

Pastor Hillary is in the church office Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:00 to noon, and other times by appointment. Her cell phone number is 231-480-1514, and her office email is pastorhillary@ludingtonumc.org.

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This week's Immediate Prayer List:

Afghan refugees, Families who lost loved ones on 9/11/2001
A complete prayer list is available at the Welcome Center.

On November 7, All Saints Sunday, we will remember those members and friends of our church family who have died since All Saints Sunday 2020. Please call or email the church with names of those you would like us to remember at the service. So far we are aware of the following people: Robert Fawcett, Sue Hodde, Loraine Abrahamson, Betty Reynolds, Laura Sorensen, Betty Ford, Elaine Beach, Rose Marie Sutton, Clarice O'Herron, Arnold Burke, Carol Hunt, Richard Ruis, Debbie MacDonald, Nancy Rossi, and Bob Ford.

Please see the insert in this bulletin for more announcements and "This Week at Church".

Today's liturgist is Julie Carpenter.

Today's altar flowers were donated by Doug and Linda Osborn in memory of Doug's parents.

Pastor: **Rev. Hillary Thurston-Cox**
Office Manager: **Rev. Laurie McKinven-Copus**
Youth Directors: **Cindy Cooper and George Faust**
Music Director: **Rebecca Sopha**
Handbell Choir Director: **Carleen Shinn**
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United Methodist Church of Ludington

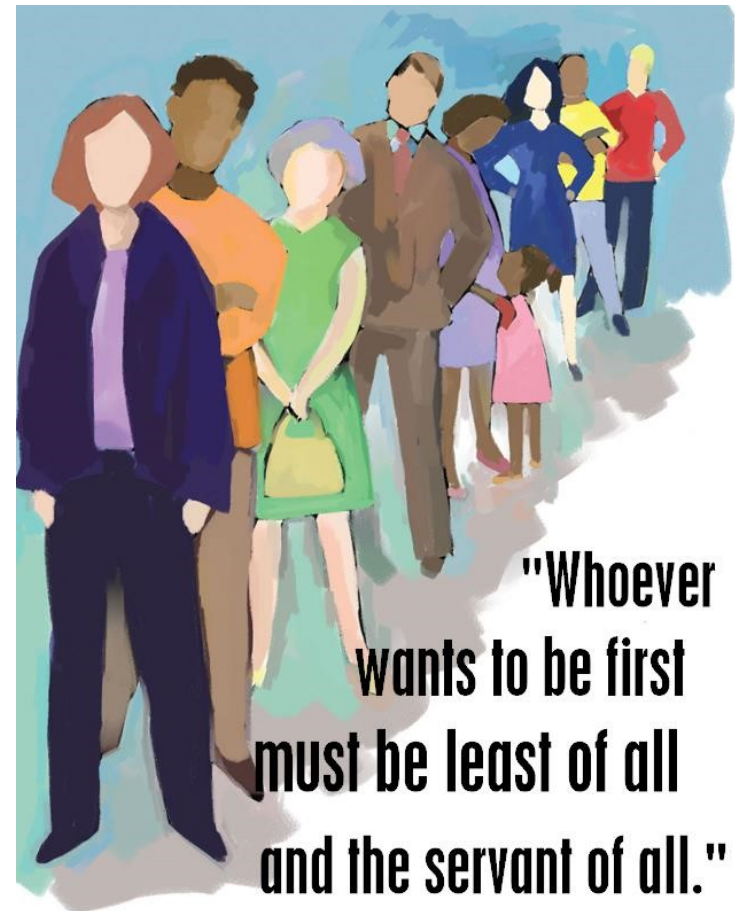
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Our Mission: Reveal the Grace of God by welcoming and serving all in Christ!



September 19, 2021



**"Whoever
wants to be first
must be least of all
and the servant of all."**

Mark 9:35, CEB

Prelude **“Blessed Assurance”** Ed Broughton
If you have a prayer concern that you would like the pastor to lift up during the prayer time today, please fill out a yellow prayer card from the pew and place it in the basket at the back of the sanctuary.

Welcome and Announcements *(insert)*

Call to Worship

Leader: The first shall be last.

Congregation: We come to worship as we are.

Leader: The last shall be first.

Congregation: We come with confidence.

Leader: The first shall be last.

Congregation: We come with questions.

Leader: The last shall be first.

Congregation: We come burdened by failure.

Leader: The first shall be last.

Congregation: We come celebrating success.

Leader: The last shall be first.

Congregation: We come fearful of the future.

Leader: The first shall be last
and the last shall be first
and a little child shall lead them.

Hymn **“Spirit Song”** **Hymnal #347**

Opening Prayer

Chancel Choir Anthem **“If God Is For Us”** Pepper Choplin

Psalm Reading **Psalm 1** Pew Bibles p. 665

Children’s Moment

Song **“This Is Where Children Belong”** James Ritchie

Prayers of the People/Pastoral Prayer
(As Pastor ends Pastoral Prayer, congregation joins pastor in the Lord’s Prayer, Hymnal #895).

Choir **Three-Fold Amen**

Solo **“His Eye Is on the Sparrow”** arr., Mark Hayes
Sung by Bruce Rillema

Scripture Reading **Mark 9:30-37** Pew Bibles p. 1229

Sermon **“The Greatest, the Least, and the G.O.A.T.”**
Pastor Hillary

Closing Hymn **“Make Me a Servant”** *(on screen)*

Benediction

May the peace of the Lord Christ be with you, wherever he may send you.
May he guide you through the wilderness,
Protect you through the storm.
May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you.
May he bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors.
Amen. Go in peace.

Postlude **“Allegro”** William Boyce

Announcements

- We are in the process of reopening our nursery and children's Christian education. We can only make this happen with willing and faithful volunteers. If you would be willing to invest in young children for a Sunday each month, please contact the church to sign up and begin the background check process. The wonderful thing about online streaming is that you will never miss a worship service if you want to volunteer. It will always be available to watch online.
- You can sign up in October to be in the new church pictorial directory! Watch upcoming bulletins for details.
- Our annual Church Conference will be Sunday, October 17 here at our church, in person or by zoom. This is the event at which we vote on church leaders, hear and vote on membership data, and present our vision for our church. The Church Conference will be at 2 pm, and there will be a gathering with other local United Methodist Church members at 3 pm. Any member or attendee of our church may speak at Church Conference but only members may vote. Those wishing to attend by zoom need to inform the church office by October 5 so that the District Secretary can send you the zoom link.
- The Mitten Tree will continue this year with a few changes. If you'd like to participate by knitting, crocheting or sewing mittens, hats or scarves for the needy children of Mason County, please contact Suzanne Dietel at 517-303-6030 or Norma Koeppe at 231-843-4253. More details about the Mitten Tree will be in the October *Footprints*.
- Our District United Methodist Women's annual meeting is via Zoom this year on September 25. When we meet in person, we encourage women to bring items to be given to a charity that is in the area of the church where the meeting is held. This year, our local United Methodist Women board has decided to suggest that women donate hygiene products that are collected at HumanITea and taken to Hope Project in Muskegon, that provides shelter, counseling and other needs for women rescued from human trafficking situations. Items suggested : full-size containers of shampoo, soap, laundry soap, lotion, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, tissues, and feminine hygiene products, as well as socks. Hotel-size, used products and shaving razors cannot be accepted. Please put any donations in the tubs that will be in the lobby entryway. We will collect items through Sunday, October 17. Thank you! *Karen Genson*

- We thank Joan Archer and Phyllis Heimall for their faithful Military Ministry. However, they wish to retire, and we need someone to take over this ministry! If you are interested, please contact Joan or Phyllis to find out what it entails; then call to let the office know.
- From Sheila McCallum: I want my church family to know how much your cards and prayers meant to me. I felt the love and such a sense of warmth all over me, just as if you were beside me, giving me lots of hugs. I feel like I'm blessed more than I deserve. God is good and life is good. *Love, Sheila*
- Monday, 9/27/21-1:00 pm, United Methodist Women meeting with speaker-More info to come 9/26

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This week at church

Today	Worship 10 am
Mon., Sept. 20	Women's AA 10 am, 4th-5th Grade Room Cub Den 5:30 pm, 4th-5th Grade Room
Tues., Sept. 21	Intercessory Prayer 10 am, Library Community Book Study 10 am, 4th-5th Gr. Rm. Community Bible Study 1 pm, 4th-5th Gr. Rm. Bell Choir Rehearsal 5 pm, Sanctuary
Wed., Sept. 22	Rug Ladies 9:30-11:30 am, Rug Room Women's AA 10 am, 4th-5th Grade Room Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7 pm
Thurs., Sept. 23	Men's Emmaus 4th Day 7 am, FH Women's Bible Study 10 am, SS Gath. Rm. Garden Club 12:00-4:00 pm, FH Books and Beyond 6 pm, FH
Fri., Sept. 24	Women's AA 10 am, 4th-5th Grade Room
Sat., Sept. 25	Cub Scout Sleepover at Pavilion

*FH = Fellowship Hall