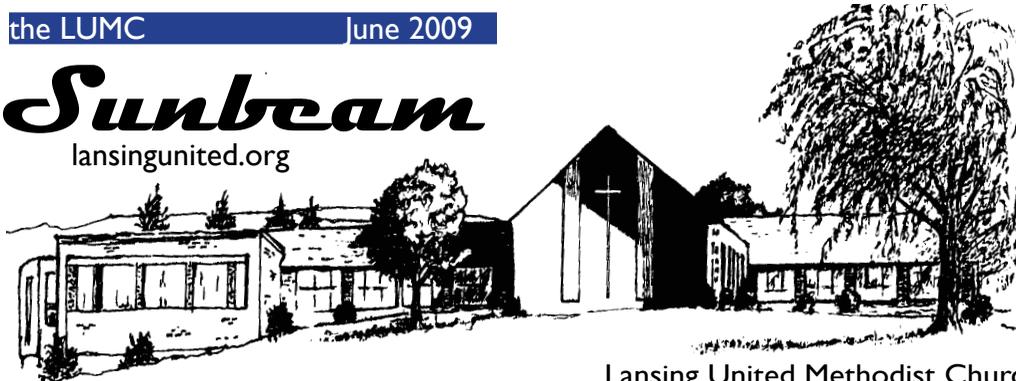


Please join us for morning worship at 9:00 AM and contemporary worship at 6:00 PM.

the LUMC June 2009

Sunbeam

lansingunited.org



Lansing United Methodist Church
Route 34B and Brickyard Road, South Lansing

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

High Tea for Haiti



featuring Amy Dickinson and *The Mighty Queens of Freeville*
June 13 (see page 5)



From the Pastor

The Camel's Comment

[Note: We're told that Pastor Bill was scrambling to get ready to go on vacation near deadline, so he asked Leopold to write this month's article.—gw]

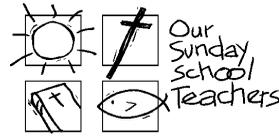
Hello, there, Lansing friends. It's, ah, good to have this chance to talk with you. Wish this keyboard was easier on my hooves, but I'll make it work. The Pastor, he's, ah, running here and there trying to get loose ends tied up before he heads out. Kinda funny to see him movin' about so fast. Racking up those steps on his pedometer.

Well, anyway, hope you'll spend some time looking through this *Sunbeam*. That nice Mr. Withiam who sits there in the choir Sunday morning and smiles my way, he puts this baby together. Lots of good stuff to do this month: thanking Sunday School teachers, worshipping in the park, attending the Fireplace service. They've got great snacks there. Good music, too.

Hope to see you in June. Especially the children. They always put a smile on this camel's face.

I'll have to finish here. The Pastor can't find his electric razor. Thinks I might know something about this. (Don't tell him, but I did borrow it to help shear some excess wool off my buddy She-baah. Think he'll mind?)

—Leopold, LUMC staff camel, raconteur, star of children's stories, etc., etc., etc.



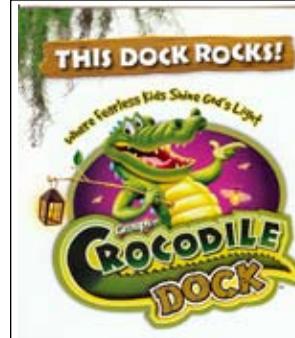
Teacher Appreciation Sunday

You are invited join us on Sunday, June 14, for the children- and youth-led Service of Worship where we will honor our Sunday School teachers and celebrate their ministry. We have been blessed to have so many involved in what is the highest priority of the church—to ignite the spiritual flame of our young people and guide them along on their faith journey. We extend a special thank you to all of the devoted teachers who generously share their gifts in preparing and sharing the word of God every Sunday.

This year the teachers include: Beth Acoff, Mary Adie, Bonnie Blair, Jim Blair, Jo Baker, Janet Keefe, Melody Lombardo, Erin Peters, Shelly Uhl-Stark, Peg Stoyell, Jeanne Taylor, Dianne Walter, and Karyn Yahn. Also thanks to Anne Czymmek, Karen Phlegar, Mary Alice Rounds, and Denise Wyszowski for assisting in various classrooms. A special thank you to Sharon Powell for always starting our Sunday School hour on the right note! Also we want to thank Jan Nagel for leading the Women's Bible Study, and Dianne Walter and Christa Salmon for their leadership role in the Confirmation program.

The Sunday school picnic will follow the June 14 worship service in the Fellowship Hall and outdoors (weather permitting). Please bring a dish-to-pass to the picnic. We will provide beverages and table settings. On behalf of the staff here at church we extend our gratitude to all of the teachers and assistants and we pray that God continues to bless them in their ministry.

—Marilyn Paradise



Preregister for VBS—Families of Rising K-5th Graders

In the midst of filling in your summer calendars, pen in the capital letters V, B, S, for Monday-Friday July 13-17,

and look for pre-registration forms coming home from Sunday School, in the church office, or on-line. We'd love to get a look ahead at how many kids to expect as we plan an exciting week of music, games, crafts, stories & memories at Crocodile Dock. Take extra forms for friends! We've got VBS music CDs ready to hand out to families who preregister, so please turn your forms in early.

Calling All Kinds of Talents for VBS—

We've got a job for anyone who'd like to help out either before or during Vacation Bible School, for as much or little time as you have available. Would you like to spend time with K-5th grade kids, eager to learn God's message while having fun? If so, we need help with games, crafts, drama, singing, and storytelling. Would you like to rock babies or help with pre-K children's activities? Do you like production and sound systems? We can use your support behind the scenes too! Leading up to VBS, we have planning, decorating, setting up, costumes—all sorts of outlets for creativity or energy. We especially ask you to consider the positions of Nursery Coordinator (looking after a handful of preschoolers whose parents volunteer), Props Coordinator for the Bible Story room, and Crew Leaders to shepherd the kids from station to station. Please sign up on the Narthex bulletin board or contact Marilyn Paradise or Bonnie Blair, 257-0721 for more information.

Prayer Requests

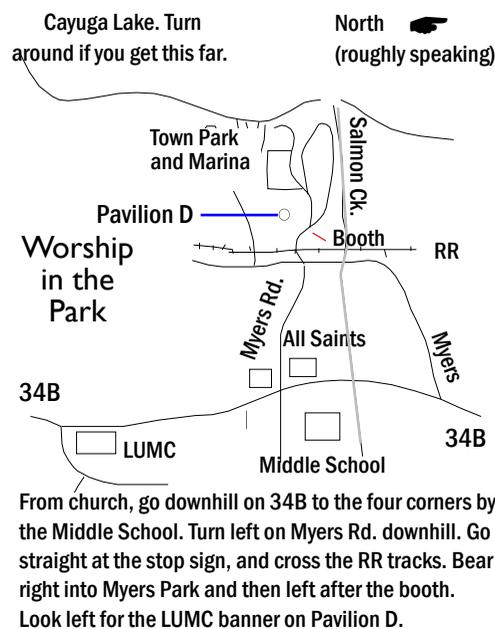
- Dave Ackley (Sue Munson's father)
- Mia Avramis
- Clarence Benson, Groton Nursing Facility, 120 Sykes Street, Room 117A, Groton, NY 13073
- Bobbie (Judy Butman's friend)
- Brian Cleveland, 7358 Cedar Street, Akron, NY 14001
- Billie Cook (Bonnie Blair's mom)
- Marlene Danielowicz (friend of Biddlepachers)
- Susan Davidson, 1812 Ridge Road
- Michelle DiPrimio
- Adam Frey (Cayla's friend)
- Shirley Graves
- Nancy Hall
- Hannah (Meredith Czymmek's good friend)
- Barb Hebert (sister of Karen Bishop)
- Bonnie Huff (Judy Butman's friend)
- Jeannie (Judy Butman's friend)
- Shyanne Loveless (granddaughter of Cheryl Dykeman-Loveless)
- Sheryl Mattoon (Barb White's friend)
- Glenna Miller-Labar and family (friend of Czymmek's)
- Janet Passmore
- Harry Reinhart, 615 Ridge Road
- Marge Rundle, grandmother of Melissa Ferris
- Frannie Sampson 1138 Auburn Road, Groton, NY 13073
- Teresa Sharp
- Helen Stoll, Groton Nursing Facility, Room 213A, Groton, NY 13073
- Donna Howe Taylor (Marion Howe's daughter)
- Kylie Walley (friend of Anne Czymmek)
- Charlotte Wilson
- Judy Wilson

June Worship

June worship is a joy. We'll start out celebrating the ministries of Sunday school teachers and the precious gift of children. We'll end up worshipping in the park, surrounded by the incredible gifts of lake and sky. Morning worship will be at 9:00 AM at church for three Sundays and then in the park, and evening worship will be at the church at 6:00 PM. Come, bring a friend, and experience the loving touch of God.

June 7—Trinity Sunday: The doctrine of the Trinity says God is one but known in three distinct personal ways: Creator, Son, and Spirit. This idea captures the mystery and "unknowableness" of God, but does it have any day-to-day practical implications? Yes...but we'll have to come this Sunday to hear more. Read: Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29; Romans 8:12-17; and John 3:1-17.

Where to Find 9:00 Worship in the Park starting June 28



@the Fireplace (contemporary worship) at 6:00 PM: Pastor Bill will be talking about coming to know God as Teacher.

June 14—Second Sunday after Pentecost: The youth and children will be leading worship this morning. We celebrate our ministry with children and youth and recognize our teachers. Read: 1 Samuel 15:34-16:13; Psalm 20 or Psalm 92; 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 11-13, 14-17; and Mark 4:26-34

@the Fireplace (contemporary worship) at 6:00 PM: Tonight's theme is knowing God as Savior.

June 21—Third Sunday after Pentecost: 1 Samuel 17:1a, 4-11, 19-23, 32-49; Psalm 9:9-20; 2 Corinthians 6:1-13; and Mark 4:35-41.

@the Fireplace (contemporary worship) at 6:00 PM: Pastor Bill concludes this series with a talk on knowing God as King.

June 28—Fourth Sunday after Pentecost. This is our first summer service down at Myers Park. Look for us at Pavilion D at 9:00 AM. (See the map at left.) Rolly Ryan will lead us in worship this morning. Read: 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27; Psalm 130; 2 Corinthians 8:7-15; and Mark 5:21-43.

@the Fireplace (contemporary worship at LUMC) at 6:00 PM: Dianne Walter starts a series of talks on Spiritual Disciplines. Tonight we focus on prayer.



High Tea for Haiti Reforestation

The Haiti Committee is overseeing an agriculture project in a small village in Haiti. The project has two purposes. The first is to address the desperate need for reforestation. As you may recall, hurricanes ravaged Haiti last September. The island's naked hillsides and landscapes allowed mud to fill the streets and wash away many homes. Our second purpose is to make agriculture a part of the curriculum in the Haitian primary schools. There is a whole generation of Haitians that have never seen their landscape covered with trees, and they do not understand the concept of using trees and vegetation to prevent erosion. As a result, last year we initiated and funded a pilot agriculture project, with hopes that it will be successful and incorporated in other schools and communities around Haiti.

In our first year, a tree nursery was built on school grounds and 20,000 tree seeds were planted in tree plastic bags. This was all done by a Haitian agronomist, his helper, and students

at the school. The seeds were planted in March, and when a team checked on the progress in July, the trees were close to a foot tall. The trees were then distributed to anyone in the village who had attended a class on how to plant and care for tree seedlings. The lines were long, and 8,000 trees were handed out. The remaining trees were planted on a nearby naked hillside that was located near many of the vegetable gardens. Erosion from this hill has washed away

many of these gardens and left the village hungry.

In September, when the trees were all planted and were growing by leaps and bounds, the agronomist put together some lesson plans and taught agriculture one day a week in primary school. We were able to sit in one of his

You Are Invited...

On June 13 at 4:00 PM we will be hosting a Women's High Tea. Our guest speaker will be Amy Dickinson, who will talk a bit about her latest book *The Mighty Queens of Freeville*, and will be signing books. So, pull out your "high tea" outfits and your favorite hat or accessories and join us for some tea sandwiches, scones, and other favorite delicious bites. Tickets are available at the church (533-4070) or at Baker's Acres (533-4653). Hurry and purchase your ticket for this worthwhile and fun event.

classes and found the students engaged and the lessons informative.

Because we feel that our first year was so successful, we have decided to continue this program for another year. The ag project will need continued financial support, and so we are having a fundraiser to help with the support. The Haiti Committee anticipates great progress in this relatively new direction and effort. We're convinced that the best way to help the Haitians is to educate and inspire them with the know-how to help themselves.—Reenie Sandsted

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

*June
2009*

1
Caregivers 9:00

Nominations 7:00

2
Quilt Bee 9:30

Staff Parish 7:00

3
Prayer Service 9:00

4
Dish to Pass Dinner 6:00
Senior High Gathering 7:00

5

6
Mens' Breakfast every Saturday at Linda's in North Lansing 7:00

7
PEACE WITH JUSTICE
Worship 9:00
Sunday School 10:30
Praise Singers 11:30

K.A.N. 5:30 Woodsedge
Fireplace Contemporary Worship 6:00

8

9
Quilt Bee 9:30

Church Council 7:00

10
Prayer Service 9:00

Bell Angels 6:00
Choir 7:00

11

Trustees 7:30

12

13
Mens' Breakfast 7:00

Ladies High Tea to Support Haiti, with Amy Dickinson 4:00

14
CHILDREN'S SABBATH
HONORING OUR CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS
Worship 9:00
Sunday School 10:30
Church Picnic 11:30
Praise Singers 11:30
Disciple Bible Study 2:00
Fireplace Contemporary Worship 6:00
Ice Cream Social-Laurie's-6:00

15
Mobile Food Pantry 10:00
Haiti 7:00

SUNBEAM DEADLINE
12:00 Midnight

16
Quilt Bee 9:30

Membership 7:00

17
Prayer Service 9:00

Bell Angels 6:00
Choir 7:00
(If needed)

18

19

20
Mens' Breakfast 7:00

21
HONORING DADS AND GRADS
Worship 9:00
Praise Singers 11:30

Fireplace Contemporary Worship 6:00

22

Food Pantry 3:00

23
Quilt Bee 9:30

Youth Ministry 7:00

24
Prayer Service 9:00

Bell Angels 6:00

25

26

27
Mens' Breakfast 7:00

28
Worship 9:00
Lansing Town Park at Myers

Fireplace Contemporary Worship at LUMC 6:00

29

30
Quilt Bee 9:30

Note: This calendar is current as of May 22. For updates to all LUMC events, visit lansingunited.org and see our virtual church calendar, and check the bulletin when you're in church on Sunday.



*Lansing United
Methodist Church*

Off to Camp!

Since most programs at LUMC slow down over the summer, I've been returning to Casowasco over the last two summers to work as a Counselor and a Counselor Coordinator. I say "returning" because as I go in about a week to be the Summer Program Director, this will actually be my tenth summer on staff at Casowasco. Over the years, I've interacted with hundreds of youth. I've invested lots of sweat, tears, and prayers in them; I've seen kids grow up and live changed lives because they felt God's presence at camp.

I am one of those youth myself. When I was 15, I wanted nothing to do with God: my life felt like a continuous downward spiral. But even though I didn't believe in God, I kept going to camp. It was the staff's unconditional love and living out of their faith (and the grace of God acting through them) that turned my life around and helped me meet God face-to-face one July night twelve years ago.

A week of camp can be amazingly powerful—a counselor will spend much more time with a youth in one week of camp than any other adults will throughout the rest of the year in activities here at LUMC. Over 2,000 campers will come to Aldersgate and Casowasco this summer—that's the equivalent of more than ten LUMC-sized churches. These campers come from all different backgrounds, denominations, and life experiences, but they all hear the same message about a God who loves them and has a plan for their life. The impact that camp can have on someone cannot be overstated.

This ministry doesn't just belong to the summer staff, though—it belongs to you! Aldersgate and Casowasco are supported in part through our apportionments to the NCNY Conference, and this ministry could not survive without the volunteers that come from all over to help.

Lansing is about half an hour from Casowasco, and is in a prime position to help in a variety of ways.

Are you a parent of a younger child and are secretly anxious about the upcoming teenage years? I can honestly think of no better way to get experience working with teens before your child becomes one than to counsel at camp for a week. It will teach you a lot, and there will be plenty of support surrounding you, should you need it.

Think you're too old? Pshaw! You're never too old to help at Aldersgate or Casowasco. Can you play games and laugh with children? We can use you! Can you drive a 15-passenger van? We can use you! Can you put a worm on a fish hook? We can use you! If you can't commit to a whole week but have a few hours here or there throughout the summer, there is something you can do for this ministry!

I say in all seriousness: if you have the time and energy this summer that you're willing to give to Aldersgate or Casowasco, you will change someone's life. There is something you can do, and kids of all ages will be eternally grateful.

I hope that you will strongly consider volunteering some time this summer at Aldersgate and Casowasco. Please call me at 330-635-8461 or Casowasco at 315-364-8756 to ask questions and get more information. I look forward to coming back here and seeing you all again at the end of August!—*Kevin Dunn, Coordinator of Youth Ministries*

Money is available for summer campers! Thanks to the efforts of Rick Hayes, LUMC has plenty of money to help pay for camp. If you are going to camp, contact Nan Makela (whether you think you need the money or not!) If money is stopping you from going to camp, see Nan and we will send you. Yes, the whole shot. Yes, really!

Kids in Action Now (K.A.N.) Update

The K.A.N. kids finished up a two-month project to promote community awareness of the Food Pantry's Feinstein grant period between March 1 and April 30 this year. Thanks to tremendous support from the congregation, local businesses, and their families who adopted these business locations, the kids really saw what a difference their publicity efforts made. In addition to the almost \$500 in donations received from the collection cans the kids put out around the community, the kids put out a food collection box at P&C, yielding many shopping carts worth of food for the food pantry to distribute. Very significantly, the Food Pantry received monetary donations totaling over \$6,000, almost three times the amount received during the grant period last year. These donations will go a long way to help those in need within our community. We are all very grateful to be part of such a generous and caring community!! [See the note at right for the full report.-gw]

The K.A.N. kids would like to specially thank the following local businesses and organizations for their enthusiastic support of the food pantry's grant drive: Baker's Acres, The Cinnamon/Sub Shop, Crystal's Spa, Gimme Coffee, Lansing Drop-In Center, Lansing Central School District, Linda's Diner, Lisa's Dream Salon, P&C, P&Y Convenience Store, The Pit Stop, and Xtra-Mart.

For our May meeting, we learned about how the LUMC Rummage Sale works, from donation drop-off to sale, including how the proceeds are used to support our church ministry. "Set-up Sunday" saw the K.A.N. kids and many parents running back and forth, delivering items to their proper "shops" as fast as the sorters could sort. Whether it was hanging sweaters or delivering toys to the toy tent, the kids had a wonderful time contributing to this huge effort and meeting many of the dedicated organizers

who make the sale happen twice a year.

Our last meeting for this school year will be in support of the Lansing Older Adults Program (LOAP). On Sunday, June 7, we'll be meeting at a different time, starting at LUMC, and then moving to Woodsedge. At 11:30, after Sunday School, we'll have lunch in Fellowship Hall (provided by K.A.N.), during which Marilyn Paradise, wearing one of her hats as LOAP Coordinator, will talk with us about the history of LOAP and its ties, from the very beginning, to the Lansing United Methodist Church. Then, we'll leave by car caravan to visit Woodsedge where we'll have a games afternoon with the residents in their community room. Kids are encouraged to bring along a game they would like to play with the residents. The kids will be ready for pick-up at 2:00 PM at Woodsedge.

Finally, it's not too early to be thinking about K.A.N. next year—starting in September. Parents of current second graders will be receiving information in the near future, to include an invitation for their third-graders to start the new school year with Kids in Action Now. We can't wait to have them join our ranks!—*Bonnie Blair*

Food Pantry Gets Great Support in Feinstein Challenge

Food Pantry Chair Nancy Myers reported on the results of the efforts of K.A.N. and other community groups: "Cash and checks = \$6,038.19. How cool is that? That had a **great** deal to do with Bonnie Blair and all she did for this campaign. She certainly is very good at raising money.

"Total of pounds of food was 1,010. 700 pounds or more came from Nancy Cleveland at Curves. She is another go getter. I have mailed in the report to the Feinstein Foundation Challenge and will report to you on our share of the Feinstein grant money when it arrives."

Mission Trip to Rural Mission on Johns Island

In mid-April a small work team spent a few days with Jeff Sandsted in Johns Island, South Carolina. Carrie (Makela) and I flew to Charleston on Thursday evening May 9. It was only approximately a half-hour trip from the airport to where we'd stayed on Johns Island. "Dr. Elliot's" house, conveniently located, is on the main highway that takes you out to the Rural Mission office, and to the jobs where we worked. On Friday Jeff showed us around the area. We stopped by the Rockville Church, which is beautiful, and then the nearby wharf where his friend owns a large commercial fishing business. We were one day late for the "big catch" that had come in the day before. Darn. Our next stop was the Charleston Tea Plantation, which happens to be the only plantation in the states. Carrie and I did the tours and learned more about the tea that we enjoy! We made it out the beach later that day, but the winds were so strong, it wasn't too enjoyable.

Saturday and Sunday were spent partly in Charleston, enjoying their open markets and walking around taking in the beautiful homes. The Rockville Church had a lovely Easter service. Their "children's time" up front had as many kids as ours, and the church is quite a bit smaller. Bill, Sandy, and Emma Dhimitri arrived late Easter evening.

Monday morning we were off to Mrs. Ford's house to begin her floor replacement. Jeff had already assessed and purchased what supplies were needed. Both her living room and kitchen floors had several weak spots. Back in 1998 we put in a total new floor for her on the other half of her house. She's a lovely lady, and has her adult grandson living with her now. Jeff has maintained a friendship with her since that first trip. We were able to celebrate a belated 82nd birthday with her while we were there. For this project, we were joined by three young men

from a private school in Maryland. They were sophomores, but mature and comfortable working with us and the tools. Their group of about 15 was staying right at Rural Mission that week. Monday we were able to complete the living room. Tuesday the kitchen was almost finished, and so we came back on Wednesday to complete it. Things went smoothly and, speaking for myself (and the others I think!), we all learned lots in those three days. Jeff had been helping on the other project with the rest of the group from Maryland. Bill's knowledge and patience were a blessing for us. The end result was a very happy Mrs. Ford and a sense of accomplishment for us.

Later on Wednesday, we took the Dhimitris to all the places that we'd visited on Friday (we didn't want them to miss out on the fun!). Something new we happened on, though, was a fish hatchery, on Wadmalaw Island. We were lucky enough to have a private "tour" by a nice young man who you could tell just loved what he did for the DEC. We saw several species, from cobia fingerlings (which he told us is becoming a popular mild fish) to tanks that held sturgeons. What a neat treat for us! We enjoyed a nice dinner out on the deck at Charleston Crab House that evening.

Dhimitris left for home early Thursday AM, so Carrie and I joined in on the other project, working with the entire group of young men from Maryland. They had replaced many of "Miss Sue's" outside walls of her house and were into painting at that point. We helped with first and second coats, and by the time we left it was looking bright and fresh, in the yellow she had chosen. She was so pleased. Jeff had told us that Sue was the type of person who was always helping others, and it was brought to his atten-

Continued at right

You Can Help Sort and Pack Church World Service Kits

Peg MacKenzie alerts us to a new opportunity to help with Church World Service Kits. LUMC just sent off well over 900 kits, a new record. Next year, right after LUMC sends off the next batch, you could jump on a bus to Maryland and help receive, sort, and pack those kits.

From May 10 to 14, 2010, you could travel to New Windsor, Maryland, and work in the Church World Service central depot. The price of \$375 includes transportation, lodging, and meals.

See Peg MacKenzie for more information on this volunteer opportunity. Meantime, start collecting materials for the School, Health, and Baby Kits so we can set a new record of 1,000 kits next May.

Mission Trip to Johns Island (concluded)

tion that her home really needed work. The few things that were needed to complete her project were finished by Jeff and the next group that was to come in. Overall, it was a great week and learning experience for us. It was a pleasure to see Mrs. Ford again, to meet and work with "the boys" and meet all of the wonderful friends of Jeff's. They made the trip extra special for us! Several LUMC folks have mentioned that they would be interested in making this trip again next year. Let's hope it happens. Thanks again to those who helped with and attended our breakfast and braved the nasty day to buy BBQ chicken from us. Those funds were used completely for materials for this trip and the projects Jeff coordinates thru Rural Mission.—Nan Makela

Summer Picnics

Mark your calendar and pull out the potato salad recipe—LUMC summer picnics are coming up. Picnics are scheduled for July 15 and 28 and August 12 and 27. Places will be announced, but usually it's in someone's back yard. A great opportunity to stay in touch with your church family.

Reuse, Rejuvenate, Reconnect = Rummage

For the spring rummage sale in May, several youth helped setup before the sale and cleanup after the sale, and I am incredibly proud of them for doing so. In two short hours, the building was transformed and ready for donations. Cleanup was just the reverse process, and thanks to some more hard-working youth (and adults too, of course!), things were "back to normal" quite quickly.

I heard many thanks from adults throughout the week for the youth's presence, and so I hope that they will continue to serve their church community in these activities.

Since I am reasonably sure that most youth don't read the *Sunbeam* yet, I'll share a secret with you: the goal of them helping with the rummage sale setup and cleanup is not to set up and clean up. The goal I have for youth helping with the rummage sale is to have them interacting with you: learning your names and what you do, learning about past rummage sales and why it started, learning about the very history of the church and our attitudes toward service and helping others. That's a "home run" for rummage sale involvement.

So, when it comes time for the rummage sale setup next fall, please feel free to "commandeer" some youth to help you with a particular task or specific room. Tell them about yourself, send them to take things to "Mrs. so-and-so down in the dish room." This way, they get to know the members of their congregation, and become more involved with it.—Kevin Dunn, Coordinator of Youth Ministries



The Sunbeam

June 2009

Lansing United
Methodist Church

Teacher Appreciation Sunday and
Church Picnic
June 14

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Summer schedule

Worship in the Park, 9:00

June 28 and all of July

Praise at the Fireplace 6:00 at LUMC

Lansing United Methodist Church

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

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