

Mark Your Calendars . . .

First Registration Deadline
for Bible Adventure & Music Camp
Sunday, May 15
(Final registration May 31)

Confirmation Sunday
May 22 – 10 a.m.

Pub Theology
Tuesday, May 24 at 7 p.m.
Zoom (call 332-2559 for link)

Food Movers
Thursday, May 26
Set-up 3:30 p.m.
Drive-thru distribution

Hoopingarner Memorial
Saturday, May 28 – 1 p.m.

**Kristie’s 50th Anniversary
Celebration**
Sunday, June 5
10 a.m. worship, outdoor Jazz
Brunch following

Easter Carnival Reflection

At ULC’s Easter Carnival the love of God is EGGstravagant, the volunteers are EGGcellent, and the turnout – better than EGGspected on a chilly and windy spring morning. Christ is risen! Happy Easter!



Pastor Haley Vay reads a story during the Easter Carnival.

The morning began with creative and hand-crafted carnival games: Bunny Ear-Ring Toss, Down the Bunny Hole, Holy Cross Egg Toss, Bunny Bowling, and Pin the Tail on Doris the Palm Sunday Donkey! (See more pictures on page 3.)

After the games we enjoyed a beautiful egg hunt on the north lawn and play area where children of all ages from our congregation and community collected eggs and received candy and prizes!

The morning concluded with sharing the story of the first Easter with books from the ULC Library. It was good to be together again! The sun was bright, the air was brisk, and the fellowship was warm and wonderful.

Pastor Haley Vay

Inside . . .

- Pastor’s Pen ~ Outdoor Concert Series2
- One Community: Grads ~ Carnival pics3
- Families: Summer Camps4
- Forum ~ Library News ~ Book Club5
- Kristie’s celebration ~ Outreach: Sem Fund 6
- Food Movers7
- P & S ~ Kids Hope8
- RJT: Asian Am Month ~ Lansing March9
- Singing Racial Justice ~ Endowment10
- April Council ~ Lead Management11
- 2022 Synod Assembly ~ ULC Archives12
- Hoopingarner Memorial ~ Care Team13
- Celebrations ~ Good Friday Pastors14
- May Calendar15
- Spring Prayers16



A Bit of This and That

When I was in third grade, we had to keep a journal. (I still have that journal!) We had to write in it weekly. Sometimes we had topics that were assigned, but often we had to come up with our own topic. That was often a challenge. So many weeks I struggled to decide what I wanted to write about. Once I figured that out, it was easy, sort of.



As I sit down to write my May Lux article, I'm finding that I'm in a similar situation of not knowing what to write about. So, my article will be a bit of this and a bit of that.

First, it felt wonderful to worship together on Easter and be able to sing again. I/we received so much positive feedback about worship and how good it felt to be worshipping and singing in-person again. And it did feel good.

This has been a long two years with the pandemic, and I'm so grateful for the work our Council and staff have done in managing the pandemic. I'm also grateful for the flexibility and cooperation of the whole

congregation. You have adapted and cooperated amid very difficult circumstances. So many congregations have struggled with conflict and dissension during the pandemic but that hasn't been the situation here for which I'm very thankful.

You all have come together and gone with the flow of all the changes and adaptations we've made. Thank you.

Second, I'm disturbed by the recent police shooting of Patrick Lyoya in Grand Rapids, another unarmed black man killed by a white police officer. I'm one who hesitates to jump to conclusions because there are so many details that we just don't know about the situation. But what I have seen on videos is deeply concerning, and suggests that there are significant problems with policing, training of police, and the response that generally happens with a person of color. I pray that as a city, a state, a nation, and a church we work together to change the status quo so that these killings become a thing of the past.

Third, over the past couple of weeks I've noticed that the war in Ukraine is beginning to have a less prominent role in the news, and that we're beginning to become accustomed to the tragedy that is continuing to unfold there. I pray that we never become accustomed or normalized to the brutality of war and the resulting human tragedy. In a couple of weeks, I have a meeting with other ELCA pastors in our area about how together we might sponsor a Ukrainian refugee family – a wonderful way to respond and to not normalize the human tragedy of war.

Lastly, this is still the Easter season. I'm grateful for Easter's promise that death doesn't have the last word. The last word is life. Because of that, we know that the pandemic will come to an end, that somehow God will bring an end to racism and racial violence, and that one day, wars will cease. Until that day, we cling to the promise of the resurrection and Jesus' promise of life.

May this Easter season fill you with hope,

Pastor Gary



Outdoor Summer Concert Series

Sunday, July 10 at 6 p.m.
Lansing Concert Band

The Lansing Concert Band is a community band celebrating 75 years in the Mid-Michigan area. This 60-member band is well-known for its extensive repertoire and consistent high-quality.

Sunday, July 31 at 6 p.m.
Orquesta Ritmo

Orquesta Ritmo, led by Michael Eyia, was created to introduce and entertain the American public in the electrifying genre of Latin music. This 10-piece salsa band has been performing since the late 70s.

Sunday, Aug. 14 at 6 p.m.
J & J Sounds

J&J Sounds, a 9-piece band, performs the music of the Blues Brothers, Chicago, Motown and the pop classics of the 50's and 60's.

The Outdoor Summer Concert Series is funded by a grant from the ULC Endowment Fund.

Congratulations Graduates!



Caroline Haile I'm graduating from MSU in May with a degree in Mathematics. Days after graduation, I will pack up all my belongings and memories made over the last four years and move to Asheville, North Carolina. I will be joining my four siblings and two of their partners, plus the newest addition to our family— my nephew Elliot. I am currently looking to pursue my passion for baking, but I'm just as excited to live in the same city as my siblings. I'm looking forward to spending time outdoors in the Blue Ridge Mountains and taking advantage of all that Asheville has to offer.

Friday nights. This summer will be a busy but exciting one for me, as I seek to finish a majority of the lab work required by my master's curriculum in Biosystems Engineering. In this research project, I will analyze blood and serum samples for Vitamin D and contribute my small share to the scientific understanding of neurological wellness (including how to delay or prevent the onset of Alzheimer's Disease or dementia). I want to give special thanks to ULC for supporting me with an NRSV ("Lutheran Study") Bible for my "Introduction to Biblical Literature" class - one of my most meaningful and thought-provoking studies!



Michael Kaven As my final undergraduate semester at MSU draws to a close, I reflect very fondly on it! Within academics, I balanced a full credit load and biomedical lab research. Often, it felt like I was letting one of these two down to focus on the other, but I have emerged with strong marks in classes and even a couple "Best Poster" awards in recognition of my research, to boot! Outside of classes, I made memories in the Izzone at many basketball games, volunteered at MSU Preview and Welcome events, took bike rides all around the area, and joined One Community at ULC for



Annaliese Marks This spring I am graduating with my bachelor's degree in Biosystems Engineering! I have so enjoyed participating in campus ministry these last four years, along with the other groups at MSU. This summer, I'm excited to be launching into research full-time as I continue with my master's research project through the BS/MS program in Biosystems Engineering at MSU. My work focuses on carbon dioxide absorption using algae and amino acid solutions. I'm looking forward to seeing where it takes me!



Fun at the 2022 ULC Easter Carnival!



Visit our You Tube channel to see more Carnival Fun!



Summer Bible Adventure & Music Camp

Registration is **NOW OPEN** for ULC's Summer Bible Adventure & Music Camp! June 12-17

Who? Children and youth of all ages and abilities are welcome to participate! Youth and adults are welcome to volunteer in music, Bible adventure, crafts, and more! To help ease the transition from daytime to camp time, a light meal will be provided at 5 p.m. for hungry volunteers and campers.

What? These five evenings of camp include faith formation and exploration in vocal music, ukulele, Bible, and crafts, a camp T-shirt, and special guest artists sharing their gifts and love for music. We will provide NEW ukuleles for instruction during camp and campers are welcome to bring their own. For the music segments of camp, no previous vocal or ukulele instruction is necessary, but an interest and eagerness to learn is helpful.

Where? University Lutheran Church at 1020 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing.

When? Sunday-Thursday, June 12-16, we will gather from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

On Friday, June 17 we will enjoy an evening concert celebration when campers can welcome family and friends and share what they've learned at camp.

Register early! Campers who register before May 15 will receive limited edition camp SWAG in the mail! Please submit all registrations by May 31. Thank you!

We recommend a \$30 contribution for the first camper in each family, and \$10 for each additional camper in the same family. Cash and check contributions may be dropped off at church or mailed and made payable to University Lutheran Church with "camp registration" in the memo line by May 31st.

[CLICK HERE](#) to register today!

Share this information with your family and friends and encourage them to experience the *joy of camp* with us this summer!



ULC Overwhelmingly Supports the Gift of Camp

With an Endowment grant of \$5,000, Outreach of the Month contributions, and a very generous anonymous gift, we have reached our goal of \$10,000 for Living



Water Ministries to support providing the gift of camp for free to all campers this summer. The Change 4 Change money is still coming in and that will be added to

the \$10,000. Thank you all for your contributions to support this ministry! This is an amazing opportunity for the children of our synod.

Pastor Gary

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 Pastor Gary or me and visit www.ELCALivingWater.com/ourvision.

Pastor Haley Vay



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





Painting the Stars

“We are not separate from the creativity that produced us”

As the forum year comes to its close in May, the final episodes of PAINTING THE STARS “invite skeptics, seekers, the ‘spiritual but not religious,’ and people of faith to a conversation about the intersection of science and religion.”

Even if you missed the first four episodes in April, join us in May for a thought-provoking probe into Creation: Past, Present, and Future.

Join us in-person in the Fireside Room or at home on Zoom! Invite your friends!

- May 1: Evolutionary Christianity
- May 8: Imagining a Future
- May 15: No Forum
- May 22: An Evolving Spirituality: Mysticism

Linda Trevarthen



“Mystery is a condition of awe, of resting precisely in an unknowing, long enough for the silence to have its way with us.

The goal of this curriculum is to create some space for us to inhabit this mystery more deeply, and explore the relationship between science, particularly evolution, and religion. Perhaps most importantly, the hope is that each participant will feel from the inside what it is like to *be the presence* of all this creativity showing up after 13.7 billion years as him or her. Without this felt sense of *being one* with the creative process that is ceaselessly animating life, the conversation will remain objective and academic. We invite you to engage these seven weeks with an awareness that *you are not separate from the creativity that produced you.*”

— Rev. Bruce Sanguin, Contributor, Painting the Stars

ULC Memorial Library



Welcome back to the ULC Library. The library is open anytime the church is open. If you are new to ULC (or just new to the library) you will find a variety of materials in the library for all ages. There are fiction and non-fiction books as well as magazines and a variety of DVDs.

We recently added a new book to our collection – *Climate Church, Climate World: How People of Faith Must Work for Change* by Jim Antal. The book argues that climate change is the greatest moral challenge humanity has ever faced, and environmental leader Reverend Antal presents a compelling case that it’s time for the church to meet this moral challenge.

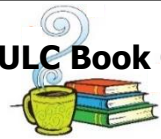
Welcome Back!

The Library Team would like to thank those who donated books over the last two years. Some items were added to the library and many others were set aside for a possible book sale.

We encourage you to visit the library and check out something of interest to you or your family. Please, be sure to write your **phone number** along with your name and date when you check out a book. Visit the library anytime.

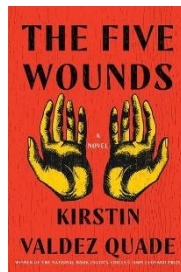
The Library Team - Judy Kindel, Connie Lenkowski, Jennifer Johnson and Linda Trevarthen

ULC Book Club



ULC Book Club will meet for the last time this academic year on Thursday, May 19 at 10 a.m. We will discuss *The Five Wounds* by Kirstin Valdez Quade. This book follows a family in Las Penas, New Mexico over the course of a year.

We plan to meet in person with masks in the ULC Fireside room. We will also offer the option of attending



“The Five Wounds”

book club via Zoom for anyone who is uncomfortable with attending in person. As before, we will continue to monitor COVID numbers and change how we meet if needed.

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 how and where we will meet.

We meet the third Thursday of the month at 10 a.m. through the month of May.

Over the summer we will read *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict and discuss this book at our September meeting. Please join us!

Beth Rahe and Mary Kotnik

Join us for a Celebration!

March 2021, Kristie Wiggert reached a milestone anniversary — 50 years as the organist at University Lutheran Church. This was an achievement worthy of celebration but due to the COVID pandemic, a large party was not possible. COVID numbers have greatly improved, and everyone is invited to now celebrate Kristie Wiggert's 51 Years as ULC's organist on Sunday, June 5th following 10 a.m. worship service with a Jazz Brunch on the north lawn.

Last June 2021, when Kristie marked her 50th year as ULC organist, Bill Trevarthen wrote a wonderful tribute, *How Sweet the Sound*, that was included in the June/July Lux. Here's an excerpt:

Kristie began practicing on the church's organ as soon as she joined the church, and in March of 1971, was asked to become ULC's organist. She said yes. And that, was the beginning of a beautiful relationship.

I asked her what music she liked to listen to when she was off duty. Well, Bach, of course. She's a Lutheran



organist, after all. But she has a passion for contemporary choral works as well. In fact, she is very fond of the music composed by Zeb Highben, the husband of our beloved former intern, Amanda. Kristie is a woman who continues to learn and listen and grow. She is full of life, good humor, and music, and, God bless her, when she plays that all pours out over us. To read the full article, click [here](#) or visit www.ulcel.org and click on Kristie's photo on the home page.

In thanksgiving for Kristie's exceptional musical gifts, ULC commissioned Zeb Highben to compose a choral piece which will be performed during the June 5th church service. Please join us for the service and following festivities as we celebrate Kristie. RSVP for brunch [here](#) or call the ULC office at 517-332-2559.

*Nancy Lindman
ULC Past President*

May Outreach of the Month N/WLM Synod Seminary Scholarship Fund

The May Outreach of the Month is the North/West Lower Michigan (N/WLM) Synod's Seminary Scholarship Fund to provide scholarships to seminary students from our synod who are preparing for service in the church. Over the years, seminary costs have significantly increased and as a result so has student indebtedness.

According to Luther Seminary, the average seminary student indebtedness is \$62,000. Unlike debt in other professions, it is more challenging to repay student loans because of the low compensation pastors and deacons receive.

Indebtedness impacts pastors and deacons in several ways:

- 52 percent of pastors surveyed say loans negatively impacted their standard of living.
- 30 percent of pastors surveyed are bi-vocational.
- 26 percent of pastors surveyed left ministry due to financial pressure.
- 25 percent of pastors surveyed pursue higher paying ministry opportunities.
- 24 percent of pastors surveyed postpone healthcare

By providing scholarships to students from our synod, we help reduce the indebtedness incurred, and ensure seminary-educated



leaders for the congregations of our synod. In the past, seminary graduates were assigned to any synod. Now, students from our synod are assigned to our synod, which means that it is even more important to raise up and financially support the future leaders of this church and synod. If we aren't willing to pay to train our leaders, who will?

Contributions may be made using any of the usual offering options – offering plate, check mailed to ULC, the “donate” button at www.ulcel.org, or direct deposit via MSUFCU. Please indicate “Seminary Scholarship” in the memo.

Pastor Gary

Food Movers

A Successful Partnership - ULC, UUMC, and the GLFB

Ten years ago, two administrators from the Greater Lansing Food Bank (GLFB) gave a presentation at the monthly ULC Lead Management meeting outlining the need for a food bank distribution site on the east side of town. Gail Hagbom had been advocating for ULC's involvement in such a ministry and had contacts at the Greater Lansing Food Bank. After careful consideration by pastors, Lead Management, and Council, it was determined this would be a ministry worth pursuing.

From the beginning, Lead Management was aware that work and school schedules might mean that ULC members would not be able to be present each month to volunteer. Lead Management proposed that our neighbors at University United Methodist Church (UUMC) be asked to join with us to ensure adequate numbers of volunteers, a decision that began a longstanding and successful partnership. Bryan Rahe was asked by Pastor Martin Halom if he would contact UUMC and initially organize this new outreach, and the rest as they say, is now history.

At our initial distribution only three clients showed up. We were told by the food bank not to worry and were assured that our numbers would grow. Over the years we saw varying numbers of clients and volunteers meet in our Fellowship Hall on the fourth Thursday of each month, with the goal of providing food to the needy in our community. Many of our clients over the years have come from the international student community and we watched many of them form friendships in our basement as they awaited their turn to go through the food line. It always warmed my heart to see an older



ULC volunteers during the Oct. 2021 distribution.

client warmly greeting a member of a different race and catching up on how a pregnancy or new baby was getting along. I felt like we provided more than food, but also a bridge between people of different backgrounds that also fed the soul. Our registration volunteers often held and watched babies while the mothers went into the Fellowship Hall to shop.

In March 2020, the pandemic changed most everything about delivering food to our clients, as the entire process moved outside. Our clients now remain in their cars throughout the distribution as our volunteers register their information, place boxes and bags of shelf stable food, frozen foods, produce, and dairy directly into their vehicles, and direct each car through the line. The need has also risen. Before March 2020, the highest number of families served in one month was 80. Last month we saw the number approaching 200. What has not changed is the need for volunteers to help with this ULC ministry.

When we first moved outdoors to car side delivery, Bryan thought we would need fewer volunteers, but this has not proven to be the case. Each month we need folks who are

comfortable with technology to help with the electronic registration process, folks who can help organize the food and place it into vehicles, and most recently with the increase in numbers, folks who can direct traffic into our lot to prevent back-ups onto Harrison Road. Currently less than a quarter of our volunteers are ULC members. Some of our long serving volunteers are no longer able to do the physical work required or have Covid restrictions that preclude them from interacting with the public.

I want to thank our members who have participated in this ministry over the last 10 years. I also want to challenge those who have not, to explore whether you could give a Thursday afternoon on whatever schedule works for your life, to this ongoing ministry. It is safe to say that the members of our church feel good that we have an active ministry feeding the hungry in our community. As I have seen the need for food rise, I have felt that this is one of the most impactful activities we engage in at ULC.



Please feel free to reach out to Bryan bryandrahe@gmail.com or me bwojan1@gmail.com if you want more information about

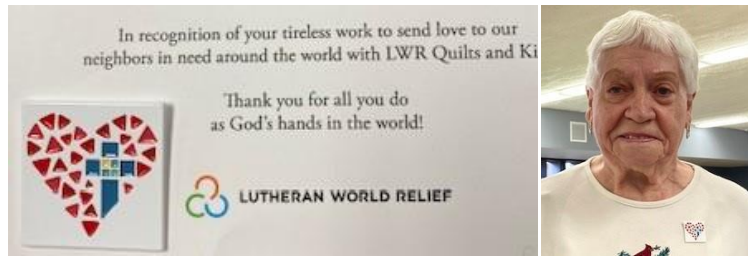
what happens at the food distribution and how you could contribute. It helps us to know who is coming as that determines whether we need to reach out to other sources for volunteers. Our May distribution is Thursday, May 26 with volunteers needed from 2:30 - 6 p.m. and you need not be present for the entire time.

Beth Rahe



School Kits Sent Around the World

The Prayers and Squares Ladies took two weeks off over Easter; however, it still was a productive month. We continue to provide handmade articles to the Afghan refugees in the Lansing area. Sticks and Strings yarn shop in old town, once again donated quilts and afghans made by their customers. We find organizations and people to receive them.



In appreciation for her countless hours of making Lutheran World Relief quilts, Gertrude Fleischer was presented with this special pin.

In checking the Lutheran World Relief website, we were able to track our school kits. In 2020 our school kits were delivered to Honduras and Rwanda. In March 2022 they went to Syria and Burkina Faso. It is always interesting to see where our sewing gifts are shared.

Ann Booren

Creating Healthy Closure

What a school year! Kids Hope USA mentors waited months to begin mentoring while Lansing schools fought to stay open through the pandemic and students sick or in quarantine. Mentors finally began seeing their students weekly for one hour during the winter months. Spring is now here with only a few sessions left to meet with students.



It is time to prepare them for a healthy closure to the school year. Some students are in third grade and will be moving onto a different school next year for fourth grade without a mentor. Other students will advance to the next grade at Forest View. They will have a different teacher and be in a different classroom. They may be able to keep

their same mentor, but we don't know. We must be honest and not make promises that cannot be kept.

Such changes require an acknowledgement of difficult or uncomfortable thoughts and feelings. Mentors can help prepare students in coping with these changes in a way that's a template for healthy emotional expression in the future. Simply looking at a calendar and noting how many days are left for mentoring sessions is a start. One mentor designed a countdown flower with petals representing the sessions left and each week one petal is removed.

Students should be allowed to express their feelings about the end of the school year with their mentor.

The mentor can model this by expressing his or her feelings as well. An effective activity is to recognize changes in student learning that have occurred throughout the school year and progress that a student is currently making. The mentor can then encourage the student to look forward to summer activities and to anticipate positive experiences in the next school year.

A healthy closure to the school year does not happen all by itself. It takes planning to review the past, evaluate the present and look to the future. The Kids Hope USA mentors at ULC are aware of this and preparing for it.

*Barbara Kissling
ULC Kids Hope USA Director*



May is Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

A joint congressional resolution first established Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week in 1978. The first 10 days of May were chosen to coincide with two important milestones in Asian/Pacific American history: the arrival in the United States of the first Japanese immigrants (May 7, 1843) and contributions of Chinese workers to the building of the transcontinental railroad, completed May 10, 1869. In 1992, Congress expanded the observance to a monthlong celebration that is now known as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

The Racial Justice Team (RJT) asked one of our own who is herself a Pacific islander to discuss her heritage with us. Jackie Lynn (Jack) Guevara was born on the island of Luzon (loo-ZAHN) in the capital city of the Philippines, Manila. After receiving her B.S. in Agriculture at the University of the Philippines at Los Baños, she began her graduate studies here at MSU. She received her master's degree and was then asked to complete her PhD in turf grass studies. When she realized this would make her a member of the

team who will develop the grass for the 2026 FIFA World Cup to be held in the United States, Canada, and Mexico, she could not let this opportunity pass her by.



Jack is quite proud of the Philippines (officially known as the Republic of the Philippines) and startled us with this fact: it is composed of over 7,000 islands. Interestingly, the total land mass of all the islands is only slightly larger than the state of Arizona. The Philippines was ceded to the US in 1898 after the Spanish-American War and then became an independent nation in 1946. The national languages are Pilipino (Filipino), based on Tagalog, and of course, English. Filipinos are renowned for celebrating Christmas for four months (they call them the “Ber” months: September through December). Jack attributes this dedication to Christmas to the predominance of Christianity (90+ percent) and Catholicism (80 percent) in the 111 million inhabitants.

Not surprisingly, Jack was baptized Catholic and worshipped in this

tradition. By the time she came to MSU, she was questioning some of its teachings and the intolerance of LGBTQ individuals. She lived in a Filipino home in the Flowerpot neighborhood adjacent to ULC and would often pass by where she noticed the rainbow flag. Hoping that she would find a more tolerant and accepting congregation, she began worshipping with us online and she was heartened to see the rainbow stole displayed behind Pastor Haley Vay during services. Jack's desire to work for social and racial justice then led her to the RJT.

In closing, Jack would like you to know that it is very easy to travel in and around the Philippines. The people are very friendly and hospitable with an affinity for Americans, and the roads easily navigated since all the traffic signs are in English. Just be aware that these islands are located along the infamous Ring of Fire, the area around the Pacific Ocean rim where many volcanos and earthquakes occur. But Jack says not to worry. She has not experienced either!

Thom McCurdy

My Brother's Keeper

ULC members Miriam Bunge, Michael Anderson, Vicki Anderson, Thom McCurdy and Bill Frysinger (not pictured) participated in a rally demanding justice for Patrick Lyoya. Patrick, a 26-year-old Black man, was shot at point blank range in the back of the head following a traffic stop by a Grand Rapids police officer on April 4.

Hundreds of people joined the rally, organized by Black Lives Matter and held on the steps of the State Capitol. One of the speakers was Pastor Siku, an interpreter for the Lyoya family who immigrated from the Democratic Republic of Congo in 2014. Pastor



Miriam, Michael, Vicki and Thom joined the Lansing march for justice.

Siku talked about how after Cain killed Able, God asked Cain where his brother was. Cain answered, “Am I my brother's keeper?” Pastor Siku said the answer to that question is “YES!” ULC members attended the rally to stand with our siblings of color, show them that we see them as created in the image of God, to listen to, and to learn from them.

Please contact us to learn more about the Racial Justice ministry at ULC.

*Thom McCurdy & Vicki Anderson,
RJT Co-leaders*

Singing with Racial Justice "Steal Away"

The hymn, *Steal Away*, can be interpreted as an expression of spiritual longing to be united with Jesus (in death) or as a coded message about the Underground Railroad and its promise of freedom from slavery. The song's Biblical roots (Exodus 19:16-23) are relevant to either interpretation. Moses and the wandering in the desert are linked to many African



American spirituals. Harriet Tubman, who escaped slavery only to return over and over to the South to lead others to freedom, was known to her people as "Moses."

The Virginia slave Nat Turner, who organized a revolt against slave owners, used the song *Steal Away* as a signal to call people together to talk about their plans.

Interesting Note: Spirituals were often sung in secret gatherings and enabled slaves to discover, express, and experience an interior soul space, "a home," that the harshness of slave owners and slave drivers could not reach. The wit, dedication, and success that African Americans had went far beyond what slave owners thought slaves were capable of.

RJT Education Sub-team

Grant Proposals Requested

One of the wonderful gifts that current and former ULC members have established over the years is the ULC Endowment Program. The ULC Endowment Program includes two separate endowment funds - one is dedicated totally to campus ministry efforts and the other is a general endowment fund. Each year, funds are awarded to organizations and projects that reflect the mission and vision of University Lutheran Church. **Grant proposals for 2022 must be received by Sept. 30, 2022.**



Mission In Christ's World - The Endowment Fund gives priority to missions of the ELCA including development of new congregations in North America, equipping leaders for the mission of the Church; professional educational growth; global mission; ecumenism/interfaith; evangelism; and social ministries.

Christ's Mission Among Us - Funds are provided to efforts that enrich ULC programming as identified by ULC Church Council and teams; special programs designed for those persons in our parish who are in spiritual or economic need; contributions to improvement of ELCA facilities and building programs; and debt reduction.

Christ's Mission on Campuses - Funds are used to build the capacity of young adults to serve Christ as leaders and program enrichment for campuses as identified by ULC's Campus Ministry team.

The ULC Endowment Program was established to provide a vehicle for members to glorify God and serve the world through gifts of long-range financial support. According to the ULC Endowment Charter, funds are distributed: 1) To individuals and organizations who apply principles consistent with the values, vision and mission of the goals of ULC; 2) To members of ULC or those endorsed by members; 3) According to the established application procedure; 4) To applications that will impact the purpose of the program and reflect a collaborative plan; and 5) Primarily for one-time support of planning, demonstration or implementation of special projects. (Applications for multi-year grants are not preferred.)

Applications may be obtained on the ULC website www.ulcel.org under "Resources." To submit completed applications and/or for assistance or questions, contact the Endowment Committee at ULCEndowment@ulcel.org

The Endowment Fund provides grants for projects within the three following categories:

*Larry Wagenknecht
Endowment Committee Chair*

The ULC Council met Thursday, April 21 via Zoom, Discussion this month centered on recommendations from the personnel committee and continuing conversation about future directions of the church.

- Council discussed and accepted several recommendations from the Personnel Committee, including:
 - updating Janine Novenske Smith's title to "Director of Worship and the Arts"
 - maintaining the current open office hours
 - allowing one Sunday off per quarter for the Pastors
 - exploring an AV Tech position



Council Notes

- Council approved Joy Oslund and Rick Milligan as voting members for the Synod Assembly
- Kristie Wiggert's 50th anniversary as ULC organist will be celebrated this year on June 5th.
- Council approved up to \$1000 to repair the playground structure.

Emily Uebel
ULC Council Secretary

March Attendance

- Ash Wednesday, March 2: 792
- March 6: 806
- Mid-Week Lenten Worship, March 9: 688
- March 13: 484
- Mid-Week Lenten Worship, March 16: 488
- March 20: 794
- Mid-Week Lenten Worship, March 23: 386
- March 27: 534
- Mid-Week Lenten Worship, March 30: 278

Lead Management Team Notes

Lead Pastor's Report - Pastor Gary Bunge:

- Confirmation is back to in-person learning events. Confirmation Sunday is planned for May 22.
- Personnel Committee added Debbie Gift and Cindy Baswell to replace Vicki Anderson and Lise Swem whose terms had finished.
- We had one baptism, Nathan Charles Gennette
- In-person worship has been going well with about the kind of attendance I expected and that other churches are experiencing, a little less than half. Wednesday midweek Lenten worship has gone well but the attendance in-person and online has been very low.

Council President's Report - Joy Oslund: Additional February and March Council meeting notes:

- The treasurer reported that work is being done to update all balance sheets.
- Council appointed people to the personnel committee, changed language in the policy manual regarding the gift acceptance committee, and asked Members in Ministry to suggest candidates for the audit committee.
- Council allocated more money to the projector project because costs were higher than expected
- We discussed and agreed to pray over the following questions about the future directions of ministry at ULC: What needs might we fulfill in the community?

What needs might there be in the congregation? How do we build community connections and meet needs? How do we build capacity and relieve stress? What partnerships can be built?

- Other future considerations: Review the number of groups that were using our building before the pandemic, possible outdoor space upgrades – playground and Campus Ministry outdoor meeting space, reaching out to MSU School of Social Work for ideas, learning more about supports for MSU students who have aged out of foster care.

Facilities – Dale Romsos: Sandy Davis arranged the installation of a canvas wind/snow break on the west edge of the ULC entry canopy.

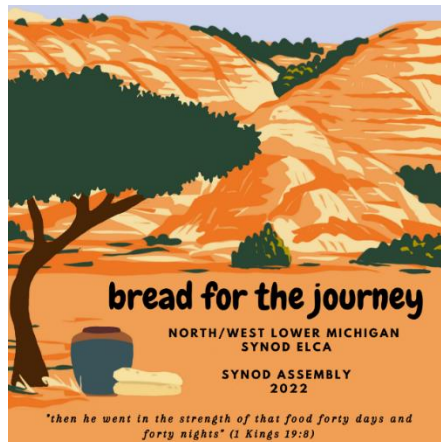
Library Team – Connie Lenkowski: The Library Team met in late March and had a busy time cleaning up the library. Many books had been donated over the last year. I'm happy to say that Linda Trevarthen is helping the Library Team while we are looking for another member. It was great to discuss ways for improving our library. One item we discussed was replacing the library computer and updating the computer software. I think we got the last upgrade in 2014. The Electronics Team has been asked to make recommendations.

Amy Wagenknecht



Synod Assembly 2022

After much prayer, conversation, and discernment from many perspectives, the North/West Lower Michigan Synod's Conference Deans and Executive Committee unanimously recommended and the members of Synod Council present at the February 2022 meeting unanimously decided that the 2022 Synod Assembly will be held virtually on Saturday, May 14 via Zoom. [Read the full statement.](#)



Similar to last year, the 2022 Synod Assembly will be primarily business focused. In the coming weeks, updates and resources will be posted on this page for reference and planning. [Read a list of frequently asked questions pertaining to the 2022 Synod Assembly.](#)

If you have additional questions or concerns, please contact communications@mittensynod.org.

From the mitten synod website

ULC Archives

What is Contained in the ULC Archives?

Now that church activities are returning to in-person gatherings, it seems like a good time to review what can be found in the ULC archives. Over the last two years I have received many comments about how people have enjoyed the archive articles in Lux. These articles are possible because at some point it was decided that certain materials pertinent to the life of the church should be saved. Now, years later, we can look back and reminisce about “what happened when.” Following is a list of documents one can find in the ULC archives:



The neatly organized boxes of ULC's history in the Archive room in the education wing in the basement.

What can be found in the ULC Archives?

- Constitutions, By-laws and amendments
- Charter members - Annual list of members
- Parish registers (includes births, deaths, etc.)
- Minutes of congregation, council committee
- Annual reports
- Annual list of officers, members of boards, committees
- Official correspondence
- Reports of all church committees
- Copies of calls and appointments
- Printed materials (council documents, Lux)
- Sunday School / VBS records / Confirmation

- Non-current treasurers' records
- Copies of deeds, titles, leases...
- Contracts for construction of buildings and contracts for special services plus plans and blueprints
- All mortgages
- Photographs – labeled with date and activity
- Histories of the congregation

The ULC Administrative Assistant is very helpful in getting these items in the archives. However, I recently learned that committee and team leaders may not realize that they can (and should) put relevant materials pertaining to their team in the archives. It is not necessary to include all minutes but do include important decisions or notice of specific

actions. Be sure everything is dated! Simply print an extra copy of a report or a picture of an activity, label it and put it in the archive box in the office.

These documents are not just interesting to read but are useful when planning activities. It may be helpful to see what happened in the past to better understand how to proceed in the future. Please help us continue to build our ULC archives.

Connie Lenkowski

Roger A. Hoopingarner Celebration of Life

Saturday, May 28th, 1 p.m.
University Lutheran Church & Memorial Garden
1020 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing

Hosted by the Hoopingarner & Stoll families
310-980-5678

Please join us in the garden as we celebrate our husband, father, grandfather, brother, neighbor, teacher, scout leader, mentor, beekeeper, and friend. The celebration service in the church and the memorial garden will be both live and via zoom. The service will be followed with time for all to share their memories over appetizers and



beverages. PLEASE, with respect for Roger, only attend in person if you are fully vaccinated.

Your thoughts and ideas on how to best celebrate Roger would be greatly appreciated. Please [RSVP](http://www.punchbowl.com/parties/ee82359998a3cf1863f8) (www.punchbowl.com/parties/ee82359998a3cf1863f8) so that we can plan appropriately. Please share this information with others as we do not have emails for so many of Roger's friends — especially beekeepers, Boy Scouts, former

students, etc.

ULC Care Team Is Growing into a Circle of Care!

Caring for our members only makes us better equipped to reach out to others! Our congregation is like a family. It is out of love that we care for and care about one another.

- If enough members join Care Team's volunteer ranks, then each person's share of the loving tasks could easily be reduced to once or twice a year!
- Would you be willing to **drive someone to worship** once in a great while by sharing the driving with nearby ULC neighbors?
- Would you be willing to **send a few cards** to members on the prayer list or those who just need a "lift" just one or two months out of the year?
- Would you be willing to **make or buy a frozen prepared meal** for an ailing or recuperating member once or twice a year?



"ULC family" members is a pleasure and a blessing to both the giver and receiver. Here's how it works:

Add your name and email to the Volunteer List for one, two, or all three ministries listed below. When there's a need, the team leader will send out an email request for volunteers.

Send a few greeting cards: In whichever month you volunteer, we'll provide the names, the cards, and stamps (or you may opt to use your own cards/stamps.)

Make a hot dish: Make a hot dish on your own time and of your own choosing. It will be labelled, frozen, and stored in the church freezer until needed and usually delivered by one of the pastors. At other times, we will organize a "meal train" for a member currently unable to cook on their own, and this online sign-up program will be opened not only to the congregation, but the member's own family/friends as well.

Meal Train info sheet:
https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4HjEMmFJsf4XCiG

Drive a member to worship:

Now that we're back in person, a few home-bound members need a ride to worship. It is our hope and plan that for each member needing a ride, we will find a group of nearby members who can take turns sharing the driving responsibility for that person.

THANK YOU for considering participation! Please contact any one of the team leaders listed below or Britny Pollard at the ULC office 517-332-2559 or ulcsec@ulcel.org for more information. Additional contact information in the ULC Online Directory.

♥ **Are you in need of Care Team Services yourself?** ♥ **Contact Britny at the ULC office or one of the pastors!** ♥

Care Team Leader: Linda Trevarthen
(trevarth@msu.edu)

Card Ministry Sub-team Leader:
Stephanie Hall

Driving Ministry Sub-team Leaders:
Steve and Debbie Viele

Meal Ministry Sub-team Leader:
Emily Uebel

This is such a joyous group of volunteers. Caring for our beloved

Birthdays

- 1 Janine Novenske Smith
Asher Greiter
- 2 Christine Harder
Barry Williams
David Williams
- 3 Robert Lasley
- 4 Ian Brown
Bobbie Davis
- 5 Alex Williams
- 6 Eric Goebel
- 7 Emma Tracy
- 11 Maggie Foley
- 13 Barbara Riegle
- 16 Jack Guevara



- 16 Janice Mutka
Steve Sneed
- 17 Darlene Romsos
Rich Tracy
- 18 Laura Saucedo
- 19 Amanda Brown
- 20 Sal Bubolz
- 21 Hannah Hagman

- Louise Paquette
- 22 Carl Bennett
Alexander Dethloff
Karen Sanders
- 24 Nancy Lindman
- 25 Leslie Booren
- 27 Bryan McPhall
Demani Ruiz
- 28 Ashton McPhall
Gavin Witter
- 30 Megan Mahoney
Terrie Reinoehl
- 31 Robert Baldus
Eva Beaman
Caroline Hoffman

Anniversaries

- 1 Jeff & Kathy Bracken
- 4 Sandy & Bobbie Davis
- 8 Bruce & Terrie Reinoehl
- 9 Ed & Sharon Vanous
- 19 Jim & Melody Kiefer
- 20 Corbin & Paula Davis
- 22 Mike & Vicki Anderson
- 27 Hal & Betsye Prince
- 28 Ed & Laura Brown
- 30 Jeff & Melissa Andresen

We Thank Thee

For the flowers that bloom
About our feet
For tender grass
So fresh and sweet;
For song of bird and hum of bee,
For all things fair we hear and see,
Father, in Heaven, we thank Thee!
For each new morning with its Light,
For rest and shelter of the night,
For health and food,
For Love and friends
For everything
Thy goodness sends
Father in Heaven,
We thank Thee!

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

Good Friday Pastors

Some of the clergy who provided "The Seven Last Words" on April 15 – Pastor Tony Patrick, with wife Karen (right); Pastors Gary and Miriam Bunge, and Pastor Ken Ponds (below). Bishop Craig Satterlee, Pastor David Dressel, Pastor Ellen Schoepf and Pastor Hale Vay (vocals) also participated in the three-hour service at ULC.



The deadline for the June/July Lux is **Monday, May 16.**

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!



- | | | | | | |
|----|------------------------|--|--------|--|--|
| 1 | 10:00a | Sunday Worship-ULC/Facebook | 9:30a | Amnos Circle-Fireside (Women of Bible) | |
| | 11:10a | Forum-Fireside/Zoom (Painting the Stars: Evolutionary Christianity) | 10:00a | Prayers & Squares-Fellowship Hall | |
| 2 | 3:30p | Tight Knit-Fireside | 12:30p | Staff Meeting-Zoom | |
| 3 | 7:30a | Tuesday Morning Bible Study-Zoom* | 12:30p | Lychnion Circle-Fireside | |
| | 9-4p | ULC Office Open | 18 | 8:00a | Mushers-IHOP, EL |
| | 10:00a | Prayers & Squares-Fellowship Hall | | 9a-4p | ULC Office Open |
| | 12:30p | Staff Meeting-Zoom | | Noon | Lectio Divina Bible Study-Zoom |
| | 7:30p | Greater Lansing Arts Chorale Concert-ULC | | 1:00p | Rhodon Circle-Fireside |
| 4 | 8:00a | Mushers-IHOP, EL | | 6:30p | Confirmation-Fireside |
| | 9-4p | ULC Office Open | | 6:30p | ULC Council-Zoom* |
| | 9:30a | Communications Team-Zoom | 19 | 9a-4p | ULC Office Open |
| | Noon | Lectio Divina Bible Study-Zoom* | | 10:00a | ULC Book Club-Fireside/Zoom |
| | 4:30p | Lead Management Team-Google Teams | | 7:30p | Senior Choir-Zoom* |
| 5 | 9-4p | ULC Office open | 22 | 10:00a | Sunday Worship (Confirmation) Sanctuary/FB |
| | 7:30p | Senior Choir-Zoom* | | 11:10a | Forum-Fireside/Zoom (Painting the Stars: An Evolving Spirituality: Mysticism) |
| 8 | Mother's Day | | 23 | 3:30p | Tight Knit-Fireside |
| | 10:00a | Sunday Worship-Sanctuary/Facebook | | 6:30p | Racial Justice Caucusing-Zoom* |
| | 11:10a | Forum-Fireside/Zoom (Painting the Stars: Imagining a Future) | 24 | 7:30a | Tuesday Morning Bible Study-Zoom* |
| 9 | 3:30 | Tight Knit-Fireside | | 9-4p | ULC Office Open |
| 10 | 7:30a | Tuesday Morning Bible Study-Zoom* | | 10:00a | Prayers & Squares-Fellowship Hall |
| | 9a-4p | ULC Office Open | | 12:30p | Staff Meeting-Zoom |
| | 10:00a | Prayers & Squares-Fellowship Hall | | 7:00p | Pub Theology-Zoom* |
| | 12:30p | Staff Meeting-Zoom | | 7:00p | Families Against Narcotics (FAN)-Fellowship |
| | 6:30p | Racial Justice Meeting-Zoom | 25 | 8:00a | Mushers-IHOP, EL |
| 11 | 8:00a | Mushers-IHOP, EL | | 9a-4p | ULC Office Open |
| | 9a-4p | ULC Office Open | | Noon | Lectio Divina Bible Study -Zoom |
| | Noon | Lectio Divina Bible Study -Zoom | | 4:15p | Worship Wednesday-Zoom* |
| | 4:15p | Worship Wednesday-Zoom* | 26 | 9a-4p | ULC Office Open |
| 12 | 9a-4p | ULC Office Open | | 3:30p | Food Movers Distribution-Drive thru |
| | 9:30a | Brunch Bunch-EL IHOP | | 7:30p | Senior Choir-Zoom* |
| | 7:30p | Senior Choir-Zoom* | 28 | 1:00p | Roger Hoopingarner Memorial |
| 14 | Synod Assembly-Virtual | | 29 | 10:00a | Sunday Worship-Sanctuary/Facebook |
| 15 | 10:00a | Sunday Worship-Sanctuary/Facebook | 30 | Memorial Day | |
| 16 | 3:30p | Tight Knit-Fireside | 31 | 7:30a | Tuesday Morning Bible Study-Zoom* |
| 17 | 7:30a | Tuesday Morning Bible Study-Zoom* | | 9-4p | ULC Office Open |
| | 9-4p | ULC Office Open | | 10:00a | Prayers & Squares-Fellowship Hall |
| | | | | 12:30p | Staff Meeting-Zoom |

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

ULC Office Hours

Tuesday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Closed Monday and Friday until further notice.

Reminder: Please let the office know when ULC meetings and events are scheduled, even if they're happening virtually. We would like to keep the calendar current. Thanks!



University Lutheran Church
One Community Lutheran Campus Ministry at MSU
1020 S. Harrison Road
East Lansing, MI 48823
517-332-2559 ulcsec@ulcel.org www.ulcel.org

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Lansing, MI
Permit No. 45

Change service requested

Gary A. Bunge
Lead Pastor

Haley Vay Beaman
Associate Pastor

Janine Novenske Smith
Director of Worship & the Arts

Britny Pollard
Office Administrator

Gary Carl
Financial Administrator

Mary Letvenow
Event Coordinator

Kristie Wiggert
Organist

John Dale Smith
Pianist

Louise Paquette
Director of Handbells

**Everywhere Across the Land
You See God's Face
And Touch His Hand**

Each time you look in the sky
Or watch the fluffy clouds drift by,
Or feel the sunshine warm and bright
Or watch the dark night turn to light
Or hear a bluebird gayly sing.
Or see the winter turn to spring
Or stop to pick a daffodil
Or gather violets on some hill
Or touch a leaf or see a tree,
It's all God's whispering "This is Me
And I am Faith and I am Light
And in Me there shall be no night."

~ Helen Steiner Rice