



# News-Line



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*Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church Newsletter*  
*Lincoln Park, Pennsylvania* *January, 2006*

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## **Operation Christmas Child: Journey of Your Shoe Box**

From Alice Kase

You filled your shoe box with gifts and returned it to church. Along with 157 other boxes, it traveled to the Lancaster collection center. Volunteers processed the boxes to ensure they contained appropriate items and had a label for age and gender. Checks or cash were collected from your envelope.

The boxes were packed in cartons and trucked to a huge convention center in Charlotte, NC. Hundreds of volunteers again inspected and then taped the boxes

*(Continued on page 9)*



## **Angel Tree Thank You**

From Lee Riley

Thank you to each and every one of you for your loving generosity. Your wonderful response made it possible for three area families (16 people) to have a

memorable Christmas.

In addition to the overflowing boxes of gifts, each family received a \$100 gift certificate to Giant and a \$100 gift certificate to Wal-Mart. Together we brought God's love to those who needed it most this holiday season.

May God bless you always.

# **Big Thank You!**

...from the Missions Committee to all of you who contributed to the Coats for Kids project. We collected a total of 41 coats, nine scarves, and 11 pairs of gloves. These items were taken to a local dry cleaner to be cleaned, and then distributed to needy children in our area. Thank you for helping to keep our local children warm this winter!

-Kathy Avedissian

# WORSHIP IN JANUARY

From Pastor Larry Carl



**Sunday, January 8** – BAPTISM OF THE LORD – HOLY COMMUNION – The message will be entitled “A Contradiction in Terms?” based on Mark 1:9, *In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.*

**Sunday, January 15** – The Second Sunday after Epiphany – HUMAN RELATIONS SUNDAY – The message will be entitled “Did You Call Me?” based on I Samuel 3:9,

*Therefore Eli said to Samuel, ‘Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.’ So Samuel went and lay down in his place.*

**Sunday, January 22** – The Third Sunday after Epiphany – The message will be entitled “How A-lure-ing!” based on Matthew 1:17, *And Jesus said to them, ‘Follow me and I will make you fish for people.’*

**Sunday, January 29** – The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany – The message will be entitled “What’s Come Between Us?” based on Mark 1:23 - 24, *Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, ‘What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.’*

## Lection Lessons for January

**January 8** – Genesis 1:1-5; Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11; Psalter: Psalm 29

**January 15** – I Samuel 3:1-10(11-20); I Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51  
Psalter: Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

**January 22** – Jonah 3:1-5, 10; I Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20;  
Psalter: Psalm 62:5-12

**January 29** – Deuteronomy 18:15-20; I Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28;  
Psalter: Psalm 111

# Church School Schedule Resumes

From Dorris McCoy



After a holiday break, Church School is set to resume its ongoing schedule on Sunday, **January 8, 2006!**

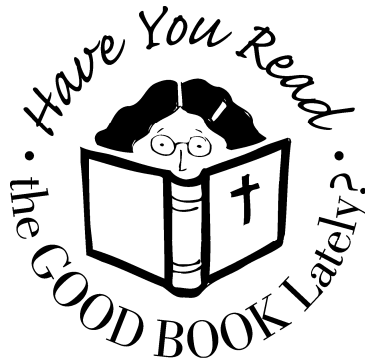
Children's lessons for both 9:30 and 10:45 hours will move from John's

baptism of Jesus in Mark's gospel through Jesus' calling of his disciples (and us) to follow and then will explore Jesus' awesome power in the lives of those who do choose to follow His way.

Youth will meet at 10:45 am in Room 103.

Adults at 9:30 meet with **Norm** and **Nancy Dettra** in the Church Library to encounter the Lectionary Lessons in Year B of the 3-year Cycle of Bible Study. At 10:45 **Earl** and **Linda Hope** take this Adult Bible Study Class to the Gospel of Mark for an in depth look at its history, themes, and meaning for Christians today. They also meet in the Church Library.

All ages are invited to join together in these opportunities to hear the Biblical stories anew, to grow in their relationships with Jesus, to fellowship with their church family, and to connect the faith story meaningfully in our lives.



## Clearance Cooperation Appreciated

**Linda Hope**, Christian Education Chair, and **Dorris McCoy**, DCE, express their sincere appreciation to all teachers and helpers in Christian Education and Child Care who completed their Child Abuse and Criminal Record Check Clearances as required by the Eastern PA Conference of the United Methodist Church. Your cooperation promotes a safe sanctuary environment, allowing a secure and nurturing place for all LP children, youth and volunteers. This will be an ongoing policy; new teachers/leaders/nursery buddies will be given information and forms as recruited. Thank you for caring for all God's children!

# From the Pastor's Desk

From Pastor Larry Carl

Happy New Year!

With the New Year comes the opportunity to make resolutions. The dictionary defines a resolution as a thing resolved on, an intention. It defines resolve as to make up one's mind, to decide firmly. Usually, these resolutions we make, this resolve that we muster within ourselves, have to do with things we want to – or recognize we must – change in our lives, areas of our lives that we would like to improve.

To make resolutions requires a certain level of introspection, the ability to look within ourselves. Also, resolutions, if they stand any chance at success, require that we be honest with ourselves, both in terms of what we confront and our willingness to affect the necessary change.

Churches, too, often recognize that there are areas in their corporate lives that need to be changed if they are going to be more effective (and/or successful) in their mission and ministry. Unfortunately, many churches will not honestly confront the issues within their corporate lives and, if they do, frequently lack the willingness to make the changes neces-

sary to improve their situation.

A New Year is dawning for Lincoln Park Church, as for everyone. With this New Year comes many new opportunities. Hopefully, the resolve will be there to take advantage of the opportunities that present themselves, to make the changes that will improve the life and ministry of the church.



As you know, one of the opportunities that will present itself during this New Year is the arrival of a new pastor. It is my hope and prayer that you and your new pastor will resolve together to make Lincoln Park Church as effective as possible in its corporate life as well as in its witness and mission to the community and the world as you explore new avenues of ministry and mission together.

In the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter of the book of Revelation, John has a vision of God seated upon the heavenly throne and saying, *See, I am making all things new!* (Verse 5). That is the God I believe in: a God who is always doing new things and who invites us to participate in those new things. Will we honestly look at what we need to do – perhaps to change – as a

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faith community to participate in what God is doing? Do we have the resolve to do what needs to be done? What are our New Year's resolutions?

*See, I am making all things new!*

Happy New Year!

Pastor Larry

## Church Office Needs Your Help

From Jeanette Erskine and Pastor Larry Carl

If you've ever stopped in our church office, you know it's a busy place. In order for it to run smoothly and efficiently, we're asking for your help. First, please adhere to a few guidelines when submitting work to our diligent secretary, Sandi Bressi.

1. Please give as much notice as possible.
2. There will be a 72 hour minimum deadline for assignments/projects. If projects are given to the secretary beyond the deadline, she will make every effort to complete the work; however, if her workload is too high, she will have the authority to decline the project.
3. All submissions should be in final form for duplication.
4. Sunday Bulletin information and announcements must be to the office no later than noon on Tuesdays.

Also, in an effort to lighten the workload in the office, we're asking for volunteers to help with duplicating, bulk mailings, and other routine office tasks. If you can help and are interested in working a few hours occasionally, **Genevieve Matthews** will be coordinating a schedule of office volunteers to help Sandi. We are especially looking for someone who can operate, or learn to operate the Riso duplicating machine that we currently use. Please call Genevieve, 610-670-9711, to volunteer.

Our church office is a pleasant place to be and we welcome whatever help you can offer! Thank you for your consideration.

## Thanks for Supporting Our Project



From Raylin  
Ritenour

The annual cookie sale was another success! It was wonderful to see all of you

come out and enjoy each other's company and fellowship. I want to thank everyone who mixed, baked, packaged and bought those cookies. I hope that everyone enjoyed them.

Here is the story of our hard work; we

- mixed 110 batches
- baked over 6000 cookies
- packaged 222 one-pound trays
- sold 209 trays
- donated 11 trays

Again, a huge thank you for this very successful fund raiser that benefits our church. We have donated \$500 to Christian Education ministries and \$636 to the budget. None of this would be possible, if not for the help and support of all of you.

## The Beauty of the Season Reflected in our Church

From Dorris McCoy

The Trustees and Christian Education Committee express a heartfelt THANK YOU to all who decorated all Lincoln Park facilities before, during or after the night of Hanging of the Greens.



On that night, the food was great, and the fellowship and working together was fun and filled with encouraging conversation. The kids' projects, especially the candy-filled jar angels, have been a hit with LP's homebound. Carol singing ended the evening on a high note.

Your efforts brought a warm, festive welcome to visitors at all our Advent and Christmas programs and services.

## Welcome Newcomers!

We invite you to any meetings or activities you read about here. Please call the church office, 610-777-1422, for names, phone numbers, information, or to speak with our pastor. If you'd like to receive *News-Linc* in the mail, just notify our secretary. Please join in at Lincoln Park!

## Mark Your Calendar! Upcoming Events Include...

► **SOUPER BOWL OF CARING** - uses Super Bowl Sunday to inspire children and youth to fight hunger and poverty. LP's Church School children again will ask for your contributions on SOUPER BOWL OF CARING, Sunday, **February 6**, as they stand with their soup pots following all three services of worship. Worldwide the 2005 efforts involved over 11,000 organizations to collect almost \$4 million.

► **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE** - meets Sunday, **January 15**, in Room 101, to review present Sunday Church School options and plan additional spring and summer programs, like VBS. Perhaps you visited a church during the holidays and gleaned an exciting new venture. Come and share it! Input and new ideas are encouraged---come or contact **Linda Hope**, Chair, 610-670-9731, or **Dorris McCoy**, DCE. Anyone with a heart for teaching kids, youth or adults is encouraged to call Dorris or Linda for information on times and programs needing assistance.

► **OPPORTUNITY HOUSE SUPPER** - Tuesday, **March 7**, cooking starts at 4 pm in the church kitchen and serving ends by 7:30 pm. To offer help cooking, serving, or providing desserts or \$\$\$ for meals, contact **Jerry or Charleen Evaul**, 610-927-1692. Thanks to all who resolved to get involved and cooked up the new year's feast!

► **RECYCLE SATURDAY** - **January 21**, 9-9:30 am. Drop-off recyclables not taken by your township at the Church Office. Please sort, bundle, tie, or bag securely for efficient use of limited transport space. Adults and youth helpers may contact Youth Recycle Coordinator, **Jen Hope**, 610-670-9731.

► **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY MAGAZINE LIVE WORKSHOPS** teach how kids can encounter Jesus in a vibrant, personal way, and get a *Faith that Sticks!* These idea-packed days of training will be offered 8 am - 2:30 pm in Lancaster on **February 25** and in Camp Hill on **March 18**. To attend, please see or call **Dorris McCoy**. For an upfront, personal review of how CM's '05 event impacts and energizes leaders' spirits and teaching styles, stop **Tracy Goldsborough** who attended and is now teaching the Beginner Class (grades 1, 2, 3) at the second Church School hour.

► New for Youth Workers, Parents and Teachers of Youth Classes: **GROUP MAGAZINE LIVE** presents a new, all-day workshop to provide youth ministry tools and practical ideas to help youth connect their everyday life experiences to Jesus; in New Castle on **March 4** and York on **April 22**, 8:30 am - 2:30 pm. Contact **Dorris McCoy** for details. This training experience promises to help youth workers lead teens into *an every day in every way relationship with Jesus!*

# YOUTH-LINC

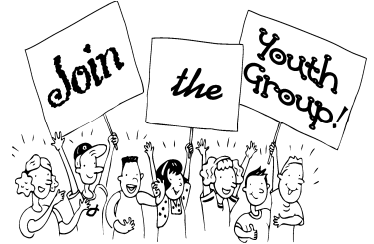
## Calling All Youth for Candy Making

From Linda Hope

The UMYF will meet Sunday, **January 22**, at noon, in the Kitchen/Social Hall, to make candies to sell for Valentine's Day. Come join the fun and help make some sweet treats!

To offer help, to donate items, or make advance orders, please contact **Linda Lee**, 610-286-7533. Youth should RSVP to **Linda Lee**.

Parents are needed to coordinate and plan a February and March activity for the UMYF. If you are able to help, please contact **Linda Hope**, 610-670-9731.



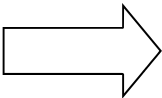
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## Did You Know?



LOCAL MISSIONS

**Our Missions Committee has paid off the balance (\$500) for a new dishwasher at Central Park Food Ministry. Thank you to all who support our church and its outreach.**



**Missions Committee will meet February 7, at 7 pm, in the Church Library.**



## Volunteers in Mission (VIM) Sends Team to Aid Hurricane Victims

From Barbara Wenger

A team of volunteers from churches in the Northwest District of the PA Conference of the United Methodist Church is being organized for a trip to



assist victims of Hurricane Katrina. I will be part of this team, headed for Ocean Springs, Mississippi, from

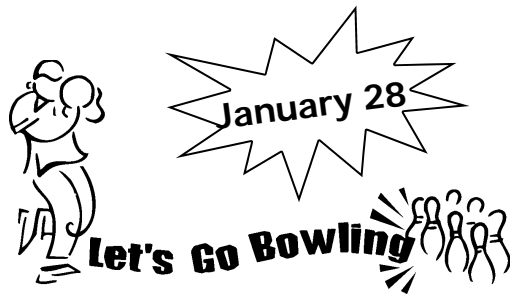
February 20 to March 4. We will be working on reconstruction of homes.

So far, five individuals representing three congregations have signed up. The Team Leader will be Lee Smedley, a member of Bethany UMC, Hamburg.

Members of Annville UMC, Annville, Central Park UMC, Reading, Mt. Gretna UMC, Mt. Gretna, Bethany UMC, Hamburg, and Lincoln Park UMC are supporting this team.

I am praying and hopeful that my congregation will be generous enough to help pay \$350 for materials for the reconstruction of homes in Biloxi, Mississippi.

Thank you so much for everyone's support of my past mission trips. You are vital in our efforts to help others in need.



From Gabriella Antunes

Don't miss it!! Join us Saturday, **January 28**, from 6 to 9 pm. at Berks Lanes in Sinking Spring, with FREE PIZZA. Drinks are not included.

Bring your friends and family to play games and have fun. Cost will be \$9 per person for 2 games and \$10 per person for 3 games, with shoe rental included. Children 10 and under are free. Contact **Gabriella Antunes**, 610-670-5045, or by email at [TheAntunes@comcast.net](mailto:TheAntunes@comcast.net).

*(Continued from page 1)*

securely, and placed them into large containers.

Eventually, Sea Freight or giant cargo planes carried them to Africa, South America, or maybe Armenia. Soon children in over 90 countries worldwide received a gift box and Gospel material explaining about Jesus Christ in their own language. Wherever your gift went, you can be sure that it brought a smile to a child's face and glory to God.

## Stewardship Thoughts

From Pastor Larry Carl

A farm equipment dealer described a beautiful new tractor in the showroom to the farmer who was looking at it. Lavish words painted an exciting picture of power coupled with ease of operation. Each special feature was eloquently enhanced with sales hyperbole. Glowing terms proclaimed the wisdom of investment in this particular model. Then the dealer told the farmer how much he (the dealer) needed to make this sale. If the farmer didn't buy the tractor, the company might go out of business!



Too often, this story is similar to what happens in our churches. Actually, it may be better than what we do in the church. Ministries of the church can be described in a vivid way to excite the potential giver. Features of the church's ministry are seldom extolled. In a rapid move, we zero in on the invitation: 'Please give, because the church needs the money to keep going.'

The invitation is not an invitation to keep the church afloat but to participate in its mission . . . The invitation is to invest in gospel work in this world.

We receive an abundance of invitations each day.

Giving is only one kind of invitation the church offers. It is a part of commitment but not all of it. In a culture with such strong economic implications for every action, giving is a very important dimension. It is a powerful sign – both to the outside world and the self-understanding of the giver.

Jesus had a lot to say about the way we manage our resources. He recommended sharing, giving, and sacrificing. He believed that the way we use our resources reflects our relationship with God. The church's invitation to commitment is always in the context of the mission of Christ. Financial giving is one dimension of the committed life. To omit giving from the commitment invitation is to ignore an important part of our faith response.

---Herb Mather, *Don't Shoot the Horse ('Til You Know How to Drive the Tractor)*, pp. 83-85

# 2006 Stewardship Campaign Results

Through December 18, 2005

From Derek Ritenour

The Finance Committee would like to thank everyone who committed to support the church financially during the next fiscal year. Your pledges enable our church leaders to plan for the future. If you were unable to make a pledge for 2006, we ask that you support the church as you feel led.



Congratulations to **Jeffrey and Heather (Henne) Soltysik** who were married on October 22. We wish you much happiness in your new life together.

A decorative border of musical notes surrounds the central text. The notes are arranged in a rectangular frame, with a slightly larger note at each corner. The notes are black and white, and the border is consistent throughout the page.

# Grace Notes

From Lin Umstead

## **HEAR THOSE BELLS RINGING!!!**

JOYFUL RINGERS (ringing at the 10:45 traditional service) - an informational meeting is being organized for any current, former, or new members of the traditional bell choir. Please see Bev Perella or phone her at 610-603-0150 for more details.

PRAISE RINGERS (ringing at the 9:15 contemporary service) will have a short run-through on Sunday, January 22nd immediately following the 9:15 service to practice the anthem for January 29th.

**Bev and I would like to thank the congregation and staff of LPUMC for their prayer, support and participation in the various musical groups throughout this Christmas season. May God bless you all!**

*“You can study orchestration, you can study harmony and theory and everything else, but melodies come straight from God.”*

—Composer Quincy Jones



## Parish Resource Services Center Update

From Dorris McCoy

The Parish Resource Center is a short distance off Rt. 30W. This is the place for creative interaction of ideas, concerns, and questions with fellow colleagues in ministry and the talented, experienced consultants available at the PRC.

Lincoln Park Church is a member of this center, packed full of people, audio, visual, and paper resources which are up-to-date and designed to strengthen congregations and equip leaders. The PRC now offers a Church Communication Network providing free access to satellite seminars. New is their extensive on-line library of film loops and still photographs for presentations via the Barna Group Plus Barna Films Website; access information by visiting [www.parishresourcecenter.org/lancaster](http://www.parishresourcecenter.org/lancaster) or call them at 717-299-1113. To make a personal visit, you can also call me, **Dorris McCoy**. I check their resources and staff for new ideas on a regular basis.

### Sacred Circle Discontinued for Now

From Loreen Miller

Due to my ongoing medical condition and scheduling changes, I will be discontinuing the Sacred Circle Prayer Ministry meetings until further notice. *This includes the January 10 meeting.*

Hopefully we can resume in the spring. Thank you for your prayers and your patience.



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The Ulrich family, especially Alice and Thomas, on the loss of John Henry Ulrich, 86, on December 12.

The Brock family on the loss of David's sister, Susan L. Brock, 57, on December 27.

May God surround you with his love and care.

# Tips for Making the Most of a Hospital Visit

From Linda Francisco Bets, Chaplain at Iowa Methodist Medical Center  
and Blank Children's Hospital in Des Moines, Iowa

1. Respect the patient's dignity and privacy. Telephone first to ensure your visit is timely and appropriate. Knock before you enter, even for relatives.
2. Concentrate on the patient, not your own activities, worries, and feelings.
3. Visit the patient, rather than visiting around the patient, even if the patient is unresponsive.
4. Offer to pray with the patient. Include the patient's concerns in your prayer.
5. Don't display any knowledge you may have about the patient's condition; let the patient tell you what's going on.
6. Never gossip about a hospital patient.
7. Offer to relieve family members so they may get coffee or take a walk.
8. Limit your visit. Two 20-minute visits are better than one 40-minute visit. Phone calls should also be brief.

When a patient has a life-threatening illness or is comatose, visits may be too much, and your support may best be expressed with frequent notes, cards and acts of kindness.

When you visit a seriously ill patient:

- Listen more than you talk. Avoid sharing stories of others with the same illness.
- Accept the patient as he is, whether passive, angry, sad, or optimistic.
- Always assume you can be heard. People in comas hear, think, feel and

dream.

- Speak to the person by name in a normal tone of voice.
- Touch is comforting. Hold hands, stroke an arm, the forehead or cheek.
- Read or recite familiar Bible passages such as Psalm 23, the Lord's Prayer or the Apostles' Creed.

From our  
mailbox



♥ Brenda and I extend our sincere gratitude to you, the congregation at Lincoln Park United Methodist Church, for your very generous Christmas gift. Also, to all of you who remembered us with gifts and cards during the holiday season we extend our appreciation. Your thoughtfulness brightened our holidays and means more to us than mere words can express.

When we count our blessings you are numbered among them. Again, thank you very much for all your kindness.

Pastor Larry Carl

♥ A special thank you from all the staff at Lincoln Park Church for all the generous contributions from the congregation towards our Christmas gifts.

Lincoln Park Church Staff



# Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



January  
13  
for our  
Feb. issue

## Change of Address

### Andrew Fallon

3318 Volta Pl NW Apt 2  
Washington DC 20007-2735

### Peter & Tara Flickinger

221 Bradley Ave  
Sinking Spring PA 19608-1710

### John Garraway

5224 Lake Adventure  
Milford PA 18337-9660

### Grant Garrity

5312 42 St NW  
Washington DC 20015

### Melissa Hassel

711 Hill Rd Apt F  
Wernersville PA 19565-9799

### Alison Seyfert

439 Bricker Rd #R  
Bernville PA 19506-8712

### Jeffrey Soltysik

621 Byram St  
Reading PA 19609  
610-406-9394

*News-Linc*, monthly publication of Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church, hopes to link you to your church with information about its programs, plans, and people. Your comments and suggestions are welcome and may be left in the newsletter mailbox by the church office.

#### Our staff-

Editor: Cheri Fallon , 610-678-8735

Assistant Editor: Debbie Harvey

Staff: Nancy Artz, Bunny Carlson, Ginny Freyling, Kathleen Hogg, Gloria Kotzer, Elaine Meckes, Suzanne Romig, Doris Schucker, and Barbara Wenger

### Troy & Lisa Woessner

512 Lawrence Ave  
West Lawn PA 19609-2308

### Winter Addresses (till April, 2006)

#### Mary Griffiths

655 W Lake Jasmine Circle Apt 103  
Vero Beach FL 32962

#### Dean & Barbara Starr

Forrest Dunes, 18<sup>th</sup> Fl  
5511 North Ocean Blvd  
Myrtle Beach SC 29577

## Birthdays in January

(age 1 to 10 years old)

Mayson Minnich 3 years old

Meigin Chandler 4 years old

Chloe Laity 4 years old

Adam Schaeffer 4 years old

Jordan Kern 7 years old

Parker Chadwick 9 years old

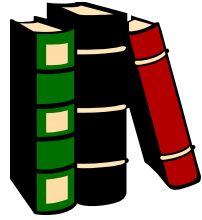
Cameron Panase 9 years old



## Women's Book Club

From Nancy Dettra

Please plan to join us **January 23**, at 7 pm, at the Dettra's home, 407 Harvard Blvd, Lincoln Park. Our book will be *A Million Little Pieces*, by James Frey.



Worship with us: 8:15 & 10:45 am (Traditional Worship)  
9:15 am (Contemporary Worship in Social Hall)

Office hours 9 am-3 pm Mon-Fri. Pastor: Larry Carl, 610-670-1022  
Office phone 610-777-1422 Dir of Education: Dorris McCoy, 610-777-6128  
Ext: Kitchen 28; Rm 200 35; Dir of Music: Linda Umstead  
Ed Bldg 40; Nursery 39 Secretary: Sandy Bressi  
Fax line 610-777-4309 Editor: Cheri Fallon, 610-678- 8735  
Voice mail Pastor Larry 44, Sandy Bressi 21, cherfallon@comcast.net, debharv3@verizon.net  
Linda Umstead 26, Dorris McCoy 24, Nursery:Gabi Antunes/Amy Krebs/Holly Newman  
Nancy Brown 29 Worship Leader: Becky Chadwick  
Bookkeeper: Nancy Brown  
Custodian: Mark Bisignaro

Web: www.lpcumc.org  
E-mail: lpcumc@verizon.net (church), lpumpastor@verizon.net (Pastor Carl),  
dmccoy2@verizon.net (Dorris McCoy), musicdir@verizon.net (Lin Umstead),  
lpcumcbkpr@verizon.net (Nancy Brown)  
(For urgent messages, use voice mail, please.)

## NEWS-LINC

Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church  
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Reading, PA 19609

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