

THE NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2017

FROM THE PASTOR

I have a friend who has a hectic life. He has 4 young children; he and his wife both work full-time; and he always walks around like he is two paces behind where he should be. One year, he told me that he, with his family, decided that they would keep an empty drawer in the kitchen. This is usually that drawer, you know, the one where all the random stuff goes. For my friend and his family, having an empty drawer was a metaphor for living simply, for keeping clear of things that are extra and aren't needed in one's life. And that extra space reminded them symbolically that there is always space in one's busy life for God.

We use every drawer in our kitchen, but I still like my friend's metaphor and think about it years after he told me about it. As the new year unfolds for us, and our schedules start to fill again, may we always keep a clear space in our lives for peace, for simplicity, and for God.

As the year begins at Presbyterian Church in Leonia, I hope the ways you find to engage around here are life-giving. I hope they lead you to greater connection rather than greater clutter. I hope this ministry helps you to find meaning in the mess of our lives. And as you consider what you may offer, may these choices help you to prioritize what matters to you in your relationship to your family, your community and to God.

Your sister in faith,
Leah



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN LEONIA
181 FORT LEE ROAD, P.O. BOX 448
LEONIA, NJ 07605
TEL. 201 944-1358

Website: www.leoniapres.org
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY 8-10 A.M.
TUESDAY & THURSDAY 1:00-5:30 P.M.
FRIDAY 8-12 A.M.



Please see attached the Time and Talents Sheet:

Every parishioner has a special gift to share with the congregation and we would like to capture your commitment. Please consider your commitment time and talents and fill out the Time & Talents Sheet attached. Completed sheets can be left in the collection plate or sent to the church office.



Can't find your church calendar, can't remember when the potluck dinner is?

Remember you can always log onto the website at www.leoniapres.org and find all the information at your fingertips. The website has all the latest information about our church, i.e. events, worship schedule, newsletter, monthly calendar, and much more. If there is anything you would like to see on our website please let us know. Thanks to our webmaster Hyung Kune Shim for keeping it up-to-date and filled with ready to use information.

You can also check out our most recent pictures on the church's FACEBOOK page. Just type in "Presbyterian Church in Leonia" on the "Search Facebook" strip at the top of the page, and click. Pictures!

Sunday, January 1

10:30 a.m. Service for the Lord's Day

Sunday, January 8

Epiphany Sunday with Communion & an appearance of the Three Wise Men

10:30 a.m. Service for the Lord's Day will include a celebration of the Lord's Supper and Baptismal Renewal.



Sunday, January 15

10:30 a.m. Service for the Lord's Day We celebrate the ministry of Martin Luther King, Jr and enjoy gospel music in worship. We also give a going away blessing to Grace Ceragno, who will be moving to Florida this month.

Sunday, January 22

10:30 a.m. Service for the Lord's Day The Rev. Anna Taylor Sweringen will be the guest preacher.

Sunday, January 29

10:30 a.m. Service for the Lord's Day, Service of Healing with Deacons Anointing.

Join a Bible Study We have an ESL Bible Study with the pastor that meets weekly from 12-1 pm with lunch after church, as well as a Sunday morning adult Bible Study that meets at 9:30 am Sundays, led by Olivia Taylor and Philip Wilson. On Wednesdays from 10:45-12 noon, we have a weekday Bible Study. New members are always welcome, and we are open to suggestions about what would be most meaningful in your spiritual journey.

NEW MEMBERS' CLASS If you are interested in learning more about our history as a church and as a denomination in the Presbyterian Church (USA), come to this class that meets in the Pastor's Office Sundays at 9:30a.m. January 8, 15 and 29, with the option of joining the church on January 29. There will be some time to check in with your questions about faith, and to share as you wish what has led you to this place. Other members will take part and share their experiences of church and faith. Questions? See Pastor Leah Fowler.



If you would like to sign up for Chancel Flowers for a specific Sunday, please do so by signing up on the Flower Calendar on the bulletin board in the Entry Room. If you live out of town and would like to donate flowers for a loved one, anniversary, birthday or any other special occasion, please contact Jane Wilson.

Please pick up your 2017 Membership card boxes on January 8, 2017 at the Arc. If you should have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact Rev. Fowler or Pat Major in the church office.

Happy Birthday



January 2 Walter Klingner
January 3 Beverly Boyle
January 6 Maurice Lovell
January 10 Abbie Lee
January 14 Molly Callahan
January 15 Fumio Ito
January 17 Hiroshi Muto
January 18 Tom Phillips
January 22 Chris Choe
January 25 Rayna Marie Addabbo
Darlayne Ann Addabbo
Jeannie Choe
Linda McGarry
January 26 Maryellen Neu
January 31 Leah Puzzo



USHERS FOR THE MONTH

1/1/2017	Jack Peters, Karen Peters, Virginia Cora
1/8/2017	Jeff Im, Kristen Richer, Jihyun Kim (Julia)
1/15/2017	Lisa VanDeWeert, Roberta Toolen, Christen Banas
1/22/2017	Fara Razavy, Vicky Li, Linda McGarry
1/29/2017	Susan Dindial, Maryellen Neu, Virginia Cora

OFFERING COUNTERS

1/1/2017	Ginny Brown, David Voreacos
1/8/2017	Fumio Ito, Jonathan Phillips
1/15/2017	Anne Stebbins, Pete Shanno
1/22/2017	Anne Stebbins, Diane Borer
1/29/2017	Ginny Brown, David Voreacos

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

1/1/2017	Linda McGarry
1/8/2017	Vicky Li
1/15/2017	Lisa or Joe VanDeWeert,
1/22/2017	Sarah Han
1/29/2017	Keyla Garcia

Annual Reports Are Due January 10! Committee Chairs, please submit your report on key actions by your committee in 2016, for our Annual Meeting which will be Feb. 12. This is Pat's and Leah's first year putting together the church's Annual Report, so please be prompt in your submissions. If you need to see a copy of the last year's report, contact Pat Major in the church office.

What is Per Capita?

Each year Presbyterian churches pay a certain amount of money to the higher governing bodies, calculated by the previous year's membership statistics. We are charged per member on our active member roll. This is a way of establishing a minimum level of support from the local churches for the salaries and administrative costs of the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly, and allows these governing bodies to plan their budget from year to year. This year we are being charged **\$40.00 per member**. **If you are a member of the church (and able), please pay your per capita apportionment using the blue envelope in the front of your 2017 envelope box or mark your check per capita.** You can put it in the offering plate or mail it to the church office.



Welcome Baby Shower!

On January 15 after worship, we welcome baby Jeremiah, the new son of Sibonike Mwenifumbo. Jeremiah was born to Sibonike on Dec. 30, 2016. In the Malawian tradition, people always share a word of wisdom for the new mother, so please plan to speak words to Sibonike or to write them on a card that will be provided. If you wish to give a gift to the baby, Sibonike is registered at Target as "Sibonike Mwenifumbo". Please contact Pastor Leah if you can bring a dish to share.

January 13th (Friday) 8 P.M.

2nd Friday JAZZ JAM SESSION!

Sponsored by the Presbyterian Church in Leonia

Celebrate the New Year!

Audience or Player, everyone is welcome!

***To Player: 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.**

WHEN:

8:00 pm – 10:00 pm

Open: 7:30 pm

Next Session: February 10, 2017 (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:

Michael Hinton (Piano)

Yoshi Koyama (Sax)

Max Wang & Nick Iannantuano (Drums/Percussion)

April Johnson (Keyboard)

Yoshi Hosuke (Bass)

Mike Ito (Guitar)

Please contact the following for any questions

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

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

Church website: www.leoniapres.org

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

NAME, TELEPHONE AND EMAIL

MY COMMITMENT FOR 2017

As a good steward of all of God's gifts, I commit or recommit myself to serve in the following area(s) of the church's life and mission (please indicate areas in which you wish to continue to serve, or would like to begin serving): (**Check boxes** where you would like to serve)

Worship

Chancel Choir

Special Music

Usher

Read Scripture

Pray for prayer requests after worship

Church School and Child Care

Christian Education (Teach Church School/Adult Education)

Youth Chaperone

Sunday Morning Nursery Volunteer

Elementary childcare during Sunday service

Child care for special events

Mission Outreach

Teach English Conversation Classes

Help at Family Promise Shelter

Loaves & Fishes-Prepare meals every other Monday

Oelhaf House Interfaith Committee

Habitat for Humanity summer building project

Community of Friends in Action (CoFiA) outreach to Day Laborers

Drive members to hospital or doctor appointments

Transportation to church

Other _____

Odd Jobs

Newsletter Collating

Painting

Minor Building Repairs

Yard Work

Other _____

Miscellaneous

Retreat Planning

Serve as a "Prayer Partner" for one of our committees

OVER---

Committee Membership

Committee members are not only welcome, but needed to do the vital work of the church. Please indicate which of these committees you would be willing to serve on. Experience is NOT required, merely an interest and a willing spirit. **Check boxes** where you would like to serve.

Asian Ministry –Develops outreach to our Asian neighbors and plans programs to foster appreciation and understanding between people of different cultures.

Budget & Finance –Recommends the annual church budget and, along with the Treasurer monitors income and disbursements throughout the year. Also responsible for long-range financial planning.

Christian Education –Oversees the Sunday Church School and nursery; recruits and trains Church School teachers; recommends curriculum; helps provide for adult education. Help lay groundwork for a new youth group for teens and tweens at our church.

Fellowship –Plans social events, fellowship hours, and maintains the Sunday beverage cart.

Mission & Stewardship –Plans and conducts programs for the financial stewardship (including special offerings) of the congregation, and interprets and promotes our mission locally and worldwide.

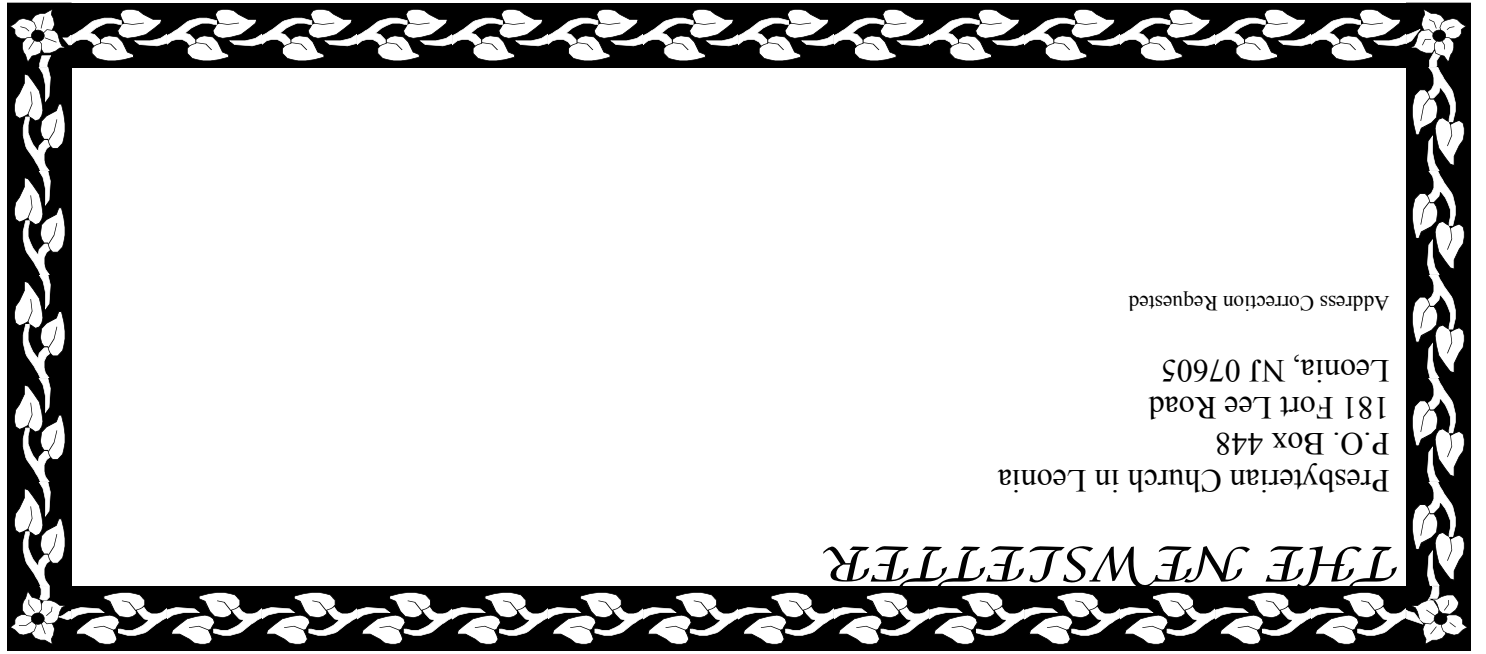
Membership & Outreach –Evaluates our church’s communication, both within the congregation and to the wider community. Proposes, plans and executes various efforts to welcome and incorporate new members.

Personnel –Oversees the work of church employees, conducts annual performance reviews, and makes compensation recommendations to the session.

Property –Oversees the regular maintenance of the church building and grounds; proposes and implements improvement projects.

Retreat –Plans and implements one-day or overnight retreats of the congregation.

Worship –Conceives and plans special services of worship, providing for services in the Pastor’s absence and for routine tasks, such as communion preparation, reading of Scripture, ushering, and preparation of the sanctuary for worship and special services.



Address Correction Requested

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ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLASSES **Beginning the Week of February 6th.**

Sponsored by Presbyterian Church in Leonia

**Everyone is welcome,
From Beginner to Intermediate/Advanced!**

- Learn English vocabulary and idioms
- Practice speaking English
- Find out about American culture
- Make new friends!

Registration for Spring Semester

WHEN: Tuesday, January 24, 2017

10:00 am – 12:00 pm & 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Thursday, February 2, 2017

10:00 am – 12:00 pm & 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

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

Please contact the following for any questions or assistance.

In English; Mark Roger: englishinleonia@gmail.com 201-641-0067

Korean; Hyung Shim: hkshim@gmail.com 917-952-2559

Japanese; Mike Ito: mike.ito@verizon.net 201-679-6616

Spanish; Susan Shanno: susannpete@aol.com 201-944-4603/201-615-7966

Church Office; secretaryleonia@gmail.com 201-944-1358

MATERIALS/ADMINISTRATION FEE:

Classes meeting once a week: \$25.00/semester

Visit our website: www.learnenglishinleonia.org