

Lake Harbor's Harbor Light

Volume 24.7 July 2024



REFLECTIONS FROM PASTOR MARY IVANOV



July 1, 2023 begins my 11th year serving at LHUMC, and my 24th year in pastoral ministry. It's amazing to think that I've served as a pastor for half of my life (I'll turn 48 next month!). And I'm grateful that faith is a journey. I'm a different pastor than I was when I started at 24 years old. My faith has grown as I've had the privilege to walk with people in the happiest and most painful times of life. I've been challenged and changed - and I've become much more comfortable saying "I don't know."

As we've focused on the Beatitudes in our current worship series, I'm learning the power of the word "blessing" - and learning to reclaim it and think about it as God's steadfast presence with us. At the root of Jesus' blessings over the crowd is the deeply powerful truth that God is with us always. When we live in that truth, we really do feel blessed.

See you on Sunday, *Pastor Mary*

2024 Michigan Annual Conference

Fearless: Embracing a New Future

Lake Harbor UMC was well-represented in Traverse City! Thanks to our team (Pastor Mary Ivanov, Annette Erbes, Pastor Mark Erbes, Jason Colella, and Paul Powers) for being there on our behalf. You can watch a summary video at <https://vimeo.com/954492798>



Our next Muskegon Methodist Ministries (MMM) full gathering is Wed., July 31 at 6:00-8:00 p.m. at LHUMC. We'll share a meal and hear from two important leaders in our community who are working with unhoused families. If you're willing to help with the meal, please contact Pastor Mary.

Nicole D'Arcy, McKinney-Vento Liaison at Muskegon Public Schools

She works with students who are displaced, housing instable, and homeless seeking to provide every child quality meaningful educational instruction. She works to remove barriers for students and families who are experiencing housing instability, multiple housing transitions or homelessness while they search for permanent housing.

Kristy Smith, Executive Director of Family Promise of the Lakeshore

Family Promise has been serving homeless families in our area since 2009. The mission of Family Promise of the Lakeshore is to engage faith-based groups and the community at large to end homelessness — one family at a time. Goals include keeping families with children together in whatever shape or form that family takes, with compassion and without judgment, helping children and their families without a home find permanent, stable housing to end the emergency shelter cycle, and helping parents with life skills that enable them to keep permanent, stable housing for their children.

July Worship News by Karen Booth

July 7, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.: “Are We Blessed?”

Scripture: I Peter 4: 7-16

Focus verse: Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Synopsis: No one wants to suffer. We avoid discomfort and conflict at all costs, but the reality of living our faith is that we will encounter hardship and struggle because following Jesus goes against the expectations of the world. Even so, Jesus pronounces blessing and calls us to be joyful.

“Overcoming Apathy”

Jesus is/was anything but apathetic and as his followers, we should be passionate for the same things that made him passionate. So why do we struggle to care? Two resources will guide us: [Overcoming Apathy: Gospel Hope for Those Who Struggle to Care](#) by Uche Anizor and [Just Show Up: How Small Acts of Faithfulness Change Everything](#) by Drew Dyck.

July 14, 2024: “Who Cares? Why Bother?”

Scripture: I Thessalonians 5: 4-18

Synopsis: Fighting spiritual apathy means being awake to God. Reclaiming our passion for the Good News of the Gospel means caring, paying attention, wrestling with Scripture, and engaging in spiritual disciplines that draw us closer to God and others.

July 21, 2024: “Just Show Up!”

Scripture: Revelation 3: 1-6, 14-22; Hebrews 6: 9-12

Synopsis: Spiritual apathy isn’t a new challenge for the church, but we continue to hear the call to show up for one another as the Body of Christ and a community of faith. Remembering those who have shown up for us is a powerful reminder of how important it is to engage as followers (not bystanders) of Jesus.

July 28, 2024: “Living with Purpose”

Scripture: Romans 12: 1-13; I Timothy 4: 12

Synopsis: Having a purpose is a powerful motivator, and we’re told that each of us has God-given gifts to share that matter to God’s work in the world. Our HS Youth Mission will share how they used their gifts to serve others, and we’ll be encouraged to do the same.



Share the fruits of your labor! Feel free to provide a flower arrangement from your garden on Sunday mornings during the summer! Please let the office know if you plan to do this.

Looking Ahead: 2024 Worship Planning Retreat



Our annual worship planning retreat is coming up in September. You are invited to join worship team members on **Sunday, July 14 at 10:15 am** for a session of “Let’s Talk.” Grab a treat, and then meet a worship team member in the lounge – or outside – weather permitting. You can offer your sermon series ideas, questions, struggles, challenges, curiosities, desires, and interesting books, films (and even comics) by one of these other methods:

- Jot them down on paper and leave them in the Early Worship mailbox, outside the office.
- Send them via email to Karen Booth (kwbooth@comcast.net).
- Submit in in a Google form (Karen’s preferred method) at <https://forms.gle/qXzqVo8FrA3bFs658>.
- Talk directly to a worship team member.

Join them for a Monday meeting; call Karen Booth at 231-798-8431 or 231-557-1069 to confirm.

You will also have a chance to sign up for the retreat. It is open to anyone who is willing to read the background information, attend both days of the retreat, and pay the registration fee which covers supplies, four meals, snacks, and meeting space.



All-Church Worship Brainstorming - Mon., August 4, 2024

“Real Life, Real Faith” September 1-19, 2024 (5 weeks)

Location to be determined

6:00 pm Potluck Dinner, 7:00-9:30 pm Brainstorming for Worship

Join us at 6:00 pm for dinner. More information will be available in mid-July.

Joseph is one of the few biblical characters whose whole life is recorded in the bible. His story affirms that God loves us in all seasons of life and faith and is a good example of the lifelong journey of faith and spiritual maturity.

RSVPs are helpful but not mandatory. Sign up at church or contact the church office (213-798-2181 or Office@LakeHarborUMC.org) or Karen Booth (231-798-8431 or 231-557-1069 or kwbooth@comcast.net). Carpooling is encouraged, but not critical. Please read the scripture and message synopses and preview the videos before we gather if at all possible.



Fellowship Time is scheduled after worship services on specific Sundays of each month. We'll enjoy ice cream outside this summer as weather permits. Please sign up on the Welcome Center.

Worship Connections Team meetings are open to everyone. Karen Booth leads the Worship Connections Team which meets **most Mondays at 1:00 p.m.** at church. Please contact Karen (231-798-8431, 231-557-1069 or kwbooth@comcast.net) for more details. Vicki Zuker leads the Celebration Team. Please contact Vicki (231-759-8848 or zukerr@comcast.net) for more details.



“God gave us music that we might pray without words.”

You're invited to **share your gift in the music ministry** of Lake Harbor UMC.

Choir and Bells are off for the summer. You're invited to **write down your favorite hymns and songs** – either on the attendance pad or in an E-mail. We'll be using them for special music this summer.

PRAISE TEAM rehearses on **Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.** Contact Michael Boersma at 231-670-6467 if you're interested in joining them.

“Lord, Hear our Prayers...” *When you can't put your prayer into words, God hears your heart.*
“Prayer is a friendly conversation with the One we know loves us.” – St. Teresa of Avila

In My Father's House...

Boyd Arthur, passed away on June 2, 2024. Boyd is the husband of Barb Arthur.

Brad Block, passed away on June 2, 2024. Brad is the son of Esther and Tom Block, brother of Gayle and John Decker, and uncle of Stephanie and Dan Sroka and Megan Decker.

Larry Jorgenson, passed away on June 14, 2024. Larry is the husband of Bonnie and father of Nancy & Brian Colella, and grandpa to Hunter, Chase and Tanner Colella.

Our prayers and sympathy are with their families.

Blessings in Our Congregation

Congratulations to Jorge 'Jio' Rivera on his Holy Baptism on June 2, 2024.



Congratulations to Kasey Robbins for receiving the personal award for **Top Army Officer in the state of Michigan**. His **battalion earned the Hamilton Award**, which is named after founding father Alexander Hamilton. Units selected for the Hamilton Award are measured by mission accomplishment and overall excellence. It was presented by the United States Army Field Artillery School Commandant, Brig. Gen. Andrew Preston. The Hamilton Award is given to the "best" Field Artillery Battery across the Army National Guard.



Congratulations to Elizabeth (Miller) & Caleb Gordon- Kilgore on their wedding on June 23, 2024. May God bless their marriage and life together.



Take Note: Saturday Sisters, Women's Prayer Group, and Men's Bible Study (part of the group is pictured here) are on a break for the summer.



Our Prayer Chain is one way to be more intentional about praying for others. Contact the office at Office@LakeHarborUMC.org if you want to be included on the **E-mail Prayer Chain**.



A new session begins on Mon., Aug. 19. More information is at www.griefshare.org.

Please share this information with anyone who would benefit from grief support – whether the loss is recent or not.

For additional resources on grief, visit www.sytsemcompass.com. They have compiled a listing of local grief support resources.

INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT

July/August Upper Room devotionals (both small and large print) are available at church. **Devotional readings** are also **posted on our Facebook page** every day. This is great way to nurture your spiritual health! **You can access an audio recording of the Upper Room daily devotional at 1-877-600-7218.**

Tuesday morning Bible study meets at **10:00-11:30 a.m.** in the Lounge – and on Zoom. We're currently studying the Gospel of John. New members are always welcome!



Social Justice Issue: Celebration Worship chooses a **prayer focus each month** to raise awareness of **how our faith connects to important social issues**. We begin with prayer, and we're called to action. In July, our focus is **Caring for the incarcerated**. **Chaplain Danny Peeples** from Reach the Forgotten will join us in worship on Sun., July 7.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS...

July birthday blessings to our Sunday School friends:

Hannah Malseed	7/2	Mila Stefanich	7/13	Ben Fessenden	7/25
Tatum Dean	7/14	Isla Loomis	7/14	Emily Sroka	7/28





Camp Firelight was such a fun week! We have been blessed to meet some new kids, and nurture faith and friendships with kids we already know! A huge thank you to our Lake Harbor church family that has made this all possible. It is quite an undertaking to put on a week like this, and it happens because we have so many people who are generous with their time and talents!



More VBC photos on back page.



Bikes 'N Bubbles on Tues., July 23 from 6-7:30 pm. with the Norton Shores Police

Department. Bring your bike and ride the obstacle course, ride through bubbles, decorate your bike, check your helmet for a safe fit with Norton Shores police officers, at the Kid Safe trailer, get a 'tattoo', and a few other activities too! This is a free event. Invite your friends!

Summer Camp... There is still time to make your summer plans – including Christian camping! Follow the link to find great options for everyone, including family camping: www.graceoutside.org. **LHUMC offers scholarships for those who are attending Christian camps, and we want to support you!** If you have any questions, contact the office.



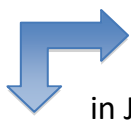
It's summer! We have already had a bonfire and s'mores as a group and soon we will be mini golfing, add some ice cream, and we're off to a great start!

Thank you to everyone who has helped get us ready for our mission trip - Prayer Partners, Stock Sale certificate holders, S'mores trail mix buyers, and just overall supportive folks. We welcome your prayers while we are at **Lake Michigan Camp in Pentwater, MI on July 14-20**. We'll be doing lots of projects around camp - building, clearing areas, maintaining paths, and maybe even some work on the disc golf course. Our **Sendoff** will be on **July 14**, watch bulletin for details. We'll share about our adventures in worship on **Sun., July 28**.

As of the writing of this we can still use a few people willing to help with some cooking/prepping of food before we go. We'll need lots of goodies and treats if you're interested in doing some baking. Please contact Jimmy Epplert if you could help in any of those areas.

Looking ahead...In August we will get to the beach and have that ice cream. Have a great summer! See you at the beach! PEACE AND LOVE JIMMY


Youth Director Jimmy Epplert's Contact Info: cell # (231) 750-9707, peaceandlovejimmy@gmail.com, Facebook = Jimmy Epplert **Jimmy is available** for meetings, hangouts, or small group gatherings.



Missions Corner: Missions Team meets every other month, and we're looking for passionate people to join us! Thank you for helping us serve others in Jesus' name. If you have questions or ideas, please contact the office or Jill McMahan at 231-343-5749 or jdcmmcmahon23@gmail.com.



Our June Noisy Offering is \$726.60 (as of 6/23) to support **Mission for Area People's Medical Fund** which supports providing limited financial assistance for emergency situations where no other funding sources are secured and referral services for individuals to other community resources. Thank you for your generous support!

 **Our July Noisy Offering** supports **Reach the Forgotten**. RTF believes in the redemption and restoration of inmates through Jesus Christ. As the largest jail-focused ministry in the U.S., RTF empowers chaplains and volunteers to share hope and salvation with the "forgotten" women and men incarcerated in Michigan's county jails.

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY total was \$585. Thank you for supporting our special Sundays!

Supper House: We serve on **Tues., July 2 at 3:00-5:00 p.m.** with a team of 6 people. **If you plan on serving, call Sheryl Thompson** at 231-286-7680 so we can plan accordingly.



Be not forgetful to entertaining strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. - Hebrews 13:2

Our next week to serve is July 14-20 – providing food items and delivering meals to the Day Center. Please sign up where you will help out at: [July Family Promise Sign-up](#) or contact Jill McMahan 231-343-5749 jdcmmcmahon23@gmail.com or Ruth Pyman 231-855-8825 ruthpyman@gmail.com



July MAP Food Pantry items: Tuna Fish and Bars of Soap

MAP Clothes Closet always needs **Men's clothes, housewares, and plastic shopping** bags. They can be left in the MAP box by the main doors in the sanctuary. We serve on **Tues., July 2**. If you're willing to help, call the Office at 231-798-2181.



Membership, Nurture & Outreach (M.N.O.) News: We welcome new members to this fun-loving group! Contact Sheryl Thompson at (231)563-6417 or Karen Post (231)733-2782.



Thanks to everyone who helped make the **80+ Luncheon** a success! Over 30 friends enjoyed a nice lunch and wonderful fellowship. Some friends drove in and took their lunch home, and for those who couldn't come in person and requested it, we delivered their lunch.



Thank you to all who helped with the **Vacation Bible Camp Hot Dog Roast** and to John Thompson, who roasted all the hotdogs. It was nice to see all the kids and families!






 **Lunch Bunch** meets on **Tues., July 9 at 12:00 p.m.** at **Driftwood Café**. Everyone is invited! Sign up on the Welcome Center. It's a great way to see friends and meet new people!

Photo Directories: It's never too late to submit or update your photo! Email it to Office@LakeHarborUMC.org. An updated Directory will be emailed out in mid- July.

 **Our Care Team** is taking July off but we are still caring for you. Next meeting will be Aug. 14

 If you're in the hospital or care facility, because of the privacy laws, we may not know that you are there. **Please have a family member or friend notify the office at 231-798-2181.**

Members on the move: Please update the office if you're moving or changing contact information.
Jen & Patrick Miles- 2622 Riverview Ave Apt 10 North Muskegon, MI 49445



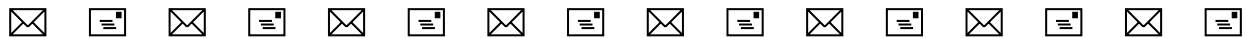
Thank you once again for allowing me to hold my **Piano Recital at Lake Harbor**. It is such a nice place for my recital and my students enjoy coming here every year. We appreciate the hospitality and look forward to many more recitals here. Thank you, **Kristin Avila** (Avila Piano Studio) Mark Rousell's daughter



Thank you so much for your generosity and rich history of supporting **Fresh Coast Alliance**. We could not serve those affected by incarceration and addiction without your partnership. We appreciate you! Thanks again! **Joy Sparks**, Executive Director

Dear MNO, Thank you for the **lovely 80+ luncheon**. Thank you for all you do for our church family.
Marie Kordecki

We are feeling very blessed to have such a **wonderful church family**. Thank you for all of the cards, calls, prayers and visits. Also thank you so much to everyone that helped with the service and luncheon. Much love, **Bonnie Jorgenson and Family**.



If you're on Facebook, make sure to CONNECT and SHARE what's going on:

- Lake Harbor United Methodist Church page (**livestream Sunday worship**)
- Lake Harbor UMC – closed group ○ Lake Harbor Youth Group – page
- LHUMC Children's Ministry – closed group



Please **"Check In"** on Facebook whether you worship in-person or on the livestream. You can also **leave positive reviews of the church on Facebook and Google**. These are great ways to share your faith and support our efforts to reach more people in our community. They also help people who are searching to get connected more quickly. We also have a **YouTube channel** (Lake Harbor UMC) where you can access all of our worship service recordings. Feel free to subscribe!

From our FINANCE Team:

Thank you for your faithful giving (in the offering plate, through the mail, and online) that makes it possible for us to support vital ministry and mission in our community and around the world! Our giving helps us to share the Good News of God's love through Vacation Bible School, mission trips, Christian camping, and more. Sometimes we never know the impact of our giving, but we trust God to bring the harvest as we plant the seeds. **At the end of May 2023**, our total income for General Fund was \$169,419 with expenses of \$164,772. Thank you for your generosity!

ONLINE*giving* Contributions can be debited automatically from your checking or savings account or processed using your credit card or debit card. Electronic giving offers convenience for you and much needed consistency in giving. You can set up your donations on our website or if you'd rather, stop by the church office for assistance.

To set up your electronic donation on our www.lakeharborumc.org:

- Click on "Give" button
- Click on "Create Profile" button
- Follow onscreen instructions.

Use this QR code to connect to online giving.



It's easy and stress free – and can help us to be more consistent in our giving, which blesses our church.

From our Trustees: We are always working to keep our building in good shape.

Gifts to our Preservation Fund, which we use for building needs, are always appreciated – whether planned or given anytime!



Take a look at the Memorial Garden! The waterfall is up and running, and everything is looking great! Our team is always looking for help! Thanks to Brian and Elyse Ihlenfeldt for their care of the garden. **An important note:** PLEASE refrain from planting anything in the Memorial Garden. There is a plan in place for our garden, which is overseen by our team.

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES



La Leche League, the breastfeeding group for parents, will meet at Danielle Bos' home (339 Houston) on **Tues., July 16 at 11:00 a.m.** Questions? Contact Mary Swisher at 231-777-3238 or text 231-215-4145.



Muskegon Area District Library has many special activities scheduled for the summer. For more details, visit www.MADL.org/calendar

Maranatha Summer Concerts are free and a great local opportunity to hear wonderful musicians! Learn more at summer-concert-series



Monday – Thursday 9:15 a.m.-3:15 p.m. beginning **June 3 through September 2.** The office is closed **Friday and Saturday.** The office phone is **231-798-2181.** If you leave a message on the weekend, **it will NOT be received until Monday.**

Office will be closed on **Thursday, July 4th.**

Sunday Servants:

Serving July 7 at 10:00 a.m.

Worship Leader: TBD

Computer: Luka Ivanov *Camera:* Derek Mertz

Sound: Rob Mertz *FB Host:* Ivan Ivanov

Counters: Ed Baranowski, Karen Hill

Serving July 14 at 9:00 a.m.:

Worship Leader: TBD

Ushers: Dave Stamy, Adam & Ruth Pyman, Mark Graves

Computer: Karen Booth *Camera:* Jean Kelly

Sound: David Booth *FB Host:* Ivan Ivanov

Counters: Cyndi Barefoot, Allen Winslow

Serving July 14 at 11:00 a.m.:

Worship Leader: Dirk Fuller

Greeters: John Thompson & John Colella

Computer: Jim Grace *Camera:* Julie Fuller

Sound: Karen Grace *FB Host:* Niki Epplert

Tear down: Laura Dean, Kelsey Boss

Serving July 21 at 9:00 a.m.:

Worship Leader: TBD

Ushers: Jim Post, Karen Post, Peggy Tully

Computer: Fred Yonkers *Camera:* Pat Yonkers

Sound: Ruth Pyman *FB Host:* Jill McMahon

Counters: Madonna Borgerding, Karen Hill

Serving July 21 at 11:00 a.m.:

Worship Leader: Brad Hilleary

Greeters: Jill Warren & Jill McMahon

Computer: Julie Fuller *Camera:* Jay McMahon

Sound: Arianna Davros *FB Host:* Ruth McPhail Ubaldo

Tear Down: Chris Beaudoin

Serving July 28 at 9:00 a.m.:

Worship Leader: TBD

Ushers: Fred & Pat Yonkers, Rod Moon, Kathy Mertz

Computer: Larry Kasmauski *Camera:* Lisa Kasmauski

Sound: Gary Cooper *FB Host:* Jen Cooper

Counters: Steve Hill, Mike Layman

Serving July 28 at 11:00 a.m.:

Worship Leader: Rose Emmons

Greeters: Jan Pascavis & Ruth McPhail Ubaldo

Computer: Brian Mosley *Camera:* Jason Colella

Sound: Pete Thompson *FB Host:* Michelle Frazier

Tear Down: Rose Emmons & G.L. Bates

THANK YOU



for making our worship services meaningful, memorable, and accessible!

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our vision is that all people may experience the love of Jesus.

Our call then, is Love: welcoming all, empowered by Christ, sent forth to serve.

Stay connected: United Methodist Church: www.umc.org Michigan Area UMC: <http://michiganumc.org>

Midwest District: <https://midwest.michiganumc.org/> Lake Harbor UMC: <http://lakeharborumc.org>

Lake Harbor United Methodist Church

4861 S. Henry St.
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2024

www.lakeharborumc.org

(231) 798-2181



2024 Camp Firelight VBC

