



Leesburg Presbyterian Church
Rev. Deborah Parsons
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Leesburg, VA. 20176
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www.lpcva.org

Worship Schedule

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

OUR CHURCH ELDERS: Jim Barnes—Clerk, Stuart Brown, Frank Gasperini, Jason Hovda, William Marsh, Donita Petersen, Pam Poisson, Holly Rhodes, Chuck Rodgers, John Sawyer, Beth Shockley, Kathi Stone, and Bill Wingardner.

DEACONS: Brenda Bengtson, Nancy Blaine, Rebecca Caprio, Sandy Gasperini, Kim Goldstein, Tom Gurney, Carla Holland, Julie Koochagian, Caroline Milne, Kristin Moats, Jennifer Morris, and Shirley Pearson

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

Leesburg Presbyterian Church
207 West Market Street
Leesburg, VA 20176

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Leesburg, VA

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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



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

October 2010



PARSONS' POINT OF VIEW

On October 17 we will officially begin one of the favorite seasons of the church year, the season of Stewardship! (LOL) But this season is more than about money and asking members to pledge a portion of their financial resources for the coming year. Stewardship is about stories of gratitude, of compassion, of consolation, of hospitality, of experiencing the grace of God in the relationship one has with the Body of Christ, the church. Stewardship is also the stories of the ways we hear God calling us through this relationship to give back to the church, the Body of Christ, so that others may experience a relationship of blessings as well.

This Stewardship Season we will hear stories, testimonies, from 4 different members of Leesburg Presbyterian Church about how they have experienced the generosity of God's grace in their relationship with Christ's church. It is my hope that as they tell their stories, you also will begin to reflect on the ways that being a "churched person" or "churched family" has graced your life. And that is the beginning point of stewardship discernment: "In reflecting upon my personal story with the church, just what could God be calling me to give to the Body of Christ, the Beloved Community this coming year?"

Merry Stewardship!

Debbie

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! FALL MANNA BEGINS OCTOBER 6TH!

Our theme for the adult series this season is
Discovering the Treasures of Different Faith Traditions:

- October 6 – The Tradition of Islam
- October 13 – The Tradition of the Unity Church
- October 20 – The Tradition of Quakerism
- October 27 – The Tradition of B'hai
- November 3 – The Tradition of Unitarianism
- November 10 – The Tradition of Conservative Judaism

See Page 3 for details.



LPC Book Club

Book Club will meet on October 8th, and we welcome new and returning members. We will meet at 9:30 in the Lounge. Please join us for fellowship and discussion.

Contact Jennifer Marsh with any questions (703-779-0042) or jmcleanmarsh@hotmail.com.

Our reading list for the next few months:

October 8—*The Invisible Bridge* by Julie Orringer

November 12—*The Postmistress* by Sarah Blake

December 10—*Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* by Helen Simonson

Monday Morning Stitchers



It's that time again that we start up our fall activities! We have a great group of ladies that stitch on the 3rd Monday of each month at the home of Jane Ashbaugh.

We want to invite anyone that would like to join us. We are a very informal group—you can just bring whatever project you are working on and stitch and visit with us. Sometimes we even work on a project together! For instance, we usually have a Christmas ornament that we all stitch.

If you have ever wanted to learn counted thread, canvas work (needlepoint) or cross stitch on linen, now is the time! It's not just cross stitch anymore! So, check your calendars and see if you can join us on September 20th at 1:00 p.m. at Jane's house. (420 W. Market Street—right down the street from the church, going west. Please don't hesitate to call if you have any questions. (703-779-0747)

Emma Clemens/Ruth Circles

Emma Clemens/Ruth Circles will meet Wednesday, October 6th at 7:30 pm in the church library.



This season we are studying the Book of Revelation. All women are welcome to attend.

Contact Shirley Pearson at 703-777-7425 if you have any questions.

Bridge Group

Bridge Group meets weekly on Thursday mornings at 10:00 for a lively session of cards and fellowship. New players welcome. Contact the church office if you would like to play (703-777-4163).



Circle One



Come join Circle One the first Thursday morning of the month for a time of study and fellowship. Our next meeting will be October 7th at 10:00 a.m. in the library. We will be starting the 2010-2011 Horizons Bible

Study "Journeys Through Revelation, Apocalyptic Hope for Today." For more information, contact Laura Herring, 703-777-7639.

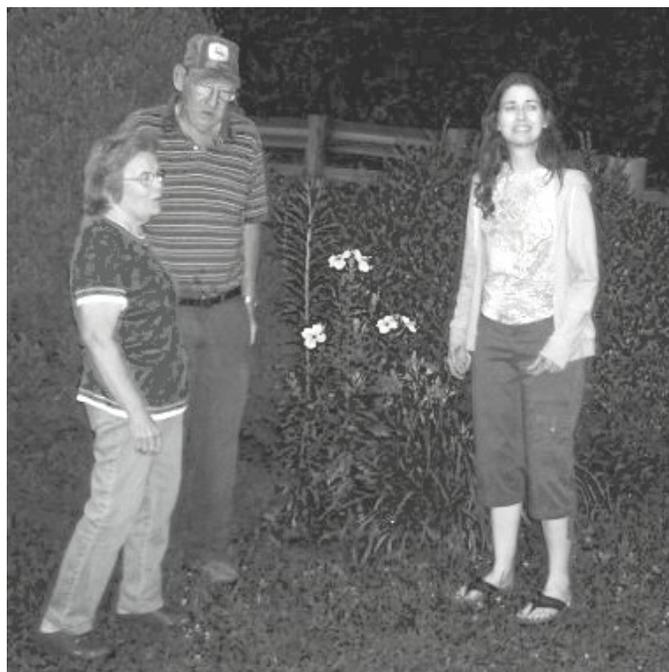
West Virginia Mission Trip Up-date

(Below is a letter we received from the next door neighbors to the church where the Mission Team stayed. Doc and Shelby were the wonderful couple who brought over just-out-of-the-oven biscuits made from scratch two different mornings and who had the amazing Nicodemus plant that bloomed at night.)

Dear Debbie

And everyone of you all. We miss you all so much. Hope someday you all will come back. You all were the nicest people we have ever met. We love you all. Take care and pray for us and we will pray for you all.

Love to you all
Doc and Shelby and Family



Preschool Happenings

What a smooth beginning to a great new school year! We have 67 students, with mornings full! Extended Day for afternoon students began September 20th and has been receiving great reviews. The next project is the Lunch Bunch. This program will be available for morning students who sign up for it. Students will bring their lunch and stay until 1:00 to eat and play with their friends. This should begin the first week in October. October is always a busy month with a field trip to Temple Hall Farm, picture day, and activities with Harvest, Autumn, and Halloween! We are off to a wonderful start, thanks to all!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! FALL MANNA BEGINS OCTOBER 6TH!

Our Wednesday night suppers, fellowship, and faith enrichment series, MANNA, begins October 6th and ends with a pot luck supper on November 10th. Dinner starts at 6:00 p.m. in fellowship hall, followed by programs for both children and adults from 6:45 to 7:30.



Julie Koochagian and her team of Deacons will provide all the food but we can always use extra hands! If you are interested in contributing a dessert, or assisting the deacons with food preparation or cleanup, please contact the church office.

As always, no RSVP is required, but if you're able, a small contribution of \$4 per adult, \$2 per child (max \$10 per family) is always appreciated!

Manna is a wonderful opportunity to get to know the folks you sit next to on Sunday mornings. Bring yourself and your family for a great evening!

Watch your October bulletins for additional details! Childcare will be provided.

Welcome, Cindy!



We welcome our new administrator, Cindy Hollister, to Leesburg Presbyterian Church.

Cindy is a native of Rochester, NY and has lived in Leesburg for most of her adult life. She is an experienced non-profit arts administrator, having served as the

Executive Director of the Loudoun Symphony and the Artist-In-Education Program Manager at Bluemont Concert Series. Her earlier career was as a software/systems engineer.

Cindy's husband of 22 years, Dr. Randy Hollister, is the Headmaster of Loudoun Country Day School. Cindy and Randy have two teenagers, Laura (16) and Will (14) who attend Episcopal High School in Alexandria, VA. They attend Evergreen United Methodist Church.

We feel very fortunate to have someone to be our administrator who has the experience and skills that Cindy possesses. Be sure and introduce yourself to her the next time you are at the church during the work week or when you connect with her on the telephone.

News from the Session

Members of the Session in 2010 are Jim Barnes (Clerk), Stuart Brown, Frank Gasperini, Jason Hovda, William Marsh, Donita Petersen, Pam Poisson, Holly Rhodes, Chuck Rodgers, John Sawyer, Beth Shockley, Kathi Stone and Bill Wingardner. Rev. Debbie Persons serves as Moderator.

Among actions taken by the Session in September:

- Received Amanda Franklin into membership by Letter of Transfer from First (Scots) Presbyterian Church, Charleston, SC.
- Authorized the baptism of Megan Florence's son Jackson.
- Added Corinne Hovda to the Roll of Baptized Members.

The Session offered commendations for:

- The Personnel Committee and Christian Educator Search Committee for their hard work toward filling several key positions in the church;
- Tom Gurney and Rick Stone for making many improvements to the church property;
- Jane Wallace for going above and beyond the call of duty to help coordinate weddings in the church; and
- All of the individuals and families who have been ushering on a regular basis.

News from Malawi

Letter to LPC from Luvwere, Malawi, with love.....

Note: When the LPC Malawi missionary team, led by Bill & Beth Rule, visited Embangweni in 2007 we met Mr. W.W. S. Zgambo who was raised in Luvwere. Our continuing support of this remote mountain community has started to make improvements in the lives of the families and students from area villages. Books and paper are scarce in Africa so history is often retold to keep the memories alive. This is Mr. Zgambo's story of our visit to his home in 2007.

"LUVWERE SEE" AUGUST ISSUE

Dear Readers of Luvwere See,

In as much as it may not be an interesting piece of reading, I would like to give you a true story of Luvwere Community so that even those who have not been to the place may have an idea of our place. Luvwere See will therefore not be a cosmetic piece of reading.

Dear friends, on August 31, 2007 at about 6 o'clock A.M. ten of us from Embangweni left for Luvwere.
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HELP STOP HUNGER!

Support the LPC Team for the CROP Walk on October 24th!

The Western Loudoun CROP (Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty) Hunger Walk takes place on Sunday, October 24 to raise money and awareness for Church World Service efforts to address the issues of hunger. Registration begins at 2:00 pm and the Walk at 2:30 pm at the Purcellville Train Station. 25% of the funds raised will go to Loudoun Interfaith Relief.

Ways you can help:

- * Walk with other LPC members and visitors of all ages on the W&OD Trail (three miles to Ivandale Road and return). Encourage friends and family to sponsor you!
- * Sponsor our LPC youth! The Senior High and Junior High will have tables set up on October 17 and October 24 after both services for a light competition for sponsorship.
- * Visit the Western Loudoun Team Site at <http://www.churchworldservice.org>, click on Virginia on the map, then choose Western Loudoun and click on the Leesburg Presbyterian Church Team. You can join as a walker; donate online to the LPC Team or an individual walker; or be a "Spirit Walker" or a "Web Walker" - you don't have to walk, but can still obtain sponsorship of friends and family.
- * Help make a splash on Walk day with signs, shirts, banners, or even stickers for walkers to carry or wear on Walk day.

Contact Kathi Stone (703-777-7194) if you are interested in participating in the CROP Walk, need a donation envelope, or have questions. A sign-up sheet will be posted in Fellowship Hall.

END HUNGER - ONE STEP AT A TIME!

News from Malawi *(continued)*

These ten people were : Kathy Brown, Tom Chase, Shirley Pearson, Laurie Stevens, Beth Rule, Bill Rule, Mcloud Hara, Hara's wife and her friend and myself. We reached Luvwere at about eleven o'clock in the morning.

When we reached Luvwere we were directed to a small Church and pulled our vehicle there. Can anyone imagine how I felt this time? When we all climbed out of the vehicle we were greeted by the singing women's guild. I tell you this time I felt like I was walking on springs or else my feet were hinged to springs. It was really a wonderful day for me and the entire Luvwere Community. We were lead into the church for a short service, then after that we were taken to the Manse for a short rest. After the rest we were taken around to see the place and the first place to be taken to was the Community Day Secondary School, the second place was the clinic center. The primary School has good structures except for teacher homes. We were later on taken back to the Manse for lunch.



Clinic in Luvwere, supported by Leesburg Presbyterian Church

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Adult Church School



The Epistle to the Ephesians

Led by Dana Huntley
September 12—October 24

The Apostle Paul's letter to the Ephesians may have been prompted by the early church's first controversy: the challenge of getting Jewish believers to fully accept Gentiles into their fellowship. Accordingly, the epistle's theme is the unity of the Church. Paul recounts the divine plan of salvation and details in practical terms how God's grace unites all in His plan for the Church. Here is St. Paul at his very best, in a fast-paced narrative of only six chapters.

Nooma Series

Led by Betty Lowenbach
September 12—October 3

Join us for Nooma, a thought provoking collection of short videos on a wide variety of faith-life issues. This is a different kind of format for getting Christian perspectives.

The Ten Commandments for Today

Led by Ben Franklin
October 10—October 31

Walter J. Harrelson, Professor at both Wake Forest and Vanderbilt Divinity Schools, has written a well-received book, as titled above. For four weeks, Ben Franklin will lead a class to study and discuss his ideas. The central theme of the book is how the familiar ancient words from the Old Testament can help us today as we struggle to find our way in an increasingly complex and sometimes bewildering moral universe.

A limited number of copies of the book can be ordered through the church office for \$12.95. However, having read the book is not necessary to participate in the course.

The Book of Proverbs
Led by William Marsh
November 7—November 21

For three weeks in November, we will be reading, interpreting and discussing *Proverbs* and its meaning for us today

The Inter-Testamental Second Temple Period

Led by John Sawyer
November 7—December 19

The inter-testamental period is a term used to refer to a period of time between the writings of the Christian "Old" and "New Testament" texts. Traditionally, it is considered to be a roughly four hundred year period, spanning the ministry of Malachi (c. 420 BC), the last of the *Old Testament* prophets, and the appearance of John the Baptist in the early 1st century.

News from Malawi (continued)

After lunch we were taken to the Primary School ground for the traditional dances the community had organized for our visitors to see. My dear readers this was a busy day in the community it seemed like we had been there for only thirty minutes. What a day everyone looked happy. When time for speeches came, the Local Leader (Chief) thanked the visitors for their time and patience in this mountain place. He also asked them to be coming to Luvwere each time they come to Malawi. Yes, this was a very wonderful day in Luvwere history. It was the first time Luvwere had been visited by the white guests of this nature. The only white guest the Luvwere community remembered, especially the elders, was the District Commissioner in the colonial days. He would visit to see that the village head men would enforce household taxes.

When Kathy Brown took turn to speech, she thanked the community for a warm welcome and entertainment. To totally surprise everyone she pulled out of her bag a bursting envelope that

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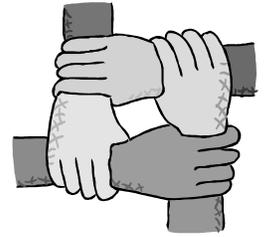
Interfaith Day of Thanks: Experiencing our Oneness in our Diversity

Sunday, November 7, 2010

5:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Northern Virginia Baha'i Center

21415 Cardinal Glen Circle, Sterling, Virginia 20164



Loudoun Interfaith BRIDGES, an interfaith group of which Leesburg Presbyterian Church is a member, will celebrate its 2nd annual INTERFAITH DAY OF THANKS on Sunday, November 7th. This is a humongous pot-luck with churches, synagogues, congregations, and religious communities bringing food from their different traditions. The purpose of this gathering is to acknowledge and celebrate oneness through cultural and religious diversity in Loudoun County. We come together in thanks to highlight successful interfaith and multicultural programs and leaders in Loudoun County.

There will be a variety of musical and dance presentations and scholarships given to members in our community who have fostered inter-faith and inter-cultural dialogue and cooperation. Much of the time will simply be spent sharing food and conversation with each other.

Leesburg Presbyterian is buying a block of 10 tickets for our members to purchase who are interested in attending this wonderful multi-cultural event. Just reserve a ticket by calling the church office or e-mailing Rev. Parsons.

Tickets: \$15 per adult/\$10 children (12 and under, 5 & under free) or \$40 per family.

P.S. Our church has volunteered to bring 8 traditional Thanksgiving dishes to the event—any volunteers? Call Debbie

News from Malawi *(continued)*

had plenty of money in Malawi currency. This was a Hundred and fifty thousand Malawi Kwacha, quite large sum of money. (\$1,000 USD) Please take it as if you were with us that day. The unexpected crowd burst into whistling when Kathy handed over this envelope to Mr. Tchetché the C.D.S.S. Head teacher. She then took some more cheques from her bag worth (MK150,000). As if this was not enough she also gave out school supplies to both Primary and C.D.S.S. All this time people were whistling in appreciation.

My friends, Mcloud Hara and myself who had been with these visitors from Embangweni did not know that the visitors had some things for Luvwere. Oh dear, Blessed are the feet that bring good news of hope to the hopeless. Yes Luvwere has hope now and we are looking forward when we will have AMERICANS work amongst our community, be at any of the two schools or teach in agriculture. There are many things we need to learn from our friends. We bade farewell when it was late and we had to go back to Embangweni. People were still glued to the place as we left not wanting to leave.

On Monday 3rd September, 2007 the Leesburg Presbyterian Group bade farewell in the Hospital Chapel at Embangweni. The Group would be leaving the next day. To my total surprise Laurie, one of the members who had gone to Luvwere called me aside after the services and handed to me her personal check worth two hundred and fifty dollars (USD) for Luvwere Project Support.

Yes, since 2007 Luvwere has received quarterly support from the Leesburg Presbyterian Church. Apart from financial support we have also received school supplies. Ten boxes were sent for Luvwere for two schools but box number 9 missed at Embangweni during off loading from the container but I still count luck that we had 9 boxes. 4 boxes for the C.D.S.S. and 4 BOXES FOR the Primary School. These nine boxes were taken to Luvwere on vehicle MZ 3373.