

The Parish Visitor

CHURCH VITALS:

- Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00-noon
- Phone: 608.723.4384
- Pastor email: encadenada100@hotmail.com
- E-mail: lumchurch@tds.net
- Worship and Live Streaming: Sunday 10 am
- Web Site: www.lancasterumc.org
- Annual Conference Website:
www.wisconsinumc.org

Facebook Page:

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

OUR LUMC STAFF:

Pastor: Erika Jezael Martinez-Flores

Secretary: Gretta McKelvey

Bob McKelvey, Treasurer, 608-988-6825

Bob McKelvey, Financial Secretary

Bev Mattingly, Music Director

Mary Rasmussen, Parish Nurse

*Rev. Bob McKelvey, Pastor Emeritus

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Jan. 7, UMM Breakfast 7 am

Jan. 7, 14, 21 & 28 Prayer Group 8:30 am

Jan. 7 & 21 Prayer Shawl 10 am

Jan. 11 Family Promise Week starts at LUMC

Jan. 15 ALT Meeting 6:30 pm

Jan. 25 **Preschool Chili Lunch after church**



Prayer Group: Wednesday 8:30am at LUMC or via Zoom

Meeting ID: 394 038 9324 Passcode: 4EKsSE

Seek God~

Share Christ~

Serve Others~

Sing Praises

Pastor Greetings,

Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom."

Luke 12.32

Jesus not only conveyed the concept of the Kingdom, but he brought the Kingdom of God with him. This reality is what unfolds between Jesus and the sick, lepers, and demon-possessed; it is the promise of justice and liberation for all, but especially for the most vulnerable and those without rights; when Jesus sits at the table with the despised and marginalized; when he allows himself to be touched by the unclean woman and when he raises Jairus's daughter from the dead; when he approaches children and gives them a privileged place within the Kingdom.

This is how the Kingdom is learned and experienced by the community of Jesus, in daily life, in discipleship, as a healing, saving, and restorative force.

Between the Kingdom described in the Gospels and making it tangible, we, as the Church, must build a bridge that allows everyone to understand, feel welcome, and be part of this Kingdom.

Therefore, it is necessary that we examine ourselves in the light of the Kingdom of God, insofar as the inauguration of the Kingdom of God is the tangible manifestation of God's work in the history of our humanity.

From this perspective, the Church is constituted as a project that redeems and as an instrument for making the Kingdom of God a concrete reality. Therefore, the mission of the Church must be holistic, not only proclaiming the Kingdom but also putting it into practice.

Giving way to new ways of being Church.

May justice, truth, peace, and love be tangible signs of the values of the Kingdom this year, making God's plan of salvation possible.

Pastor Erika Martinez-Flores

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65th International Shipment of the Year!

We hope you had a great Thanksgiving, filled with lots of joy, good food, and thankfulness! As we reflect on what we are grateful for this year, we are extremely thankful for all who have made 65 international shipments possible.

You have given in-kind donations, monetary gifts, and prayed fervently for this ministry. And because of that, 65 shipments have left the warehouse and gone to countries where help is desperately needed.

The 65th international shipment of the year was sent on Monday, November 24. This was an Angels of Hope shipment, containing supplies that will go to children's homes in Honduras!

This shipment included:

480 Home Care Kits

280 Personal Dignity Kits

6 Mattresses

6 Bed Packs

42 Cover Them with Love Quilts

Scrubber Sponges

The value of this shipment was \$39,400.00.

Reflecting on this year, Paul's words come to mind when we think about each and every one of you and the work you've done to create a big impact in the world: "I thank my God every time I remember you." Philippians 1:3

HOLD IN OUR HEARTS



While we continue to keep all those from 2025 in our hearts and prayers, we look forward to creating a new prayer list for 2026. Please submit any names to add to the care list for continued prayers or those new additions who need our compassion and concern.

You may either call the church office or e-mail lumchurch@tds.net

Lancaster Area Council of Churches (LAC) Donates Thanksgiving Dinner Donation to the Food Pantry

On Thanksgiving Day, approximately 200 people gathered at Lancaster United Methodist Church for the LAC annual Thanksgiving Dinner. It was the largest dinner served. This community dinner has been offered for over 15 years and offers a place for anyone in our community and region to come share a Thanksgiving meal together when they might otherwise be alone or have no place to share this special day. Additionally, several meals were taken to homes of those unable to attend due to illness or mobility issues. While there is no fee to attend, those who attended this year provided monetary donations in the amount of \$1,900.00 and 155 pounds of food for the food pantry as their gift. The amazing generosity of the churches, members and friends who coordinated, donated food, cooked, and served along with those who attended helped "pay it forward" to the food pantry. We are so thankful to God for this opportunity to serve our community and those in need this holiday season. Pictured are Mary Rasmussen and Linda Bendorf, Co-Chairs of LAC Thanksgiving Dinner with donation for the Food Pantry.

GRIEFSHARE – 12-week session offered

Grief after the death of a loved one can be overwhelming. One can experience a host of feelings, thoughts, behaviors, and physical reactions that can make one question one's own mental wellbeing. There is the notion that, "time heals all wounds." Time can bring healing, but it's often what we do during this time that brings about relief and renewed hope. It has also been said that, "grief shared is grief diminished." Those who have been involved in the ecumenical GriefShare bereavement support group can attest to this. Through video, discussion and sharing, GriefShare is a 12-session process that brings people together who have experienced loss and who seek support and healing in their unique journey. The next GriefShare support group will begin on February 19 from 1-2:30P.M. AT St. Clement Church. To register online, go to: www.griefshare.org and choose "find a group" You will see St. Clement listed. If these dates and times do not work for you, you will also see other offers in the area. Contact Marcia Hampton at 608/732-8849 if you have questions or want to register.

FOOD PANTRY

It is 2 degrees outside with a wind chill of -9 degrees as I write this article. Hope by the time you read it, it's much warmer!! In Genesis 8:22, God said, "While the earth remains, seed time and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer and day and night shall not cease." In Job 37:9-10 "From the chamber of the south comes the whirlwind, and cold from the scattering winds of the north. By the breath of God ice is given, and the broad waters are frozen." Do you think God had Wisconsin in mind when He created winter? Here are some quotes about winter. "One kind word can warm three winter months." A Japanese Proverb "People don't notice whether it's winter or summer when they're happy," Anton Chekhov "Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home." Edith Sitwell "Laughter is the sun that drives winter from the human face." Victor Hugo Let our hearts be filled with Love and Warmth for those families who struggle with food insecurity stemming from economic or social conditions like poverty, unemployment or high living costs. Items to donate in January are boxes of cereal, boxes of macaroni and cheese, cans of vegetable soup, cans of corn and cans of peaches. Our next service dates are February 2nd and 5th at 7:00 p.m. and February 19th at 10:00 a.m. I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and I wish everyone a very Happy 2026!!

Diane Perkins, LUMC Food Pantry Coordinator

January 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 NEW YEAR'S DAY OFFICE CLOSED	2 OFFICE CLOSED	3
4 EPIPHANY SUNDAY CELEBRATION 10:00A Live stream Facebook	5	6	7 UMM Breakfast 7:00a Prayer Group 8:30a Prayer Shawl 10:00a	8	9 OFFICE CLOSED	10
11 SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:00A Livestream Facebook FAMILY PROMISE WEEK BEGINS	12	13	14 Prayer Group 8:30a	15 ALT Meeting 6:30p	16 OFFICE CLOSED	17
18 SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:00A Livestream Facebook	19	20	21 Prayer Group 8:30a	22	23 OFFICE CLOSED	24
25 SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:00A Live stream Facebook PRESCHOOL CHILI LUNCH AFTER WORSHIP TODAY	26	27	28 Prayer Group 8:30a	29	30 OFFICE CLOSED	31

SERVING US IN JANUARY & FEBRUARY

	Liturgist	Ushers	Coffee Hour
January 4	Chris Zabel	Cecil & Janice Landon	ALT
January 11	Vicky Case	Roger & Vicky Case	Care Committee
January 18	Diane Breihan	Merlin & Diane Breihan	Missions
January 25	Rev. Bob McKelvey	Butch & Cheryl Austin	PRESCHOOL CHILI LUNCH TODAY
February 1	Margaret Bussan	Roger & Margaret Bussan	Trustees
February 8	Gretta McKelvey	Tracy Schrader, Brooklyn Carlson Dana & Russel Shaben	Choir
February 15	Lisa Zabel	Zabel Family	UWIF
February 22	Stuart Harper	Nola Burns & Diane Perkins	UMM

MULTIMEDIA MINISTRY

Jan 4 Given by Jill Bark in memory of her husband, Doug.

Jan 11 Given by Jill Bark in memory of loved ones.

Jan 18 Given Elam and Barbara Buttles in loving memory of their mothers' birthday in January.

Jan 25 Given by Evelyn Williams Goke and Geraldine Williams' families in loving memory of Clark Williams, Evelyn's father, and Robert Williams, Geraldine's husband and Evelyn's brother

WE HAVE MULTIMEDIA FILLED ONLY UNTIL **MARCH 2026 – PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL TO RESERVE YOUR SUNDAY MULTIMEDIA SPOTS FOR CELEBRATIONS OR REMEMBRANCES FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2026. **THE COST IS \$35.00** EACH ENTRY AND GOES TO HELP CONTINUE OUR FACEBOOK LIVE AND Y-TUBE AND WEBSITE AS WELL AS ANY NEW EQUIPMENT NEEDED TO CONTINUE THESE MINISTRIES! THANK YOU FOR YOUR ALL YOUR SUPPORT FOR THIS MINISTRY IN 2025**

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Stuart and Sally Harper - Jan 2

John and Diane Drew - Jan 6

BIRTHDAYS

Mel Case - Jan 5

Chris Prange - Jan 12

Ken Sager - Jan 12

Marilyn Keller - Jan 14

Travis Doire- Jan 24

Jonah Fecht - Jan 26

Kayla Buttles - Jan 30

November TREASURER'S REPORT

DESIGNATED GIVING - Details

November Giving \$17,181.31

November Expenses \$14,211.97

November Budget Giving \$16,007.62 \$ 130,168.03

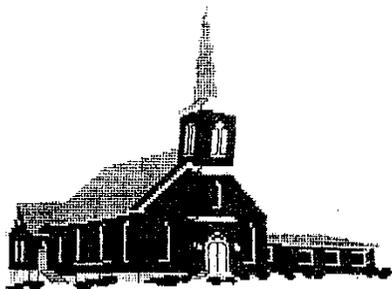
November Budget Exp. \$14,211.97 \$ 156,858.26

\$ 420.00	Building Maintenance
\$ 25.69	Family Promise
\$ 280.00	Food Pantry
\$ 75.00	Media Ministry
\$ 135.00	Snackpacks for Backpacks
\$ 50.00	Grant County Cancer
\$ 188.00	Holiday Project

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

PARISH VISITOR January 2026

Lancaster United Methodist Church
PO Box 186, 216 S. Monroe Street



Lancaster, Wisconsin 53813-0186

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

