



Leacock Communicator

Leacock Presbyterian Church

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May 2024

A Word from the Pastor

Fruit trees are starting to bloom which means around the corner there will be a harvest, each in its own season. My time with you as an interim has brought the opportunity to serve among you as your pastor and with you. I love your spirit, your faithfulness, your generosity to me and others and, where it applies, your tolerance.

The fruit of my labors along with yours are hopefully apparent. There has been the deepening of ties, celebrating of lives, worship and study, renewed connections within the community, the examination of purpose and an invigorating of your spirit and mine.

There has been the casting of a vision of hope for the future. Romans 8:24 reminds us that it is “in hope” that we are saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? As the pastoral search continues, perhaps we are all waiting and wondering. Perhaps we are looking but not seeing. Maybe the answer will come soon. Maybe a time of further waiting is required. Do know, you are in good hands and will continue to be in good hands.

A seminary colleague of my brother John, Talitha Arnold, is a United Church of Christ pastor in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Their congregation gathers Christians from differing backgrounds and persuasions to a simple mission:

“Love God. Love neighbor. Love creation.”

What if the road signs of all the churches along Rt. 30 (*someone please count them and give a report*) said:

“We love our addicts, and we’re going to love you back to health” —OR—“No one will go cold, hungry, or homeless on our watch. COME INSIDE. . .We have a place for you!”

Jesus once said, **“When you do these things to the least of these, you have done them to me.”**

Yes, we teach, preach, sing, enjoy fellowship in the church, take money in, send money out—pay the bills and staff salaries, care for the buildings and grounds, pay the utilities and insurance, support mission causes, and more.

MOST OF ALL, we care, we reach out, we lift up. . .AND YES, we remain vigilant and hopeful.

As Spring has resurfaced, note the sun’s reprise, the calm stillness of the air at sunrise, the winds that blow throughout the day and the night. Note the dew that glazes the awakening grass.

Take pleasure in the Golden-winged warbler chirping through the air, a small but grand bird. Notice a fluttering butterfly weaving its way, upward and outward, inherent within its splendor, if for only one day.

Notice the myriad of colors splattered across the landscape—the dandelion and buttercups, the royal alertness of the bluebells, the blossoming of the cherry trees.

And be reassured, that a season of prosperity lies ahead for you.



The Risen Christ, “the lily of the valley, the bright and morning star” is our hope!!

**Faithfully yours,
Jim**

May Lectionary

<p>May 5 Sixth Sunday of Easter Acts 10:44-48 Psalm 98 1 John 5:1-6 John 15:9-17</p>	<p>May 9 Ascension of the Lord Acts 1:1-11 Psalm 47 or Psalm 93 Ephesians 1:15-23 Luke 24:44-53</p>	<p>May 12 Seventh Sunday of Easter Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 Psalm 1 1 John 5:9-13 John 17:6-19</p>
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<p>May 19 Day of Pentecost Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21 John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15</p>	<p>May 26 Trinity Sunday Isaiah 6:1-8 Psalm 29 Romans 8:12-17 John 3:1-17</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.”**



Prayers of the Church

May 5
Jenny, Olivia
& Emma Keenan

May 12
Alyssa Keenan

May 19
Craig Keenan

May 26
Sarah Keenan

Trustee Notes

The HVAC has been replaced. It's working well! The Special Offering in May will be towards paying that off.

The wedding of Christopher and Rachel Lazzaro will be held at Old Leacock on May 5. Congratulations to them!

If you see something that needs our attention, please contact one of the trustees. We do our best to address any concerns. Thanks.

Michael Ruhl, Trustee President



Summer Hymn Sings

It's summer and time to think **HYMN SINGS** at Old Leacock. The first Sunday of June, July, August, and September we gather at 7:00 pm at Old Leacock with community members for our annual Hymn Sing tradition.

Don Brackbill will be with us again this year as our song leader.

Participants set the evening's agenda, selecting their favorite hymns. Whether from *Glory to God* or *Crowning Glory*, hymns range from the old traditional to more modern ones, from "Blessed Assurance" to "Our God Is an Awesome God."

Set aside the dates now: **June 2, July 7, August 4, and September 1.**

Mission Committee

Our next free **Community Meal** will be held on **Thursday May 23** from 5:30 to 6:30 in our handicapped accessible Smith Fellowship Hall. The meal will be Ham, Potatoes, Green Beans, Applesauce, Dinner Rolls, and Desserts furnished by Weis Markets of Gap. Everyone is welcome.



Pentecost Sunday is May 19.. As usual, we will once again take a Pentecost offering. The offering dates will be Sunday, May 12, Sunday May 19, and Sunday May 26. On those days you will find a special envelope in the pews. Please feel free to use this envelope in which to deposit your special Pentecost offering. This offering is especially important because we get to keep 40% of it right here for our congregation. 25% supports young adult volunteers, serving in communities around the world, and growing as leaders through transformative Christian service. The other 25% supports ministries with youth including the Presbyterian Youth Triennium. Last 10% is devoted to children at risk and

supports improving education and providing havens.

Pentecost celebrates the renewal of the relationship between God and the community of faith. Through our gifts to the Pentecost offering, we are there to help build a foundation of faith in our youth which will last a lifetime.

Please consider this offering and give generously...for if we all give a little, it adds up to a lot. Thank you.

Your Mission Committee,
Bonnie, Alba, and Lois

Worship Committee

Looking Ahead

Old Leacock Day is scheduled for **Sunday September 8** at 9:30 am. with worship and Communion Then we gather in the courtyard for a covered dish lunch. Tableware and drinks will be provided by the Church and Community Life Committee. Bring a chair!

Summer **Communion** Dates:

Communion will be celebrated Pentecost Sunday May 19, June 23, and August 4.

SUMMER SCHEDULE

9:30 a.m. at OLD LEACOCK

JUNE 2

JULY 7

AUGUST 4

There will be no service at Paradise on those Sundays.

DEACONS



Birthday – **May 23** – Geraldine (Gerry) Hess
600 E. Roseville Rd. Apt.1209
Lancaster, PA 17601

The **Prayer Shawl Knitters** will meet at 9:30 on May 6th and 20th. We always welcome suggestions for recipients.

Altar flower deliveries for May – Esta Fisher and Karen Homsher

Our next meeting is on May 19th following worship. We will begin with a combined meeting of the Deacons and Session and then separate into our own meetings.

A Personal Note –

We thank our Leacock Family for all their prayers and thoughtful cards following the sudden passing of my brother Jamie. Sincerely, Karen and David Homsher

More Thank Yous!

To Mark and Barb, and Sue Funk, for monthly, and faithfully, serving to the Factory Ministry pizza, desserts and drinks. Factory Ministry does not fail to appreciate this, and thank us, and it's solely because of Mark, Barb and Sue.

And to Dianne, for her unfailing presence as Clerk of the Session, on Pastor Nominating Committee, on Worship Committee, and in her varied roles on our behalf with the Presbytery of Donegal. She is our Choir Director, and like our Bell Choir Director makes it look easy, but she also spends extra time choosing music, practicing, and working with the choir members --which is sometimes like herding cats.

Finally, Dianne's talent as Organist of this church leaves us in awe. Her careful choice of music, and her own gifts, add, in turns, both meditation and splendor to our ceremonies, powerfully lifting our minds to God. We are blessed to have her.

In many ways, Dianne is the glue that holds this church together. We humbly thank you.

Joke of the Month

During a Presbyterian worship service, a man began to be moved by the Spirit. Out loud, he said, "Amen!"

People around him were a little disturbed. Then louder, he said, "Hallelujah!"

A few more people were becoming disturbed. Louder still, he shouted, "Praise Jesus!"

An usher moved quickly down the aisle. He bent over and whispered to the man, "Sir! Control yourself!"

The man exclaimed, "I can't help it. I got religion!!!"

To which the usher responded, "Well, you didn't get it here!"

Ushers

May - Mike and Alba Ruhl

June - Joe and Elaine Gouba

July - Mark and Barbara Andrews

August - Chuck and Kathy Ankney

September - Mary Alice High and John Shenk

October - Dave and Carol Berkhimer

November - Darwin Eshleman and David Homsher

December - Mike and Alba Ruhl

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Articles for the June Newsletter
Are due by Wednesday, May 22, 2024

THE LEACOCK COMMUNICATOR
Sandy Schoettle, Editor

The Leacock Communicator