

# Li'l Ripples

October 2025  
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A Publication of Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church

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DEADLINE FOR THE  
NOVEMBER ISSUE OF  
LI'L RIPPLES IS  
OCTOBER 17th

## PLEASE WELCOME REV. DAVID WRIGHT TO OUR CONGREGATION

Dave is filling in as temporary, part-time pastor for LMCPC while we are searching for a full time minister. Dave will be preaching on Sundays, have office hours on Monday and will perform emergency pastoral care.

(Lauren Neely)

### A little about Dave in his own words:

I was raised in a Christian home and accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior at an early age. As a teenager I first considered a call to Christian service as a vocation while at a Christian camp. To pursue that vocation, I attended Wheaton College and graduated with a B.A. in Biblical Studies and Christian Education. After a couple years as a Christian Educator, in 1981, I was called as the Youth Director of the Vienna Presbyterian Church in Virginia outside Washington, D.C. Ministry with youth flourished there with several hundred young people participating and growing as disciples.

After a several years at Vienna, the Session approached me about pursuing ordained ministry. Having already done some graduate work in Marriage and Family Therapy at the University of Maryland, I began taking courses at Virginia Episcopal Seminary. Eventually I enrolled full-time at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. I completed my M. Div. there in 1992 and was called to the Vienna church as an Associate Pastor where I remained until 1999 when I was called as the Pastor of Fairfield Presbyterian Church in Mechanicsville, VA. I began a D. Min. program at Union Seminary in Richmond, VA in 2004 and received my degree in the spring of 2008.

In 2009 I was called as pastor to the Gettysburg Presbyterian Church where I served until my retirement in 2022. In retirement I have done pulpit supply and led mission trips to Mexico's Yucatan peninsula. I am a small group leader, serve on the missions committee, and play keyboard with the praise band at GPC.

I was happily married to Bonnie Wright for 48 years until her death in October of 2024 from ovarian cancer. I am still grieving that loss. I have two adult children. I enjoy traveling, jogging, radio-control airplanes, and reading.



## CHURCH LIFE - FUTURE, PRESENT, PAST



### OCTOBER - NOVEMBER CALENDAR

**October 5** - World Wide Communion Sunday. Join us as we celebrate Communion with believers around the world. Coffee Hour after worship service hosted by the I & S Team.

**October 12 to 26** - Harvest Home Food Collection for Thanksgiving. See additional information on page 3.

**October 26** - Immediately following the worship service, there will be a Congregational Meeting to receive the report of the Nominating Committee.

**October 27** - Monday Night Trivia in Fellowship Hall hosted by Young Life. Tickets are \$10. per person. This is a fund raiser for Young Life. See the flyer on the narthex bulletin board or page 6 for additional information.

**November 2** - All Saints Sunday. We will lift up and remember those Saints who have gone before us.

**November 9** - Minute for Mission. Elaine Reichl will update us on Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Collection for this year. See Page 4 for additional information.

### 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](mailto:orleskimj@hotmail.com).

### Adult Sunday School Class

Continue to enrich your faith journey on Sunday Mornings from **8:30 to 9:30 AM**. Come to Room 3 of Fellowship Hall to hear about *The Message of Jesus*.  
Donuts and coffee available.

### Women's 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.

### Couple's Study Group

The Couple's Group will meet **October 11th, 5:30 PM** in Fellowship Hall. Our hosts for the night are Lanny and Davalene Winters who will be leading the discussion portion on the topic of "Maturity". A sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex starting September 28th. Watch the bulletin for further info. All married couples in the congregation are welcome to join us.  
(Bev Benner)

### Women's Guild

Some of you will read this item before The Women's Guild Yard and Bake sale takes place. Others of you will read this after the sale is over. We truly hope we did well and can satisfy our goals of giving Christmas presents to our Teen Angel and donating money to Neighbors Helping Neighbors. Please look for our results in a Sunday bulletin and thank you for all your support.

Our next meeting will be **October 21 at 1:00 PM** in Fellowship Hall. All women of the church are invited.

**Adams County Church Women United** will meet on Wednesday, **October 1, 11:30 AM**, at Gettysburg Church of the Brethren, 1710 Biglerville Rd. Pat Thorsen, with Gettysburg Garden Club, will be our guest speaker. Please bring a bagged lunch, dessert & drinks will be provided. Invite a neighbor or friend, no reservations needed.

### **HARVEST HOME COLLECTION - October 12 - 26, 2025**

The Congregation is asked to donate Thanksgiving food items which will be delivered to the Fairfield Food Pantry. There will be a basket in the narthex for these donations. LMCC will be donating turkeys.

Thanks for your participation.

(Spiritual Life Team)

### **RUTH'S HARVEST - FAIRFIELD MISSION PROJECT**

Ruth's Harvest – Fairfield is a volunteer program that will provide hungry children in the Fairfield area with a backpack of food for them to eat over the weekend when they are not getting school lunches or school breakfasts. They receive individually packed servings of food to cover seven meals and two snacks for Friday evening, Saturday, and Sunday. Our congregation is supporting this ministry in the following ways listed below.

#### **What is needed?**

- 1. Donations of food:** Single-sized servings/packages of food items that need NO refrigeration (see list of food items below). Items can be dropped off at our church which are then delivered to Ruth's Harvest.
- 2. Donations of money** to help meet the ongoing need of food and supplies. Monetary donations in the form of a check can be written to: Ruth's Harvest- Fairfield, Inc.

Mail to: St. John Lutheran Church  
13 W. Main Street  
Fairfield, PA 17320

- 3. Six to Eight Volunteers are needed to pack the food bags on LMCCPC assigned dates.**  
A sign-up sheet with the dates is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

#### **Food Items Needed**

Cereal  
Chips/Pretzels  
Green Beans  
\*Mac & Cheese Cups  
\*Milk  
Ramen Noodles  
\*Corn  
Juice Boxes  
Microwave Popcorn  
\*Peanut Butter to GO  
Peas  
\*Chef Boyardee Cups

\*Animal Crackers/Teddy Grahams  
Cookies  
Granola Bars  
Mixed Fruit Cups  
\*Pears  
Pop Tarts  
\*Carrots  
Fruit Gummies  
\*Mandarin Oranges  
Peaches  
Raisins  
\*Nutella

\*Items that are needed the most to start the year



### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD – November 17-23, 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 [samaritanspurse.org/activate](https://samaritanspurse.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)

THANKS    THANKS    THANKS    THANKS    THANKS    THANKS    THANKS    THANKS

Dear Lower Marsh Creek,

I Thess. 1:3

**Thanks** for your generous gift towards our ministry with DiscipleMakers this summer. We praise God for your desire to see the next generation walk with Jesus. This semester, God has helped us meet so many new students - the harvest is truly plentiful. Thank you for your partnership and your prayers.

Much thanks,                      Kevin and Maria Noyes

Dear Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church Congregation,

**Thank you** for loaning us your handbell equipment! I am super excited to engage students in the art of handbells at our Middle School and High School. We will keep you updated as to when any handbell group performs.

Jason - Band Director @ FAMS/HS

## Happy Birthday to the following members of the LMCC family -

2. Jane Kessel	16. Jim Benner	18. Karen Golden
4. Gary Adams	17. Mark Englund-Krieger	21. Lynn Berwager
9. Susan Thompson	17. Lori Jackson	22. Susan Wagle
10. Roslyn Santay	17. Cheryle Waters	28. Sara Rohr
12. Lee Bentz	17. Lanny Winters	29. David Metz
16. Dave Diehl	18. David Brill	31. Rick Gladhill



### NEED A LITTLE HUMOR?



If you think you are smarter than the previous generation . . . 50 years ago the owner's manual of a car showed you how to adjust the valves. Today it warns you not to drink the contents of the battery.

Why do eggs come in flimsy Styrofoam cartons and batteries come in a package only a chainsaw can open?

Why is everyone so against sugar? Who stood by you when things went wrong in your life?

Who comforted you? It wasn't broccoli, that's for sure !

I'm at the age where my mind firmly believes I'm 29, my humor suggests I'm 12, and my body possibly died in the Civil War.

Age 12: Fell off bike at high velocity onto gravel road, biked 5 miles home.

Age 50: Used the wrong pillow, back was nonfunctional for two days.

Being 20 in the seventies was much more fun than being 70 in the twenties.

That moment when you spell a word so wrong that even auto-correct is like, "I've got nothing man!"

(Thanks to Kathy Megyeri for the above smiles.)



# ADAMS COUNTY YOUNG LIFE Trivia Night

\$10 PER  
PERSON



## LOWER MARSH CREEK CHURCH

1865 Knoxlyn Rd, Gettysburg, PA 17325

**MONDAY**  
**OCT 27, 2025**

**6:00-8:30PM**  
(CHECK IN BEFORE 6:30)

Register  
Today!



Come enjoy a night of trivia and hear the vision behind Young Life in Adams County! This event is open to anyone in the community. All ticket proceeds help kids get to camp this fall!

**YL younglife**

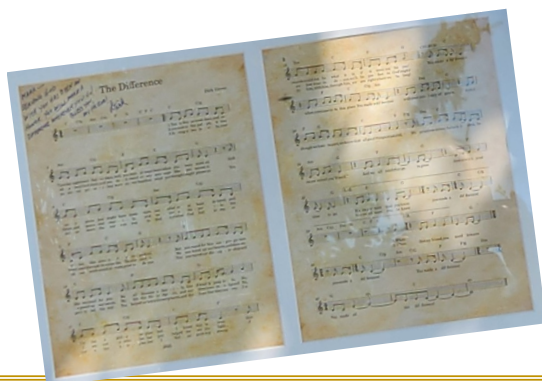
For more information email [yorkadamsyl@gmail.com](mailto:yorkadamsyl@gmail.com)

## The Difference

Ten to five on weekdays, and on Tuesday nights and  
Saturdays,  
Well, you were always there when you were needed.  
And any plans you might have made were canceled or at  
least delayed,  
And often, this scenario repeated.  
But you cared for this congregation like we cared for you.  
We all became a family, like friendly people do.  
No, I'm not a philosopher, but I know this is true:  
This church would not be what it is, if it were not for you!

When you took to the pulpit, it was all about God's love,  
And you delivered every message like you meant it.  
Grace and peace and charity, and never a disparity,  
The Word came through because the Savior sent it.  
We centered up our hearts, and then we  
opened up our minds  
We felt the Holy Spirit, and our lives were realigned!  
No, I am not a scholar, but you helped me see the light...  
If we just trust in Jesus, we'll be perfect in God's sight!

When facing a majority, your pastoral priorities  
Were never based on what you thought might please us.  
You led us down the narrow way to find out what God  
had to say,  
So all our work would always point to Jesus.  
You nurtured our discipleship and gently led the way.  
You helped us learn the scriptures, and the hope that  
they convey.  
I'm not a theologian, but I feel us growing strong.  
In him, with him, through him,  
we are right where we belong!



Chorus:

You made a difference when you came into this place.  
You made a difference with your ministry of grace.  
And although we hate to part, we know that all good  
things must end;  
We count ourselves the lucky ones, because we call  
you "friend."  
And we all need change to grow.  
And, now, it's your time to go.  
But my friend, you need to know  
You made a difference!

Chorus:

You made a difference when you came into this place.  
You made a difference with your ministry of grace.  
And although we hate to part, we know that all good  
things must end;  
We count ourselves the lucky ones, because we call  
you "friend."  
And we all need change to grow.  
And, now, it's your time to go.  
But my friend, you need to know  
You made a difference!

Chorus:

You made a difference when you came into this place.  
You made a difference with your ministry of grace.  
And although we hate to part, we know that all good  
things must end;  
We count ourselves the lucky ones, because we call  
you "friend."  
And we all need change to grow.  
And, now, it's your time to go.  
But my friend, you need to know  
You made a difference!  
You made a difference!  
You made all the difference!

Words and music by Dirk Grove

Offered as a goodbye tribute to Pastor Mark  
at worship August 31, 2025



## Pastor, Potluck and Pies



LMCC's picnic to say  
goodbye to Pastor Mark -  
held after worship on  
August 31, 2025







Thanks to Jim Richardson & Judy Williams for the photos.  
Additional photos on page 12.





## And, . . . . Speaking of music . . . .

## MUSIC THAT MOVES ME

*Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, 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."*

*John 4:13-14*

You may (or may not) recognize Fanny Crosby's name. In any case, it's almost certain that you've heard (and probably sung) at least one of her hymns. That's because, during her 95 years of life, she authored over 8,500 gospel songs. The best known of these include *Blessed Assurance*, *To God Be the Glory*, *Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior*, and this month's featured hymn *Near the Cross*.

Born in 1820 in Putnam, New York, Fanny Crosby was blinded at six weeks of age, possibly due to a medical treatment that damaged her optic nerves. She wrote her first poem at age eight, which was a personal declaration of gratitude for her blindness:

*"Oh, what a happy soul I am, although I cannot see!  
I am resolved that in this world contented I will be."*

Fanny Crosby's childhood was filled with the Christian faith. Starting at age ten, with the encouragement of her grandmother, she began memorizing the Bible. By age 15, she had committed to memory all four gospels, the Pentateuch, the Book of Proverbs, the Song of Solomon and many of the Psalms.

Fanny attended the New York School for the Blind, where she learned to play piano, organ, harp and guitar. She also became a very good soprano singer during this time. Later, Fanny would become a teacher at the same school.

On November 30, 1850, at 30 years of age, Fanny attended a worship service at the Thirtieth Street Methodist Church in New York City. She had been struggling with troubling dreams and a nagging sense that something was missing in her life. This proved to be a pivotal day in her life, because, as the congregation sang Isaac Watts' great hymn *At the Cross*, Fanny felt "flooded with celestial light" (her words). Deeply moved, she went forward and accepted Jesus Christ as her savior.

*At the cross, at the cross where I first saw the light,  
And the burden of my heart rolled away,  
It was there by faith I received my sight,  
And now I am happy all the day.*

After that, she resolved to focus her poetic skills on hymn writing. Her works were often set to the musical compositions of William Bradbury and Ira Sankey, two of the best-known songwriters of the day.

One day in 1869, Cincinnati industrialist William Doane gave Fanny a melody he had written. Hearing it for the first time, Fanny felt the melody speak to her. It said, "Jesus, keep me near the cross," and she wrote down the lyrics to *Near the Cross* immediately. Doane would go on to become Crosby's chief collaborator, composing melodies for over 1,500 of her poems.

When asked to describe her hymn writing process, Fanny said, "It may seem a little old-fashioned, always to begin one's work with prayer, but I never undertake a hymn without first asking the good Lord to be my inspiration."

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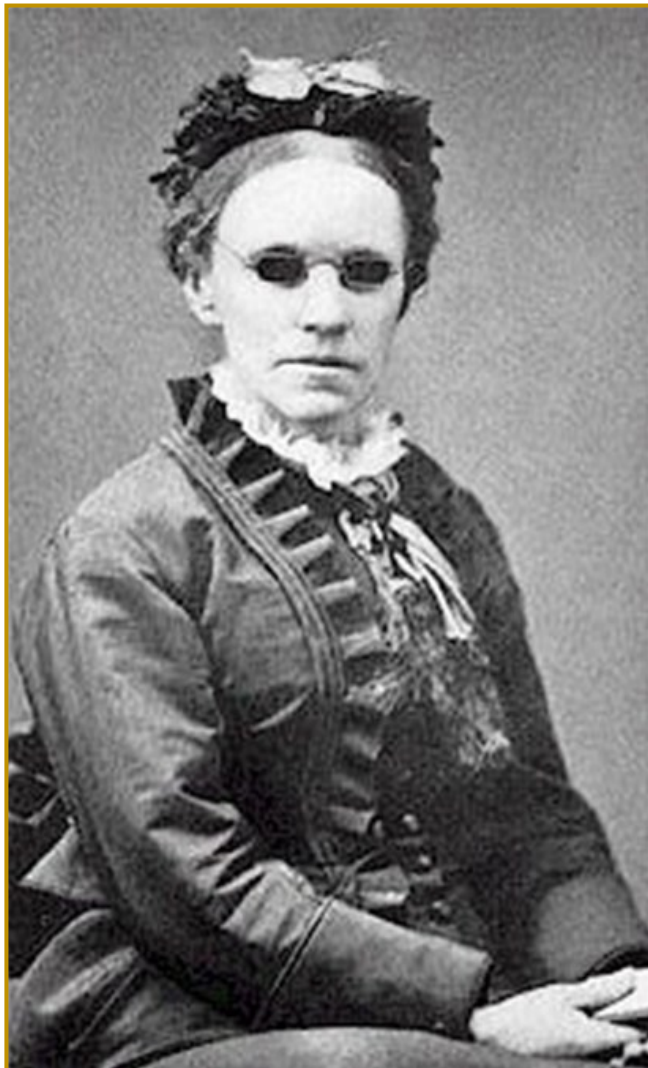
Fanny was so prolific, in fact, that publishers were hesitant to include so many works by a single author in their hymnals. Because of this, Crosby began writing under various pseudonyms, including Mrs. C.M. Wilson, Lizzie Edwards, Ella Dale, Grace J. Frances, Rose Atherton, Maud Marion, Leah Carlton, Henrietta E. Blair, and nearly two hundred others.

Though blind, Fanny Crosby had a gift for describing vivid imagery in her poetry. Combined with a deep love of Jesus Christ and a profound knowledge of God's Word, she provided the world with a rich legacy of enduring hymns. It was her stated goal to bring one million people to Christ through her hymns. Because of the enormous staying power of her work, and the sheer volume of her catalog, I'm guessing the final total will exceed Fanny's personal goal exponentially.

The next time you hear or sing a Fanny Crosby hymn, please thank God for providing - for us - the marvelous gift of praise music, channeled through his faithful servant Fanny Crosby!

(A personal note: my favorite version of this hymn is the one presented by Jamey Johnson and Ricky Skaggs at the Grand Ole Opry in 2022. You can view it on YouTube by searching for "Near the Cross Jamey Johnson," or by copying the link below.) - Dirk Grove

[https://youtu.be/FsTslahhIEs?si=UE\\_TX73wUkKVJn8](https://youtu.be/FsTslahhIEs?si=UE_TX73wUkKVJn8)



## Near the Cross

Fanny J. Crosby

William H. Doane

1. Je - sus, keep me near the cross, There a pre - cious foun - tain,  
 2. Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, Love and mer - cy found me;  
 3. Near the cross! O Lamb of God, Bring its scenes be - fore me;  
 4. Near the cross I'll watch and wait, Hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,

Free to all, a heal - ing stream, Flows from Cal - vary's moun - tain.  
 There the bright and Morn - ing Star, Shed its beams a - round me.  
 Help me walk from day to day, With its shad - ows o'er me.  
 'Til I reach the gold - en strand Just be - yond the riv - er.

In the cross, in the cross, Be my glo - ry ev - er,

'Til my rap - tured soul shall find Rest be - yond the riv - er.



*Serving God By***DEACONS' PAGE***Serving Others***FAIRFIELD FOOD PANTRY:**

The Congregation is asked to donate Thanksgiving food items which will be delivered to the Fairfield Food Pantry. There will be a basket in the narthex for these donations. LMCC will be donating turkeys.

Thanks for your participation

**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

*Pastor, Potluck and Pies* continued from page 9



### 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Diaper Give Away

I believe that the Diaper Give Away can be classified a success. **Many thanks** to the generous members of LMCPD as well as some members of the community, Thrivent Action Team, Alexanders Plumbing, Deliso Pizza, Mason Dixon Farms, and several grocery stores (Jubilee, Kennie's, Giant and Weiss). We could not have done this without those donations or without the many volunteers who helped that day! It really does take an army to run this event!



We collected 7,969 diapers, either through direct donations or purchased with money we received. On Saturday, September 6, we gave away 4,726 diapers along with 36 packets of wipes. Everyone who received diapers also received an invitation to the ice cream social on September 16 (there were 61 cars that came through the line). Of the remaining diapers, 3,095 were donated to SCAAP and 148 to the Hillside Personal Care facility.



A survey asking "How did you hear?" was taken during the event and the road signs were mentioned most. The newspaper articles and flyers were also effective. Other things mentioned were Facebook, Back to School Night at Walmart, "drove by", and "came last year".

Again, many thanks to all who made this event a success!

Sandy Buhrman  
Mission Advocate



### RECENT CORRESPONDENCE

#### **Adams Christian Prison Ministries**

*From the September ACPM Newsletter*

##### 'Tis the Season

In September, ACPM will be participating in the Angel Tree program from the Prison Fellowship Ministries. This program allows incarcerated parents to sign up their children to receive Christmas gifts in December on their behalf. [Note from the Mission Committee: You can find more information about this program at <https://www.prisonfellowship.org/about/angel-tree/>]

##### Fundraising Banquet

ACPM is hosting a fundraiser banquet at the Wyndam in Gettysburg on Friday, November 14 at 6 pm. [Note from the Mission Committee: More information on how LMC can support this fundraiser will be available soon.]

##### Director of Christian Ministry

ACPM is actively pursuing new candidates for the position of Director of Christian Ministries/Chaplain. All interested applicants, please visit ACPM's website at [www.adamscpm.org](http://www.adamscpm.org). There you will find the job description, salary package, and the application.

##### Community Prayer Gatherings

Upcoming community prayer gatherings will be from 6 pm to 7 pm on Thursdays as follows: October 9 at First Baptist Church, 1015 Chambersburg Road, Gettysburg, and November 13 at Memorial Baptist Church, 1096 Biglerville Road, Gettysburg.

##### Correctional Officers

ACCAC is hiring Correctional Officers. If you know someone who is looking for employment, have them visit the Adams County website at [www.adamscountypa.gov](http://www.adamscountypa.gov)

#### **Child Evangelism Fellowship of Adams County**

*From the August CEF Newsletter*

Prize Box Items Needed: small bouncy balls, glow in the dark bracelets & necklaces, squishies, bath bombs, little toy cars/trucks, etc.

##### Fall School Ministry/Good News Clubs

*Monday:* Vida Charter School after school until 4:30

*Tuesday* (Elementary Schools): Alloway Creek after school until 4:45, Bermudian Springs after school until 4:45, Biglerville (Upper Adams Intermediate bussed down) after school until 5:00, New Oxford after school until 4:30.

*Wednesday* (Elementary Schools): Conewago Township, Fairfield after school until 4:45, James Getty after school until 4:30, Lincoln after school until 4:30.

*Thursday:* Conewago Valley Intermediate after school until 4:45.

##### Missionary Guest Quarters

Pastors and lay people in need of housing for a missionary they support may contact the CEF of Adams County office. CEF of Adams County is pleased to continue the use of the facility for visiting missionaries as intended when the Rouzer Foundation, now part of the Adams County Community Foundation, gifted the property. We remain thankful for this opportunity to serve!

*Continued on the next page . . .*



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### Compassion International

*A recent note received from Hawine (age 21):*

"Dear Friends, My beloved and respected sponsor, how are you doing? How is your family? How is life going? How is your county? My family and I are doing well, praise be to God. I am doing well on my learning. Please keep praying for my success. I received your gift money of ETB 5651.85 for my birthday. I bought a pair of shoes by ETB 2000, dress by EDTB 1500 and Jacket by ETB 2151.85. Thank you so much. May God bless you for all your support throughout the project! Until the next letter, stay safe. I love you so much."

*A recent note received from Sergio (age 15):*

"Hello dear Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian, Let me greet you with a big hug and many blessings. I can thank you enough for the letter and for all your support. During these vacations, I have the opportunity to travel to see new places, enjoy nature, make new friends and have joyful and fun moments. Every day it has been an unforgettable adventure. All of these have been possible because of my mom. I also traveled to Cochabamba. I loved watching the city from the Cristo de la Concordia.

I was in La Paz, too. We took a ride in the cabin and went to the Moon Valley. In Santa Cruz, I enjoyed colours, good food and a fun day at the Zoo, surrounded by nature and running around. Each place was unique, and it let me learn new things, meet kind people and overall, have a healthy amusement. I felt happy, free and full of gratitude for all I lived. My prayer request: please pray for my family to be well and for my studies. I say goodbye with a big hug. Your friend, Sergio"

Message from Jamal Nasiri (a member of one of the Afghan families in Gettysburg):

*Moving/Heavy Duty Help:* If you need help moving heavy furniture, cleaning the garden, or any other heavy-duty tasks, please feel free to contact me at 717-640-0894.

*Transportation Services:* My older brother, Baber, has over two years of experience as an Uber driver. If you need a safe ride to the airport or anywhere else, he is available and happy to help. Phone number (223-272-9279).

### MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE



**Thomas & Cheri Henry**  
**Development & Care of International Workers**  
**One Another Ministries (OAM) – Based in Staffordshire, England**

*From their July-August Praise & Prayer Letter*

**Summer is not generally high season for most ministry.** But we are grateful for what July & August offer - time to recover from extended viruses; follow-up virtual calls with International Workers (IWs) we are serving; holiday break for the Keswick Bible Convention, hiking, and Scottish Country Dancing; catch up on admin, projects, and to-do lists; extra time with Ben who is with us over the summer writing his dissertation; extended times of solitude and devotion to the Lord. These may not seem as productive as "other ministry", yet they are gifts and just as important. We need the harvest that grows in us in each season.



*Continued on the next page . . .*

*Continued from the preceding page . . .*

## SUMMER FUN!



- ~ Hiking England's third highest peak during Keswick Bible Convention
- ~ Susannah surprised Ben by coming over for his birthday - playing in the Heather at Cannock Chase near the White House Ministry Centre.
- ~ Christmas in the summer - Cheri got to see two of her favorite Christian musicians at The Big Church Festival (Phil Wickam & Brandon Lake). Can you spot Cheri?
- ~ Scottish Country Dancing Summer School in St Andrews - our class out of 160.



### We asked, and you responded.

Financially, we too often worry about seasons of low giving. How quickly we forget God's abundance and your generosity. Just like that, He filled our coffers to get us through the end of the year, and to do some of the things we had hoped to do, like return to Jordan. Thank you, all of you, who gave in love and sacrificially.

**Resurrection in Jordan.** Inexplicably, after a planned return to Amman fell through the cracks, it has opened back up for early October. Just two weeks ago we were asked to be the main speakers at the Amman International Church's annual church retreat. Pray as we teach over two days on marriage and a theology of singleness. And, right on the heels of that invitation, a second couple signed up for and brought back to life a marriage intensive that we had previously cancelled. Both couples are thrilled.

**Please praise God and pray for each of the above points of interest.** Because He cares for IWs - for their labor, their sacrifice, their loss & grief. And he doesn't want them to struggle alone. Which is why we serve among God's servants in challenging places. Because we also care. We so want every people group to be reached. Every bit of hardship for us is worth the joy of knowing we are serving Him by helping others, even though we are but one small stop on their long journey of faith.

### Brief Time in US in Nov/Dec

In Nov & Dec we will be in the US. A few reasons for this timing - lead Marriage Intensives; connect with supporting churches and donors; cast ministry vision; raise project funds; attend Mental Health & Missions conference; visit ministry organization who licensed us; spend Thanksgiving and Christmas with family. And...

### Training Facilitators

Another reason to go to the US is to lead three separate Marriage Intensives with missionary couples who are doing home ministry assignment this fall in the US. These are couples who otherwise would have been a challenge for us to get to their fields of service. Therefore, we're supporting them while we're in the same country, sooner than later. These are couples who could potentially join us in this ministry, which is part of the vision of reproducing ourselves.

### Note:

The Henrys will visit Lower Marsh Creek Church January 3-4, 2026.

Plans are being made for their visit, and we will keep you informed as those plans are finalized.

# The Giving Corner



WAITING.....WAITING.....WAITING

As this is written, probably 5 out of 10 people in our congregation are in a waiting pattern. Waiting for test results; waiting for surgery; waiting to recover from surgery; waiting for our new pastor choice; waiting for the check that is in the mail or simply waiting to see what this new day brings.

This beautiful verse from Isaiah 40:31 talks about this very time of waiting.

*But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength;*

*They shall mount up with wings like eagles,*

*They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.*

Isaiah describes people who actively trust, hope in, and actively seek God, rather than passively wait in idleness. We actively seek God by praying for direction and protection, and expressing faith through worship. Joining with fellow believers in worship and prayer gives us a sense of calm that all is well and will be well in the future.

The promise of Isaiah 40:31 is that by actively waiting we will have not only our physical strength renewed, but also our spiritual and emotional strength. We will be able to rise above the challenges and gain a higher perspective. While our ability to run and not be weary may be gone we can certainly walk and not faint, demonstrating unwavering stamina and resilience.

As we've talked about in past Giving Corner articles, expressing gratitude is a very beautiful way to begin a conversation with our God. Considering everything we are and have is a gift from Him what could be more logical. It also frees the fear and uncertainty inside us to begin this process of renewal.

When peace like a river, attendeth my way

When sorrows like sea billow roll

Whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say

It is well; it is well with my soul.

It is well (It is well) with my soul (with my soul)

It is well; it is well with my soul.





# From the Clerk's Desk

The Session held their regular meeting on September 16, 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:

- o Membership 9/12/2025: Active Members (AM) = 155\*, Friends Participating (FP) = 33, Affiliate Members (AfM): 0, Family Members (FM): 49, Total: 237 \* Changes in membership include the acceptance of Rob Heims and Deb Wastler into membership on August 19, 2025 by affirmation of faith with a public reception held during worship on August 31, 2025.
- o 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:***

- o September 28, 2025: Women's Guild yard/bake sale in the Fellowship Hall
- o March 23 – April 6, 2026: Provide breakfast at St James Lutheran Church for the CARES ministry.
- o November 9, 2025: Provide a "Minute for Mission" at the November 9 service to present the Samarian's Purse Shoebox ministry and to hand out boxes that should be returned to the church before November 23. Elaine Reichl will collect the boxes on November 23 and deliver them to the Drop-off location.
- o Special collections from the congregation for the Fairfield Food Pantry in September (cereal) and December (breakfast items).
- o October 12-26, 2025: Harvest Home Food Collection from the Congregation for Thanksgiving.
- o January 28, 2026: Host a meet and greet potluck for marriage retreat attendees at 5:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall.
- o Participate in sub sale fundraiser in December for the 2026 Marriage Retreat with subs delivered on January 20, 2026.
- o Use of the Fellowship Hall by Young Life for a Trivia Night Fundraiser on Monday, October 27, 2025 from 4-9 PM with refreshments provided by LMCP along with volunteer support to help with the refreshments and set-up/clean-up. Young Life will be charging \$10 per ticket to send youth to a winter camp. Congregation participation in the Fundraising event is encouraged.
- o Replacement of the well pump and piping for a total cost of approximately \$7,000.
- o That the church will reach out to 2 additional churches to participate in the marriage retreat for 2026: St John's Lutheran Church, Fairfield and Wesley Chapel in Fountaindale. This is addition to the churches already involved: Good News Church of Orrtanna, Mt Carmel Community Church, and Rouzerville Christian Church.

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

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

- o Replaced well pump and piping following approval by Session.
- o Pursuing painting of window sills in sanctuary.

*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

- o I&S is hosting coffee hour for Stewardship Sunday on October 5.
- o The July and August 2025 Balance Sheet and Cash Flow reports are still under review.

***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

- o Planning for Trivia Night with Young Life on Monday, October 27 in our Fellowship Hall. The church will supply drinks and snacks. Assembling a team of 8 to participate in the trivia.
- o Planning for World Communion Sunday on October 5.
- o 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.
- o Gathering information about the location and date for the Winter Banquet.
- o Plan to discuss the 8:30 AM start time for Sunday School based on inquiries from the congregation.

***News from the Clerk of Session:***

- o The Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC) is making great progress with negotiations underway with a finalist. The congregation will hopefully be notified of a date for a meet and greet sometime in October!
- o Session approved a congregational meeting on Sunday, October 26, 2025 at approximately 11:00 AM, immediately following worship service, to receive the report of the nominating committee.
- o Clarification is provided for Pastor David Wright's email address: [bdwright11@comcast.net](mailto:bdwright11@comcast.net) (it includes the number 11, not letters).
- o Church Historian, Traci Lower, has resigned from this role and the nominating committee is searching for a replacement.
- o Transition for the new office staff, Tammy Harkleroad as Administrative Assistant and Susan Wagle as Financial Manager, is underway and we extend great appreciation to them for their service to the church!

New Members  
Rob Heims  
And  
Deb Wastler



Welcomed  
into LMCP  
by Pastor Mark  
August 31, 2025

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

*Li'l Ripples*    October 2025



Sunday Morning Schedule

Sunday School 8:30 - 9:30 AM

Worship 10:00 - 11:00 AM

Nursery 8:30 - 11:00 AM

Church Office Hours

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

Phone Number - 717-642-5332

Email Address - [office@lmcpc.org](mailto:office@lmcpc.org)

Website - [www.lmcpc.org](http://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* - Editor, Fay Hess - 717-476-5682 or [lilripples@gmail.com](mailto:lilripples@gmail.com)