

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

Mark Your Calendars . . .

Daylight Saving Time Ends
Sunday, Nov. 1

Virtual Pub Theology
Tuesday, Nov. 3 at 7 p.m.
Contact ulcsec@ulcel.org for link

**Advent Box Pick-up/Giving
Tree Gift Card Drop-off**
Sunday, Nov. 15
3 – 4 p.m.
Drive thru

Food Movers
Thursday, Nov. 19
Distribution 4:30 p.m.
Drive-thru pick up of
prepacked boxes

**Annual Congregational
Meeting**
Sunday, Dec. 6
Virtual via Zoom
Immediately following worship
11:10 a.m.

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**Janine Novenske Smith:
25 Years at ULC With More to Come**

ULC’s Director of Music, Janine Novenske Smith, and I did the interview for this article on Zoom—so much better than a phone call, we thought, because we could see each other. Janine, whose day was packed with meetings and work from start to finish, looked as composed and gracious as she always does as she sat in the music room of the house she shares with her husband, John Dale Smith.



Janine Novenske Smith,
ULC Director of Music

“Look around this room,” she said to me as we started our conversation. “We’ve had to turn it into a studio because of the pandemic and the way we do nearly everything online now.”

Which is to say, we all need to get creative in the age of COVID 19, and creativity is a quality that Janine exhibits in abundance. Most of us at ULC know this to be true because we know Janine. She’s been with us for twenty-five years, and that’s something to celebrate!

Continued on page 6.

**Worship Expressions
Poetic Voices of Justice**

Sunday, Nov. 8
10 a.m.

During virtual worship service

Sharing Our Faith

During the last few Sundays of October and throughout November, we will be taking time to share stories of ministry throughout the ELCA, the world, and our congregation and community. We'll be doing so by sharing videos around the time of the offering. Why around the time of the offering? Because all of this ministry happens as a result of your faithful giving and generosity.



This year our fall stewardship focus will be around the theme, "Sharing our Faith." Over the years I've learned that there are many ways that we share our faith: acts of love and kindness; telling others about Jesus; working for justice; volunteering for various ministries; approaching our jobs. There are so many ways to live out and share our faith.

But one other significant way of sharing our faith is with our generosity and sharing our money and financial resources to support ministry. It's one of the marks of disciples of Jesus. Giving and generosity are central to who we are as followers of Jesus. *"For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet*

for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich." (2 Corinthians 8:9) These are the Apostle Paul's words to the congregation he started in the city of Corinth, urging them to be generous in giving their money to aid the

Christians in Jerusalem.

The video ministry stories we'll be sharing this fall are all ministries you are involved in because of your generous giving. As you give your offering to ULC, you are supporting and enabling all kinds of ministry. You're enabling our faith formation ministries for children, youth and adults such as Sunday School, Confirmation, Pub Theology, Tuesday Morning Bible Study and Adult Forum. You're enabling our ministries in the community around our building such as Food Movers, Kids Hope, Michigan Refugee Hope and providing a meeting space for many community groups. You're supporting a vibrant Campus Ministry that shapes the faith of a new generation of followers of Jesus. You're supporting our worship life even as we gather only online during this pandemic. You're supporting a

new and developing Racial Justice ministry which is so desperately needed right now. You're supporting ministry throughout the ELCA and the world. Your generous giving is the life blood of our ministry!

Some folks get turned off by the word "stewardship," and the subject of giving. But for me it's become a wonderful word and an important subject. That's not because I'm a pastor and "the church needs money." Rather, it's because for me, stewardship and giving is an important way of sharing my faith with the world and a way of participating in the mission of Jesus. It's also the way I manage the gifts that God has entrusted to my care.

As you think about your own giving and what you intend to give in the coming year, I hope that you will continue to be generous in sharing your faith by being generous in your giving. In doing so, you will be modeling your life after Jesus. *"For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich."*

*Sharing the faith,
Pastor Gary*

Justice Series During Worship

From October 25 through November 22 there will be a series focusing on justice held during worship service. This series will begin on Reformation Sunday and end on Christ the King Sunday.

Some themes to look for are callings, grace, prejudice, and equality. During this time, you are invited to reflect on what justice means to you as well as consider the thoughts and actions you have had or witnessed around your marginalized siblings in Christ.

Gabriel Aichele, Racial Justice Team

Speaking of Racial Justice

PRIVILEGE

The black civil right activist and one of the founders of the NAACP, W.E.B. DuBois (1868-1963) was among the first people to describe the effects of privilege – when a person lives with certain advantages based on an aspect of their identity such as skin color, gender or sexuality. If you have privilege, you might not even be aware of it. For example, you've probably heard the term *white privilege*. White privilege refers to the fact that white people are more likely to get job interviews, loans and even access to better schools than their nonwhite peers.

(New York Times, August 30, 2020)

Soup for Students



Happy recipients of soup and snacks.

Over the course of a few days last month I had the privilege of delivering soup and things at a safe distance to our students in campus ministry who are living locally -- and it fed my soul! Would you like to join me in providing soup and/or sandwich items and cookies to students this winter? Let's coordinate. Please email

haley.vay@gmail.com or call my cell phone listed in the church directory.

Friday @ Five

We continue to share in Bible study, fellowship, and fun study break gatherings via Zoom this fall. Our "First Friday" speaker series continues with Rev. Dr. Sunita Mortha, Associate to the Bishop in the Metropolitan Chicago Synod, joining us in November.



Friday@Five meeting virtually.

Some of the questions I ask our speakers to engage with students are "What is your call story?" and "How has racial (in)justice shaped your life and call in the ELCA?" Last month's speaker was my friend, Rev. Lamont Wells, ELCA Director for Campus Ministry - LuMin Network, and the time we shared is available to watch on ULC's YouTube channel.

Pastor Haley Vay

2020 Crop Walk

Thank You for Your Support!

Thank you for your generous support of our ULC walkers in the Greater Lansing CROP Hunger Walk this year.

As the 2020 Greater Lansing CROP Hunger Virtual Walk comes to a close, we are pleased to say our ULC walkers: Rachel Drobnak, Terrie Reinoehl, Beth & Bryan Rahe and the Kotnik/Smith Family raised \$1,000. Churches throughout the Greater Lansing area raised over



The Kotnik/Smith family after completing their 2020 walk.

\$36,000. This money goes to support the mission of Church World Services as they respond to global hunger, poverty, displacement and disaster. Twenty five percent of those funds will be returned to our community to support local hunger fighting efforts. Due to the pandemic local food banks have been seeing record numbers this year, so your generous support comes at a critical time. Thank you.

Mary Kotnik

Advent Boxes



Register today! Advent is a special season of waiting and watching for Jesus' birth. This year may look somewhat different from others, but we still get to celebrate with faith and fun in the

family home! If you and your house would like to receive an Advent Box filled with a DIY paper advent wreath, ornament crafts, Advent activities, and snacks all that coincide with our Virtual Sunday School lessons, please email Pastor Haley Vay at haley.vay@gmail.com.

If you are an adult with or without kids in your life who would like to receive the instructions for our DIY paper advent wreath (from Illustrated Ministry) and coinciding prayers, please let me know! I'm happy to provide these materials to all who are interested. So that we have adequate time to prepare, please register your household by Sunday, Nov. 1. The drive-thru pick up day is **Sunday, Nov. 15 between 3 and 4 p.m.**

"A Christmas to Remember"



Our children and youth continue to gather consistently online for faith formation in the family home -- and in 2020 that includes our Christmas play! We are thrilled to continue our Advent season tradition while worshipping from home, with the help of our seminary intern for digital ministry, Mitchell.

This year, children and youth will be invited to record clips in the comfort of their homes, which will be edited into a one-of-a-kind retelling of the gospel story and birth narrative from Luke. "A Christmas to Remember" captures the unforgettable nature of 2020 and will be featured in worship on Sunday, Dec. 20 at 10 a.m. All children and youth who are interested in participating, please register by sending me an email before Sunday, Nov. 15 with your name, age, and interest in a speaking part.

Pastor Haley Vay

Confirmation

October Recap

We continue to hold Confirmation classes with our youth on Zoom. It's a challenging time in youth ministry since our youth spend the entire day on Zoom in their school classrooms -- the last thing they want to do is be on another Zoom meeting at 7 p.m., but we are doing our best to keep the material fun and engaging, while keeping our youth connected during the pandemic.

In one of our October learning events we had a vibrant discussion on faith and politics! Our youth continue to amaze me with their awareness and conviction. Louise,

their group leader, shared a Saturday afternoon with our youth in Jackbox games, which were enjoyed by everyone who attended!

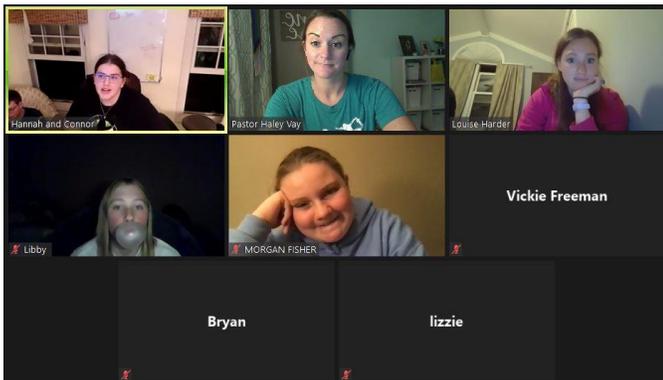
Thanksgiving Baskets, Covid Style



We decided to go a different route this year and shop, prepare and deliver Thanksgiving baskets from Confirmation students to ULC members who may be struggling with health or isolation in these pandemic days. In previous years we have partnered with Christian Services to provide food for a Thanksgiving meal to a family in the Lansing area.

This year we felt the need for connection with people in our congregation and will prepare baskets that include some food and essential items, with cards of encouragement for people living in isolation. We are in the process of identifying people who may enjoy a safe-distance visit and a small basket of goodies. If you have someone in mind, please let us know and we'll do our best to include them.

Pastor Haley Vay



Confirmation discussion: The Fall (not Autumn), the church, and upcoming elections

Lutherans and the Bible, Nonviolent Tools, White Privilege & Annual Meeting

On Sundays, the hour following ULC's Facebook Live Church Service is devoted to ZoomForum. Grab a cup of coffee, enjoy some fellowship, then stay for Forum beginning at 11:10 a.m. Forum ends at noon. If you need guidance to navigate Zoom, check out the [ULC Zoom Tutorial](#).



In November, Pastor Gary concludes the multi-part series, "How Lutherans Interpret the Bible," featuring Dr. Mark Allan Powell of Trinity Lutheran Seminary. The videos are 15-20 minutes long, allowing plenty of time for discussion. November Forum schedule:

Nov. 1 "How Lutherans Interpret the Bible" Part 6: The Many Meanings of the Bible

Nov. 8 "How Lutherans Interpret the Bible" Part 7: Devotional Bible

Nov. 15 "Nonviolent Tools for Everyday People to De-escalate Tensions" with Julie Thomas-Beckett. As our nation struggles with deepening divisions laid bare by a global pandemic, systemic racism, police brutality, and a national election, we can learn and practice nonviolent skills to de-escalate tensions in our home, our work, and our communities. As a trainer for the Meta Peace Team and author of "The Work of Nonviolence; Stories from the Frontline," Julie will discuss the tools and tactics of nonviolence.

Nov. 22 "What is White Privilege and How do I Know if I Have it?" First of four sessions presented by the ULC Racial Justice Team.

Nov. 29 "Preparing for the ULC Annual Meeting" ULC Council presents the annual report in preparation for the Dec. 6 Annual Meeting (Held during the Forum Zoom meeting time at 11:10 a.m.)

Check out the complete schedule, including upcoming topics, on our new calendar on the [website](#).

Do you have suggestions for ZoomForum topics, presentations, or speakers? Call, text, or email Linda Trevarthen at trevarth@msu.edu or 517-281-8022. As presentations are finalized, an updated schedule will be posted on the ULC website.

**Note: As soon as the program starts each week, please mute your microphone, and remain on mute unless you would like to ask a question or make a comment.*

Linda Trevarthen

ULC Memorial Library



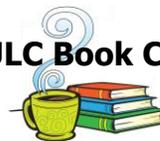
Racial Justice Books Available for Check-Out

Adult racial justice books are still available to check out – and we will meet you or stop by your home to get the book to you. If you would like a book contact me at clenkowski@frontier.com or 517-655-5939. A member of the Library Team will arrange for the delivery of the book. If the book is not available, you will be notified when we can get it to you. Once you are finished reading the book, we will arrange to pick it up.

Please join the Racial Justice Team in this fight against racism by taking the first step and reading one of these books.

Connie Lenkowski
ULC Library Team

ULC Book Club



The Vanishing Half

The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett is the Book Club selection for November. Told through multiple perspectives across decades, the *Vanishing Half* centers on identical twins who run away from their hometown in Louisiana in the 1950's and ultimately find themselves living very different lives - one Black, one passing for White.

Looking well beyond race, this novel considers the lasting influence of the past as it shapes a person's decisions, desires and expectations. It explores some of the multiple reasons and realms in which people sometimes feel pulled to live as something other than their origins. (goodreads.com summary)

The next meeting is on **Thursday, Nov.19 at 10 a.m.** (One week earlier due to Thanksgiving). Depending on Covid 19 restrictions, we will either meet via Zoom or as a small group in the church. All are welcome.

Judy Kindel

Janine Celebrates 25 Years at ULC!

Continued from page 1.

Janine is a local girl. She was born in Sparrow Hospital, the daughter of Loreen (nee Cross) Novenske who worked at Auto Owners Insurance and Henry Novenske who worked for Consumers Electric (now Energy). The family attended Mt. Hope Bethlehem Lutheran Church while Janine was growing up. She was a student at Lansing Eastern High School and after graduation began her study of Pedagogy and Vocal Performance at Michigan State University.

When she was a freshman, she was invited to sub for a fellow student who had been serving as one of the section leaders (like our ULC scholarship music students) at 1st Presbyterian Church in Lansing. She jumped at the chance. Working with the church's director of music, Robert Sidnell, a Professor of Music Education at MSU, Janine found the experience exciting and fulfilling. She was disappointed when the student for whom she was subbing returned.



Janine singing during a Worship Expressions outdoor service with husband, John Dale Smith (back) accompanying.

For his part, Dr. Sidnell wanted very much to keep Janine at First Presbyterian, but all the section leader slots with the choir were filled. However, feeling overwhelmed with all his responsibilities at the church, Dr. Sidnell decided he could and should give up directing the children's choir to lighten his load. He asked Janine if she'd like to take that on. Her response probably surprised him as much as it surprised me when she related it to me.

"Why would I want to do that?" she asked.

ULC members who know Janine will guess how things turned out. She took the job, and she loved it. She remained at First Presbyterian in various roles for many years. She was also Adjunct Music Faculty at Lansing Community College for twenty years, giving private voice lessons and teaching Concert Choir, Woman's Choir, Music Scenes, and Commercial Voice Class.

It was through one of her voice students, Kara Wiggert, that Janine got to know ULC organist Kristie Wiggert, Kara's mother, and a strong friendship grew between the two of them.

When the position of Director of Choirs became open at University Lutheran twenty-five years ago, Kristie urged Janine to apply. She did, interviewing with then lead pastor George Madsen, and, of course, she got the job. The Senior Choir became "like family" to her. She developed a Cherub Choir, helped to develop the ULC Summer Music Camp, and, together with Kristie Wiggert, started ULC's scholarship program.

During the period when John Schleicher was our interim pastor, Janine was named Director of Music at ULC and thereby became active in the leadership of the church, a role she says she finds "extremely rewarding". Together with Pastors Gary Bunge and Haley Vay Beaman, Janine worked to develop ULC's "Worship Expressions" services, adding yet more variety and richness to the musical landscape at University Lutheran.

You can't know Janine without knowing her equally energetic and talented husband, John Dale Smith. In fact, he is often to be found at the piano at special events at our church.

John Dale is from Martin's Ferry, Ohio, and did his undergraduate work at Bowling Green. Janine met him while, as an undergraduate, she was singing in MSU's Chorale. John Dale was the accompanist.

Janine and John Dale have two children. Daughter Jen lives with her husband Bryse and boys Aiden, Parker, and Liam in Haslett. Son Jonathan lives with his wife Kim and their son Jonathan in Dexter, Michigan. Kim and Jonathan have a child on the way. Gender to be announced.



Janine with her grandson, Liam enjoying a music camp project together.

What many ULC members may not know about Janine is that she was once in a production of the musical *Evita*. And not just "in" it; she was the star, *Evita*

Continued on page 7.

Janine continued from page 6. herself, and she was splendid. The musical was jointly produced by Lansing Community College and MSU's Wharton Center. Former Wharton Director Ken Beachler was the show's director, Mike Ashton did the choreography, and John Dale Smith was the music director. My wife Linda and I still remember that *Evita* as the best production of the Andrew Lloyd Webber classic we have ever seen.

For ten years, Janine was the vocalist with the Lansing Symphony's Big Band and once performed with the full Lansing Symphony Orchestra on the main stage at The Michigan Festival. She was the vocalist with the small jazz group created by her husband, The John Dale Quintet. Some of our ULC members will have heard this group when they performed, not infrequently, at the University Club of MSU. John Dale and his friend Jerry Krause also created J & J Sounds, a rhythm and blues group, with Janine again providing vocals.



Janine directs the ULC Children's Choir during worship at ULC.

I asked Janine what she has enjoyed most during her tenure here at ULC. She answered, "Oh, so many things. the Senior Choir, of course, but also working with Kristie, and with the staff and pastors." And she is very proud of the Worship Expressions series, her favorite being the Arts Expressions event that included not only a program of dance and music but also an exhibition of artwork created or owned by ULC members (organized by Linda Trevarthen). Janine stressed several times during our interview how much working

with Kristie Wiggert and Pastors Gary and Haley Vay means to her.

And what, I asked, is on your Bucket List? Janine, who was for many years a member of Actors Equity, said she would like to get back into theatre. She would like to do dramas and would especially love to star in a production of *Sunset Boulevard*.

And as a final question, I asked Janine, "What does a person like you, whose work and career is all about music, listen to when you want to relax?"

"James Taylor," she answered, without missing a beat.

All of us at University Lutheran Church congratulate and thank Janine for the marvelous 25 years of service she has given this congregation, and we look forward to many more years with her. They will surely be music to our ears.

Bill Trevarthen

Earthkeeping News

Bird's Eye View of ULC Solar Panels

YES, we really have 60 solar panels on our roof which are capturing energy from the sun! (see photo).

The net metering system has now been activated by Consumers Energy. In the near future the Solaredge App will be set up on the ULC computer system and will record daily activity in real time, which can be shown on the monitor in the narthex. In the meantime, Dale



Although you can't see them from the ground, the solar panels are installed and providing energy.

Romsos of the Facilities Team is following daily production on his smart phone.

ULC has received an EPA Energy Star Award for 2020. Our building has an 82 percent score, meaning that it is more energy efficient than 82 percent of similar properties nationwide.

Judy Kindel



Lutheran World Relief Quilts Replenished

A core group of Prayers and Squares quilters has been meeting weekly for over two months. We meet in the Fellowship Hall, and Covid-19 precautions are followed. This group has completed 19 Lutheran World Relief quilts (60"x80") in this time frame. On Tuesday, Oct. 13, the quilts and 74 school kits were blessed. Thanks to Brandon Baswell for delivering these to the Michigan gathering point.



Quilters with 19 quilts and 74 school kits for Lutheran World Relief.

We are very blessed to have John Putnam continue to machine quilt our Quilts of Valor (QOV) quilts. He just returned quilts #130 & #131. This gift of quilting is worth nearly \$13,000 for his work over the years. QOV Sunday will be Nov. 29 this year. Check our online service to see who is receiving Quilts of Valor this year.

Ann Booren

Racial Justice Team

Please Complete the Racial Justice Survey

The ULC Racial Justice Team (RJT) has created a survey for ULC members and friends to determine your awareness of racism and how the team can provide educational opportunities if desired. You will be receiving a paper survey with the annual meeting materials or you can **click on the box** at the right to take the survey on-line.



If you are reading a paper copy of Lux and would like to do the on-line survey, please visit the Racial Justice Team web page (under Action) at www.ulcel.org. Please complete the survey as soon as possible as we would like to report the results at the annual meeting on Dec. 6.

*Vicki Anderson and Thom McCurdy
RJT Co-leaders*

November Outreach of the Month

Advent House Ministries

Located in the heart of Lansing, Michigan, Advent House Ministries, Inc. has been helping people out of poverty and homelessness for over 30 years.

The roots of Advent House are in Westminster Presbyterian Church, and that's still the place they call home. However, the programs draw on the entire community for support. That community includes a number of religious groups (representing the diversity of our community), community service, and caring individuals. We all share a common

belief and commitment to helping our brothers and sisters in need.



Over 30 years ago Advent House began its outreach efforts in the northwest section of Lansing, responding to the urban

poverty around the church. They initially offered a Saturday lunch meal for the needy, after-school programs for children and youth and weekly meetings of a "Golden Group" for older community residents. In 1987, this outreach effort was incorporated as a separate nonprofit organization called *Advent House Ministries*.

As homelessness and poverty have become more apparent over time, Advent House Ministries have responded and expanded to meet those needs. It is their hope and aim that their programs will provide respite from life's struggles and create opportunities for children and adults to fulfill their potential. (from their website www.adventhouse.com)

Please designate your offering for "Advent House, Nov. Outreach" on the memo line on your check or the note section of the online giving on our [website](http://www.adventhouse.com).

Pastor Gary

Giving Tree Reimagined

In previous years, shortly after Halloween and All Saints, you would walk into the Narthex and see a Christmas tree, of all things, with tags hanging from the branches. That would be the Giving Tree with items listed on each tag for Samaritas to use in independent living boxes and gifts



for Tri-County Office on Aging clients.

As with worship and other aspects of normal events at ULC, the Giving Tree will undergo a remake this year. Instead of collecting household items, we will be collecting Meijer and Target gift cards (\$25-30 limit) with some going to Samaritas and some to Tri-County Office on Aging. If you have already purchased items in

anticipation of the Giving Tree event, we will be happy to take them on the collection day too. You can also send a check to ULC with Giving Tree on the memo line.

Get your gift cards and plan to deliver them to ULC during a drive-through event on Sunday, Nov. 15 from 3-4 p.m. This is coordinated with picking up Advent boxes. There may also be a treat for those who stop by!

Sherry Corwin

Mentors and Students Meet Virtually

The ULC Kids Hope USA ministry that began in 2019 with in-person mentoring at Forest View Elementary in Lansing will continue during the 2020-2021 school year with online mentoring. Mentors are still committed to working with one kindergarten to 3rd grade student for one session each week, but the time is reduced to 30 minutes instead of one hour.

During the 30-minute session, Zoom or a similar online platform will be used to establish and maintain a relationship with a student. ULC mentors recently participated in a Zoom meeting organized by Kay Meints to examine ways online activities and games could be done.

The Kids Hope USA ministry has 11 returning mentors from last school year. Most mentors are expecting to



continue working with the same student they saw last year. A big “thank you” goes to Kathy Sweat who mentored last school year but is not available to continue this school year. We welcome Cathy Lazar who will become a new mentor this fall.

New mentors and prayer partners can join the ministry any time during the school year. Mentors receive training to prepare them for working with students. Donations to ULC to sustain the Kids Hope Ministry are always welcome. Such funds cover the cost of training, supplies and support from the Kids Hope USA national organization.

Participating in this ministry can make a life-changing difference for one child!

*Barbara Kissling
ULC Kids Hope USA Director*



Loving God, all that we have comes from your goodness and the work of those who love us. Bless us and the food we share. Watch over those who care for us. Open our eyes to the needs of the poor during this time of harvest and thanksgiving. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Elizabeth McMahon Jeep, Blessings and Prayers through the Year, Liturgy Training Publications 2004)

ULC Council met via Zoom on Oct. 21. The following are some highlights:

- Virtual annual meeting for the congregation will be held on Dec. 6. Voting logistics will be communicated to the congregation
- Council accepted the recommended 2021 budget as presented by treasurer and finance committee
- Council accepted 18 new members joining the church



Council Notes

- Council approved recommended Christmas worship plans as brought forth by ULC Staff
- Council authorized distribution of local benevolence funds as recommended by the social action team
- Council will continue to consider procedures for building use

Emily Uebel

Sept. Attendance

Sept. 6: Up to 76 devices watching during live, and so far 144 views
Sept. 13: Up to 88 devices watching during live, and so far 430 views
Sept. 20: Up to 98 devices watching during live, and so far 429 views
Sept. 27: Up to 88 devices watching during live, and so far 412 views

Lead Management Team Notes

The Lead Management Team met via Microsoft Teams (with a few glitches) on Sept. 20. The following are highlights from the resulting report:

Pandemic Pals (Temporary Ministry) - Linda

Trevarthen: The “Pan Pals” project is going well. Volunteers use a variety of formats for contacting their pan pals: email, phone call, US mail.

Social Action - Bryan Rahe: The food distribution continues outdoors with social distancing. We served 110 households in September and we had a total of 26 volunteers.

Communications Team - Amy Wagenknecht: The Communication Team continues to meet via Zoom. We finished our work with Dave and Cindy from Design 2 and now have a new ULC logo. Once we have the files organized and an instruction sheet developed, we will distribute to team leaders. We will be working to replace the Spirit Logo with the new logo this month.

We currently have 18 members in the new ULC Facebook Group – Prayers & Posts, but so far, we are not a very chatty group. We hope to increase interest and interaction during ULC Spirit Week, the last week of October, by encouraging members to share spirit photos.

Our next focus is developing a communication planning strategy using concepts we learned during the Same Page workshop we all attended virtually in June. Once this strategy is developed, we will share with staff and team leaders.

Facility – Dale Romsos: All eight-foot long fluorescent tubes on either side and in front of the sanctuary were removed and replaced with LED tubes. These LED tubes will use 77 percent less energy than the fluorescent tubes and ballasts they replaced. A grant from Consumers Energy paid for 75 percent the cost of the LED tubes. The light fixture on a light pole near the handicap parking area was replaced with a LED fixture with three times the lumens of the replaced fixture to further enhance lighting in this area of the parking lot.

Choirs - Janine Novenske Smith: The Senior Choir is rehearsing on Thursday evenings, via Zoom. The first recorded Senior Choir anthem was part of online worship Sept. 27. The Senior Choir is scheduled to record anthems for: Oct. 15, Reformation Sunday (10/25) and Dec. 6. Vocal music for the children will continue to be led by Janine N. Smith during Sunday School on Worship Wednesdays. Our Handbell Choir director, Louise Paquette will also lead the children in bells on some Wednesdays.

Sunday Forum - Linda Trevarthen: The first few forums not only worked just beautifully, but they were very well received, and participation is strong. I currently have all the forums scheduled through mid-January at this point and they are posted on the ULC website.

Amy Wagenknecht

Remembering Helen Good

December 27, 1919 - October 9, 2020

“Located in Buckeye country, it read Fairview Farm on our Big Red Barn. 100+ acres put food on the plate. Our mother would set places for eight. Five girls and three boys to do the chores. But don’t draw any conclusions from that. The girls were called at the drop of a hat.”

The paragraph above was penned by Helen in remembrance of her sister Magdalene Wilson, known to her friends at ULC as Meg, who died six years to the day before her sister. Helen, a lover of rhyming verse, was also known to say, “I’m the last of eight, and it’s time for St. Peter to Open the Gate.”

Helen lived the longest of all her clan reaching the age of 100 last December. One friend remarked that Helen Good “really lived up to her name,” and so she did. I spoke to many of our members after learning of her passing and they all talked about what a lovely person she was, always ready to greet you with a smile, a happy attitude, and her infectious laugh.

Helen was the seventh child of Harry and Lucinda Berringer Strine, born and raised on the farm in Waldo, Ohio. She was proud of her rural roots, 4-H ribbons, her success as a student athlete, and earning her high school diploma. She married Byron Good, who had recently been hired by MSU, in Sept. 1941 and began life as a Spartan.

World War II interrupted their plans three months later. Byron was called into service and Helen got a taste for independence working as a secretary in Columbus Ohio and playing shortstop on a softball league during his absence. After the war they resumed life at MSU where Byron worked as the Superintendent of Farms and was placed in charge of the horse barn and taught horse production.

Helen was very supportive and proud of her husband. Together they focused on raising their family and keeping it a strong unit where faith in God and care for all His creatures were front and



Helen shows off her quilt from Prayers & Squares with daughters Suzan and Sarah.

center. They were blessed with three children, George, Suzan, and Sarah. The church was a central part of their lives as well. Helen and Byron were among the 28 charter members of College Lutheran Church founded in December 1941, now known as University Lutheran. Six years ago, Helen moved to Kansas to be closer to her children, 9 grandchildren, and 9 great-grandchildren. She particularly enjoyed being able to watch her offspring play sports.

Helen was a Spartan through and through and kept up with her favorite teams from afar. Her loyalty to MSU was well earned. During the last years of her life in East Lansing she lived in a home along Collins Road, across from the MSU horse barns, on property that belonged to the university. The “boys” from the university, as she called them, took good care of Helen mowing and raking her yard, removing snow, and checking to see that all was well on a regular basis.

Up until her move to Kansas you could count on Helen to be in “her pew” on the pulpit side of ULC. She loved being a member of Amnos Circle, where she is remembered as adding fun to their monthly gatherings. Her baked apples were famous among the Prayers and Squares sewers who remember her at the “over 90” table where threads for tying were added to the quilts, and much laughter was shared.

Helen also dedicated herself to being present for her sister Meg who was living with end stage dementia at a local nursing home. I was blessed to spend time with both ladies before Helen’s move. Every other week or so I would pick Helen up and we would arrive at Meg’s in time for Helen to feed her lunch. Helen knew I was in the choir and how much her sister loved music, and she was not one to waste an opportunity.

Thus, began the tradition of my singing “going home songs” to Meg while Helen spooned in the days offering. I knew when I had picked a favorite as Meg would reward me with a big smile. Helen was insistent that I communicate the message that Meg should look towards heaven. She also made sure I knew about her sister’s sharp mind and musical talents now hidden by the curtain of dementia.

I think moving to Kansas was one of the hardest decisions of Helen’s life. It was so hard for her to leave the church she loved, the MSU community, and her beloved sister. Once she decided to go, she quickly made the most of life at her assisted living facility, writing to me that it rated an A+. She ended one of the last letters she wrote me with the following words: “I’m enjoying my quilt on the wall and all my cards. God Bless ULC and all you special people.”

When I heard of Helen’s death, I couldn’t help but open my hymnal and sing her a few more going home songs. Her favorite was “Blest Be the Tie That Binds” which ends with verse four, “From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free; and perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.” Thinking of Helen and Meg “at home,” together again, and free, makes me smile through my tears.

Cards can be sent to the family in care of Suzan Smith, 110 Miami Street, Hiawatha, Kansas 66434 Her family suggests donations be directed to Prayers and Squares or Campus Ministry

Beth Rahe

Meet Our New Members

Gabriel Aichele



My name is Gabriel, my pronouns are he/him or xe/xem. I have been coming to ULC for about a year. I attended the Embracing the Call to Racial Justice workshop last fall and am currently on the Racial Justice Team and part of One Community. I care deeply about LGBT and disability rights. In

my free time I enjoy reading comics or playing Animal Crossing and would like to spend more time painting. ULC is my first Lutheran church.

Bill and Chris Frysinger



We met after college, while Bill was still in grad school, and married in 1981. We've raised our family in Lansing and Delta Township and worked together building a printing

sales company specializing mostly in the legal, medical, and health fields. In order to convince loyal customers we were really retiring, Bill tore out the home office in 2017, and restored the house to 100 percent residential, but finally transferred the last remaining clients a year later. We've enjoyed travel in Europe and the US, tent camping and hiking when we can. We also enjoy a wide range of reading, working in a home workshop and landscape, cooking, and a close group of friends. We have always been very active volunteers and Bill is still active in BSA adult training and some active club and board positions focused on children, families, and community. Daughters Becky (Nick, granddaughter Abby), Beth (Cam), and son Dan all live and work west of the Rockies. We've downsized from golden retrievers to a Maltese/Poodle, Buster, who is more portable and easier to leave with others when we are gone.

Ruth Gaudard



I have worked for 45 years at AT&T, starting there when it was Michigan Bell. I am Director External Affairs for West Michigan, which in a normal year would mean a lot of travel. Now, it is all work from home mode. That's hard when

you are a lobbyist and makes it difficult to work with business groups, grassroots organizations and many non-profits. I grew up in Grand Rapids and came to MSU in 1970 and just never left after getting my degree in social work four years later. I have three adult sons and seven grandchildren ranging in age from 16 to two months. I love to read and spend time with family.

Jack Guevara



I am a second-year graduate student studying soil science and turf grass management at Michigan State University. I love to travel because I enjoy exploring different cultures and sceneries, but I also love staying at home to read a book or play with my Nintendo Switch. Meanwhile, I've already been

enjoying being part of Lectio Divina and Fridays at Five at ULC.

Jennifer Johnson



I am a proud mother of daughter Ashley, who lives in Kentucky with her husband Caleb. I've been widowed twice. I love collecting ginger cats, love to read, and am enjoying a career as a pension examiner in Lansing. My dream is to one day own my own photography studio.

Justin and Emily Kirkpatrick



We met at Duke University during our graduate studies, got married in June 2019, and moved to East Lansing a month later. We have one dog, Thibodaux, and are looking forward to getting to know the ULC community.

Emily - I am an architect and environmental consultant working on water management and disaster planning. I grew up in Grosse Pointe. Justin - I'm an Assistant Professor of Economics at MSU. New to Michigan, I've enjoyed exploring the Great Lakes.



Tim Martinson



I worked for nearly forty years in the oil and gas industry. Nearly half that time was spent in Africa and other international locations. I retired four years ago but still make frequent visits to friends at my previous job postings. When not traveling I can be found mornings at my gym and afternoons at the local Mason airport flying and working on airplanes. I was a former member of All Saints Lutheran Church in Mason.

Steve and Debbie Vile



We have both been active in church life for years, serving on boards, council, and participating in numerous ministries. We are looking forward to getting involved at ULC. Steve - I am a realtor by trade, but my passion for mission work has taken me on numerous re-

building and disaster response mission trips around the country. I've also enjoyed working on church finance and grounds teams. We both enjoy flower gardening. Debbie - I love art of all kinds, including art classes. At our former church I started both the knitting group and the book club and was very active in the women's Bible study. I also served on the worship board and congregational care team. In my work life, I am an administrative assistant. We have three daughters: Eliina (husband, Josh and two granddaughters), Emily, and Elizabeth.

Elizabeth "Liz" Vile



I live in Dimondale near my parents. I work in document processing for Jackson. I've been an athlete with Special Olympics for over 20 years and serve on the Special Olympics Michigan board as the athlete representative.

Emily Vile



I live in Lansing, I am an MSU graduate and a lifelong Spartan fan! Go Green! I have a four-month-old puppy named Pepper who is full of energy and personality, she takes up most of my free time at the moment. I enjoy camping, spending time with my family and occasionally crocheting blankets for friends and family. I look forward to being a part of the ULC community.

Joe and Marcy Wilmes, and Annika



Joe, Marcy and Annika Wilmes live in DeWitt and are happy to join ULC. Joe is a high school teacher, Marcy is a biologist and Annika attends Young Fives's. Our family enjoys time outdoors together golfing, kayaking, and going for walks with our Goldendoodle.

Taylor and Simon Zagata



Simon: I'm a disability rights lawyer in Lansing. I love the outdoors, writing, and cooking. You can find me walking our two dogs, or one of our two cats. Taylor: I work as a cybersecurity and privacy consultant. I met my husband, Simon, while attending law school together in Virginia, and now we've settled in his home state with our four furry companions. In my free time, I enjoy teaching group fitness classes (barre), knitting, gardening, cooking, writing, history, film, and coaching collegiate mock trial.



Thank You!



Dear Friends, thank you so, so much for the gorgeous stole, the prayer quilt, the monetary gifts and for all of the support and encouragement you have given me through the years. The stole is especially meaningful because of what it symbolizes to me with the stained glass and because Rev. Melinda Halom made it. I cherish the prayer quilt as a reminder of my own time spent in community with the ULC quilters. I can't find the words to express how much gratitude, love, and appreciation I have for the ULC congregation and staff. Your ministry lives on in my ministry.

~Kristy Stuart

Celebrations



- 1 Gail Hagbom
- 2 Robert Gallagher
- 5 Beth Holden
Ian Williams
- 6 Mike Lenkowski
- 7 Andrew Earle
- 8 Connor Hagman
- 10 Miriam Bunge
- 11 Le Roy Olson

- 11 Joy Oslund
Elizabeth Viele
- 12 Edward Brown
Morgan Fisher
Debra Gift
Samuel Schikorra
- 15 Tali Hysten
Kimberly Kravetz
- 16 Brooke Bubolz
Jim Lorenz
- 17 Camille Prince
- 19 Marianne Bubolz
- 19 Barbara Cox

- Dale Romsos
- 20 Judith Hardies
Carrie Saindon
Michael Stowe
- 21 Vicki Anderson
Melissa Andresen
Sandra Brooks
Jay Paquette
- 23 Ethan Dawson-
Baglien
Allison Mutka
- 24 Michael Christian
- 25 Bill Trevarthen

- 26 Sue Kamens
Dawn Newton
- 27 Diane Appel
- 28 Brock Gallagher
Lou Ann Miller
Miriam Minshall
- 29 Kay Fritz
Elspeth Muzzin

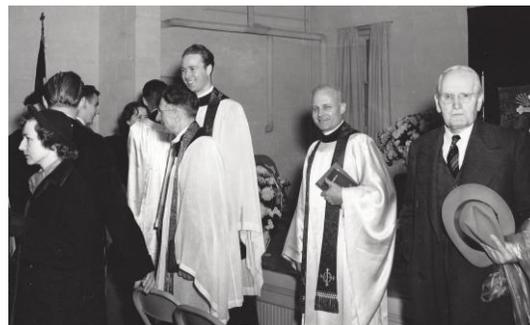


- 9 Gary & Pat Lee

ULC Archives

“Stay at Home” in 1949

The *College Lutheran News* newsletter from November 1949 had an interesting first page heading: 13 “STAY-AT-HOME” Sunday. That got my attention. It read, “That may sound like a new one – but that’s what we want our members to do on the 13th. But not in the morning – stay at home in the afternoon from 1:30 to 4 p.m. At that time all the members of our congregation will be visited by a fellow member, who will bring to them the three-fold message of “Impact” – a message planned by our entire American Lutheran Church concerning the “impact” of our synod, our local congregation, and our own lives. “Impact” will mean a lot more to you if you attend the Service that morning but make that afternoon “Stay-at-home” Sunday.”



A service held in the basement of the Ann Street Church. The congregation met here from December 5, 1948 until 1951 when the partial completion of the nave made it usable for worship. The two pastors on the left are probably Pastor Herbert Wolf and Pastor William Young.

to get every member to come to church. A system of reporting has been set up, so that every pastor in a certain area will call a contact man, who will wire the total of attendance in his area to Columbus; there the total attendance of the entire church will be compiled, and the result given to the national press the next morning. 470,003 – that’s the number we hope to reach.

But this is not being done as a publicity stunt. It’s being done so that on that last Sunday in the Church Year every member of the church will join with his fellow-saints in the kingdom in a renewed pledge of consecration to His Lord. The Sacrament of the Altar will be celebrated, so that we may have an even closer bond of union with each other and our Lord.”

Beside the above article was the headline: 20 “COME-TO-CHURCH” Sunday. It read, “November 20th is Loyalty Sunday in the entire American Lutheran Church. That Sunday every congregation in our synod is seeking

Unfortunately, STAY-AT-HOME Sunday isn’t a novel idea right now, and we all look forward to when the headline reads COME-TO-CHURCH Sunday once again.

Connie Lenkowski



The deadline for the December Lux is **Monday, Nov. 16.**

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



NOVEMBER

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 All Saints Day/DST Ends
10:00a Worship-Facebook Live
11:00a Zoom Coffee Hour/Forum@11:10
(Lutherans & Bible #6)</p> <p>2 10:00a Communications Team-Zoom
2:00p Racial Justice-Communications-Zoom</p> <p>3 7:30a Tuesday Morning Bible Study-Zoom*
9:30a Lux Planning-Zoom
10:00a Prayers & Squares-Fellowship Hall
(Reservation required: boorena@msu.edu)
12:30p Staff Meeting via Zoom
7:00p Pub Theology via Zoom*</p> <p>4 Noon Lectio Divina via Zoom*
4:00p Worship Wednesdays for Kids-Zoom*</p> <p>5 7:30p Sr. Choir-Zoom*</p> <p>6 5:00p Friday@Five-Zoom*</p> <p>8 10:00a Worship-Facebook Live
11:00a Zoom* Coffee Hour/Forum@11:10
(Lutherans & Bible#7)</p> <p>10 7:30a Tuesday Morning Bible Study-Zoom*
10:00a Prayers & Squares-Fellowship Hall
(Reservation required: boorena@msu.edu)
12:30p Staff Meeting-Zoom
6:30p Racial Justice Team-Zoom</p> <p>11 Veterans Day
Noon Lectio Divina-Zoom*
4:00p Worship Wednesday for Kids-Zoom*</p> <p>12 7:30p Sr. Choir-Zoom*</p> <p>13 5:00p Friday@Five-Zoom*</p> <p>15 10:00a Worship-Facebook Live</p> | <p>15 11:00a Zoom* Coffee Hour/Forum@11:10
(Nonviolent Tools)
3:00p Drive thru pick up Advent/drop off GC-ULC</p> <p>17 7:30a Tuesday Morning Bible Study-Zoom*
10:00a Prayers & Squares-Fellowship Hall
(Reservation required: boorena@msu.edu)
12:30p Staff Meeting-Zoom</p> <p>18 1:00p Rhodon Circle-Fireside*
(Reservation required: clenkowski@frontier.com)
Noon Lectio Divina-Zoom*
6:30p ULC Council-Zoom*
4:00p Worship Wednesday for Kids-Zoom*</p> <p>19 10:00a Book Club-Zoom*
7:30p Sr. Choir-Zoom*</p> <p>20 11:00 Racial Justice-Education-Zoom
5:00p Friday@Five-Zoom*</p> <p>22 10:00a Worship-Facebook Live
11:00a Zoom* Coffee Hour/Forum@11:10
(RJT: White Privilege)</p> <p>24 7:30a Tuesday Morning Bible Study-Zoom
10:00a Prayers & Squares
(Reservation required: boorena@msu.edu)
12:30p Staff Meeting-Zoom</p> <p>25 Noon Lectio Divina-Zoom*
3:30p Worship Wednesday for Kids-Zoom*</p> <p>26 Thanksgiving Day</p> <p>29 First Sunday of Advent
10:00a Worship-Zoom*
11:00a Zoom* Coffee Hour/Forum@11:10
(ULC Council)</p> |
|--|---|

* Zoom link contacts: Forum- found in Friday email announcements (contact Britny to be added to list); Choir- Janine Smith ; Friday@Five- Pastor Haley Vay; Tuesday Study- Jim Kiefer; Pub Theology - Britny; Lectio Divina Britny ; Worship Wednesday for Kids – Pastor Haley Vay ; Book Club – Judy Kindel ; Rhodon Circle – Connie Lenkowski (clenkowski@frontier.com) if needed ; Council Meeting – Erin Frisch

ULC Facilities

Due to the COVID19 emergency, the ULC building will be open for limited use, but the office remains closed. Check the website www.ulcel.org for 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



Sunday, Dec. 6
On Zoom

Immediately following 10:00 a.m. virtual worship

Watch your mailbox for the annual meeting mailing with more details.



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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Gary A. Bunge
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

Mark Your Calendars!

Special Advent Music
Sunday, Dec. 6

Senior Choir, Handbell Choir,
Scholarship Quartet

Worship Expressions
Jazz

Sunday, Dec. 13

