

The Parish Visitor

CHURCH VITALS:

- Office Hours: Monday through Thurs. 9a-noon
- Phone: 608.723.4384
- Pastor email: erikafloresumc@gmail.com
- **NEW EMAIL: office1.lancumc@gmail.com**
- 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:

Erika Jezael Martinez-Flores
Gretta McKelvey, Secretary
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

'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'
Matthew 25.21

To be a good steward is to responsibly and faithfully manage all the resources entrusted to us by God. It lies at the heart of the command given to Adam and Eve in Genesis to be fruitful, subdue the earth and rule over everything. As God's image bearers Adam and Eve must be stewards the world in a caring and wise way (Genesis 1:26-28). It's a charge that carries on to us.

From Genesis 3 onwards we can see that this didn't always go that well; to get a clear view we need to look at Jesus because he is the ultimate example of what it means to be a good steward.

1. Use your God-given abilities. Jesus taught a lot about how we should steward everything in life. The 'Parable of the Talents', it's a powerful narrative illustrating the key principles of stewardship. Jesus uses this parable to convey the importance of using one's God-given abilities and resources for the benefit of the Kingdom. The lesson goes beyond financial matters; it extends to the skills, time, and opportunities we have generally in life. Jesus encourages us to actively engage with these gifts bestowed upon us by God and to use them responsibly for the growth of his kingdom through the church.

2. Serve the needs of others. John 13:1-17 provides a poignant scene where Jesus, the Son of God, takes on the role of a humble servant by washing the feet of his disciples, an act traditionally performed by servants. This powerful gesture not only demonstrates humility but also the essence of a good steward. Jesus, the ultimate steward of humanity's salvation, exemplifies the importance of selfless service. In stewarding the basic ability of washing another's feet he sets the example of serving others with deep love and humility that mirrored his entire mission.

3. Make the most of your time. Throughout the Gospels, Jesus consistently shows compassion and care for the marginalized, the sick, and the needy. He primarily does this by making time for them.

A good stewardship extends beyond personal talents, resources and even basic abilities. In imitating Jesus, we're called to be a good steward of love and justice by spending time actively engaging in the well-being of others around us.

4. Be prepared for sacrifice. The pinnacle of Jesus' stewardship is found in his sacrificial death on the cross. In Mark 10:45, The cross represents the ultimate act of being a good steward, as Jesus willingly offers himself for the redemption of humanity. Believers are called to reflect on this sacrificial love, recognizing the responsibility to steward their lives in a manner that aligns with the transformative power of the cross, and share the life-saving message of the gospel.

5. Care for the environment. While the Bible may not explicitly address environmental concerns as we understand them today, the broader concept of stewardship can be applied to caring for God's creation. In returning to the early chapters of Genesis, we note that humans are given the responsibility to rule. This charge implies the role of caretakers or stewards, responsible for maintaining the harmony and balance of the created world.

In exploring Jesus as the Good Steward, we've been introduced to a model for Christian living that embraces stewardship from a number of angles. His

teachings and embodiment of humility, service, compassion and sacrifice provide a clear framework for us to follow. As we navigate our lives in accordance with these principles, we become stewards not only of our personal time, talents and treasure, but also of love, justice, and the environment—a holistic approach that mirrors the example set by Jesus.

Pastor Erika Martinez-Flores



NANCY STEPHENSON has been a faithful member of the Lancaster United Methodist Church since 1959. She was born on Oct. 31, 1924, in Ebensburg, PA. where she grew up on the family farm. After graduating from high School, she attended Slippery Rock College for 2 years. Later she moved to Platteville, WI and attended UWP earning her bachelor's degree. While there she met and married Archie Stephenson. They moved to Gillette, WI where her three children were born. In 1959 they moved to Lancaster where she taught country school then spent the next 20+ years teaching physical education.

She says her journey of faith began as a child. Every Sunday morning was spent at church, Sunday School, and socializing with family, friends, and neighbors. She always enjoyed those mornings. Church became part of her life. When she moved to Lancaster, she joined the Ruth Circle at UMC. It was a very active and fun circle. They met in the homes and enjoyed being together. Their programs and discussions were interesting and informative. They learned from each other. UMW events were a lot of work but lots of fun and rewarding. Nancy was the UMW President for over 20 years. She also served on other church committees over the years. Her favorite Bible verse is the 23rd Psalm.

The Lord is My Shepherd says a lot about how Nancy lived. Surely Goodness and Mercy have followed her all the days of her life.

Because of her faith, she will dwell in the House of the Lord forever.

Her advice to other women is to get involved with your church.

"Don't just attend worship services. Find joy in serving others and make a difference."



NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY COMING SOON!!!

Smile & say cheese!!! Get your haircuts now!!
Our NEW church directory pictures are scheduled for

Monday October 26, 2026, from 2:00pm-8:30pm.

Sign up for a time either in the overflow room on Sunday or church office.
You will receive one free picture, and you are welcome to purchase additional pictures.
(great Christmas card photos)

Pictures will be back for your viewing by the end of November.

You don't want to miss this!!!

You will receive a letter with more details in the mail!!!

----Robin Schacht, Directory Committee

FINANCIAL REPORT

August Giving/Deposits \$16,064.06

August Expenses \$16,175.26

Year To Date Giving \$108,607.95

Year To Date Expenses \$ 122,605.66

Thank you for your continued generosity in giving!!!

NEW OFFICE E-MAIL ADDRESS

Due to Changes with TDS, we have changed our office e-mail address

The new address is:

office1.lancumc@gmail.com

Our TDS e-mail will be discontinued 10/1/2026



UMCOR
United Methodist Committee on Relief

For the month of October UMCOR will be our short-term mission project.

UMCOR stands for United Methodist Committee on Relief, a part of the General Board of Global Ministries. It is the humanitarian relief arm of the United Methodist Church.

When a community is impacted by a natural or civil disaster, the United Methodist Church is there to alleviate suffering and offer support through UMCOR. This work extends beyond immediate relief, helping communities rebuild their lives and recover over the long term. Through Annual Conferences, episcopal areas, Disaster Management Offices, and ecumenical organizations, UMCOR partners with people anywhere in the world to help communities carry out their own disaster response and recovery.

In 2025, UMCOR responded to a total of 115 natural disasters around the world. **Recently UMCOR has donated to the Menasha WI, area to help with recovery after the July tornado.** And across the world in Nepal, UMCOR is helping respond to the horrific landslide-flooding disaster in the mountains there.

When you give to UMCOR, every penny of your donation is sent to assist those in need, with no administrative costs taken out.

Giving any amount, large or small, is a wonderful way to lend a hand to hurting sisters and brothers near and far. Just mark your donation "UMCOR" or "October mission." God's blessings as you share God's love!

Cheryl Austin, Missions Committee



Save the Date UWIF Fall Dinner
Sunday November 8 11:30-1:00

Lancaster United Methodist Church

Chicken casserole, squash, orange salad, cranberry salad

Carryouts available – Adults \$12, Children \$5

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Mike and Sandy Kabele- Oct 9
Rob and Laura Gruber- Oct 10
Rick and Karen McDermott- Oct 16
Andy and Lynette Buttles- Oct 19

BIRTHDAYS

Carol Caley- Oct 1
Jada Fecht- Oct 3
Peyton Gruber- Oct 4
Cleone Ayres- Oct 11
Zachary Gruber- Oct 12
Jill Bark- Oct 19
Connie Nix- Oct 21
Julie Letcher- Oct 22
John Schindler- Oct 27
Lisa Kruser- Oct 28
Kevin Olson- Oct 29
Nancy Stephenson- Oct 31

SERVING US IN October 2026

	Liturgist	Ushers	Coffee Hour
Oct 4	Rev. Bob McKelvey	Larry & Cindy Busch	Trustees
Oct 11	Lisa Zabel	Zabel Family	Staff Parish Committee
Oct 18	Stuart Harper	Gene & Jackie McLinn	Care Committee
Oct 25	Becky Yager	Mike & Becky Yager	United Methodist Men

MULTI-MEDIA MINISTRY October 2026

Sponsorship \$25 per Sunday

Oct 4	<i>Mike & Sandy Kabele in celebration of their 56th Wedding Anniversary</i>
Oct 11	<i>Bruce & Sue Fritz in celebration of their 44th Wedding Anniversary</i>
Oct 18	<i>Richard & Sandy Taylor in memory of Sandy's Father, Bryon Landon's birthday on October 21</i>
Oct 25	open

ACCOUNTABLE LEADERSHIP TEAM 9/17 MEETING SUMMARY

- Review of survey by congregation regarding desire for new church directory. Date set 10/26 for photos.
- Trustees reported that issues with boiler have been repaired with no need for a new boiler at this time
- Trustees discussed the fees for use of the church and fellowship hall for events
- **Preschool is participating in the Harvest Parade on 10/3 and having a food fundraiser after the parade on sidewalk near the Dome and liquor store.**
- Discussed the coverage needed for the LUMC dates at the Food Pantry

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SAVE THE DATE

ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE WILL BE SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 15 AFTER WORSHIP

FOLLOWED BY POTLUCK

AND

GREEN BAY PACKER GAME

WATCH PARTY

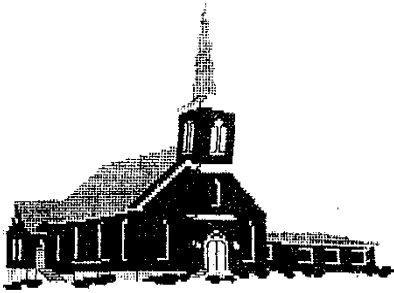
October 2026

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2 Office closed	3
4 10:00a Worship Communion	5	6	7 7:00 AM UMM McDonalds 8:30 AM Prayer Group 10:00AM Prayer Shawl – Adventist 3:30 – 5:00 PM Circle of Friends	8 8:30 AM Care Committee Meeting 6:30 PM ALT Meeting	9 Office closed	10
11 10:00 a Worship	12	13	14 8:30 AM Prayer Group 3:30-5:00 PM Circle of Friends	15	16 Office closed	17
18 10:00a Worship	19	20	21 8:30 AM Prayer Group 10:00 AM Prayer Shawls - Adventist 3:30-5:00PM Circle of Friends	22	23 Office closed	24
25 10:00a Worship FAMILY PROMISE WEEK STARTS	26 CHURCH DIRECTORY PHOTOS 2:00PM – 8:30 PM 	27	28 8:30 AM Prayer Group 3:30 -5:00 PM Circle of Friends	29	30 Office closed	31

PARISH VISITOR

October 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

