

Three Billion

In June I had the opportunity to attend the General Assembly of the Evangelical Church (EPC) in Denver, Colorado. For three days we gathered for worship, training, business and reports from our mission workers around the globe.

One number was stressed repeatedly: three billion. According to the best estimates, there are three billion people on planet earth who have not been reached by the Gospel. Three billion who have not heard the name of Jesus even one time. Three billion still living in darkness.

Currently, the world population is about 8 billion. In other words, 3 out of 8 people in the world are unreached. To reach 3 billion people seems utterly impossible. And yet, the EPC is dedicated to accomplishing this task. Instead of going to places where the Gospel has been proclaimed, the EPC is sending its missionaries to dangerous and difficult places where there is no Christian church, including many Muslim nations.

In 2022, the EPC had 146 missionaries deployed around the world in 40 different countries. During the past five years, the EPC has invested nearly \$30 million in world outreach, focusing mainly on unreached people.

At General Assembly I heard the testimony of one EPC missionary from Detroit (his name is confidential) who is from Bangladesh. Several times a year, he visits Muslim people who are living in refugee camps in Bangladesh. Most of

them are refugees from Myanmar. In recent years, he has planted more than 40 Christian churches inside these refugee camps.

I spoke with another missionary couple who are supported by our church. For many years, they trained to serve in Russia. However, when Russia invaded Ukraine, they were forced to relocate to Budapest, Hungary. Since the outbreak of the war they have been working with refugees

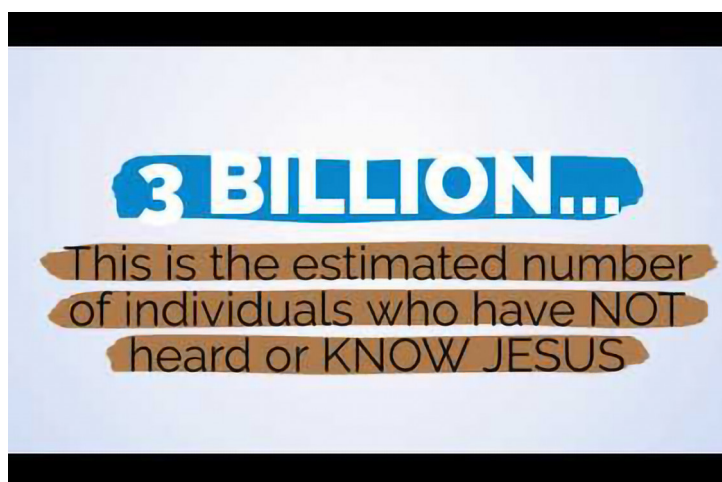
from Ukraine. Because they have learned Russian, they are able to communicate and share the Gospel with these refugees.

Another missionary told about building a farm in Southeast Asia where they grow sea cucumbers. The farming business serves as a platform for building relationships with Muslims.

I am grateful to serve a church that is so mission-minded. We support barefoot pastors in India who are planting churches in rural villages. We support missionaries in France and North Africa who are building the church in Algeria. In recent years, we built a school in Kenya so that Masai children will come to know Jesus Christ.

The church is not an island. Jesus has given us a global mission. We cannot rest until the light of Christ reaches the entire world and the darkness has turned into dawn.

Your servant in Christ,
Peter



Caring for Our Preschool and Playschool

BY STEPHANIE POBLENZ

Pastor of Pastoral Care and Family Ministry

As many of you know, the church has a wonderful preschool downstairs. Many of you may not know that the Preschool is not separate from our church! We are one family unit! Our LPC Preschool cares for many families in our community, with before and after school care for elementary students, as well as multiple preschool, early learning, young 5's, and kindergarten classes. We also have an incredible mission for our community in our Playschool. This entirely free preschool class works with families who either cannot afford traditional preschool, or their children could use additional help and care as they prepare for kindergarten.

As the school year quickly approaches, the Preschool Ministry Team thought it would be a great idea to hold a supply drive for our teachers of both the Preschool and the Playschool! We want to have a way in which our congregation can tangibly support and show love to these teachers who work each and every day to show Christ's love to so many little ones. In addition, each month, I will highlight some of the teachers who work downstairs, so we can get to know them as well!

Here are a few ways that you can pray for our teachers as they school year begins:

- For the team to be fully staffed. Staffing is an issue everywhere, and finding people who care for the children well is a huge prayer.
- The children would experience the love of Christ each and every day they attend school.
- Encouragement and patience for all teachers as they meet their new classes for the year.
- The staff would continue to be well connected and like a close-knit family.



On the far left is Catelyn McDulin. She has worked at the preschool for one year, working alongside the kindergartners and school-age childcare. In the center is Annie Crowder. She has worked with the preschool for two years and works with our youngest kids as a childcare teacher. You may also recognize her on a Sunday morning as she serves in our nursery! On the far right is Nicole Hilkert. Nicole has been working at the preschool since 2011! She works with early learning, young fives, and daycare students.



This is Julie Crago and Mary Lou Kusler. Julie is our Playschool Director, and Mary Lou is her assistant. Mary Lou also works at the Preschool when Playschool is not in session.

Please pray for our teachers, and look for our supply drive starting the last week of July!

PRESCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Starting July 30, we will have **SUPPLY TAGS** in the Narthex for you to pick up. Please take a **SUPPLY TAG**, and return items to the LPC Office before August 21st.

- 60 boxes of Washable Crayola Markers
- 20 boxes of Crayola crayons
- Bottled glue
- As many Glue Sticks as possible
- Watercolors
- 4 sharpie markers
- Rolls of scotch take for dispenser
- Dinner sized paper plates
- Self-adhesive Velcro dots
- 12 pack magnetic white board erasers
- MoloTAR 8 colors rainbow washable ink pads
- Pencil grips for kids
- Rhythm sticks
- Hula hoops
- Lots of 3 oz. dixie cups
- Dixie cup dispenser
- Amazon gift cards
- All sizes of Zip-Loc bags
- Goldfish crackers
- Applesauce
- Teddy Grahams
- Walmart gift cards
- PetSmart gift cards (for worms, freeze dried crickets, and UVA/UVB lamps)
- Homemade playdoh supplies
- Poster boards in every color



What if a Shooter Came to LPC?

The **LPC Safety Ministry Team** was established in November 2017. The team has worked to improve physical security within LPC, including designing emergency procedures, installing a public address system, and supplying and training in the use of AED units. The team provides security for all Sunday services and events such as the weekly Feeding Ministry, Vacation Bible School, and Concerts. Because the Safety Team is not present 24/7/365, about a year ago, the team sponsored a workshop for preschool/playschool staff, church Elders, and church office staff about what to do if an active shooter entered LPC. Lebanon Police officers, trained in teaching others how to react in situations involving a potential active shooter, led the presentation titled “Run/Hide/Fight,” a method which, when used properly, can save lives.

The Safety Ministry Team plans to make this training workshop available to the congregation. Led by Lebanon Police officers, this “Run/Hide/Fight” training is planned for **Thursday, September 14, at 6:30 p.m., in Room 102.** Interested persons may register to attend by signing up at the Information Table on Sunday, September 3 or September 10, or online via **Sign-Up Genius** by scanning the QR code to the right with your smartphone camera.



On September 10, 2023 at 2 p.m., the MIKE MCINTOSH MISSIONS GOLF TOURNAMENT will be held at Majestic Springs Golf Course in Wilmington.

The tournament is a scramble format of four person teams. Please register at the Information Table on the sign up sheet or contact Jack Victory at 513- 907-1772 or admin@lebanonpresbyterian.org. The deadline for sign up is September 3, 2023.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SPONSORING A HOLE, PLEASE CONTACT JACK FOR THE DETAILS.

LPC STUDENT MINISTRIES STUDENTS PARENTS LEADERS

Detroit Mission Trip

BY ANDREW JOHNSON

Director of Youth Ministry

Our youth group recently embarked on a life-changing mission trip to the vibrant and resilient community on the east side of Detroit. Partnering with Camp Restore Detroit, we had the incredible opportunity to engage in various projects that aimed to uplift and empower the local residents.



Throughout our stay, we collaborated on numerous projects, including constructing new front steps of a community member's house, contributing to a community garden, assisting in a community literacy program, and working together to combat urban blight. These experiences allowed us to witness the positive impact of the Gospel in a place faced with ongoing despair and disappointment. It was amazing to see what we could do when we came together with a common goal and a heart for service.



Additionally, we were delighted to join forces with our friends from 5point7 Church, where we lent a helping hand to rehabilitating the church grounds and basketball court. It was truly fulfilling to see our previous financial contribution put to good use and witness the transformation firsthand.

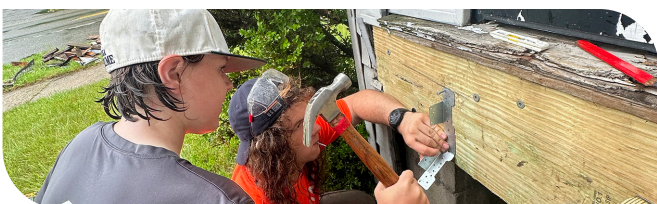


However, it wasn't all work and no play! We had a blast at the block party organized by 5point7 Church, where we engaged with the neighborhood kids by painting faces, assisting with crafts, supervising an inflatable obstacle course, and playing countless rounds of basketball. These moments of joy and laughter will forever hold a special place in our hearts.

As a delightful treat for our hard work and dedication, we also had the opportunity to cheer on the Detroit Tigers during a thrilling baseball game. And, of course, we couldn't leave Detroit without indulging in the famous Buddy's Pizza, savoring the original Detroit-style taste.



This mission trip was more than just a journey; it was an eye-opening experience that left a lasting impression on each of us. We had the opportunity to gather each night to worship and to read and study Romans 12. We were challenged to live out our lives as living sacrifices, and we do that by loving people the way Jesus did. Thank you to all who supported us and made this mission trip possible!



Summer Sunday School

BY TRACY UNTENER

Children's Ministry Leader

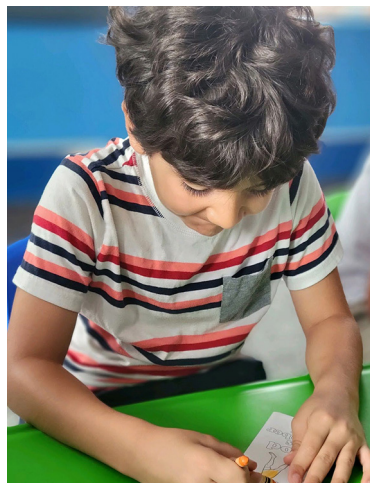
We've taken this summer and gathered together for a one-room Sunday School experience. It's been great! We've had some good discussions about how we, as Christians, should stand out and show others what life with Jesus should look like. For example, the kids recently learned about what it means to be a good neighbor and friend. We discussed how sometimes this could be really uncomfortable, treating others how we would want to be treated even when they look differently, act differently, or maybe smell a little.

Also, having all the different aged kids in the same class has allowed the kids to engage with each other in some wonderful ways. The older kids have been able to help by handing out snacks and working with the younger kids on crafts, etc. Some have proven to be very kind when working with younger children. For instance, when making friendship reminder bracelets, one little boy's beads fell off his string just when he was getting ready to tie it up. The little boy started to cry. This is when an older child comforted him, strung the beads back on in the order the child wanted, and then tied the bracelet together for him. It was so sweet to see.



The younger kids have also been living what they've learned from our lessons and by watching the older children. One child reached out to try to calm down an upset child that was new to our class by offering her a seat next to him.

We've had a great summer together, and God has really shown up to lead us in our discussions and to work on the kid's hearts. I've seen first-hand how kind and "neighborly" the kids have been. I pray that what they've learned will carry over into other settings in their lives.



WNT KIDS

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS TOGETHER KIDS

LEBANON
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

LEBANON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
123 N. EAST STREET | LEBANON, OH 45036

CONTACT TRACY UNTENER FOR MORE
INFORMATION AT 513-932-2751 OR
TRACY@LEBANONPRESBYTERIAN.ORG.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MUSICAL!

DOES YOUR CHILD LIKE TO SING AND ACT?

Join the cast of...

THE SECRET OF SNOWFLAKE COUNTY



SCAN TO SIGN UP!

In Snowflake County, Christmas celebrations have become so extravagant they threaten to over shadow the simplicity of Christmas' true meaning. It seems the only one who understands the secret of Jesus' simple birth is little Suzy Hallmark-but no one is listening. It will take a series of crazy mishaps during the community's annual seasonal program before the noise stops and everyone realizes that Christmas isn't about how brightly lights and decorations shine-it's about Jesus, the light of the world.

FREE AND OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY | NO TRYOUTS REQUIRED

For children age 5-6th grade

REHEARSALS: WEDNESDAYS | SEPTEMBER 13-NOVEMBER 29 | 7:15-8 P.M.

PERFORMANCE: December 3 *(A few additional practices, like dress rehearsal will be added.)*



BREAK OUT

FOR CHILDREN
AGE 4 - 6TH GRADE



SIGN UP
NOW!

KIDS ARE ALSO INVITED TO BREAKOUT!

Sometimes kids can feel trapped by things like worry, doubt, or fear. In this **FREE** escape room themed series of **WNT KIDS**, children will learn **GOD** can help them to **BREAK OUT** of these struggles.

FREE & FUN KIDS' PROGRAMMING

WEDNESDAYS | SEPT. 13-NOV. 15 | 6-7:15 P.M.



2023 Women's Retreat at LPC Coming Soon
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

JOY IN THE JOURNEY

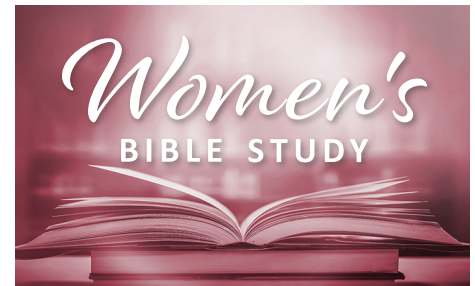
Life is a Journey - Joy is the Fuel - How Full is Your Tank?

While we may not control our circumstances, we can cultivate a deepening walk with God that empowers us to live in joy.

You won't want to miss this time together with all the ladies of LPC. Our speakers this year are from our congregation.

All women are welcome; invite your friend, sister, mom or daughter. High school young ladies are also welcome. Together we will experience a day of fun, fellowship and Christian learning. Our retreat this year will be at the church again this year. Everyone enjoyed it so much and we had nearly 50 women attend. The cost to attend is \$20 and includes breakfast and lunch. We will have an optional game night in Fellowship Hall with pizza and, yes, more snacks that evening if you would like to stay.

SIGN-UPS BEGIN SUNDAY AUGUST 20TH AND WILL END SEPT. 17TH.



Women's Bible Study
(ROOM 102)

Fall Women's Bible Study will meet on Thursday afternoons from 1-3 p.m. We will study "Amos" (God is the One Who Will Renew All Things) for 8 weeks: Sept. 14th - Nov. 2nd, 2023. Lessons will include Jennifer Rothschild teaching on DVD and discussion group time to unpack material studied. Ladies will be invited to live assured, faithful, chosen, humble, justly, prayerful and hopeful. "Amos" promotes the God life, and the God life is the good life.

We will use a workbook for home study. (Book fee with video access is \$21.99). To ensure that we have adequate materials, PLEASE sign up NOW by calling or texting Joyce Palmer at 513-258-6789.



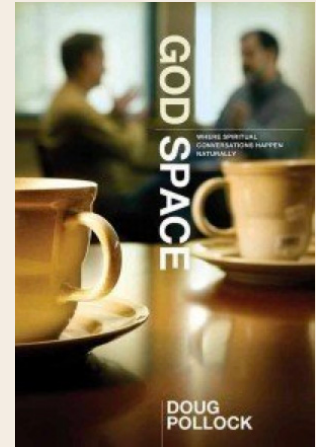
IF YOU ARE NOT RECEIVING OUR WEEKLY UPDATE
EMAILS OR OUR CALLS ABOUT IMMEDIATE
INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT SHERRY SHOWALTER
AT ADMIN@LEBANONPRESBYTERIAN.ORG AND WE WILL
GET YOU ADDED TO OUR CONGREGATIONAL LISTS.

Activating God Space

A.K.A. SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

This month, James Martin will share how he is creating God Space.

During a WNT discipleship class, I was assigned to find a personal Timothy to mentor as Paul did. After much prayer and determination, my prayers were answered. My son, Todd, who lives in Illinois, unexpectedly called regarding a question in the Old Testament. Our long-distance relationship, which consisted of texting political rants and updates, was transformed into telephone conversations and late-night texts regarding the Bible. I felt this was a "God Space"/Timothy opportunity created by the Holy Spirit.



Some background. Growing up, Todd attended church and Sunday school; he was taught about Jesus Christ but did not know Jesus. Todd was close to his grandmother, who was a pillar of spiritual strength in the family; her favorite Bible verse was from Isaiah, *"I will recount the steadfast love of the Lord, the praises of the Lord, according to all that the Lord has granted us, and the great goodness to the house of Israel that he has granted them according to his compassion, according to the abundance of his steadfast love."* - Isaiah 63:7

Recently, she passed away. Even though we were deeply saddened, we also knew she went to be in the arms of Jesus Christ and her husband. Before her passing, Todd was given a cherished gift, her Bible.

Even though Todd carried her Bible everywhere, he began reading only after watching the movie about "Noah" starring Russell Crowe and listening to a Facebook sermon about the curse of Ham. However, parts of the sermon did not reflect what was written in the scripture. This was when Todd called me, asking questions. Together we read and discussed the account of the flood and how the curse of Ham was imposed on Canaan. Furthermore, I asked my son to write down any questions he might have, and we could schedule some time each week for a Bible study. Shortly after we began our weekly Bible study, Todd sent me the following text; "Man, Dad, I have so many questions; I am so pumped about our Bible study today." Through our conversations about God, "who is love," we discussed Ephesians 2:8-9, and it was evident that Todd has become a child of God.

This is our story, how a grandmother, a pillar of spirituality in Jesus Christ, planted the seed of grace by giving her grandson her Bible. It has created a "God space" that continues to grow. I challenge you to bequeath your Bible to someone you love or care about, seeking an opportunity through prayer and conversation. They could be your "Timothy."

College & Young Adult Ministry News

BY DANIEL FRANK

Young Adult Ministry Intern

Hello! My name is Daniel Frank, and for those who don't know me, I'm the Young Adult Ministry Intern here at LPC this summer! The Young Adult ministry has been so busy! From pickleball to pool parties and Bible studies to our Red River Gorge retreat, this summer our college group has had the awesome opportunity to enjoy the Christian fellowship and joy our church family so abundantly offers.



And our church family truly does offer that! At the beginning of the summer, I began working out the logistics of having snacks and drinks at our Bible studies, so I asked our wonderful Pastor Stephanie for help. She informed me of our church's sign-up genius group that assists with these sorts of things, and after asking for help, it took less than three days for every week of our summer Bible Studies to have a listed provider of a salty snack, a sweet snack, and drinks. To see our congregation coming together to serve our Young Adults has been such an incredible joy



If you're interested in praying over our Bible study this summer, the theme is "You have heard it said," coming straight out of the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5. Our studies aim to contrast the world's view of the way things are with God's and let that transform our understanding of God and the world. The response, of course, to Jesus' statement, "you have heard it said," being "but I say unto you ____." If you would like to pray for us, I would invite you to join me in praying Romans 12:2 over our Young Adults: "and do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect." As we all know, especially those who go to college, are bombarded by perspectives diametrically opposed to that of God's!

Thanks again for all your support of our Young Adults! I am excited to update you all again next month!



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

Phil Craig, Del Everett & Neil Tunison for setting up chairs for third service on the first Sunday of each month.

The Building & Grounds Team for setting up chairs for the third service on the second Sunday of each month.

Gary Ensing for setting up chairs for the third service on the third Sunday of each month.

Session for setting up chairs for the third service on the fourth Sunday of each month.

The Boy Scouts for setting up chairs for the third service on the fifth Sunday of the month.

Rick Oliver for fixing the leaky sink in the communion kitchen.

Dave Lupberger & Roger Sims for work on the vestibule ceiling.

The Earley Family, Elizabeth Griffin, Beth Gully, and Andy Rainey, for setting up the curtains for the third service.

Carolyn Lucke & Terri Catanzaro for organizing the Prime Timers game night on July 9.

Tari Heath & Adam Waits for joining the Worship and Music Team.

Ned Earley, Daniel Frank, Alex Pierett, Nick Pierett, Emmett Bicknell, Inga Kimple, Emily Frank, Autumn Guttery, and Meg Elliott, our adult and college student leaders who served on Encounter's mission trip to Detroit.



Deacon's Blood Drive

Saturday, August 19, 2023

7:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

In the ARK at LPC

Sunshine & Saving Lives

SAVE SOME OF YOUR SUMMER
VACATION FOR HELPING TO SAVE
LIVES WITH A BLOOD DONATION.

Register with Community Blood Center

Online: www.Donortime.com SPNR

CODE: 57 or Donortime App

Phone: 937-461-3220

Appointments are preferred but Walk-ins are accepted as space allows.

* LEGACY OF FAITH *

Join us for an intergenerational "Legacy of Faith" event on August 5th from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m., hosted by Daniel Frank. Bring your family and friends for an event packed full of fun for all ages! For this event, there will be a pie-tasting competition, a cornhole competition, trivia, and a finish-the-lyric event in which all teams will participate! Teams will be awarded points for how intergenerational they are and for respective points earned in each event.

WHO: Everyone! **WHAT:** Legacy of Faith **WHERE:** The Ark at LPC **WHEN:** Sat., August 5th from 12 -3 p.m.

WHY: Because it is good to enjoy our intergenerational church family!

Thank You

THANK YOU FOR HELPING WITH OUR FAMILY PROMISE FAMILIES

Thank you to the many volunteers who shopped, cooked, and prepared side dishes the week of June 25-July 1. Also, thank you to our prayer warriors. We prepared 294 meals for the week for our 4 families. The meals have been a huge hit with our families. The families we hosted found themselves temporarily homeless due to high rental prices, unemployment or family breakup. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus as we provided for these families.

Our remaining 2023 rotations are
September 17-23 and November 26-December 2.



Dear Friends,

On Behalf of the Board of Directors of Family Promise of Warren County (FPWC), I want to thank you for your generous support of the homeless families that we are so blessed to serve. Your donation in the amount of \$720 will support our mission to provide shelter, meals, hospitality, and support to families without a home.

As we approach our 25th year of service to the community, we thank you for your support of Family Promise of Warren County. We take great pride in our mission and our accomplishments. We greatly appreciate your support, as together we assist families with children who are without a home, to achieve their goal of housing and self-sufficiency.

Sincerely,

Linda A. Rabolt

Executive Director, Family Promise of Warren County

Good evening ladies and Pastor Peter,

I am so sorry for being tardy in offering my thanks to you and your team of volunteers from LPC. Please accept my/our gratitude and appreciation for all that you do to feed the Family Promise families, write special notes as you are able, and perhaps provide a game, a coloring book or puzzle for the children. And Peter, your support and prayers for this ministry are always welcome.

We continue to wait for a few more tasks to be taken care of at the new campus so that the city will give us a certificate of occupancy. Hopefully everything will go smoothly and there will be a move soon.

I hope you all are having a great summer so far and that you are enjoying this time of the year. On behalf of our Host Recruitment & Retention Team, I say thank you once again.

Best wishes,

Mary



Dear LPC Family,

Thank you so much for the prayers, cards, visits, and food during my recent shoulder replacement surgery and ongoing physical therapy. I feel so blessed to be a member of LPC.

Linda B Fulmer

Thank you for your continued support of Love Packages. Bibles and Christian literature with scripture are being sent all over the world. So far this year, our area has sent over 35 tons to Butler Illinois. From there it will be distributed all over the world. Check out the website www.lovepackages.org and take the Nickel Tour. Keep collecting for us, and place in the basket located in the Narthex. If you have questions, please contact Dean Deerhake at 513-932-2307.

iPray

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

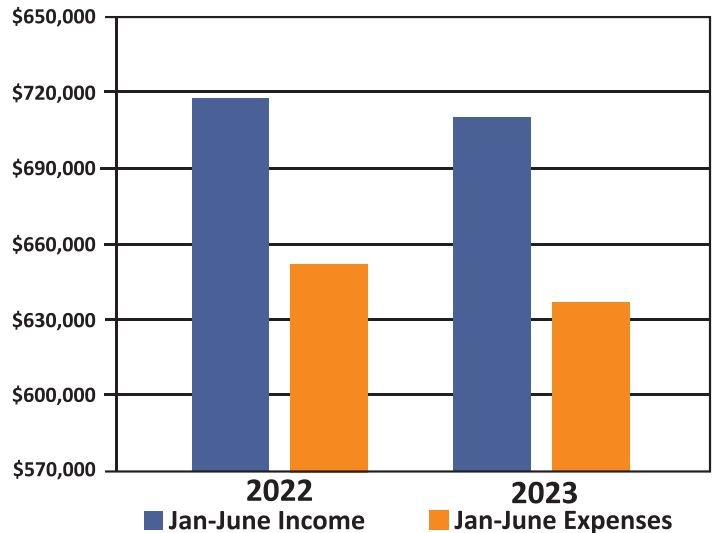
- For the New Member's Class on Saturday, August 26, and that people would take that step of commitment.
- For students and educators, as they begin a new school year.
- For the Search Team as they seek a new Senior Pastor for the future.
- For Daniel Frank, our summer intern to Young Adults as he seeks to continue the ministry in the Fall.
- For the Lord to send young families and children to our congregation.
- For the spiritual renewal of our Church, community and nation, that the Holy Spirit would deepen our love for Jesus Christ.

Session Report

The Session of LPC took the following actions at our July 17 monthly meeting:

- Received a report from the finance team that income is over \$14,000 above our expenses year to date.
- Approved Pam Allen to have her membership reinstated.
- Had a discussion regarding the passing of the collection plate during the offertory. It was decided that we would continue to use the offertory boxes in the back of the Sanctuary, with the suggestion that there is clearer instruction given during the offertory time, as well as keeping the boxes clearer of traffic before service.
- Received an update from Ron Warncke and Pastor Stephanie about the General Assembly that took place in Denver, CO in June.

LPC Income vs. 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.



Need Prayer?

prayerlist@lebanonpresbyterian.org
will get your request to the
Prayer Warriors ASAP.

prayerrequest@lebanonpresbyterian.org
will get your request to a staff member
who will handle your request
confidentially and will only send out
information you would like shared with
our Prayer Warriors.

Preaching Schedule

Sunday, August 6
COMMUNION SUNDAY
All in the Family
1 Timothy 5:1-16

Sunday, August 13
Gatekeepers
1 Timothy 5:17-25

Sunday, August 20
True Contentment
1 Timothy 6:1-10

Sunday, August 27
The Danger of Drifting
1 Timothy 6:11-21



Like us on Facebook!

www.lebanonpresbyterian.org

WE ARE ON THE WEB!

Associate Pastor
The Rev. Stephanie Poblenz

Senior Pastor
The Rev. Peter Larson

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
10 a.m. Traditional Worship
11 a.m. Modern Worship

WORSHIP TIMES

LEBANON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
123 N. EAST ST.
LEBANON, OH 45036
513.932.2751

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Permit No. 94