

The
Grapevine

September 2018



Get your life in order this school year!

Balancing Life's Demands

Sunday Mornings

Starting Sept. 9th
@ 8:30 & 11am

Small Group Ministry

Are you feeling crazy????! Is your schedule like a tornado circling your brain in the night??????

Do you ever feel that you can't find peace? How does one figure it all out anyway?

How could God expect all this of me? Are there really principles in God's Word to help me navigate my life?

This FALL at LPC we will take an honest look at life together!

In coordinated fashion, the weekly SERMONS and SMALL GROUP STUDIES will focus on BIBLICAL PRIORITIES, and how you and I can grow in them, all for the GLORY OF GOD and for the peace in your heart and mine.

Pastor Kelly and Pete will take relevant texts from the Bible and develop them for our understanding, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

In Small Groups, a brand new series called "Balancing Life's Demands" by Chip Ingram will give us an opportunity to come together and search the Bible for principles to help us navigate our lives.

No matter what stage YOU find yourself in, whether busy --or quiet and serene--we pray that God will give each one of us great and growing balance and peace as we turn to Him and his Word this Fall. Most of all we pray that He will be glorified by our obedience and faith.

Join us in **Sunday morning worship** and in **Small Groups** as we study and pray and hold each other up in this journey called the Christian life!

Our Small Groups meet in various member's homes to enjoy a meal together, learn about God's Faithfulness through fellowship, study God's Word and share what God is doing in your life.

Sign ups for Small Groups are right here at LPC on August 26, Sept. 2 & Sept. 9. Questions can be addressed to Lisa Negus, via call or text at 716-341-3223.



Beloved, life fills up fast. Picture a page where notes have run continually through all of the margins and between every line of text. What is more, the font size for all of the notations has become significantly reduced so that as much information as possible can be crammed into one page. Life with doctoral responsibilities can feel a bit like trying to squeeze as much information into the margins as may fit—practicably or impracticably. Likely there is an extent to which many of us write into the margins of modern life in a good faith effort to maximize productivity.

What I am gradually discovering as the years pass is that, no matter how much information can be squeezed into the page, there is only so much that these eyes can see. Moreover, this faculty of sight is starting to rebel if it is not afforded first, sufficiently large letters to begin with, and secondly, plenty of white space between the lines and significant borders around the edges. Any sermon or service helps that en-

Margins

Psalm 127:2

² It is vain for you to rise up early, to retire late, to eat the bread of painful labors; for He gives to His beloved *even in his* sleep.

ter the pulpit are on double oversized paper (11 x 17), and double spaced in a 24 point font! These aging eyes simply won't put up with the abuse they once did. As a kid, I can remember Mom or Dad coming into my room of an evening and remonstrating over the fact that I was effectively reading in the dark. "Turn some lights on in here! What, are you trying to ruin your eyesight?" As my eyes will no longer carry the load, it becomes necessary to make some hard determinations about what makes the cut. Any more I can't see anything in a candlelight service. Oh for the eyes of my youth!

Through the years of the doctoral studies, the page has become very full indeed. These weeks of summer have afforded riches of blessing, rest and perspective to evaluate life's page and make decisions. There is only so much we can fit on the page and still be able to make sense of it. There is clutter in my margins and something has to give! There are weeds in my flower beds. The cars won't fit into the garage because of out of control project and storage issues, and the green scum on that pond in the back belies the structure of what is supposed to be a pool.

Overall, Lisa and the boys have been exceedingly good natured and long suffering with Dad's dysfunction. Thankfully I have emerged from overload just in time to lead the clean up initiative before institutionalization becomes necessary. We are rolling up our sleeves and addressing the clutter. What stays? What goes? How do we structure storage as meaningfully and effectively as needs be? Maybe we won't be able to keep all of the flower beds; it takes less time to mow than it does to weed. Maybe the pool has

done its time. I don't know. Some of the decisions need to be informed by the whole family, as the whole family is going to have to live with the consequences.

What is the goal? The goal is to fit life's most important pieces in first. It would be nice to be able to fit both cars back into the garage. It would be nice for the attic storage to be effectively enough used to afford enough space to be able to turn around in. No matter how valuable that old hoe is, if it keeps smacking me in the face every time I turn around because there is simply no space for it, then it's time to go!

Pastor Kelly has the cleaning bug. Over the course of 2018-2019 the sermons and small group lessons will focus on freeing up life's margins and holding fast the truly valuable and important. Our expository sermons will focus on elements of biblical priorities: we all need 'em! We will focus on "Balancing Life's Demands" in our small groups (the name of the small group study that we will engage from Chip Ingram). The subtitle of this study is telling: "Biblical Priorities for a Busy Life."

Please join me in praying for faithful steps together in the coming year. At home I want to leave a refreshing legacy, not a cluttered mess for someone else to deal with. In Lancaster Presbyterian Church I hope to offer a continuing contribution to a solid foundation. I am already praying for my successor when I retire.

God bless you, Dear Ones!

I love you all! Pastor Kelly

Church Announcements

Craft Fellowship

Begins Friday, September 7th!

LPC women and friends meet the 1st Friday of the month from 10 am to 1 pm. Due to lack of transportation to and from church and inclement weather, most fall and winter, we meet at Southwind Apts., In the Community room, 5074 Transit Rd. Depew.

We could always use new helpers! Have fun chatting while stuffing bears and heart pillows for cancer patients and sick children. Can't sew? Don't worry. There is always stuffing to do! If you have a sewing machine we'll give you material to take home to trace, cut, and sew. Bring them back and we'll stuff them on Friday. No Quotas!

Bring a bag lunch. Noon is quitting time for lunch and devotions. Tea and coffee provided.

Donations Needed

Material and financial donations for polyfil are always appreciated throughout the year. Material may be put in the marked basket for crafts, downstairs under the coat rack. Any financial donations please use blue envelopes in the sanctuary and mark it for Craft Fellowship. All will be very much appreciated in order to bring a little comfort to the women and children in the hospital! This year Roswell Park Cancer Institute is interested in obtaining some of our pillows too. If we can keep up with the demand we'd be honored to do so!

For more info., email Chris at christinegrear@yahoo.com or call 901-2191.

Deacons Contact Information

Please keep these numbers handy if you need to call the Deacons

To order memorial flowers:

- Judy Dalconzo: 683-7382
- Judy Domnick: 681-5082

For necessary rides to doctor appointments:

- Pat LaVenture: 684-0547

To volunteer to greet on Sunday mornings:

- Judy Cavanaugh: 683-1837

To arrange for a funeral luncheon:

- Dianne Conklin: 684-8415
- KC Carlsen: 706-8800

To advise of needs of LPC members:

- Gloria Chaves: 683-8501

**Operation Christmas Shoebox
September Collection**

We are still working on our all church shoe box collection! Below are the items we will be collecting during September.

- Plain **colored** youth size T-shirts and adult sizes as well. These T-shirts should be appropriate in size for children ages 2-4, 5-9, 10-14.
- We will also be collecting womens/mens socks. Again, the sizes should be appropriate for the ages listed above.
- Right now, we feel we have collected enough items to begin packing 20-30 boxes.
- We are very thankful for all of the donations that were collected at Vacation Bible School.
- We also collected \$40 which will be used toward the shipping of these boxes.
- Shipping on each shoe box is \$9.00. This is another way that you could help. A check can be given to Pat Gerber made out to **Samaritans Purse** for any dollar amount. This will be put in with the boxes when we are done packing them up.
- One more way that you can help is to donate some plastic shoe boxes. They are much easier to use when we are doing so many. They do not have to be wrapped. Samaritans purse has some plastic ones that you can buy. They are \$18.00 for 12 boxes and can be purchased on their website.

Thank you in advance for all donations. If you have any questions, please call Pat Gerber 668-2670.

Child Care Ministry at LPC

Summer is quickly winding down and that means it's time to solicit for volunteers for our childcare room. We currently have 4-5 infants in addition to our preschool kids. We are looking for 2 adults and 1 adult or teenage helper each week for each service.

Please consider signing up to help with this very important ministry within our church. It's a once a month commitment from September until the beginning of June. If you can't commit to once a month, maybe you can cover the months that have 5 Sundays (Sept, Dec, and March) or you could serve as a substitute.

Please look for the sign up sheets at the Information Table outside the sanctuary, or call the church office at 684-2277.

Bible Sunday—Sunday, September 30th

Bibles will be presented to the 1st & 7th graders during the 11:00am service.

Harvest House Celebrates 25 Years

Twenty five years ago Gary and Linda Tatu took a leap of faith, selling their home, and followed God's calling to community service. Their work strengthened our community, breaking barriers for people in poverty by facilitating workforce development, providing wellness and access to basic human needs, and fostering spiritual health.

Many people here at LPC have donated their time especially in the Baby & Children's Ministry by sorting clothes, emptying change for baby bottles, even crocheting beautiful blankets for young ones to snuggle and cherish. Many have taken a tour at the Jefferson location and have been truly awestruck by God's design for such a place right here in Buffalo! Our church family, through the Missions Committee, support this mission financially once a year. But more importantly, you, dear church, have prayed for this mission.

October 4, 2018 is a celebration of this 25th year anniversary milestone. This event will be held at Lucarelli's Banquet Hall at 1830 Abbott Road, Lackawanna. Would you consider coming and spending an evening with delicious dinner, basket & silent auctions, guest speakers and wonderful fellowship?

Tom Koch will be selling tickets for this event. Price is \$65.00 each. Please RSVP by September 15th to Tom at 697-1011. Maybe this is out of your price range but consider purchasing a gift card (I love local businesses for this) that we will include on our over 150 baskets that will be at the basket auction.

Adult Education Class Starting Sunday September 9th

The Adult Education Committee is pleased to serve Christ and His church here at Lancaster Presbyterian. To that end the Committee will be presenting the 4 part DVD series "The Truth About Homosexuality: a Compassionate Response"

This will take place in Waith Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings from 9:45 - 10:45. Some of you got a little preview of this last Spring, and the response was very favorable so we thought we would show the whole series.

Here is the Adult Education schedule for the next few weeks: Sept. 9th communication forum and introduction of classes; Sept. 16, 23, 30, and Oct. 7th the DVD described above will be shown.

We hope to see you there!



The New Yorkers Family Research Foundation Buffalo banquet will be held at Salvatore's Italian Gardens at 6:30pm on **Friday, September 28**. Let's fill a table or two this year and support this worthy organization.

The cost of the banquet is \$35.00 and an offering will be taken for NYFRF.

Please contact Gloria Chaves at 683-8501 or call NYFRF at 585-225-2220. Be sure to tell them what church you are from if you do the latter so we can have a table(s) reserved for us.

Gathering In His Name Bible Study Beginning Thursday, September 20th 10:00am-11:30am

LPC Women You're Invited...

To Spend Thursday Morning's With Matthew!

Matthew, who was also called Levi, was a tax-gatherer when Jesus called him to be one of the twelve disciples. The message of the book of Matthew centers on the throne of Jesus' kingship. Matthew presents the Messiah King who is revealed, the King who is rejected and the King who will return. His ancestry is traced from the royal line of Israel. His birth is dreaded by a jealous earthly king and yet the magi bring the infant Jesus royal gifts from the east. John the Baptist heralds the King and proclaims that His kingdom is at hand and Satan offers the kingdom of the world.

Matthew also focuses most uniquely on the rejection of Jesus as King. In no other gospel are the attacks against Jesus' character and Jesus' claim so bitter and vile as those reported in Matthew. The shadow of rejection is never lifted from Matthew's story. No gospel is more instructive for those who are the Lord's disciples and who are called to represent Him on the world. The lessons on discipleship are life-changing for the committed reader, as they were for the eleven who were Jesus' first followers.

I know those of you who have been part of "Gathering In His Name" on Thursday mornings at LPC have a burden to represent Jesus well in our world. You desire to impact the lives your life crosses with the love of the Lord and message of salvation to the lost and broken. You are committed readers and women who love the Word. Studying Matthew together this year will encourage us, challenge us, instruct us and motivate us. Matthew will impact our hearts, minds and personal relationship as a daughter on a life quest to understand her King and what He desires us to do and be.

Join us this fall beginning **September 20, 2018 at 10:00am**.

Childcare is provided. All are welcome. Contact Diane Carlsen for more information.

Youth Groups at LPC

Bible Discussions - Games - Activities - Retreats - Service Opportunities



Sunday Evenings at LPC

7:00pm—8:30pm

3rd-6th Grade Youth Group—Room 114 at the church

7th-12th Grade Youth Group—Potters House

Youth News

IMPORTANT YOUTH GROUP ANNOUNCEMENT!!!

Christian Education Committee is excited to announce that **3rd-6th grade youth group** is changing nights for this school year. Hopefully this change will allow those with busy schedules to attend more often.

- We will now be meeting **Sunday nights** instead of Wednesday.
- Our meeting time will still be 7:00pm to 8:30pm. Our home base for drop off and pick up will now be in room 114.
- The first meeting is **September 9th** at 7:00pm.

Hope to see you and your kids (with their 3rd-6th grade friends) September 9th!

Please note the time change to the Junior/Senior High Youth Group. Youth group will still be on Sundays but the time will be 7:00pm to 8:30pm!

For both youth groups, doors will open at 6:45pm
& youth group will start promptly at 7:00pm.

For questions or concerns, please contact Pete Gawron, Director of Family & Youth Ministry at LPC. Email: petegawron@gmail.com Phone: (716)220-5443

Be sure to visit the Events page on our church website for more information (www.L-P-C.org)

Confirmation Class 2018-2019

Confirmation students & parents please plan to attend a special Confirmation class information meeting on Sunday, September 9th at 9:45am in Pastor Kelly's study.

SAVE THE DATE!! LPC 2018 Mission Conference

“A Passion for the Harvest”

Friday, November 2nd—Sunday, November 4th



Family Movie Night

Saturday, September 22nd @ 7:00pm in Waith Fellowship Hall

THE BOOK THIEF (2013)

Based on the beloved international bestselling book, *The Book Thief* tells the story of an extraordinary, spirited young girl sent to live with a foster family in WWII Germany. Intrigued by the only book she brought with her, she begins collecting books as she finds them. With the help of her new parents and a secret guest under the stairs, she learns to read and creates a magical world that inspires them all.

Movie style popcorn and refreshments will be served. Invite your family and friends. All ages are welcome!

Missions Update: Sarah Michel

Hello from Eswatini - the new name of Swaziland - where I've been living since May!

My job and where I fit in: It's not easy to label myself as a "missionary," because sometimes it feels like my life looks nothing like one would imagine a missionary to be. I have a 9 to 5 job where I work on projects from my computer. When I am out in "the field," I'm usually on a filming or photography assignment rather than going out to evangelize, play soccer with kids, run bible studies, or anything else you might see a "traditional missionary" do.

Instead, my job is a behind the scenes support role. Some of the projects I have been working on while I'm here have included:

- Our new website (launch tbd)
- Videos that go to supporter churches and communities
- Videos and other content for our social media pages
- Fundraising efforts for large projects
- Training materials for staff
- Evaluating monthly reports and offering feedback
- Mentoring and teaching two recently hired staff members

While this may seem like it has little to do with ministry, it's an ideal job for me because it uses my individual skill set, and more importantly, these are necessary tasks that help allow Adventures in Missions to work in Eswatini at the level that it does. To be perfectly honest, I don't want to be the one playing with kids and running bible studies, because our Swazi staff do that, and they're the ones on the front lines of ministry right in their own communities. My job and the jobs of the other background staff members allow our CarePoint leaders to do theirs.

Some statistics about Eswatini: 45% of the population is 18 or younger; 1 in 5 children are classified as orphaned or vulnerable; the average life expectancy is 52 years; 28% of adults have HIV (highest percent in the world); less than 1 out of 4 rural homes have electricity

On the brighter side, here is a look at what AIM accomplished in 2017: 7,800 children received meals five days per week (for many of them, this may be their only meal of the day); 130 women were employed by Timbali Crafts; 365 children graduated from our accelerated preschools; 200 high school students earned scholarships (school is only free up to 7th grade); 355 children completed our grief counseling program; 204 children accepted Christ through our sports ministry alone

Thanks for reading - please keep me in your prayers as I continue my time in Eswatini, which truly is a dream job. It isn't always easy to live in another country and another culture, but I am glad to be working with an organization that is impacting lives, both physically and spiritually. Visit my blog at sarahinswazi.wordpress.com

LPC Bible Studies

Women's Evening Bible Study

- Thursday evenings beginning September 13
- 6:45pm-8:30pm in Waith Fellowship Hall
- Sept. 13, Sept. 27, Oct. 11, Oct. 25, Nov. 8, Nov. 29, Dec. 13
- *Child care provided.*
- Contact: Laurie Muscato (LAMuscato@aol.com)

Women gathering together to study women in the Bible, understanding their roles in the Bible and the way God is using them to guide us today.

Men's Bible Study

- Monday evenings, beginning September 17
- 7:00pm in room 114
- Studying the Book of Luke
- Contact: Jim Godfrey (716-684-9587)

The Book of Luke will be this year's study topic for our Adult Men Bible Study. Bible discussion, food and fellowship take place in room 114 on the LPC campus. All adult men are invited!

Gathering In His Name Bible Study

- Thursdays mornings, beginning September 20
- 10:00am in Waith Fellowship Hall
- *Child care provided.*
- Contact: Diane Carlsen (diane.carlsen@yahoo.com)

Continuing the study of the Book of Matthew, this time together as women during this study will encourage you, challenge you, instruct you and motivate you. Women of all ages are invited!

Ladies Afternoon Prayer & Bible Study

- First Tuesday of each month (Start date TBD)
- 12:30pm in room 214
- Contact: Lisa McElhinny (redeemedmary25@outlook.com)

Instead of a more traditional Bible study, this gathering of women is more of a social and support group. A time to come together in prayer over each other, along with fellowship over tea and desserts. Looking at scripture is truly guided by the Lord and any devotional materials He provides to this group is always a blessing.

September 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 <i>Worship 9:30am</i>	3 <i>Office Closed</i>	4	5 <i>Choirs, Mission Committee Meeting—7:00pm</i>	6	7	8
9 <i>Worship 8:30 & 11:00am SS & AE—9:45am Communication Forum Youth Group—7:00pm</i>	10 <i>Missionary Prayer Gathering—1:00pm</i>	11 <i>Deacons Meeting—7:00pm, Trustees Meeting—7:00pm</i>	12 <i>Choirs, Outreach Committee Meeting—7:00pm</i>	13 <i>Women's Evening Bible Study—6:45pm, Christian Education Mtg—7:00pm</i>	14	15
16 <i>Worship 8:30 & 11:00am SS & AE—9:45am Rettew Celebration—12:15pm Youth Group—7:00pm</i>	17 <i>Men's Bible Study begins—7:00pm</i>	18 <i>Stated Session Meeting—7:00pm</i>	19 <i>Choirs, Technology Committee Meeting—7:00pm</i>	20 <i>Gathering In His Name Bible Study—10:00am, Grapevine Crew—11:45am</i>	21	22 <i>Family Movie Night—7:00pm</i>
23 <i>Worship 8:30 & 11:00am SS & AE—9:45am Youth Group—7:00pm</i>	24	25	26 <i>Choirs</i>	27 <i>Women's Evening Bible Study—6:45pm</i>	28	29
30 Bible Sunday <i>Worship 8:30 & 11:00am SS & AE—9:45am Youth Group—7:00pm</i>						



Sending With Love

A celebration to send Dick & Anna Rettew onto their next adventure with our love

**Sunday, September 16th
12:15pm**

**Following the service
Waith Fellowship Hall**

Greeting....refreshments...fellowship



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
- 3rd-6th grade YG; Junior & Senior High Youth Group—7:00pm

Monday

- Men's Bible Study—7:00pm
Rm.114

Wednesday

- Adult Bells—6:00pm — Music Room
- Chancel Choir—7:00pm (Sanctuary)

Thursday

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



Prayer Page—September 2018

Pray for the pastors: O God, allow Pastor Kelly and Pete to enter Your rest (Hebrews 4, Matthew 11:28). Put Your yoke on our pastors. When they are heavily laden or burdened, may they find comfort and peace in You, refreshed and renewed by Your power in every aspect of their life.

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

Praying for LPC ministries:

Session: Session asks people to pray for the scheduled summer activities such that people will be touched and drawn to Christ through these activities.

Christian Education Committee: Pray for the families that we have connections with that are looking for a church home.

Pray for our Sunday School teachers, youth leaders, and volunteers as they prepare for the upcoming school year.

Praise God for continued proclamation of the Gospel in our summer youth events and that he will be moving in the hearts and minds of those that participated in these programs.

Prayer for our country: As a new school year begins, pray for the students in our public schools who are often subjected to teaching and policies which contradict God's word. Ask God to work in the hearts of teachers and to give them wisdom and compassion as they teach. And pray that Christian parents will faithfully teach lasting Biblical truths to their children so that they will be equipped to recognize truth and error.

Prayer for our World: Pray for the people of Eritrea, a tiny African county between Sudan and Ethiopia. The country is often compared to North Korea for its brutal suppression of Evangelical Christians. Many are imprisoned in horrific conditions, many are killed, and yet believers continue to worship secretly and speak the gospel despite the risks. Eritrea is a single party-presidential republican totalitarian dictatorship. There have been no elections since 1993 when the current president was "elected".

Praying for our family

Don Metzger
Pastor Rettew
Donna Herget
Pat Shaner
Doug Everts
Rob Benzel
Sally Godfrey
Nancy Lyon
Joyce Olivieri
Lettie Vona

LPC's Military Personnel:

Laurel Foss
Thomas Eaton
Dan Pulley
Steve Schuman

Missions:

Emily Pulley
Sarah Michel



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An Evangelical Presbyterian Church

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Rev. Dr. 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

Lancaster Presbyterian Church | 5461 Broadway St., Lancaster, NY 14086

REBOOT YOUR FAITH WITH US.

**Startup
Sunday!**

September 9th

8:30am Traditional Service | 9:45am Sunday School | 11am Contemporary Service

*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, in our community and in our world.*