

# Spire



## Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends,

Psalm 137 asks, “How shall we sing the Lord’s song in a strange land?” This lament from the Scriptures seems familiar to many these days, at least those with whom I’ve spoken lately. Folks feel as if they are in a strange place in our society and culture; what is normative now? There is a tension which elections can’t or often don’t release. Right now, we seem to be in one of those moments as a nation. While I don’t remember it as vividly, I do remember parts of the late 1960s and early 1970s. I suspect some of what is being experienced is reminiscent for those who can recall those heady days.

Tensions in our society are not new. Some of the commentators have pointed out that we as a nation have been through worse matters. They often point to the civil war. I can’t argue with the example. Yet, national tensions are only part of what informs our faith. I believe our faith must inform how we respond to the tensions. When Bishop Budde made her impassioned plea, she named the truth for many people. Her call was for a merciful and gracious policy reflective of Christian virtues. Alas, she has been demonized for this by some. She has been hailed as a hero by others. In my estimation, she was simply doing her job as the chief shepherd of the flock known as the Diocese of Washington, D.C. of the Episcopal Church. She was elected and consecrated to the ministry of bishop to lead and guard that flock.

Continued from Page 1

Bishop Budde was right: There are people in this country who are frightened. Events of the week following the National Prayer Service have done nothing to set those fears aside. I would argue the fears held by some are only increased. How do we respond to the anxieties of others and which live in our own hearts?

First, as I said last Sunday, we use the gifts God has given us for the common good. God's blessings are not given to us for our sole enjoyment. We are blessed that we might be a blessing to others. God gifts us in many ways through the power and presence of the Holy Spirit. The first step is identifying the ways God has blessed you with these gifts. Paul names things like leadership, teaching, administration, healing, as well as prophecy, speaking in tongues, and interpretation of tongues. Our blessings ... the way God gifts us ... is many and various. I see the gift of healing in the art and skill of physicians and nurses. I see the work of leadership and administration in the work our judges and civil servants do. If we look more closely, we see God blesses us not only in spiritual matters but in practical ones, too. The gift of a musical ability, or the ingenuity of engineering a solution to a problem are gifts, blessings, from God. They are given to us for building up the whole.

Second, the only way we will ever truly make a change in our world and our lives is to love each other into the reign of God. Love is a gift from God, too. It is the gift of God's own self to us. We are reminded in 1 John 4 that the very nature of God is love. To receive and to give love is to be a part of God's presence in this world.

This is the only pathway forward in times of tension in my estimation. We take account of our own spiritual needs and giftedness. We go into the world expecting to love and knowing God's love for us is never ending. We'll experience God's love in our own loving of others, especially those to whom Jesus sent us: the least, the last, the lost, and the left behind. Go forward to love.

Peace, Pastor Daniel

**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.



# February Worship



Sunday, February 2  
4th Sunday after the Epiphany  
Jer 1:4-10  
Ps 71:1-6 (UMH 794)  
1 Cor 13:1-13  
Luke 4:21-30

Sunday, February 16  
6th Sunday after the Epiphany  
Jer 17:5-10  
Ps 1 (UMH 738)  
1 Cor 15:12-20  
Luke 6:17-26

Sunday, February 9  
5th Sunday after the Epiphany  
Isa 6:1-8 (9-13)  
Ps 138 (UMH 853)  
1 Cor 15:1-11  
Luke 5:1-11

Sunday, February 23  
7th Sunday after the Epiphany  
Gen 45:3-11, 15  
Ps 37:1-11, 39-40 (UMH 772)  
1 Cor 15:35-38, 42-50  
Luke 6:27-38



Online Worship  
Sundays, 10AM  
LGUMC YouTube

See Worship page at [LGUMC.org](http://LGUMC.org) for online  
Worship live stream information.



# Children's Ministry

Contact Information  
Jonnye Cartmill  
Children & Youth Ministry  
kids@lgumc.org

Celebrate Wonder All Ages is a curriculum that honors the spiritual life of children. Celebrate Wonder All Ages will engage children in open-ended exploration and inquiry of the Bible. Through experiential activities, spiritual practices, and reflection, Celebrate Wonder All Ages serves as a biblical guide to help children make meaning for their lives. This curriculum seeks to deepen children's faith formation and to create a safe space for children to ask big questions and claim their spiritual identity as children of God.  
Unit 3

We've talked about the Sermon on the Mount as a place where Jesus taught his disciples. Jesus gave the disciples a guide on how to pray during his time on the mountain. The Lord's Prayer is that guide, and we continue to use it today as a prayer or a guide to prayer. The Lord's Prayer contains elements Jesus considered important when praying: asking God for guidance in our lives, forgiveness, praise, and thanks.

Faith Word: GUIDE

February 2

The Lord's Prayer Matthew 6:5-15 Jesus was teaching a large crowd on the mountainside. He said, "When you pray to God, pray like this: God in Heaven, your name is holy. Let what happens in your kingdom happen on Earth. Give us everything we need. Forgive us, help us to forgive others. Help us make good choices, instead of bad ones."  
February 9

Jesus Calms the Storm Mark 4:35-41 In the days of his ministry, Jesus had been teaching the crowds all day long. Jesus said to his followers, "Let's go to the other side of the lake." Jesus and his followers left the crowd and boarded a boat to cross the lake.

February 16

Mary and Martha Luke 10:38-42 Jesus and his followers were traveling, and they needed a place to rest. Jesus' friends, Mary and Martha, invited Jesus to stay with them. When Jesus arrived, Mary sat at his feet to listen to him, and Martha served everyone. Martha was tired. She was doing all of the work, while Mary was just sitting and enjoying Jesus' company. Martha thought this was unfair.  
February 23

Zacchaeus

Luke 19:1-10

A tax collector named Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus walk through his town. He was too short to see over the big crowd, so he ran ahead and climbed a tree. There, he could see Jesus coming down the road.

## Colonet / LFL 2025 Commitment Sunday!

¡Hola mi familia de iglesia! Preparations for the annual Colonet / LFL 2025 mission trip are well underway, but there is still an opportunity to join the trip for any prospective missionaries. The deadline to commit to the trip is Sunday February 2nd (a.k.a. "Commitment Sunday"). There will be a mandatory team meeting on that day at 11:30 am in Cafe Hope (below the Social Hall) to submit paperwork and payment.

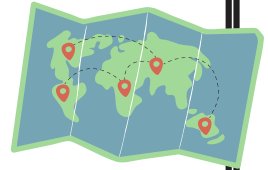
If you missed the introductory meeting, please reach out to colonetlgumc@gmail.com, Erik Eastland (DoubleE7300@gmail.com), or Maggie Harris (harrisclan\_2000@yahoo.com). We can provide you with the necessary paperwork to bring to the February 2nd meeting.

**Commitment Sunday Meeting: Sunday February 2nd at 11:30 am in Cafe Hope**

**Trip Dates: Saturday April 5th - Saturday April 12th**

**Any questions?** Email: colonetlgumc@gmail.com, Erik Eastland (DoubleE7300@gmail.com), or Maggie Harris (harrisclan\_2000@yahoo.com)

¡Hasta Luego! - Erik Eastland and Maggie Harris



## KINDRED SPIRITS

...meets February 19 th at 1pm in the Art Gallery. Plan to join us for a discussion of our historical fiction choice of the year **The Women by Kristin Hannah**.

The story centers around a young nursing student who wants to follow her brother into the Vietnam war. Though her conservative family believes “a woman’s place is in the home,” she believes women can also serve. Though she was unprepared for the horrors of war and her homecoming to a divided nation, she and other women showed a bold patriotism which was unrecognized by history.

“In this crazy, chaotic, divided world that was run by men, you could count on the women”

Kristin Hannah, “The Women”

# OUTREACH

February is a brief month and the OUTREACH Committee is again collecting socks and briefs for our own SHOWER MINISTRY. Please note that the requests are specific, more demand for mens socks and underwear and darker colors.

We will have a bin in the Narthex during the month of February.

Contact Marna Taylor for more questions: [mct4tay@yahoo.com](mailto:mct4tay@yahoo.com)

**This specific type of mens boxer briefs, in sizes M and L:**

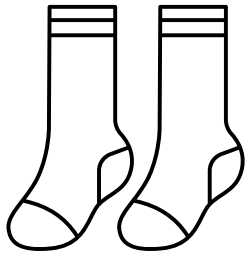
**Comfneat Boxer Briefs**

<https://a.co/d/arhul6l>

**These type of mens socks, in size 10-13:**

**Hanes Men's Max Cushioned Crew Socks**

<https://a.co/d/4FjJIT1>



**These briefs for women, in size 6, 9, 11 plus:**

**Fruit of the Loom Underwear**

<https://a.co/d/gLAvWuV>

**These socks, in size 9-11:**

**ACCFOD Cute Crew Socks - Stylish and Comfortable**

<https://a.co/d/6orXu7B>



**A big thank you to all the donors who participated in the  
Alternative Christmas Fair, your holiday donations made  
a big impact!**





## Live Oak Senior Nutrition & Service Center

111 Church Street, Los Gatos, Ca.

● Catered Lunch Monday thru Friday, 11:30am - 1:00pm

● Serving Seniors 60+



**Place your meal order for the following day(s) or week in person or by calling 408-354-0707**

**ORDERS MUST BE PLACE BEFORE 1PM FOR NEXT DAY MEALS**

60+ Registered Seniors: \$3/meal (suggested)

Visitors & People less that 60 years old: \$9/meal (required)



# FEBRUARY 2025



EVERY MONDAY	EVERY TUESDAY	EVERY WEDNESDAY	EVERY THURSDAY	EVERY FRIDAY	VISIT OUR WEBSITE
<b>GROCERIES:</b> 12:30 pm  <b>JAZZBERRY JAM BAND:</b> 1/27 Fun Band Music 11:am-12:00pm	<b>GROCERIES:</b> 12:30 pm  <b>CHAIR YOGA:</b> 10:45 - 11:30 am	<b>GROCERIES:</b> 12:30 pm  <b>FUNCTIONAL POSTURE, MOBILITY &amp; BALANCE:</b> 10:30-11:00am	<b>TAI CHI:</b> 10:15 am - 11:15 am  <b>BINGO:</b> 2/27 12:30 - 1:00 pm		  <a href="http://liveoakseniorcenter.org" style="color: red; text-decoration: none;">liveoakseniorcenter.org</a>
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	COLD MENU OPTIONS
<b>3</b> <b>PASTA WITH MEAT SAUCE</b> * Steamed Broccoli & Carrots * Fruit of the day * Low Fat Milk 1%	<b>4</b> <b>DENVER OMELET BAKE</b> * Roasted Red Potatoes * Fruit of the day * Low Fat Milk 1%	<b>5</b> <b>PULLED PORK SANDWICH</b> * Spinach Salad w/cucumbers * Fruit of the day * Low Fat Milk 1%	<b>6</b> <b>TERIYAKI CHICKEN</b> * Asian Blend Vegetables * Glazed Carrots * Fruit of the day * Low Fat Milk 1%	<b>7</b> <b>ROASTED TURKEY</b> * Roast Sweet Potatoes * Cauliflower * Fruit of the day * Low Fat Milk 1%	<b>WK. FEBRUARY 3 - 7</b> 1) Chicken Greek Salad 2) Vegetarian Greek Salad 3) Tuna Salad Sandwich * All Include: Fruit of the Day, 1% Low Fat Milk
<b>10</b> <b>VEGETABLE FRITTATA</b> * Herb Roasted Potatoes * Fruit of the day * Low Fat Milk 1%	<b>11</b> <b>PASTA &amp; MEATBALLS w/MARINARA</b> * Spinach & Bell Pepper * Fruit of the day * Low Fat Milk 1%	<b>12</b> <b>VEGGIE BREAKFAST BOWL (EGG, CHEESE, VEGETABLES)</b> * Herbed Roasted Potatoes * Fruit of the day * Low Fat Milk 1%	<b>13</b> <b>CHEESEBURGER</b> * Lettuce & Tomato Garnish * Spinach Salad w/Balsamic * Fruit of the day * Low Fat Milk 1%	<b>14</b> <i>Happy Valentine's Day</i> <b>ROASTED WHITE FISH</b> * Roasted Squash & Sweet Potato Medley * Fruit of the day * Low Fat Milk 1%	<b>WK. FEBRUARY 10 - 14</b> 1) Southwest Chicken Salad 2) Vegetarian SouthW Salad 3) Egg Salad Sandwich * All Include: Fruit of the Day, 1% Low Fat Milk
 <b>Center Closed</b> Presidents Day	<b>18</b> <b>GRILLED DICED CHICKEN</b> * Mashed Potatoes * Broccoli, Cauliflower, Carrots * Fruit of the day * Low Fat Milk 1%	<b>19</b> <b>EGGS, FRENCH TOAST STICKS, TURKEY SAUSAGE</b> * Spinach w/Red Bell Pepper * Fruit of the day * Low Fat Milk 1%	<b>20</b> <b>TURKEY MEAT LOAF</b> * Peas and Corn * Mashed Potatoes * Fruit of the day * Low Fat Milk 1%	<b>21</b> <b>GRILLED CHICKEN &amp; PINTO BEAN BURRITO</b> * Salad w/Balsamic Dressing * Fruit of the day * Low Fat Milk 1%	<b>WK. FEBRUARY 17 - 21</b> 1) Asian Chicken Salad 2) Vegetarian Asian Salad 3) Turkey/Cheddar Sandwich * All Include: Fruit of the Day, 1% Low Fat Milk
<b>24</b> <b>VEGETABLE FRITTATA</b> * Herb Roasted Potatoes * Fruit of the day * Low Fat Milk 1%	<b>25</b> <b>SHEPHERD'S PIE</b> * Mashed Potatoes * Baby Carrots * Fruit of the day * Low Fat Milk 1%	<b>26</b> <b>TURKEY AND BEAN CHILI</b> * Spinach Salad w/Raspberry Vinaigrette * Fruit of the day * Low Fat Milk 1%	<b>27</b> <b>SPECIAL MEAL</b>  PROVIDED BY <i>THE TERRACES OF LOS GATOS</i> * Vegetarian option available	<b>28</b> <b>BAKED FISH FILET</b> * Brown Rice * Broccoli & Cauliflower * Fruit of the day * Low Fat Milk 1%	<b>WK. FEBRUARY 24 - 28</b> 1) Cobb Chicken Salad w/egg 2) Vegetarian Cobb 3) Roast Beef Sandwich * All Include: Fruit of the Day, 1% Low Fat Milk

= Meal contains more than 1000 mg sodium    = Vegetarian meal    Menu, serving size, and nutritional values available at the Live Oak Senior Nutrition and Service Center Information table

All persons aged 60 and above are eligible without regard to race, national origin, gender or disability. Menus are written by My Green Lunch staff and approved by Senior Nutrition Program's Registered Dietitian.



# Lenten Devotional Project

Calling all writers! Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5th. Why is this something to mention now? Pastor Daniel is inviting everyone who is willing to give it a try to write a daily devotional which we can publish and share with the congregation for Lent. Here's the plan.

If you are interested in participating, we need submissions no later than Friday, February 14th. Your submission needs to be no more than 350 words. Not included in the word count would be any Scripture you are referencing (think: like in *The Upper Room* devotional). Here are some topical questions to help start your thinking:

- Tell us about a time when God was very present to you
- How does your faith give you hope? Or joy? Or peace?
- Tell us about learning faith at an early age
- Tell us about learning faith in your older years
- Tell us about a time your recognized God in your daily life

If you have a Scripture to accompany what you write, that would be great. If not, Pastor Daniel will help. If you would like to write a short one or two sentence prayer at the end, that is welcome, too. Again, like *The Upper Room*. If not, Pastor Daniel will help.

This is an opportunity for us to learn more about each other as people of faith during the forty days of Lent. Put your thinking caps on, let the ideas marinate, and then help us all grow in faith by sharing a time in your life. If you have questions, or need assistance, please speak to Pastor Daniel. Lent is just around the corner!



## Los Gatos UMC ESTIMATE OF GIVING January 1 to December 31, 2025

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







## In Our Prayers

For Those Who Mourn: Family of Anne-Marie Wiggers, Family of Mike Seamon, the Wallace and Abate families.

For Those with Movement and Other Limitations: Willy Barcenas (Cancer Treatment), Eleanor Blumenthal (Hospitalized), Aki Okuno, Celia Palm, Becky Schmitt, Ryan Secor (Hospice), Ada Sutton, Kay Thoresen, and Ruth Marie Wolf

For Our World, Community & Country: All of our elected leaders, local, regional, state, and national, that they might be men and women who see equity, peace, justice, and whose heart is toward the common good of all; All those who serve our communities through the work of first response: police, fire, and emergency medical services; All those experiencing natural disasters: fires; earthquakes; volcanos; hurricane and its recovery; landslides; and tsunamis.

For Peace upon the Earth: Particularly in Ukraine, East Africa (Sudan, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Egypt), the South China Sea region, the Indian/Chinese border, Gaza, the Lebanese/Israeli border, and Syria.

As a reminder, a selection of Joy Palmer's beautiful quilts are on display in the sanctuary. Please check them out if you can!



# In Memoriam



## Anne-Marie Wiggers



Anne-Marie Wiggers passed away peacefully on January 27th. She had been in hospice care at home for a few weeks. Anne-Marie was a long-time member who was very active in the choir, the bell choir, and as a memorial coordinator, to name just a few of her contributions to LGUMC over the years. Please keep Hans, sons Joris and Robert, and their families in your prayers as they go through this difficult time.

There will be a private, family internment in February and a public memorial later in the Spring.

Cards of condolence can be sent to:

Hans Wiggers  
12110 Mellowood Drive  
Saratoga, CA 95070



# Church Office Hours

Monday—Closed

Tuesday & Thursday—9AM-2PM

Wednesday & Friday—8AM-1PM

## 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  
Wes Toy, westoy4@gmail.com

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  
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Gail Hybarger, ca.unicorn@pacbell.net

Chair of Endowment  
TBD

Chair Outreach Team  
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Chair Congregational Care Ministry  
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Chair United Women in Faith (formerly UMW)  
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Ruth Oveland, roveland@sbcglobal.net

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# The Spire

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please mail or email to the address shown at left.  
Thank You.**



To be removed from mail or email list,  
contact [socialmedia@lgumc.org](mailto:socialmedia@lgumc.org)  
Editor: Amelia Brain

## Our Mission

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

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



Sr. Pastor  
Pastor Daniel F. Diss

Please join us for in-person  
Sunday Worship  
10AM  
or online at  
[lgumc.org](http://lgumc.org), Facebook or  
YouTube



Find out more about our Ministries!  
Go to [www.LGUMC.org](http://www.LGUMC.org)



*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.