

# 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

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER EVENTS

**Maundy Thursday 4/2 6:00p.m. Service LUMC**

**Good Friday 4/3 12:00 noon Service LUMC**

**Good Friday 4/3 7:00 p.m. Service -POTOSI UCC**

**Saturday 4/4 9-noon – Bring Easter Flowers**

**Easter Sunrise Service 4/5 7:00 a.m.**

**Easter Brunch – 4/5 After Sunrise Service**

**Easter Traditional Service 4/5 10:00 a.m.**

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

**Meeting ID: 394 038 9324 Passcode: 4EkSsE**



## OUR MISSION:

*Seek God~*

*Share Christ~*

*Serve Others~*

*Sing Praises*

## PASTOR GREETINGS

We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. Romans 6.4  
So, we rebuilt the wall till all of it reached half its height, for the people who worked with all their heart. Nehemiah 4.6

The resurrection represents an opportunity for divine restoration, where God, through His power, rebuilds broken lives, families, and purposes, transforming despair into a new beginning. In the resurrection, we experience how God restores broken hearts and situations through the power of the Spirit. The book of Nehemiah, which recounts the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem, teaches us to believe in God's power and guidance to rise up and rebuild, despite opposition. In the resurrection of Jesus Christ, we receive the same message: a new beginning is possible even when it seems that all is lost. The resurrection represents the passage from a natural life to a life transferred to the Triune God, where human capacity submits to divine guidance to overcome adversity.

The story of Nehemiah reflects how God's faithfulness rebuilds lives after suffering, desolation, and hopelessness. The rebuilding of the walls in just 52 days was only possible because the people committed themselves to God's work. Experiencing the resurrection of Jesus Christ and, consequently, a new life, is only possible if we commit to living according to the values and principles of the Kingdom.

Nehemiah's plan to rebuild the walls is characterized by fervent prayer, personal assessment of the crisis, meticulous strategic planning, delegated organization, and courageous action in the face of opposition. These past few weeks, we have been working on planning our church project for the coming years. Emphasizing this during the Easter season is especially meaningful because we are talking about experiencing together the process of rebuilding and restoring our church's mission, while at the same time we are understanding and embracing the promise of eternal life. Nehemiah's leadership and the will of the people should serve as an example and inspiration for us to move forward with our church project. I pray that many of us will rise up with that same determination to fully commit to God's call to make our church a place of inspiration, renewal, and growth.

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)



LUMC COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT

# **CARE COMMITTEE**

DID YOU KNOW THAT OUR CARE COMMITTEE PROVIDES A SERIES OF 4 GRIEF BOOKS BY MAIL THROUGHOUT THE YEAR TO FAMILIES OF OUR MEMBERS WHO HAVE LOST LOVED ONES?

The family will be sent a book at prescribed times throughout the year along with a loving letter from Pastor Erika.

THIS COMPASSIONATE ACTION IS ONE OF THE IMPORTANT ACTIVE MINISTRIES OF OUR CHURCH.



## TIPS ON HOW TO BE SAFE ON THE INTERNET

1. Update your passwords including your home wi-fi and don't use pets or family names.
2. Change settings on your cell phone to send unknown numbers to voicemail and don't answer.
3. Do privacy check-up on any social media accounts like Facebook. Under settings choose privacy and make sure only your friends see your posts.
4. Do not carry your Social Security Card with you. Put it in a safe place at home.
5. Review your bank accounts for any suspicious activity.
6. Delete apps you do not use including those with saved passwords.

**THANK YOU**

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the March mission project for **Boscovet Girls Dorm**  
Your generosity is very much appreciated and will make a difference in many young girls' lives.

# FOOD PANTRY

## Key Bible verses regarding Spring and Flowers

“For behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard.” Song of Solomon 2:11-12

“See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin...if that is how God clothes the grass...will he not much more clothe you?” Matthew 6:28-30

“For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden because what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up.” Isaiah 61:11

“He will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains, that water the earth” Hosea 6:3

I'm sure like me, everyone has seen signs of Spring. The robins are back and getting ready to nest. They usually return to the same area to nest each year and use last year's nest again after some renovations. Other things that I have seen to let me know Spring is on the way are the silvery-gray furry catkins on my pussy willow shrub. This is the first year for them and they open before the leaves appear. I also have a new magnolia tree and when I checked it the other day, it has buds. Magnolia trees are among the oldest flowering plants on Earth. Fossil records show their relatives blooming 95 million years ago. They bloom in the Spring with large white, pink or purple flowers. More signs of Spring are the baby calves in the fields, (kicking up their heels) and I saw three different ponds with geese getting ready to nest with their goslings hatching in early May.

As we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus from the tomb, let us remember all the wonderful new beginnings that happen in Spring. While some people struggle to celebrate the Easter season and Spring, let us remember to help those families out with our prayers and food donations. **Next dates for the Food Pantry are Monday May 18 at 7:00 p.m. and Thursday May 21 at 10:00 a.m. AND 7:00 p.m.**

**Items to donate in April are boxes of cereal, bags of egg noodles, boxes of instant potatoes and boxes of ramen noodles.**

Diane Perkins, LUMC Food Pantry Coordinator

## ***SERVING US IN APRIL 2026***

	<b>LITURGIST</b>	<b>USHERS</b>	<b>COFFEE HOUR</b>
<b>April 5</b>	<b>Mary Rasmussen</b>	<b>Mary Rasmussen &amp; Diane Perkins</b>	<b>Choir Easter Brunch</b>
<b>April 12</b>	<b>Chris Zabel</b>	<b>Gruber Family</b>	<b>UWIF</b>
<b>April 19</b>	<b>Vicky Case</b>	<b>Roger &amp; Vicky Case</b>	<b>UMM</b>
<b>April 26</b>	<b>Diane Breihan</b>	<b>Diane &amp; Merlin Breihan</b>	<b>Trustees</b>



**Save the Date**

**United Women in Faith Spring Dinner**

**Thursday May 7 5:00-7:00**

BBQs, Turkey Salad or Egg Salad Sandwiches  
Potato Salad, Baked Beans, Pie, Ice Cream, Beverage

Adults \$12.00 Children \$6.00


Carryouts available

***MULTI-MEDIA MINISTRY  
APRIL 2026***

April 5	Marjorie Weimer in Memory of her husband Gene Weimer and son Jeff Weimer
April 12	Dick & Carol Caley in Honor of Alfred & Shirley Caley for their Anniversary April 10
April 19	Bob & Gretta McKelvey in honor of their grandson Linux's 7th Birthday on April 23
April 26	<b>OPEN</b>

***PLEASE RESERVE YOUR SPOT FOR  
MULTI-MEDIA MINISTRY \$25.00***

# April 2026 & HOLY WEEK

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 7:00 A.M. UMM BREAKFAST MCDONALDS 8:30 A.M. PRAYER GROUP 10:00 A.M. PRAYER SHAWL ADVENTIST CHURCH 3:30 CIRCLE OF FRIENDS	2 <b>MAUNDY                      THURSDAY                      SERVICE                      6:00 PM.                      LUMC                      FELLOWSHIP                      HALL</b>	3 <b>GOOD                      FRIDAY                      SERVICE                      LUMC                      12:00                      NOON</b>  <b>7:00pm                      GOOD                      FRIDAY                      SERVICE                      Potosi UCC</b>	4 <b>EASTER                      FLOWER                      DROP OFF                      9-NOON</b>
 5 <b>HAPPY EASTER</b> <b>7:00 A.M. EASTER                      SUNRISE SERVICE</b> <b>8:00 EASTER                      BRUNCH</b> <b>10:00 EASTER                      WORSHIP</b>	6 <b>OFFICE                      CLOSED                      TODAY</b>	7	8 8:30A.M. PRAYER GROUP  3:30 CIRCLE OF FRIENDS	9 6:30 P.M. ALT MEETING	10 OFFICE CLOSED	11
12 <b>10:00 WORSHIP</b>	13	14 8:30 A.M. UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH (UWIF)	15 8:30 A.M. PRAYER GROUP  10:00 PRAYER SHAWL  3:30 CIRCLE OF FRIENDS	16	17 OFFICE CLOSED	18
19 <b>10:00 WORSHIP</b>	20	21	22 8:30 A.M. PRAYER GROUP  3:30 CIRCLE OF FRIENDS	23	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25
26 <b>10:00 WORSHIP</b>	27	28	29 8:30 A.M. PRAYER GROUP  3:30 CIRCLE OF FRIENDS	30		



## **BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

### **APRIL ANNIVERSARIES**

Mark and Marilyn Stich- April 14

### **BIRTHDAYS**

Russell Shaben- April 2

Ruby Landon- April 3

Lisa Wolenec-Zabel- April 5

Elam Buttles- April 6

Katherine Bussan- April 7

William Bussan- April 9

Erin Harper- April 15

Sally Harper- April 17

Kevin Fritz- April 19

Laura Schildgen- April 19

Ashley Gruber- April 20

Lorna Heinzelman- April 21

Arkie Specht- April 24

Mark Stich- April 27

Lisa Tranel- April 30

## **February GIVING & EXPENSE REPORT**

February Giving      \$31,346.56 (Includes Pasty Dinner Proceeds)

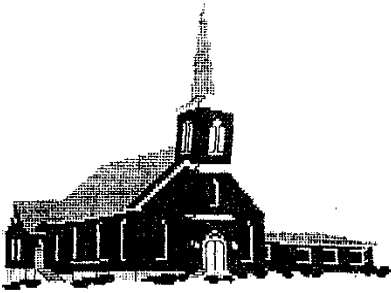
February Expenses \$18,647.68

### **Pasty Dinner Financial Report**

Gross Revenue	\$4,344.00
Expenses	\$ 933.68
10% to Snackpacks	\$ 341.03
90% to General Fund	\$3,069.29

# ***PARISH VISITOR April 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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