



Real Connections

OCTOBER 2026 Newsletter

Calendar of Events

UWIF Meeting (10:00 a.m., Library) – October 3rd

Pancake Breakfast (10:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall) – October 4th

Prayer Group (6:30 p.m.) – October 5th

Men's Group (6:30 p.m., Library) – October 6th

Trustees (6:30 p.m., Church meeting room) – October 7th

Prayer Group (6:30 p.m., West Lake Fire Dept.) – October 12th

SPRC Meeting (6:30 p.m.) – October 15th

Prayer Group (6:30 p.m., Library) – October 19th

Epilogue Group (11:30 a.m., Public House) – October 21st

Council Meeting (6:30 p.m.) – October 21st

Prayer Group (6:30 p.m., Library) – October 26th

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I really want to promote this upcoming seminar, and I hope you will consider attending.

Yours in Christ, *Pastor Kathleen*

Grace in the Spectrum

Seminar

WELCOMING FAMILIES

WITH AUTISM

Led by Dr. David Quel

Learn how to provide support
and inclusion for autistic
families.



Saturday, October 17, 2026

8:30 Check in & Continental
Breakfast provided

9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Seminar

Seminar is free. Registration is required by
following this link

<https://forms.gle/AcWbqdvUxJowoVj96>

Edinboro United Methodist Church
113 High Street, Edinboro, PA
814-734-3182

The West Millcreek Food Pantry

Many of the children in our food pantry area are eligible for free or reduced breakfast and lunch at school. When they get home they want cereal or a peanut butter and jelly sandwich as a snack. Please check your grocery store to donate items on sale that a child would like. A nice choice may be canned fruit or an item the whole family might enjoy. Thank you for remembering those less fortunate.

Council Update – October 2026

Our new ministry teams are off to a great start! We are excited to see members sharing their gifts, building relationships, and finding new ways to serve.

Health Care Ministries

The Health Care team has reached out to members to learn more about their interests and areas where they would like to serve. Tracy Backpacks will begin again in October, and all teams are in place. The team is also exploring opportunities to provide mental health resources and is looking into a speaker who could share information with our church family. Another area of interest is balance and strength exercise.

Prayer Ministries

Prayer Ministries continues to grow, with 7–8 people participating each week. They are leading prayer walks and special prayer times at places such as Presque Isle and Lakewood Park. On October 12, the group plans to visit the West Lake Fire Department to pray for our first responders.

Mission Ministries

The Mission team has connected with members who expressed an interest in this ministry. The team is now exploring ideas for a new mission project that will provide opportunities for more members of our congregation to participate. Once a project is identified, the team will determine leadership and bring the opportunity to the congregation.

Family Outreach Ministries

Family Outreach has begun building a relationship with our preschool families. Members recently filled welcome bags for each preschool student. The team is also exploring ways to support and connect with families, including a family survey, parenting resources, and a possible Parents' Night Out. Other ideas include Advent by Candlelight, an Easter Egg Hunt, and partnering with the Lakewood Association for National Night Out.

Home Care Ministries

Home Care has an opportunity to expand its ministry of connecting with those who may not be able to participate in worship or church activities as often as they would like. An existing list of individuals is already available, and Dan Goodman has volunteered to be a point of contact for our veterans.

We are grateful for the enthusiasm of our ministry teams! As we move forward, we will focus on intentional and meaningful ministry, remembering that we don't have to do everything at once. There are many opportunities for each of us to use our gifts to Connect, Grow, and Serve.

The next Council meeting will be Wednesday, October 21.

Erie County CROP Hunger Walk

The Lakewood United Methodist Church team walked in the 51st annual Erie County CROP Hunger Walk on September 27, 2026 at Beach 1 on Presque Isle. 11 people walked as part of the Lakewood team. Thanks to the generosity of the Lakewood congregation and the volunteer walkers we were able to help support food insecurity and safe water initiatives around the world. 25% of proceeds stay in the Erie community for this purpose.



We should have a figure for the total amount raised by Lakewood in next month's newsletter. Thank you!

A Segment from Finance

Fall has arrived! Thank you for your giving to Lakewood throughout the busy summer months. Your commitment to the church can't be mentioned and thanked enough. Thank you! We will enter October with expenses exceeding contributions by approximately \$5,100. Please know that Lakewood is always appreciative of your support.

If you're looking for other ways to support Lakewood, please remember to review our ministries. Your gifts and talents may fit perfectly into one or more of these important works of the Church.

Whether it's financially related or the giving of your time, God loves a cheerful giver!

United Women in Faith

UWIF will be meeting on the first Saturday of this month. We will meet on Saturday, October 3 at 10:00 a.m. in the church library. We will be discussing dates for a Foodless Food Drive for the West Millcreek Food Pantry and plans for Advent by Candlelight. All ladies are invited to attend!

LITTLE LIONS

Updates from Lakewood Preschool

Our Preschool is off to a great start! Thank you for the Welcome Bags from the church. Our Annual Trunk or Treat for Preschool families is October 2. It's sure to be a fun evening! October is Fire Safety month, and we'll be having a firetruck come visit. Our PreK Enrichment program begins on October 7. We're looking forward to our Halloween parades and parties later this month.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Danny Bortner	10/01
Cora Crays	10/01
Rae Lynn Belknap	10/02
Bonnie Heiges	10/02
Lisa Medina	10/02
Ryan Bowers	10/03
Kim Bowers	10/04
Sarah Bull	10/05
Charles Gierach	10/05
BaileyGrace Sitter	10/05
Pat Abraham	10/06
Danielle Bennett	10/06
Lauren Steele	10/09
Nancy Briggs	10/13
David Buerk	10/16
John Kot	10/16
Sadie Ferrante	10/17
Joan Galbraith	10/18
Russell Lasher	10/18
Rose Helsley	10/19
Aaron Patterson	10/20
Alyssa Jackson	10/21
Patricia Flick	10/22
Anita Seon	10/22
Dominic Hoffer	10/24
Joel Vogt	10/28
Jeffrey Stoll	10/29
Berry Day	10/31
Alana Reinke	10/31

FLU SHOTS

Early October is a great time to get your flu shot and other vaccines to help you stay healthy over the winter months. As the weather gets cooler and we spend more time indoors with others, we become exposed to more viruses that can lead to respiratory illnesses such as the flu and covid. Here are some key prevention steps to decrease your risk of illness.

- **Get vaccinated:** An annual flu vaccine reduces the risk of illness, hospitalization, and death. This is the most effective way to prevent illness.
- **Wash your hands:** Use soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. (Sing "Happy Birthday")
- **Avoid touching your face:** Keep your unwashed hands away from your eyes, nose, and mouth to stop germs from entering your body.
- **Cover coughs and sneezes:** Use a tissue or your inner elbow, then wash your hands immediately.
- **Stay away from sick people:** Minimize close contact with individuals who are showing respiratory illness symptoms. Wear a mask to add another layer of protection.
- **Clean surfaces:** Regularly disinfect frequently touched items like doorknobs, counters, and handrails.
- **Support your immune system:** Get 7 to 9 hours of sleep, eat nutritious foods, stay hydrated, and exercise regularly.
- **Stay home:** If you are not feeling well, stay away from others to prevent illnesses from spreading.

Flu shots and other vaccines are available at local pharmacies and your doctor's office. Be mindful of your health and the health of others as you come through the colder months ahead.



SEPTEMBER 2026 ATTENDANCE:

Average attendance for weekly in-person worship: 70
 Average views of weekly livestream (YouTube): 88
 Average weekly combined "attendance" for September: 158
 Average weekly combined "attendance" to-date: 132



LAKEWOOD YOUTH NEWS

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

Meeting Schedule

Students in grades 6th – 12th are welcome to join us.

Come anytime!

Attendance is not mandatory.

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| October 4: | Pancake Breakfast 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. |
| October 11: | Youth meeting at Lakewood 10:30 – 11:45 a.m. |
| October 18: | Youth meeting at Lakewood 10:30 – 11:45 a.m. |
| October 25: | District Youth Event – Halloween Party
South Harborcreek UMC - 4:00 – 7:30 p.m. |
| November 1: | Youth meeting at Lakewood 10:30 – 11:45 a.m. |
| November 8: | Youth meeting at Lakewood 10:30 – 11:45 a.m. |
| November 15: | Tentative Youth Outing: Children's Museum or Roller Skating |
| November 22 - 29: | No Meeting |
| December 6: | Family Event: Advent by Candlelight 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. |
| December 13: | Youth meeting at Lakewood 10:30 – 11:45 a.m. |
| December 20: | Progressive Christmas Party 3:45 – 8:00 p.m. |

***Dates and events are subject to change as opportunities arise or change.**

Contact Information

For questions and concerns please contact us any time.

Jackie and Jeremiah Bull
Home: 814-833-4520
Call or Text: 814-323-6805
Email: missjackie77@hotmail.com

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



OCTOBER SCHEDULE TRACY AND ASBURY

DATE	Pickup Driver	Packing Team	Delivery Driver
OCT 07/08	R. Estes 10:30 a.m.	R. Estes 6:30 p.m.	J. Kot 10:00 a.m.
OCT 14/15	J. Kot 10:30 a.m.	C. Kot 11:30 a.m.	H. Kendall 10:00 a.m.
OCT 21/22	R. Pike 10:30 a.m.	K. Fisher 6:30 p.m.	R. Fisher 10:00 a.m.
OCT 28/29	J. Kot 10:30 a.m.	J. Goodman 11:30 a.m.	D. Turner 10:00 a.m.

Men's Group News

There will be a pancake breakfast this Sunday, October 4 in Fellowship Hall. The October meeting will be on Tuesday, October 6 at 6:30 p.m. in the Church library.

On October 24 we will meet at the 12th Street Pub at 7:00 p.m. for wings and football. In conjunction with election day, we will have a bake sale on Tuesday, November 3. More details to follow soon.

MISSION STATEMENT

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