

The Spire

June 2011

All Invited to the June 24th Celebration LGUMC Makes 'Neish-tory'!

On Friday, June 24, you are invited to the 10 year ministry of Lee and Jo Neish -- and you have a chance to write that 'Neishtory!' Here's how...

Simply jot down a favorite story featuring Lee and/or Jo, Andrew and Jenna -- something that's moving, funny, spiritual, heartfelt, insightful, your choice. Shoot for one page maximum -- about 200 words, tops. We'll present these to Lee and Jo on the 24th -- and also share a few select stories with them 'live.' Email your memories to Larry Loper, larry.loper@gmail.com.

Additionally, we need your good quality pictures to include in a goodbye slide show by June 14. Pics should be full size JPG so it's best to put them on a CD/DVD and get them to the church office. If you have an adorable print, we will scan it. Write your name on the back of the print and you can retrieve it in the church office in July.

Finally, if you are able to help with this celebration, set-up or clean-up, please email Rob Agrimonti, itnomirga@yahoo.com. Thank you! We hope to see you there!



Menharmonics is honored to present a program at Los Gatos United Methodist Church, our host rehearsal site, with a concert celebrating our planet, our diverse communities, and the blessing of life here on Earth. Come join us in a varied program of world music from Africa, Eastern

Europe, and the Americas, including well-known gems such as *Down in the Valley* and *The Streets of Laredo*, as well as popular music favorites such as the doo-wop classic *Kiss Him Goodbye*. Menharmonics' expressive singing and rich vocal tone add up to a concert experience that is not to be missed!

~ The concert is in the LGUMC Sanctuary on
Saturday June 4, 7PM ~

Tickets are \$15 if purchased in advance on our website, sjcp.org, and \$20 at the door. Proceeds benefit the LGUMC general fund.

See page 13 for information on the **RUTH DICK HUNTER/FLORENCE FRYE SCHOLARSHIPS** applications for this year.

High School Graduates

Joseph Avila-Cruz, Prospect HS to West Valley
Tatiana Braun, Valley Christian HS to West Valley
Allison Buchanan, Saratoga HS to SMU
Caitlin Davis, Los Gatos HS to TBA
Shelby Grochowski, Leigh HS to SF Art Institute
Sarah Lun, Saratoga HS to TBA
Jenna Vivian Neish, Leigh HS to Cal State Fullerton
Jessica Parker, Westmont HS to MIT
Tyler Perry, Los Gatos HS to Chico State
Sara Segal, Valley Cristian HS to Texas Christian
Kyle Stagnaro, Valley Christian HS to Biola University
Lee Ann Salutric, Prospect HS to West Valley
Lauren Sutton, Valley Christian HS to Azusa Pacific

College Graduates

Matthew Buchanan, Berkeley
Kaitlin Eastland, UC Santa Cruz
Susan Kasper, University of Oregon
Greg Loper, Oregon
Ben Taylor, UC Davis
James Trone, Ithaca





Pastor's Page

How interesting that I should be preparing my message for Sunday, May 15th, while I write what will be my final *Spire* article to you as your pastor. The text for that Sunday was chosen from the tenth chapter of John in which Jesus shared two of his **I AM** statements: “So again Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, **I am** the gate for the sheep’ (John 10:7), and “**I am** the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep” (John 10:11).

During the course of the appointive ministry among United Methodist clergy and laity, one can easily become confused and make category mistakes when it comes to this text. There is a tendency on the part of some laity and a temptation on the part of some clergy to blur the categories of sheep and shepherd as well as sheep and gate. Some clergy want to assume the role of the good shepherd in leading his or her flock “in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake” (Psalm 23). Some laity want to be shepherded in such ways by their clergy person. Some clergy want to assume the role of the gate determining who’s in and who’s out of their flock. Some laity want their clergy persons to make distinctions between the sheep and the goats (as long as goat status is assigned to someone other than those who express this desire!). The truth that is often forgotten is that clergy, like laity, are sheep as well—neither shepherd nor gate.

The tradition of open itinerancy in The United Methodist Church helps prevent such a blurring of lines. As clergy find themselves appointed to several congregations over the course of their ministry, each successive appointment becomes an opportunity for clergy to remember that the congregation they have served or will serve is **not their congregation**. And for the laity, the clergy who has served them or will serve them is **not their shepherd**. We are all reminded that there is only one shepherd. His name is Jesus. And, furthermore, he is the good shepherd. There is only one gate. His name is Jesus. It is exclusively Jesus’ voice that the sheep are to be trained to hear—not the voice of any particular clergy.

Paul evidently experienced such a blurring of the lines in the Corinthian church when he wrote in his first letter to them saying: “What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. For we are God’s servants, working together; you are God’s field, God’s building” (1 Corinthians 3:5-9).

So it is that Dave Wolf planted and Madi Elsea watered—Madi Elsea planted and Lee Neish watered—Lee Neish planted and Jennifer Murdock watered—Jennifer Murdock planted ... When then is Dave Wolf? What is Madi Elsea? What is Lee Neish? What is Jennifer Murdock? They are servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. But only God gives the growth.

It has been my deepest honor and joy to both plant and water during these past ten years with you. I look forward to that same honor and joy as I contemplate my imminent move to Napa, First UMC just as it was my honor and joy to plant and water at Gilroy UMC and Cupertino, Good Samaritan UMC before you. But make no mistake—only God gives the growth.

And it is both my desire and expectation that Jennifer will be planting and watering in such a way that God will give growth. She’ll be planting and watering in such a way that you’ll not only grow—you’ll receive what Jesus promises to all who hear his voice and enter through the gate—for he came that you may have life, and have it abundantly.

May you receive his promise of abundant life as you hear the voice of the good shepherd, enter by the gate, are planted and watered by Jennifer Murdock, and grow as God gives you growth

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CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chair of the Church Board
Maxene Blood
amblood@comcast.net

Chair of the Board of Trustees
Richard Holman
jrholman@sbcglobal.net

Chair of Staff Parish Relations
Jennifer Stagnaro
jennifer@stagnaro.com

Chair of Finance Committee
Bryan Mekechuk
bryan.mekechuk@comcast.net

Church Treasurer
John Buchanan
john.buchanan@us.pwc.com

Chair of Nom. and Leadership Devel.
Lois and Elwin Stocking
l.e.stocking@comcast.net

Chair of Welcoming Ministries
Pat and Jess Salem
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Chair of Health Ministries
Jeanette McNeely
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Chair of Grace Preschool Board
Jo-Anne Sinclair
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Chair of LOSNSC Board
Trudy Burling
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Social Justice Team Rep
Richard Aaron
raaron834@aol.com

Lay Member of Annual Conference
Mary Ellen Heising
mehdrh@hotmail.com

Chair Children Ministries Council
Susan Trone
susant@gridleycompany.net

Chair of Youth Ministries Council
Maddie Buchanan
maxyandmad@yahoo.com

Chair of Adult Ministries Team
Marna Taylor
mct4tay@yahoo.com

Chair Outreach Team
Jean Mundell
jmundell@earthlink.net



Monday-Thursday: 9AM-Noon, 1-4PM
Friday: 9AM-Noon
Office Phone, 354.4730 Fax, 354.4807

Our Ministry & Office Staff

Rev. Lee Neish, Senior Pastor,
X15, lee.neish@lgumc.org

Alex Hardt, Student Pastor,
X16, alex.hardt@lgumc.org

JoAnne Neish, Dir. of Worship Min.,
joanne.neish@lgumc.org

Crista Harrington, Chancel Choir Dir.,
crista.harrington@lgumc.org

Donna Swanson, Organist,
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Barbara Agrimonti, Wedding & Memorial
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bagrimonti@yahoo.com

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X22, christina.capps@lgumc.org

John Lynch, Community Chaplain,
569.3470, jlynch95033@gmail.com

Debbie Gray, Dir. of Grace Preschool,
354.7163, debbie.gray@lgumc.org

Eliana Brown, Dir. Live Oak Sen. Nutn.,
354.0707, eliana.brown@lgumc.org

Mary Kelley, Dir. Live Oak Adult Day Center,
354.4782

directory adult ministries

Grow in Small Groups

Small groups at LGUMC offer those involved the opportunity to grow in their faith journey through the support and encouragement of others. Join your Christian friends this fall by becoming involved in one of these enriching groups. Contact group leaders for more information or Adult Ministries Lay Leader Marna Taylor, 358.7740, mct4tay@yahoo.com.

Celebrate Recovery, Sundays, 5PM Dinner; 6PM Worship; 7PM Small Groups, Chapel

This ministry celebrates God's healing power in our lives through the 12 Steps and 8 Recovery Principles. Through worship, fellowship and small groups, this experience allows us to "be changed" as we discover our personal, loving and forgiving Higher Power - Jesus Christ. Welcome to an Amazing Spiritual Adventure! Recovery Directors:

Bill Cartmill, bcartmill@comcast.net, 656.9772; Mike Kent MKent@RMSNAV.com, 309.3445; John Lynch, jlynch95033@gmail.com, 569.3470; Amy Loofbourow, amyloof@gmail.com; 569.3469, Jonnye Cartmill, jonnye.cartmill@lgumc.org, 656.9817

Simply Sabbath, 2nd and 4th Sundays, 6PM, Library at LGUMC, Marna Taylor, 358.7740, mct4tay@yahoo.com

This small group is focused on integrating simple Sabbath practices into our everyday lives. We support and encourage one another to practice Sabbath and other faith development exercises, and organize our group around relevant books.

Upper Room, Sundays, 4:00PM, Library at LGUMC, Al Blood, 242.1702, amblood2@comcast.net

Join us for devotion as we read and study the weekly devotionals and discussion questions found in the Upper Room publication.

Mom' Group, Sundays, 6PM, Art Gallery, Jennifer Stagnaro, 395-6885, jennifer@stagnaro.com; Elvi Braun, 666.2459, elvi@elvirabraun.com
Join this group of moms of pre- teens and teens as we share experiences, resources and ideas on how to raise our children in a Christian context.

Men's Spirituality Group, Mondays, 7:30PM, Café Hope at LGUMC, Carl Thoresen, 356.5802, cthor@stanford.edu

Gathering of men who are seeking to grow spiritually based on the collective wisdom of major religious traditions, especially Christian, Jewish, Islamic, Hindu and Buddhist.

Grief, Loss and Transition Support Group, 1st Tuesday, 10AM, Lynne Woodward, 356.3738, lynnewood2@comcast.net

Group members experience a confidential, safe and spiritual opportunity to discuss the thoughts, feelings and events of their lives as they transition through times of grief. Membership is loving, prayerful and supportive and lends itself to a wonderful fellowship and a sense of community.

Faith, Reason & Community, Tuesdays, 1:30PM, Library at LGUMC, Carole Mateer, 353.2357

This group meets to discuss videos and books to gain new perspectives on Christianity and faith.

Kindred Spirits, 2nd Wednesdays, 7:30PM, Art Gallery at LGUMC, Sharon Armstrong, 268.0493, ssarmstrong@gmail.com

Kindred Spirits meets monthly and each group member reads the same book ahead of time and one of the members facilitates discussion. Each fall, the group selects books for the following year including fiction and non-fiction, biography or autobiography, classics, best sellers, historical, political, plays, science fiction or mysteries.

United Methodist Women Circles, Third Thursdays, 10AM and 7:30PM

The purpose of United Methodist Women is to know God, to develop a creative, supportive fellowship, and to support local as well as global ministries. For more information and locations contact UMW President Mary Ellen Heising 268.7739, mehdrh@hotmail.com.

Morning Circle - Ada Sutton - 268.7720; Evening Circle - Lois Stocking 867.0901, le.stocking@comcast.net

A Quiet Time for Women, Wednesday, 10AM, Kay Thoresen, 356.5802, carkay33@hotmail.com

A time to walk the labyrinth and learn spiritual practices in a safe, supportive environment.

Movement Young Adult Ministries, Thursdays, 7:00PM, Café Hope at LGUMC, Alex Hardt, 375.1834, alex.hardt@lgumc.org

Movement is a ministry aimed at helping you discover the amazing Love of God. Through this love we hope to empower you to use your gifts for the benefit of others and the purposes of God. Join us as we seek to build relationships with each other, our community, and also with God!

United Methodist Men, First & Third Saturdays, 9AM, Café Hope, Peter Starick, 679.9233, peterj_11@yahoo.com

~ Great Fellowship While You Serve ~. The UMM offers wonderful fellowship while doing valuable service projects around the church.

Movie Group, Second Saturdays, 3PM, Fireside Room

This group meets monthly for spirited discussions and reviews of a variety of movies that individuals watch on their own in advance of the session. See the Spire for monthly announcement of what movies will be discussed in the coming month.

Jeanette McNeely, 253.0220, jpwdm@comcast.net

How goes your soul? A Wednesday night bible study to examine where, or if, we see God in our lives. Locations & dates vary. For more information, contact Kasey Rice at kcmaricia@gmail.com.

Dear LGUMC family,

Transitions are never an easy time. Transitions arrive with a complex mix of emotions – a giving up of something familiar, and a promise of something new and unknown. Based on our own experiences and perspectives, some of us will tend to focus on the future, and others will reflect on the past. It is important that we do both.

On Friday evening, June 24th, you are encouraged to attend a celebration honoring Lee and Jo Neish and thanking them for ten wonderful years of service and membership in our community. Their family has made countless contributions to the health and well-being of our church and will be sorely missed. Their last Sunday to worship with us is June 26th.

The Staff-Parish Relations committee (SPR) has been working with Grace Pre-School, Alex Hardt, and Lee to make sure that we have a meaningful transition with our children and youth. Some of them have only known one pastor, and it will be important for them to say good-bye.

Our new minister, Jennifer Murdock, will be joining us on Sunday, July 10th. (Tom Carson will be leading worship on July 3rd.) We will be celebrating Jennifer's arrival in an informal gathering between the two services. To get to know her, we will be arranging a "Meet the Pastor" series hosted in several member's homes in the first few months of her arrival. If you are interested in hosting a gathering for 6 – 8 congregants in your home, please email Laurie Jones, laurie.jones@thewinegroup.com.

Pastor Murdock has a passion for both traditional and contemporary worship. With Jo's help, SPR put together an interim contemporary worship planning team to ensure a smooth transition as Jennifer comes on board. Come July, Jennifer will be leading the worship teams for both services. One of the first priorities for the contemporary worship team will be to work with Jennifer to identify the gaps that remain, and put in place a hiring plan to continue to deliver the best contemporary worship service possible.

Please be patient and prayerful as we all journey together through this important transition.

Jennifer Stagnaro
Staff-Parish Relations Committee Chair

CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT

Your Council (the administrative body of LGUMC) has been very busy these past few weeks preparing to welcome the new Pastor, Jennifer Murdoch, and to say a sad farewell to Pastor Lee and family.

The May 17 meeting began with a charge conference to review salary and benefits for our new pastor and approve the hardworking trustee committee and the council members.

Another action concerning updating the parsonage and doing some deferred maintenance there. Glen Stansbury is coordinating work there and would welcome offers of help.

Overall news updates included apportionment giving which is on target as budgeted, a first for some time and that expenses are below budget while revenues are on target. This is due to careful monitoring and controls which led to some hard fiscal decisions.

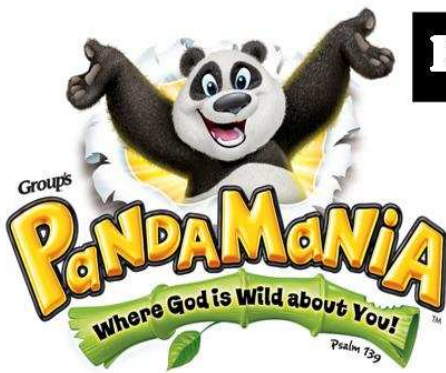
The Lord will be leading us in new ways to serve and grow our finances and we ask for your prayers as we discern the new ways. One way is more unified efforts by the eight churches in our circuit. Mary Ellen Heising and Kasey Rice, our reps, will be bringing suggestions to the circuit meeting at Campbell UMC on June 5th at 3PM. Visitors are welcome there and at our council meetings on the third Tuesday of every month at 7:30PM.

Apportionment Faire

We celebrate the education and giving that occurred at the Apportionment Faire. Many people learned what good work our apportionment giving does. The Faire raised \$5395 that is being sent to the designated apportionment funds. Donations are still being accepted.

Thank you to Larry Loper, Al and Maxene Blood, Jeanette and Bill McNeeley, Louise Osborne, Lani Ballard, Mary Ellen Heising, Steve Wilson, Jean Mundell, Aki Okuno, Larry and Christina Capps, Sue Salutric, Bud Baker, Alan and Karen Thomas, Rick Aaron, Karen Noe, Alex Hardt, the youth, Cindy Brain, and all the wonderful food providers.

Kidz Konnection

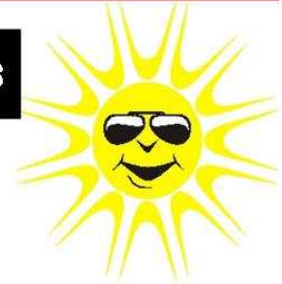


Los Gatos UMC Presents

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AND MISSION VBS 2011

June 20th-24th

Where God is Wild about You!



June 2011

This summer, at PandaMania, kids & youth will discover that God is wild about them—a fact that will change them forever! Each day, your children & youth will take part in crafts, lively songs, life changing service projects, awesome games, & tasty treats that engage them in the word of God.

When: June 20th to 24th

Where: Los Gatos UMC

Who: VBS K-4th; Mission VBS 5th-8th; Volunteers 9th to Adults

Grab a form online, or at the youth/children table for more info.

Don't Miss the best Summer Experiences! SIGN UP TODAY!

For More info got to: www.lgumc.org

***Scholarships are available!**



UMC CONFERENCE CAMPS

Are you ready for an Unforgettable week?

Camp is an unforgettable week of fun where kids & youth discover God in the great outdoors through arts & crafts, wacky games, rocking music, incredible food, relevant bible messages, and life long friends .

When: All Summer Long (see camp brochure for dates)

Who: There's a camp for all ages **Where:** See Brochure

For more Info go to: www.cnumc.org/camping

Sunday Morning Kidz Konnection

9:15-10:30am &

11-12:15pm

Nursery-5th Grade

Everyone starts in worship for Kids Spirit!

After

June 5th

We go to summer schedule!

Sunday Night Spectacular

6:00pm-8:00pm

Nursery-5th Grade

Everyone meets in Room 15 & 16

Alex Hardt

Student Pastor at Los Gatos UMC
Children, Youth, and Young Adult Ministries

Email: alex.hardt@lgumc.org

Phone: (408) 375-1834

Fax: (408) 354-4807

Los Gatos UMC

111 Church Street · Los Gatos, CA 95030

www.lgumc.org · www.ratsofgod.com

Mission: To Grow as Followers of Jesus Christ who live God's love in the world. * **Belong to God, Grow in Christ-Likeness, and Serve with Spirit-Given Gifts.** * **Vision:** We are a family, a body of love, that grows and serves to change lives



Rats Youth Ministry

R.adically A.ctive T.een S.ervants of God

Get Ready For The SUMMER!



YOUTH WORSHIP
JUNE 12th
Be Part of Something Amazing!

Band Rehearsal: June 7th at 7:30-9:00
Everyone Rehearsal June 11th 8:30am to 9:30am

What are we about?

Mission: To Grow as Followers of Jesus Christ who live God's love in the World!

Vision: We are a Family, a body of love, that grows and serves to change lives!

Upcoming Events

June 2011

Youth Worship—June 12th

Summer 2011

Vacation Bible School and Mission VBS—June 20th-24th

Camp Quest—July 10th-15th

Urban Immersion—July 24-31

Sunday Youth Gatherings

6:00pm Gathering

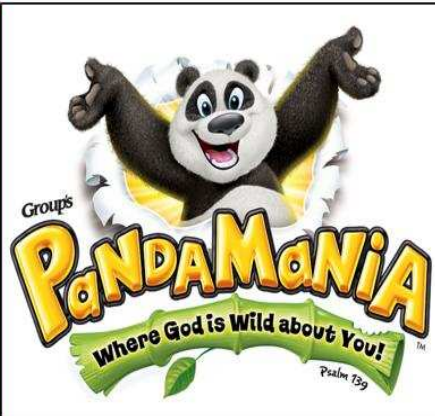
Life Groups

Tues-5:00 & 6:30pm, Wed-7pm, and Sun 9:15am

Sunday School and Life

Groups last day June 5th

The Gathering Is Happening All Summer!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AND MISSION VBS 2011

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Where God is Wild about You!

This summer, at PandaMania, kids & youth will discover that God is wild about them—a fact that will change them forever! Each day, your children & youth will take part in crafts, lively songs, life changing service

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Who: VBS K-4th; Mission VBS 5th-8th; Volunteers 9th to Adults

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Don't Miss the best Summer Experiences! SIGN UP TODAY!

For More info got to: www.lgumc.org

***Scholarships are available!**

A Great way to make friends is CAMPS and MISSION TRIPS. Check the RATS web for more info, stop by our booth in the courtyard, or our camp faire on April 24th.

www.ratsofgod.com • www.lgumc.org

Alex Hardt

Student Pastor at Los Gatos UMC
Children, Youth, and Young Adult Ministries

Email: alex.hardt@lgumc.org

Phone: (408) 375-1834

Fax: (408) 354-4807

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~ 20 THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT INCOMING PASTOR, JENNIFER MURDOCK ~



1. Favorite color – Purple or Green
2. Favorite pastime – Watching cats nap; no really that's boring! – probably reading a good novel or singing
3. Name of my cats – Georgia and Max. Los Gatos are very excited to be coming home!
4. Favorite dessert – Never met a dessert I didn't like, but probably crème brulee.
5. Where would you most like to travel? Spain, Peru, anywhere in Africa
6. Favorite movie – I can't pick just one... Fargo, Casablanca, Annie Hall, Pulp Fiction, The Wizard of Oz, and Life is Beautiful all come to mind.
7. Favorite food – Coffee (or maybe that doesn't count?!) BBQ, sushi, fish tacos
8. Most embarrassing moment - Falling on stage at my 8th grade Spring Band Concert in heels and a dress, although tripping on my robe and falling up the steps to the chancel on Sunday morning hasn't been great either!
9. Favorite guilty pleasure – Watching hours and hours of Anthony Bourdain's *No Reservations* and Andrew Zimmern's *Bizarre Foods*
10. Favorite musicians – John Coltrane, Indigo Girls, Sara Groves, Earth, Wind & Fire
11. Worst job I ever had – Landscaper at a famous resort in Tucson, AZ. I raked rocks in 110 degree heat and constantly picked cactus needles out of unmentionable parts!
12. My idea of a great day – No cell phone or computer, no commitments to keep or plans to make...just lots of sun and fresh air and time outside.
13. Favorite book –Anything in the ____ *for Dummies* franchise (I can relate) and probably *The Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver
14. One thing I just can't live without is...Football and coffee. You can't ever forget the coffee.
15. Favorite activity - Running
16. Best moment in ministry – Waiting in the hospital while a baby was being born and then getting to bless her after her first bath!
17. Best moment on a mission trip – Dancing in the bubbles while Amazing Grace was being sung in Kreyol, French and English
18. One thing I have always wanted to do – rafting down the Amazon after a trek up Machu Picchu
19. Craziest thing I've already tried- hang gliding
20. Favorite scriptures – “Behold I will do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?” Isaiah 43:19; Isaiah 55:1-13 and Luke 15: 11-32



Belong

Grow

Serve

Planning for the next **HEALTH EDUCATION WORKSHOP** is underway. The date is August 7th so mark your calendars now.
The topic under consideration is **Living With/Understanding Chronic Conditions.**
It will be on a Sunday afternoon again as that time seems to work well.
More information to follow.

Live Oak Senior Nutrition Center

Free Games!

Thursdays 12:45– 2:45PM
LGUMC



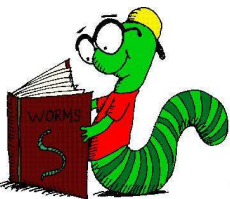
Mexican Train (Dominos)
Backgammon
Left, Center and Right (Dice)
Royal Rummy

Yahtzee
Checkers
Puzzles
Cribbage

Reservations: Joan Conley 356.2650

Kindred Spirits

will meet June 8, at 7:30PM in the Art Gallery to discuss *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*. This beloved American classic about a young girl's coming-of-age at the turn of the century is a poignant and moving tale filled with compassion and cruelty, laughter and heartache, crowded with life and people and incident. Carole Mateer will facilitate the discussion. All are welcome to attend.



July 13 Reading Bonanza
August 10 *Cane River* by Lalita Tademy

"Good books are the warehouses of ideas."

United Methodist Men

~ Great Fellowship
While You Serve ~

We meet the first and third Saturdays of each month at 9AM.

For questions, call Peter Starick,
679.9233.



Mark your Calendars! LGUMC Camp Connect August 26-28

Don't miss the great fun, outstanding fellowship, and wonderful faith experience – all at beautiful Camp Hammer in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Whether you are the very young or young at heart, we have a menu of activities for you. And speaking of menu, did we mention this is five-star camping that includes excellent dining and indoor lodging throughout the weekend? No cooking and no dishes – just spend time around the camp fire making new friends and re-connecting with your larger church family.

If you are super excited about Camp Connect, please join the Camp Connect Planning Team and contact Karen Noe, karen.noe@lgumc.org.

PRIME TIME

Our outing for Thursday, June 9th, will be to Hidden Villa of Los Altos. Founded in 1924 by Frank & Josephine Duveneck they made it a gathering place for people from all walks of life. Its a working farm that supplies organic and sustainably grown produce to neighborhood shareholders, the Community Service Agency of Mt. View. Their organic foods such as veggies, meat and eggs is sold at the Los Altos Farmers Market.

There are hiking trails on the property, and short and flat paths along the Adobe Creek which runs by the farm. There are tours of the Duveneck house, but limited to a few rooms due to the fact part of the home is used for Hidden Villa offices. There are animals to see on the ranch such as cows, pigs, chickens and sheep. Our own Bob Niederer is a docent at Hidden Villa and has offered to be our guide for the day. According to Bob, he will be sure we stay in areas that are accessible for all in our group. Tour to be 1 - 1 1/2 hours long. Afterwards we will go to lunch at a nearby restaurant. All Prime Timers and guests who are interested in going please contact Adrienne Zimmerman at 356.5334 or dancers2@aol.com.

MOVIE GROUP

Saturday, June 11, 3-6PM, LGUMC Theater
Showing: *Inside Job*

If you missed this 108 minute tour through the economic rubble of the current economic disaster, join us for a new or repeat viewing of this documentary and the discussion to follow.

Regulars have also chosen to see the following two films and will stay one hour later than our usual (end time of 5PM) to discuss, *Meek's Cutoff*, and *Incendies*. As some picks have left before we can see them, other films that sound interesting were *Win Win* and *The First Grader*.

Happy Viewing and we hope to see you on June 11th in the theater!



LGUMC'S SOCIAL JUSTICE TEAM is pushing forward. Our May 4 meeting found us climbing into the trenches to fight for a staggering list of causes. We're pressing to end bullying, torture, corporate greed and human trafficking. We're fighting to advance the causes of exploited children, women, and the gay community, especially marriage equality. And we are getting organized.

So many issues! At Jim Thrall's recommendation, we've selected Issue Champions from our ranks. Jeanette McNeely is a natural for the issue of world hunger. Nancy Ruhle champions women's issues, while Trudy Burling creates special concern for California Council of Churches' project to apply our faith values and policy goals to effect change in California's state government. Peggy Rose, Linda Juhl and Jean Mundell rally to the cause of defeating chocolate producers' abuses of children workers. Lani Ballard leads us in deeper discussion of capital punishment. More Issue Champions to follow.

We're taking a deep breath and plunging ahead to reconcile Christian and Muslim faiths: finding our common causes – there are many! – and celebrating our common humanity. As the 10th anniversary of 9/11 approaches, we hope to team with Campbell UMC for their annual dinner in honor of community Muslims.

Several on the Social Justice team want LGUMC to join with other UMCs in the "Integrated Circuit" of local congregations seeking social justice. UMC.org lists 29 Methodist churches within 15 miles of our Los Gatos church. So, convinced that there's power in numbers, we're putting out feelers to nearby Methodist congregations, and cooperating with them as we establish a Social Justice contact list.

As we grow, we are finding support. On the national level we align with the United Methodist Board of Church and Society. www.umc.org. (We hope you'll subscribe to its Faith in Action Newsletter!) We look to our District for guidance. And on the state level we team with The California Council of Churches, and statewide United Methodists.

Questions? Contact Alice Hoagland 353.3900, aahoagland@yahoo.com

Small Group Stories

Celeste Fama is a member of the United Methodist Women (UMW) Evening Circle that meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. For more information on the Evening Circle, contact Lois Stocking 867.0901, l.e.stocking@comcast.net. Celeste shared her thoughts on her Evening Circle experience with Marna Taylor.

Tell me about your small group experience:

Celeste: This is the first small group that I have been a part of.

Tell us what happens in your small group?

Celeste: We begin with dessert, tea and coffee and time for fellowship. At the start of the meeting, the leaders Mary Ellen Heising and Lois Stocking share a prayer, poem or meditation. Then we dive into the program, which is different every month. Recent programs have included Hospice Care, Alex and the youth have presented, and last month we all shared inspirational readings. A favorite I shared is a daily meditation called "Jesus Calling" by Sarah Young. This book was given to me by my parents, and I find it very comforting. One of the UMW members, Louise, will be compiling the shared readings. After the program, we cover "business items", as UMW is involved with programs outside our small group. We spend time discussing how to spend money we collect, which includes supporting projects such as college scholarships, the Gum Moon Women's Residence in San Francisco, and the San Jose Career Closet.

How has this small group helped you personally in your spiritual journey?

Celeste: This group has helped me in many ways. It has made me feel more a part of the church family, as I have built strong relationships with many amazing women. We share the details of our lives with each other, and look forward to spending time with each other. It also has helped me feel like we are a part of something bigger, as the projects we support help a wide variety of people outside our church.

What motivates you to come to your small group?

Celeste: The wonderful fellowship and time for sharing with each other. I look forward to it every month.

What would you say to someone who was curious about joining your small group?

Celeste: Join UMW if you enjoy spending time with wonderful women, together learning about new things and sharing new experiences.

Do you have a favorite story or memory from your small group?

Celeste: One of my favorite programs involved each member bringing a cup and saucer to the group and sharing its meaning. Some of the stories were funny, others were sentimental, but it was a really personal way to learn more about the other women in the circle.

Want to learn more about small groups? See the listing here in the Spire or go to our web page at lgumc.org, click on the Adult Ministry page and download the listing of small groups – then come to any group you choose. Contact the group leader in advance if you would like –or just show up to the next meeting! Want more info – contact Marna Taylor at 439.4614 or mct4tay@yahoo.com.

Outreach

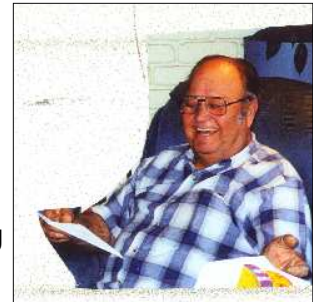
SOCKS APPEAL: Bring socks to church any Sunday in June for the residents of the San Jose Family Shelter. Socks in your size would be great, plus extras for toddlers and youngsters, since little socks have a habit of getting lost. The baskets in the narthex await your donations thru the month of June.

UNIFORM DRIVE: Once again, we will collect money for four weeks beginning mid-July for the children at McKinley and Los Arboles Schools. Both schools have dress codes in an effort to avoid gang violence. Children who need financial assistance in purchasing their school clothes have been assisted every year by our donations. This year, in addition to clothing, McKinley has also indicated a need for basic school supplies such as #2 pencils, colored crayons, glue, rulers, etc. Slimmer budgets for schools this year is placing additional burdens on school administrators.

HEALTH AND VISITATION MINISTRY NEWS

Our VISITATION MINISTRY receives lots of heartfelt "thank you's" from persons who have been visited, called, or received cards. One Thank You was accompanied by this photo of the "visitee" reading one of his cards. He (Bill McNeely) extends many thanks to all the caring people who showed him such love and concern.

Last month (April) more than 35 visits were made, as well as 20+ phone calls, and more than 41 cards or notes were sent. We (The Health and Visitation Ministry Teams) are aware that many other calls and visits are being made that are not reported and we are thankful for those. It is great that people are beginning to report these to Christina, as it is important that no one who needs visits or cards is left out.



BRAZIL United Methodist Volunteers in Mission Project

MISSIONS WHAT: An orientation and informational meeting for the Brazil VIM trip, scheduled for late September

 WHEN: Sunday, June 5, 12:30PM

MORE: Los Gatos UMC is planning its third VIM project in Caconde, Brazil, September 16-25 with travel options at the end of the project. A second orientation and informational meeting is scheduled for June 5 at 12:30PM at LGUMC. This will be the third year that a team will return to work on a senior care facility in Caconde, a town in the coffee growing area north of Sao Paulo. This is a wonderful trip and is in a beautiful part of Brazil. The site is 150 miles north of Sao Paulo in the beautiful coffee growing region and the work will consist of sanding and painting interior rooms of a large senior care facility and assisting the contractor as needed.

~ Thank you to those serving us on Sunday
and through the week ~

Pete Taylor ~ Erik Stansbury ~ ~ Jean Mundell ~ Elwin & Lois Stocking ~ Jesse & Pat Salem ~
Alan & Karen Thomas ~ Larry & Jill Kroh ~ Sue Livingstone ~ Ruth Oveland ~ Maxine Davis
Christina Capps ~ Carol Orr ~ Jean Mundell ~ Larry & Cindy Loper ~ Peggy Rose ~
Norman & Adrienne Zimmerman ~ Bob Niederer ~ Fran Tanner ~ Carole Mateer
~Ray & Maxine Hybarger ~ Brian Williams ~ Our Wonderful Sunday School Staff ~

Our apologies & thanks to anyone we may have missed.

Local VIM project needs YOU!

Have you always wanted to participate on a VIM project but couldn't travel so far away from home and work and kids? We have a project for you! We need to fix up, clean up and paint the parsonage for our incoming pastor. We will be gathering volunteers to help out sometime between the end of June and July 11th. Look for the SERVE table in the courtyard and sign up or email Rob Agrimonti at itnomirga@yahoo.com for

Please come to the “Serve” table after services in the courtyard to find out about “serve” opportunities at LGUMC.

So, What IS Divine Design?

Divine Design is a small group of dedicated people who work to create a worship environment to enrich the theme. Divine Design was started by Rev. Judith Stone and Elaine Bondonno by means of an exciting workshop put on by Nancy Chinn, a famous designer for sacred spaces. We learned that the written Word speaks to us. It invites us to an interpretation that can be experienced physically within our sacred space through our senses of sight, hearing, touch and even smell. Remember the "river" of floating blue and green light-bearing tulle travelling the length and width of the sanctuary, later carrying your "fears" on colored fish? Or, the prayer poles on our lawn with your prayers on multi-colored ribbons borne on the wind? Passersby came for ribbons to add their prayers. Divine Design often creates an insert for the bulletin as a means of connecting you to the theme and providing poetry selections for personal reflection during the week.

Liturgical dance brings you the beauty of movement as the dancers interpret the message found in the music of the choir. The Flower People work to coordinate altar arrangements, an added input for your sense of sight (yes, even your sense of smell).

The time for installing and bringing our ideas to life is less than a week. Extra hands during that time are critical. They could be yours! If you would like to help, call to the office and tell them you are interested helping Divine Design. We'll do the rest.

If you would like to express your appreciation, tell: Rick Aaron, Lani Ballard, Cindy Brain, Chris Brienzo, Linda Juhl, Nancy Ruhle, Louise Segraves, Donna Swanson, Anne-Marie Wiggers, and our on-call consultant, Steve Wilson. Become a Divine Designer and we'll add your name to this list.



Summer '11 Confirmed: BBQs are Back!

What better way to shake off a wet winter than to look ahead to LGUMC Summer BBQs! This year's BBQ will kick-off on **Friday, June 24 for the Neish's party, then will follow every Thursday night at 6:17PM** and

continue for 10 dates -- **through August 25**. (And yes, we will serve BBQ on June 30 as well -- the Thursday before the July 4 holiday weekend.)

As usual we'll be in the Sunken Garden, in front of the Social hall. Typical fare is hot dogs, hamburgers and chicken, with each family asked to bring a potluck side dish or dessert. Suggested donation is \$5 per person, \$12 per family. Note that 100% of the proceeds go to underwrite our end-of-summer Family Camp at Camp Hammer, near Big Basin state park.

This year, be sure to invite a friend or neighboring family -- there's no easier way to introduce new faces to LGUMC.

The secret is out that BBQs would not happen if left just to 'The Boys' - so welcome the new **BBQ Band** as your hosts. The group is actively recruiting help so contact Larry Loper, larry.loper@gmail.com, or Rob Agrimonti, itnomirga@yahoo.com -- it's OK to just help out with one or two dates.

All Faith Habitat House gearing up!

If you are interested in getting involved in the local **All Faith Habitat for Humanity** house being built in Santa Clara, contact Dave Wolf to learn more. You don't have to have prior experience and helpers of all kinds are needed. More info will be forthcoming but in the meantime, email Pastor Dave at 896.6819 to learn more about this wonderful opportunity to change lives.

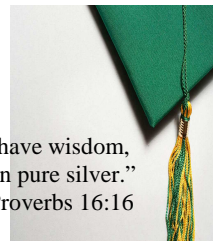
Dear Church Family:

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for all the calls of sympathy and the words of support on the passing of our brother, John Kent.

You have all always made our family feel so welcome and loved. It is times like these that remind us why we call each other family.

Thank you all, we love you,
The Kent and Agrimonti Families

**RUTH DICK HUNTER/
FLORENCE FRYE
SCHOLARSHIPS**



“How much better than gold it is to have wisdom,
and to gain discernment is better than pure silver.”
Proverbs 16:16

The Ruth Hunter and Florence Frye Memorial Scholarships are ready to help high-school graduates and post-secondary students to improve their wisdom and discernment that are valued above gold and silver.

Applications are available in the church office. The deadline for applications is Friday, June 24, to be returned to the church office. The Scholarship Committee is late in making this announcement because of unexpected technical banking issues due to lower interest rates, but the funding has been, thankfully, restored.

**Traditional Worship
9:15AM**

Join Electronic Giving at LGUMC!

You may have seen these cards in the offering plates recently as Electronic Giving has started at LGUMC. With Electronic Giving, monies are transferred directly to LGUMC’s bank account on the dates as determined by the donor. With the completion of the successful pilot in April, we are now rolling out Electronic Giving for everyone. Please look for the sign up table in the courtyard in June, and join us in Electronic Giving.



We Give
Electronically
Through
EFT
Envelope # 45
www.lgumc.org



Annual Book Sale

May 22nd, June 5th, 12th,
and 19th, between ser-
vices, 10-11AM. If you
have any questions please
contact Rick Aaron at

raaron8334@aol.com.



Celebrate Recovery

6PM—worship
(in the Chapel)

7PM—small groups

Worship is a Verb

The tag lines on my email signature are quotes from Bobbie McFerrin and from a little picture frame that sits on my desk at home:

*"I pray and I sing. And sometimes my prayer is my singing." Bobby McFerrin
When God closes a door, He opens a window!*

Leading worship, musicians and praising God at Open House has absolutely been a prayer song for me. And even though the chapter/door is closing to my ministry here at LGUMC's Open House worship service, I am at peace knowing that the praise teams and congregation are a grace-filled worshipping body with 'grace' being the operative word. The praise and thanks goes to God for the people who have led worship on the chancel over the years, and it has been astounding to witness the abundance of talent that has been on the platform! Every single person who has sung or played has had that blessed ability to worship God with skill and humility – an amazing gift to Open House and the congregation who worships! I know in my heart that all is going to be well, because although a door is closing, a window is opening. I know without hesitation that God will be there leading the way with Pastor Jennifer Murdock, the leaders and the congregation of Open House.

I have also been the witness to children's music over several years and am now watching some of the little ones who were in our first musical production of Hark the Herald Angel in 2002 go off to college next fall! What a treat to have worked with Carolyn Curran (who is now in NY) and Kasey Rice (who you get to keep!). I'm sure the children's music will see a window opening – feel the breeze.

Los Gatos UMC is a rare combination of worshipping styles and worship services ranging from the Traditional to the casual/contemporary of Open House to Celebrate Recovery. All three congregations are unique yet are all part of the chemistry of LGUMC. Just as God's voice can be heard in different translations and versions of the Bible, people can connect to God in the way that is most spiritually comfortable for them. In Philippians 4:8, Paul writes to one of his favorite churches advising them on how to live their lives following Christ.

⁴⁸Summing it all up, friends, I'd say you'll do best by filling your minds and meditating on things true, noble, reputable, authentic, compelling, gracious—the best, not the worst; the beautiful, not the ugly; things to praise, not things to curse." (*The Message*)

⁴⁸ Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things." (*NRSV*)

Whether it is easier to hear God's voice in the Message or NRSV version/translation of the Bible, Paul encourages the church to concentrate on the positive, the beautiful and things to praise. At last year's charge conference I suggested some goals for worship in 2010-2011 and quoted some verses that spoke to my heart about worship (the work of the people) where God could help us 'cultivate good relationships':

¹Welcome with open arms fellow believers who don't see things the way you do. ¹⁹...let's agree to use all our energy in getting along with each other. Help others with encouraging words; don't drag them down by finding fault. ²²Cultivate your own relationship with God, but don't impose it on others." *Romans 14: 1, 19, 22 (The Message)*

It is my hope and prayer that the people of LGUMC will embrace and be kind to all who enter the doors to worship and use their encouraging words to build up the body of Christ and to love one another. ALL are welcome, and All means All. Worship is a verb! We lift up our hearts! Praise God!

I will miss you; I will keep praying for you and I will always love you with the love of Christ.

Peace and praise,

--- Jo

*"Wherever you are, wherever you're going,
God is right there beside you seeing and knowing
Wherever you go He already knows what lies ahead and what's behind
You'll always find He's never too far from wherever you are."*

Open Hearts, Open Minds,
Open Doors
The Open House
Contemporary Worship
11AM

The Spire

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Our Mission

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



“Serving Christ in this Community since 1866”

Pastor

Rev. Lee Neish

Sunday Worship

9:15AM Traditional Worship Service
11AM Open House Contemporary Worship Service
6PM Celebrate Recovery Worship Service

Kidz Konnection

9:15AM & 11:15AM
(Preschool—Grade 5)
Sunday Night Spectacular, 6-8:30PM

Childcare

9:15AM and 11:15AM
Newborn—3 years

Youth Group

The Gathering, 6-12 grade, 6-8:30PM

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.

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

