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West Lawn UMC will once again be present at this year's **National Night Out** on Tuesday, August 2nd. This event will take place at the Lincoln Park Pool from 5-8 PM. We will be there representing our church handing out goodies and greeting the hundreds of guests that come to this family fun evening at the pool. Stop by our table, join our hospitality team and simply help us embrace the community on what we hope is a warm, delightful summer evening!



Mark your calendar for an exciting Meet and Greet with Pastor Tom at the Red Caboose Park on **Saturday, August 27** from 5 to 8 PM. We'll enjoy watching an exhibition game between our two softball teams, hang out with our church family, and indulge in delicious ballpark food prepared by our fabulous kitchen ministry. The menu includes baked chicken, hot dogs, BBQ, macaroni salad, potato salad, veggie trays, water, iced tea, lemonade, cupcakes, and more! To RSVP, call the church office or register on the app or website.



Dear West Lawn Church Family,

A few weeks ago, my wife Kimm and I arrived in this community to become part of your family and begin walking alongside of you in ministry. Without question, leaving a familiar environment to start a new life is always a challenge for all of us. It isn't easy. We have many things to learn... new faces, new names, a new way of doing church business and to get to know you -- and you to get to know us as well. There is a movement from the familiar to the unfamiliar, from the old to the new -- for us, and in many ways, also for you.

For 22 years Jeff and Cheryl Raffauf walked the path that Kimm and I now find ourselves walking. During that time together the West Lawn Church family performed wonderful works for the Lord, glorifying the Kingdom, inviting, embracing, and empowering the community you serve. It is a beautiful thing. But now we all find ourselves experiencing a new beginning, a new life. Jeff and Cheryl in retirement, and Kimm and I in ministry together with you. What will this new life bring?

Take just a moment to consider that question. Our response will say a lot about who we are. Will this new beginning bring positives? Negatives? Our response to that question will also make a statement about our relationship with the Lord. With that in mind, allow me to ask that question again, what will this new beginning bring? No doubt there will be times of testing and growth, times of grief and times of joy, times of assurance and times of doubt. It was Solomon who warned us, *"there is a time for everything."* (Ecclesiastes 3) so we should not be surprised. But again, I must ask, what... will this new beginning bring?

I would like to suggest this new life for all of us to be an opportunity for a fresh start ... to make a new commitment in living out our faith and serving the Lord. Listen to these words from a book titled *Chasing Daylight* by Erwin McManus.

*"**You** were born to live a great adventure; **You** were created with a divine destiny; **You** are called to fulfill a great mission. **You** were designed for a unique purpose. Now, **you** are called to live it out."*

This book deals with the understanding that every Christian has been given the opportunity and ability to serve God in a great way. What a wonderful vision to set our new lives together in motion. So again, what will this new beginning bring? Whatever the answer is for you, submit to God, and "... live it out!"

I am proud to be your pastor and excited to engage this new beginning with you all.

Blessings,

Pastor Tom

Kitchen Ministry Welcomes New Servants

Are you looking for a way to serve in a West Lawn United Methodist Church ministry? Come join our Kitchen Ministry! This ministry prepares meals for our West Lawn Wednesday dinners, raising money for our various mission trips. We also assist in the food needs of the Opportunity House Shelter, the Hope Rescue Mission shelter, and New Journey Soup Kitchen.

We prepare all of our meals from scratch, including the main courses, salads, veggies, potatoes, pastas, desserts, etc. As such, our Kitchen Ministry needs a lot of servants for various functions, such as food preparation, cooking, baking, serving meals, salad station, busing tables, dish washing, kitchen clean-up, setting up tables and chairs, rolling silverware, hosting and seating, putting away tables and chairs, beverage station, delivering to Opp. House and HRM, etc. No experience is necessary, just a desire to serve our church and community and help others along the way.

We are having an informational Pizza Party on Wednesday, August 24 at 6:00 PM in the Raffauf Community Center. Please come see and hear what your Kitchen Ministry does and tour our fully-equipped kitchen. See how our Community Center transforms into a "restaurant" every Wednesday!

Come see how you can help. Please note, the pay is terrible, but the rewards are priceless. Thank You.

Ed Hong
Kitchen Ministry Team Leader



Griefshare Beginning September 20

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted." Matthew 5:4 (NRSV)

Grief can be overwhelming. Loss and potential loss can be so frightening and painful that it feels like the world is simply caving in; sometimes it seems that there is no end to the pain. In times of grief, prayers become a lifeline that upholds and guides us when we do not know the way. Minute by minute and hour by hour, God sustains us.

If you have suffered a recent loss or continue to struggle with the loss of a loved one, The Griefshare Ministry Team can help and would be honored to walk along side you through this time in your life. This group of trained servants will minister to you through weekly meetings, offering a listening ear as well as proven suggestions to aid you in your grieving process.

Classes will be held Tuesday afternoons from 1:00 – 3:00 in the Reiner Education Building room 109, from September 20 through December 13.

If you would like more information or to register, please contact the church office at 610-678-5611.

WEST LAWN UMC
PRESCHOOL

NOW ENROLLING
610-678-5611

THIS & THAT

DID YOU GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE THIS YEAR? STOP BY THE CHURCH OFFICE AND PICK UP YOUR GIFT FROM THE CHURCH!

TO SPONSOR ALTAR FLOWERS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES, PLEASE CALL ACACIA FLOWER SHOP DIRECTLY AT 610-376-8767 BY TUESDAY FOR PLACEMENT THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY. TWO FLOWER SLOTS PER WEEK.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH
NO MEETINGS
THROUGHOUT THE
SUMMER. MEETINGS WILL
BEGIN AGAIN IN
SEPTEMBER.

AT THE REQUEST OF SOME OF OUR CHURCH FAMILIES, WE WILL NO LONGER LIST CHILDREN UNDER 18 ON OUR BIRTHDAY LIST.

TWO BURIAL PLOTS FOR SALE AT FOREST HILLS. IF INTERESTED, CALL MARY KILKKA AT 717-488-8083 AND LEAVE A MESSAGE.



Safe Haven Lighthouse Is Back!

We are looking forward to having all the children from last year return and to welcome new ones!

We meet every Wednesday (that Wilson School District is in session) from September through May. If you know of any child that would like to join us, please contact the church office. We provide transportation from Whitfield Elementary School, but all children from other schools are welcome too!

We provide a snack, activities, Bible lesson, crafts, homework time and games. We meet from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

We are also looking for more people to join our team. If you have a love for children, and are available on Wednesday afternoons, please contact the church office.

Please pray for all our volunteers and for our children, that God will bless our ministry and provide a wonderful program for the children again this year.

In Christ's service,

Lori Madara and Bonnie Rissmiller





Memories

Memories... what do you think of when you hear this word? The musical “Cats” maybe? Where you grew up? Family? Education?

I remember my mother and father, my siblings and the small town of Paxton, Massachusetts. I grew up in the 50s, and it was a great time to live!

My stepfather, Henry, was a veteran of the second world war, and like so many vets he took advantage of the GI bill and completed college. He would meet my mother, Helen, after his return from University of Michigan. My mother was a divorced mother with four small children.

Henry Russell was from a very devout Catholic family, and you just did not marry a protestant divorcee. But he loved my mother and after they were married, the Catholic Church excommunicated Henry. His family treated him as an outcast.

We moved into a small house in Paxton, a suburb of Worcester. When I was six, along came my sister, Jean, and we were now a family of seven. Jean helped heal the broken relationship in my dad’s family.

My grandmother accepted not only my kid sister, but the rest of us “poor Protestants”. Our home was filled with love, but not much else. We had little but we had each other.

I have great memories of a safe community, and a safe school in grades 1 through 8 at Paxton Center School, of playing baseball, of Boy Scouts, and of staying out until the streetlights came on.

We knew all the kids and parents on our street. No one moved in those days. We attended the First Congregational Church; you see, my father was not welcome in the Catholic Church. I went to church to play on the basketball team. Memories of a loving home, a small community, of five kids and two fantastic parents.

But most of all, of Henry Russell, my father, who sacrificed so much for us all. Thanks so much, dad. Love you and miss you.

To each of you, hold onto the memories and remember...

Peace and Joy

Pastor Terry

Opportunities to Serve at the 11:00 AM Worship Service

Would you like a way to become more involved in your church and meet new people? One easy way that you can serve is on a Sunday morning, as there are several opportunities to get involved, such as being a greeter/usher, helping out at the welcome center, or serving communion. Servants are especially needed at the 11:00 AM service.

If you are interested, please contact:

Terrie Jenkins for Greeter/Usher **Carolyn Ortwein for Welcome Center** **Pastor Lisa for Communion Steward**

All three can be found on a Sunday morning at the 11:00 AM service. Or you can call the church office for more information.

Grieving the death of a spouse?

Or do you know someone who is?

Your life has changed forever. The daily emotions and challenges can seem too hard to bear.

Find help at a Loss of a Spouse seminar.

You'll hear:

- Practical advice from others who've been there.
- What to expect in your grief.
- How to cope with life without your spouse.
- Why it won't always hurt this much.

LOSS OF A SPOUSE

Please join us for this encouraging seminar.

GRIEF SHARE
griefshare.org/spouse

Tuesday September 13, 2022
1:00 - 3:00
West Lawn UMC
Reiner Ed. Building Room 109

For
GOD
SO
loved
the
WORLD
that He gave His
one & only Son
that whoever
BELIEVES IN HIM
shall not perish
but have
eternal
life.
John 3:16

DIVORCED? SEPARATED?

WE CAN HELP

DivorceCare is a weekly seminar/support group that will help you heal from the hurt. It's a warm, caring environment led by people who understand what you are going through. Gain hope for your future!

Contact us today for more information

Wednesdays 6:30-8:30
Aug. 24 - Nov. 16
West Lawn UMC
Reiner Ed. Building Room 109

Find Help • Discover Hope
Experience Healing

DIVORCECare

What is DivorceCare?

DivorceCare is a safe place where caring people come alongside you as you find healing from the pain of separation or divorce.

At this 13-week, video-based support group program, you'll find helpful counsel to manage the emotional turmoil and practical tools for decision-making.

Please join us on Wednesday evenings, beginning August 24, from 6:30 – 8:30 PM in the Reiner Education Building, room 109.

Contact the church office or Pastor Lisa for additional information.

Healing
IS POSSIBLE

Pastor Lisa's Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study

Pastor Lisa's Tuesday morning women's bible study has moved to Thursday mornings, 9:30 – 11:00ish, in the Reiner Education Building, room 109.

We are taking a break during the month of July, but beginning Thursday August 11, all women are welcome to join us as we begin to study 2 Peter. Please contact Pastor Lisa to register for either of these studies.

Disciple Bible Study

Remember who you are...

A 32-week Disciple Bible Study—16 sessions on the prophets and 16 sessions on the letters of Paul—with the bible being the primary text. Each person will also use a study manual that combines information and direction enabling an in-depth study of the text of the bible.

The study includes daily assigned passages, weekly small group discussion and video segments. If you want to know more, please contact Pastor Terry at 610-582-8208 or zeeovernv73@gmail.com and plan to attend an upcoming orientation meeting TBD.

Coffee and donut holes are back!

Join us outside (weather pending) between 8:45 AM-11:00 AM for fellowship time with your church family. And, if you are looking for a way to serve God through serving this Church, contact Kelly Rismiller to join this relationship-building ministry team by emailing kelly@westlawnumc.org or calling 610-507-9141.

Sunday School Help Needed

Be the light of God to our youngest members! West Lawn's children's ministry is seeking additional Sunday School teachers and Nursery helpers, especially to fill in during the summer months. Contact Kelly to be a blessing to over 80+ children! kelly@westlawnumc.org, 610-507-9141.

Snack Attack!

If you are ever around kids, you know how many snacks they can eat in one day, one week, one month! New Journey Community Outreach recognizes this need for snacks, for the children whose parents are served through the food pantry.

Any donations of individually packed snack treats are greatly appreciated. Please drop them off at the Welcome Center or Church office throughout the month of August. We would love to help stock their snack pantry. Thank you!



Church Secretary Position at Hain's Church

St. John Hain's UCC Church is seeking a friendly, positive personality with good communication skills and attention to detail to join their team. They are seeking an experienced church secretary who can oversee numerous church operations, assist the pastor, consistory, staff and members of the church, carry out administrative duties such as answering phone calls, attending to emails, managing schedules, and handling church files, programs and data. The successful candidate must have a minimum of one year of experience as a secretary and be proficient in Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook. The position is hourly and part-time, Monday through Friday with office hours 8:30am – 1:30pm. Starting rate is \$15 per hour. Compensation will be based on experience.

If interested, please email Church@stjhains.org or call 610-670-2133.

Our next **Inquirers' Class** will be offered on **Sunday, August 7** from 12:30 to 2:30 PM in the HE-Brews Cafe.

If you would like to know more about West Lawn Church, The United Methodist Church, or are interested in uniting with this congregation, please call the church office to register and plan to attend this upcoming class. Pizza and drinks provided.



Back to School Supplies

Opportunity House is in need of back to school supplies for the children living in their shelter and housing programs. For more information about school supplies or to schedule a drop off, contact Tammie Berry at tberry@opphouse.org or call 484-269-6566.

You can also make a monetary donation towards back to school supplies at www.opphouse.org/donate. Thank you for your support!



Women's Book Club will meet Wednesday, August 10, at 7:00 PM in room 109 in the Education Building to discuss *Defending Jacob* by William Landay. September's book will be *The Giver of Stars* by Jojo Moyes. **New readers** always welcome! Come join the discussion! To be added to the email list or for information please contact Donna Barnhart at dmbhart2@gmail.com or 610-678-7873.



The next Wilson Area Food Pantry distribution will be on August 19th from 2:30-4:30PM in the WLUMC Community Center. Pre-registration is preferred and can be scheduled by calling 484-525-0980. Donations accepted weekdays in the church office. Thank you!

AUGUST 2022



Thirty-five women, men, young adults, and youth are sent to West Virginia to serve God for a week in July with the Appalachia Service Project.

Greetings from Craigsville, West Virginia. During this week, our West Lawn ASP Mission Team worked on improving three homes in this area.



Hello from your friends at ASP in Nicholas County, WV! This crew completed an entire roof on a 56' home in 3 days that'll keep the family and their essentials dry before further repairs are completed.



More info and registration available on the App or web...
<https://westlawnumc.org/youth-summer-info>



Firehouse Youth

For info, contact:
 Youth Pastor
 Trisha Rabold
 610.678.5611 (O)
 484.432.7808 (C)
trisha@westlawnumc.org



A big thanks to WLUMC Youth for pulling together and delivering 200 lunches. The lunches were great, healthy and hearty, and enjoyed by everyone! We are always grateful for your kindness and support. I mean...look at those smiles.
-New Journey Soup Kitchen



Don't forget to check out our podcasts on West Lawn UMC's website or app at <https://westlawnumc.com/podcast> #OurStoryPodcast



29. Tom Ebersole
Jun 28, 2022



28. Seniors of 2022
Jun 21, 2022



27. Elise Coakley
Jun 14, 2022



26. Pat Kenna
Jun 7, 2022



25. Dave Haas
May 31, 2022



24. Howie Weber
May 24, 2022



Graham Reazor
Baptized 7/10/2022
Parents: Timothy & Tanya Reazor

Baptisms

If you are interested in scheduling a baptism or joining the church, please contact the church office at office@westlawnumc.org / 610-678-5611 or one of the pastors.



Noah Benjamin McGregor
Baptized 7/10/2022
Parents: Peter & Julia McGregor

Thank You...

Words cannot express the gratitude we feel for all the support we have felt from our church family over the past 6 months! The visits, cards, prayers and support have been felt by us all while Fred and Alice experienced health issues, transition into an Assisted Living facility and finally the passing of Fred. The beautiful flowers, member visitation and Pastor participation at Fred's service meant the world to us all. May God continue to bless the West Lawn UMC family!

Gratefully, Alison and Andrew Lacey,
Alice Cutts and the Lacey family

What a blessing to be a member of this wonderful and caring church family. Thank you so very much for all the cards, prayers and phone calls. Thank you, Pastor Lisa, for calling me while I was hospitalized and to Pastor Cooney, for his visits. Your love and support are very much appreciated. In Christian Love and Friendship, -
Marsha Sarfert

Dear friends of Family Promise,

We would like to give thanks for the continued and generous support West Lawn United Methodist Church has given to Family Promise of Berks County over the years. The investments you have made to help us fulfill our mission are immensely appreciated. Your recent donation enabled us to provide care and services to families and youth who have fallen on difficult times.

Our programs are designed to help those in need all while engaging people with diverse backgrounds to come together and form lasting partnerships. Contributions like yours indicate that our reach has gone beyond the confines of a program and inspired individuals to invest in our vision to help build stronger communities. We truly value this partnership and look forward to new ways we can serve families in need together.

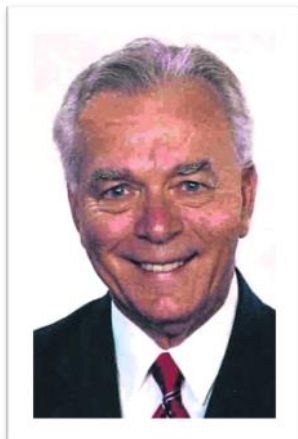
Thanks again from the board of directors, staff and families that need a helping hand in crisis. We will continue to provide help for today and hope for tomorrow.

Bethany Bower, Executive Director

In Loving Memory



Thomas Wertz
3/25/1948 – 7/10/2022



Barry E. Rohrbach
8/30/1933 – 7/12/22



John D. Goshert
5/28/1943 – 7/14/2022



Roxy J. Hain
7/20/1947 – 7/16/2022



15 Woodside Avenue
West Lawn, PA 19609
www.westlawnumc.org
Phone: 610-678-5611

OUR PASTORS:

Tom Ebersole

Chris Hardy

Terry Cooney

Lisa Hoopes

Sunday Worship

8:00 am Traditional Worship

9:30 am Praise Worship

11:00 am Traditional Worship

11:10 am Community Worship





August Birthdays



AUGUST 1

Vicki Eby
Tracey Miller
Lois Persing
Wendy Rio
Christine Snyder

AUGUST 2

John Hunter
Terry Stamm
Emma Viera
Matthew Zillhardt

AUGUST 3

Pamela Brightbill
Staci DeJesus
Brian Ebling
Franklin Rothenberger
Denise Strohmayer

AUGUST 4

Betty Berk
Gloria Brown*
Alice Burkhart
Joan Fick
Michael Poole
Jordan Thenga

AUGUST 5

Richard Dietrich
Linda Kline
Alison Lacey
Donna Laumeister
Dale Rothenberger
Kimberly Swartz

AUGUST 6

Ann Conrow
Jamie O'Leary
Laura Witman

AUGUST 7

David Bosler
Arlan Davis
Donna Fritz
Joyce McGregor
Nathan Strausburger

AUGUST 8

Josh Birchess
Albalyra Bryan
Brendan Gallagher
Lee Marabella
Jean Yoder*

AUGUST 9

Kyle Beck

Ashley Hostetter
Christopher Noble
Brian Stiefel
Wayne Weikel
Joseph Yetter

AUGUST 10

Randolph Blatt
Stephanie Hostetter
Lindsay Kio
Jane Lubahn
Jayme Raffauf

AUGUST 11

Andrew Adams

AUGUST 12

Judy Brisan
Crystal Butts
Susan Christman
Roberta Conroy
Bonnie Folk
Harlee Neuin
Lori Palka
Tim Stover

AUGUST 13

Fae Boyer
Sharon Gass
Jennifer Heist
Tracey Johnson
Donetta Kuhle
Karen Marks
Karen Mays
Marnie Ramsey
Carolyn Strain

AUGUST 14

Sallijean Ebert
Ashlee Harris
Erin Long
Bondu Yamba

AUGUST 15

Britney Dierolf
Dylan Hayick
Amy Ketner
Mike Sochko
Allison Welch
Chris Williams

AUGUST 16

Elise Coakley
Colin Grace
Carol Leashefski
Scott Long

Steven Schneck
Nikki Waltz

AUGUST 17

Nathan Baker
Nolan Baldwin
Brenda Bayliss
Jane Blatt
Alexander Derr
Connor Gould
Rachel Keel
David Page
Logan Skokowski
Jack Williams
Scott Wyrick

AUGUST 18

Kristina Bryan
Joan Cook
Jeffrey Dry
Morgan Gensemer
Kenneth Hatt
Keri Irwin
Marci Prutzer
Michael Siminski

AUGUST 19

Jeanne Boyer
Alexandra Bryan
David Cappuccio
Alison Columbus
Jake Paolini
Ruth Putt*
Kim Russell
Jacob Slemmer
Georgene Zeiner

AUGUST 20

James Baker
Nicole Daniels
Diane Guldin-Zaffiro
Janice Jones
Dori Noecker
Bill Stambaugh
Kathryn Trout

AUGUST 21

Peg Carpenter
Bonnie Gosch
Maria Moorhatch
Richard Reaser
Marie Shuman
Lily Snyder

AUGUST 22

Myriam Ayala

Madisyn Bleiler
Pamela Crissman
Debbie Emerson
Curtis Frey
Allison Piscitelli
Kathleen Slemmer
Heidi Steinmetz
Robert Sweigart
Christopher Zeiner

AUGUST 23

Brian Achey
Kevin Achey
Elizabeth Angstadt
Gregory Hart
Scott Hayick
Theresa Himmelberger

AUGUST 24

Kathleen Berkheimer
Linda Fischer
Kelly Grabey
James Lengel
Rick Mays
William Surgeoner

AUGUST 25

Kacie Fuhrer
Kathy Huyett
Joyce Kershner
Kelly Knappenberger
Christopher Ortenzi
Cheryl Rubendall
David Wargo

AUGUST 26

Alice Cutts*
Joan Dutt
Patricia Lee
Jessica Reinert
Kelly Rismiller
Harold Rodgers
Beth Woolwine

AUGUST 27

Christie Carscadden
Jeff Daubert
Gary Rada
Maxwell Richards
Ross Van Winkle

AUGUST 28

Kristie Beidelman
Jane Draper
Janet Engle
Christian Hunter

Charlotte Hurdle
Mary Kilkka
Faye Leed
Jan Stoltz

AUGUST 29

Jazmine Arzuaga
Wendy Drayer
Roger Herring
Steven Rath
Benjamin Tier

AUGUST 30

Mike Althouse
Kristin Durbec
Sandra Goldman
Samuel Marshall
Ava O'Donnell
William Thomas
Barbara Wenger*
Jean Zell

AUGUST 31

Thomas Fraser
Rachel Larkin



****Gloria Brown***

Berkshire Commons, Rm 247
5485 Perkiomen Ave
Reading, PA 19606

****Alice Cutts***

Columbia Cottage,
Apt 19
3121 State Hill Rd
Wyomissing, PA 19610

****Barb Wenger***

Country Meadows, Apt 60
1801 Tulpehocken Rd
Wyomissing, PA 19610

****Ruth Putt***

2461 McKinley Ave
West Lawn, PA 19609

****Jean Yoder***

Southgate Apts, Apt 211
815 W Leesport Rd
Leesport, PA 19533

If we have
inadvertently forgotten
your birthday, please
contact the office.