



# *Leacock Communicator*

## *Leacock Presbyterian Church*

[www.leacockpres.org](http://www.leacockpres.org)  
687-6619

Volume 54, Number 3

April 2014

### **Notes From the Manse**

*“The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.”*

*Isaiah 11:6*

What a wonderful vision this is, a time of true and abiding peace. Yet that vision seems so far away from our broken human reality. Think of a child watching, listening, as his or her parents rage at each other. Or consider those parents, two people who once pledged their love to each other and who now seem to know only difference, only hurt, only fear. Think of two friends and all the time, all the memories they share, now, perhaps forever, driven apart by a broken trust or a broken heart. Think of a fellowship, a people come together who could do great things if they are together, but who instead split apart into bitter camps who cannot, who will not, forgive each other for wrongs real or imagined. And think of countries, of a world, at war, tearing apart families, communities.

When my mother died, my father wanted to take one last family trip with his two sons. So he arranged a trip to a place he'd always wanted to go, the Holy Land of his faith. And what a trip it was. I remember sitting in a café in a plaza in Jerusalem, getting ice cream on a hot day, only suddenly to notice the café, the plaza had emptied. When he signaled to the waiter, he nervously approached us and explained there was a bomb threat, a briefcase had been left at curbside. The bomb squad came and it turned out it was just a briefcase. But now we knew, now we understood, that this was a way of life for Israelis, something a part of the rhythm of their lives right alongside an astonishing vitality. During our trip we went to Jericho in the West Bank, and there we saw the other side. For this Palestinian town and the restaurant where we had lunch had a heavy stillness built up of wariness and fear. There was much more to our trip, awe and wonder and delight as we moved along ancient paths where David and Jesus may well have passed. But I never forgot the sorrow of the land. For here a people long exiled in turn exiled another people. Some believe that the name, Jerusalem, means the city of peace. How ironic, when so many die to claim it as theirs.

And so I wonder. Is peace in Israel and Palestine possible? Can two people who claim the same land live together? I just don't know—the words of *Isaiah* seem like such a dream. Yet the message of Scripture is clear. *Psalms* 34, for instance, says that whoever values and desires life needs to do a few, clear things—speak no evil, avoid evil, do good, and seek peace. Well, that is what I am going to do. Our denomination, the PCUSA, is leading a peacemaking trip to Israel and Palestine at the end of April and beginning of May. I applied to go, writing numerous essays, speaking to many folks, and was blessed to be chosen. I don't know what we will achieve. At the least I seek to learn more, from both sides. And I have hope, for though peace seems impossible, I remember that peace is a fruit of the Spirit, that in the end it is not up to me or our group or any human being, that God wills peace and therefore it will come. So, as *Psalms* 122 says, pray for the peace of Jerusalem. Pray for me and our peacemaking mission. Pray that someday, all wolves, all lambs, will at last live together in peace.

Rev. Robert W. Birch

## Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals

Apr 6 (5th Sunday in Lent) Ezekiel 37:1-14 Psalm 130 Romans 8:6-11 John 11:1-45	Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 John 13:1-17, 31b-35	Acts 10:34-43 or Jeremiah 31:1-6 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 Colossians 3:1-4 or Acts 10:34-43 John 20:1-18 or Matthew 28:1-10
Apr 13 (Passion/Palm Sunday - 6th Sunday in Lent) <i>Liturgy of the Palms</i> Matthew 21:1-11 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29  <i>Liturgy of the Passion</i> Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11 Matthew 26:14-27:66 or Matthew 27:11-54	Apr 18 (Good Friday) Isaiah 52:13 - 53:12 Psalm 22 Hebrews 10:16-25 or Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9 John 18:1 - 19:42	<i>Easter Evening</i> Isaiah 25:6-9 Psalm 114 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8 Luke 24:13-49
Apr 14 (Monday of Holy Week) Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 36:5-11 Hebrews 9:11-15 John 12:1-11	Apr 19 (Easter Vigil) Genesis 1:1- 2:4a Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26 Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18, 8:6-18; 9:8-13 Psalm 46 Genesis 22:1-18 Psalm 16 Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21 Exodus 15:1b - 13, 17-18 Isaiah 55:1-11 Isaiah 12:2-6 Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4 or Proverbs 8:1-8, 19-21; 9:4b-6 Psalm 19 Ezekiel 36:24-28 Psalm 42 and 43 Ezekiel 37:1-14 Psalm 143 Zephaniah 3:14-20 Psalm 98 Romans 6:3-11 Psalm 114 Matthew 28:1-10	Apr 27 (2nd Sunday of Easter) Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Psalm 16 1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31
Apr 15 (Tuesday of Holy Week) Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 71:1-14 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 John 12:20-36		
Apr 16 (Wednesday of Holy Week) Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 70 Hebrews 12:1-3 John 13:21-32		
Apr 17 (Maundy Thursday) Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14	Apr 20 (Resurrection of the Lord - Easter Sunday)	



## Leacock's Prayer Chain

With the addition of new church members and the loss of some older friends, it has become apparent that we need to revamp our prayer chain. This will be taking place the month of April.

The prayer chain is a way that everyone in the church can participate and work together in helping each other. Your age or physical disabilities do not matter. Everyone can pray and there are no church meetings associated with this!

All you need is a phone and a willingness to make one phone call and spend some time in prayer.

Anyone may put anybody on the prayer chain. The person does not need to be a member of our church. We don't need a complete history of why we are praying for a specific person - really, we don't even need a

name. Just that a "friend" needs special prayers because they are going through a rough time. God already knows the rest.

This is not a "gossip hotline" for our own knowledge. It is a way for us, as Christians, to help others. We are admonished in scripture to pray for each other.

If you know of someone who needs to be on the prayer chain, you may call the pastor, the church office, the prayer chain coordinator, or anyone on the prayer chain.

There is power in prayer. God hears all our prayers - those spoken and those unspoken - and answers them according to His will.

If you are already on the prayer chain, please sign up again as we will be redoing the list completely. The sign up sheets will be in the Narthex the

month of April. If there are any questions, please call Lois Eshleman (717 394-4953 or 717 940-6668).

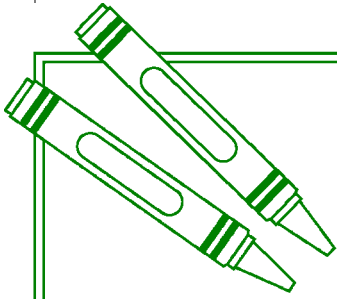


## Lenten Study—About Meals, With a Meal

This year's Lenten Study has gotten off to a good start, with two sessions highlighted by great soups and fun discussions filled with both laughter and reflection. We are gathering at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday evenings for a meal, followed by a study examining the role of meals in our lives and in the ministry of Jesus. The last Tuesday Lenten Study will be held on April 8.

If you have missed a session, it doesn't matter—though all sessions ultimately are linked, each can stand alone. So, come join us. You'll enjoy the fellowship—and the soups!

And for those who can't make an evening gathering, consider going over to First Presbyterian, Strasburg, for a light luncheon and brief worship service sponsored by the Strasburg Ministerium.



# Just for KIDS

## Easter

Easter is a special day for Christians. The days before are dark and sad, but on that special day – we celebrate! Why do we celebrate?

Write the word to fit each definition. Transfer the numbered letters to the corresponding boxes. Read the answer.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----	----



14	15	16
----	----	----

17	18	19	20
----	----	----	----

great happiness

a place where plants grow

opposite of evening

a shape that means love

it rises every morning

a close companion

Jesus was nailed to it

it blocked the door of Jesus' tomb



1 12

11 20 16

13 7 6

15 9 19

8 4

10 18 17

3 5

14 2



## March Session Snippets

The Session and Board of Trustees met on St. Patrick's Day to share concerns and plans for the year ahead. The Clerk of Session presented the definitions and areas of responsibilities for elders, trustees, and deacons, according to the *Book of Order*.

One idea to be explored to help with the budget is electronic dissemination of church information for those members having Internet access.

A time of fellowship and delicious refreshments (think brownies with chocolate frosting and green shamrocks) occurred before the boards adjourned to their separate meetings.

Session actions:

- ◇ Servant Stage Company to present concert "I'll Fly Away" April 27 at 3:00 p.m.
- ◇ Youth Group Retreat scheduled July 25 - 27 at Ruhl's cabin in Jim Thorpe with the pastor present to lead worship and help in planning Youth Sunday
- ◇ Youth will have a lock-in September 12
- ◇ Youth Sunday scheduled for September 14
- ◇ VBS scheduled for June 22 - 26 from 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. with Marie Brackbill, Jenny Keenan, and Dianne Yuninger as coordinators

Answer: joy, garden, morning, heart, sun, friend, sun, friend, sun, friend, stone, Jesus rose from the dead!

(Continued on page 5)

### Session Snippets (continued)

(Continued from page 4)

- ◇ Chuck Holt will speak during worship Sunday April 27
- ◇ Name of the combined Congregational Life/Community Outreach Committee was changed to Church and Community Life Committee
- ◇ Robert Birch, Carol Shearer, and Dianne Yuninger reappointed as Emergency Fund Administrators

### Spring is Here - Church Work Day

Spring is here and it is time to clean up our church property.

on April 5 – 8:00 am.

The trustees have set aside, Saturday, April 5 for **Work Day**. Come join us for some fellowship and **WORK**.

Any questions please contact any Trustee.

Many things to be done by young and old alike, bring your rakes, gloves, tools etc...



**Many hands make light work**

Looking forward to seeing you

### Special Guests on April 27

On Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, we will welcome Chuck Holt of The Factory Ministries to Leacock for both services.

He will be teaching and preaching with his ministry in mind, and we are certainly looking forward to what he has to say.

Meanwhile, at the 10:30 service, our children grades K-5 will be treated with a lesson given by Rev. Birch in God's Place for Kids.



### Pray For

- |          |                             |
|----------|-----------------------------|
| April 6  | Dalin Appel                 |
| April 13 | Edward & Ruth<br>Anne Appel |
| April 20 | Laurel Appel                |
| April 27 | David Babb                  |

### Vacation Bible School - June 22 - 26, 2014

Thanks to the intrepid team of Marie Brackbill, Jenny Keenan, and Dianne Yuninger we now have dates for VBS and a theme. Vacation Bible School will be held from Sunday through Thursday June 22-26 from 5:30-8:00 p.m., and this year's theme is Psalm 23. Perhaps that means we'll have some shepherds and sheep in our midst?



## Community Meal - Thursday, April 24

If you have never stopped by for a bite to eat at our Community Meals, stop by Thursday, April 24.

We will be serving a great meal of pulled pork sandwiches, mac and cheese, stewed tomatoes, fruit cup and great desserts from Weis Market in Gap.

We serve beginning 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Doors open at 5:15 p.m. Stop by earlier and you will

find a lot of your friends and fellow church members having a great time setting up for the meal, preparing the meal and

### Free Community Dinner



getting things ready to serve the

great food. You just might want to join in and help make the meal a great success feeding the less fortunate and all those in our community.

Any help is always welcome. Sign up sheets to help at each meal and to donate food for the meals are always in the Narthex two Sundays before each meal.

As always the community meal is free and open to all.



Over the years, some folks have mentioned they wish the church office was open longer. So, we have decided to try out a new schedule through Lent that allows the office to be open Monday through Friday for more hours each day.

Michele, the church secretary, will still be in the office Tuesday through Friday, from 8:30 to 12:00.

Rev. Birch will now be in the office, Monday through Thursday, from 3:00 to 6:30.

## Expanded Office Hours

This way, people can now more easily find a time to stop by the office, even after work.

Michele is now doing the Sunday bulletin on Thursday, so please submit items by Wednesday morning. We hope this makes the office more accessible.

## One Great Hour of Sharing



Just a reminder that all Sundays in Lent are One Great Hour of Sharing Sundays.

We prayerfully ask for your generous help for the so many in need. You will find the envelopes for your offerings in the pews.

## Stewardship Report - Financial Update February 2014

	<b>Offering February</b>		<b>Expenses February</b>	
	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Monthly Total	\$14,811	\$13,714	\$15,254	\$15,027
Year-to-Date	\$28,737	\$28,340	\$31,763	\$29,663

### **Budget Tracking Through February**

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Total Annual Budget	\$226,889	\$251,276
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$31,763	\$29,663
% of Budget Spent	14.0%	12.0%

To meet our budget, we need to receive an average of \$4,363 each week. There were four Sundays in February, and we would have liked to see  $\$4,363 \times 4$  or \$17,453 received in offering for January. We received a total of \$14,811 for February, which means we are  $\$17,453 - \$14,811 = \$3,527$  behind our 2014 budget for the month of February, and for the year to date (Jan & Feb)  $\$34,904 - \$28,737 = \$6,167$  behind budget.

As far as our actual expenditure versus offering, we are also tracking behind. \$31,763 has been spent and we received \$28,340 in offering. That is a deficit of \$3,423. At the very least, we need to be able to make up this shortfall and cover our actual expenses. Please consider how you could possibly help our church meet our financial responsibilities!

The Stewardship Committee.



## New Committee - Church and Community Life

The Community Outreach and Congregational Life Committees have officially merged into one committee, now named "Church and Community Life."

We have adopted goals of enhancing the life of our church family and making our church more relevant to the community. The main priority of this committee is church health and growth. We have

some fresh ideas to look forward to while we maintain many of the familiar activities for which each of the two merged committees had been responsible.

One new project we are excited about involves getting to know the Prayer Family/ Prayer Person better and making them more visible to our church family. Stay tuned

for more information and to see how you can help this project be successful



## Jim Thorpe Here We Come

The youth group will be taking its second annual trip to the Ruhl's cabin (thank you, Ruhl family!) this summer from Friday July 25-27. We hope to enjoy another weekend of too much food, too much sugar, and way too little time to do all we'd like to do. We'll be planning the youth service, and Rev. Birch will lead us in a living room worship service on Sunday the 27<sup>th</sup>.

Before we get to summer, though, we'll be serving up **Breakfast on Easter Sunday morning**. Please join us between the Easter Dawn and 9:30 service for a delicious and filling meal prepared by your youth with the able help of Steve Boas and John Shirk.

Emily Birch and Charlene Boas -Youth Group Leaders

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 2014

<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Time</u>
Tues, April 1	Bareville Fire Company	2:00pm to 7:00pm
Wed, April 2	White Horse Fire Company	2:00pm to 7:00pm
Wed, April 9	Bird-in-Hand Fire Company	2:00pm to 7:00pm
Wed, April 23	Kinzer Fire Company	2:00pm to 7:00pm
Tues, April 29	Lampeter-Strasburg High School	8:00am to 2:00pm

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.

## Flowers

You may purchase flowers for the sanctuary on Sunday April 27 in honor of or in memory of someone or a special occasion. Call the church office at 687-6619.







## Thank You Notes Received

Thank you carolers for the Christmas message through song. Also for the cookies.

Right now my diet does not include cookies so I gave them to my neighbor who was just diagnosed with cancer. She isn't on a special diet as yet.

I thought she would enjoy them. I did keep two of them so I had a taste, they were delicious.

Sincerely,  
Helen Kreider

To our Church Family,

Malcolm and I want to thank you for the lovely poinsettia that he received from the Deacons at Christmas time. It is still blooming!

Of course he was, as usual, happy to see the carolers. He always looks forward to hearing them.

He also enjoys the cookies!

Thank you again from both of us.

Blessings,  
Malcolm & June  
Stannard

To Leacock Presbyterian Church,

The church received an acknowledgement thank you from Bridge of Hope this past December for \$350 in gift card donations.



## Gratitude Corner

### (A Thank You to Those Who Go Above and Beyond the Call of Duty to Care for Their Minister and His Wife)

You know how sometimes you're out of town, or just out shopping, and you spot something in a shop window or in a gift store and think of a member of your family? You had no plans to buy that person a gift, but now you see it's a perfect gift, so you just buy it and give it to him or her for no reason. Well, there is somebody in our church who, more than once, has done that for Bob and me. Her gifts usually have a dachshund theme (can't imagine why 😊!), and we certainly cherish them.

This month, our huge THANK YOU goes to June Stannard. We love the fact that you remember us even when you're miles away from us, and your gifts are wonderful. More importantly, they remind us of you even when you're miles away from us and they probably always will.

Emily Birch

# Servant Stage Company

*"Serving the Community"  
proudly presents*

**"I'll Fly Away"**  
**Old-Time Gospel Concert**  
3 p.m. Sunday, April 27th  
Leacock Presbyterian Church

***Lively entertainment for the whole family!***



**A hand-clapping, foot-stomping, uplifting affair of fiddles, banjos, and harmonies, performed by a cast of more than twenty vocalists and instrumentalists! Including songs and hymns such as "I'll Fly Away," "Sweet By and By" and "Down to the River to Pray."**

**Free and open to the public!**

**Donations will be accepted to benefit Servant Stage.**

*Servant Stage Company exists to serve our community with outstanding musical and theatrical experiences, make the arts accessible to all, especially those with financial or physical limitations, create performances that inspire, educate, challenge, and entertain... and have fun while doing it!*

**ServantStageCompany.com**

### EASTER PLANTS

Easter plants may be placed in memory of someone deceased or in honor of someone living. Please complete and return this form and money to the church office by Sunday, April 6 or sooner. The ones remembered and by whom will appear in the Easter bulletin. Remember to advise the church if you plan to leave your plant(s) to be taken to an at-home member.

I/We \_\_\_\_\_

wish to order

Mini Daffodils \$5.00

Hyacinth \$7.00

Tulip \$5.50

in Memory of \_\_\_\_\_ or

in Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Please place a (✓) if your plant(s) is to be taken to an at-home member by our deacons \_\_\_\_\_

**RETURN FORM AND PAYMENT BY SUNDAY, APRIL 6**

### Go, Dog, Go

The subject of the most recent book and movie for the Leacock book and movie discussion club has been dogs.

We had a very insightful discussion of *The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stein, which was ostensibly a story about a dog owned by a race car driver but was really a story about life with a few lessons included.

In keeping with the dog theme, on Sunday May 18th at 5:00 p.m., we will have a potluck supper followed by the movie *My Dog Skip*. This is a family friendly movie, so we're hoping everyone will come out to enjoy a

delicious meal and a good film together.

We will have a discussion following the movie for those who wish to participate.

Emily Birch - Book and Movie Group Coordinator



### Adult Sunday School

The adult Sunday School class continues to watch and discuss thought-provoking movies. The most recent has been *In a Better World*, a Dutch movie that raised many ethical questions.

The class will continue through the end of May, and anyone is welcome to join on Sunday mornings (whether you watch the movie or not).

Please contact David Homsher (687-6469) for dates and times of movie viewings.

**USHERS - APRIL AND MAY 2014****8:00 Service****Ed Margerum, Head Usher  
10:30 Service, (442-4027)**APRILKaren Boyer  
Art Myers  
Nick Lopez  
Evie LopezMary Alice High  
Bob Hershey  
Margie Hershey  
Darwin EshlemanMAYRalph Shank  
Robin Englehart  
Dean Englehart  
Tracey DippnerCharlene Boas  
Steve Boas  
Lori Smith  
Shirley Smith

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!

**NURSERY - APRIL AND MAY 2014**

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 6	8:00	Loretta McClarigan
	10:30	Alba & Valerie Ruhl
Apr 13	9:30	Mike Hartmann & Craig Keenan
Apr 20	9:30	Lauren & Ruth Anne Appel
Apr 27	8:00	Tom and Vicki Burkins
	10:30	Sue Funk
May 4	8:00	Michele McLaughlin
	10:30	Bob & Margy Hershey
May 11	8:00	Marie Brackbill
	10:30	Chuck & Kathy Ankney
May 18	8:00	Karen Boyer
	10:30	David & Carol Berkhimer
May 25	8:00	Stephanie Kloepfer
	10:30	Johanna Gingher & Deb Beane

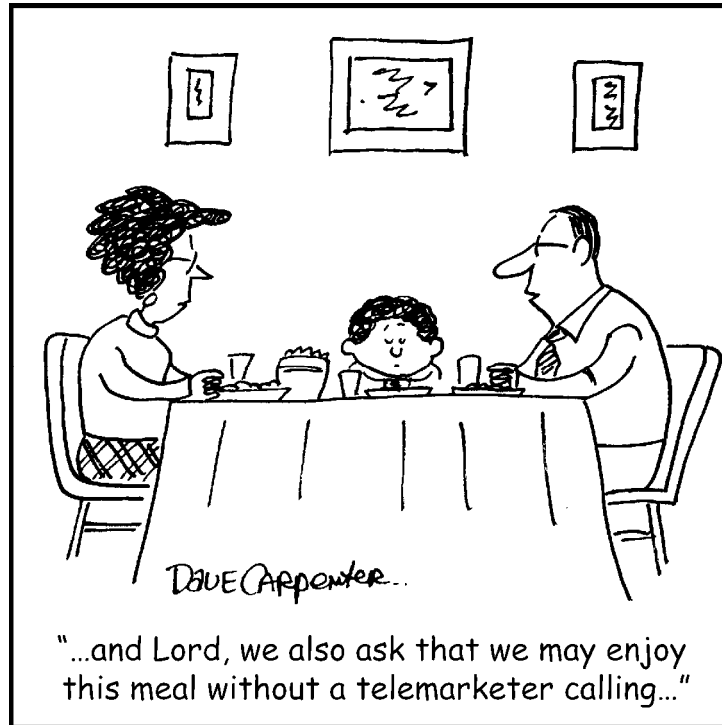
**WELCOME CENTER - APRIL AND MAY 2014**

Apr 6 and 27	8:00	Nick Lopez
Apr 6	10:30	Michele Lichty
April 27	10:30	Lori or Shirley Smith
Apr 13 and 20	9:30	Dave & Carol Berkhimer
May	8:00	Bea & Don Andrews
	10:30	Betty Sowers

**AND A LITTLE CHILD SHALL LEAD THEM**

*April Schedule for God's Place for Kids/Chance to Be Led By a Child:*

Apr 6	Kris & Allie Shirk
Apr 13	Charlene Boas & Linda Erikson
Apr 20	Easter Sunday, no God's Place for Kids
Apr 27	Bob and Emily Birch



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

Leacock Presbyterian Church  
3181 Lincoln Hwy East  
Paradise, PA 17562  
Address Return Required

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



## **EASTER SCHEDULE**

### **MAUNDY THURSDAY**

Thursday, April 17, 6:00pm

Light Meal followed by Communion - Smith Fellowship Hall

### **GOOD FRIDAY**

Friday, April 18, Noon - Paradise Sanctuary

### **EASTER DAWN**

6:00am - Old Leacock Presbyterian Church

### **EASTER BREAKFAST**

7:30 - 8:30am - Smith Fellowship Hall

Served by Church Youth

### **EASTER SERVICE**

9:30am - Paradise Sanctuary



***THE LEACOCK COMMUNICATOR***

**Editor - Vicki P. Burkins, 392-7253**

**[vicki.burkins@gmail.com](mailto:vicki.burkins@gmail.com)**