



The Sunbeam August 2017

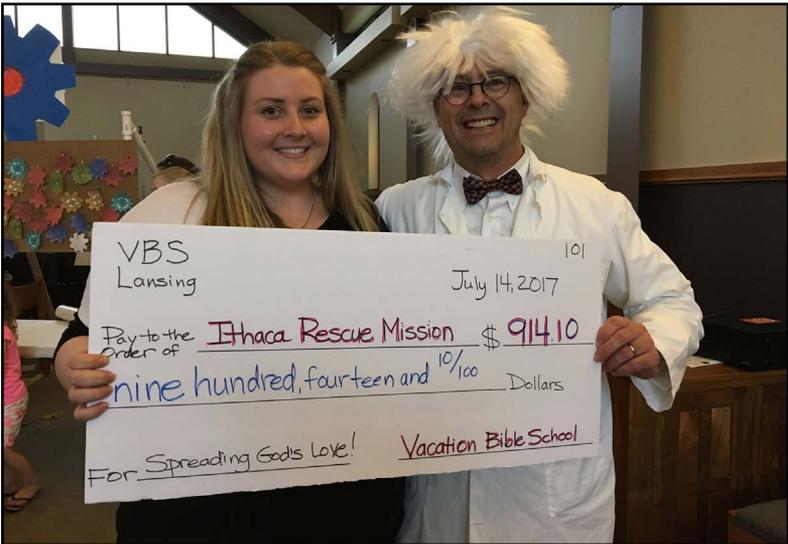
Lansing United Methodist Church

Worship IN THE PARK 9:30 AM

Pastor: Alison Schmied

Christian Education Coordinator: Kevin Klippel

Adult Ministries Coordinator: Karen Veaner



The kids at Maker Fun Factory Vacation Bible School raised funds for the Ithaca Rescue Mission all week.

At Friday's closing assembly, the VBS kids were proud to present a giant check for \$914.10 to Kaleigh Caswell, the Rescue Mission's senior client care specialist, shown here with "Dr. Viktor," a famous inventor at the Maker Fun Factory. Additional fundraising brought the total to \$1,162.80.

Way to go, kids!

From the Pastor

The Human Chain

On July 11, 2017, a mother named Roberta Ursrey ran into the Gulf of Mexico to rescue her sons, ages 8 and 11. They were waving their arms and crying for help because the strong current of a rip tide had swept them too far away from shore and they couldn't swim back. The current was too strong for Roberta. Soon she, too, was in need of saving.

Roberta's husband ran into the water to help. So did the children's grandmother, and a few Good Samaritans. They also were caught in the rip tide. Soon there were at least 9 swimmers in need of rescue.

The police were called. An officer jumped in the water. The officer, too, was overpowered by the current and decided to return to shore and wait for a boat.

A group of onlookers gathered on shore. They didn't just gawk. Holding tightly to one another, 70 people joined arms, creating a human chain. They extended their reach beyond the rip tide, supporting one another against the current, and brought the swimmers in, passing them from one person to another.

There are many accounts of this event. Some of the details vary. (Were 9 or 10 people rescued? Was the human chain 70 people? Or 80? Or 100?)

Regardless of the specifics, it is clear that the power of human beings working together for a purpose beyond themselves is incredibly strong. The power of self-giving love—the kind that Jesus gave on the cross—is the strongest power in the world.

Love that gives of itself for the sake of others is God's way of saving the world from drowning in the self-centeredness we call sin. Jesus invites each of us to give up the losing battle of trying to make it on our own, to accept the saving grace that God offers to us, and to commit ourselves to becoming a part of the chain that helps set other prisoners free.

This August, we will celebrate at least one baptism in Cayuga Lake. As we welcome a new sister into the body of Christ, may we recognize that Jesus invites us daily to die to self, and rise to new life empowered by the Holy Spirit, to live as Christ-followers who give ourselves for others.

If you are thinking about baptism this summer, for yourself or your children, please contact me so we can pray about it together. Thank you for being a part of the chain of believers that offers hope to the world.

*Blessings,
Pastor Alison*

Church in the Park Continues

Myers Town Park, 9:30 a.m., Pavilion D

Although we usually return to the church building in August, this year we continue to worship in Myers Town Park for the month of August, during the reconstruction of our church building. We enjoy a relaxed start time (9:30), relaxed seating (sit on a picnic bench or bring your favorite lawn chair), and relaxed, well, everything else (children on the playground, sure, why not). Please join us in Pavilion D for worship in God's marvelous creation.

From the church head down Route 34B to the four corners at the bottom of the hill. Turn left on Myers Road, and head on down, bearing right once you cross the railroad tracks. Then turn left behind the booth once you're in the park, and look for our green welcome banner. No charge for park entry; just mention that you're coming for church.

Come enjoy singing with the choir!

Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

—*Psalm 100:2, NIV*

Raising our voices together in song is one of the ways we offer worship to God. Many people find that in addition to receiving God's appreciation for their offering of a joyful noise, singing in a choir is fun and nurtures the singer's spirit as well as the congregation.

Pick up choir returns to the park

This summer, you're invited to join a Sunday-morning "pick up choir" on August 13 and August 20. Come to Pavilion D for a short rehearsal at 9:00 a.m., and sing with the choir during the 9:30 worship service.

Regular choir resumes in September

This fall, we look forward to practicing in our **new choir room** in our newly renovated building! Choir rehearses on Wednesday nights from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., beginning September 6.

Is God calling you to sing with the choir? We would love to have you join. Please contact Music Director Diane Withiam (diane.withiam@gmail.com) for more information.

Adult Ministries

Looking for Leaders! If God is calling you to teach Adult Sunday School or nurture spiritual programming for grown-ups, we welcome your spiritual gifts!!! contact Karen Veaner, Adult Ministries Coordinator: AdultMinistries@LansingUnited.org or (607)592-1386

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



*Lansing United
Methodist
Church*

1
Needleworkers Group 10:00
Ladies in Faith Together (LIFT)
6:30 Crossroads
Worship Committee
7:00

2

3
Picnic in the Park 5:30
Myers Park, Pavilion A
(Stay for the concert)

4

5
Men's Breakfast at Linda's
in North Lansing
Every Saturday 7:00

6
Worship 9:30
CHURCH IN THE PARK

7
Bible Study at Woodsedge
10:30
Communion at Woodsedge
11:00
Courageous Conversation 6:00
Wingmen 7:00

8
Needleworkers Group 10:00

Church Council 7:00

9

10
Picnic in the Park 5:30
Myers Park, Pavilion A
(Stay for the concert)
Staff Parish 7:00

11

12
Mens' Breakfast 7:00

13
Worship 9:30
CHURCH IN THE PARK

14
Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30
Courageous Conversation 6:00
Trustees 7:00
Wingmen 7:00

15
Needleworkers Group 10:00

Sunbeam Deadline Midnight

16

17
Picnic in the Park 5:30
Myers Park, Pavilion A
(Stay for the concert)

18

19
Men's Breakfast 7:00

20
Worship 9:30
CHURCH IN THE PARK
Rescue Mission Dinner 3:00

Youth Mission Can and Bottle Drive
Bring items to church at handicap parking sign

21
Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30
Courageous Conversation 6:00
Wingmen 7:00

22
Needleworkers Group 10:00
Confirmation 10:00

23

24

25

26
Mens' Breakfast
7:00

27
Worship 9:30
CHURCH IN THE PARK

28
Bible Study at Woodsedge
10:30
Courageous Conversation 6:00
Wingmen 7:00

29
Needleworkers Group 10:00

30

31
Interfaith Dish-to-Pass
Dinner 5:30
Myers Park, Pavilion A

*August
2017*

Interfaith Community Potluck Picnic

Thursday, August 31, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Myers Park, Pavilion A (pavilion nearest the lake)

No park entrance fee—just mention the dinner at the gate.

Neighbors getting to know neighbors. Everyone is welcome! All faith communities and those with no faith affiliation are invited to attend. Dinner is free and open to all. There's no requirement to bring a dish, but if you do bring a dish-to-pass make sure to label its ingredients. Do plan to bring an open heart to meet new friends. Please join us! Want to get involved? Questions? Contact: AdultMinistries@LansingUnited.org

A Courageous Conversation

...Regarding the Unity of the Church and Human Sexuality

Monday evenings in August, 6:00 p.m. (Location to be determined.)

Jesus was no stranger to controversy, and neither are Methodists. John Wesley, who founded the Methodist movement as a reform movement within the Church of England, addressed the contentious issues of his day. At the same time, Wesley strove to hold the newly formed Methodist Societies together across many lines of difference.

Globally, since the 1970s, the United Methodist Church has been engaged in contentious debate over whether to allow the ordination of “self-avowed, practicing homosexuals” as leaders of the church. Last summer, General Conference (the only body that can speak on behalf of the United Methodist Church), charged the Council of Bishops to help mediate this dispute and bring it to a resolution. The Council of Bishops appointed a Commission on a Way Forward to study and create such a resolution.

The Commission on a Way Forward, the American Association of United Methodist Theological Schools, and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry held a colloquy in March 2017. The resulting information was recently published in the form of a book, *Unity of the Church and Human Sexuality: Toward a Faithful United Methodist Witness*. The book is available at Cokesbury.com. If you wish to work through the study questions with a small group, please contact Pastor Alison (alison.schmied@gmail.com).

Pledge Statements Go Paperless

You no longer have to wait until your mid-year pledge statement is printed out. They are all online! Contact Kelly Tracy at kcashdollar@yahoo.com or 703-568-6197 to get access to view and print your statement at any time. If you are unable to access the internet, or would prefer to continue to receive a printed statement, just let Kelly know and she can get one for you. Thank you for your patience and understanding as LUMC continues to move forward!—*Kelly and Mike Tracey, Financial Secretaries*

Fall Family and Adult Retreat Schedule

Looking for a retreat? The Upper NY Camp & Retreat Ministries offers a wide range of reasonably priced retreat opportunities with a variety of themes in a variety of camp locations for adults, families, and ministry leaders. Explore the links below to find the experience that is right for you!

Date	Retreat	Location	Website
6-8 Aug	Together Time: Family	Asbury	www.asburyuny.org/togethertime
10-13 Aug	Silver Lake Experience	Asbury/ Silver Lake	www.silverlakeexperience.org
13-16 Aug	Family Camp	Casowasco	www.casowasco.org/familycamp
13-16 Aug	Mom/Daughter Adventure	Casowasco	www.casowasco.org/mdadventure
13-16 Aug	Father/Son Adventure	Casowasco	www.casowasco.org/fsadventure
13-16 Aug	Intergenerational Camp	Sky Lake	www.skylakecenter.org/igroup
20-22 Aug	Fruits of the Spirit	Asbury	www.asburyuny.org/women
1-4 Sep	Labor Day Family Weekend	Sky Lake	www.skylakecenter.org/laborday
29 Sep-1 Oct	Craft & Quilt Retreat	Asbury	www.asburyuny.org/craftquilt
29 Sep-1 Oct	Quilt by Faith	Casowasco	www.Casowasco.org/quiltbyfaith
6-8 Oct	Ladies of the Lake	Sky Lake	www.skylakecenter.org/ladies

Asbury Camp and Retreat Center is one of our United Methodist camps, located on Silver Lake, near Perry, about half way to Buffalo. Located near Asbury, the Silver Lake Institute is a private association that offers speakers and programs. The Silver Lake Experience is a joint program of Asbury and the Silver Lake Institute. Another of our United Methodist camps, Sky Lake sits on Mount Tuscarora in Windsor, not far from Binghamton. Like Casowasco, Sky Lake offers both weekly summer camps and year-round retreats. Asbury operates as a retreat center.

For more information or to book your retreat, check out the websites listed above. If you wish to put together a group from LUMC, or wish to see an old school-hard copy brochure, please contact Karen Veaner, Adult Ministries Coordinator: AdultMinistries@LansingUnited.org or 607-592-1386.

The Sunbeam

August 2017



Lansing United
Methodist Church

CHURCH IN THE PARK

9:30 A.M.

DUE TO CHURCH RECONSTRUCTION,
CHURCH IN THE PARK
CONTINUES THROUGH LABOR DAY

PLEASE JOIN US!

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

The Sunbeam is published monthly by
Lansing United Methodist Church.

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

Deadline for the next issue is
August 15, 2017