



# The LUMinary

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## Pastor's Corner

### The Fruits of the Spirit—Do you have them?

According to the Apostle Paul in his letter to the churches of Galatia, there are nine fruits of the Spirit; they are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). I wonder, in these days of deep division and an uncertain future for our nation and the world, if you too struggle to embody the fruits of the Spirit in your daily lives. While I am able, most of the time, to maintain a spirit of love, joy, peace, generosity, and faithfulness, I sometimes find myself struggling with the others. I struggle especially with patience for those who seem unwilling to learn and change and grow through their life experiences and at times with those who staunchly disagree with me. When my patience wains, I find myself also beginning to lack in the areas of kindness, gentleness, and self-control. When this happens, I try to take some deep breaths and re-center myself upon patience, kindness, gentleness, and self-control that God has shown my stubborn and sometimes unyielding heart through the years. Each day, for me, is a reminder of how God has borne the fruits of the Spirit toward me and in so doing has helped the seed of faith to grow in me. How are you doing at bearing the fruits of the Spirit in your life?

Blessings,

*Pastor Tiffany*

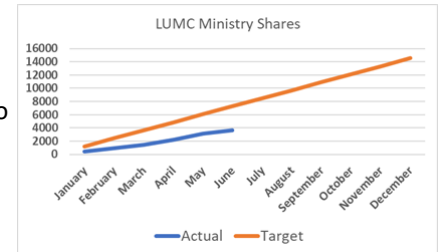
## Leadership Corner



Contact the church office or Pastor Tiffany directly, because we will be offering membership classes beginning soon!

## Finances

Our average monthly income for the first half of the year for the General Fund was \$12,666 and our average expenses were \$12,668. Thus far, we have been able to keep our expenses well below our monthly budget of \$13,747. In order to do this, we are running on a minimalist budget. We remain drastically behind on our attempt to meet our Ministry Shares obligation to the Michigan Conference. To date, we have sent \$3,661 which is 26% of our obligation of \$14,550.

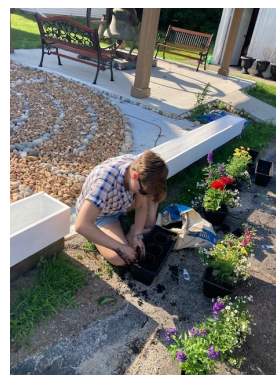


Thanks to our new partnership with Middlebury, we will be receiving \$500 per month in financial support along with a minor break in benefits expenses for pastors. Additionally, we will be receiving \$500 in equitable compensation (salary support for pastor) per month from our new district, the East Winds District. These two things will make up for the \$1,000 of equitable compensation we had been receiving per month since January 2023 from our previous district, the Mid-Michigan District.

We want to thank all of you who support our ministries through your time, talents, generosity, and witness!

## Trustees

Progress on the bell project and prayer garden will continue in phases throughout the summer, so be sure the check things out whenever you are in the neighborhood. Last month, planters were installed at the edge of the parking lot to protect the labyrinth from the plow truck this winter, and our Messy Church crew added some beautiful flowers to them! Plans are in place to add a lattice fence around the border and a large wooden cross. We also plan to use the old church sign (located by the ramp entrance) to display the memorial plaque along with a few other items.



## Worship and Fellowship Events

Below you will find a list of dates, sermon titles, and scripture lessons for the coming month.

### Coffee Hour Hosts:

Aug. 6: Pam Wagner/Ed Kemp  
Aug. 13: Second Sunday Breakfast— Martha West  
Aug. 20: Nancy Koerner  
Aug. 27: Tom & Sandy Turek

Aug. 6: Diana Carpenter will be preaching

Aug. 13 : *Searching for the Face of God: What are you Seeking?*

Second Sunday Breakfast 9:30 am

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 and Matthew 14:22-33

**Aug. 17: Messy Church 6:00-7:30 pm**

Aug. 20: *Searching for the Face of God: Is It Fair?*

Genesis 45:1-15 and Matthew 15:10-28

Aug. 27: *The Journey Begins: Who Do You Say that I Am?*

Exodus 1:8—2:10 and Matthew 16:13-20

## Service



Open 1:00-3:00 pm Mondays  
6:00-8:00 pm Thursdays  
Open to all Laingsburg residents



Recyclers have been very busy. Nearly 200 cars came the first two dates in June! To keep things running smoothly, more volunteers are needed. Please check their website for more info and to volunteer: [recyclelaingsburg.wixsite.com/mysite](http://recyclelaingsburg.wixsite.com/mysite)

### Summer Recycling Drives

**Aug 1 (Tues) 4pm-6pm**  
**Aug 12 (Sat) 9am-1pm**  
**Aug 15 (Tues) 4pm-6pm**  
**Aug 26 (Sat) 9am-1pm**

**Change for a Change for July** went to Looking Glass Community Outreach. Total received was \$237.



**Looking Glass Monthly Report.** We were able to help the following:

|       |  |               |
|-------|--|---------------|
| May:  | 2 homeless clients each with one week at the Lodge | \$ 700.00     |
|       | 3 clients with rent payments                       | 1,100.00      |
|       | 2 clients with utility payments                    | <u>526.74</u> |
|       | May total  | \$2,326.74    |
| June: | 1 homeless client with 2 weeks at the Lodge        | \$ 700.00     |
|       | 2 clients with rent payments                       | 700.00        |
|       | 1 client with partial payment for truck repairs    | <u>250.00</u> |
|       | June total   | \$1,650.00    |

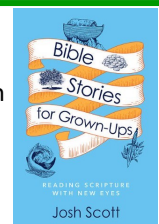
**Change for a Change for August** will go to the Laingsburg Ministerial Association. This money is used to help people in our community with monetary emergencies.

## NEW WORSHIP TIME

We are now a two-point charge with Middlebury UMC. Middlebury has changed their Sunday service time to 9:00 am and LUMC has changed our time to 10:30 am to allow Pastor Tiffany time to commute between the churches. Our Second Sunday Breakfast will move to 9:30 am. Pastor Tiffany will be here for the breakfasts.

## Discovery

Bible Study will resume on August 24 at 10:00 am.  
New study.



**Messy Church**  
**Thursday, August 17**  
**6:00-7:30 pm**  
**at McClintock Park Pavilion**