

Please join us for worship at 9:00. Sunday school at 10:30.
Praise and Prayer at the Fireplace, 6:00 PM

the LUMC

May 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



Mission to Haiti

See page 8



From the Pastor

Reflections

As I arrange to take my new position as the Director of Connectional Ministries for the Upper New York Conference, as it will be known in July, I'm in the process of packing up my office. As you know, I love books and I have a fair number of them. But I'm not thrilled about lugging heavy boxes to my new office, nor will I have as much room there. So I'm culling my collection. Moves are a good time to do this. So far, I've taken an entire copier paper box down to the library book sale drop off. I expect I'll have another box ready soon.

It's not an easy task because, as I said, I love books. I like to hold on to things. But "letting go" is a healthy thing. Frankly, the half hour I spend packing each morning before the other staff arrive has been therapeutic. It's given me a chance to reflect on my time with you. I find myself lifting up a prayer or two as I empty my shelves. I share a word of thanks to God for these incredible seven years we've shared. And I pray for God's Pentecost Spirit to continue to move among you, to bless you and keep you blessing others.

I will be here until the middle of June, of course. Not leaving quite yet. Which is good in many ways. I have more to pack and more prayers to share.

+Grace and Peace,

Pastor Bill

New Pastor Announced for Lansing UMC

Jane Sautter, from New Hartford

With Pastor Bill's transition to the new conference office, Lansing UMC will have a new pastor on July 1. Bishop Matthews has sent Jane Sautter to us, from the New Hartford UMC.



A native of Rome, she has served churches in upstate New York, and she was for a time the pastor of the Wilbur-Memorial UMC in White Swan, Washington, working on the Yakima Reservation. Before that she was at the Camden UMC,

which still carries this photo of her on its website. From New Hartford, here is a moment at the chancel.—gw



Rummage Sale

May 7 and 8

Become part of the three-fold miracle of the rummage sale.

(Miracle 1) There's always a huge amount of stuff.

(Miracle 2) People buy this stuff.

(Miracle 3) Thanks to the cleaning crew, we actually have church the next day.

Seriously, the rummage sale has several goals. It provides a real chance for people who need stuff to find it, and it offers camaraderie for the rummage sale workers. Plus, it also raises substantial money for the church's missions. It also has many moving parts, so there's something for everybody.

Setup begins May 1 and concludes May 2.

Drop off items from Sunday, May 2, through Tuesday, May 4, only. No TVs, no appliances, no encyclopedias, no broken junk! No one wants them!

Sorting, organizing, and pricing, May 3-6, anytime you want to do it.

Café Rummage is open throughout, so donate some food or eat some.

The Sale: May 7: 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM

May 8: 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Cleanup starts at noon May 8. The more people cleaning the faster it's done.

Baby Kit

- 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 hand-knitted or crocheted baby blanket)

Remember, all items should be new.

Prayer Requests

Ada and Deb, friends of Frahms
Mourning family of Clarence Benson
Bert and Mary Breese
Wanda Brink
Barb Denhoff
Jim Juenger
Steve Oliver, Sr., relative of the Chapmans
Paul Stratton, son-in-law of Selbys
George Taylor, father of Dave Taylor
Marcus Williams, friend of Butmans
Diane Withiam

Church World Service Kits

Remember, the only rule is, no substitutions.

School Kit

- 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

Annual Chicken BBQ

Watch for information on the annual Chicken Barbeque, which has been a Memorial Day weekend tradition for a long time.



Worship in May

When I think of May I think of vitality. That's because spring is in full force during May. Tulips, baby robins, and newly planted gardens are just a few signs of life springing up. But May also brings to mind vitality because its the month we celebrate Pentecost (May 23), when we remember the gift of the Holy Spirit coming upon the disciples. The Holy Spirit is the source of the spiritual vitality we experience all year long. On Pentecost Sunday we pay particular attention to the Spirit's work among us and pray a bold prayer: Come, Spirit, Fill My Life. On this particular Pentecost Sunday, six of our youth will pray this prayer with particular emphasis as they participate in our rite of Confirmation. As we witness the Holy Spirit at work in the lives of Seychelle, Tasha, Lauren, Jimmy, Danny, and Jason, all of us may experience new life taking shape in ourselves.

May 2—Fifth Sunday of Easter (Holy Communion will be served today)
Read: Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 148; Revelation 21:1-6; and John 13:31-35.
No Fire Place Service tonight due to Rummage Sale Set Up

May 9—Sixth Sunday of Easter (Mother's Day Commemoration). Read: Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5; and John 14:23-29.

@ *The Fire Place* (6:00 PM Contemporary Worship Service in Fellowship Hall)

May 16—Ascension Sunday. Read: Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47; Ephesians 1:15-23; and Luke 24:44-53.

@ *The Fire Place* (6:00 PM Contemporary Worship Service in Fellowship Hall) - Dianne Walter begins a two-week series on "The Challenges and Joys of Christian Parenting."

May 23—Pentecost. Read: Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Romans 8:14-17; and John 14:8-17 (25-27).

@ *The Fire Place* (6:00 PM Contemporary Worship Service in Fellowship Hall) - Dianne Walter concludes her series on "The Challenges and Joys of Christian Parenting."

May 30—Trinity Sunday (Memorial Day Commemoration) Read: Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31; Psalm 8; Romans 5:1-5; and John 16:12-15.

@ *The Fire Place* (6:00 PM Contemporary Worship Service in Fellowship Hall)

Let It Snow...

Trustees are exploring whether there is anyone in the congregation interested in assisting with snowplowing the church parking lots next winter. Scott Bishop has been providing this service to LUMC for years at no charge. There are times Scott may be out of town and not available to plow and also possible times of heavy snowfall when Scott would need someone else with a plow to assist him. If you have a snowplow and are willing to assist, please contact Scott Bishop at 533-4744 or sbishop1@twcny.rr.com

Mission Travel: Past and Present

"The measure of a person's faith is the effect it has."

During the month of May we begin to wind down our studies for a summer break. Throughout the next four weeks, depending on where you attend Sunday School, you will have the opportunity to hear stories of ancient mission travel spreading the word of God, a presentation on one family's history, survival and quest for religious freedom, and recent mission trips both here in the 'States and abroad.



The children's Sunday School classes will study a final unit entitled "**Paul.**" Beginning with his Jewish name Saul, the children will learn the story of Paul (his Roman name) and how redemption, forgiveness, and calling were part of his life. They will learn how Paul converted to Christianity and began preaching and teaching, and how, as an apostle and missionary for Jesus, he helped spread Christianity throughout Europe and parts of Asia. Paul's conversion to Christianity was personal, when he encountered the Risen Christ. From this experience, Paul carried the message to God's people.

On Sunday, May 2, Fred Voss, author of the book *Miracles, Memories, and Milestones*, will visit and share the story of his life. His book is a memoir of nine generations of the Voss Family. For nearly 200 years, like most Jews in Germany, they lived in peace. Then in 1933, the Nazi government came to power and denied Jews the right to live in Germany. Mr. Voss will share how he and his family found safety and freedom again in the United States. Please join us for this special presentation.

Dave and Sally Stoyell just returned from **Youth Mission**, a week of mission work with ten other students and four parents at John's Island, South Carolina. The team stayed at Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church and worked at the homes of two elderly ladies. The group replaced floors and door frames and participated in small household projects. Join us on Sunday, May 16, to hear more about their mission experience.

Sunday School concludes on Sunday, May 23, with Tammy Austin speaking about her recent **trip to Zimbabwe**. A year ago seven folks from this area boarded an airplane bound for Zimbabwe. The tasks assigned to them included conducting a short VBS program for children near Mutare, painting buildings at Mutambara Mission Center, and, most important, building relationships with the Zimbabweans. Join us and learn more about their mission work.

If our faith is measured by the effect it has, then we as Christians, as Easter people, have the responsibility of accepting this gift of faith and spreading the word as Paul did centuries ago. God Bless.—*Marilyn Paradise*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>2 CAMPERSHIP SUNDAY Worship 9:00 Sunday School 10:30</p> <p>Childrens Ministry 11:30 Discipleship Class at Blairs 3:30 K.A.N. 4:00</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 Prayer Service 9:00</p>	<p>6 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER</p>	<p>7 Rummage Sale Flower Basket Sale</p>	<p>1 Men's Breakfast 7:00 Prayer Shawl Ministry 10:00</p> <p>8 Flower Basket Sale</p>
Rummage Sale Setup and Sorting All Week						
<p>9 MOTHERS DAY, FESTIVAL OF THE CHRISTIAN HOME Worship 9:00 Sunday School (Children and Youth) 10:30</p> <p>Discipleship Class 3:30</p> <p>Praise Singers Rehearsal 5:00 Fireplace Worship 6:00</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Trustees 7:30</p>	<p>11 Quilt Bee 9:30</p> <p>Church Council 7:00</p>	<p>12 Prayer Service 9:00</p> <p>Bell Choir 6:00 Choir 7:00</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Senior High Youth 7:00</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 Mens' Breakfast at Linda's in North Lansing 7:00 LOAP Banquet 10:00</p> <p>SUNBEAM DEADLINE 12:00 Midnight</p>
<p>16 Worship 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 YOUTH MISSION CAN AND BOTTLE DRIVE Women of Faith Bake Sale 10:30 Fireplace Service Planning 11:30 Discipleship Class 3:30 VBS Planning 4:00 Praise Singers Rehearsal 5:00 Fireplace Worship 6:00</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Mobile Food Pantry 10:00</p> <p>Haiti Committee 7:00</p>	<p>18 Quilt Bee 9:30</p> <p>Membership 7:00</p>	<p>19 Prayer Service 9:00</p> <p>Bell Choir 6:00 Choir 7:00</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Senior High Youth 7:00</p>	<p>21</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Junior High Lock-in</p>	<p>22 Mens' Breakfast 7:00</p>
<p>23 PENTECOST AND CONFIRMATION Worship 9:00 Sunday School 10:30</p>  <p>Rummage Sale Retrospective 11:30</p> <p>Praise Singers 5:00 Fireplace Worship 6:00</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Food Pantry 3:00</p>	<p>25 Quilt Bee 9:30</p> <p>Youth Ministry 7:00</p>	<p>26 Prayer Service 9:00</p> <p>Office Volunteer Lunch 11:30</p> <p>Bell Choir 6:00 Adult Choir 7:00</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Senior High Youth 7:00</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 Mens' Breakfast 7:00</p> <p>Annual Church Barbecue</p>
<p>30 PEACE WITH JUSTICE AND TRINITY SUNDAY Worship 9:00</p> <p>Praise Singers Rehearsal 5:00 Fireplace Worship 6:00</p>	<p>31</p> <p>MEMORIAL DAY</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</p>		 <p><i>Lansing United Methodist Church</i></p>	<p>Note: This calendar is current as of April 23. For updates to all LUMC events, visit lansingunited.org, and check the bulletin when you're in church on Sunday.</p>		<p><i>May 2010</i></p>



Haiti Relief: “Clinique Impromptu”

Note: In April, a team of five Lansing residents went to St. Marc, Haiti, to bring medical supplies and to offer medical help. Because the airport at Port-au-Prince was in rubble from the earthquake, they flew into Santo Domingo,

Dominican Republic, each with two suitcases filled to the weight limit with donated medical supplies. Then they had to drive through the DR, over the hills and across the border to Haiti. After a night in Port-au-Prince, they traveled a couple of hours north to St. Marc, which was not damaged in the earthquake. There they staffed an impromptu clinic for a week. Assisted by local health care professionals, they were able to provide primary health care to some 500 Haitians, which meant that they saw 100 people per day. Team members were Ashley Dean, Deb LaVigne, Reenie Sandsted, Sarah Sandsted, and Sarah Thomson. The Haiti medical team would like to thank everyone who donated money or supplies to the team. The trip was successful and the supplies were much needed.

Sarah Sandsted wrote the following description of one of the 500 patients at the clinic at St. Marc.—gw

If I told you that I remembered her name, I would be lying. Her face, however, is indelibly etched in my memory. There wasn't anything remarkable about her appearance aside from the fact that at the age of 49, she looked 75. Withered and frail, she sat waiting at the front door of the clinic rocking uneasily back and forth, her face twisted anxiously, her mouth half open, and her arms crossed against her chest. She looked jolted out of functioning consciousness. She looked scared.

I had been given no context for her visit, so I naturally assumed she was coming in with the usual complaints: night sweats, fever, acid reflux, high blood pressure—the general conditions that plague everyday Haitian life. “Kisa ou gen jodi a?” I asked, probing her to describe her symptoms.

Her voice was soft and high-pitched, a predictable match to her stature and demeanor. “I have cramps in my shoulders” she explained, gripping them in discomfort. “I have acid burning in my stomach, and my mouth is painfully

dry. My blood pressure is high, and I can feel my heart pounding hard and fast in my chest.”

None of this was shocking. Seeing close to 70 patients per day, I had acquired an instinctive knack with their diagnosis. I am only a translator, and have no medical training, but with the repetitive nature of the hospital's overflow patients, I could practically write the prescriptions myself.

“Depi ki le ou te komanse santi konsa?” I fully expected her to respond by telling me that she started feeling this way most of her life—a recurrent response from most of our patients.

“Since the event.”

I looked up, and swallowed a lump forming in my throat. She wasn't looking at me. She was looking at the table and the chart I was filling out. Incessantly, she rocked back and forth and gripped her shoulders in agonizing pain. She wasn't with me in that room. All substance was drained from her, she was gone.

continued at right

Haiti Connection (continued)

“Were you living in Port-au-Prince when the earthquake hit?”

“Yes, I was there.”

“Did you lose family and friends?”

“Everyone.”

“Who are you living with in Saint Marc?”

“My daughter.”

I looked at Debbie, the nurse working with me on the case, and translated our exchange. She kept her face surprisingly calm and touched the woman's arm sympathetically.

“Ask her if she's seen a doctor about her high blood pressure.”

The woman explained that she had seen a doctor since she moved to St.

Marc, but the medicine that he prescribed had only made things worse. “My daughter is outside,” she whimpered. “She can show you the medicine I'm taking.”

As she led me into the courtyard, she held my hand firmly. She was small and helpless in her vulnerability. Shuffling her feet she made eye contact with no one, leading me directly to a plump woman sitting a few feet from the door.

I directed her grown daughter inside the clinic and proceeded to ask her more detailed questions concerning her mother's migration to Saint Marc. As it turned out, she had moved to

Saint Marc to be with her family after the earthquake destroyed her home and neighborhood in Port-au-Prince.

“She was outside in the street when the earthquake hit. If she had been inside she would have died. Everyone in her house died. She did get hit with large pieces of rubble, however. I think that's why her shoulders hurt.”



Haiti Mission team members find a quiet moment. In addition to other missionaries and local medical staff, the Lansing team is (front, left to right) Ashley Dean and Sarah Thomson; (back) Reenie Sandsted, Deb LaVigne, and Sarah Sandsted.

Her daughter seemed unreasonably calm. Her voice and posture never wavered even as she explained what happened next.

Soon after her arrival, our patient's world was shattered once more—plummeting her into depression and tremendous anxiety.

“My sister died right after

my mother moved to Saint Marc.”

“How did she die?”

“She was killed by her own husband.”

My heartbeat quickened. I wasn't sure I had heard correctly.

“Her husband murdered her out of jealousy. He beat her to death in front of our home in the street. He went crazy and couldn't stop hitting her. We had her funeral 9 days after the earthquake.”

The old woman moved uneasily as her

continued on next page

Haiti Connection (concluded)

daughter spoke. She clenched her collarbone and slumped lower in her chair.

"She won't eat at all. She hasn't slept since she's been out here, and things are only getting worse for her. Since she started this new medication her mouth has become so dry, but it's hard to get her to drink water. I don't know what to do to help her. She refuses to let me take her back to the other doctor. She insisted we come here instead."

Feeling the need to comfort her, as she looked on the verge of cardiac arrest, I ushered her back to the examination room and sat her down on a comfortable bed. I brought her some crackers and a banana which she ate gratefully. As Debbie wrote her prescriptions, I stroked her back with my fingertips.

"God loves you, you do know that right?," I asked as she picked a piece of cut up banana and chewed it slowly.

"Wi, mwen konnen," she whispered, acknowledging her agreement.

"We are going to get you some medicine to help with your blood pressure, cramping, and burning stomach. We will also make sure that you can sleep better now. We are also going to write you a consult to go talk to someone about your fear and grief. They will be able to help you feel better."

She nodded gratefully, "Mesi."

"Know that God has not left you, and he will never, ever leave you."

For the first time, the woman smiled. She stretched her arms out in front of her and buried her head in the crevice between my shoulder and collar bone.

"Mwen konnen cheri"

I picked up a bag of donated clothing and pulled out a bright pink and orange skirt, prompting her eyes to widen in surprise.

"Is this beautiful enough for you to wear?," I asked, smiling.

She nodded vigorously, smiled again, and stood to leave with her prescriptions in her hand.

As she left, she walked with more assuredness. I wiped the tears from my eyes after she closed the door behind her, wondering if I would ever see her again and, more importantly, how many people felt the same as she did, with nowhere to turn.

The next day, as I went to call a patient inside for a consult, I noticed the woman's daughter sitting under some shade in the front part of the courtyard. I ran over to her and asked excitedly how her mother was feeling.

"Madame Sarah, last night my mother slept for the first time since the earthquake. I am going to take her to see the psychologist next week with the prescription you wrote. I have hope that she will get better now. Thank you so much for this clinic. I don't know what we would have done without you."—*Sarah Sandsted*

Other Volunteer Trips to Haiti

The Haiti Partnership of Wyoming Conference will send a 12-person VIM Team to Haiti, May 20-29. Following guidelines for Haiti volunteers, members selected for this team have to be experienced in going to Haiti, at least 21 years of age, and trained to serve as a VIM. Expected work will be to deconstruct the heavily damaged church in Mellier and provide VBS-type experiences for children in the community, although flexibility is

Because UMCOR is scheduling VIM teams into Haiti from all over the U.S. and has to restrict the number of teams so that it is not overwhelming for the Methodist Church of Haiti, there are limited possibilities for teams to go to Haiti later this year.

Campership Sunday—May 2

Calling all campers! You are encouraged to wear your camp T-shirt on campership Sunday, May 2!

It's time to check out the newest camps being offered at both Casowasco and Aldersgate for 2010. The quicker you make your application, the better chance you'll have of securing your first choice. Join your friends (new and old) for a fun filled week enjoying nature, new adventures and experiencing God's love in all that you do!

Assistance is available through LUMC's Camperships. Look for applications in the Narthex. This Campership Fund is funded by our congregation's support, from the church budget and from donations. The main fund raiser is the annual hanging flower basket sale (done so graciously by Rick & Charla Hayes, as explained at right)... In addition, we will be receiving an offering on May 2, and we hope for another fundraiser this spring. Your donations will help offset the cost of camp for families. Our motto has always been, "no one gets turned away," so please help us by allowing our kids to experience one of the best weeks of their summer! Thank You!!—*Nan Makela*

Invite a Friend to Summer Camp at Aldersgate and Casowasco 2010 Summer Online Brochure and Registration

The 2010 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.

If you are a camper, invite a friend. The church will help pay some or all of the cost for you and for your friend. Plus, this year the camping ministry is offering a discount for you if you encourage another child to sign up. Check the website for details. Again, your friend does not have to be a member of this church, or any church. Your friend doesn't have to be a Christian. Your friend only needs to want to have a fun time among people who share the love of Christ. That's what camp is all about. So, think about inviting a friend to camp!

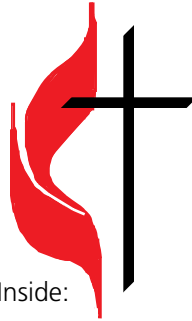
Flower Basket Sale will Benefit LUMC Campership Fund

Rick and Charla Hayes will set up their flower stand on the corner of Brickyard and Ridge Road on Friday and Saturday, May 7 and 8, to sell you some pretty flower baskets, just in time for Mothers Day. Rick has been doing this for several years now, and has provided camperships for dozens of children.

As Nan Makela explains at left, LUMC's policy is that money should not stand in the way of any child attending camp. The church will pay some or all of the cost of camp for any child who wants to go. You do not need to be a member of this church, a member of the Methodist Church, or a member of any church. Camp is open to all children. Just speak to Nan.

Some camps are filling up, so if you want to go to camp, log on to aldersgateny.org or casowasco.org to see what camps are scheduled.





The Sunbeam

May 2010

Lansing United
Methodist Church

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Sunday School 10:30

Fireplace Worship 6:00

Pentecost, and Confirmation May 23

Rummage Sale May 7 and 8

Lansing United Methodist Church

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

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Please send your news to Glenn Withiam, editor,
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near the church office.

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