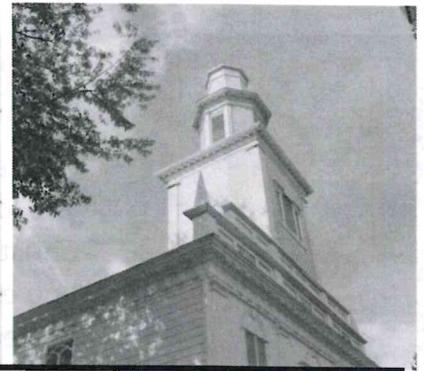


The Grapevine

January 2026



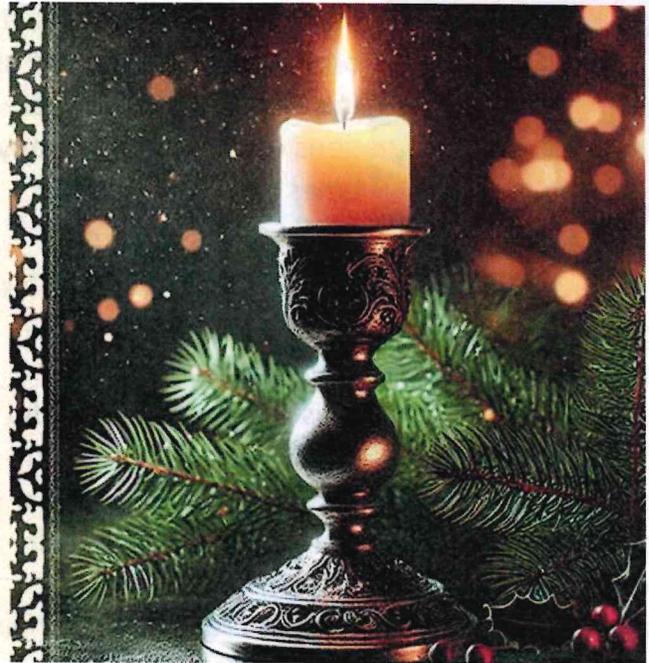
Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

5:00pm & 8:00pm

*Childcare provided at the 5:00pm
service only.*

***Celebrate the birth of our Lord and
Savior, Jesus Christ.***

www.L-P-C.org



UPDATED Worship & Sunday School Schedule for 2026

Because of the feedback from the congregation regarding the previous decision, Session has decided to reverse their decision and follow the updated schedule below.

Beginning Sunday, January 4th 2026, Lancaster Presbyterian Church will follow the Sunday morning schedule:

- 9:30am - approx. 10:30am: Worship Service
- 10:45am - 11:45am: Sunday School & Adult Education

Thank you for your support of this updated schedule for 2026.

Loved



How are you doing? Are you looking forward to Christmas? Are you getting excited yet? Have you started listening to Christmas music? Do you have any special memories that often seem to be stirred at this time of year: recollections of loved ones, happy times with friends and family gathered near?

When my brothers and I were little fellas, grandpa and dad would set up a comfortable seating area in the old milk house for us, overlaid with coverlets. It was clean, warm, and dry there—out of the wind. Christmas tunes from the barn radio mingled with the lowing of the cows in their milking stanchions. Kittens frolicked, played and drew near, intrigued by the spectacle of small humans encroaching on their turf. They were even more encouraged by the prospect of sharing in the brightly colored foil-wrapped chocolate coins and handfuls of nickel nips produced from deep recesses of coverall pockets. Grandpa and Pappy gave us welcome lessons in nipping the top from the tiny juice bottles, draining them, then chewing what juice lingered into an economical gum. Waste not want not. Oh, and don't throw the wax, the honeybees will harvest it in an accelerated build up of foundation (hexagonal wax). The less time and energy spent in building foundation the more resources devoted to honey production. We little fellas learned a lot from these good men and had fun doing it.

What I didn't realize that dad and grandpa were doing in such episodes was showing us how much we were loved. Neither one of them were given to shopping for nickel nips or chocolate coins, yet they must have found

some way for us. It wasn't until years later, when I had my own boys, that I realized how much we children were loved. By the world's standards, we didn't have an abundance of material physical possessions—things. But we had a barn, cows, lots of meat and milk, and good things to eat. We had a bee yard, bees and tons of honey (literally). Our clothes were sometimes hand-me-downs, but they were clean, pressed and spiffy, as were we. We were loved by godly good generations of faithful followers of Christ and, more often than not, without even realizing it, we were internalizing the ways and values of the kingdom. It's an amazing thing to be loved. I suspect that most of us are far more loved even by the godly good people in our lives than we realize, let alone by God Himself.

When Jesus affirmed that fathers will not give stones for bread or snakes for fish (Matthew 7:9-10) we are on the continuum of affirming this truth: that we are more loved by the people in our lives than we realize. And when Jesus affirms how much more our heavenly Father will give what is good to those who ask Him (Matthew 7:11), then, is it not a fair inference to suggest that we are more loved by our heavenly Father than we will ever know, this side of heaven?

So then, here's the thing: if we are to treat others as we would like to be treated (Matthew 7:12), then are we not to forgive as we have been forgiven? To show grace and mercy as we have received grace and mercy? To love as we have been loved? As the Father loves us? More than we have ever known? Do you see how the possibilities are endless here? Well, then, I love you! And while we're at it, Merry Christmas!

God bless you dear ones!

Pastor Kelly

**The Ordination & Installation of New Officers will take place
Sunday, January 11, 2026 during our worship service.**

2025 Annual Report *Please start preparing now!*

Annual reports of all groups, committees, and ministries of LPC will be due in January. Reports should include all pertinent information, personnel and accomplishments of 2025. Please send to the church office by January 20th in order for your report to be included in the Annual Report.

The Annual Congregational Meeting will take place on Sunday, February 8, 2026 at 12:00pm in the sanctuary.

Men's Fellowship Breakfast - Saturday, January 10, 2026

Sign up today to be a part!

Men, join us and bring a friend for the next Men's Fellowship Brunch in Waith Hall on Saturday, January 10, 2026. The morning will begin around 9:00 AM with coffee and donuts and finish at approximately 11:30 AM. This time together will include a message from Eddy Kuffel, singing led by Raffi and a catered brunch. We will continue with the theme of The Disciplines of a Godly man from the book by Kent Hughes. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex or call the office so we know the number who plan to attend. Join us for a blessed time of fellowship. There will be a special gift for everyone who attends.

Please consider a \$15 donation to help cover the cost of the breakfast.

Any questions contact the church office at 716.684.2277.

Ladies Bible and Brunch Series - Saturday, January 24, 2026

**Discerning the real Jesus from the counterfeits:
Lessons from the Gospel of John**

Mark your calendars for the following Saturdays in 2026:
January 24, 2026, March 21, 2026, May 16, 2026

Time: 10-11:30am

What to bring: A friend

Cost: a donation of \$13 for brunch if able

Call the church office to sign up to attend!



Prayer Gathering - Monday, January 12, 2026

Come and pray silently or aloud, but join with fellow believers in praise, thanksgiving, confession and petition. 1:00pm in the Church Library

Weekly and Year to Date Giving

November 23rd Gifts	2025 Received
\$5,512	\$428,490
Weekly Required Budget	2025 Annual Budget
\$8,302 x 5 remaining	\$470,000



How to Give Online

1. Scan the QR code
2. Visit l-p-c.org/give/

Footnote: The 2025 gifts received include \$45,000 of recent planned giving as a blessing in memory of Gloria Chaves.

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Collection Update

Frank and I would like to thank all of the Shoebox packers of LPC. We had the opportunity of taking **106** Shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child over to Eastern Hills Church on Sunday Nov. 23 in the afternoon. They all looked so beautiful on the outside!! I am sure they are even more beautiful on the inside and will cause such joy as they are opened by a boy or girl somewhere in the world. We also know that 4 were dropped off by another member of the congregation. So, LPC actually packed **110** boxes this year.. The best part of all of this is that each child receives the Gospel story in their own language!! Please join us in prayer that each shoebox recipient will have their heart opened to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and that their entire family and maybe village will as well!! These shoeboxes go to a processing center where each one will be gone through to be sure their contents are acceptable as required by the ministry of Samaritan's Purse and different customs agencies around the world.

Eastern Hills Church collected 17,607 Shoeboxes this year from our area.

If you placed a tracking label on your box or boxes, you can go to Samaritanspurse.org and do the following to find out where your shoebox has gone: What we do(up top), Operation Christmas Child (drop down), Follow your box look up tool and put in your email address. You will be able to see where your shoeboxes have gone since 2014. It is so easy!! Please keep praying for your box or boxes, and start thinking about what you can do next year for Operation Christmas Child!!

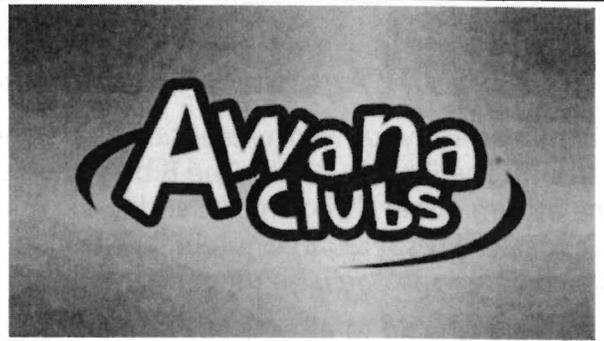
I checked to see where the Gerber boxes are going. I found out they are headed to South Africa. I can hardly believe ours have shipped already. Now we know where to pray for. Last year the Gerber boxes went to Liberia. Where are yours headed?? If you know, please send me an email at pat-tij74@gmail.com. Let's see how much of the world our church is reaching through this shoe box ministry!!

If you were unable to pack a shoebox, or would like to do more, you are still able to pack a box on-line. Also, if you wish to make a donation directly to Samaritan's Purse for the shoebox ministry, you may do so at [Samaritan's Purse.org](http://Samaritan'sPurse.org). This is a great way to make a donation to help with the processing cost, which is \$10 per box, if you feel called to do so. The other cost that Samaritan's Purse has are the Gospel Booklets in each child's language. These cost \$6.00 each and are included in every shoebox that is given to a boy or girl.

Let's help the whole world know Jesus!!
THANKS!!!

Frank & Pat Gerber

Wednesday Family Night: Awana Clubs resume Wednesday, January 7, 2026!



Awana Clubs at LPC for:

- **Cubbies** (ages 3 – PreK)
- **Sparks** (K–2nd)
- **T&T** (3rd–6th).

Cubbies will meet in the LPC building from **6–7 PM** while **Sparks/T&T** will meet in the Potter's House across the street from **6–7:30 PM**.

Our family pizza dinner (5:15 PM – 6:00 PM) with pizza from Picasso's will continue on Wednesdays before our Awana Clubs! We ask families to contribute \$1/slice, if possible. We strongly encourage parents to join their children for dinner, as it's a meaningful opportunity to grow in community together!

After dinner, the kiddos will go to Awana, and we welcome parents and guardians to join us for an **adult small group** (Bible study) with dessert and coffee. On select weeks, we'll also offer special activities for adults, such as crafting nights.

***Awana** is a fun, Bible memory program for kids that helps them grow in their faith through Scripture memory, engaging lessons, and exciting games. AWANA stands for Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed (2 Timothy 2:15). At LPC, we believe that the Word of God is precious and powerful and that the memorization and meditation of it transforms hearts and lives. This powerful ministry teaches young minds and equips parents in leading their children in the way of the Lord!*

This is going to be a BLAST! We hope you join us! It's never too late to sign up to attend!

Please sign up to join us by using the link below (this can also be found on our website under Youth Ministry). Signing up ahead of time helps us to plan for accurate materials!

<https://lancaster-presbyterian-church-505410.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/3066277>

Junior & Senior High Youth Group (7th –12th grade)

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!

We have super exciting winter events coming up!
Join the GroupMe to stay in the loop!



Saturday, January 10th - First Youth Group of the new year!

Come for dinner, a Bible lesson & games! 5:30pm to 7:30pm

Saturday, January 24th - Ice Skating at the East Aurora Outdoor Classic Rink

41 Riley Street in East Aurora; Drop off at 6:30pm, pick up at 8:30pm

Watch for some pop up sledding in February!!!

Contact Raffi Wright, LPC Youth & Music Director with questions (raffi@L-P-C.org).

**Bibles have arrived for
"A journey through the One Year Chronological Bible"**

Thank you for your warm reception to this new class offering, we have over 30 that will be reading through the Bible in 2026. The Bibles have arrived, if you signed up to receive one, please see me in the atrium either this or next Sunday to pick up your copy. If paying by check, please make it out to "Lancaster Presbyterian Church". We will be making an announcement before years end regarding which classroom we'll be meeting in each Sunday.

If you are unable to attend but would like to receive the daily readings electronically (via email) sign up at this website link: <https://chronologicalbibleblog.com/>

Thank you for joining in, we'll be learning as we enjoy weekly fellowship together. **Rob Macdonald**

James 4:8a - "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you"

New Adult Education Class - The Book of Galatians

Beginning on January 4th, in addition to the One Year Chronological Bible class led by Rob MacDonald, there will also be a second adult Sunday school class held concurrently in Waith Hall studying the Book of Galatians. This study, called No Other Gospel, will include a 25-minute video featuring Dr. Derek Thomas of Ligonier Ministries. Dr. Thomas emphasizes that Christians must hold fast to the truth of the gospel. When false teachers were distorting the gospel among the churches in Galatia, the Apostle Paul wrote an impassioned letter in order to defend the message of God's grace in Christ. In No Other Gospel, Dr. Thomas walks us through the background, teaching, and importance of the letter to the Galatians. He encourages Christians to stand firm and rest in Christ for their salvation.

LPC Emergency Closing Procedures

Lancaster Presbyterian Church will close under the following circumstances:

- Travel Ban in Lancaster due to weather related events
- State of Emergency in Lancaster due to weather related events
- Safety threat to Lancaster Presbyterian Church and its surrounding neighborhood

In the event of a closing or canceling of Sunday services, please refer to:

- Channel 2 News and Channel 7 News
- LPC Facebook page and LPC website

Please note that the decision to cancel Sunday morning services will be made no later than 7:30am.

Prayer Page

Pray for the pastor: I thank you, Father, that Your eyes are on my shepherd and Your ears are attentive to our pastor's prayers and Your face is against those who plot evil against our pastor (1 Peter 3:12). For I know that in all things You work for the good of Pastor Kelly who loves You (Romans 8:28). Who can accuse our pastor who is daily interceded for by Christ Jesus? (Romans 8:33-34). Therefore, in all things our pastor is more than a conqueror (Romans 8:37). Thank you, God.

The Pray! Prayer Journal, Nov Press 2003, p. 155

Praying for LPC ministries:

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

- Please pray for Pastor Will and his wife Cassandra, as they move onto his new congregation serving our Lord and spreading the Gospel.
- Please pray for LPC, as the elders pray, think, study and seek God's will for the best way forward for LPC.

Deacons: Lord, give us patient endurance, learning to trust You in waiting for our prayers to be answered. Then, give us contentment in Your answer, whatever it may be; knowing that eventually all will be for our good and Your glory. In Jesus' Name, Amen

Praying for our family

James McElhinny
Dennis Hopp
Dianne Perry
Randy Bungo
Marsha Haas
Judy Cavanaugh
Bill Stortz
Helen Markham
Carole Schafer
Paul & Carol Welker
Doris Moranski
Violet Chaves
Judy Martin
Don Flaig

Home Members

Shirley Richard
Nancy Patterson
Dave Breckenridge
Millie Epolito
Jackie Harbold
Judy Kish

LPC's Military

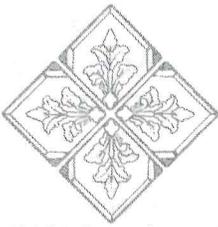
Personnel:

Thomas Carlsen II

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 716-684-2277.





Lancaster Presbyterian Church

5461 Broadway St. Lancaster, NY 14086

Phone: 716.684.2277

Rev. Dr. Kelly Negus, Senior Pastor
Raffi Wright, Youth & Music Director

Non-Profit
US POSTAGE PAID
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



*Worship at LPC this winter!
Every Sunday at 9:30am
Childcare provided.*

Sunday School & Adult Education at 10:45am

LIVESTREAM available at www.L-P-C.org