

Li'l Ripples

September 2026
Volume 26
Issue 9



A Publication of Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church

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THE DEADLINE FOR
THE OCTOBER ISSUE OF
THE LI'L RIPPLES NEWSLETTER
IS SEPTEMBER 18th



"And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God." — Ephesians 3:17b-19 (NIV)

Dear friends,

As we turn the corner into Fall, we are going to begin a new sermon series as a church. Paul's letter to the Ephesians is full of both encouragement as well as exhortation. It contains one of the most beautiful prayers in the Bible. It stands as a testimony to the all-surpassing love and grace revealed to us in Jesus Christ.

In his book, *The Vision of Ephesians*, N.T. Wright gives us a brilliant overview of the book. He writes, "Ephesians looks back all the way to the creation of the world, and to God's purpose from the beginning. It looks on all the way to the time when, as Paul says elsewhere, God will be all in all. It foregrounds at every point the work of Jesus the Messiah, and the closely linked work of the Holy Spirit. It maps out the question of what the church is, and what it's here for, and it does so particularly in terms of what it means to be genuinely human, becoming the new sort of humanity that God has created, and is creating, in and through Jesus."

I encourage you to read through all of Ephesians. And after you do that, pick another Bible translation and read it again. And then once again with another translation. Doing so can be a very helpful practice to understand a book of the Bible, especially if you aren't familiar with the original language of the text.

I hope that as we do this together, we will have an ever-deepening appreciation and understanding of our Lord together, *"to the praise of his glorious grace!"*

Grace & Peace,
Pastor Brian Moss



CHURCH LIFE - FUTURE, PRESENT, PAST

THE SEEKERS GROUP

As we start a new Sunday School year, the Seekers class of LMCPG will be studying "*Dangerous Grace*" by Rance Settle. If you have ever felt too failed for God to use, or too far gone for God to reach, come join us on Sunday mornings **beginning on September 13th at 8:30 AM**. We'll study this book together and discover why God doesn't wait for us to clean up our acts before He shows up in our lives. Rather, He bestows His grace on us while meeting us in our messes, our brokenness and our failures. Also, we'll get fresh insight into Scripture's unlikely heroes.

Mike Orleski

SUNDAY MORNING GROUP

This fall beginning at **9 AM** our **Sunday morning** group will be reading and discussing prayers found in the Bible. We will learn how to pray with power when we feel weak, helpless, stressed and afraid. We will be reading prayers of Jesus, Paul and the Revelation saints. Join us.

Questions: Susan Nunamaker/Doyle Waybright

WOMEN ONLINE

Join us this fall as we read and discuss the book *He Is Enough, Living in the Fullness of Jesus*. It is a study book based on Colossians. The Women's Bible study meets electronically **two Thursdays a month at 7 PM**.

If interested in joining us contact Dana McDonald.

COUPLES GROUP

All couples, please join us **September 12th at 5:30 PM** in the church fellowship hall. Mike and Julie Orleski will be our hosts providing lasagna and drinks. Please sign up on the message board in the Narthex and what you will bring to share. Hope to see you there!

Questions, call Davalene Winters @ 717-253-5319

WOMEN'S GUILD

We will **meet September 15th at 1:00 PM** in Fellowship Hall

The Women's Guild will hold it's annual yard & bake sale September 26th from 8-2 in Fellowship Hall. Being a part of the sale is a good way to downsize, get rid of unwanted treasures and earn some money instead of throwing items away. Order forms for long and round tables and spaces for your own tables are on the credenza in the narthex. It is a fun day so plan on joining us. We will also be selling baked goods, soup and hotdogs. We will accept small items to sell.

Questions/ Ask Roz Santay **before September 20th**.

*"Let's just praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let's just lift our hearts to heaven and praise the Lord."*

Things, . . . they are a changin'

In case you didn't notice We're trying something different and didn't send out mid-year giving reports at the end of June. This year we invite anyone who wishes to have a "status report" on their giving at any time during the year to reach out to me in the financial office. I will be most happy to provide details through any specific date. Just send an email to finance@lmcp.org, or a text to 717-339-8549. I am here to serve you and glad to do so!

Susan Wagle

GOOD NEWS to everyone, especially those who shop for the church: Thanks to the dedicated efforts of Phyllis Smith we now have a tax-exempt Amazon account in the name of the church! Everyone wins at least a little bit when we don't have to pay tax on our purchases. We decided not to incur the expense of a Prime membership, so whenever possible we'll combine orders to qualify for free freight. When you have a need, please email your orders to Tammy at office@lmcp.org, and include: the Amazon link to the item(s) you wish to purchase, the quantity desired for each item, and the extended cost - for "double-checking" measures. You'll need to provide a signed *Request for Payment*, too, the same as any other purchase.

Hoping this is helpful to many, and Thank you, Phyllis !!!

Susan Wagle

A Message from the Editor:

It is with a great deal of sadness that I pass on to the readers of the Li'l Ripples newsletter the following information:

The "***And . . . Speaking of Music***" column in which Dirk Grove expounded on "***Music That Moves Me***" will no longer be available in the newsletter.

If anyone in the church family would want to write a column emphasizing the music program at LMCP - please reach out to me by email - lilripples@gmail.com - with any ideas you might have. Thanks.

Fay Hess



Thanks Thanks Thanks Thanks Thanks Thanks Thanks Thanks Thanks Thanks

June 30, 2026

Dear Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church,

This is to say, "**Thank You**" for your very generous gift to the Carlisle Presbytery's Honduras scholarship funds.

As you know, these funds are provided to school-age children in the Presbytery of Honduras who could not otherwise buy the uniforms, books and other things needed, nor even pay the tuition. The money you provide allows them to stay in school and get the education that will give them a chance to get a job that will provide a living for them and for their families.

Your generous gift is extremely appreciated; your prayers for the students and those in the Presbytery of Honduras who administer the funds are also appreciated.

On behalf of the Carlisle Presbytery Honduras Partnership Committee, thank you very much !

In Christ's Service,

Rev. Lynn Miller

"Thanks" are continued on the next page . . .

"Thanks" continued from the preceding page . . .

Let's give a big **SHOUT OUT** to the Home Ministry Team!!

Even while juggling the many needs of maintaining the church property and equipment, the team goes the extra mile to engage with vendors to participate in cost-saving programs. One such program is Aero Energy's "House of Worship Payout" which this year resulted in a direct payment of \$618.23 to the church!

If you are an Aero energy customer and you enroll in their House of Worship program, your home use of heating oil and/or propane will add to the annual return to LMCP (hint, hint). You can enroll just by calling or emailing Aero – 717-624-6721 or info@AeroEnergy.com. A few info postcards are on the bulletin board in the narthex.

The team has also locked in pricing for the upcoming heating season's supply costs. These accomplishments take time and energy (not the Aero type), and the Team has our **Thanks** !

Sue Wagle

Prayers FOR Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church

June 25, 2026

Dear Friends at Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church,

The Session of Dickinson Presbyterian Church sends you greetings and this note of encouragement. You are in God's care and you are in our prayers ! This past month, a special time was set aside to **pray** for your congregation as a special part of our community of faith.

God says . . . "Before they call, I will answer. While they are speaking, I will hear." Isaiah 65:24

As part of Christ's body, please know you are loved and lifted up as you also love others through your prayers.

Please let us know when you have any special prayer concerns. We love you and thank God for you. We know of no better way to convey this than by acknowledging that you are upheld in our prayers. God bless you !

Peace be with you,

Prayers to each heart as God touches lives and grows his Spirit !

Pastor Neal McCulloch

Sally West, Michele Bourne, Miki Quigley, John Reese, Elder Gae Reem

Sons of the American Revolution

Dedication Ceremony

was held

June 27, 2026

11:00AM - 12:00 NOON

Thanks to Stephanie Moss for this photo.



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. Also, Deb Stottlemeyer and Carlos Wampler now assist to maintain the Ruth's Harvest food supply inventory and help prepare the food bags for distribution.

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 LMCPCC assigned dates.**
A sign-up sheet with the dates is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

Food Items Needed

Cereal	Animal Crackers/Teddy Grahams
Chips/Pretzels	Cookies
Green Beans	Granola Bars
Mac & Cheese Cups	Mixed Fruit Cups
Milk	Pears
Ramen Noodles	Pop Tarts
Corn	Carrots
Juice Boxes	Fruit Gummies
Microwave Popcorn	Mandarin Oranges
Peanut Butter to GO	Peaches
Peas	Raisins
Chef Boyardee Cups	Nutella



I'VE LEARNED . . .

In honor of Grandparents' Day, Sunday, September 13, 2026, Kathy Megyeri shared the following wise sayings from H. Jackson Brown's 1992 book, *"Live, Learn and Pass It On."*

- ~I've learned that everyone can use prayer. Age 72*
- ~I've learned that I'm happy when I'm kind and unhappy when I'm not. Age 88*
- ~I've learned not to worry about the things I can't change. Age 72*
- ~I've learned not to underestimate the potential and power of the human spirit. Age 82*
- ~I've learned that I can't change the past, but I can let it go. Age 63*
- ~I've learned that the quickest way to cheer up yourself is to cheer up someone else. Age 66*
- ~I've learned that joy is often the ability to be happy in small ways. Age 82*
- ~I've learned that you can tell how good a parent you were by observing your children with their children. Age 82*

GRATEFUL FOR "GOD-SIGHTINGS"

I think by now most know that I went through quite a harrowing ordeal on my way home from Kentucky on Tuesday, July 21, 2026. For those who don't know, I was trapped in my car in floodwaters in Weston, WV after exiting twisty Interstate 79 due to a torrential downpour.

I was blessed to come out of it physically unharmed but my car was totaled and I had to trash some possessions. I'm certain that I made out better than many who live in Weston and the nearby affected areas. There were many devastating losses: homes, cars, businesses, pets, livestock, etc. Last I heard, there were 2 lives lost. So, I should be grateful. A few changed details of my story and I could have lost so much more.

Since being home, I've watched the handling of this tragedy from afar. Throughout all of this, I am seeing that there is a sense of hope and there is kindness. People are pulling together and helping each other even in the midst of their own losses.

Here are some things on my heart that I'd like to share.

My heart is grateful! Soooo grateful! Grateful for my church family. From the moment I called out for help, the prayers started. Some showed willingness to come get me. Some checked in with me during the ordeal and some continue to check in on me in the aftermath. There were welcome-home hugs when I returned to church - hugs that were very much needed.

Grateful for rescue workers, law enforcement, volunteers, and good Samaritans. So many willingly went out of their way for others. Many by risking their own lives. Many showed selflessness and kindness. This category includes Sarah who went above and beyond for me. She ensured I got to Bridgeport safely by leading me the 20 plus miles because I was afraid to trust my flood damaged car. She also offered a compassionate ear and a hug. She was a shelter volunteer but I now call her "friend".

Grateful for Sheetz. Yes, I said Sheetz! I'm a very regular Sheetz customer here in Gettysburg, PA. However, this is a shoutout to the Weston, WV Sheetz. It sits across from the flooded Walmart where I was trapped in my car. It really came through as a welcoming refuge. It provided seating for the weary, outlets to keep phones charged, and much needed bathroom access. Employees were friendly and helpful. They allowed us to hangout, as long as needed. I was there for around 5 hours but I know at least one person who was there much, much longer with her young child.

Grateful for those strangers who became friends. Megan, Tammie, and I were bonded in our shared distress but were able to tell stories and laugh even as the chaos went on around us. So far, we're keeping in touch. I hope we can reunite someday under happier circumstances and tell more funny stories. Maybe we'll hold that reunion at Sheetz!?!

Grateful for longtime friends like Tracy who commiserated with me when I felt alone and anxious in the shelter. She gets me better than most anyone I know. We've been best friends since early childhood and hopefully will be for many years to come.

Grateful for my family who stepped up and helped in many ways, big and small, to get me through it all. From being a calm voice on the phone with me as I sat in my car panicking while raging floodwaters rose around me to literally coming to my rescue by making the trek to WV to bring me home. From answering the phone day or night to paying for things like my hotel room and food. Afterwards, I learned my sister and brother-in-law had to strongly discourage my nephew from jumping in his truck to come rescue me. His own home was in the path of the storms. My family has been through a lot since May. I think we've all been stressed and perhaps scared. Then, I go and get myself stuck in floodwaters. It's been a lot and honestly I'm having a hard time dealing. But through it all, it seems my family has grown closer in these past months. And for that, I am also grateful!

And above all, I'm grateful to God for putting the above people in my path! Each is an example of a "God sighting". Each helped others with kindness and compassion. All, in some way or another, reflected God and His love !

Do you have a grateful heart? What "God sightings" have you seen and experienced in your daily life? Sometimes, these "God sightings" aren't obvious, right off. Some take reflection to recognize. Sometimes, they are staring you right in the face but you can't see them. Others are so big that they are impossible to ignore. So, stop and look around. I'll bet if you do, you will see God in someone or something!

God bless and have a grateful heart!

Shirley Breslin

AUGUST 8, 2026 - COUPLES' STUDY GROUP LUAU AT JIM & BEV BENNER'S HOME

The Couple's Study Group met for the August meeting at Jim and Bev's home with Deb and John Stottlemeyer co-hosting a Hawaiian Luau. Lots of wonderful food, especially the Spam pigs. Our discussion was about frustration and lots of thoughtful responses after a lively game of balloon darts where couples had to work together to enact frustrating situations we all encounter from time to time. The September 12th meeting will be hosted by Julie and Mike Orleski at Fellowship Hall.

Bev Benner



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The balloons
were part of
assigning
random
questions for us
to act out.



Apparently
Spam is popular
in Hawaii so it
showed up in
several dishes -
like this pig.



Thanks to Bev Benner and Jim Richardson for the report, the captions and the photos.

Serving God by

DEACONS INFORMATION

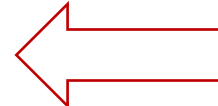
Serving Others

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 - 9646Sallie Sites 717 - 253 - 0305Jim Welsh 717 - 377 - 5370Len Williams 717 - 683 - 2674FAIRFIELD FOOD PANTRY

Saturday after VBS was completed (July 11th), 12 bags of food items were taken to the Fairfield Food Pantry. On Monday, July 13th, 3 bags were taken from the container in the church and dropped off at the Food Pantry. Such a blessing. Thanks to all.

John Stottlemeyer



1. Lauren Neely
2. Bev Benner
3. Teresa Sanders
6. Karen Richardson
10. Joe Reichl
10. Suzanne Welsh



14. Donald E. Brill, Jr.
15. Sandy Buhrman
20. Pat Diehl
21. Dale Williams
23. Doyle Waybright
30. Alicia DeHoff

Dave Diehl passed on these inspirational quotes - especially appropriate for this change-of-seasons issue :

~I can't go back to yesterday; I was a different person then.

~You can't change the past, only the future.

~Focus on the future; the past is gone.

~Live life day by day and make it count.

~Try a little harder to be a little better.

~Every day is a good day.

~Today is my future.

RECENT CORRESPONDENCE**Adams Christian Prison Ministries**

From the August 1, 2026 ACPM newsletter:

Dear friends and partners of Adams Christian Prison Ministries,

THANK YOU!!!

Thank you so much for your generous financial support, which has helped us provide 104 Bibles so far in 2026. Your kindness lets us share the life-changing Word of God with others, one scripture at a time. [Note: On August 7 Sandy delivered to the prison a case of 12 Life Recovery Bibles purchased through Mission Discretionary Outreach funds.]

Save the Date: The annual ACPM ministry banquet is scheduled for Friday, November 13.

August Prayer Requests:

- Pray for peace for the families and children of the incarcerated individuals as their children return to school.
- Pray for the power of God's kingdom to continue transforming the lives of the leaders, staff, contactors, volunteers, and incarcerated individuals at ACACC.

Adams Rescue Mission

From the June, 2026 ARM/Agape newsletter:

Single Women's Shelter: Thanks to our incredible community, we've raised over \$90,000 toward renovations for our new Single Women's Shelter! We're continuing to raise support and have a generous donor who has put up \$75,000 in a match fund contest to help us get to our goal of \$274,000. Please get involved to help meet the growing needs of women in our community including those escaping domestic violence, human trafficking, addiction, and mental health challenges. We look forward to opening our doors in September 2026.

Recycling Baler:

On August 16, a video message from Will Hudson, Executive Director of the Adams Rescue Mission, was shared with the congregation. If you missed it, here is a link to the message on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XgvXKEh8H1w>

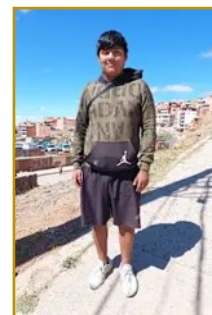
In his message, Will mentions a little bit about the Rescue Mission's recycling center. ARM has served as Adams County's main source of recycling for over 50 years, but their old recycling baler has been out of service since November 2023, with recycling revenue dropping from nearly \$300,000 annually to approximately \$130,000 per year. While smaller balers would help them continue to serve the community, a new full industrial baler would allow them to greatly increase recycling capacity, reduce transportation emissions, restore lost revenue, and expand hands-on job training opportunities. The cost is approximately \$500,000. Through opioid recovery funds, \$225,000 has already been secured and ARM is prepared to finance an additional \$100,000 if necessary. Yes, our contributions through the MOM budget support the Mission in many, many ways, however, if anyone feels led to contribute to this fundraising effort, please contact development@adamsrescuemission.org with questions or send your check directly to Adams Rescue Mission, 2515 York Road, Gettysburg.

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Compassion International

There are no new letters to share at this time, but we did receive an updated picture of Sergio who turned 16 on July 28.



DiscipleMakers (Kevin & Maria Noyes)

In their June newsletter, Kevin reported that he would be taking seminary classes as part of a Special Ministry Assignment with DiscipleMakers, and he has been allowed to delegate some administrative and supervisory responsibilities this year to make time for these classes. However, his student ministry responsibilities will continue as normal. He started with courses on church history and on the prophets through Reformed Theological Seminary.

In their July newsletter, they asked the question: Can you guess what the most frequently shared prayer request was during our women's discipleship groups at PSU York this year? It wasn't for the student's grades, or for their anxiety, or for their relationship or financial struggles. The most common prayer request week after week was for the student's families to go to church with them. Most of the students in those discipleship groups go to church by themselves or with friends. The majority of our student leaders go to church without any of their parents. Almost all of our student leaders became Christians in college in the past two years. Many of our students grew up in families that either didn't go to church or stopped going to church when these students were younger. God gave them a spiritual hunger as they got older and they began to seek out the church.

Here's some snapshots of those students:

- ~Before he could drive, one of our student leaders would walk to church when he couldn't get a ride from his parents. At times, he even walked through the snow.
- ~One student in our summer fellowship started coming to our church in Hanover and this summer he brought his younger sister with him. It brought tears to our eyes to see him sitting a few rows ahead of us, raising his hands in praise to Jesus with his 10 year old sister at his side. He wanted to make sure his sister when to church, even if his parents refused.
- ~Parents of one student stopped going to church after some conflict within their church. While this student's parents are content to watch church online, this student wants to go to church in person and has been visiting other churches in the area to find a new church home. While she's visiting churches, she's been praying and thinking through what would be a good fit not just for her, but also for her two younger sisters.
- ~Two of our other student's have been visiting churches together to find a new church home. *Even though one of them gets a lot of social anxiety when she visits new churches, she perseveres through the anxiety because she is convicted that going to church is important to her walk with Jesus.*
- ~A local young adult who comes to our Bible study leads worship and a small group at his church. *His parents refuse to talk about God and get angry if he tries to have any type of spiritual conversation with them.*

God is powerfully at work in the next generation! Even students who grew up hearing little to nothing of God's Word are now going to church without any pressure from their parents. Instead, some go *despite* their parents. Please pray for God to strengthen these men and women and work in their families!

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Noyes News

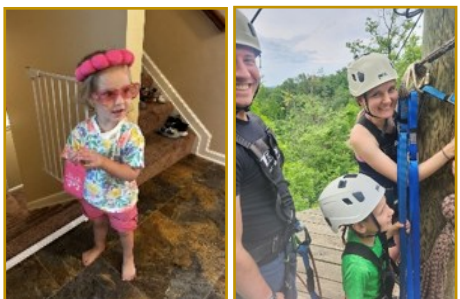


Our family enjoyed a lot of "firsts" this past month! Simeon and Ezra went to Hershey Park with us for the first time to celebrate DiscipleMakers completing its 10 year goal of reaching more campuses. Meanwhile, Hope had her first girls' day with her aunts!

Simeon started swim lessons and Ezra went on his first (and probably last!) bachelorette trip with Maria.

Simeon also went ziplining for the first time when we went with Kevin's family to Refreshing Mountain Resort in Lancaster to celebrate Kevin's dad's 60th birthday.

This past month Hope started to really enjoy accessorizing. She delights in putting on glasses, headbands and necklaces - and sometimes even puts them on Ezra!



MISSIONARY NEWS

One Another Ministries (Thomas & Cheri Henry)

From their July-September 2026 newsletter:

Summers are generally a slow time for ministry in our world. Workers are often on home assignment, holiday or traveling. So, we made use of some of this summer by making a quick trip to the US. It proved to be fruitful AND fun!

We were able to visit and support each of our aging fathers (92 & 88) in TX & OH. Cheri connected with about twenty close friends and supporters over a 2-week period in OH & MI. Thomas spent a few days with all of our kids (all in NYC now!). For personal holiday time, we attended a Scottish Country Dance school for a few days to keep developing the hobby we love. And we celebrated America250 in DC. Cheri attended the 200th when she was nine years old and always wanted to return to DC for 250 with her future husband.

The last two weeks were a world wind but very life-giving. We were able to give a ministry presentation to a supporting church in north AL. They are always so welcoming and encouraging. Both of us visited our naturopath in Atlanta, where Thomas received an amazing clean bill of health, and Cheri received good markers from which to keep marching forward. We are so grateful for access to sensible, affordable health treatment. Then we spent a couple days in SC with another couple, dear friends & supporters for decades. His technological expertise helped Thomas put the finishing touches on a computer program that automates the assessments we use for all the Relational Skills intensives we offer. He is such a huge gift from God!

Finally, our time in the US ended on a very high note. We led two cross-cultural couples, both involved in ministry, thru a 4-day Deeper Marriage intensive in NYC. God is so good to give ministers of the gospel what they don't realize they need. Both couples, after some resistance to join the intensive (quite common as the devil is working against us), realized after day one how helpful it is to position themselves before God and others they can trust, and believe he has so much more for them in their marriages. Through God's Word, good resources, and the Holy Spirit, he helped these couples experience healing and greater intimacy with God and with each other. And they walked away with skills to keep growing in their love and faithfulness to each other.

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In all we experienced over this short trip to the US, God showed us again how important it is to stay connected to the body of Christ, to be intentional in reaching out to others. We need it, and they need it. It was another foretaste of one day living back in KY and the US. And of course, a greater reminder of our heavenly home and banquet that awaits us, of which we are eagerly waiting.

Henry family in NYC the day before returning to the UK. >



GOD HAS OPENED A NEW DOOR FOR US, IN MOLDOVA

Our mission is still to offer the Deeper Marriage intensive primarily to foreign missionaries, wherever they serve. Sometimes he leads us to develop national church leaders, like we did in Romania and Africa.

Recently, we were invited to teach at the University of Divitiae Gratiae (UDG) in Chisinau, Moldova. This is completely outside the context we serve in. However, after many conversations with our contact at UDG, we are hopeful that this will be a fruitful endeavor. These men and women, marrieds and singles, come from regions surrounding Russia, Romania, and the Stans. They are preparing to launch into ministry either in a formal ministry context or in the secular workplace. Either way, they are called to be ministers of the gospel in challenging places.

In September, we will teach a one-week intensive course and (Lord willing) lead two marriage intensives. Pray we soon finish editing material from the current intensive format to a new course format. Pray we make good connections at the student and university levels. Pray students are well equipped with skills to return to serve in their countries to help plant churches and make disciples.

Next March, we will return to UDG to teach part two of the course. Pray for us as we venture into this new arena. We don't know where this might lead, but we are certain that we have an opportunity to point these students to Christ and his Word and equip them with resources to take the light of the gospel into the broken, dark places of the world.

THE NECESSARY BUT SOMETIMES ELUSIVE WORK VISA

The challenge of many missionaries is getting permission to work/reside in their host country. We received a 3-year work visa here in the UK which expires 30 Nov 2026. We will soon apply for a 2-year extension, which we have no reason to think we won't get.

However, we and others on our team are experiencing some groans in the system here. There are unresolved issues with our paying taxes in the UK. And our teammates are now receiving disconcerting news about their visa extension. Are those two issues connected? We do not know. But this we do know - just as God controls the in and out flow of missionaries in Turkey, so he is sovereign over who and for how long we can stay in the UK. Pray for us and our teammates, that we rest in God and trust that the number of our days here are in his hands.

OUR HEALTH

Earlier, I mentioned how our health is good. Let me clarify it this way... Our "internal organs" are in excellent condition, so says our naturopath (as well as former doctors). Neither of us take meds. Diet, sleep, movement, and supplements are winning the battle, for now. However, the "structural parts", well... we are aging! It's no surprise that, with Thomas at nearly 67 and Cheri nearly 60, we are experiencing the aches and pains that often come with this stage of life.

PTL aging has not interfered with ministry and travel. But it certainly has slowed us down. All seemingly repairable - Thomas probably needs a new hip, and a thumb injury from the past is a constant nag. Cheri one day wants carpal tunnel surgery, and she still needs her strength and range-of-motion back from ACL surgery a few years ago.

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Other minor issues are merely a nuisance. But the NHS here in the UK isn't designed for such non-emergency problems. Pray for wisdom of when and where Thomas might get a hip. And pray for the ongoing challenge of building in rhythms of stretching and exercise during seasons of travel. It's by the grace of God that we are as healthy as we are.

UPDATE ON OUR SON, BEN

Some of you have been praying for Ben. Thank you! After leaving the UK he has been in NYC with his siblings for a couple months now. He has loosened his grip on his dream of humanitarian work but not completely. The Lord has provided temp housing and a decent part-time job that pays well until he finds permanent work. The good news - he has had two interviews with Samaritan's Purse for just the job he wants. Pray for favor that leads to an invite to what would be a final interview.

Teach Beyond (Christian and Rayan Weaner)

This may be old news to some of you, but I thought you would enjoy seeing these pictures !

Hello Friends and Family !

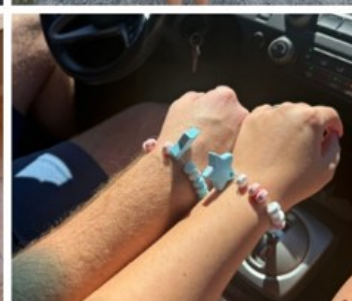
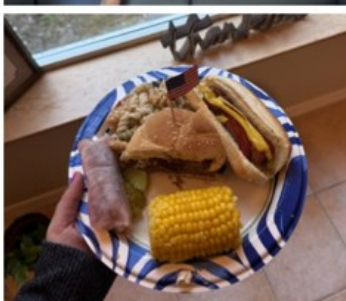
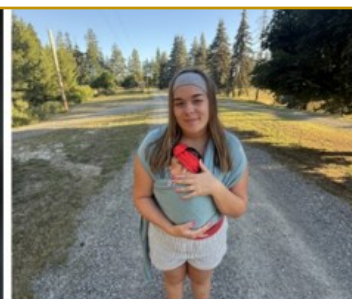
We decided to wait and combine our June and July newsletters because we have some exciting news! Our baby girl joined us a few weeks early, and we could not be more thankful and excited to finally have her in our arms.

Millie June Weaner came into this world in the early hours of Father's Day, which was so special for our family, especially Christian who has already been such a wonderful daddy to our sweet girl.

What's in a name? "**Millie**" has a few different meanings that were pretty significant to us. The old English meaning translates to "gentle in strength" and the loose Hebrew translation is "who is for me?" As many of you know picking baby girl's name was no simple task to us. We wanted to name her something we could pray over her as she grows throughout her life. Throughout this pregnancy, Millie has already shown great strength in overcoming many odds, and Romans 8 has been a passage of scripture Christian and I have held onto for many years as we have cling to the knowledge that if our God is for us, who could be against us? We hope and pray that throughout her life, she remains strong in the Lord, trusting that if He is for her, she can walk in His will with peace and joy.

"**June**" is also very special to us because it was Christian's grandmother's name. Later in the pregnancy, Rayan was diagnosed with hypertension, which is why Millie came a bit early. As soon as we knew she would be joining us in June, we knew we couldn't pass up the opportunity to name her after such a special lady in Christian's family. Their birthdays ended up being only 2 days apart! We love our Millie June!

We had a sweet Fourth of July celebration with family + our newest little member! *Cont'd on the next page .*



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Since our precious girl is here and we have been able to begin recovery and adjusting to this sweet new season of life, our focus is now shifting to raising the extra financial support we need for us to return to Senegal for our second 2-year term. Having a new little one and Rayan returning to only teach part time, we need to raise more per month to be able to continue our work. Your giving specifically helps us with needs such as buying groceries (including diapers, wipes, and many more items for Millie), getting classroom supplies for students, providing our family with health insurance, allowing us to continue language learning, and tithing to our local church.

Though our work will look a little bit different than the last two years, we still feel very called to go back to Dakar Academy to continue our ministries of teaching, coaching, mentoring, directing, etc. Our students go through lots of changes from year to year, as teachers come and go from our school, and we feel that God has convicted us to provide as much normalcy and stability as possible with our presence at the school.

We recognize that none of our work is possible without the Lord's provision through the prayers and giving of supporters like you all. So, if you feel called to continue giving or would like to start a partnership with us, feel free to reach out.

AUGUST 6, 2026 UPDATE ON THE REV. DORI KAY HJALMARSON

Presbyterian Pan American School announces the appointment of the Rev. Dori Kay Hjalmarson as chaplain, effective immediately. Hjalmarson will be the school's first resident chaplain in seven years.

Hjalmarson brings 10 years of experience in ministry leadership to the Presbyterian Pan American School, which is in Kingsville, Texas. As a mission co-worker for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), she served in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, where she facilitated theological education and leadership development across 30 congregations in the denomination's partner Presbyterian Church of Honduras.

Before serving in Honduras, she was a chaplain in hospital and hospice settings and worked as a newspaper editor and reporter. She was ordained in 2017 by the Presbytery of Santa Fe as a Minister of Word and Sacrament, where she served remotely on the Presbytery's Commission on Preparation for Ministry. She received her Master of Divinity degree from San Francisco Theological Seminary in 2015.

Well-versed in cross-cultural relationships, Hjalmarson will lead the school's chapel services, preaching weekly to a diverse congregation of students, staff and faculty. She will also be the school's liaison to Austin Seminary's Arc of Ministry Center, an initiative funded by the Lilly Endowment to facilitate vocational exploration in the ministry for high school and college students. As a partnering school, PPAS will receive a portion of this grant. Hjalmarson will be the representative on joint projects with Austin Seminary and the other partnering institutions.

"The spiritual life and development of our students is a critical part of our work. It requires a professional like Rev. Hjalmarson," says Dr. W. Joseph King, President of PPAS. "We are looking forward to her joining our campus community and playing a key leadership role in student life."

Hjalmarson says, "I am eager for this new challenge. I have long felt called to accompany people through joys and challenges of life, especially in multi-cultural, multi-lingual settings. I am glad to join Pan American and its mission to provide creative and robust religious formation and spiritual care to young people."

About Presbyterian Pan American School

Founded in 1911, Presbyterian Pan American School is a Christian coeducational international boarding school serving students from across the Americas and beyond. Rooted in faith, learning and leadership, PPAS provides a college preparatory education within a nurturing, culturally diverse community guided by the teachings of Jesus Christ and the principles of the Christian church.





The Giving Corner

COMMUNION - PRAYER - TOGETHERNESS

When we ask people for money to strengthen or expand the work of the kingdom, we are also inviting them into a new spiritual communion. This is important. God built into each of us a spot only God can fill. When we gather together into this communion with each other we are saying, "We want to get to know you," not only to God but to each other. In this common yearning we begin to move toward our vision of **"Experiencing and Sharing the Kingdom of God Here on Earth,"** which is the theme of our Stewardship Campaign this year. In this kingdom living we can find a deeper creative energy, the energy of love, planted and nurtured in the lives of people in and through our relationship with Jesus. When we work together and encourage others to join us in this work, it helps to make visible the kingdom that is already among us.

How do we move from perceiving stewardship as unavoidable to recognizing it as a life-giving, hope-filled expression of ministry? Prayer is the spiritual discipline through which our mind and heart are converted from suspicion to hospitality toward people. Gratitude is the sign that this conversion is spreading into all aspects of our lives. Prayer is the radical starting point of stewardship because in prayer we slowly experience a reorientation of all our thoughts and feelings about ourselves and others. Prayer is radical because it uncovers the deepest roots of our identity in God. In prayer we seek God's voice and it will penetrate our fear and resistance so that we can begin to hear what God wants us to know -

"You are my beloved son. You are my beloved daughter. With you I am well pleased." (Luke 3:22).

When we claim this truth for ourselves we also see that it is true for all other people.

As our prayer deepens into a constant awareness of God's goodness, the spirit of gratitude grows within us. Gratitude flows from the recognition that who we are and what we have are gifts to be received and shared. When we approach stewardship in a spirit of gratitude, we do so knowing that God has already given us what we most need for life in abundance. Therefore our confidence in our vision can remain secure in God's love with our hearts set joyfully on the kingdom.

The Interpretation and Stewardship Team



From the Clerk's Desk

The Session held their regular meeting on August 25, 2026, at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall with Rev. Brian Moss serving as moderator. Here are the business highlights of the actions taken at that meeting:

~Membership 8/21/2026: Active Members (AM) = 143*, Friends Participating (FP) = 30**, Affiliate Member (AfM): 0, Family Members (FM): 39, Total: 212

*Removed Sally Gately due to her death on July 27, 2026.

**Removed Patsy Carr due to her death on July 9, 2026.

~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 change to the meeting schedule for Session in September due to a conflict with the Presbytery of Carlisle meeting. The Session meeting will be held on September 24, 2026 at 6pm (instead of September 15, 2026).
- ~Approved that beginning Sunday, September 13, 2026, Sunday School for Children will be coordinated by Stephanie Moss.
- ~Approved a Building Use Application from Joe and Lori Jackson to use the Fellowship Hall/Kitchen for a personal/non-church related meeting on Tuesday, September 1, 2026 from noon - 5pm.
- ~Approved a Building Use Application from John and Deb Stottlemeyer to use the Fellowship Hall/Kitchen for a family reunion on Saturday September 19, 2026 from 12:30 - 5pm.
- ~Approved a request to send \$6,600 to Teach Beyond to support the education ministry of the Weaners in Africa at the Dakar Academy. These funds will be taken from the Mission Endowment Fund.
- ~Approved having Herb's Exteriors continue with the next phase of work in the room and utility room in the basement under the Narthex related to the mold issues. They will clean, sand, and seal the floor, replace drywall and ceiling tiles.
- ~Approved hosting the Presbytery of Carlisle meeting at our church on Tuesday, April 27, 2027.
- ~Approved a congregational meeting to be held immediately following worship on Sunday, October 25, 2026.
- ~Approved a Building Use Application to have Music in Motion conduct classes for children in our Fellowship Hall on Mondays from 9am to noon beginning September 14, 2026 through May 3, 2027. An introductory meeting for participants will be held on August 31, 2026 from 9:30-11:00.
- ~Approved Elder Doyle Waybright as Elder Commissioner to attend the September 15, 2026 Presbytery meeting at Gettysburg Presbyterian Church.
- ~Approved to host Trivia Night with Young Life on Monday, October 26, 2026.

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

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

- ~Planning to improve acoustics in Fellowship Hall by hanging quilts with the theme of “*From One Generation to the Next*”.
- ~A large dead tree was taken down at the cemetery and headstone repair continues.
- ~Issues with the livestreaming are being evaluated.
- ~Basement mold issues update: Herb’s Exteriors will continue work. They will clean, sand, and seal the floor, and replace drywall (moisture resistant) and ceiling tiles.
- ~The organist is working with Susquehanna Organ to repair the organ.
- ~New hot water heater for basement has been ordered. Waiting for the basement work to be completed before it is installed.
- ~Holders on back row of pews to hold communion cups, prayer cards, and pens was completed with a huge thanks to Carlos Wampler for the beautiful work!
- ~A new toilet was installed in the Fellowship Hall Ladies Room.
- ~Construction for the modifications at the back of the Education Building for the Day Care are complete. The Day Care will be operated by the Adams Rescue Mission and called Little Ones Child-care LLC. No date has yet been set for when it will start. Likely not until 2027.
- ~Cleaning of the carpet in sanctuary was completed.

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

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

- ~On-line giving options are being explored.
- ~Materials for the stewardship campaign for 2027 will be distributed on Sunday, September 27.
- ~I & S will host a coffee hour for Stewardship Sunday on October 11.
- ~The financial reports for June and July 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

- ~Men’s breakfast will resume on September 19.
- ~Regular Hospitality Gatherings after the worship service will continue in September. These gatherings are to encourage conversation and getting to know each other. Light snacks will be provided.
- ~Other upcoming events:
 - ~Spiritual Renewal Weekend – October 2-4 – Theme: Sacred Rhythms in a Syncopated World
 - ~Worldwide Communion Sunday – October 4
 - ~All Saints Sunday – November 1
 - ~Hanging of the Greens – November 29
 - ~Pastor vacation/study leave: October 15-19, November 14-18

News from the Clerk of Session – Dana McDonald:

Coordinating with the Historian, Tony Golden, to send some historical records to the Presbyterian Historical Society in Philadelphia, PA.

FINANCIAL REPORTING - QUARTERLY SUMMARY - APRIL-JUNE 2026

CASH ACCOUNTS	Income April-June	Expenses April-June	Account Balance 06/30/26
Church Operating Fund (COF) Totals	\$61,818.88	\$88,924.87	\$33,367.63
Missions/Missionaries Fund (MOM)	\$18,695.33	\$12,145.19	\$7,956.07
Membership Assistance Fund (MAF)	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,403.19
Cemetery Fund Checking Account	\$ 200.00	\$0.00	\$23,531.34
Gifts & Memorials Fund (G&M)	\$ -	\$ -	\$6,626.23
SHORT TERM INVEST- MENTS			
	Last Renewed	Interest Rate	Amount
Certificate of Deposit **05	4/20/2026	3.75%	\$5,764.91
Certificate of Deposit **58	12/2/2025	3.75%	\$5,000.00
Certificate of Deposit **63	1/21/2026	3.69%	\$124,657.37
Certificate of Deposit **17	2/19/2026	3.75%	\$51,665.10
CD Totals			\$187,087.38
LONG TERM INVEST- MENTS			\$725,869.89

COF income includes:

Non-Designated gifts and offerings,
Dividends & Interest (Credited, not reinvested)
Rental income

MOM income includes:

MOM-designated gifts & offerings
Special offerings, i.e. Souper Bowl
NOW account interest

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

Li'l Ripples September 2026



Pastor
Rev. Brian Moss



Sunday Morning Schedule

The Seekers Group 8:30 AM
Sunday Morning Adult Group 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@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.*