

“God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.” ~ 2 Corinthians 9:8

Ministry, Fellowship and Serving Opportunities



UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lutheran Campus Ministry at Michigan State University



*There's a Place for
You Here!*

Do some exploring. Try something new.

There is something for everyone here.

Get involved! You will likely find that you are the richer for having done so.

If any of the descriptions in this presentation interest you, feel free to contact the leader(s), speak with a pastor, or contact the church office at 517-332-2559, ulcsec@ulcel.org for more information

The life-blood of a congregation is its sense of "community"
and at ULC we are richly blessed,
because here the word "community"
includes the church, our families, our neighbors, all the
organizations, entities, and partners
with whom we interact and who we serve,
and they are many and diverse!

Campus Ministry, Bike Ministry, and Accessibility Ministry

Campus Ministry focuses on serving college students and the campus community (MSU & LCC) in faith formation, fellowship, and service/learning experiences. The Campus Pastor and Student Associates, who meet monthly, lead in supporting these programs and in encouraging student participation in the life of the congregation. For more information, contact Sue Kamens.

"We are the spokes with Christ as our hub." The **Bicycle Ministry** Team prepares and repairs used bicycles for distribution to persons in need and, in some instances, also supplies bicycles and helmets. This team could really use some help repairing bicycles. If you enjoy fixing things in order to make them functional again and would like to help people in need, please contact Gary Garbarino.

The **Accessibility Ministry's** overarching goal is to provide purposeful welcome for individuals living with disabilities by ensuring accessibility of our building and worship space and inclusion for everyone in our ULC community in a relevant and meaningful way. Contact Beth Rahe or Deanna Milligan for more information.



Evangelism and Welcome Teams

The **Evangelism Team** is committed to strengthening ULC's culture in sharing the good news, intentionally welcoming all by creating safer spaces with better outreach to diverse communities (multi-generational, cultural, LGBTQIA+, socio-economic, able, gender, and geographic). Whether you are interested in joining our team (meetings are on the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 5:30 pm – 6:45 pm in the Fireside Room) or simply helping out with one or more activities, you are welcome!

Typical team projects:

- Designing and ordering promotional materials
- Planning, promoting, and contributing to intergenerational events and community outreach, such as Christmas cookie decorating at Advent Dinner
- Distributing Bibles and other Christian materials through the ULC Book Nook
- Neighborhood cookouts
- Booths at fairs and other community events

For more information, contact Clarke Anderson.

In an effort to provide a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere for guests and members, the **Welcome Team** coordinates 2 programs:

- “Coffee Hour” (snacks and beverages) following each Sunday service
- “New Member Welcome Reception” — Whenever a group of new members is about to be formally welcomed into the congregation (usually 1-2 times a year), team members prepare a reception and gift bag.

For more information, contact Emily Uebel.

The word "WELCOME" is written in a stylized, outlined font. The letters are blue with a pink/purple outline. The text is slightly tilted upwards to the right.

CARE TEAM: Card Ministry, Meal Ministry & Driving Ministry

Caring for our members only makes us better equipped to reach out to others! As with our families, it is out of love that we care for and care about one another.

- 📧 Would you be willing to send a few cards to members on the prayer list or to those who just need a “lift” just a few months out of the year?
- 🍴 Would you be willing to make or buy a frozen prepared meal for an ailing or recuperating member every so often?
- 🚗 Would you be willing to drive someone to worship once in a great while by sharing the driving with nearby ULC neighbors.

Volunteers may participate in one, two, or all three ministries, and when there’s a need, the team leader will send out an email request for volunteers.

Card Ministry — *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.)

Meal Ministry — *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 can be opened up not only to the congregation but to the member’s own family/friends as well.

Driving Ministry — *Drive a member to worship:*

When home-bound or non-driving members are in need of a ride to worship, we will locate and email a group of ULC members who live nearby and ask if they can take turns sharing the driving responsibility (even if only once in a while). If you are contacted, we hope you will prayerfully consider this request.

Please contact Linda Trevarthen or Mandy O’Neil for more information.

Prayers & Squares and Tight Knit

The Prayers and Squares Quilt Ministry makes “prayer” quilts for persons needing prayer and support. The quilts are finished by tying. As a quilt is tied, prayers are said for the recipient. The quilt is given as a tangible sign of prayer, and a statement of our faith in God. We also make “remembrance” quilts to be wrapped around special people or groups during a Sunday service: our military veterans, our graduating high school and college seniors, and others being honored with our prayers for a special reason.

Our group meets every Tuesday from 10 am - 12:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. All materials and tools are provided. No sewing experience is needed and there are also many jobs that can be done at home on your own time!

For more information, contact Ann Booren or Bobbie Davis.

Tight Knit is a group of ULC members and friends who meet weekly for knitting/crocheting, fellowship, support, nourishment, and prayer. New or seasoned crafters, all are welcome. Thousands of items, including hats, prayer shawls, blankets, baby items, etc. have been donated. The group meets in the Fireside Room on Mondays between 4:00 and 6:30 pm ET. Join us for the entire time or for as long as you are able. We enjoy a light meal together around 5:30 pm. We also welcome monetary donations to buy supplies.

Contact Vicki Anderson or Anne Smith for more information or connect with Tight Knit on Facebook!

Social Action, Racial Justice, and Kids Hope USA

The **Social Action Team** addresses social justice issues. Join a current project or propose a new activity that interests you and be part of our team. We seek all talents to enhance our efforts. Examples of current projects:

- Alleviating hunger in our community—Projects that always need participants are the annual Lansing Area Crop Walk, the monthly ULC Food Distribution, and Kids Against Hunger Food Packing event with our neighbors at the Islamic Center
- School Kits are assembled by the Sunday School children for Lutheran World Relief
- the collection of personal care items in conjunction with Christian Services
- St. Luke's Lutheran Coat Bank

This team also solicits requests for and makes recommendations to Council on the distribution of Local Benevolence funds budgeted to Social Action each year. There is no shortage of needs to be addressed! We welcome your input, ideas, and participation!

For more information, contact Bryan Rahe.

The purpose of the **Racial Justice Team**, newly formed in 2020, is based on the summary clause of the ULC Statement of Intentional Welcome: "We will continually strive to eliminate prejudice from our thoughts and actions and will discourage prejudice in others at every opportunity."

Our team

- educates the ULC congregation to recognize racism and racial issues.
- and equips, leads and supports the congregation to be anti-racist agents with the people and institutions in our lives.

If you are interested in helping prepare or coordinate education programs and/or helping us develop community partnerships, please contact Vicki Anderson or Thom McCurdy.



Are you ready to make a difference in the life of one child for one hour a week during the school year? **Kids Hope USA** is a ministry at Forest View Elementary School in Lansing that matches a mentor with one kindergarten to 3rd grade student. The goal of mentoring is to make a student feel special and loved and to assist with academics as needed. You can volunteer to be a:

- Mentor who works with one student one hour a week.
- Prayer partner who prays for a mentor/student relationship each week.
- Scholarship provider who provides funds for training, supplies and activities.

Contact Barbara Kissling for information.

YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY



Pre-school - 5th Grade

We have found new momentum and consistency in Worship Wednesday, our weekly faith formation gatherings for children preschool - 5th grade on Zoom, Wednesdays at 4:15 pm ET.

We remain on Zoom for Worship Wednesday and gather in person for monthly Sunday Fun Days - an experience in music, Bible adventure, fellowship, and fun for children, youth, and families on the first Sunday of each month.

Contact Marge Mahoney, Lori Johnson or Rachel Drobnak for more information

6th - 12th Grade

Our middle school and high school youth plan time for fellowship, mission trips, and service opportunities throughout the year. Students can also get involved in the wider church through local and national gatherings, including Living Water Ministries and the ELCA National Youth Gathering. To offset the costs of camps and trips, our youth and families organize congregation and community fund-raising projects and park cars for MSU home football games.

At the conclusion of their senior year all of our high school seniors receive prayer quilts lovingly created by members of our Prayers and Squares Quilt Ministry.

High School Ministry Leader is Simon Peterson.

Communications, Mailing Group and Electronic Resource Teams

The ULC **Communications Team** helps the congregation and its members stay connected and communicate our mission and activities to the community. The team is responsible for the monthly Lux newsletter, the website (www.ulcel.org), Facebook posts, print and digital advertising, brochure development and any other ULC communications. We have many opportunities to get involved including writing articles or taking photos for the newsletter/website; editing the newsletter; assisting with social media posts; or joining our monthly planning/work sessions.

For more information, contact Amy Wagenknecht.

Newsletter Mailing Group

This group of men and women meets once a month on a designated date to prepare the Lux newsletter for mailing. Preparation includes: folding, sealing, labelling, and sorting into mail trays.

Members of this team may also be interested in helping with other mailing tasks throughout the year, most of which are much easier as they do not include folding thick newsletters!

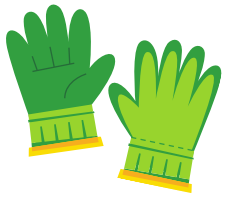
For more information, contact Mandy O'Neil.

The **Electronic Resources** Team supports most of the technology that is used at ULC. This includes:

- support for both live and virtual church services and meetings, including assistance with video and audio editing and streaming.
- managing the lighting and the sound system in the sanctuary.
- support of the infrastructure at ULC which includes G-suite tools and Microsoft 365,
- internet services and wifi throughout the building.
- technology support for the software that controls our heating and cooling system.

Our meetings are held as-needed. Anyone with an aptitude and interest is welcome. For more information, contact Will Mahoney or Luke Reese.

Memorial Garden, Grounds, and Earthkeeping Teams



Memorial Garden

For some time this has been a committee of one. Additional team members wanted!

There is a brochure that explains the details of the garden.

Duties/tasks include:

- ordering plaques for people who choose to have their ashes spread in the garden,
- hiring a person to do the upkeep from April to October, and
- working with the grounds person during the spring and fall cleanups.

For more information, contact Pat Lee,

The **Grounds** Team maintains the parking lot, lawns, playground, and gardens. We currently have snow removal and lawn mowing contracts in place.

Volunteers Needed Throughout the Year!

Typical volunteer activities include such things as:

- Tree clean-up
- Removal of invasive plant/shrub species as needed
- Pruning
- Garden maintenance (weeding, planting, mulching, etc)
- Checking and maintaining parking lot equipment
- Recycling/composting yard waste
- Fence maintenance

Another way to support this ministry is through ULC Garden Adoption, whereby funds you donate go toward plantings and maintenance.

If you are interested in either volunteering or Garden Adoption, we would be pleased to show you around our property and gardens!

For more information, contact Norm Jolin Sr.

The focus of the **Earthkeeping Team** is: Practice Stewardship of God's Creation. Some of our recent activities include:

- promoting home energy audits among our members
- installed LED lights throughout the building and parking lot (with the Facilities Team)
- installed a 20kw rooftop solar array.

In the community, we have supported:

- the installation of solar panels on the Southside Community Coalition, the Islamic Center, Redeemer Lutheran Church, and a Habitat for Humanity all electric house in Lansing; and
- joined the Lansing Area chapter of MMIPL (local houses of worship to promote energy conservation).

Earth Day events are planned each year and an Earthkeeping column is written periodically for the monthly newsletter LUX. We welcome new ideas and new members to our team.

Contact Judy Kindel for more information.



Facilities, Security, and Stewardship Teams

The **Facilities** team works to maintain and further improve the functioning of the church building. If you enjoy working with your hands, we have opportunities for you. There are one-time projects as well as ongoing tasks. For example, it might require only a day or so to repair some furniture, to paint a wall, to complete minor electrical and plumbing tasks, or to complete the annual window washing task. Other tasks are ongoing and include weekly transport of the paper and plastic generated by ULC to the MSU Recycling Center, as well as ongoing monitoring of the facility heating/cooling system for comfort and energy and efficiency. The Facilities team obtains bids from contractors to undertake larger projects and, after Council/Membership approval, oversees completion of the projects. For more information, contact Dale Romsos.

The **Security Team** assesses the needs and resources required to maintain a safe and secure environment for the ULC building and grounds. It responds to security issues, implements new technology and develops appropriate policies. The team meets on the first Monday of the month at 5:00 pm.

In recent years activities have focused on the installation of surveillance cameras in the building and an access control system for the exterior front doors. The team is currently monitoring the ULC building and parking lot during services. The goal is to be more aware of our surroundings and to check for anything unusual.

The Security Team welcomes members to participate in this important ministry.

For more information, contact Dave Oslund.

The primary role of the **Stewardship Team** is to help members grow their awareness of what God is calling them to do. Stewardship is our management of all that God gives us. Each year the team plans and organizes the program to assist members in their financial commitment to ULC. We also organize the Outreach of the Month special offering. Each month a different outreach program is highlighted for this special benevolence offering. Please consider joining us in this shared ministry.

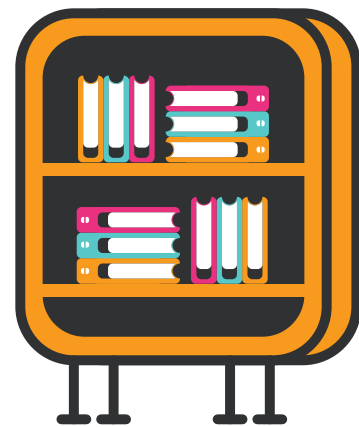
For more information, contact Michael Anderson.

Library and Archives Teams

The **Library Team's** mission is to provide access to information and materials relating to the gift of the gospel and the sharing of that gift among members of the congregation. Meetings are held as needed but not more than 6 a year.

Volunteer Opportunities include working onsite, at home, with a small group, or on your own!

- Promote library use and support.
- Select acquisitions (purchased and donated).
- Order books and media products.
- Prepare items for circulation.
- Monitor overdue items.
- Inventory the collection.
- Compose LUX articles.
- Arrange book displays.
- Change bulletin boards.
- Organize the used book sale.



For more information, contact Connie Lenkowski.

The **Archives** team identifies, arranges and describes, preserves and makes available for research the church's historical records and related historical collections. These documentary materials provide the basis for better appreciating our past, understanding the present, and gaining in judgement when planning for the future. Meetings are held as needed or about twice a year.

Volunteer Opportunities abound for those with a love of preserving history!

These are just a few.

- Write a monthly article for LUX (church newsletter) using information from the archives.
- Review documents, place in appropriate folders, and update the location guide.
- Change the display case on a quarterly basis.
- Reach out to teams and staff for pictures of activities and continue to organize pictures in a searchable format.
- Contact ULC Teams and encourage them to give materials documenting team activities to the archives for preservation.

For more information, contact Connie Lenkowski.

Altar Guild and Assisting Ministers

Altar Guild is a ministry team that ensures the worship space is kept in good order both to glorify God and to provide a setting which enables the congregation to worship in a meaningful way. If you have participated in an altar guild before, you know the rewarding experience of caring tenderly for a church's worship space. If you have never done this work before, but are interested in learning, we welcome your involvement and we will train you!

Volunteer opportunities:

- Care for the chancel area, its furnishings, linens, paraments and appointments.
- Communion preparation.
- Attend to candles on back wall.
- Help with seasonal decorations (plants for Easter and Christmas)

For more information, contact Clndy Jenks.

Assisting Ministers assume a leadership role during worship services by assisting the pastors.

Responsibilities include :

- speaking parts of the liturgy,
- writing and praying prayers,
- setting the table for Communion,
- distributing Communion, and sometimes reading the Scripture.

Extensive training is provided. Contact Pastor Bryan Schneider-Thomas for more information

Worship Ushers, Communion Assistants and Offering Counters

Worship Ushers have a very special job in any church, as they may be among the first to greet visitors. They are also the first line of 'care', should anyone need extra assistance (e.g., a large-print bulletin, a hearing aid, mobility assistance, communion delivered directly to the pew, etc.)

Ushering tasks include:

- handing out bulletins as people enter the sanctuary,
- collecting giving envelopes and pew cards
- guiding worshipers to communion row by row,
- tidying up the pews after the service.

1-2 ushers are needed at each service and sign-up is done online. There is also an extensive Ushering Guide available for those new to volunteering.

For more information, contact Mandy O'Neil or Rick Milligan

Communion Assistants help the pastor serve Communion each Sunday morning. Six people are needed each Sunday to hold the tray of cups, pour the wine or grape juice. Anyone can volunteer for these tasks by taking a card from the table just inside the Sanctuary.

Offering Counters Each Sunday following worship, 2-3 team members count tally and record the checks and cash collected during the offering. The larger the team, the fewer Sunday any one team member must sign up for. Contact Louise MOnTag.

Choirs



There are three **Vocal choirs** at ULC:

- the Senior Choir
- the New Hope Singers (our college/young adult group); and
- the Children's Choir.

All choirs contribute to worship services through vocal music, and participants enhance their vocal skills and basic musicianship through the rehearsal process.

Volunteer opportunities for singers and non-singers alike:

- Share your musical talents
- Sing in one of ULC's choirs
- Instrumentalists are sometimes needed to accompany a choral offering
- Assist in the music library
- Assist in fundraising activities
- Give financial support to the Senior Choir Student Scholarship Program
- Assist with the Children's Choir rehearsals and on the days they sing during worship.

For more information, contact Janine Novenske Smith.

Handbell Choir is a ministry team that provides an opportunity for members to contribute to our diverse music program. The ULC Handbell Choir is directed by Louise Paquette and performs about three times per semester. Rehearsals are on Monday evenings from 6-7 p. No prior musical experience is required, and new ringers are always welcome. Volunteer opportunities for both music makers and bell choir helpers:

- Be a regular or substitute ringer of the choir. (We will train you.)
- Bell music librarian
- Help with bell maintenance
- Help with set-up/take-down of tables when needed
- Wash bell gloves and table covers when needed

For more information, contact Louise Paquette.

Traditional Bible Study Groups

Lychnion Circle – Greek word for Light 3rd Tuesday of the month from 12:30 - 2 pm

Amnos Circle – Greek word for Lamb 3rd Wednesday of the month from 9:30-11 am

Rhodon Circle – Greek word for Rose 3rd Wednesday of the month from 1-3 pm



Lychnion Circle (open to all) uses Gather Magazine, published by The Women of the ELCA, as the source for our bible study. Each month one of our members volunteers as Host and one as Study Leader, and we spend a little time greeting one another over coffee and dessert prior to study. Our circle has participated in various projects at church, such as: gifts for the Christmas Giving Tree, the St. Paul's Food Bank, and partnering with the Islamic Center and University Methodist Church for the annual Food Packing Event. Please join us and enjoy not only fellowship but the many ways bible study can enhance our daily lives. Contact Carolyn Lohr for more information.

Amnos Circle (open to all) meets for Bible Study and Fellowship on the third Wednesday September thru November and January thru May at 9:30 am in the Fireside Room at ULC. We take turns leading the study. We are currently studying Women of the Bible using Women of the Old Testament by Gladys Hunt and Women of the Bible by Jean E. Syswerda as well as the Bible and occasionally other sources. Carol Mackin for more information.

Rhodon Circle uses the Bible Study found in the monthly Gather Magazine published by the Women of the ELCA, participates in various service opportunities (The Giving Tree during Christmas, for example), and supports a variety of benevolence organizations both locally (such as Homeless Angels, Haven House, MSU Safe Place) and internationally (e.g., a village well in Africa and ovens powered by the sun). Each month. Each month participants explore the study together without a designated leader and take turns bringing treats to share. Please join us! Contact Connie Lenkowski for more information.

Lectionary Review; Lectio Divina; Pub Theology; and Faith, Writing and Reflection

Tuesday Morning Bible Study meets on Tuesday mornings from 7:30-8:30 in the Fireside Room and reviews and discusses the lectionary readings for the following Sunday. This is a wonderful opportunity to start the day with a fresh cup of coffee, enjoy great conversation and it provides time to reflect on the readings prior to hearing them in Church on the following Sunday. It also keeps participants connected to the flow of the readings when they are not able to attend Church on a given Sunday.

All are welcome! Study leaders is Larry Wagenknecht.

Lectio Divina meets on Wednesdays from 12-1pm. Lectio Divina is not a bible "study" and requires no special knowledge of the bible. It is a time to listen to, reflect on, and respond in a very personal way to the reading of the day, and all are welcome. A bible verse (usually the upcoming Sunday's lectionary) is read aloud; the group then meditates in silence for several minutes; then participants are invited to respond with how any part of the reading speaks to them "at this moment" whether in their own lives or the life of the church; and then sequence is repeated twice again during the hour. Come try out this spiritually refreshing meditative interlude!

Contact:
Bill Trevarthen

Pub Theology meets at 7 pm on the last Tuesday of the month. Each meeting features several questions to discuss (over beer and food) focusing on faith and the intersection of faith with life and current events. Contact Jay Dubois-Jones for more information

Faith, Writing and Reflection meets on Zoom on Tuesdays from 2:45 - 4:15 pm. Using the "40 Day Journey with Howard Thurman," published by Augsburg Press, we read two pages, reflect individually, write responses to questions and share with the group as little or as much as we desire. No prep is needed. Contact Carole Ford to join.

Sunday Forum and Book Club

In the Sunday Forum (Speaker Series during the academic year), we strive to present a wide variety of speakers and topics designed to instruct, inform, inspire, and delight participants. Upcoming topics are posted on the ULC website, and a complete list of topics from the last few years appears in the ULC Annual Report.

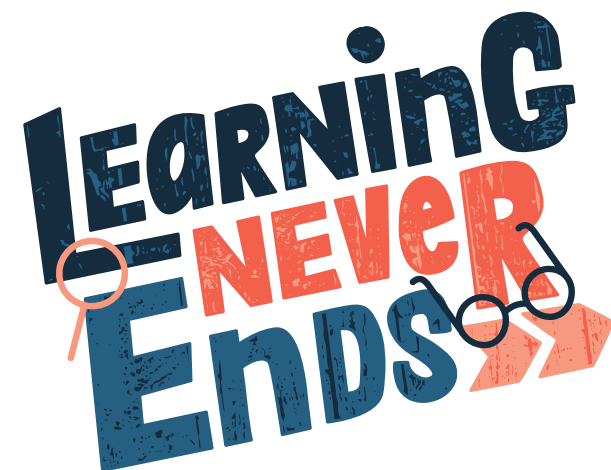
All are welcome to attend this Sunday morning speaker series and we welcome new ideas for speakers and topics

Contact Linda Trevarthen and Bill Trevarthen for more information.

Books read by the **ULC Book Club** are selected by a consensus of members of the group and include a broad range of genres, usually titles that have been vetted by members and/or by reputable book reviews.

Meetings are scheduled at 10 am on the 3rd Thursday of each month. New members are always welcome.

Contact Beth Wojan or Mary Kotnik for more information.



Elected and Appointed Positions

Church Council is the decision-making, leadership body of the church. It meets the third week of each month. In addition to being responsible for budget, operations, and general oversight of the congregation, the most important task of the Council is its “big picture” planning and direction setting responsibility.

Lead Management is a leadership team made up of ministry coordinators in addition to the Lead Pastor, Council President, and President-Elect. While the Council is responsible for the big picture, this group is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day work of the various ministry teams.