

THE NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2019

Presbyterian Church in Leonia

181 Fort Lee Road PO Box 448 Leonia, NJ 07605
201 944-1358 Website: www.Leoniapres.org
Email: secretaryleonia@gmail.com
Church office hours: Monday 8-10 a.m.
Tuesday & Thursday 1-5:30 pm Friday 8-12 am



Eucharistic Living

In our Presbyterian church, we usually celebrate the Eucharist—the sacrament also known as Communion, or the Lord's Supper—once a month, plus on our high holy days like Christmas Day. But even though we only share this sacrament once a month or so, unlike the Episcopal or Catholic church where it's shared every week, the sacrament shapes us every day of our Christian lives.

When we take communion, we share a little chunk of bread with a small bit of juice or wine, and it is not only a remembrance of Jesus' last supper with his disciples; it is a sign of Jesus present among us, the church, in body and in blood. What fine imaginations we Christians have, that a crumb of bread and a thimble-full of juice can become something so glorious! But it takes a good imagination to be a Christian, for we must try to imagine the world as God sees it, and then our work as disciples of Jesus is to help bring that vision to life here on earth.

The vision Jesus gives us at the communion table is one where everyone is welcome, and everyone is fed. How do we do that at the church? Well, on November 2, we will have a Progressive Dinner. We will share a meal together, starting with appetizers at the church, then splitting off into 4 different homes for an entrée in groups of about 8 people, so that we can be small enough to enjoy meaningful and fun conversation, but big enough to be stretched beyond the people we already know well. We will come back for a shared dessert. Even the kids will have a group that will enjoy pizza, games, and movies at the church. Ours is not a church that encourages people to remain anonymous, unknown. We hope this meal will make us all feel more connected to one another.

Eucharist also teaches us that all the hungry should be fed. Jesus' first public speech was reading the scroll from Isaiah, beginning with "I have come to preach good news to the hungry." He shared that good news by multiplying just a few loaves and fishes into a feast that fed thousands. We are heirs to that work, and so we support programs like the Center for Food Action on November 17, and Loaves and Fishes on November 24, both programs that help our community by making sure that no one has to go hungry.

Thanksgiving is just around the corner, and it is a holiday of feasting. Even though it is not a specifically a Christian holiday, we can bring our Eucharistic values to the feast, being mindful of the One who brings us together to table, and the earth which God created and which blesses us with good food. We remember, and we give thanks.

Leah

Rev. Dr. Leah Fowler, Pastor



COME, LET US WORSHIP GOD

Worship Schedule for November

November 3:

All Saints Day: worshippers may light candles and say the names of loved ones we know who have died. This is also Communion Sunday and Baptism of Raj Tiger Chand; Jeff Maldonado gives Stewardship Testimony.



November 10 :

Caregiver Sunday: We will bless the work that caregivers share, whether they do caregiving as paid employment, as volunteers, or as part of family life. Cynthia Callahan will share a witness. It is also our Pledge Dedication Sunday! Please remember to bring your pledge forms and make a commitment to support the ministry of our church.

November 17 :

Hunger and Homelessness Sunday- we will accept grocery store gift cards and other donations for the Center for Food Action, which supports hungry and food-insecure families in our area.

November 24 :

Thanksgiving Sunday-we will accept donations for Loaves and Fishes, a feeding program our church partners with Bethany and Teaneck Presbyterian Churches.

November 26:

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, 8 pm @Presbyterian Church in Leonia.



December 1:

First Sunday of Advent (Communion); there will be a craft after worship where people of all ages will create something that will honor Advent as a spiritual preparation for Christmas.





GREETER Month of November: Maryellen Neu

SECOND READERS

November 3: Lily VanDeWeert
November 10: Reeve Harden
November 17: Jane Wilson
November 24: Reena Shim

USHERS

November 3: Maryellen Neu, Judy Nyirongo, Cory Lehnbeuter
November 10: Lisa VanDeWeert, Wanangwa Nyirongo, Hyung Shim
November 17: Linda McGarry, Keyla Garcia, Jeff Im
November 24: Kristen Richter, Chris Gajilan

COUNTERS

November 3: Hyung Shim, Fumio Ito
November 10: Diane Borer, Jonathan Phillips
November 17: Pete Shanno, David Voreacos
November 24: Hyung Shim, Fumio Ito

FLOWERS

November 3: Solo Rakotoselson & Fara Razafy
November 10: Diane Lee (Jenny Song)
November 17: Leah Fowler & Chris Gajilan
November 24: Maryellen Neu

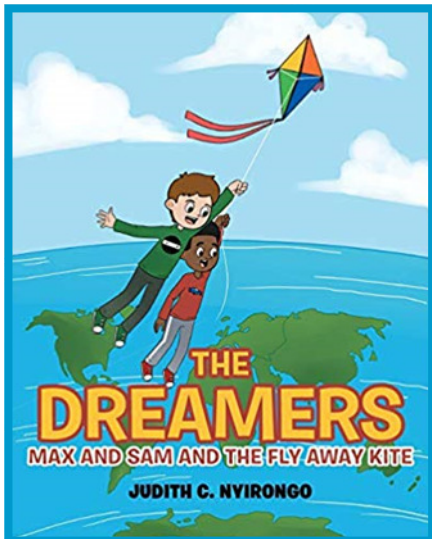
NURSERY

November 3: Kristen Richter
November 10: Chris Gajilan
November 17: Kristen Richter
November 24: Keyla Garcia

November 10—Book Reading by Author and Church Member Judith Nyirongo!

Congratulations to Judy, one of our church members who is a beloved Sunday School Teacher to our Pre-K-Kindergarten class and is now a published children's book author! On November 10, while we wait for our Mission and Stewardship Committee to count and announce our Stewardship Pledge numbers, Judy will do a book reading of her new book for children and adults alike. The book is available for order on Amazon. Here is a teaser to what it is about:

Like most little kids, brothers Max and Sam love to play, and imagination has always been an important element in any kind of play they take on. It's through this imagination that Max and Sam are the dreamers. In this story, as they fly a kite on a beautiful autumn afternoon, the two brothers imagine holding on to the kite as it takes them on an adventure around the world. Where will they go? What will they see? What will they do?



5-6TH GRADE SUNDAY SCHOOL



MB GIVES STEWARDSHIP TESTIMONY



WORKSHOP NOVEMBER 3 **CREATING UNITY AMIDST OUR DIFFERENCES: A ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**

"How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!" -Psalm 133:1.

There is a difference between *tolerance*, when we coexist and try not to step on anyone else's toes, and *unity*. Unity does not mean we are all alike; rather it means that we feel empathy for one another--that is, we have a genuine investment in the well-being and understanding of all our neighbors. If we can practice this sense of unity at church, then we have something important to offer this divided world we live in. Moderators Diane Lee and Angie Chung will open the doors to explore what unity means for our church today. Testimonies will be shared from diverse members of our church who represent some of the tapestry that weaves our church as one. Children's activity will be provided while adults engage. Light lunch will be served in celebration of the baptism of Raj Tiger Chand from worship that morning.

Christmas Poinsettia Plants

You can help to brighten the church sanctuary for Christmas by the gift of a poinsettia plant. Please look for the flyers on the Ark later this month or contact Linda McGarry or Pat in the church office.



Presbyterian Church in Leonia will host the Stated Meeting of the Palisades Presbytery, Tuesday, November 19. Dinner will be served at 5 pm, and the meeting will be from 6-8:30 pm. This is a chance to live into our connectional denomination and see our friends from churches across our region! It's also a chance to make good use of our new kitchen and bathrooms by sharing them with the wider church. We need some volunteers to help with hospitality; to help serve dinner, contact Susan Shanno at SusanNPete@aol.com, and to help with registration, contact Suzanne Broffman at stbroffman@hotmail.com.

Happy November Birthdays

November 8 Hannah Chen
November 18 Irene Ziganto
November 19 Laura McGarry
November 23 Pat Major
November 25 Hollie Dindial
November 27 Stephanie Laboy



- Presbyterian Church in Leonia will host the Leonia Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, November 26 at 8 pm. Join one another from our different congregations and from the neighborhood to share our gratitude with and for one another, for our shared resources, and for the holy at work in our midst.



A DINNER INVITATION!

Join us for a Progressive Dinner on Saturday, November 2nd at 6 pm. We all meet at the church for appetizers and then split into smaller groups for the main course at local host homes. Then, we all gather at one house for dessert.

This is a kid-free event, so we offer FREE babysitting and pizza at the church from 6 – 10 pm. Dinner is \$10 per person. Please contact betsyvoreacos@aol.com to RSVP.



Progressive Dinner



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY IN TEANECK
October 6, 2019



November 8th (Fri) 8:00 PM

2nd Friday JAZZ JAM SESSION!

Sponsored by Presbyterian Church in Leonia

Happy Thanksgiving!

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: November 8th, 2019 (Friday)

8:00 pm – 10:00 pm

Next Session: December 13th, 2019 (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)

Kirk Woodward (Vocal/Melodia/Piano)

Ray Jacob (Drums/Percussion)

Derek Chen (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

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



Stewardship Sunday Pledge Dedication is November 10!

I want you woven into a tapestry of love, in touch with everything there is to know of God. Then you will have minds confident and at rest, focused on Christ, God's great mystery. All the richest treasures of wisdom and knowledge are embedded in that mystery and nowhere else. And we've been shown the mystery!

-- Colossians 2:2-3, The Message

Our Theme for Stewardship is "A Tapestry of Giving." This season, we want to honor the rich gifts, in character, faith, service, and donations, that each participant has to offer our church. Without any one of our participants bringing forth what they give, our church just would not be the same. Together, we weave a beautiful tapestry, each person bringing texture, color, and warmth to the Christian community.

Please consider making a pledge for the 2020 year. You can give weekly donations (we will even send you envelopes) or set up a monthly giving through your own bank (please note, if you choose to give through our Breeze database, there is a 3% surcharge charged to the church. If that convenience is worth it to you, consider factoring that 3% into your pledge).

Pledge Dedication Sunday is on November 10, and we hope you feel the blessing of our church as much as your gift helps to bless this community and weave the rich tapestry of our church.

One more thing—**Per Capita Giving** is the amount our Presbytery assesses each church to pay per member, and it is the cost that helps to make us part of our connectional, Presbyterian denomination. It supports our Presbytery staff, programs and mission as well as our regional Synod and national denominational staff and programs. This year we pay \$42 per member (adults and confirmed youth).



MY GIVING COMMITMENT 2020

Please complete this estimate of giving, and return it in the offering plate on November 10 or to the church office. You may change your commitment at any time by notifying Pastor Fowler or Pat Major in the church office.

If you have questions regarding this form, please call Eulalia Cabrera at 201-869-7872 or Pastor Leah at 201-944-1358, or email Pat Major at secretaryleoniam@gmail.com.

☐ **Yes! I/We will support the Presbyterian Church in Leonia in the year 2020.**

Choose One:

\$_____ weekly for 52 weeks

\$_____ semi-monthly for 24 periods

\$_____ monthly for 12 months

\$_____ as follows _____

Per Capita Contribution *supports your membership with the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Presbytery of the Palisades* (\$42 per active member) \$_____

Total \$ _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Name _____ Phone _____ email _____



THE NEWSLETTER

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

Address Correction Requested

