

The First United Methodist Church of Lowell Tele-Christian ~ June 2019 Edition

The mission of the United Methodist Church is to
make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Words for the Journey.....

Over the past few weeks, many people have said to Cheryl and me something like, "I have never felt so close to my pastor before."

We are touched that we have formed such a bond together. We have enjoyed getting to know you over these past few years. You may spend your Sunday dinner talking about the pastor's sermon. Cheryl and I generally spend the time talking about the stories you have shared with us on a Sunday morning. We have loved hearing about you, your family and how God has worked in your life. It has been a good relationship.

The truth of the matter is that we have not felt this close to our congregation before. We are friends with many individuals from our previous congregations. But, as a whole, we have not felt this close to the entire group. We thank you for allowing us into your friendship space. A part of what has made our friendship bond so tight are some of the special times we have shared with you.

In our time together, we have celebrated with you in many ways. You came to our house when we hosted a party for Jeannie's graduation from Lowell High School in 2014. You cheered with us when she graduated from Asbury University last spring.

You celebrated with us as Shana was married last August. You allowed her husband, Brian, to give us a gift through the musical offering a few times. We all have enjoyed watching and hearing about The Perfect Grandson, Beau, as he has grown through our time together. It is hard to believe he will finish first grade this year.

Above all of this, you grieved with us as we unexpectedly and tragically lost our son, Luke, in October of 2014. No one saw that coming. You walked with us through the funeral services. You were patient with us through the months of grief which followed. You encouraged us to make the space for our own healing. You gave us words of encouragement and love when we were in the depths of loss. You were our friends when we felt like we lost everything.

We will always be grateful for this gift of friendship which you gave us. We have created a bond together that will not be easily broken. I give God the glory for the season we shared together.

Unfortunately, our season together is quickly coming to a close. I should remind you that as much as we have enjoyed being your pastoral family, after July 1, I am no longer your pastor. I can be your friend. I can't be your pastor. That means that you *can* send us emails or texts. You *can* send Facebook messages to Cheryl. You *may* send us cards and letters through the mail. If you are in Anderson or plan on passing close by, we would love to sit down with you. You *may* attend worship with us anytime you are in the area.

Please keep us informed about what you and your family members are doing. Tell us about graduations, weddings and births. Tell us about those who are moving or sick or who made you smile that day. Tell us how you have seen God at work in your life. Keep us updated. We want to hear. But, I *can't* be your pastor. I *can't* visit you in the hospital. I *can't* host your wedding or your funeral. We *can't* teach a study class. You have a new pastor for these types of services. We are your friends. I praise God for bringing us together.

I hope we stay in contact. I hope we share pictures and stories. I hope we can share a few meals. These are some of the things that friends do for one another. We hope we *can* remain as friends for a long time.

Pastor Rick

June Sermon and Scripture Schedule

June 2 ~ Communion Sunday

Scripture ~ Philippians 4:4-13

Sermon Title ~ *'Rejoice'*

June 9 ~

Scripture ~ 2 Kings 7:3-9

Sermon Title ~ *'Charge Complete'*

June 16 ~ Al Martin speaking, Father's Day

Scripture ~ Galatians 3:23-29

Sermon Title ~ *'Children of God'*

June 23 ~ Scott Spry speaking

Scripture ~ John 9:1-38

Sermon Title ~ *'A Vision of Faith'*

June 30 ~ Scott Spry speaking

Scripture ~ Hebrews 11:1-6

Sermon Title ~ *'Living By Faith'*



Worship News

Linda Hayden and Trudy Corning, Co-chairs

Summer is upon us and with that we return to the outdoors for worship!

Beginning Sunday, June 2, our 8:00 am church service will be held at Evergreen Park. Throughout the summer, we will continue to have two worship services at the same time as our current schedule; there will be **no** time change. So, during the months of June, July and August, 8:00 worship will be at Evergreen Park and 10:30 service will be held in our church Sanctuary. If you plan to attend worship in the park, dress casually and bring a lawn chair.

We look forward to worshipping with you this summer!

Below is a list of the members of the congregation who will be participating in various aspects of worship during the month of June:

June 2:

Greeters: Bev Johnson, Carol Olson, Trudy Corning, Garrett Corning

Ushers: 8:00: Lynn Bochart, Bob Savich 10:30: Elaine DeVine, Dennis Olson

Liturgist: 8:00: Peggy Hendricks 10:30: Betty Kelley **Children's Time:** Beth Bales

June 9:

Greeters: Linda Snell, Maryrose Lynch, Amy Nichols, Virginia Kasparian, Mike & Nicole Hayden

Ushers: 8:00: Don Bales, Kathy Nelson 10:30: Sharon Sanders, Tom Stoner,
Darin & Tammy Champanois

Liturgist: 8:00: Rick Bachman 10:30: Rick Bachman **Children's Time:** Nancy Lain

June 16:

Greeters: Bill and Linda Hayden, Gisela Peterson, Amy Nichols, Phyllis Moser, Carolyn Savich,
Travis and Amy Manier and family

Ushers: 8:00: Charlie Haberlin 10:30: David Perry, Scott Beier

Liturgist: 8:00: Lynne Haberlin 10:30: Bev Kussy **Children's Time:** Denise Smith

June 23:

Greeters: Anita Childress, Jenny Nichols, Peg Atherton, Nina Wilson, Dennis Olson

Ushers: 8:00: Bill Bubness, Luan Brown, Garrett Corning 10:30: Scott Spry, Ken Bisacchi

Liturgist: 8:00: Ellen Rosengard 10:30: Susan Wells **Children's Time:** Kathy Taylor

June 30: Greeters: UMW **Ushers:** UMW

Liturgist: 8:00: Deb Kelley 10:30: Kathy Taylor **Children's Time:** Deb Kelley



Thursday BRD4Life Dinner/Worship Service

Our mid-week service, Bread for Life, offers an informal experience that will nourish both your body and your spirit.

Dinner begins at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall and worship starts at 6:15.

Everyone is welcome! Bring a friend!

Below are the speakers, themes, and cooks for the month of June:

June 6 ~ Speaker: Scott Spry

Theme: *First Drive-In Movie Opens in 1933*

Cook: Pot-Luck

Greeter: Sharon Sanders

June 13 ~ Speaker: Susan Wells

Theme: *First Roller Coaster Opened in 1884*

Cook: Carol Goodrich

Greeter: Ellen Rosengard

June 20 ~ **NO BREAD FOR LIFE THIS WEEK—VBS WEEK

June 27 ~ Speaker: Peggy Hendricks

Theme: *Helen Keller born in 1880*

Cook: Susan Wells and Jenny Nichols

Greeter: Kevin Corie



Message from the Staff-Parish Committee

Proverbs 3: 5-6: Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

As most of you know the Bishop has appointed a new pastor to the Lowell United Methodist Church. His name is Pastor Mark Berg. Pastor Mark and his wife Lori will be with us starting the first of July.

Mark Berg was born in Lafayette and moved to Dyer, IN when he was two. His father was a United Methodist pastor who served in Dyer for 22 years. Mark grew up in the region and graduated from Lake Central High School. God called Mark into ministry starting at age 5. He finally answered the call when he was in college. He has served 6 churches in his 31 years of full-time ministry and comes to us from Stockwell United Methodist Church which is just south of Lafayette.

Pastor Mark has been married to his wife Lori for nearly 30 years, and they have 2 children—a daughter who is 28 and a son who is 25. They also have a 3-year-old grandson. Pastor Mark and Lori enjoy camping and hiking. Pastor Mark likes to fish and golf. His other hobby is genealogy. He looks forward to meeting the people and beginning his service here in Lowell.

So, dust off those name tags and be on the look-out for “meet and greet” opportunities in July to get to know Pastor Mark and Lori.



Nametag.....Nametag.....Nametag..... Got one? Know where it is?

When was the last time you wore your nametag? Wearing our nametags will be especially important to Pastor Mark and his wife Lori when they become part of our church family in July. Let’s all help make their transition to our church easier.... Wear your nametag, please!

If you are in need of a new nametag, see Kim in the office.



From the Music Committee

Last month brought the end of the season for several of our music groups: Godsbells, Chancel Choir and the SONshine Singers. We are thankful for all the individuals who work together to enhance our worship services with music.

The Praise Team will continue to meet throughout the summer months. You can hear them on the first Sunday of each month at the late (10:30) service. They will also lead worship at Bread4Life on June 7. We are always looking to add members!! If you are interested in joining this group, please see me or any member of our team.

Music Committee Chairperson,
Michelle Mishlove

Psalm 7:17 I will give thanks to the Lord because of His righteousness; I will sing the praises of the name of the Lord Most High.



Summer and Our Giving

Summer is on the way. For our church that means some of our dynamics shift and change. People are more likely to be away on vacation. Families are taking their kids to summer camps. We will probably see a decline in attendance at our church. On top of the softness in attendance, our church may see a small decline in giving over the summertime.

During the summer months, it's easy to forget what we've disciplined ourselves to do, even as faithful stewards. We're in a summer rhythm. Fortunately, year-round, nothing supports a faithful donor (and their church) quite like recurring giving.

As with most churches, we operate on a thin margin between our normal monthly giving and our expenses. As we have experienced, that margin goes away in the summer months. This could be a problem for our church because we are continually attempting to invest to get incredible ministries ready for a busy fall. And just at the moment we are looking for a few extra resources to move into building those Ministries; the cash flow just can't sustain those dreams.

Vacation or not, people know to make their car payments on time. In the same way, we should embrace how important consistent giving is to the life of the church.

The Finance Committee



Adult Education Opportunities

The Fishers of Men (or F.O.M.) discussion group will continue to meet on Sundays throughout the summer months of June, July and August at 9:15 AM in Room 301. Everyone is welcome. The two other Sunday adult classes, WINGS and FRIENDS, will be taking a summer break. These classes will resume in September.

CHURCH EVENTS



*You are invited to a
Farewell Potluck Luncheon
in honor of
Pastor Rick & Cheryl Jones
on
Sunday, June 9, 2019 at 12:00 pm
in the Fellowship Hall*



Pastor Rick and Cheryl's last Sunday is almost here! Please let us know you will be attending our celebration of their 6 years of service to our church. RSVP on the response sheet in the narthex, or call the office, as soon as possible. This is a potluck so bring a favorite casserole, salad, vegetable or dessert. Beverages will be provided. Some of Pastor Rick & Cheryl's family will be guests at the luncheon. Let's welcome them with our best culinary delights and Lowell Methodist hospitality!

The Staff Parish Committee



VBS is June 17 –June 21!!!

We are excited about this year's VBS theme: Roar - Life is Wild * God is Good.

Kids will go on an African adventure to explore God's goodness and celebrate a ferocious faith that powers them through this wild life. Time is drawing near so please help us by doing the following:

-Pray!!! Please continue to pray for the children who will be coming to VBS. Pray for the youth and adults who will be working with VBS. Pray that God prepares everyone to hear His message for us!

-Volunteer!!! We still have a few positions to fill and can use people of all ages. If you are interested in helping, please call Paige Corning at 696-9219.

-Help with creating the decorations!!! Come help create the decorations. Contact Kathy Taylor at 712-8080 or come to one of the workshops anytime on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3-7.

-Donate!!! Donation cards for needed items are in the Narthex. We also would like to borrow items like 5 gallon buckets, African material, plain brown, cream color, or off white sheets, large stuffed wild animals, a canvas tent - please label with your name to get your item(s) back.

-Register!!! Please register now! You can register online at: <https://vbspro.events/p/events/fumclowell>
Families who pre-register will receive a CD of the VBS music on the first night of VBS!



Summer Break for Martha's Coffee House

From Congregational Care

With the 8:00 service moving out to Evergreen Park, our time of refreshment in the church library on Sunday mornings will be closed for June, July and August. Those attending 9:15 Sunday School or the 10:30 service are reminded that coffee is always available at the coffee café at the south end of the Fellowship Hall.

Our sincere thanks to these persons who graciously served as hosts, or provided treats, during the last 9 months:

Amy Manier, Amy Nichols, Anita Childress, Barb Lindemer, Becky Crabb, Beth Bales, Betty Kelley, Bev Johnson, Bev Kussy, Candice Wallace, Charlene Grant, Cheryl Jones, Danah Dietz, Deb Kelley, Elaine DeVine, Ellen Rosengard, Ethel Devine, Gisela Peterson, Kathy Taylor, Linda Hayden, Lois O'Connor, Lynn Bochart, Lynne Haberlin, Nancy Lain, Paula Tilton, Phyllis Moser, Sandy & Stan Hurst, Sharon Sanders, Sue McQuiston, Trudy Corning and the Cedar Creek Health Center.

Most hosts served multiple times over the course of the 39 Sundays from September through May and that service & generosity is greatly appreciated. Martha's Coffee House will resume in September, and we invite others in the congregation to consider joining in this ministry of fellowship.



FYI...COLLEGE STUDENTS...FYI...TRADE SCHOOL STUDENTS...FYI...H.S. SENIORS

Lowell First United Methodist Church has student loans available through the Clara Pixley Trust. Clara Pixley, one of our own Lowell Methodists, set up a trust in her will back in the 1940's to loan money to students going to college or trade school.

Loans can be \$3,000 per year with a maximum of \$10,000 per student. You or your parents must be a member of our church. If you are interested, please contact Terry Donovan, Kirk McQuiston, or Lynn Bochart for details.



The family of Mark Randall Ruge would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to all those who helped us out during this very difficult time. We would like to thank Pastor Rick Jones for stepping in at the last minute and performing the service that allowed us to celebrate Mark's life. Thank you so much Pastor Rick. Also a huge shout out of thanks for all, those who organized, cooked, and served that afternoon at the VFW. Your kindness, organization, and amazing food was wonderful. There were so many compliments about what a beautiful celebration and the amazing food. It could not have happened if it wasn't for the generosity of so many people from the church. With our deepest appreciation, we thank you for all your help.

Mark Ruge's Family.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday - *Worship* ~ 8 a.m. (at Evergreen Park) and 10:30 a.m. (in Sanct.), *Adult Sunday School* ~ 9:15 F.O.M. (301)

Monday - A/A 12 p.m. (rm. 300), Guitar 6 p.m. (rm. 303)

Tuesday - Household Pantry 9-12 and 5-6 (1st and 3rd Tuesday)

Wednesday - Weight Watchers 6 p.m. (300), A/A - 8 p.m. (Fellowship Hall), Al/Anon - 8 p.m. (library)

Thursday - *BRD4life* dinner 5:30 p.m., Worship 6:15 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

June 2019

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1
2 Evergreen Park Service Starts	3 Tri-Kappa 6pm (basement) Staff/Parish 5:30pm	4 Household Pantry VBS decorating 3-7p.m. (303)	5 Praise Practice 7pm (sanctuary)	6 VBS decorating 3-7p.m. (303)	7 Alpha/Barbara May circle 1:30pm (library)	8 Set-up for dinner
9 Pastor Rick and Cheryl's going away dinner 12pm Piano Recital 4pm	10 Susanna Wesley Circle @ Ethel's house 1pm Organ Tuning 1pm	11 Trustees 6:30pm VBS decorating 3-7 p.m. (303)	12 UMW Executive meeting 4:30 p.m. (301) Finance 5:30 pm	13 Naomi Circle 1:30 p.m. (library) VBS Decorating 3-7 VBS Planning 5:30pm VBS Training 6pm	14	15 Decorate for VBS
16 Father's Day	17 VBS 6-8 P.M.....	18 Household Pantry VBS 6-8 P.M.....	19 VBS 6-8 P.M.....	20 Meadowbrook POA Meeting 4:30 pm (301) VBS 6-8 P.M.....	21 TELE-CHRISTIAN ARTICLES DUE VBS 6-8 P.M	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						