

# The Newsletter

OCTOBER 2016

## REMEMBER AND DO

We began October with World Communion Sunday, with a robust service at Teaneck Presbyterian with our church and Bethany Presbyterian Church participating as well. In my sermon for that Sunday, I repeated Paul's words to Timothy: *Remember, Recall, Rekindle and Remind*.

As our church continues in this Interim year, we remembered and recalled last month at our church retreat stories of the church's past that helped to shape who you are today. We celebrated great ministry, both from former pastors and lay leaders. We noted decisions that shaped the mission of this congregation, such as the choice to use the parsonage as an emergency shelter for women and children facing abuse. We noted the arrival of immigrant communities and the impact they made in shaping and enriching the church. We noted when loved ones first came to the church as visitors or through baptism. We also lamented endings, including the departure of pastors, deaths of loved ones, and endings of signature programs like the Ecumenical Youth Group. We were honest about moments of disappointment, as well as hope.

You can see on the timeline—which will be posted in the Fireplace Room for you to add moments you recall—images of bread for times of spiritual fullness, and images of an empty plate, for times that were harder on the church.

You will soon hear more from the Session about how the church will move forward in rekindling the sense of mission for The Presbyterian Church in Leonia, and in its leadership.

October 23 begins the Stewardship season of our church. Our theme is "Go, Do!" which borrows from the theme of the Presbyterian Triennium Youth Conference Wanagwa Nyirongo and Mwai Makoko attended last summer. You will hear how our church will use your generosity to "Go, Do!" as we respond to God's call in mission, building community, discipleship of children and adults, and worship. But we could also add another element to the stewardship season, as we consider how God calls this church to "Go, Do!" into an open future. You know you already have great blessings of gifts in this congregation—I see them in your faces and in the service you do. I imagine whatever this church decides for its future in ministry, it is a future that God will be actively creating with you in loving partnership.

With Care,

Leah  
Rev. Leah Fowler, Interim Pastor



**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN LEONIA**  
**181 FORT LEE ROAD, P.O. Box 448**  
**LEONIA, NJ 07605**  
**TEL. 201 944-1358**  
**WEBSITE [WWW.LEONIAPRES.ORG](http://WWW.LEONIAPRES.ORG)**  
**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:**  
**MONDAY 8-10**  
**TUESDAY & THURSDAY 1-5:30**  
**FRIDAY 8-12**

At our Church Retreat, see more photos on page 4.



## OCTOBER 2016

### **SUNDAY OCTOBER 2:**

11:00 a.m. World Communion Sunday  
Teaneck Presbyterian Church  
3:00 p.m. Japanese Worship

### **WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 5:**

10: 45 a.m. Bible Study

### **SUNDAY OCTOBER 9:**

#### **Reoriented Toward Gratitude**

9:30 a.m. Sunday School for All  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
11:45 a.m. ESL Bible Study

### **TUESDAY OCTOBER 11:**

7:30 p.m. Session Meeting

### **WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 12:**

10: 45 a.m. Bible Study

### **THURSDAY OCTOBER 13:**

6:30 p.m. Dinner & Discussion on Syria

### **FRIDAY OCTOBER 14:**

8:00 p.m. Jazz Jam

### **SUNDAY OCTOBER 16:**

Baptism of Daphne Becker daughter of Roger & Darcy Becker  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School for All  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
11:45 a.m. ESL Bible Study  
3:00 p.m. Japanese Worship

### **WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 19:**

10: 45 a.m. Bible Study

### **THURSDAY OCTOBER 20:**

3:00 p.m. Japanese Christian Church Children's Group

### **SUNDAY OCTOBER 23:**

#### **Stewardship Sunday begins: "Go, Do...Mission"**

9:30 a.m. Sunday School for All  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
11:45 a.m. ESL Bible Study

### **WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 26:**

10: 45 a.m. Bible Study

### **SUNDAY OCTOBER 30:**

#### **All Saints Sunday:**

**This is a special Sunday of remembrance as we recognize church members and other loved ones who have passed away and rest in God's care. You will be invited to light a candle as we speak their names and remember**

9:30 a.m. Sunday School for All  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
11:45 a.m. ESL Bible Study

# THE NEWSLETTER

## FOR OCTOBER 2016

### USHERS:

October 2: Lisa VanDeWeert, Fara Razafy, Linda McGarry  
October 9: Susan Dindial, Maryellen Neu, Jihyun Kim (Julia)  
October 16: Anne Stebbins, Ammal Varky, Judith Nyirongo  
October 23: Jack Peters, Karen Peters, Virginia Cora  
October 30: Jeff Im, Elin Park, Kristen Richter

### OFFERING COUNTERS:

October 2: Olivia Taylor, David Voreacos  
October 9: Hyung Shim, Olivia Taylor  
October 16: Ginny Brown, Jonathan Phillips  
October 23: Hyung Shim, Pete Shanno  
October 30: Ginny Brown, Fumio Ito

### NURSERY CARE:

October 2: Judith Nyirongo  
October 9: Yukiko Aoki  
October 16: Linda McGarry  
October 23: Vicky Li  
October 30: Lisa or Joe VanDeWeert

### FLOWERS:

October 9: Joyce Hamlin  
October 16: JiHo Song

## THE NEWSLETTER

### **A NOTE FROM YOUR SESSION**

Over the next few months we will be taking time to get feedback from as many people as possible on the direction you feel our Church should be heading. We want to hear from members and friends of the Church on what you think our Church is, what it should be, who we should be reaching out to, and how best to serve our Lord in our community and world. We will try to give you many different ways to give us this feedback; through large groups, small groups, and one on one conversations. It doesn't matter how your voice is heard but it is important that we hear as many voices as possible. This feedback will be crucial for picking our new installed pastor. You will hear more about these plans in the next few weeks. We know this is a busy time of year and we will try to make it as quick and painless as possible.



### **FALL RETREAT!**

We had a fantastic retreat with beautiful weather! Using the story of Ruth and Naomi moving from place of famine to a place of fullness and life, we shared stories in small group and worship about our physical and spiritual journeys as we seek fullness in God's call. The children baked bread which we shared in communion, and we enjoyed Christian community in boating, archery, rest, and a campfire as we reveled in God's creation.

**PLEDGE UPDATE:** We are slightly below our target income from household pledges for this point of the year. If you have pledged, please do not forget about your church. If you have not pledged and would like to give a commitment to the church, we are happy to speak with you. No matter how small or big your gift is, God can work through you and your offering to build a church that dares to live faithfully into Christ's call. Please speak with Pastor Leah or with our Church Secretary, Pat Major, to find out how you can support the congregation.

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### **HOLIDAY FAIR**

Our Annual Holiday Fair will be held Saturday, November 19 from 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Do you need baked goods for your Thanksgiving holiday or thinking of picking up a special something for those on your gift list? The Fair is the place to fill those needs. We'll have delicious breads, pies, and special treats available for purchase and our craft table offers handmade items to decorate your home or give as gifts. Non-holiday items such as used books and gently used items will also be for sale. As always, we will have many wonderful Tricky Tray baskets for you to take a chance on winning and very special raffle prizes.

While shopping, don't forget to stop and enjoy some lunch, which will be served between 11:30 and 1:00, and be sure to purchase some soup or chili to take home.

Much help is needed in order to make this annual event a success. Sign up forms will be made available soon; please consider helping by working at a table the day of the Fair, assisting with lunch preparation, providing baked goods, etc.

Please mark your calendars and come support the Holiday Fair and be sure to tell your friends and neighbors, too!.

### **CHRISTMAS WEEK AT FAMILY PROMISE**

Family Promise assists working families with children who are temporarily homeless. It is an international organization. Our church works with 24 host congregations and 50 support congregations to provide this service in Bergen County. Thanks to the hospitality of the Leonia Methodist Church, their building is temporarily being used as the shelter site since the fire destroyed First Presbyterian Church in Englewood. Our next service week is scheduled from December 25, 2016 to January 1, 2017. Please think about how you can serve this worthy cause when you start planning your holiday activities. Working at the shelter is truly a gift of love. For more information about Family Promise you can go online or speak to Linda McGarry.

### **BERGEN VOLUNTEER CENTER ANNOUNCEMENT**

Make a difference in a child's life! Men and women are needed to mentor boys and girls in the Bergen Volunteer Center's Mentoring Youth Program. Volunteers provide guidance, friendship and support to children ages 5 to 18 who are confronted with social, emotional and behavioral challenges. Men are especially needed to be mentors to a large number of boys who may be faced with waiting up to a year to be matched with someone who could bring a bit of joy and sense of stability into their lives. Additionally, there is a great need for bilingual, Spanish speaking mentors. Call 201-489-9474 or email [youth@bergenvolunteers.org](mailto:youth@bergenvolunteers.org) to find out about other training sessions held throughout the year.



### **How Can We Respond to Syria?**

**Dinner and Discussion with Dr. Mary Mikhael**

**Thursday October 13, 2016**

**6:30 p.m. –8:30 pm.**

Did you know the Presbyterian Church (USA) has had a relationship with Syrian Christians for over 100 years, and that that relationship continues even in the face of war? As we receive day after day of devastating news in Syria, and of Syria's refugees all over the world, our church has decided to enter a discernment process of how we will respond. We have the honor of welcoming guest Dr. Mary Mikhael, spokeswoman for the National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon, and retired seminary president of The Near East School of Theology in Beirut, Lebanon. Dr. Mikhael will share more of what life is like for Christians and Muslims facing and fleeing violence in Syria. Please reserve for dinner at [pastorleonia@gmail.com](mailto:pastorleonia@gmail.com); A \$5 donation is appreciated.





### FOR GLOBAL PEACE WITH JUSTICE

*This high impact weekend, sponsored by the ecumenical Christian community, is grounded in biblical witness and our shared traditions of justice, peace and the integrity of creation. Our goal is to strengthen our Christian voice and mobilize for advocacy on specific U.S. domestic and international policy issues.*

**SAVE THE DATES!**  
**FRIDAY, APRIL 21 – MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2017**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C.**

**Cost:** Conference Fee is \$200 for early registration; \$225 after March 25. Hotel Fee is \$125 per night at Doubletree per room if reserved early; rooms and costs can be shared. Conference includes 3 meals; other meals are out of pocket. Transportation can be by carpool, train or bus. Participants who are 30 and younger are eligible for denominational scholarships if they register early.

**Schedule:** Beginning with lively worship with music and keynote Friday evening, the conference will be full of workshops on Saturday-Sunday on themes related to peace and justice. You can choose your track or take workshops in varied areas, including Environmental Justice; Immigration; Domestic Issues; Nuclear Disarmament; Gender Justice; Child Welfare; Latin American Justice; Africa; Asia; Middle East and more! Plan to stay through 5 pm Monday because we will be scheduled to meet at our US Senators' and Representative's offices to lobby all day Monday. There will be some time to go adventuring in DC as well.

Interested? Contact Rev. Leah Fowler at [pastorleonia@gmail.com](mailto:pastorleonia@gmail.com) and check out the website [www.advocacydays.org](http://www.advocacydays.org) for updated info.



**Presbyterian Church in Leonia Proposed Mission Trip Date: July 9-15, 2017.**

Campbell Farm is a ministry of the PC(USA). They are located in Wapato, Washington, on the Yakima Indian Reservation.

**Cost:** About \$700 for registration, food at Campbell Farm, housing, service projects, and ground transportation. Participants must pay for meals and extra activities outside the Farm, and pay for and arrange their own airfare (about \$400). Betsy Voreacos will suggest several flights to Seattle within a 2-hour window so that we all arrive and depart generally at the same time and can share ground transportation.

**Work:** The Farm can accommodate different ages, including children. We would have some choice in our work according to our abilities. There is always need for handiwork and carpentry on the farm and in the homes of surrounding neighbors. There is also use for people to participate in feeding ministry, childcare, gardening and other farm activities.

**Context:** Wapato has about 95% living at or below the federal poverty rate. The area includes people who are all or part Native American (Yakima) and also Spanish speaking migrants who work the orchards. The Director, Carman Pimms, does a thoughtful job of teaching the layered history that has contributed to the problems of domestic violence and child abuse, addiction, and poverty that impacts most of the participants in the Farm's programs. It is likely we would be joined by another church doing a mission week.

**Housing:** Workers would stay at the Campbell Farm, and sleep in a house with shared dorm-style accommodations, with several bunks per room.

**Spiritual Program:** The Farm offers evening reflections where people share prayer and singing as stories are told about daily encounters. The week usually ends with Communion and a traditional native Smudging ritual.

Website: [www.thecampbellfarm.org](http://www.thecampbellfarm.org)



## **October 14th (Fri) 8:00 PM**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Friday JAZZ JAM SESSION!**

Sponsored by The Presbyterian Church in Leonia

**HAPPY HARVEST! HAPPY HALLOWEEN!**

**Audience or Player, everyone is welcome!**

**Players: Bring instruments and play with pro. Any level of player is welcome!**

**Please bring tunes from "The Real Book"**  
**No fee but small donation is accepted to cover utility cost.**

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**WHEN: October 14, 2016 (Friday)**

**8:00 pm – 10:00 pm**

**Next Session: November 11, 2016 (Friday) same time.**

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**Program will continue once a month**  
**Every second Friday night**

**WHERE: The Presbyterian Church in Leonia**

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**181 Fort Lee Rd. Leonia, NJ 07605**

**(Between Broad Ave. & Grand Ave.)**

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**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)**

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**Please contact the following for any questions.**

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

**Coordinator: mike.ito@verizon.net or 201-679-6616**

**Church website: www.leoniapres.org**

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# Chore Service

## Making your home a safer place to live

**Simple household repairs performed by senior volunteers for the senior 60+ and disabled populations in Bergen County**

- |                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Minor Plumbing:</b>    | Repair leaking faucets<br>Repair leaking toilets<br>Replace washer hoses  |
| <b>Minor Electrical:</b>  | Replace existing outlets<br>Replace light switches and plugs<br>Replace or repair door bells<br>Replace light bulbs<br>Replace an existing light fixture if appropriate |
| <b>Weatherization:</b>    | Seasonal changes of screens and storm windows<br>Weatherstrip doors and windows –spring, summer, fall<br>Air conditioner installations—5,000 BTU or smaller             |
| <b>Repair or Replace:</b> | Door locks, handles, springs and closers<br>Filters and batteries   |
| <b>Install:</b>           | Smoke Alarms<br>Mini-blinds (no vertical blinds)<br>Grab bars in bath areas (3 grab bar maximum per visit)<br>Interior railings   |

*There can be a 2-4 week wait for Chore due to the many requests for service*

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- **Chore is unable to service emergencies and does not do outdoor work, painting, masonry, tiling, door or window replacements, work requiring high ladders, heavy lifting, furniture moving, new wiring, or appliance repairs**
  - **No cosmetic repairs, interior decorating, cleaning**
- Repairs for apartment dwellers are limited to personal items only. Other repairs are the responsibility of the landlord.**

## Call Chore at (201) 489-7790

Chore Service is a program of **The Volunteer Center of Bergen County, Inc.** and is funded by the Bergen County Division of Senior Services, Bergen County Community Development, Community Chest, client contributions, and Volunteer Center fundraising activities.



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THE NEWSLETTER

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## **BIRTHDAYS IN OCTOBER**

TO ALL A HAPPY AND HEALTHY BIRTHDAY !!

October 1	Dima Drobikov
October 2	Pete Shanno
	Luis Laboy
October 8	John Koepl
October 9	Ryan Kenshin
October 11	Jae Lee
October 17	Grace Jiang
October 22	Joseph Clinton Green
October 27	Francis Callahan
	Stephanie Laboy

