



Vol 25, Issue 9
September 2025

RUTH'S CORNER

September is here! I love this time of year, with the kids back in school and the leaves just beginning to think about turning color. We have had a few days of really nice weather, and I am grateful for mornings on the deck, sipping my coffee, hearing birdsong, and not burning up in the heat of the day.

Lakeview is buzzing as usual. The choir returns this month, and the Preschool teachers are preparing for their year as I write this. Lunch and Learn returns and there will be a few changes for all of us in this new month.

First, I am pleased to announce an Adult Faith Formation opportunity from 9 am to 9:45 am, starting September 7. There is a stand alone article on page 4 for you to see the topics and more information. I hope you will join us for discussion and fun. I can't promise donuts every week, but bring your own of whatever you need to get you through - water, tea, coffee, an entire coffee cake, you do you!

Communion will change just a little bit this month. I miss being a part of communion, so I will be the bread station, and we will have two juice stations as well as the good person who serves those who cannot come forward.

Prayer time will bring a little change also. I was told emphatically NOT to mess with the prayer time here, and I am keeping the structure intact. But I'd like to change what we say after each petition, just for September and October and then see how you feel about it.

Why am I doing this? Well, the most obvious reason is that we are in interim time and it is the perfect time to try new things, and experience different ways. Certainly your new pastor will want to do different things differently, and it is good to try new ways of worshipping together.

....Continued next page

INSIDE

CYF	2
Birthdays	3
Prayer Requests	3
Announcements & Events	3-5
AIM	6-8
Capital Campaign Update	8
Search Team	9
Preschool	9
Treasurer's Report	10
Lakeview's Leadership & Mission	11
Calendar	12

Church Office Hours:

September office hours:

Sun 1:30-3:30; Tues & Thurs 10-2;
Rehearsals Wed eve w/ additional
remote work hours each week.

For quickest response, email:

info@lakeviewucc.com

Sunday Worship Services

- Sanctuary Service 10:15am
- Worship service available online at 2:00 pm via Facebook & Vimeo
- Communion is held on the 1st Sunday of each month.

RUTH'S CORNER.....continued

But there is another reason, a better reason in my mind for the change. You are a church that values inclusive language. And so I'd like us to try this new petition response as a way to live into a more inclusive way to pray. Try it, see how it feels to you for a few months, and we will revisit it in November. Thank you for being willing to be flexible and adventurous!

Enjoy this season, come to church, pray for us and the world, and live your best lives, always!

Blessings,

Rev. Ruth

CYF *(Children, Youth and Family Ministry)*

As Summer winds down and we all return to the "regular life" of the school year. This year, at Lakeview "normal" looks a little bit different. Our younger members are growing - in age as well as number - and we want to continue to grow and shift with them in order to best fit their needs.

This year we are hoping that shift will see more classes - we will be separating into smaller groups that will be closer in age and ability, as well as adding new teacher/volunteers (we hope!) activities and we will be bringing back our Youth Group for our teens that will meet outside of regular worship hours.

We will have a calendar available via email or as a hardcopy at the church and hope you will be able to join us for what promises to be a great year!

Please let us know if you have any questions or would like to join us in the CYF program - either as a Sunday School teacher or to help with Youth Group outings.

Thank you again for all your love and support for our Children, Youth and Families here at Lakeview! We are so excited for this new year!

Corey McOsker-Nieman (CYF Minister)

Faith Colwell (Child Care Leader)



7 Wendy Motsinger
 11 Linda Overholt
 13 David McAlpine
 14 Alex Miller
 15 Dan Prows
 16 Lisa Barrows

SEPTEMBER



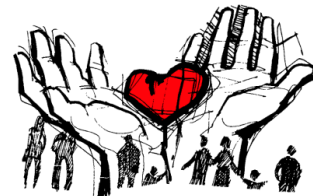
BIRTHDAYS

16 Ben Miller
 20 Mary Densmore
 22 Molly Miller
 25 Josh Maile
 27 Owen Friedhoff
 28 Emily Maraucci
 28 Chris Ennis

PRAYER REQUESTS

Mac McKenzie
 Ernie & Karen (friend of Pam's)
 Esther Friedhoff & family
 The Paul Family
 Tim (Pam's brother-in-law)
 Adrienne (friend of Lisa Barrows)
 Karen Baumann & Larry
 Tom & Ruthie McCormack

Mike Maile
 The Anderson Family
 The Bierkan Family
 The Kievit Family
 The McEleney Family
 The Huber Family
 The Massung Family
 Our Pastor Search Team



ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS



The September **Just for Lunch** will be held on Monday, September 22nd at 12:30pm at Half Day Café in Deerfield. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board outside the church office. Questions? Contact Rosemary. All are welcome, but space is limited!



At the time of this publication, it is our hope that both the Chancel Choir and Handbell choir will have their first rehearsals of the year on **Wednesday, September 3rd. 6:30- handbells, 7:30- chancel choir.**

New singers and ringers are always welcome!

If you are interested in joining handbells, please send Natalie an email at info@lakeviewucc.com so we can plan bell assignments for everyone.

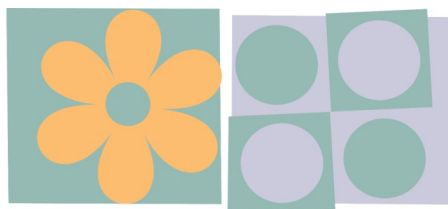


Dear Friends,

Many thanks to all who were able to join the surprise celebration of our 50th wedding anniversary. Emily's friend Erin collected the cards, messages, and party pictures for us, and we received them last night. What a gift! Thank you for the kind words and joyous atmosphere. We knew Lakeview was the church for us the first time we visited nine years ago. Thank you for being our wonderful church family.

-Bob and Lisa Barrows

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS.....continued

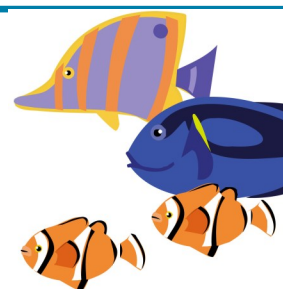


ADULT FAITH FORMATION

ADULT FAITH FORMATION-starts September 7th at 9:00 am in room #8 and will run until 9:45. The Series will be "**Living Into**"- with each week being a value we are challenged to live into. September 7th will be "**Living Into: Open and Affirming.**" Each class stands alone - but you are invited to come from September through October to this Adult Faith Formation Opportunity.

September 7 -	Living Into: Open & Affirming
September 14 -	Living Into: Just Peace
September 21 -	Living Into: Spiritual Practice
September 28 -	Rev Ruth out of town - free day or open discussion
October 5-	Living Into: Interfaith Issues
October 12-	Living Into: Radical Hospitality
October 19-	Living Into: Keeping Sabbath
October 26-	Living Into: Faith Formation

Childcare will not be provided for this offering.





In the Deep End

OFFERED BY SONKA'S
FAITH FORMATION TEAM

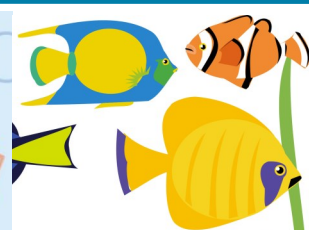
TO REGISTER, PLEASE EMAIL:
PASTORMANTHONY45327@GMAIL.COM

FREE, ONLINE
VIA ZOOM

September: "The End is Nigh!" Led by Rev. Mark Anthony

Have you ever wondered where all these "end of the world" ideas come from? Were they in the Bible from the beginning? What are we supposed to do with biblical texts about the sky opening, trumpets blaring, the world burning up, and Jesus returning to Earth?
All excellent questions...

Join us on Wednesdays in September, 6:30pm -8:00pm,
via Zoom, as Pastor Mark Anthony discusses the development of apocalyptic and eschatological (such big words!) thought from the Jewish experience into the Christian experience, and how they continue to affect us today.



ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS.....continued

FREEWAY BRASS



Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 14th!

We are SO EXCITED to welcome **Freeway Brass** to Lakeview. This brass quintet will be joining us during our 10:15 worship service, AND performing a FREE public recital here at 3:00 pm. Natalie has flyers available if you would like to help spread the word.

You can read more about these talented musicians on their Facebook page or their website:

<https://www.freewaybrass.com/about-us>



Lunch and Learn Returns on September 14!

Our guest speaker for our first Lunch and Learn of the fall will be **Terry Perdue, the Executive Director of Shared Harvest Food Bank** in Fairfield. Plan to stay after the service on the 14th and join us for a pot-luck lunch in the Education Wing. Please sign up in the lobby and indicate what food you might bring to share. (If you decide to attend at the last minute, please come anyway—whether or not you bring food to share. We always have plenty!)

Come and enjoy the fellowship as well as the opportunity to learn more about the current state of food insecurity in our local area.

Please consider joining the Lunch and Learn team!

Team members help to set up and clean up for these monthly events (usually held September through April, with time off for the December holidays.) Team members help to choose a topic/speaker and publicize in bulletins and newsletter leading up to the event. Team members also keep an inventory of paper products and other supplies needed, making purchases and requesting reimbursement or asking Natalie to order needed items. Sandee and David McAlpine, Kristin Jordan, and Linda Overholt are current members of the team, but not all of our members are available every month.



After the Pandemic when we surveyed members about a “Path Forward” for Lakeview, Lunch and Learn gatherings were one of the things most often mentioned as a wished for resumption. We all seem to enjoy and learn from these gatherings, generally held the second Sunday of the month; but we need more help if we are to be able to continue .

Please contact Linda Overholt if you are willing to help us out! Free training offered!!



Due to a change in the office schedule, submissions for the Sunday bulletin must be received by **noon on Wednesday**. We will make our best effort to include items received past the deadline, however final drafts of the bulletin, as well as the weekly email, will be completed on Thursdays.

ACTION IN MISSION—(A.I.M.)

September Missions of the Month



One of our September missions is **Neighbors in Need**, a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One third of this offering goes to the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). CAIM is the voice for American Indian people in the UCC. Historically, the forebears of the UCC established and worked with many Indian tribes in the plains and the Midwest. Today, there are 19 UCC congregations on reservations another American Indian congregation in an urban area. CAIM supports these churches and their pastors, as well as acting as a resource for members of these churches.

The other two thirds of our NIN offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. These include advocating in many areas (civil and human rights, economic justice, global concerns, environmental integrity, peacemaking, and racial justice). Anyone or any congregation can apply for a grant that meets the criteria, and the form to apply can be found on the UCC website.

Throughout its history—from early efforts to abolish slavery to modern campaigns for civil rights and social justice—the UCC has been engaged in these types of ministries. While there is a deep respect in the UCC for the right of every individual member to form his or her own views on these issues, there has always been a passion across the church to “make things right”—as a testament to our faith in God and our love for God's creation.

Our other September Mission is Shared Harvest Foodbank, a local mission that collects, warehouses, transports and distributes food to over 100 food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters and other non-profit agencies in a five-county area in Southwest Ohio. (The Kings Local Food Pantry in South Lebanon, to which Lakeview donates non-perishable items, is one of the food pantries served by Shared Harvest.) In addition to Warren County, Shared Harvest distributes food in Butler, Darke, Miami and Preble counties. (Shared Harvest is a sister organization to the Freestore Food Bank serving Hamilton County. Both are part of the Feeding America Network.) Shared Harvest warehouse and offices are located in Fairfield and has been serving the community for 42 years.

There are three primary programs operated by Shared Harvest, the primary one being **foodbanking** and distribution. Retail grocers, federal programs, the Ohio General Assembly, and co-op buying programs all contribute/allocate funds and groceries in this massive effort.

A second major endeavor of Shared Harvest is **direct service programs** including drive-thru food distribution events and the “Childhood Hunger Back-Pack

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ACTION IN MISSION—(A.I.M.)....*Continued*

Program.” Thousands of food insecure children in the five county area are provided food to take home each week. The Commodity Supplemental Food Program (monthly food boxes) for low income seniors is another direct service program.

The third major focus of Shared Harvest is **advocacy**. In this capacity Shared Harvest educates the public about ways in which individuals and organizations can reach out to elected officials to advocate for legislation that impacts food insecurity in our state and nation. People are also assisted in applying for SNAP (food stamps) when it is determined that they are potentially eligible.

Recent health and economic conditions have placed a tremendous burden on the capacity of Shared Harvest to serve the increased food needs of its clients. Check their website at www.sharedharvest.org for detailed information. **Terry Perdue, Executive Director, will be with us for worship and Lunch & Learn on September 14, to tell us more about the current challenges and needs of Shared Harvest and the people they serve.**

Missional giving for the month of September will be split 50/50 between our two missions unless otherwise indicated on your giving envelope.

FAMILY PROMISE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Lakeview made a commitment several years ago to assist host church St. Pat's Episcopal Church in Lebanon during their rotation week, and Lakeview handles Monday nights. This happens 4 times a year at the renovated facility on 600 Cincinnati Ave. in Lebanon.

Next Date: Monday, Oct. 20, 2025

Volunteers are needed to:



—Provide a dish for the evening meal (4 volunteers).

—Host the families during evening hours (about 5 p.m. to about 8:45 p.m.)—2 volunteers needed. This involves helping to set out dinner and clean up, as well as hanging out with the guests and maybe doing activities with the kids (bring a craft or art project if you wish, depending on the ages of the children).

—Spend the night—2 volunteers needed. You will have your own space to sleep. There are no real duties except to make sure everyone is accounted for, turn off lights and lock up the common area, and be there in case any emergencies occur (you will have emergency contact numbers). In the morning you are free to leave as soon as you need to.

Please let Ellen Abel (ellenabel1016@gmail.com; 513-967-5022) know if you can help out, or sign up in the narthex! Support will be provided for those who have and have not done this before. It is a great and eye opening experience, allowing you to put your faith and values into action. Thank you for your continued support of this mission!

ACTION IN MISSION—(A.I.M.)....*Continued*

DONATIONS FOR KINGS FOOD PANTRY:

September BREAKFAST NEEDS!

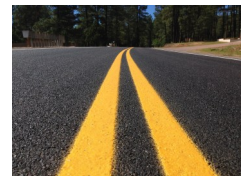
- Kids' Cereal (the stuff kids like)
- Pancakes mixes, Syrups
- Martha White Muffin Mix
- Granola Bars



Look for the bins under the bulletin board in the church lobby. Thank you for your generosity and the positive impact you continue to make in our community for those in need.

2025 Lakeview Capital Campaign

PAVING THE WAY– SEPTEMBER 2025



On Sunday, March 16th, 2025, at the congregational meeting of Lakeview UCC, a vote was taken to extend the 2022 Capital Campaign. Now that the second mortgage has been paid off (February 24, 2025), extending the campaign will enable the church to gather funds for much needed property projects.

One of the projects is repairing the parking lot. Information is being gathered concerning the cost and it is approximately \$76,000.00. Generous gifts from the Lakeview Preschool and Lakeview Foundation are helping with this expense. The project is now completed. Thank you all!

Second, in a few years, the church will need the roof shingles replaced and that will also be a major expense.

So, prayerfully consider extending your commitment to the capital campaign. **As of July 20th, we have \$8,266.96 already.** Any gift is gratefully appreciated. Please remember to mark your gift "Capital Campaign" so the Financial Secretary, Julie Peterson, can place it in the proper designation.

I will keep you informed about the progress each month in The Link.

Karen Baumann, Treasurer



If you aren't a Kroger rewards member, or haven't set up your community rewards partner yet, it's very easy and free to do! When you think of Kroger for your groceries you can contribute to LUCC at the same time. It really **does** make a difference!

Step-by-step instructions found here: <https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards>

Pastor Search Committee

by Bob Sandman

Search Committee Describes Lakeview UCC's Government and Organization

One section of the Local Church Profile asks how our congregation is organized for ministry and mission. At our last meeting in August, we looked over Lakeview's constitution and by-laws to determine the best way to describe our church to candidates.

The profile asks for a lot of detail and some sections have needed discussion stretching over multiple weeks. With help and advice from Interim Pastor Ruth, we are about two fifths of the way to completion. We have finalized the Scope of Work, or the job description. We have written out the next minister's goals. We have envisioned who God is calling our church to become. It has become clear how fundamental mission work is to our faith and action. And even more sections have been completed.

Membership Committee Chair Linda Overholt supplied us with demographics for our congregation. Treasurer Karen Baumann and Foundation Board members Donna Maile and Betty Schorry provided financial details. The committee still has work to do on describing data about participation and staffing in the church, historical information, descriptions of our surrounding communities, and more.

It is slow work, much more deliberate than the hiring processes that we are used to in our workplaces. It is hard to predict when the profile will be complete, but we have agreed to lead a Lunch and Learn on October 12. We will share with you as much of the profile as we have done by that date. Once the profile is done, the UCC will post it online, and then we will start receiving candidates. We will keep you informed about the process, but of course we will not be able to share any details about candidates once we have any. As always, the committee members are thankful for your patience and your prayers.

PRESCHOOL



Lakeview Preschool is gearing up for a new school year, beginning with our Meet the Teacher/ Ice Cream Social events on August 27 & 28th!



We do have a few openings available for the fall in the T/Th afternoon program. If your child will be 3 by December 31 or older, we have space available. School starts on Tuesday, September 2nd!

Our annual cookie dough fundraiser will begin on September 22nd.

Contributions to the Lakeview Operating fund can be made during offering, by using the giving envelopes in the main aisle, via automatic bill pay at your bank, online using the Pushpay app or the QR code here. Your generosity is deeply appreciated!



TREASURER'S REPORT

Lakeview United Church of Christ Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual January 1 through July, 2025

	<u>Jan-July 25</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense Income				
Income				
40000—Operating Income	<u>202,832.06</u>	<u>182,684.94</u>	<u>20,147.12</u>	<u>111.0%</u>
Total Income	202,832.06	182,684.94	20,147.12	111.0%
Expense				
60000—Employee Expenses	56,316.91	93,593.20	-37,276.29	60.2%
50000—Operating Expenses	61,923.87	48,595.97	13,327.90	127.4%
72070—Cornerstone Mortgage	<u>45,847.36</u>	<u>46,223.44</u>	<u>-376.08</u>	<u>99.2%</u>
Total Expense	164,088.14	188,412.61	-24,324.47	<u>87.1%</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>38,743.92</u>	<u>-5,727.67</u>	<u>44,471.59</u>	<u>-676.4%</u>
Net Income	38,743.92	-5,727.67	44,471.59	-676.4%

Checking Account Balance as of 7/31/25 \$62,756.30*

Savings Account Balance as of 7/31/25 \$16,118.45

*Contains \$8,266.96 as of 7/20/2025 of capital campaign fund

Cornerstone Mortgage Balance as of 8/1/25: \$576,881.40



We rejoice in gifts from the Lakeview Preschool and Lakeview Foundation to pave the parking lot. Thank you all!

Karen Baumann, Treasurer

Contributions to the Lakeview Operating fund can be made during offering, by using the giving envelopes in the main aisle, via automatic bill pay at your bank, online using the Pushpay app or the QR code here.

Your generosity is deeply appreciated!



Lakeview United Church
Operating Fund
https://www.givinglink.com



June Mission Totals- *Family Promise: \$ 1703.00*
Sweet Cheeks: \$ 355.00



DO YOU KNOW LAKEVIEW'S LEADERSHIP TEAM?

Position	Name	Primary Contact	Secondary
Interim Pastor	Rev. Ruth Hopkins	513-683-2073	pastor@lakeviewucc.com
Admin/Dir. of Music	Natalie Nolte	513-683-2073	info@lakeviewucc.com
CYF Ministry	Corey Nieman	513-262-9381	cyfministry@lakeviewucc.com
Director of Instr. Music	Irina Hall	513-753-0377	
Child Care	Faith Colwell	513-320-3255	

Executive Committee

Moderator/President	Adam Paul	adampaul.ap@gmail.com
Vice Moderator/V.P.	Rob Schorry	rschorry@gmail.com
Past Moderator/Past Pres	Steve Mays	scmays1@gmail.com
Treasurer	Karen Baumann	513-732-6880
Assistant Treasurer	Rosemary Ennis	513-265-2579
Recording Secretary	Sarah Huber	sarah.nicole.huber@gmail.com
Financial Secretary	Julie Peterson	julie.kay258@gmail.com
Facilities Coordinator	Vacant	

PACT Comm. Members: PACT is currently on hiatus during this time of search and call

Standing Committees (contact person) / Delegates

Assoc/Conf. Delegate	Lisa Barrows	828-489-2726
Alternate Delegate	Ann Tsui	513-683-8329
A.I.M. (Action in Mission)	Sandee McAlpine	513-608-0597
Membership/Welcoming	Linda Overholt	513-515-8870
Publicity/Social Media	Vacant	

**OPEN AND AFFIRMING
COALITION**
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

September Lucc Calendar of Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Labor Day 12P- AA- FH 6:30P-BSA-FH 7P- AA- CR	2 <i>First Day of Preschool</i> 5:30- Cub Scouts 8P—AA -FH 8P-AA-CR	3 10A-Quilters-CR 12:00P-AA-FH 6:30PM Handbells 7:00P-NAR-Anon- CR 7:30PM- Chancel Choir	4 6:30P- BSA Cmmtee Mtg 7P-AA-FH 7P-Al Anon - rm8	5 7:30PM Lumos Pre- sents: <i>A Murder is Announced</i>	6 8:30A-AA- rm 8 7:30PM Lumos Presents: <i>A Murder is Announced</i>
7 9:00A- Adult Faith Formation- rm 8 10:15A-Service 10A-Harmony- Rm8/9, CR, FH 11:30A- Harmony mtg- rm 7	8 12P- AA- FH 6:30P-BSA-FH 7P- AA- CR 7P- Search Team mtg- Zoom	9 5:30- Cub Scouts 8P—AA -FH 8P-AA-CR	10 10A-Quilters-CR 12:00P-AA-FH 6:30PM Handbells 7:00P-NAR-Anon- CR 7:30PM- Chancel Choir	11 7P-AA-FH 7P-Al Anon - rm8	12	13 8:30A-AA- rm 8
14 9:00A- Adult Faith Formation- rm 8 10:15A-Service 11:30A- Lunch 'n Learn 3:00P- Freeway Brass Recital	15 12P- AA- FH 6:30P-BSA-FH 7P- AA- CR 7P- Search Team mtg- Zoom	16 5:30- Cub Scouts 8P—AA -FH 8P-AA-CR	17 10A-Quilters-CR 12:00P-AA-FH 6:30PM Handbells 7:00P-NAR-Anon- CR 7:30PM- Chancel Choir	18 7P-AA-FH 7P-Al Anon- 8/9	19	20 8:30A-AA- rm 8
21 9:00A- Adult Faith Formation- rm 8 10:15A-Service 10A-Harmony- Rm8/9, CR, FH 1P- Lumos Auditions	22 12P- AA- FH 12:30P- Just for Lunch 6:30P-BSA-FH 7P- AA- CR 7P- Search Team mtg- Zoom	23 5:30- Cub Scouts 8P—AA -FH 8P-AA-CR	24 10A-Quilters-CR 12:00P-AA-FH 6:30P-Girl Scouts- rm8 7:00P-NAR-Anon- rm 7	25 7P-AA-FH 7P-Al Anon - rm8	26	27 8:30A-AA- rm 8
28 9:00A- Adult Faith Formation- rm 8 10:15A- Sanctuary Service 1P- Lumos Rehearsal 3P- Girl Scouts - rm 8	29 12P- AA- FH 6:30P-BSA-FH 7P- AA- CR 7P- Search Team mtg- Zoom	30 5:30- Cub Scouts 7P- EC mtg- Zoom 8P—AA -FH 8P-AA-CR				

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A Monthly Newsletter of Lakeview United Church of Christ