



The Beacon

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T-TH 9 am – 4 pm

Facebook: Lewiston
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Sunday Services at 10 am
or available on ZOOM &
Facebook Live

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From the Pastor's Desk July 2026



It's hard to believe that half the year is gone already. But, on the other hand, we've still got half a year to make this one as great as it can be. I love the organized events that have occurred already this year. It has been truly amazing and an absolute blessing to watch as this church grows stronger and stronger. Last month we were involved in the Lewiston Block Party where the ladies were announcing the upcoming GriefShare program. We pulled together and held a VBS for the kids in June and we'll be doing it again this month and in August. I think it's a great idea that the ladies came up with. Of course, there was the Blessing of the Jeeps which was a successful outreach endeavor, and we plan to do that again annually. We are planning to have an outdoor service and the men are heading off to a men's retreat in October.

All of these organized events are wonderful and are definitely producing fruit both internally and outside of the church but what brings my heart even more joy is to see the unplanned, unorganized gathering together of Christian brothers and sisters. Hanging out around a campfire or down at the car show or maybe heading down to the gun range as we encourage each other and build each other up. What a wonderful testimony to the people of our community to see the members of Lewiston Community Church gathering together outside of Sunday service.

This is the month when we light fireworks and shoot them into the night sky with brilliance and illumination for a moment to celebrate America's independence. This is another wonderful opportunity for friends and family to gather together and enjoy each other's company for the day, but I feel as Christians we have something even better to celebrate. I believe that the Holy Spirit has lit the fuse and, like one of those fireworks, Lewiston Community Church has taken off. We have been made independent of our sin and death; we are set free!

SCUBA – VBS – DIVING INTO FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD



LCC's first of three Vacation Bible School sessions took place on Tuesday, June 23, with the theme *Scuba: Diving into Friendship with God*. A generous group of volunteers made a delicious scuba-themed dinner, decorated the fellowship hall and sanctuary with underwater imagery, put on a puppet show, helped kids with craft projects, etc., all while providing lessons with the goal of strengthening the children's relationships with God. Two more classes will be offered on Tuesday, July 14 and Tuesday, August 4 from 5:30 – 7:30pm. Please help spread the word and make this event a continued success! (photo credit: Marti Martin)



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Ministry

One of the most tangible ways we can show love to one another is through the gift of a home-cooked meal. That's why we are excited to launch our Meal Ministry - a simple, organized way for our congregation to support members in need during life's most challenging and joyful moments.

Whether a family is welcoming a new baby, recovering from illness or surgery, grieving a loss, or simply going through a difficult season, a warm meal can speak volumes about the love of Christ in our community.

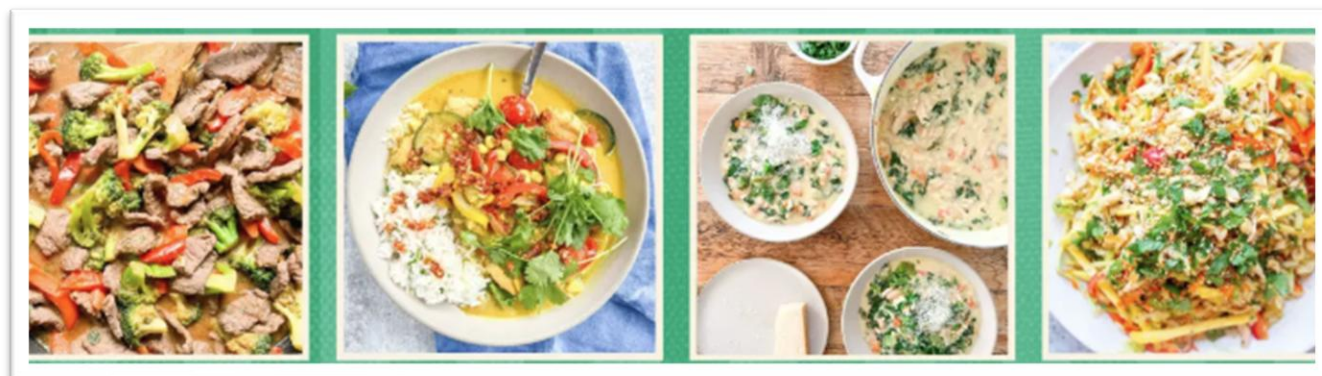
How it works:

- When a need arises, a sign-up will be shared.
- You choose a date that works for you and sign-up to bring a meal.
- Meal details, dietary needs, and delivery instructions will be provided with each sign-up.

To participate, simply watch for Meal Ministry announcements in church emails and/or join the Facebook group *Lewiston Community Church Meal Ministry*. There is also a sign-up sheet downstairs for those who would like to participate.

If you know of someone in our congregation who could benefit from this ministry, please email a request to lccmealministry2026@gmail.com or reach out to Cindy Hall (989.390.3914) or Phyllis Whitacre (734.708.0133)

Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus to one another.





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Grief Support Group

No matter what the circumstances, grief is a painful, confusing process. A GriefShare group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. At this 13-week support group program, you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. Since there are no neat, orderly stages, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability – and gain solid support each step of the way.

Each weekly meeting will highlight a different theme. You will view a video featuring respected counselors, pastors, and health care professionals on grief-related topics, plus you'll hear relatable personal stories of grief. After that is a small group discussion to allow people time to talk, share support, and personally apply what they learned from the video. Everyone will receive a book to take home filled with valuable exercises for navigating their personal grieving process.

Topics include how to manage grief-related emotions such as loneliness, anxiety, sadness, anger, and regret; how to cope with the changes in your life and relationships; and how to recognize what's normal in grief and what to do if you feel stuck or hopeless.

GriefShare group participants have repeatedly shared that they feel comforted and encouraged by being in a place where people truly understand what they are going through. And they feel a sense of relief when they are given guidance and tips on how to deal with the daily challenges.

Your bereavement experience may be recent or not so recent. No matter how long it's been, this is an opportunity to be around people who understand what you are feeling.

If you have experienced the death of a family member or friend, you are invited to attend.

**GriefShare Support Group meets Saturdays, September 12 – December 12
from 9:30 – 11:30am in the Fellowship Hall (downstairs)**

Official registration is on the GriefShare site, griefshare.org. Look for Lewiston Community Church.

You can also contact

Linda Rundel (989.786.7472) or Emily Gomez (989.786.4764) in the church office.



Ya's Healthy Way

By Barbara Ann Burns

Mary, Mary, quite contrary, how does your garden grow? Do we recall the remainder of this 1745 poem? I looked it up. Interesting for sure. Explore library to learn more. Fascinating.

After Mother's Day Service, seeds were passed out to plant. Ladies: how are those seeds doing? Am betting most are disappointed since the picture on the packet does not look the same. Waiting is hard. Patience is difficult. The rewards come toward the end of July/August.

This is how Yahweh views us (His seeds) as well.

He is patient, too. He is not disappointed in us since He knows the end of our story. Yet, He is waiting for us to bloom and spread seeds. He is biding His time until we grow into the spiritual and physical person, He wants us to be. He wants us to blossom. It takes time. Many difficult (soil) paths along our way in becoming what He desires for us. Many weeds to block our growing path. Many thorns (painful experiences) to endure as we learn our boundaries. Can we overcome those thorns? I aspire to be better and beat those thorny assaults. It takes time and patience, like planting and growing and harvesting seasons.

He formed and breathed life into us. It is the beginning. He watered us to help us thrive. We started pure, clean with no chemicals. Along the journey, our parents did the best they knew. We sprouted, but (with chemicals) the weeds grew and stunted our lives.

Old Testament days developed folks who lived hundreds of years. Humans had a very difficult, hard lifestyle. No microwave or grocery stores, yet they survived, lived, multiplied, and thrived. They followed rules, laws, and standards of living left mostly unknown to us today. How did one live past 100 in previous years? Can't imagine! With all our modern conveniences, we barely make it to 95!

Together let's look back into the Old Testament. Clues of how they lived with rules and laws set forth by Yahweh are all over. The bar of living long has been set. Do you think those rules and laws could aid us? Sure, we have bad soil, weeds, and thorns in our lives. Old Testament folks did too. Yet, they had something more. More connections to earth, knowledge to where their food came from. More connection to family and a lifestyle to ensure longevity.

We can't (nor do we want to) return to the 'olden days' but we can pull weeds and thorns out of our lives. WE can relearn the rules and laws of how (and when) to eat to grow stronger, healthier, and wiser to reach our goal of living to 100.

All is possible in rich soil from God's Word. Zachariah 8:12

Live today for Him.

**The next *Natural Health Class* with Barb Burns
meets in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, July 16 from 6:30 – 7:30pm
All are welcome!**



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Quarterly Mission Giving

March – Operation: Lost Sheep

June - Lewiston Community Sharing

September - Samaritan's Purse U.S. Disaster Relief and Global Mission

December - Operation Christmas Child and Heifer International.



Please contact Carol Clippard for more information, comments, or questions regarding LCC's Outreach Opportunities. cjclip1@gmail.com or 248-321-8005

Lewiston Community Sharing

**Lewiston Community Sharing
is in its 42nd year, and going strong!**

Free Store 4615 Montmorency St. & **La Boutique** 4608 Montmorency St. are open on Wednesdays from 10 am-6 pm and Saturdays from 10am-1 pm

Food Pantry 2887 Kneeland Street is open 1st & 3rd Wednesdays from 10 am-1 pm. For more information contact: Deb or Marty Sansone at 989-254-3324 (call or text).

Email: lewistoncommunitysharing@gmail.com
Facebook: Lewiston Community Sharing
Venmo account @ Community Sharing-5.

**Lewiston Community Sharing
Wish Lists**

Food Pantry: crackers, shampoo, salad dressing, Chef Boyardee products, cereal, and paper towel.

For your convenience there is a wooden box in the narthex for items you'd like to donate to Community Sharing.

Assistance Offered by LCC

Hearing Assist

If you need to use a hearing assist during Sunday service, please ask an usher to get one for you.

Care Team

If you need assistance with transportation to the doctor or other appointments, please contact the church office and assistance can be arranged.



Service Opportunities CHURCH BOARD 2026

Serving the church means actively using your unique gifts, talents, skills, and time to support the community, meet the needs of others, and reflect Christ's love through actions. Lewiston Community Church offers many opportunities for service and participation in the work of the church. You are encouraged to consider how you can be the hands and feet of Jesus by serving.

The Church Board, under the leadership of Ted Cox, President, is made up of several committees. Each one of these teams is vital to the ministry and outreach of the church. Please consider where you could be of service to our congregation and our community through the church.

Note that there is a contact person for each committee. Please contact that person (or call the church office) when you decide where you can be of service. You can choose more than one! Thank you for your service!

WORSHIP/ SANCTUARY TEAM	SPIRITUAL GROWTH TEAM	COMMUNITY OUTREACH TEAM	FELLOWSHIP & HOSPITALITY TEAM	MEDIA TEAM	FINANCE TEAM	PROPERTY MANAGEMENT TEAM
Chancel (Candles, Piano, Altar Flowers, Communion Prep.) Worship Welcomers Ushers Worship Leader	Adult Bible & Book Study, Special courses, Mentorship Youth Mentorship, VBS, Sunday School, Youth Group	Missions Operation: Lost Sheep, Samaritan's Purse, Heifer Project, Community Sharing, GriefShare Support Group Special Events	Visitor Bags Name Tags Decorating Coffee Hour Funeral & Special Meals & Events Kitchen Organization & supplies	Video Sound Worship Leader (Music)	Budget Personnel/ Salaries/ Hiring Herman Miller Approval Requests Pay Bills Money Counters Electronic Giving	Church Building/ Parsonage (Recommend upgrades & repairs, obtain bids, contact person for workers) Security Grounds
LEADER Nancy Render 231.499.7353	LEADER Maurice Evans 269.217.0455	LEADERS Carol Clippard 248.321.8005 Sue Turcynski 954.806.8214 Linda Rundel 989.786.7424	LEADER Berta Reinhardt 989.350.2998	LEADER Deb Larner 517.202.3072	LEADER Ted Cox 616.443.1917	LEADER Tom Clippard 248.321.8005

Ways to Get Involved on Sundays

Community Time: LCC's kitchen crew would appreciate donations of decaf or regular coffee for our after-service coffee hour. If you'd prefer to make a monetary contribution, there is always a basket for free will offerings on the table during Community Time. Thanks in advance!



Ushers and Welcomers: We're on the lookout for ushers and welcomers for Sunday service. If you have questions about ushering, please contact Joan Penrod. For questions about being a welcomer (welcoming & reading announcements at the start of service), contact Nancy Render. A sign-up sheet is downstairs for anyone interested in participating!

Prayer Team

We are a committed group of prayers who are privileged to lift any requests to the Lord. You can ask for confidential prayer requests by emailing debfish33@hotmail.com. These requests will only be shared with the prayer team, and will be kept confidential. Or you can write down requests on the prayer list on the table just outside the sanctuary. These requests will be shared with the team, and also read during service. These requests are just for the week, unless you indicate that you would like continuous prayers by checking the box next to your request. Thinking about joining the prayer team? Call Deb Cox at 616.443.1848.

Continuing Prayer Requests



Aubrey Martinez, Carol Tomson, Diane Pynonnen,
Dick Schmidt, Donna Vasher, Estelle Parette, Jason Gowing,
Jeannie Stouffer, Joe Tenbush, Kalie, Linda Armstrong, Lori
Beaudoin, Neil Gallaway, Paul Brooks, Patricia Kemp, Paul
Gibson, Shelly Thompson, Susan Evans, and Will Scott





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Lewiston Community Events

Cars & Coffee
Mondays, 5 – 8pm
July 20
August 17
September 21
October 19

Meet & park on Kneeland St.
Contact Elizabeth 989.786.4712

Summer Concert Series **at 6pm at Lions Park**

July 2, Craig Soderburg
July 16, Yankee Station
July 30, TC Knuckleheads
August 13, Dueling Pianos
August 27, Max Lockwood

Timberfest 2026

Friday, August 7 –
Saturday, August 8

Downtown Lewiston
Celebrating 135 Years of
Lewiston and
250 Years of the USA

Independence Day Parade and Fireworks **on Saturday, July 4**

Parade Lineup at Ace Hardware Parking Lot at 10:30am
Parade starts 11am

Enter your float or group to win!
Local celebrity judges to choose the winners.
Text or call the Chamber 989.786.2293 or
Cyndi at the Greenhouse 248.635.4930

2pm A Tribute to Shania Twain & More at Black Dog Base Camp
4329 N. Red Oak Rd. Bring your lawn chair.
Donations appreciated.

Fireworks over East Twin Lake begin at dusk.

The Lewiston Garden Club Presents:

Through the Garden Gate

Saturday, July 11
12 – 4pm

This year's 5 featured gardens are like love letters written in the
landscape - revealing the gardeners' wild passion for plants
& curated beauty.

Tickets are available by \$10 donation at:
The Lewiston Farmer's Market,
The Lewiston Library, and the Lewiston Area Greenhouse.

Fall Fest
October 3 & 4

Holiday Fest
December 5 & 6





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LCC Events & Lewiston Community Calendar

WEEKLY EVENTS	
AA	Every Monday, Thursday and Saturday at 8pm
Bible Study, Philippians	Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30pm
Bonz Beach Farms (Onaway) Weekly Pop-Up Market at the 50+ Club	Tuesdays 9 – 10:30am Text POP UP to 844.321.2669 to receive a text message about their inventory the day before the market.
Bible Study, Philippians	Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30pm
Deadline for Bulletin Announcements	Thursdays at 10am
Ukuladies	On break until further notice
Lewiston Farmer's Market	Saturdays from 9am - 1pm in the Pavillion
Lewiston Area Historical Society Museum	Saturdays from 11am-3pm Memorial through Labor Day
THIS MONTH	
Concert in Lions Park – Craig Soderburg	Thursday, July 2, 6pm
Independence Day Festivities	Saturday, July 4 (see page 8)
Holy Communion Service	Sunday, July 5 at 10am
Pancake Breakfast at St. Francis of Assisi Church	Sunday, July 5, 8:30am – 1pm. By donation.
WOW (Widows or Widowers) Meeting at the Lewiston Lodge	Thursday, July 9 at 2pm, Contact Gloria at 989-786-3601 for more info. and to RSVP
Through the Garden Gate	Saturday, July 11, 12-4pm (see page 8)
Men's Lunch at the Iron Kettle	Monday, July 14 at noon
LCC Vacation Bible School	Tuesday, July 14 from 5:30-7:30pm
Concert in Lions Park – Yankee Station	Thursday, July 16, 6pm
Natural Health Class with Barb Burns	Thursday, July 16, 6:30 – 7:30pm
10am Service with musical guest His Country	Sunday, July 19, 10am
LCC Church Board Meeting	Monday, July 20, 10am
Cars & Coffee	Monday, July 20, 5-8pm, Kneeland Street Call Elizabeth 989.786.4712 for details
Ladies' Lunch at The Villager	Tuesday, July 21, 11:30am
Baptism at Luzerne Park, Au Sable River	Saturday, July 25, 11am
American Legion Post 198 Chicken Dinner	Saturday, July 25, 4-7pm open to the public
Concert in Lions Park – TC Knuckleheads	Thursday, July 30, 6pm



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Happy Birthday

Claudia Rhode – July 5
David Russo – July 10
Peter Bakatselos – July 12
Ken King – July 15
Dell Bolser – July 19
Cindy Gallaway – July 23
Deb Cox – July 31
Jenny Sides – July 31
Maurice Evans – July 31

HAPPY Anniversary

Deb and Bruce Lerner – July 1, 1978
Neil and Cindy Gallaway – July 12, 1975

If we have missed celebrating your birthday or anniversary, please call or email the church office. We want everyone to be equally honored on their special day!

Upcoming LCC Events

Civilian Response to an Active Shooter

Presentation led by
Community Service Trooper Jason Kunath
Michigan State Police, Alpena Post

**Monday, August 3 from 5:30 – 7pm
in the LCC Sanctuary**

Trooper Kunath will give a presentation and
Q&A session on Security in Places of Worship

All are welcome to attend, but please note
the presentation will include interviews
with survivors of shootings,
and may be unsuitable for children.



Ladies' Campout

LCC Ladies are invited to a camping trip at
Black Dog Base Camp

4329 N Red Oak Rd, Lewiston, MI

Friday- Sunday, August 21-23

\$20/person, indoor pool and hot tub included.
Stay 1 or 2 nights or just for the day.

Rustic to premium sites available.

Contact Cara Bakatselos
for site information and more details
734.634.3000

There is also a sign-up sheet downstairs
Come join us for a relaxing time of fellowship!





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Upcoming LCC Events Continued

VBS – Diving into Friendship with God

Tuesdays, July 14 & August 4
5:30 – 7:30pm
at LCC

LCC Men's Retreat at Grace Adventures

October 16 – 18, 2026, Mears, MI

Speaker: Bryan Marvel, Author of
Journey to the Cross
Worship: TBD

<https://graceadventures.org/fall-mens-retreat/>

GriefShare Support Group

Saturdays
September 12 – December 12
9:30 – 11:30am
Downstairs in the LCC
Fellowship Hall



A church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday.

He wrote: "I've gone for 30 years now, and in that time, I have heard something like 3,000 sermons, but for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time, the preachers and priests are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column.

Much to the delight of the editor, it went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals.

But I do know this: They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today.

Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

Thank God for our physical and spiritual nourishment!