

# Leacock Communicator Leacock Presbyterian Church

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#### **Notes From the Manse**

"Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain..." Matthew 13:8

One of the more common images in Scripture is that of planting and harvest. After the flood, a sorrowful God, acknowledging that it is human to be broken, promises never again to curse the ground or kill all creatures because of us and affirms that as long as the earth endures there will be seed time and harvest. In *Ecclesiastes*, there is an acknowledgment that for everything there is a season, including a time to plant and a time to harvest. Jesus refers to mustard seeds and grains of wheat. All of this makes sense, for people then knew the rhythms of the fields and the crops upon which their lives depended. And even though many today live lives far removed from those rhythms, perhaps too far, we still feel the resonance of these images.

Long ago, people would sit around fires and reflect on their year, on what seeds they had planted and which had borne fruit. It is still a good practice. For now it is Fall. All around us in Lancaster County are signs of harvest. Let us pause, take some time, look back over our year. It might first be good to ask where have we planted our seeds. Remember, in Jesus' parable, some seeds fell on the path and took no root. What have been the ideas, the plans, that came and went quickly, leaving little trace? Then there are the seeds that landed on rocky soil—what got us all excited at first, but was soon dropped, perhaps because trouble came and distracted us? As for the seeds that were cast among thorns, when have the worries and desires of daily routine killed any chance at new beginnings? Finally, what have we planted in good soil? What seeds have taken root and are clearly growing in the soil that is our hearts.

Seeds are cast by fellowships. This year Leacock has planted several seeds in good soil. We see signs of new Stewardship ideas, such as on-line giving and a growing partnership between the Stewardship Committee and the Trustees. There have been quarterly retreats by the Session, and committee meetings held when they are needed, not just to have them. The Deacons are exploring new ways of caring, such as preparing meals in advance for the bereaved or the healing. There is now a form for end-of-life service planning—see the Worship Committee article. These are only a few of the seeds this congregation has planted.

Seeds are also planted by individuals. I, for example, have been exploring variations in worship, such as having the Christ Hymn from *Philippians* serve as the Affirmation of Faith. I am working on changing old, bad habits, such as agonizing over important correspondence, rather than just writing it. And I am trying to incorporate in my life more of the practices I learned in my Spiritual Direction training, such as regular times for stillness, for being in God's creation, for sharing with Emily each day what it is we are grateful for in each other and for what we are sorry in ourselves.

What have been the seeds you have planted in good soil? What is growing in your heart, perhaps still fragile, still needing care, but growing all the same? The seeds we plant are important, you know. For if they are good seeds sown in good soil, they will grow in the light of God. We will be born anew, again and again, in the words of Peter in his first letter, not of perishable but of imperishable seed. That is a blessed harvest.

Rev. Robert W. Birch

#### **Lectionary Texts**

#### November 1

All Saints' Day
Revelation 7:9–17
Psalm 34:1–10, 22
1 John 3:1–3
Matthew 5:1–12

#### November 5

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 26)
Joshua 3:7–17

Psalm 107:1–7, 33–37 1 Thessalonians 2:9–13 Matthew 23:1–12

#### November 12

Twenty–third Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 27)

Joshua 24:1–3a, 14–25

Psalm 78:1-7

1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

Matthew 25:1-13

#### November 19

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 28) Judges 4:1–7 Psalm 123 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11 Matthew 25:14–30

#### November 26

Reign of Christ /Christ the King Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24 Psalm 100 or Psalm 95:1–7a Ephesians 1:15–23 Matthew 25:31–46



#### **BLOOD DRIVE SCHEDULE OCTOBER 2017**

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>Place & Time</u>

Wednesday, November 1 Lancaster Bible College - 9:00am
Wednesday, November 8 Lancaster Campus- HACC - 10:00am
Monday, November 20 Lancaster General Hospital - 10:00 am

Wednesday, November 29 Lampeter High School - 8:00am

The Lancaster General Suburban Outpatient Pavillion (Health Campus) Blood Drive is located in Building 2104, Suite 202. The hours on Monday are 10am - 7:30 pm, Tuesday and Thursday 8 am to 4 pm, Wednesday and Friday 800 am to 6 pm. For more information call 717- 544-0170.

# FLOWERS FOR THE CHURCH



You may purchase flowers for the sanctuary on Sunday, November 5 and Sunday, November 26 in honor of or in memory of

Please call the church office at 687-6619

someone or a special occasion.

#### TRUSTEES NOTES

The Trustees thank everyone that showed up for Workday in October. There are still some minor jobs to be done, so if you are inclined, contact David Berkhimer for the list.

The Trustees will be looking closely at the Bell Tower for repairs and painting. Rotten wood was discovered in the tower and the bell holder itself needs some TLC.

Thanks to all of you for your donations to get the Manse and garage painted. That job is done and it looks great! Siliconing is next for the Manse.

The east tower at the narthex is painted and the dark areas from the roof covered up. This will hopefully keep the dark areas from reoccurring. Thanks to everyone for supporting your Church!

David Berkhimer Trustee President



## November Prayer Families

November 5 Mary Alice High

November 12
David & Karen Homsher

November 19
Milton & Barbara Hostetter

November 26 Eric, Paula & Chad Hughes

#### Thanksgiving Eve Service

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



#### **Mission Committee**

Please remember that in the months of November and December the community meal changes from the last Thursday of the month to the **second Thursday** of those months. This month's meal will be held on **Thursday**, **November 9th** from 5:30 to 6:30 in the handicapped accessible Smith Fellowship Hall. This will be our traditional Thanksgiving meal. Sign up sheets for donated food and helpers needed will be in the narthex on Sunday, October 29th and November 5th. Please sign up where you feel you would be most helpful. We sincerely appreciate all of your willingness to help in this important mission.

Please also keep in mind the Christmas Joy Offering which will be coming up in December. Watch the December newsletter for more details.



I was reminded on Sunday that God initiated hospitality and stewardship, providing us places of abundance and rest, guiding our steps, and filling our cups to overflowing. Stewardship, the art of caring, and hospitality go hand in hand. We live as good stewards in response to God's hospitality.

Stewardship - Join our Conversations - This beautiful congregation is the reason we have them. The following actions are the result of recent conversations at stewardship meetings, session meetings and a joint trustee-elder stewardship retreat in August:

- An application is in the mail to the Presbyterian Foundation, the financial institution of the
  Presbyterian Church where our endowment funds are invested, to have online giving available
  on our church website. It will afford people an additional way to make donations to the General
  Fund of Leacock. More information to follow soon.
- Care about being both ecologically minded and saving the church money? This question was raised at our October stewardship meeting. We are now having an open conversation and invite your response. Let me know if you would like to receive your copy of the monthly newsletter online. If you want to stick to a mailed paper copy no action is required. Please email your response: <a href="mailto:mariebrackbill@gmail.com">mariebrackbill@gmail.com</a>. Remember, this is just a conversation, don't panic, nothing has changed, we encourage your input.
- Communication in the world of humans has always been iffy all that "whisper down the lane stuff" that happens..... In an effort to improve our communications at Leacock, the trustees and the stewardship committee are trying something new, for at least one month. In November we will meet together, go over the monthly financial reports and share our concerns, questions, informations and joys.

Annual CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, SUNDAY NOVEMBER 12, following worship, for the business of electing church officers and approving a 2018 budget.

# 2017 Nominating Committee Presents Slate of Officers to Begin Serving in 2018

Trustees Class of 2020	Currently serving: Class of 2018	Class of 2019
David Berkhimer Craig Keenan Danielle Short	David Homsher Richard Buck Michael Ruhl	Charles Ankney (Chuck) Keo Phongxaysanith Michael Ruhl
Deacons Class of 2020	Currently serving: Class of 2018	Class of 2019
Maureen Carney Molly Colton Bob Hershey Barbara Hostetter	Esta Fisher Jennifer McElhany Edwin Margerum Sharon Williams	Carol Berkhimer Katherine Boas Gwen Hess Dorothy Hall
Elders Class of 2019	Currently Serving Class of 2018	
Steven Boas Christian Brackbill Tom Burkins Derek Colton Mary Alice High Dianne Yuninger	Charlene Boas Marie Brackbill Linda Erikson Lois Eshleman Margaret Hershey Alba Ruhl	

The Session calls the annual Congregational Meeting for Sunday, November 12, following the 9:30 a.m. worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to approve a budget for 2018 and elect new officers for 2018. 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.

# Fifty Year Member/ Congregation Celebration Sunday, November 12, 2017

On Sunday November 12, after our service, the entire congregation is invited to a luncheon to honor our 50+ year members. We have 35 members who have belonged to Leacock Presbyterian Church for fifty or more years. Our newest 50 year member is **Tom Burkins**. Congratulations Tom!



Congregational Luncheon

Let's all join together to honor all our Fifty Year members and enjoy fellowship with each other at a special luncheon prepared by your CCL Committee. Reservations would help us plan. Please call the church office and tell Sandy your name and how many are in your party by Tuesday, November 7. Phone 717-687-6619.

# Fifty+ Year Members

M I M	A '1.11 10.41	D 11.01.1	A 4.5 1057
Mary Jane Mowrer	April 11, 1941	Donald Clark	August 5, 1957
Ruth Usner	December 29, 1943	Ruth Bryson	March 13, 1958
Robert Clark	April 19, 1946	H. Donald Andrews	December 21, 1958
Helen Kreider	October 4, 1946	Beatrice Andrews	December 21, 1958
Ruth Bair	April 6, 1947	Vicki Burkins	April 10, 1960
Ruth Anne Appel	April 17, 1949	Joy Koshuta	April 10, 1960
Robert Mowrer, Jr.	April 17, 1949	Dianne Yuninger	April 10, 1960
Mildred Young	April 17, 1949	Carol Shearer	April 15, 1962
Ethel Danner	April 17, 1949	James L. Brackbill	April 15, 1962
Arlene Brackbill	April 17, 1949	David Homsher	April 15, 1962
Jane Witmer	April 6, 1950	Lois Eshelman	April 15, 1962
Betty Denlinger	January 7, 1951	Esta Fisher	April 15, 1962
Lucy Ames	July 20, 1952	Kitty Shumate	May 2, 1965
Harold Yuninger	November 1, 1953	Kirk Beane	May 2, 1965
Dorothy Buckwalter	December 13, 1953	Ed Margerum	April 13, 1966
Betty Sowers	April 3, 1955	Tom Burkins	October 1967
Mary Ellen Rice	March 25, 1956		
Janet Cosby	April 14, 1957		



## **Worship Committee Notes**

We want to begin this month by expressing our deep appreciation for Lois Snader and her long, faithful, and creative service on the Decorating Committee. Her work and that of others has enhanced our worship for many years. She will be completing her term with the Christmas season. We would be delighted to learn of anyone

who would like an outlet for their creativity in the seasonal life of the church. If you are interested or want to know more, see Karen Homsher or Skip Brackbill.

We will begin our Advent season on December 3 with our Advent Breakfast and Worship Celebration. Watch for more details of time and location. A full schedule of Advent and Christmas services will appear in the December newsletter.

Last month we spoke about the opportunity to plan for one's funeral or memorial service should you desire to do so. The information form in which to convey your requests to the Leacock pastor and/or family members is included in this newsletter. Rev. Birch will address this on November 5, All Saints Day, when there will also be extra forms available at the back of the sanctuary. You may file this form with the office (where you can be provided with copies for you and for your family), file it at home, or give one to a family member. These can be changed or rescinded at any time in our church office.

Communion will be celebrated on November 26, **Christ the King Sunday**, and will be served by intinction. The elements will be brought to anyone who wishes to remain at their seat, and an alternate station will be provided for anyone requiring gluten free bread or individual elements.

# **Leacock Book and Movie Group**

On October 13, the Leacock book and movie group gathered to watch the movie *The Monuments Men,* which was an interesting film about the importance of preserving our past – and especially our art – during war time. We also had an excellent potluck feast, probably the highlight of the evening, with everything from split pea soup to macaroni



and cheese to potato salad. We were joined by Jim Farr, who was home from his missionary work for a visit. We will gather again on Friday November 10 at 5:30 for another potluck meal and to discuss the book *Wonder* by A.J. Pallacio , a wonderful story about outcasts and standing up for ourselves. Our younger church family members are welcome to join us, as this is a kids' book, good for all generations. We hope you will join us and bring a covered dish, whether you have read the book or not.



## **Leacock Youth Group**

The youth group also recently enjoyed a movie, thanks to Sara Lichty, who brought us Disney's *Manoa* to enjoy, a

good one for a laugh or two, as well as a few life lessons. We also encouraged members of the youth group to walk in the CROP Walk, and our one taker was Sarah Keenan, who came with dear Sophie, the dog who can jump hurdles. Our meetings in Nov. will be Sunday Nov. 5 and Sunday Nov. 19 from 7-8:30 p.m. All youth in grades 7-12 are welcome to join us for spiritual growth through discussions and fun games.

Emily Birch and Charlene Boas, Youth Group Leaders



#### **Gratitude Corner**

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

As most of you probably know, one of the most frustrating curve balls life can throw us is a sudden plumbing problem. We've had a few in the past couple of months. First, our kitchen faucet exploded with leaks. Then, our bathtub/shower drain stopped working. It wouldn't plug, and it wouldn't drain. Bob did what he usually does for the latter problem, taking it apart and cleaning it, but that didn't work this time (and, of course, as life would have it, this happened just as we were expecting a house guest).

Enter **Chuck Ankney**, who always arrives cheerfully and quickly to fix such problems. He took one look at the kitchen faucet, proclaimed it, basically, to be a dinosaur, and was on his way to buy us a new one and install it in record time. He did the same with the tub drain, after we'd already resigned ourselves to using the downstairs shower while our visitor was here. He came and fixed it before any of us needed it, so no schlepping downstairs to shower after all. So, thank you, thank you, Chuck, for identifying our problems and fixing them which such good speed and cheer.

Emily Birch

#### **Christmas Caring Tree**

Our Christmas Caring Tree will be in the Narthex from Sunday, November 19- Sunday, December 10. There will be gift tags for children from the Paradise Youth Factory and Women from Bridge of Hope. The tags will either be for children's wish gifts- clothes or toys, or gift cards from local stores for the Bridge of Hope. The tags will give information needed to buy the gifts.

Directions for recording your tag selection will be explained when you select a tag. It is important for us to keep accurate information so the child receiving the gift is the child who requested it. Please follow the directions or ask a CCL member to help you. Hopefully everyone will get into the Christmas spirit and help make the holiday special for someone. Thanks you from CCL!





# **Family Advent Sunday Celebration**

On **Sunday**, **December 3**, 2017 Leacock Presbyterian Church 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. The Sunday school rooms will be set up like a small restaurant with tables and chairs to eat and share each other's company. Following breakfast, we will move to the sanctuary for Christmas carols and a modified worship service. This special Advent service will be celebrated at our regular time so all can enjoy. Please come and worship!

# Christmas Bazaar - Saturday, December 2

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 717-808-7689 or Lois Snader 717-989-0628.



# OUR "FAMOUS" LEACOCK PEANUT BUTTER BONBONS

Ingredients needed:

5 (32 oz.) Jif Peanut Butter

November 29 at 1 p.m.

5 (8 oz.) Philadelphia Cream Cheese

6 lb. Butter

6 (2 lb.) Domino 10X Confectioners Sugar

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

If you can contribute, sign up in the Narthex or call Carol Shearer (717-687-7494). Consider helping her dip the BonBons in chocolate - Monday, November 27 (1p.m. - ?). Help packaging would be great too - Wednesday,

#### Bazaar Cafe

Make plans now to eat Breakfast and/or Lunch at Leacock's Cafe on SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2 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 (717-475-1560) or Betty Sowers (717-355-6393) 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 26. Any questions or if you need basket ideas, please contact Karen Shue (717-687-7240) or

Lois Snader (717-989-0628).

#### 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 27– 1:00 pm - ? PEANUT BUTTER WORKSHOP

Carol Shearer will be in charge of our Peanut Butter Bonbons in the Kitchen. 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 3. 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 21.....see or call Loretta (717-808-7689) to place your orders.

Thursday, November 30 & Friday, December 1 - 1:00pm - ? DROP OFF BAKED GOODS

Loretta McClarigan, Lois Snader and Bonnie Rice 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 13 REGIFT & REDECORATION

We are looking for gently used Christmas items .....including 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 Sunday, November 26th. If you need an empty basket to fill, they will be available in the Narthex, just help yourself.

## Monday, November 27 - 4:00pm to 8:00pm SET-UP

Set-Up in Fellowship Hall, if you can help, please contact Loretta McClarigan 717-808-7689, or Lois Snader 717-687-5698.

Sunday, November 12 10:30am-12:30pm

 Monday, November 13
 12:00 - 4:00pm

 Tuesday, November 14
 12:00 - 4:00pm

 Wednesday, November 15
 12:00 - 4:00pm

# Friday, December 1 - 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 2 - 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	Decen	nber

11/5 11/12 11/19	9:30 9:30	Chuck Ankney and Art Myers Chuck Ankney and Art Myers Mike and Alba Ruhl	12/10 12/17	9:30 9:30	Advent Gathering Nick and Evie Lopez Nick and Evie Lopez
11/26		Mike and Alba Ruhl	12/24 12/31	9:30	Linda and David Erikson Linda and David Erikson



# **Sunday School Teacher & Helper**

# November December

11/5	Karen Homsher & Milt Hostetter	12/3	No Sunday School Family Advent Sunday
11/12	Vicki & Tom Burkins	12/10	No Sunday School
11/19	Carol Shearer & Marie Brackbill		Christmas Play Rehearsal
11/26	No Sunday School Thanksgiving Break	12/17	No Sunday School Christmas Play Rehearsal
		12/24	Emily Birch
		12/31	No Sunday School Christmas Break

## **MY WISHES**

#### for My

# **Funeral or Memorial Service**

Name
We are a resurrection people. In our faith, we believe that life, true life, does not begin,

nor does it end in our time upon this earth. Yet, that time does come to an end. And when death comes, it can be very hard for those left behind, those whose hearts ache in
missing us. Therefore, we invite you to consider what kind of funeral or memorial
service you might like. There is, of course, no requirement that you fill this form out. But
if you do, it might help your loved ones in those hard days following such a loss. Please
know that you can change what you write here at any time—just let the office know, or
send a note to the pastor. We hope this can be an instrument of grace.
The Service
1. I would like to have the service in:
the Paradise sanctuary
the Old Leacock sanctuary (available May through September)
the funeral home
no preference
2. These favorite hymns may be used in some way at the service.
3. Special music I would like played and, if possible, by whom.
4. The following scripture passages have been meaningful to me and may be included
in the service.
5. I have this additional information/request that may be considered in the preparation

#### **Additional Considerations**

1. If the family wishes, the Deacons will serve a luncheon following the service. There is a modest fee calculated on a per person basis, and help is available in circumstances of financial need.

of the service. (The back of this sheet or another sheet may be used if needed.)

- 2. Leacock has a Memorial Fund and various endowment funds should the members of the family desire to designate memorial or other gifts to the church. Memorial gifts may also be designated for church missions and other general fund expenses.
- 3. Leacock has a funeral pall—white with a gold cross—that is available as a covering for the casket.

Leacock Presbyterian Church 3181 Lincoln Hwy. East Paradise, PA 17562 Phone 717 687-6619 Non-Profit U.S. Postage Paid Permit #951 Lancaster, PA



Articles for the November Newsletter Are due by Tuesday, November 21

THE LEACOCK COMMUNICATOR Sandy Schoettle, Editor