

LAKESHORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE OPEN DOOR

August 2023

"Behold, I have set before thee an open door..." Revelations 3:8



Editor: Bev Matlas

Contributing Editor: Sue Dykstra

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY

SUNDAY 10AM

-OR-

ACCESS THE LIVESTREAM

OF SUNDAY'S WORSHIP

Online – <https://meet.google.com/rik-bqqf-rye>

Phone – (929) 282-0976 at prompt
enter 574 737 948 #

The Message

July 23	Dick Smalldon	Aug 20	Pastor Bre
July 30	Pastor Bre	Aug 27	Pastor Bill
Aug 6	Pastor Bill	Sept 3	Pastor Bill
Aug 13	Pastor Bill	Sept 10	Pastor Bill



Lakeshore Presbyterian Church
5235 Lakeshore Rd
Fort Gratiot, MI 48059

810-385-4531
lakeshorepresby@aol.com
visitlakeshore.com

In This Issue

- From the Pastor's Desk*2
- Community Corner*3-5
- Aug Events*.....6
- Birthdays & Anniversaries*7
- Finance Update*7
- Children's Zone*8
- Aug Event Calendar*.....9

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Lakeshore Church Family & Friends,

When you were a child, did you receive a good Christian education? I did. In our home church in Dobbs Ferry, NY I had some wonderful Sunday School teachers who taught me about Jesus' love for me, and perhaps more importantly, shared their love for me. In the book of Timothy in the Bible Paul writes to young Timothy that he (Paul) remembers the sincere faith that lived in his grandmother Lois and in his mother Eunice. Often, we receive our earliest Christian education from our mothers and not so much from our fathers. Today the parents of young children may not know the stories in the Bible to share with them. The job of teaching Biblical truths to children has fallen to our churches, which : includes Lakeshore Church, and our Vacation Bible School.

This year Vacation Bible School, also known as, Space Adventure Week, runs through the last full week in August: 21-25. We are shooting for the stars and expecting 20 children. For the next 5 weeks in Worship, you will experience a lesson the children will learn in Vacation Bible School or Space Adventure Week. The purpose will be to excite our church family to invite family, friends and neighbors to try this year's Space Adventure Week.

This year we have leaders, professionally trained, who will use their training and experience to make this the best VBS we have seen in years. For example, Carole Cesefski has teaching credentials in music education, she will help lead singing; Kathryn Pennanen was a physical education teacher for decades, and Kathryn will lead the outside games; Janet Saxon, who has been involved in Christian Education at many churches, is the overall director of VBS; Steve Steinhaus, a professionally trained cook, will prepare the evening meal to be served at 5:30 each night.

The children will be in the middle of a space adventure while learning to **SHINE JESUS' LIGHT** when they:

- Are Unhappy
- Don't Get Along With Others
- Feel Joy About Good Things
- Feel Sad
- See People Who Need Help

Through crafts, discussions, dramas, music and mementos to take home students will learn that Jesus is there for them.

Please invite any relatives and/or friends between 4 and 12 years of age to at least try this year's VBS, Monday, August 21 - Friday August 25 from 4-6 PM.

We have a wonderful lineup of teachers. Please pray that we have a wonderful lineup of children who will learn about a friend they will meet and keep for life: Jesus Christ.

Pastor Bill



Pearl Vermander

Let Go and Let God

“They who wait upon the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. ~ Isaiah 40:31

I virtually attended a three-day Christian writers and speakers conference last week but initially kinda wished I’d have driven the 180 miles each way to go in person instead; it probably would’ve been easier!

I had problems navigating the site, so I was frequently late (shocking, I know! :)) to the classes. There are problems with the internet at the house and the phone’s hot spot wasn’t strong enough; the screen kept freezing and I couldn’t see the chat to participate in it. The libraries were closed for most of the event so I couldn’t use their internet.

Was telling a friend about it during the second day and she offered to let me use her internet.

Kinda didn’t wanna because she lives a couple towns over, I don’t know her husband well, and for the first trip I’d be traveling during a severe thunderstorm.

So, to be honest, not sure why I said, “Ok”.



That first day I was concerned about having left my critters to survive a storm alone. Already had two and a half trees down in my yard from previous bad weather and the modem was still out due to a lightning strike a couple weeks ago.

There was also a recent power outage, perhaps because the electricity got bored with too many days in a row without a good reason to shut down.

I fearfully persevered anyway, and I was so glad I did.

(Cont'd on page 5)



Your Session at Work

Highlights from the July 13th Session Meeting:

Dick Smalldon will be the lay worship leader on July 23rd. We look forward to hearing Dick’s sermon.

Session was notified Bill Olney, long-time friend of Lakeshore Church, passed away on July 12.

On November 4th Deacons will be hosting a Fall Festival for the Downs Syndrome clients in the Blue Water area. We thank Clare Scheurer and Roger Sheldon for providing tractor and flatbed for the hayride.

The Deacons are hosting the annual Senior Celebration on October 26th (11:00am-2:30pm). Chicken in the Rough will be providing lunch.

Vacation Bible School is just a month away. The church will be transformed into a Space Adventure. We need a few drivers to transport kids who may need a ride. Let Janet Saxon know if you can drive.

Evangelism and Outreach reported that Lakeshore is one of a few churches in the area that is growing. Keep up the great work of welcoming newcomers to the church.

That’s all folks!

Community Corner



Lori Pollack

Let the Lord Guide You

“This is the way, walk in it” (Isaiah 30:21)

The sun shone brilliantly on a mid-winter’s day. It was the winter break for schools and the family headed up north to enjoy winter sports with their young children.

The excitement hung in the air when they arrived at the resort. The hills were bursting with people, sounds of laughter and brilliant snow all around.

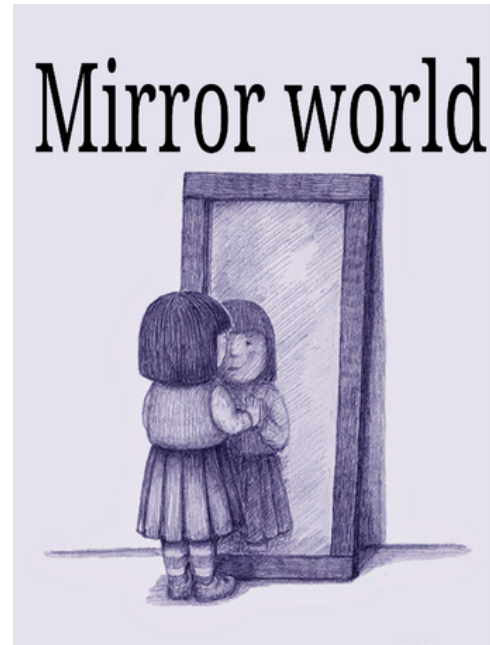
At the end of the day, as the sun began to sink into the horizon, the young boy had gone down the hill only to veer left into a band of forest away from the lodge. He became a little disorientated and wandered deeper into the woods.

Frantic, the parents notified the lodge and everyone started the search. Several hours passed and it began to get dark. The family stopped suddenly and began to pray together and to ask the Lord to guide their young son back.

The young boy, realizing it would be dark in a few minutes, fell to his knees and prayed for assistance. In the silence and dusk, a sliver of light came through the trees and the boy looked up. A buck approached the boy and stood still in front of him. The boy stood up, as he did the buck turned very slowly towards a small path in the woods. The boy felt in his spirit that he should follow. The boy and the buck winding down a snowy path until they exited into the resort area. The boy viewed his family running towards him. He turned to the animal, it had vanished.

This touching incident can serve as a teaching on God’s guidance and love. Decisions and directions that one is confronted with in life can be extremely confusing and difficult. God tells us to have faith in him and look towards our God for answers.

“And the Lord will guide you continually and satisfy your desire in scorched places and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail.” (Isaiah 58:11)



**The world is a mirror that reflects what you do.
If you smile, it will smile back!**

Community Corner

Pearls of Wisdom (Cont'd from page 3)

My friend had another of her friend's family over and it was so . . . eye opening to observe such a wholesome activity of their playing instruments while they all sang along to various tunes. Loved to witness that type of 'family' gathering where everyone from kids as young as 12, up to adults in their eighties, just loving each other openheartedly and doing something so fun, simple, and without guile.

Then the whole seminar that I nearly gave up on was so worth the effort (and \$\$\$\$), even if I'd only learned this one fact: Statistically speaking, people achieve increasingly more in their 60's and 70's and 80's! Hal-le-lujah! maybe I (we're?) on the right track, after all!

I'm so frequently obsessing about having missed out on so much good that God has for me, but maybe He's just preparing me (you?) to be able to best receive and take advantage of all he has to give.

I'm sure no one has noticed (ahem) but I can be late sometimes. Sometimes???

It seems no matter the determination to be on time, it just doesn't happen. But I also recently realized that sometimes, because of being late, I'm somewhere at the right time to help another, even if it's to make someone else in a congregation feel better about their late self because at least they were there before me. (Not to mention any names, Pat and Mary-Beth -- OOPS! - did that just 'accidentally' let that slip out of the typing???)

What I'm trying to get at is, maybe our intended ways and timing aren't always (usually) God's. Don't know if you're like me, but I like to think (hallucinate more like) that I have some kind of control over life. But when I let go and let God (instead of just giving up, throwing a snit fit, or holding on to what I think 'should' be,) not only is there a (terrifying yet) liberating sense of control over life. But when I let go God (instead of just giving up, throwing a snit fit, or holding on to what I think 'should' be,) not only is there a (terrifying yet) liberating

sense of freedom, but faith grows stronger in a God that really DOES know better than I (we?) do and wants to give us what HE knows is best; what we'll most enjoy and make the most of.

Dear Most Holy and Loving Abba –

Thank You for doing for people what we would never do for ourselves, if left to our own devices. Thank You for keeping an eye on the big, whole picture when we're all atwitter because the little slice of it we think we know about doesn't pan out to our specifications and we become angry and snarly at You (and others).

Thank You for loving us so incomprehensibly much, Abba.

In Jesus Name, AMEN

Need Some Space This Summer?

I know I would love a little more time and space this summer to accomplish my laundry list of "to-do's." But that's not the kind of time and space that's waiting for all the children ages 4-12 in your life.

We are less 30 days away from launching kids on an out-of-this-world cosmic quest where they'll have a blast shining Jesus' light to the world-- Don't miss the August 21, 4pm launch!!



Watch over the next few weeks as the church begins to glow with stars and planets and our destination, the surface of the moon, is created complete with land rover and the lunar lander which transported us.

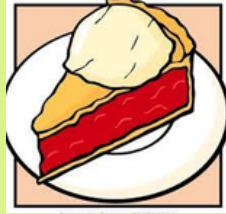
Register today @

<https://www.visitlakeshore.com/vacation-bible-school-register>

Community Corner



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



July 29
3-5pm
Pie & Ice Cream
Social



August 11-12
Lakeshore Church
9am - 5pm
One person's "Junk" is
another person's treasurer



August 16
6pm
Bring a dish to
share



August 21-25
4-6pm
Vacation Bible School
Space Adventure

Birthdays & Anniversaries

8/1 Brenda Losey	8/5 Sheile Garnett
8/6 Cassidy Gerrow	8/9 Frank Pickett
8/19 Steve & Holly Anderson	8/17 Lee Fearnside
8/21 Dick Smalldon	8/21 Dick & Linda Smalldon
8/22 Daniel Ryan	8/23 Linda Smalldon
8/25 Mike & Sue Bergeon	

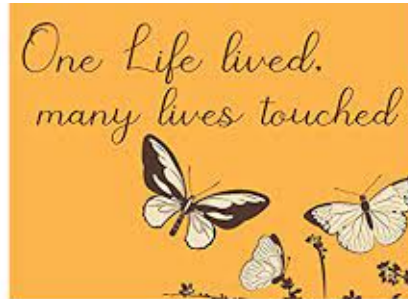
Finance Snapshot

For the Month Ending 06/30/23

Operating Income:	\$ 5,237.09
Operating Expenses:	\$ 8,147.30

Investments @06/30/23

Thrivent:	\$39,959.88
	\$18,861.27
Stifel	\$34,648.85
New Covenant:	\$35,978.26
Presbyterian Fndn:	\$19,866.56



William O. Olney

It is with great sorrow and sadness that we announce the passing of Bill Olney. Bill and his wife Arlene were long time members of Lakeshore. Both were active in the church activities. Bill was born on June 8, 1936, and passed away on July 12, 2023. He was preceded in death by his loving wife, Arlene (October 26, 1936, to April 30, 2022). We all remember Arlene's beautiful singing voice. Bill and Arlene were married on June 11, 1955, at St. Joseph Church in Port Huron.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, July 29, 2023 at 12:00pm (noon) in the Jowett Funeral Home – 1634 Lapeer Ave., Port Huron. Pastor Bill Davis will officiate.

<https://www.jowettfuneraldirectors.com/obituaries/William-Olney-2/#!/Obituary>

Barbara was a new friend to the Lakeshore Church family but long-time friends with many others in our congregation. She will be missed at our Worship Services.

A service celebrating Barb's life will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 5, 2023 in Karrer-Simpson Funeral Home (Barbara's 82nd Birthday). Elder Dan Hanton and Pastor William Davis will officiate.

<https://karrersimpson.com/obituaries/16658>



Barbara J. Baker

Children's Zone



August 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Stewardship & Mgt 1:30 pm	2	3 E&O 3pm Deacons 4pm	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 Worship 12:30 pm Session 1:30 pm	11 Yard Sale Trail 9am – 5pm	12 Yard Sale Trail 9am – 5pm
13	14	15	16 Potluck 6pm	17	18	19
20	21 VBS 4pm – 6pm	22 VBS 4pm – 6pm	23 VBS 4pm – 6pm	24 VBS 4pm – 6pm	25 VBS 4pm – 6pm	26
27	28	29	30	31		

-----WEEKLY-----

SUNDAY

9 am Bible Study

10 am Worship

11:15 am Fellowship

2 pm Worship Lake Huron Woods

7 pm AA

FRIDAY

7 pm AA