



United Lutheran Church, ELCA
21 Mesnard St.
L'Anse, MI 49946

THE CONNECTION

April 2026



United Lutheran Church, ELCA

21 Mesnard St., L'Anse, Michigan

Ph: (906) 524-6484; Email: ulc_lanse40@yahoo.com

Website: www.unitedlutheranchurchlanse.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100010032163829

Interim Pastor Julie Belew: (906) 370-5301

Come and Worship!

We celebrate with worship on

Sunday worship at 10 a.m.

Sunday School on Sundays at 10 a.m.

Ages 3 yrs through 5th grade.

All are welcome!

OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday: 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Wednesday: 1 – 4 p.m.

United Lutheran Church Council Members

Sue Coffey, Secretary	906-524-7255
Ruth Anne Connor	906-524-7648
Jennifer Davidson	
Leann Davis	906-524-6841
Renee Eliason, President	906-524-6013
Kim Gaunt	
Kris Kokko	906-524-6555
Karisa Mukka, Treasurer	
Calli Sweeney	

News from our Council President!

Happy Easter United Family!!

There are a lot of special events coming up at our church in April and May. Please read this newsletter and mark your calendars. There is a lot happening with the Women of the Church and with our kids!

The time is now to be signing up to go to Fortune Lake Bible Camp. Talk to Lisa, in the office, for information.

A big THANK YOU to the Davidson family for keeping our sidewalks and steps shoveled this winter and THANK YOU to Tyler LaPlante and his MBN LLC crew for keeping us plowed out. THANK YOU to Robin Byrge for cleaning up the salt that gets tracked into the building. You all are greatly appreciated!!

Also THANK YOU to everyone who provides coffee and goodies after church each Sunday! That time of fellowship is so wonderful and would be missed if we didn't have it! In saying that, if anyone wants to provide coffee and goodies, I can help, and there are others who will help too!

Easter Blessings dear family!
Renee



April Birthdays

April 1	Briella Lytikainen
April 3	Joshua Barnett
	Monica Eliason
	Kenneth Kokko
	Tylor Tapani
April 4	Ellen Jean Brinkman
	Gary Crocker
	Nancy Crocker
	Aria VanAlstine
	Jim Waara
April 6	Alexis Pynnonen
April 7	Kathy Hansen
April 8	Dekkar Denomie
April 9	Evelyn Welch
April 10	Liz White
April 11	Bailey Harden
April 12	Danica Goldsworthy
April 16	Allison Brown
April 17	Abby Marinich
April 18	Tim Marczak
April 19	Doug Mills
	Lauryn Schneider
April 21	Bella Kokko
April 22	Charlie Knisely
April 24	Kaylie Stein
April 25	Roxanne Clement
	Natalie Swanson



SHUT-INS



Please remember our shut-ins. Keep them in your prayers. If you have a moment, stop and visit them. Send them a “thinking of you” card (call the church office for address).

At Bayside Village: George Cram.

At Canal View, Hancock, MI: Barbara DesLaurier (*Room 308*), Carol Roth (*Room 306*).



Erica Archambeau, John Autio, Lauryn Biekkola, Jean Brinkman, Nancy Byrge, Jamie Clements, Tina Connor, Heather Vizina Cote, Jan Cram, Ann Daugherty, Barbara DesLaurier, Ronda Dowd, Sigrid Doyle, Jim Ekdahl, Linda Elsner, Joe Gaffney, Mary Hartmann, Dennis Heikkinen, Carol Hendrix, Ann (LeClaire) Hiltunen, Bridget Canter Holm, Joyce Hoskins, Gail Jestila, Larry & Jean Kangas, Buddy Keranen, Linda Kinnunen, Trudy Koski, Janel LaPlante, Mason Lloyd, Kat Maki, Paul Maki Jr, and family, JoAnn Markham, Peter Martinac, Steve Martinac, Kay McCutcheon, Jacey Mukka, Esther Neuener, Gloria Niemisto, Patricia Racine, Diane Richard, Janet Roberts, Peggy Jestila Robillard, Carol Roth, Addy Snyder, Roy Stearns, Chad and Jessica Tollefson, Cody Vizina, Elizabeth, Hank, Marty, Kim, Bobbi, Pat, Dave, Jeff, Martha.
The family and friends of Boomer Andersen
The family and friends of Louis Sullivan
The family and friends of Robin White
The family and friends of Baby Izzy

Dear God,

I humbly ask that you heal us from any hurt, shame, sickness, and guilt. Heal our hearts, O Lord God. Give us beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, and let us wear the garment of praise instead of the spirit of heaviness and burden.

I pray in Jesus name. Amen.

Mark Your Calendar!

Good Friday Worship

Good Friday Worship will be on Friday, March 3rd,
at 5 p.m.

Pastor Julie Belew will lead worship.



Easter Worship

Easter Worship will be on Sunday, April 5th at 8
a.m. and 10 a.m. Pastor Julie Belew will lead
worship.



SOUP AND SANDWICH LUNCHEON

Wednesday, April 15 from 11-1 at United Lutheran
Church. Cost is \$10.

Take out will be available. NO delivery.
Tickets are available before April 15th, or at the door.



Plans are well underway for this fund-raising event. Proceeds will be used for repairs to and/or upgrading the roof and windows of the Education Wing. Thanks to everyone who has sign-up to provide the food or be a worker, we're in good shape. We'll be fine tuning the details at the April meeting of the Women of the Church. Meanwhile, **tickets have been printed and are available for purchase or ask Leann about taking some to sell.**



First Holy Communion for Fifth Grade Students

Our Fifth Graders will receive their **First Holy Communion on Sunday, April 19th**. There will be a potluck following worship.

Our Fifth Graders this year are **Kamdyn Davidson, Dekkar Denomie, Easton Hoffman, Charlie Knisely, Darylynn Marinich, Brielle Nordstrom**

Mark your calendars and join us for this special event. Remember there is a **POTLUCK** following worship. Bring a dish to share. We are looking forward to the wonderful time with our Fifth graders.



UPCOMING EVENTS!!

- May 3rd Last day of Sunday School
- May 10th Graduate Recognition (Those Graduating are: Lindsay Biekkola, Lola Cichosz, Keegan Davidson, Grace Peltola, Khloe Skoglund, Allyson VanAlstine)
- May 17th Confirmation (Those being Confirmed are: Kieran Davidson, Cade Roy, Adelyn Snyder, Aria VanAlstine, Lylianna Wanhatalo, Kyler Wilson.)

Please mark your calendar for these important events.



It's that time EVERYONE to get your registration in for Fortune Lake. There are opportunities for all ages – even a Family Camp. As usual the Women of the Church will pay for ½ of the early registration fee to any member of the congregation, and child of a member or anyone who may not be a member, but is actively involved.

Lisa has information in the office or you can go online to find out more about Fortune Lake and to register.

It's a great place to spend some time and make some new, possibly life-long friends.

SPONSOR A BULLETIN

If you would like to sponsor a bulletin “in memory of” or “in honor of” a special person, for a donation of \$10, please contact Lisa in the church office (906-524-6484).



New Members

If you are interested in becoming a member of United Lutheran Church, please see Lisa in the office. Thank you!

Sunday School and Confirmation



Sunday School is every Sunday at 10 a.m.
Sunday School is for preschool through 5th grade.

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL on Sunday, April 5th (Easter). Sunday School will resume Sunday, April 12th at 10 a.m.

Confirmation – Confirmation class will be on Sunday, April 26th following worship. This class will be 2 hours. There is no Confirmation class on April 19th due to the 5th graders receiving their First Communion.

Our class sessions are winding down for this year. Please make sure your child gets to as many classes as possible.
ALSO – Please make sure your child is filling out their Worship notes and Service hour sheets. This is the only way that we can keep track of what they have completed. Thank you!

All children are welcome!



Worship Leaders for APRIL

April 5	Pastor Julie Belew
April 12	Bishop Katherine Finegan
April 19	Pastor Julie Belew
April 26	Renee Eliason

COFFEE HOUR

April 5	Need someone
April 12	Need someone
April 19	Need someone
April 26	Need someone

If you would like to serve a coffee hour, please sign up on the sheet in the Barrier-free entrance. Thank you to all who serve coffee following worship! Such a wonderful time for fellowship!

Readers Needed: PLEASE sign up on the sheet in the Barrier-free Entrance, if you would like to read one Sunday in church.

FOOD PANTRY



Our food pantry has quite a large selection of non-perishable items. If you need something, please don't hesitate to come and check out what we have.

DONATIONS are needed for the food pantry.

Some foods and non-perishables that we could use are: Pancake mix, syrup, canned Ravioli, Spaghetti O's, peanut butter, cereal, Ramen noodles, Lipton Noodles, toilet paper, body wash, shampoo.

NEEDED: Donations of food cards and gas cards are needed.



The Food Pantry will be open during office hours. The office is open on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 9 am – 1 pm, Wednesdays from 1-4 pm. Also, on Sunday when the church is open for worship service.

The Food Pantry is located upstairs in the education wing next to the secretary's office. There are no eligibility guidelines.

If you need food, please feel free to come and get something.

GOOD NEWS !!

United has received a grant of \$500 to be used for our food pantry. This is just one of the ways that our benevolence money is used.

The council has decided that these funds will be used for gift cards to purchase perishable foods which are not available in our pantry and paper products or hygiene products. Thank you to Lisa for filling out and submitting the application. And THANK YOU to everyone who helps keep the pantry stocked with non-perishable items. A good way to help with this is by picking up one thing for the food pantry every time you go shopping.



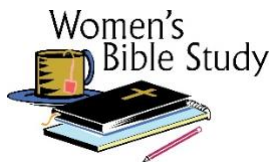
Worship & Music Committee

The Worship and Music Committee will meet on Thursday, April 9th at 10 a.m..

Women's Circle Meetings

Sarah Circle will NOT meet in April. The next meeting will be in May.

Martha Circle – Tuesday, April 7th at 1 p.m. at the Hilltop.



Visitation Team

The Visitation Team has begun making home visits to offer Holy Communion. If you would like a visit to receive Holy Communion, please contact the church office and we will have someone visit you.

Empty Pill Bottles



We are continuing to collect your **EMPTY PILL BOTTLES**. This is part of the Matthew 25 Ministry program which ships them with medical supplies to disaster relief areas. There is a collection box in the barrier-free entrance at United. Or, if it's more convenient for you, there is also a collection box at the Baragaland Senior Center.

Please wash out your empty pill bottles with hot, soapy water and be sure to remove all labels.

This recycling program is a win-win opportunity for people who have drawers full of empties, for people in need and for the environment. Thank you for your participation and please spread the word..



News from the Women

We did it again! In anticipation of the forecasted BLIZZARD, we decided to cancel the March meeting of WELCA. Although the weather in L'Anse wasn't as bad as predicted, it was still a good call in cancelling. Clinical Psychologist Tonya Truesdell, who was scheduled to come and talk to the ladies about mental health issues has been rescheduled for next October.

Serving Group Coordinators met on the 25th to revamp our serving lists..removing some names, adding some, and moving some around so that each of the serving groups is better able to serve an event. *(See separate article.)* As Calling Coordinators, we appreciate everyone's willingness to help when asked. The Funeral Luncheons, which is the most frequent use of the Serving Groups is one of the most important ministries we provide. Families are so grateful to have this time of food and fellowship as they share memories of the good times with their loved one.

Wayne Abba and Mike DesRochers have accepted our invitation to come to our April 8th meeting to share information on happenings in Alberta. We will also be finalizing details for the Soup and Sandwich Luncheon on the 15th. The ladies are invited to bring something "Spring" to share for refreshments, and hostesses are needed.

April is also the month when the Scholarship Committee (Ruth Anne Connor, Renee Eliason, Kris Kokko, and Margo Jentoft) will meet to review the applications and determine the recipient. If you know of a graduating senior, remind them to submit an application. Criteria used to determine who will be awarded the \$500 scholarship is based on church activity, extra-curricular activities, future plans, GPA any whatever else the committee members feel is useful. This is typically a difficult decision.

Speaking of scholarship, the Women of the Church also provide "camperships" to Fortune Lake. Any member, child of a member, or non-member but actively involved in the church is eligible. This applies to ALL age levels (including adults).

As always, ALL women are invited to join us for fellowship, food, and FUN at the Women of the Church meeting. And bring a friend!

Wednesday, April 8 – 1:00 pm

Hope to see you there -- stay warm!

God's peace,
Ruth Anne



	EXPENSES & INCOME FOR Feb.	YTD	TOTAL BUDGET
Expenses:	\$11,288.00	\$19,215.00	\$125,999.00
Income:	\$7,368.00	\$18,873.28	
CHECKBOOK	Balance 1/31/2026		\$34,847.44
	Balance: 2/28/2026		\$30,915.88
Window Fund Savings Acct. Balance			\$ 7,439.37
General Fund Savings Acct. Balance			\$46,775.86

ATTENDANCE FOR FEBRUARY

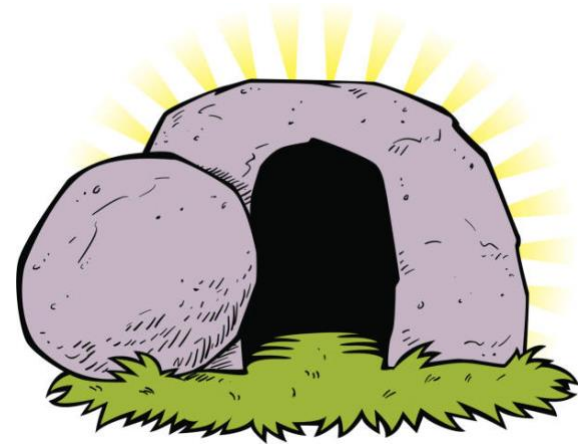
	2026	2025
February 1/2	58	68
February 8/9	68	48
February 15/16	45	31
February 22/23	53	56
Weekly Average	56	50

United Lutheran Church Youth



5th Graders painting their Chalices
for First Holy Communion

Dekkar, Darylynn, Brielle



5th Graders painting their Chalices
for First Holy Communion

Easton, Kamdyn, Charlie



He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' "

Luke 24:6-7

Here is our updated Serving List.

Calling Coordinator:
Leann Davis

GROUP 1

Callers: Leann Davis

Margo Jentoft

Ahola, Karl

Anderson, Jeanne

Bugni, Joan

Davidson, Jennfer

Eliason, Bob & Debbie

Eliason, Renee

Gaunt, Mike &
Kimberlee

Giddings, Cindy

Harkonen, Mike

Johnson, Jean

Kemppainen, Joanne

Kinnunen, Bonny

Knisley, Jennifer

Lytikainen, Sandy

Marinich, Heidi

Marinich, JoJo

Nordstrom, Evelyn

Olson, Jane

Scroggs, Christine

Selden, Georgia

Shanahan, Mary Dee

Solberg, Vicky

Westman, Pat

GROUP 2

Callers: Ruth Anne Connor

Nancy Bernard

Anderson, Lois

Brunet , Kathee

Cavanaugh, Lisa

Falk, Kathryn

Gabe, Kristyn

Gerzetich, Janet

Gourneau, Jeannie

Hoffman, Derrick & Brenda

Jestila, Gail

Johnson, Bill & Lori

Kokko, Ken & Kris

LaFave, Jan

Lanczy, Marie

Lawson, Bob& Kim

Marinich, Dawn

Marinich, Marcia

Mukka, Karisa

Parrish, Kim

Ruona, Wm. & Roselyn

Saarinan, Corie

Voskuhl, Gayle

Wara, Jim & Raeanne

Wara, Kristina

GROUP 3

Callers: Nancy Crocker
Diane

LaForest

Clement, Roxanne

Archambeau, Cheryl

Bennett, Janal

Biekkola, Heather

Eliason, Donna

Elmblad, Jane

Giddings, Kerry

LaFernier, Brooke

LeClaire, Jane

Marinich, Cheryl

Mars, David & Birgit

McIntyre, Kay

Menge, Wm & Sandy

Mills, Doug & Cheryl

Mitchell, Joanne

Niemela, Dorothy

Robillard, Deb

Schultz, Robbie

Snyder, Sabrina

Stein, Jim & Amy

Stein, Pat

Sweeney, Calli

Teddy, Kathy

Wickman, Sharla

GROUP 4

Callers: Annette Lindstrom
Roxane

Wanhatalo

Barnett, Holly

Chaudier, Jason & Dianna

Cichosz, Lisa

Coffey, Bill & Sue

Copley, Sue

DesLaurier, Kim

DesLaurier, Jerry & Lisa

DesLaurier, Stephanie

Harden, Dave & Marilyn

Johnston, Jeff

Koskinen, Kerri

LaPlante, Jenni

Lindstrom, Mark & Deanna

Martinac Vicki

Mattson, Gail

Patana, Bonnie

Prost, Linnea

Summers, Brenda

Sweeney, Brandon

Sweeney, Jane

Vizina, Toni

Welch, Evelyn

Whitman, Elaine

April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Office Hours: Monday: Closed Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday: 9 am -1 pm Wednesday: 1-4 pm			1	2	3	4
5 EASTER SUNDAY 8 am Worship Pr. Julie 10 am Worship Pr. Julie NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	6	7 NO Sarah Circle 1 pm Martha Circle at the Hilltop	8 1 pm Women of the Church Meeting	9	10	11
12 10 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Bishop Finegan Council Meeting	13	14	15 11-1 Soup and Sandwich Luncheon	16	17	18 1-5 pm Bridal Shower
19 10 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Pr Julie First Communion POTLUCK	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 10 am Sunday School 10 am Worship Renee Confirmation Class (until 1 pm)	27	28	29	30		