



# *The Sunbeam* April 2018

Lansing United Methodist Church

**Worship 9:00 AM**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM • PLEASE JOIN US!**

**Pastor: Alison Schmied**

**Adult Ministries Coordinator: Karen Veaner**

**Interim Christian Education Coordinator: Debbie Geise**

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**Easter 2018**

## From the Pastor

### Worship Service to Celebrate a Milestone for LUMC

I laid a foundation like a wise master builder according to God's grace that was given to me, but someone else is building on top of it. Each person needs to pay attention to the way they build on it. No one can lay any other foundation besides the one that is already laid, which is Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 3:10-11, CEB)



Dear Friends,  
The completion of our LUMC Forward building expansion and renovation project is a milestone in the life of Lansing United Methodist Church! To celebrate, we will conduct a special worship service on Thursday, April 19, at 7:00 p.m. Bishop Mark C. Webb will preach. District Superintendent Jeff McDowell and several former LUMC Pastors will assist. LUMC children will bake the communion bread in our new LUMC kitchen. The childrens and adult choirs sing. A reception in Fellowship Hall will follow.

A Methodist presence in this area began before the town of Lansing was incorporated in 1817. In 1783, Methodist Circuit Rider William Colbert served this area, forming several Methodist Societies. The societies became congregations, and building projects resulted in the Methodist meeting houses that we know as Asbury, Lansingville, Ludlowville, Myers, and North Lansing Methodist churches. Those churches joined together in the 1960s to create Lansing Methodist church (becoming Lansing United Methodist Church with the 1968 merger with the Evangelical United Brethren).

Every building project causes the church to reconsider who we are, who God has called us to be, and how best to use our available resources to accomplish that calling. Worshipping in Myers Park for 15 weeks during construction last summer, we studied stories of our ancestors in faith who grew in their identity as God's people as they experienced exile and wilderness wanderings.

This fall, we studied Nehemiah's rebuilding of the physical wall that held Jerusalem together, while also gathering and rebuilding the scattered community of faith. Like Nehemiah, we experienced a time when although the walls were completed, we hadn't yet hung the doors in the gates (Neh. 6:1). And in March, the children presented the challenges of another long-ago

continued at right

### Pastor's message (concluded)

building project, the temple built by Zerubbabel.

Since October, we have been in regathering mode. Items are returning from the exile of storage in basements, barns, and spare bedrooms. Some formerly active members have returned, and several new families have visited.

As our generation builds upon LUMC's past, we give thanks for all those who came before us, and for our solid foundation in Jesus Christ. In consecrating the new facility we celebrate the accomplishments that brought us to this point, and we accept God's call to grow beyond the reality of what was into the reality of what could be. I look forward to celebrating with you on Thursday, April 19th!

Blessings,

*Pastor Alison*

### Adult Sunday Forum, Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

*Mere Christianity*, by C.S. Lewis, with Laura Alexander begins April 15

This eight-week study will explore the Christian classic, *Mere Christianity*.

C.S. Lewis became an atheist at the age of 15, according to Wikipedia, when religion became too much of a chore and duty. He became interested in the occult, but was brought back to belief in God and Jesus in discussions with a talented colleague at Oxford, J.R.R. Tolkien, who was a devout Catholic. Lewis in his 30s became one of the strongest voices for Christianity, and joined the Anglican church. (Yes, Tolkien was disappointed by this, but Lewis did not support sectarian differences.)

*Reviews:* "C.S. Lewis is the ideal persuader for the half-convinced, for the good man who would like to be a Christian but finds his intellect getting in the way." —Anthony Burgess, *New York Times Book Review*

From Harper Collins Publishers:

*Mere Christianity* brings together Lewis's legendary broadcast talks in which he set out to "explain and defend the belief that has been common to nearly all Christians at all times." Rejecting the boundaries that divide Christianity's many denominations; C.S. Lewis provides an unequalled opportunity for believers and nonbelievers alike to hear a powerful, rational case for the Christian faith...brilliance that remains strikingly fresh for the modern reader...

*The Wired Word*, with Judy Hinderliter, begins April 8

Confront world news with scripture and hope. The Wired Word pulls topics straight from the headlines and offers thought provoking questions to encourage us to dig deeper. Join in a rich discussion of current events in relation to scripture & everyday life.

## Prayer Stations during Holy Week

by Our Kids in Action Now (K.A.N.) Kids

For their March meeting, the K.A.N. kids focused on prayer—what it is, why it is important to God, when and where we can pray, and what we say when we pray. We were blessed to have Essie Gatewood talk with the children about the role and importance of prayer in her life and how that has affected her faith. We thank Essie very much for her willingness and openness to share this powerful dimension of her faith with us. We had a wonderful discussion about the nature of prayer and whether there are rules and expectations that God has for us when we pray. We looked to what God tells us in His Word and what that means for each one of us. The K.A.N. kids left our meeting understanding that God wants us to be with Him! He wants us to choose to spend time with Him talking to Him and expressing ourselves in whatever form that takes and wherever we may be. The K.A.N. kids would like to invite each of you to strengthen and devote time to your relationship with Jesus during the most heart breaking and gut-wrenching week of our Christian lives.

During Holy Week (March 26-31), the children have set up 12 different prayer stations in particular Sunday School classrooms and in the Fellowship Hall. The interactive, hands-on stations allow you to spend time with Jesus talking with Him and thinking about various aspects of your life and faith such as worry, gratitude, trust, healing, patience, hope, mission, and love.

Available throughout Holy Week, the prayer stations are particularly meaningful to visit before or after Wednesday's Simple Supper and book study (3/28, 5-7 & 7-8 p.m.), Thursday's "Lord, Is It I?" Dramatization (3/29, 7:30 p.m.), or Friday's Good Friday service (3/30, 7:00 p.m.).

Selecting a time during this week of somber reflection and darkness allows you time with our Savior who "is making everything new" (Revelation 21:5) as you participate in these prayer stations that the K.A.N. kids are providing for us this year.

## Baptism Class for Adults

with Pastor Alison and Debbie Geise

Exploring the meaning of Baptism in the United Methodist tradition with children and their parents was such fun that Debbie Geise and Pastor Alison are offering a Baptism class for adults! Regardless of where you are on your faith journey, if you'd like to explore the meaning of baptism with us, we'd love to have you join the class! Please see Debbie or Pastor Alison to sign up.



## Building Consecration and Celebration

Thursday, April 19

On the evening of Thursday, April 19, Lansing United Methodist Church will welcome Bishop Mark Webb to preach at the consecration of our newly renovated facility. Bishop Webb is the spiritual leader of our Upper New York Annual (Regional) Conference of The United Methodist Church."



As we consecrate the new facility, we will celebrate the many past accomplishments that brought Lansing UMC to this point in its history, and accept God's call to grow beyond the reality of what has been in the past into the reality of what can be in God's future.

Youth and children are invited to join in singing during this event. See Diane Withiam.

## "Taste the Bread" Communion Class

On Sunday, April 15, and Thursday, April 19, Pastor Alison and Debbie Geise will be teaching a class about the sacrament of communion and its meaning in the faith formation of our children. The first class will be on April 15 during the Sunday School hour (10:30-11:30 a.m.), and the second will be April 19, after early school dismissal (a bit after noon). The children will come to the church to bake the bread to be used for communion that night at the building consecration celebration.

This is open to all second, third, and fourth graders who would like to participate. This is the 2nd grade Milestone Ministry, but the 3rd and 4th graders who have not had the communion class in the past are also welcome. Parents come to the class to participate alongside their child(ren) in order to support this milestone in their children's lives. Please let Debbie Geise know if you and your child would like to participate. We look forward to another Milestone Ministry experience!

## Native American Sunday, April 15

This special offering nurtures mission with more than 20,000 Native Americans throughout the United States and our annual conference, and provides scholarships for United Methodist Native American seminarians. It also expands the number of target cities receiving mission services in the Native American Urban Initiatives.

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

**1**

EASTER!  
CHRIST IS RISEN!  
Sunrise Service 6:00  
Worship 9:00

K.A.N. 5:30  
Senior High Youth Group 5:30

**2**

Pancakes and Prayers 7:00  
Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30

Wingmen 7:00

**3**

Needleworkers' Group 10:00

LIFT at Crossroads 6:30  
Church Council 7:00

**4**

Women's Bible Study 9:30

Bell Choir 6:00  
Adult Choir 7:00

**5**

**6**

Junior High Youth 7:00

**7**

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

Prayer Shawl Ministry 10:00

**8**

Worship 9:00  
Sunday School and Adult Forum 10:30  
Youth Mission Talents and Goods  
Auction 12:00

Confirmation Class 4:00  
Senior High Youth 5:30  
Youth Mission 6:30

**9**

Pancakes and Prayers 7:00  
Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30

Trustees 7:00  
Wingmen 7:00

**10**

Needleworkers' Group 10:00

**11**

Women's Bible Study 9:30

Bell Choir 6:00  
Adult Choir 7:00

**12**

**13**

OUTWARD! Youth Gathering

Junior High Youth 7:00

**14**

Men's Breakfast 7:00

Robin's Nest Open House  
10:00

Congratulations, Gary and  
Sharey Travis 2:00

**15**

NATIVE AMERICAN SUNDAY  
Worship 9:00  
Sunday School and Adult Forum 10:30  
Communion Class 11:30  
Youth Mission Can and Bottle Drive  
Rescue Mission Dinner 3:00  
Confirmation Class 4:00  
Senior High Youth 5:30

OUTWARD! Concludes

**16**

Pancakes and Prayers 7:00  
Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30

Wingmen 7:00

Sunbeam Deadline Midnight

**17**

Needleworkers' Group 10:00

Worship Committee  
7:00

**18**

Women's Bible Study 9:30

Bell Choir 6:00  
Adult Choir 7:00

**19**

Communion Class  
Following School Dismissal  
Church Directory Photos  
11:30-6:00  
LUMC Building  
Consecration  
7:00

**20**

Junior High Youth 7:00

**21**

Men's Breakfast 7:00

**22**

Worship 9:00  
Sunday School and Adult Forum 10:30

Confirmation Class 4:00  
Senior High Youth 5:30

**23**

Pancakes and Prayers 7:00  
Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30

Wingmen 7:00

**24**

Needleworkers' Group 10:00

**25**

Women's Bible Study 9:30

Bell Choir 6:00  
Adult Choir 7:00

**26**

Interfaith Dinner 6:00  
Location TBD

**27**



Junior High Youth 7:00

**28**

Mens' Breakfast  
7:00

Rummage Setup 9:00

Spring Festival 3:00

**29**

Worship 9:00  
Sunday School and Adult Forum 10:30

Rummage Setup at 11:30; Sorting Continues All Week

Confirmation Class 4:00  
Senior High Youth 5:30

**30**

Pancakes and Prayers 7:00  
Bible Study at Woodsedge 10:30

Wingmen 7:00



Lansing United  
Methodist  
Church

April 2018

## Lansing Youth Mission Talents and Goods Auction Sunday, April 8, 12:00 p.m. at Lansing United Methodist Church

To benefit Lansing Youth Mission work trips for Second Wind Cottages this summer in Newfield and to Guatemala in spring 2019

Where can you get home-cooked dinners delivered to your home, several hours of yardwork, pet walking, or babysitting, baked goods, gift certificates to some of the finest area restaurants and other businesses, music and exercise lessons, and tickets to Cornell athletic events? (and the list goes on.) The answer is the youth mission goods and talents auction.

We'll be set up in time for you to browse our silent and live auction items during coffee hour on April 8. The auction will start after Sunday School; lunch will be available.

Look for the sneak preview list of auction items, which will be on Facebook or at LUMC and All Saints as the auction draws near. We'll also have an "auction item of the day" on Facebook, so stay tuned!

## LUMC's First Annual Spring Festival

Saturday, April 28, 3:00–6:00 p.m.



Please save the date for our first annual Spring Festival. Like our Winter Festival (Game Night), the Spring Festival is for our entire church family, for those of all ages. We will focus on growing in God's grace as we seek to be deeply rooted in His love. Can you guess what we may be doing? Planting! Children's Ministries will be taking responsibility for the beautiful Butterfly Garden that was created outside our Fellowship Hall 20 years ago. We are excited to share activities during the Spring Festival that will aid in the Butterfly Garden flourishing and to adding some new parts created through intergenerational teamwork!

## LUMC Church Family Directory!

Be a part of our new family directory program—we need YOU to make it complete!

Each family will receive a complimentary 8x10 photograph & free directory for participating

Photographers from Lifetouch will be here in Lansing to help us assemble our new church directory.



Photo sittings are Thursday, April 19, 11:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; May 11, 1:00 to 8:00 p.m.; and May 12, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., all at LUMC.  
Call Max in the church office to set up your sitting time. 607-533-4070



## Summer Camp Registration Is Open!

The Upper New York Camp & Retreat Ministry Area is excited to share our 2018 summer camp and retreat programs with you! Discover five awesome sites with over 200 programs. Summer Camp provides endless laughter, meaningful worship, and important friendships. Retreats provide a unique experience in a beautiful setting. Visit our [campsandretreats.org](http://campsandretreats.org) page to discover the best program for you or your child based on age, interests, and sites.

**About paying for summer camp.** LUMC's policy is to make sure all children can go to camp. Financial scholarships are available, and money should not get in the way of going to camp. You do not have to be a member of LUMC or of any church!

## Interfaith Community Dish-to-Pass Dinner

Thursday, April 26, from 6:00–8:00 p.m.

Forest Home Chapel, on Forest Home Drive

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! Neighbors getting to know neighbors. Join us for an evening of good food, fellowship and conversation. All are welcome!



## Rummage Sale! May 4 & 5

Sale dates: May 4 and 5 (8:00–5:00 each day)

—Set-up is April 28 at 9:00 a.m. and April 29 at 11:30 a.m.

The Rummage Sale is an important ministry of the church. Far more than just a way to raise money, it is an outreach to the workers, who share fellowship; the shoppers, who outfit their homes and wardrobes; and to the whole community, far beyond LUMC and Lansing. If you have participated in this ministry for years or are interested in joining us for the first time, all are welcome!

**Please save these dates:**

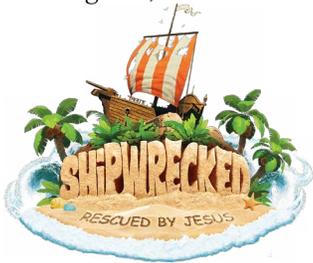
- Saturday, April 28, 9:00. Set up outside, especially raising the tents, but also bringing display items out of storage (if time permits).
- Sunday, April 29, set up inside after Sunday School, about 11:30.
- Monday, April 30, through Thursday, May 3, working inside and outside. Donations are received Monday through Wednesday. There will be sorting, talking, displaying, smiling, pricing, and building friendships.

Questions? Please contact the church at 607.533.4070, me at 607.592.6542 or email [elavlumc@aol.com](mailto:elavlumc@aol.com). Thank you.—Ed LaVigne

## VBS: Save the **New!** Dates!

July 9 through 13

Here's a bit of summer cheer in the winter months: Vacation Bible School with our friends from All Saints and the community will be held for five faith-filled evenings from July 9 through 13, 6:00-8:15. We're looking forward to an unforgettable "Shipwrecked" week of discovering how Jesus rescues us from all of life's storms! VBS is for kids entering Kindergarten through 5th grade, and for the wonderful people who make it happen once they are going into 6th grade and up. If you're interested in getting involved with planning or during VBS, please contact Bonnie Blair, 229-2847, or theblairs@twcny.rr.com.



## New Jersey's "A Future With Hope" Moves Forward

After Superstorm Sandy caused immense damage in New Jersey (and many other places) in October 2012, the United Methodist Committee on Relief helped create "A Future With Hope," an organization dedicated to rebuilding homes of New Jersey residents of modest means. Five years later, the organization is changing its focus while it continues to support the community.

During the recovery effort, A Future With Hope partnered with over two dozen long term recovery groups, funders, and faith-based nonprofits to raise \$17.5 million for recovery efforts. In addition to UMCOR, partners included the American Red Cross, the Robin Hood Foundation, and the Hurricane Sandy New Jersey Relief Fund, Episcopal Relief and Development, the Salvation Army, Lutheran Social Ministries, World Renew, and Christian Public Service.

This remarkable effort rebuilt 254 homes with the help of 11,741 volunteers (including teams from Lansing). More than 400 churches of all denominations in Greater New Jersey assisted in this effort by feeding and housing volunteers, as well as sending their own teams and creating gift packages to welcome homeowners when they were at last able to occupy their newly repaired homes. Nine homes remain under construction with work completion scheduled for June 2018.

Going forward, the organization will work with other community agencies to support Hope Centers. Hope Centers are places of community transformation that offer youth development, education, food security, job development, and social support within communities.



## OUTWARD! Conference Youth Event

April 13-15, Syracuse

The Upper NY Conference Council on Youth Ministries (CCYM) will host OUTWARD! 2018 April 13-15 at the Syracuse-Liverpool Holiday Inn, 441 Electronics Parkway in Liverpool, NY. This is a gathering of youth (grades 7-12) from the 867 local churches and 65 other United Methodist faith communities in 49 of the 62 counties in New York state.

Embrace is the theme based on Mark 11:22b: "Embrace this God-life. Really embrace it, and nothing will be too much for you" (The Message). This year's Outward (formally Up!Word) will focus on how we can put our Inward growth into Outward action. Workshops and activities designed for youth in grades 7-12 include opportunities for hands-on mission work.

The event also features beloved traditions, including late-night options, Spirit-filled worship experiences, and an awesome band, SAMECITY. This year's worship speaker is Michael Jordan, dean of the chapel and chair of the biblical studies, theology and philosophy department at Houghton College.

To attend with Lansing UMC Junior High Youth group, contact Debbie Geise (geise1019@hotmail.com); Senior High Youth group contact Carolee Vink (cvink@twcny.rr.com).

# The Sunbeam

April 2018



Lansing United  
Methodist Church

**EASTER! APRIL 1**  
**SUNRISE SERVICE 6:00 AM**  
**WORSHIP 9:00 AM**

**YOUTH MISSION**  
**TALENT AND GOODS AUCTION**  
**APRIL 8, 12:00 PM**

**NEW BUILDING CONSECRATION**  
**APRIL 19, 7:00 PM**

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## **Lansing United Methodist Church**

32 Brickyard Road, Lansing, NY 14882  
one mile north of the stoplight on  
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Please send your news to Glenn Withiam,  
editor, at [grw4@cornell.edu](mailto:grw4@cornell.edu).  
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