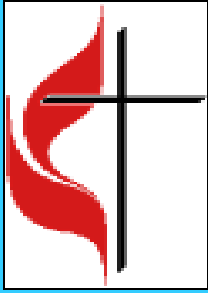


The Lemont United Methodist

The New Wine

FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART



January Worship Services 8:30 & 10:45 am

January 4th

Weekly Meditations
Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

Communion

January 11th

Weekly Meditations
Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29
Acts 19:1-7
Mark 1:4-11

January 18th

Weekly Meditations
1 Samuel 3:1-10
Psalm 139
1 Corinthians 6:12-20
John 1:43-51

Human Relations Offering
Coffee Fellowship
after 10:45 Service

January 25th

Weekly Meditations
Jonah 3:1-5; Psalm 62
1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Mark 1:14-20

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

"So, if anyone is in Christ; he or she is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" 2 Corinthians 5:17

A new year, a new beginning. The New Year is a gift. It offers the opportunity to get new diet, new hairdos, new wardrobes, and new calendars. It invites us to hit the "reset" button and begin to make some changes in our lives. Change is something we all need. It is an ongoing part of life. With its constant flux, life demands adjustments for our schedules and plans. But our spiritual lives call for more than slight changes to the calendar. Our lives are in need of transformation.

After many years of failing to keep New Year's resolutions, I've learned that transformation does not come from decisions made on January 1 of a new year. Instead, it comes from re-creation, the re-creation that comes from new life in Christ. The change people need most is not in their circumstances, but in themselves. It is not the ability to try harder, but it is a life entrusted to Jesus.

In the month of January 2015, I will preach a series of three sermons on the *"Change We Need."* At the heart of this series is the belief that transformation occurs not because we "do," but because Christ has "done."

January 04: *Rev. David Kaller*

January 11: *"Real Change Start With New Life, Not Just A New Leaf"*

January 18: *"Real Change Is A Process, Not A Destination"*

January 25: *"Change Is Letting Go And Grabbing Hold"*

Friends, this is going to be a practical and exciting series. I hope you can join us and invite guests to Lemont United Methodist Church. Have a blessed and prosperous New Year.

Joyfully Yours,
Pastor Kelly Van

Celebrations in January

Happy Birthday:

January 2nd—Abby Cliff, Teague Cliff and Rylee Rainaldi

January 6th—Sue Gergesz

January 7th—Mary Jane Sykes

January 10th—Jodi Stood

January 12th— Joanne Goszczycki

January 20th—Bill Sykes and Norm Ellison

January 21st – Don Farrer Jr.

January 28th—Kristen Van

January 30th—Shelby Fox and Rob Lange

Happy Anniversary:

January 27th—Dave & Wendy Myers

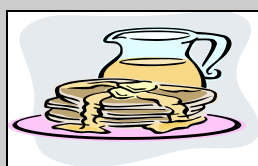
December Fun for LUMC High School Students

The Sr. High Youth group had a fun time at their December event ... playing Whirlyball! It's a combination of basketball and jai alai, played in bumper cars. (A few pictures are attached) We also explored the notion of Evangelism, "To Preach or Not to Preach? That is the Question." We know that Jesus said, "Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." (Matthew 4:19) But we've seen it backfire when people are too aggressive in trying to evangelize. Just like in Whirlyball, ramming doesn't help someone catch the point, instead we decided that we need to softly toss it to them when they are ready to receive it. We learned that a more effective method of evangelizing is to use our lives to bring others to Christ. Let them see our faith, kindness, confidence, security, happiness, and care for others. People may not know Christ, but they do know Christians. What kind of Christians are we? Do we live our lives in a way that inspires others? If they see us and think, "I want that for myself," we are in a better position to comfortably share our joy in Christ. Then we just need to be enthusiastic, genuine and honest about our relationship with Christ; God will do the rest.

Merry Christmas everyone! FYI, our January SHYG event is tentatively scheduled as an overnight lock-in at the church. We are looking at either January 17-18 or January 24-25. E-mails will follow as we have more details.



Books Available in the Library By Kay Norfleet



United Methodist Men January 10th

Come and join us! The Lemont United Methodist Men (UMM) will meet in Fellowship Hall at 8:00 a.m. on January 10th. Lemont UMM meets on the second Saturday of each month for breakfast. This group is made available for the fellowship of all the men of the church and all are welcome to attend. Information about meeting dates and times are posted in the church calendar and bulletins.

Primetimers Saturday, January 17th 12:00 pm

This is a group made up of adults at least 50 years old. Primetimers meet monthly on the third Saturday of each month with a potluck lunch in Fellowship Hall at noon.

Everyone brings a favorite dish to share for an enjoyable afternoon. If you have any questions, please call Juanita Fick at: 630-257-7639

Frank Peretti is the author of a rather large, but engrossing, book **Monster**. This is fiction, thank heavens, and takes us into a “what if” premise. What would you do in a similar scary situation? You can read about the campers and their seemingly insurmountable problem. The result is a series of events which are determined by their following advice from the Lord and by those steps He determines a happy outcome. Actually, haven't we all had our monsters? from time to time.

Green Mama gives relatively simple suggestions about “going green.”

The Lord gave us this planet to take care of, and so you'd better...read the book. I know I try to conserve water, recycle, not use too many paper towels, use eco-friendly cleaning products.... My kids are grown, but I do remember washing cloth diapers, using cloth napkins, reusing plastic bags.. So it's something mamas have done and I do think that they have practiced “going green” through the years. But this book addresses modern day mamas and new ways they can raise their families and be kind to planet at same time.

102 questions children ask about the Bible. These answers give further insight to the people answering. Let's face it, kids can come up with the most disquieting questions. You'd better be ready to answer them.

For example, “why didn't the bush burn up?” Why? Answer: God wanted to show His power to Moses. His power would allow Moses to rescue His people from slavery in Egypt. He had the power to keep the bush from burning up...obviously that caught Moses' attention.

Finally **Speaking the Truth in Love** This is a good segue from the Christmas season. In the Christmas season, we celebrate the Christ who came in to illustrate God's teachings. He was constantly ministering to the people and showing them loving action. Then he told his disciples to go and make more disciples. Shouldn't we carry that command on? The book asks you to be an assertive Christian, then it shows you how...in love. Remember assertive doesn't mean aggressive. Aggressive people bring on negative reactions. “Assertive behavior is ...essential to the Christian lifestyle. Assertive behavior honors self while honoring others. The assertive person cares for others and at the same time engages in God-pleasing self-care.”

Shared room transformation!

The transformation of multi-purpose room is well underway! It is to be shared with Happy Hands Teacher Resources, the Jr High and Sr High youth fellowship groups, High School Breakfast Club, Jr High Sunday School class (on the weeks when Breakfast Club doesn't meet), the Youth Praise Band, and those church groups who would like to have a gathering at the same time as meetings are happening in the adult classroom.

The youth are excited to be able to have a room where they can once again sit on full sized chairs! Once upon a time, before the downstairs remodeling project, the youth had a room of their own. As our church grew, and we hired an administrative assistant in addition to the secretary, the youth room was shared with the administrative assistant so she would have office space. As the church grew so did our food pantry and Happy Hands Preschool! Plans were underway for major remodeling of the downstairs area. The youth room use expanded to include a computer room for Happy Hands. In the meantime, the youth met in a preschool classroom. Now that the remodeling is done, the youth have waited patiently. In order to have our youth program grow and thrive, they needed a space where they can have age-appropriate conversations in an age-appropriate setting. Although the transformation is not yet complete, virtually every youth event and Breakfast Club there has been either one our two guests! This is a wonderful opportunity to help grow our church! Our youth are now proud to invite their friends and their friends' families to these events. The youth have even started a Youth Praise Band that rehearses in the room!

Many thanks to the Vazquez and Peraino families who donated drums and a keyboard. We would like to thank the multiple people who have worked so hard to make this happen. Julie Phillips for helping to envision how it all could work, the Happy Hands Teachers, David Kennedy who has offered to build a storage cabinet for the resources, the Trustees, the Ad Board, Pastor Kelly, our youth who helped wash walls, tape and prepare for painting and actually painting, and also the youth who have created beautiful decorations, Jordan Kehr, Jason Kehr, Tristan Bush, Emily Stood, Audrey Anderson and Olivia Nelson. Also, Karin Peraino, Gina & Steve Walters and Tom & GleeAnn Kehr for the many hours they have dedicated. Please forgive me if I have forgotten anyone. It is still a work in progress as there was much to be done. There are more canvases for youth to decorate so we will be having more opportunities for them all to create something personal to help decorate! Come take a look – and invite a friend to come join us!

**Children's Message
Schedule**

**January 4th
Julie Phillips**

January 11th

**January 18th
Rich Lee**

**January 25th
Glee Ann Kehr**

**Schedule for Sunday
Greeters**

**January 4th
8:30—Juanita Fick
10:45—Marty & Arlene
Knott**

**January 11th
8:30—Myers Family
10:45—Kehr Family**

**January 18th
8:30—Ende Family
10:45—Cheehy Family**

**January 25th
8:30—Chappell Family
10:45—Stood Family**

Stewardship Minute

Marty Knott
Chairperson, Stewardship and Finance Committee

General Fund beginning balance:	-\$4,317
Receipts:	\$16,176
Expenses:	\$11,647
General Fund ending balance:	\$212
Maintenance Fund ending balance:	\$10,303
Capital Repair Fund loan balance:	\$34,509

This is the next in a series of articles about stewardship. In these articles I will try to inform you about the many ways you can contribute to your church's programs.

“Good New - Good News”

I am writing this article on December 19, two days before Pledge Sunday when I am hoping that we will see an increase pledged to the General Fund. You have been sent pledge cards my mail and there will be cards in the pews as well. I hope to have next year's offering envelope out as well. If have used these envelopes in the past or if you are a regular giver, a box will be there with your name on it. If you don't see you name, just grab a numbered box and identify yourself on your first use and that will be your envelope number.

So, what is this good news? Well, in my last Stewardship Minute, I told you that the General Fund ending balance was negative for all months of this year, and was at a negative \$4,317 in October. The good news was that there was a huge increase in giving in November, giving an ending balance at a positive \$212 !!! Now November was a 5-Sunday month (always welcome to the Finance Committee) but the General Fund receipts were even higher than last year's December receipts (which included Christmas).

Is there more good news? Well, one of my jobs is to develop a budget for the next year and after some guesses associated with utilities, an increased salary for Pastor Kelly, and a 9% DECREASE in our Conference Apportionments, the General Fund budget was increased only 2% as compared to the 2014 budget!! By the way, that Apportionment decrease was likely due to the impression we gave at our 2013 presentation to the conference which described our many local outreach activities.

As for more possible good news, Christmas is coming and your pledges are coming. Needless to say, if the prayers of the Finance Committee are answered, 2015 will be a positive year for the General Fund. As a result, I wish to give all of you a hearty Thank You!

JANUARY 2015

**Congratulations to our
CAP Scholarship Recipients**

Kayla and Chris Walter
Eric and Mark Kirkman
Tyler Phillips
Wendy Chappell
Rebecca and Ryan Peraino
Rybecca Janovyak



Pizza Sale

We are offering a delicious pizza for \$10.00. Your choices are cheese, sausage, pepperoni, mushroom, or any combination of your choosing. Such a deal! There will be pizza tastings on Sunday, January 18 and 25. Each service will have only one tasting. The pizzas should be ordered then. They will be delivered at the Church on Sunday, February 2. I will need help preparing the pizzas on February 2nd beginning at 8:30 A.M. Time to make the pizza! Any profit will benefit the general fund. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please call Julie Phillips 630-257-1782.

Dear Lemont United Methodist Church Family,

I sincerely thank you for not only awarding me with the scholarship, but also for continually supporting me. It is so comforting to know that I have a strong church family behind me wherever I go. I appreciate the care packages, scripture messages, prayers, cards, emails and many other ways that show just how much I am cared for. Our church family is so thoughtful and loving and I am truly blessed to be a part of the Lemont United Methodist Church.

Thank you all so much!

With love and blessings, Rebecca Peraino



Thank you to all who participated in the Ladies Christmas Tea and to Marge Fox for hosting the annual event. Good food, laughs, songs and crafts were enjoyed by all the women who attended.

Acolytes Needed

All children in third grade through 8th grade (or older), who are not currently in the Acolyte Program, but are interested in being an acolyte (lighting the Christ candle on the altar on Sunday morning), should contact Dawn Ferrazzi (Acolyte Coordinator) at [815/886-4177](tel:8158864177).

We plan to conduct a training session after the Holidays.

Memorial Funds were created to honor the memory of loved ones or to honor a special person or occasion. Some of the people so honored were Mary Utterback, John Brandt, Ed Donahue, Steve Harden, Evelyn Krueger, Tom Ludwig and Alice and George Fries, as well as Pastor Kelly's first church and the 50th anniversaries of the Walter's and the Goszczycki's.

Donations can be designated for specific projects. The Board of Trustees keeps an ongoing list of projects that are needed for the church. The Memorial Team determines which of these projects will be appropriate for this designation. The new signage for classrooms, the new adult classroom, the replacement sign by the front entrance, the carpet beneath the grand piano, the replacement tree by the bell tower as well as the new front entrance carpets were all completed with the use of memorial funds.

If there is someone you wish to memorialize or honor, feel free to make a donation in their name.

Members of the Memorial Team include Carol Walter, Stephen Weary, Dottie McAdams, Pat Farrer, Christine Miller, Pastor Kelly and Chairperson Joanne Goszczycki.

Liturgist Schedule

January 4th

8:30—Jana Stelter
10:45—Julie Phillips

January 11th

8:30—Bill Stelter
10:45—Judy Janovyak

January 18th

8:30—
10:45—Cris Kerins

January 25th

8:30—
10:45—Dale Janssen

The Greatest Man of Glory

By: Richard H. Lee

I was thinking about a recent life member of our local historical society, "PJ" and the memorial service we had at the museum for her. It became clear that she was a woman of glory because of her devoted support of the society and the beauty of our village. It was her idea to host weddings and celebrations at the museum and wish to include the society in her will.

She was instrumental in saving the "Bowl Castle" limestone band shell from being torn down and forming a historic district for preserving historic homes and she lived in one. But most impressive was her attitude about suffering she exhibited while suffering with MG and arthritis with very little complaining. That reminds me of Christ who also suffered greatly and told us we should expect it also and have wonderful joy when we see His glory when He is revealed (1 Peter 4:13-14 NLT). And Jesus told his disciples, "You are the light of the world" in Matthew 5:16 and, "We saw His glory, the Glory of the Father" (His character) in John 1:14.

The Glory of Christ began at his birth when the shepherds heard and saw the announcement by angels in Luke 2:13,14, 30, and 32. It continued when he healed all who came to Him (Luke 4:18-21) and then the ascension into heaven with angels in glory. Peter adds more information about our glory and sharing Christ's glory, "And I too will share in His glory when he is revealed to the whole world" (1 Peter 5:1), and, "When the great Shepherd appears, you will receive a crown of never-ending glory and honor" (5:6). And finally, "In His kindness God called you to share in His eternal glory by means of Christ Jesus" (5:10 NLT).

MEANINGFUL MOMENTS WITH GOD

"Pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." 1 Thessalonians 2:17-18
God's will for you in Christ Jesus" 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18

MEANINGFUL MOMENTS WITH GOD

"Pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18

Immediate Prayers

Chuck Herron, hospitalized w/blood clots (*Christine Miller)
*Amanda Huegelmann, hospitalized / testing
Jerry Monnett, hospice care (*Ron & Carol Walter)
*Bob Norfleet, depression
*Roland Tasker, Colotis
Mike Connelly, heart attack (*Linda Kennedy)
Debbie Morand, health issues/hospitalized
Joey Udziela's Family, going through tough times (*Gina Walter)
Debbie Angileri, liver tumor (*Peg Pecher)
Charles Koutas, brain tumor surgery
Connor Kratochvil, cleft palate (*Farrer's great nephew)
Lowry Family, (*Kay Norfleet)
Grandpa Bob, aortic aneurism sugery (*Havemann's)
Joe, has ALS & prayers for his wife Carole (*Cris Kerins)
Jeff Freeman, diagnosed with cancer (*Judy Janovyak)
Sandi Halicky, heart issues (*Halicky Family)
Robert Andreas, bladder cancer (*Gina Walter)
*Ellen Davey, dealing with depression
Bob, on dialysis, (*Peraino's friend)
Dan, looking for healing in family (*Ron&Carol Walter's Nephew)
David Mlady, illness (*Alice & George Lange)
Dale Chappell, (*Mike Chappell)
*Bob Norfleet
Alexandria Stojanov, 4 yr old w/brain tumor (*Rob Lange)
*Sue Gergescz
*Jason Kehr, cystic fibrosis, treatments at home
Shirley Chappell (*Mick Chappell)
John Kettle, lung cancer metastasized to the brain (*Peg Pecher)
For all troops and people in harms way
For all those that are looking for work

Answered Prayers: On the Road to Recovering

Irene & Pearl, rehaping (*Debbie Hassert's Aunts)
Julie, breast cancer (*Rosalie Lind's daughter)
*Juanita Hill
Nancy Martin, home (*Kay Norfleet's sister)
*Alberta Harden
Neil Janssen, keeping up with therapy
*Josh Miller
Heidi Dupont, MS (*Rich & Barb Lee's daughter)
Grieving
The family & friends of Patricia Smith
The family& friends of Glenna Billings
The family & friends of Priscilla Ludwig's Brother
The family & friends of Marv Deer
The family & friends of Bonnie Campbell
The family & friends of Dick Croholm
The family & friends of Frances Mumaw (*Carol Walter's Mom)

Joys

For Rev. David Kaller Preaching
For the Praise Band
For the beautiful Christmas Eve Worship Services
For Pastor Christian Preaching
For the Christmas Carol Sing-a-long
For a wonderful Happy Hands Christmas Program
For the Cheesecake fundraiser
For Marty's hard work and pledge Sunday
For Grace Kirkman and her mom and all who donated and Prepared the cookie baking bags for the open pantry
For our Jr. Choir Christmas Program
For Marge Fox hosting the Ladies Tea & all who attended
For Elena Talos' baptism
For the church conference & all who submitted reports
For all those who helped decorate our church
For Peg Pecher organizing the church decorating

Important Dates

January 4th—Rev. Kaller Preaching
January 7th—Day break Shelter
January 10th—UMM
January 14th—Trustee's Meeting
January 17th—Primetimers
January 21st—Ad Council Meeting

Coffee Fellowship January 18th

Karin Peraino
Kathy Cliff
Jodi Stood
Kristen Nelson
Amy Cheehy
Amie Topete
Jane Woytek
Trish O'Neill



Expanding Care Bear Ministry

Pastor Kelly takes communion to the "home bound" and visits those who are in the hospital. We are looking for people to prepare a home cooked meal and be with members when they have serious medical concerns-praying and providing support when needed. If you feel called to this ministry but are unable to cook, please donate gift cards from various places like Subway, Celina's or others in town, to distribute to members in need if Carebearers would not be able to provide a meal. Please consider this ministry prayerfully and contact :

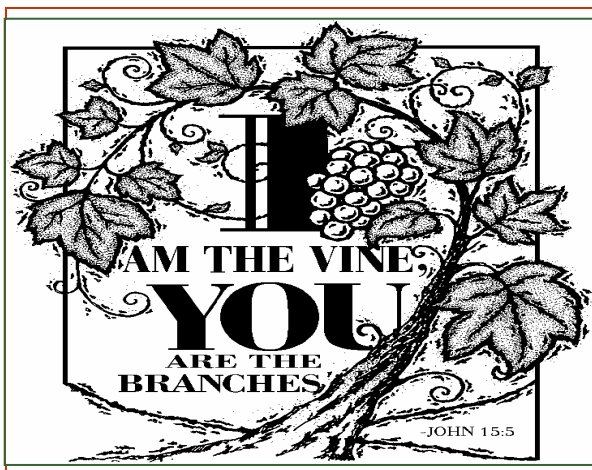
Pastor Kelly: 773-428-7877
Church: 630-257-5210

Lemont United Methodist Church

25 West Custer
Lemont, Illinois 60439
Phone: 630-257-5210

Return Service Requested

New Wine January 2015



Sermons and Videos on Website

Worship services and other videos have been added to the website. From the home page <http://www.lemontumc.org> click the "Watch" link. For each sermon, there is a "Watch" link and a "Listen" link. The Watch shows the video using a Flash player. The Listen button will play or download an mp3 file. If you have an mp3 player, it can copy it

New Year's Reflections

**Looking back on the months gone by,
As a new year starts and an old one ends,
We contemplate what brought us joy,
And we think of our loved ones and our friends.**

**Recalling all the happy times,
Remembering how they enriched our lives,
We reflect upon who really counts,
As the fresh and bright new year arrives.**

**And when I/we ponder those who do,
I/we immediately think of you.
Thanks for being one of the reasons I'll/We'll have a Happy New Year!**

By Joanna Fuchs