

2006
JANUARY

CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH

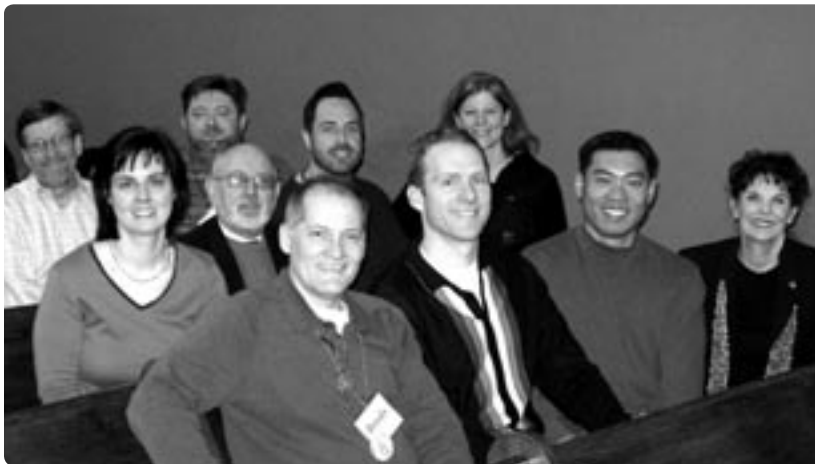
VISIONING

BY ERIC DIEKHANS



“If you are doing church the same way you were doing it a year ago, you’re falling behind and failing.”

LEONARD SWEET



SESSION MEMBERS BROOKS DARRAH, PATRICK WILLIAMS, SANGHO NAM, PEG HAZENBUSH
2ND ROW: ERIKA POETHIG, FLOYD MAY, BRYAN BRUIN, BARB BURLINGAME
3RD ROW: DOUG JENSEN, SCOTT GRANNAN
NOT PICTURED: MARTIN MOUBEL, JERRI JOHNSON, MATT SHULER, JENNIFER CUMMING

LVPCs Session and Pastor Joy Douglas Strome take theologian Leonard Sweet’s words seriously. That’s why they spent long hours in 2005 defining who we are and where we’re going as a church. The result is a new mission statement, a list of core values, and a five-year vision plan.

To come up with those statements, Session member Patrick Williams says they “divided into small groups and defined many of the ideas. Then we focused them in larger groups.”

“The most difficult part,” adds Session member Brook Darrah, “was coming

up with right language and making the mission statement clean and succinct.”

“The last time the church did a mission statement was in 1998,” says Joy. “But I didn’t understand them as well then. It needs to be brief enough so that everyone can recite it.”

Joy sees the mission statement and core values as important because “it impacts the intentionality of our ministry.”

“We’re not just responding to what’s happening at the moment,” says Joy.

“If someone comes in with a new plan for what they think the church should be doing, it might be a great idea, but we can look and see if it connects with our core values.”

Joy also sees the mission statement as important in defining LPVC to visitors seeking a church. “More and more people are finding us through our website,” Joy notes. Many of them say they like seeing all the activities members are involved in, but, as Joy explains it, “Having the mission statement posted there helps them know who we are and make a choice about whether to visit.”

“This is a pivotal time for us,” says Session member Scott Grannan. “We’re not the same church we were five years ago.” Scott sees the vision statement as an important part of “keeping the church healthy and not letting it stagnate.”

Joy believes the church needs to ask itself, “Are we responding to how God is calling us today?”

“God is always moving,” Joy says. “We have to keep moving too.”

LVPC Mission Statement

As an inclusive and progressive Presbyterian (PCUSA) community, we are called to feed the spiritual and physical hungers of all God’s children.

Core Values

- We approach spirituality holistically.
- We strive to welcome all people.
- We embrace progress.
- We nurture the individual quest for faith.
- We celebrate dynamic and creative worship.
- We work for justice in our city and the world.¶

CALENDAR

Place Your
Favorite
Refrigerator
Magnet Here

JANUARY

EVERY SUNDAY

Study the Bible with the Niners Class. They meet at 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel.

Sunday service in the Sanctuary at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Childcare is provided in the Mulford Room. Coffee hour and time for fellowship immediately follows both services.

Sunday school for children at 10:00 a.m. Classes for ages 3-4 and grades K-5 meet in the Academy.

Choir practice at 10:00 a.m.

Share your thoughts about faith and life in Begin@10 class, 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel.

Free parking is available evenings and weekends in the Recycled Paper Company lot north of the church. Access the lot from the alley.

Help beautify the Sanctuary by donating flowers. To sponsor a Sunday give cash or a check for \$20 to Holly Jensen.

ADVANCE WARNINGS: SIGN UP NOW!

*Food for Fun: Jeff Payne's Woodshop—
See January 10*

*Food for Thought: Ain't I a Woman!—
See January 17*

New Members' Class—See January 26

Women's Book Study—See January 28

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

There will be one worship service today at 10:00 a.m.

Lake View Pantry donations and Two Cents A Meal offering will be received at the morning worship service.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

Regular exercise is the key to vitality, so join the Seniors in Motion fitness class.

An exercise specialist from Advocate Fitness leads the group. Class begins at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

The Deacons meet at 6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4

The Seniors gather for a special Midweek Movie at 12:30 p.m. Today's feature is *Millions*.

Choir practice at 7:15 p.m.

Young Adult Bible Study meets at 9:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6

It's fun for the under-five set at Playgroup beginning at 9:00 a.m. upstairs in the Mulford Room. Call the church office before you come.

A Taize service features scripture reading, repetitive singing, and meditative silence, combining traditional worship forms in a contemporary way. The goal is to enable participants to remain open to the voice of God and discover the prayer within themselves. Join us tonight at 7:30 for Taize.

The Café Pride Coffeeshouse meets from 8:00 p.m. to midnight and serves a safe place for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender youth ages 17 – 21 to get together.

MONDAY, JANUARY 9

The Finance Committee meets at 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10

Seniors in Motion meets at 10:00 a.m. See January 3 for details.

You don't have to be handy with a saw to join Jeff Payne in constructing a new Communion Table at this month's Food for Fun. It starts at 7:00 p.m. in Jeff's woodshop. Sign up in the back of the Sanctuary.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11

The Seniors gather for a special Midweek Movie at 12:30 p.m. Today's feature is *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

Choir practice at 7:15 p.m.

Young Adult Bible Study meets at 9:00 p.m.

The Lake View Academy Board meets at 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12

Spend time with long-time LVPC members at a Presbyterian Homes Fellowship from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. in Evanston. The gathering offers an opportunity to stay connected with an important part of our church family. Volunteers are welcome. Contact Sue Cox at (773) 281- 2655 for more information.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13

The Playgroup meets at 9:00 a.m. See January 6 for details.

Café Pride meets from 8:00 p.m. to midnight. See January 6 for details.

The whole church community is invited to join the youth from Café Pride for a program of gay-themed films called Out at the Movies. The show starts at 9:00 p.m.



SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

The Session meets at 8:00 a.m.

Join the Men of LVPC for good food and good conversation at the Men's Breakfast, beginning at 8:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17

Seniors in Motion meets at 10:00 a.m. See January 3 for details.

Food For Thought kicks off the new year with "Ain't I A Woman!": The God-Talk of African American Women. Over the last several decades, womanist theology has looked to the lives of African American women to discover how Black women of faith understand God and the world around them. Through poetry, story-telling, herstory retrieving, questioning, praying, singing, and possibly a field trip, we will seek together to understand how the experiences of our African American sisters of faith challenge our own perspectives and give us new understandings. Come as you are as we learn together. Seminary intern Julie Gruber leads the class. It begins at 7:00 p.m. Sign up in the back of the Sanctuary.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18

The Seniors gather for a special Midweek Movie at 12:30 p.m. Today's feature is *Pelican Brief*.

The Worship Committee meets at 6:00 p.m.

Choir practice at 7:15 p.m.

Young Adult Bible Study meets at 9:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20

The Playgroup meets at 9:00 a.m. See January 6 for details.

Monthly prayer meeting in the chapel at 12:00 noon. Call Peg Hazenbush at (773) 871-0312 for more information.

Café Pride meets from 8:00 p.m. to midnight in the Fellowship Hall. See January 6 for more information.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 24

Seniors in Motion meets at 10:00 a.m. See January 3 for details.

Food for Thought continues with "Ain't I A Woman!": The God-Talk of African American Women. See January 17 for details.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25

The Seniors gather for a special Midweek Movie at 12:30 p.m. Today's feature is *Hitch*.

The Buildings and Grounds Committee meets at 6:00 p.m.

Choir practice at 7:15 p.m.

Young Adult Bible Study meets at 9:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26

Find out what it means to be a Presbyterian and a member of Lake View Presbyterian Church at the New Members' Class beginning at 7:00 p.m. See Joy to sign up.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27

The Playgroup meets at 9:00 a.m. See January 6 for details.

Café Pride meets from 8:00 p.m. to midnight in the Fellowship Hall. See January 6 for more information.



SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

Join Pastoral Intern Lindsay Harren-Lewis for a Women's Book Study at 10:00 a.m. The group kicks off with Barbara Ehrenreich's *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting by in America*. It's about the day-to-day lives of low wage workers. Sign up in the back of the Sanctuary.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31

Seniors in Motion meets at 10:00 a.m. See January 3 for details.

Food for Thought continues with "Ain't I A Woman!": The God-Talk of African American Women. See January 17 for details.☯

YOU SAY IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY

- 1/1—Martin Moubel
- 1/1—Patti Reyes
- 1/5—Gary Hamburg
- 1/5—Melissa Osborn-Rosa
- 1/5—Ted Campbell
- 1/8—Grace Gyori
- 1/9—Melanie Chafin
- 1/9—Sue Cox
- 1/12—Jeff Payne
- 1/14—Trueman Muhrer-Irwin
- 1/16—Laura Juhnke
- 1/19—Jonathan White
- 1/21—Ivana Avikoue
- 1/25—Jennifer Cumming
- 1/25—Molly Larrison
- 1/27—Anne Raup
- 1/31—Normae Hansch☯

Note to Readers

The Chimes will take a temporary hiatus while Eric, the editor, and Michelle, the designer, travel to complete the adoption of their new daughter, Hasmik Sophia Diekhans (aka Sophie). Publication will resume as soon as our family is settled. Don't forget to congratulate Camille on becoming a big sister!

CHIMES FLASHBACK

January 1956

THIS IS A REPRINT OF AN ARTICLE THAT APPEARED IN THE CHIMES 50 YEARS AGO.

Social Notes From All Over

The Men's Club decorated the church with Christmas trees and boughs again this year, and you have been warmed in heart with their efforts. John Foy and Bob Saunier did an extra chore, digging out the stump of last year's lawn tree from the sunken holder. Remember our tree was blown down last year? It was a little problem in aerodynamics (what?) to get the stump out!...Decorators hired by the Trustees finished the painting of the Parish Hall and the Parlor, the former in warm sand color, and the latter in pastel green. The Parish Hall looks lighter too with the new kind of lights they put in. The only trouble is, as we type this, that if you turn them all on at once, they blow a fuse. The next decorative urge seems to tend towards lifting the face of the ladies' powder room. How about lavender?...Hope most of us saw or met Mr. Edd Smith's fiancée when she visited over Thanksgiving. That was a gorgeous bit of jewelry she was flashing on her left hand. They were looking over the Seminary apartments, so we hope to see more of Carol in the days ahead.☞



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Send articles, calendar listings, rants, and raves to Eric Diekhans at ericdiekhans@ameritech.net.☞

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