

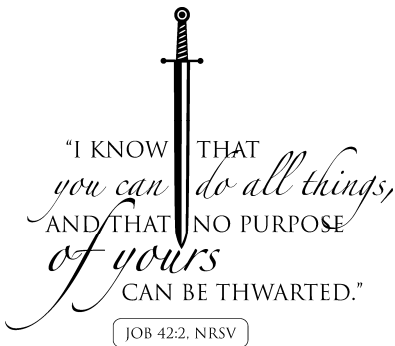


Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church Newsletter
Lincoln Park, Pennsylvania *October, 2007*

Lincoln Park Welcomes Guest Leader for New Consecration Sunday, October 28

From Harold Perkins

The Rev. Ronald Bickhart, Assistant Pastor of the West Lawn United Methodist Church, will serve as Guest Leader at our New Consecration Sunday Program this year. Emphasizing the theme, *As We Are Given, So Let Us Give*, he will speak at the Church Leadership Dinner on Sunday evening, October 21, and will be our Guest Minister at both the Contemporary Service and the Traditional Service on New Consecration Sunday, October 28.



Contributions Lead to Growth

From Rich Auman
Chairman, Church Council

When our congregation approaches financial stewardship, we should look at it from a biblical perspective and not view the money we Christians give to our church as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations, like ours, see financial contributions as a way to help themselves and others grow in their relationship with God. By supporting our church, its mission and ministry will improve.

(Continued on page 6)

Inside this issue

Worship	p. 2
From Pastor McGrath	p. 4
Supper Series	p. 5
Prayer of Consecration	p. 7
Youth	p. 16-17
Autumn Auction	p. 10
Coats for Kids	p. 14
New Members	p. 20

WORSHIP IN OCTOBER

From Pastor Jerry McGrath



Informal Worship : 9 am

Traditional Worship: 11 am

Sunday, October 7: **WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY**

One Thing in Common

Lamentations 1:-6, 1 Corinthians 11:23-33

Sunday, October 14: **LAIITY SUNDAY, Jerry Pawlikowski** will be our speaker.

Thy Will Be Done... "We can sometimes stumble blindly through life wondering what God wants us to do, but we can rely on God to lead us by the Holy Spirit."

Key scripture: "We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand." (Isaiah 64:8)

Other scripture readings: Isaiah 42:6, 1 Corinthians 2:6-10, Romans 9:19-21

Sunday, October 21 **TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN KINGDOMTIDE**

Don't Hold Back

Deuteronomy 26:1-15, Acts 5:1-7

Sunday, October 28 **NEW CONSECRATION SUNDAY**

Special guest speaker: The Rev. Ron Bickhart

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 Beverly Perella

The **PRAISE BAND** meets each Thursday evening, 8 pm. They are busy preparing for the Autumn Auction.

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS meet during the Contemporary Worship hour, children from kindergarten to Grade 2 from 9:15-9:35 am, and pre-schoolers from 9:45-10 am. We are preparing to sing during both of the church services.

The **CHANCEL CHOIR** began its season with a picnic and rehearsal at the Erskine home. The group has 14 members, but several are still on vacation. Weekly rehearsals are on Wednesday from 7:45– 9 pm in the Wagner Room. The Christmas Cantata is planned for Sunday, December 9.

The **SENIOR BELLCHOIR** met for a luncheon at my home on September 15. They will play for four service throughout the year — in November, December, on Palm Sunday, and on Music Sunday. This group rehearses Wednesdays from 7-7:45 pm in the Wagner Room.

GOOD NEWS! Our church youth have a new, much larger place to meet. The Chancel Choir has turned the Choir Room over to the young people to encourage growth within this age group. **Cory Laity** will equip the large closet in the Wagner Room with a place to hang choir robes and store books and folders. Also, the baby grand piano from the Wagner Room now resides in Memorial Hall, and the new piano from the Choir Room has been relocated to the Wagner Room. Having this piano upstairs now allows us to take it into the sanctuary and present two-piano duets.

Additional music groups will perform throughout the year: the **CHURCH ORCHESTRA** on Christmas Eve; **CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH BELL CHOIRS**: a **YOUTH CHOIR**. Dates for these groups will be determined later.

NEW MEMBERS FOR ALL GROUPS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

PLEASE FILL OUT OUR MUSICAL TALENT SURVEY ON P. 5

From the Pastor's Desk

From Pastor Jerry McGrath

“All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need.” Acts 2:44-45

In a materialistic society such as ours, we are tempted to put our trust in tangible things. The problem is that tangible things do not ultimately fulfill us. We are made with a “God shaped void” within us, and it is only the presence of God that can bring meaning and value to our lives.

One way God teaches us to trust Him is in dealing with our possessions. Throughout the Old Testament, God taught the people of Israel to give the first fruits of their crops to Him. As people who lived off the land, the Israelites struggled with this concept.

They said, “We don't want to give away the first fruits. What if we give God the first fruits and the second and third fruits are spoiled for us? Let's see how the fruits come out and then we'll give what we can later.”

God was trying to teach the people of Israel to make Him #1 in their lives. Throughout the Old Testament the people

are charged to give a percentage of their crops and money to God as a faithful response to his love and blessings. God's representatives challenged the people to give one-tenth of all they had to God in gratitude and for his graciousness in their lives. And they were to give their tithe first as a sign that they loved God as their highest priority.



“... of all that
you give me I
will give you
a tenth.”

Genesis 28:22

The percentage gift was not given because God owns 10% or 5% or 1% of all that we have, but it was given be-

cause God owns everything. The gift of a set percentage reminded the people in a very tangible way that God owns it all. We shouldn't ask, “How much of my money should I give to the church?” Rather, we should ask, “How should I use the money that God has entrusted to my care?” How do we respond to God's grace? A percentage gift is a discipline of obedience in response to a God who loves us. A percentage gift gets us away from deciding what we should give when we go to church. “The Tithe,” the percentage gift, is a joyous discipline that truly teaches us to place our whole trust in God and not material possessions.

(Continued on page 7)

FALL SUNDAY SUPPER SERIES: DISCOVER PURPOSE

From Pastor Dorris McCoy



Many have read Rick Warren's *Purpose Driven Life* and expressed an interest in discussing it with fellow members here at LP. NOW we'll have that opportunity at the Fall 2007 Sunday Supper Series, beginning October 4 and concluding November 18 (NO session October 21 due to the Consecration Leadership Training Dinner). Books will be available at the special price of \$8 per book.

Reading and discussion are designed to help people CENTER their lives on God, CONNECT with other believers in small group fellowship, CULTIVATE spiritual maturity and godly character, CONTRIBUTE something back by discovering specific gifts for serving God, and COMMUNICATE God's love to others and develop a heart for the world because we are a peo-

ple made for mission.

Purpose Driven Life isn't just for adults; the purposes are applicable to all ages---learning will also be offered for children (and, of course, nursery care for infants and toddlers).

COME---let God's spirit impact your life, your volunteering, your praying, your entire spiritual being! For a book or with questions, please see **Pastor Jerry** or **Pastor Dorris**.

Instrumental Musical Talent Survey for All Ages

From Beverly Perella

We'd like to gather a list of church musicians available to offer their musical gifts for special occasions. Please consider sharing your talent!

_____ Name _____ Phone _____

Music level:

_____ Beginner _____ Intermediate _____ Advanced

Please place your survey in the offering plate or give to **Beverly Perella**. Thank you!

Pew Cushions for Christmas? With Your Help, It Could Happen

From the Trustees

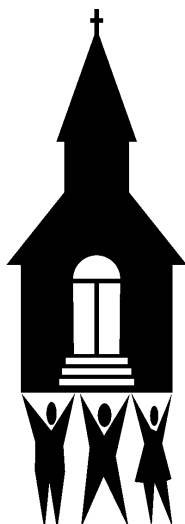
We have had a very generous memorial gift to the Pew Cushion Fund. As a result, we need \$3,000 to complete our goal. We'd like to have the cushions in place for the Christmas holidays. Anyone interested in donating to the fund, designate checks *Pew Cushions*, or contact **Nancy Lape**, 610-777-0821.

(Continued from page 1)

Our Finance Committee, after reviewing last year's stewardship program, again has selected the New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

Based on the biblical philosophy, the program focuses on the need of the giver to provide for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to collect. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give as an act of discipleship. New Consecration Sunday encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During worship October 28, we will



ask our congregation to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries.

Every person who completes an Estimate of Giving Card does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. This procedure is done in such a way that no one feels embarrassment if he makes the decision not to fill out a card during worship.

Again this year, we will not do home visitations. After some instruction and inspiration during worship, congregation members will make their personal commitments in a confidential way.

We again will seek participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration team and church leadership. Since there will be no follow-up visits, we'll make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend church on October 28.

Prayer of Consecration

From Loreen Miller

Lord of the Church, thank you for your grace toward us. We humbly invite you into our sanctuary and our lives. We welcome you as our Honored Guest. We long to be with you, to be strong in prayer and praises, and to value your presence above all else. Let your spirit fall here.



We ask your forgiveness, Lord, for at times we are so busy serving you that we neglect to take time to BE with you, resulting in a lack of spiritual depth and direction.

We pray to be a church where Jesus is lifted up and the Gospel is preached; a place where people have a personal encounter with the Living God, and are touched and healed by the power of your love.

On New Consecration Sunday, we come to offer ourselves, our buildings, our ministries, our resources, and all that You have given us, to the mission of seeking and sharing Christ. We dedicate ourselves to being in continuous prayer for our church, our pastors, and our leaders, so that we may all grow closer to you; and that together, we can be what St. Ignatius called *instrumentum conjunctum cum Deo*, an instrument shaped to the contours of the very Hand of God.

(Continued from page 4)

Christians in the early church often went beyond the tithe to radical generosity. In gratitude to God for the gift of forgiveness and eternal life, many Christians shared all they had with one another. That is what was happening in Acts 2:42-47. The question is not how much we give. The question is the spirit in which we give. Is the gift a grateful response to God's grace and a sign of putting our trust in God? If so, then we are learning the lessons of trust that God wants to teach us.

Are you willing to consider stepping further in your faith today? Are you willing to become a percentage giver?

Worship Leader Minute for October

From Becky Chadwick



Thomas G. Bandy has written a book entitled *Introducing The Uncommon Lectionary: Opening the Bible to Seekers and Disciples*. Bandy discusses worship in a very interesting way, and I thought that it would be beneficial to share part of that discussion with you this month. We've spent the summer and now September talking about what it means to go outside the four walls of the church. Bandy does a nice job of connecting mission with worship in the following excerpt. I hope you find new insight from this reading!

“When worship becomes an act of mission, it shifts from good to great. An act of mission is an act of God. It is the eternal act of God to redeem and reconcile the world, revealed in the microcosm of experience we call worship. By our very nature, God is the giver of grace, stretching to embrace the world. Every worship service is a reenactment of that act of mission, and we are drawn into that act of mission. When worship becomes an act of mission, it ceases to be about us and becomes about God’s mission. The challenge of worship is no longer to perfect it, refine it, universalize it, standardize it, and make it correct. The challenge of worship is to focus it on mission, open it to God’s power, make universal God’s love to include all the micro cultures in the postal code, and grow disciples who will share that grace over and over again every day of the week. That is great worship. That’s the kind of worship the spiritually yearning, institutionally alienated publics seek; that’s the kind of worship faithful Christians desire; and that’s the worship that God expects.

“Worship as an act of mission includes two constantly reinforcing movements of the Spirit: mission and commission. Worship draws people in and sends them out. The people who are sent out, draw people in...If all you do is draw seekers into worship that transforms lives, without making them disciples, what is the value in that? If all you do is send out disciples to do good deeds without drawing them into worship, what is the value in that? Mission and commissioning go hand in hand. The one cannot survive without the other.” (134 – 135)

NEW OUTREACH AHEAD WITH SAFE HAVEN?

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

The possibility has been presented to LP Church to connect with West Lawn UMC and Advent Lutheran in West Lawn to offer a third day of Safe Haven, after school child care for elementary ages. The program offers recreation, snacks, Bible lesson, tutoring, and homework time for grades 1-6 in the Wilson School District.



To explore your involvement in organizing this ministry, please contact **Mark** and **Abby Steinmeyer**, 610-777-3513, or **Pastor Dorris**. Also watch the Sunday bulletin for news of a presentation by West Lawn's Safe Haven Coordinators and come to learn what it's all about---help make a dream of a safe haven for all God's children a reality!

**My help comes
from the LORD,
who made
heaven
and earth.**

Psalm 121:2



Prayer Plus!

From Loreen Miller

Beginning October 7, the Sunday morning Prayer Group will move to the Wagner Room, and the time will change to 8:15 am. We invite “early birds” to join us for a time of prayer and reflection.

The meeting is open to anyone seeking an opportunity for quiet time before worship services begin. Also, the sanctuary will be available at this time, should you feel the need for private meditation.

25TH ANNUAL AUTUMN AUCTION
NOVEMBER 3 – COME ONE AND ALL

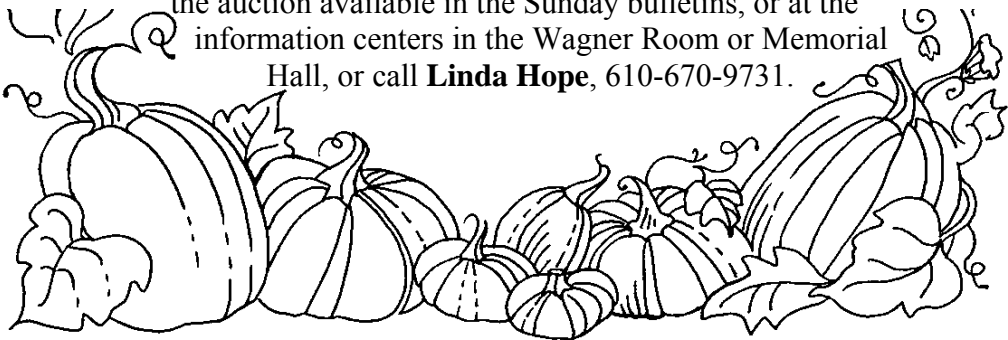
From Becky Chadwick and Linda Hope

It's that time of year again! Please mark your calendars and plan to join us on Saturday, November 3. The doors will open at 6 pm for preview of the live auction items and for bidding on silent auction items.

The auction is great fun and fellowship and a great fundraiser for LP Church. We can surely use your presence that night, but to make it a success we could also use your help! If you'd like to volunteer to work, please contact **Becky Chadwick**, 610-927-2207, or bbchadwick@msn.com.

We also need donations of items to auction. If you have any antiques, craft items, art work, collectibles, services, or baked goods that you would like to donate, or if you know any business owners that you could ask to donate items, please contact **Linda Hope**, 610-670-9731, or Lslhope@aol.com.

Your donations may be delivered to the church office at your convenience by Wednesday, October 31. Items need to be tagged with the description of the item and name of the donor. Baked goods must be delivered by 5 pm on Saturday, November 3. *So we can count on your donation in advance*, please complete forms for the auction available in the Sunday bulletins, or at the information centers in the Wagner Room or Memorial Hall, or call **Linda Hope**, 610-670-9731.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ON SUNDAY MORNINGS

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

All ages, 3 to 93, are invited to learn and grow every Sunday morning.

During 9 am Contemporary Service

- A Bible Story and Song Time will be offered for children following the children's message.
- Children in grades 1-6 are then invited to join **Beverly Perella** for Elementary Singers choir practice, 9:15-9:35 am, Rm 101; next the Preschool Cherub Choir will practice 9:45-10 am, in Rm 104. Fourth through fifth graders return to worship following choir practice.
- When not singing, preschoolers and early elementary students will be offered Bible story activities coordinated by **Tricia Pence**. Please say YES when Tricia asks you to take a turn leading a Sunday story.

Children and parents will be notified about children's performance times as this schedule evolves, based on children's readiness.



At 10:10 am

Members can choose from three adult options, a youth class, and graded children's classes for ages 3 through 6th grade. Why not stop in the Education Building and catch **Pastor Dorris** to determine where your interests and/or age may lead you?

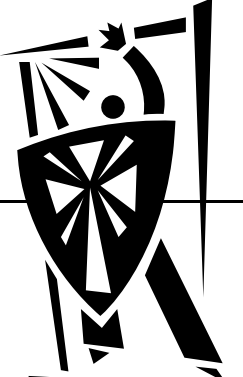


Adult opportunities include —

- a Lectionary Bible Study with **Norm** and **Nancy Dettra** in the Library.
- a video series with **Earl Hope** and **Pastor Jerry** based on James W. Moore's *Lord, I Have Sinned But I Have Several Excellent Excuses* in Memorial Hall.
- a Women of Faith study based on *Discovering God's Will for Your Life* with **Becky Chadwick** in Room 103.
- A 3-week Spiritual Gifts Workshop conducted by **Jack Villecco** (October 7, 14, and 21), designed to help you identify your Holy Spirit-given spiritual gifts. To participate, contact Jack, 610-777-4312 (H), or 610-775-6246 (W) before October 7.

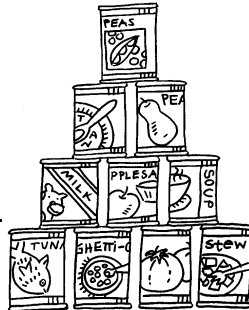
Come---explore the Word of the Lord---connect with others of the faith---be encouraged and empowered to go out and serve---deepen your relationship with God---all at Sunday morning Church School every week!



OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
	<p>1 Bible Study 10:30am Staff Parish 7pm</p>	<p>2 Worship 7 pm</p>	<p>3 Bell Choir 7 pm Chancel Choir 7:45pm</p>
<p>7 Children's Choirs 9:15 & 9:45 am Staff Meeting 12 pm Sunday Supper 5pm Study Series</p>	<p>8 Bible Study 10:30 am Agape 12 pm Finance 7pm Missions 7pm</p>		<p>10 Bell Choir 7 pm Chancel Choir 7:45pm</p>
<p>14 Laity Sunday Children's Choirs 9:15 & 9:45 am Sunday Supper 5pm Study Series UMYF 6-8 pm</p>	<p>15 Bible Study 10:30am</p>	<p>16 </p>	<p>17 Bell Choir 7 pm Chancel Choir 7:45 pm</p>
<p>21 Blood Pressure Sun. Children's Choirs 9:15 & 9:45 am Youth Leadership 11 am Jr Youth 11 am Trick or Treat UNICEF NCS Team 3 pm prior to Church Leadership Dinner 5:30 pm</p>	<p>22 Bible Study 10:30am</p>	<p>23  But you are a shield around me.</p>	<p>24 Bell Choir 7 pm Chancel Choir 7:45pm</p>
<p>28 New Consecra- tion Sunday Children's Choirs 9:15 & 9:45 am Sunday Supper 5pm Study Series UMYF Safe Halloween event—3-5 pm</p>	<p>29 Bible Study 10:30am Book Club 7pm</p>	<p>30  O Lord Psalm 3:3</p>	<p>31 Bell Choir 7 pm Chancel Choir 7:45pm</p>



	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	4 Praise Team 8pm	5	6 Charge Conference 6:30 pm
	11 Praise Team 8pm	12	13 
	18 Praise Team 8pm	19	20 FOOD DRIVE All Month... See P. 14
	25 Praise Team 8pm	26	27
		<div data-bbox="526 1144 1041 1377" data-label="Text" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p>Looking ahead to November...</p> <p>11/2-11/3 Revolve Tour 11/3 Autumn Auction 11/11 Youth Sunday 11/12 Finance 11/30 Hanging of the Greens</p> </div>	



COATS FOR KIDS

From Kathy Avedissian

NEEDED:

Gently used COATS (children and adult sizes), HATS, SCARVES, MITTENS

Once again, Lincoln Park Church will participate in the COATS FOR KIDS program. Bring your gently used outerwear to church before **November 9** and place them in the designated containers. The items will be taken to local dry cleaners where they will be cleaned free of charge and then distributed to needy families by the Salvation Army. Please help keep our less fortunate neighbors warm this winter. Call **Kathy Avedissian** with any questions at 610-372-1735.

Operation Christmas Child

From Alice Kase

It isn't too early to start buying small gifts to fill your shoe box for a child who suffers because of war, natural disaster and neglect.

This will be the sixth year we have joined in this program. Last year we collected 109 filled boxes. Won't you help us?



Missions Committee and Church School Sponsor October Food Drive

From Marian Longenecker

Please contribute non-perishable food items, such as cereals, canned goods, rice, pastas, or dry food items, during October. All donations will be sent to the Soup Kitchen at Central Park United Methodist Church for their food pantry. Look for collection boxes in the Education Building and worship areas.



CALLING OUR MEMBERS TO MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

From Barbara Wenger, Mission Chair

After **Alice Kase** opened our September meeting with prayer, it was announced that Lincoln Park has contributed \$733 to UMCOR for Hurricane Katrina Relief.

We discussed our opportunities for giving and decided to give money to the following:

- Norma Jeanette Vasquez Castaneda, a student from El Salvador whom the Committee has supported, for a 4-year scholarship, paid in full \$160
- Heifer International: Goat (\$120), Pig (\$120) \$240
- Opportunity House (for meals) \$200
- Berks Talkline (provides confidential telephone hotline for children 5-18 years old, with child abuse and social and emotional problems) \$100
- Mercy Community Center (for pregnant mothers and children) \$100
- Habitat for Humanity (building supplies for homes) \$200
- Food Bank of Berks County (food for the needy) \$200
- Samaritan's Purse (Hurricane Katrina Relief) \$200
- Red Bird Mission (for its clinic, school tuition, and Christmas) \$500
- African University (for books, tuition, or medical needs) \$200
- First Baptist Church, Reading (school supplies for after-school program) \$50
- Reading Berks Conference of Churches \$250
- Salvation Army \$100
- Women in Crisis \$100

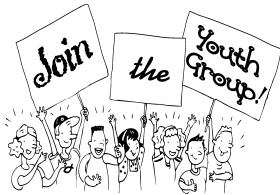
YOUTH-LINK

UMYF Happenings

From Cori Rigato, 610-568-0691

SAVE THESE DATES.....

Sunday, October 14:	Youth Group Meeting 6-8pm
Sunday, October 21:	Youth Leadership Team Meeting 11-12 Discuss: Mission Trip & Service Projects
Sunday, October 28:	Safe Halloween For congregation & community children
November 2-3	REVOLVE TOUR For female youth and adults
November 11:	Youth Sunday for both services
November 18:	Youth Leadership Team Meeting 11-12
November 18:	Youth Group Meeting 6-8pm
November 30:	Hanging of the Greens Times TBD



Youth Group Meetings are open to all youth in Grades 7-12. We start by preparing and eating a meal, having faith exploration discussions, and end with games. Friends are always welcome. Come join the fun! For more information or questions about UMYF, or to be put on the email list for updates and reminders, call Cori, 610-568-0691.

Have you checked out our NEW youth room??? A big thank you to Bev and the Choir for giving us our new digs! We have a great space for Bible study, discussions, games, and just hanging out. Our next step is decorating and painting our new space. Have any ideas?? Come to a meeting!

Calling All Girls, 6th Grade and Up!

Plan to join us November 2-3 for the

Revolve Tour

at the Wachovia Center in Philadelphia. You can check out the speakers and singers on the web at revolvetour.com. Please contact **Tracy Goldsborough** or **Cori Rigato** as soon as possible if you're interested.

Jr. Youth Events; 4th, 5th and 6th Graders

From Tracy Goldsborough



Here's what's happening for our Jr. Youth and their friends this fall. Please check out the *NEEDS* for each event. We welcome anyone's help, even if it's only for one event.

OCTOBER 21 - Trick or Treat for UNICEF

Meet at Memorial Hall at 11 am after Sunday School. Dress up and go around the neighborhood trick or treating for UNICEF. Weather permitting. You'll be contacted with more information.

NEED: Helpers to supervise.

NOVEMBER 11 - Operation Christmas Child - Meet at Memorial

Hall at 11 am to go shopping to fill shoe boxes that we donate to Operation Christmas Child.

NEED: A coordinator (I'll be out of town, and this event has a deadline). Coordinator will be trained. Also need helpers to supervise and drive.

SAFE HALLOWEEN....SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28

From Cori Rigato

This combined effort of the Junior Youth Group and UMYF reaches out to our community and congregation. From 3-5 pm, at church, there will be activities for preschool and elementary-aged children and their families, along with members of our congregation who enjoy dressing up for Halloween.



Start planning your costume for the best Bible character today! For more information or to volunteer, call **Cori**, 610-568-0691.

**LINCOLN PARK COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL
FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT
September 17, 2007**

CASH SUMMARY August 31, 2007

Total Cash Balance		\$47,800.95
Designated Funds		\$30,022.94
Available Cash Balance		\$17,778.01
Endowment Fund Principal	8/31/07	\$78,772.08
Cumulative Interest		\$2,847.98
Irrevocable Charitable Gift Annuity		\$10,000.00
Memorial Fund	8/31/07	\$11,362.11
Fulton Bank Loan Balance	8/20/07	(\$122,627.10)
6.05%		51 months
Sanctuary Adaptation Fund	8/31/07	
Checking		\$30.00
Savings		\$588.13

SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENSES as of August 31, 2007

INCOME	2007 Budget	2007 Actual	Percent
Envelopes	\$335,000.00	\$202,154.92	60%
Plate	\$8,000.00	\$3,213.55	40%
Special Envelopes	\$11,400.00	\$3,057.50	27%
Other	\$20,530.00	\$12,792.95	62%
Total Income	\$374,930.00	\$221,218.92	59%
EXPENSES			
Church Council:			
Administration	\$26,323.00	\$20,261.51	77%
Program	\$56,844.00	\$36,903.10	65%
Staff Parish	\$185,366.76	\$120,776.37	65%
Trustees	\$106,396.24	\$77,858.26	73%
Total Expenses	\$374,930.00	\$255,799.24	68%
Income minus Expense	0	(\$34,580.32)	

IS YOUR GIVING UP TO DATE?

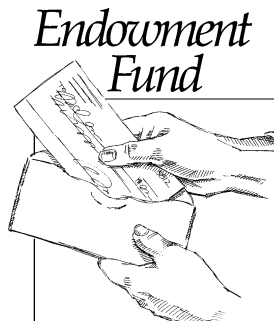
Generous Gifts Made to Endowment Fund

From Harold Perkins

Through her estate, **Anna Mae Owens**, has given \$9,720 to the Endowment Fund. Her planned gift came from an insurance policy she specifically designated should be used to enhance the fund.

In addition to this gift, other gifts honoring **Anna Mae, Grace Walizer, Roland Richwine, Donald Cutting, Galen Spohn, Henry Harbster**, and **Harvey Davidheiser**, as well as some undesignated gifts, have brought the principal in the fund to \$78,772.

Annual income from the fund is used to support new initiatives in church programming and physical improvement.



STEWARDSHIP NUGGETS 13 – Herb Miller

Submitted by Jerry Manhart

Keeping Our Priorities Straight

“Even if churches did not need money to operate, they would still need the ministry of stewardship programs to help people keep their personal priorities straight. A United Methodist bishop once told about attending a country auction. It was a frosty December morning.

“The auction offered the usual conglomeration of belongings. There were four horses, 12 cows, and 30 sheep. Two wagon beds were piled high with tools, scrap metal, and rolled wire. Antique collectors nudged one another at the sight of a 30-

gallon copper kettle in which apple butter had been made the previous season. There was a brass bed adorned with a frayed canopy, and four bundles of used coat hangers. The table, piled high with glassware and bric-a-brac, included a two-by-three folding metal picture frame. One side was empty, and the other held a blurry tintype.

“He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep in order to gain what he cannot lose.”

[Jim Elliot]

“The bishop said that the country auction points graphically to a basic truth about every one of us. One day soon, you and I will be called away.

(Continued on page 21)

Meet Lincoln Park's New Members



Bronwyn Graeffe

A Penn State graduate, Bronwyn is a Chemical Engineer at Worley Parsons. She loves music, playing the banjo and mandolin, and riding motorcycles. She's an avid golfer, and has a long history of working with youth and children in the United Methodist Church. She joins us by letter of transfer from the United Methodist Church in Moscow, PA.

Michelle Ringler

The wife of Rob and mother of Summer, Michelle is a homemaker with a BA degree in Biology from Juniata College along with a Certificate in Business from Albright College. She enjoys gardening, collecting pets, and spending time with friends. She joins by letter of transfer from Grace Bible Fellowship.

Robert Ringler

Robert is the husband of Michelle and

the father of Summer. He is a Radiology Technician at Pottstown Hospital. His hobbies include music, particularly playing the guitar in our Contemporary Worship service. He joins by letter of transfer from Grace Bible Fellowship.

Jeff Werner

A Penn State grad, Jeff is a Sales Manager for Merrick Pet Care. He is the husband of Wendy and father of Sydney & Chase. His hobbies include running and spending time with his family.

Wendy Werner

Wendy also has a Penn State background. She is the wife of Jeff, mother of Sydney and Chase, and a homemaker. Her hobbies include spending time with her family and walking. She joins by Affirmation of Faith.

*"We could never learn to be brave and patient,
if there were only joy in the world."*

—Helen Keller

(Continued from page 19)

Relatives will hire an auctioneer (either literally or figuratively) and set up a hot-dog stand in the tool shed. Nice people will buy soft drinks and coffee and bid on the apple butter kettle and Grandma's tintype.

"Viewed from the perspective of the country auction, stewardship is more easily recognized as a spiritual matter. What other goal in life is more significant than investing our lives in something that brings meaning, purpose, and a spiritual relatedness to God while we still can." [The Vital Congregation, Herb Miller]

Materialism Is Deceptive

Perhaps our currency should be printed with a label that reads: 'Warning, money may be hazardous to your spiritual health' Love of money and not money itself is the problem. Certainly wealth can be used for good purposes. When this is the case, it becomes beneficial to one's spiritual health." In Jesus' day, the Jews considered wealth a reward from God. They had great difficulty recognizing the subtle danger of materialism because they had come to identify it as a sign of God's favor. Coming out of that background, a rich young man approached Jesus with an important ques-

tion . . . 'Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' (Luke 18:18).

"Although he asked a sincere question, when he heard the answer he was distressed. Jesus pointed out the main obstacle between him and eternal life—his money 'When he heard this, he be-

came very sad, because he was a man of great wealth' (Luke 18:23) . . . He was deceived by believing that because he had great wealth he was blessed by God. In reality, his money separated him from God." [Partners With

God, Bobby L. Edlund and Terry Austin]

At first glance, this Scripture seems to say we should give away all our money. The meaning is deeper than that. Jesus is saying that idolatry to money can disconnect us from the riches of God's Spirit.

That is one of several reasons why systematically giving money to God's causes is part of every church's teaching about personal spiritual growth. Giving money to God does not mean that God will insulate us from all of life's troubles. But not giving money to God guarantees that we are not likely to escape the small box of self-concern and connect with God's life-changing Spirit.

**"Only one life—'twill
soon be past; Only
what's done for Christ
will last."**

[R.T. Kendall]

Here's an Opportunity... EASTERN PA CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

From Pastor Dorris McCoy



The Eastern PA Conference of the UMC continues its yearlong initiative *Making Disciples for the Transformation of the World* Workshops. Its next session will focus on "Faith Sharing *'Igniting Ministries'*: Becoming A Welcoming and Inviting Church," at West Chester UMC, Saturday, October 13, 9:30 am-3 pm. with lunch included. Training will be led by the Rev. Larry Homitsky, Director of Connectional Ministries from the Western PA Conference, and Suzy Keenan, EPA Director of Communications.

"Stewards of God's Gifts" will be presented at Washington's Crossing UMC in Washington's Crossing, PA, on Saturday, November 3, 5:30 pm.-8:15 pm. The Rev. David Bell, Director of the Center for Christian Stewardship of The United Methodist Church, will lead.

The concluding session will focus on "Accountable Discipleship: The Power of Small Group Ministry," at Bethany UMC, Wescosville/Allentown, 12:30-3:30 pm, Saturday, December 8. Training and instruction will be offered by Steve Manskar, Director of Accountable Discipleship, UM General Board of Discipleship.

You're invited to consider how these presentations can benefit LP Church and its effectiveness in ministry for seeking and sharing Christ. Also...consider attending for personal growth or enhancement of your leadership skills. Then...stop considering and plan to attend by calling **Pastor Jerry** or **Pastor Dorris** to register.

Cornwall Manor Hosts Fall Festival and Auction

Saturday, October 6



8 am - 3 pm

For information
or directions,
717-273-2647

Or www.cornwallmanor.com

Attention Church Women United

The program for November 13, 1 pm, at Atonement Lutheran Church, 5 Wyo-missing Blvd., is *Developing a Parish Nurse or Health Ministry Program in Your Faith Community*. The speakers are Margaret Letenhausen, R.N. and Lily Tryon, R.N. We hope to see you there!



Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



October
11
for our
November issue

Change of Address

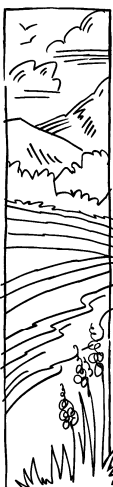
Sharon Berry/Kleckner
212 Park Ave
Reading PA 19607-3231

Jeffrey Pawlikowski
1206 Fuller St #B
Philadelphia PA 19111-1506

Mrs Sandra Petersheim
306 Elizabeth Dr
Sinking Spring PA 19608-1157

Change of Phone

Mark & Abby Steinmeyer 610-777-3513



*We know
that all
things work
together
for good for
those who
love God....*

Romans 8:28

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



Oops...we missed our September birthdays...Happy Belated Birthdays to all!

September

Jalynn Laity	9/2/2004
Katherine McGrath	9/14/2004
Ashley Ritenour	9/17/2001
Madysen Raimo	9/19/2001
Irelyn Freyling	9/22/1998
Shelby Button	9/23/1997
Logan Horst	9/23/1999
Caitlyn Panase	9/26/1999
Benjamim Kostival	9/29/1999

October

Jakob Duffy	10/13/1998
Jacob Gehman	10/24/1997
Julia Gehman	10/24/1997

*“There is no revenge so complete as forgiveness.”
— Josh Billings*

WORSHIP  WITH US!

Worship with us: 9:00 am (Contemporary Worship in Memorial Hall)
10:10 am (Christian Education)
11:00 am (Traditional Worship)

Office hours 9 am-3 pm Mon-Fri Pastor: Jerry McGrath, 610-670-1022
Office phone 610-777-1422 Pastor of CE: Dorris McCoy, 610-777-6128
Ext: Kitchen 28; Rm 200 35; Music Director: Beverly Perella
Ed Bldg 40; Nursery 39 Secretary: Sandy Bressi
Fax line 610-777-4309 Editor: Cheri Fallon, 610-678- 8735
Voice mail Pastor Jerry 44, Sandy Bressi 21, cherfallon@comcast.net, debharv3@verizon.net
Dorris McCoy 24, Nancy Brown 29, Nursery:Gabi Antunes/Amy Krebs Katzenmoyer/
Cori Rigato 31 Holly Newman
Worship Leader: Becky Chadwick
Bookkeeper: Nancy Brown
UMYF Leader: Cori Rigato, 610-568-0691

Web: www.lpcumc.org
E-mail: lpumc@verizon.net (secretary and church), lpumcpastor@verizon.net (Pastor McGrath),
dmccoy2@verizon.net (Dorris McCoy), nbrown@lpcumc.org (Nancy Brown)
(For urgent messages, use voice mail, please.)

NEWS-LINC

Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church
1 Carlisle Avenue
Reading, PA 19609

Change service requested

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Reading, PA
Permit No. 233