



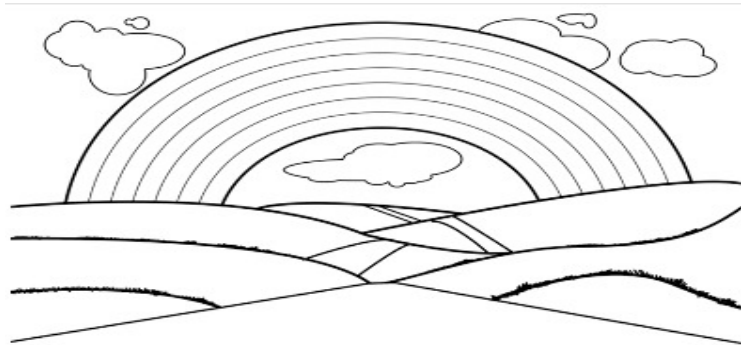
# *Leacock Communicator*

## *Leacock Presbyterian Church*

[www.leacockpres.org](http://www.leacockpres.org)  
*Volume 67, Number 3*

*717-687-6619*  
*May/June 2026*

### **A WORD FROM THE PASTOR**



**“God said, I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth and every living creature. So when clouds come and the bow is seen, I will remember says the Lord.” Genesis 9:13-16**

Dear Members and Friends,

Most of us think of rainbows as arches that stretch across the sky, but in reality, every rainbow forms a complete circle. That circle is centered on the point in the sky directly opposite the sun — the same direction our shadow points. From the ground, the horizon blocks the lower half of that circle, so we usually only see the rainbow’s upper arc.

The higher our vantage point, the more of that hidden circle we can see. From airplanes, observers can sometimes view the complete circular rainbow, since nothing blocks the ring’s lower half. Photographs taken from research and weather aircraft often capture those full rings floating in clouds, revealing the rainbow’s true shape.

**From time to time, in our personal lives and the church we do well to seek the highest vantage point we can. That enables us to see the bigger picture, to appreciate more, and to receive the perspectives needed to move forward.**

Following Easter, I took a few study leave days to participate in a pastor's and elder retreat in Havre de Grace, Maryland. It was sponsored by the Susquehanna Parish that includes the neighborhood where I live and includes the Presbyterian churches in Joppatowne, Aberdeen, Churchville, Bel Air, Fallston, and congregations in Street and Phoenix, Maryland.

Led by a spiritual director from The Well in Towson, Maryland, there were twelve of us who gathered. Our meeting place was the upper story of the Duck Decor Museum in Havre de Grace with a stunning view out over the Chesapeake Bay. As far as we could see, we took in the distant shore and close by and beyond calm waters. The weather was warm with plenty of sunshine to grace our day. It was peaceful and restoring.

We read and meditated on scripture using Lectio Divina, a way of listening for what stands out and speaks freshly by reading the same passage multiple times and reflecting on it. We then shared with a partner and in the larger group. The insights and inspiration that came from sharing was as stunning as the view.

We heard and read poetry, we met in small groups to discuss our concerns, and were blessed with a bountiful lunch.

In working with your Session, the boards of the church, and your PNC, this is what we are trying to do. We are seeking the higher perspective offered by study and reflection, looking at ministry resources, reviewing resumes and interviewing candidates. The Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery helps to vet prospective pastoral candidates and the Board of Pensions guides our understanding of the terms of call—all obligations to support faithful service.

At Session, we are reviewing the responsibilities and duties of a solo pastor and the gifts and skills, the personality and aptitudes, necessary to fulfill this calling. We are looking for a rainbow to shed an array of color on the future ministry of this congregation, its connection with the community, and the leadership needed to take us there.

A rainbow is formed by the way sunlight interacts with millions of tiny raindrops. As light enters a droplet, it bends, reflecting off the inside of the droplet, and then bends again as it exits. Those changes in direction separate the light into its different colors and direct them back toward your eyes.

Bending and bending, refracting this way and that, is the way we see all the colors. Because the effect depends on our exact position relative to the sun, the rainbow we see is tied to our unique viewpoint. Move even a few steps, and a different set of droplets creates slightly different colors. No two people ever see precisely the same rainbow.

**Your leaders along with me realize this is the reality of the church. Along with our differing perspectives and viewpoints, we use our energy, time, and various gifts to discern a way forward in seeking a bright, colorful future.**

Join with us often in worship, continue your commitments as best you can, offer up your prayers, labor in peace, continue your forbearance and patience toward a future God is dreaming.

Be encouraged by the affirmations offered by the words found in the Genesis text that begins this article:

1. God works with what God has created—nature, humanity, living creatures, both the natural and supernatural world to accomplish what God desires.
2. God is faithful to promises, invites covenant with us as partners; God celebrates and remembers.
3. Our timeless God is concerned about time—both the present and the future—and all generations to come.

Together with you, me as your interim, Leacock Church as a whole, the churches of our community nearby and beyond, let us shine bright as the sun and through the droplets let rainbows form. In that way colors will radiate forth to bless all around.

You are precious in God's sight and you are precious to me.

In Peace, your pastor,  
Jim

### **Our Mission Statement**

**“Building on our heritage, led by the Spirit, committed to Christ,  
we welcome our neighbors to share in this family of God.”**

## May Lectionary

<p><b>May 3</b>  <b>Fifth Sunday of Easter</b>            Acts 7:55–60            Psalm 31:1–5, 15–16            1 Peter 2:2–10            John 14:1–14</p>	<p><b>May 10</b>  <b>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b>            Acts 17:22–31            Psalm 66:8–20            Peter 3:13–22            John 14:15–21</p>	<p><b>May 14</b>  <b>Ascension of the Lord</b>            Acts 1:1–11            Psalm 47 or Psalm 93            Ephesians 1:15–23            Luke 24:44–53</p>
---	---	---

<p><b>May 17</b>  <b>Seventh Sunday of Easter</b>            Acts 1:6–14            Psalm 68:1–10, 32–35            1 Peter 4:12–14; 5:6–11            John 17:1–11</p>	<p><b>May 24</b>  <b>Pentecost Sunday</b>            Acts 2:1–21                or Numbers 11:24–30            Psalm 104:24–34, 35b            1 Corinthians 12:3b–13                or Acts 2:1–21            John 20:19–23                or John 7:37–39</p>	<p><b>May 31</b>  <b>Trinity Sunday</b>            Genesis 1:1–2:4a            Psalm 8            2 Corinthians 13:11–13            Matthew 28:16–20</p>
---	---	--

## June Lectionary

<p><b>June 7</b>  <b>Second Sunday of Pentecost</b>            Genesis 12:1–9            Psalm 33:1–12            Romans 4:13–25            Matthew 9:9–13, 18–26</p>	<p><b>June 14</b>  <b>Third Sunday of Pentecost</b>            Genesis 18:1–15 (21:1–7)            Psalm 116:1–2, 12–19            Romans 5:1–8            Matthew 9:35–10:8 (9–23)</p>	<p><b>June 21</b>  <b>Fourth Sunday of Pentecost</b>            Genesis 21:8–21            Psalm 86:1–10, 16–17            Romans 6:1b–11            Matthew 10:24–39</p>
---	---	---

<p><b>June 28</b>  <b>Fifth Sunday of Pentecost</b>            Genesis 22:1–14            Psalm 13            Romans 6:12–23            Matthew 10:40–42</p>
--



**May Prayer Families**

May 3  
Ian, Katherine Boas  
& Louise Lichty

May 10  
Sara Lichty

May 17  
Kevin & Loretta McClarigan

May 24  
Muriel Meier

May 31  
Robert Mower III

**June Prayer Families**

June 7  
Shirley Musselman

June 14  
Khamtanh Phongxaysanith

June 21  
Bonnie Rice

June 28  
Mary Ellen Rice

**Trustee Notes**

The **Trustee Offering** for **May** will go toward the Fire Suppression System in the Kitchen. Any additional funds will be used for the elevator inspections. Thank you for your generosity

**Flowers for the Church**

If you wish to order **Sanctuary Flowers** in Memory of or in Honor of an event or person, Sunday, May 24, Sunday, May 31 and Sunday, June 28 are open. Please call the church office 717-687-6619. The cost for the two flower vases is \$40 plus tax.



I would sincerely like to thank this caring congregation for all the cards and prayers extended to me during my last shoulder operation.

It means so much to know that so many people care as much as all you people do. It just makes everything so much easier to deal with.

Thank you so much.  
With love,  
Lois Eshleman

**PNC News**

Your PNC has been busy meeting, reading, and praying as we discern God's call for Leacock's future. We ask your continued prayers as we move forward.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Pequea Valley's 8th **Annual Community Spring Fling** takes place Friday, May 15th, 2026 from 4:00 to 8:00pm at the Pequea Valley High School campus.

This event brings together our community for a day of fun, connection, and celebration—and best of all, it's completely FREE!

Along with classic carnival-style games and a petting zoo, tables are allowed for clubs, teams, and local organizations. Requests for a display table are to be sent immediately to The Spring Fling Committee, POBox 287, Kinzers, PA 17535. Food trucks and a snack shack are on site.



## Mission Committee

Our next free **Community Meal** will be held on **Thursday May 28th**, 2026 in our handicapped accessible Smith Fellowship Hall. Sign up sheets for food donations and for volunteers to help cook, serve, and clean up will be in the Narthex two Sundays before the event. The meal will be Bar-B-Que/rolls, Macaroni/cheese, Stewed Tomatoes, Pickles, Applesauce, and Desserts.

Our **June** meal will be held on **Thursday June 25th** 2026. The menu "to be announced" or just come and be surprised! Again the sign up sheets will be in the Narthex two Sundays before the meal is served.



The yearly **Pentecost Offering** will be taken the last 3 Sundays in May--May 17th, 24th, and 31st. Special envelopes will be placed in the pews to use for this offering. Please remember that 40% of this offering stays here for our congregation to use. This offering supports ministries with children, youth, and young adults. These funds help build a strong foundation of faith for young people encouraging them to grow and become leaders. This money also helps the Presbyterian Mission Agency for national initiatives, including children at risk programs and the youth Triennium.

The Mission Committee is truly grateful for all the support this congregation has given to help us meet our goals. Without all your help we would not be able to do what we do.

Christ's Peace be with you all,  
Bonnie and Lois

## Deacons

Birthdays: **May 23**

Geri Hess 600 E. Roseville Road Apt. 1209, Lancaster 17601



Flower deliveries –

May – Karen Homsher and Barb Andrews June – Mary Alice High and Karen Homsher

The **Prayer Shawl Knitters** will meet in the Library at 9:30 on the following Mondays: May 4 and 18, and June 1 and 15. We will not meet in July, August, or September. New members are always welcome.

The Deacons will meet immediately following worship on **May 17<sup>th</sup>**.

The Deacons and the Worship Committee would like to thank those of you who so generously blessed the congregation with Easter plants this year. The aroma of Spring Resurrection lingers on!

## Summer Worship



At last the time of “singing of birds” has come, and our Leacock family is enjoying flowers and sunshine after a long, cold winter.

Worship will continue at Paradise at 9:30 am with the exception of

July 5  
August 2  
September 6  
September 13

On these Sundays, we will gather at Old Leacock to celebrate God’s love and mercy and praise God together. With open windows and open doors, we will listen to the Word and God’s creation while surrounded by the community of saints who have gone before us.

Mark your calendars now as a reminder.

Looking ahead, Old Leacock Day with Communion and then our annual picnic following worship is scheduled for September 13.

### Live Streaming Worship

The 9:30 service is currently available to live stream as it takes place or view later. To do so, go to [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and type in **Leacock Presbyterian Church**. To see if a specific Sunday is recorded, type in the month, day and year after “Leacock Presbyterian Church.” You may also subscribe to the channel.

We encourage you to try it when unable to worship in person, when sick or away, or to share with family and friends. Let us know if you have any questions or issues in accessing this valuable resource. Our gratitude to Mike Hartmann for setting this up, acquiring necessary equipment and working through the logistics.

Leacock Presbyterian Church  
3181 Lincoln Hwy. East  
Paradise, PA 17562  
Phone 717 687-6619

Non-profit  
US Postage Paid  
Permit #951  
Lancaster, PA



Articles for the next Newsletter  
Will be due Friday, August 21, 2026

THE LEACOCK COMMUNICATOR  
Sandy Schoettle, Editor