



# 2023

## HELLO

# September

## Lyndonville United Methodist News

### Upcoming Ministries, Meetings & Programs September 2023

Sept 3	Worship Service-Online & in Sanctuary	10AM
Sept 4	<i>Happy Labor Day!!!</i>	
Sept 10	Worship Service-Online & in Sanctuary	10AM
Sept 11-13	<i>** Pastor On Retreat **</i>	
Sept 17	<b>Sunday School Kick off!!!</b>	9AM
	Worship Service-Online & in Sanctuary	10AM
	<i>**Pastor Dan Thurber Preaching**</i>	
	<b>**Pot Luck Brunch to Follow Service**</b>	
Sept 19	Ad Council Meeting	6:30PM
Sept 24	Sunday School	9AM
	Worship Service-Online & in Sanctuary	10AM

## Hope

RESALES  
A Community Thrift Store

### Hope Resales Hours

Wednesday 10AM-1PM

Thursday 5PM-8PM

Friday & Saturday 10AM-1PM

#### How To Contact Us:

##### Address:

PO Box 483  
102 North Main St.  
Lyndonville, NY 14098

Email: [lyndonvilleumc@gmail.com](mailto:lyndonvilleumc@gmail.com)

Facebook: [LyndonvilleUmc](https://www.facebook.com/LyndonvilleUmc)

Website: [www.lyndonvilleumc.org](http://www.lyndonvilleumc.org)

#### Prayer Request email:

[noahzarf@gmail.com](mailto:noahzarf@gmail.com)

[lifesigns@hotmail.com](mailto:lifesigns@hotmail.com)

#### PASTOR TIM SCHULTZ

##### Office hours:

Tues & Wed

9am to 2pm

##### Pastor's Cell Phone:

(716)778-4655

##### email address:

[lifesigns@hotmail.com](mailto:lifesigns@hotmail.com)

#### Church Office Phone

585-765-9313

#### Administrative Assistant

##### Office Hours

Tues & Wed

8am to 12pm

##### Service Times

Sunday School 9:00am

Worship in the Sanctuary &  
Online 10:00 am

[LyndonvilleUmc](https://www.facebook.com/LyndonvilleUmc)

On Facebook

# SEPTEMBER

## IS MY BIRTHDAY MONTH

Yep, the whole month!



Sept 3	ROSS BURGESS
Sept 5	DARREN WILSON
Sept 12	DARREL OAKES
Sept 16	WILLIAM L. OLINGER
Sept 19	MARIA QUINTERN
Sept 21	ANDREW BOYCE & CARTER MILES
Sept 20	JENNIFER NERONI TRUPO
Sept 22	NATALIE MILES
Sept 23	LEE BOYCE JR., AISLINN MANNING & DIANE NELLIST
Sept 25	CASSIDY BOYCE
Sept 27	DR. DAVID FLINT
Sept 30	THOMAS GOETZE & ANNA MARIE KINGDOLLAR

### Hope

RESALES

\* A Community Thrift Store.

Wednesday 10 Am to 1 PM

Thursday 5 PM to 8 PM

Friday 10 AM to 1 PM

Saturday 10 AM to 1 PM

**\*Volunteers Always Welcome!!!\***

Please Call the church office 585-765-9313

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIVING!!!!

Let us continue practicing

"Extravagant Generosity."

Send your offerings by US mail to

P.O. Box 483 Lyndonville NY 14098, or online through  
Tithe.ly

*"Remember  
whoever*

# SUNDAY SCHOOL



*Sunday September 17, 2023 Beginning at 9:00AM*  
**Pot Luck Brunch to Follow Service**  
**Bring a dish to pass; Contact Laurie Bradley**

# A Letter to the LUMC from the Finance Committee

## August 2023

The congregation of the LUMC approved by vote in December a budget for 2023 in the amount of \$111,571, a decrease of \$29,934 (-21.15%) from 2022. This decrease was primarily due to a \$33,475 decrease in the "Pastoral Compensation" for Pastor Tim. Pastor Tim is with us on a  $\frac{3}{4}$  charge. Also, due to the fact that Pastor Tim is not a certified United Methodist pastor, we are not invoiced by the Upper New York Conference for several Direct Billings, one being Pastor Tim's Health Insurance. These lower "Direct Billings" give the LUMC a savings of \$1,884.84 per month compared to 2022. In 2022, we made no Ministry Shares (Apportionments) payments during the first half of the year, making a few such payments during the second half of the year once Pastor Tim began his ministry with us. It was the decision of the Finance Committee that we would pay \$1,017 in Ministry Shares ( $\frac{2}{3}$  of our monthly invoiced amount) beginning in January, which would still leave us a "surplus" each month. Discussions took place as to what the church might do with this surplus. Many ideas were discussed but no definitive decision was made as we waited to see what surplus developed.

The Finance Committee would prefer not to write this letter but, feel that it is our obligation to do so in order that there be no surprises in the future. An analysis of our church finances for the first half of 2023 found an unsettling development. Rather than showing a surplus of any amount, we have run a deficit of approximately \$2,800 through June 30<sup>th</sup>. Part of this can be explained by increased utility rates and increased insurance costs, along with the loss of some members (some due to death, some due to moving to other churches). As the General Conference of the United Methodist Church moves forward in 2024 with a separation/disaffiliation discussion, the future seems uncertain.

Looking at all of this, what does the future hold for our LUMC? Only God can answer that question, but we remain excited about our possibilities. The Finance Committee has shared this letter with the Ad Council and received its approval to release it. We all would like this to be a "Chicken Little" letter, but as of this time, that does not look like reality. Without an influx of members or increased giving (compare your giving now to your pre-Covid giving) or both to significantly increase the church's income, the future of the LUMC could look very different. At present, it seems that it would be virtually impossible for us to afford a full-time United Methodist pastor again. Would we even be able to support a half-time UM pastor? We expect that congregants will have thoughts/ideas to share regarding this letter. Please feel free to contact the Ad Council by letter or contact/speak with any Ad Council member. May you all continue to know the blessings of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

*-The Lyndonville United Methodist Church Finance Committee*

September

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

2023

### A New Series: *Stories Jesus Told*

My mother was a storyteller earlier in life. Those were the days before we had hundreds of television channels and long before the internet, so entertainment was more often verbal and up-close than it is now. Growing up in Buffalo, Mom's stories involved fictional adventures featuring her and her younger brother Billy. At one point she was the Sunday evening teacher for a group of Mennonite children, and the spooky nature of her stories jarred the children; her Mennonite story-time career was short-lived.

Those of us who enjoy reading know the power of stories and the distant worlds they bring closer to view. I recall the strong effect books had on me as a teen, whether it was a Hardy Boys adventure, the non-fiction account of John Hough, young inner-city VISTA volunteer, presidential biographies, or the fiction of John Steinbeck and Truman Capote. Later, my newly-revived walk with God was nurtured and challenged by books I read by good storytellers. I loved visiting the Christian book table at the Lockport Keenan Center "FGBMFI" meetings my parents and I attended when I was in high school.

Jesus communicated mainly through stories. He knew that merely saying, "you are lost," was not going to compel wandering sinners. So, he told stories about a lost son, a lost coin, a lost sheep. "Now we get it!"

Dan Taylor has said, "Stories are God's idea. God is the one who created story — the form of story — and us as story-shaped creatures. He has chosen story as the primary way to present himself to his creation. The Bible does not simply contain stories; it reflects God's choice of the form of story as the primary means by which to tell us about himself and how to be in right relationship with him. It is also the form God has chosen to preserve that knowledge over many, many generations."

This month on Sunday mornings I begin a series of sermons on the stories Jesus told, otherwise known as the parables of Jesus. I hope you will join me in this exploration of truth set in stories. I will continue to use the Christian Standard Bible translation for preaching. Feel free to bring whatever Bible you like to use, though.



Pastor Tim Schultz





Are you familiar with chaos theory? I don't hold vast knowledge on the subject but I read about it from time to time because it fascinates me. I am also suspicious that chaos theory may in fact be God's chosen method of operation. Except it's not chaos to God... One way of thinking about chaos theory is the notion that even when it seems that everything around us is bug-nuts crazy there is actually order underlying it all, perhaps even great beauty in the details. I think of that saying..."God is in the

details"... The Fractal Foundation says that chaos theory is the science of surprises, the nonlinear and the unpredictable. It teaches us to expect the unexpected. Sounds like God work to me.... And yes, I am correlating science with God... they don't have to be separate entities.

My job seems a bit chaotic lately. We have new hands doing new things and we have some old hands doing different things. One aspect of my job is to write procedures and train some of those old and new hands how to perform a task...or perhaps... to manufacture order amid the chaos.

Whenever I show someone how to do a new task I try to be as explicit as I can be. (Although I confess that there are times that what I think is crystal clear is anything but to someone else.) I attempt to impart helpful hints and ideas that are generally founded in experience, specifically that which comes from making a number of mistakes, learning how not to, and what makes for efficiency. I also try to make it very clear when something needs to be done a certain way. Some instructions are flexible, others are not. As hard as I try to be clear, concise, and understandable... my instructions are only as good as they are received by the one performing the task. Instructions no matter how well communicated must also be received, understood and employed to be effective.

How often do you follow instructions? Perhaps you bought a new appliance and it came with a user's guide do you read it thoroughly? Do you read it at all? If you're driving somewhere unfamiliar do you read a map first? Probably not if you have a GPS on hand. Have you ever been misled by a GPS? I have and I will now often check a map before driving somewhere new so that I have an idea of my route, just in case.

So now I'm wondering... Do you read your Bible regularly? Do you read your Bible thoroughly? Do you read your Bible at all? Do you use a concordance and/or a commentary to help you understand what you're reading? Do you ask God to reveal himself to you in His Word?

I like to say that I teach Bible studies and try to live my life "Flying by the seat of the Holy Spirit's pants." I say it with humor, and it sounds a bit haphazard... but it's not. To live freely in God's Word, to impart God's Word with Grace to others, to rightly discern the path God sets before each of us requires a lot of prayer and reading of the instructions. The Bible.

How should we read the Bible to be sure we are gleaning all that it holds for us, or at least as much as possible? I am not an expert on this by any means... but I have a few ideas. Read it. Just read. That's a start. When it grabs your attention, dig deeper, get a study Bible if you don't have one already. I use two, one that gives me historical and cultural context and another that suggests how it applies to our lives. Ask yourself, what is the writer trying to convey, what is the point being made. We can't possibly fully understand without digging into the historical context, the culture within which it is written. I also use a commentary to help me comprehend how it applies to us today.

Flying by the seat of the Holy Spirit's pants requires time and effort. It requires paying attention and moving in whatever direction I am led. It requires realizing that I'm going to get it wrong sometimes and I'll need to dig into it again, and again until I get it. God will show me, I just need to seek it.

- Anne Hyndman

# FALL SERMON SERIES

*Pastor Timothy Schultz*

## Stories JESUS Told

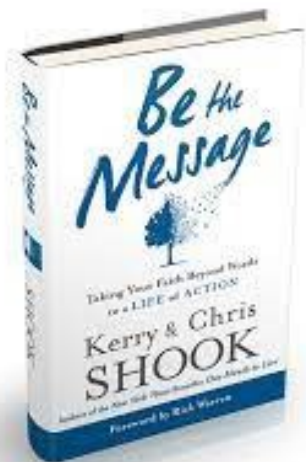


**NEW!**

STOP TALKING ABOUT YOUR FAITH.  
START LIVING WHAT YOU BELIEVE.

Maybe you're troubled by the disconnect between the words you speak and the life you live. Maybe you'd like to see your faith become more active and life-changing in the world around you.

Pastor Kerry and Chris Shook felt that way. Even though their calling involved preaching and teaching, they became weary of sermons and words. They felt a gap between what they were saying and the needs of people around them. They decided to do something about it...



The adult Sunday school class will be doing a 5 week study of Be the Message beginning on September 17 at 9:00 a.m. in the church library.

Sessions include:

- The Great Disconnect
- You Are the Gospel
- Your unique Life Message
- The Message that Confounds the World
- Take a Stand

Anne Hyndman will be leading the class. Please contact the church office if you're interested so that we can make sure everyone has a book.



J E R E M I A H X E D O B A D I A H M W Q R I R  
G Y E K U L V O X F S T C A T I F Z H A G G A I  
V E S T H E R O S N A I P P I L I H P T D D T Z  
O M B L H C D E Z E K I E L L F H P Y B F H F C  
T V V O A U W E C C L E S I A S T E S L G S S O  
S H C Y S M P P S I S E N E G A R H A N O J R R  
F E E H M F E N E H E M I A H R S M I C A H S I  
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I O V D S O N F T I B F Z X P E O T K M M M J T  
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C O J O F I L I R S T A L P P R J R E A H O B I  
A M J U S X S O C E G I I L H H K L S N S Z W A  
L A U I D S C O N L T O O A N E A P E B E M I N  
A H L H T G I Q C I E U Y N H R S N U E T A P S  
M W Z Y A K E A B L A S E K S K W I I C Z T A O  
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B O J U E A N H G A L A T I A N S O N N S E S L  
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Q S Y H U O M S B R E V O R P F F E U Z X O E T  
U Y S C M S X U L E V I T I C U S A I K J L A H  
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J A T S O N G O F S O L O M O N F U B U L N P A  
S R L I B W J T U H A B U K K U K O R O M A N S

timothy  
corinthians  
matthew  
nahum  
hosea  
songofsolomon  
nehemiah  
Judges  
Genesis

thessalonians  
romans  
malachi  
micah  
daniel  
ecclesiastes  
ezra  
Joshua

colossians  
acts  
zechariah  
jonah  
ezekiel  
proverbs  
chronicles  
Deuteronomy

philippians  
john  
haggai  
obadiah  
lamentations  
psalms  
kings  
Numbers

ephesians  
luke  
zeephaniah  
amos  
jeremiah  
job  
Samuel  
Leviticus

galatians  
mark  
habukkuk  
joel  
isaiah  
esther  
Ruth  
Exodus



# September

## 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 Hope Resales 10am-1pm	2 Hope Resales 10am-1pm
3 Worship Service 10AM	4 	5 AD Council Meeting 26:30PM	6 Hope Resales 10am-1pm	7 Hope Resales 5PM-8PM	8 Hope Resales 10am-1pm	9 Hope Resales 10am-1pm
10 Worship Service 10AM	11	12	13 Hope Resales 10am-1pm	14 Hope Resales 5PM-8PM	15 Hope Resales 10am-1pm	16 Hope Resales 10am-1pm
	Pastor Tim away on Retreat					
17 Sunday School Kick off 9:00AM Worship Service 10AM Guest Preacher: Pastor Dan Thurber Pot Luck Brunch Following Service	18	19	20 Hope Resales 10am-1pm	21 Hope Resales 5PM-8PM	22 Hope Resales 10am-1pm	23 Hope Resales 10am-1pm
24 Sunday School @ 9:00am Worship Service 10AM	25	26	27	28 Hope Resales 5PM-8PM	29	30



*September 2023*

LYNDONVILLE  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
102 NORTH MAIN STREET  
PO Box 483  
LYNDONVILLE, NY 14098

← ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED →



Phone: 585-765-9313

# Lyndonville UMC Newsletter

## August \* Coffee \* House

