
THIS MONTH AT LUMC | October 2024



Dear Church Family,

Are you a “less is more” or a “more is more” kind of person?

If you feel that “more is more,” you will love this newsletter. There is no shortage of opportunities this month to connect with God, connect with God’s people, and participate in God’s work through service. Whether you feel called to attend our Animal Blessing, Trunk-or-Treat, Bible Study, a committee meeting, the Food Pantry and Clothing Closet, choir practice, United Women in Faith, and/or to meet our new Bishop on Bishop’s Day, there is something for everyone this October at LUMC.

On the other hand, if you feel that “less is more,” you may find this newsletter a little overwhelming. If this is you, I invite you to remember the basics of our faith: we are called to love God, love one another, and love ourselves. At the end of the day, everything we do as a community of faith is born out of these three tenets. I trust that God will tell you how best to love Him, others, and yourself; and I pray that your ears and heart will be open to hear God’s voice. If unsure, attending weekly worship services is always a great place to start!

Please save the date for our Annual Church Conference on Sunday, November 17 at 11:30am. Per guidance from Bishop Bickerton, this year we will be joining with New Beginnings United Methodist Church in Townsend for the Church Conference. New Beginnings will come to LUMC and join us in our Sanctuary, and District Superintendent Megan Stowe will lead us all together. This way of holding Church Conference will be different in some ways, and very similar to what we are used to in other ways. Holding our Church Conference with another congregation will be standard practice this year throughout the New England Annual Conference, and it will make for better stewardship of the precious resource of our district superintendents’ time.

If you are in need of pastoral care or prayer this month, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at pastormichelleashley@gmail.com.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Michelle



LUMC OCTOBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		 1	 2 2:00pm Bible Study 6:00pm SPRC Meeting 7:00pm Bible Study	 3 6:00pm Leadership & Nominations	 4 7pm Senior Choir	5 9am United Women In Faith 3:00pm Emmaus Group
Animal Blessing Sunday 6 9:30am Worship & Sunday School 10:30am Coffee Hour 10:45am Youth Group 11:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study	 7	 8	 9 2:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Trustees	 10 7pm Finance Committee	Bishop's Day on the District 4-6pm Dinner 6-8pm Introduction and Worship 7pm Senior Choir	 12
9:30am Worship & Sunday School 10:30am Coffee Hour 11:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study	 14	 15	 16 2:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study	 17 7:00pm Church Council	 18 7pm Senior Choir	 19
Laiety Sunday 20 9:30am Worship & Sunday School 10:30am Coffee Hour 10:45am Youth Group 11:00am Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study	 21	 22	 23 2:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Bible Study	 24	6pm Praise Team 7pm Senior Choir	 26 8am Food Pantry & Clothing Closet
9:30am worship & Sunday School 10:30am Coffee Hour 11:00am Bible Study 3:00pm Trunk or Treat Youth Group 7:00pm Bible Study	 28	 29	 30 2:00pm Bible Study 6:15pm SPRC Meeting 7:00pm Bible Study	 31	1 4-8 Pumpkin Patch Fair	2 9-5 Pumpkin Patch Fair

For More Information:

www.leominsterumc.org | (978) 537-1356 | lumcoffice1@gmail.com

Help Needed for Trunk or Treat Event

LUMC is co-sponsoring a fun event on Sunday, October 27th from 3-5 PM. Volunteers are needed for our Trunk or Treat Event. We will welcome children and families to come to experience the fun of Halloween, to include games, treats and costumes. Although this event is sometimes held outdoors, ours is unique – it's held inside our Fellowship Hall! Folks set up a table with a theme and hand out treats. It's a great event with plenty of smiles to go around. Who doesn't like getting free candy!!!

You can help in any of the following ways:

- Decorate a table (our version of a trunk) and be there to distribute candy to the little ones;
- Donate a bag or two of Halloween candy;
- Be an extra volunteer with a role to be assigned. We will co-sponsor this event with the Leominster Special Education Parent Advisory Council. Registration is through EventBrite.

Contact Beth Newcombe (978-340-2423) or Jana Harrison (978-798-9535) to volunteer or for more information.



OCTOBER 27, 2024
3 PM TO 5 PM

77 HALL STREET / LEOMINSTER, MA 014543
(LEOMINSTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PARKING LOT)

**LEOMINSTER SEPAC AND LUMC ARE PARTNERING TO BRING KIDS A FREE
INCLUSIVE/SENSORY FRIENDLY EXPERIENCE**

THERE WILL BE GAMES, TREATS, A QUIET READING AREA, SENSORY ACTIVITIES & FUN

SAVE THE DATE

MORE INFORMATION INCLUDING REGISTRATION DETAILS COMING SOON



An Invitation...

Are you...

- Looking?
- Searching?
- Questioning?

Do you...

- Need Encouragement?
- Want to Experience God's Love and Forgiveness?

Want to share and learn with others?

If you answered yes to any of the above then the Walk to Emmaus is for you. This fall (October 17-20th) you are invited to the Emmaus retreat. This 3 day retreat, held in Alton Bay, NH, offers a time of renewal. Many from LUMC have participated and we want to encourage others to experience this as well. Contact Cat Gabriel or Jana Harrison to learn more.



United
Women
in Faith

Our next United Women in Faith meeting is Saturday, October 5th @ 9:00 am. We hope to see you there!



Appleseed Emmaus Group gathering will be held on Saturday, October 5th @ 3:00 pm.



Our next food pantry distribution is Saturday, October 26, 2024 from 8:00 until 10:00 am.

All are welcome to receive food.



LGBTQ Inclusion Committee--After a summer hiatus, the LGBTQ Committee will be reforming to work on exploring ways to ensure LUMC lives up to its statement of being an inclusive church. We have a dedicated core group and would love to welcome new members to the Committee! One can be a member of the LGBTQ community with ideas of what would benefit your community or you can simply be an ally who feels the call to do the "work" of inclusion so that **everyone** truly feels LUMC is a sanctuary for them to become close and feel loved by God. We will meet at 7 PM on Wednesday November 6 at the church. If you have any questions about the committee, please contact Erika Dellovo at 978-407-0704. We hope you can join us!



Church Clean Up Day is scheduled for November 9 from 8-10AM. We will be raking and cleaning up the property and EVERYONE is welcome to help! Wear gloves because it may be cold. Bring rakes because we don't have enough for the hundreds of people who come to help! (haha) And bring your energy OR a coffee if that is what gives you energy! The more hands we have to help, the sooner the job will be done.

See you then!



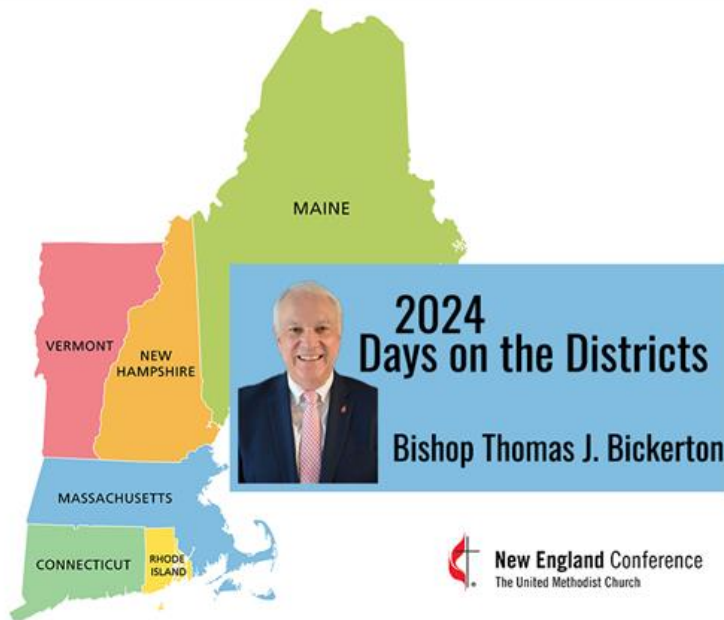
Ruth's Harvest Pantry has been serving our community and neighbors for nearly thirty (30) years! It was during Pastor Dave Hoyt's appointment to our church that Ruth's Harvest Pantry came into being, through his support and the work of Joanne DiNardo and others. When Pastor Dave visited this summer as a guest speaker he was interested to see how the pantry has grown, and was amazed at how many freezers and refrigerators

now inhabit the area. Pastor Dave was pleased to know that this church continues to feed people who are food insecure, and that we do it more generously than when the food pantry first began.

On another note, Thanksgiving baskets will be given out this year on the fourth Saturday of November, the same day as our normal food pantry distribution. ANYONE may receive a basket of food to help supplement their Thanksgiving meal, but you MUST SIGN UP either during food pantry hours (4th Saturday of September and October from 8-10) or by calling Jamie in the church office, Tuesday-Friday from 9AM-2PM.

My thanks to all the volunteers who have kept, and continue to keep, the food pantry functioning and vital in our church and community.

Nancy King



**Bishop's Day on the Commonwealth West District
Friday, October 11, 2024**

Please mark your calendar and join us in extending a warm welcome to Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton as he begins his assignment as the Resident Bishop of the New Hope Area, which includes the New England and New York conferences.

This is an excellent opportunity to meet and greet Bishop Bickerton and learn about his vision for the district and for the New England Conference. Clergy should make every attempt to attend and encourage their congregations to join. Bishop Bickerton is looking forward to meeting with the clergy in the afternoon, sharing dinner and meeting with both clergy and laity in the evening.

Location, agenda, registration, Bishop's Days at other districts and additional information will be published [here](#) when available.

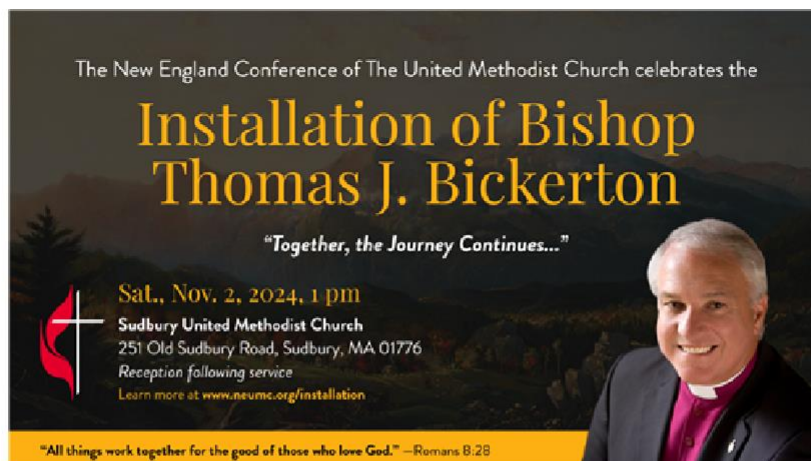
Bishop Bickerton's [greeting](#) to the New England Annual Conference and [bio/introduction](#) are posted.

Bishop Bickerton's [Installation Service](#) is Saturday, November 2, 2024, 1:00 pm at Sudbury UMC (251 Old Sudbury Rd. Sudbury, MA 01776).

Bishop Day on the District is October 11, 2024 at Blackstone Valley United Methodist Church.

4:00 - 6:00 pm Dinner with Clergy & Laity

6:00 - 8:00 pm Introduction & Worship





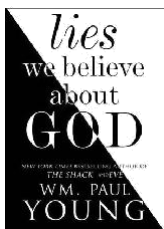
Join us for a Celebration of Life. On November 3rd, Pastor Michelle will consecrate the new bricks being added to the Friendship Garden in a ceremony after regular Sunday service. Following the ceremony, we'll gather around camp fires, make s'mores, enjoy (hopefully!) some famously gorgeous New England Autumn weather, and celebrate the life of those commemorated in the garden and being remembered on All Saint's Day. All are welcome!

All are welcome to attend.
Professing church members may vote.

Annual Church Conference

Sunday, November 17
11:30am
Sanctuary

Join us with our District Superintendent as we conduct annual church business, celebrate what God has done in the past year, and look ahead to a new year of being church together.



Bob Harrison is leading a study on the book "Lies we believe about God" on Sunday mornings at 11:00 am and Sunday evenings @ 7:00 pm via zoom.

Visitors, listeners and newcomers are always welcome.

Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82301584642?pwd=THQ4Rmc2WExJemFoRGhvWWNHUjRQT09>

Meeting ID: 823 0158 4642 Passcode: 103951



PRAYER

PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD.

[Paul, watching the Roman Guard's drills, writes this to the Ephesians: 6:10-18.]

*Living Scripture requires discipline.
*Being prepared is to pray with power.
Paul's prison teaching is a call to action for adults - to outfit ourselves so as to advance the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

***Belt of Truth** = skip the white lies, drama, exaggerations, rumors, and conspiracy theories. Learn discernment - read the written Word.

***Breastplate of Righteousness** -- Think of the Trinity: Are you reading the Almighty's Word regularly? Are you aware you reflect the face of Jesus to others? Do you pause often to listen to the Holy Spirit working in you?

***Shoes for the Gospel of Peace**, [notice it says: **PEACE!**]. Sometimes shoes will be slippers to go forth gently. Sometimes combat boots, (prayer is a battle). Sometimes you need to remove your shoes - the ground around you is holy.

***Shield of Faith to quench the flaming arrows of the evil one**, (ominous?): Deep Prayer is dangerous work....But...You are a Child of God, who has only one enemy, (already mortally wounded). You will grow to become a Warrior in the Lord's Army, (fearless!). You will mature to become an Ambassador for Christ, (judicious).

***Helmet of Salvation:** It's about your mind: *What you think is what you say: What you say is what you end up doing. What you do, defines who you hang with. Who you hang with impacts your thinking, (etc.).* Scripture is your Helmet: it guards your thoughts, protects your ears, eyes; and silences your mouth.

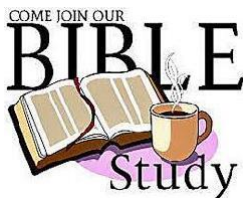
***Sword of the Spirit is the Word of God:** Let the very Breath of God be in you.

THE CHALLENGE: Start each day in the strength of this as a prayer!



CHALLENGE

Written by Catherine Robertson



Adult Bible Study Class w/ John Mims meets on Wednesdays.
Study times are 2:00 pm at the church and 7:00 pm at the Mims home. We are starting a new study on the Book of Matthew beginning September 15, 2024. Newcomers are always welcome!



Rebekah's Clothing Closet at LUMC

Needed: Winter tops for men, women, and children - Sweaters, Sweatshirts, Jackets and Jerseys.

New shoes and slippers welcome.

Gloves and mittens needed.

Donations may be dropped off during office hours or after the Worship Service on Sundays.

The Clothing Closet is open during Food Pantry hours for the Food Pantry clients. The clients may leave a donation for the clothes. These donations help support LUMC's mission to NorthStar Family Services.

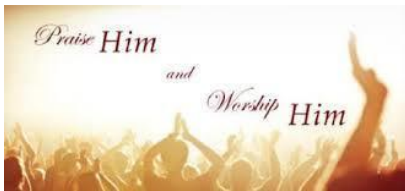


Join us Sunday mornings for worship service at 9:30 am.

(As a personal privacy reminder, if you choose to worship in person, the back two pews in the sanctuary are reserved for those who wish not to appear on camera. Additionally, to protect privacy, the camera is turned upward to the large cross (and thus no people are visible) during the weekly

children's message and monthly communion. If you have any questions or concerns about privacy, please contact Pastor Michelle and she will be happy to work with you to accommodate your needs.)

Online worship is still available at 9:30 am; see below for details.



We are still live-streaming our Sunday services. Watch live Sundays at 9:30am, or later anytime that works for you.

If you are having trouble with one website, try another:

<https://www.youtube.com/@leominsterunitedmethodistc704>

<https://www.leominsterumc.org/livestream>

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



Ways to Give Electronically/Remotely

- 1) Set up an automatic deposit through your bank or your bank's billpayer app.
- 2) Give online with your debit or credit card at www.leominsterumc.org/give
- 3) Drop off or mail a check to the church office.
- 4) Give via Venmo @lumc-077



Birthdays of the Month

October 1 Jeffrey Hamel
October 6 Jean Wylie
October 8 Emily Funk
October 14 Linda Mims
October 15 Kevin Kieda
October 17 Nicholas Hamel
October 19 Pastor Michelle Ashley
October 23 Robin Brideau
October 24 Jon Ashley
October 24 Dawnne Prince
October 30 Edmundo Zambrano
October 30 Rebecka Peterson
October 31 Elizabeth Garside



October 2 James & Edith Stephen
October 6 Kent & Debby Oldfield
October 7 Dennis & Jane Marcello
October 8 Jeffrey & Cheryl Hamel
October 11 Bill & Sirkku Ashton

Please pray for the following people this week:

*** Indicates newly added requests**

Church Members...

Dennis Grammont, cancer & Parkinson's disease

James Stephen

Malie Marino, chronic health issues

Nancy Dougherty, dementia

Bruce Shaheen for relief from back & hip pain

*Continued prayers for Joyce & Robert Barclay for continued health issues

Family, Friends and Neighbors of Church Members...

Rebecca Parent, Maryann Kane's daughter

Leslie, ALS (Edith's neice)

Melissa, cancer (Diana)

Bob O'Neill, Bladder Cancer (Edith)

Dan for his lungs to heal (Bruce)

Brian & Colleen for mental health issues (Edith)

Dawnne's mother in law Liz dealing with depression

Phineas Funk, that he might find his way

Linda Gilpatrick for reoccurrence of cancer (Sam)

Scott Rankin

Sara & Ellie Kaufmann for healing (Lynn Ayars) Jodi &

Bill Fowler struggling with chronic illness Tristan to find

his way to improvement (Dawn Prince) Ruth, Lukemia

(Leeda Marsh)

*Gram Caron & the Caron family as Gram recovers (Evan)

Those who are grieving...

Family of Tracey Toomey (Sam)

Bruce & Anne Marie Shaheen for the loss of Aunt Mary

Galen & Desi Schad on the loss of their grandmother Ruth Stowe

Kim French and family on the loss of their husband and father

*Galen & Desi Schad's godfather who passed away

Our World...

All Nations and people affected by war

All affected by natural disasters

All affected by violence in its many forms

Our Leaders...

DS Megan Stowe

Pastor Michelle

Bishop Bickerton

All of our civic leaders & elected officials

Please note that in order to keep our prayer list up to date, names are removed as requested or after 8 weeks.

If you have a concern you would like added, please fill out a pink prayer card & place it in the offering plate.

