

# STUDENT MINISTRIES EVENTS

## ENCOUNTER 9th- 12th

## EVOLVE 7th-8th

Tonight- Encounter Christmas Party 6-8 p.m.  
3215 Golden Fox Trl.

Dec 20 - LPC Family Star Wars Movie meet @  
LPC 2 p.m. Mason Regal movie @ 3:20 p.m.

Dec 27 - Christmas Break No Encounter

Jan 3 - Encounter Bored Game Night  
7 - 8:30 p.m.

Jan 10 - Encounter 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Dec 16 - Evolve Christmas Party 6-8 p.m.  
1233 Fox Hollow Dr.

Dec 20 - LPC Family Star Wars Movie meet @  
LPC 2 p.m. Mason Regal movie @ 3:20 p.m.

Dec 23 - "Christmas Break" No Evolve

Dec 30 - "Christmas Break" No Evolve

Jan 6 - Evolve 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Jan 13 - Evolve 6:30 - 8 p.m.

## Kids' Corner

Have you ever been chosen to do something special? Maybe your coach picked you to be the team captain. Maybe your teacher put you in charge of running some sort of technology in the classroom. Or, maybe your mom put you in charge of fixing dinner for the family or reconfiguring her iPad. Whatever it was, it probably made you feel really good to be chosen – and probably a little nervous, too. After all, being chosen comes with both opportunity and responsibility.

Mary wasn't much more than a child when the angel Gabriel told her she had been chosen to be the mother of Jesus. That must have felt like an amazing opportunity and a huge responsibility – especially for someone so young. She was probably very happy AND very nervous. Amidst all of that emotion, though, her faith made her calm. Why? Because she understood that God knows everything – including who was the right person to be His earthly mother.

Mary's faithful response to God is expressed in the sermon text for this morning. Maybe it will help you feel stronger in your faith. Maybe you can realize, like Mary, that God has chosen you for something very special, too – and He knows you can do it!

### Prayer Requests

Irene Murphy, Ernie McCauley, Dick Brown,  
Ed Smith, Chad Flaig,  
Ron Lucke, and Dale Nicholas

### Attendance - December 6 - Combined Worship

10:30 a.m. - 404      Sunday School - 91

Operating Fund Income thru November 2015 - \$913,699

Operating Fund Expense thru November 2015- \$958,553

## For Our Guests

Thank you for taking the time to complete the Guest Information on our attendance registration pad. We value your visit with us and this is a simple way of letting us know how we may better meet your needs. Thanks for visiting! We're glad you're here.

**Parking**--We have three locations for parking: the side lot on Silver St., the alley lot on Warren St. and the county parking lot directly across East St.

**Rest Rooms** are located in the hallway by the Information Center, on the lower level of the Kingdom Building and in the classroom office/wing.

**Information Center**--located in the Narthex area between the Sanctuary and the Kingdom Building. Please stop by and check out opportunities open to you here at Lebanon Presbyterian Church.

**Sunday School**--Sunday mornings at 10 a.m.

**Adult classes** located in the Classroom/Office Wing:

Faith Weavers- Jim VanDeGrift in Room 102

Faith Explorers - Gary Ensing in Room 305

Bible in Life - Jim Garrett in Room 306

Singles class - in Room 304

Raising Godly Men - Rachael Earley in Room 311

Vintage - Teens and parents of youth grade 7-12 in LPC Youth Center

**Sunday School for Teens** - See student section for information

**Children's classes** located on the lower level of the Kingdom Building.

**Children's Church**--Children will be dismissed during each service.

3-5 year-olds & K-2nd grade are dismissed to Children's Church-Rm. 301.

**Prayer teams available following worship for those who desire prayer.**

## Worship at LPC

Traditional Worship Sunday at 8:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Christian Education Sunday at 10 a.m.

Contemporary Worship Sunday at 11:15 a.m. in the Multipurpose Room

**The Facility schedule is available on  
our video displays and online at  
[www.lebanonpresbyterian.org](http://www.lebanonpresbyterian.org)**

**Lebanon Presbyterian Church  
123 N. East St., Lebanon, Ohio 45036  
513-932-2751 • Fax 513-934-0339**

**Office Hours - Mon-Thurs 8 to 4 p.m.; Friday 8 to 3 p.m.  
[www.lebanonpresbyterian.org](http://www.lebanonpresbyterian.org)**

## Song of Faith



**And Mary said, "My soul glorifies the LORD  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for  
he has been mindful of the humble state of his  
servant."  
- Luke 1:46**

**Lebanon Presbyterian Church**

## Looking for Evidence

*He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.*  
- Colossians 1:15

Many people today reject the idea of God. They demand facts and evidence - empirical proof that God exists.

However, they are overlooking one thing. The Christian faith is based on facts. As Christians, we believe the unseen, eternal God entered time, space and history. We believe the infinite God took on human form and became a Jewish carpenter – Jesus of Nazareth.

Jesus was seen by thousands of people. They heard him speak. They touched him. They witnessed his miracles. They saw him walk on water, heal the sick, calm a raging storm and feed 5,000 people with a couple of loaves and fishes. They saw him crucified, dead, and buried – and rise again on Easter morning.

What proof do we have that Jesus existed? The proof is found in the four Gospels, based on the eyewitness testimony of the disciples. The Gospels are filled with empirical data – names, dates and places. In the words of J.B. Philipps, the Gospels have “the ring of truth.”

The Christian faith isn't based on mystical visions or philosophical speculation: it is based on facts. If you are looking for evidence that God exists, you will find it in the life of Jesus Christ.

Sermon Notes: Song of Faith (Luke 1:46-56)

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### Club 56 Christmas Party

Join us on Sunday, December 27 for our Club 56 Christmas Party in the Multipurpose Room. Invite your friends! The more the Merrier!

### Christmas Caroling on December 22

Join us Tuesday, December 22 as we go caroling to some of our elderly and home bound members. We'll be meeting outside the Multipurpose Room at 6:30 p.m. and carpool together to several homes in our area. Remember: Jesus is the reason for the season! Come raise your voice and share the light of Christ.

### Beth Armstrong Farewell

Today at 10 a.m. in the Atrium, we will bid farewell to Beth Armstrong. Beth has served LPC for the past 12 years as our finance secretary. Please stop by the Atrium and thank Beth for her outstanding service to LPC. We will also be collecting a love offering for Beth during both worship services. If you would like to contribute to her farewell love offering, please write a check payable directly to Beth Armstrong and put it in the offering plate. If you prefer a cash contribution, please use a pew envelope and label the envelope appropriately.

### Family Movie Night

Friday, December 18. The featured movie will be **“Inside Out”**. We'll have pizza and sodas at 6:30 p.m., and start the movie and popcorn around 7 p.m. The cost is still only \$7 per family. So bring your friends and come on out to join us!

### The Force is Strong in My Family!

Sunday, December 20 at 3:20 p.m. Join other LPC families and see Star Wars: The Force Awakens on opening weekend with your family. The show will likely sell out so buy your tickets online at regmovies.com (or Fandango.com) Be sure to select the correct Theater/Date/Movie/Time. Regal Deerfield Towne Center Stadium 16 (5500 Deerfield Blvd Mason, OH). We will carpool and depart from LPC at 2 p.m. Wear your best Star Wars costume and have a chance at prizes! Questions? Call Andrew Johnson in the church office, 513-932-2751.

### Staff Love Offering

If you would like to express your appreciation to our staff and wish them well for the Christmas holidays, a love offering will be received today and on December 20. Checks can be made payable to LPC marked “Love Offering.” If you prefer to make a donation to a particular individual, please make the check payable to that person. Please note, only checks made payable to LPC are tax deductible.

### Warren County Veterans

The local office of the Warren County Veterans' Services has notified us that Financial Aid is available to Veterans for the Christmas holidays. Call Rodney Eversole, Director, at 513-695-2717 or e-mail rodney.eversole@co.warren.oh.us for more information.



### Save the Date

**Time of My Life Tour  
Coming to LPC**

**Thursday, March 3  
at 7 p.m.**

**Mark your calendars NOW!**



### A Christmas Gift to You!

Throughout Advent, LPC's own Kathy Sutherland will be playing her harp before each service in the Atrium on Sunday mornings. Take advantage of this gift and spend a moment or two in peaceful meditation before worship begins.

### Today is the Third Sunday in Advent

*Together we will look forward to what lies ahead and our hearts will celebrate with a **Song of Faith**.*

**Saturday, December 19** Outdoor Living Nativity 6 – 8:30 p.m.

**Saturday, December 19** Lebanon Symphony Orchestra and Chorus performs Handel's Messiah at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

### December 20 Fourth Sunday in Advent

*Together we will celebrate and remember that our **Song of Hope** rests in God alone.*

**Sunday, December 20** Celebrate this Sunday with Vivaldi's *Gloria* at 8:45 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

**Sunday, December 20** Outdoor Living Nativity 6– 8:30 p.m.

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### December 24 Christmas Eve Services

*With a **Song of Peace**, we find that all we sought is here, Jesus is here, and we will celebrate his coming this night.*

**6 p.m. Candlelight Family Service**

**7:30 p.m. Candlelight Service**

**9 p.m. Candlelight and Communion Service**

*(all three services will be in the Sanctuary)*





### **2016 Missions Calendars**

Please remember to pick up a 2016 Missions Calendar today! They offer the opportunity to pray daily for our many missionaries and missions projects. They are available for \$5 in the Information Center after both worship services.

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## ***New Members at LPC***

**Tom Haire** is joining by profession of faith. He has five sons and seven grandchildren. He values LPC for the worship and the encouragement he has received from the community of believers. Jesus has brought Tom peace, and he very cognizant of that and thankful for it. He is currently retired, but has a background in law enforcement and security work. He enjoys reading; watching football and baseball, and viewing NASCAR with his wife Nancy.

**Garry and Sharen Benner** are joining LPC by letter of transfer. They have found LPC to be a warm and inviting fellowship. Before moving to Lebanon in April 2015, they had moved to Adams County Ohio from Cody, Wyoming. Garry is retired from law enforcement and Sharen from medical administration. They appreciate not only the friendly church atmosphere, but also the traditional Biblical preaching found here. They have four children spread out between Mason, Cincinnati, Charleston (SC), and California, and also have 10 grandchildren.

**Randy and Karen Fannin** live in Loveland, Ohio and are joining LPC by reaffirmation of faith. Randy has worked at Bethesda North as a chaplain and the supervisor of volunteer resources. He has also served for years as a chaplain in the Army Reserves. In January Randy will be our new Director of Pastoral Care. Karen has professional background as a nurse's aide. They have three children and 4 grandchildren (soon to be five!).

**Ann Fickus** is joining LPC by reaffirmation of faith. She really appreciates the traditional, but especially the Biblical approach that we take to worship. Originally from Baltimore, Maryland; Ann has been here in Lebanon for several years. She loves the old hymns of the faith, and finds them to be encouraging and highly motivating for God's people today and in days past (her favorite is "And Can It Be" By Issac Watts). She has two sons who live nearby.

We welcome them all into our church family! Please make a point of meeting and congratulating each person.

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**Sunday, December 13, 2015**

8:45 a.m. Worship Service

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*Third Sunday of Advent*

**WE GATHER**

Chiming of the Hour *(Let us prepare our hearts to worship God)*

Prelude Tom Ferris  
*Good Christians, All Rejoice* arr. Sergisson

Welcome Announcements The Rev. Peter Larson

Beth Armstrong Recognition

Time of Preparation Handbell Choir  
*Carol of the Bells* by Mykola Leontovych

\*Call to Worship (Isaiah 40:9-11; 28) Ann van der Merwe

Leader: You who bring good tidings to Zion, go up on a high mountain;

**People:** You who bring good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid.

Leader: Say to the towns of Judah, "Here is your God!"

**People:** See, the Sovereign LORD comes with power, his arm rules for him.

Leader: See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him.

**All:** He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

\*Hymn  
*Once in Royal David's City* Hymn 161

Lighting the Advent Candle  
*The Song of Faith* Raising Godly Men Group

Prayer of Praise Andrew Johnson

Lord Jesus, we thank you this morning for the miracle of faith:

Faith that sees, when the world is blind;  
Faith that hears, when the world is deaf;  
Faith that believes, when the world doubts;  
Faith that hopes, when the world has lost hope;  
Faith that follows, when the world turns away;  
Faith that trusts in you, when the world disbelieves;  
Faith that obeys, when the world disobeys.  
Faith that rejoices, when the world despairs;  
Faith that saves, when the world is lost in sin;  
Faith that shines, when the world is in darkness.

Most of all, we thank you that faith is a gift. It cannot be earned by human striving or intellect, but is a work of your Holy Spirit. LORD, we pray you would give us faith to see, to believe and to follow you always. We pray in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, AMEN.

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Presenting New Members The Rev. Chuck Testas  
Children's Sermon The Rev. Peter Larson  
Children are Dismissed  
*3-5 year-olds and K-2nd grade are dismissed to Children's Church-Room 301*

**WE GIVE BACK TO GOD**

Prayer of Dedication The Rev. Chuck Testas  
Offertory Handbell Choir  
*Fum Fum Fum* a traditional Catalan Christmas Carol

**WE HEAR THE WORD**

First Scripture Reading Jan Watsell  
*Isaiah 9:2-7* Pew Bible, page 489  
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.  
**People:** Thanks be to God.

\*Hymn  
*What Child Is This?* Hymn 150

Second Scripture Reading  
*Luke 1:46-56* Pew Bible, page 724

Sermon The Rev. Peter Larson  
Song of Faith

**WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD**

\*Closing Hymn  
*Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* Hymn 171

Charge and Benediction The Rev. Peter Larson

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*\* Please stand if you are able*

Please silence all cell phones prior to the beginning of worship.

Assisted hearing devices are available--please see an usher.

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