

Sunday Worship 9:00 AM AND 6:00 PM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30

The Sunbeam

April 2011

Lansing United Methodist Church

lansingunited.org

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



Holy Week Worship

Palm and Passion Sunday, April 17

Maundy Thursday, April 21

Good Friday, April 22

Easter, April 24

From the Pastor

Prayers for White Swan

My dear friends in the LUMC community—

Most of you are aware of the horrible fire that took place in White Swan, Washington, back in February. In this time of Lent, as we pray and spend time with Jesus, I want to share with you an excerpt from a journal written by one of my dear friends and colleagues, David Bell, the pastor of the Disciples of Christ Church in White Swan. I want you all to know how very important your prayers are...please indulge me by reading his journal entry a week after the fire:

"Today is the seventh day since the wind slid down off the east side of the Cascade Mountain Range and funneled fire from one home to the next. Seven days since the everyday world of mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, elders and children was laid to ash. It is trite at this moment to metaphorically speak to the mythical Phoenix rising out of the ash, for the taste around the idea of it will all work out is stale. Instead, imagining a faithful people, local and global, rising together, working together to reach down and gather a handful of ash and mud and mold it into the body and breathe the breath of life into it; well, now that has a salty taste where the artistic creativeness of an inspired people who gather at the table and partake in the fullness of life given.

"Seven days later and the family has started to gather. The United Methodist Committee on Relief and the Disciple Week of Compassion has gathered and begun giving and helping us make a difference in the lives of our sisters and brothers. Direct help in caring for the immediate wellbeing of youth and children has begun. Organizing for intermediate and long-term rebuilding help is in process. However, even work-



ing together, these stalwarts of Disciples and Methodists can only help so much. The rest is up to all of us.

"To close though is to say, we know your prayers have been with the White Swan community during these last seven days. We have felt them and they have made a difference throughout the community. In the middle of conversation with a young woman the other day, she said, 'I don't know what it is, but I know I am not alone...It's something like, you know, something like having many hands supporting you and not letting you fall down.' Your prayers matter, please continue!"

Blessings, *Pastor Jane*

Holy Week Worship

**Palm and Passion Sunday April 17,
Worship 9:00 AM and 6:00 PM**

**Tuesday, April 19, Living Last Supper
Presentation, "Is It I, Lord?" 7:30 PM**

**Maundy Thursday, April 21, Living Last
Supper Presentation, "Is It I, Lord?"
7:30 PM**

Good Friday worship, 7:00 PM

**Easter! He Is Risen! Worship 6:00 AM,
9:00 AM, 11:00 AM**

**NOTE: PLAN TO STAY FOR THE DISH-TO-PASS
BREAKFAST AFTER THE SUNRISE SERVICE.**

Easter Flowers & Music Orders

Due Sunday, April 10

If you would like to donate a spring flower for the altar on Easter, your order is due April 10. Forms are available in the Narthex and on church website at www.lansingunit-ed.org.

You may also support the wonderful Ithaca College trombone troupe, who will join us again this year.

The Great Lansing Chili Cook-Off for Youth Mission

Thanks to all for your support of Youth Mission at the Chili Cook-Off and Wii Mario Kart Tourney on March 27!

The LUMC and All Saints Chili Cook-Off raised approximately \$850 for the upcoming 2012 Youth Mission trip to Guatemala.

About 200 people attended, sampling 10 different chilis!

Results of the Chili Cook-Off: A tie!

Chili Team #3 - The Gisler Family
Chili Team #8 - Ellen & Jake Palladino,
Jason Yahn, Ben Eisenhut, Ronan & Isabelle Corgel, Anna Conte

Results of the Wii Mario Kart Tournament:

Out of 25 contestants, Joshua Dennis emerged as the champion, with Meghan Matheny as the runner-up.

Thanks to Ithaca Bakery for donating bread, and to the Benson Family for donating beef!

Don't Miss "O, Jonah!" presented during worship on April 3 by the LUMC Children.

Prayer Concerns

Mary Lou Bailey-Smith, friend of Mary Searles
Judy Butman
Eileen Cundy
Elizabeth Morway (Broadwells' daughter)
Marjorie Sharpsteen, friend of Mary Searles
Ruth Swearingen, friend of Mary Searles
George Voorhees, Aiden Burt's grandfather
Barb White

Mourning family of Keith Hansen, Kay Moore's cousin

The People of Japan



The Feinstein Foundation Challenge continues in April. All donations of food or money made this month will count toward a matching grant to be determined according to how much we can raise. This is a friendly competition that benefits food pantries across the nation.

The Love Feast: A Wesleyan Tradition

What is this gathering called a Love Feast? What does it have to do with church? Several months ago (even a few years ago) Dianne Walter and I began talking about hosting a special church gathering for women to share a meal, to pray, to sing, and give thanks to God. We wrestled with calling it a Love Fest or a Love Feast. When I submitted my article for the *Sunbeam*, Glenn pointed out that the phrase Love Feast has a rich history in the Methodist Church. I began reading what I could find about the Love Feast and it inspired me to share its meaning with you.

Taken from The United Methodist *Book of Worship: The Love Feast*, or Agape Meal, is a Christian fellowship meal recalling meals that Jesus shared with disciples during his ministry and expressing the koinonia (community, sharing, fellowship) enjoyed by the family of Christ.”

The simple Love Feast service comes from the tradition of the Moravian Church, a Protestant denomination which traces its roots to church reformers and martyrs in Bohemia and Moravia (Czechoslovakia). The Love Feast was a special service of worship celebrated to affirm the unity of Christians as brothers and sisters in Christ. John Wesley participated in a Moravian Love Feast back in 1783 and introduced it to his fellow Methodists. He then adopted it as a regular part of the Methodist worship. His diary

notes state: “After evening prayers, we joined with the Germans in one of their love-feasts. It began and ended with thanksgiving and prayer and was celebrated in a manner as a Christian of the apostolic age would have allowed to be worthy of Christ.” As Methodists immigrated to North America, Love Feasts became an important part of early American Methodism.

Testimonies and praise were focal points in most love feast celebrations. A testimony may include a personal witness to God’s grace or an account of what God has been doing in the lives of others. Praise included hymn singing. Prayer and scripture reading were essential pieces. Most love feasts include sharing a meal. In modern times, the Moravians and Methodists (along with the Church of the Brethren) are among the only Christians, at least in this part of the world, who continue worship with love feasts.

In many ways, not only was the love feast a time to gather and give thanks for God’s love, it was also a time to proclaim and bear witness to that love for everyone present. As a result, it became, and still is, a powerful means of building up the faithful while reaching out in the spirit of love! We hope and pray that all the women of LUMC will feel inspired to join us on Tuesday, April 5 for The Love Feast: LUMC style! God Bless.

—Marilyn Paradise

“Lord, Is It I?” will be Presented Two Nights during Holy Week



On Tuesday, April 19, and Maundy Thursday, April 21, the Lenten play “Lord, Is It I?” by Ernest K. Emurian, will be presented in the Lansing United Methodist Church sanctuary at 7:30 PM. Following the play, 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 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 on both nights.

Spring Rummage Sale

Scheduled for May 13 and 14. Bring your donations starting Sunday, May 8 through Tuesday, May 10. We can’t store things before that time. Many hands make light work, so plan to help out if you can.



Date Set for Membership Class

Interested in exploring what becoming a member of LUMC might mean for you? Then sign up to attend our “New Member Orientation” on Saturday, April 9, from 9:30 AM to noon. At this session we’ll explore:

- How is church membership part of my spiritual journey?
- What are the blessings and challenges of church membership?
- What is the mission of Lansing United Methodist Church?
- How is the church organized to carry out its mission?
- What gifts and skills do I have to share?

Attending in no way obligates you to become a member, but will help you discern if church membership is right for you. Please let Laurie in the church office know by Monday, April 4, if you will be attending (lumcoffice@twcny.rr.com or 533-4070).

You are invited to help Lorraine Groat celebrate a milestone birthday. April 16, from 2:00 to 4:00 PM in the LUMC Fellowship Hall.

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



**Lansing
United
Methodist
Church**

*April
2011*

Note: This calendar is current as of March 29. For updates to all LUMC events, visit lansingunited.org, and check the bulletin when you're in church on Sunday.

3 Worship 9:00 CHILDREN'S MUSICAL: OH, JONAH!
Sunday School 10:30
Children's Musical Cast Party 11:30
Children's Ministries 11:45
Ukrainian Egg Decorating 1:00
Confirmation / Discipleship 3:30
K.A.N. 4:00
Praise Singers 5:30
Fireplace Praise Service 6:00

4
Disciple Bible Study 12:30

Staff Parish 7:00

5
Quilt Bee 9:30

Women's Love Feast 6:00

6 Prayer Service 9:00
Women's Bible Study and Luncheon 9:30

Bell Choir 6:00
Choir 7:00

7

Adult Study Group 7:00
Senior High 7:00
Lord, Is It I? rehearsal 7:00

8

9 Mens' Breakfast 7:00

New Member Orientation 9:30

10 ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
Worship 9:00
Sunday School 10:30

Fireplace Planning 2:00
Confirmation / Discipleship 3:30
Praise Singers Rehearsal 5:30
Fireplace Praise Service 6:00

11 Mobile Food Pantry 10:00
Prayer Service at Woodsedge 11:00
Disciple Bible Study 12:30

Trustees 7:00

12 Quilt Bee 9:30

Church Council 7:00

13 Prayer Service 9:00

Bell Choir 6:00
Choir 7:00

14

Adult Study Group 7:00
Senior High 7:00

15

SUNBEAM DEADLINE
12:00 Midnight

16 Mens' Breakfast 7:00

Lorraine Groat's Birthday
2:00-4:00

17 PALM SUNDAY AND PASSION SUNDAY
Worship 9:00
K.A.N. Bake Sale 10:00
Sunday School 10:30

Youth Mission Can and Bottle Drive

Praise Singers Rehearsal 5:30
Fireplace Praise Service 6:00

18
Disciple Bible Study 12:30

Lord, Is It I? Dress rehearsal 6:30
Haiti Committee 7:00

19 Quilt Bee 9:30

Lord, Is It I? 7:30

20 Prayer Service 9:00

Bell Choir 6:00
Choir 7:00

21
MAUNDY THURSDAY

Lord, Is It I?
7:30

22
GOOD FRIDAY

Worship 7:00

23 Mens' Breakfast 7:00

24 EASTER! HE IS RISEN!
Sunrise Worship 6:00
Dish-to-pass breakfast follows

Worship 9:00
Worship 11:00

25

Food Pantry 3:00

26 Quilt Bee 9:30

Youth Ministry 7:00

27 High School Prayer
Breakfast 6:45
Prayer Service 9:00

Bell Choir 6:00
Choir 7:00

28

Adult Study Group 7:00
Senior High 7:00

29

30 Mens' Breakfast 7:00

One Great Hour of Sharing Makes Possible Rapid Response to Japan's Disaster

April 10 Offering Pays Many Dividends

On your behalf, the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) has responded to the earthquake and its aftermath with Japan Emergency Advance #3021317. You can donate directly to this fund and every dime that you send will go to its intended purpose. UMCOR was also in Haiti after the earthquake, and on the Gulf Coast after Katrina. But UMCOR never deducts overhead or other expenses.

How is this possible? The answer is **One Great Hour of Sharing**. This offering, set for April 10, provides the funds that UMCOR needs to operate, and also supports UMCOR's ongoing relief efforts around the world.

The churches in our Upper New York Conference have been generous in supporting the apportionment for Advances, which are the special giving programs directed at a specific need. The Upper New York Conference gave \$1.59 million to UMCOR and The Advance in 2010 and had the highest participation in designated giving in the entire denomination (100%). Coupled with the 94 percent apportionment rate for Upper New York in 2010, there is a lot to celebrate! The conference will receive an award from the Advance for our giving excellence. As you see, the money for disaster relief comes from several sources. But it all starts with One Great Hour of Sharing.

So pray for those in Japan who are in a desperate situation, and consider a donation to UMCOR for One Great Hour of Sharing.

—gw



Help Still Much Needed in Haiti

The earthquake in Haiti seems a long time ago, but its effect on our Haitian university students is very real and ever present in their memories. Our church generously responded to the call for help following the earthquake, and today, once again, we need your help to cross another hurdle.

When the earthquake hit we had six young men, graduates of our program, on three different campuses and at various stages in their education. The universities in Port-au-Prince were badly damaged, so it was determined that five of the students would attend universities in the Dominican Republic. It took months of planning and jumping through political hoops to get the men to the DR, and unfortunately it ate up much of the tuition money that had generously been donated. Our students—two pre-med, two computer science majors, and one civil engineer - are completing their first quarter in accredited, safe universities, and we need additional financial help to get them through this first year. These young men are determined to return to Haiti and make a difference in their country. In emails committee members receive, the students always thank God, their sponsors, and the Haiti committee for helping them. Please consider making a donation. Checks may be made out to "LUMC Haiti" with "University Students" written in the memo line.

—Thank you from the Haiti Committee

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 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.

Ukrainian Egg Decorating

April 3, 1:00–4:00 PM

All adults are welcome to join the senior highs in learning how to decorate eggs Ukrainian style, led by Kathy Lee.

Equipment is simple: a tapered candle in a candle holder. You will also want patience and a steady hand.

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 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.

Saying you're having a hard time "connecting" at church.

by Jon Acuff

This church isn't very friendly. Have you noticed that? We might need to change to a new church, because we're having a really hard time connecting at this one. We've been coming here for six months, sitting in service, not talking to anyone, then immediately sprinting out of the building and going home. And no one has connected with us. Rude!

We haven't met anyone in small group either. We didn't sign up for one, but still, it would be nice if a small group kind of magically happened in our living room, on a night that was convenient for us and someone brought banana pudding. Not box banana pudding, but like the kind your grandmother used to make. Is that so much to ask for?

Probably, considering that this church doesn't really seem to reach out to people who have spent six months attending Sunday morning service and not participating in any other activities.

No one even called us and asked why we weren't at the fall festival. Sure, we've never

given them our number, but google it. And then help us connect.

I thought this church was going to be different. I thought it wouldn't be like the last three churches we attended. Remember those three? Always saying, "Please stay for lunch and learn about the church. Please let us know if you have any questions. Please come to our first time visitor's luncheon." So annoying.

What's that you say? Where are we serving at the church? Serving is a great way to get connected and plug into a place that is ultimately a two way street of people loving and giving and growing together? Even something as simple as handing out bulletins can jump start new relationships with new people? Ugh, that sounds like a lot of work. Quit judging us.

And start connecting us.

We're having a hard time connecting at this church.

Note: Jon Acuff is a blogger who writes about church and religion. Pastor Jane found this blog entry to be interesting and wanted to share it with you. Here's a link to Jon Acuff's blog, if you are interested. <http://www.jonacuff.com/stuffchristianslike/2011/03/4551/>.

Mother's Day Flower Basket Sale

On Friday, May 6, and Saturday, May 7, from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM we will be selling flower baskets to raise money for the Church Campership program. We will be selling them on the corner of Brickyard and 34B. Come buy a beautiful plant and help a kid go to camp! If you are interested in the Campership program, contact the Church office. Thanks, Rick and Charla Hayes.

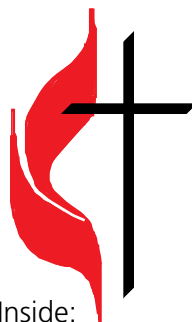


Editor's note: Thanks to Charla and Rick for this ministry.

Take a look at summer camp and lose the "it's really cold out there" blahs.

You still have a month to qualify for the nice discount. It's hard to think about summer camp when there's still snow on the ground, but this is a good time to do it. There are many camp openings right now and, if you sign up for a camp before May 1 you get a \$40 discount. So, take a look at the many great camps at **Casowasco** (casowasco.org) or at **Aldersgate** (aldersgateny.org).

Remember, thanks to Rick and Charla's work and other donations, LUMC wants to help every child go to camp. If you compare Casowasco and Aldersgate (and the other United Methodist camps) to typical "sleep away" camps, you'll see that the cost of camp is reasonable...but we know it still represents an expense. That's why LUMC has the policy of not letting money stand in the way. So, see camping agent Karyn Yahn, or contact the church office for information.



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Children's Musical O, Jonah!
April 3

Worship 9:00 AM

Sunday School 10:30 AM

Fireplace Praise Service 6:00 PM

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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