



December 2023

Burying the Hatchet: The Offending Party

Today's inspiration comes from
The Connection Code
by O. S. Hawkins

Every broken relationship has an offending party. True reconciliation calls for a repentant heart on their part, a change of mind, a turn-around, a going back to someone with an admission of wrong and a request for forgiveness. Paul framed it like this to Philemon:

I am sending him [Onesimus] — who is my very heart — back to you. — Philemon 12 NIV

Onesimus, the offending party, had become one “heart” with Paul. They were now more closely related as brothers in Christ through the blood of Jesus than to their own blood relatives who did not know Him. Since Christ had now transformed Onesimus's life, he had no option but to go back and make things right. The Greek word for this repentance literally means “to change one's mind.” Onesimus had a genuine change of mind about his past actions. He was not headed home to argue his case. He was on his way back to admit his wrong and hopefully bury the hatchet with Philemon. Some of us make this journey back, but when we arrive on the scene, we try to justify our past actions or even argue our case. Not Onesimus. He was taking responsibility.

Let's revisit the story from



chapter 1 about the Prodigal Son, the greatest short story ever told by Jesus. The prodigal was the offending party. He skipped out on his dad and left home with his inheritance. After wasting it all, he “came to himself” (Luke 15:17). He changed his mind about the entire ordeal. This led to a change of volition, of will, as he said,

I will arise and go to my father.
— Luke 15:18

And this resulted in a change of action when he got up and headed home.

• Repentance is a change of mind that affects a change of will that results in a change of action.

And the father greeted the boy with open arms and a receptive heart that was void of retaliation or resentment. They buried the hatchet then and there. Onesimus, like the prodigal, was on his way home. He doesn't send a word of apology back from someone else. This was personal. He was going back himself.

When we have relationships that are based upon the solid foundation of being properly related to our source, the Lord Jesus, we are not out to escape our past, get a pass, or run from our mistakes. But...

• a relationship with Him enables us to face our past, find a new beginning, and make wiser choices going forward.

Onesimus was headed home to Philemon to face the consequences of what he had done and hopefully to make right his previous wrong.

This might be a different story today if Onesimus had sought counsel from some so-called professionals

Continued on page 3

*Wishing all our friends,
neighbors and loved ones
a very Merry Christmas
and a Happy
and Blessed
New Year!*





Pastor David Missel

585-658-1197 Residence
djmguided1947@gmail.com
585-382-3311 Church

It is our desire to assist anyone who is seeking help, if possible, whether it be spiritual or otherwise. Please contact Pastor David or any Session Elder if you would like us to be of help.

When Pastor David is unavailable:

Pastor David is presently scheduling Fridays as his day off so matters of less urgency could be left on the church office answering device, or call one of the Ruling Elders:

- Leo Richardson 585-382-3153
- Carol Griffen 585-382-3681
- Shirley Matthews 585-382-3171
- Cathy Mlyniec 585-322-6669

Other Contacts

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www.seekinggodtogether.com
(Audio recordings of Pastor David's sermons are available at this website.)

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Sunshine Person:

Cathy Mlyniec
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Trail of Blood

by David Jeremiah

You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.

2 Timothy 2:1, 2

Long before Martin Luther “discovered” Reformation truth, John Hus was preaching it in Behemia (Czech Republic). Born about 1373 of peasant parentage, Hus became the most powerful preacher in Prague. He advocated reform in the church, which drew the displeasure of his fellow clergy. When he declared Scripture alone sufficient for Christian life and practice, he was summoned before the Council of Constance.

On July 6, 1415, Hus was found guilty of heresy, condemned, and taken to the outskirts of town to be burned. His last words were, “I have never thought nor preached except with the intention of winning men, if possible, from their sins. In the truth of the gospel I have written, taught, and preached; today I will gladly die.”

It’s dangerously easy to sit in church and yawn over the very truths for which earlier generations died. Our Bibles have been passed to us at great cost. Take a few moments today to thank God for the faithfulness of those who have handed down to us the Gospel, and rededicate yourself to passing it along to someone else.

Blessings always,
Pastor David Missel



O Holy Night

Continued from page 1
in the field today, instead of finding it in the wise counsel of the apostle Paul. Some today, after listening to his story, would have offered advice that said, “Look, forget about the past. You can find justification for what happened. Put it behind you. Go on with your life. Learn from your mistakes. Forget about Philemon.” And had he taken counsel like this, he would have lived out his days, as many do today, with something left unfinished and a dark cloud that always hung over his head. That is no way to live a positive and purposeful life.

In God’s economy, the way up is down, and the way down is up.

Often the way forward is back. Back — to admit I was wrong in ways I always insisted I was right. Back — to make the previous wrong right. This is one of the great paradoxes of the Christian life.

In God’s economy, the way up is down, and the way down is up.

Paul added an additional paradox to the equation that the way forward is back. He wrote,

I am sending him — who is my very heart — back to you.
— Philemon 12 NIV

It was along these same lines of seeing that the way forward is back that Jesus said,

If you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. — Matthew 5:23–24

Do you see it? This is one of life’s great paradoxes — **the way forward is back!**

This is the actual point of frustration with many of us, although it is seldom recognized as such. That is, we try to move on, to go forward, but something is left undone, and we must first go back in order to go forward. It just may be that unless someone reading these words goes back, forward progress will be thwarted, and future days will be spent in relational cul-de-sacs, roundabouts, or worse, dead ends.

Only in Hollywood is such nonsense as “Love means never having to say you are sorry” successful. In real life, relationships do not succeed on that premise.

- Those who enjoy profitable, long-term relationships know what it is to go back to say, “I am sorry. I was wrong. Please forgive me.”

Onesimus gives us hope. If you think your particular case is hopeless, look at his. There is always hope for anyone who will admit to being the offending party. When we do, we can join Onesimus in some pretty good company. Moses, the highly revered emancipator of the Jewish people, was a murderer. But he discovered the way forward was back. After forty years on the back side of a desert, he went back and delivered a nation. And what about King David? He was exhibit A of an offending party. He stole the affections of another man’s wife, got her pregnant, and even orchestrated her husband’s demise and death. But later, plagued with remorse and repentance, he discovered the way forward was back. If anyone should doubt the sincerity of his repentance, simply read the Fifty-First Psalm. And let’s not forget Jonah.

He shook his fist in the face of God and His plan and later, while in the belly of a great fish, discovered the way forward was back. God gave him a second chance. Finally, no talk of the second chance would be complete without a mention of Simon Peter, the big fisherman. He did what he insisted he would never do. He denied he ever knew the Christ. But he, too, discovered the life-changing principle that the way forward is back. He went back, met Christ on the seashore in genuine repentance, and then did he ever go forward. Just read of his exploits in the book of Acts.

- When we go back, God forgives. And then we can move forward to our greatest days. The way forward is still back.

Who is it that gets the ball of reconciliation rolling? Both sides must do their part. There must be a repentant heart on the part of the offending party and a receptive heart on the part of the offended party. Relational difficulties persist when we who are the offending party become blind to our own abuses and refuse to admit we were wrong. After a while of continuing to try to justify our actions, we actually begin to believe the lie. Consequently, too many of us live out our days with unfinished business.

The hatchet of broken relationships will never be buried until there is genuine repentance on the part of the offending party. The way forward is back!

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Submitted by Carole Missel



Advent Season:

Christmas decorating of the church will take place on Saturday, December 2, 2023 at 9 a.m.

Joy Sunday, will take place on December 17, 2023, the 3rd Sunday of Advent, with a Dish to Pass Luncheon to follow worship.

This year the **Christmas Eve Service** will be combined with the regular morning Church Service on December 24. **There will NOT be any Christmas Eve service in the evening.**

Our Daily Bread Special Christmas Devotionals from the publishers of Our Daily Bread are now available at LEPC for members and friends.

Operation Christmas Child resulted in 15 shoeboxes being filled by the faithful at LEPC. May God richly bless the children who will receive these gifts this Christmas. To God be the Glory!

Monthly Celebrations December Birthdays

3 Shirley Siniapkin
9 Patricia Gregg
30 Pastor David Missel
31 Robert Richardson

December Anniversaries
(none listed)



Margret Conteh

Margret attends school in Sierra Leone and is sponsored by LEPC. Please continue to hold her in your prayers.

Continued Prayers for:

*Pray for peace in Jerusalem.
May all who love this city prosper.
O Jerusalem, may there be peace within
your walls and prosperity in your palaces.
For the sake of my family and friends,
I will say, "May you have peace."
For the sake of the house of the Lord our
God, I will seek what is best for you,
O Jerusalem. Psalm 122:6-9 niv*

• Pray for Israel

- Pray for the families of those who were killed in the attack by Hamas.
- Pray for the leaders of Israel, may they turn to God and work together to make the right decisions.
- Pray for the Israeli soldiers and their families as they fight to eradicate Hamas in Gaza.
- Pray for the hostages in the Gaza strip and for their release. Pray for their families as they wait to hear any news about them. May God give them strength and courage to face what may lie ahead.

• Pray for Palestinians

- Pray for the "innocent" Palestinians that have been caught in the middle of this terrible situation that Hamas has put them in.
- Pray for the refugees as they leave Gaza looking for safety. May God protect them as the Hamas tries to stop them.

• Pray against hatred

- Pray for those people with so much hatred that they have been blinded by it. May God open their eyes so they may realize God's love and grace is for all people.

• Pray for our country

- Pray that our leaders would turn to God for wisdom.
- Pray for our soldiers (and their families) that are in harms way, helping to protect our allies and our country.

God's will be done!

Getting Comfortable with the Reality of Flawed Friends

Today's inspiration comes from:
Made for People
by Justin Whitmel Earley

Most modern friendships last only until the first conflict. Like plastic cups, we toss them out and just grab new ones. But why would we expect deep relationships without deep conflict?

Here is the thing about your friends: they are sinners. Here is the thing about you as a friend: you are too.

This means all of our friendships and communities have the same active ingredient: sinful people like us. So we should not be surprised in the least that we hurt one another. Often deeply. On the contrary, we should expect to be hurt by our friends.

This is, at first, counterintuitive. It is easy to get caught up in romanticized visions of friends who have no conflict, share only laughter, aren't bogged down with the ordinary pains of life, and are deeply grateful for one another's commitment.

The problem with that vision is that it's a total lie.

To be friends with sinners is our only option. You should expect to be friends with people who are downright selfish, who don't care for you exactly the way you hoped, who miss opportunities, and who let you down. The question is,

• What do we do with the painful reality that friendship hurts?

We will answer that question momentarily, but to ignore the question is to entertain a false vision of friendship without conflict. A false vision of friendship (like a false

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 4
vision of marriage or a false vision of church community) is the greatest enemy to the real thing.

Bonhoeffer saw this when he wrote *Life Together*. In a work that is otherwise soaring with encouragement and hopefulness, his passages on false visions of community are the strongest rebukes in the whole text. “Innumerable times a whole community has broken down because it had sprung from a wish dream. The serious Christian, set down for the first time in a Christian community, is likely to bring with him a very definite idea of what Christian life together should be and to try to realize it. But God’s grace speedily shatters such dreams.”¹

I love that Bonhoeffer sees the shattering of our false visions as a grace.

He is right. We often forget that it is our failures that God uses as the means for encountering grace. On hearing the voice of God in his own struggle, Paul writes, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.²

That logic of grace does not change on a communal level. You may think that conflict with your friends is the barrier to deeper friendship. But that is true only if you do not practice forgiveness. With forgiveness, conflict in friendship is the doorway to communal grace.

To be friends with sinners is our only option.

Forgiveness is for us as much as it is for our friends who hurt us.

Practicing Forgiveness

The reasons to forgive are eminently practical.

- Relationships cannot exist without forgiveness.

Either we forgive or we fall apart; there is no middle ground.

Given that all good friends will eventually hurt you, if you do not practice forgiveness, you will either be stuck in a cycle of endless resentment or never have a true friendship at all. In a moment that has elevated the spirit of cancel culture and downplayed the beauty of forgiveness, it is no surprise that so many are drifting into the loneliness of resentment. Here again we must swim against the current if we are to have friendships at all.

But even more than practical, forgiveness is profound. Here is the strange reversal:

- forgiveness is for us as much as it is for our friends who hurt us.

In His parable of the unmerciful servant, Jesus told of a man whose debt was mercifully forgiven, but then the man went on to mercilessly demand repayment from others.³ The way he treated others showed that the servant didn’t understand what had happened to him.

The most important reason we forgive others is to reexperience the way Jesus has forgiven us. We learn it by practicing it.

Importantly, our forgiveness is not predicated on our friends’ apologies. We don’t forgive one another because of how good the apologies are, we forgive one another because Christ has forgiven us.⁴

In practice, this does not mean pretending your friends did not hurt you but rather first acknowledging that they did. Then, instead of inflicting pain to make them pay, you bear the burden of the pain. This is the logic of our salvation: Christ bore our burden so we wouldn’t have to. It is also how friendships work.⁵

I recently had a difficult conversation with a friend I needed to forgive. It began with a text saying, “Can we talk?” I recommend that.

If there is someone in your life you need to forgive, then initiate with them. What happened next was we set aside an evening to be face-to-face and say the things we were hurt by. Unsurprisingly, there were mutual errors, and I had to apologize too. Also unsurprisingly, I didn’t get the perfect apology I craved. Yet remarkably, we left in forgiveness, with imperfect apologies accepted, and continue to work toward deeper friendship.

Without the practice of forgiveness, I know we would both still be burning in anger, incessantly turning over in our heads the things that were said, consumed by perceived slights. That is who we become without forgiveness. But because of the grace of Jesus for us, this conflict became the doorway to deeper grace. This friend and I have found a second chance and a more tender friendship.

1. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Life Together: The Classic Exploration of Christian Community*, trans. John W. Doberstein (New York: HarperSanFrancisco, 1978), 26. To continue the quote: “Just as surely as God desires to lead us to a knowledge of genuine Christian fellowship, so surely must we be overwhelmed by a great disillusionment with others, with Christians in general, and, if we are fortunate, with ourselves. By sheer grace, God will not permit us to live even for a brief period in a dream world. He does not abandon us to those rapturous experiences and lofty moods that come over us like a dream. God is not a God of the emotions but the God of truth.” (Ibid., 26–27.)

2. 2 Corinthians 12:9.

3. Matthew 18:21–35.

4. Ephesians 4:32.

5. We will talk more about when it is healthy to leave a friendship, or what to do when someone is unhealthy and hurting others, but it does not change the primacy of forgiveness. Even in friendships that have to end, forgiveness should be extended first.

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Submitted by Carole Missel

Voice of the Martyr's:
icommittoprayer.com

October 19, 2023 | Israel
Urgent Prayer Needed for Families, Churches of Gospel Workers

Christians in Israel (including the West Bank and Gaza) have requested prayer amid ongoing conflict that began on Oct. 7 when Hamas fighters launched attacks along the Israeli-Gaza border. A church in one of the communities infiltrated in the initial coordinated attack asks for prayer as they seek to share the love of Christ and meet the needs of their community. Another church located in a major city struggles to meet the needs of their community as an unofficial blockade has restricted daily goods such as food and fuel. VOM has also heard from many front-line workers requesting prayer for family members who are directly involved in the armed forces and one worker whose parents' apartment was bombed. "As we live in a land where hatred and extremism continue to dominate, we realize there is spiritual warfare involved," a front-line worker said. "Pray that God might use our churches as active witnesses during this challenging time."

November 2, 2023 | Cuba
Churches Share Hand-Copied Bibles

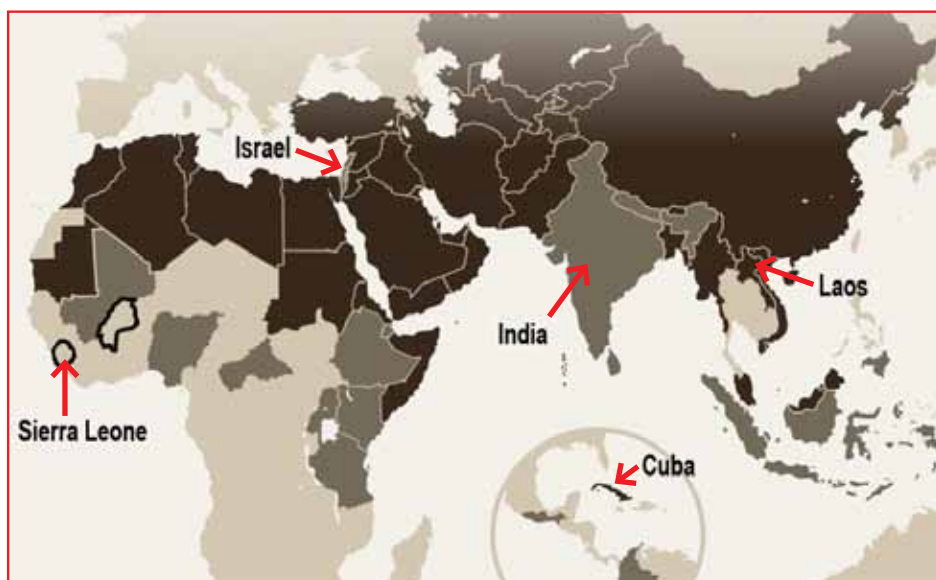
In Cuba, Bibles are precious and sometimes scarce. Even when Bibles are available, they can cost a third of a worker's monthly income. But Christians in Cuba are hungry for God's Word and are finding creative solutions to the limited access. In some communities, hand-copied chapters of the Bible are shared among the members of one church. Pray for the success of efforts aimed at getting a Bible into the hands of every follower of Christ in Cuba.

Please continue to hold our brothers and sisters in Christ, in your prayers!

October 26, 2023 | Laos

Widowed Christian Threatened with Loss of Home

La and her husband became Christians while seeking a cure for his illness. Though he died three months later, they remained faithful due to the love and care they received from their brothers and sisters in Christ. In 2020, her daughter married a non-believer, and her son-in-law moved into her house. He practices animism, making offerings to spirits and trying to force his mother-in-law to do the same. He threw away La's Bible and tries to keep her from practicing her Christian faith. In June, La's son-in-law and daughter told her they would kick her out of the house if she continued to follow Christ. La continues to listen to Christian radio and receives encouragement from the church. She asks for prayer for her current situation. "No matter what will happen to me... I will not leave God," she said. "I have hope that one day I could meet my husband again in the kingdom of God, and I will meet my God, too."



November 9, 2023 | India

Pastor Arrested Under Anti-Conversion Law

Hindu radicals disrupted a worship service on Feb. 6, 2022, accusing Pastor Ramesh Verma of breaking anti-conversion laws. Police arrested Ramesh and placed him in jail. For the first 15 days, Ramesh asked God why he allowed this to happen. But when his son brought him a Bible and other prisoners became interested in what it had to say, Ramesh's perspective changed: he began to minister to his fellow prisoners and lead them to Christ. He and his younger son distributed 60 New Testaments in the prison. After three months in jail, Ramesh was released on bail, but the church has been forcibly closed and his evangelism efforts are restricted while the case is pending. The family has faced considerable hardship from the arrest and detention, including job loss and rejection by family members. Nevertheless, Ramesh continues to visit and encourage church members while he awaits a verdict.

A Christmas List

Today's inspiration comes from:
Devotionals Daily
The Advent Project
faithgateway.com

All the promises of God find their Yes in Him. — 2 Corinthians 1:20 ESV

Do you remember making a Christmas list when you were young? Whether you mailed it to the North Pole or gave it to your parents to share with relatives, nothing seemed off-limits when you were a kid. But then when Christmas morning came, we discovered that we didn't get every single thing we asked for. Not every wish on our list came true.

God has something for us that's much better than Christmas wishes; Scripture is full of promises. From Genesis to Revelation, the Bible describes more than three thousand promises from God to His people. The beauty in God's list of promises is that there is no need to rank them to indicate which things we really want.

- None of God's promises will be left unfulfilled. They all find their Yes in Christ.

Whether in reference to His lineage, His birth, or His sacrificial death, Christ kept all of God's promises. He is the fulfillment of every prophecy. Because of Christmas, we know that God always keeps His Word and that nothing is impossible with Him.

What is your heart's desire this Christmas? Is there something you want so badly that you're almost afraid to hope for it? Bring it to God in prayer, and trust Him with it. We can trust that He desires what's best for us and answers every prayer in His time and in His way.

Can you think of a toy or gift you really wanted for Christmas that you never received?

What's a holy promise you could use a little more of these days?

Is there something you want that you haven't been bringing to God, because you're afraid of what it means if you don't get it? Trust God with what's on your heart today.

May we tune our hearts to listen for God's holy hints this season.

Dropping Hints

For the Lord GOD does nothing without revealing His secret to His servants the prophets. — Amos 3:7 ESV

It can start early in the season: our loved ones dropping hints about — or even flat-out telling us — what they want for Christmas. And then when we find the perfect gift for someone, it can be hard to keep the secret all to ourselves. Some of us can't resist giving the receiver a few hints along the way.

Scripture tells us that God is a hint dropper. More than that, for those willing to listen, He shares His plan outright.

- There is something warm and endearing about knowing that God wanted to share details about His Son. Through out the years He was whispering pieces of His plan to the prophets.

In Jeremiah, God saw His people wandering in the darkness and whispered, "Don't give up. He's coming." He told Isaiah about the virgin birth. He couldn't help but give hints about what was to come. He knew He had the perfect gift to give to the world, and He wanted to prepare



God's people for its delivery.

There's so much we don't know about the ways of God. Yet because of Christmas, His love for us is no secret. His hints throughout history were fulfilled in the manger. And He continues to whisper good things to his children:

For I know the plans I have for you, ... plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.
— Jeremiah 29:11

May we tune our hearts to listen for God's holy hints this season.

When you find the perfect gift, do you keep it a secret until the very end, so the gift is a total surprise, or are you prone to give some hints?

Read Isaiah 53. What connections do you see between this passage and Jesus' life?

Take some time to talk to God today. Is there anything in your life He may be trying to give you a hint about?

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Submitted by Carole Missel



Our Mission

The EPC exists to carry out the Great Commission of Jesus as a denomination of Presbyterian, Reformed, Evangelical, and Missional congregations.

Our Vision

To the glory of God, the EPC family aspires to embody and proclaim Jesus' love as a global movement of congregations engaged together in God's mission through transformation, multiplication, and effective biblical leadership.

Our Motto

*In Essentials: Unity.
In Non-Essentials: Liberty.
In All Things: Charity.*

The Steeple Newsletter

is published monthly by the Leicester Evangelical Presbyterian Church, for the purpose of proclaiming that Jesus is Lord and that He is moving among his people here. Our intent is to keep the readers informed of local events, provide information to stimulate and edify it's readers, mixed with a touch of humor to lighten the day.

For those who would like a printed version of the church newsletters, we keep the last 2 months' issues in the brochure rack, on the wall to your right, as you exit the sanctuary to Fellowship Hall.

Submission Deadline:

The 3rd Sunday of the month.

Contact:

Leo Richardson, 382-3153 or
grichardson001@rochester.rr.com
Sharon Richardson, Layout
srichardson002@rochester.rr.com

Staying Connected: If anyone does not receive the Steeple Newsletter, participate in Prayer Chain Activations, receive church updates by e-mail, or has a change for the "Birthdays and Anniversaries" and wants to be included, please contact Leo Richardson.

Session Highlights - Meeting of 11/9/2023

Sharing Life, Spiritual Focus and Prayers for the Church:

Elders shared a variety of health issues within the faith community at LEPC. Reports given of contacts with members and past worshippers at LEPC to encourage them to return and at least one person new to the area. Prayers of praise and petition were offered on behalf of these people and various situations.

Pastor's Report: Shut in communions were made to Shirley Siniapkin and Toni Yunker with Shirley Matthews assisting on 11/7 and 11/8/2023.

Worship Report: Session approved that the two services, 12/24/2023 regular Sunday Worship and Christmas Eve Service will be combined into one service to take place on Sunday morning, 12/24/2023.

Witness Report: Session moved that LEPC will pay for the shipping of the Samaritan's Purse Christmas Child shoeboxes at a cost of \$10 each. Carol Griffen provided a "welcome basket" to a new neighbor near her. Our Daily Bread Christmas Devotionals have arrived and will soon be made available.

Missions: Session approved a \$200 donation be made to Voice of the Martyrs and a \$200 donation be made to Faith Comes by Hearing to provide Bible Sticks to our military and others.

HeGetsUs: Only one Explorer since last meeting.

Stewardship: The 2024 LEPC Operating Budget has been approved by Session. **Per Member Asking will be \$15 for 2024.**

Property: An update on fixing the front steps: Session will go with a contractor's suggestion of repairing the center section of steps and bringing them up to code and removal of steps to either side. An estimate is soon coming. The crack in Fellowship Hall's south wall will be fixed by replacing with drywall and repainting, but this will be hired out to someone yet to be determined.

Old Business: The "Welcome Sign" banner has been taken down, washed, and stored for the winter. The sign will be relocated, for better visibility in the spring of 2024.

Up Coming Events Calendar: Decorating for Advent is scheduled for December 2, 2023 starting at 9 a.m.

Next Regular Session Meeting: December 14, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.

Food Pantry

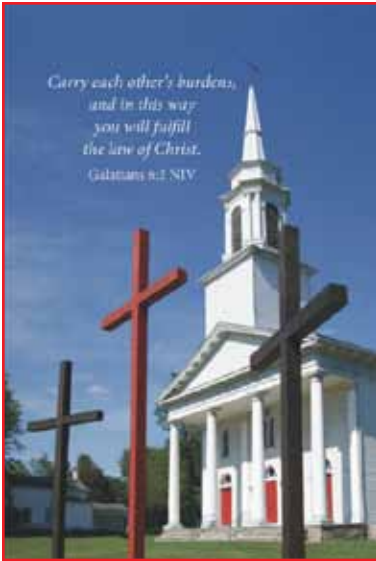
Thank you to all who have donated food to the pantry. As the holidays approach we will be distributing more food for special meals, so thank you for your continued support!

Merry Christmas!
Carol Griffen,
cbgriffen@yahoo.com

Liturgists Signup

For those who read scripture during Sunday worship, please remember to sign the "Volunteer" list in Fellowship Hall so Pastor knows who is next in line to read.

Thank you and may God Bless!



EPCConnection

EPCConnection is the news and information service of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, a denomination of Presbyterian, Reformed, Evangelical, and Missional congregations. To the glory of God, the EPC family aspires to be a global movement of congregations engaged together in God's mission through transformation, multiplication, and effective biblical leadership, embodying Jesus' love to our neighbors near and far.



To subscribe go to:
<https://epconnection.org>

Everyone is Welcome!

Sunday morning Worship

9:15 - 9:30 Prayer and Share
 9:40 - 10:20 Berean Adult/Teen
 Sunday School class
 10:30 - 11:30 Traditional worship
 (Hymnals/piano)
 Communion - 1st Sunday of the
 month

Joy Sunday Dish-to-Pass Luncheon
 - 3rd Sunday of the
 month after church



Leicester EPC
 161 Main Street
 P.O. Box 202
 Leicester, NY 14481

Merry Christmas!

On the Lighter Side...

Why did the scarecrow get a big Christmas bonus?
Because he was outstanding in his field.

What do you call a bunch of chess masters bragging
 about their games in a hotel lobby over the holidays?
Chess nuts boasting in an open foyer.

What did Santa and his wife do when they wanted to split
 up but couldn't find a divorce lawyer in the North Pole?
*They got a semicolon instead. They're great for separating
 independent Clauses.*

What did one snowman say to the other?
"Is it just me, or do you smell carrots?"

What's Santa Claus's favorite type of potato chip?
Crisp Pringles!

What's Santa Claus's favorite track and field event?
North Pole-vaulting.

Why was the snowman looking through the carrots?
He was picking his nose!

Why didn't Rudolph get a good report card?
Because he went down in History!

How much did Santa pay for his sleigh?
Nothing — it was on the house!

What do you call a Yeti with a six-pack?
The Abdominal Snowman!

Taken from Readers' Digest