

Welcome To Locust Grove

Planted in Truth, Growing in Love

March 4, 2018

Senior Pastor.....Max Zook 717.348.4488
Associate Pastor.....Ivan Yoder 717.363.0857
Youth & Women's Ministry Coordinator.....Pam Yoder 717.363.6547
Children's Ministry Coordinator.....Kara Kauffman 717.437.1473
Secretary.....Steph Hoffman 717.437.0448
Church Office.....717.935.2164

9:00 & 10:30 Morning Worship Service

Prelude: Whitney Reed
Worship Leader: Max Zook
Worship Team Leader: Brian Renno
Sermon: Ivan Yoder

11:15: Children's Breakout session (Pre-K-Grade 2) in the MYF Room.

7:00 Evening Service

Pastor Gregg Allen from New Beginnings Bible Fellowship in State College will begin a series, "Prophecy: Making the Word More Sure."

Nursery: Infants through 3 year olds-

9:00 – Lauren Reed and Ashley Newman
10:30 – Karen Yoder, Chisomo VanSciver, Lexi Melanson
*Next Week: 9:00- Justin & Amanda Byler, Sydney Jerman
10:30- Clint & Heather Yoder, Chesney Lauer

Prayer List:

At Home: Quill & Ann Kanagy
Steven, Susie, Danny, Emma, Jesse, Mahlon, & Steven Peachey

Valley View: Twila Peachey, A128 Valley View Terrace

Away: Joseph & Meredith Zook, 565 Broad St, Apt. 2, Emmaus, PA 18049

New Address: Bob Watts, Room 518B Valley View Haven
Any cards of encouragement or support would be appreciated.

Thank you to all who volunteered their time to make this year's CMC Pastors' Conference a success! You are greatly appreciated!

February 25, 2018

9:00 Worship Attendance 161
S.S. Attendance (Jr. Dept) 128
10:30 Worship Attendance 159
S.S. Offering \$33.68
Morning Worship Offering \$12,094.11

Week 9

Budgeted Morning Worship Offerings - \$92,280
Actual Morning Worship Offerings - \$81,802

This Week's Events:

Monday, 7:00 p.m.- Leadership Team
Monday, 7:00 p.m.- Men's Basketball in the gym
Tuesday, Ladies Sewing- Bring your own lunch
Tuesday, 10 a.m. - Mom's Bible Study in Church Nursery
Tuesday, 6:30p.m.- Ephesians Bible Study, Room 103
Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. - PIYO in basement. Cost is \$5.
Saturday, 7:00 a.m. – Worship Team leaders meet

Upcoming Events:

Sunday evening, March 11 – Evening of worship led by young adults
March 18 – Gregg Allen teaching on Bible prophecy
Kid's Club- March 13th 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. (Grades K-5)
May 6th – 16th, Young Adults Outreach trip to Echo Ranch Bible Camp in Juneau, Alaska.

MYF Grades 10-12: Intergenerational Faith Stories Wednesday, 7:15 p.m. at the church.

Group Grades 7-9: Meet next Sunday, March 11th 6-8pm at the church for Bible Study

Young Adults: Meet next Sunday, March 11th at Ivan and Pam's after church for lunch and discussion.

Elders' News: We are looking for a volunteer to serve as our church treasurer. If you are interested in serving please contact Max, Drew Derstein or J.B. Eby.

Reaching Out: Theil & Andrea Kauffman will be singing at Highland Park Presbyterian Church Sunday evening at 7pm as a part of a Lenten Service.

Cupcakes Needed: For our last Kid's Club on March 27th, we will be having an Easter celebration that families will be invited to attend. We will need approximately 10 dozen cupcakes for this celebration. If you are willing to donate, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside of the gym. Cupcakes can be brought to the kitchen any time before 6:30 p.m. on the 27th. For questions, please contact Kara Kauffman.

Hymn Sing at Valley View Terrace on Wednesday, March 7th at the Valley View Terrace Activities Room starting at 6:45pm.

Marriage Retreat We are planning a *Seasons of Marriage* weekend for April 27-29. If you are interested, please contact Ivan and Pam for more information.

Ladies (18 and up) We are planning a weekend backpacking adventure to the PA Grand Canyon West Rim Trail on August 2nd – 5th. If you are interested, contact Pam.

National Women's Conference will be held September 27th-29th, 2018 in Indianapolis. This year's theme will focus on "Lies Women Believe and the Truth that sets Them Free". For more information, please contact Dolores Metzler at 717.437.5201, dmetzlerduo@verizon.net or Deb Yoder at 717.935.2030, yoderddb@embarqmail.com. Also see the Women's Ministry Bulletin Board for more details.

MYF Fundraiser The MYF will be selling Mariana's Hoagies/Pizzas to help raise funds for their mission trip to Quito, Ecuador. You can place your order in your Sunday School Class and will be responsible to pick up your order in the Church Fellowship Hall on **Thursday, March 29th** between **4-6 pm**. If you wish to have your order delivered to you, please place your order directly with one of the MYF students. If you have any questions, contact Sherry Miller at 348-8775 or Pam Yoder 363-6547. Thanks for your support!

Ministers in the Belleville area are planning **the first annual Big Valley "Time of Caring"** for April 12, 13, and 14 when we will be serving our community with lawn work, general clean-up, painting, and many other projects. Volunteers will meet each morning at the community center at 9:00 and return for lunch 12-1 before heading out to complete work projects. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board to volunteer to serve or to invite people to help you with a project at your place. Our coordinator is Pastor Doug Pierce.

Contact Info: Melissa Yoder, c/o Gabriela Ciorogar
Str. Colonia Borhanci
Nr. 2A 400481 Cluj Napoca
Romania Email: melissayoder99@gmail.com

Prayer Guide for March 4– March 10

4 Sunday – *"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. John 15:5*

5 Monday – Pray for the Leadership Team in their monthly meeting tonight. Pray for **Lyle** as he heads the discussion, pray for the other elders, **Drew, Mike, Rob, and Neil**, and pray for the pastoral staff, **Max, Ivan, Pam, and Kara** as they together discuss needs, opportunities, and vision for our church.

6 Tuesday – Pray for the women who will meet this morning in our church basement to sew quilts, blankets, and clothing to be sent to people in need around the world. Pray for **Sharon Peachey** and **Arlene Yoder** as they lead the women's sewing ministry and for each person who gives their time.

7 Wednesday – Pray for **Sherryl Yoder** as she leads the worship team this week in preparing for Sunday and pray for **Max** as he prepares to preach. Pray for God to help each of our worship team leaders to have meaningful times of spiritual growth so they can choose songs and lead us out of their growing faith.

8 Thursday – Pray for families who have recently experienced the death of a loved one: **John M Byler family** and **Steve Kramm's family** after his mother died. Also pray for **Vaughn and Bethani Kanagy** and their family in their transition to this area as Vaughn serves as chaplain at Valley View.

9 Friday – Pray for **Kendra Fultz** in the Philippines and **Melissa Yoder** in Romania. Also pray for missionaries **Sheldon & Cindy Sharp** in Yukon and **Dion and Naty Peachey** in Ecuador.

10 Saturday –. Pray **for members of our youth group** in their preparation for a mission trip to Ecuador this summer. And pray for God to guide us to someone to serve as our church treasurer.

We are disciples of Jesus Christ, encouraging all people to become His fully devoted followers.

Missionary Moments: Medical Missions in Philippines: Francis, Leah, Julia, Avea, and Justice Daytec, with Kendra Fultz: We learned that we can have nothing in common and have so much in common all at once. After changing Dalia's dressings we would sit and paint each other's toenails and she would pour out her heart to me...I understood much of it, and when I didn't understand the words, my heart understood the emotions. We would laugh and cry and she would hug me tighter than anyone ever has and whisper "Mahal na mahal kita, kapatid ko" ("I love you so much, my sister") in my ear, tears puddling where her face met my neck. Our hearts are forever knit together-- she's one of the most beautiful humans I've ever known. Before they went home, Kuya Wilson put his hand on Francis' shoulder and said, "We've never felt love like this in our whole lives. Surely this is the love Jesus has for us. It will now change how we love others." I cried... Our heart's desire in this coming year is to get closer to the reality of building a clinic more central to many of these further-out Mangyan villages that have no health-care, and no hospital access. So many of these beautiful moms and babies die of complications related to childbirth. As we build deeper relationship with our friends in these villages, they have grown to trust us and have said they would travel to come stay at a clinic in the days and weeks leading up to birth so that they could deliver safely with trained birth attendants and medical supplies. We have been partnering with our friends in Medical Ambassadors Philippines and going into the villages (6 hours away) of the unreached Bangon people this past year. We have incredible friends who are moving from Australia this year to come and partner in ministry with us as we move towards the next step in helping rescue woman and children who have been trafficked, out of the sex-industry and into freedom. We continue to deliver lots of babies each month in our clinic through our wonderful midwives and medical assistants, as well as bringing health-care, education and discipleship in the Mangyan villages and communities around us. We lead our team in Thursday Bible studies, and Francis meets with the local pastors, continuing to encourage unity and love. He also travels often with teams to further-out villages, sometimes islands away to bring healthcare and hope. We continue to have home-church every Sunday in our home, starting about 2 or 3 in the afternoon and sometimes stretching until 8 or 9. Our team from the clinic comes, as well as local pastors and their families, and anyone else who shows up. Sometimes there are 15, sometimes 40 people. We worship, take turns sharing the Bible, and eat together. We go deep and talk about the messy and hurting places in our lives and encourage each other with the Truth. Our goal in discipleship is to model what it looks like when The Church rolls up her sleeves and gets messy, loving people. The kind of love that is lavish and heaped-on and makes people's eyes grow wide because it looks so foreign and yet so very right... Because it's this kind of love that reveals our identity and reveals our God.

New Tribes Missions (Ethnos 360) with the Lusi Tribe in Papua New Guinea: Rick, Anji, Kira, and Keane Zook: In this New Year our team has two new things going on which take time and dedication on the part of our team. One, is an adult literacy course in a village which has already been taught through the Chronological teaching program and has believers. And the other, is a new outreach to a new village, where Lusi believers are teaching a new Phase 1, and our Mouk co-workers are assisting. In that village, there is a small group of people, who want to hear what the Bible has to say. But there is also a religious group in opposition, who do not want the teaching going on there. The teaching started this week, and the opposition has already stirred up things twice. Please note that the leaders of the village are NOT in opposition, just this vocal minority. Their opposition was not unexpected. So this is where our prayer requests come in. Will you please pray for: Our co-workers and Lusi believers who are doing the teaching. For courage, for inner peace, for a good witness, for endurance, for joy in the face of difficult situations, for the glory of God. The students of the literacy classes. For humility, for a teachable attitude, for faithfulness, for discipleship. The Lusi hearing the whole story of the gospel for the first time. That they would not let false harmony sway them from hearing the gospel. That they would be faithful to hear all the teaching. That whole families, and not just individuals would hear the teaching. Pray for the men, that they would not continue to be blinded by things of this world and the lies of the devil. Pray that the Holy Spirit would be convicting those who God desires to draw to Himself.

SEND in Teslin, Yukon, Canada: Sheldon, Cindy, Jedidiah, Annali, Caleb, and Malachi Sharp: It's been a harsher winter than usual, but we as a family have been having a good winter. A couple weeks ago Sheldon and two others from Teslin went Bison Hunting; it was a productive hunt. On day two of the hunt they spotted 16 bison on a mountain top, and were able to get halfway to them via Snowmobile and then stalk them from the back side of the mountain. As a group they were able to bring home 3 small bison. So we are very grateful for the full freezer and great tasting meat. We ask that you continue to pray for the Dougie's family. They are still struggling through the death of his father. Pray for peace and comfort in their whole family. Pray for Dougie as he continues to stand with Jesus and be there for his family. Also pray for Dougie as he has gotten himself a large project to carve a boulder for the Teslin Heritage Center. Pray that God would give him the strength and endurance to complete this huge task. Pray that God would use this project for him to share his faith with the community. It has been a difficult winter for several members of our Bible Fellowship. We pray that the Holy Spirit would strengthen, encourage, and fill them with His presence in the midst of darkness and trials. Also prayer that we would also be filled to be able to minister to those who are struggling.

YWAM in Cluj, Romania: Alin, Gabi, Melissa, Julia and Caleb

Ciorogar, and Melissa Yoder: The beginning of this year started with 3 days of prayer and fasting for our team. We wanted to lean into what God has in store for our ministry and for our town. Our team was encouraged to hear from the Lord and receive refreshed vision. Gabi worked on finishing her thesis for her college degree. She did it and now it is done. It took a lot of focus and hard work, but it is wonderful to be done and end well this 3 years of study. As a team we are still focusing on learning more about all the new things God wants to do in Romania and Cluj. This are so different now then they were 10 years ago. There is a new generation of young adults that have everything but they need Jesus. Our after care program that we offer to the mothers from the House of Joy is growing, and we have more families adopting mothers to support them monthly. That in itself is a big change and answer to prayer. Both of us were invited to teach the leadership of YWAM Romania about the different spiritual Gifts in the Bible. Was very encouraging to be able to help the different leaders in Romania evaluate and process the work they do and the teams they lead. This spring we are focusing on hosting teams and training.

The month of March we will host a seminar at our ministry center. After that we will join pastor Max and the team in Israel for 9 days. This for us is a dream coming true. We are very excited to have this opportunity. Soon after we come back we are starting to get ready for Easter. Our Easter is a week later then the American Easter. This year we will enlarge our egg hunt ministry to all the kids in our community not just the preschools and schools. We are looking at ministering to hundreds of kids during the week before Easter. As a family we are doing well. Gabi has dealt with health issues that hopefully now are gone. The only thing she is fighting now is very low iron. working on getting it to normal levels again. The kids enjoy their school. Julia is slowly winning the battle with math. Caleb thinks that school is the greatest things ever. Melissa is enjoying sports the most, but school is going well. Alin is enjoying this season with having Melissa Yoder here to help with worship. She is a wonderful girl and very big blessing to us. Please pray for the projects that we have and also for our local community. We want to share Jesus with as many as possible. Our neighborhood has grown so much and there are new people moving in everyday.