

# The Grapevine

January 2024



## 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.*

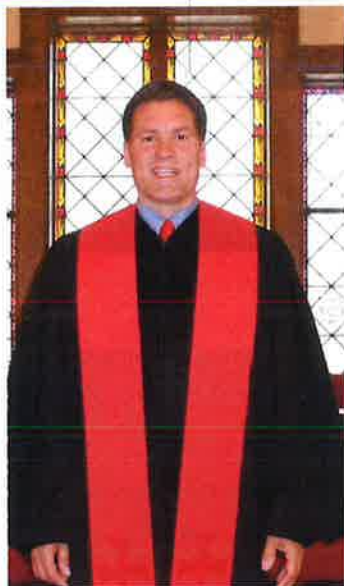
*Sunday School (ages 1-18) & Adult Education - Every Sunday*

*[www.L-P-C.org](http://www.L-P-C.org)*

*New sermon series on Genesis beginning in the new year!*



*And God saw that  
it was good.*



## Christmas

I'm perfectly fine with a white Christmas this year, or not, but I hope we won't have another snowstorm this Christmas that prohibits our gathering in worship. I could live without plumbing issues too, thank you very much. It was hard to be apart from you last Christmas, and while it was a

blessing to hunker down with the family and Pastor Will last year and make recordings to post so that we could in some sense be "together," still there is nothing like being able to gather with God's people in worship. I think that I will never take that privilege for granted again, especially at Christmas time.

Then, too, our Lord called our friend Myra Boyer home to glory last Christmas, and while we rejoice in her heaven going, we miss her, and I can't think of Myra without being thoughtfully intentional about making the most of the time that is appointed for us to serve together. I hope that you are able to gather with your loved ones this Christmas and enjoy the blessings of being together in Jesus.

The thought that captivates me in the approach to Christmas this year is in contemplating all the different stories that are unfolding here below while Christ the King rules and reigns supremely on high. Some are hurting, some are suffering, some are lonely and far from home, some are healthy and strong, some are beset with cancer. Many are able to gather with friends and loved ones in joyful celebration. Whatever our situations, it is comforting to know that Jesus is on His throne. He is bigger than all of it. He is in control. He knows what is coming, and He directs His will and purposes through all the hopes and fears that we are experiencing. Jesus is our invincible anchor, our solid rock, our firm foundation, bringing peace, sustaining hope, overflowing in

joy, and uniting us in the love of God that is poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. He is the Christ, the Son of the Living God. He has come just as He was promised of old, even from the beginning. He is coming again, and the promise of His return is bigger than any and all other considerations combined.

Sometimes I feel a little self-conscious thinking and writing or speaking about the things that are obvious. But an important part of what I do is to celebrate the obvious. I'm helpful that way. Are you hurting, sad or lonely and feeling blue? Reach out, dear heart, we are here for you. You are never alone when you have your church family. Are you happy, healthy and strong? Rejoice in the goodness of the Lord. Whatever your situation, our Lord is on His throne. We can come to Him with any need, any confession, any commitment, or resolve. I surely hope I get to be with you this Christmas, but whatever comes my heart will sing: "Joy to the world the Lord is come . . ." The King is on His throne. Merry Christmas, loved ones!  
Pastor Kelly

**The Ordination and Installation of New Officers will take place during both services on Sunday, January 7, 2024.**

**Prayer Gathering - Monday, January 8th**

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

**Women's Evening Bible Study - The Gospel of Mark (Part 3)  
Resumes Thursday, January 25th at 7:00pm**

In this laid-back group, women have a chance to learn together, encourage one another in daily struggles, and pray together, all while studying the Gospel of Mark. All women are encouraged to come for this time together!

**Sunday School Mitten Tree Collection**

It's Mitten Tree Collection time! The LPC Sunday School children are collecting mittens, hats, gloves, and scarves to donate to needy children. Look for the trees to hang your donation on near the entrances. We will be collecting all of December – January 7<sup>th</sup>.

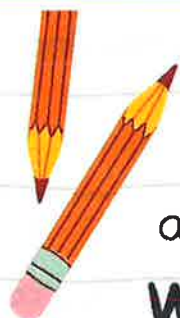
**2023 Annual Report**

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 2023. 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 11, 2024 at 12:30pm in the sanctuary.

**2024 Offering Envelopes** New offering envelopes for 2024 are available in the lower foyer. If you have any questions or concerns, or if you would like envelopes please contact Diane Carlsen.





# FAMILY NIGHT



at Lancaster Presbyterian Church

**WEDNESDAY NIGHTS 5:30pm-7pm**

Join us for any or all of the activities!



5:30pm - 6:15pm

## Pizza and Fellowship

- All are welcome!
- Location: Waith Hall
- \$1 per slice



6:00pm-6:30 pm

## Cherub Choir

- Age group: Pre-K 4 – 2nd Grade
- Location: room 114
- Singing for fun and to rehearse a song to sing in church or out in the community 1x per month



6:15pm-7:00pm

## Adult Study Group

- Location: Pastor's Study
- Dropping your kid(s) off for Cherub Choir & Mini Youth Group? Join Pastor Kelly for a time of discussion on applying the Gospel to parenting
- All adults welcome!
- Childcare available in the nursery



6:30pm-7:00pm

## Mini Youth Group

- Age group: Pre-K 4 – 2nd grade
- Location: room 114
- Activities, games, coloring, and stories



Also on Wednesday nights,

## Kids Youth Group

- 6:30pm-8:00 pm
- Age group: 3rd-6th Grades
- Location: Potter's House
- Games in the gym, Bible study, crafts & activities, plus a snack!



## **LPC Family Night resumes Wednesday, January 3rd!**

*See all details on previous page.*

### **Wednesday Night Adult Group 6:15 -7:00pm**

Discussion time with the pastor and his wife on topics ranging from the Bible to parenting to why we believe. Open to all. Come with your questions and to make new friends.

### **Kids Youth Group (grades 3-6)**

**Resumes Wednesday, January 3rd! Coming Up in 2024!**

**Boys** - 4 week woodworking project (1/10, 1/17, 1/24, 2/7)

**Girls** - 4 weeks cooking and baking together (1/10, 1/17, 1/24, 2/7)

**Kids Youth Group takes place every Wednesday during our Family Night programming! Drop off at the Potter's House at 6:30pm, pick up at 8:00pm.**

### **Junior & Senior High Youth Group at Lancaster Presbyterian Church**

***\*2024 gatherings will be on the following  
Saturdays from 5:30pm to 8:00pm\****

January 13, January 27, February 10, February 24, March 9,  
March 23, April 13, April 27 (May dates TBD)

**Gatherings include: cooking & eating dinner together  
followed by Bible discussion & games!**

***Save the date for our first gathering on  
Saturday, January 13th at 5:30pm!***

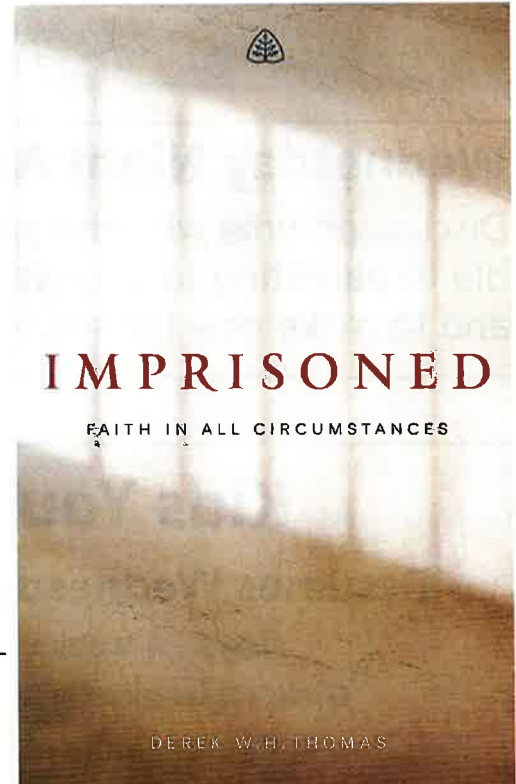
## Adult Education

Beginning in the upcoming 2024 Winter Term, the Adult Sunday School class will study a new lesson series by Dr. Derek Thomas. This series will look at the lives of those individuals from both the Old and New Testament who trusted God in difficult circumstances – often from the prison cell. This class, led by Kevin Selkregg, will have discussions focused around the feature video by Dr. Thomas.

From Genesis to Revelation, there is no shortage of God's people who have found themselves imprisoned. They have been thrown into dark dungeons, locked behind closed doors, and exiled to remote lands. For each one of these people, there are lessons to be learned that can be applied to any trying circumstance. Dr. Derek Thomas journeys through the whole of Scripture to draw out these lessons to strengthen our faith in whatever circumstances we might find ourselves. The AE committee invites all congregants to join us in this important series to be held in Waith Hall at 9:45.

The weekly subjects are:

1. God's Dark Providence and Jeremiah
2. God's Courage to Daniel
3. God's Sovereignty in Micaiah
4. God's Presence with Joseph
5. God's Grace to Samson
6. God's Persistence with Jonah
7. God's Reassurance through John the Baptist
8. God's Assurance and Paul's Final Imprisonment
9. God's Boldness through Peter and John
10. God's Salvation through Paul and Silas at Philippi
11. God's Vision through John on Patmos
12. God's Power in Jesus Christ







# Prayer Page

**Pray for the pastors:** I thank you, Father, that Your eyes are on my shepherd and Your ears are attentive to our pastors' prayers and Your face is against those who plot evil against our pastors (1 Peter 3:12). For I know that in all things You work for the good of Kelly and Will who love You (Romans 8:28). Who can accuse these pastors who are daily interceded for by Christ Jesus? (Romans 8:33-34). Therefore, in all things our pastors are more than conquerors (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 a prayer asking the Lord's blessing upon and His help with the work of Session. Session this month wishes to offer the following KAP prayer requests:

- Please praise God for the fine music ministry that we have and do enjoy at LPC weekly!
- Please praise God for all those who volunteer their time and talents to carry on the excellent music ministry as we search for new paid staff!
- Please pray for the Music Search Committee as they labor to find the talent needed to help carry the Music Ministry forward!
- Please pray for the candidates and for the one(s) God has selected for His service at LPC!

**Deacons:** Oh, Lord our God, Our world and our own lives sometimes seem so out of control. When we focus on the problems, they seem to grow larger and darker. Help us keep our focus on You; the Creator, Sustainer, Healer, Provider. You are larger and stronger than any circumstance or creature. Thank you for the Peace only Jesus can give; in whose Name we pray. Amen.

**Prayer for our country:** Lord of the universe, we ask your blessing on those in our government who know you and are willing to obey You despite the pressures brought to bear on them. Give them wisdom, integrity and courage to stand against the evils pervading our nation. We know You have faithful politicians serving in our legislatures and we ask for protection and endurance for them as they discern Your will in the business of the administration of the United States. Expose and discredit those who defy Your Law and who cause many to stumble. Please raise up godly leaders to guide us into the future with truth.

**Prayer for our World:** Heavenly Father, please watch over Christian children in so many nations like Brunei where they are required to attend Islamic schools. Protect their hearts and minds from teaching that will cause them to doubt Your goodness. As they are taught to read the Quran give them discernment to see that Islam does not lead to faith in Your Son Jesus who loves them and died for them. Encourage believing parents in places like Brunei to give their children the truth of Your word at home and establish it strongly in their hearts, Lord, so that they recognize error and remain faithful to You.

## **Praying for our family**

Joyce Klaasesz  
Barb Benzinger  
Rob Herget  
Maureen O'Connor  
Christian Carlsen  
Carolina Jackson  
Sandy Wiepert  
Sharon Krause  
Rudy Bucci  
Jim McElhinny  
Judy Cavanaugh  
Beth Kroecker  
Ron Stasiowski  
Judy Martin  
Don Flaig  
Don Metzger  
Donna Herget  
Jackie Harbold  
Betty Glowacki  
Millie Epolito  
Judy Kish  
Norma English  
Nancy Patterson  
Bob Foley

## **LPC's Military Personnel:**

Thomas Carlsen II  
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

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

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

### **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.**

Non-Profit  
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Lancaster, NY 14086  
Permit #40

[www.L-P-C.org](http://www.L-P-C.org)  
[office@L-P-C.org](mailto:office@L-P-C.org)

**Address Service Requested**

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