

# Leominster

United Methodist Church  
18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**September 22, 2024 | 9:30am**



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

77 Hall Street | Leominster, MA | lumcoffice1@gmail.com

978-537-1356 | [www.leominsterumc.org](http://www.leominsterumc.org)

Rev. Michelle Ashley, Pastor



**our waiting souls. Speak to us your Word of Life,  
and give us your Spirit. Amen.**

## **PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS**

|                    |                      |                 |
|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Children's Message |                      | Pastor Michelle |
| First Reading      | Proverbs 31:10-31    | Brandon Ripley  |
| Second Reading     | James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a | Brandon Ripley  |
| *Gospel Reading    | Mark 9:30-37         | Pastor Michelle |
| *Gloria Patri      |                      | UMH #70         |
| Sermon             |                      | Pastor Michelle |

## **RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS**

|           |                                 |  |
|-----------|---------------------------------|--|
| Anthem    | "In Jesus' Name"<br>D. Matthews | Senior Choir<br>Flute Soloist<br>Cat Gabriel |
| Offertory |                                 | Marcia Bisson                                |

*Commitment Cards, Prayer Cards, and Visitor Information  
Cards may be placed in the offering plates along with  
monetary gifts.*

\*Doxology UMH #95

\*Prayer of Dedication Brandon Ripley

Prayers of the People Pastor Michelle

The Lord's Prayer UMH #895

## **GOING OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE**

The Life of LUMC Pastor Michelle

\*Recessional “Jesu, Jesu” UMH #432  
Hymn

\*Benediction Pastor Michelle

*The Call to Worship is by Kirsten Linford.*

*The Opening Prayer is by Mary J. Scrifes.*



*Please join us in the Fellowship Hall immediately following  
the worship service for fellowship & refreshments.*

## *Please Pray For...*

### *Church Members*

Dennis Grammont, cancer & Parkinson's disease

James Stephen

Malie Marino, chronic health issues

Nancy Dougherty, dementia

Bruce Shaheen for relief from back & hip pain

Joyce Barclay, good results from eye surgery

### *Family and Friends of Church Members*

Rebecca Parent (daughter of Maryann Kane)

Leslie, ALS (Edith's niece)

Melissa, cancer (Diana)

Bob O'Neill, Bladder Cancer (Edith)

Dan for his lungs to heal (Bruce)

Brian & Colleen McFadden for mental health issues (Edith)

Dawnne's mother in law Liz dealing with depression

Charlie, low blood pressure (Cary)

Yvonne battling pancreatic cancer

Michelle, Prayers for best results from biopsy and for her faith  
(Karen)

Phineas Funk, that he may find his way (The Funk & Gabriel families)

Linda Gilpatrick for reoccurrence of cancer (Sam)

Scott Rankin

\*Sara and Ellie Kaufmann for healing. (Lynn Ayars)

\*Jodi & Bill Fowler struggling with chronic illness

\*Tristan to find his way to improvement (Dawn Prince)

### ***Those who are grieving***

Tiana Perez for the loss of her dad

Family of Doug Lurie

Dawnne Prince; loss of her father Carl

Family of Tracey Toomey

\*Bruce & Anne Marie Shaheen for the loss of Aunt Mary

\*Galen & Desi Schad on the loss of their grandmother Ruth Stowe

### ***Our World***

All Nations & people affected by war

All affected by natural disasters

All affected by violence in its many forms

### ***Our Leaders***

Bishop Bickerton, D.S. Megan Stowe, Pastor Michelle

All of our civic leaders & elected officials

**Please note that in order to keep our prayer list up to date, names are removed as requested or after 8 weeks.**

**If you have a concern you would like added, please fill out a prayer card & place it in the offering plate.**

***This Week at LUMC***

**Sunday, September 22**

9:30 am Worship & Sunday School

10:45 am Coffee Hour

10:45 am Sunday School Team Meeting

11:00 am Lies We Believe About God Bible Study

7:00 pm Lies We Believe About God  
Bible Study

**Wednesday, September 25**

2:00 pm Book of Matthew Bible Study

7:00 pm Book of Matthew Bible Study

**Thursday, September 26**

1 pm SPRC Meeting

**Saturday, September 28**

8:00 am Food Pantry/Clothing Closet

**Sunday, September 29**

9:30 am Worship & Sunday School

10:45 am Coffee Hour

11:00 am Lies We Believe About God Bible Study

7:00 pm Lies We Believe About God  
Bible Study



# WELCOME

No matter your age, race, nationality, political affiliation, documentation status, gender, sexual orientation, disability, and spiritual/religious background, you are welcome here.



## How to get in touch

WITH OUR PASTOR



Pastor Michelle is available for pastoral care throughout the week. You can often find her in the church office during office hours (Tu-F, 9-2), but if you wish to speak with her, it is best to make an appointment in advance to ensure she is available. She would love to hear from you by email at [pastormichelleashley@gmail.com](mailto:pastormichelleashley@gmail.com). Please keep in mind that Pastor Michelle honors Monday as her Sabbath day.



LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS

# Trunk or Treat

OCT 27 | 3-5PM

LUMC is hosting a free community trunk-or-treat event in partnership with Leominster Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC)

Help is needed! Contact Beth Newcombe at (978) 340-2423 to volunteer. To register your child to attend, use the link on the church website.

# ANIMAL BLESSING

OCTOBER 6 | 9:30AM

TO HAVE YOUR PET BLESSED AS A PART OF OUR REGULAR SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE ON THIS DAY, SEND YOUR PET'S PHOTO, NAME, AND ANY SPECIAL PRAYER CONCERNS TO LUMCOFFICE1@GMAIL.COM BY 10/1 OR FILL OUT AN ANIMAL BLESSING CARD IN THE NARTHEX. WE WILL ALSO BE BLESSING THE PETS OF OUR FOOD PANTRY GUESTS AND INVITING THEIR HUMANS TO JOIN US FOR WORSHIP! NO ANIMALS IN WORSHIP, PLEASE.

## Proverbs 31:10-31 NSRVUE

- <sup>10</sup> A woman of strength who can find?  
She is far more precious than jewels.
- <sup>11</sup> The heart of her husband trusts in her,  
and he will have no lack of gain.
- <sup>12</sup> She does him good and not harm  
all the days of her life.
- <sup>13</sup> She seeks wool and flax  
and works with willing hands.
- <sup>14</sup> She is like the ships of the merchant;  
she brings her food from far away.
- <sup>15</sup> She rises while it is still night  
and provides food for her household  
and tasks for her female servants.
- <sup>16</sup> She considers a field and buys it;  
with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.
- <sup>17</sup> She girds herself with strength  
and makes her arms strong.
- <sup>18</sup> She perceives that her merchandise is profitable.  
Her lamp does not go out at night.
- <sup>19</sup> She puts her hands to the distaff,  
and her hands hold the spindle.
- <sup>20</sup> She opens her hand to the poor  
and reaches out her hands to the needy.
- <sup>21</sup> She is not afraid for her household when it snows,  
for all her household are clothed in crimson.
- <sup>22</sup> She makes herself coverings;  
her clothing is fine linen and purple.

- <sup>23</sup> Her husband is known in the city gates,  
taking his seat among the elders of the land.
- <sup>24</sup> She makes linen garments and sells them;  
she supplies the merchant with sashes.
- <sup>25</sup> Strength and dignity are her clothing,  
and she laughs at the time to come.
- <sup>26</sup> She opens her mouth with wisdom,  
and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.
- <sup>27</sup> She looks well to the ways of her household  
and does not eat the bread of idleness.
- <sup>28</sup> Her children rise up and call her happy;  
her husband, too, and he praises her:
- <sup>29</sup> “Many women have done excellently,  
but you surpass them all.”
- <sup>30</sup> Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain,  
but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.
- <sup>31</sup> Give her a share in the fruit of her hands,  
and let her works praise her in the city gates.

### James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a NRSVUE

<sup>13</sup> Who is wise and knowledgeable among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. <sup>14</sup> But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be arrogant and lie about the truth. <sup>15</sup> This is not wisdom that comes down from above but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. <sup>16</sup> For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every

kind. <sup>17</sup> But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. <sup>18</sup> And the fruit of righteousness<sup>[a]</sup> is sown in peace by those who make peace.

**4** Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? <sup>2</sup> You want something and do not have it, so you commit murder. And you covet<sup>[b]</sup> something and cannot obtain it, so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup> You ask and do not receive because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

<sup>7</sup> Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup> Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

## Mark 9:30-37 NRSVUE

<sup>30</sup> They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it, <sup>31</sup> for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.” <sup>32</sup> But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. <sup>33</sup> Then they came to Capernaum, and when he was in the

house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?”<sup>34</sup> But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest.<sup>35</sup> He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.”<sup>36</sup> Then he took a little child and put it among them, and taking it in his arms he said to them,<sup>37</sup> “Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”