

Los Altos

United Church of Christ

Windows

the monthly newsletter of Los Altos United Church of Christ

March 2022

Highlighted In this issue...

- Greetings

- Worship NOTE: A NEW LIVESTREAM LINK!

Sunday Morning Worship IN-PERSON AND LIVESTREAM ON
FACEBOOK at <https://www.facebook.com/LAUCCMEDIA>

You do not have to be a Facebook subscriber!

- Lenten Book Study
- Congratulations!
- Need a Ride?

REPORTS:

Remembering Carol Brooks
Discovery Preschool

Questions about Facebook Livestream -

A couple of questions have come up with some difficulties accessing or viewing the livestream on Facebook. Please be patient and flexible as we are trying some different things out to ensure that the livestream is as accessible as possible.



Greetings Los Altos Friends,

I recognize the events of the past few days have left us all and the world rattled with anxiety and uncertainty. And yet, while we can turn off the news on our TVs or radios or devices, we must not become numb to the physical, emotional, spiritual and human costs that war takes.

We must also recognize that there will be displaced people from Ukraine as well as already displaced peoples from around the world because of violence, oppression, hunger, social and political upheaval. It is overwhelming and we feel powerless to act, but we must hold fast and find ways to hear and respond to the cries of those calling out for peace.

As I offer this prayer written by the officers of the United Church of Christ, I invite you to reach out if you are in need of prayer and support through this time. You can reach me via email or at the church 562-596-6718.

Holy God,

Hear our prayers for all those who will die today because of war in Ukraine and other war-torn countries all over this world. Grant them an end to the suffering of this world and eternal peace that is only found in You.

We pray for the people of Ukraine, Russia, and all nations — that war and bloodshed can be avoided and a new, just peace can be forged out of this crisis. We ask God grant wisdom to the leaders of nations, calling them to end provocation on all sides and invest instead in “the things that make for peace” as called for in all our faith traditions (Luke 19:41-2).

We pray for an end to the deep insecurity and mistrust on all sides, and call on leaders to build trust, based not on military might or alliances, but on the basis of our shared future and common humanity. Now is a time in which past harm should be acknowledged and addressed, and new partnerships can be envisioned.

We pray for and call on our leaders to have the courage to take small, verifiable, and independent steps toward peace, inviting others to reciprocate. Now is time to invest in conflict resolution, diplomacy and international cooperation — not more weapons which only escalate tension in the region.

Be with those suffering in ways that we cannot.

Protect them from devastation in ways those positioned in authority will not. Shield and

comfort them as they confront the terror of violence that surrounds them. Hold them close to your heart and stay the hand of the enemies against them. Give us the courage and the strength to cry aloud against wickedness in high places that dare to harm others made in your image.

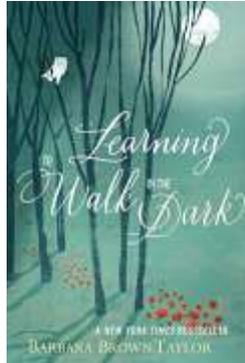
Comfort the children and heed their cries to be saved from harm in this world.

Make us a people who love our children, all of our children, more than we love greed, power, and control. Overturn governments of tyranny wherever they are found. Disrupt the intentions of evil and give us power to stand against demonic forces of greed and control. Grant that peace and justice come to warring nations by the hands of those courageous enough to stand and study war no more. Let Thy kin-dom come on earth as it is in heaven, we pray.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

*The National Officers of the United Church of Christ
The Rev. John C. Dorhauer — General Minister and President
The Rev. Traci A. Blackmon — Associate General Minister
The Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson — Associate General Minister*

Lenten Book Study



“Learning to Walk in the Dark” by Barbara Brown Taylor

You can order a copy online, there are plenty of used book websites.

March 9th-April 13th

Wednesdays at 10am in-person in Patterson Hall at the church

-OR-

Wednesdays at 7pm on Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86871299609?pwd=KzhDZFd3MUIITVVuRjZKQlVWWEgxQT09>

Meeting ID: 868 7129 9609

Passcode: 634849

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,86871299609# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,86871299609# US (Houston)

If you have any questions, please email Pastor Kyle pastor.los.altos@gmail.com or call me at 562-596-6718

**Join us February 27, 2022
SUNDAY WORSHIP
In person and on FB Livestream!**

NOTE: THIS IS A NEW LIVESTREAM LINK!

(you do not need to be a Facebook subscriber!)

Sunday Morning Worship LIVESTREAM ON FACEBOOK

at <https://www.facebook.com/LAUCCMEDIA>

[CLICK HERE FOR THE FEBRUARY 28th ORDER OF WORSHIP](#) (Print or view on your device)

In person Fellowship time will follow Worship in the Courtyard.

ZOOM FELLOWSHIP UPDATE

As we have not had anyone sign-on for zoom fellowship following worship, for the time being we will no longer be offering it. If you would like to continue with zoom fellowship - please let Pastor Kyle know.



LAUCC regular office hours with Cindy on Monday through Friday, 9:00 - 2:00. **WE DO ASK THAT YOU WEAR A MASK INDOORS!** Kyle will be in the office on Monday - Thursday. Please contact us at any time at office@losaltosucc.com or pastor.los.altos@gmail.com.

SUPPORT LAUCC through Amazon Smile!



Unique AmazonSmile link

Always share your unique link in your email, social media and on your website. When customers sign up for AmazonSmile, they're asked to select one of over a million charities to support. When customers click on your unique link, they skip this charity selection process. Instead, they're taken to smile.amazon.com and are automatically asked if they want to support Los Altos United Church of Christ.

The unique LAUCC charity link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/95-6004382>



RECYCLING

A reminder that we are still recycling clear plastic and aluminum cans. Bag them up and leave them by the gate at church or give Mark Allen a call . Unfortunately we cannot accept glass.

How can you help?

FELLOWSHIP TIME

Each Sunday we have some fellowship time in the Courtyard following worship. If you would like to help by providing some treats and goodies for a Sunday in the future, please sign up in the hallway outside Patterson, or email the church office

- office@losaltosucc.org

Looking for Lay Readers!

Would you like to be a part of a Sunday online service? We're looking for individuals, couples, and families to serve as liturgists and greeters/ushers. If you would like to participate in Sunday Worship sign up in the hallway outside Patterson Hall, or please contact Judy Ekmalian, jlekmalian@gmail.com and let her know.



GIVING...

Thank you for your giving, which supports our ministries, including both our in-person and online worship. We certainly encourage you to give generously as you are able, by leaving your donation in the offering plate at the rear of the Sanctuary. You may also donate by mail, or you can use the QR CODE below **or** go to our church website losaltosucc.org click on the tab **DONATE**, and use your credit or debit card with a one-time or recurring gift. As an alternative you may also click the following link: <https://losaltosucc.org/ways-to-give/> Take now a moment and reflect upon ways in which you can offer gifts and be filled with gratitude.



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

Did you know LAUCC has a Facebook page? Please check it out and Like us on Facebook. It is a great way to keep up with what is going on in the life of the church. <https://www.facebook.com/losaltosucc>

This was shared by Stephen Boyd at the Remembrance of Carol Brooks...

A few thoughts of Carol Brooks:

I wish that I could be with you this evening to celebrate Carol. She was a quiet presence and yet such an important part in the life of the Los Altos United Church of Christ. It has been so many years ago when Carol first joined us. If I remember correctly it was when many families joined with Los Altos UCC from the downtown DOC congregation. Others were John and Louis Larson, Clark and Kay Poston, and Kenny and Marilou Sams. She was so important to all of them and fit right in with the congregation here on Atherton.

When Carol joined, she was still working at the Veterans Administration Health Facility around the corner on Seventh Street. I remember how proud she was of the work that she did there. She always spoke of how important it was that we care for our nation's veterans and it was important that we celebrate our veterans on the Sunday of the Veterans Day week in

November. She was always very supportive of my ministry as an Army Chaplain and she retired from the VA with over 30 years of service.

Because she worked, I never got to enjoy her in our weekly Bible Studies. However, she was always at Sunday worship, especially in those early years. And as time went on, we saw her when she felt well. I will always be grateful to Marilou and Kenny for getting her to move into Roundtree. She had the support and love in those times when she needed it most and it meant so much to her that she could make it to worship.

I believe that the one memory of Carol that will always be with me is her sitting in her spot in the sanctuary and listening to the choir warm up and practice with David on Sunday mornings before worship. She was always complimentary of the choir and such an important person to see out there in the congregation. Through these times of pandemic, it has been hard not being in worship and getting to walk over and say good morning to her. Her quiet presence will be missed. But somehow, through it all, and in the time to come, I think I will always see her, sitting in her place, and remember that wonderful smile of hers.

Blessings Carol, you spoke to so many of us in so many different ways.



Hello LAUCC,

Discovery Preschool is welcoming back Ms. Hannah Campano to our team! Ms. Hannah will be joining us starting Tuesday, March 1. She will be shadowing Ms. Susan to learn the assistant ropes and will be supporting Ms. Sumer in the Blue Room on Tuesdays and Thursdays. She is also a qualified teacher so she will continue to be our substitute when we need coverage. We're so excited to have her back!

We are now offering open enrollment for the 2022-2023 school year starting in September. We will continue offering a 3 ½ hour daily schedule to accommodate families since we are still not offering Lunch Bunch. We will also continue following our individual schedules to allow for more physical distancing and student cohorts; each classroom will start off with 10 students. We will assess the program before we fill up to our usual 12 students. We will also continue to require students to wear face masks until licensing and CDC protocols for child care programs remove the requirement. All students need to be fully potty trained and have up to date vaccinations before they begin classes in the fall. Our 5-day program is already full, but we still have openings in our 2-day program for 3 year olds and 3-day program for 4 year olds.

Please send any interested families our way!

Kindly,
Roxy Menendez

Director
Discovery Preschool at LAUCC
(562)596-2108
discoverylaucc.com

When we play, we learn.



CELEBRATIONS

For the Blessings in our lives...

BIRTHDAYS: 2/27 - Kenny S.; 3/4 - Jethro L.

(If you have a birthday or an anniversary that we haven't celebrated, please email the office with your dates.)

Gratitude for all the health care workers during this time of pandemic.

CONCERNS

And now those people and places that weigh heavy on our hearts... I invite you to say a name or place that is important to you, and know in saying it we hold it in our hearts...

Prayers for those who are still catching COVID...

Prayers for the people of Ukraine, for peaceful solutions and for peace worldwide.

Prayers for Emily P.'s husband's family as they gather to remember his aunt and her husband who passed from Covid in March.

Prayers for Valerie's friend **Beth C.** who was diagnosed with breast cancer.

Prayers for Kate C.'s brother Mick who is back home.

Prayers for Cathie M. (former Discovery Preschool aide), **her husband Laddie and family.** Laddie has been diagnosed with cancer.

Prayers for Hazel D.'s cousin Robin; he is diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer.

Prayers for Hazel's grandson Spencer.

Prayers for Kate and Jackie's friend, Melanie who has bladder cancer and will be needing surgery and chemo.

Prayer for Kristen W., diagnosed with colon and liver cancer, undergoing chemo treatments.

Prayers for Brenda K. who continues to struggle with cancer.

Jackie P.'s friend Dave asks for prayers for his wife **Rosie**, suffering from dementia.

Prayers for Tom T.

Judi M's continued recovery at home, and for **Michael** who looks after her.

Continue to pray for our homebound members: **Clark P., Vi D., Darryl S.**



- 4 Jethro L.
- 8 Taylor J.
- 9 Linus D.
- 10 Sebastian L.
- 23 Jonathan J.
- 30 Arlene K.



28 Matt & Sarah A.

(If you have a birthday or an anniversary that we haven't announced, please email the office with your dates.)

LINKS TO RESOURCES

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE UCC

<https://www.scncc.org/>

Keep up with the latest OFFICIAL SOURCES for news on the current Coronavirus pandemic:

Official California Covid-19 Response Site: <https://covid19.ca.gov/>

Centers for Disease Control: <https://www.cdc.gov/>

World Health Organization: <https://www.who.int/>

RESOURCES for ANTI-RACISM

<https://www.scncc.org/responding-to-racism>

<https://www.pbs.org/weta/reconstruction/>