



# *Leacock Communicator*

## *Leacock Presbyterian Church*

[www.leacockpres.org](http://www.leacockpres.org)  
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*717-687-6619*  
*February 2026*

### A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

*Grateful*

Dear Followers of the Way and Friends,

As we step into the new year, I want to tell you I am forever grateful to God for each of you.

For every joy, through every trial, God has been faithful. Whatever you are facing, whether it's an unfavorable medical diagnosis or circumstances that leave you feeling completely overwhelmed, you are not alone.

I and your church family will stand with you. Together let us experience the presence of God in fresh and meaningful ways. Going forward it is my prayer that my voice will speak into your spirit for God's love to remain constant and that you will experience the necessary strength to endure.

I encourage all of you to come out and worship often, as often as you are able, and even more-so than in the previous year to bring hope and blessing to us all, to uplift our spirits, and to give vitality to our congregational life.

**"Bridging to the Future"** is the theme for worship in the season ahead. Isaiah 60:4 encourages us to **"Lift up our eyes and look around; to see what is to come."**

Following the lectionary, recent sermon topics have been "Lifting Ourselves Up," "Stepping Forward" with a reminder that Jesus' stepping into the waters of baptism confirmed his identity and brought the blessing of the Spirit upon him as it does for us.

Other themes will be "Searching Outward," "Reaching Beyond," "Continuing the Search," "Exploring with Patience," "Considering Options," "Reflecting in Humility," "Aligning Our Allegiance," and "Rising and Shining." These themes will carry us through the remainder of Epiphany, otherwise known as Ordinary Time, through Lent and up to Easter.

During this time, our manse tenant, Todd Culbertson, will bring God's Word to us and share his evolving ministry with Afghan refugees In Lancaster through The Haven.

Going forward, rise up and be grateful with me. May the Lord bless you and enable you to make shalom surround you. May God's Spirit bring strength to you in all ways needed. May this year remind you that God is still at work bringing about the peaceable realm which is so desperately needed. And whatever the future of this church, that there is a future to embrace. Again, God's shalom, shalom, shalom.

Ever, **Jim**

 <p><b>February Prayer Families</b></p> <p><b>February 1</b> <b>Janet Huffman</b></p> <p><b>February 8</b> <b>Eric, Paula &amp; Chad Hughes</b></p> <p><b>February 15</b> <b>Robin Katz</b></p> <p><b>February 22</b> <b>Jenny, Olivia &amp; Emma Keenan</b></p>	<p><b>Trustee Notes</b></p> <p>The Per Capita for 2026 is \$39.00 per person. Please try to have this in by March.</p> <p>The Trustee Offering for February will be for the fire suppression system for the kitchen. This is expected to cost between three to five thousand dollars.</p> <p>Thank you for your support!</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Mike Ruhl Trustee President</p>	<p><b>Annual Meeting</b></p> <p>The Session calls for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation Sunday <b>February 15</b> following worship for the purpose of receiving Annual Reports, electing two members-at-large to the 2026 Nominating Committee, and conducting any other pertinent business.</p> 
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**Altar Flowers**

If you would like to order Sanctuary flowers in memory of or in honor of someone or a special occasion, Sunday February 15 is available. Please call the church office: 717-687-6619

## February Lectionary

<p><b>February 1</b> <b>Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany</b> Micah 6:1-8 Psalm 15 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Matthew 5:1-12</p>	<p><b>February 8</b> <b>Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany</b> Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12) Psalm 112:1-9 (10) 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16) Matthew 5:13-20</p>
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<p><b>February 15</b> <b>Transfiguration of the Lord</b> Exodus 24:12-18 Psalm 2 or Psalm 99 2 Peter 1:16-21 Matthew 17:1-9</p>	<p><b>February 18</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b> Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12 Psalm 51:1-17 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21</p>
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<p><b>February 22</b> <b>First Sunday in Lent</b> Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 Psalm 32 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11</p>
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<p><b>Our Mission Statement</b></p> <p><b>“Building on our heritage, led by the Spirit, committed to Christ, we welcome our neighbors to share in this family of God.”</b></p>
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## Mission Committee

Because of the recent church cancellations, we will extend the blanket offering an extra Sunday. That would make it Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup> for the end of this year's Blanket Drive.

Sunday February 8th is "**Souper Bowl**" Sunday. There will be a large soup bowl on the table in the narthex. Feel free to put any loose change (or anything larger) in this bowl. You may also bring any canned food to put along side the bowl. All this will be donated to the Factory for their food bank.

Lent begins on Wednesday, February 18th. That means that our **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering begins on Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> and runs through Easter Sunday which is April 5th. The special envelopes will be in the pews for you to use.

Our next **Community Meal** will take place on Thursday, February 26th from 5:30-6:30 in our handicapped accessible Smith Fellowship Hall. The menu will be Ham, Brown Buttered Potatoes, Green Beans, Fruit Salad, Dinner Rolls, and Desserts. The sign-up sheets will be in the narthex by Sunday, February 15th for food donations and for helpers to help set up, cook, serve, and clean up. The Mission committee truly appreciates all the help this congregation so lovingly gives in this mission.

## Deacons

As there are no February birthdays among our At-home members, you may want to consider sending Valentine greetings. Updated lists are in the back of the sanctuary.

March birthdays:



March 4—Ruth Anne Appel  
March 7—Betty Sowers

The Prayer Shawl Knitters will meet on February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> and March 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, weather conditions permitting.

We thank all of you who ordered poinsettias for the Christmas season. It created so much beauty in our Sanctuary! Order forms for Easter plants will be in the March newsletter.



## Ash Wednesday

Lenten Worship opportunities begin February 18 with Ash Wednesday, a time for penance and reflection on our mortality — “from dust we have come, to dust we shall return.”

A Drive-In Ashes Station will be set up in Leacock’s parking lot beginning at noon and continuing toward evening for community and church members to stop by. Materials will be on hand to observe the ritual of ashes including scripture and meditation readings.

Then at 7:00 p.m. we will hold our annual in-person Ash Wednesday Worship including the administering of ashes.

Come out to share in these opportunities and invite your friends and neighbors to do the same.

*Thank you!*

To all of you,

“God bless you with the same peace, hope, and love that you bring to the lives of others.”

Thank you for the gift card. I really appreciate it.

Diane Wallace

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Articles for the March Newsletter  
Will be due Monday, February 23

The Leacock Communicator  
Sandy Schoettle, Editor