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## THIS WEEK AT LUMC | August 12, 2022

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Dear Church Family,

Please join us this Sunday for the final week in our summer sermon series on The Missional God. This week we will look to Jesus' birth story to understand how God shows up on the margins, and then Jesus invites us to join him there, saying,

“Come and see.”

If you are feeling a call to missions, and are possibly interested in being a part of the listening group which will launch this fall, please register your interest in the church narthex on Sunday or email me directly.

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Michelle

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## This Week At LUMC

### **Sunday, August 14, 2022**

9:30am                      Worship in the Sanctuary (also live-streamed) 0

10:30am                     Fellowship Hour

### **Wednesday, August 17, 2022**

2:00-3:00pm                **NO** Bible Study

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**Masks are optional this week**

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Please note that the Wednesday afternoon and evening bible studies will not meet on August 17 and August 24. Regular meetings will resume on August 31.

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**August 28, 2022**

**Come join us for Rally Day!**

This is the kick-off event for our 2022-2023 Sunday School year.

**9:30am - Worship with Blessing of the Backpacks**

Bring the backpack you plan to take to school this year!



**9:45am - Sunday School for all children age 0 - grade 5**

Children will be released from worship to go to Sunday School 15 minutes into the service.

**11:00am - 1:00pm Pizza Party at the Splash Pad**

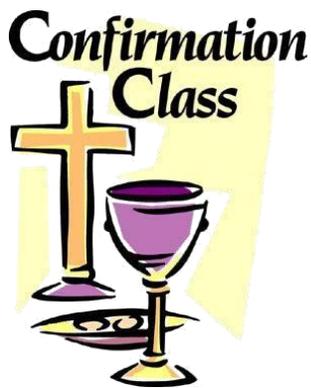


Join us after church for a free lunch, water play time, and a meet and greet with this year's Sunday School teaching staff. Please make your own way to the splash pad from church and bring your own swimsuit, towel, sunscreen, etc. All children must be accompanied by a parent or other adult. The splash pad is located at Fournier Park at 525 Litchfield St. in Leominster.

**Bring a friend! All are welcome!**

Leominster United Methodist Church | 77 Hall St.  
978-537-1356 | [www.leominsterumc.org](http://www.leominsterumc.org)

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## Adult Confirmation

We will be starting a 6-month Confirmation Class for adults of all ages beginning in September and concluding with Confirmation on Easter Sunday 2023. If you are a new member, considering membership, or someone who missed out on Confirmation as a youth, you are invited to join us. The classes will emphasize knowing and following Christ (as opposed to knowing more information ABOUT Christ), and will be conducted primarily through mentoring relationships. This format means that meeting times and subject matter can vary to suit individual needs. You can expect to meet with your mentor 13 times in addition to engaging in extra-curricular faith formation experiences. Please contact Pastor Michelle for more information and to sign up.

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# Back to School

## Supplies for Success 7/11 -8/18



Adequate school supplies are crucial to a child's success in school. For many foster families, providing these supplies for their foster children can be a struggle. Fostering Change, Inc. is a 501c (3) organization with a mission to provide foster children with resources and financial assistance to help them succeed. We are collecting brand new backpacks and school supplies for foster children PreK to undergraduate.

Financial Donations Also Accepted:

- PayPal to [FosteringChangeMA@gmail.com](mailto:FosteringChangeMA@gmail.com)
- Mail a check to 197 Spruce St Apt 5, Leominster

Wishlist Links

- <https://bit.ly/FosteringChangeAmazonSchool>
  - <https://bit.ly/FosteringChangeTargetSchool>
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# BELOVED CHILDREN OF GOD

Update from the Committee on LGBTQ+ Full Inclusion

It has come to our attention that the list of books we previously published was not as theologically expansive as we had intended. Namely, the book list was missing more conservative voices. We regret that this happened, ask for the congregation's forgiveness for the oversight, and invite you to consider the below updated and expanded book list.

Additionally, the committee is still welcoming new members and would particularly appreciate the input of conservative voices. If you would like to join the committee and/or be a part of these conversations, please reach out to the committee co-chairs: Bob Harrison (978-537-6298 or [r.robert.harrison@gmail.com](mailto:r.robert.harrison@gmail.com)) and Jim Belmont (617-291-7822 or [igkinmonth@yahoo.com](mailto:igkinmonth@yahoo.com)).

Christian LGBTQ+ Bibliography\*

Washed and Waiting by Wesley Hill

Gay and Catholic by Eve Tushnet

Is God Anti-Gay? (And Other Questions about Homosexuality, The Bible and Same-Sex Attraction) by Sam Allberry

What Does the Bible Really Teach about Homosexuality? by Kevin DeYoung

People to be Loved: Why Homosexuality is not Just an Issue by Preston Sprinkle

Two Views on Homosexuality, the Bible, and the Church by Preston Sprinkle  
Is Homosexuality a Sin? by Kyra Linn

What the Bible Really Says About Homosexuality by Daniel Himmeli  
by Colby Martin

Queering Wesley, Queering the Church by Keegan Osinski

Homosexuality and the Bible: Outdated Advice or Word of Life? by R. Nicholas Black

God and the Gay Christian by Matthew Vines

\*These are the books that the Committee on LGBTQ+ Full Inclusion will be reading and studying together this summer. The books represent a variety of theological perspectives on human sexuality, from liberal to conservative



Our next food pantry distribution is Saturday, August 27th from 8:00 until 10:00 am.

All are welcome to receive food.

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Our next Church Conference is scheduled for the **evening of September 29, 2022**. All are encouraged to attend.

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Summer is a great time to sort through your jewelry/jewelry boxes for unwanted items.

Needed for the Pumpkin Patch Fair: necklaces, chains, pins, bracelets, rings, tie pins, and Christmas jewelry. Jewelry boxes welcome too.

Jewelry may be left in the church office with Sam or Jamie.

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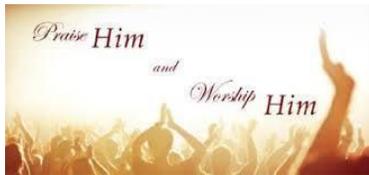
Join us Sunday mornings for worship service at 9:30 am.

*(As a personal privacy reminder, if you choose to worship in person, the back two pews in the sanctuary are reserved for those who wish not to appear on camera. Additionally, to protect privacy, the camera is turned*

*upward to the large cross (and thus no people are visible) during the weekly children's message and monthly communion. If you have any questions or concerns about privacy, please contact Pastor Michelle and she will be happy to work with you to accommodate your needs.)*

Online worship is still available at 9:30 am; see below for details.

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Join us Sunday morning for worship via livestream  
You can watch the livestream at our website:  
[www.leominsterumc.org](http://www.leominsterumc.org) or on Facebook at  
[www.facebook.com/leominsterunitedmethodistchurch](https://www.facebook.com/leominsterunitedmethodistchurch)

Time: 9:30 am

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The Christmas cactuses have left the building. But hold onto them because they will bloom again for you next Christmas (or sometimes Thanksgiving). Their timing is AMAZING!

African violets have come to the party! These plants will bloom continuously throughout the year. African violets are easy to care for, but require a routine. Careful watering, no direct sunlight, good air circulation, and temperatures between 65 and 75 degrees are the basic rules. Some fertilizer will encourage blooms.

There are still some jade plants large and small and tiny succulents available for sale in the old narthex. The plants are being sold on the "honor system". Please place a check or cash in an envelope provided and slip it under the church office door OR in the sealed black box outside the old narthex entrance. Half of the money goes to the church and half to propagating more plants.

Please give these plants happy home!

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## Ways to Give:



- 1) Set up an automatic deposit through your bank or your bank's billpayer app. 0
- 2) Give online with your debit or credit card at [www.leominsterumc.org/give](http://www.leominsterumc.org/give). 0
- 3) Text "GIVE" to 978-496-3126. 0
- 4) Mail a check to the church. 0
- 5) Drop off your offering in the secure black mailbox outside the church door.



August 1 Joyce Progin  
August 4 Sirkku Ashton  
August 6 Don Hutchins  
August 8 Dennis Dellana  
August 9 Robb Gabriel  
August 9 Alan Wesley  
August 10 Joyce Barclay  
August 11 Bonnie Dellana  
August 19 Ida Gray  
August 21 Bill Ashton  
August 22 Nathan Newcombe  
August 23 Marcia Tilly  
August 23 Cory Cole  
August 24 Lindsay Weaver  
August 25 Alexis Guillemette  
August 28 Lauren Howe

August 9 Bob & Jana Harrison  
August 17 Bill & Carleen Weaver  
August 21 Steve & Denise Dinsmore  
August 27 Jon & Pastor Michelle Ashley  
August 28 Ken & Beth Grenier  
August 31 Don & Mel Hutchins



**Please pray for the following people this week:**

**\* Indicates newly added requests**

### ***Church Members...***

Eddie Strobel  
Cynthia Smith, open heart surgery  
James Stephen  
Continued prayers for Tammy Weaver  
Kristine Paul  
Praise for Carol, Steve Perry's wife, her treatment is working, continued prayers for healing  
Rebecca Parent, continued prayers for healing  
Claire Lincoln for healing

### ***Family, Friends and Neighbors of Church Members...***

Dawn, Stage 4 colon cancer  
Nancy's granddaughter Stephanie who is having surgery  
Jose Fernandez, cancer  
Susan with gallbladder issues  
Debbi Haven, healing from back surgery  
Rich Kelly  
Continued prayers for Mary Palmer  
Gale McCoy, healing from lumpectomy  
Praise for the birth of Shirley Furey's great grandson Theodore McCabe  
Barbara for healing

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

Family of Sue who died in her sleep  
Family of Ann Geer  
Grace Mensah and family  
Cynthia Smith and family for the loss of her mother, Joyce Metzenbacher

### ***Our Leaders...***

DS Megan Stowe  
Bishop Devadhar  
Pastor Michelle  
All of our local, state, national & global civic leaders

