



November 2025
Volume 25
Issue 11

Li'l Ripples

A Publication of Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church

CONTENTS: PAGE:

CHURCH LIFE:

Adult S.S. Class	2
Birthdays	12
Couples' Study Group	2
Giving Spree	3
Lend A Hand Trip	2
O.C.C. Shoeboxes	> >
Red Kettle Ringers	2
Seekers' S.S. Class	2
Thank You	3
Thanksgiving/Advent Dinner	3
Women Online	2
Women's Guild	3
CLERK'S NOTES	14 - 15
DEACONS' INFORMATION	5
GIVING CORNER	13
MISSION ADVOCATE:	
Recent Correspondence	6 - 9
Missionary Correspond.	9 - 12
SPEAKING OF MUSIC	4 - 5



**DEADLINE FOR THE
DECEMBER ISSUE OF
LI'L RIPPLES IS
NOVEMBER 21**

CHURCH LIFE - FUTURE, PRESENT, PAST



Operation Christmas Child – November 17-23, 2025

Shoeboxes due by Sunday, November 23, 2025

It's time to think about packing a Shoebox!

Those of you who have been members of LMCP are familiar with Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organization that serves the world community.

Samaritan's Purse sends gift-filled shoeboxes to children in need around the world together with the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

By filling ordinary shoeboxes full of toys and other fun items, you can be part of giving boys and girls what may be their first gift ever! Local churches in more than 100 nations hand out these Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts at festive outreach events where the Gospel is presented in a child-friendly way. Each box bursting with items becomes a tangible expression of God's love to the child, their family, and their community.

Local ministry partners distribute your gifts to children in their communities. After receiving shoebox gifts, many boys and girls are invited to enroll in *The Greatest Journey*, a 12-lesson discipleship program. Through the program, ministry partners are able to establish long-term, caring relationships with children and families, sharing the love of Jesus Christ

A \$10.00 shipping fee is requested for each box. You may include a check, made out to Samaritan's Purse, OCC in your box.

If you would like to discover the destination country of your shoebox gift, you must make your \$10 per shoebox donation online by activating your shoebox tracking label (QR code) at samaritanaspurse.org/activate.

Don't have time to shop????

You can **Build a Shoebox Online**. It is a convenient way to pack your Operation Christmas Child shoebox gift right from home. Choose from our selections of toys and other fun items to include in your gift. Then, personalize it by adding your own letter and photo. For a suggested donation of \$30 per gift, we'll pack everything for you and send it on its way with the message of God's love for a boy or girl in need around the world. Just google "Build a Shoebox Online" and follow the prompts. These boxes can be shipped to "closed countries," who have strict laws regarding shoebox items.
(Elaine Reichl)

NOTE: November 1st - All Saint's Sunday Service at 10:00 AM

November 30th - Hanging of the Greens Service followed by Thanksgiving Dinner - see page 3

Lend A Hand Trip:

Lend A Hand, the Presbyterian Disaster Relief organization, will be traveling back to New Bern, North Carolina **November 9-15, 2025**. LMC covers the costs for our volunteers for registration, travel and lodging/food. After 8 years this community still has so much to repair and build for recovery of their community. New Bern facilities are very comfortable. After a hard day of repairs you will find a wonderful home cooked meal and a "very" comfortable bed to renew you for the next day of work. This is an opportunity that can change your life and help you as you grow in your spiritual life. Please contact Bev Benner (717-398-9933) **ASAP** if you are interested in going on this mission trip. Thank you.

Salvation Army Red Kettle Collection Volunteers Needed:

If you are able to volunteer to assist with the Red Kettle Collection at Walmart this year, please call the Gettysburg Unit of the Salvation Army at 717-334-7634. Someone will assist you with dates and times available to volunteer. You may also visit the Salvation Army website page for Red Kettle Ringing volunteers - <https://www.registertoring.com>

Couple's Study Group:

The Couple's Study Group will meet on **November 8th at 5:30PM** in Fellowship Hall. Julie and Mike Orleski will be our hosts this month, leading our discussion from the book Growing Old Together, with this month's topic "Support". The Orleski's will provide ham and ask that you sign up in the Narthex (beginning October 26th) stating what salad, side dish or dessert you will add to our feast. All married couples are encouraged to join us for a night of excellent food, lots of laughter and a chance to grow meaningful friendships.

Adult Sunday School Class :

Continue to enrich your faith journey on **Sunday Mornings from 8:30 - 9:30 AM**.

Come to Room 3 of Fellowship Hall to hear about The Messages of Jesus.

Donuts and coffee available.

Doyle Waybright and Susan Nunamaker

The Seekers Sunday School Class :

The Seekers class meets at **8:30 - 9:30 AM** in the classroom across from the church office. Our ongoing study is on the Max Lucado book, Cure for the Common Life: Living in Your Sweet Spot.

Mike Orleski is the point of contact - email him at orleskimj@hotmail.com.

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.

Women's Guild:

The Women's Guild will meet **November 18th at 1:00 PM** in Fellowship Hall. This will be our last meeting for the year. We will be signing up for our Christmas Party at Perkins the 16th of December. For those of you who did not see the bulletin, the Yard & Bake Sale gave us a total of **\$1,255.50**. We really appreciated the donated items to sell, the baked goods and the encouragement from our wonderful congregation. The money will be used for gifts for our Teen Angel and a donation to Neighbors Helping Neighbors. Roz Santay

**Deacons' Annual Thanksgiving & Advent Dinner**

Sunday, November 30, 2025 - 4:00 PM

Everyone is invited to join us for a time of fellowship, food, and fun with our church family!

The Deacons will be providing the **turkey, gravy, and mashed potatoes**. We ask each family to **sign up to bring a side dish or dessert** to share.

Let's come together for a festive and joyful evening as we give thanks and prepare our hearts for the Advent season. (Pam Johnson)

THANKS THANKS THANKS THANKS THANKS THANKS THANKS THANKS

Dear Church Members,

I would like to thank you all for the diapers that you gave away on Saturday.

Thank you,

Faye (from Biglerville)

Adams County Community Foundation Giving Spree

How to Make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from an IRA

If you're planning to make a QCD gift from an IRA this year, you can now:

View the Giving Spree Donor Guide and download the Donation Form (<https://www.adamscountycf.org/grants-scholarships/giving-spree-registration/>). Complete and mail it to the Foundation now — they will match it to your QCD gift when it arrives).

This year's Giving Spree will be held **Thursday, November 6, 3-7 pm**, at the Wyndham in Gettysburg. Meet representatives from **over 100 local nonprofits** and celebrate the power of giving in our community.

If you have any questions about QCDs, the live event, or anything else, please contact Ralph Serpe directly at 717-337-0060 or email rserpe@adamscountycf.org.

*And, Speaking of Music***MUSIC THAT MOVES ME**

*The nations will fear the name of the Lord,
all the kings of the earth will revere your glory— Psalm 102: 15*

Although European settlers in North America had held thanksgiving feasts for many years, the feast enjoyed by the Pilgrims at Plymouth Plantation in Massachusetts is the event that lives in our imaginations. In 1623, reeling from a drought that threatened to destroy their crops, the colonists fasted and prayed for relief. Winter was coming, and, if the crops failed, starvation was a very real possibility. Finally, it rained. Then, a few days later, Captain Miles Standish arrived with staples and news that a Dutch supply ship was on its way. This prompted the colonists to hold a day of Thanksgiving and prayer on June 30, 1623.

For the next 150 years, festivals of Thanksgiving were held irregularly in North America. It wasn't until 1789 that President George Washington proclaimed "a day of public thanksgiving and prayer" to be held on Thursday, November 26. However, the proclamation was not law, so it was only observed by the American people whenever subsequent presidents renewed the proclamation. (President Thomas Jefferson, believing that this violated the separation of church and state, was a notable exception.)

But, in 1863, elated by the Union victory at Gettysburg, President Abraham Lincoln finally declared Thanksgiving to be a national holiday.

I think this connection between a battlefield victory and a National Day of Thanksgiving is interesting. When I think of the quintessential Thanksgiving hymn, my mind goes immediately to "We Gather Together." I wonder if yours does, too?

I was surprised to discover that this seemingly American hymn actually originated in the Netherlands, and its composition was also prompted by a battlefield victory. The war in this case was the Eighty Years War (1568-1648), which the Dutch people fought to gain their independence from Spain. Excessive taxation and persecution of Protestants by King Philip II of Spain were the chief causes of this conflict.

The hymn claims its melody from a very old Dutch folk song whose original, secular lyrics began, "Wilder than wild, who will tame me?" The hymn we know, though, which extols God's help in deliverance from religious oppression, dates to January 24, 1597. On that date, Maurice of Orange defeated the Spanish occupiers of the town of Turnhout. Because Turnhout was considered to be an impregnable stronghold, this significant triumph was part of a series of victories that marked the turning of the tide of the Eighty Years War. The Protestants who lived there had been forbidden to practice their religion. So, it makes sense that, upon winning this battle, they celebrated by writing new words to a familiar tune. They called it "Wilt heden nu treden," which means, roughly, "We gather together." This is significant, because joining together to worship was a heretofore forbidden act.

And, so, this song of military triumph and freedom of oppression (with God's help) became a standard in the Netherlands, appearing in many songbooks. From there, it was a natural progression for the hymn to be transferred to the New World (America), as it was brought along by Dutch settlers who emigrated in the 1620s.

Throughout the centuries, the hymn continued, alive and well, in Dutch-American communities, but it remained largely unknown outside of those circles. Then, in 1937, a pivotal event occurred: the Christian Reformed Church in North America decided to publish its first hymnal.

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It's important to note that the Christian Reformed Church in North America began with Dutch immigrants. For many years, the only singing allowed in worship for these churchgoers was the singing of the Psalms. In 1937, however, a then-controversial decision was made to permit other hymns to be sung in church. And "We Gather Together" was chosen as the opening hymn in their first hymnal.

From there, it was inevitable that inclusion in other hymnals would follow, and "We Gather Together" became a staple of congregational singing. And that's how a Dutch folk song that celebrated Holland's freedom from Spain became one of our best-loved American songs of Thanksgiving.

Happy Thanksgiving, friends! Let us celebrate God's presence in our lives with humble hearts, grateful minds, brotherly love and SINGING!

Dirk Grove

GOD OF PROVIDENCE & CARE

81 We Gather Together

WORDS: Netherlands folk hymn, tr. Theodore Baker (1851-1934)
MUSIC: Nederlandsch Gedrucken, 1626, arr. Edward Kremser (1838-1914)

KREMSE
12.11.12.11.

Serving God By

DEACONS' PAGE

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:

Lee & Jean Bentz 717 - 334 - 6064

Susan Nunamaker 717 - 642 - 9646

Sallie Sites 717 - 253 - 0305

Jim Welsh 717 - 377 - 5370.

Len Williams 717 - 642 - 0123

Fairfield Food Pantry :

In November the Deacons will collect breakfast foods for the Fairfield food Pantry for families to share Christmas morning breakfast.

For September, three boxes full of a variety of cereals was delivered along with miscellaneous other items.

John Stottlemeyer

RECENT CORRESPONDENCE**Adams Christian Prison Ministries**

From the October ACPM Newsletter

ACPM would like to express our deepest gratitude to Deacon Tom Aumen for his many years of service to this ministry. He was prompted by the Lord to step down from the ACPM board to dedicate his time and energy to his new appointed parish. We want to welcome aboard Deacon Tom's replacement, Dan Summers.

ACPM will be hosting a **fundraising banquet** at the Wyndham in Gettysburg on **Friday, November 14, 6-8 pm**. Attendees will be asked to have a ticket, but there is no charge. For tickets, please email Mac McBeth at mac-mcbeth@gmail.com. NOTE: Sandy Buhrman has eight tickets available. Contact her at 717-398-1539 or sandybuhrman49@gettysburg.edu if you would like to attend. While there is no charge for the tickets, a freewill offering will be taken. **The Reverend Dr. Angel Perez will be honored for his faithful service as ACPM's chaplain for the past six years.** Hopefully the next chaplain will be introduced, as Chaplain Perez moves into pastoral ministry with a local congregation in Hanover. Staff at ACACC will speak, former inmates will give testimonies, and updates of exciting ministries taking place behind the walls will be given. Our own Dirk Grove will provide special music.

ACPM will be blessing the inmates during the Christmas season with gifts that will be provided by various churches and organizations. Please pray that the hearts of the inmates would be receptive to the kindness and generosity demonstrated by our community.

Applications for the Director of Christian Ministries are still being accepted. All interested applicants should visit www.adamscpm.org for details.

The next Community Prayer gathering will be held on Thursday, November 13 (6-7 pm) at Memorial Baptist Church, 1096 Biglerville Road, Gettysburg. Come and join us for prayer as we ask the Lord God Almighty to continue to move in the lives of inmates, staff, and family members.

Child Evangelism Fellowship

From the September CEF newsletter

Many of our Good News Clubs started in September. The rest started the first of October. We appreciate your prayers for our volunteers and children. Please pray for open hearts and full classrooms.

Start your Thursday with us in prayer. Every Thursday morning at 7 am some folks gather around their phone or computer to pray for CEF of Adams County. If you are interested in joining us to pray for the children, contact Miss Pam at 717-677-4797.

With the constant increase in postage, we would like to offer email options to all our supporters. If you are willing to have your newsletter or donation receipt emailed to you instead of post mail, contact Miss Pam at 717-677-4797

Compassion International

An August 23 letter from Hawine: Dear Friends, my dearest sponsor, how are you doing? Praise be to God, my family and I are doing well. I thank God for you. Please keep praying for me. May the grace of God be unto you! Read Psalm 23. May God keep you safe! We are going to start the new school year. Our weather is rainy and coldest. I received your letter. Thank you so much. Until the next letter, stay safe with the peace of God. I love you so much.

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An August 7 letter from Brayan: Hello dear sponsor Friends, It is a great joy for me to be able to greet you. I wish with all my heart that God is blessing you and keeping you and your entire family safe at all times. I want to thank you for the letter you sent me, it was very beautiful. I tell you about my Child Development Center – CDC. I tell you that in the CDC, they are always attentive to our health, they hold medical checkups and exams to see how we are always, the last time they did them was on October 12, 2024, and they did it in the communal house of our community. I went walking with my mother and my sister, thank God my health came out very well, they always gave me vitamins and recommendations to continue taking care of my health, such as staying hydrated, always washing my hands before eating, and eating healthy, to be healthy I exercise when I play soccer with my friends. I want to share something special with you, thank God, he allowed me to buy my new motorcycle to be able to go to my work. I thank him because he is the one who allows us to have things in their time. I would like to ask you, do you practice any exercise or go for a walk? I want to ask you to help me pray for my family and my work so that God keeps me and protects me every day. I say goodbye hoping to hear from you again very soon, and may God bless you infinitely at all times. Thank you very much for sponsoring me. With love, Brayan.

DiscipleMakers

From their October 13 newsletter

To be honest, we had pretty low expectations for this fall. "How many students are going to come to a campus [PSU York] that will close in two years?" we wondered. We braced ourselves for the campus to feel like a ghost town. But we prayed in faith that God would connect us with spiritually hungry students. As we prayed, we gave out donuts, ran outreach tables, conducted spiritual surveys, and handed out flyers - all to connect with as many people as possible with the hope of sharing the gospel with them. We invited everyone we met to join us for our weekly large group Bible study.



The morning before the Bible study, Maria and I prayed for at least 30 students to join us for Bible study. It seemed like a big, bold ask. We'd never had that many students join us before. Then we got to the room. Young men and women flocked into the room. We passed out Bibles and greeted new students, amazed as more and more kept coming. Suddenly we realized, we didn't have nearly enough chairs! Maria ducked out of the room to ask for help. By God's grace, an excited faculty member showed us a hidden stash of chairs under a stairwell and helped us grab them. He shared our surprise and delight that so many people were hungry for God's word!

As students grabbed seats and shared their names, we marveled. We prayed for 30 students. God brought 35! This was our largest Bible study we have EVER had since we planted the fellowship at PSU York.

What we thought would be a harder year of ministry is turning out to be our most fruitful year so far at PSU York. Please join us in praising God, and pray for the Lord to keep giving these young men and women eagerness to spend time in the Word!



Pictured Left:
Our first Bible study in 2018
with only 3 students!

Pictured Right:
This year's Bible study with 35
students!



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Noyes News:

A few weeks ago, we ran a race in support of a local high school cross country team. Maria ran a 3K while Kevin ran a 5K. Maria has always dreamed of racing while pregnant! Kevin's running this summer paid off as he won first place for his age group!



Our kids enjoyed coming to Penn State York and Gettysburg College with us! Simeon made sure that everyone who stopped by our table at the PSU York involvement fair got a snack !



Prayer Request:

Pray for Maria's pregnancy as she enters her third trimester. In recent weeks, Maria has developed pain in her left hip that can be almost excruciating at times, especially when she gets out of bed in the morning.

She also has placenta previa, where her placenta is completely covering the cervix. If her placenta doesn't move, she will have to have a C-section. We have a follow up ultrasound on October 20 to see where the placenta is. Would you join us in praying that God will move her placenta so she wouldn't have to have a C-section?

SAT-7

October 6, 2025: *Bringing Hope to Young People in Iran*

"People are hopeless; they don't know what to do. They finish school but they can't get jobs; they can't live their lives – many people try to commit suicide. Some try to get out of Iran but that can be even harder, having to start a new life somewhere else. We try to encourage people to hold onto faith, and to the hope that God will help Iran."

Ilya, one of the young presenters of *Generation of Hope*, describes the purpose of the SAT-7 PARS youth program as it returns this fall for a second season. The 16-year-old, who is from Iran but now lives in the UK, joined the show not long before the 12-day war between Israel and Iran in June.

It was an extremely anxious time for all Iranians, including those living outside the country. During the conflict, the live weekly program shifted its tone from the usual upbeat style to a more somber prayerful mood, giving people space to express how they were feeling.

Now, *Generation of Hope* is back on screen after the summer break, and it is aiming to bring hope and comfort to young viewers after the recent turmoil.

Generation of Hope is created for teenagers and young adults in Iran, and also those in Afghanistan and Tajikistan, covering relevant topics to young viewers such as mental health, self-harm, friendship, and comparison. The program offers a mixture of serious discussion with light-hearted segments and games. It is filmed between SAT-7 PARS' London studio and a small studio space in Türkiye, where two other Iranian hosts, Hanieh and Nina, are based.

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Finding Faith



Ilya was invited to audition as a presenter by a SAT-7 PARS' producer, who spotted his potential during a church Christmas production.

Hosting *Generation of Hope* is giving Ilya the opportunity to share the faith in Christ he has found since leaving Iran ten years ago. Ilya's mother had become a believer in Iran, resulting in persecution from her family. After they left, she was able to pursue her faith more freely and Ilya was struck by the transformation.

"I began to see incredible changes in my mother's life through her relationship with God," he said. "She no longer shouted, wasn't angry or frustrated, and showed me much more love. Seeing her transformation inspired me and helped me realize that I had a Heavenly Father who was always with me."

Life Outside Iran

Leaving Iran has meant big change for Ilya. While grateful for the freedom and opportunities of life in the UK, it is painful being away from his homeland and loved ones who are still there.

"It's a hard feeling," he said. "We pray for Iran all the time and would love to go back, but that's not possible for us because of our Christian beliefs and the persecution we would face."

Hearing regularly about the struggles of his counterparts in Iran motivates Ilya in his ministry with SAT-7.

"People are very depressed because of the situation in Iran," he said. "Through Generation of Hope, we are trying to make them smile, have fun, and know God more. We try to inspire people to hear about Christ; to show people that Christianity is completely different to what they know."

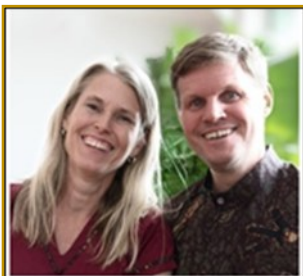
Tender Care

Tender Care is offering the opportunity to meet their Board, Executive Director and Staff on two dates: November 13 (Thursday), 6:30-8 pm, at Hanover First Church of God, 600 Fairview Drive, Hanover and November 20 (Thursday), 6:30-8 pm, at First Baptist Church, 1015 Chambersburg Road, Gettysburg.

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Excerpts from a September 24, 2025 email:

Dear Sandy and Members of Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church,



Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Thank you for your patience and prayers for us in this time of discernment. On that note, we have big news to share with you!

We have accepted an invitation to serve in Ghana. Bob will be teaching and serving on the faculty of the [Akrofi-Christaller Institute of Theology, Mission and Culture](#). Last year Bob spent a month at this institution and was inspired by their vision and ethos for equipping students to effectively connect the gospel with their cultures and to grow into faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. Kristi will continue serving with the [Healing Hearts, Transforming Nations](#) ministry. She has been invited to join their international planning team, supporting teams doing healing

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and reconciliation ministry and training facilitators in different countries. She also hopes to support local teams in Ghana and West Africa who are beginning this work of healing and reconciliation, helping churches to bring God's healing power and love to people who have been traumatized.

Our sending organization for serving in Ghana is [The Antioch Partners \(TAP\)](#). We are grateful for TAP's vision to equip people to serve and make the gospel known around the world. TAP will handle all donations towards our ministry and support. We are now beginning the process of raising funds for our transition to Ghana and for on-going support as we move there. We would appreciate your prayers and consideration of supporting us in this ministry. If you are able to support us this year and/or moving forward, please let us know. ...

Over the next several months, Bob will be finishing the writing for his PhD dissertation focused on the contextualization of the gospel in South Sudan. Kristi is also doing a graduate certificate program on trauma. We also hope to have a short sabbatical early next year. We appreciate your prayers for God's guidance and help to complete these aspects of equipping before we transition to Ghana. We are trusting God's provision of the support needed, and hoping that we could be in Ghana by May/June of next year.

Thank you so much for your partnership in ministry – it has been a privilege to be connected to you. We look forward to hearing from you, and please do let us know if you want to continue to join us in ministry going forward. We pray that God's Spirit continues to fill and empower the people in your congregation as you make the love and grace of Christ known among you.

Gratefully,

Bob and Kristi

Excerpts from an October 8, 2025 email:



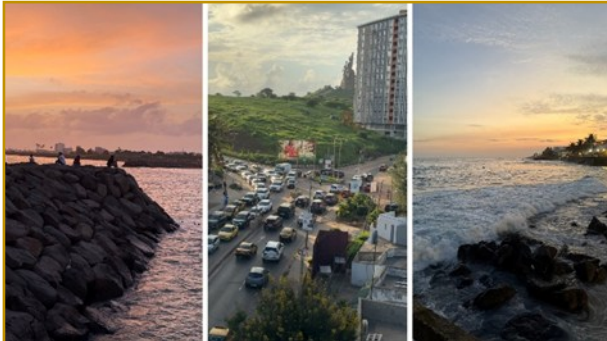
Hello, friends and family!

We've found it difficult to express in one letter all that September encompassed, but we are now well into our second school year here in Dakar! There have been many exciting moments as well as some challenges along the way as we have continued navigating the life here that the Lord has blessed us with. Among many things, since the start of the year, our school has had to make some unexpected adjustments to accommodate the current political situation involving the UN's relationship with the Senegalese government, the USAID cuts sending many of our families into unemployment, and the French military presence leaving the country. All of this has led to some financial strain for the school due to many of our students' families having to leave the city, but thankfully through prayer and the Lord's provision, He continues to be at work here at Dakar Academy. We are just simply learning new ways to trust our Savior each day, and it's all served as a good reminder than none of what we do here is possible without His guidance in the first place.

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... we would greatly appreciate prayers for our leadership as many of our staff members these days are spanning across multiple roles to fill the gaps.



... On a positive note, since the start of the year, many memories have already been made! From our class dodgeball tournament and announcing the fall play, to almost getting trampled at a Senegalese World Cup qualifier soccer match — yes, you heard that right — it has all been quite the adventure. If you'd like to hear the full story, let us know because it was scary in the moment, but thankfully we are able to laugh about it now. We've gotten lots of rain, had some busy days, and spent many weekends laughing with friends in the form of birthday celebra-

tions, movie nights, and picnics on the beach. We've said this before, but the difference in our confidence from last year to this year is astounding. We feel much more present, and it's so fun to dive deeper in the relationships we formed last year with staff, students, and locals.

While we still have much to learn, it's so comforting to come back to a familiar place with friends we recognize and a school that we love and that loves us back! We have found a new shared athletic passion — pickleball! The energy of the soccer fans in the stadium is unmatched. Rainy season reality — sometimes you have to teach sopping wet and barefoot after getting poured on.



We now have 7 weeks of classes under our belts, and most days you can find us playing some kind of sport with the students, leading extra-curriculars, and finding ways to cool off. Rainy season is our warmest months of the year, which also means it is hot and muggy, even long after the sun sets each day. It will be this way with the temperature consistently rising until the beginning of November, so we envy you all a little as we watch you enjoy your warm fall drinks and get cozy as the temperature starts to drop for Fall back in the States.



We have been enjoying many of the *new* things this year. A new apartment, a new classroom, and a new role as the Theatre Director — including a very fun fall play that got the kids excited! ...

We love Senegalese food! Rayan recently learned how to make Yassa Ginaar (left) from a Senegalese friend. Ginaar is the Wolof word for chicken. We also typically enjoy a yummy bowl of Maafe (right) or Jolof rice (center) for our lunch during the week.

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Prayer Requests:

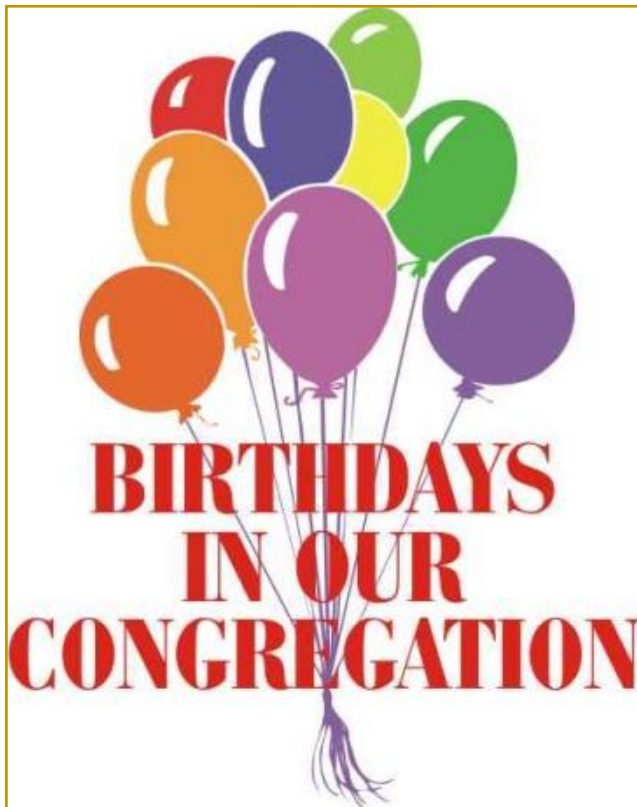
- ~Encouragement during a challenging season for our students and staff
- ~Rest and refreshment during our upcoming Fall Break
- ~Continued good health
- ~Continued stability in Senegal and the country's relationship with the U.S., the United Nations, and other surrounding West African countries

We are so thankful for our growing TeachBeyond family here at DA! Our recent monthly team gathering was an all-American "Weaner & Hamburger" Cookout — aptly named after us and another new family in our group, the Hamburgers.

...

All our love,

Christian and Rayan Weaner



- 1 - Richard (Dick) Belenski
- 2 - Nadja Muchow
- 9 - Glenn Lookabill
Brad Stephens
- 12 - Karen Idris
- 13 - Mike Orleski
- 14 - Kenneth Sanders
John Stottlemeyer
- 18 - Suzanne Dolly
- 19 - Donald Rider
- 25 - Ron Milhimes
- 27 - Nancy Brill
Linda Seamon
- 29 - Shirley Aldrich
James A. Welsh

The Giving Corner

In November, especially in our country, our minds turn to giving thanks. If we are honest with ourselves, we sometimes forget how everything we have and are is given to us by a loving Father.

In the Bible, generosity and gratitude are connected virtues where we acknowledge God's grace and blessings. This acknowledgement then leads us to "freely give" as we have "freely received". When this circle is complete this can lead others to give thanks to God. When we view this life as being active stewards of God's creation rather than owners of what we have, it helps us gain a measure of humility, taking nothing for granted.

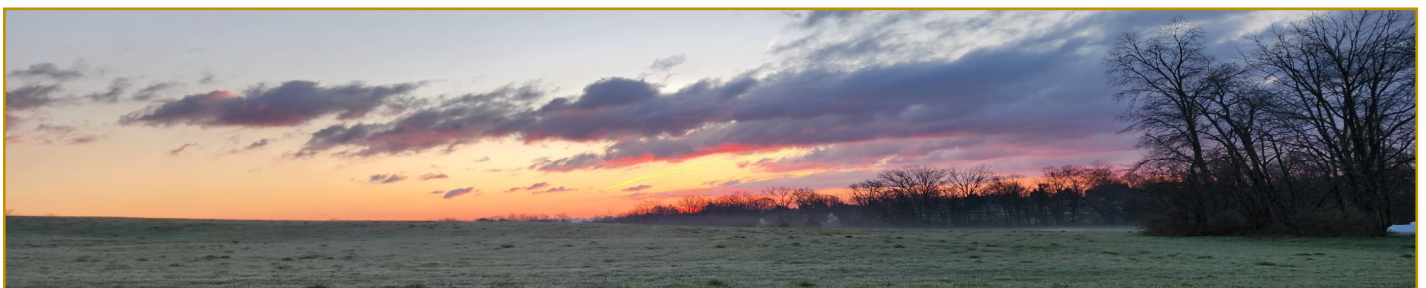
Several years ago, a man named Anthony was part of our pastoral leadership here at LMC. He often talked about "Koinonia" which he had experienced in a previous church. This fellowship was a deep close-knit unity, not just friendly association. He talked about this often and encouraged us to treat each other in a deeper relationship as our community of believers. If you feel this unity please extend to others and watch what God can do through us today and in the year ahead. Please consider how you can best serve God and this church and return your Estimate of Giving cards now so our leadership can plan for 2026.

In the words of a verse from an old hymn "We Gather Together":

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
Ordaining, maintaining His kingdom divine,
So from the beginning the fight we were winning
The Lord was at our side the glory be Thine.

With love and gratitude from Interpretation and Stewardship Team

HAPPY THANKSGIVING





From the Clerk's Desk

The Session held their regular meeting on October 21, 2025, at 6:00 PM in the education building with Rev. David Wright serving as moderator. Here are the business highlights of the actions taken at that meeting:

- ~Membership 10/18/2025: Active Members (AM) = 155, Friends Participating (FP) = 33,
Affiliate Members (AfM): 0, Family Members (FM): 49, Total: 237
- ~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 of money from congregation for Thanksgiving Turkeys for Fairfield Food Pantry.
- ~Approved the Hanging of the Greens and Dinner provided by the Deacons at 4pm on November 30.
- ~Approved an Advent Bible Study led by Pastor Wright with 5:30 soup/salad/dessert and 6pm study on December 2, 9, and 16.
- ~Approved a collection of socks and chocolate bars for Adams County Prison Ministry from the congregation on November 2, 9, and 16.
- ~Approved Minute for Mission on January 4, 2026 during service by the Henry's followed by a potluck lunch and presentation.
- ~Approved a Building Use Application from Cathy Michaliga to use the fellowship hall on January 28, 2026, from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM to hold a meet and greet and potluck dinner for the LMCPD marriage retreat for approximately 50 adults.
- ~Approved that Lauren Neely will represent the church as the Elder Commissioner to the Wednesday, November 19 Presbytery meeting being held at Harrisburg Korean Presbyterian Church.
- ~Approved that a Zoom meeting will be held with our missionaries Bob and Kristi Rice from South Sudan just prior to the Session meeting on Tuesday, November 18.
- ~Approved the 2026 Marriage retreat subsidy of \$150/couple for LMCPD participants.
- ~Approved a Christmas card collection for distribution within church with 10 cents per card donation to benefit Hillside Nursing Home.
- ~Approved an Anti-Racism Policy as required by the Presbytery.

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

Team members: Joe Jackson, Chair; Ron Milhimes; and Lanny Winters.

- ~Will use Ausherman painting to paint the windows around the narthex.
- ~Committee approved for Carlos Wampler to build new bookshelves in Pastor's office.
- ~Committee approved Mosko to repair approximately 26 headstones in cemetery.
- ~Lights in ladies' room in narthex are dim and they are looking to improve. (Continued on the next page)

Continued from the preceding page . . .

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

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

- ~Our missionaries, the Henry's, will arrive on January 3, 2026 and we will take them out to dinner.
- ~Estimate of Giving cards are slow coming in. All are encouraged to prayerfully consider a pledge for 2026.
- ~The financial reports for June (revised), July and August have been 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: Phyllis Smith, Chair; Lynne Orner; and Mike Orleski

- ~Planning for Trivia Night with Young Life on Monday, October 27 in our Fellowship Hall. We will supply water bottles and snacks (popcorn, candy, chips).
- ~Discussing All Saints Sunday on November 2. Will read necrology list with a bell ringing after each name. And we will provide opportunity for candles to be lit like we did last year.
- ~Gathering information about the location and date for the Winter Banquet.
- ~Tabled the discussion for changing Sunday School hours for when new pastor arrives.
- ~Decided not to change items in the welcome bags until we can discuss with new pastor.



Thankful, Grateful, Blessed

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

Li'l Ripples November 2025



Sunday Morning Schedule

Sunday School 8:30 - 9:30 AM

Worship 10:00 - 11:00 AM

Nursery 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Church Office Hours

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

Phone Number 717-642-5332

Email Address office@lmcpc.org

Website www.lmcpc.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