

The
Grapevine

October 2017



Coming Soon! LPC Mission Conference

A Vision for the Harvest

Friday

7:00-7:30pm Missionary Q & A
7:30-9:00pm Session #1: Living Water

Saturday

9:30-11:00am Continental Breakfast &
Missionary Presentations
6:00-7:00pm Harvest Dinner
All are welcome! RSVP Requested
(Watch for announcements or contact the church office)
7:00-7:30pm Missionary Q & A
7:30-9:00pm Session #2: Heartfelt Worship

Sunday

8:30-9:30am Session #3: A Spiritual Harvest
during the Traditional Worship Service
9:45-10:45am Missionary Presentations
during Sunday School classes
11:00-12:15pm Session #3: A Spiritual Harvest
during the Contemporary Worship Service

"Open your eyes and look at the fields!
They are ripe for harvest."
John 4:35 (NIV)

November 3rd-5th

All sessions include worship, prayer &
a message presented by

Rev. Dr. Dana Goonough

from Pittsford Community Church

Special Presentations, Q & A times, and
browse table displays throughout the
conference with...

- Greg & Karen K.
Muslim Field Coordinators with World Outreach
- Greg M.
Serving in the Middle East with World Outreach
- Paul & Reinhold Syndor
Ministering to Refugees in France through International Association for Refugees
- Zyris McCormick
Serving in Buffalo through Urban Christian Ministries

LancasterPresbyterianChurch
MissionCommittee





Beloved, I'd like to update you on my doctoral responsibilities, and to ask for your patience with this process for a little while longer. When I submitted my dissertation at the end of March, I had to wait a couple of months before hearing back because my professors were preoccupied with their end of term seminary responsibilities. Then on June 20th I received word that my work was well received, but my professors were asking for an additional chapter providing an exegetical foundation for one of my major themes which is union with Christ.

I thought about how to establish this foundation Scripturally. The passage that came immediately to mind is Galatians 2:20: "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me."

I set to work researching Galatians 2:20 in the context of the book of Galatians and the whole Bible. One limiting challenge that I faced through the summer months came in the discovery that the Houghton College library (one of the better

Biblical studies libraries in the region) is only open on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the summer from 1:00-4:00 p.m. Accordingly, every Tuesday and Thursday Graeme and I made the trip back and forth to Houghton to build bibliographical resources for this final chapter. I give thanks for the hours spent with my son on the road to and from the library, as well as for the first hand experience he gained in helping me to secure the necessary resources for this chapter.

On September 6th I heard from Dr. Fortson and submitted what bibliography I had on hand which represents about 2/3 of my actual bibliography as I had moved from collecting resources to actually interacting with them to be sure that I was in possession of the necessary materials to justify the direction in which I am heading. Dr. Fortson's immediate reply was both comforting and encouraging: "Kelly, this sounds like a good plan, and your bibliography looks great!" I can't tell you how reassuring it has been to receive this confirmation of the direction that I have spent hundreds of hours forming.

What I didn't realize at the outset of the work on Galatians 2:20 is that the larger context with which I have to deal is fraught with some of the greatest controversy to be found anywhere in New Testament studies. To put it very simply, there is a controversial school of thought called the New Perspective on Paul that works to undermine the great Reformation doctrine of justification by faith in Jesus alone. I wish I could simply bypass all of the New Perspective scholarship and the controversy that it entails, but that would not be responsible scholarship. So I am working hard slogging through hours and hours of deception in order to demonstrate that I am conversant with this controversial material. It is frustrating and oppressive to have to interact with this misguided perspective. I am often reminded of the adage: "The most pernicious lie is the one that is closest to the truth!"

I request your prayers and your understanding as I work to finish this final chap-

Doctoral Update

ter of my dissertation and harmonize the connections with all of the other chapters. I can definitely see the light at the end of the tunnel, but I'm not there yet.

When I shared these realities with our elders last evening, several elders registered supportive concern for me by way of raising the question how there came to be a disconnect in communication with my professors significant enough to warrant the call for an additional chapter? When I consider the breadth and the scope of the material that informs the dissertation, I am not at all surprised by the late call for the exegetical piece. I gave my professors what they asked for, and when they received my work, they liked it and wanted more.

My participation in our Presbytery in connection with our Stated Clerk, the Executive Council, the Church Development Committee and the Ministerial Committee brings me into communication with a number of brothers who have been through this process, and they all laugh and say, "I had to do the same thing." Apparently it is par for the course to expect some last minute clarification before approval is granted. Be that as it may, and whatever may come, the Lord is holding me steadfast in the unshakeable conviction that "I am indeed crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me."

I love you all!

Pastor Kelly

Church Announcements

Church Wide Operation Christmas Child Collection

Our small group is sponsoring a collection of items for Operation Christmas Child. We are asking the entire church to join us. This would not take the place of filling our individual and family shoe boxes. It will be **in addition to** all of us packing our own boxes. When we have collected the various items needed, we will have a shoe box packing party sometime in September or October. We would like to see our church pack an additional 100 boxes on top of the 90 to 100 boxes we pack as individuals.



There will be a bin labeled "Operation Christmas Child" across from Pete's office on the 1st floor. Please join us in this project to send Christmas Gifts and the Gospel message printed in the language of the child who receives the box around the world to those many children who may have never received a Christmas gift or heard the Good News of the Gospel.

Collection items will be **small toys** (no war toys) and **clothing items**—socks and plain T-shirts (large or extra large youth and small adult size).

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Pat Gerber at 668-2670.

Don't forget to begin collecting items for your own shoe boxes!! November will be here before we know it!

Small Group Ministry

Fall is such a beautiful time for turning over a new leaf! (There are so many decorating the ground..haha). Consider the health of your soul in this season. Want to grow in your faith? Want to walk more closely with the Lord? Find strength through fellowship with other believers. Find the Holy Spirit working through the Scriptures and the discussions that they inspire. Find a closer relationship with Jesus through prayer. Sign up for M&M Small Group! Groups will begin in early October, meeting twice per month. Questions? Text or call Lisa Negus at 716-341-3223.

Operation Christmas Child The Power of a Simple Gift National Collection Week

November 13-20

"The Power of a Simple Gift" - Share God's love and the joy of Christmas by packing a gift-filled shoebox for a hurting child overseas. Your simple gift can make an eternal difference. Start with getting an empty shoebox (standard size) with lid OR a small plastic container. Determine if you will pack for a boy or girl (or both). Decide which age group you will pack for as listed on shipping labels to be made available and start filling with some school supplies, hygiene items and play things. Plan on enclosing a check for \$7.00 made out to Samaritan's Purse in the provided envelope and placed AT THE TOP of all items in the shoebox. One check can be issued to cover more than one box, with quantity of boxes marked on check. *Please note that this year you can print the labels and donate the shipping online at <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/pack-a-shoe-box/>* Complete the process with placing a rubber band around the short side of the box. **HAVE SOME FUN!** A table is set up in the lower narthex with all the necessary paperwork, extra shoeboxes and additional information. *Please have your shoeboxes to the church by Sunday, November 19th.* Thank you for planning to participate. Contact Pat Gerber at 668-2670 for help or any additional help.

Ladies Afternoon Prayer & Bible Study

The Ladies of Afternoon Prayer and Bible Study cordially invite all women to the first monthly meeting of our 2017-2018 season. Each first Tuesday of the month, we plan to enjoy a couple hours of food, faith and femalship while discussing the topic of "Freedom From Fear" along with a DVD series led by Pastor Dr. Michael Youssef: *We live in a climate of fear. Whatever new fears we do not create for ourselves, we only need to look to the media to furnish. We think we have settled our anxieties until they are revived by an anxious friend. Sometimes it seems that no matter what we do, there is something to worry about. Yet God did not create us for a life of worry or anxiety. He wants us to live a victorious life in service to Him. In "Freedom From Fear", Michael Youssef teaches what that Bible says about fear and how to overcome it through faith in God.* Please feel free to bring friends. See you on October 3 at 12:30 PM in Room 214! Questions and/or requests for rides may be directed to Lisa McElhinny at 651-9218.

Deacons Beacon

By: Brigitte Robinson

It has been a warm and busy summer, and the crisp autumn air has arrived. Very soon, I will be pedaling my bike on a path carpeted with an evocative array of fallen leaves. I have lived in Western New York State for most of my life, and I am still be-dazzled by the color transformation of the autumn foliage. I happily anticipate the seasonal pageantry of autumn which include farm fields laden with orange pumpkins, irregular shaped gourds, corn stalk mazes, and apples. Mmm, apples! It is difficult to choose my favorite apple possibility, so I enjoy it all. I pick the apples from the orchard, make apple pies, and enjoy Apple Cider. Autumn welcomes the beginning of the school year, Football and Small Group Fellowship. Thanksgiving is celebrated during autumn by many people, and it is a deliberate time of praise and thank you to God for His many blessings. We are fortunate to live in a state that experiences four seasonal changes. Change is not exclusive to geography, climate or season. Man is always in need of change throughout his entire earthly journey. We live in a Fallen World, and the toils and snares are vast, visible and invisible. Change can be difficult because there is a cost at stake, and that cost is sacrifice. Christ made the biggest sacrifice by dying on the cross, and giving His life that we may live forever one day in Glory with Him. All men (women) are in need of some degree of change (s), and Christians are no exception. Sin trips us up every day, and we must stay alert and pray for wisdom and direction. If we say we do not sin, we are fooling ourselves. I have recently made a change in my life, and the Holy Spirit has made it clear to me that I must share this with others. "Sometimes in the winds of change we find our true direction. Trust in the Lord...He shall direct your paths. Proverbs 3:5-6" Perhaps, my article is speaking directly to you.

Seven years ago, I first heard the word Facebook from a young Senior High girl when I was in the Potter's House. "Brigitte, keep in touch with me, and my college life through Facebook." I had limited knowledge of Facebook, but thereafter, I did some research and a gathering of information about the Adirondack Club on the Internet. This brought me into the world of Social Media, and I became familiar with Facebook. Facebook began as a pleasurable experience for me, and I occasionally posted my favorite Devotions, reconnected with friends, and enjoyed family pictures. It also provided a friendly atmosphere for me when I felt alone in an empty house. I can't put my finger on when it happened,

but eventually it turned into a bad habit I could not easily break. Morning routine before Facebook entered my life would find me with a cup of coffee in one hand, a devotional in the other, a Bible for reference, and a quiet time of prayer. Facebook slowly began to become part of my daily routine in the last six months. Although, I was still spending my peaceful time with the Lord in the morning...I scanned Facebook **before** I began morning meditations and prayer. The evening hour went in the same direction the morning hour went. Oh, I still did my hour of meditation, scripture and prayer but I rushed through it so I could scan Facebook one last time before going to sleep. In addition, the peace and comfort I always felt while reading Psalms during a night of interrupted sleep now had another resource and alternative...the quick and handy access of Facebook on my phone. Facebook during the night is like acid reflux! Maybe that was actually the Holy Spirit rebuking me, and not reflux?!

Social Media can be a world that is superficial and ingenuous. Many times, I felt anger and disappointment in the posts, pictures, comments and likes of "Friends" on Facebook. I also experienced some good humor as well as joy. Unfortunately, the most reoccurring sentiment I felt was disappointment. I felt disappointed in some of the things my "Friends" posted on Facebook, and disappointed in myself, too. My biggest disappointment is that I let Facebook become an idol in my life, and certain that God was not receiving the best of which He deserved from me. I am also disappointed that I did not refrain in giving a negative comment to a post on Facebook in place of silence. Facebook became a habit as I checked "likes," or trolled through it on my phone in the waiting room of a doctor's office, sitting as a passenger in a car, or other appointments. Every so often, I would come to a bump in the road that would test whether or not I should "unfriend or unfollow" that "one" particular friend or decline a "friend request." There is a cost for that! Facebook is not only addicting but it can also be a gateway to Pinterest and Instagram. Hear me, clearly. If used wisely and with restraint these programs can be pleasant. Social Media can be time consuming and addicting, and I see more and more people walking with phone in hand missing life around them. My character and who I am in Christ is the most important thing to me. Anything that keeps me from growing in holiness to Christ must be cut off. I am flawed, imperfect, struggle in sin and I know what I deserve. Thankfully, God's grace and mercy is abundant, and His Spirit keeps me in "check."

I want to make it clear that I was never looking at, or doing anything inappropriate on

Facebook. Please don't tell me "getta life." I have **more** than enough to do, and my life is full and happy. I **made** time for Facebook because I sometimes feel lonely (but that will change in August 2018) living in an empty house. Facebook provided a false sense of companionship for me when I was alone. I have some very wise friends that discern a great deal of restraint, and only on occasion take a peek on Facebook, and get off. Facebook can be a pleasurable experience for those want to keep in touch with families separated by distance. I hope and pray that "friends" will explore the many other modes of expression outside of Facebook, and begin more communication through phone calls, personal visits when possible, letters, cards and more.

Prayer is powerful tool, and during a time of prayer it was clear I need accountability to help me stay clear of Facebook idolatry. The proof was in the pudding with two previous failed attempts to remove myself from Facebook. I needed to be transparent with an accountability partner (s) so he/she would know how to pray in a specific way for me. Was I embarrassed? Yes, but it wasn't too bad because I chose my accountability partners carefully. I chose two people who I am certain love the Lord (K and G), certain of their prayer commitment for me, and certain of their unconditional love for me. And...lol... now, I have disclosed it to you, and I have a flood of accountability partners. I am happy to say that I have been off Facebook since April, and like Christian in *Pilgrim's Promise*, I have been relieved of a heavy burden. My prayer and devotion time **begin** and **end** each day with Christ like once before. Facebook no longer has a hold on me. I am back on the right track with God, and there is joy and hope in His hold. I replaced the urge to look on Facebook with material that is filled with hope and promise, as I read and completed a biography on the life of John Newton. God opened a new window for me as I discovered a new delight in Christian biographies.

If you have a problem with idolatry in your life, I hope you will begin to pray for God's help so that you can walk away and break Satan's hold on you. Satan is powerful (but God is stronger) and prowls like a lion as he uses the lust of money, property, alcohol, drugs, pornography and more to get your attention away from God. Proverbs 4:23, Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flows the springs of life. The wind is in the air my friends, and it is a season of change, it is autumn. Make a positive change in your life for Christ today.

~ Soli Deo Gloria ~

Youth Groups at LPC

Bible Discussions - Games - Activities - Retreats - Service Opportunities



3rd—6th Grade

Each week will focus on a different character trait

Wednesdays 7-8:30pm

7th—12th Grade

God: The Promise Keeper

Sundays 7-9pm

Junior/Senior High Youth Fall Schedule

Youth News

October

- Sunday, Oct 1st Youth Group, Potter's House, 7:00 – 9:00pm
- Sunday, Oct 8th **Apple Picking Outing**, 1:30 – 7:00pm; meet at church at 1:30, travel to LynOaken Farms in Medina, NY; return to church by 5pm have dinner and make apple treats; No regular youth group; permission form required, details on form, find on church website (www.L-P-C.org); bring at least \$10 so you can buy apples and have a little extra spending money
- Saturday, Oct 14th **Senior High "Lock In", Sleep over at Potter's House** 11:00pm – 9:30am; *only 9th – 12th grade students*, permission form required, find on church website
- Sunday, Oct 15th Youth Group, Potter's House, 7:00 – 9:00pm
- Saturday, Oct. 21st, **Corn Maze**, 6:00 -10:00pm; cost \$12 per person; permission form required; find on LPC website www.L-P-C.org
- Sunday, Oct 22nd Youth Group, Potter's House, 7:00 – 9:00pm
- Sunday, Oct 29th Youth Group, Potter's House 7:00 – 9:00pm

November

- Sunday, Nov 5th Youth Group, Potter's House 7:00 -9:00pm
- Saturday, Nov 11th **Veterans Day Football Game**, Grades 5 and up; 10:00am - 1:00pm; meet at church at 10:00am and we will walk to the Flats by Cayuga Creek on Lake Ave., permission form on website
- Sunday, Nov. 12th Youth Group , Potter's House, 7:00 -9:00pm
- Sunday, Nov. 19th Youth Group, Potter's House, 7:00 -9:00pm
- Sunday, Nov. 26th **No Youth Group**, Thanksgiving weekend

December

- Friday, Dec 1st – Sunday, Dec. 3rd **Cold Snap Retreat at Seneca Hills**, Polk; PA
Cost \$100 for youth; need to register on line with Seneca Hills at www.senecahills.org and also with LPC, Pay Seneca Hills when registering, find LPC permission form on website, it will have details, we will need to leave LPC by 3:30pm
- Sunday, Dec 10th Youth Group, Potter's House
- Sunday, Dec 17th **Christmas Party**, 6:00 – 9:00pm at Potozniak Home, 64 Nichter Rd. Lancaster NY, Bethany's Ph # (716)573 – 7810; details to follow
- Sunday, Dec 24th and Sunday, Dec 31st **No Youth Group**

Please watch for reminder texts, cancellation texts, and texts which may add spur of the moment activities.

Any questions, please contact Pete Gawron, Director of Family & Youth Ministries

(716)220-5443; petegawron@gmail.com

October 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 Worship 8:30 & 11:00 SS & AE—9:45 Jr/SrHiYG-7:00pm</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 Ladies Afternoon Prayer & Bible Study—12:30pm, Worship Committee Mtg—7:00pm</p>	<p>4 Outreach Committee Mtg—7:00pm, Mission Committee Mtg—7:00pm</p>	<p>5 Women's Evening Bible Study—6:45pm</p>	<p>6 Craft Fellowship—10:00am</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8 Worship 8:30 & 11:00 Communication Forum -9:45 SS & AE—9:45 Soup Lunch—12:15pm Jr/SrHiYG apple picking-1:30pm</p>	<p>9 Office Closed</p>	<p>10 Deacons Meeting—7:00pm, Trustees Meeting—7:00pm</p>	<p>11 Choirs & Youth Group</p>	<p>12 Christian Education Committee Mtg—7:00pm</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 Senior High Lock In—11:00pm</p>
<p>15 Worship 8:30 & 11:00 SS & AE—9:45am Jr/SrHiYG—7:00pm</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 Stated Session Mtg—7:00pm</p>	<p>18 Choirs & Youth Group Technology Committee Mtg—7:00pm</p>	<p>19 women's Evening Bible Study—6:45pm</p>	<p>20 Office Closed</p>	<p>21 Jr/Sr High Youth Group to Corn Maze—6:00pm</p>
<p>22 Worship 8:30 & 11:00 SS & AE—9:45am Jr/SrHiYG-7:00pm</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 Retired Men's Fellowship—12:00pm Choirs & Youth Group</p>	<p>26 Grapevine Crew—11:45am</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 Worship 8:30 & 11:00 SS & AE—9:45am Jr/SrHiYG-7:00pm</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>				

Soup Sunday Luncheons are back!

All are welcome to come to the Soup Sunday Luncheon taking place on **Sunday, October 8th at 12:15pm** in Waith Fellowship Hall. Come for fellowship, food and fun! This is a great way for you to invite family, friends, neighbors & co-workers to church!

Anyone interested in volunteering to provide soup, dessert or bread & butter please sign up at church or contact Mike Bishop at 393-0084 or by email at mikeb8234@roadrunner.com.

Weekly Schedule

Sunday

- Worship at 8:30am & 11:00am
Nursery and pre-school child care during both services
- Sunday School and Adult Education Classes — 9:45-10:45am
- Junior & Senior High Youth Group 7:00pm —PH

Monday

- Men's Bible Study—7:00pm
Rm.114

Wednesday

- Adult Bells—6:00pm — Music Room
- 3rd-6th grade YG 7:00-8:30pm
- Chancel Choir—7:00pm (Sanctuary)

Thursday

- Gathering In His Name Bible Study—10:00am
- Worship Team Rehearsal—7:30pm



Prayer Page—October 2017

Pray for the pastors: Keep our pastors in the midst of good and exciting worship. Keep our pastors from the traditions of men and religion which hold the form of godliness, but deny its power. (2 Timothy 3:5) Give our pastors a vision of heaven. (Isaiah 6, Revelation 4)

The Pray! Prayer Journal, Nov Press 2003, p.156

Praying for LPC ministries:

Worship Committee: That His spirit would move those in the Church to use their talents for the benefit of advancing the Gospel.

Session: Session asks for prayer that we may all return to LPC at the start of the Fall Season and that we be refreshed and energized to serve the Lord with energy, dedication and a renewed spirit.

Christian Education Committee: Pray for the spiritual development of teachers, leaders and students through Sunday School and youth groups during the 2017-2018 school year.

Outreach Committee: Pray that all that attend LPC are able to individually understand how to best serve Christ in our church, community and daily lives and jump in to serve Him with willing and eager hearts.

Prayer for our country: Pray for those who have recently been affected by hurricanes, floods, fires and earthquakes. Pray that many will turn to the true living God for comfort and strength during their times of distress and loss. May God's name be glorified during these difficult times.

Prayer for our world: Pray for Christians in India who are facing more and more harassment and persecution. Ask God to soften the spiritual heart of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is doing little or nothing to protect believers in his country. Pray that God will strengthen the faith of His people, and change the hearts of those who want India to be a completely Hindu nation.

Please keep the families of Nancy LaJudice, Madeline LaPatra and Janet Thuerck in prayer.

Nancy went home to be with the Lord on September 15th.

Madeline LaPatra went home to be with the Lord on September 17th.

A Memorial Service for Madeline will take place at LPC on Saturday, November 11th.

Janet Thuerck went home to be with the Lord on September 21st.

Praying for our family

Sue VanOrman
David Bogey
Janet Kranso
Rob Herget
Joyce Klaasesz
Ken Gordon
Kathy Frank
Jan Stasiowski
BJ Rustic
Jim Cavanaugh
Betty Glowacki
Beth Rettew
Terry Riordan
Al LaVenture
Sally Godfrey
Rob Benzel
Heather Cronk
Pat Shaner
Alice Hirsch
Nancy Lyon
Joyce Olivieri
Lettie Vona
Norma Pereny

LPC's Military Personnel:

Thomas Eaton
Dan Pulley
Steve Schuman

Missions:

Emily Pulley
Sarah Michel



Lancaster Presbyterian Church
An Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Non-Profit
US POSTAGE PAID
Lancaster, NY 14086
Permit #40

5461 Broadway St. Lancaster, NY 14086
Phone: 716.684.2277 Fax: 716.684.2446

www.L-P-C.org
office@L-P-C.org

Rev. Kelly Negus, Senior Pastor
Peter Gawron, Director of Family and Youth Ministries

Purpose:

For God's glory
we are committed
to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ
in all we say and all we do
to make and equip disciples
in our families, our community, and the world.

Core Values:

We believe in the authority of Scripture
and we affirm
the historic teachings
of Reformed Christianity.

Address Service Requested

