



## A Note From Pastor Julie

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*"And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance of every good deed."  
2 Corinthians 9:8*

Over the last year, I shared in sermons and conversation the various things I learned in seminary while training to be a pastor. Recently, I have shared that when it comes to evangelism, it is the Holy Spirit's job to convert hearts and it is our job to be faithful in sharing the good news with others. We need not feel like failures when someone does not accept Christ immediately through our words and actions. It is a process of planting seeds and nurturing them. We do not always get to see the harvest, but we still have to trust and have faith in God that we are helping to further God's Kingdom in this world.

Another concept in seminary that was continually being communicated is that God is everywhere. We are to look around us to see how God is at work even in the most unlikely of places. Recently, I went berry picking for the first time since I moved back to Michigan. When I was in Alaska, I used to pick each and every summer, many times well into the evenings since the sun was still out past 11:00 pm. I just needed to watch out for bears and muskox, especially if I was picking alone.

Berry picking for me is communing with God. While picking berries, I get to enjoy the great outdoors while being reminded of God's abundance, especially in years when the crops are indeed plentiful. God provides for our needs, including berries and other foods. Often while I'm picking for a while and decide that the time has come to stop, it seems that I always hit the mother lode of berries and feel I must continue picking! With this mindset, one could pick and pick and pick and never ever really be done!

Isn't that how it is with God's love and grace? Just when you think you have run out of love and grace for another person or even for yourself, God's love and grace are there in abundance, waiting for you to receive. God's love and grace are there for us no matter what. It is like a never ending patch of berries! God is indeed everywhere and in abundance!

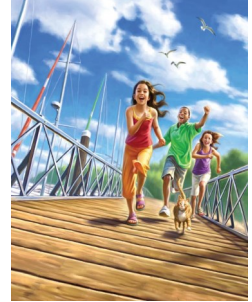
Rev. Julie Yoder Elmore

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## AUGUST EVENTS

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**Vacation Bible School**-Sunday through Thursday, August 3-7, 6:00-8:30 p.m. Ages 3 through Grade 8. Connect children with GOD'S Eternal Good News at VBS. Every child needs to hear the Good News that Jesus their Savior calls us, teaches us, keeps us safe, saves us, and provides all we need by His amazing grace through faith. At Gangway to Galilee VBS, you will connect children with the most important message of their lifetime: the miraculous story of what Jesus did for us what we could never do for ourselves. We appreciate your prayers for our Vacation Bible School. Ask God to bring children to our program so they can know and grow in Jesus, our Savior!



**Scottie Steele** will be giving a presentation during fellowship time on Sunday, August 10. He will be sharing with us about his experience in England earlier this summer while he was there for a class. Come hear and live vicariously through Scottie!!

**Sweet Corn Days** We are planning to make the ears of corn and candy corn crispy treats as we did last year. They went over extremely well!! This will be our signature item for (hopefully) future bake sales for this event. Anyone wishing to help make these delectable treats is invited to join us on Thursday evening, August 14 at 7:00 p.m. We will have sign-up sheets on the bulletin board for volunteers to help set-up the awning, tables and chairs; to work the two shifts both Friday and Saturday. The shifts are from 9:00 a.m. to noon, and noon to 3:00 p.m. or until sold out. Any items baked with nuts in them should be labeled as such, like wise anything sugar free, or gluten free.



We will need your baked goods at the Church Thursday evening or Friday morning at the bake sale tent by 9:00 a.m. We will also need volunteers to take down tent, tables, and chairs when all is done.

Proceeds from this event will go towards our "Imagine No Malaria" project. We will be having hand-outs explaining more about this project, with facts and our goals relating to benefiting those in need of education, treatment, and prevention of malaria in Africa. Our goal is to raise \$400.00 from this event to fulfill our monetary commitment for this year. If we make more than the goal, we will send that, as well.

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Our Missionary Paul Webster from Africa, will be visiting us in September.  
More on this in the September newsletter.

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## NEW DATE FOR BAPTISM

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All are invited to

**The Baptisms of Thomas Jones and Kaycee Jones**

Sunday, August 3, 11:00 am  
at Litchfield United Methodist Church

Come witness to God's mighty work in Thomas and Kaycee!!

# Spindle

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Several months ago, a conversation with a co-worker turned to his family tradition of spinning fibers into yarn. He was excited to know I could supply a wool fleece for home-spun yarn.



Typically, once the sheep are sheared in the spring, the wool is put into a large burlap bag and taken to a wool buyer. From the wool buyer, it is sent to a wool manufacturer for processing.

I did a little more digging into the 'how-to' of making wool into yarn. Seems there is revitalized interest in spinning your own fibers. It gives you the choice of adding a variety of colors to your project, or keeping the fibers as natural as possible. This old born again, long tradition is said to be very gratifying. Ah, but getting there plays an important role in the finished work.

*"God has given each of us the ability to do certain things well."* Romans 12:6

You have to prepare this raw wool by cleaning, carding and spinning before utilizing a fiber product to weave or knit.

There's the 'picking' through the wool to remove any unwanted materials, such as hay or straw. Cleaning is important and processed carefully and gently to stay as fibers. It must be washed in hot water at temperatures of 140F, then rinsed in cool water. It may require 2 or 3 washings to remove the lanolin and other impurities. Too much agitation could result in tangling and then felt (unusable for spinning)!

Still more preparation with 'carding' the wool. These tools used are similar to wire brushes. A back-and-forth motion over these 'combs' helps remove any remaining grit.

As rewarding as this is for many new traditionalists, there's still a few more steps for wool to become yarn. After the wool is cleaned, dried and fluffed, it is cut into strips called 'rovings'. These are then wound around large wooden spools for spinning.

*"If it seems slow, wait, for it will surely take place."* Habakkuk 2:3

Well, almost there to that spinning process. Those roves are now twisted through the Master's fingers into one long thread. The tasks are all do-able, yet time is needed for each and every step along the way. The Master spins, bonding the fibers together, creating a much more useful product from such a raw beginning.



*"I wait patiently for the Lord to help me, and he turned to me..."* Psalm 40:1

Sometimes we can be in any one or more processes of wool to yarn. We might be a single process for someone else learning/yearning to weave or be woven. We may be at the process that needs the Master's hand in preparing a fine fiber for further use. Whenever we seek the 'how-to' and process, know the Master's hand will lead.

*"And may you... understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long,  
how high, and how deep his love really is."* Ephesians 3:18-20

Blessed be the Spinner, Ron Giacobassi

Source: Jane Ann eHow contributor

# 5th SUNDAY OFFERING—Missionary Paul Webster

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Rev. Paul L. Webster, commissioned in 1992, is a missionary with the Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church serving at the Mujila Falls Agriculture Centre in Kanyama, Zambia. Paul's ministry as a rural economic development specialist serves the needs of poor, rural peoples in both countries. Each project promotes major programs in education, health, sustainable and appropriate agriculture, community development, evangelism, and church construction. The projects strive to address community social, economic and health problems holistically, thus empowering participants.



Please give generously on Sunday, August 31, for our special 5th Sunday offering.

## MONTHLY SCHEDULES

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### REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE

<b>August 3</b>	<b>August 10</b>	<b>August 17</b>	<b>August 24</b>	<b>August 31</b>
Laura Cierpilowski Sheila Gary	Ron & Velvet Giacobassi	Clara Dawson Ella Hamrick	Carl & Cheryl Sykes	Doris Blonde Eleanor Wildt

Plan to stay after our worship service every Sunday and join in for some good food and fellowship. Special thanks to those listed above who will be serving.

### LITURGY SCHEDULE

<b>August 3</b>	<b>August 10</b>	<b>August 17</b>	<b>August 24</b>	<b>August 31</b>
Valery Roberts	Brett Smith	Tim Chilson	Tom Beckner	Zach Hiser

Special thanks to those listed above who are willing to assist the pastor in Gathering Words and reading Scripture. You are appreciated.

# UPDATE ON SOUND SYSTEM

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## We're Making Progress toward a New Sound System

Following two worship services in July, Rev. Julie Yoder Elmore presented the plans for a new sound system that will positively affect the ministries of the Litchfield United Methodist Church. A PowerPoint presentation illustrated the needs, and good discussion followed. Those in attendance took a summary and pledge card home to pray about their involvement. Approximately \$18,000 is needed for the total package; however, the church can purchase equipment in phases, if necessary, as indicated below:



Phase 1 --	\$7,247.98
Phase 2 --	\$5,810.00
Phase 3 --	\$3,045.82
Labor Costs --	\$1,529.96
Total --	\$17,633.76

As of July 27, cash gifts and pledges total \$6,480 for the sound system project, which includes a generous grant from the George White Funeral Home. We have already achieved 37 percent of the goal which is an excellent beginning. We deeply appreciate your support.

For those who are still considering their involvement, please remember that we ask that gifts be made **above and beyond** our regular tithes and offerings, as the operations of our church must go forward, as well. Additional proposals will be delivered and information letters about the project will be mailed in August and September.

If you were not able to be in church to hear the presentations, please contact the church office at 542-3366 or email [umclitchfield@gmail.com](mailto:umclitchfield@gmail.com). We would be pleased to send the information to you.

Thank you for your continued prayers about this important project and the vibrant ministries under way at the Litchfield United Methodist Church.

## SAVE THE DATE

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Charge Conference is November 6!

This year's Charge Conference will be held Thursday, November 6, at 7:00 pm at Litchfield United Methodist Church. Our District Superintendent, Rev. Tamara Williams, will meet with the SPRC at 5:30 pm. The Nominations Committee will begin meeting soon to discern church leadership for 2015.

# FINANCIAL SYNOPSIS

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## LITCHFIELD UMC FINANCIAL SYNOPSIS – JUNE 2014

	<u>June 2014</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Income Toward Budget	\$ 6,449.80	\$ 55,272.28	\$ 100,500.00
Budgeted Expenses	<u>\$ 6,232.46</u>	<u>\$ 51,096.20</u>	<u>\$ 95,900.00</u>
Difference	\$ 217.34	\$ 4,176.08	\$ 4,600.00
Needed Monthly	\$ 8,375.00		
Designated Giving	\$ 6,887.41	\$ 13,921.48	
Ministry Shares Paid	\$ 719.00	\$ 6,196.00	\$ 11,114.00

## United Methodist Women

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Litchfield UMW will be hosting **Mission U Drive-In Day**, August 22, 2014.  
Information and registration form is below.

### REGISTRATION

#### **ALBION DISTRICT UMW MISSION U DAY, August 22, 2014**

Litchfield United Methodist Church, 160 Marshall St., Litchfield, MI 49252

Please join us for an uplifting, informative day provided to bring the information from Mission U to all who could not attend the three-day event. Please know that a one-day event can't bring the depth of information presented at Mission U, but you will hear about the social issues facing people with disabilities, have a spiritual growth moment to find—*How Is It with Your Soul?* Of course, there will also be great food prepared by the UMW group from Litchfield, books and cards to purchase, and a time for fellowship with other members. Please reply by August 18, 2014. Cost is \$10.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address : \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address if available: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to: **Linda Luce, 104 N. Fiske Rd., Coldwater, MI 49036 or call her at: (517) 278-8443**

## YOUTH GROUP

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As we look for new and exciting ways to reach out as a church to touch as many lives as possible, we've also decided to reach out in a way that has been done before. With the help of Pastor Julie, and Becca Roberts, we have "resurrected" the LUMC Youth Group! We have only met twice before we came to our VBS Break, however, both of those nights were very fun, and very God filled. Our first night we met at Marcia Ferry's house (Thank you Marcia!!) for a pool party with pizza for dinner! 8 students were moved to join us for opening night, and what a great turn out that was! After over an hour of swimming and fun, we gathered around the dinner table for ice-breaker conversations, and to discuss what everyone would like to see in and out of a youth group. As anticipated, the youth decided that the fun level should stay way up! And of course we agreed...to a point!

The second meeting was to be held at the church, and so with no big treat to dangle to attract students, personally I was a little nervous for the second meeting. But as always, God pulled through! 8 students again! And the best part was that of those 8, we had 3 new students! Pastor Julie led the meeting that time around, as Becca and I prepared dinner for around the table. Ice-breaker games and a great lesson and worksheet, and we also had to take care of eggs! These first few weeks have been nothing short of exciting and fun.

Looking ahead. We will continue to meet on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays of each month. That is DIFFERENT from every other Sunday. The reason being is, we WILL meet on 5th Sundays, and then again on the 1st Sunday of the next month. Our 5th Sundays are special, however. We are doing "5th Sunday Fun Day." This is a Sunday youth meeting where we leave the church, leave Litchfield, and go out and have a great time. Whether that be a fun park, zoo, movies, or anything else we decide on. Of course, we will still talk about God! We actually have a fifth Sunday coming up in August! What a busy month.

**We as a youth group are currently looking for volunteers who would like to provide dinner for the youth.** Becca, Pastor Julie, and I agree that it is important to send the message of eating dinner as a group (and family of God), and to enjoy that dinner around a table where all can talk to one another, however with everyone's busy schedule, we can't always provide the healthiest of dinner options. I want to personally thank all of those who have offered a helping hand, supported us, and prayed for us. Over all, I believe things are going VERY well, and can only get better. If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to volunteer your time or talents, you can call or text (preferred) me at 517-212-5925, or pull me aside after a church service. Thanks for reading, and have a great day!

Zach Hiser

## REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR...

**In nursing homes and assisted living:** Elnora Beckner, Geri Bennett, Roscoe Corey, Willie Hinkle, Lorene Ladd, Hazel Rice, Edith Southworth, and Wes Sutton.

Garland Chapman	Rita Chilson
Dick Kaleida	Becky Cooper
Patty Johnson	Debbie Kurtz
Bambi Lambright	Jason Hill
Debbie Noakes	Heather Pitts
Mary McMillen	Pat Smith
Jean Sykes	

Pray for Paul Webster, our mission in Africa.  
Pray for Vacation Bible School.  
Pray for the crops that they would continue to grow.



## PASTOR ON VACATION

Pastor Julie will be on vacation in Montana from Monday, August 25 through Sunday, September 7. Heidi Rawson will preach on Sunday, August 31 and Don Lee will preach on Sunday, September 7. Pastor Mike Murray of the Litchfield Congregational Church will cover emergency pastoral care and funerals during this time. His phone number is 517-425-4773.

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Dennis McFarland and Annette Wendorf who were married at the Brooks Memorial Fountain in Marshall on Saturday, July 26!!  
May God bless your marriage!!



## “ANGELS ON WHEELS” MINISTRY

If you need a ride please contact any person below to arrange your transportation needs. Be mindful of your "Angels" time schedule, and if you can help with fuel expenses, your offer would be appreciated.

### Local Trips (15 miles)

Eleanor Wildt	517-542-3498
Barbara Hooey	517-877-2087
Brett Smith	517-793-1023
Tom/Marge Beckner	517-542-3705
Ella Hamrick	517-499-0382
Clara Dawson	517-542-3497
Marcia Ferry	517-542-3992
Mike/Carol Ireland	517-849-2266

### Local & Out-of-Area Trips (over 15 miles)

Tom/Marge Beckner	517-542-3705
Brett Smith	517-793-1023
Marcia Ferry	517-542-3992







# AUGUST 2014

L-Litchfield Q-Quincy



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Please check the weekly bulletins for changes & updates			If your birthday or anniversary is missing, please call the church office with your information.		1	2 Q Memorial Service
3 9 am Q Worship 10:30 am Q S.S. 9:45 L Adult S.S. 11 am L Worship (Commissioning VBS) 6 pm L VBS	4 6 am L Prayer Time 3 pm L- Knit & Craft 6 pm L VBS	5 10 am L Bible Study 6 pm L VBS	6 9:30 am Q Bible Study 6 pm L VBS	7 1:30 pm Q Quilters 3:30 pm Q Prayer 6 pm L VBS Closing	8 Q Rummage Sale	9 Q Rummage Sale
10 9 am Q Worship 10:30 am Q S.S. 9:45 L Adult S.S. 11 am L Worship	11 6 am L Prayer Time 3 pm L Knit & Craft 5:30 pm L Boy Scouts 6 pm Q Church Picnic 7 pm Bible Study	12 10 am L Bible Study 6 pm L Trustees 7 pm L Outreach	13 9:30 am Q Bible Study	14 1:30 pm Q Quilters 3:30 pm Q Prayer	15  L- Sweet Corn Days	16  L-Sweet Corn Days
17 9 am Q Worship 10:30 am Q S.S. 9:45 L Adult S.S. 11 am L Worship	18 6 am L Prayer Time 3 pm L Knit & Craft 5:30 pm L Boy Scouts 7 pm Bible Study	19 10 am L Bible Study 7 pm Q Trustees 7:30 pm Q Ad Council	20 9:30 am Q Bible Study 6 pm L Finance 7 pm L Ad. Council	21 1:30 pm Q Quilters 3:30 pm Q Prayer	22 9 am L UMW Mission U Drive-In Day @ LUMC	23
24/31 9 am Q Worship 10:30 am Q S.S. 9:45 L Adult S.S. 11 am L Worship 24-7 pm HARCC @ Montgomery UMC	25 6 am L Prayer Time 3 pm L Knit & Craft 5:30 pm L Boy Scouts 7 pm L Bible Study	26 10 am L Bible Study	27 9:30 am Q Bible Study	28	29	30

## August Birthdays

- |                      |                             |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1-Courtney Blonde    | 20-Joyce Pitts              |
| 1-Sharon Thompson    | 23-Leslie Dickinson         |
| 7-Willie Hinkle      | 26-Edith Southworth         |
| 8-Ken Hamilton       | 29-Pat Smith                |
| 19-Rev. David Elmore | 31-Andrew & Joseph Dornbush |
| 19-Dick Kaleida      |                             |

## Anniversaries

- 4-David & Julie Elmore
- 5-Matt & Shari Blonde
- 6-Glenn & Betty Hackworth
- 9-Dick & Dot Barker
- 10-Ron & Cathy Crater
- 17-Carl & Cheryl Sykes
- 25-Ron & Velvet Giacobassi
- 25-John & Ruth Pinter



**LITCHFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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Litchfield, MI 49252**

**517-542-3366**

**E-mail: [umclitchfield@gmail.com](mailto:umclitchfield@gmail.com)**

**Website: [umclitchfield.org](http://umclitchfield.org)**

**Find us on Facebook: [facebook.com/litchfieldumc](https://www.facebook.com/litchfieldumc)**

**Pastor: Julie Yoder Elmore**

**E-Mail: [jyelmore@gmail.com](mailto:jyelmore@gmail.com)**

**Cell Number: (517)607-6977 (Text and Call Friendly)**

**517-542-3775 (Parsonage)**

**Office Hours**

**M-W-TH 9:00-3:00**

**Food Pantry Hours**

**M and TH 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.**

**AUGUST NEWSLETTER**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 a.m.**

**WORSHIP 11:00 a.m.**

