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# Longwood Presbyterian Church

## Newsletter

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**Volume 27 Issue 1**

**January 2025**

### LPC CONGREGATIONAL MEETING INFORMATION

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On January 19<sup>th</sup>, we will be holding our annual congregational meeting. In this meeting we will conduct our normal business (present the budget, elect treasurer), plus we will be voting on a change of the number of session members. Last November, the session approved a motion to change from a 6-member session to a 3-member session with term limits, beginning in 2025. Now we need to bring this before the congregation for final approval. As mentioned in the last newsletter, this change will give current session members a cycling opportunity for much-needed time away from church duties, plus an opportunity for new members (elders) to participate in church leadership. Updated church by-laws with description of this action will be distributed before our January meeting.

During this meeting we will vote for new session members with 1-year, 2-year and 3-year terms, plus the nominating committee for the following year. We look forward to seeing everyone at the meeting. One final note, everyone in our congregation is welcome to attend this meeting, but only members of the church may vote. Those who are not yet church members may feel reluctant to attend, but this might be a good time to view the Presbyterian polity.

As our church continues to work diligently to be community leaders, it might be helpful for everyone to know about our guiding light. Here is LPC's "Mission Statement", as we have presented to our Presbytery: *"We are dedicated to the teaching and spreading the Word of Jesus Christ, and to lead by His example to be positive influences to our community."* This is part of our bylaws.

### PW NOTES FOR JAN 2025

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Happy New Year to everyone! We pray that everyone had a blessed Christmas with their loved ones.

As we begin the new year, I think it is important



to look back at the last year and see what we have done. I think the whole church needs to know the mission work that our ladies have carried out. Depending on weather, we try to meet once a month with a bible study & meeting. We also support the church when we have our yearly events, in planning & donating food or monetary support. In the 2024 year we have encouraged the whole church to

collect shelf stable food for the Open-Door Pantry. We average about 100 pounds of food every month in donations. We also have donated around \$800 to Open Door Pantry & Kitchen throughout the year. We support Missouri Union Presbytery PW with our dues. During Christmas we donated \$500 to CASA for their families & \$200 to Salvation Army for their needs. We donated \$100 to the church towards their donation to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Relief for NC Hurricane victims. When there is a death in our church family or their loved ones, we donate a memorial in their name and when appropriate provide a luncheon for the family after the funeral. Also, when we are aware of a family struggling with unexpected expenses, we try to help in their needs. We try to send cards to people to support them during hard or joyous occasions, and flowers when one of our church family is hospitalized. We also try to give support to each other as life throws us some curves. As moderator of our PW, I am very proud of our band of ladies.

We currently have 7 ladies who attend our meetings and are very active. All are welcome to join us. We generally meet the second Wednesday of each month at 1:30 pm in our Fellowship Hall at the church.

Our church is blessed with such loving support from the community and we strive to support our community. The entire church comes together to make this possible, and we give thanks to our church family. We pray that 2025 is a wonderful year for everyone and our world comes together in peace.

Blessings,  
Sharon Greer

## BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

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In the late fall, we were fortunate to have Delbert Johnson's crew to replace the hail damaged siding, trim and vents. They also covered the supports under the coverings for the north and east doors. There was quite a lot of material left over, so for those of you who may be involved in future repairs, we have the extra stored in the attic of the garage. It's a little hard to manage but a great out-of-the-way location.

The building committee can't take credit for this, but we received a brand-new battery powered sweeper for the interior of the church. It is hanging on the west wall of the utility room. Please be careful when removing from, and returning it to its charging station.

## SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

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Folks, we are not having any luck finding a pastor. Our candidate list shrunk considerably this past year, and we currently have extended invitations to apply to only two candidates. This invitation has been in their hands for months now, and honestly, I don't expect to hear back from them. We continue to pray for interested parties, and check the Presbyterian website regularly. Continue to pray for us and for our two churches. —J. R.

## PRAYER CONCERNS

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Please continue to pray for these folks:

- Debbie Brown
- Eva Nell Paxson (Denver, CO)
- Earl Hunter (Houstonia)
- Charles Lawrence

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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### Jan. & Feb.

Jan. 14	Session meeting 6:30 p.m.
Jan. 19	Congregational Meeting following worship
Jan. 26	Snow date for Congregational mtg.
Feb. 1	Chili Supper (tentative)

