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APRIL 2022

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

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THE LINK

LABEL

TIME SENSITIVE

PLEASE DELIVER BY APRIL 12TH

LUMC Office Hours:
Mon-Fri 10 a.m. ~ 2 p.m.
Mask policies subject to restrictions in place at time of visit.
Closed Saturday & Sunday (661) 942-0419

In-Person Streaming Service Sundays — 10 a.m. in Sanctuary (*masking will be optional beginning on April 17th*)

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

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1 Word 1 Book 1 Church 1 People
Lancaster United Methodist Church, CA

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

The Link

The Church's Official Newsletter
Vol. 66 No. 4
April 2022

Easter Eggs & Camp for Children & Youth



Wait a minute! Doesn't the origin of Easter eggs come from a pagan culture? The answer is yes. So why are we using eggs during the most important Christian day of the year? We are following Jesus' way of teaching parables and his redefining every symbol of the Jewish Passover Meal at the Last Supper. Similarly, the apostle Paul preached on Mars Hill in Acts 17:22-32, and John and Charles Wesley reworded the lyrics of the popular bar tunes of their day to bridge their culture's music with Bible truths.



God created the world and all that exists within it. Disciples seek to creatively reflect our culture and redirect it to the grace and truth of Christ. The Resurrection eggs are a set of plastic eggs like those used in an Easter egg hunt, but they do not carry candy. Instead, inside each egg is a figure representing a part of Jesus' journey during Holy Week: Palm Sunday's donkey ride, Maundy Thursday's last supper, Good Friday's crucifixion, and Easter's resurrection. The children will open the first egg on Palm Sunday; then examine the rest on Easter, recapping Jesus' actions during Holy Week leading to Resurrection Sunday.

For the Easter egg hunt, our children need 400 eggs. To assist with the egg hunt, you can donate pre-filled and pre-sealed Easter eggs at your favorite grocery or drug store. Drop them off at the church office during the week or on a Sunday before Easter at the children's table. The church will provide the Resurrection Eggs pictured above.



Also, we will celebrate with a church-wide Pancake Breakfast at 9 a.m. We have sandwiched breakfast between our two worship service times: Sunrise Service at 8 am in the courtyard; Pancake breakfast at 9 a.m. in JWH; Worship at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary. For all Easter services, masking will be optional.

Nothing impacts our children and youth for Christ like a week at Camp Wrightwood. So, in keeping with our tradition, we will receive donations at the Pancake Breakfast to sponsor kids who want to attend summer camp.



I hope you can join us in person or online as we rejoice in God's divine sacrifice and power in our risen Savior through table fellow and worship.

— Pastor Greg



(*all services streamed on Facebook unless noted otherwise*)

Lenten Taizé service — April 6th at 6 p.m. (live and streaming on Zoom only; call office to get on list)

Palm Sunday, April 10th — 10 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 14th — 7 p.m.

Good Friday, April 15th — Mission District service 7 p.m. in LUMC Sanctuary

Easter Sunday, April 17th—Sunrise Service, 8 a.m. in church courtyard (live only)

Sanctuary Service, 10 a.m. (with Easter Egg hunt and crafts for children)

All-Church Notices

Homosexuality and the United Methodist Church

Our visioning leadership team recommends one or two books to better inform every sincere Christian's struggle over ordination and marriage of self-avowed practicing homosexuals. Both authors maintain a high view of scripture. We acknowledge we all bring assumptions and presupposition as we read the Bible. Therefore, we ask everyone to read a book expressing another viewpoint.

If you are progressive-leaning, we encourage you to read the conservative-leaning book ***A People to be Loved*** by Preston Sprinkle. If you are conservative-leaning, we hope you will read the progressive view of what it means to be a faithful gay Christian in ***God and the Gay Christian*** by Matthew Vines.

If you only want to read one book, we suggest you read ***A People to be Loved*** by Preston Sprinkle because it challenges all sides to what the Bible says and models how we should approach this topic in love. Our goal is not to change beliefs but to soften hearts towards others. Thank you for your humble and prayerful participation in this controversial subject that defies simple answers in our church and society. — Pastor Greg

LUMC Passages

Bob Youngquist (December 2, 2021)
Services will be held in the LUMC Sanctuary on April 30th at 11 a.m.

Dorothy Jean Finifrock (February 15, 2022)
No local services are planned.

Bobby Hendricks (March 25, 2022)
Services to be announced.

David Eslick (March 7, 2022)
Services will be held in the LUMC Sanctuary on May 21st at 2 p.m.

ONGOING PRAYERS
Bob Barry
Ramona Beck
Randy Beckett
Cynthia Christensen
Steve & Cindy Farrand
Vicki & David Fisher
Bill & Alease Goesch
Sheila Gonzales
Andrea Lackvoic
Carmen Lane
Jennifer Lawrence
Ruth Marr
Doreen Maynard
Jack Melano
Gerry Saul
Gaylin Schmitz
Marguarite Shirley
Phillip Trijillo
Augustina Waller
Ray Wolleman

MEMBERS (2 MONTHS)
Robert Banghart
Cousins Family
Fae Currado
Suzanne Dearborn
Roger Finifrock
Melinda Hunter
Destiny McCaslin
Philip Portugal
Ann Thomas & Billy
Barb & Dick Urmanski
George & Janet Yamakawa
Jane Van Howling
Jean Youngquist &Family

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

FAMILY & FRIENDS (1 MONTH)
Abby & unborn son
Bill & Margaret
Christa Arthur
Barry Bender
LaNiece Cannon
Sarah Circhilrllo
Cherrie deVoogolt
Sylvia Hacker
Pastor Bill Jenkins
Billy McCombs
Trina McCombs Perry
Isabel Molina
Francisco Ramirez
Dennis Romance
Jesus Salcedo
Lois Wilk



All Church Notices



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The LUMC office is looking for regular volunteers to help. The duties include opening and closing the office, helping answer the phones, taking messages, greeting visitors, doing some light filing as needed, and generally helping to keep the office pleasant and welcoming.

The days that the office is currently searching for volunteers are: Tuesday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., and Friday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Please call the office at 661-942 -0419 or email lumc@lancasterunited.org to let us know if you are interested in this volunteer position. Thank you.



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!



Spring has sprung at Footprints!

We will be studying nature all month long, starting with the life found in ponds during week 1. As we prepare for Easter in week 2 we will explore a Bible story about "The Tall and the Small," and have fun with eggs and bunnies. We will celebrate with our Easter Party on April 14th.

Week three will be all about bugs, and week 4 will explore the Bible story about "The Mean Fool," and we will learn about seeds and plants.

Footprints will be closed on Good Friday, April 15th.



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.

Sunday Worship Flowers are once again available to purchase for $65 per arrangement. Flowers may be purchased to honor or memorialize, as well as to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, or other special dedications.

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





The counting team is always looking for volunteers. If you like counting money, are available on Tuesdays at 10:00 AM and would like to join the counting team, please contact the church office.
— Dayna Rodriguez, Treasurer