



The Sunbeam March 2017

Lansing United Methodist Church

Worship 9:00 AM

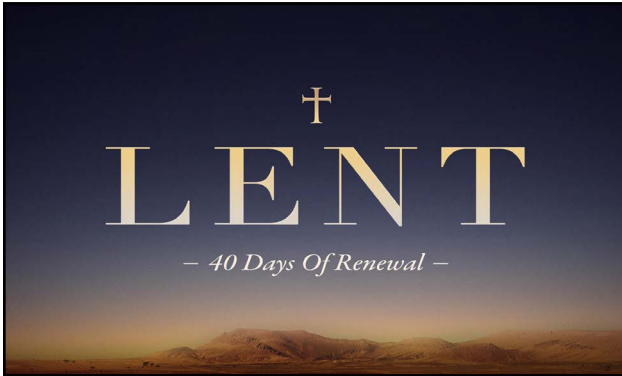
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM

PLEASE JOIN US!

Pastor: Alison Schmied

Christian Education Coordinator: Kevin Klippel

Adult Ministries Coordinator: Karen Veaner



LENT BEGINS

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

MARCH 1

7:00 P.M.

From the Pastor

Walking Together: Spiritual Life at the Crossroads

Lent is the perfect season to consider the critical crossroads of life—losses, transitions, choices, uncertainties, and disappointments—those times when faith and life intersect. [It is a time to]...become more keenly aware that our crucified and risen Savior navigated the difficult crossroads of this world for the sake of our salvation, equipping us to navigate the crossroads of our own lives.”

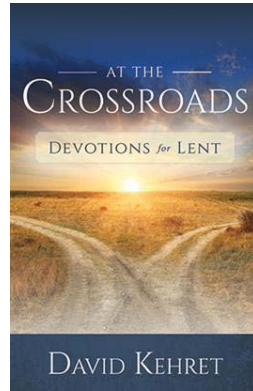
This quote from *At the Crossroads: Devotions for Lent*, by Rev. David Kehret, inspired our Lenten sermon series. We will study biblical accounts of conversations with Jesus that became crossroads in people’s lives, learning to identify crossroads in our own lives as opportunities to choose to live as Jesus’ disciples, for the transformation of the world.

Lenten Worship and Study

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Ash Wednesday, March 1, 7:00 p.m. | At the Crossroads: The Journey Begins |
| Sunday, March 5, 9:00 a.m. | At the Crossroads: It Is Written |
| Sunday, March 12, 9:00 a.m. | Nicodemus at the Crossroads |
| Sunday, March 19, 9:00 a.m. | What God Shows Us at the Crossroads |
| Sunday, March 26, 9:00 a.m. | At the Crossroads: <i>Once Upon a Parable</i> |
| Sunday, April 2, 9:00 a.m. | Where the Rubber Meets the Road |
| Palm Sunday, April 9, 9:00 a.m. | At the Crossroads of Joy and Sorrow |
| Tuesday, April 11, 7:00 p.m. | “Lord, Is It I?": A Lenten Play |
| Thursday, April 13, 7:00 p.m. | “Lord, Is It I?": A Lenten Play |
| Good Friday, April 14, 7:30 p.m. | Tenebrae: A Service of Darkness |
| Easter Sunday, April 16, 6:00 a.m. | Sunrise Service |
| Easter Sunday, April 16, 9:00 a.m. | Easter Celebration |

As we walk together through the forty days of Lent, may each of us recognize Jesus’ invitation at the crossroads of our lives, and choose to follow him.

Blessings,
Pastor Alison

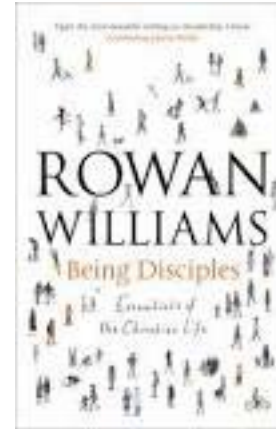


Adult Ministries Opportunities

Living Discipleship—A Lenten Study Course

with Rev. Daisy Kirkpatrick

Beginning Sunday, March 5, 10:30–11:30 a.m.



Am I a disciple? What does that mean? This course will address these questions and give you an opportunity to examine your life and priorities. We will explore a wide variety of disciplines or practices which can support your Christian life. Whether you are new to the concept of discipleship or have been on the path for many years, this course will provide an opportunity for you to try out new practices and to develop or re-examine your own personal Rule of Life. The purpose of your Rule is to guide and sustain you on your path with Jesus. We will meet for six classes from the first Sunday of Lent, March 5, through Palm Sunday, April 9. The book *Being Disciples: Essentials of the Christian*

Life, by Rowan Williams, will be available and is highly recommended but not required. The course will be led by the Rev. Daisy Kirkpatrick, who is an ordained deacon in the Episcopal Church and holds a Master of Divinity from Bexley Hall Seminary. For more information, contact Daisy (607-733-7143 or revdaisy2@icloud.com), or Karen Veaner (607-592-1386 or Adult-Ministries@LansingUnited.org).

Listening: A Meditation Practice

with Shared Leadership “Be still and know that I am God” (Psalm 46:10)

Join us for a time of Holy awareness.

Adult Ministries Reminder...

My regular work week is 15 hours spread over three days: Sunday, Monday (Woodsedge 10:30-11:30am), and Wednesday (Staff Meetings 12:00–2:00pm). Those are the days I see email. If you need to reach me right away, please call or text me at (607)592-1386. I am here to help!–Karen Veaner, Adult Ministries Coordinator

UP!Word Is Coming!

Junior and Senior High Youth • Friday, March 31 – Sunday, April 2

📧 Sign-up deadline = March 20 📧

If you went to SOLID, you're going to love UP!Word! If you didn't go to SOLID, you're still going to love UP!Word! This retreat is put on by the Conference Council on Youth Ministries and it brings the heat! Live worship music, workshops, games, goofy activities, and it's all planned by teens, for teens, and starring teens! All 7 through 12th graders are invited to spend the weekend at the Holiday Inn in Liverpool for this awesome retreat! Contact Kevin Klippel (youthcoordinator@lansingunited.org) for more info, and please RSVP to him **no later** than Monday, March 20! RSVPs after that date cannot be accepted. 📧

Adults in Mission

At home...

Adults in Mission will be responding to anyone who needs assistance with spring clean-up or minor repairs. If you, or someone you know, requires some help this coming spring please contact Laura or Steve Alexander at 533-4869 or lalexander1169@gmail.com. Also free to approach them at church.

And away...

Adults in Mission has set dates for trip to South Carolina in order to assist with flood rebuilding efforts of the United Methodist Church, traveling and working 7-12 May. If you are interested in learning more about this trip, or mission work outside of our local area, please contact Laura or Steve Alexander, 533-4869, or Glenn Withiam; additionally, either of these folks would be happy to talk to you at church as well.



2016 New Jersey team takes a lunch break

Monthly dinner...

We are still serving dinner once a month at the Rescue Mission downtown. We are grateful for anyone who would like to jump in and either prepare or serve food one Sunday afternoon per month.

Safe Sanctuaries Training at LUMC

A total of 19 LUMC members completed the Upper NY Conference's Standard 3-hour Safe Sanctuaries training on Saturday, February 11, and eight of those LUMC members also completed the 3 hour training to become trainers themselves. Our newly minted LUMC trainers will be offering the Upper NY Conference Standard 3-hour Safe Sanctuaries course soon. Thank you for your support of this ministry to help ensure the safety of the children, youth, and vulnerable adults in our care. And thanks to those who made this day possible.

Packing Up the Church

We didn't find anything in the *Discipline* about how to pack up a church, but we're going to do it anyway. In preparation for our renovation and expansion building project, each area of the church needs to be inventoried, packed, moved, and stored. There are lots of opportunities for you to assist in this process! Please contact each area coordinator to assist.

Note: If you have a particular item(s) that you take responsibility for (i.e. particular shelves for Rummage Sale), it may be best to store that item at your own residence from April through October.

Area Contact People

Adult Education Spaces: Contact Karen Veaner (adultministries@lansingunited.org)

Children/Youth Spaces: Contact Kevin Klippel (youthcoordinator@lansingunited.org)

Church Office and Office Storage Room: Contact Jennifer Moore (LUMCOffice@twcny.rr.com)

Fellowship Hall Storage Closet and Associated Attic: Contact Deb LaVigne (deblavig@aol.com)

Kitchen and Associated Attic: Contact Judy Hinderliter (jk.hinderliter@gmail.com)

Music, Instruments, and Supplies: Contact Diane Withiam (diane.withiam@gmail.com)

Rummage Sale Related Items (and Associated Attic): Contact Ed LaVigne (Elavlumc@aol.com)

Coordinators will have information regarding timing, available storage (secured, climate-controlled, etc.), and possible return dates. If you have storage capability and want to assist please contact Jennifer Moore with details. (*Editor's note:* It's hard to imagine, but you might find something that we don't need anymore. You can check with one of the coordinators to make sure it can be tossed. This would be a great time to lighten the load.)

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

March 2017



Lansing United Methodist Church

1 ASH WEDNESDAY
Women's Bible Study 9:30
Adult Ministries 10:00

Bell Choir 6:00
Ash Wednesday Service 7:00
Adult Choir to follow

2

3 Junior High Youth 6:00

Senior High Youth at Robin's Nest 6:00

4 Men's Breakfast at Linda's in North Lansing Every Saturday 7:00

Prayer Shawl Ministry/ Caregivers 10:00

5 FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
Worship 9:00
Sunday School 10:30
Children's Musical Rehearsal 11:30
Children's Ministries 11:45

Confirmation 4:00
K.A.N. 5:30

6 Pancakes and Prayer 7:00
Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30
Communion at Woodsedge 11:00
Bible Study at LUMC 12:00

Wingmen 7:00

7 Needleworkers Group 10:00

Ladies in Faith Together 6:30
Crossroads

8 Women's Bible Study 9:30

Bell Choir 6:00
Adult Choir 7:00

9

10 Junior High Youth 6:00
Senior High Youth 6:00

Confirmation Retreat at Robin's Nest

11 Mens' Breakfast 7:00

12 SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
Worship 9:00
Sunday School 10:30
Children's Musical Rehearsal 11:30

Confirmation 4:00
Youth Mission 6:30

13 Pancakes and Prayer 7:00
Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30
Bible Study at LUMC 12:00

Wingmen 7:00
Lord, Is It I? Rehearsal 7:00

14 Needleworkers Group 10:00

Church Council 7:00

15 Women's Bible Study 9:30

Bell Choir 6:00
Adult Choir 7:00

Sunbeam Deadline Midnight

16 Trustees 7:00

17 Junior High Youth 6:00
Senior High Youth at Robin's Nest 6:00

18 Men's Breakfast 7:00

19 THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
Worship 9:00
Sunday School 10:30
Children's Musical Rehearsal 11:30
Youth Ministries 11:45
Youth Mission Can and Bottle Drive
Rescue Mission Dinner 3:00

20 Pancakes and Prayer 7:00
Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30
Bible Study at LUMC 12:00

Haiti Committee 7:00
Wingmen 7:00

21 Needleworkers Group 10:00

Worship Committee 7:00

22 Women's Bible Study 9:30

Bell Choir 6:00
Adult Choir 7:00

23

24 Junior High Youth 6:00
Senior High Youth at Robin's Nest 6:00

25 Mens' Breakfast 7:00

Children's Musical Dress Rehearsal

26 FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
UMCOR SUNDAY
Worship 9:00
Children's Musical: "Once Upon a Parable"
Sunday School 10:30

Confirmation 4:00

27 Pancakes and Prayer 7:00
Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30
Bible Study at LUMC 12:00

Wingmen 7:00

28 Needleworkers Group 10:00

29 Women's Bible Study 9:30

Bell Choir 6:00
Adult Choir 7:00

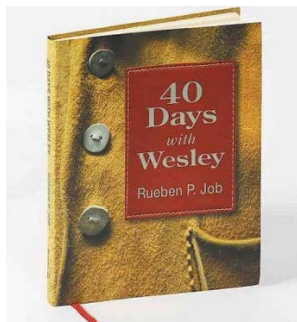
30 Lord, Is It I? Rehearsal 7:00

31 Junior High Youth 6:00

Review from the Library Table

Confessions of a Spiritual Junkie

I find it difficult to maintain a devotional discipline in spite of my hunger and need. I have employed many vehicles over the years, including reading, journaling, music, yoga, fasting, and numerous other disciplines.



Years ago I was introduced to an Upper Room devotional book by Rueben Job which became my “go to” when I was being faithful in my spiritual life.

A recent introduction to *40 Days with Wesley*, by Rueben Job, is giving my spiritual life a badly needed renewal. “40 Days with Wesley” combines prayer with scripture, readings from John Wesley, and reflections. The format doesn’t need to be done at one sitting and lends to allowing reflections between sections. I look forward to

reading *Forty Days* repeatedly to achieve deeper insights. One reading does not exhaust the richness of the material. I even have a copy on my electronic reader, so I have it wherever I am.

—Rev. David Nicholls

*Note: Look for *40 Days with Wesley* on the library table during Lent. If you would like your own copy, I would be happy to order it for you.

—Karen Veaner, AdultMinistries@LansingUnited.org.

Stewardship Campaign Comes Together

Every Piece Counts continues to be our theme as we work to finalize our 2017 Operating Stewardship Campaign. We encourage everyone to read how the many Pieces that make us LUMC come together in our Puzzle, which is on display in the Fellowship Hall. We plan to finalize and celebrate the 2016 Giving Year and our budget along with our many blessings in the coming weeks. To date we have had 88 pledges submitted totaling \$239,000, this combined with our Moving Forward Campaign demonstrates the spiritual journey we all have accepted to walk towards in support of our church and continued mission work that Pastor Bill talked about last Sunday. Through your many gifts we can continue the work in bringing God’s word to others. It is never too late to be included in our walk by adding your “puzzle piece.” On behalf of the Finance Committee thank you for your gifts and pledge to keep our journey intact, and a special note of thanks to Mike and Kelly Tracy for all their work in summarizing our Stewardship results.



UMCOR Sunday

(Formerly One Great Hour of Sharing)

Sunday, March 26

Since 1940, when its forerunner was established to meet the needs of those suffering overseas at the onset of World War II, the United Methodist Commit-

tee on Relief (UMCOR) has continued to respond to those in desperate need. Today it operates throughout more than eighty countries around the world. Your generous giving to UMCOR Sunday (formerly One Great Hour of Sharing) is what allows UMCOR to act as the arms and legs of Christ’s church, moving toward the most vulnerable in their darkest days. Convinced that all people have God-given worth and dignity—without regard to race, religion, ethnicity, or gender—together we are assisting those responding to crisis or experiencing chronic need. Your gift on UMCOR Sunday lays the foundation of all UMCOR work by covering the costs of doing business and supporting existing missions. With all of UMCOR’s basic expenses covered, 100% of contributions that you designate for a specific purpose goes to that purpose. UMCOR never deducts overhead or costs. Please prayerfully consider giving to this important work. Special offering envelopes will be in the bulletin and on the table in the Narthex on Sunday, March 26.

Dear Congregation of Lansing United Methodist Church:

Thank you and congratulations! Your congregation has paid an extra pledge for Conference Shared Ministries in 2016 above your 100%. Because of this, our conference is able to better support the vital work of all the local churches, and reach people with God’s love around the world! Because of your gifts, the conference was equipped to pay 100% to the General church, a first for our new conference called Upper New York.

Please convey to your people how much this is appreciated in the ongoing mission the conference has in supporting all the ministries in Upper New York. Like a recent song says, “God is on the move, Alleluia!”

Thanks again in Christ our Savior,

Rev. Jeffrey McDowell
District Superintendent
Finger Lakes District

Summer Camp Registration Is Now Open

Here's a way to forget winter for a moment. Plan your summer camp! Yes, registration is now open for the Upper New York Conference camps. You'll see brochures around LUMC, and you might even have received one in the mail if you went to camp last year.

"We are excited about the high quality and excellent variety of programs being offered this summer," said Mike Huber, director of CRM. "The CRM team, in collaboration with hundreds of volunteers, has created programs specifically designed for spiritual growth, birth, and renewal."

CRM offers camping programs and



Many campers from Lansing go to Casowasco (on Owasco Lake, above), but others have gone to Aldersgate, in the western Adirondacks, where you can worship in the Chapel in the Pines (at left). In the eastern Adirondacks is Skye Farm (below).



experiences for children, youth, families, and adults at Aldersgate, Casowasco, Sky Lake, and Skye Farm. Retreat programs and events will be held at Asbury.

Each of our centers offers online registration for most programs, making it easy to register for a favorite or to find a new one to attend. To view programs or to register, visit <http://campsandretreats.org/summer-camp-2017>.



Remember, LUMC wants to send every child to camp—and we don't want money to stand in the way. So, we will send you to camp! And your friends! You do not need to be a member of this church or any church to go to camp. Just let us know that you want to go. Aldersgate, Casowasco, Sky Lake, and Skye Farm. They are all amazing and waiting to help you have a more personal relationship with Jesus.

Lenten Meditations

Lent begins on March 1, with our Ash Wednesday service at 7:00.

Meditation Suggestions, by Rev. Tania Maria Eustace, UMC pastor

Week 1 Scripture: Luke 4:1-13 Jesus returned from the Jordan River full of the Holy Spirit, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness. There he was tempted for forty days by the devil. He ate nothing during those days and afterward Jesus was starving. The devil said to him, "Since you are God's Son, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus replied, "It's written, People won't live only by bread."

Weekly Lenten Discipline: Fasting

In this week's Scripture, we hear how Jesus was tempted by the devil. We know that Jesus was not alone; Scripture reminds us that he was "full of the Holy Spirit" and that he was "led by the Spirit into the wilderness." And yet, the devil tries to persuade Jesus to worship him. This week, we ask the question: "What temptations keep your attention and love from God?"

Week 2 Scripture: Luke 13:31-35 [Jesus said:] "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those who were sent to you! How often I have wanted to gather your people just as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings. But you didn't want that. Look, your house is abandoned. I tell you, you won't see me until the time comes when you say, "Blessings on the one who comes in the Lord's name."

Weekly Lenten Discipline: Ritual of Promise

In this week's Scripture, we hear Jesus lamenting over Jerusalem and the people who did not choose to follow Christ. Yet, we also hear Jesus affirm his commitment to them and to us, promising us that he will return. During this holy season, we remember that Christ is with us. In response, we ask this question: "How do I experience God's presence and love in my life?"

Week 3 Scripture: Luke 21:29-31 Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

Weekly Lenten Discipline: Prayer

In this week's Scripture, we hear the parable of the fig tree and the gardener. We hear God calling us to change and grow, reminding us that there is always time for repentance and response. One of the ways we respond to God's call to change and grow in love is through prayer. In prayer, we ask the question: "God, who are you calling me to become?"

