

# The Newsletter

JULY AND AUGUST 2017

## FROM THE PASTOR

The Apostle Paul challenged the church in Corinth to live with faith, hope and love. In our church, we seek to bring disciples to new depths for each of these. But lest we see the experiences of faith, hope, and love as simple, sweet, made-for-Hallmark card sentimentality, we have to remember that each of these experiences comes with a cost. Parker Palmer once said, "The deeper our faith, the more doubt we must endure; the deeper our hope, the more prone we are to despair; the deeper our love, the more pain its loss will bring: these are a few of the paradoxes we must hold as human beings. If we refuse to hold them in the hopes of living without doubt, despair, and pain, we also find ourselves living without faith, hope, and love."

This summer, we will probe some questions of faith and doubt as at least two of our summer sermons will be built around questions that have come from the pews. We will engage our sense of hope, as the prophet Isaiah and later Jesus proclaimed "good news to the oppressed and liberty to the captives" as we go into communities far and near to serve, working with the

Yakima Indian Reservation in Washington State, and helping with home building and repair in Paterson and Moonachie as we empower residents with more reliable housing options. But as we do these projects, we will be confronted with poverty that is bigger than our ability to help, and we must grapple with that reality. As we deepen our love, we also know the pain of loss. Each year we celebrate the companionship of pets in our Blessing of the Animals service, and each year that also includes time for memories for loved pets who have died.

Faith, Hope and Love... "and the greatest of these is love," Paul tells us. May we be convinced of a love from God that is so powerful that it can move beyond our doubt, our despair, and our pain. May we even show that love ourselves.

Leah

-Dr. Leah Fowler, 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)



**SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

*We will worship during the summer in the Community Room, which is cool, since the Sanctuary is not air-conditioned.*

*Worship remains at 10:30 am Sundays.*

- **July 2:** Communion Sunday and Commissioning of Mission Trip Participants and Habitat for Humanity Builders
- **July 9:** Allen Terrell preaches while Pastor Leah is away on Mission Trip to Washington State.
- **July 16:** Miles Goff, Community Minister at Judson Memorial Church in NYC, is our guest preacher
- **July 23:** Mission Trip Participants lead worship
- **July 30:** Pastor Leah preaches on questions from the pews
- **August 6:** Communion Sunday
- **August 13:** Pastor Leah preaches on questions from the pews
- **August 20:** We will worship at Congregation Adas Emuno, 254 Broad Street in Leonia  
(our Church buildings will be closed this week due to asbestos removal).
- **August 27:** 9:45 a.m. Blessing of the Animals (on the Church Lawn)  
Invite your furry, feathered, or finned friends.  
Bring your flip-flopped friends for that matter too!  
Regular worship for all at 10:30.

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**USHERS**

July 9: Susan Shanno, Pete Shanno  
July 16: Ammal Varky, Venge Nyirongo  
July 23: Hoshiko Ito, Suzanne Broffman  
July 30: Roberta Toolen  
August 6: Anne Stebbins  
August 13: Jihyan Kim, Oduri Ko  
August 20: Roberta Toolen  
August 27: Roberta Toolen

**COUNTERS**

July 9: Fumio Ito, Jonathan Phillips  
July 16: Jonathan Phillips, Pete Shanno  
July 23: Anne Stebbins, Diane Borer  
July 30: Ginny Brown, David Voreacos  
August 6: Hyung Shim, Jonathan Phillips  
August 13: Diane Borer  
August 20: Hyung Shim, Fumio Ito  
August 27: Ginny Brown

# THE NEWSLETTER

## **SESSION NOTES**

Rev. Leah is developing an exciting new program for our young people. Session under her leadership will be continuing to look at ways we can make sure we are providing a safe space, as well as one that is nurturing, challenging, and fun! As part of this effort, beginning this fall Rev. Leah plans to offer a new series of activities designed to keep our young people involved in the church after confirmation. There will be a class at 9:30 am on Sundays during our regular Sunday school time, exploring a variety of topics from how the Bible is put together and how to read it, to a history of our own church. There will be field trips and other activities throughout the year. As the program grows, we will look at the possibility of adding a part-time youth minister down the road.

Meanwhile, we are preparing for mission trips at a distance and in our own back yard. Karen Klingner will be leading members who will give their time, talents, and elbow grease to Habitat for Humanity, as many of our congregation have done over the years. This will be Saturday, July 8th. And Rev. Leah will be leading a group going to the Yakima Indian Reservation in Washington on July 9-16.

The Christian Education Committee has recommended that Camille Passi complete the year as our child care worker during our Sunday worship. Camille works with Take My Hand Daycare currently and is familiar with the church as well as the needs of young children.

The next Session meeting will be August 8th and as always, members of the congregation are welcome to attend.

Cynthia Callahan, Clerk

## **Blessing of the Animals—Presbyterian Church in Leonia Lawn**

**Sunday, August 27 9:45 am**

All animals are welcome. There will be water bowls and Scooby snacks available. Please bring your pet in a cage, tank, or on a leash; if your pet cannot make it to church, you may bring a picture or other symbol of your pet. Bring a blanket if you'd like to sit on the lawn with your pet during the service; there will also be a few chairs. There will also be a moment of thanksgiving for the companionship of pets who have died in the past year. This is a wonderful Sunday to invite a neighbor or friend, and their human walkers! Regular worship follows at 10:30 in the Fireplace Room. Your well-behaved pets are welcome to stick around in the church with us if you do not have time to bring them back home.



# THE CAMPBELL FARM

*Loving our neighbors as ourselves*



July 9-16, a group of our church members will go to Wapato, Washington, to serve on the Yakima Indian Reservation through Campbell Farm, which is a community center of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

We have 11 people going, and they will do a variety of projects: do repairs on the buildings of the community center and in homes in the community; assist with the summer camp for children on the reservation; help with the organic farm that teaches sustainable (and Native) agricultural practices; feed the animals and collect eggs; and participate in feeding programs that combat hunger in the community.

While we are there, we will learn more about the Yakima Nation and its complex relationship with Christianity from the time European settlers came to the area until today. We will learn of efforts to preserve indigenous practices and also wisdom on how they grapple with social problems such as addiction and family abuse.



Please pray for our Mission Trip participants: Suzanne Broffman, Cynthia Callahan, Leah Fowler, Kai Gajilan Fowler, Keyla and Christian Nelson, Vicky Li, Hiroshi Moto, Mialy Rakotoselson, Pete Shanno, and Anne Stebbins. Thank you to those who supported the mission trip financially: Eric Hwang and Angie Chung, Leah and Tony Puzzo, Pete and Susan Shanno, Carolyn Sobering, Anne Stebbins, and Richard Stenken. If you would also like to make a contribution to support the group's work in Washington, gifts are still welcome!



## THE NEWSLETTER

**Mision Nueva Vida** is a Spanish-speaking ministry of our Presbytery, and they have an outreach with the Metro Trailer Park in Moonachie. They have asked for volunteers on July 29 to come to the trailer park and help raise trailers onto cinder blocks to prevent flooding. We need volunteers who can lift but also volunteers who can clean. If anyone would like to prepare food for the volunteers and residents, that is welcome too! Please see Eulalia Cabrera or Suzanne Broffman for more details or to sign up.



## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

**Habitat for Humanity** build in Paterson is Saturday, July 8. Special thanks to Karen Klingner for organizing! Meet at church at 7:15 am with a water bottle, a packed lunch, work gloves, and if you have tools such as a hammer, drill, nail apron or tool belt, utility knife, or pry bar, bring those too. If you do not have tools, Habitat will have tools you can borrow. Email Karen at [kpk415@gmail.com](mailto:kpk415@gmail.com) to sign up or sign up on the large sheet next to the Ark.



**July 14th (Fri) 8:00 PM**

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

**by the Presbyterian Church in Leonia**

**Join us for this COOL event in Air Conditioned room!**

**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".**

**No fee but donation is accepted to cover refreshments & utility cost.**

**WHEN: July 14th, 2017 (Friday)**

**8:00 pm – 10:00 pm**

**Next Session: August 11th, 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: Foreign Exchange**

**Michael Hinton (Piano)**

**Yoshi Koyama (Sax)**

**April Johnson (Keyboard)**

**(Bass) - TBA**

**Max Wang & Nick Iannantuano (Drums/Percussion)**

**Mike Ito (Guitar)**

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

**Church: [secretaryleonia@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryleonia@gmail.com) or 201-944-1358**

**Coordinator, Mike Ito: [mike.ito@verizon.net](mailto:mike.ito@verizon.net) or 201-679-6616**

**Church website: [www.leoniapres.org](http://www.leoniapres.org)**



**Yes, that's me out there,  
Waving to get your attention!  
It's time to sign up for the Church Retreat!**

Summer is here, which means the fall retreat is going to be here before you blink an eye.

**Pick up a registration form on the ark** and get your family signed up! Please return forms to Pastor Leah, Betsy or Pat in the church office.

We want to make it the best retreat ever. Which means, **YOU** need to be there!

**Saturday, September 9 – Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>**

While there's always plenty of time for family fun, we're tweaking the format a bit this year to offer additional spiritual reflection and study for those not interested in boating, fishing or shooting arrows.

We promise a good time will be had by all, no matter how old or young, holy or unholy you are. Come for the day or come for the night!

**Scholarships are available!**

Overnight Cost: Adults \$125 / Kids (4-11) \$80

Saturday Only: Adults \$75 / Kids \$50

**Annual Fall Retreat**

**Camp Johnsonburg, Johnsonburg, NJ**

**September 9-10, 2017**

**Questions? [betsyvoreacos@aol.com](mailto:betsyvoreacos@aol.com) or 201-315-9938**

# CHURCH RETREAT REGISTRATION

**Saturday, September 9 – Sunday, September 10, 2017**

Please return to Betsy Voreacos by mail or Leah Fowler in person  
270 Grove Street / Teaneck, NJ 07666

*Make checks out to Presbyterian Church in Leonia with RETREAT in the subject line.*

\_\_\_\_\_ Overnight      \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday Only (includes breakfast, lunch and dinner)

**Overnight Cost:**

Adults: \$125

Kids (age 4-11) \$80

**Saturday Only:**

Adults: \$75

Kids (4-11): \$50

Name of Adult(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Kid(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I can donate a little extra to help those who may need financial help.

Amount of Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

## IMPORTANT!

WE WANT YOU TO COME!! So, if cost is an issue,  
please speak to Betsy or Leah and we'll work something out.

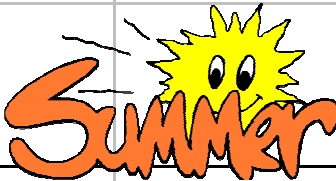

Because we have to honor our contract with Camp Johnsonburg,  
we need your money ASAP! Final payment is due by July 31, 2017.  
We cannot refund money after this date.

**It will be fun, we promise!**

Questions? Call Betsy 201-315-9938 or e-mail [betsyvoreacos@aol.com](mailto:betsyvoreacos@aol.com)



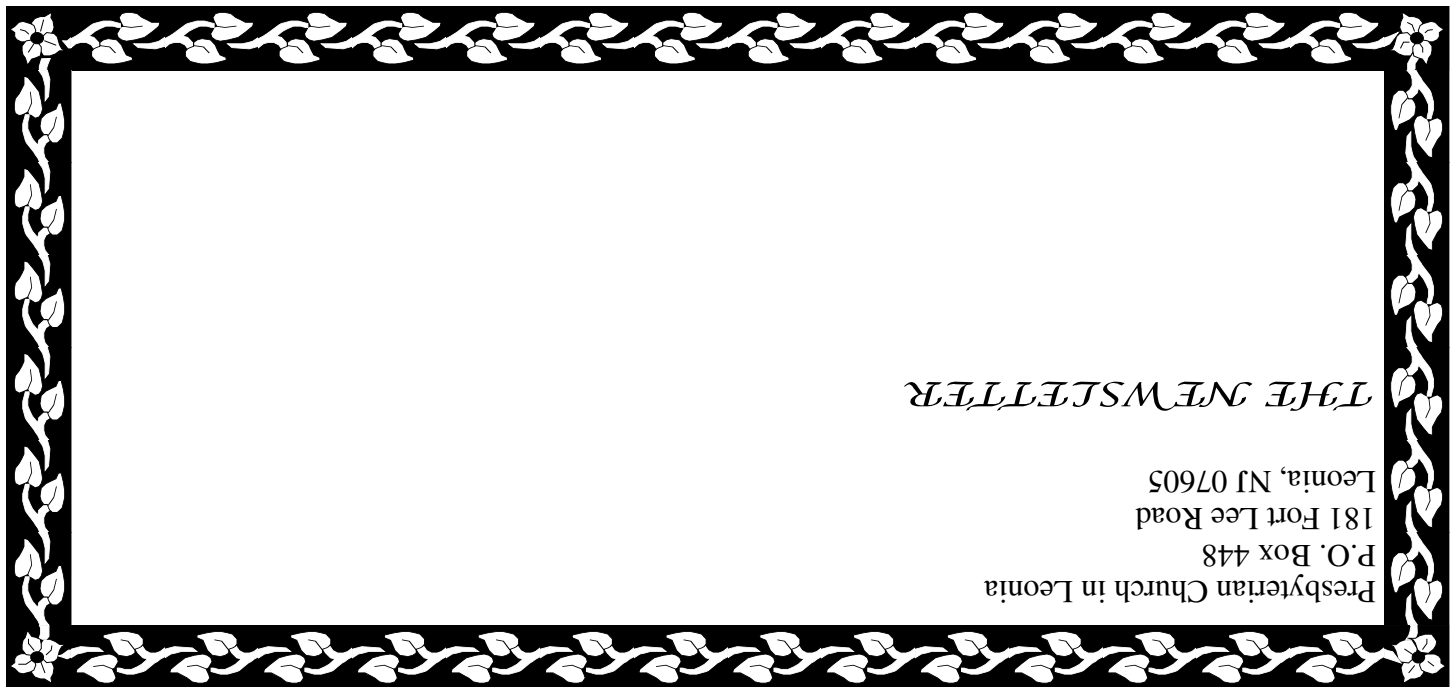
# Presbyterian Church in Leonia: July 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10:30 am Worship 3:00 pm Japanese Language Service			7:30 pm. Al-Anon 7:30 pm Mission & Stewardship Meeting	7:00 pm Bottles & Badges 7:30 pm CoFIA Meeting		Habitat for Humanity Project-Paterson, NJ
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
10:30 am Worship Guest Allen Terrell MISSION TRIP- WASHINGTON STATE-	MISSION TRIP- WASHINGTON STATE-	7:30 pm Session Meeting MISSION TRIP- WASHINGTON STATE-	7:30 pm. Al-Anon MISSION TRIP- WASHINGTON STATE-	7:00 pm Bottles & Badges MISSION TRIP- WASHINGTON STATE-	8:00 P.M. JAZZ JAM MISSION TRIP- WASHINGTON STATE-	MISSION TRIP- WASHINGTON STATE -
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
10:30 am Worship Guest Preacher- Miles Goff 3:00 pm Japanese Language Service MISSION TRIP- WASHINGTON STATE-			7:30 pm. Al-Anon	3:00 p.m. Japanese Christian Children's Workshop 7:00 pm Bottles & Badges		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
10:30 am Worship			7:30 pm. Al-Anon	7:00 pm Bottles & Badges		Mision Nueva Vida Project- Moonachie, NJ
30	31					
10:30 am Worship						

# Presbyterian Church in Leonia: August 2017



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
			7:30 pm. Al-Anon 7:00 pm Retreat Planning Meeting	7:00 pm Bottles & Badges 7:30 pm CoFIA		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10:30 am Worship Communion Sunday 3:00 pm Japanese Language Service		7:30 pm Session Meeting	7:30 pm. Al-Anon	7:00 pm Bottles & Badges	8:00 pm JAZZ JAM	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
10:30 am Worship	7:30 pm Asian Ministry Meeting		7:30 pm. Al-Anon	3:00 pm Japanese Children's Workshop 7:00 pm Bottles & Badges		CHURCH BUILDING CLOSED FOR ASBETOS REMOVAL
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
CHURCH BUILDING CLOSED FOR ASBETOS REMOVAL  Worship to be held at Congregation Adas Emuno-254 Broad Ave, Leonia	CHURCH BUILDING CLOSED FOR ASBETOS REMOVAL	CHURCH BUILDING CLOSED FOR ASBETOS REMOVAL	CHURCH BUILDING CLOSED FOR ASBETOS REMOVAL	CHURCH BUILDING CLOSED FOR ASBETOS REMOVAL	CHURCH BUILDING CLOSED FOR ASBETOS REMOVAL	CHURCH BUILDING CLOSED FOR ASBETOS REMOVAL
27	28	29	30	31		
9:45 am Blessing of the Animals 10:30 Worship	7:30 pm Worship Committee Meeting		7:30 pm. Al-Anon	7:00 pm Bottles & Badges		



## BIRTHDAYS IN JULY AND AUGUST!!

### **JULY**

- 10 Hwan Hee Kang
- 12 Hoshiko Ito
- 14 Steve Borer
- 19 Laurie Johnson
- 21 Victoria Li
- 22 Leo Noah Shim
- 25 Madison Rae Richter
- 28 Timothy Carriel

### **AUGUST**

- 2 Susan Shanno
- 3 Roberta Toolen
- 9 Robert Leicht
- 14 Christian George Klingner
- 21 Christopher Hunt
- 25 Rawn Sahai
- 26 Marlon Sahai
- Joo Kyung, Sung
- 29 Mercedes Williams
- 30 Sharon Clarke

