In this month's LINK:

"So Here's the Thing"

Footprints & Financial Blog

Children's Church & Youth Ministries

Church Council Trainings

Chancel Flowers Return

Office Closures:
Monday, January 17
(Martin Luther King Jr. Day)



LANCASTER UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors
918 West Ave. J
Lancaster, CA 93534
www.lancasterunited.org

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES

PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID

LANCASTER, CALIFORNIA 93534

THE LINK (USPS 370-870)

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY:
LANCASTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE LINK

LABEL

TIME SENSITIVE

PLEASE DELIVER BY January 12TH

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 (*masking required*)

facebook lancasterunited
(no FB membership needed)

YouTube lancasterunitedmc

LUMC Kitchen (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
LUMC Kitchen
Music Ministries
Office Volunteers
Online classes
Prayer Team
Prayers and Squares
United Methodist Women
Youth Group
Wellness Works



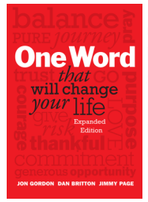
LANCASTER UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

The Link

The Church's Official Newsletter
Vol. 66 No. 1
January 2022

One Word and One Book for 2022

How about those New Year's resolutions? We should prayerfully consider them as we keep in mind the annual statistics: 80% of us give up our New Year's Resolutions by March 1. My good friend, Mark Bean, has less faith in humanity than the statistics record. He made a business plan to open an exercise gym on January 1 and change it to a wine and cheese bar by the end of January. With these stats in mind, let's consider our church's strategy for becoming a prayer-saturated church with 'One Word' and 'One Book.'



***One Word** that Will Change Your Life,* by Jon Gordon, Dan Britton, and Jimmy Page, reveal the benefits of discovering "One Word" for the year in contrast to making a new resolution. The authors say, "People tend to set 'To-Do' goals rather than 'To-Be' goals. Therefore, success is measured by what we accomplish rather than who we become. Making resolutions convinces us that all we have to do is roll up our sleeves again and get to work. However, this approach ignores the essential part of life change: our heart, and soul.

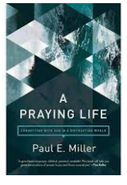


What if we discovered 'One Word' that would steer many of our basic life choices this coming year? What if we purposefully allow 'One Word' to influence the books we read, the movies we decided to watch, the hobby or projects we seek to create, and even shape our vacations' focus?"

Most experts agree that if we formed our lifestyle around "One Word," then our hearts would begin to experience lasting change. So, as we enter 2022, try the following steps to discover your "one word" for this year.

1) Ask God to reveal your "one word" for the new year.
2) Ask God to reveal to you the negative word, thought, or image that has burdened you throughout 2021 (e.g., fear, confusion, shame, weak, resentment, depression, worry, etc.).
3) Ask God to reveal to you the positive word, thought, or image that will set you free from your word of burden in 2021 (e.g., faith, vision, cleansing, courage, forgiveness, freedom, acceptance, hope, etc.).
4) Ask God to reveal your positive and negative word in the Bible.
5) Go to the back of a study Bible to the concordance (or Google or call the church office) to discover where your "one word" occurs in the Bible.
6) Read over each referenced verse until one seems to stand out above the others.

The most illuminated word will be your word and verse and chapter in the Bible to carry you through the new year.



One Book, *A Praying Life*, by Paul Miller, I have recommended our congregation read this book as part of our Lenten studies beginning March 1. Our church's goal is to make 2022 the year of intimacy with God. Here is our two-step plan:

1) In January, discover "one word" from the Bible. Remember, statistics say that 87% of us will stop that by March 1. Therefore, on March 1, move on to step two.
2) In March, begin reading *A Praying Life*, by Paul Miller. Purchase a book during the week at the church office or on Sundays in the foyer. Both steps help us simplify our lives as we seek to know the transforming power of our loving God.

It has been Angela's and my great privilege to continue to serve alongside you during this past year as a careful, caring, and creative church. We are looking forward to living through this new year's joys and challenges together.

Happy New Year, Pastor Greg & Angela

All-Church Notices



Sunday Worship Flowers will once again be available to purchase for $65 per arrangements beginning in January 2022. Flowers may be purchased to honor or memorialize, as well as celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, or other special dedications.

The 2022 Flower Notebook will be on the Book table in Grand Foyer to sign up. Contact the church office with questions at 661-942-0419.



LUMC Passages

Bob Youngquist

Entered the Church Triumphant:

December 2, 2021

Funeral services will be held in the LUMC Sanctuary on January 22 at 2 p.m.

ONGOING PRAYERS FOR MEMBERS
Bob Barry
Cynthia Christensen
Steve & Cindy Farrand
Dorothy & Roger Finifrock
Vicki & David Fisher
Bill & Alease Goesch
Sheila Gonzales
Carmen Lane
Jennifer Lawrence
Doreen Maynard
Velta Mann
Gerry Saul
Randy Beckett
Phillip Trujillo
Ray Wolleman
Andrea Lackvoic

FAMILY & FRIENDS (1 MONTH)
Dorine Jones
Kathy (friend of Melinda Hunter)
Bonnie O'Carroll
Margy Koris
Jesus Salcedo
Trina McCombs Perry
Craig (son of Jane Van Howling)
Margaret Zimmerman
Terry (friend of Barb Urmanski)
Jeff & Ashlie Shreeves
Mary Senia
LaNiece Cannon
Bob Youngquist
Family of Nancy Shaffer
Dr. Fred & Donna White
Isabel Molina
Henkin Family
Jack Melano

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

MEMBERS (2 MONTHS)
Ramona Beck
Melinda Hunter
Ann Thomas & Billy
Glenn & Dot Williams
Devon Marx
Mary Waggoner
Barb & Dick Urmanski
Sylvia Hacker
Tina Waller
Frank Yaw
Destiny McCaslin
Philip Portugal
Marguerite Shirley
Pat Alexander
George Yamakawa
Bette Jo & Carlos Valez & Family
Jean Youngquist and Family

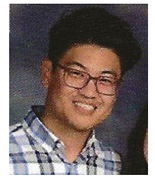


All Church Notices



The Lancaster United Methodist Church Youth Group meets on Sunday nights from 5:30-7:00 p.m. Our youth leaders, Shannon Mims and Chris Lee, facilitate a variety of faith-based activities, from youth-led Bible study and prayer, team-building activities, and community service projects. We commit to leading our youth towards a life-long practice of prayer and contemplation, worship, and community service.

Our youth also assist with Children's Church on Sunday mornings starting at 10:00 a.m. in the dining room. We 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 begin their Sunday's in the Sanctuary, then are invited to join Children's Church in the Dining Room 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!

Saturday, January 29, 2022 from 9:00 am to noon via ZOOM the North District is offering trainings available for all church members to attend, if they so choose. The training will begin with Superintendent Reverend Melissa MacKinnon sharing news and general information. Following this there will be breakout training sessions on the topics of: Property Leases; Sustainable Building Plans; Pastor & Parish; Faith, Family and Finances; Positive Parenting; Clergy/Family Dynamics; Youth Ministry; Open Spaces (Young Adults); Growing Spirits & Churches in a Pandemic.

After the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, January at Footprints is **CHILL!** This month, we will be studying everything about winter, including the science of winter weather, warm clothing items, and animals that live in snowy climates.

We will be **closed** for Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday (**January 17**), but will come back to learn about more science (including solids and liquids), then shift to the science of shadows as we look toward to Groundhog Day in February. We will close out the month with our celebration of Chinese New Year as we observe the Year of the Tiger!



Donation envelopes have arrived! If you ordered envelopes for the coming year, please pick them up at the check-in tables on Sunday, or in the office during the week (10 am-2 pm).

— Dayna Rodriguez, Treasurer

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

The church van is back in business! Call the church office if you need a ride to church.