



Please join us for Worship at 9:00

# The Sunbeam

September 2011

**Lansing United Methodist Church**  
[lansingunited.org](http://lansingunited.org)

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



**Sunday school begins September 11**  
with the waffle breakfast and registration

See page 6 for other Bible Study opportunities

### September Reboot

As I sit here in my office, on the first really cool day in a long time, I hear the kids at soccer practice and know that fall is right around the corner. Add to that Laurie whining, “how can it already be September?” as she works on the calendar, and we know that our summer is winding down. As autumn comes upon us, we recognize it as a time for gathering in, but it is also a time for letting go. Many of our outdoor activities come to a halt. School starts (or has already started!). With homework, we let go of free time. More meetings, more programs, everything “starts up” in the fall. Back to busy-ness!!

One of my favorite books, *The Circle of Life*, by Rupp and Wiederkehr, states: “Autumn is a wondrous metaphor for the transformation that takes place in the human heart each season. When we notice a subtle change of light outside our windows,

we know the dark season is near. Everything is being prepared for winter. Autumn calls us in from summer’s playground and asks significant questions about our own harvest: What do we need to gather into our spiritual barns? What in our lives needs to fall away like autumn leaves so another life waiting in the wings can have its turn to live?”

Are there resentments and hurts and disappointments to let go? Are there new friendships waiting to be formed? How can we transform our own lives to be richer and fuller? Where do we need to slow down? How do we make more time for God in the midst of our whirlwind of activity? Instead of grumbling throughout the fall, let’s make good use of this time to fill our spiritual barns with good things to sustain us!

Blessings,  
Pastor Jane

### Prayer Concerns

- Loretta Bidlespacher
- Grey Larison
- Dudley Loomis, Art Loomis’ father
- Joe Martin, Dana Petry’s father
- Elizabeth Morway, the Broadwells’ daughter
- Rev. Marti Zimmerman, Joel Brock’s cousin

- Mourning family of William J. Riker, father of Rick Hayes
- Mourning family of Norman K. Smith, brother of Barbara (Smith Meal) Denhoff

### Habitat T Y

Thanks to those that volunteered on July 30 to help build the Habitat house on Sperry Lane. We worked on preparing for soffit and fascia installation, cut boards for the inside stairs, and parged the south and west walls of the foundation. We worked along side a small group of Cornell students who were applying foam board insulation to the outside walls. Don Gagnon and his daughters, Cheryl and Charlotte (the new partner family) also came by and worked for awhile. Thanks also to those who supplied us with sandwiches, chips and fruit for lunch! It was a good day!!—*Nan Makela*

### Wesley’s Passion for the Poor

John Wesley’s “passion for the poor” is the theme approved by the General Conference of the United Methodist Church for 2011’s observance of Heritage Sunday, on May 18 this year. Consequently, if you have been in our Fellowship Hall at any time in the last four months, you have seen a series of bulletin boards describing how groups of LUMC members have followed in Wesley’s footsteps. Members of this congregation have joined together in a variety of ways, showing their compassion both in our neighborhood and in the wider world. Some congregation members have their own personal projects, which have remained private.

The first display was lifted from the General Assembly’s power point lecture covering the first 300 years after John Wesley. This presentation explains Wesley’s understanding that Social Justice must be a piece of the plan to conquer poverty. That concept has remained a cornerstone of Methodist teaching.

The Church was once sued by the Readers Digest and others for using donations given to relieve poverty to support the poor working on social justice issues. The Methodist Church proved its point and won the suit.

The intent of depicting these projects is to reflect on how John Wesley’s work with and for the poor is reflected in our own congregation 300 years later. How many of us have packed our bags for Haiti or Johns Island with eagerness? How could we not have given Head Start or the Food Pantry a home?

Wesley believed in education. His pamphlet on hygiene and home remedies is still

in print. He gave compassion and material gifts to the poor. He preached social justice so vehemently that some historians give him credit for the fact that Great Britain avoided a revolution such as the French had.

It was out of Wesley’s inspiration and dedication that Francis Asbury came to these colonies, was proclaimed a bishop, and rode with local circuit riders through our area. On Monday, June 29, 1807, he preached at the Milton Methodist Meeting House, in an area much later to be called “Lansing,” when the Town of Milton was subdivided. It was on that spot that Asbury Church was built, one of our original five Lansing Methodist churches. By reflecting on and celebrating this heritage, we can better understand the church as it shapes us today.—*Mark Meal and Kate Payne, Historians, with thanks to Laurie Moskow and Connie Conlon for technical assistance with our displays*

### Junior Choir Begins

#### First rehearsal September 11

Children in 3rd grade and up are invited to sing in junior choir (or 2nd grade with permission). So, have a waffle, bring a parent, and join Diane Withiam for the first choir session. We’ll meet in the sanctuary after Sunday school activities are done, at 11:00 or 11:30.

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



**Lansing  
United  
Methodist  
Church**

Note: This calendar is current as of August 25. For updates to all LUMC events, visit [lansingunited.org](http://lansingunited.org), and check the bulletin when you're in church on Sunday.

4  
Worship 9:00  
  
Outreach 10:30

5  
LABOR DAY  
  
Staff Parish 7:00

6  
Quilt Bee 9:30  
  
Finance 7:00

7  
Prayer Service 9:00  
  
Bell Choir 6:00  
Choir 7:00

8  
  
Senior High 7:00

9

10  
Men's Breakfast 7:00  
  
Blood Drive 8:30-2:00  
  
Senior High Lock-in 5:30  
(concludes Sunday)

11  
Worship 9:00  
Sunday School Registration and Waffle Breakfast 10:30  
Children's Ministries 11:00  
Junior Choir ~ 11:00  
K.A.N. 4:00  
Praise Singers Rehearsal 5:30  
FIREPLACE WORSHIP SERVICE 6:00  
Youth Mission at All Saints 7:15

12  
Mobile Food Pantry 10:00  
  
Prayer Service at Woodsedge 11:00  
Disciple Bible Study 12:30  
  
Trustees 7:00

13  
Quilt Bee 9:30  
  
Church Council 7:00

14  
Prayer Service 9:00  
  
Bell Choir 6:00  
Choir 7:00

15  
  
Senior High 7:00  
Adult Study Group 7:00  
  
SUNBEAM DEADLINE  
12:00 Midnight

16  
  
Junior High Lock-in 5:30--

17  
Mens' Breakfast 7:00

18  
Worship 9:00  
Sunday School 10:30  
  
Youth Mission Can and Bottle Drive  
  
Praise Singers Rehearsal 5:30  
FIREPLACE WORSHIP SERVICE 6:00

19  
  
Disciple Bible Study 12:30  
  
Haiti Committee 7:00

20  
Quilt Bee 9:30  
  
Membership 7:00  
Worship Committee 7:30

Prayer Service 9:00  
  
Bell Choir 6:00  
Choir 7:00

Senior High 7:00  
Adult Study Group 7:00

Mens' Breakfast 7:00

25  
Worship 9:00  
Sunday School 10:30  
  
Praise Singers Rehearsal 5:30  
FIREPLACE WORSHIP SERVICE 6:00

26  
Disciple Bible Study 12:30  
  
Food Pantry 3:00

27  
Quilt Bee 9:30  
  
Youth Ministry 7:00

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

29  
  
Senior High 7:00  
Adult Study Group 7:00

30

*September  
2011*

## Annual Waffle & Ice Cream Breakfast Kicks Off Sunday School Year

You are invited to **bring your backpacks** to church on Sunday, September 4, to receive a special blessing during worship as you begin a new school year.

Here at church we are beginning a new journey as well. Please join us on Sunday, September 11, for the **Annual Waffle & Ice Cream Breakfast** in the Fellowship hall following the morning worship service. Sunday School registration for all ages will take place and we welcome new teachers and assistants as well as returning ones to our program. Jamey and Jamie Jones will Co-Chair the Children's Ministry Committee. Children's Ministry members and teachers are encouraged to attend the first meeting following the breakfast in the Bible Center Room.

The **Children's Sunday School** classes begin on Sunday, September 18, with a unit entitled "God Calls Abraham and Sarah." The story dates back to the Old Testament where in the Book of Genesis God calls his servant Abraham (called the father of all nations) to trust that His timing and purpose are perfect. Abraham and Sarah are promised land, descendants, and protection. Along the way, like we do, the couple tries to take matters into their own hands. The children will learn that we are all called to trust in God's promises and believe in His plan for our lives, our community and our world.

The White Swan Team will kick off **adult Sunday School** class. Come and listen to stories from the team members of their recent mission trip to the Yakama Nation in White Swan, Washington. The following two weeks Gerd Aasen will lead the class with a

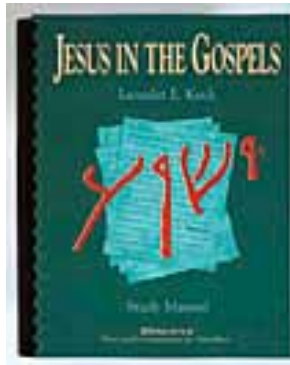
series entitled "The Courage to Witness." As disciples of Jesus, we are called to live our faith and be examples for others. Do we have the courage to fulfill this role?

**Women's Bible Study:** reconvenes on Wednesday, September 28, at 9:30 am in the double classroom. Jan Nagel leads the class and completes the Favorite Bible and Troublesome Bible Passages books. We will meet the September 28 and October 5, then break for a week during the Rummage Sale and return on October 19.

**Wednesday Prayer Service:** Wednesday Prayer Service has resumed in the Senior High Sunday School classroom, and you are welcome to become a part of this informal gathering. Bring your prayer requests, joys and concerns or just a desire to be in prayer on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 AM.

**Disciple Bible Study:** Disciple Bible Study begins a new study on Monday, September 12, at 12:30 pm in the Adult Sunday School classroom with an introduction to the series entitled "Jesus in the Gospels." This 30-week class

focuses on the portrait of Jesus found in the four Gospels, looking at the way each writer presents events and teachings. Sign up on the



Continued at right

## Effects of Haitian Earthquake Are Still Felt

**Urgent Notice:** Our Haitian university students, who have been a part of our LUMC student sponsorship mission in Haiti for many years, and who are now studying in the Dominican Republic due to the tragic earthquake in Haiti, urgently need our help if they are to continue their studies. We have watched them study diligently and extremely hard to reach this academic level. We have lauded their hard work and educational success while dreaming of a day that they would be able to pursue a university degree—the avenue which will give them the opportunity to return to Haiti and pay forward the blessings which they have received. It would be sad if their educational goal and desire

### Bible study and Sunday school opportunities, concluded

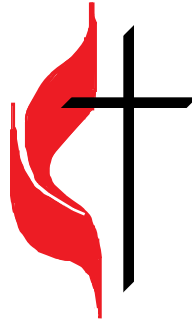
narthex bulletin board and books are available in my office. Please contact Bonnie Blair at 257-0721, who will serve as this seminar's coordinator.

**Thursday Evening Study Group:** Pastor Jane will meet on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall for short term topical studies. New participants are welcome to join in at any time. The group will start an eight-week study, "Remedial Christianity," beginning on Thursday, September 15

There are many opportunities to grow and share your faith. We ask God to bless you abundantly as we journey down this road together.—*Marilyn Paradise*



to give back what they have been given was cut short due to lack of sufficient funding. Presently we are operating by faith alone from month to month and semester to semester. If we are not able to accumulate enough sponsors to cover their educational costs, we will be met with the sad task of returning them to Haiti with their dreams unfulfilled and their full potential left unrealized. Has God allowed them to travel to these heights just to be cut short of reaching the top? I don't think so. However, just as it has taken many generous hearts to pay their education to this point, continued support is needed for the next four years. Just as many hands make light work, so do many contributors make the financial weight of this mission a lighter one. Will you please pray and ask God if this is where He would like you to give your mission gift? Our students pray daily thanking God for what has been given to them and asking for His provisions for the future. They are committed to returning to Haiti to give back to their people in ways that they have seen modeled through our mission teams. Let's not allow this to be a mission half completed. With sincere thanks for searching your hearts to see if this is where God is directing your gifts, I remain but one of your representatives to the people in Haiti.—*Dianne Walter, on behalf of the Haiti University students studying in the Dominican Republic*



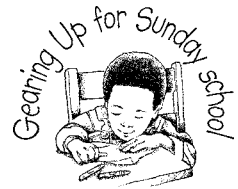
# The Sunbeam

September 2011

**Lansing United  
Methodist  
Church**

Inside:

**Wesley's Passion for  
the Poor**, page 3  
**Bible study and  
Sunday school  
activities**, page 6  
**Urgent need in Haiti**,  
page 7



---

## **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](mailto:lumcoffice@twcny.rr.com)

Office manager: Laurie Moskow

[www.lansingunited.org](http://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](mailto:grw4@cornell.edu), or use the  
Sunbeam folder near the church office.  
Deadline for the next issue is September 15,  
2011.