

Please join us for worship in our sanctuary during August at 9:30 Sunday morning

the LUMC August 2007

Sunbeam

lansingunited.org

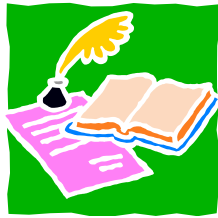


Lansing United Methodist Church
Route 34B and Brickyard Road, South Lansing

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



“Holy Island” at low tide. See page 2.



From the Pastor

Starting with Prayer

In August I officially conclude my eight-week sabbatical. The experience has been everything I'd hoped it would be and more. God has blessed me through these days in wonderful ways. I feel rested, renewed, and ready to return to the work we share together.

One of the insights I gained or regained while on sabbatical was how important it is to have solid foundations in prayer and scripture upon which to build a spiritual life. Having time to pray and read has been a tremendous gift. I hadn't realized how hungry for these things I'd become. I've also become aware of how important prayer is not only to an individual, but for the life of a community. One of the places we visited while in England was Holy Island, a small island on the North Sea near the Scottish border. Holy Island is a "tidal" island, meaning it is accessible twice a day, when the tide is out, but disconnected from the main land when the tide comes back in. Back in the 7th century St. Aidan, an Irish monk, established a monastery on Holy Island for the purpose of bringing the Good News to the Anglo-Saxon peoples of northern England. Nothing remains of his monastery, but Dori, the girls, and I spent a wonderful day walking about this tiny island. The winds off the North Sea are incredible, and the white-capped sea an unforgettable image

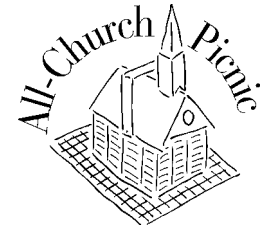
of fearsome beauty. I could hardly imagine living in wooden huts in such a place, but that is how Aidan and his monks lived fourteen hundred years ago. What is even more astounding to me is that prior to erecting a single building on this windswept, rocky island, Aidan and his monks undertook a 40-day vigil of prayer and fasting. Aidan believed only by beginning his work with prayer was there any chance of success. He literally wanted prayer to be the true foundation of his community and its mission.

This is not the way I usually begin a big project. I'm apt to pray after I've begun to work or even after the job is done. I'm rethinking this practice, especially as I begin to look ahead to the fall, a time packed with projects and programs. I invite you to ponder this a bit, too, especially if the ministry of which you are a part will soon be gearing up for a busy fall season. (Remember: ministry happens in the church and out of the church. It's what you do to serve Christ at home, in the workplace, in the community, and in the church). What sort of foundation do you want to lay under your work?

Looking forward to praying and working together again soon!

+Grace and peace,

Pastor B. U.



Church Picnics

We still have two church picnics scheduled for this month. Catch up with friends old and new. Gather around 6:00 with the idea of eating about 6:30 or so. Bring your table service, a dish to share, chairs, and something to toss on the grill if you want. Hosts provide beverage and a hot grill. Rain or shine!

August 8

Hosted by Joyce and Vic Rendano

63 West Groton Road.

From the church head east through South Lansing and then bear north on Rte 34 (Auburn Rd.) to the four corners in North Lansing. Turn right on West Groton Rd. (at Linda's Diner), then at the bottom of the hill bear right on West Groton Rd., up a sharp little grade. Number 63 is on your right, but the house cannot be seen from the road so watch for the mailbox.

August 14

Hosted by Beth and Darrell Bacorn

70 Asbury Rd.

From the church, go east through South Lansing and bear right to the flashing light. Turn right on Triphammer Road. Turn right on Asbury Rd., by the old church. Fifth house on the right, counting the church. Shared driveway, bear right to the green house.

Prayer Chain

Prayers for Healing
Roberta Beach, 57 Jersey Hill Rd. Ithaca
Kelly Deprisco, 2475 E. Stephens St.,
Gilbert, AZ 85296
C.J. Griffin
Deforest Heffron, Elcor Health, 48 Colonial
Dr., Horseheads
Amber Heimbuecher
Thomas Payne, 30 East Meadow Drive,
Ithaca
Erma Powell, RD5, Box 5338, East
Stroudsburg, PA 18301
Harry Reinhart, 615 Ridge Rd.
Frannie Sampson, 1138 Auburn Rd.
(Groton)
Dianne Southard.
Robin Sundquist
Hilda Wilson
Mike Walter

Prayers for support
Robin Eastman and family

Please pray for those serving in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere, including these family members and friends:

Richard Butler	Shaun McCray
Shawn Butler	Travis Potter
Matthew Cornell	Nick Prabhavat
David Ferris	Josh Randles
Robert Gudbranson	Matthew Ravas
Daniel LaBar	Vanessa Valentine
Trevor Judd	Monica VanEvery
	Michael Wolfe

Reflections on Women of Faith

Three years ago, ten women from our church were invited to join women from the Peruville New Testament Church at the Women of Faith Conference in Albany. For some of us it was our first time. We spent the weekend with 10,000 other women from all denominations singing, praying, and praising our God while listening to great testimonies of faith.

Last year we hired our own bus and brought 21 women to Rochester for our second trip together. This year 30 women (25 from LUMC, one from All Saints Roman Catholic Church, two from Ohio, and two from Syracuse) went back to Rochester. Again in song, prayer, and His word, we felt God's presence among us. Our group shared time and meals together and for 24 hours we were family. Alone, I could never express to you the magnitude of this experience at Women of Faith and so here are some thoughts and reflections from those who have attended.

"I absolutely LOVE Women of Faith because being in a room filled with women of God, spiritually energizes me so much that the physical pain that I suffer is worth it. I also enjoy getting more acquainted with the women from our congregation."—*Cheryl Dykeman- Loveless*

"The speakers were very inspirational and I just loved the music. The most memorable speakers were Sheila Walsh, Anita Renfroe, and Carol Kent. I enjoyed the way the speakers incorporated humor in their personal life stories. Each speaker had experienced some kind of tragic event that they were able to deal with through their faith in God. It took me a couple of days to come down from all the excitement of the conference. The Monday following the conference, I put on Sheila Walsh's CD and kept listening to it at work throughout the day. I felt like I was at the conference again. This conference was such a rewarding experience for me. I look forward to attending again next year!"—*Mary Alice Rounds*

"I could never put into words the thrill it was to be involved with the Women of Faith group in Rochester. The excitement of being with 10,000 women all praying and singing was something I will never forget. I think the

best part of the entire weekend was getting to know the women from our church."—*Cindy Howell*

"This was my first time and I hadn't any idea what to expect. I had heard several versions of what it was like. I figured at the very least it would be good for me to have some time away from my guys at home. I was skeptical that it would change me. I was also skeptical about laughing one minute and crying the next. Both were true! I enjoyed being able to get up and sing with these women, cry with these women, and laugh with these women. I have not laughed so much in such a long time! The speakers and singers were all so engaging. Each person takes something a little different from the experience. I enjoyed eating and socializing with all the ladies. The bus ride, at times, was an adventure too!!

Women of Faith gave me a natural high, a boost of confidence in myself and my spirit. I would recommend to anyone who attends, expect little and let God bring the experience to you."—*Karyn Yahn*

"June 2007 presented me with a third opportunity to travel with some remarkable Women of Faith as I continue my own personal "Faith Journey." Women of Faith has

concluded at right

Worship in August

I think there's something really wonderful about Sunday morning worship in August. Summer is in full bloom. By now we've gotten comfortable wearing shorts, are enjoying some of the first fruits of the garden and haven't yet become too overly concerned about fall projects. There's a leisurely feel about worship, which is the way it ought to be. In such an atmosphere, it seems easier to relax and listen to what God is saying to us about our lives, our world, our calling, and our future.—*PB*

August 5—Tenth Sunday after Pentecost: We'll enjoy Holy Communion together this morning and ponder what Jesus means when he calls the economically successful individual in his parable a "fool." Read: Hosea 11:1-11, Psalm 107:1-9, 43; Colossians 3:1-11; and Luke 12:13-21.

August 12—Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost: We'll celebrate the sacrament of baptism, welcoming Gretchen (Moore) and Eric Curry's little Tyler into the company of the "baptized." What does it mean for Tyler and all the baptized members of Christ's "little flock" to have received

Women of Faith (concluded)

provided me a chance to more intimately know my LUMC "Sisters In Christ," as well as meet so many new "Sisters In Christ." The sense of compassion and love that we share for one another and our gracious and loving God continues to overwhelm me. I travel to WOF with great anticipation, looking forward to the familiar speakers and the glorious, uplifting music, and return home filled with great excitement and so many amazing blessings. I find myself looking forward to the 2008 Women of Faith Conference and the many opportunities it will provide.—*Sharon Butler Bowman*

I would encourage every woman in the congregation to try to attend a Women of Faith Conference. God Bless.—*Marilyn Paradise*

"the kingdom?" Read: Isaiah 1:1, 10-20; Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23; Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; and Luke 12:32-40.

August 19—Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost: Jesus tells us this morning (in today's gospel) that he came to bring "division," even suggesting that becoming his disciple may cause conflict in the family. Who needs that? Read: Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19; Hebrews 11:29^12:2; and Luke 12:49-56.

August 26—Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost: What happens when respectable religion clashes with open-hearted compassion? We'll ponder this conflict in Jesus' life and in our own this morning. Read: Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6; Hebrews 12:18-29; and Luke 13:10-17.

Women's Bible Study

Bible study begins on Wednesday, September 19, 2007, at 9:30 AM in the adult Sunday School classroom. All women are invited to attend this informal group study. We will study Galatians and Ephesians. Join us.

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



Lansing united
methodist
church

Note: This calendar is current as of July 19.
For updates to all LUMC events, visit
lansingunited.org to see our virtual church
calendar, and check the bulletin when you're in
church on Sunday.

1

2

3

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

Youth Mission
Cross Cayuga Swim
7:30

5

Worship 9:30
Communion

6

7

Quilt Bee 9:30
Caregivers 10:00

8

Church Picnic
at Rendanos' house
63 West Groton Rd.
6:00

9

Trustees 7:30

10

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

12

Worship 9:30

13

Outreach 7:00

14

Quilt Bee 9:30

Church Picnic
at Bacorns' house
70 Asbury Rd.
6:00

15

16

17

18 Mens' Breakfast
Linda's in
North Lansing
7:00

19

Worship 9:30

Ice Cream Social at Cream at the
Top (King Ferry) 6:00

20

SUNBEAM DEADLINE
12:00 Midnight
Haiti 7:00
Membership 7:00

21

Quilt Bee 9:30

22

23

24

25 Mens' Breakfast
Linda's in
North Lansing
7:00

Lansing Harbor Fest
Myers

26

Worship 9:30

Food Pantry Setup

27

Food Pantry 4:00

28

Quilt Bee 9:30

29

30

Worship Committee 7:30

31

August
2007

LUMC Creates a Living Memorial Fund

The Finance Committee has developed a new type of memorial fund, a perpetual fund known as a living memorial fund, for all memorial gifts received by the church. Here is an explanation of the fund and how it works.

Purpose: The purpose of the living memorial fund is four fold:

- (1) To provide an opportunity for family and friends to offer thanks for the life of a deceased loved one by making a monetary gift to Lansing United Methodist Church;
- (2) To offer comfort and support to the mourning family members by making this gift;
- (3) To continue in perpetuity a measure of the deceased's care and support for the people and mission of Lansing UMC; and
- (4) To provide a financial asset to Lansing UMC to support its mission and ministry.

Organization of the fund:

(1) All funds currently deposited with LUMC's existing memorial fund are transferred to the living memorial fund as of July 1, 2007.

(a) *Transition Policy:* Because of past practice of seeking recommendations from the deceased's immediate family regarding possible uses of memorial funds, Church Council or its designate will contact each family regarding the new living memorial fund. These families may either allow transfer of the funds to the living memorial fund or designate the funds for another use. Those funds will be spent for that purpose by December 31, 2007, but if that is not possible, the unspent funds will be deposited with the living memorial fund.

(b) Memorial donations made after July 1, 2007, are deposited in the living memorial fund, according to the following policy.

(2) Donations made in memory of a deceased person or in honor of a living person will be deposited in the living memorial fund.

(a) The fund secretary will thank the donor on behalf of LUMC and the deceased's family, and see that the donation is properly deposited.

(b) The fund secretary will also regularly provide a list of donors to the immediate family of the deceased.

(3) Funds deposited in the living memorial fund will be invested, and the income earned will be used to fund the mission and ministries of LUMC, according to direction of the Church Council.

(4) Principal of the living memorial fund will not be withdrawn for any purpose, unless approved by a two-thirds majority vote of the Church Council. The concept of the living memorial fund is that any such withdrawal is a "loan to self" that is to be repaid on a set schedule.

(5) *Donations for restricted purposes.*

Donors who choose to give funds for projects other than the living memorial fund are welcome to do so, with the approval of the Church Council, but any such designation must be made at the time of the donation.

The living memorial fund is administered by the Church Council or its designee.

Church World Service School Kits

Hard to believe, but the back-to-school sales are starting. This will give you a chance to pick up some good-price items for the Church World Service school kits. Drop off your donations in the LUMC Narthex, or at the Tops uptown pharmacy.

Note: Because this is a such a large effort, CWS needs each kit to be complete and according to specs. So, please follow the list below, and do not substitute items. As always, cash donations are very welcome, as we pay \$2 per kit to cover shipping, and any spare cash also allows us to purchase more items for our kits.

- One pair of blunt scissors
- One, two, or three pads or notebooks of ruled paper 8-1/2" X 11", containing 140-200 sheets of paper. No filler paper, please.
- One 30-centimeter ruler (12")
- One pencil sharpener
- Six new pencils with erasers
- One large eraser
- Ten to twelve sheets colored construction paper
- One box of 24 crayons
- One 12"W x 14"L finished size, cloth bag with cloth handles and a closure (Velcro, snap, or button)

Youth Mission Plans Cross-Cayuga Swim

Swim date is August 4

(August 11 if the weather threatens)

Each year the team members of the Youth Mission swim across Cayuga Lake to raise funds for their mission trip to Guatemala, scheduled for 2008.

Contact Sandy Conlon or a youth mission member, or pick up a sponsor sheet in the church narthex. Or just write a check to LUMC with memo Youth Mission and drop it in the plate sometime.

The LUMC Hymn Hit Parade

Earlier this summer, our organist, Sharon Powell, asked people to vote on their favorite hymns from the UMC Hymnal. We sang the top ten at the park in July. Here's the list:

1. Here I Am Lord (Tied)
1. Lord You Have Come to the Lakeshore (Tied)
3. Lord of the Dance
4. Amazing Grace
5. How Great Thou Art
6. Hymn of Promise
7. A Mighty Fortress
8. Because He Lives
9. Joyful, Joyful
10. We Shall Overcome

The following hymns got one vote each:

Abide with Me
And Can It Be That I Should Gain
Battle Hymn of the Republic
Children of the Heavenly Father
Christ Is Risen
Come Thou Fount
Faith of Our Fathers
Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah
He Touched Me
I Know Whom I Believed
I Stand Amazed at the Presence
It Is Well with My Soul
Morning Has Broken
On Eagles Wings
Onward Christian Soldiers
Pass It On
Standing on the Promises
The Old Rugged Cross
There's Something about That Name
This Is My Father's World
What a Friend We Have in Jesus
You Satisfy the Hungry Heart



Haiti Work Teams Have Formed

by Barbara Denhoff

It's that time of year again—school supplies are on sale in many stores, and school will be starting in a little over a month, here and in Haiti. So, when you are shopping for back to school, pick up some supplies for Haiti, as well as for Church World Service.

Two administrative work teams are making plans for trips to Haiti this year to make arrangements for our sponsored students in three school programs for 2007-08. The schools are in Banique and Verrettes.

Banique team. Going to Banique School will be Dianne Walter, of LUMC, Trudy and Chelsie Radcliffe (who live in Lansing and attend King Ferry Presbyterian Church), Harry Lockwood (who attends North Spencer Baptist Church), and Donna Darling (who lives in Pulaski and attends Parke UMC). All seasoned travelers to Haiti, this group will leave on August 31 for Banique and return on September 8.

Verrettes team. Going to Verrettes will be Barbara Denhoff (who lives in Waterloo but also represents LUMC), Dean Benware (LUMC), Peter and Carol Loveland (also of Waterloo UMC), and Larry Driscoll (Seneca Falls UMC). Barbara and Dean have been going to Verrettes for many years, while Peter, Carol, and Larry are new to Haiti this year. The Lovelands will be working primarily with Mitspa School (which was founded by a graduate whom we supported in Ecole la Providence), as well as helping Dean and Barbara with the Ecole la Providence program.. Larry will be working with secondary students, whose letters he has been translating for two years. This team will leave on September 6 and return on September 22, with the exception of Barbara who will return home on October 4.

Ships passing in the night. This is an exciting year for LUMC's mission to Haiti. For the first time ever, our two teams will spend a day and night together. On Friday, September 7, the teams will coincide at the Methodist Guest House in Port au Prince. The Verrettes group will just be arriving, while the Banique team will be departing for the U.S. What a wonderful time that will be for all to get acquainted and share experiences and ideas.

We ask you to keep us all in your prayers and your thoughts while we are traveling and working as your representatives in Haiti.

Gulf Coast Work Team

October 13-21, 2007

Dr. Sylvia Reimer, who is one of our conference missionaries, is leading a work team to Pascagoula, Mississippi, from October 13 through 21. If you'd like to take your turn at helping rebuild the Gulf Coast, contact Dr. Reimer in Watertown at 315-788-5442 or marsyl5141@aol.com.

Our Missionaries

In addition to the missionaries we send to Haiti and Guatemala, as explained elsewhere in this Sunbeam, we also support United Methodist missionaries around the world, through our apportionment payments and special giving, known as advance specials.

Here is one of the missionaries we support.

Helen Sheperd

Helen Sheperd is a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church serving in Mongolia, East Asia.

Based in the capital city, Ulaanbaatar, Helen is working to develop a United Methodist mission presence through her work with the Grace Hospice home care program and the Palliative Care Association of Mongolia. The expansion of this home care program is being made to increase the number of patients served, as well as exploring the possibilities of involvement in the hospice programs in the countryside.

As a nurse, Helen will be helping to establish a medical clinic for people in the area of the UMC Mission Center in one of the economically poorer areas of this city of 925,000 residents. In addition to the children's programs, Bible study classes, and English classes, there is a great need for available health care for the people in this part of Ulaanbaatar.

Before her current assignment, Helen served as a teacher at the College of Nursing in Seoul, South Korea as well as director of

the Severance Hospice Program, which is a project of the College. In addition to her work with Koreans, she had the opportunity to meet several Mongolian doctors as they studied English while furthering their medical training at Severance Hospital. After traveling to Mongolia as a part of a hospice teaching team, Helen felt called to request a transfer to Mongolia where a hospice nurse was requested.

Prior to her commissioning as a GBGM missionary, Helen was the director of Heartland Home Hospice, Clinicare, Kansas City, Kansas from 1989-1991 after having served as a staff nurse from 1980-89 in hospice home care for Clinicare Family Health Services, Inc. Before beginning her work in hospice care, she worked as a nurse at Spofford Home for Children in Kansas City. From 1973-75 Helen worked at the head nurse of the psychiatric unit of Bethany Medical Center in Kansas City.

A native of Ann Arbor, MI, Helen holds a diploma in nursing from Bronson Methodist Hospital School of Nursing in Kalamazoo, MI; a B.A. in Psychology from Park College in Parkville, MO; and a M.S. in Social Gerontology from Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg, MO.



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The Sunbeam

August 2007
**Lansing United
Methodist
Church**

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**Worship in the sanctuary during August
9:30 AM**

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

Fax: 533-4070 (during office hours only)

E-mail: lumcoffice@twcnny.rr.com

Office manager: Mindy Dahl

To reach the pastor at home: 533-4191

pastor32@twcnny.rr.com (in confidence)

www.lansingunited.org

The Sunbeam is published each month by
Lansing United Methodist Church.

Please send your news to Glenn Withiam, editor,
at grw4@cornell.edu, or use the Sunbeam folder
near the church office.

Deadline for the next issue is August 20, 2007.