

# **Los Altos**

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## **United Church of Christ**

### *Windows*

*the monthly newsletter of Los Altos United Church of Christ*

**June 2022**

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#### **Highlighted In this issue...**

- Greetings

- Masking Policy Update

- Worship **NOTE: A NEW LIVESTREAM LINK!**

**Sunday Morning Worship IN-PERSON AND LIVESTREAM ON**

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

- Graduation Recognition

- Summer Book Study

- Communion at the Beach?

- Reports

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Greetings Los Altos Friends,

I've been trying to find the words to say with regards to yet another school shooting and have had trouble articulating what has already been spoken as powerful prophetic calls to "end the cycle of violence" as well as words of comfort to the hurting and the grieving. As I offer this prayer from the national officers of the United Church of Christ, please know that we are here as a community to be present and to hold space.

*"In utter and irrepressible grief we offer these words, giving collective voice to the anguish we all feel.*

*God, hear our prayer:*

*For the [nineteen] children now dead;*

*For the [two faculty] now dead;*

*For the parents, family, and friends who will spend the rest of their lives aching every night from the weight of this;*

*For a schoolhouse rendered trauma-laden and grief-stricken in a matter of minutes, whose students will suffer PTSD in the wake of this tragedy;*

*For the caregivers in Uvalde now burdened with the task of managing the shared and collective grief of a traumatized community who love their children;*

*For those who feel the new burden of useless guilt in the aftermath of this, wondering what else they could have done to prevent this;*

*For the nation, so in love with our weapons that we continue to tolerate these mass shootings and the grief they inflict without ever building the collective will needed to address it fully;*

*For the world, suffering a massive and collective grief of its own and witnessing acts of cruelty daily too numerous to fully process.*

*Heal our gaping wounds.*

*Restore our sense of compassion.*

*Quiet the restlessness within us.*

*Settle the building righteous anger.*

*Quicken the desire for peace.*

*Remove the chasm that sees race and religion and political persuasion as the marks of a person's worth and value.*

*End the cycle of violence that begets more violence.*

*Silence the voices that broker in fear and division and create the hatred we see mounting everywhere between us.*

*Quiet the troubled soul thinking of grabbing the next gun and ending innocent lives.*

*Empower us all to act now, refusing to wait for the next horror show before*

*we change the laws that make guns and their discharge so accessible.  
Turn anguish to action; our rage to restoration; our hatred to love; our grief to hope.*

*Let it never happen again. Ever. How much more can we bear, O Lord? How much more can we endure.*

*Be our rock of refuge.*

*Be our light of inspiration.*

*Be our beacon of hope.*

*Be the arms of love that hold us until the pain recedes.*

*Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.*

*Amen.”*

*The National Officers of the United Church of Christ:*

*The Rev. Dr. John C. Dorhauer*

*General Minister and President*

*The Rev. Traci Blackmon*

*The Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson*

*Associate General Ministers*

Lifting you all in light and in prayer,

Pastor Kyle

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### **Masking Policy Update**

The Covid-19 Response Team and the Leadership Council met on Monday, May 23.

After much discussion, taking into account city and county guidelines, current COVID-19 positivity rates and the congregational survey results, the Leadership Council has voted that masks will be optional in Sunday worship, choir, Sunday School and the nursery as of Sunday, May 29, 2022.

We support individuals' choice to wear or not wear masks and we will be respectful of one another's choice; as we trust that you are making the most informed decision for yourself and your family. While masking is optional, we remember that our highest call is to love God, love our neighbor as we love ourselves and caring for the most vulnerable in our midst.

We do also ask that you please be mindful if you are feeling ill or are experiencing symptoms of any kind to consider staying home and joining us online.

All that being said, we will continue to monitor city and state mandates and revisit our masking policy if conditions and/or guidelines and mandates change.

With Christ's Peace,  
Rev. Kyle Tade  
Ginger Joseph - Moderator  
Judy Ekmalian - Vice-Moderator  
And the Leadership Council

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**Join us May 29, 2022  
SUNDAY WORSHIP In Person and Livestream!**

[CLICK HERE FOR THE May 29th ORDER OF WORSHIP](#) (Print or view on your device)

**A couple of notes:**

**If you have a Facebook Account - please follow this link:**

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

**If you do not have a Facebook account, the video from Sunday's worship will be shared by Sunday evening at the following**

**link:** <https://www.facebook.com/losaltosucc>

**If the service hasn't been posted, please keep checking.**

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**Pentecost!**

Sunday, June 5 - Wear the color **RED** for Pentecost Sunday!

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**Graduation Recognition**

Graduation is right around the corner! We want to recognize all of the hard work that the students in our midst have accomplished.

If you, or someone you know that's a member or friend of this community is

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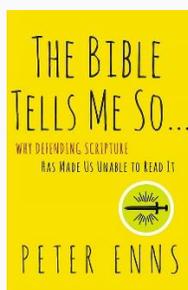
graduating from a school, a trade program, with their bachelors, masters or doctorate, we want to know and to help them and you celebrate this special occasion!

Please email Pastor Kyle at [pastor.los.altos@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.los.altos@gmail.com) with:

- Their name
- Program or school their graduating from
- Any future plans?

We'll recognize them in worship on Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup> and celebrate their accomplishments following worship.

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## Summer Book Study

Our summer book study will be “The Bible Tells Me So” by Peter Enns

We'll be meeting twice weekly:

In-Person - Wednesdays 10am in Patterson Hall  
Zoom - Wednesdays 7pm using the following link:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87376761552?pwd=bi8vWTFka01ic1pIKzNiejFVcU56Zz09>

Meeting ID: 873 7676 1552

Passcode: 813027

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,87376761552# US (San Jose)

+12532158782,,87376761552# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

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## Communion...at the Beach???

I will be holding a monthly sunrise communion service at 6:15(ish)am at Belmont Shore Beach - meet in the parking lot off of Laverne and Ocean Blvd for a time of prayer, meditation and communion. These will be “Bring Your Own Communion” services, so grab a blanket or a chair, your communion elements and join us for some quiet time together.

We'll meet on:

June 5

July 3

August 7

September 4



Are you in need of a ride to church? Are you willing and able to provide someone a ride to church? As we start to re-open we're putting together a list of both. Please contact Pastor Kyle at: 562-596-6718 or via email [pastor.los.altos@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.los.altos@gmail.com)

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## 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](https://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>

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### 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.

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### 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](mailto: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](mailto:jlekmalian@gmail.com) and let her know.

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## 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](https://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.



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## OFFICE HOURS

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](mailto:office@losaltosucc.com) or [pastor.los.altos@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.los.altos@gmail.com).

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## 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>

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I am happy to say that after two long years of no summer camp due to COVID, our kids are finally able to attend again. This year, July 10-16th, we will have 7 kids attend Pilgrim Pines Summer Camp. Our attendees this year are Nicolas A., Sidney A., Seth D., Benjamin J., Taylor J., Lindsey K. and Katelyn W.

This year thanks to our amazing church family bringing in their recycling have made it possible for each of our kids to receive a sponsorship to go towards their camp registration. A big thank you to all who have been bringing in their recycling. Without you all our kids would not have been able to receive the sponsorship that they got.

Sumer Lesser  
Youth Coordinator

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## C A NURTURE E

### Expectations

By *TonieLynn Palermo*

Let us bask in each other's light of pure mind and soul as we journey along our individual paths. May we bring exaltation to others and walk with a humble step each day without negative thoughts.

Let us not dwell on the level of pressure with injections of high introspection or allow expectations of self or others to cast a negative shadow on our narrative. Look towards an optical that allows each of us to shine and embody our genuine spirit to convene in pure and organic relationships as we light the way for one another.

We should try to accept all without expectation or judgement for a peaceful journey. The reality for one person is often misunderstood by others. It is when we walk together we gain some understanding of each others reality. The real message is that we must not judge and not hold others accountable for actions we do not fully understand.

It is important that we allow ourselves to live with purpose while exercising self care and not hold ourselves in precluded judgment of enjoying the journey in the moment and not fixed on each step along the way.



Hello LAUCC,

Can you believe we are entering our last month of the school year! Time flies when you are busy learning and having fun! We will be having End of the Year programs on our last days of school in the sanctuary.

Yellow Room: June 22 at 11:00am  
T/TH Blue Room: June 23 at 10:00am  
T/TH Red Room: June 23 at 11:30am  
MWF Blue Room: June 24 at 10:00am  
MWF Red Room: June 24 at 11:30am

Each class will have their own event with limited guests and face coverings will be required for all guests aged 2 and older; we will survey parents regarding student masking during their performance.

Each class will perform a song or two and will receive a certificate for completing the school year. We will also pass out gift bags from the preschool as a thank you for joining us this year. Many of our kiddos will be moving on to kindergarten in the fall. We are so proud of them! All our students did an amazing job this year!

Our enrollment is still open for the new school year starting in the fall. We have a few openings in our 3-day program on Monday, Wednesday and Friday for 4 year olds. Due to LBUSD changes to their ETK, TK and Kindergarten programs, we may see some fluctuation in our enrollment; these programs will now offer full-day options and age requirements have changed. We will remain optimistic and hope to fill any openings by September.

Kindly  
Roxy Menendez  
Director

(562)596-2108  
[discoverylaucc.com](http://discoverylaucc.com)

*When we play, we learn.*



## **CELEBRATIONS**

*For the Blessings in our lives...*

**BIRTHDAYS:** 5/31 - Char C.; 6/1 - Cheryl H.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** 5/30 - Dave & Cheryl H.

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

**Gratitude** for all 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 with you...*

**Prayers** for those who are still catching COVID...

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

Judy E. asks for **prayers** for **Alex E.** who has been diagnosed with COVID.

**Prayers** for Linda A.'s cousin **Nancy**, Nancy's husband Terry has passed.

Pamela asks for **prayers** for **Colleen** as she battles another round of cancer and complications from an eye surgery.

**Prayers** for Tonie's friend **Cheryl** who is battling cancer and ended up with a staph infection from her port and for friend Scott's mom, **Karen H.** battling cancer.

**Prayers** for Cindy's brother **Butch** who is in poor health.

**Prayers** for Stephen and Roberta's friend, **Raquel D.**

**Prayers** for Sally's friend **Maren P.**

**Prayers** for **Marilou and family** on the passing of Kenny.

**Prayers** for Valerie's friend **Hannah G.** who is receiving treatment for colon cancer.

**Prayers** for Kate C.'s brother **Mick.**

**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**, and another friend's granddaughter, **Sophia Rose.**

**Prayer** for **Kristen W.**, continues cancer diagnosis and treatment.

**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.

**Judi M's** continued recovery, and for **Michael** who looks after her.  
Continue to pray for our homebound member: **Vi D.**

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- 1 Cheryl H.
- 8 Elaine T.
- 9 Hazel D.
- 10 Linda A.
- 13 Michael B.
- 21 Steve D.



- 12 Tonie & Denise P.
- 18 Kate & Jackie C.

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

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## **LINKS TO RESOURCES**

### **SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE UCC**

<https://www.scncucc.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**

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

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

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