

Easter worship at 6:30, 9:00, and 11:00 AM.

the LUMC

April 2010

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

CHANGE THE WORLD
Open Hearts. Open minds. Open doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church®
UMC.org

Jesus Is Risen!

The World Is Changed

Let's Keep Up the
Good Work

(see page 4)

RETHINKCHURCH





See? I Am Doing a New Thing

I don't know what I'd do if I lived in Australia and Easter occurred in the fall (the seasons are reversed "down under"). Having spent my entire life in upstate New York, the association between spring and Easter is strong. When the robins return and the crocuses pop up their heads from the ground, I start thinking of an empty tomb. It's not a bad connection to have hardwired in my brain. Easter is about new life springing forth. It's always been a blessing to have the world around me bursting forth with life at the same time I'm singing "Christ the Lord is Risen Today." Everything seems in complete harmony.

But then, maybe there would be some value in being in a bleaker time and place for Easter. After all, spring time flowers, though always welcome, aren't really unexpected. On or about March 20 every year, you can expect to find a few flowers in bloom. Nature follows a pretty regular pattern. You can literally set your clock by it.

The resurrection of Jesus, on the other hand, was a shock. It violated the ironclad law of nature that dead means dead—period. It turned history and the normal course of time on its head. When the women arrived at the tomb the first Easter Sunday, they expected to find a corpse, not the Risen Christ. This was radically out of place and out of time. I hope after so many Easter celebrations the radical, unexpected, and completely startling reality of

resurrection isn't lost on me. Jesus' appearance from beyond the grave was like a tulip emerging in full bloom in the middle of a sub-zero November day. Life in the midst of death; joy in the midst of despair. Resurrection is about all of that. I wonder if I'd be any more open to hear this good news if there were no flowers or birds around me.

Well, there's not much chance of me getting to Australia this year for Easter. The truth is, I wouldn't go if I could. I'm actually looking forward to spending that day with you. But I do hope you and I are still capable of seeing how "out of place" and unexpected Easter is. This is God's doing. It's a gift, an unearned blessing. Interrupting the flow of nature and history, God transforms defeat into victory, humiliation into triumph and death into life for all. No wonder we sing "Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!" with such passion on Easter Sunday morning.

Alleluia, indeed!
Happy Easter,

Pastor B.M.

P.S. Please note the Charge Conference on April 11, following morning worship, for the purpose of voting on creation of a Permanent Endowment Committee.—P.B.

Get Set for the Rummage Sale

Now that the sun is out, temperatures are rising and the clocks have been adjusted for daylight savings time, you know spring is on the way. But that also means it's Rummage Sale time! The spring sale will be held May 7 and 8 this year. We want to share a few planning items with you now, and ask that you keep an eye on the bulletin for updates as we get closer.

- Set-up starts the afternoon of May 1 and continues on May 2 after fellowship.
- Drop off for items begins Sunday, May 2, after 3:00 p.m. and continues through Tuesday evening, May 4, at 6:00 PM. (We will not be taking televisions again this sale based to the recent analog to digital transition.)
- May 3, 4, 5, and 6: Sorting, organizing, pricing. Café Rummage open to feed our hungry workers.

Youth Mission Can and Bottle Drive

Here's a way you can support our Youth Mission team as they raise money for their next mission trip. On the third Sunday of each month, bring your deposit cans and bottles to the basketball hoop on the south side of the church. This month, the can and bottle drive is April 18. Sorry, no can do any other time, because there's no storage.

Prayer Concerns

Bernie Douka, Jim Juenger, William King, Paul Lutomski, Charlie Namias, Janet Passmore, James Petosa, Kevin Robbins, Lee White, Charlotte Wilson

—May 7 and 8: Sale!

—Clean-up starts May 8 at noon.

In preparation for the sale, please start saving these items: Grocery-size paper bags, masking tape, plastic grocery bags, black markers, and empty plastic gallon jugs (with caps and handles).

This is an effort that involves our whole church family, as well as many friends from our community. If you've never had the chance to be involved, we'd love for you to give it a try, even for just an hour sometime during the week. Please call Shelly Stark, 533-4118, or Bonnie Blair, 257-0721, to talk about what you might enjoy doing.

Take the Challenge to Help the Food Pantry

This month is the second and last month in this year's Feinsein Challenge. Every dollar or can you donate in April counts toward a share of \$1 million, which the Feinsein Foundation will split among all food pantries. Every dollar and can counts!

Next time you're at the store think about: Canned or packaged dinners, canned fruits or vegetables, packaged desserts and snacks, baking supplies, egg noodles, packaged rice, canned meat or fish, other assorted pastas, macaroni and cheese, soups, crackers, peanut butter, jelly, cereal, fruit juices, powdered milk, baby food, baby cereal, coupons for diapers, bath soap, toilet paper, toothpaste, shampoo, and dish and clothes detergent.

If you make a monetary donation, the food pantry people will take care of the shopping for you. Aldi's just loves to see us coming!



SUNDAY
*Lansing United
 Methodist Church*

MONDAY

*April
 2010*

TUESDAY

Note: This calendar is current as of March 23. For updates to all LUMC events, visit lansingunited.org, and check the bulletin when you're in church on Sunday.

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

4 EASTER SUNDAY
 HE IS RISEN!
 Sunrise Worship 6:30
 Worship 9:00
 Worship 11:00

5
 Office Closed
 Staff Parish Committee 7:00

6
 Quilt Bee 9:30
 Nominating 7:00

7
 Prayer Service 9:00
 Women's Bible Study 9:30
 Bell Choir 6:00
 Choir 7:00

8
 Senior High Youth 7:00

9

10 Mens' Breakfast 7:00
 Prayer Shawl Ministry 10:00

11 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
 Worship 9:00
 Charge Conference to Follow
 Sunday School 10:30
 Caregivers 10:30
 Confirmation Bible Study 3:30
 Praise Singers Rehearsal 5:00
 Fireplace Contemporary Worship 6:00

12
 Trustees 7:30

13
 Quilt Bee 9:30
 Church Council 7:00

14 Prayer Service 9:00
 Women's Bible Study 9:30
 Bell Choir 6:00
 Choir 7:00

15
 SUNBEAM DEADLINE
 12:00 Midnight
 Senior High Youth 7:00

16

17
 Mens' Breakfast 7:00

18 THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER & NATIVE AMERICAN SUNDAY
 Worship 9:00
 Sunday School 10:30
 Youth Mission Can and Bottle Drive
 Confirmation Bible Study 3:30
 K.A.N. 4:00
 Praise Singers Rehearsal 5:00
 Fireplace Contemporary Worship 6:00

19
 Haiti Committee 7:00

20
 Quilt Bee 9:30
 Membership 7:00
 Youth Ministry 7:00

21 Prayer Service 9:00
 Women's Bible Study 9:30
 Bell Choir 6:00
 Choir 7:00

22
 Senior High Youth 7:00

23

24
 Mens' Breakfast 7:00
 CHANGE THE WORLD WEEKEND

25 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
 CHANGE THE WORLD WEEKEND
 Worship 9:00
 Sunday School 10:30
 Confirmation Bible Study 3:30
 Praise Singers Rehearsal 5:00
 Fireplace Contemporary Worship 6:00

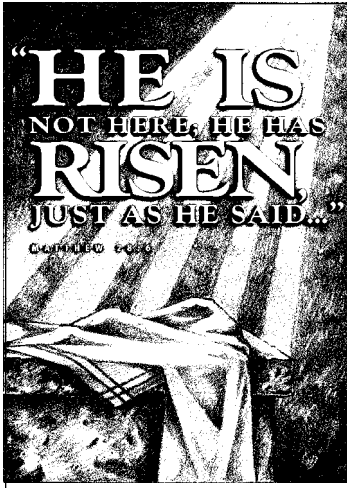
26
 Food Pantry 3:00

27
 Quilt Bee 9:30
 Finance 7:00

28 Prayer Service 9:00
 Women's Bible Study 9:30
 Bell Choir 6:00
 Choir 7:00

29
 Senior High Youth 7:00

30



Worship in April

The church is at its best around Easter, I think. That's because we're so close to our source. Without Easter, church would be a club. Because of Easter, church can be a celebration of new life, new possibilities, and new horizons. "He is risen" rings throughout these days of April. Come next Sunday to reconnect with the Source of Easter joy.

April 1—Holy Thursday: "Lord, Is It I?" 7:30 PM. A worship drama based on the story of the Last Supper

as portrayed by Leonardo Di Vinci. Holy Communion will be served. Please invite friends and neighbors to attend with you this night. Child care is provided.

April 2—Good Friday: 7:00 PM. A simple, meditative service to enable us to focus on the love of God poured out through the death of Jesus on the Cross. The bell choir will perform this night. Read: Isaiah 52:13–53:12; Psalm 22; Hebrews 10:16-25; and John 18:1–19:42.

April 4—Easter Sunday. Alleluia, He is Risen! For Christians this Sunday is the most important of the year. We will commemorate Jesus' triumph over the grave and seek a renewed sense of his risen presence. It's the best day of all; don't miss the celebration! Read: Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26; and John 20:1-18.

Easter Sunrise Service: 6:30 AM. Led by our youth! Followed by a light breakfast.

Easter Festival Worship: 9:00 and 11:00 AM. The Ithaca College Trombone Ensemble will be with us again for both services. (No Fireplace evening service today only.)

April 11—Second Sunday of Easter. Our District Superintendent, the Reverend David Underwood, will preach this morning. He will also lead us through a brief "Church Conference" to vote on the proposed "Permanent Endowment Fund" immediately following worship. Come meet Dave and hear another witness to the resurrection of Jesus. Read: Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 150; Revelation 1:4-8; and John 20:19-31.

April 18—Third Sunday of Easter: If you're an angler, it's hard to imagine a time when "going fishing" isn't a good thing. But when the Risen Christ finds his disciples back in their fishing boats, he's a bit perturbed. He's got different work for them now. What different work might he have for you? Read: Acts 9:1-6, 7-20; Psalm 30; Revelation 5:11-14 and John 21:1-19.

April 25—Fourth Sunday of Easter: This Sunday is often called "Good Shepherd Sunday" because of all the scriptural references to Jesus as a shepherd (and a pretty good one at that!). What makes a shepherd good? What makes a sheep happy? Come find out. Read: Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23; Revelation 7:9-17; and John 10:22-30.

Note: If you'd like to join the expanded choir to sing "Hallelujah" on Easter, please come for a runthrough at 8:45 and 10:45, just before each service.

Change The World

Over the next several weeks during Sunday School you will have the opportunity to hear fascinating stories from various mission teams from both LUMC and other faith communities. These teams are made up of ordinary Christians like you and me who have a passion in their hearts and a goal in mind to make a difference in the world. As we celebrate the Risen Christ we are called to demonstrate our faith as Easter people.



On Sunday, April 11, John Aasen, Ed Pasto, and others will speak about their **mission work in Guatemala**. The cook stove construction project enables villagers to prepare food in a healthy, sustainable way. On Sunday, April 18, Deb LaVigne and Reenie Sandsted will talk about their recent efforts to transport medical supplies to people in **great need in Haiti**. Both teams will share details of their journeys.

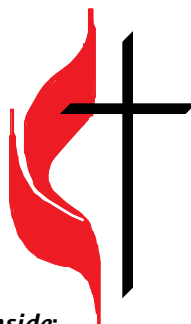
The last weekend of the month is **Change the World Weekend**. LUMC along with 11 million United Methodists across the world will join together to raise awareness on how we can make a difference both locally and globally. UM Communications says, "Change The World campaign challenges the people of the UMC to see the world holistically by giving and serving beyond the four walls of sanctuaries. Our hope is that not only will church members participate, they will invite neighbors in the community to work side by side with them to make a difference in diverse ways." We are blessed to live in a community that comes together for the good of others.

April 25 is **World Malaria Day**. The goal is to end malaria deaths by the year 2015, and we need to raise awareness and encourage world leaders to support malaria prevention and treatment. Nothing But Nets is a program created by the UN Foundation that provides nets where

they are needed and education about how to use them. Bonnie Blair will lead a presentation on the **Nothing But Nets** program during adult Sunday School hour. Following Bonnie, Rev. Dave Nicholls will discuss the good work that **Habitat for Humanity** is doing here in our community. Habitat is completing one project and breaking ground for two other homes.

This is also **Faith in Books Weekend**. Faith in Books is sponsored by Area Congregations Together and the Family Reading Partnership, a community collaboration that works to ensure all children have an opportunity to read and enjoy books. LUMC distributes books at the monthly Food Pantry. We are especially in need of young people's board books. We appreciate your continued support of this program.

As you can see, there is good work happening at church. You are fine examples of Easter people who use their faith in making a difference both here at home and beyond. There are many ways we can help our friends, our neighbors, our community and our world. If you are looking for a place to share your gifts and invest your energy, you have found a home at LUMC that will provide you with resources and opportunities. We can make the world a better place, we can change the world one person at a time! God Bless.—*Marilyn Paradise*



The Sunbeam

April 2010

Lansing United
Methodist Church

Inside:

Expect the Unexpected, page 2
Easter Worship, page 8
Change the World, page 9 (Yes! You!)

Easter Worship 6:30, 9:00, and 11:00 AM
Other Sundays 9:00 AM and 6:00 PM
Prayer Service, Wednesday, 9:00 AM

Holy Thursday

Lord, Is It I?, April 1, 7:30 PM
Good Friday, April 2 7:00 PM

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

The 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, 2010.