

Preaching Schedule

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| Sunday, July 3 COMMUNION SUNDAY Sowing Lessons Mark 4:1-20 | Sunday, July 17 Anger Management Luke 9:51-56 |
| Sunday, July 10 More Than Enough Mark 6:30-44 | Sunday, July 24 Pruning Season John 15:1-8 |
| | Sunday, July 31 A Shepherd's Heart Luke 15:1-7 |



God and Country

On June 14 – Flag Day – we dedicated our new flagpole. After a word of prayer, young men from our scout troop solemnly raised the flag in the evening sunlight. It was a stirring moment.

church. For as long as I have been your pastor, the American flag has been displayed in our Sanctuary. Nevertheless, it took a tragedy to make us aware that we had no outdoor flag.

Why did we erect a flag pole? Actually, it's an interesting story. On August 26, 2021, thirteen American soldiers were killed while defending the airport in Kabul, Afghanistan. The following Sunday, Garry Benner came to worship expecting to see the church flag flying at half-staff as a symbol of grief and mourning. What he discovered, instead, is that our church had no outdoor flag. Surprised by this, Garry brought it to the attention of others. In response, they requested permission from our Session to erect a flag-pole at the corner of Warren and East Street, directly behind our church sign.



I am grateful to Garry Benner and all those who supported this effort. All of the money for this project was donated voluntarily, at no cost to the church. Also, I am grateful to Dan Crago who presented the idea to Session, along with scale drawings.

As we prepare to celebrate the Fourth of July, it is good to remember that our nation was founded on faith in God. The flag reminds us that all of the freedoms we enjoy as Americans are God-given. This fact is enshrined in the Declaration of Independence, which states that, "all men are created equal and are endowed by their CREATOR with certain unalienable rights."

Today, many people argue that church and state are divorced from each other, that faith should have no part in our government. Actually, nothing could be further from the truth. In the words of Thomas Jefferson, "God who gave us life gave us liberty. And can the liberties of a nation be

Continued on page 2

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WE ARE ON THE WEB!

The Rev. Stephanie Poblenz

Associate Pastor

The Rev. Peter Larson

Senior Pastor

11 a.m. Modern Worship

10 a.m. Traditional Worship

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship

WORSHIP TIMES

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thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of people that these liberties are the Gift of God? I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just, that his justice cannot sleep forever.”

John Adams, the second President of the United States, wrote these words: “Our constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.”

The great patriot Patrick Henry wrote these words: “It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded not by religionists, but by Christians; not on religions, but on the gospel of Jesus Christ. For this reason people of other faiths have been afforded asylum, prosperity and freedom to worship here.”

Interfaith Hospitality LPC UPDATE



We look forward to providing meals, encouragement and prayers for our Interfaith Hospitality families who find themselves temporarily homeless. Our third of four rotations for 2022 is **July 17-23**. Watch for the LPC Weekly updates for opportunities to cook, prepare side dishes and shop for needs starting Friday, July 1, 2022.

If you would like to be part of the IHN Leadership Team, contact Terri Catanzaro at 513-288-2313 or send questions or comments to lebanonpcihn@gmail.com.

Your IHN LPC Leadership Team: Chris Brown, Terri Catanzaro, Margaret Bondurant, Ally Bondurant, Jenna Terrell

In his first inaugural address, George Washington acknowledged God as the source of all our freedom and blessings: “In tendering this homage to the Great Author of every public and private good I assure myself that it expresses your sentiments not less than my own; nor those of my fellow-citizens at large, less than either. No People can be bound to acknowledge and adore the invisible hand, which conducts the Affairs of men more than the People of the United States.”

A nation that fails to honor, acknowledge and obey God will not exist for very long. Our Founding Fathers understood this, and so should we.

Your servant in Christ,
Peter

Women's Ministry Project MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The majority of the 50 women who attended this year’s Women’s Retreat at LPC expressed interest in our summer mission project and we need even more. Join us in the Ark on **Saturday August 13th at 9:00 a.m.** for cutting, assembling and sewing reusable cloth feminine hygiene materials for women who do not have access to these necessary products around the world.

We will have a continental breakfast at 8:30 and lunch will be provided.

Please start collecting materials now and bring them with you August 13th. **Materials Needed – Towels or washcloths (new or used) - Flannel cloth (like flannel sheets) - Thread - Black sharpies - Good scissors – Sewing machines.** NOTE* Used towels and flannel are fine. Things can be new as well, but it would be nice if they were all washed. Sign ups will be online soon.

*For more information call:
Debbie Snider 513-932-2789, Heather Forster 513-258-9388, or Debbie Kouns 513-515-6741*

iPray

We should pray the hardest when it's hardest to pray.
-Anonymous

Please pray for the following needs and concerns of the church in the coming month:

For our mission trip to Detroit on Saturday, July 23 when we dedicate the new basketball court and enjoy a cookout with the 5Point7 Church.

For our college students as they go on retreat the weekend of July 15-17, and for our summer intern, Chloe Allman.

For our New Member class on Saturday, July 9 that many people would respond to the call of Christ and commit to joining the church.

For our Afghan families, that they would experience the love of Christ through our words, actions and support.

For the spiritual renewal of our church, community, nation and the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, that the Holy Spirit would deepen our love for Jesus Christ.

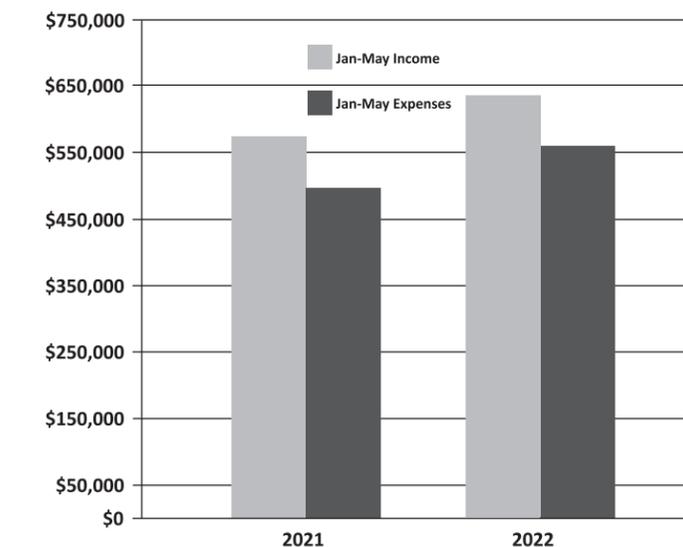
Detroit Mission Trip

On Saturday, July 23 we are planning a road trip to Detroit, Michigan to dedicate a new basketball court at the 5Point7 Church. The basketball court was funded by our church as an outreach to



neighborhood youth. Members of the 5Point7 church will be hosting a cookout and barbeque, with people from the neighborhood invited to join. Also, Pastor Peter Larson has challenged Pastor Evans to a free-throw contest! It will be a one day trip, leaving early in the morning and returning at night. To save gas we’re planning to carpool and use the church bus. If you’d like to join us please contact Gabrielle Pyles at the church office, 513-932-2751. All are welcome and the cost is free.

LPC Income and Expenses



Financial Giving



As always, we rely on your faithful giving to support the mission and ministry of LPC. You can send your pledge by mail or you can take advantage of the online giving. To begin online giving just go to our church website at

lebanonpresbyterian.org or text “give” to 513-443-5522, or scan the QR code below, by going to your camera and focusing on the code, then just touch the website QR code banner that pops up on your phone. You will be directed to the Suran website for giving at LPC.

Blood Drive

Deacons are hosting the next Blood Drive on Saturday, July 9th from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in The Ark at LPC.

Summer is always a critical needs time for blood donations. The May Blood Drive benefited over 36 patients and we had 2 new donors. Our Blood Drive is well known for serving Biscuits and Gravy and many donors are excited to come and donate just for Connie Tunison’s homemade recipe!

Please make a reservation with Community Blood Center of Dayton by phone 937-461-3220.

Thank You

Dear LPC Family:

I am sincerely honored to have been selected as the recipient of the Ron Lucke Spiritual Gifts Scholarship. This scholarship will make it possible for me to attend Cedarville University starting in August. I truly appreciate your generosity in helping me to take steps toward my goal of becoming a registered nurse and am so grateful to have grown up in such a loving and supportive church.

Sincerely,
Jenna Terrell

Dear Family at LPC:

Thank you so much for your recent gift of \$500 to support my mission work here in Cambodia. I really appreciate your faithful partnership over the years. I am enjoying my new job at HOPE International School. It's a good fit for my administration and education skills. Please pray for the end of our school years, especially for the seniors who have had much of their high school disrupted by COVID.

Much love from Cambodia,
Rachel

To my church family... Thank you!

I cannot begin to thank you all for your support during my time away. I received so many encouraging emails, texts, and voicemails which meant a lot. I knew you were praying for me and I am so grateful to be part of this imperfectly perfect LPC family. I still have much work to do, but because of your support, I am in a much better place than I was a month ago. So, again, thank you and I am excited for what God has in store for us in the years to come!

Peace of Christ to you all,
Rick McNeely



This month we honor the following men and women for their loving service to Jesus Christ and the church:

Dave & Nancy Lupberger and **Debbie Scarborough** for assembling the newsletter.

Jim VanDeGrift for power washing the back parking lot wall.

Roger Sims for cleaning out the courtyard of the Blair House.

The Safety Team who kept everybody safe and calm on Wednesday night at VBS when the tornado sirens went off. We were so glad you were there to help!

Boy Scout Troop 186 who dedicated our flag on National Flag Day, June 14, 2022. Thank you also for the ceremony for the 247th birthday of the U.S. Army. Especially appreciated were the birthday cupcakes and U.S. Army fans that were passed out to keep us cool. How delightful on a sweltering day.

Gary and Elizabeth Griffin for leading the Praise band while Rick was away.

Patty Corfman for leading the choir while Rick was away.

Roger McMurrin for his help suggesting anthems for the choir to sing.

Dave Kuyper, Dave Lupberger, Rick Oliver and **Roger Sims** for trimming bushes and trees around the church property and for **Rita Poth** for supplying the delicious food to keep energy levels up.

Garry Benner for organizing the flag pole dedication.

Coming Alongside

Attention Ladies! JOIN US for Coming Alongside in July. We will meet at **Warped Wing at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, July 19**. The address is 5650 Tylersville Rd. in Mason. If you can join us, please call or email rvezmar45@gmail.com or 706-207-3826.

The Body of Christ – Working Well

BY STEPHANIE POBLENZ

Pastor of Pastoral Care and Family Ministry



SOME OF OUR YOUTH LEADERS WITH THE JUNIORS AND SENIORS OF OUR HIGH SCHOOL GROUP.



OUR YOUTH MISSION TRIP TEAM

The month of June was filled with so many incredible events. From VBS, the Youth Mission trip, to the All-Church Celebration with Historic BBQ, and so many in between! While these events were put on by different committees, for different purposes, there was one large thing that united them all: they would not have happened without the hard work of our volunteers!

The body of Christ is often talked about in that we all have specific gifts that we can bring to the table. And while that is true, there is also the understanding that the body can't physically function the way it was meant to without all the parts. It's hard to live life without a spleen! Our toes (even the littlest one!) are vital for balance. In the same way, our life as a body of believers needs each other to function well. Without the support and willingness of others, it would be much more difficult to spread the Gospel like we are called to! VBS alone had almost too many volunteers to count! With crew leaders, snack helpers, decorators, un-decorators, the list goes on and on! Tracy and the Children's Ministry Team could not have pulled off VBS without the help and support of others.

I would like to take this space to thank each and every one of you who has volunteered at an event or class in recent months. From Sunday School to our mid-week youth group, your support and help are vital to the life of our church. It is a blessing to serve alongside so many of you!



THERESA HELPING US PREPARE DECORATIONS FOR VBS (ABOVE)



OUR VBS CREW LEADERS AND THE KIDS SHOWING OFF THEIR DANCE MOVES (ABOVE)



OUR ALL CHURCH CELEBRATION, WHERE OUR VOLUNTEERS SET UP SEATING AND MINGLED WITH NEW VBS FAMILIES AND FRIENDS FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD. (LEFT & ABOVE)

encounter **LPC STUDENT MINISTRIES**

STUDENTS PARENTS LEADERS

Encounter Mission Trip 2022 Mercedes, Texas, Rio Grande Valley



Preschool Games: I'd like to give a shout out to my husband, John, who came on Monday night to help and, due to unforeseen circumstances, was thrown into leading Preschool Games. Fortunately, Leslie Fisher had planned all the games ahead of time. The preschoolers had a great time, and between you and me, Mr. John loved every minute of it! Thanks also to Nick Pierett and Andrew Heckart who took over for John towards the end of the week.



Music: Dance party! In music the kids sang and did motions to the songs. Praising God with everything they had! Ask Matt Poblencz, one of our fabulous crew leaders, about all the fun he had getting down with the music at VBS.



Drama: Our dramatists shared the message of each night through a really fun Bible drama, followed by discussion. The first story told in drama was the story of creation. Helen Vickers had a great time playing a bird (for day 5 of creation)!



Snack: Our snack station volunteers could really have gone into the bakery business! The kids enjoyed their snacks each night, which always related to our stories.

But seriously...At snack station, the crew leaders also had a serious time of discussion with the kids about the topic of the night. One night, for instance, they talked about the parable of the lost sheep. They gave examples of times when they had lost something precious and the joy they felt when they found it. They discovered that Jesus loves them in the same way and that there is a celebration in heaven when one of them decided to accept Jesus.



Our crew leaders and other volunteers did a great job of loving the kids all week long. They really bonded with their crews and showed them what the light of God's love is all about. The kids felt Jesus' love for them all week long and they learned how fun it is to be at church! They had a blast!

Many many thanks to all those who helped in any way with our VBS - inviting kids to come, prepping our materials at VBS Work Night, donating bottles and other items, working behind the scenes on lights and video, or decorations, volunteering to work with the kids during the week, and a huge thank you to all those who were praying for us all week long. It's so awe-inspiring when a church pulls together to work for one common goal. So many of you helped in so many ways, and God blessed our efforts. Thank you so much!

Discovery on Adventure Island VBS - “We will seek until we find The Way, The Truth, and The Life...”

BY TRACY UNTENER
Children's Ministry Director

We had such a wonderful week of VBS! God was present and his Holy Spirit worked through our volunteers who put their hearts and souls into making our week a smashing success.



Our Lighthouse Keeper, played by Emmett Bicknell (above), started our week off by giving the kids a mission to find each of our 5 infinity lanterns of Love, Trust, Faith, Joy, and Hope. They were to learn all they could about God's great light and then share that light with others. Professor Brighten, played by Zeke Forster (left) and affectionately dubbed, “the sneaky guy” by the kids, planted clues each night about the Bible stories that would help our kids discover more about the Infinity Lanterns and God's great light. The kids loved figuring these out each night!



Our stations were spectacular, and in each one, the point of the night was reinforced.



Crafts: In crafts, both preschool and elementary kids explored with black lights and did awesome crafts like creating a burning bush suncatcher.

Games: The kids had so much fun at the games station, where teamwork was often the key. You've heard of Capture the Flag, but have you ever heard of Capture the Flip Flop?

Meet with Rick Beckwith

BY RICK MCNEELY
Minister of Worship and Music

When and how did you find LPC and what was your first experiences like?

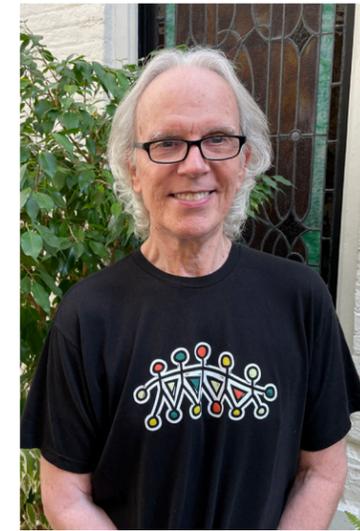
I moved to Lebanon in April of 2018 knowing virtually nothing about the town. From where I live, the route to Kroger and points north took me right by the church. Every time I drove by, the pull on me to go in got stronger so on the last Sunday that month I walked in and within five minutes I knew I had found a home (I have heard others say the same thing). I never looked back. There were two things that made very big impressions. First, before I was barely inside the door, I was made to feel welcome. That was amazing because it was genuine. Being a complete stranger didn't matter. Truly, everyone is welcome here. The second was that the Bible was being preached. There was no moralizing, no personal dogmas or fire and brimstone. It was the word of God. Period. Exactly what I was looking for. It was proof positive that the Lord knows what you need.

I see you at church at least a couple times a week. Are you serving in other areas?

Well, as you know, I volunteer in the office a couple of mornings each week. A few weeks ago, I started working up in the sound booth learning to run the sound board for third service. I'm on the kitchen crew for Wednesday Nights Together and for memorial luncheons although those are part of my deacon responsibilities. Being a part of those crews has been a joy.

What draws you to volunteer like this?

LPC is an incredibly giving church. The reach of this church extends around the world as we all know but, in my view, the most important ministry of LPC is our church family. I see that every time I am here. On top of that, this church has given me so much. A place where I feel welcome and a place where I get truth, real truth, God's truth, without exception, every time I am here. So, with all of that I was compelled to give something back, to help out in whatever way I can and hopefully I am accomplishing that.



You've been part of “The Crew” for a few weeks now. How's it going so far?

Well for sure, it's different. This is a new area for me. You must learn how to watch the service differently than you would if you were sitting in the congregation. Timing is everything. The right mic or group of mics, amps and instruments must be up and at the right levels at the right time, so you have to pay close attention to who and/or what is coming up next. I'm a total rookie but Dana Bicknell has been a great teacher and very patient. Jerry Hentschel has also been a big help.

What's the most fun part and the most challenging part of serving on the media team?

I enjoy all of it. The learning, rehearsals, and Sundays. The biggest challenge has been getting the timing down because sometimes several things happen at the same time and making it all seem seamless is a challenge but it's a fun challenge. I'll get there.

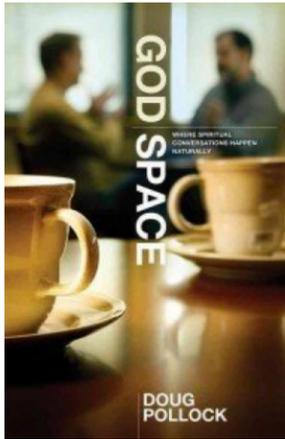
If you could offer any words of encouragement to people wanting to get more involved in the church, what would you say?

If it has been on your heart to become more involved with our church, all you have to do is knock and the door will be opened. Seriously, call the office or stop by or ask someone about it on Sunday mornings. You won't be disappointed. You will find things here that you never expected. Wonderful things not the least of which are the phenomenal people you will meet. This church is all about its people. I learned that in my first five minutes.

Thanks again, Rick for your servant heart and for taking the time for this.

Activating God Space

A.K.A. SHARING THE GOOD NEWS



For the past year, we have been striving to remind ourselves and all of you that we have been given an assignment by Jesus to show people how much God loves them and what He has done for them. We do not want to take this mandate lightly. This is what Jesus expects us to do until He returns.

The God Space class showed some ways in which we could do this without being totally intimidated. But since we began doing this article, I have been seeing different ways we, at LPC, and other Christians, are showing people God's love. At first, I thought it was all about telling people the story of Jesus and His sacrifice for us – and it really is – but sometimes we have to work up to that level of confidence and trust from the other person. I'm beginning to see that it's really just truly caring about and respecting others – their story - how they think, their challenges, their physical needs, their hopes and fears, their deeper needs. And somewhere along the way, letting them know that they are loved and valued by God. Isn't that what Jesus did?

Here's one example of what I'm seeing: When we invited all the VBS families and the neighborhood to have a free lunch on us, lots of people showed up. They could have come and eaten their meal and left and thought, "well, that was nice of them." But the wonderful thing was the way they were welcomed, the way conversations happened, and people got to know (at least a little) people they didn't know before.

Can you help us inspire each other? When you see someone bringing the love of God to others, please share it with us (no names are necessary). Or if the Holy Spirit leads you share God's love in some way, would you tell us about it? (You can stay anonymous.) We would like to show examples of Sharing the Good News to encourage and to embolden us to do the same.

"...you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8) We are called to first go to our family and friends, then to the people around us, then to the whole world. Let's get busy doing what Jesus has called us to do!

Karen Kilpatrick and Terri Catanzaro
Larkar3466@gmail.com and terricatanzaro@gmail.com

FORE!

Our annual LPC golf tournament is scheduled for Sunday, **October 9 at 2 p.m.** at Majestic Springs Golf Course in Wilmington. The cost is \$40 for 18 holes



including green fees and a cart. You don't have to be a great golfer to join us – just come and have fun. All of the proceeds will go to support the school we built in Ilmamen, a poor village in Kenya, Africa. We are also looking for individual and corporate donors to sponsor holes for \$200. If you're willing to be a sponsor please call Jack Victory at 513-907-1772. To register for the tournament please call Gaby at the church office.

Afghan Picnic



LPC Flag Dedication

On Tuesday, June 14, National Flag Day, many gathered on the lawn at the corner of Warren and East Street. The dedication was conducted by our very own Boy Scout Troop 186. We are truly blessed to have this group of fine young men dedicated to God and country. The Troop also had a special ceremony for the 247th birthday of the U.S. Army which was also on June 14. The dedication honored our first responders, military and medical community for their service. Thank you to all who attended. God Bless America and our first responders, military and medical community.



Afghan Picnic

