



Mark Your Calendars . . .

Sunday Worship via Facebook Live
10 a.m.

Virtual Pub Theology
Tuesday, May 5 at 7 p.m.
(More details on page 13.)

Food Movers
Thursday, May 28
Drive-thru pick up of
prepacked boxes
4:30 p.m.



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2020 Easter Celebrated Virtually

Because of the governor's Stay Home, Stay Safe order due to the COVID19 pandemic, Michigan residents could not leave their homes to celebrate Easter. For the fourth Sunday, ULC members and friends joined together virtually using Facebook Live at 10 a.m. to worship. Thanks to ULC staff and some very creative members, including Jim Lorenz and Mitchell Eithun, a beautiful Easter worship service was presented.



The Lansing Virtual Choir leads the congregation in the hymn *Crown Him with Many Crowns*.

The service included a children's search for "Alleluia," a group reading of the Gospel Mark, a hymn by the "Lansing Virtual Choir" and the ULC Bell Choir, a sermon by Bishop Craig Satterlee and several opportunities to sing hymns and pray together. The service ended with a recording of the Hallelujah Chorus and pictures of previous Easter worship at ULC. While the smell of Easter flowers, the delicious Easter brunch, the live Easter music, and the fellowship of attendees was missed, this was a wonderful safe alternative for such a time as this. See more photos from the worship on page 2.

Amy Wagenknecht

We Can Still Worship "Together"

Join us for virtual worship on Facebook Live every Sunday at 10 a.m. until it is safe for us to once again worship together in person. To watch the event "live:"

1. Visit [Facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)
2. In the search window search **University Lutheran Church ELCA**
3. Click on ULC's Page, then Click **Following**
4. Click the pencil (edit) icon next to **Notifications**
5. Select the type of notifications you'd like to receive: If **Standard** or **Highlights** is selected, you will receive live video notifications from this page.



Happy Easter!

As I write this, we have just celebrated Easter in a way that none of us ever have, and in a way that I never imagined. I am so grateful for all the people who have been helping Pastor Haley Vay and me put our virtual worship services together, especially Jim Lorenz and Mitchell Eithun. Their technological expertise, creativity, and time have been a wonderful gift to us and to our congregation. I can't thank them enough for all their work in keeping us together in these challenging days.



I wonder how God is involved in all of this

Like most folks, I have days when I'm doing fine with everything and days when I feel tired and weary and wonder how we will ever get back to life as we've known it. It's when I have these "down" times that I'm glad that this is the Easter season, because Easter proclaims that pandemic and coronavirus and COVID-19 and death will not have the last word. Easter proclaims that God is the one who brings life out of death. Easter proclaims that God brings hope when all hope is lost. Easter proclaims that God is doing a new thing and making all things new. Easter proclaims that Jesus Christ has the last word, and it is a word of life and hope.

pray that you will hold fast to that promise too.

I also want to say thank you for your continued financial contributions to the ministry of ULC. Your generous giving is always important, but it is even more important now as your giving enables us to continue our ministry uninterrupted. Perhaps the easiest way to give is to use the "Donate" button on our website, www.ulcel.org which makes use of PayPal. You do not need a PayPal account to use this option. If you have an MSUFCU checking account, you can also set up direct deposits to ULC's MSUFCU account. Of course, mailing a check to church will always work, but given the stay-at-home order, checks are slower and more difficult to deal with.

There are many thoughts that are rolling through my head these days:

- I wonder when this will be over and when/if we'll get back to normal life
- I wonder how our lives will be different going forward
- I wonder when we'll be able to worship together in-person again
- I wonder what aspects of virtual worship we'll want to keep when we're back together

In the midst of the darkness, when I can't see the possibility of newness and life, and everything seems hopeless, I hold fast to the promise that we worship a God who brings life where there is only death. And I

May God's promise of new life fill you with hope and strength as we journey together through these challenging and unprecedented days. Christ is risen and will raise us up to new life too. Happy Easter.

Pastor Gary

On-Line Easter!



Pastor Gary welcomed viewers to Easter worship.



ULC Bell Choir offered *Hallelujah!*



ULC members read the Resurrection story



Bishop Craig Satterlee provided the Easter sermon.



Singing *Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!*



Erin Frisch offers prayers.



Memories of the Hallelujah Chorus



An Easter benediction! Go in Peace!!

Congratulations Graduates!

Jeremy Cicak

I am finishing classes and will be receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in Zoology from MSU. While I am interviewing for a stocker job at Sam's Club, I continue to look for a job as a zookeeper. I plan to work for a year and hope to return to MSU for graduate school in 2021.

Mitchell Eithun:

I have filled my quarantine with creative projects. After smuggling three octaves of handbells from my mom's church, we have been busy creating multi-track handbell hymn videos, which you can see in my [YouTube playlist](#). I have also been creating video content for ULC, including "[virtual Sunday school](#)" videos, a reflection on the [Gospel of Mark](#) and a [virtual choir](#). Recently I've been busy working with Campus Edge Fellowship to continue hosting Bible studies and social events for graduate students at MSU. You can read some of my reflections on the book of Lamentations on the [Campus Edge blog](#).

In May I will be receiving an M.S. in Computational, Mathematics Science and Engineering, which means I am trained to be a data scientist specializing in data visualization and high-performance computing. I continue to discern my next steps. I have not been successful in finding teaching jobs in post-secondary education, but I have been accepted to MDiv programs at Duke and Yale Divinity Schools and the Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) program of the ELCA. This summer I was considering teaching a programming course at a high school summer camp in New York, but the program was canceled so I will continue to work on creative projects for churches. Thank you for your support of campus ministry at ULC!

Megan Kotnik

As an essential student employee in Residential and Housing Services at MSU, my days tend to look very different from other college students. Monday and Wednesday mornings my alarm goes off at 6 a.m., I get ready then change into my contaminated work clothes by my front door and pick out a fresh cotton mask before I leave for the day. After donning a fresh pair of gloves, I spend my mornings collecting, decontaminating, and organizing keys from students who returned their campus keys through the mail, or I am checking and sanitizing



"I give thanks to my God always for you" (1 Cor 1:4a)

stations so that they are ready for whenever students return. In the afternoon after a break for lunch, my two coworkers and I re-sanitize everything around me and continue to clean and close down Brody Neighborhood. Besides work I spend my days off attending class and completing homework assignments at my small desk in my bedroom. Because I'm still working, I currently live alone to help keep everyone safe, but I have two little guinea pigs and the loving calls or video chats

from members of ULC and One Community to keep me company!

Rachel Morin

Life right now is a lot different than I imagined this time of my life looking like. I imagined being able to reminisce and enjoy my "lasts" with my classmates as we made the final push through our last set of finals before we walked across the stage. Instead I have been attending classes while self-isolating in my apartment here in East Lansing. My "lasts" look quite different and the chance to celebrate with family, friends, and classmates our three years of grueling work is on hold. It has been hard to remember that I am lucky to have a roof over my head when it feels like all the good things this year was supposed to hold are being taken away from me. I have been doing my part by staying self-isolated, but as those who live alone know it can be hard looking at the same four walls all the time especially when living in a small one-bedroom apartment.

Right now, my uncle is fighting the virus. Luckily, he is at home and his fever is trending down, so we are all hopeful. Also, my aunt who has been caring for him has not shown symptoms. I will be moving home to New Jersey as soon as it's safe enough for me to do so. I was planning to take the July NJ Bar Exam, but because of the virus the exam has been postponed to early September.

In August I will be starting my career with a job as a Judicial Law Clerk for Judge Thomas Booth. He is a family law judge in Camden, NJ. During this one-year position, I will be applying for jobs as an attorney and hope to be hired by the Office of the Law Guardian, so I can finally work in the career I have always wanted, Child Advocacy.

Continued on page 4

Graduates continued from page 3.

I recently received the prayer quilt from the congregation, sewn by Prayers & Squares, and it made me cry. I am so thankful to have found such a loving, welcoming, and friendly congregation to make my home away from home. If we are unable to worship together before I leave, know that I will be back to visit soon, and you all have made an imprint on my heart that I will never forget. Go Green!

Emily Oswald

Hello to my church family! Life has taken quite a turn recently, as I'm sure it has for all of you. Right now, I am working on finishing up my senior year at MSU. When classes first started to transfer to remote learning, it was very difficult for me because most of my classwork as a mechanical engineering student is very hands-on. Now, things have calmed down and I am used to my "new normal." I am currently wrapping up my final projects and am constantly meeting with my group members online. I have been staying safe at my East Lansing residence with my roommates, and we have been trying to make the best of the situation by going on lots of walks, doing puzzles, and trying new recipes. After the end of the school year, I plan to move back to my parent's house in Grand Rapids for the summer, then will begin my career at GE Aviation in August. I'm very



excited about this next chapter in my life, and look forward to moving to Cincinnati, Ohio for this new job as a Mechanical Engineer. Thank you to all of those who have reached out to me and have been praying for me and my fellow classmates, I hope to see you soon!

Jack Walch

This definitely was not how I planned on finishing my senior year at MSU! Most of my classes were labs, so when all classes shifted online, my partner (who was visiting me for spring break when her school was also moved online) and I decided to move back home. We ended up at my Dad's bed and breakfast in Galena, IL, and because it had to close for the time being, there is lots of space here for us. We have been doing our classes, helping with projects outside, and trying to stay sane!

At the end of June, I start a job at PPG in Pittsburgh, working as a chemical coatings researcher. I am very excited to start! Ash, my partner, and I have been looking at apartments and are excited to move out there. We will be stopping by East Lansing on our way there, so you may see us then! And I will make sure to visit often (my grandparents Dale and Mary Harpstead will see to that!) Thank you for all your support these four years!

A Challenge for Kids Hope USA

When Governor Whitmer closed all Michigan schools for the rest of the 2019-20 school year, that posed a challenge to Kids Hope USA mentors. Normally, volunteers from ULC spend one hour a week at Forest View Elementary School in Lansing mentoring one student. How could that continue?

Emily Brown, the principal at Forest View, directed Abby, the student support specialist at the school, to communicate with parents of students being mentored for permission to give mentors student contact information. Abby was successful in reaching 8 out of 12

families to get a street address, phone number, and/or e-mail address.



Unfortunately, we have lost touch with the remaining 4 families.

We had mixed results reaching the eight families for whom we had contact information. Some of the mentors have reached their students by phone, letter or online and are

mentoring in this way. Other mentors are still trying to establish contact with their student to begin some type of mentoring. Some of the student families are so overwhelmed by the current crisis with unemployment and other issues that it is hard for them to think about assisting their student with a mentoring routine.

We pray for all our mentees during this challenging time that they are safe and have sufficient housing and food as well as loving care from the adults in their lives.

Barbara Kissling
ULC Director for Kids Hope USA

Card Care to Our Members



When Sunday School went virtual during Lent, students received "Caring Card Kits" to make handmade cards for ULC members. The students proudly show off their beautiful Easter cards. Our children are such a gift!

Pastor Haley Vay



NEW! Vacation Bible School

We are going a different route with VBS this year to provide quality programming from a physical and compassionate distance. Instead of gathering in-person over *one week*, we will coordinate curriculum to carry us through *a number of weeks*. The goal is to engage our children in fun, prayerful, learning activities that help us all grow in the love and joy of Jesus!

There will be one lesson launched weekly that will include a theme, Bible memory verse, simple craft, and indoor/outdoor activity. Much like Virtual Sunday School, my hope is that video lessons will be posted to

our ULC YouTube channel and downloadable materials will be emailed to you. Stay tuned for details.

New this year! I am SO excited to partner with **Mr. Ben English of Munchkin Music Makers** in East Lansing to provide FUN and FREE opportunities in music as part of our VBS platform. Fun fact: Ben is the soloist in "Beautiful City" from *Godspell* (originally featured in ULC's *Worship Expressions and the Arts*)

Pastor Haley Vay

Biweekly Sunday School Zoom Check-Ins

We'll continue our Zoom Check-Ins on a new biweekly schedule. On the First and Third Thursday we'll gather at 4:15 p.m. These gatherings last about 30-45 minutes.

First Thursdays - Kids Check In: On these check-ins please invite your children to join the fun. I'll have a story, game, or activity for us to

share and we'll share the highs and lows of our week together. Children and youth of all ages are welcome. The password is included in the Zoom invite. **Dates: May 7, June 4.**

Third Thursdays - Grown Ups: We'll use this time to check-in with adults, share a Bible passage, and pray together. I'll send out the

reoccurring Zoom invitation link to those who have shown interest, as to not crowd everyone's inbox. **Dates: May 21, June 18.**

Contact me at haley.vay@gmail.com to be included on the invite list.

Pastor Haley Vay



Summer Youth Music Camp

**Monday – Friday
June 15-19, 2020
CANCELLED**

Dear ULC Family,

The 2020 music camp, originally scheduled to be held June 15-19, has been cancelled due to the uncertainty of this summer due to COVID19 and for the safety of campers and staff. We look forward to seeing you all next year when camp resumes! Take good care and keep a song in your heart.

Sincerely,
Janine Novenske Smith & Kristie W. Wiggert
Music Camp Co-Directors

Senior Choir Update

Our Senior Choir family continues to meet online every other Thursday evening. We enjoy checking in, catching up, and seeing each other's smiling faces. We also laugh

a lot! Although we are all grateful for these zoom meetings, we look forward to the day when we can be together again, making beautiful music! ~Janine

Mark Your Calendars

Worship Expressions

Worship Expressions, Bluegrass
Outdoor Worship Service
Friday, Aug. 21 - time TBD

Worship Expressions, Gospel Revival
Alpha Sunday, Sept. 20 - 10:45 a.m.

Worship Expressions, Jazz
Friday, Dec. 4 - time TBD
Followed by the Advent Dinner

Looking Ahead to 2021
Worship Expressions, Racial Justice
Worship Expressions, And the Arts

Thoughts from Phyllis

The Second Maundy Thursday Sermon

After her live-streaming sermon from home, the second Maundy Thursday sermon began with Pastor Haley Vay, now in liturgical garb, stripping the altar. She started by extinguishing all the candles, even as they extinguished the life of Jesus, who has been called the Light of the World.

She removed all the objects from the altar area, one by one. Pastor Haley Vay took down the paraments, each representing a part of the events leading to Jesus' crucifixion. Then she removed her own vestments. The altar area looked shockingly bare. Yet it still told a story.

At the far left, the large pulpit, whether used or not, reminds us of the importance of the preached word. Its height encourages worshippers to see the face of the preacher instead of constantly moving when others block their view.



Photo of sanctuary during Lent in 2004, showing the three cross shadows.

The concrete and wood-topped table is on two levels, visually representing the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion. Baptism, at the lower level, is where God CLAIMS US, even as infants. We can't earn our salvation, nor must we first profess our faith. It is what God does, not what we do that counts. The baptismal font is glass, especially made to look like a deep pool when filled with water. It reminds us that Jesus insisted on being baptized by John the Baptist.

The higher, larger altar represents Holy Communion. At the Last Supper, with his disciples and before his crucifixion, Jesus blessed the loaf of bread, broke it, and said, "Take, this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks, he gave it to them, and they all drank from it. "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many."

A bare, wooden cross hangs above. During Lent, when the light is right, the shadow on the wall shows three crosses. They remind us of the excruciating pain, humiliation, and mockery that Jesus endured while flanked by bandits, even as he died for the sins of the world. The empty cross depicts his resurrection from the dead.

The altar rail is open at the front. We are told the curtain of the temple that separated common people from the priests' area split in two after Jesus' death on the cross.

Continued on page 7.



ULC Quilters Meet the Call for Masks

P & S participants joined sewers across the nation to put their skills to use making much needed personal protection equipment. The call went out to make face masks for hospital workers, those employed in critical jobs, friends, family members and hospice nurses. Patterns were shared over the internet and by “snail mail.”

Next came the call for caps worn by nurses and doctors. Friends and neighbors traded fabric and elastic along with more patterns and suggestions for sewing these important tools in such short supply. Ann Booren, besides making over 225 masks herself and 75 caps for McLaren Hospice, East Lansing Rotary and MSU Safe Place, served as the collection site for many others sewing these essential items. The MSU Quilters who meet at ULC made about 250 masks for McLaren Hospice, East Lansing Rotary, and Holt Eldercare.



Some of the masks sewn by Prayers & Squares members for COVID 19 workers.

All the while, some folks continued making prayer quilts because the need for them continues. If you have a request for someone who needs our prayers, please contact Bobbie Davis (bobbieannandavis80@gmail.com or 517-351-6541) to arrange for one to be prepared. Even though the quilt cannot be tied by members of ULC, the person who requests the quilt can tie the knots with prayer and send it on its way to someone who needs those prayers.

The six graduating Student Associates, Choir and Bell Ringers and Tight Knit member received their quilts via UPS. Pastor Haley Vay conducted a Zoom conference call where they were “wrapped up” in their quilts. (See photo on page 3) We will miss Jeremy, Mitchell, Megan, Rachel, Emily, and Jack.

Unfortunately, due to the stay at home directives, we will not be able to meet for our next regularly scheduled sewing day on Tuesday, May 12. Prayer quilt kits are available and can be delivered to your home if you are interested in making a quilt top. Please contact me.

Stay home. Stay safe.

Bobbie Davis



ULC Book Club

Olive Again

The ULC Book Club will be reading **Olive Again** by Elizabeth Strout in May. This is a sequel to the Pulitzer Prize winning novel Olive Ketteridge.

The irascible and iconic Olive is now in her 80's and struggling to not only understand her own life but those around her in the small town of Crosby, Maine.



The unforgettable Olive will continue to startle us, move us, and to inspire moments of transcendent grace. (From the publisher)

The meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 28 at 10 a.m. All are welcome!

Judy Kindel

Second Sermon continued from page 6.

Our open altar welcomes all people. We all are sinners and need God's grace.

The smaller lectern is at the right. It normally is used by a lay person to read the scripture. God's word is not reserved for the clergy. Sometimes, sermons are also preached there. To

me it represents the priesthood of all believers.

Even the walls with stained glass windows can have meaning, as they are higher in front on the north side to provide more light and shorter in front on the south side where light streams in, at certain times blindingly

bright. God's word is meant to illuminate us all, wherever we are in our faith.

The unusual architecture of our church can be a type of sermon if we think about it. Its message is of God's grace.

Phyllis Andersland

ULC Council met via Zoom on Tuesday, March 17 and Wednesday, April 15. The following are some highlights:



March

- Due to the novel coronavirus, we are encouraging members to give online instead of other methods.
- The pastors are making concerted efforts to make sure members in the congregation who do not use social media are contacted.
- Council accepted personnel committee recommendations to continue payments for non-salaried staff at full compensation levels.
- Sheila Nicholas resigned as Council Secretary in preparation for her move out of state. Emily Uebel appointed by council to fill the vacancy through the duration of the council year.
- Jim Lorenz and Emily Uebel appointed as voting members for

ULC at Synod Assembly in May
 [Note: Synod Assembly has since been cancelled by the Synod.]

April

- Council is monitoring giving levels and making sure we can meet our fixed monthly costs. We will still encourage online giving.
- Operations during the pandemic:
 - Praise for how ULC staff has been handling the pandemic.
 - Will work to communicate efficiently with members about changes/cancellations of planned events.
- Vicki Anderson and Thom McCurdy will co-lead racial justice team.

- Council is working on a questionnaire to get feedback on worship and the Narrative Lectionary.
- Tabled further discussion on mortgage paydown until a clearer picture of long-term financials emerge.

Emily Uebel
 ULC Council Secretary

Facebook Attendance

- March 15: Up to 76 devices live, and so far 1.6K views
- March 22: Up to 97 devices live, and so far 971 views
- March 29: Up to 101 devices live, and so far 686 views
- April 5: Up to 131 devices live, and so far 843 views
- April 9: Up to 60 devices live, and so far 512 views
- April 10: Up to 70 devices live, and so far 346 views
- April 12: Up to 150 devices live, and so far 780 views.

From the President

Prayers for Safety, Health, Connection, and Love

Dear ULC members and friends,

Here we are in another month of overwhelming change. I want to acknowledge and honor both the fatigue and worry and the unexpected beauty and joy that can come with change. It's possible for us to hold both and I encourage you to take time to reflect on what you want to take with you into the future from this time.

Council has been talking about ways to get feedback from the congregation on both the narrative lectionary and worship in general. We are adjusting our plans for small group discussions and are looking at a survey and perhaps some on-line small group discussion to gather insights. We want to hear from you!

I'm happy to report that giving to ULC has not seen a significant decrease since mid-March when we stopped in-person worship. I'm so grateful to this community for



recognizing and supporting our important ministries and I remain encouraged about our future.

Council and Lead Management will be spending some time in early May talking about coming together in person again-what that looks like, what we need in place, and how to do so safely. More information will be coming soon!

Finally, I want to recognize the incredible efforts of our pastors and staff; they have been working extremely hard to minister and serve. Please join me in praying for, thanking, and supporting them.

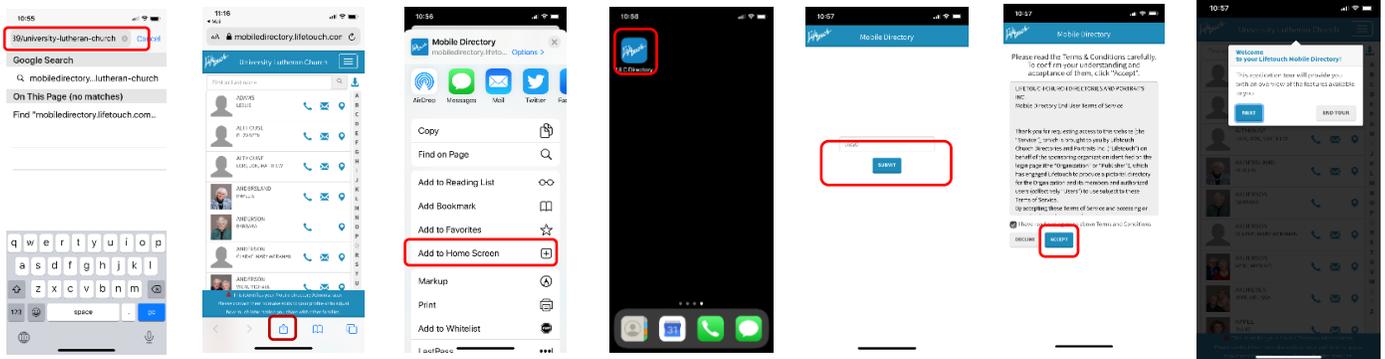
I keep you all in my prayers for safety, health, connection, and love during this time of uncertainty and change.

Yours in Christ,
Erin Frisch

Staying in Touch with ULC Members Has Never Been Easier

Most of you have probably picked up your hard copy of the most recent Lifetouch Member Directory. But did you know that a mobile version of the Member Directory can also be added directly to your mobile phone or tablet? You will always have the most current member info at your disposal because the Directory will update every time the office updates member information. One of the best features of having the mobile version of the Directory on your phone is that member addresses will open in a map feature which is incredibly handy when you are on the road.

To add the ULC directory to your device, please follow these steps:



IOS Devices (iPhone, iPad)

1. An Access code is required to use the app for the first time. Before installing, please [email](#) the ULC office for our Access Code.
2. Open the Safari icon on your home screen.
3. Enter <https://mobiledirectory.lifetouch.com/329039/university-lutheran-church> in the search bar.
4. Save the site to your tablet or mobile phone home screen by choosing the Options button at the bottom of your device.
5. Choose **Add to Home Screen**. You can edit the name of the bookmark as you wish.
6. Enter the Access Code.
7. **Accept** Terms and Conditions.
8. Click **Next** to view tour of app features or **End Tour** to skip the tour.

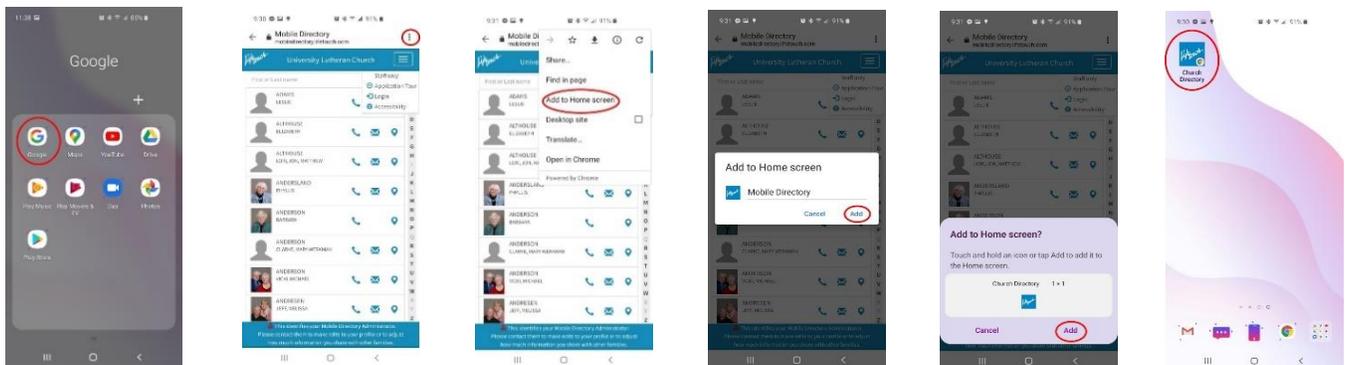
Android Devices (Samsung, Google, LG)

1. An Access code is required to use the app for the first time. Before installing, please [email](#) the ULC office for our Access Code.
2. Open the link in your email or open the browser of your choice (for most Android users this is Google Chrome) and type in following link: <https://mobiledirectory.lifetouch.com/329039/university-lutheran-church>
3. Click on the three vertical dots in the upper right-hand corner.
4. Click **Add to Home screen**.

5. Change the name of the directory if you would like, i.e. "Church Directory 2020," then click **Add**.
6. Enter the Access Code.
7. **Accept** Terms and Conditions.
8. Click **Next** to view tour of app features or **End Tour** to skip the tour.

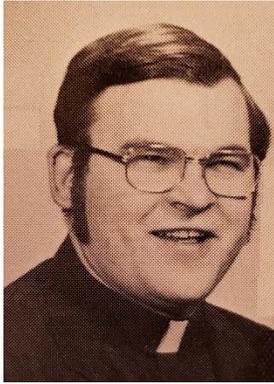
Need help with these steps? Once we are able to meet again for live worship, members of the Communications Team will announce dates when we will be available to assist you to load the Member Directory on your favorite device. Members can also stop by the office during the week for assistance.

Communications Team



Michael Anderson Celebrates Ordination Anniversary

As Michael Anderson prepares to celebrate the 50th anniversary of his ordination, he's doing some reminiscing.



Michael during his first call at Settlement Lutheran Church in Gowen, Michigan

"I did NOT want to be a pastor growing up," he told me, "even though my father and grandfather were both Lutheran pastors." In fact, the Anderson family tree had produced not only ordained ministers but missionaries as well. One could easily imagine that the pressure to join in the "family line-of-work" would have been considerable.

"No one pressured me to become a minister at all. My father didn't ever push me in that direction," Mike said. "And I had learned from my father what being a pastor was all about. I had seen the difficult things and the difficult people my dad had to deal with. I knew how hard a job it was."

And there was another problem with following in his father's footsteps. "When I was young, I was afraid of talking to people," he confessed. "How can you be a pastor if you're afraid of speaking?"

The solution to that problem was an easy one: a high school speech class did the trick. So that impediment to ministry was gone. But what about a "call"?

"There was never a moment when I felt like God was calling me," Mike said. "But by the time I went to college, a part of me knew I was going to become a Lutheran pastor."

College was Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota. While there, many of Mike's classmates and friends were talking about going on to the seminary when they graduated. This began to become a more appealing option for Mike as well.

One summer while he was an undergraduate, Mike got to know a family friend, Herb Anderson (not related to

Mike's family) who was working with his father and helping with the church's youth group. Mike got to know Herb very well during that summer.

"He had a tremendous influence on me and on my decision to become a clergyman," Mike told me. Herb Anderson, himself, became an ordained minister, completed a PhD., and went on to teach at a Catholic seminary in Chicago.

"It's a hard story to tell, how I decided to become a pastor," Mike continued. "A lot of things contributed to my decision to attend seminary and become an ELCA minister, but I can't identify or describe every one of them. I guess I'd have to say it was the Holy Spirit at work."

Like both his father and his grandfather before him, he attended seminary at Augustana Lutheran Seminary in Rock Island, IL. (Augustana Lutheran Seminary merged with Grand View Seminary, Chicago Lutheran Theological Seminary, and Suomi Theological Seminary to form the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago.)

Michael Anderson was ordained on May 25, 1970, at First Lutheran in Rockford, IL.

Mike and his wife, Vicki, had hoped that they could celebrate this 50-year anniversary with friends and the University Lutheran congregation on May 31, but sadly, because of the pandemic, those plans are now on hold.

Nonetheless, all of us at ULC join together at this time to say, "Congratulations, Michael, on fifty years of ministry!"



Michael, supply pastor at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Grand Ledge.

Bill Trevarthen



Cindy Baswell Receives Prestigious Breslin Award

Cindy Baswell has been awarded the 2020 Jack Breslin Distinguished Staff Award, one of the most prestigious commendations bestowed upon employees at Michigan State University. Selections are determined by an employee's overall excellence, supportive attitude, contributions to the unit and service to the university. MSU is an affirmative-action, equal opportunity employer.

Due to the COVID19 shutdown of all in-person meetings at MSU, the presentation of the award was done virtually. Cindy describes the moment, "I was notified during a Zoom meeting with my peers. They totally fooled me about the subject of the meeting and really had me going about something they wanted to happen in the future. I still didn't

know I was being awarded the honor because the Zoom had some static...I thought I was being told I was nominated.

Brandon had to clarify it for me after the zoom meeting was over. I felt very embarrassed and humbled. And, I almost lost it during the meeting because my dear, late, friend Marta won the award a few years ago. So did Don Donagrandi, who was also on the Zoom meeting. When I looked at him, I just wanted to sob because Marta was not at the meeting. It was quite emotional.



Cindy tries to understand that not only was she nominated for the award, she actually won!

Brandon and the kids brought me flowers and a chocolate cake to celebrate, and Beeper arranged a separate Zoom meeting with my family and best friends to "watch" me get the award, although they couldn't hear a thing because I was using headphones and the sound wasn't playing over my computer speaker. Luckily, Paul Rinella, who nominated

me, recorded the whole Zoom meeting."

Congratulations Cindy!

Amy Wagenknecht

ULC Archives

Do you Remember the ULC Strawberry Breakfast?

From the May 1984 Lux: "It must be Spring! The Annual Strawberry Breakfast sponsored by the ULCW will be held on Saturday, May 12th, starting at 9:30 a.m. Storyteller Dan Stead will be with us to delight the young, the old, and all those in between. All women and girls are invited, and guests are welcome.... Come and enjoy!"



Mary Lou Prevost presented a program describing her miniature doll house collection at the 2013 Strawberry Brunch.

The programs varied each year but were always enjoyable. Often women of the congregation were recognized for their contribution to life at ULC the previous year. This practice began in 1968 with Elsa Bueschlen and Ethel Stafford receiving the honor. The last award given in 1997 was to Joan Hartwig.

A Lux article from June of 1978 discussed a breakfast enjoyed by 135 mothers, daughters, and guests. The article continued, "Fresh strawberries and breakfast pastries were served by the ladies in Rhodon Circle. Using an African theme, Lychnion Circle decorated the tables with miniature drums and lollipops for drumsticks." The program included a guest speaker from Ghana and music from a Folk Group. Women honored in 1978: Taimi Atkinson, Betty Downs and Joanne Boettcher. The article ends, "We are appreciative of the many years of time, love and concern shared by these three special women at ULC."



The 2013 Strawberry Brunch table with strawberries, muffins, and colorful spring colors.

If you have a favorite memory of the Strawberry Breakfasts, please share it with a member of the Archives Team. We are always looking for stories to add to the archives.

Connie Lenkowski

Celebrations



- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Janine Novenske Smith
Asher Greiter | 7 Emma Tracy |
| 2 Christine Harder
Ella Wangeman
Barry Williams
David Williams | 11 Maggie Foley |
| 3 Robert Lasley | 13 Barbara Riegle |
| 4 Ian Brown
Bobbie Davis
Kathie Niemeyer | 16 Janice Mutka
Steve Sneed |
| 5 Alex Williams | 17 Darlene Romsos
Rich Tracy |
| 6 Eric Goebel | 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 Roger Hoopingarner
Bryan McPhall
Demani Ruiz |
| 28 Ashton McPhall
Gavin Witter |
| 30 Megan Mahoney
Terrie Reinoehl |
| 31 Robert Baldus
Eva Beaman
Caroline Hoffman |



- | |
|---|
| 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
Bo & Joanne Boettcher |
| 27 Hal & Betsye Prince |
| 28 Ed & Laura Brown |
| 29 Mark & Brie Largent |
| 30 Jeff & Melissa Andresen |

Feeding the Hungry



During the April 23rd Food Movers food distribution, 128 families were served. This is over twice the usual number served at this location. ULC and University United Methodist Church volunteers placed food in recipients' trunks for contact-free delivery. The distribution included a box of dry goods, a bag each of apples, potatoes, and onions, eggs, and dairy products.

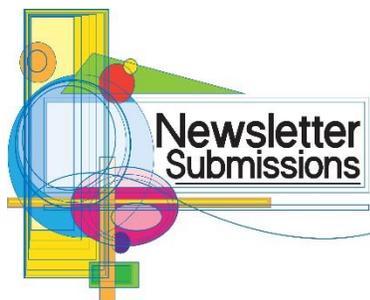
Grant Proposals Requested!

Do you have an idea for a Ministry or project that will glorify God and serve the world, or even our local community, and needs some seed money? The ULC Endowment Committee is accepting grant proposals now through Sept. 30 for both Campus Ministry and ULC Endowment grants.



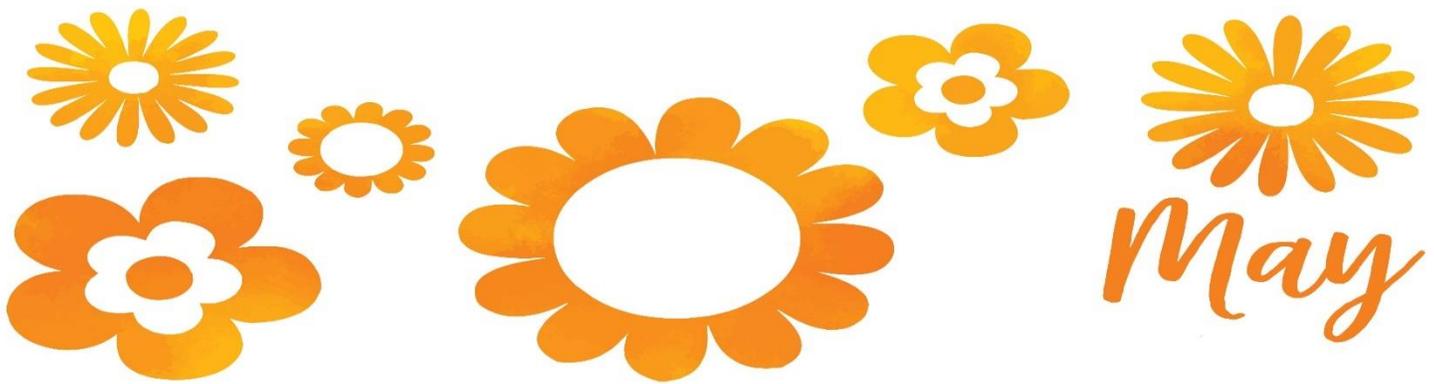
Applications are available under "Resources" at www.ulcel.org. Contact the ULC Endowment Committee at ulcendowment@ulcel.org for more information.

Larry Wagenknecht



The deadline for the June/July Lux is **Friday, May 15.**

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 articles coming! Thanks!



- | | | | |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| 3 10:00a | Worship via Facebook Live | 16 10:00a | MSU Virtual Graduation |
| 5 7:30a | Tuesday Morning Bible Study via Zoom | 17 10:00a | Worship via Facebook Live |
| 9:30a | Lux Planning via Zoom | 19 7:30a | Tuesday Morning Bible Study via Zoom |
| 10:15a | Communication Team via Zoom | 12:30p | Staff Meeting via Zoom |
| 12:30p | Staff Meeting via Zoom | 20 Noon | Lectio Devina via Zoom |
| 7:00p | Pub Theology via Zoom | 24 10:00a | Worship via Facebook Live |
| 6 Noon | Lectio Devina via Zoom | 25 | Memorial Day |
| 4:30p | Lead Management Team via Zoom | 26 12:30p | Staff Meeting via Zoom |
| 6:30p | Special ULC Council Meeting via Zoom | 27 Noon | Lectio Devina via Zoom |
| 10 10:00a | Worship via Facebook Live | 28 3:30p | Food Movers Set up |
| 12 7:30a | Tuesday Morning Bible Study via Zoom | 4:30p | Food Distribution-contact free |
| 12:30p | Staff Meeting via Zoom | 31 10:00a | Worship via Facebook Live |
| 13 Noon | Lectio Devina via Zoom | | |
| 7:00p | Confirmation via Zoom | | |

BEER, CONVERSATION, AND GOD



Grab a Beverage and Join Us!

Pub Theology will virtually meet via Zoom on Tuesday, May 5 at 7 p.m. Pub Theology is an informal discussion focused on four or five questions each week that often revolve around a specific theme. We usually meet at the Harrison Roadhouse, but we will be meeting virtually this month.

If you are interested in participating, contact me at garybunge@sbcglobal.net and I will send out a Zoom invitation by email with the questions. It should be fun.

Pastor Gary



Due to the COVID19 emergency the ULC building will remain closed until further notice. Check the ULC website www.ulcel.org for further updates.

Please don't hesitate to call if there is a need. The church office phone (517-332-2559) is connected to my personal cell phone during the day.

Britny Pollard
ULC Administrative Assistant



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Lead Pastor

Haley Vay Beaman
Associate Pastor

Janine Novenske Smith
Director of Music

Britny Pollard
Administrative Assistant

Gary Carl
Financial Administrator

Mary Letvenow
Event Coordinator

Kristie Wiggert
Julie Baglien
Organists

Louise Paquette
Director of Handbells

Please Continue to Give!

We encourage everyone, as you are able, to continue your giving to support the ULC mission and ministry. While we are not able to meet in person to pass the offering plate, there are other easy ways to give:

1. Use the "Donate" button on the bottom of our website.
2. Use direct deposit if you have an account at MSUFCU.
(Contact treasurer Will Mahoney for more information.)
3. Mail a check to church.

