



The Back Pew

The Newsletter of Leesburg Presbyterian Church,
Leesburg, Virginia

Serving God and Neighbor in the Heart of Leesburg since 1804

www.leesburgpresbyterian.org

November 2011

Successful Community Service Family Day - Real Food Farm, Baltimore Sat. Oct. 15

The Mission & Witness Committee is pleased to report that an adventurous group of 13 LPC members trekked over to Baltimore for a morning of work around the urban farm yard. Tyler Brown, son of Kathy & Brad, is the farm manager of Real Food Farm, a non-profit dedicated to getting real (healthy) food to neighborhoods in the heart of Baltimore city. Volunteers were seen



Ashley Jackson

composting, weeding, installing doors on the hoop house end units, removing old summer growth and planting new winter crops, hauling mulch for a new trail, digging trenches for the end units plastic, taking a tour with Farmer Brown to learn about new urban farming techniques and hearing about the various ways the farm is getting their fresh produce back into the schools, community and restaurants. At noon everyone gathered for a hearty pot luck lunch. Thanks to Rick and Kathi Stone, Shirley Pearson, Randy Jackson and Ashley, Linda and Bob Duffey, Julie, Richard, Sara and Emma Koochagian and Brad and Kathy Brown.



Farmer Brown!



Richard Koochagian, Rick Stone, Randy Jackson and Ashley Jackson on the farm.

Circles, Study, and Fellowship Groups

Moms Alive! Tuesdays, 9:00—11:00 a.m.

Mothers with children of all ages meet on Tuesday mornings when Loudoun County Public Schools are in session. Our mission is to provide a social and supportive atmosphere for mothers in a Christian setting through fellowship, education and outreach. If you have questions you may contact Sarah Jones at MASecretary@lpcva.org or Lauren Vogan at MAPublicRelations@lpcva.org. All Moms are welcome!

Bible Study, Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m.

Join us every Wednesday morning for a time of learning and fellowship.

Emma Clemens/Ruth Circles, Wednesday, November 2, 7:30 p.m.

Our circle will meet in the church library. Our lesson for October is titled "Greatly Honored Are the Humble," taken from the scriptures of Matthew 5:5 and Psalm 37. We welcome all women to join us for 1½ hours of lively discussion and fellowship. For more information contact Shirley Pearson at 703-777-7425.

Circle One Thursday, November 3, 10:00 a.m.

At our October meeting, Circle One jumped into Lesson 1 of this year's study, *Confessing the Beatitudes*. Lots to think about! At our November meeting we will take a look at Lesson 2, "Greatly Honored Are the Mourners." Please accept our open invitation to join us at 10:00 am November 3 for a time of friendship, discussion and, dare we say it, fun! No advance preparation needed. If you have questions about the study or Circle One, contact Laura Herring at 703-777-7639.

Bridge Group, Thursdays, 10:00 a.m.

Join us for a lively session of cards and fellowship. New players welcome. Contact the office if you would like to play (703-777-4163).

LPC Book Club, Friday, November 11th, 9:30 a.m.

At our November meeting, we will discuss the most recent novel by Geraldine Brooks, the Pulitzer Prize winning author of our previous selections *People of the Book* and *March*. This new novel is *Caleb's Crossing*, the story of the first Native American to graduate from Harvard College—in 1665. The story is set in Martha's Vineyard and is related by a Calvinist minister's daughter. Contact Jennifer Marsh (703-779-0042; jmcleanmarsh@hotmail.com) for more information about book club. Upcoming selections include *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot (December 9) and *Unbroken* by Laura Hillebrand (January 13).

Monday Morning Stitchers, Monday, November 21, 11:00 am

We have a great group of ladies who stitch on the 3rd Monday of each month at the home of Jane Ashbaugh. Bring whatever project you are working on and stitch and visit with us. If you ever wanted to learn counted thread, canvas work (needlepoint) or cross stitch on linen, now is the time! Call if you have any questions. (703-779-0747)

Dear Congregation,

My family and I would like to thank the deacons and everyone in the congregation for your kind thoughts, prayers and the many cards we received during my father's illness and after his passing. It truly is a blessing to have fellow church members helping you through a tough time! Thank you so much!

Love,

Laura Jackson and Family

Dear Congregation,

Thank you so much for your kindness, thoughtfulness, and love during Bob's illness and after his death. All the notes, calls and prayers meant so much.

Love,

Pat Ahrens

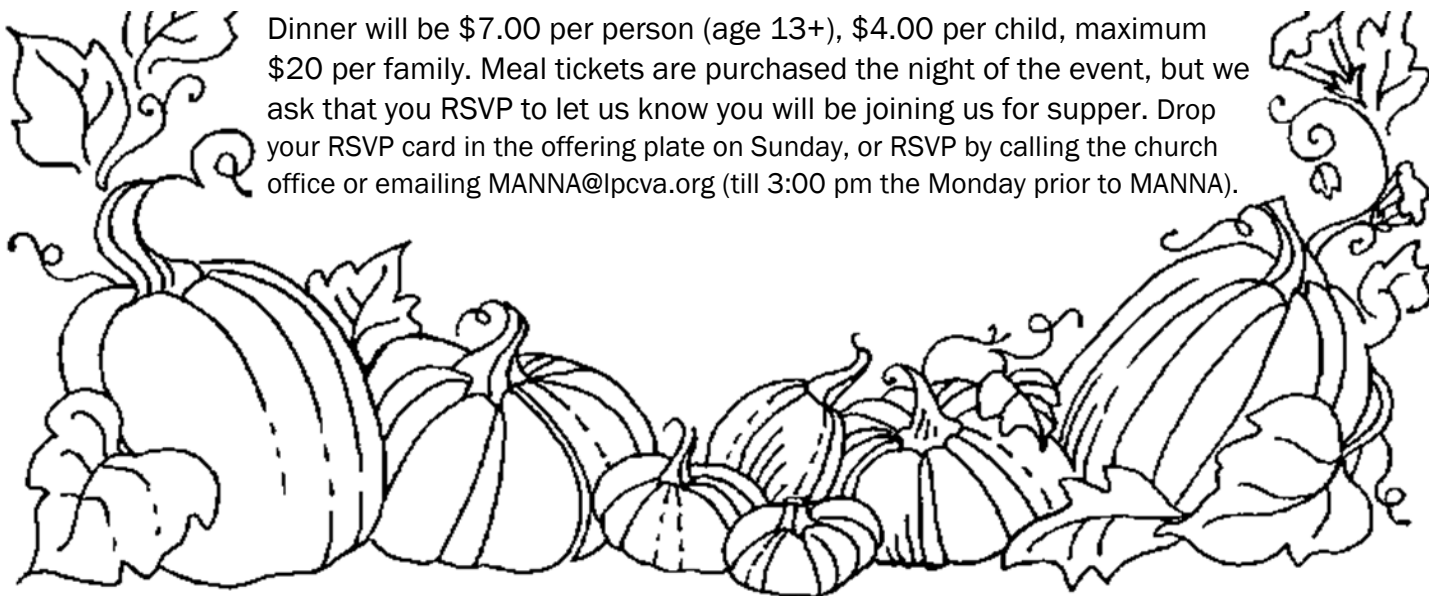
MANNA **Wednesdays through November 16**

One of the best traditions of Leesburg Presbyterian Church is the Manna supper/faith enrichment series!

Supper is served from 6:00 – 6:40 followed by a series, “What I Treasure About My Christian Faith Tradition,” a glimpse into the traditions of other Christian denominations through the personal lens and story of local pastors!

November 2 – Rev. Alan Stanford, Leesburg Community (Baptist) Church
November 9 – Rev. Jim Wishmeyer, Senior Pastor, Leesburg United Methodist Church

Dinner will be \$7.00 per person (age 13+), \$4.00 per child, maximum \$20 per family. Meal tickets are purchased the night of the event, but we ask that you RSVP to let us know you will be joining us for supper. Drop your RSVP card in the offering plate on Sunday, or RSVP by calling the church office or emailing MANNA@lpcva.org (till 3:00 pm the Monday prior to MANNA).



Day of Thanks – Sunday, November 13 **An Interfaith Celebration of Thanksgiving**

BRIDGES will hold its annual Interfaith Day of Thanks on Sunday, November 13, from 5pm to 8:30pm. The purpose of the Interfaith Day of Thanks is to acknowledge and celebrate cultural and religious diversity in Loudoun County. The event includes a multicultural buffet dinner, musical and artistic performances, and the honoring of Interfaith BRIDGES adult and youth award recipients.

BRIDGES is celebrating its 5th anniversary as an inter-faith organization formed to promote understanding and cooperation between the different faith traditions in Loudoun County. Leesburg Presbyterian Church is among the Protestant groups who participate. Additionally, there are representatives from the Jewish, Unitarian, Sikh, Muslim and B’hai faiths.

Day of Thanks

5:00 – 8:30 PM

B’hai Center, Sterling

International Thanksgiving Feast with Musical Entertainment
from the different faith groups

Who wants to be part of an LPC Table of 10?

\$15/adult, \$10 children, \$40 for family of 4 or more.



UPCOMING EVENTS

MAKE MISSION REAL – GET INVOLVED!

November 6	<u>Volunteer!</u> Church World Service CROP Hunger Walk, 1:00 p.m. Sign-up table in Fellowship Hall.
November 13	BRIDGES Interfaith Day of Thanks Dinner and Music. Sign up, buy tickets at Office.
November 20	Holiday Tree in Fellowship Hall. Benefits clients of Holiday Coalition. Teenagers are our focus this year.
December 4	Alternative Faire! Fellowship Hall. Coffee, tea, chocolate... baby chicks, and more.
January 8	<u>Volunteer!</u> Grace to Go Feeding Ministry at Deli South 2:30 – 4:30
March 4	<u>Volunteer!</u> Grace to Go Feeding Ministry at Deli South 2:30 – 4:30
March 26-31	<u>Volunteer!</u> LPC heads to New Orleans for the 6 th year! Sign up in Fellowship Hall. (Choice #1)
April 2-7	<u>Volunteer!</u> New Orleans Mission Trip (Choice #2, Spring Break Week in Loudoun)

2012 New Orleans Mission Trip

Have you felt a draw to give back but don't know how? How about joining LPC for a mission trip building homes and rebuilding hope in New Orleans? For the 6th year, LPC is going back to New Orleans and helping restore hope to those whose lives were forever changed by Hurricane Katrina. We are looking at two options this year. March 26 - 31, 2012 or Loudoun's Spring Break week, April 2-7, 2012, Please call Chris Folk at 571-291-2933 if you are interested in joining us on this life changing opportunity.

2011 Alternative Giving Christmas Faire

December 4 - Fellowship Hall

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. and 12 noon - 1:00 p.m.

For the past several years, the Mission & Witness Committee has provided the congregation several opportunities to "shop" for alternative gifts during the holiday season. We have selected two local offerings (Pastor's discretionary fund and the St. James Grace-to-Go feeding ministry) and two international offerings (Heifer International and our friends in Malawi). A nice variety of fairly-traded and sustainably-grown coffee, tea, and chocolate that were popular last year will also be available. We hope you will enjoy supporting these worthwhile programs and your family and friends appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Haven't been to an alternative faire before? It's simple! Come to the Fellowship Hall on December 4, visit the display tables, talk to representatives about the organizations you are supporting, and purchase your "gifts." Cards will be available to give to family and friends that explains a donation has been made in their name. Questions may be directed to any member of the Mission and Witness Committee.

Results of Peacemaking Special Offering

On October 2, 2011, the PC(USA) special offering was received from our congregation. The offering received \$1,373. Twenty-five percent remains with Leesburg Presbyterian Church and allows LPC to designate an organization which helps those whose lives are anything but peaceful. The year we are recognizing efforts of the children's program at Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter and will send them a check for \$343.25. Thank you for your generous giving.

Adult Education 2011—2012 At A Glance

EVERYTHING YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT THE CHRISTIAN FAITH BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK

Fall Session: Continues through November 20

Who we really are—the Church. Join Frank Gasperini and a group of inquiring LPC members on November 13 and 20 for the first two weeks of a fast paced four week discussion of who we are as a Christian church in this time and place. What does it mean to be The Body of Christ in 2011? What does it mean to be PCUSA? What does it mean to be LPC today? During the first two weeks of December we will shift to a discussion of the sacraments that help us remember whose we are, and who we are. Those who are interested will also receive guidance on how to write a personal statement of faith as an individual project. Bring your coffee and come prepared for discussion and spiritual growth together.

Winter Session: December 4 – February 26

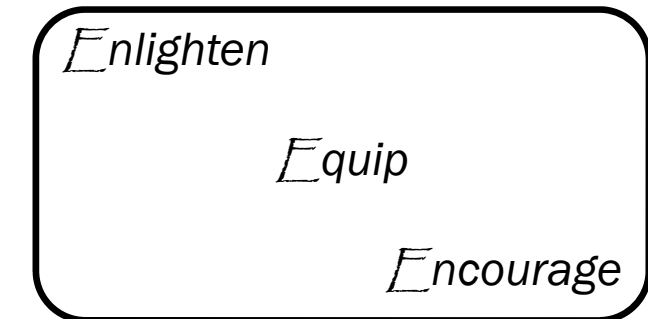
Topics: Sacraments, Creation, Predestination, Word of God, Christian Living, Sin

Led by: Frank Gasperini, Dana Huntley, William Marsh, Pastor Debbie

Spring Session: March 4 – May 20

Topics: Eschatology, Resurrection, Creeds and Confessions

Led by: John Sawyer, Dana Huntley



EFFECTIVE PARENTING IN A DEFECTIVE WORLD

November 6 – December 18

Led by: Juli Barnes

This is a video/discussion course on the challenges of raising children with strong Christian principles and values in our modern world. This is a repeat of the course that was offered last winter. If you participated last year, please feel free to attend again. We will be using the same workbook. Any new participants who need a workbook may contact Juli at jatbarnes@msn.com. This class is appropriate for parents of elementary through middle-school children.

CONTEMPORARY ISSUE TBA

January 8 – 29

Led by: Ben Franklin

NOOMA

February 5 – 19

Led by: Betty Lowenbach

LENTEN STUDY

February 26 – April 1

ADDITIONAL STUDY TBA

April 15 – May 20

No Adult Classes

Thanksgiving Weekend, November 27

Christmas, December 25

New Year's Day, January 1

Easter Sunday, April 8

Stewardship Season for 2012 Ministry at LPC

Make it Real! Next Steps to our Mission

Our Stewardship Season culminates on Sunday, November 16th

When we as a community of faith come forward to place on the Table our weekly offerings and our pledge cards for 2012 giving.

News from the Session

Current members of the Session are Jim Barnes (Clerk), Stuart Brown, Chris Folk, Jason Hovda, Randy Jackson, William Marsh, Pam Poisson, Steve Potter, Holly Rhodes, Kathi Stone, Doug Sweeney and Jane Wallace. Rev. Debbie Persons serves as Moderator.

Among recent actions taken by the Session:

- Approved the wedding of Karen Elizabeth Toomey and Sean Patrick McCormack at LPC on August 18, 2012.
- Authorized members of the Session and Stewardship and Finance Committee to make follow-up calls to members after Commitment Sunday, thanking those who have pledged, and reminding those who have not yet pledged that their pledge would be appreciated. **It is important to note that those people making the phone calls will not know how much each person or family has pledged.**

The Session recently received the following new members:

Glenda Draves by Letter of Transfer from First Presbyterian Church of Bad Axe, Mich.
 Florence O'Hey, Karisma Neely and Ashley Sowers by Reaffirmation of Faith
 Gordon MacKay by letter of transfer from Bellmore Presbyterian Church, Bellmore, NY
 Charles and Nancy Eisenbise by letter of transfer from Trinity Presbyterian Church, Wilmington, DE
 Jay and Lynn Colavita by letter of transfer from Ashburn Presbyterian Church, Ashburn, VA

The Session has offered commendations for the following people:

- Juli Barnes for stepping up to chair the Christian Education Committee.
- Shirley Eisenhart for being a wonderful evangelist and inviting so many of her neighbors at Ashby Ponds to come to worship at LPC.
- Jessica Potter for taking photos and Julie Koochagian for formatting the stewardship campaign brochure.
- Peggy Moats for organizing the beautiful assortment of breads on World Communion Sunday.

PRESCHOOL PARTICULARS



We are so thankful for our wonderful Preschool with the great staff, leadership, and support!!! Our classes are almost ALL full and we have a wait list! We are already receiving inquiries for next year!! Stay tuned for information on a Holiday Enrichment Session for December...gives parents some good shopping/preparation time for the Christmas season! Some dates to remember: No school

on November 7th and 8th (LCPS Conference Days), Picture Day is November 15th, No school on November 16th and 17th (LPC Preschool Conferences and work days), November 22 is the Thanksgiving Feast and Stocking Stuffer Event, No school November 23-25th (Thanksgiving Holiday)...and don't forget the December 2nd Parents' Night Out!!!

Remember to take time to be THANKFUL in the middle of this busy season!!!

Food For Thought

The Bereavement Committee is trying to come up with a list of potential food providers for receptions held at the church after a memorial or funeral service. We are trying to find a way not to ask the same people all the time, and feel strongly that, while it is a good way to serve our church, it shouldn't be EVERY time. If you are interested in volunteering time or food please contact Kim Goldstein (kgoldstein@lpcva.org) or Nancy Vanzandt (nvanzandt@lpcva.org) or call and leave a message with the church office at 703-777-4163.

November 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
10/30 Worship 8:30 & 11:00 Church School 9:45 G.R.A.C.E. 5:30	10/31	1 Moms Alive! 9:00 Deacons 7:00	2 Bible Study 10:00 Manna 6:00 Emma Clemens/Ruth Circles 7:30 Choir Practice 7:30	3 Circle One 10:00	4	5
6 Worship 8:30 & 11:00 Church School 9:45 CROP Walk	7	8 M&W 7:00 E&M 7:00 Worship Ctte 7:30	9 Bible Study 10:00 Manna 6:00 Choir Practice 7:30	10	11 Book Club 9:30	12
13 Worship 8:30 & 11:00 Church School 9:45 Finance Ctte 12:15 G.R.A.C.E. 5:30 BRIDGES Dinner	14 Preschool Board 7:00 Dec. Newsletter deadline	15 Moms Alive! 9:00 Session 7:30	16 Bible Study 10:00 Choir Practice 7:30	17	18	19
20 Worship 8:30 & 11:00 Church School 9:45 G.R.A.C.E. 5:30	21 Monday Morning Stitchers 11:00 Christian Ed Ctte 7:30	22 Moms Alive! 9:00	23 Choir Practice 7:30	24 THANKSGIVING OFFICE CLOSED	25 OFFICE CLOSED	26
27 Worship 8:30 & 11:00	28	29 Moms Alive! 9:00	30 Bible Study 10:00 Choir Practice 7:30	12/1 Circle One 10:00	12/2	12/3



Leesburg Presbyterian Church
Rev. Deborah Parsons
207 West Market Street
Leesburg, VA 20176
Phone: 703-777-4163
E-mail: office@lpcva.org
www.lpcva.org

Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship	8:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Church School	9:45 a.m.

The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper is celebrated the first Sunday of each month.

Sign up for our weekly electronic newsletter at www.lpcva.org!

OUR CHURCH ELDERS: Jim Barnes—Clerk of Session, Stuart Brown, Chris Folk, Jason Hovda, Randy Jackson, William Marsh, Pam Poisson, Steve Potter, Holly Rhodes, Kathi Stone, Doug Sweeney, Jane Wallace.

DEACONS: Glenna Bingham, Rebecca Caprio, Tom Chase, Sandy Gasperini, Kim Goldstein, Tom Gurney, Carla Holland, Julie Koochagian, Babe McGuire, Caroline Milne, Shirley Pearson, and Nancy Vanzandt.

Leesburg Presbyterian Church
207 West Market Street
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