



Leacock Communicator

Leacock Presbyterian Church

717-687-6619

www.leacockpres.org

Volume 63, Number 7

November 2022

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Members and Friends,

To many, colder weather means cozy blankets, hot beverages, and the promise of time spent with family and friends around the upcoming holidays. For others, the darker evenings and impending winter bring about a particular sadness and distress. Millions of Americans struggle with seasonal affective disorder. If that is you, it's nothing to be ashamed of. During the season ahead, there are ways to bolster our mental health and well-being.

CONSIDER THESE: getting or staying connected to the church family, regular devotions, meditation and prayer. Others include exercising; getting out in nature; hearty cooking, nourishing meals; reading good books, and listening to inspirational music. Or get creative—start a new activity!

Another includes embracing the Danish concept of “hygge.” Pronounced "hue-gah" or "hoo-guh," hygge is the “art of creating intimacy, 'coziness of the soul,' 'the absence of annoyance,' 'enjoying soothing things.’” Burning scented candles, using a diffuser with scented oils, listening to inspiring music of your choice, or contacting an old or new friend each day are ways to create a ‘cozy togetherness.’ Perhaps your personal favorite is 'cocoa by candlelight' or some other soothing beverage. Stay spiritual by getting practical!!

Keep in mind Leacock is a praying church. Whatever your needs and concerns, we will pray for you and are praying for you. By reaching out, sharing whatever you feel is best, we will be able to reach back to you in the fashion of 'hygge' to offer a comforting togetherness.

Keep in mind Leacock is an acting church. Thanks to all of you who have been stepping up—our choir and handbells, the Sunday School, ongoing ministries such as the monthly community meal, the Factory, prayer shawls, women's study, meals to support our sick and homebound, and more. By offering your energy, talents and time, Leacock continues to offer compassion and support. As friends of Jesus, you are making a difference by offering care to those who perhaps have no other source.

When in-person for worship, committee meetings, or church activities, or gathering anywhere in person, be aware new cases of COVID are on the rise. As we continue personal travel, receiving guests into our homes, be aware of possible exposure to the new virus strain. As you feel the need and choose, wear a mask to protect yourself. When you become sick, know that we will miss you until you can return safely again to the fellowship of believers.

Whatever is distressing in this anguished world, do your best to wake up to good news. P.S. Ordered by Jesus—the One Who Has Overcome the World!

In peace,
Jim

Lectionary

Sunday November 6 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	Sunday, November 13 Isaiah 65:17–25 Isaiah 12 2 Thessalonians 3:6–13 2 Luke 21:5–19
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Sunday, November 20 Reign of Christ / Christ the King Jeremiah 23:1–6 Luke 1:68–79 Colossians 1:11–20 Luke 23:33–43	Sunday, November 27 First Sunday of Advent Isaiah 2:1–5 Psalm 122 Romans 13:11–14 Matthew 24:36–44
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Reign of Christ Sunday

November 20 marks the end of the Liturgical Year as we celebrate the Reign of Christ Sunday. As a people of God, we have journeyed from Advent through Lent, Easter, Eastertide, and Pentecost. In between the Church calendar reads Ordinary Time, but we know that with God no time is ordinary.

As the year comes full cycle, join us in worship and celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Following worship, our Congregational Meeting will occur.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

Gather with us Wednesday evening November 23 at 7:00 pm at Old Leacock for a time of praise and prayers as we celebrate God’s bountiful blessings.



November Prayer Families

November 6
R. Scott & Cathay A. Shenk

November 13
Harrison Shenk

November 20
Kelsi Shenk

November 27
Taryn Shenk

Congregational Survey

Many thanks to all of you who took the time to complete and return the Congregational Survey. We are compiling the results and will use them to guide us as we move forward in the pastoral search process.

Mission Committee

The Mission Committee would like to thank everyone for the clothing donations. Almost 200 pounds of clothing was donated to Lancaster clothing bank!

Our next **Community Meal** will be **Thursday, November 10**. The menu will be Amish wedding casserole, mashed potatoes, corn, cranberry sauce and dessert donations.

LEACOCK WOMEN'S GROUP MEETING: The 3rd Monday, 7:00 p.m. in the Church Library, November 21 (not 4th Monday due to Thanksgiving).



Session Snippets

The Session and Board of Trustees met together in October for their semi annual gathering. Sitting around tables in Fellowship Hall, we shared our concerns about the financial future of the church. With dwindling offerings, current budget expenses are becoming difficult to pay. The percent given to Mission is also several months in arrears.

The discussion was heavy and heartfelt, but the mood in the room was one of hope. Your boards firmly believe that as Christ's hands and feet in this community we will find a way forward. To that end, the following Ad Hoc Committee dealing with finances and drafting a proposed 2023 budget was appointed: Mark Andrews, Steven Boas, Carol Shearer, Dave Berkhimer, Mike Ruhl, and Brit Kilbourne.

Other Session business included the following:

- approving proposed by law changes (see article elsewhere)
- calling for a Congregational Meeting November 20
- scheduling worship for December 25
- setting the time for the Advent Breakfast December 4 as 9:00 a.m.
- approving a Church Bazaar December 3 from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Call to Congregational Meeting

The Session calls for a Congregational Meeting November 20 following worship for the purpose of

- approving the pastoral terms of call
- electing officers
- electing a Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC)
- approving proposed bylaw changes
- determining the formation of the 2023 Nominating Committee.

Amendments to Leacock's Bylaws

As we move forward in the Search Process for our next Installed Pastor, the Session has been examining our church operational system, specifically our Bylaws. With decreasing membership and the aging of leaders, we believe certain changes are necessary, especially in the size of our boards.

Thus the following bylaw changes are being proposed for adoption at the November 20 Congregational Meeting. A 2/3 majority vote is required for these amendments to pass.

Proposed By Law Changes

Current: The congregation shall elect twelve elders, divided into two equal classes, one class of whom shall be elected each year at the Congregational Meeting for a two-year term.

Change: The congregation shall elect **eight** elders, divided into two equal classes, one class of whom shall be elected each year at the Congregational Meeting for a two-year term.

Current: A quorum for the Session shall be the pastor or other presiding officer and six elders.

Change: A quorum for the Session shall be the pastor or other presiding officer and **four** elders.

Current: The congregation shall elect twelve deacons divided into three equal classes, one class of whom shall be elected each year at the Congregational Meeting for three year term.

Change: The congregation shall elect **eight** deacons divided into **two** equal classes, one class of whom shall be elected each year at the Congregational Meeting for **two year terms**.

Current: The congregation shall elect nine trustees, divided into three equal classes, one class of whom shall be elected each year at the Congregational Meeting for a three year term.

Change: The congregation shall elect **six** trustees, divided into three equal classes, one class of whom shall be elected each year at the Congregational Meeting for a three year term.

Current: There shall be a Congregational Meeting on a Sunday in November at which the following business shall be conducted: approving the budget for the following year, approving changes in terms of call for the pastor, receiving the report for the Nominating Committee and electing church officers, and determining the formation of the following year's Nominating Committee.

Change: There shall be a Congregational Meeting on a Sunday in November at which the following business shall be conducted: approving changes in terms of call for the pastor, receiving the report for the Nominating Committee and electing church officers, and determining the formation of the following year's Nominating Committee.

Current: The quorum of a meeting of the congregation shall be the moderator, the secretary, and 20% of the active membership.

Change: The quorum of a meeting of the congregation shall be the moderator, the secretary, and **10%** of the active membership.

Fifty year Members

Robert Clark	April 19, 1946	Dianne Yuninger	April 10, 1960
Ruth Anne Appel	April 17, 1949	Carol Shearer	April 15, 1962
Mildred Young	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	AJuly 20, 1952	Kirk Beane	May 2, 1965
Harold Yuninger	November 1, 1953	Ed Margerum	April 13, 1966
Betty Sowers	April 3, 1955	Tom Burkins	October 1967
Mary Ellen Rice	March 25, 1956	Robert Brackbill	October 6, 1968
Janet Cosby	April 14, 1957	Bonnie Rice	October 6, 1968
Donald Clark	August 5, 1957	Skip Brackbill	May 4, 1969
Ruth Bryson	March 13, 1958	Marie Brackbill	April 1971
H. Donald Andrews	December 21, 1958	Karen Homsher	April 1971
Beatrice Andrews	December 21, 1958	Nelson Koshuta	September 1971
Vicki Burkins	April 10, 1960	Muriel Meier	March 26, 1972



Advent Study

Sunday, November 27
Sunday December 4 and Sunday December 11
following worship

This brief series is entitled "Maybe Morning, Night or Noon."
An old gospel song states that Jesus is coming soon.

Let's meet together to learn about and reflect on scriptural understandings of time and the proclamations surrounding them.

Advent

Our time of waiting begins Sunday, November 27, as we celebrate the First Sunday in Advent with the lighting of the first candle on the Advent Wreath. Each Sunday thereafter we light one more candle until the Christ Candle shines on Christmas Eve. Join us in this sacred season.

Because of the way the calendar works out this year, our annual Family Advent Breakfast and Worship will be held the second Sunday, December 4. Breakfast begins in Fellowship Hall at 9:00 a.m., followed by worship at approximately 9:45.

Bring a covered dish breakfast/brunch item to share and think of your favorite Advent and Christmas carols to request during worship.



Advent Breakfast
December 4, at 9:00 a.m.
Fellowship Hall, the Second week of Advent.

Deacons

Due to the scheduling of our Congregational Meeting for November 20th, the Deacons will meet after worship on November 13th.

Altar Flowers: The month of November has four open Sundays on which you can honor someone or celebrate some occasion by purchasing the altar flowers. Please call the church office to reserve a specific date and provide information. These are still available at the very reasonable cost of \$40.00 for both vases, and they provide a much appreciated ministry to those who receive them.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



Christmas already?! Watch your bulletins and December Newsletter for Poinsettia order forms.

Flower Deacons: November—Darwin Eshleman
December—Charlene Boas



November 14

Dot Buckwalter
52 Circle Dr. Apt. 201
Lititz, PA17543

November 22

Betty Denlinger
4 Conestoga Dr. Apt. 320
Lititz, PA 17543

Looking Ahead:

Earl Miller will be 91 on **December 7**
11 Pequea Drive
Paradise, PA 17562



Our Christmas Bazaar Returns

Our fun-filled Christmas Bazaar returns this year! Saturday, December 3 from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. we will open the doors for the community's shopping and eating pleasure.

New this year is a Silent Auction for some of our bigger items.

The Cafe and ever popular Gift Basket sale will also be part of the day.

How can you help?

We are accepting gently used Christmas items, new donations, and hand-made goods. We also will need donations of baked goods to sell and for the cafe.

Check the sign up sheets in the Narthex for further information.

Anyone with questions should contact Alba Ruhl or Bonnie Rice.

Christmas, December 25



Yes, Christmas is December 25, and this year it falls on a Sunday. As we started planning, the Worship Committee wondered about our usual 9:30 a.m. service, especially since we will have held a 7:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. service the night before.

We surveyed the congregation, and about half of those responding have indicated they would also like a brief service of worship on the 25th.

Christmas Day Worship will be held at 9:30 a.m.

Come and worship Christ, our new born King.



To the members at Leacock,

Thank you seems quite inadequate for all the help given to my husband and me after my recent surgery. All the prayers, all the meals, all the visits really helped my recovery seem to go faster.

Sometimes I think we forget about the church as a family. But when push comes to shove, this church family has really stepped up. We may be few but we are powerful! A special thanks to Karen Homsher and Barb Andrews for all their work setting up those delicious meals.

Christ's Peace
Lois & Darwin

To my friends at Leacock - Thank you for thinking of me on my birthday with cards and phone calls. It's so nice to hear from you!
Love Jane Witmer

Dear Leacock family,

Thank you all very much for all the prayers and cards that have come our way in positive support of my recent back operation. Added thanks to both Deacons and church members and knitters for the gift of many meals - delicious, nutritious but also comfort foods -, and a beautiful cuddly prayer shawl. I'm recovering very well and continuing to improve daily.
with Love and Peace,
Marie and Skip Brackbill

Ushers:

November - Mike and Alba Ruhl

December - Darwin Eshleman and Craig Keenan



Leacock Presbyterian Church
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Paradise, PA 17562
Phone 717 687-6619

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Articles for the December Newsletter
Will be due Tuesday, November 21

THE LEACOCK COMMUNICATOR
Sandy Schoettle, Editor