

2010 Church Profile:

Free Grace Presbyterian Church

Lewiston, Maine

broken people bound together in Christ for God's glory

Summary: The twin cities of Lewiston and Auburn straddle the Androscoggin River and are situated midway between Maine's spectacular coastline and lush mountains in a region known as central Maine. Once an Indian fishing spot, the L-A area was first settled by westerners in the 1700's. Its population and influence grew with the rise of the mills built alongside the falls in the river that powered their operation for almost 200 years. The decline in those mills over the past 50 years has led to a sharp decline in the city's population and wealth. An influx of immigrants (largely African) beginning in 2003 has brought Lewiston to the nation's attention and brought a new awareness of the community. Lewiston is the second largest city in Maine.



A view down the Androscoggin of some of the mills that powered the growth of central Maine

Church Information

Work Begun: 2008
First Service: 2010
Pastor: Per Almquist

Worship

Services: 10:00 AM, Sunday
Bible Study: 5:30 PM, Thursday
Women: 9:30 AM, 1st & 3rd Saturdays
Men: 2:00 PM, 2nd & 4th Saturdays

Introduction to Lewiston

Median Household Income, 2008: \$36,883
Median House/Condo Value, 2008: \$159,639
Cost of Living, 2009 (US average = 100): 92.6
Regional Unemployment Rate, 11/09: 8.2%
Educational Attainment Breakdown (age 25+)
High School or higher 72.3%
Bachelor's Degree or higher 12.6%
Graduate/Professional Degree 4.0%

Largest Employers

St. Mary's Health Sys. 1000+
Central Maine Med. Center 1000+
Banknorth Group 500+

Local Attractions:

Bates College Museum of Art
Thorncrag Bird Sanctuary

Nearest Major City:

Portland (30 miles south); Boston (137 miles SW)

Nearest Hospital:

Central ME Med. Ctr. (250 beds)
St. Mary's Health Center (233 beds)

Local Newspaper:

Lewiston Sun Journal

Local Television:

network affiliates in Portland, ME

Average January Low Temperature: 11.6°

Average July Temperature: 75.5°

Average Annual Precipitation: 45.8 inches

Average Annual Snowfall: 68 inches

Town Population, 2008: 35,131

Pop. change: -1.6% since 2000

Racial Breakdown:

White, non-Hispanic 82.8%
Black or African Am. 6.4%
Two or more races 9.0%

Median Age: 37.6 (38.6 ME)

Age Breakdown:

Under 20 24.7%
Ages 20-24 8.7%
Ages 25-44 26.9%
Ages 45-64 22.0%
Age 65 and over 17.8%

Avg. Household Size: 2.2 people

Local Major Colleges or Universities:

Bates College (Lewiston)
Lewiston-Auburn College/USM (Lewiston)
Central Maine Community College (Auburn)

Local Public Schools:

Lewiston High School
Lewiston Middle School
6 elementary schools

Local Major Private Schools:

St. Dominic Regional High School
Vineyard Christian School