

The Parish Visitor

CHURCH VITALS:

- Office Hours: Monday through Wed, 9:30-11:30
Thursday 11:00 – 3:00 until May 21
 - Phone: 608.723.4384
 - Pastor email: erikafloresumc@gmail.com
 - E-mail: lumchurch@tds.net
 - Worship and Live Streaming: Sunday 10 am
 - Web Site: www.lancasterumc.org
 - Conf 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
Peg Soden, Financial Secretary
Bev Mattingly, Music Director
Mary Rasmussen, Parish Nurse
Rev. Bob McKelvey, Pastor Emeritus

**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

"PENTECOST AND ALDERSGATE"

"When the day of Pentecost came, they were all
with one accord."

Acts 2:1

*"In the evening I went very unwillingly to a society in
Aldersgate Street, where one was reading [Martin]
Luther's preface to the Epistle to the Romans. About
a quarter before nine, while he was describing the
change which God works in the heart through faith
in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did
trust in Christ, Christ alone, for salvation; and an
assurance was given me that He had taken away my
sins, even mine,
and saved me from the law of sin and death."*

John Wesley, May 24, 1738.

Ten days after the Ascension of Jesus Christ, we find the disciples in Jerusalem. Just as Jesus had commanded them, they were all gathered together—of one mind, one heart, and one will. They had arrived fifty days after Passover, the Jewish Feast of First fruits, during which the first fruits of the harvest were presented before God. This occasion also commemorated God's Covenant with His people at Sinai.

It is quite evident that Luke—the author of the Gospel and of the Acts of the Apostles—draws upon classic imagery from the Old Testament in an attempt to describe the Theophany: God's intervention on the day of Pentecost.

Acts 2 recounts a sound coming from heaven, which proved to be a rushing wind that filled the house where they were gathered. It is worth noting that, in Greek, the same word—*pneuma*—can be translated interchangeably as "wind" or "spirit." Subsequently, tongues resembling fire appeared and settled upon each of the believers. A baptism of fire took place, symbolizing the purification necessary to restore our image of God—an image that had been disfigured by sin.

Thus, among the 120 disciples, there were men and women who were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in foreign tongues.

Communication thus made it possible to share the Gospel with the multitudes arriving from numerous nations of the world, bearers of diverse cultures. The crowd—now able to hear and understand—thus received the Good News of salvation. We can interpret this passage as an episode parallel to that of the Tower of Babel; with the distinction that, at Babel, humanity was plunged into confusion due to the multiplicity of languages, whereas in Jerusalem, God reunified humanity and its diverse cultures around the salvation found in Jesus Christ.

Nevertheless, there were those who, in a mocking tone, exclaimed: "The truth is, they are drunk."

The results were immediate. Peter, empowered by the Spirit, preached openly. Suddenly, nearly three thousand people were baptized, and the early Christian community put social justice into practice. While it is true that the early Church was not perfect—as will be observed later in the Book of Acts—the fact remains that it stands as an example of what the Church ought to be.

On this very day, May 24th, we commemorate the 288th anniversary of the "Aldersgate Experience"—the "Warm Heart" experience—of the Reverend John Wesley, founder of the Methodist Movement. Therefore, this day holds double significance for us. We celebrate the founding of the Universal Christian Church through the presence of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, as well as the founding of our own movement and, subsequently, of the Methodist Church.

In the original Methodist movement—just as in the early Church—the proclamation of the Gospel served to break down barriers. For instance, it was previously held that the Gospel should be

proclaimed only within church buildings; however, the Methodists preached outdoors, directing their message primarily to the laborers and peasants whom the established Church looked down upon. And for this very reason, the Gospel was made accessible to all.

In earlier times, only ordained clergy were permitted to preach the Word of God; yet, following a process of discernment, John Wesley came to understand that God desired for laypeople to preach as well. Consequently, Methodism restored laypeople to their rightful place. Through a relatively simple process, women, too, were empowered to preach. Today, one of the distinctive hallmarks of the Methodist Church is that it includes women serving as deaconesses, ordained pastors, and even bishops. Men and women alike enjoy equal opportunities and rights. Methodism placed great emphasis on the Works of Mercy, taking a stand against slavery, in favor of more just economic systems, and against the labor exploitation of any person—but, most especially, of women and children. A little-known fact is that Wesley also promoted respect for animals and the dignity of creation.

All of us—just like those disciples gathered in the Upper Room, just like John Wesley and the millions who have been touched by the Holy Spirit—require a transformation to become Christians faithful to the will of God. We need faith in God, obedience, and a positive response to His Grace, so that we may be transformed through repentance and the practice of hope and love, joined with faith.

Rev. Erika J. Martinez-Flores



Mission Committee has great news to share! We are going bowling!!

Well not the committee, but Travis Doire. **Travis will be participating in the National Special Olympic games in the bowling competition. Our 2nd quarter mission project will be supporting Travis and the Special Olympics.** The University of Minnesota and the Sports Center in Blaine, Minnesota will host the 2026 USA games June 20-26, 2026. Send off for the Wisconsin team will be June 19 in Eau Claire. Travis is the first and only athlete to represent Region 6 – SW Wisconsin in the National games. The Church is so proud to support Travis and the Special Olympics. **Travis must raise at least \$500 to help with fundraising efforts. Fundraising ends on May 31,** so we do not have a lot of time to waste. Please mark your check 'Special Olympics' and drop in the offering plate or at the Church office.

THANK-YOU SO MUCH FOR HELPING TRAVIS EXPERIENCE THIS WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY
Diane Perkins and Cheryl Austin, Co-chairs (Mission Committee)

FOOD PANTRY

REMINDER TO ALL: The Church is responsible for staffing the Food Pantry Monday, May 18 at 7:00 p.m. and Thursday May 21 at 10:00 a.m. **AND** 7:00 p.m. Many helpers will be needed. Please contact Diane Perkins at 988-6096 or perkinsdiane215@gmail.com if you can spare an hour of your time. Items needed for May are canned goods of your choice.



LUMC COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT UNITED METHODIST MEN

DID YOU KNOW THAT OUR UNITED METHODIST MEN PROVIDE A SCHOLARSHIP EACH YEAR TO A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES THAT IS CONTINUING THEIR EDUCATION EITHER IN A 2 YEAR TECHNICAL OR 4 YEAR COLLEGES. AND ALSO PREPARE AND SPONSOR THE PASTY DINNERS HELD 2 TIMES A YEAR

THEY MEET ON THE 1ST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT MCDONALD AT 7:00 A.M.FOR COFFEE (EVERYONE IS WELCOME).

THANK YOU TO THIS AMAZING GROUP IN OUR CHURCH WHO SUPPORTS OUR MISSION TO SHARE CHRIST AND SERVE OTHERS.



LANCASTER PRESCHOOL UPDATE NEW DIRECTOR

My name is Tabitha Wallin and I am happy to have taken on the Director role at the Preschool. I live in Lancaster with my husband, Brandon. We have three kids, Madisynn (18), Eastyn (9), and Emmalynn (8). In 2019, I was given the opportunity to stay home with my two young children, which gave me the drive to become an in home daycare provider. Prior to being an in home daycare provider, I was accountant at an accounting firm. Since I was young, I have always loved children and watching them grow so when given the opportunity to do daycare, I took it. The preschool has been a great asset to the community for many years. As enrollment has been dropping, I am navigating ways to increase the numbers. We are thankful the Lancaster School District has worked with us for bussing from Winskill to the Preschool for the afternoon students. As I have been listening to members in the community, the main concern is transportation. Most families are working during the preschool hours, so they are unable to transport to and/or from the preschool. If you have any suggestions for transportation, please let me know.

May 14th is the end of preschool concert from 6 pm to 7 pm. People's State Bank has sponsored 120 Scoops to Go through Vesperman Farms. Summer Enrichment and the 2026-2027 school year registration is currently open on the church website. We are also on the hunt for a lead teacher for the 2026-2027 school year. Any questions can be directed to me by phone at 608-732-8515 or email at lancasterwipreschool@gmail.com.



A Brief History of Nursing and the Celebration of Nurses Day

The history of nursing is rooted in compassion, service, and the evolving science of caring for others. While informal caregiving existed in every culture, modern nursing began to take shape in the mid-19th century. Florence Nightingale’s work during the Crimean War (1853–1856) transformed nursing into a respected profession. Through her emphasis on sanitation, patient observation, and organized training, she laid the foundation for evidence-based nursing practice.

As healthcare advanced, so did the role of nurses. In the early 20th century, nurses became essential in public health, community medicine, and hospital care. World wars further highlighted the critical importance of skilled nursing, leading to expanded education, specialized practice areas, and professional standards. Today, nursing is one of the most diverse and vital healthcare professions, encompassing clinical practice, leadership, research, informatics, and much more.

Nurses Day, celebrated annually on **May 6**, marks the beginning of National Nurses Week in the United States. This week honors the dedication, expertise, and compassion that nurses bring to every setting—from hospitals and clinics to homes and communities. International Nurses Day is observed globally on **May 12**, Florence Nightingale’s birthday. These celebrations recognize the contributions of nurses, highlight ongoing challenges in the profession, and reaffirm a shared commitment to patient-centered care.

Nurses Day serves as a meaningful reminder of the profession’s rich history and its ongoing impact. It is a time to honor those who provide healing, comfort, and advocacy every day.

Terry L. Doire, DNP, RN, CRRN

SERVING US IN MAY 2026

	LITURGIST	USHERS	COFFEE HOUR
May 3	Gretta McKelvey	Dana Shaben, Tracy Schrader & family	Choir
May 10	Margaret Bussan	Roger & Margaret Bussan	UMM
May 17	Carol Soden	Larry & Cindy Busch	UWIF
May 24	Lisa Zabel	Zabel Family	Trustees
May 31	Chris Zabel	Gene & Jackie McLinn	Choir



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 May 2026

Sponsorship \$25 per Sunday

MAY 3	Bob & Gretta McKelvey in honor of their Great Granddaughter, Kallista's 3 rd Birthday today
MAY 10	OPEN
MAY 17	OPEN
MAY 24	OPEN
MAY 31	OPEN

LUMC NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

IS HAPPY TO WELCOME

NEW COMMITTEE CHAIR PERSONS

Margaret Bussan, STAFF PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIR

&

Cheryl Austin and Diane Perkins, MISSIONS COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS

thank you for your willingness to serve!!!

May 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 OFFICE CLOSED	2
3 8:30a – Potosi Worship 10:00 WORSHIP	4	5 7:00p Trustees	6 7:00 a UMM Coffee at McDonalds 8:30a Prayer Group 10:00a Prayer Shawl – Adventist 3:30p Circle of Friends	7 5:00p-7:00p SPRING DINNER 	8 OFFICE CLOSED	9
10 8:30a Potosi Worship 10:00 WORSHIP 	11	12 8:30a Care Committee	13 8:30a Prayer Group 3:30p Circle of Friends	14 6:30p ALT	15 OFFICE CLOSED	16
17 8:30a Potosi Worship 10:00 WORSHIP	18	19	20 8:30a Prayer Group 10:00a Prayer Shawl Adventist 3:30p Circle of Friends	21	22 OFFICE CLOSED	23
24 8:30a Potosi Worship 10:00 WORSHIP FAMILY PROMISE WEEK STARTS TODAY	25  MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE CLOSED	26	27 8:30a Prayer Group 3:30p Circle of Friends DEADLINE PARISH VISITOR ARTICLES	28	29 OFFICE CLOSED	30
31 8:30a Potosi Worship 10:00 WORSHIP FAMILY PROMISE WEEK ENDS TODAY						



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

May ANNIVERSARIES

Bill and Lorna Heinzelman- May 16

Jerry and Julie Letcher- May 17

Dave and Barb Cook- May 28

Steve and Lisa Zabel- May 30

BIRTHDAYS

Dottie Alcorn- May 1

Steve Zabel- May 4

Christina Buttles- May 8

Melissa Hocking- May 10

Linda Martin- May 13

Diane Perkins- May 19

Tracy Schrader- May 27

Dana Shaben- May 28

Allan Yearous- May 30

FINANCIAL REPORT

March Giving \$18,233.37

March Expenses \$15,356.70

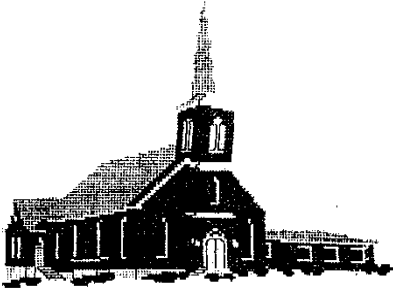
YEAR TO DATE GIVING \$42,151.28

YEAR TO DATE EXPENSES \$45,812.57

Thank you for your continued generous giving!

PARISH VISITOR MAY 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

