

Lake Harbor's

Harbor Light

Volume 24.10 October 2024



REFLECTIONS FROM PASTOR MARY IVANOV



Keeping connections is important. Whether it's family, friends, neighbors, or others in our lives, maintaining connections take work and intention. This year marks my 30th high school reunion, and I'm excited to reconnect with people I've known for a long time.

Keeping connection is important for the church too. We are connected to all Christians as the Body of Christ, and we have close connection with other United Methodists. This month, we have the opportunity to gather with United Methodist friends in Christ twice!

First, the **Western Waters District Conference** is **Sat., Oct. 19 from 10:00 a.m.-noon**, and we're hosting! The district conference includes celebrating mission and ministry of our district, which hugs the western coast from north of Traverse City down to Holland and reaches as far east as Cadillac down to Middleville. We'll also vote on the district budget for 2025 and elect district leaders.

Lake Harbor UMC Charge Conference

10/20/2024
AT WHITE LAKE UMC
MONTAGUE, MI

Gather with United Methodist friends from around Muskegon, join us for our annual business meeting, and celebrate mission and ministry at LHUMC.



3:00 pm Gathering Time
4:30 pm LHUMC Charge Conference

Then, we have the opportunity to gather with our Muskegon area United Methodists on **Sun., Oct. 20 at 3:00 p.m.** for our **Charge Conference** at White Lake UMC in Montague. This will include some time to talk together about how we can show Christ's love to our community, especially as we consider the need for affordable housing. We'll also vote on leaders for the coming year and care for other business of the church, including offering our continued support for a candidate for ordained ministry. I hope you'll join me there!

That means our **Lay Leadership Committee** is in the process of inviting people to serve in different ways. Your gifts and skills are vital to mission and ministry at

LHUMC, and they make a difference! If you're interested in serving, please reach out to me. **If you receive an invitation from our Lay Leadership, please prayerfully consider how you might serve.**

See you on Sunday, *Pastor Mary*

Are you interested in knowing more about **membership at LHUMC?**

Join Pastor Mary on **Tues., Oct. 8 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Lounge.

October Worship News by Karen Booth

“The Miracles of Jesus”

What do we learn from the miracles recorded in Scripture? What is their significance? Does our cultural bias keep us from seeing modern day miracles? As we focus on how we’re called to be faithful stewards of God’s gifts, we’ll be challenged by the message of God’s abundance in the miracles of Jesus.

October 6, 2024: “More than Full”

Scripture: John 2: 1-11

Synopsis: Miracles were part of Jesus’ ministry. Signs and wonders were a way by which people came to know that God’s power was real and for all people. How can we as stewards of God’s gifts reclaim God’s power to do what we don’t think can be done, bring hope and joy, and help us to put our trust in him?

October 13, 2024: “Standing Tall and Free”

Scripture: Luke 13: 10-17

Synopsis: Jesus’ concern for healing and helping in spite of expectations of others reflects God’s desire to bring freedom and hope for us. Our response is to witness to God’s power to bring new life.

October 20, 2024: “Life Right Now!”

Scripture: John 11: 1-44

Synopsis: Resurrection is a cornerstone of our faith, but it’s not without the reality of death and grief. In community, we become witnesses to the power of God to bring new life. How do we understand ourselves as stewards of Good News?

October 27, 2024: “Made for a Miracle”

Scripture: Mark 6: 30-44

Synopsis: The feeding of the big crowd is the only one that appears in all four Gospels, which means that it’s important and we need to pay close attention. There’s something to be said for what we can give, but even more about what Jesus can do with what we offer.

We’re invited to offer our Faith Commitments for 2025 in worship.



*We’ll celebrate All Saints Day as we remember loved ones who have passed away since November 1, 2023. If you have a loved one to be included, **please provide the name to the office by noon on Monday, October 28.** (Please don’t assume that we have anyone’s name.)*

All-Church Worship Brainstorming - “Gratitude”

Mon., Oct. 14 - 12:00 p.m. Potluck Lunch, **12:45-3:00 p.m.** Brainstorming for Worship

Join us in the church Lounge for lunch. Please bring a dish to share. RSVPs are helpful but not mandatory. Sign up at church or contact the church office (231-798-2181 or Office@LakeHarborUMC.org) . Please read the Scripture and message synopses and preview the videos before we gather if possible as we plan for November 2024 worship.

To the amazing Worship Planning Retreat crew:

Thanks for offering your time, energy, ideas, and willing spirits to do the work we accomplished together. It is an incredible blessing to have your input as we plan for the coming year. I know it makes our worship more meaningful and memorable because we plan in community. It’s a gift to me and our congregation. Thanks to everyone who helped to provide and plan for meals. I’m so grateful for each of you.

Grace and peace, *Pastor Mary*



Fellowship Time is outside while the weather cooperates after both worship services. Ice cream is provided, but we're always looking for servers. 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.



Our vocal choir has begun! We would love to have you join your voice when we lift our praises to God through song. **Rehearsals are Wed., Oct. 9 and Oct. 23 from 6:30-8:00 p.m.** in the sanctuary. We also rehearse on Sunday mornings when we sing from 8:15-8:45 a.m. We look forward to seeing new faces!

A special "thank you" to Michael Boersma for stepping in to lead the choir in September.

Hand Bells officially begin our fall & Advent session on **Sun., Oct. 6 at 6:00-7:30 p.m.** in the Music Room adjacent to the nursery. We always have room for more ringers, especially "big bell ringers." We are a fun group of "ding-a-lings." For more information, contact the church office (231) 798-2181.

PRAISE TEAM rehearses on **Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.** Contact the church office (213-798-2181) 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*

Our next Prayer Service is **Wed., Oct. 30 at 5:30 p.m.** in our sanctuary. This is intentional time to lift up our prayers to God and to pray for our congregation, community, and world – and to remember the words of Jesus: *where two or three are gathered in my name, I am with them.*

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**.

Prayer Requests are posted on the tower by the sign-in tables.

GriefShare® **Our current session meets** on **Mondays at 6:30 p.m.** in the Lounge. If you or someone you know would be helped by this ministry, please share with them. More information is at www.griefshare.org. **For additional resources on grief**, visit www.sytsemcompass.com. They have compiled a listing of local grief support resources.

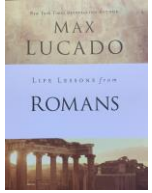
INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT

October Upper Room devotionals (both small and large print) are available at church. **Devotional readings are 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 studying the Gospel of John. New members are always welcome!



Men's Bible Study meets on **Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.** in the Library and are studying the book of Deuteronomy using a study guide written by Matthew H. Patton. Contact the church office (231)798-2181 for a copy of the study guide.



SATURDAY SISTERS 2.0 The Saturday Sisters bible study is MOVING! We now meet on **Wednesdays from 6:00-7:30 p.m.** at church in the Lounge. We are studying the book of Romans. Come join us for Scripture, sharing our faith, and always time for prayer. 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 **October**, our focus is **Addiction.**



CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS...

Sunday School has started! We had a great time with fun games while learning about the Bible, and now we're in our classrooms. Pre K- 8th grade are meeting downstairs. High School youth (grades 9th-12th) meet in the Youth Room upstairs. Friends are welcome!



At Lake Harbor, we want to ensure that our young people have their own Bible. We celebrated **Bible Sunday in September** and presented an age-friendly Bible to 3rd graders and a NIV Youth Study Bible to 7th graders and older youth. Thank you for making these important gifts possible as we pray for and nurture our young people in faith in Jesus Christ!



Mark your calendar for Halloween fun – **Sun., Oct. 27 from 3:30-5:00 p.m.** We want to fill our parking lot with funsters - young and young at heart! Kids will parade from trunk to trunk, getting goodies. We need people to bring your vehicle, decorate it for fall/Halloween - any kid-friendly way you want - and then watch all the happy kids parade through our parking lot! Decorations can be as simple or as elaborate as you want. Treats should be wrapped candy, toy type trinkets, pencils, etc. If you want to bring your vehicle, but need help passing out treats, we'll have extra hands ready. There will also be a 'Selfie-Spot' where families can take Autumn pictures. Spread the word about this fun, FREE event!

Lake Harbor Youth Groups

We meet on **Wednesdays: October 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30**
6th-8th grade meets at **6:00-7:00 p.m.** **9th-12th grade** meets at **7:00-8:00 p.m.**

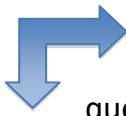


Sun., Oct. 27 - Trunk or Treat at the church, so come dressed up (not scary) and help us pass out candy to the community, or bring your family and decorate your vehicle together. Fun for all ages!

Wed., Oct. 30 - We will all meet together from **6:00-8:00 p.m.** for a **Halloween party**. Come hungry - we'll have actual food (not just snacks). Wear your costumes, and you could win prizes! Bring a friend - lots of fun will be had by all!



Looking ahead to November - Pie baking weekend is Nov. 22-23. Please save the dates now!



Missions Corner: Missions Team is always 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. Our next meeting is **Mon., Oct. 7 at 6:00 p.m.**



Our September Noisy Offering total is **\$253.00** (as of 9/22) to support **CROP Walk**. **25% of funds raised** support local ministries including Salvation Army, Holton Community Center, and local food pantries. **75% of funds raised** support Church World Service. Thank you for your support, and thanks to our walkers!

Our October Noisy Offering supports **Muskegon Rescue Mission** as they provide food, clothing, and shelter to many people in our community. They have been serving our community since 1907!



Oct. 6 is World Communion Sunday. As churches around the world take part in the sacrament, we'll receive a **special offering that goes to support national and international graduate students.**

Nelson Mandela said, *"Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world."* Because of your giving on World Communion Sunday, the most powerful tool to change the world is in more hands.

Supper House: We serve on **Tues., Oct. 1 at 3:00-5:00 p.m.** with a team of 6 people. **If you plan on serving, call** the church office (231)798-2181 so we can plan accordingly.

October MAP Food Pantry items: Jiffy Muffin Mix and Body Wash



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., Nov. 5 & Thurs., Nov. 7 at 12:15 p.m.** If you're willing to help, call the Office at 231-798-2181.



Hand2Hand is a ministry that steps in to help ensure kids have a weekend pack of food. We're collecting **canned pasta (with pop tops if available)** to assist Temple UMC as they provide meals for the students of Edgewood Elementary School. There is a drop box for your gifts in the sanctuary by the Hand2Hand banner.



2023 Impact

- 3,988 emergency shelter bed nights
- 11,964 meals served
- 2,460 volunteer hours
- 3,109 Calls for assistance
- Prevention program served 33 kids and 14 adults
- 100% of clients remain housed

Be not forgetful to entertaining strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

Hebrews 13:2

We are serving Family Promise on Sept. 29-Oct. 5 providing food items and delivering meals to the Day Center.



Kids' Food Basket is collecting items to support kids and families in our community: Fruit cups or pouches, Pudding cups, Meat sticks (i.e. Slim Jims), Cheerios, Pretzels, Cheese Crackers. You can bring them to the tub in the

sanctuary. Visit their volunteer website to sign up <https://kfb.volunteerhub.com>.



Membership, Nurture & Outreach (M.N.O.) News: We meet on **Wed., Oct. 10 at 10:00 a.m.** to set up for our 80+ Fall Luncheon. We always welcome new members to this fun-loving group!

Autumn Luncheon for our 80+ friends is **Wed., Oct. 9 at 11:30 a.m.** Invitations were mailed out. (If you are at least 80 years old and don't receive an invite, please contact the office at 231-798-2181.) Please make your reservation **by Mon., Oct. 7**. We look forward to seeing your smiling faces!



Lunch Bunch meets on **Tues., Oct. 8 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!



Our Care Team meets on **Wed., Oct. 30 at 11:00 a.m.** We're always happy to welcome new members, so please join us!



Ross Park Readers are starting to serve in classrooms! **If you're interested in serving in this important hands-on mission and community connection**, please see Pastor Mary.

CARDS FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL: Please update addresses for your loved ones in the Military with the office. We want to include them when we send out cards in November.



An updated Photo Directory will be E-mailed out in mid-October. Please take a look and make sure that your contact information is accurate. **It's never too late** to submit or update your photo! Email it to Office@LakeHarborUMC.org.




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.**



October is a great time to drop **Pastor**, a note of encouragement, share some love with her family, and always keep them in your prayers.




 Thank you for the book in celebration of my High School Graduation and the constant love and support. I feel all the love and kindness and prayers! *Abby Kanaar*


Thank you so much for the gift card. We are so blessed to have your congregation’s support.
Kristin Anderson, 4th grade

Thank you so much for the gift card for my classroom. It is so helpful and such a nice gesture. Thank you for sharing Ms. Jean with me as well! *Courtney VanDonkelaar, 1st grade*

Thank you so much for supporting the staff and students at Ross Park Elementary. Your gift is always appreciated! Thank you for always keeping our students and staff in your prayers. Your continued partnership is so valuable. PEACE, *Kristi Eigenauer, 3rd grade*

 Thank you for your support of our Back to School drive. Your donations help us build a stronger Foster/Adopt Community. We heard over and over how encouraged our families felt.

It is the warmest feeling to know that there are people out there that carry each of us in their minds and hearts. We are so glad for every prayer, your time and any resource created in the benefit of serving others. Your prayers and financial investment in **Reach the Forgotten** causes us to praise God for His goodness! *Chaplin Danny Peeples*

 Thank you for your gift to MAP Medical Fund. Your gift ensures our uninsured and underinsured neighbors in Muskegon County have access to much needed medical care and supplies, including access to our new free walk-in clinic. Blessings, *Kristen Turgeon, Executive Director*

On behalf of Three Oaks Academy, I would like to thank you all for your continued support of our students. Your contributions of shoes for students in need continues to make a positive impact our community. Thank you and God Bless! *Kelly Aney, Muskegon County DHHS*



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

- Lake Harbor United Methodist Church page (**live-stream 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 live-stream.

We also have a **YouTube channel** (Lake Harbor UMC) where you can access all of our worship service recordings. Feel free to subscribe! And our website upgrade is near completion, so look for a new look coming soon!

Our website is getting an update! There are still some additions to come, but take a look at www.lakeharborumc.org to see the new look!



OFFICE HOURS are Monday – Thursday from 9:15 a.m.-4:15 p.m.

The office is closed Friday and Saturday. The office phone is **231-798-2181**. Messages left on weekends will be returned on Monday.

From our FINANCE Team: Thank you for your consistent giving, which supports mission and ministry – from staff salaries to Sunday School supplies to new blinds in the Lounge and Library and clean windows. **At the end of August 2024,** our total income for General Fund was \$265,948 with expenses of \$249,726.

We're in the process of crafting a budget for 2025 with requests from our ministry areas. **In early October, you'll receive a letter inviting you to make a faith commitment pledge for 2025.** These pledges allow us to create a faith budget as we move into a new year of serving God together. **Please take time to prayerfully consider your role as a steward of God's gifts – and how you'll offer your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness as a part of our congregation.** We'll collect faith commitment pledges on Sun., Oct. 27 during both worship services.

Giving Envelope Numbers: We're in the process of consolidating our giving envelope numbers in order to reduce the number of unused envelope booklets. Due to attrition and online giving, many of you no longer require or use envelopes, therefore your number may change to take it out of the range of our envelope booklet order. You'll still receive a quarterly and end-of-year giving statement. **If your number is changed, a letter will be sent to you in notification of the new number.** If this creates a problem for your accounting, please contact the church office. Also, if you currently do not have envelopes and would prefer to use a numbered one, please let us know and one will be assigned to you.

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: Thank you for your continued financial support that helps us to care for the needs of our physical space for our ministry - and allows us to open our doors to our community! We have a number of community groups that use our space on weekly and monthly basis. **Gifts to our Preservation Fund, which we use for building needs, are always appreciated** – whether planned or given anytime!

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES



La Leche League, the breastfeeding group for parents, will meet at Lake Harbor UMC Nursery area on **Tues., Oct. 15 at 11:00 a.m.** Questions? Contact the church office (231)-798-2181.

Fresh Coast Alliance invites you to **Soup & Songs** on **Tues., Oct. 22 at 6:00 p.m.** at **1128 Roberts Rd.** There will be soups, live music, raffles and you can discover how to partner with their mission. **FCA** offers holistic and individualized support for men and women with criminal history and/or substance abuse, providing tools to help them successfully reenter their community.



Lake Harbor United Methodist Church

4861 S. Henry St.

Norton Shores, MI 49441



2024

www.lakeharborumc.org

(231) 798-2181

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For More Information
www.missionforareapeople.org

**Join us in
building a strong community**

Community Foundation for Muskegon County
2024 Annual Gathering
Friday, October 11, 2024 - 3:00 PM

SPEAKER/BOOK SIGNING
Charles L. Marohn, Jr.

Founder and president of Strong Towns, and author of *Strong Towns: A Bottom-Up Revolution to Rebuild American Prosperity*.

Books available for purchase from
The Book Nook & Java Shop.

**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**
for Muskegon County

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>

Sunday Servants:

Serving Oct. 6 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:* Jill McMahon

Counters: Ed Baranowski, Karen Hill

Serving Oct. 6 at 11:00 a.m.:

Worship Leader: Brad Hilleary

Greeters: Sheryl Thompson & G.L. Bates

Computer: Jim Grace *Camera:* Russ Loomis

Sound: Karen Grace *FB Host:* Jill McMahon

Tear Down: Jimmy & Niki Epplert

Serving Oct. 13 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:* Ivan Ivanov

Counters: Steve Hill, Allen Winslow

Serving Oct. 13 at 11:00 a.m.:

Worship Leader: Dirk Fuller

Greeters: John Thompson & Sheryl Thompson

Computer: Skyler Bosch *Camera:* Julie Fuller

Sound: Bob Bosch *FB Host:* Niki Epplert

Tear down: Nicole & Dan Malseed

Serving Oct. 20 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: Madonna Borgerding, Mike Layman

Serving Oct. 20 at 11:00 a.m.:

Worship Leader & Tear down: Chris Beaudoin

Greeters: Jill Warren & Jill McMahon

Computer: Julie Fuller *Camera:* Jay McMahon

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

Serving Oct. 27 at 9:00 a.m.:

Worship Leader: TBD

Ushers: Mark Rousell, Bob Keim

Computer: Karen Booth *Camera:* Jean Kelly

Sound: Dave Booth *FB Host:* Ivan Ivanov

Counters: Cyndi Barefoot, Laura Maniaci

Serving Oct. 27 at 11:00 a.m.:

Worship Leader: Rose Emmons

Greeters: Jan Pascavis & G.L. Bates

Computer: Brian Mosley *Camera:* Jason Colella

Sound: Pete Thompson *FB Host:* Michelle Frazier

Tear Down: Rose Emmons & G.L. Bates



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.