In this month's LINK:

"So here's the Thing:" Jason and Kelsey's departure from Praise Team

Farewell, Dr. Karen Coy!

LUMC Passages

Footprints & Financial Blog

Children's Church & Youth Ministries

UMW — Crop Walk 2021



LANCASTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors
918 West Ave. J
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www.lancasterunited.org

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THE LINK

LABEL

TIME SENSITIVE

PLEASE DELIVER BY October 8TH

LUMC Office Hours:
Mon-Fri 10 a.m. ~ 2 p.m.
PLEASE MASK UP BEFORE COMING!
Closed Saturday & Sunday (661) 942-0419

In-Person Streaming Service Sundays — 10 a.m. in Sanctuary (beginning in October) **(*masking required*)**

facebook lancasterunited
(no FB membership needed)
lancasterunitedmc

YouTube **LUMKitchen (Food Ministry):**
Mondays & Thursdays, 12-1 p.m.

Footprints Pre-School — Open for business, and accepting new students!
Hours: Mon-Fri 7 a.m.—- 5 p.m.

Check www.lancasterunited.org for more information on our active groups and ministries — the list is growing!

Audio/Visual Team
Caring and Hospitality
Children's Church
Grief Group
LUMKitchen
Music Ministries
Office Volunteers
Online classes
Prayer Team
Prayers and Squares
United Methodist Women
Youth Group
Wellness Works

CREATIVE BE 2021 CAREFUL & CARING
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The Link

The Church's Official Newsletter
Vol. 65 No. 10
October 2021

"So Here's the Thing — " for October

by Pastor Greg



Where do We Go from Here?

On Sunday, September 19, Jason led his last worship service Sunday as leader of the praise band. For 18 years, he has faithfully poured out his heart through his gift of music in worship. Where does Jason go from here?

The following is my truncated message of what Jason wrote to our Staff Parish Relationship Committee. Over the past few years, Jason and his family have been learning to adjust to a new normal with his new profession as a teacher at El Dorada school. During this time, he and Kelsey have gained a renewed sense of their call and priorities.

At this time, they feel that a period of rest is needed to focus more on their family and God's next steps for their lives. Jason and Kelsey see this more like a pause button rather than a goodbye. They are looking forward to attending church together without the commitment of leading worship. They feel this is important for their family's well-being.

Jason and Kelsey are taking a sabbatical from worship ministries for a season of time. Leading worship is a large part of who Jason is, and he hopes to do it again. Jason is not expecting his position to be reserved for him and understands that the church must make decisions based on what is best at this time. Jason is praying that his days as worship leader are not over and that he will one day lead worship again.

Jason closed his letter to the SPRC: "Thank you to all of you for your love and support throughout the years. All of you are examples of Godly, faithful followers of Jesus Christ whose commitment and passion for God's Kingdom is evident in all that you do. Our family prays for you as individuals, but more importantly, for us all as the grace-filled church that we, and so many people like us and before us, have had the privilege of serving."



So, where do we go from here? The SPRC has hired Picker (our bass player) to be the new praise band director. Picker has a lifetime of experience in leading music groups. He will pull from his contact list to rebuild the band. Jeff Zeh, our drummer of five years, will become a substitute. Thank you, Jeff, for your faithful 100 mile round trip commute to keep us in rhythm with the Spirit. Picker's vision and heart are full for resetting the band's personnel.

We are grateful for God's faithful leadership over all our music ministries. We will trust in God's timing, so He will receive the glory for the great things Christ continues to do in our midst.

— Pastor Greg

NEW WORSHIP TIME! Starting October 3 — Sunday (in-person & streaming) at 10 am!

All-Church Notices



Karen Coy, Ph.D. has served as the Counselor at LUMC since 1998. She formally retired from this position on Sept. 23, 2021 and is moving with her husband Ed to Vermont. She has enjoyed serving the congregation during all of the times of need and will be sad to leave. She has felt blessed to be a part of this church family. *"When the journey became hard, you had the courage to follow, with God, to the end."* God speed, Karen, Ed, and family! Thank you for many years of devotion and fellowship at LUMC!

CHURCH CONFERENCE

The **All-Church Conference** meeting is scheduled for **Saturday, October 23, from 10 am — 12 pm**. We will discuss and vote on Worship service frequency and hiring a part-time Family Ministries Director in 2022. In addition, reports will be given on the JWH kitchen renovation and campus security.

FOOT PRINTS
Christian Children's Center

The Harvest Festival that was scheduled for October 29th has been cancelled due to sanitizing concerns for the public at large related to the Delta variant. However, the children will have their own (closed) Halloween party on October 29th. Along with learning about seasonal festivities, we will be learning about community helpers, such as police, fire, doctors, dentists, and news reporters. (if you know any, contact Tammy!) and the many yummy dishes made with apples!

LUMC Passages



Joann Marshall
Entered the Church Triumphant: August 26, 2021
A memorial service was held at Lancaster UMC on September 11, 2021.



Addie Stokes
Entered the Church Triumphant: September 20, 2021
Services were pending at press time.

ONGOING PRAYERS FOR MEMBERS
Cynthia Christensen
Steve & Cindy Farrand
Dorothy Finifrock
Vicki & David Fisher
Bill & Alease Goesch
Sheila Gonzales
Carmen Lane
Jennifer Lawrence
Doreen Maynard
Velta Mann

PRAYER QUILT RECIPIENTS
Joyce Desiderio
Karrie Fahan
Maria Garcia
Martha Kopy
Gaylin Schmitz
Lori Stachera

MEMBERS (2 MONTHS)
Bob Barry
Kathryn Barry
Ramona Beck
Edith Crockett
Melinda Hunter
Marguerite Shirley

FAMILY & FRIENDS (1 MONTH)
Steven Gonzales
Steven Ingram
Adam Lankford and family
Andrea Lovit
family of Joann Marshall
family of Derek Martin
Jack Melano
Jesus Salcedo
Nancy Shaffer
Family of Addie Stokes
Trina (niece of Ann Thomas)
Zach Tucker
family of John & Lois Wilk
Ray Wolleman

PRAYERS FOR THE MILITARY
Edinson Kinsey Sr.
Hallie (Day) Herrera &
Felix Herrera
Rayden Finifrock
M. Todd Kelly
Nathan Maldonaldo
Matthew McDougall
Heather McDougall
Joseph Perez



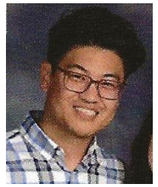
All Church Notices

youth Group

The Lancaster United Methodist Church Youth Group will hold in-person meetings and church-sponsored activities in John Wesley Hall starting **on Sunday October 3 from 5:30-7:00 p.m**. Our youth leaders, Shannon Mims and Chris Lee, plan on facilitating a variety of faith-based activities, from youth-led Bible study and prayer, team-building activities, and community service projects. We are looking forward to a new beginning and leading our youth towards a life-long practice of prayer and contemplation, worship, and community service.



We will continue to hold youth-led Children's Church on Sunday mornings starting at 10:00 a.m. in John Wesley Hall. We also invite all youth from ages 13-17 to join our youth group where they will experience Christian fellowship, youth-led activities, contemporary worship, Bible study, and an overall connection to the power of God working through our youth and leaders. Let us grow in grace, faith, and fellowship together. If you have any questions about our youth program and are interested in attending and inviting others, please call 661-942-0419.



CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Children's Church is in full swing! Our children begin their Sunday mornings in the Sanctuary, then are invited to join Children's Church after the Children's Sermon. All children are welcome! Our youth are assisting as part of their Confirmation studies, helping with crafts, singing, audio-visual, puppetry, and Bible navigation. Please join us!



Fall session for the Grief Group, "Journey to OUR New Normal," will resume as an in-person discussion group, led by Dey Yusef, every other Monday (7 meetings) in the church conference room from **4:00-5:30PM, beginning October 4th.** Cyndi Christensen will lead a Grief Serendipity Bible Study via Zoom every other Monday (6 meetings) beginning **October 11th from 6:30 --8:00PM.** To find out more or join one or both classes, please contact Cyndi Christensen at(661) 406-1518.

ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME
CROP HUNGER WALK

2021 CROP HUNGER WALK

This year's walk will be both in person and virtual! On **October 9th**, the sign-in will begin at 9 a.m. and the walk will begin at 9:30 a.m. Signups will begin on September 10 and continue through the morning of October 9th, We need both walkers and sponsors to support those who walk for solving the problems with hunger and water throughout the world. The money raised goes to Church World Service who spread it everywhere! This year they are working hard in the Dominican Republic to help people with raising vegetables, fish, pigs and obtaining clean water to stay healthy. Our church is hosting our local walk both physically and virtually so we can all stay safe! *Please contact Sharon*

FINANCIAL NEWS

We are taking orders for next year's donation envelopes! Please contact the office if you would like a box.

The budget is due to the Finance by October 19th. Those of you that are responsible for a ministry or line item in the budget, please provide the treasurer with your anticipated financial needs for consideration in the budget process. Questions: Contact Dayna Rodriguez in the church office.



The **Bereavement Committee** is seeking volunteers to help with church member funerals. If you are interested in volunteering , please contact Bette Jo Valdez at quiltingnana@msn.com or 661-860-8588.

The church van is being repaired, so Van Pool service is suspended until further notice.