



Leacock Communicator
Leacock Presbyterian Church

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June 2014

Notes From the Manse

When our peacemaking group left the Old City of Jerusalem, we headed south to a place on a hill called Tantur. In an ancient land, it is a relatively new place, established only some 40 years ago in 1972. It was created to be an ecumenical place of renewal and growth, where theologians and clergy could come to worship and study, to pray. It is a place for the mind, with a library holding over 70,000 volumes and meeting spaces where scholars can exchange questions and ideas. People from all over the world, from all denominations, room together, eat together, listen together.

But Tantur is also, perhaps most importantly, a place for the spirit. Jerusalem, so close, is a city of noise and hurry. Tantur has quiet. We shared a meal there. Before, we had time to walk the grounds, which in this dry land were like a miraculous oasis. Pebbled paths wandered among old trees and lush gardens speckled with a riot of bright colors. And it seemed everywhere one wandered there was always a place to sit in shade, alone with one's thoughts, one's prayers. After lunch, we were encouraged to go out on the roof of one of the buildings—the view, we were told, was spectacular.

And so it was, but not in a simple, touristy kind of way. To the north, we could see Jerusalem, the Old City with its walls and church spires and light shimmering off the gold of the Dome of the Rock, the newer parts of the city, with office towers and highways. To the south was Bethlehem and we could see the towers of the Church of the Nativity. To be between these two cities, so central to our faith, to be able to hold them both in our mind's eye so intimately—it did indeed stir the soul. Off to the east a bit was a large settlement, one of the largest in Palestine, where Jewish settlers have chosen to build a town or city on occupied land. And for the first time, we could see the Separation Wall, the wall built, Israelis will tell you, for security, the wall, Palestinians will tell you, that divides family member from family member, that keeps farmers from their own lands. The wall snakes around the countryside, not on the border of Israel and Palestine, but rather on Palestinian land. It does a strange zigzag around Rachel's Tomb, so that only Orthodox Jews may visit it. So, there before us was a spiritual landscape and a landscape marked by conflict, by distrust, by fear. And in the midst of it was Tantur, a Christian oasis in a troubled land.

The Christian community in Israel/Palestine is a small one these days. But one of our presenters told a tale of a town somewhere in the land where there is a house church filled by two brothers and their families, the only Christians in that town. When asked why they stayed, they said there should always be a Christian presence, no matter how small, to remind people of the gospel. Paul said in Romans that as far as it depends on us, we are to live in peace with everyone. And if the Spirit is in us, he said in Galatians, we will shine forth its fruits, love, joy, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self control, and, yes, peace. So there is indeed a need for a Tantur, a lonely house church in a town. There is a need for Christians in the Holy Land, people who make no claim on land, but who instead speak words of peace in the name of their Lord, who believe that blessed are the peacemakers, even if they must pay a price.

Rev. Robert W. Birch

Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals

June 1 (7th Sunday of Easter) Acts 1:6-14 Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11 John 17:1-11	7:37-39	Matthew 10:24-39
June 8 (Day of Pentecost) 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	June 15 (Trinity Sunday) Genesis 1:1—2:4a Psalm 8 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 Matthew 28:16-20	June 22 (12th Sunday in Ordinary Time) Genesis 21:8-21 Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17 Romans 6:1b-11
		June 29 (13th Sunday in Ordinary Time) Genesis 22:1-14 Psalm 13 Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:40-42



Those of you who missed *My Dog Skip* missed a great meal (including brownie bites with a surprise, thanks to Bonnie Rice), as well as a wonderful, heartfelt family movie that proved as well as *The Art of Racing in the Rain* how loyal and important a dog can be.

Books and Flicks

We're leaving dog stories behind now, so if that's not your cup of tea, we invite you to join us by reading *The Story of Beautiful Girl* by Rachel Simon. The book is set in Pennsylvania and explores the lives of a woman with a developmental disorder, the man she loves, and their daughter.

Still making a decision about when to meet, so please stay tuned for a date and time.

Emily Birch
Book and Movie Group
Coordinator



Summer Hymn Sings

Once again Old Leacock opens its doors for our monthly community hymn sing, the first Sunday of each month May through September, at 7:00 p.m.

Join us for an hour of heartfelt song—your choice—and then enjoy lemonade in the courtyard.

Thank You, Thank You

Hello Everyone,
Each month, as editor, I put thank you notes in this newsletter. Well, now it is my turn.

I am overwhelmed by the kindness shown me as I recover from my car accident of last month. Every day (but one) I

have received cards that have cheered me. Your prayers have kept me going. Phone calls of caring and food for nourishment have all been so welcome. I truly belong to a wonderful loving church. Thank you.

Vicki Burkins

Vacation Bible School

The Lord is my shepherd, I'll
walk with Him always.
He leads me by still waters, I'll
walk with Him always.
Always, always, I'll walk with Him
always"

Soon our sanctuary and hallways
will be echoing with this simple
yet powerful song as children
from our church and community
meet for Vacation Bible School.

The dates are June 22-26 from
5:30 to 8:00 p.m., beginning with
our traditional meal. Registration
will be Sunday evening beginning
at 5:00 p.m. All children ages
three through those having
completed grade 6 are welcome.

The committee is excited about
this year's theme of Psalm 23 and
Jesus being everyone's Good
Shepherd. However, we need

YOU to make our VBS a
success!

What can you do?

First, volunteer to help in the
kitchen, as a group leader or
helper, craft helper, or outdoor
activity supervisor or helper.

Second, look at the yellow
poster in the Narthex which asks
for donations and take one, two,
or more sheep home. Be sure to
sign the sheet on the wooden
podium indicating what you have
selected.

Third, look around your home
for any clear plastic or glass wide
mouth containers and bring them
to church and put them in the
labeled box in the Narthex. Also
any fabric scraps (at least 8 or 10
inches square), yarn and ribbon

remnants are needed.

Fourth, invite neighborhood
children, your grandchildren, and
your children to attend.

Finally, remember this outreach
in your prayers.

Jesus said, "Let the children
come to me and forbid them
not. For of such is the Kingdom
of Heaven."

If you have questions, please
contact Marie Brackbill, Jenny
Keenan, or Dianne Yuninger.



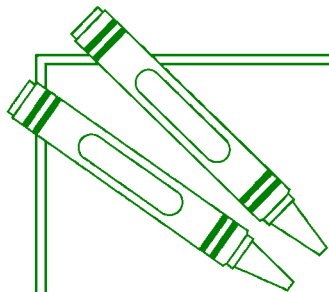
Summer Fun

The youth joined the book and movie discussion group in May to watch *My Dog Skip* and will continue to meet throughout the summer.

By now, the parents of all the youth should have received a newsletter with dates and events. If you didn't receive one or have misplaced the one you received, please let Emily know. The most important dates to remember are July 25-27 when we will enjoy another summer retreat at the Ruhl's cabin in Jim Thorpe.



Emily Birch and Charlene Boas
Youth Group Leaders



Just for KIDS

A Biblical Picnic

In the warm weather months we like to go on picnics. What do you pack in your picnic basket? If you lived in Bible times, what do you think you might have packed?

Below are the names of some people in the Bible. Use the code to find out what each person may have taken on a picnic. Look up the verses to read more about each person.

Code:	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z										
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26										

1. Saul 16 15 13 5 7 18 1 14 1 20 5 19 (1 Samuel 14:2)
2. Jonathan 8 15 14 5 25 (1 Samuel 14:29)
3. Eve 6 18 21 9 20 (Genesis 3:6)
4. Daniel and friends 22 5 7 5 20 1 2 12 5 19 (Daniel 1:12-16)
5. John the Baptist 12 15 3 21 19 20 19 (Matthew 3:4)
6. The 5,000 people 12 15 1 22 5 19 & 6 9 19 8 (Matthew 14:17)
7. Israelites in Egypt 3 21 3 21 13 2 5 18 19 (Numbers 11:5)
8. Esau 19 20 5 23 (Genesis 25:34)
9. Isaac 23 9 12 4 7 1 13 5 (Genesis 25:28)
10. Ruth 7 18 1 9 14 (Ruth 2:1-4)

Answers: pomegranates, honey, fruit, vegetables, locusts, loaves & fish, cucumbers, stew, wild game, grain

Pentecost Offering

Pentecost Sunday is June 8. Forty percent of the Pentecost offering received on June 8 and June 15 remains at Leacock. The Mission Committee will present its recommendation for the distribution of this offering to Session for its approval.

June Community Meal

With summer just around the corner (finally after a rough winter and cool spring), we will be presenting a summer feast at our Community Meal on Thursday, June 26.

The presentation will consist of hamburgers, hot dogs, potato salad, cole slaw, pepper cabbage, fruit cup and desserts donated by Weis market at Gap.

Join us in welcoming the hazy, lazy days of summer. Sign up sheets for food donations and volunteers will be in the Narthex.

The Mission Committee thanks the members of the church for their generosity and continued support in our efforts in helping others.



May Session Snippets

The Session spent considerable time examining the newly compiled *Manual of Operations* and agreed to table its adoption until some errors are corrected and some questions answered.

A group of people interested in serving as mentors to one Bridge of Hope client will be sought.

School Supplies will be collected in August for students in need who attend PVIS.

The Church and Community Life Committee will personally distribute information about the church and VBS to folks in the new neighborhood/development

in Paradise off Black horse Road.

Pentecost Sunday June 8 will have two worship services, one at 8:00 a.. At Old Leacock and one at 10:30 a.m. in Paradise, with Communion by intinction.



Living and Learning

The Christian Ed Committee is busy looking at ways to invigorate our Sunday School program this fall to meet the needs of all our members, young and old alike, while making sure we all learn in a spirit of fun that helps our faith grow strong.

dedicated themselves to teaching Sunday School classes this year: Carol Shearer - Preschool, Dianne Yuninger - K-5, Lois Eshleman and Ehren Graybill - 6-8, Emily Birch - Youth, Robert Birch, Tom Burkins, and David Homsher - Adults, Emily Birch and Karen Homsher, Christian Ed Chair and Co-Chair.

We are also looking for people who are willing to help lead or assist in leading Sunday School classes, as well as God's Place for Kids. Please prayerfully consider volunteering for this very important role in the life of our church.

Remember, there is no Sunday School or God's Place during the summer months.

As we draw this year to a close, we'd like to thank those who



**THANK YOU TO OUR
SUNDAY SCHOOL
TEACHERS**

**Rejoice in
the Lord
always;**

**again
I will Say,
Rejoice.**

Philippians 4:4, NRSV



Leacock Softball Team Schedule

Date	Time	Teams	Field
June 2	7:45	Leacock v. Weaverland #2	#2
June 9	9:00	Hershey v. Leacock	#1
June 16	7:45	Leacock v. Keystone	#1
June 23	9:00	Little Britain v. Leacock	#1
June 30	9:00	Bellevue v. Leacock	#2
July 7	9:00	Grace Point v. Leacock	#1
July 14	9:00	Pequea Baptist v. Leacock	#1
July 21	6:30	Ridgeview v. Leacock	#1
July 28	6:30	Leacock v. Bird-in-Hand	#2
August 4	6:30	Leacock v. St. Johns	#2
Mini-Playoffs			
August 5	7:00	Game #1 Division A	#1
	8:15	Game #2 Division A	#1
	7:00	Game #1 Division B	#2
	8:15	Game #2 Division B	#2



Playoffs Begin August 11—More details to come at a later date.

News from the Church & Community Life Committee

As we come upon the summer months, CCL Committee is looking for fresh ideas for ways to bring our congregation and community closer together. If you have any suggestions for activities you would like us to explore, please contact Jenny Keenan, Mary Alice High, Tom Burkins, or Robbin Englehart. You can also utilize the “thoughts and ideas” box in the Narthex to give us your fun ideas.

Some things on the horizon include:

◇ Further exploring our con-

nection with Bridge of Hope. We are looking into the possibility of mentoring a family and hope to have an information session planned for late summer.

- ◇ Collecting school supplies for middle school children at Pequea Valley Intermediate School Prior to the start of the next school year. We anticipate this collection will be done in a similar fashion to that of the Caring Tree.

We would like to extend a huge

“thank you” to all who have signed up to set up or clean up the Narthex refreshments and to those who have provided food each Sunday.

Over the summer months (June, July, and August) lemonade will be served after the service at Old Leacock. (We will take a small hiatus from having weekly refreshments at the Paradise church.) After Old Leacock Sunday and picnic (more information next month), we will resume coffee and refreshments in the Narthex between services.

Stewardship Report - Financial Update April 2014

	<u>Offering April</u>		<u>Expenses, April</u>	
	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Monthly Total	\$15,869	\$15,850	\$18,736	\$20,820
Year to Date	\$65,036	\$62,474	\$70,958	\$69,943

Budget Tracking through April

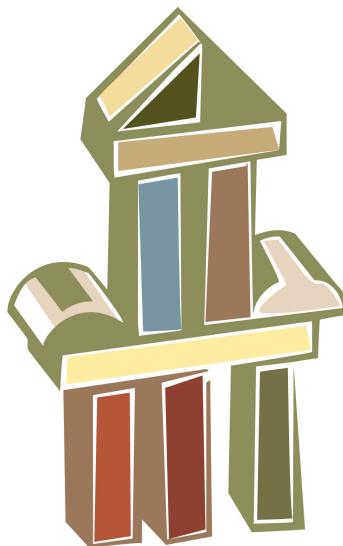
	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Total Annual Budget	\$226,889	\$251,276
Year to Date Expenses	\$70,958	\$69,943
% of Budget Spent	31%	28%

To meet our budget, we need to receive an average of \$4,363 each week. There were four Sundays in April, and we would have liked to see $\$4,363 \times 4$ or \$17,452 received in offering for April. We received a total of \$15,869 for April, which means we are $\$17,452 - \$15,869 = \$1,583$ behind our 2014 *budget* for the month of April, and for the year to date (January, February, March and April) $\$74,171 - \$65,036 = \$9,135$ behind *budget*.

As far as our actual expenditure versus offering, we are also tracking behind. \$70,958 has been spent and we received \$65,036 in offering. That is a deficit of \$5,922.

Pray For

June 1	Kirk & Deborah Beane
June 8	Mary Beckett
June 15	David & Carol Berkhimer
June 22	Bill Berkhimer
June 29	Shirley Bernard



STEWARDSHIP
UPDATE

Trustees at Work

The trustees have been busy getting proposals (companies, pricing and quality of work) on repairing the elevator and replacing some areas of roofing.

Your prayers and support are needed as they move forward.

Have a Great Summer!



Congratulations, Graduates!

Sincere congratulations to our high school and college graduates!

Stephen Englehart graduated from Lebanon Valley College with two degrees: a Bachelor of Science Degree in Music Education and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Music with Vocal Concentration. Stephen is in the process of applying for a teaching position.

Ryan McLaughlin will graduate from Lampeter Strasburg High School. He has enlisted in the United States Marines and will leave for basic training September 1.

Taryn Shenk will graduate from Pequea Valley High School. She plans to attend Alvernia University in the fall.

Prayers of thanks and for guidance follow these young people.



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

Many of you know that while Bob was off in Israel, I traveled to Virginia, New York, and Connecticut visiting with family members and friends. We're grateful for all the prayers everyone prayed for safe travels on both our parts.

My plans didn't keep me from getting invitations for dinner and company during the few days I was actually home, and I really appreciated those invites from all who extended a hand, too many for me to accept, if I wasn't going to eat multiple lunches and dinners each day.

I have to say, though, that I was very touched by a message I received when I stopped back in Paradise for one night after being down south and before heading north. Bea Andrews had called just to let me know that both she and Don were thinking and praying about me. Not only did she call once to leave that message, but she called twice. So this month's thank you goes to Bea and Don for sending so many positive prayers and thoughts my way. I'm sure they helped!

Emily Birch



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 MARCH 2014

<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Time</u>
Tues, June 3	Bareville Fire Company	2:00pm to 7:00pm
Wed, June 4	White Horse Fire Company	2:00pm to 7:00pm
Wed, June 18	Kinzer Fire Company	2:00pm to 7:00pm
Thur, June 19	Yoder's Market	2:00pm to 7:00pm
Wed, June 25	Gordonville 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.

USHERS - May and June 2014**Ed Margerum, Head Usher****8:00 Service****10:30 Service, (442-4027)**JuneEugene Bare
Richard Miller
Ellen Barnes
Bonnie RiceMichael Hartmann
Ehren Graybill
Keo Phongxaysanith
Ed JohannJulyJanet Huffman
Jan Huffman
Scott ShenkCarol Shearer
Sharon Williams
Valerie Ruhl

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 and contact the head usher. They will contact the church office. THANK YOU!

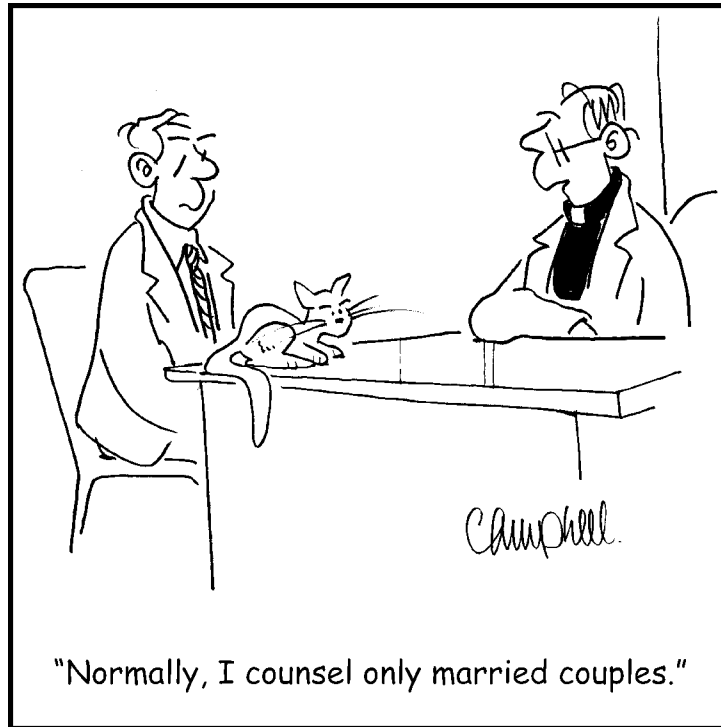
NURSERY - May and June 2014

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!

June 1	10:30	Mary Alice High & Sharon Williams
June 8	10:30	Bob & Margy Hershey
June 15	10:30	Lauren & Ruth Anne Appel
June 22	10:30	Mike & Kelly Hartmann
June 29	10:30	Lea & Michele Lichty
July 6	10:30	Charlene Boas & Craig Keenan
July 13	10:30	Skip & Marie Brackbill
July 20	10:30	Chuck & Kathy Ankney
July 27	10:30	David & Carol Berkhimer

There is no nursery available at the 8:00 service when it is held at the Old Leacock Church.

Beginning June 1, the 8:00 a.m. service of
Worship will be held at Old Leacock.



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

Leacock Presbyterian Church
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