



The Sunbeam August 2015

Lansing United Methodist Church

Worship 9:30AM IN THE SANCTUARY

PLEASE JOIN US!

Pastor: Jane Sautter

Christian Education Coordinator: Kevin Klippel

Adult Ministries Coordinator: Karen Veaner



**Take a Moment to Appreciate
God's Creation**

Take Some Summer Time

Find it really hard to believe that the summer is half over! We have been led to believe that summer is a time for slowing down and reflecting...a time for vacation and recreation and fun! Why is it, then, that I feel like I have been running full tilt with no break and barely a day off? What is it about our culture that makes us believe that if we are not scurrying around busily, we are not productive? Why can't I (we) slow down and relax?

Our lectionary texts the past couple weeks have reminded me that Jesus—yes, even Jesus—needed time away from the crowds to restore his spirit. We talk about following Jesus, but ignore this example of rest and restoration! Why do we feel guilty taking time apart? Why do we feel “naughty” taking time for ourselves?

Emily, my granddaughter, spent a week with me in July so that she could attend VBS. While this was an alteration in my routine (and that is an understatement!), it wasn't particularly restful. What I learned, though, was that time playing with a grandchild is *not* wasted time! She also taught me that simple, direct prayers are as fulfilling as poetic ones. I learned that the “Bible book” is every bit as good as a story book for bedtime reading. And I learned that love and compassion can be taught by children. *But* I also learned that my time with her would have been richer had I not tried to do all the “other stuff” that a pastor is supposed to do...I should have taken more time to just enjoy the week rather than running myself ragged!

My point in this is that even though we think we are doing lots of good things, if we neglect our own spirits in the process we have got it all wrong! If we forget about resting and laughing and playing...sooner or later (probably sooner) we will find ourselves grumpy and resentful. So, my prayer for August is that we all take some time to **play** and **pray** and enjoy being a child of God. Trust me, the work will be waiting for you!

Have fun, take time for yourself and enjoy all of God's blessings!

Pastor Jane

Building Committee Presentations

Sunday, August 2 and August 9

The Building Committee will present the building project's ministerial statements of need and the architect's current conceptual design proposal immediately after fellowship time on August 2 and August 9. The meeting is estimated to take a little more than an hour. The Church Council asks every adult member of the congregation to make every effort to attend one of these sessions. We are looking to provide nursery services and activities for children during the meeting time. All Building Committee documents are available on the building project page of the LUMC website, www.lansingunited.org/BuildingProject. Please pay special attention to the statements of need, which reflect the input of the congregation at the home meetings and offer the reasons why additions or modifications to the building are necessary.

LUMC Financial Readiness Assessment Interviews

August 10, 11, 26, and 27

Please sign up!

The United Methodist Frontier Foundation (UMFF) will be coming to LUMC on August 10, 11, 26, and 27, to conduct Financial Readiness Assessment interviews regarding our proposed building project. The interviews are a tool to determine the potential financial support of the congregation so that the project chosen can be successfully financed. The completely confidential interviews, which will last approximately twenty-five minutes each, will be scheduled between 9:00 a.m. and 7:45 p.m. each day. The sign-up schedule is available on the building project page of the LUMC web site or at signupschedule.com/blairj. The schedule will also be available after Sunday worship and in the church office during the week. Please sign up for one of the interviews (and indicate whether you will need nursery care).—*Building Committee*

LUMC Office Closed August 3 through 7

In the interest of staying within the annual budget for the position, the Office Manager has suggested taking a voluntary week off without pay to offset the nearly thirty extra hours worked so far this year. Therefore, the LUMC office will be closed Monday through Friday, August 3 through 7. Pastor Jane will be in and out of the office. The best way to reach her is by cell phone. There will be no weekly email update on Wednesday, August 5, and no Church at Work on Sunday, August 9. Thank you!

Vacation Bible School Wrap-Up

Wow! About 60 children from LUMC, All Saints, and our community had a wonderful



time together at the G-Force Adventure Park, experiencing God's love in action. Based on the theme verse, "In God we live, move, and exist" (Acts 17:28a), they learned that God wants us to Move, Act, Care, Follow, and Share.

In a sanctuary decorated to resemble an action adventure park, the children gathered Monday night to meet their crew leaders and crewmates. Quickly, they were introduced to Coach (Mary Klippel) and her side-kick Checkers the Cheetah, who led them through a humorous preview of the day. Our worship crew led by Sri Osika quickly got the children energetically involved singing the "I Got the G-Force." The Coach's whistle released them to the activities for the evening, and they were off to explore God's message.



Through fun crafts, crazy games, exciting Bible stories, theme snacks, and energizing music, each evening's message came through loud and clear: Moses's call to *move* God's people out of slavery to the Promised Land; Solomon's call to *act* and build a temple

for God's people to worship; the four friends' *care* for their paralyzed friend which led them to carry him up on a roof and lower him down to Jesus' feet; Bartimaeus's response to Jesus' gift of healing sight by *following* Jesus; and the women who found the empty tomb and went back to *share* the Good News of Jesus' rising with the disciples. Everyone involved found out how important a role they play in the G-Force: God's Love in Action.

To go along with our active theme, the VBS Mission project focused locally on raising money for a climbing structure for the Franziska Racker Center's early childhood programs. The mission of the Racker Center is to support people with disabilities and their families to lead fulfilling lives by providing opportunities to learn and be connected with others. As part of that mission,

the center provides early childhood services, including preschool special education and early intervention services. The proposed climbing structure will be valuable in promoting physical development by getting the kids climbing, playing, and moving. With the support of our congregations and a tremendous outpouring of love from the VBS families, they raised over \$700 for the Racker Center, more than twice the goal! As always, participating in this mission project gave the VBSers and their families a first-hand experience of what happens when God's community works to make a difference by spreading God's love in action!



This wonderful experience for our children was possible because of the generous donations and loving support of our two congregations and the special contributions of over 50 volunteers. Special thanks to all of the LUMC contingent who spent time leading the children through the program, including registration; Coach & Checkers, who led the assembly; the worship and tech crew; and crew leaders to activity zone leaders & helpers: Jo Baker, Carly Blair, James Blair, Sharon Bowman, Debbie Geise, Angie Jackson, Jamie Jones, Maddy Jones, Allison



Keefe, Kevin Klippel, Mary Klippel, Bailey Lombardo, Karen McGreevey, Bailey Osborne, Sri Osika, Patty Osika, Pastor Jane Sautter, Carla Smith, Peg Stoyell, Tori Swanson, Hana Thibault, Kelly Tracy, Dianne Walter, Craig Wiggers, Marie Wiggers, Morgan Wilcox, Denise Wyszowski, Sarah Wyszowski, and Jack Yahn. Special thanks also to the behind the scenes crew of organizers, set decorators, Adult Bible Study leaders, photographers, ice cream scoopers, and meal providers: Laura

Alexander, Bonnie Blair, Jim Blair, Kirsten Burt, Laurie Conlon, Sue Frahm, Brian Jackson, Steve Smith, Jeanne Taylor, Melissa Thibault, Karen Veaner, and Betsy Wiggers, along with a long list of All Saints volunteers. May God bless each who played a part in Vacation Bible School, all the VBS families, and our congregations in His own unique and special way.—*Bonnie Blair*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 Worship 9:30 Building Committee Presentation 11:00	3 Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30 Staff Parish 7:00 Wingmen Men's Group 7:00	4 Needleworkers 10:00	5 Informal Bible Study 9:30 The Parables	Church Office Closed		1 Men's Breakfast 7:00 Men's Breakfast 7:00 8
9 Worship 9:30 Building Committee Presentation 11:00	10 Mobile Food Pantry 10:00 Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30 Prayer Service at Woodsedge 11:00 Trustees 7:00 Wingmen Men's Group 7:00	11 Needleworkers 10:00 Church Council 7:00	12 Informal Bible Study 9:30 The Parables	13	14	15 Men's Breakfast at Linda's in North Lansing Every Saturday 7:00 SUNBEAM DEADLINE
16 Worship 9:30 Youth Mission Can and Bottle Drive	17 Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30 Wingmen Men's Group 7:00	18 Needleworkers 10:00 Worship Committee 7:00	19 Informal Bible Study 9:30 The Parables	20	21	22 Men's Breakfast 7:00
23 Worship 9:30	24 Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30 Lansing Food Pantry 1:00 Wingmen Men's Group 7:00	25 Needleworkers 10:00	26 Informal Bible Study 9:30 The Parables	27	28	29 Men's Breakfast 7:00
30 Worship 9:30	31 Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30 Wingmen Men's Group 7:00					 <i>Lansing United Methodist Church</i>

August 2015



Lansing United Methodist Church



Urgent Need for Support

For the last five years Lansing United Methodist Church through the Haiti Committee has been supporting Haitians who are attending a university in

the Dominican Republic. These men were students in our elementary and secondary school program and have gone on to advanced education. Each year tuition and expenses have increased. Aniel Estime, a student who will be in his last trimester of study to become a civil engineer, just sent us word that his expenses have increased \$1,500 to a total of \$6,000 per trimester. Many people contributed to this young man's education through the last five years, but this latest increase is presenting a challenge.

If you would like to contribute to Aniel's education please make a check out to LUMC—Haiti and in the memo line write Aniel Estime. Checks may be mailed to the church office or dropped into the plate on Sunday.

Not only are Aniel and the other four Haitians we support under considerable stress due to their financial needs, but the DR's political crisis has escalated. Haitians in the Dominican face considerable discrimination, and this has affected our students even though they are in the country legally. Two of our students who were planning to do an internship with a Dominican company that supports the internship program were told they would have to find another company because the business did not want to work with Haitians.

While we know that God has been with these men throughout this long journey and has a plan for them, I ask you to keep them in your prayers and if possible help Aniel complete his education with your contributions. Thank you.—*Judy Hinderliter*

Smoked Pork and Beef Dinner to Support Haitian University Students

On Saturday, August 29, Dave Hatfield will be cooking his famous smoked pork and beef dinners to benefit the Haiti University Program. Dinners will be available at the town ball fields from 10:30 until they are gone. Dinners include smoked pork, beef, salt potatoes, coleslaw and dessert.

Adults in Mission—Jersey Shore Recovery Mission Trip

September 20-26

LUMC Adults in Mission will lead a 12-person Mission Team to the Jersey Shore to assist in recovery operations from Superstorm Sandy as a part of UMCOR's ongoing "A Future With Hope" operation. The team will lodge in a local UM Church and work on a house or houses in the area. Little or no formal construction skills are needed—just a strong faith in service to Christ through helping others in need. For more information, please contact Steve or Laura Alexander at 533-4869 or alexanderlaura@yahoo.com.

Thank you from the LUMC Trustees...

...to all those who helped on Sunday, June 14, to help spruce up the church! The weeding, mulching, and planting really made our outside gardens look pretty and the window washing and kitchen cleaning were much needed! It was a hot day, but you all worked hard and got it done in record time. Thanks again for your time and efforts!!—*Nan Farkas*

Everything but the Sky

Bruce Levitt presented a riveting Forum for LUMC Last September entitled, "Where the Walls Contain Everything but the Sky." Since 2010, Bruce has worked weekly with inmates of Auburn Correctional Facility in a grassroots program developed by and for incarcerated persons and communities in a maximum-security prison. It is a transformative theatre community, which utilizes theater to reconnect incarcerated people to their full humanity. He led the members of The Phoenix Players Theatre Group in the creation of autobiographical performance pieces that called on their own experiences. These were "Inside/Out; Maximum Will," which combined soliloquies from Shakespeare with original reflective writings by the men of PPTG, and "An Indeterminate Life," focused on autobiographical content, including issues of the dehumanizing process of incarceration and staying in touch with family, particularly children. Bruce recently contacted me to let me know that The Phoenix Players now have a website and asked me to share the link, www.PhoenixPlayersatAuburn.com, particularly with those members of the congregation that attended our presentation, and those who may be interested in following the work of this group.—*Karen Veaner*

UMCOR Storm Response

If the timing or location the LUMC Adults in Mission trip doesn't work out for you, but you'd still like to serve, the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is active in many recovery locations, including our own conference and elsewhere in New York and the Northeast.

As you'll see from the list below, VIM disaster recovery volunteers will be needed for quite some time. Here's the list from UMCOR of recovery efforts in the Northeastern Jurisdiction. Rebuilding takes a long time. Contact information is included if you wish to help out in a particular location.

The New York Conference (lower Hudson, New York City, and Long Island) currently has three established recovery locations, in Staten Island, Brooklyn, and Long Island, and have worked on 500 homes, helping over 1,300 individuals. The coordinators state: We are also working some in Queens and Connecticut. As many other rebuild groups start to close down operations in various areas of NY, people who haven't recovered fully (literally thousands—by some estimates 6,000 to 10,000) are beginning to get more desperate because there are fewer groups available to offer the help homeowners need. UMCOR and volunteers hosted by the NYAC will remain. Your support gives survivors hope, and we are thankful for your gift of service that allows our and your dollars to go further toward partnering with survivors in their recovery. Tom Vencuss, Recovery Coordinator, Barbara Burnside, Volunteer Coordinator, SandyRecovery@nyac-umc.com, www.nyac.com/recovery.

Susquehanna (Pennsylvania): Mission Central is the mission warehouse affiliate of the Susquehanna Conference of the United Methodist Church. The coordinators say: Along with our satellite operations called "HUBS," we respond to natural and man-made disasters with relief supplies and supply humanitarian goods and logistical services to hundreds of different ministry and social service agencies. Since our beginning in June 2002, Mission Central has hosted tens of thousands of volunteers who come in service to "connect God's resources with human need." With our volunteers, we process disaster response materials, UMCOR "relief kits" for use around the world, provide all types of needed supplies for local and national ministries, and assist many projects that are sending God's love, locally, nationally, and around the world. Housing is in partner UMC churches in the area and special rates arranged with local hotels. www.missioncentral.org, Mechanicsburg, PA. Ron Salsman, rsalsman@susumc.org, 570-336-2532

UMCOR Storm Response (concluded)

Peninsula Delaware Conference: Crisfield, MD. Contact Ben Botti, Site Coordinator, O: 410-968-1108, C:267-261-3714, bbbotti@verizon.net, and Anika Jackson, Volunteer Coordinator, umcorteamcrisfield@comcast.net, 410-968-1108. Website: www.pen-del.org. Office&Mailing Address: Peninsula-Delaware Conference Sandy Recovery, The United Methodist Church, 3480 Freedomtown Road, Crisfield, MD 21817.

New England Conference: Hurricane Irene Flood Recovery in Vermont. The coordinators state: We have several hundred homes still needing volunteer recovery help and Central Vermont is a beautiful place to visit in the spring, summer or fall. www.centralvermontmission.org Contact Barbara Burnside, baburnside@neumc.org, O: 978-682-8055, X 135 C: 203-470- 1539.

Upper New York Conference: Unfortunately, multiple flooding events leave multiple opportunities for UMCOR recovery teams! The following locations are receiving teams:

Fort Plain—Rev. Alan Griffith, 518-265-0416; ftplainumchurch@juno.com
Herkimer—Marlowe Millard, 315-717-1912; marlocrew4@verizon.net
Oneida—Rev. Brian Fellows, 315-363-1921; www.oneidamadisonflood.org

New Jersey, Sandy Recovery: A Future With Hope, Inc. The coordinators state: We started our recovery projects at the end of March 2013 and currently have about 37 homes in process. We had great outpouring of love and interest from people all over the country. It has been phenomenal working with your teams. Our goal is to repair or rebuild 300–500 homes in the next 3–5 years. This can only be accomplished with your volunteers that come with their heart and willingness to help the survivors here in NJ. We hope that will continue as we approach the colder months. Lisa Park, Volunteer Manager, Office: 732.359.1066, info@afuturewithhope.org and Denise Tiedemann, Administrator, dtiedemann@afuturewithhope.org, 732-359-1086. Website: www.afuturewithhope.org.

It's possible to go much farther afield, with UMCOR recovery operations in Alabama, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Texas, and Washington. For more info, take a look at umvimncj.org/NCJVIM/UMVIM_Links_files/usa_project_list.pdf

The Sunbeam

August 2015



Lansing United
Methodist Church

SUMMERTIME WORSHIP

IN THE SANCTUARY

9:30 A.M.

BUILDING PRESENTATIONS

AUGUST 2 AND 9 11:00 A.M.

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
Office manager: Jennifer Moore

www.lansingunited.org

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