

# *The + Sunbeam* January 2014

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Lansing United Methodist Church

**Worship 9:00 AM, SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM**

**PLEASE JOIN US!**

**Pastor: Jane Sautter**

**Christian Education Coordinator: Adam Bacher**

**Adult Ministries Coordinator: Karen Veaner**

**Youth Mission 2014-15  
Mission to Union Beach**

**Union Beach, New Jersey, in April 2013**

**The debris piles are now gone,  
but the reconstruction work continues.**

**Youth Mission will go to Union Beach in July 2014.**

**Organizing meeting January 12, 6:30 PM, All Saints.**

## **Make God Your Business—Instead of “Busy-ness”**

**A** new year—it’s hard to believe that it is here already! As we start off 2014, I would like to encourage you to be intentional about your life with God. As I look at my January calendar, I see that it is already jam packed with all sorts of activities. As I pondered this, I became aware that there was no “set-aside time” for prayer and reflection on my calendar. Now, I know that all of our activities don’t make it to the calendar—some of them are habitual, but I think it is important to acknowledge that we need to be sure there is time for God every day. In the past, I held Tuesday afternoons as my Sabbath time (I am working on Sundays, you know!). I have drifted away from that and feel I need to reinstate the practice. I think that my time of prayer and meditation has been taken over by a variety of “pressing issues”—many of which aren’t all that pressing! I do spend a bit of time each morning in prayer, but I feel I need a much more structured time to truly focus on my relationship with God. In pondering this, I realize that I am not the only one whose life gets taken over by many important things...so I encourage you to step back and look at where God fits into the big picture of your weekly calendar. Quick prayers on the fly are really good, but when is there time for reflection? When do we (I?) dig deeper and look at where we could do better? When do we listen to what God is whispering to our hearts? My prayer for all of us is that we make time and space in our busyness for God to feed and fill us.

Many blessings in this New Year!  
Pastor Jane

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## **Giving Tree T Y**

Thanks to all who helped make Christmas a little brighter for the children of our community by supporting the Giving Tree! Between LUMC and All Saints, we provided Christmas gifts for 106 children. Special thanks to the Moores for providing our lovely tree and to the people who got the ornaments from the Rummage Sale so that we could give them to the children. Your continued generosity and support make it possible to bring the joy of the season to our local families in need.”—*Diane Skrobach*

## **Christian Believer Class Starts**

**C**hristian Believer Class is just starting this month. I believe we have a fantastic opportunity to explore, in depth, the what and why of teachings and beliefs we share as Christians.

This class has 30 lessons, which Pastor Jane will spread across the calendar year. Each lesson is self-contained, about a specific topic, so that if you have to miss class occasionally, you will not get lost or behind. To prepare for each lesson, there are six days of reading assignments from Scripture and other readings (in a book that is provided). This provides a daily discipline of Bible reading. (I for one really need this spiritual discipline and have been amazed at how much better my day goes, no matter how “busy” when I stick to it. Each week, class will be held for 2 hours, either Monday afternoons from 12:30-2:30 PM or Thursday evenings from 7:00-9:00 PM.

You do not need to be a Bible scholar! This class is topical, rather than just strictly Bible study. It combines Scripture and writings that have shaped what we as Christians believe, such as the Trinity, God’s grace, and resurrection. Many of these concepts are mysterious and profound, misunderstood or taken for granted.

Our church covers the cost of the materials for this class from the adult ministries budget. To help underwrite the cost, we traditionally have accepted voluntary donations from participants.

Why get involved? I can only speak from personal experience, but it’s an experience I shared with virtually everyone I’ve had the pleasure of studying with in the Disciple Bible Studies. For this class, the subtitle expresses it best—Christian Believer: Knowing God with Heart and Mind. I am very grateful for the Disciple studies, because before I tried them, I didn’t understand that Bible study could mean so much more than just an academic exercise that I was “supposed” to do. This study will strengthen your relationship with God, and will be an experience you will treasure.

We’re fortunate to have Pastor Jane leading these studies. She is passionate about this study and what it will mean to each of us individually, and ultimately to our congregation and beyond because of what it will bring out in us.

Thank you for considering this study. Please let Karen Veaner know by e-mail at [adultministries@lansingunited.org](mailto:adultministries@lansingunited.org) if you would like to join the study so she can order the materials. Please don’t hesitate to talk with Pastor Jane for more information as you decide if this class is right for you, at this time.—*Bonnie Blair*

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



*Lansing United  
Methodist  
Church*

*January  
2014*

**1** Prayer Service 9:00  
Women's Bible Study 9:30  
  
Training Bell Choir 5:00  
Bell Choir 6:00  
Adult Choir 7:00

**2**  
  
Senior High Youth 7:00

**3** Needleworkers 10:00

**4** Men's Breakfast at Linda's in  
North Lansing  
Every Saturday 7:00  
  
Prayer Shawl Ministry/  
Caregivers 10:00

**5**  
  
Worship 9:00  
Sunday School 10:30  
  
Kids in Action Now 5:30

**6** Epiphany  
Pancakes and Prayers 6:30  
Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30  
Christian Believer 12:30  
  
Staff Parish 7:00

**7**  
  
Church Council 7:00

**8** Prayer Service 9:00  
Women's Bible Study 9:30  
  
Training Bell Choir 5:00  
Bell Choir 6:00  
Adult Choir 7:00

**9**  
  
Christian Believer Introduction  
7:00  
Senior High Youth 7:00

**10** Needleworkers 10:00

**11** Mens' Breakfast 7:00

**12** Worship 9:00  
Sunday School 10:30  
  
Youth Mission at All Saints 6:30

**13** Pancakes and Prayers 6:30  
Mobile Food Pantry 10:00  
Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30  
Christian Believer 12:30  
  
Trustees 7:00

**14**

**15** Prayer Service 9:00  
Women's Bible Study 9:30  
  
Training Bell Choir 5:00  
Bell Choir 6:00  
Adult Choir 7:00

**16**  
  
Christian Believer 7:00  
Senior High Youth 7:00

**17** Needleworkers 10:00  
  
SUNBEAM DEADLINE  
12:00 Midnight

**18**  
  
Men's Breakfast 7:00

**19** HUMAN RELATIONS SUNDAY  
Worship 9:00  
Sunday School 10:30  
Children's Musical Rehearsal 11:30  
Youth Mission Can and Bottle Drive

**20** MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DAY  
Pancakes and Prayers 6:30  
Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30  
Christian Believer 12:30  
  
Haiti 7:00

**21**  
  
Membership 7:00  
Worship Committee 7:30

**22** Prayer Service 9:00  
Women's Bible Study 9:30  
  
Bell Choir 6:00  
Adult Choir 7:00

**23**  
  
Christian Believer 7:00  
Senior High Youth 7:00

**24** Needleworkers 10:00

**25** Mens' Breakfast 7:00

**26** Worship 9:00  
Sunday School 10:30  
  
Children's Musical Rehearsal  
11:30

**27** Pancakes and Prayers 6:30  
Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30  
Christian Believer 12:30  
  
Lansing Food Pantry 1:00

**28**  
  
Finance 7:00

**29** Prayer Service 9:00  
Women's Bible Study 9:30  
  
Training Bell Choir 5:00  
Bell Choir 6:00  
Adult Choir 7:00

**30**  
  
Christian Believer 7:00  
Senior High Youth 7:00

**31** Needleworkers 10:00

**Note: This calendar is  
current as of January  
7. For updates to all  
LUMC events, visit  
lansingunited.org.**

## Adult Sunday School for January

**Meditation: A Conversation with God, with Ravi Walsh, Every Sunday in January**

Choose a new direction or a new focus for the New Year.

**If You Want to Walk on Water, You've got to Get Out of the Boat! with Bill Hinderliter—in the Adult Classroom, Every Sunday in January**

*“Lord, if it's you, tell me to come to you on the water.” – Simon Peter*

Join us for the adventure of your life. Peter may have been the first one out of the boat, but Jesus' invitation to walk on water is for all of us. Walking on water means facing your fears and choosing not to let fear have the last word. This course by John Ortenberg will challenge you to greater faith, power-filled deeds and a new way of knowing Jesus. Through readings, video clips and group discussions, you will discover how to discern God's call, transcend fear, risk faith, manage failure and trust God. Relating the story in Matthew 14 to life today, this class will invite you to consider the incredible potential that awaits you outside your comfort zone.

**January 12: Reason and Faith with Randy Wayne—in the Sanctuary**

The Laws of Nature are discovered and currently used by scientists to describe, explain, and predict reality without invoking God or any other supernatural power. In fact, God is actively excluded from most scientific discussions based on the idea that reason triumphs over faith. I contend that this is a false dichotomy and a sterile argument because reason and faith are inseparable. I believe that a deeper understanding of what each person thinks is reasonable and what each person accepts by faith helps one to understand the world and to know God better.

Randy Wayne is a scientist and a teacher: an amateur, in that he does what he loves. His research has focused on questioning the assumptions underlying the theory of relativity and the interpretation of the photon. As a teacher, He tries to pass on a deep and broad knowledge of biology, a love for biology and an ability to critically and ethically think about biological research and its consequences.

**January 19 and 26: Cinema Paradiso with Jim Blair in the Fellowship Hall**

Like to watch? Explore the history of Christianity through DVDs and discussion.

## Youth Mission Organizes

**Upcoming Lansing Youth Mission Trips in 2014 and early 2015**

**New Members Invited !**

**Meet January 12, 6:30 PM, All Saints Parish Center**

Youth Mission is about to gear up for two more mission trips.

Another work trip to help with Hurricane Sandy restoration is being planned for the summer of 2014. This time the Youth Mission team will head to Union Beach, New Jersey, during the week of July 27 to Aug 2.

The Youth Mission team will also be planning for one or more trips early in 2015 to Guatemala to help build a house for a family in the San Lucas region.

Participation in Youth Mission is open to any high school age youth from LUMC and All Saints along with their parents or guardians and other interested adults. As last year, we are inviting current 8th graders to join in the planning since they will have graduated from middle school by the time of this summer's trip and will also be eligible to participate in the Guatemala trip.

So, if you are in 8th through 12th grade and are interested joining in Lansing Youth Mission and participating in one or both of the upcoming trips, please join us, with one or more parent or guardian if possible, at our next monthly youth mission meeting:

If you cannot make the meeting on January 12, but are interested in participating in Youth Mission during the coming year, please contact either Chris Miller (533-0095 or email: sixmillers94@gmail.com) or Dave Stoyell (533-7947 or email: peganddave@juno.com) to indicate your interest.

Upcoming events sponsored by Youth Mission to help fund these trips include the Sweetheart Dinner, in February at All Saints, and the Talents and Goods Auction, in late March at LUMC.

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## Children's Musical

**Are We There Yet?**

**by Tom Long and Alan Pote**

**The story of Moses and the Exodus.**

First rehearsal will be Sunday, January 19, at 11:30 (after Sunday school).

Adult assistance is welcome in all areas, music direction, props, costumes, scenery, crowd control, feeding.

Performance will be the last week of March or first week of April.

Questions? Diane Withiam



# The Sunbeam

January 2014

Lansing United  
Methodist Church  
Celebrating 50 Years  
of Serving and Praising  
God

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## **Lansing United Methodist Church**

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Please send your news to Glenn Withiam, editor, at  
[grw4@cornell.edu](mailto:grw4@cornell.edu).

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