



The Presbyterian Church of Llanerch

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JUNE 2016 News and Notes

Brothers and Sisters,

Biblical scholar, preacher, seminary President, commentator, David Lose, offers an assessment of one of this month's gospel stories and invites us to realize a pattern of seeing in awe, thanking, and telling. "This is part," he writes, "of seeing the gospel writer's intention of labeling Jesus as Lord." What it means for Jesus to be Lord is that we see in awe, are thankful for his witness, and seek to tell someone else. And while Lose is unpacking a bible story in which the characters themselves are the "see-ers," the "thank-ers," and the "tell-ers," it's a pretty good invitation for us, too. In our own lives. To be on the look-out for Jesus, to be surprised by awe when we discover him with and among us, to be thankful for God's revelation, and then, to complete the pattern by our sharing or telling the "good news."

The summer season is upon us. Over the Memorial Day weekend people in Havertown once again remarked how "quiet" the traffic became—with so many people down the shore or away for the elongated weekend. And so begins this annual season in which our church seems scattered as if to the four winds with some of us at the shore, some of us away on vacation, some of us visiting amusement parks or national parks, some of us at family reunions and church denominational gatherings. We collectively have a lot of places to be and things to do and people to see—and the temptation is to think that our spiritual lives "stand still" while we're off on adventures. For some of us, church attendance will be haphazard with long drives, connecting flights, and sunsets on the beach.

I've said it before and I'll say it again, "that's OK." In fact, let our congregation bless your summer activities and plans, knowing that you are still going to see, experience, and share in the presence of Jesus!

Whether we pay attention and look for it, or whether we simply "drive on," we believe God is with us in Jesus Christ—the whole time, where ever we are. We trust we are never absent the Holy Spirit during summertime; changing traffic noise can't separate us from God who loves us in Jesus. In fact, the change of scenery can be helpful in our ability to see and experience God's presence in new and exciting ways. Walking with bears in the forest, seeing gigantic waterfalls, experiencing sunrises and sunsets are all powerful experiences of the Holy. We know God is out there!

In fact, it shouldn't surprise us that Jesus is likely to show up with us somewhere along the way this summer. And if we trust that is true, aren't we behooved to expect to see Jesus? Then, when we see Jesus, this pattern emerges—seeing in awe, being thankful, and telling the good news. We see God at work, we are grateful to know God is among us, and we have a story to tell others about it.

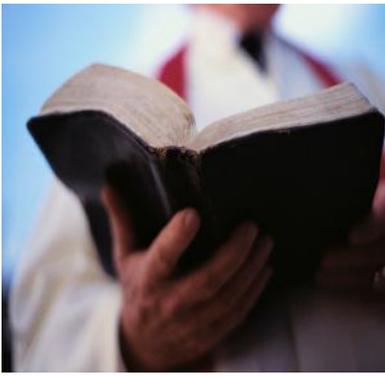
One of the ways the gospels define discipleship is participating in this pattern. We recognize places where God is acting in our lives; we are caught up in awe and wonder; we respond with gratitude; and we talk about it to others. This kind of discipleship allows us emulate Jesus' teaching and preaching where he points to God at work, amazes the crowds around him, and gives them stories to tell. That's how our gospel stories got created.

What might help us, is to recall a them when we believe God was at work right in front of us. It could be a dramatic situation or something pretty mundane; what matters is that feeling of amazement and gratitude of having just met God at work. Think about that moment or event you've already experienced; be refreshed in how it feels to see and know God at work in your midst. Then ask, "Who else knows about that moment?"

The miracle stories of Jesus' ministry aren't always centered around bringing back those who have died, or miracle healings of disease; often they point to more ordinary experiences of relationships repaired, service offered, a lunch bought, a stranger helped, someone loved.... When we share our experiences, we participate in recreating the miracles—not only convinced, but demonstrating that Jesus is with us.

So, the assignment, Brothers and Sisters, is for you to be on the lookout for God in Christ this summer. To be amazed; to give thanks. And to share it. The least you can do is come back to Church and let us know, that we might be encouraged and refreshed that our faith is not in vain.

None of this is easy. But we have Jesus to show us the way.



Worship in JUNE—ROAD TRIP!

In the days after Jesus’ crucifixion, some of Jesus’ followers were traveling, and two of them traveled with Jesus. There’s a meal involved, of course, and lots of talking and sharing.

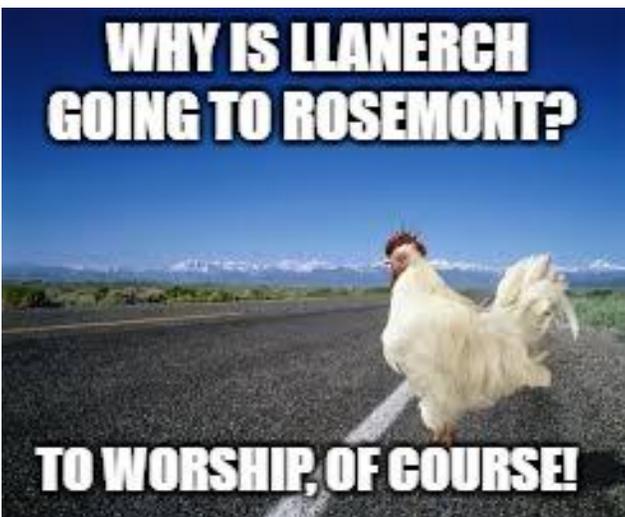
So, we thought it sounded like a plan. June has lots of excitement waiting for us in worship—including a road trip! Come on June 5th and be nourished.

John’s gospel celebrates Jesus’ picnic with loaves and fishes, and while we’ll hear a story where a prophet is fed and the meal and oil don’t run out—the

highlight will be bread and wine. Then we’ll be on the road on June 12th—we’re actually taking our worship service to Rosemont Presbyterian Village to celebrate with Judy Turnbull and the Rosemont community by providing their Sunday morning worship service. June 19th will be Father’s Day—a good day not to take a road trip but to try and celebrate with fathers, husbands, brothers, grandpas, etc. And we won’t promise a nap on June 26th, either. Hope to see you in worship—at church and away from church!

DATE:	CELEBRATION:	FIRST READING:	GOSPEL:
June 5th	3 rd Sunday after Pentecost	1 Kings 17: 8-24	Luke 7: 11-17
June 12 th * [Worship at Rosemont]	4 th Sunday after Pentecost	2 Samuel 11: 26 - 12: 10, 13-15	Luke 7: 36 - 8: 3
June 19th	5 th Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 65: 1-9	Luke 8: 26-39
June 26th	6 th Sunday after Pentecost	1 Kings 19: 15-16, 19-21	Luke 9: 51-62
July 3rd	7 th Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 66: 10-14	Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20

Sunday, June 12th, we’re taking our worship service to Rosemont Presbyterian Village



We’ve been invited to lead Sunday worship at Rosemont for residents, friends, and family. The Rosemont service is at 10:30am. So we’ll gather at Llanerch at 10 am (when our service normally begins), we’ll carpool to Rosemont, worship at 10:30, then return to Llanerch.

During the service, we’ll celebrate with Judy Turnbull, recognizing her life-long participation in Llanerch Choirs and get to share in worship with Llanerch members living at Rosemont. This will be a special worship service “away from home,” and “on the road.” One of the ways we can take Church “outside the building”!

CREATED FOR WORSHIP

A Psalm for the End of My School Year And the Beginning of Summer

By John Trainer

I trust this psalm will get thoughtful juices stirring,
You may not find yourself readily concurring.
As the saying goes: "nothing ventured, nothing gained."
So don't let me lose you before something's attained.

My last school year was way back there in ninety-three.
We have others who stayed the course longer than me.
Marion, that gem, whose kind gift still sustains us;
Sang in the choir, oft-times soloed with no great fuss.

A great treasure has been music...part of my life.
Of course the other treasure...my unspeakable wife.
What am I sorry about that I might now share?
That I expect "the other guy" to show more care.

But what a blessing it is to still be learning.
But the question is...how about the discerning?
Do I exercise care for all I do or don't?
Do I shy away from things I should do but won't?

Psalms say: "His steadfast love endures forever."
"His great steadfast love toward us will fail us never!"
Would that we would show ourselves worthy of this love;
Ever seek the guidance from the great Source above.

We all have the choice to expect things from others
Or recognize that choices come from our druthers.
The choice is ours with what we say and what we do.
These thoughts no doubt inspired by a man called a Jew.

A Psalm for the End of the School Year and the Beginning of the Summer

Composed by worshipers at Llanerch Presbyterian, May 29, 2016

Praise God for all the good things that we experienced in school
For the enthusiasm and creativity of the students
For the teachers who opened the eyes of the students and helped them see God around them

For the parents and what they learned and experienced
And for all those who still are learning.

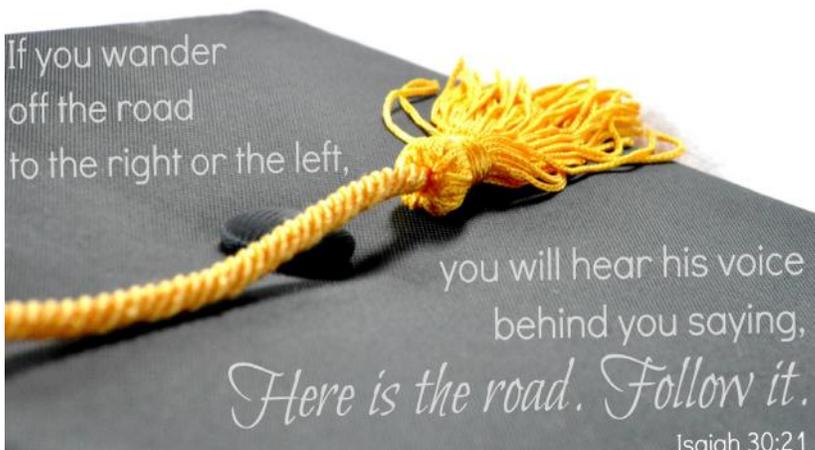
We ask for forgiveness since we know that we often fell short
We found ourselves procrastinating and poorly organized
We failed to focus on our work
We saw only the trees in the larger forest.

Now we look forward to summer
To Vacation Bible School
To water in swimming pools and by beaches at the shore
To being surrounded by nature in cool mountains
To traveling to new places and playing new music
To the joys of time off.

With you, oh Lord, all things are possible
With your protection we will experience the joy of knowing your world
We sing your praises, knowing that you are always with us
We will make music forever in your name.
Amen.

GRADUATION NEWS

Oh, the places you'll go!



This year, as we celebrate graduation season, we're especially celebrating with those known among and around our congregation:

Chris Pokorny

Curtis Parker

Gabriel Klee

Alex Greene

Marcus Shera

Scott Connell

Isabelle Gallichio

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS



CARE CLOSET CANS are collected in worship on the First Sunday of the Month—Sunday, June 5th! Bring your family's care closet can with you to worship!

“THANK YOU” to everyone who participated in our Sunday School celebration last month! We especially appreciated our Sunday School Teachers for 2015-16:

) DONNA HELMS
) KIM HEINS
) LISA ROSS
) JOANNE JANOS
) PHYLLIS GIBSON
) JOAN SHEPPARD
) VICKI MURPHY

SUNDAY SCHOOL
YEAR-END
CELEBRATION!

MISSISON NEWS

Mother's Day coincided with Music Ministry Sunday this year, and was accompanied by special prayers of thanksgiving for all mothers and gorgeous music. Following this, we put action to our prayers with our annual collection of diapers and other supplies for the mothers and families served by Chester Eastside Ministry. Of course, supplies like diapers, all kinds of food, and grocery gift cards are always welcome donations at the Food Bank housed at the Ministry on 9th street in Chester. More than 600 families are served every month, and it is a common pattern that they get by with a combination of state benefits like SNAP (food stamps) and WIC (special food coupons for mothers and babies), bulk commodity packages (grocery staples like beans, peanut butter, and canned goods) and private donations like the gifts which we have been delivering throughout the year.

We focus on diapers once a year to recognize the limitations of food aid in meeting family needs: neither food stamps nor WIC can be used to buy diapers. Money spent on diapers can't be spent on other healthy food. Hundreds of diapers were delivered this month thanks to thoughtful grown-ups and to the Sunday school children who put some of their SuperBowl Sunday money into this project. We can imagine the smile on the face of each baby and caregiver in using these gifts. We have also received a nice note of thanks from Pastor Bernice Warren, the director of CEM; she specifically mentioned how welcome the diapers were, and offers special thanks to John and Rosemarie Trainer who have done the lion's share of delivering our offerings this year. Thank you, Trainers! Our donations are dedicated every month on the third Sunday, so this month on June 19th. You can *always* leave your gift in the baskets in the Narthex. It is *never* the “wrong Sunday!”

Total Mission Giving:

One of the outcomes of our participation in the New Beginnings program has been a new appreciation on how our church is concerned for those around us and connected with them in ministry.

One of the ways that will be measuring this in the coming weeks will be using pictures to display some of the faces and places of people who we are touching in mission and ministry, nearby and around the world. While the church has traditional mission partners as a congregation, we are also praying for and “counting” all of those who are in the hearts of any member of our community. We have been gathering information about these individual concerns and can see that it represents a massive outpouring of financial and personal support. We recognize this, we celebrate it, and we consider it a central part of our shared lives. Many member of the church have offered lists of the organizations and people they are reaching out to; if you would like to participate, see Kate Hiebert or slip her a note in her mailbox at the church.

Air-Conditioner Appeal:

We’ve had a relatively cool spring in Havertown, but things are heating up fast and the Property team has been working on the air-conditioning unit on the third floor of the Manse. This unit, installed more almost 25 years ago, has seen the end of its life and is slated for replacement. After a competitive bidding process, this work has been scheduled, and we expect a bill of approximately \$4500. To help cover these unusual costs, Session has approved a one-time fundraising appeal to church members and friends. You’ll be hearing more about this in the coming weeks; and you’ll be receiving a letter explaining the project in the mail. Donations should be ear-marked “AC Project” and can be placed in the offering plate or sent to the church office. Thank you for your generous help!

Per Capita Appeal

Our church is a member of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, and our support of the Presbytery is the backbone of our connection to the larger church. Each year, we offer an amount to support the Presbytery based on our membership, known as the per capita apportionment. This money supports local and regional staff members and the operation of the General Assembly in Louisville, Kentucky. You will soon be receiving an envelope that you can use to help us meet this obligation. The support we receive from Presbytery is real, so thank you for making this part of your giving.

SCOUTING NEWS

The Boy Scouts in Troop 434 took off in a new direction this month as they headed out for camping at Cape Henlopen State Park in Lewes, Delaware. One of the hoped-for treats was a chance to team up with a crew of Sea-Scouts in Lewes but the weather did not cooperate. A small-craft warning scuttled their sailing adventure but it was still a great trip. In town, younger scouts have been busy getting their basic skills in order and older scouts have been cranking on Merit Badge requirements and advancement so they will be ready for the adventures that await them in summer camp. More than 30 scouts and leaders will be attending camp at the Goose Pond Scout reservation in July, and they plan to have a ton of fun and earn a ton of merit badges. Before that, they helped Marcus Shera finish his Eagle Scout project at the Dog Park at the Haverford Reserve. As they finish fundraising for the year, you’ll see them making funnel cakes at the Heritage Day festival on June 5



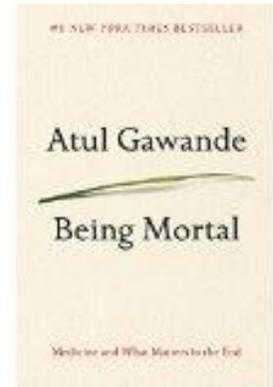
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

(and their younger colleagues in Cub pack 462 will be selling drinks and treats). They appreciate your support!

The church community is impressed with and grateful for the generosity of the 7 adult leaders who will be attending camp this summer with the Scouts. We are impressed and grateful for the Scouts and their families who helped out in the Church clean-up over two Saturdays. And, we offer warm congratulations to 4 graduating Scouts, all of whom became Eagle Scouts this year: Scott Connell, Gabe Klee, Alex Greene, and Marcus Shera.

Book Report:

Members of the church led by Lisa Ross had a chance to participate in a community-wide book club sponsored by the Havertown Public Library this spring. Copies of the best-seller *On Mortality*, by Atul Guwande, were lent to church communities so that many groups could start meaningful conversations about how people experience failing health, the end of life, and how medical care impacts end-of-life care in the United States. The author, a surgeon and well-known writer about medical topics, found that he was poorly prepared for the death of his own father, and explores the kinds of housing, social support and medical care are the most appropriate and helpful. The author maps a pathway so that patients might experience the greatest possible choice about their medical care and eventual death. Both long-term living situations for seniors as well as end-of-life are covered in the book. Despite all the difficult circumstances described, the author recognized the simple joys of living no matter the circumstances: celebrating the importance of family and of pets, watching football, eating chocolate ice cream, the comfort of one's own home, and adequate pain relief.



In a second part of the program, book group members from Llanerch joined other groups in a meeting at the Library on Mill Road. A panel discussion was moderated by a community educator from Mainline Health, and included a palliative care physician, a palliative care social worker, the chaplain at the Bryn Mawr hospital, and a staff member from the Donahue Funeral Home. They explained their professional roles in helping the dying in our community, offered some personal experiences, and took questions from the audience. All participants received a resource pack; those who could attend are ready to share these items with anyone who might be interested, especially the booklet by Hank Dunn called *Hard Choices for Loving People* and packs of conversation-sparking cards: The GoWish Game.

STEWARDSHIP AND GIVING NEWS

WE'RE GLAD TO MAKE ONLINE GIVING AVAILABLE FOR FINANCIAL GIVING TO OUR CONGREGATION.



You can make secure, online gifts to our congregation by using our web portal provided by the Presbyterian Foundation. It takes less than a minute, and your pledged giving can go directly from your checking/savings account to our Church account. You can schedule your gifts for the whole year, make contributions monthly, or give weekly. If you haven't tried it, you might like it!

Access the “Give Now” Button on the “Donate” tab on our website, or use your smartphone or tablet to scan the QR code on the right!



Extra-Giving Opportunities

We have lots of ways we can contribute to the mission of God’s people. Our Property Team is currently looking for a few volunteers who can help us with maintenance inside and outside our building. Someone who can keep our timers and clocks “on time” and be responsible for setting and programming thermostats. We’re also looking for someone who can help us with trash collection, making sure cans are set out and then put away.

...LLANERCH’S GARDENS?



Have you been transported by the beauty of the flowers in garden beds and containers around the church? New plantings for summer went in at the end of the month and we are establishing a butterfly garden in the sunny spot by the driveway on Park Road. This could be a wonderful chance for you to try a plant at church that your own garden is too small or too shady for. You can be part of this almost-magical process of transformation. The church garden team, led by Phyllis Gibson, invites you to help tend these beds on the first Saturday morning of each month, starting at 9 am. There will also be needs for container watering as the summer heats up, so let Phyllis know if you can help.

Financial Report: 1st Quarter

"The Finance and Generosity team has received the following summary of the Church's overall budget for the first quarter of the year from the Treasurer. The income of the church comes from offerings from members, payments from the preschool, interest on our investments, and bequests from members. For the first quarter, our offering income was greater than our projected budget and so was the interest on investments, but even so we had projected a deficit for each month. Because of generous bequest from a church member, our expenses were covered for the quarter without further borrowing. Session is grateful for all financial gifts, both the faithful offerings of members and friends and the bequests that have made a significant difference in our ability to do ministry in our community. We are grateful for all the gifts of supplies, food, time, transport, raking, accounting, cleaning, cooking, praying and worshiping. As we go into the final stages of the New Beginning process, we are hoping to use this strength, generosity and spirit as a base for our commitment to continued mission and growth."

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE GENERAL FUND				
ACTUAL VS BUDGET				
YEAR TO DATE AS OF MARCH 31st				
	2016	Budget	Difference	
<u>INCOME</u>				
Plate	871.00	600.00	271.00	
Adult	30,133.36	28,500.00	1,633.36	
Special Envelopes	1,796.23	1,350.00	446.23	
Investment Income	1,554.12	750.00	804.12	
Special Contributions	50,902.12	4,350.00	46,552.12	
TOTAL INCOME	85,256.83	35,550.00	49,706.83	
<u>EXPENSES</u>				
Ministry of the Gospel	19,201.83	19,105.00	(96.83)	
Worship & Music	5,872.86	5,889.00	16.14	
Maintenance of the Church	7,683.25	8,118.75	435.50	
Maintenance of the Manse	4,800.95	4,350.00	(450.95)	
Christian Education	238.99	437.50	198.51	
Administration	8,480.71	9,326.75	846.04	
Financial	789.91	1,156.25	366.34	
Mission & Evangelism	140.00	1,600.00	1,460.00	
Parish Life	-	203.75	203.75	
TOTAL EXPENSES	47,208.50	50,187.00	2,978.50	
INCOME LESS EXPENSES	38,048.33	(14,637.00)	52,685.33	

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – JULY 11-15, 2016



-)] Register online at our website! www.lanerchpres.org
(look for the VBS page under the ministry and mission tab)
-)] We still need committed staff and volunteers
-)] Students: Ages 3-12; teen and adult helpers
-)] Registration Fee of \$30/student INCLUDES a free T-shirt!
-)] VBS meets all 5 days, 9am to Noon, with a snack included each day!
-)] Music, Science, Bible Story, Recreation, Crafts, and Fun
 -)] Open to everyone—all are welcome.

Ways You Can Help



Our Llanerch Presbyterian Preschool is Looking for More Registrations!

If you know anyone who could use a top-quality, wonderful, amazing Preschool experience for their children, please share the word about our Preschool! Brochures are available at Church. We're currently taking registrations for the next school year that begins in September—and it's not too late! Great teachers, a welcoming staff, amazing stories, 60 years' experience! We'd like to share this gem with the community and help change the world—one preschooler at a time. This is part of the mission work and outreach of your congregation!

We need Worship Leaders and Ushers



One of the worship values we hope to create is that worship belongs to the people as an expression of our diversity and inclusivity. The good news of Jesus Christ is that people "belong." We believe there is a place for everyone at Llanerch. And one of the ways we live that out, is *inviting people to participate* in leading worship!

opening the doors and greeting we need willing volunteers members, friends, and guests, experience the love and grace Rev. Stipp-Bethune or sending an e-mail to the Church sign-up online by using this link:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ifd7-lkfpGH2SCq3TwT36yUIMsSAh5ZuZAJmgIxAYi0/edit?usp=sharing>.



From reading and leading worship to with bright shiny faces ready to help of Jesus Christ. Sign up by talking to Office. Worship Leaders can also

HELPING AND GETTING HELP

<p>Do you need a ride to church or know someone who does?</p>	<p>If you need a ride to church, the Deacons are happy to help! Or, if you or someone you know needs a meal, or a visit, please contact our Deacons.</p>	<p>Please see or call Vicki Murphy (610.446.0637) or any member of the Deacons.</p>	
<p>Monthly Care Closet Offering:</p>	<p>Will next be received on Sunday, June 5 —in worship</p>	<p>If you know someone in need, please speak with Rev. Stipp-Bethune or Vicki Murphy</p>	