



The LUMinary

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“Brushstrokes”

As I sit at my desk, I find myself looking at two unframed canvases that I have hanging on my office wall. Many who have been in my office look at them and lovingly admire the artwork of my children. I usually laugh and say, “No, those were made by the members of this congregation.” We have a good laugh, but for a moment, I think back to when they were made several years ago.

Remember?

A few years back, I gave a sermon about what it would be like to paint like famous TV painter Bob Ross, painting freely and without concern for what would become of our brushstrokes. Mistakes could be made beautiful, and little lines could become majestic trees. But at some point, Bob Ross would just start with a brushstroke on a blank canvas, trusting that what would result would be beautiful. And so we did the same...literally.

Fast forward to 2018 as we are in the midst of new brushstrokes on new canvas. On May 6th, we determined that we were ready to begin the process toward ending something big (our mortgage) so that something new can begin. That day, nearly \$100,000 was raised, making a great deal of progress toward our goal.

Brushstroke

A couple of Sundays ago, I announced that the Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC, in case you like a good acronym) and I have been working with our District Superintendent and Bishop to develop a *Parish Relationship* with nearby Pittsburg United Methodist Church. This relationship (which you can find described more thoroughly in the Q&A included with this Newsletter) will mean expanded outreach possibilities, new and innovative ministries, and greater relationship with our brothers and sisters in Christ only 6 miles away.

Brushstroke

This summer, Laingsburg UMC is teaming up with St. Isidore Catholic Church to conduct a joint Vacation Bible School for children in our churches and community. This renewed relationship will provide an abundance of opportunities to expand our ministries and impact on this Laingsburg community.



Brushstroke

On Sunday, May 20th, 22 junior and senior high school youth came together at LUMC for the CORE Youth Group's annual “Can Food Scavenger Hunt” in order to support the ministry of the Laingsburg Area Food Bank. Together, the youth collected over 1,000 non-perishable items and nearly \$300.

Brushstroke

The stories of new brushstrokes could go on and on if only column inches were infinite. But for now, you can see what continues to be painted on what was once a blank canvas: Something beautiful!

*Look! I'm doing a new thing;
now it sprouts up; don't you recognize it?
I'm making a way in the desert,
paths in the wilderness.*

-Isaiah 43:19

Blessings and peace,

Pastor Brian



Words to remember:

-Always put off until tomorrow what you shouldn't do at all.

-Advice is like medicine—you have to take it to see if it does any good.

June Volunteers:

Coffee Hour:

- 3: Tom & Sandy Turek
- 10: Peggy Elkins/Jo Hollenbeck
- 17: Lois Hartwick/Jo Hollenbeck
- 24: Jean Austin/Cathy Chubb

Head Usher: The Sebenick Family

COMMITTEE CORNER

Trustees:

Please sign up for lawn mowing! We want to keep the church and parsonage yards looking good!

Missions:

Thank you to those who brought personal care items and clothing for the carnival workers. They are always so appreciative of that and the breakfast!

Stewardship Story:

As the Finance Committee has been doing a study with Pastor Brian for the past few months on a book called "Not Your Parent's Offering Plate," we have made several adjustments to the way we are treating and understanding our finances – all for the purpose of meeting our church's stewardship and ministry goals. One adjustment is that we will be offering a narrative report of our finances in each newsletter as opposed to just a chart full of numbers. Hopefully this will be beneficial to you.

April is officially in the books, and we had a good month in terms of the amount of ministry funds we've received through your giving. For all ministry expenses which include salaries, program costs, outreach, mission, apportionment giving, and even things like internet and Consumer's Energy, your giving amounted to \$13,154. This helped us make sure that things were paid for the month. In fact, it was more than enough for the month.

As far as things like the mortgage, facility upkeep, and insurances, April was also a good month. All totaled, \$4,615 was given, which means that we had more than enough to cover everything. Because there was ample giving in the New Building Fund (which goes toward that ever-diminishing mortgage), we're able to pay a little more on the mortgage over time. This is, of course, great news!

Going forward, some of our goals are to stay on top of our apportionment giving so as to remain a Spotlight Church. This giving is very important and meaningful as it allows us to participate in amazing missions locally, as well as globally. This, of course, is where your "Pink Envelope" offerings go on the last Sunday of each month.

And finally, even though May isn't quite over (at the time of writing this), the Finance Committee wants to extend its deepest thanks for the overwhelming generosity shown by so many in this congregation! Together, we will continue to do great things!



- 2: Matt & Lori Wagner
- 3: Abby Meder
- 3: Matt Wagner
- 5: Beverly Spooner
- 6: Ann Bates
- 9: Roger & Cheri Ramirez
- 13: Tom & Sandy Turek
- 14: Jeff & Jan Holyfield
- 21: Donna Wolfrom
- 27: Stacey Brewer
- 30: Jeff & Ruth Smith

Letters to God from Kids:

Dear God,

My mommy told me what you do. Who does it when you are on vacashun?



Summer Nachos & Ice Cream Social

Sunday, June 10 we will be celebrating and appreciating the teachers we adopted this year.

After the worship service, we will be having an all-you-can-eat nachos and ice cream bar. Please bring your favorite ice cream to share. Nachos and ice cream toppings will be furnished.

Plan to be here to enjoy the fellowship and thank the teachers for all they do!

Monday Morning Bible Study



Our Monday Morning Bible Study takes place in our Adult Christian Education classroom at 9:30 am every week. By journeying through the Scriptures in a small group style, we find that we are able to learn from one another, discuss how we're reading the Scriptures from our various perspectives, explore what the Scripture passages might be saying, and much more. This Bible Study is open to all adults! We provide coffee, comfortable seating, Scripture printouts, and CEB Bibles. Everyone is welcome to come and join us. Whether you feel like you have a good grasp on Scripture, or have never opened a Bible, this class is for you.

VBS

SPLASH-Beach Party!

Sunday, July 15 - Thursday, July 19
5:30-8:00 pm
Ages 5-5th Grade
at Laingsburg UMC



Come join us for Bible stories, crafts, activities/games and dinner!

This is a joint adventure between LUMC and St. Isidore.

Contact Pastor Brian at LUMC or Mary Stevens at St. Isidore for more information and a registration form.



June 10 will be Graduation Sunday at LUMC.

Please let the office know if you know someone affiliated with LUMC who is graduating.

We want to be sure they are recognized!





"THE CORE" YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Annual scavenger hunt for donations to Laingsburg-Area Food Bank yields hundreds of dollars and hundreds of edibles !

Hi everybody! Have you heard about the amazing work our kids did last weekend for the Laingsburg-Area Food Bank? Aren't they great?

On Sunday, May 20, more than 22 kids from several of the Laingsburg youth groups joined split into five teams and spread out around the greater Laingsburg area to collect nearly 1,000 individual food items and more than \$300 in donations for the food bank. Each team received points for the items and money they collected. The group as a whole earned enough total points for a pizza and ice cream party at a time TBD with those who participated! The winning team was decided by .45 points, with a last minute \$1 donation from Marty Divine. Most importantly, the students learned from Food Bank Publicity Coordinator Tricia Butch that you never know if the person next to you has had a meal in the last 24 hours. Places like the food bank can help those who need to put something on the table. She also added that the need for donations is very high right now.

We hope you enjoy some of the other pictures of the fun and learning!



**Join us at Potter Park Zoo
on Saturday, June 16.
Time to be announced**

**Family Ministries is planning a fun day
for all families at the zoo.**

**Save the date!
More information to come.**



**POSTAGE
STAMP
REQUIRED**

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