



Leacock Communicator

Leacock Presbyterian Church

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March/April 2026

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR



“As surely as the sun rises, the Lord will appear; the Lord will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth.” Hosea 6:3

Dear Members and Friends,

Spring is around the corner and a welcomed transition from the cold and snow of winter. The word from Hosea highlights a sun that shines on all seasons, winter, spring, summer and fall.

While the patterns of weather and the functioning of the earth and solar system remind us of a certainty realized in nature, Hosea speaks to a certainty of God’s presence.

So yes, through sunshine and rain, the needs of the earth and those living here are met. There is a certainty, a pattern, that can be depended upon.

In our ministry as a church and our daily lives, we depend on certainty. We depend on plans and schedules. We live by appointments and choices, even ones that are spur of the moment. We rely on habits, commitments, agreements, contracts, and promises. We thrive when expectations are fulfilled. We depend on certainty.

Imagine what it might be like for the Lord to appear as Hosea foresees. When will that be? How will that come about? Can we be certain it will occur? And will we be ready?

With LENT upon us, we have the opportunity to look ahead. We can be reassured with a certainty that our ministry is God’s ministry. That it’s not just our own. That our future is certain when we trust in God’s provisions.

As with many of us, our faith at times comes under threat. Sometimes the mistakes we make or wrongdoings we commit cause us to give up.

Sometimes our experiences lead us to question the benefits of faith, or take away the joy of going to church, or rob us of the willingness to support its ministry with our money and time.

We may question “Why do we face so many challenges?” Sometimes internal and external threats cause us to question our faith, challenge our understanding of God and even question the very character of God. “If God is good, why would God allow such things!?”

Whether we have questions about our faith, our situation, or our God—uncertainty is the fruit of a “faith under threat.”

Thankfully, God desires that we harvest the fruit of certainty. This is possible as we rehearse what we know about God’s gracious gifts to us. Individually and together we can find certainty even amid uncertainty when we focus on the certainty we have in God.

This has surely been the bedrock of people of Leacock Church throughout its history. May we all commit ourselves to maintaining a certain faith, and adding to it, a certain hope. In this Lenten season and beyond, let us together claim the certainty that is ours through God.

Blessings,
Jim

Our Pastor

CCL along with the Mission Committee, have continued to provide meal support for Pastor Jim’s meeting of the ‘Pequea Pastors’. Jim’s connection and outreach continues to offer Leacock Presbyterian Church enhanced opportunities to serve its community.

Jim regularly connects individuals and families seeking assistance to Factory advocates, who then are able to provide services, counseling and support.

He also participates on behalf of Leacock in the quarterly Together Initiative Network, initially organized by Grace Point Church in 2011. The Together Initiative partners local church, school and township organizations in investigating strategies to address a wide array of community needs.

More information on the Together Initiative may be found on the Grace Point Church website:
www.gracepointparadise.com

March Lectionary

<p>March 1 Second Sunday in Lent Genesis 12:1-4a Psalm 121 Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 John 3:1-17 or Matthew 17:1-9</p>	<p>March 8 Third Sunday in Lent Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 95 Romans 5:1-11 John 4:5-42</p>	<p>March 15 Fourth Sunday in Lent 1 Samuel 16:1-13 Psalm 23 Ephesians 5:8-14 John 9:1-41</p>
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<p>March 22 Fifth Sunday in Lent Ezekiel 37:1-14 Psalm 130 Romans 8:6-11 John 11:1-45</p>	<p>March 29 Liturgy of the Palms Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Matthew 21:1-11</p>	<p>March 29 Liturgy of the Passion Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11 Matthew 26:14-27:66 or Matthew 27:11-54</p>
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April Lectionary

<p>April 2 Maundy Thursday Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14 Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 John 13:1-17, 31b-35</p>	<p>April 3 Good Friday Isaiah 52:13-53:12 Psalm 22 Hebrews 10:16-25 or Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9 John 18:1-19:42</p>	<p>April 5 Resurrection of the Lord Acts 10:34-43 or Jeremiah 31:1-6 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 Colossians 3:1-4 or Acts 10:34-43 John 20:1-18 or Matthew 28:1-10</p>
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<p>April 12 Second Sunday of Easter Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Psalm 16 1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31</p>	<p>April 19 Third Sunday of Easter Acts 2:14a, 36-41 Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 1 Peter 1:17-23 Luke 24:13-35</p>	<p>April 26 Fourth Sunday of Easter Acts 2:42-47 Psalm 23 1 Peter 2:19-25 John 10:1-10</p>
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If you wish to order **Sanctuary Flowers** in Memory of or in Honor of an event or person, Sunday, **April 26** is open. Please call the church office 717-687-6619. The cost for the two flower vases is \$40 plus tax.



March Prayer Families

March 1
Alyssa Keenan

March 8
Craig Keenan

March 15
Sarah Keenan

March 22
Angela Killian

March 29
Brit Kilbourne

April Prayer Families

April 5
Delores Kilbourne

April 12
Nelson Koshuta

April 19
Gregory, Suzanne, Ian & Emily
Lang

April 26
Matthew & Michele Lichty

Mission Committee

Our next **Community Meal** is scheduled for Thursday, **March 26th** from 5:30-6:30 in our handicapped accessible Smith Fellowship Hall. The menu will be Spaghetti with Meatballs, Garlic and Plain Bread, Caesar Salad, Applesauce, and Desserts. The sign up sheets for food donations and for volunteers to help cook, serve, and clean up will be in the narthex by Sunday March 15th.

Our April meal will be held on Thursday **April 23rd**...same time and same place. The sign-up sheets for that meal will be in the narthex by Sunday April 12th. The menu for that meal will be Shepherds Pie, Cole Slaw, Pepper Cabbage, Rolls, Fruit Salad, and Desserts. Please feel free to come and enjoy the meal or to come and help. These meals are for everyone.

Please remember our **One Great Hour of Sharing Offering** runs all through Lent and will end on Easter Sunday April 5th. The envelopes are in the pews for you to use.

April is our **clothing collection month**. Our good, clean, gently used clothing will be donated to the clothing bank in Lancaster that is run by **Church World Service**. All you need to do is go through all your clothes and if there is something that just doesn't fit anymore or if there is something that you haven't worn in the past two years, it is time to get rid of it! Someone may benefit from your cleaning out. And just think how good it will make you feel! Just bag the clothes and put them in the narthex and the Mission Committee will see that they get to Lancaster.

Thank you,
Mission Committee

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.”**

Deacons

March birthdays



March 4—Ruth Anne Appel

March 7—Betty Sowers

In the absence of April birthdays, please consider sending Easter greetings to our At-home members. Address sheets are at the back of the sanctuary.

The Deacons will meet following worship on March 15th.

Orders for Easter plants are due on March 22nd. Order forms may be found at the back of the sanctuary, in the Narthex, and below.

The Prayer Shawl Knitters will be meeting on March 2nd and 16th.

Flower deliveries:

March: Sue Funk

April: Sue Funk/Barb Andrews

EASTER PLANTS 2026

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 Sunday, March 22. The ones remembered and by whom will appear in the Easter Sunday bulletin.

I/We _____ wish to order

Tulips \$6.75
6-inch pot

Daffodils \$6.75
6-inch pot

Triple Hyacinths \$6.75
6-inch pot

Easter Lilies \$8.50
6-inch pot

Miniature Daffodils \$3.75
4-inch pot

Martha Washington Geraniums \$8.50
6-inch pot (May not be in full bloom)

In Memory of _____ or

In Honor of _____

RETURN FORM AND PAYMENT NO LATER THAN Sunday, March 22

Lenten Worship

As we travel together on our Lenten journey, we need to take time to reflect on where we are going and why. From the solemn reminder of our mortality on Ash Wednesday, we have moved to a deeper contemplation of God's great love for us, God's mercy, God's grace — all expressed through the life and death of Jesus.

Each Sunday morning we have the opportunity to meet together to praise, to meditate, to consider, to reflect, to hear God's Word to us and for us.

Yet as we draw closer to Holy Week, the most sacred time of our liturgical year, we need to acknowledge our frailty, our vulnerability, our utter dependence on God's love and grace. How can we participate more fully in Christ's redemptive act?

Thursday April 2, Maundy Thursday, we are invited and encouraged to gather at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary to worship, to reflect, to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion as we bear witness to Jesus' Great Commandment: Love one another.

Good Friday the church will be open from noon until 1:00 p.m. for us to drop in (or stay the whole hour) for a time of music and the Word. May our Lenten journey be one of renewal and rediscovery as together we recommit ourselves as disciples of Jesus.

.Easter Dawn Service

Our Easter Dawn Service will be held at 7:00 a.m. at Old Leacock. Come gather around the fire in the courtyard, light a candle, and sing "Alleluia! He Is Risen, He Is Risen Indeed!"

We will also observe the Sacrament of Holy Communion at this service.



Join Us For Breakfast

All are welcome to attend ***Palm Sunday Breakfast*** in the Fellowship Hall at 8:30 before the 9:30 am service. The CCL Committee will provide meats and main dishes, juice and coffee. Those planning to come, please bring a dish to share.



Our Lenten Schedule

Palm Sunday - March 29
Breakfast 8:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall
Service of Worship 9:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday - April 2 7:00 p.m.
Communion

Good Friday - April 3
Music and Meditation from noon to 1:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday - April 4
A time for personal introspection

Easter Dawn - April 5
7:00 a.m. at Old Leacock
Communion

Service of the Resurrection - April 5
9:30 a.m. Paradise

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