

# Li'l Ripples

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On behalf of the LMCC family and on the occasion of his first newsletter article (below), I would like to say a very warm "welcome" to Pastor Brian and his family. We are grateful that you all are here !

Editor

It is a great joy to join you as your new pastor here at Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church. Our family has felt so welcomed by all of you as we have begun this new chapter here in Gettysburg. We moved into a home in Fairfield that was once owned by the Rev. William Paxton, pastor of this church from 1792-1841. To be living in the same home that he once occupied 200 years before we did is both humbling and thrilling at the same time. It has been a tangible reminder to us that we are stepping into a story that long predates us.

As we begin this new season of ministry with you, I want to let you know that I am excited to get to know all of you. I am especially eager to listen and to learn. In the days and weeks to come, I hope we can spend time together so that I might better understand your stories, your hopes, and what it is that has shaped this church into the community it is today.

While this is a church with a great history, I am confident that God is also calling us on to a bright future. One passage of Scripture that is guiding me as I begin my time with you is found in the book of Colossians. There, Paul writes about Jesus Christ at work within us.

*"He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me." (Colossians 1:28-29, NIV)*

As we grow together as a church, this will be my prayer. That we might grow in grace, with all wisdom, so that one day we might be fully mature in Christ. I am thankful to God for graciously working through us to this end, and I look forward to discovering together what Christ will do among us in the days ahead.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Brian Moss

The DEADLINE for  
the MARCH ISSUE of  
Li'l Ripples is  
FEBRUARY 20th



## CHURCH LIFE - FUTURE, PRESENT, PAST



### LOOKING FORWARD TO LENT

This year the season of Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday, February 18**. Pastor Brian will be leading a service at **7 PM** that evening. He is also inviting church members and friends to gather **the following four Wednesday evenings during Lent at 5:30 PM (February 25, March 4, 11, 18)** for a soup dinner and book study. The study will be based on the short book *Lent* by Esau McCaulley, an associate professor of New Testament at Wheaton College. Every year the church invites us into a season of repentance and fasting in preparation for Holy Week. It's an invitation to turn away from our sins and toward the mercy and grace of Christ. Often, though, we experience the Lenten fast as either a mindless ritual or self-improvement program. In this short volume McCaulley introduces the season of Lent, showing us how its prayers and rituals point us not just to our own sinfulness but also beyond it to our merciful Savior.

### ADULT STUDY GROUP

This winter our **Sunday morning group** is examining eight prayer warriors from Scripture who turned to God when times turned bad. You'll learn how to pray with their same power when you feel weak, helpless, stressed and afraid. We will read prayers of Jonah, Hezekiah, Jesus and others. We are using the book, *Before the Throne* by Cricket Keeth. **Join us.** Questions: Susan Nunamaker/Doyle Waybright

### THE SEEKERS

On **Sunday mornings**, The Seekers adult study group meets in classroom #2 beginning at **8:30 AM**. They are currently using Max Lucado's book, *Cure for the Common Life*. Phyllis Smith

### WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP (WOMEN ONLINE)

The Women's Bible study **meets electronically two Thursdays a month at 7 PM**. We are currently reading and discussing *A Heart Like His: Intimate Reflections on the life of David* by Beth Moore.

If interested in joining us contact Dana McDonald.

### COUPLES' GROUP

Let's have a date night celebrating our Valentines!



**Saturday, Feb. 14th.** Meet at Ventura's Restaurant in Fairfield at 5:00 PM. Sign up sheet is in the Narthex.

Any questions call Davalene at (717) 253-5319.

### WOMEN'S GUILD

The Women's Guild **will not meet in February**. Come join us next month !

Roz Santay

LEND A HAND

Lend A Hand, the Presbyterian Disaster Relief Organization will be going to Ashville, North Carolina (in the western part of the state) **March 8 – 14, 2026**. Jim Davis, the leader of this merry band (YES they truly are a happy, fun group) is requesting if you are interested in this trip to please **contact him soon** because they are not sure yet about where they will stay and may have a limit for attendees.

Another trip is scheduled for **May 3 - 9, 2026** to the eastern part of the state in New Bern. Several of our congregation have gone on trips there. The living facilities are basic but have amazingly comfortable beds and the meals are truly great at the end of the day.

If anyone is interested in either of these trips please **contact Bev Benner 717-398-9933** for more info. The cost for “veteran” volunteers (those who have gone before ) is \$125.00 and for folks new to Lend A Hand is only \$50.00. Please prayerfully consider joining one of these groups. The benefits of great fellowship and a mental and spiritual connection is well worth a few aches and pains. There is money available to help cover costs in our Mission Endowment Fund. Thank You.

Thanks    Thanks    Thanks    Thanks    Thanks    Thanks    Thanks    Thanks

December 2025

Friends at Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church,

Through the recent Giving Spree and your donation to it, **Adams Christian Prison Ministries** is able to sustain its ongoing ministries inside the walls, and the Ministry can begin planning for additional programs that will further engage the inmates with the Gospel message. Know that ACPM is **very appreciative, very grateful**, that you value our ministries as we do.

In His love,  
ACPM Leadership Team

December 23, 2025

Dear Friend,

**Adams County Habitat for Humanity** received your kind donation through the Giving Spree. **Thank you** very much ! Your donation helps make it possible for us to fulfill Habitat's worldwide mission: *A world where everyone has a decent place to live.* Thank you again for your wonderful donation on behalf of the entire Board.

Sincerely,  
Lori Wright, Board Secretary

December 2025

Dear Church Members,

**Thank you** for your generous donation to the **Soup Kitchen**. This year, the need in Gettysburg has grown. We are serving over 70 guests a day. Your support ensures that our neighbors facing hunger continue receive nutritious meals all year long. Happy Holidays.

Beth Bauer, Board Chair, GCSK

GETTYSBURG C.A.R.E.S.

Gettysburg C.A.R.E.S. consists of a cold weather shelter and a Resource Center geared to provide support for up to 30 people when no other shelter can be found. This is accomplished through a partnership with local churches, including Lower Marsh Creek, and other community service agencies.

LMCPC has volunteered to prepare breakfast for the C.A.R.E.S. program from **Monday, March 23, 2026 through Monday, April 6, 2026, excluding Sundays**. We will need 2 volunteers to prepare breakfast each morning at 6:00 AM at the St. James church youth house, on 121/123 York Street, Gettysburg. Guests arrive at 7:00 AM. We will also be responsible for clean-up. St. James church supplies all paper products, juices, tea, coffee and coffee mate, cereals, milk, and condiments. All we supply is the meal. Some suggestions are breakfast casseroles, French toast, breakfast sandwiches, scrambled eggs, sausage links, potato products (hash browns, tater tots, shredded potatoes), fruit, breads or baked goods, muffins, bagels, pancake mix, waffle mix, bread for toast, etc.

If you would be willing to prepare a breakfast casserole, *but cannot serve it at St. James*, you could prepare it and deliver it to Joe & Elaine Reichl the night before, and they will take it and serve it to guests the next morning.

On Wednesdays, we can only serve bagels, cream cheese, and fruit, because we cannot cook on Wednesdays.

A training session for volunteers will be held at the youth house closer to our service week. At that time, we will learn how everything works in the kitchen and exactly what we will be asked to do. If you cannot attend the training session, we will pair you with a volunteer who has attended. We will not know how many guests to expect until the week before our service.

We will meet with volunteers after church on Sunday, **March 8, 2026**, to share our menu choices and coordinate the purchase of staples like eggs, sausage links, muffins, bagels, etc., which Joe and Elaine will purchase and store in the church kitchen. Joe and Elaine will check the supplies in the C.A.R.E.S. refrigerator ahead of this meeting to see what supplies are already stocked. The church will reimburse you for any food that you purchase.

Please consider signing up for this worthwhile mission. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. If we can answer any additional questions, please contact us. Elaine & Joe Reichl: 717-398-2430, [jreichl@comcast.net](mailto:jreichl@comcast.net).

**Hold the date!**

Adams County Young Life will be holding a fundraising banquet on  
Monday, February 23, 2026 (6:30 – 8:30 AM)  
at Gettysburg Foursquare Church, 328 W. Middle Street  
Look for an announcement in Sunday bulletins  
for information on how to sign up

AV BOOTH MISSIONARY

We welcome a new member to our AV Team - Sheila McCartney. Please slide by the booth, introduce yourself, and greet her. We're very fortunate to have found her so quickly after Bradley Stephens put in his resignation to move on to another church in Gettysburg.

YouTube Yearly Stats:

2640 Views this year

117 Subscribers. We added 19 new subscribers this past year.

12/14/2025 - 60 devices logged in to view.

12/21/2025 - 48 devices logged in to view.

12/25/2025 - 51 devices logged in to view.

This year we're going to work more with a Large Diaphragm Professional Recording Cardioid Microphone that allows us to capture the voices of many with greater clarification than what we capture with individual mic setups - which are cumbersome. For the last performance by Cornerstone - Dirk grove and family - we used such a mic and the in-church and online sound was incredible. We would like to add another at a cost of under \$100 in the up-coming year. This would allow split groups of performers on the left and the right of the of the pulpit with just 2 mics.

We always want to hear how we can improve the church and online services. Feel free to email me (Nick Johnson) at [NLJSR662@hotmail.com](mailto:NLJSR662@hotmail.com)

For those having issues hearing during the services, please let me know. We currently have a device available that will amplify hearing aids. If you need a headphone type device to help you hear the service, we will purchase additional devices to accommodate your needs. Our current device is in use. PLEASE ask me or the church office if you need such a device to enjoy our services. We will gladly accommodate your needs !

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Nick Johnson



# February Birthdays



*In our  
church  
family*

- 1 - Kris Englund-Kreiger
- 5 - Kerr Thompson
- 7 - Kaylee Metz
- 8 - David Haskins
- 13 - Mabert Anderson

- 20 - Margaret Metz
- 21 - Carlos Wampler
- 21 - Judy Williams
- 22 - Anthony Golden
- 25 - Ellen McMann
- 27 - John Phillips

PLANNING AHEAD

## Living in an "Old Folks' Home"

by Kathy Megyeri

What is life like moving into an old age home or "continuing care facility"? For most, the move is considered right up there with divorce and a death in the family as a life-altering trauma. But, when in the throes of "old age," such a move is particularly hard because one knows that the move will be finale. One has to pay attention to the choice of facilities, to their cost and location, to the care levels offered and to the "culture" of such places. So what can people of my age (in our 80's) expect?

- ~The top two priorities for most residents are good food and a multitude of activities.
- ~If you love the company of women, you will love the fact that 80 percent of residents will probably be female.
- ~Most women admit to the joyous fact that if they don't want to, they'll never **have** to, cook another meal.
- ~The support systems are reassuring from concierge to cleaning staff, health aides, bus drivers, activities directors, dining room waiters, kitchen staff, housekeepers, porters, engineers, groundskeepers, receptionists, nurses and security staff. In a strong community, caring people live close by and the kindness and friendliness of people from so many fascinating backgrounds bring one joy but admittedly, we're brought together because of our old age and health issues.
- ~Women mostly regard this move as a new adventure. They love having their children and grandchildren visit, the social events, entertainments, outings, and best of all, new friends they make. Men as well bond over field trips, discussion clubs, cooking classes, physical therapy and exercise classes. There's no reason to ever be bored or lonely. New faces from similar ages, socio-economic standing and health related concerns all ease the adjustment.
- ~Maintenance takes care of your property and internet services are included in your monthly fees. No more property taxes have to be paid.
- ~It is a life-altering move because you come to grips daily with the reality of aging as you watch neighbors with their failing health go into different levels of care. Others around you are both better and worse physically and mentally so acceptance and compassion are necessary. To me, 80 is the magical number for **planning ahead** and decision making especially as we become weaker with less energy and mental acuity.
- ~Reminiscences dominate discussion after health issues called "organ recitals." Bragging about one's grandchildren and remembering the "good old days" also supply hours of discussion topics. But now when you see what really matters, your actions, spending habits, relationships and stress levels all change. You shift to where you place your self-worth and growth in self-love. One's life choices become more meaningful and most find the greatest joy of moving into an "old folks' home" are self-acceptance and living with others who too are growing in self-love with the help of a supportive staff while residing in the safety of a secure home environment.

**What a gift!**

## And . . . Speaking of Music

### MUSIC THAT MOVES ME - I HEARD THE VOICE OF JESUS SAY

*"Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given."* –John 1:16

From February 18th through April 2nd, followers of Christ observe the season of Lent. This is a time of prayer and self-examination in preparation for the celebration of our Lord's resurrection at Easter. I think music plays a big part in this church season, as many of our most evocative hymns are helpful in remembering and appreciating the enormity of the gifts Jesus Christ has given to us. This month's musical subject, *"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say,"* is a beautiful reminder of our Savior's promises to us, and the responses we make to those promises. So, here goes...

Horatius Bonar began writing hymns out of necessity.

Upon graduating from university in 1833, Bonar's first assignment was as an assistant minister to the Rev. James Lewis at St. John's East Church in Leith, Edinburgh, Scotland. Among his many other duties, he was also responsible for supervision of Children's Sunday School.

On a typical Sunday, over 280 children were present in Bonar's class. Young Horatius, noticing how fidgety many of the children were, guessed that their attention might be more easily maintained if they had hymns of their own, which could be set to tunes that they already knew and liked to sing. So, he tried his hand at hymn writing – and his efforts were very successful. The children's attention improved, and Sunday School attendance at St. John's increased dramatically.

And this success with children's hymns encouraged Bonar to write hymns for the use of older worshippers.

As his ministerial career progressed, he wrote hymns of praise. While pastoring at his next assignment, the North Parish Church in Kelso, as his evangelical gifts and his faith began to blossom, he wrote hymns of praise. In fact, Horatius Bonar rarely took a break from his passion for writing hymns of praise.

About him, it was written at the time, "He set himself to evangelize the Borderland. His name was fragrant in every little village, and at most of the farms. He conducted many meetings in farm kitchens and village school-rooms, and often preached in the open air...The chief characteristic of his preaching was its strange solemnity. It was full of entreaty and warning. Dr. Bonar exhibited with faithful simplicity and decision the great things of the Gospel, but he was never content without applying them to the consciences of his hearers..."

Bonar's sermons, tracts and hymns were centered consistently on the cross and the absolute sufficiency of Christ for the sinner.

In 1846, during his tenure in Kelso, once again writing for his Sunday School students, Bonar penned his most famous composition, *"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say."* His affinity for, and identification with the children is evident in his original, rough pencil draft, on which Horatius doodled four faces and the head of a man wearing a hat. Each of the hymn's three verses was structured with the first half of each stanza echoing our Lord's promise, and the last half framing our response. Bonar based the verses on Matthew 11:28 ("Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest"); John 4:14 ("...but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."); and John 8:12 ("When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'").

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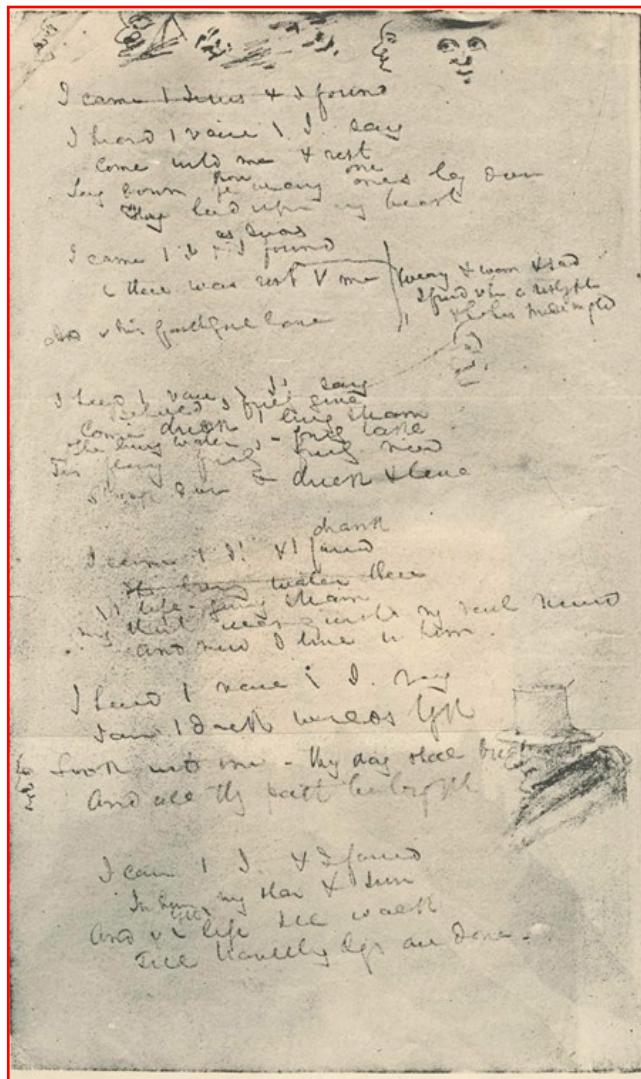
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Over the years, these beautiful lyrics have been set to numerous tunes, including EVAN, ATHENS, VOX JESU, VOX DILECTI and my personal favorite, KINGSFOLD. (Interestingly, while our own hymnal, "Worship and Rejoice," uses the KINGSFOLD tune for five separate hymns, "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say" is not included in our hymnal.) Likely dating back to the Middle Ages, KINGSFOLD is an English folk tune that was "discovered" by the celebrated composer Ralph Vaughn Williams in Kingsfold, Sussex, England in the very early 1900s (hence the tune's modern name). Williams combined the tune with Horatius Bonar's text and introduced it as a hymn in "The English Hymnal" in 1906.

Horatius Bonar wrote over 600 hymns during his lifetime. Subjective, appealing, spontaneous, fluent, melodious, and devotional, his compositions are so highly regarded that he has been called the finest Scottish hymn writer of the 19th century.

Horatius Bonar passed away at the age of 80 on July 31, 1889. One of his last requests was that no biography should be written of him. In keeping with his life of devotion to Jesus Christ, Bonar wanted all the glory to be Christ's alone.

---Dirk Grove



### I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

703

1 I heard the voice of Je-sus say, "Come un-to me and rest;  
 2 I heard the voice of Je-sus say, "Be-hold, I free-ly give  
 3 I heard the voice of Je-sus say, "I am this dark world's light.  
 lay down, O wea-ry one, lay down your head up-on my breast."  
 the liv-ing wa-ter, thirst-y one; stoop down and drink and live."  
 Look un-to me; your morn shall rise and all your day be bright."  
 I came to Je-sus as I was, so wea-ry, worn, and sad;  
 I came to Je-sus, and I drank of that life-giv-ing stream;  
 I looked to Je-sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;  
 I found in him a rest-ing place, and he has made me glad.  
 my thirst was quenched, my soul re-vived, and now I live in him.  
 and in that light of life I'll walk till trav'ling days are done.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889, alt.  
 Tune: English; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958, alt.  
 Text and music: public domain

KINGSFOLD  
CH D  
M 11:28, 24-48-15, 8-12

Serving God By

**DEACONS' INFORMATION**

Serving Others

**TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY:** Attendees of LMCC having a transportation need should call one of the following drivers directly to arrange for a date, time, and destination. If none of these volunteers can meet your need, please call Al Miller at **717 - 642 - 1574** or **443 - 977 - 9129**.

**VOLUNTEER DRIVERS:**

Susan Nunamaker **717 - 642 - 9646**  
Jim Welsh **717 - 377 - 5370**

Sallie Sites **717 - 253 - 0305**  
Len Williams **717 - 642 - 0123**

**A bit of humor:****GREAT TRUTHS THAT LITTLE CHILDREN HAVE LEARNED:**

- 1) No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats..
- 2) When your Mom is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush your hair.
- 3) If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. They always catch the second person.
- 4) You can't trust dogs to watch your food..
- 5) The best place to be when you're sad is Grandma's lap

**GREAT TRUTHS THAT ADULTS HAVE LEARNED:**

- 1) Raising teenagers is like nailing jelly to a tree.
- 2) Wrinkles don't hurt.
- 3) Families are like fudge . . . mostly sweet, with a few nuts.
- 4) Today's mighty oak is just yesterday's nut that held its ground.
- 5) Laughing is good exercise. It's like jogging on the inside.
- 6) Middle age is when you choose your cereal for the fiber, not the toy

**GREAT TRUTHS ABOUT GROWING OLD:**

- 1) Growing old is mandatory; growing up is optional
- 2) Forget the health food. I need all the preservatives I can get.
- 3) When you fall down, you wonder what else you can do while you're down there.
- 4) You're getting old when you get the same sensation from a rocking chair that you once got from a roller
- 5) It's frustrating when you know all the answers but nobody bothers to ask you the questions.
- 6) Time may be a great healer, but it's a lousy beautician.

Thanks to Kathy Megyeri for passing along the above observations for our enjoyment.

Go Into All

## MISSION ADVOCATE'S CORNER

The World

RECENT CORRESPONDENCE**Adams Christian Prison Ministries***Excerpts from the ACPM January 2026 Newsletter*

ACPM would like to once again thank everyone who donated to the ministry through the Adams County Community Foundation Giving Spree. This year's generosity has blessed our ministry with \$21,405 in support, along with the establishment of an endowment fund totaling just over \$6,000. We are deeply grateful for your faithful partnership. Your donations make it possible to purchase Bibles, Christian literature, and other faith-based resources that nurture and strengthen the Christian faith of incarcerated individuals and their families.

December was a busy and meaningful month within the ACACC facility. For many incarcerated individuals, this season can be challenging as they experience the pain of being separated from loved ones during the holidays. Thanks to your generous support and donations, we were able to offer Operation Socks & Chocs and Operation Christmas Card. Operation Socks & Chocs blesses each inmate with a Christmas care package made possible through generous community partnerships. These care packages include a journal, activity book, calendar, handmade Christmas card, two pair of socks, a Hershey chocolate bar as well as 3 freshly baked cookies (not pictured to the right).



Operation Christmas Card provides every inmate who desires one with a Christmas card and postage so they can send a card home to a family member or friend. Together, these care packages communicate care and the love of Christ during the Christmas season.

In the year ahead, ACPM seeks to expand discipleship opportunities, strengthen pastoral presence, and continue programs that connect faith with lasting transformation. We are committed to sowing seeds of hope that reach far beyond incarceration and into families and communities.

**Compassion International***A letter from Brayan dated November 6, 2025*

Hello, dear friends, it is a great joy to be able to write to you again, wishing that you are doing very well. May God keep you at all times and allow you to enjoy good health always. I would like to tell you about my Christian learning at the Child Development Center. The people from whom I learn the most about God are my tutors and my parents; since I was little they have involved me in going to church and learning about the Lord Jesus, and I always thank God for that, because there is no better inheritance than this. I also want to share that at the Child Development Center the things I learn most about God are to love my neighbor and to have compassion for everyone, and I also like to help others in any way I can. What I like most about Jesus and try to put into practice

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is being a good person – kind, respectful, and loving. I would like to share that my favorite Bible song is the song of Jonah; it is a song I have sung since I was a child. When I pray, I ask God for my family and for my health, that through His love He may always keep us healthy. I would also like to tell you that the Bible story I like the most is Noah's Ark; I have loved it since I was very young, and the Bible verse I like is John 3:16. I express my greatest affection to you and to your family and friends; I am very happy to write this little letter, and I hope you like it. I hope to hear from you soon. I ask that you please help me by praying for my future, that God may protect me and guide my goals and plans. I say goodbye, hoping to hear from you very soon. May God bless you greatly and grant you health and much happiness. With much love, Brayan.

### **DiscipleMakers (Kevin and Maria Noyes)**

*Excerpts from their December 2025 Christmas Letter*

**Family Highlights:** Ten years of marriage on January 31. The years have gone by fast while our love for each other has grown deeper. We're so thankful God brought us together as husband and wife. We are thankful for the sweet blessing of a baby boy, Ezra Jonathan Noyes, who was born on December 11.

**Kevin's Highlights:** Kevin won first place in his age group at a 5K in August and at a local Turkey Trot. In May, Kevin got to give a talk from Revelation at Focus, DisipleMakers' end of school year conference. In the summer he took a weeklong seminary class in Florida with some coworkers on the Pauline epistles. He used what he learned on campus in the fall by leading multiple Bible studies in Paul's letters. Kevin continues to enjoy leading the staff area team (which covered Penn State York, Shippensburg University, Gettysburg College, and Penn State Mont Alto), being the lead staff at Penn State York, and being a part of the DiscipleMakers' interview team that hires new staff.

**Maria's Highlights:** Maria gave a main session talk at the DiscipleMakers' Women's Conference, taught their church's women's Bible study twice, and also taught a workshop on talking to strangers at Fall Conference. In August, Maria ran a 3K while pregnant. In the fall, she started homeschooling Simeon, attended the Christian Counseling and Education Foundation National Conference in Hershey, and started two ladies discipleship groups at PSU York.

**Kids' Highlights:** Simeon graduated from his 5-year-old preschool in May, participated in a baseball program and went to Dutch Wonderland in the summer. Simeon's hobbies include reading books, finding countries on his new globe, and baking for the PSU York students every week. Hope learned how to say more words and developed a love of the snack food outlets in Hanover. She turned 2 in October, and enjoys trying on everyone's shoes, seeing animals of all kinds and going on adventures. Ezra, born on December 12, is healthy and doing well.

### **One Another Ministries (Thomas and Cheri Henry)**

At a session after the service on Sunday, January 4, the Henrys gave a very impressive presentation about their new endeavors with OneAnother Ministries. They only unpacked highlights in 40 minutes but probably could go on for hours in their marriage intensive sessions. We wish more of you could have gotten to hear them. The Henrys plan to finish out their last three years of living and serving missionaries overseas from the UK (Project 2028).

*Excerpts from their 2025 Year-end Letter*

For 2000 years God has sent workers from the church to the ends of the earth. Likewise, in this next year, we see more good works God has prepared for us in ministry to missionaries - combining the Great Commandment with the Great Commission.

*Continued on the next page . . .*

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This representation of Christ's birth reveals much more movement than we generally consider. It was no silent night. Seen at the MET.

Enjoying the very creative Holiday Train Show at the New York Botanical Gardens. Tom and Shelby hadn't quite arrived back in NYC.



We thank God for YOU WHO GIVE financially. Your sacrifice helps keep us on the mission field. And YOU WHO PRAY. Your struggle is worth it; don't give up. God sustains you and us. All the while, workers are being strengthened; the lost are being found; disciples are being made; the church is being gathered; and Christ will soon return! *As you eagerly wait for Him, may the joy of the Lord be your strength.*

## SAT-7

*Excerpts from an email dated January 14, 2026*

Since December 28, waves of protests have spread across Iran due to the country's failing economy and overall hardship experienced by its citizens. The protests have resulted in more than 2,500 deaths as of this week, surpassing the level seen in 2022's unrest stemming from the death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini.

SAT-7 PARS maintains a biblical response to the situation, providing prayer for those experiencing grief and fear, and creating a platform through our programs to support viewers in Iran. We remind them they are not alone.

SAT-7 PARS' Omeed Jouyandé brought a powerful message about the "living hope" that all believers have in Christ and encouraged viewers to hold onto that hope in the midst of trials. "True hope comes to life and grows only in the midst of hardship, darkness, and challenge," he said. "As Paul points out in Romans 8, who hopes for what they already have?"

Messages are pouring in from viewers expressing the difficulties of the current situation. A Christian woman shares, "The conditions are very hard, and I have not been able to get my medicines for several weeks. Food is no easier to find, and the state of education is unsatisfactory . . . Please keep Iran in your prayers."

Special broadcasts on SAT-7 PARS are providing much-needed emotional and spiritual support, especially for young people and families. And while online communication may be blocked, SAT-7's satellite broadcasting continues airing as a lifeline for all who watch.

Thank you for your support for our brothers and sisters in Iran during this time. Also, would you lift up the nation of Iran using these prayer points?

- For God's will to be done in Iran, and for His peace and justice to be experienced there.
- For all Iranians who are suffering as a result of the country's failing economy.
- For believers in Iran to be salt and light, and for them to take comfort from the "living hope" they have in Christ.

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# The Giving Corner

## VIRGINIA (Ginny) K. WOODS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM IS SEEKING APPLICANTS

Calling all high school seniors, students who have successfully completed at least one year at an accredited postsecondary education institution and anyone pursuing a master's degree or some type of further education. It is the time of year to think about your education for next year. It is time to apply to the Virginia K. Woods Scholarship program. The applicants of first consideration will be a member of LMCPC, a member of our youth program, or an active participant in the life of the church. As requested in her will, if no one needs a scholarship from LMCPC, The Interpretation and Stewardship Team will accept applicants from the Fairfield and Gettysburg communities. Applications are available at the church office. You may also call **Tammy Harkleroad**, church office manager at 717-642-5332 or email her at [office@lmcp.org](mailto:office@lmcp.org) to request an application. She can mail or email it to you. Applications must be submitted by April 1, 2026, and they are reviewed by the Interpretation and Stewardship Team. The scholarship usually is awarded in May. Please pass this information on if you know a student in need.

NOW to let you know a little more personal information about Ginny Woods, as she was known to the folks at Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church. She was a retired Junior High School English teacher at Gettysburg High School. She and her husband David (who predeceased her) were great boating enthusiasts and spent many years as members of the Kent Island Yacht Club on the Chesapeake Bay. When she joined the church she became very active in the Ladies Guild. She was creative and had lots of ideas for crafts for the annual Christmas Bazaar. She mentored new members in our congregation and jumped in wherever help was needed. She gave generously for the building of our Narthex to provide a larger space for new worship activities and fellowship. Ginny's example to us came from 2 Corinthians 9:7 "*Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*" Ginny Woods left this scholarship money to the church to provide scholarships for those in need of a little help and because of her love for youth and education. Thank you Ginny!

## Scholarships



## From the Clerk's Desk

The Session held their regular meeting on January 20, 2026, at 6:00 PM in the education building with Rev. Brian Moss serving as moderator. Here are the business highlights of the actions taken at that meeting:

- ~Membership 1/19/2026: Active Members (AM) = 153, Friends Participating (FP) = 31, Affiliate Members (AfM): 0, Family Members (FM): 40, Total: 224
- ~The Interpretation and Stewardship Team continues to monitor all church finances. We thank you for your continued generosity and financial support!

*Approved the following events and business items:*

- ~Approved a collection from the congregation on Souper Bowl Sunday, February 8, 2026 of canned/dry goods and monetary donations. Canned and dry goods to go to the Fairfield Food Pantry, monetary donations to go to the Gettysburg Soup Kitchen.
- ~Approved that I&S team has the authority to purchase and roll-over CDs during 2026.
- ~Approved the 2026 Schedule for the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper as follows:
  - o February 1, 2026
  - o March 1, 2026
  - o April 2, 2026 – Maundy Thursday
  - o April 5, 2026 – Easter Sunrise Service
  - o May 2, 2026
  - o June 6, 2026
  - o July 5, 2026
  - o August 2, 2026
  - o September 6, 2026
  - o October 4, 2026
  - o November 1, 2026
  - o December 6, 2026
  - o January 3, 2027
- ~Approved that Naomi's Sisters meet each Wednesday throughout the year at different locations for various events and activities.
- ~Approved that the Couples Group meet the second Saturday evening of each month at various locations or the Fellowship Hall for fellowship and study.
- ~Approved that the Men's Breakfast occurs the third Saturday of each month at 8:00 AM in the fellowship hall with breakfast and different speakers each month.
- ~Approved the Wednesday, February 18 2026 Ash Wednesday Service at 7pm.
- ~Approved a Lenten Book Study led by Pastor Moss based on the book *Lent* by Esau McCaulley held on the following Wednesdays: February 25, March 4, March 11, and March 18 from 5:30 – 7:00pm with soup and salad in the fellowship hall.
- ~Approved the Advent Dinner hosted by the Deacon's on November 29, 2026
- ~Approved Pulpit Supply for Sunday March 8, while Pastor attends the marriage retreat, and Sunday, April 19 while Pastor attends a retreat in Chicago.
- ~Approved that Bob and Kristi Rice, visiting missionaries, will preach on Sunday, March 21.
- ~Approved sponsorship of up to 2 tables at the Young Life banquet at Four Square Church on February 23.

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~Approved a June 27, 2026 dedication in cemetery sponsored by the Sons of the American Revolution, including a marble bench, dedication of the "Liberty Tree", and a pot luck dinner.

~Approved new officers of our corporation for 2026: President - Lanny Winters, Vice President - Jed Smith, Secretary - Joe Jackson

***News from the Home Ministry Team – maintains the church properties including the cemetery***

Team members: Joe Jackson, Jed Smith, and Lanny Winters

~Planning continues for the June 27 dedication with Col. Rob Moore and Sons of the American Revolution.

~AV booth at back of sanctuary may need to be enlarged.

~A donation of a lawn mower was provided by Therese Herlihy.

~Renovations for the Adams Rescue Mission (ARM) Day Care will begin soon and will finish in May (new egress door and sidewalk, interior door locks) At a minimum they will use the old nursery and classroom #1 with the adjoining lavatory. These spaces are also currently used by Liberty Oaks home-school group. Discussed alternate spaces for the homeschool group. They were approved to use the basement in the church building. ARM daycare could possibly be ready to open in the fall.

~Discussing property insurance for the white house (trying to lower premium).

~Need additional letters/symbols for sign on Rt 116.

~Reviewed facility-use fees – members pay \$50 to cover custodian costs; \$200 for non-members

~Thanks to Lanny for putting out the ice melt and reflectors and moving the parking lot bumpers!

***News from the Interpretation and Stewardship Team – manages church finances and missions***

Team members: Lauren Neely, Doyle Waybright, and Bev Benner

~Sign-up sheet will be put up for people interested in attending the Young Life banquet at Four Square on 2/23/26.

~Established budget committee members in addition to those from the I&S Team: Dana McDonald for Spiritual Life Team and Jed Smith for the Home Ministry Team.

~The financial reports for November and December were approved.

***News from the Spiritual Life Team – oversees the spiritual life of the church as well as fellowship, education and music in the church***

Team members: Mike Orleski, Susan Nunamaker, and Lynne Orner

~Discussing plans for a congregational retreat in 2026.

~Pastor Brian's Installation service possibly planned for same time as Winter Banquet.

~Winter Banquet – suggested to have a catered meal at the Lutheran Seminary's Refectory after the Pastor's installation service. Date/Time to be determined.

~Adult Sunday School – Seekers class will start at 8:30 am and the other adult Sunday School class will start at 9:00 am each Sunday

***News from the Clerk of Session – Dana McDonald:***

~Dana McDonald has been elected Elder Commissioner to the Presbytery meeting on February 7, 9:00 am at Second Carlisle Presbyterian Church.

~Session approved a request for the transfer of membership of Susan and Kerr Thompson to Red House Presbyterian Church in Semora, North Carolina.

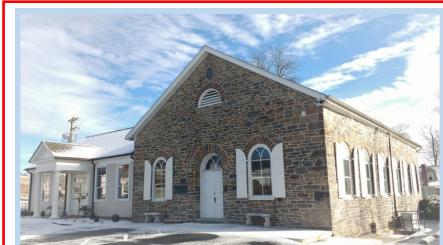
Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church  
1865 Knoxlyn Road  
Gettysburg, PA 17325

*Li'l Ripples* February 2026



Pastor

Rev. Brian Moss



Sunday Morning

The Seekers Group 8:30 AM

Adult Sunday School 9:00 AM

Worship Service 10:00 AM

Nursery 8:30 - 11:00 AM

Church Office Information

Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Phone Number - 717-642-5332

Email address - [office@lmcp.org](mailto:office@lmcp.org)

Website - [www.lmcp.org](http://www.lmcp.org)

Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church Mission Statement

To glorify God, deepen and enrich the spiritual life of the family of believers,  
and reach out to the community with the love of Jesus Christ.

*Li'l Ripples*

Fay Hess - Editor

717 - 476 - 5682

or

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