



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. 7

Understanding Racism CORR Virtual Workshop

Friday & Saturday, Nov. 11-12

9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

More information on p. 9

[Register here](#)

Quilts of Valor

Sunday, Nov. 14

Food Movers

Thursday, Nov. 18

Distribution 4:30 p.m.

Drive-thru pick up of
prepacked boxes

Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, Dec. 5

Immediately following worship

Trunk or Treat

After a Covid break last year, Trunk or Treat returned to ULC. Halloween fun was provided by 16 decorated trunks, ranging from a pirate ship to a visit to the apple orchard to Scooby Doo’s van. There was a carnival food trunk, an M & M trunk, Spartan cheerleaders, spooky skeletons, witches and pumpkins, jungle themed, farm-themed (with live chickens), and Star Wars trunks.



The trick-or-treaters were very cute, and costumes ranged from Star Wars to dinosaurs to Princess Elsa. The weather was generally cooperative and over 25 families enjoyed the yearly tradition in the ULC parking lot. See more pictures on page 4.



Amy Wagenknecht

2021 Trunk or Treat fun!

Inside . . .

- Pastor: Blessed to be a Blessing ~ Covid2
- One Community Campus Ministry3
- Families ~ Confirmation.....4
- Forum ~ Book Club ~ Summer Camp.....5
- Music Notes – Scholarship Singers.....6
- Earthkeeping ~ Kid’s Hope7
- Racial Justice: Prison Reform ~ Speaking ...8
- Understanding Racism Workshop9
- P & S: Quilts of Valor..... 10
- President ~ Lead Management 11
- Greater Church News12
- Greater Church News13
- ULC Archives ~ Grounds.....14
- Celebrations ~ New Care Team.....15
- Tight Knit: Hats Needed16



Remember to set back
your clocks one hour on
Sunday, Nov. 7 . . .

Or you’ll be really
early to church!

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

Blessed to be a Blessing

On the first three Sundays of November, we will be sharing information about the various ministries of our congregation, the Synod, and the ELCA as part of our fall stewardship emphasis. I always enjoy being able to do this because I have a deep sense of pride in the various ministries we're involved in on all three of these levels. And I am proud that Miriam and I support these ministries through our giving to ULC.

In writing this article, I'd thought I'd share with you some of my own faith practices in terms of my giving and money.

Over the years, stewardship and giving have become important parts of living out my faith and discipleship. It's never been "supporting the church's budget." Instead, it's been, "how to be generous with the resources God has given me, and how can I participate in the ministry of the congregation, Synod, and ELCA. This understanding has helped me develop a positive attitude toward stewardship and giving.



Over the years, I've also developed a "giving first" practice. If you look at my checkbook, the first entry after my direct pay deposit entry, is my contribution to the church. Of course, that amount is the same throughout the year – the amount I've committed to give to support the ministries of the congregation – but placing it first after the pay deposit is a regular reminder that I return back to God first and then live off the rest.

So often it's done the other way. We take care of our bills, wants, and needs first, and then give God the leftovers. But I've discovered that if I do that, there often aren't leftovers because it's so easy to use everything up on wants and desires. Giving first, not only helps me to be generous, but it also helps to curb my materialism.

One other aspect of my stewardship and giving is that through my giving I know that I'm participating in the work of making God's kingdom visible here on earth. I'm helping to feed the hungry. I'm helping to grow people in faith. I'm helping to serve the physical needs of all kinds of

people. I'm helping to make a difference in the world. And that brings me joy!

By the time you read this, you should have received your giving statement in the mail along with a letter from me, and a Statement of Intent (Pledge) Card. Please think and pray about what you will give in 2022 to support the ministry of ULC, and return the card to the church office, or make your commitment on our website, by Sunday, Nov. 21.

As you think and pray about what you will give to support the ministries of ULC in this coming year, I hope that if you don't do this already, that you will consider being generous with your financial resources, that you will give first with a specific amount (weekly, monthly, or yearly) rather than out of the leftovers, and that you will find joy in knowing that you are participating in the work of making God's kingdom visible here on earth through ULC, the Synod and ELCA.

We are blessed to be a blessing!

Pastor Gary

Covid Update

At the October Council meeting, the Council approved changes to our COVID Return Plan with the recognition that given the numbers of people who have been vaccinated, waiting until Ingham County is at five cases per 100,000 to begin in-person worship is no longer feasible or necessary.

After significant discussion and considering many factors, the Council approved the following policies:

1. We expect that those who attend in-person worship are vaccinated if they are eligible.
2. Everyone must be masked in the church.
3. Cases overall must be less than 25 cases per 100,000 in Ingham County, be decreasing and holding at less than 25 for at least two weeks.

4. At this time, overall number of people in the sanctuary will be limited to 75.

As of Oct. 21, cases in Ingham County are at 28.6 and have dropped slightly, so we are hopefully not too far away from beginning in-person worship. When we begin in-person worship, we will take appropriate precautions in addition to expecting that eligible people are vaccinated and requiring masks. These include but are not limited to:

1. No congregational singing
 2. Social distancing in the church
 3. No printed bulletins or Passing the Peace
 4. No fellowship and refreshments after worship
- We will continue to stream worship online for those who are not comfortable returning to in-person worship.

Fridays@Five



October Speakers: Rebekah and Jamie Bruesehoff. Topic: Queer Theology



Campus Ministry fall retreat: camping!



Fridays@Five Halloween Fun!



Worship Wednesdays



Children learning about Martin Luther and the Reformation in Worship Wednesday.

We continue to gather on Wednesdays, now at a new time! In an effort to allow children to get home from in-person school days, we now gather at 4:15 p.m. on Zoom. Join us live on Zoom or watch later on ULC's YouTube channel under the "Worship Wednesday" playlist.



Trunk or Treat 2021



Confirmation Youth Ministry



Each month our Confirmation youth and pastors engage in two learning events, as well as service and fellowship events. For their October service event our students assisted with parking cars for the UM game. Pictured: Bryan, Pastor Haley Vay, Brie and Henry. Their fellowship event took place during Trunk or Treat, our annual intergenerational Halloween event.



JULY 24-28, 2022 | MINNEAPOLIS, MN

The 2021 ELCA Youth Gathering has been rescheduled to 2022!

Youth in grades 8th-12th grade at the time of registration (2021-2022 school year) are eligible to attend as participants.

Learn more at elca.org/gathering

Adult Faith Formation

November continues with the series, Saving Jesus Redux which began Oct. 24. Pastor Gary leads this 12-session DVD series which features Brian McLaren, Marcus Borg, Walter Brueggemann, John Dominic Crossan, Amy-Jil Levine, and a host of others. It encourages us to embrace a greater understanding of faith that is inclusive and reconciling rather than unique and exclusive. There are opportunities for discussion. Everyone is welcome to attend, even if you have missed previous sessions!

Until further notice, Forum continues to be held via Zoom beginning at 11:10 a.m., following the 10 a.m. Worship Service. Links will be provided in weekly email



and in the Facebook comment section on Sunday morning.

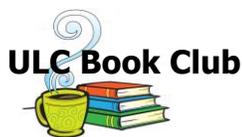
Nov. 7 Saving Jesus Redux #2 Who Was Jesus? – Pastor Gary

Nov. 14 Saving Jesus Redux #3 What Can We Know About Jesus (and How)? – Pastor Gary

Nov. 21 Annual Meeting Preview by ULC Council President, Nancy Lindman - also featuring Pastor Gary Bunge, Joy Oslund, and Will Mahoney

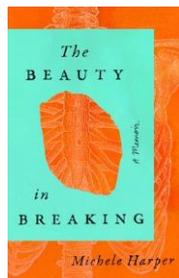
Nov. 28 No forum - Thanksgiving Weekend

Linda Trevarthen



The Beauty in Breaking

In November we will discuss *The Beauty in Breaking* by Michele Harper. In her book, Michele Harper, an African American Emergency Room doctor, writes about her explorations of self-healing. Her insights come from being a woman, a daughter and a physician. We will meet on Thursday, November 18th at 10 a.m. With the weather turning colder we are shifting away from meeting in the church parking lot to meeting via Zoom. If you would like to join us, please contact Beth Rahe at bwojan1@gmail.com or Mary

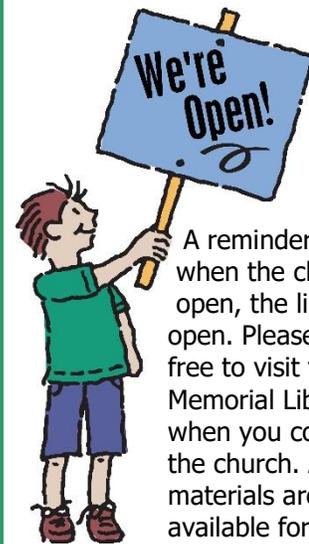


Kotnik at mkotnik@comcast.net so we can add you to our email list and provide you with the Zoom link.

Looking forward, we will not meet in December due to busy schedules. In January we will resume meeting the third Thursday of the month at 10 a.m. and continue to meet through the month of May.

Please join us,
Beth Rahe and Mary Kotnik

ULC Memorial Library



A reminder – when the church is open, the library is open. Please feel free to visit the ULC Memorial Library when you come to the church. All materials are available for check-out! We hope to see you soon!

The Library Team

Summer Camp Returns and it's Free!

Dear Living Water Ministries Community,

We've got exciting news for the summer of 2022! There will be **no registration fees** for any of our campers at Stony Lake in 2022! In addition, every camper will receive a **complimentary t-shirt and snack from our camp store** at no charge!

Camp has always been a gift in the lives of those who attend, and now it is a gift given freely for all! Please take a few minutes to watch this [video](#) or visit elcalivingwater.com/2022announcement/ learn more.



We hope this gift brings you as much joy to receive as it does to us to give. All of us at Living Water Ministries are incredibly excited to welcome all of God's children back to camp for the summer of 2022.

We're looking forward to seeing you! It's going to be the best summer yet!

Peace,

C. J. Clark
Executive Director, Living Water Ministries

Meet the 2021-22 Scholarship Singers

Hello ULC! It's **Chey Lacasse** and I am incredibly thrilled to be the alto scholarship student again this year! You may have noticed that my last name has changed. In June of 2021 my family had a very special event as my stepdad adopted me and I took the family name. It was a blessing!

I graduated from Okemos High School in 2019 and am now a Junior at MSU studying Political Science with a minor in Environmental Studies. While in high school for all four years I took voice lessons under ULC's choir director, Janine Novenske-Smith. I also sang in the choir and played French Horn in the band. While at Okemos High School I participated in many productions which started in Big Fish my freshman year to one of the leads, Tanya, in Mamma Mia my senior year. Other productions along the way that I had fun roles in were Les Miserables, Our Town, and Peter and The Starcatcher. I love rehearsing and being on stage!

The quarantine did allow me to focus on my studies and I was able to complete my associate degree at Lansing Community College in General Studies and move on full time to MSU. Over the course of the pandemic, I have missed singing with the choir and people in general! The community at ULC has always been so warm and welcoming. I look forward to seeing everyone again in person soon!

Hello ULC family! I'm **Adam Krause**, and I am incredibly excited to be returning as your bass scholarship student for a fourth year! When I began singing in the Senior Choir in my freshman year, I never could have imagined all that we would go through together. The Coronavirus pandemic has uprooted all our lives in more ways than one, making it impossible to worship and sing together as we would have liked. However, in the past year and a half I have seen this church come together in a way that is truly extraordinary, overcoming all obstacles before it. The wonderful virtual services that we have shared are the result of the tenacious efforts of the talented ULC team, and the unwavering support of the congregation. While the future remains uncertain, I know that together we can persevere whatever may come. Thank you for the privilege of singing with you!



Joe Gill, Chey Lacasse, Adam Krause

A bit more about me: My hometown is Haslett, where I went to school and began my career as a singer and performer. There I participated in the school production of *Beauty and the Beast* and played the major roles of Greylag in *Honk!* and Mr. Macafee in *Bye, Bye Birdie*. After beginning my education at MSU, I studied vocal performance under Professor Mark Embree, and went on to perform in the Operas, *Die Fledermaus* and *Orpheus in the Underworld*. I now study political

science with minors in music and international development, and hope that my work will make the world a richer, safer, and more equitable place.

I'm **Joe Gill** and I'm the current tenor scholarship Student at ULC. This is my first time joining the church choir and have been overwhelmed with amazing support and positivity from everyone I've met so far! I graduated from DeWitt High School in May 2021 and recently started my first semester at MSU where I major in business. Over the summer I worked at Scoopy Doo's Old Fashion Ice Cream Shoppe, driving an ice cream cart around the city. Currently, I work with my guitar teacher at Sigh Studio of Music where I play guitar for early childhood music classes and assist her with outdoor children's theatre shows and concerts at the Lake Lansing Bandshell. I have also been working as an assistant AD for the DeWitt High Schools' fall musical of *Les Misérables*.

When I'm not at school or work, I participate in theatre productions across our community. When I was in high school, I played the Constable/ Farmer in *The Music Man*, Sonny in *Grease*, and Lefou in *Beauty and the Beast*. In 2019 I joined Riverwalk Theatre's production of *Hairspray* where I played Sketch. I have also done shows at the Lebowsky Center for Performing Arts in Owosso including Coachman in R&H's *Cinderella*, an original outside concert series entitled "Icons," and the ensemble of *Head Over Heels*. I have missed singing in choirs since the start of quarantine and I'm excited to be singing with a group of people again! I would like to give a huge thanks to Meghan-Eldred Woolsey for her constant support and guidance over the years. And thanks to Janine and Kristie for all the hard work they do!

Sharing the Sun's Power with Others

ULC has recently been involved in raising funds, (along with several other faith-based communities) to support the Green Energy Project at Southside Community Coalition in Southwest Lansing.

They have now reached their goal of \$35,000 to install a rooftop solar system on their building. This will provide them with 100 percent renewable energy for all electrical needs. This savings is projected to save \$5,000 per year, which will then be available to support their programs. It will also serve as a commitment to reduce carbon emissions and be an example of how a project such as this can contribute to a renewable future for the wider community.

We are blessed that ULC leaders have supported projects beyond our own doors by “practicing stewardship of God’s creation” and paying it forward.

Judy Kindel

What We Do!

FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS

After School Tutoring
Southside 4-H Club
Empowering Youth Today (EYT)

FOR SENIORS

Senior Luncheons
MI Cafe

FOR FAMILIES

Food Distribution
Health Care Registration
Community Garden
Nutrition Programs

Donate!

Donations can be made by going to the donation page at southsidecommunitycoalition.com

Donations are tax deductible

Southside Community Coalition

GREEN ENERGY PROJECT

2101 W HOLMES RD
LANSING MI 48910

PH: 517-394-7400
Fax: 517-394-3138
southsidecommunitycoalition.com

Virtual Mentoring at Forest View

The ULC Kids Hope USA mentors at Forest View Elementary School in Lansing are eager to begin meeting with their students. Unfortunately, Covid 19 has made that very difficult. Lansing students are attending school, but visitors are not allowed in the buildings.

The Kids Hope USA ministry has faced this dilemma in schools across the country. During the 2020/21 school year, over 100 Kids Hope USA programs set up some form of virtual mentoring. There was a learning curve, but the response to the experience was overwhelmingly positive.



So, what does virtual mentoring mean?

At Forest View, we hope to have two time slots per week with about half of our students in the computer lab.

They will use Zoom breakout rooms for 30 minutes to meet with their mentor who is at home or work. Someone from the school will supervise by walking around and listening to student/mentor conversations.

The virtual mentoring may be challenging to organize at first but connecting with at-risk students to establish a relationship, so they feel special and loved, is our number one goal.

*Barbara Kissling, Director
ULC Kids Hope USA*

November Outreach of the Month Citizens for Prison Reform Michigan

The November Outreach of the Month is Citizens for Prison Reform (CPR) Michigan. To support this outreach, you can contribute using the DONATE button on the ULC web page (www.ulcel.org) or send a check to ULC. Include *Citizens for Prison Reform* in the memo.

ULC has been working with Lois Pullano for several years now. The Advocacy and Community Outreach (ACO) Subteam of the ULC Racial Justice Team first became aware of Open MI Door/Citizens for Prison Reform MI via Michael Anderson. He told us that Pat Lee had invited Lois to ULC to discuss these prison reform issues several years ago. In June we attended their Legislative Action Day on the lawn of the state Capitol urging legislative action to end the use of segregation in Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) facilities. We are currently working with the ULC Council to garner support from area congregations. Below is a short interview with Lois.

1. How did you get started with Open MI Door and how did you come up with the name of the campaign?

In 2019 we learned of the national Unlock the Box campaign at a conference. We were asked to apply for funding to begin a campaign in Michigan. They were aware of my personal experience of my minor son in solitary and that CPR assists families who have loved ones in solitary. We know the State of Michigan often uses MI in naming programs and projects they initiate. We felt we had the perfect opportunity to play on words with a clear powerful message of what needs to occur.

2. What is the history of segregation/solitary confinement in MDOC facilities?

The MDOC considers segregation to be anyone in a cell 22 hours a day and 387 individuals have been held from six months to 35 years. The model for modern-day solitary confinement has been traced to the Quaker society beginning in 1829. Despite the Supreme Court acknowledgement in 1890 that it violates the Eighth Amendment, this practice has continued nationwide. While Michigan's system has made attempts to reduce the number in segregation in 2012 with a pilot program in the upper peninsula, the numbers of those held in segregation have continued to rise in recent years. They have begun numerous pilot programs with new names, but the conditions and punitive measures continue which has led to numerous deaths and emotional scarring of those held and staff over the years. For administrative segregation, the most restrictive level, the time an individual will

serve is undetermined when they are placed there. We believe rehabilitation and programming cannot occur with two or less hours out of cell a day and the Open MI Door and Unlock the Box campaign's definition of solitary confinement is anyone housed in-cell 20 hours per day for more than 15 days.

3. Is segregation applied equitably regardless of race? Do you have statistics that would help us understand your answer?

No, segregation is not applied equitably. There are great racial disparities. In 2020 we requested data from the MDOC of those held in segregation/solitary confinement. We found there are over 3,200 being held in a cell for 20 or more hours a day. MDOC reported 1,284 individuals being held in cell 22 or more hours per day. Of those, 836 were Black or African American, 17 were American Indian or Alaskan Native, 420 were white and eight were unknown. Of the 387 who have been held for six months to 35 years, 65 percent are Black or African American.

Continued on page 9.

Speaking of Racial Justice



Defund the Police

Defund the Police is the push to downsize funding or shift money from law enforcement to other social programs to address critical needs of communities. Activists who use the phrase may do so with varying intentions; some seek modest reductions, while others argue for full divestment as a step toward the abolition of contemporary police services. Activists who support the defunding of police departments often argue that investing in community programs could provide a better crime deterrent for communities; funds would go toward addressing social issues, like poverty, homelessness, and mental disorders. Police abolitionists call for replacing existing police forces with other systems of public safety, like housing, employment, community health, education, and other programs.

Critics argue that police officers and police departments provide too many services. According to this argument, the United States has an over-reliance on law enforcement, which is expected to handle an unrealistically wide range of social issues. For these reasons, some activists have called for an unbundling of services. Under this model, many services that were previously provided by law enforcement would be provided by specialized response teams. These teams could include social workers, emergency medical technicians, conflict resolution specialists, restorative justice teams, and other community-based professionals.

Source: Wikipedia.com; thoughtco.com

“Understanding Racism” Workshop Offered Again



CORR
Congregations
Organizing
for Racial
Reconciliation

The Lansing Area CORR Leadership Team is excited to host another Understanding Racism Workshop with CORR (www.corrnow.org). ULC is partnering with them again to offer this life-changing, church-changing, and city-changing two-day workshop ONLINE. We've had 155 people from Lansing representing 28 different churches attend over the last four years. We envision this training to serve as a catalyst for creating a significant movement of anti-racist churches for God in the Lansing community.

Workshop Goals:

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

Date: November 12 & 13

Friday: 9 a.m. – Noon and 1 – 6 p.m. (several breaks) Saturday: 9 a.m. – Noon and 1 – 6 p.m. (several breaks)

First time attendees must attend the entire event!

Location: ZOOM – Links provided after registration

Cost: Lansing-Area Resident - \$75 (Lansing area churches' sponsorship keeps the cost low) Non-Lansing-Area Resident - \$200. Includes training and workbook.

Register & Pay Online: bit.ly/CORRNov2021, by email: CORR@sycamorecreekchurch.org or by mail: Sycamore Creek Church, 1919 S. Pennsylvania, Lansing, MI 48910

Questions: Contact Vicki Anderson or Thom McCurdy, ULC Racial Justice Team co-leaders.

Prison Reform continued from page 8.

4. How does Open MI Door/Citizens for Prison Reform utilize our donations?

Donations are utilized to support coordination of the campaign, events, printing and mailing supplies, building an online presence and to build a coalition of faith-based organizations, solitary survivors and their families. We do communicate with those inside solitary, seeking their stories, solutions and assisting with their circumstances as much as

possible. We provide some stipends and emotional support for those who share their stories if they were directly impacted by this traumatic experience.

5. If I am unable to donate at this time, is there anything else I can do to support your initiative?

Go to our website micpr.org/open-mi-door. Click the button to sign the petition that will be sent off to the Governor and legislators as soon as

Listening to
Racial Justice



More Critical Race Theory

Podcast: Code Switch (NPR) - Episode 300, Sept. 1, 2021, 38 min. [The Folk Devil Made Me Do It: Code Switch : NPR](#)

The Folk Devil Made Me Do It

Summary: Gene Demby hosts an in-depth discussion of moral panics and its application to the current rage about schools and Critical Race Theory. This podcast discusses the sociological aspects of perceived moral issues leading to widespread panic and changes to social and political policy. The host and his guests explain the intersection of racism and education is particularly vulnerable to moral panic, with the issue of Critical Race Theory in schools being the most current.

Podcast: *Southlake* (NBC News) – Six episodes plus a bonus episode, Aug. 30, 2021 – Oct. 4, 2021, approx. 40 minutes each [Southlake podcast: Inside a critical race theory battle - NBC News | NBC News](#)

Summary: “Beautiful Southlake, Texas, seemed too good to be true – until a video emerged of white high school students chanting the N-word. But it was the school district’s plan to confront racism that really sent residents on the warpath. Hosted by reporter Mike Hixenbaugh and correspondent Antonia Hylton, *Southlake* is a six-part series about belonging – and backlash – in an American suburb.”

This is a lengthy podcast, however, well worth the deep dive into how fear of Critical Race Theory being taught in schools divided residents in a wealthy town. Recommended listening after the above podcast and the *Know Your History* podcast in the October *Lux*.

we reach 10,000 signatures. Share it with your friends and family. Think of organizations who would endorse the campaign and share the position statement with them to sign. Tell people about the campaign. Sign up to get our mailings of upcoming events and further actions you can take as we build out the campaign. We are also looking for volunteers to assist with incarcerated individuals’ mail and letter writing.

Thom McCurdy



Prayers & Squares Chapter 163

Honoring Our Veterans

We are observing the 18th Anniversary of Prayers & Squares Chapter 163. In the fall of 2003, we received the okay from the Social Action folks to begin this ministry. They graciously gave us \$200 to begin purchasing supplies. Thanks to an anonymous donor, a gift of \$500 allowed us to buy fabric, tables and tools. With great support from Pastor Fred Fritz, Dian Wright and I were able to introduce this new outreach ministry to the ULC congregation and wrap Madeline Springer with our first prayer quilt in early Dec. 2003. This week marks quilt number 2265.



Sandy and the gentleman from Heart of the Shepherd Lutheran Church in Howell when we dropped off the school and sewing kits on Oct. 16th.

In 2007, we began making Quilts of Valor for veterans and active members of our armed forces. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are honoring the men and woman individually in their homes, parks and even at the VFW Hall in Fowler, MI. Below is the list of the 2021 QOV recipients.

Thank you everyone who donated to help defray the cost of supplies for the Lutheran World Relief School Kits and Sewing Kits. The Fridays@ Five students loaded the boxes into our Acadia, and we delivered them to Heart of the Shepherd Lutheran Church in Howell

on Oct. 16. Your gifts of fabric and thread will help people learn to make clothes for their families. I can only imagine the smiles on the faces of the children who receive the unique school bags made by Ellie Korroch.

We continue to meet each Tuesday morning from 10 a.m. until about 12:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall where we can observe the guidelines set by the council for safe gathering during this pandemic. All of the regular attendees are completely vaccinated. Consider joining us. We have all the supplies and tools on hand. What we need is YOU!!

Questions? Contact me at bobbieann.davis80@gmail.com or 517-256-9452.

Bobbie Davis



John Krueger
(Bobbie Davis' cousin)

- 2021
Quilts of Valor Recipients**
- Everett Booren - Army Reserve
 - Keith Crosslan - Army
 - Gene Goerge - Army
 - Howard Gore – Air Force
 - Matthew Kraner – Air Force
 - John Krueger – Air Force
 - Charles Robinson – Air Force
 - Rachel Rosenbaum – Army
 - David Charles Smith – Air Force
 - William Wright - Navy
 - Ken Zielinski - Army



William Wright
(Gertraud Fleischer's son-in-law)



Gene George
(Quilt made by nephew's wife from Virginia)



Keith Crosslan



David Chales Smith



Ken Zielinski



Remaining photos will be included in the December Lux.



Matthew Kraner
(Quilt being presented by Bobbie Davis.)

From the President

Preparing for Annual Meeting and Updates Return Plan

Will Mahoney led devotions for Council's October meeting by sharing his observations as a beekeeper on teamwork. He talked about how bee-like teamwork applies to our work as a congregation and a Church Council - how every member is important, how each member has a role in being the Church and caring for one another. This provided a helpful meditation centering our work on two important issues - the 2022 Budget and an updated policy for returning to in-person worship.



The updated return to worship plan increased the COVID case level from 5 to 25 cases per 100,000. It stipulates an expectation that all who attend in-person worship are vaccinated if they are eligible, all must be masked, and a limit of 75 people in the sanctuary. We will continue to stream worship online for those who are not comfortable returning to in-person worship.

Council accepted Finance Committee's thoughtful recommendation for ULC's 2022 Budget which invests in our excellent staff, key to carrying out our mission, as well as our facility and current priorities such as racial justice. We hope that you participate in learning about details during the Nov. 21 Forum and the Dec. 5 Annual Meeting.

God created us (and bees) to work together and support one another. I'm so grateful for every ULC member and Council's teamwork carrying out support for our mission and care for one another.

*Nancy Lindman
ULC Council President*

Lead Management Team Notes

Lead Pastor's Report-Pastor Gary

Bunge: I worked with Janine to put together a position description and ad for a pianist to play for worship a couple of times per month with the Council's approval of a plan for blended services. I posted the job opening with the Lansing chapter AGO (American Guild of Organists), the ALCM (Association of Lutheran Church Musicians) and two places at MSU. We have received resumes from nine individuals and held interviews/auditions the week of Oct. 18. On another note, we were not accepted into the ELCA's Congregation Lead Initiative.

Bicycle Ministry-Gary Garbarino:

Making steady progress with Friendship House requests, and a neighbor gave me three youth bikes that are practically new.

Campus Ministry— Sue Kamens:

Friday@Five has been meeting outdoors since Sept. 10. Now that students are back on campus as opposed to last year, the response to

gathering in person has been encouraging. Last year's Zoom Friday meetings attracted a faithful few. This year many more have come for a light supper, get acquainted activities, and Bible study. Options are being explored for the possibility of a heated outdoor gathering spot on ULC's property as summer weather fades.

Social Action—Bryan Rahe: The food distribution served 135 families in September. That was up 10 families from August. We attribute the jump to texting a reminder to cell phone users and the influx of MSU students. Michigan Refugee Hope had their golf outing fundraiser on Sept. 8. We thank members of ULC that participated.

Welcome Team-New Team Leader needed.

Small Groups

- Lectio Divina Bible Study, Wednesdays 12-1 p.m. - Bill Trevarthen
- Tuesday Morning Bible Study (Lectionary) every Tuesday morning, 7:30- 8:30 a.m. on Zoom - Jim Kiefer, Larry Wagenknecht
- Women's (and some men) Bible Study
- Lychnion Circle, 3rd Tuesday of the month at 12:30 p.m. - Carolyn Lohr
- Amnos Circle, 3rd Wednesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. (Women of the Bible) - Marilyn Johnson
- Rhodon Circle, 3rd Wednesday of the month at 1 p.m. - Connie Lenkowski
- Musers (Men's Fellowship Breakfast), every Wednesday at 8 a.m. at the East Lansing IHOP - Emmett Braselton
- Brunch Bunch (Women's Fellowship), 2nd Thursday of the month at 9:30 a.m. at the East Lansing IHOP - Ann Booren.

Amy Wagenknecht

National Council of Churches elects all-female officers, approves NRSV update

October 14, 2021

(RNS) — The National Council of Churches has elected an all-female slate of officers for the first time in the ecumenical organization’s 71-year history.

Bishop Teresa Jefferson-Snorton, leader of the Fifth Episcopal District of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, on Wednesday (Oct. 13) became chair of the organization, starting a two-year term along with the other officers.

She is joined by the Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, who is vice chair; Kimberly Gordon Brooks, first vice president of the 3rd District Lay Organization, African Methodist Episcopal Church, who is secretary; and the Rev. Teresa “Terri” Hord Owens, general minister and president, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), who is treasurer.

All but Eaton are women of color.

“At this pivotal time in the life of the church in the United States, it is noteworthy that the NCC is modeling



Bishop Teresa Jefferson-Snorton speaks at St. Joseph AME Church in Durham, North Carolina, in January 2020. Video screen grab

inclusiveness in selecting its leaders,” Jefferson-Snorton said in a statement. “The denominations that make up the NCC demonstrate a commitment to embody the diversity of God’s creation in so many ways. This commitment is a call for all of us to show the love of God to all, promote unity in Christ Jesus and to resist the current cultural trends of divisiveness.”

The governing board of the NCC also voted to approve the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition Bible, or NRSVue, after a four-year effort to bring the widely used translation in line with the biblical scholarship since it was published more than 30 years ago.

The changes in the updated text were made “on the basis of accuracy, clarity, euphony, and current English usage,” the NCC said in an announcement about the project that has involved Friendship Press, its subsidiary.

In a statement, the Rev. Jim Winkler, NCC president and general secretary, called the new version, the work of dozens of scholars, editors and reviewers, “a monumental achievement.”

The new version is expected to be released by publishers on or after May 1, 2022. Friendship Press plans to make an e-Bible of the new version available on its Word@Hand app starting Nov. 19.

The 38 member denominations of the NCC comprise some 35 million Christians in Protestant, Orthodox, Anglican, evangelical and historic Black denominations and “peace churches.”

*Adelle M. Banks
Production editor and a national
reporter at Religion News Service*

ELCA Fund for Leaders Scholarship

Each year, the ELCA Fund for Leaders awards over 40 new full-tuition scholarships to future ELCA pastors and deacons who attend ELCA seminaries. The scholarship application window will be open from November 15 to February 25, 2022.



rostered ministry in the ELCA. Candidates are encouraged to apply to seminary and for a Fund for Leaders scholarship simultaneously. Students who have completed no more than one semester of coursework prior to Fall 2022 are also welcome to apply.

Eligible candidates must be planning to enroll full time in Fall 2022 and must have received a positive entrance decision or begun the process of seeking candidacy for

To learn more about the Fund for Leaders scholarships and application requirements, visit [ELCA.org/FundForLeaders](https://www.elca.org/FundForLeaders)

North/West Lower Michigan Synod

ULC Alumni Who Became Pastors

At least 49 alumni of ULC have gone on to become pastors. This is an amazing number and reflects the importance and effectiveness of our Campus Ministry program.

Over the years ULC has received notes from many of those ULC alumni. Following are two of those letters.

From Jeff Hawkins (as printed in the November 1980 *Lux*):

Dear Friends in Christ,

Today in the mail I received an envelope sent by University Lutheran Church. I opened it to find a check for \$327 to put toward building my theological library. I also found a certificate of membership transfer, from University Lutheran to Stanfold/Our Savior's Lutheran Parish, Rick Lake, Wisconsin.

A mixed message given by the contents of that envelope? Not really. Instead, the financial support and the gift of being let go represent a practical application of the call to "Go therefore and make disciples...baptizing...teaching" (Matt. 28: 19-20). Being faithful to this call has been made in large part possible because of the support of ULC and its members through four years of seminary and now even into the first year in the parish.

Like the leper in the recent Gospel text, I attempt to return to you all by letter in order to say thank you. And also like that leper I attempt to follow the command of Jesus to "Rise and go your way" in order to provide the necessary ministry with the people of Rice Lake.

Again, my sincere thanks. May God bless us all wherever we may be.

Rev. Jeff Hawkins

From Jan Hite who is currently pastor of Redeemer in Lansing (as printed in the November 1991 *Lux*):

My Dear Family,



This has been a long time coming and I don't know where to begin. We have traveled many journeys together, and you have always been there beside me. You are all a part of me, and I will forever hold you close to my heart.

I want to thank you, all of you, from the bottom of my heart for your support, your love and your affirmation! There are times I cannot believe that I have come this far – I am ordained. I couldn't have done it without you. When I think of my journey, one that you were a part of, a very special hymn comes to mind. *Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me. Break me, melt me, mold me, fill me. Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.* The spirit of the living God worked through you, the family of ULC to break me, melt me, mold me and fill me to do the work God has called me to do. My family of ULC. I will forever be grateful!

I want to send a special thanks to all who helped make my ordination so special and wonderful. The women of ULC, the staff, those who helped at the reception and especially all of you who came to share in "OUR" special day.

God blessed me when He placed you in my life in 1973; I am forever thankful. Blessings and love on you.

Rev. Jan Hite

Connie Lenkowski

Grounds Team

Preparing for the Change of Seasons

We applied 450 pounds of ammonium sulfate fertilizer to the ULC lawn this fall and did extensive tree and shrub pruning. We are evaluating and modifying our first bid for the complete landscape redesign and are acquiring a second bid for a complete landscape redesign for the Memorial Garden.

A large dying Norway Maple that is too close to the church will be removed. A professional arborist will do the work. We are also planning the fall cleanup.

We are continuing the urban prairie garden which is the object of study for Emily Conway's PhD research.

The planting will begin in November.

Also, memorial rocks which hold the plaques for those whose ashes are spread in the Memorial Garden are being purchased.

Norm Jolin, Sr.



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
Joy Oslund

Elizabeth Viele
12 Edward Brown
Morgan Fisher
Debra Gift
Samuel Schikorra
15 Tali Hylan
Kimberly Kravetz
16 Brooke Bubolz
Jim Lorenz
17 Camille Prince
19 Marianne Bubolz
Barbara Cox
Dale Romsos

20 Judith Hardies
Carrie Saindon
21 Vicki Anderson
Melissa Andresen
Sandra Brooks
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
Bonnie V'Soske
29 Kay Fritz
Elspeth Muzzin



9 Gary & Pat Lee

Introducing the New ULC Care Team

Still in its formative stage, the new ULC Care Team is a trio of ministries whereby ULC volunteers reach out to care for ULC members who may need a friendly gesture. Whether it's a greeting card, a ride to worship, or a home-cooked meal, Care Team members and volunteers are gearing up to help.

Here is how you can help with this circle of caring.

Join Us! We need volunteers to:

- Drive someone who lives in your vicinity to worship on Sundays.
- Send greeting cards to a few members from time to time. (Names will be provided)
- Be on a list of potential home cooks who could be called on to

fix a home-cooked meal for a member in need.

- Participate in a "group cooking session" from time to time. Participants will gather in the ULC kitchen and make 5-10 of the same hot dish. Volunteers needed to prep food, prepare the recipe, clean up, package and label each dish, and store it in the ULC freezer. Lots of camaraderie and a great way to get to know other ULC members! Later, when a ULC member might be in need of a prepared meal, it will be dropped off by a pastor or team member.

Donate in any amount:

- Unused greeting cards.
- First class stamps.

- Funding for group cooking sessions during this first year as this ministry was developed after the 2022 budget was set.

If you would like to donate or participate, please contact Britny Pollard at the ULC office (517-332-2559, ulcsec@ulcel.org) or Linda Trevarthen (517-281-8022, trevarth@msu.edu).

*Linda Trevarthen,
Care Team Leader*

Ministry Leaders:

Stephanie Hall, Cards

Steve and Debbie Viele, Drivers

Emily Uebel, Meals

Correction to Gertraud and Vera's Story

In the October 2021 *Lux*, the version of Gertraud and Vera's Story, printed on page 12, was not the final version. A couple of critical edits were omitted and are now provided: (corrections italicized and underlined)

In 1957, Magdalena, now a happy U.S. citizen, *along with Vera's aunt*, traveled back to Germany to visit Magdalena's son Erich, his wife Gertraud, and their two daughters. (Jacob did not travel to Germany in 1957. It was Vera's mother and aunt.)

Magdalena's husband Jakob died of a heart attack. Feeling unwell, he tried to get to what was then Ingham Medical Hospital by bus but didn't make it. He died on the way. *He was 63 years old.* (The article as published said he was 38 when he died. 63 was his actual age.)

I apologize for the errors.

Amy Wagenknecht



1	All Saints Day/Am. Indian Heritage Month	7:30	Tuesday Morning Bible Study-Zoom*
2	9-4p ULC Office Open	9-4p	ULC Office Open
	7:30a Tuesday Morning Bible Study-Zoom*	10:00a	Prayers & Squares-Fellowship
	10:00a Prayers & Squares-Fellowship	12:30p	Staff Meeting-Zoom
	12:30p Staff Meeting-Zoom	12:30p	Lychnion Circle-Fireside
3	8:00a Mushers-IHOP, EL	17	8:00a Mushers-IHOP, EL
	9a-4p ULC Office Open		9-4p ULC Office Open
	9:30a Communications Team-Zoom		9:30a Amnos Circle-Fellowship
	Noon Lectio Divina-Zoom*		Noon Lectio Divina-Zoom*
	4:15p Worship Wednesday for Kids-Zoom*		1:00p Rhodon Circle Bible Study-Fellowship
	4:30p Lead Management Team-Teams		4:15p Worship Wednesday for Kids-Zoom*
	6:30p Confirmation-Fireside/Student Lounge		6:30p ULC Council-Zoom*
4	9-4p ULC Office Open		6:30p Confirmation-Fireside/Student Lounge
	7:30p Senior Choir-Zoom*	18	9-4p ULC Office open
5	5:00p Fridays@Five		10:00a ULC Book Club-location TBD
7	Daylight Saving Time Ends		4:30p Food Movers Distribution-Drive thru
	10:00a Sunday Worship-Facebook	19	5:00p Friday@Five-ULC
	11:00a Zoom Coffee Hour/Forum@11:10 (Jesus Redux #2)	20	TBA Basketball Parking (EMU@MSU)
		21	10:00a Sunday Worship-Facebook**
9	9-4p ULC Office Open		11:00a Zoom Coffee Hour/Forum@11:10 (Annual Meeting Preview)
	7:30a Tuesday Morning Bible Study-Zoom*	23	7:30a Tuesday Morning Bible Study-Zoom*
	10:00a Prayers & Squares-Fellowship		9-4p ULC Office Open
	12:30p Staff Meeting-Zoom		10:00a Prayers & Squares-Fellowship
	6:30p Racial Justice Meeting-Zoom		12:30p Staff Meeting-Zoom
10	8:00a Mushers-IHOP, EL		6:00p FAN Board-Fireside
	9-4p ULC Office Open		7:00p FAN-Fellowship
	Noon Lectio Divina-Zoom*		7:00p Pub Theology-Zoom*
	4:15p Worship Wednesday for Kids-Zoom*	24	8:00a Mushers-IHOP, EL
11	Veterans Day		9-4p ULC Office Open
	9-4p Office Open		Noon Lectio Divina-Zoom*
	9:30a Brunch Bunch-EL IHOP		4:15p Worship Wednesday for Kids-Zoom*
	7:30p Senior Choir-Zoom*	25	Thanksgiving Day - ULC Office Closed
12	9:00a Understanding Racism Workshop-Zoom	27	TBD Football Parking (Penn St.) (2½ hrs prior)
	5:00p Friday@Five-ULC	28	10:00a Sunday Worship (1 st Advent)-Facebook**
	5:00p Basketball Parking (WMU@MSU)		11:00a Zoom Coffee Hour/Forum@11:10
13	9:00a Understanding Racism Workshop-Zoom		
	TBA Football Parking (Maryland) (2½ hrs prior)	30	9-4p ULC Office Open
14	10:00a Sunday Worship(QOV)-Facebook**		7:30a Tuesday Morning Bible Study-Zoom*
	11:00a Zoom Coffee Hour/Forum@11:10 (Jesus Redux #3)		10:00a Prayers & Squares-Fellowship
	1:30p Sons of Norway-Fireside		12:30p Staff Meeting-Zoom
			7:00p Pub Theology-Zoom*

* Zoom link contacts: Choir - Janine Smith; Tuesday Study - Jim Kiefer; Pub Theology - Britny; Lectio Divina - Britny; Worship Wednesday for Kids – Pastor Haley Vay; Council Meeting – Nancy Lindman; Sunday Forum – Weekly email/Facebook live comments

** Check the ULC announcements, Facebook or Website for announcements regarding move to in-person worship



The deadline for the December Lux is **Friday, Nov. 12.**

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!



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Gary A. Bunge
Lead Pastor

Haley Vay Beaman
Associate Pastor

Janine Novenske Smith
Director of Music

Britny Pollard
Office Administrator

Gary Carl
Financial Administrator

Mary Letvenow
Event Coordinator

Kristie Wiggert
Organist

Louise Paquette
Director of Handbells

Winter Hat Donations Needed!

Tight Knit is collecting hats to be given out during the food distribution on November 18.

They need 400 hats - all sizes, infant through adult, although adult is the most needed.

Handmade is preferred, but if you don't knit, crochet or sew, store bought is also appreciated.

Hats can be dropped at the church office. Tuesday-Thursday from 9:00am - 4:00pm

