



News-Line

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


Worship with Us at Lincoln Park this Easter

Holy Thursday, March 20, 6:30 pm — Christian Seder

Good Friday, March 21, 7 pm, Tenebrae Worship

Easter Morning, Worship at 9 and 11 am



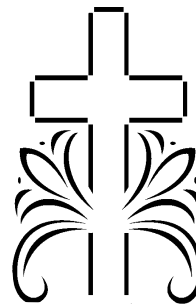
The
Reading Philharmonic
Presents...A
Sunday Afternoon
Concert 
March 9, 3 pm
Lincoln Park Sanctuary

Flowering the Cross On Easter Sunday

From Pastor Jerry McGrath

Help us turn the cross into the glorious symbol of our Savior's resurrection that it became that first Easter morning. We ask each person or family who attends the 9 and 11 am worship services to bring a bunch of fresh-cut flowers.

These do not have to be fancy flowers - a bunch of daisies or carnations would be perfect. The more colorful the variety, the more beautiful the cross will become as we "plant" our blooms on it.



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Please drop your bunches of flowers in the kitchen on your way to worship



WORSHIP IN MARCH

From Pastor Jerry McGrath

Sunday, March 2 FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

9 am - "Pontius Pilate and Barabbas"

Matthew 27:11-20, 24-25, Luke 23:13-25

11 am - "All Surrounding Grace"

Psalms 103:1-18, John 3:14-21

Wednesday, March 5

7 pm - Lenten Worship

Emmanuel-Olivet United Methodist in Reading, with Dr. David Knotts preaching

Sunday, March 9 FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

9 am - "Roman Soldier and Malchus, The High Priest's Servant" - John 19:16-18

11 am - "Unless a Grain of Wheat..." - Jeremiah 31:31-34, John 12:20-33

Wednesday, March 12

7 pm - Emerging Lenten Worship

Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church

Sunday, March 16 PALM SUNDAY

9 am - "Mary, Mother of Jesus and John the Disciple" - Luke 1:26-32, John 19:23-37

11 am - "The Lord Has Need of It" - Isaiah 50:4-9, Mark 14:1-15

Bell Choir will play

Thursday, March 20 HOLY THURSDAY

6:30 pm - Christian Seder Meal and Service

Friday, March 21 GOOD FRIDAY

7 pm - Tenebrae Worship

††† **Sunday, March 23** EASTER SUNDAY †††

9 and 11 am - "Where's Jesus?"

Preludes begin at 10:45 am, with guest soloists and instrumentalists.

Flowering the Cross

Sunday, March 30 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

10 am - "Celebration Sunday"

Our District Superintendent, the **Rev. Dr. Gary George**, will be preaching



Come Experience a Christian Seder

From Becky Chadwick

Please join us for a Seder drama and meal on Thursday, **March 20**, at 6:30 pm, in Memorial Hall. The whole family will learn about the Seder and its meaning, while sharing a meal. Suggested donation for the meal will be \$5 per adult and \$2 per child (ages 4 – 11). Advanced reservations are requested to help with food preparation, but tickets will also be available at the door. Come, share a meal, and learn about Jesus' last meal with his disciples! See **Becky Chadwick** for details and tickets.

Do You Have Questions About Communion?

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

Lincoln Park offers a **Spring Communion Workshop** to promote understanding of the sacrament of communion by our children and their families. Have you wondered why Christians gather at the Lord's Table? Or, have you asked "Just what is a sacrament, anyway?" If so, you'll want to attend the workshop on Sunday, **March 9**, at 12:15 pm, in the sanctuary. Although children in 3rd grade and above are our targeted audience, all ages and their parents are welcomed.

The United Methodist Church has set no specific age to begin taking communion, but encourages a family and child decision based on desire

and readiness of heart. After attending the workshop, parents and children can decide if

they will receive Holy Communion together at the first table at the Maundy Thursday Seder Service on March 20 (see above).

Pastor Jerry will take us through the biblical foundations of the Eucharist and guide us in hands-on discovery of the various ways in which communion is offered at LP. Questions and requests to attend are welcomed by **Pastor Jerry** and **Pastor Dorris** by calling the church office, 610-777-1422.



From the Pastor's Desk

From Pastor Jerry McGrath

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead, that Christ has not been raised?; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain.

1Corinthians 15:12-14

In Steven Curtis Chapman's song, "Great Expectations," he sings, *Believe the unbelievable, receive the inconceivable, and go beyond our wildest imaginations.* Something that appears impossible becomes possible.

Human nature tells us that we need to see before we believe; we need the facts before putting our trust into something.

We are created with a sense of skepticism to question things that are out of the realms of human logic or out of our comfort zones. In the early 1900s the experts said it would take thousands of years for humankind to fly. Less than five years after that statement the Wright brothers were flying their plane at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. Nearly 70 years later a man was walking on the moon.

We are fascinated with the "incredible," whether we truly believe or not. We can come face to face with the bizarre, the supernatural, and still not believe. This kind of thinking is similar to

the reaction to the resurrection. About 2000 years ago Jesus did something no other human being has ever done, except Lazarus. He rose from the grave. Yet despite the fact that his disciples and a great multitude of people socialized with the risen Christ, the majority of the world failed to believe.

Two thousand years after Christ did the impossible, the unbelievable, the majority of the world still does not accept his resurrection. Why, despite countless evi-

dence that leads to Christ's resurrection, does the majority of the world turn to other sources to find eternal life? Perhaps it's because many Christians don't lead resurrected lives.

The best way to experience Christ's resurrection today is to see it in His 21st century disciples. Are we living victorious lives over death and worldly evil, or have we allowed sin to defeat us? Do we try to play God and rule over the

(Continued on page 17)





Have you read
The Worshiper?

A New Chance to Learn More About Worship!

From Becky Chadwick

Some of you
may have no-
ticed *The Wor-*

shiper magazine at church entrances,
in the Wagner Room and Memorial
Hall. The articles in this magazine are
interesting and timely, covering a vari-
ety of topics, people, and ages. Please
take one and enjoy it! They are free, so
take one to share with a friend.

Membership Class Forming

From Pastor Jerry McGrath

A new membership class will meet on



Sunday, **March 9**,
at 12:15 pm, for
anyone wishing to
become a member
of Lincoln Park
Community United
Methodist Church.
With questions or

for further information, please see **Pas-
tor McGrath**.

DISCIPLESHIP UNIVERSITY Coming March 8

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

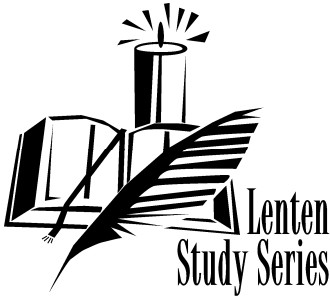
The GBOD (General Board of Discipleship of the National UMC offices) introduces *Discipleship University*, to call congregations to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. *Discipleship University's* TURN ASIDE AND SEE: A DAY OF TRANSFORMATIONAL STUDY AND REFLECTION, will be held March 8, 9 am-3:30 pm, at Tindley Temple UMC, Broad St., Philadelphia. The event is free but registration is necessary for lunch to be provided. Register online at http://www.gbod.org/du/turn_aside/learn_more.htm. Details are also available at this site.



I sat once with an old Irish priest in his house. His faithful Irish setter was next to him, resting his head in the priest's lap.

“Don't tell the bishop,” said the priest, his eye twinkling. “But I expect I'll see old Red up there in heaven — if I get there. As a matter of fact, I wouldn't be surprised to find more dogs than people in heaven. We Christians prate about forgiveness, and loyalty and love, while the dogs practice all of these qualities.”

—George Plagenz



LENTEN STUDY SUPPER FEEDS BODY AND SOUL

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

Three opportunities remain to join in the Lenten

Supper Study series, Sunday evenings, March 2, 9, and 16, beginning with supper at 5 pm and adult and kids' study choices at 6 pm. Thanks to **Beverly Ruffner** and her wonderful helpers, our physical bodies are fed with food and fellowship before we feed our souls in study and dialogue.

Adult options include:

- † Pastor Jerry's in-depth look at Dan Kimball's book, *They Like Jesus But Not the Church*
- † the McCoy's journey through *Signs of Lent*, using video, works of art, dis-

cussion and quiet time to weave together scripture and life.

Infant/toddler care is offered in the church nursery. Children ages 3 and above are invited to multi-age, SUNDAY NIGHTS ONE ROOM ALIVE, offering Lenten-themed Bible stories, games, crafts, and activities in Room 101.

Late registrants are always welcome; sign up at Information Stations or see **Pastor Jerry** or **Pastor Dorris** as you exit worship.

Come...rediscover and explore what a life of faith ought to be. Be in a time of personalized prayer, reflection, and voices raised in praise coupled with a supportive joining together in community.

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!



SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL AND MORE - A LOOK BACK

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

In its earliest roots, the Sunday School served for more than religious instruction. We often forget that Robert Raikes, credited as the primary founder of the Sunday School movement in the mid-1700's, started the first school for children of chimney sweeps who learned to read and write by reading and copying from the Bible. In the days before child labor laws, when children worked six days a week, Sunday Schools were a way to control children's activities so that the tranquility of the wealthy was not disturbed on the weekend. Children were gathered together to learn proper behavior and enforce cleanliness.

It was in the early 1800's that Sunday School became more religious in nature, teaching church doctrine and morals rather than basic reading and writing. Its late 1800's success was closely connected to its providing education while enhancing the culture of working-class life through adding music and service of song, sewing classes, bazaars, concerts, dramas, cricket and football clubs, and societies for mutual improvement and excursions to the seaside.

As in its earliest roots, Sunday Church School today, though quite differently,



seeks to shape the culture in which we live and affect the way we Christians see the world, even as the church competes with many other choices, distractions, and opportunities for its children, youth, and adults. This dual emphasis on Christ and culture remains the focus of what LP offers on Sunday mornings at LP - opportunities for our children, youth, and adults to learn and grow in the faith and know its stories and heritage.

At 9 am, younger children leave Contemporary Worship after the Children's Message for Children's Choir and Bible Story Time.

During the 10:10 am Church School period, options for all ages are offered:

- Children 3 years through 6th grade have graded options using Faith Weaver curriculum resources.
- Youth in 7th-12th grades wrestle with Bible stories and their application to real life.
- Adults can choose from three different options:

- *Lectionary Bible Study* for a disciplined reading of the

(Continued on page 16)

YOUTH-LIENS

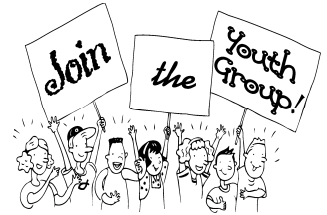
UMYF Happenings

From Cori Rigato, 610-568-0691

Sunday, March 2 - Youth Group Meeting, 6-8pm
Theme: "Searching"

Sunday, March 9 - Cori will be out of town

Saturday, March 15 - Easter Egg Hunt
Want to help? See **Tracy** or **Pastor Dorris**



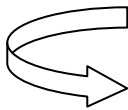
Sunday, March 16 - Youth in charge of children's class for Lenten series.
Come at 5 pm to eat. Class is from 6-7 pm...
then stay for an hour of games from 7-8 pm

Saturday, March 22 - Time TBD
Youth will set up Easter plants. I need one or two adult volunteers to pick up the plants that day, since Dani and I will be in Connecticut that weekend.

Sunday, March 30
Youth participate in single service at 10 am. More info later....

Sunday, April 13 - Youth Group Meeting, 6-8 pm

Sunday, April 27 - Youth Group Meeting, 6-8 pm



YOUTH MISSION TRIP...BECOME A SPONSOR!!

The youth are currently fundraising for their summer mission trip. Your donation will make you eligible for a postcard from a youth while on the trip, and an invitation to an appreciation dinner, filled with information and stories about their experience.

The youth will be at both services to take donations and answer questions.

Short term youth mission trips are life-changing experiences for the teens and adults who participate and for the community of people we serve. Please show the youth your support!



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

From Tracy Goldsborough

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.

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.

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 *Wii game day* at church. 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.

SUNDAY, JUNE 8


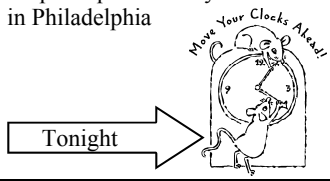


FAMILY PICNIC AT THE GOLDSBOROUGH'S HOUSE - Noon
The whole family is invited. Fun activities include: roast hot dogs on the fire, games, trampoline, tire swing, and anything else fun. If outside, plan to get wet or messy. If it rains, we'll move inside.



MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
			
<p>2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fourth SUNDAY IN LENT</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>Lenten Supper/Study 5-7pm Youth Group 6-8pm</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Bible Study 10:30 am</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Safe Haven Lighthouse 3-5:30 Opportunity House 4pm Confirmation Class 7 pm</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Bell Choir 7pm Chancel Choir 7:45</p>
<p>9</p> <p>Membership 12:15pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fifth SUNDAY IN LENT</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>Communion Workshop 12:15pm Lenten Supper/Study 5-7pm</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Bible Study 10:30am Finance 7pm</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Safe Haven Lighthouse 3-5:30</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Bell Choir 7pm Chancel Choir 7:45</p>
<p>16</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <i>Palm Sunday</i></p> <p>Jr Youth Bowl-a-Thon Lenten Supper/Study 5-7pm</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Bible Study 10:30am Church Council 7pm</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Safe Haven Lighthouse 3-5:30 Worship Committee 7pm</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Chancel Choir 7:30</p>
<p>23</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> EASTER SUNDAY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">...with Flowering the Cross</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10 am Service Celebration Sunday 30</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Bible Study 10:30am Book Club 7pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Discipline/ Classroom Training 6:30pm 30</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Safe Haven Lighthouse 3-5:30</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Chancel Choir 7:30</p>



Day	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1
pm	6 Craft Group 1pm Praise Team 8pm	7	8 Discipleship University in Philadelphia 
5pm	13 Praise Team 8pm	14 Confirmation Class Trip to Synagogue	15 Easter Egg Hunt 10 am
pm	20 <i>Maundy</i> THURSDAY  Craft Group 1pm Christian Seder 6:30 pm	21 <i>Good</i> FRIDAY  Tenebrae Service 7pm	22 Youth set up Easter flowers
pm	27 Praise Team 8pm	28	29 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>Looking ahead to April...</p> <p>4/13 Jr Group Bike/Hike 4/14 Finance 4/26 Chili Supper</p> </div>

Lincoln Park's Endowment Fund Continues to Grow and Benefit LP Ministries

*Endowment
Fund*



A Full Report of our Endowment Fund – 1982-2008

Growth of the Fund – As God Has Shown the Way
Ways We Have Given – As God Has Given to Us
Benefits of the Fund – Seeking and Sharing Christ

From Allen Buchanan & Harold Perkins

Since its inception in 1982, LP's Endowment Fund has been steadily growing and benefiting ministries at our church. Bequests and gifts to the fund have made many improvements and advances possible: in education, music, missions, our contemporary service, nurture and witness, our physical facilities, and much more (as the table on p.13 shows).

For further inquiry, please contact any member of the Endowment Fund Committee:

Rolland Ackelson
Allen Buchanan
Daniel Christopher
Shirley Cline
Nelson Freyling
Ira Mohler
Harold Perkins
Donald Schlosser
Pamela Shenk

Your Possible Part in the Fund

- Your **LIFETIME GIFT** or **LEGACY** through your Estate or Last Will and Testament, usually with legal counsel
- A Charitable Gift Annuity or Trust – another form of **LIFETIME GIFT**, irrevocable, (minimum \$10,000 at age 60 or above), returns a high rate of income for spouse and self for life with substantial tax benefits. Free counsel: Jack Brooks, UM Foundation, Valley Forge, 1-800-828-9093
- Gifts in Honor or Memory of Loved Ones and their lifelong values
- Securities (stocks, bonds, especially those appreciated in value) or Property – also related to above choices
- Insurance in various forms
- Cash Gifts specifying the Endowment Fund (for example, at Thanksgiving, Christmas, or in semi-annual “Endowment” marked envelopes in June and December, or anytime)

Note: all of the above with tax benefits

GROWTH OF LP'S ENDOWMENT FUND
SINCE INCEPTION (1982) TO DECEMBER 31, 2007

	CONTRIBUTIONS	TOTAL PRINCIPAL	INCOME EARNED	INCOME DISBURSED *
1982	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 72	—
1983 – 87	1,573	4,573	2,027	—
1988 – 92	4,385	8,958	2,188	\$ 2,154
1993 – 97	9,204	18,162	2,657	4,127
1998 – 02	29,191	47,353	9,133	7,350
2003 – 07	<u>39,469</u>	86,822**	<u>10,794</u>	<u>9,797</u>
TOTAL	\$ 86,822		\$26,871	\$23,428

** In addition, the fund will receive proceeds of a \$10,000 irrevocable Charitable Gift Annuity upon death of husband and wife.

SOURCES OF CONTRIBUTIONS SINCE 1982

Bequests	\$25,528
Gifts in Honor and Memory	18,381
Gifts (ranging from \$10 - \$1,000)	40,864
Annual transfers from income (10%)	<u>2,049</u>
TOTAL	\$ 86,822

*BENEFITS TO OUR MINISTRIES IN GOD'S SERVICE

For Ministry of Christian Education (teacher training, special programs, teaching materials and equipment)	\$5,169
For Ministry of Music	1,850
For Ministry of Missions (support of volunteers, travel, special designations)	1,450
For Family Programs	400
For 50 th Anniversary Program	170
For Consultation Study	2,000
For Nurture and Witness	1,500
For Contemporary Service	4,500
For Church Improvements Outside Budget	3,100
For Stewardship Program	800
For Endowment Fund Publications	440
For 10% Annual Transfer of Interest to Principal	<u>2,049</u>
TOTAL	\$23,428

Supp--Supp--Supper Time! The Call Is Out

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

It's LP's time to prepare and serve supper at OPPORTUNITY HOUSE! A multi-service organization for Berks County, OPPORTUNITY HOUSE serves homeless families. Their mission is to improve the quality of life for children, adults, and families who face various obstacles, and support their efforts to achieve and maintain self-sufficiency and well-being. The staff does an amazing job and is always welcoming to our group - never too busy to answer questions and always ready to direct our efforts.



So...hear that supper call...and call **Penny Snook**, 610-781-7704, to offer your time for food prep, fresh food, and/or \$\$\$ donations, or a vehicle to transport supper on **Tuesday, March 4**, beginning in the late afternoon. It's only a couple of hours six times a year. The residents' smiles and hand shakes will touch your hearts and souls. Christ's hands have no hands but yours!

Safe Haven Lighthouse Beckons

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

Lincoln Park's light for children beams brightly on Tuesday afternoons when the doors open for SAFE HAVEN LIGHTHOUSE, an after-school program for elementary children. Thus far six children attend, about where the other two participating churches began 5 years ago. You can see we have so much potential awaiting us. West Lawn UMC generously shares their van for pickup from four different Wilson schools and then drops children at LP's Education Building by 3 pm. Then the fun begins:



- ☺ Homework - any experts on the new math out there???
- ☺ snacks and prayers
- ☺ games (indoor and out)
- ☺ Bible stories
- ☺ crafts
- ☺ just chatting with one another

Sign-up sheets for helping are located on the bulletin board in Memorial Hall, or you may call the **Steinmeyers**, 610-777-3513. Thank you to all who have helped launch this exciting, fun-filled, and rewarding outreach into the lives of children in our community! Registration forms to apply to attend SHL are located on the Information Stations at the rear of worship areas. Why not take one to a family you know who have children coming home alone after school?

Worship Leader Minute for March 2008

From Becky Chadwick

Isaiah 41:13 (New American Standard Bible)

*For I am the LORD your God, who upholds your right hand,
Who says to you, 'Do not fear, I will help you.'*

Have you ever had something come at you at all different angles over and over again? That has been happening to me recently. This verse or something like it has been popping up in multiple places in my life recently. It has been in articles that I have been reading, in conversations I have had with unlikely people, and even in my dreams! It has me thinking about what God is trying to tell me. I think that people find it very easy to live in a sort of fear; the fear of the unknown, fear of change, fear of death, fear of living, fear of failure, fear of losing someone or something, so many things to be afraid of...but that is not what God wants us to do. God wants us to live for God and with God in the confidence that God is right there with us in whatever we do.

As I contemplate the lesson that God is trying to teach me, I am struggling with what is healthy fear and what is just “foolish” fear. What is it I should really be afraid of? Bill and I have been dealing with a school problem with one of our children recently, and we have been afraid that we were not going to be able to get the help that our child needs. We

were so afraid that we stopped listening, and that is where the fear overwhelmed us. We stopped listening so we couldn't make good decisions, we couldn't say the right thing, and we were being unsuccessful with getting our child's needs met. When we realized what was happening, we changed strategies. God was with us holding our hands and we just had to trust that God was going to help us to do the best we could for our child. When we started to listen, we were able to take a step back and make better decisions, and contribute more productively to coming up with a solution for the problem. You see, fear keeps us from “hearing” what others are saying, and it keeps us from taking the steps that God wants us to take.

It is not easy to let go of fear. It is hard to trust that God is there holding our hand, but like all things it only takes faith the size of a mustard seed to take the first step. When you decide to focus on God and not the fear, letting go becomes a little bit easier.

Thought to ponder: What am I afraid of? How can I begin to let go of the fear and hold onto God?



Four Rules to Live By

- ☺ Pray every day.
- ☺ Love those you live with.
- ☺ Do what needs to be done.
- ☺ Leave the results up to God.

—Boca West Community UMC
Boca Raton, FL

Jazz Vesper Service Comes to Reading

From Nancy Brown



*Spiritual
Jazz*

The members of First Baptist Church, South Fifth and Chestnut Streets in Reading, invite you to join them for a special service at 4 pm, on Sunday, **March 30**.

Maria Damore with Andy Roberts and Friends will present a Spiritual Jazz vesper service. Refreshments will be served after the service. Parking is available on our secured lot behind the church on Wood Street. For more information, please call Nancy Brown, 610-777-6887.

(Continued from page 7)

Bible in three years, with **Norm and Nancy Dettra**

- *Women of Faith Study Series*, with **Becky Chadwick**
- *Victory at Jerusalem — On Location in the Holy Land*, a 4-week video series narrated by Pastor Ronald Kelly, facilitated by **Earl Hope**

And that is just Sunday mornings!

We should consider that the term "Sunday School" is used loosely to cover other educational ministries of the church. The scope of Christian Education cannot be limited to only one day of the week or to a single program. Look at the learning and serving that occurs at LP's VBS experiences, summer and Christmas musicals, retreats, youth and children's fellowship groups, camping, family worship services, music/choir/concerts, crafts and art projects, the community fest, Safe Haven Lighthouse, family programs like the International Christmas Fest or Chili Supper - you get the picture!

You're invited to think about your present involvement in learning and growing. Challenge yourself to be involved in faith formation and transformation, and offer a hand of welcome to others to be involved.

POWER LAB: Discovering Jesus' Miraculous Power VBS: July 21 - 25

From Karen Osika
and Dorris McCoy

Pastor Dorris and I are getting geared up for our summer VBS program. We are so excited about this year's theme. The children will be experiencing life in a science lab and relating that to Jesus' and God's message.



We'd like our church family to keep your eyes open for items that could be used to decorate our VBS science lab: tube lights, beakers, flasks, test tubes, microscopes, lab coats, posters, cutouts, and inflatables.

More information will follow about training dates and donations. We look forward to seeing old and new friends this year. Spread the word that all are welcome!

Learn About Classroom Discipline and Management

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

Come---ask all your questions about lesson preparations, disciplining, and managing children in a Church School classroom setting.

We offer a program for church school teachers, parents, and anyone interested in learning about today's kids and classroom behavior and expectations! This training session is scheduled for Monday, **March 31**, 6:30-8:30 pm, in Memorial Hall, with **Becky Chadwick** presenting and **Dorris McCoy** facilitating.



Child care will be offered as requested; please contact **Pastor Dorris** to confirm child care need.

(Continued from page 4)

Christian church as a social private club and determine who gets in and who doesn't?

As Easter approaches, God calls us to lead the world to the joy and full life of the empty tomb. We must show people that they do not need to live broken, defeated, hopeless lives anymore. Despite all the tragedy and despair in the world, we need to show people that they are not alone. Jesus walks with them, carries them in times of trouble, as we are reminded in the poem, *Footprints in the Sand*. He leads them to full life not just in the future, but now. This Easter, may people see a resurrected Christ in our lives, so that they may experience the true meaning of Easter in their lives.

LP JOINS SUPER SOUPER BOWL TEAM

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

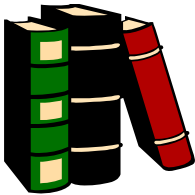
Aprons! Soup pots! Soup ladles! Souper Bowl posters! Excited church school kids waiting eagerly at worship exits! Why---it must be **SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY!** Yes, it was Souper Bowl Sunday here at LP on February 3 when members helped young people do something more than celebrate a football game. With your help, LP's children will be able to donate approximately \$600, and donations are still coming in. Their collection will help Central Park's Soup Kitchen ministry.



LP's participation began 15 years ago with \$50. Thank you one and all for teaching our children to care and share and for encouraging them to make a difference in fighting hunger and poverty. So...go ahead...give yourselves a high five for helping our children see the power of God's love through your generosity to help others right here in our community!!!

Women's Book Club

From Nancy Dettra



Amish Grace: How Forgiveness Transcended Tragedy, by Donald Kraybill, Steven Nolt, and David Weaver-Zercher, is our Lincoln Park Book Club selection for discussion on Monday, March 24, at 7 pm, at the home of **Joanne Ross**. In the wake of the Nickel Mines tragedy, *Amish Grace* "is an inside look at a series of events that showed the world what Christ-like forgiveness is all about – a story of the love of God lived out in the face of tragedy," says professor and author Tony Campolo. Please feel welcome to come and share this discussion.

**From our
mailbox**



♥ Dear Friends,

Thank you for the assorted groceries and \$2 you donated to our food pantry. Your donation helps us to offer a greater variety of items to our clients. We are glad to know we have such good friends to help us in our ministry. May God continue to bless you for your kindness.

Ann Marie Wallace, Soup Kitchen Mgr
Central Park UMC



Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



March
12
for our
April issue

Change of Address:

Ms Vera Wennell
Topton Lutheran Home - Room 226
1 South Home Ave
Topton PA 19562
610-641-1675

Donna Hill
18 Eli Ct
Reading PA 19607-1402

Mae Syphard
Country Meadows
1800 Tulpehocken Rd
Reading PA 19610

Change of Phone Number:

Mrs. Connie Pawlikowski & Andrew
610-750-5030
(no e-mail address currently)

COMING SOON....

Saturday,
April 26,
6 pm -
CHILI
SUPPER.

**Next
Month**



Be on the lookout for details!

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, and Doris Schucker



March Birthdays

Mei-Mei McGrath 3/15/2005
Elizabeth Newton 3/22/2005
Tyler Smith 3/24/2005
Chase Werner 3/12/2007

Invitation to the Phillies

From Pastor Dorris
McCoy

West Lawn United
Methodist Church
invites Lincoln Park
UMC members on
their bus trip

(they've ordered 3 busses) to see the Philadelphia Phillies play the Atlanta Braves on **Saturday, July 26**, leaving from West Lawn UMC at 1 pm. For more info on seating and costs, please contact Lori, 610-921-2513. Enjoy peanuts, popcorn, cracker jacks and more at the old ball game in fellowship with a sister congregation!!





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
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	Cori Rigato 31	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

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