LABC
Worship, Witness and Work
...Striving to embody peace and wholeness in a broken world.

TRANSMITTER

OF THE LAKESHORE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH
3534 Lakeshore Avenue, Oakland, CA 94610

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

October, 2022

Grief and Gratitude: Traveling Companions

I was up early on Sunday morning September 11th. A busy day was ahead. The lead television news stories of the morning were of the motorcade carrying the coffin of Queen Elizabeth II through Scotland and somber observances in New York, Washington DC and Pennsylvania commemorating the 21st anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

Both stories served as reminders that grief and gratitude are frequent traveling companions. There was an outpouring of grief from people around the globe upon the death of the 96-year-old Queen of England. In Scotland, people lined the roadways as her coffin passed. With the grief there were also many expressions of gratitude for her fidelity to her work, her years as a global leader, her humor and her delight in her four-legged friends. As the motorcade carrying her coffin traversed the Scottish countryside, it was clear that grief and gratitude traveled together.

At the sites of the September 11 attack the dead were remembered, the first responders were honored, hymns were sung, prayers were offered and speeches were made. All were fitting expressions of the profound grief of that day, the persistent grief that is still with us. Yet, with the grief, there was gratitude. There was gratitude for the courage, the compassion, the connecting which the tragedies evoked. There was gratitude for the rebuilding that has taken place. There was gratitude for the restoration that continues. It was clear that grief and gratitude traveled together.

Our Life Together...continued H. James Hopkins

In the biblical narrative, grief and gratitude frequently travel together. In the Psalms, expressions of grief often give way to songs of gratitude. Psalm 74 is an excellent example. This communal prayer originated with the fall of Jerusalem and the destruction of its temple in 586 BCE. The first section (1-11) of complaint and grief is represented by words like “They set fire to your sanctuary, burned it to the ground” (7a). It is followed by a second section (12-17) of gratitude and confidence represented by words like “Yet God has been my king from ancient days“ (12a).

In the parables of Jesus, grief and gratitude are intermingled. An example is the Parable of the Lost Sheep. In this parable Jesus tells of a shepherd who must leave his flock in order to find one sheep who has wondered away. A lost sheep would have been an occasion for both fear and grief. A caring shepherd would not take such a loss easily or lightly. Jesus then speaks of the joy that comes when the lost is found and the terrified lamb is carried home. When the lost is found there is gratitude.

One reason this parable continues to speak, even to those of us unfamiliar with sheep and shepherds, is that most us are well acquainted with loss and grief. We also are well acquainted with the gratitude that comes with restoration, recovery and remembering.

Grief and gratitude travel together. They intersect. The prayer, the hope of the great religious traditions, and my personal faith as well, is that at their point of intersection grace is born and that is grace which will lead us home.

We do well to consider the ways in which these fellow travelers, grief and gratitude, travel with us.

Peace,
Jim H.

Public Witness: October Opportunities — Allison J Tanner

PUBLIC WITNESS FORUM, October 2, will feature an update from Pastor Tanner on some of her various Public Witness projects, including promoting Apartheid Free Congregations, creating Space For Grace, encouraging Equal Exchange holiday shopping and more!

PUBLIC WITNESS BIBLE STUDY, October 4 and 5, will explore economics in the Bible, the Blue Economy and God's Economy.

VOTE 2022: UNDERSTAND YOUR BALLOT AND VOTE YOUR VALUES – A LABC Justice Jam, October 19, 6:30-8 p.m. in person and online. This Justice Jam will feature a League of Women Voters' unbiased presentation of CA propositions that will appear on the November ballot. It also will highlight the civic, moral, and spiritual responsibilities of voting for communities of care and well-being for all. In addition, it will provide faith analysis and recommend . Learn more so you can make informed decisions this upcoming election. **Register at: tinyurl.com/JusticeJamVote**

PILGRIMAGE TO ANGEL ISLAND, November 5, hosted by Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity – stay tuned for more info!

Pastor of Christian Education — Carolyn Matthews

Children and Youth Ministry Workers

"*People were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them, and when the disciples saw it, they sternly ordered them not to do it.* [16]*But Jesus called for them and said, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.* [17]*Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it*." (Luke 18:15-17, NRSVUE)

This scripture passage is familiar to many of us. Jesus goes on to pronounce a severe punishment on anyone who would harm a child.

In 2021, AB506 was passed by the California State Legislature. This law describes guidelines for "youth serving organizations." Due to the fact we have programs that include children and youth, Lakeshore falls under the stipulations in the law. The good news is that we have some of the policies in place, one which is a documented "safe church policy," which included a background check. However, there are a couple of items that will need to be added to the policy and put in place as we move forward with our various programs.

The law calls for organizations to **provide sexual abuse awareness training** and to fingerprint those who work with our children. Because members of the Christian Education Department may be called upon to fill in or cover a class, anyone who serves in the Department will need to be fingerprinted and take the training as well as have the background check done. If someone from the Nominating Committee asks you to consider serving in the Department, please understand that this will be part of the process in becoming a part of the Department.

In the spirit of the scripture text above, this is a means of keeping our children safe and fairly assessing those who want to work with children and youth. The training can be done online and we have partnered with "MinistrySafe" to assure that the training meets California standards. We will work on helping our volunteers to fulfill the requirements of these additional guidelines.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email.

Ministering Together in Christ,
Pastor Carolyn

Church Calendar for October

Department Meetings:
Educational Ministry October 2, 8:45 Zoom;
Stewardship October 9. 12:30 Zoom;
Social Concerns October 12, 6 Zoom;
Worship and Congregational Care October 25, 7:05 Zoom.

Meetings and Events:
Blessing of the Animals October 1, 2 Church Steps.
Public Witness Forum October 2, Following Worship Sanctuary and Zoom **(**Pastor Tanner's Zoom Account).
Youth Fellowship Meeting October 7, 7 Family Room.
Forever Young October 8, 1:30 Family Room and Zoom.
Sanctuary Working Group October 11, 7 Pastor Tanner's Zoom Account.
[**Evergreen Association Annual Meeting** October 13-15 Denver.]
[Flick Flack October 14, 6:30 Barbara Bowman Residence/Zoom].
Hunger Task Force Business Meeting October 16, 12:30 Family Room and Zoom.
Church Council October 18, 7:05 Zoom.
Justice Jam October 19, 6:30-8 Sanctuary and Zoom.
LCC Advisory Board October 26, 5:30 Zoom.
LABC Reads October 29, 9-10 Zoom.
Harvest Festival October 29, 10.

Weekly Meetings:
Sunday at 11:45 AM - Adult Bible Study, Zoom and Church Library
T**uesday* at 6:00 PM** - Bible Study, Zoom
Wednesday* at 10:30 AM – Bible Study and Prayer (same as Tuesday), Zoom
Thursday at 6:00 PM - Together in Spirit Bible Study, Zoom
Saturday at 10:00 AM – Time for Prayer, Zoom

***First Tuesday and Wednesday of each month, Public Witness Bible Study.**

The church office is closed on Fridays. Pastor Hopkins' day off is Friday.
Transmitter deadline is **October 17** (October 27 mailing)

October 2022 Preaching Schedule

Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church
Worship 10 a.m.

October 2 (World Communion Sunday, World Mission Offering) Pastor Matthews, Preaching

"Restore, Refresh, Renew: A New Way of Being"
Psalm 51:10-12
Living out our church theme in the coming year; making rest and times of quiet a part of our spiritual practice.

October 9 (Latinx Heritage Coffee Hour) Pastor Hopkins, Preaching

"A Word from the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty"
Luke 17:11-19
Today's story from the life of Jesus takes place in the territory between Samaria and the Galilee. Even in territory that was potentially hostile to him, Jesus acted with love.

October 16 (Closing Sunday of Latinx Heritage) Pastor Tanner, Preaching

"**God's Future"**
Revelation 21:1-5a; 22:1-6
As we live in uncertain, troubling times, we can find comfort in the future God promises, and invites us to create together.

October 23 Pastor Hopkins, Preaching

"A Word from the Evergreen Baptist Association"
Luke 18:9-14
We all have a little Pharisee in us. We all have a little tax collector in us. We all need a little Jesus in us.

October 30 Reverend Dave Robinson, Preaching

Annual Meeting—Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches

The Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches, of which Lakeshore is a member, will be holding its annual meeting October 13-15 in Denver, CO. Pastor Carolyn, together with Wim Mauldin, will be presenting a workshop on the topic of reparations.

Kids and Youth Korner

How clearly the sky reveals God's glory!
How plainly it shows what he has done!
God made a home in the sky for the sun;
it comes out in the morning like a happy bridegroom,
like an athlete eager to run a race. (Psalm 19:1, 4b-5)

October Greetings to You All:

This month brings us into the fall season with the trees shedding their leaves – in it we see the beauty of the world God has created. We also are heading toward big celebrations: Halloween, Thanksgiving, and of course, Christmas! It is a busy time at the church, too.

This month is the Harvest Festival on Saturday, October 29. We will meet here at the church for a time of food, fun, and crafts. It will be a great kickoff to the activities of the next two months when we decorate the church and prepare for Christmas and New Year. We also will have the opportunity to show our love and care for those around us as we prepare for the Thanksgiving baskets and "Sponsor a Family" during the Christmas season.

Our prayer for you is that you will be safe, well, and as you learn that God loves and cares for you, we hope that this same love and care will be shared with others.

With Joy and Hope,
Pastor Carolyn

October Youth Birthdays	
2	Estella Soto
16	Isaac Schelin
18	Huxley Templeton
23	Olivio Martin
24	Elizabeth Alexander

Vote 2022: Understand Your Ballot and Vote Your Values

6:30 to 8 p.m., Wednesday, October 19

Votar 2022: Comprenda su Boleta y Vota tus Valores

6:30 a 8 p.m., miércoles 19 de octubre

Reunión de justicia

Justice Jam

Make informed decisions in the upcoming election! This event will feature a League of Women Voters' unbiased presentation of CA propositions that will appear on your November ballot. We will also highlight the civic, moral, and spiritual responsibilities of voting for communities of care and well-being for all as well as share faith analyses and recommendations for consideration from Faith In Action East Bay and other partner organizations.

A hybrid event on Zoom and at Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church, 3534 Lakeshore Ave, Oakland. Zoom link: tinyurl.com/JusticeJamVote

Un evento híbrido en Zoom y en Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church, 3534 Lakeshore Avenue, Oakland. Enlace zoom: tinyurl.com/JusticeJamVote

¡Tome decisiones informadas en las próximas elecciones! Este evento contará con una presentación imparcial de propuestas de CA por parte de la Liga de Mujeres Votantes que aparecerán en su boleta electoral de noviembre. También destacaremos las responsabilidades cívicas, morales y espirituales de votar por comunidades de cuidado y bienestar para todos, y compartiremos análisis de fe y recomendaciones para su consideración de Faith In Action East Bay y otras organizaciones asociadas.

*Justice Jams are educational events covering pressing community issues of justice organized by Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church. / *Justice Jams son eventos educativos que cubren temas comunitarios apremiantes de justicia organizados por Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church.*

FAITH IN ACTION EAST BAY

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

LAKESHORE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

Blessing of the Animals

Lakeshore's Blessing of the Animals is a fun, informal gathering celebrating the sacred connection between humans and their animal companions. It is held annually on a Saturday close to October 3rd, the birthday of St. Francis of Assisi. This year it will be held on October 1st at 2 p.m. on the church steps. Bring your companion, or a picture of your companion, and join us for this year's blessing.

October Outreach Offering

LABC's October Outreach Offering is the World Mission Offering (WMO). Each year, International Ministries (IM) raises approximately $1.2 million in WMO funds, which, together with individual gifts, investment income, legacy gifts and ongoing development and fundraising, keeps the work of IM's global servants and partners and other ministries moving forward.

This year's World Mission Offering theme is "God Is Doing Something New." In most parts of the world, the COVID-19 pandemic has not resolved, and IM's global servants are up close and personal with many desperate needs heightened by the pandemic.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, a broken water pump at a mission hospital meant no one could access water unless they carried it, six gallons at a time, two miles uphill from a spring. Global Servant Wayne Niles and a team were able to install a solar-powered pump. People came from everywhere to receive water during the dry season when it had not rained for months.

Please consider how each of us at Lakeshore can contribute to this year's World Mission Offering.

Sunday Adult Bible Study

The lessons this month continue chronicling Jesus' journey to Jerusalem. This quarter's lessons have called us to consider our personal walk of faith and our relationship with God, as well as with others. The Gospel of Luke will continue to guide us as we develop ways to be inclusive and learn to see people through the eyes of Jesus.

October 2 – **RECIPROCITY**: Freely Giving and Receiving (Luke 17:5-10)
October 9 – **HUMANITY**: Wanted: One and All (Luke 17:11-19)
October 16 – **FORTITUDE**: Will *We* be Found Faithful (Luke 18:1-8)
October 23 – **CONTRITION**: *Self-Righteousness* Fails Every Time (Luke 18:9-14)
October 30 – **IMPARTIALITY**: The Last of the Least of the Lost (Luke 19:1-10)

The adult bible study class meets on Sunday after worship at 11:45 am, in the church library and on Zoom. Please join us!

Flick Flack

October's gathering for Flick Flack will take place at the home of Barbara Bowman on Friday, October 14 at 6:30. The address is 1322 Crown Dr., Alameda. The film chosen is *tick tick BOOM*! This drama/musical film is based on the semi-autobiographical rock monologue written by Jonathan Larson, who's best known for writing the musical sensation "Rent." It is directed by Lin-Manuel Miranda, best known for writing the era-defining show "Hamilton." The film garnered both Golden Globe and Oscar nominations and leading actor, Andrew Garfield, won the Golden Globe for best actor.

Viewing will begin at 7:00. Those who prefer to participate via Zoom may secure the film in their home, available through several sources, including Netflix. Discussion is to begin at 9:00. Please let Barbara know by Wednesday, October 12 if you would like to attend (bbow1@comcast.net or 510.769.0210). Let her know if you plan to attend the Zoom discussion at 9 p.m., and she will make sure you get the Zoom link. Bring an appetizer to share.

Lakeshore Advent Devotional 2022

Once again we are calling on our members and friends to help us produce a devotional series for Advent that is uniquely Lakeshore. The theme for Advent is a variation of the church theme for this year: *Advent: A Season of Remembrance and Restoration*. The submissions will be published via email each day with a limited number that will be printed. If you would like to participate, please contact Pastor Carolyn (carolyn@labcoakland.org) by October 13; we also will need to know the day and text you would like to write on. We will need your devotional by November 5. Thank you for considering taking a part in sharing your voice and heart with the Lakeshore community. (Click here for the list of scripture texts and dates)

Hunger Task Force Corner

Save the date: the Fall Business Meeting for the Hunger Task Force is Sunday, October 16 at 12:30 p.m. We will be in-person in the Family Room and on the Church Zoom account.

We're planning for our Thanksgiving and Christmas programs. If you would like to help, please join us!

Berkeley School of Theology Celebrates 150 Years

BERKELEY

BST is celebrating their 150th anniversary and will hold a celebration October 20-22. To register go to: https://www.bst.edu/

Church Council Notes

1. Justice Jam Wednesday, October 19 to discuss and help us understand ballot measures and propositions, including from a faith perspective. There will be representatives from The League of Women Voters and Faith in Action East Bay.

2. Working on compliance with AB 506. Everyone working with children and youth must go through training, have a background check and be fingerprinted. Everything is in place except the fingerprinting which is in the process of being set up. There are videos and a quiz for training. See Pastor Carolyn if you need to do this.

3. Pastor Jim will be traveling in October: 10/2-10/4 to the Baptist Joint Committee on Religious Freedom in Washington D.C.; 10/13-10/16 to the Evergreen Association Annual Meeting in Denver, CO along with Pastor Carolyn.

4. Pastor Allison is currently in Kansas City attending the American Baptist Home Mission Society meeting, lifting up Public Witness. This past weekend she was in Philadelphia discussing the situation for Christians in Palestine—looking at "Apartheid Free Churches" and what we can do nationally about the situation in Palestine.

5. Same safety protocols continue - masks are strongly encouraged in indoor group settings.

6. Budget—overall good; however, giving for September, month-to-date, is down about two-thirds. Use of Mobile Mission continues to increase every month.

7. Educational Ministries: evaluated the retreat. Annual Daisy Funderburk award to be presented at Homecoming. All members of the Educational Ministries Department will comply with AB506 since any could be called upon to work with children or youth at any time.

8. Hospitality and Events: participated in the Saturday clean up. There are several upcoming coffee hours: Homecoming and the first and second Sundays in October. Second Sunday will honor Latin American Heritage month.

Church Council Notes...continued

9. Outreach and Membership: hosted coffee hour Sept. 18. They are beginning their web marketing campaign starting with Pride.

10. Social Concerns: looking at their remaining undesignated allocation. There were a couple of allocations over the last few months: one to BST for their 150th anniversary; sponsoring the MECA ride Pastor Allison took in May and to Mayan International Seminary in Mexico where Pastor Allison spent some of her time during her study leave.

11. Stewardship: approved $1,800 to put a gate in across the Barnett Hall driveway to prevent van theft. They are looking for an iron worker for this and a railing up into the chancel. There was a question about when organ refurbishment will continue - answer was after the budget for 2023 is completed.

12. Worship and Congregational Care: next decorations will be for Latin American Heritage month, followed by Harvest, then Advent. The Department welcomes anyone who wants to assist. Please contact Paige Bence or Chuck Johnston if you are interested in helping decorate for any of these seasons.

—Marie Johnson, Moderator

From the Mail

Hi Pastor Jim!!
I just wanted you to know that I received the scholarship check! I thank you and the church for always supporting me.

Sincerely,
Jackie Cinco

Thanks to all those who attended the Homecoming Luncheon Sunday, who provided food, and who helped with setup and cleanup. Except for a few memorial services, I think this was the largest gathering we have had since the start of the pandemic. It was a lovely “family“ affair!

—Paige Bence

Seafarers of the Golden Gate (SMGG) - Excerpts from Recent Correspondence

Dear Friends of Seafarers Ministry of the Golden Gate and the International Maritime Center,

First, we would like to convey our great thanks and appreciation for your continued support for our Christmas at Sea Ditty Bag Program for seafarers. We are fast approaching the third winter holiday season since the COVID crisis began in 2020. Seafarers are still out on their ships keeping global trade moving. They are still toiling at difficult jobs under rough conditions onboard ship. Like the rest of us, they still worry about war, climate change and economic hardship. They still miss their families and loved ones – even more.

Seafarers Ministry of the Golden Gate and the International Maritime Center will still support those seafarers who are away from home during the winter holidays and Christmas with our Christmas at Sea Ditty Bag program.

However, due to COVID and other outbreaks, we currently do not have consistent access to all the ships. We are not able to make predictable schedules for our chaplains and ship visitors to make ship visits. Therefore, we will be doing a few things differently this year for Christmas at Sea. We ask you to hold off on bringing ditty bags and supplies to the Maritime Center. .

The most prized gifts that seafarers appreciate are “SIM Cards”. International SIM Cards allow seafarers to communicate directly with faraway loved ones with calls, texts and videos. The SIM Cards are sometimes affordable but sometimes costly for the seafarers who often send most of their earnings back home. We would like to present SIM Cards as gifts to as many seafarers as possible this season. We invite your congregation to make an additional cash contribution of $250 to help us purchase SIM Cards for the crew. SMGG-IMC will match each $250 contribution we receive from our church partners with a gift from one of our corporate partners. Looking forward to working together again for Christmas at Sea 2022.

—Robert A. Wilkins,
Chief Program Officer, Seafarers Ministry of the Golden Gate
Executive Director, International Maritime Center

NOTE: If you would like to make a contribution for Seafarers, please make a donation through LABC and designate it for Seafarers Ministry.

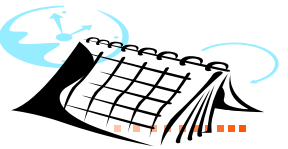
OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to all October birthday folk!

1	George Harper
2	Dale Edmondson
3	Mikki Boyd
	Carol Glann
	Chad Gurney
6	Rick McKillop
7	'Lola Afolayan
10	Joel Reyes
14	Matt Henry
	Ken Kirkey
15	Sunder Singh
19	Linda Moody
20	Renee Muckaroy
22	Jan Scott
25	Elizabeth Harrison
28	Aisha Hamilton
	Evan Wilkinson
29	Leilah Clark
30	Bjoe Morris
31	Ratna Singh

Save the Dates:

The following are important upcoming events that we hope you won't miss:



November

5 Pilgrimage to Angel Island
6 All Saints Sunday
20 Thanksgiving Sunday/Pledge Sunday/Quarterly Business Meeting
27 First Sunday in Advent

December

18 Blue Christmas Service
24 Christmas Eve Service (TBD)

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OF THE LAKESHORE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH
3534 Lakeshore Avenue, Oakland, CA 94610

CHURCH STAFF

H. James Hopkins, Senior Pastor
Kay Baxter, Business Manager
Mikki Boyd, Minister of Music
Stan Fong, Organist
Sandra Lee, Ministry Associate
Tyrone Mack, Sexton
Carolyn Matthews, Pastor of Christian Education
Allison J. Tanner, Pastor of Public Witness
Rae Rita F. Thompson, Lakeshore Children's Center Director
Charlene Wolf, Staff Assistant

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