



Leacock Communicator
Leacock Presbyterian Church
687-6619 www.leacockpres.org

Volume 56, Number 8

October 2016

Notes from the Manse

The church is not a building; in fact, it is not a place at all. The church is not a church at a certain address. The church isn't even a set of beliefs and doctrines. No, in the words of Paul, the church is a body, the body of Christ. A body is a living thing, in the case of the church living things, people called to love and serve and be Christ in the world. A few weekends ago, the part of the church at this place gathered on Old Leacock Day. It was a day of celebration, as we honored Vicki Burkins for her many years of service as our newsletter editor. We celebrated both sacraments, with a baptism and communion. And we welcomed twelve new members into our fellowship. At the time, I mentioned how it had been a joy to get to know them and how I wanted to speak a word to each new member, something that captured them for me. But I knew that would take too long. So, I said I would say that word some other time. Let that time be now.

- Molly Bair, God bless you for your ingenuousness and the courage to be yourself, always.
- Alba Buck, God bless you for the delight you take in even the simple things in life, for your willingness to laugh, sometimes even at yourself.
- Richard Buck, God bless you for your steadiness and determination in a life of challenges, for your ability still to smile.
- Derek Colton, God bless you for the integrity of your intellect, your willingness to seek what is true in faith and people.
- Sean Gray, God bless you for your alive mind that enables you to grasp quickly the resonance of issues of faith.
- Seth Gray, God bless you for how you manage to be big and strong and also gentle, quiet, thoughtful.
- Dorothy Hall, God bless you for your simple desire to love and be loved, to hold people to your heart.
- George Hall, God bless you for your will to overcome, your faith in the Lord's help.
- Gwen Hess, God bless you for the sparkle in your eyes and the feisty spirit that sees and speaks with honesty and kindness.
- Alyssa Keenan, God bless you for your bright and ardent spirit and an open heart that wills you to grow.
- Sarah Keenan, God bless you for the depth of your caring for people, your sensitivity to loss.
- Sara Lichty, God bless you for your passion for peace, for your care for all of God's creatures.

In *Acts*, it says the church grew, not because of great programs or perfect piety. It grew because the people were together, sharing all they had, filled with glad and generous hearts, praising God and earning the goodwill of all around them. In that spirit, let us welcome our newest members. Let us walk with them, working, sharing, healing together. And always, let our hearts be glad and generous.

Rev. Robert W. Birch

LECTIONARIES

OCTOBER

October 2

20th Sunday after Pentecost

Lamentations 1:1-6

Lamentations 3:19-26 or Psalm 137

2 Timothy 1:1-14

Luke 17:5-10

October 9

21st Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7

Psalm 66:1-12

2 Timothy 2:8-15

Luke 17:11-19

October 16

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 31:27-34

Psalm 119:97-104

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

Luke 18:1-8

October 23

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Joel 2:23-32

Psalm 65

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Luke 18:9-14

October 30

24th Sunday after Pentecost

Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4

Psalm 119: 137-144

2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Luke 19:1-10

NOVEMBER

November 1

All Saints Day

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18

Psalm 149

Ephesians 1:11-23

Luke 6:20-31

November 6

25th Sunday after Pentecost

Haggai 1:15b-2:9

Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21 or Psalm 98

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

Luke 20:27-38

November 13

26th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 65:17-25

Isaiah 12

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Luke 21:5-19

November 20

Reign of Christ/Christ the King

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Luke 1:68-79

Colossians 1:11-20

Luke 23:33-43

November 27

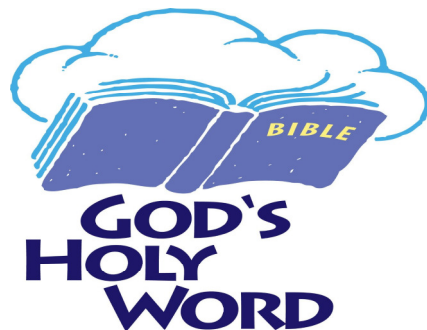
First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalm 122

Romans 13:11-14

Matthew 24:36-44



Flowers for the Church



You may purchase flowers for the sanctuary on Sunday, October 23 in honor of or in memory of someone or a special occasion. Call the church office at 687-6619.



Prayer Families

October 2
Harold & Dianne Yuninger

October 9
Lucy Ames

October 16
Donald & Beatrice Andrews

October 23
Chad Ankney

October 30
Charles & Kathy Ankney

Sunday, October 2nd



Fall Worship

The new season and new schedule have begun. As you enjoy the fresher, cooler air, we hope you will also appreciate the fresh, new responses being used in worship.

October 2nd is Worldwide Communion Sunday, which we will celebrate in traditional style with our Executive Presbyter, the Rev. Dr. Erin Cox-Holmes. Don't miss this opportunity to worship in unity with your Leacock family and Christians around the world.

We bring some challenges with us, even as we celebrate the new. Our volunteer nursery staff is greatly in need of reinforcements. We are now obligated by our State and our Christian responsibility to the children of our church to have Child Protection clearances on record for those who volunteer with children and youth. The paperwork is available from our church secretary and is not difficult to complete. It is also free to those who are only volunteering. Please contact Karen Homsher if you have any questions or problems with the procedure.



Dear Friends at Leacock,

This year the Old Leacock Day celebration became very special for me. Thank you all for the lovely recognition I received for my time spent as newsletter editor. I was really only the person who put together all the wonderful articles written by all of you, and I felt very honored to receive such recognition.

The plaque I received was beautifully made by Jennifer McElhany, and the tributes on it from Bob and Emily Birch were so appreciated. I will cherish it always.

Then as I received thanks from several at the picnic, it became an extra special day.

Thank you all and God Bless.
Vicki Burkins



Dear Church Family,

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, visits from Ed, Bob, and flower delivery during my recent recovery.

Your blessings are appreciated.

Ron Funk

Stewardship Report

October 2016

	Offering 2016	2015	Expenses 2016	2015
August:				
Monthly Total:	\$18,367	\$18,099	\$17,310	\$11,520
Year To Date 8/31:	\$113,610	\$123,110	\$113,610	\$127,344

Budget Tracking Through August 31

	2016	2015
Total Annual Budget:	\$224,806.74	\$225,312
Year to Date Expenses:	\$113,989.72	\$127,344
% of Budget Spent:	%51	%57

At times our types of giving have been described as *first mile* giving and *second mile* giving. *First mile* is a term used in relation to the weekly offerings given in response to or support of the annual budget which is voted on every November as our monetary guideline for the next calendar year. *Second mile* gifts are usually offerings over and above the one we have declared support for (the annual budget.) What does not show up in the above numbers is Leacock's second mile giving. Year to date we have given an extra \$5000 in benevolence funds from such special offerings as Blanket, OGHS, Souper Bowl, Donegal 2016, and "Missions."

The Trustee Special Offering has received over \$4500 in June, July and August alone.

As we enter the last quarter of the year our giving continues generously, yet our budgeted giving has us shy of our budgeted spending to date. May we all in the weeks ahead prayerfully consider the monetary offerings we bring to worship, both our first and our second mile giving.

Session Snippets

The Session met September 15, following their summer “hiatus,” and worked hard as we geared up for the fall season. The following items were acted upon:

- Named Marie Brackbill and Tom Burkins as delegates to the September 27 Presbytery Gathering
- Urged Session committees to have revisions for the Manual of Operations finished by November 1
- Approved having a meeting quarterly devoted to spiritual formation
- Granted vacation to Rev. Birch from September 28 through October 11
- Approved Continuing Education for Rev Birch October 24 - 31
- Approved the following pulpit supplies:
 - October 2 - Rev. Dr. Erin Cox-Holmes
 - October 9 - Nan Best
 - October 30 - Rev. Dr. Randy Riggs, H.R.
- Approved ordination, installation, and/or recognition for newly elected church officers the Sunday following the November Congregational Meeting
- Approved having newly elected elders begin service at December committee meetings

Trustees Notes

Every year the Trustees have a workday in the spring and the fall. We ask the congregation to come to the Church one day out of the month to get together and spruce up the grounds and buildings. October is the month in the fall. The date is October 15 this year. We start about 8:00 AM and go until about noon. There is always something to rake or clean providing jobs for everyone! There will be refreshments, and it is always a social time. Bring tools, buckets, rags and plan on a good time. Please mark your calendar. See you on Workday!

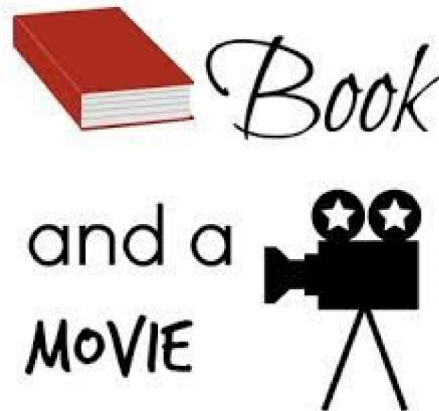
David Berkhimer
Trustee President

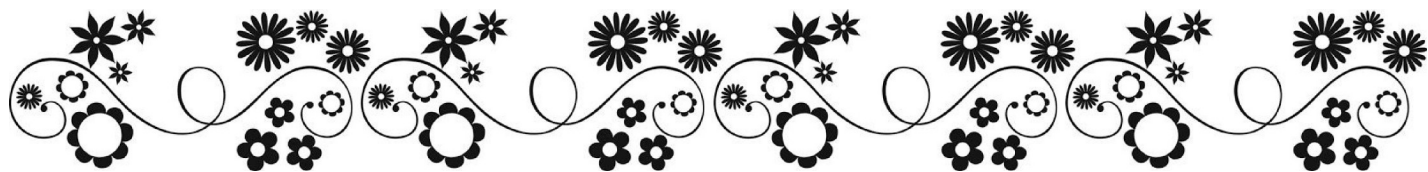
Leacock Book and Movie Group

The Leacock book and movie group kicked off the 2016-2017 season with a discussion of the book *Gaining Ground* by Forrest Pritchard. We are fortunate enough to have Skip Brackbill, our own organic farmer in our congregation, who was able to enlighten us on the topic in ways the book didn't. Our followup movie will be *Food Inc.*, which we will meet to watch after a potluck supper on Friday October 14. Please bring a covered dish and join us to watch this documentary that points out how our food supply is governed by corporations that put profits above human health. We will then choose our next book. Bring titles of books you'd like to read this year (I'm rooting for Lauren's book in November).

This group now meets the second Friday of every month (one month to discuss a book and the next to discuss a movie that is based on the book or that has a similar theme). All are welcome, and reading the books is not a requirement. Please do let me know whether or not you plan to attend, however, which makes the food planning a little smoother. If you don't run into me at church, you can call me: 687-7734, email me: emilymb95@gmail.com, or text me: 725-6572.

Emily Birch, Book and Movie Group Coordinator





Gratitude Corner

(Those Who Go Above and Beyond to Care for their Minister and His Wife)

I may have a few God-given talents, but baking isn't one of them. My cakes fall. My cookies come out more cake-like than cookie-like. Any decorating attempts on my part end up looking like a two-year-old went wild. And I never seem to have the time to practice. This means, although I have great intentions when it comes to baking fun stuff for our youth group, I never do.

*We have someone in our midst, though, who loves to bake. She and her daughter help supply the youth with goodies they actually devour. Not only do they feed our youth, but they also happen to know Bob has a fondness for peanut butter and chocolate, so we get plenty of treats that combine these ingredients. So I want to say thank you, thank you, **Michele and Sara Lichty** for all the baked goodies you supply!*

Emily Birch

Leacock Youth Group

The youth group kicked off its year on September 18th. Our themes this year are going to be gratitude, stillness, and mission. For those of you who remember the TED talk we all watched at the all-congregation retreat, we want our young people to learn to fill their heads with “green balls”, not “red balls”. More and more scientific evidence points to the fact that those with positive attitudes, and those who make stillness and meditation important parts of their lives, and those who serve others live healthier, happier, and more productive lives. We will be exploring these ways of living through examples given to us by Christ. To this end, the youth have been given little notebooks to use as “gratitude journals”. We will also be doing some guided meditation, and we are going to focus our mission efforts on The Factory and providing clothes for teenagers. We also hope to take a field trip to Water Street Mission.

Emily Birch and Charlene Boas, Youth Group Leaders

Youth Group Calendar

The youth group schedule for October-November 2016 is as follows:

7:00 - 8:30 p.m. on the following Sundays:

October 2

October 16

October 30

November 13

Mission Committee

Just a reminder that the community meal for October is on Thursday, October 27th from 5:30-6:30 in our Smith Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome whether you come to help prepare and serve or just come to eat and fellowship with people in the Paradise community and our church family. Looking forward to seeing you there! Also a note for the future: Please mark your calendars. The November meal will be held the 2nd Thursday, Nov. 10th because of Thanksgiving on the fourth Thursday.

The first Sunday in October, the 2nd, is a special offering Sunday as well as Worldwide Communion. This is the Sunday that we take the Peacemaking Offering. However the name has now been changed to the Peace and Global Witness Offering. It was felt that this "new" offering would have a greater global reach, more significant impact, and bring peace to people through Christ. A gift to this offering enables the church to promote the peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice across the world. Congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. Mid councils retain an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation. The other 50% is used by the Presbyterian mission agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness. The envelopes will be in the pews on the designated Sunday. Please place them in the offering plate. Give as you feel led by the Holy Spirit.

The annual CROP Walk to raise money to feed the hungry will be held Sunday, October 16th, rain or shine. This will be our 35th walk for hunger, and we need everyone's support to make this year's walk an even bigger success than last year's. We need walkers, sponsors, and people to drive around and check on the walkers. There is a choice of a 3 mile or 5 mile course. And we have even talked about trying to make a 1 mile course (you know, for those of us who are getting along in years!). Get a group together and use this "walking time" to fellowship with other walkers or church members.. There is no rush in completing this walk.. Simply enjoy being together and God's creation! Registration begins at 1:00 in our church narthex. The walk begins at 1:30. Remember that 25% of all money raised by us will remain in the Paradise area and will be donated to the Paradise area food bank.



Successful start to a new year in Christian Education

Sunday September 18th marked the beginning of our new year. The Children's Sunday School occurs during the 9:30 worship service, and the adult class meets following the worship service. Both classes had an encouraging start.

The Adult Class met to share new ideas and hopes for the class this year. A wide range of ideas were shared. The consensus seemed to be a desire to rotate thru a variety of different types of study: everything from conventional Bible study, movies with a moral, studies on spiritual formation, help with prayer, to possibly a study on the confessions and creeds. We will be starting off by watching the movie "Inside Out" which will be followed by discussion.

The Christian Education Committee is open to additional ideas and suggestions, and would love to see you come join us.



CCI would like to thank all who helped with Old Leacock Day. It was a little windy, but a lovely day of worship and fellowship.

With the close of summer and the return to our fall schedule, we'd like to remind all that we are always looking for volunteers to bring snacks for fellowship on Sundays, now at 9 a.m. before the worship service. Sign-up sheets will be placed in the narthex. If baking is not your thing, we gladly accept donations in our cookie jar! Thank you to all who have contributed so far.



“Who is Jesus?”

Lesson - The Book of Luke

Presbyterian Women's Bible Study group will meet at Arlene Brackbill's home on Thursday, October 13 at 9:30 a.m.

Please join us.

BLOOD DRIVE SCHEDULE OCTOBER 2016

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!

Date

Thursday, October 13
Tuesday, October 18
Wednesday, October 19
Wednesday, October 26

Place and Time

Intercourse Fire Company - 2:00pm to 7:00pm
Yoder's Country Market - 2:00pm to 7:00pm
Gordonville Fire Company - 2:00pm to 7:00pm
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 on Monday are 10 am -7:30 pm, Tuesday and Thursday 8am to 4pm, Wednesday and Friday 8:00 am to 6 pm,. For more information call 544-0170

USHERS

Ed Margerum Head Usher

USHERS		NURSERY	
October 2	Vicki & Tom Burkins	October 2	Chuck & Kathy Ankney
October 9	Vicki & Tom Burkins	October 9	Lauren & Ruth Ann Appel
October 16	Vicki & Tom Burkins	October 16	Mike & Alba Ruhl
October 23	Vicki & Tom Burkins	October 23	Bob & Margy Hershey
October 30	Vicki & Tom Burkins	October 30	Emily Birch & Linda Erickson
November 6	Bonnie Rice & Ellen Barnes	November 6	Evie & Nick Lopez
November 13	Bonnie Rice & Ellen Barnes	November 13	Dave & Carol Berkhimer
November 20	Bonnie Rice & Ellen Barnes	November 20	Bob Brackbill & Sue Funk
November 27	Bonnie Rice & Ellen Barnes	November 27	David Homsher & Darwin Eshelman

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER & HELPER

October 2	Lois & Darwin Eshleman
October 9	Mary Alice High & Margy Hershey
October 16	Mary Alice High & Margy Hershey
October 23	Karen Homsher & Milt Hostetter
October 30	Karen Homsher & Milt Hostetter
November 6	Vicki & Tom Burkins
November 13	Vicki & Tom Burkins
November 20	Carol Shearer & Marie Brackbill
November 27	Carol Shearer & Marie Brackbill

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OCTOBER

Articles for the November
Newsletter will be due
Sunday, October 23

THE LEACOCK COMMUNICATOR
Sandy Schoettle, Editor