THE NEW WINE

NEWSLETTER OF LEMONT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



PASTOR'S MESSAGE

BY PASTOR OH

Grace and peace to you as we embark on a journey of reflection, meditation, worship, and service over the course of Lent, the forty days of spiritual journey to Easter!

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Lent. The ashes symbolize both death and repentance.

During the forty days of Lent, Christians show repentance and mourning for their sins. While our Advent celebrations are filled with joy as we remember the birth of our King, Lent is when we focus on the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Traditionally, many believers choose to participate in some sort of fasting during this time—people have been known to fast from various foodstuffs as well as television, social media, and Internet usage. Even though I'm a fan of technology, it seems like there's no escaping from it, even if you wanted to.

In our modern, digital world, it's easy to work around the clock: our cell phones are always on and everyone expects their text messages and emails to be answered instantaneously. You might even crawl into bed with your phone, checking out your Facebook, Instagram, or Tweeter updates or playing a game whole night. It's safe to say that for most of us, our work and our technology can consume our days and our nights.

People of the ancient world saw no such conveniences, of course. They entertained themselves in groups: true face-to-face fellowship at its finest. Others may decide to study the Bible more closely or experience a time of solitude. Perhaps you will commit to attending Lenten Bible Study, Tuesday Night Fellowship, Food Donation Project, services, or a time of prayer from now until the glory of Easter.

Whatever your personal preference, Lent can be the time when you decide to let go of old habits and develop a more joyful, Christ-filled way of living.

God wants our attention. God wants to be He who consumes your thoughts every day and every night. Dear brothers and sisters. Lenten season invites us to turn to God to prayer, meditation on scripture, and listening to God more closely. It is true that the more our thoughts return to God and His ways, we become more like Him and do godly things. I pray that may God bless you during this Lenten season with tremendous spiritual growth and renewal as you dedicate more time to God through quiet times of prayer, meditation and reflection.

In Christ, Pastor Hyo Sun Oh

STAFF UPDATES

SPRC is pleased to announce that we have hired a new permanent Administrative Assistant / Director of Social Media.

Charlotte Betts comes to us with a great deal of experience in not only providing administrative services, but also in working as a social media strategist. In addition to her administrative work to keep our office running efficiently, she will be re-configuring our website and social media so that we can position ourselves to better reach people in our community and draw people to our church and to Christ. Please watch for the updates! Additionally, we are pleased to announce that in our search we have also found a gem in obtaining assistance with the production of our on-line worship services.

Juan Gutierrez will become our Worship Technical Director. We appreciate all the time that Pastor Oh, Jana Stelter and Leslie Ramos have put into the very time-consuming task of editing video for our worship services. Juan will help to alleviate some of that burden. He is adept in editing video and will be helping us to transition between pre-recorded portions of the service and live streaming more seamlessly. This will help our on-line worship service to be professional looking and reach even more people to bring the good news of God's love into people's homes when they are unable to attend live services. Please reach out welcome both Charlotte and Juan to our church team!

We would also like to thank Vanessa Urban for her hard work and being willing to pitch in as our Interim Administrative Assistant to get us through the holidays. This also gave us time to do a thorough search to find someone with the unique set of skills we were looking for. Her hard work is much appreciated. She will be helping Charlotte get familiar with the job and answer questions during the transition this week. Please email her with your kind words of thanks!

Thank you all for your patience through this transition time.

Blessings to you all!
GleeAnn Kehr
Chair, Staff Parish Relations Committee

A FEW NOTES



A note from Charlotte Betts:

Hey there, I'm Charlotte. I'm excited to join the Lemont UMC - Team as the Administrative Assistant & Director of Communications and Social Media.

A little about me: I was born in Africa and raised in Ottawa, Ontario Canada. I moved to IL in 2007 to be with my husband who is a South side of Chicago native.

Together we have two daughters age 5 and 8 who keep us busy. My love for the Lord is what brought me to apply for the position and I'm happy to be part of your community. I look forward to serving each and one of you and bring to Lemont UMC innovative and interactive ways to connect through social media and beyond.

Charlotte Betts



note from Juan Gutierrez:

Hi everyone!
My name is Juan Gutierrez.
I was recently hired as the Worship Technical Director.
My experience ranges from video production to desktop publication. I've always been a creative person; I enjoy drawing and painting. I also love playing the drums and learning guitar.
I'm a big animal person. Dogs are my favorite and have volunteered at animal shelters in the past.

I'm looking forward to meeting all of you and working together. I'm excited to work on the live stream production and expand the reach of the church through social media. Helping with the visual design of the live stream presentation with the slides and the videos is something I'm eager to work on.

Juan Gutierrez



A note from Vanessa Urban:

Dear Church members,
As of now, I have completed my
position as Interim Administrative
Assistant for the church. I want to say
thank you to everyone who has helped
me during my time here. I enjoyed
getting to know you all and I hope I
get a chance to see you all in person
when it's possible for churches to
reopen.

I really appreciate all the kind words I have received over the last couple months regarding my singing videos as well as my general work. I have read through all your prayers and I would just like to send out one big prayer to everyone in the congregation.

I pray for your health and happiness. If you are mourning, I pray that you and your loved ones find peace during these very difficult times. Remember there is always a light at the end of the tunnel. If you are experiencing a big change in your life, I pray that you are safe, secure, and surrounded by those who love you. I pray for everyone's well-being during this new year! Thank you and God Bless.

Sincerely, Vanessa Urban



Ash Wednesday Service



FEBRUARY 17, 2021 AT 10 AM

ON YOUTUBE & FACEBOOK

"RETURN TO THE LORD YOUR GOD"

ReTurn to church for In-person service

Now that our area has reached a tier that once again allows for limited in-person gatherings, our Administrative Council has set a date to resume our limited live worship services beginning 2/7/21 at 10:00 am. The LUMC ReTURN Team has previously worked diligently to formulate a plan for in-person worship services for those who are ready and eager to worship in our church building. On-line services will continue also so that those who prefer to worship remotely may still do so. It is anticipated that on-line worship will continue indefinitely as we are reaching more people than we could have ever dreamed! Praise God! For those that are interested in participating with an in-person worship, here are some of the highlights.

The LUMC ReTURN procedures for in-person worship will be based on recommendations from the CDC, State of Illinois HHS, and the Northern Illinois Conference. While we are striving to take the utmost precautions to safely return to worship in our building, there are still no guarantees that someone will not be infected with COVID-19 or any other illness. As much as we would love for you to worship with us, if you feel you are at risk or have any concerns we won't be offended if you choose not to attend in-person worship. There will still be an online service every week and we would encourage you to worship with us in that way. LUMC ReTURN Team will keep informed of trends of Covid-19 taking in consideration CDC, State of Illinois Department of Health and Human Services and Northern Illinois Conference UMC recommendations. Should numbers rise or fall, the ReTURN Team may adjust procedures and phase status accordingly.

Here are some of the guidelines:

- Attendance will be by reservation only. Parishioners must call or email the church Administrative Assistant to request a reservation. No more than 25 people can be in the building at any one time.
- Attend church ONLY IF YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE IN DOING SO. The church, the Body of Christ, is not a physical building. It resides in the hearts of Christians, wherever they may be. A weekly on-line service will continue to be provided. Remember that you are loved and cared for regardless of whether you feel ready to attend in-person church or not.
- > Please arrive at least 15 min early to allow time for temperature check and check-in.
- Please allow for an empty parking space on both sides of your vehicle and other parked vehicles.
- > Entry will be through the main upstairs (South) door only. Exit only through upstairs Southeast or Southwest doors. There will be no access to the downstairs area.
- > Keep your nose and mouth covered with a mask and use hand sanitizer. If you do not have a mask, we will have a disposable one for you. Hand sanitizer will be provided.
- Do not touch anyone who is not part of your household. Greet each other with a wave, nod, curtsy, bow or any other friendly gesture! Please limit touching surfaces inside the building as much as possible.
- Sanctuary aisles are one-way please enter through the center isle and exit via the side aisles.
- Please limit restroom usage. If you must go, please follow thorough hand washing procedures.
- > Keep a social distance of 6 ft between families, both inside and outside the church.
- > Follow directions given by the ushers, on signage, or marked on the floors.
- No food or drink.
- > No nursery will be provided.

LUMC Instructions & Screening Questions

Please bring this completed form with you to the worship service

- Attend church **ONLY IF YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE IN DOING SO**. The church, the Body of Christ, is not a physical building. It resides in the hearts of Christians, wherever they may be. A weekly on-line service will continue to be provided. Remember that you are loved and cared for regardless of whether you feel ready to attend in-person church or not.
- > Please arrive at least 15 min early to allow time for temperature check and check-in.
- > Please allow for an empty parking space on both sides of your vehicle and other parked vehicles.
- > Keep a social distance of 6 ft between families, both inside and outside the church.
- ➤ Entry will be through the main upstairs (South) door only. Exit only through upstairs Southeast or Southwest doors. There will be no access to the downstairs area.
- ➤ Keep your nose and mouth covered with a mask and use hand sanitizer. If you do not have a mask, we will have a disposable one for you. Hand sanitizer will be provided.
- > Do not touch anyone who is not part of your household. Greet each other with a wave, nod, curtsy, bow or any other friendly gesture! Please limit touching surfaces inside the building as much as possible.
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- > Please limit restroom usage. If you must go, please follow thorough hand washing procedures.
- > Follow directions given by the ushers, on signage, or marked on the floors.

	 No food or drink. No nursery will be provided 	ed.	aineu	on the hoors.			
 In the past 14 days, have you or any member of your household had any of the following COVID-19 symptom for unknown reasons / not related to a diagnosed condition? 							
	 Dry persistent cough Shortness of breath or of the serious of the seri	.0°F) or feeling		New loss of taste or	adache ncerns, such		
2. In the past 14 days, have you knowingly been in close contact, or live in the same household with, anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or who has or had symptoms of COVID-19? 3. Have you or anyone in your household traveled outside of the U.S. or on a cruise ship in the past 14 days?							
This form is to document the LUMC attendee health screening requirement set forth in the LUMC ReTURN Guidance protocol. The LUMC ReTURN Team has developed procedures for in-person worship based on recommendations from the CDC, State of Illinois HHS, and the Northern Illinois Conference. While we are striving to take the utmost precautions to safely return to worship in our building, there are still no guarantees that someone will not be infected with COVID-19 or any other illness. As much as we would love for you to worship with us, if you feel you are at risk or have any concerns we won't be offended if you choose not to attend in-person worship. There will still be an online service every week and we would encourage you to worship with us in that way. Here is a link to our services http://www.lemontumc.org/video/index.php							
	Do you have any of the COVID-				*****	*****	
	Print your name	Signature	Wo	rship Service Date	No	Yes	

If a church attendee answers "yes" to any of the questions, they will be asked to make another reservation once they are able to answer "no" to all these questions.

Happy Hands Preschool

Written by Karin Peraino

Happy Hands is always a very busy and productive place so it's nice to have some time to kick back and relax too. At the end of January, Happy Hands enjoyed Pajama Days. The children got to wear their pajamas to school and enjoy special activities like shape bingo with candy markers! But don't let the comfy outfits fool you...the children still had plenty of time to play and work. Mostly they enjoyed showing off their colorful pajamas to their classroom friends. Happy Hands will be holding a Registration Night for the 2021-2022 school year on Thursday, 2/04/2021 from 7-8pm.

Please help spread the word. More information and registration forms can be found at our website: www.lemonthappyhands.com or contact us at lemonthappyhands@gmail.com or 630-257-3112.

Thanks! Karin Peraino Director of HH

> ZABCDEFGH a my Happy Hands Pajama Day



Happy Hands Methodist Preschool Registration **Night**

Thursday, February 4, 7-8 p.m.

Phone: 630-257-3112; Email: <u>lemonthappyhands@gmail.com</u> Check out our website: <u>www.lemonthappyhands.com</u> AND HappyHandsPreschool Facebook page

Contact us for more info or to schedule a tour.
Registration opens to the public on 2/04/2021, 7-8pm.
Registration form & fee are required to save a spot.

ways: learning through an integrated curriculum, encouraging independence, supporting friendship and teamwork skills and embracing the importance of the art, music and motor!"

PROGAMS: 2-year-old Young 3's 3-year-old 4-year-old

Plus!

Add-On Programs:

WE OFFER:

Live Music Class

Weekly Motor Class

activities and crafts

Science and nature activities

birthdays & holidays

St. Jude Trike-A-Thor

And much. much more!!

on January 28, 2021

Upcoming Events

United Methodist Men

Written by Tony Ferrazzi

United Methodist Men - Saturday: February 13th at 8 a.m.

The Lemont United Methodist Men (UMM) will meet via Zoom on Saturday, February 13, 2021 at 8 AM. This group is made available for the fellowship of all the men of the church in every second Saturday of the month and all are welcome to attend. If you are able to Join us via Zoom, please contact Phil Ramos for the Invitation to the Meeting:Phil's e-mail is **bolingbrookramos@gmail.com** and his phone number is 630-740-1513.

Tony Ferrazzi, Chairperson of UMM

Laity Convocation

February 13, 2021

Save the date for this Zoom videoconference "The Other Side: Making our churches vital in a post-pandemic world." Registration will open Jan. 31, 2021. Register at this link. https://na.eventscloud.com/ereg/newreg.php?eventid=600951& Laity are all invited to this event.

Aurora Spring Lay Academy

Date: FEB. 21 AND 28: MAR. 7, 14, AND 21

SUNDAYS FROM 2 TO 4 P.M.

Join us as part of your Lenten journey!

Cost: \$20

Please register by February 15, 2021

Choose from the following classes:

Introduction to Lay Ministry:

Basic Course taught by Roger Curless

Called to Preach taught by Rev. Becky Nicol

Biblical Storytelling taught by Rev. JoAnne Chase

Leading Worship taught by Chuck Dexter

LUMC Tuesday Night Virtual Fellowship! @7pm

The ever-popular Tuesday Night Virtual Fellowship Meetings are back and set for the new year and will take us up to Easter! Please join the group as GleeAnn Kehr, Phil Ramos, Debbie Hassert, and Bill Price alternate leading the 7 pm fellowship. It's a 40 minute chance to catch up, to see and to be seen, and to interact with other church members. The fellowship ends with a lesson, a devotional, or a story aimed to generate contemplation or reflection.

We use the Zoom platform for the fellowship. To attend, send Phil a note and he will send you the Zoom link. Phil's email address is bolingbrookramos@gmail.com. Hope to "See" you on Tuesday!

LIBRARY COLUMN

Written by Kay Norfleet

Since we(most of us) don't have access to the library books in church, I thought we'd study the Bible(I'm pretty sure each has one).

Let's start with Genesis-

This is the Biblical book where God establishes His Covenant. He promises to honor the Covenant(agreement, bond pact, commitment-well you get the idea) between Him and YOU! He created the earth, skies, seas, light, dark vegetation, day and night, animals and birds, MAN-and woman. And God saw that it was good. Thank you, good God! He's the reason you and I are here!

How could such an all powerful God NOT have also created our thoughts, then allowed our actions. Well, He did, but then He also gave us free will. I'm sure He's disappointed when we don't use that free will to honor Him. He is so GOOD! Story after story is told about how God the Creator of all that's good runs up against man, man who He created yet gave free will. Man questions God and acts accordingly.

First, Abraham is mentioned. This is the beginning of Israel's story. Then Jacob and his brother trick their father. But God intervenes. As He does with Joseph's family. God manipulated the final outcome. How do I know that...easy, it was for the GOOD of all involved. God is good. And as with Cain and Abel. Noah and others

God ultimately carries out His promises. To be a GOOD GOD! In Genesis 17:7 He says "I will establish my covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God(the GOOD Creator-my reminder) of your descendants after you."

POWER OF ATTONEY

For Free of Charge

Bill Shelby, has been made aware that there are a number of LUMC Members who do not have their Powers of Attorney (Health Care and Property) completed and available in case of emergency. Every person has the right to make their own decisions involving their health and property.

A power of attorney (Health Care and Property) assigns someone you TRUST to make these decisions on your behalf should you become incapacitated. Everyone should have these documents available in the event they are needed. Because of this, I am offering to provide help to our Church members and family in preparing these documents at no cost to you. I will provide the documents (Health Care and Property) and the notary stamp. You will need to provide the names and addresses of the Agent(s) that will be given the power of attorney....or "attorney in fact." Should you wish to meet and have these documents prepared, please let me know. You can reach me at (630) 379-4023.

Bill Shelby



Prayers and Concerns

Rich Hudik, bone marrow cancer

*Priscilla Ludwig, going to Lemont Cnt

Anna (Fries), bladder surgery

*Neil Janssen, strength

Ron, cancer treatment

Jordyn Milinis (Pecher), crohns

*Sheila Farrer, health issues

*Jason Kehr, cystic fibrosis

*George Lange, healing

Jim Ludwig, hip surgery

Elena Winters (Miller), health issues

*Tom Gebel, arthritis

*Bev Svoboda, strength

Lori Bartwick, breast cancer

Joe Sigety, ALS

Lou Gunder, lymphoma/chemo

*Grieving Families

Mike Mandziara, brain cancer

Katie (Norfleet), kidney disease

Marty Rolin, nerve damage

Jamie, brain aneurysm, surgery

Linda, dementia

Judy (McAdams), cancer

Debbie Turner (Knott), psorosis

David Goreham, blood disorder

Erv Rose (Baxter), prostate cancer

Valerie O., ovarian cancer

Ron Hamelen, Alzheimer's

Mike Overmeyer, throat cancer

Stephanie Wiley, breast cancer

*Jacob Monnett, health issues

Jim Kratochvil, eye stroke

*Dale Janssen, strength

*Joyce Koon, health issues

Andrew (Pecher), cancer

Fran (McAdams), cancer/chemo

*Rich Thomas (Cheehy), cancer

*Mary Jane Sykes, strength

Clint (Norfleet), Guillain-barre

Melanie Foster, ovarian cancer

June (Havemann), stomach cancer

Harper (Norfleet), leukemia

The wildfires & natural disasters

*Amanda Hill, blood clots

Lois, stage 3 cancer

Jim Durham, cong. Heart failure

*Sandra, autoimmune disease

*Joanne Goszczycki, health issues

E.D. McCormick, cancer

Gabrielle Blunt, Alzheimer's

*Alberta Harden, health issues

Chuck Herron (Miller), strength

All youth attending school

Kathy Burke, cancer

*Dan Harden, home/rehab

Police officers who keep us safe

**Annie W., home, healing

Peggy Fornero, healing

*Paulette Fries, moving to FL

Annette Greis, healing

*GleeAnn's siblings, covid19

Gena (Kehr), blood clots

Loretta Kramer, cancer

*The loss of Pastor Susan's mom

Thor (Fries), health issues

Margie, heart issues

Marge Good (Kehr), strength

Brian, fighting alcoholism

Rick Young (Baxter), dementia

Lorene Baldwin, cong. heart failure

Alice Lang, heart issue

Richard Lee, healing & recovery

Priscilla Ludwig, moving to long term facility

Jim Ludwig, recovery

Phil (Anderson & Beck families), still going through testing

Charles (nephew to Dottie McAdam), critical condition

COPD and pneumonia

Behling Family, fighting COVID

Anonymous Church Member, health issues, upcoming

hysterectomy, and divorce stress

Alice and George Lange, strength and recovery

Joanne Goszczycki & family, death of her husband, Gene

Judy Janovyak who are grieving upon the death of her

father

Antonio Lange, service in Alaska

Christine Miller for healing from fall

Craig Baxster for healing from fall

Al and Judy Janovayk for full recovery from Covid

Don and Loryl Fisher for healing from Covid

Prayer for our counrty and the new administration

Those who are struggling with COVID

Health care workers & first responders

All those who have lost their loved ones to COVID

Safe ReTurn to Church on February 7, 2020 for in-person

service

Please let us know your prayer requests by sending an email to the church office at (lemontumc@gmail.com).

Birthdays Anniversaries

<u>February</u>

Feb. 4-Loren Kirkman

Feb. 7-Alberta Harden

Feb. 11-Jason Stood

Feb. 14--Logan Hennebry

Feb. 15-Matthew Hennebry

Feb. 15-Leslie Ramos

Feb. 15-Kittiya Laemmer

Feb. 19-Amanda Huegelmann

Feb. 22-Dave Anderson

Feb. 27-Judy Janovyak