



**Lebanon
Evangelical
Lutheran
Church**

*A congregation of the North/West
Lower Michigan Synod of the ELCA
Julie Schneider-Thomas, Bishop
Yehiel Curry, Presiding Bishop*

1101 S. Mears Avenue
Whitehall, Mi 49461
231-893-5745

Rev. Douglas M. Ogden

Sunday Morning Worship
10:15 AM in person
YouTube Worship on the Web

Office Hours
M-Th 9AM-1:00PM

Office Manager
Margaret Everling

Church Council

Cheri Crouch	David Dusenberry
Kim Nelson	Toni Schillaci
Amy Swope	Stephen Troy
Al Wheeler	
Treasurer: Terry Beekman	
Financial Secretary: Curt Crouch	

**“We are baptized members of
God’s Church, forgiven and set
free by grace through faith.”**

www.lebanonlutheranchurch.com

Pastor’s Note

July 1, 2026

Much to my surprise, we received word mid-June (just before I left for Ireland) that we will welcome a Slovak student from the Bratislava Seminary this summer!

Please welcome Viktoria Barazova. She is arriving about the first of July which is just a few days past her birthday. Her email address is balazovaviktorka12@gmail.com. Feel free (and encouraged) to send her an email greeting.

Viktorka is Slovak informal for Viktoria. You can greet her on Facebook too as Viktorka Balazova. She is from Blatne, a small village just east of Bratislava, whose history goes back to the 13th century!

John and Irene Parks put together housing. She will stay two weeks at a time with different families or households in the congregation. Host families are responsible for letting the student share in meals, some transportation, and sharing in your trips or activities so she gets to know America and you. Most days she will shadow me and participate in evening activities or church functions. In most years the Ogden family hosts first so as to make the welcome a little easier, but it is possible her arrival might coincide with my return from Ireland! (If you hadn’t heard, I will have just returned leading a group trip to Ireland on behalf of the Pastor of First Lutheran, who had to cancel at the last minute.

Viktoria and I will do home visits, and hospital visits, and she will participate in worship each week, leading toward preaching in English. Even if you are not a host family, if you are doing
(Continued on p. 2)

(Continued from p. 1)

something this summer that would be of interest, please consider inviting her along. The goal of the program is two-fold: to develop skills as a church leader, and to improve in English.

Thank you to John and Irene, to all the worship leaders in my absence, to the host families, and (on another note) to everyone who approved the Food Pantry/Scout Center construction to begin the end of September (estimated completion April 1, 2027). Since the congregation voted to approve construction, trees have already been removed to prepare the site.

Pastor Doug Ogden



Swedish Smörgåsbord



Lebanon Lutheran Church
1101 S. Mears Avenue
Whitehall

Thursday, July 16, 2026, 5:30 pm

Adults \$18.00 Children 5-10 \$10.00
Under 5 - Free

Tickets available at the church office or
at the door



Lebanon Lutheran
@lebanonluthernan
venmo

Scan this code to pay

Smorgasbord Quilt Raffle: The winner can choose from king quilt (top) or a more intricate twin quilt (bottom). On display at church!



Prayer Concerns



It is an important part of our ministry to be praying constantly for one another. We add names to the prayer list with consent to maintain privacy and confidentiality.

This month in your prayers, please remember:

Prayers for those who are homebound:

Jane Blyth, 28801 Jefferson Ave., Apt. 332; Saint Clair Shores, MI 48081

Chris Claus, American House - 17383 174th Avenue, Spring Lake, MI 49456

Shirley Glass, Story Point West, 3121 Lake Michigan Drive NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Marlene Holmstrom, The Cottages at Martin Lake, 3088 S Van Wagoner Ave, Fremont, MI 49412

Val Johnson, White Lake Assisted Living, 6827 Whitehall Road, Whitehall, MI 49461

Ken Kolb, American House – Spring Lake Pebblebrook; 18100 – 174th Avenue, #10, Spring Lake, MI 49456

Elaine Liska, Sunrise of Troy – Room 130, 6870 Crooks Road, Troy, MI 48098-1704

Phyllis Monte, Legacy of Caring - Whitehall—1302 Warner Street, Whitehall 49461

Ruth Nurmi, 308 E. Dayton Street, Fremont, 49412

Lois Szczerbinski, Robinswood Assisted Living, 2650 Ruddiman, N. Muskegon 49445

Special Prayer Concerns:

Cindy Albert, suffering from dizziness

Don B., (Ernie Stacy's friend from the Lion's Club), newly diagnosed with leukemia

Brianne Beekman, (Terry & Mary Beekman's granddaughter) diagnosed with multiple brain tumors

Lucas Carlson, (Terry and Mary Beekman's grandson) for new treatment

Diane Eastman, recovering from surgery

Sheila Fretty, re-occurring cancer and health concerns

Brian Holmblade, with heart issues

Mary Lewallen, recovering from spinal surgery

Dwight Mead (Paula Moreau's brother-in-law), non-Hodgkins's lymphoma mantel type (stage four)

Gil Norwick, recovering after a stroke

Martha Ogden (Pastor Ogden's mother), with health concerns

John Parks, with health concerns

Bev Statz, with health concerns

Bev Uetricht, awaiting transplant surgery

Katie VandeBunte (Donna and Ernie Stacy's daughter), being treated for Stage II breast cancer

Darlene Willbrandt, with re-occurring pancreatic cancer

For our partners in faith, our companion synods in Salud para la Vida in San Pedro Sula, Honduras for their mission and ministry in their place as we fulfill our mission in our place; for all the churches of the Lutheran World Federation, for people of the gospel throughout the world.

HAPPY *Birthday*

7/1 Molly Crouch
7/1 Kareece Johnson
7/2 Zoe Fretty
7/2 Frank Lundell Jr.
7/3 Raegan Murphy
7/3 Reilly Murphy
7/3 Rhonda Sweet
7/4 David Civis
7/5 Stephen Troy
7/5 Michelle Wheeler
7/6 Diane Eastman

7/9 Michael Palmer
7/10 Robert Ackerman
7/10 Mark Brooks
7/10 Caryn Koster
7/11 Lindsey Schenten
7/12 Rick Hughes
7/13 Mitchell Foster
7/13 Emily Snell Glass
7/16 Cindy Frale
7/16 Morgan Hughes

7/16 Judy Kurtz
7/17 Joel Fretty
7/18 Brooke Otto
7/19 Barb Reece
7/22 Terry Beekman
7/23 Jennifer Fretty
7/26 Matthew Everitt
7/27 Mackenzie Fretty
7/28 Bob Ferrentino
7/29 Sophia Walters
7/31 Patricia DeNicolo

Baptism Anniversaries

Celebrate your baptism anniversary by lighting a candle with this prayer:

“Stir up within me the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and joy, on this day when I give thanks for my baptism into Christ.”

7/2 Eric Nelson
7/2 Drake Otto
7/2 Jay R. Otto
7/5 Jeff Griswold
7/7 Nora Gaiser
7/7 Ellis Gaiser
7/8 Monica Ogden

7/12 Arin Snell Bowen
7/14 Carla Nessa
7/18 Blake Swenson
7/19 Kelsey Fretty
7/23 Brianna Clark
7/23 Stephen Troy
7/27 Verne Jensen, Jr.

7/28 Mark Brooks
7/28 Stephanie Emms
7/29 Marlene Holmstrom
7/30 Gina Holmblade



Anniversary Blessings



7/1/16
7/6/74
7/11/78
7/19/69
7/28/18
7/30/11

Daniel & Arin Bowen
Al & Michelle Wheeler
Jim & Stephanie Emms
Brian & Juanita Holmblade
Ken & Kathy Mahoney
Charles & Sally Jackson

Thrivent Newsletter for July

Now that summer is in full swing and our rhythms have shifted a bit, it's a natural time to reflect on the kind of legacy we're building—not just for the future, but in the everyday moments right in front of us. Legacy isn't only about what we leave behind; it's about how we live, give, and love today. Whether that's investing in your family, serving your community, or stewarding your resources with intention, small, faithful choices add up over time.

My encouragement this season is to pause, pray, and consider: What seeds am I planting today that will bless others tomorrow? If you'd ever like a conversation around aligning your financial decisions with the legacy you feel called to build, I'm always happy to connect. To reach Marci Bentz, your local Thrivent financial professional, call 231-894-8886 or text 231-760-8246. I'd be more than happy to help!

The Fund of the Month for July is the Backpack Event

Please consider contributing to this special back-to-school event for kids who need a new backpack. The goal is to have a fun community gathering and help families get their children ready for the new school year. Checks or cash may be marked "Backpack Event" or just check the "Fund of the Month" box on your giving envelope in July. Thank you!



walk the beat™
WHITE LAKE AREA

FREE MUSIC FESTIVAL!

SATURDAY
JULY 18, 2026
1:00 PM – 5:30 PM
DOWNTOWN
WHITEHALL & MONTAGUE

FEATURING
SCHOOL & ROCK
PLAYING AT COVELL PARK

- 13 Live Music Venues
- 26 Musical Acts
- \$2600+ in Free Door Prizes
- Raffles with a Chance to Win up to \$5000!
- Food Trucks, Family Fun & More!

★ **HELP SUPPORT** ★
local musicians,
businesses &
community nonprofits!



The White Lake Chamber Music Festival concludes its celebrated 2026 season with Festival Finale: Baroque Splendor on Saturday, July 25 at 7:00 PM at Lebanon Lutheran Church.

This grand finale concert offers audiences an evening of elegance, virtuosity, and dramatic beauty through a richly varied Baroque-inspired program featuring masterworks by Corelli, J.S. Bach, Handel, Purcell, and Mozart.

The evening includes Corelli's Concerto in D Major, J.S. Bach's Flute Concerto, Harpsichord Concerto, and the beloved Brandenburg Concerto No. 5, alongside treasured vocal works including Mozart's Laudate Dominum, Handel's Lascia ch'io pianga from Rinaldo, selections from Purcell's The Fairy Queen, and Handel's Tra le fiamme.

Filled with sparkling instrumental brilliance, expressive vocal artistry, and the ornate beauty of Baroque style, Festival Finale: Baroque Splendor serves as a fitting conclusion to ten days of world-class chamber music performances in the White Lake area.

Tickets (\$25) and full schedule may be found at <https://www.whitelakemusic.org/festival/schedule/>



Worship Notes

Sunday July 5 – Pentecost 6 – 10:15 AM

Today we pray for: Darlene Willbrandt

Readings: Zechariah 9:9-12, Psalm 145:8-14, Romans 7:15-25a, Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Prayer of the Day: You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Sunday July 12 – Pentecost 7 - 10:15 AM

Today we pray for: Jeanne Berry

Readings: Isaiah 55:10-13, Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13, Romans 8:1-11, Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Prayer of the Day: Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Sunday July 19 – Pentecost 8 - 10:15 AM

Today we pray for: Savanhni Chittisane

Readings: Isaiah 44:6-8,16-19 Psalm 86:11-17, Romans 8:12-25, Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Prayer of the Day: Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Sunday July 26 – Pentecost 9 - 10:15 AM

Today we pray for: Carol & Terry Deneke

Readings: 1 Kings 3:5-12, Psalm 119:129-136, Romans 8:26-39, Matthew 13:31-22, 44-52

Prayer of the Day: Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.