

**January 6, 2019
Morning Worship Service**

Prelude

Meagan Esh

Worship Leader

Lyle Yoder

Worship Team Leader

Glen Peachey

Sermon – Max Zook

Why is Life So Hard? Matt. 10:34-39

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

Nursery: Infants through 3 year olds

9:00 – Hope Staley, Sydney Jerman

10:30 – Danny & Nadya Peachey

*Next Week: 9:00- Hope Staley, Jada Eckely

10:30- Joyce Staley, Hannah Diehl

Prayer List:

At Home: Glenn & Jean Byler
Rita & Carol Yoder

Valley View: Orpha Zook, A205 Valley View Terrace

Away: Daniel, Rachele, Jolene, & Janessa Yoder
304 Cedar St, Keuka Park, NY 14478

REACHING OUT: Bradley Hartzler is preaching at First Baptist today.

MISSION SPOT: Wycliffe in Orlando, FL: Keith, Christina, Luke, and Nicole Bitikofer

Welcome to our Worship Service! We are so glad you are here. Our morning schedule includes many class options for discussion during both of our morning worship services. Lists of classes are available on the information table in the welcome corner of our foyer.



December 30, 2018

9:00 Worship Attendance	197
S.S. Attendance.....	389
10:30 Worship Attendance	203
S.S. Offering	\$23.70
Morning Worship Offering.....	\$22,111

Week 53

Budgeted Morning Worship Offerings - \$599,797

Actual Morning Worship Offerings – \$602,408

This Week's Events:

No Ladies Sewing in January

Tuesday, 7am – Men's Pursuit of God Bible study in café

Wednesday, 6:30pm – SPFM team meeting

Upcoming Events:

January 14, 7:00pm – Mom's Time Away

January 20, 6-8pm – Rooted (Grades 5th & 6th)

January 22 – Philippians Bible Study resumes

January 24, 7:00pm – Annual Congregational Business Meeting

January 26-27 – Group Snow Camp

Group Grades 7-9: Meet January 13th from 6-8pm at the church for Bible study. 7th grade bring a snack, 8th & 9th bring a drink.

MYF Grades 10-12: Meet Wednesday, January 9th at the church at 7:15pm for Bible study.

Young Adults: Meet January 13th after church at Ivan & Pam's for lunch and discussion.

Homemade Apple Butter is available by Ivan's office for \$5 a pint! Sugar free apple butter is available by request. Proceeds go to the young adult trip to Echo Ranch Bible Camp in May 2019.

Lewistown Prayer Walks- January 17th, & 31st. No Belleville carpool this month, meet at the Lewistown Bon-Ton parking lot at **6pm**.

Did you know your offering can be tax deductible? If you are interested in tracking your annual giving for tax purposes, please contact our treasurer Heidi Yoder (814) 667-36169.

CHURCH NEWS

Church Directory: There are paper sign-ups for directory portraits at the welcome table TODAY. You can also schedule your family appointment online for January 24-26 or April 18-20. Paper sign-ups are for January 24-26 only. For online scheduling, go to the web site for United Church Directories at: <https://www.ucdir.com/schedule/login.php> Our **church login is pa838** with **password: locustgrove** Thank you for your participation!

There are a 15 quarts of **pork and homemade sauerkraut** still available- Price is \$6 a quart. Found in upright freezer in the kitchen.

Thank you so much to all our dear brothers and sisters here at Locust Grove for all your acts of kindness to our family during my surgery & recovery. Thanks so much to those who brought in the wonderful meals, cards, prayers, and words of encouragement. God bless as we serve the Lord together. – Ray, Joann, Marci, Hannah, & Zackary

Women Influencing Women Brunch will be held Saturday, January 19th at 10 am. You are invited to join Pam and Kara as they be host a brunch for "women influencing women" for ages 10 and up. Please join us as we meet for fellowship and a Word on how we influence each other and how God has instructed us as women, through scripture, to be mentors to the younger generation from Titus 2. We look forward to seeing you there! There is a sign-up sheet is on the Women's Ministry Board.

Hope Alive will begin a new group towards the end of January. Men & women are welcome to join group. This is an intense six month treatment program that deals with childhood abuse and neglect and pregnancy losses. Call Karen Yoder to schedule an evaluation and seek more information.

Mom's Time Away will meet Monday, January 14th and 28th, at 7pm at Joyce Staley's. Contact Pam with any questions at 717.363.6547.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

Rooted (5th & 6th grade): Rooted will be held on Sunday, January 20th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the gym.

Kid's Club: Spring Kid's Club will be held Feb. 5 & 19 and March 5 & 19 from 6:30-8 and is for children grades Pre-k (age 4) through 4th grade. Registration will be open in the next few weeks. The topic is "Why we love Jesus!!"

Substitute Teachers Needed: We could use several people who would be willing to be on a sub list and be called when our regular Sunday School teachers are not available. If you are willing to serve in this way, please contact Kara Kauffman at (717) 437-1473 or email kara@locustgrovemc.org.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Family Hospice Recruiting New Volunteers-Family Hospice and Palliative Care, Part of UPMC HNA (Home Nursing Agency), is recruiting volunteers to join the Family Hospice team in Mifflin County. Volunteers have the rewarding privilege of supporting patients with life-limiting illnesses and their caregivers through a significant and inevitable season of life. Hospice volunteers make an impact in various ways, such as visiting with patients, providing relief for caregivers, making phone calls, supporting grieving family members, and more. Volunteer involvement is determined by the individual's skills, desires, and schedule. Volunteers are good listeners who display flexibility, understanding and empathy. Specialized training is provided for new volunteers. For more information or to apply as a Family Hospice volunteer, visit homenursingagency.com or contact Bereavement and Volunteer Coordinator Carole Palmer at 814-569-9193.

DC4K LEADERS needed for Winter Semester: DC4K's winter semester begins January 21, 2019 at the Lumina Center in Lewistown, and the JV YMCA. Leaders are still needed for the YMCA. If you love children and the Lord Jesus and sense the call of the Holy Spirit to join in the battle for the hearts and minds of today's kids; please consider joining the DC4K team. Orientation will be held at Locust Grove in early January. Please call either Karen Goss (717-994-2007) or Ann Kanagy (717-437-4946) to discuss this opportunity.

DC4Teens, a student support group for teens ages 13-19 years whose families are experiencing separation/divorce, is set to kick-off at the Lumina Center January 24, 2019. DC4Teens helps teens to clear up mistaken beliefs about divorce and separation, engage in meaningful activities and discuss topics they may not have been allowed to explore. This is a ten-week program that will run each Thursday from 5:30-7pm at the Lumina Center in downtown Lewistown. The program is led by Central Pennsylvania Youth Ministries and sponsored by Lewistown Kiwanis Club and Locust Grove Mennonite Church. There is no cost for registration. Groups are limited to 10. For more information on DC4Teens or to complete a registration form, call or text Chris at 317-403-0905 or go to youthcybercenter.com.

MISSION MOMENT

Kara Jerman- Ecuador: Hello from this side of the equator! A lot of exciting things have been happening. We stayed in host families for 2 weeks, moved into an apartment, and celebrated Christmas! My host family was very nice and welcoming. They helped me understand Spanish better. They spoke fast for me at times, but I got better by the end! I was sad to leave them because I got close to them, but I am excited that my team is living together now. We have already made so many memories and I can't wait to see what's ahead. The Foundation has its good and bad days. Sometimes it feels like we aren't doing anything to help the tías (workers) and the kids still don't respect us at times, but the relationships we have with the kids are so precious. The girls are very special friends to me. They all fight over me and say that I'm "theirs", and I don't know what to do! Last Friday the girls had a slumber party and they invited all of us to join. We watched *The Little Mermaid*, danced, ate popcorn and candy, and did each other's makeup. Let's just say there were a lot of laughs and a lot of scrubbing off that came with that makeup :) It was so precious to be more than these girls' tía. I was just their friend who had a party with them. Now I see this kind of relationship continuing as I work at the Foundation. Some of the kids are starting to open up to me, which is definitely a God thing. They are always open to give hugs and talk anytime you need it. I already realize that leaving them is going to be very hard when it comes. Our team went back to our host homes for Christmas Eve. Culturally, you show up to a party around 8:00 and you mingle and hang out until midnight when you eat. Then the celebration begins. That is pretty much how our party went. Our host mom's side of the family came, and we talked and played games with them until midnight. At the beginning of the party I felt slightly out of place and homesick, but I felt better once the night went on. The family was very welcoming and tried to make the party enjoyable for us. I sort of held back on Spanish at the beginning, but I slowly started talking to people, which ended up helping me. The more I speak, the more I learn. The Ecuadorians taught us their dances and then we put on Just Dance videos for them, and they loved it! I would say that I am a very bad dancer, but as I was learning the new dances my host family's son would say, "¡Ella ya sabe!", which means, "She got it!" It was so fun to celebrate a cultural Christmas with a kind family, despite being slightly homesick. Now I get to tell people that I celebrated Christmas and started a new year in Ecuador, which is really cool. Although I haven't always realized it, God has showed up in so many ways. He has kept us safe and brought good things during the times we could have a bad attitude and complain. Spanish has surprisingly clicked for me and I am continuing to get better at it. God keeps increasing my passion for Spanish the culture. I think of you all with love and gratefulness. Again thank you so much for your support! ¡Qué Dios les bendiga! (God bless you!)

Prayer Guide for January 6 – January 12

6 Sunday – “Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.” *Matt. 10:39*

7 Monday – Our leadership team meets this evening for our January meeting. Pray for **Drew Derstein** as he leads the elders, for **Mike Hartzler** as he records the minutes, and for the other elders: **Neil Renno, Steven Peachey,** and **Lyle Yoder** and pray for our staff: **Max, Ivan, Pam,** and **Kara** as they give direction to our church family.

8 Tuesday – Pray for our evangelist who is spending two weeks traveling to remote villages high in the mountains with Daniel and Alin. Pray for the people meeting in the church building they built several years ago and pray for God to prepare the hearts of the people they will meet. And pray for **Kendra Fultz** on a trip to visit Francis and Leah Daytec in the Philippines until next week. Pray for a refreshing time for all of them.

9 Wednesday – Pray for **Ivan** as he prepares to preach this Sunday, for **Max** as he prepares to preach at Boyer, and for **Abe** as he prepares to lead worship on Sunday with the worship team.

10 Thursday – Pray for **Karen Zook** in her recovery from a fractured skull she suffered in an accidental fall on New Year's Eve. Pray for God's healing touch and His peace and presence in her rest and recovery and pray for Jay & Karen in their role of mentoring and assisting with MYF activities. Pray also for **Sue Peachey** who is experiencing breathing problems, is using oxygen, and is planning more tests in the next few months.

11 Friday – Pray for the people of Pamir and the Tajik men who are sharing Jesus in that area of the world. Pray for the **Wahki** people group.

12 Saturday – Pray for **Mike & Wendy Byler**, Pastor of the Boyer Mennonite Church near Middleburg, and brother of Twila (Mrs. J.D. Yoder). Tomorrow Max will lead in a commissioning service for them to begin a term of missionary service in Uganda. Pray for God to provide a new pastor for Boyer and pray for the Boyer elders in this transition time.

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