



# Leacock Communicator

Volume 55 - Number 6

July and August 2015

## *Notes from the Manse*

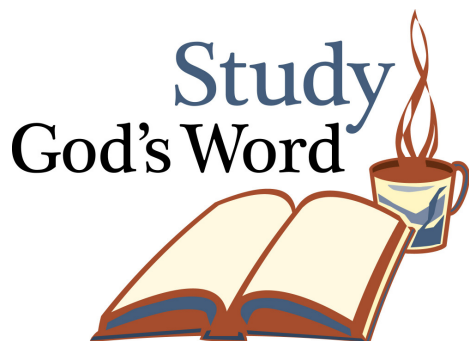
A few Sundays ago, I mentioned that we have re-entered the part of the church year known as Ordinary Time. Ordinary Time began shortly after Christmas and continued for several weeks until Lent began. Some three months then passed as we journeyed to Easter and Pentecost. So, in the early part of the year there are relatively few weeks that fall in Ordinary Time. But now we will remain in Ordinary Time all the way to Advent. And as I said before, do not think that because we call this time ordinary it is not special or important. For us, as followers of the Lord, it is if anything a critical time. It is no coincidence that its color is green, for this is intended to be a time of growth. How fitting, then, that summer has just begun, that seeds have been planted, and we can already see all around us signs of crops coming to life. Well, what about us? What seeds have been planted? How are they doing? Can we see signs of their growth?

In his teaching, Jesus often used the image of the seed. There was, for instance, the parable of the sower, with the seed representing the word of God. That word has come to us in so many ways, in church on Sunday, in lives of grace we have witnessed. Now, the seed sometimes may fall on the path and just lie there to be picked up by birds, when we don't understand what God speaks to us. Other times it may fall on rocky soil; then it will not grow, for its root is shallow and will not hold when a price must be paid for walking the way of the Lord. Other seed may be scattered among thorns, and the plant that comes will be choked out by a thirst for things or all the distractions, all the daily concerns, big and small, of mortal life. These are the dangers when seed is scattered; this is what happens to God's good word when it comes to a broken world.

Let us, instead, strive to be good soil so that the seed may thrive. What does that mean? Well, it means we have open hearts and minds, listening for what God is saying and not what we expect or want to hear. We must be humble enough to sit with God's word, so that we may understand what the Lord is saying to us today. We must be willing to carry our own crosses, to do the things that God wills even if others then reject us, scorn us, hurt us. We must be willing to shift our priorities, to make the ways of the Lord our true treasure, the treasure of our heart, and not the passing treasures of this world.

There's more. In *John*, Jesus says that a grain of wheat must die if it is to bear much fruit. With Jesus, the Kingdom of God has begun to break into the world. This I do believe. But like a plant, it is still growing. And sometimes, some dying must occur for life to come. Last week, nine people were killed at a Bible study in Charleston, SC; that was a dying that should never have happened. The victims were not strangers. They were part of the body of Christ; they were our sisters and brothers. And so surely a part of us died as well. Life can be hard; it can break our hearts. But still the seeds within us can grow, fertilized with sorrow and pain. We can be good soil for the word and will of God, imperfect as we may be. We just need to water the seeds with love, forgiveness, and grace, as the relatives of the victims in Charleston are doing. So, yes, this is Ordinary Time. Let it be our time of growth in the Spirit.

Rev. Robert W. Birch



**PLEASE PRAY FOR**

**LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAYS IN JULY AND AUGUST**

July 5 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
2 Samuel 5: 1-5, 9-10  
Psalm 48  
2 Corinthians 12: 2-10  
Mark 6:1-13

July 12 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
2 Samuel 6: 1-5, 12b-19  
Psalm 24  
Ephesians 1: 3-14  
Mark 6: 14-29

July 19 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
2 Samuel 7: 1-14a  
Psalm 89: 20-37  
Ephesians 2: 11-22  
Mark 6: 30-34, 53-56

July 26 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
2 Samuel 11: 1-15  
Psalm 14  
Ephesians 3: 14-21  
John 6: 1-21

Aug 3 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Genesis 32:22-31  
Psalm 17:1-7, 15  
Romans 9:1-5  
Matthew 14:13-21

Aug 10 Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28  
Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45b  
Romans 10:5-15  
Matthew 14:22-33

Aug 17 Genesis 45:1-15  
Psalm 133  
Romans 11:1-2a,29-32  
Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

Aug 24 Exodus 1:8-2:10  
Psalm 124  
Romans 12:1-8  
Matthew 16:13-20

Aug 31 Exodus 3:1-15  
Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b  
Romans 12:9-21  
Matthew 16:21-28

July 5 Ed & Barbara Johann

July 12 Craig & Jenny Keenan  
Alyssa, Sarah, Olivia, Emma

July 19 Miriam Keneagy

July 26 Robert & Stephanie Kloepfer  
Dykota, Kelli, Kayla

Aug 2 Louis Leo & Claudette Korzniecki

Aug 9 John & Joy Koshuta

Aug 16 Helen Kreider

Aug 23 Gregory & Suzanne Eshleman Lang, Ian, Emily

Aug 30 Miriam Latshaw

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO AT HOME MEMBER**

**July 16**

Charles Danner  
Apartment Suite 113  
433 S. Kinzer Avenue  
New Holland, PA 17557-9360



**THE MISSION COMMITTEE**

The Mission Committee is continuing to serve a free community meal with the help of our giving congregation. The July meal will be held on Thursday, July 30th, and the August meal on August 27th.

At our last meeting we discussed and decided where to disperse the "souper bowl" offering. The total for that offering was \$303 of which 1) \$150 to be given to St. John's Church to help support their free Christmas Dinner project, 2) \$75 to the Factory for their summer meal/swim project, and 3) \$78 to the Water Street Rescue Mission.

At our next meeting we will be discussing where to disperse our Pentecost offering which was \$470. Of that we should keep 25% or \$117.50. If you have any suggestions, please submit them to any of the following members of the Mission Committee: Lois Eshleman, Bonnie Rice, Joann Stoltzfus, Betty Sowers, Art Meyers, or Alba Ruhl before our next meeting which is scheduled for Thursday, July 2nd.

**WORSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS**

Did you know...

that the Prelude at the beginning of worship is chosen to fit the theme of the service (as are the Offertory and the Postlude)? Please take advantage of this time to begin reflecting on the focus of the sermon or simply let the beauty and message of the music move you into the spirit of worship.

that during the Postlude you are welcome to remain in the pew to enjoy the music or to leave as your personal schedule requires?

that our communion services at Old Leacock in August and September are by intinction? There is a special station for those who

prefer an individual cup, and the Elders will bring the elements to anyone who wishes to remain in the pew.

that Pastor Birch will be away from July 27 through August 18? He will spend a week of Continuing Ed at Ghost Ranch in New Mexico and two weeks on vacation. Stay tuned for information about pastoral services during that time.



## **TOWARD A SMOOTHER-RUNNING CHURCH**

But God has so arranged the body. . . that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. I Cor. 12:24-26

As we each develop poor habits in regard to our individual bodies, so do we develop them in our collective body, our church. In an effort to bring health and well being to our weekly and monthly functioning, the following guidelines are being put in place so that all our staff, both paid and volunteer, can accomplish their work in a timely and cooperative manner. These are subject to change as the needs and practices of the church evolve.

### **The church bulletin**

All information to be included in the bulletin should be given to the secretary, either in hard copy or by email, by 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday. They should be fully written out and not in rough notes or oral messages. Please provide dates for inclusion.

Notices submitted after deadline may be delivered orally on Sunday mornings but will not be in-

cluded in that week's bulletin.

### **The newsletter**

All articles and information should be given to the newsletter editor, either in hard copy or by email, by Sunday evening following the Session meeting. This will allow the editor 2 days to complete composition and submit it to the secretary by 8:30 Wednesday morning. They should be fully written out and not in rough notes or oral messages. Include name/contact info. Articles and/or information received after deadline will not be published in that edition.

### **Personal information**

Information about guest musicians and pastors (including contact info with consent) will be submitted for the bulletin by the music coordinator and the pastor.

New addresses and contact info for church members and friends should be given to the church secretary. She will contact persons to determine if and how that info will be shared.



## **MINIATURE GOLF**

The Church and Community Life Committee is planning an evening of family fun at Waters Edge Mini-Golf in Bird-in-Hand on Wednesday, July 29. Come and enjoy a round of golf and ice cream. A sign up sheet will be in the Narthex—bring a friend; the more the merrier!

The first family hike was a great success—hot, but fun. Thanks to Linda Erikson for leading the group, and thanks to all who attended.

Look for more outdoor activities to follow!





**CONGRATULATIONS TO  
OUR 2015 HIGH  
SCHOOL GRADUATES!**

**Forrest Boas:** Son of Steven and Charlene Boas, graduated from Pequea Valley High School and plans to attend Millersville University for Political Science.

**David Erikson:** Son of Linda Erikson, graduated from Pequea Valley High School and plans to attend IUP (Indiana University of PA) for Social Studies (History).

**Lea Lichty:** Daughter of Matt and Michelle Lichty, graduated from Pequea Valley High School

and plans to attend HACC for Psychology.

**Valerie Ruhl:** Daughter of Michael and Alba Ruhl, graduated from Conestoga Valley High School and plans to attend Penn State for Elementary Education.

**Alison Shirk:** Daughter of John and Kris Shirk, graduated from Lampeter-Strasburg High School and plans to attend Kutztown University for Software Development.

Blessings and prayers to you all from your family at Leacock as you begin your next adventure!

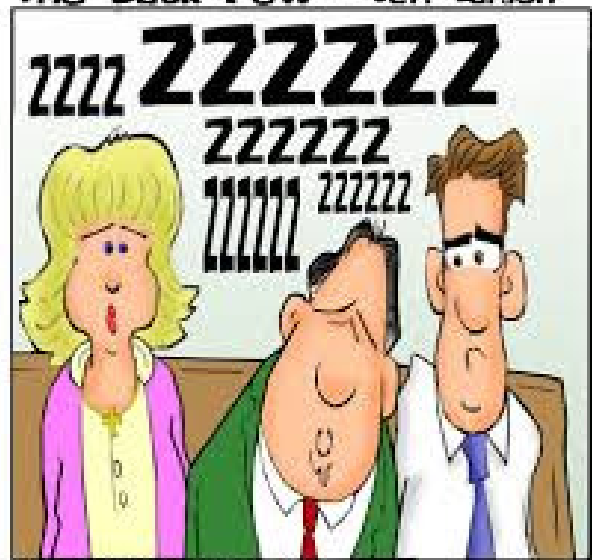


**CHURCH BALL SCHEDULE**

Date	Time	Field	Opponent
July 6	9:00	1	Weaverland
July 13	7:45	1	Pequea
July 20	6:30	1	Ridgeview
July 27	6:30	2	St. Johns
Aug 3	6:30	2	Calvary
August 4-5		Mini-Playoffs	
August 10-13		Playoffs	
August 17-19		Finals	



**The Back Pew - Jeff Larson**



**SERMON SURVIVAL TIP:** If during the sermon, you drift off to a peaceful slumber, and your wife gently nudges you, pretend you were praying, and just quietly say... "AMEN".

**2015-2016 Horizons Bible Study for Leacock Women**  
**Come to the Waters**  
**by Judy Record Fletcher**

In this study, we consider the waters of chaos in Genesis, and the River of Life in the last chapter of Revelation, where chaos is no more. Water plays a central role in the stories of creation, the delivery of God’s people (through the parting of the Red Sea and the crossing of the Jordan River), judgment of a people weak in faith, and the adoption of the people of God through baptism. Sometimes there is too much water (think Noah) and sometimes there is too little water (think drought in the desert). Together, we will explore some of the Bible’s 800 references to water,.

Plan to join other Leacock women in September as we explore the Bible and our faith together. Times and place to be announced. If you have any questions, please call Marie Brackbill 768-8470,

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 JULY & AUGUST 2015**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Time</u>
Wednesday, July 8	Bird-in-Hand Fire Company	2:00pm to 7:00pm
Thursday, July 16	Yoder's Market	2:00pm to 7:00pm
Thursday, July 30	Intercourse Fire Company	2:00pm to 7:00pm
Tuesday, August 4	Bareville Fire Company	2:00pm to 7:00pm
Wednesday, August 5	White Horse Fire Company	2:00pm to 7:00pm
Tuesday, August 11	Yoder's Market	2:00pm to 7:00pm
Wednesday, August 12	Gap Lanc General Medical Group	2:00pm to 7:00pm
Wednesday, August 19	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.

## Stewardship Report - Financial Update May 2015

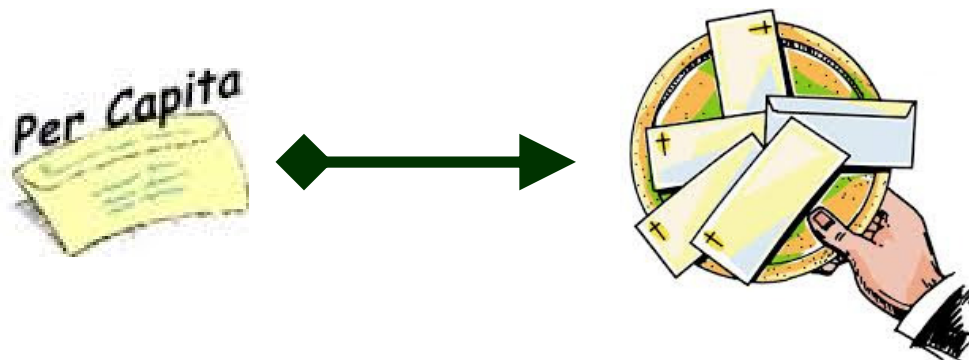
	<b>Offering May</b>		<b>Expenses May</b>	
	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Monthly Total	\$15,116	\$13,217	\$12,343	\$12,951
Year-to-Date	\$78,409	\$78,253	\$79,670	\$83,909

### **Budget Tracking Through May**

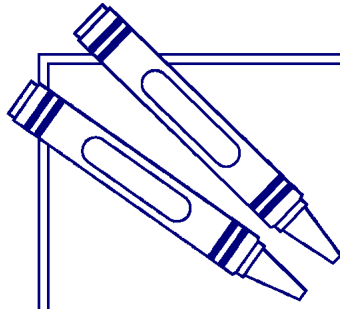
	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Total Annual Budget	\$225,312	\$226,889
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$79,670	\$83,909
% of Budget Spent	35%	37%

May's offering beat last May by \$1,899, which is a positive statistic, as well as being greater than the expenses for this May by \$2,773. As of the end of April, we were \$4,134 behind in offering versus expenses year to date, but after May, we are now only behind \$1,261 because of the lower requirements of spending in May.

This year's per capita amount is \$32 per **member**. The total amount we will pay to Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly in per capita is \$6,762. This is paid in quarterly installments of \$1,690.50. We have already made our first two payments, totaling \$3,381. Through the end of April, we have received \$2,521 in per capita payments (Thank You!!). **But we have paid out MORE than we have received. PLEASE check your giving envelope boxes for the per capita envelopes, put your payment in it and drop it in the offering plate this Sunday. If you won't be at Church, feel free to mail it in as well.**







# Just for KIDS

## Rules to Live By

God wants us to live our lives in His way.  
In Exodus 20 you will find some special rules to live by.

Use the code to fill in the blanks and see the rules.

A = ♡ E = ∞ I = ☺ O = ☞ U = ☆ Y = ☼

sh\_ ll h\_ v\_ n\_ th\_ r\_ g\_ ds b\_ f\_ r\_ m\_ .  
 sh\_ ll n\_ t m\_ k\_ f\_ r\_ rself n\_ d\_ l\_ .  
 sh\_ ll n\_ t m\_ s\_ s\_ th\_ n\_ m\_ f\_ th\_ .  
 L\_ rd\_ r\_ G\_ d\_ .  
 R\_ m\_ mb\_ r\_ th\_ S\_ bb\_ th\_ d\_ y\_ b\_ .  
 k\_ p\_ ng\_ t\_ h\_ l\_ .  
 H\_ n\_ r\_ f\_ th\_ r\_ nd\_ m\_ th\_ r\_ .  
 sh\_ ll n\_ t m\_ rd\_ r\_ .  
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 sh\_ ll n\_ t st\_ l\_ .  
 sh\_ ll n\_ t g\_ v\_ f\_ ls\_ t\_ st\_ m\_ n\_ .  
 g\_ nst\_ r\_ n\_ ghb\_ r\_ .  
 sh\_ ll n\_ t c\_ v\_ t\_ n\_ th\_ ng\_ th\_ t\_ .  
 b\_ l\_ ngs\_ t\_ r\_ n\_ ghb\_ r\_ .  
 \*Th\_ T\_ n\_ C\_ mm\_ ndm\_ nts\*

Answers: 1) You shall have no other gods before me. 2) You shall not make for yourself an idol. 3) You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God. 4) Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. 5) Honor your father and your mother. 6) You shall not murder. 7) You shall not commit adultery. 8) You shall not steal. 9) You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. 10) You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor. 11) The Ten Commandments



# CAMP NEWS

## **FUN AT CAMP DONEGAL**

It's still not too late for summer camp. Summer camp is well un-

der way at Camp Donegal! There are still openings for the last several weeks of camp if you'd like to register to come to camp, or to come back to camp this summer.

Scholarships are available to cover half your camping fee.

There are more than 400 campers traveling through Camp Donegal this summer. Please keep the camp at the forefront of your prayer life, praying for safety, fun, and that Christ may move in the lives of the campers, staff, and volunteers through the program,

environment and community.

Summer camp ends on Friday, August 11, but Camp Donegal's programs and facilities continue year-round. This year we are offering many opportunities for youth and adults. Stay tuned to [www.CampDonegal.org](http://www.CampDonegal.org) or call the camp office at 717-862-3722 to stay informed of the many retreat and program opportunities available to youth and adults at Camp Donegal year round.



## **THANK YOU NOTE RECEIVED**

To the Leacock Church Congregation:

How can anyone "Thank You" for all of your support and love during the loss of my husband and Michele's father? It was amazing to have so many people care.

Your prayers, cards, calls, flowers and prayer shawl meant a great deal to us. The hugs helped us get through a very difficult day.

May God Bless each and everyone of you.

Thanks also to Bob Birch for being there, with his wife Emily, offering prayer and support.

God's Blessings

Geri Lutz & Michele McLaughlin

**USHERS - JULY AND AUGUST**

Skip Brackbill, Head Usher  
8:00 Service

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

July

Scott Shenk  
Ruth Usner

Sharon Williams  
Valerie Ruhl

August

David Homsher  
Art Myers

Kathy Ankney  
Chuck Ankney

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 - JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER**

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!

July 5	10:30	Bob & Margy Hershey
July 12	10:30	Sean & Maureen Carney
July 19	10:30	Michele & Sara Lichty
July 26	10:30	Marie & Skip Brackbill
Aug 2	10:30	Craig Keenan & Charlene Boas
Aug 9	10:30	Carol Shearer & Fran Sattazahn
Aug 18	10:30	Chuck & Kathy Ankney
Aug 23	10:30	Alba & Valerie Ruhl
Aug 30	10:30	David & Carol Berkhimer
Sept 6	10:30	Mary Alice High & Johanna Gingher
Sept 13	10:30	No Nursery
Sept 20	8:00	Sue Funk
	10:30	Sean & Maureen Carney
Sept 27	8:00	Ellen Barnes
	10:30	Michele & Sara Lichty



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"Wireless communication is nothing new.  
I've been praying for 75 years!"

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



"Lord, I lay before you the prayer concerns  
voiced this morning . . . even though most  
of 'em sound like whining to me."

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

## Leacock Presbyterian Church

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Paradise, PA 17562

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**The next newsletter dead-  
line is Sunday, August 23.**

**Thanks.**

*The Leacock Communicator*

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