



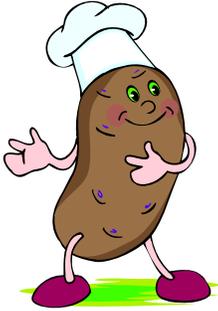
The Back Pew

The Newsletter of Leesburg Presbyterian Church,
Leesburg, Virginia

Serving God and Neighbor in the Heart of Leesburg since 1804

www.leesburgpresbyterian.org

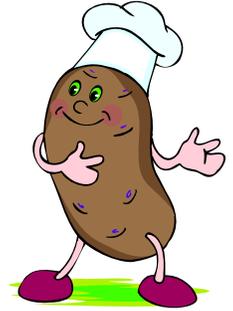
October 2012



MANNA BEGINS OCTOBER 3RD!

Supper 6:00-6:45pm

Program 6:45-7:30pm



Fall Supper/Faith Exploration Series

Ancient and Contemporary Practices of the Faithful Life

Gather around the table and dig in! Our Wednesday night MANNA activities will resume on October 3rd and continue weekly through November 14. MANNA provides a mid-week opportunity for our church family to connect and recharge. The Deacons are cooking up delicious meals to feed the body and Pastor Debbie has lined up thought provoking speakers to feed the spirit. (See page 3 for additional details about the night's program and guest speakers.)

The cost of the dinner this year is \$4.00 for ages 13 and up, \$2.00 for ages 6-12, and children 5 and under eat for free. Family maximum is \$15. No advance sign up needed-just come as you are!

October 3- Mexican Fiesta

October 10 -Baked Potato/Salad Bar

October 17- That's Amore Italian

October 24- Made from scratch quiches and soups

October 31- Halloween-No MANNA

Childcare and children's activities available



Circles, Studies, and Fellowship Groups

Emma Clemens/Ruth Circles

Wednesday, October 3, 7:30 p.m.

Our October meeting will be on the 3rd at 7:30 p.m. in the church library. Please read Lesson One, which is an overview of the General Epistles, for background material. Then read and study Lesson Two on Fatherhood. This is taken from 1Peter 1:1-25; 1John 4:7-21. Betty Lowenbach will lead this lesson. All women of the church are welcome.

Circle One

Thursday, October 4, 10:00 a.m.

A time for informal study and conversation, Circles are a great way to meet other women in the church. Circle One will meet throughout the church school year on the first Thursday of each month at 10:00 am at LPC.

LPC Book Club

Friday, October 12, 9:30 a.m.

Please join us for our wonderful book discussions on second Fridays, 9:30 in the lounge. This month's book is *Peace Like a River* by Leif Enger. All are welcome. For more information contact Jennifer Marsh, 703-779-0042 or jmcleanmarsh@hotmail.com.

Monday Morning Stitchers

Monday, October 15, 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)

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 Wednesday mornings for a time of learning and fellowship.

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).

New Six Week Study Wednesday Mornings 10:00 – 11:15

The Prodigal GOD – Finding Your Place at the Table

Video Presentation and Group Discussion by Rev. Timothy Keller,
pastor of Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York City
led by our pastor, Debbie Parsons

Two sons, one who kept the rules religiously and one who broke them all. One Father who loved both lost sons beyond anything they could imagine. In six sessions, NEW YORK TIMES bestselling author Timothy Keller opens the message of Jesus' best-known and least-understood parable – the parable of the prodigal son. You may order the book *The Prodigal God* by Timothy Keller from Amazon or e-mail Debbie to order you a copy. Cost \$10.



MANNA-Fall Supper/Faith Exploration Series
“Ancient and Contemporary Practices of the Faithful Life”

SERVICE – October 3

Dr. Martha Sommers, Presbyterian mission worker in Malawi, Africa will speak of the amazing work our partnership is accomplishing at Embangweni Hospital.

WORSHIP – October 10

Rev. Jeff Krehbiel, pastor of Church of the Pilgrims in Dupont Circle, and moderator of National Capital Presbytery will share how his thinking about worship has evolved and how he designs worship so that the congregation not only *learns* about God but also *experiences* God.

HOSPITALITY – October 17

Rev. Henry Brinton, pastor of Fairfax Presbyterian Church, is the just-published author of *The Welcoming Congregation: Roots and Fruits of Christian Hospitality*. During a sabbatical, Henry traveled far and wide to explore how a wide variety of churches exhibit authentic hospitality—he will share with us what he learned!

SABBATH-KEEPING – October 24

Rev. MaryAnn McKibben Dana, a widely read blogger (The Blue Room) and pastor of Idlylwood Presbyterian Church, has also just published a book, *Keeping the Sabbath in the Suburbs*. MaryAnn narrates her family’s quest to take Sabbath to heart and change their frenetic way of living by keeping a Sabbath day each week for one year. With lively and compelling prose, she shares with us the joys and the challenges of Sabbath-keeping in the midst of a jam-packed family life.

PILGRIMAGE - November 7th

Rev. Ruth Huizenga Everhart, a part-time “Worship Leader Specialist” at Western Presbyterian in the Foggy Bottom neighborhood of D.C., will preview her new book, *Chasing the Divine in the Holy Land*, where she explores the dimensions of the ancient spiritual practice of pilgrimage that she experienced on her journey to the Holy Land.

FINAL CELEBRATION—November 14th

Eric Nanz will sing some all time favorite folk rock songs and lead us in singing gospel favorites as well. Think Hootenanny!

Local Mission Opportunity

14 LPC volunteers met at Deli South on Sunday afternoon, September 2 to prepare 186 meals for needy families in Leesburg. This local mission, entitled **Grace to Go**, is led by St. James Episcopal Church in partnership with other churches and community groups. LPC will have another volunteer opportunity on Sunday, November 4 at Deli South from 1:30-3:30. You can register to help by going to stjamesleesburg.org and following the outreach menu for Grace to Go. You may also sign up at the Mission and Witness bulletin board in the Church hallway or contact the Frakers at fraker1@verizon.net, or 703-771-8049.

A message from Malawi

At the first installment of our MANNA Faith Exploration Series, we are pleased to have a special guest with a tie to our congregation through our Mission and Witness work.

Dr. Martha Sommers is a family practice physician who is a Presbyterian Medical Missionary. She was assigned to Embangweni, Central Malawi while Bill & Beth Rule were there as LPC sponsored missionaries from 2004-2008. Dr. Sommers has since moved to the hospital at Ekwendeni in northern Malawi. She works in partnership with the Malawian Chief Medical Officer. She will be bringing news of how Malawi is hoping and praying for better times with their new president, Mrs. Joyce Banda. Please join us to welcome back Beth Rule and to hear Dr. Sommers hopeful message based on scripture!

Micah 6:8 He hath showed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth Jehovah require of thee, but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with thy God?

Donations to Dr. Sommers and the Hospital will gladly be accepted. Please make checks payable to: LPC with the memo: Dr. Sommers-Malawi

I wonder what's coming soon to LPC....

We are excited to begin a new approach to worship for children in Young Disciples – **Godly Play!** Godly Play is a way of worshiping with children that “respects the innate spirituality of children and encourages curiosity and imagination in experiencing the mystery and joy of God.” Through storytelling, guided reflection and conversation, and hands-on activities, children come to know God and learn the language of our faith that deepens their spirituality. We now have a trained team of Godly Play leaders and are busy preparing the environment with brand new Godly Play materials! Look for more announcements in the coming weeks about this exciting new program for 4 year old to 3rd grade children at our church.



Personal Ad -Youth Ministry Meals

Do you miss the old days when you cooked a Sunday night Youth Fellowship Dinner? Are you just hankering to do this again?

If so, please call Debbie Parsons and she can help you out! While parents of teens take turns cooking a Sunday night meal, we could always use a few extra hands. Duties: Provide meal and dessert for 24 teens and adults—light set-up before and clean-up afterwards.

Or if you would like to make a donation toward a Sunday night meal — \$50-75 — that would be great as well!

**Adult Christian Education
Sundays, 9:45—10:45 a.m.**

**Faith in the Public Square
October 7 - November 18**

Oct 7 *Civility in Local Politics and the Media* led by Jim Barnes

Some say the level of public discourse in politics and the media has reached a low point. Certainly, our society has changed with the rise of the Internet, talk radio, cable news and social media. As people of faith – as Christians – how should we carry out our responsibility to participate in public life, seek justice, and set an example for others?

Oct 14 *History of Religion and Politics in America (part 1)* led by Dana Huntley

Separation of church and state? Of course, that would never have occurred to our colonial forbearers. After all, most of our colonies were established by folk with a vision for a faith-based society. Jefferson's famous declaration of religious freedom in Virginia didn't come along until 150 years later. So, what were our founders' visions for the "City on a Hill;" how did that faith-based vision differ through our colonies and colonial history; and, how did we get to the official "secularism" of our American constitution?

Oct 21 *The Intersection of Faith and Politics in a Congregation Located in the Heart of the Nation's Capitol* led by Rev Tara McCabe

Rev. Tara Spuhler McCabe is a graduate of Agnes Scott College and McCormick Seminary and served on staff at New York Ave. Presbyterian Church as Christian Educator and Associate Pastor for over 12 years.

Oct 28 *History of Religion and Politics in America (part 2)* led by Dana Huntley

But was it the intention of our American founding documents to create a secular society? Let's look at how faith has played a changing role in American politics over the last 200 years. How has religion played a role in our elections and our political history? Europeans think we're nuts for considering religion still a factor in our political debates and decisions. Are we?

Nov 4 *Faith and Presidential Politics and the Question of Mormonism* led by Dana Huntley

The big question remains: How should *our* faith as Christians play a role in our political opinions and electoral decisions? Yes, Gov. Romney is a Mormon. What does that mean, and should that make a difference in how we vote?

Nov 11 & 18 *American Politics and Christian Responses* led by Laura Herring

Is there a need for civility in politics today? Using the *Thoughtful Christian* series as our guide, we will explore this question and its implications. We will discuss what civility is and is not, looking in particular at four virtues of civility that we can apply in our own lives.

**Church World Service CROP Hunger Walk
October 28 1:00 Franklin Park, Purcellville**

Did you know that there are 27 CWS CROP Hunger Walks in Virginia this year and that an average of \$250,000-300,000 is raised each year for world and local hunger relief? Western Loudoun alone has raised \$88,000 over the past 6 years (and of this, \$22,000 was donated to local hunger fighting agencies like Loudoun Interfaith Relief!).

Please join in the 3-mile walk around Franklin Park (see Adam Adcock for a walker's envelope) or consider sponsoring Adam and others who plan to walk on October 28!

Visit the link on the LPC web page to donate on-line.

News from the Session

Current members of the Session are Stuart Brown, Chris Folk, Trish Fraker, Frank Gasperini, Tom Gurney, Randy Jackson, Keith Markel, Pam Poisson, Steve Potter, Holly Rhodes, Kathi Stone, and Doug Sweeney. Rev. Debbie Persons serves as Moderator and Jim Barnes serves as Clerk.

Among recent actions of the Session:

- Approved the baptism of Aibhilin Joy Folk, daughter of Chris and Shana Folk, to take place on September 30, 2012.
- Agreed to allow members of the nearby Moose Lodge to use a few parking spaces in the eastern part of the parking lot on Monday and Tuesday evenings.
- Voted to hire Eric Nanz to lead music in both worship services, one Sunday a month through the end of 2012, and seek feedback from members of the congregation to assess the success of the alternative music format, to help determine how to proceed next year.
- Designated \$5,000 from the Christian Education staff budget to purchase materials to introduce Godly Play into the Christian Education program.
- Appointed Elders Frank Gasperini and Pam Poisson to serve as session representatives on the 2012-2013 Nominating Committee, with Elder Gasperini to serve as the committee chairman.
- Authorized funding to engage an external audit firm to conduct a review of the financial books and records for 2011.

The Session has recently offered commendations for the following people:

- Juli Barnes for doing an outstanding job setting up this year's church school program.
- Holly Rhodes for championing the Godly Play ministry for children.
- Randy Jackson, members of the Property Committee (Tom Gurney and Keith Markel) and all the volunteers who participated in the volunteer work day to spruce up the church facility on Aug. 18.
- Rev. Debbie Parsons for her enthusiasm and willingness to take risks to bring new ideas and energy to the worship services.

Preschool Particulars for October

Just when you think the Preschool can't get any better...it does!!! This year is already exciting with enrollment almost to capacity, some new staff members, and new programs! We have 74 students enrolled with only 10 openings! Students have already become part of Lunch Bunch and Extended Day, and the Music Program with Miss Ginger is being extended to the 2 ½ year olds!



And it is only October!!! October is already set with the trip to Great Country Farms, Crazy Hat Day, Non-Event Fundraiser and I am sure some other wonderful things planned! We want to thank Angela Helge and her Mom for making curtains for all the classrooms...plus a mural in the Young 2's Room...gorgeous!!! And to Tom Gurney and Kim Hovda for agreeing to be Preschool Board Members! And to Tom for finishing putting together the new kitchen for the 2's classroom...lots of nuts and bolts in that one!!!!

Here's to a great October!!!

October 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9/30 Worship 8:30 & 11:00 Church School 9:45 Acolytes Class 12:00 Youth Group 5:30	1	2 Moms Alive! 9:00	3 Emma Clemens/Ruth Circles 7:30 Bible Study 10:00 MANNA 6:00 Choir 7:30	4 Circle One 10:00	5	6
7 Worship 8:30 & 11:00 Church School 9:45 Believing and Belonging 12:00 Youth Group 5:30	8 OFFICE CLOSED Mission & Witness 7:00 Preschool Board 7:00	9 Moms Alive! 9:00 Worship Ctte 7:30	10 Bible Study 10:00 MANNA 6:00 Choir 7:30	11	12 Book Club 9:30	13
14 Worship 8:30 & 11:00 Church School 9:45 Youth Group 5:30	15 Monday Morning Stitchers 11:00	16 Moms Alive! 9:00 Session and Deacons 7:30	17 Bible Study 10:00 MANNA 6:00 Choir 7:30	18	19	20 Directory Photos 10-4 pm
21 Worship 8:30 & 11:00 Church School 9:45 Youth Group 5:30	22	23 Moms Alive! 9:00 Christian Ed Ctte 7:30	24 Bible Study 10:00 MANNA 6:00 Choir 7:30	25	26	27
28 Worship 8:30 & 11:00 Church School 9:45 Youth Group 5:30	29	30 Moms Alive! 9:00	31 Bible Study 10:00 Choir 7:30	11/1 Circle One 10:00	11/2	11/3 Community Service Day 9:00



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 by emailing office@lpcva.org!

OUR CHURCH ELDERS: Jim Barnes—Clerk of Session, Stuart Brown, Chris Folk, Trish Fraker, Frank Gasperini, Tom Gurney, Randy Jackson, Keith Markel, Pam Poisson, Steve Potter, Holly Rhodes, Kathi Stone, and Doug Sweeney.

DEACONS: Glenna Bingham, Tom Chase, Sandy Gasperini, Kim Goldstein, Carla Holland, Babe McGuire, Kristen Moats, Connie Niccolls, Florence O'Hey, Sharon Schmidt, Nancy Vanzandt, and Dennis Welsh.

Leesburg Presbyterian Church
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Leesburg, VA 20176

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