



Lux

October 2020

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

October Highlights

Virtual Pub Theology

Tuesday, Oct. 6 at 7 p.m.
Contact ulcsec@ulcel.org for link

Virtual CROP Walk

Sunday, Oct. 11

Food Movers

Thursday, Oct. 22
Distribution 4:30 p.m.
Drive-thru pick up of
prepacked boxes

Sunday Worship via Facebook Live at 10 a.m.

Zoom Coffee Hour & Forum

Immediately following worship
Forum begins at 11:10 a.m.
Get Zoom link in weekly email



ULC Goes Solar

The ULC roof top solar panels are now installed and harnessing renewable energy from the sun to produce electricity for our building. Absolute Environmental Solutions, a local company, finished the installation of the 20-kW system in September.



Some of the solar panels installed on the roof over the ULC narthex.

The panels are expected to generate 25 percent of our electrical needs. Our CO2 footprint will be considerably reduced because zero emissions

are released when converting the energy into electricity. A connection to the monitor in the Narthex will display the production of the panels in real time.

Many thanks to Dale Romsos for leading this project from inception to completion. ULC has now taken another step in our commitment to caring for creation.

Judy Kindel

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Worship Expressions Poetic Voices of Justice

Sunday, Nov. 8
10 a.m.

During virtual worship service

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

As the Pandemic Continues

It's October and we are still dealing with the pandemic. In March, many of us thought this would all be behind us by now. But as time has gone on and the pandemic has continued and gotten worse, we now realize that we will continue to be in this for much longer than we ever imagined. It's sobering writing and reading these words.

Periodically I get questions about when we will return to in-person worship and Communion. When I get these questions, I'm very glad that in May, the Council put together a COVID-19 Response Plan. As the Dean of our conference, I've heard stories of struggles other congregations have had over when, how, and if they should return to in-person worship. It has caused a great deal of stress and conflict for these congregations and pastors. But because we have a well thought out plan, we are not in that difficult place. Our response plan is tied to Michigan's Safe Start Plan and states that only when Michigan moves to Phase 5 of its Safe Start Plan can we consider holding in-person worship limited to 50 people. So presently, under our plan, in-person worship is not possible.

I've also gotten some questions about Communion and how we might receive Communion. In talking with Bishop Satterlee, he has said that there is no totally safe way to have Communion. Some ways are safer, but none are totally safe as receiving the bread and wine will



always involve some form of touch from those who prepare it to those who distribute it. Some congregations have had "drive-through Communion." They use prepackaged bread and wine, place it in a brown paper bag, let it sit three days, and then people drive up and a bag is handed to them through the car window. Then they drive off and take Communion back at home. Somehow though, that doesn't seem like Communion. Bishop Satterlee has suggested that maybe what people are really missing as they talk about missing Communion, is the actual communion with other people and getting back to "normal." Another pastor in our synod said, "We don't want the gift of life [Communion] to become the means of death."

A couple weeks ago I was in the church and as I walked through the gathering area, I had this overwhelming sense of missing people, missing gathering together, missing church the way we used to do it. I didn't sign up for this. This isn't how I want to function as a pastor. I realized that what I was experiencing was grief – the grief of what we've lost in this pandemic. But this is

where we are, and this is the situation we are in. None of us "signed up for this."

During this pandemic, however, I am grateful that Jesus is Emmanuel – God is with us. Even as we isolate at home, even as we are isolated from others, Jesus, Emmanuel, God is with us and we aren't alone. We may lament and miss Communion and receiving the body and blood of Christ, but Jesus, Emmanuel, God is with us anyway. We may miss gathering together in-person for worship, but Jesus, Emmanuel, God is with us through the Word that we receive as we worship online. And Jesus is the one who somehow always brings life out of death. This promise is what I hold onto. It is what gives me strength and the ability to continue on.

As we move forward, I am grateful for the wisdom of our Council and the COVID-19 Response Plan we put together as it is serving us well. I am also grateful for our staff that goes above and beyond in being creative and finding ways to do ministry in the midst of this pandemic. Most of all though, I'm grateful for Jesus, Emmanuel, God is with us, who continues to sustain us, empower us, and who will carry us through to new life.

May you find strength in the presence of God,

Pastor Gary

Daylight Saving Time Ends

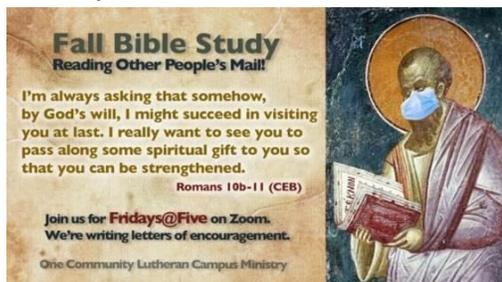
Sunday, Nov. 1

Please remember to set back your clocks back!
One hour before going to bed Saturday night.



Friday @ Five Schedule

Our Friday @ Five weekly schedule looks similar to previous years, except most if not all of our ministry is currently virtual.



Everything looks different this fall, including Friday@Five Bible study. Here are a few screen shots of the Sept. 18 virtual gathering.



First Friday Speaker Series

Typically, our meal on this day would be hosted by a member of our congregation as we invite a speaker from the community to join us at One Community. Since we are gathering online, students will receive care packages throughout the semester prepared by our campus ministry team in lieu of gathering for meals.

Our Students Associates have faithfully discerned to continue our “First Friday Speaker Series” while gathering online. Following our ULC Council’s lead by focusing on racial justice this year, we will welcome our first speaker of the semester on Oct. 2. Rev. Lamont



Rev. Lamont Anthony Wells

Wells, Director of LuMin (Lutheran Campus Ministries, ELCA) and advocate for #BLM in the ELCA will be joining us to share his call story and conversation with our students.

Rev. Wells is also the current National President of the African Descent Lutheran Association (ELCA)...A dynamic speaker and

prophetic preacher, Rev. Wells is frequently called to address organizations, churches, conferences, convocations, retreats, and workshops in various public, social, and ecumenical communities.” Visit www.ulcel.org/campusministry to read his complete bio.

Sparticipation Recap

Our Student Associates Annaliese, Andrea, Maggie and Rachel came together to create a virtual booth (photos included) at Sparticipation this year, which happened entirely online. Students were able to search for an on-campus organization and chat LIVE with our Student Associates about campus ministry.



(Above) Rachel, Annaliese and Caroline welcome MSU students to ULC’s virtual Sparticipation space (below) to learn about One Community Campus Ministry.



Student Associates lead Adult Forum on Sunday, Oct. 11

Join us on Oct. 11 when Students Associates: Annaliese Marks, Andrea Vera, Maggie Haite, and Rachel Drobnak will entertain conversation with members and share their hopes for One Community this fall.

Pastor Haley Vay

Support Rachel in the CROP Walk

Hello friends! On Oct. 11, I will be participating in the CROP Hunger Walk by walking a 5k to raise money for many Lansing-based organizations fighting food inequities. My goal is to assist as many people as I can...that's why I'm joining the ULC team and fundraising for more meals in my community and for long-lasting solutions to hunger around the world like community gardens and small-scale farming.

I would love it if you could help through a [donation](#)! The steps we take - and the funds we raise - will make a real impact!

Rachel Drobnak

NEW Seminary Intern for Digital Ministry

In his own words, **Mitchell Eithun** is a “church-hopping, apocalypse-loving, ecumenist with a passion for music, justice and community.” Beginning this fall and throughout the academic year, by the unanimous support of our pastors, staff, ULC Council and Personnel team, Mitchell will be serving as ULC’s new Seminary Intern for Digital Ministry. His primary responsibilities will include video production for online worship and creative digital projects that enhance our connection as a congregation and campus ministry in a digital age. Please join us in welcoming Mitchell to our ministry team!



Mitchell Eithun will be assisting with ULC’s digital ministry

More about Mitchell... He has served as handbell director at the First Presbyterian Church of Holt since August 2018. Aside from arranging and composing handbell music, Mitchell is interested in developing innovative rehearsal techniques and writing about the history of church music. Mitchell previously worked to bring multi-denominational liturgical practices to the campus community through Campus Edge Fellowship. At ULC, Mitchell has been involved in One Community Campus Ministry, served as photographer on mission trips to Charleston, Savannah and Maryville, and served as Children's Choir director as a Music Scholarship recipient.

Mitchell has over 30 published pieces of handbell music and has recently received commissions from Bells of the Lakes (Minneapolis, MN) and the Pensacola Children's Chorus (Pensacola, FL). He holds a B.A. in Mathematics and Computer Science and a minor in Music from Ripon College (Ripon, WI) and an M.S. in Computational Mathematics, Science and Engineering at MSU. Currently he is pursuing an M.Div. from Duke Divinity School (Durham, NC). You can read his blog at hymnblog.com and his portfolio website at mitchell.eithun.com.

May we all continue to prayerfully support Mitchell as he follows God’s call in ministry and seminary study *for such a time as this.*

Pastor Haley Vay

Family Faith Formation

Virtual Sunday School & SWAG Bags

The program year began with Alpha Sunday on Sept. 13, but first we needed to equip our households with children! SWAG (Saved with Amazing Grace) Bags were created by Sunday School leaders with supplies for kids to take home and use in Virtual Sunday School (Zoom, Wednesdays at 4 p.m.) with Pastor Haley Vay. Each child received a Spark Story Bible, construction paper, crayons, glue, instruments for music class including bells and a songbook, plus snacks that coincide with lessons, which have all been a hit with our kids. Thank you to our congregation for prayerfully supporting our ministry with children and youth, and for your giving that makes it possible for this ministry to grow and thrive.



Happy SWAG bag recipients!

Lutheran World Relief School Kits

We are SO GRATEFUL for your donations of school supplies and for the faithful leadership of Cindy Baswell, Libby Baswell, Marge Mahoney, Morgan Fisher, Carole Ford, and Louise Harder who joined forces to pack 74 School Kits for Lutheran World Relief (LWR)! Brandon Baswell will be delivering the completed kits to Saginaw. Through Carole Ford, a Thrivent member, we registered as a Thrivent Action Team and received funds for supplies and fabric to replace Ellie’s stash. She is our sewing angel, making thousands of cinch sacks for LWR school kits for many years. We extend thanks and praise to God for Ellie and all our volunteers for their dedication to this ministry!

Pastor Haley Vay



Cindy Baswell and Marge Mahoney (left) and Louise Harder (right) fill school bags.

Senior Choir

The Senior Choir is meeting online, on Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. If you would like to participate in our upcoming recordings for online worship services, please contact Janine Novenske Smith at smithj17@lc.edu for more information.

Children's Choir

Our online gatherings, led by Director of Music, Janine Novenske Smith, will be during Sunday School on Worship Wednesdays.



Meet Our 2020-21 Senior Choir Scholarship Students

Divira Pahwa, soprano - This is Divira's second year at University Lutheran Church as the Soprano Scholarship Student. She is a vocal performance major, studying at the MSU College of Music under Professor Richard Fracker. Her previous performances include *Guys and Dolls*, *Dolls of New Albion*, and many more! Divira is grateful to be back at ULC and to be singing with a wonderful community of people.

Chey Nevins, alto - Chey is incredibly excited to be back with the Senior Choir for her second year as the Alto Scholarship Student. She is a sophomore and is dually enrolled at both Lansing Community College and MSU, where her major is political science. Her previous performances include *Les Miserables* and *Peter and the Starcatcher*. Most recently she played the role of Tanya in *Mamma Mia*. Chey is very grateful to be welcomed back into the wonderful community at ULC and cannot wait to come back and sing when it is safe.



The 2020-21 scholarship singers, leading a hymn during virtual worship on Facebook Live Sept. 20. Top left, clockwise: Zack Sneed, Chey Nevins, Adam Krause, and Divira Pahwa.

Zack Sneed, tenor - Zack is a junior at Michigan State, studying linguistics and Arabic with a minor in economics. This is his third year as the Tenor Scholarship Student, and he is grateful for the opportunity to continue singing. He has been singing and acting since 7th grade and has received several awards at the state level. He continues to act through MSU's Roial Improv Players. He will start as a DJ on a

specialty show for 88.9 FM, *The Progressive Torch and Twang*, this fall. Outside of music, Zack enjoys reading the Bible. His future career plans include becoming a philanthropist.

Adam Krause, bass - Greetings everyone! I'm thrilled to be starting a third year as your Bass Scholarship Student. I grew up in nearby Haslett, where I was heavily involved in the high school choir program. In high school, I sang in productions of *Beauty and the Beast*, *Honk*, and *Bye Bye Birdie*, in roles such as Greylag and Mr. McAfee. I also have some experience with opera, as I was a chorus member in MSU's production of *Die Fledermaus* and *Orpheus in the Underworld*. I began my time at MSU as a vocal performance major, studying under Professor

Marc Embree, but recently decided to pursue a degree in political science instead, with a minor in music. As I go into the latter half of my undergrad, I remain awed by the outpouring of love and support that I have experienced at ULC from the very beginning. This church does so much to make me, and all students, feel welcome, and for that I thank you all.

Join us for ZoomForum!

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 October, Pastor Gary continues the multi-part series, "How Lutherans Interpret the Bible" with a break to introduce this year's ULC Student Associates on Oct 11. The videos, featuring Dr. Mark Allan Powell of Trinity Lutheran



Seminary, are each 15-20 minutes long, allowing plenty of time for discussion. October Forum schedule:

Oct. 4 "How Lutherans Interpret the Bible" Part 3: Where the Bible Comes From

Oct. 11 Pastor Haley Vay Beaman: Meet this year's ULC Student Associates

Oct. 18 "How Lutherans Interpret the Bible" Part 4: Interpreting the Bible in Context

Oct. 25 "How Lutherans Interpret the Bible" Part 5: Determining Right from Wrong

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

Christian Fiction and Racial Justice Options

Christian Fiction Essentials

The following link from Hoopla takes you to a *Library Journal* list of "Christian Fiction Essentials." There are both digital and audio books listed. If you do not have access to Hoopla, search for the titles from your usual source (library). www.hoopladigital.com/collection/10636

Racial Justice Materials Still Available

Below are the Sharon Bandlow Multicultural and Racial Justice Collection Adult Racial Justice materials currently available for check-out.

- > *Anxious to Talk About It: Helping White Christians Talk Faithfully About Racism* by Carolyn B. Helsel
- > *Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the US* by Lenny Duncan
- > *So You Want to Talk About Race* by Ijeoma Oluo
- > *The God Who Sees: Immigrants, the Bible, and the Journey to Belong* by Karen Gonzalez
- > *Woke Church: An Urgent Call for Christians in America to Confront Racism and Injustice* by Eric Mason

- > *One Coin Found: How God's Love Stretches to the Margins* by Emmy Kegler
- > *Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America* by Ibram X. Kendi
- > *The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America* by Richard Rothstein
- > *Me & White Supremacy: Combat Racism, Change the World, and Become a Good Ancestor* by Layla F. Saad
- > *Color of Compromise: The Truth about the American Church's Complicity in Racism* by Jemar Tisby
- > *I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness* by Austin Brown

To Check Out a Book, contact Connie at clenkowski@frontier.com or 517-655-5939. A member of the Library Team will either arrange to meet you or will bring the book to your home. If the book is not available, you will be notified when we can get the book to you. Once you are finished reading the book, we will arrange pick-up.

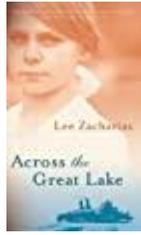
Library Team



ULC Book Club

Across the Great Lake

The ULC Book Club will meet on Thursday, Oct. 15 at 10 a.m. The book to be discussed is *Across the Great Lake* by Lee Zacharias.



lake, through the Devils Doorway to Manitowoc. She enjoys the freedom of the ship until the sighting of a ghost ship presages danger for all aboard.

In her 85th year, Fern Halversen tells the story of a childhood journey across Lake Michigan and the secret she has kept since that ill-fated voyage. In the brutally cold winter of 1936, Fern joins her father, Captain Henrik aboard the *Manitou*. This great coal-fired vessel transports railroad cars across the icy

This book was selected as a 2019 Michigan Notable Book. At this time, it is not known whether we will meet in person or via Zoom. Contact me at kindeljl@gmail.com if you would like to join us.

Judy Kindel



Prayers & Squares Chapter 163

Sewing Together Resumes at ULC

Prayers and Squares is back in business, now sewing weekly. We are meeting on Tuesdays, with masks and other protocols. A limit of eight people can come in the Fellowship Hall, so a reservation is necessary. Please contact Ann Booren at boorena@msu.edu, if you are interested and want to be included in our weekly reminder and sign-up. We are currently making 60" x 80" Lutheran World Relief quilts.

While the church has been closed our ladies have continued to sew at home. Many prayer quilts were completed, over 1200 face masks made, over 250 surgical caps sewn,

and work has continued on our Quilts of Valor.

It is time to be thinking of our fall QOV veteran recipients. We have no idea what form the QOV presentations will take this year, however, if you know of a ULC member that is a veteran, or you have a friend or family member that you would like to receive a quilt, we need to know that ASAP.

There have been very few requests for prayer quilts since Covid hit. We will be happy to meet someone at ULC and help them pick out a quilt if one is requested. The recipient's

name will be added to the Sunday prayers and weekly email announcements.

On a fun note: since January we have donated 31 dog pillows to the animal shelter. Literally every scrap of fabric, batting, and thread snippings that can't be used in a quilt, tote bag, table runner, coil basket, or other craft is used to fill these dog pillows! That means that P & S is recycling about 98 percent of our waste!

*Ann Booren
Bobbie Davis*



The "masked women" of Prayers & Squares (left to right): Carolyn Loehr, Ellie Korroch, Virginia Pfund, Miriam Minshall, and Gertraud Fleischer.

Join the Conversation

The racial justice ministry team has been getting organized around our goals to educate the congregation to recognize racism and racial issues and to equip, lead, and support the congregation to be anti-racist. Anti-racism is the **active process** of identifying and eliminating racism by changing systems, organizational structures, policies and practices and attitudes, so that power is redistributed and shared equitably. Learning about prejudice, systemic racism, and our own histories of racism initiates important first steps in becoming anti-racist individuals and an anti-racist community, but it is not enough. If we just study and learn but do not act, we will learn

about our privilege and power without having to relinquish either of them.

Racial justice is the ministry of the congregation, not just the ministry team. As the team thinks about how to achieve our goals, **we need your active participation and feedback!**

As we claim this ministry and engage in it throughout all of ULC, where do you think our priorities should be?

- How do we build our capacity to talk about and act on racial justice issues?
- Is there a specific issue within our greater East Lansing community

we should be educating ourselves around and supporting?

- Are there groups or organizations we should build or deepen relationships with?

The team is putting together some questions to invite you into this ministry we share and give you an opportunity to provide input into the work of the team. Any thoughts you have are welcomed and encouraged! In the meantime, please reach out to us (Vicki vickianderson831@gmail.com or Thom mccurdyt@comcast.net) to share your perspective!

*Vicki Anderson and Thom McCurdy,
Racial Justice Team Co-leaders*

Shared Friendship Honored by Muslim Community

On behalf of University Lutheran Church, Pastor Gary Bunge received statewide recognition for ULC's having been, for decades, a friend and ally to the Islamic Center of East Lansing. At the Michigan Emgage Virtual Gala held Sunday, Sept. 20, Pastor Gary accepted the Emgage Ambassador Award.



As described on the Emgage Action homepage, “Emgage Action is the American Muslim community’s first issue advocacy organization. We seek to mobilize American Muslims to advocate for legislation and policies that define what we stand for. By engaging in American politics and the American Muslim community we advocate for issues that advance values-based positions on Civil Liberties, Criminal Justice Reform, Income Inequality, Healthcare, Immigration Reform, National Security and Climate Change.”

The theme of Emgage’s Michigan Virtual Gala was to “Get Out the Muslim Vote.” The speakers were dynamic, powerful, and reflected so many of the same beliefs and values held by our own congregation, namely justice and civil liberty for all, love and care for our neighbors, and respect for our environment.

In both the statewide introduction of the award as well as the closing comments, ULC was lauded and thanked for being the best kind of neighbor and friend. Pastor Gary’s acceptance comments were equally appreciative of our Muslim neighbors and friends. “I’m grateful,” he said, “for the relationship between our two faith

communities and the deep respect we have for each other’s faith tradition. Even more, I’m grateful for the witness our friendship is to our community and world, especially in the midst of a climate of racism, hatred and division that is so prevalent now.”

Amid the angst of current political turmoil, devastating fires and floods across the country, the recent loss of two saintly political giants in Congressman John Lewis and Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg, and an international pandemic, Bill and I found the fervent basic messages proffered by the primary speakers to be filled with hope and love of country. And we were filled with pride and appreciation not only for our wonderful ULC leadership and community but also for our gracious and loving Muslim neighbors.

Linda Trevarthen

Fall Mentoring

Since Lansing Schools have begun the 2020/2021 school year with classes online, Kids Hope USA fall mentoring will start online in October. Sessions will be 30 minutes each week. Mentors will continue to see their mentees from last school year at Forest View Elementary. There are many activities available on the Kids Hope USA website for mentors to use online.



them have parents who are unemployed and there are limited funds to buy food and medicine. Whatever the turmoil in their families, these children need to feel special and loved. Our ULC mentors are passionate about this ministry and make a difference in the lives of these children.

New mentors are always welcome for this exciting opportunity to connect with a student.

In this time of change, Kids Hope USA recognizes the importance of staying connected with the students we mentor. Some of our mentees are homeless and some come from homes where English is not spoken. Some of

*Barbara Kissling
ULC Kids Hope USA Director*

The Book Nook's First Year

On Sept. 17, the Book Nook will have been open and filled with books for one year. In most ways it has truly surpassed my expectations. I began this ministry with great enthusiasm, fueled by the beautiful structure built by Jim Lorenz and Sandy Davis, as well as the great collection of books donated by the ULC Library team, along with a good number from my own lifelong collection that were ready for a new home.

Pastor Gary helped us select a Bible suitable for this outreach; the Contemporary English Version (CEV) New Testament, to which I added a few Bibles in Spanish and Mandarin as well as those suitable for children. Since that day 225 Bibles and books have found their way into our community through this ministry. The numbers further break down to; 44 Bibles, 114 children's books, 26 books for middle readers, and 42 books for adults taken from the Book Nook as of Sept. 1.

The year has also included a few challenges for the Nook. In Aug. I arrived to find all the books taken,



Beth stands by the ULC Book Nook, which was built to reflect the ULC building.

not just once but twice within a 10-day period. When the Book Nook is full it contains approximately \$60 worth of books so I knew this would not be sustainable. For now, I have chosen to post a notice asking visitors to take only one book from

each category of Bible, adult, or children's book per visit.

The other challenge is simply keeping sufficient inventory on hand and making sure we have the funding needed to continue this ministry. I have purchased \$675 in inventory to add to the donated books for this first year using in part funds contributed by the library team in memory of Walt Appel.

What I wish I knew was how these books were touching the lives of those who selected them. I am thrilled when a book I have selected for the Nook is chosen by a passerby. I am thankful when I see someone has taken a Bible to learn more about Christ. Please keep praying for this ministry and for the community members it reaches.

Anyone wishing to donate books or make a financial contribution to the Book Nook for 2021 please contact me at bwojan1@gmail.com or 517-974-0682. Thank you for supporting this outreach ministry.

Beth Rahe

ULC Council met via Zoom on Sept. 16. The following are some highlights:

- Virtual annual meeting for the congregation will be held on December 6, 2020
- Adopted planned pastoral absence policy as drafted by the personnel committee
- Accepted personnel committee's recommendation on staff compensation
- Support for new ULC logo



Council Notes

- Approved the job description for a seminary intern for digital ministry
- Council will continue to discuss the draft budget as well as what procedures will be for using the building at future meetings.

Emily Uebel, Council Secretary

August Attendance

- Aug. 2: Up to 82 devices watching live, and so far 366 views
- Aug. 9: Up to 80 devices watching live, and so far 293 views
- Aug. 16: Up to 80 devices watching live, and so far 351 views
- Aug. 23: Up to 70 devices watching live, and so far 423 views
- Aug. 30: Up to 90 devices watching live, and so far 459 views

Lead Management Team Notes

Social Action - Bryan Rahe: The food distribution continues outdoors with social distancing. We moved it into the small parking lot in order to take advantage of more shade. We served 129 households in August, a new record, and we had a total of 20 volunteers. Fresh produce was donated by Noble Road Farms and St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Communications Team - Amy Wagenknecht: The Communication Team continues to meet via Zoom. We continue to work with Dave and Cindy from Design 2 to develop a new ULC logo. We are hoping it will be done in September. We are working with the Electronic

Resources Team to explore the possibility of expanding to the Adobe Cloud, which will provide us with a great variety of tools for communication and virtual worship.

We have launched the new ULC Facebook Group – Prayers & Posts. The invitation link is included in the weekly email to the congregation. We invite everyone to join in this private, members only place to share news of the congregation, concerns, prayers, etc. A similar Facebook Group has also been launched by the Racial Justice Team and will only be used by RJT members the first few months, then opened to the congregation.

How to Build a Logo

Take five ULC members plus two graphic designers. Add several hours of discussion and a visit to our building. Result: three possible logos.

Add more discussion, plus “living with the logos” (hanging them in our homes and walking past them daily). Select one design that appealed to everyone and seemed iconic to ULC (our roofline and colorful window).



Discuss what was to be prominent in our name (University & Campus Ministry). Receive a folder of the new logo in various formats. Distribute to the congregation and teams.

Our last logo, the Spirit logo, was designed by artist and former ULC member Ellen Bianchi for the “Time to Grow to Serve” capital campaign for the education wing in 1994. It has inspired and represented ULC for over 25 years. Much of our communication is now done digitally and we felt it was time to update our logo to something that can be used to give a unified look across all formats.

Communication Team



Annual Reports from Leadership, Staff and Team Leaders are due to Britny at ulcsec@ulcel.org by Friday, Oct. 23.

The Greater Church

Michigan Refugee Hope (MRH) News

MRH is now a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

We thank ULC for graciously serving as our fiduciary during our early years. Michigan Refugee Hope also has a new website, www.mirefugeehope.org and [Facebook](#) page.

We encourage you to check them out. The butterfly and cross logo you find there was designed by Atu Ngasala, a former member of ULC.



MRH is holding a fundraiser to celebrate these new accomplishments. All donations made in the next few weeks will be matched up to \$2,000. Donations can be securely made directly through the website or you can make out a check to

Michigan Refugee Hope and mail it to Michigan Refugee Hope, 1505 W. Michigan Avenue, Jackson, MI 49202.

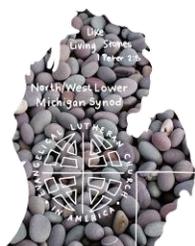
Please put *Celebration* on the check memo line.

Bryan Rahe

October Outreach of the Month

Living Stones

“As you come to Him, a living stone rejected by mortals but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 2:4-5).



synod that participate in what St. Paul describes as living stones joined together and raising as a holy temple in the Lord.

These Living Stones Initiatives are designed to

help the Synod grow spiritually, strengthen connections, and raise up and support leaders. These include:

- Revive congregations
- Raise up Lay Leaders
- Raise up Rostered Ministers
- Reduce educational debt
- Increase opportunities for inspiration and continuing education
- Expand ministry with youth
- Welcome all god's people
- Invite people outside the church to come to Jesus
- Meet Jesus

- Accompany and assist struggling congregations to realistically assess their sustainability and discern their future

The hope of the Synod's Living Stones Initiative is to recruit 100 Living Stone Givers - 100 people or combinations of people and congregations to make a three-year commitment of an annual designated Living Stone gift of \$500 to our synod for the Living Stone Ministry Initiatives. Your contribution to the Outreach of the Month will go to support this initiative.

Please designate your offering for “Living Stones, Oct. Outreach” on the memo line on your check or the note section of the online giving on our [website](#).

Pastor Gary

Lutheran Disaster Response

U. S. Wildfires

From the elca.org website: Fueled by a heat wave and unfavorable winds, wildfires have erupted across California, Oregon, Washington and other western states. Lutheran Disaster Response is engaging with at least three Lutheran social services agencies and five synods to assess the situation and determine the best ways to respond. We expect immediate needs may include food

and other necessities, as well as emotional and spiritual care for those who have been traumatized.

Your gifts will support wildfire survivors. [Gifts](#) to "U.S. wildfires" will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by wildfires, until the response is complete. Or make a gift to "Lutheran Disaster Response" so we can respond to disasters whenever and wherever they strike.



Thanks, and God's Blessings!

Kristy Stuart finally received her "going away, thank you" quilt five months late. She has recently started a yearlong chaplaincy residency at an Ann Arbor hospital. She worked at ULC as financial administrator for 18 years.

We Hear from Elizabeth...

Good morning my fabulous quilting friends. I hope all is going well and everyone is staying healthy. I love seeing the posts about Prayers and Squares and their continued ministry in the church.

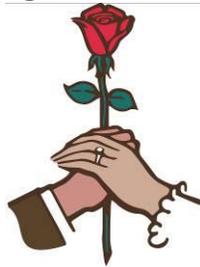
If you are unaware, I am back in Michigan, currently completing my clinical rotation in Marquette. I have been given the opportunity to live in one of the campus ministry houses and assist with their campus ministry program.

Pastor Bre is our fearless leader. With Covid, our worship services have been moved outside the house to keep everyone safe. With temperatures trending downward I thought about your wonderful ministry and getting in touch about making fleece blankets.

Elizabeth Althouse

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Jan Mace on her marriage to Dr. Harold Sollenberger, Professor Emeritus from MSU School of Business, on August 20, 2020!



Thank You ULC Friends!

I was overwhelmed by the letters and cards from so many of you. The prayers for my recovery from complications following back surgery are being answered every day. My family and I thank you for the gifts of food and friendship. We look forward to a time when we can thank you in person at ULC!



Bobbie Davis

Note: Elizabeth was baptized and confirmed at ULC and served as a student associate for several years. She is currently studying Physical Therapy. This is a note to Ann Booren, and Ann reports Prayers and Squares will send her \$100 to do her fleece ministry.

Virtual Pastor



Wonder what it looks like from the Pastor's side of the camera on Sunday morning? Here's Pastor Haley Vay's worship selfie just before worship started.



Virtual worship service streaming to a TV.

Pastor Shirley – Stranger in a New Community

The time: October 1985; Pastor Craig Shirley was installed as Campus Pastor and wrote his first Lux article.

From the October 1985 Lux: “Campus Corner – Shirley’s Share

Being New is Wonderful. Being New is Awful. Everyone should move periodically, not just to get one’s basement cleaned but to experience once again what it means to be a stranger to a new community.

If there is any way of avoiding it, never move. It is too hard to say good-bye to all that is familiar. It is so much work getting established in a new place. It is so frightening to have to meet new people and go to new places.

Being new is great. There are so many interesting people who are willing to meet you and take care of

you and help you. It is fun to find “new” places to shop, to eat, to worship, to have fun, even if they have been there for years.



Pastor Craig Shirley

Being new is awful. Clerks are rude and look at you as if you are an imbecile when you cannot find your way around. Everyone wants a deposit because they cannot trust you just on your name alone. Streets never run the way you want to go.

When you are new, everything is so much more distinctive. You remember your first..., the first time you saw your new home, the first new friend you met, the first place you went for ice cream. It is so exciting.

When you are new, everything is a blur! You can never find your way home or where you want to go without making three wrong turns,

people all look the same to you. You remember one out of every ten names, and no one ever identifies him or herself or wears a nametag because they all know each other already.

Being new is wonderful! Being new is awful!

Pastor Craig Shirley”

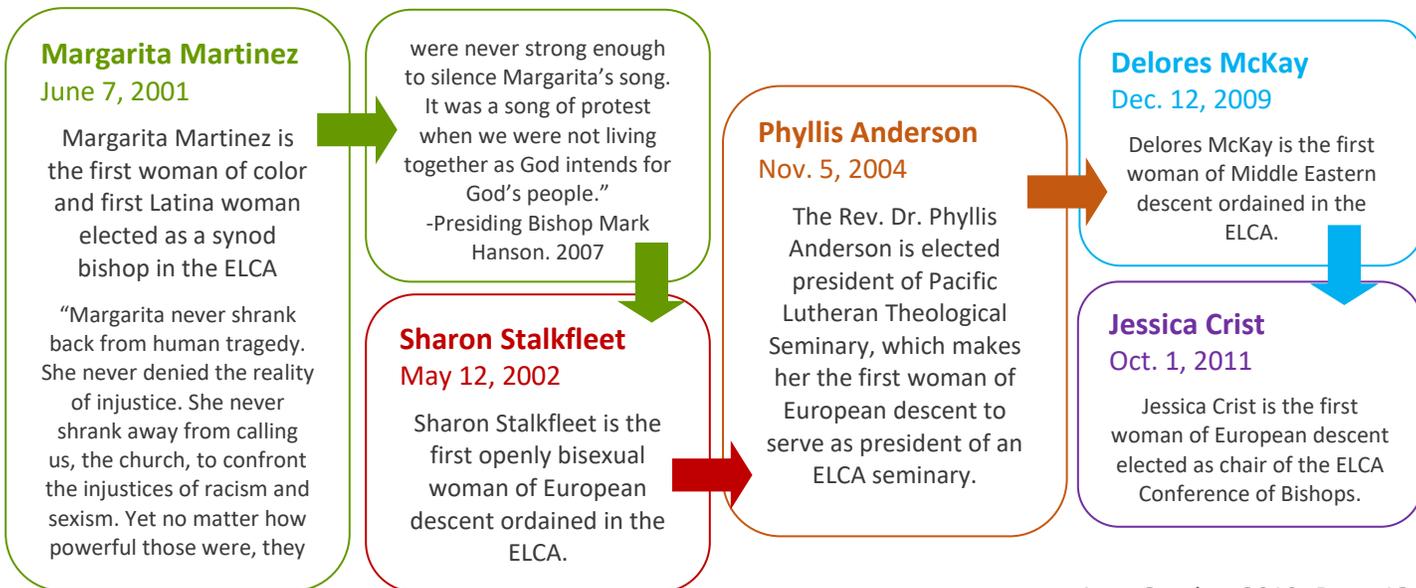
As we start a new school year it is good to remember what it is like to be in a new place since we are all in a “new place.” We all have to learn new ways of doing things. It may be scary but hopefully, soon we will find it comfortable. At least we now have a “nametag” on zoom calls. Pastor Shirley would like that.

An added note – The editor of this Lux was Jan McBurney who we know as Pastor Jan Hite, pastor at Redeemer Lutheran in Lansing.

Connie Lenkowski



In 2019 and 2020, the ELCA is celebrating 50 years of Lutheran women being ordained in the United States, 40 years of women of color being ordained, and 10 years of LGBTQIA+ individuals being able to serve freely. Here is the continuation of the Ministry of Lutheran Women timeline that began in the June/July 2020 Lux.



Celebrations



- 1 LaVon Miller
Rick Milligan
- 2 Mary Ludtke
Jennifer Tracy
- 3 Chris Anderson
Patti Cuellar
- 5 Laura Goddeeris

- Carolyn Haase
- 6 Gary Bunge
Anne Smith
- 7 Carolyn Lohr
- 9 Connie Lenkowski
- 11 Michael Hill
- 14 Nathaniel Dalton
James Sype
- 15 Kristie Wiggert
- 17 Jon Althouse
Bo Boettcher
Eric Podolsky

- 18 Pat Lee
- 21 Evan Dawson-
Baglien
- 25 Susan Fisher
Steven Haase
- 26 Laura Appel
- 29 Beeper Baswell
Jesse Clyma
Todd Helser
Piper Hysten



- 1 Brandon & Cindy Baswell
- 7 Darrin & Elizabeth Karcher
- 29 Michael & Heather Hill
- 31 Jim & Nicole Greiter

Join in the ULC Spirit Week Festivities!

During the past few years, ULC staff have celebrated the week between Reformation and All Saints Sundays as Spirit Week. This involved dressing to a daily theme and yummy snacks. Since Covid restrictions have kept the ULC office closed and limited celebrations in general for all of us, we invite everyone to join us for Virtual Spirit Week this year! As an added “spirit” bonus, if all goes as planned, this week will also lead up to the biggest college football game in the state, the MSU-UM game on Oct. 31.



Below is the daily theme schedule for the week of Oct. 26-30. Show us how you are representing the theme by posting a pic on the ULC *Prayers & Posts* Facebook Group page or email a photo to Britny to be included in the group if you don't do Facebook.

- Sunday: Reformation Day Red!
- Monday: Mask-up Monday!
- Tuesday: Tutu Tuesday
- Wednesday: Workspace Wednesday
- Thursday: Throwback Thursday
- Friday: School Spirit Day
- Saturday: Halloween

If you haven't joined the closed ULC Facebook Group, the directions are below. For those of you who are hesitant to join Facebook, please reconsider. You don't ever have to post or comment on the general Facebook feed and you can set your privacy settings very strictly so that ULC activities/interactions are the only thing you see or do on Facebook. Facebook doesn't always have a good reputation, but in pandemic times, it can provide a bit of the fellowship we are missing right now. Contact one of the pastors for assistance with Facebook.

Britny Pollard

Join Our Facebook Group!

We encourage everyone to consider joining the new, members/close friends-only, closed Facebook group, [ULC Prayers & Posts](#). To read or post in this group, you must answer three questions and be accepted by a group administrator (Britny or Pastor Haley Vay). It is our hope that this new group will create a



safe place where ULC members and friends can post news, prayers and other concerns. If you are already on Facebook, the new group can be found under the [ULC Facebook](#) page. We look forward to hearing from all of you soon!

ULC Communication Team



The deadline for the November Lux is **Friday, Oct. 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!



- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 7:30p Sr. Choir-Zoom*</p> <p>2 5:00p Friday@Five-Zoom*</p> <p>4 10:00a Worship-Facebook Live
11:00a Zoom Coffee Hour/Forum@11:10
(Lutherans & Bible)</p> <p>5 10:00a Communications Team-Zoom
2:00p Racial Justice: Communications-Zoom</p> <p>6 7:30a Tuesday Morning Bible Study-Zoom*
9:30a Lux Planning-Zoom
10:00a Prayers & Squares-Fellowship Hall
(Reservation required: boorena@msu.edu)</p> <p>12:30p Staff Meeting via Zoom
7:00p Pub Theology via Zoom*</p> <p>7 Noon Lectio Divina via Zoom*
4:00p Worship Wednesdays for Kids-Zoom*</p> <p>8 7:30p Sr. Choir-Zoom*</p> <p>9 5:00p Friday@Five-Zoom*</p> <p>11 10:00a Worship-Facebook Live
11:00a Zoom* Coffee Hour/Forum@11:10
(Meet Our Student Associates)</p> <p>12 Indigenous Peoples' Day</p> <p>13 7:30a Tuesday Morning Bible Study-Zoom*
10:00a Prayers & Squares-Fellowship Hall
(Reservation required: boorena@msu.edu)</p> <p>12:30p Staff Meeting-Zoom
6:30p Racial Justice Team-Zoom</p> <p>14 Noon Lectio Divina-Zoom*
4:00p Worship Wednesday for Kids-Zoom*
7:30p Sr. Choir-Zoom*</p> <p>15 10:00a ULC Book Club-TBD
7:30p Sr. Choir-Zoom*</p> <p>16 5:00p Friday@Five-Zoom*</p> <p>18 10:00a Worship-Facebook Live</p> | <p>21 11:00a Zoom* Coffee Hour/Forum@11:10
(Lutherans & Bible)</p> <p>20 7:30a Tuesday Morning Bible Study-Zoom*
10:00a Prayers & Squares-Fellowship Hall
(Reservation required: boorena@msu.edu)</p> <p>12:30p Staff Meeting-Zoom</p> <p>21 1:00p Rhodon Circle-Fireside*
(Reservation required: clenkowski@frontier.com)</p> <p>Noon Lectio Divina-Zoom*
6:30p ULC Council-Zoom*
4:00p Worship Wednesday for Kids-Zoom*</p> <p>22 4:30p Food Movers (Drive-thru, contact free)</p> <p>23 9:00a New Member Orientation-Zoom
10:00a Bells Rehearsal-Sanctuary</p> <p>25 Spirit Week Begins (through 11/1)
10:00a Worship (Reformation)-Facebook Live
11:00a Zoom* Coffee Hour/Forum@11:10
(Lutherans & Bible)</p> <p>27 7:30a Tuesday Morning Bible Study-Zoom
10:00a Prayers & Squares
(Reservation required: boorena@msu.edu)</p> <p>12:30p Staff Meeting-Zoom</p> <p>28 Noon Lectio Divina-Zoom*
3:30p Worship Wednesday for Kids-Zoom*</p> <p>29 7:30p Sr. Choir-Zoom*</p> <p>30 5:00p Friday@Five-Zoom*</p> <p>31 All Hallows Eve</p> <p>1 Daylight Saving Time Ends
10:00a Worship (All Saints)-Zoom*
11:00a Zoom* Coffee Hour/Forum@11:10
(Lutherans & Bible)</p> |
|---|--|

* Zoom link contacts: Forum-Friday email (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 Closed

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

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

Britny Pollard



Wear Red for Pentecost

Go to your closet and find something **RED**, then take a photo! (Selfie's are fine) Email your Reformation photos to Pastor Haley Vay **by Sunday, Oct. 18th** to be included in the Oct. 25th worship service.



University Lutheran Church
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East Lansing, MI 48823
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Change service requested

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

Still Time to Join CROP Walk Team!

For the past several years, ULC has supported the Lansing area CROP Walk with a team and pledges.

While the Oct. 11 walk is virtual this year, there is still time to help raise funds to support the mission of Church World



Services as they respond to global hunger, poverty, displacement, and disaster. Twenty five percent of the funds raised in the Greater Lansing Walk are returned to our community to support local hunger fighting efforts.

Please enjoy this [virtual walk video](#) and consider going to: www.crophungerwalk.org/lansingmi/ULCatMSU to sponsor our ULC walkers or to sign up to be a walker. Questions: Contact me at mkotnik@comcast.net.

Mary Kotnik