

# News-Line

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*Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church Newsletter*  
*Lincoln Park, Pennsylvania* *March, 2007*

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## **Lenten Studies Emphasize Spiritual Discipline**

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

**L**ent — more than a somber, dark time of giving things up — invites us to the Lenten discipline of adding study and reflection to our spiritual journey to Easter. All are invited to attend one or both of the following opportunities for inner meditation and faith growth.

Cooperatively offered is, *Journey Into Prayer*, on Tuesdays, beginning with a light supper of soup at 6:30 pm at Holy Cross UMC, N. 5th St. (call LP Church Office to carpool). Sessions continue March 6, 13, 20, & 27 and will be led by staff from LP, Holy Cross, Central Park, and St. Matthew UMC. Prayer-related presentations and activities will examine prayer practices from many traditions and times:

- Contemplative Prayer
- Praying with Icons
- A Contemporary Exam
- Creating Your Own Prayer Psalm.



### **Lenten Suppers & Study**

A huge THANK YOU goes to LP's QUILTERS who prepared the soup for the February 27 session---YUM!

Also offered is the *Sunday Lenten Supper Series*, in LP's Memorial Hall, continuing on Sundays, March 4, 11, 18, & 25. These sessions begin with a light supper at 5 pm and conclude by 7 pm, with child care and children's activities provided. Discussion options include:

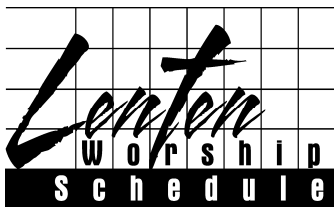
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# WORSHIP IN MARCH

From Pastor Jerry McGrath



**Sunday, March 4 - SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**  
“A Woman Healed” - Isaiah 40:28-31, Luke 13:10-17;  
*When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said,  
'Woman, you are set free from your ailment.'* (Luke  
13:12)

**Tuesday, March 6, 6:30 pm**

Supper and Prayer at Holy Cross United Methodist Church in Reading.

**Sunday, March 11 - THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**

“Nicodemus” - Numbers 21:6-9, John 3:1-21; *For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.* (John 3:16)

**Tuesday, March 13, 6:30 pm**

Supper and Prayer at Holy Cross United Methodist Church in Reading.

**Sunday, March 18 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

“An Adulterous Woman” - Isaiah 11:1-5, John 8:2-11; *Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.* (John 8:7b).  
New members will be joining our congregation this morning.

**Tuesday, March 20, 6:30 pm**

Supper and Prayer at Holy Cross United Methodist Church in Reading.

**Sunday, March 25 - FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

“John” - Isaiah 55:1-7, John 6:47-51; *I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.* (John 6:51)

**Tuesday, March 27, 6:30 pm**

Supper and Prayer at Holy Cross United Methodist Church in Reading.

## Seder and Drama Planned for Maundy Thursday

From Becky Chadwick

On Maundy Thursday, April 5, we'll celebrate a Christian Seder together. A drama reenacting the Last Supper and Holy Communion will be presented. Also included will be First Communion for our third graders! Please plan to join us. Reservations will be taken this month.



## Do You Have Questions About Communion?

From Pastor Dorris McCoy



COMMUNION  
WORKSHOP

Children in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and above, and those interested in learning more about the sacrament of Holy Communion, are invited to our COMMUNION WORKSHOP at noon, Sunday, March 25, in the Sanctuary.

- Explore the Biblical and historical roots of why we use the elements we use at the Lord's Table.
- Discuss the various ways offered for people to participate (pew, altar, intinction).
- Ask all those questions about Holy Communion that you've wondered about and never had the opportunity to ask.

Children will receive letters of invitation and will commune for the first time with their families during the Maundy Thursday service of Holy Week, April 5. Questions, contact **Pastor Jerry**.

## 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!





# Grace Notes

From Lin Umstead

THE READING PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA will present a program at Lincoln Park, **Sunday, March 11**, at 3 pm, (bad weather date is March 25), in celebration of their 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Charlie Adams will narrate this musical sweep through the decades, starting in the 30's through the present.

A special thank you to the children who sang so beautifully last month, and to **Beverly Perella, Pastor Dorris McCoy, Becky Chadwick and Elizabeth Stroud** for the teamwork and coordination between the services that makes this possible. We plan to have the children sing again on April 1 (Palm Sunday), April 29 (1 combined service at 10 am) and May 6 (Music Sunday).

## What is Lectio Divina?

At the 8:00 Traditional Service, Pastor Jerry has been introducing this time-honored method of prayer. Lectio Divina is a way of listening to the texts of scripture as if we were in conversation with Christ and He was suggesting the topics of conversation. This type of prayer could be considered "Centering Prayer." Centering prayer is not a technique, relaxation exercise, or charismatic gift, but rather an exercise of faith, hope, and love. It is at the same time a relationship with God and a discipline to foster that relationship. This has been summarized by Gregory the Great (6<sup>th</sup> Century) as *resting in God*. This was the classical meaning of contemplative prayer for the first sixteen centuries.

# From the Pastor's Desk

From Pastor Jerry McGrath

*'Woe is me! I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty.'* Then one of the seraphs flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. With it he touched my mouth and said, 'See, this has touched your lips, your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for.' Isaiah 6:5-7

**S**o this is Lent. Isn't this the most boring, dull season in the Christian year? Let us just slide by this time and get ready for the joy and happiness of Easter. What is the big deal about Lent? People really don't pay attention to it too much anymore.

Lent is the most penitent time in the Christian year, but I don't like being penitent. Please don't make me be penitent. Wait a minute...what is penitent? Penitent means to repent, to be sorry for having done wrong and the willingness to atone, to make right. We can't experience the full meaning and joy of Easter until we journey through Lent understanding the implications of what Christ has done for us.

Lent is an excellent time for us to journey deeper in our spiritual walk with Christ. During this time we reflect on our human condition, broken people living broken lives. We are reminded of our mortality and our dependence on God to

save us. As we reveal who we are with all our spiritual warts and scars, we are also fortunate to experience who God is and what God does through Jesus Christ: loves, accepts, reconciles, and sacrifices.

We are somewhat like Isaiah, *Woe is me*. We are unclean. God is perfectly clean. We are not worthy, but as we travel through Lent we also realize that God slowly draws us closer to Him, calling us worthy through Jesus Christ.

◆ I am a man of unclean lips, & ◆  
have seen the King, **LORD** live among people  
**THE** of unclean lips, & my eyes  
**ALMIGHTY** ◆

Isaiah 6:5

This Lenten Season, Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church will be providing many ministries and programs to assist you on your Lenten journey. Our Sunday morning worship series, *Christ on Trial*, wrestles with the questions, "Who is Christ? Is he who he claims to be? What does he mean for me and my living?" We, along with some of the United Methodist Churches of Reading, will also be providing Tuesday night Soup and Prayer

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## Ride In To AVALANCHE RANCH

From Karen Osika

Howdy, Friends!!!

Come to **Avalanche Ranch**, a wild ride through God's Word! Get ready for an exciting celebration of God's love filled with stampeding cattle, yapping cattle dogs, soaring eagles, and a whole herd of friends. You'll enjoy Bible Point Crafts and exciting games, experience thrilling Bible stories, sample tasty snacks, and hear unforgettable music.

The round up will begin **June 18-22** at 9 am. If you're interested in corralling some exciting memories, contact **Karen Osika** or **Pastor Dorris McCoy** at 610-777-1422.

There will be a planning meeting on March 7, at 6:30, in Room 101, for any cow-pokes (adults and youth) interested in sharing in another exciting VBS. We will explore our theme, our leadership, and decoration possibilities. For tenderfoots, come for a look see and then decide. It's an experience you don't want to miss.

## Souper Bowl - Super Caring

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

Your donations for SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY efforts, along with a boost from our Missions Committee, mean that \$450.32 has been sent to Central Park UMC's Soup Kitchen ministry. LP's children look forward to standing with their soup pots after services on Souper/Super Bowl Sunday. The looks of joy and surprise as totals are tallied are priceless to helping adults who feel truly blessed by the kids' enthusiasm and your generosity.



From the SOUPER BOWL reporting site, we are reminded that our participation began in 1999 with \$50; those dollars have grown steadily over the years. The SOUPER BOWL OF CARING is the nation's largest youth-led weekend of giving.

Thank you for supporting our kids' involvement. With your help almost \$3 million has been raised, hunger and homeless needs fought, and more young people experience the joy of serving Christ by serving others!

# Worship and Service Opportunities for Youth

From Linda Hope



## Easter Flower Sale

UMYF will sell Easter Flowers to decorate our worship areas for the Easter Season. Please see order form on p. 16. Questions, contact **Linda Lee**.

## Saturday, March 31 - 9-11:30 am

### EASTER EGG HUNT

...youth hide eggs, help with games, etc. All youth interested in helping should contact **Linda Hope** or **Tracy Goldsborough**.

## Saturday, April 7

Time to be determined...set up Easter Flowers in both worship areas. Contact **Linda Lee**.

## Sunday, April 29- 10:00 am

### UNITY SUNDAY

Youth Praise Band to participate. Anyone wanting to participate in the band or in any other way, please contact **Pastor**

**Dorris** or **Linda Hope**.

## Monday, June 18 - Friday, June 22

### 8:30 am - Noon

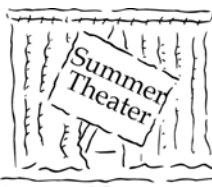
### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Youth are needed for crew leaders. Please contact **Linda Hope**, **Pastor Dorris** or **Karen Osika** if you can help!

## Sunday, July 29 - Friday, August 3

### SUMMER THEATER -

INTERGENERATIONAL DRAMA/MUSICAL  
Evening practices run throughout the



week with a performance at the end of the week. We also may perform for the congregation on Sunday, August 5. Auditions/

tryouts to be held in early summer so parts can be distributed prior to practices. For more information, contact **Linda Hope**, **Pastor Dorris** or **Beverly Perella**.

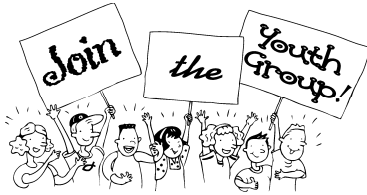
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Study at Holy Cross United Methodist Church in Reading.

On Sunday evenings, here at LP, there will be supper and three studies to choose from, based on Spiritual Gifts, Worship, and small group discipleship that focuses on Wesley's *Holy Club* model. These are just some ways for us to experience the meaning of Lent. May we take this time to reflect on who we are and what God has done for us through Jesus Christ this Lenten season.

# YOUTH-LINK



## UMYF Happenings

From Linda Hope

Check the UMYF Happenings board in both worship areas for more information and updates! Remember, friends welcome! Questions, please contact **Linda Hope**, 610-670-9731, or [lsihope@aol.com](mailto:lsihope@aol.com). Plan to join us for these upcoming activities:

### **Sunday, March 4 - Noon**

Pizza @ church and Movie Theater...need parents to chaperone and carpool to movie theater.

### **Sunday, April 29 - 4 -8 pm**

Game Night at the **Hopes**...Food, fun and fellowship!

### **Friday, May 11 through Saturday, May 12**

Camp Out at the **Lee's** with movie and bonfire, then travel to French Creek on Saturday to play frisbee golf. **Beth Blank** and **Linda Lee** will organize.

### **June**

Reading Phillies Night at the Ballpark - Date to be determined. **Beth Blank** will coordinate.

### **July**

Weekend Beach Retreat in Lewes, Delaware with **Pastor Jerry** (possible dates...7/6-7/8 or 7/13-7/15). Need young adult chaperones!

### **Sunday, August 5 - 3 -7 pm**

Pool Party at the **Hopes** for UMYF and their families.

## Thanks from UMYF!

The Youth would like to thank everyone who supported our recent cookbook sales. A total of 140 cookbooks were published and sold! The funds raised will be used to send the youth on a weekend retreat this summer. Thanks again for your support, and *happy cooking!*





**Jr. Youth Events  
4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Graders**

From Tracy Goldsborough

Upcoming events include:

**Sunday, March 18**

Bowling for Mary's Shelter (time to be announced)

**Saturday, March 31**

Help with games at Easter Party at Church; private Easter hunt for volunteers after party (time to be announced)

**Friday-Saturday, April 20-21**

Overnight Retreat at the Church, with Horseback Riding on Saturday

**Saturday, May 19**

Car Wash Fundraiser with Flea Market (10 am to 3 pm)

*WE NEED PARENTS' HELP FOR THIS*

**Sunday, June 3**

Picnic at Mohnton Pool to kick off summer

**July/August**

Summer Break

**A Note of thanks from the  
Jr. Youth...**

... to all who attended the Pre-Lenten/Mardi Gras Pancake Brunch. We were all reminded of the customs and spiritual disciplines related to Lenten practices. A full report of proceeds, which will benefit the upcoming Jr. Group retreat, will be announced soon.

# Come Join the Easter Fun for Families

From Raylin Ritenour

Calling all moms, dads, aunts, uncles and grandparents. We are having our annual EASTER EGG HUNT CELEBRATION on **March 31**, 10 to 11:30 am. Bring your children, nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and friends. The egg hunt times are as follows:

Ages 2 and under	10:15
Ages 3 & 4	10:30
Ages 5 & 6	10:45
Ages 7 - 10	11:00



While waiting for their egg hunt, or after they find their eggs, children will have lots of fun activities, like cookie decorating, Easter games, and crafts in Memorial Hall. There will be plenty of gifts for your child to win with raffle tickets. The Easter bunny will make an appearance, and there are photo boards, so bring your cameras. Light refreshments will be served in Memorial Hall.

There will be a sign-up sheet, donation list and volunteer list in Memorial Hall and the Wagner Room. We hope to see you all there - it's sure to be a good time. With questions or if you want to help, call **Raylin Ritenour**, 610-406-0117, or **Tracy Goldsborough**, 610-777-6991.

## Let's Go Bowling!

From Rebecca Chelius



Don't miss it!! Join us Saturday, **March 10**, from 5:30 to 8:30 pm, at Berks Lanes in Sinking Spring, with FREE pizza and drinks. Bring your friends and family for a great night of bowling. The cost will be \$8 per person for 2 games and \$9 for 3 games, with shoe rental included.

Children 10 and under are free. Contact **Gabi Antunes** at 610-670-5045 or by email at [TheAntunes@comcast.net](mailto:TheAntunes@comcast.net).



## 3rd Annual Chili Supper and Talent Show!

Saturday, April 21, 6 pm

If you'd like to participate in the talent show, please contact **Lin Umstead**, **Cory Laity**, or **Becky Chadwick**. If you'd like to assist with the dinner, please contact **Becky Chadwick**. Tickets will be on sale at the beginning of April!



## Sunday Church School Seeks To Change Lives

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me." Lincoln Park doesn't stop with just inviting *children* to come, learn and grow in Sunday morning's church school options. Every Sunday LP's Church School offers spiritual growth for *all ages*.

### 9:30 am

- After Children's Time at 9:15 worship, sessions for 3 year olds through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade follow in Rooms 101 & 104, beginning with music in the Choir Room, led by **Beverly Perella**
- Adults study the Lectionary Cycle C readings in the Church Library under the tutelage of **Norm & Nancy Dettra**.

### 10:45 am

- All children gather first for theme and musical introductions in the Choir Room and then move to graded options in Rooms 101, 102, & 104
- Youth Class meets weekly in Room 103
- Adult Bible Class meets in the Church Library with **Earl Hope** to continue their in-depth look at biblical characters, their history and message for us today.

With questions or to offer topic suggestions, please see **Pastor Dorris** or CEd Chair, **Linda Hope**.






### Children's Activities Involve Learning and Service

Children's activities at both Church School hours center on the same theme, using differing curriculum approaches from Group Publishing to keep the attention of kids who love staying for both hours. During March sessions, children will journey through the Gospel of Luke (portions of Chapters 6, 9, 15) and John 13:1-17 to explore Jesus' teaching about good fruit, present the Old Testament connection, learn about God's loving and forgiving ways, and challenge them also to be servants as Jesus was.

They can tell you about their recent efforts at servanthood...though they may not use those exact words. All classes learned about **Betty Frederickson's** Medical Missions trip to Northern India. They made bookmarks for her to share with children she meets, to let them know that they too are God's children. They also made Valentines for Veterans in local veterans hospitals and stood with soup pots for SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY.






# March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
<p><b>Looking ahead to next month...</b></p> <p>4/5 Maundy Thursday Worship 7pm    4/21 Chili Supper/Talent Show 6pm            4/8 EASTER    4/27-28 Jr Youth Retreat            4/9 Finance 7pm    4/28 Family Game Night/Potluck            4/17 Music Committee 7pm    4/29 Unity Service 10am</p>			
<p>4</p> <p>UMYF-noon</p> <p>Confirmation Class 5pm</p> <p>Supper Study Series 5pm</p> 	<p>5</p> <p>Bible Study 10:30am</p> <p>Worship Committee 7pm</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Opportunity House 4pm</p> <p>Lenten Study/prayer Series @ Holy Cross UMC 6:30pm</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Adult Bell Choir</p> <p>Chancel Choir</p>
<p>11</p> <p>Reading Philharmonic 3pm</p> <p>Confirmation Class 5pm</p> <p>Supper Study Series 5pm</p> <p><b>DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME!</b></p> 	<p>12</p> <p>Bible Study 10:30am</p> <p>Agape 12pm</p> <p>Finance 7pm</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Lenten Study/Prayer Series @ Holy Cross UMC 6:30pm</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Chancel Choir</p>
<p>18</p> <p>B/P screening</p> <p>Mary's Shelter BOWI-A-1 non</p> <p>Confirmation Class 5pm</p> <p>Supper Study Series 5pm</p> 	<p>19</p> <p>Bible Study 10:30am</p> <p>Church Council 7pm</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Lenten Study/Prayer Series @ Holy Cross UMC 6:30pm</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Chancel Choir</p> 
<p>25</p> <p>Communion Workshop 12pm</p> <p>Supper Study Series 5pm</p> 	<p>26</p> <p>Bible Study 10:30am</p> <p>Book Club 7pm</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Lenten Study/Prayer Series @ Holy Cross UMC 6:30pm</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Chancel Choir</p>

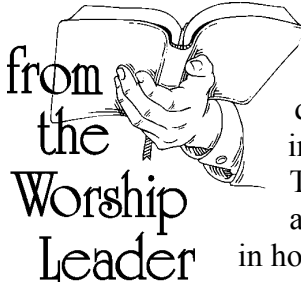
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Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>1</p> <p>← Praise Team 8pm</p>	<p>2</p> <p>-Work Detail-Memorial Hall- Flea Market Meeting 7pm</p>	<p>3</p> <p>→ Women's Bible Study 9am</p>
<p>7pm 7:45pm</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Craft Group 1pm Praise Team 8pm</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Women's Bible Study 9am Bowling 5:30pm</p> 
<p>7:30pm</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Praise Team 8pm</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Women's Bible Study 9am</p> 
<p>8pm</p> <p>DAY ring</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Craft Group 1pm Praise Team 8pm</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Confirmation trip to Synagogue</p> 	<p>24</p> <p>Women's Bible Study 9am</p>
<p>7:30pm</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Praise Team 8pm</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Women's Bible Study 9am Egg Hunt 10am</p>

## Worship Leader Minute for March

From Becky Chadwick



I learned a new word this week. *Shachah* (pronounced “shaw-khaw”) is the original Hebrew word we now know as *worship*. According to John Randall Dennis, author of *Living Worship*, this word is used in the Old Testament over 170 times! Authors of the Old Testament used it over and over to encourage each other and to describe their experiences. It means “to prostrate in honor to God - to bow down, fall down flat, to do reverence, to stoop, to worship” – to *shachah*.

The most interesting part of the word and its use in the Bible is that to which *shachah* should and should not be offered. *Shachah* is so special, so meaningful that it is reserved for God only. It is not offered to anything or anyone else EVER! So the real question is, do we *shachah* God only, or are there other things or people that we give our *shachah* to on a daily basis?

I was having a conversation with my oldest son, Jonathan, last night at dinner in which he was sharing with me the different wrestling stars he liked or disliked and why. He went through a quite extensive list of names, telling me why he once liked the wrestler and why he now does or doesn't. His reasoning was very sound, and I was very proud of him for his criteria for not looking up to one or another (“I don't like him anymore because I found out he does drugs” “He is really mean to people in real life.” etc.) and his criteria for looking up to others (“He is a good guy in real life.” “He helps other people in real life.”). What occurred to me as we were talking is Jonathan is looking to these “stars” to demonstrate what Jonathan sees as worthy in his life. He is looking to the wrestlers to demonstrate the characteristics that Jonathan sees as worthy to be upheld.

Jonathan doesn't want to worship the wrestlers; he wants a role model to follow. Isn't that what so many people are looking for? They are looking for people that *shachah* the one true thing – God! The way we live our life is *shachah*! The way we treat others, the way we use our money, the way we speak to strangers, the way we express our likes and dislikes, the way we spend our time is all worship. If God is at the center of all that we do and we are conscious of what we worship, then we make good role models, not only for our children but for those who are young in their faith. What do you *shachah*? Are you a role model that encourages others in their worship?

## MAKING DISCIPLES PART 3

From Pastor Dorris McCoy



## Making Disciples

The Eastern Pennsylvania Conference's MAKING DISCIPLES TRAINING continues with its third of 12 workshops on March 14, 15, 16 (each church chooses date, time, location), focusing on *Preparing Your Congregation's Ministry Action Plan*.

Speakers and resources will challenge participants and their represented churches to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. These sessions are wonderful ways to learn about the church beyond our locale and be challenged to let the Lord empower our personal and congregational ministries as we seek to reach more people for Jesus Christ!

Please call **Pastor Jerry** for more details and to attend!

## Annual Conference Superintendent Appointed

Gleaned from an article by Suzy Keenan in *NewSpirit!*

As of February 1, The Rev. Dr. William Gary George is assigned as Superintendent to the Central District.

A Philadelphia native, Dr. George earned a BA degree from Gwynedd Mercy College and a Master of Divinity degree from Philadelphia Theological Seminary. Further studies include a second Masters of Divinity from Drew University School of Theology, and a Doctorate of Ministry in Marriage and Family Enrichment from Eastern Baptist (now Palmer) Theological Seminary. After more training at the University of Pennsylvania's Division of Psychiatry, he became a Licensed Marriage

and Family Therapist with the Penn Council for Relations.

Dr. George was the first associate pastor at Camphor Memorial United Methodist Church. For the last 12 years, he has been the pastor of Grace United Methodist Church in Philadelphia.

Dr. George's hope for his ministry in the Central District "is to be a pastor to pastors and to enable them to lead people to win souls for Christ, to lead congregations in spiritual development, and to bring understanding, respect, and love for all cultures—for we are all one in Christ."

## UMYF SPRING FLOWER SALE



Please use the order form below to help beautify our church for Easter while helping our youth raise funds for their activities. There are limited numbers of flowers, so please order early. Every effort will be made to accommodate your order.



Azalea (\$8.50) \_\_\_\_\_ Hyacinth (\$6.50) \_\_\_\_\_

Lily (\$7.00) \_\_\_\_\_ Daffodil (\$5.50) \_\_\_\_\_

Tulip (\$6.50) \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of flowers: \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (please make check payable to LPUMC )

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate a dedication for each flower:

In honor of

\_\_\_\_\_

In memory of

\_\_\_\_\_

To the Glory of God

How would you like your name to appear with the dedication?

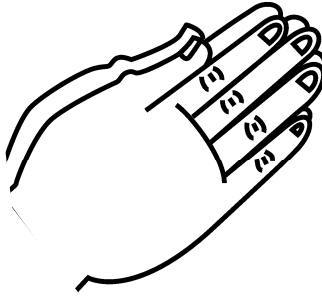
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Orders must be received by **March 18**. Order forms, accompanied by check or cash, may be placed in the baskets in the Wagner Room or Memorial Hall, or mailed to **Linda Lee**, 4800 Morgantown Rd, Morgantown, PA 19543. Call Linda with questions, 610-286-7533. Thank you for your support.



# Will You Try These Five Fingers of Prayer?

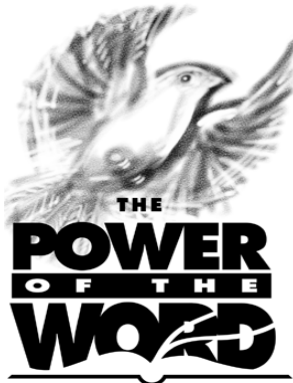
1. Your thumb is nearest to you. So begin by praying for those closest to you. They are easiest to remember. To pray for our loved ones is, as C.S. Lewis once said, a “sweet duty.”
2. The next finger is the pointing finger. Pray for those who teach, instruct, and heal. This includes teachers, doctors, and ministers. They need support and wisdom in pointing others in the right direction. Keep them in your prayers.
3. The next finger is the tallest finger. It reminds us of our leaders. Pray for the President, leaders in business and industry, and administrators. These people shape our nation and guide public opinion. They need God’s guidance.



4. The fourth finger is our ring finger. Surprising to many is the fact that this is our weakest finger; as any piano teacher will testify. It should remind us to pray for those who are weak, in trouble, or in pain. They need your prayers day and night. You cannot pray too much for them.

5. And lastly comes our little finger — the smallest finger of all. Which is where we should place ourselves in relation to God and others. As the Bible says, “The least shall be the greatest among you.” Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself.

By the time you have prayed for the other four groups, your own needs will be put into proper perspective, and you will be able to pray for yourself more effectively.



I advise depressed people to pray this simple prayer: “The joy of the Lord is my strength.” (Nehemiah 8:10) Pray it slowly. Experience the prayer. Let the prayer become a part of you — morning, noon and night. When a mood of depression comes upon you, pray it all the more. I’ve seen the spirit of depression vanish from many people when they prayed this prayer continually.

Fr. George DePrizio

## Guest Coordinators

### Step Up

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

On **Tuesday, March 6**, LP again will prepare and serve supper at OPPORTUNITY HOUSE, with



**OPPORTUNITY HOUSE**

**Jerry & Joan Schaeffer** serving as Guest Co-

ordinators. Permanent coordinators are still being sought by the Evauls, so please call 610-927-1692 to serve in this 6-times-per-year opportunity. Menu and prep times are very flexible.

For March's servant opportunity, please contact **Jerry and Joan**, 610-670-2434, and learn how you can help with preparations, serving at the shelter, or donations of \$\$\$, desserts, or fresh fruits/veggies.

## Check Out the New UMC Website

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

The national office of United Methodist Communications announces the opening of their newly redesigned national website, [www.UMC.org](http://www.UMC.org), where all churches can connect to leadership resources and news of the worldwide United Methodist Church.

Church members, committee chairs and members, and church-wide event planners are invited to visit and browse this site to discover the new features and ministry/info resources available to all!



## FAITHFUL RECYCLERS: PLEASE NOTE CHANGE

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

The procedure for church recycling has been changed by LP's Trustees, no longer necessitating transport to Pottstown's Recycling Services Center. Thank you to all our faithful helpers, transporters, and recyclers over the years of UMYF's cooperation in these efforts to be good stewards of God's creation. For directions to the Pottstown Center to continue individual recycling, please see **Pastor Dorris**.

Join the Team!



## LEADERSHIP TEAM POSSIBILITIES

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

As all can tell, LP kids are happy and involved---but---we can always do more with more willing workers. Sometimes present workers need a Sunday off to refuel in worship, attend their own study, or be in recreation with their own families. The kids, leaders, and staff are never short of ideas for new opportunities to help kids grow. You may have some suggestions too---but---it truly takes a team. Jesus called a team to be his disciples! Dare to let yourself be called to an education team at LP:

☺ teach    ☺ organize    ☺ make flyers    ☺ develop computer-generated lesson activities    ☺ put together lesson packets    ☺ keep the Resource Room tidy (ask Carol Piller about this)    ☺ sew some new costumes    ☺ cook/provide snack    ☺ shop for supplies (Dorris will provide the list-just turn in the green sheet for reimbursement)    ☺ chaperone a children's gathering    ☺ baby-sit for a Bible study

This list should stimulate your imagination to envision the possibilities of how and where you might be involved! To get on board, contact **Pastor Dorris** or CE Chair, **Linda Hope**, 610-670-9731. Believe me when I witness to knowing that we never know where the Lord may be wanting to lead us. DARE TO FOLLOW!

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### Living a Life of Balance

From Becky Chadwick

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY is held every Saturday at 9 am in the Church Library.



Please join us in discussing how we can prioritize the things in our lives so we can be

spiritually balanced. All women of the church and friends are welcome!

*(Continued from page 1)*

- *How Is It with Your Soul?--A Wesleyan Way of Prayer* led by **Pastor McGrath**.
- *Worship 101* to explore what worship is and how/whom we worship---led by **Becky Chadwick**.
- *Spiritual Gifts Discovery* to help us discover our unique spiritual gifts and their use in serving God---led by **Jack Villecco**.

For more information on specific choices, please call LP's Pastor of Christian Education, **Dorris McCoy**, or one of the above facilitators. To register for remaining classes, please call the church office.

# Your Offerings Support Many Causes

From Jerry Manhart

There are people in need that we at Lincoln Park cannot reach directly, but can help through other organizations. During 2006, Lincoln Park gave approximately 10 % of its income to other organizations.

Some of the money was budgeted; an example would be our Eastern Conference connectional money. Also, money was collected from the mission envelopes in your monthly packets. Youth fundraisers collected the rest.

Paul wrote about giving in his letters to the Corinthians and the Galatians:

*I am not trying to relieve others by putting a burden on you; but since you have plenty at this time, it is only fair that you should help those who are in need. (2 Corinthians 8: 13-14)*

*So then, as often as we have the chance, we should do good to everyone, and especially to those who belong to our family in the faith. (Galatians 6: 10)*

OUTREACH 2006	TOTAL
African University Fund	\$ 100.00
Berks Women in Crisis	\$ 300.00
Berwyn UMC- Scholarships/Construction	\$ 740.00
Bishop's Relief	\$ 5.00
Blooms & Baskets	\$ 108.00
Camperships	\$ 400.00
Central Park UMC- Souper Bowl	\$ 723.37
Children's Items	\$ 258.77
Connectional Ministries Fund	\$13,934.00
E. Pa. Conf. Katrina	\$ 975.00
First Baptist Church- Homework study	\$ 150.00
General Board of Higher Educ.	\$ 100.00
General Church Ministries	\$ 4,413.00
Greater Berks Food Bank	\$ 550.00
Habitat for Humanity	\$ 550.00
Human Relations Sunday	\$ 48.00
Mercy Community Church- Baby items	\$ 200.00
Missions Trip	\$ 884.11
Native American Sunday	\$ 72.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ 644.00
Opportunity House	\$ 1,357.84
Peace with Justice	\$ 50.00
Reading Berks Conf. Of Churches	\$ 15.23
Red Bird Mission	\$ 130.00
Salvation Army	\$ 650.00
Samaritan's Purse-Medication/Equipment	\$ 210.00
St. Matthew UMC- Katrina	\$ 4,854.74
Student Sunday	\$ 30.00
UMCOR	\$ 50.00
World Service Fund	\$ 4,877.00
World Wide Communion	\$ 120.00
Total	\$37,500.06



From Barbara Wenger, Mission Chair

The Mission Committee invites you to take an “imaginary trip” to help needy people throughout the world. You can “travel” with your support and prayers for **Betty Frederickson** when she embarks on a medical mission trip, March 10-24, to Lucknow, India. We will help supply them with necessary medicine.

Your second trip will be later in March with LP member **Alyssa Owens**, a Penn State student, to the country of Pandiasson, Haiti. We are happy to support her first trip.

When you return from your international trips, you will take care of local and important charities.

Donations are as follows:

Betty Frederickson	\$300
Alyssa Owens	\$300
Greater Berks Food Bank	\$150
Opportunity House	\$150
Methodist Services for Children & Families	\$200
Salvation Army	\$100
First Baptist Church	\$100
Wycliffe Bible Translators	\$200

**Next Mission Committee Meeting:**  
**March 5**  
**7 pm, in the Church Library**  
**Everyone is welcome!**

## **New Prayer Shawl Ministry Brings Blessings**

Four prayer shawls were blessed by Pastor McGrath at worship on February 18. They will be delivered by the Prayer Group to shut-ins as the need arises. This new ministry was begun in October.

From Hildamay Bartron

When I first heard about prayer shawls, my interest peaked. I was in need of a project to keep busy. Each night I'd watch football on TV, only to fall asleep half way through the game. Keeping my hands busy would insure my staying awake.

I'm not an expert at crocheting. I've never made a sweater, mittens, or even a cap. Still, I'm pretty good at straight stuff like scarves or baby blankets. So here I go. One shawl coming up.

The longer the shawl became the more my feelings grew with it. I imagined the person who would receive it. Would it be worn as a hug or keep a chill from old tired shoulders?

When I finished the first shawl there seemed to be something happening inside

*(Continued on page 23)*

## From our mailbox



♥ Dear Lincoln Park Friends,  
Thank you so much for your prayers and concern during my most recent problems with my back! Your cards and notes meant a great deal to me and helped to cheer me up. I appreciated each and every one of them. Thank you!

Becky Chadwick

♥ Thank you to all who sent cards, made telephone calls, and specifically to Pastor Jerry for his visit during my recent stay in the hospital. Thanks, too, for the church flowers and for the prayers that surrounded me with love and comfort, hastening my recovery.

My thanks to all of you,  
Jeanne Perkins

♥ I'd like to say a **BIG THANK YOU** to **ALL VOLUNTEERS** who helped with the Church Office move over the February 10<sup>th</sup> weekend. We could not have done it as quickly if it wasn't for all of the help we received. What a great way to have fellowship, too! I want to be sure to extend special thanks to **Bruce Meckes**, **Chad Chelius**, and **George Weikel** for their special assistance in making the move go so smoothly!

I'd like to acknowledge and say another **BIG THANK YOU** to all the volunteers who have signed up to cover the

front desk three days a week during the morning office hours. I appreciate everyone's help more than you know. Thank you all!

Sandi Bressi, Church Secretary

♥ I would like to thank the congregation for its generous donations towards my mission trip in March to the island of Haiti. Through the support of individual members of the congregation and help from the Missions Committee, Lincoln Park donated almost \$800. I am so grateful for your help, and I am sure the unfortunate of Haiti are as well. I cannot wait to return and share my experiences with the congregation.

Take care and God bless,  
Alyssa Owens

♥ Members of the Mission Committee would like to express special thanks to the **Roland Richwine** Estate in honor of his wife, **Romaine**, for the generous gift of \$500 from the Endowment Fund.

Thank you very much,  
The Mission Committee

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## Mission Trip Planned

From Barbara Wenger, Mission Chair

I am looking forward to returning to Ocean Springs, Mississippi, from April 12-23, to work on a church project. If you are interested, call Lee Smedley, 610-562-3938, or 610-914-3846.



# Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



March  
14  
for our  
April issue

*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

## Change of Address

Mark Boyer  
2000 Cambridge Ave  
The Highlands Apt 327  
Wyomissing PA 19610

Jeffrey Pawlikowski  
2967 W School House Ln Apt 503  
Philadelphia PA 19144-5215

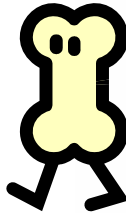
Mr & Mrs Russell Swinehart  
23 Pacific Ave  
Reading PA 19608-9789

Mrs Alison Seyfert  
7 Orchard Hill Rd  
Robesonia PA 19581

*(Continued from page 21)*

me. A sort of magic. The garment was bringing a peace into my life. There were mental hugs radiating from me to the unknown person who would some day wear this shawl. I prayed that they might feel the love crocheted into each stitch.

Try making a prayer shawl and you, too, may feel the magic.



## What Kind of Bone Are You?

It's been said that the "body" of a church has four kinds of bones:

1. The WISHbones — who wish someone else would do all the work.
2. The JAWbones — who do all the talking and little else.
3. The KNUCKLEbones — who knock everything anyone else tries to do.
4. The BACKbones — who get under the load and get the work done.

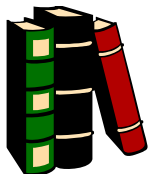


## March Birthdays

Daniel Kostival 3/13/1997  
Elizabeth Newton 3/22/2005

## Women's Book Club

From Nancy Dettra



*Whispers and Lies*, by Joy Fielding, is a gripping thriller that asks how well we know those closest to us ... a suspense novel with a shocking twist. Meet at **Dettra's** on Monday, March 28, at 7 pm, to discuss this novel. Newcomers are always welcome.

Worship with us:	8:00 and 10:45 am (Traditional Worship)	
	9:15 am (Contemporary Worship in Social Hall)	
Office hours	9 am-3 pm Mon-Fri	Pastor: Jerry McGrath, 610-670-1022
Office phone	610-777-1422	Pastor of C. Ed: Dorris McCoy, 610-777-6128
Ext: Kitchen 28; Rm 200 35;		Dir of Music: Linda Umstead
Ed Bldg 40; Nursery 39		Secretary: Sandy Bressi
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Linda Umstead 26, Pastor Dorris 24,		Nursery: Gabi Antunes/Amy Krebs/Holly Newman
Nancy Brown 29		Worship Leader: Becky Chadwick
		Bookkeeper: Nancy Brown
Web: www.lpcumc.org		
E-mail: lpcumc@verizon.net (church), lpumcpastor@verizon.net (Pastor McGrath),		
dmccoy2@verizon.net (Pastor McCoy), musicdir@verizon.net (Lin Umstead),		
lpcumcbkpr@verizon.net (Nancy Brown)		
(For urgent messages, use voice mail, please.)		

## NEWS-LINC

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