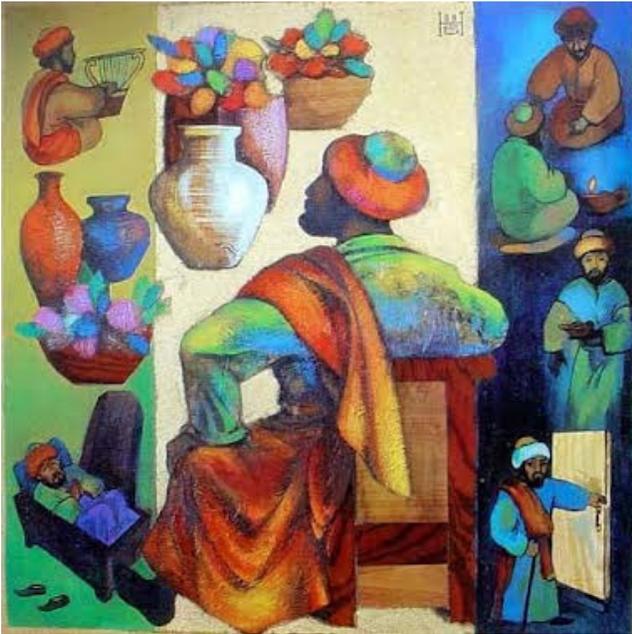




## This Week at PCL

Friday, August 1, 2025

### This Sunday



### EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 3

### "Wind Chasing and the Thing with Things"

Eccl. 1:2, 12-14; Lk. 12:13-21

Rev. Mike Eller

### SUNDAY'S LEADERS

Elder—Ellen Lazzaro

2nd Reader—Marlena Lanzalotto

Greeter—Vicky Li

Ushers—Eulalia Cabrera, Nancy Salvati

## A Word from Pastor Mike

### Hello, Friends!

Happy August! Can you believe it?! I want to encourage you that if you're in town on Sunday to come and worship with us. We'll have a special guest pianist with us, Dr. Benjamin Harlan, as well as our very own, Mineko, leading the music. It'll be an inspiring time of worship!

Also, take note below that there is an opportunity to join in a nature-filled garden walk following the service on Sunday, at the nearby Overpeck Park. Read the details to know how to prepare ahead of time. Also included are other upcoming events like a possible Pontoon Boat River Tour, volunteering at the church to distribute food for the Center for Food Action, and another reminder to sign-up for the September retreat at Camp Johnsonburg (we need to know of your attendance in the upcoming days). Lots of things to be aware of. Take time to read through these events below.

Peace,

Pastor Mike

**Rev. Mike Eller** (he/him/his)

Interim Minister

[revmike@leoniapres.org](mailto:revmike@leoniapres.org)

(917) 687-5709

General Office Hours

*Pastor's Office*

Mon-Thurs: 10-3 pm

Sun: *Schedule with Mike*

## Coming Up

Join us **THIS SUNDAY**—Overpeck Park  
Butterfly Garden Walk



After church this Sunday (Aug. 3), we'll walk (or drive) to the **Audubon Overpeck Butterfly and Hummingbird Garden**. The garden is behind the Equestrian center. If driving, plan to park your vehicle at the lot and wait until all arrive. Wear sneakers and bring spray. We will be walking through stables.

Recently the Ramapough Indians visited and brought herbs used by Lenape and others. There is an herbal Indian Nation section.

Walk and visit will probably last an hour or more. Snacks provided.

**LEARN MORE** at <https://bergencountyaudubon.org/butterfly-garden/>

## Welcome to Worship THIS SUNDAY—Dr. Benjamin Harlan



**Benjamin (“Benjie”)** is a church musician, composer, and pianist who currently lives just outside of New Orleans, Louisiana. His career includes vocational church music ministry and positions on seminary faculties in Fort Worth, Texas and New Orleans. He holds Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees from Baylor University and the D.M.A. degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. His interest in writing stems from his work as a practicing church musician, having served over a dozen congregations. Benjamin Harlan is a frequent clinician and has a special interest in congregational singing. He and his wife, Connie, have three grown children: Katie, Emily and Christopher (...and one very special son-in-law, Mike!).

*The PCL Choir has sung some of his choral music in the past!*

**September Fall Retreat @ Camp Johnsonburg-  
REGISTER SOON!**



## September 6-7

**\*\*Register soon as we need to submit our numbers early in August\*\***

### [SIGN-UP FORM](#)

The retreat will begin Saturday around 9am and last until after lunch on Sunday (tentative schedule below).

For information about the camp and directions you can go to the Camp's website: [www.campjburg.org](http://www.campjburg.org).

### **General (Tentative) Saturday Schedule:**

Morning—Large Group Activity, Small Group, Kids Activities

12 noon—Lunch

Afternoon—Free time, Lake Swim, Hiking, Labyrinth Walk

Evening—Dinner, Campfire, Storytelling, Songs, Night Time Games

### **General (Tentative) Sunday Schedule:**

Morning—Breakfast, Discussion, Kids' Activity

10:30 am—Worship with Communion

12 noon—Lunch & Dismissal

### **Tiered Pricing**

Prices listed below are per person (adults and children). *Please pay as much as you are able!* The first price has some cushion built in so others who have fewer financial resources can attend. The middle price is the true cost. The last price is the discounted cost. On the registration form, you'll indicate which price to pay.

Overnight—\$190 / \$160 / \$50 pp

Saturday Only—\$95 / \$85 / \$30 pp

Sunday Only, w/ lunch—\$20 pp

If cost is an issue please reach out to Pastor Mike, [revmike@leoniapres.org](mailto:revmike@leoniapres.org) or Rachel Stott, [stott.rachel@gmail.com](mailto:stott.rachel@gmail.com).

### **Ways to Pay**

Check\*: Write "*Fall Retreat*" on memo line.

Cash\*: Write name and "*Fall Retreat*" on envelope.

Online: Go to [LeoniaPres.org](http://LeoniaPres.org); Click [GIVE NOW](#); Select "Give to Retreat".

\*Place in **offering plate** on Sunday or give to Pastor Mike, Rachel Stott, or Pat Major.

**Center for Food Action—Volunteers STILL Needed**



On **Friday, Aug. 15** and **Sat., Aug. 16**, we will need a group of volunteers to unload boxes of food off a truck (Friday morning) and help distribute food to people at the church (Saturday, 9:30-11:30 am). If interested, please use the following sign-up:

**SIGN-UP HERE:** <https://forms.gle/Snun2LN1ytQFUgt7A>

## Pontoon Boat River Tour—Interested?



We are looking to do a river tour on **Thurs., Aug. 7 (5:30pm) OR Thurs., Aug. 26 (5:30pm)**. This will be a guided pontoon boat tour along the Hackensack River and its marshes. Boat tours last approximately 2 hours and leave from River Barge Park in Carlstadt.

**COST:** Donations accepted (suggested, \$5 or \$10 per person).

### Read more...

An experienced tour guide will talk about the history of the river and its tributaries, including its natural and man-made features, and look for birds and other wildlife that inhabit the marshes. The free, leisurely tours are a great way to see nature up-close and gain a new appreciation of the natural beauty of the Meadowlands and its unique urban eco-system.

**If interested:** reach out to Nancy Salvati ([nancys@nj.rr.com](mailto:nancys@nj.rr.com)) or Mike Eller ([revmike@leoniapres.org](mailto:revmike@leoniapres.org)), or sign-up on the board this Sunday!

## More Announcements

## Summer Hikes

Do you have a favorite trail that you like to hike? Or is there a trail you've always wanted to try but haven't? How about sharing that experience with others from church? We're looking for folks to organize hikes on the 1st Sunday of each month (weather permitting—and with the 2nd Sunday as a rain date). Ideas of nearby hikes are on the ark. Sign-up sheet is in the Fireplace Room or on the ark. If you have questions, contact Cory Lehnbeuter or Pastor Mike.

## Joys and Concerns

Praying with the VanDeWeert Family for **Levi** who is away at Youth Triennium Camp in Louisville, Kentucky this week.

Praying with joy for Lisa VanDeWeert's mom, **Susan**, who just celebrated a birthday.

Praying with Ingrid for **Nicky & Alexa** and a safe, successful pregnancy journey.

Prayers for those **traveling** during these Summer months.

[Give Online](#)

[Calendar](#)



[The Presbyterian Church in Leonia](#) | 181 Fort Lee Road | Leonia, NJ 07605