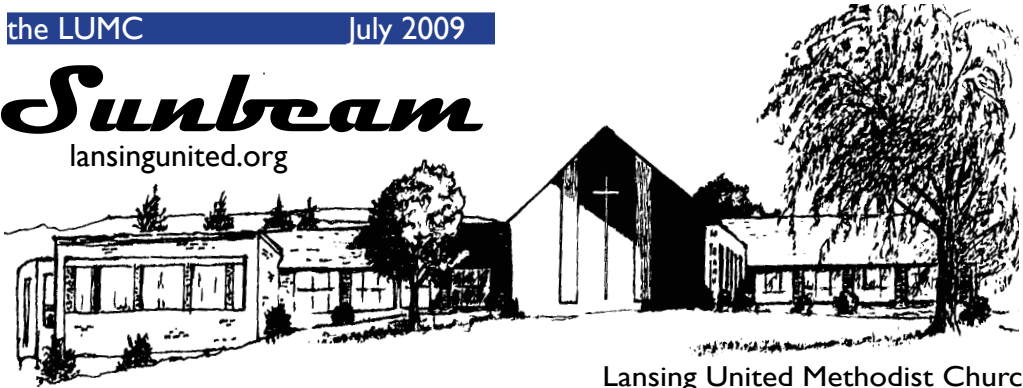


Please join us for morning worship at 9:00 AM at the Lansing Town Park in Myers.

the LUMC July 2009

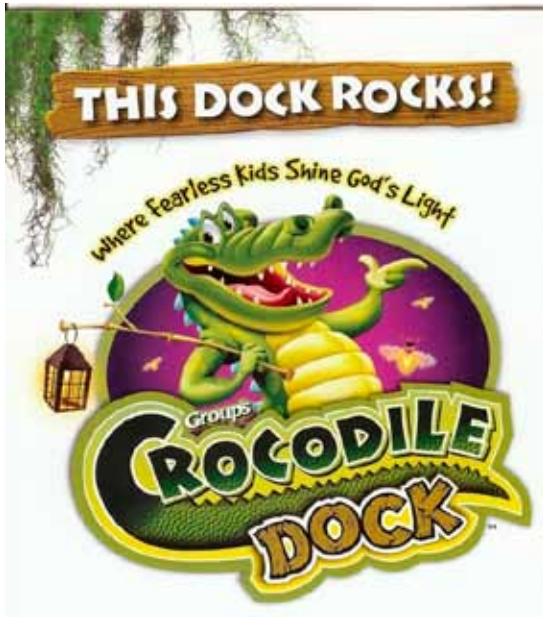
# Sunbeam

[lansingunited.org](http://lansingunited.org)



Lansing United Methodist Church  
Route 34B and Brickyard Road, South Lansing

Pastor: Bill Gottschalk-Fielding • Program Associate: Marilyn Paradise • Youth Coordinator: Kevin Dunn



# Vacation Bible School

July 13-17  
(see page 3)



## Maintaining Focus

### From the Pastor

I will be using the first week of July (June 29–July 5) as a week of spiritual growth leave. I'm allowed (and encouraged) to designate two weeks a year for this purpose. I'll be in the neighborhood but not in the office. Jeff Losey will be on call for routine pastoral care, though I'll be a phone call away for any major crisis (but, please, try not to have any!).

The focus of my week will be on discipleship—specifically, how does a church stay focused on its primary mission: to make disciples of Jesus Christ? There's been a lot of talk lately about how the big three auto companies wound up in such trouble. Some have said a major part of the reason is they forgot what their primary business was. Instead of making the cars people really needed, management, unions, and shareholders pursued other ends.

I know little about the auto industry, but I do know something about the Church. It's clear to me a vital congregation is one whose business is inviting, connecting, nurturing, and sending out followers of Jesus. The challenge is keeping that focus.

Admittedly I'm biased, but I look at LUMC and see much vitality. Before I sat down to write this column, I took a walk through the church building. One of the places I walked through was the Sunday school wing. Though our Sunday school is closed for the summer, the walls are covered with the projects our kids worked on this past year. It's plain to me they've been learning and growing.

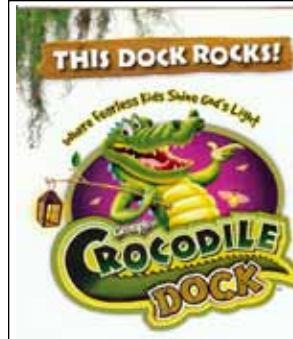
I also stopped by the bulletin board just outside the kitchen to catch up on the Haiti mission work displayed there. This reminded me of how frequently I have the honor on Sunday morning of blessing people as they head off on a mission trip—to Haiti, Guatemala, Johns Island, or the Gulf Coast. At least once a month, some group is going somewhere. We are clearly sending out disciples of Jesus near and far.

These are just a couple examples of disciple-forming. I rejoice in them all. What I want to know (and what I'll be studying and praying about the first week of July) is how to deepen and broaden our disciple-forming. Some of you are ready to go deeper. You need and want greater opportunities to grow. And some of you haven't been drawn in yet. You've been waiting on the margins. I'm eager to learn how to make it possible for you to get started.

So, if you stop by the office before July 5, I probably will be elsewhere with my face in a book and my thoughts on the future. Keep me in your prayers and look for some reflections down the road.

+Grace and Peace,

*Pastor B.M.*



## VBS is Finally Here!

Don't miss out, all kids entering Kindergarten through 5th grade. Join up with a bayou crew during the week of July 13 to 17 for a great week

of Vacation Bible School at Crocodile Dock. We'll be meeting from 6:00 to 8:15 with our friends from All Saints Church, as well as anyone you'd like to bring along for the adventure. Think about a friend who would like to come! Please preregister, if possible—forms are available at the church office or on the church website. We'll be meeting at LUMC on Monday Tuesday, and Wednesday nights and at All Saints Church on Thursday nights and Friday nights. Friday night will include an ice cream social to wrap-up a powerful week. Call the church office or Bonnie Blair, 257-0721 with any questions.

**See page 9 for another big announcement about VBS.**

## Notice of Charge Conference

A Church Conference will be convened by Pastor Bill after Sunday morning worship July 19 for the sole purpose of affirming church leaders for the coming 12 months. All church members are voting members of this conference with voice and vote. The meeting should be brief.

## Prayer Requests

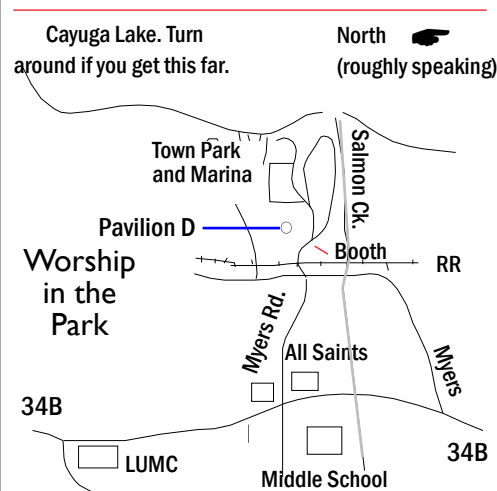
Dave Ackley (Sue Munson's father)  
 Mia Avramis  
 Joan Barra (Frank and Betty Trinkl's daughter)  
 Clarence Benson, Groton Nursing Facility, 120 Sykes Street, Room 117A, Groton, NY 13073  
 Bobbie (Judy Butman's friend)  
 Cindie Bobnick (Shelly Uhl-Stark's sister)  
 Brian Cleveland, 7358 Cedar Street, Akron, NY 14001  
 Susan Davidson, 1812 Ridge Road  
 Michelle DiPrimio  
 Adam Frey (Cayla's friend)  
 Shirley Graves  
 Hannah (Meredith Czymmek's good friend)  
 Bonnie Huff (Judy Butman's friend)  
 Jeannie (Judy Butman's friend)  
 Shyanne Loveless (granddaughter of Cheryl Dykeman-Loveless)  
 Kathy (Lorraine Groat's daughter)  
 Sheryl Mattoon (Barb White's friend)  
 Glenna Miller-Labar and family (friend of Czymmek's)  
 Eleanor Moir (Kathy Sannerud's cousin)  
 Janet Passmore  
 Marion Picciano  
 Harry Reinhart, 615 Ridge Road  
 Marge Rundle, grandmother of Melissa Ferris  
 Frannie Sampson  
 1138 Auburn Road, Groton, NY 13073  
 Teresa Sharp  
 Helen Stoll, Groton Nursing Facility, Room 213A, Groton, NY 13073  
 Kylie Walley (friend of Anne Czymmek)  
 Charlotte Wilson  
 Judy Wilson  
 Mourning families of:  
 Deb Emnett  
 Sharon Moen  
 Donna Howe Taylor (Marion's daughter)

## Worship in July

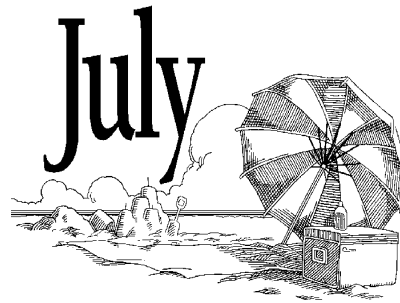
July means worship in the park. I know it also means fire-works, backyard BBQs, waterskiing, shorts and sandals, and the All Star Game, but nothing tops worship in the park. Bring a lawn chair or just plan to sit under the pavilion on a picnic table bench. Shorts and sandals aren't required but they will be prevalent. The Spirit and good company will be, too. See you there!

**July 5—Fifth Sunday after Pentecost.** Reverend Jefferson Niles, Methodist Minister from the Caribbean will be our preacher this morning. Rev. Niles is on three months of sabbatical leave from the Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas. The Reverend Darryl Barrow,

### Where to Find 9:00 Worship in the Park



From church, go downhill on 34B to the four corners by the Middle School and All Saints. Turn left on Myers Rd. downhill. Go straight at the stop sign, and cross the RR tracks. Bear right into Myers Park and then left after the booth. Look left for the LUMC banner on Pavilion D. On July 26 only we will be in Pavilion C, which is across the parking lot and slightly closer to the lake than Pavilion D.



our conference Director of Spiritual Leadership, will also be with us. He'll be bringing his drums and an invitation to join in some drumming during the service. This will be a great service! Read: 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10; Psalm 48; 2 Corinthians 12:2-10; and Mark 6:1-13.

**July 12—Sixth Sunday after Pentecost. Haiti Service.** LUMC has been working with the people of Haiti on educational and agricultural projects for over a generation. This morning we'll hear a bit about what's been happening in Haiti this past year. Pastor Bill will preach on "Dancing with Joy Even When You're in Pain." Read: 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19; Psalm 24; Ephesians 1:3-14; and Mark 6:14-29.

**July 19—Seventh Sunday after Pentecost.** The focus of today's service will be on the joys and challenges of leadership. Immediately following the service, we'll convene a brief "church conference" to elect church leaders for the coming 12 months. Read: 2 Samuel 7:1-14a; Psalm 89:20-37; Ephesians 2:11-22; and Mark 6:30-34, 53-56.

**July 26—Eighth Sunday after Pentecost.** This morning's sermon is entitled: "10 Good Reasons to Be Very Afraid of Jesus." Maybe you'll want to find your way down to the park to hear what this is all about! (It's the last park service of the summer, BTW). Read: 2 Samuel 11:1-15; Psalm 14; Ephesians 3:14-21; and John 6:1-21.

## Fireplace Service to Begin Again in Fall

This service has blessed us in incredible ways these past eight weeks. Many lives have been touched and much has been learned. One thing we've learned: we need more folks on the "Fireplace Ministry Team." We need people to:

- set up and take down
- run projection equipment
- provide hospitality
- sing and play in praise band
- have a message to share

During the summer break, we'll be recruiting folks to join the team. Why not you? Even one Sunday a month in some role will help us make this great service even better. See Pastor Bill or Amara Camp to get more information.

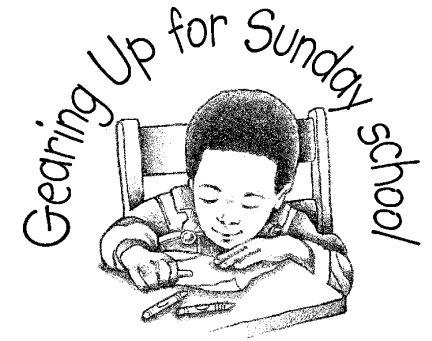
And look for the "Fireplace" to fire up again September 13 at 6:00 PM!

### Reverend Niles to Preach at the Park —Will lead July 5 service

Reverend Jefferson Niles, Methodist Minister from the Caribbean, will preach at the Park, July 5.

A native of Anguilla, Reverend Jefferson Niles is on three months of sabbatical leave from the Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas. He is the pastor of the Wesley Methodist congregation on St. Thomas.

In addition to his current appointment on St. Thomas and St. John, Reverend Niles has worked as a Circuit minister in the following Circuits of the Methodist Church in the Leeward Islands District: Nevis, Antigua, and Dominica. He serves as the General Secretary for the Resources and Development Department of the Leeward Islands District. He also serves as Chaplain on the St. Thomas/ St. John Christian Council.



## Looking Ahead to Fall Sunday School

It is our dream that every parent who has a child enrolled in our Christian Education program will find a place in their heart to assist us in some capacity throughout the school year. We are blessed to have so many children enrolled in the program. Whether your spiritual gift includes teaching or assisting a teacher, or perhaps serving as a coordinator for one of our events such as the Fall Festival or the Annual Christmas Pageant, we seek your help. Your presence among us sends a powerful message to the children.

Over the summer we ask that you prayerfully consider assisting with the Children's Ministry program this coming fall. LUMC provides the necessary training and tools to equip you to carry out the task, you need only bring your spiritual gift and a willingness to share that gift. The work that we do together sets the faith foundation for these children's lives.

The United Methodist Church requires that we staff every classroom with two adult leaders. This means we need many helpers as well as teachers. We are committed to providing a safe and caring environment for the children we serve. Please let us know if this is a ministry that you would consider for this coming fall. You can email me with questions and comments at [mpmparadise@aol.com](mailto:mpmparadise@aol.com). God Bless.—  
Marilyn Paradise

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



*Lansing United Methodist Church*

Note: This calendar is current as of June 22. For updates to all LUMC events, visit [lansingunited.org](http://lansingunited.org) and see our virtual church calendar, and check the bulletin when you're in church on Sunday.

1 Prayer Service 9:00

2

3

4 The United States of America  
by the Grace of God  
Free and Independent for  
233 Years  
  
Mens' Breakfast every  
Saturday at Linda's in North  
Lansing 7:00

5 Worship 9:00  
Lansing Town Park at Myers  
  
Pavilion D

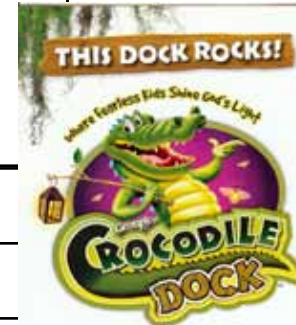
6 Caregivers 9:00  
  
Church Office Closed

7 Quilt Bee 9:30  
  
Staff Parish 7:00

8 Prayer Service 9:00  
  
Church Picnic 6:00  
Hosted by Matt and Kristen Burt  
2 Arrowood Lane

9 Trustees 7:30

10  
  
11 Mens' Breakfast 7:00  
  
Blood Drive 8:30-2:00  
  
Prayer Shawl Ministry 10:00



12 Worship 9:00  
Lansing Town Park at Myers  
HAITI SERVICE  
Pavilion D

13  
  
VBS at LUMC 6:00

14 Quilt Bee 9:30  
  
VBS at LUMC 6:00  
Church Council 7:00

15 Prayer Service 9:00  
  
VBS at LUMC 6:00  
SUNBEAM DEADLINE  
12:00 Midnight

16  
  
VBS at All Saints 6:00

17  
  
Church Office Closed  
VBS at All Saints 6:00  
  
18 Mens' Breakfast 7:00

19 Worship 9:00  
Lansing Town Park at Myers  
Charge Conference 10:00  
Pavilion D  
  
Ice Cream Social at Scoops 7:30

20 Mobile Food Pantry 10:00  
  
Haiti 7:00

21 Quilt Bee 9:30  
  
Senior High Bowling 6:00  
Membership 7:00  
Finance 7:00

22 Prayer Service 9:00

23

24

25 Mens' Breakfast 7:00

26 Worship 9:00  
Lansing Town Park at Myers  
  
Pavilion C

27  
  
Food Pantry 3:00

28 Quilt Bee 9:30  
  
Church Picnic 6:00  
Hosted by Jackie Baker  
1116 Auburn Rd.  
North Lansing

29

30

31

*July 2009*

## Assisting Ghana to Develop a Micro-Credit “Susu” Program

Caitlin Hardie, our Peace Corps Volunteer in Ghana, is requesting your help. She is raising funds for a micro-credit bank in Ghana through a Peace Corps Partnership Project. Total project request is \$1,194. Amount still needed, is \$789.

You can contribute on line at [www.PeaceCorps.gov/contribute](http://www.PeaceCorps.gov/contribute). Search for volunteer name, Hardie, and all the information will pop up. All donations are tax deductible. You can also mail a check to:

Peace Corps  
Office of Private Sector Initiatives  
1111 20th ST. NW  
Washington, DC 20077-9400  
Be sure to note Caitlin Hardie project # 641-268

Here are some excerpts from the project proposal:

In February 2008, the Evangelical Presbyterian Agric-Extension Program established a “susu” program. In this type of program, an individual chooses an amount of money to contribute to savings on a daily basis. At the end of each month, participants may choose to save their contributions, or be repaid the full amount saved that month, with one day’s contribution taken out as payment for the service. An additional employee was hired to collect payments five days a week.

An immediate need for a local office soon became obvious, because until May 2008, the program was operated out of the home of the credit officer, Agnes Asamoah. An office in town has been established to provide customers with better access to the services offered, and has established professional credibility for the program. Rent for two years has been paid at a

location convenient in town, and steps to bring the office to full functioning capacity are underway. PCPP funds are requested to complete the process of bringing the EPDRA office in Dambai to its full potential by purchasing office equipment, such as a computer, printer/copier/scanner, and other necessary accessories. With these additional resources the micro-credit program would increase efficiency, and accuracy of bookkeeping, as all current records are hand written. The addition of would help EPDRA move forward with its development goals in serving the people of Dambai.

Agnes Asamoah is the credit officer in charge of the EPDRA program in Dambai. She has been the driving force behind the project of establishing an office for the micro-credit program. Agnes has already taken dramatic steps to complete this goal, including renting a building and remodeling. Her guidance and assistance was an important part of writing this proposal. Agnes is responsible for managing the office currently, and would be thoroughly trained to use the equipment in order to serve the people of Dambai to the highest potential. Thanks to Agnes’s hard work, all that remains for this project are the funds necessary to complete the final goals.

The community contribution for this project is to provide a furnished office at a good location. Rent has been paid at a shop in town and further steps to finish the building are underway. The community will contribute concrete to finish the floor, and plaster and paint for the walls. A local electrician is responsible for installing an adequate electrical system for the office equipment, including a ceiling fan. A

Continued at right

## Your Chance to Become a Missionary...to North Lansing

Tompkins-Cortland Habitat for Humanity is ready to start construction on Amber’s House on Breed Rd. in North Lansing. Delays in obtaining the necessary permits has put the project behind schedule. The goal is to have Amber and her family in their new home before the end of November.

Habitat has about half of the money necessary to complete the house. VBS has made the build their mission project (see note at right) and will be looking for your returnable cans and bottles.

The other need is for volunteers for construction. Individuals may sign up to volunteer by going to: [www.tchabitat.com](http://www.tchabitat.com). Work days will be Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings. Contact [teressaj7@yahoo.com](mailto:teressaj7@yahoo.com) for information on the status of work and needs for special skills. Watch for information on special work days reserved for LUMC. Be ready to sign up. Here’s a chance to be a go on a mission trip and help someone have a home without ever leaving town.—*Dave Nichols*

### “Susu” Program (concluded)

secure door will be built and painted, and furniture will be installed. Lastly a sign advertising the business will be made to put in place above the door. All of these expenses will be paid with funds earned from the micro-credit program, or donated by local community members. At the conclusion of the project, there will have been 831.20 Ghana Cedis (¢), or \$573.24 US dollars, contributed by the community, which is 32% of the total project cost.

Employees of the EPDRA Micro-credit Program will gain valuable proposal writing, computer, accounting, and bookkeeping skills

### VBS Focuses on Amber’s House

#### *The Secret’s Out of the Bag!!!*

Want to know what the mission project for VBS will be? We’ll be collecting donations to support the Lansing Habitat for Humanity’s House—“Amber’s House.” This project is open to the whole congregation—we’d love your support! One idea to generate donations is to set aside the money you get back for deposit can and bottles between now and VBS. At our church services and during VBS, we’ll be setting out a “home” to put donations in. If you’d like to join in, please look for the house donation box on Sundays and throw in some spare change or slips for deposit cans/bottles. Every bit counts!

### Summer Picnics

**LUMC summer picnics are scheduled for July 8, hosted by Matt and Kristen Burt, and July 28, hosted by Jackie Baker. On August 12, Frank and Lorrie Phillips will host. You can volunteer to host on August 27! A great opportunity to stay in touch with your church family. Gather around 6:00. Bring a seat, a dish to pass, and something to grill, if you want. Your hosts will have a beverages and a hot grill ready to go.**

through the implementation of this project. These valuable skills will allow them to reach a greater customer base and better serve the community of Dambai. Those customers will then have an extended availability of professional, accurate, and timely savings and loan services.

Local computer specialists are available to help with technical problems and continued training when PCV Hardie finishes her service. The possibility of expanding further to install internet access and branch offices outside of Dambai offers opportunity for continued growth at the completion of this project.—*Holly Hardie*

## Conference Advances and Benevolences

Our North Central New York Annual Conference has designated several mission efforts in our region as projects that the conference supports and that we might consider supporting. On these pages are just a few of them. If you do decide to donate to support one or another of these efforts, remember that every dollar goes to its intended purpose, and no overhead is ever deducted from Advance giving.—*gw*

### **Anti-Poverty Initiative (Syracuse University UMC) Code #1118**

As part of the denomination's renewed commitment to "ministry with the poor," University Church in Syracuse launched the antipov-erty initiative, beginning on the East Side of Syracuse. The goal is to help persons move out of poverty and become able to financially sustain themselves and their families.

The initiative builds on two long-standing ministries of University Church: (1) a food pantry and a clothes closet that are open each Friday, serving about 200 families per month, at a cost of \$60,000 per year (largely underwritten by University Church); and (2) Community-Church Breakfasts, held the second and fourth Sundays of each month, and serving 60 – 80 persons per Sunday, at a cost of nearly \$5,000 per year (again provided by church members).

The new effort focuses on long-term transformation of persons' lives in which persons in poverty receive intensive training (2.5 hours per week for 15 weeks) to write a life plan for themselves for developing needed resources and skills. These "circle leaders" are then matched with two to four "allies" – persons from churches and the community who commit to meet together with their "circle leader" at least monthly for 18 months or longer, in order to help that person achieve his or her goals for moving out of poverty. This approach has proved to be highly successful.—*Pastor Craig French, University United Methodist Church, Syracuse; craigfrench@twcny.rr.com; www.gbgn-umc.org/university.*

### **Bethany Village Code #1029**

Bethany Village in Horseheads offers residential and health-care services for seniors, including independent homes and apartments, assisted living, skilled nursing, rehabilitation, social adult day care and community home care. —*Tom Santobianco, info@bethany-village.org; www.bethany-village.org*

### **Brown Memorial United Methodist Church Code #1109; Syracuse Westside Urban Mission Code #1110**

Located on the near west side of Syracuse, an area of high poverty and cultural diversity, we are one of two designated mission churches in our conference. We provide a neighborhood Sunday School to 25 children & youth; send children & youth to our Church Conference Camps; provide a tutorial program twice a week for youth in addition to housing a Clothes Closet & food pantry. We provide a Talk to a Lawyer program every Monday from 5:30 – 7:30 PM except holidays. AA meets every evening at 6:00 PM. Bible Study meets Tuesdays at noon and a Saturday evening adult fun time meets the 2nd & 4th Saturday at 7:00 PM.

Brown Memorial is the worshiping congregation, and Syracuse Westside Urban Mission is the community outreach mission. These are two initiatives that work together.—*Rev. Elizabeth Morey, jmorey@twcny.rr.com; Donna Kay Campbell, donnakaycampbell@JUNO.COM*

### **Camps, Conferences & Retreat Ministries – Campership Fund Code #1705**

The fund enables children coming from families who cannot afford to pay the full

amount of the summer camp fee, to receive a Campership from Camps, Conferences & Retreat Ministries for the purpose of attending one week of summer camp at Aldersgate or Casowasco. Each year between \$18,000 - \$25,000 is needed to fund this program.—*Joan Newlon, ccrm@ncnyumc.org; www.ncnyumc.org*

### **The Children's Center for the Common Good, Code #1114**

The Children's Center for the Common Good™ has as its primary ministry an internet radio station and web site, www.common-goodradio.org. This web site and radio ministry is devoted to the larger faith community's common goal of sharing hope with children. This mission ministry is focused on digital tools of communication to be a presence for and with children and their families in a media saturated culture. It lifts diverse styles of music, sounds of voices and interpretations of God's amazing love. Music and arts as valid faith expression contributes to the well being of our lives in community.—*Reverend Robin Blair, robin@robinblair.com; www.commongoodradio.org*

### **Dianne Roe, Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT) Code #1701**

Dianne Roe has been with Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT) in Hebron for thirteen years. In her work with CPT she has worked with Israeli and Palestinian organizations in stopping home demolitions, in arranging meetings between Israelis and Palestinians, and in facilitating international and Israeli visits to Palestinians suffering under Israeli occupation. In the spring of 2008 Dianne and others witnessed Israeli military assault on Hebron orphanages which subsequently led to a NCNY conference resolution in support of the orphanages. In August 2008 CPT closed the Hebron project. If the project does not reopen, Dianne still wants to return to Hebron to work on implementing the conference resolution on the orphanages.—*Dianne Roe, vineandfig@aol.com*

### **Folts Homes, Herkimer Code #1412**

Owned by the Methodist Church since 1943 Folts Home was one of the earliest efforts to provide a care community for older persons. Today, the facility provides a continuum of health care services, while still maintaining an independent and dignified style. The Homes provide adult day health services, independent living apartments, adult resident care, short term, respite, palliative and long term care with a specialized unit serving the needs of Alzheimer's patients. The financial support received from the United Methodist Congregations assists in supporting the Chaplaincy Program and aids in the enhancement of programs and services provided to our Residents.—*Linda Cardarelli, Director of Development, lindac@foltshomes.com*

### **Hogansburg United Methodist Church Code #1201**

Hogansburg UMC is a Native American congregation on the Akwesasne Reservation near Massena. They work hard to complete their call to mission and ministry. They are a small congregation, and it is a constant struggle to meet all their financial obligations. Yet, they know God calls them to reach out to others and they are following his call.

The church is used for AA meetings and they have a yearly winter clothing drive. Currently they are organizing the Hogansburg UMC Homework Club. The homework club is a mission that will be taken into one of the schools on the Reservation. Volunteers and a paid tutor will go to the school the last period of the day and help children with their homework. This mission is open to all children. Incomplete homework is a serious problem at the four schools on the Reservation.

There is hope with God's blessings this pilot project will expand into the other three schools.—*Deborah Waldron, Deborah2@twcny.rr.com*



# The Sunbeam

July 2009

Lansing United  
Methodist Church

***Inside:***

**Looking Ahead to Fall Sunday School,  
page 5**

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**Mission to North Lansing, page 9**

Summer schedule

July: Worship in the Park, 9:00

August: Worship at Church, 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@twcny.rr.com](mailto:lumcoffice@twcny.rr.com)

Office manager: Laurie Moskow

To reach the pastor in confidence:

[pastor32@twcny.rr.com](mailto:pastor32@twcny.rr.com)

[www.lansingunited.org](http://www.lansingunited.org)

***T***he Sunbeam is published each month  
by Lansing United Methodist Church.

Please send your news to Glenn Withiam, editor,  
at [grw4@cornell.edu](mailto:grw4@cornell.edu), or use the Sunbeam folder  
near the church office.

Deadline for the next issue is July 15, 2009.