



The Sunbeam September 2016

Lansing United Methodist Church

Worship 9:00 AM

(9:30 ON SEPTEMBER 4)

PLEASE JOIN US!

Pastor: Alison Schmied

Christian Education Coordinator: Kevin Klippel

Adult Ministries Coordinator: Karen Veaner



What It's All About

See page 8

Students in Cambodia hold up their newly received UMCOR school kits, which were distributed by partner International Relief and Development. Church World Service also participates in this effort.
Photo by Ven Rithy.

From the Pastor

Paying It Forward

Dear Friends,

After two months, I still feel new to Lansing. I still have boxes to unpack, and I am still learning names. Thank you for your patience, and for wearing nametags!

I am learning daily about the mission and ministry activities of Lansing United Methodist Church (LUMC). There is a lot of paying it forward happening here. Paying it forward means expressing thanks for blessings received by giving blessings to others. This is what blessings are for, as God explains to Abraham: I will bless you, and you will be a blessing...to every family on earth (Gen 12). LUMC is busy paying forward the blessings we have received.

We dedicated the Brent Larsen Memorial Playground on Sunday, August 14, with a prayer circle of about 188 people (see page 5). It was a living example of “drawing the circle wide” to embrace our own children and children not yet born. The playground, built from funds given in memory of Brent Larsen and several others, will bring joy to children for years to come. Many of the children who will play on the playground never knew Brent or any of the others whose memorial gifts purchased the playground. The playground was a gift paid forward for the use of future generations.

Our LUMC Forward funding appeal was announced in worship on Sunday, April 21. We are asking everyone to prayerfully consider making a generous financial gift to LUMC Forward over the next three years. Your LUMC Forward gifts will help fund a \$1.2 million expansion of the LUMC facilities. Making a gift to LUMC Forward is a way of paying it forward to help future generations grow as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Soon, meetings will resume for Sunday morning Christian education classes for all ages, monthly meetings of K.A.N. (Kids Active in mission Now), weekly Junior High and Senior High Youth groups, Pancakes and Prayer, Muffins for Moms, Adult Choir, “Bells Angels” Bell Choir, and Children’s Choir. Serving as a volunteer, teacher, or shepherd with one of these groups is not only a great way to grow in your own faith, it is a way of paying it forward: passing on the gift of faith that you received from those who came before you.

Thank you for all you have done and are doing to pass on the blessings you have received to future generations. Working with you is a blessing to me.

Blessings, Pastor Alison

Youth Activities

Back to School Pancakes & Prayer

Friday, September 9, 7:00 am

Pancakes & Prayer will have a special “1st Day of School” edition on Friday, September 9, for all 7th-12th grade students! Start the school year off right with a hearty pancake breakfast, fun fellowship, and a few moments of heart-felt prayer to ring in the new academic year! Friends are *always* welcome!

Waffle Breakfast & Sunday School & Kidz Quest Registration

Sunday, September 11, 10:00 am (following worship)

All ages are invited to come together for the Waffle Breakfast on September 11. We will be sharing a whole bunch of fun information for our upcoming classes in adult and youth Sunday School as well as children’s Kidz Quest. We will also be asking families to fill out a registration form for all children and youth that will be attending Kidz Quest or Jr. or Sr. High Sunday School.

Senior High Retreat

Saturday, September 17 - Sunday September 18

All 9th-12th graders are invited to the Sr. High retreat to kick off the commencement of Youth Group and Sunday School! We’ll be gathering at the Robin’s Nest at 5:00 pm and staying overnight through Sunday School the next morning. Youth should bring typical overnight stuff, plus their favorite snack and a game. Please talk to Kevin if you have any questions (youthcoordinator@lansingunited.org).

Kidz Quest & Youth Sunday School begin

Sunday, September 18, 10:30 am

Children and youth, grades Pre-K through 12th, will begin Sunday School on September 18 at 10:30 am. We hope the fun curriculums and topics will really engage our young people and make them excited to be at church by thinking more deeply and intentionally about how God fits into their lives.

Weekly Youth Programming begins!

Mondays, starting September 12 - Pancakes & Prayer - 7am

Fridays, starting September 16 - Jr. High Youth Group - 6pm

Fridays, starting September 23 - Sr. High Youth Group - 6pm

Family Fall Festival - Save the Date

Sunday, October 30 @ 3:00 pm

Our favorite children’s fall event will take place on October 30 at 3:00 pm. More information soon!

Reflections on Adult Ministries

When I came to Lansing 28 years ago (yes, I was a child bride...), the first thing I learned was that it was impossible to drive anywhere directly. There were gorges everywhere that needed to be circumnavigated, not to mention the 40-mile glacial lake. Don't even get me started on street construction, one way streets or hills covered in ice. What should be a ten-minute drive, depending on weather or student traffic, can turn into 20–30 minutes or more.

Over the years, I have learned a number of different ways to get where I want to go. You have to be willing to get creative and seek out new paths if you want to get anywhere in the Ithaca area during any given season. In the olden days, before GPS, it could turn into a real adventure. Now that I have a Garmin? Please... "recalculating" is music to my ears. Road blocks? No problem!

What happens when we run into road blocks in our Spiritual path? "I don't have time," "I just can't seem to connect," ...you fill in the blank. What does your "God-min" look like? Where do you want to go?

The Fall will bring Bible Study and Retreat opportunities. Check the weekly email and Church at Work for details. Join us for a Waffle Breakfast and Sunday School Kick-off and Sign-up on Sunday, September 11, following our worship service.

Classes run from 10:30-11:30 on Sunday mornings following fellowship. In Adult Sunday School we will continue to confront world news with scripture and hope in The Wired Word with Judy Hinderliter.

God created the world in 6 days, Ken Hover will use 3 Sundays to reveal his take on the creation story. Watch for dates, you won't want to miss it!

Looking to make sense of the Bible? Interested in where it came from? Journey through the story of the Bible and learn how it came to be the books we hold in our hands today. Trace the history of the Bible from early ancient manuscripts to the Bible you own. It's a story of faith, murder, betrayal, and belief. It's a love story. Who would have thought the story of bringing the Scriptures into the many translations available today could be so exciting? Rediscover the power of Scripture and what it can offer us today.

Maybe what you need is a piece of quiet... Explore the power of prayer in our Meditation class.

Know which class is right for you or are you stuck? Road blocks can become opportunities for new growth... Go ahead, "recalculate."

Blessings, Karen Veaner, Adult Ministries Coordinator

Special Giving: World Communion Sunday

Sunday, October 2

Around the globe, countless gifted and qualified people face financial obstacles that hinder them from preparing for the vocation God has given them, especially youth and young adults. For ethnic students who will be the first generation in their families to attend college, or for those people of color who haven't historically had access to resources that make higher education possible, the road toward education has often been unwieldy. On World Communion Sunday, your giving helps to provide scholarships for national and international graduate students whom God has gifted to learn and to serve. For more information: www.umcsgiving.org/ministry-articles/world-communion-sunday.



Brent Larsen Playground

Thank You...

...to the families of these persons whose memorial gifts helped fund the playground: Barbara Abraham, Reggie Baker, Dot Buckley, Raymond Buckley, Pat Conlon, William Cruikshank, Gene Doe, Jim Fischer, Lois Holden, Phyllis Howell, Ruth Juracka, Albert LaBar, Betty LaBar, Brent Larsen, Helen Stoll, Mary Tilley, Frank Trinkl, and Paul Welch

...to Carrie Moore and Bill Hugill of Playgrounds by Leathers for sharing their expertise and leadership

...to the dedicated volunteers from Lansing United Methodist Church who assembled the playground (many of them in pouring rain)

...and to Judy Hinderliter and Bill Thibault

for coordinating the project on behalf of the Lansing United Methodist Church Board of Trustees and the Memorial Committee

Junior Choir Begins

Junior Choir starts on September 18, at 11:30 (after Sunday School)

Grades 3 to 8 (2nd graders by permission)

Season runs through fall, singing once or twice a month

More info at Waffles and Ice Cream

Adult Choir

We always welcome new members...for a season, a year, or much, much longer. Rehearsals start Wednesday, September 7.

SUNDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

September 2016



Lansing United Methodist Church

1

2

3
Men's Breakfast at Linda's 7:00 in North Lansing Every Saturday
Prayer Shawl Ministry/ Caregivers 10:00

4
Worship 9:30
LUMC Forward
Help Bob Cockram celebrate his 80th birthday. 2:00 at the church.

5
LABOR DAY
Church Office Closed

6
Needleworkers Group 10:00
Ladies in Faith Together 6:30 Crossroads

7
Bell Choir 6:00
Adult Choir 7:00

8
Young Adult Fellowship 6:00
Staff Parish 7:00

9
Pancakes and Prayer Begins 7:00

10
Mens' Breakfast 7:00

11
Worship 9:00
LUMC Forward Drive Concludes
Waffles and Ice Cream
Sunday School Registration 10:00
Sunday School Volunteer Boot Camp 11:30
PACT Training and K.A.N. 5:00
Youth Mission at All Saints 6:30

12
Pancakes and Prayer 7:00
Mobile Food Pantry 10:00
Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30
Communion at Woodsedge 11:00
Trustees 7:00

13
Needleworkers Group 10:00
Campaign Steering Committee 7:00

14
Women's Bible Study 9:30
Bell Choir 6:00
Adult Choir 7:00

15
Young Adult Fellowship 6:00
Sunbeam Deadline Midnight

16
Junior High Youth 6:00

17
Men's Breakfast 7:00
Senior High Youth Retreat

18
Worship 9:00
Blessing of the Backpacks
Sunday School 10:30
Junior Choir 11:30
Children's Ministry 12:00
Youth Mission Can and Bottle Drive

19
Pancakes and Prayer 7:00
Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30

20
Needleworkers Group 10:00
Campaign Steering Committee 7:00
Worship Committee 7:00

21
Women's Bible Study 9:30
Bell Choir 6:00
Adult Choir 7:00

22
Young Adult Fellowship 6:00

23
Junior High Youth 6:00
Senior High Youth 6:00

24
Men's Breakfast 7:00
Rummage Setup 9:00

25
Worship 9:00
Sunday School 10:30
Junior Choir 11:30

26
Pancakes and Prayer 7:00
Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30
Food Pantry at the Rink 1:00

27

28
Adult Choir 7:00

29
Young Adult Fellowship 6:00

30
Junior High Youth 6:00
Senior High Youth 6:00

1
Men's Breakfast 7:00
Rummage Sale 8:00 Each Day
Rummage Cleanup Begins 12:00

2
Rummage Sale Setup, Sorting, and Preparation

3
Rummage Sale Setup, Sorting, and Preparation

4
Rummage Sale Setup, Sorting, and Preparation

5
Rummage Sale Setup, Sorting, and Preparation



Cambodian students receive school kits

Church World Service (CWS)

Currently Seeking Donations for School Kits

Our current focus is on collecting as many of the school kit items as possible before prices go up. Although the spiral notebook, crayons, and scissors offer the biggest savings right now, we also

need pencils, rulers (with metric!), erasers and pencil sharpeners. Please look for the bright orange kit lists in the Narthex for all the details. We do not need tote bags because, thanks to Janet Keefe, we still have 300 on hand! A donation bin for CWS items will be in the Narthex for the next several weeks. Any donations will be greatly appreciated. For more information, please contact Peg MacKenzie at 533-4432. You also can donate cash dollars! Very helpful! Thank you!

Here's just one example of where the School Kits help out. This particular set was distributed by UMCOR and IRD, but Church World Service does similar things, and the kits are standard.

In rural Cambodia, UMCOR and partners provide students nearly 17,000 school kits

*By Dam Tithiavan**

Ten-year-old Eang Eng eagerly opened the school bag he had just received at Lvea Primary School, located in a remote and impoverished district of central Cambodia. What he found inside made his eyes grow wide with excitement: notebooks, pens, pencils, a ruler, scissors, and more.

Like most children in rural Kampong Leang district beside the Tonle Sap River, Eang, a fifth grader, doesn't take his education for granted. He knows the uncertainties of living in a flood plain, the challenges of living where roads are scarce, and, with nine siblings, he understands his farmer parents' financial limitations.

"Before having this kit, I had only a half pencil and a thin notebook that would last just three months," he said. "Now I have everything I need to study for a whole year!"

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) provided nearly 300 school kits to students of Eang's school. They were among more than

continued at right

The School Kit



- One pair of blunt metal scissors (rounded tip)
- Three 70-count spiral notebooks or notebooks totaling 200-210 pages (no loose-leaf or filler paper)
- One 30-centimeter ruler (12"), with metric markings
- One hand-held pencil sharpener
- One large eraser
- Six new pencils with erasers
- One box of 24 crayons (only 24)
- One 12" x 14" to 14" x 17" finished size cotton or lightweight canvas bag with cloth handles.

School Kits (concluded)

16,490 kits distributed to Cambodian students this year through UMCOR's partner International Relief and Development (IRD).

Making an impact

According to Cambodian government sources, in fiscal year 2015, 10.9 percent of primary school children in Kampong Leang District did not advance to the next grade and 5.36 percent dropped out of school, leaving the district literacy rate far below anticipated levels. Also, children skipped classes out of economic need or because their parents chose to migrate in search of work.

For these reasons, IRD targeted the distribution of UMCOR school kits among these vulnerable children who live in rural poverty. Each kit contained the necessary materials for a student to study for an entire year, enabling students not only to pursue their education but to do so at a lower cost to their parents.

UMCOR school kits are assembled by United Methodists and other people of good will, who gather the supplies, sew the schoolbags, and verify the contents at UMCOR relief-supply depots before shipping.

IRD delivered kits to students in 78 schools and one orphanage, all in Kampong Chhnang province. Lvea Primary School was one of the most remote. To reach it, you must travel first by ferry for two hours across the Tonle Sap River and then by motorcycle along mainly dirt roads. The long trip was clearly worthwhile.

Women's Bible Study Resumes

September 14

Women's Bible Study meets every Wednesday morning at the church. One of the longest-running study groups anywhere.

Fall Rummage Sale Is Coming

Please put the rummage sale on your calendar for the week ending September 30 and October 1. Set-up will start September 24, when the outdoor tents go up. Indoor set-up starts in earnest on Sunday afternoon, September 25. Donations are accepted from Sunday afternoon through Tuesday.

An important and interesting job is cleanup. If you want to feel like a miracle worker, that's the job for you. When the church is all cleaned up Saturday afternoon, it seems like a miracle. Cleanup starts 12 noon, on Saturday October 1.

The rummage sale accomplishes many goals. It helps you clean out your closet. It moves items from people who don't need those items to people who do. It provides a week of great fellowship and fun. And along the way it raises money for church mission.

Money Matters at LUMC

This is a very exciting time at LUMC. We are calling upon ourselves not only to take care of our current missions and ministries, but also to step out in faith as we refurbish and expand our building so that our ministries will continue to flourish for the next 25+ years. To achieve these needs, both current and future, all of us will soon be asked to provide our financial support for two separate financial appeals: the Annual Stewardship Campaign, and the LUMC Forward Building Project. Because these appeals will occur close to each other, and each is vital to the life of our church, we want to ensure you understand what each represents and help prevent confusion regarding how your generous donations will be used.



Annual Stewardship Campaign. Each year, LUMC conducts an annual stewardship campaign which ensures our mission and programs are funded for the upcoming year. Our tithes and offerings underwrite the annual operating budget, which is developed after we submit our pledge cards on Consecration Sunday in November. Accordingly, it is essential that we continue to pledge our tithes and offerings to support the operating budget.

LUMC Forward Building Project. In addition, after a two-year church-wide effort to respond to the 50th Anniversary Celebration's question, "What's Next?," our plans to expand, enhance, and renovate our building are at the stage of raising the funds required to break ground on this \$1.2 million "LUMC Forward" Building Project. Gifts made to the LUMC Forward Building Project are payable over the next *three* calendar years, beginning in January 2017 and ending December 2019, in increments that you

continued at right

Giving Opportunities Comparison Table

	LUMC Forward Building Project	Annual Stewardship Campaign
How your money will be used:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand space for Christian Education Ministries Enhance Facilities for Pastoral Care, Fellowship & Welcoming Ministries; and Upgrade Existing Infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff salaries and Training, Apportionments (shared giving), Current Church Programming: Worship, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Camperships, Music Ministries, Fellowship Ministries Supplies & Resources necessary to carry out the annual missions & operating costs of LUMC
Fundraising and Appeal Dates	August 21 to October 2, 2016	October 23 to November 13, 2016
Financial Support Response Card	Requested Due Date: Sept 25 Church-wide Celebration: Sunday, October 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On Consecration Sunday: November 13
Important Thoughts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provisions to the growth of our ministries and future building plans are vitally important. Please consider donating to this future vision with extra funds after accounting for your annual stewardship tithes and offerings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We know giving is an intensely personal decision, but we must keep our current ministries funded as we build for the future. Please consider not reducing your current tithes and offerings in order to provide for the building project.
Oversight Committee	LUMC Forward Steering Committee	LUMC Finance Committee
Points of Contact for Questions	Glenn Withiam, Karen Bishop, Dick & Kay Moore	Joel Brock, Barry Putnam, Sandy Dhimitri

Money Matters (concluded)

decide work best for your situation. In some instances, donors may choose to make their gifts from non-cash assets, such as appreciated securities, IRA accounts, life insurance cash value, or other planned gifts. Essentially, gifts to the LUMC Forward Building Project are a commitment to invest in the long-term future of LUMC and its ability to carry out its mission.

All of your giving to LUMC is a beautiful expression of your gratitude to God. Please see the chart above to better understand these two major requests for your financial support. **As always thank you for your generosity.**

The Sunbeam

September 2016



Lansing United
Methodist Church

SUMMERTIME WORSHIP

FINAL SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

9:30 A.M.

REGULAR WORSHIP RESUMES
SEPTEMBER 11

9:00

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@twcnny.rr.com

Office manager: Jennifer Moore

www.lansingunited.org

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

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