



Please join us for Worship at 9:00 and Sunday School at 10:30

The Sunbeam

December 2012

Lansing United Methodist Church
lansingunited.org

Pastor: Jane Sautter

Christian Education Coordinator: Adam Bacher • Adult Ministries Coordinator: Karen Veaner



**Advent and
Christmas 2012**

From the Pastor

He Is Already Here

By now, you all know that I am not a secular Christmas person. I even get irritated by all the so-called “Christmas” songs that have absolutely nothing to do with Christmas! I find the push for shopping earlier in the season and later in the day appalling! The new term “Grey Thursday” sets my teeth on edge. So what are we to do when we are bombarded with all this commercialism, materialism, and secularism?

In the past, I found myself avoiding places (like the mall) which cut down on my exposure. This also caused me to be cut off from some of the things I truly enjoy about the season...like the mini-concerts in the mall or the opportunity to share a smile with a frazzled store employee. I have come to realize that withdrawing is not the way to celebrate this season of hope.

We spend a lot of time during Advent talking about expectation and anticipation. What, exactly, are we anticipating? If we are anticipating the coming of the Christ...here’s a news-flash—**He is already here!!** So, as we rush around in preparation for our Holy-day celebrations...let us look for the Christ who is everywhere around us—in the frenzy of our planning. Let us become aware of what is already in front of us—the gift of Jesus the Christ—though sometimes, not as obvious as we might think. I would like to share with you a poem that might tweak you to look for God-with-us in the most common places.

The Gift

by Ann Weems

We had everything she did not have,
and so we gave to her our singing at Christmastime.
Young and healthy, we came from homes with trees and lights
she’d never see and gifts she’d never open.
Bedridden, she greeted us with clapping hands
and a smile that never left her wrinkled face.
We caroled and caroled in that tiny room,
and she closed her eyes in ecstasy
and even sang along from time to time.
As we were leaving, she thanked us all profusely
and passed to me her “offering.”
I looked in my hand and saw a crumpled dollar bill
and looked into her eyes
and saw a million stars.
She had everything we did not have, and so she gave to us
the singing of her heart at Christmastime.

*With Advent blessings,
Pastor Jane*

Adult Sunday School December Offerings

Sunday, 12/2: First Sunday of Advent

Sunday School, 10:30 AM

Meditation: A Conversation with God with Ravi Walsh, Note: This is the last class of this series. (Adult Classroom)

The Source: A Book Study with Ben Veaner (Adam’s Office)

The Advent Wreath with Karen Veaner (Fellowship Hall)

We will explore the history and symbolism of the Advent Wreath and make Advent Wreaths. Greens will be provided by Kay and Richard Moore. Wreath bases, candles and ribbon will be available, you are welcome to bring your own. Feel free to bring ribbons and ornaments of your own choosing for your own wreath or to share with others.

Note: This class time will be extended to accommodate those in other classes that wish to make a wreath.

Sunday, 12/9: 2nd Sunday of Advent

Regular Sunday School, 10:30 AM

Sunday, 12/16: 3rd Sunday of Advent

No Sunday School

Christmas Pageant, 10:30 AM

(Dish-to-Pass Luncheon & “Happy Birthday, Jesus” Party following Pageant)

Sunday, 12/23: 4th Sunday of Advent

Sunday School (for adults), 10:30 AM

Sunday, 12/30: The Sunday Formerly Known as Christmastide, No Sunday School

Sunday, 1/6: Epiphany

Regular Sunday School, 10:30 AM

Coming in January: Herbs and Plants of the Bible with Melanie Steverson Jarvis

LUMC Advent and Christmas Schedule

Sunday, December 2

Christmas Pageant Rehearsal, 10:30

Friday, December 7

Greening of the Church, 4:30 PM

Saturday, December 8

Christmas Caroling, 2:00–5:00 PM

Sunday, December 9

Christmas Pageant Rehearsal, 10:30

Saturday, December 15

Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal,
10:00 – 11:30 AM

Sunday, December 16

Christmas Pageant, 10:30 AM

Friday, December 21

“Blue Christmas” Worship Service,
6:00 PM

Monday, December 24, Christmas Eve

Christmas Eve Family Service, 5:00 PM
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service,
8:00 PM

Tuesday, December 25, Merry Christmas

Help Sponsor an Advent Bulletin Cover

The lovely pre-printed bulletin covers for the Advent and Christmas cost money but are well worth it. Sponsoring a bulletin cover will be much appreciated. If you are interested in sponsoring bulletins, please make a donation in any amount with the notation “Christmas bulletins” in the memo line. All sponsors will be listed in the memorial bulletin on Christmas Eve.

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

2



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Worship 9:00
Sunday School 10:30
Christmas Pageant Rehearsal 10:30
Finance 11:30

K.A.N. 3:30
FIREPLACE WORSHIP SERVICE 5:45

3

Pancakes and Prayers 6:30
Woodsedge: Bible Study 10:30
Disciple I 12:00

Staff Parish 7:00

4

5

Prayer Service 9:00
Women's Bible Study 9:30

Bell Choir 6:00
Choir 7:00

6

Senior High 7:00
Adult Study Group 7:00

7

Needleworkers 10:00


Greening the Church 4:30

1

Mens' Breakfast 7:00
Prayer Shawl Ministry/
Caregivers 10:00

Mens' Breakfast 7:00
8 Christmas Caroling 2:00

9



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Worship 9:00
Sunday School 10:30
Christmas Pageant Rehearsal 10:30

10

Pancakes and Prayers 6:30

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

11

Disciple IV 12:30

"Good Movie" for Youth 7:00

12

Prayer Service 9:00
Women's Bible Study 9:30

Bell Choir 6:00
Choir 7:00

13

Senior High 7:00

14

Needleworkers 10:00

Young Adult Fellowship 6:00


15

Mens' Breakfast 7:00

Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal 10:00
Youth Christmas Party 6:00

SUNBEAM DEADLINE 12:00 Midnight

16



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Worship 9:00

Christmas Pageant 10:30

Youth Mission Can and Bottle Drive

17

Pancakes and Prayers 6:30
Woodsedge: Bible Study 10:30
Disciple I 12:00

Food Pantry 3:00
Clothes Horse 3:00
Haiti Committee 7:00

18

Disciple IV 12:30

Worship Committee 7:30

19

Prayer Service 9:00

Bell Choir 6:00
Choir 7:00

20

21


Winter Solstice
Needleworkers 10:00

"Blue Christmas" 6:00

22

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

23



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Worship 9:00
Adult Sunday School 10:30

24

Christmas Eve Family Service 5:00
Candlelight Service 8:00

25

Christmas Day

26

27

28

Needleworkers 10:00

29

Men's Breakfast 7:00

Church Office Closed

30

CHRISTMASTIDE
Worship 9:00

31

Church Office Closed

1

Happy New Year!

2

Bell Choir 6:00
Choir 7:00

Note: This calendar is current as of November 27. For updates to all LUMC events, visit lansingunited.org, and check the bulletin when you're in church on Sunday.

December 2012



Lansing United Methodist Church



Help Haiti Students Finish Their University Degrees

As a result of the earthquake and other natural disasters in Haiti, two of our Haitian university students moved to the Dominican Republic to complete their education. The good news is that they are doing well; the bad news is that this is an expensive project (at least compared to Haiti prices). Your help is needed to pay for their tuition. Aniel Estime is majoring in civil engineering and is in the third year of a five year civil engineering program, and Jean Clifford Cherisier is in the third year of a four and one half year computer technology program. We don't want to be in the awkward position of having to tell these men that they have to quit because we cannot meet their financial needs. The cost of tuition, books, housing, and food is such that each man needs approximately \$2,900 per trimester. We need help for two remaining trimesters this year. If you would like more information or are able to help please contact Judy Hinderliter jk.hinderliter@gmail.com or 533-7287.

Haiti Benefit at Grey Barn

Friday and Saturday, December 7 and 8

An artisan craft fair at the Grey Barn will include a benefit for Haiti. Scheduled for December 7, from 12:00 to 7:00 PM and December 8, 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, the fair features more than 17 local artists. The Grey Barn is at the corner of Peruville Road (34B) and VanOstrand Road.

Update on Hurricane Sandy Recovery

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) will focus its Hurricane Sandy relief efforts on locations in New Jersey. The damage there is so great that as this issue of Sunbeam went to press UMCOR is still assessing the extent of that damage. UMCOR has established Advance #3021787 for its relief efforts and urges you to give a special donation in December. There are several ways to make a donation. You can visit UMCOR's site and make a donation directly, www.unyumc.org/newjerseyfund, or you can write a check to LUMC and drop it in the plate. Mark the memo with the advance number or just write Sandy relief. You can also mail a donation to UMCOR by making your check payable to "Advance GCFA" with Advance #30217872 on the memo line. mail to: Advance GCFA, P.O. Box 9068 GPO, New York, NY 10087-9068.

Every dime of your donation goes to flood recovery. UMCOR deducts no overhead or fees from designated gifts. The overhead is covered by the regular payments LUMC makes to the United Methodist Church for numerous services and missions and by One Great Hour of Sharing.

UMCOR will be there for the long haul, and you will have opportunities to go as a Volunteer in Mission as time goes on. For now, please give generously, and keep the hurricane victims and those assisting them in your prayers as they all work to recover from this disaster.

Poinsettia Order Deadline Is December 9

Bakers' Acres is again coordinating the poinsettia order for the sanctuary during advent. Poinsettias are \$10.00 each and are available in your choice of red, pink, or white. Look for order forms in the bulletin or Narthex, or print your own from the LUMC homepage Please remember to include your name and the names of your loved ones exactly as you would like them printed in the Christmas Eve bulletin. Order form and payment are due in the church office by Sunday, December 9. If you write a check, make it out to LUMC, with poinsettias on the memo line.

Prayer Concerns

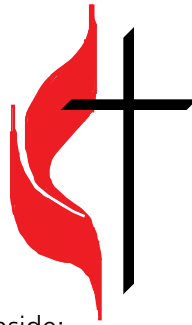
Sally Gillespie Dawson, Pat Gillespie's sister
Roy Hogben
Phyllis Howell
Christopher Saunders, Marion Howe's grandson
Charles Scott, Laura Alexander's brother
Lisa Topoleski, Judy Sweazey's daughter
Helen Westley, Sue Frahm's mom

Closing the Treasurer's Books on 2012

Please submit all reimbursements for the Calendar Year 2012 soon and in any event no later than January 14, 2013, at 3:00 pm. Anything received after that day will not be included in calendar year 2012 books, but will be included in 2013 even though these types of expenses were not budgeted for. Also, if you are keeping records of a liability account (such as Food Pantry, Haiti, Youth Mission), now is the time to reconcile your records to mine. Please email Jeanne Taylor at taylor2899@twcny.rr.com to request an up-to-date QuickBooks report on the account you wish to reconcile. Thank you, Jeanne Taylor, Treasurer

Become an LUMC Barista

We have several faithful people who have been setting up coffee time after church, and it's time for some more people to step forward to organize coffee hour set-up next year. This is a matter of getting the water hot, setting up the beverage table and setting out goodies. Another task is washing the coffee mugs and cups, which could be done by a separate crew. Take a week or a month and help out. Let Gary Travis know if you're willing to pitch in. Thanks.



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Inside:

Finding Jesus in Christmas, page 2

Advent Activities, page 3

Mission Update, page 6

Decorate the Church, December 7

Christmas Caroling, December 8

Christmas Pageant, December 16

Christmas Eve Services
5:00 and 8:00

Lansing United Methodist Church

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Please send your news to Glenn Withiam,
editor, at grw4@cornell.edu.

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2012.