

St. Luke's United Methodist Church

Rev. Mark Huff

July 19, 2026

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost



Ministers- Every Member of the Congregation

We are the People of the United Methodist Church

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lisa Killey, Liturgist

PRELUDE

People Need the Lord

Leon Beaudin, Piano

*CALL TO WORSHIP

In a field, the kingdom of heaven takes root among us.

We come to worship the One who plants goodness in every season.

The Sower scatters seeds without fear of the weeds.

We come to trust the God who is patient with the field.

Though weeds grow alongside wheat, though the world is not yet what it will be, the harvest belongs to God.

We come to worship the Lord of patience, the Lord of the harvest, the Lord who makes all things grow.

So let us worship with open hearts, trusting the harvest to God.

*HYMN

Christ for the World We Sing

UMH 568

*PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, you sow your word among us like seed scattered in good soil. Open our hearts to receiving it, our minds to understand it, and our lives to bear its fruit. Where weeds of doubt or distraction have grown up beside your truth, help us not to uproot in haste, but to wait on your wisdom. Speak now, that what is planted in us today may grow into a harvest of righteousness. In Christ we pray. Amen.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

Romans 8:12-25

RSV p.148

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Mark Huff

*HYMN

Blessed Assurance

UMH 369

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Mark Huff

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

NRV p. 13

MESSAGE

“Let Them Grow”

Rev. Mark Huff

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

Johannes' Adoration

Leon Beaudin

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 94

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Lord of the harvest, receive these gifts as seeds sown into your kingdom. May what we offer today take root, and bear fruit in seasons yet to come. Multiply our offerings for the sake of your world and use it to grow your kingdom among us and beyond. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***HYMN**

We've a Story to Tell to the Nations

UMH 569

SENDING FORTH

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Mark Huff

Go now as good soil for the world around you. Do not be afraid of the weeds that grow near you, for the harvest belongs to God. Grow steadily, bear fruit patiently, and trust the One who tends the field. And may the peace of Christ, the love of God, and the presence of the Holy Spirit be with you now and always. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Festive March in C Major

Leon Beaudin, Organist

**Congregation stands (as able to)*

SERMON SUMMARY

Worship Design Summary: Jesus tells a story about a field where wheat and weeds grow side by side, and a farmer who makes a surprising choice about what to do next. This sermon explores why God waits, what that waiting means for us, and the promise waiting at the harvest.

KEY THEMES

God's patient mercy — God delays judgment to protect the good and give people time to turn toward grace.

The mixed field within us — Wheat and weeds grow together in every human heart; good and evil are intertwined.

Judgment belongs to God — We name and resist evil, but only God can rightly sort the field at the harvest.

PRAYER LIST

The Families of

Beth Redifer

Pray For

Eric Ives

Vicky for an oncology appointment (prayer box request)

William Roeder (brother of Henry Roeder)

Carolyn Eichhorn (friend of Henry Roeder)

Tom Nankeruis (brother of Linda Sterling)

Dave Reed (husband of Charlotte Reed)

William Kozuch (husband of Fritzi Stevenson)

Rachel Lochinski (daughter of Fritzi Stevenson)

Tom Piotrowski (brother-in-law of Jan Deming)

Shut-ins

Ann and Frank Davis, Bob Davidson, Florence Decker, Sandy Gillam,
Marletta Gross, Susan Hendrickson, Jean Killey, Betty Martinek, Barb Meyer, Phyllis Finn,
Ruth Matherne, Lorane Peglow, Jane Russell, Jacky Sansburn, and Roger Trerice.

Requests will be kept on the list for 1 month. If you would like your prayer request to remain on the list or be re-added, please let us know. SUBMIT YOUR PRAYER REQUEST through our app website, email office@stlulkesumcmi.org, by filling out a connection card, located on the pew backs, or the Prayer box located in front of the church

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Not One Moment Late is a women's Bible study led by Bill Sanders, inviting participants on a meaningful six-week journey to explore God's perfect timing and purpose in our lives. "Not One Moment Late" is a six-session women's Bible study by Lisa Toney. It explores the biblical story of Deborah to teach readers how to wait faithfully during seasons of delay, recognize God's divine timing, and step out in courage when He calls. Join us Thursdays at 10:00 AM on July 23 and 30 and August 6, 20, 27 and September 3 in Esther's Parlor for a welcoming time of learning, reflection, and connection with other women.

Golden Friends

The next Golden Friends event will be held on August 3rd at The Silver Palace Bar & Grill, 1500 Woodside, Essexville, beginning at 12:00 PM. The sign-up sheet is posted on the "Sign-Up" bulletin board across from the Fellowship Hall, with a deadline of July 26th. For additional information, please contact Judy or Joe Fleming.

Memorial Garden Care – Volunteers Welcome

All are welcome to help weed and trim the Memorial Garden to keep it looking beautiful. Please bring your own garden tools. When: Wednesdays, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM (weather permitting)

Dates:

- July 22
- August 5 & 19
- September 2 & 16

Rummage Sale | August 13-15 | 9 AM – 4 PM

Items for the annual church rummage sale can be brought to the church in Room 1 starting **July 1st**; please note we cannot accept computers, mattresses, box springs, tube TVs, or exercise equipment. Sign-up sheets are available on the bulletin board, and we encourage everyone to consider helping, even if only for a couple of hours, as this is a large event and all assistance is appreciated.

- **Set-up** will take place on **Sunday, August 9** immediately following fellowship. Volunteers will arrange tables and move all items out of Room #1; no sorting or pricing will be done that day.
- **Sorting and pricing** will occur **Monday, August 10 through Wednesday, August 12** from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
- The **sale will run Thursday, August 13 through Saturday, August 15**, from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
- Volunteer sign-up sheets are available on the bulletin board, and many helping hands are needed.

There will also be a bake sale, so donations of baked goods are needed. If you have any questions, please contact Brenda Kemp at 989-326-2314. Thank you!

Vacation Bible School

VBS Dates: Monday-Wednesday | July 20, 21, 22 | 5-7:30 pm

VBS Setup: Saturday | July 18 | 10 am

Sunday | July 19 | Following Worship Service

VBS Cleanup: Thursday | July 23 | 10:00 am

Loaned Items

Any loaned items that are not picked up by Sunday, July 26th will be donated to the rummage sale.



VBS Kick-Off Prayer Request — Snowball Mountain Challenge

As we begin our **Snowball Mountain Challenge VBS** this week, we give thanks for the amazing leaders who have stepped forward to serve. We hold close the words from Philippians: *"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me."*

Please join us in prayer:

- **For our leaders**
 - That God strengthens them for the work ahead
 - That each one is filled with kindness, compassion, and patience
 - That their hearts overflow with love for every child and youth
 - That they become a blessing to all who take part in our VBS program
- **For our children, youth, and families**
 - That lives are touched and transformed
 - That God prepares their hearts to learn, grow, and experience joy
 - That each participant feels welcomed, safe, and loved
- **For our outreach**
 - That invitations reach neighbors, relatives, and friends
 - That our community feels encouraged to join us
 - That God uses our efforts to share hope and hospitality
- **For our shared mission**
 - With God's strength we can share our gifts
 - With God's strength we can give our all
 - With God's strength we can pray
 - With God's strength we can hope

Prayer: *God, thank you for these gracious people you have called to your service. Bless our leaders with wisdom, gentleness, and joy. Fill their hearts with love and help them be a source of blessing to all who take part in our Snowball Mountain Challenge VBS. Strengthen us for the work ahead and guide every step with your grace.*

Upcoming

Online calendar: <https://www.stlukesumcmi.org/calendar>

Sun Jul 19, 2026

10am Worship Service
11am VBS setup

Mon Jul 20, 2026

5pm VBS

Tue Jul 21, 2026

10am Crew 206 Youth Group
10:30am Needleworkers Meet-up
5pm VBS

Wed Jul 22, 2026

10am Memorial Garden Weed and Trim
10:30am Wednesday Weavers
5pm VBS
6:30pm Needleworkers Meet-up

Thu Jul 23, 2026

10am Women's Bible Study
10am VBS Clean-up

Sat Jul 25, 2026

12pm Private Bridal Shower – Fellowship Hall

Sun Jul 26, 2026

10am State of the Church – UWif – Becky Scott
10am Worship Service

Mon Jul 27, 2026

6:30pm Governance Board Meeting

Tue Jul 28, 2026

10am Crew 206 Youth Group
10:30am Needleworkers Meet-up

Wed Jul 29, 2026

10:30am Wednesday Weavers

Thu Jul 30, 2026

10am Women's Bible Study
1am VBS Review Meeting

Sat Aug 1, 2026

9am U.M.M. Breakfast @ Krzysiak's
12pm Celebration of Life – Duranczyk Family

Sun Aug 2, 2026

10am Worship Service

Mon Aug 3, 2026

12pm Golden Friends @ Silver Palace

Tue Aug 4, 2026

All day Fellowship Hall Reserved-Primary Election
10am Crew 206 Youth Group
10:30am Needleworkers Meet-up

Wed Aug 5, 2026

10am Memorial Garden Weed and Trim
10:30am Wednesday Weavers

Thu Aug 6, 2026

10am Women's Bible Study

Sun Aug 9, 2026

All day Fellowship Hall Reserved – Rummage Sale Setup
10am State of the Church – Worship – Lisa Foster
10am Worship Service

Mon Aug 10, 2026

All day Fellowship Hall Reserved – Rummage Sale Setup

Tue Aug 11, 2026

All day Fellowship Hall Reserved – Rummage Sale Setup
10am Crew 206 Youth Group
10:30am Needleworkers Meet-up

Wed Aug 12, 2026

All day Fellowship Hall Reserved – Rummage Sale Setup
10:30am Wednesday Weavers
6:30pm Needleworkers Meet-up
6:30pm UWif Prayer Walk

Thu Aug 13, 2026

9am Rummage Sale
6pm Girl Scout Leaders Meeting – Room 1

Fri Aug 14, 2026

9am Rummage Sale

Sat Aug 15, 2026

9am Rummage Sale
9am U.M.M. Breakfast @ Krzysiak's

Sun Aug 16, 2026

10am Worship Service

Tue Aug 18, 2026

10am Crew 206 Youth group
10:30am Needleworkers Meet-up
6pm Missions Meeting

Sun Aug 23, 2026

10am Worship Service with Blessing of the Pillowcases

Volunteers

Serving This Sunday

Liturgist
Lisa Killey

Children's Church
Karla Morgan (L)
Sheila Good

Ushers
Henry Roeder, Joe Fleming
and others

Counters
Eric Yagiela
Brenda Kemp

To Sign up for our E-newsletter
<https://stlukesumcmi.org#newsletter-subscribe>

Newsletter for July 16, 2026
<https://bit.ly/newsletter-2026-jul-16>

Serving Next Sunday

Liturgist
Fritzi Stevenson

Children's Church
Dan Morgan (L)
tbd

Ushers
Henry Roeder, Joe Fleming
and others

Counters
Eric Yagiela
Char McGrath

Acolytes
(varies week to week)

Connor Yagiela, Lauren Yagiela,
Jazzlyn Jones, Kyliana Green

✿ Altar Flowers ✿

*If you'd like to offer altar flowers in honor or celebration of someone or something meaningful,
please add your name to the sign-up board for an upcoming Sunday.*

☉ FELLOWSHIP TIME SIGN-UP ☉

Fellowship Time following worship provides a wonderful opportunity for our congregation to connect and engage with one another. Those interested may sign up on the bulletin board located across from the Fellowship Hall. Your participation is sincerely appreciated. For new volunteers, guidelines, procedures, and helpful suggestions are posted on the refrigerator in the kitchen for your reference.

Stay Connected



Address

206 Scheurmann St
Essexville MI 48732



Phone

Church: 989-893-8031
Parsonage: 989-894-2453



Office Hours

Tue & Wed 9-3, Thu 9-12



Email

office@stlukesumcmi.org

Website

<https://www.stlukesumcmi.org>

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/stlukesumcmi>

YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/@stlukesumcmi>

Staff

Pastor

Rev. Mark Huff
pastormark@stlukesumcmi.org

Office Manager

Sheila Good
office@stlukesumcmi.org

Organist

Leon Beaudin

Accountant

Donna Gross
accountant@stlukesumcmi.org

AV Coordinator

Andrew Felch
avtech@stlukesumcmi.org

Christian Education Coordinator

Janie Good
christianed@stlukesumcmi.org

Adult Sunday School

Fall, Winter, Spring
9:00 am in Esther's Parlor

Children's Church:

Following Children's Message
in Classroom 3

Youth Group

Mondays at 7:00 pm

Get our App

<https://bit.ly/stlukesumcmi-app>



Online Giving

<https://www.stlukesumcmi.org/give>

