wrapping and delivering the gifts. You can participate
by visiting [Target.com](https://www.target.com) and clicking
on "Registries" then searching
Methodist Children's Home TIPS.
There is also a direct link to the
registry (with additional information
about the people in TIPS) on our
church website under Serve
Missions. Finally, it is possible to
visit a Target store and request a
copy of the registry.

Best,

Susan Montgomery



B I B L E

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

When in sorrow.....	John 14
When men fail you.....	Psalms 27
When you have sinned.....	Psalms 51
When you have worry.....	Matthew 6:19-34
When you are in danger.....	Psalms 91
When God seems far away.....	Psalms 139
When your faith needs stirring.....	Hebrews 11
When you are lonely and fearful.....	Psalms 23
When you grow bitter and critical.....	1 Cor. 13
When you feel down and out.....	Romans 8:31-39
When you want peace and rest.....	Matthew 11:25-30
When the world seems bigger than God	Psalms 90
When you want Christian assurance.....	Romans 8:1-30
When you leave home for labor or travel.....	Psalms 121
When your prayers grow narrow or selfish.....	Psalms 67
When you want courage for a task.....	Joshua 1
When you think of investments/returns.....	Mark 10
How to get along with fellowmen.....	Romans 12
For great invention/opportunity.....	Isaiah 55
For Paul's secret to happiness.....	Col. 3:12-17
If you want to be fruitful.....	John 15
If your pocketbook is empty.....	Psalms 37
If your losing confidence in people.....	1Cor. 13
If people seem unkind.....	John 15
If discouraged about your work.....	Psalms 126
If you find the world growing small, and you great.....	Psalms 19

AVAILABLE 24/7 | PHONE SERVICE NOT REQUIRED
DIRECT PETITIONS HEAVENWARD

OPEN MY EYES

December

Each of the Scriptures below should take ten to fifteen minutes to write. Feel free to add a reflection or prayer to the end of your writing as The Lord speaks to you in a fresh new way. And share with us what The Lord is speaking to your heart in the December comments at The Felicity Bee and using #felicitybee on social media & let's start a beautiful conversation!

The Names of Jesus

Day 1: **ADVOCATE**

1 John 2:1-2

Day 2: **LAMB OF GOD**

John 1:29-31

Day 3: **RESURRECTION & LIFE**

John 11:21-25

Day 4: **SHEPHERD & GUARDIAN of SOULS**

1 Peter 2:22-25

Day 5: **JUDGE**

Acts 10:42-43

Day 6: **KING of KINGS & LORD of LORDS**

1 Timothy 6:14-16

Day 7: **MAN OF SORROWS**

Isaiah 53:3-5

Day 8: **AMEN & FAITHFUL & True Witness**

Revelation 3:14-16

Day 9: **THE ROCK**

1 Corinthians 10:1-4

Day 10: **HIGH PRIEST & ANCHOR**

Hebrews 6:19-20

Day 11: **THE DOOR**

John 10:7-9

Day 12: **BREAD OF LIFE**

John 6:32-35

Day 13: **ROSE OF SHARON**

Song of Solomon 2:1-3

Day 14: **ALPHA and OMEGA**

Revelation 22:12-14

Day 15: **TEACHER**

John 3:1-3

Day 16: **THE BELOVED**

Ephesians 1:3-6

Day 17: **SAVIOR & MEDIATOR**

1 Timothy 2:3-6

Day 18: **THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

John 10:11-14

Day 19: **LIGHT of the WORLD**

John 8:12

Day 20: **THE WORD**

John 1:1-5

Day 21: **CHIEF CORNERSTONE**

Ephesians 2:19-22

Day 22: **IMAGE of the INVISIBLE GOD**

Colossians 1:15-18

Day 23: **AUTHOR & FINISHER of OUR FAITH**

Hebrews 12:1-2

Day 24: **IMMANUEL**

Matthew 1:23-25

Day 25: **WONDERFUL, COUNSELOR, MIGHTY GOD,**

EVERLASTING FATHER, PRINCE OF PEACE

Isaiah 9:6

Day 26: **ONLY BEGOTTEN SON**

John 3:15-17

Day 27: **DAYS PRING**

Luke 1:76-79

Day 28: **REDEEMER**

Job 19:25-27

Day 29: **ALMIGHTY**

Revelation 1:7-8

Day 30: **ROOT and OFFSPRING of DAVID,**

BRIGHT and MORNING STAR

Revelation 22:16-17

Day 31: **THE WAY, THE TRUTH, THE LIFE**

John 14:3-6

Our Thoughts And Prayers Are With You



Philippians 4:7 "And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Memorials offered on All Saints Day Also included Thomas McCormick.

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

About People

Jyl Acker, Linda Carpenter, Kallie Charlton, Howard Daenzer, Sr., Shareen DiGasbarro, Paulie Egner, Jan Heyse, Don Johnson, Janine Langegger, Joyce Marker, Carol McCormick, Maxine McManus, Sandy McSwain, Jack Morrison, Patti Miechiels, Pat Miller, Edward and Jennifer Naylor, Pamela and Leonard Nichols, Ron Nordquist, Don Northcote, 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
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: December 15th for January 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

Senior Pastor

Rev. Larry Wik office ext. 203
248-732-7739 home
734-735-1334 cell
larry.wik@lakeorionumc.org

Associate Pastor

Rev. John Ball office ext. 207
989-980-7699 cell
john.ball@lakeorionumc.org

Family Ministries Director

Dawn Ames office ext. 210
dawn.ames@lakeorionumc.org
248.563-2399 cell

Music Director

Janice Hammond office ext. 208
janice.hammond@lakeorionumc.org

Secretary

Pat Matthews office ext. 209
loumc1@lakeorionumc.org

Custodian

Anthony Graffeo

Nursery

Jeri Melton



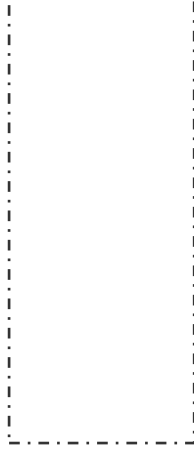
Lake Orion
United Methodist Church
140 E. Flint St.
Lake Orion, MI 48362
Return Service Requested

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Lake Orion, MI 48362
Permit No. 24

DECEMBER



I LOVE
PEACE
JOY



NEW YEAR'S EVE