



Lakewood Window

JULY 2025

Calendar of Events

Prayer Group (6:30 p.m. Library) – July 2nd

Puppets (7:00 p.m.) – July 2nd

Missions (6:30 p.m.) – July 8th

Outreach (6:30 p.m.) – July 8th

Prayer Group (6:30 p.m. Library) – July 9th

Trustees (6:30 p.m.) – July 9th

Puppets (7:00 p.m.) – July 9th

UWF (10 a.m. Library) - July 12th

Preschool Summer Camp (10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.) July 14th—July 18th

Youth Group at Uth 4 Missions (Jumonville) - July 14th—July 18th

Prayer Group (6:30 p.m. Library) – July 16th

Puppets (7:00 p.m.) – July 16th

Epilogue (12:00 p.m. Zem Zem Shrine Club) – July 16th

SPRC (6:00 p.m.) – July 17th

Church Administrative Training (Marygrace out of the office) – July 20th—July 22nd

Puppets (7:00 p.m.) July 23rd

Prayer Group (6:30 p.m. Library) – July 23rd

Lakewood Night at the Ballpark (6:05 p.m. UPMC Park) - July 24th

Puppets (7:00 p.m.) – July 30th

Prayer Group (6:30 p.m. Library) – July 30th

Church Council (6:30 p.m. Sanctuary) – July 30th

SAVE THE DATE

Lakewood Party in the Park will be **Wednesday, August 20**. Free music, ice cream, and activities. All are invited to join the fellowship—bring your neighbors, friends, children & grandchildren.



Rev. Kathleen Schoeneck

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Our annual conference with Bishop Sandra Steiner-Ball may be over for this year, but the theme and message of that conference is one that everyone needs to take to heart and act on:

“Just think of it - just as we gather around this table today, in community, to celebrate the invitation of Christ – there are people who are gathered or will gather to do the same thing this week,” Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball said during her opening sermon. “As the sun brings light to each part of our globe, millions of congregations representing every race and place in our global village have gathered or will gather around Christ’s table . . . This table re-members us not only with God but with one another and together. We learn to trust in the daily provision for survival that comes from existing in the shade and care of the Almighty!”

Remembering our baptism is a key theme for this year’s Annual Conference. From Western Pennsylvania’s many rivers and lakes, water was poured together during the opening worship, providing a visual representation of becoming one body of Christ—many streams, one Spirit.



This theme flowed through the State of the Church Address on Friday morning and into the closing worship and fixing of appointments. As attendees departed the Erie Bayfront Convention Center on Saturday, they were encouraged to take a vial of water from the four baptismal fonts lining the exit hallway, carrying home to their local churches a portion of the connectional waters from Annual Conference.

Bishop Steiner Ball invited the Annual Conference to, “Lean ever more fully into the love of God so that as you leave God’s table this day someone might know through you that indeed God did not send Jesus into the world to condemn the world – but so that all might have hope and life!”

God’s Peace,

Rev. Kathleen Schoeneck

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Amy Estes	07/02
Ellen Hulings	07/02
Ashley Thais	07/02
Richard Giacomelli	07/04
Jackson Eastman	07/06
Alan Clark	07/07
John Currier	07/07
Gary Delio	07/07
James Robertson	07/07
Alice Johnson	07/09
Sandra Ellsworth	07/11
Tony Roussos	07/12
Jane Hasley	07/13
Ethan Belknap	07/16
Samantha Brown	07/16
Kristen Schut	07/16
Stacy Draghi	07/17
Sandra Hess	07/19
Clarita Schoen	07/19
Patricia Webber	07/19
Linda Arkelian	07/22
Lyn Kendall	07/24
Judy Mallory	07/24
Sonia Moore	07/24
Eric Marn	07/25
Cameron Olson	07/25
Devon Wettekin	07/26
Heidi Williams	07/26
Mary Geib	07/28
Katlyn Wettekin	07/29
Linda Lim	07/30



JULY IS UV AWARENESS MONTH

HELP PREVENT

- Skin Cancer
- Early skin aging
- Sunburn

Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer. UV rays are the root cause of most skin cancers according to the American Academy of Dermatologists. One blistering sunburn in childhood or adolescence can nearly double the chance of getting melanoma (the deadliest form of skin cancer) later in life.

The AAD recommends the following these 3 steps YEAR ROUND while outdoors:

1. **Seek** shade when the sun's rays are the strongest between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.
2. **Wear** sun protective clothing.
3. **Apply** broad spectrum sunscreen which protects from UVA rays (aging) and UVB rays (burning). Make sure it is water resistant with an SPF of 30 or higher.

5 Common Sunscreen Mistakes

1. **Ignoring** the label (broad spectrum, water resistant, SPF at 30 or higher). Consider a sunscreen containing titanium dioxide or zinc oxide for a baby's sensitive skin.
2. **Using** too little to cover ALL exposed skin (don't forget ears, head, and feet). Apply sunscreen 15 minutes before going outside and every 2 hours while outdoors or after swimming or sweating.
3. **Applying** only in sunny weather. Even on a cloudy day 80% of UV rays can penetrate the skin. Don't forget that snow and sand reflect the sun.
4. **Using** an old bottle. Throw out expired sunscreen.
5. **Relying** solely on sunscreen. Seek shade. Wear protective clothing such as a wide brim hat, sunglasses with UV protection, lightweight long sleeved shirt, and pants. This applies to all ages including infants.

Church Council Update - July

Lakewood UMC Action Plan 2025-2026

Vision Statement: To glorify God by helping people to discover, experience, and know the love and presence of Jesus Christ.

Mission Statement: We will strengthen opportunities for spiritual growth that fosters genuine relationships by serving our church and community.

Pathways to Intentional and Innovative Ministries Recommendations:

- **Discipleship:** Create a discipleship pathway for Lakewood. (see Action Plan below)
- **Ministry:** Evaluate ministries to determine the “why” behind it. (see Action Plan below)
- **Connect with the Community:** Re-establish a relationship with Lakewood Preschool.
- **Prayer:** Pray for the neighborhood youth to build awareness of how to connect with them.

Discipleship

Definition: Discipleship is strengthening our relationship with Jesus so that we may grow to love and serve God and to help others to do the same.

Vision: To make disciples of Jesus by strengthening personal relationships with Jesus so that all may grow to love and serve God.

Goal: Provide 3 church wide growth opportunities to strengthen personal relationships that are accessible to all.

Action Steps

- Assess existing growth opportunities at Lakewood and identify individuals currently engaged in discipleship groups.
- Evaluate the spiritual needs of the Lakewood congregation.
- Explore effective methods for engaging and supporting homebound members.

Ministry

Definition: Ministry is a calling from God to recognize and fulfill a need by using our gifts, talents, and skills.

Vision: To fulfill a need for anyone and everyone using our gifts, talents, and skills to share and experience the love of Jesus.

Goal: Conduct a review of Lakewood’s current ministries and the needs of the church to determine suitability for continuation or initiation.

Action Steps

- Review existing ministries at Lakewood to assess their viability and alignment with the church’s and community’s current needs.
- Identify the specific needs of both the church and the surrounding community and determine what ministries can best address them.
- Create an inventory of the skills, talents, and resources available within the church congregation.

The next Council meeting will be July 30 at 6:30 pm.

“I was hungry and you gave me something to eat.” Matthew 25:35



SUMMER TRACY BACKPACK PROGRAM

In the autumn of 2014, Lakewood started the Tracy Backpack program to help students at Tracy Elementary School get weekly bags of food throughout the school year. Three years ago, we also added Asbury School to our ministry. Volunteers from Lakewood pick up food from Second Harvest Food Bank and transport to Lakewood, where more volunteers pack approximately 60-80 bags of food each week. Lakewood delivery drivers transport the food to Tracy and Asbury each Thursday morning so students will have food through the weekend.

This year, SHFB expanded the program to get food to students during the summer months. SHFB will provide already packed bags of food for 25 families in the Tracy area. Our role as Lakewood volunteers is to pickup the prepackaged bags and deliver the food to the school, where families will come for food pickup. We are in need of a driver to make this possible.

If you are able to help with a 10:30 a.m. pickup from SHFB and delivery to Tracy on Tuesdays July 8 and July 29, please contact Maria Spicher at 814-397-8545 or mespicher56@gmail.com (If you can do only one week, that would be great!)

Thanks again to all Lakewood volunteers who help with this vital food ministry to help our neighbors dealing with food insecurity.

UWF Rummage Sale and Meeting

United Women in Faith will be meeting on July 12 at 10 a.m. in the library. All women of the church are invited. We will be discussing next year's rummage sale and where to donate the profit from this year's sale. We deposited \$2,954.50 from the sale! Expenses have not yet been tabulated. Thank you so very much to all who donated rummage, food, and their time to make this sale a success. We would also like to acknowledge some good friends: Bonnie, Betty, Pam, Cynthia, Cathy and Marylou, who worked alongside all of us.



JUNE 2025 ATTENDANCE:

Average attendance for weekly in-person worship: 72

Average views of weekly livestream (Youtube): 37

Average weekly combined "attendance" for June: 109

Average weekly combined "attendance" to-date for 2025: 120

Forest Park Laymans League

The Beginnings of Lakewood Church

Submitted by Curt Spicher

Part 2

In part one of Forest Park Laymans League we learned about seven men who met on November 12, 1926 to discuss the possibility of starting a church in the district. At that meeting each gentleman agreed to contribute the sum of \$1 per month for the next three years to establish a fund to go towards the purchase of land and to get a building started.

Light snow was falling as the group next met on Tuesday, November 23 at the Lakewood School Building. No listing of attendees is included but two new names show up in the minutes, Rev. Sheldon of Emmanuel Baptist in Erie and a representative (unnamed) of the ladies aid group.

The meeting opened with Mr. Frank Root reading the 12th chapter of Romans and then Rev. Sheldon led the group in prayer. The only item on the agenda that night was to read and discuss various proposals from real estate dealers and others regarding property for the new church. An acre of land located on Clifton Dr. near 10th street, offered by Dr. J.A. Root was identified as the most desirable both in terms of location and cost. After much discussion on this property and other lots offered, it was "formally moved and seconded (sic) and carried that we proceed to acquire the lots on Clifton Dr. from Dr. Root. Mr. John Root agreed to pay his entire three year dues in advance so that hand payment could be made. In 1926 \$36 was enough money to pay a month's rent, purchase a month's worth of groceries or just about cover the cost of a used Model T. It was assigned to Mr. Hamlett and Mr. Root to finalize the deal with Dr. Root. The group agreed to meet next on the first Friday in December. "The ladies aid volunteered to furnish a lunch for this meeting and their offer was accepted."

The group met again on Friday, December 3rd. Attendance had now grown to 14 from the original 7 at the first meeting. New names included: A. C Stitzinger, J. A. Shepley, W. G. Laffle, Mrs. John Hamlett, Mrs. Clark Root, Mrs. J.C. First, Mrs. F.A. Root, Mrs. F. L. Stitzinger and Mrs. Nissen. Minutes for the meeting begin with "This meeting was called to perfect the organization of the League as agreed by the meeting of November 23, 1926."

The first order of business was election of officers for the League. Mr. Hamlett was elected Chairman, Mr. Shepley – Secretary, Mr. R. A. Robinson – treasurer, and Mr. Martin Smith-Vice Chairman. These nominations were approved by "motions properly made, seconded and carried."

At this meeting it was also agreed upon that all money should be paid to the Secretary, who will turn it over to the Treasurer who in turn will deposit all monies in a local bank. In addition, the Treasurer shall not pay out any money "except upon the written order of the Chairman, and Secretary." Other items in the minutes include the provision that all officers would serve in their respective roles for one year, effective from date of election and League meeting would take place the first Friday of every month. Mr. Smith and Mr. Driscoll were appointed to "call upon those members who might fail to be present at meetings, or fall short in the payment of their dues during the year. Mr. Driscoll and Mr. Root were appointed to visit Scott School the following Sunday, December 5, to invite people of the School to our next regular meeting." The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Lakewood Church is beginning to take shape. In the next article we will look at the minutes from meetings in early 1927 and the church's first tureen dinner!



Lakewood Youth News

*Helping youth to discover, experience and know the love
and presence of Jesus Christ*

The youth of Lakewood would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for your incredible support and generosity. Because of your faithful giving to both our youth ministry and the church, nine youth and four adult leaders will be attending *Uth 4 Missions* in Jumonville this month.

Uth 4 Missions is a special initiative organized by the WPAUMC Conference that engages young people in hands-on mission work throughout southwestern Pennsylvania. This week is a meaningful highlight in the lives of our youth—a time for spiritual growth, building lasting relationships, and embracing the call to serve others.

This opportunity would not be possible without your continued generosity and encouragement. Thank you for investing in the lives of our young people. Please keep our team in your prayers as we prepare for this journey, happening July 14–18.

MEN'S GROUP NEWS

There will not be a Men's Group meeting until August 5th.

The Lakewood night at the Seawolves is July 24th. Due to a small price increase in price, your cost is \$5.00, the balance will be paid by the Men's Group. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex, please sign up by July 13th if you wish to attend.

A SEGMENT FROM FINANCE

Thank you for your continued financial commitment to Lakewood. Your faithfulness is an ongoing blessing that can't be mentioned enough. Your giving enables Lakewood to help others experience the love of Jesus. Thank you for helping the church help the community.

Please remember your church if you're away. Follow weekly giving trends in the bulletin. We will enter July with contributions and expenses about equal. Thank you!

God Loves a Cheerful Giver!



AN UPDATE FROM NEW HORIZON SCHOOL IN PARAGUAY:

Hello godparents

I'm Alan Benitez from the 8th grade

First of all, I wanted to thank you because without you it would be difficult for me

I'm doing well at school. I have fun, I have lots of friends, and I learn a lot. I have

lots of favorite subjects, but my favorite is English and math. I have a dog named barolo a german shepherd, and he plays with me. he's fun and plays with everyone.

I also like soccer. I'm a good player, I play left back or left winger, I like to run and I always train to one day reach my goal apart from soccer. I like tennis and I like to watch tennis matches

thank you for the help you give me and, I love you very much, god parents

Alt: Alan

EMC Volunteers Needed

Are you looking for an opportunity to directly serve those in need? Lakewood volunteers are needed on July 20 to help with preparing and serving a meal and providing fellowship at the Erie City Mission. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Contact Lisa Medina at lmmedmex@aol.com if you have additional questions. Volunteers meet at about 9:15 a.m. at the City Mission (entrance behind building). Volunteers are usually done by 12:30 or 1:00 p.m. We usually need about 10-12 volunteers so please prayerfully consider this opportunity to serve.

If you are interested in helping with this ministry but are unable to serve on July 20, there will be additional opportunities to serve in 2025 on September 21, and November 16.



LAKEWOOD PRESCHOOL

3856 W. 10TH ST. ERIE, PA 16505
814-833-5787
LAKEWOODERIEPRESCHOOL@GMAIL.COM

REGISTRATION OPEN
2025/2026 SCHOOL YEAR

ABC

The poster features a green chalkboard background with a lion illustration, a yellow pencil, and a backpack with school supplies at the bottom right.



LAKEWOOD PRESCHOOL SUMMER CAMP

**\$150
PER
CHILD**

**14-18
July**

**Age
3-5
years**

**COME JOIN US
THIS SUMMER**

**MUSIC & DANCE, SPORTS &
GAMES,**

ARTS & CRAFT AND MORE!

**CHILDREN MUST BE
POTTY TRAINED**

**ALL KIDS FROM 3-5 YEARS ARE
WELCOME. YOU DO NOT NEED
TO BE ENROLLED IN OUR
PRESCHOOL.**



**3865 WEST 10TH ST
ERIE, PA 16505**

**WWW.LAKEWOORESCHOOL.
COM/PRESCHOOL**

