



Li'l Ripples

JANUARY 2021
Volume 21 Issue 1

A publication of Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church

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Continuing Advent

Advent is a powerful spirituality. The season of Advent is a time of waiting and hope, always in the Church including the four Sundays before Christmas day. Advent, in the tradition of the Church calendar, is also the start of a new Church year. This year Advent continues.

Although Advent will officially come to a close on Christmas Day and we will move, in the Church year, into the season of Christmas with its famous twelve days. Although Advent comes to a close with our great secular commemoration of New Year's Day, marked by the fact that we need a new calendar for a new year. Advent ends when we hear the music change, when the Christmas tree is packed up again, when the creche is carefully stowed in its storage place. The greens are gone; all the candles of the Advent wreath have burned. Advent ends; but not this year.

This year Advent continues. This blessed and spiritually fertile time of the waiting continues. We wait for the full and final defeat of the Coronavirus. We wait for the effective, widespread distribution of our newest medical miracle, the Coronavirus vaccines. We wait for the beautiful and simple joy of gathering with our family and friends around a restaurant's table sharing good food, fellowship and fun. We wait for the carefree joy of stopping into a neighbor's home for a word of good cheer, a casual conversation and a prayer. We wait for the defeat of this fear which wonders at every turn if this is the day when this ugly virus will find its invisible way into my body. We wait for the turn of the political winds and maybe a lower temperature and a new politeness in the way we talk with one another, and maybe even some good, old-fashioned compromise.

We wait and we hope. And the deepest lessons of this COVID time teach us the same lessons as the Bible. We must learn to wait. Wait with trust. Wait with hope. Wait with a sure and certain faith in our God whose sense of time and timing always baffles us.

... those who hope in the Lord
will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint. . .
(Isaiah 40: 31)

Next newsletter deadline is:
Friday, January 22
lilripples@gmail.com
717-337-0746



In Christ!
Mark

Church Life Announcements

The Women's Bible study will reconvene electronically Thursday, January 21. Interested women, please contact Dana McDonald at 717-642-6272.

Join with other adults in Fellowship Hall at 9:45 Sunday mornings as we read and discuss the book of Mark. We are using N.T. Wright's book on Mark as a guide. Plans are for in-person study to resume in January. If not, there are talks about doing it electronically. Please see further information regarding this in the bulletin. Any questions please contact Doyle Waybright or Susan Nunamaker.

The Women's Guild will not meet in January or February. Hopefully we will see you on March 16th in Fellowship Hall at 1:00 pm. All women are welcome!

2 Simple Ways You Can Help LMC to Make Easy Money – 1) While shopping on Amazon. Simply shop at smile.amazon.com/ch/23-2014200 and AmazonSmile will donate to Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church, at no cost to you. 2) If you purchase oil or propane from Aero Energy sign up for their House of Worship Program. For every gallon of fuel used, LMC will get 4 cents. You can add your name on the list on the bulletin board in the narthex or call Aero Energy and have them add you to our church's House of Worship account. Thank you!

LMCPC Shirt Sale Pre-Order — Want to represent Lower Marsh Creek as you are out and about? Maybe you know someone who can't come to church but wants to feel a sense of togetherness? Check out 3 color combination choices on three different style shirts; then use the order form provided on page 5 to place your order. Orders and monies due by January 10th. Delivery date is to be determined. Please contact Mark or Catherine Orleski with any questions.

The LMCPC FUNnFITNESS group (formerly known as the exercise group) exists to help church members get and stay fit through physical activity (healthy body/healthy mind and soul). This program can also be used as a community outreach program to bring new members into the church family. The goal is to have fun while getting and staying fit. We work on having whole body fitness and focus on those things that help people have a better quality of life no matter their age (balance, hand/eye coordination, focus and reaction time, upper body and core strength plus stretching). This is a low impact program and we won't have people do anything that they are unable or uncomfortable doing (most routines can be done while sitting). We follow safety protocols especially these days with the virus around. We meet weekly and welcome and encourage everyone to attend (and bring family and friends) to have fun while getting fit. Despite our limitations this year due to the pandemic our numbers have increased. Hope everyone had a great Christmas and a will have a happy and safe start to the New Year. We plan to restart our class on January 7th at 9am and hope to see many of you there to work off those extra calories consumed over the Holidays — Dave Diehl



Greetings from the LMCP Music Team!



You have probably noticed several modifications have been made to our Sunday music program. In addition to our vocal and bell choirs, we welcome Wires and Wood, an instrumental group that often features vocalists. Additionally, we welcome two new singers (Mike Orleski at the 8:30 service and Erica Duffy at the 11:00 service.) Welcome to both of them! And special thanks to all those singers who faithfully come to rehearsals and performances. You are truly appreciated! Every member of the music team has stepped up to accept more responsibilities as we constantly adapt to our changing times.

Also a special thanks to Roz Santay for keeping our large collection of music perfectly organized. She and her helpers had a major task of placing our many choir anthems in order so they can easily be located when needed. Thanks, Roz!!!!

Now that we have three musical organizations on our team, each has been assigned a week, or weeks, when you can anticipate their performances:

Week One and Week Four of each month will feature our Glory Singers, led by Phyllis Doyle, at the 8:30 service, and the "Group Formerly Known as the Chancel Choir" at the 11:00 service. (We thought perhaps we should call them "God Is Our Conductor" since they sing just by listening to each other and the accompaniment, and divine intervention!) Our church is fortunate to have such a talented and dedicated groups of singers

Week Two of each month features the group of instrumentalists Lynn Miller, Dirk Grove, and Dale Williams, plus vocalists. Their new name is Wires and Wood since they play a variety of instruments and make lovely worship music.

Week Three of each month continues to feature the Bells of Faith under the direction of Dana Witt. This group of talented ringers continue to advance their skills with outstanding performances.

Week Five - Surprise! The vocalists and instrumentalists are collaborating on musical selections to present on fifth Sundays and throughout the year.

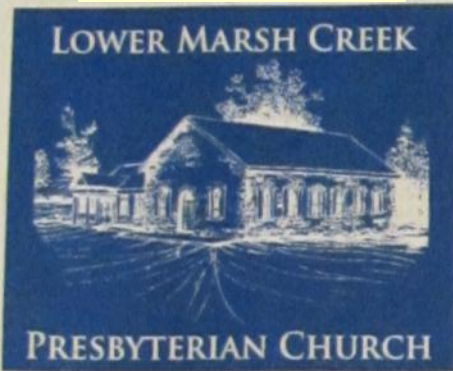
Looking ahead: The Blessed Hope Children's Choir has been rehearsing and ready to perform! Although their December performance was cancelled due to Covid19, they will certainly perform in the upcoming year. (Their planned December performance included "Happy Birthday, Baby Jesus," "Away In a Manger," and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas"! Perhaps they will have to learn some new songs for our next performance!)

LMCPC Shirt Renderings

Left Chest / 4" Wide / White Ink

LOWER MARSH CREEK
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Full Back / White Ink



Navy/ white ink



Navy/ white ink



Navy/ white ink



Left Chest / 4" Wide / Navy Ink

LOWER MARSH CREEK
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Full Back / Navy Ink



Sport Grey/Navy ink



Sport Grey/Navy ink



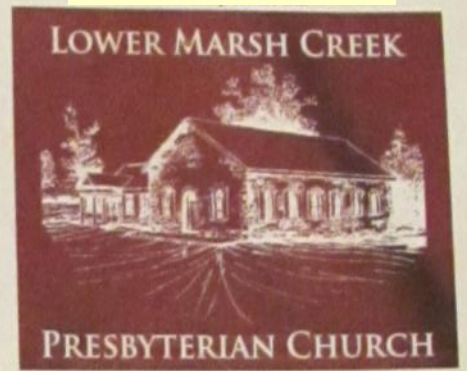
Sport Grey/Navy ink



Left Chest / 4" Wide / White Ink

LOWER MARSH CREEK
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Full Back / White Ink



Maroon/cream ink



Maroon/cream ink



Maroon/cream ink



LMCPC Shirt Pre-Order

Name: _____

Contact Information: _____

All orders and monies due by Sunday January 10th

Please make checks payable to
Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church
and write "shirt sale" in the memo line

Delivery date of items is TBD.

Questions or concerns, please reach out to Mark or Catherine Orleski at 717-817-3694 or corleski@gmail.com

Sizes	Navy/White			Grey/Navy			Maroon/Cream		
	Tee	Hooded Sweatshirt	Crewneck	Tee	Hooded Sweatshirt	Crewneck	Tee	Hooded Sweatshirt	Crewneck
	QTY	QTY	QTY	QTY	QTY	QTY	QTY	QTY	QTY
Adult	\$12	\$25	\$20	\$12	\$25	\$20	\$12	\$25	\$20
XS									
S									
M									
L									
XL									
XXL									
3XL									
Youth	\$8	\$20	\$15	\$8	\$20	\$15	\$8	\$20	\$15
YXS									
YS									
YM									
YL									
YXL									

Total Number of Items: _____

Total Cost: _____



Gettysburg C. A. R. E. S.

Combined Area Resources for Emergency Shelter



Mission of LMCP... "to reach out to the community with the love of Jesus Christ!"

Gettysburg C.A.R.E.S. will be operating differently this year due to COVID 19. Rather than sheltering homeless folks here at LMCP for a two week period as we have done in prior years, we will be preparing bagged breakfasts for the homeless and delivering them to the Three Crowns Motor Lodge at 205 Steinwehr Avenue.

We need volunteers to prepare the bag breakfasts for each day during the two week period from **January 10-23**, and drop them off at the church by 7:30am. I (Joe Reichl) will pick them up at the church in the morning and deliver them to the guests at the Motor Lodge.

The breakfast menu choices are:

Breakfast A – Individual cereals, ½ pint carton milk, juice box, banana.

Breakfast B – Egg Biscuit w/cheese (served in a take-out box), piece of fruit, OJ carton.

Breakfast C – Muffin & Yogurt, granola bar, fruit cup, OJ carton.

Breakfast D – Breakfast egg casserole (Cut into servings, served in a take-out box), fruit, OJ.

Breakfast E – 2 Hard boiled eggs, roll, breakfast bar, OJ, Fruit, ½ pint milk.

Bulk items such as cereal boxes, juice boxes, plastic utensils/napkins and take-out boxes have already been purchased and will be available in the fellowship hall ready for packing. Perishable and other items, such as hard boiled eggs, milk and eggs, and fruit cups will be purchased by the preparer. Reimbursement will be made by the church (so save your receipts).

A sign-up list is available on the bulletin board in the church narthex. **Please be advised that Elaine and I will be holding a preparatory meeting at the church in early January to go over specific details and answer questions.**

Any questions prior to this meeting, please feel free to contact us at 717-398-2430, or jereichl@comcast.net.

Ruth's Harvest - Fairfield Mission Project

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

What is needed?

- 1. Donations of food:** Single-sized servings/packages of food items that need NO refrigeration (see list of food items below). Items can be dropped off at our church and 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 volunteers** from LMCPG to pack backpacks on each of the following dates:

Tuesday, January 26, at 2 PM

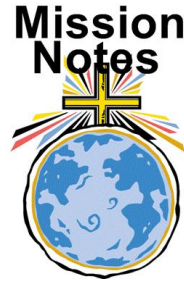
Tuesday, February 16 at 2 PM

Tuesday, March 23 at 2 PM

A sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board.

Food Items Needed

Chef Boyardee Cups (any Kind)	Peas/ Green Beans/ Carrots/ Corn/ Peas & Carrots
Kid-friendly Soups	100-Calorie Snacks
Macaroni and Cheese	Teddy Grahams/ Animal Crackers
Ramen Noodles	Gummy Snacks/ Fruit Roll-Ups
Pudding	Raisins
Jello Cups	Chips/ Pretzels
Microwave Popcorn	Granola Bars/ Cookies
Juice Boxes	Apples
Milk (non-refrigerated – in boxes)	Tuna
Cereal/Oatmeal/ Pop Tarts	Beanie Weenies
Peanut Butter to go	Cheese or Peanut Butter Sandwich Crackers
Applesauce/ Pears/ Peaches/ Mandarin Oranges/ Mixed Fruit	



Comfort My People

A Note from Dori Hjalmarson, serving in Honduras



Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Isaiah 40:1
 I wish you all the comfort and hope and joy the New Year can bring.
 Merry Christmas,
 Dori

Christmas Celebrations in South Sudan

A Letter from Bob and Kristi Rice, serving in South Sudan

Advent Greetings to you!

We think about how Christmas is usually celebrated in South Sudan. Choirs hold special Christmas carol celebrations. Churches raise money for special projects to help the vulnerable in their communities. Special church services on Christmas day often include baptisms, dramas, and small gifts for the children. This year, as all of us modify our plans and traditions, we take the opportunity to refocus on the miracle of the incarnation.

As the disciple John says, "The Word of Life appeared right before our eyes; we saw it happen! And now we're telling you in most sober prose that what we witnessed was, incredibly, this: The infinite Life of God himself took shape before us." (1 John 1:2, The Message Version) We pray that God gives you a sense of wonder and peace as we celebrate again our God becoming human to be with us and restore relationship with us. We join you in praying for healing and peace in our world. This year we have been reminded again of our brokenness and the life and freedom that our Savior gives. May God's life be full in you and give you hope and joy this season.

We wish that we could see and visit with each of you in person to wish you a Merry Christmas! We depend on your prayers and partnership in this ministry in South Sudan. Thank you, and please keep praying for God's people in South Sudan as they proclaim the life and salvation of God and pray for us as we serve with them.



With joy,
 Bob and Kristi

(Continued on page 9)

Waiting for Jesus, the Light

Excerpts - Letter from Ryan and Alethia White, serving in the Iranian Presbyterian Church in Berlin

Greetings from Berlin!

Many here are eagerly yet cautiously awaiting Advent and the joy this season brings to an otherwise dark city in the throes of winter gloom. ... there is also a mood of caution that persists ... Our church community had to move back online after a spike in COVID-19 cases in October. All of Germany went into "Lockdown Light" (a modified lockdown) for the month of November, and many are worried that it won't be enough, and that December will bring more restrictions just as many want to celebrate with loved ones. Many of the famous Christmas markets are already canceled for this year, and that announcement alone was enough to cause a degree of depression for lots of people. ...

Advent is the season of waiting.

This year, we are all waiting for a return to "normalcy," although perhaps we should give some careful thought to what sort of normalcy we wish to return. We are waiting for an effective vaccine. We are waiting to hug friends and family again. We are waiting for peace. We are waiting for people to be treated fairly and without prejudice. We are waiting for wars to cease. We are waiting for hope. But there is cause for hope still. Advent is when we mark the waiting for Jesus' coming. But let's not forget, let's remember that he has already arrived. We were not and are not abandoned, even in the darkness. Jesus was there and is there, and he is still the light. We should not fear waiting. The waiting is where we reckon with ourselves and with God. The waiting can be a holy space where God meets us in our fear. ...

For the Iranian Presbyterian Church, online platforms have allowed us to continue our activities together. This is true for many church groups around the world. We participated in conferences and forums this year on refugee rights, migration, human rights, racism, the effects of the pandemic on the church, and the church's role in a changing world. Though we have moved beyond a radius of a few kilometers here in Berlin, we have been able to travel virtually for such discussions with colleagues across Europe and in the United States. We have been able to contribute to supporting churches in the U.S. and join your worship services from our time zone. Many possibilities for community have opened up, and we rejoice in all of them.

As we wait with anticipation in Advent, we wish to thank you for your words of encouragement, gifts of hope, and financial support. Physical distance may separate us, but we are not divided from each other, and that is a profound encouragement.



With love,
Ryan, Alethia, Ariella, and Laila

Good News!!

This house has been built for the glory of God and the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ.



On May 30, 2006 twelve members of Lower Marsh Creek along with Pastor Dale Williams established the Resources and Facilities Future Planning Team. The team's first step was to establish a Vision Statement: "To prepare the congregation of Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church, its ministries, and its resources for the immediate and long-term future of the church to carry out effectively our mission in this growing community while preserving the family atmosphere, keeping to the will of its members, and honoring the Presbyterian heritage of its past." And we adopted "Preparing the Way" as our guidepost!

We eventually developed a Master Building Plan for the future of LMC. It was broken down into three phases and the team's mission was to make Phase 1 a reality.

The team accepted the challenge and over a nine-year period, with some founding members leaving, new members joining in, a stalwart group of original members and a continually supporting congregation Phase 1 happened. In June of 2015 we dedicated our new narthex, nursery, restrooms and renovated sanctuary and we are blessed with those spaces today!

Along the way there were many blessings and challenges, but God saw us through each and every one! This plan from start to finish cost approximately \$1.5 million. Because of the amazing generosity of the congregation, the blessings of two significant estate gifts and many fundraisers we borrowed only \$200,000.00! \$100,000.00 from the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program and \$100,000.00 from our own investments. We paid off our mortgage in three years and then started paying ourselves back. I come to you today with an attitude of gratitude to tell you that as of November 30, 2020, just a short two years and ten months later we have paid ourselves back the \$100,000.00 that we borrowed!

The generosity of you, the congregation of LMC, is testimony to your love of Jesus Christ and this church. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your years of support through your gifts and your prayers! The Resources and Facilities Future Planning Team's work is now truly finished!!

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight paths for Him."

Matthew 3:3

Tips for Creating Sacred Space

From the November/December 2020 Issue of *Presbyterians Today*

The Rev. Chris Miller of Trinity Presbyterian Church in Springfield, Missouri, offers these ideas for creating sacred space at home.

- Try to find a place in your home where you already go to feel at peace. Think about where you go when you want to calm down or need a moment to yourself. “For me it is often the wooden rocker on my front porch,” he said.
- For many people, a comfortable place to sit is a key element, as it allows us to relax. “My only suggestion is this not be your bed; it can become too easy for prayer time to become nap time. Not that nap time is a bad thing, it’s just different from prayer time.”
- If there are physical distractions in the space, see if there is an easy way to move them. Even if they don’t leave the room, maybe you can rearrange the space, so they are out of your sight.
- See if there is a way to bring meaningful or peaceful items into the space. These might be pictures of family and friends, candles, plants, chimes, etc. “For me, the wind chimes on our porch are a gentle reminder of the movement of the Spirit,” said Miller.

In addition to physical changes in the space, Miller suggests considering your spiritual/emotional state as you enter your sacred space. Here are a few thoughts:

- When entering a time of worship or prayer, try to do so intentionally. Decide that this is a time you are going to focus on prayer, or read Scripture, or engage in extended worship. Allow yourself to set aside other concerns until your time of worship or prayer is over.
- Mark the start and end of your time with a pattern. This might be taking a few deep breaths, lighting a candle, or reciting a prayer or verse of Scripture.
- Try to set aside distractions that might pull you away from your sacred space. Turn your phone on silent or “do not disturb” — especially if you are using it as part of your prayer or worship time. If you aren’t planning to use your phone, you might even leave it in another room.

Practical Hope In The Midst Of A Pandemic

Our current experience may not be entirely foreign to those that we read of in the Scriptures. Pause for a moment and think about how many heroes of the faith were quarantined for various reasons. Noah in the ark, David in caves, Joseph in prison, Jonah in the belly of a great fish, John the Apostle on the island Patmos, and arguably others. But if there is one that first comes to mind in relation to this subject, surely it is the Apostle Paul.

The hope we can draw from the Apostle Paul's life is that fruitfulness is still possible during a season of physical restriction or circumstances outside of our control that seem to limit us. This was certainly true when he was under house arrest in Rome for two years (Acts 28:16,30).

In fact, many believe that four New Testament books were written during Paul's arrest (known as the Prison Epistles). Those letters are Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians and Philemon. Be encouraged and inspired by the Apostle's attitude as seen in the letters that he wrote while locked away from normal life.

1. Unceasing worship and prayer is still possible

I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers... – Ephesians 1:16

No matter what was taken from Paul, no one could ever hinder his worship and his ability to meet God in prayer.

2. Supernatural joy is still possible

Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, rejoice. – Philippians 4:4

While in prison, Paul was telling outsiders to rejoice. How was he able to do this? It's because he had a perspective that saw beyond the chains. He was able to perceive the blessings beyond his situation and it caused him to experience a genuine joy (Philippians 1:14-18).

3. Unity is still possible

For though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit... – Colossians 2:5

Paul could not see the Colossians face-to-face, like many of us in this time. But he still strived to maintain a connection with the body of Christ. How? One way was by attempting to encourage their hearts by sending Tychicus (Colossians 4:7-8). The principle is the same for us. We must keep each other in mind and find ways to comfort fellow believers.

4. Ministry is still possible

I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. – Philemon 1:10

What makes this book unique is that Paul wrote it to an individual, not to a church. The purpose of this letter is to reconcile two individuals, Philemon and Onesimus. Many thoughts can be drawn from this beautiful letter, but here's one: Paul was still willing to serve as an agent of Christ, even if it was just for two people and even if he was stuck in prison.

January Birthdays

1 — Barb Schwartz	13 — Esther Sheppard	28 — Andrew Aldrich
1 — James Bigam	14 — Aidan Duffy	30 — Robert Williams
3 — Phyllis Smith	18 — Frank Buhrman	31 — Dan Shriner
3 — Christa Williams	20 — Brett Leedy	31 — Brooks Johnston
5 — Caleb Miner	23 — Franklin Orleski	



Best Wishes! Enjoy your special day!



Dear Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church,

We would like to thank the Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church very much for your generous donation of \$30.00 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 about 29% of the student body (101 students) in the Fairfield Area Elementary School receive free or reduced price lunches, thus making them 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 organization 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

To The Congregation of Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church,

Thank you for your prayers, cards and support during this difficult time for me. I wish you had a chance to meet the love of my life. She would have loved the church family. I appreciate all you have done for me.

With thanks,
Alexander Forsyth

(Continued on next page)

Dear Friends,

After a year of what seems like chaos, conflict, and uncertainty, God wants us to be filled with His peace as we take comfort and assurance that He has this world in His control. We don't have to live in fear.

As we once again came to the Christmas season, it's a blessing to be able to focus on the remembrance and celebration of what the God of the universe has done for us through Christ's coming into human history. He humbled Himself in order to remove the barrier to a relationship with Him. We look back over two thousand years to an insignificant town in Israel where a Savior was born. Before He came, He was God. When He came, God came to save us. There is no gift before or after that can ever come close to the wonder of His salvation.

For this reason, we strive all the more so that people everywhere may come to faith in Jesus Christ, grow to be more like Him, and serve in a community of believers. This is our dream as a ministry, and it's only accomplished through God's work in lives like Michael's:

I start my day every morning with your devotional, and I have even gotten several of the guys in here (prison) to start to drop by every morning for the "Bread." What you all are doing is touching the hearts and lives of people. Never doubt that! You all are helping to bring Jesus into the lives of people who without their "Bread" may never have gotten to hear about the loving, kind, and forgiving Savior we have the privilege of serving. From the bottom of my heart, thank you!

You are part of this! Because of your prayers and generous gift of \$500.00, people like Michael receive *Our Daily Bread* without worrying about the cost. They then can become missionaries of God's grace right where they are — even in prison.

Thank you for partnering with us today. May God use our efforts together to further His kingdom and His glory.

Gratefully,
Rick DeHaan

Dear Session,

Thank you so much for the beautiful ornament. It was beautiful hanging on my tree.

Sally Gately



From the Clerk's Desk

The Session did not hold a regular meeting in December but will resume meetings in January 2021. Here are just a few items:

- ⦿ Membership as of 12/16/2020: Active Members (AM = CA): 179, Baptized Members (BM = FP): 68 and Family Members: 58.
- ⦿ The Interpretation and Stewardship Team continues to monitor all church finances. Please see the monthly report in this issue on page 17. We thank you for your amazing generosity! We thank you for your financial support!
- ⦿ The Session team assignments for 2021 are:
 - Home Ministry Team: Alicia DeHoff, Susan Nunamaker and Jim Richardson
 - Spiritual Life Team: Bev Benner, Cathy Michaliga and Dirk Grove
 - Interpretation & Stewardship Team: Karen Golden, Ray Wright and Lynn Miller

Session wishes you and your families a Holy and Merry Christmas Season and a New Year filled with hope in the Lord! Thank you again for your steadfast support of Lower Marsh Creek over this past year!



Lower Marsh Creek Deacons



Deacons For 2021: Doris Wampler, Pat Diehl, Sue Welsh, Jim Welsh, Arlene Wright, Len Williams, Elaine Reichl, Joe Reichl & Pam Grove



Food Pantry

The holidays always bring out the best in people. 2020, the year that wasn't saw the best and the worst. People lost their jobs but others donated food so they would not go hungry. People ended up in the hospital with no families able to be with them, but nurses and doctors showed them love and kindness and acted as their family. We at LMC donated turkeys and bags of food for Thanksgiving and donated over \$1,000 which covered the cost of hams for 40 families for an awesome Christmas dinner. When there is a need, we at LMC step up and help others. What a great way to show we care. Unfortunately hunger and homelessness do not disappear when the holidays end. If you would like to be part of a worthwhile community outreach program, you can help your neighbors by donating, non-perishable food items to our local Fairfield Food Pantry. There are two boxes, one located by our library in the Fellowship Hall and the other in the Narthex.

The pantry serves residents that live in the Fairfield School District or that have a Cashtown or Orrtanna address and is located at the Mennonite Church on 201 West Main Street in Fairfield. Their hours are 1-5 pm on the third Friday of each month. Dottie Warrenfeltz is the person who helps take care of the food pantry and she is always delighted whenever we bring lots of donations. If our church is closed due to the virus you can deliver your food items yourself by dropping them off at the rear door of the Fairfield Mennonite Church. The rear door is always unlocked.

Special supplies needed are:

- | | |
|--|--|
| Canned meats (tuna, ham, chicken) | Oatmeal & cereal |
| Boxed cakes, cookies, breads & icing | Coffee & tea |
| Hot chocolate & little marshmallows | Spaghetti sauce |
| Canned fruits (mixed fruit, pears, peaches) | Peanut butter and jelly |
| Paper products (toilet paper, paper towels, napkins & tissues) | Pancake mix & syrup |
| Toiletries (shampoo, soap, toothpaste, etc.) | Dishwashing soap (Dawn, Palmolive, etc.) |



Gettysburg Soup Kitchen

The soup kitchen has adopted protocols and procedures to protect the health and safety of the guests, volunteers, and staff. Only paid staff and appointed volunteers with current food safety training certificates are permitted to work. We have helped at the soup kitchen for many years. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, we will no longer be bringing food supplies to the soup kitchen. Feeding the hungry has always been an especially important mission at LMC and we will continue to support the Gettysburg Soup Kitchen financially but not by bringing meals or food supplies. — Lori Jackson

FINANCIAL HEALTH UPDATE – NOVEMBER 2020

Church Operating Fund Income

Account Description	November—2020	Year-to-Date 2020	2020 Budget
Offering Income	\$18,870.00	\$253,642.75	\$312,219.04
Other Income	\$254.21	\$6,776.91	\$6,450.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$19,124.21	\$260,419.66	\$318,669.04
Church Operating Fund Expenses			
Spiritual Life	-\$7.12	\$3,483.22	\$14,200.00
Education & Nurture	\$30.73	\$1,523.69	\$6,100.00
Interpretation & Stewardship	\$670.00	\$6,371.70	\$6,385.60
Home Ministry	\$3,501.16	\$52,522.65	\$93,725.18
Church Administration	\$19,140.19	\$169,456.35	\$198,258.26
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$23,334.96	\$233,357.61	\$318,669.04
INCOME minus EXPENSES	-\$4,210.75	\$27,062.05	\$0.00

Church Operating Fund Checking Account Balance as of 11/30/2020: \$72,673.40

Mission Opportunities/Missionaries Fund Income

Account Description	November—2020	Year-to-Date 2020	2020 Budget
Offering Income	\$2,949.00	\$67,763.92	\$69,000.00
Other Income	\$252.17	\$2,266.59	\$1,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$3,201.17	\$70,030.51	\$70,000.00

Mission Opportunities/Missionaries Fund Expenses

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3,705.64	\$68,989.65	\$70,000.00
INCOME minus EXPENSES	-\$504.47	\$1,040.86	\$0.00

Missions Checking Account Balance as of 11/30/2020: \$2,175.60

Balance on Building Fund Loan as of 11/30/2020: \$0.00—We are all PAID UP!!!

Notable expenses for November include: \$1,263.78—propane for church



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

January 2021
Volume 21, Issue 1

Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church
717-642-5332
www.lmcpc.org
www.facebook.com/LMCPC
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