



The LUMinary

September 2016

Laingsburg United Methodist Church • Rev. Brian G. West • 210 N. Crum St • Laingsburg, MI 48848
517-651-5531 • Email: laingsburgumc@gmail.com • Website: www.laingsburgumc.org

In This Issue:

Pg. 1:

- From the Pastor's Pen
- Healthy Habit

Pg. 2:

- Birthdays & Anniversaries
- Did You Know?
- Committee Corner
- Chicken Dinner
- Letters to God

Pg. 3:

- Financial Peace University
- Pastor's Pen continued
- Children's Sunday School

Pg. 4:

- "Movie with the Pastor"

Inserts:

- Sept. Calendar
- What Are We Up To?

"Our New Bishop"

Friends,

I am pleased to share with you that, as of September 1st, newly elected United Methodist bishop, Bishop David Bard will be joining the Michigan Area as the bishop to both the Detroit and West Michigan Annual Conferences. Bishop Bard will be replacing Bishop Deborah Kieseey who is retiring after serving in Michigan for the past four years. While we will certainly miss the ministry and leadership of Bishop Kieseey, we look forward to the gifts and ministry that Bishop Bard will bring to the Michigan area.

While we hope to have Bishop Bard come to visit and preach here in Laingsburg on some future Sunday, please know that you are certainly invited to meet Bishop Bard sooner by attending any one of the upcoming gatherings that the conferences have arranged.

- Saturday, September 24, 2016: Waterford Central UMC at 10:30am

- Sunday, October 16, 2016: Kalamazoo First UMC at 3pm

- Sunday, October 23, 2016: Indian River UMC at 3pm

Furthermore, please take a moment to learn more about Bishop Bard with the information that we're adding to this article. We are sure that you will enjoy his ministry.

Pastor Brian

Bishop David Alan Bard was serving at First United Methodist Church in Duluth, Minnesota since 2005 prior to his election to the episcopacy on July 13, 2016. He has been in ministry for more than 30 years and served in many roles within both the Minnesota Annual Conference and the General Church. Bard was a General and Jurisdictional Conference delegate in 2000, 2004, 2008, and 2012. He was an episcopal nominee in both 2004 and 2008. "I feel a call in the sense that I have gifts that could be helpful to the church at this time as a bishop," said Bard, who was endorsed by the Minnesota Annual Conference and headed the 2016 General and Jurisdictional Conference delegation from Minnesota. "I have a good combination of relational

and strategic and visionary skills—and I have experience with the church across the world." Within the Minnesota Conference, Bard is chair of the Episcopacy Committee and the Higher Education Ministry Team, and he serves on the Board of Ordained Ministry and the Congregational Response Team. He's also the conference parliamentarian. He was a district superintendent from 1998 to 2005 and spent three years on the Commission on Religion and Race. Within the General Church, Bard serves on the Study on Ministry Commission, the Committee on Faith and Order, and the North Central Jurisdiction Committee on Episcopacy. He has also previously served on the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the Commission on General Conference, and the Commission on Theological Education. "Leadership matters," said Bard when asked what type of episcopal leader he wants to be. "I'd be very committed as a bishop to try to find good leaders for every congregation. I would also really like to help a conference identify what it's doing well and build on that—and from there look at places where they'd like to grow in new areas. I think it's important to ask churches to look at who they are and their community, and identify one or two things they could do differently that would make an impact."

Bard's leadership in the local church has resulted in growth for his congregation. First UMC has increased its membership by more than 10 percent over the past five years. During that period, the church started several outreach ministries—including a school mentoring program that a nearby community later modeled through a similar program that it began. "I want to meet people where they are," said Bard. "That would be true for me as a bishop as well. To hear where people are and to begin there matters." Those who have worked closely with Bard say he has extensive knowledge of the United Methodist Church, a deep and abiding faith, and a commitment to including all people and voices.

continued on page 3...



Healthy Habit for September

Wash your hands!





Did you know.....?

Did you know that LUMC has a History Committee that is alive and well? We will be sharing some interesting and amusing facts about our church in the months to come.



Did you know...?

The parsonage, which was built in 1866, became inadequate, and under Rev. L. H. Stevens a new parsonage was constructed (1910-1914). The old parsonage was moved to the next block (Church St.) and became known as the Margaret Scoutten house.

September Volunteers:

Coffee Hour:

4: Bart & Patty Kjolhede
11: Greg Hunt & Chris Phillips
18: Joel & Jeana Parker
25: Ken Plont

Head Usher:

Duane Ginther



COMMITTEE CORNER

Trustees:

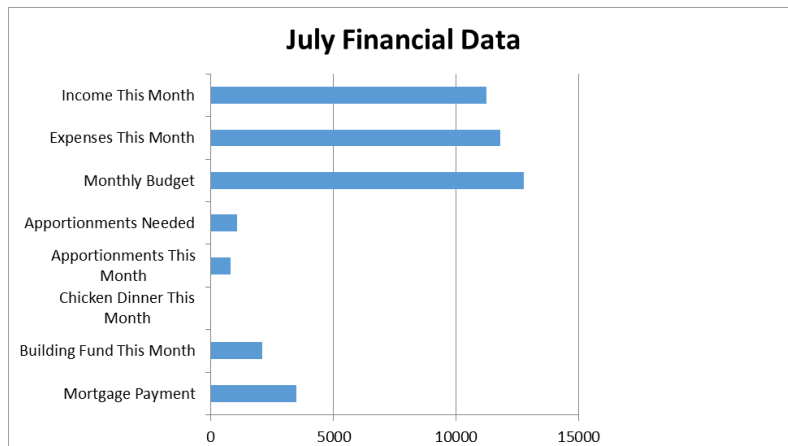
Please call the church office if you are willing to help with some odd jobs around the church. We also have a sign-up sheet for mowing the lawn. It needs to be mowed weekly. Thank you to those who have been mowing! **We need mowers for September.** If you would be willing to help, please call the church office or sign up on the sheet at the Welcome Center.

SPRC:

The Staff Parish Relations Committee is busy getting our paperwork ready for our Church Conference on September 25. We have several forms that the District Superintendent needs before he comes for the meeting. We meet with the D.S. before the Conference to go over the forms with him.

Finance:

Each month we will be sharing a graph of the previous completed monthly report of our financial standing for that month.



CHURCH CONFERENCE

Our Annual Church Conference will be held on Sunday, September 25 at 2:00 pm. This is a time when our new District Superintendent gets to hear all the great things that we are doing here at Laingsburg United Methodist Church. Let's all come and show him how much we love our church!



1: Carl George
1: Gloria Vanderhoof
2: Norma Davis
4: Roger Curtis
4: Greg Hunt
6: Diana Lett
9: Lori Hart
13: Edul Hunt Walsh
16: Tom & Stacey Brewer
16: Judy Blackledge
18: Dave & Jessie Sebenick
19: Bethany Potter
19: Shirley Smith
22: Wendy Venier
27: Chris Phillips
28: Skye Davis
28: Georgia Hill

Letters to God from Kids:

Of all the people who work for you, I like Peter and John the best.

Chicken Dinner
NO dinner in September.
Next dinner will be
October 1.



We will be offering Financial Peace University beginning on Wednesday, September 7, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. with a free preview session.

If you decide that FPU is the right program for you, you can sign up for the class at that time and order your FPU kit which includes a workbook, Dave Ramsey's Complete Guide to Money, an envelope system and an audio CD library. Participants will also have access to budgeting forms and MP3s of all the lessons.

To learn more about the program, visit www.daveramsey.com or contact the Laingsburg UMC office.

The nine-week course provides families and individuals with practical tools to gain control of their finances and set themselves up for long-term financial success. The course meets once a week where a different lesson is taught by Dave on DVD followed by a small-group discussion. Lessons include budgeting, relationships and money, getting out of debt, saving for emergencies and investing.

Since its inception in 1994, FPU has helped more than 1.5 million families positively change their financial future. Through common-sense principles and small-group accountability, FPU gives people the tools they need to change their behavior and succeed financially. On average, families who complete FPU pay off \$5,300 and save \$2,700 in the first 90 days. Following the class, nearly 94 percent of those families budget regularly.

"FPU will not only transform the way you handle money, but also your marriage and other areas of your life," says Ramsey. "This isn't a boring financial class. We make learning about money fun and easy to understand so people in every situation can benefit from the information."

Ramsey knows first-hand the pain that financial stress can cause. After creating a net worth of more than a million dollars by age 26, he quickly lost it all. Since then Ramsey has helped families and individuals across the country learn how to get control of their finances and avoid debt so they don't have to experience the same pain he did.

Children's Sunday School

Our Children's Sunday School will have "Kick Off Sunday" on September 11 with a "Sunday School Showcase" after the worship service. Come for popcorn and to see what we will be doing this year plus other activities.

Regular Sunday School class will begin on Sunday, September 18 at 9:00 am.



Pastor's Pen continued...

"David has a big heart for people, for the church, and for the mission of the United Methodist Church to be a church of open hearts, open minds, and open doors," said Rev. Cindy Gregorson, director of connectional ministries for the Minnesota Conference. "His faith is always evident in what he's doing and how he's leading. He has great integrity and intentionality." Gregorson, who served on the Cabinet and the Board of Ordained Ministry with Bard, said he is an excellent listener and someone who seeks out a variety of perspectives. Additionally, he has strong people skills and a proven ability to help those with different perspectives find common ground.

"He can help people move forward together, and that's needed at this time in the church," she said. Rev. Woojae Im, a clergy member of the 2016 Minnesota Conference delegation and the pastor of Osseo United Methodist Church, echoed that sentiment. "He really tries hard to include everyone and make sure that even small voices can be heard," said Im. "He's a strong facilitator—and he's very devoted to our denomination." Faye Christensen, a lay member of the 2016 Minnesota Conference delegation, has known Bard for more than a decade. She told members of the 2015 conference session that Bard has "a deep and abiding spiritual foundation and love for God" and "a strong desire to see the church minister to all people with acts of compassion and justice." Christensen called Bard a "reconciler" and said he helps people think through issues and explore how people on the periphery will be impacted. "He's the best person to lead the church into the future," she said. "He knows our history, and he's so astute at looking toward the future and helping people understand how they can come together for the betterment of everybody and the glory of God." Bard acknowledged that this is both an exciting and challenging time to be in ministry within the United Methodist Church, and he welcomes the opportunity to help the church navigate the changes ahead. That includes finding a way forward around the issue of human sexuality.

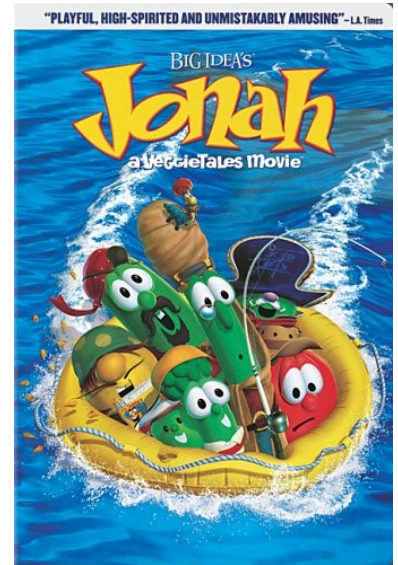


Bishop David Bard

"I am strongly committed to trying to help the church work through this together," said Bard, who was part of a conference team that developed a marriage study guide for all Minnesota churches. "At a time when our country is so fractured, if we are a model of working amid differences, the church can be a strong witness to the power of the gospel. The Methodist stream of the Christian tradition, the Wesleyan stream, has a lot to offer." Bishop Bard received a BA from the University of Minnesota, Duluth in 1981; his Master of Divinity was earned at United Theological Seminary, Twin Cities 1984; and in 1994 he received a Ph.D. from Southern Methodist University with a focus on Christian ethics. Bard has a wife, Julie, and three adult children. In his free time, he enjoys music, reading, baseball, and walking outside.

MOVIE WITH THE PASTOR
Saturday, September 3
11:00 am — 1:00 pm
at LUMC

This month we will be watching
“Jonah” a Veggie Tales Movie
followed by pizza lunch and discussion.
Grades K-5 are welcome, and the
whole event is free. Invite your friends.



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

LAINSBURG, MI 48848

210 N. CUM ST.

LAINSBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



POSTAGE
STAMP
REQUIRED

What are we up to?

This page will help us share the activities our church families are involved in. If you or your children have something you would like to share, please call or e-mail the church office by the 15th of the month.



We had a lot of fun hunting Pokémons and eating on the front lawn of the church.