

Sunday Worship 9:00 AM AND 6:00 PM



The Sunbeam

June 2011

Lansing United Methodist Church
lansingunited.org

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



A Different Kind of Mission to Haiti

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From the Pastor

A New Start for A New Conference

Once again, it is time for Annual Conference (Tuesday, June 7 through Saturday, June 11). This year will be vastly different from years past—primarily due to the merger of four annual conferences into one. While there will be times to meet with old friends often seen but this one time each year, there will be lots of new faces as well. When there are lots of new faces, there are also new ideas, new ways of doing things, and some (hopefully only a little) resentment that “we aren’t doing things the way we always did.” One of the major changes for me is a change of venue. For several years, we have met in the Syracuse area, but this year, we will be meeting in Rochester. I’m fairly comfortable with Syracuse, but don’t know Rochester at all, and I have my own fears and apprehensions brewing about this. I’m sure I will get lost...and get found...and it will be okay.

We will be electing delegates to General Conference in Tampa, Florida, in April 2012 during this session. This will be quite a process since we do not know each other very well yet. There will be 16 delegates elected – 8 laity and 8 clergy. Those who are interested in being delegates have already submitted biographies and reasons to attend, which is helpful in trying to know who to elect, but I’m sure it will take many, many ballots to elect the delegation.

Other business before the conference includes passing the budget, determining health care issues, approving clergy compensation, amending the Safe Sanctuary policy, and ordination and commissioning of those

entering pastoral ministry. The agenda is a full one!

The very best part of Annual Conference, in my opinion, is worship. It is truly amazing to hear the voices of 2,000 people raised in praise of our common God. The preaching is usually outstanding, and I truly look forward to the worship experiences we share. We will have the added bonus this year of the Africa University Choir, which I am sure will be awesome!

While this time of conferencing will be different than conferences of the past, I am sure that it will be uplifting and exciting and informative. Bill Hinderliter will be attending as our lay member and Bob Cockram will be attending as an equalization member. With the 3 of us in attendance, I’m sure that we will come back with differing views and experiences. I look forward to sharing these with all of you!

*In Christ,
Pastor Jane*

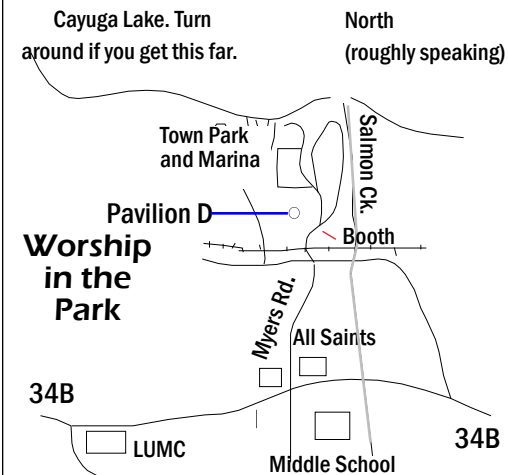
Remember Church in the Park starts June 26 at the relaxed time of 9:30.

You can sit at the picnic benches or bring your own chairs, as you wish. Dress is casual and comfortable.

How to Really Clean Up in Lansing

The LUMC Trustees are sponsoring our annual ‘Spring Clean Up’ Sunday, June 12, right after church. Wear (or bring) your comfy clothes, and be ready to help with the usual gardening and mulching, kitchen cleaning, and window washing. Bring your gloves and garden tools, if this is your area of interest. Snacks and beverages will be provided. The more the merrier! All ages welcome! Any questions can be directed to Nan Makela or any Trustee. Thank You!

Where to Find 9:30 Worship in the Park starting June 26



From church, go downhill on 34B to the four corners by the Middle School. Turn left on Myers Rd. downhill. Go straight at the stop sign, and cross the RR tracks. Bear right into Myers Park and then left after the booth. You don't have to pay to enter the park for this purpose. Look for the LUMC banner. Usually on Pavilion D.

Membership Committee Schedules Ice Cream Socials and Summer Picnics

Gather for Ice Cream Socials at 6:00 p.m. We'll tour all the local ice cream emporiums:
Sunday, June 26, at Laurie's (Genoa)
Sunday, July 17, at Scoops (Lansing)
Sunday, July 31, at Cream at the Top (King Ferry)
Sunday, August 14, at Lake Breeze (Lansing)
Sunday, August 28, at Triangle Restaurant (King Ferry)

Each summer we gather for covered-dish picnics. This is a good chance to meet new friends or catch up with old chums in a relaxed setting. Locations for the picnics will be announced, and hosts are needed! (You can volunteer at the church office).

Dates:

Saturday, July 2, Myers Park with a performance of Bob Keefe's Backtalk Band
Thursday, July 14
Tuesday, July 26,
Thursday, August 11,
Tuesday, August 23,

Here's how the picnics work:

Gather around 6:00 with the idea of eating about 6:30 or so. Bring your table service, a dish to share, chairs, and something to toss on the grill if you want. Hosts provide beverage and a hot grill. Rain or shine!

See the signup sheet in the Narthex if you'd like to host.

Teacher Appreciation

Another Sunday School year has come and gone. On Sunday, June 5, we will celebrate the Ministry of Christian Education and honor the faithful mentors who generously share their spiritual gifts.

Over this past year the children have studied a variety of Bible lessons. Here is a brief overview of what happens behind the scenes in the Sunday School classrooms:

They heard stories about life in Bible times when sisters Mary and Martha had different views regarding their friend Jesus. Martha, on the one hand, is busy preparing a feast for Jesus, while Mary sits attentively at his feet in order to hear the meaning of his message.

We studied a unit on David, the shepherd king, the musician, the poet, and the anointed one. This beloved biblical character is introduced as a young shepherd who is anointed the future king. God's way contradicts conventional wisdom: The usual order of power over the weak has been reversed. From a youthful shepherd to an anointed king, chosen by God, David has much to teach us about making choices and following God's will.

Then all of you participated in helping us create a booklet of favorite bible passages. We gathered your favorites and published a booklet for each child to take home.

As the year progressed we reviewed the Ten Commandments and why living according to God's covenant helps us in our daily life. The children offered their insight into what an Eleventh Commandment

would look like. They had some interesting thoughts, e.g., Thou Shall Not Be Grumpy; Treat Others Like You Want To Be Treated (and there were more!)

We studied a unit entitled "Jesus Calls His Disciples" and we learned the names of the original twelve and how we are now included among them.

The Children's Ministry Committee created a unit entitled "Spiritual Practices" where journaling, praying in color, and walking a labyrinth became a hands-on lesson plan.

During Advent the children presented the Christmas Pageant to the congregation.

During the Season of Lent we talked about Jesus' death and resurrection and why we call ourselves Easter people.

The Sunday School year concluded with a unit on John Wesley and why he is considered the father of Methodism. Wesley taught: Do all the good you can, By all the ways you can, In all the places you can, At all the times you can, To all the people you can as long as ever you can. (Amen!)

The adults have had opportunities to grow in faith as well. Adult Sunday School topics



continued at right

Thanks to our teachers, concluded

ranged from prayer to grace, aging wisely and dying well. The Advent and Lenten studies looked for God's presence in unexpected voices and places. There was a series on science and religion and how we make sense of God's creation. We were blessed again to have Ken Hover visit and local author Steve Timmons talk about his book. Clearly God has been busy in this faith community!

We thank the following people for their commitment to our programs, for their deep faith and willingness to share. Teachers this year include: Jo Baker, Bonnie Blair, Jim Blair, Kristen Burt, Joel Brock, Bob Cockram, Amara Dunn, Kevin Dunn, Sue Frahm, Julie Hammons, Ken Hover, Jamie Jones, Janet Keefe, Melody Lombardo, Jan Nagel, Erin Peters, Karen Phlegar, Christa Salmon, Pastor Jane, Shelly Uhl- Stark, Jeanne Taylor, Sharey Travis, and Dianne Walter.

On Sunday, June 5, we will honor teachers, shepherds, assistants, and faithful leaders of all kinds at Teacher Appreciation Sunday. The service of worship will be children- and youth-led. Please join us as we celebrate this special occasion. Following the service, the congregation is invited to the Teachers' Brunch in the Fellowship hall.

Together as a faith community we are committed to fostering an environment that values the spiritual journey as the highest priority of the church. Many blessings to all of you and grateful thanks for everything you do!—*Marilyn Paradise*



Haiti University Students' Academic Success!

Having just completed their first semester at their new universities in the Dominican Republic, our five Haitian university students, whose academic progress was brought to an abrupt stop due to the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, have shown extreme perseverance, strong work ethics, and indomitable spirits of faith and hope. After being in a completely new country and culture for less than one year and needing to learn a new language in which to communicate and learn, they have produced the following grades: Aniel 4 A's, 3 B's; Wilphane 3 A's, 2 B's, 1 C; Clifford 3 A's, 2 B's, 1 C; Marckens 3 A's, 2 B's, 1 C; and Peter 4 A's, 1 B 1, C. Their fields of study are engineering, computer science, and medicine.

We have no doubt that their lives were spared for a divine purpose, and we praise God for allowing us to share in that purpose. Thank you to all who have financially and prayerfully supported these promising young men. You have all been God's presence in their lives, a strong motivation in their faith, and a source of strength when they thought all hope was gone. Should others feel a calling to participate in this mission of hope for a brighter tomorrow in Haiti, be assured that additional partners would be greatly appreciated.—*Dianne Walter*

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



**Lansing
United
Methodist
Church**

June 2011

1 Prayer Service 9:00

2

3

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

Prayer Shawl Ministry
and Caring Ministry Joint
Meeting 10:00

JUNIOR HIGH LOCK-IN 5:30 FRIDAY TO
11:00 AM SATURDAY

Choir 7:00

Senior High 7:00

5

Worship 9:00
TEACHER APPRECIATION SUNDAY
Sunday School Brunch 10:30
VBS Committee at All Saints 11:45
Kids in Action Now 4:00
Praise Singers Rehearsal 5:30
Fireplace Praise Service 6:00

6

Staff Parish 7:00

7

Quilt Bee 9:30

8

Prayer Service 9:00

9

10

11

Mens' Breakfast
7:00

UPPER NEW YORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN ROCHESTER

Bell Choir
Bell Polishing Party 6:00
Choir 7:00

12

PENTECOST
Worship 9:00
Spring Cleanup 10:30

Praise Singers Rehearsal 5:30
Fireplace Praise Service 6:00
Youth Mission at All Saints 7:15

13

Mobile Food Pantry 10:00

Prayer Service at Woodsedge
11:00

Trustees 7:00

14

Quilt Bee 9:30

15

Prayer Service 9:00

SUNBEAM DEADLINE
12:00 Midnight

16

17

18

Mens' Breakfast 7:00

Fireplace Planning 4:00

19

DADS AND GRADS SUNDAY
TRINITY SUNDAY
Worship 9:00

20

Haiti Committee 7:00

21

Quilt Bee 9:30

SUMMER BEGINS
Let's hope the
weatherman notices!

Membership 7:00

22

Prayer Service 9:00

23

24

25

Mens' Breakfast 7:00

26

Worship in the Park 9:30

Ice Cream Social at Laurie's
at the four corners on Rte 34 and 90 in
Genoa 6:00

27

Food Pantry 3:00

28

Quilt Bee 9:30

29

Prayer Service 9:00

30

Note: This calendar is current as of May 24. For updates
to all LUMC events, visit lansingunited.org, and check
the bulletin when you're in church on Sunday.

March 2011 Mission Trip to Haiti with EMI Team

Dave Farmer, of Dryden UMC (and formerly of Lansing UMC) sent us the following report on his mission trip to Haiti.

Thank you for your encouragement and support on my latest trip to Haiti.

After four previous mission projects in Banique, it was good to get a new perspective on what is being done elsewhere in that country and to meet others with new visions for service there. Engineering Ministries International (EMI) is a group of design professionals who do short-term design projects worldwide, often in conjunction with other non-government organizations (NGOs). In this case, the project was centered in Port-au-Prince, where a large and growing church had been badly damaged by last year's earthquake. Despite the many problems that congregation faced, they opened their soccer field to be used for a tent city, with about 25,000 people at the peak, crammed side by side in every possible type of shelter, with children receiving one daily meal. The Haitian government, recognizing the need to relocate these people and to develop a new social pattern, granted two plots of undeveloped land to the church with the mandate to seek outside help. That is how the project began.

Team members included surveyors, architects and several engineering specialties, coming from throughout the US, Canada, and the UK. Two of us had backgrounds in Agricultural Engineering, and our specific purpose was to check out environmental conditions and design family gardens, plots for growing crops for local markets, and sug-

gest possible commercial crops that could be processed locally to provide jobs and income.

We first determined the structural safety of the earthquake-damaged church buildings and made some repairs before traveling



On the cover: The EMI team examined new home and garden locations so that people could move out of shanty towns like this one.

to the two work sites. The first of these was in the city, surrounded by makeshift houses, but undeveloped because of the muddy, stone-filled clay soil. Another NGO was at work building elevated earthquake-resistant homes. For this area, we recommended raised-bed gardens and composting of waste materials to improve the soil structure, providing plans and making recommendations for crop rotations, cultural practices, and appropriate tools.

The other location was outside the city, a sizeable flat area with a loam soil and good drainage, but without a water source. It is located on the coast, with a nearby boat dock and idle rice mill. Our recommendations for development included the same housing,

continued at right



Children queue up for lunch

Dave Farmer's Haiti Trip, concluded

family, and market garden patterns, drilling a well plus conserving rainwater, and suggestions for appropriate crops with associated storage and processing facilities.

As a vision for the future of these communities, we visited a large farm developed by another NGO, Double Harvest, which included irrigated crops, facilities for growing and processing fish, and a greenhouse, now operated by Haitians trained to manage this complex business.

Returning to our computers, we made a first draft of designs for new and sustainable communities. The project is intended as a prototype that can be applied to other Haitian locations as well, when eroded land is reclaimed or made available. In prior trips, we have seen the many cultural and political problems that plague Haiti, but this comprehensive approach and local investment might be a turning point, an unexpected blessing out of this disaster. We returned home to detail our designs and with many pictures and experiences to share with anyone interested in a different kind of Haitian mission trip.

Lansing's Sarah Sandsted Is Haiti VIM Team Coordinator

The Haiti Response Plan has welcomed two new staff members to the Haiti office. Sarah Sandsted will serve as assistant Haiti site team coordinator, and John Alcorn will serve as Haiti financial and hospitality coordinator. They join Tom Vencuss and Susan Meister in welcoming and managing United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM) teams in Haiti.

Sandsted, who recently graduated with a degree in journalism from Marist College in Poughkeepsie,

has been traveling to Haiti for mission work since 2006. She is a member of the Lansing UMC, and has worked at Share Our Strength, a non-profit devoted to ending child hunger in America. As a member of the Haiti



Response Plan staff, she will provide administrative and logistical assistance, including site monitoring and selection, UMVIM team deployment, managing support staff, and communications coordination.

Since May 2010, 139 UMVIM teams (representing over 1,200 volunteers from all five US Jurisdictions) have served in Haiti. UMVIM team leaders who wish to schedule a team for service in Haiti can contact Susan Meister at haitivolunteers@yahoo.com.—*Susan Meister, communications and calendar coordinator for Haiti Response of the General Board of Global Ministries*

More Choices than Ever at Our Church Camps



Sunset at Casowasco

Now is still a good time to sign up for summer camp at one of the six (!) camps maintained by the Upper New York Annual Conference. Lansing is fortunate to have Casowasco Camp and Retreat Center just a half hour away.

Casowasco's offerings include over 50 programs for children and youth, ages 6-18, which vary in length from a couple of days to a week long. In addition to all of the "camp favorites" like swimming, arts and crafts, basketball, volleyball, and hiking, Casowasco offers tons of unique activities including eating ice cream for breakfast, soaring off the Blob, carnivals, scuba diving, mountain biking, and horseback riding and much more.

The Message

Casowasco explains its message for campers as follows:

"The faith message we send is a message that encourages youth to grow in their love and knowledge of Jesus Christ. An essential part of the camp experience is spiritual

growth—gaining a better understanding of what it means to be a Christian in relationship to God, to others, and to the environment. While we are an official extension of The United Methodist Church, we have found that 25 percent of our campers come from other churches or have no church affiliation. Adult leaders are sensitive to the differing backgrounds represented, while striving to make the Christian life real by presenting God's word and love as shown in Jesus Christ. Programs are designed to be age appropriate and include music, worship, drama, Bible exploration and memorization, and prayer."

The Door Is Open

Lansing UMC will help *every* child go to camp. We do not want money to stand in the way. So, contact the church office or camping agent Karyn Yahn for more information. You do not have to be a member of LUMC or any church at all to receive help to go to camp. Just ask! Children: Invite your friends to go to camp.

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.

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

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)

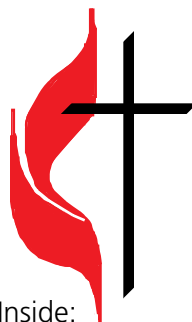
Remember, all items should be new.

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: Recovery from the tornados will mean that people will need these kits.



The Sunbeam

June 2011

**Lansing United
Methodist
Church**

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Worship 9:00 AM

Sunday School Brunch 10:30 AM

JUNE 5

Fireplace Praise Service 6:00 PM

JUNE 5 & 12

SCHEDULE CHANGES JUNE 26

WITH CHURCH IN THE PARK 9:30 AM

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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lansingunited.org

The Sunbeam is published monthly by
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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.

Deadline for the next issue is June 15, 2011.