



The Messenger



The newsletter of
Leesburg United
Methodist Church

Volume 32, Issue 7

July 2019
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Message from Pastor Jim: I Didn't Know That!

Many of us will go on vacation this summer. Some will go to the beach; others to the mountains. Some will go to Branson or Orlando; others to the wilderness. Why do we go on vacation? For most, vacation is seen as a time for us to “get away” from the routines of life to experience something different, whether it be relaxing or exciting; novel or familiar. Some look to refresh and rejuvenate through rest; some look to connect or reconnect with family that live far away; some look to learn or grow through new experiences.

Where did the word – or the concept – of “vacation” come from? According to one source, the word vacation derives from the centuries-old routine of the wealthy during the summer to “vacate” the heat, humidity, and the stench of sewage for the fresh air of the countryside or the ocean. Our W&OD trail served this purpose for many years to transport people out of the city to the countryside and the mountains of western Virginia. In contrast, many today use the trail to get into the city, instead of out of the city, to work via their bicycles, in addition to walking, jogging, and biking for exercise and recreation.

As you “vacate” this summer in order to rejuvenate, regardless of where you go or what you’ll be doing, plan into your schedule time to worship in a different setting, perhaps even with a group of total strangers. Our Worship Team and I would love to hear about your experiences! Bringing back a worship program is helpful, but even more helpful is to hear you tell or write about your worship experience: what was memorable, meaningful, helpful, and even not so helpful. Write me an email, send me a text,

share a picture of you/your family at worship. Take a selfie with the pastor! (Send email or text to jim@leesburgumc.org; 540.429.5504)

Another reason for scheduling time to worship comes from the ancient practice of keeping Sabbath. In the gospel of Mark, Jesus is recorded as saying, “The Sabbath was made for people...” (Mark 2:27). Why? To provide for a weekly “vacation” from life’s routines of work and family. The Sabbath was, and is, intended to lift our attention from ourselves and our daily tasks and concerns, to reflect on and consider the God who created us. It was, and is, a time to shift our focus from ourselves to God, and to those around us in need. The ancients referred to “Sabbath rest”, realizing that physical rest was critical to good health. Thus the Sabbath has also encouraged the practice of not working. Spiritual rest and renewal is also critical to our well being. Quiet. Contemplation. Worship, solitary and corporate. Prayer. Reading, listening to, reflecting on scripture. Fellowship and sharing with others. Singing. Holy Communion. Time with family, loved ones, dear friends. Helping others. These are among the ways we experience spiritual renewal.

This summer, don’t just “vacate” or borrowing from the pop culture, “vacay”, look for ways to renew, rejuvenate, refresh, and restore. Begin with God. Begin with Sabbath.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Jim

(I look forward to hearing your experiences and seeing your pictures!) (Our August newsletter will share highlights of our 2019 Virginia Annual Conference, including Rev. Wray’s ordination!)

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Connect

Summer Worship: “Growing Together in Community”



Rev.
Jim Wishmyer,
Pastor

The phrases, “individual Christian”, “personal faith”, and “personal relationship with Jesus” are almost oxymoronic. The Christian faith is not lived in isolation; and when one acknowledges Christ as Savior and Lord, one immediately enters into relationship with every other Christian – past, present, and future – as a member of the body of Christ. Christian faith is meant to be lived in community, not in isolation. When the founder of Methodism, the Rev. John Wesley, declared “The gospel of Christ knows no religion, but social...” (Works of John Wesley, Vol 14, p.321), he emphasized the essential requirement of Christian community for growth in grace, love, and holiness.

During the time of year that we are most likely to not be together, we nonetheless turn our focus to the centrality of Christian community for shaping our faith and helping us live faithfully. During July and August, we’ll look together at creative ways to connect in community in response to Hebrews 10 – “Let’s see how inventive we can be in encouraging love and helping out, not avoiding worshipping together as some do but spurring each other on,...” (verse 25).

- July 7 Hope is Stronger than Memory – Colossians 1:3-5 (6-10a)
Holding on to hope with others – holding out hope to others
- July 14 20-20 Eyesight – Hebrews 12:1-3 (John 17:20-21)
The centrality of Christ
- July 21 What We Need to Know and Make Known – 2 Corinthians 5:11-21
Practicing forgiveness and reconciliation
- July 28 A Heart of Worship – Psalm 95:1-9
Training for the soul
- Aug 4 Living Your Strengths – 1 Corinthians 12:14-20; Jeremiah 1:4-5
Spiritual Gifts 1
- Aug 11 Finding Your Fit – Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11; Ephesians 4:11-12
Spiritual Gifts 2
- Aug 18 Better Together – Acts 2:43-47, 6:1-7; 1 Corinthians 12:12-27
Spiritual Gifts 3
- Aug 25 Dare to Dream –
1 Samuel 3:1-5;
Matthew 4:18-22;
Acts 20:24
Spiritual Gifts 4
- Sept 1 REACH Sunday



Sundays in Summer: JULY

Join us for worship at 9:30 am. Join a group. Join a service opportunity. Join in fellowship. Bring an open mind, an open heart, and a willingness to go where the Spirit may be leading you, then wait expectantly for our awesome God to do far more than we can ever imagine!

Brunch Groups

**Drop in Brunch Groups following worship at 10:45 :
July 7, July 14, July 21**

Join other LUMC members for brunch somewhere downtown and get to know one another. Each week we will offer two or more brunch group locations (depending on interest) and each group will be given conversation starters to get you talking over your meal. Children and families are welcome. If you are interested in attending, even if you can only make it to one, please email Rev. Heather Wray at heather.wray@leesburgumc.org

“Living Your Strengths”

Join Rev. Wishmyer at 10:45 AM, following worship, for “Living Your Strengths”, a time of discovering your God-calling by uncovering your strengths, gifts, and abilities. Thus, you can live the life God created you to live! Sundays, July 14 through August 18.

Please contact the church office (office@leesburgumc.org) or Pastor Jim directly (jim@leesburgumc.org) to sign up by July 8 for the ordering of books.

“Be yourself, everyone else is taken” – Oscar Wilde.

Lunch Bunch

All who stay following worship to participate in one of our disciple groups are invited to take part in our “Lunch Bunch” each Sunday by going out together to eat locally! No agenda, just good food and fellowship.

July 7

Building Community: Drop in on a Group

Drop-in on a group - listen in on the conversation and add your own perspective

8:30 am:

Explore Ezra-Nehemiah with the Friendship Class in AG1

10:45 am: *The following groups are designed to be drop-in friendly.*

Explore the New Testament Letters with the John Wesley Group in AG1

Explore different Social Justice and Missions Topics* in AG2

“Living Your Strengths” will also meet at this time starting July 14

**We'll use the Book of Resolutions to select topics.*

Be part of a Brunch Group (see page 4)

July 14

Building Community

Drop-in on a group (see July 7),
attend Pastor Jim's “Living Your Strengths” group,
Be part of a Brunch Group

Join the Youth on a Tubing Trip

July 21

Building Community

Attend Forever Young Interest Meeting
in Aldersgate1 at 10:45 am

Drop-in on a group (see July 7),
Be part of a Brunch Group

July 28

Building Community

Drop-in on a group (see July 7)

Join up at AV Symington after worship for fun in the sun and some splashing around.

Connect

New Member Sunday & Orientation

August 25 is our next New Member Sunday—are you ready to join?

All who are interested in joining Leesburg United Methodist are invited to our two orientation sessions: Membership 101, and Membership 102. In Membership 101 and 102 you'll get to know others who are new to LUMC, learn about our Wesleyan heritage, our mission and vision at LUMC, and how to grow in your discipleship journey at LUMC. All are welcome!

Membership 101 & 102 will be offered twice this summer: in July and again in August. Sessions meet on Sunday afternoons at 4 pm:

July 14—Membership 101; July 21, Membership 102
August 4—Membership 101; August 11, Membership 102

Contact Rev. Wishmyer or Rev. Wray; or call or email the church office to sign up.



Virtual Book Club Summer Series: Marilynne Robinson Fiction Series

Relax poolside with these three books that will engage your faith life and your heart this summer. Our summer series is a set of fiction books written by Marilynne Robinson that follow the life and perspective of one preacher's family in the early 1900's Kansas. In July we will read the second book in the series, "Home: A Novel" and "Lila: A Novel" in August. We will meet July 24th at 8:00 pm via Zoom meeting, an online meeting platform. Please register for the book club by emailing Rev. Heather Wray at heather.wray@leesburgumc.org

Popsicles in the Park

Kids and kids at heart are invited to enjoy popsicles and fun at Foxridge Park on Sunday evenings at 6:30 starting July 7th and going through August 11th. Come bring your kids to play on the playground or bring a lawn chair to sit and chat. Either way we'll provide the sweet treat so that you can get to know your fellow LUMC members.



LEESBURG UMC PRESENTS

**Popsicles
in the Park**

Community Office Hours



Wednesdays from 9:00 am—12:30 pm

Stop by the Starbucks off of Edwards Ferry Road in Leesburg on Wednesdays from 9:00—12:30 for Rev. Heather's Community Office Hours. She would love to pray with you, lend a listening ear, and share some coffee. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates or changes to the coffee hours: www.facebook.com/LeesburgUMC/

Connect

The ACTUAL Deacon's Corner

Thank you Church! Here are some of the photos taken the night of my ordination . I loved hearing from so many of you that watched from home. I loved seeing all the photos you took of you or your children celebrating with me. Hearing some of you say that you stood in your homes as I was ordained moved me deeply. Some of you travelled down to see me and others of you drove around back roads hoping to get a signal to watch me on your phone in your car. All of you made me feel loved, supported, and humbled to be serving a church that loves so well. Thank you to everyone who made my reception the Sunday following my ordination such a surprise and delight. A special thank you to Pastor Jim who had been coordinating the reception for months. Thank you for the gifts, cards, word of affirmation, and hugs. I am honored to serve alongside you all. I cannot wait to see all the ways God plans to use us here at LUMC

Grace and Peace,
Rev. Heather Wray



*Rev Heather Wray,
Director of
Connect Ministries*



Connect

Forever Young: Preview on July 21st

An introduction/preview of our new Forever Young, older adults ministry, will be held immediately after the worship service on July 21st in Aldersgate 1. This new program is part of our NLI Innovations to reach those in the community around us as well as serving our current members.

The program will be targeted for adults in mid-life and older but has no specific age limits, so ALL adults are encouraged to attend this 30 to 40 minute introduction to see what Forever Young is all about. Even if you in no way consider yourself an 'older' adult, you can benefit in understanding this program, to be able to invite older friends and neighbors to future groups and activities.

At the preview we'll be introducing the ministry team leading/planning this program as well as sharing a sample of a discussion group program we will be using, and sharing plans of other upcoming activities.

We are excited to present this ministry to the congregation and the community around us and hope to see everyone at the introduction on July 21st!

The Forever Young Ministry Team:

*Wayne Reynolds, Mary Blissard,
Tom and Norma Gates, Ruth Jacoby,
Al Ruggles, Betsy Creamer, Chuck Reavis,
Lou Legard, and Daisy Tennyson*

Contact Wayne Reynolds for more information:

LUMC@assessnselect.com



Young Adult Restaurant Crawl & Pool Party



The young adults went on restaurant crawl through downtown Leesburg on June 13th. Stops included SideBar for appetizers, Senior Ramon's for the main course, and Gruto's for ice cream. Everyone had a great time!

July 13th: Pool Party

All are invited to our next event where we will be meeting for a pool party on Saturday, July 13th at 4 pm at Katrina's house. We'll be grilling hot dogs and hamburgers and ask that everyone brings a side dish to share. In case of rain, we will play games indoors instead. Contact Katrina Weirup for location and directions if you'd like to join us:

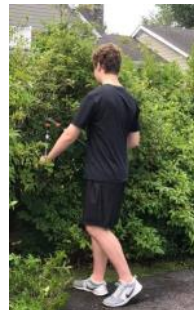
Katrina.weirup@leesburgumc.org

Connect

SiS Kick-Off: Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Besides our first Sundays in Summer combined worship service, June 16th was also our first Neighbors Helping Neighbors local mission effort. After worship and a meal, teams went out to the homes of several of our members who needed help with home upkeep tasks. Thank you to all who helped make this a huge success! I know the homeowners really appreciated everyone's hard work. Besides those who went out, another group of people helped out by packing 48 health kits for conference. Below is a picture collage of all the hard work and a thank you from Gloria Barber.

**We'll close SiS
with another
Neighbors
Helping
Neighbors
day on
September 1st**



Tues. 6-18-19

Dear Volunteers and Landscape Crew

I want to extend my heart thanks for making my yard look like Longwood Gardens. It was a hot, rainy holiday to get out and do good deeds. Better yet, Blessings, come + visit Gloria C. Barber in the P.M.



Connect

Save the Date: August 25th

"Meet a Ministry in a Minute" – August 25, after worship

Plan to stay after worship for a fun speed round with various ministry areas in our church. Find out what they do, how you can participate or support the ministry, and meet the ministry leaders in our church. Refreshments and fellowship to follow.

Serving on Sunday – August 25, following "Meet a Ministry"

Some of our ministry teams will be holding training on this day. Stay tuned for more details.

Keeping Up with the Congregation

Condolences

... to Theresa Kemp and her family on the passing of her uncle, Bobby, on June 22nd.

... to former LUMC choir director Barry Simpson on the passing of his father, James Simpson, on June 5th.

... to Nate Simpson and his family on the passing of Nate's mother, Mary Lou Simpson, on May 29th.

New Members

We haven't had any new members since last month, but we look forward to people joining on our new member Sunday on August 25th. Read how to prepare to join on page 4.

July Birthdays

The July birthday list is available on the Just Ask desk.



More Graduates...

Info for these grads missed last month's newsletter. Congratulations to each on passing this major milestone!

Ryan Torrance graduated from UVA with a degree in economics. He will be working for IBM beginning in September.

Kyle Torrance graduated from Lehigh University with a double major in international relations and history and minor in economics. He is currently in the job market.

Jenna Torrance graduated from Foxcroft and will be attending Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas.

Archer Chapin is graduating from Dartmouth College with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He will stay at Dartmouth for a 5th year to obtain an advanced engineering degree.

Grace Horvath graduated from Cal-Berkeley with a degree in civil engineering and also received a commission in the U.S. Army as a 2nd lieutenant. She currently is stationed at Ft. Lee in Virginia.



Connect

Worship A/V Help Needed

Our A/V team needs some help.

LiveStream: During the summer months we are hoping to live stream our service each Sunday. We need someone to help coordinate, set up, and implement this idea. It requires some technical literacy, and we have some folks who can share knowledge and offer support.

Video Techs: Want to help out with projecting lyrics and liturgy? We can always use more people on the team and Summer is a great time to get trained.

Sound Techs: We are always in need of trained sound techs, particularly those trained to work with the full band.

If you are interested in any of these ways of serving our congregation,
contact Rebekah: worship@leesburgumc.org

Grow

Youth Key Summer Dates

Visit www.leesburgumc.org/ywc for more information and full calendar

July 6-12	REACH
July 14	Tubing
July 17	Hersheypark
August 4	Paintball
August 9-11	Mini SPY/REACH
August 11	TOP



Grow



Go Beyond: Kids' Summer Challenge

Continuing our VBS space theme, we are having a summer challenge to continue to "Go Beyond". Use this link to get to the "Go Beyond" page on our website, where you'll find the registration link, and a link to the Go Beyond mission log: <http://www.leesburgumc.org/gobeyond>.

Use the mission log to track progress over the summer.

Complete challenges to win prizes!

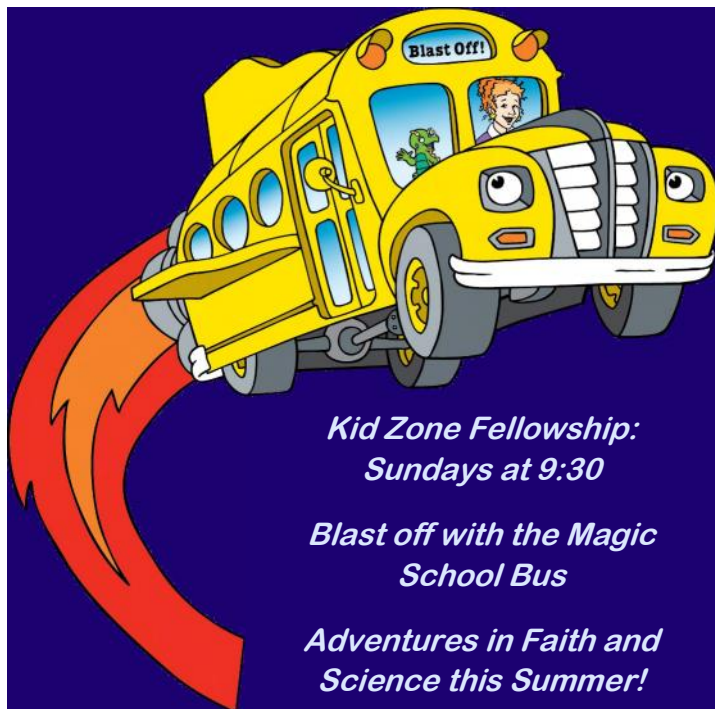
Turn in your log by August 18.

We'll have Hershey's Shake Shop here on August 18th to celebrate!

Kids Zone Fellowship for Summer

During Sundays in Summer worship, kids will have their own program following "The Magic School Bus" for adventures in faith and science.

Parents can take their kids directly to the Kid Zone before going in to worship themselves, or they can keep their kids with them until the kids are dismissed before the sermon.



Grow

Summer Reading Plan

Explore the period of the early church and their trials and triumphs

This summer, explore the period of the early church and their trials and triumphs through daily readings in the New Testament Letters and the Book of Acts. These readings will enrich your walk with Jesus as we continue through the narrative of Scripture.

As you read, imagine you are sitting in a church: a small church in the country or perhaps an old European cathedral. Imagine others (from any time period) sitting around you and hearing the words of Scripture. Allow the words to connect you in space and time to Christians around the world and throughout time.

“... Let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.” - Romans 12:2 (NLT)



Angela Becek,
*Director of
Discipleship
Ministries*

ABOUT THE READINGS: The Letters readings are inserted between the Acts readings at approximately the points when they were written. The “...Overview Video” links will take you to a video that gives some background and overview of each respective book. Some of the readings have dates noted—for Acts they are the dates when that part of the story is believed to have taken place; for the Epistles the dates are when they were believed to have been written.

Monday, July 1, 2019: Romans 7
Tuesday, July 2, 2019: Romans 8
Wednesday, July 3, 2019: Romans 9
Thursday, July 4, 2019: Romans 10
Friday, July 5, 2019: Romans 11
Saturday, July 6, 2019: Romans 12-13
Sunday, July 7, 2019: Romans 14
Monday, July 8, 2019: Romans 15-16
Tuesday, July 9, 2019: Acts 21:26-22:29
Wednesday, July 10, 2019: Acts 22:30-23:35
Thursday, July 11, 2019: Acts 24
Friday, July 12, 2019: Acts 25
Saturday, July 13, 2019: Acts 26
Sunday, July 14, 2019: Acts 27
Monday, July 15, 2019: Acts 28
Tuesday, July 16, 2019: [Intro to Ephesians video](#) (YouTube search “Read Scripture Ephesians”)
Wednesday, July 17, 2019: Ephesians 1
Thursday, July 18, 2019: Ephesians 2
Friday, July 19, 2019: Ephesians 3

Saturday, July 20, 2019: Ephesians 4:1-5:20
Sunday, July 21, 2019: Ephesians 5:21-6:24
Monday, July 22, 2019: [Intro to Philippians video](#) (YouTube search “Read Scripture Philippians”)
Tuesday, July 23, 2019: Philippians 1:1-30
Wednesday, July 24, 2019: Philippians 2:1-30
Thursday, July 25, 2019: Philippians 3:1-4:23
Friday, July 26, 2019: [Intro to Colossians video](#) (YouTube search “Read Scripture Colossians”)
Saturday, July 27, 2019: Colossians 1:1-2:23
Sunday, July 28, 2019: Colossians 3:1-4:1
Monday, July 29, 2019: Colossians 4:2-18
Tuesday, July 30, 2019: [Intro to Philemon video](#) (YouTube search “Read Scripture Philemon”); read Philemon (1 chapter)
Wednesday, July 31, 2019: [Intro to James video](#) (YouTube search “Read Scripture James”)

Sign-up to receive links each morning to the daily readings via [text](https://www.remind.com/join/7gde329) (www.remind.com/join/7gde329) or [e-mail](https://leesburgumc.us17.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=30e4416970eef40632116ccba&id=32380771f4) (https://leesburgumc.us17.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=30e4416970eef40632116ccba&id=32380771f4).

Grow



VBS 2019: And a Good Time Was Had by All!





VBS 2019 Wrap-up

215 kids, plus volunteers of every sort, went on a mission “To Mars and Beyond” from June 24–28. In the course of their journey, they considered how to “go beyond” with Faith, Boldness, Kindness, Thankfulness, and Hope. In the course of the week, we also collected 710 pounds of food for Loudoun Hunger Relief. On Sunday we wrapped up with VBS Celebration worship, and a closing picnic.

If you missed worship, here are a few points excerpted from Ms. Angela’s message:

Our VBS theme this week was: Explore where God’s power can take you... Our “power launchers” this week... help to propel us into that place where we yield our sense of control and allow God to reign fully in our lives.

... I feel like for many of us, our faith journey becomes like the space shuttle program. It started off cool, but then got routine, boring and didn’t seem to have any long term plan. So, it lost funding and got moth balled and became a tourist attraction...

Most of us need some direction and purpose for our faith journey - a destination. We need a moonshot to motivate and inspire us.... So, today, I want to

challenge every person here to go on a mission trip in the next five years. A mission trip is like going to the moon. It’s not easy; you should train and plan and plan and train. You need a team of people you can trust completely. It will stretch you. It will cost you.... But everyone can be integrally involved in a mission trip....

I believe in mission trips, because they require a degree of humility that very little else does.... Why would you do that? Because that’s the place where we find Jesus....

Where can God’s power take you? To the place of perfect peace, of hope and of love. The place where Jesus reigns....

Very special thanks to all of the volunteers who made VBS possible this week, plus everyone who donated items and helped with set-up and clean-up.

Diego Barbara	Gabrielle Dudley	Ruth Jacoby	Madison Rice
Ivan Barbara	Chrissy Dugger	Jarrell Jerry	AL Ruggles
Angela Becek	Kevin Fox	Tristan Kapsiak	Jared Ruggles
Chris Becek	Marni Frazee	Kenzie Kapsiak	Sam Shatananda
Sam Bielawa	Anna Frescholtz	Jack King	Margrit Snyder
Joey Bielawa	Nick Frescholtz	Terry Kingsley	Lydia Stonerook
Sammie Boyer	Cynthia Ginman	Hannah Kircher	Linda Stoutenburgh
Caleb Boyer	Katherine Ginman	Sarah Klein	Clare Tallamy
Nicholas Brooks	Nate Ginman	Thomas Klein	Jackson Tallamy
Audrey Caldwell	Maggie Ginman	Joyce Knox	Katie Taylor
Madelyn Callaghan	Tim Gochenour	Jenna Lierni	Craig Tilghman
Niko Camacho	Heather Gonzalez	Ella MacDonald	Andrew Titus
Logan Champ	Sawyer Gonzalez	Lilly Macdonald	Daniel Todd
Summer Champ	Wyatt Gonzalez	Celesta Miller	Allie Walsh
Valerie Chandler	Addie Grinnell	Justin Murray	Grayson Weber
Blake Conner	Emma Grinnell	Kaitlyn Puzenski	Sarah Whritenour
Bobbi Cunningham	Ty Grinnell	Caroline Reinecke	April Whritenour
Rebekah Daugherty	Jason Guevara	Sharon Reith	Jim Wishmyer
Julie De Angioletti	Sharan Hill	Kelli Rice	Heather Wray
Katherine Dotson	linda humphries	Olivia Rice	

Get ready for next year!

**VBS 2020
June 22-26**

Knights of North Castle



Reach

REACH Roanoke (a.k.a. U-SPY): July 6– 12

The REACH teams are heading to Roanoke on Saturday, July 6th: 58 youth and adults divided into six teams/workgroups, including mission leader, Angela Becek. Each team selected their team name with the theme of “Stories,” with the idea that teams hope to share their stories and hear the stories of others in the course of their work. The teams are listed below (adults are marked with “*”).

This year’s trip will be a new experience for everyone as we have our first year working with REACH Roanoke. Please be in prayer for the team: that they might show God’s love to others, see God at work around them, grow in faith, have patience getting accustomed to a new situation, and have a safe and enjoyable time.



If You Give a Team a Mission

- Luke Barbour
- Forrest Bradley IV
- Joey Bielawa
- Sophia Cevenini
- Ty Grinnell
- Anna Kelly
- Kyle Pepin
- Jeannie Boyer*

Disappearing Floor Wizards

- Kate Bentley
- Emma Grinnell
- Kaley Carlat
- Nick Frescholtz
- Samantha Bielawa
- Jason Guevara
- Jack Wingfield
- Nate Ginman
- George Herrmann*



The Backyardigans

- Caleb Boyer
- Summer Champ
- Ryan Higgins
- Carina Martinez
- Kyle Miller
- Lauren Robinson
- Craig Tilghman
- Celesta Miller*
- Kevin Fox*

Ted Shackleford

- Ryan De Angioletti
- Jack Dobscha
- Addie Grinnell
- Katherine Ginman
- Jackson Tallamy
- Sarah Klein
- Justin Murray
- Charlie Kelly
- Chuck Boyer*
- Marni Frazee*



The Simpsons

- Taylor Gryder
- Stephanie Reed
- Anna Frescholtz
- Ben Kelly
- Katie Taylor
- Christopher Tilghman

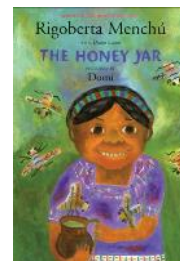
- Maggie Ginman
- Andrew Titus
- Kristie Grinnell*



The Honey Jars

- Sammie Boyer
- Elizabeth Carrigan
- Hailey Hammersmith
- Ginger Snodgrass
- Clare Tallamy
- Gavin Herzog

- Jarrell Jerry
- Samuel Shatananda
- Marcia Guevara*
- Bob Reed*



Mission Leader—Angela Becek

Notes from the Missions Team

New Missions Room

Missions has a new collection and display room located next to the church office. All collections including Loudoun Hunger Relief, Backpack Buddies, and Tools for School will have a designated spot for collecting items. It is a work in progress but will be ready for Ministry Sunday, August 25th.

Health Kits for Virginia Annual Conference

This year we collected and packed an LUMC record breaking number of kits. LUMC packed a total of 398 kits of which 10 were school kits. UMW circles packed 265, Sunday School children packed 24 and the remaining 99 were packed on June 2nd and June 16th as part of Neighbors Helping Neighbors.

Thank you to all you help make this possible.

The LUMC Missions Team: For more information or if you have questions about Missions at Leesburg UMC, please contact Missions Chair Margrit Snyder at missions@leesburgumc.org.

Backpack Buddies: Summer Donations

If you continue to purchase food for this ministry, please ensure the expiration date is after October 30th.

Your donations of food, money, and time really impact these children.

Thank you from the Backpack Buddies Team:
Barbara Luna, Charlie Luna, Celesta Miller, Sarah Quadros

LUMC Supports Loudoun Hunger Relief (LHR)



Did you know that the First Sunday of each month is Loudoun Hunger Relief Sunday?

Please support Loudoun Hunger Relief by bringing food and other items to the Missions Room (next to church office). If you know you aren't going to be here, you can drop off your donations any time the church is open.

Shopping List:

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| Cereal | Canned green beans |
| 100% juice | Canned corn |
| Canned tuna | Toothpaste |
| Canned chicken | Toothbrushes |
| Peanut Butter | Feminine hygiene products |
| Canned fruit | Diapers |
| Canned peas | |

URGENT NEED FOR LOUDOUN HUNGER RELIEF.

For the summer, LHR provides an extra day of food for families with school age children. Food supplies are low for these items; please help if you can. Pasta, rice, cereal, macaroni & cheese, snacks - nutigrain bars, crackers, goldfish, cheez-its, etc.

Reach

Tools for School Supply Drive

**Benefitting Children in Loudoun County
Drop off items in the Missions Room (next to
church office) by Sunday, Aug 4th.**



What to donate:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Writing tablet (K-1st grade) | |
| Wide rule notebook paper | |
| Spiral notebooks wide rule | |
| Loose leaf binder | |
| pencils/sharpeners/eraser | |
| Crayons, magic markers | |
| Scissors (blunt) | |
| Glue Sticks/Glue bottles | |
| | Rulers |
| | Pencil Boxes/Bags |
| | Colored Pencils |
| | Pocket Folders |
| | Box of Tissues |
| | Composition notebooks—wide rule |

Great Beginnings Preschool

Greetings from GBP! Hope everyone is enjoying a wonderful start to summer vacation!

Mark your calendars on Saturday, October 19, 2019: GBP/LUMC's 4th Annual Recess Run 5k and Fun Run at Evergreen Sportsplex. The 5k begins at 9AM, Fun Run immediately following at 9:45 am. For sponsorship information or to register visit our website, greatbeginningsleesburg.com. Sponsors are recognized on our Facebook pages as well our race t-shirts. We are so grateful to our sponsors as they not only enable us to host such a fellowship-filled event but also support the maintenance of our preschool and playground.

Have a wonderful summer!
Heather Gonzalez, Preschool Director
greatbeginningsleesburg@gmail.com



Reach

Mini-SPY/REACH Leesburg

This Service camp for rising 5th & 6th graders is designed to prepare you for week-long mission trips in middle and high school.

The program is a smaller version of what LUMC Youth experience every July on their mission trip in the Roanoke area. Mini REACH is local, and kids stay overnight at Leesburg UMC for two nights; work on service projects during the day and spend the evenings having fun together and participating in worship.



Can you volunteer during Mini SPY/REACH?

Help is needed in various ways:

- Meals prepared (2 dinners, 2 breakfasts, lunch)
- Supervision and chaperoning
- Volunteer a project at your home for us to come work on for you

Contact [Angela Becek](#), 703-473-7487

Community Concert at the Courthouse, 8/18

“Community Concert at the Courthouse” is our community outreach event (part of NLI Innovation #4, Reach and Connect) that will take place on Sunday, August 18, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM, on the west end of the courthouse grounds, near the historic courthouse.

Invite your family, friends, neighbors, and acquaintances to our “Blessing of the Backpacks” and prayers for our school personnel prior to the start of the 2019-20 school year. Music provided by Chorus of the Old Dominion, Gary Internicola’s bluegrass band (Loudoun County Bluegrass Association), Mt. Zion UMC Choir, Leesburg UMC Chancel Choir, and Evergreen UMC praise team.



Steward

NLI Update

Mission/ Reach is initiating new activities that demonstrate LUMC's commitment to serve the Leesburg community. LUMC continued to support our Scouting Troops, with Scout Sunday in February and an historic charter signing of the first all girls Scouting Troop in March. In April, LUMC distributed reusable water bottles to Garden Festival attendees, opened the church bathroom for public use, and distributed promotional materials outlining our church story and an invitation to attend. Plans are in the works for a Summer Concert August 18 with musical partners including Mt. Zion United Methodist Church. Open to the public and in connection with the start of the new school year, this will be a "Don't miss!" event. Bring your school-aged children, friends and their children or grandchildren, as Pastor Jim will give a blessing of their backpacks during the program.

Reach/ Connect is developing an intergenerational plan to more deeply connect people to the church and to each other to includes trips, dinners, and a new Senior Program of fellowship, missions and discipleship. Being readied to launch this summer and fall, watch for intergenerational 'Pilgrimage' day trips to cultural sites intended to educate and inspire, and 'Forever Young' activities for older church members and friends.

The Communications Task Force continues to work on communications updates for the church that will achieve a more user-friendly church presence online. LUMC contracted with Ekklesia 360, a design company specializing in church websites and graphic design. The services being provided include a new church website, church logo, church management system, and church app, all integrated to enhance the experience of visitors and LUMC attendees alike. In addition, progress is being made on external and internal signage to help visitors more easily navigate the church and church property.

June 2nd Town Hall Meeting: A document outlining LUMC's approach to communicating our identity and priorities to the Leesburg community and our visitors was shared by the Communications Task Force. http://www.leesburgumc.org/uploads/Messaging_Map.pdf

Find the latest NLI Progress Tracker here:

<http://www.leesburgumc.org/uploads/NLITracker06-2019.pdf>



Our Way Forward Together: Town Hall Meeting, 7/28

As the United Methodist Church responds to our February General Conference rulings on LGBTQ+ issues, and prepares for next year's General Conference in May, you're invited to attend our Town Hall meeting on Sunday, July 28, at 11:30 am to learn more. Lunch provided.

Recap 2019 General Conference, Judicial Council, etc.
Responses within United Methodism
Our recent Virginia Annual Conference action,
News from other Annual Conferences.

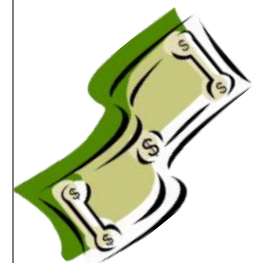
The debate within the UMC relates directly to the language in our United Methodist Book of Discipline that states same gender sex is "incompatible with Christian teaching." This then forms a barrier to ordination in the UMC. In addition, same gender weddings by our clergy and/or in our churches are prohibited.

Note: Only the General Conference of our UMC can change the language in our UM Book of Discipline. Second, there are no barriers that exclude LGBTQ+ persons from church membership and participation in the life of the local church. Third, in what some view as paradoxical, our Book of Discipline affirms that "all persons are... of sacred worth," and, that "We implore families and churches *not to reject or condemn lesbian and gay members and friends*" (emphasis added - UMBOD, Par. 161G).

Beginning July 7, our Task Force will have cards for you to record questions ahead of time.

Your Chance for a Deep Dive into our Finances, 7/28

At the conclusion of the Way Forward Town Hall led by Pastor Jim on July 28, 2019, there will be an additional session provided by LUMC's Finance Committee to discuss church finances. The purpose of this meeting is to share information at a level of depth beyond what is published in the church bulletin or newsletter. Tom Payne, finance committee chair, will discuss and answer questions about our financial performance to date, current and near-term challenges, mortgage payoff and financial priorities. If you wish to have more detailed financial information about LUMC, this meeting is for you!



**Leesburg United Methodist
Church**

107 West Market Street
Leesburg, VA 20176

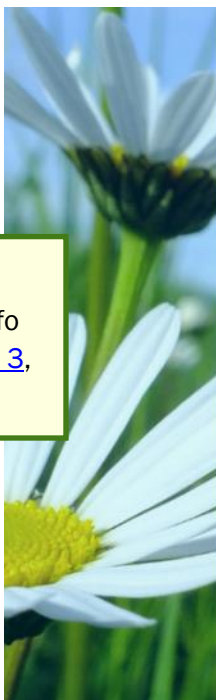
703-777-2056
www.leesburgumc.org



The August Newsletter will be published near the beginning of August. To ensure your item gets in, please submit by 9 am on Monday, July 22nd. Thank you!

Sundays in Summer Continues!

For more details see the Worship Info and Activities Calendar on [pages 2 & 3](#), and Kids Zone info on [page 10](#)



Becoming One with
God and Each Other

*Sundays in
Summer*

—
**ONE WORSHIP SERVICE
JUNE 16 - SEPT 1
9:30 AM**