



# Leacock Communicator

## Leacock Presbyterian Church

687-6619  
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April 2018

### *Notes from the Manse*

Though they sometimes can be a bit of a challenge, I have to admit the Children's Sermons are one of my favorite moments in a Sunday service. The kids that come forward are so blessed, and we are blessed by them. Why? Because they do not yet have all the filters that adults have; they haven't erected all kinds of defenses to keep people from getting too close to them lest they be hurt. No, they're just themselves. Some are shy, so ingenuous, trusting in their gentle, quiet answers to my questions. Others are a tad different, practically overflowing with energy and enthusiasm and an eagerness to share whatever happens to be on their hearts, regardless of whether or not it has anything to do with my chosen topic. And that's OK. Because in the end, they are my topic. After the service, the kids at times seek me out, as if they have forgotten to tell me something. Once, in late December, a little girl ran up to me, her brow furrowed, obviously quite concerned. It seems that during the Children's Sermon, she had neglected to wish Jesus a happy birthday. So now, she brightened up, kind of hopped, and several times rather loudly said, "Happy Birthday, Jesus!" And then she was gone.

How wonderful! Adults do many things at Christmas time, good and kind things. But I wonder how often they simply, joyously wish Jesus a happy birthday. Well, what I wanted to suggest to you this month is that if, by chance, you didn't do so a few months ago, you can do it now. For after all, Easter, looked at a certain way, is kind of another birthday for Jesus. His time among us, with us, is complete. He has loved us into the possibility of life. Clearly, the risen Lord is something different, something new. I mean, otherwise why did so many of those closest to him have such a hard time recognizing him? Mary Magdalene thought he was a gardener; the guys on the road to Emmaus thought he was some clueless soul. Something happened. Now, he was having a new beginning. He had had a birthday. So, yes, happy birthday, Jesus!

Here's the thing about Easter. It can be our birthday, too. That's what Jesus wanted. It's why he came. When Nicodemus made his night visit to check him out, Jesus made that famous, cryptic comment about the necessity of being born again. The Greek word translated "again" can also mean "from above." As often was the case, Jesus wanted to make someone, make us, think, not just go through the motions. Well, it didn't work with Nicodemus; he was left puzzling how someone could enter the womb a second time. But what Jesus was talking about was the possibility of new life. Do you have any regrets? Are you ever weighed down lamenting the choices you've made, the wrong turns you've taken, the wrong you have done? Well, imagine if it were possible to have a do-over, a mulligan if you will. What if you could have a fresh start? You see, you can. In 2 *Corinthians*, Paul says, "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" How wonderful! How freeing! If we but allow it, if we believe, Easter will be our birthday, as well as Jesus'. As a matter of fact, Christ brought you a birthday present. It is called grace, the gift of being born again and again and again. So, happy birthday. I hope this coming year is your best yet.

Rev. Robert W. Birch

# April Lectionary Texts

<b>April 1</b> Resurrection of the Lord /Easter  Acts 10:34–43 or Isaiah 25:6–9 Psalm 118:1–2,14–24 1 Corinthians 15:1–11 or Acts 10:34–43 John 20:1–18 or Mark 16:1–8	<b>April 1</b> Easter Evening  Isaiah 25:6–9 Psalm 114 1 Cor. 5:6b–8 Luke 24:13–49
<b>April 8</b> 2nd Sunday of Easter  Acts 4:32–35 Psalm 133 1 John 1:1–2:2 John 20:19–31	<b>April 15</b> 3rd Sunday of Easter  Acts 3:12–19 Psalm 4 1 John 3:1–7 Luke 24:36b–48
<b>April 22</b> 4th Sunday of Easter  Acts 4:5–12 Psalm 23 1 John 3:16–24 John 10:11–18	<b>April 29</b> 5th Sunday of Easter  Acts 8:26–40 Psalms 22:25–31 1 John 4:7–21 John 15:1–8

## BLOOD DRIVE SCHEDULE APRIL 2018

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 &amp; Time</u>
Thursday, April 5	Lancaster General Hospital - 2:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 18	Kinzer Fire Co.- 2:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 24	Yoders - 2:00 p.m.
Thursday, April 26	Intercourse Fire Co - 2:00 p.m..

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



You may purchase flowers for the sanctuary on Sunday April 15 in honor of or in memory of someone or a special occasion. Call the church office at 687-6619



### April Prayer Families

**April 1**

Michael & Michele McLaughlin

**April 8**

Muriel Meier

**April 15**

Jeanne Menges

**April 22**

Earl & Jacqueline Miller

**April 29**

Richard Miller

### Thanks You Notes

To the Women of Leacock Church,

Thank you so much for your kind giving of \$1,000 to the Food Pac Program. Your monetary gift arrived just when our finances were running low. Last year we only packed 75 bags at the top at the end of the year. This year we have been packing 139 bags on a weekly basis — consistently — so that requires more food each week. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Charlotte Lapp

Ridgeview Mennonite Church

Dear Presbyterian Women at Leacock,

On behalf of the staff, Board of Directors, and patients of Welsh Mountain Health Centers, thank you for your generous donation of \$500. Your contribution helps overcome barriers to essential medical, dental, and behavioral care that so many people in our community experience. Donors like you help make our community a healthier place to live and grow!

Fred Bogner

Director of Development



*Each deacon is assigned a month during which they assume additional responsibilities. Among those responsibilities are delivering the altar flowers, coordinating transportation to and from church for those who need it, and coordinating/scheduling volunteers who'll prepare and deliver a meal to members of the congregation in special or emergency circumstances.*

*If you need to speak to a deacon about altar flowers, transportation needs or requests for meals in special circumstances, the following is a list of whom to contact for the remainder of 2018, according to the month:*

**April** - Brendon Shenk

**May** - Gwen Hess

**June** - Molly Colton

**July** - Ed Margerum

**August** - Esta Fisher

**September** - Carol Berkhimer

**October** - Bob Hershey

**November** - (currently unassigned)

**December** - Sharon Williams

## **AT-HOME MEMBERS**

Dalin Appel 913 E. King St. Lancaster, PA 177602 717-449-5991 Birthday: <b>December 30</b>	Ruth Bair 15 N. Kinzer Rd. Kinzers, PA 17535 717-442-8166 Birthday: <b>September 29</b>	William Berkhimer 1614 Bentley Ridge Blvd. Lancaster, PA 17602 293-8782 Birthday: <b>January 9</b>
*** <b>April Birthday</b> *** Arlene Brackbill 630 Enfield Drive Lancaster, PA 17601-5811 717-390-9827 Birthday: <b>April 5</b>	Joy Koshuta 1872 Sandhill Rd. Hershey, PA 17033 (717)533-6530 Birthday: <b>December 9</b>	Helen Krieder Masonic Village, Rm. #2604 600 Freemason Dr. Elizabethtown, PA 17022 Birthday: <b>March 23</b>
Miriam Latshaw 1520 Harrisburg Pike 421B Eshelman Run Lancaster, PA 17601 717-490-8610 Birthday: <b>February 28</b>	Jeanne Menges 2760 Maytown Rd. Maytown, PA 17550 717-687-7762	Kitty Shumate 433 S. Kinzer Ave. Apt. 443 GE New Holland, PA 17557 717-355-6900 Birthday: <b>May 20</b>
Richard Smith Elderwood 120 Rider Ave. Lancaster, PA 17603 717-397-3000 Birthday: <b>October 19</b>	Virginia Stauffer 113 Summers Drive Lancaster, PA 17601-5860 717-517-8775 Birthday: <b>July 22</b>	*** <b>April Birthday</b> *** Mildred Young Luther Acres Manor 400 St. Luke Drive Rm. 309 Lititz, PA 17543 717-626-1171 ext.1300 Birthday: <b>April 15</b>

# *PER CAPITA - WHY?*

Like many Presbyterians, you may have wondered, “Exactly what does per capita do?” Per capita is the amount of support per member - \$34.78 - that our congregation remits to our Presbytery that is then sent onto our Synod and the General Assembly. **This money is part of the glue that holds Presbyterians together.** It is the money that enables us to work with other Presbyterian churches in our Presbytery and across the country. **It is also money that allows us to work with other churches to further the mission of Jesus Christ around the world.** How important is per capita?

Your per capita pays for the General Assembly meeting every two years where Presbyterians gather together to worship and discern the mind of Christ for the church.

In many places in our world, it is difficult to “do mission” except by working ecumenically with other churches. Your per capita helps to pay for meetings of Presbyterians with people of other Christian churches, allowing us to maintain those ties for mission.

- Your per capita pays for producing the Book of Order and The Book of Confessions, including in Spanish, Korean, and Braille.
- Your per capita helps to fund the Presbyterian Historical Society – preserving and sharing the Presbyterian experience.
- Your per capita funds the preparation, administration, and grading of standard ordination examinations for seminary students.
- Your per capita pays for annual training events for presbytery executives, stated clerks, and others who help lead our work and mission.
- Your per capita pays for the travel expenses of the Moderator and Vice Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) as they make their way across the church to share with and listen to folks like you about the exciting things God is doing in our midst.

We need each other as we work together to share the good news of Jesus Christ. As we benefit from the gifts, skills, vision, and ministry of each other in this place, so, too, do we benefit from an even wider array of gifts and ministry of our Presbyterian brothers and sisters across the church. Your per capita pays for the programs, training, and resources that help us work together and discern the mind of Christ for the PC(USA). Thank you to all of you who have already paid your share. **By contributing your portion of per capita, you have freed up dollars in our regular budget for the work of our congregation in this community.**

Steve Boas  
Stewardship Committee

## CCL

On **Saturday, April 21**, starting at 1:30 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall we will be having a **Table Game Party**. Please bring your favorite game and a snack to share for a fun afternoon. If you do not have a favorite game come anyway and Shirley Smith will teach you how to play Golf, but not the kind of Golf where you need clubs! Sign up in the Narthex. Hope to see you all there!



## Leacock Book and Movie Group

The Leacock book and movie group gathered in March for a delicious meal and a rousing discussion of *Murder on the Orient Express* (bet you didn't know Agatha Christie could inspire a rousing discussion, but she did). We will meet again on Friday April 20th to watch the movie *Wonder* based on the book, which we read last year. Please bring a covered dish and join us at 5:30 p.m. to watch this story of a disfigured boy who goes to school for the first time and all he learns.

Emily Birch, Book and Movie Group Coordinator



## Gratitude Corner

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

So, it arrived a little late this year, but Bob and I finally got the big snow storm we began hoping for, oh, back in October or so. We *did* enjoy it, but I have to admit that our little 4-(extremely-short)-legged little friend isn't too keen on trying to navigate in cold, white stuff that is way over her head. Typically, when we get more than a few inches, Bob will dig a little run (we like to refer to it as "Clare's luge run") from our back door to the dog pen. He had dug this run for her about mid-day during the snow storm, but as you know, we got quite a lot more after mid-day, so it had begun to fill up again. Before Bob had a chance to get out and dig it again, though, someone else got out there for him and made it bigger and better for her — a most magnificent "luge run."

Thank you, thank you to Ed Margerum, who spent the week of his 80th birthday, when he should've been the one receiving all the gifts, instead giving Clare (and Bob and me) this great gift.

Emily Birch

## Ushers

Ed Margerum, Head Usher

### April

4/1	9:30	Bob & Margy Hershey	5/6	9:30	Nick & Evie Lopez
4/8	9:30	Bob & Margy Hershey	5/13	9:30	Nick & Evie Lopez
4/15	9:30	Bob & Margy Hershey	5/20	9:30	Nick & Evie Lopez
4/22	9:30	Alba & Mike Ruhl	5/27	9:30	Nick & Evie Lopez
4/29	9:30	Alba & Mike Ruhl			

### May

## Nursery

April "On Call"

## Sunday School Teacher & Helper

### April

4/1	Easter Sunday No Sunday School	5/6	Carol Shearer & Marie Brackbill
4/8	Vicki & Tom Burkins	5/13	Cathy & Chuck Ankney
4/15	Karen Homsher & Milt Hostetter	5/20	Lois & Darwin Eshleman
4/22	Alba & Mike Ruhl	5/27	Last Day - Emily Birch & Linda Erikson
4/29	Alba & Mike Ruh		

### May

Leacock Presbyterian Church  
3181 Lincoln Hwy. East  
Paradise, PA 17562  
Phone 717 687-6619

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Articles for the May Newsletter  
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THE LEACOCK COMMUNICATOR  
Sandy Schoettle, Editor