Chronicle

APRIL 2025



Alleluia! The Lord is risen! The Lord is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

The resurrection of Jesus Christ changes everything!

Over the weeks of Lent, we have been looking to the cross of Christ. It is there that Jesus accomplished our salvation through the shedding of his blood. At the cross, we are ransomed and reconciled. God's wrath is satisfied, and his grace is lavishly poured out upon us. The cross is our rescue, but the resurrection is our assurance of that rescue.

Have you ever considered that the work of Jesus on the cross would have been null and void without the resurrection? The Apostle Paul says it this way,

"But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. 14 And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain...17 And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. 18 Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. 19 If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied" (1 Corinthians 15:13-14,17-19).

If Jesus stayed in that tomb, then we would still be in our sins.

If Jesus stayed in that tomb, then our faith would be useless. If Jesus stayed in that tomb, then death would have the final word.

But God raised his Son from the dead, showing his triumph over sin and death and hell forever.

Jesus is alive, and because Jesus was raised, we share in his resurrection.

Every Easter morning, I rise long before dawn and prepare to worship the risen Savior. I read the gospel accounts of the resurrection. I pray. I listen to the birds sing in the dark; then I head out to see the sunrise. Over my first 25 years of ministry, I presided over a sunrise service every Resurrection Sunday morning. Every year, I read the following short sermon by John Chrysostom, who was the Archbishop of Constantinople from A.D. 398-404. He was a renowned preacher whose last name, when translated into English means, "the golden mouth." Since our Resurrection Day custom does not include a sunrise service, please enjoy this sermon from one of the early leaders of Christ's people.

Paschal Homily, John Chrysostom

Are there any who are devout lovers of God? Let them enjoy this beautiful bright festival!

Are there any who are grateful servants? Let them rejoice and enter into the joy of their Lord!

Are there any weary with fasting? Let them now receive their wages!

If any have toiled from the first hour,
let them receive their due reward;
If any have come after the third hour,
let him with gratitude join in the Feast!
And he that arrived after the sixth hour,
let him not doubt; for he too shall sustain no loss.
And if any delayed until the ninth hour,
let him not hesitate; but let him come too.
And he who arrived only at the eleventh hour,
let him not be afraid by reason of his delay.
For the Lord is gracious and receives the last even as
the first.

To this one He gives, and upon another He bestows. He accepts the works as He greets the endeavor. The deed He honors and the intention He commends.

He gives rest to him that comes at the eleventh hour,

Let us all enter into the joy of the Lord!

as well as to him that toiled from the first.

First and last alike receive your reward; rich and poor, rejoice together!
Sober and slothful, celebrate the day!
You that have kept the fast, and you that have not, rejoice today for the Table is richly laden!

Feast royally on it, the calf is a fatted one. Let no one go away hungry. Partake, all, of the cup of faith.

Enjoy all the riches of His goodness!

Let no one grieve at his poverty,

for the universal kingdom has been revealed.

Let no one mourn that he has fallen again and again; for forgiveness has risen from the grave.

Let no one fear death, for the Death of our Savior has set us free.

He has destroyed it by enduring it.

He destroyed Hell when He descended into it. He put it into an uproar even as it tasted of His flesh.

Isaiah foretold this when he said,

"You, O Hell, have been troubled by encountering Him below."

Hell was in an uproar because it was done away with.

It was in an uproar because it is mocked. It was in an uproar, for it is destroyed.

It is in an uproar, for it is annihilated.

It is in an uproar, for it is now made captive.

Hell took a body, and discovered God. It took earth, and encountered Heaven.

It took what it saw, and was overcome by what it did not see.

O death, where is thy sting? O Hell, where is thy victory?

Christ is Risen, and you, o death, are annihilated! Christ is Risen, and the evil ones are cast down! Christ is Risen, and the angels rejoice! Christ is Risen, and life is liberated!

Christ is Risen, and the tomb is emptied of its dead; for Christ having risen from the dead, is become the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

To Him be Glory and Power forever and ever. Amen!

No matter how bleak, difficult, hopeless, counterfeit or indifferent the world appears, nothing can change the fact that Jesus died and was raised to life again.

He lives! He reigns!

He conquered death by dying!

He is Life!

In him, we have hope beyond despair.

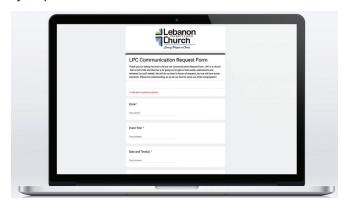
Joy beyond sadness. Life beyond death.

By faith, we choose hope, joy and life!

Jesus is risen! Alleluia!

New Communication Form

by Stephanie Poblenz



LPC Church Family! We have a new way of getting communication out to the congregation. This will be helpful for Ministry teams, our Fellowship groups, or other special events that LPC is hosting. On our website, under the "Events/Media" page, you will find a button titled "Communication Request." After clicking this link, it will lead you to a fillable web-

page where you can fill in all of the important information that you would like to share with our church family. We are requesting that you submit your communication request two weeks in advance of when you would like information to be publicized in regard to our weekly email updates, Sunday morning announcements, or for any material going on the Information Table. We are requesting that any Chronicle article submissions be sent on the Monday before the 19th of the month. This lead time will allow our Pastoral team and staff to approve all communication and give our graphics team enough time to create graphics and any other materials you may want or need. We deeply appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we put this new resource into practice!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We are thrilled to introduce our New Members who recently joined our LPC family! If you see these friends on Sunday morning or any at other LPC event, please make sure to welcome them warmly.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: JEREMIAH HELLMAN, DAVE & PAM ACKER, JOHN & PAULA SHUPE, ANN & MIKE LYTHJOHAN

WNT CHILI COOK OFF WINNERS!

Our Annual WNT Chili Cook-off took place on 3/19. In a three-way tie for second place were Fran Morris, Rhea Vezmar, & Pat Carter. Our champion was Charlene Fletcher for the second year running! Congrats! Thank you to all who participated, it is always a highlight of our WNT program.



Journey to the Cross

by Cristy Doria

Lent is a season for reflection, prayer, and spiritual growth. It is also a period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's resurrection at Easter.

My first Lent at LPC has been a special one. The solemn atmosphere, along with the music and liturgical color purple in the Sanctuary and the Ark, has helped me to set the tone for this journey.

During this time, our music focuses on themes of repentance, forgiveness, sacrifice, humility, and renewal. Both our Sanctuary Choir and Worship Bands have been supporting the congregation in worship and helping to create a reflective, prayerful atmosphere that reflects the solemnity of the season while also preparing our hearts for the joy of Easter.





The cross is the ultimate symbol of Jesus Christ's sacrifice for all of us. Here is a beautiful song that

encapsulates a deep understanding of surrender to God in all circumstances. Its meaningful lyrics and melody help to place our priorities on God rather than other problems and things of this world. This song is based on Philippians 3:8 — "More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ."

Lead Me To The Cross

Verse 1:

Savior I come
Quiet my soul, remember
Redemption's hill
Where Your blood was spilled
For my ransom
Everything I once held dear
I count it all as lost

Chorus:

Lead me to the cross
Where Your love poured out
Bring me to my knees
Lord I lay me down
Rid me of myself
I belong to You
Oh, lead me, lead me to the cross

Verse 2:

You were as I
Tempted and trialed
Human
The word became flesh
Bore my sin and death
Now you're risen

Songwriters: Brooke Gabrielle Fraser

Are you passionate about music and worship? Do you have a heart for serving God through song? We'd love for you to consider joining our music groups. We are always happy to connect with you and give you more information.

STUDENT MINISTRIES STUDENTS PARENTS LEADERS

Going Where They Are

by Andrew Johnson

Lebanon Presbyterian Church is blessed to have a strong connection with the local schools, particularly Lebanon High School, where Student Ministry Director Andrew Johnson and Student Ministry Assistant Meg Elliott have the opportunity to visit during lunch periods. Meg, who serves as the primary female leader and ministers to girls and other female leaders, partners with Andrew in this vital ministry of presence.

In many parts of the country, school districts are resistant to Christian engagement, but in Lebanon, the school administration recognizes the value of community partnerships for the well-being of students. Andrew and Meg are welcomed not only for casual visits during lunch but also in times of crisis. When a traumatic event impacts the student body, they have been invited to be present in the media center, offering a listening ear and a safe space for students who need support.

This opportunity aligns with the philosophy of Encounter Student Ministry, which encourages leaders to "go where students are." Rather than waiting for students to walk through the church doors, Encounter leaders seek to meet them on their own ground—whether at school, sporting events, concerts, recitals, plays, or award ceremonies. While their presence in the school is not for religious instruction or direct evangelism, it provides a way to build trust and relationships with students, including those from LPC and their friends.

The church is grateful for this open door and asks for continued prayers. Please pray for the school administration and board, for the students of our community, and for the opportunity that takes place in the lunchroom that might lead to more ministry. May God use these relationships for His glory.



Bibles Sunday 2025

by Tracy Untener

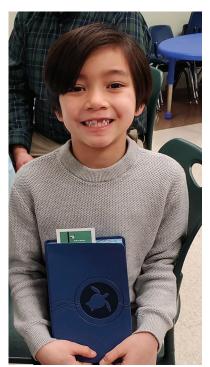
On February 23, five children who have regularly attended Sunday School or WNT Kids received Bibles in a small ceremony at the 8:30 worship service. The children were so excited to begin this new leg of their faith journey, studying from their very own Bible!

During a reception directly following the ceremony, we went around, and each child said what they liked about their new Bible. The children had been investigating them, and they really liked the maps and other study cues in them. Then, we held a time of sharing where parents and others could share about a Bible that was special to them. One mom shared that she and her husband gave Bibles to each other on their wedding day. They use them all the time, and the Bible represents God being with them in their marriage. What a beautiful story for the kids to hear!

Helpful hints for getting started in studying the Bible were also given to families. The children received a bookmark with a Bible study method on one side and favorite Bible story locations on the other. In addition, each family was given a simple, oncea-week devotional that they could do with their kids. The Youversion Bible app was also explained, and at least one family downloaded it during the reception.

It was a really joyous event, and the kids have already started bringing their Bibles with them to Sunday School each week.













SAVE THE DATE! MAGNIFIED VBS IS COMING! JUNE 9-13 6:00 - 8:20 PM (FOR CHILDREN AGE 4 THROUGH 6TH GRADE)

REGISTRATION OPENS MAY 1



A Letter From Young Adults

by Daniel Frank

Young Adults have been busy! Recently, we've been enjoying lots of fellowship by visiting our friends at UC, Miami, and Cedarville, and, of course, we still meet weekly every Thursday night for Bible Study! There, we've been studying alongside Jeff's sermon series in Mark and this last month, we had the opportunity to be hosted one week by the Schneider's at their home.

This month, we're having our first Young Adults Corn and Courts Classic: A Pick-leball and Cornhole competition to which high school seniors of our church were invited! Please continue to pray for our Young Adults as they enter midterms and finals seasons!



Lifting Up Those In Need



For our February 23-March 2 rotation, we served two families (3 adults and 5 children (age 6 weeks to 3 years) who are temporarily homeless, providing food, fellowship, crafts, activities, served as overnight hosts, and most importantly, offered love. One of the families has found a place to call their own thanks to the efforts of Family Promise of Warren County and the churches that serve the families.

As I entered the Day Center at Family Promise one day, I was so impressed by the artwork of the 3-year-old twins. The twins used sidewalk chalk that was in



gift bags they received from our 3rd & 4th Grade WNT class to bring life to the sidewalks.

One volunteer said, "Together, we can make a difference in our world!!!!!" If you have a heart for lifting up those in need, we will again serve the families in July.

Since our rotation is a little way off, select the events tab at https://www.familypromisewarren.org/get-in-volved for upcoming Family Promise fundraising events.

Remaining LPC rotations for 2025: July 13-20, Sept. 21-28, Nov. 9-16, 2025

If you have any questions, contact Terri Catanzaro at **513-288-2313**, Marge Cunningham at **513-289-3959**, or email **lebanonpcihn@gmail.com**.

Coming Along Side will be meeting at Mae Ploy's Restaurant on April 15 at 11:30 AM. Please RSVP to Inga Kimple by email Ingakimple@gmail.com or call/text 513-239-2423. All ladies are invited to lunch and wonderful fellowship.



LOVING PEOPLE TO CHRIST



Terri Catanzaro & Karen Kilpatrick

I love my church family. The church is my place to experience spiritual growth, encourage and be encouraged, serve others and be reminded that Jesus loves me no matter what.

I have a Christian friend whom I've known for 60 years. My friend has had chronic health issues for many years. Most of the time, she doesn't let me know until she is through the crisis. Recently, the crisis looked like it might not have a positive outcome. My friend does not have a church family, so her brother-in-law asked his church family to pray for her. He also asked his pastor to visit my friend in the hospital.

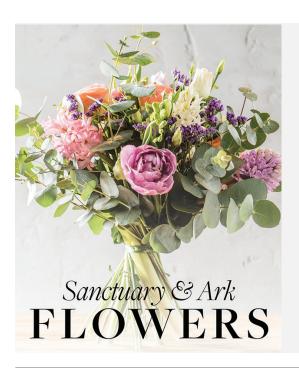
She and her husband felt so much love and support that when her health improved, her husband said they should go to church to thank everyone for their support. Her husband was not raised in a Christian home, and he worked on Sundays. After attending church for a while, he said, "Who knew?" When my friend called me to tell me about the health issues and her story, she said they were being baptized and had gotten involved in the church. Wow. My

friend was so full of joy you could hear strength in her voice.

This was a wake-up call for me. I started looking at all my friends who are Christians and having conversations about the love and support of a church family. An easy way to plant seeds and let God do the rest. Another chapter in this story is that my friend and her husband are encouraging their daughter and her husband to come to church, as well as talking about attending Bible Study.

I am so thankful that my friend's brother-in-law sprang into action to share the love of Jesus with my friend and her husband. It reminds me of the mission of the body of Christ described in Ephesians 4:11-12: "And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers to equip the saints for works of ministry for building up the body of Christ."

Are your Christian friends reaping the full benefit of God's design?



Would you like to honor a special occasion or a loved one or give to the glory of God? You can get one or two floral arrangements to be displayed in the Sanctuary and/or Ark, which will also be mentioned in the Worship Guide. Please pick up the arrangement after the service.

If you are interested or have any questions, contact Naomi at 513-932-2751 or by email at naomi@lebanonpresbyterian.org.

Please contact us at least two weeks before your desired date.

Thank You

Thank you to the people who lifted up our two Family Promise of Warren County families the week of February 23. These folks filled 63 slots for dinner meals, dinner/evening hosts, overnight hosts, and breakfast/lunch supplies, and also provided art supplies and Bible bookmarks. I prayed for angels to assist, especially since Marge Cunningham was out of the country. God sent me a band of angels: Debbie & Ron Benedict, Leanna Bowers, Dave Brandt, Terri & Jack Catanzaro, Beth Creegan, Mary Deerhake, Nina Dorsch, Colleen Ensing, Jim & Trish Garrett, Harold & Lou Grice, Wilma Hamilton, Lois Hollon, Tina Isbel, Dick & Donna Kaufman, Karen Kilpatrick, Ann Loreaux, Geralyn Lucia, Becky & Matt Merrill, Zach Merrill, Jeff Moore, John & Fran Morris, Charlene Munns, Evelyn Osborne, Amy Pritchard, Connie Purdum, Paula & Rick Reams, Paulette Rhinehart, Cathy Riggin, Melanie Smith, Tamara Smith, Harriet Smith, Debbie Snider, Maureen Strenge, Rhea Vezmar, Ron & Barbara Warncke, Tracy Untener, and Shirley Willison.

One mom said by the end of the rotation, her children were transformed, and she was having an easier time getting them to behave. One mom loved the meals. Since she works the night shift, she was able to pack up yummy left-overs for her lunch at 2 am. Both families appreciated having a moment to breathe as the volunteers loved on a 3-month-old,

a 14-month-old, two 3-year-old twins and a 6-week-old.

A special thank you to the 3rd and 4th Grade WNT students who made special gift bags for the children. See the picture in the Family Promise article.

These angels made a huge difference in the lives of these families. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus.

LPC Family Promise Coordinators Terri Catanzaro & Marge Cunningham

Lebanon Presbyterian Church,

We are so grateful for your generous donation to Living With Hope/Hope Mobility International. Your support of mobility devices is helping people to regain their independence and hope for a better future.

As the Scripture says, "Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!" (2 Corinthians 9:15). Your gift is a true blessing to those we serve, and we thank God for your partnership in this important work.

With deepest thanks, Living With Hope/Hope Mobility International

Spoofing – Do you know who is sending you a text message or email?

What is Spoofing - Spoofing is a technique used by scammers to disguise their identity by altering the phone number, email address, or website name they are using to make it look like the message is coming from someone you trust. For example, they may send an email or text that appears to be from a pastor, family member, or organization but is actually a scammer trying to deceive you into sharing personal information, sending money, or buying gift cards.

If you saw our congregational email, you know that some of our church family received a text from what appeared to come from either Pastor Jeff or Pastor Stephanie. When you receive a text or email, here are some questions to ask yourself to determine if it is legitimate:

 Is this the person's cell phone number or email address? If you are not sure, call the church office. Please keep in mind that sometimes phone numbers and email addresses can be

continued on next page

spoofed to look exactly like the person they are pretending to be – so this is just one way to check the validity.

- 2. Are there typos, grammatical errors or misspellings?
- 3. Is this how this person would speak to me in a text or email? Unusual phrasing?
- 4. Are they asking me not to call them and only reply via text or email?
- 5. Are they asking for gift cards?
- 6. Are they claiming it is urgent and you must act now?

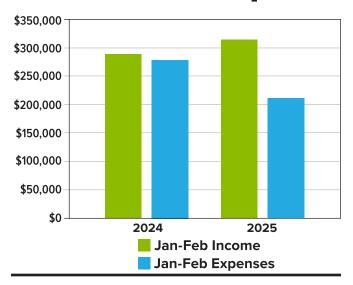
Other things to keep in mind:

- 1. Our staff will never ask you individually for gift cards.
- 2. Our staff will never ask you individually for monetary help.
- Our staff will never ask you individually for personal information.
- 4. Our staff will never contact you via social media.

Best practices:

- 1. Never give your personal information to anyone who calls, texts or emails.
- Verify through other channels: If you're unsure, contact the person or organization directly through a different method (phone, in person) to confirm the message's legitimacy.
- Check for unusual requests: If the message asks you to do something out of character for the sender, like urgently buying items or sharing personal details, it's likely a scam.
- 4. Be cautious with links: Never click on links in unexpected emails or text messages. They could lead to phishing websites that steal your information.
- Check the email domain: Sometimes, the display name may appear correct, but the email address is slightly altered (e.g., from a similar-looking but incorrect domain

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 online giving. To begin online giving, 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, focus on the code, then just touch the website's 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, April 6

COMMUNION SUNDAY

The Cross Displays God's Triumph

Colossians 2:8-15

Sunday, April 13

PALM SUNDAY

The Cross and The Cornerstone

Mark 12:1-12

Thursday, April 17

MAUNDY THURSDAY

6:30 PM in the Ark

Friday, April 18

GOOD FRIDAY

7:00 PM in the Sanctuary

Sunday, April 20

EASTER SUNDAY

Triumph!

1 Corinthians 15:12-22

Sunday, April 27

Jesus Is The Lord of Life

Mark 12:18-27



TIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

www.lebanonpresbyterian.org

WE ARE ON THE WEB!

Pastor Stephanie Poblenz

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Pastor Jeff Moore

AOT2A9

Traditional 8:30 a.m. | Modern 11:00 a.m.

MORSHIP TIMES



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