

Mercy is "compassionate and kindly forbearance shown toward an offender" (www.dictionary.com). It is a concept integral to an understanding of God's dealings with humankind. In English translations of the Bible, it is expressed in phrases such as "to be merciful," "to have mercy on," or "to show mercy toward." The corresponding term, "merciful", describes a quality of God and one **that God requires of his people**. The noun denotes compassion and love, not just feelings or emotions, as expressed in tan-gible ways.

Several Hebrew and Greek terms lie behind the English term "mercy." The chief Hebrew term is *hesed*, God's covenant "lovingkindness." In both the Greek translation of the Old Testament (the LXX) and the New Testament, the term behind "mercy" is most often *eleos* in one form or another; also *oiktirmos/oiktiro* (compassion, pity, to show mercy) and *splanchna/ splanchnizomai* (to show mercy, to feel sympathy for) It is the mercy of God that forms the foundation for both God's forgiveness and the forgiveness we extend to others. We begin the week reflecting on this quality of God's character and being as we consider who and how we forgive.

Mon, 7/25. Exodus 33:18-19 How and where in your life have you experienced mercy – and from whom? (eg. the traffic ticket you *should* have received but did not). How and where have you experienced God's mercy? Prayer: thank God for being merciful toward you, and toward all humanity.

Tues, 7/26 Nehemiah 9:30-32a Nehemiah identifies two other qualities that are woven together in our understanding of mercy – patience and love. Consider God's patience with the Israelites reflected in this passage. Now consider God's patience with you... Showing patience with others is one way of expressing and extending mercy. Who needs your patience today?

Wed, 7/27 Psalm 6:9 Mercy enables *hearing*. Let God's mercy enable you to listen to the cry, the hurt, and the pain of another. Trust that God listens – and *hears* – your cry.

Thurs, 7/28 Jeremiah 33:6-11 Mercy is supremely expressed through *forgiveness*. Here we see God's promise to forgive the sins committed *against him* and the rebellion of his people. What does God's forgiveness give way to, lead to, make possible? Think about who you need to forgive...

Fri, 7/29 Matthew 6:9-15 Here is Matthew's version of the "Lord's Prayer." It is shorter than Luke's, and it includes commentary by Jesus on forgiveness. Jesus' intent here is to press home the point that those who know they are forgiven are called and enabled to forgive. Give thanks that you are forgiven.

Sat, 7/30 Pray for our worship tomorrow, and for the fellowship and sharing that will take place. Remember to wear your wildest Hawaiian shirt – if you dare! Invite an unchurched friend or family member to join you.

"The mission of LUMC is to make disciples of Jesus who will live transformed lives, and who will influence their generation and the next with God's love!"

This Week at LUMC

Sunday 7/24/11

8:15 AM Traditional Worship
9:45 AM Summer Sunday School (Asb)
9:45 AM Praise Worship
11:00 AM Traditional Worship

Monday 7/25/11

6:30 PM FPU planning meeting (AG1)
7:00 PM Stephen Ministry (Wes)
7:00 PM SPRC (Parl)

Tuesday 7/26/11

1:30 PM LUMC staff meeting (Libr)
6:30 PM FPU (AG1)
7:00 PM AA Literature meeting (Wes)

Wednesday 7/27/11

7:30 PM Lay Leadership (Libr)

Thursday 7/28/11

7:00 PM Admin Board (Asb)
7:30 PM Praise Team (Sanc)
7:30 PM Chorus Old Dominion (Asb)

Friday 7/29/11

11:00 AM Overeaters Anon (Parl)
6:30 PM Fife & Drum (Asb, classroom)

Saturday 7/30/11

8:45 AM OA (Parl)
10:00 AM SLA 12-step group (Parl)

Sunday 7/31/11

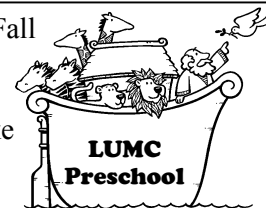
8:15 AM Traditional Worship
9:45 AM Praise Worship
9:45 AM Summer Sunday School (Asb)
11:00 AM Traditional Worship
1:00 PM private reception (Wes)

Our Prayers

Healing: Anna Hough, Dick Hammond, John Laycock, Jeff Frazee, Marjorie West, Kathi Pierce, Sarah Klein, Clayton Mallery, Carolyn Kadesch, Ginny Moore, Austin Talbot, Evelyn Moxley, Alvin Moore, Sue Wiggins, Linn Luzadder, Sharon Davis, Marilyn Landefeld, Jim Ferguson, Francis Mock

Military & non-military personnel serving overseas, especially Scott Lewis whose unit is in Afghanistan, Don Lew, Jr., and Michael Luna, and Curtis Yetman recovering from severe burns received in combat.

Preschool registration for Fall 2011 is on-going. Please call Barb at the school for an appointment if you'd like to visit. Please spread the word to neighbors and friends.



Attention, All LUMC Singers!

You're invited to join our Summer Choir's August 7th 8:15 and 11:00 singing of "King All Glorious" and "Carry Me". We'll rehearse on Wednesday, August 3 at 7:00 PM in the choir room. Call Tim Griffin at [703-777-8682](tel:703-777-8682) if you have any questions. Thank you!

Making disciples involves "going, sharing and inviting", or, "evangelism". evangelize in order bring people to a place, a building, or an organization – we evangelize in order to bring others and us closer to Jesus! Be an evangelist—go, share, invite!

Welcome Our Newest Members:



11:00 service:
Professing Members:

Ruth Jacoby
19385 Cypress Ridge Terr, #122
Leesburg, VA 20176
703-858-2923

Emily Sheetz (husband Albert)
37633 Grovers Mill Lane
Hillsboro, VA 20132
703-303-7776

Help for Handbells

Handbells, like all other instruments, need to be maintained. Fortunately, we have been able to postpone our regular maintenance for several years. HOWEVER, We need to raise \$3,909.47 to pay for the necessary refurbishing this summer. All contributions gratefully accepted. Please note "Handbell Maintenance" so that it will go to the proper fund.

Questions readily fielded by Judy Roberson, Elaine Gladwin or Lee Gladwin.

Young Women's Event:

Being Christian in the 21st Century
A Young Women's Event
September 23-24, 2011

Led by Emily Miller, Executive Director for Creative Direction, Women's Division, General Board of Global Ministries
Sponsored by The Virginia Conference, United Methodist Women

Being held at LUMC.
Registrations needed no later than
September 1, 2011

Play and Learn

Join us Friday mornings from 9:30-11:30 this October! Mommies, Daddies, and caregivers can interact with their infants and toddlers while strengthening their faith and having fun too!! Adults alternate teaching the provided curriculum and bringing snacks while the children enjoy a preschool-like environment and message.

This past year, we visited the Fire Station and several nature centers. Getting out of the classroom reinforced the beauty of nature and cycles of the seasons while reminding us to be thankful for all God has given us! We are looking forward to another year of exploration and learning!

Contact Heather Gonzalez: (216) 973-0173 or aiden1205@yahoo.com with any questions or to sign up.

Sunday, September 11, 2011

This year marks the 10th Anniversary of the day that redefined our world in which we live. I invite you to write your recollections of that day and include where and how you witnessed the presence and grace of God. Also, if someone you knew died that day aboard one of the planes, in the Pentagon, or in the World Trade Center, please share their name(s); and/or if you were in the Pentagon or the World Trade Center that day. Along with those who died, please let us know if you were involved as a first-responder, or in the recovery/rebuilding effort and how you witnessed the grace of God at work.

Last, as we plan and prepare for worship on that Sunday, the Worship Team and I invite your thoughts and suggestions. Depending on the level of response, we may not be able to incorporate everything, but we will carefully consider – and greatly appreciate – all that is submitted.

Please direct your stories, thoughts and suggestions to office@leesburgumc.org as you are able.

CAMP MEETING

In the spirit and tradition of the Methodist Camp Meeting, July and August are "Camp Meeting Months". Our worship is less formal and we are singing many of our old favorites at 8:15 and 11 (and one or two at 9:45 as well!). Dress is casual - just remember to bring your Bible. Pray for God's blessing on our time together, and be prepared to sing and worship the Lord!



Methodist Camp Meeting, March 1, 1819

It's Back to School Time!

The **School of Christian Living** opens on **Sunday, September 11** for its next session. We will be offering **exciting** six-session classes on **Sunday afternoons** from 4:30 to 6:00 led by Pastor Jim, Kim Kadash, Angela Becek and Kelly McCaffrey. There will be **something for everyone!**



Stay tuned to the bulletin and the LUMC website for the class list!

If you have a problem with alcohol, there is help.
540-667-0322 or 1-800-835-6130
www.AALoudounDistrict10.org

Hawaiian Shirt Sunday!

*****July 31*****

Our L.E.I.* Team invites you to wear your wildest, loudest, most colorful or best-looking Hawaiian shirt to worship on Sunday, July 31. Also, if you've ever been to Hawaii (or reasonably close**) and have a picture to prove it, email us your photo and we'll be sure to include it as part of our "LUMC Family Hawaiian Vacation Slide Show"

Invite friends and family to join you and to receive a traditional Hawaiian welcome!

(*LUMC Evangelism Initiative)
(** an island in the South Pacific; Caribbean, Mediterranean, or some other sea; someplace where there was sand and salt-water...)



Church Emissaries Needed

The Leesburg Evangelism Initiative (LEI) is seeking people willing to be active emissaries for the church to assist door to door efforts to welcome new residents to the community and spread the word of God's Love and the wonderful things he is doing through Leesburg United Methodist Church. Training and materials will be provided. Please contact David Kirsten at 703-966-6068 for more information and to volunteer.