



# Leacock Communicator

## Leacock Presbyterian Church

717-687-6619

[www.leacockpres.org](http://www.leacockpres.org)

Volume 64, Number 7

October 2023

### A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Members and Friends,

On behalf of all leaders at Leacock Church, thanks for supporting this congregation, for your patience in the pastoral search process, and for all the ways you engage regularly.

We especially appreciate faithful attendance in the worship and the activity life of the church—it is a vital witness to our communal engagement. In that way we gain strength and support from one another. The vibrancy of your presence sends a strong message to visitors and prospective members.

**I especially encourage everyone to be in prayer over the next few months as the Pastor Nominating Committee continues its work. Also, pray for:**

—our presbytery as it sets mission goals for the next several years. Visioning the Presbytery of Donegal Mission Priorities for 2024-2026 took place Mon. Sept. 25th in the High Leadership Conference Room at the Greenfield Corporate Center. Dianne and I participated.

—our denomination as it faces enormous changes to remain vital.

—for the churches of the Pequea Valley whose pastors I have had the privilege to meet and whose company I have enjoyed these past three months.

—for the many devastated, hurting, and struggling peoples of our community and world, including those who are overwhelmed, scared, confused, or lack direction.

**My door is always open if you need to talk or have someone pray with you.  
May we all continue to love one another as Christ loves us.**

On a fun and reminiscent note, October is apple season and pumpkin carving time.

With these two “bookends,” there's nothing quite as satisfying as the first bite into a sweet, freshly picked apple. Or the delight of children as they carve their first pumpkin. For many, it's the delight of homemade apple



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sauce, apple butter, or apple and pumpkin pie—of course, with ice cream or cool whip on top.

On a recent visit to the Factory Ministries, Marie Glass gave me an extensive and much-appreciated tour. Outside the entrance was a grocery cart full of apples donated by the local Amish. I immediately made a connection to a variety of apples I remembered from childhood, an apple grown by my Grandpa Shuler in the small orchard behind the home place.

The cart was filled with Summer Rambo's—some medium in size, some large, their skin greenish yellow and striped in red with an overspread of gray. Not having seen them in years, I wasn't sure, but one bite later I knew. The apple has a distinctive flavor and aroma. Very versatile, the Rambo is excellent for fresh eating, cooking and baking, jelly, and drying—all of which my grandparents did.

The origins of the Rambo are unknown, but likely date back to the American colony of New Sweden along the Delaware River, including what is now Wilmington and parts of present day New Jersey and Pennsylvania. It was there when in 1637 Peter Rambo, a Swedish immigrant, arrived having brought apple seeds and several other varieties of seeds in a box for his garden.

This "little old-fashioned Rambo" made its way to Virginia, later said to have been found "in almost every old orchard in Ohio." In 1847, the Rambo was included among the 18 varieties of apple trees that Henderson Luelling of Salem, Iowa brought with his family along the Oregon Trail to establish the first orchard in the Pacific Northwest, and so it appears in Northern California and Oregon.

The Rambo belongs to the era when people bought apples from local suppliers and grew apple trees in their backyard. It was an apple meant for everyone. It leads me to ask how we can be the church meaningfully and effectively for everyone and what that might look like in the future.



What seeds for ministry and vitality are "in our box," carried among us and within our reach? In what ways can we be versatile yet distinctive? How can our influence spread and grow as did the Rambo apple of long ago?

Together let us take direction and encouragement from *this parable*—the story of the Summer Rambo!

Grace and Peace, *Jim*

# October Lectionary

<p data-bbox="175 352 500 394"><b>Sunday, October 1</b></p> <p data-bbox="188 457 487 613">Exodus 17:1–7 Psalm 78:1–4, 12–16 Philippians 2:1–13 Matthew 21:23–32</p>	<p data-bbox="639 352 971 394"><b>Sunday, October 8</b></p> <p data-bbox="607 457 997 613">Exodus 20:1–4, 7–9, 12–20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3:4b–14 Matthew 21:33–46</p>	<p data-bbox="1105 352 1442 394"><b>Sunday October 15</b></p> <p data-bbox="1114 449 1433 604">Exodus 32:1–14 Psalm 106:1–6, 19–23 Philippians 4:1–9 Matthew 22:1–14</p>
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<p data-bbox="347 827 699 869"><b>Sunday, October 22</b></p> <p data-bbox="355 932 691 1087">Exodus 33:12–23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1:1–10 Matthew 22:15–22</p>	<p data-bbox="920 827 1273 869"><b>Sunday, October 29</b></p> <p data-bbox="943 940 1256 1096">Deuteronomy 34:1–12 Psalm 90:1–6, 13–17 Thessalonians 2:1–8 Matthew 22:34–46</p>
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## **Our Mission Statement**

**“Building on our heritage, led by the Spirit, committed to Christ,  
we welcome our neighbors to share in this family of God.”**

## October Prayer Families

October 1  
Dorothy Buckwalter

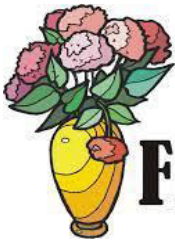
October 8  
Thomas & Vicki Burkins

October 15  
Donald & Betty Clark

October 22  
Robert Clark

October 29  
Derek, Molly &  
Finn Colton

## Flowers for the Church



## Altar Flowers

If you would like to order Sanctuary flowers in memory of or in honor of someone or a special occasion, **October 15** is available.

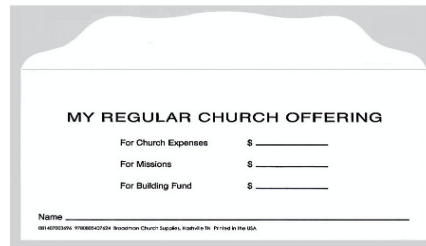
Please call the church office:  
7171-687-6619

## Trustee Notes

Fall Workday is **October 7**. The following Saturday is a back-up day in case of bad weather. Beverage and goodies will be provided - so bring tools and cleaning supplies for various jobs. If you are not there, no doubt you will be the topic for the day. So come and enjoy the fellowship!

Tell a Trustee if you see something that needs our attention.

The New Offering Envelopes are here! (see the example below).



MY REGULAR CHURCH OFFERING

For Church Expenses \$ \_\_\_\_\_

For Missions \$ \_\_\_\_\_

For Building Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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The church saved hundreds of dollars using this generic route. There will be an envelope posted in each vestibule on the bulletin board for you to see. You can put your name or the envelope number you have on it now so you will get credit on your year end giving statement. They will be in the pews every week. Thank you all for your support.

Dave Berkhimer

## PNC Update

Your PNC continues to meet, sifting through applications received through our denomination's Church Leadership Connection and prayerfully seeking a candidate whom we believe to be the best fit for Leacock.

At this point, we have conducted a first interview via Zoom with two applicants and have two more folks to consider. The process is long and at times arduous as we read through answers to narrative questions concerning ministry experience and theology and analyze Statements of Faith. We also listen to sample sermons (what would we do without YouTube?) and will begin checking references.

We cannot give you a time frame for when we will have a candidate to present to you, but we covet your prayers and support. We ask you to pray that we be guided to the one whom God is already calling to pastor us.

Dianne Yuninger, Chair  
Mark Andrews  
Chuck Ankney  
Carol Berkhimer  
Mary Alice High  
Karen Homsher  
Jenny Keenan

## Notes from the Deacons

There are no October birthdays, but looking ahead to November we celebrate birthdays with **Janet Birch and Betty Denlinger**, both on **November 22<sup>nd</sup>**.

You can also remember our At-home Members with Thanksgiving greetings.

The Prayer Shawl Knitters will meet on October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. in the Library. New—and old--knitters welcome.

The **Leacock Church Memorial Fund** exists to honor those members and friends who have entered the Church Triumphant. It is used to fund the purchase of more lasting enhancements for worship, and was drawn upon most recently to reupholster the pulpit chairs at Old Leacock. Our Board of Deacons donates to the Fund upon the death of each Church member. Please consider this possibility as you seek to memorialize the life of a loved one.

## Mission Committee

The **Community Meal** for October will be held on **Thursday October 26** at 5:30-6:30 PM in our handicapped accessible Smith Fellowship Hall. The menu will be meatloaf, mashed potatoes, gravy, peas and carrots, applesauce and desserts. Everyone is invited and encouraged to come.

The month of October is our collection of clean, gently used clothing for the **Lancaster Clothing Bank**. They accept almost anything except used underwear. All underwear must be in the package that it was in when purchased. It is an item that they do need...any size from toddlers to adults and male or female. We will end the collection on Sunday October 29th. Please do not continue to bring clothing after the specified date. Save it for our next collection date which will be either in March or April.

Sunday **October 15** is the annual **CROP** walk for the Paradise area community. It begins at 1:00 at the Paradise Park. Please get your papers for sponsors and begin to corral your donors now. Sheets are on the table in the narthex. Remember that 25% of all the money collected will go to the Factory. We need sponsors and walkers.

Thank you to everyone for all their help and support to the Mission committee. Our church may be few in number but together we can do great things.

Your Mission Committee  
Lois Eshleman  
Bonnie Rice  
Alba Ruhl

## Worship Committee

Several weeks ago during worship, we sang a new hymn, "God the Sculptor of the Mountains." I would invite you to read and meditate on these beautiful, relevant words as you enter this season of harvest and thanksgiving.

### God the Sculptor of the Mountains

1. God the sculptor of the mountains, God the miller of the sand,  
God the jeweler of the heavens, God the potter of the land: You are womb of all creation, we are formless; shape us now.
2. God the nuisance to the Pharaoh, God the cleaver of the sea, God the pillar in the darkness, God the beacon of the free: You are fount of all deliv'rance, we are sightless; lead us now.
3. God the dresser of the vineyard, God the planter of the wheat, God the reaper of the harvest, God the source of all we eat: You are host at every table, we are hungry; feed us now.
4. God the unexpected infant, God the calm, determined youth, God the table turning prophet, God the resurrected truth:  
You are present every moment, we are searching; meet us now.

We are pleased to have the Chancel Choir back in worship and thank them for their faithfulness. The sound is mighty, but the numbers are few. Anyone loving the music of the church is invited and **encouraged** to join this group. We rehearse after worship each Sunday in the Choir Room.

On another musical note, we look forward to the first worship offering of the Bell Choir, under the direction of Karen Homsher, Sunday October 22.

Looking ahead to November, we welcome Rev. Adam Nagle, Executive Director of The Factory Ministries, to the pulpit Sunday November 5. Pastor Shuler will serve as liturgist that morning with Rev. Nagle delivering the message.

**The Session calls for a Meeting of the Congregation Sunday November 12 immediately following worship. The purpose of the meeting is to elect officers and to approve the 2024 budget.**



Dear Church Family,

Thank you for your support, prayers, cards, phone calls, and Jim's visits. Your caring concern and support was a blessing for Steve and for all of us. Steve will be doing cardiac rehab through October, but he is doing well. He had many guardian angels watching over him and blessing him with life. We are very thankful. May the Peace of Christ be with you.

The Funk Family

## Ushers

**October - Dave and Carol Berkhimer**  
**November- Darwin Eshleman and Brit Kilbourne**  
**December - Bob and Margy Hershey**

## Peanut Butter Bonbons



We will be making peanut butter bonbons again this year on Monday, November 6 at 9:00am and on November 27. There will be a signup sheet in the Narthex if you would like to help make them or donate supplies. There will also be a signup sheet to order bonbons for Thanksgiving and /or Christmas. You will be able to pick them up here at the church, or you can buy them at Loretta McClarigan's shop. We will have milk chocolate, dark chocolate, or mixed at a cost of \$7.50 per container.

## Christmas Bazaar Baskets

It's time again to start thinking about ideas to fill holiday baskets to sell at the Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, December 2, 2023.

You can help by filling a basket with goodies with a theme of your own or donate items for us to create a filled basket for you! Please place your filled baskets and items to crate a basket in the fellowship hall by Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023.



Here are a few basket ideas to consider: movie night, family game night, tool basket, baking fun, wine and cheese party, car wash bucket, kids fun box, coffee or tea basket, pasta lovers basket, waffle breakfast, hot chocolate or smores basket, book lovers basket, ice cream holiday party, beach cooler theme, and spa day.

Any questions and ideas, please contact Marsha Ault 717-826-7477, Bonnie Rice 717-475-7338, or Alba Ruhl 717-475-1560.



## Christmas Bazaar Saturday, December 2

Donations are now being accepted of your handmade Christmas crafts, jewelry, knitted items, home décor, canned jellies, ornaments, homemade candles, and framed items, etc. We're also looking for wreaths and trees to decorate and sell at the bazaar. If you're doing any fall house cleaning and have Christmas items you no longer want, please consider donating them to the bazaar.

This year we will be making gift jars of soup mixes, cookie mixes, & hot chocolate. We are looking for new canning lids and rings. We could also use quart size canning jars; the jars do not need to be new. We will put a list of ingredients needed on the church bulletin board and in the weekly bulletin.

We will need homemade cookies, pies, breads, candy, and bagged treats for the bazaar. 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 or suggestions, please call Marsha Ault 717-826-7477, Bonnie Rice 717-475-7338, or Alba Ruhl 717-475-1560.



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Articles for the November Newsletter  
Are due by October 24, 2023

THE LEACOCK COMMUNICATOR  
Sandy Schoettle, Editor