

# The LINK

February 1, 2017

LINKing members and friends of Lake Orion United Methodist Church

Phone: 248-693-6201, Email: LOUMC1@lakeorionumc.org

[www.facebook.com/lakeorionumc](http://www.facebook.com/lakeorionumc), [www.lakeorionumc.org](http://www.lakeorionumc.org)



*Where there is no vision, the people perish...*

*(Proverbs 29:18 KJV)*

***Where there is no revelation, people cast off  
restraint...***

*(Proverbs 29:18 NIV)*

As you may be able to tell from the verse above, I am looking forward to our Vision Retreat on Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup>. The King James version is more familiar, but for talking about our Vision Retreat, the NIV translation, which uses the word “revelation” rather than “vision,” may be better suited to the task.

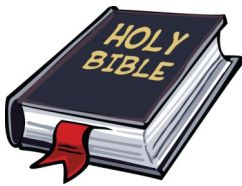
You see, the word “vision” can make us think of dreams or mystical experiences. And this isn’t authentic to the way (or at least it’s certainly not the primary way) most of us have experienced God. “Revelation,” on the other hand, is more in line with our experience and with what we will be about at our Vision Retreat. We will gather to share our perspectives, to identify our church’s strengths and challenges, and to prayerfully invite God’s Spirit into the process. As we do so, much will be revealed to us in terms of our future direction.

And in heeding this revelation, we will neither “perish,” (KJV) nor “cast off restraint” (NIV). For what is revealed will give us life. It will also give us direction, a path to follow, a gracious “restraint” from activities that – while good – may not be where God would have us focus at this time and season in the life of LOUMC.

I am excited about this process, and hopeful of seeing many of you there.

Pastor Larry

## PRESENTATION OF BIBLES TO 3rd AND 4th GRADERS WILL TAKE PLACE IN SEPTEMBER



We are excited to give each of our 3rd and 4th Graders their very own Bible, one that is easy to read and understand. Reading and discussing the scriptures together as a family is one way that parents can encourage their children on their faith journeys, as well as strengthen their own faith. It is also an important part of our Kids on the Rock Program. May all of us at LOUMC remember the importance of studying God's word as we seek God's guidance in our lives.

### Students Loving God and Fighting Hunger

On **February 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>**, our Youth will grow closer to Christ and each other as they fast together for 30 hours and raise funds to fight hunger. Awesome (and fun!) challenges, compelling videos, inspirational discussion ideas, and the thought-provoking Poverty Simulation all add up to an unforgettable no-eat overnighter. We will also do community service on Saturday and end with a fabulous meal prepared by volunteers.



### ESTHERS Children Tea Party



Tea Party Fundraiser to benefit **ESTHERS** Children is on **Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>**. **ESTHERS'** vision is to End Sex Trafficking for HER in Recife, Brazil. Their mission is preventing sexual

exploitation, child prostitution and to restore its innocent victims in an environment where they can learn to love and be loved.

**ESTHERS** uses a holistic approach to transform lives, transform families, and transform communities. More information on how to purchase tickets will be available in the upcoming weeks.



## UNITED METHODIST MEN NEWS



**The United Methodist Men** will meet on Saturday, February 4 at 7:30 a.m. for breakfast at CJ's in Lake Orion. All men of the church are invited to attend.

**The Annual Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper** will be held on Tuesday, February 28th, from 5:30pm to 7pm in Fellowship Hall. As always, a free will donation will be requested.



## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWS



**On February 8th** at 7 PM, Ramesh Sapkota, who is currently working with Kensington Church, will speak on Anti-Human Trafficking. Emily Sutherland from **ESTHER'S** Children will be speaking about Anti-Human Trafficking efforts in Brazil. See more information on the following pages.

**Bake some 'love'!** UMW Bake Sale is Sunday, Feb. 12 in Fellowship Hall during coffee hour. Bakers and buyers are needed for all those Valentine goodies! Please package and price your treats. Suggested pricing, if needed, is on the UMW bulletin board in the lower hall.



## ABOUT PEOPLE

**Please keep the following  
people in your prayers:**

Connie Barnard, Howard Daenzer Sr., Bruce Denton,  
Linda Fairchild, Carol McCormick, Sandy McSwain,  
Patti Miechiels, Chuck Myers, Pamela Nichols, Don Northcote,  
Grace Pender, Randy Riley, Greg & Cathy Schivley,  
Christine Wehrli, Judy Wright, Community Meals Family,  
LOUMC Extended Family Members & Friends



# Anti-Human Trafficking

**Wednesday, February 8th  
7pm**

**Lake Orion United Methodist Church  
140 E. Flint St., Lake Orion, MI**



*Ramesh Sapkota*

As a Hindu boy in Nepal, Ramesh worked hard to please God and seek good karma. At the age of 13 Christ spoke to his heart and at 16 he was committed to Christ and left home. He studied at the University of Nepal, worked as a teacher and chaired a national adult literacy program, which was very successful.

In 1987 Ramesh and his wife met a young girl who was involved in human trafficking and seeking help. This was a turning point for him, as Ramesh realized this was the direction he was to take with his life. Years were spent trying to rescue young girls, who were from poverty stricken and dysfunctional families, from human trafficking.

Knowing there was a need for additional services, he founded Kingdom International (<http://www.kinepal.org>). Look to the site for additional information. It serves today in various arenas assisting in the huge human trafficking criminal activity in Nepal. Thousands of persons per year are involved in this human trafficking arena from Nepal to India. Ramesh found that even when sending girls back home with newly acquired skills, the anti-trafficking statistics were not improving. He realized an aspect was missing and that spiritual growth of the girls was lacking and another direction needed to be in place. His goal now consists of making others aware of community evangelism. Currently he is serving as the International Ministry Coordinator at Kensington Church.

The evening presentation is open to all.

**ESTHERS** was founded in 2006 by Mike and Emily Sutherland with a vision to prevent, rescue, and restore the victims of child sexual assault, extreme exploitation, and trafficking of young girls and women globally. During a mission trip to Brazil in 2001, Emily was moved by the Lord to do something to help the innocent girls she met on the streets of Recife. When she returned home to Clarkston, Michigan she shared the idea with her husband, Mike. What started as a small "mustard seed" sized dream grew into something much bigger. In the five years that followed, Emily dove into research about human trafficking and sexual exploitation and the couple sought out a group or organization with whom they could partner or support in addressing and fighting these problems. None existed. In 2006, Mike and Emily took a giant leap of faith and launched **ESTHERS**.

Unfortunately Mike died of melanoma, but Emily and her daughter, Jennifer Sutherland, continued to fulfill their vision for **ESTHERS**. The vision included serving girls between the ages of 4 and 18 who are living in extreme at-risk conditions with limited access to clean water, food shelter and who would, otherwise, have little hope for a promising future. The focus - prevention of sexual exploitation, prostitution, and human trafficking using a six-step program to see girls transformed physically, spiritually, emotionally, intellectually, and socially through community outreach, family intervention, and - when necessary - substitute family homes.

**STATEMENT FROM THE President and Co-Founder:** "On behalf of **ESTHERS** Children, I would like to personally thank all who have come alongside us and supported us in our efforts to End Sex Trafficking for HER over the past, nearly, ten years. As a Christian organization, **ESTHERS** is 100% funded by individuals, corporate sponsors, and church partnerships. It is because of caring individuals like you that we are able to continue our mission to transform lives, families, and communities.

We are eternally grateful to have been able to invest in the lives of so many children as a result of the generosity of others. I look forward, with anticipation, to multiplying that impact in ten years to come. My hope is for each one of you to consider **ESTHERS** invitation to join us on this remarkable, important, and impactful journey. "

**President and Co-Founder**

**Emily Sutherland**

**Program Director and Co-Founder**

**Jennifer Sutherland**



# THANK YOU!

**Working in the Kitchen** - Thanks to those who worked at the Baldwin Avenue Kitchen in **December**: Jack & Charlotte Brown, Jim Childers, Michele Kellogg, Ginny Lavender, Linda Nixon, Jay Verran and to those who worked in **January**: Jack & Charlotte Brown, Jim Childers, Michele Kellogg, Linda Nixon, Bill Porritt, and Jay Verran.

**A reminder to those scheduled** to work in the Kitchen on Wednesday, **February 19**: Jack & Charlotte Brown, Jim Childers, Michele Kellogg, Linda Nixon, Bill Porritt, Myrna Sweetland and Jay Verran.

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

**BLOOD DRIVE** - Thank you to everyone who donated or helped with the January 19<sup>th</sup> American Red Cross Blood Drive. It was a success !!!! The goal the Red Cross set for us was 33 pints and we again exceeded their goal and obtained 40 pints. These 40 pints made possible approximate 120 life savings transfusions. A special thank you to the UMW who supplied the meal for the Red Cross workers. I am so very happy to announce the Linda Fitzpatrick has agreed to lead the coming year's blood drives. The next blood drive at LOUMC will be in May. Trudy Carney

**A spectacular THANK YOU** to all those who helped decorate the church, inside and out, for the Advent season...and, to all those who helped clean up and store our treasured items for the next year. We could not have done it without you. And, a special thank you to Don and Martha for providing the excellent pizza dinner!!  
Worship & The Arts

***You are invited to attend an Open House celebrating the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Charlie & Sandy Weaver on Saturday, February 18th from 2-4 in Fellowship Hall. Hosted by their family. Please use the Anderson Street side for parking. No gifts please.***

# A THANK YOU FROM THE SCRIP PROGRAM

Thank you to each of you who participated in the Scrip program! Because of your shopping and gift giving a check was written to LOUMC for \$3,751.04. This means that the General Fund of the church received \$750.21 which is 20% of these profits. Various outreach activities such as the Contingency Fund (which helps individuals in the church and community in need), LOVE, Inc. Conference Haiti Programs and materials for the Guatemala trips are a few of the Outreach programs which benefit from the Scrip Program. Twelve programs and needs within the church such as Family Ministry, Project Shalom, Gardening Fund, Help Kids Succeed, Building Fund and Worship in the Arts, Kitchen, Stephen Ministry and Prayers and Squares also receive a percentage of the profits. Your use of the Scrip program including the use of Kroger cards makes a difference!!! Please continue to visit the Scrip table after 9:15 service to purchase from our inventory or place an order.

Also consider the online Scrip Program. We now have the ability to order Scrip online. Go to [www.ShopwithScrip.com](http://www.ShopwithScrip.com) and click on "How to Enroll" and next click on "join Your Scrip Program". Enter our Enrollment Code 79A6B19F4366. Fill out the required information and click "register". The second step makes it possible to order by paying for your order thru PrestoPay, a secured debit system to your checking or savings account. Click the Presto Pay link under Family Functions on your Dashboard and enter your account information. Complete the steps to verify your information, and you will receive a secure approval code which needs to be given to Trudy Carney ([trudycarney@aol.com](mailto:trudycarney@aol.com)) We have a number of people, the number is growing, who are now using this online system. Contact Trudy Carney or Sharon Keener if you have questions.

If you would like to learn more about the program there are also brochures and order forms available on the Welcome Table or check out the bulletin board near the library. Don't forget that Kohl's gift cards can be used to pay on your Kohl's charge accounts and that Walmart/Sam's cards are now available. Contact Trudy Carney or Sharon Keener with any questions. Thank you again for your support of the Scrip program.



Weekly Scheduled  
Events :

Sunday

8:00, 9:15, 11:00 AM-Worship Service  
09:15 AM-Kids on the Rock  
09:15 AM-[youth café]  
10:15 AM-Fellowship Time (FH)  
11:00 AM-Adult Bible Study (Library)  
06:30 PM-H.S. Bible Study (203/4)

Monday

10:30 AM-Bible Study (Sh)  
11:45 AM-Tai Chi & Sword (104)  
01:00 PM-Staff Meeting (Sh)  
02:00 PM-Senior Fit (104)  
05:30 PM-Community Meal (FH & 105)  
07:00 PM-Small Group (Lockhart's)

Tuesday

09:00 AM-Mother's Morning Out (Nur)  
07:00 PM-Chancel Choir

Wednesday

10:00 AM-Sermon Review (105)  
02:00 PM-Senior Fit (104)  
07:00 PM-Worship Team Practice

Thursday

09:00 PM-Mother's Morning Out (Nur)  
09:00 PM-YOGA (104)  
09:30 PM-Hallelujah Handbells

Friday

02:00 PM-Senior Fit (104)

Saturday

AC=All Church

FH=Fellowship Hall

Naz=Nazareth

Nur=Nursery

OS=Offsite

Sh=Shalom Room



FEB

Sun	Mon	Tue
5	6 03:00 PM-Heritage Place Service (OS) 07:00 PM-Peer Support (105)	7
12 10:15 AM-UMW Bake Sale (FH)	13 07:00 PM-LOCC Lake Orion Community Conversations (Lockhart's)	14 09:30 AM-UMW Meeting (Sh)
19	20	21 12:00 PM-Miss Team Meeting
26 10:15 AM-Blood Pressure Screening (FH)	27	28 05:30 PM-UMW Pancake Dinner



# FEBRUARY



	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> 06:45 PM-CODA (Sh)	<b>2</b> 11:00 PM-Daniel Study (103) 05:30 PM-Oakland County Service (Sh) 07:00 PM-SPRC (203/4)	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 07:30 AM-UMM Breakfast (CJ's) 9:00 AM-2:00 PM Vision Retreat (FH)
	<b>8</b> 07:00 PM-Human Trafficking Presentation (Sanctuary)	<b>9</b> 09:00 AM-FISH (Sh) 11:00 AM-Daniel Study (103) 07:00 PM-Trustees (Sh)	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 09:00 AM-Sib Shop (FH)
V	<b>15</b> 10:00 AM-Work at Baldwin Avenue Kitchen (OS) 06:45 PM-CODA (Sh)	<b>16</b> 11:00 AM-Daniel Study (103) 07:00 PM-Finance (Sh)	<b>17</b> 10:00 AM-LINK Assembly (Sh)	<b>18</b> 02:00 –4:00 PM - Charlie & Sandy Weaver's 50th Wedding Anniversary (FH)
ion (105)	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 11:00 AM-Daniel Study (103) 7:00 PM-Church Council (105)	<b>24</b> <b>30 Hour Famine</b> <b>([youth café] &amp; FH)</b>	<b>25</b> 06:00 PM-Taste of the Town (Canterbury) <b>30 Hour Famine</b> <b>([youth café] &amp; FH)</b>
M er (FH)				

## COMMUNITY MEALS NEWS

Lake Orion United Methodist Church is a special place. LOUMC members and partners are a generous, loving bunch of folks. Seven years ago it came to our attention that a Community Free Meal was needed and would be accepted in Lake Orion and Oxford. Since then, Monday Meals has become a very popular place to be.

The program has come a long way. Initially started as a once a month commitment to serve a free meal, it has blossomed into a weekly occasion. The philosophy of this ministry is to provide a nutritious, tasty meal, where people come and are welcomed with open arms and a whole lot of love. Each Monday the Fellowship Hall becomes a gathering place for people to come and share a meal and fellowship.

We are fortunate to be blessed with a facility that is well suited to providing free meals. The dining room is inviting and cheerful. The kitchen is certified to serve the public. Thank you to the people who keep the equipment in good working order or replacing it when needed (the stove and dishwasher have been replaced since the Community Meals program began). The trustees have updated the pantry shelving and are always only a phone call away when an emergency arises.

We have gone from serving 28 guests at our first meal, to 150 guests at our best attended meal. The average attendance is 100. Approximately 35,000 meals have been served since the beginning!

Three weeks per month (first, second and fourth) are fully supported by LOUMC. The third Monday is presented by a wonderful group of people who found each other through a bible study/prayer small group from Kensington Church. On fifth Mondays the congregation from St. Mary's in the Hills Episcopal Church host the meal.

One week per month each family is given a bag filled with paper products, a Stephen Ministry contribution to this program. Donations from Great Harvest Bread, Tim Horton's and Panera Bread are laid out for guests to take home. Each week there is a fun raffle where small token prizes are won by those holding the number called by our entertaining game host (picture Pastor Larry or Don Northcote with a microphone, urging folks to 'come on down', or Pastor John offering a 'new car' as a prize!).

There are many ways to help keep this ministry afloat. Here are a few suggestions: volunteer to work on Mondays, donate paper products, make a dessert for the popular sweets table, sponsor a meal in someone's honor or memory, or make a financial donation to Community Meals. A very simple and special way to help is to come and eat a meal with our guests. The sharing of friendship is always welcome.

*Thank you to participants in this ministry, either as servers or served.  
God's hand rests upon you all.*

**Dear LOUMC Family:** On behalf of my beautiful sister Tina-marie Kolen and our family I wanted to thank you all for your love, support, calls, texts, emails, cards, visits, memorial contributions to Monday Night Community Meals, PRAYERS and just being you. After delivering her prayer quilt the day before Christmas Eve, she shared that she felt all of your prayers and love. She was truly touched by the beautiful hand written notes that were written by everyone after they tied a knot and said a prayer.



This was so special for her and her intent was to hand write a note in return expressing her thanks. However, that never happened and with that I know what she would have said:

*Dear Church family: Your love and prayers are being felt every time I wrap myself up in the beautiful quilt. It is so wonderful that people that don't even know me have so much love and want to see me get better with each passing day as I try and beat this drug addiction. I'm hopeful that one day I can repay this outpouring of love to someone else with their own struggles and addictions by being a spokesperson. My sister was going to help me start my own LLC to go around and share my story so that I could support and love and help others just like you have done for me. Thanks so much. I love you all. Tina-marie Kolen*

I love all of you. As I begin to think about the many ways that all of you have touched my life, I give thanks to God. He brought us all together and will continue to weave more stories and love into each and every one of us. I'm going to miss my sister so very much. But I know she is in God's loving arms and will suffer no more.

A very special thank you to Pastor John and Pastor Larry. The Eulogy that Pastor John put together and shared with all of us was extremely eye opening to many of you, as well as touching. It was my sister's real story. He shared with so much love and compassion. My sister was definitely dancing angelically as her story was shared, tears were flowing and lives were being touched and perhaps changed. Thank you to all that contributed to this beautiful celebration of her life. The music (Janice Hammond), sharing her poem (Lisa Goyette), readings (Lori Brauer, Bob Adams), Eulogy (Pastor John), Prayers (Pastor Larry), Video (Bob Adams), luncheon (Marcia Keller, Jeff Noonan and kitchen crew), Cleanup (Curt Bussell), Ushers and Memorial Bulletin (Debbie Heyboer) together made this day so very memorable for the Kolen family. Thank you. Blessings and Hugs, Bob & Gina Adams, Chuck Kolen, Bob & Shelley Kolen, Ron Kolen & Kelly, Jessica Kolen, D'Angelo Jones & Family, Seth Melrose

# Taste of the Town

**Saturday, February 25th, 2017**

**Doors open at 6 p.m.**

**Kings Court Castle at Canterbury Village  
2336 Joslyn Court, Lake Orion, MI**

**Come sample from local restaurants,  
Silent & Live Auction, Live Music**

**\$40/adult or \$75/couple**

Limited number of tickets available

**Tickets will be on sale in the church office  
during office hours or on Sundays during  
Fellowship Time**

Sponsored By:

**Lake Orion Lions Club &  
Lake Orion United  
Methodist Church**



*Lake Orion*  
United Methodist Church

**Make Checks Payable to:  
LOUMC Or Lake Orion  
Lions Club, Memo: Taste**



**Lake Orion  
Lions Club**

# TASTE OF THE TOWN

Items needed for Live Auction and Silent Auction

## IDEAS INCLUDE:

**Gift Baskets** (or gift basket items) – e.g. baked goods, jams and jellies, snacks, wine and cheese, toys, tools, beauty items, etc.



**Services** – e.g. cleaning, painting, sewing, organizing, shopping, gardening yardwork, classes in your area of expertise, etc.



**Trips or Events** – e.g. use of a timeshare, condo, or cottage; boat ride, classic car ride, hunting on property, tickets to a concert or sporting event, etc.



# Blue Water District Lay Servant Classes



Most classes start the week of February 19, 2017 (10 contact hours total). The basic and advance classes are listed below. If you have any questions, please contact Deb Sturm, District Lay Servant Director, at [sturmstrum@gmail.com](mailto:sturmstrum@gmail.com). Go online to [bluewater.michiganumc.org](http://bluewater.michiganumc.org) (click on the District Lay Servant Ministries link on the left) to register. The

Commissioning is at 3 PM on April 2, 2017 at Brown City UMC.

## Basic Classes

Location	Start Date	Start Time	Day
Brown City	2/11/17	10 AM	Saturday
Port Huron: First	2/19/17	2 PM	Sunday
Romeo	2/19/17	3 PM	Sunday
Sebewaing: Trinity	2/22/17	6 PM	Wednesday

## Advanced Classes

Location	Start Date	Start Time	Day	Topic
Bad Axe: First	1/22/17	2 PM	Sunday	Leading Worship
Brown City	2/19/17	2 PM	Sunday	Devotional Life in the Wesleyan Tradition
Imlay City	2/19/17	2 PM	Sunday	Biblical Interpretation: A Roadmap
Paint Creek (Rochester)	2/19/17	2 PM	Sunday	Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts
Port Huron: First	2/19/17	2 PM	Sunday	Leading Worship
Sebewaing: Trinity	2/19/17	2 PM	Sunday	Living Our UM Beliefs

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 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 service

**[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:** Wednesdays at 3:00

**LINK DEADLINE:** February 15th for March LINK

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

## Staff

### **Senior Pastor**

Rev. Larry Wik office ext. 203  
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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**

Dawn Ames office ext. 210  
dawn.ames@lakeorionumc.org

### **Music Director**

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

### **Stephen Ministry Coordinator**

Lisa Goyette office ext. 202  
lisa.goyette@lakeorionumc.org

### **Secretary**

Debbie Heyboer office ext. 209  
loumc1@lakeorionumc.org

### **Nursery Director**

Jeri Melton

### **Accompanist**

Cristie Tyrrell

### **Custodian**

Curt Bussell





February 1, 2017

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