



LARCHMONT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*The Vision of Larchmont Church is to be a vibrant, engaging, and inclusive church that follows Jesus Christ.*

**January 11, 2026**

**First Sunday After the Epiphany**

†Please stand as you are able

Prelude

**As the Deer**

Martin Nystrom

arr. by Roger House

Announcements and Greetings

†Passing the Peace

†Bringing in the Light of Christ

†Processional Hymn **When in Our Music God is Glorified** (vv. 1, 2, 3, 5) No. 68

†Introit

**Love Has Come**

No. 3059

*Love has come and never will leave us! Love is life everlasting and free.*

*Love is Jesus within and among us. Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.*

*Love! Love! Love is the gift of Heaven! Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!*

†Call To Worship

Liz Smith, Worship Leader

**Leader:** If the human body, body of blood and muscle, is to live, it needs salt.

**People:** **If the body of Christ, body of peace and justice, is to live, it needs us!**

**Leader:** If the earthly creation, bustling and blooming, is to flourish, it needs the sun's light.

**People:** **If the new creation we are in Christ is to flourish, it needs the Spirit's light!**

**Leader:** Jesus says we are salt of the earth, light of the world.

**People:** **Our faith, our love, our hope – essential as salt and light.**

**Leader:** But if salt isn't salty?

**People:** **It isn't what it's meant to be.**

**Leader:** And if a light doesn't shine?

**People:** **It isn't what it's meant to be.**

**Leader:** Jesus says we are salt of the earth, light of the world. Briny and bright, we are God's faithful people.

**People:** **We shall be who we are meant to be in Christ: a welcoming oasis, a compassionate community, a justice-making people, giving glory to God!**

## Prayer for the Day

God of mystery and of judgment, who has made us to be salt and light in a tasteless, shadowed world, guide us in this time of worship. Grant us understanding and spiritual discernment so that others may see your good works through us, give you the glory, and be moved to serve and love you. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Rev. Cooper

The Lord's Prayer

Children's Message

Cathy Coleman

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 5:13-16

Worship Leader

Leader: The Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

Anthem

*Gaelic Blessing*

John Rutter

*Deep peace of the running wave to you,*

*Deep peace of the flowing air to you,*

*Deep peace of the quiet earth to you,*

*Deep peace of the shining stars to you,*

*Deep peace of the gentle night to you,*

*moon and stars pour their healing light on you.*

*Deep peace of Christ the light of the world to you.*

Sermon

**"3 Dead Ends - 1 Way Forward"**

Rev. Fran Cooper

†Hymn

*Bring Forth the Kingdom*

No. 2190 (TFWS)

Celebrating Our Offerings

Offering Prayer (unison)

Dear Heavenly Father, as we build for the future today,  
may our gifts shine Your light and show Your way.

Help us to serve as living stones,  
our work to be your vibrant home. Amen.

Offertory

*Holy, Holy, Holy!*

John B Dykes

arr. Roger House

## THIS WEEK AT LARCHMONT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

### Sunday, January 11, 2026

8:15 a.m. Heavenly Grounds  
8:30 a.m. Nursery  
8:35 a.m. Worship Service  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School Classes  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
11:30 a.m. PIE Meeting (Sanctuary Building Update)

### Monday, January 12, 2026

6:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study at the Wetzel's  
7:00 p.m. Trustees Committee

### Tuesday, January 13, 2026

10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

### Wednesday, January 14, 2025

10:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Bible Study  
1:00 p.m. Red Cross Blood Drive (1-6pm)  
6:00 p.m. Larchmont Ringers  
6:00 p.m. 835LIVE Band Rehearsal  
6:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Prayer Group  
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

### Thursday, January 15, 2026

7:00 p.m. Financial Education: Charitable Giving Plans

### Sunday, January 18, 2026

8:15 a.m. Heavenly Grounds  
8:30 a.m. Nursery  
8:35 a.m. Worship Service  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School Classes  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Use this QR code to give online using your phone. →



## LARCHMONT UMC NOTICES!

January 11, 2026

We welcome Amelia Mendonsa as our guest pianist for today's worship service.

### Together We've Hit the Mark !!!!!!!

Way to go, Larchmont Church!!!! Your year-end gifts to the 2025 Operating Budget have put us over the top! Through your generous support, we have met our financial obligations to the District and Conference, made promised contributions to both LUMC Missions and Trustees Capital, and enabled ministry throughout the year. Your giving in 2025 gives us confidence for a vibrant 2026 at LUMC.

Thank you!

The Staff Parish Relations Committee will be highlighting a member of the LUMC staff each month in 2026. Our staff is very important to the ministries of our church, and the committee felt it was important to recognize them. For January, we are recognizing our Music Director, Karla Robinson. She...

- directs the Chancel Choir
- is a Vocalist
- directs the Bell Choir
- plans LUMC's special music programs
- is Rev. Fran's sketch co-star

Outside of LUMC, Karla...

- is Young Musicians of Virginia Choir Director
- is a soloist
- is a theater music director and performer
- loves a challenge in the kitchen, flower arranging, reading and dreaming of her next trip to Italy.

Thank you, Karla.



### NEW FOLKS INVITED TO GATHER WITH PASTOR FRAN

New to our church community? Meet with Pastor Fran in the Chapel during the Sunday School hour for four Sundays in February during the Sunday School hour (9:30 – 10:15 am). We will talk about faith, church, and our place as disciples of Christ. Contact Pastor Fran for more information and to register: [francooper@vaumc.org](mailto:francooper@vaumc.org).

## Women's Fellowship: Give Love with Gloves

Help the Women's Fellowship donate gloves and mittens for the children of James Monroe Elementary school now until January 26<sup>th</sup>! The collection box is on the Monroe Hallway at the Women's bulletin board.

## Larchmont United Methodist Church: Food Locker Trust Annual Report for 2025

The Food Locker Trust (FLT) has completed its 31st full year of operation. In 2025, we served 228 households, which included 779 individuals (475 adults and 304 children), by giving out 504 bags of groceries.

Special thanks to Meg Ditty, Preschool Director, for organizing two Preschool food drives. In May, 250 child friendly food items were collected; in October, over 150 cereal boxes were donated, stocking our breakfast shelf for months.

In November, the FLT received 9 boxes of free canned and packaged food from the Foodbank sponsored Mayflower Marathon food drive.

The FLT sponsors Second Sunday where we ask the congregation to bring in canned or packaged foods for the Food Locker. The FLT also accepts cash donations which are used to purchase food from the Foodbank at a reduced price. Your response to our call for donations this past fall was truly overwhelming and made it possible to meet the needs of every family or individual who requested food assistance.

Many thanks to Claudia Wade and Demi Wheeler for assisting with food pick-up from the Foodbank and restocking the shelves, Nate Poplin for preparing and giving out bags of food and for general recordkeeping, and Carol Regan, Wina Giddens and Cathy Merritt for keeping us well-stocked with bread. Also, special thanks to Gary Chiaverotti for picking up and unloading our share of boxes from the Mayflower Marathon and to Jonathan Clark, Fred Dobbs, and Richard Freeman for loading/unloading cases of food that we purchase from the Foodbank.

The following continue to serve on the FLT Board: Jonathan Clark, Alice Kissell, Pris Peake, Liz Smith and Claudia Wade, along with Pastor Fran Cooper as ex-officio.

Thank you for your generous and continuing support of the Food Locker's operations.

Yours in Christ,

Pris M. Peake  
Chair, Food Locker Trust

## Red Cross Blood Drive!

Our next Red Cross Blood Drive will be on **January 14, 2026** in the Fellowship Hall from 1-6pm. Contact Traci Shepard ([andrew.shepard1@cox.net](mailto:andrew.shepard1@cox.net)) for more information.

## Our First Financial Education Session for 2026:

### What is a Charitable Giving Plan and Why Should You Have One?



Find out this Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in our Parlor! During this session, we will explore Charitable Giving Plans – what a Charitable Giving Plan is, why you should have one, what it includes, and (easy) steps to establish one. To reserve your seat, contact Gary Chiaverotti ([chiaverotti@aol.com](mailto:chiaverotti@aol.com)) or call Nate in the

Church Office (757-489-8168) by this Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>. INVITE SOMEONE TO COME WITH YOU! This Education Session is a great opportunity to bring a friend or neighbor into our church and meet some of our members.

## Love Goes First: 2026 Stewardship Campaign

As we step into a new year, we have an opportunity to reflect on how God's love has met us, sustained us, and moved us. Our 2026 Stewardship Campaign, following the theme "**Love Goes First**," began last Sunday and will run through February 8<sup>th</sup>. Inspired by the truth that God first loved us, this campaign focuses on how our resources allow us to send that transformative love throughout our entire community. Your gifts do more than keep the lights on at Larchmont Church; they send love out into the streets, schools, and homes of our neighbors.

In a few weeks, when we near the end of our campaign and you pray about your pledge for the coming year, ask yourself: *How can my resources help Love go first in 2026?* We look forward to celebrating our shared vision together on **Faith Dedication Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>**.

## Snow Fun Potluck: January 24th

The Snow Fun Potluck for families with children in elementary school and younger, will be on Saturday, January 24, 5:00-7:00 p.m. We will meet in the Social Hall. Chicken and dessert will be provided. Please bring a side dish to share. After dinner, we will play SNOW THEMED games, activities and crafts. RSVP with the number of people attending, email Cathy Hickman [education@larchmontmc.org](mailto:education@larchmontmc.org) or text 757-286-5671. We hope you can join us!

†Doxology	<i>Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	No. 93
	<i>Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen</i>	
†Response Hymn	<i>This Little Light of Mine</i>	No. 585
†Benediction		
†Benediction Response	<i>Love Has Come (last 2 phrases)</i>	No. 3059
	<i>Love! Love! Love is the gift of Heaven! Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!</i>	
†Postlude	<i>All Glory be to Christ</i>	Auld Lang Syne Scottish traditional

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#### WORSHIP SERIES: LOVE GOES FIRST



Jesus gave us a Great Commission to reach out to people everywhere (Matt 28:19). This task is daunting in a world where negative thoughts about Christianity are so prevalent, where people believe we are the problem, and when so many hate us and all we stand for? If you are tired of just talking about the problems that divide us, this series will help us reach across division and wrestle with how we may find a way forward.

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## Assisting in Worship

**Worship Leader**  
**Children's Worship**  
**Media Tech**  
**Sound Tech**  
**Camera Tech**  
**Trustee of the Month**  
**Sunday Stewards**

**Monday Counters**

**Bus Driver**

**Ushers**

Lead Pastor  
Administrative Assistant  
Pastor of Visitation  
Music Director  
Organist  
Financial Secretary  
Bookkeeper  
Preschool Director  
Children's Ministry Director  
Youth Director  
835LIVE Worship Leader  
Digital Communications  
Housekeeper

**This Sunday**  
**January 11, 2026**  
Liz Smith  
Cathy Coleman  
Sara Morris  
Lucas Seymour  
Jeff Paiste  
Clarise Hicks  
Kami Lannetti  
Pris Peake  
Fred Dobbs  
GM Ziller  
Robert King  
John Fitzwilliam  
Jonathan Clark  
Ben Hatcher  
Gary Chiaverotti  
Bill Lehew

**Next Sunday**  
**January 18, 2026**  
Brian Casey  
Helen Sommer  
Claudia Wade  
Jeff Paiste  
Clarise Hicks  
Ron Vinson  
Linda Dunn  
Brian Casey  
Pris Peake  
Gary Chiaverotti  
Jonathan Clark  
Brian Casey  
Kami Lannetti  
Dave Lannetti  
Rob Baxter

**Larchmont United Methodist Church**  
**1101 Jamestown Crescent**  
**757-489-8168 office/ 757-489-1267 fax**

Rev. Fran Cooper; [pastor@larchmontumc.org](mailto:pastor@larchmontumc.org)  
Nate Poplin; [office@larchmontumc.org](mailto:office@larchmontumc.org)  
Dave Loughery; [pov@larchmontumc.org](mailto:pov@larchmontumc.org)  
Karla Robinson; [music@larchmontumc.org](mailto:music@larchmontumc.org)  
Will Pearson; [wpearson@odu.edu](mailto:wpearson@odu.edu)  
Rita Turner; [giving@larchmontumc.org](mailto:giving@larchmontumc.org)  
Amber Pickrell, [bookkeeping@larchmontumc.org](mailto:bookkeeping@larchmontumc.org)  
Meg Ditty; [lumps@larchmontumc.org](mailto:lumps@larchmontumc.org)  
Cathy Hickman; [education@larchmontumc.org](mailto:education@larchmontumc.org)  
[youth@larchmontumc.org](mailto:youth@larchmontumc.org)  
Dai Poole; [worshipleader@larchmontumc.org](mailto:worshipleader@larchmontumc.org)  
Ron Pionk; [CommunicationsSpecialistLUMC@gmail.com](mailto:CommunicationsSpecialistLUMC@gmail.com)  
Robert Ragland