



We hope that you will join us in praise and celebration of our Savior's birth at one of the following Christmas Eve services this year. Whether you are local or traveling, in church or at home, have a wonderfully blessed Christmas!

### **"Longest Night" Candlelight Service**

On *December 21st at 7:00 pm*, we will offer a service of remembrance and hope for those who find rejoicing difficult this year, led by Pastor Lisa. (see page 3).

### **December 24 Christmas Eve Services**

**11:00 am**– *Young Family Service* held in the Sanctuary featuring stories, singing, and interactive participation, all in a child-friendly, informal setting.

**3:00 pm**– *Contemporary Candlelight Service* with carols, scripture, and candle lighting, and Pastor Tom bringing the message.

**5:00 pm**– *Traditional Candlelight Service with Special Music*. This service features a Christmas Cantata with orchestra and choir, along with the usual aspects of a traditional candlelight service, scripture, Christmas story and Pastor Tom bringing the message.

**7:00 pm**– *Traditional Candlelight Service with Special Music*. This is a second presentation of our Christmas Cantata with orchestra and choir, along with the usual aspects of a traditional candlelight service, scripture, Christmas story and Pastor Tom bringing the message.

**9:00 pm**– *Traditional Candlelight Service* with carols, scripture, soloists, candle lighting, and Pastor Tom bringing the message.

On Christmas morning, there will be a **10:00 am** worship service.

*All services will be live streamed on our website/ app: [www.westlawnumc.org](http://www.westlawnumc.org) or on YouTube.*



## A Hair on Fire Life or A Life on Fire for God

A “hair on fire life”...that’s what my brother-in-law calls it when we run from place to place, or thing to thing, caught up in the busyness of activity without stopping to smell the proverbial roses. That’s the kind of life most people live in 21<sup>st</sup> century America. We live in a world that rewards activity and stuff. We brag about all that we’ve accomplished, all the things on our calendars, and how little we sleep. We fail to take all our allotted vacation time, and in the process, we fail to take care of ourselves.

Sadly, like a lot of you, this is how I’ve lived most of my life, until August 2020, when I was forced to slow down. No, I’m not talking about the pandemic, which did, in fact, slow many of us down. I’m talking about a physical injury to my back that literally brought me to my knees. For 17 months, I endured constant pain, had many, too many, doctor and physical therapy appointments, had 15 epidural steroid injections, walked with a cane and sometimes a walker, and ultimately had surgery in January.

This is not a “woe is me” story. This is a story of blessings and gratitude, because through this I learned to slow down and live in the moment. My struggles became a blessing. I nurtured relationships with family, friends, and most importantly, with God. I relied on prayer more than ever, including the prayers offered by my church family. I “allowed” others to help me. Many of you in our congregation prepared meals for my family. When an octogenarian offers to let you borrow his cane, the Wal-Mart greeter offers you her chair, or the receptionist at the nursing home offers you a wheelchair, you humbly accept and say thank you. Yes, all of these things actually happened to me.

And surprisingly, I learned that having a back injury is so much more than pain and struggling to walk. I won’t go into the details, but there’s a lot more under the surface than meets the eye. You really can’t judge a book by its cover. Now when I see someone who is hurting, I wonder what I don’t see; what’s under the surface that is causing one of God’s children to suffer. And, more importantly, how can I help.

Times of suffering, although something we would all rather avoid, are actually opportunities for growth. Paul tells us, “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” (Romans 8:28) And through my pain and suffering, God allowed me to grow in my faith and in my love of Him, all because I was forced to slow down and to live in the moment.

Living a hair on fire life doesn’t allow you to enjoy the beauty all around you, the beauty of God’s creation, the abundance of God’s provision, or to appreciate relationships and the small moments of life. And yes, I’m embarrassed to say that I’ve backslid. I, like the rest of you, are a work in progress.

As we head into this season of Advent, I encourage you to slow down and spend time preparing your heart for the birth of our savior. Don’t race through these days as though your hair is on fire, buying one more present, going to one more event, baking one more thing, or putting up one more decoration.

Advent is a time of expectation and hope. “Advent” means “arrival” or “coming,” and it prompts us to pause each day for 4 weeks and remember why Jesus came at Christmas. Use this time, these weeks of hope, peace, joy, and love, to cultivate a relationship with the One who was born in a manger and died on a cross, all for your sake and mine.

Consider this Advent season a gift, given to you by the One who knows you best; the One who wants nothing more from you other than a relationship. But in order to receive the gift, you must first accept it.

I invite you to put out the everyday fires in your life, and light a fire in your heart for Jesus. May this season be truly transformational to all who would accept this wonderful gift.

Grace and Peace,

*Pastor Lisa*

## *Longest Night Service: A Service of Light in the Midst of the Darkness*

For many of us, Christmas is a bitter-sweet time of year. It is a time for remembering both persons and events that have been a part of our lives in the past, but that are now changed or gone. This is the time of year with the longest nights, so at this time we offer a quiet, meditative worship service that makes time for remembering, sharing our hurting places with God and preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ. Join us on Wednesday December 21, at 7:00 in the sanctuary for a time of special music, stories, silent reflection, healing prayer, and communion.

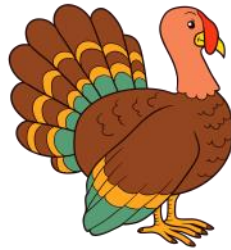
## *Poinsettia Orders*

If you would like to sponsor one or more poinsettias that will adorn our sanctuary for Christmas Eve, the order envelopes are now available at the Welcome Center. Each 6+ bloom plant is \$9.50, in red or white. Make checks payable to "West Lawn UMC."



The **deadline for ordering is December 11th.**  
Thank you.

## *Turkeys Appreciated*



If you have a **turkey** you would like to donate for a **family in need**, there are many who would greatly appreciate this gift for a Christmas meal.

Please contact the church office if you can help. Thank you!

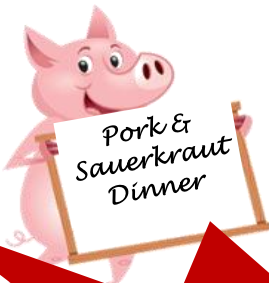
*You're invited to  
Pork & Sauerkraut  
Dinner & Takeout!  
Sunday, January 1, 2023  
from 12:00 PM—3:00 PM  
at the WLUMC Community Center.*

*(takeout available from  
11:30 am—3:00 PM)*

*Pork & Sauerkraut plus  
"all the trimmings"*

*Adults—\$10*

*Children 12 &  
under—\$5*



**Watch for sign up sheets to  
help with this event in future  
bulletins.**

## **Happy New Year Party on Sunday, January 1st!**

All children are invited to a special January 1 - New Year's Day Pajama Party at West Lawn UMC during the 9:30 AM Sunday School hour!

Join us on this morning in the Sunday School rooms for fun games, breakfast, dancing and celebrating the start of 2023!

Be sure to wear your PJs as we praise God for another new year!



## *Provide a Warm Welcome*

During the Advent and Christmas season, our church has the opportunity to welcome many visitors. Some are traveling a long way, visiting their families, others may be looking for a permanent place of worship and some may be stopping in for a Christmas Eve service to experience church for the very first time. Let us open our doors and our hearts to those who come. You can make a difference in someone's life. Help us to make their visit at West Lawn memorable!

The staff and the pastors need your help in the areas of greeters, parking lot greeters, ushers, clean-up between services, dispersing candles and their collection, snacks for the pastors etc. Please see below and future bulletin inserts, and prayerfully consider joining our hospitality team this Christmas season. *Whoever welcomes others, welcomes ME. -Mark 9:37.* When we welcome others, we join God in welcoming them.

### *Christmas Eve Servant Signup*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Welcome Center** (*arrive 30-40 minutes before services*)

Dec. 24: 11 am \_\_\_\_\_ 3 pm. \_\_\_\_\_ 5 pm. \_\_\_\_\_ 7 pm. \_\_\_\_\_ 9:00 pm. \_\_\_\_\_

**Help Facilities Staff** (*straightening of Sanctuary, vacuum, clean up trash, etc. after each service*)

Dec. 24: after 11 am \_\_\_\_\_ after 3 pm. \_\_\_\_\_ after 5 pm. \_\_\_\_\_ after 7 pm. \_\_\_\_\_ after 9:00pm. \_\_\_\_\_

**Narthex Greeter** (*one needed per service*)

Dec. 24: 11 am \_\_\_\_\_ 3 pm. \_\_\_\_\_ 5 pm. \_\_\_\_\_ 7 pm. \_\_\_\_\_ 9:00 pm. \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone** (*answer church phone*) **December 24th**

1-3 pm. \_\_\_\_\_ 3-5 pm. \_\_\_\_\_ 5-7 pm. \_\_\_\_\_

**Door Greeters** (*arrive 40 minutes before services, hand out bulletins and candles*)

Dec. 24: 11 am \_\_\_\_\_ 3 pm. \_\_\_\_\_ 5 pm. \_\_\_\_\_ 7 pm. \_\_\_\_\_ 9:00 pm. \_\_\_\_\_

**Parking Lot Greeters** (*arrive 50 minutes before services, greet worshipers and direct people to the sanctuary & nursery*)

Dec. 24: 11 am \_\_\_\_\_ 3 pm. \_\_\_\_\_ 5 pm. \_\_\_\_\_ 7 pm. \_\_\_\_\_ 9:00 pm. \_\_\_\_\_

**Ushers** (*arrive 30 minutes before services, collect offering, light aisle candles and worshipers' candles*)

Dec. 24: 3 pm. \_\_\_\_\_ 5 pm. \_\_\_\_\_ 7 pm. \_\_\_\_\_ 9:00 pm. \_\_\_\_\_

**Security Team**

Dec. 21: 7 pm. \_\_\_\_\_

Dec. 24: 11 am \_\_\_\_\_ 3 pm. \_\_\_\_\_ 5 pm. \_\_\_\_\_ 7 pm. \_\_\_\_\_ 9:00 pm. \_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you for offering to serve as we celebrate our Savior's birth. You will be contacted to confirm your offer. Please place this form in the offering plate or return it to the Church office.*



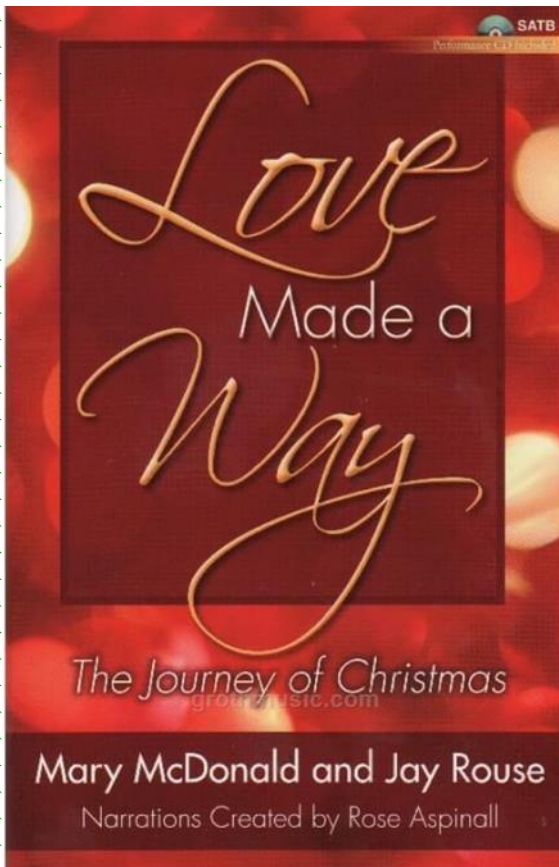


At the heart of the West Lawn United Methodist Church is a strong desire to reach out to the community and show God's love by providing food, shelter and support where needed both locally and globally. Did you know that over the past 10 years the people of this faith community have given **\$766,125.02** to Reach Reading, Help Haiti, and make a difference in the world? Inspired by Mike Slaughter's book, *A Different Kind of Christmas*, we introduced this missional opportunity in 2012. Since then, we have fed street children in Port-au-Prince through

UMCOR's hot lunch program, supported various initiatives of Divine Ministries in Haiti (supported locally through TeamOne27), helped to build more than a dozen homes for the people in Pignon, Haiti, and assisted the church in Magambua, Tanzania providing famine relief.

In addition, we have supported evangelism programs aimed at children in Reading & Berks County, played a leading role with the Quad W Missional Intern program, and fed the hungry & clothed those in need through New Journey Community Outreach. We've also funded shelter ministries at Hope Rescue Mission, Opportunity House and City Light Ministries. We support Little Acts of Love by keeping local senior citizens and veterans in their homes through home repairs. We provide vital support for the homeless through Family Promise and Hannah's Hope, minister to local veterans and provide help for pregnant moms through Mercy Ministries. All of this and more has been done in the name of Jesus Christ *thanks to your generous giving.*

Please look for a letter to arrive in early December with our invitation for you to share in this year's Christmas offering. Who knows what God may do if we trust Him with all we are and all we have. Thank you for your past gifts to our Christmas Miracle Offering, and for your prayerful consideration in 2022.



## Saturday, December 24th Christmas Cantata Christmas Eve Services at 5 & 7 PM

This year's Christmas Cantata will be featured on Christmas Eve at the 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm Candlelight Services. Join us for an evening filled with special music as part of a traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight worship service with scripture readings, the Christmas story and a special sermon from Pastor Tom.

The cantata will feature Mary McDonald and Jay Rouse's "Love Made a Way" led by our Minister of Music, John Coakley and performed by our Festival Choir & Orchestra. It is a Christmas Worship Experience proclaiming the miraculous birth of our Savior with a bit of everything, including original songs, familiar carols, timeless Christmas favorites, and ministry songs that will reach the heart of every listener. Celebrate how love made a way for each of us!



## Getting Things Done for God – A Pastoral Perspective on Stephen Ministry by Pastor Lisa Hoopes

*The next day Moses took his seat to serve as judge for the people, and they stood around him from morning till evening. When his father-in-law saw all that Moses was doing for the people, he said, “What is this you are doing for the people? Why do you alone sit as judge, while all these people stand around you from morning till evening?”*

*Moses answered him, “Because the people come to me to seek God’s will. Whenever they have a dispute, it is brought to me, and I decide between the parties and inform them of God’s decrees and laws.”*

*Moses’ father-in-law replied, “What you are doing is not good. You and these people who come to you will only wear yourselves out. The work is too heavy for you; you cannot handle it alone. Listen now to me and I will give you some advice, and may God be with you. You must be the people’s representative before God and bring their disputes to him. Teach them the decrees and laws, and show them the way to live and the duties they are to perform. But select capable men from all the people—men who fear God, trustworthy men who hate dishonest gain—and appoint them as officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens. Have them serve as judges for the people at all times, but have them bring every difficult case to you; the simple cases they can decide themselves. That will make your load lighter, because they will share it with you. If you do this and God so commands, you will be able to stand the strain, and all these people will go home satisfied.”*

*Moses listened to his father-in-law and did everything he said. He chose capable men from all Israel and made them leaders of the people, officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens. They served as judges for the people at all times. The difficult cases they brought to Moses, but the simple ones they decided themselves. Then Moses sent his father-in-law on his way, and Jethro returned to his own country. (Exodus 18:13–27)*

We in our congregation are a little bit like the Israelites in the desert. Almost 2 decades ago, we began a new venture that challenges the structures we have been so comfortable with in the past. Previously, when things have gone wrong for members, the congregation has always looked to the pastor and maybe a few other leaders to provide the needed guidance, support, and care for those hurting members. The problem with this picture, however, is that caring for the number and needs of hurting people usually requires far more time than the time the pastor and other leaders have available. As a result, people often receive far less care and support than they need. They may feel lonely, neglected; they may think no one really cares.

The pastors who have provided care for hurting members have also seen the inadequacy of this model. A pastor might visit a newly hurting person for a number of weeks, but soon other people need that pastor’s attention as well. Although the pastor knows that the person still needs care and attention, there simply aren’t enough hours in the day to see to everyone. So as new crises arise that demand the leaders’ attention, they turn their care to others, leaving some members still hurting and still in need of care.

Stephen Ministry provides a solution for this problem, just as Jethro offers a solution for Moses’ difficulties in trying to do everything himself. By training gifted individuals to help with the caring, Stephen Ministry multiplies the amount of caring that can be accomplished and helps individual care receivers experience the support and concern they need for as long as they need. One person cannot do it alone.

The excerpt from Exodus teaches that religious leaders need to spend their time leading and letting the church members do what God gives them the ability to do. The official religious leaders don’t have to do everything, as Jethro says, “for the people” (verse 14). And, as Moses shows, religious leaders can’t do everything. No one has all the gifts. God graciously distributes gifts among the entire body of believers.

In the New Testament, in chapter 6 of Acts, the young Christian church has been growing so fast that some members weren’t getting the care they needed. The church encounters the normal problems all institutions meet as they expand. They experience a transition, just as Moses in the wilderness learns a new method of administration instead of tearing his hair out with all the legal details.

The apostles find themselves harried by the task of delivering food to the needy. “So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, ‘It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.’” Do you know what happened? These seven used the different gifts God had equipped them for, and the church grew; in fact, it multiplied. One of those seven known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom was named Stephen. Our Stephen Ministry is named for him, one with the gift to care for others.

Moses had to discover for himself that spreading responsibilities around gets a lot more done and in a much better way. The early church had to discover that to meet the needs of a growing congregation, it needed others to serve in a caring ministry. Our church, in using Stephen Ministry, has discovered the blessings of mobilizing more people for ministry.

Our Stephen Ministers use their gifts from God, and sound biblical and psychological and counseling disciplines, to provide the best care possible for those who are hurting. Our Stephen Ministers are perfect examples of God's grace among us. They are as much a gift from God to our congregation and community as were those capable, honest, God-fearing men that God granted to the Israelites in the wilderness of Sinai, and as much as those seven, including Stephen, full of the Spirit and wisdom, that God gave to the early Christians in Jerusalem. Informed by Moses and Jethro and Stephen, and following God's Holy Spirit, our Stephen Ministers quietly and confidentially get things done here for God.

A new Stephen Ministry class is beginning in January. Contact Pastor Lisa if you have a desire to become part of this ministry.

**January 21, 28, February 4, 11**

**from 10am-11am**

**West Lawn UMC Campus**

## **You & Your Money**

— Take Control & Have Confidence —

**Registration: \$40 per person**

**Register at [www.westlawnmc.com](http://www.westlawnmc.com) or on the West Lawn UMC app**



**Workshop Leader:** Ryan Daniels, a licensed financial advisor and owner of RFinances. He attends West Lawn United Methodist Church with his wife, Steph Daniels and his three daughters (Emily, Lyla and Maggie). As a U.S. Army Veteran, Ryan and his team continue to serve by partnering with organizations to host workshops to teach people the basics of money. They also

provide 1 on 1 financial coaching to help people build a simple to follow financial plan that fits their life. Ryan is the author of Money Basics and Fundamentals (Build A Plan That Fits Your Life!), contributor to the Reading Eagle newspaper and host of the "Say Hi to Money" podcast.

**Overview of Workshops:** All workshops include instruction by a licensed financial advisor, workbook and Q&A session. All attendees may schedule a FREE 1-on-1 financial coaching session with an advisor at the conclusion of the workshop series.

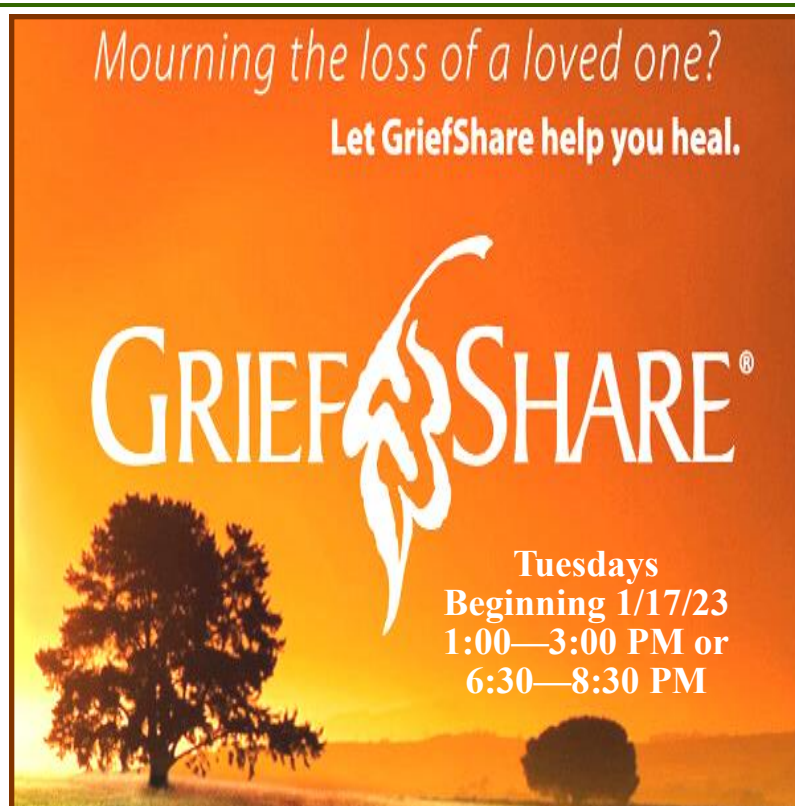
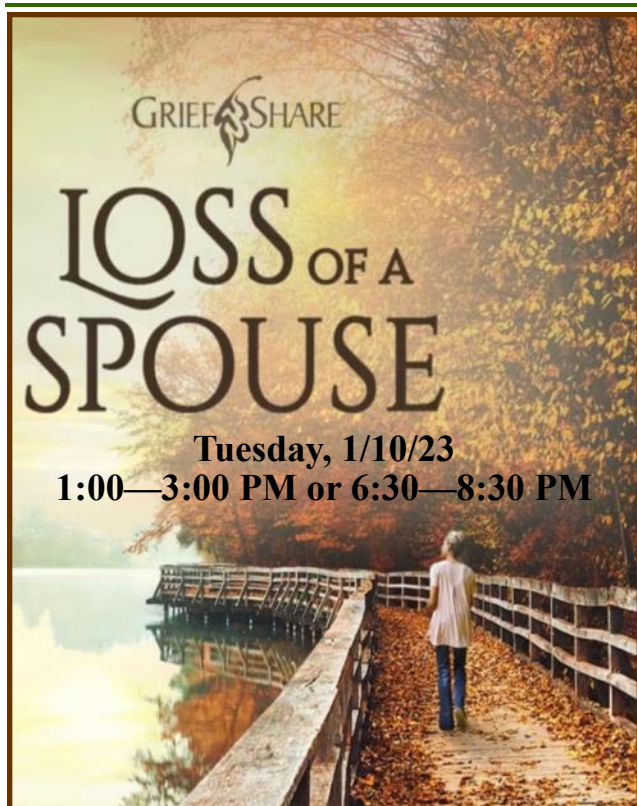
**Part 1: Unlock Your Financial Blocks** Much of our success (or struggles) with money is determined by what we THINK about money. In Unlock Your Financial Blocks people will discover what is contributing to overspending and holding them back from new financial milestones.

**Part 2: Build A Plan That Fits Your Life** As life changes, your plan needs to change. In this workshop, people learn the 5 key pieces of a strong financial plan. They evaluate their current plan and learn how to take simple steps to take control and have confidence with money.

**Part 3: Work Your Budget** Budgeting can be a buzz-word, but it's important. The difference between this workshop and many other budgeting programs is that it's simple to DO (key word). Everyone is different so your budget is going to be different. Learn how to choose a method and how to get started today!

**Part 4: Invest in Your Future** Investing is NOT complicated despite what some might lead you to believe. In this workshop people learn about the 3 D's, common investment types and how to begin investing in their future. Close to retirement? No problem, learn how to go from investing to build to investing to live.





## Children & Family Ministries

The Children and Family Ministry team will meet twice in December with our Sunday night programs, and most Tuesday and Wednesday evenings the first two weeks in December. Refer to the West Lawn App for more details on these evening gatherings, or contact Kelly Rismiller at 610-507-9141, [kelly@westlawnmc.org](mailto:kelly@westlawnmc.org).

### Tween Group (Grades 4-5)

Sunday Nights: 6:00-7:30 PM

December 11

December 18

### Kids Club (Grades 2-3)

Sunday Nights: 6:00-7:30 PM

December 11

December 18

### Kids Stay and Play

While parents are onsite engaged in small groups, Bible studies, Young Adult ministries, or more, children of all ages are invited to stay and play upstairs in our preschool classrooms with our childcare team. Snacks are provided.

Tuesday Nights: 6:30-8:30 PM

Wednesday Nights: 6:15-8:30 PM

### Special Family Christmas Workshop

**Sunday, December 11: 10:30 AM**

All West Lawn Sunday School families are invited to attend a special Christmas Container Workshop on Sunday, December 11. On this date, you will pick up your children in the Community Center after the 10:30 AM Sunday School hour, where you will then be invited to make a unique fresh evergreen planter to set on your front doorstep or porch. All materials and supplies will be provided. We look forward to seeing you on this morning!





# December 2022

After a fall full of activities, service opportunities and off-campus trips, the Youth are ready for the Christmas season. This Christmas we will be learning some of the Old Testament connections to Jesus' birth— like the prophecies of Mary's pregnancies, Elizabeth and Zechariah's story, and of course, how God is always ready to rescue— both in the OT, at Jesus' birth, and even for us today.



## Youth Auction Update:

On Sunday November 13th, the Raffaef Community Center was full of approximately 150 people for the 6th Annual Youth Auction. It was a wonderful time of fellowship with one another, a chance to hear from the Youth, and of course, to eat a lot of ice cream! The church bakers made up a beautiful spread of baked goods, and along with Sweet Ride Ice Cream and our very own soft serve machine, there was no shortage of delicious desserts.



After some fierce silent auction bidding, and plenty of people bidding up the Youth Yard Work Live Auction item, we closed off the evening very successfully. Our Grand Total raised was....

**\$10,240!!!**

## November High School Retreat

The first weekend in November, a small but mighty group of High School students traveled up to Pocono Plateau and joined another UMC's High School group. We learned about the disciple Peter, played Nerf wars, did the high ropes Flying Squirrel event, and most importantly, made some great new friends while learning about Jesus.



## Firehouse Youth Dec 2022

(See App for more details)

12/4 –6&7th SS, Confirmation  
6=8pm Youth Group

12/11–6&7th SS, Confirmation  
6-8pm Youth Group

12/18– 6&7th SS, Confirmation  
6=8pm Youth Christmas Party

12/25– NO 6&7thSS,Confirmation  
1/1/2023-NO 6&7thSS, Confirma-

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

# 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

Jan 11 - April 5

West Lawn UMC

Reiner Ed. Building Room 109

Find Help • Discover Hope  
Experience Healing

**DIVORCE** Care

## Wilson Bulldog Community Closet

**When** Saturday, December 3, 2022  
(8:00 am—11:00 am)  
Alt Weather Date: Sunday,  
December 4th, 2022 (9:00  
am—11:00 am)

**Where:** Wilson High School Lower  
House Cafeteria (enter via the  
back door of the LH cafeteria  
with the ramp by bulldog field.  
(303 Dwight St., West Lawn,  
PA 19609)

**Who:** This invitation is for adults.  
All items are FREE.

**What:** The clothes and toy items  
available were generously  
donated by staff of the Wilson  
School District community.

**Why:** On behalf of WEA and the  
entire school district, we are  
pleased to be able to help  
district residents during this  
time!

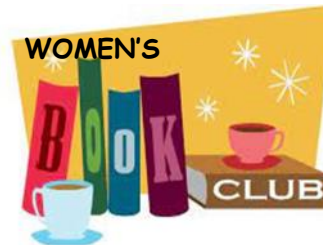


The next Wilson Area Food  
Pantry distribution will be  
on December 16th from  
3:00-5:00 PM in the  
WLUMC Community  
Center.

Pre-registration is preferred

and can be scheduled by calling 484-525-0980.

Donations accepted weekdays in the church office.  
Thank you!



**Women's Book Club** will  
meet Wednesday, December  
14, at 7:00PM in room 201  
in the Community Center to  
discuss *The Last Bookshop  
in London* by Madeline  
Martin. January's book is  
*Ordinary Grace* by William

Kent Krueger. **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](mailto:dmbhart2@gmail.com) or 610-678-7873.

# Power Packs PROJECT



We will again be collecting food items for  
Power Pack lunches for when kids are off  
school and are not provided a meal.

Collection dates are as follows:

Week of Dec 19 (students off Dec 22-Jan 2) – Due date will be 12/20  
Week of Jan 9 (students off Jan 16) – Due date will be 1/10  
Week of Feb 13 (Students off Feb 17-20) – Due date will be 2/14  
Week of March 13 (students off Mar 17) – Due date will be 3/14  
Week of April 3 (students off April 6-10) – Due date will be 4/4

Requested items include non-perishable assorted individual snack bags, Ramen noodles, snack cups, etc.





**SCHOLASTIC**

# BOOK FAIR

## Coming Soon!

**November 27th through December 5th**  
**Room 207 & 209 in the Education Building**  
**8:30-12:30 on Sunday 11/27 & 12/4**  
*Credit Card Purchases Only*

Books make great gifts! Have fun browsing and shopping during the event!

# Our Newest Members

## *Katie (Katharine) & Ryan Koch (joined 11/13/2022)*

Please welcome Katie & Ryan Koch to the WLUMC family. They came to West Lawn looking for a church with an active presence and commitment to community outreach. They were also looking for a church in which to raise their two-year-old son, Alex, who was baptized here at West Lawn on the same day they joined the church. They both grew up in Berks County and now reside in Wyomissing. Katie is a teacher and Ryan works in the insurance industry. Ryan likes being active, watching Flyers hockey and spending time with family. Katie enjoys reading, spending time at the beach, and crafting. Welcome to West Lawn UMC Katie, Ryan and Alex!

# Thank You...

Dear West Lawn UMC,  
 Thank you so much for the loaf of bread!  
 Linda Glassmire

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

# Baptism



Alexander Wayne Koch  
 Baptized: 11/13/2022  
 Parents: Ryan & Katharine Koch





15 Woodside Avenue  
West Lawn, PA 19609  
[www.westlawnumc.org](http://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



*You're Invited to Celebrate Christmas with Us at  
West Lawn United Methodist Church*

**LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE**  
Dec. 21 7 PM

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**

Young Family	11 AM
Contemporary	3 PM
Traditional with Special Music	5 PM
Traditional with Special Music	7 PM
Traditional	9 PM

**CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE**  
10 AM

West Lawn UMC, 15 Woodside Ave, West Lawn, PA 19609 | 610-678-5611 | [www.westlawnumc.org](http://www.westlawnumc.org)



# DECEMBER 2022



Every Sunday:	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
8:00 am Traditional Worship					1 9:30 am Pastor Lisa's Study 4:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm A/Anon 7:00 pm Praise Team Reh. 7:00 pm SA Meeting	2 6:00 pm Angel Tree Set-up 7:00 pm Social Justice Bible Study (Zoom)	3 9:00 am FOG 9:30 am OA 10:00 am Angel Tree Party
9:00 am Fellowship Time							
9:30 am Praise Worship							
9:30 am Sunday School for All							
9:30 am Confirmation Class							
9:30 am Barth Memorial Class	4 See Sunday Worship @ Left	5 6:00 pm Boy Scout Mtgs 6:30 pm Stephen Ministry 6:30 pm Courage to Change 6:30 pm Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Prodigal Son Study 7:00 pm OA	6 9:30 am Tina's Bible Study 1:00 pm Griefshare 6:30 pm Kid's Stay Play 6:30 pm Mom Time 7:00 pm Young Adult Night 7:00 pm NA	7 See Wed. @ Left	8 9:30 am Pastor Lisa's Study 4:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 5:00 pm Relay for Life 6:00 pm A/Anon 7:00 pm Praise Team Reh. 7:00 pm SA Meeting	9 7:00 pm Social Justice Bible Study (Zoom)	10 9:30 am OA
10:30 am Fellowship Time							
11:00 am Celebration Worship							
5:00 pm Youth Praise Team Reh							
6:00 pm Youth Group							
Every Wednesday:	11 See Sunday Worship @ Left Baptisms/New Members 10:30 am Family Planter Making 4:30 pm OPP House Prep 5:00 pm Chimers 6:00 pm Tween Group 6:00 pm Kid's Club	12 6:00 pm Boy Scout Mtgs 6:30 pm Courage to Change 6:30 pm Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Prodigal Son Study 7:00 pm OA	13 9:30 am Tina's Bible Study 1:00 pm Griefshare 6:30 pm Kid's Stay Play 6:30 pm Mom Time 6:30 pm Prayer Team Mtg 7:00 pm Young Adult Night 7:00 pm NA	14 See Wed. @ Left 7:00 pm Women's Bookclub	15 9:30 am Pastor Lisa's Study 12:30 pm Food Pantry Setup 4:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm A/Anon 7:00 pm Praise Team Reh. 7:00 pm SA Meeting	16 9:00 am Newsletter Assembly 2:30 pm Food Pantry 7:00 pm Social Justice Bible Study (Zoom)	17 9:30 am OA
7:14 am Prayer Service							
9:30 am Pastor Tom's Bible Study							
3:30 pm Safe Haven							
4:30 pm WLW Dinner							
6:00 pm Jr/Sr Youth Group							
6:15 pm Kid's Stay & Play							
6:15 pm Young Fam. Sm. Group							
6:30 pm WOW Small Group							
7:00 pm Men 35-55							
7:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal							
7:00 pm Pastor's Bible Study							
	18 See Sunday Worship @ Left 12:30 pm Men's Ministry Mtg. 5:00 pm Chimers 6:00 pm Tween Group 6:00 pm Kid's Club	19 6:00 pm Boy Scout Mtgs 6:30 pm Stephen Ministry 6:30 pm Courage to Change 6:30 pm Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Prodigal Son Study 7:00 pm OA	20 9:30 am Tina's Bible Study 6:30 pm Kid's Stay Play 6:30 pm Mom Time 7:00 pm Young Adult Night 7:00 pm NA	21 7:00 pm Longest Night Service.	22 9:30 am Pastor Lisa's Study 4:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm A/Anon 7:00 pm Praise Team Reh. 7:00 pm SA Meeting	23 7:00 pm Social Justice Bible Study (Zoom)	24 11:00 am Family Service 3:00 pm Contemp. Candlelight 5:00 pm Cantata Candlelight 7:00 pm Cantata Candlelight 9:00 pm Trad. Candlelight
	25 10:00 am Christmas Day Service 	26 4:30 pm Opp House Prep 6:00 pm Boy Scout Mtgs 6:30 pm Courage to Change 6:30 pm Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Prodigal Son Study 7:00 pm OA	27 9:30 am Tina's Bible Study 6:30 pm Kid's Stay Play 6:30 pm Mom Time 7:00 pm Leadership Team 7:00 pm Young Adult Night 7:00 pm NA	28 See Wed. @ Left	29 9:30 am Pastor Lisa's Study 4:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm A/Anon 7:00 pm Praise Team Reh. 7:00 pm SA Meeting	30 7:00 pm Social Justice Bible Study (Zoom)	31 9:30 am OA



# December Birthdays



## DECEMBER 1

Sarel Fuchs  
Jeffrey Hill  
Kimberly Hunter  
Cathy James  
Holly Mays  
Robert Metzgar  
Dawn Soisson  
Brittany Wagner  
David Wert  
Jeanie West

## DECEMBER 2

DeAnne Bechtel  
Mary Davis  
Arlene Doerrman  
Deann Houston  
Michael Moyer  
Randy Stine

## DECEMBER 3

Peter Cobaugh  
Sharon High  
Kayla McMullen  
Nancy Rehr\*  
Michael Stephens  
Patricia Unger  
Kelly Zerbe

## DECEMBER 4

Ellen Lantz  
Robin Pruitt

## DECEMBER 5

Amy Blessing  
June Bomberger  
Benjamin Reber  
Lorissa Reis

## DECEMBER 6

Kay Eastman  
Brandon Fessenden  
Carol Gardner  
Madison Klee  
Mckenzie Klee  
Russell Long  
Lisa Mochan  
Gary Noecker  
Zachary Remlinger  
Mary Roush  
Trevor Veidt

## DECEMBER 7

Bryan Behrenshausen  
Joanne Henny

Robert Romberger  
Brian Van Winkle

## DECEMBER 8

Robert Greer  
Ellen Herring  
Tabitha Hoppman  
Marjorie Johnson  
Antoinette Long  
Gary Moseman  
Thomas Ott  
Anthony Pappas  
Justin Rhoads  
Scott Salyards  
Marian Shannon

## DECEMBER 9

Linda Dutt  
Charles Fisher  
Joshua Hertzog  
Jami Jamison  
Randy Miller  
Constance Vaughan  
Brady West  
Dennis Wrentzel  
Thomas Yost

## DECEMBER 10

Jeffrey Brudereck  
Loretta Carter  
John Coakley  
Megan Fick  
T. Klinger

## DECEMBER 11

Robert Jones  
Andrea Lindsay  
David Rhodes

## DECEMBER 12

Morgan Gadebusch  
Carol Harris  
Donna King  
Cynthia Minnick

## DECEMBER 13

Cathy Cescon  
Daniel Hemmerich  
Rory Kopp  
Terrie Schucker  
Lacey Soler

## DECEMBER 14

Kandy Derr  
Abigail Ingram

Corina Piller  
Raymond Stubblebine  
Eric Sweitzer

## DECEMBER 15

David Daniels  
Meredith Quillman  
Kevin Stodart  
Peter Vicari  
Brandon Zabinski

## DECEMBER 16

Patricia Bailey  
John Bittler  
Evan Haas  
Steven Marsden  
Scott Szoke  
Lorre Witmer

## DECEMBER 17

Elizabeth Bittner  
Ruth Eyer  
Gerry Maurer  
Cary Shaner  
Drew Vandersall

## DECEMBER 18

Sandra Chimenko-Goss  
Mikaela Krall  
Joseph Mays  
William Morgan  
Scott Snyder

## DECEMBER 19

Dorthea Bona  
Matthew Brown  
Janine Busack  
Preston Hoopes  
Margaret Houser\*  
Paul Hricik  
Colleen Irwin  
Miriam Kachel  
William Mays  
Cindy Mezico  
Donna Phillips

## DECEMBER 20

Donald Burt  
Amy Fick  
Peggy Fleck  
Maximilian Gadebusch  
Karen Guers  
David Hinkle  
Michael Kauffman  
Karen McElhattan

Jodi McVaugh  
Doris Miller  
Timothy Minnick  
Bradford Putt

## DECEMBER 21

Jeffrey Blankenbiller  
Aaron Dixon  
Arthur Quinter  
Donna Rollman  
Sharon Rutherford

## DECEMBER 22

Steven Endy  
John Gaenzle  
Dennis Mauser  
John Miller  
Kristina Sanford  
Lucan Schmidt

## DECEMBER 23

Charles Hamer  
Holly Metzgar  
Robert Moorhatch

## DECEMBER 24

Aaron Grill  
Donna Kershner  
Vivian Reitz\*  
Bonnie Rissmiller  
William Wildman

## DECEMBER 25

Robert Fleck  
Donna Harrington  
Andrew Lindsay  
Chris Mays  
Robert Rice  
Emmett Russell

## DECEMBER 26

Randy Wealand

## DECEMBER 27

Belle Calkins  
Kathryn Herbein  
Katie O'Leary

## DECEMBER 28

Michael Brightbill  
Julie Kramer  
Rebecca Weida  
E. Yetter  
Leslie Zalenski

## DECEMBER 29

Jessica Adam  
Steve Garber  
Jessica Hulse  
Tyler Pajski  
Sherry Thompson  
Judith Wahl  
Catherine Waters

## DECEMBER 30

Edward Geschwindt  
Shannon Lutz  
Madeline Marous  
Joseph McGarrigle  
Mary Morris

## DECEMBER 31

Trey Hayick  
Mason Kershner  
Judith Santoro  
Abigail Stephens



**\*Margaret Houser**  
Columbia Cottage, Apt 17  
3121 State Hill Rd  
Wyomissing, PA 19610

**\*Nancy Rehr**  
Phoebe Berks, Apt 323  
1 Reading Dr  
Wernersville, PA 19565

**\*Vivian Reitz**  
3007 Curtis Rd  
Sinking Spring, PA 19608-1001

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