Leesburg United Methodist Church
September 1, 2019

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Get the Friday Head Start Email
The Head Start email is a summary list of items in the Weekly Info,
prioritized by most time-sensitive first, and with clickable links to
related info; it goes out each Friday.
Send an email to office@leesburgumc.org to be added to the list,
or go to leesburgumc.org/headstart for the web version

What does Jesus want me to do in response to this message?
__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________
Summer is over (Almost. Already?) Many of our kids and grandkids are back to school or off to college. Families are still trying to settle into a typical Fall schedule. In worship and in several of our Sunday disciplite groups (kids, youth, and adults), the arrival of Fall means we’re returning to where we began last Fall — to Genesis, the “book of beginnings.” This time around, we’ll be taking a deeper look at the stories of Genesis, as we try to imagine what sort of questions were being asked by those who first heard and shared these stories. In ancient times people told stories to explain what was and what is. We still do today. The book of Genesis tells some of those stories from the point of view of faith. This week, approach these readings with a sense of child-like wonder. Imagine what “story-time” might have looked like in ancient Israel. What does story time look like in your home — with your kids or grandkids? The simple act of reading with children at an early age correlates with a love of reading and high literacy rates. As an aside, who read to you as a child?

When reading, imagine also what questions were being asked about these stories as result of reading/hearing them. What questions arise for you, as you read?

Mon, 9/2. Genesis 1:1-10 – Set aside the typical Evolution vs Creation lines of argument. What is being told here and why? What is happening? Who is acting?

Tues, 9/3 Genesis 1:11-25 – Use your imagination to picture what is happening. “Mommy, where do fish come from? Why are there so many different kinds of birds?” In the first three days, God forms the world. In the second three days, God fills creation with life.

Wed, 9/4 Genesis 1:16-31 – The Hebrew word for “humbankind” used here and later is “adam”. What does it mean to be created in God’s image? What is the very first commandment given in the Bible?

Thurs, 9/5 Genesis 2:1-4 – “Why do we rest on the sabbath?” “Here’s why…” How does this help inform your understanding of what it means to be “holy”?

Fri, 9/6 Genesis 2:5-7 – Here is a retelling of the creation of humankind, and it happens in stages. What does the first “act” in this retelling tell us? What does it add to the first account of humankind’s creation?

Sat, 9/7 Genesis 2:8-17 – We’ll be getting a little ahead with our Friday and Saturday readings. What is different about this part of the story? Another command is given… what questions does this part of the story help answer? What question(s) arise?

Remember to pray our “Breakthrough Prayer” each day; include a prayer for our worship, learning, and fellowship tomorrow!
**New Member Orientation**
October 20 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 are all on Sunday afternoons at 4 pm. The first one begins in just a few weeks!
- September 29: Membership 101; 4pm
- October 6: Membership 102; 4pm
Contact Rev. Wishmyer, Rev. Wray, or call or email the church office to sign up.

**Read “Simply Jesus” with Angela Becek**
We’ll be reading a chapter a week of “Simply Jesus”, with questions for reflection, and a closed Facebook group for discussion. Find more information at www.leesburgumc.org/infoonline

**Summer Small Groups**
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 Wesley Discipleship Class in AG1
- Explore different Social Justice and Missions Topics in the Library

**Office Closed for Labor Day**
In observance of Labor Day, the church office will be closed on Monday, September 2nd. We will reopen on Tuesday, the 3rd.

**Lay Servant Training**
Lay Servant Training, September 13-14
Classes offered: Basic Course (great introduction to United Methodist theology), Preaching, Leading Prayer, United Methodist Polity, and more, 11 in all.
For a brochure, course descriptions and registration, visit www.vaumc.org/layservanttraining.
For questions regarding the Academy, contact David Bailey, dw.bailey@comcast.net, 804-338-3168.
For help with registration, contact MaryKaye Cochran, marykayecochran@vaumc.org, 804-521-1155.

**Regular Sunday Schedule Returns Sept 8**
Sanctuary Worship:
- 8:30 Traditional Worship
- 9:45 Contemporary Worship
- 11:00 Traditional Worship

Gallery Worship:
- 9:45 AG-2

Sunday School and Disciple Groups:
- 9:45 Children in Asbury Hall/Ed Building
- 9:45 Adults in AG-1 and Parlor
- 11:00 Adults in AG-1 and 3rd Floor Ed Building

Fellowship/Hospitality:
- 9:30-11 Wesley Hall
CONNECT

► FOREVER YOUNG:
PRAYER DISCUSSION ON SEPT. 8
Join us for Forever Young discussion, on “How Does Prayer Work?” September 8th 3:30 AG.
1 John 5:14-15 tells us, “This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us - whatever we ask - we know that we have what we asked of him.”

► GBP WEEKLY PRAYER
Everyone is invited to join us for a time of prayer before the start of the Great Beginnings Preschool school week. Starting September 9th through December 16th, morning prayer will be for 15 minutes each Monday at 8:30am in the sanctuary (except when school is closed). This group will be facilitated by Rev. Heather Wray and Mrs. Celesta Miller.

For our GBP families, there will be playtime for the children in the nursery, Asbury hall, or the playground (weather permitting) for the time between prayer and the school day. If you have questions please contact Rev. Heather or Celesta Miller.

► ART OF LISTENING - OPEN TRAINING FROM STEPHEN MINISTRY
This fall and winter the Stephen Minsters will be opening some of their training meetings to the congregation. This September 23rd at 7:00 in AG1 join us for the Art of Listening. We will learn the art of reflecting listening, using open ended questions, and use exercises meant to grow our skills. This training is good for anyone that is in relationships: parents, couples, teachers, coaches, etc. Questions? Contact Rev. Heather.

► FAITH FRIENDS CARE PACKAGE PROGRAM
Congregation… Let’s Fill the Boxes!
Donate Items. Access the Public Amazon Wish List by searching the list with the name Erica Dobscha and ship your items directly to the organizer. Items must be received by Sept. 29th.

Donate S. You can make a financial contribution anytime to the Faith Friends program to pay for boxes, contents and shipping, this can be done in the offering by indicating Faith Friends in the memo line of your check on Sundays or give donations directly to the organizers Erica Dobscha or Celesta Miller.

College Students… Not signed up?
There is still time! You must enroll in the program each year. Enroll before September 15th. Email Erica Dobscha at dobetschav@verizon.net for more information.

► ACOLYTE TRAINING
Rising 2nd Graders are invited to come for Acolyte training on the following Sundays: September 15th and 22nd at 11:00—11:30 in the Red Room in the Education Building. One parent or guardian must be present for the training. Once trained students can begin serving God on Sunday mornings. Questions? Contact Rev. Heather.

► DOTSON VOW RENEWAL
On September 14th, 4 - 5pm Steve and Debbie Dotson will renew their wedding vows at Leesburg United Methodist Church and would like to invite our church family to join them for a brief and informal ceremony in the Sanctuary and refreshments afterwards in Asbury Hall. Dress is casual and please RSVP if you will attend at dotts88@verizon.net.

► COMMUNITY COFFEE HOURS
Stop by the Starbucks off of Edwards Ferry Road in Leesburg on Wednesdays from 9 am - noon 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 on any changes to the coffee hours.

REACH

► FOOD INSECURITY SUNDAY
The first Sunday of every month we come together to share in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. As we receive the nourishment of the reminder of Christ’s body sacrificed for us, let us also remember our neighbors all around us who experience food insecurity by giving of ourselves in service and mission.
Please bring food for Loudoun Hunger Relief and Backpack Buddies to the Missions Storage Room.

GROW

► DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY
This enduring classic study that takes us through the Bible in 34 weeks will be offered and led by Pastor Jim, beginning this Fall. An orientation for those interested will be held on Wednesday, September 4, at 7:00 PM. Contact Pastor Jim or the church office for additional info and to indicate your interest.

► “LEGACY:” A WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY
Women of all ages, church members or friends and neighbors, are invited to join us this fall for Thursday Bible Study.
We all want to be women of legacy, but how do we begin? In this 6-session study, examine the character and actions of women in Scripture—Esther, Mary Magdalene, Ruth, Deborah, the woman at the well, and more—to inspire and challenge you to leave a gospel-centered legacy.
Join us for Legacy, starting September 12th at 9:30 a.m. in Wesley Hall.
For more information, contact Sharon Reith at sreith88@gmail.com or 757-641-3824.

2019 GBP Recess Run 5k and Fun Run
When: 9 am on Saturday, October 19th
Where: Evergreen Sportsplex
19623 Evergreen Mills Road
Leesburg, VA 20175

Why: GBP has the most amazing Sunbeams, Families and Staff. We want our facility to reflect our craft and provide our students with the best school experience possible while keeping tuition costs low. Proceeds from previous Races enabled us to update and maintain our playground equipment. We’re not stopping there! Our long term goal is an outdoor learning space…short term goal: Permeant Sunshade.

How: Lace up your running shoes and find your favorite Halloween costume! Go to GreatBeginningsLeesburg.com for registration and sponsorship information!

Thank you for supporting our Preschool!