

St. Luke's United Methodist Church
Rev. Mark Huff

September 13, 2026
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Ministers- Every Member of the Congregation
We are the People of the United Methodist Church

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kathy Erndt, Liturgist

PRELUDE

As the Deer

Leon Beaudin, Pianist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, all who have been counting and storing.

We come to worship the God who gives without measure.

Come, all who are tired of never having enough.

We come to the One who satisfies the hungry heart.

Lay down what you have gathered and lift up your praise.

We lift our hearts to the God who made us.

No barn can hold him. No treasure can buy him.

Yet he draws near to all who call on his name.

We bring nothing into this world, and we will carry nothing out.

But we have this moment, and we give it to God.

Come, let us worship the living God.

We come to be rich toward God. Amen.

*HYMN

Sing Praise to God

UMH 126

*PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, we have come to worship you, and worship begins with listening.

Quiet in us every voice that competes for our attention. Open our ears to hear your word as it is spoken to us this morning. Open our hearts to receive it with joy. Send your Spirit among us, that in hearing you we would truly praise you. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

Luke 12:13-21

RSV p. 70

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Mark Huff

*HYMN

Seek Ye First Vs 1, 2 + Repeat vs1

UMH 405

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Mark Huff

THE LORD'S PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Timothy 6:6-10

RSV p. 1

MESSAGE

"Save All You Can"

Rev. Mark Huff

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

INVITATION TO GIVE

Worship is not something we watch. It is something we offer. We have offered our voices in song and our attention to the word, and now we offer what has passed through our hands. Not because God needs it, but because giving is how our hearts learn where our treasure truly lies. Let us worship God with our gifts.

OFFERTORY

My Tribute

Leon Beaudin

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 94

*PRAYER OVER THE OFFERING

Generous God, everything we hold belongs first to you. Receive these gifts as an act of worship. Use them to feed the hungry, to welcome the stranger, and to make your kingdom known here and beyond. Make us rich in the things that last. Amen.

*HYMN

Trust and Obey

UMH 467

SENDING FORTH

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Mark Huff

Go now with open hands and glad hearts. Hold loosely to what you own. Hold tightly to the God who owns you. And may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all, now and forevermore. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune in C

Leon Beaudin, Organist

**Congregation stands (as able to)*

A few large print versions of this worship packet are available at the Welcome Desk

Worship Design Summary

Week two of our Gain, Save, Give stewardship series. Jesus tells the parable of a rich farmer who tore down his barns to build bigger ones, and God called him a fool, not because he had much, but because he kept it all for himself and was not rich toward God. Paul reminds Timothy that godliness with contentment is great gain, and that the love of money plunges people into ruin. This sermon recovers Wesley's true meaning of save all you can... not hoarding, but contentment and simple living that frees our resources to flow. It invites the congregation to evaluate what "enough" looks like in their own lives.

PRAYER LIST

The Families of

Tom Nankerus (brother of Linda Sterling)

Pray For

Susan Hendrickson

Helen Cummings

Marie Nutting

Rachel Lochinski and new baby boy (daughter of Fritz Stevenson)

Roger Trerice

Dave Reed

William Roeder (brother of Henry Roeder)

William Kozuch (husband of Fritz Stevenson)

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

Shut-ins

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

Requests will remain on the prayer list for one month. If you would like your request to stay on the list longer—or be added again—please let us know.

*You can **submit a prayer request** through our app, our website, by emailing office@stlukesumcmi.org, by filling out a connection card (located on the pew backs), or by placing a note in the Prayer Box at the front of the church.*

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Sunday School – Interest survey

We're exploring whether there's enough interest to consider an Adult Sunday School option this fall. If this is something you might participate in, the potential meeting time would be 9:00–9:45 am. Please stop by the bulletin board and add your name to the sign-up sheet. Your response will help us understand the level of interest as we plan future opportunities.

Sewing for Missions – Interest Survey

Are you a sewer or would you like to learn? St Luke's Missions has been offered several sewing machines to use, if there's interest. The interest survey is posted on the bulletin board or you can contact Sue Lind , Becky Scott or Kathy Erndt.

Crew 206 Youth Group Outdoor Movie Night

Come hang out with the Crew 206 Youth Group for a fun outdoor movie night featuring “*Surf's Up*” on Monday, September 14, 2026 at 7:00 PM. We'll have fresh popcorn, a great movie, and plenty of space to relax under the evening sky. Bring your own lawn chair and favorite beverage to stay comfy. If it rains, we'll move inside to the Fellowship Hall so the night can still go on. Everyone is welcome — come enjoy the show! Please sign-up on the bulletin board or online at <https://subspla.sh/cf22nnw>.

Come Join Us at the Second Annual BARE Carnival!

Come join us at the second annual BARE Carnival for a fantastic day filled with carnival games, concession food, bake sale treats, bounce houses, a dunk tank, and more — and Pastor Huff has even mentioned taking a turn in the dunk tank. The carnival runs on September 19, 2026, from 11 AM to 3 PM, with the new Zebra Fun Run Obstacle Course kicking off at 10 AM. All proceeds support Biliary Atresia Research and Education. Please contact Marsha or Eric Yagiela with any questions and see the signup sheets on the bulletin board if you'd like to volunteer.

Subsplash Sunday Drop-In Training

Learn the basics, ask questions, and get hands-on practice during fellowship time. Join us in Ether's Parlor on Sunday, September 20 for a relaxed, come-as-you-are session focused on using Subsplash with confidence. Sheila Good and Janie Good will be available to guide you. Feel free to stop in anytime between 11:00 and noon. More sessions will be offered in the future, so you'll have additional chances to learn.

Blessing of the Animals

Join us at St. Luke's UMC for a Blessing of the Animals on Thursday, October 1st at 5 p.m. All pets, big or small, are welcome to receive a blessing as we celebrate the bond between animals and their humans. Please ensure pets are on leashes or in carriers. We look forward to seeing you there!

Lasagna & Game Night

Join us for **Lasagna & Game Night** on **Saturday, October 3 from 5:30–9:00 PM** for an evening of great food, fellowship, and fun. Please see the sign-up board to register and to indicate any food donation you'd like to bring. We are requesting donations of lasagna noodles, plain spaghetti sauce, brick cheese (sharp cheddar, colby jack, mozzarella), cottage cheese, garlic butter spread, garden salad, salad dressings (one ranch, one Italian, one French), a couple different kinds of cookies, and two liters of root beer. Thank you for helping make this event a success!

Golden Friends

The next Golden Friends event will be on Monday, October 5th at the Turkey Roost Restaurant, 2273 S Huron Rd., Kawkawlin, starting at 12:00 pm. The registration sheet is available on the "Sign-Up" bulletin board across from the Fellowship Hall, with a deadline of September 27th. For more information, please reach out to Judy or Joe Fleming.

Thursday Bible Study- Reading the Bible Like a Pastor – Led by Rev. Mark Huff

Six Thursdays, October 8 – November 12, 6:30-7:30 pm in Esther's Parlor. Every Sunday you hear 2 of four scripture readings. Where do they come from, why those, and how does a pastor get from the page to the sermon? Over six weeks we will work through the coming Sunday's readings together and learn the practices Methodists have used to read scripture: Lectio divina, reading in context, letting scripture interpret scripture, praying the psalms, and the old class meeting question, How is it with your soul. No experience needed. Bring a Bible and a Pen with a willingness to sit still with a text. Please see the sign-up on the bulletin board

Fall Bazaar – Volunteers Needed!

Our Fall Bazaar will be **on November 14, 2026, from 11:00 AM–4:00 PM.**

We're looking for volunteers to help in the kitchen with set-up and clean-up.

Set-up: November 13, 3:00-7:00 PM

Clean-up: November 14, 4:00–6:00 PM

If you can help, please see the sign-up board. Thank you!

Bush Elementary Snack Collection

Through the remainder of August and through September, the Missions work area will be collecting snack items for our young neighbors at Bush Elementary School. Individually wrapped packages of granola bars, fruit snacks, animal crackers, etc. can be left on the Mission table near the main entrance.

Upcoming

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

Sun Sep 13, 2026

10am Worship Service – Save All You Can

Mon Sep 14, 2026

7pm Outdoor Movie Night

Tue Sep 15, 2026

10:30am Needleworkers Meet-up

4pm Girl Scout Troop (Large classroom)

Wed Sep 16, 2026

10am Memorial Garden Weed and Trim

10:30am Wednesday Weavers

3:30pm UWif – Helen Nickless Clinic Meal

Fri Sep 18, 2026

All day [Fellowship Hall reserved] for Yagiela BARE event

Sat Sep 19, 2026

All day [Fellowship Hall reserved] for Yagiela BARE event

9am U.M.M. breakfast @ Krzysiak's

Sun Sep 20, 2026

10am Worship Service – Pledge Sunday

11am Subsplash tutorial – drop in during Fellowship

Mon Sep 21, 2026

7pm Crew 206 Youth group

Tue Sep 22, 2026

10:30am Needleworkers Meet-up

6pm Missions Meeting

Wed Sep 23, 2026

10:30am Wednesday Weavers

6:30pm Needleworkers meet-up

Sun Sep 27, 2026

10am Worship Service – Consecration Sunday

11am Consecration celebration following service

Mon Sep 28, 2026

6:30pm Governance Board Meeting

7pm Crew 206 Youth group

Tue Sep 29, 2026

10:30am Needleworkers Meet-up

4pm Girl Scout Troop (Large classroom)

Wed Sep 30, 2026

10:30am Wednesday Weavers

Thu Oct 1, 2026

5pm Blessing of the Animals

Sat Oct 3, 2026

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

5:30pm Game Night

Sun Oct 4, 2026

10am Worship Service – World Communion Sunday

Mon Oct 5, 2026

12pm Golden Friends

7pm Crew 206 Youth group

Tue Oct 6, 2026

10:30am Needleworkers Meet-up

Wed Oct 7, 2026

10:30am Wednesday Weavers

Thu Oct 8, 2026

6pm Girl Scout Leader's Meeting (Room 1)

6:30pm Thursday Bible Study

Sat Oct 10, 2026

All day UWif Central Bay District Annual Celebration

Sun Oct 11, 2026

10am Worship Service

11:30am Potluck following Worship service

Mon Oct 12, 2026

Columbus Day

TBD Onboarding in Esther's Parlor

6:30pm UWif Executive Meeting

7pm Crew 206 Youth group

Tue Oct 13, 2026

10:30am Needleworkers Meet-up

4pm Girl Scout Troop (Large classroom)

6pm Finance Task Group Meeting in Esther's Parlor

Stewardship Campaign 2026

Gain All You Can • Save All You Can • Give All You Can

Save All You Can — Expanded Teaching

John Wesley's second rule, **Save All You Can**, is not about hoarding or fear. It is about *wisdom*. Wesley believed that faithful saving is an act of stewardship—an intentional way of honoring God's provision so that we are free to be generous when generosity is needed most.

Scripture affirms this wisdom in *Proverbs 21:20*, reminding us that wise living creates the foundation for wise giving:

"Precious treasure and oil are in the dwelling of the wise..." (Proverbs 21:20)

Jesus deepens this teaching in *Luke 12:15–21*, warning against storing up treasures only for ourselves and calling us instead to be "rich toward God." Saving, in Wesley's view, is not about accumulation—it is about readiness, clarity, and purpose.

1. Save about avoiding waste

Wesley urged Christians to avoid needless spending, careless habits, and anything that drains resources without purpose. Saving begins with awareness: noticing where our time, money, and energy slip away without meaning.

2. Save by living simply and intentionally

Simplicity is not deprivation—it focuses on clarity. When we understand what truly matters, we create space for generosity, peace, and purpose. Wesley believed that simple living frees us from the pressure of competitive consumption and helps us focus on God's call.

3. Save to protect what God has entrusted to you

Saving is a way of caring for your household, your future, and your ability to respond to God's work. Wesley taught that Christians should manage their resources wisely so they are prepared to help others.

4. Save so you can give

The heart of Wesley's teaching is this: Saving is not an end in itself. It is preparation for **Give All You Can**. Wise saving creates the foundation for joyful generosity.

A Reflection for the Congregation

As we continue this campaign, consider:

- Where might God be inviting you to live more intentionally?
- What habits or patterns could you adjust to create room for generosity?
- How does thoughtful stewardship strengthen your ability to support Christ’s great commission of discipleship making?

On the table across from the Missions area you’ll find stewardship envelopes. Many are already addressed to members whose contact information we have on file. If you don’t see one with your name, there are also unlabeled envelopes available for anyone to take.

Each envelope includes:

- a Time & Talent survey,
- a Stewardship/Giving card, and
- a return envelope for your completed forms.

Please return these by Pledge Sunday, September 20 as part of our Wesley stewardship emphasis this month. Together we’re reflecting on John Wesley’s call to *gain all you can, save all you can, and give all you can* — a pattern of faithful living that shapes how we serve, how we steward our resources, and how we participate in God’s work with generosity and joy.

If your envelope is still on the table, please pick it up by next Sunday to help us save on postage, as any unclaimed envelopes will be mailed. Thank you for being part of this shared ministry.

Throughout September, we will explore how this simple rhythm can deepen our discipleship, strengthen our ministries, and guide our generosity as a church family.

Each Sunday will focus on one part of Wesley’s teaching, leading us toward **Pledge Sunday on September 20** and **Consecration Sunday on September 27**, when we will celebrate our commitments together with a church-wide meal following worship.

We invite you to pray for this season of reflection and renewal as we prepare to grow in faith, wisdom, and joyful generosity.

Stay Connected

St. Luke's UMC
206 Scheurmann St
Essexville MI 48732

Church Phone: 989-893-8031
Parsonage Phone: 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>

Newsletter
<https://www.stlukesumcmi.org/newsletter>

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 7-9pm

☉ **Fellowship Time** ☉
*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.*

✿ 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

Get our App



Online Giving



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

Serving This Sunday

Liturgist
Kathy Erndt

Children's Church
Becky Scott (L)
Joy Clark

Ushers
Henry Roeder,
Joe Fleming and
others

Counters
Eric Yagiela
Becky Scott

Next Sunday

Liturgist
Jodi Shaw

Children's Church
Brenda Toyzan (L)
Becky Scott

Ushers
Henry Roeder,
Joe Fleming and others

Counters
Eric Yagiela
Brenda Kemp

Acolytes
(varies week to week)

Connor Yagiela, Lauren Yagiela,
Jazzlyn Jones, Kyliana Green,
Ethan Lanava, Weston Wieland