Please join us for worship at 9:00. Sunday school at 10:30. Easter Sunrise Worship 6:30 AM, with services at 9:00 and 11:00



Pastor: Bill Gottschalk-Fielding • Program Associate: Marilyn Paradise • Youth Coordinator: Kevin Dunn



Holy Week 2009

Palm Sunday, April 5
Maundy Thursday, April 9
Good Friday, April 10
Easter, April 12
"Lord, Is It I?" Drama, April 7 and 9



On Fire for Jesus

From the Pastor

At 6 o'clock in the evening on April 19, we'll launch a new service of worship. It's no coincidence we're starting the Sunday after Easter. I can't imagine a more dramatic way for us to proclaim "Christ is Risen" than to gather new people in a new way around the Risen Christ.

If you come (and I hope you will!), look and listen for something different. First off, look for the service in our fellowship hall, not in the church sanctuary! Listen for a different style of music and message. And expect to see some new faces, too. The intended audience, while certainly including you and me, is primarily new and not-yet Christians seeking an experience of God's transforming love, opportunities for personal spiritual growth, and a chance to belong to a Christian community.

Why do we need a new worship service? No one disputes the benefits and beauty of our existing morning service. This service will continue without interruption. But many have expressed a longing for new ways to worship God and reach people. Last April I invited anyone interested in a new service to meet and explore the possibilities. A couple dozen adults and youth turned up! We met near the fireplace in the fellowship hall and shared our dreams. Since then we've come up with a vision and a plan. We have a time, a date, and a location. Sharon Powell's organized a band (keyboard, drums, guitar) and Art Loomis will lead a talented group of youth vocalists. Kevin Dunn

is serving as our temporary tech guy, getting our LCD projector ready to put songs, prayers, scriptures and visuals on the big screen. Amara Camp has organized the hospitality part of the service, ensuring great coffee, munchies and a warm welcome.

Let me add a visionary benefactor has given the church a significant donation to fund the new equipment and advertising needed for this service. A big thank you to this servant (who wishes to remain anonymous).

I hope you're as excited by this opportunity as I am. There are many ways you can help make this a success (even if you aren't planning to attend a single service!):

- Pray for everyone leading and attending this new worship service;
- Attend a service and join in the fun! Your presence will be an enormous gift;
- Drop off some baked goods for the post-service coffee time; and
- Volunteer to help out with service. There will be many ways to help. See Pastor Bill or Kevin Dunn.

Easter is about experiencing and sharing the good news of a risen Savior. What better way than gathering people around Christ for worship?

+Grace and Peace.





"Lord, Is It I?"

A dramatic reenactment of the Last Supper will be presented two nights during Holy Week.

On Tuesday, April 7, and Maundy Thursday, April 9, the Lenten play "Lord, Is It I?," by Ernest K. Emurian will be presented in the church sanctuary at 7:30 pm. As part of the reenactment, Holy Communion will be served. "Lord, Is It I?" is set in the upper room as Leonardo da Vinci portrayed it in his painting "The Last Supper." Each disciple shares a monologue that reflects on his life with Jesus and ponders Jesus' statement that one of them will betray him. A nursery will be provided for young children.

Thank you for your support at the time of Dad's death. We greatly appreciated your thoughtful calls, cards, prayers and presence at Dad's calling hours and funeral. This church was an important part of Dad's life.

— The family of Vern Hansen, Kay Moore's father

Prayer Requests

Clarence Benson, Groton Nursing Facility, 120 Sykes Street, Room 117A, Groton, NY 13073

Michelle Brantner, Lansing High School principal

Brian Cleveland, 7358 Cedar Street, Akron, NY 14001

Susan Davidson, 1812 Ridge Road

James Hall

Hannah, Meredith Czymmek's good friend Barb Hebert, sister of Karen Bishop

Diane Hoag, cousin of Loretta Bidlespacher Austin, TX

Bonnie Huff, friend of Judy Butman Sheyanne Loveless, granddaughter of Cheryl Dykeman-Loveless

Paul & Sandy Lutomski, parents of Sharon Bowman's future daughter-in-law Karen Lee Marquis, friend of Sharon

Bowman Sheryl Mattoon, friend of Barb White

Pat Neimi, Lakeside Nursing Home Harry Reinhart, 615 Ridge Road Marge Rundle, grandmother of Melissa Ferris

Frannie Sampson

1138 Auburn Road, Groton, NY 13073 Helen Stoll, Groton Nursing Facility, Room 213A, Groton, NY 13073

Shelly Uhl-Stark's father

Kylie Walley, friend of Anne Czymmek Charlotte Wilson

Judy Wilson

Please pray for those in our armed services:

Ken Allen Thomas Deis **Travis Potter** Mike Beaudoin David Ferris Nick Prabhavat Richard Butler Jason Halton Josh Randles Shawn Butler Andrew Jacobsen Matthew Rayas Matthew Cornell Daniel Jacobsen Joan Sullivan Scott Cowles Trevor Judd Adam Ward Steven Cowles Matt McDonald

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Worship in April

A pril offers so many wonderful opportunities for worship: multiple Holy Week services, Easter Sunday services and our new Sunday evening service beginning on April 19. Nothing heals, guides, and empowers a Christian like worship. Be sure to participate as often as you are able this month.

April 5—Passion and Palm Sunday: Worship this morning offers a preview of the events of Holy Week. With music, scripture and story-telling we'll begin to make our way from Palm Sunday's cheers to Good Friday's jeers. Read: Liturgy of the Palms: Mark 11:1-11; and Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Liturgy of the Passion: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11; and Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark 15:1-39.

Tuesday, April 7, and Holy Thursday, April 9, at 7:30 рм both nights.

Holy Week Event Scripture by each of the twelve. The drama ends with Holy

Communion, as did the Last Supper. Childcare will be provided both nights.

April 10—**Good Friday**. At 7:00 pm, we will gather with Jesus tonight for a brief service of prayer and reflection based on "The Stations of the Cross." Read: Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 22; Hebrews 10:16-25; and John 18:1-19:42.

April 12—**Easter**! Three opportunities to celebrate and experience the presence of the Risen Christ: Sunrise Service at 6:30 AM, followed by a light breakfast; festival services at 9:00 and 11:00 in the sanctuary with choir, brass, and joy! Come experience "He is Risen!" Read: Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; and John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8.

April 19—Second Sunday of Easter: Thomas missed out on Jesus' first resurrection appearance. When he heard the reports from Peter and the others who'd seen the Risen Jesus, Thomas couldn't allow himself to believe. He's not alone. What do you do with doubt and fear when it keeps us from faith? Read: Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133 (UMH 850); 1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31.

—Praise Service by the Fireplace. 6:00 PM.

April 26—Ministry Sunday: Christianity isn't a "spectator sport." You and I joined Jesus' team to play, not to watch. This Sunday every member and friend of LUMC will be informed, inspired, and encouraged to become more involved in one of the many ministries connected with LUMC. Worship will center on the Christian formula for joy: HUMAN NEED (physical, emotional, relational, spiritual) + YOUR GIFTS (skills, time, willingness) x GOD'S GRACE = BLESSING (for you and others!). Immediately following worship we'll move into the fellowship hall for a "Ministry Fair" where the incredible variety of ministry opportunities at LUMC will be on display. Don't miss this Sunday! Read: Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4 (UMH 741); 1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48.

—Praise Service by the Fireplace. 6:00 PM.



The Book of Acts: A Guided Tour

You are invited to join us on a three-week extended tour through the Book of Acts, with Professor Ken Hover serving as our tour guide, beginning on Sunday, April 19. Traditionally, the writer has been identified as Luke, a Gentile physician. The Book of Acts is both a historical record of the early church and a theological book with living examples of the work of the Holy Spirit. Beginning in Jerusalem with a small group of disciples, the message traveled across the Roman empire. "Empowered by the Holy Spirit, this courageous band preached, taught, healed, and demonstrated love in synagogues, schools, homes, marketplaces, and courtrooms, and on streets, hills, ships and desert roads—wherever God sent them, lives and history were changed." (NIV)

Here's what our tour guide has to say: "Until a year or so ago I thought the Book of Acts was pretty boring. I was more or less in the same category as the early church-goer and Sunday School attender named Eutychus whose story is described in Acts 20:7 through Acts 20:12 (NRSVA): 'On the first day of the week, when we met to break bread, Paul was holding a discussion with them; since he intended to leave the next day, he continued speaking until midnight. There were many lamps in the room upstairs where we were meeting. A young man named Eutychus, who was sitting in the window, began to sink off into a deep sleep while Paul talked still longer. Overcome by sleep, he fell to the ground three floors below...' (Note: To prevent a recurrence of this event, LUMC has arranged for our three Sunday sessions to be on the ground floor and to be conducted only during daylight hours; sitting on windowsills is strictly prohibited.)

"Anyway, we shall take a tour through the Book of Acts, keeping track of the history and traditions of the early church as it rapidly developed. At the same we will be looking for places where we can really see ourselves in day-to-day issues and challenges faced by the early church. In many ways, the more things change, the more they stay the same!

"As a safety precaution, we will try to keep people from falling asleep!"

My study Bible sums things up so beautifully: 'As you read Acts, put yourself in the place of the disciples- feel with them as they are filled with the Holy Spirit, and thrill with them as they see thousands respond to the gospel message. Sense their commitment as they give every ounce of talent and treasure to Christ. And as you read, watch the Spirit-led boldness of these 1st century believers, who through suffering and in the face of death take every opportunity to tell of their crucified and risen Lord. Then decide to be a 21st century version of those men and women of God." (taken from NIV Life Application Bible)

See you in class on April 19 for a journey worth taking. God Bless.—*Marilyn Paradise*

Paperless Sunbeam?

Instead of a paper version that arrives whenever, would you rather receive the *Sunbeam* more timely as a pdf file by email? If so, send a message to the church office, and Laurie will build an email group for the paperless *Sunbeam*. This might be especially advantageous if you live in the Groton ZIP code.

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	Lansing V. Methodist	nited Church	April 2009	Prayer Service 9:00 Women's Bible Study 9:30 Bell Choir 6:00 Choir 7:00	Salad Supper and Book Discussion: The Shack Senior High Youth 7:00	Jr. High Flashlight Egg Hunt 8:00	4 Mens' Breakfast at Linda's in North Lansing 7:00 New Member Orientation 9:00
5	PALM SUNDAY Worship 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 11:30 Disciple Bible Study 2:00 Confirmation Disciple Class 4:00 K.A.N. 5:30	6 Caregivers 9:00	Quilt Bee 9:30 Lord, Is It I? Dramatic Presentation Holy Communion 7:30	8 Prayer Service 9:00 Women's Bible Study 9:30 Bell Choir 6:00 Choir 7:00	9 Maundy Thursday Lord, Is It I? Dramatic Presentation Holy Communion 7:30	GOOD FRIDAY Office Closed Worship 7:00	11 Mens' Breakfast 7:00
12	EASTER HE IS RISEN! Sunrise Service 6:30 Worship 9:00 Worship 11:00	13	Quilt Bee 9:30 Church Council 7:00	15 Prayer Service 9:00 Women's Bible Study 9:30 Bell Choir 6:00 Choir 7:00 SUNBEAM DEADLINE 12:00 Midnight	16 Trustees 7:30	17	18 Mens' Breakfast 7:00
19	SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER Worship 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Outreach 10:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 11:30 Disciple Bible Study 2:00 Confirmation Disciple Study 4:00 Praise Worship 6:00	20 Haiti Committee 7:00	Quilt Bee 9:30 Membership 7:00	Prayer Service 9:00 Women's Bible Study 9:30 Bell Choir 6:00 Adult Choir 7:00	23 Senior High Youth 7:00	24	25 Mens' Breakfast 7:00
26	Native American Ministries Sunday Worship 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Food Pantry Setup Disciple Bible Study 2:00 Confirmation Disciple Study 4:00 Praise Worship 6:00	Food Pantry 3:30	Quilt Bee 9:30 Youth Ministry 7:00 Finance 7:00	29 Prayer Service 9:00 Women's Bible Study 9:30 Bell Choir 6:00 Adult Choir 7:00	30 Senior High Youth 7:00	updates to all LUMC ev org, and check the bulle	urrent as of March 23. For rents, visit lansingunited. etin when you're in church unday.

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Food Feinstein Challenge Continues in April

Any donation that you make to the Lansing Food Pantry in April will count

toward a special incentive offered by the Shawn Feinstein Foundation. The way this works is, the foundation has put up \$1 million for antihunger agencies throughout the United States. This money is divided up according to a formula based on the amount of money and food collected by participating food pantries during the challenge period. The more food and cash donated to the Lansing Food Pantry this month, the more of this grant money the pantry will receive. (See www.feinsteinfoundation.org for more information.)

If you are able to make a monetary donation or donation of non-perishable food items, your gifts would be greatly appreciated. Food items are counted as cash, so either kind of donation works well. Over the years, through the generosity of Lansing residents, the food pantry has received several hundred dollars. One hundred percent of your donations are used by the Lansing Food Pantry for members of our Lansing community in need. Monetary donations may be sent to Lansing Food Pantry, 32 Brickyard Road, Lansing NY 14882 or simply dropped into the collection plate on any Sunday in April. Food donations may be dropped off at the church in a special collection basket inside the front door.

Or you can participate in this year's *Lenten Offering*, which is designated for the Lansing Food Pantry, with collection starting now through Easter. The Lenten boxes are available in the Narthex. Please fill up as many as possible! Since this collection will be received in April, it will count toward the Feinstein Foundation challenge.

Updates from Youth Ministries

During their Winter Break in February, our youth had several opportunities to serve others. The first day of vacation, we had a group travel to the Loaves & Fishes ministry downtown to serve lunch and clean up. At the end of the week, another group set up for our Food Pantry here at LUMC. Also, as I'm sure you've noticed, the Asbury and North Lansing rooms have been painted!

All of these were wonderful opportunities that allowed our youth to see the need to serve others, their ability to do it, and that it can be fun as well. A huge thank you to all of those who helped make it happen! March events included a "mystery night" for our 6th-8th graders, and the annual Ukrainian Egg Decorating for Sr. Highers.

Confirmation is also well underway: the joint parent and youth Bible study of Luke is almost finished, and the Discipleship classes with Pastor Bill and an adult mentor are about to begin. Please pray for all involved in this process, as these young people learn what it means to take on their faith as their own.

~Kevin Dunn

Summer Camping Opportunities at Aldersgate and Casowasco

2009 Summer Online Brochure and Registration

The 2009 Summer Camp Schedule, Brochure and Registration is available online at www. campsandretreats.org/. Here you'll find the program listings and descriptions of what will be offered at Aldersgate and Casowasco this summer. Online registration is set up and ready for campers to register for programs.

LUMC wants every child to attend camp! You do not have to be a member of this church. We'll help pay the cost, so check the brochure and sign up. Some popular weeks fill fast.

Mission to Ghana:

HIV/AIDS and Water Purification

Inever would have said this a year ago, but I can't believe how quickly my time as a Peace Corps Volunteer has gone by. Here's a summary of what I've been doing.

Dambai's HIV/AIDS Education Day

Last fall I joined forces with eight other Peace Corps Volunteers (PCVs) to do a big HIV/ AIDS education day at each volunteer's village or town. It involved hours of planning and budgeting up front, two separate grants for funding, hours on horrible roads to reach each location, hundreds of students, and 12 communities and has been my most successful project as a PCV to date. On February 11, I hosted the big day in my town. I had six PCVs come to help me. We started the day at 8:00 AM with hundreds of students. I invited two of the biggest schools in town (the ones I've done the most work with in the past) and we had somewhere around 1,300 children. We split the children into eight stations, each staffed by one PCV and two teachers. At each station they played a different HIV/AIDS educational activity or lesson. We had an afternoon for break and invited the children to come back in the afternoon with their families for community education and a football game. We had a **HUGE** crowd turn out for the football game as the volunteers and teachers played the school team. It was stressful, hilarious, exhausting, inspiring, and challenging. My fellow volunteers and our teacher volunteers were an enormous help, and I couldn't have made the program such a success without them. All that remains is a mountain of expense reporting, recipes, and evaluations.

Solar Water Disinfection Follow-Up

Last summer my NGO sponsored a program called SODIS (Solar Water Disinfection) for four communities in my area. We did a presentation on the how to disinfect unsafe (river) water (cholera, guinea worm). The general idea is you fill a clean, clear plastic water bottle and

set it in direct sunlight for eight hours. The sun kills enough microbes to make the water safe to drink. Last year, we introduced the idea as a possible solution for unsafe drinking water. In January we did a follow-up to see if anyone followed through with our advice. We found that they understood the message but didn't have water bottles. Now we are working on solutions to supply the bottles. We don't want to just donate them because that reinforces reliance on foreign NGOs for handouts. Instead, we are thinking of creative business solutions. If you are interesting in learning more about the project check out www.sodis.ch/.

More fun than work...I climbed a mountain (not real big but beautiful view from the top). I danced in the rain (the first we had in 3 months!), I slept under the stars (it's too hot to sleep inside), won a football game, celebrated Ghana's Independence Day, and am currently contemplating rowing a wooden canoe down the largest man made lake in the world.

I've had a few people ask what they can send me. The answer: almost anything! I miss dairy products, chocolate, new music, and all of you! Send pictures of things you've been doing, and letters about your life. Any music that has come out in the last 2 years (If you send me a flash drive full of music and pictures I promise I'll mail it back to you with all of my Ghana pictures!) Things I don't need: clothes, toys for children (I don't like to constantly be handing things out), tuna fish, or peanuts. I miss you all and can't wait to see everyone (by Christmas).

—Caitlin B. Hardie, Peace Corps Volunteer, Peace Corps Ghana, P.O. Box 5796, Accra-North, Ghana, West Africa

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Work Trip to the Gulf Coast February 13-23, 2009

The way I summarize my work trip to Louisiana is, I was in a place I didn't expect to be, doing a job I didn't expect to do, which wouldn't have otherwise gotten done. I joined a team of thirteen people, seven of them high schoolers, organized by Hammondsport UMC.

I thought we'd be working in Houma, a city of about 35,000 which is about 90 minutes from New Orleans. Instead, we were assigned to the mission at Dulac, another half hour down the Bayou Grand Caillou (kie-YOU). Here the United Methodist Women have been working with the Houmas, a native American tribe not recognized by the U.S. government. The UMW built a large community center there, which was damaged by Hurricane Ike. United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) has constructed a new dormitory adjacent to the center to house volunteers who will work in the many homes damaged by storms. Also at the Dulac mission is the Clanton Chapel, which I initially thought of as a small building.

Our team was limited in the jobs we could do by two factors. First, teenagers are not allowed to handle hazardous assignments, including using power saws and climbing on roofs. Second, we had another large group of teenagers on site, from Scotia and Niskayuna. Also, the homes are small, so only a few people can go to any given work site.

Some members of our team were assigned to do painting and other fix-up jobs in people's homes. Thus, they met Miss Mae, the Parfaits, and the Gregoires. My part of the team was assigned to put in a subfloor in the Clanton Chapel. This building had been barged to the site in the 1990s after Hurricane Andrew took out the old chapel. It was set on five-foot posts that were high enough to defeat Katrina, but not Ike, and the floor was ruined last year.



We spent the week putting down subfloor, first half-inch plywood and then quarter-inch concrete board. Normally, you might use a nail gun, but that's a hazardous tool, so we used screws and power drills. Crawling all around that floor on my hands and knees, I decided that this building was plenty big. My knees still have callouses. We had enough drywall screws for the plywood, but we ran out of cement screws for the Wonderboard. We used some of the money you donated for materials to finish the job. That was an additional \$160 of screws!

UMCOR does not cover the cost of work like this. Its funds go only for work on homes. So, Darrel Guy, the mission director had come up with materials here and there, using donations and unrestricted funds. But when the first batch of concrete screws was gone, that would have been it. So, thank you for your donations.

A contractor from Houma has donated the tiles and the work to finish that floor, but first the subfloor had to be done. This would not have happened, except for the fact that we had so many young people at the site during Presidents Week.

As for the community center, it needs a roof. Insurance might pay about \$10,000 after continued at right

Church World Service Kits

Collection of items for the Church World Service Kits continues throughout the year. You can make your donation any time. This is a case where a little here and there adds up to a lot when it's all collected in one place. The only rule is, no substitutions, due to international shipping rules. If you don't want to go shopping, you can always donate cash, to help with shipping costs.

Baby Kits

- Six cloth diapers
- Two T-shirts or undershirts (no onesies)
- Two washcloths
- Two gowns or sleepers
- Two diaper pins
- One sweater or sweatshirt
- Two receiving blankets (one can be a handknitted or crocheted baby blanket)

Remember, all items should be new.

Louisiana Work Trip (concluded)

a deductible of \$100,000 (yes, really). No hope there, and UMCOR cannot help with this. But a contractor from Indiana said that he'd put on a roof if the mission could find the money for the steel roofing. Combining donations from the three churches involved in our team, we had about \$1,600 (after buying the screws). We left that as a donation toward the roof fund. This building was in heavy use before the storm, and we'd like to see it in operation again.

It's also worth noting that UMCOR requires that volunteers do the work related to its funding. One source of funds from UMCOR is a payment of \$19 per volunteer-hour. Our team worked 382 hours, triggering a payment of over \$7,500 for the mission at Dulac. These two facts answered a question that arose early on: Why spend all that money to travel down to Louisiana? Why not just donate that money? The answer is, volunteers make the process work. In addition, although I did not meet any residents, it's important for volunteer teams to make those personal contacts.—Glenn Withiam

School Kits

- One pair of blunt scissors
- Three spiral or tape-bound 70-count pads or notebooks of ruled paper 8-1/2" X 11" (or 8" X 10 1/2"), containing 200-210 sheets of paper. No loose-leaf, filler paper, please.
- One 30-centimeter ruler (12")
- One hand-held pencil sharpener
- Six new pencils with erasers
- One large eraser
- One box of 24 crayons (no more, no less)
- One 12" x 14" cloth bag with cloth handles, to hold the above items

Health Kits

- One hand towel (about 16" by 28", not a fingertip or a bath towel)
- One washcloth
- · One wide-tooth comb
- One nail clipper (no metal files or emery boards)
- One bath size bar of soap, in wrapper
- · One toothbrush, in original packaging
- Six Bandaids
- \$1 to buy toothpaste later

Regarding the toothpaste, instead of donating tubes that may go out of date, donate a buck to cover the cost of buying a fresh tube just as the kit is actually distributed.

Note: Peg MacKenzie says she needs 23 toothbrushes and that will complete 23 more health kits. So far, LUMC has an amazing total of 870 kits ready to for shipping at the end of April. So, make a donation and help us set a new all-time record!

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Lansing United Methodist Church

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> Worship 9:00 Sunday School 10:30

Palm Sunday, April 5 Easter, April 12 Sunrise Service 6:30 Worship 9:00 and 11:00

Lansing United Methodist Church

32 Brickyard Road, Lansing, NY 14882 one mile north of the stoplight on Route 34B in South Lansing.

Church office: 607-533-4070 E-mail: lumcoffice@twcny.rr.com Office manager: Laurie Moskow

To reach the pastor in confidence: pastor32@twcny.rr.com

www.lansingunited.org

he Sunbeam is published each month by Lansing United Methodist Church.

Please send your news to Glenn Withiam, editor, at grw4@cornell.edu, or use the Sunbeam folder near the church office.

Deadline for the next issue is April 15, 2009.