



Leacock Communicator

Volume 53, Number 3

April 2013

Notes from the Manse

“But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.”—Luke 2:19

“But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.”—Luke 23:49

When I was little, before Peter was even born, my family lived in a small apartment in Queens, NY. Strangely, though I was very young, there is much about those days I remember. The world seemed incredibly big and still filled with wonder, and I loved to explore the huge forest that began across the field behind our apartment building or to look at the lights on the bridges from the windows of our car as I sat on the backseat with my legs, still so short, stretched straight. Years later, when I went back to see that apartment building, the lights on the bridges didn't shine so brightly and that forest was really little more than a stand of trees. But there are other memories that have not lost any of their luster. For instance, on Saturday afternoons my Mom and Dad had a little ritual that each seemed to look forward to with anticipation. Dad would haul out a small square of rug and carefully place it in front of the big, clunky radio they had. Mom would position a chair a bit behind and to the side, where she respectfully could watch. Dad would turn on the radio when the Metropolitan Opera began its live broadcast, and as the music played, he would conduct, as if he stood on that marvelous stage. And when the music was over, Mom thunderously clapped. Then, when another program came on, with, I seem to recall, some kind of big band swing music, the two of them would dance, oh, would they dance! And through it all, I watched absorbing all I saw.

I can't say that the music did much for me—opera was way beyond a little kid, and the other songs didn't always make that much sense to me. But I learned so much those Saturday afternoons. For I saw my parents, together in a way that was different from the way they were usually together. I thought a lot about what I saw in my childlike way. And I discovered then much about love, about grace.

By the time you read this, most likely Easter will have passed, but at least on some levels all the songs and flowers and joyous alleluias will linger in our minds. But what about the days before Easter? What about that most holy week of the year that moves from Palm Sunday to Easter dawn? The two scripture passages above come early and late, at Jesus' birth and at his death. Somehow, I don't think it's a coincidence that they share a common idea; I don't think Luke did much by accident. In the first, Mary treasures the strange words the shepherds had told her and in her heart, she ponders them. In the second, those who knew Jesus, especially the women, stood and watched “these things,” all that happened on that good Friday. Perhaps, we too should treasure and ponder the words that describe Christ's passion. Perhaps, we should see with new eyes, as best we can, all that happened at that last supper, the prayer and sleep on the Mount of Olives, the shabby, oh, so human, trials, the long walk to the cross, the darkness, the death. If we do so, as Jesus said we should, like a little child, we may learn something, the greatest thing there is to learn. We may learn, as I did when I was little but in a far more wonderful way, what is love, what is grace.

Rev. Robert W. Birch

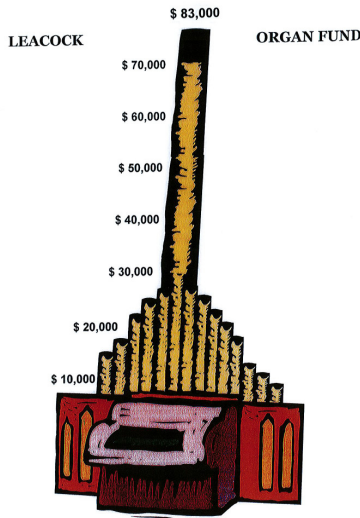
LECTIONARY FOR APRIL

- Apr 7 (2nd Sunday of Easter)
Acts 5:27-32
Psalm 118:14-29 or Psalm 150
Revelation 1:4-8
John 20:19-31
- Apr 14 (3rd Sunday of Easter)
Acts 9:1-6 (7-20)
Psalm 30
Revelation 5:11-14
John 21:1-19
- Apr 21 (4th Sunday of Easter)
Acts 9:36-43
Psalm 23
Revelation 7:9-17
John 10:22-30
- Apr 28 (5th Sunday of Easter)
Acts 11:1-18
Psalm 148
Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35



PRAYER FAMILIES

- Apr 7 Michael & Michele McLaughlin, Anthony, Ryan
- Apr 14 Earl & Jacqueline Miller
- Apr 21 Richard Miller
- Apr 28 Mary Jane Mowrer



\$13,000 TO GO

The Organ Fund has topped \$70,000, leaving a balance of less than \$13,000 to reach our goal of \$83,000. There are a number of events scheduled in the next several weeks to close this gap.

A Special Offering will be taken during the Sundays in April. Please give as you can to help take us to the top.

On April 22, we will be having another Dine-Out night at Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant from 6:00am until 8:00pm. Bring your appetites, enjoy a meal and 20% of your bill will be donated to the Organ Fund.

In May we will be dining out at Texas Roadhouse, 2317 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster. A Silent Auction benefiting the Organ Fund

will be conducted during the day.

More details will be forthcoming, however if you have anything to donate for the auction, please contact a member of the Organ Fund Committee.

Don't forget to continue to save your loose change and drop it into the Coin Jar in the Narthex. We continue to collect several hundred dollars a calendar quarter from this activity.

A number of other future activities are in planning stages. Please stay tuned.



LEACOCK POTLUCK AND A MOVIE NIGHT

The book and movie discussion club will have a potluck dinner and watch the movie *Frida* (a 2002 biopic which depicts the professional and private life of the surrealist Mexican painter Frida Kahlo) on Sunday evening April 28 at 5:00pm.

All are welcome to join.

MISSION COMMITTEE

The Mission Committee is still looking for recommendations for appropriating the monies we usually contribute to the Trimbel Mission work in Lahar Pakistan.

We as a committee would like to thank everyone again for your continued support for our meal project.

Our church has reached out to the community to offer support in the effort to help refurbish a dwelling to someone in need in our community. Our church, along with Grace Point Church, Factory Youth Ministries, and Impact Ministries will be working to aid in the remodeling of a dwelling to make life just a little easier for a resident in much need here in Paradise. We have aided in obtaining a \$24,000 tax-free loan and a \$15,000 grant.

Now the work will begin and we will be looking for volunteers for drywall, electrical, plumbing, etc. We will keep you posted.



Altar Flowers

FLOWERS

You may purchase flowers for the sanctuary on Sundays April 21 and April 28 in honor of or in memory of someone or a special occasion. Call the church office at 687-6619.



OUR NEW "THOUGHTS AND IDEAS" BOX

Have you ever...

- wanted to express your appreciation for someone or something in our church life?
- wanted to suggest an activity or program?
- wanted to request a song, hymn, or sermon topic?
- had a concern - or possible solution to a concern - and weren't sure whom to contact?
- wanted to share an idea for worship?

Jot it down and place it in our new "Thoughts and Ideas" box located in the Narthex next to the Welcome Center.

It will be delivered directly to the Session and then to the appropriate person(s) or group. We strongly encourage you to sign your name so we can respond personally when appropriate, but that is not a requirement.

Although we cannot promise to resolve all issues to everyone's satisfaction, we will give everything our careful consideration.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Monday
April 22 - 6:00-8:00pm
Dine-Out Night
Bird-in-Hand Restaurant

Tuesday
April 23 - 6:30pm
presentation on
CONTACT Lancaster Hotline

Sunday
April 28 - 5:00pm
Potluck & Movie
Frida

June 23 - June 27
VBS
5:30 - 8:00pm



SUPPORT THE FACTORY MINISTRY

April brings not only spring weather, but a chance to support The Factory and have a great meal at Miller's Smorgasbord.

The whole week of April 22 to 28 Miller's will donate 50% of your dining bill to this community ministry.

Pick up a flyer in the Narthex and take it when you go to lunch, dinner, or weekend breakfast.



TRUSTEE TALK

We would like to thank everyone (approximately 20 people) who came out on Leacock Work Day. A special thank you to Dean Englehart who was literally swinging from the tree on the front lawn to trim the branches! The windows were cleaned, flower beds mulched, fence straightened, areas organized, roof and bell tower inspected, filters changed and cleaned.

Inspections done on work day found that the bell wheel needs to be repaired and the fascia on the building is rotting away at certain places.

The manse roof has been replaced and we have collected \$1,495 against the \$6,989 bill. After we let the inside ceiling dry, it will need repaired and painted at a cost of \$785.

We got a lot done, but there is still a lot more to do. We hope everyone had a good time helping to improve the look of our church while bonding with fellow church members.

If you'd prefer not to commit to a Saturday workday and would like to work on any of our "to do" list at any time, there will be a current list hanging on the cork board in the back hallway. We've got something for every-

one, including a number of paint projects!

Keeping the Paradise and Old Leacock Churches looking good is a costly and never ending labor of love. We appreciate all your support.

Some of our members are trying to get Old Leacock listed on the National Historic Society. If anyone knows of something about Old Leacock's significance especially in the areas of architecture and/or relating to the history of the United States that might help us get it on the list, please email dlsindall@gmail.com by mid April.

Thank You,
Leacock Trustees

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH/
CONGREGATIONAL LIFE
COMMITTEE**

March was a busy month as we prepared for the visit from the Lebanon Valley College Concert Choir. Thanks to all of you who prepared chili and desserts. I'm sure you were well-rewarded by the beautiful concert.

The new "Thoughts and Ideas" box is in the Narthex next to the Welcome Center and is waiting for your thoughts and suggestions.

Our committee is also working on developing more efficient ways to provide for the refreshments during fellowship time. We could really use some help from the congregation in supplying cookies for Sunday

mornings.

One of our most urgent needs is finding someone with the heart and will to serve on The Factory Board. We need someone from our congregation to be involved in the direction of this rapidly growing ministry in our community. Please consider if that person might be you. If not, we could certainly use your help serving the monthly meals.

Last, but not least, we are hosting a presentation by the CONTACT Lancaster Hotline on Tuesday evening, April 23, at 6:30. Please plan to come and learn about this important community resource.



To My Comforting Church Family,
Thank you for your overwhelming love and support following the death of my sister, Lou Ann.

With much appreciation,
Janet Huffman

Dear Leacock Presbyterian Ladies,
Thank you for the lovely Pink Prayer shawl you crocheted.

And Rev. Birch for delivering it when he came to visit me.

Love,
Lucy Ames



CARING FAMILIES: MOVING FORWARD

Again, Jesus said,

“Simon, son of John, do you truly love me?”

He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Take care of my sheep.”

John 21:16



Clearly, Jesus has told us that if we love him, we must take care of his sheep. All of us at Leacock are Jesus’s sheep, and we most certainly are meant to care for each other. The Leacock Caring Families gives us the perfect opportunity to do so. Everyone in the church has been assigned to a family, and by now, you should know who the members of your caring family are. If you don’t know who your family members are, check out the table in the narthex for an envelope with your name on it. Those of us involved in pulling this whole concept together and seeing it from idea to reality would just like to encourage you to take advantage of being a member of this small family within your larger church family.

Studies have shown that larger communities, such as churches, thrive when they are broken down into smaller groups. Our hope is that, whether you know the members of your family very well or not, you will get to know those you don’t and will continue to care for those you do, embracing the notions of Christian love, caring, and unity by watching out for each other the way family members do. You can do this in whatever way you’d like. There are no “right” or “wrong” ways to be a member of a caring family. You just want to focus on sharing the joy of Christ’s love by caring for each other. Some of you have asked for suggestions, so here are some ways you might put love into action:

- ☺ Be aware when members of your caring family are sick, or in need of some comfort for other reasons, and reach out to them in any way you feel might be appropriate (a phone call, a note, a card, a hospital visit, food, flowers, etc.).
- ☺ If it’s a member of your family’s birthday or anniversary, again, you could call or send a card or a note or whatever you feel like doing.
- ☺ If there are members of your family who have a hard time getting to church, either for Sunday services or other church events, offer them rides when you’re attending.
- ☺ Visit each other when the mood strikes.

We would also encourage you to be imaginative and to have fun. The idea is to embrace all the best of what families are and do. Some ideas you might want to consider:

- ☺ “Family reunions” that might be a summer picnic at a park or a potluck at the church
- ☺ “Family day trips” to nearby locations (historic site, museums, zoo, etc.)
- ☺ “Family movie night” either at the church or in someone’s home
- ☺ “A progressive dinner” night, where families go from home to home for a different dinner course

STEWARDSHIP REPORT - FINANCIAL UPDATE FEBRUARY 2013

	<i>Offering February</i>		<i>Expenses February</i>	
	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Monthly Total	\$13,714	\$14,161	\$15,027	\$17,325
Year-to-Date	\$28,341	\$32,363	\$29,666	\$32,797

Budget Tracking Through February

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Total Annual Budget	\$251,276	\$247,355
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$29,666	\$32,797
% of Budget Spent	12.0%	13.0%

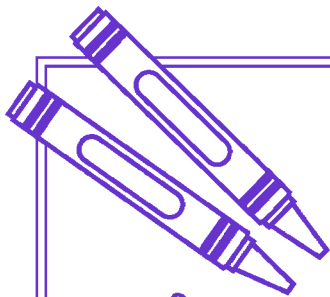
Offering Tracking Through February

<u>2013 Actual</u>	<u>2013 Budget</u>	<u>2013 Variance</u>
\$28,341	\$41,879	\$13,538

Our expenses for the year so far are just slightly more than our income from generous offering. The cool weather is hanging on, and use of oil was up, so another delivery was required in February which is a significant expense. Let's hope for a warm spring! Even though we have needed to spend a bit more than we received, it is good to note we have spent less this year than we did last year for the same two months. We are trying to keep things under control as much as possible so we can fund our ministry to others as best we can. Please keep in mind, the funding that goes toward our benevolence and mission work is a percentage of our total offering. If offering is lower than expected to meet the budget fully, the funding for benevolence is commensurately lower too.

I would like to answer a question I received about Per Capita, and what it is. Our PCUSA General Assembly, our Synod and our Presbytery, have the authority to request a Per Capita Apportionment from the churches that are part of these organizational units. The General Assembly is, of course, our national leadership, and all PCUSA Churches are part of this. A Synod is a regional organization, and we are part of the "Synod of the Trinity." The Presbytery is the direct governing organization for churches located in this smaller geographical area within a Synod. We are part of the "Donegal Presbytery." "Per Capita" is a Latin term that translates to "by head." The term is typically used to mean "per person." In our situation, this means every member of the church, specifically Leacock Presbyterian Church. Our Session has agreed to pay each year a Per Capita apportionment based upon the number of members we have to our Presbytery which then divides the total amount and gives it to the Synod and General Assembly. You will notice in your envelope box, a lonely little envelope that has "Per Capita" printed on it. Our hope is that each member will offer the amount of the per capita apportionment and give it to Leacock to defer the cost of paying this. This year, the total amount per member is **\$28.90**. The breakdown of this by the three organizations is: General Assembly - \$6.87, Synod - \$2.20, Presbytery - \$19.83. Stay tuned next month! I will describe what these organizations use these funds for (why they are important), and in the meantime if you have not already, please consider placing **\$28.90 per church member** in your household into that envelope and dropping it into the offering next Sunday. Thank you all from the Stewardship Committee.

Steven Boas - Stewardship



Just for Kids



Special Times for the Israelites

"This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it ..." Exodus 12:14

The biblical calendar had many feasts and festivals. They were connected with the changing of the seasons or special events. Below are some of the special days observed by the Israelites.

Use the code to find the name of the special day and the month of the Jewish year in which they are celebrated.

CODE:

ABCDEFGHIJKLMN OPQRSTUVWXYZ
ZYXWVUTSRQPONMLKJIHGFE DCBA

Season		Holiday	Month
1. End of Summer	ILHS SZHSZMZS	(New Year)	GRSHIR
2. Fall	BLN PRKKFI	(Day of Atonement)	GRSHIR
3. Fall	HFPPLGS	(Festival of Booths)	GRHSIR
4. Winter	SZMFPPZS	(Festival of Rededication)	PRHOVE
5. Winter	KFIRN	(Festival of Lots)	ZWZI
6. Spring	KZHHLEVI	(Feast of Unleavened Bread)	MRHZM
7. Spring	HSZEF'LG	(Feast of Weeks/Pentecost)	HREZM



Coffee Fellowship

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE AND COFFEE

We are trying Folgers coffee and spring water for Sunday morning coffee fellowship. We have received positive feedback; however, if you would like us to try something different please let us know.

Also, we are striving to make the task of setting up an easier process. We hope this will help get volunteers so we can keep this event in place.

We are working closely with Community Outreach in putting together a thoughts and ideas survey. Please help us know what your interest, talents, and likes are.

We appreciate every helping hand you offer. Thank you for getting involved and showing your support.

Answer on Page 11

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Tuesday April 23: 6:30pm, we will have a reception with refreshments and welcome volunteers from the Contact Crisis hot line to present a lecture on what they do and what it means to them.

All are welcome.

CONTACT Lancaster Helpline - call 299.4855

CONTACT Lancaster Helpline - 717.299.4855
Teen Line - 717.394.2000
Kids Line - 717.394.2000



FEBRUARY SESSION SNIPPETS

The Session met March 26 with a full agenda before them. Loretta McClarigan spoke briefly about using the form in the church pantry to order supplies for meals and other events sponsored by various church committees. Kevin McClarigan, Chairperson of the Endowment Fund, walked the Session through the various funds in the Endowment and explained the application process for use of monies. Elders agreed this information, which was extremely well outlined, needs to be further disseminated to the congregation through either Kevin or a representative of the Presbyterian Foundation.

The Board of Deacons joined the Session at 8:00pm, providing refreshments and sharing the work in which they are involved. It was decided that the term Shut-In Members should be changed to At Home Members.

The following business was also conducted:

- o Letters of transfer to High View Church of God granted to Mac and Beth Watters and James and Jody Watters Bradley

- o Assigning these activities of the Women of Leacock to Session Committees: Bible Studies - Christian Education; Prayer Shawl Ministries - Mission; Thank Offering and Birthday Offering - Mission; Clothing Drive - Mission; Advent Family Night - Congregational Life/Community Outreach and Christian Education
- o Concurring with the hiring of Danielle Short as Outdoor Sexton beginning January 1, 2013
- o Setting the yearly salary for the Church Treasurer
- o Approving CONTACT ministry presentation for April 21 at 6:30pm
- o Receiving the Benevolence and Church Treasurers' reports
- o Forming an Ad Hoc Committee to study formulating an updated policy on protection from sexual abuse; this committee will report on its progress at the May meeting
- o Contacting the Trustees about installing windows in all inside classroom and office doors and advising Sunday School teachers and nursery volunteers to keep doors open until these windows have been installed.
- o Approving a Youth Retreat for June 28, 29, and 30
- o Receiving copies of Leacock's Manual of Operations and scheduling a Special Meeting devoted solely to working on this manual

Lancaster General Hospital has scheduled community blood drives throughout the year at the following locations. Won't you consider giving blood - every pint is very important!

BLOOD DRIVE SCHEDULE APRIL 2013

<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Time</u>
Wed, Apr 3	White Horse Fire Company	2:00pm to 7:00pm
Thur, Apr 11	Yoders Market	2:00pm to 7:00pm
Tues, Apr 16	Bareville Fire Company	2:00pm to 7:00pm
Wed, Apr 17	Gordonville Fire Company	2:00pm to 7:00pm
Thur, Apr 18	Intercourse Fire Company	2:00pm to 7:00pm
Wed, Apr 24	Kinzer Fire Company	2:00pm to 7:00pm

The Lancaster General Suburban Outpatient Pavilion (Health Campus) Blood Drive is located in Building 2104, Suite 202. The hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 8:00am to 7:30pm. For more information call 544-0170.

**RESPONSIBILITIES AT LEACOCK CHURCH
APRIL & MAY 2013**

NURSERY

If you are unable to serve as a volunteer, PLEASE TRADE WITH SOMEONE SCHEDULED ON ANOTHER SUNDAY. Call the office secretary, 687-6619, so she can make the bulletin change. THANK YOU!

Apr 7	8:00	Tom & Vicki Burkins
	10:30	Johanna Gingher & Sharon Williams
Apr 14	8:00	Tracy Dippner
	10:30	Mike & Valerie Ruhl
Apr 21	8:00	Ellen Barnes
	10:30	Lauren & Ruth Anne Appel
Apr 28	8:00	Taryn Shenk
	10:30	Mike & Kelly Hartmann
May 5	8:00	Michele McLaughlin
	10:30	Bob & Margy Hershey
May 12	8:00	Loretta McClarigan
	10:30	Chuck & Kathy Ankney
May 19	9:30	Darwin Eshleman
		ONE SERVICE OF WORSHIP
May 26	8:00	Sue Funk
	10:30	Deb Beane & David Erikson

ANSWER: 1. Rosh Hashanah; T'shri; 2. Yom Kippur; T'shri; 3. Sukkoth; T'shri; 4. Hanukkah; Kisle; 5. Purim; Adar; 6. Passover; Nisan; 7. Shavu'ot; Sivan

**USHERS
APRIL & MAY 2013**

Donald Andrews, Head Usher
8:00 Service, (687-7878)

Ed Margerum, Head Usher
10:30 Service, (442-4027)

APRIL

Michael McLaughlin
Michele McLaughlin
Eugene Bare
Ronald Miller

Edwin Margerum
Darwin Eshleman
Shirley Smith
Lois Snader

MAY

Ralph Shank
Deb Sindall
Nick Lopez
Evie Lopez

Steve Boas
Charlene Boas
Keo Phongxaysanith
Robert Brackbill

PLEASE NOTE -- If you are unable to serve the month or part of the month you are scheduled for, please try to trade with someone else then contact the head usher. They will contact the church office. THANK YOU!



PLAN FOR SUMMER NOW

As warmer weather approaches and the school year winds down, are you wondering what special activities your children (or grandchildren) can do this summer? Wonder no longer -- your Christian Education Committee has several ideas.

First is our Annual Vacation Bible School scheduled for June 23 - 27 from 5:30 - 8:00pm. Beginning with a kid-friendly but nutritious meal, the evening will be filled with learning about God's Amazing Son, singing spirit-filled songs, making music and crafts, and playing outdoor games. Put the dates on your family calendar now.

And we will again be needing adult volunteers to help in the kitchen, tell stories, and assist with crafts and games. If you can help, contact Marie Brackbill, Lois Eshleman, Jenny Keenan, or Dianne Yuninger.

Second, don't forget about all the camping opportunities offered by Camp Donegal. Camps are planned for children ages kindergarten through senior high.

Brochures with specific information are available at the back of the sanctuary. The church will also pay half of the fee for your child.

Summer is a time of delight for children of all ages, let's make the season even better with VBS and Camp Donegal.

Please see separate icon
on the front page
for the April Church
Calendar

**Leacock Presbyterian Church
3181 Lincoln Hwy East
Paradise, PA 17562**

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