

THE FRIENDLY VOICE

SEPTEMBER 2018

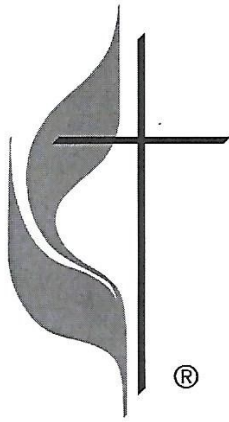


LANGHORNE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

301 E. Maple Ave.,

Langhorne, PA 19047

(215) 757-4984



The Way Forward Commission August 2018 Update

September 1, 2018

Dear People of Langhorne United Methodist Church,

You may recall a letter and information I put together for a previous Friendly Voice that spoke about the Way Forward Commission's task to come up with a way for the entire United Methodist Church (UMC), worldwide, to go forward in light of the questions and beliefs regarding practicing homosexuals (that is people in same-gendered sexual relationships whether married or not) as pastors; and whether or not the UMC should permit its pastors to conduct same-gendered marriages and/or to allow such marriages to take place on UMC property. At present, our Book of Discipline prohibits all three from taking place, basing its stance on specific scriptures.

The United Methodist Church is at odds with itself with some believing we should remain prohibitive and faithful to the present Book of Discipline, and others who believe that a lot of what we have accepted in the Bible has changed because of cultural changes over the millennia, and that change is necessary again to be inclusive of the LGBTQI* community, and their lives as members of and servants in the United Methodist Church. This group also cites scripture to support its stance.

There are three plan options that have been developed that will be reviewed and voted on in that February 23-26, 2019 general conference. What happens at that conference – whatever plan option they vote on and approve through our democratic process will have a dramatic effect our United Methodist Church. The plan options are:

- The Traditional Plan – “affirms the current Book of Discipline language about homosexuality, prohibiting ordination and same-gender marriages or unions of homosexual persons. Places a high value on accountability and enforcement.”
- The One Church Plan – “Removes all of the restrictive language in the Book of Discipline about homosexuality, ordination and same-gender marriages/unions. Has a high value on contextualization. Protects the rights of those whose conscience will not allow them to perform same gender weddings or ordain LGBTQ** persons.”

- Connectional Conference Plan – “Has one ‘core’ that includes shared doctrine and services. Creates different ‘branches’ that have clearly defined values. These values include: accountability, contextualization and justice.”

Each of these three plans/models

- “represents values that are within the Council of Bishops and the UMC”
- “includes a gracious way to exit from the denomination for those who feel called to do so”
- “includes Biblical theology and mission”¹

On August 14, 2018, the Way Forward Commission published a final report in preparation (for all the UMC as well as delegates – see the 3rd link below) for the special General Conference to be held February 23-26, 2019. This report is lengthy (93 pages), but is sectioned so that you can get the information you need to understand it. .

This is a link to our conference website page that can connect you to all the information we have available regarding the Way Forward Commission's updates, including the other two links I have listed here below.

<https://www.epaumc.org/resources/umc-commission-on-the-way-forward/>

This is the link that has the outline I have included in this edition of the Friendly Voice following this letter.

<https://www.epaumc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/WayForwardUpdateDocAug.2018.pdf>

This link will take you to the WAY FORWARD REPORT for August, 2018. It is a 93 page report that I have printed out (3 copies) and have available for you *to read and return* so that you and others may read it if you do not have access to the internet.

<https://www.epaumc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Way-Forward-Report-Final-ENGLISH.pdf>

What YOU CAN DO UNTIL February 23rd - -

PRAY – Pray for the United Methodist Church. Pray for the delegates who must vote on all our behalf. Pray for the peace and love of Christ to be evident in its presence at the conference and not overshadowed by anxieties, anger, and impatience during the discussions. Pray each day – the literature asks that each day up to and including the conference that we all pray every day between 2:23p and 2:26p (it corresponds with the numbers of the February dates! ☺).

TALK ABOUT THIS – Talk about this in your families, small group church gatherings, Bible studies and Sunday school and listen to everyone's opinions and feelings. Do not dismiss your own feelings even if strong people push one thought or the other that may be different from your own. True love is never wrong because true love is God. This is a step towards understanding each other no matter what the decision of the conference vote will be.

See the attached outline for additional things you may do until Feb. 23.

Be faithful, my dear congregation. God has a plan for each of us no matter what is decided at the general conference in February. PLEASE LOOK AT THE THREE OPTIONS and be praying and thinking about what LANHORNE UMC should do – with God's guidance – under all of the three plans, and what you and your family will need to do should you disagree with the decision of the conference delegates and/or the Langhorne UMC in response to that voted general conference decision.

¹ The paragraph is from the attached copy of the outline and comes from this link:
<https://www.epaumc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/WayForwardUpdateDocAug.2018.pdf>

Jesus said "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God. Believe also in me." (John 14:1 NRSV) He said this before a great change was to take place in his ministry – his death, resurrection, and ascension to the Father leaving the church to start and continue on without his physical presence, but not alone as they might have thought. He assured them, AND US, that we would never be alone – he would never leave us. He assured us that the Holy Spirit will guide and empower us...

- ...to do what we need to do as children of God, heirs to the kingdom, and brothers and sisters with Christ Jesus; and...
- ...to be the disciples we need to be to bring others to Christ, and to help build the kingdom of peace, love, and justice for all.

We are family in this body of Christ. Do not let your hearts be troubled. God has a plan no matter what, and this is an amazing and blessed congregation.

In Christ's Peace and Love,

Laurie

Rev. Laurie J. Pfahler, Your Pastor
Langhorne United Methodist Church

*LGBTQI – Abbreviation for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered, Queer, and Inquiring

**LGBTQ – Abbreviation for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered, and Queer

The Way Forward for The United Methodist Church Information (Background & Updates)

The United Methodist Church Book of Discipline, Paragraph 161g:

“The United Methodist Church does not condone the practice of homosexuality and considers this practice incompatible with Christian teaching.”

Ordained Ministry – Paragraph 304.3

“The practice of homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching. Therefore self-avowed practicing homosexuals are not to be certified as candidates, ordained as ministers or appointed to serve in the United Methodist Church.”

Marriage – Paragraph 161c

“We affirm the sanctity of the marriage covenant that is expressed in love, mutual support, personal commitment, and shared fidelity between a man and a woman. We support laws in civil society that define marriage as the union of one man and one woman.”

Unauthorized Conduct – Paragraph 341.6

“Ceremonies that celebrate homosexual unions shall not be conducted by our ministers and shall not be conducted in our churches.”

Chargeable Offenses – Paragraph 2702.1 (a) (b)

“A clergy member...may be tried when charged with one or more of the following offenses (a) immorality including but not limited to, not being celibate in singleness or not faithful in a heterosexual marriage, (b) practices declared by the United Methodist church to be incompatible with Christian teachings, including but not limited to: being a self-avowed practicing homosexual or conducting ceremonies which celebrate homosexual unions; or performing same-sex wedding ceremonies...”

Since 1972...

These paragraphs have been debated and voted again and again
At every General Conference since these paragraphs have been challenged but in general they have stayed the same with the exception of some additions about “God’s grace is available for all” “we implore families and churches not to reject or condemn lesbians and gay members and friends.”

General Conference, Portland, Oregon, May 10-20, 2016

Authorized (by 23 votes) the Council of Bishops to create a Special Commission on A Way Forward”

- All legislation regarding homosexuality was suspended.
- A commission of 32 people was created to study the issue in depth and bring to the bishops a plan.
- The commission consisted of a wide variety of diversity: ethnically, gender, orientation, theological, lay and clergy.
- The 2012 Discipline would stay in place while the commission did its work.

Vision of the Commission

- To design a way for being church that maximizes the presence of the UM witness in as many places in the world as possible, that allows for as much contextual differentiation as possible and balances an approach to different theological understanding of human sexuality with a desire for as much unity as possible.

- ...This unity will not be grounded in our conceptions of human sexuality but in our affirmation of the Triune God who calls us to be a grace-filled and holy people in the Wesleyan tradition.”

Process

- Undergirded with an intentional and global prayer effort.
- Study of the scriptures.
- Presentations by theologians, historians, financial leaders, other denominations.
- Hearing from agencies, boards, churches.
- Much conversation and sharing of hearts and perspectives.

Meetings

- The Commission met 9 times in person.
- The Commission lived together with a “Covenant of Accountability” mandating respect, prayer, study, hospitality, and confidentiality.
- The Commission identified behaviors that needed to be avoided (harmful speech, interrupting others, blaming, distracting, politicizing).

The Commission presented three alternative “sketches” to the bishops in November 2017. They became “models” in early 2018 and have since been finalized as plans:

Traditional Plan

- Affirms the current Book of Discipline language about homosexuality, prohibiting ordination and same-gender marriages or unions of homosexual persons.
- Places a high value on accountability and enforcement.

One Church Plan

- Removes all of the restrictive language in the Book of Discipline about homosexuality, ordination and same-gender marriages/unions.
- Has a high value on contextualization.
- Protects the rights of those whose conscience will not allow them to perform same gender weddings or ordain LGBTQ persons.

Connectional Conference Plan

- Has one “core” that includes shared doctrine and services.
- Creates different “branches” that have clearly defined values.
- These values include: accountability, contextualization and justice.

What the models/plans have in common:

- Each represents values that are within the Council of Bishops and the UMC.
- Each includes a gracious way to exit from the denomination for those who feel called do so.
- Each includes Biblical theology and mission.

Council of Bishops

The Council of Bishops is not planning on schism and believes that unity is our best witness. Conferences are encouraged to study the book *Anatomy of Peace*, by the Arbing Institute, and have conversations locally.

The values of our global church are reflected in all three plans. But the

majority of the Council of Bishops recommends the One Church Plan as the best way forward for The United Methodist Church.

- It allows for contextualization of language about human sexuality in support of our common mission.
- It allows for central conferences, especially those in Africa, to retain their traditional language and values.
- It best fulfills the vision of a global and multicultural Church in order to maximize our mission and achieve as much unity as possible.
- It keeps the constitution and the structure and agencies intact.
- It does not force anyone to act outside of their conscience.
- It received the overwhelming majority in the COB's support.
- It has the most space, clarity, grace, context and simplicity.
- It takes out the language from the Discipline about homosexuality and same-gender weddings. Instead, it allows churches and pastors to decide about hosting and conducting weddings; and it allows conferences and their boards of ordained ministry to decide about ordination and commissioning of LGBT clergy.

Special General Conference

- There will be 864 delegates – (½ lay and ½ clergy) from the entire denomination
- 42% of the voting delegates are from countries other than the US
- 30% of the delegates are from the continent of Africa
- The majority of the US delegates are from the southeast and south central jurisdictions.
- Eastern PA has 8 delegates, Pen-Del has 4 delegates.
- Local conversations are encouraged.

Timeline

- Bishop Peggy Johnson will update Way Forward developments, review the three study commission plans and invite questions and comments at four district town hall meetings in the fall.
- Sept. 22 – the NEJ delegations will meet for instructions and conversation.
- At its regular October meeting, the Judicial Council will review the 2019 Special GC documents and rule on the constitutionality of the three submitted plans.
- General Conference will be held in St. Louis, Mo., February 23-26, 2019. The result of its vote on the way forward goes into effect immediately.

What to do In the meantime:

- Be an unanxious presence, holding fast to “the peace that surpasses understanding.”
- Have conversations, prayer meetings, Bible study. (Resources are on conference websites.)
- Join our special prayer emphasis: Pray every day from 2:23 pm to 2:26 pm (and a.m. if you are up late). These are the dates of the General Conference in February.
- Engage in the Wesley Fast (from sundown on Thursday until 3 PM Friday)
- Have an attitude of “Convicted Humility”

Convicted Humility is an attitude which combines honesty about the differing convictions which divide us with humility about the ways in which each of our views may stand in need of correction. It also involves humble repentance for all the ways in which we have spoken and acted as those seeking to win a fight rather than those called to discern the shape for faithfulness together. In that

spirit, we wish to lift up our sacred core commitments which define the Wesleyan movement and ground our search for wisdom and holiness.

--Information provided by Bishop Peggy A. Johnson, Philadelphia Episcopal Area

Questions for Table-Talk Conversations

- What are the most important values and convictions in seeking a way forward?
- What resources help us to tell the narratives of unity in seeking a way forward?
- What are the core convictions of our faith as United Methodists?

Pray for our General Conference Delegates and for the Unity of the UMC

Eastern PA Conference Delegates to the 2019 Special General Conference

(including two alternates):

Clergy Delegates

Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm dtaylorstorm@epaumc.org
 Rev. Jeff Raffauf jeff@westlawnumc.org,
 Rev. Joseph Dipaolo dipaolo@engagegodfirst.org
 Rev. Lydia Muñoz lydiaem0501@gmail.com
 Rev. Robert Wilt 2robertwilt@gmail.com alternate

Lay Delegates

Mrs. Judy Ehninger judy.ehninger@gmail.com
 Mrs. Clarita Krall claritakrall@juno.com
 Miss. Krystl Johnson krystljohnson@ymail.com
 Mrs. Jane Bonner jbonner101@verizon.net
 Ms. Lenora Thompson lenorathompson@hotmail.com alternate

Additional Delegates for NEJ Conference if necessary

Rev. Tracy Bass tbass@epaumc.org,
 Rev. Dr. Christopher Kurien christopherkurien@gmail.com
 Rev. Dr. Irving Cotto icotto@epaumc.org
 Rev. Robin Hynicka robin@archstreetumc.org
 Rev. Mindy McKonly Mmmckonly@gmail.com
 Mr. Dave Koch dave.koch@comcast.net
 Miss Anne Jacobs acjacob1@gmail.com
 Ms. Wilhelmina Young thecatalyst212@yahoo.com

Suggested Prayers

Based on Philippians 1:9-11. Pray individually or adapt for collective prayer.

Magnificent God, in the name of Jesus, I ask that Your love grow more and more in my heart through the blessing and counsel of the Holy Spirit. May your Spirit strengthen me in the knowledge of You and of the things You have called me to do.

Help me to know the right things to do and how to do them with excellence, and to remain sincere, genuine, and real in all my encounters with others while remaining free from blame and the appearance of evil. May I overflow in the fruits of Your love, which

I have because of Jesus Christ. Please cause me and my actions to be a constant glory and praise to You under all circumstances and in all things. AMEN.

(Excerpted from: *Discover the Power in the Prayers of Paul* by David Bordon with Rick Killian; Harrison House Publishers, copyright 2005 Tulsa, OK)

Prayer for the Delegates:

Gracious God,

You have called us, O God, to do the work of your church as careful and efficient stewards. To this end, we bond together our congregations and govern them through the work of Conferences in which we consult and consider together pressing matters before the church.

Give wisdom and vision to those who serve us as our delegates to the Special General Conference. Let not the weariness of their duties distract them nor the emotion of the issues they face prejudice them in the decisions they must make. Enable them to seek first your kingdom and its righteousness. So instruct each delegate that they may wisely conduct the business before them.

Give all delegates a love for your whole church—a desire not only to serve you as we now can, but also a determination to bring unity so that the world may more readily receive the Gospel and find in our manner of living the way of peace. In Jesus' name, AMEN.

From *This Day: A Wesleyan Way of Prayer* by Laurence Hull Stookey

Prayers provided by the Rev. Jean Howe, Pastor of Grace UMC and Pastor of Adult Ministries at West Lawn UMC.

Updated: August 15, 2018



SEPTEMBER 2018

SANCTUARY SERVANTS

September 2 - One Service

Worship Assistant 10:00.....Erika Paton
Greeter 10:00.....MaryBeth States
Ushers 10:00Paul & Jackie Hansen

September 9

Worship Assistant 9:30.....Ron Cookson
Greeters 9:30.....June & Bill Gill
Ushers 9:30Marty & Marlene Kalbachs
Contemporary Assistants 11:00Bev Eick & Carol Annucci

September 16

Worship Assistant 9:30.....Jeannette Hesser
Greeters 9:30.....Erika Paton
Ushers 9:30.....Paul & Jackie Hansen
Contemporary Assistants 11:00.....Boyle Family

September 23

Worship Assistant 9:30.....Linda Rutledge
Greeters 9:30.....Joe & Diane Wachstetter
Ushers 9:30.....Robyn Rowlands & Kim Stockburger
Contemporary Assistants 11:00Tyler Family

September 30

Worship Assistant 9:30.....Jerry Hill
Greeters 9:30.....Cheryl & Bob Fryer
Ushers 9:30.....Joe & Helen McDonald
Contemporary Assistants 11:00Bev Eick & Carol Annucci

Langhorne United Methodist Church

Sep 2018 (Eastern Time - New York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 9:30am - Backpack 9:30am - Traditional 11am - Contemporar	27 6pm - Shared Meal 7pm - Bucks Mt.	28 7pm - Bucks Mt.	29	30 7am - Men's Brk. 7pm - Bagpipe 7pm - Praise Team	31	1 8:30am - Men Min.
2 10am - ONE SERVICE 6:30pm - "Gathering	3	4 7pm - Bucks Mt. 7pm - Stewardship	5 7pm - Choir 7pm - Sunday	6 7am - Men's Brk. 7pm - Bagpipe 7pm - Praise Team	7	8
9 9:30am - Traditional 11am - Contemporar 4pm - LUMC PICNIC 6:30pm - Youth	10 7pm - Finance Mtg. 7:30pm - GS	11 7pm - Bucks Mt. 7pm - UMW	12 6pm - Girl Scouts 7pm - Choir	13 7am - Men's Brk. 7pm - Bagpipe 7pm - Praise Team	14	15 7:30am - Men's 10am - Missions & 1pm - TLA
16 9:30am - Traditional 11am - Contemporar 6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Youth	17 7pm - Ad Bd. Mtg.	18 7pm - Bucks Mt. 7pm - SPR Mtg.	19 7pm - Choir	20 7am - Men's Brk. 7pm - Bagpipe 7pm - Praise Team	21	22 8:30am - Men Min.
23 9:30am - Traditional 11am - Contemporar 6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Youth	24 6pm - Shared Meal 7pm - Bucks Mt.	25 7pm - Bucks Mt.	26 6pm - Girl Scouts 7pm - Choir	27 7am - Men's Brk. 7pm - Bagpipe 7pm - Praise Team	28	29
30 9:30am - Traditional 11am - Contemporar 6:30pm - Bell Choir 6:30pm - Youth	1 7pm - Trustee's Mtg.	2 7pm - Bucks Mt.	3 7pm - Choir	4 7am - Men's Brk. 7pm - Bagpipe 7pm - Praise Team	5 5pm - Wedding Rehearsal	6 8:30am - Men Min. 10am - Blessing of the Animals 2pm - Godwin/Danah

RALLY DAY and the FIRST SUNDAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL starts SEPTEMBER 9th, 2018!!

9:30a.m. Classes are for

- Children, ages 3 through 4th grade, and
- adults

10:45a.m. Class is for

- Adults



Also...

September 9th is the day of our



4:00p.m.

to

7:00p.m.

Bring a side-dish, salad, or a dessert, AND
an appetite for food, fun, and fellowship!!

Stewardship Thought

Are You a Volunteer... Or a Steward? Is there a difference?



While preparing for a recent workshop hosted by our Stewardship Committee, I started a list of the benefits of volunteering. It didn't take long for the list to grow with the expected positives: networking, meeting new people, making a difference in someone's life... I am sure you can start your own list as most of us volunteer. We are taught from an early age that volunteering is a good way to "give back".

All of these positives are great reasons to volunteer, so you can imagine my shock when I learned at the Stewardship Workshop* that volunteering is *not* the same as practicing Christian stewardship! God calls each of us to use our gifts and talents to build up the Kingdom of God. It is fine to volunteer, however, volunteering is not necessarily practicing stewardship. Stewardship is living out our life to be more like Christ. Put that way, the commitment to volunteer seems easy, right?

The origin of stewardship is in the Old Testament with the first fruits, or first portion of the harvest given back to God. The first step of becoming a steward involves making a decision to follow Christ, no matter what the cost. When God calls us to be a steward, we respond - regardless of the price. Once we grow our faith and accept that challenge, we then have a choice to make, a conscious decision that orientates us towards our own individual set of talents. This takes us away from the usual routine of what we always do, and allows us to then commit our very best self to the Lord. Practicing stewardship becomes a way of life, using our own God-given talents. It is not an endless calendar of duties or events. This new faith opens up for us a new vision, transforming us and our world in a way that mirrors the Kingdom of God. We are becoming mature disciples!

The Stewardship Workshop and information presented is based on the US Bishops' Pastoral Letter, *Stewardship: A Disciple's Response Study Guide, The Challenge, The Choice, The Vision*, published by LPi. www.4LPi.com Taken from St.Piusxnc.com

Wednesday **NIGHT** **Dinner & Fellowship**

Do you remember February 7th?

Probably not, but it was the last time we had a Wednesday Dinner!

I had to have a spinal fusion. The doctor told me it would take a LONG time to heal completely – I thought I would be fine. Turns out – he was right! It has been a long road of limited motion, and wobbly feet but I am making progress.

So – to answer the question posed by many; “when will the Wednesday Dinner going to start again?” Answer – I am hoping to be ready by October 17th. I will be out of the brace on October 10 which will allow me more range of motion – but I am concerned about lifting those heavy pots—so cross you fingers and say a prayer for me – and we’ll see you for dinner on October 17!



Your Faith Promise giving now supports Luke and Alison Billman who minister through Shores of Grace—Philadelphia. You can follow their ministry on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/shoresphilly/>

As a church we first met with Luke Billman on June 10th 2016 while Luke and Alison were still ministering in Brazil. At that meeting Luke shared his passion and vision for Shores—Philly:

“We really have a passion for bringing the love of God to the drug dealers and addicts on the streets around the Kensington and Somerset area of north Philadelphia. As I said earlier all I remember from when I was on the streets was evangelists telling me how I was going to burn if I didn't change my evil ways. I never left those conversations thinking that God loved me and wanted me to be a part of the family. So, I would like to minister in that way, where our approach is love focused. If perfect love casts out all fear and the two can't reside in the same place then we want to invade the darkness of the city with the love of God.”

Jumping ahead to 2018, you may remember Luke and Alison being with us during our 2018 Mission & Outreach Celebration this past spring. Since that celebration your Mission & Outreach Team has been praying and considering modifications to our Faith Promise distributions. One result of these deliberations has been to now include Luke & Alison in our Faith Promise Family.

Latest Ministry Update:

“It's been one year since we moved to Philadelphia to start Shores Philly. It has been amazing to see pieces of our vision start to become reality. Something that I love about the Kingdom is that God shows us things and reveals plans to us because he wants us to play an active role in advancing the kingdom of Heaven on earth. Sometimes we get a NOW word and sometimes we receive a word that has some now, some later and some way down the road. Seeing the big picture and partnering with Holy Spirit to see that picture become reality is so much fun!”

To read the complete UPDATE from Luke and Alison Billman goto www.lumc-online.org/FP.

SAVE THE DATE
EAST DISTRICT TOWN HALL MEETING

Monday, September 24 @ 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Town Hall session on the “Way forward for the UMC” with the Bishop, including
laity and clergy. Location TBA.



Do you like to Sing?

Would you like to share a couple of hours each week in fellowship and song with others?

Solution: Come out on Wednesday night from 7:00 to 9:00 PM and join the Wesleyan Church Choir! If you have any questions, please contact: Kerry Fenton at kerryafenton@yahoo.com or [609] 359-2027 or just show up!



ATTENTION: Have you been wondering how you can fulfill the promises you made when you became a member of the church and were present at a baptism? Good News! Your Church (desperately) needs your help!

In order to once again, provide a nursery during Sunday church services, we **MUST** have regular volunteers at both services to assist our paid nursery attendant. Safe Sanctuary requires that two (2) adults (18+ years) be present with the children. Unfortunately, if we cannot guarantee regular volunteers to be that second person, we will no longer be able to provide a nursery to our congregation.

Please see any member of SPRC , (Becky Remillard, Chris Cresswell, Laurie Carson, Leslie Heitz, Keith Rudat, Robert Fryer, Erika Paton) or Rev. Pfahler if you are able to help keep the nursery running.

A sign-up calendar will be at the back of the church



The following 3 forms are an explanation on what is needed to volunteer as a Sunday School Helper or Nursery Helper.

Please fill out the forms and return to church office or to Bill Bryan.

Please help your church by volunteering your time. In order for us to continue with Sunday School and Nursery for our Children, we need at least 2 Adult volunteers each Sunday.



Langhorne United Methodist Church **Children's Ministries, including VBS and Sunday School** **Instructions for Adult Volunteer Background Checks**

Thank you for serving in the ministry of Langhorne UMC. It's our goal to maintain a safe and healthy environment for all participants whether child or staff. **Pennsylvania Law** requires background checks on all adults (volunteer or paid) working with children and youth.

The following three background checks are required to serve:

- PA State Police Criminal Record Check (Form SP 4-164A) Background check fees for volunteers are waived one time within a 5-year period, otherwise it costs \$22.
- Child Abuse History Certification (DPW) (Form CY-113) Background check fees for volunteers are waived one time within a 5-year period, otherwise it costs \$8.
- FBI Background Check – Fingerprinting (Federal Criminal History Record) Cost is \$23.

UNLESS... you are a continuous resident of Pennsylvania for the past 10 years.

AND... affirm in writing ([FBI Fingerprint Waiver](#)) that you are not disqualified from service based upon a conviction of an offense under §6344 that prohibits service with children.

THEN... you do not need to be fingerprinted, just submit the Waiver to the church office.

NOTE: Background checks must be dated **within 5 years** of your date of service date & on file at the church office.

If you already have current (*issued within the last 5 years*) background checks from your place of work, you may submit copies to the church office instead of applying for new background checks.

1. PA State Police Criminal Record Check - Obtain online at the PA State Police Website: (<https://epatch.state.pa.us/Home.jsp>). Click the "New Record Check (Volunteers Only)." After receiving your results, remember to click on the Control Number and print the "Certification" page.

2. Child Abuse History Certification - Obtain online at the PA Child Welfare Portal: (<https://www.compass.state.pa.us/CWIS>). You will need to create an online account. You'll receive an email saying certification is being reviewed. You'll receive a 2nd email saying it is complete with a link to click to print the certificate.

3. FBI Background Check (fingerprinting) – The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services utilizes IndentoGo by IDEMIA to process fingerprint-based FBI criminal background checks. The fingerprint based background check is a multiple step process.

Appointments to be fingerprinted are not required, but **pre-registration** is required. Once registered, you may walk-in during a location's posted hours of operation, but scheduling an appointment may lead to lesser/no wait times.

In order to pre-register for a FBI background check and/or find a fingerprinting location, applicants should access the IDEMIA website (<https://www.identogo.com>) for a service location and hours.

IDEMIA uses service codes when identifying the authorized purpose for why an applicant is being fingerprinted. This ensures applicants are processed for the correct purpose and agency.

Under "Enter your Service Code to get started," volunteers enter **1KG6ZJ**. You will be taken to a form where you can fill out your information. Once your information is submitted, you will be taken to an appointment scheduling page. You will receive your certification in a few weeks by mail.

Thank you for your willingness to serve as a volunteer! We appreciate your time, talent and generous gift of covering the cost of your background checks which saves Langhorne UMC ministry funds. If you have any questions, please contact Bill Bryan office: 215-757-4984, email: bill@langhornechurch.org.

Langhorne United Methodist Church

Employment and Volunteer Application Form

Langhorne United Methodist Church has a Safe Sanctuaries policy founded on respect and love of all God's people especially children, youth and vulnerable adults in our church and community. This policy gives children, youth, staff, volunteers and families a sense of confidence and well-being. We ask your cooperation in completing the application.

Personal Information

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Numbers _____

Home Work Cell

Best time of day to call Morning _____ Afternoon _____ Evening _____

Day and month of birth _____

Occupation _____

Where employed _____

Can you receive calls at work? Yes No

Do you have a current Driver's License? Yes No License number _____

Children Yes No

Names and ages _____

Spouse Yes No Name _____

Are you currently a member of Langhorne United Methodist Church? Yes No

If yes, how long? _____

If no, please list other churches where you have attended or been a member in the last five years

Have you read and agreed to follow our Safe Sanctuaries policy? _____

Have you attended Safe Sanctuaries training in the last year? Yes No

Are you currently under a charge or have you ever been convicted of or pled guilty to child abuse or a crime involving actual or attempted sexual misconduct or molestation of a minor? Yes No
If yes, please explain

Are you currently under a charge or have you ever been convicted or pled guilty to possession/sale of controlled substances or of driving under the influence of alcohol? Yes No
If yes, please explain

Is there any other information we should know?

Church Activity

Please write a brief statement about your Christian faith.

In what activities/ministries of our church are you presently involved?

Experience

What volunteer or career experiences with children/youth have you had in the church or community?

List any gifts, training, education or other factors that have prepared you for ministry with children or youth.

Preferences:

In what capacity and with what age group would you like to work?

List any concerns or needs you have in working with children and youth. Personal References (not a family member)

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Applicant's Statement

The information contained in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I authorize any of the above references or churches to give you any information they may have regarding my character and fitness to work with children and/or youth.

I hereby certify that I have read and that I understand the Safe Sanctuaries policy and will abide by said policy in my ministry with children, youth or vulnerable adults at **Langhorne United Methodist Church**.

Signature _____ Print Name _____

Date _____

Approved for ministry by _____ Date _____



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

2nd Tuesdays of the Month

7:00 P.M. - Fellowship Hall

Please join our United Methodist Women (no membership required, and please bring a friend!) 7pm Tuesday Sept 11th as we gather in faith for fun, fellowship (and food) with a programs devoted to "Sacred Spaces to know God and fellow humankind). Bring your favorite summertime adventure stories! Our mission giving outreach will be small trinkets for a care package to send to longtime member Linda Adams at her new place!



Linda Adams has recently moved to NJ!!

She hopes everybody will call and visit.

Her new address is:

Wiley Christian Retirement Home

Room #111

99 E. Main Street

Marlton, NJ 08053

Cards and phone calls appreciated!

856 552-6121 is her direct line



Men's Prayer Breakfast & Bible Study



MEN come and be fed – Physically, Spiritually, and Emotionally

Devotion: His Ways Will Satisfy

PROMISES by Bill Bright, Campus Crusade for Christ (Cruc)

IN CHRIST WE HAVE A NEW IDENTITY

We look for our value in our own abilities or accomplishments. We are driven to continue to perform so that we can feel that we have worth. Without Christ, we will be separated from God and on our own to find our acceptance, security and significance.

If we identify with what Christ has done for us and what He says about us, we will be secure in our identity.



A caterpillar is small and a little creepy. But after it transforms into a butterfly, it is a beautiful creature that looks very little like its old self. When we become Christians, we, too, go through a sort of metamorphosis. We go from enemies of God to children of the King. We become precious to the creator of the universe. We are given a new nature and a Holy Spirit within us that guides us and helps us grow. We are a new creature.

! Don't Forget Your Bible !

So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!
1 Corinthians 10:12

*A caring pastor will build their church; a caring church will build its pastor.
Remember your pastor in daily prayer!*

More Information

Langhorne United Methodist Church
301 East Maple Avenue
Langhorne, PA 19047-1667
www.LUMC-online.org/mpb

Contact Info

Bill Bryan 215.847.2100, bbryan04@carvccsr.net
Dave Tyler 267.262.2069, dadtynaa@verizon.net
Fred Woerner 267.292.1112, fw-12660@carvccsr.net
Ken MacAlister 267.466.2482, kenmcfarva@carvccsr.net

Date: **9/15/2018** Time: **7:30 am**

Meal by: **Panera Bread**

LANGHORNE SQUARE
2nd FLOOR CENTER



Langhorne UMC Men's Ministry

Leading By Example (LBE)

2018 MEN'S RETREAT

Friday, September 28, 2018 to

Sunday, September 30, 2018

at

Pocono Plateau Camp

& Retreat Center

The Langhorne UMC Men's Ministry / LBE will be joining men from around the state and beyond at the Pocono Plateau Camp & Retreat Center for their Men's Retreat from Friday, September 28, 2018 (8 pm) to Sunday, September 30, 2018 (1 pm).

This year's theme is "A Call to Discipleship." There will be individual and small group times, worship, recreational options (i.e. hiking, high ropes course), good food and fellowship. Join us for a time of study, reflection and fellowship!

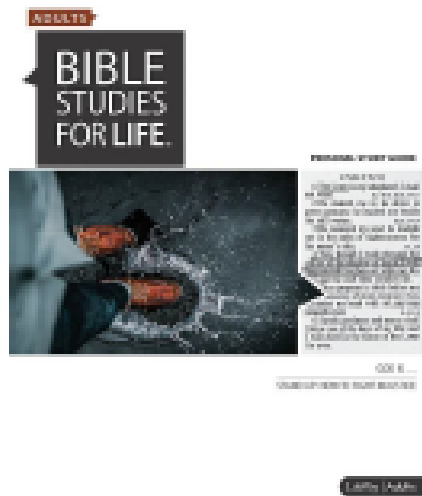
The speaker is Michael Booth who serves as the Campus Pastor at Water Street Rescue Mission in Lancaster, PA. He has served as a chaplain at the Lancaster County Prison counseling inmates, teaching Bible lessons and is a trained facilitator for The National Fatherhood Initiative curriculum for Prisoners. Pastor Booth says he's "passionate about sharing the gospel, helping men find freedom in Christ and fishing." Michael lives in Lancaster with his wife Eliza and son Kordell.

Cost: \$125 per person (includes lodging, five meals, snacks, all sessions and recreational activities)

For More Information-Contact: Bill Bryan, 215-847-2130 or bill@langhornechurch.org

ONLINE REGISTRATION

<http://www.poconoplateau.org/retreats/sponsored/mens-retreat>



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL FALL 2018

Beginning **Rally Day**

September 9, 2018

There are two times offered again this fall:

10:00 to 11:00 Led by Bill Bryan in Small Conference Room

10:30 to 11:30 Led by Ron & Louise Cookson in the Church Lounge

Please consider pre-registering so that we can be sure to have sufficient study materials available for all.

To register just email any of the class leaders to let us know:

Bill Bryan bill@langhornechurch.org
Ron Cookson cwo5gurner@gmail.com
Louise Cookson porthlevengirl64@gmail.com

Our Initial Study this fall is entitled

GOD IS ...

- Our Provider
- Our Healer
- Our Barner
- Our Peace
- Our Shepherd
- Our Righteousness

Our Second Study this fall is entitled

Stand Up: How to Fight Injustice

- Be Ready to Stand
- Stand with Conviction
- Stand Down
- Stand with Humility
- Stand Up and Speak
- Keep Standing



Vacation Bible School 2018 was and is such a blessing to us all. Thank you for your support as a church family to our efforts to spread the love of God, witness the Holy Spirit move and point out where we see, feel and hear Jesus's teachings in action... AND WE GET TO SING AND DANCE TOO! God is good!

This year, for the week of July 23-27th, we had approximately 115 campers each day from ages 3 on up, and well over 100 volunteers throughout the process... It's an amazing event, the spirit overflows and these collective children of God will go out and change the world. Seeds of God's love, little and big, are planted in fistfuls flung far and wide... VBS is a family project with participation from all ages, from start to finish VBS only happens because of God's love shown thru us - and VBS continues to draw in more members of the God's family who want to get in on the excitement. Next year you should join us! There is no bigger use of the whole church building in a concentrated week of spirit explosion! GOD brings in the community and it's up to us to open our doors and hearts. You will never know how much your work in VBS makes a difference because it's a continuous flow of kids and a flow of God's love zipping downstream to the future. We are blessed to share in the future.

Most importantly, the VBS messages of Jesus's Rescuing are shared both in the activities at church AND carried by God's messengers to the homes of family members... we hear many stories of families who experience the spirit transfer from their youngest campers...

And how about those teenagers??? WOW GOD!!! VBS wakes up and delivers so many teenagers for the early mornings and for set up and clean up - we witness the next generation of church leaders growing... VBS is held during vacation time but God's work hits overdrive and WOW what an amazing energy to tap into!

To be completely honest, I can only begin to explain how it all comes together, exponentially synergistically, spiritually, you really have to witness it in action. I love the photo displays each year to remind us how important it is to reach the children and to see how fast they grow, such opportunities to teach open and close. How blessed to have every day as an opportunity to see God at work... From paint to people, from seashells to snacks, vacuuming to video editing, thru everything each year I pray for seeing, feeling and witnessing the Holy Spirit swirling... WOW, my God sightings every year come with BIG WOWS!!! I know we often are called to use our own will to physically help ourselves to help others. We are called to lift our own sails in order to harness the spirit wind God has provided - we then become ready to serve. God knows to move us and He once again at VBS puts the right people into place when needed... He provides the Spirit, we provide our willingness... God moves His Kingdom forward.... Especially at VBS we witness with such FUN!!!!

I urge you to join us next year! Come to serve and you will be tremendously fed spiritually... We are all Shipwrecked and Jesus looks for us all! VBS shares these truths: when we are lonely, worried, struggle, do wrong, and are powerless - JESUS RESCUES!

Thank you all for all your prayers and participation. You ALL are my God Sightings! Thank you!!!

We are blessed... Debbie Letham



CONGRATULATIONS!!!!!!

Jessa Raab was named Queen of the 2018 Middletown Grange

Jessa is a lifelong member of LUMC and has been attending the Grange Fair all her life. She began participating in the fair at age 7, when she joined the Bucks County 4H program as a member of the Fuzzy Buddies Rabbit Club. Jessa has been breeding and showing rabbits at the local, regional and national level for the last 11 years. She has also participated in many other 4H animal clubs, showing them at the Grange Fair, including alpaca, swine, poultry and dog. In addition to the animal clubs, Jessa has also participated in many other 4H programs, including Archery Club, Teen Council, Vet Science Clinics 1, 2, and Abnormal, the Pennsylvania 4H Leadership Conference, and the Pennsylvania 4H State Days Competition.

Jessa has also participated in the Grange Fair by entering multiple items in the craft, photography and baking competitions over the years. In 2016 her Angel Food Cake recipe won best in open (adult) category, and she went on to represent Bucks County at the PA Farm Show competition in Harrisburg.

In addition to the Grange Fair and 4H, Jessa has been in Girl Scouts for 13 years, and has won the Silver and Gold Awards for her community service projects.

Jessa graduated from Neshaminy High School in June 2018 where she participated in Marching Band and the Future Problem Solvers Team for all four years. She is currently attending Millersville University, where she will study animal behavior, and participate in Marching Band.



SEPTEMBER 2018



Send our Seniors a Birthday Card and let them know you are thinking of them!!!!

September 1

Barbara Jordan, 35 Bellwood Drive, Langhorne, PA 19047

September 2

Jeannette Hesser, 771 Cypress Ave., Langhorne, PA 19047

Celia Pettit, 321 E. Maple Avenue, Langhorne, PA 19047

September 9

Charlotte Downs, 64 Digi Farm Lane, Bensalem, PA 19020

September 14

Audrey Kent, 510 Orchard Ave., Langhorne, PA 19047

September 17

Tracy Camp, 274 Barclay Court, Langhorne, PA 19047

September 19

Bill Wallace, 1975 Quarry Road, Yardley, PA 19067

September 22

Edna Guy, 3315 Hogan Court, Rapid City, SD 57702

September 24

Virginia Hill, 1720 Silver Lake Rd., Langhorne PA 19047

September 25

Joyce Hunte, 593 White Swan Way, Langhorne, PA 19047

Audrey Myers, 34 Hollow Road, Levittown, PA 19056

September 27

Cindy Eik, 9 Curry Hill, Levittown, PA 19057

September 28

Jackie Stout, 133 Winchester Avenue, Langhorne, PA 19047

Cheryl Boyle, 240 Lurgan Road, New Hope, PA 18938

Kids' Color Page



Did you start school yet?

When?

Did someone make you feel happy?

Who?

Did you make someone feel happy?

Who?

JUMBLE!

Directions: Each of the six scrambled words has a connection with each other. That connection is revealed in the two-word solution below that must be unscrambled using the letters in the shaded boxes.

I	C	A	H	M													
K	A	K	K	B	H	A	U										
B	O	J															
W	R	E	B	H	E	S											
S	M	A	O														
M	A	L	S	E	U												

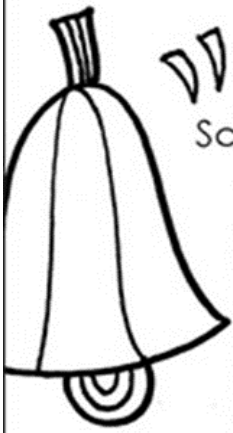
Solution to JUMBLE: Micah, Habakkuk, Job, Hebrews, Amos, Samuel. **BIBLE BOOKS:** COMMON WORDS: 1. last, 2. chicken, 3. picture, 4. paper, 5. green, 6. cherry, 7. house, 8. girl, 9. white, 10. gold, 11. straight, 12. glass, 13. free, 14. yellow.

COMMON WORDS

Directions: Add one word to the beginning of each word in the series to create a phrase. For example, to the words alert, carpet and herring you could insert the word red to create red alert, red carpet and red herring. Write the word that is common to all in the space provided.

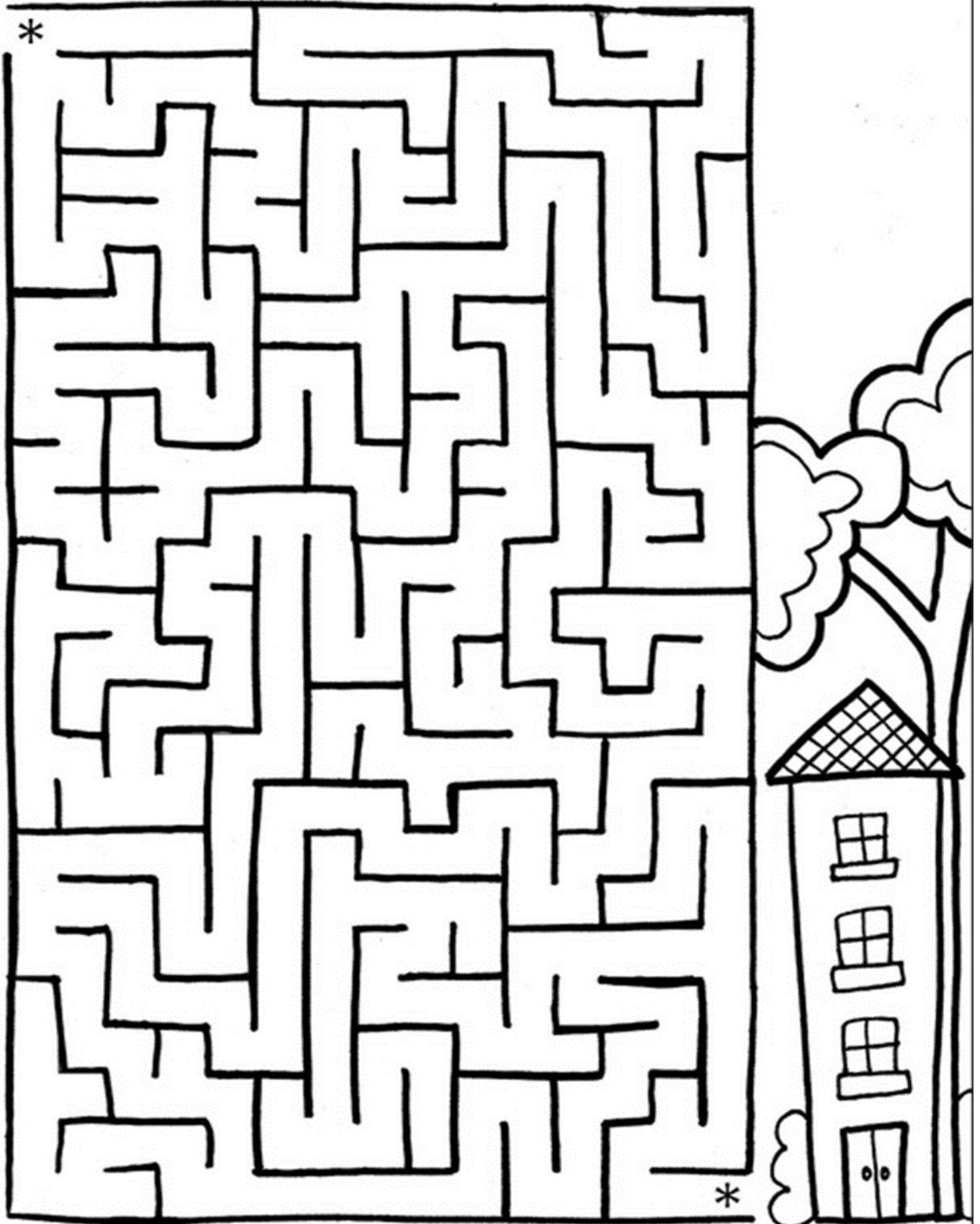
- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. rites, straw, word: | 8. friend, scout, Friday: |
| 2. little, leg, casserole: | 9. hat, elephant, knight: |
| 3. frame, perfect, this: | 10. digger, dust, brick: |
| 4. weight, tiger, mache: | 11. ahead, line, away: |
| 5. thumb, hornet, earth: | 12. eye, house, blower: |
| 6. picker, bomb, tomato: | 13. association, fall, lance: |
| 7. arrest, plant, fly: | 14. jacket, fever, journalism: |

Kids' Puzzle Page



School Maze

School's out for the day. Can you find your way home?



The Abington-Levittown Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society

BucksMont Squires of Song

Ready,
Set,
Sing!

FREE Singing Lessons for Men & Women of All Ages!

WHEN:	Tuesday evenings at 7:00 PM starting on September 18, 2018 and continuing for 6 weeks. A <i>Graduation Ceremony</i> will be held the last evening (October 23).
WHERE:	Langhorne United Methodist Church 301 E. Maple Avenue Langhorne, PA 19047
WHO:	Men and women, young and old, that have always wanted to sing or would like to improve their singing skills.
COST:	There is NO COST and NO OBLIGATION ; the program is FREE! Materials will be provided.
INFO:	Call Dave at 215-992-4453 or send an email to BucksMontSquires@gmail.com to request additional information.
RSVP:	Sign Up HERE

The BucksMont Squires of Song are serious about helping you enrich your joy of singing. We ALL sing; in church or synagogue, in the car, in the shower. However, many of us are reluctant to sing in front of others. The BucksMont Squires of Song want to help you get the most beautiful sound possible from your voice and we are experienced in helping men and women sing better! The FREE Singing Lessons Program will provide ways to get more resonant chords in a safe environment: in the company of like-minded men and women! Come one night or complete the full six week course, it's up to you. We look forward to seeing you.

Langhorne United Methodist Church

301 East Maple Ave., Langhorne PA , (215) 757-4984

lumc-online.org

Rev. Laurie J. Pfahler



JOIN US FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP!

Sunday Worship Hours:

9:30 a.m. Traditional Worship

9:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School

10 -11:00 a.m. - Adult Sunday School *

11- 12:00 a.m. - Adult Sunday School *

11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship

*2 Adult Sunday School Classes being held

pick which time is best for you.

Laurie J. Pfahler, Pastor, laurie@langhornechurch.org

Bill Bryan, Director of Congregational Care, bill@langhornechurch.org

Erika Paton Lay Leader, jerp1968@verizon.net

Donna Goodwin, Church Secretary, church@langhornechurch.org

Anthony Vigile, Contemporary Worship Leader, Anthony@langhornechurch.org

Kerry Fenton, Organist, Kerry@langhornechurch.org

Amy Hansen, Treasurer, amy@langhornechurch.org

Hugh Green, Youth Director, Hugh@langhornechurch.org

Barbara Jordan, Choir Accompanist, acompanist@aol.com

Kim Stockberger, Bell Choir Director, Gs5th@comcast.net

Kurt Tommuscheit, Sexton

Amy Rodda, Steeple Kids Director, steeplekids@comcast.net