



The Messenger

The newsletter of
Leesburg United
Methodist Church

Volume 32, Issue 3

March 2019
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From Pastor Jim: Covered in Dust

For our Confirmation Retreat each year, we take our Confirmands to Westview-On-the-James, in Goochland, VA, one of our Virginia Conference-owned camps. We make the long drive each year because of the “amenities”. It is the only camp we’ve been able to find that has a river that becomes the Jordan River, a lake that becomes the Sea of Galilee, a dusty dirty rocky area that becomes the Wilderness where Jesus was tempted, and more. There, we take our youth on an experiential “Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus” as the culmination of their year-long Confirmation journey, that moves us all the way from Creation to the Incarnation, and from the Baptism of Jesus through his betrayal and crucifixion, then to Easter; and we conclude with Pentecost and the birth of the church. Our 2019 Confirmation Retreat will be April 26 to 28.

So, the “driveway” from the entrance to the camp to where we normally stay is a dirt road with a thin layer of fine gravel. By the time we leave Sunday to come home, every car is coated in dust from that long & winding road.

Last year, driving back with dust all over my car again (and a little inside), I thought for the first time about an image I had recently come across. From Rob Bell and Lois Tverberg, I learned the ancient Jewish blessing for those who aspired to a life of discipleship following a particular rabbi: “May you be covered in the dust of your rabbi.”

What does this mean? The ancient call to be a disciple of a particular rabbi was an invitation to walk with him and live with him and be with him 24/7. More than an invitation, it was a summons to learn from him by observing first-hand how he lived by God’s Word. It was experiential learning. One was “covered in the dust of your rabbi” by following so closely behind him as he journeyed from village

to village that the sandy granules of dust kicked up by his feet would cling to one’s own clothes. Here’s the deal: by following, listening, asking questions, and observing one’s rabbi a disciple’s heart and life would change, even as one’s mind and thoughts were being shaped. To be covered in the dust of your rabbi was to become like him – to be transformed by being with him.

Following Jesus’ ascension into heaven and the day of Pentecost when the fullness of the Holy Spirit was given to the disciples, two of them were brought before the religious leaders for a perceived violation of the Sabbath. The leaders were amazed that these two “unschooled” (that is, they had not completed Torah studies) men were so bold and eloquent in their defense. Luke, the author of Acts, tells us that these leaders took note of the fact that they “had been with Jesus” (Acts 4:13). That is, they were covered in the dust of their rabbi. And filled with the Holy Spirit.

During this season of Lent, we will explore the parables of Jesus and the story of his earthly ministry. It’s an opportunity for us to get covered in some of his dust. So come close(r) to him during this Holy Season. Attend worship – not because it’s the thing you do on Sunday but because you want to learn and grow to be like him such that others would take note “she/he has been with Jesus”. His dust clings to you. Connect with one of our small groups, either on Sunday or during the week, to share what you are learning from Jesus and what that means for how you live Monday-Saturday. Get involved (if not already) in a meaningful ministry or serving opportunity that fuels your God-given passion and stretches your God-given abilities. And, last, join me in our Lenten prayer discipline so that everyone in LUMC is praying for others, and

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Connect



Worship Theme for Lent and Easter: “God’s Invitation—It’s in the Mail!”

“What will heaven be like?”

Kids and adults alike wonder what will heaven be like? Popular images include angels with harps and streets of gold. Yes, we tend to think it is a place. But the heaven Jesus spoke about was not a future place but a presence, here and now – the rule and will of God showing up and showing off in the lives of everyday people.

Jesus said the kingdom of heaven is like: A mustard seed. Yeast mixed with flour. Hidden treasure. The search for fine pearls. A net filled with fish of every kind. A fair and generous landowner.

Through his parables, Jesus used message and metaphor, contrast and comparison, and every-day images to teach what heaven is like. He sought to reveal (unveil) God’s goodness, grace, justice, and judgment; and he called for a response. His message extended God’s welcome – and warning.

Through the Gospel of Matthew, we hear once again Jesus proclaiming God’s invitation and welcome for all to enter the kingdom and to follow him. The sticking point is that he is heading to a cross, where the full meaning of God’s invitation and grace will be revealed.

March 6: Ash Wednesday (Lent Begins), 7:30 pm worship
Ashes-to-go: 8:45-9:15am; 11:45-12:15pm



March 10 Matthew 18.23-35 – God’s Invitation: The Meaning of Mercy

March 17 Matthew 20.1-16 – God’s Invitation: Goodness and Grace

March 24 Matthew 22.1-14 – God’s Invitation: Did you RSVP?
Celebrating 150 years of United Methodist Women

March 31 Matthew 25.1-13 – God’s Invitation: Poised and Prepared

April 7 Matthew 25.31-46 – God’s Invitation: What, Who, Do You See?
Holy Communion

April 14 Matthew 26.17-30 – Palm Sunday!

Connect

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- April 18 Maundy Thursday – Living Last Supper, 7:00 pm
Join us for this special presentation of the story of the Last Supper of Jesus and his Disciples. We will also celebrate Holy Communion together.
- April 19: Good Friday – The Way of the Cross, 6:00 pm
This procession through downtown Leesburg, with multiple churches participating, will provide a meaningful and reflective Good Friday worship experience. Beginning at Leesburg Presbyterian Church, the walking procession will make seven stops in the downtown area, each highlighting a different part of the crucifixion story. The procession will end at LUMC.
- April 21 Matthew 28.1-10 – Easter Sunday! Holy Communion
SONRise: 6:30 am at Ida Lee Gazebo
8:30, 9:45, and 11 am: Worship at LUMC
* Flowering the Cross: please bring fresh flowers to decorate our outdoor cross on Easter morning.



Rev.
Jim Wishmyer,
Pastor

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper: March 5th, 5-7 pm

Support our Youth and the Youth
Summer Mission Trip ([see page 13](#))
by supporting fundraisers.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper: The Pancake Supper is on Shrove Tuesday, March 5th. Open seating is available in Asbury Hall from 5–7 pm with a buffet of pancakes, sausage, eggs, and fruit.



SHROVE TUESDAY

MARCH 5th

Connect

Praying for One Another - Lent, 2019

Our Leesburg United Methodist Church vision lifts before us a picture of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus – those who are ***Followers of Jesus-One with God and with each other-Ministers to all the world.*** For Lent this year, let's take a positive step of growth as disciples in this direction, that includes our membership vow to support the church (each other) through our “***prayers***, presence, gifts, service, and witness”!

This year during Lent, will you commit with me to pray daily for at least five other members of our church family - including children, youth, and non-members who are active? Through scripture readings, daily reflections, and prayer promptings, you will find yourself growing in your praying, AND as a disciple in specific ways: in **compassion**; **respect** for others; **thoughtfulness** or mindfulness; **mutuality**; **personal awareness**; **self-discipline**; **determination**; and **patience**. These are “**Eight Walks**” through which Christ works to change us.

HERE'S HOW

Choose a pack of envelopes and cards with the names of 5 (or more) individuals who are part of our church family*. Pick up a daily prayer guide, Praying for One Another. Each day of Lent, 40 days, you will pray through **Eight Motivations of Prayer**, one per day. These motivations are:

- 1) **Adoration**: establishing unity with God who gives life.
- 2) **Self-Awareness**: establishing unity with the good and true in ourselves.
- 3) **Confession**: acknowledging the sin in our lives and our need to be forgiven.
- 4) **Petition**: specific prayers for God to bless, direct, inspire, and expand what is possible.
- 5) **Thanksgiving**: establishing an attitude of gratitude for life, love, opportunities, others, and more.
- 6) **Intercession**: regularly bringing friend and stranger to God through our praying.
- 7) **Dedication**: yielding in ever-increasing measure self to the will and purpose of God.
- 8) **Renewal**: growing to receive and show love in ways not known through mere human effort.

During Holy Week, the final week of Lent, you will then write a short note on the cards provided to each person for whom you've been praying, and mail it to them.

My prayer – and the goal of this spiritual discipline – is ***to have everyone in our church family praying daily, and everyone in our church family prayed for daily.***

(* Available beginning March 3. You may join this spiritual discipline at any point during Lent.)



House Calls and Holy Communion

Each week during Lent, a member of our pastoral staff or our Director of Discipleship will be available to visit with you in your home. Our desire is simply this: to connect with the families/individual members of our church family in “your space”; to pray together; and to share in the sacrament of Holy Communion with you.

Rev. Wishmyer, Rev. Wray, Wayne Reynolds (Certified Lay Minister), and Angela Becek (Director of Discipleship Ministries), have blocked off time for three “home visits” each, each week, in addition to regular responsibilities, as part of our spiritual discipline for Lent.

Each visit will be 45-55 minutes in length, and can include just you, or also extended family members you would like to invite, or another family/couple/individual you would like to include.

We are preparing a schedule* that will show available time slots throughout the Lenten season, and you are invited to sign up for one based on the time that best suits you and your family. The days and times available will vary some week to week.

The format will be simple: Introductions as needed, brief devotional, listening and sharing family concerns, prayer, Holy Communion, blessing of the home.

(* Available March 3)



Church Wide Hospitality Training

On Sunday March 10th from 3:00 to 4:30 pm come to Asbury Hall and learn how you can make our church an even more welcoming congregation. We will be offering a hospitality training that will teach us how to cultivate a culture of connection among our congregation and with our guests on Sunday morning.

We will have a large group session together and then break into smaller in depth training for our different hospitality ministry areas: Greeters, Ushers, and Sunday Morning Hospitality. We may also be adding two more hospitality ministry areas depending on interest such as Parking Attendants and another group called Connectors.

If you are looking to make connections with others in our congregation or want to up your welcoming game, then this training is for you! If you have any questions please contact Rev. Heather Wray.



Connect

Calling All Artists!



During our series after Easter, "The Art of Neighboring," the worship team would like to add depth to our worship by incorporating art created by LUMC members into our theme. If you have created or would be interested in creating a work of art inspired by the theme of "Neighboring" that we could display during our worship, please contact Rebekah at worship@leesburgumc.org.

Creative Arts Group

If you are a creator of art, join our new Creative Arts Group. Connecting to our creative selves in an evermore chaotic world, the LUMC Creative Arts Group is a hub of free form inspiring discussion. For info contact Christy Tallamy: christylanderstallamy@gmail.com

Upcoming Gatherings:

Feb. 24th, March 24th, April 28th
2:00-3:00 pm

At the home of Christy Tallamy: 1712
Tomworth Ct, NE Leesburg



Community Office Hours

Wednesdays from 9:00 am—12:30 pm . Resumes January 9th

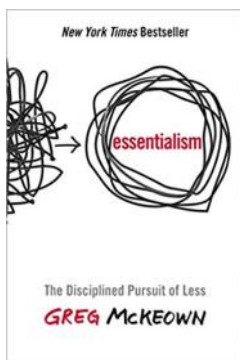
Stop by the Starbucks off of Edwards Ferry Road in Leesburg on Wednesdays from 9:00—12:30 for Rev. Heather's Community Office Hours. She would love to pray with you, lend a listening ear, and share some coffee. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates or changes to the coffee hours: www.facebook.com/LeesburgUMC/



Virtual Book Club: "Essentialism," Feb 26th

Join Rev. Heather for our second virtual book club, on February 26th at 8:00 pm, where we will discuss Essentialism by Greg McKeown. This book was a recommended book from our Next Level Innovations. Please read the book prior to our virtual meeting.

Our meeting will take place in the comfort of your own home and we will connect via Zoom Meeting (a closed online face to face meeting using your own device, smartphone or computer. Whatever device you select it must have video capabilities). If you are interested please contact Rev. Heather at heather.wray@leesburgumc.org.



The Hopeful Deacon's Corner

This June I am excited to share that I will get to change the title of this part of the newsletter from the Hopeful Deacon's Corner to the Deacon's Corner. Following my interviews in January I was approved by the Board of Ordained Ministry for ordination this June at Annual Conference in Roanoke!

First, I want to say thank you to this church for their prayers and support during this time in my ministry. I could not have had this success without you all. Second, people have been asking what are the next steps for me in this ordination journey. This journey has been a long one but the next step is a retreat with Bishop Lewis at the end of April and then on Friday June 21st there will be an ordination service at the Roanoke Civic Center. The service is open to the public, but if you don't want to make the trek down to Roanoke the service will be live streamed. Third, people are asking what will happen with my relationship with LUMC; specifically if I'll be getting a new church. I am excited to share that I get to stay with you. As a Deacon, I find my own appointment meaning that the Bishop and Cabinet do not move me. I am elated that I get to continue to serve alongside this congregation as they continue to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world.



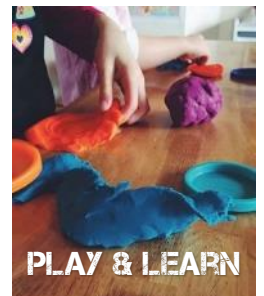
*Rev Heather Wray,
Director of
Connect Ministries*

Play & Learn

Parents and their little ones (infants through 5 years) are invited to be a part of the highly energetic Play and Learn Group. Any family is welcome to attend, so feel free to bring a friend. We meet on Tuesdays, 9:15– 10:30 am in Asbury Hall. The group's purpose is to create a space where both children and adults can encourage one another, learn, grow, and build friendships, .

If you have any questions please email, Rev. Wray at heather.wray@leesburgumc.org

NOTE: If Loudoun County Public Schools are delayed or closed there will be no Play and Learn. Also, there will be **no Play and Learn on February 5th**.



Keeping Up with the Congregation

Congratulations

... to Jody and Rick Graves on the birth of their son, David, on Wednesday, February 13th.

New Members

We've had no new members in the last month. Watch the Weekly Info for information on upcoming membership class opportunities.

March Birthdays

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



Grow

Membership to Discipleship

Interested in becoming a member of Leesburg UMC? Join us for “Pizza with the Pastor” and sign up for our next “Base Camp,” a three-week small group for those interested in continuing their spiritual climb of life with other Christ-followers at LUMC.

Pizza with the Pastor & Staff



Are you new to LUMC or perhaps you have been attending for a while and wondering what to do to join? Join Pastor Jim for “Pizza with the Pastor & Staff” to learn more about LUMC and membership. Staff members also join us to share their stories and talk about our ministries. Kids welcome & childcare provided following the meal.

Our next Pizza with the Pastor & Staff will be on Sunday, July 14th, from 12:30—2:00 pm. [Contact the church office](#) to let us know if you are coming. (an additional session will be scheduled in September, date to be determined.)

Base Camp Basics

“Base Camp” is a three-week discipleship experience for those interested in continuing their spiritual climb of life. Besides getting to know others who are new to LUMC, we’ll have the opportunity to orient ourselves to LUMC’s mission, our rich heritage, our vibrant present, and promising future; discover opportunities for serving and connecting with others; and clarify and prayerfully consider the commitments needed for membership. Led by Rev. Jim Wishmyer.

Our next Base Camp series will be March 17th, 24th, and April 7th, 4:00—5:15 pm. Please [contact the](#)



“Covered in Dust” (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

everyone in LUMC is being prayed for. I long for the day that it will be said of Leesburg United Methodist Church: “they are covered in the dust of their rabbi, Jesus.” May it be, O God.

Grace and peace,

Rev. Jim Wishmyer

Grow

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Angela Becek,
Director of
Discipleship
Ministries

Adult Small Groups

Matthew (Sundays at 6 pm in Wesley Hall)

Journey inside the pages of Scripture to meet a personal God who enters individual lives and begins a creative work from the inside out. Shaped with the individual in mind, Immersion encourages simultaneous engagement both with the Word of God and with the God of the Word to become a new creation in Christ. Immersion, inspired by a fresh translation - the Common English Bible - stands firmly on Scripture and helps readers explore the emotional, spiritual, and intellectual needs of their personal faith. More importantly, they'll be able to discover God's revelation through readings and reflections. The book is \$9, payable through the online registration.

Click-Here
TO **REGISTER**

<https://leesburgumc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/188649>

Philippians (Thursdays at 9:30 am in Wesley Hall)

The Letter of Philippians talks about how grateful Paul is for their support and encourages them to have joy as Christians regardless of their circumstances. When you read these words think about this: Paul is chained to a Roman soldier, and his letter to the church in Philippi is to remind them of the goodness of a faithful God." The book is \$13, payable through the registration.

Click-Here
TO **REGISTER**

<https://leesburgumc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/188650>

Following the Narrative Lectionary Reading Plan (11 am in AG or Blue Room)

There are two groups that are following the reading plan which accompanies the sermons series as it follows God's Story of redemption in Scripture. Beginning in January and continuing through Easter, these groups will be focused on the Gospel According to Matthew. The group in the AG is facilitated by Carl Snyder and Steve Chapin. The group in the Blue Room is facilitated by Sue Bourke and Sharon Reith. Materials are free, registration helps leaders know to expect you and prepare materials.

Click-Here
TO **REGISTER**

<https://leesburgumc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/188680>

Adult Sunday School (9:45 am in the AG)

This group is facilitated by Kim Kadesch and will be studying the books of Ezra and Nehemiah.

Click-Here
TO **REGISTER**

<https://leesburgumc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/188693>

Parlor Group (9:45 am in the Parlor)

This group is facilitated by David Graves and Bryan Talbot and is managed by Donna Varn. In January, they will continue with the Ray Vander Laan and supplemental materials. Materials are free, registration helps leaders know to expect you and prepare materials.

Click-Here
TO **REGISTER**

<https://leesburgumc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/188690>

Grow

And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us



Children's Ministry

Visit www.leesburgumc.org/kids
for more information

Sunday School: What We're Doing and How You Can Help

Since the Fall, our kids have been following the same Scripture readings as adult worship, youth worship, and some of our small groups.

We have invested in our children's Sunday school opening time and space by working to create a warm and inviting atmosphere for our kids and their families. We currently have sets designed to help them imagine they are walking in the time of Jesus as they explore the Gospel of Matthew.

As kids arrive on Sunday mornings, we seek to engage them and to promote building relationships with activities such as obstacle courses and group games.

We also have incorporated Backpack Buddies into the Sunday school routine, so that kids are participating in this mission project every month as part of their discipleship experience.

We are often in need of a second pair of hands and eyes, particularly with our K-1st and our 2nd-3rd grade classrooms. Join our team and be part of building up the next generation!

Please contact Angela Becek to get involved!
angela@leesburgumc.org



Youth Key Dates

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

March 3	9:45 pm Gallery 6—7:30 pm Youth Group
March 10	9:45 pm Gallery 10:45 am—2:30 pm TOP
March 15-16	30 Hour Famine
March 17	No Youth Activities
March 24	9:45 am Gallery 6—7:30 pm Youth Group



30 Hour Famine: March 15 - 16

The What:

Thirty hours. It's just over one day, but in that short time, more than 7,000 kids will die of hunger-related causes.

The Why:

The question is, will you care enough to let their hunger move you to action? Inspired by the love of God, you can join the fight: to keep kids alive; to give food to all who go hungry; to hunger for justice.

The How:

When you do the 30 Hour Famine, you're opening your eyes to the reality of global poverty. The funds you raise will bring hope to hungry kids: your brothers and sisters in the family of God. After registering, please set-up your fundraising page (see confirmation e-mail).



We will spend about 24 hours at church doing various poverty-related activities to teach of the conditions faced by millions in the world today. It's a Lock-in, but with purpose and without food.*

We will close with a brief worship service that parents are strongly encouraged to come to, with Communion followed by a light meal.

* We will have juice at regular intervals. Those with medical conditions that prevent them from fasting should bring simple snacks that will be kept in a location removed from the group.



World Vision 30 HOUR FAMINE

Hunger isn't just. But your hunger can be.

JUST HUNGER.



Grow



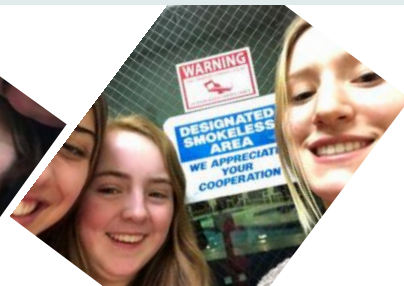
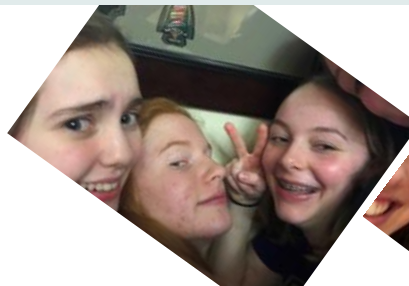
Winter Retreat Report and Thanks

Over President's Day Weekend, twenty-four youth and five adults travelled to Canaan Valley, West Virginia for our annual Winter Retreat.

Over the weekend, there was much fun skiing and snowboarding for two days and the evenings were filled with fellowship and the opportunity to learn from Matthew's Gospel. There was a scavenger hunt and groups acted out scenes from the life and ministry of Jesus to teach one another.

Special thanks to chaperones: Chuck and Jeannie Boyer (and Fred Boyer's truck!), Steve Murray, Brian Whritenour and Angela Becek.

There are many ways that you can get involved with our youth ministry. Please contact Angela Becek if you are interested, angela@leesburgumc.org



Reach

REACH Roanoke (a.k.a. U-SPY)

July 6– 12

This year, our youth will be participating in REACH Roanoke instead of SPY for their summer mission trip. Our youth who visited REACH in December dubbed it “U-SPY” for Urban SPY. REACH works much more closely with local agencies to connect with the people who most need help in the community. Students will have the opportunity to work on homes, as they did with SPY, but also to work in the homeless shelter, the local food pantry, and the animal shelter. They would also be given the opportunity, if they chose, to run a VBS for the neighborhood kids.

A couple of things that make REACH very different from SPY are:

- It is year-round. They have groups come on weekends that continue the work all year.
- They have a year-round staff which adds continuity and maintains relationships in the community.
- It is in a different building and a different city.
- It is more urban; groups will not have long drives to their work sites.
- They buy abandoned homes, fix them up, work with the bank and community organizations to make sure deserving families are able to purchase the homes.
- Evening programming takes place out in the community

Click Here
TO **REGISTER**

<https://leesburgumc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/196622>



**Please support our Youth and
their Mission Trip by:
purchasing subs
on Super Bowl Sunday,
and coming to the
Pancake Supper on March 5.**



Reach



Packing Dates

Mar 3
Apr 7
May 5

Backpack Buddies

Through the LUMC Backpack Buddies program, we provide support to local school children who have been identified as needing additional food over the weekend. During the school year, each child receives a backpack filled with six meals for the weekend. LUMC packs bags of food during the school year on the first Sunday of each month in Asbury Hall after the 9:45 worship service. Our next packing is January 6th

How You Can Help

- 1) Donate money. Write "Backpack Buddies" on your check memo or offering envelope.
- 2) Donate food items. Please place the listed items in the designated bins in Wesley Hall.
- 3) Donate your time. Help fill the backpacks. It only takes an hour, it's lots of fun, and it's a wonderful way to help serve children in our community. All ages can help, including kids.

Your participation is always greatly appreciated. If you have any questions please contact Barbara Luna at 703-606-1256 after 6:30 pm or email blunalsbrg@aol.com.

Food Items for Backpack Buddies
individual cups of ravioli, beefaroni, or spaghetti; granola bars; cereal (single-serve boxes); instant oatmeal; fruit cups; single-serve applesauce cups, shelf-stable milk (white or chocolate); juice boxes; macaroni and cheese cups; cheese crackers



LUMC Supports Loudoun Hunger Relief (LHR)

The First Sunday of each month is Food Insecurity Sunday. Please help us support Loudoun Hunger Relief by bringing food and other items to Wesley Hall. If you know you aren't going to be here the first Sunday of the month, you can drop off your donations in Wesley Hall anytime the church is open.

Thank you for your generosity!

Shopping List:

Cereal
100% juic
Canned tuna
Canned chicken
Peanut Butter
Canned fruit
Canned peas

Canned green beans
Canned corn
Toothpaste
Toothbrushes
Feminine hygiene products
Diapers

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.



Super Bowl Sunday— for Loudoun Hunger Relief!

Thank you for giving!

We raised over \$1,100 for
Loudoun Hunger Relief!



Sub Sale Results

Thank you for your support!

The youth had a great time making
sandwiches, and raised over \$1,200
for the Summer Mission Trip, REACH.

Read more about it on [Page 13](#).



Reach

Special Offering for Lent and Easter

This year as in years past, our Lent and Easter Special Offering will go to support the three missionaries working around the world that we have selected to support. Following is a little information about each.

Delbert and Sandy Groves

The Groves are a United Methodist missionary couple with the General Board of Global Ministries based in Kitwe, Zambia and serving at the New Life Center. The center, established in 2001 through Delbert and Sandy's efforts, has grown into a resource for the young United Methodist Provisional Conference of Zambia. It has numerous outreach ministries, including New Life Press, health education, PET Zambia (handicap bikes for mobility), a learning and computer lab, English instruction, instruction in new church construction, and other training ministries.



Delbert's focus at present is on church leadership and spiritual growth training through conferences, seminars, workshops, and crusades. He also works in the New Life Pressroom, training and developing future printers and creating printed material.

Sandy explains that her current assignment in the primarily English-speaking country provides the opportunity "to work on a more intimate level with the women and children."

She continues, "Teaching and training women and the orphaned and vulnerable children in both health and spiritual topics, as well as reading and math skills, has been an awesome experience. It is even more exciting when they are able to take what they have learned and teach others around them!" The couple also hosts volunteer-in-mission work teams. Additional information is available online at www.NewLifeZambia.com.

Dan and Kaylynn Mills

From Dan and Kaylynn: "We work with the Pacific Islands Regional Team based in Auckland, New Zealand. Our specific job is to give direction & focus to our Papua New Guinea ministry (as acting National Directors) — encouraging, advising, training, and mentoring the staff (and key volunteers). We do this through visits and weekly phone calls from New Zealand. For the past 27 years, we've been working in the Pacific Islands; living in Palau, Guam, Fiji, and the Solomon Islands, and for the past 14 years, in New Zealand. Papua New Guinea has over 830 different languages (and cultures), and it's a huge challenge to reach every people-group. Our strategy is to work on the University campus, especially the University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG) in Port Moresby. The university acts like a magnet drawing the best & brightest from EVERY people group in the country (at least 836) using one language, English. We work with the Pacific Islands Regional Team based in Auckland, New Zealand.



Our specific job is to give direction & focus to our Papua New Guinea ministry (as acting National Directors) — encouraging, advising, training, and mentoring the staff (& key volunteers). We do this through visits and weekly phone calls from New Zealand. For the past 29 years, we've been working in the Pacific Islands; living in Palau, Guam, Fiji, and the Solomon Islands, and for the past 16 years, in New Zealand."

Dan and Kaylynn also happen to be the uncle and aunt of Sean Daugherty (a member of LUMC). For more information you can visit <https://www.gcx.org/mills/>

(Continued on page 17)

UMW 150th Birthday

The UMW Is Having a Birthday!

Let's Celebrate!

You are invited to an international brunch:

Saturday, March 23

10:00 am - Noon

Asbury Hall



Be our guest and enjoy international foods prepared by members of the Leesburg United Methodist Women. Join us to celebrate the lives that have been changed, memories that have been made, and our mission for the future.

RSVP – Betsy Creamer, betzcream@aol.com



Special Offering for Lent and Easter *(continued)*

(Continued from page 16)

Mike and Heather Webb

Mike and Heather serve as regional coordinators in Africa, working with missionaries and national leaders and assisting with ministry, vision, and strategy for specific countries in the region. They are residing in Tanzania. Mike and Heather write the following in their newsletter. Please also keep them in your prayers as they juggle time in the US with time in Africa. Also, please pray for Maddie as she goes through her treatment.

"When we were in the U.S. from April to June 2018, we took our daughter to see an orthodontist at the recommendation of our family doctor. We were a bit shocked to find out that because of some significant jaw and soft palate issues, she needs extensive orthodontic intervention very soon in order to avoid long term damage and surgery in the future. After much prayer and research, we've decided to return to the US in October 2018 in order to address these medical needs. We'll be based in Anderson, IN, but we'll make trips back and forth to Africa as we continue to serve as regional coordinators. This is an unexpected detour, but we see God's loving and merciful hand in the way He's opened doors and provided for our needs. To God be the glory.

Heather also happens to be the sister of Chuck Boyer, a member of LUMC. Read more information about their ministry and adventures here: <https://www.choglobal.org/team/mhwebb/>



Reach

Great Beginnings Preschool

We had a LOVE-ly February at GBP celebrating Valentine's Day, President's Day, and snow! We are very excited to kick off March with Dr. Seuss' birthday celebration. Our Sunbeams really enjoy gathering together for this school-wide reading event! In true Seussical style, we'll have silly sock day and crazy hair day as well!

Our March lessons feature dinosaurs, color and shape sorting and recognition, St. Patrick's Day, Spring, and the zoo. We will review the letters we've learned thus far and concentrate on letters T, U, V, and W. Green is the perfect color of the month for March, and our shape is the diamond. We will also focus on the numbers 8, 15, and 16.

The "Dino-mite" Scholastic Book Fair will begin in Asbury Hall on Sunday, March 17th during all three worship services. We are quite certain this dinosaur themed Fair will be a roaring success! Our Fair will remain active all week in Asbury Hall from 9 am-12:30 pm on Monday, Thursday, and Friday (March 18, 21, and 22) and 9 am-1:30 pm on Tuesday and Wednesday (March 19 and 20). Sunday, March 24th, our Fair will move to Wesley Hall for its final day. Don't be scared to visit our dino-mite photo booth! Check the bulletin for updates and our Fair's online sales link.

March 20th and 21st, we will recognize our GBP parents with our Pastries with Parents event in Asbury Hall. Students and parents are invited to have breakfast together in Asbury Hall as a celebration of family and special thank you to our mommies, daddies and big people.

In Chapel, we are following Jesus on his journey to the cross this Lenten season.

We will be concentrating on Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf in music class.

Look forward to seeing you all at the Book Fair!

Heather Gonzalez, Preschool Director
greatbeginningsleesburg@gmail.com



Our *NEW* Breakthrough Prayer:

O God, Awesome and Holy, we praise and adore you!

Thank you, Jesus! for walking with us and calling us to be your church.

Thank you, Holy Spirit! for empowering us to serve, witness, and work according to your will.

Thank you, Father! for helping us to do more than we dreamed.

Forgive us our doubt and stubbornness. Kindle our hearts with hope for the future, love for neighbor, and faith to persevere in doing your will.

Keep breaking through our lives, our church, and our community to bring new partnerships, new life, and new power to do far more than we can even imagine.

May it be, O God! In Jesus' name. Amen.



Inclement Weather Policy

As winter weather approaches, just a reminder that LUMC will be open for worship on Sundays, regardless of the weather, except in very extreme conditions such as a hurricane, 100-year flood, blinding blizzard conditions, etc..

Always use good judgment and err on the side of safety when inclement weather hits the area. Check the church's website when in doubt.



**Leesburg United Methodist
Church**

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www.leesburgumc.org



The April Newsletter is scheduled to be published on Friday, March 29th. All items are due to the office by 9 am on Monday, March 25th. Thank you!

VBS: (Vacation Bible School)

June 24—29, 2019

Registration is now OPEN!



<https://leesburgumc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/196704>

