

Grapevine

Worship God. Equip Disciples. Love and Serve the World.



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“Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”

Matthew 25:40

This year has brought many challenges, to be sure. The latest has, perhaps, struck closer to home than the others. As I write this, we're praying that the Blue Ridge fire will pass us by without doing harm. Several of our families have evacuated and are waiting for the word that they can return to their homes.

Our deacons were quick to action, calling members and friends of the church to check on them and see if anything was needed. I was touched to hear reports that some members made generous offers to help a friend or a stranger, or to offer someone a place to stay. Monday night the doors of the church were open, and the lights were on. Two families were provided with assistance. This is what it means to be church! We embodied what the word Sanctuary originally meant!

In the month of November, we will study Matthew 25 together in worship and celebrate mission month. This year, we'll be focusing on ministries that assist people who are homeless. We know Jesus calls us to offer help to friends and to strangers. This last week has brought us in touch with our own vulnerabilities. It is my hope that will stretch our hearts to extend compassion and generosity to others.

This year has been full of challenges and it has tested our faith. But two blessings shine through when I think of our life together here at YLPC. The first is that we've honed our focus on what things are most essential to the life of our congregation. The second has flowed from that first realization: we have expanded our mission work in the community in meaningful ways. Take a look at what follows in this newsletter and listen to our online worship services in November for opportunities to engage more deeply in "doing unto others." For when we show love, mercy, and compassion to another person we are drawing close to Jesus Christ.

With you in ministry,
Lynn.

Safe Gathering Team Report



After two successful outdoor worship services, the Safe Gathering Team has devoted their attention to offering in person worship in our Sanctuary on Sunday mornings. Our online worship will continue to be available every Sunday morning. Those who wish, can gather in person to participate in essentially the same service. We'll have a "soft opening" on November 8 to perfect our operations. We hope to welcome those of you who wish to come to worship on the first Sunday of Advent, November 29.

Alternative Giving

By Tom Hoban

Learn about 3 tax favorable, tax deductible ways of giving to YLPC:

- 1 IRA required minimum distribution (RMD) direct to YLPC, avoid taking into income then not deducting it if no itemized deductions are no longer used.
- 2 Donation of appreciated stock direct to YLPC, avoid taking into income then deducting it.
- 3 Naming YLPC in your will or trust.

Join us on November 10 at 4:00 p.m. by Zoom



Still Church

Upcoming Meetings:

Wednesdays @ 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday, November 4 @ 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, November 4 @ 7:00 p.m.
Friday, November 6 @ 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 7 @ 9:00 a.m.
Sunday, November 8 @ 9:30 a.m.
Monday, November 9, 16 & 30 @ 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, November 10 @ 9:30 a.m.
Tuesday, November 10 @ 4 p.m.
Tuesday, November 10 @ 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, November 11 @ 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday, November 11 @ 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, November 18 @ 4:00 p.m.
Thursday, November 5, 12 & 19 @ 9:30 a.m.
Thursday, November 5, 12 & 19 @ 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, November 7 & 21 @ 8:00 a.m.
Saturday, November 14 @ 9:00 a.m. - noon
Saturday, November 14 @ 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, November 17 @ 7:00 p.m.

Outdoor Teen Yoga
Deacons' meeting by Zoom
Worship Committee by Zoom
Youth Vision Summit Open Meeting option I
Youth Vision Summit Open Meeting option II
"Soft Open" Worship in the Sanctuary
Safe Gathering Team
Priscilla Circle by Zoom
Alternative Giving by Zoom
Esther Circle by Zoom
Mission Committee meeting by Zoom
Stewardship meeting by Zoom
Caregiver's meeting
TLC Bible study by Zoom
Gloria Ringers Rehearsal
Men's group
Mission Drop Off
Anxious to Talk About It book group
Session meeting by Zoom



Renovation Team

By Karla Peterson

During this pandemic, our youth have virtually connected on Sunday evenings. Each Zoom session started with "Highs & Lows" which gave everyone a chance to share both positive and frustrating experiences. Hearing our youth share was the best part of the hour! They are handling this global issue with grace. Starting this fall, we're replacing our weekend meetings with monthly in-person connections. Pumpkin carving was our first socially distant gathering. On November 14, our youth will celebrate Thanksgiving by giving back. They'll be helping out with the Mission Drop-off on November 14 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. We are still church!

Renovation Team Update

The focus of our Renovation Team is to create systems and infrastructure to ensure our youth ministry's long-term effectiveness, and to ensure that our youth ministry clearly communicates its priorities and programs. Resources are being created, events are being scheduled, and registration packets are ready to be filled. A communication audit has been conducted, and norms have been established to best utilize each communication avenue. New communication strategies, tactics and measures of success are also being considered. With Ministry Architect's support, YLPC's Renovation Team is building a solid foundation for our youth ministry.

Vision Summit

The goal of the Vision Summit, November 6-8, is to build clarity and consensus through a fun, positive process that involves key stakeholders in the congregation. We will come out of the process with three documents pertaining to the church's youth ministry:

- Mission Statement** (with results, target audience, and how)
- Values** (those personality traits at which the church goes about youth ministry)
- 3-year goals** (with 1-year benchmarks)

Mark your calendars! We've got two options for everyone to join us. Friday, November 6 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. by Zoom OR Saturday, November 7 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Attention Teens!

Michelle Almeida will be offering teen yoga classes outside at YLPC beginning October 28. She is a 200 hour registered yoga teacher with experience teaching teens and adults. There is limited space so students must sign up in advance. There is also a Zoom option on Monday afternoons for those that would like to practice from home. For more details and registration, contact Michelle Almeida at malmeida4learning@gmail.com.



Outdoor Teen Yoga Classes

Wednesdays at 3:00 pm
Session 1: November 4-November 18
Session 2: December 2-December 16
3 week session - \$30 each

Lunch and Good Conversation

By Michelle Almeida

I am really looking forward to our book study on November 14! We are reading *Anxious to Talk About It* by Carolyn B. Helsel and I think it's going to be a great opportunity for us to have meaningful conversations about racism in America. I am hoping to come away with new ways to start productive conversations about race with friends, family and our community. You can find the book at <https://www.amazon.com/Anxious-Talk-About-Christians-Faithfully/dp/0827200722>. If you would like to read the book and join us for lunch and discussion, please email the church office at info@ylpc.org. We will be meeting Saturday, November 14 at 1:00 p.m. and lunch is included!

Mission

November is Mission month! We are excited to support our community by giving back through several opportunities. We'll also be hearing about our Mission partners through our Moments for Mission in worship.

YLPC's First Alternative Christmas Collection Saturday, November 14, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

We will be collecting funds and items for several of the different projects listed below.

Yorba Linda Food for Families Drop off toilet paper, diapers, wipes and food to support this ministry.

Giving Tree Drive by and pick an ornament off our Giving Tree. You'll have the chance to purchase a Christmas gift for one of the residents of HIS House, or for the students at the new Franklin House.

CityNet: Let's End Homelessness, Together! City Net is in need of hygiene items. The youth will assemble hygiene kits to deliver to CityNet.

YLPC Tamales For Sale Purchase these delicious tamales to take home. Funds raised will go toward the purchase of hygiene items by the Mission Committee.

Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week On November 15-21 look for infographics, quick videos and tributes to essential workers who serve our homeless population. It's a fun and easy way to learn more about this important topic.



For the Holidays, Support a Woman in Need

WISEPlace is an Orange County-based nonprofit leading the effort to end homelessness for unaccompanied women. We provide women with safe transitional and emergency shelter, mental health services, addiction recovery, and employment assistance to help rebuild their lives.

We are always in need of basic personal and household items to keep our space clean and stocked for the women we serve. Consider donating items to help make their journey a little easier. The items on our Amazon Wish Lists can be easily purchased online – and they'll ship directly to WISEPlace. We appreciate your desire to help the vulnerable women of our community. Please click on the link below to donate.

[Holiday Wish List](#)

Facilities

By Mike Jacobs

Despite the heat (and loneliness) on campus, a few projects have been accomplished on and around YLPC. A few intrusive palm trees have been removed along the classrooms, a bothersome sprinkler valve has been repaired, and plans are afoot to accommodate the RV'ers for this year's annual Camp-out.

Due to now having electrical power (albeit temporary), we have discontinued the Campus Watch and Campus Watering teams, and wish to thank all those involved for making those programs such an integral part of our security and beautification at YLPC.

Thanks are in order too for the tireless effort Gil Wolverton has put in around our campus, especially during these recent months. Whether it's trimming palm trees, cleaning BBQ's, or just general maintenance, Gil can be seen constantly caring for the needs of YLPC. Thanks Gil!

Once the weather cools, we will be announcing a Campus Beautification Day for all who would like, and are able, to participate. Many small projects will be available, all designed to beautify our campus to be ready to re-open for indoor worshiping when we can. I'm sure everyone is anxious to get outside and "turn over some dirt", so Facilities will insure there is no shortage of dirt!



October Session Notes

**Session met on October 20 by Zoom video conference call.

- With the sad loss of member Marilyn Johnson, who passed away on 10/10/20, membership is 196.
- Lynn will be taking study leave next week, October 26-30 but will be available, if needed.
- Mission Committee reported Mission Month is in November. Freida Holman was added to the committee.
- Personnel reported that the committee is working on updating the Personnel handbook. Marcia reported contact by a congregant and their concern about the lack of communication in regards to the Safe Gathering and when we will worship in person. The Session discussed this concern at length and Marcia will relay the info to the person.
- Stewardship reported that YLPC continues to do well financially. Budgets for 2021 are being finalized with committees keeping the same budgets from 2020 for 2021. Laurie Stokes was approved as a check signer. September Financials were approved.
- Worship Committee reported the Safe Gathering protocols are in place. Currently, the guideline is no more than 25% of capacity, or approximately 50 people can meet in the Sanctuary. Discussion about communication was held and it was affirmed that with YouTube announcements, Grapevine issues, email blasts and word of mouth, communication is there. In the meantime, creative outdoor worship services are planned and the weekly YouTube worship service will continue.
- Christian Ed reported Ministry Architects and the Renovation Team are hosting meetings on November 6 at 7 p.m. pm and November 7 at 9 a.m. to discuss goals of our youth ministry program. There are also starting a book study of "Anxious to Talk About It" on race issues. Those interested should contact Michelle Almeida.
- Facilities reported that full power should be restored by year's end. The four EZ Up canopies and four tables for the patio have been delivered. The committee approved a "Yoga for Youth" class to be held on campus, outdoors with appropriate waivers.

Chris Hills - Clerk of Session

November Birthdays

Jill Hollon	11/01
Nolan Almeida	11/02
Ryan Connally	11/03
John Riegel	11/05
Zachary Wildey	11/05
Robert King	11/10
William Goran	11/14
Mark Denney	11/16
Ava El-Farra	11/17
Tom Hoban	11/20
Julie Micheli	11/20
Vince Francis	11/21
Karen Keating	11/23
JoD Apitz	11/24
Steve Rice	11/24
Jim Bowman	11/25
Gigi Kelley	11/29

September 2020 Financial Report

OPERATING FUND Summary Results: Through September, we expected to receive \$372,455 and actually received \$393,496. Also through September, we expected to spend \$367,890 and actually spent \$355,370. And reserved \$20,189 for funds budgeted but not spent.

	Operating	Mtg. Reduction	Total
Cash Position	\$ 631,463	\$ 7,467	\$ 638,930
Less: Restricted Funds*	\$ 270,148	\$ -	\$ 270,148
Unrestricted Funds	\$ 361,315	\$ 7,467	\$ 368,782

* Restricted funds are restricted to use for a specific purpose. These include designated gifts, program reserves, payables, reserves for building maintenance, and reserves for unspent program budget.

MORTGAGE REDUCTION FUND Through September, we have received contributions of \$12,400 and paid \$19,514 in principal. The current mortgage balance is \$178,113