

# THE LYNNWOOD LINES

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR LYNNWOOD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## Pastor's Letter

Dear friends,

First let me thank you for your incredibly warm, loving welcome of my entire family. The outpouring of food, cards, emails, and well wishes has been wonderful. You all know how to offer radical hospitality and help us put on unwanted pounds – thanks! I also know from Pastor Diana's Retirement celebration that you know how to love and be loved; you know the power of community and you are grateful and committed to your walk with God. I am feeling deeply blessed to join that walk with you.

The scripture that has been animating my mind lately is one of Jesus' miraculous feeding stories. He has been teaching and healing a large crowd for many hours and now it is so late that they cannot return home in time for dinner. The disciples want to send them away, but Jesus says, "You give them something to eat." Confused, as always, they tell him they do not have enough food to do what he is asking. Yet, when they give Jesus what they have, they participate in a miracle.

It seems lately that most of us are focused on what we do not have. We do not have church like we once did. We do not have the closeness of friends and family like we once did. We do not have all our favorite activities and on and on it goes. This is true, real, and painful.

Yet, it may also be a chance to find new ways to be nourished and new ways to share. It might be a chance to realize we "have" things we have overlooked. This week consider the multitude of ways God is "feeding" your soul right now. It might be through something familiar like a walk in nature, art, or music. It might be through some surprising new relationship or resource that you have discovered only recently. Whatever "food" you are receiving, lift it up to God with gratitude and then consider how you might offer that "food" to someone else.

We are blessed to be a blessing,

Pastor Jenn

I have also heard that some of you are not sure how to contact me.

My email is [pastorjenn@lynnwood.org](mailto:pastorjenn@lynnwood.org)

My cell is 408-402-1232.

You can reach me on my cell phone or at the church office most days.

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As a reconciling congregation that **dares to question, love, and serve**, we offer wide welcome to all people regardless of age, sex, racial or ethnic background, sexual orientation, gender identity, family status, physical or mental ability, or economic or immigration status.

# Stephen Ministry and Prayers

**STEPHEN MINISTRY**



## "I'M NOT QUALIFIED TO BE A STEPHEN MINISTER"

Have you ever been asked to be a Stephen Minister? Has someone suggested that you would make a good Stephen Minister? Did you answer with the above statement? Or did you just say that to yourself? What qualifications are necessary to be a Stephen Minister? You need to be a caring person who is willing to learn, grow, serve, and have faith in God. You must be able to maintain confidentiality. You would need to make a commitment to training and supervision.

The training for this ministry is thorough and practical. It includes listening, dealing with feelings, assertiveness, confidentiality, maintaining boundaries, and how to begin and end caring relationships. You learn how to care for people who are grieving, dying, aging, divorcing, feeling isolated, lost a job, angry with God, or experiencing other life's challenges. The goal of training is to prepare you for whatever you might encounter as you spend time with the care receiver.

Through reading, lectures, sharing questions and answers, and skill practices you will learn what you need to know to be able to "walk" with your care receiver until they feel God's healing. You are the "care giver". You are not a counselor and not expected to solve problems. You are asked to walk beside another person as they work through their challenges. A Stephen Minister brings an open and non-judgmental heart, creates a safe and confidential environment, listens with compassion, and remains with the care receiver as needed.

Think about it. Being able to service one-on-one and make a difference in someone's life during a difficult time. **What better way to serve God!** It will change your life. Our current Stephen Ministers are Donna G., Susan G., Debbie R., Lou R., Lorna K., Steve K., and Linda V.P. If you are interest or just curious, please feel free to contact any of us and we will be happy to share with you what this has meant to us in our faith journey.

## In Need of Prayer

### Lynnewood Family

- Prayers for Sam Altis and his wife as Sam begins his ministry with children and youth, and helps us live our faith in the world
- Prayers for children, youth, parents, and teachers as they start back to school on line this month
- Prayers for Helen R.'s son, Steve, as he battles cancer
- Prayers for Bruce C. and his recovery from COVID-19
- Prayers for Jennifer and John S. recovering from COVID-19
- Prayers for our medical personnel working to keep us safe

### Prayer Ministry:

Please email your prayer requests to the church office ([office@lynnewood.org](mailto:office@lynnewood.org)).

# Bible Study

## MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Join Sharon and Don on Monday at 7 pm for a time of faith, sharing and prayer.  
Current Book; Fearless: Imagine Your Life Without Fear by Max Lucado—We discuss chapter per week

Zoom Meeting ID: 822 241 9110  
Password: 4444

Mobile: Call (669)900-6833. Enter the meeting ID and then the password when prompted

## Nourish at Noon

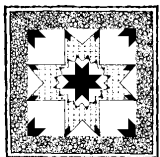
Join Pastor Jenn at noon on **Monday, August 10th**, for a time of sharing and prayer. Come and nourish at noon through Zoom.  
Meeting ID: 842 1052 9685 #  
Participant ID: Just press #  
Password: 4444  
Mobile: Call (669) 900-6833. Enter the meeting ID and then the password when prompted.  
To MUTE or UNMUTE, please press \*6

We will meet again on August 24th. Details are forthcoming, so please keep an eye on the weekly email!

## Small Group Ministries

### KNITTING GROUP

The knitting group is on hiatus at the moment as they await more volunteers. If you know how to knit and would like to join this group, please contact the church office.



### PRAYERS & SQUARES

### QUILTING

Please remember whenever we have a quilt, it is not finished until you participate by tying a knot or laying your hands on a knot and saying a prayer. If you would like to help with this ministry, please contact Michele or the church office.

### MEN'S MEET-UP

#### SECOND SATURDAY of the month - 8 a.m. via Zoom

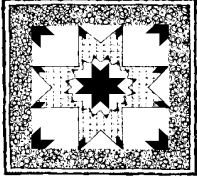
We may not get to meet for breakfast due to the shelter-in-place order, but we can still meet up! All men are invited to meet at 8:00 a.m. online through Zoom (details forthcoming; check the weekly email). Come and join in for a time of fellowship!

Please call the church office with any questions.

### DREAM GROUP

This group, led by Lisa R., meets the third Thursday of the month at 10:00 a.m. During the shelter-in-place order, this group will be meeting by Zoom.

## Small Group Ministries (cont)



### PRAYERS & SQUARES

Grateful for the many who were able to sew face masks in anticipation of the day when we can all worship in person. Our goal was to have 100 adult masks available so that if someone arrives without their own mask, we can provide one. Many thanks to Sheily L., Corinne L., Cynthia D., Mary R., Linda W., Dorothy S., and a couple of mystery sewers who gave their time and talents to reach our goal!

Blessings,

Jane and Michele, Co-Leaders  
Prayers & Squares

# Seasoned Citizens

Seasoned Citizens - August 2020

Greetings to all our Seasoned Citizens! Although we have not been able to meet together for lunch since February, it was such a pleasure to meet via Zoom on Tuesday, July 21st.

We were pleased to have Pastor Jenn join us and get to know us better.

We had 19 participants. Pastor Jenn lead us in prayer and told us a little bit about her family and career. We then introduced ourselves; told her how long we have been members and some of our background.

We want to continue to meet this way each month until we can lunch together again.

Here are a few of us on ZOOM!



# General Announcements

## Thank You from the Pleasanton Community Counseling Center (PCCC)

On behalf of PCCC, I would like to thank the LUMC Outreach Committee for their support of our work in the Tri-Valley. PCCC relies solely on client fees and donations. The LUMC Outreach Committee has been a faithful friend and we truly appreciate their financial contributions over the past several years.

Located in the LUMC administration wing, PCCC has been providing counseling to adults and children since 1990. We were founded to provide quality, affordable counseling to the larger Pleasanton community, and to act as a training center for Marriage and Family Therapist Interns. Many who have passed through PCCC have gone on to obtain their licenses and be in position to give back to the community. Our services are based on a sliding scale to meet the needs of the client.

We are very pleased to share that we have added Life Coaching to our menu of services. This new service is provided by a long-time PCCC counselor who is committed to helping adults find hope by identifying pathways to achieve personal goals. We are also continuing our partnership with the Pleasanton Unified School District to support students during this challenging time in their lives.

COVID-19 has been incredibly unsettling for all of us because of Stay at Home orders, and the day-to-day uncertainty and lack of continuity this pandemic brings. To continue supporting existing and new clients, PCCC is providing virtual counseling, using platforms that protect client confidentiality and privacy for those not comfortable with in-person sessions. For those who prefer to meet in-person, we have prepared our space with masks, cleaning supplies and furniture placement to meet social distancing protocols.

We invite you to visit our website to learn more about us and to meet our staff: Pleasanton Community Counseling Center. Again, we thank the LUMC Outreach Committee for their generous support that allows us to provide much needed services to the Tri-Valley.

Warmly,  
*Raeanne*

Raeanne  
Executive Director



## General Announcements (cont.) & Finance

### SPECIAL OFFERING - AUGUST 2020 TRI-VALLEY HAVEN SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Dear Congregation, these are unusual times as our local schools figure out what fall classes will look like for the students. As most of you know, each July we collect your school supply donations in a big bin outside after the worship service; then we deliver to Tri-Valley Haven (TVH) where they are distributed to needy kids in the community. **THINGS ARE A LITTLE DIFFERENT THIS YEAR ..**

We will still support TVH families with school supplies, but in a different format. If you would like to help with this most worthy cause, please send your check into the church office and write "school supplies" in the memo line. Your Outreach Committee will use your donation to purchase \$25 gift cards which will be taken to TVH in early August. The gift cards will be given to needy families, who are pre-screened by TVH, to purchase their own school supplies this year.

Should you have any questions, please contact Outreach Committee member Linda Wong or the church office. Thank you, Lynnewood family, for your loving and caring spirit during these difficult times. Let's help get these kids off to a great start this year!

## Finance Update

JUNE FINANCE UPDATE									
		Amount	% difference from budget						
Operating Budget									
Donations (Year To Date)		\$211,213	-15.7%						
Expenses (Year To date)		\$326,114	-14.4%						

Donations do not include rent income from Quarry Lane

We collected, \$75 for UMCOR.

If you would like to better understand where our church stands financially or the financial goals of our church, please see any member of the finance committee. We would be happy to discuss our finances with you!

# Lynnewood Outreach

## CONTINUED GENEROSITY FROM OUR CHURCH MEMBERS

During this time of such great need created by Covid 19, once again Lynnewood congregation has shown their compassion and desire to reach out to the community to help. And in doing so, you are serving God in a big way. From May until mid June, the Lynnewood congregation has donated \$9,550.00 for various organizations in the Tri Valley area. \$3,200.00 worth of Safeway gift cards have been donated and distributed from April until mid June. This money is not coming from the Outreach budget, but from your hearts.

Due to SIP protocols, organizations are working with staff only. Volunteers will be added when it is safe. At the present time, none of the organizations we work with can estimate when that will happen. Until then, let us continue to serve however we can. And remember, prayer is always welcome!

Thank you from your **Outreach Committee**

### Bundles of Joy

Even during a pandemic, there is new life. Babies continue to be born and we continue to deliver bundles to Axis.. Thank you to Lynnewood for the continued support of this mission. And a big thank you to Joanne Wright for still donating blankets and stuffed animals - no global pandemic will slow her down!

Bundles of Joy is an on-going joint project with Axis Community Health and several other churches in the Tri-Valley. It is only made possible by the donations we receive each month. We provide 14 bags per month to Axis to be given out to low-income pregnant women. Please help us to continue to reach out to families in need and show them what a caring community we are. Donations from the list below can be given to Kristin Speck.

Contact Kristin at 925-640-5069 or [kristin710@gmail.com](mailto:kristin710@gmail.com) with any questions.

#### Items Needed for the Bundles of Joy Project:

- Diapers (Newborn – Size 1)
- Pacifiers
- Cloth Toys or Stuffed Animals
- Bibs (We usually include 2.)
- Wipes
- Blankets
- Rattles
- Hats (We usually include 2.)
- Baby Wash, Lotion, Powder or Ointment (We include 1 item per bag.)
- Newborn Outfits – Size 0-6 months (We usually include 1 per bag.)
- Pajamas, Size 0-6 months (We usually include 1 per bag.)
- Onesies, Size 0-6 months (We usually include 1-2 per bag.)

### How Can We Help Open Heart Kitchen?

Due to the shelter-in-place mandate, Open Heart Kitchen is not operating out of Lynnewood on Sundays. We can still help them though as they work to make sure people are fed despite the current pandemic. If you would like to help, Please send in a donation check to Lynnewood and note "Open Heart Kitchen" in the memo line. Thank you.

### EGG CARTONS—Ongoing Project

Many people see egg cartons in the narthex and wonder why empty egg cartons are brought to church. The Tri-Valley Haven Food Bank receives eggs from local grocery stores with good eggs and some broken and mushy eggs. Before Tri-Valley staff distributes the good eggs to their clients, they seek cleaner egg cartons. Over the years the Lynnewood church family has been the source for the egg cartons. Thank you for your continued support of this outreach opportunity. **NOTE: Linda Van Pelt is taking the egg cartons during the shelter-in-place mandate, so please contact her if you would like to contribute or drop them off**



# Youth News, Children, and Sunday School

Our New Director of Family Ministry & Community Engagement, Sam Altis



The Lynnewood UMC Staff-Parish Relations Committee is pleased to introduce our new Director of Family Ministry & Community Engagement, Sam Altis.

Sam grew up in Kansas City, MO, and has since lived up and down the west coast and Midwest. He has been working in and with churches since 2013, after graduating from Fuller Theological Seminary. He loves helping individuals of all ages experience God in their own unique way, find belonging, and foster justice and hope in their communities.

Prior to coming to Lynnewood, he managed an ecumenical refugee-sponsorship program in Tacoma, served on staff at Crosswalk Community Church in Napa, and co-pastored at Trinity Church in Indianapolis. Sam also hosts a podcast on progressive spirituality called A Better Story.

When he's not working, Sam enjoys traveling, reading, playing sports (often poorly), listening to music and engaging in anything that requires some creative energy. He and his wife, Kaylan, live in San Jose with their dog Ralphie.

Sam can be reached at 816-804-4300 or at the church office. His email is [Sam@lynnewood.org](mailto:Sam@lynnewood.org). Please pray for Sam and welcome him into the life of Lynnewood UMC.

Meet Sam click copy and paste link into your browser

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1d-oLzbMd-NkxIsS1sSsmQ2Sh2ktoG6Cr/view?usp=sharing>

# Youth News, Children, and Sunday School (cont)

## No Room? Let's ZOOM!

Join us at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoons for youth "No Room? Let's Zoom!" led by Sam.

[CLICK HERE](#) to join Sam.

Password: 773788

If you choose to dial in, the meeting ID is 833 265 636.

### **Our New Children's Offering Project Will Benefit "Doctors Without Borders"**

Continuing through the end of the summer, the Children's Offering Project will benefit "Doctors Without Borders," an international organization that dispatches teams to places in the world in the most dire need of medical care. This month, for the first time in its history, Doctors Without Borders sent a team of 9 doctors and nurses to a site in the United States on the land of the Navajo Nation. The Navajo people are suffering tremendously under the COVID-19 pandemic and tribal elders have been so grateful to receive this much needed assistance. At a time when medical doctors, nurses and technicians are more essential than ever, you are invited to share what you have with others through giving to Doctors Without Borders. Thank you for your generosity.

### **LWood College Crew**

LWood College Crew zoom— Join us at 7:00 p.m. on Sundays for a college student hangout through Zoom! [CLICK HERE](#) to join!

Password: 483900

If you choose to dial in, the meeting ID is 956 2559 7865

### **Are you receiving our FriendSHIP (Shelter-In-Place) Flyer for children?**

During this time when we are not able to hold regular Sunday School classes, families with children are encouraged to share together through our FriendSHIP Flyer which is emailed every Friday. In it you will find a Children's Moment, an activity, an invitation to the Passing of the Peace and a prayer. If you are not currently receiving the FriendSHIP Flyer, but would like to, please let Diana know. [diana@lynnewood.org](mailto:diana@lynnewood.org). (You don't have to a child, only a child at heart!)