



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

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November 2016

Notes from the Manse

“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven....”—Ecclesiastes 3:1

These words are so well known that it can be easy to forget all that they and the words that follow mean. Seasons were so important to ancient people. Their lives depended on the rhythm of the seasons. There was joy in spring, as days grew longer, the earth warmed, and seeds were planted. Summer was a time of work, a good, honest labor always looking forward to a promise. And that promise came in the fall, when the harvest, the product of all that hard work, came in. Winter, though, could be a time of fear. The sun seemed to be going; the days were growing shorter, colder. Would the sun and warmth and planting ever come again?



The Bible is a record of assurance, from a God John told us is love. Over and over again, the word is spoken—do not be afraid. And why shouldn't we be, in the face of life's uncertainty and pain? Well, it's because there is a Lord who will not leave us, whose love abides, who cares for us, just as or in spite of how we are. A few examples: in *Joel*, the Lord promises that after all the years of sorrow and struggle, there would be a renewal, not for only some, but for all of God's creation, from the soil to the trees to the animals, all flesh, all of God's children. And one of the markers of this healed time would be a promise that there would be early and late rains. The early rains for the Hebrew people came in late fall, the late ones in early spring. The point here is that the seasons will continue, life will continue—this the people then, the people now can count on. Or look at *Psalms 104*. There, in a breathtaking poem about the care the Creator has for all creation, the psalmist praises the Lord for having made the moon to mark the seasons and told the sun when it is time to rise and set. Here again is the promise—the seasons will come; the sun will always return.

Nowadays, in all our wisdom, we don't any longer worry about whether or not the sun will return after winter. But there are seasons to human life as well, and there are times for most, if not all, of us when we wonder if the dark days will ever end, that life will come again. Oh, I think of bad colds that in the midst of them I thought would never end. But think too of bad stretches, of disappointment and heartache that seemed had come to stay. It is helpful in those times to go back to the promises of the Lord. For the seasons will turn in our lives, just as they do in the world about us.

Rev. Gary Meier, the longtime pastor of Leacock, died the other week, and many now feel his loss that was so sudden. What hurts are the memories of spring, of weddings he officiated, comfort he gave. That folks grieve is a tribute to him. But remember what he said in his last hours—“Love. Love.” And others have told me of how often he would simply speak the word “peace.” It seems then that even at this time of dying, Gary would want us to believe in the spring, that if we love, if we believe in the love of the Lord, and if we seek peace, life will always be stronger than death, death in all its forms. You see, we do not need to be afraid. For where there is God, the seasons will indeed turn.

Rev. Robert W. Birch

LECTIONARIES

<p>NOVEMBER</p> <p>November 1 All Saints Day Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18 Psalm 149 Ephesians 1:11-23 Luke 6:20-31</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>November 13 26th Sunday after Pentecost Isaiah 65:17-25 Isaiah 12 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 Luke 21:5-19</p>
<p>November 20 Reign of Christ/Christ the King Jeremiah 23:1-6 Luke 1:68-79 Colossians 1:11-20 Luke 23:33-43</p>	<p>November 27 First Sunday of Advent Isaiah 2:1-5 Psalm 122 Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:36-44</p>	
<p>DECEMBER</p> <p>December 4 Second Sunday of Advent Isaiah 11:1-10 Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 Romans 15:4-13 Matthew 3:1-12</p>	<p>December 11 Third Sunday of Advent Isaiah 35:1-10 Psalm 146:5-10 or Luke 1:46-55 James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:2-11</p>	<p>December 18 Fourth Sunday of Advent Isaiah 7:10-16 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-25</p>
<p>December 24 Nativity of the Lord / Christmas Eve Isaiah 9:2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]</p>	<p>December 25 Christmas Dawn Nativity of the Lord / Christmas Day Isaiah 62:6-12 Psalm 97 Titus 3:4-7 Luke 2:[1-7] 8-20</p> <p>Christmas Day Isaiah 52:7-10 Psalm 98 Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12] John 1:1-14</p>	

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Leacock Congregation,

At the end of September we are 75% of the way through our budget year.

Everyone is doing a great job of keeping spending to a minimum. As a percent we have only spent 59% of our budget.

Keep in mind we have some expensive months ahead of us. Heating, snow removal . . .

On the down side our church has only received 56% of our planned giving.

Some of us wait toward the end of the year and give larger contributions.

In preparation for our coming expensive months, please do your best to meet your commitments to support our church's well being.

Reflecting on the Golden Rule --do unto others as you would have done unto you--, makes me realize some of the reasons why I financially support our Leacock church community. We do zany things such as feed people every month with no questions asked regarding need, and we ask for no donations; we open our older church building to the wider community five months of the year for hymn sings and that community far outnumbers our members in attendance, faithfully singing loved hymns. They bring joy and gratitude with them every time, appreciating what we provide them in the simple singing of hymns. Finally, this past month, I witnessed a growing pile of bags in our narthex filled with clothing to share with other people in Lancaster County who have a greater need than we do. It's all about generosity - generosity of resources, financial, spiritual and physical. Thank you for all you do to make Leacock a supportive community.

Words from Ed Johann and Marie Brackbill,
Stewardship Committee

BLOOD DRIVE SCHEDULE NOVEMBER 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!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Place and Time</u>
Wednesday, November 16	County Line LGHP at Gap - 2:00pm
Thursday, November 17	Yoder's Country Market - 2:00pm
Wednesday, November 23	LGH 3rd Floor Balcony 11:00am

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.

Flowers for the Church



You may purchase flowers for the sanctuary on Sunday November 6 or Sunday November 13 in honor of or in memory of someone or a special occasion. Call the church office at 687-6619.



Prayer Families

November 6
Dalin Appel

November 13
Edward & Ruth Anne Appel

November 20
Lauren Appel

November 27
David M. Babb

Trustee News

You already know the Trustees are looking to get the Manse painted, hopefully this year. We received a price, but it was way more than expected so we are going to look at the project a little closer with the painter and talk about the cost. \$2900.00 was collected for this project.

Our October Workday was a little under manned, but we got some good things accomplished. We are working on the rest of the projects, one being the kitchen cabinets. We are putting new magnetic latches on all the cabinet doors. All of the old latches are damaged in some way. This will make it a lot easier for everyone involved in the kitchen.

If you see something that needs the Trustees' attention, please tell us. Thanks to all.

David Berkheimer
Trustee President

Thanksgiving Eve Service



Everyone is invited to attend the 7:30 evening service at Old Leacock as we gather together to give thanks.

October Session Snippets

The Session and Trustees met together October 20 to discuss their work and the proposed 2017 budget. After a time of fellowship and refreshments, the boards adjourned to their respective meetings.

In addition to budget approval for presentation to the congregation November 13, the Session completed the following business:

- Appointed Marie Brackbill and Tom Burkins as delegates to the November Presbytery Gathering.

- Approved Sunday morning November 27 as a Family Advent Celebration with a covered dish breakfast in the Narthex beginning at 9:00 a.m. to be followed by carol singing in the sanctuary, a children's story, and a message.

- Granted the pastor a one-time two-day Continuing Education extension for travel necessary for his spiritual direction study at Ghost Ranch.

- Added two paid personal days (seven hours) to the church secretary's compensation.

- Received the Nominating Committee report.



50+ Year Member Celebration

On Sunday, November 13, after our service, the entire congregation is invited to a luncheon to honor our 50+ year members and our new members. We have 37 members who have belonged to Leacock Presbyterian Church for fifty or more years. One member, Miriam Keneagy has belonged for 82 years (see below) and our newest 50 year member is Ed Margerum. **Let's all join together to honor all our 50+ members, enjoy each other's company and a special lunch prepared by your CCL Committee.**

Leacock Presbyterian Church's Oldest Member

On the 12th of October, 2016, Miriam Keneagy celebrated her 98th birthday. Not only is she the oldest (in years) member of our church, she is also the longest congregant. She joined the church in 1934. That was 82 years ago!

Her life has been a full one from her service in the army to her lengthy nursing career. This, along with her memories of growing up in Kinzers, led her to write a book about her impressions and remembrances of a time now past. The book was published in 2005.

The church would like to have a copy for the library. We are looking into a few leads. But if anyone knows where or how to get a copy of Miriam's book, please call the office.

Miriam's address is:

Brook Place North Rm. #108
Brethren Village
3001 Lititz Pike
Lancaster, PA 175606-5093

Leacock Presbyterian Church's Newest Members

On the 11th of September, in joyful celebration of Old Leacock Day, the following individuals added their spiritual commitment and joined our congregation:

Molly Bair

Alba Buck

Richard Buck

Derek Colton

Sean Gray

Seth Gray

Dorothy Hall

George Hall

Gwen Hess

Alyssa Keenan

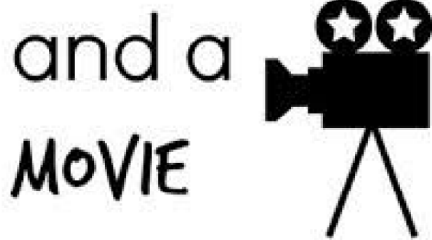
Sarah Keenan

Sara Lichty

50 Year + Members

Miriam Keneagy	April 1, 1934	Betty Sowers	April 3, 1955
Mary Jane Mowrer	April 11, 1941	Mary Ellen Rice	March 25, 1956
Ruth Usner	December 29, 1943	Janet Cosby	April 14, 1957
Robert Clark	April 19, 1946	Donald Clark	August 5, 1957
Helen Kreider	October 4, 1946	Ruth Bryson	March 13, 1958
Shirley Harsh	April 6, 1947	H. Donald Andrews	December 21, 1958
Ruth Bair	April 6, 1947	Beatrice Andrews	December 21, 1958
Ruth Anne Appel	April 17, 1949	Vicki Burkins	April 10, 1960
Robert Mowrer, Jr.	April 17, 1949	Marie Glass	April 10, 1960
Mildred Young	April 17, 1949	Joy Koshuta	April 10, 1960
Ethel Danner	April 17, 1949	Dianne Yuninger	April 10, 1960
Arlene Brackbill	April 17, 1949	Carol Shearer	April 15, 1962
Jane Witmer	April 6, 1950	James L. Brackbill	April 15, 1962
Betty Denlinger	January 7, 1951	David Homsher	April 15, 1962
Richard Skethway	March 18, 1951	Lois Eshelman	April 15, 1962
Lucy Ames	July 20, 1952	Esta Fisher	April 15, 1962
Harold Yuninger	November 1, 1953	Kitty Shumate	May 2, 1965
Dorothy Buckwalter	December 13, 1953	Kirk Beane	May 2, 1965
Ed Margerum April 13, 1966			

The Session calls the annual Congregational meeting for Sunday November 13, following the 9:30am worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to approve a budget for 2017 and elect new officers for 2017. A few copies of the budget are available at the back of the sanctuary. If you take one please bring it back for the meeting. Digital copies may be requested by emailing the church office: leacock.secretary@gmail.com



Leacock Book and Movie Group

The Leacock book and movie group watched the harrowing documentary *Food Inc.* for its first movie of the season. It overlapped nicely with *Gaining Ground* by Forrest Pritchard but went into more detail about the horrors of our food supply. I highly recommend it to anyone who cares about the way Americans are not being protected either by businesses or our government. Our next meeting will be to discuss the *The Tent* by Gary Paulsen, a very short novel, which we actually have in the church library. You can spend a quiet hour or so just sitting in the library reading it. I won't be here on the second Friday in November, so I have moved the discussion (one time, not going forward) to Friday November 18. Please join us for pizza and what is always a lively discussion. As always, reading the book isn't a requirement; what *is* important is fellowship and having fun.

Emily Birch, Book and Movie Group Coordinator

Leacock Youth Group

We want to instill in our youth not only gratitude and stillness this year, but also the importance of mission work. Although most of our youth had other obligations that day, we did have one who joined us on the CROP walk. Future plans include a trip to Water Street Mission and collecting clothes specifically for teenagers. We would like to raise money for mission, as well, so stay tuned for more word on that.

If there are any members of the youth group, friends/relatives of theirs (younger and older) who might like to participate in Leacock's Christmas pageant this year, please let us know.

Emily Birch and Charlene Boas
Youth Group Leaders

Youth Group Calendar

7:00 - 8:30 p.m. on the following Sundays:
October 30
November 13
November 27
December 11



"Who is Jesus?"

Lesson - The Book of Luke

Presbyterian Women's Bible Study group will meet at Arlene Brackbill's home on Thursday, November 10 at 9:30 a.m.

Please join us.

Mission Committee

Just to give everyone a "heads up," November's community meal will be the *second Thursday, November 10*, in our handicapped accessible Smith Fellowship Hall from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Due to Thanksgiving, which is on the traditional 4th Thursday, this meal has been scheduled two weeks earlier as will the December community meal. It will be held on *Thursday, December 8*. Everyone is welcome to come and help prepare the meal, clean up the meal, provide food for the meal or just come and fellowship with church and community. With all the helpers we are averaging about 95 people monthly!

Congratulations for a job well done by everyone who worked so hard to clean out cupboards, closets, drawers, or wherever you happened to stash all those clothes you haven't been wearing. We managed to pack two cars completely full of good clean used clothing (we did leave room for the driver!) and delivered it all to the Lancaster Clothing Bank. Believe me, they were most appreciative of all our efforts. The next clothing drive should be around April 2017, so get ready!

A big **THANK YOU** to the 15 people who came out to walk for the Paradise area CROP walk held on October 16th. It was a beautiful day, just a bit on the warm side as the walkers found out! (oh well, better than wind and rain!) With the money that has been turned in so far, we have already surpassed \$1000. Watch for updates on the final totals when all the money has been received. Also a big Thank You to all the sponsors who helped make this walk so successful. We had 4 people walk the 5 mile course and 11 (actually 9 + a wagon carrying 1 sometimes 2 and a puppy!) walk the 3 mile course. Kudos to all involved. A job well done!



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

I said it in a recent Facebook post, but I'll say it again here. Bob and I never cease to be amazed by the sweet, creative gifts we receive from members of the church. Our most recent was a huge surprise, an anniversary gift. Bob went over to the office one morning to discover that a pencil portrait of us had been done by your very talented secretary. We were so touched by this wonderful gift from **Sandy Schoettle**. If you haven't had the chance to see it, just ask me sometime. I've got a copy of it on my phone.

P.S. Rumor has it Sandy is also a published haiku writer.

Emily Birch



Christmas is fast approaching!

Our **Leacock Caring Tree** will be in the Narthex from **Sunday, November 20 through Sunday, December 4**. There will be gift tags for children of the Paradise Youth Factory. Each child will get an article of clothing and a toy or game. There will also be tags for gift cards for the Bridge of Hope clients. The tags will give information needed to buy the gifts. Directions for recording your selection will be explained when you select a tag. Hopefully everyone will get into the Christmas spirit and help make the holiday special for someone! Thank you!



Family Advent Celebration

On Sunday, **November 27**, Leacock Presbyterian will celebrate Advent with an exciting morning celebration. Our morning will begin at 9:00 A.M. with a covered dish breakfast served in the Narthex and eaten at tables in the Sunday School rooms, where we will enjoy each other's company.

Following breakfast, we will move to the sanctuary for Christmas carols, the message and a brand new Christmas story. This special Advent service will merge the evening Advent family night and our regular morning worship service so all can enjoy. Hopefully everyone will attend this special service.

Christmas Bazaar - Saturday, December 3

Donations are now being accepted of your handmade crafts, jewelry, clothing items, home décor, ornaments, framed items, etc. We will need homemade cookies, pies, breads, candy, fudge and bagged treats as that is one of Leacock's best selling points. Jams and jellies are always great sellers too! Once again, we will be plating the cookies on pretty plates or tins so you only need to send in your goodies, and we will do the rest. If you have any questions, please contact Loretta McClarigan 808-7689 or Michele McLaughlin 687-6619.



OUR "FAMOUS" LEACOCK PEANUT BUTTER BONBONS

Ingredients needed:

4 (32 oz.) Jif Peanut Butter

4 (8 oz.) Philadelphia Cream Cheese

5 lb. Butter

5 (2 lb.) Domino 10X Confectioners Sugar

\$\$\$\$ Money for Melting Chocolate

If you can contribute, sign up in the Narthex or call Carol Shearer (687-7494). Consider helping her dip the BonBons in chocolate - Monday, November 28 (1p.m. - ?). Help packaging would be great too - Wednesday, November 30 at 1 p.m.

Bazaar Cafe

Make plans now to eat Breakfast and/or Lunch at Leacock's Cafe on SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Also, please consider donating a food item:

Ham & Bean Soup	Rice Krispie Treats
Chicken Corn Soup	Brownies
Vegetable Soup	Whoopie Pies
Beef Vegetable Soup	Sticky Buns
Macaroni & Cheese	Hamburger & Hot Dog Buns
Beef BBQ	Hot Dogs
Pies	

If you can donate an item or two call Alba Ruhl (475-1560) or Betty Sowers (442-8163) or sign up in the Narthex. Thank you.

Christmas Bazaar Baskets

It's that time again - please start thinking of ideas to fill baskets to sell at the Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, December 3.

You can fill a basket with goodies with a theme of your own or donate items for us to create a filled basket for you!

Place your filled baskets in Fellowship Hall with bazaar items by Sunday, November 27.

Any questions or if you need basket ideas, please contact Karen Shue (687-7240) or Lois Snader (687-5698).

IT'S TREATS AND TREASURES TIME...

We have become well known for our Bazaar featuring hand-crafted gifts, our famous peanut butter bonbons, themed baskets, baked items, such as cookies and breads, and don't forget about the Holiday Cafe. Here are the dates on our Bazaar countdown; please consider helping celebrate the spirit of the holiday with our church family. Signups will be in the Narthex. Hope you can fit at least one or two of these dates, filled with fun and fellowship, into your schedule. Thank you so much ahead of time.

Monday, November 28 – 1:00 pm - ? CANDY WORKSHOP

Carol Shearer will be in charge of our Candy Workshop in the Kitchen. This year we are making our famous peanut butter bonbons. We will need donations of ingredients, as well as helpers to mix and dip the candy. Please see the ingredient requests in the Narthex (please take note if a certain brand is listed....that is what makes our bonbons so tasty). Again this year, you can order your candy ahead of time, as long as you pay for it. Orders will be held until December 4th. Every year, many church friends were unable to get to the Bazaar and we were sold out of bonbons by Sunday....so we are hoping this added feature will help you....all orders and money are needed by Tuesday, November 22.....see or call Loretta (808-7689) to place your orders.

Thursday, December 1 & Friday, December 2 - 1:00pm - ? TAKE-ALONG-TREATS

Michele McLaughlin, Bonnie Rice and Loretta McClarigan need lots of help in baking cookies and breads for our Bazaar. Please bring your donations of baked goods to Fellowship Hall by the above dates, as we will be plating and packaging them on these days. If you can help, let them know, sign-up is in the Narthex, or just call.

Monday, November 14 REGIFT & REDECORATION

We are looking for gently used Christmas itemsincluding ornaments, Christmas books or a variety of Christmas decorations. Please notice that we are only asking for Christmas items to be donated. Please put all your donations in the west corner of Fellowship Hall for pricing.

BASKET BONANZA

Karen Shue and Lois Snader are in charge of the themed baskets. If you can fill a basket with any theme (Italian Sampler, Nail Salon Goodies, Body & Bath, Newborn Baby Items, School Books or Supplies, the list is endless). Please place your basket donations in Fellowship Hall, by Sun. November 27th. If you need an empty basket to fill, they will be available in the Narthex, just help yourself.

Monday, November 28 - 4:00pm to 8:00pm SET-UP

Set-Up in Fellowship Hall, if you can help, please contact Loretta McClarigan 808-7689, or Lois Snader 687-5698.

<u>Monday, November 28</u>	4:00 - 8:00pm
<u>Tuesday, November 29</u>	4:00 - 8:00pm
<u>Wednesday, November 30</u>	4:00 - 8:00pm
<u>Thursday, December 1</u>	4:00 - 8:00pm
<u>Friday, December 2</u>	4:00 - 8:00pm

Friday, December 2 - 8:00 am to 2:00pm BAZAAR CAFÉ

Betty Sowers, Alba Ruhl and friends will be welcoming your donations of pies, homemade soups, beef BBQ, homemade sticky buns, macaroni and cheese, hot dog and hamburger buns or donuts for the Holiday Café. Please check the clipboard in the Narthex to see the foods they need. Don't forget to come the day of the Bazaar to enjoy breakfast as well as lunch with friends.

Saturday, December 3 - 8:00am to 2:00pm

TREATS & TREASURES BAZAAR

Many job opportunities exist here. Check the clipboards in the Narthex to see where you can help. We need cashiers, baggers, tear-down table people, condensers (moving items from one table to another). And don't forget to come shop and eat! See you there!

USHERS

Ed Margerum Head Usher

November 6	Bonnie Rice & Ellen Barnes
November 13	Bonnie Rice & Ellen Barnes
November 20	Charlene & Steve Boas
November 27	Charlene & Steve Boas
December 4	Keo Phongxaysanith & Jennifer McElhaney
December 11	Keo Phongxaysanith & Jennifer McElhaney
December 18	Evie & Nick Lopez
December 25	Evie & Nick Lopez

NURSERY

November 6	David Homsher & Darwin Eshleman
November 13	Dave & Carol Berkhimer
November 20	Sue Funk & Bob Brackbill
November 27	No Nursery
December 4	Mary Alice High & Craig Keenan
December 11	Michele & Sara Lichty
December 18	Steve & Charlene Boas
December 25	No Nursery

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER & HELPER

November 6	Vicki & Tom Burkins
November 13	Vicki & Tom Burkins
November 20	Carol Shearer & Marie Brackbill
November 27	No Sunday School - Thanksgiving Break
December 4	Carol Shearer & Marie Brackbill
December 11	Maureen & Sean Carney
December 18	Kathy & Chuck Ankney
December 25	No Sunday School - Christmas Break

Leacock Presbyterian Church
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Articles for the November
Newsletter will be due
Sunday, November 20

THE LEACOCK COMMUNICATOR
Sandy Schoettle, Editor