



Leacock Communicator

Leacock Presbyterian Church

717-687-6619

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October 2019

Notes from the Manse

Today is the first day of fall. Yesterday, the worship service was about how the Creator built seasons into the very fabric of creation. God promised after the flood that seasons would never end and they don't. It isn't like there's only one trip through spring, summer, winter, and fall. No, we never stop passing through that cycle. And so should it be in each of our lives. As *Ecclesiastes* put it, for everything there is a season. No matter what we do, who we are, there comes a time to let go, to let die what is, so that something new in us may come. There is a time to die and a time to be born, again and again.

This isn't to say that it's easy. It can be so hard to let go of a time in our lives, a season of our being. Obviously that is true when things are good, when we wake up every morning confident about how the day ahead will unfold, when grace seems to follow grace and we are at peace. But it can also, surprisingly, sadly, be hard to let go when times are tough. We may be unhappy, we may hurt, we may be locking doors we could so easily pass through, but at least it is what we know. We may even come to believe this is who we are and to change would be some kind of betrayal. And so we get stuck.

That isn't what the Lord wants. In *John*, Jesus tells Nicodemus that one must be born again. Many have latched onto this as naming some kind of one-off moment that must occur if one is to follow Christ. But Jesus seems to be speaking of something more. It's no coincidence that Nicodemus gets all befuddled—how can one possibly reenter one's mother's womb? The word translated "again" in Greek is *anōthen*, which can also mean "from above," and this gets at the nuances Jesus intends. To be born again is not just about one part of our lives, the faith part. It is about a transfiguration of our very being, a change of season if you will. Jesus speaks of being born of the Spirit, and remember that it was the Spirit that passed over the face of the deep at creation. There can be no life, no real life, without the Spirit of God.

We are to let that Spirit pass over us many times so that we can become, in Paul's terms, new creations. Just as there isn't only one change from spring to summer, this becoming doesn't only happen once, say when adolescents pass into adulthood. No, it is not an age thing at all. Consider the parable of the Prodigal Son. The youngest son may or may not have changed; the oldest son doesn't change at all. It is the father who allows his life to change, who finds a place for a living son whom he had thought was dead.

This is what the Lord wills for all of us, for the seasons of our life to change. I found great meaning and joy in the years I was a teacher, so much so I probably remained one too long. It was only when I left that I met Emily, with whom today I celebrate an anniversary, and later, heard a call that led to my ordination, which I also celebrate today. What of your own life? Was there a blessed time that you wanted to last forever but that in its passing led to another, different blessing? We need not fear changing seasons. God created life that way. So, yes, let us be born again—and again and again and again.

Rev. Robert W. Birch

October Lectionary

<p>October 6 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p>Lamentations 1:1–6 Lamentations 3:19–26 or Psalm 137 Timothy 1:1–14 Luke 17:5–10</p>	<p>October 13 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p>Jeremiah 29:1, 4–7 Psalm 66:1–12 2 Timothy 2:8–15 Luke 17:11–19</p>
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<p>October 20 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p>Jeremiah 31:27–34 Psalm 119:97–104 2 Timothy 3:14–4:5 Luke 18:1–8</p>	<p>October 27 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p>Joel 2:23–32 Psalm 65 2 Timothy 4:6–8, 16–18 Luke 18:9–14</p>
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Worship News

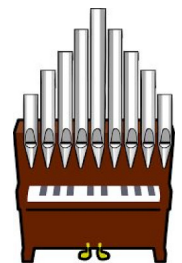


Remember **World Communion** is celebrated **October 6**. Come join us as we feast at the Table of the Lord. This Communion will be celebrated in the traditional manner with congregants remaining in the pews.

Welcome back to our Chancel Choir! There are still empty chairs in the choir loft just waiting for more singers. Perhaps one of those chairs has your name on it.

As a result of the congregational Communion survey, the Worship Committee has decided to continue using traditional and Communion by intinction. Thanks to all who participated.

Finally, as a note of interest — Sunday September 22 we had four visitors from The Netherlands, two of whom are church organists. After the service one of them asked to play our organ and did so beautifully. As he looked at the instrument, he noted it was a PELS organ manufactured in Holland and was quite impressed. He is the first person who has recognized the builder of our organ, and we were all quite pleased to have him comment on the quality of the instrument.





October Prayer Families

October 6
Richard Buck

October 13
Thomas & Vicki Burkins

October 20
Sean, Maureen, Alyssa
& Garret Carney

October 27
Donald & Betty Clark



At Home Member Birthday
October 19

Richard Leaman Smith
Conestoga View Rm #108 NE4
900 E. King St.
Lancaster, PA 17602

Trustee Notes

Our Annual Fall Workday Saturday, October 19

For all of you who like to take part in keeping up the appearance and maintenance of your church properties, Trustee Workday will run from 8:30 a.m. to about noon.

Bring your tools, rags, buckets, etc. There will be something for everyone to do We are looking at painting, raking, trimming and cleaning.

There will be a continental breakfast with coffee, cider, and pastries It is a great time for fellowship and catching up with your neighbors.



REMINDER

Save the date!

On **Sunday, November 10**, we will have a special celebration luncheon honoring our fifty year members, our musicians and our new members. Everyone is invited to share in this celebration. We have 35 members who have belonged to Leacock Presbyterian Church for fifty or more years.

The Luncheon will be prepared for you by the Church and Community Life Committee(CCL). Please mark your calendars and save this date so you won't miss this special celebration.

Session Snippets

At their September meeting, the Session acted on the following items:

- Concurred with the Trustee's recommendation to use Jake's Roofing, LLC to replace the Old Leacock roof.
- Approved a request to the Building and Facilities Growth Fund of Leacock's Endowment Fund.
- Approved Rev. Birch's vacation from October 21 through November 4.
- Approved use of Fellowship Hall December 29 from 1 - 4 p.m. for the Brackbill Christmas party.



Mission Committee

The **Clothing Drive** has been concluded for this fall. We packed and took all usable clothing to the Lancaster clothing bank. Kudos to all of you who cleaned out closets and drawers to make this possible!!



This year's annual Paradise area community **CROP Walk** will be held on **Sunday, October 20th**. Registration will begin at 1:00 in Pavilion #2 at Paradise Park. Everyone can help in some way.. We need people to walk. We need people to sponsor the people who walk. And if you don't feel you can walk or donate money, still come and give your support by cheering others on and just fellowshiping with others from the church and the community. Walkers can choose to walk as little or as much as

you want-once around the park, the long park route, the short park route, or just to the next pavilion! This will be held rain or shine. Sign up sheets will be in the narthex during October until the 20th. Let's all work to make this the best CROP Walk ever!! I know we can do it!

The next Leacock free community meal will be held on **Thursday, October 24** from 5:30-6:30 in our Smith Fellowship Hall. The meal will be Chili, Rice, Corn Bread, Carrots, Fruit Cup and Desserts from Weis Market. Many thanks to everyone who helps make this meal a reality, from those who donate the food needed to all those who help in other ways -setting up Fellowship Hall, preparing and serving the meal and cleaning up. This is truly a complete congregational mission project.



Just a "heads up" - Because of Thanksgiving, the following month's free community meal will be held on Thursday, **November 14**.

NEW SPACE NEEDED

■ If you have an unused garage or a place in a barn you would like to rent out, I am looking for a spot to keep my Antique Ford. The farm was sold where it was kept so I have to find another place. Maybe you know someone who does or may have a space. I would appreciate your help. Please call Carol Berkheimer, 717-442-8319. Thank you.

Leacock Book and Movie Group

The Leacock Book and Movie Group gathered on September 20 to discuss Penelope Fitzgerald's *The Bookshop*. It was a lively discussion, mainly because most of the members didn't like the book and were ready to articulate exactly why. Only one member defended what we thought was a crushing ending. We will all gather again on October 11 (note that is a change in date due to a conflict on my part, so we will be meeting the second Friday in October not the 3rd) to watch the movie *The Bookshop*, to see how it compares to the book. Our next book will be *Where'd You Go, Bernadette?* by Marie Temple (for a lighter, happier look at human nature), which we will discuss in November. **Please bring a dish and join us for a potluck and the movie *The Bookshop* on Friday October 11 at 5:30 p.m..**

Emily Birch, Book and Movie Group Coordinator

The Leacock Communicator

Christmas Bazaar

The Leacock Church Bazaar

Calling all women and men of Leacock!

Our annual bazaar is scheduled for **Saturday December 7** from 8am -2pm. We are looking forward to volunteers helping in the kitchen of our cafe, helping bake cookies and breads for gifting, candy making and greens assembly. Also, volunteers are needed to clerk and be bazaar runners and, of course, to help with set up and cleanup.

Gently used Christmas items are welcome donations for Grandma's Attic and can be placed in the narthex. Don't forget to label 'for the Bazaar.'

Crafting continues to happen on Wednesday evenings from 5 - 9pm (some of us will need to go to bell practice and choir practice, in between, but crafts keep going). EVERYONE is welcome.

Look for upcoming announcements for further details and information on all bazaar activities. Questions? Contact Marie Brackbill or Dianne Yuninger.

Gratitude Corner

(Those Who Go Above and Beyond to Care for their Minister and His Wife)

Bob and I have been enjoying watching the little river birch tree he planted earlier this year grow up and out, despite the drought we've had of late. There is another tree on the manse property of which we are both very fond, because it was planted the first year we moved here, and that is the little maple on the corner of the side yard. It was about the size of the river birch when it was first planted, and now it's a lovely, full, tall tree. You can imagine our horror then, when, thanks to Ed Margerum, we discovered it was covered, seemingly, with thousands of spotted lanternflies. The bark was barely visible. By now, everyone knows that these invasive moths must be killed. Ed got to work the next day, spraying the tree, and we watched as it began to "rain" lanternflies, saving the poor tree. Luckily, no other trees seem to have been infected.

So, thank you, thank you, **Ed Margerum**, for, yet again, taking care of the manse property, so we can enjoy it.
Emily Birch





Stewardship

Summer has passed, fall is upon us and before we know it winter and the end of another year will be upon us. We have already been working on the budgeting process for 2020 and will present it at our annual meeting. The "Fun" fundraising team was busy earlier in the year with two successful events. We were not quite able to pull off a fall corn roast as we hoped, but there is next year! We are looking forward to another spring chili cook-off as well. However, the Christmas Bazaar preparations are in full swing. Please support these efforts however you are able

to! Thanks to all who have worked and are working on our events. The fellowship, community involvement and benefits to our Church is priceless.

Ushers

Ed Margerum, Head Usher

October Nursery On Call

October	Nick & Evie Lopez
November	Bob & Margy Hershey
December	Craig Keenan and Darwin Eshleman

Sunday School

October

November

10/6	9:30 a.m.	Lois & Darwin Eshleman	11/3	9:30 a.m.	Karen Homsher & Elaine Gouba
10/13	9:30 a.m.	Lois & Darwin Eshleman	11/10	9:30 a.m.	Karen Homsher & Elaine Gouba
10/20	9:30 a.m.	Mary Alice High & Margy Hershey	11/17	9:30 a.m.	Vicki & Tom Burkins
10/27	9:30 a.m.	Mary Alice High & Margy Hershey	11/24	9:30 a.m.	Vicki & Tom Burkins

BLOOD DRIVE SCHEDULE OCTOBER

Lancaster General Hospital has scheduled community blood drives throughout the year at the following locations. Won't you consider giving blood - every pint is very important!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Place and Time</u>
Wednesday, October 2	Whitehorse Fire Co. - 2:00pm
Thursday, October 3	Women & Babies Hospital- 1st fl.Conference -9:00am
Wednesday, October 9	Kinzer Fire Co - 2:00pm

The Lancaster General Suburban Outpatient Pavilion (Health Campus) Blood Drive is located in Building 2104, Suite 202. The hours on Monday are 10 am -7:30 pm, Tuesday and Thursday 8am to 4pm, Wednesday and Friday 8:00 am to 6 pm,. For more information call 717-544-0170 or visit lancastergeneralhealth.org/LGH/Our-Services.

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

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Articles for the November Newsletter
Will be due Tuesday, October 22, 2019

THE LEACOCK COMMUNICATOR
Sandy Schoettle, Editor