

# The Parish Visitor

January 2025

## **CHURCH VITALS:**

- Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:30-noon
- Phone: 608-723-4384
- Pastor email: encadenada100@hotmail.com
- E-mail: [lumchurch@tds.net](mailto:lumchurch@tds.net)
- Worship and Live Streaming: Sunday 10 am
- Web Site: [www.lancasterumc.org](http://www.lancasterumc.org)
- Annual Conference Website:  
[www.wisconsinumc.org](http://www.wisconsinumc.org)

Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/LancasterWIUMC/>

## **OUR LUMC STAFF:**

Pastor: Erika Jezael Martinez-Flores

Helen Millin, Secretary

Bob McKelvey, Treasurer, 608-988-6825

Helen Millin, Financial Secretary

Bev Mattingly, Music Director

Mary Rasmussen, Parish Nurse

\*Rev. Bob McKelvey, Pastor Emeritus

## **SPECIAL EVENTS:**

Jan 8- UMM McDonalds 7am

Jan 9- ALT 6:30

Jan 15- Prayer Shawl 10am

Feb. 10- Pasty Supper

*Seek God~*

*Share Christ~*

*Serve Others~*

*Sing Praises*



## **Pastor Greetings,**

*See, I am doing a new thing!*

*Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?*

*I am making a way in the wilderness  
and streams in the wasteland.*

*Isaiah 43.19*

What's new? Well, obviously year-end comes to mind when another new year begins. But is there anything really new about it? After all, how many "new years" have we seen come and go in each of our lives?

"Behold, I make all things new," we hear God say in Revelation 21:5. All things. That would include each of us, as well as our church. Keep in mind that in making all things new, God is not saying that everything that is no longer exists, but that everything is made new in some way—it is given a facelift, it is given new purpose and meaning, it is given new enthusiasm and energy.

So, what's new about you? What is God doing new in your life? What do you see God doing new in the church? What is filling you anew with hope? What new thought is giving you new energy? What new thing is God doing that excites you? If you have an answer, let's talk about it and follow it and see what God is doing. If you don't have an answer, keep looking. God's promise is at work to make all things new.

One new thing will be your "Star Gift Word" for the year. On the day of Epiphany, first Sunday of the year, your "Star Gift Word" will be distributed at worship. You will remember that a Star Gift Word is nothing more than a star shape cut out of a piece of paper with a word written on it. The word is the gift – an invitation to reflect on the word and its relationship and meaning in your life. It may be a word you need in your life (time, hope, etc.) or it may be a word you have in your life that you need to get rid of (bitterness, envy, etc.) or it may be a word that leaves you wondering why you were given that particular word to reflect on. Whatever your word is, it will be a gift to you if you meditate on it, pray about it, think about it, etc.

Finally, I would like you to remember the words of John in the book of Revelation: "Behold, I make all things new." By keeping them in your mind and

heart, you will remember that whatever the coming year offers you personally, or for your family, or even for our church, you will be able to

face it knowing that with God on our side, a bright new beginning will always be possible.  
A very happy and blessed New Year!  
Pastor Erika Martinez-Flores

## **HOLIDAY FLOWERS**



*Christmas plants are a beautiful addition to our sanctuary. Many thanks for the floral gifts received from: Jerry and Mary Lou Bausch in memory of Ervin, Audery, Butch and Bill Benish; Merlin and Diane Breihan in memory of Albert and Berniece Breihan and Bill and Etola Heberlein; Roger and Vicky Case in celebration of our parents, Joe and Marcella Case and Bill and Etola Heberlein; Carol and Peg Soden in memory of Pat, Hazel and Michael Soden; and UMW in honor of loved ones. Thank you for your kindness!*

## **HOLD IN OUR HEARTS**

Cleone Ayres, Larry Busch, Dick Burns, Elam Buttles, Carol Caley, Bill and Lorna Heinzelman, Charlotte Hocking, Jen Ingebritsen, Angela Kirschbaum, Susan Koeller, Julie Letcher, Donna Martin, Myranda Martin, Marlene Miles, Janet Paulson, Charles Ramshaw, Deb Raymond, Ramona Reynolds, Janice Staskal, Bette Steinbrenner, Nancy Stephenson, Harold Sweeney (on hospice in Green Bay), Sandy Taylor, Donnalene Turner, Marge Weimer and Greg Wilkinson with health concerns.



***MANY THANKS*** to Margaret Yearous for your dedication to serving as secretary of ALT and LUMC Charge Conference. In addition, the time of preparing for her role of musician for our services, the powerpoint presentation and keeping LUMC website current. And, working full-time and being a farm-wife! Oh My!!

## **BIRTHDAYS**

Mel Case - Jan 5  
Chris Prange - Jan 12  
Ken Sager - Jan 12  
Marilyn Keller - Jan 14  
Jonah Fecht - Jan 26  
Kayla Buttles - Jan 30



## **ANNIVERSARIES**

Stuart and Sally Harper - Jan 2  
John and Diane Drew - Jan 6

Tomorrow is the first blank page of a 365-page book. Write a good one.

## DESIGNATED GIVING

\$ 50.00 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr. Mission  
\$376.00 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr. Mission  
\$320.00 Building Maint.  
\$ 40.69 Family Promise  
\$ 90.00 Food Pantry  
\$ 50.00 Mission  
\$180.00 Radio Ministry  
\$ 35.00 Snackpacks for Backpacks  
\$100.00 UMCOR  
\$ 35.00 UMM  
\$1,276.69 TOTAL DESIGNATED GIVING



## NOVEMBER TREASURER'S REPORT

November Giving	\$13,601.98	
November Expenses	\$15,968.62	
		<u>YTD</u>
November Budget Giving	\$12,325.29	\$144,108.39
November Budget Exp.	\$13,658.68	\$157,635.90

Insurance money has been received for balance of Fellowship Hall roof replacement in amount of \$25,922.82 (Bldg Mtn. Fund)

**Thank you for your generous giving to the ministries of God through the LUMC!**

**DONATE  
FOOD  
HERE**



## FOOD PANTRY

New Day, New Week, New Month, **NEW YEAR**  
May the New Year bring you blessings in abundance of love, joy, health, peace and prosperity, with some to spare! *The Wellness Universe.com*

For me the first of January is simply a fresh start, a time to cleanse our hearts. If we failed last year, it is a time to try even more. Forgive the people we love, to heal where we are sore. It is called New Year for a reason, a reason we should value. We shouldn't drag anything old into something pure and new.

*Marinela Reka*

**A New Year's Prayer** Gracious Lord, you make all things new. You bring hope alive in our hearts and cause our Spirits to be born again. Thank you for this new year for all the potential it holds. Come and kindle in us a mighty flame so that in our time many will see the wonders of God and live forever to praise Your Glorious Name. **Amen** [www.facebook.com/JesusTheMusicofMySoul](http://www.facebook.com/JesusTheMusicofMySoul)

Thank you to everyone who volunteered at the Food Pantry, donated items and/or dollars in 2024. Let's keep up the good work in 2025. Diane Perkins, LUMC Food Pantry Coordinator

## MULTI-MEDIA TECHNOLOGY MINISTRY

January 5~ Given by Jill Bark in loving memory of her husband, Doug.

January 12~ Given by Jill Bark in memory of loved ones.

January 19~ Given by

January 26~ Given by Evelyn Williams Goke and Geraldine Williams' families in loving memory of Clark Williams, Evelyn's father, and Robert Williams, Geraldine's husband.

*New media outlets will provide sponsor opportunities to listen to your favorite church's worship services streaming or on YouTube.*



## ON-LINE WORSHIP

Facebook Live Stream videos will be posted on our YouTube Channel for those who do not have or do not want to use Facebook. Go to our church website, click on the YouTube icon in the right sidebar to get to our channel. Then just click on the video title to watch service.

Margaret Yearous is our contact person for questions!

*Good Morning, This is God. I will be handling your problems today. I will not need your help, just your trust.*

## SERVING US IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

	<i>Liturgist</i>	<i>Ushers</i>	<i>Coffee Hour</i>
January 5	Lisa Zabel	Zabel Family	ALT
January 12	Diane Breihan	Merlin and Diane Breihan	UWIF
January 19	Jada Pedley	Fecht Family	Trustees
January 26	Vicky Case	Roger and Vicky Case	Care Committee
February 2	Kayla Buttles	Confirmation Class	Choir
February 9	Bob McKelvey	Butch and Cheryl Austin	Missions
February 16	Russell Shaben	Tracy Schroeder/Brooklyn	UMM
February 23	Lisa Zabel	Julie Nihles/Nola Burns	ALT

*If you are unable to serve on designated Sunday, please call for a replacement. Thank you.*

The ALT has decided to continue with Fellowship Hour. Sundays will be designated. The only expectation of hosting is preparing the coffee, setting out appropriate dishes and the use of pre-packaged treats. Clean-up, too! A buffet of homemade treats is not expected.

### MISSION TRIP

Sally Harper will be doing a veterinary mission trip again this January to Kenya. If you would like to support her mission project, donations of any amount are greatly appreciated. You can also bring any of the items on this list to church or to Sally's house, 248 N Jefferson St, Lancaster, WI 53813, by January 15, 2025. She also asks for your prayers for good health for the team, safe travels and successful outreach with the mission this year. Thanks!

Suggested items to donate:

Pencils and sharpeners, pens, markers

Crayons and Scissors

Toothbrushes

Gently used children's clothing

Jump rope type toys

Soccer balls and pumps



*Life doesn't have to be perfect to be wonderful*

## **REMINDERS OF WHAT EPIPHANY BRINGS**

Many reasons to love this time of year because of the daily, physical reminders of Jesus everywhere.

The *twinkling lights* on the Christmas tree reminds me of the angels announcing Christ's birth to the shepherds. We are reminded to shine bright in everyday life.

*Star ornaments* point to the star that led the wise men on their two-year journey. This is a gentle reminder that following Christ means I don't know where I'll end up, but if I keep following him, I'll get to where he wants me to be.

The *tree* is shaped like a triangle, which reminds us of the Trinity.

The *nativity display* brings the reality of the stable close to my heart.

The *music* that plays everywhere helps corral my thoughts and fixes them on Jesus.

Epiphany, the manifestation of God, is a lovely opportunity to rejoice that Christ has appeared for all men regardless of race or status.



## **Special Sunday Offerings of United Methodist Church**

The United Methodist Church's special giving structure ensures your generosity blesses as many people as possible in sustainable, strategic ways. When you give to these six Special Sunday's, you enable vital ministries that change the world, one life at a time. As United Methodist we also support critical ministries and missionaries through The Advance – an accountable voluntary giving platform that supports the worldwide mission of the UMC. 100% of your gift goes directly to the need. Our individual gifts of support make us a better church for the sake of God's world.

The six UM Special Sunday offerings we support are:

Human Relations Day, the Sunday prior to MLK observance; (1/19/2025)

UMCOR or One Great Hour of Sharing, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent; (3/30/2025)

Native American Ministries Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter; (5/4/2025)

Peace with Justice Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost; (6/15/2025)

Worldwide Communion Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in October; (10/5/2025)

Student Sunday, last Sunday in November. (11/30/2025)

In addition, Gold Cross Sunday is a UM Conference Special Offering, the first Sunday in May. (5/4/2025)

The United Methodist Church is way more than our building at 216 S Monroe Street, Lancaster, WI. Your gifts to these missions are felt by young and old, far and near, black and white, rich and poor, which is relative to any given situation. Please support as you feel called to do.

*God is with you in all that you do. Genesis 21:22*



# JANUARY 2025



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
						
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
EPIPHANY SUNDAY Live Stream Worship 10am			UMM 7am at McDonalds Prayer Shawl 10am CTL – 3pm	ALT meeting		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Live Stream Worship 10am			Prayer Shawl 10am CTL – 3pm			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Live Stream Worship 10am			CTL – 3pm			
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Live Stream Worship 10am			CTL – 3pm			

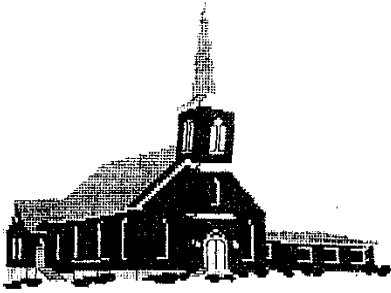


Worship service will be cancelled if there is an active winter storm warning. The closing will be announced on Facebook and email through the church. Please call the church office if you care to be on a calling tree.

It's never too late to begin a fresh start with God

# PARISH VISITOR ~ JANUARY 2025

Lancaster United Methodist Church  
PO Box 186, 216 S. Monroe Street  
Lancaster, Wisconsin 53813-0186



Live Streaming on Facebook at 10 am  
Video broadcast posted on LUMC YOUTUBE channel

*HAPPY AND BLESSED NEW YEAR TO ALL!*



*Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me, let there be peace on earth the  
peace that was meant to be. With God our creator, children all are we.*

*Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.*

*Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now. With every step I take, let this be  
my solemn vow; to take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.*

*Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.*

("Let There Be Peace on Earth" lyrics UMH 431)