



The Sunbeam July 2016

Lansing United Methodist Church

Summertime Worship 9:30 AM

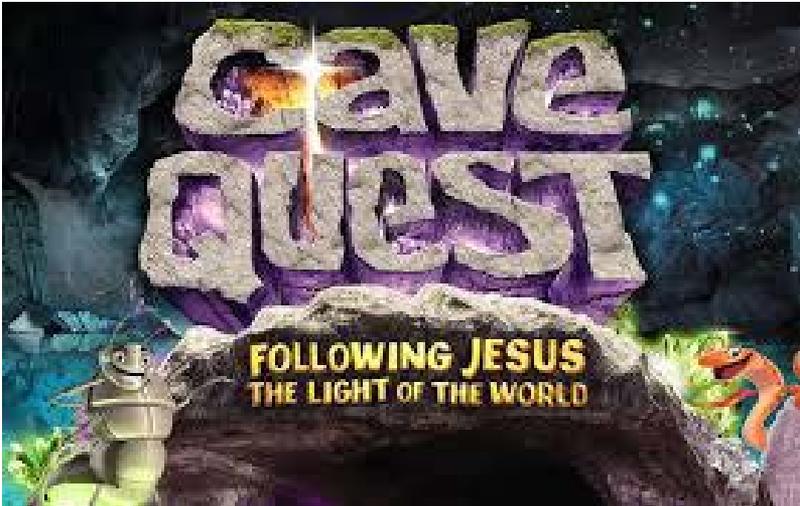
MYERS TOWN PARK MONTH OF JULY

PLEASE JOIN US!

Pastor: Alison Schmied

Christian Education Coordinator: Kevin Klippel

Adult Ministries Coordinator: Karen Veaner



Vacation Bible School!

July 18-22

at All Saints RC Church and LUMC

From the Pastor

Starting Our New Adventure

On July 1, we will begin a new adventure together at Lansing United Methodist Church. I am excited to begin as your new pastor! The parsonage is looking great thanks to the hard work and cooperative efforts of many, many people.

We will worship God at Myers Park at 9:30 a.m. Sundays in July, and I am looking forward to meeting many of you in this beautiful and relaxed setting. I will need to hear your name at least seven times (if not seventy times seven), and I hope you will be patient with me. If you have a name tag it would be a great help to me if you would wear it on Sundays.

New Beginnings bring the opportunity to establish new habits and patterns in one's life. Part of my pattern is to set aside Fridays as my weekly Sabbath day, for spiritual renewal. Saturday is usually my day off. On the other weekdays, my work will be getting to know the people of Lansing, and listening with you to hear how God is leading you personally, and what we are being called to do together as a church. I am looking forward to meeting many of you over informal suppers. (See Pat Gillespie if you are not yet scheduled for one of these.)

New beginnings are a central theme of our Christian life. Some versions of Christianity focus almost exclusively on that first moment of Spiritual Awakening or New Birth, when a person is first aware of or first committed to Christ. Every conversion is an amazing wonderful moment worth celebrating--but the story doesn't end there, thanks be to God! God's mercies are new every morning, and by God's grace, each of us has opportunities to be renewed and remade daily as new creatures in Christ.

May the newness of having a new pastor mark a new beginning in your life too. Let us go forward together in joy to see what God will do among us and through us as we grow together in the image of Christ both individually and as a church.

Blessings!
Pastor Alison

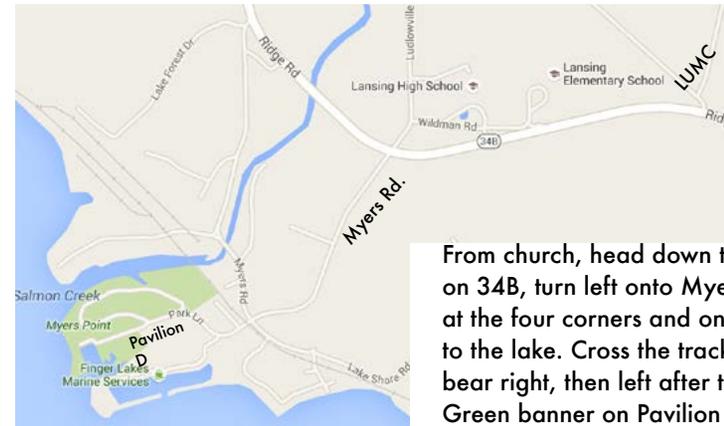
Worship in the Park during July at 9:30 a.m.

Worship in the Park continues throughout all of July at Myers Town Park. We will be in Pavilion D, which is to the left after you enter the park. Park entry is free for church (even if you're not a town resident). Just tell the nice people at the booth that you are here for church.

Look for the green "Welcome to Worship" banner. We meet rain or shine, so make sure to dress for the weather. (Usually it's just beautiful down there.)

There's plenty of seating on the picnic tables, but many people like to bring their folding chairs, for comfort or just because.

In addition to music leadership, the worship committee always can use assistance in hauling stuff to and fro, so if you would be willing to bring down bulletins or song sheets, set up audio, provide some goodies or set up drinks, let the committee members know.



Music at the Park (and in August)

Special music is always welcome at the park. You can sing a song alone, with a group, accompanied or a capella. Or get out your instrument to play. Let the worship committee know if you are interested. Katie Howell is playing keyboard at most of the park services, and Sharon Powell will be back at the organ and piano in August.

Note that Pastor Alison will be joining us on July 3 and officiating for communion, but the Bishop has determined that moving pastors will not have to preach on that first Sunday after they move. She will be leading worship starting July 10.

Please see Diane Withiam or any member of the worship committee for more info or to help out.



Cave Quest VBS 2016 July 18–22



VBS is almost ready to start. Many of you have already seen the “cave” to help start the CaveQuest. Registration is continuing, so sign up any time! You can do this by visiting CaveQuest2016.eventbrite.com to register child attendees or adult and youth volunteers! There’s always room for more volunteers and of course for more Questers! VBS is July 18–22, 6:00–8:15 p.m. We’ll have a run-through at 5:00 on Sunday, July 17, and then we’ll start our quest at 6:00 on Monday at LUMC. We’ll meet again at LUMC on Tuesday and Wednesday. Then we’ll take our quest down the hill to All Saints church. We will also be raising money for Feed My Starving Children, as explained on the next page. Please talk to Kevin Klippel with any questions (youthcoordinator@lansin-gunned.org)

VBS Mission Project Helps Starving Children Around the World:

Vacation Bible School is getting close, and it’s time to get ready to help make a difference by spreading God’s love. This year for the VBS Mission Project, we’ll be collecting donations to support Feed My Starving Children, a Christian non-profit organization committed to feeding God’s children hungry in body and spirit, welcoming any and all people to help, so that any and all people might eat. Feed My Starving Children uses a simple approach: children and adults hand-pack meals specifically formulated for mal-nourished children, and then ships these meals to distribution partners reaching nearly 70 countries around the world. Funds donated through VBS will go to the 7th Annual Ithaca MobilePack, held September 22–24, 2016, as part of the effort to pack 300,000+ meals.



Community volunteers, including the Kids in Action Now and local Cub Scout troops, provide the volunteer labor at the annual Ithaca MobilePacks to vacuum seal these highly nutritious meals. Since its beginning, the Ithaca MobilePack has raised over \$350,000 to pack 1,654,344 meals by over 7,500 participants, saving lives by feeding 4,532 children for a year. Volunteers also have an opportunity to learn about what happens with the meals they pack—it’s very powerful to see the impact these meals have and the hope they bring to newly thriving children and their communities. Please take a moment to learn more about the inspiring mission of Feed My Starving Children at: www.fmssc.org/ and the local MobilePack at <http://ithacamobilepack.org/> or www.facebook.com/ithacamobilepack .

One suggestion we provide to families to help prepare for the VBS Mission Project is to set aside money they get back for deposit can and bottles between now and VBS. If you’d like to join in supporting the VBS Mission Project, please look for the donation box in the park on Sundays and throw in some spare change or slips for deposit cans and bottles. Every bit counts, and we really appreciate the generous support our congregations have always provided towards the VBS Mission Project!—*Bonnie Blair*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<i>July 2016</i>				Campaign Steering Committee 7:00	1 Senior High Youth 6:00	2 Mens' Breakfast at Linda's in North Lansing Every Saturday 7:00
3 Worship 9:30 Myers Town Park Pavilion D	4 The United States of America By the Grace of God Free and Independent for 240 Years Staff Parish 7:00	5 Needleworkers Group 10:00 Ladies in Fellowship Together (LIFT) 6:30 Crossroads	6 Young Adult Fellowship 6:00	7	8	9 Men's Breakfast 7:00 Linda's 7:00
10 Worship 9:00 Myers Town Park Pavilion D	11 Mobile Food Pantry 10:00 Bible Study @ Woodsedge 10:30 Worship Committee 6:00 Wingmen 6:30	12 Needleworkers Group 10:00 Campaign Steering Committee 7:00	13 LUMC Picnic 6:00 Young Adult Fellowship 6:00	14	15 Sunbeam Deadline Midnight	16 Men's Breakfast 7:00
17 Worship 9:30 Myers Town Park Pavilion D VBS Run-through 5:00 Youth Mission Can and Bottle Drive	18 Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30 Wingmen 6:30 Finance 7:00	19 Cave Quest Vacation Bible School 6:00 VBS at LUMC	20 Young Adult Fellowship 6:00	21 VBS at All Saints	22	23 Men's Breakfast 7:00
24 Worship 9:30 Myers Town Park Pavilion D Worship 9:30 Myers Town Park Pavilion D	25 Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30 Food Pantry at the Rink 1:00 Wingmen 6:30	26 Needleworkers Group 10:00 Campaign Steering Committee 7:00	27 Young Adult Fellowship 6:00 LUMC Picnic 6:00	28 	29 <i>Lansing United Methodist Church</i>	30 Men's Breakfast 7:00
31						

Thanks for a Great Run

Ministry is not an easy profession, but it is extremely rewarding... God is full of surprises and no two days are ever alike. Pastors are given entrée into the most vulnerable times and places in people's lives. This is more of a gift than it is a burden. I have appreciated sharing the highs and lows and being part of your family for the past six years. Because I have made better friends in Lansing than anywhere else along my journey, you have not seen the last of me! I will be around to visit, but not as your pastor. I want to keep in touch with all the "goings on" at LUMC, mostly because I am curious about what God is going to do next! I have had a wonderful experience with you all, and I will miss you. I covet your prayers as I listen to where or what God will call me to do next. And I will always treasure my time with you.

It seems rather trite to say "thank you" for all the wonderful goodbye gifts, but I cannot think of any words to take the place of gratitude and thanks. I appreciate all that LUMC has done for me, all the support and love shown, all the tears and all the laughter. We have had a good run together! I don't take any of this for granted, my friends. When I go to Casowasco, I will see your love poured out on the young lives there. When I journal in my beautiful new journal, I will hold your love in my hands. When I read and reread the notes from the youth (thanks, Abby O!!), I will relive all the love we shared. When I look at the Retirement Party Scrapbook, I will feel your love and support. When I watch the dance video from my last Sunday with you (thank you, Pat), I will cry again and again, not out of sadness, but great joy in the talent and beauty of our young people. And as I keep you in my prayers and my thoughts, I will hold you in my heart. So, thank you, thank you, thank you. I love you dearly.

*Blessings,
Pastor Jane*

Summer Dish-to-Pass Luncheon for Women's Bible Study

Save The Date!

Women's Bible Study Summer Dish-to-Pass Luncheon Thursday,
August 18, 11:30 a.m. (Car pool from church at 11:00 a.m.)

The Women's Bible Study summer dish-to-pass luncheon will be held on Thursday, August 18, beginning at 11:30 a.m. at the home of Loretta Bidlespacher (223 Red Fox Lane, King Ferry). To car pool, meet in the LUMC parking lot at 11:00 a.m. Tableware and beverages will be provided. Please call Jan Nagel (607-533-4086) if you plan to attend.

Adult Mission Heads to New Jersey in September You can help people recover from Superstorm Sandy

"A Future With Hope" is the non-profit organization set up by the United Methodist Church to coordinate volunteer work for hurricane recovery in New Jersey. You can be part of this mission opportunity. We will be forming a team to assist in Hurricane Sandy relief along the New Jersey shore during the week of September 11-17. We have several slots available. No specific experience or skill is needed, just a willingness to serve others in His name. Recovery work from a storm like this takes a long time, so there's still plenty of work to do. The important thing is to go—sometimes the "work" involves listening to peoples' stories as they process what happened to them during the storm. We also have grant money so that we are able to assist those who may have difficulty in meeting the expected \$220 per person expense. If you, or anyone you know, is interested please contact Laura or Steve Alexander, 533-4869 or alexanderlaura@yahoo.com.

As detailed on the next page, this is just one of many storm recovery projects being supported by the United Methodist Committee on Relief, UMCOR. You can support storm relief at any time by writing a check to LUMC and marking it for UMCOR storm relief. If want to be more specific, you can write "West Virginia Storms," "New Jersey Storms," or another disaster that you know of. UMCOR is there, and every dime that you give goes directly to its intended purpose. UMCOR never charges "overhead" or deducts expense money. The overhead is supported by the annual UMCOR offering that used to be called One Great Hour of Sharing, but will in the future be UMCOR Sunday.

UMCOR has tripled its response to disasters large and small around the world

by Linda Unger, United Methodist News Service

Over the past four years, the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) has tripled its response to disasters large and small around the world, Deputy General Secretary Denise Honeycutt told UMCOR's board of directors during their final meeting of the current Methodist quadrennium.

"Internationally, we tripled the number of disaster-response grants," Honeycutt explained. "We have attempted to vigorously respond to disasters, even under-reported disasters, wherever and whenever they occur."

In her report to the directors, she highlighted complex disasters for which UMCOR supplied humanitarian aid, including Super Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines in 2013, the Ebola crisis in West Africa, massive flooding in Pakistan and India in 2014, and the ongoing conflicts in Syria and Iraq.

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung of Wisconsin, president of the UMCOR board, reported on his recent trip to the Philippines, where Typhoon Haiyan survivors celebrated the completed construction of five community emergency evacuation shelters and 134 homes, all built with support from UMCOR.

He said he witnessed both deep sorrow and joy in the survivors, who, though they lost so much in the disaster, now have these "lifesaving places." He referred to the experience paraphrasing Oscar Romero, the slain archbishop of El Salvador, saying, "When we are close to the poor, we experience conversion."

During the meeting, the directors approved a new grant for \$1 million to rebuild homes and provide integrated development support—water, livelihoods, and food security—for 130 families in the communities of Ganthier and Boen in Haiti, as that country continues to recover from the devastating 2010 earthquake. The grant will be implemented by longtime partner Church World Service. UMCOR has worked in these communities since the disaster, and the new grant will build on that experience.

U.S. Disaster Response

In the United States, Honeycutt reported, UMCOR provided \$12 million in disaster-relief aid during the quadrennium, plus an additional \$10 million in response to Super Storm Sandy.

The variety of disasters UMCOR responded to in the U.S. included a chemical spill in West Virginia; toxic drinking water in Flint, Michigan; civil unrest in Baltimore, Maryland; and a fertilizer plant explosion in West Texas; as well as wildfires, floods, mudslides, tornadoes, and earthquakes.

UMCOR supported church responses to the 2014 influx of unaccompanied

UMCOR report (continued)

minors to the U.S. and collaborated with National Justice for Our Neighbors, an immigrant advocacy network, to offer welcome, care, and legal services, "extending the loving presence of Jesus Christ through our actions," she said.

The directors approved another grant during the meeting, in the amount of \$900,000, for the South Carolina Conference. It will assist families and individuals affected by record flooding in that state last fall. The board already had approved a \$100,000 bridge grant for the conference in the early days of the disaster.

Country offices, water, and food security

In its International Programs area, UMCOR transformed \$21 million in donations to provide \$78 million in development assistance from agencies and through in-kind commodities destined for "the most vulnerable individuals and communities," with a focus on water, sanitation, and hygiene projects, as well as sustainable agriculture and food security, Honeycutt reported.

She noted that UMCOR began the quadrennium with 10 field missions, which are UMCOR country offices that provide long-term responses to disasters and employ staff mainly from the affected countries. Over the past four years, UMCOR closed five of those missions—Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Georgia, Armenia, and Afghanistan.

UMCOR priorities

A priority for International Disaster Response will be to expand its work in disaster risk reduction (DRR), an effort headed by Rev. Jack Amick. As part of ceremonies in the areas impacted by Typhoon Haiyan, little children laid roses for each of those who died in the disaster, while the names of the fallen were read. "It was a sorrowful, painful moment," Amick said. "The pile of roses was just too large." DRR is a process that seeks to reduce the propensity for disaster, he explained.

With regard to disasters in the U.S., Greg Forrester, who leads UMCOR U.S. Disaster Response, noted that UMCOR had responded to 57 new disasters in 36 states in 2015—more than one a week. Nevertheless, he said, "Our response role has to increase."

The best way to do that, he said, is to build the capacity of local churches to respond by providing training in disaster preparedness and disaster case management. "We can respond faster if we put disaster case management into place faster," he said.

For that, Forrester noted, UMCOR has revised its disaster preparedness curriculum, Connecting Neighbors, and will continue to roll it out to congregations and conference leaders.

continued at right

The Sunbeam

July 2016



Lansing United
Methodist Church

SUMMERTIME WORSHIP 9:30 A.M.
MYERS TOWN PARK

PAVILION D

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JULY 18-22

Lansing United Methodist Church

32 Brickyard Road, Lansing, NY 14882

one mile north of the stoplight on

Route 34B in South Lansing.

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Please send your news to Glenn Withiam,
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Deadline for the next issue is

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