

THE NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2015

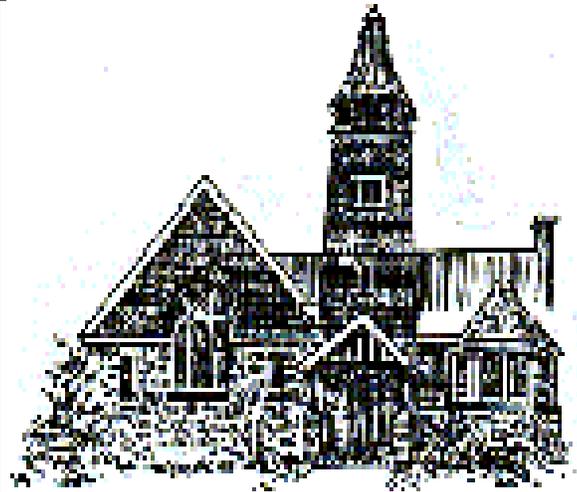
FROM THE PASTOR

“The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.” (Psalm 24:1-2)

From the very beginning of the Bible, our faith teaches that God is the creator of the universe and everything in it. It all belongs to God, everything. And God has given human beings the responsibility to nurture and protect this creation (Genesis 2:15). Yet every year we human beings dump 10 million tons of plastic waste into the sea, choking and poisoning wildlife. We pollute our air, land and water with toxic chemicals, wiping out natural habitats and contributing to global warming. What can we do to be better stewards of God’s creation?

We have been doing a few things as a church. For the past year, our property committee has been working with Greenfaith, an interfaith organization that provides resources, tools and assistance to houses of worship, faith-based schools and people of faith across the United States to help them become better stewards of the environment. Working with Greenfaith, we have assessed our energy use, and are planning to upgrade our lighting and air-conditioning systems to become more energy-efficient. We will have to invest some money in this project. But we will save in the end, and it’s good for the environment.

We are also teaching our children. This spring they have been learning to care for plants and the earth in Sunday School. Thanks to the leadership of Suzanne Broffman and others, the



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN LEONIA
181 FORT LEE ROAD, P.O. Box 448
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CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: TUES.-FRI.
9 A.M. -12:30 P.M. & 1-2:30 P.M.

children prepared and planted a raised garden bed near the Fort Lee Road entrance to the church. The church also purchased and installed a compost bin and the children are collecting compost to recycle food scraps and create good soil to use in future planting projects.

(Continued on page 2)

HEADLINERS

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC—COME FOR FOOD & FUN, See page 3

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER, Information on page 4

FAMILY PROMISE & HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, CAN YOU HELP? See page 5

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL, WITH ICE CREAM AND WHIPPED CREAM, Page 2

NEWS FROM THE CENTER FOR HOPE & SAFETY Article on Page 3

From the Pastor (continued)

These are small gestures, but they help us all to remember and appreciate our responsibility for the earth.

We still have a long way to go as a church and as individuals. We need to keep working on our energy use, and figure out how to cut back on our use of disposable plates, cups and utensils. We can make more of an effort to carry reusable bags and water bottles, eat less meat, and walk or ride a bike when traveling short distances. We can support causes and policies that seek to preserve the beauty and diversity of God's creation. And we can go out and appreciate "the earth with its store of wonders untold," as we sing in one of our hymns, or "field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea, chanting bird and flowing fountain," that call us to rejoice in God.

Paul wrote in Galatians that "the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control." (5:22-23). What would it look like for us to treat the earth with love, joy, peace, patience and kindness? How might we act with generosity, gentleness and self-control towards God's creation?

This summer, and in the years to come, may we challenge each other to be the best possible stewards of this earth.

Blessings and Peace,
Debra Given

PLEASE JOIN US AT WORSHIP

Sunday, June 7 10:30 a.m.

Service for the Lord's Day

Sunday, June 14, 10:30 a.m. Service for the Lord's Day, will include a Celebration of the Lord's Supper

3-5 p.m. Japanese Worship Service

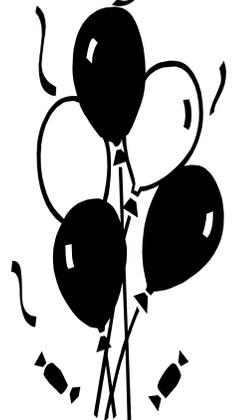
Sunday, June 21, 10:30 a.m. Service for the Lord's Day, Church School Recognition Sunday, followed by the Church Picnic

Sunday, June 28, 10:30 a.m. Gay Pride Sunday

SUNDAY July 5 BEGINS OUR SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICES. WORSHIP WILL START AT 10:30 A.M. AND WILL MEET IN THE AIR-CONDITIONED FIREPLACE ROOM UNTIL SEPTEMBER 13. WE WILL BE BACK IN THE SANCTUARY SEPTEMBER 20.

Happy Birthday

- June 1 Bob Baur
Philip Wilson
- June 2 Grace Ceragno
- June 5 Leslie Boyle
- June 8 Sarah (Jung Uk) Han
- June 11 Karen Peters
- June 14 Donna Hunt
- June 20 Lucy Iraldo



Happy Birthday to our members and friends whose birthdays we have not mentioned.

If you would like to be on our birthday list, please call the church office at 201-944-1358 or email secretaryleonia@gmail.com



Strawberry Festival

Can't wait for fresh strawberries? They are here or will be here on **Sunday, June 14**. So please stop by after the church service and have ice cream, strawberries and whipped cream. What more can you ask for! If you can help, speak with Michael Sofia.

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC

Our annual "All Church" Bar-B-Que will be held after worship on June 21, rain or shine. The Christian Education Committee will supply the hot dogs and hamburgers. Attendees are invited to bring salads, deserts, beverages, and condiments. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Fireplace Room. So start getting out your summer recipes, break out the sun screen, and join us in our back yard.



NEW SELF-HELP SUPPORT GROUP

The Center for Hope and Safety (formerly Shelter Our Sisters) is starting a women's self help support group for those who have been affected by intimate partner abuse. The group will meet every Monday except holidays. The facilitator will be our Associate Executive Director, Lil Corcoran.

Date: June 1, 2015

Time: 7 p.m.—8:30 p.m.

Place: 12 Overlook Ave., Rochelle Park

If you are a woman affected by partner abuse come and join us for support; you are not alone. Another woman may need to hear your story of healing and survival. Together we are strong! For more information and to RSVP, contact Lil Corcoran at lil@hopeandsafety.org.

HELP WANTED

It takes a lot of people to prepare for Sunday services. Debra writes a sermon, the choir practices the songs, the lay leader prepares the readings...and **three people are needed each week** to be sure the doors are unlocked (and locked after the service), the candles are lit, bulletins are handed out, and the chimes are rung. We would love to have some new faces added to our usher schedule for the fall. This is a wonderful opportunity to greet old and new friends and to lend a helping hand. If you would like to be an usher, please speak with Michael Sofia or Jane Wilson. You do not need to be a member of the church to be an usher. Thank You.

Our deepest sympathy to Ingrid Brennan and her family on the death of her father.

THE NEWSLETTER

USHERS FOR THE MONTH

June 7	Suzanne Broffman, Susan Dindial & Karen Peters
June 14	Vicky Li, Maryellen Neu, Fara Razafy
June 21	Karen Peters, Roberta Toolen & Ammal Varky
June 28	Linda McGarry, Barbara & Michael Sofia

OFFERING COUNTERS

June 7	Jonathan Phillip's & David Voreacos
June 14	Hyung Shim & Fumio Ito
June 21	Ginny Brown & Olivia Taylor
June 28	Pete Shanno & David Voreacos

CHILD CARE

June 7	Kristen Richter
June 14	Sarah Han
June 21	Angie Chung
June 28	Linda McGarry

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

June 9	7:30 p.m.	Session Meeting
June 12	8 p.m.	Jazz Jam Session
June 14		Strawberry Festival following worship
	3-5 p.m.	SMJ Japanese Language Worship Service
June 21	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School recognition and church picnic
June 28	10:30 a.m.	Gay Pride Sunday
July 1, 2 and 3		Volunteer with Family Promise
July 10	8 p.m.	Jazz Jam Session
July 12	3-5 p.m.	SMJ Japanese Language Worship Service
August 14	8 p.m.	Jazz Jam Session

“THE BEST OF ALL POSSIBLE WORLDS” ***CANDIDE***

Please join music Director Renee Guerrero and a cast and chorus of 27 members in a semi-staged version of Leonard Bernstein's comic operetta ***Candide*** to be presented in the historic 1693 St. John's Church in downtown Yonkers for one performance only on **Friday, June 19th at 7:30 p.m.**

St. John's Church is located near the Metro North station at 1 Hudson Street. Admission is free although donations will be taken at the door for the benefit of the church. For more information, email findapianist@gmail.com or call 917-312-5513.

Family Promise: Keeping Homeless Families Together

This is the 4th summer our congregation will be working at the temporary shelter housed at First Presbyterian Church in Englewood. Our service dates are **Wednesday through Friday, July 1, 2 and 3**. The job is to provide dinner for 15 people each of these nights. Two people also stay on site over night, until the guests are picked up at 6AM each morning.

We recommend that 2 people work together to plan, purchase and prepare the meal. Food can either be cooked at home or on site. Cooks will be told a week in advance about food preferences, allergies, etc. Dinner is served at 7:00PM.

Overnight staffers are welcome to arrive in time to eat dinner with the cooks and guests. You will have an air mattress to sleep on but should bring your own pillow and bedding. In the morning you will put out "bag and go" breakfast foods that have been provided in advance. Once the guests depart, you will close up the kitchen before you leave by 6:30AM.

Depending on the ages of the children, activities can be provided. For instance, past summers we have put out sprinklers on the lawn, had movies on the DVD player, and have played games. Extra volunteers, including children, can participate in planning fun things to do.

If you can help as a volunteer, please speak to Linda McGarry.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Can you help one day at **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY** in Paterson? Our church is volunteering for two weekdays in July, (dates to be determined) and we need your loving hearts and hands. Please speak with Karen Klingner or Pete Shanno if you would like to volunteer to help build a home. No skills are required, but you must be 16 or older and in good health.

Seeking to put God's love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities and hope.

Garage Sale Report – We raised \$1,295 at our May 16 garage sale and bake sale. All the proceeds will go to support an orphanage through Children of Uganda. Thank you to all who worked to make this happen!

Pentecost Offering – We received \$ 340 towards the Pentecost offering which will be shared between the PCUSA Pentecost Offering for children and youth at risk, and Parity's youth program. It is not too late to make a donation, please mark it "Pentecost offering."

June 13th (Fri) 8:00 PM

2nd Friday JAZZ JAM SESSION!

Sponsored by the Presbyterian Church in Leonia

Audience or Musicians, everyone is welcome!

*** To Musicians: Bring instruments and play with other professionals.**

Any level of musician is welcome!

Please bring tunes from "The Real Book".

*** No fee, but a small donation is accepted to cover utility costs.**

WHEN: June 12, 2015 (Friday)
8:00 pm – 10:00 pm
Open: 7:30 pm
Next Session: July 10, 2015 (Fri), same time.
Program will continue once a month,
Every second Friday night.

WHERE: The Presbyterian Church in Leonia
181 Fort Lee Rd. Leonia, NJ 07605
(Between Broad Ave. & Grand Ave.)

Led by: **Foreign Exchange**
Michael Hinton (Piano)
Yoshi Koyama (Sax)
Yoshi Hosuke (Bass)
Shai Rodriguez (Drums)
April Johnson (Keyboard)
Mike Ito (Guitar)

Please contact the following for any question.

Church: secretaryleonia@yahoo.com or 201-944-1358

Coordinator, Mike Ito: mike.ito@verizon.net or 201-679-6616

Church website: www.leoniapres.org

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Address Correction Requested

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P.O. Box 448
181 Fort Lee Road
Leonia, NJ 07605

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CENTER FOR FOOD ACTION NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Can you help? The Center for Food Action is low on pantry items. You may bring items on Sunday and place them in the food basket. The following items are needed: **canned meat, canned beef stew, canned pasta in sauce, baked beans or pork & beans, canned or instant potatoes, soups, powdered milk or Parmalat, Bisquick or pancake mix, pancake syrup, coffee and tea, cleaning supplies, large size disposable diapers or pull-ups (unisex), toiletries (soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, shampoo, conditioner, lotions), paper goods (paper towels, toilet paper, facial tissues) and sugar.**

If you would like to send a monetary donation, please make your check payable to the Center for Food Action, 192 Demarest Ave., Englewood, NJ 07631.



CEAN UP—Do you need a helping hand at home, in the yard, or a cleaning job on a regular basis? Delio Castellanos, our custodian, is looking for additional work. Give him a call at 201-702-6618, I am sure he will be able to help you.