

# Spire

October 2021



from Pastor Jeffrey

Dear Friends,

I am delighted to announce our first Stewardship Campaign together begins on Sunday, October 10 and concludes on All Saints Sunday, November 7. The theme for this year's campaign is **A Bright Hope for Tomorrow**, drawing inspiration from the timeless hymn "Great is Thy Faithfulness" and those life-giving words "strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow." May LGUMC continue to be a community of faith who provides support and strength for people on their spiritual journeys and offers a bright hope for tomorrow in what can often feel like a bleak world.

Since 1866, loving and committed people like you have lived God's love in the world and given generously, making Los Gatos United Methodist Church one of the most vital churches in the community. Every day, we engage in ministries that make a real difference in the lives of people in our Congregation and Beyond Our Building. Along with your prayers, your presence, your service, and your witness, your financial support grounded in the faithfulness of God is essential to continue making a difference in our community and world.

As we consider LGUMC ministry and mission in 2022 and beyond, we will want to work with a sustainable budget and one that aligns with our core values and reflects our missional priorities. As we continue to be a vital community of faith, who offers hope for tomorrow, may we give ourselves to an ever-widening circle of love, compassion, and service.

Continued on page 2

# from Pastor Jeffrey

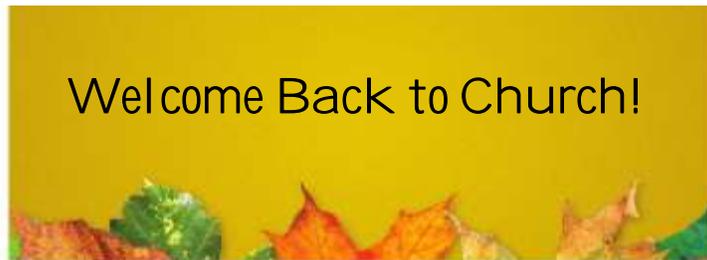
Continued from page 1

All members, constituents, and friends of LGUMC will receive a mailing containing a Stewardship Letter, an Estimate of Giving Card, along with a Financial Statement as of September 30 for those who made a financial contribution during 2021. Please fill out the Estimate of Giving Card and return it to LGUMC by placing it in the offering plate, dropping it off at the office, or mailing it to the church by Sunday, November 7. If you have not yet made a financial contribution to LGUMC for 2021 and would like to support the ministries of this church, please be sure to make your tax-deductible gift by December 31, 2021.

Your faithfulness and generosity inspire me to be the very best pastor I can be while I am appointed by Bishop Carcaño to lead and serve you.

Grace and Peace,

*Jeffrey*



**Please review our protocols:**

A mask is not required when you are outside on the church campus.  
A mask is **required** inside regardless of your vaccination status.

Reservations and vaccinations are no longer required for in-person worship.

The sanctuary will be fully open since we believe there will be room to socially distance based on everyone's comfort level.

**Protocols that will remain in place:** (to be reviewed in a month)

No passing of the peace at the beginning of worship.  
No passing of a microphone for joys and concerns.  
No congregational singing.  
No collection of the offering.

*(For the sharing of joys and concerns, connection cards will be in the pews. The ushers will collect the cards during the first song/hymn and deliver them to the pastor. The pastor will only read the joys and concerns during worship that are requested to be publicly shared.)*

# October Worship

LGUMC is a reconciling church, which welcomes all persons as Christ did regardless of age, race, gender, sexual orientation, cultural background, physical or mental health, family status, or financial circumstances.

We welcome all persons into full participation into the life of the congregation.

**Sunday, October 3, 10AM**  
Traditional Worship Service  
Psalm 13, Romans 8:31-39  
Sermon  
*Things Ain't Like They Used to Be*  
Tom Carson, Preaching

**Sunday, October 10, 10AM**  
Contemporary Worship Service  
Holy Communion  
Psalm 90:12-17, Mark 10:17-31  
Sermon  
*A Bright Hope for Tomorrow 1*  
Rev. Jeffrey D. Hall, Preaching

**Sunday, October 17, 10AM**  
Traditional Worship Service  
Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35; Mark 10:35-45  
Sermon  
*A Bright Hope for Tomorrow 2*  
Rev. Jeffrey D. Hall, Preaching

**Sunday, October 24, 10AM**  
Contemporary Worship Service  
Psalm 126; Mark 10:46-52  
Sermon  
*A Bright Hope for Tomorrow 3*  
Rev. Jeffrey D. Hall, Preaching

**Sunday, October 31, 10AM**  
(Annual Conference Session)  
Traditional Worship Service  
Guest Preacher  
TBA



## Save the Date In-Person Church Conference Saturday, November 13

District Superintendent, Rev. Samuel Hong, has authorized an in-person Church Conference to be held on Saturday, November 13, 4:00 — 6:00PM, Rev. Hong will preside.

4:00 — 4:40PM  
Rev. Hong meets with SPRC

4:50 — 5:30PM  
All Church Conference

5:30 — 6:00PM  
Rev. Hong meets with Pastor

# Children's Ministry



## MESSY CHURCH

**October 10, 10AM**

Messy Church is 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 with all participants

and volunteers required to wear a face covering at all times. Pre-packaged snacks will be served.

**You are invited to the next Messy Church in the Social Hall on October 10, 10AM.**

Upcoming Messy Church: November 14, December 12

## Weekly Worship

We will continue to send weekly Sunday School videos, which are fun, safe and biblically grounded, along with worksheets that are emailed out so kids can have worship experience at home.

## Sunday school

In-person Sunday school will start on October 17. Please drop off your kids at the Social Hall. Until further notice, kids will be meeting in the Social Hall and will not be in the sanctuary. Please let us know you are coming.

## Monthly Packet

Kids receive a packet of activities. If you would like your kids or know of any kids to be added to the list, please let Shelley know with your physical address @ [kids@lgumc.org](mailto:kids@lgumc.org)

## During the Month of October

Kids are learning about INDIVIDUALITY this month of October.

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

God is one of a kind, with no beginning and no end. Everything God has created is unique and one of a kind, including people created in God's image. Every person is an original reflection of God in how they love, care for others, imagine, create, and solve problems. To see how we can do this well, we should look to Jesus. Jesus showed us what it means to be created in God's image in the way He loved all people and helped people feel like they had value—no matter who they were or what they had done. We can reflect this as we discover who we're meant to be and live out the individuality God gave us.

## Memory Verse

"How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well." Psalm 139:14 NIRV

**Director of Children's Ministry  
Shelley Ahn-Wong  
[kids@lgumc.org](mailto:kids@lgumc.org)  
650.492.1657**



# YOUNG PEOPLE'S MINISTRIES



## Youth Group

Youth from across the conference gather at 7pm on Sunday nights to talk about faith and the intersections of their daily lives.

## Young Adult Group

Monday nights @ 8pm our young adults will meet online with young adults from across the conference to support one another in the pursuit of higher education and developing faith.

## Parent Support

Parents of infants, toddlers, children, teens, and college students gather at 8pm on Tuesday nights to discuss the joys and pains of parenthood.

## Bible Study

Youth gather on Wednesday night to study scripture together. Each week the group reads 1 chapter together and unpacks what's happening in the text. This Fall our youth will be reading through the book of John.

## Fall Young People's Ministries

As schools reopen and students return to the classrooms full-time we continue to monitor the COVID-19 outbreak and plan youth events and activities accordingly. For the time being, regular programming will continue to be conducted online with the exception of one in-person gathering a month.

### *Fall In-Person Events/Activities*

- 1) **October 16th:** Details are still being worked out but we are currently planning a Middler day retreat to a local outdoor challenge course.
- 2) **October 23rd:** Details are still being worked out but we are currently planning a High School day retreat to a local outdoor challenge course.
- 3) **November 20th/21st:** Young people at Los Gatos UMC will be invited to sort food at a local food bank the weekend before Thanksgiving.
- 4) **December 19th:** The Sunday before Christmas youth will gather to celebrate Christmas together with a small party and gift exchange.



*belong*

*grow*

*serve*

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

Our “Social Justice” team at LGUMC has decided our focus for this year will morph from the emphasis on “Racial Justice” to “Environmental Justice.” We felt all 3 “Justices” are very intertwined because of the “injustices” that have suffered disproportionately by minority communities locally, nationally and worldwide. Additionally, we feel that the current environmental crisis facing the world poses the greatest threat to humanity and especially minority communities.

We take inspiration from the Methodist Book of Resolution, resolution #1035.

A part of Resolution 1035 states:

“One manifestation of our neglect, selfishness and pride is our sinful disregard for creation that has given rise to the injustice of climate change. Strong economies of the world carry the vast responsibility. Those economies that have benefited from fossil-fuel development rightly bear the responsibilities to rapidly reduce emissions and support less wealthy economies in their journey toward more sustainable and climate resilient development.”

“As the church we witness first hand the consequences of climate disruption in our communities and in the lives of those Christ calls us to be with in ministry. We understand that climate justice not simply as an environmental or economical concern but rather as a deep ethical and spiritual concern that the church must address so that abundant life is ensured for our children, grandchildren and future generations.”

“Prayerfully explore lifestyle changes as individuals and faith communities that would reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support a cleaner healthier future.”

While some may see climate as either a “hot button” or “political issue” to be avoided, our Social Justice / Environmental Justice team at LGUMC understand that this is both a moral crisis and environmental crisis for the entire planet and humanity that demands an “urgent response.”

In the coming weeks and months, we hope to share with you more information about the global crisis we face and how we can personally address this environmental crisis by taking personal actions and becoming advocates for environmental justice.



### **LGUMC Men’s’ Spirituality Group (MSG) Resumes October 4**

The Men’s’ Spirituality Group (MSG), which has been meeting weekly during the academic year for over 25 years, will resume meetings on Monday October 4 at 7:30PM (for 90 minutes). in the LGUMC Library. The group uses a set of 8 spiritual practices, developed by Eknath Eswaran, to try to get closer to God. In our October 4 meeting we will begin with a review of these 8 practices (Mantra, Meditation, Slow Down, One-Pointed Attention, Train the Senses, Put Others First, Spiritual Reading, Spiritual Companionship). New members, former members, and existing members are invited to attend. A Zoom alternative will be offered for those who want it. LGUMC meeting guidelines (mask indoors) will be observed. For more information, please contact Ed Burling ([edburling@gmail.com](mailto:edburling@gmail.com)) or Eric Carlson ([mimianderic@hotmail.com](mailto:mimianderic@hotmail.com)).

*belong*

*grow*

*serve*

## Kindred Spirits

...meets October 13, 7:30PM, in the Social Hall for our final book discussion of the year – *The Water Dancer*, by Ta-Nehisi Coates. This novel follows Hiram Walker, a 12 year old slave on a Virginia plantation. Hiram's gift, among other things, is a photographic memory, though when his mother was sold he lost all memory of her. Years later when he almost drowns in a river another mysterious power saves him and he decides to use his powers to escape the only home he has ever known. This is a story of magic, the Underground Railroad, slavery, love and the power of memory.



## Live Oak Senior Nutrition and Service Center

opened to activities and some in-person dining in early August. A recent article in the new *Los Gatos* quoted a 96 year old participant who stated, "I still came during the pandemic and ate outside. The food is pretty doggone good and I like eating here with my friends. I live alone..It's lonely."

Live Oak continues to serve 50-60 participants each day. There is also meal delivery to Villa Vasona on Mondays and Thursdays. This program is funded primarily by Santa Clara County and the Town of Los Gatos. Started forty-seven years ago by members of Los Gatos United Methodist Church, the need for opportunities for seniors (60 and over) to interact, participate in actives, and get help with referrals remains still. "It is lonely."

For information and to reserve a meal,  
call Kathy Mlinarich, Executive Director, at 408.354.0707.

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

Doug McNeil, Aki Okuno, Celia Palm, Charley Ann Cobb,  
Pat Salem, Anne-Marie Wiggers, Eleanor Blumenthal, Becky Schmitt,  
Peggy Rose, Kay Thoresen, Joy Palmer, Ed & Shelley Ahn-Wong, Eric Muller,  
Norm Zimmerman, Charley Oveland, Family & Friends of Donna Swanson,  
The Homeless, Our First Responders,  
Prayers of Peace for all people and all countries

*~ In Memoriam ~*

Memorial service for Kern Hamilton  
has been postponed until Spring, 2022, due to family's concern  
for health safety issues of those attending.

\*

Donna Swanson  
(See following page)



**Estimate of Giving Card** can be mailed to:

LGUMC

111 Church St.

Los Gatos, CA 95030

Attn: Cindy Cook

Or call the Church Office,  
408.354.4730 X101



**Los Gatos UMC**  
**ESTIMATE OF GIVING**  
*January 1 to December 31, 2022*

With gratitude to God for the wonder of life and the vision of this church, I/we will give a portion of my/our income to LGUMC general fund.



\$ \_\_\_\_\_ every  week  month  quarter  year

I would like to continue or add e-giving this year.

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# FINANCE

Description	Week of 9/19/2021	Week of 9/20/2020	YTD 2021	YTD 2020	Remaining to Receive
Electronic Pledges	3,960.00	2,995.00	79,800.00	75,225.00	24,264.00
Pledges	1,905.00	2,895.00	159,312.00	173,134.00	46,429.00
General Fund Non-Pledges	1,570.00	125.00	35,675.00	30,434.00	20,325.00
Plate Offering		-	536.00	968.00	464.00
Pre-paid for 2021			36,429.00	32,160.00	-
Prior Year 2020 Pledges & Catch-up			1,570.00		(1,110.00)
Received in 2020 but will deposit in			5,100.00		-
Easter Offering			200.00		
Thanksgiving Offering			200.00		(50.00)
Christmas Eve & Day After					10,000.00
Gift to Close the Gap			57,882.00		(32,882.00)
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 7,435.00</b>	<b>\$ 6,015.00</b>	<b>\$376,704.00</b>	<b>\$ 311,921.00</b>	<b>\$ 67,440.00</b>
UMCOR	\$500.00				

# ATTENDANCE

Date	In-person	Facebook Live	Facebook Engagements	Facebook Reached
6/6/2021	51		116	157
6/13/2021	51		109	170
6/20/2021	92		132	162
6/27/2021	45		78	181
7/4/2021	74		121	173
7/11/2021	65		134	223
7/18/2021	66		174	238
7/25/2021	56		98	143
8/1/2021	47		127	171
8/8/2021	47		138	187
8/15/2021	46		134	194
8/22/2021	46	26	133	123
8/29/2021	42	26	127	127
9/5/2021	37	29	141	152
9/12/2021	50	27	108	112
9/19/2021	46	17	61	75



## Office Hours:

10AM—3PM

Friday - Closed

## Church Council Members

- Chair of the Church Board  
Ray Owen, ray.owen@comcast.net
- Chair of the Board of Trustees  
Glenn Stansbury, glenn.stansbury@lgumc.org
- Chair of Staff Parish Relations  
Tom Waldrop, twaldrop@sbcglobal.net
- Chair of Finance Committee  
Doug Evans, eldoug1@msn.com
- Chair of Health Ministries  
TBD
- 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  
TBD
- 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

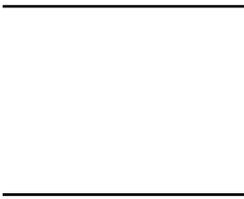
- Reverend Jeffrey Hall, Sr. Pastor  
X102, (direct) 408.354.7803  
revjeffumc@mac.com
- Robbie Frederiksen, Youth Director  
503.816.1055, rfederiksen@gmail.com
- Shelley Ahn-Wong, Children's Ministry Director  
650.492.1657, kids@lgumc.org
- Marcelle Dougan, Director of Health & Wellness Edu.  
908.347.4687, marcelle.dougan@lgumc.org
- Kevin McCullough, Contemporary Music Director  
mckevin27@yahoo.com
- Joyce Rhodes, Organist  
joyce.rhodes@lgumc.org
- Mary Lou Abrahamson, Ad. Min. / Communications  
408.507.7140, marylou.abrahamson@lgumc.org
- Cindy Cook, Financial Secretary (A/R)  
X101, cindy.cook@lgumc.org
- Shannon Albert, Accountant (A/P)  
X104, shannon.albert@lgumc.org
- Kristy Currie, Director, Grace Preschool  
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

Los Gatos United Methodist Church  
111 Church Street  
Los Gatos, CA 95030  
408.354.4730 - [www.lgumc.org](http://www.lgumc.org)  
to be removed from mail or email list:  
[marylou.abrahamson@lgumc.org](mailto:marylou.abrahamson@lgumc.org)  
Editor: Mary Lou Abrahamson

If you no longer wish to receive this mailing,  
please mail or email to the address shown at left.  
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](http://www.LGUMC.org)



*“Serving Christ in this Community  
since 1866”*

**Sr. Pastor**  
Pastor Jeffrey Hall

Until further notice,  
please follow us on  
[lgumc.org](http://lgumc.org)  
and join us for  
Sunday Worship  
10AM

[lgumc](http://lgumc.org), 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.