



Leacock Communicator

Leacock Presbyterian Church

717-687-6619

www.leacockpres.org

Volume 64, Number 2

March 2023



“Where there is no vision, the people perish.” Proverbs 29:18

Dear Members and Friends,

The book of Proverbs is one of the most practical books in the Old Testament. With its thought-provoking wisdom and memorable epigrams, the writings of King Solomon have provided inspiration and instruction to generations of God’s followers looking to practice right living in every area of their life. Many of the principles touched on in Proverbs offer warning, correction, encouragement, and practical steps for good, honest, faithful living.

Vision is a necessary and relevant aspect of successful living. When corrected, mine is 20/20. Uncorrected it’s 20/40 left eye; 20/60 right eye. It’s called ‘nuisance vision’ because things are just fuzzy enough around the edges to keep me from seeing as clearly as I would want, and certainly at critical times.

What is your vision? What is the vision of our church?

Yet relatively early in a new century, society, culture, and institutions of every kind including the church are trying to figure out how to move forward meaningfully and relevantly. During the pandemic and beyond, we have made many adjustments. While discovering ways to maintain vital connections, significant adaptations in medical care to the delivery of goods and services have occurred.

What are we seeing and what are we failing to see?

More than ever, the voice of scripture—and that of scholars, researchers, scientists, inventors, educators, philosophers, theologians, musicians and poets, laborers and leaders is needed.

Without that collaboration, and the vision shaped by these perspectives, people who are perishing will remain angry and afraid, abandoned, frustrated, struggling, confused, and without hope.

With LENT upon us, we have the opportunity to look ahead. . .to sharpen our focus. **In renewing our efforts, we can gain a keener vision in the areas of membership, stewardship, and mission.** We

can examine what motivates us to keep going. Is it our faith? Our loyalty or persistence? Our money and time? Is it all of these things and those things beyond our efforts which keep us inspired?

If through our teaching, preaching, worship and witness we have strengthened your vocation, life choices, and values. . . if our church has inspired daily acts of compassion and social justice in Jesus' name, then our vision remains focused and clear.

JOIN us weekly in worship, our Lenten Study—"The Bible in Song"—in times of fellowship, learning, and service to sharpen and uphold the vision we claim.

Blessings in Christ, your pastor,

Jim

March Lectionary

<p><i>March 5</i> <i>Second Sunday in Lent</i> <i>Genesis 12:1-4a</i> <i>Psalm 121</i> <i>Romans 4:1-5, 13-17</i> <i>John 3:1-17 or Matthew 17:1-9</i></p>	<p><i>March 12</i> <i>Third Sunday in Lent</i> <i>Exodus 17:1-7</i> <i>Psalm 95</i> <i>Romans 5:1-11</i> <i>John 4:5-42</i></p>
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<p><i>March 19</i> <i>Fourth Sunday in Lent</i> <i>1 Samuel 16:1-13</i> <i>Psalm 23</i> <i>Ephesians 5:8-14</i> <i>John 9:1-41</i></p>	<p><i>March 26</i> <i>Fifth Sunday in Lent</i> <i>Ezekiel 37:1-14</i> <i>Psalm 130</i> <i>Romans 8:6-11</i> <i>John 11:1-45</i></p>
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**March
Prayer Families**

**March 5
Tracy Wettig**

**March 12
Joseph & Sharon Lee
Williams**

**March 19
Jane Witmer**

**March 26
Mildred Young**

Flowers for the Church



If you wish to purchase flowers for the sanctuary in memory of or in honor of someone or a special occasion, Sunday, March 26 is available

Trustee Notes

SPRING WORK DAY is *Saturday, April 1* this year. No fooling! We will be mulching, raking, weeding and painting if the weather cooperates. There will be some inside work too for some of you.

The west pillar will need \$1700 of masonry work, not counting the electric and new lights.

The manse foundation will take \$6800 for repairs. We wanted you to know.

The Trustees welcome your comments and help, it takes all of us to keep our properties clean and maintained. Please keep supporting the Special Offerings and the main offering so we can pay the bills and keep YOUR properties in repair. Tell a Trustee if you see something that needs our attention. Thank you.

Dave Berkhimer
Trustee President

New Address

Skip and Marie Brackbill
2103 Celice Road SE
Huntsville, Alabama 35801

Session Snippets

The February Session meeting was a hybrid one (that is, Zoom and in-person for all of you non-techies out there). Rev. Sam Massey, representing Bethany Christian Services, was present to talk about how Leacock might help two Congolese refugee families who have moved into the duplex owned by Christ's Home which is located across the street.

We discussed this project at length and decided we still need more specific information before making a decision.

In other business we approved the following:

- The General Assembly Statistical Report for 2022.
- New budget categories which combine some categories and delete others which are no longer used.
- Building use for the Boas/Lichty family for April 22.
- Lenten worship plans.
- Beginning Old Leacock 8:00 a.m. services in July, rather than June.
- Holding Summer Hymn Sings the first Sunday evening of June, July, August, and September.

Worship Committee

“From dust you have come, and to dust you shall return.”

With these familiar words, we began the Lenten Season on Ash Wednesday, sitting quietly and meditating on our mortality and God’s great gift of salvation. We received the visible sign of ashes as a mark of our humanity, humility, and holiness.

Lent is a time for introspection and personal inventories as we contemplate Christ’s suffering and death. You are invited to our Lenten Study as an aid on this journey. Pastor Shuler will present “The Bible As Song” as we meet at 5:30 p.m. for a light meal of soup and bread followed by our time of learning and discussion.

Holy Week Worship opportunities can be found on the Lenten Calendar elsewhere in this newsletter.

As you plan ahead for summer, please be aware we will begin Old Leacock 8:00 a.m. worship in July and continue this service thru Labor Day Sunday, September 3.

Old Leacock Day will be celebrated September 10 with a 9:30 service and Communion at Old Leacock, followed by our courtyard picnic.

Finally in the planning ahead mode, Summer Hymn Sings begin June 5 at 7:00 p.m. at Old Leacock. July 2, August 7, and September 3 are the other dates for you to choose your hymn favorites.

A Special Opportunity: We Need Your Input



The Worship Committee is planning a Sunday Hymn Sing Worship on May 28. Many of you are unable to participate in our Summer Hymn Sings so we thought a Sunday morning opportunity would be in order.

What would you like to sing? Of course, we will ask for favorites that morning, but it would be helpful to have some ideas before that time.

Give titles to Dianne Yuninger, Brit Kilbourne, Sue Funk, Karen Homsher, Angela Killian, or Rev. Shuler.

Mission Committee

Our next community meal will be held on Thursday, March 23rd at 5:30 in the Smith Fellowship Hall. Sign up sheets will be in the narthex on Sunday March 12th for helpers for the meal and for food donations.



During the season of Lent...February 22nd through Easter Sunday, April 9th... we collect our **One Great Hour of Sharing**

Offering. This offering is the single largest way that Presbyterians join together to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world. Each gift helps to improve the lives of people in challenging situations through three programs:

- 1.) Rebuilding Hope-Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.
This helps communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural and human caused disasters.
- 2.) Growing Food Security- Presbyterian Hunger Program
Takes action to alleviate hunger and the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed.
- 3.) Partnering in Progress- Self Development of People
This deals with investing in communities, responding to their experiences of racism, oppression, poverty, and injustice.

There are special OGHS envelopes in the pews for this offering.

Remember "When we all do a little, it adds up to a lot."

During the month of April, the mission committee will again be collecting clean gently used clothing for the Lancaster clothing bank. Please place the clothing in the narthex under the bulletin board and we will deliver it to the clothing bank. What you can no longer wear someone else may be very thankful for. So start your "spring cleaning" early!

Ushers:

March - Bob and Margy Hershey

April - Mary Alice High and John Shenk

May - Elaine and Joe Gouba



OUR SUNDAY EVENING LENTEN STUDY. . .begins Sunday, March 5 with Soup and Bread offered at 5:30pm and continuing weekly March 12, 19, and 26 in the Fellowship Hall. Study and discussion follow each evening from 6-7pm.

We will intertwine Sunday morning worship with an Evening Study series entitled: "The Bible in Song" (The Faith We Sing) featuring the hymn stories of Lenten songs, meditation on their lyrics and their scriptural base along with audiovisual presentations.

PLAN NOW to be part of this moving and meaningful series. Our Christian Education and Worship Committees will coordinate the evening meals. Gather with us to learn about the origin of Lent and the disciplines that strengthen our journey in the Christian faith.

Our Lenten Calendar

March 5, 12, 19, 26 - Lenten Study
Fellowship Hall, 5:30 p.m.

April 2 - Palm Sunday
Worship 9:30 a.m.

April 6 - Maundy Thursday
Worship and Communion 7:00 p.m.

April 7 - Good Friday
Worship (drop-in) - noon to 1:00 p.m.

April 9 - Christ Is Risen, He Is Risen Indeed
6:30 a.m. Easter Dawn Old Leacock
8:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast in Fellowship Hall
9:30 a.m. Service of the Resurrection

Deacons

The Deacons will meet in the Library after worship on March 26th.

Looking ahead

In April we celebrate with the following at-home member birthdays:



Arlene Brackbill – April 5

Alba Buck – April 14

Millie Young – April 15

Lilies and roses and lilacs, oh my!

We like to come to church looking and smelling our loveliest, but there are those among us that have severe allergies to various scents and perfumes. Please refrain from wearing perfumes and colognes—male and female products alike—to congregational gatherings.



Dear Friends,

Thank you for your ongoing support of the Food Pack Program. Your financial support helps us continue to provide weekend supplemental food bags for the elementary students in Pequea Valley School District.

It's been a difficult year financially, so we appreciate your support for this much needed program.

Sincerely,
Charlotte Lapp

CCL Committee



There will be an **Easter Morning Breakfast** after the sunrise service and before the 9:30 am service. The time frame is 8:00 to 9:00 am - in the Fellowship hall.

The CCL Committee will provide a variety of tasty egg casseroles, juice and coffee. Those planning to come, please bring a dessert like fruit or coffee cake to share.

EASTER PLANTS 2023

Easter plants may be purchased to be placed in the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday in memory of someone deceased or in honor of someone living. Please complete and return this form and money to the church office by **Friday, March 31**. The ones remembered and by whom will appear in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Please let us know if you would like to leave your plant(s) to be taken to an at-home member.

I/We _____ wish to order

Hyacinths \$7.00

Daffodils \$7.00

Tulips \$7.00

Martha Washington

Geraniums \$8.50

Easter Lilies \$9.00

All plants are in 6 inch pots

In Memory of _____ or

In Honor of _____

RETURN FORM AND PAYMENT NO LATER THAN Friday, March 31

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

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MARCH

Articles for the April Newsletter
Will be due Monday, March 27, 2023

THE LEACOCK COMMUNICATOR
Sandy Schoettle, Editor