

# Li'l Ripples

December 2021  
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A publication of Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church

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## Starting Again!

The flow of the seasons of the Church is meaningful to me. Following the life of Jesus, from Advent through Pentecost, these seasons may also mark the ebb and flow of our own spiritual lives in Christ. Now we start again with a new church year which begins with the first Sunday of Advent, this year November 28. There will be significant changes in our worship services for the season of Advent including the very creative Hanging of the Greens on the first Sunday of Advent and a very special musical presentation on the Second Sunday of Advent. There will also be special, creative presentations each Sunday around the lighting of our Advent candles.

We mark the season of Advent in our Sunday worship services. What are you doing in your personal, devotional life to mark this holy season? This is the time for starting again:

Start again:

- † A renewed commitment to our join us for Sunday worship;
- † A reinvigorated effort to immerse yourself in the Bible daily;
- † A devoted attention to a focused time of prayer and silence daily;
- † A renewed effort to improve your health, nutrition and fitness;
- † A special commitment to identify and contribute to some, important mission work;
- † A deeper desire to seek forgiveness and reconciliation in the broken places of your life.

We start a new Church year. We begin the season of Advent. What are you doing to start again in devotion and commitment to Jesus?

Peace!  
Mark

Next newsletter deadline:  
**Friday, December 17**  
lilripples@gmail.com



## ADVENT BIBLE STUDY & CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

Illuminating Advent

Advent Bible study, Devotions, Fellowship and Prayer

Please join us for our special Advent evening devotions and Bible study.

Four Tuesdays in Advent:

November 30, December 7, 14 and 21 at 6:30 p.m. in our Fellowship Hall.



Christmas Eve worship services:

Friday December 24 at 7:00 and 9:00p.m.)

(The 7:00 p.m. service will also be available via our livestream).



1 — Ursula Sanchez	6 — Sergei Ismailoff	26 — Linda Lapp
5 — Lenorah Williams	7 — Rachel Williams	27 — Aimee Metz
6 — Nick Johnson	9 — Rodger Benner	28 — Fay Hess

*Best Wishes! Enjoy your special day!*



## Church Life Announcements



**Advent Devotional** — The Presbyterian Church has a beautiful Advent devotional available electronically at [www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/today/advent2021](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/today/advent2021). May it add to and enrich the meaning of Christmas for you.

During Advent join our Sunday morning adult group as we walk the road to Bethlehem. We will use Adam Hamilton's book, "The Journey". In it, the author travels from Nazareth to Bethlehem in a fascinating look at the birth of Jesus. The DVD that accompanies the book will show us portions of the road Mary and Joseph may have taken as they traveled to Bethlehem. We will also visit Nazareth, Ein Karem, the site of Elizabeth and Zechariah's home, and many other Holy Land sites. Talk to Susan Nunamaker or Doyle Waybright, if you have questions.

### ACPM Christmas Hershey's Milk Chocolate Bar Program



The Adams Christian Prison Ministry is continuing the Christmas Sock and Chocolate Bar Program from last year. However, they have already received a sufficient number of socks, so they will only be collecting candy bars this year. There will be a basket under the Christmas Tree in the Narthex for collection of the chocolate bars which should all be Hershey's Milk Chocolate, Size 1.55 oz (43 g) each. NO nuts, king size, or mini size. Our challenge from Chaplain Perez is to collect 100 candy bars!

**C.A.R.E.S. Overnight Shelter** — LMPCPC will host C.A.R.E.S. the **last two weeks in March**. If you have been a host in prior years, the only documentation required is proof of Covid vaccination. **New hosts** must complete an application, a warrant check, and a Power Point training document. A packet containing these forms is by the church mailboxes. When completed, return forms to Joe Reichl's mailbox, by March 1, 2022. More information will follow. Any questions? Contact **Joe Reichl** at email: [jereichl@comcast.net](mailto:jereichl@comcast.net), or phone: **717-398-2430**.

**The Women's Guild** - November's meeting was our last for the year since we have our annual Christmas party in December and then do not have meetings in January or February just in case the weather is severe. Our Christmas party will be December 21st hopefully at Hoss's at 11:30 am. If Hoss's does not have enough staff to accommodate us, we will meet in Fellowship Hall, same date and time. We will have our usual gift exchange which highlights the party. Continue to read the church bulletin for more information. On behalf of the Guild, I wish you all a warm, wonderful, holiday season. Merry Christmas.

**Winter Wear Donations** — Temperatures are dropping and once again, we have the opportunity to provide coats, hats, sweaters, gloves and other cold weather accessories to those who are less fortunate in our community. Please search through your closets, drawers and trunks for clean, gently used items and place them in the "coat box" located in the Fellowship Hall/ Education Building hallway. The box will be there for donations through the month of March. Thank you for your support!



*(Continued on next page)*

Marriage Retreat Fundraisers are back at the Totem Pole for 2022! Look for flyers & sign up on the narthex bulletin board. They make great Christmas gifts! Mark these dates on your calendar:

The Sound of Music – Saturday, June 25, at 8 pm - \$45 a ticket.

Footloose – Friday, August 5, at 8 pm - \$45 a ticket



The LMC Stitchers are happy to share that we will be donating so many scarves, hats, mittens etc. to the SCCAP program through the Winter Coat project. Our group worked on these projects through COVID and are excited that our hard work will be passed on to those in need. Thanks to Lee and Jean Bentz for heading up the Coat drive. Please stop by our Christmas tree during the Hanging of the Greens Coffee Hour on November 28th. It will be decorated with some of the items to be donated. LMC Stitchers also keeps the Prayer Shawl Ministry well supplied. All are welcome to join us on Monday mornings from 10:30-12:30pm. If you would like to help with our service projects from home please contact Judy Williams 717-968-4381. Thank you ladies for sharing your skills!

The Women's Bible Study meets electronically two Thursdays a month (usually the first and third Thursday) at 7PM. We are reading and discussing "Forgiving What You Can't Forget" by Lysa Terkeurst. Interested women should contact Dana McDonald at 717-642-6272.

Preschool News: In early 2021, the Preschool Steering Committee (PSC) was formed to research and explore the feasibility of initiating a public preschool program at Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church. To that end, the committee, with Session approval, contracted with Early Education Business Consultants (EEBC), a firm specializing in preschool consultation, to conduct a comprehensive feasibility study.

The PSC concurs with the recommendation of EEBC to not move forward with this project, due to the following factors uncovered by our research: lack of sufficient need, financial subsidy necessary, rural location of our church facility and current challenges of securing qualified staff in the Gettysburg area.



### In Gratitude

In Paul's letter to the Ephesians he says: *"For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."* Through your tithes and offerings you support our church and our missions to do these "good works" which Paul is referring to. **THANK YOU** for your unceasing generosity exemplified in our recent Stewardship Campaign – **Generations of Generosity!**

We, the Interpretation & Stewardship Team, cannot emphasize enough the importance of returning your Estimate of Giving cards each year. It is only through your cooperation in our annual campaign that we can be good stewards of the gifts you present for God's work and plan for a responsible and realistic future at LMC. To date we have received 66 of the 120 cards distributed. It is not too late to return your card if you have not.

God, through his son Jesus Christ, has given us the gift of salvation! How do you say thank you for such an amazing gift? Paul answers that question for us in 2 Corinthians: *"You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God."*

**Let us give thanks!**





*"I heard the bells on Christmas Day  
Their old, familiar carols play,  
And wild and sweet The words repeat of peace on earth,  
good-will to men!"*

~ Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

These lyrics from a famous melody of Christmas remind us how fortunate Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church is to hear our own Bells of Faith throughout the year. In fact, our talented Bell Choir will be performing on December 19th, the Sunday before Christmas. Sadly, the director of the Bells of Faith, Dana Witt, will be retiring from her position at the end of the year. Best Wishes to you as you enjoy your retirement, Dana! You will be missed!

The first Sunday of December, December 5, our Faithful Voices will perform the cantata entitled "Behold That Star" at both the 8:30 and 11:00 services. This dedicated group of talented voices include: Alicia Dehoff, Roz Santay, Phyllis Doyle Smith, Lynn Miller, Suzanne Welsh, Erica Duffy, Carolyn Speck, Evelyn Ganas, Frank Burhman, Dale Williams, Jim Welsh, Dirk Grove, and Lane Speck. These singers attend rehearsals weekly and have also recently participated in several memorial services of former choir members. They will be joined by Susan Nunamaker who will be the narrator for the cantata. Nick Johnson will be in the sound booth making us sound our best. And as always, God will serve as their director.

During both services on December 12 our Wires and Wood musical ensemble, led by Dirk Grove and Lynn Miller, will present some new, and some familiar, songs of Christmas. Notice that the members of Wires and Wood do double duty as Faithful Voices! In fact, you may notice that many of the members of all our musical groups are very involved in other facets of worship and leadership at LMCPCC!

The last Sunday of the month (year) will feature our Glory Singers at 8:30. They include Jean and Lee Bentz, Pat Diehl, Teresa Sanders, Bev and Jim Benner, Mike Orleski, Phyllis Doyle Smith, and Carol Salisbury. Faithful Voices will be singing at 11:00.

As we begin a new year, our various musical ensembles will continue to perform on a rotating schedule. Perhaps you have entertained thoughts of joining in the fun! Ring in the new year by ringing and/or singing in 2022! See me at church or email me at [pausetoread@yahoo.com](mailto:pausetoread@yahoo.com) if you are interested. MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Linda Clark

## Christmas Eve Special Offering

This year we will continue a tradition started in 2019. At each Christmas Eve Service, a special offering will be collected. The total monies received will be split evenly between **New Hope Ministries** and **Fruitbelt Christian Farmworker Ministry**.

**New Hope Ministries** is a community-based, Christian, social service agency that shows the love and hope of Christ by meeting the needs of low-income families and individuals through crisis assistance centers in Dillsburg, Dover, Enola, Hanover, Littlestown, Mechanicsburg, New Oxford, and the West Shore. New Hope was founded in 1982 by concerned citizens representing various denominations in the community.



Today, thousands of volunteers and staff from different Christian churches work together to serve our neighbors in need. In a typical year, New Hope provides help with food, housing, utilities, and transportation needs to 22,000 individuals from 9,300 different families. In addition, New Hope's youth programs provide assistance with homework, life skills, recreation, educational activities, and community service activities while promoting positive behavior and values.

A husband and wife recently helped at one of the New Hope Centers said: "This place is amazing! The volunteers and people who run this establishment are Angels! They genuinely care about humanity. If it weren't for them and their kindness, my husband and I wouldn't have eaten or have clothing or gas to get to work. It helped restore my faith in humanity. Thanks!" For more information, visit [www.nhm-pa.org](http://www.nhm-pa.org).

**Fruitbelt Farmworker Christian Ministry** is a ministry in partnership with the PA Council of Churches. The ministry is administrated by a board of directors that works to oversee, participate in a hands-on fashion, educate, support and fund Christian outreach to our neighbors who come into our communities to work seasonally. Much of our economy depends upon the fruit industry and is dependent upon the skill, willingness, and dedication of the farmworkers. In gratitude for their work, and according to Christ's command, FFCM intentionally seeks to build relationships with the workers and their families through emergency help, spiritual care, gifts such as health kits, warm clothing, blankets and Bibles, fellowship, and welcome other needs as they arise. Throughout the year the board, the Pennsylvania Council of Churches, and supporting congregations work to raise monies to support the cost of the ministry.



Under the direction of Pastor Aguilar, FFCM volunteers are working to visit the migrant workers and provide jackets, blankets, and personal care kits. Two primary fundraisers each year have been fruit basket sales around Christmastime and a banquet and silent auction in the Spring. Unfortunately, both of those fundraisers had to be cancelled this year and last year due to Covid. For more information, you can contact Pastor Christian Aguilar at 717-623-0999 or by email at [pastorchristian7@gmail.com](mailto:pastorchristian7@gmail.com). You can visit them on [Facebook.com/ FruitbeltFarmworkersChristianMinistry](https://www.facebook.com/FruitbeltFarmworkersChristianMinistry).



## My First Four Years

A Letter (excerpts) from Dori Hjalmarson, serving in Honduras

Dear friends,

I have made a lot of mistakes in my four years as a mission co-worker. ... One of the funniest was when I was assisting with translation for a Sunday school class for a visiting U.S. church group. The pastor who was speaking introduced the class by saying this was the fourth in their series about “los cuatro patos” of the Bible. “The four ducks” of the Bible. He paused politely while I translated and racked my brain for where in the Bible there might be a story about four ducks. I asked the pastor, “los cuatro patos?” And he confirmed, “Los cuatro patos.” I said, “Patos?” He said, “Patos.” I made a motion with my hand and a sound like a duck quacking and asked again, “Patos?” The entire congregation laughed, and the pastor said, “No! Pactos! PAC-TOS!” Covenants. Not ducks.

... Sometimes being a female pastor in Honduras requires wearing a skirt, no matter the terrain.  
... Sometimes being a female pastor in Honduras requires disobedience to the rule about wearing skirts in church.

... On one occasion, early on in my tenure in Honduras, I went with Presbytery leaders to a group of rural churches to hold an all-day seminar to train new elders, deacons, secretaries, and treasurers. ... I wasn't wearing a skirt on this day because it was a weekday, I was only teaching and not preaching, and I had not yet learned that a worship service almost always breaks out when a group of Honduran pastors gets together.

As our seminars ended, the moderator of the Presbytery, Pastor Juan Rodas, pulled me aside and told me that at the end of the day, we would be holding a worship service to ordain the newly trained officers. He asked me if I would be willing to ordain the Deacons, .... “I would be honored, Pastor Juan. ... “But sister Dori, you don't happen to have a skirt you could change into, do you?” And I said, “no,” while internally bristling and looking around at our all-male group of clergy and trainers. “But no worries, Juan, you don't have a skirt either.” Then I held my breath, realizing

*(Continued on next page)*

what I had just said to Pastor Juan, whom I had met for the first time only six months prior, and who is essentially my boss. Juan looked surprised and then burst out laughing and said for the first time what has become a familiar refrain. "Ay ay ay, hermana Dori." He let me ordain the deacons that day. And I've never returned to that community without a skirt.

A couple of years later, Pastor Juan was spending some time with my parents, ... visiting from the United States, ..., in that same community where I had worn trousers on my first visit. ... He assured my father that the church was taking care of me and that they love me. "We love sister Dori," he told my father. "We love her because ... she is very obedient." My dad was speechless at that; I'm sure recalling my teenage years. Juan continued. "We love her because she eats everything."

When my dad relayed that conversation to me, ... I was touched because ... I had never thought to value my willingness to try any food as pastorally valuable. What about my skills in pastoral care, or languages, or Biblical studies? ... possibly more important, I think on many occasions, I have been clearly disobedient. I once refused to speak at a pastor's retreat the Presbytery was planning for men only. I have refused to be rebaptized as an adult. I disagree with Pastor Juan and many of the Honduran church leaders about many issues and sometimes about the very doctrines we profess. We have had to look for ways to maintain a relationship despite our differences. ... But I know what Pastor Juan was getting at. I came to Honduras willing to admit I knew nothing, willing to go into humble homes and share in what is served, willing to laugh at myself, and willing to meet my partners where they are and accompany them. I came to Honduras, making lots of mistakes and learning a lot. Here's hoping I make a lot more in the next four years.

Your support, encouragement and connections have made my ministry in Honduras possible over these four years. I have recently signed a term renewal to be in Honduras for four more years. I invite your prayers, support, communication, and friendship to continue through the next four years. Thank you.

Prayer concerns in Honduras: Vaccinations against the Coronavirus that causes COVID-19 are slowly being distributed. ... As I write, the Honduran government has reported that about 13 percent of the population has been fully vaccinated. Please pray for global justice in health care.

Presidential elections will be held on November 28. The elections four years ago were criticized for irregularities and lack of transparency, and they kicked off months of protests and violent repression of protesters. Please pray for open, fair, and non-violent elections.

Dori





## NEWS FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Recent Correspondence from Mission Organizations/Missionaries  
We Support

### **Adams Christian Prison Ministries**

Prior to Covid, ACPM was overseeing six weekly services and 26 weekly bible studies and programs led by over 100 volunteers. These are currently on hold, but they look forward to reinstating them when the Covid mandates are lifted. Chaplain Perez continues to offer one-on-one pastoral care, Bibles, study materials, encouragement, and prayers to the inmates. He also works closely with the Warden and the staff at the Adams County Adult Correctional Complex (ACACC) and is in the process of redeveloping a mentoring program for prisoners when they are released. This year ACPM will be initiating two events to express appreciation to the staff of ACACC: a Thanksgiving meal in November, and in December each staff member will be given a gift card. The Mission Committee has donated \$600 from discretionary funds to help with the Thanksgiving meal.

### **Child Evangelism Fellowship**

CEF reports that they have about 90 children enrolled in their after-school program, known as Good News Club. Please join them in asking the Lord to bring more children into each of the clubs every week.

### **Compassion International**

The Compassion International Gift Catalog is full of opportunities for individuals to give a one-time gift that will help children all around the world such as: bibles for children (\$10 per child), textbooks (\$30), food for a malnourished child (\$18), newborn care package (\$38), and so on. Go to <https://www.compassion.com/charitable-gift-catalog.htm> for more information.

### **Mission of Mercy**

The Fall 2021 Mercy Perspectives newsletter reports that teledentistry appointments are now available. Dental patients can be pre-screened, and oral exams performed via a phone or a computer to triage patients, making sure that those with infections receive antibiotics and follow up appointments as needed. If you are interested in taking a one-hour tour of any of their six clinic sites to observe their mission first-hand, call Jennifer White, Development Director at 301-682-5683 ext. 204 ([jwhite@amissionofmercy.org](mailto:jwhite@amissionofmercy.org)) or Linda Ryan, Executive Director at 301-682-5683 ext. 202 ([lryan@amissionofmercy.org](mailto:lryan@amissionofmercy.org)) to arrange an appointment.

### **Presbyterian Mission Agency**

If you have a cause that is close to your heart, you can find a way to help in the Giving Catalog. Explore a wide variety of gifts that provide real and positive impact around the world, including aid for refugees, access to clean water and helping to end hunger. Go to <https://presbyteriangifts.pcusa.org/gifts/> for more information.

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### Bob and Kristi Rice



Bob reports that earlier this year Juba University was asked to look at the current curriculum and make important suggestions for changes. Now all the faculty members are burrowed in the trenches of this process, looking at every course, adding important content and references, assessing which courses must remain and which courses can be adjusted or removed. It is an energizing and invigorating process. Church leaders and members will be invited to participate in focus groups to help the faculty understand the specific skills and characteristics they need in pastors of congregations and communities in South Sudan. The faculty has decided not to rush the process in order to strengthen the college's effectiveness in graduating students who have gained important life skills, have a heart change, and are able to think critically in terms of how to engage with the Bible and how to best serve their congregations and communities. As the Academic Dean said to Bob recently, "Our lives must convince the students." Our lives must be marked by love and faithfulness; our example of life and faithfulness is our most important teaching tool. Bob and Kristi invite your prayers as the curriculum review continues. They are grateful for the work of the Spirit and are praying that God's Spirit will continue to speak to them. They are grateful for our partnership with them in their work in South Sudan. They are grateful for our generous giving that allows them to be there, and they have a question for you, "How is the Spirit at work where you are?" Salaam alekum! Peace to you!

### Ryan and Alethia White



Ryan and Alethia have been mission co-workers in Germany since 2013. They went to Germany with a special sense of call to pursue Christ's ministry of reconciliation and they are accompanied by their daughters Ariella (born just a year before they were appointed to mission serviced) and Laila (born in June 2015). The Iranian Presbyterian Church in Berlin, in addition to providing worship opportunities in Farsi, helps Iranian refugees and immigrants begin a new life in Germany. Ryan and Alethia White work with the pastor and social worker of the congregation to offer pastoral care to those who are now making Germany their home. They also collaborate with ecumenical partners to provide training and continuing education opportunities for leaders of the Presbyterian Church in Iran. Many Iranians come to Germany seeking asylum because it can be reached overland and because the country has favorable laws for refugees. The Iranian Presbyterian Church helps refugees navigate the legal system and gain asylum. The congregation and the PC (USA) collaborate with Berliner Missionswerk and other Christian organizations in outreach ministries to the Iranian newcomers. They help them with the challenges of resettlement in Europe's most populous and most industrialized country. The Whites say that their relationships with Middle Easterners have reinforced to them the importance of hospitality, and it's a practice that they hold in high regard. As they approach their ministry, Alethia and Ryan look to Paul's letter to the Romans for direction: "Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality." (Romans 12: 13, NIV).



# Thanks

Dear Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church,

We would like to thank the Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church very much for your generous donation of \$300.00 in support of Ruth's Harvest-Fairfield. Your gift allows us to provide food for those who need it most, the children in our community.

Ruth's Harvest-Fairfield is a partnership between Fairfield Area School District, and the churches, businesses, and organizations in the Fairfield area. Currently any student, in the Fairfield Area School District receiving free or reduced-price lunches, is eligible to participate in Ruth's Harvest-Fairfield. Our goal is to provide children with a backpack of food items that would supply enough food for seven meals, five snacks, and two beverages for the weekend.

Ruth's Harvest-Fairfield relies substantially on the generosity of donors to continue the mission of our organizations to ensure the children in the Fairfield Area School District will be well nourished. Proper nutrition has the potential to promote not only physical growth and health, but also better academic performance, behavior, and attendance in school.

Thank you again from all of us at Ruth's Harvest-Fairfield. Our mission would be immensely more difficult without the support of caring churches like yours. By helping us you are making a positive difference in the lives of many children. We look forward to your continued support of Ruth's Harvest-Fairfield. With much gratitude and many blessings,  
Ruth's Harvest-Fairfield

Dear Friends,

With low morale and a shortage of available Correction Officers to monitor the cell blocks, working conditions at the Adams County Adult Correctional Complex are becoming a wearying burden to the loyal employees who bear the additional crosses.

Through Chaplain Perez, Adams Christian Prison Ministry is present and visible, through prayers and blessings, to encourage these men and women in the fulfillment of their responsibilities.

The generosity of your hearts to provide a Thanksgiving meal for these friends who working efforts can be thankless, clearly demonstrates your own desire to follow the words of Jesus: "The 2<sup>nd</sup> greatest Commandment is to love your neighbor as yourself".

May God increase His love and grace in all the hearts and lives of your congregants as you serve Him with joy.

Deacon Tom Aumen  
ACPM Secretary

Dear Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church,

Thank you so much for your support. I'm so thankful for your church's support for the Thanksgiving Appreciation Dinner for the staff.

Chaplain Angel Perez  
Director of Christian Ministries, ACPM



## LMC CEMETERY MEDITATION GARDEN

There is something new at the cemetery. The next time you go to the Lower Marsh Creek Church Cemetery you will find a lovely Meditation Garden, a quiet place deep in the wooded cemetery for prayer, rest, peace and thought. After a short walkway leading to the garden there are three benches nestled on pavers and surrounded by boxwoods, lavender, day lilies, and a dogwood tree. There are bulbs planted which will bring springtime blooms. We hope this very special addition to our cemetery will add to your visit and make it even more tranquil and blessed.



Another meditation spot in the cemetery



## Naomi's Sisters

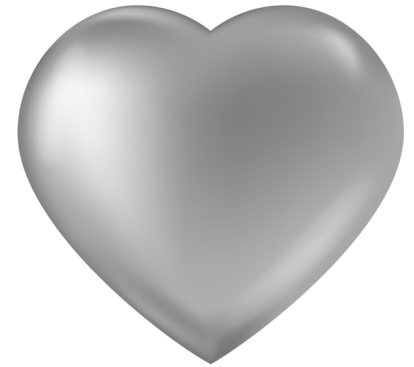
Eleven women, of the "Naomi's Sisters" widow's group, gathered for a tea at the Old Farmhouse Tea Room on November 5<sup>th</sup>. New friendships were formed, old friendships were renewed, and all had a great time chatting and enjoying tea and delicious food.

I am happy to announce that Linda Lapp has volunteered to take on leadership of Naomi's Sisters for the future. Many ideas for future events were gathered via survey and several other ladies offered to assist in leadership. It is my passionate prayer that we, the church, dedicate time and energy to support this precious group of women. - Cathy Michaliga



# LMCPC 2022 MARRIAGE RETREAT

## VERTICAL MARRIAGE



THE ONE SECRET THAT WILL  
CHANGE YOUR MARRIAGE

DATE: February 25-27, 2022

at

HERITAGE HOTEL OF LANCASTER  
500 Centerville Road, Lancaster, PA

\$275/COUPLE (LMCPC subsidized price)

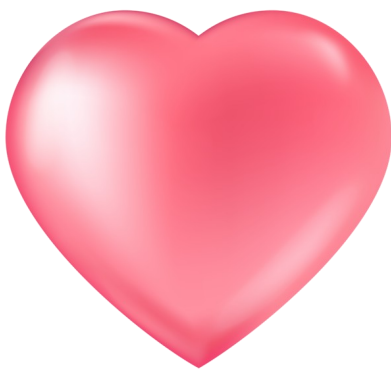
Includes: 2 nights lodging, 2 breakfasts, & 2 dinners

Deposit due: \$100 per couple by December 15, 2021

Final Payment due: January 15, 2022

Checks made out to LMCPC. Please put  
“marriage retreat” on the memo line.

Either mail to LMCPC or put the check in  
the collection plate on Sunday.



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





# From the Clerk's Desk

The Session held their regular meeting on November 15, 2021 at 7:00 PM in the fellowship hall with Rev. Mark Englund-Krieger serving as moderator. Here are highlights from that meeting:

- \* Membership as of 11/12/2021: Active Members (AM = CA): 168, Baptized Members (BM = FP): 61 and Family Members: 53.
- \* The Interpretation and Stewardship Team continues to monitor all church finances. Please see the monthly report in this issue for October on page 18 as well as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report on page 19. Because of your continued generosity and financial support the church's financial health is excellent! Thank You!!
- \* *Approved the following events and business items:*
  - \* Saturday, November 20, 2021: Pizza Bowl night at the bowling alley in Gettysburg.
  - \* Sunday, December 12, 2021: A special free-will monetary basket collection at both services in support of the purchase of fixings to fill Christmas morning breakfast bags to be distributed by the Fairfield Food Pantry on December 17, 2021.
  - \* Sunday, January 9, 2022: Ordination and installation of new officers at both services.
  - \* Sunday, January 30, 2022: Semi-Annual Congregational meeting to be held between services in the fellowship hall to review the Annual Report.
  - \* Saturday, February 12, 2022: "Valentine's Night Out" – free babysitting from 4:00 – 7:00 PM in the fellowship hall.
  - \* Sunday, February 13, 2022: Souper Bowl Sunday collection of monetary gifts and soup/canned goods. 1/3 of the monetary funds and all soup/canned goods will go to the Fairfield Food Pantry and the remaining 2/3 of the monetary funds will go to the Gettysburg Soup Kitchen.
  - \* Saturday, March 19, 2022: Annual Winter Banquet at Hickory Bridge Farm.
  - \* August 13, 2022: the Congregational Retreat to be held at Camp Eder. More information in the future. Mark your calendars!
  - \* Election of the Clerk of Session, Denise Lockwood, and Associate Clerk of Session, Phyllis Doyle Smith for one year.
  - \* Authorize the Church Operating Fund Treasurer to pay the Per Capita Apportionment for 2022 of \$4,988.00 (172 members at \$29.00 each).
  - \* Authorize the Clerk of Session to submit various reports to the Presbytery and General Assembly by the due date as stated by the Presbytery, usually mid-February.
  - \* Appointment of Jean Bentz as Gifts and Memorials Officer for 2022.
  - \* Received the report of the Preschool Steering Committee and accepted the recommendation of the Steering Committee in conjunction with the Early Education Business Consultants to not move forward with the project of opening a preschool at Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church.
  - \* Dissolved with thanks the Preschool Steering Committee: Dirk Grove, Chair; Lynn Miller, Ray Wright, Pat Diehl, Arlene Wright, and Pastor Mark Englund-Krieger.

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- \* That funds previously identified for the funding of the preschool be transferred to the Church Operating Fund following the final payment to the consulting firm.
- \* The 2022 Church Operating Fund Budget and the 2022 Mission Opportunities/Missionaries Fund Budget.
- \* The Christmas Eve Special Offering to split evenly between New Hope Ministries and the Fruitbelt Farmworkers Ministry.
- \* Elected Elder Lynn Miller Commissioner to the Presbytery meeting to be held on December 7, 2021 via zoom.
- \* Named Elders Susan Nunamaker and Dirk Grove as co-chairs of the 2022 Nominating Committee.
- \* *News from the Home Ministry Team - maintains the church property and cemetery*
  - \* Investigating the possibility of extending the parking area at the cemetery with addition of a stoned area 65 ft. x 100 ft.
  - \* Investigating the possibility of replacing the light fixtures in the sanctuary with LED fixtures.
  - \* Received first quote from A/V Solutions to install acoustical panels in the fellowship hall; getting a second quote from Soundproof Cow of Chambersburg, PA.
- \* *News from the Interpretation and Stewardship Team - manages church finances and mission support*
  - \* Update on receipt of Estimate of Giving Cards: As of November 15, 2021, 65 of 120 Estimate of Giving cards have been received with pledges totaling: \$223,981.00 for the Church Operating Fund and \$74,797.00 for the Missionaries/Mission Opportunities Fund. It is not too late to return your card if you have not yet done so!
  - \* Year-end surplus funds received for the Missions Fund will be divided equally between the ministries of the Rice's and the Adams County Prison Ministry.
  - \* Sunday, December 5, 2021: Kristin Warner of New Hope Ministries will present a Minute for Missions.
  - \* \$600.00 of the Mission's Discretionary Fund was given to the Adams County Prison Ministry to support their Thanksgiving Dinner to thank the staff of the prison.
  - \* End-of-year individual record of giving will be mailed on January 19, 2022.
- \* *News from the Spiritual Life Team - oversees the spiritual life of the church as well as fellowship, education and music in the church*
  - \* The tea for the new widow's group, Naomi's Sisters was attended by 11 widows, and all had a wonderful time. Linda Lapp has agreed to lead the group. Please watch for more information.
  - \* A special coffee hour with a cocoa bar will be held on Hanging of the Greens Sunday along with a hymn sing and information on ministries supported by the Stitchers and the Ladies Guild.
- \* *News from the Transitional Ministry Team – preparing the report to file for the exception with the Presbytery to call Pastor Mark as our installed pastor.*
  - \* The Congregational Assessment Tool or CAT "scan" is well underway. As of Friday, November 12, 49 members and friends have completed the survey. Thank You!!! Our goal is 80% or 120 surveys completed! Please take the CAT scan and fill the virtual milk pail!!
  - \* The team along with Session will meet with the consultant to receive the results of the survey via zoom on Tuesday, December 14, 2021.
  - \* The team is beginning preparations of the report for Presbytery.





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

### Food Pantry

The congregation will be supporting the Fairfield Food Pantry by collecting money to buy the “fixings” for Christmas breakfast bags. A free will cash offering will be collected on December 12.

The holiday season is especially hard on people who live in poverty. They use their limited resources for rent, food, and perhaps a few treats for their loved ones. They may have nothing left to purchase essential cleaning supplies or personal hygiene products. Food stamps do not cover such items. So, in this ERA of economic uncertainty, May the Holy Spirit descend on you as a DOVE, inspiring you to buck the TIDE of poverty, and bring good CHEER to people in need. Give JOY to those around you. DIAL up your friends to PLEDGE their support along with yours by giving with ZEST. May LMC’s generosity CREST with a BOUNTY of non-food items for our local food pantry. LMC is an ENERGIZER of love, always, and EVEREADY to CASCADE kindness on those in need. Thank you for your continued support of this ministry.

### News From The Deacons

Please help support the following through the upcoming winter season:

- ★ The Homeless Coat Ministry is again accepting clean, gently used coats through March 2022. A box has been placed in the Education Building for collection of these items.
- ★ If you know of anyone who might benefit from receiving a casserole, please contact a Deacon so delivery might be scheduled.
- ★ Ruth’s Harvest and the Fairfield Food Pantry are always in need. Thank you for your continued food and monetary contributions
- ★ Please continue to check the sign-up list for ushers which are always appreciated at either the 8:30 or 11:00 service.  
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).

<b>Volunteer Drivers</b>					
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 – OCTOBER 2021

## Church Operating Fund Income (COF)

Account Description	October - 2021	Year-to-Date 2021	2021 Budget
Offering Income	\$24,363.00	\$249,896.60	\$280,000.00
Other Income	\$836.72	\$15,976.91	\$15,450.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$25,199.72</b>	<b>\$265,873.51</b>	<b>\$295,450.00</b>
<b>Church Operating Fund Expenses</b>			
Spiritual Life	\$1,289.46	\$5,526.00	\$14,200.00
Education & Nurture	\$350.21	\$766.66	\$6,100.00
Interpretation & Stewardship	\$24.99	\$5,378.00	\$5,951.00
Home Ministry	\$2,567.00	\$42,455.69	\$70,382.00
Church Administration	\$15,024.78	\$146,148.89	\$198,817.00
Uncategorized Expenses	\$0.00	\$110.00	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$19,256.64</b>	<b>\$200,385.24</b>	<b>\$295,450.00</b>
<b>INCOME minus EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$5,943.08</b>	<b>\$65,488.27</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

Church Operating Fund Checking Account Balance as of 10/31/2021: \$64,398.53

## Mission Opportunities/Missionaries Fund Income

Account Description	October - 2021	Year-to-Date 2021	2021 Budget
Offering Income	\$4,779.00	\$69,760.85	\$71,750.00
Other Income	\$45.30	\$2,824.04	\$1,000.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$4,824.30</b>	<b>\$72,584.89</b>	<b>\$72,750.00</b>

## Mission Opportunities/Missionaries Fund Expenses

<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$6,019.60</b>	<b>\$70,979.00</b>	<b>\$72,750.00</b>
<b>INCOME minus EXPENSES</b>	<b>-\$1,195.30</b>	<b>\$1,605.89</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

Missions Checking Account Balance as of 10/31/2021: \$353.68

Notable Expenses for October: None

## THIRD QUARTER REPORT — 2021

**INVESTMENTS**

Account Description	Opening Balance 6/30/2021	Deposits	Expenses	Gains/ Losses	Closing Balance 9/30/2021
Building Fund	\$159,300.08	\$70,0200.00	\$59,850.00	-\$600.74	\$168,869.34
Cemetery Fund	\$4,885.11	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12.27	\$4,897.38
Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund	\$134,439.52	\$10,200.00	\$0.00	\$1,870.33	\$146,509.85
Mission Endowment Fund	\$154,814.74	\$0.00	\$6,350.00	\$3,696.51	\$152,434.25
Woods Scholarship Fund	\$104,112.06	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$1,594.63	\$102,517.43
David Scott Youth Fund	\$96,027.24	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,717.48	\$102,744.72
			<b>Total Investments:</b>		\$677,981.86

**DESIGNATED/RESTRICTED FUNDS**

Account Description	Opening Balance 6/30/2021	Deposits	Expenses	Closing Balance 9/30/2021
Congregational Retreat	\$459.96	\$0.00	\$459.96	\$0.00
Sound Booth/System Upgrade	\$614.11	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$614.11
Marriage Retreat	\$1,613.02	\$272.00	\$0.00	\$1,885.02
Cemetery Benches	\$425.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$425.00
Sanctuary Flowers	\$1,060.28	\$392.00	\$480.00	\$972.28
Men's Breakfast	\$88.76	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$88.76
AED Fund	\$106.00	\$922.00	\$1,028.00	\$0.00
Bulletins	\$556.53	\$20.00	\$31.76	\$544.77
Pastor's Study Leave	\$1,916.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,916.25
Fellowship Hall Remodel Fund	\$284.45	\$0.00	\$222.54	\$61.91
David Scott Youth Fund	\$2,417.96	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,417.96
Preschool Fund	\$6,925.91	\$2,400.00	\$2,000.00	\$7,325.91

**SPECIAL CHECKING ACCOUNTS**

Account Description	Opening Balance 3/31/2021	Deposits	Expenses	Closing Balance 6/30/2021
Membership Assistance Fund	\$3,296.85	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$3,321.85
Cemetery Fund	\$189.27	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$209.27
Gifts & Memorials Fund	\$10,543.34	\$450.00	\$1,880.00	\$9,113.34

**December**



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

**December 2021  
Volume 21, Issue 12**

Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church  
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[www.facebook.com/lmcpc](https://www.facebook.com/lmcpc)  
[office@lmcpc.org](mailto:office@lmcpc.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)