

LMC News

Fall 2019 edition



Lauvers Mennonite Church
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Coming Soon!

After a season of walking without a lead pastor at LMC, it is with much excitement and great anticipation that we introduce our new pastor, Curtiss Kanagy! Curtiss and his wife Robin have been serving at Crossroads Bible Church in Maine since 2010 and are relocating to PA at the start of the new year. As a Belleville native, Curtiss is excited to be back in central PA, and he and Robin are both looking forward to milder winters here! Curtiss and Robin are eager to get to know our congregation and the surrounding community. We are so thankful that God has led them to Lauvers! Welcome, Curtiss and Robin!

With Grateful Hearts...

As Thanksgiving approaches and we look ahead to Christmas, we are so thankful to our great God for who He is and all He has done! We have been reminded on several occasions lately that Thanksgiving is a way of life, not just a holiday that comes once a year. That there's always something to be thankful for...

It's so easy to lose sight of how blessed we are. When circumstances are tough and things aren't going our way, we are tempted to grumble or complain, or just give in to discouragement. When we're disappointed by people, or our finances aren't adding up, or we're struggling with a physical ailment, it's really hard to find a reason to be thankful!

And then we read Paul's words in 1 Thessalonians 5:18 "In everything give thanks..." Some translations say "Give thanks in all circumstances". Really? How is that even possible? How can I be thankful when things are spinning out of control? How can I give thanks in the midst of the worry and chaos, when I'm fearful and wrestling with doubt?

In Philippians 4, Paul also writes "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends (surpasses) all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

And there's our answer! Paul says we don't need to be anxious, because we can give our struggles and needs to God! Bring them before Him with a thankful heart, and He will replace your worry with peace!

So how do I start? How about taking a few minutes to write down some blessings in your life? Do you have food to eat? Water to drink? Shelter, clothing, transportation? Thank Him! Is there someone you can talk to? Thank Him! Do you have God's word to read? Thank Him!

When we take the time to thank God for the gifts He's given us, our hearts change. Our circumstances may still be tough, but our perspective is different when we trade our worry for God's peace!

Let's make it a point to take time right now and every day to thank God for all He's done for us. He is so good, and He is worthy of our thanks and praise!

Blessings to you and your family,
Nevin Glick, Lauvers Mennonite Church

Upcoming LMC Events

Every Sunday morning: Come join us for Sunday School at 9:00, followed by our Worship Service at 10:00

Sunday, November 24 – Thanksgiving service, 7 PM, followed by pie and ice cream

Sunday, December 15 – Christmas Caroling, various locations in the evening – call the church for meeting times

Sunday, December 22 – Children’s program during the 10 AM service; Christmas candlelight service, 6:30 PM

Sunday School – 9 AM every Sunday

What’s going on in Sunday School at LMC? Well, lots of good things! Last Sunday the children’s classes spent the Sunday School hour packing shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, through Samaritan’s Purse. Items were collected over the past few months, then packed into boxes to be sent to needy children for Christmas. What a great way to show the love of Jesus!

The youth, young adult, and adult classes just finished a series about God’s Will and how it relates to us. This winter we’ll be tackling series about “Answers to Tough Questions”, and “When Life Gets Hard: Big Questions About Pain and Suffering”. We’d love to have you join us as we study and learn together!

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Youth Notes...

The LMC youth group has had a busy fall! Campfires, high school soccer and football games, a road rally (including a “surprise encounter” with a friendly couple at a tennis court), Bible studies, and even a Hershey Bears hockey game. Upcoming events include Christmas and New Years parties, Bible studies, winter cabin retreat, and more! Ask any of the youth what’s going on for more information... you might even get to hear a good story or two!

Thankful Heart

I lift my heart to You, O God, in gratitude and praise. For all Your blessings of the past, and those of future days –

For well I know if I shall live, Your blessings still shall flow, Across my soul in greater joy than I could ever know.

I thank You for my faithful friends, for sunshine and the rain. And every blessing hid or seen, though some may come through pain. O God, accept my thanks to You each time I come to pray, And grant that each day I shall live will be

Thanksgiving Day.

-F. W. Davis