

L A K E V I E W



Vol 21, Issue 1
 January 2021

FROM TODD'S DESK

*Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.
 See, I am doing a new thing!*

Isaiah 43:18

Happy New Year and welcome to 2021! I suspect that many of us are not only happy to welcome 2021, but even more, we are glad to say good-bye to 2020! It was a challenging year and we have been waiting and longing for a better 2021 to come. Now that January has arrived, it almost feels like a weight has been lifted, and there is a feeling of relief that we finally made it. We even feel like its okay to allow ourselves to think and speak of the hope of tomorrow.

One of the things January seems to offer is a fresh start. Its like a getting a fresh box of crayons (before any are broken or dull), or a new notebook (without those little strips of paper caught in the spiral rings), or a fresh coat of snow. It gives us the opportunity to see things anew and unblemished-a clean slate ready to start again.

God does that. God does new things and offers new chances. God loved first, loves still, and will continue to love, so even when we break the crayons and scribble on the cover of the notebook, God is here; Loving us, calling us back to wholeness, welcoming us with outstretched arms, offering us a backyard covered in a layer of fresh fallen snow. God gives us a love that is bigger than our ability to lose it and no matter where we have been or where we are, God offers us a clean slate-a new day on our journey with Jesus.



<https://hope-efc.com/god-will-do-a-new-thing-isaiah-4319/>

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Church Office Hours

- January Office hours are Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- Closed Thursday.

Sunday Worship Services

- Worship services are held at 10:00 a.m. via Facebook Live

- 2 Pam Massung
- 3 Jane Allemang
- 13 Marie Hupert
- 15 Barb Hobe
- 15 Katha Kievit
- 15 Steven Mays
- 17 Ethan Mark

JANUARY



- 20 Roman Cange
- 20 Brey Cange
- 21 Mike Williams
- 22 Pam Campbell
- 22 Keith Vogler
- 29 Donna Maile
- 30 David Kronenberger
- 30 Nicole Bucalo



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Please mark your calendar and plan to join us on **Jan. 24th at 11:30 am** for a **Congregational Meeting** to nominate new members to council and approve the budget for the 2021 fiscal year. More information to follow.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT LAKEVIEW?

We are so thankful to be worshipping with so many people from different locations via our on-line worship, and would love to have the chance to get to know you a little better and to help you get to know Lakeview UCC better as well.

If you would like to know more about us, if you would like to be more involved in the congregation, or even become a member of the congregation, we are currently putting together an on-line 'Inquirer's Class'. There will be two (2) sessions are for anyone who would like to know more about Lakeview and the United Church of Christ. We will discuss our church's history, vision and mission, and several members of the congregation will share about their experiences at Lakeview. There will also be plenty of time for discussion and questions.



The classes will be held on-line via Zoom at 1:00 pm on January 10, 2021 and January 17, 2021.

If you are interested in learning more or have questions, please contact Pastor Todd or call the church office.

ACTION IN MISSION—(A.I.M.)

Lakeview’s Mission of the Month: Queen City Kitchen

For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in...
 -Matthew 25:35



This verse from Matthew pretty much sums up what we should do for those less fortunate, those who are hungry and thirsty. Lakeview has been feeding the hungry for about nine years, serving as “Weekend Warriors” and cooking and serving breakfast to hungry locals six times a year. Your mission dollars in January will go toward this effort at Queen City Kitchen, the oldest soup kitchen in Cincinnati, in the heart of Walnut Hills.

There are many in that area who suffer from generational poverty, lack of employable skills, health issues that keep them from working, mental instability and many other issues. For one reason or another, they do not have the resources to get a hot meal together, so the Kitchen meets their needs with one hot lunch Monday - Thursday, then groups like ours take over Friday through Sunday. They really do count on volunteer groups from churches, synagogues, business organizations, or groups of friends to fill in on weekends.

Folks from Lakeview who have volunteered for the breakfasts have seen firsthand how grateful the guests are when they see the eggs and sausage, etc. and are handed a plate of hot food, perhaps the only meal they will have that day. We have continued to provide food even through the pandemic, although we have not personally cooked it at the kitchen. The employees have cooked the food we provide and serve it outdoors. At some point we will be able to go back in person. At that time, we invite you to volunteer. Please give generously to continue our mission at the soup kitchen!



This year, January includes our first 5th Sunday Collection of the year. Though we aren't sure what the year holds, and when we will be able to gather, we hope to use any donations from this Sunday for a Maundy Thursday project. The Mission team is hoping and praying that by Thursday, April 1st, we will be able to come together for a service project TBD. If we aren't able to meet, any donations will be funneled into the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

Many thanks to Ruthie McCormack, Ann Tsui, Barb Hobe, and Donna Wyatt, who are assisting me in providing meals for the Interfaith Hospitality Network guests on 1/4/21 in Lebanon. It wouldn't be possible to continue to nourish and spread love and care to these families in need without your help. Your service is greatly appreciated during these trying times!
 -Ellen Abel

November Mission Contribution Totals: *Christmas Projects:* \$1041.21

A Special Thank You

For over 20 years Lakeview's Prison Ministry has been championed by **Sue and Benny Anderson**. The quarterly newsletter, mailed to as many as 500 inmates throughout the country, has been compiled and edited by **Sue**, with assistance from **Benny**. These two long-time Lakeview members began their outreach to prisoners in the 90's when their son was incarcerated. Writing letters to their son, along with his feedback, helped them recognize a need for advocacy for inmates and the benefits of personal outreach to prisoners.

Benny and Sue became members of two prisoner advocacy groups, Ohio CURE and Justice Watch and assisted each organization with their newsletters. These organizations changed leadership and purpose, but **Benny and Sue** remained committed to their personal goal of providing encouragement and friendship to those living long-term in the prison system. They originally funded their newsletter on their own, but Lakeview's former pastor, David Schwab, offered financial assistance through the church. For many years, members of the Lakeview congregation have contributed money through the AIM (Action in Mission) 5th Sunday special mission offering once or twice per year. This offering, along with some generous individual gifts, have provided the **Andersons** with reimbursement for postage, printing costs, and P.O. box rental, allowing them to receive letters from newsletter readers across the country.

In December, 2020 **Sue** wrote and mailed her last newsletter to approximately 100 inmates. She explained to her readers that "**Merry Anderson**" (her penname) must retire from this labor of love due to diminishment of her eyesight. She has received understanding letters from many of her readers, wishing her well and telling her they will miss her communications. She hopes to continue to write personal notes to a few of her devoted readers, the majority of whom are advanced in age and have spent most of their adult lives in prison.

Sue plans to continue her Lakeview Link column as a means of keeping the Lakeview community aware of advocacy needs for prisoners. She also hopes to share excerpts from letters she receives from prisoners.

Sue and Benny express their gratitude to the Lakeview family for their financial and emotional support over the years. They are also grateful for those who have volunteered to write to prisoners. Anyone who has a little time to write to someone who is isolated in a prison cell is encouraged to contact **Sue** for a name and address as well as some tips on getting started.

Lakeview UCC wishes to take this opportunity to thank **Sue and Benny** for choosing to turn their personal grief and frustration with the Ohio criminal justice system into efforts that have provided hope and connection for the incarcerated. In addition, we are grateful for their efforts to educate the Lakeview family.



~Submitted by Linda Overholt

CYF *(Children, Youth and Family Ministry)*

Happy New Year, Friends!

January 1st is one of those times that for many people holds a special sense of promise and hope for the future. The possibilities seem to stretch out before us - and after the challenges of last year I think we are all more than ready for a fresh start. Of course, we all know that New Years Day isn't magic, the struggles and challenges of the day before do not suddenly vanish just because the date changes, but that doesn't stop us from looking forward and hoping.

Hope is powerful stuff. I love how Merriam-Webster defines Hope, "to cherish a desire with anticipation." Hope feels like more than just wanting something to be the case and the word choice here is great. Cherish, desire and anticipation... those are words we can *feel*. That's Hope, something we want so much we can feel it. I think for so many of us we are hoping 2021 brings us a sense of the old idea of normal... but is that really what we want?

There is no question that 2020 has been challenging, but before we just throw it all out and label it awful, I think we need to look closer and find those moments where we have grown as individuals, as a church family, as a community and beyond. We have seen so much humanity and connection this year in the face of the pandemic. It would be such a shame to let our current frustrations and struggles erase that. We have found new ways to connect, to learn and to worship. We have learned new technologies while simultaneously embracing more traditional ways of doing things. We have spent time with loved ones and reconnected with old friends.

So yes, I stand here eagerly waiting for that ball to drop and a new year to start, but I do not want to forget this past year. I look forward to the future and hope that the day we can gather together safely again is close at hand, but I will try to remember everything that you all have taught me during 2020. Thank you for your resilience and your honesty during the tough times, as well as your ability to keep finding joy in the small moments. Thank you for being here and for being you.

Here's to a new year, here's to the memories. Here's to us.



Thank You! Gracias! Merci! Asante!

The Lakeview staff would like to take a moment to thank you all for your continued love and support.

We are blessed to serve here and to be part of this wonderful community! Your generous Christmas gifts this year were a great blessing and we want to offer our thanks and appreciation. We look forward to another exciting year together and wish you all a Happy New Year!

Executive Council Meeting Minutes

Lakeview UCC Executive Council Meeting- December 20, 2020

Present- Will Huber, Todd Peterson, Karen Baumann, Rosemary Ennis, Corey Nieman, Molly Miller

Will Huber began meeting with nominations for new executive council positions:

Debbie Kumararaj- Vice Moderator

Financial Secretary nomination is still open.

The maintenance chair nomination is still open.

Nominees are needed for these roles before the congregational meeting in January.

Rosemary mentioned that the financial secretary needs a team to help count. Karen explained what the financial position involved, which is counting the money and making a deposit.

Katie Madden would like for someone else to fill the property position. This job is a large time commitment. If kept as a paid position, Katie would be willing to stay on.

There was discussion to see if the position could at least be paid through March (1st quarter).

Then the church will see what can be done beyond March.

As of now, the position goes through December.

Discussion took place regarding putting the maintenance chair position in the budget.

Once we have an idea on the pledges for 2021, then the position could possibly be made full-time. The church would need to vote on making it a paid position. If the maintenance position becomes a paid position, then the person is no longer a voting member of council. (A chairperson for maintenance is still needed for executive council.) This might involve a change in the constitution. Another idea is to amend the budget.

Will said he will reach out to Natalie regarding where the church is on pledges. Not all of the pledges have come in. It was suggested that reminders be sent to members who haven't pledged yet.

Karen Baumann made a motion to extend the property maintenance position through January. Second by Rosemary Ennis. Motion passed.

Will announced that he had reached out to Brandon at Harmony. They are interested in extending the lease. Will will take care of the lease agreement with Harmony.

Will announced that a date needed to be set for the congregational meeting. The meeting has been set for January 24.

Treasurer's Report- Karen Baumann

Karen said bills have been paid through December.

There is \$20,000 in checking and \$20,000 in savings.

Executive Council Meeting Minutes (*continued*)

Karen would like to make a one time payment for the year to Ace Extermination. The bill is \$1,694.24.

Doing this is a money saver and time saver.

Karen said we are waiting on 12 shares of P&G stock to come in. Workers' Compensation refunded us \$500.

The Burgett estate will give \$33,000 by the end of December. Then in April the estate will give \$40,000.

Also, the Cornerstone line of credit has been approved. Paperwork is complete. The loan will be dispersed by January 15. The loan will be for \$46,783 which is the balance of the cost of the HVAC.

When we know how much the wall will cost to repair, we will be able to set a more permanent loan. There is also a possibility of having a capital campaign, but this depends on how much the wall costs.

We will only have to pay interest and pay on the principal as we want. The budget committee allowed \$6,000 for repayment of the loan for 2021. This is \$500 a month. There is no penalty for paying it off early.

Rosemary Ennis brought up the building inspector fees. It is \$115.00 per hour. He will do a quick walk around and will get an idea of how much an in-depth inspection will cost and how long it will take. He will give an inspector's opinion regarding the wall and why this is happening and how to stop it.

Will ended the meeting with prayer.

Motion to adjourn was made by Rosemary Ennis. Second by Karen Baumann.
Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50.

Respectfully submitted,

Molly Miller
Recording Secretary

PRESCHOOL

January Preschool News

We are looking forward to the new year and are preparing for the upcoming 2021-22 school year. This year registration is going to be a “mail in” registration. Current preschool families and alumni should mail their registrations on January 19, 2021. New families that are registering for the upcoming school year, should mail their registration forms on January 21, 2021. Registration forms are available on the preschool website: <http://www.lakeviewucc.com/preschool/>



Also, 2021 Summer Camp this year is scheduled for June 7-10 (Camping Theme) and June 14-17 (Disney Theme). Summer camp registrations are available for children ages 3-6 on the preschool website as well.

During the month of January, the preschool theme is inspired by the popular Disney movie “Frozen” and the icy landscape of the Antarctica and the Arctic. The children will have fun tapping into Elsa’s snow powers to learn about snowflakes, ice, and penguins! We cannot wait to see how the children’s artwork transforms the hallways into a wintry wonderland!

Behind the Scenes



Axl pouring the new concrete slabs



Ornaments on display



Donations from the 12/19 Drive By Donation Event

TREASURER’S REPORT

Lakeview United Church of Christ Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual January 1 through December 20, 2020

	Jan– Dec 2020	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense Income				
Income				
40000—Operating Income	<u>244,135.99</u>	<u>245,154.79</u>	<u>-1,018.80</u>	<u>99.6%</u>
Total Income	244,135.99	245,154.79	-1,018.80	99.6%
Expense				
60000—Employee Expenses	132,105.98	121,377.51	10,728.47	108.8%
50000—Operating Expenses	92,910.42	94,988.58	-2,078.16	97.8%
72070—Cornerstone Mortgage	<u>42,139.00</u>	<u>49,071.67</u>	<u>-6,932.67</u>	<u>85.9%</u>
Total Expense	<u>267,155.40</u>	<u>265,437.76</u>	<u>1717.64</u>	<u>100.6%</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>-23,019.41</u>	<u>-20,282.97</u>	<u>-2,736.44</u>	<u>113.5%</u>
Net Income	-23,019.41	-20,282.97	-2,736.44	113.5%

Checking Account Balance as of 11/30/20: \$30,679.01

Savings Account Balance as of 11/30/20: \$20,104.94

Cornerstone Mortgage Balance as of 12/1/20: \$667,703.41

Thank you, Lakeview folks for your continued support to our church during this difficult 2020 year. Your steadfast giving has carried us through.

Our line of credit from Cornerstone Fund has been approved and the \$46,783 will be sent to Lakeview soon. Also, our portion of the bequest from the Burgett Estate for 2020 will be \$33,000 and should reach the church before the end of this year.

We have so much to be grateful for!

Karen Baumann, Treasurer





By Sue Anderson

Some have heard that Ohio is trying to pass Bill 256 which would prevent “children” age 17 and under, from being given Life sentences to prison. Over 20 other states have such a law. While capable of doing crimes, “children” don’t have the maturity to understand the consequences of their criminal acts, both for their victims or themselves. To lock them up for 30-40 + years regardless of their rehabilitation, reaching adult ages, given no hope—does that seem good or right to you? Pray that our legislators will act with thought and reason on this bill. Most persons react to prison with anger, fear, and act out in the worst way for themselves. With maturity and reality often comes sanity, repentance and being eligible for release—but even with those, Parole Boards seldom allow release even after many meetings, and the huge cost to taxpayers for each month parole- eligible prisoners are held. Example: below from one we’ve heard from for 15 years or so. He’s sent photos of the work he’s done while in prison. I believe him. See what you think. What would you do as a Parole Officer?

Selvyn E. Tillett, Letter, 4/19/20

“ I am serving a parole eligible sentence. I am a few months shy of sixty years old. While I do not have serious underlying illness like diabetes, I am a chronic care patient and take daily prescribed medication. **I am a veteran, very active with Victim Awareness Programs, and work lots of jobs successfully.** I had my third open parole hearing in January. I got a re-hearing for 2023. The reason given for the set-off was the usual brush-off. I believe that if not for my age and the time I have in, since 1981, the panel would have given me a much longer set-off. They were condescending with their generous gift of only three years as opposed to denying me outright. Because of my good institutional record, they could not justify denying me, but I got the impression that I will be given three year setoffs for the rest of my life barring relief from the courts. In the past a kind of funny statement was made by a parole agent and one of my counselors, that I was “manipulating the system” and that I was “institutionalized”. This conclusion was reached because I have never been on punitive segregation, only had a few minor infractions, **none since 1995.** Also I’ve never been affiliated with any gangs nor ever tested positive for any drugs. For this reason, I am manipulating the system? It is inconceivable that I chose a certain positive path and stuck with it regardless of the surroundings. My positive adjective name in the AVP program is Tenacious Tillett, but, because I refused to succumb to jailhouse negativity something must be wrong with me, and I’m just manipulating the system!”

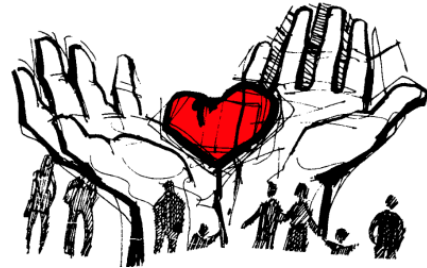
I’ve been educated about our “justice system” by some family experiences, years of hearing from 100’s of prisoners, and working with other helping groups. Reluctantly I must end the Newsletters written to so many--due to health issues (and old-er) age. Those who’ve been told of this necessity have been compassionate and still hope to keep in touch even if only by occasional notes and cards. I hope to share their concerns with our members here in the Link for awhile longer. I am grateful for your support and hope I’ve raised awareness and concern for the many in our jail and prison systems, especially e for our Veterans and for those sentenced as children. Thank you again for helping, especially my husband, and many friends. Those you’ve ‘touched’ are sincerely grateful.

PRAYER REQUESTS

• H-Health Issues • L-Life Decisions • M-Military • R-Recovering • G-Grieving

Chris Bilyeu (H)
 Jason Daily (H)
 Bob & Phyllis Johnson (H)
 Denise MacFarland (H)
 Tom McCormack (R)
 The Maile Family (G)
 Judy Rheinfrank (H)

Deb Rufner’s friend (H)
 Lois Westpfahl (H)
 The Seward Family (G)



CHANGE IN PLANS TO REOPEN LAKEVIEW

In the midst of the COVID 19 Pandemic, our goal here at Lakeview is to be caring and wise, as we serve and support all of God's children. With that in mind, we have found it necessary to make some changes to our original plans. Please see below:

- **WORSHIP SERVICES**
 - **NO face to face services through until further notice**—We will continue to stream our Sunday morning services online. This will include having a bulletin and the announcements available on the Lakeview website. (Go to lakeviewucc.com and read more on how to access Lakeview’s service.) These services will also be recorded, archived and available on Facebook to watch at a later time.
 - We will reassess the situation as circumstances change and will keep everyone up to date through email, bulletin announcements and announcements on the website and Facebook page.
 - We continue to work on the protocol for the time when we return to the Sanctuary and will make those guidelines available.
- **OTHER CHURCH ACTIVITIES**
 - While we will continue to suspend all church organized activities, we encourage you to be in touch with members of the community via text, email, a phone call, a letter, a card, fireworks, sky-writing, or however you are inspired to reach out and connect with one another.
- **STAFF**
 - The office staff will be working from home as much as possible, but will be monitoring voice mail, email, mail, etc.

As circumstances change, we will continue to assess the situation and make changes as needed. If you have any questions or concerns please call us at the church office.

DO YOU KNOW LAKEVIEW'S LEADERSHIP TEAM?

Position	Name	Primary Phone	Secondary Phone
Pastor	Todd Peterson	513-239-6611	
Director of Music	Emily Kronenberger	513-658-1063	
Accompanist	Irina Hall	513-753-0377	
Children, Youth and Family Ministry	Corey Nieman	513-262-9381	
Child Care	Faith Colwell	513-320-3255	

Executive Committee

Moderator/President	Will Huber	513-444-8604	
Vice Moderator/V.P.	Jody McOsker	513-583-1904	
Past Moderator/Past Pres	Mike Williams	513-418-1112	
Treasurer	Karen Baumann	513-732-6880	
Assistant Treasurer	Rosemary Ennis	513-265-2579	
Recording Secretary	Molly Miller	513-470-8569	
Financial Secretary	Donna Maile	513-515-8841	
Facilities Coordinator	Katie Madden	513-485-0943	

Additional Elected positions

PACT Comm. Members:	Trent Miller	513-587-9299	
	Lois Westpfahl	513-683-6273	
	Tom Burkett III	513-755-6421	513-569-2960
	Sarah Huber	614-579-3468	

Standing Committees (contact person) / Delegates

Assoc/Conf. Delegate	Lisa Barrows		828-489-2726
Alternate Delegate	Ann Tsui	513-683-8329	513-470-4507
A.I.M. (Action in Mission)	Sandee McAlpine	513-398-7107	
Christian Education	<i>Vacant</i>		
Fellowship	Steve Friedhoff	513-247-0933	
Membership	Ruth McCormack	513-563-0473	513-309-4679
Music	Chris Ennis	513-459-9504	513-404-2272
Publicity	Debbie Kumararaj	309-236-2546	
Worship	Nicole Bucalo	513-300-9842	



The Open and Affirming Coalition of the United Church of Christ advocates for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community in the UCC, and equips UCC congregations to become effective witnesses to Christ's extravagant welcome.

<https://openandaffirming.org/about/>

Lakeview's Mission: We are a people called by God to intentionally welcome, nurture and send, so that we can grow God's church.

Lakeview's Vision: Reaching Out Through God's Spirit by Involving, Serving, and Learning

January 2021 LUCC Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					New Year's Day 1	8:30A-AA-FH 2
3 Communion Sunday 10A-Worship Service 10A-Harmony-Rms 8/9, CR, FH	4 7A-AA-FH 6P-BSA-FH	5 8P-AA-FH 8P-AA-CR	6 5P-Weight Watchers- FH 7:30P-NA-FH 7:30P-NAR-Anon- Sanctuary 7:30P-12 Step Meeting- CR	7 8P-AA-FH 8P-Al Anon - CR	8	8:30A-AA-FH 9
10 10A-Worship Service 1pm- Inquirers' Class- ZOOM	11 7A-AA-FH 6P-BSA-FH	12 8P-AA-FH 8P-AA-CR	13 5P-Weight Watchers- FH 6:30P-NAR-Anon NEW- Sanct. 7:30P-NA-FH 7:30P-NAR-Sanctuary 7:30P-12 Step Meeting- CR	14 8P-AA-FH 8P-Al Anon - CR	15	8:30A-AA-FH 16
17 10A-Worship Service 10A-Harmony-Rms 8/9, CR, FH 1pm- Inquirers' Class- ZOOM	18 Martin Luther King ,Jr Day 7A-AA-FH 6P-BSA-FH	19 8P-AA-FH 8P-AA-CR	20 5P-Weight Watchers- FH 7:30P-NA-FH 7:30P-NAR Anon- Sanctuary 7:30P-12 Step Meeting- CR	21 8P-AA-FH 8P-Al Anon - CR	22	8:30A-AA-FH 23
24 10A-Worship Service 11:30 AM Congregational Meeting	25 7A-AA-FH 6P-BSA-FH	26 8P-AA-FH 8P-AA-CR	27 5P-Weight Watchers- FH 7:30P-NA-FH 7:30P-NAR Anon- Sanctuary 7:30P-12 Step Meeting- CR	28 8P-AA-FH 8P-Al Anon - CR	29	8:30A-AA-FH 30 *Please note: ALL meetings and events may be changed due to the corona virus prevention steps.
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Lakeview United Church of Christ
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lakeviewucc.com



A Monthly Newsletter of Lakeview United Church of Christ



Arise, shine; for your
light has come ...

Isaiah 60:1, NRSV

January 2021