

# *The Sunbeam* June 2014

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Lansing United Methodist Church

**Worship 9:00 AM, SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM  
(9:30 IN THE PARK, JUNE 25) PLEASE JOIN US!**

**Pastor: Jane Sautter**

**Christian Education Coordinator: Adam Bacher**

**Adult Ministries Coordinator: Karen Veaner**



**Pentecost!  
Feel the Spirit!  
June 8**

## Thoughts on Spring

It's here...really and truly...it's here!!! Spring has finally arrived—or maybe we jumped straight into summer, but no matter what, it is no longer winter! To celebrate this, I would like to share a poem by Joyce Rupp:

### A Spring Blessing

Blessed are you, spring,  
bright season of life awakening.  
You gladden our hearts with opening buds and returning leaves  
as you put on your robes of splendor.

Blessed are you, spring.  
In you is a life no death can destroy.  
As you exchange places with winter you harbor no unforgiving spirit  
for broken tree limbs and frozen buds.

Blessed are you, spring.  
You open the closed buds of our despair  
as you journey with us to the flowering places.

Blessed are you, spring.  
You invite us to sing songs to the frozen regions within  
and to bless the lessons of winter as we become your partner in a new dance.

Blessed are you, spring.  
Like Jesus standing at the tomb of Lazarus, you call to us:  
"Remove winter's stone, come out, there is life here you have not yet tasted."

Blessed are you, spring,  
free gift of the earth.  
Without cost we gaze upon your glory.  
You are a gospel of good news for the poor and rich alike.

Blessed are you, spring.  
Your renewing rain showers and cathartic storms  
nurture the potential that sleeps in Earth's heart and in our own earthen hearts.

Blessed are you, spring,  
season of resurrection, sacrament of promise.  
Like Jesus you rise up out of darkness, leaving around you a wake of new life.

Blessed are you, spring,  
miracle child of the four seasons.  
With your wand of many colors you work magic in the corners of our darkness.

Blessed are you, spring,  
season of hope and renewal.  
Wordless poem about all within us that can never die.  
Each year you amaze us with the miracle of returning life.

Happy spring and many blessings!  
Pastor Jane

## Thoughts on Worship Time

One of the issues that came up in the recently held Home Meetings was the time of worship. Many people thought it would be helpful to move our worship time to 9:30 AM. While there is no objection to changing the worship time, it is important for everyone to understand the impact of changing this time. Moving our worship time to 9:30 would mean that Sunday School wouldn't be starting until 11:00 and finishing at 12:00. We have several children who are faithful attendees at Sunday School who have sports obligations at noon...this would force them to make a choice as to whether to be in Sunday School or to play soccer, football, or baseball. It would be extremely disruptive to have kids leaving halfway through a class and would diminish the impact of Sunday School. Also, for many of our children, it would make participating in Children's Choir and the Children's Musical difficult. As it is, these groups meet following Sunday School. If Children's Choir were to meet from 12:00–1:00, we would need to think seriously about providing lunch for them, which would take more time and could be a burden to the participants and the leadership. With the Musical, it would push the end time to 2:30, which means that those children involved in both the musical and Confirmation would be spending about 8 hours in church on Sunday!

No decision has been made about the time of worship, but we thought it would be helpful for everyone to see the "big picture" before making any decisions. We realize that satisfying all the desires of all the people is difficult, but changing our worship time just a little bit has a huge impact on the "other end" of Sunday. The good news is that we will begin our summer schedule on June 29 with our first Worship in the Park at 9:30 AM, and "summer time" will continue, with worship at 9:30 until August 31.—*P.J.*

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## Church Cleanup Day

**Sunday, June 8, is our annual church clean up day.** Lawn and garden maintenance, including weeding, planting and mulching will be our priority. Please join us after church (and after Sunday School) to beautify our lovely buildings and grounds.

If you have shovels, rakes and hand tools, please bring them with you. We'll provide a snack for an energy boost. All ages are welcome! The more the merrier and the quicker we finish. Hope to see many of you on June 8. Thank you.—*Trustees*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> Worship 9:00 Sunday School 10:30  K.A.N. Kids in Action Now 5:30	<b>2</b> Pancakes and Prayers 6:30  Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30  Staff Parish Relations 7:00	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Prayer Service 9:00 Women's Bible Study 9:30  Bell Choir 7:00 Senior High Youth 7:00	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Needleworkers 10:00	<b>7</b> Men's Breakfast at Linda's in North Lansing Every Saturday 7:00  Prayer Shawl Ministry/ Caregivers 10:00
<b>8</b>  <b>PENTECOST</b> TEACHER APPRECIATION Worship 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Church Cleanup 11:30 Youth Mission 6:30	<b>9</b> Pancakes and Prayers 6:30 Mobile Food Pantry 10:00 Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30 Prayer Service at Woodsedge 11:00 Trustees 7:00	<b>10</b> Church Council 7:00	<b>11</b> Prayer Service 9:00 Women's Bible Study 9:30  Bell Choir Bell Polishing Party 6:00 Senior High Youth 7:00	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Needleworkers 10:00	<b>14</b> Mens' Breakfast 7:00
<b>15</b> DADS AND GRADS SUNDAY TRINITY SUNDAY PEACE WITH JUSTICE  Worship 9:00  Youth Mission Can and Bottle Drive	<b>16</b> Pancakes and Prayers 6:30  Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30  Haiti 7:00	<b>17</b> Membership 7:00 Worship Committee 7:00	<b>18</b> Prayer Service 9:00	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Needleworkers 10:00  SUNBEAM DEADLINE 12:00 Midnight	<b>21</b> Men's Breakfast 7:00
<b>22</b> Worship 9:00	<b>23</b> Pancakes and Prayers 6:30  Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30 Lansing Food Pantry 1:00	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Prayer Service 9:00  Senior High Youth 7:00	<b>26</b> Christian Believer 7:00	<b>27</b> Needleworkers 10:00	<b>28</b> Mens' Breakfast 7:00
<b>29</b> Worship 9:30 Lansing Town Park Pavilion D  Ice Cream Social, Laurie's in Genoa, 6:00	<b>30</b> Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <h1 style="color: red; margin: 0;">June 2014</h1> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p style="margin: 0;">Note: This calendar is current as of May 25. For updates to all LUMC events, visit <a href="http://lansingunited.org">lansingunited.org</a>.</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p style="color: red; margin: 0;"><i>Lansing United Methodist Church</i></p> </div> </div>				

## The Road Goes Ever Onward

Hello to the beautiful community that is Lansing United Methodist Church. A community that I have had the privilege of being a part of and serving for the past two and a half years. A community that I have grown to love, and one that I have received much love from. A community that has allowed me to do ministry that I love to do. A community that I sadly will be leaving.

I have officially submitted my letter of resignation from the Christian Education Coordinator position effective July 31st of this year. It was a difficult decision to make in many ways, and easy to make in one. Difficult because I love the kids here. This church pours so much love and time and resources into giving these kids the best chance to become disciples that it made my time here both fun and fruitful. You make these kids into good soil that the word of God becomes well planted in. Difficult because I have so many relationships here with truly great people. Because this church is so rich in stories, and remarkable people. Because there is so much still for me to learn here. It is an easy decision in only the one way, and that way is that I am called elsewhere.

In 2011 I was a part of a year of voluntary mission work for the entire year through a program (not so creatively) called Mission Year. I lived in a rough and beautiful neighborhood in New Orleans and learned so much about a life of urban ministry, community building, and just loving on people in places where everyone's goal is to leave. That experience got under my skin,

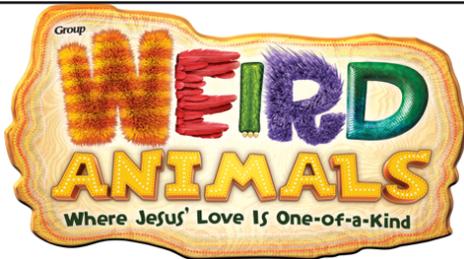
*continued at right*

## The Road (concluded)

and in turn infiltrated my heart and spirit. At the end of my time there I was hired by LUMC to come be the Christian Education Coordinator, a dream job for anyone in youth ministry, and I knew that I needed to take that opportunity. I also knew deep down that more than likely I would be back in the city. The opportunity to do so came quicker than I thought.

As of this fall my fiancé Ellen and I are moving to Camden, New Jersey. Why Camden? Honestly, because that is the city where Ellen did Mission Year (yes, she is also an alumni of Mission Year) and where she has felt called to do ministry ever since. The more I have looked into Camden, the more insane of an idea it seems. It is probably the most dangerous city in the country with very little culture or redeeming qualities. Everything you read about Camden compares the place to developing nations or war zones. Crime there is astronomical. There is virtually no industry, no jobs, and even less hope.. so where better for a couple of disciples to go (I mean if Jesus was walking around the United States I am pretty sure he wouldn't be staying long in places like Aspen Colorado or Napa Valley California). And it is evident to both Ellen and I that the time to go and be and live there is now. So despite loving so many things about LUMC, and living in the paradise of the Finger Lakes, I have to go. Honestly, I have no idea if we will make any discernible impact, and even more honestly I am not sure if that is even really the point. We are going to go, be in relationship with people there, learn about them, learn about the city, and see what the Spirit does with all of it.

BUT, the time for goodbyes is not for a couple of months yet, and in the mean time there is still a lot of fun times to be had, a Sunday school school year to finish out, teachers to appreciate, kids to send to college, and Vacation Bible School to rock. I look forward to all of these things, and I thank you for all of the many ways you as a community have blessed my life.—*Adam Bacher*



## VBS: Weird Animals

Lansing United Methodist Church and All Saints are excited to announce our Summer 2014 Vacation Bible School! This year we are diving into the strange and colorful world of Weird Animals, where kids will be learning all about how Jesus loves them through all situations and through the strange quirks we all have. VBS will run from July 14 through July 18, from 6:00 to 8:15 PM each evening. Kids going into K-5<sup>th</sup> grades are invited to come sing, dance, play, help, snack, and learn about what The Bible has to say about their lives. The time to register is now! Registration forms will be available at the church office, or you can register online at “[www.groupvbapro.com/vbs/ez/lansingvbs](http://www.groupvbapro.com/vbs/ez/lansingvbs)”.

## Snowplow Thank you

On behalf of the entire congregation, we'd like to extend a big **thank you** to our snow-plow team of 'Pete' Peters, Glenn Swanson and Scott Bishop. You do a great job of keeping our parking lots accessible throughout the winter months! Thank you too for your recent raking of the grass around the lots, and using those extra stones to fill in the holes on the roadside parking spots. Your time and efforts are appreciated by all!

## Nursery thank you

It has been another great year in the nursery, and I want to thank all the parents and volunteers who have been part of this program.—*Jo Baker*



# The Sunbeam

June 2014

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

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CHURCH IN THE PARK

JUNE 29

ALL OF JULY

9:30 AM

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## Lansing United Methodist Church

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