



*Sustaining a vibrant and growing congregation through  
Christian spiritual transformation,  
making our work and the church relevant and visible.*

**1330 Lakeshore Avenue σ 1255 First Avenue σ Oakland, CA 94606**

*Sunday Worship: 10:30am*

510.465.4793 σ Office Hours: 10:00am – 3:00pm, Mon – Fri

Rev. Pamela L. Kurtz, Pastor

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Joan Miller, Music Director

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**[www.lakemerrittumc.org](http://www.lakemerrittumc.org)**

### **REGULAR WORSHIP, PRAYER & SMALL GROUP STUDY**

**Scriptural Exploration:** Sundays at 9:15am (Wesley Conference Room)

**Celebration of Divine Worship:** 10:30am in the Worship Center (Sanctuary)

*Holy Communion is celebrated each Sunday.*

**Food 4 Thought:** 2nd Sundays at 6:00pm (Edwards Room)

**Adult Faith Formation Book Study:** Wednesdays at 6:30pm (Georgia Harkness Room)

**Feasting with Friends:** Fridays at 5:00pm (Kitchen)

**Men's Prayer Breakfast:** 1st and 3rd Fridays at 6:30am (Stark Room)

### **Sunday Programs for Children and Youth:**

**Nursery Care Facility** for babies and toddlers up to 3 years old is open from 10:15am – Noon. It is located adjacent to the Stark Room (Fellowship Area).

**Children's Faith Formation (Godly Play Curriculum)** follows the Children's Sermon in worship for Pre-school to Grade 6.

**Youth Group** meets in the Aldersgate Room downstairs following Children's Sermon. It is open for Grades 7 - 11.

## WHAT'S HAPPENED?



LMUMC Walks with Pride – September 8<sup>th</sup> During our Rally Sunday worship service, some LMUMC members participated in the OaklandPride parade march. It was a wonderful event of inclusivity, unity, and fellowship. After marching down the parade route, a booth was setup with our church information as well as pamphlets and brochures

on LGBTQ+ relationships and Christianity. Don and Linda Weingarten, along with others congregants, sat in the summer sun to tell the parade goers of LMUMC's mission and inclusivity.



### Rally Sunday – September 8<sup>th</sup>

For our Rally Sunday, we kicked off a brand new school year by celebrating the leaders, teachers, and volunteers who help aid our children and youth. Inside of the worship bulletins were excerpts of statements from some of the teachers + volunteers in LMUMC. Read below some examples of interactions and growth in both the children and leaders:

“We always have such fascinating conversations! I was facilitating a discussion on lying, whether it is morally okay to lie. [...] as the discussion unfolded which it always does, the youth brought up such truthful and nuanced observations from their own lives that they changed my mind. One person said, ‘I sometimes lie to my parents, but they know it’s a lie and don’t say anything. I can tell that they know but they don’t say anything because they love me. They just want me to be safe.’ The wisdom in this for me was that sometimes we even embrace in love the lies someone tells. And this love is more powerful than any stringent attachment to rules.” –**Michele Chun**

“Leading the youth has not only made room at the table for students to be vulnerable in their journey but allows all of us as leaders to grow ourselves to be able to walk with others in their journeys as well as welcoming others to walk with us in our journeys.” -**Alex Banash**

“ I am not a full-time student of the bible in the traditional sense of the word. So, leading the youth group has forced me to do my research and study. And even though I grew up in a Christian home and know the bible stories from school and from church, you always have to go over them again and relate the topic at hand. Every opportunity or problem we are going through has a similar example you can relate in the bible. This has got me closer to the word of God.” –**Joseph Koroma**

“When I engage the children in discussion, they help my faith through wonder and playfulness, so that I can look at the world with fresh eyes, less weighed down by the complex troubles of the world.”  
–**Susannah Wood**

## **WHAT'S HAPPENING NEXT?**

### **Trunk or Treat – Month of October**

LMUMC will partner with *Oakland Peace Center* and collect candy for their annual *Trunk or Treat* program. It provides a fun and safe place for children to “trick or treat”. We will be collecting candy during worship service on **October 13<sup>th</sup> through the 27<sup>th</sup>** and will be taken to OPC on the 28<sup>th</sup>.



### **All-Saints Day Worship Celebration – November 3**

Come and join us for a special service honoring all of the patron saints. It will be filled with music, fellowship, and a great Word. Worship will begin at 10:30am.



## **November 28<sup>th</sup> - Community Thanksgiving Dinner**

Every year, LMUMC feeds hundreds of Oakland residents a turkey dinner on Thanksgiving Day. Last year, we fed over 700 people. While many came to the church for a sit-down meal, there were over 50 homeless people who live around Lake Merritt who had their meals brought to them.

This event is successful because of the huge volunteer support we receive every year. This includes the baking of the turkeys, preparation of other dishes, serving tables, preparing plates, cleaning up, checking people, and the list goes on. To serve as a Thanksgiving volunteer this year, please contact David Betts by sending him an email at [thanksgiving@lakemerrittumc.org](mailto:thanksgiving@lakemerrittumc.org).



## **December 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Craft Fair –**



Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>, Christmas Crafts Fair Workshop 10-1. Everyone is welcome to help prepare crafts for children who will enjoy making the crafts as gifts for loved ones on **Saturday, December 14, 1:00pm – 5:00 pm**. Please save the date and invite families, friends and neighbors. Helpers are needed for 10-12 tables. No prior experience needed, just a willingness to share in the joy of the Christmas season! Contact Kathleen Bell, [kathleenabell@gmail.com](mailto:kathleenabell@gmail.com), 510-333-7480 or Laurel Williams, [laurelandrandy@gmail.com](mailto:laurelandrandy@gmail.com), 510-521-4626

## Local Church Mission Opportunities for You!

We've seen the miracles like the feeding of the five thousand here by our own lake. There are at least 17 opportunities to offer a helping hand each month here at LMUMC and be part of the unforeseen miracle.

Don't delay and help out this month! Here are the ways you can help:

	Spread the Word	Sign Up for a slot
<b>Saturday Food Pantry Distribution</b>	<b>Monthly 4th Saturday 8:30-Noon</b>  <a href="https://www.volunteermatch.org/search/opp2592667.jsp">https://www.volunteermatch.org/search/opp2592667.jsp</a>	<b>Next date: October 26</b>  Contact Rose Lynn or Kathleen Bell <a href="mailto:liftconcertoakland@gmail.com">liftconcertoakland@gmail.com</a> 626-695-0687
<b>Lake Lunches Preparation</b>	<b>Monday/Wednesdays 4:00-5:15 pm</b>	<b>Month of October and Beyond!</b>  Contact: Shirley or Rose Lynn 626-695-0687
<b>Lake Lunches Walk</b>	<b>Tuesday/Thursdays 11:50 - 2:45</b> <a href="https://www.volunteermatch.org/search/opp2975296.jsp">https://www.volunteermatch.org/search/opp2975296.jsp</a>	

### PRAYING FOR EACH OTHER:



- ☆ Those facing transitions
- ☆ For our government leaders that they make the best decisions for the people
- ☆ For the families impacted by wildfires

**Lord, Hear Our Prayers!**

*If you would like to include a prayer request in the next Viewpoint, please email Neil in the church office at **office@lakemerrittumc.org***

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON OUR MINISTRIES, STAFF, CONTACTS, AND OTHER WONDERFUL FACTS ABOUT LMUMC, PLEASE VISIT OUR BRAND NEW WEBSITE AT [www.lakemerrittumc.org](http://www.lakemerrittumc.org)!**

