

The Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2018

FROM THE PASTOR

Autumn is upon us! We are glad to see many of you back from summer vacations, although we also enjoyed a vibrant summer with many of you worshipping with us, and for several weeks we had the pleasure of being moved in worship by the band Foreign Exchange leading our music!

We will begin the September month by a worship service that includes the Blessing of the Backpacks for teachers and students, as well as Communion on September 2. That follows quickly with the Church Family Retreat at Camp Johnsonburg, September 8-9. The theme for the weekend is Spiritual Gifts; there will be time for small group discussion, bible study, quiet, water play, forest adventures, and group games. Plus, there will be supervised child-care and camp adventures by the Johnsonburg staff during all the adult sessions. It might not be too late to register but contact Betsy Voreacos (betsyvoreacos@aol.com) ASAP to find out.



As many of you have heard, we are working towards approval of long-dreamed of Kitchen and Bathroom Renovation Project. You will find info in this newsletter about it (which was also mailed home). Please plan to join our All Congregation Luncheon after church on September 16 to find out more about the project and to consider a pledge towards the cost. A Congregational Meeting will happen on September 30 to approve the costs and fundraising goal. Our building is used daily for mission, doing not only bible study and Christian education, music and worship but also hosting recovery groups, 8 weekly English Conversation Classes, and more. We want to be stewards of this, God's house, and all who come into it to experience something so life-giving.

With blessing and care,

Leah

-Rev. 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**

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
MONDAY-8-10 A.M.
TUESDAY & THURSDAY
1:00 -5:30 P.M.
FRIDAY 8:00-12 NOON**

THE NEWSLETTER

WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

All worship services are at 10:30 am on Sundays unless otherwise noted

September 2:

Communion Sunday and Blessing of the Backpacks

(students and teachers bring your backpack or laptop bag).

September 8-9

Church Family Retreat at Camp Johnsonburg ending with Sunday Worship

September 9:

Worship at Church with The Rev. Fran Thiessen preaching

September 16:

Sunday School Kickoff; Choir is Back and Worship Returns to Sanctuary

September 18:

Pastor Leah preaches at Palisades Presbytery Meeting, 6 pm

September 23:

Edafe Okporo from First Friends gives Minute for Mission

September 30:

Gifts of New Immigrants Sunday

October 7:

World Communion Sunday @Leonia

with Teaneck and Bethany Presbyterian Churches joining us



GREETER

Month of September: Susan Dindial

USHERS

September 2: Pete & Susan Shanno

SECOND READERS

September 2: Venge Nyirongo

COMMUNION SERVERS

September 2: Keyla Garcia, Laura Collins

COUNTERS:

September 2: Pete Shanno, Jonathan Phillips

September 9: Anne Stebbins, Pete Shanno

September 16: Diane Borer, David Voreacos

September 23: Olivia Taylor, Fumio Ito

NURSERY:

September 2: Chris Gajilan, Keyla Garcia

September 9: Kristen Richter

September 16: Vicky Li

September 23: Nicole Lehnbeuter

September 30: Linda McGarry

FLOWERS:

September 16: Susan Shanno

September 23: Laura Gonzalez September 30: Mineko Hinto

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SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKOFF

Sunday School for all ages begins on September 16 at 9:30 am. Parents please plan to bring your children to Sunday School, which is on the second floor of the Education Wing, and fill out info so we know more about your child and family. We welcome Trish Thams who will start us out with some music, then we will pray together and head into the different age group classes:

Teachers for the new year are:

PreK-Kindergarten: Keyla Garcia, Vicky Li, Judy Nyirongo and Yukiko Aoki

1st-3rd: Tara Coleman and Suzanne Broffman

4rd-5th: Elizabeth Jesus and Lisa VanDeWeert

On Sept. 16 there is a required 8 am training meeting for all teachers of the children's classes; there Pastor Fowler will give an overview of the curriculum and how to use it, explain our church's Child Protection Policy, and discuss strategies for teaching at developmentally appropriate levels.

MinBum Koo will be leading an Adult Bible Study, that will meet in the Tower Room Sundays at 9:30 am.

OTHER STUDY GROUPS

We have a Wednesday group that does Bible Study and Spiritual Guidance, meeting from 10:45 am-noon beginning on September 19.

After worship, there will be another Bible Study group meeting at 12 noon with lunch, and that group begins on October 14.

We will also be hosting one-time events for study and fellowship like we did last month when Dr. Angie Chung led a discussion on the movie "Crazy Rich Asians!"



YOUTH GROUP

We are starting a youth group that will meet at least monthly to do service projects, discussions about faith and life, and community building. Our first outing is Monday, Sept. 11 from 3:30-5 pm, to volunteer at Center for Food Action in Englewood to help assemble Snack Packs for students in our community who are low-income and/or food insecure. All youth grades 6-12 are welcome. Please reserve your spot at pastorleonia@gmail.com.

LET'S DRIVE NJ!

Pastor Leah is part of an interfaith coalition that advocates for the rights of immigrants in New Jersey. On September 6, she will go to lobby at the NJ Statehouse in Trenton, NJ, as part of a campaign called "Let's Drive, NJ!" *Let's Drive NJ* brings together nearly fifty community, faith, labor, social service and advocacy organizations to push to expand access to drivers' licenses in the Garden State. Too often, otherwise qualified drivers face barriers to obtaining a license -- vulnerable populations like undocumented immigrants, survivors of violence, transgender individuals and senior citizens are particularly impacted. Twelve states and Washington, D.C. have expanded access to driver's licenses to qualified drivers, regardless of immigration status. New Jersey is poised to join these states. Doing so would increase public safety, help the state's economy and increase the well-being of all families -- particularly the hundreds of thousands who will gain access to a driver's license. If you would like to join Pastor Leah for this rally, which is from 10:30 am-12:30 pm, please email her (pastorleonia@gmail.com) and plan to meet at the church at 9:30 am to carpool together.



RALLY FOR LICENSES!



DATE Thursday, September 6, 2018
10:30 AM

 **State House Annex**
125 W State St.
Trenton, NJ 08608

Text 'letsdrive' to 973-577-6388 for information
on transportation.

FAMILY PROMISE

Our work at Family Promise is done for the summer! While the guests move on to the next church shelter, we will recharge our energy until Christmas week when we once again serve to feed and shelter the homeless.

If you recall, last Christmas Eve we were scheduled to work at the shelter. Many of you graciously donated money so we could order a restaurant meal for the guests. As it turned out each guest had a friend or family member with whom to spend the holiday, we used that money to provide breakfast and lunch foods for the residents for this week.

At the beginning of the week we hosted 4 mothers, 5 children and a 4 month old infant. As week 2 began, one family moved out of the program. The living arrangements are not optimal for privacy but the families were very happy to have air conditioned rooms for sleeping and delicious meals provided by our cook teams.

A heartfelt thank you to all of the volunteers who made this project so successful: Karen Peters, Susan and Pete Shanno, Nancy Salvati, Jae Lee, Hyung Shim, Tom Toupousis, Kazuko Abe, Elizabeth Even-Ezra, Allen and Joanne Terrell, and Pastor Leah Fowler. For the first time we had a group of our youth help prepare a meal. They were Leo Shim, Rena Shim, Lily VanDeWeert, Eden and Noelle Terrell, Toby and Lehn Even-Ezra.

Support a Child Separated from their Parents

Each year, nearly 500 abused and neglected children in Bergen County wake up in unfamiliar homes, separated from their parents and everything they have grown up with in their short lives. The trauma these children experience is exacerbated when they are placed in unfamiliar homes with different food, clothes, toys and even schools. They are ripped from their customary worlds and have to learn to accept a new sense of what is normal. These children need consistency. They need someone to look out for them. They need you.

Bergen County CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) is looking for compassionate, dedicated adults to represent foster children in Family Court. Bergen County CASA trains and supports community volunteers to advocate for the best interests of foster children. To learn more, please visit our website www.bergencasa.org and RSVP for one of our information sessions. Alternatively, call Lauren at (201) 336-7520 or email her at lauren@bergencasa.org.

Make a Difference in the Life of a Child – Become a CASA Volunteer!

Movie Night & Discussion: "Crazy Rich Asians" led by our own Dr. Angie Chung August 19, 2018



Church Beach Day August 20, 2018





JOIN US FOR ANOTHER WONDERFUL CHURCH RETREAT

Presbyterian Church in Leonia Fall Retreat
September 8th and 9th 2018
Presbyterian Camp & Conference Center
Johnsonburg, NJ

Our church retreat to Camp Johnsonburg is September 8-9. We will plan to carpool from the church on Saturday. There will be breakfast at the camp on Saturday morning, then we will have a day full of activities, learning and fun. To join a carpool, or if you want to find out if there is still space for you at camp, please email Betsy Voreacos at betsyvoreacos@aol.com. For those who cannot join us on the retreat, there will be church worship in our sanctuary Sunday at 10:30, with guest preacher Rev. Fran Thiessen, who is a long friend of our church.

September 14th (Fri) 8:00 PM

2nd Friday JAZZ JAM SESSION!

Sponsored by Presbyterian Church in Leonia

Fall for Jazz! & Happy Harvest!

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 donation is accepted to cover refreshments & utility cost.

WHEN: September 14th, 2018 (Friday)
8:00 pm – 10:00 pm
Next Session: October 12th, 2018 (Fri), same time.
Program will continue once a month,
Every second Friday night.

WHERE: 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)
Barbara Sabella (Vocal)
Yoshie Tanigawara (Bass)
Daniel Ovadia (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

ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLASSES

**Beginning the Week of October 1st,
and Ending the week of December 10th.**

**Sponsored by Leonia Public Library and
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 this Semester

WHEN: September 20, 2018 (Thursday)

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

September 25, 2018 (Tuesday)

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

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

MATERIALS/ADMINISTRATION FEE:

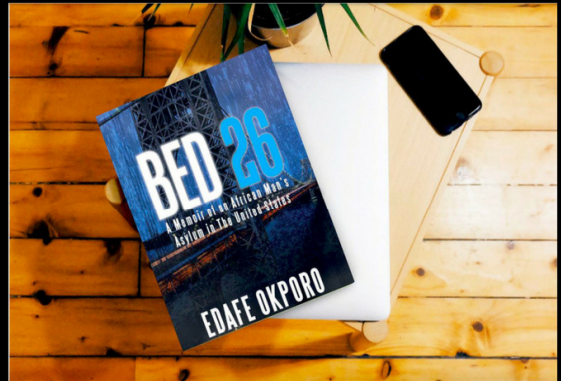
Classes meeting once a week: \$25.00/semester

2nd class, if space is available: \$5.00/semester

Visit our website: www.learnenglishinleoniamark.org

NEW JERSEY
**BOOK
READING**

12 NOON



kpredafe@gmail.com



@EDAFEOKPORO

**SUN. SEPT. 23RD
2018**

**Presbyterian Church in Leonia.
181 Fort Lee Rd, Leonia, New
Jersey**

TIMELINE
Rekindling the Kitchen – Restoring the Restrooms
Presbyterian Church in Leonia

Phase I: Assessment, Formulation, Planning, Listening

Discussions and planning for badly needed repairs and upgrades to the kitchen and restrooms began before 2016. Finally, after reviewing architectural sketches and cost estimates, Session voted on April 24, 2018, to enter into an agreement for construction plans adequate to receive a building permit, and a separate agreement to hire a construction manager to bid the project on our behalf seeking the lowest possible cost.

Architect: Peter Pulice, AIA. Cost: \$15,000 + expenses

Construction Manager: Rick Pumo. Cost: up to \$7000

At the same meeting Session voted for Susan Shanno and Philip Wilson to Co-Chair a Fundraising Committee with an initial goal of raising 50% of project cost, up to \$150,000.

Phase II: Final Plans, Project Bidding and Determination

Session received Rick Pumo's report on July 31. To renovate the bathrooms, provide a basic kitchen and meet code requirements puts the project cost at \$285,000, not including kitchen appliances.

Philip Wilson and Susan Shanno reported, after conducting the *listening phase* of the fundraising campaign (during which 11 members were interviewed), that a realistic goal for the campaign is in the range of \$100,000 and possibly higher. This requires that the remainder of the money comes from Church reserves.

Session voted to move ahead with the project. Funds must be made available from the church's reserves (Generosity Fund) which require congregational approval, using the following steps:

1) Provide some after church informational Q&A sessions,

Continued on reverse

- 2) Hold a kickoff luncheon on Sunday, September 16 to explain the project and initiate a two-week financial pledge period,
- 3) On Sunday, September 30 a Congregational meeting will be held at which the congregation will determine whether or not to make the Generosity Funds available for this project. To the extent possible, these funds will be reimbursed from the Fundraising Capital Campaign.

Phase III: Project Construction and Fundraising

If the project goes ahead as expected, construction will commence as soon as possible after September 30 with the goal of making the exterior of the building weatherproof by the end of November 2018. Most likely the project would spill over into the beginning of 2019 before being finally complete.

Fundraising will be ongoing, payments on three-year pledges will commence in accord with donor's wishes, and payable over the three-year time period.

Rekindling the Kitchen – Restoring the Restrooms Campaign – Sample Scale of Gifts

Every gift to the Kitchen and Bathroom Campaign is vital no matter how large or small.

As examples, if the amounts listed below are pledged, payments will be as follows:

\$15,000 is \$5000 per year, \$417 per month or \$97 per week.

\$10,000 is \$3,334 per year, \$278 per month or \$65 per week.

\$5000 is \$1667 per year, \$139 per month or \$32 per week.

\$3000 is \$1000 per year, \$84 per month or \$20 per week.

\$1500 is \$500 per year, \$42 per month or \$10 per week.



Gifts of every size from every member or congregant will be needed to complete the campaign.

The Kitchen and Bathroom Campaign will receive pledges over 3 years.

Pledges are made and accepted in good faith, knowing that things may change, making payment in full not possible.

The 3 year Campaign time period will be specific to each donor and conclude before or during 2021.



THE NEWSLETTER

BIRTHDAYS IN SEPTEMBER!!

TO ALL A HAPPY AND HEALTHY BIRTHDAY !!

September

- | | |
|----|------------------------|
| 4 | Ethan Seojin Han |
| 18 | Dennis McGarry |
| | Jonathan Mark Phillips |
| 19 | Ayoung (Jenny) Han |
| 20 | Chris Gajilan |
| 22 | Ray Addabbo |
| 23 | Lillian McNaughton |
| 26 | Justin Phillips |

