

Calendar At A Glance

ALL ACTIVITIES ARE SUBJECT TO FEDERAL AND STATE GUIDE LINES. MOST ACTIVITIES AT LAKEWOOD UMC ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. Some meetings will take place on-line.

The office is open on a limited basis. Please call the church or email us if you need anything. To those of you who send in your offering **THANK YOU!!!**

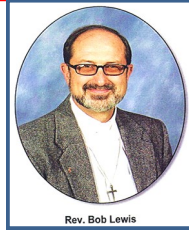
November Calendar Dates: Please follow guidelines found in an article elsewhere in the newsletter if the meeting is in person.

- Nov. 1 – All Saints Day
- 3 – Election Day – Vote!
- 4 – Missions Committee, 6:00pm
Zoom Conference
- 5 – Pastor’s Study, 7:00pm,
Fellowship Hall
- 6 - Missions Committee, 6:00pm
Fellowship Hall
- 8 - SPRC meeting 6:30pm with
Superintendent, Zoom Mtg.
- 14- Church Council Planning
Retreat, 9am, Fellowship
Hall and online
- 15 –Worship Committee Mtg.
11am, Zoom Conference
- 17 – Sanctuary Focus Group,
6:30pm, Zoom Conference
- 19 –Trustees, 6:30pm,
Fellowship Hall
- 22 – Erie UM Churches
Community Thanksgiving
Service, 3pm, First UMC
- 26 –Thanksgiving Holiday



Lakewood Window

Lakewood United Methodist Church **November 2020**



Rev. Bob Lewis

State of the Church: 2020

Lakewood UMC, like many other churches, is in a state of transition. The year 2020 has been like no other due to a global pandemic. We were not able to worship in person for three and a half months. When we did resume in-person worship there were strict guidelines restricting the number of people attending and limiting the form of worship, as we were not permitted to sing, out of concern for people’s health.

However, we have continued to be faithful, effective and fruitful in our ministries. We began offering online worship opportunities for our people, and for a new audience of worshipers. We are very grateful for the time and expertise of Jackie Bull who has facilitated this new expression of worship. The trustees, health ministry team and worship team have assisted us in establishing guidelines for returning to some sort of “normal” return for using the building. Many people have expressed their gratitude for the online worship experience and also for reopening the church.

However, not everyone is comfortable returning to in-person activities. So, we have been utilizing new technology to hold “virtual” meetings – either Zoom meetings or Conference Calls. Neither is as satisfying as in-person, however we are making the best of a bad situation in order to keep all of our people safe and healthy. The pastor is grateful to all who are assisting in making these virtual meetings happen.

We have also noticed people transitioning to other churches. Perhaps this time of uncertainty gave them permission to “look around” without feeling guilty. Some people have moved out of the area. We have not received as many new members as we have in years past due to the pandemic and we have lost a significant number of members for various reasons. (continued on page 2)

You MUST Wear a Face Mask!

Cloth face coverings are an additional step to help slow the spread of COVID-19 when combined with every day preventive actions and social distancing in public settings. **Wear** your Face Covering Correctly. **Wash** your hands before putting on your face covering. **Put it** over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin to fit it snugly against the sides of your face. If it is a reusable mask, be sure to wash it between uses.

(continued from page 1) When we return to “normal” after the pandemic is under control, Lakewood will look different and probably smaller.

On a more positive note, our level of giving has been maintained and we are in a strong financial position. This has allowed us to keep all of our staff employed and paid. We have not had to borrow any money, including assistance offered by the government. We have paid our apportionments in full. Our financial strength has encouraged the trustees to consider a new capital campaign (2021) and doing additional capital improvements, specifically focusing on our sanctuary (2022). This past summer saw the remodeling of our nursery, which is still in progress but the major work is over. We eagerly await word on when we can invite the children back.

Other ministries have continued – mission outreach, food pantry support, CROP Walk and supporting EUMA, music, Bible study, prayer groups, and more. We pray the pandemic is brought under control soon so that we can resume the mission and ministry to which God has called us. I remain very hopeful that Lakewood will remain a strong and vibrant church for many years to come.

I remain your servant in Christ, *Pastor Bob*

Sunday Services have resumed in the sanctuary at 9:30 am!

Only one service is being held at this time. Please enter at the Chelsea Street entrance and register (for contact tracing purposes, if necessary). Hand sanitizer is available. Please wear your face mask and remember to social distance (6 feet) from non-family members. The pews have been marked off so that we can worship safely while social distancing. We will not sing the hymns indoors but perhaps you would like to “hum” along. If you are not comfortable gathering in person, Sunday services will continue to be posted on YouTube. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Pastor Bob.

Holy Communion



Holy Communion will be celebrated on November 1st during our celebration of All Saints Day. Pre-packaged communion “kits” will be placed in plastic bags ahead of time and people will pick up their personal communion before the service. We will then consecrate the elements later in the service and receive together. There will be a trash can to collect the packaging after the service.

Prayer and anointing will not be offered until the Covid – 19 crisis is over.

All Saints Day

November 1st this year is All Saints Day (it actually falls on a Sunday this year), a day on which we celebrate the lives of all who died in the Lord since the last All Saints Day, as we commemorate “the communion of saints” and as we profess the Apostles’ Creed. Once again we will be lifting up the names of Lakewood members who died in the past year. This year, Kathy Fisher has put together a nice montage of pictures so that as people’s names are read we will be able to see and remember their faces. If you want to know if your loved one is to be honored that Sunday, please check with Kathy at 814-434-0433.

Find Out Where You Can Participate and Serve!

The Lakewood UMC Directory of Activities and Committees has been published and is available for you to pick up in the narthex. Match up your activities and interests with the opportunities available! Or go out on a limb and pick something new!



Daylight Savings Time Ends



In the wee hours of
November 1st.

don't forget to turn your
clocks back one hour. (Fall
back and spring forward)

That means we lose an hour of sleep.

Plan accordingly.

The U.S. Law Enforcement Assistance Administration found that crime has consistently dropped during Daylight Savings Time by 10 percent

Words to Ponder in These Divided Times

Human kindness has never weakened the stamina or softened the fiber of a free people. A nation does not have to be cruel to be tough."--*Franklin D. Roosevelt*

"Freedom consists not in doing what we like, but in having the right to do what we ought."--*Pope John Paul II*

"For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others."--*Nelson Mandela*

And Most of all: What would Jesus do?

From The Finance Committee

Thank you for your continued and faithful giving to Lakewood. Your giving has allowed the church to meet all of its financial obligations throughout the pandemic. Although church life has been far from the realm of normal, your dedication to Lakewood has been exceptional. The church will enter November with your contributions EXCEEDING expenses. Thank you.

In the coming weeks, the finance committee will work on the church budget for 2021. Once finalized, it will be submitted to church council for final approval.

Lastly, thank you for the contributions that have been dedicated to the Capital Improvement Fund (aka myLakewood). You've designated more than \$28,000 to this fund in 2020. Your commitment to the upkeep of the church is stirring thoughts toward myLakewood 2.0.

**We give because God gave First!
For God so loved the world, that He gave His only
begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should
not perish, but have everlasting life. (KJV)**



Thank you to all who donated instant mashed potatoes to the West Millcreek Food Pantry. The Thanksgiving boxes will be filled and handed out on November 24th.

The next UMW meeting will be held on Monday evening, Nov. 9th. We will meet at 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall where we can be socially distant.

Please, you must wear your mask!

We will be discussing Advent and end of year finances.

Thanks to all who intended to help with Sunday Supper on October 25th!



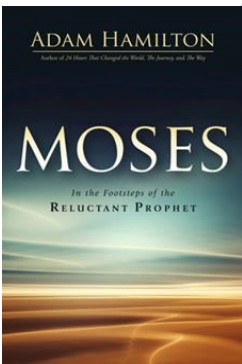
"I was hungry and you gave me something to eat." Matthew 25:35

NOVEMBER SCHEDULE

DATE	PICKUP DRIVER	PACKING TEAM	DELIVERY DRIVER
Nov. 4/5	M. Estes 10:30am	R. Estes 6:30 pm	J. Kot 10:00 pm
Nov. 11/12	J. Kot 10:30am	S. Pike 11:30am	S. Schulz 10:00am
Nov. 14/15	R. Pike 10:30am	K. Fisher 6:30pm	S. Hasley 10:00am
No School No Packing	C. Spicher 10:30am	J. Garnon 11:30am	J. Kell/J. Rhone 10:00am

United Methodist Student Day

A special offering is received on the Sunday following Thanksgiving every year in the United Methodist Church. This special offering assists the denomination in funding scholarships and loans to United Methodist students pursuing higher education. Some of our own Lakewood students have benefitted from these denominational scholarships. If you would like to support this fund, please mark your check or envelope "UM Student Day." Thank you for your support of our students as they prepare for life uniting faith and knowledge.



WOMEN!! NEW STUDY AND NEW DAY!

The Women's Bible study group will begin a new study on MONDAY, Nov 9 at 10am in Fellowship Hall. The name of the study is "Moses, In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet" by Adam Hamilton. The study involves a DVD to watch together and a book to read and discuss with the group. Talk to Betty McKnight or Jackie Garnon with questions or if you would like to order a book. We wear a mask and social distance with the chairs. We've had two new people recently! Please come!!

off the mark by Mark Parisi www.offthemark.com



The 65th Anniversary

An elderly couple was celebrating 65 years of marriage with their family. A granddaughter asked, "Grandpa, you and Grandma have been married so long and yet you still call her Honey, Sweetheart, and Darling. How do you keep the romance going after all these years?" The grandfather replied, "Well, I forgot her real name about 5 years ago... and I'm too scared to ask her now!"

Thanksgiving Service

A Community Thanksgiving Service will be held
on Sunday, November 22nd
3:00 p.m.

First United Methodist Church
In downtown Erie.

The service will be offered both in-person and on Facebook Live. The physically-distanced (20%) capacity of the sanctuary at First UMC is 92 people. There is no limit to how many can worship with us on-line. We intend to make a link for the service available a week in advance. (That's the longest in advance Facebook allows.) Special music will be provided by groups from Asbury, Glenwood, and First UMC. Rev. Bill Hastings (Asbury UMC) will share a meditation about thankfulness even in 2020.

Link to Leadership Talks

All Lakewood members and friends want to know what each of our Lakewood Committees do, so Church Council has created a video of each committee chairperson explaining what the committee does for our church. You can check out these very informative videos at

<https://youtu.be/DrqYsgPW61A>.

Thank you to all the chairpersons and their committee members for all that they do and make happen here at Lakewood. The past months have been difficult and all of these committees have stepped up to the challenge to keep our Church functioning as close to "normal" as possible!

A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way and shows the way.
John C. Maxwell



Election Day Is November 3rd. Don't forget to vote!



These Guidelines were in last month's Newsletter and continue to be in effect.

**Guidelines for Meetings of Lakewood Groups held in the church.
Social Events scheduled will need to be approved separately.**

All meetings need to be scheduled in advance and include the number of attendees. Meetings should be scheduled with Janet Coon in the church office : 833-4131

1. Pre-school rooms can only be used by the pre-school. There are too many items that have to be sanitized if others use these rooms.
2. All meeting attendees must wear masks and will need to sign-in at the W. 10th Street Office entrance to the church.
3. Social distancing must be practiced with seating at least 6 feet apart. Fellowship Hall can be used for meetings of up to 25 people if 6' spacing can be maintained.
4. Hand sanitizer will be provided
5. At the end of the meeting all tables that were used must be cleaned with paper towels and the cleaner provided. Used chairs should be set in the middle of the room so Flo knows they need to be cleaned.
(Flo will clean all hand railings, door handles, light switches and used cloth chairs the following day)
6. All meetings need to accommodate people who do not want to attend in person by using a speaker phone or video call.
7. Meeting organizer will list attendees at each meeting and alert them to notify him or her if they are diagnosed with covid-19 within 14 days of the meeting.

Trustees will set up a "cleaning station" in Fellowship Hall. It will include paper towels and the appropriate cleaner for tables and chairs. Fabric covered chairs will be cleaned the following day.



November Birthdays

Delaney Helsey	1-Nov
Cynthia Snyder	1-Nov
Jesse Vogt	2-Nov
Autumn Ferrante	4-Nov
Jennifer Sitter	4-Nov
Collin Olson	5-Nov
Sharon Swanson	5-Nov
Mark Kennedy	6-Nov
Curt Spicher	6-Nov
Robert Helsley, Jr.	9-Nov
Timothy Reinke	9-Nov
Beverly Shrum	9-Nov
Emily Smith	10-Nov
James Pace	11-Nov
Patricia Wilcox	11-Nov
Christine Tolbert	12-Nov
Susan Kardos	14-Nov
James Kell	15-Nov
Annastassia Pons	15-Nov
Beatrice Parker	16-Nov
Lawrence Thompson	16-Nov
Darby Lawton	17-Nov
Donna Moren	17-Nov
Jay Scalise	17-Nov
Ann Dill	18-Nov
Sean Hasley	18-Nov
Julie Kostek	18-Nov
Sara Renshaw	18-Nov
Emily Killian	19-Nov
Rachel Marsden	19-Nov
Carol Overbeck	19-Nov
Debbie Bisbee	20-Nov
JeffreyVogt	22-Nov
Judy Lipsitz	23-Nov
Jessica Mathis	27-Nov
Rachel Dunmire	29-Nov
Norma Buerk	30-Nov
Jeanie Elwell	30-Nov
Madelyn Killian	30-Nov

"For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways."

Psalm 91:11 NIV

Sermons on Line

If you missed a Sunday Worship Service, Pastor Bob's sermons are posted on our web site (www.lakewooderie.org). Go to the home page and click on the "Home" button and a menu will drop down. Locate the link "Sermons" and click on it and a list of sermons will show up. Find the Sunday date or the sermon title you are interested in, click on it and the sermon will appear. You can read it on line or print it out if you still enjoy holding paper in your hand when you read, or if you'd like to share it with someone else.

October 4, 2020 - "The Sky is falling"

October 11, 2020 - "Desperate to Please: the Fear of Disappointing Others"

October 18, 2020 - "Loneliness: the Fear of Being Alone"

October 25, 2020 - "Is the End of the World at Hand?"

Prayer Group

Lisa Medina is offering leadership for a group of people dedicated to prayer. They meet on Wednesday evenings at 6:15 in the Prayer Chapel. The prayer group is unable at this time to meet at the church. All are welcome to continue praying at this time in the safety of your own home. We will reconvene when we are able.

Joys and Concerns

If you have a joy or concern, please contact Pastor Bob and he can share it with the congregation if you wish.

Remember! Until further notice

You MUST wear a mask and maintain Social Distancing!

Prayer Chain:

If you wish to have the prayer chain pray for someone, contact Patty Lasher at 572-3202 or sproutness@yahoo.com

Lakewood UMC Attendance Statistics for October

The average worship attendance for the month of October (including in-person and online viewing was 136.. The average worship attendance for 2020 is 145 per Sunday. Our online average attendance was 95.5 and in-person was 40.5. Please note that we have moved back into the sanctuary for in-person worship.

Get Connected with These On-line Resources

Sermons online: If there is a Sunday when you can't make it to worship, or if you'd like to re-read a sermon you heard, you can find the pastor's sermon online at our website. (www.lakewooderie.org) Go to the home page, click on the link called "Home," and a menu will come down. Click on the link to sermons and then find the date or sermon you're looking for.

Here are the links for the Video Worship Services in October:

4th – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Os3laEWwq0Y>
"The Sky is Falling! Faith and Politics"

11th– <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LcKBWYQIJtE&t=16s>
"Living With Hope in Uncertain Times"

18th - https://youtu.be/qggE_a2dRmE
"Loneliness: Fear of Being Alone."

25^h – <https://youtu.be/R6uqlxVLVYU>
"Is the End of the World Near at Hand"

Ride for the Refuge: If you would still like to donate, here is the link to do so:

<https://secure.ggiv.com/event/euma-ride/team/866595/>

Church Council's Annual Planning Retreat

On Saturday, November 14th beginning at 9am, the Church Council will meet in-person in the Fellowship Hall. (If you would like to participate but don't feel comfortable attending in-person, let the pastor know and he will send you the link to the meeting so you can participate that way.. The link will be sent to all members of Church Council. Be sure to attend and add your thoughts and ideas for happenings, programs and any thoughts about the next year in our church.



Useless Information

Bess Truman, wife of President Harry S. Truman, was the first First Lady to watch television at the White House. In 1950



Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest PA

November 18th is the 19th annual Drive Thru Food Drive sponsored by the Lilly Broadcasting Co./Erie News Now. Sites nearby include downtown Erie, and the Northwest Bank on Pittsburgh Ave in West Erie Plaza. Please consider dropping off food or monetary donations for this project. The food will stay in the local area and the money will permit 2nd Harvest to purchase more food for its many distributions.

It is not sure how many volunteers will be needed to staff these sites, but if you are interested, please let me know so I can link you up with the appropriate contact at the food bank. Usually volunteers work in 2-3 hour shifts. Due to the the Covid-19 pandemic, there will be fewer volunteers at each site to allow for social distancing.

Thanks, Suzie Rosendahl

Lakewood Preschool

Please see below concerning Lakewood Preschool's plans for fall semester. Tours and inquiries are still being accepted at this time. For more information or any questions can be directed to Chanda Simons at preschool@lakewooderie.org or 833-5787.

Dear Preschool Families,

I hope this finds everyone doing well. If you had told me 5 months ago I would be writing this letter, I would not have believed it. How our lives have changed. Our own

It is with a heavy heart that I think about our own Lakewood Preschool not having opened first semester. With all the uncertainty surrounding the pandemic and with so many of our students not returning this fall, myself along with the preschool board had determined it would not be financially feasible for the preschool to remain open at this time.

However, there was interest by many parents to possibly be ready to send students in January. So we are reevaluating plans to reopen in January for our second semester. Your child will remain enrolled at Lakewood unless you let us know otherwise.

In the meantime, we want to make sure we are communicating with all of our enrolled students and families. I will be meeting with our teachers to put a plan in place to keep in touch with our students on a weekly or biweekly basis. As the plan is finalized, you will receive more information.

Advertisement for the Preschool Director Position

Wanted: A preschool director to run the day-to-day operation of Lakewood Preschool, a premier preschool in Millcreek Township. Lakewood Preschool is an EOE.

Duties include but are not limited to:

Hiring, training and supervising staff.

Implementing a program of instruction that meets the guidelines approved by the school board and is consistent with Covid-19 regulations (already established).

Preparing an annual budget including salaries, and paying expenses.

Qualifications:

Be a graduate of an approved four year college;

Have a valid Pennsylvania profession teaching certificate in the area of Early Childhood Elementary Education,

Have a minimum of two years teaching experience in Early Childhood or Elementary Education.

Experience in Preschool administration is preferred.

Interested, dedicated candidates may apply to: pastor@lakewooderie.org.

Lakewood Preschool

Lakewood Preschool's plans for fall semester:

Tours and inquiries are still being accepted at this time.

For more information or any questions can be directed to Chanda Simons at preschool@lakewooderie.org or 833-5787.

(Continued on pg. 9)

(Continued from pg. 8)

“Preschool has a lot of benefits,” says American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) spokesperson P. Gail Williams, who is also a developmental-behavioral pediatrician “It helps youngsters learn how to socialize with other youngsters. How to get along, the give and take, that’s important.” She noted how this can also have lasting academic advantages. We know kids learn in those early years through play, being a part of play situations in which they learn vocabulary as they play and learn from other kids,” she explained. She said the advantages of learning self-regulation and some of the basics, like a love for books, can come from preschool and provide a leg up to kids throughout their academic careers.”

by Leah Campbell September 12, 2019

Endings

The Various Christian Denominations -

The last class of Rev. Lewis’s study on the different Christian denominations will be November 8th. It has been an interesting 8 weeks.

Last Sermon in the “Unafraid: Living with Courage and Hope” –

The final sermon in Rev. Lewis’s series on living unafraid will be November 15th. He hopes you have enjoyed them and been blessed. If you missed one of them, you can access the printed sermon on our website or you can listen to the sermon on our website or on YouTube.com, searching for Lakewood Erie.

New Opportunities

Church Council’s Annual Planning Retreat -

Saturday, November 14th beginning at 9am. Meet in-person in the Fellowship Hall, practicing social distancing – for those who feel comfortable. It will also be held simultaneously online. If you would like to participate but don’t feel comfortable attending in-person, let the pastor know and he will send you the link to the meeting. The link will be sent to all members of Church Council. Show up and be heard—we are always looking for new ideas and fresh insight!

Upcoming Worship Services and Happenings at Lakewood UMC

- November 1 – **All Saint’s Day**
- November 3 - **Election Day VOTE!**
- November 8 – **Recognition of our Veterans**
- November 15 – **The last Sunday of the *Unafraid* series (See above)**
- November 22 – **Thanksgiving and Christ the King Sunday at Lakewood UMC**
- November 29th – **First Sunday in Advent**
 - **United Methodist Student Day**



FOOD MINISTRY UPDATE

Lakewood volunteers continue to help with expanding food ministry in our community. Members of our congregation participate in the following:

The annual CROP Walk where Lakewood raised \$1435.

The Millcreek Food Pantry, which serves 150 families every other week.

Produce Express at the Second Harvest Food Bank, which serves approximately 140 families each week.

Tracy School Backpack, which currently prepares weekly bags of food for 50 children.

Asbury School Backpack, which started this month and serves 20 students each week.

WICU Annual Thanksgiving Drive-in food collection, which is November 18th at local sites including Northwest Savings Bank on Pittsburgh Avenue and the WICU station on State Street.

Serving meals each year at the City Mission, Sunday Suppers at Church of the Covenant and Our Neighbor's Place.

We are so grateful for all those who are able to help with these ministries whether it's through volunteering to distribute food, donations of food items, and/or monetary gifts. May you be blessed through serving others and helping feed those in need.

November is a Month of Memories. This Year, It is Different.

Usually as Christians we boldly sing to honor our personal saints who have died within the past year or many years ago. At Lakewood, we had a tradition of putting framed pictures of our own saints on the windowsills for others to stop and remember. I'm not sure of Pastor Bob's plans for All Saints Day, November 1st, but it won't be the same as before. Humming just isn't the same as singing, as former pastor Rev. Robert Richards used to say, with GUSTO! But we will adapt.

Our veterans across the country may not be honored with parades due to social distancing requirements, but we can still let them know how appreciated they are with calls, cards or notes. They didn't serve for the glory but definitely deserve it.

Then we have Thanksgiving. It won't be like usual for many people. But we need to remember that not everyone has a big family to celebrate together. As our families spread out and grow up, it has become harder for many of us to get together every year for this day of thanks. Many people are emotionally apart from their families, whether due to differences in opinions or past mistakes or misunderstandings. For them sitting down alone or at a small family table is normal for them. Maybe one thing COVID-19 will teach us is to be thankful for whatever and whoever we have.

Please remember to vote on Tuesday, November 3rd. So much is dependent on your vote. Social service programs, health care, medical response to the COVID-19 pandemic, racial and economic equality depend on it. Voting is a right and a privilege.

Finally, stay safe this month. I'm as tired as the rest of you wearing a mask, staying socially distant from friends and family, but we can't let down our guard now. With the number of cases rising quickly again, and very few if any states showing decreases in their case counts, we have to be careful.

Have a good November. I pray for all of you all the time.

Suzie Rosendahl