

THIS MONTH AT LUMC | November 2024



Dear Church Family,

Isn't it wonderful that, in our culture, November is a month to honor veterans and give thanks for our many blessings? In the church, November is also a time to honor the lives of our saints, raise funds for a new year of ministry, and gather together to bear witness to the work that God has been doing in and through us. November is a great time to be a United Methodist Christian.

Please join us this weekend for our Pumpkin Patch Fair. Enjoy good food, support local craftspeople, and benefit the ministry of our local church! We will be here Friday, November 1 from 4-8 and Saturday, November 2 from 9-5. Santa will be visiting on Saturday from 12-2. Entrance is free and open to the community.

On Sunday, November 3, join us for All Saints Sunday. Worship with Communion will be at 9:30, immediately followed by a Celebration of Life in the Friendship Garden at 10:45. The Celebration of Life will include a brief consecration of bricks newly added to the garden, as well as a reading of the names on all previously installed bricks. Note that due to the red flag warning for "critical fire conditions", our original plan of firepits and s'mores for this event has been replaced with a make-your-own hot chocolate bar (free of cost and open to all). Please join us at one or both of these events in celebration of the saints who have blessed our lives, our church, and our community!

Our annual Church Conference will be held on Sunday, November 17 at noon. Note the change in time, which has been made to accommodate the two churches who will be joining us: Oakdale UMC in West Boylston and New Beginnings UMC in Townsend. Come celebrate all that God has done in the life of our church during the past year, and look ahead as we anticipate a new, upcoming year of ministry together. All are welcome to attend; all professing members may vote.

In order to ensure our bodies are well cared for so that our minds and hearts can do the work of the Church Conference, we are offering the option to order boxed lunches from Panera to enjoy in the Fellowship Hall prior to the Church Conference. If you would like to order a lunch so that your tummy isn't rumbling at the Church Conference, please do so using the attached order form. If you would prefer to bring your own lunch, that works too!

Finally, we will round off the month with a special Thanksgiving Sunday service on Sunday, November 24 at 9:30 and Hanging of the Greens (decorating the church for Advent and Christmas) on Saturday, November 30 at 3:00.

If I can be of support to you this month, please feel free to reach out to me. It is a blessing and a privilege to serve as your pastor.

In gratitude and thanksgiving, Pastor Michelle

order electronically to lumcoffice1@gmail.com.

Namo:

Church Conference Lunch Order Form

This form is due to the Church Office by Sunday, November 10.

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Name.
Please indicate the number of boxes you wish to order per sandwich/salad. Each sandwich box
comes with chips, a cookie, a pickle spear, and a bottle of water. Each salad box comes with a
baguette slice, a cookie, and a bottle of water.
Grilled Chicken and Avocado BLT Sandwich (\$19)
Mediterranean Veggie Sandwich (\$15)
Tuna Salad Sandwich (\$15)
Turkey and Cheese Sandwich (\$15)
Green Goddess Chicken Cobb Salad (\$19)
Fuji Apple Chicken Salad (\$18)
Caesar Salad (\$15)
Caesar Salad with Chicken (\$18)
Greek Salad (\$15)
Greek Salad with Chicken (\$18)
Total number of boxes:
Total payment:
Please pay by cash or check to the church office, or by online payment with the note "Panera lunch"
at www.leominsterumc.org/give or on the church's Venmo @lumc-077. You can also submit your



It's time to order your Poinsettia for Christmas! Orders must be in by November 19th. (Please Print)

Please place this form and your money in the collection plate

Or give this form and your money to the Office! Cost per plant is \$8.25

Please indicate the number of each color plant you want in the space below. Color choices are: Red, White, Pink. (Plants have a pot size of 6 1/2 inches)

In Memory Of	Given By	<u>Color</u>
<u>In Honor Of</u>	Given By	Color



Our next food pantry distribution is Saturday, November 23, 2024 from 8:00 until 10:00 am.

All are welcome to receive food.

LGBTQ Inclusion Committee--After a summer haiatus, the LGBTQ Committee will be re-forming 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 LGTBQ 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.

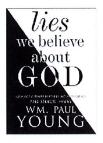
My thanks to all the volunteers who have kept, and continue to keep, the food pantry functioning and vital in our church and community.

Nancy King

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 enjoy a make your own hot
chocolate bar, and celebrate the life of those
commemorated in the garden and being
remembered on All Saint's Day. All are welcome!





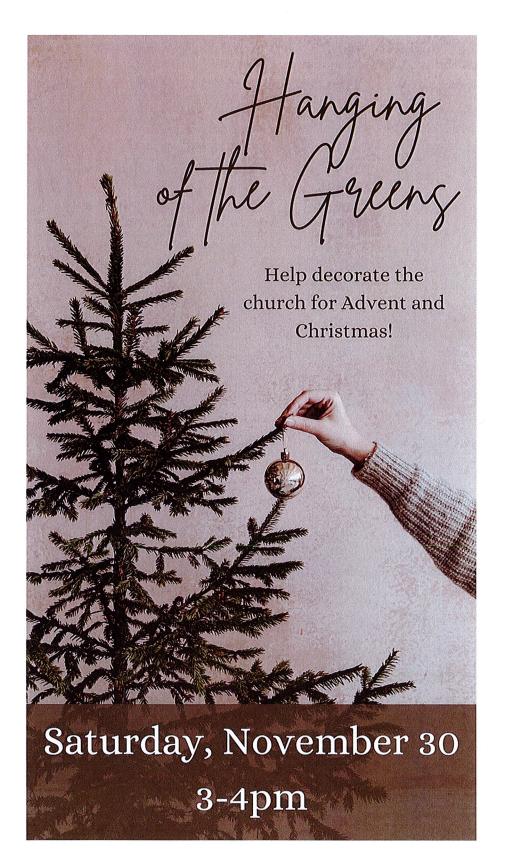


Bob Harrison is leading a study on the book "Lies we believe about God" on Sunday mornings at 11:00 am and Sunday evenings @ 7:00 pm via zoom.

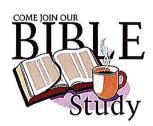
Visitors, listeners and newcomers are always welcome.
Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82301584642?pwd=

THQ4Rmc2WExJemFoRGhvWWNHYUJrQT09

Meeting ID: 823 0158 4642 Passcode: 103951



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. Newcomers are always welcome!





LUMC's rotation week for North Star Family Services is Sunday, November 10th - Friday, November 16th.

All of the days for a meal have been filled! Thank you very much to all who volunteered to provide a meal!

One more volunteer is needed on Tuesday, November 12th to help with activities for the children at 6:30 p.m.

LUMC is filling a Christmas stocking for each family member at North Star Family Services. The stockings

will be delivered just before Christmas. If you would like to help with this mission, please contact Julie Haven

havenju@verizon.net or 978-847-7225 or see Julie in person after Sunday worship service.

Your help and support is truly appreciated!



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.

Infant and Toddler Room Re-Opening

Dear friends,

We have wonderful news to share - our infant and toddler school room is re-opening! We are so excited to welcome our littlest learners back into this special space.

To help make our classroom cozy and enriching, we are in need of a few key items:

- -Infant and toddler board books
- -A small bookshelf to display the books
- -Simple, safe musical instruments like rattles, bells, and drums -Natural fiber or fabric baskets for storage and play.

If you are able to donate any of these items, we would be so grateful. Your generous donations will make a big difference in creating a nurturing environment for our youngest members. You can drop them off at the back of the church prior to worship on Sunday.

Please let me know if you have any questions. We can't wait to see the room come alive again with the sounds of little ones learning and growing.

Thank you for your support of our faith community.

Warmly,

Katie Quigley Mellor (mom to Owen and Riley)





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



November 3 Tessa Rafuse November 5 Janice Swenor November 8 Mernan Nomishan November 9 Diana Panageotes November 9 Becky Keller November 9 Charlotte Funk November 11 Jim Bisson November 12 Liz Nomishan November 12 Barbara Peterson November 15 Isaac Abakah

November 19 Mel Hutchins November 27 Stella Turnquist November 29 Kathy Guillemette



There are no anniversaries listed this month. If you have an anniversary that we have not honored, please contact Jamie Filteau to get your anniversary and/or birthday added to the calendar.

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 *Nancy Erb on hospice
*Praise for Becky's pregnancy

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) *Praise for Bob & Jean Wylie's new great

grandson *Healing for Carol (Belinda's daughter in law)

*Healing for Carol with liver cancer (Mel)

*Dulcie Kabia for speed recovery from a stroke while visiting Sri Lanka (Mel)

Those who are grieving...

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 *Family of Bob Barclay

Our World...

All Nations and people affected by war All affected by natural disasters
All affected by violence in its many forms *Victims of recent hurricanes

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.

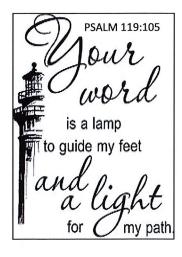
If you have a concern you would like added, please fill out a pink prayer card & place it in the offering plate.





For More Information:

PRAYER.....



What a powerful 'Holy Declaration' we say:

For the Word of God <u>in</u> Scripture – (it becomes the *Living Word* when we read it!)

For the Word of God <u>among</u> us – (its power grows as we gather together!!)

For the Word of God <u>within</u> us — (it moves us deeply when we *linger* in it awhile!!!)

Thanks be to God!!!

(Sing! Dance! Raise hands in Halleluiahs!)

Contemplate: In 2024, the Triune God actually <u>did</u> a work in you!

Did you notice? If so, how did you respond?

Or maybe you are surprised to be told this.

Do you want to explore this a little more?

Explore: This Declaration is also a heart prayer. It is powerful. Settle yourself in it:
 Say it slowly: Pause after each of the three statements.
 Now say it again, even more slowly, visual Jesus beside you, listening to you.
 Say it one more time, eyes closed - imprint each word in your mind.
 What did you feel.....see....hear....realize? Rest in that awhile.

REFLECT: The Triune God did indeed do a work in you this past year! Figuring it out:

- † Was there a **feeling** of Holy Love, a stirring in your life this past year? OR maybe you saw the Grace/Mercy of the Lord working in you, through you, around you?
- † Was there a **sacred whisper**, a beckoning that caused you to pause and wonder about the <u>Spirit's</u> leading? Perhaps you heard <u>Jesus</u> calling your name?!
- † Was there a "WOW" moment in a certain Scripture teaching/sermon/hymn? Was it so profound that it drew you closer to the Word? Are you **still** walking in that?
- † No clear answer? "Be still and know that I am God," (Ps 46:10a), Ask the Lord to speak

<u>The Challenge</u>: <u>Share God's response with your family this Thanksgiving!</u>
Let it serve as a blessing of *faith* -- *wonder* – hope!!

....CHALLENGE!