



The Sunbeam May 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



Construction Begins! Groundbreaking May 7



May 5 and 6

From the Pastor

Look! New Things Have Arrived

“If anyone is in Christ, that person is part of the new creation. The old things have gone away, and look, new things have arrived!” (2 Cor. 5:17)

Meeting new people can be exciting! Making new friends gives us an opportunity to re-present ourselves as we would like to be perceived. As we build new friendships, we learn to see ourselves as our new friends see us. We may learn new things about ourselves, and grow into the image someone else has for us.

This Spring, Lansing UMC encourages building new friendships through a series of Interfaith Community Dinners on the last Thursday of each month. The March dinner was attended by 4 Christian congregations, 2 Jewish congregations, 1 Muslim congregation, and several unaffiliated folks. Watch the Sunbeam and the Church at Work for future dinners.

These dinners do not hope to convert anyone, nor to say that all faiths are the same, or that our differences are immaterial! Instead, we hope to replace assumptions with acquaintances and stereotypes with personal stories, as we work to replace fear with friendship.

Every relationship takes time, energy, and nurture to grow. As you notice Spring around us, give your relationship with God some nurturing attention.

Here are some suggestions: Read some scripture. (Try 2 Corinthians 5:15-20, part of which is at the beginning of this note.) Spend some time in prayer. Take a walk. Give thanks for every beautiful thing you see. Listen to someone who needs a compassionate ear. Help someone in need. Participate in worship. Send a note to someone who is lonely.

Consider your identity as God’s own child, made in God’s image, forgiven and made new by the love of Jesus, and empowered by the Holy Spirit to share God’s love with the world. This is the ministry of reconciliation to which God calls us.

*Blessings,
Pastor Alison*

News from Adult Ministries:

On Thursday, March 30, LUMC hosted our first Interfaith Community Dish-to-Pass. What a night! We hosted close to 60 people, representing 4 Christian Churches, 2 Synagogues, 1 Mosque, and others unaffiliated with a worship community. A spirit of hope and friendship was truly palpable, as we shared fellowship and an amazing buffet of delicious dishes. Thank you to all who helped to launch this new ministry! If this ministry is calling to your heart, contact Pat Pryor at plp3@twcny.rr.com to join our Hospitality Team. Read on to see about the May dinner.

Neighbors Getting to Know Neighbors!

Lansing United Methodist Church, in cooperation with our Muslim neighbors at Moosalla Noor, will host an Interfaith Community Dish-to-Pass on Thursday, May 25, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Dinner is free and open to all.

Everyone is welcome! Please bring a labeled dish-to-pass and an open heart to meet new friends. (If time or budget, make the “dish” a hardship, please be our guest. There will be plenty of food.) Join us for an evening of good food, fellowship, and conversation. Find the Dinner location on the calendar at www.LansingUnited.org

Adult Sunday School

Scenes by the Wayside, Tales of the Sea, with Ken Hover

April 30, May 7, and May 14

In William Parker’s beloved hymn, “Tell Me the Stories of Jesus,” we sing of “Tales of the Sea,” or more literally, “Tales of the Lake.” And what a better way to ease into a lakeside summer in Lansing than to discuss three of those “tales” as recorded in the sixth chapter of John. We see that the multiplication of the loaves and fishes, a sudden summer storm, walking on water, and a mysterious reappearance are all connected to each other, and each connected to the lake in northern Israel with almost exactly the same surface area as our own Cayuga Lake. The sometimes perilous boat trips described in the gospels were actually shorter than an afternoon cruise from Myers Park to Stewart Park. But just like in Lansing, the faithful gather on the shore, and the weather can change in a heartbeat!

May 21—TBA

May 28—Memorial Day weekend, no Sunday School

Camp Sunday

Sunday, May 7

Our friends from Casowasco will join us during worship and the Sunday School hour to hype up summer camp for children. We'll play some games, sing some songs, and be reminded why camp is so AWESOME!! Have you registered your children for a week this summer yet? If not, go to casowasco.org or get some info packets from Kevin Klippel. Camp scholarships, aka Camperships, are available. Just ask.

Flower Basket Sale for Campership Fund

May 12 and 13

Each year, Rick and Charla Hayes sell flower baskets in front of the Lansing Community Center in South Lansing to raise money for the church campership fund. Just in time for Mothers Day, the sale will be May 12, from 8:00 a. m. to 8:00 p.m., and May 13, from 8:00 a.m. till gone. Thanks to Rick and Charla, we are able to help many children go to camp. If you want to go to church camp, we will not let money stand in the way. Children do not have to be a member of this church or any church for LUMC to help send them to camp. All that is required is to let us know that you want to go to camp—and gain a greater relationship with God and Jesus Christ.

Confirmation Service Project

Sunday, May 21

The confirmation class, with their mentors, will be serving a meal at the Ithaca Rescue Mission. This is always a moving and informative project for the confirmands, and in a lot of ways is equally moving and informative to the mentors and confirmation team. Please continue to be in prayer for our wonderful young people as they continue their journey through confirmation.

Confirmation Sunday

Sunday, June 4

Please join us on this special Sunday to officially confirm four special young women on what also happens to be the proverbial birthday of the church, Pentecost. We'll have a touching service during worship and celebrate afterward during fellowship hour.

LUMC Forward Building and Expansion Project

Good news! We now have the permits for our addition, and we will have our official groundbreaking on May 7.

During this past month, significant progress has been made in preparation for the start of the building project. McPherson Builders Inc. of Ithaca was chosen to be the general contractor. In addition, Wayne Larsen has been hired as the Clerk of the Works. He will be the on-site communicator between the church and the general contractor.

In place of a mortgage, we have a pledge loan from Tompkins County Trust Company, and currently we are waiting for a closing date. This pledge loan is secured by the good faith of the pledges made by the congregation. If the unpaid balance is greater than \$300,000 at forty-two months, the loan will be converted to a mortgage. It is our sincere hope that we can avoid that event.

The projected schedule of construction is as follows:

May 1—McPherson will occupy the upper gravel parking lot and start construction on the new wing

May 7—LUMC Groundbreaking ceremony

May 15—The contractor takes over the K-6 area and begins renovations.

Note: Because the bathrooms will become unavailable (and, frankly, good riddance), an ADA compliant toilet trailer with men's and women's areas will be set up outside the church until we move to Myers Park for worship

June 12—The contractor takes over the kitchen and Fellowship Hall

June 18—Worship in the Park begins

Construction will take place in the following phases:

Phase 1—building the new Christian education rooms on the south side of the building


Phase 2—renovating the existing classrooms, kitchen, bathrooms, and fellowship hall

Phase 3—renovating the current administration wing

Many people having been helping to prepare the church for the renovations. The kitchen and attic above the kitchen have been packed up and put into storage. The choir room is being packed, and by May 15, the Christian Education Wing will be emptied and turned over to the contractors.

Through out this process, if you have questions, Jim Blair, chair of the building project, will be available during coffee hour. Preparing for any building project can be challenging, and so it is with such a large project as LUMC's renovations. We have been so blessed with the opportunity to be able to expand our ministry and are thankful for the help we have received and will be receiving in preparation for the renovations.

The Building Committee

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<i>May 2017</i>	1 Pancakes and Prayer 7:00 Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30 Communion at Woodsedge 11:00 Bible Study at Blairs 12:00 Wingmen 7:00	2 Ladies in Faith Together 6:30 Crossroads	3 Adult Choir 7:00	4	5 Rummage Sale 8:00 each day Junior High Youth 7:00 Senior High Youth at Robin's Nest 6:00	6 Mens' Breakfast 7:00 Rummage Cleanup 12:00
	Rummage Setup and Sorting • All Week • Donations Accepted through Tuesday					
7 Worship 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Children's Ministries 11:45 CONSTRUCTION GROUNDBREAKING Confirmation 4:00 K.A.N. 5:30	8 Pancakes and Prayer 7:00 Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30 Bible Study at LUMC 12:00 Wingmen 7:00	9 Needleworkers Group 10:00 Church Council 7:00	10 Bell Choir 6:00 Adult Choir 7:00	11 Staff Parish 7:00	12 Junior High Youth 7:00 Senior High Youth at Robin's Nest 6:00	13 Men's Breakfast at Linda's in North Lansing Every Saturday 7:00
Adult Mission in South Carolina						
14 Worship 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Confirmation 4:00	15 BUILDING CONSTRUCTION BEGINS Pancakes and Prayer 7:00 Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30 Bible Study at LUMC 12:00 Haiti Committee 7:00 Wingmen 7:00 Sunbeam Deadline Midnight	16 Needleworkers Group 10:00 Worship Committee 7:00	17 Bell Choir 6:00 Adult Choir 7:00	18 Trustees 7:00	19 Junior High Youth 7:00 Senior High Youth at Robin's Nest 6:00	20 Men's Breakfast 7:00
21 Worship 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Youth Ministries 11:45 Rescue Mission Dinner 3:00 Youth Mission Can and Bottle Drive	22 Pancakes and Prayer 7:00 Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30 Bible Study at LUMC 12:00 Wingmen 7:00	23 Needleworkers Group 10:00	24 Adult Choir 7:00	25 Interfaith Dish-to-Pass Dinner 5:30 Location TBA	26 Senior High Youth at Robin's Nest 6:00	27 Mens' Breakfast 7:00
28 Worship 9:00	29 MEMORIAL DAY Office Closed Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30	30 Needleworkers Group 10:00	31 Bell Choir 6:00 Adult Choir 7:00	Annual Conference, June 1-3	 Lansing United Methodist Church	

Rummage Sale

May 5 and 6

Setup starts outdoors at 9:00 on Saturday, April 29, and sorting continues all week. Help is needed for indoor set up on Sunday, April 30, after Sunday School, beginning at 11:30 a.m.

The young adult group's next official meeting is to help with the Rummage Sale setup.

Café Rummage will pop up again, so that workers may enjoy lunch and fellowship. Feel free to check the Narthex board for donations or to sign up for a rummage shift.

VBS Planning Under Way

Vacation Bible School planning has already started, with the curriculum of "Maker Fun Factory."

Dates are July 10 through 14, at All Saints RC Church and at LUMC.

Now we need YOU! Will you help dozens of children have the best week ever this summer at VBS?? If you've volunteered with us before, you know how much fun it is, and we'd love to have you back! If you've never volunteered before, plan to come join the fun! Kevin Klippel has all the resources you'll need to fulfill your role and have nearly as much fun as the kids! Let Kevin know if you'd like to help out.

Early Response Training

Upper New York District disaster officials have scheduled a basic early disaster response training (ERT) to be taught by Tom & Linda Cooper at the Fredonia UMC, on Saturday May 20. At the same time, a four-hour recertification class is set for those who were trained or re-trained prior to 2014 (and thus need to renew their training). It is important to build the base of trained volunteers to help begin the recovery process when a disaster strikes.

Registration and requests for information should be directed to Linda Cooper at lindacooper47@gmail.com, Brian Greenwald at bngreenwald@windstream.net, or the Fredonia UMC.

The Season of Easter

by Norman Shawchuck and Rueben P. Job

The Lord is risen; the tears of grief have given way to tears of joy; and the followers of Jesus Christ now try to live in this world where evil, darkness, and death itself have been unconditionally conquered.

Evil conquered? Yes! Death conquered? Yes! To live in a world where evil holds no fear and death holds no threat requires a radical shift in understanding and attitude. Such a world is no longer under the dominant control of darkness but is already showing signs of the healing and life-giving presence of light, God's light. The truth that darkness can never extinguish the light gives us confidence and hope in this season and in all seasons.

Courage now flourishes where fear once dominated. We no longer tremble before powers of darkness and evil for we know that their ultimate defeat already has occurred, and we can face them unafraid. What is there that can really do us harm?

We now know the assurance that Paul declared: "In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ... I am convinced that neither death, nor life, ... nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:37-39).

Excerpted from *A Guide to Prayer for All Who Seek God*, by Norman Shawchuck and Rueben P. Job. Copyright © 2003 by Norman Shawchuck and Rueben P. Job. Published by Upper Room Books

Schedule note for Memorial Day weekend (May 27, 28, and 29)

There will be no Kidz Quest! nor Jr. or Sr. High Sunday School due to Memorial Day. There's also no Pancakes & Prayer that Monday morning, so sleep in!

From the District Superintendent

It may be time to let go of our church.

Welcome to the Easter season, going right up until Pentecost day! We love to say we are Easter people, celebrating the meaning of Easter at every turn. However, we do not like change. We don't want to die. We don't want our church to die (close). Let's be honest, though, Easter changed everything. Everything changed on Easter: the struggle of life, the finality of death; the cure for despair is pinned on faith that yes, Jesus really did rise from the ultimate enemy of death! Our world changed, our life changed, our churches, well, we didn't have Christian churches until then, so that changed too! Look at the following excerpts of an article on "Managing Personal Change:"

"Suffering is an integral part of the human condition. We can resist it or accept it.

Change that I choose is welcome—but change that is imposed upon me is not welcome.

There are only three possible responses to imposed change:

- **We can resist it, and increase our suffering.**
- **We can adapt to it.**
- **We can accept it.**

The 4 big reasons we get stuck:

- **The big lie that "I can create any future I want"**
- **Most of what we think is outside of our conscious awareness**
- **We can't let go and trust**
- **We can't stop thinking**

You are most likely to succeed with personal change for either or both of the following reasons:

- **Aspiration—you are inwardly motivated or drawn towards this**
- **Desperation—your survival (in any sense) depends on it!"**

Friends, across the district I am looking for churches whose members are more sold out for the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ, than they are for keeping the doors of their old buildings open. Across the district I am looking for followers of Jesus who believe in the resurrection as applied to their own life, their family life, their work life, and especially their church life. Across the district I am looking for people "who desire nothing but God and fear nothing but sin" (as John Wesley prayed), and together we will dream a new dream and let God change us again.

continued at right

DS message (concluded)

It may be time to let go of our church, because it never was ours to begin with. Let the church of Jesus Christ say "Amen!"

I invite you to write to me at jeffmcdowell@unyumc.org and tell me what you are struggling "letting go of" so I can pray for you.

Growing things Change. Change causes pain. Pain can produce growth. And growing things Change.

—See Romans 5:3-5

—District Superintendent Jeff McDowell

Adult Mission Team to South Carolina

An adult mission team of seven is heading to South Carolina during the week of May 7 to help with repair and recovery work after damaging floods last year. Some areas were flooded twice and did not have the chance to recover from the first flood, let alone both floods. The team will work in the Low Country, in the southeast portion of the state. Team members pay their own expenses, as is the tradition, but donations to UMCOR for South Carolina flood relief would be most helpful. The team worked in New Jersey on the last trip to help with recovery from Superstorm Sandy Even though much work has been done in Jersey shore communities, they also could still use assistance.

Youth Mission Team Returns from Guatemala

Holy week is a remarkable time for a mission trip to Guatemala. Not only is there work to do—helping rebuild homes and stoves, but there are religious observances all week. Team members were welcomed by our friends in Guatemala and had a tremendous personal experience, in addition to helping out. Team members were both youths and adults, from both LUMC and All Saints RC Church. Fundraising continues year around to make it possible to send our Youth Mission teams to Guatemala and elsewhere in the U.S.

The Sunbeam

May 2017



Lansing United
Methodist Church

RRRRRRRUMMMMMMMAGGGGEEEE!

MAY 5 AND 6

SETUP APRIL 29–MAY 4

CLEANUP MAY 6

CONSTRUCTION GROUNDBREAKING

MAY 7

Lansing United Methodist Church

32 Brickyard Road, Lansing, NY 14882

one mile north of the stoplight on

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The Sunbeam is published monthly by
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Please send your news to Glenn Withiam,
editor, at grw4@cornell.edu.

Deadline for the next issue is

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