



*Leacock Communicator*  
*Leacock Presbyterian Church*  
687-6619    [www.leacockpres.org](http://www.leacockpres.org)

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*July - August 2016*

### *Notes from the Manse*

Donald Trump. Hillary Clinton. There—that probably got your attention, probably for unfortunate reasons. We are in an election year. It's only natural and good that there be lively debate, for we are citizens and we are called to care about the issues. But still, I think we are to care for each other as well. Just the other day, a member of the church looked at me sadly and asked what has gone wrong in our country. She remembered the weeks after 9/11 when the whole country seemed to come together. Then, she had hoped that it would last, that we would grow as a nation. But all too soon that unity faded away, replaced by ever more partisanship, ever more division.

I believe that this not only sorrows the woman who spoke to me—it sorrows the heart of God. In his prayer just before his passion, Jesus said, “And now I am no longer in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.” I know that this specifically refers to all who follow Jesus. But I think God wills that it also apply to all our families, be they in our nation, our towns, our homes or our churches. If we are to be the light of the world, then surely we are to work so that all people be one. This does not mean that there won't be differences between us. Of course there will be and that is good, for as I said the other Sunday, it is through learning from our differences that we grow. To be one means to be together, across all our differences. How can this happen? The answer, as it always is, is love. Remember Paul's words in *1 Corinthians*—“Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful....” What healing there would be if we could live this way in all our fellowships! My college was Quaker and all decisions were by consensus. This didn't mean that everybody had to agree with everything. There always were going to be parts of a decision that some folks wouldn't like. But what it did mean is that in the end we would all accept the decision. We would stay in fellowship across our differences.

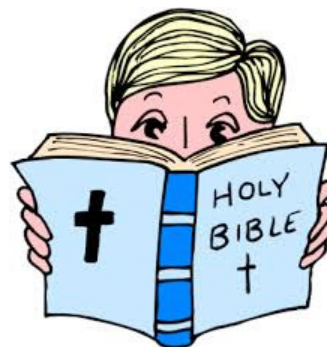
This does happen. Just the other day, two things reminded me that it does indeed happen. Emily and I went to a community book club just getting started. The nine people there all suggested books we might read. After a bit of discussion, we agreed upon a book. It wasn't everybody's first choice; some weren't terribly keen at all. But being together was more important than getting our way and we left, glad with each other. Later that night, Emily and I were at the home of some friends. That old rule about not talking about religion or politics got broken, and there we were with almost as many different opinions about the coming election as there were people. People were passionate; don't get me wrong. But in the end, our affection for each other, our will to be in fellowship, was stronger than making a point or being right. We were patient with each other; we were kind. And none of us left that night angry or harboring resentment.

So, let us be one. Let us be a model for bridge building in a broken world. *Psalms 133* begins, “How very good it is when kindred live together in unity!” We are all kindred, brothers and sisters. Let us be one.

Rev. Robert W. Birch

## LECTIONARIES FOR JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <p>July 3 7th Sun after Pentecost<br/>14th Sun in Ordinary<br/>Time<br/>2 Kings 5:1-14<br/>Psalm 30<br/>Galatians 6: [1-6] 7-16<br/>Luke 10:1-11, 16-20</p> | <p>Aug 7 12th Sun after Pentecost<br/>19th Sun in Ordinary<br/>Time<br/>Isaiah 1:1, 10-20<br/>Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23<br/>Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16<br/>Luke 12:32-40</p> | <p>Sept 4 16th Sun after Pentecost<br/>23rd Sun in Ordinary<br/>Time<br/>Jeremiah 18:1-11<br/>Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18<br/>Philemon 1-21<br/>Luke 14:25-33</p>          |
| <p>July 10 8th Sun after Pentecost<br/>15th Sun in Ordinary<br/>Time<br/>Amos 7:7-17<br/>Psalm 82<br/>Colossians 1:1-14<br/>Luke 10:25-37</p>               | <p>Aug 14 13th Sun after Pentecost<br/>20th Sun in Ordinary<br/>Time<br/>Isaiah 5:1-7<br/>Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19<br/>Hebrews 11:29-12:2<br/>Luke 12:49-56</p>        | <p>Sept 11 17th Sun after Pentecost<br/>24th Sun in Ordinary<br/>Time<br/>Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28<br/>Psalm 14<br/>1 Timothy 1:12-17<br/>Luke 15:1-10</p>           |
| <p>July 17 9th Sun after Pentecost<br/>16th Sun in Ordinary<br/>Time<br/>Amos 8:1-12<br/>Psalm 52<br/>Colossians 1:15-28<br/>Luke 10:38-42</p>              | <p>Aug 21 14th Sun after Pentecost<br/>21st Sun in Ordinary<br/>Time<br/>Jeremiah 1:4-10<br/>Psalm 71:1-6<br/>Hebrews 12:18-29<br/>Luke 13:10-17</p>             | <p>Sept 18 18th Sun after Pentecost<br/>25th Sun in Ordinary<br/>Time<br/>Jeremiah 8:18-9:1<br/>Psalm 79:1-9<br/>1 Timothy 2:1-7<br/>Luke 16:1-13</p>               |
| <p>July 24 10th Sun after Pentecost<br/>17th Sun in Ordinary<br/>Time<br/>Hosea 1:2-10<br/>Psalm 85<br/>Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19]<br/>Luke 11:1-13</p>      | <p>Aug 28 15th Sun after Pentecost<br/>22nd Sun in Ordinary<br/>Time<br/>Jeremiah 2:4-13<br/>Psalm 81:1, 10-16<br/>Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16<br/>Luke 14:7-14</p>    | <p>Sept 25 19th Sun after Pentecost<br/>26th Sun in Ordinary<br/>Time<br/>Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15<br/>Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16<br/>1 Timothy 6:6-19<br/>Luke 16:19-31</p> |
| <p>July 31 11th Sun after Pentecost<br/>18th Sun in Ordinary<br/>Time<br/>Hosea 11:1-11<br/>Psalm 107:1-9, 43<br/>Colossians 3:1-11<br/>Luke 12:13-21</p>   |  |   |



## A WORSHIPING FAMILY

There is great good news for the future here at Leacock! Due to the unanimous vote of the Session at our June meeting, the Leacock Congregation will be able to worship as one united body for a large part of the year!

Following referral from the Session in November 2015, the Worship and Acts 16:5 Committees met separately and together to explore the possibility and process of moving to a one-service model of worship. This included looking at schedules of other area churches and those of Donegal Presbytery, seeking verbal feedback from congregants, and distributing a questionnaire to all worshipers at the all-church retreat and through the June newsletter. We also discussed finding a time sensitive to both early and late worshipers, continuing services at Old Leacock, and easing demand on our material resources and volunteer service staff. The sentiment of the Committees and the verbal and written feedback were all in favor of worshipping at one joint service for most of the year.

Comments such as these were dominant:

“We can get to know everyone.”

“There will be more unity in our Leacock family.”

“We would have better communication.”

“It would be a more inspiring experience with more people, more voices to join in song.”

Therefore, the Session has adopted the following schedules to suit our present needs:

### **Nine month schedule**

(to begin this year on September 18th)

9:00 Fellowship Time in the Narthex

9:30 Worship (including S.S. for children)

10:45 Adult Sunday School

### **Summer schedule**

(1st Sunday after Pentecost through Labor Day Sunday)

8:00 Worship at Old Leacock

9:30 Worship at Paradise

**Old Leacock Day (2nd Sunday in September) 9:30 worship at Old Leacock**

The service in Paradise will remain consistent at the 9:30 hour to eliminate confusion.

We realize this involves change, change from comfortable routines, for some a giving up of preferences. If you have any questions, please contact a Session member or Rev. Birch, but the Spirit seems to be calling us to this change. Let us enter it with joy and faith.



**FLOWERS FOR CHURCH**

You may purchase flowers for the sanctuary on Sundays July 17, July 24, or August 28 in honor of or in memory of someone or a special occasion. Call the church office at 687-6619.



**PRAYER FAMILIES**

- July 3 June Stannard
- July 10 Virginia Stauffer
- July 17 Grace Stirba
- July 24 Joanne Stoltzfus
- July 31 Shelly & Cameron Summers
  
- Aug 7 Stephanie Sweigart
- Aug 14 Diep Ngoc & AnhTran
- Aug 21 Ruth Usner
- Aug 28 Mary Weaver

**HYMN SINGS**  
The Hymn Sings are off and running!

The remaining dates are:  
 July 3  
 August 7  
 September 4  
 All at Old Leacock at 7:00pm



**SUMMER EVENTS-MINI GOLF AND BARN-STORMERS BALLGAME**

Are you ready to have some fun with other members of your church family? It's time for some summer activities once again!

The CCL Committee is organizing an evening of miniature golf at Water's Edge in Bird-in-Hand on Wednesday, July13. If we have a group of at least 20 people, the cost will be \$5.50 per person again.

There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex and we would ask that you sign up ahead of time so we know about how many people to

expect. This event has been a well-liked activity for the last two years, and we expect this year will be no different!

The second summer event we are planning is a night out at the Lancaster Barnstormers. We are in the process of organizing this night for Saturday, August 27 for their 7 pm game against the Bridgeport Bluefish.

One of the members of Leacock's own Hughes family will be featured singing for the crowd that evening also. More details will be announced later this summer, so please stay tuned!

If you have any questions about either upcoming event, or to add your name to the sign-up list, please contact Jenny Keenan at 717-471-1448 or alysa-rah@hotmail.com.



## MISSION COMMITTEE

Our free community meal seems to be on track with summer meals planned for July 28th and August 25th at the usual time of 5:30-6:30pm in our Smith Fellowship Hall. We continue to be fortunate in having so many of you participating in this mission. Without all of us working together, this mission would not survive.

The Presbytery of Donegal has offered us a mission challenge for "\$20.16 for 2016." The session of Leacock has voted to accept this challenge. Great things are happening in Donegal Presbytery.

They are innovating ministry through First Mobile Church, battling hunger in Columbia, PA, reaching Anglo, Latino, and Oromo populations through our congregations and fellowships, supporting outreach through Camp Donegal, growing high school students in faith through the Reality Retreat, helping congregations develop vital futures, organizing against human trafficking and violence against women, proclaiming Jesus' love and lordship throughout York, Lancaster, and Chester Counties!

So often we become so involved in our own church and community that we fail to remember that we are also part of a larger body, the

Presbytery of Donegal. They are proposing, for this year of 2016, a special mission challenge to all churches of this presbytery, to help with their mission budget that is in deep trouble. If every regular worshipping member would donate an extra \$20.16 to the mission of Donegal Presbytery, all the afore mentioned projects could continue.

The hope is for 100% participation of all the churches in the presbytery. The Session has decided on the month of July, all five Sundays, to provide envelopes marked "\$20.16 for 2016, Presbytery Mission Challenge." Your donation will go to the Benevolence Treasurer who will write a check, after the last Sunday in July, to Donegal Presbytery. Please remember Christ's command to "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Your donation will be deeply appreciated.



## TRUSTEES NOTES

The Manse furnace is installed and working.

Zimmermans of Intercourse did fine work and gave us a great discount on parts and labor. We thank them so much.

May's Special Fund did great and with the money we saved on the furnace we have enough monies to get all the pews done at Old Leacock. They won't be scheduled, however, until late August or early September due to the contractor's busy schedule.

If you don't know the fourth pew from the rear on the right has been finished so you can see what the rest will look like. Please check it out.

Thanks again to everyone for your help.

David Berkheimer  
Trustee President



## PRAYER CHAIN REMINDER



If you wish to remain on the prayer chain or if you wish to join the prayer chain, please sign up on the sheets at either Old Leacock or Paradise Leacock.

You may choose which way you would like to be contacted: telephone, email, or text message. Please sign the correct sheet which corresponds with your wishes.

The sheets will be in place at both churches until Sunday, July 24th. Hopefully, the new prayer chain will be in place by the beginning of August. If you have any questions, please contact Lois Eshleman, 394-4953.



## YOUTH RETREAT AUG. 12-14

All current youth group members and former members under the age of 25, welcome! You won't want to miss it, so please join us at the Ruhl's cabin for fun, food, and a special worship service led by Reverend Birch. We will eat dinner in Lancaster before departing for Jim Thorpe Friday evening.

Please let Emily Birch or Charlene Boas or Alba Ruhl know if you plant to attend.

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 2016**

| <u>Date</u>          | <u>Place</u>              | <u>Time</u>      |
|----------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| Thursday, July 14    | Yoder's Country Market    | 2:00pm to 7:00pm |
| Tuesday, July 19     | Bareville Fire Company    | 2:00pm to 7:00pm |
| Thursday, August 11  | Intercourse Fire Company  | 2:00pm to 7:00pm |
| Tuesday, August 16   | Yoder's Country Market    | 2:00pm to 7:00pm |
| Wednesday, August 24 | Bird-in-Hand Fire Company | 2:00pm to 7:00pm |
| Wednesday, August 31 | 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 2016**

|               | <b><i>Offering May</i></b> |             | <b><i>Expenses May</i></b> |             |
|---------------|----------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|-------------|
|               | <u>2016</u>                | <u>2015</u> | <u>2016</u>                | <u>2015</u> |
| Monthly Total | \$14,955                   | \$15,116    | \$16,392                   | \$12,343    |
| Year-to-Date  | \$68,430                   | \$78,409    | \$71,756                   | \$79,670    |

***Budget Tracking Through May***

|                       | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total Annual Budget   | \$224,807   | \$225,312   |
| Year-to-Date Expenses | \$71,756    | \$79,670    |
| % of Budget Spent     | 32%         | 35%         |

If we look only at the above numbers we may have a false image of the giving at Leacock this year. Since January more than \$12,000 has been given to the Trustee Special Fund helping to pay the cost of a new furnace for the manse. Almost \$3,000 has been donated toward our Per Capita Apportionment for our Presbytery offering. That means that the Leacock community has given more than \$80,000 this year to help continue the work of this body of Christ in the world.

Yes, the summer months are upon us, and because of vacations offerings are usually down. Please consider how you can help Leacock during this normal summer financial slump: double your offering before you go away or as soon as you return, send your offering while you are away, praying for the community that gathers for worship (and misses you.)

Quoting Paul in 2 Corinthians 9:6: “The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion.” Leacock is sowing bountifully; we are about a great work. Thank you.



**USHERS**

**Skip Brackbill, Head Usher  
8:00 Service**

**Ed Margerum, Head Usher  
10:30 Service**

**JULY**

Ruth Usner (397-9876)  
Harold Yuninger (442-8379)

Alyssa Keenan (471-1448)  
Sarah Keenan (471-1448)

**AUGUST**

David Homsher (687-6469)  
Art Myers (656-8472)

Kathy Ankney (786-1921)  
Chuck Ankney (786-1921)

**SEPTEMBER**

Tracey Dippner (687-6703)  
Sue Funk (687-8101)

Carol Berkhimer (442-8319)  
Dave Berkhimer (442-8319)

**NURSERY**

|         |       |  |
|---------|-------|--|
| July 3  | 10:30 | Dave & Carol Berkhimer (442-8319)                      |
| July 10 | 10:30 | Scott & Cathy Shenk (687-0173)                         |
| July 17 | 10:30 | Emily Birch (725-6572) & Karen Homsher (687-6469)      |
| July 24 | 10:30 | Mike & Kelly Hartmann (455-1112)                       |
| July 31 | 10:30 | Darwin & Lois Eshleman (394-4953)                      |
| Aug 7   | 10:30 | Lauren Appel (656-7652) & Johanna Gingher (984-2261)   |
| Aug 14  | 10:30 | Carol Shearer (687-7494) and Fran Sattazahn (687-8374) |
| Aug 21  | 10:30 | Dick & Deb Sindall (342-7169)                          |
| Aug 28  | 10:30 | Craig (471-8936) & Jenny Keenan (441-1448)             |
| Sept 4  | 10:30 | George & Karen Shue (687-7240)                         |
| Sept 11 | 10:30 | Old Leacock Day  |
| Sept 18 | 9:30  | Lori & Shirley Smith (397-6926)                        |
| Sept 25 | 9:30  | Steve & Charlene Boas (768-3599)                       |

These jobs are very important to the healthy life of our church. Others are depending on you to help with the service as ushers or to watch their children so they have an hour to worship

Therefore, if you cannot serve on your assigned Sunday please trade with someone scheduled on another Sunday.

After you have made the trade, call the church secretary (687-6619) so the correct information is in the bulletin.

**If you see your name listed above remember to either serve or trade. Thank you.**



## SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND HELPERS

The new time for Sunday School for children in Grades K-6 was a wonderful success last year thanks to the dedication of all the adult volunteers. The children begin the worship hour in the sanctuary and are dismissed to Sunday School after the Children's Sermon.

Here is the teacher and helper schedule for Fall 2016. If you have a conflict with your time, trade with someone else and call Emily Birch (725-6572) so she will know where to send the Sunday School preview material. Also call the church office (687-6619) so the correct information is in the bulletin.

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| Sept 18 | Emily Birch (725-6572) & Linda Erikson (768-7551)     |
| Sept 25 | Lois & Darwin Eshleman (394-4953)                     |
| Oct 2   | Lois & Darwin Eshleman                                |
| Oct 9   | Mary Alice High (687-6542) & Margy Hershey (442-4078) |
| Oct 16  | Mary Alice High & Margy Hershey                       |
| Oct 23  | Karen Homsher (687-6469) & Milt Hostetter (355-6463)  |
| Oct 30  | Karen Homsher & Milt Hostetter                        |
| Nov 6   | Vicki & Tom Burkins (392-7253)                        |
| Nov 13  | Vicki & Tom Burkins                                   |
| Nov 20  | Carol Shearer (687-7494) & Marie Brackbill (201-4211) |
| Nov 27  | Carol Shearer & Marie Brackbill                       |
| Dec 4   | Maureen & Sean Carney (288-2326)                      |
| Dec 11  | Maureen & Sean Carney                                 |
| Dec 18  | Kathy & Chuck Ankney (786-1921)                       |
| Dec 25  | Christmas   |

**REMEMBER TO MAKE THESE PROGRAMS RUN SMOOTHLY, THE ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT OF EVERYONE IS NEEDED. THANK YOU ALL FOR SERVING AS AN USHER, A NURSERY VOLUNTEER, OR A SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER OR HELPER.**

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



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



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Articles for the September  
Newsletter will be due Sunday,  
August 21

THE LEACOCK COMMUNICATOR