

THE NEWSLETTER

MAY 2016

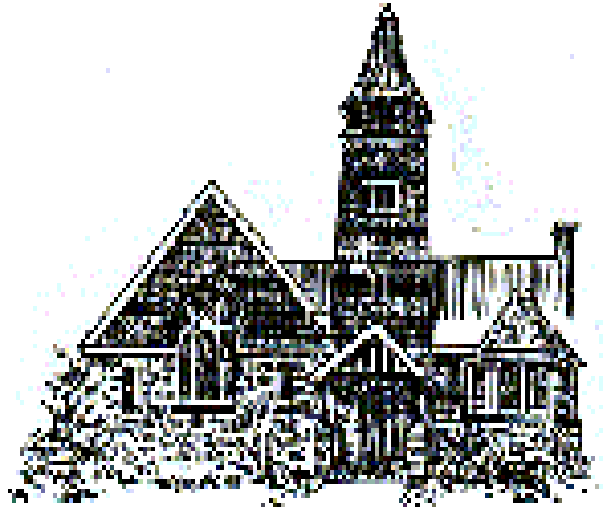
FROM THE PASTOR

What an appropriate season for me to be thrown into life with you at The Presbyterian Church in Leonia! New Jersey and New York can really show off the beauty of a vibrant spring, with everyone outdoors absorbing what life has to offer. These two weeks we have had in Manhattan to acclimate before I start my work with you have brought a new adventure each day as well as some opportunity to clear my mind as I jump from one church to another. As I prepare mentally and spiritually for doing ministry with you, I find it quite fitting that our lectionary texts lead us into the season of Pentecost-- the moment when the Holy Spirit fell on the early followers of Jesus, propelling them to form the early Church.

Pentecost is about new beginnings. It is about a variety of people coming together with their different ways of speaking to praise

God. Pentecost is about not knowing all the answers, but trusting in the Spirit's power to guide and transform a community. Its symbols are fire and wind, and while I am afraid I do not come with such intensity (or bedlam), I imagine with the children of the church we can cook up some kind of dramatic reenactment to do justice to such a powerful story.

One thing I loved from the start when I interviewed with the Interim Pastoral Nominating Committee is that this church has voted on a policy that ministers present printed copies of their sermons so that new English speakers can more easily follow along. To me, this spoke strongly to how open your church is to where the Holy Spirit moves, welcoming, inviting and transforming a community. Thank you for welcoming my family and me. I look forward to hearing your languages and learning to



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CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: MON., WED.-FRI.
9 A.M. -12:30 P.M. & 1-2:30 P.M.

understand one another. Please drop me an email in the coming weeks and months; I hope to share coffee, tea, a walk, cheer on your kids at soccer, or some other kind of visit with as many people from the church as I can. I am eager to hear what matters to you as I consider how the Spirit is at work in this community and in your lives in this time of transition. As I am

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HEADLINERS

MEET & GREET REV. LEAH FOWLER, AT THE SUNDAY, MAY 1, 10:30 A.M. SERVICE

GARAGE SALE - SATURDAY, MAY 16—HELP WANTED Articles on pages 3 & 5

HAVE YOU REGISTERED FOR SUMMER CAMP? See on page 2

From the Pastor (continued)

interested to hear from you, I imagine you will be curious about me as well! You will quickly meet my wife Chris Gajilan and our daughter Kai, who is 4. Over time in my preaching and in more casual conversations, you will learn some of the stories of my life and of why the Christian faith matters to me. I find the story of our faith complex and compelling. Sometimes, I find I am still piecing it together myself. But it is a story that consistently draws me in and provides the lens through which I see the world: a world where justice and kindness matter, a world that is redeemable even when it scares us the most, a world where God forms strangers into neighbors. May the Spirit guide us as we discover how the story continues!

Rev. Leah Fowler

	<h1>Worship Schedule</h1>	

Sunday, May 1— 10:30 a.m.

Service for the Lord's Day
 Rev. Leah Fowler will preach
 After Worship: Welcome & Meet
 Rev. Leah Fowler
 3 p.m. Japanese Language Worship

Sunday, May 8—10:30 a.m.

Service for the Lord's Day

Sunday, May 15- 10:30 a.m.

PENTECOST

Service for the Lord's Day will include
 A celebration of the Lord's Supper
 After Worship: Fellowship Hour
 3 p.m. Japanese Language Worship

Sunday, May 22- 10:30 a.m.

Service for the Lord's Day

Sunday, May 29, 10:30 a.m.

Service for the Lord's Day

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**HAVE YOU REGISTERED FOR
 SUMMER CAMP?**

Parents, are you planning **SUMMER CAMP** for your kids? Check at the programs at ?? and give your children a great experience at our Church Camp, a carefully crafted program with lots of fun and new friends, and a place to grow in their faith. There are half-week camps for grades 1-3 and one or two week camps for older children and teens. Camps range from sports to explorers, crafty and cookout camps, soccer or science, mystery or music/art/drama camps, biking or tubing, ropes and rocks, canoeing, archery or water world camp and so much more! Contact Rev. Fowler if you are interested in a scholarship.

There are also one, two or three day **FAMILY** options in July and August sleeping in tents, cabins or in the lodge. Check out these great opportunities for a family vacation.

OPEN HOUSE: MAY 7 1—4 P.M.

LEONIA DAY AT WOOD PARK, LEONIA

Leonia Day will be held on **Sunday, May 15** from **12 Noon-4 p.m.** in Wood Park. This is a town-wide festival celebration for Arbor Day, Earth Day and Leonia's diversity and cultural resources. There will be music, food, baked goods, a petting zoo, pony rides and small furry animals. And don't forget a clown who will perform magic tricks and make balloon animals. The Presbyterian Church will have a table, so stop by and say hello.

This is a nice way to meet your neighbors.
 So come out and join the fun!

CAN YOU HELP WITH THE GARAGE SALE??

We need new or gently used items to sell. You may drop off all items Wednesday, May 18 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Thursday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Friday, May 20, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 7 to 8 p.m. If these hours are not good for you, please contact Fumio Ito. Please leave all items behind the ark in the Entry Room. Anything that is not sold should be picked up by the donor at the end of the sale, or on Sunday morning.

In order to make the most money possible, we are asking for YOUR help. Can you donate a case of water and/or soda? We also need 30 bagels, butter and cream cheese. And finally, two large thermal trays filled with ice. If you can help with any of these things, please speak with Fumio Ito.

We also need your help to spread the word. Please invite your friends and neighbors to come and shop. **We especially need help on the day of the sale.** Please sign up in the entry room.

Remember, all the money we make at this garage sale will go to the Children of Uganda.

USHERS:

5/1/2016	Susan Dindial, Rae Giannuzzi & Ammal Varky
5/8/2016	Vicki Li, Maryellen Neu & Fara Razafy
5/15/2016	Karen Peters, Roberta Toolen & Ammal Varky
5/22/2016	Mwai Makoko, Linda McGarry & Wanangwa Nyirongo,
5/29/2016	Jeff Im, Elin Park & Anne Stebbins

OFFERING COUNTERS

5/1/16	Ginny Brown & Fumio Ito
5/8/16	Olivia Taylor & David Voreacos
5/15/16	Jonathan Phillips & Pete Shanno
5/22/16	Hyung Shim & Fumio Ito
5/29/16	Ginny Brown & Olivia Taylor

NURSERY

5/1/16	Sarah Han
5/8/16	Linda McGarry
5/15/16	Lisa or Joe VanDeWeert
5/22/16	Liz Even-Ezra
5/29/16	Keyla Garcia

Thank You

The final total for **ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING** collected on Palm Sunday was \$1,115.26 which included \$70.26 in the banks from the children. The money will support the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Fund, and the fund for the Self-development of People. The **Easter** offering totaled \$1,421 which will be split between Loaves and Fishes and the Center for Food Action.

Happy Birthday

May 1	Kazuko Abe
May 2	Pamela Wright
May 4	Phyllis Ann Puzzo
May 8	Leo Voreacos
May 15	Jack Peters
May 16	Joe VanDeWeert
May 19	Tony Puzzo
	Rena Marie Shim
May 22	Sonia Solano
May 25	Diane Borer

PLEASE LET MICHELE, (201-944-1358) KNOW IF WE MISSED YOUR BIRTHDAY AND YOU WOULD LIKE IT LISTED.

PENTECOST CELEBRATION

On **Sunday, May 15** we will celebrate Pentecost, which marks the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church. When the Holy Spirit came upon the believers they spoke in other tongues, and people from all over the world heard and understood them speaking in their own languages. Then the disciples began to preach and heal with power, and each day hundreds and thousands of people were added to their number.

We promise a festive atmosphere! Please come and join us. **We encourage you to wear red, orange or yellow**, to symbolize the flames of the spirit. Join us for a fellowship hour after worship.

Pentecost (Greek: πεντηκοστή [ἡμέρα], pentekostē [hēmera], "the fiftieth day") is the fiftieth day after Easter Sunday, which corresponds to the tenth day after Ascension Thursday. It is a feast in the Christian liturgical calendar — symbolically related to the Jewish festival of Shavuot — that commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and the followers of Jesus on that day, as described in the Book of Acts, Chapter 2.

Garage Sale **to benefit Ugandan Children in Africa**

Japanese, Korean & American sellers

The Presbyterian Church in Leonia is sponsoring a Japanese, Korean & American Garage Sale to raise funds for the Children of Uganda.

There are more orphans in Uganda than anywhere else in the world – over 2.4 million children – due to the AIDS epidemic, extreme poverty, and decades of civil conflict. Children of Uganda gives over 300 children safe shelter, food, clothing, education and medical care, from age 5 all the way up to completing their secondary education, vocational training or university. In Uganda, there are no public schools, so without school fees, children can't go to school. Each child who is educated, fed and safe is a strong foundation for peace. You can visit the website www.childrenofuganda.org for pictures and more information about the organization.



Date: May 21st (Sat) 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.
(rain or shine)

Place: Presbyterian Church in Leonia
181 Fort Lee Rd., Leonia, NJ 07605

Beverages will be available for sale all day.

Come, shop, and help us raise money
for this worthy cause.

May 13th (Fri) 8:00 PM

2nd Friday JAZZ JAM SESSION! Sponsored

by the Presbyterian Church in Leonia

Happy Mother's Day!

Audience or Player, everyone is welcome!

*** To Player: Bring instruments and play with pros.**

Any level of player is welcome!

Please bring tunes from "The Real Book".

WHEN: May 13th, 2016 (Friday)

8:00 pm – 10:00 pm

Next Session: June 10th, 2016 (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)

April Johnson (Keyboard)

Yoshi Hosuke (Bass)

Max Wang & Nick Iannantuano (Drums/Percussion)

Mike Ito (Guitar)



Please contact the following for any question.

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

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

Church website: www.leoniapres.org



THE NEWSLETTER

Address Correction Requested

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

THE NEWSLETTER

Have you signed up for Sunday Flowers?

First we would like to say **THANK YOU** for helping to make the sanctuary look so beautiful and welcoming when you sign up for Sunday flowers. Just a reminder, the florist does not send you a bill, it is your responsibility to pay us, the Presbyterian Church, and we will pay the florist at the end of each month. Again, thank you and please check, I think there are still some Sundays open in October and November.