



National Day of Prayer - Thursday, May 4

Where will you be on Thursday, May 4?

Where should you be on Thursday May 4?

Answer: at The National Day of Prayer

Although there have been many Presidential calls to prayer in the history of our nation, the annual National Day of Prayer was recognized by President Truman in 1952 as a special day set aside to pray for our nation. There is much to discourage us in 2023, but the scripture tells us in many places that we should be diligent in prayer and in trusting and obeying the true God of the Universe as He is revealed in the Bible. It is time to stand up against all the schemes of the devil and not let him have his way. The only way Satan can be defeated is through the prayers of God's people, who trust God and are not afraid to stand for truth and righteousness.

"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. ... With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit" ... Ephesians 6:10-11, 18

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

There are two opportunities to observe the National Day of Prayer:

Thursday, May 4 from noon to 12:45 in front of the Lancaster Town Hall

(Bring a chair and an umbrella if needed.)

Thursday, May 4 7:30 P.M. at Lancaster Presbyterian Church.

Please mark your calendar and come to pray. Come and pray and support the freedom of religion we have in this nation and share in the prayers of others. People around the world would give anything to be able to stand in public and pray. Why are we so hesitant?





Prayer

Greetings, Beloved! I trust that you are faithful and true in our Lord Jesus, enjoying a rich devotional life with time in the word and prayer. With the National Day of Prayer swiftly approaching (May 4) I thought I would take a little time to reflect with you on some prayer insights that I have discovered in my reading and perusing that have enriched my own devotional life. I hope these reflections serve to bless you in your diligence in prayer.

To begin with, prayer is concerned, first and last and at every point between, with God. Samuel Zwemer, the highly respected missionary known as the "Apostle to Islam," (1867-1952) has aptly described prayer as "God the Holy Spirit talking to God the Father in the name of God the Son, and the believer's heart is the prayer room." Prayer is all about God. As John Bunyan expressed so eloquently: "To pray rightly, you must make God your hope, stay, and all. Right prayer sees nothing substantial, or worth being concerned about except God." When we apprehend the primacy of God in all things, then our confidence in His sovereignty should minimize any preoccupation with worry, doubt or fear. As my friend Dale likes to ask: "Why pray when you can worry?" Or as Corrie Ten Boom has observed, "Any concern too small to be turned into a prayer is too small to be made into a burden." J. C. Ryle, the famous Anglican bishop of the 19th Century summed up this line of thought nicely when he noted, "The only way to be really happy, in such a world as this, is to be ever casting all our cares on God. It is the attempt of carrying their own burdens which so often makes believers sad." And, of course, this sentiment squares nicely with Peter's admonition in the word to "cast all our anxiety on God, because He cares for us" (1 Peter 5:7).

The Apostle Paul is famous for calling us to "pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17). Don Whitney offers helpful clarification here when he suggests that prayer without ceasing, "does not mean that we do nothing but pray, but it does mean that if talking with and thinking of God can't be in the forefront of our minds, it should always be peeking over and ready to take the place of what we are concentrating on." Prayer without ceasing means we never really stop conversing with God; we simply have frequent interruptions.

I am often struck with how reasonable it is for God to expect us to pray. Let me see if I can explain it this way. Whenever I travel, Lisa has a reasonable expectation that I try to keep in touch. She does not look

for this communication from me because she is demanding or controlling. She looks to hear from me because she loves me, and she thinks of me. For my part, I never experience the effort to be in touch with Lisa when I travel as a duty, a burden or an obligation, but, rather, as the deep desire of my heart. I think that God's expectation to hear from us is something like the loving communication of my marriage. His command to pray is a command of love. In His love He desires to communicate with us and to bless us. God also expects us to pray just as a general expects to hear from his soldiers in the battle. God expects prayer because that is the means He has ordained for the spiritual warfare between His kingdom and the kingdom of His enemy. To neglect prayer is to sever ourselves perilously from our every resource. Such a course makes no sense. And let us not forget Jesus' example during His earthly ministry. When Jesus walked the earth, He prayed. Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed (Luke 5:16). As Jesus prayed during the time of His earthly ministry, how much more do we need to pray? Prayer is expected of us because we need it. We will not be like Jesus without prayer. We need to pray.

Our adversary knows that we need to pray. Do you think that he is pleased when we pray? Here again, the wisdom of J. C. Ryle is instructive: "The devil is especially angry towards us when he sees us on our knees." Somewhere I heard Derek Thomas say that "if you want to humble a believer, ask him about his prayer life." What a telling insight. One that bears out the diagnosis of Bishop Ryle when he notes: "I am afraid the private devotions of many are most painfully few and limited—just enough to prove they are alive, and no more. They really seem to want little from God. They seem to have little to confess, little to ask for, and little to thank Him for. Is it not to be suspected that many have just as much grace as they ask God for? That they have little, because they ask little?"

I have no desire to discourage anyone from prayer. To the contrary, if we believe with J. C. Ryle that "Prayer is that point, above all others, at which you must be on your guard. It is here that true religion begins; here it flourishes, and here it decays." If we believe in the primacy of prayer, then we should desire to see one another flourishing in prayer. Once again, Bishop Ryle comes to our encouragement with the affirmation, "He loves me best who loves me in his prayers." I agree. If I must choose a congregation, give me a people who pray. I believe that you are that people, beloved. Can we do better? I expect that will always be true. I have always been proud of Lancaster Presbyterian Church as a praying people. I can hardly believe that I get to be your pastor, and I am so very thankful for the work of my friend, Pastor Will. Be blessed in your prayer life, loved ones! And, if you're able to make it out for the National Day of Prayer services on May 4, your presence will surely be a blessing to me. I love you all!

Pastor Kelly



Worship With Us Every Sunday
Traditional Worship @ 8:30am
Contemporary Worship @ 11:00am
Child care provided at both services.

LIVESTREAM available on our YouTube channel & Facebook page.

Sunday School & Adult Education classes @ 9:45am

"This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." ~Psalm 118:24

www.L-P-C.org

LPC Short-Term Mission Trip to Alabama

July 14 - 23, 2023

Grace Fellowship Church in Albertville, Alabama

On July 14-23, LPC is going to Grace Fellowship Church in Albertville, Alabama to help reach out to a multi-ethnic community through a Vacation Bible School put together by Grace Fellowship.

This is open for people of all ages, but would also be ideal for families and anyone who has never been on a Mission Trip before!

- Depart on Friday July 14, stay overnight in Ohio; drive Saturday July 15 to Alabama.
- Lodging will take place at the Grace Fellowship mission house
- Sunday July 16 - Worship and preparations for VBS
- VBS at Grace Fellowship runs Monday July 17 - Friday July 21

If you have any other questions or would like to express interest but cannot make it to the meeting, email Pastor Will at will@l-p-c.org. We hope to see you there!

An informational Meeting will be held in the Waith Fellowship Hall on May 7th at 12:30pm for anyone who is interested.

Youth Groups @ LPC!

Kids Youth Group (3rd—6th graders)

Meeting weekly on Wednesdays (6:30–8:00pm) @ the Potter's House
Gym time, crafts, activities, snacks & Bible lesson

Junior & Senior High Youth Group (7th—12th graders)

Meeting weekly on Sundays (7:00pm—8:30pm) at the Potter's House

- Sunday, May 7th: **Senior High only (9th—12th grade) Cooking Class & Dinner @ 5:00pm**
Regular youth group (7th –12th graders) at the Potter's House, 7:00pm—8:30pm
- Sunday, May 14th: **No Youth Group**
- Sunday, May 21st: Regular Youth Group @ the Potter's House, 7:00pm—8:30pm
- Sunday, May 28th: **No Youth Group**
- Sunday, June 4th: **Pool party at the Carlsen Home (Rain date - Sunday, June 11th)**
 - Arrive at the Carlsen home at 6:00pm, dinner will be provided.
 - Girls bring a drink, boys bring a snack
 - Bring a towel and wear a modest bathing suit
 - Pick up from the Carlsen home at 9:00pm

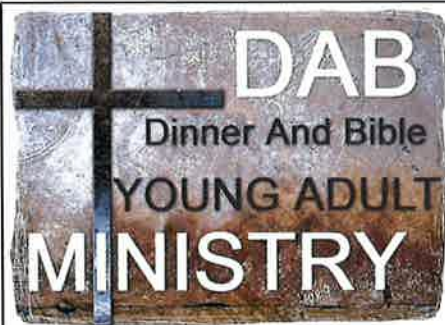
Youth Summer Camp at Camp Duffield

Sunday, June 25th @ 2pm - Friday, June 30th @ 9am
(Camp is open to students finishing 3rd through 6th grades)

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Please visit the church website for more information & for the required camper forms.

<https://www.l-p-c.org/ministries/summer-camp/>



DAB—Dinner And Bible

LPC's Young Adult Ministry (ages 18-28)

**STARTING Monday, May 15th at the home of
Dave & Becky Young (12 Huntley Place, Lancaster)**

Meeting weekly on Mondays at 6:00pm
throughout the summer

Dinner starts at 6:00pm, the evening will end at approximately 8:30pm

DAB gatherings will meet at the homes of Dave & Becky Young (12 Huntley Place, Lancaster) and Shaun & Marie Babcock (871 Erie St., Lancaster)

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, June 10th at Honeoye Lake!

COMPASSCARE WALK FOR LIFE Join Us!!!

In Person Walk Sat May 6: NOW at LPC CHILDREN WELCOME!

PARTICIPATE EITHER AS A WALKER OR AS A FAMILY AND OR AS A FUNDRAISER OR PRAYER WARRIOR...YOUR CHOICE!

Persons must be signed-in to participate

9:00-10:00-Walk sign-in and coffee, donuts, OJ

9:30-10:00- two featured speakers

- one couple's story on how having an abortion affected their lives

- one couple's story of how medical doctors made recommendations meant to try to have them abort their baby affected their lives

10:00-11:00--2 mile walk in Lancaster--beginning and ending from the LPC front parking lot

11:00-12:00--Lunch type snacks and fellowship

9:00-12:00--Children's activities

What is the In-Person Walk? Publicly, lovingly, peacefully express your pro-life convictions by joining us on this family friendly walk. It's CompassCare's primary fundraiser. It costs \$570 to serve 1 woman from the initial visit thru 12 months of follow up and support.

How do I sign up or who do I ask if I have questions?

Contact the Gerber's, home ph 716-668-2670 (preferred), Pat's cell 716-868-5264. Please leave a message if we do not answer and we will get back to you.

Or register on-line by typing compasscarewalk.com into Google, select Join a Walk, Join a walk team, Join LPC and then register.

How do I donate? (optional)

The CompassCare Pledge Raising hardcopy handout IF you're planning to seek pledges for the walk and record in writing. Checks can be given directly to the Gerber's made out to CompassCare.

Online type compasscarewalk.com into Google, click on Give and follow the easy instructions (do accept charge). Here you can credit your gift to a specific walker and or our Lancaster Presbyterian Church team (called LPC). This is a secure website.

About CompassCare

CompassCare is a Christ centered organization dedicated to erasing the need for abortion by transforming a woman's fear into confidence. All services are free. Women primarily get abortions because they feel alone and unsupported. They feel trapped by their circumstances and relationships into a decision they wouldn't otherwise make.

CompassCare erases the need for abortion one woman and one baby at a time by providing three key medical services of 1) Unplanned Pregnancy Decision Care 2) STD testing and treatment and 3) Abortion Pill reversal. They serve women with compassionate, nonjudgmental, and ethical medical care, comprehensive community support, and an invitation to submit their lives to Jesus Christ.

It is the first Christian organization educating people about abortion's risks and side effects.

It is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization approved by the ECFA (Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability).

About NY

NY is the abortion capital of America with the most abortions per capita.

NY has the most permissive abortion laws in the world after China and North Korea.

About the Unborn

6 weeks



7 1/2 weeks



10 weeks



Thursday Evening Women's Bible Study

Course Title: The Gospel of Mark - The Arrival of Jesus

Thursday, May 11

Time: 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Teachers: Laurie Muscato and Cheryl Olszewski

Women's Evening Bible Study will meet again in the Fall, continuing the Gospel of Mark.

Youth Summer Camp @ Camp Duffield STAFF MEETING

Sunday, May 7th @ 9:45am, Meeting in room 114

Please contact Megan Chaves at 716-548-1171 if you are unable to attend.

Summer Child Care

This special children's ministry allows parents of young children to attend our Sunday services.

- We are looking for 2 adults and 1 teenage helper each Sunday.
- If you are able to help with this special ministry please sign up on the sheet provided on the Information Table outside the sanctuary.
- Summer Worship services begin Sunday, June 11th with one service at 9:30am.
- A special thank you to all who volunteer their time to be with these young children during services!

Prayer Gathering - Monday, May 8th

Come and pray silently or aloud, but join with fellow believers in praise, thanksgiving, confession and petition.

Summer Youth Intern Opportunity

The Christian Education Committee seeks 1 or 2 summer interns to work with the Lancaster Presbyterian Church youth this summer. Please encourage college students, or others who love the Lord and want to impact the lives of our children, to contact Pastor Will or the church office about this employment opportunity. We will begin interviewing in April. Please pray for our interns and our youth.

Important Dates

Sunday, June 4th: Last Sunday of two worship services; last Sunday of Adult Education & Sunday School

Sunday, June 11th: Music Sunday, one service at 9:30am

Sunday, June 18th: Confirmation and Graduate Sunday, one service at 9:30am

Summer worship services continue throughout the summer until Sunday, Sept 3rd with one service at 9:30am, service styles will vary each week.



Prayer Page

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

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

Praying for LPC ministries:

Session: The KAP prayer is to be a prayer asking the Lord's blessing upon and His help with the Session's work. Session this month wishes to offer the following KAP prayer request:

Lord, we pray that LPC will continue to be seen as a God centered lampstand in the middle of Lancaster. We pray that LPC will improve, grow, and continue to teach Your Scriptures, Your values and Your will to those who are drawn to you Lord.

Deacons: Our holy precious Father, we thank you that you are loving Father that grants mercy to your children. You hear our cry and listen to our prayers. We are an imperfect sinful people who need your mercy and love. Please help us to recognize the sin in our lives and repent of it. Your mercy and love is amazing and unending when we recognize our sin, ask forgiveness and walk away from it. We need your strength and wisdom to overcome our flesh that wants to judge and condemn others as we recognize the sin in others. Please forgive us Lord. We should not be blind to the immorality of this world BUT we should 'temper' our judgment with mercy on those who are repentant of sin. We are thankful that You are the model we can follow and live by. You are slow to anger and quick to forgive.

Prayer for our country: Lord, we know that Your word tells us to fight the good fight and to be strong in the Lord. Remind us, as Your people, to be bold in our witness for the truth of the Gospel. Give us courage to speak when we see or hear something that goes against the scriptures which You have given us for our good. Let us not be afraid of anything except to fear You, our merciful and loving God. When we fear You then we can be wise and bold in resisting all the schemes and lies of the great deceiver. Let us, Your Church, shine for You.

Prayer for our World: Lord, the darkness of evil covers the land of North Korea, gripped by Satan in false religion and cruelty. Please intervene for on behalf of Your faithful people who daily walk in danger of wicked imprisonment, torture and execution. You are their only hope as they remember that there is a city to come where there will be no more suffering. Keep those suffering under horrendous imprisonment from despairing. Give them opportunities to speak the truth even amidst great danger.

Praying for our family

Rob Macdonald
Doris Moranski
John Marks
Frank Gerber
Maureen O'Connor
Judy Cavanaugh
Carolina Jackson
Colleen Ludeking
Joyce Klaasesz
Ron Stasiowski
Judy Martin
Don Flaig
Al LaVenture

Home Members

Nancy Patterson
Bob Foley
Millie Epolito
Ann Fraser
Donna Herget

LPC's Military Personnel:

Laurel Foss
Dan Pulley
David Boncore

LPC Prayer Ministry:

If you have a prayer request or would like to be part of the prayer email list please contact the church office by email (office@l-p-c.org) or call Marie in the church office at 684-2277.



Lancaster Presbyterian Church

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Rev. Dr. Kelly Negus, Senior Pastor
Rev. Will McCabe, Associate Pastor

Non-Profit
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Lancaster, NY 14086
Permit #40

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

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

Youth Summer Camp 2023



A TRADITIONAL SUMMER CAMP EXPERIENCE FOR
STUDENTS FINISHING 3RD-6TH GRADES

Sunday, June 25 at 2pm
through

Friday, June 30 at 9am

Camp Duffield, Delevan, NY



Long-standing Christian camp program led by
experienced church members. Expect to enjoy nature
walks, games, swimming, crafts, campfires & singing --
along with learning more about Jesus' love for us.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Visit <https://www.l-p-c.org/ministries/summer-camp/> for all
information pertaining to camp!

