

February 1, 2016

Editor In Chief

Pastor Thom Fiet

Director of

Communications

Susan A. Tirante

Editor

Marie Burr



Pastor's Letter

Newsletter February 2016

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Special points of interest...

- Calendar of Events February 2016
- Prayers and Joys
- Birthdays and Anniversaries

Jazz at Lyall is one of our newest efforts at outreach to the wider community. It seems a curious thing to be engaged in for a Christian church, a little esoteric, even what?...titillating. Heavens.

But jazz is a lot like what goes on here at Lyall. There is much in common with jazz and our congregation. For starters, there is a core rhythm and theology here at Lyall. We say first and foremost that we are at our core *Jesus Christians*. His teaching, death and resurrection is the basic music here at Lyall. The person of Jesus is the *raison d'être* our very reason for being a congregation in the first place. That means we together try to discern who Jesus is, what is the ultimate purpose for his life, and what sort of style does he employ-his music, if you will. As his disciples individually and we together as a congregation, we try to follow, match and harmonize with that "music". See?

This is how it works...We see Jesus reaching out to the poor, so we reach out to the poor. We see Jesus healing the sick, so we heal the sick. We see Jesus befriending the outcasts and those who are broken, so we make friends with the outcasts and broken. We see Jesus speaking truth to power, so we speak truth to power as well.

And just like jazz there is also improvisation here too. We understand that the Spirit of God often works in a way that seems unpredictable, even spontaneous. The Spirit of God is also at work in each of us through our own personalities, and points of personal reference. This we see among our members who are inspired about new redemptive initiatives, who then go on inspiring the rest of us.

Theme and improv, that's Lyall. We so want our people, established and new, to deepen our core in Jesus and also to unleash each one of us to be our very own sort of Christian. Great jazz is like that, so are great churches. We are faithful to the theme, but the improv is all ours. We are the instrument of God, in other words.

Oh, and love. Yes, love is so important for this sort of jazz Christianity to happen. There is love for the music, but also love for each of the musicians who interpret and play it. Love binds it all together into a strange and wonderful alchemy. So here's to the year ahead, and the music to be made.

Your pastor and colleague,
Thom Fiet, Pastor at Lyall

From the Pastor....

- **Jazz at Lyall**

Saturday February 20th 7:00 PM

Paul Meyers World On A String Trio

Paul Meyers www.paulmeyers.info is an excellent American jazz guitarist who has also studied Brazilian musical traditions in great depth. This is his working New York trio, with Leo Traversa-Bass and from Brazil, Vanderlie Perieira-Drums.



News & Other Happenings...

- **Happy Belated Birthday!**

Apologies to Linda Blasini for missing her Birthday on 1/11. Best of Wishes for a wonderful year~

- **Dinner & Homework Help**

There is a new time 5:15pm to 7:15pm.

This starts immediately.

For information contact:

Lynn Grainger

266-8178

lynng125@optonline.net

Sue McGinnis

677-6273

susmcginnis190@aol.com

- **Food for Folks!**

Please contact

Diane Moretti

845-242-6508

for information

- **Electronic Giving**

Electronic giving is still an option. Anyone needing assistance in setting this up with their bank please let Susan or Kristen know.

- **Millbrook Community Festival Choir**

A Spring Concert, direct by Dan Koch, May 15th

7:00pm. Singers are

invited to join the adult

group or the children's

group (grades 3-8).

Rehearsals will begin

Sunday March 13th:

6:30pm for children,

7:00pm for adults. To

join please contact Dan

Koch @

dkochpino@gmail.com.

Bob's Bistro



Lunch at Lyall

Letter for February 2016 Lyall Lunch

This past January Lyall Lunch served Chicken Noodle, Fat burning cabbage, French onion and Venison vegetable. The first soup of February will be Chicken Mulligatawny. I shall find interesting soups for your palate. Looking through past made soups. I found some favorites that require repeating. Sausage and squash, Split pea, Lentil, Italian wedding, coming soon.

Yours in Christ, Chef Bob

Team Leader and Chef

Bob Tierney

Loyal Crew Members

Mary Jane Tierney

Helen Lomangino

Nancy Greer

Betty Doyle

Sandy Beaumont

Marion Bennett

Adelaide Jasmine

Louise Roeller

Peter Blasini

Linda Blasini

Thom Fiet



The Garden Path

By Brad Roeller



The Garden Path

by Brad Roeller

Out of the ground the Lord God caused to grow every tree that is pleasing to the sight and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Genesis 2:9

I love trees, most of them anyways (ever had to prune a hawthorn?). And yes, they are all beautiful, at least in the Lord's eyes. Often I pause in my travels to stop along a roadside or in the deep woods to marvel at the "perfect" tree, typically massive in size, with branches the size of your waist, lichen-covered trunks that could support a house, and clothed in the lovely green of its foliage. Oh if only those Ent-like specimens (any Lord of the Rings fans?) could talk as tell you the things they've witnessed. I used to propagate a sycamore for Arbor Day programs whose provenance was traced to the "Washington Sycamore". The lineage of these seedlings was traced to a tree General George sat under while formulating the plans for the Battle of White Plains; after which he supposedly napped in its shade. Locally, the Balmville Tree, an eastern cottonwood recently taken down, also has "roots" to George Washington. Folklore has it that the tree grew when George Washington planted his walking

while he and the Continental Army were encamped in nearby Newburgh during the Revolutionary War years. However that may be an "urban myth" as core samples of the tree dated back its growth to 1699! Anyways, I digress.

Left on their own, most trees, either ones already in your landscape or ones you purchased and planted will not reach the size, stature, or idealized forms we desire without our intervention. Analogous with disciplining your youngster in their informative years, trees typically will need to be "structurally" pruned. In upcoming editions I will lend tips on planting and post-planting care, but for now I want to offer some "dos and don'ts" in so far as pruning.

- Trees are like children – easy to mold in their younger years, but resistant as they grow older. Simple pruning practices will pay huge dividends down the road if accomplished before they mature years. The first 5 – 10 years after planting are the critical years to set the dye for its longevity. A couple of timing tips: If you purchase a tree and plant it, do not prune it for a couple of growing seasons. 75%- 90% of the root system is lost when that young tree is transplanted out of the nursery. Pruning should not happen until the root system "breaks out" of the root ball and

begins to establish. The reason being is that here is a growth hormone (an auxin) in the growing tips (the buds) of the trees which triggers root growth. It is critical to promote root growth (not "top" growth) during the establishment period (kind of like building a house – concentrate on the foundation first!). The more you prune at planting time, or before the root system establishes itself, the less root growth you will realize simply because you removed a goodly amount of that all-important auxin. I'm sad to see that many professionals still adhere to the old adage, "prune 1/3 of the top growth at planting time due to the loss of the roots when transplanted".

- Don't prune a tree under stress, especially stress during times of drought. As such, I avoid summer-pruning on most trees and shrubs.
- Remove the "3-D's" (dead, dying, or diseased wood) at any time of the year.
- Severe pruning when the tree (or shrub) is dormant stimulates the production of strong, leafy shoots. Pruning when the plant is actively growing tends to check exuberant growth and help bring about formation of blossom buds.

- Trees (and shrubs) which blossom early ordinarily should be pruned immediately after they flower, while those which bloom in summer or autumn (on current season's growth) can be pruned in early spring. (I use the 4th of July rule – if it bloom before the 4th, prune it immediately after flowering and it will have plenty of time to set next year's flower buds; if after the 4th, prune it in late winter before the onset of growth.)
 - Late winter is a great time to prune because you can see the structure of the tree. However, when you prune during the dormant season, come spring you may notice water sprouts (new, succulent growth) emanating from latent buds near where you made your interior cuts. Left alone, these may come to compete with the "mother" branch causing all sorts of structural problems down the road. As such, if you prune during the winter months, be prepared to remove those "sprouts" during the next growing season. (Note: don't confuse water sprouts with "suckers". Suckering growth come from the ground adjacent to the stem, or very near its base. If you note these it should be a "red flag" that there are some below-ground problems).
 - If you have thin-barked trees (birch, cherries, beech, etc.) do not prune them in spring when the leaves are coming out. While their leaves are coming out those trees can be easily damaged by pruning since the current season's cambial tissues immediately under the bark is forming.
 - Don't prune during the fall season as your pruning cuts will be open pathway for infection via a plethora of fungal spores, many of them pathogenic (disease-causing).
 - An excellent time to perform structural pruning is in late spring, about one month after full leaf expansion. You will realize little water sprouting adjacent to your pruning cuts since the tree's energy is geared towards photosynthesizing and not so much to initiating new growth. Additionally, the ability of the tree to produce "callous" tissue is at its highest level of the year during this time. The production of callous tissue can, and should be, triggered by pruning. Take a look at large trees which have been pruned in the past. If the pruning was done correctly, the tree produced "rolls" of smooth tissue (i.e. the callous tissue) to encapsulate the wound (the cuts). You can see that it is visually quite different from the tree's bark. It takes a year or two to completely close the "wound", but once closed, water, ice, and pathogens cannot access the heartwood of the tree thereby reducing the instances of interior decay and rot. Callous tissue production is at a pretty high level during the late winter months.
- A couple dos and don'ts for pruning:
- Prune gradually, ideally over the course of several years. Avoid the "wham-bam-thank you-ma'am" (sorry, I had to give a tribute to David Bowie) approach, hoping to complete the entire job in one session. Bottom line – never prune more than 10% – 15% of the foliage in a single season or you'll do more harm than good. While you may have determined that a branch needs to go (branch angle attachment not good, too many branches originating from one area, etc.), you should leave it for the time being to shade the trunk and photosynthesize. Believe it or not, shade is critical to develop trunk taper and girth. Begin removing the largest of those inferior scaffold branches and leave those "temporaries" on for the next go-around. It is best not to let those temporaries attain a girth > 1" diameter before removal. So each late winter, do the minimal pruning recommended until the ideal branch formation is created.
 - Select branches that are symmetrically and radially spaced around the trunk of the tree. Remove some that are emanating from one area of the trunk. A "bird's eye view" of the symmetry will do you right.
 - Select branches that have a good branch-angle attachment. From a structural standpoint, the best branches are those possessing an angle formed with the trunk between 45° and 60°. Over time as they grow, branches which are outside that range will often split-out from the trunk. Narrow-crotched branches will have their trunk-side bark

The Garden Path

By Brad Roeller Continued...

the trunk. Those branches which have wide branch angle attachments will structurally fail as eventually the branch will be unable to support its “load”.

- Don't “lion's tail” branches. For some reason we want to remove all of the interior branches leaving the foliage at the ends only. Instead, prune proportionally along the entire length of the branch. Trees which have been “lion's tailed” often never grow with the important trunk taper and girth needed for structural stability (and to become Ents!).
- Don't “crown-raise” your trees. Crown-raising is removing lower branches, another thing we arbitrarily do for no apparent good reason. From a structural standpoint, 50% of the foliage should be on branches originating on the lower 2/3 of the trunk. Less than 50% should originate on the upper 1/3 of the branches.

Leave no stubs; cuts should be made close to the supporting branch or trunk, or just above a bud—preferably one pointed in the right direction. Avoid flat cuts that will catch snow and ice. On trees and large shrubs make cuts close to, **but beyond the branch bark ridge** (shoulder ring) **and the collar at the base of a branch**. Note that the collar may extend further—particularly on a weak or dead

branch. The next time you take a close look at a tree notice that where a branch is attached to another branch or particularly to the trunk, that the bark is scrunched together in that locale. That is the branch ridge zone.

Leave that intact when you make your cut as that is the place where the all-important callous tissue emanates from.

- Use the 3-cut method when removing branches. If you are removing a branch, come out 6” – 12” from the trunk and make an undercut about 1/4 – 1/3 up through the wood (too much and you'll “pinch” your saw). Make the 2nd cut slightly beyond (out toward the tip) beyond your first cut and as you cut through the branch will “hinge” on the undercut. Make your final cut just beyond the branch collar to completely remove the branch. Bottom line – if you opt to remove the branch with a single cut, gravity and weight typically come into play and as the branch hinges a goodly section of bark tears-away from the underside of your cut.

Use the “right tool for the job”. I prefer the new “turbo-style” hand saws. I use my Silky Pocketboy 10-point saw (10 teeth per inch) for fine cuts and their Gomtaro Prosentie 300 or

Zubat 330 for bigger cuts. For small cuts I use my Felco #2 Classic pruning shears (#6 for small hands). All of these can be purchased online at

www.gemplers.com

- Sanitation and sharp pruning tools are central to good pruning practices. Replace your blades on your pruning saws periodically and keep your Felcos sharp. Use a cheap spray bottle filled with isopropyl alcohol (available at CVS, etc.) to sanitize and rust-proof your pruning tools.
- Don't “paint” your cuts with tree paint. It serves no useful purpose and some research indicates that it may inhibit callous tissue formation.



Technology Update....

- **Yes We're are Streaming!**

Please let Susan know if you need help with the instructions below.

Here it is! This is the address you can copy and paste into your web browser on your computer, <https://www.youtube.com/user/lyallmemorialchurch>

This will take you to our utube site where you can become a subscriber and follow Pastor Thom's sermon - or replay it later!

2 things to consider:

1. The microphones in the sanctuary are **extremely** sensitive, and will pick up conversation 15 minutes prior to, and after service has ended.
 2. If you do not wish to be on camera, the only rows that are visible are the 1st eight on right (by the piano).
- Choir speakers have been added so the Choir is now able to hear - loud and clear! A wonderful addition.

Below are the instructions for accessing WIFI at Lyall. Any questions please let Susan know. Thanks!

WiFi Quickstart Guide

WiFi for the Congregation

Three Wifi access points provide network coverage throughout the building and much of the lot. Users can connect to the internet and to the live feed from the Sanctuary only. Any Wifi enabled device should detect the WiFi network in the buildings and around the grounds. Sign in only has to be done once.

1. Select the **Lyall** network.
2. Your device may automatically detect the type of security. If not, choose **WPA2 Home** or the more technical **WPA2-PSK with AES encryption**.
3. Enter the password "**everyone**".
4. Check that **Lyall** is higher in your list of networks than area hotspots such as **optimumwifi**. Move **Lyall** up or move the others down as necessary.

Note: Sometimes an iphone misses new networks. A quick workaround is to turn airplane mode on then off again.

February 2016



Schedule of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Board of Spiritual Development	Bible Study Junior Choir Dinner & Home- work	Lunch @ Lyall Adult Choir Rehearsal		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Boy Scout Sunday Music Committee			Ash Wednesday Services 11:00 am and 7:00 pm Soup Supper 6:00	Lunch @ Lyall Adult Choir Rehearsal		Millbrook Drama Club Pancake Breakfast
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
 Worship Committee	Bible Study		Bible Study Junior Choir Dinner & Homework Help	Lunch @ Lyall Adult Choir Rehearsal Historical Society		Jazz at Lyall
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Bible Study Board of Trustees (Rescheduled from 2/23)		Bible Study Junior Choir Dinner & Homework Help	Lunch @ Lyall Adult Choir Rehearsal First Aid & CPR		
28	29					
Ecumenical Service St. Peters Lithgow	Bible Study					

- **AA**
Gathering room
Weekdays 12:00 pm
Saturday's 7:30 pm
Sunday's 8:15 am
- **Bible Study**
Monday 11:00am
Wednesday 7:00pm
- **Board of Spiritual
Life Meeting**
2/2 7:00 pm
Library
- **Boy Scout Sunday**
2/7 Sanctuary
- **Ash Wednesday**
2/10 Services 11:00 am
and 7:00 pm
6:00 pm Soup Supper
- **Board of
Trustees Meeting**
Monday 2/22
7:00 pm Library
- **Choir**
Adult Thursdays
7:30pm Assembly
Junior Wednesday
4:30pm Little Church
- **Dinner &
Homework Help**
Wednesdays from
5:15- 7:15. Assembly
Room
- **Historical Society**
Thursday 2/18 7:30pm
Gathering Room
- **Jazz at Lyall**
Saturday 2/20
7:00 pm Sanctuary
- **First Aid & CPR**
2/25 6:30 - 9:00pm
Gathering Room
- **Lunch at Lyall**
Thursdays 11:30-
12:30pm
- **Music
Committee**
Sunday 2/7
12:00 Library
- **Worship
Committee**
Sunday 2/14
12:00 Noon Library

A Church whose only label is Christian and whose only Head is Christ. A federated interdenominational congregation that welcomes all Christian traditions.



Birthdays

Anniversaries

Pastor's Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 9:00 am until Noon.

30 Maple Avenue

PO Box 426

Millbrook, NY 12545

Phone: 845-677-3485

Fax: 845-677-1023

E-mail: Lyallmemfed@gmail.com

Find us on the web...

www.lyallmemorial.org

6 Jennifer Strang

7 Donald Killmer

8 Mike McCracken

**9 Shannon O'Leary
Planck**

11 Charlie Fauci

13 Nancy Greer

15 Katrina Wack

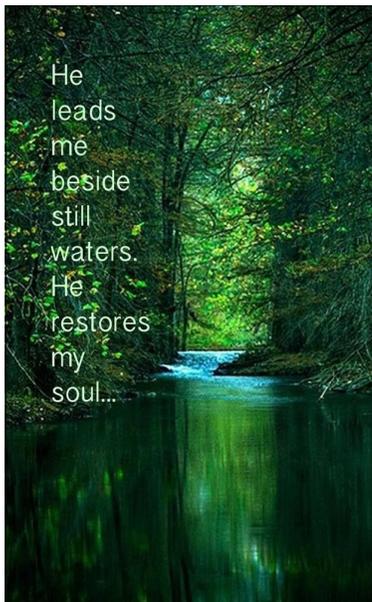
24 Ren Adams

27 Susan Tirante

28 Kristen Anderson

24 Bob & Jill Dunlop

Prayers and Joys



He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul...

**Prayers
And
Joys**

Prayers for:

- The Hick's Family at the passing of Betty
- Lisa Still-Speare, fighting breast cancer
- PV2 Matthew Fauci, In the Army Med Corp training at FT. Sam Houston TX
- Marilyn Kading
- Adelaide Jasmine's son -in-law Geoff for a neck problem and surgery of 3/18/16.
- For all those suffering in the congregation

Joy's~

- For Bob Tierney!
- Peter Blasini is Thankful for Linda everyday~
- Maria McCabe: for my husband Thom.
- The Lyall Lunch Team is grateful for No Snow!
- For Jazz at Lyall!
- Louise Roeller is grateful for her children
- For Friends, Family and extended Family.
- Adelaide is grateful Christopher isn't in Afganistan.
- Susan is grateful to Adelaide for getting the mail everyday~