



# 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](http://www.leesburgpresbyterian.org)

May 2012

## Upcoming Events

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Sunday, May 6    | Youth Sunday  |
| Thursday, May 17 | LPC Preschool Graduation                              |
| Sunday, May 20   | Pentecost Sunday and Confirmation                     |
| Saturday, June 2 | Community Service Day at Real Food Farms in Baltimore |
| Sunday, June 3   | Installation of Officers                              |
| Sunday, June 10  | Summer Picnic   |
| June 17-23       | Youth Mission Trip                                    |
| June 26-29       | Middle School Retreat                                 |
| July 8-12        | Vacation Bible School                                 |



## SAVE THE DATE!

July 8 - 12, 2012

5:30 - 8:30 pm

Age 4 - rising 5th grade

This year we return to Leesburg Presbyterian Church as we continue our partnership with St. James Episcopal Church. Watch the bulletin, weekly e-letter, and monthly newsletter for details and registration information.

## Circles, Studies, and Fellowship Groups

### Bible Study

Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m.

Join us Wednesday mornings for a time of learning and fellowship.

### Emma Clemens/Ruth Circles

Wednesday, May 2, 7:30 p.m.

We will explore lesson eight, "Greatly Honored Are Those Who Have Been Persecuted for the Sake of Justice." Read Matthew 5:10, 13:20-21 and Romans 8:31-39 along with the lesson. We will meet in the church library. All women are invited to attend.

### Circle One

Friday, May 4, 10:00 a.m.

The women of Circle One meet each month for a time of fellowship, study and spirited discussion. Please accept our open invitation to join us Friday, April 4 at 10:00 am in the church library as we continue our look at the Beatitudes. 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).

### 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](mailto:MASecretary@lpcva.org) or Lauren Vogan at [MAPublicRelations@lpcva.org](mailto:MAPublicRelations@lpcva.org). All moms are welcome!

### Monday Morning Stitchers

Monday, May 21, 11:00 a.m.

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)

### LPC Book Club

Friday, May 11, 9:30 a.m.

We now meet bimonthly! Our next meeting will be Friday, May 11, at 9:30 in the church lounge. We will discuss *Abide with Me* by Elizabeth Strout. Please join us for our ever-enjoyable book discussion and fellowship. Contact Jennifer Marsh with any questions ([jmcleanmarsh@hotmail.com](mailto:jmcleanmarsh@hotmail.com) or 703-779-0042).

## PRESCHOOL PARTICULARS



And you thought December was a busy month!!! May is going to be full of activities!!! May 2<sup>nd</sup> is the field trip to Great County Farms. Parents' Night Out (for all preschool and LPC families) is scheduled for May 4<sup>th</sup>. The Spring Program is set for May 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 and 1:00. Graduation will be May 17<sup>th</sup>...and then Summer Camp begins!!! Registration is ongoing with some openings in the Young 2's, PM 3's, and PM PreK! (Perhaps the Preschool needs a yoga instructor for May!!!)

## PENTECOST OFFERING May 20, 2012

“So I send you” (John 20:21) Remember the song we may have sung many years ago, “How Shall I Send Thee?” We are all charged with witnessing through our actions and our words. We are followers empowered to proclaim the gospel in *word and deed*.

Each year during Pentecost, we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit as a bringer of new life. Part of our witnessing is through our gifts and offerings.

The Pentecost Offering is one of the four Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (USA). When we give to the Pentecost Offering, we help bring God’s transforming, redeeming love to children at risk; we guide and nurture young people in their growing faith; and provide opportunities to young adults to become spiritual leaders—all in the name of Jesus Christ.

Over the next several weeks we will learn more about the way our gifts through this offering are used. Each Sunday bulletin will carry inserts that will show how individuals and programs have been supported. Forty percent of this offering stays within our congregation to support ministries that help children at risk.

This year Leesburg Presbyterian Church will receive the Pentecost Offering on MAY 20<sup>TH</sup> (the Sunday before Memorial Day).

Thank you for your support of this special offering.

## Community Service Family Day - Real Food Farm, Baltimore Sat. June 2, 2012 9-12Noon

The Mission & Witness Committee is pleased to announce that we will be offering LPC members, families and friends the opportunity to learn about urban agriculture and the challenges of getting real (healthy) food to neighborhoods in the heart of Baltimore City. Tyler Brown, son of Kathy & Brad Brown, is the Farm Manager at Real Food Farm and will direct several types of volunteer work projects on Saturday, June 2 from 9-12. Volunteers who wish to carpool/drive in caravan will meet at LPC at 7:00 for a 7:15 departure.

Brad will need carpentry help to build end walls/doors for the hoop houses and projects around the farm may include planting, weeding, invasive species removal, compost spreading, bed preparation and lots more. Potluck lunch will be at noon, rain or shine. Families are welcome. Plan to bring your lunch and some food to share, your water bottle, wear close-toed shoes, and come dressed to work. Volunteering together in the greater community is a wonderful way to get to know those with whom you worship on Sundays! PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN US SO THAT WE CAN PROVIDE YOU WITH SPECIFIC DIRECTIONS and coordinate car pools if possible. Contact Kathy Brown, 703-777-4656 or

Deadline for June Newsletter is May 14

## One Great Hour of Sharing

On Easter Sunday, LPC gave generously to the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering. This offering provides needed assistance for the Presbyterian Disaster Relief Program, The Presbyterian Hunger Program and the Self Development of People Program. Your gifts were most generous. Thanks for your offering which totaled \$2,278.



## GRACE TO GO MEAL MINISTRY MAY 6 Volunteers Needed

LPC will be hosting the food preparation at Deli South on Sunday, May 6, 2:30 - 4:30. Three ways to volunteer: sign up on-line at St. James Episcopal website: [www.stjamesleesburg.org/graceToGo.asp](http://www.stjamesleesburg.org/graceToGo.asp) or on the paper signup sheet on the Mission and Witness bulletin board, or call Kathi Stone (703-777-7194). (Please choose only one method.) No previous experience required. Come and join the fun and fellowship as we prepare meals for 180 local residents in need of assistance.

## News from NOLA

The LPC Mission Team and Mission & Witness Committee would like to thank the congregation for your prayers and support on our recent trip to the Gulf Coast. We once again teamed with St Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church and the Rebuilding Hope in New Orleans (RHINO) Outreach Project, partnering with Habitat for Humanity. Their goal is to help build homes and rejuvenate communities ravaged by the hurricanes of 2005 in the parishes around New Orleans.

The LPC team, alongside our friends from Rockford UMC (MI), Catoctin PC (VA) and additional friends and family members, traveled to New Orleans in two groups. They did an amazing job working over those two weeks to help finish one home and start laying the foundation - literally - for another. One group took on the task of getting through a huge punch list so that a family could move in and realize the dream of having a new home that they helped to build. The team's work included painting (walls, porches, doors, trim), staining and sanding, caulking, laying sod and putting up the shutters. They were all over the house doing each job with lots of laughter and team work!

On the other site, the team began work on a new house! It's an exciting process to watch a house go from just dirt to being completely finished. That team got to work on digging trenches, digging some more, cutting and tying the rebar, more digging, and doing the prep work for the foundation, which they poured on Saturday! The second week, rain befuddled the group but did not dampen the enthusiasm or work. The team worked inside and out, putting up siding and getting sidewalks ready on a third home site.

Each of the teams walked away with a sense of pride in what they did to rebuild hope in New Orleans and with friendships and memories to last a lifetime.

On behalf of the LPC NOLA 2012 Mission Team of Brenda Bengtson, Kathy Brown, Tom Chase, Chris Folk, Pia Hall, Babe McGuire, Brandy McGuire, and our friends who joined us, we thank you for the support, and we look forward to serving God in whatever capacity we may be called to serve in the future.

Submitted by Chris Folk, Team Leader

**There will be a New Orleans mission team photo presentation during 10 AM Worship on Sunday, June 10**

***Traversing miles to NOLA  
via plane, van, auto.  
Alpha and Omega of one week, from  
solid foundation to finishing touches.  
A spirit of generosity and  
appreciativeness from those helped.  
Many unique talents, individuals converge with  
many forces, disparate in organization and leadership,  
yet united in purpose and focus. - Brenda Bengtson***

Thanks to:  
**Chris**, for organizing trip, driving, generosity, helpfulness, and peace-making  
**Pia**, for individual impact, sense of humor, diligence  
**Babe**, for encouragement, sensitivity, quiet leadership  
**Brandi**, for cheery disposition, persistence, trying new things, laughter  
**Gary**, for tireless energy, benevolence, "adopted" son status, chauffeur extraordinaire  
**Kathy B**, for an easy roomie, NOLA know-how, coordinating reflections, missional spirit  
**Kathi S**, for overall organizing and expertise, dedication to mission, second week's details  
**Carl**, for first time participation, enthusiasm, youthful spirit, second week work  
**Tom**, for consistent commitment to mission, second week work, introducing us to Gary  
**Bertha Tiffany (CPC)**, for swamp tour arrangements, Rock n Bowl, involvement in all arenas  
**Liz Horton (CPC)**, for organizing second week, making continued connections with LPC  
**Susan Witte (RUMC)**, for organizing, multi-dimensionality, NOLA tour, and Moss' dinner

## News from Malawi

LPC supports the remote mountain community of Luvwere where Mr. Zgambo lives with his family. He sends us this report on a regular basis.

### “LUVWERE SEE”

December 2011 Issue

Submitted by: William S.S. Zgambo

**Blessed are they that bring good news of hope to the hopeless.**

This article has closed 2011 a very happy one. The community received 200 school desks. The Ministry of Education supplied 50 single seater desks all for the Community Secondary School. Beit Trust has also donated the construction of a Library block.

**Leesburg Presbyterian Church** donated MK 250,000 (USD\$1500) through Loudoun Presbytery Projects.

.....an Area Development Committee (ADC) was formed in line with the Malawi Growth Development Strategy.

The community is truly thankful to **LPC VA in all the strides PC USA is doing**. **This article is very proud to say without reservation that what the others players have done to the community is because LPC VA opened the door.**

Glory to God!

This article wishes good health and the Lord's abundant blessings to its leaders in 2012 and beyond.

...it will be appreciated if you visit the place and see changes for yourselves at that very bad place with its dilapidated school block.

Yes, may God bless LPC VA abundantly so that the vision of those who founded it in 1804 should continue to bear fruits.

### Notes from the Bank Accounting Report:

- LPC:** Community Secondary School: lime, paint, nails, paraffin (heating oil).  
Primary School: pit latrine, cement  
Bewu Primary: plaster and floor for teacher's house  
Mawende J.P. School: floor, teacher's house  
Luvwere Health Centre: paint partition and install window glass  
Office Expenditures: email, photocopies, stationery, transport, phone

## Adult Education 2012

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

Continuing through May 20

Topic: Creeds and Confessions

Led by: Dana Huntley

For centuries, the creeds and confessions of the Church found in our *Book of Confessions* have defined what it means to be, first, a Christian and, second, a believer in the Reformed faith. Let's take a closer look at the history and doctrine of our defining statements of faith, especially the Apostles' Creed and the Westminster Confession of Faith.

### Men's Group

The office maintains an e-mail distribution list of men who are members or regular participants in the church. This list is used to invite the men of the church to occasional fellowship events, special programs, and infrequently to participate in specific mission, maintenance, or church service opportunities. We believe the list is out of date and that there are many current participants who are being overlooked in communication of these opportunities. If you are interested please e-mail [office@lpcva.org](mailto:office@lpcva.org) with the e-mail address(es) you would like us to use.



Deadline for June Newsletter is May 14

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

**Tim & Krista Martino.** Tim grew up in Batavia, NY and Krista considers Greensboro, NC home although she moved frequently growing up. Tim and Krista met while they were both elementary school teachers in Lovettsville. Tim is the new principal at Douglass Elementary School in Leesburg scheduled to open in the fall. They have two children, Cara, 8, who is a Brownie and Sean, who just turned 6 and plays T-ball. Krista grew up Presbyterian and when she visited LPC she felt at home and comfortable.

**Karen Toomey.** Karen was born in Washington, DC and grew up in Poolesville, MD. After graduate school Karen moved to Leesburg. She works in human resources for a government contractor. Karen is engaged to Sean McCormack who works for the Loudoun County Sheriff's Dept. The wedding will be at LPC on August 18th. Karen grew up Presbyterian and although she now lives in South Riding she decided to join LPC as she hasn't found a church she likes better.

**Laura Renauld.** Laura grew up in Burlington, VT, where her family still lives. Her husband, Andrew, grew up in Connecticut. Laura taught 3rd grade before she had her children. Her hobby is writing children's books and hopes to get published. Laura and Andrew met at choir at Susquehanna University and continue to sing together in the Loudoun Chorale. They have two sons, Henry 3 and 20 month old Nathan. They moved to Leesburg a year ago for Andrew's job at Exelis. Although Laura grew up Catholic, she has joined many different denominations during their many moves and looks for a church that is welcoming and with a sense of community.

**Matt & Sara Harney.** Matt grew up in Great Falls and Sara grew up in Richmond. They met while in college at Longwood University in Farmville, VA. After they were married in 2008 they moved to this area. Matt works for EPL Archives in Sterling and Sara works for Hire Strategy in Reston. They have a 4 month old daughter, Morgan, who will be baptized on June 10. Both Sara and Matt had Presbyterian backgrounds and after buying their home in Leesburg, Sara began looking for Presbyterian churches. She said they fell in love with LPC the minute they walked in the door!

## 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:

- Received the following new members: Laura Renauld by Letter of Transfer from United Church of Christ of Webster, N.Y.; Sara Harney, Krista and Tim Martino, and Karen Toomey by Reaffirmation of Faith; Matthew Harney by Profession of Faith; and Drew and Stephanie Manning by Profession of Faith, pending their baptisms.
- Approved the baptism of Morgan Olivia Harney, infant daughter of Sara and Matthew Harney, on June 10, 2012.
- Voted to dedicate a recent bequest of \$15,000 to the general reserve, and after the full list of planned property work is developed, to designate the funds to the capital campaign.
- Authorized Ashley Jackson, Tim Herring, Krista Spivey and Cate Renner and their parents who are members of the church to serve Holy Communion on Youth Sunday, May 6, 2012.
- Authorized an honorarium for Juli Barnes to coordinate Vacation Bible School for Leesburg Presbyterian Church in 2012.

The Session has offered commendations for the following people:

- Brad and Kathy Brown for offering to help pay for the replacement of carpeting in the sanctuary;
- Randy Jackson for his work getting cost estimates for capital improvements to the church facility;
- Trish and Jeff Fraker for stepping up to lead the Grace to Go ministry through the fall;
- Holly Rhodes for doing a fabulous job with Young Disciples during the 11:00 worship hour; and
- Frank Gasperini for his excellent sermon at both services on April 15.

**May 2012**

| Sunday   | Monday  | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday  | Friday                       | Saturday   |
|--|---|---|---|-----------|------------------------------|------------|
| <b>4/29</b><br>Worship 8:30 & 11:00<br>Church School 9:45<br><br>Youth Group 5:30            | <b>4/30</b>                                   | <b>1</b><br>Moms Alive! 9:00<br><br>Deacons 7:00                              | <b>2</b><br>Bible Study 10:00<br><br>Choir Practice 7:30<br><br>Emma Clemens/Ruth<br>Circles 7:30 | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b><br>Circle One 10:00 | <b>5</b>   |
| <b>6 YOUTH SUNDAY</b><br>Worship 8:30 & 11:00<br>Church School 9:45                          | <b>7</b>                                      | <b>8</b><br>Moms Alive! 9:00<br><br>M&W 7:00<br>E&M 7:00<br>Worship Ctte 7:30 | <b>9</b><br>Bible Study 10:00<br><br>Choir Practice 7:30  | <b>10</b> | <b>11</b><br>Book Club 9:30  | <b>12</b>  |
| <b>13 MOTHERS DAY</b><br>Worship 8:30 & 11:00<br>Church School 9:45                          | <b>14</b><br>Preschool Board 7:00             | <b>15</b><br>Moms Alive! 9:00<br><br>Session 7:30                             | <b>16</b><br>Bible Study 10:00<br><br>Choir Practice 7:30   | <b>17</b> | <b>18</b>                    | <b>19</b>  |
| <b>20 CONFIRMATION</b><br>Worship 8:30 & 11:00<br>Church School 9:45<br><br>Youth Group 5:30 | <b>21</b><br>Monday Morning<br>Stitches 11:00 | <b>22</b><br>Moms Alive! 9:00<br><br>Christian Ed Ctte 7:30                   | <b>23</b><br>Bible Study 10:00<br><br>Choir Practice 7:30   | <b>24</b> | <b>25</b>                    | <b>26</b>  |
| <b>27</b><br>Worship 8:30 & 11:00  | <b>28 OFFICE CLOSED</b>                       | <b>29</b><br>Moms Alive! 9:00   | <b>30</b><br>Bible Study 10:00<br><br>Choir Practice 7:30   | <b>31</b> | <b>6/1</b>                   | <b>6/2</b> |



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#### 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 by emailing [office@lpcva.org](mailto:office@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, and Jane Wallace.

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

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