

The LCF Connection

October 2025

Being Transformed through Trials

BY GRACE RABER

You are probably all aware by now that I have been on a difficult health journey this year. I had been having some health concerns towards the end of last year. In February, medical scans revealed a growth in my sphincter muscles, along with an external protrusion that has become very painful. I began by pursuing holistic treatments including weekly visits for time in a hyperbaric oxygen chamber and Vitamin C IV therapy, along with an assortment of vitamins and supplements. Those things helped some, but after new scans were taken in August, I came to the realization that additional medical intervention would be necessary.

We were making plans to begin radiation and chemotherapy when I developed a perforation in my colon and ended up in the hospital with an infection. I was at Riverside Hospital for two weeks in September dealing with the infection, colostomy surgery, and stroke-related issues. We are grateful to be back home again and are hoping that I can begin radiation and chemotherapy sometime soon.

This is proving to be a long, hard journey for both Ray and I; but through it all, God is faithful and is using it to teach us many lessons. Some of the things that He has been teaching me include:

- What is truly most important in life.
- How to lean on God and trust Him more.
- The necessity of unconditionally surrendering our will to His.
- We are not our own; we are His. He loves us dearly and is with us every step of the way.

I don't know how I would ever get through something like this without God and His Word. Psalm 23 has been such a comfort to me. Sometimes, when the pain medicine does not seem to be enough to manage the pain, I find relief by simply listening to uplifting music as I doze in and out of sleep.

Another thing that has been so valuable to us in navigating this journey is the wonderful gift of our church family, along with family and friends. I have missed not being able to be at church very much in person these past several months but am thankful that I can join you online.

Thanks so much for the many ways you have reached out to us and have been supporting us through this time—from your prayers, cards, and visits, to the delicious meals, help with cleaning, transportation, and so much more. We are truly humbled and feel so loved and cared for!



Inside this Issue

Being Transformed through Trials	1
C4 Update	2
Getting to Know Jamison & Annika	3
Council Update & Elders' Notes	4

Please feel free to check in with us anytime you want to help or know how we're doing. One of the biggest things you can do for us is to keep us in your prayers. Pray specifically that God will help me to face my fears and experience His peace. Pray for wisdom in making decisions and that we will love one another well in the midst of the pain and stress. Pray for God's complete healing—although He alone knows what that will look like. We love and appreciate you all and thank you for sharing this journey with us!



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



Wheelchair Ramps

Over the past ten years, we have installed 133 ramps for people in our community. The decision was recently made to bring the wheelchair ramp ministry to a close. We are thankful for Clete Yoder for beginning the ministry and using his skills to engineer the ramps and organize the installations. We are also grateful for the many volunteers over the years who helped install the ramps.

C4 Update

BY MIKE BAKER



It's been a while since I last wrote an update about C4, and man, it's been a fun year so far. What a joy it has been to have Rob and Harmony (and Cameron) join the C4 leadership team.

The youthful energy they bring has been amazing. On the same note, we've had some goodbyes as Annika left to prepare for her next steps with her fiancé, and we said farewell to Kaleigh. Micah graduated and moved on to new seasons as well. Derek came back this summer to help out, but he's back at RBC for the fall. It's always hard to say goodbye, but it's so inspiring to see kids graduate and step into new seasons.

The summer was full of fun activities such as bowling, mini-golf, pool parties, and lots and lots of volleyball. However, the volleyball has not really stopped happening. As we transitioned back into fall, we picked up our walk-through of James, and we will be finishing that book in a few weeks. It has been a joy to see kids grow in their faith, lead worship and Bible studies at times, and ask thought-provoking and insightful questions.

We continue to make our room a home and have been blessed with some great furniture from some of you, as well as an unexpected find along the side of the road. As we head into fall, whether the temps agree or not, we are looking forward to the High School retreat at Bethel Camp. I am the speaker this year and have written a new four-part series based on Jonah, which I am excited to share. In addition, we look forward to our 3rd annual Thanksgiving dinner, a Christmas party, and walking through Galatians next as we finish out the year.

C4 is a welcoming youth group, and we welcome any youth who are interested to join us on Sundays from 6-8 pm. Additionally, if you know young people without a church home, invite them, and we will gladly welcome them. Our group is 60% non-LCF kids, and we always welcome new faces. Sorry for the lack of pictures; we focus on youth being device-free, so we put down our phones, talk face-to-face, and enjoy a nice two-hour or longer break from the leash of phones.



Building Maintenance

Recently we had to replace another one of our HVAC units that quit working (the second one this year) and also have had some major work done around the large front window to fix a leak that has been an ongoing issue for several years. We are grateful for your generous giving which has allowed us to cover these big additional expenses while still maintaining a positive balance in the budget. Thanks also to our Building Manager, Phil Hostetler, and the council, for their work with the process!



Small Groups

The small group leaders met together recently to prepare for another year. Now is a great time to join a group if you haven't already! Every group has a unique flavor, but each one will help you to grow spiritually and connect more closely with each other. Feel free to contact any of the leaders for details about their group. (not pictured: Abraham & Naomy Ndungu)

Getting to Know Jamison & Annika Miller

BY JODI TRAVERSE



Where are you from?

Jamison: I am originally from Indiana

Annika: I am originally from Pennsylvania.

Where did you meet?

We met during our time as students at Rosedale Bible College.

Tell us about your job/career. Is it something you are passionate about, or is it just what funds your other passions?

Jamison: I work at NHC Components which is a truss factory. I am a designer and like what I do, but it is not something that I would say I am passionate about per se.

Annika: I am a stay at home mom.

Who has been a big influence in your life and why?

Jamison: My father and mother have played a huge role in my life. I still talk to them regularly and appreciate all they have done and still do for me.

Annika: I am thankful for the ways that my family has shaped me as well as my time at Rosedale and the many people who impacted me during my time there, giving me deeper roots in my walk with the Lord.

What is a hobby or pastime you enjoy?

We both enjoy music, games, sports, good food, and most of all, spending time with people.

What is something you love to talk about?

We like to talk about music and theology. We care a lot about both of these things, but we both also really just like to talk!

What do you feel is something you are good at? Or at least enjoy doing?

Jamison: I am good at basketball and have played most of my life. I also like to connect with people in all sorts of ways.

Annika: I enjoy being creative, whether that's in the kitchen, or doing something musical.

What is a goal you have for the next 5-10 years?

Jamison would like to become a counselor in that time frame, as of right now, anyways. Having another couple of kids would be very meaningful, as well! We are in a season of seeing what God has for us to do in serving His kingdom.



Outdoor Service

We met by the creek at Dale & Sharon Heading's property on Sunday, September 14th, for our annual outdoor service. Following the service, we held a baptism for Sofia and Lucy Darlington. As always, we had a delicious potluck meal together followed by a fun afternoon of games and fellowship.



Ladies' Events

We are grateful to Shannon Scheffel, Lizzi Yoder, Lara Swain, and Megan Wengerd for getting some ladies' activities going again. We started with some weekly fitness classes and a ladies' brunch in September and are looking forward to several more events later this year.



Elders Notes

BY BRANDON WENGERD

On September 16th, we gathered for our monthly elders meeting at the home of Rob and Doris. We began with a time of sharing—updates, prayer requests, and praises related to both our personal lives and our church family—followed by praying together about them.

Sunday Morning Worship: We are thankful for the opportunity to have had an outdoor service with baptisms. We are looking forward to adding new members to our church on September 21st.

Finances: We are grateful that God has allowed us to replace a second furnace/air conditioning unit this year and still be in the positive in the budget. The Council is evaluating future HVAC and other maintenance needs for the church building.

Prayer Time After Church: We discussed how we could provide an opportunity for individuals in the congregation to be prayed for after the church service. This would be another chance to pray for each other on Sundays in addition to the prayer time that already happens before the service each week. We will provide more details as they are developed.

Prayer Before Sunday School: After Gideon talked with Naomi, we are planning to incorporate a simple prayer for children as they are dismissed to Sunday School each week.

Sermons: Rob will be wrapping up the Sermon on the Mount series soon. He is going to be sharing about the church loving one another from 1 Thessalonians for the upcoming new member Sunday.

We closed our time with prayer and set our next meeting for Tuesday, October 28th.

Council Update

BY RUSS HAUGE

Attendance: Sarah Eichorn, Rhoda Sommers, Zach Freer, and Russ Hauge via Google Meet video conference.

August income was \$19,286 which was less than our expenses of \$19,806 by \$520. Our YTD income is \$158,217 compared to our YTD expenses of \$129,427, which leaves a YTD balance of +\$28,790.

R&T Yoder installed the new HVAC unit #2 during early September. With Corin joining the Pastoral team at LCF, he was given a letter from the council indicating the amount of housing allowance that he is entitled to during 2025. Entitlement letters for 2026 will be generated for all pastors during the 2026 budget cycle.

During the fall of 2024, the process of setting the church budget for 2025 extended beyond dates that anyone involved would have expected. With that in mind, the majority of time during the September council meeting was spent laying out the initial outline of how we are going to proceed this year. While giving has been great this year, the council is well aware that we are still a small church and will have unexpected expenses in the future as we did this year with having to replace two HVAC units as the church continues to age.

Sarah will be sending an email to all committee chairs on October 1st asking for budget input for their areas. In addition, if any church member sees an area that needs to be added to the budget (few examples: playground improvement, interior painting, further HVAC replacement, etc.) please provide that information to any council member.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, October 21st, at 7 pm.



The LCF Connection

A monthly newsletter designed to enhance communication at London Christian Fellowship.

We would love to hear your feedback. Email us at secretary@lcfweb.org.

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