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Footprints & Financial Blog

LUMC Passings



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

THE LINK (USPS 370-870)

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LABEL

TIME SENSITIVE

PLEASE DELIVER BY MAY 8TH

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

Sunday Services in John Wesley Hall: 9 a.m.
(With masks and social distancing)
Streaming Service Sundays at 10:45 a.m.

facebook lancasterunited
(no FB membership needed)
YouTube lancasterunitedmc

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
Grief Group
LUMKitchen
Music Ministries
Office Volunteers
Online classes
Prayer Team
Prayers and Squares
United Methodist Women
Youth Group
Wellness Works

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METHODIST CHURCH
Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

The Link

The Church's Official Newsletter
Vol. 65 No. 5

"So Here's the Thing —" for May *by Pastor Greg*



No one is encouraging dining on these fantastic animals. However, if one did eat three 4 oz portions (1/4 pound) a day, it would **provide** 26 years and four months' worth of meals.

An old quote by Creighton Abrams: "When eating an elephant, take one bite at a time." is good advice about how to tackle a huge, overwhelming project.

We could describe our UM process for returning to indoor services in the sanctuary as mammoth. It also could be illustrated as dining at our favorite restaurant for a romantic evening to eat our favorite **"worship elephant."** The four-course menu is as follows:

(Continual) **Wine-** Live Steaming service: an endless flow during and long after the meal.
(Past) **Appetizer-** Outdoor worship service: a delightful cool, warm, & windy experience since October 2020. No charge. Made possible by 15 volunteers.
(Present) **Salad-** Indoor worship in John Wesley Hall at 9:00 am is filled with musings over our church's original vision since the 1950s. The vision continues: WiFi connection, new sound mixer, new portable audio/visual booth, replacement speakers and projector. An anonymous donor paid for all upgrades, except for $800.
(June 20ish) **Entree**- One Indoor worship service in the Sanctuary at 10:45 am anticipates connecting with our most recent worship vision: renovated audio/visual booth, technology upgrades, new computer equipment, and five new cameras. Paid in full by anonymous donors.
(TBD) **Dessert-** Second indoor worship service in the sanctuary at 9:00 am is a sweet reminder of a full house. Additional Charge of $3,000 per month and five additional tech volunteers.

Over the past 12 months of the Covid quarantine and safety restrictions, our congregation has enjoyed the smooth wine of live steaming, the combo appetizer of outdoor worship, and we have just begun to nibble on our salad of indoor worship in JWH. Our main entrée of indoor worship in the sanctuary should be ready around the end of June. This past year many of us could not sit still for the slow progressive four-course meal of the "**worship elephant**." Therefore, some folks have been consuming the "**trustee elephant"** of bidding and overseeing three new roofs (preschool, JWH, and the office); repair of sanctuary roof and awning; six new swamp coolers; repairing broken gas and telephone lines; running new infrastructure of wiring and conduit for telephone and internet upgrade throughout the entire campus . *(cont' d on p. 2)*



CALLING ALL GRADUATES!
We are compiling a list of high school and college graduates for publication in the June edition of LINK. Please email Susie Brown at **lumc@lancasterunited.org** with the following information: Name of graduate, school and location, degree, honors (if any), and future plans. We look forward to celebrating our graduates!

I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord,…
Plans for a future and a hope."
Jeremiah 29.11

‘So Here’s the Thing —” for May; con’td *by Pastor Greg*



Others have been feasting on the **"preschool elephant's"** tender new playground and its enrollment growth cooked up to pre-Covid numbers (over 100 kids). Both the preschool and SPRC are currently feasting on revising the **"personal policy elephant."**

From the beginning of the pandemic, the **"finance elephant"** has been pressure cooking the Covid PPP loans, balancing the budget with lower income, conducting three self-audits of finances, and initiating the Commemorative Brick Garden. All made possible by your faithful generosity!

Each Sunday afternoon, Shannon and Chris have been serving the **"youth elephant's"** kid meal. However, they will begin to offer larger portions to the confirmation class from May till September. And, of course, others have been grazing none-stop over the **"Soup Kitchen Elephant."** since day one of the pandemic. These elephants have been eaten weekly. Many other elephants have been enjoyed more slowly but have been just as satisfying and essential to our church.

Francis of Assisi sums up how to eat an elephant: Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible, and suddenly you are doing the impossible. Since the Covid quarantine began in March of 2020, our congregants have been faithfully doing the impossible. It is with great gratitude and amazement that I give thanks to God for LUMC every day. — *Pastor Greg*



Footprints Childcare Center is going full steam — as of late April we have 104 students attending regularly! This month the children will be exploring gardening, dinosaurs, and exploring the jungle. The school will be closed for Memorial Day holiday (Monday, May 31st).

We continue to screen children each day to insure the health and safety of everyone at the school. If you know someone who needs child care, please have them call us at 661-942-0812.





LUMC Passages

Patricia Henrich
entered the Church Triumphant: April 1, 2021
A graveside service will be held on May 14th,
12:30 p.m.at Joshua Memorial Park

Ann La Chappelle-Bergren
entered the Church Triumphant: April 6, 2021
Service arrangements were incomplete at press time.

Upcoming memorials:
Jim Edwards — June 11th, 11 a.m. at LUMC
Howard Crusan — June 12th, at LUMC

Youth Group *by Shannon Mims*

Confirmation CLASSES

The Lancaster United Methodist Youth Group will begin confirmation classes in John Wesley Hall starting on **Sunday, May 2 from 3:00 pm-5:00 pm**.

Our youth leaders will teach a fifteen week course of study covering topics such as Methodist history and doctrine, grace, prayer, perfection, and much more. We welcome all youth in grades 7-12 to attend.

JUST ANNOUNCED: Cal-Pac Summer groups are BACK! Register for camps for Younger Elementary (grades 1-3), Older Elementary (grades 3-6), Junior High (grades 6-9), and Senior High School Students (grade 9 – graduating) from June 28 to August 1 now! Early bird registration extended to June 20th!
For more information, visit **http://www.calpacumc.org/summercamp**



"Journey to Our New Normal": This Spring's Grief Group is meeting on Zoom, Thursday's nights from 6:30-8:00PM. Dey Yusef is the E & E Love Foundation Executive Director, specializing in wellness which includes dealing with the loss for seniors, adult foster children and others. Cynthia Christensen will be co-leading a Bible study to process the six stages of grief: denial, anger, bargaining, depression, acceptance, and hope. Please contact the church office if you would like to join this group. For further questions contact Donna Horn or Cynthia Christensen.

Vaccinations: If you would like to get vaccinated and have not been able to find a location or need a ride, please contact the church office or Donna Horn, to see if we might be able to help.



The March 2021 Financial Statements marked the end of the first quarter of the 2021 Budget Year. At the end of the first quarter the Unified Fund had a surplus of approximately $13,000 however the Building Fund (Mortgage) contributions for the first quarter had a deficit of approximately $2,500.

If you would like to receive a copy of the monthly Financial Statements, have any questions or concerns or would like more information regarding the LUMC finances, please feel free to contact the Treasurer, Dayna Rodriguez at treasurer@lancasterunited.org, or call the church office.

ONGOING PRAYERS FOR MEMBERS
Cynthia Christensen
Steve & Cindy Farrand
Dorothy Finifrock
Vicki & David Fisher
Bill & Alease Goesch
Sheila Gonzales
Barbara Healy
Wilma Howe
Jennifer Lawrence
Doreen Maynard
Velta Mann
Skyla Moore
Addie Stokes

FAMILY & FRIENDS (1 MONTH)
David Robinson
Bob Stickney
Zach Tucker
Craig Van Howling
Family of Mark Van Howling
Ray Wolleman

MEMBERS (2 MONTHS)
Family of Ann La Chapelle Bergren
Family of Louise Dumas
Ramona Beck
Mary Blackwell
Rachel Cash
Edith Crockett
Family of Don Davis
Family of Patricia Henrich
Jim Houser
John Johnson
Family of Nancy Killian
Carmen Lane
John Lee
Family of Jean McCandless
Joanne Marshall 3/9/21
Audrey Miller (1-31-21)
Marianne Rose
Marguerite Shirley
Jane Van Howling
Marilyn Waggoner

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

