

Li'l Ripples

June 2024
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A Publication of Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian
Church

A Message from
Pastor Mark



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~~~~~  
NEXT DEADLINE  
FOR LI'L RIPPLES  
IS JUNE 21, 2024



## ORDINARY TIME

This is a survey: Are you familiar with the seasons of the Church year? Can you name them? When did you first become aware of the seasons of the Church year and where? Do you consider the flow and meaning of the seasons of the Church year to be meaningful to you?

I pondered these questions as we celebrated the Day of Pentecost again on May 19th. The Day of Pentecost marks the end of the season of Easter, and is remembered as the day when the Holy Spirit was given to the first believers. Pentecost also marks a decided turn in our attention to the seasons of the Church year. After the Day of Pentecost in the church, the flow of the seasons of the Church year falls into the background. We enter this very long period in the Church year, from Pentecost to the start of Advent, which is named Ordinary Time.

The seasons of the Church are organized around the greatest events in the life of Jesus: Christmas and Easter. Both Christmas and Easter have a season set apart for preparation and anticipation: Advent for four weeks before Christmas; Lent for six weeks before Easter. Both Christmas and Easter are a specific day and a season. The day of Christmas is always December 25 and its season includes the twelve days of Christmas. Easter is always on a Sunday and the date changes depending on the full moon in Springtime. The season of Easter includes the fifty days after Easter, ending with the Day of Pentecost.

I find it meaningful to observe the seasons of the Church year:

The Church year offers a different perspective on time. The seasons of the church year are different from our ordinary obsession with the calendar of days, months, and years. It is important to adopt a different perspective on things.

The Church year creates a schedule of events from which we can follow and understand the life of Jesus. Thus, I believe, the seasons of the Church year are an important teaching tool about Jesus. The seasons of the Church year help us read the Bible.

The seasons of Advent and Lent are particularly meaningful to me. It is helpful to have a defined time set apart to focus specifically on preparing ourselves, deeper spiritual devotion, and creating specific, daily disciplines.

And the long season of Ordinary Time, spanning six months of the calendar year, has its own deep meaning and purpose. During these days we may allow our Christian faith to become an essential and influential aspect of every day. Ordinary Time without any feast days, holidays or focused celebrations calls us to invite the Christian belief deep into the everyday and ordinary fabric of our lives.

In Christ!  
Mark



# CHURCH LIFE - FUTURE, PRESENT, PAST



## IMPORTANT CHANGE TO SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS

Starting Sunday June 2nd there will be **one worship service at 10:00 AM**

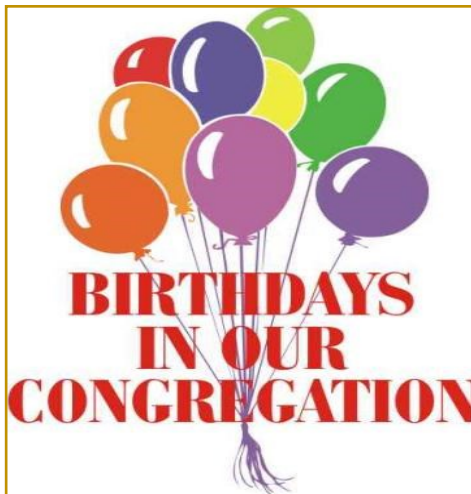
The **Congregational Picnic** will be held on **Sunday June 2nd** immediately following the worship service.

**The Women's Guild** will meet **June 18th** in Fellowship Hall at **1:00PM**. We will be making final plans about the day at Hillside Nursing Home. (Roz Santay)

**The Women's Bible study meets electronically two Thursdays a month at 7 PM.** We are currently reading and discussing Max Lucado's book *Help Is Here*. Max writes on how to enjoy the presence of the Holy Spirit and experience the fresh strength, fulfilling purpose, and vigorous life the Holy Spirit offers. Contact Dana McDonald if you are interested.

### JUNE

- 6 - Catherine Orleski
- 12 - Deb Stottlemeyer
- 12 - Roy Weaner
- 15 - David Bruss



### JUNE

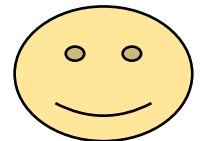
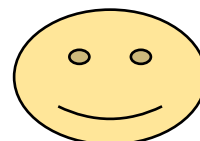
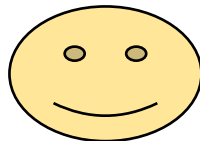
- 17 - Isaac Bucher
- 17 - Nicole Bucher
- 21 - David Sheppard
- 23 - Pamela Grove
- 27 - Susan Nunamaker

## HAVE YOU HEARD?

Two boys were walking home from Sunday School after hearing a strong preaching on the devil. One said to the other, "What do you think about all this Satan stuff?"

The other boy replied, "Well, you know how Santa Claus turned out. It's probably just your Dad."

(Thanks to Kathy Megyeri)



### **God's Outlaw, The Story of William Tyndale**

William Tyndale (sometimes spelled Tynsdale), 1494 – 1536, was an English scholar and gifted linguist who became a leading figure in the Protestant Reformation. He was the first person to translate the Bible into English directly from Hebrew and Greek texts. His was the first English translation to take advantage of the printing press, allowing for wide distribution throughout England.

During this time period, the Roman Catholic Church was executing (burning at the stake) persons caught with an English translation. Tyndale was declared a heretic by the Catholic Church. He translated and printed his translations in Germany and Belgium while changing locations to avoid capture by the Catholics.

In 1535, Tyndale was arrested and jailed in Brussels for over a year. In 1536 he was convicted of heresy and executed by strangulation, after which his body was burned at the stake. His dying prayer that the King of England's eyes would be opened, was fulfilled two years later with Henry VIII's authorization of the Great Bible for the Church of England, which was largely Tyndale's translation.

The story of this courageous Christian martyr is portrayed in the movie God's Outlaw. I have a DVD of this movie, and I would be happy to lend it to anyone in our church.

Missions like Tyndale's, advancing the Great Commission, (Matthew 28: 17-20), are as vital today. Nearly 500 years later, people are still being executed for possessing a Bible. Take solace in the fact that our little church is supporting missions (SAT-7, for one, and Gideons- though in a different way) accomplishing exactly the same thing that Tyndale did: getting translated Bibles into the hands of Christ-seekers in the Middle East, North Africa, and Europe. (John McMann)

### **Virginia K. Woods Scholarship Recipients**

The Interpretation and Stewardship Team in conjunction with the Session are pleased to announce that Rachael Filip, Jenna Leedy, Jamalkhan Nasiri, Zachary Tipton, William Patterson, Brooke Leedy, Holly Best, and Dylan Smeak are the recipients of the Virginia (Ginny) K. Woods Scholarship for 2024.

Virginia, better known as Ginny, was a long-time member of Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church and a retired teacher who had a great love for education and the youth. Ginny remembered the youth of LMC in her will through the establishment of this Scholarship Fund and we are proud to say this is the 10th anniversary of the scholarship awards. Rachael, Jenna, Jamal, Zach, Will, Brooke, Holly and Dylan now join the ranks of other young folks who have been blessed by Ginny's generosity and love. Each recipient of this scholarship will receive \$1,000. (Lauren Neely)

Continued on the next page . . .



**Holly Best** is senior planning on attending Harrisburg Area Community College to study Library Science with the goal of becoming a Librarian. She is a participant in her youth group, church choir, childcare volunteer and church cafe volunteer. Holly is also a member of the National Honor Society, a Library Aid and Editor for two Christian manuscripts. After experiences in her life Holly has come to realize through it all that God has always been there for her. She states she will continue to do all things with that in mind, knowing God will always be there to pick me up when I fall and encourage me to try again. Please congratulate Holly on her accomplishments.



**Rachael Filip** will be a senior at Juniata College, majoring in Biochemistry. Her plans are to do research involving Biochemistry and/or Organic Chemistry. She is a member of Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society. Racheal has been a leader at an outdoor adventure camp at Juniata and a lab leader in chemistry camp. Rachael has an extensive background in volunteer work, especially relating to the environment. A few of the activities she has participated in are the Keep Perry Country Beautiful, Newport Revitalization & Preservation Society, Newport High School Environmental Club, the Juniata College Chapter of the Wildlife Society, Juniata College Habitat Restoration Club and the National Honor Society. She was a member of the Central Baptist Church Fusion Youth Group and played piano for her church. Please congratulate Rachael on her accomplishments.



**Brooke Leedy** is a freshman at Penn State University studying biobehavioral health with a minor in biology. Her career goal is to become a Physician Assistant. Brook has enjoyed vacation Bible school and traveling to Camp Krislund. She manages the Penn State Varsity Women's Lacrosse team, is a member of THON, Project PAWS and Pre-Physician Assistant club. Brooke believes that as a Christian, it is important to give back to the community and help others who are less fortunate than herself. Please congratulate Brooke on her accomplishments.



**Jenna Leedy** will be a senior at James Madison University studying Marketing with a career goal of Social Media Marketing/Advertising. She is a member of Delta Mu Sigma - Digital Marketing Honors Society. She is a participant in the Women in Business Club at James Madison and a member of the sorority Alpha Sigma Tau. She was active in the Future Business Leaders of America, Key Club and National Honor Society in high school. Her involvement in community service has allowed her to uphold many important Christian morals and values such as generosity, compassion and service. Please congratulate Jenna on her accomplishments.



**Jamal Nasiri** is a freshman at Elizabethtown College studying to enter a health-related profession. He has had many challenges in his young life. Growing up in Afghanistan, when he was ten, Jamal would sell yogurt at the bazaar to help pay for English lessons. His family came to the United States after the Taliban took over his country in 2021, reaching the airport under fire and waiting three days without food at the airport. Jamal is a Muslim and believes in the Quran and the Bible. This is the guide for how he lives his entire life. "My most positive influence is my parents. Even though they are not educated, they care about education and motivate me to study hard. Jamal has given speeches about his journey to this country and that nothing is impossible. Please congratulate Jamal on his accomplishments.



**Will Patterson** is a high school senior planning to attend Shepard University to study to be a High School Math Teacher and Football coach. Will is very active in his church, Trinity Assembly of God Midlothian, including attending services, teaching Bible lessons in Sunday School, Youth Group and mission trips to Costa Rica. He is a member of Fellowship of Christian Athletes participating in sport camps. Along with being on the Honor roll during high school, Will played football and basketball where he learned a lot about life and would like to pay it forward. Please congratulate Will on his accomplishments.



**Dylan Smeak** is a freshman at Mount Saint Mary's University. His intended major is Computer Science and Cybersecurity with a career goal the Naval Academy or working for the NSA. Along with being on the honor roll during high school, Dylan participated in fall and indoor soccer, volunteered with the middle school soccer program and Habitat for Humanity. In his essay Dylan quoted words that have been used to describe him: Kind, Responsible, Dedicated, Intelligent, and Christian. He is a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Littlestown. He believes he is never alone and always has unconditional love and care in God.



**Zach Tipton** is a freshman attending Washington College to study biochemistry and pre-med with a career goal of Emergency or Sports Physician. Zach has participated in collegiate swimming and student government at Washington College and was employed as a lifeguard for the college. He is a committed Christian and attends the Christ Lutheran Evangelical Church. He has participated in God's Work, Our Hands Youth Group for the past eight years and was a Counselor at Camp Nawakwa, "As a former camper there, I always had such fond memories and wanted to be a part of helping make those for future generations. It was here that I found a renewed image of what it was to be a part of the church and a greater creation." Please congratulate Zach on his accomplishments.

**THANK YOU****THANK YOU****THANK YOU****THANK YOU****THANK YOU**

May 1, 2024

Dear Friends of **SAT-7**:

**Thank you for your recent gift.** God uses ministry partners like you to support Isolated Believers in the Middle East and North Africa. Your generosity is making His love visible throughout the region.

Recently a young viewer named Daniel shared how SAT-7 programming makes an impact on his life. He writes, "The *Bible Heroes* program inspired us to learn more about the Bible. The *Allo Marianne* program taught us how to express our emotions and confront challenges with Jesus at our side. Through these activities, you have greatly aided me as a parent in teaching my children about Jesus and His love for us. Thank you for bringing us delight. God's blessings on you."

Please pray that SAT-7 will equip people to live out their faith in the Middle East and North Africa and that those with no local church are strengthened. You are important. Thank you.

For Middle East HOPE,

Rex M. Rogers, Ph.D., President of SAT-7 USA

May 6, 2024

Dear Friends at Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church,

We are an "Easter People", joyful in the fulfillment of our heavenly Father's promise to send us a Messiah . . .

We are the beneficiaries of the love of the Son, the Incarnate Word of God . . .

At **ACPM**, and the Christian communities here and throughout the world, we rejoice.

We take that joy of victory to the incarcerated at Adams County prison, sharing with these men and women, children of God, all about His saving power.

Your love, prayer, and financial gifts enjoin you with this community of faith, the Body of Christ, present in the prison. Your willingness to assist **ACPM** brings fulfillment of God's promises to a people that the world has abandoned, to a place where light needs to shine. That light is Christ.

Know that **ACPM is truly appreciative** of your prayers and gifts. We pray that our Risen Savior repays you in kind.

In His loving and Holy Name, and for the **ACPM** Leadership Team,

Deacon Tom Aumen, **ACPM** Secretary

May 8, 2024

I wanted to **thank Pastor Mark and the congregation of Lower Marsh Creek Church** for the wonderful service for Rex. Pastor Mark was amazing and gave us much comfort knowing how much Rex was loved by the church and the humorous things that were uniquely Rex. He loved the church and all his friends that gave him so much support when he was ill.

Micki, myself, my son and daughter were so impressed with Pastor Mark and the entire congregation. I wanted to thank the military honors group for the incredibly moving ceremony and fitting for a man who loved his country and served it well. Also, many thanks to the vocalist and musician who sang at the service. His music went straight to my soul. I wish I had a chance to meet him and thank him in person. Much appreciation to those who provided the amazing food. Great cooks! Thank you too Barb for the help and support you gave in planning the service.

We will never forget the kindness and generosity of Lower Marsh Creek Church.

**Roger Craven**



### In Memory of Rex

*Be Thou My Vision* is one of my favorite hymns. The second line of the hymn: "*Thou my best thought by day or by night, waking or sleeping Thy presence my light*", has always been of specific interest to me.

What exactly does my vision and my light mean? Perhaps one's personal experiences would determine what this means for each person.

For example: These were truly remarkable events. Our good friend and dear departed brother in Christ, Rex Craven shared this experience with Pastor Mark and a few church members.

When Rex was anxious about a problem, sometimes, when asleep at night, he would find the solution to his problem. What's so remarkable is how the answer came to him.

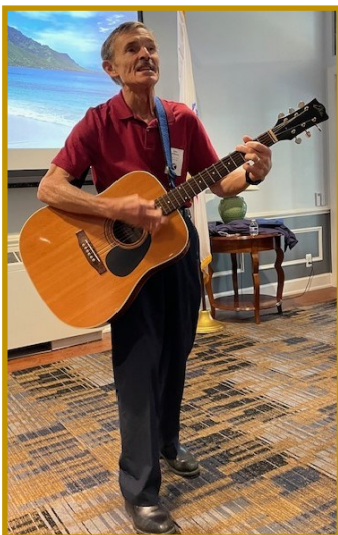
During his dreams, a Bible passage would appear to him, not the text, but the name of the book, the chapter number and the verse number. When Rex awoke, he would immediately write this down. The verse was always relevant to his problem, and the verse always had the solution. (Rex kept a record of all of these events.) God was obviously present in Rex's mind, and God's presence was Rex's light that allowed God's, and thereby Rex's, vision to see the Bible verse that would solve his problem.

As the hymn says, "*Be thou my vision*" and "*Thy presence my light.*"

(John McMann)

### World Cruise at Knollwood

Knollwood, in Washington, DC, was established by Mamie Eisenhower for military widows 50 years ago and only about a decade ago admitted men as well. It is well regarded as a continuing care community and is currently the home for 325 residents. It was privileged to host Pastor Dale Williams, a former Navy chaplain, and his wife Lenorah on May 14 so they could share pictures and memories of their latest round-the-world-voyage during which Dale served as Protestant cruise chaplain for the first month. He shared with the audience his reason for accepting such a position - that cruising out in the ocean was a "spiritual experience" as he could sense God's presence there, particularly as he read Psalm 107 when "*God spoke and stirred up a tempest but then stilled the storm to a whisper;*" so those who are ever on the ocean might know God's might. Dale took his first round-the-world-cruise in 1972 on board a U.S. Navy Destroyer. He was ordained in 1978 and spent from 1971-1997 serving in the Navy – first as a Line Officer, and then as a Chaplain. During his Knollwood presentation, he also played the guitar and had the audience sing along with him "*He's Got The Whole World in His Hands.*" He then paid tribute to his wife, Lenorah, acknowledging that "being a military spouse is the toughest job in the military." They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary during that voyage as well. Later in the year, he served as Protestant Chaplain on another cruise, this time around Africa. In 2023 they spent over 210 days at sea. But his lecture focused on his world cruise of 128 days (4 1/2 months) to 59 ports. They started in Ft. Lauderdale on a Holland America line, going through the Panama Canal with stops in Cape Town, Namibia, Angola, Senegal, Gambia, the Canary Islands, Morocco, Tangier, Spain, Portugal, England, Belgium, the Netherlands, Amsterdam, Denmark, Norway, Scotland, Ireland, and the Azores. He even shared stories and pictures of their safari in South Africa and their time in Cape Town. The audience learned that America's Smithsonian Institution has a research facility in Panama as well. Dale's duties on board included holding daily seaday devotions with 30-40 guests, as well as Sunday Interdenominational worship. He also served alongside a Catholic priest and a rabbi and celebrated our National Day of Prayer in an Inter-faith service on May 2, certainly a memorable occasion. Knollwood thanked him for his talk by offering the residents cake and refreshments and presenting Dale with a satin pillowcase from 1941 that a sailor then had sent home to a family member embossed with the Navy seal. Dale will return June 17 to speak about his 73 day cruise around Africa. Before leaving he was extended an invitation to return to lead worship in our beautiful chapel some day. This Presbyterian pastor from Gettysburg, PA who in addition to offering educational and inspirational sermons, is a YWCA lifeguard, loves to swim and snorkel, and is so committed to life at sea that his plans are to be buried there as well. The Navy is proud of this chaplain and we thank Dale for his time and contribution to our Knollwood activities program. (Kathy Megyeri)





**DO YOU KNOW ?****A Personal Essay**

I have had to miss services at LMCPD for the past two months to accompany my husband to his intensive PT therapy program for Parkinson's in Sarasota, FL. Nothing could have prepared me to regularly view the suffering of those plagued with this disease. While here, we recognized April 11 which was World Parkinson's Day founded in 2005 to raise awareness, shed light on this condition, and advocate for research. Their global symbol is the red tulip. Parkinson's affects people around the world with China having the most cases, but over 1 million in the US alone cope with its effects. With our aging population, more people are experiencing it, and this month alone, 90,000 will be diagnosed. Researchers believe it results from a combination of genetic and environmental factors that cause the central nervous system to affect one's motor system to degenerate over time. Symptoms include tremors, movement and balance difficulties, limb rigidity, and delayed muscle action but the most disabling symptoms are fatigue, tremors and slower physical movement. The best way to live with it are regular exercise, eating a healthy diet, staying hydrated, getting enough sleep and being treated with medication. As we prepare now to leave FL and return to the DC area to contemplate deep brain stimulation which many claim reduces the tremors associated with Parkinson's, I can truly share what I've most missed about time away from LMCPD that makes me appreciate it so much more. So many of the churches I've attended here have didactic pastors, many of whom believe that if they scream their sermons, surely we will become more convinced of their messages. It's then I miss Pastor Mark's pleas for a quiet time of reflection to contemplate God's message of acceptance and love. Secondly, I've missed Linda Clark's music and of course the history of many of the hymns we sing, not to mention the groups who make many of those songs come to life during their Sunday performances. Thirdly, I miss seeing many of Cathy Michaliga's thematically created wall banners and vestments worn by Pastor Mark. But most of all, I miss the smiles, comments and questions from fellow parishioners before and after services that are uplifting, comforting, and so friendly that they bring me a sense of community within the church. So what keeps me most connected when I am away? Thanks to the church newsletter, I still feel in touch with people, mission news and church events and truly look forward to regularly returning to worship services. One doesn't realize what a gem LMCPD is until one is away for awhile but I know others feel the same and so we thank the Lord regularly for the treasure that LMCPD truly is. (Kathy Megyeri - April 28, 2024)

Editor's note: The following list was taken from the minutes of the 275th Anniversary Committee meeting, August 29, 2023. I think the views of those thoughtful members are interesting:

*Devotional - Each of us shared a story from when we came to LMC. Then we shared what it was, about LMC, that keeps us coming. The following summarizes the discussion as to what keeps us coming:*

- |                                                        |                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| - Historical significance                              | - Strong leadership   |
| - Friendliness                                         | - Proximity to home   |
| - Traditional and Scriptural based worship             | - Adult Sunday School |
| - Weekly Bible study/prayer meeting                    | - Vast mission field  |
| - Choir/bells                                          | - Couples group       |
| - Marriage retreat                                     | - Socialization       |
| - Culture of outreach to the community                 | - Excellent preaching |
| - Activities/ministries . . . one can be very involved |                       |

*Sing To The Lord***MUSIC MINISTRY***A New Song*

*Music is the universal language of mankind.* — Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

The seasons of the church year seem to pass as quickly as the seasons of nature. And now as summer arrives, our faithful musicians who enhance our worship services throughout the year deserve a relaxing break!

Last year's June newsletter included an inspiring article that was shared with our own musicians by Dirk Grove. *Choose People That Minister, Not Entertain* reminded us all of the function of music during a worship service. Musicians are tasked with the same responsibility as the pastor, to guide the congregation in their journey with Christ. Music is an important element of worship.

I hope you all are blessed by the ministry of the Glory Singers, Faithful Voices, and Wires and Wood throughout the year. They are all very dedicated and hard working individuals and are a blessing to our LMCP. Thanks to all of them!

It is now time to share the special music calendar for the summer of 2024! May you be blessed by the variety of music over the next three months.

June 2 - Whispering Creek Bluegrass

June 9 - Klaus Bergman/Fred Miller

June 16 - Dirk Grove and family

June 23 - Bekah Foster

June 30 - Dwight Michael

July 7 - Dana Witt and Phyllis Smith

July 14 - Donna Jones

July 21 - Christmas in July

July 28 - Frank Buhrman

August 4 - Luke Hershey

August 11 -

August 18 - Flute Flock

August 25 -

Sept. 1 - Jason Williams

I have left two dates open in August in case any members of the congregation may want to perform special music or suggest someone outside our church. Please see me after church or email me at [pausetoread@yahoo.com](mailto:pausetoread@yahoo.com). Thanks!

Linda Clark

*Serving God By*

# DEACON'S PAGE

*Serving Others*

## THE BOARD OF DEACONS

### Class of 2024

Pat Diehl  
Pam Johnson  
Suzanne Welsh

### Class of 2025

Al Miller  
Jim Welsh  
Arlene Wright

### Class of 2026

Elaine Reichl  
Joe Reichl  
John Stottlemeyer

**FOOD PANTRY:** During the school year students are offered breakfast and lunches at free or reduced cost. Now they will be at home. Keep this in mind as you shop and pick up breakfast and lunch items. Also personal and household cleaning supplies are always needed. Thank you for your continued support. (Arlene Wright)

## TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY :

Attendees of LMCC having a transportation need should call one of the following drivers directly to arrange for a date, time, and destination. If none of these volunteers can meet your need, please call Al Miller at **717 - 642 - 1574** or **443 - 977 - 9129**

## VOLUNTEER DRIVERS :

Lee & Jean Bentz      717 - 334 - 6064

Susan Nunamaker      717 - 642 - 9646

Sallie Sites              717 - 253 - 0305

Jim Welsh                717 - 377 - 5370

Len Williams            717 - 642 - 0123



### Mission Advocate Mailbox - Recent Correspondence

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

*From the ACPM May Newsletter:*

The second Spring annual volunteer training since volunteer programs were restarted in 2023, was held on Thursday, April 25. Approximately 85 volunteers attended. The next volunteer training is being considered for the fall.

Rabbit Transit has added a stop to ACACC, in the Work Release parking lot of the complex. This stop will give individuals who are eligible for Work Release but lacking transportation to find employment using public transportation. It also allows individuals who are released from custody to utilize the bus to leave the complex.

If you are receiving a hard copy of the newsletter and would prefer to receive it via email, send your full name and your preference to Chaplain Perez' email (aperez@adamscountypa.gov).

ACPM is looking for a qualified person to join their leadership team as the treasurer. ACPM is also looking for a volunteer to assist the chaplain, serving two days a week for three hours each. If interested in either of these positions, contact Chaplain Perez.

#### **Child Evangelism Fellowship**

Sofia Calidonio, the new ministry assistant, will be leading the team of summer interns this year. Rowan Hollenbaugh will be joining the team this summer as a full-time intern, and Karah Richardson will be joining as a part-time intern. Madi Carlson will serve as a day camp volunteer this summer.

Summer Event Schedule: June 2-5, Revival on the Farm in East Berlin (evenings); June 8-21, Training for Summer Interns (prayers requested); June 24-28, Day Camp at Greist Park in York Springs (10 am – 2 pm); July 1-3, Mini Day Camp (3-6 year olds) at Greist Park in York Springs (9:30 – 11:30 am); July 8-12, Day Camp at Idaville United Brethren in Gardners (10 am – 2 pm); July 15-19, Day Camp at Memorial Baptist Church in Gettysburg (10 am – 2 pm); July 23-27, Tent at South Mountain Fair; July 29-August 1, VBS at Iron Springs Brethren in Christ in Fairfield (6:15 – 8pm).

#### **Mission of Mercy**

Mission of Mercy marked another milestone in its 30-year history last fall when donors, staff and volunteers celebrated the launch of the organization's newest mobile medical vehicle. With additional space for the pharmacy and Dr. Sullivan's office, the new mobile vehicle meets the expanding needs of Mission of Mercy.

Mission of Mercy operates one medical and one dental unit, with each unit visiting the same sites together and working in tandem. The dental program now has a part-time volunteer oral surgeon working on the unit who can treat many complex patient cases, especially the extraction of wisdom teeth.

Linda Ryan, Executive Director of Mission of Mercy, has announced her retirement effective July 1 of this year. Jennifer White, who has been with the organization for 27 years, will assume the position.

Save the date of Saturday, October 5, for the Mission of Mercy Gala to be held at the Talley Recreation Center in Frederick, MD. There will be music and dancing with The Silver Tones Swing Band.

#### **SAT-7**

Brian Nelson wrote to say thank you for our \$6,600 partnership gift. He also said that as he read through our newsletter, he thought that it's incredible the heart that LMCP has to communicate God's love to our community and the world.

Continued on the next page . . .

Continued from the preceding page . . .

**SAT-7's Audience Relations Team regularly interact with and disciple viewers off-air. Below, is one viewer's journey from despair to dependence on Christ, with guidance from a Counselor. This is fruit from your partnership!**

Audience relations team: Hannah, a 26-year-old woman from Sudan with a different background, approached us for help with the difficulties she experiences in her everyday life. She claims that the untimely loss of her 16-year-old niece has caused her to go through the most difficult and saddest period of her life. We thanked her for believing in us and talking with us.

We asked her to briefly explain the matter so that we could assist her. She told us that she does not have children and that she visited Sudan a while ago. Upon her return to Egypt, her niece accompanied her, as she and her husband reside there. However, just a few days after their arrival, the niece fell ill, causing her husband to become angry and believe she was faking illness, possibly due to her dissatisfaction with the situation in Egypt or the transfer. They transferred her to the hospital and kept her there until two days later, when they called us to announce the girl's passing.

The shock was traumatic for Hannah, who wished for death and wanted to end her own life because she believed she was responsible for her niece's death. She felt deeply sorry for what had transpired. And she slipped into the trap of regret and self-blame. Worse, due to the war in Sudan, Hannah was unable to contact the girl's family to inform them of her death.

We sympathized with her and consoled her over the death of her niece. We told her not to blame herself, because only God knows why he allowed that girl to come to Egypt to escape the war and die there.

After conversing with and comforting her, we discussed the topic of God alone soothing the human soul, allowing life's hardships to put us to the test. We knew she accepted Christ before she and her husband married, that they came from a different background, and that her husband is still a Christian today; but she drifted away from Christ.

After discussing this and other topics, such as forgiveness and God's unconditional love, as well as the fact that there is no salvation apart from Christ, she began to ask questions, indicating a thirst for the truth.

Hannah: How did God abandon me and not protect me from myself when I chose to stay away from Him?

Audience relations team: We emphasized to her that God does not tempt or force anyone to do anything. On the contrary, His will is for everyone to be saved and come to know the truth. We advised her to remain patient as she felt the absence of her niece and reminded her of God's goodness. We felt her longing and need for comfort, as well as someone telling her that salvation is only through Christ.

After a lengthy talk, she wondered how she could go on with her life despite everything that was going on around her. We described how she might repent and return to God, and we asked whether she was ready. So she agreed and joined us in praying the prayer of repentance and salvation, as well as declaring Christ to be the Savior of her life. We urged her to put everything in God's hands. She thanked us for our assistance and attention and asked to begin the follow-up process. Glory to Jesus!

We contacted her again, gave her a discipleship course, and discussed the new nature of Christ.

Hannah: I would not lie to you. How many days do I talk to God by myself, saying, "Lord, I am confident in your justice?" But I need your support, even if it's just a thought in my heart. You heard me; there was no response.

Audience relations team: We replied to her and prayed with her, and she asked questions, which we answered.

Hannah: My conscience says that I constantly make mistakes, whether they are purposeful or unintentional. How can I get rid of this feeling? I stood in front of our Lord and confessed, but I did not feel comfortable.

Audience relations team: We responded to her. Then we discussed prayer and daily time with the Lord, and we shared a portion with her.

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Hannah: I realized that the past period had no protection for me because I was far from the Lord.

Audience relations team: We discussed the Word of God and how to concentrate on it. We also discussed the new creation and the goodness of God.

Hannah: In times of adversity, people often attribute it to God. But according to what I gathered from the passages, not everything is from God.

Audience relations team: So we answered her and explained who the tempter was.

Hannah: I really needed this verse. Thank the Lord for all his blessings. Thank you very much. Thank goodness I shared all of this with you. Today's verses are nice and reassuring for my heart.

Audience relations team: Finally, she told us that she joined a group to study God's Word daily.

[Brian told me that the Audience Relations team conducted more than 103,000 one-to-one discipleship conversations with viewers last year.]



## Brian Nelson

Ministry Development Director  
SAT-7 USA Office



### Young Life

Young Life has a promising applicant for the Area Director position, and they are hoping he will start in the fall.



### Mission Co-Worker Ryan White Visits LMC

Rev. Ryan White, one of the Presbyterian Church (USA) mission co-workers supported by LMC's Mission Opportunities and Missions (MOM) budget, visited the church on May 16 to discuss his work and that of the greater community of Christian churches in Western and Southern Europe.

Along with his wife, Alethia, Ryan has been in the mission field for more than 10 years and is nearing the end of a year back in the U.S. The couple has been working with Iranian refugees in partnership with the Iranian Presbyterian Church of Berlin, Germany, providing pastoral care and collaborating with other Christian organizations and churches that serve Iranian refugees. However, he recently has taken the position of Co-Regional Liaison for Northern and

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Central Europe (they will continue to be involved with the Iranian church).

He devoted much of his presentation at LMC explaining what this new job entails.

Ryan showed LMC members a map of Europe with the Presbyterian and other churches and organizations with which he works and covered the various issues they are addressing, including congregational vitality, racism, poverty, militarism, climate change, gender & sexual justice, and migration.

Most of the work is grouped under the Biblical justification of Matthew 25, which includes, "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."

The Whites, including their daughters Ariella and Laila, will continue to live in Berlin.

The logistics of Ryan's visit were a bit unusual. Ryan, Alethia, and their two daughters, have been staying in Richmond, Va., with Alethia's mother, and Ryan came to LMC by bicycle, a two-day trip with an overnight stop in Washington, D.C., on the way. He stayed with Dale and Len Williams after dinner on the 16th, and the next morning Dale gave him a brief tour of the battlefields before seeing him on his way. His planned stops after leaving Gettysburg were State College, Waverly, Canandaigua, Utica, and finally Poughkeepsie (an overall one-way trip of 850 miles!). From Poughkeepsie, on May 24 he will take the train back to Richmond.

Ryan and Alethia White's webpage on the PC(USA) Presbyterian Mission website is at:

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/missionconnections/ryan-and-alethia-white/> There is an opportunity there to sign up for their letters and other emails.

LMC continues to seek opportunities to bring the mission workers we support to our church to talk about their work.



### Afghan Family Update

On Friday, April 26, Rayna Cooper, in a Wolf Bus Lines passenger van, took the Nasiri family (all 11) to Philadelphia for individual interviews as a part of their next step in becoming permanent residents. Two representatives from Church World Services (legal and interpreter) met them there. Everything went smoothly and they had some extra time to see some of Philadelphia. The CWS team thought everything went well and now the family just waits.

Editors note: This column by Denise Lockwood was published in the January 2024 issue of Li'l Ripples. It is being reprinted this month in memory of our dear sister-in-Christ. We rejoice that she has *gone home*. We also mourn our great loss. We thank God for the wonderful gift He gave to our precious church - the many years Denise toiled among us to further the Gospel.  
*Well done, good and faithful servant.*



# The Giving Corner

It seems like only yesterday we were wondering what January 1, 2000, would bring – Y2K!!

Here we are beginning the year 2024!! Where does the time go! Now more than ever we pray for peace in our troubled world, prosperity for everyone, good health, and the true joy of knowing our Lord, Jesus Christ! We hope for a year filled with love as we open ourselves to God's guidance and we say thank you for the Holy Spirit dwelling within us!

After the hustle and bustle of the holidays let us reflect on how we want to spend our time over the next year. Let us consider how we can give of our time, our talents, and our treasures; how we can get connected with our church family; how we can reach out and make a difference.

Remember everything we have has been given to us by God! These gifts from God are resources for us to use and invest for him. It is our way of showing our gratitude for the amazing gifts of grace and his abounding love. When we invest what God has given us in his work, we will be rewarded with even more to give in his service! As Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 9:12:

*This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Let us not put off responding in love and thankfulness to our God. Now is our time to act! Don't wait!*

Remember this short poem by Etienne de Grellier, a Quaker Missionary:

## I Shall Pass

I shall pass through this life but once.

Any good, therefore, that I can do,

Or any kindness I can show;

let me do it now.

Let me not defer or neglect it.

For I shall never pass this way again.





# From the Clerk's Desk

*I would like to express gratitude for all the grace and encouragement being shared with me by the church family during this time of transition. It means so much to me. As it reads in Jeremiah 29:11, 'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future.' We have been reminded recently that it's not our plans, but His. This transition didn't happen according to the plans Denise and I had made. But, I trust in His plans even though they are hard to understand sometimes. And with your support and the leading of the Holy Spirit, we will carry on.*

*-Dana McDonald, Clerk of Session*

The Session held their regular meeting on May 21, 2024, at 6:00 PM in the education building with Rev. Mark Englund-Krieger serving as moderator. Here are the business highlights from actions taken at that meeting:

- Membership as of 5/17/2024: Active Members (AM = CA):155, Baptized Members (BM = FP): 56, Family Members: 51, Total: 262.
- The Interpretation and Stewardship Team continues to monitor all church finances. Please see the monthly report in this issue for April. We thank you for your continued generosity and financial support!

***Approved the following events and business items:***

- Approved vacation days for Pastor Mark Englund-Krieger. On Sunday May 26, Dirk Gove will lead worship. On Sunday, August 4, Dale Williams will lead worship. On Sunday, August 11, David Wright will lead worship.
- Approved the special collection of donated items from the congregation to be used in welcome bags for new residents at the Men's Shelter and Agape House at Adams County Rescue Mission.
- Approved that Dana McDonald will serve as Clerk of Session effective as of May 4, 2024 and Phyllis Doyle as Associate Clerk of Session effective as of May 4, 2024.

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

Team Members: Doyle Waybright, chair; Ron Milhimes and Lanny Winters

- Decided against further research into pickleball court and bocce ball court.
- Work continues to research the possibility of solar panels for the education building.
- North side of buildings will be power washed to rid of mold.
- New bulletin boards will be installed soon in the narthex.
- New historic building sign will be donated by Historic Gettysburg Adams County and installed along Knoxlyn Road sometime this fall. Old sign is available for anyone who wants it.

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

Team Member: Lauren Neely, chair; Phyllis Doyle and Bev Benner

- The April 2024 Balance Sheet and Cash Flow reports were approved as presented.
- Budget Meeting is scheduled for May 29 in the education building.
- Diaper Drive planning meeting on May 22 at 6pm.
- Received Thank You note from Brian Nelson for the \$6,600 partnership gift. He also said that as he read through our newsletter, he thought that it's incredible the heart that LMCPG has to communicate God's love to our community and the world.

***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; Lynne Orner and Susan Nunamaker

- The National Day of Prayer service on May 2 went well with 25-30 in attendance.
- New Ministry: LMC will prepare welcome bags for new residents at Adams Rescue Mission and Agape House. A donation box has been placed in the narthex to collect needed items. At the congregational picnic on June 2 church members/friends will fill the bags with various items.
- The congregational picnic is planned for Sunday, June 2 after the 10 AM service. Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the narthex.
- The church will participate in Fun Fest on Friday, June 14 from 3 to 7 PM. Additional volunteers are needed. Children's Bibles and Bible Verse cards will be given away and games will be available.
- On Father's Day, Sunday, June 16, cookies will be made and distributed to the men of the church.
- Planning is underway for the Congregational Retreat, which will be held on Saturday, August 24. The committee will meet Wednesday, June 5 at 6 PM.

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

- Boundary Training, as required by the Book of Order, was conducted for Session on April 30, 2024. The training was facilitated by a recorded video link provided by the Presbytery.



**FINANCIAL HEALTH UPDATE – APRIL 2024**

**Church Operating Fund Income**

| Account Description                   | April—2024         | Year-to-Date<br>2024 | 2024<br>Budget      |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Offering Income                       | \$22,731.00        | \$113,997.00         | \$262,571.00        |
| Other Income                          | \$4,224.34         | \$25,353.66          | \$63,415.00         |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>                   | <b>\$26,955.34</b> | <b>\$139,350.66</b>  | <b>\$325,986.00</b> |
| <b>Church Operating Fund Expenses</b> |                    |                      |                     |
| Spiritual Life                        | \$458.86           | \$1,424.42           | \$14,750.00         |
| Education & Nurture                   | \$0.00             | \$26.40              | \$3,400.00          |
| Interpretation & Stewardship          | \$0.00             | \$5,148.00           | \$5,648.00          |
| Home Ministry                         | \$2,677.73         | \$13,402.11          | \$87,100.00         |
| Church Administration                 | \$17,646.27        | \$68,220.72          | \$215,088.00        |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>                 | <b>\$20,782.86</b> | <b>\$88,221.65</b>   | <b>\$325,986.00</b> |
| <b>INCOME minus EXPENSES</b>          | <b>\$6,172.48</b>  | <b>\$51,129.01</b>   | <b>\$0.00</b>       |

**Church Operating Fund Checking Account Balance as of 4/30/2024: \$110,072.04**

**Mission Opportunities/Missionaries Fund Income**

| Account Description | April—2024        | Year-to-Date<br>2024 | 2024<br>Budget     |
|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Offering Income     | \$8,095.25        | \$43,650.25          | \$91,200.00        |
| Other Income        | \$535.41          | \$1,643.73           | \$500.00           |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b> | <b>\$8,630.66</b> | <b>\$45,293.98</b>   | <b>\$91,700.00</b> |

**Mission Opportunities/Missionaries Fund Expenses**

|                              |                   |                    |                    |
|------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>        | <b>\$8,913.35</b> | <b>\$40,112.35</b> | <b>\$91,700.00</b> |
| <b>INCOME minus EXPENSES</b> | <b>-\$282.69</b>  | <b>\$5,181.63</b>  | <b>\$0.00</b>      |

**Missions Checking Account Balance as of 4/30/2024: \$6,155.88**

**Notable expenses for April: Missionary Support to SAT-7 of \$6,600**

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

*Li'l Ripples* June 2024



Pastor

Rev. Dr. Mark Englund-Krieger



Sunday Morning Worship

Summer Schedule  
Starting June 2nd  
One Service at 10:00 AM  
Nursery Available

Summer Church Office Information

Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Phone Number 717-642-5332  
Email Address [office@lmcpc.org](mailto:office@lmcpc.org)  
Website [www.lmcpc.org](http://www.lmcpc.org)

Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church Mission Statement

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

*Li'l Ripples* - Editor, Fay Hess - 717-476-5682 or [lilripples@gmail.com](mailto:lilripples@gmail.com)