



The newsletter of University Lutheran Church and One Community Lutheran Campus Ministry at Michigan State University

Mark Your Calendars . . .

National Quilt of Valor Sewing Day

Saturday, Feb. 5
Sew at home ~ Zoom at noon

Pub Theology

Tuesday, Feb. 22 at 7 p.m.
Zoom (call 332-2559 for link)

Food Movers

Thursday, Jan. 24 - 3:30 p.m.
Drive thru distribution

Ash Wednesday

Mar. 2
Possible return to in-person worship



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The Spirit of Christmas

A reflection on the outdoor Christmas Eve service . . .

The spirit of the holidays has always been my favorite time of year. It is not a complete surprise since my given name is Venceslaus which origins date back to St. Wenceslaus or as the carol goes "Ole St. Wenceslaus came down the feast." Maybe my parents knew something when they gave me that name.



Christmas Eve in the ULC parking lot.

Anyway, Christmas time has always been a time of celebration of gratitude and fellowship with others. These past 23 months have forced us to rethink how we are in community with others. Our Christmas holy night celebration was special in many ways. The gentle snow fall and crisp air created a majestic atmosphere to be in community as we celebrate Christ's birth. I was especially thankful being able to take communion with my church family. It reminded me of the true meaning of Christmas that the birth of Christ and the goodness he brings us all.

Peace and Joy be with you always!

Vennie Gore

Worship Expressions, Thirsting for Justice

Sunday, Feb. 20 - 10 a.m.

Live on Facebook at 10 a.m.

With live instrumental music at 9:45 a.m.

Special guests: Rev. Lamont Anthony Wells, preacher
and Zurich Dawson, vocalist

"Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, 'Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.' " John 7:37-39

More details on page 6.

Moving Toward Worshiping Together

As I write this in mid-January 2022, I find it hard to believe that I'm still writing about and we're still dealing with COVID nearly two years after the pandemic began. But that is where we are.

Our COVID Task Force has met a couple of times and put together some recommendations that I think will be very helpful. The Council has adopted these recommendations as our new COVID policy. We anticipate and hope that we will begin in-person worship on Ash Wednesday, Mar. 2, as long as COVID cases come down significantly from the all-time high we've seen this past month. The Council will make that decision at its February meeting.

Elsewhere in the Lux you will find details of the new COVID policy for returning to in-person worship, but it will include expecting that those who attend in-person will have been vaccinated and boosted if they are eligible, along with other precautions. These precautions and the expectation for vaccinations are for your own personal protection, the protection of others in the congregation, and the protection of the community at large. Having vaccinations and a booster is part of



Worship in the ULC Sanctuary, October 2019.

the way we “love our neighbor” as followers of Jesus.

I just connected with someone who has been at Sparrow this month and this person commented how Sparrow is at 100 percent capacity and how COVID patients are lining the hallways because there are no beds available. He also heard two patients call out, “I’m too young to die – just give me the vaccine.” We obviously are not through this pandemic and difficult time yet.

What is so important for making it through this pandemic is for everyone to get their vaccines and booster. Until this happens, we will not put the pandemic behind us. It is also why the Council has said that vaccinations and boosters are “expected” for those who attend in-person worship if they are eligible.


It is also important to say that even when we return to in-person worship, it will not look the same as worship before the pandemic. Again, this is for the protection of the community. Everyone will be required to wear a mask appropriately (covering mouth and nose). There will not be communal singing. Social distancing will be required. Communion will be with prepackaged elements in the pews. We will also not have a coffee hour following worship, and people are asked to do any fellowship after worship outside the building.

This policy was written after members of the COVID Task Force reviewed best practices used by other congregations and with the desire to provide appropriate protection to ULC members and the community. Of course, because the pandemic is so fluid, we will need to be flexible and adjust these policies if the pandemic dictates.

I’m grateful for the work of the COVID Task Force and the Council’s wisdom and leadership as we negotiate the pandemic. Most of all, I’m grateful for God’s presence in the midst of a trying and difficult time.

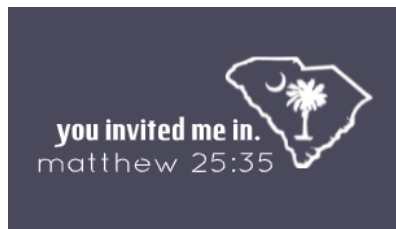
Trusting in God’s presence,

Pastor Gary

	<p>Wednesday, March 2 at 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>If community Covid numbers are low enough, worship will be held in-person according to ULC Covid policies, and on Facebook. If numbers remain high, worship will be live streamed on Facebook. Watch for more information in the weekly emails and on the website.</p>
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Alternative Spring Break is scheduled for March 6-12

With Covid numbers higher than we ever expected, our hope remains to take students on Alternative Spring Break to Charleston, SC where we will serve with Habitat for Humanity. We will continue to make



decisions concerning our students' safety, health, and well-being with utmost care in heart and mind. Please continue to pray with and for our students in

campus ministry, and for everyone in schools who face seemingly impossible decisions as students, educators, and staff on a daily basis due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

Upcoming Events



Nicole McCarthy
She/Her/Hers
Program Innovator
Living Water Ministries

We are very much looking forward to February when students return to campus from remote learning. Our February speaker in Queer Theology is Nicole McCarthy, Program Innovator with Living Water Ministries (LWM). Nicole is married to her wife, Pastor Kristin McCarthy and they have a 10-month-old son, Parker. As the program innovator, Nicole is

responsible for the planning and implementation of all programs Living Water Ministries offers as well as hiring summer staff and recruiting volunteers.

Prayerfully Consider being a Conversation Partner for Friendship House MSU

What is a Conversation

Partnership? The opportunity for international students to meet one-on-one each week with an American English speaker for individualized help.

How often do these partnerships meet? Typically, the partners meet once a week for about 60 - 90 minutes.

Where do the partnerships meet? Partnerships can start out at Friendship House MSU (929 Server Drive, East Lansing) if you both are vaccinated and willing to "mask up" since it is a safe and comfortable environment for the students. In light of the ongoing pandemic, meetings can begin virtually and once the environment allows and a rapport and mutual trust have been



established, partnerships can shift to meeting at the Friendship House, a coffeehouse, or over lunch, or at the American partner's home or church. We ask that the partners let us know where and when they are meeting, for safety's sake.

What do you need to know to be a Conversation Partner? You already know it: English. You also have the motivation to want to help

someone from another country who often feels homesick, isolated, and culturally shocked.

What is it that International partners are looking for? No matter what is discussed, whether English is approached from a formal or informal teaching style, the Internationals are looking for friendship.

What do I do if I am interested?

You can complete an application found on our website <http://friendshousemsu.global/> under the "Get Involved" tab or you can contact me at 517-657-7778 or friendshousemsu@gmail.com.

*Dan Winter
Executive Director.
Friendship House MSU*

Worship Wednesday Resumes

Mark your calendars! Worship Wednesday will resume Feb. 2 at 4:15 p.m. on Zoom.

Until then, our leaders are working together to create NEW supply kits for our students to enjoy an extraordinary Epiphany-Easter season in Worship Wednesday with ULC!

You and your families are held close in prayer as you faithfully navigate yet another season of Covid-19 with



children. You are not alone, and we join you in the call to help keep our kids healthy and safe. It's what Jesus would do!

Our team has decided that this season snacks and supplies will be distributed by contact-free delivery. One of our leaders will gladly coordinate with you for delivery to your home before Feb. 2. If you do not want to have supplies delivered to your home for any reason, or if you would rather pick up at church, please let me know.

Pastor Haley Vay

The Gift of Camp Freely Given

We've got exciting news for the summer of 2022! There will be **no registration fees** for any of our campers at Stony Lake in 2022!

In addition, every camper will receive a **complimentary t-shirt and snacks from our camp store** at no charge! Camp has always been a gift in the lives of those who attend, and now it is a gift given freely for all!

We're looking forward to seeing you in 2022! It's going to be our best summer yet!

For more information, please talk with your pastors and visit www.ELCALivingWater.com/ourvision

Pastor Haley Vay



**NO REGISTRATION FEES IN 2022
COMPLIMENTARY T-SHIRT & SNACKS
FROM THE CAMP STORE**

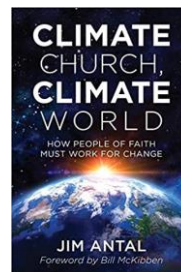
The Greater Church

Synod Book Study – Climate Change and the Church

The North/West Lower Michigan Synod Environmental Stewardship Task Force invites you to join a five-week book study of *Climate Church, Climate World – How People of Faith Must Work for Change* by Jim Antal. The study will meet via Zoom on Thursdays from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. beginning Feb. 10.

This group is intended for those of us who feel concerned, anxious,

overwhelmed, perhaps isolated, disappointed by the Church's response and bewildered about what our response could be. One hoped for outcome is for us to feel encouraged, supported, even accountable by and to one another in this struggle.



Register now at <https://bit.ly/ClimateChangeClimateWorld>. If you have questions, contact Pastor Erick Johnson (erickj74@gmail.com) or Pastor John Burow (pastorjburow@yahoo.com). You can purchase the book in paperback or Kindle format on Amazon.

Judy Kindel

"Saving Jesus Redux" Series Concludes in February

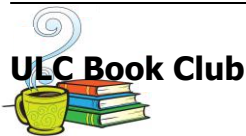
This month we'll view the final three episodes of the riveting 12-part DVD series, "Saving Jesus Redux," led by Pastor Gary and featuring a star-studded cast of theologians. It has been so well-received and thought-provoking that we've decided to follow it with one additional forum entitled, "Saving Jesus Redux REPLAY" during which we'll review two or three of the



most provocative segments and spend time in further discussion about them.

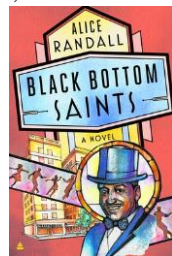
Feb. 6: The Atonement
Feb. 13: The Resurrection of Christ
Feb. 20: Why Jesus is Worth Saving
Feb. 27: Saving Jesus Redux "REPLAY"

Linda Trevarthen



A Visit to Detroit's Black Bottom Neighborhood

In February the ULC Book Club will meet on Thursday, Feb. 17, at 10 a.m. to discuss *Black Bottom Saints* by Alice Randall. Set in Detroit's Black Bottom neighborhood, the book recounts memories of a gossip columnist, Joseph (Ziggy) Johnson, as he looks back at his life and the music, sports, politics and extraordinary people that made



Black Bottom a storied and renowned place to live.

As always, we will continue to monitor Covid numbers and decide closer to the meeting if we will meet via Zoom or in person. ULC Book Club meets the third Thursday of every month through the

month of May. If you would like to join us, please contact Beth Rahe

at bwojan1@gmail.com or Mary Kotnik at mkotnik@comcast.net so we can add you to our email list and keep you informed about what books we are reading and where and how we will meet.

Looking ahead, in March we will read *The Firekeeper's Daughter* by Angeline Boulley.

Beth Rahe and Mary Kotnik

Earthkeeping News

Climate Change Affects Us All

The climate crisis is here, NOW. Climate change has now touched every nation on the planet, submerging shores, burning forests, flooding fields and drying out rivers. After decades of procrastination, the world now has just a few short years left to slash greenhouse gas emissions in half or face irreversible consequences.

Between the sunshine and the wind, we as a country have the potential to run our society on clean energy, today and in the future. While federal laws hold the power to make significant change in the direction of reducing emissions, more can be done at the state and local level. On a positive note, in 2020 on the state level, Governor Whitmer announced that she was committing Michigan to a 100 percent carbon-neutral economy by 2050.

At the local level this year was the creation of the Capital Area Chapter of Michigan Interfaith Power and Light.

This group of about 8-10 Lansing area faith-based congregations is joining together to promote transformative climate action and climate justice in our community.



Also, at the local level, ULC members have committed to practicing stewardship of God's creation by supporting several energy reduction projects. The major ones have been installing LED lighting throughout the building and parking lot and the installation of rooftop solar panels for our building.

The above examples illustrate how tackling our climate challenges can be done when citizens find value in seeking solutions at every level. By speaking up and actively participating in measures that thwart a rapidly deteriorating environment, we have hope that we can pass on a livable earth to future generations.

Judy Kindel

Worship Expressions, Thirsting for Justice

“Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and let the one who believes in me drink.

As the scripture has said, ‘Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.’” John 7:37-39

The above bible verse is from the Narrative Lectionary reading for Sunday, Feb. 20, and is the foundation or cornerstone for *Worship Expressions, Thirsting for Justice*.

This powerful service of music and the word will be led in person by two very special guests and friends of ULC. Our preacher for this service will be Rev. Lamont Anthony Wells of Harlem, NYC and our special vocal artist will be Zurich Dawson of Sacramento, CA. Live instrumental music will be provided by John Dale Smith, piano; Chuck Page, bass; Rick Cote, drums; and Steve Sneed, guitar.

Rev. Lamont Anthony Wells of Harlem, NYC has previously engaged with ULC in our 2021 Lenten Series on Racial Justice and as a speaker in One Community Campus Ministry. He is the Program Director for Campus Ministry in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (LuMinNetwork). He is also the current National President of the African Descent Lutheran Association (ELCA). A dynamic

speaker and prophetic preacher, Rev. Wells is frequently called to address organizations, churches, conferences, convocations, retreats, and workshops in various public, social, and ecumenical communities. His prophetic message of ecumenism and social justice motivates him as a leader, team builder, and community organizer.

Zurich Dawson has recorded several music videos for ULC's online worship services, as well as reading the role of Jesus in the 2021 Passion Play. Zurich is a Detroit native who discovered his passion for performing right here in Lansing, MI. It all began when he was cast in a musical revue in April 2010 at Lansing Community College titled *Swing City*, directed by Janine Novenske Smith. From there, and within a year's time he joined the cast of five other musical/theatrical productions. He'd been bitten by the showbiz bug and had feature roles in



several hit Riverwalk Theatre shows, including *Smokey Joe's Cafe*, *Hairspray* and *Caroline, or Change*, which earned him his first Pulsar (City Pulse) nomination in 2011. Zurich currently lives in Sacramento, CA, with his husband, and minpin, Dash. He works as a Regional Manager in the property

management industry, and as a local inspirational vocalist. He is honored to be a part of such an incredible worship experience, and back where it all began, among a talented group of musicians, and in the exact space he called home for many of his developmental performing years.

Please join us for this very special service.

“God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they will be satisfied.” Matthew 5:6

*Janine Novenske Smith
Director of Music*

February Outreach of the Month Synod Disaster Relief Fund

February's Outreach of the Month is our North/West Lower Michigan Synod Disaster Relief Fund. This is a fund that is used to send disaster relief money very quickly when a disaster strikes somewhere in the synod. In 2020, funds were sent to Midland, Gladwin, and Saginaw Counties in response to the massive flooding that caused so much damage. Synod Disaster Relief funds are sometimes also used to help in a disaster in another synod.



This past December, Disaster Relief funds were sent to the Indiana-Kentucky Synod in response to the tornadoes that devastated several towns in December. Your gift to this Outreach of the Month will ensure that when disaster strikes in our synod, we will be able to respond quickly and effectively.

Pastor Gary



Prayers & Squares Chapter 163

300,000th Quilt of Valor Distributed!

In a note from the national Quilts of Valor Foundation - QOVF has passed the 300,000 mark! That means more than 300,000 veterans and members of the Armed Forces have been awarded a Quilt of Valor since this program began.

Due to the number of people affected by the omicron virus, National Quilts of Valor Sewing Day, Saturday, Feb.5, will NOT be held in the Fellowship Hall as we had hoped. Instead, kits will be available for volunteers to sew at home. We are aiming for a Zoom session at noon to share our progress with one another.

While we will miss the in-person work session, this approach will allow QOV to be made in the safety of our homes. Please contact me at bobbieanddavis80@gmail.com or 517-256-9452 if you would like a QOV kit delivered to your home.

On Tuesday, Jan.18, a representative of St. Vincent's Catholic Charities, the local organization in charge of refugee resettlement, picked up three reconditioned sewing machines (two 2-yard pieces of fabric and thread went with each machine), quilts, knitted blankets, potholders, and children's pajamas for the refugees from Afghanistan who are now here in the greater Lansing area.

P & S paid to have the machines cleaned and ready to welcome these new neighbors. We would appreciate any help to defray the cost. Donations should be labeled for Prayers & Squares. Thank you.

Stay safe everyone!

Bobbie Davis



Prayers and Squares donated several bags of quilts to the Baby Pantry at Trinity Lutheran Church in New Era, Michigan. They were made by our ladies and a lovely donation from Sticks n Strings Yarn Shop in Old Town. Thanks to Liz and Susan Christensen for this partnership.



Mentoring In-person Resumes!

The month of January was very special for Kids Hope USA mentors. We finally were able to meet with our students after many months of waiting. Last year we tried to do virtual mentoring, which was quite challenging, and in some cases impossible. When school began last fall, students were in-person, but visitors were not allowed in the building.

In November our volunteers received special permission to enter Forest View for mentoring. At that point Abby Nowiski, the Student Support



Specialist for the school, contacted teachers asking them to fill out Student Referral Forms for at-risk students. Once she had a list of student names, she contacted families about Kids Hope USA providing a mentor. Parents needed to fill out a permission form and return it if they were interested.

The ULC Kids Hope USA ministry now has 12 mentors, so we were able to accommodate mentoring for 12 students. Three mentors began before Christmas and the rest started in January. Out of the 12 students, seven were mentored before the

pandemic and continue with their same mentor. Four of the five new students are kindergarten or 1st grade.

It's hard to describe the great joy mentors now have in seeing their students in-person. Beth Rahe happened to be by the front doors to the school when her mentee walked in with his parent. When he saw Beth for the first time in a long time, he ran up to her and gave her a big hug. What a wonderful surprise!

Barbara Kissling
ULC Kids Hope USA Director

Speaking of Racial Justice: Police Reform

Early history

- During the early 1700s, the Carolina Colony established “Night Watch” patrols dedicated to preventing enslaved persons from rebelling and escaping. Noted for maintaining social and economic order by helping plantation owners recover their freedom-seeking “human property,” some of the Night Watches evolved into regular town police forces.
- The era of modern policing began during the late 1700s and early 1800s, when the explosive population driven by the Industrial Revolution led to an equally explosive growth in crime and civil unrest.
- Policing in colonial America was carried out by a combination of citizen volunteers along with elected sheriffs and local militias.
- After winning its independence from England in 1783, America’s need for professional policing grew rapidly. The first federal law enforcement agency, the United States Marshals Service, was established in 1789.
- The first full-time, dedicated city police department in the United States was established in Boston in 1838.
- The era of city political machines during the late 19th century brought the first obvious cases of police corruption. Local political party ward leaders, many of whom owned bars or ran street gangs, often appointed and paid off high ranking police officials to allow illegal drinking, gambling, and prostitution in their precincts.

1929

Police corruption worsened during prohibition, prompting President Herbert Hoover to appoint the 1929 Wickersham Commission to investigate the procedures and practices of police departments nationwide. The Commission’s findings resulted in a drive to professionalize policing and redefine the role of the “career cop” that continues today.

1960s

President Lyndon Johnson created the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice. The Commission's final report, issued in 1967, has been described as “the most comprehensive evaluation of crime and crime control in the United States at the time.” It laid out reorganization plans for police departments and suggested a range of reforms. Several of the Commission's findings related to the poor treatment of juvenile offenders.

A series of U.S. Supreme Court decisions under the Warren Court led to important changes in policing, with respect to civil rights and constitutional law.

Mapp v. Ohio (1961) found that evidence obtained in violation of the Fourth Amendment protection against "unreasonable searches and seizures" may not be used in criminal prosecutions.

Miranda v. Arizona (1966) required that criminal suspects must be informed of their right to consult with an attorney and of their Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination prior to questioning by police. These decisions began to set national standards for policing.

1970s and 1980s

Special commissions, such as the Knapp Commission in New York City during the 1970s, have been used to bring about changes in law enforcement agencies. Civilian review boards (permanent external oversight agencies) have also been used as a means for improving police accountability. Civilian review boards tend to focus on individual complaints, rather than broader organizational issues that may result in long-term improvements.

1990 to 2010

The 1994 Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act authorized the United States Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division to bring civil (“pattern or practice”) suits against local law enforcement agencies, to rein in abuses and hold agencies accountable. As a result, numerous departments have entered into consent decrees or memoranda of understanding, requiring the agencies to make organizational reforms. This approach shifts focus from individual officers to police organizations.

The Department of Justice also has a component called the Community Relations Service. Over the years, the Community Relations Service (CRS) has helped police departments and communities all over the country come to grips with the difficult task of maintaining law and order in a complex and changing multicultural society. Frequently, these efforts have involved minority citizens' complaints about police behavior, use of force, and hate groups.

In a 2003 document titled Principles of Good Policing: Avoiding Violence Between Police and Citizens, the DOJ Community Relations Service outlines a two-level strategy for reducing potential for violence by police: To reduce the potential for violence, police executives must inculcate the values articulated by policy and procedure

Continued on page 9.

Podcast Title: Black and Blue – June 24, 2021, 41 minutes

Podcast Link: [Into America with Trymaine Lee](#)

Summary: After George Floyd’s murder, police departments across the country faced criticisms of systemic bias and a failure to reflect the communities they patrol, and so many worked to enact reforms. But diversifying efforts have been underway for years inside the Miami Police Department. Roughly a quarter of all officers in Miami PD are Black, which is a much greater percentage than the city’s overall Black population. Over the past year, Black officers have been pushing for even more reform within the department. One of those officers is Sergeant Stanley Jean-Poix, President of the Miami Community

Listening to
Racial Justice



Police Reform

Police Benevolent Association, the second oldest Black police union in the country. Jean-Poix joined the force over 20 years ago with the goal of enacting change from within the department. He led a fight against the former police chief Jorge Colina, alleging he oversaw a department that treated Black officers unfairly, and let racist cops slide. Colina resigned last year.

But can true change come from the inside? James Valsaint, a Miami-based artist and activist, doesn’t think so. Valsaint was born in Little Haiti, one of the neighborhoods that

Sgt. Jean-Poix patrols. His interactions with the police growing up were not positive, whether the officer was Black or White. Valsaint got active following the killing of Trayvon Martin; he joined the Dream Defenders, who fought against Florida’s Stand Your Ground law, and later helped to organize actions in Miami following George Floyd’s murder. For Valsaint, defunding the police is just the first step on the long march to police abolition. For these two men, the goal of reducing police violence against Black Americans is shared, but they see different paths forward. Trymaine brings these two men together for a frank and challenging conversation on the progress and limitations of police reform. (From Episode Notes)

Understanding Racism Workshop – March 18-19



Would you like to learn more about racism from a Christian perspective? If so, plan to attend the next Lansing area virtual CORE workshop. The cost is \$75 for the two-day workshop and workbook. Over twenty ULC members have attended and highly recommend this life-changing workshop.

To learn more, visit www.cornow.org or register online at <https://bit.ly/COREMarch2022>. Scholarships are available.

ULC Racial Justice Team

Speaking: Police Reform continued from page 8.

into two levels of the police department: the administrative level and the "line" or operational level. To accomplish the task of value-transition on one level without doing so on the other is futile, for no change in police behavior will result.

In addition to the two levels of the organization which the police executive must address, two dimensions of law enforcement must also be addressed: the police culture and various community cultures. Thus, to effect change in police-community violence, police executives must take a multidimensional approach. Traditional

approaches to reform have been one-dimensional and have met with little success.

2010 to present

Some law enforcement agencies in the United States in the early 2000s and 2010s began to emphasize de-escalation as a method of conflict resolution and obtaining voluntary compliance. There are also emphases on community policing to build relationships and community trust in law enforcement; the evidence-based policing approach of using data to assist with decision-making; and the importance of civilian oversight of police work.

The George Floyd Justice in Policing Act (2020) which sought to establish new requirements for federal law enforcement on both the use of deadly force and less lethal force passed the House but not the Senate.

“Fortunately, despite the refusal of too many members of Congress to confront the truths of our current system of policing, a number of states and localities have recognized the urgency of this moment and have taken steps to address police violence and egregious misconduct through landmark accountability legislation, and bold, creative interventions to transform public safety.” There has also been an explosion of support for BLM and others who protest police-initiated violence toward Black and Brown citizens particularly after George Floyd and Ahmaud Arbery’s murder and subsequent conviction of those police officers responsible.

Source: www.naacpldf.org and www.wikipedia.org

ULC Council met via Zoom on Jan. 19 and here are highlights from this meeting:

Discussion this month centered around welcoming new council members, discussing a funding request, and reviewing recommendations from the COVID task force. Council welcomed several new members to council and set the meeting schedule for 2022.

- Council supported ULC's commitment for \$10,000 to Living Water



Council Notes

Ministries and will develop a funding plan, including an application to the endowment fund.

- Moved to adopt the recommendations from the COVID task force, emphasizing that vaccinations are expected of all those in attendance and noting

that we will revisit the start date at our February meeting based on latest COVID numbers.

Emily Uebel
ULC Council Secretary

December Attendance

December 5: 1078
December 12: 924
December 19: 882
December 24: 1024
December 26: 656

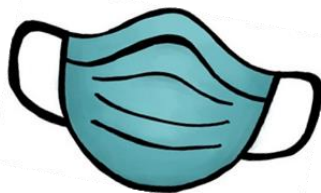
New COVID Policy Adopted

At its January Council meeting, the ULC Council received policy recommendations from the ULC COVID Task Force. The ULC COVID Task Force consisting of Rick Milligan (Chair), Pastor Gary Bunge, Marge Mahoney, Larry Wagenknecht and Mary Werkman, met twice and developed the recommendations after a review of COVID policies and other best practices of churches similar in size to ULC.

Council adopted the following policy to guide us moving forward, recognizing current best practices to provide appropriate protection to all individuals worshipping at ULC. Council will be discussing going back to in-person worship during its February Council meeting.

ULC Covid Policy (Adopted Jan. 19, 2022)

1. Consider going back to in person worship beginning on Ash Wednesday (March 2nd).
2. Require that masks be worn by all. Signs will remind people how to properly wear them. A greeter will be at the door to provide masks if someone should come without one. Ushers will have masks available as well.
3. Require social distancing (at least six feet) and remind worshipers not to hug or shake hands.
4. Anyone who has been exposed to Covid or is feeling sick should only attend online and not in person.



5. A sign-in sheet requiring name, phone, email for those who have one, will be spaced out on tables in the Narthex for contact tracing should it become necessary.
6. Encourage worshipers who are in high risks groups to consider worshipping online instead of in-person.
7. For those who are eligible, vaccines and boosters are expected for in-person worship.
8. There will be no communal singing.
9. The offering plate will be on a table in back where worshipers can drop off their offerings when entering.
10. There will be no sharing of the peace.
11. After church, there will be no coffee hour. Any gathering to socialize should be done outdoors. Worshipers should not loiter in the Narthex after worship and ushers will encourage people to move outside.
12. Staff and congregants must be flexible and recognize that plans may change.

This policy is subject to review. Changes are possible if the pandemic dictates.

Larry Wagenknecht
ULC Covid Task Force



Fifty Years on Harrison Road

The University Lutheran Church building on Harrison Road in East Lansing is 50 years old! The dedication ceremony was held on Sunday, January 30, 1972. An article in the 1972 January/February issue of Lux describes the ceremony.

Dedication Ceremonies Will Start with a Processional

The dedicatory ceremonies at the Harrison Road building start at 3 p.m. on Sunday, January 30, but all members are urged to be there at 2:45 to assemble for the opening processional. The program calls for the assembly to take place outside the main entrance if the weather is reasonable or in the new Fellowship Hall on the lower floor if the weather is more typical for January.

The processional will be led by the choir and other musicians followed by the ushers, members, officers and finally the pastors and guests. The liturgical items of the church will be carried by the church officers.

Following the opening liturgy designed specifically for the event, the sermon will be given by the Reverend Don Hetzler, executive secretary of the National Lutheran Campus Ministry. The sermon will be followed by greetings from Bishop Robert L. Wietelmann of the Michigan District of the American Lutheran Church and by Dr. Howard Christensen, assistant to the bishop of the Michigan Synod, the Lutheran Church in America.

Special music will be provided by the choir accompanied by two trombones, two trumpets and a string bass. They will perform a new work



written by Daniel Moe for the dedication of another church. It is called, "Psalm Concertato."

Refreshments will be served in the Fellowship Hall after the ceremony.

Following the above article was another relating to the dedication.

Jubilee Year to Follow Dedication

The Jubilee Year of 1972 will include visits to ULC by its former pastors... Many other events are planned, including the possible appearance of the

two eminent theologians, Helmut Thielickeand Elwin D. Farwel... October 22nd will also be homecoming Sunday, a time when former campus workers will be honored.

The year will conclude by placement of a time capsule in the church altar. The niche that will hold the capsule will be covered by a plaque inscribed with the appropriate data. The plaque and capsule will also serve as a substitute for a cornerstone. (As an economy measure, no cornerstone was laid.)

The 1972 February Lux reported some figures under the heading, "Church Attendance is Up as ULC Settles into its New Home": 600 people attended the dedication ceremony; 670 people attended the communion service on February 6 and 514 on the next Sunday. Overall, attendance was up 25 percent.

Connie Lenkowski



Birthdays

2 Anthony Waldron
3 Kimberly Ruiz
4 Steve Zimmerman
David Gift
Aaron Brooks
5 Eric Bubolz
Emily Oswald
6 Myles Davis
Chelsey Satterlee
7 Paula Davis



Birthdays & Anniversaries

11 Erica Dethloff
12 Donald Armstrong
13 Elizabeth Karcher
14 Vern Seefeldt
Mary Harpstead

14 Lanae Williams
16 Jack Goebel
19 Gail Riegler
Norman Jolin, Sr.
21 Jim Greiter
22 Clara Fisher
Gary Lee
24 Nicole Greiter
25 Kylie McPhall
27 Madeline Helser
Vivian Leung

Anniversaries

13 Marvin & Marcia
Schultz
Steve & Linda
Zimmerman
14 Gary & Miriam
Bunge

The ULC Care Team Needs YOU!

Looking for an uplifting and positive way to rise up against the loneliness of Covid seclusion? The Care Team has some solutions and right now they can be done from your own home on your own time.

- ♥ **Send a few greeting cards:** We'll provide the names, the cards, and stamps (or use your own cards/stamps.)
- ♥ **Make a hot dish:** It will be labelled, frozen, and stored in the church freezer until needed.
- ♥ **Drive a member to worship:** Once we're back in person, would you be willing to drive an otherwise homebound ULC member to worship? We'll try to match drivers with members who live near them.

The new ULC Care Team is a trio of ministries devoted to other ULC members who may be in need of a friendly gesture. Whether it's a greeting card, a ride to worship, or a home-cooked meal, Care Team members and volunteers are gearing up to help.

♥ **Volunteer:** Won't you join this circle of caring in some way? Most participation would require very little of your time and 'one-time volunteers' are also welcome!

♥ **Donate:** Until 2023 when this new team will have an annual budget, donations of greeting cards, first class stamps, and cash will be **gratefully received.**

Thank you for considering participation or a donation! Please **contact any one of the leaders listed below** or Britny Pollard at the ULC office (517-332-2559, ulcsec@ulcel.org) for more information.

Care Team Leader: Linda Trevarthen
(trevarth@msu.edu)
Card Ministry Leader: Stephanie Hall
Driving Ministry Leaders: Steve &
Debbie Viele
Meal Ministry Leader: Emily Uebel



Newsletter SUBMISSIONS

The deadline for the March Lux is **Monday, Feb. 14.**

E-mail articles to Amy Wagenknecht at amylarryw@comcast.net and Britny Pollard at ulcsec@ulcel.org or place them in the Lux mailbox in the ULC office. Articles may be edited for size or readability, but you will be contacted if significant changes are made. Keep those wonderful photos and articles coming! Thanks!



FEBRUARY 2022

1	9-4p	ULC Office Open	12:30p	Staff Meeting-Zoom
	7:30a	Tuesday Morning Bible Study-Zoom*	12:30p	Lychnion Circle-Fireside
	10:00a	Prayers & Squares-Work at Home	16	8:00a
	12:30p	Staff Meeting-Zoom		9a-4p
2	8:00a	Mushers-IHOP, EL		9:30a
	9-4p	ULC Office Open		Noon
	Noon	Lectio Divina-Zoom*		1:00p
	9:30a	Communications Team-Zoom		4:15p
	4:15p	Worship Wednesday-Zoom*		6:30p
	4:30p	Lead Management Team-Google Teams	17	9a-4p
3	9-4p	Office Open		10:00a
	7:30p	Senior Choir-Zoom*		18
4	5:00p	Friday@Five-ULC/Zoom		19
5	9:00a	Quilt of Valor Nat'l Sewing Day-work at home (Zoom at noon)		20
6	10:00a	Sunday Worship -Facebook*		11:00a
	11:00a	Zoom Coffee Hour/Forum@11:10 (Jesus Redux: The Atonement)		21
8	7:30	Tuesday Morning Bible Study-Zoom*		Presidents' Day – Office Closed
	9-4p	ULC Office Open	22	7:30
	10:00a	Prayers & Squares**		9-4p
	12:30p	Staff Meeting-Zoom		10:00a
	5:30p	MSU Basketball Parking (Wisc.)		12:30p
9	8:00a	Mushers-IHOP, EL		6:00p
	9-4p	ULC Office Open		7:00p
	Noon	Lectio Divina-Zoom*		7:00p
	4:15p	Worship Wednesday-Zoom*	23	8:00a
10	9-4p	ULC Office open		9a-4p
	9:30a	Brunch Bunch-EL IHOP		Noon
	10:00a	RJ:Education-Zoom		4:15p
	7:30p	Senior Choir-Zoom*	24	7:30a
11	5:00a	Fridays@Five		9a-4p
12	2:00p	Basketball Parking (Indiana)		3:30p
13	10:00a	Sunday Worship-Facebook*		7:30p
	11:00a	Zoom Coffee Hour/Forum@11:10 (Jesus Redux: The Resurrection)	25	5:00p
15	7:30	Tuesday Morning Bible Study-Zoom*		Friday@Five
	9a-4p	ULC Office Open	26	TBD
	10:00a	Prayers & Squares**		27
				10:00a
				11:00a
				Zoom Coffee Hour/Forum@11:10 (Jesus Redux: Replay)

* Zoom link contacts: Choir - Janine Smith; Tuesday Study - Jim Kiefer; Pub Theology – Pastor Gary; Lectio Divina - Britny; Worship Wednesday for Kids – Pastor Haley Vay; Council Meeting – Joy Oslund; Sunday Forum – Weekly email/Facebook live comments

**Contact Bobbi Davis to determine if sewing at home or in the Fellowship Hall



University Lutheran Church
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Gary A. Bunge
Lead Pastor

Haley Vay Beaman
Associate Pastor

Janine Novenske Smith
Director of Music

Britny Pollard
Office Administrator

Gary Carl
Financial Administrator

Mary Letvenow
Event Coordinator

Kristie Wiggert
Organist

John Dale Smith
Pianist

Louise Paquette
Director of Handbells



First Black Seminarian

In recognition of Black History Month, we would like to introduce you to Daniel Alexander Payne. Daniel was born in 1811 in Charleston, S.C. From a young age, he yearned to study the classics and became drawn to John Brown's Self-Interpreting Bible.

Daniel desired to teach to those who were enslaved, but slave codes criminalized teaching slaves to read. In 1835 he received a scholarship from the Evangelical Lutheran Society of Inquiry on Missions to support four years of study at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg (now United Lutheran Seminary).



Daniel was unable to finish the four-year program, but while there, he determined that he was called to the ordained ministry. Samuel Schmucker, the seminary's president and a noted abolitionist, told Daniel, while he would have liked him to become a Lutheran minister, he would do better in the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church. Daniel was ordained a Lutheran pastor in 1839 and would serve the AME Church for the next 50 years.

To read this complete article, "Perspective: Lutheran roots and seeds of protest – The life and legacy of Daniel Alexander Payne by William Flippin Jr., from the Feb. 5, 2020 *Living Lutheran*, visit [Perspective: Lutheran roots and seeds of protest - Living Lutheran](#).