

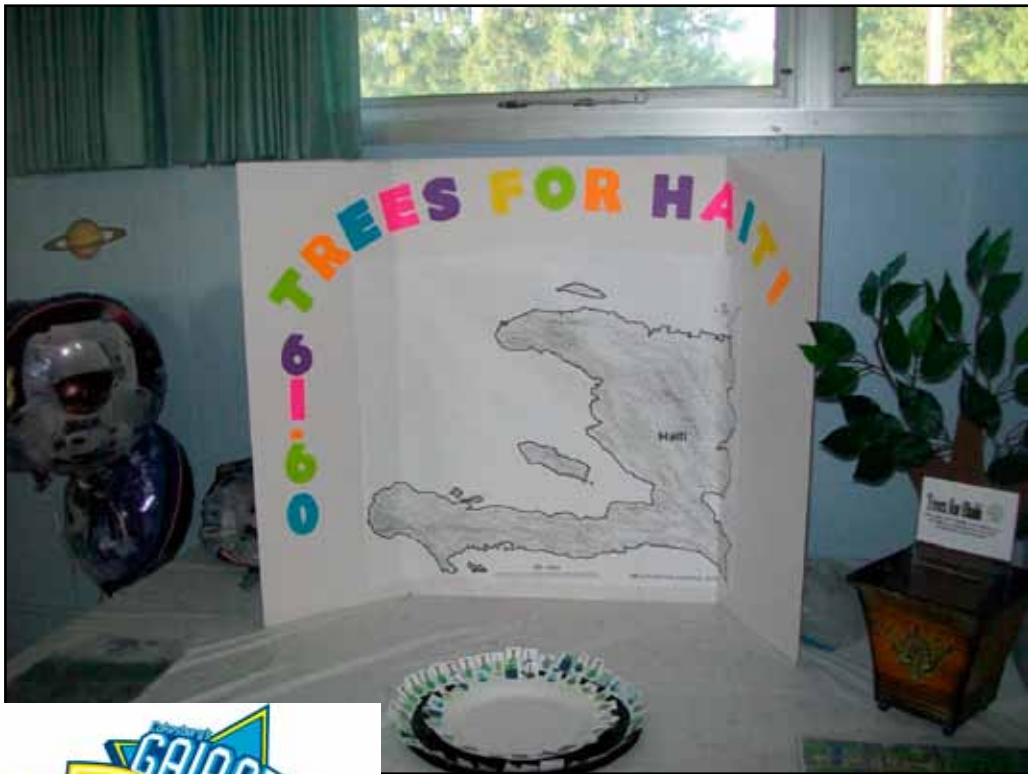


Please join us for Sunday Worship at 9:00 AM
The Fireplace Praise Service starts September 12, 6:00 PM
Sunday School for all ages starts September 19, 10:30 AM

The Sunbeam September 2010

Lansing United Methodist Church
lansingunited.org

Pastor: Jane Sautter • Program Associate: Marilyn Paradise • Youth Coordinator: Kevin Dunn



Trees for Haiti
Courtesy of Galactic Blast
Vacation Bible School

See page 9

From the Pastor

For God, the Time Is Always Now

So, here we are at the beginning of a new program year! It always confuses me that the church program year starts in September, the liturgical year starts with Advent, and the fiscal year starts with January. Then, Lansing throws in the mix the leadership change in July! Makes me wonder if we will ever know when we are supposed to start...start what, you ask...well, start anything! It's sort of like that diet that we will start on Monday...or the first of the month... or the first of the year. If we need a start date, we may never get around to it at all!

As I look and puzzle over this confusing conundrum...it makes me think that God is telling us that any time at all is the right time to start being faithful. God doesn't expect that we will wait until the time is right...God expects our best RIGHT NOW!! We will always be able to find an excuse to put things off, but God is not even slightly interested in our excuses. We can always say we are too busy,

but God will keep after us until we pay attention.

Throughout my faith journey, I have had to learn over and over (a slow learner, perhaps?) this lesson of bargaining with God. I have finally learned that God will allow us to think we are in control, but God will always win in the end. We can take the direct route to God, or we can find our own circuitous path. We can pretend it doesn't matter, or we can be honest about filling the God-shaped hole in our lives.

Life becomes richer and fuller when we are able to admit and submit to the glory and power of the presence of the HOLY. We find energy and joy in doing what God intends for us. We don't have to wait for a specific time to turn to God. Our faithfulness is not connected to any kind of calendar. Right now is the right time! May it be so!

Many blessings,

Pastor Jane

Prayer Concerns

Len Andrew, Pastor Jane's brother-in-law
Geraldine Hatfield, friend of Mary Searles
Tom Macko & family, friends of the Bidlespachers
Tristan Warner, grandson of Cheryl Dykeman-Loveless
Tom Bergman, friend of the Butmans
Debbie, friend of the Butmans
Bernie Douka, friend of the Butmans

Jim Juenger
Paul Lutomski, father of Sharon Bowman's daughter-in-law, Amy
Joshua Marlette, grandson of Cheryl Dykeman-Loveless
Alfred & Janet Passmore, friends of the Butmans
Sophia, friend of the Butmans

A Dedication for a Dedicated Servant of God

A new retreat cabin sized for a small family or an individual was dedicated at Camp Casowasco last June. The fireplace in the cabin, known as the Proskin Cabin, was dedicated to the memory of a former member of LUMC.

You'll know this person if you've been at LUMC for many years, and if you have joined in the last few years, here is an introduction and some clues to who this person was:

- She was an enthusiastic supporter of Casowasco, both in fund raising and leadership. Bob Stoppert (then camp director) once convinced her to do a second week when she had just finished a week of Outreach, her favorite camp and her specialty.
- Her set of values was clear. When someone complained about the length of a worship service, she replied, "But it is a privilege to be here as long as is needed."
- She also counted it a privilege to give to the church.
- Her creative services for the Park gave vitality to our worship there. These included clown ministry, Native American worship with prayers to the four points of the compass and drumming, and scripture read as drama. If you were there you'd never forget George Broadwell as David and Roxanne Thompson as Bathsheba. She also sewed the bright green "Welcome to Worship" banner that we still use.
- Traveling the world was high on her priority list. This lady visited all the continents except Australia—she went to China and Hong Kong, Russia, and Bolivia. Several VIM trips to Africa, included one during which she personally took the proceeds from our first talent auction to Zimbabwe for the startup funds for the new African University. Her other African stops were Nairobi, Mozambique, Kenya, Burundi, and South Africa.
- Taking part in weekend workshops and retreats were part of a constant striving for renewal and excellence: "Men and Women of the Bible," "Therapeutic Touch," "Marriage Encounter," and anything about worship were favorite topics. She and her husband were the first members of our congregation to attend a Jesus Seminar workshop.
- Trained as a geologist, she discovered that there were no jobs for women geologists in that day. She turned her considerable intellect to other pursuits, including those listed here. She could explain to you the difference between an esker, a moraine, and a drumlin.

You may have already guessed that the person honored by the Casowasco fireplace dedication is Martha (Marty) Cockram. With her husband Bob and three young children, she joined LUMC in July 1971. Marty's service of remembrance and thanksgiving was conducted at LUMC by Rev. Martha Swords on December 12, 2002.—

Kate Payne, LUMC Historian

Sunday School and Bible Studies Begin

You are invited to **bring your backpacks** with you to church on Sunday, September 5, to receive a blessing during worship as you begin a new school year. Here at church we are beginning a new journey as well. Join us on Sunday, September 12, for the **Sunday School Kick-Off and Brunch** in the Fellowship Hall following the morning worship service. We are excited to welcome our new pastor, teachers, and assistants to be leaders in our programs. Carrie Makela will assume the role of Chair of the Children's Ministry Committee and the committee will meet after the brunch in the Bible Center classroom. It's shaping up to be a wonderful year!

Children's Sunday School begins with a unit entitled "Lost and Found." Children will hear how God's love is always there for them, no matter where they go or what they do. The lesson will be explained through three parables: The Lost Sheep, The Lost Coin, and the Prodigal Son. In each of the stories God's presence is felt among his people as an animal is recovered, a coin is found, and a relationship is restored. Each story is an example of how God rejoices when the lost is found.

Pastor Jane leads the **adult Sunday School class** and discusses excerpts from one of her favorite books entitled, "How To Pray After You've Kicked the Dog," by Dr. Terry Teykl. Teykl, a former pastor, is now a conference speaker on the topic of prayer. He asks why do so many people who believe in God have so little faith in prayer? Why are we skeptical about talking to God?

Teykl offers us this prayer:

Clear away the dead growth of the past;

Break up the hard clods of custom and routine.

Stir in the rich compost of vision and challenge;

Bury deep in my soul the implanted Word.

Cultivate and water my heart,

Until new life buds and grows and flowers.

Amen.

Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study reconvenes on Wednesday, October 13, at 9:30 AM in the double classroom. Jan Nagel leads the study with the book entitled, "Favorite Bible Passages." The book focuses on twenty-six passages that provide us with personal insight and divine guidance. "As we learn Scripture, the Word comes alive in us. In trouble, joy, pain, or anxiety, we can tell our story by appropriately reciting Scripture in a quiet witness to others." Each chapter focuses on a favorite passage with particular attention to words from Biblical times and words for our time.

Wednesday Prayer Service

Wednesday Prayer Service has resumed in the sanctuary and you are welcome to join us Wednesday mornings at 9:00 AM for this informal prayer time. You may bring your prayer requests, joys and concerns or just a desire to be among the two or more that gather in God's midst.

Disciple Bible Study

Disciple Bible Study will gather on Monday,

continued at right

Worship Texts and Themes for September

September 5—Jeremiah 18:1-11, Luke 14: 25-33

Being shaped/molded in God's image

September 12—Psalm 14: 1-7, Luke 15: 1-10

Rejoicing in God's persistence

September 19—Jeremiah 8: 18 - 9: 1, Luke 16: 1-13

How are we using God's resources

September 26—Pastor Jane on vacation, Rev. Rolly Ryan will preach
The Path of Peace

Sunday School Begins (concluded)

September 13, at 12:30 PM in the Adult Sunday School classroom for an introduction to the series entitled, "Remember Who You Are." This 32-week class is designed to move us deeper into a relationship with God focusing on the major and minor Old Testament prophets and the letters of Paul. Please see the detailed description of the class on page 10. You may sign up for this class on the narthex bulletin board. Bonnie Blair will serve as the facilitator of the study.

Many good things are blossoming here at church and we ask God to bless you as we journey down this new road together. God Bless.—*Marilyn Paradise*

Worshiping God with Music

Adult choir: Interested singers are invited to join (or come back to) the Adult Choir. The choir rehearses Wednesdays from 7:00 to 8:30 PM and sings in church on Sundays. We ask that you commit to regular attendance on Wednesdays and Sundays, but you are welcome to join just for a season or two, as you like. Sopranos, altos, tenors, and basses, high school to age 100 or so, are particularly welcome. More info available from a choir member, Diane Withiam, or Sharon Powell.

Junior choir: Rehearsals begin September 26. In the fall, we rehearse for about 30 minutes after Sunday School, and we sing four times or so in the Sunday worship service. Children in grades three through eight are welcome (or eager second-graders with permission). For more information, see Diane Withiam or Lisa Ryan.

Help for the choirs: Does anyone have a 4-drawer letter-size file cabinet to donate for choir use? Would anyone like to glue carpet remnants onto the big wooden boxes used as scenery or props for kids' plays? See Diane Withiam.

Thank you, from Food Pantry

A **huge** thank you to the K.A.N. kids, Bonnie Blair, and Jeanne Taylor for raising (are you ready for this) \$4,931.50 for the food pantry, during the annual Feinstein Challenge. (Because of this we will also get money from the Feinstein foundation.) As always I am ever so grateful for the \$ so that we can buy things for the pantry that clients can not buy on their own or with food stamps. Such as personal care products, paper products and the like.—*Nancy Myers*

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



**Lansing
United
Methodist
Church**

*September
2010*

1 Prayer Service 9:00

2

3

4
Men's Breakfast
at Linda's in North Lansing
7:00

5
Worship 9:00

6
Labor Day
Office Closed

7
Quilt Bee 9:30

8
Prayer Service 9:00

Bell Choir 6:00
Adult Choir 7:00

9

Senior High Youth
Group 7:00

10

11
Mens' Breakfast
7:00

Red Cross Blood Drive
8:30-2:00
Get yourself an appointment
and roll up your sleeve!

12
Worship 9:00
Sunday School Registration 10:30
Brunch Waffles and Ice Cream
Caregivers 11:00
Children's Ministries 11:00
Staff Parish 10:45
K.A.N. 4:00
Praise Singers Rehearse 5:00
Fireplace Praise and Worship 6:00

13

Disciple Bible Study
Introduction 12:30

Trustees 7:30

14
Quilt Bee 9:30

Church Council 7:00

15
Prayer Service 9:00

Bell Choir 6:00
Adult Choir 7:00

SUNBEAM DEADLINE
12:00 Midnight

16

Senior High Youth
Group 7:00

17

18
Mens' Breakfast 7:00

19
Worship 9:00
Sunday School 10:30

Outreach 10:30
Youth Mission Can and Bottle Drive

Praise Singers Rehearse 5:00
Fireplace Praise and Worship 6:00

20
Mobile Food Pantry 10:00
Disciple Bible Study
12:30

Haiti Committee 7:00

21
Quilt Bee 9:30

Membership 7:00
Youth Ministry 7:00

22
Prayer Service 9:00

Bell Choir 6:00
Adult Choir 7:00

23

Senior High Youth
Group 7:00

24

25
Mens' Breakfast 7:00

26
Worship 9:00
Sunday School 10:30
Junior Choir 11:30

Praise Singers Rehearse 5:00
Fireplace Praise and Worship 6:00

27
Disciple Bible Study
12:30

Food Pantry 3:00

28
Quilt Bee 9:30

29
Prayer Service 9:00

Bell Choir 6:00
Adult Choir 7:00

30

Senior High Youth
Group 7:00

Note: This calendar is current as of August 30. For updates to all LUMC events, visit lansingunited.org, and check the bulletin when you're in church on Sunday.

School Is Starting, and So Is K.A.N.

Calling all 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th graders—Our first Kids in Action Now (K.A.N.) meeting will be Sunday, September 12, from 4-5:30 PM in the adult Sunday School classroom. We have lots of exciting plans to make a difference in our community and world, and we will have lots of fun doing it together. We'd also like to invite your family to join your K.A.N. kid(s) after the meeting for a supper meal and then the Fireplace contemporary service in Fellowship Hall from 6-7 PM. The contemporary service is an especially enjoyable and informal setting for families to worship together. The kids love the music and we'll include some VBS selections this month.

About K.A.N.

The goal of K.A.N. is to involve kids in the helping ministries of our church, first by learning about specific programs and then by participating in activities to support those programs. We combine those activities with some fun too! In the past year, K.A.N. kids have been involved in many projects, including: the Crop Walk, assembling school kits for the Church World Service program, aiding the food pantry with the giving tree, as well as publicity and donation collection for a national grant program, making signs for Habitat for Humanity, raising funds to sponsor a elementary school child in Haiti, raising funds to buy mosquito nets for Africa in conjunction with Nothing But Nets, games afternoons at Woodsedge, and helping with the spring rummage sale.

It's been amazing to see the impact these caring souls have on the helping ministries of our church when we let them contribute their boundless energy and enthusiasm. While allowing kids to get involved in helping others, K.A.N. also develops what we hope will be a lifelong understanding of outreach programs and possibilities within the church. An added benefit for the kids has been getting to know the adults in our church who are dedicated to making these helping programs work. These young people are at the perfect age to catch on fire with our Wesleyan heritage of reaching out to those in need, and we're very excited to offer them this opportunity to experience the joy of serving Christ in our world.

Thanks to everyone who helped out with the Lansing Youth Missions snow cone sales and Harbor Festival bounce house to support Nothing But Nets. You helped raise about \$300, which will support the Youth Missions trip to Guatemala next year, and raised enough money to buy 39 nets, saving that many families from life-threatening malaria. That means we've purchased over 100 nets so far with our direct efforts, and even more unseen through our efforts to make people aware of this life-saving program. Check out the Net-o-Meter at www.nothingbutnets.net and know that it grew last month because we combined bouncing fun at Harborfest with our desire to help others have a better life.—*Bonnie Blair*

VBS 2010

Starship Galactic Praise touched down in Lansing in July for a warp-factor-nine week of activities and learning.

Thank you one and all for a wonderful week of Vacation Bible School! The kids had a fabulous time--a month later we're still hearing stories from families about their children listening to the Galactic Blast CD, and enjoying the music and memories at the same time. Did you ever think about fantastic lessons you can learn about God by studying the earth, the moon, the stars, comets, and supernovas? Well these objects from space helped our VBSers learn



VBS participants tried out Cosmic Crafts, Rocket Recreation, and Reflection Time. On the cover, the beginning of Trees for Haiti. Before the week was over, the Haiti map was covered with stickers representing trees to be planted.

that God created the earth as a gift for us; He is always with them; He knows them by name; we glow more brightly the closer we get to Him; and when we understand God's gift of Jesus, we can't help exploding with excitement. Not only did they have a fantastic journey learning about their wonder-



ful, incredible, amazing, magnificent, and awesome God, but they also helped make a difference for a village in Haiti. The kids contributed enough money to plant 1,000 trees in the Haiti committee's reforestation and education effort, and reinforced their own understanding of how important trees are to our everyday lives.

A special thanks to the many volunteers who made this week possible, both young and adult! We also thank those who donated snacks, those who prayed over these efforts, and those who encouraged our young ones to give VBS a try.—*Bonnie Blair*



DISCIPLE



REMEMBER WHO YOU ARE

Disciple Bible Study

Time: Mondays, 12:30-2:30 PM

Place: Adult Sunday School Classroom

Date: Overview Meeting, September 13
Mondays to follow over next 9 months

We'd like to invite you to begin a new Disciple journey, through the series called "REMEMBER WHO YOU ARE." This 32-week class is designed to delve into the connection between memory and identity as the people of God, by focusing on the major and minor Old Testament prophets, with the exception of Daniel, and the thirteen letters traditionally attributed to Paul. "The prophets and Paul are continually calling hearers and readers back to their God and to a sense of who they are as a people 'set apart.'"

Disciple Bible Studies provide in-depth and powerful insight into God's beautiful handbook. Designed for daily study, they also provide a disciplined approach for including the Bible into our daily lives, enriching us beyond belief. Classroom time is a small group seminar to discuss each week's lesson, with a short video presentation by Biblical scholars. Time is devoted to delving into the passages studied for the week, as well as considering how these passages speak to our own practice of discipleship.

There are many stories, some here in our church, about how Disciple has transformed the lives of people and their congregations. We, as the body of Christ, are tremendously

blessed when the members of a congregation are shaped by a shared knowledge and understanding of the whole biblical story and their connection to THE Story. Here's how one Disciple graduate described her experience:

"Discipleship now offers me the excitement of continuing my trip. Just as a visit to a place I've never been changes that image in my mind's eye forever—so has my journey through God's word changed me forever. I hear Scripture, sermons, Sunday school lessons with new ears and eyes. And as a trip away from the everyday routine makes me feel rested and ready to go again—I have been spiritually renewed and ready to serve. My knowledge has increased, my faith and trust have deepened, my discipline has grown, my compassion and ability to reach out have widened—the written page is now written on my heart. Thanks be to God."—*Linda Saunders, Lexington, North Carolina*

Please consider joining this voyage of discovery. Sign up on the bulletin board, or contact Marilyn Paradise, 533-4070, or Bonnie Blair, 257-0721, theblairs@twcny.rr.com, who will serve as this seminar's facilitator.—*Bonnie Blair*

Church World Service Update

We are asked to assemble **school kits** for Church World Service, because the supply is running short. Due to recent storms and earthquakes, the need continues. School kits are needed in Pakistan, Moldova, and Liberia, not to mention areas in the U.S. recently affected by damaging weather. In Pakistan particularly, the torrential rains and flooding in August left an estimated 1,600 dead and 14 million affected. Some 1.5 million people are now homeless.

Here is where Church World Service is working in Pakistan:

CWS in Pakistan is working in Swat, Kohistan, D.I. Khan, Shangla, and Mansehra districts of Khyber Pakhtoonkwa Province; Sibbi district of Balochistan Province; and Khairpur district of Sindh Province.

As well as implementing directly, CWS is partnering with Participatory Village Development Programme, Help in Need, known as HIN, VEER Development Foundation and Nations Capacity Building Programme, known as NCBP.

Assistance includes food and non-food relief items, emergency shelter and basic health services. The core of the response remains providing direct assistance in the following allotments:

- Food and non-food items to 55,500 individuals, or approximately 7,500 households,
- Shelter kits to 17,500 individuals, or 2,500 households, and
- Health care kits to 26,500 individuals, or approximately 3,500 households.

School Kits

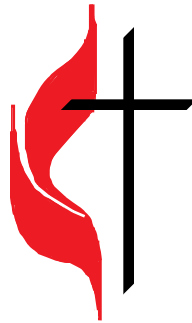
- One pair of blunt scissors
- Three spiral or tape-bound 70-count pads or notebooks of ruled paper 8-1/2" X 11" (or 8" X 10 1/2"), containing 200-210 sheets of paper. No loose-leaf, filler paper, please.
- One 30-centimeter ruler (12")
- One hand-held pencil sharpener
- Six new pencils with erasers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

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 Band-aids
- \$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: Due to international shipping and import regulations, the kits cannot have substitutions, but must have exactly the items specified. With the cost of shipping, you are encouraged to make a donation of \$1 or \$2 per kit to help ship them.



The Sunbeam

September 2010

**Lansing United
Methodist
Church**

Inside:

Time for God, page 2

Sunday School Begins, page 4

Church World Service at work, page 11

Worship 9:00
Sunday School 10:30
(starting September 19)
Fireplace Praise 6:00
(starting September 12)

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

www.lansingunited.org

The Sunbeam is published monthly 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 September 15,
2010.