



## A Note From Pastor Julie

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Fall is here in full force and what a beautiful one it is! Fall has increasingly become one of my favorite seasons, particularly because I know what it is like to not have much of an autumn. When I lived in Nome, Alaska, it seemed that autumn lasted about a month before the snow started flying, if we were lucky!

Fall is a time when we get settled back into a routine and get excited about exploring something new. This Fall at Litchfield UMC, we are journeying together through a sermon series on Christian living. The sermon series is based on a book by Ben Witherington III called *A Shared Christian Life*. We will explore scriptures that speak to living together in community as the Body of Christ. We are meant to live in unity as Christians as we live out our call to love God and love neighbor. While many of us may do this well, there are always ways to improve as we go on to perfection.

I am looking forward to this journey and I hope you are, too! Let's journey together this Fall, as we go back to our roots and discover anew (or perhaps for the first time) how God intended for us to live in unity with our sisters and brothers in Christ through our worship, our fellowship, our learning, our serving, etc.

See you on Sunday!!

Pastor Julie Yoder Elmore



### Lunch with the Pastor ~ Sunday, November 9

Have you just begun attending Litchfield UMC over the last several months and want to know more about the life and ministries of Litchfield UMC?? Are you thinking about becoming a member of Litchfield UMC?? If you answered yes to one or both of these questions, do we have an invitation for you!

While enjoying a delicious lunch, those who are gathered will learn and discuss the history of the United Methodist Church, who we are as a denomination, what our local church is all about, and how our church continues to be a place to grow in faith in Jesus Christ. If you are interested in attending, please call or text Pastor Julie at 517-607-6977. Looking forward to seeing you there!

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# October Events

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## ◆ **Good Stuff Club**

After-School ministry returns in October!

For children in Kindergarten through sixth grade. Fall sessions are:

Wednesdays, October 8, 15, 22, 29—2:15-4:00 p.m.

Curriculum: Grow—Proclaim—Serve

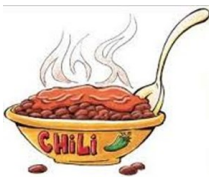
Volunteers are needed. Please contact Pastor Julie, Cheryl Sykes, or Marcia Ferry if you would like to help with this exciting ministry.

Good Stuff Kids will decorate pumpkins on October 22, for distribution around Litchfield.

Extra helpers will be needed. Come join in the decorating fun!



## ◆ **Chili Supper and Pie Auction**



Saturday, October 11, 2014, 5:00-7:00 p.m. (or until sold out.)

We invite you to come and enjoy some homemade chili, cornbread, dessert and beverage, and take home some wonderful home-baked pies and desserts.

Adults \$7.00, Children 5-10 \$3.00, Children 4 and under—FREE

Proceeds for this event will benefit our 2014 Christmas baskets for the community.

## ◆ **Angel Night is Coming Soon**

It's that time of year again to send some cheer, smiles, and fun memories of Halloween.

Angel Night 2014 is rapidly approaching. Needed are your creative and even non-creative gifts in helping our Good Stuff Club kids decorate pumpkins for distribution.

**Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2014**

**Where: LUMC Fellowship Hall**

**When: 2:40-3:40 p.m.**

Distribution of pumpkins will take place on Sunday, October 26. You can help by taking a few pumpkins to someone you know who can use a smile. Questions? See Ron Giacobassi.

## ◆ **Becky Cooper and Henry Sramak are Getting Married!**

Sunday, October 26, 2:00 p.m. at LUMC. A potluck reception to follow.

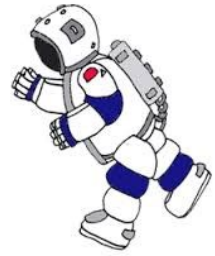
Please join them in this special day!



# GRAVITY

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In mid–September, the news media reported that 3 astronauts, one American and two Russians, returned from the International Space Station. They were in a weightless state for 5 1/2 months. Return footage to Earth showed them being carried by many personnel as they re-adapted to the earth’s pull on their body mass.



Our body mass is the same in space as on earth. It’s the earth’s gravitational pull that creates weight. More than five months of freely moving, but at a slightly different pace. Those guys will have to adjust slowly to regain a comfortable use of their legs. It will be a gradual building up of strength for mobility.

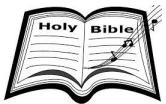
One can imagine the excitement in blasting into space! This can be a definite high point in their life. Plenty of new ideas to research, and scientific tasks to carry out all alone (almost). A real sense of being higher than those clouds. There is so much to accomplish.

Steve Swanson, the American astronaut said, “We had a lot of fun.” US News. The return photos show them smiling wide, but with (physical) assistance. Even as they drifted to a far away place, assistance was needed to return to this solid place.

*“If you seek God, you will find Him.” 1 Chronicles 28:9*

A few hands pulling together, offering help, rebuilding that body and soul.

How has your space travel been through summer? Exciting? Exhilarating? A far-away place travel, with a return to some unstable ground? If not a physical journey, maybe a spiritual lag? Is there a need to slowly reacclimate to an unseen gravitational force? Distance affects its gravitational force, since greater the distance, the lower the force. Wikipedia.



Have we drifted a bit too far? We had fun. A good thing at that, but now a sense of light-headedness. Is there a need to be connected and grounded? Let’s work our way back to strengthening our relationship with God.

*“I urge you dear friends, please listen carefully... for God has said, “I will never forsake you!”  
Hebrews 13:5a; 22*

Summer may be gone. Our time away from regular prayer and worship can gain new momentum and strength. Let that force, God, pull us back for even newer travels.

*And be sure of this: I am with you always.” Matthew 28:20*

Fall into His space!

Ron Giacobassi

# Charge Conference

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Charge Conference is Thursday, November 6, at 7:00 pm at Litchfield United Methodist Church. Our District Superintendent will meet with SPRC members of both churches at 5:30 pm. Come celebrate how God has been at work in our church and look ahead to how God may be working through us in 2015!! We will also be voting for those in leadership at Litchfield UMC for 2015. All are invited and welcome!!

# Pastor's Office Hours

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Beginning Monday, September 29, Pastor Julie will be changing her day off/sabbath to Mondays. This will allow her to go to ball games on Friday evenings in Quincy, Litchfield, and other communities where our students and community are involved. She will still hold office hours on Tuesdays and do visits, etc. on Thursdays.

# Monthly Refreshment and Liturgy Schedule

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## REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE

<b>October 5</b> Laura Cierpilowski Sheila Gary	<b>October 12</b> Betty Peiffer Janice Teller	<b>October 19</b> Ron & Velvet Giacobassi	<b>October 26</b> Clara Dawson Ella Hamrick	<b>November 2</b> Carl & Cheryl Sykes
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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>October 5</b> Tim Chilson	<b>October 12</b> Tom Beckner	<b>October 19</b> Zach Hiser	<b>October 26</b> Frank Hiser	<b>November 2</b> Cheryl Sykes
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Special thanks to those listed above who are willing to assist the pastor in Gathering Words and reading Scripture.  
You are appreciated.

# Reaching Out Into the Litchfield Community

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For several months, the Nurture and Witness Teams have been discussing new ways for the Litchfield United Methodist Church to reach out into our community. Our teams would like to launch two new ministries this fall that will show appreciation to some important people in our area.

First, we want to acknowledge the local farmers during the fall harvest season. We plan to pack a box of goodies that we can give them that could be shared with their workers. Included will be such items as apples, cookies, trail mix, candy, bottled water, and other products that wouldn't easily be broken. We believe this could be a special treat during the long days of harvest. The boxes will include notes that assure the recipients of our appreciation for their work and for our prayer support. About 10 young, local farmers have been identified to receive gift boxes toward the end of October. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board if you would like to contribute goodies to this effort. We also will shop for you if you prefer to give a monetary donation. We ask that all contributions be made by Sunday, October 19. Please see Marcia Ferry if you have questions or want to make a gift.



Second, we want to be a source of encouragement to the teachers and other school staff who serve the Litchfield Community Schools. In November, we want to extend a \$20 gift card to each of the 17 teachers for classroom materials. For the staff and superintendent, we will provide a gift of home-baked goodies. This year there are 10 new teachers in the local school, and we want to welcome them to our community. Including the 7 veteran teachers, we want all the teaching staff to know that we appreciate their work, and we care about the education our children are receiving. Are you able to "sponsor" a teacher or two? Would you like to provide baked goods for the other gifts? A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board, or you can see Cheryl Sykes.



Thank you for helping us to reach beyond the walls of our church to share Christ's love. May you receive many blessings for your generous efforts.

## LUMC Celebrates All-Saints Sunday

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All Saints Sunday is when the church commemorates all saints, known and unknown. We will observe All Saints Sunday, November 2, during morning worship and remember those who have passed away since last All Saints Sunday.

In reflecting on this list of "Saints," we will think about the lives they lived, how they influenced our lives with their love and godness, and how they taught us the importance of living in relationship with God and others.

Gene Blonde  
Pat Blonde  
Susan Campbell  
Verna Cooper

Bernard Crater  
Orville Hackworth  
Olin Hinkle

Margaret Ludlow  
Robert Mate  
Florence McVicker

Michael Miller, Sr.  
DeWayne Thomas  
Marion Wolfe

If you know of someone who passed away since last All Saints Day (November 3, 2014), and not on this list above, please contact Carolyn in the church office at 542-3366.

# Outreach Team News

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***Tell your friends and co-workers, invite your family, and let's make this a hearty and fun-filled event!!***

Our Chili Supper and Pie Auction have been rescheduled for Saturday, October 11, 2014, with serving from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. We will be serving some delicious chili, 3 types: Regular, Hot, and White Chili, along with cornbread and sheet cakes. We will have several varieties of cake for your choice, as dessert.



DeVere Noakes has graciously accepted our invitation to be our Auctioneer for this fun event. There are sign-up sheets on the bulletin board for help with chili ingredients (donations), and also for those who would like to bake or donate pies for this event. We also need some help with cooking, serving, and clean up. If you are able to contribute in any of these capacities, we would greatly appreciate the help!! Please see the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board.

If you are unable to help or attend, but still wish to contribute, monetary donations are welcome, as well, either towards the ingredients for this event or towards the Christmas baskets directly.

All the proceeds for this event will go towards Christmas baskets that we distribute throughout our community for those in need during this blessed season.

If you have any questions about this event, please do not hesitate to contact Sheila Gary through church or cell phone 517-877-2396.

Until next time,  
Sheila Gary, Chairperson-Outreach Team

## Winter Coat and Clothing Drive

Our winter coat drive the last three years has been a success and helped many people. So again, we would kindly request donations of clean, gently used, winter clothing or coats for children and adults. Donations may be dropped off in the knitting room. Thank you in advance for your contributions and help to meet this need.

Doesn't it warm your heart to help warm our brothers and sisters? Amen, indeed it does! What a better way to share the love of Christ than to show our caring in this way.

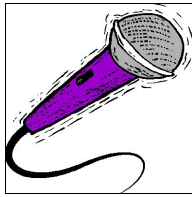


**Dollar General** will be collecting food for the food pantry during the month of October.

Plastic shopping bags are always needed in the food pantry. **Thank you** to all who volunteer and help in various ways throughout the week. It's a busy, busy place! If you think you might like to volunteer, contact Kathy Blonde at 542-3672.

## Update on Sound System

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We are making good progress toward the goal to purchase the much-needed, new sound and computer equipment. Each week, more gifts are received. As of September 24, \$12,260 has been contributed in cash plus \$730 in outstanding pledges. The projected cost for the total project is \$17,634.

We thank those who have already made a financial commitment. Through prayer and giving, we will help the Litchfield United Methodist Church provide the best ministry possible.

## Photo Opportunities for the 2015 Directory

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Litchfield United Methodist Church publishes a directory each year to keep those who are part of the church up to date on everyone's contact information. For the 2015 directory, we would like to include photos. Before all of our snowbirds leave for the winter, we have hired Becca Roberts to come and take individual photos. She will be at Litchfield UMC on October 12 & 19 following the morning services. If you are unable to be at church either of those Sundays, please submit your photo to Carolyn in the Litchfield UMC Office.



## United Methodist Women

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On September 21, 2014, the UMW held the worship service where many women took part. Thanks to all. We also took a special offering for "The Haven" and "In-as-Much House" for homeless men, women, and children. Offering total was \$154.28. Thank you!

October 22, 2014, our UMW meeting will be held at the church. Hostesses are Jean and Cheryl Sykes. Program will be World Thank Offering by Nancy Gaigne. Pantry item: hand soap. All ladies of the church are invited. We'd love to see you!

I would like to once again say thank you to all for helping out with food and help with funeral dinners when asked. It is appreciated.

Remember our Fall dinner which will be held on November 1, 2014, along with a Bazaar. You will hear more shortly.

Carol Ireland, President



# Reach Summit

Friday, October 17 & 18, 2014

Friday Night Worship - 6 to 8:30 pm

Saturday Workshops & Speaker - 8:00 am to 3:30 pm

Crown Plaza Lansing West

Cost is \$35 per person

Goal of this event: To equip United Methodist churches to REACH more people!

The Keynote Speaker is Debi Nixon who is on staff at the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection, a mega-church in Leawood, Kansas, whose senior pastor is Rev. Adam Hamilton. Nixon has a passion for the renewal of the church and trains people in that area.

There are five different workshop tracks to choose from. You choose two!

1. Reach IN – How to develop the most effective church systems.
2. Reach OUT – How to start a “2<sup>nd</sup> Service” to attract new people.
3. Reach ACROSS – How to reach more diverse people with your ministry.
4. Reach UP – How to reach unchurched people with new ministries.
5. Reach FORWARD – Exploring the Vital Church Initiative to grow your church.

After the Summit, you can continue learning throughout the year with a Reach Network Group!!!

This event is sponsored by the Michigan Area of the United Methodist Church.

Must sign up before October 14. Please call or text Pastor Julie at 517-607-6977 if you would like to go. For more information, go to [reachsummit.org](http://reachsummit.org).



# Poinsettias Fundraiser

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Christmas is just around the corner!! Really!

We are conducting our poinsettia fundraiser to benefit Vacation Bible School. Our plants are growing at C. Raker & Sons, right here in Litchfield.

These beautiful plants will make a wonderful addition to your holiday decorations and also make a great gift. We all have people on our giving list that we just don't know what to do for them...well, here is the perfect solution. Purchase a poinsettia, and they can enjoy it for the Christmas season and beyond!

In addition to traditional red, we have a variety of colors available, including pink, white, marble, blue, purple, fuchsia, and chameleon. The cost is \$15.00, and delivery will be the first part of December. Make checks payable to LUMC.

Please contact one of our sellers to lend your support to VBS, if they don't get to you first! Our sellers are: Pastor Julie, Jack Smith, Doug Thompson, Sharon Thompson, Ron Giacobassi, Carol Ireland, Ali Ferry, Scott Ferry, Cheryl Sykes, and Velvet Evans-Giacobassi. You may also contact Carolyn in the church office.

As in years past, you may also purchase a poinsettia in honor/memory of loved ones to bring beauty to the chancel area of the church at Christmastime. The cost for these is the same-please see order blank below.

Thanks for your support of this wonderful ministry. Orders must be received by Sunday, October 19.

----- Order From-----

*I would like to order # \_\_\_\_\_ poinsettia(s) at \$15.00 each.*

*My color choice is (please circle): red      pink      white      marble  
blue      purple      fuchsia      chameleon*

*Given by (your name) \_\_\_\_\_*

*In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_*

*In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_*

## Remember to pray for...

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

Debbie Kurtz  
Heather Pitts  
Bambi Lambright  
Mindy Zigler  
Jerry Garcia

Patty Johnson  
Randy Jones  
Dick Kaleida  
Monique Yoder  
Jeff Warren

Becky Cooper  
Jean Sykes  
Art Clark  
Dora Villarreal  
Ruth Hamilton

Jason Hill  
Garland Chapman  
Olivia Estep  
Betty Peiffer



Get into the prayer habit

Pray for Paul Webster, our missionary in Africa.  
Pray for all who live in places that are violent.  
Pray for all seeking to grow in faith.

## Thank You

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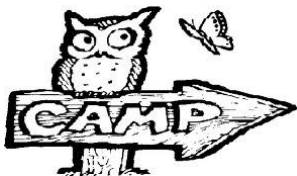
To the dear folks at LUMC:

Thank you for the gas money to get me to the wound clinic. It was greatly appreciated.

Lewis Leatherman

## Wesley Woods Update

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Wesley Woods Camp and Retreat Center needs our help! The momentum is growing as the churches mobilize to support the Wesley Woods Camp Dining Room expansion project. **To date, the camp has raised \$106,000, but we still need \$294,000** and time is ticking. Over the past three weeks we have had calls from local churches mobilizing to help. These are some of their comments.

- ◆ We are having a Pancake Breakfast with process going to the camp.
- ◆ We are having a church supper to raise some funds, we don't want campers to have to eat in the rain.
- ◆ Our church is talking about making a gift from our Mission budget. How much is needed? I would think if each church pledged \$1,000 we could easily make that goal before December.

**What can your church do to help?** This is one way we can stand strong and support an exciting ministry of Christ. The United Methodist Church is made up of many people, doing many things, in many areas, but when we come together with a common cause... God can use us in mighty ways! All of us together can make this goal a reality!

Would you consider making a gift to Wesley Woods for the dining room expansion? Every Gift helps.

Thank you! Your gift will touch the lives of thousands of campers and retreat guests.

Rev. George H. Ayoub, Executive Director of Camping Ministries

Brochures available in the Narthex.



# OCTOBER 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 6 am L Prayer Time 9:30 am Q Bible Study	2 1:30 pm Q Quilters 3:30 pm Q Prayer 6:30 pm Q Game Night	3	4
5 9 am Q Worship 10:30 am Q. S.S. 9:45 L Adult S.S. 11 am L Worship 5-7 pm L Youth Group	6 3 pm L Knit & Craft 5:30 pm L Boy Scouts 7 pm L Bible Study	7 10 am L Bible Study 6 pm L Trustees 7 pm L Outreach	8 6 am L Prayer Time 9:30 am Q Bible Study 2:15 pm L Good Stuff Club 7 pm L Nurture/Witness Mtg.	9 1:30 pm Q Quilters 3:30 pm Q Prayer	10	11 5-7 pm L Chili Supper and Pie Auction
12 9 am Q Worship 10:30 am Q. S.S. 9:45 L Adult S.S. 11 am L Worship	13 3 pm L Knit & Craft 5:30 pm L Boy Scouts 7 pm L Bible Study	14 10 am L Bible Study 7 pm Q Trustees 7:30 pm Q Ad. Council	15 6 am L Prayer Time 9:30 am Q Bible Study 2:15 pm L Good Stuff Club 6 pm L Finance 7 pm L Ad. Council	16 1:30 pm Q Quilters 3:30 pm Q Prayer	17	18
19 9 am Q Worship 10:30 am Q. S.S. 9:45 L Adult S.S. 11 am L Worship	20 3 pm L Knit & Craft 5:30 pm L Boy Scouts 7 pm L Bible Study	21 10 am L Bible Study	22 6 am L Prayer Time 9:30 am Q Bible Study 2:15 pm L Good Stuff Club 1 pm L UMW Mtg.	23 1:30 pm Q Quilters 3:30 pm Q Prayer	24	25
26 9 am Q Worship 10:30 am Q. S.S. 9:45 L Adult S.S. 11 am L Worship 6 pm HARCC Bd. Mtg. 7 pm Singpiration At Frontier UMC	27 3 pm L Knit & Craft 5:30 pm L Boy Scouts 7 pm L Bible Study	28 10 am L Bible Study	29 6 am L Prayer Time 2:15 pm L Good Stuff Club	30	31	<b>November 1</b> L-Annual Turkey Dinner 5-7 p.m.

### October Birthdays

1-Roy Hill	19-Stephanie White
2 Betty Peiffer	20-Matthew Brinks
4-Betty Hackworth	28-Quentin Blonde
5-Mildred Clark	30-Adam Finegan
5-Emily Roberts	31-Alex Roberts
11-Marlene Koons	
12-Linda Kay Wildt	
16-Nancy Gaige	

### Anniversaries

1-Dean and JoAnn Edwards  
11-Mark and Kathy Blonde  
18-Clif and Fran Wells  
19-Todd and Patty Johnson  
27-Mike and Linda Finegan





**LITCHFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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**517-542-3366**

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**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.**

**OCTOBER NEWSLETTER**

