

LAKESHORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# THE OPEN DOOR

JANUARY 2025

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



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

5235 Lakeshore Rd

Fort Gratiot, MI 48059

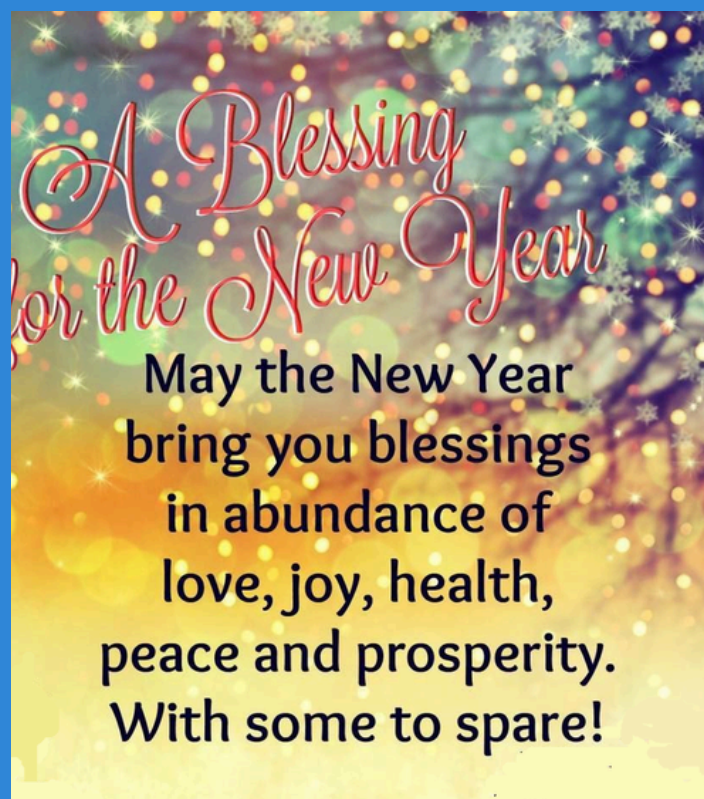
810-385-4531

[lakeshorepresby@aol.com](mailto:lakeshorepresby@aol.com)

[visitlakeshore.com](http://visitlakeshore.com)

Editor: Bev Matlas

Co-editor: Susan Dykstra



## In This Issue

<i>From the Pastor</i> .....	2
<i>Community Corner</i> .....	3-7
<i>Birthdays and Anniversaries</i> .....	6
<i>Upcoming Events</i> .....	6
<i>Photo Memories</i> .....	7

## ***From the Pastor's Desk***

Dear Lakeshore Family & Friends -

If you are reading this: THANK YOU! You are part of the Lakeshore Church Family. You may have worshipped at Lakeshore Church in the past 6 months, or perhaps you consider Lakeshore to be your church home. Everyone in the Lakeshore Church Family is important to me. Everyone in the Lakeshore Church Family contributes to the strength of Lakeshore Church. You make Lakeshore Church special.

Lakeshore has about 60 active members. Normally a healthy church has 50% of its membership in worship on an average Sunday. That means that for Lakeshore to be a healthy church it would have about 30 in worship on an average Sunday. But Lakeshore averages about 44 in worship on any given Sunday. What is amazing is that on an average Sunday Lakeshore has about 32 members in worship and 12 nonmembers. Together members and nonmembers comprise the LAKESHORE CHURCH FAMILY! THANK YOU for being part of the Lakeshore Church Family.

Membership in Lakeshore Church is for those who chose to receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and chose to support Lakeshore with their time, talents and treasure. For you members, THANK YOU! You are the foundation upon which Jesus builds his church. Lakeshore surely needs those of you who commit their time, talents and treasure to Lakeshore Church. The truth is everyone in the church family is vital to Lakeshore's success with members providing the essential resources of time, talent and treasure for Lakeshore's ministry to thrive and grow. If you are a member, THANK YOU for being a supportive member in the Lakeshore Church Family. If you are not now a member, and would like to become a member, please let me know.

The early church in Israel benefited from their church family. The Bible says, "Meanwhile the church throughout Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and was built up. Living in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it increased in numbers." (Acts 9:31) I like to think that Lakeshore lives in this fear (which means respect, honor and love) of the Lord, and in the comfort (inspiration) of the Holy Spirit. Time and again I've seen how the Holy Spirit has lifted up Lakeshore Church.

A church is only as good as its leaders. Lakeshore has been blessed with dedicated and competent leaders. Our elected leaders are selected by the Holy Spirit and elected by the congregation to serve as Deacons and Elders. Our church constitution, "The Book of Order," permits leaders to serve no more than 6 years in a row. Deacon, Lori Pollack, and Elder, Debi Singer have completed their sixth year of service and were not eligible to be elected to another two-year term. On behalf of the Lakeshore Church Family I thank Lori and Debi for their good and faithful service! We have Deacons and Elders whom God is leading to serve in new ministries: Deacons Pearl Manasseh and Linda Smalldon; Session member Mike Bergeon. Thank you for your faithful service!

Continued on page 4



## Sharing God's Word



We are fortunate to have Elder Richard Smalldon deliver our sermon when Pastor Bill takes a vacation.

Thank you Dick for sharing your faith with us and bringing God's Word to life.



The Christmas Tea, hosted by Linda Smalldon, was a delicious and festive event.

As usual, Linda outdid herself with baking many wonderful treats that were enjoyed by a record number of Lakeshore family & friends.

Great job Linda and thank you!



**Lee Ann Lambson and  
Pearl Manasseh**

Christmas is the season for caring and sharing.

At their November meeting, Deacons decided to support Toys for Tots with a \$400 donation, and chose two volunteers, Lee Ann Lambson and Kathy Pennanen, to do the toy shopping.

Armed with information about the age groups, and the types of gifts the kids were wishing for, Lee Ann and Kathy headed out to the stores. Being Santa's helpers brought them joy to be helping out and giving back to our community.

Deacons also made a donation to Sanilac County's "Shop With A Cop", which helped make a fun day where kids got to buy Christmas presents with assistance from a police officer, even better.

They also paired up with Pearl Unchained to make a \$500 donation to MYOI (Michigan Youth Opportunities Initiative). MYOI is an organization Sandy Hunwick works with that aids foster children aging out of the system. The money helped to provide Christmas presents (& love & hope) to these amazing young adults as they make their way into the world.

So thank you Good People of LPC for your generous donations to the Deacons' Fund! It's because of you the Deacons are able to reach out to the community and minister to those in need.



# Community Corner



## From the Pastor's Desk

Continued from page 2

The first Sunday of the new year, January 5, we will ordain/install those who were elected at our November Congregational meeting. We ordain those who have not served in the past as a Deacon or Elder. I am grateful for all who have agreed to share their time and talents as leaders. The newly elected Deacons are: Sharon Nash, Caroline Janosky, Pierrette Thelander, Lee Ann Lambson and Mary Beth Sheldon. New Session members are: Linda Smalldon, Lori Pollack, and Kathrin Pennanen. We are looking for one additional Elder to be elected at our Annual Meeting on January 26.

I am grateful for everyone in the Lakeshore Church Family. You are important to Lakeshore's ministry and to me. I am grateful to those who have decided to serve Jesus by being a member of Lakeshore Church. I am grateful to those members who have accepted God's call to be a Deacon or an Elder. THANK YOU ALL!!

*Pastor Bill*



**Sue Dykstra**

My Dad and I always went sledding in the winter. We had many mishaps with the toboggan. But we made it through with few injuries.

I continued the tradition with Melissa. But instead of Beard's Hill, we opted for Palmer Park mostly because Palmer Park was less scary for free.

Melissa pushed me down the hill several times and each time I fell off the sled after hitting a huge bump that she found just for me. She would laugh at her mom making a spectacle of herself. I would get up and limp back to the car.

While she wanted to continue. I thought twenty or thirty times down the hill was sufficient. Then she decided Dad could do it. He was a little more reluctant but appeased Melissa.

The family was lucky we didn't break any bones. It just took us weeks to recover



## Community Corner



## Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service was beautiful as our attention was focused on the real meaning of the season, the birth of our Savior, Jesus.

Thank you to Lois, Phil and Marcia for their musical accompaniment as we sang many great Christmas Carols and closed the service with the church aglow with candlelight.



*Santa's*  
=little=  
HELPER  
...X...

## January Birthdays



<b>2nd</b>	<b>Caroline Janosky</b>
<b>4th</b>	<b>Dave Eppley</b>
<b>12th</b>	<b>Sophia Bade</b>
<b>15th</b>	<b>Janet Wagner</b>
<b>18th</b>	<b>Dallas Hayden</b>
<b>23rd</b>	<b>Isabelle Albrecht</b>

## JANUARY EVENTS

**POTLUCK JANUARY 15 @6pm**

**CRAFT DAY JANUARY 18th 1-3pm**



Holy God, we thank You for one another and for all the wonderful blessings You bring into our lives through other people. May we in turn bring Your blessing into their lives. Make known Your presence and power wherever there is illness, pain, fear or long vistas of distress. May Your love and healing keep reaching out through the hands and voices of those who tend and soothe and cure. We ask in the name of Jesus, Amen

The Prayer group meets every Thursday beginning at 10am. The prayer group is led by Linda Smalldon.

Miracles happen through prayer. Please join us.



## Community Corner



**Children's Christmas  
Program 2024**



**Community Corner**