



Spire

October 2020

Dear Friends,

A baptism of a much-loved grandchild. The celebration of life for a beloved wife, mother, sister, aunt, friend, nurse. A Coming Home to Los Gatos UMC Take Two. October at Los Gatos UMC brings one of the things that I love best about the Church - that it is a place where joy *and* sorrow are welcome – and sometimes intertwine. A place where we are reminded that we are not alone in our sorrow or in our rejoicing – we have God and one another.

October 11, during our 10AM Livestream Worship – Toni Kent’s grandson, Lucas, will be baptized. And on his second birthday, no less! His mother, Mickey, was baptized as a child in our sanctuary as well. Join Lucas and his parents, Anthony and Mickey, for this special occasion. Even though you cannot be physically present with Lucas, there will be a time in the service when you can say a blessing for him and his parents from your homes.

Sunday, October 11, 11AM-12:30PM, will be Coming Home to Los Gatos UMC Take Two.

I have been chit chatting with Jesus that the air needs to be healthy and the weather good (unlike September 13) so we can have this drive through event in the parking lot. You will not need to leave your cars, everyone will be wearing a mask, there will be communion (prepackaged and “served” to you on a tray), a chance to see staff, to tell me the one thing you would most want me to know about you and a hope/dream you have for the congregation. (If you have already sent me the answers to these two things – tell me another thing about yourself!) I am so excited to see those of you who come, even if our encounter will be brief!

As a reminder, we are suggesting so as to help mitigate congestion, coming at the following times based on where your last name is in the alphabet 11 – A-B; 11:15 – C-E; 11:30 – F-H; 11:45 – I-M; 12 – N-R; 12:15 – S-Z. **If these times do not work for you – no worries. Come when works best.**

Sunday, October 18, 11:30AM, will be a Celebration of Life for Linda Waldrop. This will be an opportunity for us to gather virtually as Linda’s family of faith, and celebrate her remarkable life. We will celebrate Linda through music, pictures and words. You will be able to write in, just as you can during Sunday services, if you have a remembrance you would like to share. Or, you can always send me your remembrances ahead of time at kate.conolly@lgumc.org. May God unite our spirits as we take this time together to celebrate Linda – and to surround Tom, Susanna, John and Michelle with love.

In ministry with you,

Kate

October Worship

*Living God's love in the world.
All Welcome!*

We will be continuing to look at the eight pillars of joy, according to Archbishop Desmond Tutu from South Africa and His Holiness the Dalai Lama. While September was pillars of the mind, October will be pillars of the heart. I hope to "see" you there!

October 4
Forgiveness
with Robbie Frederickson preaching!

October 11
Gratitude
"I am Fortunate to be Alive"
1 Thessalonians 5:16-21

October 18
Compassion
"Something We Want to Become"
Mark 5:25-34

October 25
Generosity
"We are Filled with Joy"
2 Corinthians 9:6-15



Online Worship
Sundays 10AM
LGUMC Facebook page
See worship page at LGUMC.org for
online worship live stream information.



Children's Ministry

Messy Church – Jesus is my Super Hero!

A new kind of non-traditional church for families

We miss all our kids and are so excited to have Messy Church in person. Of course, we will be a safe distance from each other, and participants and volunteers are required to wear a face covering at all times.

We will have some pre-packaged snacks for all kiddos.

You are invited to next Messy Church,
scheduled for **Sunday, October 11, 11AM – 12:15PM**
Come dressed in your favorite superhero costume!
Please RSVP @ kids@lgumc.org



Monthly Packet

Kids will receive a monthly packet of activities. If you would like your kids to be added to the list, please let Shelley know with your physical address @ kids@lgumc.org.

We are bringing Children's Worship to your home while we are all sheltered in. Until further notice, weekly Sunday School videos, which are fun, safe and biblically grounded, along with worksheets, are emailed out so that kids can have worship experience at home.

We love you and miss you. Please let us know how we can support you. Contact Shelley, kids@lgumc.org.

During the month of **October**:

It's a real celebration when everyone's invited to the party! With God's help, we can show friendship by using our words and actions to show others we care.

GOD VIEW: THE CONNECTION BETWEEN INTEGRITY AND GOD'S CHARACTER, AS SHOWN THROUGH GOD'S BIG STORY

Since the very beginning, not only has God been true to His word but He's been faithful in His character. Because we know that God is good, we can live life with integrity. When Jesus lived on earth, He lived a perfect life that we were unable to live. Through His Spirit, we can become people of integrity. Who we are in private should match who we are in public. When we trust in God, we can be truthful in whatever we say and do.

Director of Children's Ministry
Shelley Ahn-Wong
kids@lgumc.org
650.492.1657

youth ministry



Happy Fall Los Gatos!

It has been a while since the youth have been present in the *Spire* but I hope you know that doesn't mean that we have gone quiet; quite the contrary in fact! Since the beginning of "Shelter in Place," our youth have been gathering multiple times a week for youth group and Bible Studies over Zoom. This practice has continued into the new school year and we have even added a parent support group. We are fortunate to have spent the last several years building relationships with other youth ministry programs across California as our programs are regularly joined by youth from all over the state.

In addition to the groups that we offer below, we are currently working with other churches in the California-Nevada Conference to put together a Fall weekend retreat over Zoom, a mission trip for winter (over Zoom as well), and we are attempting to plan for next year without fully knowing what will be appropriate and safe.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! We are currently not following "Safe Sanctuary" policies by having a 2nd adult present for interactions between myself and our young people. I am pleading with anyone who has some free time on Sunday and/or Wednesday evenings to consider joining in on our groups. Please call, text, or email me if you are interested :)

Parent Support Group

Being a parent during the current pandemic is challenging (greatest understatement of the century). Join other parents over Zoom to just vent about what it means to be a parent right now. This group will gather on Thursday nights from 8 to 8:45PM (your time is valuable - we won't waste it!).

Youth Group

Youth 6th-12th grades are invited to join us over Zoom from 7 to 8PM on Sunday nights to check in with one another, play games, and engage one another in topics together.

Bible Study

Youth gather on Wednesday nights from 7 to 7:45PM(ish) to read through a chapter of the Bible together. Right now our youth are reading through the book of Acts and are over halfway done. Youth do not need to have extensive Bible knowledge beforehand; this is perfect for "Bible beginners."

Warmly,

Robbie Frederiksen

LGUMC Youth Director

Robbie Frederiksen

503.816.1055

rfrederiksen13@gmail.com

Belong thru Worship

Grow in Christ

Serve with Love

HEALTH & VISITATION MINISTRY

Taking Charge of our Mental Health

With the coronavirus pandemic continuing to affect the lives of us and our loved ones, be it from getting the disease or dying from the disease, or the fear of getting the disease, or the financial impact from job losses, feelings of being under stress would not be surprising. Researchers at Yale Medical School have come up with some suggested tips on managing stress through difficult periods. These include:

- 1) Controlling exposure to the news by setting a daily time limit for checking the news can reduce time spent thinking about current events
- 2) Practicing mindfulness, which could be in the form of a 3 to 5 minute morning meditation, can help calm the mind
- 3) Keeping a daily journal, which can help process events
- 4) Doing something we find enjoyable, including finding ways to be social can help break the cycle of isolation and rumination.

For immediate help, contact these additional resources:

- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Disaster Distress hotline, 800.985.5990, or text TalkWithUs
- National Domestic Violence Hotline, 800.799.7233 (TTY: 800.787.3224)
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, 800.273.8255, or call 911.

For more practical tips for adults and children, click on the links below:

- Understanding & Coping with Reactions in a Pandemic
- Helping Children Cope with the COVID-19 Pandemic

FROM THE SHOWER MINISTRY

We are still looking for full-sized bath towels or beach towels. We will take gently used.

Also, Safeway gift cards in the amount of \$10 can purchased on Amazon.

Contact Marna Taylor, marnalee59@gmail.com.

Kindred Spirits

We hope you can join us for our final book discussion meeting of the year on October 14, 5PM, via Zoom. We are closing 2020 with the inspirational book *King Peggy*, by Peggielene Bartels. This is the true story of an American secretary who suddenly finds herself ruler of a small village on the west coast of Africa. Upon her arrival she finds the village impoverished with no clean water, no health care and no education. She resolves to tackle these issues and in so doing, uplifts its inhabitants...and herself.



belong

grow

serve

HAPPY 99TH BIRTHDAY ON OCTOBER 6 TO KERN HAMILTON!



Kern has been a member of LGUMC since 1962. In 1963, he and four others started to raise money to build our current Sanctuary with a goal of \$175,000. They received pledges for \$200,235. In addition to being a key person in raising money for our Sanctuary, Kern has served and chaired many committees over all the years.

Wishing you a happy, healthy 99th year!

Cards can be sent to:
800 Blossom Hill Rd., E324, Los Gatos, CA 95032

Congratulations!

Congratulations to our very own Doug McNeil on becoming a National Jefferson Award Gold Medalist on Friday, September 27, 2020. Doug received the award based on the work that he and Jess Salem have done with Lighting for Literacy.

To say that everybody at LGUMC is proud, is an understatement. Doug continues to be a light in everyone's world, and we are blessed that he and his family are part of our wonderful and giving church! Congratulations!!

FROM SPRC

The Staff Parish Relations Committee has been working with Pastor Kate to ensure a viable worship program under extraordinary and continually evolving circumstances. Given the uncertain recovery from COVID 19 in our communities, the demonstrated risk of super-spreader events in group vocal performances, and the demographics of LGUMC, we believe a choir program is untenable until proven vaccines and therapies are widely deployed throughout our communities.

Since widespread vaccine availability is probably a year away, SPRC made the difficult decision to eliminate the Choir Director position, pending a community-wide recovery. We are grateful for Mason Neipp's five year tenure as our outstanding Choir Director. All of us see music as essential to our worship and we look forward to the day when music returns to its rightful place.

Sincerely,
The Members of the Staff Parish Relations Committee

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~ In Loving Memory ~
Linda Waldrop

**Virtual Memorial Service
October 18, 11:30AM**

Memorial Donations may be given to:

ALS Association

<http://www.alsa.org/donate/giving/gifts-in-tribute.html>

Second Harvest of Silicon Valley

<https://www.shfb.org/give-help/donate-funds/>

~ Please keep the following persons and their families in your prayers for continued recovery, care and support ~

Kern Hamilton, Doug McNeil,
Aki Okuno, Celia Palm,
Charley Ann Cobb,
Carl & Kay Thoresen, Harriet Armann,
Eleanor Blumenthal, Becky Schmitt,
Peggy Rose, Debbie Kroh,
Ed & Shelley Ahn-Wong, Ian Webb,
Bill Burr, The Waldrop Family,
The Homeless, Our First Responders,
Prayers of Peace for all people and all countries

**Catch Up
Wednesdays**

Let our ministry teams catch you up on what's been happening behind the scenes over the past several months.

Our ministries have continued God's work even when the world and our country shut down!

Videos can be viewed on our YouTube channel and Facebook page every Wednesday.

FREE! If you are interested in Genealogy and would like free, well written, informational magazines with special maps, dated from 2017-2020, please contact Adrienne Zimmerman, dancers2@aol.com or 408.356.5334.



Creator's Corner

There are many of you creating things that the rest of the congregation and community would like to see. With most of our ministries on 'hold' until we are released from this pandemic, it was suggested that we ask our congregation to submit something that they have created while under the "stay-at-home" order, and what inspired you to create. Your inspired creations can be anything such as poems, paintings, baked items, song lyrics, scribbles, photos, flower arrangements, quilts, gardening, etc. that you would like to share.

Please take a photo and write a few lines as to what inspired your creation, and submit to marylou.abrahamson@lgumc.org.

Now, for our next creation...



by Denise Coward

I became bored with the shelter in place order after completing two "paint by number" kits and three jigsaw puzzles. I found these "3 yard quilt" patterns on Pinterest, and decided to make quilts for the grandkids since there was quite a lot of fabric in my stash. From left to right Hayden, Hailey, and Hudson. The kids really seemed to love them. Made me very happy.



Church Office Hours

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday, 9AM-3PM

Friday - Closed

Church Council Members

- Chair of the Church Board
Jennifer Stagnaro, jennifer@stagnaro.com
- Chair of the Board of Trustees
Glenn Stansbury, glennsemail@yahoo.com
- Chair of Staff Parish Relations
Penny Herman, nt.advisor@comcast.net
- Chair of Finance Committee
Doug Evans, eldoug1@msn.com
- Chair of Health Ministries
Jo Ann Disbrow, disbrowjo@yahoo.com
- Chair of Grace Preschool Board
Rita Matthews, fourwinn156@hotmail.com
Ann Reynolds, reynolds_reese@yahoo.com
- Chair of LOSNSC Board
Trudy Burling, trudyburling@hotmail.com
- Team Rep. of Social Justice Team
Jean Mundell, jmundell@earthlink.net
- Lay Member of Annual Conference
Judy Petrokas, quiltqueen@ix.netcom.com
Gail Hybarger, ca-unicorn@pacbell.net
- Chair of Endowment
Matthew Geisick, mattgeisick@gmail.com
- Chair Outreach Team
Ursula Young, ursulayoung@gmail.com
- Chair Congregational Care Ministry
Lois & Elwin Stocking,
l.e.stocking@comcast.net
- Chair United Methodist Women
Christina Capps, kl_capps@yahoo.com
Ruth Oveland, roveland@sbcglobal.net

Our Ministry & Office Staff

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- Shelley Ahn-Wong, Children's Ministry Director
650.492.1657, kids@lgumc.org
- Marcelle Dougan, Director of Visitation
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- Kevin McCullough, Contemporary Music Director
mckevin27@yahoo.com
- Joyce Rhodes, Organist
joyce.rhodes@lgumc.org
- Mary Lou Abrahamson, Communications
408.507.7140, marylou.abrahamson@lgumc.org
- Cindy Cook, Financial Secretary (A/R)
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- Shannon Albert, Accountant (A/P)
X212, shannon.albert@lgumc.org
- Kristy Currie, Director, Grace Preschool
X226, 408.354.7163, kristy.currie@lgumc.org
- Kathy Mlinarich, Director, Live Oak Senior Nutrition
408.354.0707, kathy.mlinarich@lgumc.org
- Richard Garcia, Facilities Engineer
408.627.3345

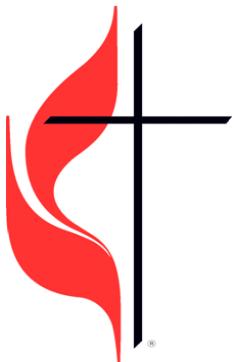


The Spire

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Thank You.

Our Mission
Growing as followers of Jesus Christ
who live God's love in the world.



Find out more about our Ministries!
Go to www.LGUMC.org



**"Serving Christ in this Community
since 1866"**

Sr. Pastor
Pastor Katherine Conolly

Until further notice,
please follow us on
lgumc.org
and join us for
Sunday Worship
10AM
[lgumc](#), Facebook or YouTube

All Welcome!

We are a Reconciling Congregation

No one will be excluded from participating in the body of the church because of age, race, ethnicity, culture, religious origins, sexual orientation or challenging conditions.