



Li'l Ripples

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Next newsletter deadline:
Friday, May 20
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Message from the Pastor

Your Favorite Easter

One of the beauties and mysteries of our Holy Bible is the variety of stories we have which tell the story of Easter. There is a whole collection of Easter stories, all of them are fruitful passages for preaching and all of them important passages for our spiritual growth in Christ. Which Easter story is your favorite?

- † Matthew 28:2 tells of the Easter morning “violent earthquake” and the angel of the Lord who “came down from heaven . . . rolled back the stone and sat on it.”
- † Matthew 28:13: Only Matthew includes the conspiracy theory about the disciples stealing the body of Jesus out of the tomb, and thus faking the resurrection of Jesus.
- † Mark 16: The last chapter of Mark is one of the greatest mysteries in the New Testament. There are actually two Easter stories: Mark 16:1- 9 and Mark 16:9-20. What is the relationship between these two? Why does Mark have this kind of odd and disjointed final chapter?
- † Luke 24:13-35: Only Luke includes, with great detail, the story of the resurrected Jesus walking along and talking with two pilgrims on the Road to Emmaus. This story has inspired many works of art through the generations. Luke writes this story beautifully, with lots of detail, nuance and depth.
- † Luke 24:36-49: In this passage Luke combines and rushes through many details of Easter morning which John's Gospel teases apart and develops at greater length.
- † Luke 24:51: In this final paragraph in Luke's Gospel we have the story of the Ascension, which is not included in the other three Gospels. “While Jesus was blessing them, he left them, and was taken up into heaven.”
- † John chapters 20 and 21: The fourth Gospel has two long chapters of Easter stories. The resurrected Christ enters through locked doors and greets the disciples, “Peace be with you!” (John 20:19). The resurrected Christ encouraged Peter to fish some more and Peter catches 153 fish, and then comes into the shore to have a fish breakfast with the Lord (John 21: 11). Only in John, does Jesus convince Thomas (John 20:27), and reconcile with Peter after Peter's moment of spiritual weakness and betrayal (John 21:15). The Gospel of John gets my vote for favorite Easter story. The resurrected Jesus quietly whispers Mary's name (John 20:16). And in that tender moment all doubt is cast out, all grief at this death is healed, and Mary rejoices.

He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!
Mark



Church Life Announcements



National Day of Prayer We are opening our LMCPCC sanctuary on May 5th, beginning at 3PM and ending at 6PM, to pray for our country. The Theme is: Pray for America "Exalt the Lord Who has Established Us" (Colossians 2:6-7): The format will be an open house, with these hours available for anyone to come to our beautiful sanctuary and pray silently for our country. Guiding scriptures and prayers will be provided when you arrive. Please come and use the **power of prayer** to guide our leaders and keep our country out of harm's way.



Couple's Study Group — Al and Lynn Miller, 1055 Green Ridge Road, Orrtanna, invite all married couples to their home on May 14th beginning at 5:30PM for our monthly Couple's Study Group. Please bring a covered dish or dessert to share. We will continue our study in the book "A Couple After God's Own Heart" with the story of Ruth and Boaz. You can also read the book of Ruth in the Bible to prepare. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Please sign up today so you don't miss this wonderful time of good food and fellowship as we strengthen our marriages.

The Women's Guild — will meet May 19th at 1:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. All women of the church are invited for fellowship, food and fun. Come join us!

Sunday Morning Adult Study — Our Sunday morning group begins a discussion of N.T. Wright's book "Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church. Our discussion will be led by Wright himself through a DVD. Wright focuses on two questions: What are we waiting for? And what are we going to do about it in the meantime? He focuses on our ultimate hope - resurrection and eternal life and the discovery of hope within our present world. Any questions, see Susan Nunamaker or Doyle Waybright.

Attention VBS volunteers: Thank you for volunteering to help with the Fairfield VBS, June 13-17. Please see Ben Miner to ensure you have the proper background checks for volunteering at the Fairfield VBS. If you volunteer, **you will need these documents.**

SIGN-UP TO WATER AND WEED: There is a sign-up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board for interested volunteers to sign-up for a week or more to help with the weekly summer watering and weeding of the flowers and plants on the church property. Thanks for what you will do to help make and keep our church property beautiful. Any questions, please contact Alicia DeHoff, Pat Diehl, Susan Nunamaker, Jenny Waybright.

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

(Continued on next page)

Church Directory Photos - It's (almost) time for pictures! Please save the following dates to get your pictures taken for the new church directory.



Thursday August 25: 2:00 - 8:30pm

Friday August 26: 2:00 - 8:30pm

Saturday August 27: 10:30 - 4:00pm

There will be more details as we get closer to those dates. Thank you.

Congregational Church Retreat - "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. And love your neighbor as yourself." - Our theme for this year's Church Retreat. If this sounds like a tall order and you sometimes wonder how to do that – please join us on Saturday, August 13th at Camp Eder on the Mt. Hope Road near Fairfield. Our annual retreat is once

*You shall **love the Lord your God**
with all your heart,
and with all your soul,
and with all your strength,
and with all your mind;
and your **neighbor** as yourself.*

again FREE this year for all ages. We will gather at 9:30AM in the camp's air-conditioned main building where drinks and breakfast snacks will be provided. This day will be filled with programs, workshops, and activities. In the morning, Pastor Mark will lead the adults, while Miss Shirley and others will share Bible stories and activities with the children. A nutritious and delicious lunch and dinner will be served in the AC main building. Everyone will be invited to participate in an artist led step-by-step

painting session or making an artist led wood craft piece. The camp has a swimming pool, hiking trails, quiet areas for meditating, a creek for wading and a few other surprise things to try, and we will give you plenty of time to do these. The day will end around dusk with a service led by Pastor Mark and our musicians in the camp's cozy chapel on top of the hill overlooking beautiful Carrolls' Valley. Please prayerfully consider joining our church family for a day of fellowship, faith and fun. Watch for the sign-up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board beginning June 5th.

May Birthdays

1 — Richard Hagee	16 — Carol Moser
2 — Lynn Miller	19 — Al Miller
7 — Tim Myers	21 — Lucas Crumbaker
9 — Cathy Michaliga	21 — Ethan Miner
13 — Elaine Reichl	25 — Leonard Orleski
13 — Doris Wampler	27 — Sallie Sites



Best Wishes! Enjoy your special day!

AFGHAN REFUGEE FAMILY UPDATE

The cultural committee is rolling with a bicycle project (pun intended!). Researching how to “house” up to 10 bicycles, considering the possibility of building a shelter, dealing with borough requirements for set-backs and permeable surfaces, locating a heavy-duty bike rack with large tarp cover, and making decisions on safety equipment (bike helmets for all) and rules of the road instruction, not to mention acquiring appropriate bicycles in good condition along with racks and panniers for shopping trips, and orienting family to safer routes, has turned into a major project!

They may still need a couple of men’s or unisex bicycles in good condition with supply tires. They are being selective so that they don’t collect bicycles that aren’t matched to family needs. Anyone with a possible donation should email Tom Jolin at jolin@pa.net and leave your phone number. Also, anyone with bicycle maintenance skills would be treated like “royalty” by the cultural committee! The absence of a family car (and an extended process for achieving driver’s licenses) lends an added urgency to providing a little transportation independence for the family, in addition to the recreational value of bicycling!

Last month we reported that the family was interested in growing some of their own food. Penn State Extension in Gettysburg has given the family a garden plot which they are looking forward to planting (tools will be provided for them to use).

Religion/Culture: The local and greater Islamic communities in the area have made their welcome known with recent events! Friendly Muslims in the Gettysburg area have provided transportation and social interaction during occasional trips to an Islamic Mosque in nearby towns for prayer services. The most expansive opportunity to meet and socialize with other immigrants and the Islamic community came with an invitation from the Refugee Welcoming Committee (RWC) of Frederick, with an invitation to attend a new year/spring festival March 26 with other displaced Afghan families resettled in Frederick. On an icy and changeable weather day, blessed by sun, ice, snow, wind, more sun, sleet and a beautiful rainbow, the family attended, accompanied by three refugee resettlement partnership drivers. Social connection was strong, relationships with former companions at the Fort Dix safe haven base were renewed, a delicious meal was enjoyed, with a little volleyball and other activities shared. The family came home with gifts of food and items for the younger ones, with promises of visits in the future, possibly the greatest treasure of the day.

Ramadan: The month of Ramadan began on April 2. A group from the committee took a four-week series which provided information on how they could help support the family during this time. Here is a link to an article, based on the unique Ramadan series offered by the national UCC (the article includes a photo of the Fort Dix refugee camp in New Jersey, where the family stayed for six months): religion-news.com/2022/04/01/ucc-webinars-help-churches-understand-afghans-celebrating-ramadan-in-a-new-country/. Islam is the fastest-growing religion in the world with more than 1.6 billion adherents and Ramadan, its holiest month, is observed by fasting from food and water from sunup to sundown. Ramadan recalls the 30 days the Prophet Muhammad spent in the wilderness, where, Muslims believe, he first received the Quran, their holy book.

A message from Rayna Cooper, RRP Coordinator: “Thanks to all of you in our community who have provided support in the form of food, gift cards, Rabbittransit tickets, bicycles, clothing, toys and volunteer hours!”



MISSION ADVOCATE RECENT CORRESPONDENCE

A Message from the Presbytery of Carlisle

Thanks for your generosity! We've received word that through an outpouring of generous support from members of Derry Presbyterian Church along with members and churches of Carlisle Presbytery, and community members, Derry Church was able to provide, with matching funds from the Session, \$71,500 to help our neighbors in Ukraine. The funds were split between two organizations: CARE International and Voices of Children Foundation in Ukraine.

In addition, in the month of March, the Presbytery of Carlisle received \$1,307 in gifts to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and/or One Great Hour of Sharing. We know that many of our churches continue to invite Ukraine relief offerings that will be shared directly with relief agencies, such as PDA. And 32% of our One Great Hour of Sharing offerings go to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

At this time, as we pray fervently for peace, our financial gifts are already at work assisting those who have been displaced by war. In the humanitarian crisis faced by the people of Ukraine and surrounding countries, PDA is working with partners to provide basic items for survival.

Child Evangelism Fellowship of Adams County



CEF
CHILD EVANGELISM
FELLOWSHIP®

CEF offers a special thank you to volunteers and supporters who helped open up their driveway to make it more accessible. Tree trunks were removed to make it easier to turn around and leave safely from the office. Central airconditioning was added to the ministry house. A white board and chairs were donated to create a conference

room for meetings, and they were able to make some purchases for the office to make their systems more secure.

Upcoming CEF events include an open house at the Apple Museum from 1-3 on May 21. On June 4, CEF will be a part of a Family Fun Day at Trinity Christian Fellowship in Biglerville. Then June 5-8, they will be teaching children at each of the services held at Revival on the Farm. June 28 & 30 and July 5 & 7, the CEF office and ministry house will be open for visitation by anyone interested.

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Compassion International Children

Brayan writes that he is enjoying all the activities at the "CDI." They practice sports and the one he likes the most is soccer. He also practices free running with his friends. He says that CDI teaches him to always love God and his friends. His favorite story in the Bible is the birth of our Lord Jesus and knowing that he was born in a manger is wonderful. He is also being taught to love nature and take care of it since we have great benefits from it. Nature, which gives us food and oxygen, is a blessing from God. Brayan thanks us for our letter and pictures and for the gift we sent. He bought clothes, shoes, groceries, and construction materials. He asks for help to pray so that God will fill him with wisdom so that he can do well in his studies and for God to take care of his family. He would love to hear from us about what we like to do most in our free time with our family and what sport we like to "practice."



Sergio writes to thank us for our gift which he used to buy clothes and groceries. He has been to the countryside with his family. He went to the river to see his uncle's animals and he also helped move his uncle's things from the city to the countryside. He is happy that his uncle is going to have a son who will be his cousin. Sergio is working for the first time and is being taught how to lay parquet on the floor. He reports that he has been to the dentist and that his mother taught him how to cook rice pudding. Sergio prays for us and sends many hugs. He asks that we pray for his mom so that she is in good health and to also pray for her work. He asks for prayers for his uncles so that they are healthy and get to know God. He asks for prayers for himself that he does not get infected with Covid, prayers for the Compassion project so that all the tutors are doing well, and for his studies that will start soon.



DiscipleMakers



**DISCIPLEMAKERS
CHRISTIAN
FELLOWSHIP**
AT GETTYSBURG COLLEGE

Unexpected conversations - Six months ago Kevin met with student leaders at Penn State York to train them in evangelism. Kevin says, First, we talked about it. Then God gave us an opportunity to practice. Together we shared the gospel with a young man named Finn.

He responded well, but then he seemed to disappear. For months, we barely saw him. We continued sharing the gospel with other students, keeping an eye out for Finn. Then one day, God brought Finn to our Bible study. He participated as we discussed Jesus' life and ministry in the gospel of Mark. He listened as we talked about the need to believe in Jesus for the forgiveness of our sins. Hours later, Finn dropped by our table in the dining hall and asked Maria a question, how does someone believe in Jesus? Maria opened her Bible to Romans and shared the gospel again. The three of us talked, answering his questions. Eventually Finn's questions began to slow down, so I asked a few of my own. Would you like to put your faith in Jesus

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as your Savior today? Finn said, yes! We talked about the costs of following Jesus. Then I asked, would you like to pray and tell God that you want to trust in Jesus for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life? Finn said "yes" again, then prayed out loud with us. The following week, I sat down with Finn and gave him a Bible. He opened up about some struggles with mental health, and we prayed together. Then Finn joined us again for Bible study. Though he didn't say much, he seemed to be thinking hard as we studied Mark 9. Finn left quickly after the study, heading to class, but a couple hours later, he returned with another question. Can you take this? he asked, setting a lighter and a pack of cigarettes on the table. The Bible study convicted me that I think I should stop smoking. But every time I try to throw these out, I just dig them out of the trash again. Can you throw them out for me? I agreed, and together we prayed again. I marveled at how God was working in Finn, and at Finn's willingness to share vulnerably about his struggles. Please pray for Finn, that God would grow his faith and help him plug into our community on campus!

Simeon - After months of ongoing ear infections, Simeon will be having surgery in April to get tubes placed in his ears to help them drain. He is currently showing some hearing loss which should be restored once the tubes are in place.

Thomas and Cheri Henry



A message from the Henrys: There is a battle raging - many in fact. Ukraine is right before our eyes. But also in Syria, Yemen, Myanmar and China, to name a few. Meanwhile a cosmic war has been raging unseen for millennia. Though we often don't understand it, all of us can feel its effects - that most important battle raging in our own hearts. We wrestle with the powers of sin and death on a daily basis. In fact, our sin causes such conflicts, whether on the battlefield or in society or on ministry teams or in our own homes. Our sin is why Jesus suffered and laid down his life at the cross. Pray global workers no lose sight of the cosmic war, as well as the daily, ongoing, spiritual battle raging in their own hearts, families, teams, and in the hearts of those they're trying to reach. Pray workers are strengthened with power through the Spirit in their inner being.

Over the last year, a series of ailments have frustrated the Henrys and made life challenging for Thomas - the ongoing pain of herniated disks; a recent cyst removed from his finger; a series of pulled muscles in his arm and neck; not to mention the constant battle with skin cancer spots removed every few months; and hopefully an upcoming doctor's appointment will reveal the cause of acute pain in his groin that will likely need some sort of intervention. All slight and momentary compared to what some of you are facing. However, these mini setbacks are like wages that keep pounding and hindering the routines Thomas hoped to find during this season of restoration. Pray with the Henrys over the next month, that God would intervene and bring a halt to these attacks on Thomas' body. That he would bring comfort, strength, healing & relief. Pray that nothing would interfere with Thomas finding healthy routines of walking, meeting with other men, exercise, and better sleep.

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Also, there is a new deputy in town - Lucy is a 4-year-old Australian Shepherd. Fostering this dog is proving to be very therapeutic ... for all three of us! She's a work in progress as we train her for a future owner.



Dori Hjalmarson



My grandmother, who will turn 90 this year, will scoff when she reads that I credit her influence with my current position as a pastor serving in the mission field. Her husband, my grandfather, was a pastor serving in the Presbyterian mission field in the 1950's. When my newlywed grandmother left Maryville, Tennessee, to join him in Ganado, Arizona, her church lady friends compared her to Narcissa Whitman, supposedly the first white woman to cross the Rocky Mountains and who was among those killed in a conflict with Cayuse resisters and land defenders. How well we have maintained this misty, soft-focus image of colonist and conquistador European and white American missionaries of the 18th and 19th centuries! Grandma scoffed then, too. She was getting on a plane in 1954, after all, not riding a horse in 1947. But it was a sacrifice in 1954, and it is a sacrifice in 2022 for mission workers to leave family and homelands to serve in a new place, even though it is also a privilege.

As I write this at the end of February 2022, I have been in the United States, working remotely, for three months. The distance and isolation of being a mission co-worker at the end of 2021 had taken a toll on my mental and spiritual health, and my family in the United States is coping with the aging and care of my grandmother. In consultation with Honduran church colleagues and my World Mission supervisors, I chose to spend a few months focusing on my relationship with my grandmother and respite for her primary caregiver, my mother. I did not make this decision lightly. As a U.S. immigrant living in a Latin American country, with a comfortable salary and work that can be done on any computer with an Internet connection, I have enormous privilege. I have friends from Honduras who, at this moment, have separated from their children to seek asylum in the United States, while they wonder if they will ever be able to reunite. My separation from my family was one I chose, one that I was called to, and one that I can choose to end at any time. So many people do not have the same choice.

When I return to Honduras in a month's time, I will cherish the everyday, humdrum conversations with my grandmother, reminiscing about trips we once took and about her life as a mission pastor's wife. I will cherish the Sunday afternoons we spent organizing her Christmas ornaments and collaborating to cook dinner and do the dishes. I will cherish the new ways of connecting that life in the 21st century affords us. I will return to Honduras with a new understanding of the call to sacrifice that God has made for me and my grandmother - as followers of Christ, we have made sacrifices, but we are not the martyrs in the story. We are called to struggle not for death but for life abundant in all the world - not only in our own home, church, denomination, or homeland but for all creation.

I want to thank all the friends and family who have supported me financially and morally in the past four years I have been serving in Honduras. I feel your friendship and care from afar, and I ask that you continue to pray for me and to reach out by phone or email. Thank you for being my community of support.



A TRIBUTE TO MY DEAR FRIEND AND PARTNER IN MUSIC, EVELYN GANAS



What a difference a day makes. I started writing this newsletter article early. And then I got a phone call from Pastor Mark. My article, and my world, changed immediately.

Last month my article featured the following sentences which I certainly hope she read: "And on a personal, and musical note, many thanks to Evelyn Ganas for faithfully playing the piano to embellish our hymns. She always has my back, literally and figuratively!"

My heart broke knowing there would be no more duets, no more conversation, no more giggles, no more support from Evelyn. She and her beloved husband were tragically killed in an automobile accident while traveling from a family wedding in Florida. While driving through North Carolina they were enroute to visit some dear friends who had visited our church with them just a few weeks ago.

Evelyn told me all about her travel plans and was so excited to see her relatives, finally, after two years of Covid-19 restrictions. She assured me she would be here on Easter to play the hymns with me. Obviously, God had a different plan for her and her beloved husband, Dimitri. Certainly, we can find comfort that they are still together. I had the pleasure of seeing their loving smiles every Sunday morning.

I loved Evelyn. She was small but mighty. She published a Builder/Architect Magazine and could still wear her tailored wardrobe. She was an amazing mother who was so proud of her children and grandchildren. She was a gardener extraordinaire. Her garden was her gym! She loved her dog, Homer, who she cared for during his cancer. And she lovingly cared for her husband during his recent knee surgeries. She told me it was appropriate that she lived on Hospital Road since she was serving as a nurse!

Evelyn loved music and playing the piano and the organ and singing in our Faithful Voices. Once a month she played at Eyer's Valley Chapel. Each week I gave her the hymns for Sunday services and her dear husband Dimitri enlarged them for her. She was always ready to share her God-given talents! I will sorely miss her.

Evelyn loved her life and had many friends. She was a great cook/baker and loved to entertain. Evelyn's sticky buns were a special treat. Her story about the Amish pool party she hosted was classic! She had already signed up three of her friends to share their talents for our summer worship services. And she had a favorite member of our LMCPG congregation, her brother-in-law, Roy Weaner. She and June Weaner were sisters.

Evelyn loved her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. She posted the following on Facebook, and had it taken down, and she reposted it! "If My people, which are called by My name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from Heaven, and forgive their sin, and will heal their land." (2 Chronicles 7:14).

May Evelyn join the other beloved saints of Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church as they gaze upon His face! Evelyn, you will live in the hearts of the LMCPG Music Team forever.

May music selections include Faithful Voices on May 1, 8, and 22. Wires and Wood will perform on May 15. Dirk and his visiting musicians will perform on May 29, and the Bells of Faith will perform on June 5.

Linda Clark

Quilts, Blankets, Etc. For Ukraine

As I watched the news of the devastation in Ukraine I felt helpless. I'm sure you felt the same emotion! I kept wondering how we could help in a tangible way. Then I saw the flyer! A woman in Schellsburg, PA has arranged for a logistics company, AIT Worldwide Logistics, to air-freight donated quilts and blankets to refugees in Poland, at their expense. The Amazing Grace Quilting group of the Orrtanna United Methodist Church began right away to make quilts for children in the colors of the Ukrainian flag. We managed to piece and quilt 8 small quilts. Most are backed with fleece to give a soft, cuddly feel. By the way, our quilting group is made up of mostly Presbyterians from LMC: Arlene Wright, Sue Welsh, and Karen Richardson played a big role in this effort

And The Stitchers of Lower Marsh Creek donated 8 knitted and crocheted baby blankets, as well. Susie Bechtel is our queen of knitted baby blankets and Judy Williams is our master crocheter of baby blankets. We added prayer cloths, with an attached prayer, made by others (Mary Smith, Lauren Neely, Shirley Aldrich, Sue Welsh, and Shirley Breslin) in the stitching group. The receiving moms will have a small token of comfort from us, as well. We know our effort is a small drip in the bucket, compared to the overwhelming need, but at least a few babies and children will feel the love of our two churches. After all is said and done, the entire donation effort, from USA quilters, will amount to, at last count, over 300 quilts/blankets. Pictures of our donated items are below and on the next page. - Cathy Michaliga







Dear Ministry Partner,

We received your contribution in the amount of \$6,200.00. Thank you for your generous support.

Over 15 years had passed since Nathaniel and Trudy, Christar workers in Japan, had last heard from Saotome. As a second grader, Saotome had begun attending English class outreaches and Sunday school at the church plant where this couple served. But by her high school and college years, she had drifted away from the church. Saotome never forgot the truth she learned as a young person, however. After moving back to her hometown to care for her sick father, she reconnected with Nathaniel and Trudy, and she soon started studying the Bible with them. As she asked questions and explored Scripture, it became clear that God had been continually working in her heart, nurturing the seeds that had been planted in her childhood, and she declared her faith in Jesus as her Savior.

The following year, Saotome was baptized, and she's been faithfully sharing the hope she has in Christ with her father, trusting that God will use her witness just as He worked through Nathaniel and Trudy's ministry in her own life.

Christar workers don't always see the fruit of the ministry in the short term, and some never know how God uses their efforts. But I praise God they continue to devote themselves to the work of the Lord, believing Paul's assurance to the Corinthian believers: "You know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain" (*1 Corinthians 15:58*).

Our service for our Savior is never meaningless! As you stand behind the work of Christar, our sovereign Lord is using your prayers and gifts to accomplish His purposes among the least-reached in His time. Thank you for your faithful ministry as we together trust God to draw people from every nation into His Body.

R Stephen Coffey, Christar U.S. Director

Dear Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church,

For more than 30 years the Gettysburg Community Soup Kitchen has been providing a friendly environment where adults and children can come to meet their needs for both food and fellowship. Since 1991, our total meals served exceeds 300,000 with 15,417 in 2021.

We received your donation of \$384.00. I wish to extend our warmest thanks on behalf of our guests. Steady blessings such as yours enable us to continue to fulfill our mission of feeding the hungry each year.

In 2021, the Soup Kitchen served a nutritious mid-day meal to an average of 40 persons daily. In addition to our meals, guests can select one or two items daily from our giveaway basket, take unlimited items of baked goods, fresh vegetables and fruits, toiletries, and overstocked canned goods.

We look forward to your continued support and invite you to come and visit us at the Soup Kitchen where you can see your contribution at work.

Thank you again,

Sandy Lutz, Operations Director

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On behalf of C.A.R.E.S., Elaine and I wish to thank all of our hosts: Sandy Buhrman, Alicia Dehoff, Pat Diehl, Susan Nunamaker, Sue Welsh, Ray & Arlene Wright and van drivers: Lee Bentz, Joe Jackson, Tim Myers, Jim Richardson, Randy Smith, Doyle Waybright, Jim Welsh, and Ray Wright for their tireless efforts on behalf of the neediest in our community during C.A.R.E.S. week!

We also want to thank Stephanie Kann for preparing personal care products, and Tim Myers for providing our guests with a travel kit for their care needs.

Without this collective effort, this wonderful ministry would die. Providing a warm and dry shelter for the needy among of us during the winter months is most critical during this time of the year. LMCPD provided shelter for 117 guests during this two-week period.

Elaine and I would also like to thank Barbara Schwartz for all of her contributions, in the weeks and months leading up to C.A.R.E.S.; Phyllis Doyle, for her continuing support of the C.A.R.E.S. effort; Lower Marsh Creek Presbyterian Church for providing an overnight shelter for our homeless friends; Richard Hagee, for keeping the Fellowship Hall and restrooms neat and clean each and every day (much appreciated!); and, finally, Pastor Mark for his continued leadership and support of this ministry.

Finally, we want to thank the ownership of North Gettysburg Laundry Center for covering the cost of washing and drying all of the guests' blankets, free of charge!

Sincerely,

Elaine and Joe Reichl

Dear Mark, Joe, Elaine and LMCPD Members,

Thanks so much for hosting us for the past two weeks. Just sorry we didn't have more guests for you! It's an interesting year! Also, thanks to all those who were hosts and to Joe and Elaine for organizing this so well. It is good to have some new people to add to our volunteer pool.

Thanks again for being part of this ministry to our homeless.

Lenten Blessings,

Mary Stevenson

Dear L.M.C.P. Church family,

Thank you all so much for inviting us to play music for your Winter Banquet! Thank you for the wonderful food as well. We all enjoyed meeting and chatting with you all too! Thank you for a wonderful day and again for having us.

Wyatt, Rebekah and Alayna (The Derr Family)

Whispering Creek Bluegrass

The Giving Corner

Define Stewardship

In studying Ecclesiastes, our Sunday School class is learning the difference between looking at “life under the sun” (the secular viewpoint; not considering God) and “life from the hand of God” (the spiritual viewpoint; knowing God). How do each of these viewpoints define STERWARDSHIP.

“Under the Sun” Version: Webster defines stewardship as the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one’s care. Another definition is: an ethic that embodies the responsible planning and management of resources applied to the environment, economics, health, property, information, theology, etc. It can be linked to sustainability. Another definition: the act of caring for or improving with time and yet another: the job of supervising or taking care of something, such as an organization or property. All very worthy of our attention and something we should strive to accomplish, don’t you agree? Let’s look at another viewpoint!

“From the Hand of God” Version: In the Holman Bible Dictionary stewardship is defined as: utilizing and managing all resources God provides for the glory of God and the betterment of His creation. The obligation of Christians in managing and utilizing intelligently the gifts God has given. God is owner and man is manager; we are God’s co-workers! This version gives new meaning and depth to the word stewardship. It reminds us that everything we have belongs to and comes from God! For us, as Christians, stewardship should be our spiritual way of life with very practical implications! It points to our purpose for living – to serve God and others! It takes us from a mindset of scarcity to one of abundance; it leads us to recognize and respond to the grace of God in our lives. It gets us out of the trap of selfish, self-centeredness freeing us to live for God and others. Now, all that is truly worthy of our attention and what we must strive to accomplish with God’s help!

Welcome to a new monthly column from your Interpretation and Stewardship Team! Join us each month as we “interpret stewardship” together. Stewardship is not just about giving money to the church; it is way more than that! On our journey we will delve into the many facets of stewardship as it shows us our dependence on God; our need for an attitude of gratitude; why we should give back; how transforming it can be; the meaning of participation in our church family; being accountable to our God and others; and how it all fits into discipleship!

Until next month please remember this little poem called “*I Shall Pass*” by Etienne de Grellet, a Quaker Missionary:

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.



STEWARDSHIP

Managing God’s Gifts To Us



From the Clerk's Desk

The Session held their regular meeting on April 18, 2022 at 6:00 PM in the fellowship hall with Rev. Mark Englund-Krieger serving as moderator. Here are highlights from actions taken at that meeting:

- Membership as of 4/18/2022: Active Members (AM = CA): 160, Baptized Members (BM = FP): 65 and Family Members: 51.
- The Interpretation and Stewardship Team continues to monitor all church finances. Please see the monthly report in this issue for March on page 18 as well as the first quarter report of special and designated accounts and investments on page 19 . We thank you for your continued generosity and financial support!
- ⦿ *Approved the following events and business items:*
 - Saturday, June 11: Couples Group to meet at the home of Pat and Dave Diehl.
 - Saturday, June 25 – Marriage Retreat fundraiser at Totem Pole Playhouse to see “The Sound of Music.”
 - Saturday, July 9 – Couples Group to meet at the home of Dirk and Pam Grove.
 - Friday, August 5: Marriage Retreat fundraiser at Totem Pole Playhouse to see “Footloose”.
 - Sunday, September 18 – Budget Conversation with the congregation between services in the fellowship hall with breakfast pastries.
 - Sunday, October 16: Stewardship Sunday.
 - Elected Elders Doyle Waybright and Susan Nunamaker as commissioners to the Presbytery meeting to be held on May 3. This is a special meeting for Lower Marsh Creek as Inquirer Lynn Miller will be examined by the Presbytery to move to Candidate in her journey to Ordination to be a Minister of the Word and Sacrament.
- ⦿ *News from the Home Ministry Team - maintains the church property and cemetery*
 - Team Members: Alicia DeHoff, chair; Susan Nunamaker and Jim Richardson
 - The work to extend the cemetery parking lot is expected to be completed sometime in the month of May.
 - A new power supply has been ordered for the wireless microphones in the sanctuary.
 - Session approved that Desco Services install a new air conditioning system in the sanctuary at a cost of \$18,299.00. The funds to pay this will be taken from the Capital Improvements Fund.
 - Rental fees for the manse of \$1,100.00 per month and the white house at \$800.00 per month will remain the same at this time.

(Continued on next page)

- ◎ *News from the Interpretation and Stewardship Team - manages church finances and mission support*
 - Team members: Karen Golden, chair; Ray Wright and Doyle Waybright
 - Elder Jim Richardson has agreed to be the new LMC Coordinator to Habitat for Humanity.
 - This year we have four recipients for the Virginia Woods Scholarship: Aimee Metz, a member of LMC now attending Shippensburg University; Jenna Leedy, granddaughter of the Wamplers, now attending James Madison University; Emma Dennison of Fairfield, PA, graduating from Fairfield High School and attending Seton Hill University in the fall; and Hannah Best of Fairfield, PA, graduating from Fairfield High School and attending Harrisburg Community College in the fall. The scholarships will be presented during worship on Sunday, June 12. An article highlighting these recipients will be in the June edition of Li'l Ripples.
 - A check in the amount of \$5,153.00 was forwarded to the Presbyterian Disaster Relief for Ukraine. Thank you for your amazing and loving generosity for the people of Ukraine!
 - Approved a new policy: Residual Special Project Funds which states that any funds given for a special project that are remaining at the completion of the project will be transferred to the Church Operating Fund.
 - Reported that a gift of \$25,990.74 was received from the Estate of Dorothy Neely. This money has been designated for Cemetery Projects as stated in the will.
- ◎ *News from the Spiritual Life Team - oversees the spiritual life of the church as well as fellowship, education and music in the church*
 - Team members: Cathy Michaliga, chair; Lynn Miller and Dirk Grove
 - A new Welcome banner will be hung in the office entrance to the education building.
 - Plans for the Celebration Picnic following Pastor Mark's Installation on July 17 are underway. We will have a Pig Roast combined with the Ice Cream Social. Mark your calendars for this important day in the life of our church!
 - New Church Directory photo dates have been set for: Thursday, August 25 from 2 – 8:30 PM, Friday, August 26 from 2 – 8:30 PM and Saturday, August 27 from 10:30 AM to 4:00 PM.
 - The sanctuary will be open from 3:00 – 6:00 PM on Thursday, May 5 for the National Day of Prayer. Pastor Mark will lead prayer on the hour.



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

Food Pantry

I met with Pastor Brenda to see if there are any special needs for the Fairfield Food Pantry. With warm weather coming, she suggested picnic condiments such as ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, relish, etc. Crackers such as graham and saltines are always welcome. She also suggested cleaning items such as Lysol and Mr. Clean are always needed. On my most recent trip to the food pantry, I delivered several bags of food and personal hygiene items.- Arlene Wright

From The Deacons

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

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

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

Doris Wampler, Moderator

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

Transportation Ministry

Attendees of LMC having a transportation need should call one of the following drivers directly to arrange for a date, time, and destination. If none of these volunteers can meet your need, please call Jim Welsh (717-377-5370).

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

FINANCIAL HEALTH UPDATE – MARCH 2022

Church Operating Fund Income

Account Description	March - 2022	Year-to-Date 2022	2022 Budget
Offering Income	\$23,619.00	\$87,130.66	\$284,948.00
Other Income	\$1,755.73	\$16,255.50	\$25,050.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$25,374.73	\$103,386.16	\$309,998.00
Church Operating Fund Expenses			
Spiritual Life	\$1,572.70	\$5,141.82	\$16,450.00
Education & Nurture	\$130.98	\$163.23	\$5,050.00
Interpretation & Stewardship	\$0.00	\$4,988.00	\$5,988.00
Home Ministry	\$2,683.61	\$9,869.07	\$74,500.00
Church Administration	\$13,590.73	\$44,702.53	\$208,010.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$17,978.02	\$64,864.65	\$309,998.00
INCOME minus EXPENSES	\$7,396.71	\$38,521.51	\$0.00

Church Operating Fund Checking Account Balance as of 3/31/2022: \$90,864.03

Mission Opportunities/Missionaries Fund Income

Account Description	March - 2022	Year-to-Date 2022	2022 Budget
Offering Income	\$5,241.00	\$27,041.00	\$76,800.00
Other Income	\$204.40	\$902.31	\$1,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$5,445.40	\$27,943.31	\$77,800.00

Mission Opportunities/Missionaries Fund Expenses

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$7,490.00	\$26,579.90	\$77,800.00
INCOME minus EXPENSES	-\$2,044.60	\$1,363.41	\$0.00

Missions Checking Account Balance as of 3/31/2022: \$4,547.62

Notable expenses for March include: \$1,121.30 – Winter Banquet

FIRST QUARTER REPORT — 2022**INVESTMENTS**

Account Description	Opening Balance 1/1/2022	Deposits	Expenses	Unrealized Gains/Losses	Closing Balance 3/31/2022
Capitol Improvement Fund	\$177,212.57	\$4,450.00	\$0.00	-\$13,553.39	\$168,109.18
Cemetery Fund	\$5,034.60	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$165.04	\$4,869.56
Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund	\$154,106.58	\$1,772.95	\$0.00	-\$6,225.72	\$149,653.51
Mission Endowment Fund	\$158,488.46	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$8,425.53	\$150,062.93
Woods Scholarship Fund	\$106,912.87	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$3,538.42	\$103,374.45
David Scott Youth Fund	\$104,174.44	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,727.15	\$107,901.59
			Total Investments:		\$683,980.11

DESIGNATED/RESTRICTED FUNDS

Account Description	Opening Balance 1/1/2022	Deposits	Expenses	Closing Balance 3/31/2022
Sound Technology	\$565.12	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$565.12
Marriage Retreat	\$7,827.52	\$1,755.00	\$4,697.00	\$4,885.52
Cemetery Benches	\$80.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$80.00
Sanctuary Flowers	\$1,440.28	\$780.00	\$984.50	\$1,235.78
Men's Breakfast	\$124.33	\$71.00	\$6.38	\$188.95
Bulletins	\$615.03	\$0.00	\$102.35	\$512.68
Pastor's Study Leave	\$2,916.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,916.25
Fellowship Hall Remodel Fund	\$61.91	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$61.91
David Scott Youth Fund	\$5,170.98	\$0.00	\$214.67	\$4,956.31
Congregational Retreats	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Winter Banquet	\$0.00	\$2,516.00	\$2,156.00	\$0.00
Cemetery Parking Extension	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Soup Suppers	\$0.00	\$79.00	\$68.44	\$10.16

SPECIAL CHECKING ACCOUNTS

Account Description	Opening Balance 1/1/2022	Deposits	Expenses	Closing Balance 3/31/2022
Membership Assistance Fund	\$3,321.85	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$3,346.85
Cemetery Fund	\$189.27	\$2,172.95	\$2,022.95	\$339.27
Gifts & Memorials Fund	\$5,408.34	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$3,908.34



Lower Marsh Creek
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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."**

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