



# Li'l Ripples

April 2022  
Volume 22 Issue 4

A publication of Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church

## IN THIS ISSUE

From The Pastor	1 - 2
Holy Week Worship Schedule	2
Church Life Announcements	3 - 4
April Birthdays	4
Afghan Refugee Family Update	5 - 6
Adams Christian Prison Ministries	7 - 8
Welcome To Our Church	9
Mission Advocate Mailbox	10 - 11
Music News	12
Mission Endowment Fund	13
Thank You	14
Fairfield Community Vacation Bible School	15
From the Clerk's Desk	16 - 17
Food Pantry & Deacons News	18
February Financial Report	19

Next newsletter deadline:  
**Friday, April 15**



## *From the Pastor's Desk*

### The Book of Order G - 2.0504c *Exceptions*

The Constitution of our Presbyterian Church U.S.A. is written in the **Book of Order**. This convoluted, difficult paragraph is copied from the section titled *Form of Government* in the **Book of Order**:

*“A presbytery may determine that its mission strategy permits a minister of the Word and Sacrament currently called as an Associate Pastor to be eligible to serve as the next installed pastor or co-pastor, or a minister of the Word and Sacrament employed in a temporary pastoral relationship to be eligible to serve as the next installed pastor, co-pastor, or associate pastor. Presbyteries that permit this eligibility shall establish such relationships only by a three-fourths vote of the members of presbytery present and voting.”*

Our Presbytery of Carlisle in an official meeting on March 15 voted by a margin of 81%, thus surpassing the required 75%, to approve our Session's request for this “exception.” Thus the way is clear for our congregation to officially meet, consider and vote for my election as your installed pastor. Our Session has called a meeting of the congregation for Sunday, April 3 for this purpose.

I am gratified by the good work of our Transitional Ministry Team, along with the Session, in pushing through this long process which will come to a culmination with the vote of the congregation. I am grateful for the many members of the congregation who participated in the Congregational Assessment Tool this past November. The results of that survey, including our very high level of participation in it, served as a crucial piece informing the Presbytery's decision. The written report which our Transitional Ministry Team provided to the Presbytery also received glowing praise all around.

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I will be honored to serve as the Installed Pastor of this congregation. From the perspective of my ministry in a day to day, week to week, sermon to sermon view nothing much will change. But in a profoundly spiritual sense everything changes. These are church polity questions that are very meaningful when understood as part of the long, proud history and heritage of the Presbyterian Church in the United States. To serve as a spiritual colleague with the whole host of pastors, elders and deacons who have labored on this ground since even before the founding of this great nation is an amazing gift. Maybe, with the grace of our Lord inspiring us, we who labor here now may make some effective contributions that will situate our congregation for faithful service for decades, even centuries, beyond our last breath.

All things in Christ.

Mark



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## Special Worship Services during Holy Week

### **Maundy Thursday April 14 at 7:00**

A special, creative celebration of the Lord's Supper in our sanctuary. Remembering the last supper of Jesus we will gather around the communion table in small groups to recreate the spiritual intimacy of communion with Jesus.

### **Good Friday April 15 at 3:00**

A special service of prayer and scripture in our prayer garden. We will use this time together to dedicate our new Cross.

### **Easter Sunday, April 17:**

Sunrise Worship Service outside at 6:30 a.m. on our parking lot looking east into the new dawn of Easter morning. This service will include the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

Easter breakfast at 8:00 a.m. Please bring a breakfast casserole to share and join us for our Easter morning breakfast in our Fellowship Hall.

Sanctuary service at 11:00. Join us for worship at 11:00 and enjoy our beautiful sanctuary decorated with Easter flowers

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## Church Life Announcements

Spring Clean-Up — Your help is needed for a few hours sometime during the weeks of April 4 and April 11 to do Spring clean-up. LMC's Garden Club and Home Ministry Team need help picking up sticks, raking leaves, turning over mulch, weeding and edging planting beds on our church property. Our work days will be dependent on the weather. On Sundays April 3 and April 10, we will announce work days and times. Please bring your own tools. THANKS!

**Naomi's Kitchen** — Please join our fun-loving group on April 16<sup>th</sup> for a trip to Naomi's Kitchen for a family style meal of turkey and beef. If you wish to carpool, we will leave the church parking lot at 4:00 PM. Please call or text Bev at 717-398-9933 for carpooling arrangements. The dinner will be served at 5:00 PM at a cost of \$23.00 per person (cash or check only). Lee and Jean Bentz will lead us in a brief program (with music!!). Since Easter is the next day we promise to have you home in plenty of time so no excuses for missing the Easter Dawn Service. Looking forward to a great time of fellowship and good food. (Directions to Naomi's is next to the sign-up sheet in the hallway of the Narthex.)

Easter Breakfast — On Easter morning, after the 6:30 AM sunrise service, we will have a potluck breakfast in the fellowship hall. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. We are asking for breakfast casseroles, pastries, and fruit or fruit salad. Please sign up and join us. Breakfast will be at 8:00, followed by a worship service at 11:00.

The Women's Guild — Well, we tried in March but because there were conflicting meetings that would have lessened attendance, we postponed until April. So, The Women's Guild will meet April 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. All women of the church are invited for fellowship, fun, and food! We hope to see some new faces!

### CALLING ALL CAPABLE VOLUNTEERS!

The Fairfield Community Vacation Bible School planning is moving along nicely. However, we have a shortage of volunteers for that week. LMC has taken on all of the decorations, so if you want to help with creating them, let me know. Also, we need helpers to shepherd the kids, teachers, and craft helpers. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Thanks for your service! Cathy Michaliga can be reached at 703-994-0289 or cmichaliga@yahoo.com.

Sunday Morning Adult Study — Do you desire to receive a "gentle answer"? Do you desire to always give a "gentle answer"? In today's culture of disagreement, can followers of Jesus reveal a better way of living? We want to, but it is challenging. Pastor Scott Sauls has just released his new book, A Gentle Answer, in which he provides a pathway for countercultural gentleness in our perpetually angry, attacking, outraged time. Join us Sunday mornings at 9:45 as we read and discuss this book. No cost for the book. Any questions, ask Susan Nunamaker or Doyle Waybright.

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The Women's Bible Study meets electronically two Thursdays a month at 7 PM. This spring, we will read and discuss Ten Women of the Bible: One by One They Changed the World by Max Lucado. We don't even know all their names. Some are referred to only by their nationality. Some are known only by where they lived. Some would become queens, while others would live on the fringes of society. As we study the lives of these women our desire is to find important truths that God wants us to grasp. Interested women should contact Dana McDonald at 717-642-6272.

LMC's Annual Church Retreat — On Saturday, August 13, join your church family for a day of fellowship, faith and fun. We will gather for the day at Camp Eder on Mt. Hope Road right outside of Fairfield. This is an event for all ages and it is FREE. We will gather about 9:30 AM in the camp's air conditioned main building, coffee/tea/juices/breakfast snacks will be provided. The day will end around dusk with a service led by Pastor Mark and our musicians in the camp's beautiful chapel on top of the hill.

The day will be filled with programs, workshops, activities for all ages. The camp has a swimming pool, hiking trails, quiet areas for mediating, a creek for wading, just a gorgeous place in the hills near Fairfield. A nutritious and delicious lunch and dinner will be served in the AC main building. In the morning, Pastor Mark will lead the adults, while Miss Shirley and others will share Bible stories and activities with the children. Everyone will be invited to participate in an artist led step-by-step painting session or making an artist led wood craft piece. Each participant will return home with the art piece as a remembrance of the day.

Watch for the sign-up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board beginning June 5th. The theme for this year's retreat is "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. And love your neighbor as yourself."

Camp Krislund — Parents, it's soon time for Camp Krislund enrollment. A friendly reminder that there are scholarships available. Call the office (717-642-5332) and speak to Barb for more information.



7 — Linda Clark	29 — Arlene Wright
23 — Laurie Woods	30 — Mark Orleski
27 — Virginia Speelman	



*Best Wishes! Enjoy your special day!*

## UPDATE ON AFGHAN REFUGEE FAMILY

The family of 10 was welcomed on February 12, and the community has come together to meet this family's needs. They arrived in New Jersey in the first wave of refugees, in August of 2021, and they were the last to leave the base six months later. A major piece of this was not having housing large enough for such a large family. The "gift" of having access to a 4 bedroom house at a very reasonable rent was the straw that padded their travel for a soft landing in Gettysburg. After touring the house, the father (Awaz) asked a question, expressed through his 18-year-old son, "...is this another temporary place?" A smile replaced the worried look on his face when he realized the place was being prepared for them to stay.

Now, four weeks out, all kids ages 7 to 20 are in public schools or Head Start and they love it. Awaz has a job and is excited about this new start. The kids are getting involved in school, with two doing track, two doing wrestling, and one interested in Art Club when available. It is a very busy household, with some team-mates stopping in to visit and some play dates set for the younger kids.

Family is important to them and there are frequent video calls with relatives in Afghanistan and some in the U.S. The family is always expressing their gratitude. They feel fortunate to be here but are sad about their loved ones remaining in Afghanistan with the humanitarian crisis there and the inability to get out of the country.

Shopping for groceries: While looking at the price per pound for produce, translating the price/lb. for 3 lb. and 5 lb. bags of apples was not something easily explained, but they realized quickly that the bags of apples and oranges were usually the better buy. While we take our weekly or biweekly trips to the grocery store for granted, nothing has been routine about groceries for this family. It takes a lot of groceries to feed a family of 10, with five in the teen years. Walking trips are not possible given the number of bags to transport! Fresh homemade bread is a staple, and it is baked three times a day (possibly 25 lbs. of flour per week with the question of whether that will be enough). Nuts (especially pistachios and almonds) and dried fruits are very popular. Milk, yogurt, eggs (cooked with tomatoes), many fruits and vegetables, rice, bean or pea-based stews, and lots of spices. Don't forget the cilantro and garlic! And tea goes with everything! Halal food stores are 45 minutes in either direction on Route 15. Halal means acceptable according to Islamic law, so the meats and cheeses at the Halal store have been certified that they are prepared in the proper manner. Some helpful

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souls are traveling to be able to provide the goat, sheep, beef, or chicken they enjoy upon occasion. But pork is “haram” or forbidden by Islamic law. Certain other foods are also haram, as they may contain pork products, gelatin, animal fats, alcohol, or certain enzymes and other additives.

Growing food: The family is interested in growing some of their own food, and they hope to take advantage of an offer to get a plot, if available, in the community garden at the Ag Center to grow tomatoes, okra, garlic and hot green peppers. They really miss the okra from their home country. They would also like to grow oregano, basil, parsley, and cilantro but the vegetables will have priority. They have received an amazing offer of garden tools, seeds, plants, and assistance, should the plot be available.

Other plans, with assistance from Healthy Adams Bicycle and Pedestrian, Inc. (HABP) may equip the bicyclists in the family with bikes, helmets, training, safer routes and possibly a bike shelter.

Medical appointments for the entire family have been completed, with volunteer hours provided by some medical personnel in our community. They have a host of ESL providers to help the adults learn English.

Words from the Coordinator of the Partnership: *Many people are pulling together to address social, recreational, educational, medical needs, as well as the basics of life! What a group of talented and dedicated volunteers! And so many gifts from the community – we have learned the value of gift cards through some very generous gifts! So appreciated, especially during this time prior to having a paycheck. Gift cards allow them a little independence. This is only a very brief picture of all that has taken place – my head spins with all the planning and actions that have occurred in these 4 weeks.*

*Note: Two welcome cards full of signatures from our congregation, along with two \$100 Visa gift cards purchased through MOM discretionary funds and \$50 cash donated by one of our members, were delivered to the partnership coordinator on Sunday, February 13, and it has been reported that they were greatly appreciated!*

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If you are interested in donating gift cards, please contact Sandy Buhrman, Mission Advocate (sandybuhrman49@gmail.com).

## Adams Christian Prison Ministries

ACPM is a non-profit organization that offers a variety of ministries and programs to those incarcerated at the Adams County Adult Correctional Complex. Having established a working memorandum with Adams Prison Board, ACPM provides a full time Chaplain (Reverend Angel Perez) who helps serve and support ACACC staff, inmates and pre COVID-19, oversaw nearly 100 volunteers offering counseling, Bible studies and support to inmates. Lower Marsh Creek supports ACPM through the MOM budget. For more information about which mission organizations and missionaries we support, pick up a Mission Advocacy brochure which you will find on the credenza in the narthex.



### Celebration of Grace Sunday

*For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me. I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me. **Matthew 25: 35-36***

ACPM is a ministry of “renewal, reconciliation and restoration” on behalf of and in collaboration with all the churches of Adams County. This truly is a ministry that belongs to all our Christian churches in the county. For this reason, the ACPM Leadership is designating Sunday, April 24, 2022, as a “Celebration of Grace Sunday,” celebrating God’s love and mercy that is freely available to all. The primary emphasis of this campaign is that God loves and values every one of us and that His mercy in Christ is greater than all our sin. Adams County Churches are invited to observe this “Celebration of Grace Sunday” by setting aside time in their worship services on April 24<sup>th</sup> to pray specifically for those incarcerated; to come to the Lord’s Table in Communion in honor of inmates; and to consider a special offering to support the ongoing ministry at the correctional complex.

The global COVID-19 pandemic of the past year has created financial hardship for many businesses and nonprofits, ACPM included. Therefore, ACPM has established a \$25,000.00 financial goal for “Celebration of Grace” Sunday. Gifts should be forwarded to: ACPM, P.O. Box 4122, Gettysburg, PA 17325. Donations may also be given securely online at the ACPM website: [www.AdamsCPM.org](http://www.AdamsCPM.org).

### Testimonials from Inmates

“Many months ago, I was given a spiritual experience which left me with the absolute knowledge that “heaven is real.” Since this experience I began feverously studying my Bible and openly testifying to anyone that God puts in front of me. God has given me spiritual gifts and allowed me to begin using them. James 5:20 sums up what my work is for the rest of my life. The chaplain has answered many requests from supplying me with a prison Bible to arranging a confessional with Father Lyons. There have been

*(Continued on page 8)*

several break-throughs in our prison home. Without knowing, the chaplain has had a part in each and everyone of them. Please pray for each and everyone of us. God bless you all.”

“I loved going to Chaplain Perez for Bible study and worship. I hope it starts up again in the library. We got socks and a candy bar, a card at Christmas. Also, I filled out prayer requests for myself and my son because we were both in jail together.”

“I arrived in February. I was able to write requests slips to get books from the chaplain’s library. To date, I have been blessed to complete 3 books from this list. Having the books available when actually going to a church service is vital for me to stay and keep close to God, especially during these difficult times. I was also blessed with an awesome Bible from the library as well. Because of these resources I have been able to share God’s word with other inmates – many who are “just looking,” but know they have emptiness that drugs, alcohol, etc. can’t fill. I pray they realize only God and his word can fill that space with the Holy Spirit.”

“During a time of COVID restrictions, our chaplain and those who support him, have been a tremendous blessing to myself and other believers on my housing unit. Without church services, he has provided us with the devotional material to start and continue a successful daily inmate fellowship. And because of him, we have still been able to access faith-based literature. Please know that all of you that provide so many blessings to us during this time of adversity are thought of fondly and are kept in our prayers. I extend our love to you in Christ Jesus our Lord and wish His many blessings upon you. Thank you.”

### **Prayer Requests from Inmates**

- *Pray for all new Christians in our prison, the wrongfully accused, and for a positive change towards God.*
- *Pray for mother’s post-surgery recovery, sister’s family, home church, and for continual spiritual growth.*
- *Pray for the family and upcoming court date.*
- *Pray for the fire of the Holy Spirit would burn a little brighter every single day as I grow in my faith in Jesus Christ, that God will become the central focus of my family so that we may find the strength and grace to endure as an intact family during imprisonment.*
- *Pray for my father and my siblings.*
- *Pray for my children, grandson, ACPM, inmates and their families of Adams County.*
- *Pray for my nephew, for my son to be safe and surrounded by believers, and for everyone in prison.*
- *Pray for my baby’s health, my sister’s safety, and my father who has lung cancer again.*





## WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH! WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE!

### Welcome

It has been my joy this past year to welcome several people to our church. I present them with a small welcome bag that contains information about our church, a prayer cloth hand made by our stitchers group, and an LMCPC mug with candy in it. And the great joy is that these people give back to me their smiles, their hand written or email notes, their greetings at church, and their service to our church and to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Please seek out our new people and get to know them if you haven't already.

- Carolyn and Lane Speck came to us a year ago and have joined our church and now sing in our choir.
- John and Deb Stottlemeyer have been attending since last summer. Deb has joined the Spiritual Life team and the Vacation Bible School effort.
- Kenneth and Sandra Howe have been attending since the fall of 2021. I see their smiles and greetings each Sunday.
- Lynn Berwager visited us in December of 2021. She was very happy to receive our small token of welcome.
- John and Penny Sica have visited us several times since January 2022 and received our welcome bag with big smiles.
- Kathy Megyeri visited us first on Christmas Eve and has returned regularly since. She loved our bell performance. She emails me or sends me "snail-mail" notes and tokens of encouragement and thanks. What a joyful force she is!
- Ron and Elaine Milhimes visited us in January 2022 and Elaine and I occasionally exchange emails. Elaine also sent a note of thanks for our bell performance.
- Trish and Don Ellis first visited us in February 2022 and have become regular attendees.

This small act of welcome that we do results in lasting friendships and long term relationships between LMCPC and our new people. "Praise God from whom all blessings flow." God has blessed me by knowing all of you!

Cathy Michaliga



## Mission Advocate Mailbox Recent Correspondence



### Bob and Kristi Rice (South Sudan)



Bob reported meeting three pastors from the distant region of Abyei who had come to visit Nile Theological College. They shared how they were forming churches in remote villages with no church presence and their struggle to travel long distances to reach each of the villages. They recounted how they had started their churches from scratch after Abyei was attacked and burned to the ground - twice. They were struggling to rebuild their church buildings with local resources, and the one in the city of Abyei now had thick brick walls just waiting

for a roof to be put on. Abyei is a disputed region along the border between Sudan and South Sudan. When South Sudan gained independence from Sudan, the people of Abyei wanted to be with South Sudan, but the government in Khartoum wanted their resource-rich land. The attacks and destruction of Abyei by the Misseriya tribe in Sudan are thought to be attempts to claim the land of Abyei for Sudan and chase the people out. Residence in Abyei continue to live in fear of attacks, particularly if they attempt to go to their fields to farm or travel in remote areas. A contingent of UN soldiers is now based in the main town to provide security, but the risk remains in rural areas.

### Child Evangelism Fellowship of Adams County (CEF)

Pamela Blankenship, Director in Training, reports that there is an open school with no students enrolled and asks for prayers to the Lord that the hearts of the parents be opened to allow the children to come to Good News Club.

### DiscipleMakers



This semester Kevin (Noyes) is serving as interim team leader for the regional staff team while the team leader is on a sabbatical. Kevin will be overseeing the staff who work at Shippensburg University, Gettysburg College, and Penn State York. He asks for prayers for God to give him wisdom as he manages and shepherds the staff who are under his care while continuing to minister to students on campus. Maria (Noyes) will be teaching a workshop at the upcoming DiscipleMakers' Women's Conference called "I Knew You Were Trouble When You

Walked In: Cultivating Godly Discernment in Dating." She asks for prayers for God to give her wisdom as she prepares to teach. Kevin and Maria ask for continued prayers for God to bless them with more children if it's His will.

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### **Krislund Camp and Conference Center**

The summer camp schedule is available along with additional details at [www.krislund.org](http://www.krislund.org), along with digital and printable versions of the brochure. Krislund is hiring auxiliary, activity, and media staff as well as lifeguards, health officer (nurse), community camp leader, arts & crafts coordinator, and music & worship coordinator. More information is available on the website. Call Hannah Frantz, Summer Program Director (814-422-8878) if you have questions.

### **SAT-7**

Dr. Rex Rogers, President, SAT-7 USA, reports in the February 11 newsletter, that a man named Cyrus (names are changed to protect lives and ministry) from Iran was in recovery from addiction. He was broken, having endured the breakdown of his family and financial ruin. He reached out to SAT-7 PARS when he was feeling hopeless and having thoughts of suicide. After his first conversation with a counselor, he said: "I feel so much more at peace, and my heart is filled with hope." After two months of regular contact, he told the counselor, "I am eager for our weekly conversations because when I hear God's Word and pray, I am encouraged and gain the strength to carry on. I think God sent you to bring hope into my life." SAT-7 PARS is celebrating its 15<sup>th</sup> year (for Persian people, Iran and Afghanistan).

### **Tender Care Pregnancy Consultation Services**

The Tender Care Walk for Life is scheduled for May 7<sup>th</sup>. For more information and to register go to [www.tendercare.org/walk](http://www.tendercare.org/walk).

### **Thomas and Cheri Henry**



Thomas and Cheri are on sabbatical in Kentucky. They report that they have the big pieces of their home in place, and for the first time in their marriage, they do not have a single event or trip on the schedule. They also have a foster dog who is "a work in progress!" Their son, Ben is acclimating to Burundi culture and his new role as Assistant Project Manager with Amazi Water. Thomas' back (herniated disks) is strengthened, healed, and restored to full use. They ask for prayers as they connect with mentors to help them do some "spiritual wrestling" during their sabbatical year.

### **Ryan and Alethia White (Berlin)**



Ryan and Alethia join us in the hope that this year will restore some of the practices, relationships, habits, and dreams that have been set aside or neglected since 2020. They are looking forward to getting to know new and old partners with whom they work within their local region (Germany) and the larger Middle East and Europe area. They are thankful that even though they are in the midst of a work travel ban, the virtual world allows them and other church partners to meet across borders and time zones. Many projects and congregations in Germany and Europe are finding creative ways to continue their activities and move forward despite the challenges and limitations of the pandemic. While Ryan and Alethia are eager to return to life as they knew it, they say that perhaps we should not simply just fall back into how things were but continue to explore new ways to communicate and work together.



## MUSIC News



**A Special Thank You!** On behalf of the singers, ringers, and instrumentalists in our Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church musical family, I would like to sincerely thank the gracious benefactor who provided us with special vouchers for the Hickory Bridge luncheon. It was very much appreciated by all. Our church is blessed with a treasure of talented and dedicated people are very willing to provide special music for our worship services. Many thanks to our mystery patron of the arts!

And on a personal, and musical note, many thanks to Evelyn Ganas for faithfully playing the piano to embellish our hymns. She always has my back, musically and literally!

The lovely season of Spring has finally arrived! We are thankful for the beauty of nature that God has provided for our enjoyment. This means that the joyous day of Easter is quickly approaching, but not without the solemn period that precedes that day of resurrection. The beloved hymn "In the Garden" comes to mind. Several years ago I was given the book "Then Sings My Soul: 150 of the World's Greatest Hymn Stories" from the library collection of Ki Neely, a devoted and beloved member of the choir and congregation. The book describes how C. Austin Miles came to create this beautiful hymn.

*"One day in March, 1912...he opened the Bible to his favorite chapter, John 20, the story of Easter. Miles later said, 'As I read it that day, I seemed to be part of the scene...My hands were resting on the Bible, but I seemed to be standing at the entrance of a garden...A woman in white, with head bowed, walked into the shadows. It was Mary. As she came to the tomb, upon which she placed her hand, she bent over to look in and hurried away...Mary reappeared, leaning her head upon her arm at the tomb. She wept. Turning herself, she saw Jesus standing; so did I. I knew it was He.'" Mr. Miles was so inspired by this experience that he quickly put his thoughts to paper and wrote the lyrics to "In the Garden." Later that same evening he wrote the music. May you be inspired by the story, and the sacred music of the season of Easter!*

### **The worship services of April will feature our musical groups:**

- April 3 – On this Communion Sunday our Glory Singers will present "I Believe in a Hill Called Mount Calvary" and our Faithful Voices will present "He Brings Me Peace," a beautiful melody that shares a message that is near to everyone's hearts and minds during this tumultuous time in our world. You will also have the opportunity to sing "Stone by Stone: Our Church Song" at the conclusion of the service.
- April 10 – On Palm Sunday the Wires and Wood ensemble will present "The Young Man" that has a haunting melody and a story to inspire. Also, there may be a performance of our young singers. Some were unable to sing at Christmas due to Covid. Is it too late to sing "Jingle Bells"?
- April 14 – Maundy Thursday will feature the Faithful Voices singing "In an Upper Room."
- April 15 – Wires and Wood will provide the music on Good Friday for the dedication of our new cross in the Peace Garden.
- April 17 – Easter Sunday - May the sun shine on our Easter Sunrise Service with Wires and Wood providing appropriate music for this outside event. There will be an inside service on Easter morning featuring our Faithful Voices performing "Christ the Lord is Risen! Rejoice!" and other music of the season.
- April 24 - The Bells of Faith will be presenting beautiful melodies as always!

As we enjoy Spring, we realize that the warmth of Summer can't be far away. As always, we will provide a few months of rest for our dedicated musicians who provide music for us throughout the year. The months of June, July and August will feature special music from a variety of talented performers. Several Sundays have already been scheduled, so please let me know if you have any suggestions! Thanks! — Linda Clark



## Mission Endowment Fund

Could short-term mission work be in your short-term future? Our Mission Endowment Fund was created for this purpose, and funding is available outside of normal budget constraints.

Maybe you have worked in health care. Maybe you are handy. Maybe you just like to help people. Whatever skills you might have, you can put them to use in Christ's service through **short-term mission work**. The opportunities are virtually endless – as are the needs – and being part of the solution to a problem can be a highlight of your own life as well those you help.

Think about it. You could work with school children in Latin America, farmers in Africa, flood victims in the U.S. South, the inner-city poor right here in Pennsylvania. Wherever help is needed, we Christians are called to respond: *whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.*

Anyone in our church family (age 16 and above) who would like to consider a short-term mission project is encouraged to apply for financial support for their work. Please note that there are policies and procedures, including an application form which must be submitted at least two months in advance of the mission trip or project.

Contact a member of the Missions Committee to start exploring this wonderful opportunity:

Sandy Buhrman, Mission Advocate  
sandybuhrman49@gmail.com

Mark Englund-Krieger, Pastor  
pastormark@lmcpc.org

Lynn Miller  
lynn.miller45@gmail.com

Nadja Muchow  
nmuchow@wellspan.org or  
nadjamuchow@gmail.com

Tim Myers  
FlyingTigers747@outlook.com

Susan Nunamaker  
nunamaks@gmail.com

Jenny Waybright  
jenny.waybright@gmail.com

Len Williams  
lenorah241@gmail.com



*"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"*

*Matthew 25:40*



## *Thank You*

Dear Friends,

At New Hope, it's not uncommon to hear energized and elated voices filling our hallways and open spaces, and to see beaming smiles on stretched faces. And it becomes contagious for all within ear-shot and sight!

A few weeks ago, there was a flurry of joyful noises celebrating the successes of three women who overcame challenges in their lives. One woman, living in her car, had her car break down, with no way to stay warm in her "home". With nowhere else to turn, she walked five miles to New Hope where she received help with emergency housing, car repairs, and getting a job. Now, she was safe and filled with hope for the next steps in overcoming her barriers.

Another guest has been bringing her two young children to New Hope's PETALS classes, which help parents get their little ones ready for kindergarten. The mom is still learning English, and because of attending our classes with her kiddos, she gets to practice her English skills, too! It's exciting to see her commitment to raising her children and learning a new language.

Another woman named Kelis recently passed her Certified Nursing Assistant (CAN) test. With that certification completed, she's ready to start a new job at a medical center making a living wage. Her hard work, together with New Hope being there to help her along the way, gave her and her family a fresh start toward a much better life.

Thank you for recently making a gift to New Hope Ministries - you are the reason why these women find the help and hope they need at New Hope!

As Psalm 47:1 encourages us to "Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy", we thank the Lord for the gift of helping and celebrating our guests, and we thank God for you!

Blessings,

Eric Saunders, Executive Director

Dear Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church,

Recently we celebrated the Transfiguration of the Lord. In Matthew's gospel, we read, "And Jesus was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white". Clearly, Peter, James and John received a glimpse of God.

As you engage with Presbyterian Mission, you too get a glimpse of God - a vision of what God is doing around the world. And so, on behalf of Presbyterian Mission, please allow me to express our appreciation for your gracious and faithful support. Your church's support changes people's lives and helps others receive a glimpse of God around the world. We received \$4,175 for South Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church, and we received \$6,200 for Bob & Kristi Rice, Mission Personnel Support.

As we now are in the Lenten Season, remember the "One Great Hour of Sharing". This offering enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and empower the poor and oppressed.

Thank you once again for your support, dedication, and partnership in furthering God's mission around the world. You are a valued partner.

Yours in Christ,

Lynne Foreman, Mission Engagement Advisor

## FAIRFIELD COMMUNITY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**Who: Children Ages 5 - 12**

**When: June 13 - 17**  
**6:15 - 8:00 PM**

**Where: Hamiltonban Community Park**  
**4020 Bullfrog Rd.**  
**Fairfield, PA 17320**

**FREE!**

- CRAFTS
- BIBLE STORIES
- SNACKS
- GAMES
- MUSIC



### CHURCH SPONSORS:

- Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church
- Iron Springs Brethren Church
- Liberty Worship Center
- Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church
- Orrtanna United Methodist Church
- St. John Lutheran Church
- Fairfield Mennonite Church

### CALLING ALL CAPABLE VOLUNTEERS!

The Fairfield Community Vacation Bible School planning is moving along nicely. However, we have a shortage of volunteers for that week. LMC has taken on all of the decorations, so if you want to help with creating them, let me know. Also, we need helpers to shepherd the kids, teachers, and craft helpers. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Thanks for your service! Cathy Michaliga can be reached at 703-994-0289 or [cmichaliga@yahoo.com](mailto:cmichaliga@yahoo.com).



## From the Clerk's Desk

The Session held their regular meeting on March 21, 2022 at 6:00 PM in the fellowship hall with Rev. Mark Englund-Krieger serving as moderator. Here are highlights from actions taken at that meeting:

- ◆ Membership as of 3/16/2022: Active Members (AM = CA): 161, Baptized Members (BM = FP): 65 and Family Members: 52.
- ◆ The Interpretation and Stewardship Team continues to monitor all church finances. Please see the monthly report in this issue for February on page 19. We thank you for your continued generosity and financial support!
- ◆ *Approved the following events and business items:*
  - ◆ Sunday, April 24, 2022: A Special Session Meeting Luncheon to welcome new members.
  - ◆ Thursday, April 14, 2022 – Maundy Thursday: Service in the sanctuary at 7:00 PM.
  - ◆ Sunday, May 1, 2022 – Legacy Giving Sunday to include a Minute for Mission.
  - ◆ Thursday, May 5, 2022: National Day of Prayer service – the theme is Pray for America: “Exalt the Lord Who Has Established Us” (Colossians 2:6-7). More information to follow.
  - ◆ Saturday, May 14, 2022 – Couples Group to meet at the home of Al & Lynn Miller.
  - ◆ Saturday, May 21, 2022: Men’s Breakfast to be hosted at the Iron Springs Brethren in Christ Church in Fairfield, PA.
  - ◆ Sunday, May 22, 2022: That Elder Mark Orleski and his wife, Catherine, lead worship and provide pulpit supply while Pastor Mark is on vacation.

*(Continued on page 17)*

- ◆ That we sponsor a special campaign for Ukraine Relief in conjunction with the Synod of the Trinity in support of the Presbyterian Mission Exchange, part of the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance of the PC(USA).
- ◆ Dismissed with gratitude the Transitional Ministry Team made up of Chair Doyle Waybright and members Carlos Wampler, Isaac Bucher, Bev Benner, and Denise Lockwood.
- ◇ *News from the Home Ministry Team - maintains the church property and cemetery*
  - ◆ Team Members: Alicia DeHoff, chair; Susan Nunamaker and Jim Richardson
  - ◆ Some permits have been acquired others are forthcoming to extend the parking area at the cemetery. The work is expected to take place in late April or early May.
  - ◆ The air conditioning system in the sanctuary will be assessed for condition and then the decision will be made whether to replace sooner or later.
  - ◆ A new sign will be made for the cemetery. Recent strong winds broke the sign.
- ◇ *News from the Interpretation and Stewardship Team - manages church finances and mission support*
  - ◆ Team members: Karen Golden, chair; Ray Wright and Doyle Waybright
  - ◆ All changes in signature authorities for the various checking accounts has been completed.
  - ◆ Sunday, May 8, 2022: we will have a Minute for Missions highlighting the work of the Gideon's organization by representative, Mark Punchard.
- ◇ *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: Cathy Michaliga, chair; Lynn Miller and Dirk Grove
  - ◆ A new Welcome banner will be hung in the office entrance to the education building.
  - ◆ Dirk Grove and Shirley Breslin are planning a music event for the children for some time in the fall.



Pictured are from left, Front Row: Sue Welsh and Pam Grove  
 Back Row: Jim Welsh, Doris Wampler, Elaine Reichl, Arlene Wright, Pat Diehl and Joe Reichl  
 Missing from picture: Pam Johnson

### Food Pantry

Please consider donating non-food items this month (paper goods, cleaning supplies, as well as personal care items such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, etc.). These items are NOT covered by food stamps. Thank You. - Arlene Wright

### From The Deacons

Just a reminder, Deacons sponsor a casserole ministry delivering casseroles to members and friends in need of a little extra love and care. A casserole and a little conversation are always comforting. If you would like to consider preparing a casserole, please contact Pat Diehl at 301-204-3024 or Arlene Wright at 803-439-4136, and you will be included on our list of volunteers.

Please consider being an usher/greeter at either service. There is a sign-up list for each service in the narthex. If there is a date on either list for which no one has volunteered and signed up, please consider doing so. Basically, you would meet and greet people as they enter the church, hand out bulletins and offer prayer sheets. Barb sends a reminder prior to the date with all instructions.

Thank you for your continued support of the Fairfield Food Pantry and Ruth's Harvest-Fairfield. We are very fortunate to be able to help address these needs.

We are glad as members and friends, we have been able to reach out and receive transportation assistance. If you have a need for transportation, please see the drivers' information below or contact Jim Welsh (also listed).

Doris Wampler, Moderator

***May the sunshine of God's love and kindness be reflected in all we do***

### Transportation Ministry

Attendees of LMC 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 Jim Welsh (717-377-5370).

#### **Volunteer Drivers**

Lee & Jean Bentz	717-334-6064	Sallie Sites	717-334-8712	Len Williams	717-642-0123
Susan Nunamaker	717-642-9646	Roy Weaner	717-334-3376	Ray Wright	717-549-2118



**FINANCIAL HEALTH UPDATE – FEBRUARY 2022**

**Church Operating Fund Income**

<b>Account Description</b>	<b>February - 2022</b>	<b>Year-to-Date 2022</b>	<b>2022 Budget</b>
Offering Income	\$15,717.00	\$63,511.66	\$284,948.00
Other Income	\$1,373.07	\$14,500.19	\$25,050.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$17,090.07</b>	<b>\$78,011.85</b>	<b>\$309,998.00</b>
<b>Church Operating Fund Expenses</b>			
Spiritual Life	-\$48.96	\$3,569.12	\$16,450.00
Education & Nurture	\$0.00	\$32.25	\$5,050.00
Interpretation & Stewardship	\$0.00	\$4,988.00	\$5,988.00
Home Ministry	\$5,550.93	\$7,185.46	\$74,500.00
Church Administration	\$14,176.45	\$31,111.80	\$208,010.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$19,678.35</b>	<b>\$46,886.63</b>	<b>\$309,998.00</b>
<b>INCOME minus EXPENSES</b>	<b>-\$2,588.35</b>	<b>\$31,125.22</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

**Church Operating Fund Checking Account Balance as of 2/28/2022: \$84,951.05**

**Mission Opportunities/Missionaries Fund Income**

<b>Account Description</b>	<b>February - 2022</b>	<b>Year-to-Date 2022</b>	<b>2022 Budget</b>
Offering Income	\$3,587.00	\$21,800.00	\$76,800.00
Other Income	\$643.40	\$697.91	\$1,000.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$4,230.40</b>	<b>\$22,497.91</b>	<b>\$77,800.00</b>

**Mission Opportunities/Missionaries Fund Expenses**

<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$6,525.90</b>	<b>\$19,089.90</b>	<b>\$77,800.00</b>
<b>INCOME minus EXPENSES</b>	<b>-\$2,295.50</b>	<b>\$3,408.01</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

**Missions Checking Account Balance as of 2/28/2022: \$3,417.22**

**Notable expenses for February include: \$1,094.80 – Electricity  
\$3,621.51 – Propane for Church**

April

Lower Marsh Creek  
Presbyterian Church  
1865 Knoxlyn Rd.  
Gettysburg, PA 17325

April 2022  
Volume 22, Issue 4

Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church  
717-642-5332  
[www.lmcp.org](http://www.lmcp.org)  
[www.facebook.com/lmcp](https://www.facebook.com/lmcp)  
[office@lmcp.org](mailto:office@lmcp.org)



Pastor Mark Englund-Krieger

**Sunday Morning Worship**

8:30 AM Early Worship  
9:45 - 10:45 AM Sunday School  
Nursery 8:30 AM - 12:15 PM  
11:00 AM Late Worship

Church Office Hours  
Monday - Friday  
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
717-642-5332

**LOWER MARSH CREEK CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT**

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

*Li'l Ripples*, Editor - Linda Hagee 717-337-0746 [lilripples@gmail.com](mailto:lilripples@gmail.com)