

# The LCF Connection

September 2019

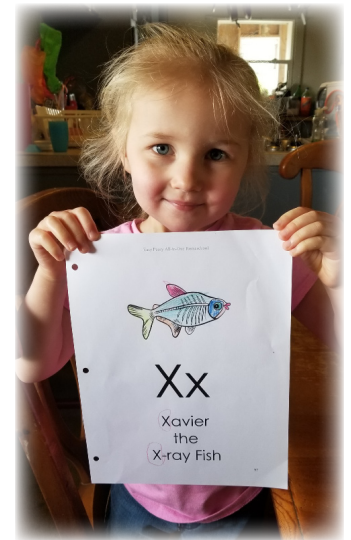
## Back to (Home) School

by Tasha Slaubaugh

When I was asked to write about the unique differences between going back to a traditional school setting, versus going back to (or rather staying at home) school, I thought, "They are probably a lot the same." We will be ready for more routine in our days, just like everyone else. Lydia is excited about starting 1st grade. She even selected Junie B. Jones: A First Grader At Last! as her book prize, from the LPL Summer Reading Program. And we will stock up on school supplies, just like other families.

But here is where I started to think about differences.

Rather than wandering the aisles of Walmart, checking off things like glue, notebooks, and tissues, I purchased some used books and math manipulatives from a fellow homeschool mom. One of the books I purchased is titled "For Instruction in Righteousness." Most students, in a traditional school setting, will not be taught about how to handle pride, vanity, double-mindedness, being too hasty, etc. I am grateful that we are able to incorporate these studies into our school days. Lydia won't be anticipating a new teacher, or wondering who she will sit next to in class. But she can find comfort in knowing Mom's expectations, and will most certainly have opportunities to learn social skills with her sisters. ☺



Even though this will be our second year of homeschooling, this school year brings several changes for us. We are switching the main courses of study from a company whose curriculum was very repetitive, to another company who introduces ideas more quickly. We will find new ways to interact with

*Continued on page 2...*

### Inside this Issue

Back to (Home) School	1
Growing Together...as One	1
Together in the Word	2
Elders' Notes	2
Council Update	2
Dorothy's Posse / LCF 101	3
Lifelong Learning	3
The Best Part of Summer	4
In the Same Boat	4

## Growing Together...as One



Over the past several months, there have been quite a few weddings of people who either are or have been connected to our church body here at LCF.

How many of them can you name?

Take a minute to pray for these young couples as they adjust to married life. Pray that they would grow deep in their love for God and for one another.

*Their names and wedding dates are listed at the bottom of page 2.*



255 US 42 NE London, OH 43140  
(740) 490-2121

LCFweb.org

London Christian Fellowship seeks to develop authentic and passionate followers of Jesus Christ.

# Together In the Word

A Message from the Pastor

by Rob Swartz



One of the most beautiful ways that God has designed the church is for us to learn and grow together. *"Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works..."* Hebrews 10:24. We need each other to grow in our love and understanding of what it means to follow Jesus. We need to be "stirred up" and encouraged by others.



The only way this will happen is if we continue to study the word of God together. The scripture in Hebrews goes on to tell us to not neglect meeting together, especially as we see the Day of the Lord drawing nearer.

Sunday morning is one of those times to share, connect, worship, and hear the Word of God together. It's an opportunity to put this scripture into practice. However, I believe what's described here goes beyond the once-a-week Sunday morning experience. We need more ways and different ways. The Acts 2 passage is enlightening as it describes how the church began. *"Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts..."* That sounds like a lot and it's unlikely they sustained this amount of "meeting," but it gives us an idea of the importance they placed on learning and growing together.

How do we do this in our busy age? We all know it is a significant challenge. We are pulled in many directions and one more "meeting" doesn't sound too exciting. However, I will make the case that this is why it is that much more important as we see the Day of the Lord approaching.

Make some space to meet with other Christians regularly with a devotion to prayer and the Word and to fellowship. It is crucial to your growth as a believer. Contribute to the growth and encouragement of others. Consider joining a small group. Meet with someone one-on-one with this purpose in mind. If it's just impossible to physically meet, use the many options that technology presents to connect in the virtual world.

Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together... ■



## Congratulations to these Newlyweds!

*Pictured on the front page in order of their wedding dates (from top-left to bottom-right):*

- Grace (Ndungu) and Davin Neumann, April 13
- Kendra (Scheffel) and Trevor Headings, June 8
- Amy (Rosati) and Joe Oravec, June 9
- Brittany (Kuepfer) and Josiah Zimmerman, June 15
- Jodi (Gingerich) and Jeff Traverse, June 29
- Nita (Kopan) and Andrew Sauder, July 13

## Elders' Notes

by Jesse Diller

We began our time by sharing requests that were on our hearts and then praying together about them.

We spent a good bit of time discussing the youth group and their recent missions trip. The youth seemed to have had a good time in Arizona, in spite of some challenges. The trip helped them bond more as a group and get new members involved. Rob continues to work with the youth who are giving leadership to help them grow in their leadership and problem-solving skills.

We discussed upcoming events at LCF and our personal schedules. We plan to have a baptism on September 8th. We discussed various options of other locations to have it, in case we are not able to meet at our usual location. The lady who has allowed us to park in her field is in the process of selling her property, and we will no longer be able to park there.

We are working on details for new small groups and leaders. We hope to have them starting up again in September.

Our next meeting will be our fall elders' retreat, which will be held at Farmvilla, September 20-21.

Vicki closed our time with prayer, remembering the various situations we discussed. ■

## Council Update

by Jim Jones

Our old church building is currently under contract for \$182,500. Closing is projected to be by October 1st. The prospective buyer owns KLC Services (a light assembly business that produces therapy rehabilitation machines for joint replacement). He plans on making improvements to the old building as well as adding a new 4000 square-foot structure for inventory and shipping. Since the buyer is a previous LCF prospect the real estate commission will only be 1%. Closing expenses are estimated to be \$3,775 with a net of approximately \$178,700.

Due to the rising costs of copies, LCF has cancelled our service agreement with Konica Minolta. Money currently spent on copying expenses will be budgeted into a copy fund towards toner, service and parts and ultimately, in the distant future, a new copier.

Monthly giving for the months of July and August were below average. ■

*Homeschool...continued*

friends. Last year we did eight weeks of swimming lessons with other homeschool families, as well as meeting once per month with a local MOPS-like group. This year it might be a zoo day, nature walks in the park, or making homemade applesauce with friends.

The flexibility we have in these areas is just one of the benefits I appreciate about home education. We are just at the beginning of having school-age children. Some years may find our kids climbing on a public school bus, or being chauffeured to Shekinah. But, for now, we will enjoy the blessings of being together and of instilling good values. And we will work through the challenges of not getting a break from each other. ;) ■



## Dorothy's Posse

by Molly Rosati

A posse is a group of people who have a common characteristic, occupation, or purpose. We have created a private group on Facebook called Dorothy's Posse to promote communication and coordinate care for those wanting to visit our dear friend, Dorothy, who is 99 years old.



I can't define everything this group is, because I have a feeling God is going to grow it into more, as is His way, but here's what I am hoping for this group. I am hoping friends and family can share about visits with Dorothy, giving each other ideas for activities, times to visit, topics to discuss, and share concerns. Some may not feel comfortable visiting alone and can use this group to coordinate a visit with someone else. Others may want to "spread the love" by coming to visit Dorothy on an empty day. Already we have used the group to coordinate a Church Buddy to sit with Dorothy during church and to meet the Bluebird van as it drops her off at 9:45 a.m. and picks her up at 11:30.

I'm hoping folks will share posts as if Dorothy and her family are part of the group. The group could help family members who are far away feel included. Feel free to contact me if you have a concern about Dorothy's care or health, and I will forward that to family. I am hoping this group will encourage us all as we minister together.

Dorothy's Posse is a private group so posts can only be viewed by people who are a part of the group. If you'd like to be a part of the group, please contact Doris Swartz to be added. Please note that you do not have to be a part of Dorothy's Posse to go visit her! ☺ Thanks for the many ways each of you put God's love into action! ■



Pictured from left: Emma, Ella, Becky, Dorothy, Naomi, Phyllis, Molly, and Theresa

## Learning Together About LCF

By Grant Shoemaker

On Wednesday, August 7, I had an enjoyable evening meeting with several others for LCF 101. It was a great privilege to be invited to Pastor Rob and Doris's home, to meet other fellow Christians interested in learning more about London Christian Fellowship, and to share a meal together.

At one point in the evening Pastor Rob asked how each of us began attending LCF. Our answers varied but shared common factors such as good Bible teaching, the way we were greeted and made to feel so welcome, as well as location. I found it interesting that where our church is located played a part in each of us coming there—just like in real estate. LOL

The evening was also a wonderful way for me to mark the end of one chapter, and the beginning of a bright new chapter in my own personal life. Thank you so much for the opportunity to learn and grow at LCF! ■

## Lifelong Learning

by Theresa Hennis & Doris Swartz

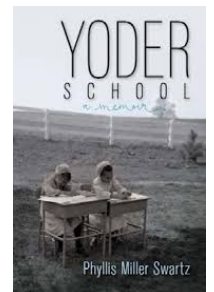


On Phyllis Swartz's 10th birthday, her parents gave her the book, "Someday You'll Write" by Elizabeth Yates. That someday came true for her this past month with the release of her first book, a memoir titled "Yoder School."

"My parents saw something in me," she said. "I felt like the author of that book was speaking to me, and I did everything she told me to. I made myself a promise I would write a book before I died."

Swartz had the desire to write even before she started school. She learned to read at the age of 3 and began writing. Her first teacher, Alvina Livengood, on whom the memoir is based, took her students on field trips and taught them how to make books and then write in them about their experiences. Swartz decided to be a teacher when she was in first and second grade with Alvina.

The memoir contains a message near and dear to Swartz's heart. "It's about our common struggle to find identity and belonging, to reach across differences toward relationship, and to learn from life, not just live it," she said.



In her book Phyllis shares many life lessons that she took to heart and carried with her into her 30-year teaching career in London City Schools. She credits Alvina for instilling the wonder of learning in her, and has in turn helped many students to capture that same wonder.

"Yoder School" is available in our church library for you to read. If you need a library card or help with checking books out, contact our librarian Linda Schlabach (who, by the way, is Phyllis's youngest sister and also shares a love for learning).

Thanks, Phyllis, for giving us this beautiful glimpse into your journey of lifelong learning! Just like Alvina was to you, you are a source of great inspiration to all of us here at LCF! ■

Theresa Hennis is a Staff Writer for the Madison Messenger. This article was based on excerpts from the August 21st article she wrote about Phyllis and her new book. You can read her full article at <https://www.columbusmessenger.com/teacher-writes-about-her-inspiration-in-new-memoir.html>.



From left: Rob, Grant, Martie, Randy, Chris, Gary, and Anita





Ready to leave for a week at Bethel Camp, July 29-August 3 (from left): Maylynn, Jacob, Alyssa, Meredith, Sophia, and Mandi.

## The Best Part of Summer!

by Alyssa Hisey

Bethel Camp has been the biggest excitement of my summer. Every year I get the opportunity to go down to Kentucky and meet new people, reunite with friends, feel God's power, and grow deeper in my relationship with him! I always learn so much from going to this camp.

The schedule during the week is super busy. We have many activities such as: team games, night games, shaving cream struggles, chapel time, a hay ride, banquet, and of course our meals!

My favorite part about Bethel Camp is the cabin time—either just talking to everyone before going to bed or during our quiet time. I also liked the times of worship. I thought it was fun to learn to sing in new languages, to sing as loud as I could, and to feel God's powerful presence!

The last day of Bethel Camp is always so emotional. We have a cookout and a campfire. Then after that, we spend time sharing with the people in our cabin. This is often when many tears are shed as we girls talk together, pray for each other, and bond together. It can be hard saying goodbye to the amazing people you have learned to know. Once again, my time at Bethel Camp was awesome! I am so glad that I was able to be there again! ■



### Upcoming Activities

- September 8 - Baptism after church
- September 17-19 - Farm Science Review Fundraiser
- September 20 & 21 - Elders' Retreat at Farmvilla
- September 22 - Church service and potluck at Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park



## In the Same Boat

by Shannon Scheffel

Recently, on August 23 & 24, 10 ladies attended Living Proof Live, a Beth Moore conference that was held at the Northern Kentucky University. We left Friday afternoon, attended an evening session, then spent the night at a nice house booked through Airbnb. We got up early the next morning and headed back for another half-day session.

We certainly enjoyed the worship time led by Travis Cottrell and the great teaching from Beth. The theme for the weekend was "The Same Boat." Beth shared "boat" stories from the four gospels. She emphasized that when we are in the same boat with Jesus, we are in for the ride of our lives. It takes faith in times when we feel Jesus doesn't care. It takes obedience when we don't understand the circumstances, and sometimes it takes climbing out of the boat, even when others may stay in the boat. Beth also challenged us to endeavor to take a fresh look at very familiar passages and not become passive and miss new understanding.

As for us ladies, it was a great time of getting to know each other better. We certainly were a group of ladies with unique backgrounds, experiences, and personalities but it was the love of Jesus that brought us together and put us "in the same boat." Thanks to Sheila and Doris who gave leadership in organizing the details and giving us the opportunity to have a "boatload" of fun. ■



Pictured from left: Kristy, Sheila, Doris, Sandy, Anita, Alice, Grace, Shannon, Mandy, and Maggie

## The LCF Connection

A monthly newsletter designed to enhance communication at London Christian Fellowship

What did you think? If any of the stories in this Connection sparked an idea or opinion you'd like to share, email us at [secretary@lcfweb.org](mailto:secretary@lcfweb.org). Editors: Theresa Hennis, Elisabeth Yoder, and Doris Swartz  
If you prefer that we do not use photos of you in the Connection, you may opt out by emailing us.