



News-Line

*Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church Newsletter
Lincoln Park, Pennsylvania
February, 2008*

LENTEN LABYRINTH: A SPIRITUAL WALK TO EASTER

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

A labyrinth walk invites us to go slowly —

- † to stay aware of our thoughts and feelings as we follow the path
- † to shed our busy-ness as we journey to the center
- † to linger for as long as we choose.

We then follow the path back out, refreshed and renewed to keep our faith focus through life's

worldly encounters.

You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.



Lenten Labyrinth

Psalm 16:11 provides a biblical foundation for our labyrinth walk. Praying and walking the labyrinth invite us to connect with God and allow the presence of God to lead.

The Lenten Labyrinth is offered mid-Lent to encourage our Lenten disciplines of prayer and preparation for the celebration of Easter and the resurrection of Jesus. LP's Labyrinth Team will offer labyrinth prayer walking opportunities in Memorial Hall:

- **Sunday, February 24**, for the UMYF, though all are welcome.
- **Wednesday, February 27**, 11:30 am-1 pm and 5-8 pm.

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WORSHIP IN FEBRUARY

From Pastor Jerry McGrath

Sunday, February 3

9 and 11 am: TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD
“You Were Shaped for Serving God and Humanity”
Jeremiah 18:1-11, Matthew 17:1-9.



WORSHIP SERVICES

Wednesday, February 6, 7 pm

ASH WEDNESDAY

“Family Lenten Journey”

Sunday, February 10

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

9 am: “Jerusalem Speaks: Servant Girl, Peter”
11 am: “The Season of Sacred Stories”
Psalm 25:1-10 Mark 1:9-15.

Sunday, February 17

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

9 am: “Jerusalem Speaks: Caiaphas, Judas”
11 am: “Let it Go”
Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Mark 8:31-38.

Sunday, February 24

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

9 am: “Jerusalem Speaks: Herod, Mary”
11 am: “The Word Jesus Spoke”
Exodus 10:1-17 John 2:13-22

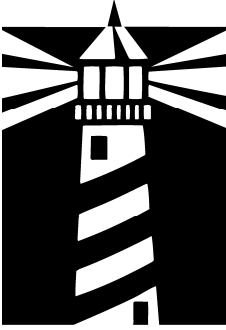
(Continued from page 1)

Symbolic representations at labyrinth prayer stations invite our prayerful entrance into God's presence and journey to spiritual wholeness. Light, music, and the written word guide our feet and hearts on the labyrinth path.

Come...pray...walk...be connected with God and one another. For details or with questions, see **Pastor Dorris**.

SAFE HAVEN LIGHTHOUSE SHINES AT LP

From Pastor Dorris McCoy



SAFE HAVEN LIGHTHOUSE, an after school child care program, has begun to shine at LP Church on Tuesday afternoons, joining with West Lawn UMC's efforts on Wednesdays and Advent Lutheran's (West Lawn) on Thursdays.

Children are transported from their respective schools and arrive at LP at 3 pm for snacks, games, recreation, tutoring, Bible stories, and crafts. Parents must pick up children by 5:30 pm from the Education Building area.

There is a one time \$20 fee per each church where children attend and a daily fee based on the number of children per family---all kept at a very reasonable rate. Homework time is a high priority, and much appreciated by parents.

Driver aides are also necessary to accompany the West Lawn van and driver for pick up and delivery to LP. Child abuse and criminal record check clearances are required of all SHL volunteers.

For more information and for registration forms, please contact **Mark** and **Abby Steinmeyer**, LP's SHL Coordinators, 610-777-3513. Six very excited and energetic children kicked off LP's involvement---so there's lots of room for growth of numbers of children and volunteers to keep SHL happening here!

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!



From the Pastor's Desk

From Pastor Jerry McGrath

Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.' Matthew 16:24

Lent is a season of 40 days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencten*, which means "spring." It is a season for preparation and repentance during which we anticipate Good Friday and Easter.

Lent is often seen as the most joyless and penitential season in the Christian Calendar. Its themes of self-sacrifice and denial of self fleshed out in our "giving something up for Lent" is often reduced to cutting back on chocolates, sweets, cookies, or some other form of symbolic denial.

However, can these tokens ever fully equate themselves with the sacrifice that Jesus faced during these last 40 days of his life? He turned from the Mount of the Transfiguration with his "face set for Jerusalem." He knew what lay before him in torture, ridicule, betrayal, and abandonment by his friends. He went to a horrific death upon a Cross for you and

me. To this He was born and came into the world to be the final sacrifice, to forever put to death the distance between us and God for our offenses and sins.

One form of true self-denial and sacrifice might be to give up more than sweets by giving up our whole selves, as Christ did for us. It is one of being diligent to the things that He commanded us: to read our Bibles, say our prayers, faithfully come and worship with all our hearts, share our faith with others and invite them to our worship of Him, and reach out to those in need around us to meet their needs as we are able. This is the real meaning of Lent and its emphasis on renewal!

Let us all make this a very special season of personal and corporate renewal as we offer not just our token of self-denial, but offer fully ourselves to Jesus!

Shalom
(Peace, Wholeness and Well being)

Lenten



Renewal

SOUPER BOWL STIRS IT UP TO SERVE

From Pastor Dorris McCoy



THE SOUPER BOWL OF CARING welcomes LP members to join the

growing family of people who care about their neighbors and want to help eliminate hunger and poverty right here in their own backyards. Involvement is simple and brings smiles and excited appreciation to our Church School children.

Children will stand with soup pots at the doors to our worship areas on Super Bowl's Souper Bowl Sunday, **February 3**. LP's children have participated for almost 15 years, beginning with a \$50 total and **last year exceeding \$600**. Can you help them beat that?

Our children joined over 14,000 other groups worldwide in 2007, helping to generate over \$8 million for people in need. Please support the children of our church in this Souper Bowl effort to "love our neighbors" by dropping your dollar(s) in the soup pots as you exit worship on February 3. All donations are forwarded to local groups. LP's total will be shared with the Soup Kitchen ministry at Central Park UMC, Reading. Thanks for teaching our kids to care and share!



PARISH RESOURCE CENTER EQUIPS FOR LEADERSHIP

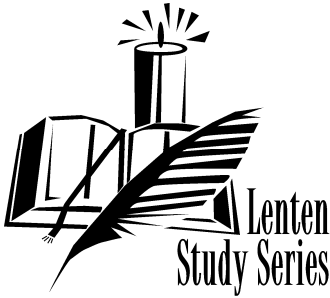
From Pastor Dorris McCoy

Lincoln Park Church is a member of the Parish Resource Center, just minutes from Park City Mall. This is a vibrant, interdenominational ministry resource site filled with printed, video/technological, and people/consultant resources to train congregations for ministry and service.

The PRC offers these unique opportunities:

- ◆ quiet, hospitable space for reflection
- ◆ personal guidance through consultants to strengthen congregations and leaders
- ◆ network gatherings with other churches to compare notes and encourage one another
- ◆ varied workshops to recharge batteries for new programs and explore possibilities.

Call the PRC, 717-299-1113, or e-mail, infolancastere@parishresourcecenter.org. See **Pastor Dorris** for directions or to tag along with her for a PRC exploration visit.



LENTEN STUDY SUPPER SERIES: SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

All in the LP FAMILY are invited for fun, fellowship, food, and spiritual growth at our **LENTEN STUDY SUPPER SERIES**, Sundays, February 10 through March 16. We'll begin with a light family supper at 5 pm and follow with two adult options and a special children's program, 6-7 pm, in the Education Building.

Adult sessions include these options:

- † **SIGNS OF LENT**, encouraging a spiritual encounter with Lent that uses stunning works of art for reflection, personal and scriptural discovery, and prayer, co-led by **Pastor Dorris** and husband, **Fred**.
- † Using Dan Kimball's *They Like Jesus But Not the Church*, **Pastor Jerry** leads exploration of the six most common objections and misunderstandings emerging generations have about the church, and how the church can respond in positive ways.

Both classes offer DVD's to stimulate dialogue, participants' guides to continue reflections, and interactive approaches to group learning and discussion. So...just what is an emerging population?

And for our children...infant and toddler care will be provided in the Church Nursery. For 3 year olds through 6th graders, **Raylin Ritenour** will coordinate **ONE ROOM SUNDAY NIGHTS FOR KIDS**, a multi-age place where LP kids will encounter the love of God, search to apply Bible stories in their lives, and join in a variety of fun activities, crafts, and storytelling. To join Raylin's leadership team, please call 610-406-0117. Be involved to inspire young minds to follow Jesus and prepare young hearts to love and serve God.

To attend, complete registration forms available in the Sunday worship bulletin and on information stations at the rear of worship areas. With ??'s, see **Pastor Dorris** or any of the leaders.

**"I've discovered I always have choices and sometimes it's only a choice of attitude."
— Abraham Lincoln**

SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL VISIONS STUDY, GROWTH & APPLICATION

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Deuteronomy 11:18-19.

These are words of challenge to God's children of all ages and points along the Christian journey. All God's children from ages 3 and up are invited to learn through varied class and topic options in Sunday morning Church School.

After the Children's Message at the 9 am Contemporary Service, children are invited to Room 101 for Children's Choir Practice with **Beverly Perella**. Pre-schoolers and early elementary children through 3rd grade then divide for Bible Story and Activity Time, coordinated by **Tricia Pence**. Please contact her to offer assistance on a rotating basis, 610-404-8574.

At 10:10 am, children's sessions meet in Rooms 101, 102 & 104, using Faith Weaver curriculum. February's biblical stories teach:

- the Beatitudes
- Jesus' parable of salt and light
- Jesus' explanation of eternal life to

Nicodemus

- Jesus' talk with a Samaritan woman at the well.

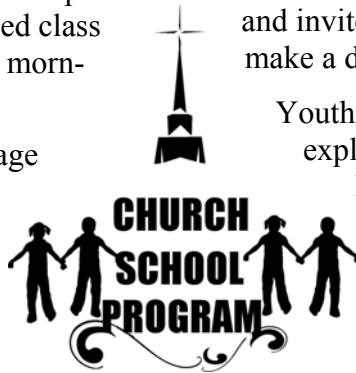
These stories teach how Jesus loves all and invite our younger children to make a difference for God.

Youth meet in the Youth Room to explore youth issues and challenge one another to model a Christ-like response.

Adults can choose among three possibilities:

- a new study with **Earl Hope** to engage learners to look at the parables in The Mayberry TV series and to discover a connection to Jesus' parables.
- a Bible Study with **Norm and Nancy Dettra** to explore the Lectionary-based scriptural disciplines.
- a Women of Faith study with **Becky Chadwick**, LP Worship Leader.

For details and/or to offer your leadership or ideas related to these possibilities, please contact **Pastor Dorris**.



UMYF Happenings

From Cori Rigato, 610-568-0691



Youth Group Meetings

Sunday, February 10, 6 - 8pm Theme: *Who Do You Love?*

Sunday, February 24, 6 - 8pm Theme: *Searching*

Youth group begins in the kitchen — preparing, eating, and cleaning up dinner. The rest of the evening consists of faith exploration and games. All youth grades 7 - 12 are invited! Call **Cori**, 610-568-0691, with questions.

Youth Mission Trip Summer 2008

We'll be heading to the Green Mountains in Vermont, June 15 -20. We'll work with an organization called Youth Works, where our teens will create a Vacation Bible School for children, work with the elderly, and paint houses. Fifteen youth will participate, along with four chaperones!

Please, please support our youth with their first mission trip by becoming a sponsor. The cost is \$10 per mile, and there will be information and youth at the end of each service to sign you up. What's in it for you? When you become a sponsor, you'll receive a certificate, a postcard from one of the youth on the trip, and you'll be invited to a dinner over the summer to hear about their experience. If you have any questions, call **Cori**.

Easter Flower Sale

Support our youth and help make our church look beautiful for Easter. Youth will take orders for Lilies, Azaleas, Hyacinths, Daffodils, and Tulips. Easter is early this year, March 23. Deadline for orders will be Wednesday, Feb 27. Forms can be found in the church bulletins.

Did you know?.....

Over the past fall into the holiday season our Youth Group

- ♥ participated in a cancer walk
- ♥ sang Christmas carols at the Highlands
- ♥ created and ran a Safe Halloween event for our church and community children

(Continued on page 10)



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

From Tracy Goldsborough

FEBRUARY 24

JR Group's February event is to tour and taste at the Panase's *Cookies by Design* store in Exton. Watch the church bulletin for more details or call me, 610-777-6991.

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

HIDE EGGS FOR EASTER PARTY at the Church

Please plan to arrive 1/2 hour before scheduled time. I'll have an Easter Egg Hunt for volunteers after the party with a prize. Friends are welcome. Please let me know if you can help by **February 3**.

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

BOWL-a-THON - 12:30 to 2:30 pm at Berks Lanes on Rt. 724

Cost is to collect as much money as possible to donate. Bowling, shoe rental, food, drinks and prizes are included. We'll meet and pick up at the bowling alley. Friends are invited. I need to reserve lanes, so RSVP is very important by **February 3**.

SUNDAY, APRIL 13

HIKE AT NOLDE FOREST/HAWK MOUNTAIN...

...or bike at new trail off Rt. 10 - approx. 11:30 am. We'll pack a lunch to eat on the trail. We'll meet at the location we decide and pick up where we end up. If it rains, we'll have a GAME DAY at church, and everyone should bring their favorite board game to play. Friends are invited.

SUNDAY, MAY 18

HELP CHURCH MEMBER(S) OR CHURCH...

...and then go for ice cream at Friendly's - 11 am, to be decided. We'll meet at church and either go to a church member's home(s) to help with a project around their home, or we'll help with something that is needed at the church. Afterward we'll go to Friendly's for ice cream. Pick up will be at Friendly's in Sinking Spring.

(Continued on page 15)



We're planning now for a
Summer Mini-Concert Series

Is there a person or group you'd like to hear in concert this summer? Please contact **Beverly Perella** with suggestions for our 15-minute *mini-concert* prior to the Traditional Worship Service this summer. Planning begins now. Here's your chance to have some input into our summer music program. Your suggestions are appreciated!

(Continued from page 8)

- ♥ visited a coffee house event at another local church
- ♥ babysat two nights at the church so parents could have some free time
- ♥ created a Youth Praise Band
- ♥ presented two Sunday Worship Services
- ♥ participated in the Advent candle lighting drama
- ♥ participated in Christmas Eve services
- ♥ sang in the Praise Band during Contemporary Worship services
- ♥ helped decorate the church for Christmas
- ♥ sponsored two needy children from third world countries
- ♥ went to the Revolve Tour
- ♥ volunteered at the Autumn Auction
- ♥ consistently invited their friends to youth group meetings
- ♥ started fund raising for their summer mission trip
- ♥ met on a monthly basis to determine the future of Lincoln Park's Youth Ministry

WOW!

Our teens are active in demonstrating their faith and commitment to their ministry at Lincoln Park. So, the next time you see one of them, give them a hug and let them know what a great job they are doing!

**LINCOLN PARK COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL
FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT
January 21, 2008**

CASH SUMMARY December 31, 2007







Total Cash Balance		\$85,349.65
Designated Funds		\$33,945.38
Available Cash Balance		\$51,404.27
Endowment Fund Principal	12/31/07	\$86,822.08
Cumulative Interest		\$3,443.67
Irrevocable Charitable Gift Annuity		\$10,000.00
Memorial Fund	12/31/07	\$11,251.17
Fulton Bank Loan Balance	12/20/07	(\$114,913.59)
6.05%		48 months
Sanctuary Adaptation Fund	12/31/07	
Checking		\$30.00
Savings		\$558.94

SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENSES as of December 31, 2007

INCOME	2007 Budget	2007 Actual	Percent
Envelopes	\$335,000.00	\$327,410.31	98%
Plate	\$8,000.00	\$6,273.35	78%
Special Envelopes	\$11,400.00	\$8,129.50	71%
Other	\$20,530.00	\$22,377.87	109%
Total Income	\$374,930.00	\$364,191.03	97%
EXPENSES			
Church Council:			
Administration	\$26,323.00	\$28,210.41	107%
Program	\$56,844.00	\$52,974.76	93%
Staff Parish	\$185,366.76	\$179,288.27	97%
Trustees	\$106,396.24	\$104,531.16	98%
Total Expenses	\$374,930.00	\$365,004.60	97%
Income minus Expense	0	(\$813.57)	





FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
<p><i>"Lent... a season for preparation and reflection"</i></p>			
<p>3</p> 	<p>4</p> <p>Bible Study 10:30 am</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Safe Haven Lighthouse 3-5:30</p>	<p>6</p>  <p>7 pm</p>
<p>10</p>  <p>Lenten Supper/Study 5-7pm</p> <p>Youth Group 6-8pm</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Bible Study 10:30am</p> <p>Finance 7pm</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Safe Haven Lighthouse 3-5:30</p> <p>Confirmation Class 7 pm</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Bell Choir 7pm</p> <p>Chancel Choir 7:30pm</p>
<p>17</p>  <p>Lenten Supper/Study 5-7pm</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Bible Study 10:30am</p>  <p>PRESIDENTS' DAY</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Safe Haven Lighthouse 3-5:30</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Bell Choir 7pm</p> <p>Chancel Choir 7:30pm</p>
<p>24</p>  <p>Jr Youth Trip to Exton</p> <p>Lenten Supper/Study 5-7pm</p> <p>Youth Group 6-8pm</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Bible Study 10:30am</p> <p>Book Club 7pm</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Safe Haven Lighthouse 3-5:30</p> <p>Confirmation Class 7 pm With Mentors</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Lenten Labyrinth 5-8pm</p> <p>Bell Choir 7pm</p> <p>Chancel Choir 7:30pm</p>

MARCH 2008



Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Confession...</p>	<p>"</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2 Confirmation Class to St. Ignatius</p>
<p>Chancel Choir 8pm</p>	<p>7 Craft Group 1pm Praise Team 8pm</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 </p>
<p>4:45pm</p>	<p>14 Praise Team 8pm </p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>4:45pm</p>	<p>21 Craft Group 1pm Praise Team 8pm</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>11:30-1 & 4:45pm</p>	<p>28 Praise Team 8pm</p>	<p>29</p>	<div data-bbox="643 992 1159 1305" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>Looking ahead to March...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3/4 Opportunity House 3/9 Communion Workshop 3/10 Finance Committee 3/11 Worship Committee 3/15 Easter Egg Hunt 3/16 Jr Youth Bowl-a-Thon 3/17 Church Council 3/23 Easter </div>



UPDATING CHURCH FILES – WE NEED YOUR HELP!

From Sandy Bressi, Church Secretary

The office has established a file for each church member and active visitors. It is important to keep accurate records of your involvement with the church, as well as any changes or happenings about your family. Some of our records need to be updated. Volunteers may be calling or leaving messages for you with questions that we hope you'll help us answer. We make every effort to stay current with each member.



Two efforts are underway:

an emergency contact name, address and phone number for each member

a photo for each file

We ask you to donate a family, individual or school photo to include in your file, as a way to link names with faces. Please mail information or photos to the church office:

Lincoln Park UMC
1 Carlisle Avenue
Reading, PA. 19609

COMING SOON....

March 4- -Serve supper for the homeless at OPPORTUNITY HOUSE; contact **Penny Snook**, 610-781-7704, to help prepare or make food, or for \$\$\$ donations.

March 9 - COMMUNION WORKSHOP to help children and families explore the meaning of Communion and prepare children to partake of the Lord's Supper.



Alyssa Owens Tells of Trip to Haiti

From Cheri Fallon



“The people I met warmed my heart,” said **Alyssa Owens**, of her mission trip in March last year. Daughter of **William** and **Kelly**, Alyssa is the granddaughter of the late **Anna Mae Owens**. Alyssa joined us at Lincoln Park on January 13 and again on January 27, at both worship services, to share her experiences.

In Haiti, where Alyssa helped in an orphanage and Children’s Hospital, the per capita income is less than \$1 a day, and many people are unemployed. “Their faith and strong religion are a huge aspect of their life,” says Alyssa. Her trip was made possible in part by donations from Lincoln Park Church (thank you!). “It gave me a fresh perspective on the rest of my life,” she says.

This lovely Penn State Junior (a Wilson grad) will soon head to South Africa for a semester of study abroad. She hopes to do some work for Habitat for Humanity and other organizations while there. Good luck, Alyssa, and safe travels!

Reallocation of Building Funds

From Jerry Manhart



The Finance Committee voted to use the 2008 contributions to the Building Fund to replenish the Major Repair Reserve Fund. Previously the contributions were used on the loan principal.

(Continued from page 9)

Jr. Youth Group events continued...

SUNDAY, JUNE 8

FAMILY PICNIC AT THE GOLDSBOROUGH'S HOUSE - Noon

The whole family can come. Fun activities include: roast hot dogs on the fire, games, trampoline, tire swing and anything else that is fun. If outside, plan to get wet or messy. If it rains, we'll move inside.

I Can't Live Without Candy

From Cheri Fallon



From the Editor

Our granddaughter, Katie Grace, turned two this month and is learning to speak her mind. “Canny, Grandma?” she asks when she comes in the house, “bowl.” She likes a little bowl of M & M’s to carry around as she plays. Who doesn’t?

I’m particularly partial to Tootsie Rolls, myself. If I’m facing a difficult situation — a viewing, perhaps, or a hospital visit — I like a pocketful of these chewy chocolates for consolation, courage, and reward.

So, the whole problem of giving up something for Lent becomes an issue. And it’s not just candy, it’s the deprivation. The minute I can’t have it, I’m desperate to get it. One year I tried giving up *sliced and block* cheese (that way pizza and nachos were still ok). I think I came as close to making it as I could.

My Mom used to give up candy, cake, pies, cookies, and ice cream. When she’d visit, I’d have turnovers or strudel. My mind wants to get around fasting any way it can.

A few years ago I tried something else for Lent: I memorized a Bible verse every day. It’s amazing: I’ve found the act of memorizing verses to be a cure for

“I’ve found the act of memorizing verses to be a cure for worry, anxiety, and sleeplessness.”

worry, anxiety, and sleeplessness. After choosing a verse, I write it in a notebook with the date, and then copy it on a slip of paper which I carry with me in my pocket (with the tootsie rolls) throughout the day, so I can keep working on it. It occupies my mind and gives me peace.

The choosing of verses is a sweet process. Sometimes I actively seek a verse from Bible reading, *Our Daily Bread*, or other devotional material. What really surprises me is when a Bible verse — which seems meant for me on a particular day — comes from out of the

blue: TV, a magazine, a sermon. Could God be guiding me to the particular verse I need?

There’s something about this effort that draws me closer to God and keeps my thoughts on goodness. Louisa May Alcott, author of *Little Women*, wrote about an experience she had in nature: “I felt God as I never did before, and I prayed in my heart that I might keep that **happy sense of nearness** all my life.”

So this Lenten season, I’ll try again to not miss a day and to remember for as long as I can the Bible verses that come to me. If you try, too, then you and I will be what Katie says when she sees a sweet doll, or a smiling baby in the Giant, or Jesus in the manger: “Happy!”

Can You Help? Punch and Coffee Servers Needed

From Nancy Dettra

Socializing and fellowship have been a hallmark of Lincoln Park Methodist Church. Unfortunately, the Traditional Service is facing a diminishing number of Punch and Coffee servers. The Worship Committee has put a sign-up sheet at the Information Station in the Wagner Room.

If you're interested in serving, please sign-up for dates that suit your schedule. I'm also looking for an individual to make phone calls periodically to ensure that each Sunday is covered. My sincere thanks for your consideration.



What's the Difference? Memorial Fund or Endowment Fund?

From Harold Perkins

Gifts to either fund are to the Glory of God, but a choice might be made of one or the other because of distinct features:

Memorial Fund Gifts

- Usually *In Memory of* an individual or family at funeral, memorial service, or later
- Usually toward a tangible objective enhancing worship, building, grounds, mission, **affecting the present**
- Gifts usually by cash or check, accompanied by letter or Memorial Fund card, or by bequest
- Board of Trustees responsible to implement with Church Council approval

Endowment Fund Gifts

- At any time to the fund itself, or *In Honor of* or *In Memory of* an individual, or special purpose
- Usually toward a initiative in ministry, mission, program, or physical improvement **affecting the future**
- Gifts by cash, check with Endowment Fund card or letter, or by bequest
- Endowment Fund Committee responsible to implement with Church Council approval.

Tax advantages are available in regard to gifts in each Fund.

Meet Our Caring, Qualified Nursery Staff

From Elaine Meckes

Do you know where your children are? We never hear this at Lincoln Park Church because we always know where our children are—they're being cared for by our wonderful nursery staff.

We're blessed to have three caring nursery staff along with our volunteers. Heading the staff is **Gabriella "Gabi" Antunes**.

Gabi was born in Rio de Janeiro and raised in Sao Paulo. She has an older brother and sister. Sports were always a part of their life growing up. Gabi and her brother were involved in roller skating, first as speed skaters and later as figure skaters. They won numerous championships as partners and solo. Gabi began coaching figure skating when she was 16 and continued until she left Brazil for the US.

Dennis Antunes's father, who was pastor of the church that Gabi attended, was instrumental in bringing the couple together. In 1997, they were married in Brazil. Gabi joined Dennis in the US shortly after that. They are the parents of two boys, **Philip**, a 1st grader, and **Daniel**, age 3.

The Antunes originally settled in Butler, PA, north of Pittsburgh. It was a changed lifestyle for Gabi, who had not

only left her family but also her friends. She describes her first reaction to the US as "very cold." (I can attest to that as I lived in Pittsburgh at the same time.) After Dennis accepted a job at Alcon, they moved to Reading.

Gabi looks at LP Church as her family and is involved in many aspects of church life. She says "It makes me feel very good when I'm able to help my friends in any possible way. LP Church will always be our second house. Our life is all about helping our church and our God."

Gabi's mother has been with her recently and her extended family has visited them also. Gabi is joined in the Nursery by

Amy Krebs Katzenmoyer. Born and raised in Berks County, she graduated from Governor Mifflin HS, earned a degree in Elementary Ed from Penn State and her Special Education certification from Alvernia. She now works as a Learning Support Teacher.

Amy enjoys reading, scrapbooking, cross-stitch, and spending time with her husband Steve, whom she married this summer. She looks ahead to a happy life and raising a family. She's been on our staff since 1998.

Rounding out the Nursery staff is **Holly Newman**. She was born in Minnesota

(Continued on page 23)



Childcare Available

Here's to Three Winners from LP Church

From Cheri Fallon

Please give us the scoop about LP Members and friends. If something's happening in your family, we'd like to hear about it. Leave a note in our mailbox at the Church Office or e-mail us; our addresses are always on the back page of the *News-Linc*.

Martha Blakely

If you read the *Reading Eagle's* sports section, you must know about Martha's tremendous accomplishments in tennis. She is PA's No. 1 women's tennis player, having won the state title an amazing three times. A Senior at Wyomissing HS, Martha is the only woman to win four singles titles in the Berks Girls Tennis League. She has also won at Districts four times.

Martha says, "There are so many good players out there." And, it's hard to repeat the performance, she admits: "All the players know you. You have a target on your back."

This hard-working athlete is excited to attend VA Tech next year on a full tennis scholarship. She was offered similar scholarships at NC State and Wisconsin, but "I just loved VA Tech!" she says.

Martha plans on a double major in math and chemistry, and maybe a minor in a language.

Martha competes on the national level

which is "very different — you're on your own."

In 2004 she fought hard to win a spot on the Nike Jr Tour International Masters in Pompadour, France. "I got

to see the best players in my age group in the world, me playing with them and competing with them and not getting totally waxed by them. And I got to go with my sister [**Grace**, who is also an incredible player] which was a new experience."

Sally Allen, Martha's coach at Wyomissing says "She's received very, very well by teammates." And if you talk with her you'll see why. She has a sweet appreciation for all that's come her way. "I'm really lucky to be given an opportunity, and for all that everyone's done for me. Everything that I've done has been blessed in some way."



Samuel Gundy

Congratulations to **Sam Gundy** on being named a "Hometown Hero." Last year State Representative Sam Rohrer got an overwhelming response when he asked for his constituents to submit names of

people who have made Berks County a better place.

The 2007 Hometown Hero award went to **Samuel C. Gundy**. This long-time LP member was a B-17 pilot in World War II; he became a prisoner of war for 15 months during his tour of duty.

Sam is a retired Kutztown University biology professor, past columnist for the *Reading Eagle*, and served as Director of the Reading Public Museum.

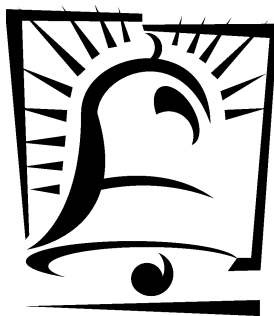
Congratulations and thank you, Sam, for your positive impact on life in Berks County!

Kathy Hagee

Do you know what the Liberty Medal is? Have you been to the Constitution Center in Philadelphia?

Kathy is a Wilson HS teacher with a passion for history. While attending an institute at the Constitution Center, Kathy met the Director of Education there who asked her to write a lesson plan for the Center about the Liberty Medal.

She did, and, because of it, found herself in a front seat at the prestigious Liberty Medal ceremony, close to Bono of U2, one of her favorite singers and a recipient of the medal. The other winner was the organization DATA (Debt, AIDS, Trade, Africa) which fights poverty and disease in Africa.



So what is the Liberty Medal for? It's awarded annually to a person or group from any country who "demonstrated leadership and vision in the pursuit of liberty of conscience or freedom from oppression, ignorance, or deprivation," according to the National Constitution Center's website.

Kathy teaches Advanced Placement US History and AP psychology. Her lesson plan asks students to discuss traits a person should have to deserve a Liberty Medal. It then introduces Bono and DATA, as well as poverty and AIDS. Finally, it asks students to think of how they could raise awareness in their own community for a cause they believe in .

"It's important to me," says Kathy, "that students recognize their role in their community, whether it's local or international. They do have a voice, and how they use that voice is what defines their character."

Kathy's lesson plan is available at

www.constitutioncenter.org/libertymedal/

Anyone can use it!

Congratulations Kathy!

Kathy's information was taken from an article in the *Reading Eagle*, *Voices* section, written by Aubri Charnigo.

From our mailbox



Stacie Jones

♥ The staff would like to thank the people of Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church for their generous and thoughtful Christmas gift. We look forward to serving you in the name of Jesus Christ in the blessed 2008 year.

-Your Appreciative Staff

♥Dear Doris McCoy:
Please thank the children for the wonderful Christmas baskets they made for the shut-ins. I enjoyed all the goodies; it was very thoughtful.

Fondly,
Dorothy P. Lackey

♥Pastor Jerry and Congregation of Lincoln Park Community UMC:

Thank you so much for your generous donations for the needy family in Reading. Through your generosity, I've taken them nearly \$400 in cash, plus grocery store gift cards, non-perishable food, lots of clothing and linens— and perhaps most important — hope for the future.

The mom said, "You're the only ones who made Christmas possible for us. Thank, thank you, thank you."

This is the meaning of Christmas!
Blessings in the New Year,



♥Dear Fellow Church Members,

I am ever so grateful to belong to a fellowship as caring as you are. Your presence in my life in the past couple months has been most comforting. My sincere thanks to you for the prayers, cards, visits, and nurturing food! God's presence in our congregation is indeed evident. God's love to you all.

Nancy Dettra

♥To LP Church Children and "Helpers,"

Thanks so much for your delightful gifts brought to us this holiday season. It was such fun to "root" through each basket and find all those "goodies!" Since we can't get to church as often as we'd like, it's wonderful to be "connected" through the thoughtfulness and remembrance of all of you. Thanks so much!

Sincerely,
Mary and Sam Gundy

♥To The Sunday School Children of Lincoln Park United Methodist —

Thank you so much for the wonderful "snack pack" gift you made for me. I will enjoy everything in it. You made my Christmas happier! You all have a great holiday and God bless each one of you.

Love you —
Evelyn Davidheiser



Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



February
12
for our
March 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-

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Change of Phone Number

Janelle (Shenk) & Ron Salamone
Cole & Megan Ann
610-370-9174

Transferred

Kerry & Barbara Lanza
Matthew & Emily
Mrs. Harold Fisher

Birth



Carrie Anne Hoag,
daughter of John and
Deb (Schlosser) Hoag,
was born on January 9,
weighing 7 lbs. 14 oz. **Don** and **Barb
Schlosser** are the proud grandparents.
Congratulations to all!

God's Tug on Us



An old man saw a child holding a piece of string that went high up into the sky. "Son," he asked, "why are you holding that string? The kite is out of sight." The boy answered, "I know it's there. I can feel the tug of it."

—Clarice Bowman in
*Power through
Prayer*

That's how we know God is active in our lives. We can feel His tug on us.

(Continued from page 19)

and moved to this area a year later. She lives with her family in Wyomissing. After graduation from Wilson HS in 2004, she enrolled in Reading Area Community College. She holds an Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education and is pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Special Ed. At RACC she was Secretary of the Student Education Association. She has little spare time, but when she does, she enjoys reading and listening to music.

Holly looks forward to becoming a successful Special Education teacher. She's been a part of our nursery staff since 2004.



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

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