

# The Parish Visitor

## CHURCH VITALS:

- Office Hours: Monday through Thurs., 9:00-noon
- Phone: 608.723.4384
- Pastor email: erikafloresumc@gmail.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

Secretary: Gretta McKelvey

Bob McKelvey, Treasurer, 608-988-6825

Peg Soden, Financial Secretary

Bev Mattingly, Music Director

Mary Rasmussen, Parish Nurse

\*Rev. Bob McKelvey, Pastor Emeritus

## SPECIAL EVENTS:

Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25 Circle of Friends 3:30 p.m.

Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25 Prayer Group 8:30 a.m.

**Feb. 8 – Deadline for Lenten Devotional Book**

**Feb. 9 – PASTY DINNER 5:00-7:00 p.m.**

Feb. 10 – Care Committee 8:30 a.m.

Feb. 12 – Thursday ALT 6:30 p.m.

**Feb. 15 – March 29 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 a.m.**

Feb. 15 – Worship Committee Meeting 8:45 a.m.

Feb. 18 ASH WEDNESDAY

**Feb. 25 – March 25 –Wed. Noon Soup & Scripture**



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,

“Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny  
themselves  
and take up their cross and follow me”  
Mark 8.34

During the Lenten season, we are urged to reconnect with Jesus, to walk with him on his path to the praetorium. But this accompaniment is not a leisurely stroll like tourists visiting historical sites. This accompaniment must involve us, prompting us to intervene and transform not only our own lives, but also the spaces and people we encounter on our journey.

Sadly, as Christians, we have not understood this, and so we prefer to take refuge in the comfort of a childlike faith that neither challenges nor confronts us. This has allowed evil to flourish, as it takes advantage of our ignorance and lack of maturity, turning us into passive, lukewarm actors and accomplices in chaos.

Following in Jesus' footsteps means doing in our time what Jesus did in his. Jesus' message arises from the need for liberation through faith in a society marked by uncertainty, inequality, oppression, and recalcitrant religious practices. Jesus' message is centered on liberation from sin, slavery, and death, and on achieving this liberation only through the building of the Kingdom of God and the creation of new men and women, all for the good of all, not just a select few.

May this Lenten season bring us closer to the path that Jesus has marked for us, the path he himself has already walked and which we too must walk.

Pastor Erika Martinez-Flores

## ***HOLD IN OUR HEARTS***



We continue to hold Carol Caley and Lois Bowen in our prayers. 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](mailto:lumchurch@tds.net)

## ***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](http://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***

When you think of the month of February, does the word **LOVE** come to mind? Here are a few quotes about February and Love. "In February, the smallest gestures of kindness can melt the coldest of hearts." Susan Elizebeth Phillips "Where there is love, there is life." Mahatma Gandhi "Love does not dominate; it cultivates." Johann Wolfgang von Goethe "February, the month of love, is a time to cherish the bonds that warm our hearts." D.A. Blankinship Here are a couple Bible verses about Love that I'm sure everyone is familiar with. "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you" John 15:12 "Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is Love" 1 John 4:8 "Let all that you do be done in love" 1 Corinthians 16:14

There were several volunteers that showed their love by helping at the Food Pantry in December as we had three service dates. Thanks go to Mary and Chuck Rasmussen and two of their grandchildren, Veda and Mara Rasmussen, Vince and Kathy Keepers, Bev Mattingly, Lisa Kruser and Laura Schildgen. Items to donate in February are boxes of cereal, jars of peanut butter and jelly and cans of tomato soup.

May the **LOVE** of God always be with you  
Diane Perkins, LUMC Food Pantry Coordinator

# THANK YOU

**Family of Ron Kjos** – Thank you so much for the beautiful sun catcher in memory of our Dad, Ron Kjos. Thanks for thinking of us. We appreciate your kindness. Dad tried to attend the services LUMC provided a Morningside. Take care dear friends and once again, thank you....Dean & Pam Johnson and family.

**Family of Elsie Noble** - Thank you for your kind expression of sympathy and for the service at mother's funeral luncheon. We truly appreciated everyone's help.....The family of Elsie Noble.

## **PRESCHOOL THANK YOU AND UPDATE**

Thank you for all your support and help with the recent **CHILI FUNDRAISER**. Thank you, also for letting us use the lovely kitchen and equipment to prepare and serve the chili. **Thanks to your support we were able to raise over \$1,000 on this event**.....Sally Harper and the Entire Preschool Board and Family Members

## **PROTECT YOURSELF FROM SCAMS & INTERNET FRAUD**

Sponsored by LUMC Accountable Leadership Team (ALT)

This article will be the first in a series on how everyone can protect themselves from scams and internet fraud that may come on e-mail, text or by phone.

We recently experienced a scam through our pastor's e-mail that you may have received asking for help and money. Pastor Erika quickly acted to send out a message that this was not from her asking for help. The first course of action you can take to check to see if this is "real" is to look at the e-mail address that the message is coming from. **If it is not the usual address of the person or organization you know, it is false. Disregard and delete the text or e-mail immediately. Do not click on any links in the text or e-mail.** Best practice would be to call the person who is supposedly sending this information to verify. **Do not reply to the fraud text or email on your phone or computer. Scams like this are called "phishing"**. Someone may be trying to get your information or see how far you will go with a scam. In the coming months, we will be providing tips on how to recognize scams.

We want all of you to be safe out there on the internet!!!  
Gretta McKelvey, Church and ALT Secretary

## **SERVING US IN FEBRUARY**

	<b>Liturgist</b>	<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Coffee Hour</b>
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

# February 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 10:00 a.m. Worship	2	3	4 8:30 am Prayer Group 3:30 pm Circle of Friends	5	6	7
8 10:00 a.m. Worship LENTEN DEVOTIONS DUE	9 PASTY DINNER 5-7 pm	10 8:30 am Care Committee	11 8:30 am Prayer Group 3:30 pm Circle of Friends	12	13	14
15 8:45 a.m. Worship Committee Meeting 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship	16	17	18 ASH WEDNESDAY  8:30 am Prayer Group 3:30 pm Circle of Friends	19	20	21
20  9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship	23	24	25 8:30 am Prayer Group Noon – Soup & Scripture 3:30 pm Circle of Friends	26	27	28

## **MULTIMEDIA MINISTRY**

- February 1 Ted & Robin Schacht in memory of Ted's parents Bill & Pat Schacht and Robin's parents Robert & Peggy Hedrick
- February 8 Melvin Case Family in loving memory of Arlys Case
- February 15 Stacey & Nancy Murdock in celebration of Nancy's Birthday on Feb. 14
- February 22 Richard & Sandy Taylor and Family in memory of their nephew, Jason, for his birthday February 27

**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**

## **PASTY DINNER**

**Come join us for the Authentic Cornish Pasty Dinner**

**Monday, Feb. 9 5:00pm - 7:00pm**  
**\$10 advance tickets/\$11 at the door**  
**Kids 5-12 \$6**  
**Carry Outs Available!**

# BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

## FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Greg and Diane Perkins- Feb 28

### BIRTHDAYS

Bruce Fritz- Feb 5  
Alexander Gruber- Feb 9  
Jackie McLinn- Feb 10  
Adam Fecht- Feb 12  
Joslin Fecht- Feb 12  
Sue Lickel- Feb 14  
Nancy Murdock- Feb 14  
Vicky Case- Feb 18  
Tyler Fritz- Feb 18  
Terry Doire- Feb 21  
Cathy Olson- Feb 29

## **DECEMBER TREASURER'S REPORT**

### **DESIGNATED GIVING - Details**

December Giving \$20,653.85  
December Expenses \$23,504.99

December Budget Giving \$19,413.16 \$149,581.19  
December Exp. \$15,467.30 \$172,325.56

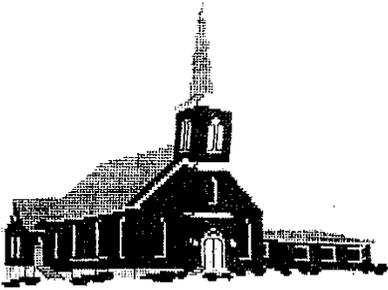
\$ 505.00	Building Maintenance
\$ 35.69	Family Promise
\$ 230.00	Food Pantry
\$ 25.00	Media Ministry
\$ 80.00	Snackpacs for Backpacks
\$ 123.00	Memorial
\$ 100.00	Mission Fund

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



# *PARISH VISITOR February 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

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