



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

**January 4, 2026**

**Epiphany Sunday**

†Please stand as you are able

Prelude

***We Three Kings***

arr. Heather Sorenson

Announcements and Greetings

†Passing the Peace

†Bringing in the Light of Christ

Thomas Shearin (Acolyte)

Mikey Levow (Crucifer)

†Processional Hymn

***Love Came Down at Christmas***

No. 242

†Introit

***Love Has Come***

No. 3059

*Love has come, a light in the darkness! Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.*

*See, all heaven has come to proclaim it; Hear how their song of joy arises:*

*Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on high.*

†Call To Worship

Gary Chiaverotti, Worship Leader

Leader: Arise, shine, for Your light has come! The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

People: **Nations shall come to the brightness of His dawn, and kings to the splendor of His rising.**

Leader: Like the Magi, we have followed the star, seeking the one who brings hope and salvation.

People: **The mystery once hidden has now been revealed – Christ is for all people, near and far.**

Leader: Let us bring our gifts of praise and open our hearts, for the Light of the World has come!

People: **We worship the Christ who draws all people to Himself – our King, our Savior, our Light!**

Prayers of the People

Rev. Cooper

Children's Message

Rev. Cooper

Scripture Lesson     Matthew 28:18-20; I Corinthians 9:19-23     Worship Leader

Leader: The Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

Anthem

***Star Child***

arr. Ralph Ingraham

Quartet: Rebekah Robinson, Lisa Hogan,  
Peter Schmitz, Ralph Ingraham

*Star child earth child, go between of God, Love child, Christ Child, Heaven's lightning rod.*

*This year, this year, let the day arrive when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive.*

*Street child, beat child, no place left to go, hurt child, used child, no one wants to know.*

*This year, this year, let the day arrive when Christmas comes to everyone, everyone alive.*

*Grown child, old child, memory, full of years, Sad child, used child, story told in tears.*

*This year, this year, let the day arrive when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive.*

*Spared child, spoiled child, having, wanting more, wise child, faith child, knowing joy in store.*

*This year, this year, let the day arrive when Christmas comes to everyone, everyone alive.*

*Hope for peace child, God's stupendous sign, down to earth child, star of stars that shine!*

*This year, this year, let the day arrive when Christmas comes to everyone; everyone alive!*

*Yes, Christmas comes for everyone, everyone! Everyone alive!*

Sermon

***"Welcome to the Negative World"***

Rev. Fran Cooper

NEW WORSHIP SERIES: Love Goes First

Words of Assurance

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

***I Wonder as I Wander***

arr. Sharon Aaronson

# THIS WEEK AT LARCHMONT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## Sunday, January 4, 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

## Monday, January 5, 2026

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

## Tuesday, January 6, 2026

10:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting
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## Wednesday, January 7, 2025

10:00 a.m.	Wednesday Morning Bible Study
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 8, 2026

6:00 p.m.	Anchor Men
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## 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)

## Union Mission Thanks You!

Thank you, Larchmont family, for your generous donations this year. Union Mission received much needed bedding, clothing, bus passes and kitchen items all because of you! You are making a difference in the lives of others! Thank you!

## First Anchor Men's Fellowship Meeting of 2026

Our first Anchor Men meeting happens on January 8th with dinner at 6pm. Our speakers will be Peter Squicciarini and H R Fitten from the Hampton Proton Cancer Institute to share details about Proton Therapy. Dinner continues to be \$10. This should be an interesting program, so please invite a friend. The program, which will start at 6:45 pm, is open to everyone. Please contact Jonathan Clark, [clarkjon1058@gmail.com](mailto:clarkjon1058@gmail.com), or Gary Chiaverotti, [chiaverotti@aol.com](mailto:chiaverotti@aol.com), by Tuesday, January 6th to reserve a spot for dinner or if you plan on attending the presentation.

## 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.

# LARCHMONT UMC NOTICES!

January 4, 2026

We welcome Martha Springstead as our guest organist today while Will is taking a well-deserved vacation.

## Helping Hands Needed TODAY!

Many hands make light the work! Please stay after the 10:30 service **today** to take down our holiday decorations.



## 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).

## 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**," begins next Sunday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, 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>**.

## Our First Financial Education Session for 2026:

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



Find out on 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 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.

## Women's Fellowship: Give Love with Gloves

Help the Women's Fellowship donate gloves and mittens for the children of James Monroe Elemnetary school from January 1<sup>st</sup> to January 26<sup>th</sup>! The collection box is on the Monroe Hallway at the Women's bulletin board.

†Doxology      ***Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow***      No. 93

*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*

†Communion Hymn      ***Fairest Lord Jesus***      No. 189

*(Elements are brought forward during this hymn)*

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Receiving the Bread and the Cup

*Please come forward to receive the elements as led by the ushers.*

Music During Communion

***God, Thy Great Goodness Never Ends*** (Ludwig Van Beethoven) Marilyn Chen, piano

*God, your goodness reaches so far, as far as the clouds float.*

*You crown us with mercy, and hurry to our aid.*

*Lord! my castle, my rock, my shield.*

*Hear my plea, listen to my words; for I will pray before you!*

***He Is Born, the Divine Christ Child*** (Dennis Alexander) Martha Springstead, organ

†Response Hymn      ***Go, Tell It on the Mountain***      No. 251

†Benediction

†Benediction Response      ***Love Has Come (last 2 phrases)***      No. 3059

*Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on high.*

†Postlude      ***As With Gladness Men of Old***      arr. Gail Smith



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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

	<b>This Sunday January 4, 2026</b>	<b>Next Sunday January 11, 2026</b>
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Gary Chiaverotti	Liz Smith
<b>Children's Worship</b>	Fran Cooper	Cathy Coleman
<b>Media Tech</b>	Wina Giddens	Sara Morris
	Les Thorpe	Lucas Seymour
<b>Sound Tech</b>	Jeff Paiste	Jeff Paiste
<b>Camera Tech</b>	Clarise Hicks	Clarise Hicks
<b>Trustee of the Month</b>	Kami Lannetti	Kami Lannetti
<b>Sunday Stewards</b>	Robert King	Pris Peake
	Ed Lilly	Fred Dobbs
<b>Monday Counters</b>	Demi Wheeler	GM Ziller
	Laura Fitzwilliam	Robert King
<b>Bus Driver</b>	Rob Baxter	John Fitzwilliam
<b>Ushers</b>	Laura Calvert	Jonathan Clark
	Chris Calvert	Ben Hatcher
	Kami Lannetti	Gary Chiaverotti
	Monica Levow	Bill Lehew

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Pastor of Visitation	Dave Loughery; <a href="mailto:pov@larchmontumc.org">pov@larchmontumc.org</a>
Music Director	Karla Robinson; <a href="mailto:music@larchmontumc.org">music@larchmontumc.org</a>
Organist	Will Pearson; <a href="mailto:wpearson@odu.edu">wpearson@odu.edu</a>
Financial Secretary	Rita Turner; <a href="mailto:giving@larchmontumc.org">giving@larchmontumc.org</a>
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Housekeeper	Robert Ragland

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