

The Grapevine

February 2022



Worship with us every Sunday

Traditional Service @ 8:30am

Contemporary Service @ 11:00am

Childcare provided at both services.

LIVESTREAM available on our LPC YouTube channel and Facebook page.
Masks are required for anyone over the age of 2.

Sunday School & Adult Education - Every Sunday @ 9:45am

www.L-P-C.org

Kingdom Connections

with Pastor Kelly & Lisa Negus

a series of short videos reinforcing Sundays' sermons

<https://www.l-p-c.org/sermons/kingdom-connections/>



There is something captivating about a storm. One wants to be safe, but, if the safety margin is acceptable, then there is no show going quite like a real humdinger of a storm.

I have seen a few storms like that in my lifetime. The first one that I really remember was in Johnstown, NY. Lisa and I were together, but the boys had not made the scene. Reports of tornadoes in the area afterwards confirmed the severity of the situation. I distinctly remember being up in "Lisa's old room," looking out at the strobe lightning, hearing deafening peals of thunder so close and so constant that discernable blasts became indistinguishable. Whether a body makes it through a storm like that or not, one has to appreciate the sheer power that God has built into His creation.

A subsequent storm of note transpired during the early years of our ministry when we were still living in Tennessee. The church had just added a new ceiling in the old sanctuary. The contractors had withdrawn in haste. Reports of a tornado system

Sovereignty

threatened, and I looked up at the bell tower to see an unsecured panel flapping in the wind. I called everybody I could think of to secure that panel. The last thing I wanted was to take water on that brand new ceiling the first day. I felt kind of foolish straddling the ridge pole of the roof, shinnying across there to secure that panel. I looked off into the west. The sky was a wall of black clouds filled with bolts of lightning. A body doesn't forget a sight like that.

Images like these fill my mind's eye when I think of Jonah's storm. He has messed up in a big way by refusing to take the word of the LORD to Nineveh according to the LORD's clear command. "The ship thinks she's going to tear apart" in the swell of the seas, and the seasoned crew is unmanned to the last soul. They know that if something doesn't happen quickly, they are going to die. There is power in a storm, but the LORD is infinitely greater. He is the One who put the power there to begin with.

There is power in the storm, but God is greater. There is power in the storm, frightful power, but the LORD is so much more fearful.

When Jesus faced His storm the disciples were frightened by the storm, but they went on to become more frightened by the demonstration of His power momentarily on display in the calming of the wind and seas to zero by a command. And then they were really afraid, and asked, "Who is this, that even the wind and the sea obey Him?"

I don't know what storm you may be facing. I am readily sympathetic that it is powerful. I can understand if it is fearful. Jesus is greater. Cling to Jesus, Dear Hearts. He has the power to carry us all to heaven.

God Moves in a Mysterious Way

(William Cowper)

God moves in a mysterious way,
His wonders to perform;
He plants His footsteps in the sea,
And rides upon the storm.

Deep in unfathomable mines
Of never failing skill;
He treasures up His bright designs,
And works His sovereign will.

Ye fearful saints fresh courage take,
The clouds ye so much dread
Are big with mercy, and shall break
In blessing on your head.

Judge not the LORD by feeble sense,
But trust Him for His grace;
Behind a frowning providence,
He hides a smiling face.

His purposes will ripen fast,
Unfolding every hour.
The bud may have a bitter taste,
But sweet will be the flower.

Blind unbelief is sure to err,
and scan His work in vain;
God is His own interpreter,
and He will make it plain.

I love you!

Pastor Kelly

Women's Evening Bible Study

Alive: How the Resurrection of Christ Changes Everything (Ligonier – DVD series)

Do Christians place their hope in a lie? Is the resurrection of Jesus simply an ancient hoax invented by the church? Many people hold that view today. But those who reject the empty tomb fail to make sense of the unavoidable evidence from both Scripture and history. The verdict is in: Christ is risen and our lives will never be the same. In this teaching series Gabe Fluhrer makes a compelling case for Christ's victory over the grave. Not only is the resurrection a historical fact, but it presents true answers to the deepest question and provides every Christian believer with UNDYING HOPE.

Meeting on the following Thursdays from 7:00pm to 8:30pm: February 10, February 24

Keeping in touch - Do you receive the monthly paper newsletter - The Grapevine?

Do you receive the monthly email newsletter?

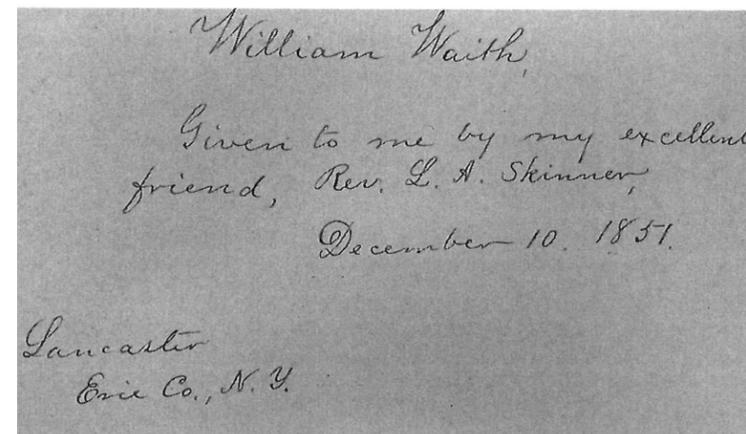
Are you signed up to receive texted emergency messages, such as closings?

Are you connected through the private Facebook Lancaster Presbyterian Church Facebook Group?

If you said no to any of these questions, please provide contact information on the circulated Friendship pad during services, through a connection card in the foyer or by calling the church office at 716-684-2277.

There is lots going on and we don't want you to miss any invitations!

Memory Lane



In 1847, the Rev. L.A. Skinner became the second pastor of Lancaster Presbyterian Church, succeeding the Rev. James Remington, and under his wise leadership began a faithful ministry which continued about five years. By 1851, Mr. Skinner required a time of rest. With this in mind he visited Auburn Theological Seminary in the spring of 1851 and secured the services of a member of the graduating class. The Seminarian agreed to come to Lancaster as soon as the term would close, and would preach for three months. His name was William Waith. Regretfully, at the end of three months, Mr. Skinner resigned. Mr. Waith was invited to lead the church for a year. Mr. Skinner continued to assist at the church for a time, but Mr. Waith served as pastor for the next 59 years. The inscription shown above is in a Commentary which was given to Mr. Waith by Mr. Skinner in 1851.

Annual Congregational & Corporate Meeting**Official Call to a Congregational Meeting****Sunday, February 13, 2022 @ 12:30pm**

The members of Lancaster Presbyterian Church
are hereby called to the Annual Congregational and Corporate Meeting
of Lancaster Presbyterian Church and the Presbyterian Society of Cayuga Creek
which will be held Sunday, February 13, 2022 in the sanctuary of the church at 12:30PM
following the 11 o'clock service for the purpose of receiving the Annual Report of 2021
and any other business that properly comes before the meeting.

The Elders wish to provide thoughtful and complete answers to any questions, therefore,
the Elders request that all questions be submitted by February 7th.

Questions may be submitted to the Church office email [office@l-p-c.org] or feel free to place them into the
Office mail box outside of room 17.

Monthly Prayer Meetings at LPC

Our missionaries, our nation, the persecuted church and Lancaster Presbyterian Church all need our prayer. Please join us for prayer at 1:00 P.M. on the second Monday of each month in the church library. Share in fellowship in the unity of prayer. You do not have to pray out loud. Just meet with God's family in praising and petitioning our triune God whether aloud or in the silence of your heart.

Vacation Bible School 2022

If you are interested in chairing this year's VBS (either as a team or individual), please come to the next Christian Education meeting scheduled for February 2nd at 7:00pm. Feel free to reach out to Dave Young, Beth Manley or Deb Eaton with any questions.

Livestream Available

*Sunday mornings @ 8:30am & 11:00am
Lancaster Presbyterian Church Youtube channel
and live on our Facebook page.*

Our Sunday morning Worship services are always live on our LPC YouTube channel or live on our LPC Facebook page. Worship with us at home!

****A full bulletin for each service can be found on our website www.L-P-C.org/resources/bulletins****



Courage in Christ—November 2021

Dear Friends,

"Now that I know God, He makes me feel brave enough to share the gospel with my Muslim family members. I know now that I don't have to worry about what other people think of me because I only care what God thinks of me."
 – Saimeera*

I first met Saimeera in June of 2020 when she was looking for someone to help her read the Bible. The only believer in her family, she was brand new to the faith and had never had any Christian friends or been to church before. During our first meeting, she asked me to teach her how to pray. As I talked her through what God teaches us about prayer, her eyes widened. "You mean we can just say anything that is in our heart to God and He will listen to us?" she said in amazement. In nearly every one of our meetings, she was so overwhelmed by the good news that she started to cry.

Saimeera takes the Word of God very seriously. Every time we met, she brought a list of questions that had come up during her reading the previous week. She reads the Bible every single day because she wants to know and understand all of God's Word. Her questions revealed a sincere heart: she was doing everything she could to digest and comprehend everything she was reading. "Why was Jesus called the Son of Man if he wasn't actually Joseph's son?" she asked one week. "Are the people who rejected Jesus just like me before I understood the gospel?" she asked another week.

Often, new believers can gravitate toward one particular mentor and only feel comfortable learning and sharing with them. While this is completely normal for the beginning of someone's faith journey, it is essential for newer believers to eventually gain confidence in talking to and sharing with a wider variety of people. In October of 2020, Saimeera was brave enough to start attending an online women's Bible study. "If I have anything I want to say, I'll send you a private message," she told me. By February of 2021, not only was she regularly attending the Bible studies, she chose to share an insight with the group every single week. Just recently, I witnessed her encourage another girl from a similar religious background who is experiencing persecution from her family.

Saimeera's faith journey has been a huge encouragement to me over the past year. From her careful attention to the details of the Bible to her incredulous wonderment at the fact that God would care to draw near to her, her life provides a sweet reminder for all of us who have perhaps grown numb to the good news of the gospel over time. As we rejoice to see how God is at work in the life of one woman in Indonesia, let us also rejoice that the same God is at work in our lives and in our communities every day!

*Name changed for security purposes
 Written by WO Worker, JB, serving in Southeast Asia



**Youth Groups @ LPC
(September—May)**

Youth News

Kids Youth Group (Grades 3 - 6) Thursdays 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. @ the Potter’s House for FUN - gym games, activities, lesson, crafts and art, songs, snacks
Fun each week includes gym time, crafts, singing and friendships.
Contact leaders Rob and Janine MacDonald, Megan Chaves or David and Becky Young with questions.

Junior and Senior High Youth Group (Grades 7 - 12)
Sundays 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. @ the Potter’s House

Watch the LPC Facebook page and websites for updates and additional details!



Prayer Page

Pray for the pastor: God, please give my pastor refreshment. We know that serving in ministry can have its discouragements and challenges. Bless my pastor with the refreshment that comes from knowing and trusting the Shepherd to lead and guide. Give my pastor tangible breaks from ministry as well and guard and protect my pastor's time. In Christ's name, Amen.

"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters. He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake." Psalm 23:1-3, NASB

7 Prayers for Your Pastor - The Purposeful Mom

Praying for LPC ministries:

Session: Please pray for all the local pastors for strength, strong focus upon the Scriptures, renewed energy, a fresh spirit and widespread encouragement as we all start a new year. Pray for protection from evil for each of our local pastors and for each of our local churches.

Prayer for our country: January was Sanctity of Life month in the United States. Thank you, Father in heaven, that You are opening the eyes of more and more Americans to the value of all human life, in the womb, as well as after birth. Please open the eyes of those who deny Your existence and who deny that life begins at conception. Heal the broken hearts of those who have had abortions and turn our nation away from the acceptance of this violation of Your Law given for our good.

Prayer for our World: Heavenly Father, we pray that the gospel will spread in Indonesia. Protect the bold evangelists who share the gospel at the risk of their lives, especially in rural areas. Protect those whom you are calling out of Islam as they face persecution. Keep them from fear, provide them with Bibles, and help them to grow in their knowledge of the truth of Your word. Lord, we pray that You will open the eyes of many extremist Muslims and draw them to repentance.

Praying for our family

Keith Gordon
Judy Kish
Marcia Busch
Nancy Patterson
Norm Schafer
Al LaVenture

Home Members

Challie Swabb
Norma English
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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Phone: 716.684.2277 Fax: 716.684.2446

Rev. Dr. Kelly Negus, Senior 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.

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