

The "LAKEVIEWER"

LAKEVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH

Reformed Church in America

January, 2021

Newsletter of
Lakeview Community Church
Reformed Church in America



30 Long Pond Road
Rochester, NY 14612

Rev. Steven Rodriguez, Pastor

Sunday Mornings...

January 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31

On-Line Worship Service at 10:00 AM

On-Line Coffee Hour follows Service

Contact Lakeview:

Phone: 585-227-4910; Fax: 585-368-0261

E-mail:

lakeviewchurch3@gmail.com

Website:

LakeviewCommunityChurch.net



*Accessible to Persons with Disabilities
Looped for the Hard of Hearing*

Inside:

...Items of Interest

...For Your Information

...Birthday List for January

...Calendar of January Events

Deadline for February Newsletter: Jan. 24

Dear Lakeview Family,

It's hard to believe, but this will be my sixth year as the pastor of Lakeview. In 2016, as I was just starting out as a brand-new preacher, I decided that I would start with the center of the Christian faith, as outlined in the Heidelberg Catechism: The Lord's Prayer, the Apostles' Creed, and the Ten Commandments. After that, I decided that I would preach one of the four gospels at the beginning of each year: Mark, then Luke, then John, and finally Matthew. This year it's time to start the cycle over, with Mark. This is the first time that I'm coming back to a book and preaching it again, and this gives me an opportunity to learn from my past mistakes. The last time I preached Mark, I said that the theme verse of the book is Mark 8:34, where Jesus says, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." (Mark 8:34, ESV) I still believe that this verse is the key to the whole book. When I preached this passage in 2017, a wise person in the congregation talked with me about the sermon later and said that I never actually explained in my sermon *how* to take up our crosses. They were absolutely right. As a preacher, I'm not very good at explaining the "how." The truth is, I'm really scared to talk about the "how." If I talk about the "how" of the cross, it'll be offensive, painful, scary. I'd rather avoid it.

It's easy to talk about loving our neighbor in the abstract, but when a global pandemic comes along and suddenly loving our neighbor means the painful cross of social distancing, it's easier to just avoid talking about the "how."

It's easy to talk about Jesus as Lord in the abstract, but when taking up our cross means smashing our political idols, disentangling Jesus from our political party, it's easier to just avoid talking about the "how."

It's easy to talk about leaving "brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands" (Mark 10.29) for Jesus in the abstract, but when taking up our cross means examining unhealthy patterns in our own families, it's too painful. It's easier to just avoid talking about the "how."

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It's easy to talk about dying with Christ in the abstract, but when taking up our cross means imagining a future for Lakeview that has less to do with us and more to do with people who have not yet heard the gospel, it's easier to just avoid talking about the "how."

Phew. I can't handle these "how's." They're too much! But the cross is always too much. That's why it's a cross. Taking up our crosses means coming to the end of ourselves, a death. And there we will find—no, we will abundantly receive—resurrection. So here we go, back into the Gospel of Mark. Back to the cross. Lord, have mercy!

Your pastor,

Steven



COVID-19 UPDATE

To continue showing our love and commitment to our neighbors and community during this Covid-19 wave, all community meetings and all Lakeview group/team meetings will continue to be suspended until further notice.

Your Lakeview Consistory

SUNDAY WORSHIP in JANUARY

Sunday Zoom Worship Service is at 10:00 AM

Lakeview's Sunday Worship Service is available on its Website: LakeviewCommunityChurch.Net



VIRTUAL SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR



We will continue to meet on the **digital platform, Zoom**, for Sunday Coffee Hours following the 10:00 AM worship service. Everyone is welcome. You can join the Coffee Hour by clicking on this link:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/595232886>.



CONSISTORY NEWS

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 12, 2021
7:00 PM, by Videochat**

Consistory Size: In December, 2020, the size of the Consistory was reduced to six members. Consistory felt, after much discussion, that **six** members of Consistory would still provide adequate representation for governance, adequate attention and care to the congregation, and adequate counsel and support for the Pastor.

Change takes effect this January, 2021.

Because of an unexpected vacancy, Consistory appointed **Rex Ahrens** to continue on Consistory for a one-year term for the year 2021. Thank you, **Rex**, for your commitment and service!

Consistory is pleased to announce that **Mark Gill** has been elected, unanimously, to the office of Elder. **Congratulations, Mark!** Also, the proposed 2021 Budget was unanimously approved.

*Installation Service of new Consistory member:
January 10, 2021*

LAKEVIEW HAS DIAL-A-SERMON



Sermon by Phone

Lakeview now has "**Dial-a-Sermon**" wherein if a person calls **(585) 285-4557** they will hear the latest sermon of Lakeview Community Church. Our IT Department (**Bill Foster**) set this up for us. There is no video so you do not need a computer, tablet, or smart phone; and it will work on cell phones or land-line phones. The sermon will be available after 4:00 PM on Sundays.

To all our members and friends during these stressful times, we want you to know that you are not forgotten—and you are not alone. You are missed and prayed for.

Your Outreach and IT Teams



CHOIR



Choir Director and
Keyboardist: Lynnann Rivas

Choir activities remain suspended for now.... We look forward to re-convening when possible! In the meantime, keep singing! On that note, do you have any songs you want to hear over Zoom worship? I'll be happy to play requests for the prelude and postlude! Sometimes a familiar song really lifts the spirit. You can send requests to rvslnnnn@gmail.com.

Lynnann



PRAISE BANDS



Praise Band & *Rejoice!*
Leader: Kevin Griffith

Due to the Pandemic, Praise Band and *Rejoice!* rehearsals are suspended until further notice.



BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE UPDATE

There will be no Buildings & Grounds Committee meeting in the month of January.

Jim Raymond



FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Next Finance Committee Meeting: Monday, January 11, 6:30 PM, Founders' Room
(or Fellowship Hall— if more room needed for social distancing).

2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES – Several boxes of envelopes still remain on the table in the narthex. You may stop by the church at any time to pick up your box of envelopes for 2021.

CONGREGATIONAL GIVING

Congregational Giving on Nov. 29 was \$645.00.
Congregational Giving on Dec. 06 was \$2,277.00.
Congregational Giving on Dec. 13 was \$1,245.00.
Congregational Giving on Dec. 20 was \$2,835.00.



LIBRARY COMMITTEE UPDATE



The Library Committee purchased another fourteen

books and one CD in December for our church library. We picked out some great titles for you to look through and enjoy. If you have any questions, please contact any one on the Library Committee.

Donna Tijou; Library Chair
Sheila Wolf, Marlene Morrison,
& Charles Tijou



MONTHLY MISSION for JANUARY

THE FATHER'S HEART

Fathers Heart Ministry Roc Inc
678 Lake Ave, Rochester, NY 14613-2438

Causes: Coronavirus Relief Food Banks, Food, Soup Kitchens

Mission: The Ministry meets the physical and spiritual needs of those that are lost, hungry, and hurting through the preaching of the Gospel and free distribution of food.

A special collection for this very worthwhile organization will be received on **January 17**.





December 2020 was one like no other. The church building remained closed, no Christmas Tea with neighboring churches, no Congregational Meeting, no white and gold Chrismon Tree, poinsettias, or candlelight service with dancing children on Christmas Eve. Despite these changes, the spirit of Christmas was alive at Lakeview. Thanks to the drop-off box in the parking lot and mailed-in monetary contributions, we were able to deliver **169** pounds of food to the GEFS as a result of our “Advent Sacrifice.” Thank you, everyone, who sacrificed a meal and took the time to shop or send in money so we could shop for you. The Maiden Lane volunteers were surprised to see us in the middle of the month and were thrilled to get our extra donations. The need there is great.

As the new year begins, we all pray for things to improve and return to some semblance of “normal.” However, one thing never changes. There will always be people in need that we can help. Our mission to help feed the hungry in our neighborhood continues in 2021. Our focus items for January are tuna and soup. Especially needed are cream soups and low sodium soups. You can either drop off donations in the white box in the parking lot (next to the ramp), or mail in monetary donations marked GEFS on the memo line of your check.

We thank you all for your dedication to the GEFS and wish you all a happy and healthy New Year.

Joan Marvin & Linda Viney
Lakeview’s GEFS Reps
✚✚✚✚✚

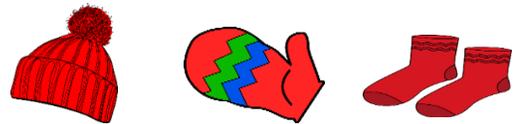
MISSION SHARE
OUTREACH CENTER

The **Mission Share Outreach Center** is still accepting winter clothing. Especially needed are **coats** of any kind. A receptacle is available in the

narthex for your donations. Also, containers are available in the narthex to collect your cereal donations which **Rob McCulloch** will deliver weekly.



The Lakeview Ladies will not be meeting in January, 2021. Hopefully, they will be able to meet in February. **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.**



Hats, Mittens, & Socks

We are still collecting items for our Hats, Mittens, & Socks Trunk (located at the rear of the Sanctuary) The most needed item is **socks**. Please help us fill the trunk with any of the above-mentioned items.



USED GREETING CARDS



If you have any used greeting cards, BOCES 2 work-based learning students could use them! They will be up-cycling to make new cards for individuals in nursing homes. Bring them to church or call me, and I will pick them up (585) 455-3217.

Thank you!
Colleen Dox-Griffith



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

****PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for:**

Don Barry, Stacy Dorland, Ken Gill and the Gill Family, Mary Hart, Rich Ives, Pat Palumbo, Jan Mahon, Bob & Linda Perrotte, Sophie Purdy, Patty Salone, Gail Wang, Matt Wolf, and Lois Worboys.

****Articles for the February "Lakeviewer" are due on Sunday, January 24.**

****Condolences are extended to:**

...The family of Mike Desmond. Mike passed away in December in a Florida hospital while dealing with complications relating to hip therapy, and where he contracted Covid-19.

...Pat Cappiello and his family on the passing of his wife, Connie, on December 9.

...Pastor Bill Hoffman and his family on the passing of his dear wife, Sally, on December 15.

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INTERESTED IN JOINING A COMMITTEE?

<u>Committees</u>	<u>Chairs</u>
Buildings & Grounds	Jim Raymond
Community Life	Sheila Williams
Education	Don Montesano
Finance	Linda Viney
Greece Food Shelf	Joan Marvin/Linda Viney
Lakeview Ladies' Gp.	Faye Cole
Library	Donna Tijou
Outreach	Bob Van Alstyne
Worship Committee, Projection, & Sound Teams	Rich Ives
Youth	Pastor Steven

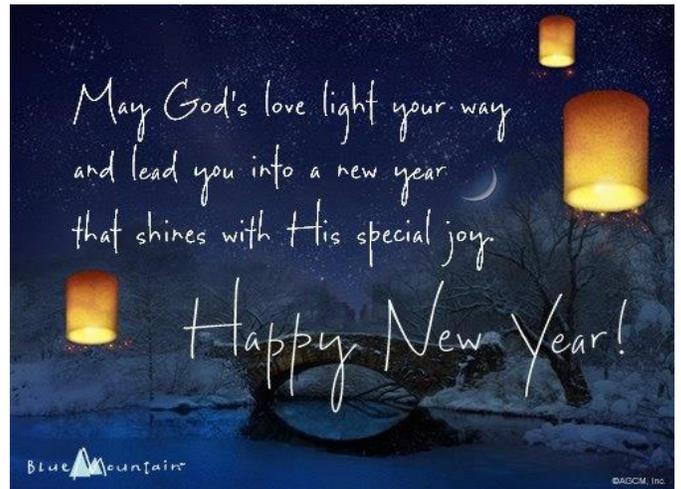
Contact the committee chair if you wish to be a part of one of these ministries. If you do not have their email address or phone number, call the church office (585- 227-4910)

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Remember, you can now support Lakeview Community Church when using the Amazon shopping app on iOS and Android mobile phones! To generate donations for Lakeview, shop for gifts at Smile.amazon.com/ch/16-6041430 and check out our [AmazonSmile Charity Lists](#) to donate items we need *most*. If you do not have the latest version of the Amazon shopping app, you may have to update your app.

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January 02 – Todd Marvin
January 08 – Jonah Hettel
January 09 – Jean Dibble
January 10 – Ken Gill
January 18 – Dottie Mason
January 19 – Patty Williams
January 20 – Linda Viney
January 25 – Cheryl Griggs
January 25 – Alivia Dorland

If you have a birthday that does appear on our monthly birthday list, please send your birthdate to lakeviewchurch3@gmail.com.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- January 01 – New Year’s Day!
- January 03 – Lois Fiegl, Preaching Elder,
preaching at Lakeview
- January 05 – Undecorate Church – 9:00 AM
- January 09 – Drive-Through Baby Shower in
Lakeview Parking Lot for
Kara Frank – 10 AM to 2 PM
- January 11 – Finance Committee Meeting –
6:30 PM
- January 12 – Consistory Videochat Meeting –
7:00 PM
- January 14 – Grandview Heights Association
Meeting – 7:00 PM in the
Fellowship Hall
- January 17 – Monthly Mission:
The Father’s Heart
†††††



**American
Red Cross**

Together, we can save a life

Save the Date!

Saturday, February 6, 2021

10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Fellowship Hall

Red Cross Blood Drive Success! Thank you for your support with the last Blood Drive held on December 9, 2020. Nineteen units of blood were collected, bringing the total number of units collected at Lakeview Community Church to **107!** Thank you for your commitment to saving lives.

Save the date: The next Red Cross Blood Drive at Lakeview Community Church will be on Saturday, February 6, 2021!

To sign up for this important event, go to **Redcrossblood.org**, or message **Becky Hibbard**.

*Lakeview’s Narthex - Christmas 2020
Decorated by Diane Phelps and Dottie Mason*





A New Year's Plan

I tried to think of a clever new phrase—
A slogan to inspire the next 365 days,
A motto to live by this coming New Year,
But the catchy words fell flat to my ear.

And then I heard His still small voice
Saying, "Consider this simple, daily choice:
With each new dawn and close of day
Make new your resolve to trust and obey."

"Don't look back, caught in regret
Or dwell on the sorrow of dreams unmet;
Don't stare forward anchored by fear,
No, live in this moment, for I Am here."

"I am all you need. Everything. I Am.
You are held secure by my strong hand.
Give me this one thing—your all in all;
Into my grace, let yourself fall."

So, at last, I'm ready; I see the way.
It's to daily follow, trust, and obey.
I enter the New Year armed with a plan,
To give Him my everything—all that I am.

By Mary Fairchild

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