

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

Mark Your Calendars . . .

Outdoor Concert Series

Aug. 20 Frenz (AM Gold)
6 p.m. on ULC Lawn

Food Movers

Thursday, Aug. 24 & Sept. 28
Drive-thru distribution
begins at 3:30 p.m.

Pub Theology

Tuesday, Aug. 29 & Sept. 26
at 7 p.m. now in-person!
(Contact Pastor Gary)

**Alpha Sunday
Outdoor Worship
Expressions Bluegrass**
Sunday, Sept. 17 at 10 a.m.

**Farewell Brunch
for Pastor Gary**
Sunday, Sept. 24
Immediately following worship

Rain or Shine, Great Concerts!

For a second summer, ULC members and friends have gathered on Sunday evenings to share fellowship and great music. On July 30, the Lansing Concert Band Big Band entertained the crowd on the north lawn.



MSU alums, Three Men and a Tenor

Rain forced the second concert, on Aug. 6, to be held in the sanctuary, but that didn't dampen the spirits of the large crowd who enjoyed the music and comedy of the group Three Men and a Tenor. Two more concerts are scheduled for Aug. 13 (Ritmo) and 20 (Frenz) and will be held rain or shine.

Popcorn and ice cream, compliments of Quality Dairy were available at intermission. Free will collections will support the ULC Food Movers ministry. See more photos on page 6.

Amy Wagenknecht

Inside . . .

Pastor's Pen ~ Ministry Fairs.....	2
Campus Ministry News	3
Family Faith Formation.....	4
Forum ~ Library ~ Book Club	5
Music Notes.....	6
Earthkeeping ~ Food Packing	7
Prayers & Squares	8
Kids Hope.....	9
Racial Justice.....	10
President ~ Endowment ~ CORE.....	11
Council Minutes ~ Leadership Ops	12
ULC Archives: Time Capsules.....	13
Celebrations ~ Farewell Pastor HV	14
Aug/Sept Calendar	15
Football Parking	16



Alpha Sunday
September 17 at 10 a.m.

Worship Expressions Bluegrass
Outdoor worship, Backpack Blessing
Ministry Fair & BBQ potluck

Join us under the tent!

*An integrated family journeying faithfully together, inspired by God's grace,
guided by Christ, and empowered and sustained by the Holy Spirit*

It's Been a Privilege to Serve at ULC

I find it hard to believe that this is my final newsletter article after writing newsletter articles nearly every month for 39 years! I also find it hard to believe that I've served as a pastor for 39 years and will be retiring at the end of September. In some ways it seems like I just started a few years ago.

So, what to say in my last newsletter article?

Well, first I want to say thank you for calling me to be your pastor for the past six years. I have thoroughly enjoyed serving at ULC. It's been a marvelous last call and a marvelous congregation to conclude my ministry. This is a wonderful congregation with a deep commitment to being the body of Christ in East Lansing and MSU. One of the things that attracted me to ULC in the call process was our Statement of Intentional Welcome, and how open the congregation is to all people. And the best part is that these aren't simply words on paper. We live it out.

I'm so grateful for your openness to trying new things and always moving forward. I think of how our worship style has grown, broadened, and



Pastor Gary and wife Miriam at second "outdoor" concert.

developed the last six years. I think of how the congregation embraced the technology we began to use during the pandemic. I think about how our Kids Hope ministry has been so well supported and is making an impact in our community. And I think about the Racial Justice Team and how the congregation has supported the work they are doing and how committed the congregation is to racial and social justice.

And then there are the people. What a gift you all are. I've seen your deep faith. I've experienced your love of and commitment to this congregation. It's been a privilege to serve as your pastor and to serve with you. It's been a privilege to walk with you through the joys and pains of life. My only regret is that we had the pandemic in the middle of my time here which slowed down the process of connecting with people and growing relationships. And getting to know the students who worship here has been life-giving. You all bring so much life and I'm so amazed by your gifts.

I've thoroughly enjoyed serving with Pastor Haley Vay. I couldn't have asked for a better colleague in ministry. It's also been a privilege to work with Janine and our whole staff. Together we weathered a pandemic and found new and exciting ways to do ministry. I'm grateful for their flexibility, their creativeness, and their dedication to this congregation. Our staff has made ministry fun, and I always looked forward to interacting and working with them.

As I move on to a new season of life, even though I feel ready and I'm excited for what the future holds, I also feel a deep sense of loss in moving on from ULC. I've loved serving here and I will miss this congregation, its ministry, and you all deeply. As our paths diverge in a few weeks, I trust that our faithful God will continue to lead, guide, and direct us, and that the promise of Emmanuel, "God is with us," will continue to sustain each of us.

From both Miriam and me, thank you for welcoming us into your midst and allowing us to serve alongside of you. And thank you for the privilege of serving as your pastor. It has been a joy.

Pastor Gary

ULC MINISTRY FAIRS

Learn about our ministries.
Tour the grounds and facilities
Volunteer!

Four Sundays, following worship	17 SEPT OUTDOOR (RAINDATE: 10/1)	15 OCT LOWER-LEVEL	22 OCT SANCTUARY & SMALL GROUPS	29 OCT NARTHEX & OFFICE
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Upcoming Fall Schedule

Meet us!

Aug. 27: Sparticipation 4-8p at IM East

Sunday Events

Sept. 17: Outdoor Blue Grass Worship and picnic 10a. North ULC lawn.

Oct. 8: Meal Packing event with the Islamic Center. 11:30 a.m. (following worship) in ULC Fellowship Hall.

Oct. 29: Trunk-or-Treat at 3 p.m. - ULC parking lot.

Fridays@Five

Sept. 8: Yard games and activities with pizza.

Sept. 15: Introduce theme/scripture via Bible study.



2022 Welcome Back Pizza Party!

Sept. 22: Game night or make tutus event.

Sept. 29: Mini service project (community garden).

Oct. 6-7: Camping trip.

Oct. 13: Little superstitious party; come up with Trunk-or-Treat event theme.

Oct. 20: Speaker (TBD).

Oct. 27: Trunk-or-Treat prep.

ULC members, we invite you to prepare and share a meal with us again this year!

Contact the office if you want to volunteer.

*Grace Kennedy, Lena Oslund and Sofie Piotrowski
2023-24 Student Associates*

MDIV Student Addy Stuever on Environmental Justice and Rural Ministry

Editor's note: Addy Stuever participated in the ULC Campus Ministry program last year and is now a Master of Divinity(MDIV) student at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC). She was featured in the August 2023 E.PISTLE newsletter:



Addy Stuever
E.PISTLE newsletter

For incoming MDIV student Addy Stuever, the call to ministry was deeply entwined with her passion for justice. In fact, her passion for justice is so strong that during college, Stuever initially anticipated that she might pursue a career in politics. "I expected that I would go into public policy or international development," Stuever says. She not only studied these fields through her Environmental Studies and Sustainability major, but also threw herself into practical applications of what she was learning. "I got myself an internship with the Senate Agricultural Committee. I went to two United Nations Events a representative of 4-H." These experiences confirmed for Stuever, that her interests in environmental justice and the success

of rural communities were something that she wanted to pursue throughout her life.

However, when it came time to consider next steps, Stuever had a stark realization: "I wasn't done learning," she says. Furthermore, she realized that the things that really spoke to her about her major were the opportunities for engaging in systems thinking and

working directly with communities to come up with solutions for persistent problems. With a family deeply rooted in ELCA Lutheranism, it wasn't a surprise to many that "somewhere around Thanksgiving of 2021 is when I went, 'Oh, hey, family, I think I might go to seminary!'" Stuever remembers. For Stuever, attending a seminary that shared her justice-oriented values and that was within driving distance of home in Michigan proved to be crucial: LSTC proved to be the perfect fit.

Stuever's family was universally supportive of her decision. In fact, it was a call with her great aunt Joan that led her to apply to the ELCA Fund for Leaders scholarship to support her journey at LSTC. In telling her aunt about her plans for graduate school, she said, "There's probably a lot of scholarships available. I just donated to the Fund for Leaders. You should

definitely check it out." A couple of months later, Stuever applied, and was awarded a full-tuition scholarship that supports students attending ELCA seminaries with the intent of becoming a rostered minister of either word and sacrament or word and service. "It means for me that I can attend seminary coming right out of my undergrad," Stuever says. "It's really helpful for me."

For Stuever, the path ahead is now clear and exciting: "I want to be a rural pastor," she says. "[In areas like the one in which I grew up] the Church really was the center of the community...my vision for rural ministry is to build community centers, build places where young people and their parents and anyone, even if they don't attend church regularly, comes for community events... and to experience life as a community." Perhaps that looks like serving the Church she currently attends with her family in Michigan, or another like it. Stuever is open to anything and remains excited about the prospect of serving communities around the country. But, as she says with a smile, "it would be lovely if I could be right back home."

Submitted by Sue Kamens

Welcome Back Everyone!

The Family Faith Formation Team is so excited to see you all again this year! Miss Rachel (Rachel Drobnak) will be leading online Worship Wednesdays along with Mrs. Janine (Janine N. Smith, Director of Worship and the Arts). All are welcome to join us each Wednesday, starting Oct. 11, on Zoom from 4:15-5 p.m. We encourage all ages to join, even if you arrive late or need to leave early.

Our first Sunday Funday is on Oct. 1 at ULC. Dinner is provided and we will have a music class with Mrs. Janine, story time, and crafts!

See the calendar below for the complete list of upcoming events. A supplies list will be given out on Alpha Sunday, October Sunday Funday, and through the Worship Wednesday email list – all crafts will use simple supplies that you may have at home. If you'd like a supply kit we are more than happy to provide one (just let us know as soon as possible).



- ♥ Sunday, Oct. 1 – Sunday Funday, 4:30-6:30 p.m.
- ♥ Wednesday, Oct. 11 – online Worship Wednesday, 4:15-5 p.m.
- ♥ Wednesday, Oct. 18 – online Worship Wednesday
- ♥ Wednesday, Oct. 25 – online Worship Wednesday
- ♥ Sunday, Oct. 29 – Trunk-or-Treat, 3-4 p.m.
- ♥ Sunday, Nov. 5 – Sunday Funday, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

If you have any questions or would like to be added to our email list, please contact Rachel Drobnak drobnakr@msu.edu, 440-213-2677).

We hope to see you soon!

Rachel Drobnak, Janine Novenske Smith, Lori Johnson, and Marge Mahoney

Congratulations High School Grads!



← L-R: Ian Brown, Lizzie Freeman, and Carl Ericksen

Brielle Williams →



Ian Brown: I graduated from Okemos High School. I will be attending Michigan State in the fall, majoring in Fisheries and Wildlife.

Lizzie Freeman: After graduation I plan to take a pause in my running career and join Grand Valley track and field club instead of their team. I'm doing this to give myself time to adjust and focus on my classes as a freshman. I plan to major in pre-professional biology as a gateway to a masters in Botany. Hopefully, I will have a lot of fun.

Brielle Williams: I graduated from East Lansing High School. I am attending LCC in the fall and would like to study Psychology.



Four-part Ministry Fair in Lieu of October Forums!

How would you like to tour our building and grounds?

Whether you are a long-time member

or still a newcomer, we hope to surprise and delight you with a peek into all our wonderful ULC ministries/groups. The fairs will be located in the very location (to the extent possible) where most of the work is done -- outside, in the sanctuary, in the lower level, in the



narthex, or in one of the offices or classrooms.

Sept. 17 Outdoor Ministries Fair following the outdoor Worship and prior to picnic (Rain date – Oct. 1)
Oct. 15 Lower-Level Ministries Fair
Oct. 22 Sanctuary and Vestry Ministries plus Small Groups Fair
Oct. 29 Narthex and Offices Ministries Fair

Each Ministry Fair will immediately follow worship and will last about an hour. On each of the Ministry Fair

Sundays, there will be a handout explaining which ministries are on display that day and where they are located. Some ministries operate in more than one location, so you may see them on multiple Sundays.

Ministry Team representatives will be wearing a large badge bearing the name of the Ministry. Chat with them! Consider joining a new team! And enjoy getting to know our building, grounds, and activities!

Linda Trevarthen



ULC Memorial Library

Three Books Added to Library

The first is for young children and is called *A Book of Love* by Emma Randall. The description of the book says, “There are lots of ways to show love, a big hug, a listening ear, a thoughtful gift. Explore the possibilities with your loved ones and make someone feel special!”

The second book is called *The Art of Gathering: How We Meet and Why it Matters* by Priya Parker. This book was purchased because of the ULC Council’s focus on getting people together again. While it doesn’t deal specifically with church activities, it is “a bold new approach to how we gather that will transform the ways we spend our time together – at work, at home, in our communities, and beyond.”

The last book was donated for the book sale but was a perfect fit for our Racial Justice collection. *The Warmth*

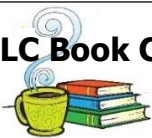


of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America’s Great Migration Is written by Isabel Wilkerson, the author of *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents.*” The description on Amazon says, “In this beautifully written masterwork, the Pulitzer Prizewinner ... chronicles one of the great untold stories of American

history: the decades-long migration of black citizens who fled the South for northern and western cities, in search of a better life. From 1915 to 1970, this exodus of almost six million people changed the face of America... This is a definitive and vividly dramatic account of how these American journeys unfolded, altering our cities, our country, and ourselves.

Connie Lenkowski

ULC Book Club



The ULC Book Club will meet for the first time this academic year on Thursday, Sept. 21 at 10 a.m. We will discuss *The Shoemaker’s Wife* by Adriana Trigiani. The book follows two people, Enzo and Ciro who meet as teenagers in the Italian Alps. Life events send each of them

The Shoemaker’s Wife



to America where they meet again. However, World War I separated them once more when Ciro volunteers to serve.

ULC Book Club meets the third Thursday of the month.

We offer three ways to participate. Join us in person in the Fireside

room, via Zoom or we can send you a recording of the discussion.

We would love for you to join us. Please reach out to Beth Rahe at bwojan1@gmail.com or Mary Kotnik at mkotnik@comcast.net to be added to our email list.

Beth Rahe and Mary Kotnik

ULC Vocal Choirs - All Are Welcome!

Children's Choir

- ♪ Music will continue to be part of our awesome Worship Wednesdays - 4:15 p.m. on Zoom.
- ♪ We will also have in-person music class during Sunday Fun Days, and on select Wednesdays.
- ♪ Our first music class will be on Sunday, October 1st at 4:30 p.m., during Sunday Fun Day at ULC.
- ♪ Music with Mrs. Janine will include Children's Choir, rhythm instruments, and movement.

New Hope Singers

- ♪ New Hope Singers (NHS) is ULC's vocal ensemble for college students, high school juniors and seniors, and young adults.
- ♪ NHS sings during Sunday morning worship approximately twice a semester.

- ♪ Rehearsals are on select Sunday mornings, after worship.
- ♪ NHS director, Janine Novenske Smith, Accompanist, John Dale Smith

Senior Choir

- ♪ The Senior Choir will rehearse in-person on Thursdays, 7:30 to 9 p.m.,
- ♪ The choir will sing during Sunday morning worship on scheduled Sunday mornings.
- ♪ First Rehearsal: Thursday, Sept. 7, in the sanctuary.
- ♪ Senior Choir director, Janine Novenske Smith, Accompanist, Kristie W. Wiggert

Janine Novenske Smith
Director of Worship and the Arts

Learn to Play the Handbells!

Are you interested in playing handbells? If so, your opportunity to do so starts Monday, Sept 11. After a three-year hiatus, handbell rehearsal will be held every Monday from 6-7 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Those new to ringing will be taught the proper techniques. You don't have to know how to read music, but counting is essential. Music will be marked to make it easier to know when to ring your bells.



Consider joining the choir and have fun ringing, swinging, shaking and echoing. For more information contact me at paquetl47@gmail.com.

Louise Paquette

Outdoor Concert Series



Lansing Concert Big Band



Beautiful weather for the first concert.



Marge & Will served popcorn.



Elvis is in the house, and the women go wild!



Chuck gets a selfie with our photographer, Linda.



Concert Series Coordinator John Dale Smith with Three Men and a Tenor.

Earthkeeping News



**REGIONAL*
ELECTRONICS
RECYCLING DAY**

Chippewa Middle School
4000 Okemos Road

*All welcome!

Accepted Items

TVs, computers, monitors, printers, cords/ cables, phones, VCRs, stereos, and more**

TVs & Monitors: \$20 donation each (cash or check payable to Meridian Township)

**Consumers Energy may be accepting working room air conditioners, dehumidifiers, compact fridges/freezers from their customers with electric service and provide a rebate of \$15 for each eligible unit. Items must be in working condition. Contact 800.977.8995 or visit ConsumersEnergy.com/recycle for more information.

Non-Accepted Items

No batteries, smoke detectors, lighting, vacuum cleaners, coffee makers, toasters, air conditioners*, dehumidifiers* & large appliances. *Rebates may be offered for Consumers Energy Customers. (please check back for details)

Event Sponsors









For more information visit meridian.mi.us/recycle



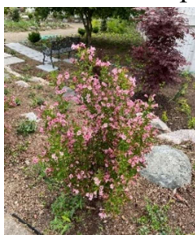
Click on document to see a full-sized version or visit the resources section of the ULC webpage www.ulcel.org.

Thank you!

Thank you to all who contributed funds for the ground mount solar system. It will be completed soon. We will then enjoy even lower electric costs, be less dependent on fossil fuels, and have a visual symbol of our commitment to caring for God's creation.

Grounds Crew

Last year at this time a crew was working in an overgrown Memorial Garden preparing it for a new design and planting. The work was completed, and for almost a year now we have been able



Flowering shrub in Memorial Garden.

to enjoy the fruits of that labor. The new bushes and trees have blossomed, offering a quiet place where you can walk or sit and experience the beautiful setting.

However, the garden crew has still been hard at work preparing the area north of the parking lot for the new solar panels. This has required removing a lot of brush, digging up roots, and trimming limbs from trees to make the area large enough to accommodate the 50 solar panels to be

installed later this summer. Once operational, this 20.25 kw array will reduce the current ULC electric bill by half. Norm Jolin, Dale

Romsos, Larry Wagenknecht, Rick Milligan, and Jim Lorenz have worked diligently to get the area ready for the installation.



June Solar Panel Area July

So, on a sunny day after church, take a few minutes to walk through the garden and experience the peace and beauty around you. Also check out the solar panel area. Norm Jolin can usually be found nearby to answer any questions you might have.

Connie Lenkowski

Annual Food Packing Event Oct. 8

“God's Work. Our Hands.” Sunday is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the ELCA – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. This year marks 10 years of “God's Work. Our Hands.” Sunday.

To celebrate, ULC will be hosting the annual Food Packing Event with the Islamic Center on Sunday, Oct. 8 at 11:30 a.m., a bye week for MSU college football. ULC is looking for at least 45 volunteers to help package food and clean up after the event. Sign-ups for the event will be made available in the near future. The event typically only takes a couple



2022 Food Packing Event

hours, and it is not only a great way to serve those in need, but it is also a great way to become closer to our friends at the Islamic Center.

Volunteers at this event will put together over 10,000 meals for those in need. The meals will be

distributed equally: 1/3 overseas, 1/3 in the United States, and 1/3 locally, such as the MSU Student Food Bank. These meals are especially critical this year as the emergency allotment of SNAP benefits for the COVID pandemic came to an end, decreasing the essential food benefits families and individuals have come to rely on for the previous three years.

Save the date on your calendar and please consider helping out on “God's Work. Our Hands.” Sunday!

*Vicki Anderson
Brandon and Jay DuBois-Jones*



Busy Summer!

Our special sewing session on June 10 to make Sani-Pads for young girls and women in Mali was a great success with 23 volunteers! Using an assembly line set-up, batting and flannel were cut, pinned together, passed on to the sewers for stitching, trimming, and then Velcro closure dots were stitched in place. Two other stations constructed small supply bags with ribbon ties so the Sani-Pads can be safely and discretely carried to school. Thank you for the donation of over 250 pairs of panties that will be sent along with the sanitary kits.

Congratulations to our graduating high school seniors who were wrapped in their quilts in June. We look forward to hearing often from Ian Brown, Carl Ericksen, Lizzie Freeman, Brielle Williams and Rachel Williams. (Photos on page 4.) It is a gift to have the opportunity to watch our young people transition from youth into adults.

Four Quilts of Valor were awarded in June to veterans of the United States

Army: Tee Bousson, Aaron Stearns, Barry Kurtzhals and Glenn Mulder. Are there members of the ULC family who have served or are currently serving in the military who have not been awarded a Quilt of Valor? Please contact either Ann Booren (boorena@msu.edu) or Bobbie Davis (bobbieanddavis80@gmail.com) to request one.

Last fall's Christmas Quilt Workshop was such a success, we are planning a follow-up for Saturday, Oct. 7. The MSU football schedule is empty that day so there will be lots of parking available. We are busy cutting kits using a new pattern and Pauline has agreed to help serve lunch. More details will be coming in September but mark your calendars now.



Christmas quilt sample.

In November 2003, Prayers & Squares Chapter 163 was chartered to ULC. Since that time our ministry has evolved and grown, and it is time to celebrate 20 years of providing prayer quilts, awarding Quilts of Valor, celebrating our graduating high school seniors with a quilt and much more. Be ready to hear more details of a special day and time when we look back over the past 20 years and look forward to continuing our mission.

We are continuing to meet on Tuesday mornings from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. If you are unable to be there, come after church on Sunday and grab a kit to make a quilt top at home, or a bag of fabric to wash and iron, or just to say hello. Our beautiful sewing room is in the Sunday School wing. We LOVE to have visitors! Who knows, you might be inspired to join us in this wonderful mission.

Bobbie Davis

We Have 100 Backpacks to Fill!

Prayers and Squares has once again assumed the responsibility of buying all the school supplies needed to fill the 100 Lutheran World Relief school packs that Ellie



Two of the unique school bags created by Ellie Korroch each year.

Korroch has sewn. We are asking your help in the purchase of about \$500 worth of the required school supplies. We work with Staples, and they happily and carefully fill our order.

With this in mind, we have scheduled "noisy offerings" for Sunday, Aug. 27 and Sept. 24th. You ask, "What is a noisy offering?" During offering time, we will pass a noisy container for you to empty your pockets or your billfold of loose change, and hope it makes lots of

noise! Don't forget to check at home for loose change, too.

We also will be happy to accept folding money, checks, or PayPal. If you want your gift to be recorded for your offering records, please use an offering envelope from the pew. And many thanks!

Ann Booren

NOISY OFFERINGS!
AUGUST 27
SEPTEMBER 24

All funds go towards school supplies for Lutheran World Relief School backpacks



September Outreach of the Month Kids Hope USA - Making a Difference!

The September Outreach focus is Kids Hope. Please support us with an extra offering using a pew envelope, direct deposit at MSFCU, or use our donate button on the website, www.ulcel.org. Indicate “Kids Hope” in the memo. Read below how we are really making a difference.

One afternoon five years ago Pastor Gary called and asked me if I would be the Director for Kids Hope USA at ULC. I had never heard of it before and had no clue what it was. He told me he had been a Kids Hope mentor at his previous church for eight years and thought it was a terrific ministry which would benefit students in a local elementary school. I soon learned that Kids Hope USA is a national ministry that began in western Michigan over 25 years ago and has spread to more than 35 states with over 800 programs. It assists church members in mentoring students with a goal of establishing a relationship with at-risk students, so they feel special and loved. Volunteers mentor at the school for one hour each week.

After accepting the role of director, the first order of business was to find a local school for this new ULC ministry to partner with. Ms. Brown, the principal of Forest View Elementary, a pre-k through third grade building in the Lansing School district located three miles south of ULC, let us know she believed we could make a positive difference in the lives of her students.

The next step was to find mentors and pair them with a child to begin the process of supporting a student who needed the extra help and attention. Great care is taken in making a match that will be a blessing to both the student and the mentor beginning with a referral form filled out by the student’s teacher and reviewed by Principal Brown and myself. Some students need academic help while others are struggling to make friends and feel like they fit in or are dealing with the disruption of big changes in their home life. What all our mentees share is the need for unconditional love and one on one attention.

So, how were the ULC mentors going to help these children who could be in Kindergarten through third grade? The most important thing a mentor does is to



Pizza lunch for staff on the last day of school.

show up. There is great power and love in letting a child know they are there just for them. That one hour in the child’s life can become the highlight of their week. Having an adult care enough to be present with them whether they are having a good or a bad day and to interact with them without judgement is the true blessing of this ministry. The hour is also most often filled with fun. Our Kids Hope supply room is filled with materials to use including games, puzzles, puppets, art supplies, books and educational materials.

Many of our mentors can share stories of a breakthrough in reading, in math, or in connecting with a student who struggles with communicating.

Each mentor also receives extensive training both in person at ULC and online through the national headquarters. Kids Hope has experts that share how to teach a child life-skills such as resiliency and ways in which they are smart to build self-confidence; as well as tools for coping with trauma, child safety, overcoming barriers to reading, closure and much more. Recognizing that there will be days when a mentor is in need of support, Kids Hope is structured so that each mentor is paired with a prayer partner with whom they can share the blessings and challenges of their mentoring journey and who assures that they enter Forest View fortified with prayer.

Also, the blessing does not end with the students. Our mentoring team works together to show the teachers support and love as well by providing small gifts, treats and an end of the year meal that lets these public-school heroes know they are recognized and appreciated for the challenging work they do day in and day out.

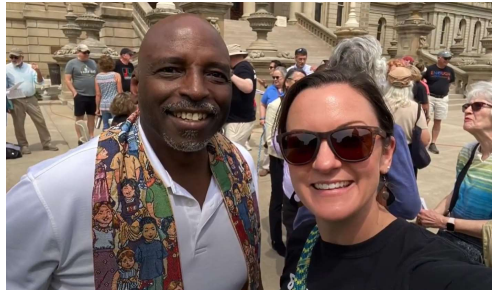
The ULC Kids Hope ministry is sustainable only as long as we have members willing to mentor partnered with a caring individual who will support and pray for the match. If you would like to make a difference for a child by participating in Kids Hope USA as a mentor or prayer partner or learn more about it, contact me at barbkissling@gmail.com or talk with Pastor Gary.

Barb Kissling
ULC Director of Kids Hope USA

Juneteenth At The Capitol

(Emancipation Day, Freedom Day, Liberty Day, Jubilee Day, Celebration Day)

Pastor Haley Vay transported a group of us on the ULC bus to the noon festivities at the base of the Capitol steps. We joined other Lansing area faith communities on June 19th to celebrate the freedom that marks the end of slavery in the United States.



Rev. Tony Patrick (retired Presbyterian minister), Pastor Haley Vay and Sue Kamens represented ULC at the Capitol.

Leading up to this: President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863- not every state followed his order to free slaves. 250,000 Texas slaves didn't learn of their freedom for two more years.

President John F. Kennedy submitted legislation to congress that became the Civil Rights Act of 1964. President Joe Biden made Juneteenth a Federal Holiday in 2021.

The Rev. Stanley Jenkins of Lansing's First Presbyterian Church and the Justice League of Greater Lansing asked us to look at the African Americans standing across from us as we read the Apology to them asking for forgiveness for the sin of slavery and its aftermath. There was a spirit of unity, humility and appreciation that was spoken and felt. Speaking words of accountability is where reconciliation and healing can start, because words spoken honestly and from the heart are liberating for both

those saying and receiving the words. It's from that point where there can be loving acts to "repair the breach"- Isaiah 58 :12 "you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of the streets to live in".

Prince Solace, the President of the Justice League of Greater Lansing, a 501C3 organization, told us about their effort to make the connection between faith and racial justice in the form of reparations in

the greater Lansing area, mainly from white congregations in the form of educational scholarships, home ownerships, and business startups. This effort leads to healing and becoming the "beloved community" that Martin Luther King Jr. described.

We know from many references in both the old and new testaments how passionate God is for justice in His creation. The prophets spoke of justice. Jesus showed us the way of justice. Micah 6:8 sums it up in these words, "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?"

People lingered and talked with each other after the singing of "We shall overcome," which ended the celebration.

Carol Mackin and Kathy Protsman

UNDERSTANDING RACISM WORKSHOP

Offered by the ULC Racial Justice Team in partnership with Lansing Communities Organizing for Racial Equity

REGISTRATION

Register and Pay
www.tinyurl.com/COREFA
LL23

Register by Email
CORE@sycamorecreek
church.org

Register by Mail
Sycamore Creek Church
1919 S. Pennsylvania
Lansing, MI 48910

COST

Free to ULC Members
When registering, please
choose the option to "pay
later" under credit card.

Contact Vicki Anderson with
questions.

Lansing area resident: \$100

**Non-Lansing area
resident: \$300**

Repeat attendees: 50% off
Includes training and workbook

WORKSHOP GOALS

- To see and learn about racism in a new and redemptive way.
- To gain insights into systemic racism through the eyes of faith and Scripture.
- To see more of the connections between history and contemporary race relations.
- To identify organizing opportunities to "eliminate racism, both causes and effects, within the body of believers and throughout the world."
- To create a community of Christian antiracists in Lansing

September 15 & 16
9:00-noon
and
1:00-6:00 pm

Lunch and Snacks
provided

First time attendees must be
present the entire time, both days

In person at
University
Lutheran Church
1020 S. Harrison Road
East Lansing, MI 48823



From the President

Pastor Search and Solar Panels

Here is an update on where we are in the search for a lead pastor. Will Mahoney has accepted the council's request to be the chair of the call committee for the lead pastor. He is putting together a team that represents a cross-section of our membership. Bishop Satterlee has given us information about a couple of possible candidates for the interim pastoral position. The Council is finishing the Ministry Site Profile which is a description of ULC as well as what we are looking for in a lead pastor.

In other matters, we had to obtain a waiver from the East Lansing Planning Commission for a variance to build a 20kw system. That has delayed the construction of the Solar Panels. Construction of the solar panels should begin sometime this fall. I would especially like to thank Dale Romsos for all his hard work setting this up as well as Norm Jolin and the grounds team for clearing the "jungle" where the array will be built.

Due to supply chain issues, we are waiting on parts for the new sound system. The sound system should be installed sometime this fall.

I would like to thank everyone for their patience as we go through this time of transition. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Rick Milligan
dkrjmill@yahoo.com
ULC Council President

Last Chance for 2023 Endowment Grant Proposals

There is still time to submit a grant proposal for the 2023 distributions from the ULC Campus Ministry and General Endowment Funds. Grant proposals must be submitted on the Endowment Application no later than **Sept. 30, 2023**.

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 intended to assist efforts at ULC, the community and the world.

The Endowment Committee reviews all grants that are submitted and approves grants that reflect the mission and vision of ULC. In the past, grants have been approved for alternative spring break trips by ULC campus students, computers for needy students in



Columbia, establishing a library in Namibia, summer concert series, Memorial Garden improvements, roof top solar arrays, building a wheelchair ramp, Honduras mission work, projection and streaming equipment for the sanctuary, prison reform projects, and more.

If you have an idea for a great service project or a specific need within the community (local or worldwide), please take advantage of this wonderful resource made possible by the generous gifts of others.

Applications for the grants are found under "Resources" at www.ulcel.org or you can contact the members of the Endowment Committee for more information at ulcendowment@ulcel.org.

Larry Wagenknecht, Endowment Committee Chair

August Outreach of the Month CORE – Communities Organizing for Racial Equity

Communities Organizing for Racial Equity (formerly CORR) has been providing Christ-centered anti-racism training for organizations and churches in the West Michigan community and beyond for over 20 years.

The ULC Racial Justice Ministry Team continues our affiliation with CORE and especially our coaches and mentors Victoria Gibbs and



Hannah DeVries. We are asking you to consider supporting *their* work so that they can continue to guide us in *OUR* work.

You are likely familiar with CORE as the group who presents the Understanding Racism workshop in the Spring and Fall. However, their ministry is much more than that. CORE works with multiple churches and community

organizations to assist them in developing community programs to achieve economic, social, and racial equity.

We are grateful for the spiritual and financial support of our congregation and pray that you consider CORE a worthy outreach ministry. Learn more at www.core.now.

Thom McCurdy, Racial Justice Team

Here is the summary of the June and July council meetings. ULC Council met via Zoom on June 20 and July 18.

Highlights from the discussions include:

- (June/July) Giving is on track for the year and we are currently running a net positive budget.
- (June/July) Council is continuing to work on the Call Committee and beginning to draft the



Ministry Site Profile (MSP), which is the first step in the call process.

- Council organized a farewell brunch for Pastor Haley Vay after the service on July 9th.

- Council will organize a retirement brunch for Pastor Gary on Sept. 24th.
- Council discussed the bid received for urgently needed repairs in the parking lot. No decisions have been made.

*Louise Montag, Treasurer
Emily Uebel, Secretary*

ULC Leadership Opportunities

The Members in Ministry Team (MiM) can help you connect your talents to our many ministries. ULC has so many ministries and a talent you bring may be just what will help a ministry to flourish. We help members figure out how to best connect their gifts with ULC ministries.

There are many leadership and volunteer opportunities at ULC. The MiM Team's role is to match people's gifts with open leadership roles. We do this through prayerful discernment and conversations with potential leaders. We are currently working to find members for these elected positions that start in January:

Endowment Committee Member (Three-year term, two positions) Manage endowment funds and evaluate grant requests in order to distribute available funds each year.

Endowment Committee Student Member (One-year term) Manage endowment funds and evaluate grant requests in order to distribute available funds each year.

Finance Committee Member (Two-year term, two positions) Develop ULC's annual budget and oversee the financial operations of the congregation.

ULC Council Member at-large (Two-year term, two positions) Guide, lead, and set bigger picture direction for the congregation.

ULC Council Student Member (One-year term) Help guide, lead, and set bigger picture direction for the congregation.

Members in Ministry Member (Two-year term, two positions) Help raise up appropriately gifted people to serve in ULC ministries.

ULC Treasurer (Two-year term) Responsible for leading the Finance Team, overseeing the financial processes of the church together with the Financial Administrator, and serves on the Council.

ULC Secretary (Two-year term) Take and maintain minutes of Council and Congregational Meetings and serve on the Council.

ULC President – Lead the church council. This is a three-year term with automatic succession year to year from President-Elect to President to Past-President.

Once MiM has identified people who are a good match for these positions and who are willing to serve, the election to approve people for the positions is held at the Annual Meeting in November or December.

If you have talents and would like help better engaging in these ministries, or if you are interested in any of the above elected positions, please email Joy Oslund at joyaoslund@gmail.com

We would love to hear about your ideas and talk with you about ways you can contribute to the ministries of ULC!

*Members in Ministry Team,
Joy Oslund, Kathy Sweat, Carol Mackin, Connie
Lenkowski, Clarke Anderson, Pastor Gary*



ULC Time Capsules

ULC has had three different time capsules or cornerstones. The first one was placed in the cornerstone when they started building the Ann Street Church on Nov. 23, 1947. The theme was “Let Us Arise and Build.”



November 23, 1947
Ann Street Church cornerstone.

on May 3, 1959. We have lists of all the contents of these two cornerstones.

The third time capsule was put into the altar at the new University Lutheran Church on Harrison Road on Founder’s Day on April 27, 1975.



May 3, 1959
Cornerstone for Ann St. education wing

Forty-one years later, on Jan. 24, 2016, Council President Larry Wagenknecht removed the time capsule from the altar with the help of Pastor Fred Fritz and children attending the morning service as part of ULC’s 75th anniversary



April 27, 1975
Harrison Rd Church time capsule placed in the altar.

celebration. We knew some of the contents from the list of items placed in the original time capsule of the Ann Street Church in 1945, and we knew that these items were transferred to the time capsule in 1975.



October 2019
Ann Street Education Unit cornerstone removed.

We expected to find items from the 1959-time capsule which was in the cornerstone of the Education Annex on Ann Street. However, there was nothing from 1959 in the box. This led us to realize that the Education Annex time capsule was never removed from the cornerstone. We contacted University Seventh-day Adventist Church, the current owner of the Ann Street church. Working with a member of the church who had a masonry business, we arranged to have the cornerstone removed in October 2019. The cornerstone was reached quickly; however, the force of the saw and the water involved damaged a lot of the contents. Previous moisture in the box also caused mildew and damage to most items. Many of the contents have been copied so they can be preserved, and some had to be discarded.



January 24, 2016
Removal of the time capsule from the altar.

Now, after retrieving the 1959 box and surviving COVID, we are finally returning to the altar items from the 1945-, 1959-, and 1975-time capsules plus objects featuring ULC and the world today. Together, these items tell some of the story of our church. We hope the contents of the time capsule will interest ULC members worshipping in 2041 – our 100th anniversary!

Connie Lenkowski

Save the Date!
September 24

Join us as we celebrate Pastor Gary and wish him well in his retirement.

Council will be hosting a special luncheon on Sept. 24, immediately following worship, and presenting him with a special gift.

If you would like to contribute, you are welcome to give via cash, check, or the ULC PayPal link on the website.
(Please include “Pastor Gary gift” in the memo if paying by check or PayPal).

For additional questions, please reach out to Louise at louiseharder81@gmail.com

August Birthdays

- 16 Loretta Geisen
Grace Sype
- 17 Thomas Wanagat
- 18 Carl Ericksen
- 19 Thomas Kissling
- 21 Michael Kruger
- 23 Sherry Corwin
- 25 Mailee Greiter
- 27 Lynn Kotnik
- 28 Samantha Ernst
Laura Kruger
Sue Martin
- 29 Stephanie Hall

August Wedding Anniversaries

- 16 Laura Appel & Gary Garbarino
- 17 Jeff Williams & Joy Whitten



- 18 Norm & Kirstan Jolin
- 21 Gary Dawson & Julie Baglien
- 21 Diane & John Goddeeris
Richard & Jennifer Tracy
Robert & Anne Smith
- 24 Gary & Loretta Geisen
- 26 Steve & Kristi Sneed
- 27 Dave & Kristie Wiggert
- 30 Jerry & Nancy Lindman
- 31 Bryn & Pr. Haley Vay
Craig & Cathy Lazar

September Birthdays

- 2 Brianna Green
- 6 Paul Kindel

- 7 Brandon Baswell
- 10 Dale Harpstead
- 12 Karen Holden
- 14 Max Helser
Louise Montag
- 15 Cathy Clugston
- 16 Matthew Uebel
- 18 Jay Johnson
Paul Kotnik
Lindsay Sadler
Craig Satterlee
- 19 Cindy Baswell
Sandy Davis
Lisa Swem
- 20 Marilyn Johnson
- 21 Russel Erickson
Robert Smith
- 22 Gabrielle Gallagher
- 24 James Cox
- 25 Kathy Bracken
- 26 Jeffrey Guilfoyle

- Mark Johnson
- 26 Adelyn Karcher
- 27 Donna Carl
Henry McPhall
- 29 Vera Shaw
- 30 Phyllis Kost

September Wedding Anniversaries

- 7 David & Debbie Gift
- 12 Jay & Myra Kim
- 16 Andrew Hagman & Erin Frisch
Bryan & Brie McPhall
Craig & Wanda Ophaug
- 17 Mark & Marilyn Johnson
- 18 David & Cindy Ramsey
- 21 Jerry & Jan Becker
- 24 Travis and Tali Hylen
- 26 Michael & Melissa Masnyi

Farewell and Godspeed



Sunday, July 9, Pastor Haley Vay's seven years of service as Associate Pastor was celebrated and ended as she begins a new call in the Traverse City area.



Newsletter SUBMISSIONS

The deadline for the October Lux is **Friday, Sept. 15.**

E-mail articles to Amy Wagenknecht at amylarryw@comcast.net and Mandy O'Neil 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!

August

- | | | | | |
|----|-------------------------|--|--------|--|
| 16 | 8:00a | Mushers-IHOP, EL | 10:00a | Prayers & Squares-Fellowship Hall |
| | 10:00a | Accessibility Team-Fireside | 1:30p | Staff Meeting |
| | Noon | Lectio Divina Bible Study-Zoom* | 2:45p | Faith, Writing & Reflection-Zoom* |
| | Noon | Lux Mailing | 6:30p | Racial Justice Team-Zoom |
| | 6:30p | Council Meeting-Conference | 13 | 8:00a Mushers-IHOP, EL |
| 20 | 10:00a | Sunday Worship-Sanctuary/Facebook | | 9:00a CVIP Annual Retreat-Fireside |
| | 6:00p | Outdoor Concert-ULC Lawn (Frendz) | | Noon Lectio Divina Bible Study-Zoom* |
| 21 | 4:00p | Tight Knit-Fireside | 14 | 9:30a Brunch Bunch-IHOP, EL |
| 22 | MSU Move-in (thru 8/24) | | | 7:30p Choir Rehearsal |
| | 10:00a | Prayers & Squares-Fellowship | 15 | Hispanic Heritage Month |
| | 1:30p | Staff Meeting | | 9:00a CORE Understanding Racism Workshop-Fireside |
| | 2:45p | Faith, Writing & Reflection-Zoom* | | 5:00p Fridays@Five |
| | 7:00p | Families Against Narcotics (FAN)-Fellowship | 16 | 9:00a CORE Understanding Racism Workshop-Fireside |
| 23 | 8:00a | Mushers-IHOP, EL | | 2:30p MSU Football Parking (Washington kick-off 5p) |
| | Noon | Lectio Divina Bible Study -Zoom | 17 | ALPHA SUNDAY |
| 24 | 3:30p | Food Movers Distribution-Drive thru | | 10:00a Outdoor Worship (WE: Blue Grass) Ministry Fair #1 |
| 27 | 10:00a | Sunday Worship (Noisy Offering)-Sanctuary/FB | | 11:30a Potluck/BBQ |
| | 4:00p | Sparticipation-MSU IM East Field | 18 | 4:00 Tight Knit-Fireside |
| 28 | MSU Classes Begin | | | 6:00p Handbell Rehearsal-Sanctuary |
| | 4:00p | Tight Knit-Fireside | 19 | 10:00a Prayers & Squares-Fellowship Hall |
| 29 | 10:00a | Prayers & Squares-Fellowship | | 12:30p Lychnion Circle-Fireside |
| | 1:30p | Staff Meeting | | 1:30p Staff Meeting |
| | 2:45p | Faith, Writing & Reflection-Zoom* | | 2:45p Faith, Writing & Reflection-Zoom* |
| | 7:00p | Pub Theology-Location TBD | | 6:30p ULC Council |
| 30 | 8:00a | Mushers-IHOP, EL | 20 | 8:00a Mushers-IHOP, EL |
| | Noon | Lectio Divina Bible Study-Zoom | | 9:30a Amnos-Fireside |

September

- | | | | | |
|----|-------------------------------|--|----|--|
| 1 | 4:30p | MSU Football Parking (CMU kick-off 7p) | 21 | 10:00a ULC Book Club-Fireside |
| 3 | 10:00a | Sunday Worship-Sanctuary/FB | | 7:30p Choir Rehearsal |
| 4 | Labor Day (ULC Office Closed) | | 22 | 5:00p Fridays@Five |
| 5 | 7:30a | Tuesday Morning Bible Study-Zoom* | 23 | 1:00p MSU Football Parking (MD kick-off 3:30p) |
| | 10:00a | Prayers & Squares-Fellowship | 24 | 10:00a Sunday Worship(Pr. Gary Farewell) -Sanct/FB |
| | 1:30p | Staff Meeting | 25 | 4:00p Tight Knit-Fireside |
| | 2:45p | Faith, Writing & Reflection-Zoom* | | 6:00p Handbell Rehearsal-Sanctuary |
| 6 | 8:00a | Mushers-IHOP, EL | 26 | 10:00a Prayers & Squares-Fellowship |
| | 9:30a | Communications Team-Zoom | | 1:30p Staff Meeting |
| | Noon | Lectio Divina Bible Study-Zoom | | 2:45p Faith, Writing & Reflection-Zoom* |
| | 4:30p | Lead Management Team-Zoom | | 7:00p Families Against Narcotics (FAN)-Fellowship |
| 7 | 7:30p | Choir Rehearsal | | 7:00p Pub Theology-Location TBD |
| 8 | 5:00p | Fridays@Five | 27 | 8:00a Mushers-IHOP, EL |
| 9 | 1:00p | Football Parking (Richmond, VA Kick-off 3:30p) | | Noon Lectio Divina Bible Study -Zoom |
| 10 | 10:00a | Sunday Worship-Sanctuary/Facebook | 28 | 3:30p Food Movers Distribution-Drive thru |
| 11 | 4:00p | Tight Knit-Fireside | | 7:30p Choir Rehearsal |
| | 6:00p | Handbell Rehearsal-Sanctuary | 29 | 5:00p Fridays@Five |
| 12 | 7:30a | Tuesday Morning Bible Study-Zoom* | | |

ULC Office Hours

Tuesday - Thursday
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Closed Monday & Friday

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!

*Zoom link contacts: Lectio Divina - Mandy; Council Meeting – Pastor Gary; Faith, Writing & Reflection - Carole Ford cfordlip@yahoo.com; Tuesday study – Larry Wagenknecht



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

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Change service requested

Gary A. Bunge
 Lead Pastor

Janine Novenske Smith
 Director of Worship & the Arts

Mandy O'Neil
 Office Administrator

Gary Carl
 Financial Administrator

Mary Letvenow
 Event Coordinator

Kristie Wiggert
 Organist

John Dale Smith
 Pianist

Louise Paquette
 Director of Handbells

FOOTBALL PARKING IS BACK!

We need volunteers to help with football parking on MSU home games. We especially need help for the UM game Oct. 21st (Even if not for the whole time)! Proceeds will either go towards the Senior Choir Scholarship Fund or Youth Ministry. Please contact Mary Letvenow at mbletvenow@comcast.net to volunteer.

MSU FOOTBALL PARKING SCHEDULE

Sept. 1 at 4:30p - CMU	Sept. 23 at 1:00p - Maryland
Sept. 9 at 1:00p - Richmond	Oct. 21 TBA - U of M
Sept. 16 at 2:30p - Washington	Nov. 4 TBA - Nebraska