

LAKESHORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE OPEN DOOR

FEBRUARY 2025

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

Editor: Susan Dykstra



**JOIN US FOR WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY
SUNDAY 10AM**

-OR-

**ACCESS THE LIVESTREAM
OF SUNDAY'S WORSHIP**

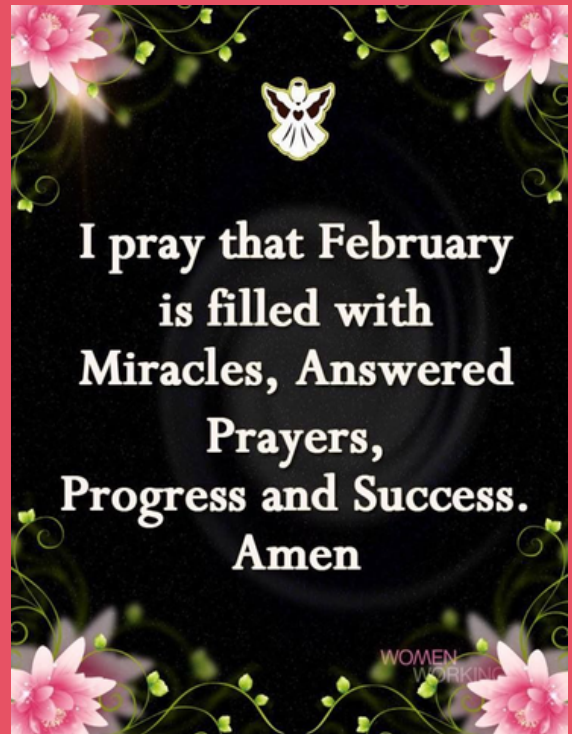
<https://meet.google.com/rik-bqqf-rye>

**phone call: 1-929-282-0976 and
at the prompt enter: 574 737 948#.**



9am Adult Bible Study
10am Worship Service
11am Fellowship
2pm Lake Huron Woods Worship
Lakeshore Presbyterian Church
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Fort Gratiot, MI 48059

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From the Pastor's Desk

Today is January 27, in 1945 on this day the Auschwitz Concentration Camp in Poland was liberated by the Russian army, and the remaining 7,000 prisoners who had not been killed by the Germans and their collaborators were set free. In total over six million Jews were murdered in Europe from 1938-1945. I ask myself, “How this could have happened in a country that was Christian with 54% identifying as Protestant and 40% as Catholic?” What I have read about those years in Germany is that most Christians at the time believed that what was best for the German nation was best for Christianity. When the Protestant and Catholic Churches cooperated with the government, they were treated well by the government. So they quietly went along. Government news sources told the people that Jews were dragging down the German economy, and that the Jews favored the Communists in Russia. The Nazi government forced as many Jews as possible to leave the country before WWII began, and once the war was in progress began to murder Jews first by shooting them, then by exterminating them in concentration camps, like the camp in Auschwitz. The Nazi government called this “The final solution.” Some Christians in Germany opposed the government, such as Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who was executed. The United States entered the European theatre of war on December 11, 1943. By May 8, 1945 Germany was fully occupied by Russia in the east and the Allies, including the United States from the west, and Germany surrendered. I thank all those who served our country in the armed forces and those who worked doubly hard on the home front to produce the weapons needed by our soldiers doing the fighting.

Could we Christians today be accomplices to the atrocities that occurred in WWII? I would like to think not. I would like to think that we would stand with Jesus regardless of the cost to us individually. Jesus was asked, *‘Which commandment is the first of all?’* 29 Jesus answered, *‘The first is, “Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; 30 you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.” The second is this, “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.” There is no other commandment greater than these.’* (Mark 12:28-31 I believe that by and large we do follow our Lord Jesus Christ.

I also believe that our freedom of the press would inform us if atrocities were being inflicted on any minority, and we would stand up if we felt our own government were acting contrary to the will of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



New Deacons and Elders



The new deacons for our church are; Sharon Nash, Mary Beth Sheldon, Lee Ann Lambson, Pierrette Thelander, and Caroline Janosky.

Lori Pollack, Linda Smalldon, and Kathrin Pennanen were elected as members of Session.

Both boards are expecting a productive year for the church.



Lto R Lee Ann Lambson, Sharon Nash, Pierrette Thelander, Caroline Janosky, Linda Smalldon, Lori Pollack, and Kathrin Pennanen



Community Corner

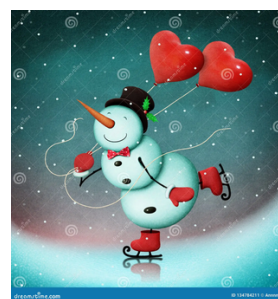
Winter



Our beloved Steve Steinhaus traveled to Tennessee for the Winter. He thought he would escape the snow. Nothing doing. The snow followed him south. This is the first time in a long time Tennessee has had snow. The problem is driving in it for those who are not accustomed to snow.



Come join us for food and fellowship. It is guaranteed a fun time. We sing or do a Bible Study afterward.



Annual Congregational Meeting

The annual congregational meeting was held on January 26th. A quorum was established with 20 members present. All annual reports were read and approved. A vacant seat on Session was announced. Kevin Losey was elected to that seat. The nominating committee needed a member at large Joslyn Gerrow was elected to that position.



The Evangelism and Outreach Committee will be hosting a Chili Cookoff on Saturday February 8th at 3pm. Come taste the chili and decide who made the best chili. A prize of a \$20 gift card will be awarded.



A pastor is walking down the street one day when he notices a very small boy trying to press a doorbell on a house across the street. However, the boy is very small and the doorbell is too high for him to reach.

After watching the boy's efforts for some time, the pastor moves closer to the boy's position.

He steps smartly across the street, walks up behind the little fellow and, placing his hand kindly on the child's shoulder leans over and gives the doorbell a solid ring.

Crouching down to the child's level, the pastor smiles benevolently and asks, "And now what, my little man?"

To which the boy replies, "Now we run!"



It is Tea Time. Our popular Irish Tea will be held on March 15th at 3pm

OFFICERS OF THE CORPORATION

President	Roger Sheldon
Clerk	Susan Dykstra
Treasurer	Kathrin Pennanen



DEACONS

Lee Ann Lambson
Barb Weston
Wanda McCormick
Pieerrette Thelander
Caroline Janosky
Sharon Nash
Brenda Losey
Mary Beth Sheldon

SESSION MEMBERS

Moderator Pastor William Davis
Clerk Susan Dykstra, E and O
Richard Smalldon Stewardship Mgt.
Linda Smalldon Worship
Steve Steinhaus-Deacons
Lori Pollack Memorial
Janet Saxon-Christitan Ed.
Kathrin Pennanen Treas. Personnel

Community Corner

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

**6 Barb Wismer
9 Mike Bergeon
10 Laura Lee
11 Steve Anderson
21 Sheila Miller
23 Pastor Bre
26 Pat Wittenberg**

ANNIVERSARIES

26 The Davis'

FEBRUARY MEETINGS

**4th Stewardship and Mgt 2pm
6th E and O 3pm
6th Deacons 4pm
13th Worship 12:30pm
13th Session 1:30pm
13th Christian Ed. 3pm**

FEBRUARY EVENTS

**February 8 3pm
Chili Cookoff**

**February 15 1-3pm
Craft Day**

**February 19
6pm
Potluck**