



News-Line

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

Join us for our FALL SUNDAY SUPPER & STUDY SERIES

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

All are invited to be spiritually nurtured at the upcoming **FALL SUNDAY SUPPER & STUDY SERIES, November 2, 9, 16, and 23**, beginning with supper at 5 pm and concluding by 7:15 pm each week. This four-week series offers two choices for adults, child care for infants/toddlers, and activities for K-6 age children. The adult options will be:

- JUST WALK ACROSS THE ROOM
- SPIRITUAL GIFTS DISCOVERY



Sunday Supper & Study

Sign up via flyers in the Wagner Room.

Pastor Jerry McGrath will lead the discussion of video teachings by Bill Hybel, based on his book, *Just Walk Across the Room*. Hybel's insights begin with this question: *What if you knew that by taking ten steps across a room and saying hello to another person, you could impact his or her eternity?* How do we follow Jesus by taking simple walks across rooms to extend care, compassion, and inclusiveness to people who might need a touch of God's love today?

The **SPIRITUAL GIFTS WORKSHOP** will be facilitated by **Jack Villecco**. The workshop process helps persons to

- understand more of what God made them to be.

Inside this issue

Worship	p. 2
From Pastor McGrath	p. 4
Thanksgiving Eve	p. 2
Habitat for Humanity	p. 14
Opportunity House	p. 14
Holiday Fellowship	p. 5
Grace Notes	p. 7

(Continued on page 11)



WORSHIP IN NOVEMBER

From Pastor Jerry McGrath

Sunday, November 2 - ALL SAINTS SUNDAY
“Worship Feast for All” - Isaiah 25:6-9, Revelation 21:1-6a

WORSHIP SERVICES **Sunday, November 9** - TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN KINGDOMTIDE

Special Guest Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Dorothy Watson-Tatem,
Director of Office of Urban and Global Ministries

Sunday, November 16 - LAITY SUNDAY
Exodus 33:12-23, Matthew 22:15-22

Sunday, November 23 - SONG AND PRAYER SUNDAY, BIBLE SUNDAY
“Jesus Is Our Lifeline” - 1John 1:8-10, Psalm 121, Psalm 100

Wednesday, November 26, 7 pm - FAMILY THANKSGIVING EVE
“God's Blessings” - Deuteronomy 26:1-11, John 6:25-35

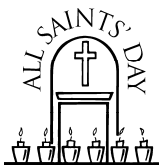
Sunday, November 30, *one service at 10 am* - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
“Our Christmas Memories” - Isaiah 64:1-9, 1Corinthians 1:3-9

All Saints Sunday Recognized on November 2

From Pastor Jerry McGrath

All Saints Sunday will be recognized at both worship services on November 2.

If you've lost a loved one this year, please submit a photo to the office so we can recognize and celebrate his or her life in worship.



Thanksgiving Eve Service Announced

From Pastor Jerry McGrath

Join us Wednesday evening, **November 26**, at 7 pm, for a time of thanksgiving and gratitude to Jesus Christ for his many blessings in our lives. This will be a time for families to get together in worship to prepare for the upcoming holiday season of Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, New Years, and Epiphany.



Bibles to be Awarded to Children

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

During worship on BIBLE SUNDAY, **November 23**, children in 3rd grade and older children of new members will receive their own Bibles from LP Church.

The presentation Bible is *Group's Hands-On Bible* which encourages children to start reading to experience God's Word. This easy-to-read version has lots of cool facts, timelines through biblical history, key verses, Bible hero biographies, maps, a Bible dictionary, and full color Jesus Connection/Bible Bonanza pages.

Children and their parents will be invited to come forward and participate in a presentation litany during the worship service they choose to attend.

So...parents and children...please plan now to worship with us this Sunday.

Let's Get Started!

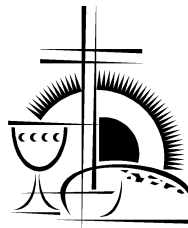
From Cheri Fallon

When my son Andrew received his Bible, Pastor Jack Buttimer held up his own used-looking one and expressed hope that the children's Bibles would one day look as worn as his own.

That night as I was getting comfortable to read with Andy, he pulled out his new Bible and said earnestly, "Mom, this is a big book. We'd better get started!"

Communion Helpers Needed

From Mark Bisignaro



We need three or four couples or individuals to assist with communion set-up through the year. No more than three or four Sundays a year

would be required.

Schedules will be made according to availability. Please see or call **Mark Bisignaro**, 610-670-5610, or **Pastor Jerry**, 610-777-1422 ext.44. Thank you for considering this service to our church.



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

One of them, when he saw that he was healed, came back to Jesus, shouting, "Praise God, I'm healed!" He fell face down on the ground at Jesus' feet, thanking him for what he had done. This man was a Samaritan. Jesus asked, "Didn't I heal 10 men? Where are the other nine?"

There's a humorous commercial about a man and woman having dinner. The woman says something about the two of them dating for a long time. She seems to expect that the response from the man will be a marriage proposal. Instead, he pauses and says, *Thank you*. She, in turn, is overwhelmed with happiness. His gratitude towards her and the relationship seems to overshadow her anticipation of getting engaged.

I sometimes wonder if we live in a society that craves appreciation. Perhaps we don't say, *Thank you* enough. Maybe life would be more joyous and more exciting if we appreciated what God has given us as

opposed to what we lack. Perhaps life isn't as disappointing or unfulfilling as we think. Perhaps we have a negative attitude.

Are we grateful for our blessings? BLESSINGS? Yes, blessings. We are blessed in some way or another. When we recognize what we have and not focus on what we don't have, we enable ourselves to be open for God to bless us more.

We are now embarking on my favorite time of the year, the holiday seasons of Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years. This is a time for me

to remember that sometimes I take God's blessings for granted.

Thanksgiving and Christmas are times to remember to praise God from whom all blessings, big and small, flow. Whatever the situation we're in, this season reminds us of the miracle blessings that God has bestowed upon us, and can continue to bestow upon us. Let us prepare our spirits, our hearts, this holiday season to be in an attitude of gratitude.



A Night of Holiday Fellowship

From Linda Hope

The congregation of Lincoln Park is cordially invited to attend

A Night of Holiday Fellowship

at the home of gracious hosts, **George and Debbie Pyle.**

This annual event will be on **Saturday, December 6**, from 6-9 pm.

Silent Auction bid sheets can be found in the Wagner Room at the Information Table. Please place completed bid sheets in the box on the table. Minimum bid is \$15 per person. **Bids will be accepted through Sunday, November 16**, after which the top 60 bidders will be notified by phone. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to share the holiday spirit with one another!! Questions??? Please call **Linda Hope**, 610-670-9731.

Operation Christmas Child

The Power of a Simple Gift

From Jim Eckert

It's the time of year to fill a shoe box! Since 2002, generous participants at our church have filled 628 boxes with small gifts for children, many of whom have never received a gift. Check in the Wagner Room for brochures explaining the ministry, the suggested gifts, and instructions for preparing the box.



Even Christmas shopping-challenged males like myself have found this to be fun and rewarding. Can't find a shoe box around the house? You've been handed a nice reason to go out and buy yourself a pair of "just for so" shoes!

This ministry not only provides smiles and gifts, but also reading materials and follow-up (by Samaritan's Purse ministry) to introduce children to Jesus Christ - in over 120 countries!

Please bring your gift boxes to the Wagner Room by **Sunday, November 16**. Remember to include \$7 (check) for shipping.

Experience our Labyrinth - November 16

From Shirley Cline

Your **WORD** is a **LAMP** to my feet and a **LIGHT** to my path.
P s a l m 1 1 9 : 1 0 5



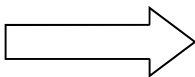
The dictionary defines a labyrinth as *a network of winding, interconnected passages through which it is difficult to find one's way.*

As most paths in life are difficult, they can be made easier with the help of the Lord. Our labyrinth, focused on a spiritual connection to the Lord, is not difficult to follow. With the help of candles signifying *a lamp unto your feet* (Psalm 119:105), you'll find a rich and rewarding path while talking to the Lord. Isn't that what prayer is, talking to the Lord? Prayer does so many things. It heals, it imparts wisdom, it bestows peace, it saves the sinner, it refreshes our soul.

In walking our labyrinth, I've found a path of connection, and upon reaching the center, I'm reminded to *be still and know that I am God* (Psalm 46:10), to hear, to be reassured that he is always listening. As I continue outward, along the lighted path, I feel with certainty he is the one true light.

As we prepare for Advent, please take some time on Sunday, November 16, from 12-1 pm and from 3-7 pm, to walk our labyrinth, to open your heart to the true meaning of the season, and receive an inner peace that you may need at this time.

Follow the light, follow the star.



REMINDER: CHARGE CONFERENCE

From Pastor Jerry McGrath

Our annual CHARGE CONFERENCE will be held **Friday, November 21**, at 6:30 pm, or 6 pm for members of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee. If you're part of Church Council or on SPR, please remember this important date. Charge Conference is the time when we share our end of the year reports and reflect and celebrate on our ministry this past year. All members of Lincoln Park Church are welcome.

Grace Notes

From Beverly Perella


Do you need to feel loved, wanted, needed? After all, these are three of our daily needs as God's children. I have several easy solutions for you.

1. **Join** the CHANCEL CHOIR. God and I don't care that you don't sing as well as you used to. *Wednesday night rehearsals.*
2. **Join** the BELL CHOIR. Surely you can hold a bell and move your wrist. Can you count? No perfect pitch on your part is needed. *Wednesday night rehearsals.*
3. **Bring** your children to JUNIOR CHOIR on Thursday night at 6:30. You get to relax in my office and dig through the candy dish to keep you content. The children will sing monthly at the end of the Contemporary Service and at the beginning of the Traditional Service.
4. **Dig out** your old instruments, get your lip or fingers back in some kind of shape, and pick up the Christmas music for the 8 PM CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE.
5. **Attend** the CHANCEL CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT on **Sunday, December 14**, at 11 am. The PRAISE TEAM CHRISTMAS PROGRAM will be held closer to Christmas Day.
6. **Add the date** of *Sunday, November 30*, to your calendar in **BIG BOLD PRINT**. You don't want to miss this 10 am program that leads us into the season of Advent. I'll be asking for input from some of the more "mature" members of our church family regarding their memories of family Advent and Christmas celebrations.
7. **Commit** your family and yourself to participate in the family musical for the 6 PM CHRISTMAS EVE CELEBRATION.
8. And if you really want to feel fulfilled, loved, wanted and needed, **be a steward for God** and invite someone from outside our congregation to share these activities with you and this amazing church family!

Remember and believe, "Through Him all things are possible."





November

Sun	Mon	Tue	We
<p><i>If the only prayer you said in your entire life was “</i> <i>-Meister Eckhardt</i></p>			
<p>2 Remember! Time Change. this Sunday! All Saints Sunday Brunch 10am Fall Supper Study 5pm</p>	<p>3 SPR 7pm</p>	<p>4 ELECTION DAY Safe Haven Lighthouse 3-5:30pm Opportunity House 4pm</p>	<p>5 Bell Choir 6:30p Chancel Choir 7</p>
<p>9 Coats for Kids deadline Fall Supper Study 5pm UMYF Meeting 6pm</p>	<p>10 Finance 7pm</p>	<p>11 VETERAN'S DAY Safe Haven Lighthouse 3-5:30pm</p>	<p>12 Bell Choir 6:30p Chancel Choir 7</p>
<p>16 LAITY SUNDAY Labyrinth 12-1 & 3-7pm Operation Christmas Child- Jr Youth 12pm Fall Supper Study 5pm</p>	<p>17 Church Council 7pm</p>	<p>18 Safe Haven Lighthouse 3-5:30pm</p>	<p>19 Bell Choir 6:30p Chancel Choir 7</p>
<p>23 BIBLE SUNDAY Fall Supper Study 5pm Youth Worship 6:30pm</p>	<p>24 Book Club 7pm</p>	<p>25 Safe Haven Lighthouse 3-5:30pm</p>	<p>26 THANKSGIVING SERVICE</p>
<p>30 <i>Our Christmas Memories</i> 10am</p>  <p>First Sunday of Advent</p>			

ber 2008



ed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>thank you," that would suffice.</i>			1 
pm 7:30pm	6 Children's Choir 6pm Praise Team 8pm	7 → Revolve Tour ←	8
pm	13 Craft Group 1pm Children's Choir 6pm Praise Team 8pm	14	15
pm 7:30pm	20 Children's Choir 6pm Praise Team 8pm	21 Charge Conference 6:30pm	22 Habitat for Humanity Workday
WING EVE E 7PM	27  THANKSGIVING	28	29
			<div data-bbox="642 1219 1126 1507" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Looking ahead to December...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12/6 Holiday Fellowship at the Pyle's 12/8 Finance 12/13 LP Orchestra rehearsal 12/14 Choir Cantata w/Bells, Labyrinth, Youth Worship 12/20 LP Orchestra rehearsal 12/24 Xmas Eve services at 6-8-10pm </div>

Share Your Christmas Memories

From Pastor Jerry McGrath

On **Sunday, November 30**, we'll kick off the beginning of Advent with one worship service at 10 am, entitled **OUR CHRISTMAS MEMORIES**.

Please be part of this worship service by filling out a Family Member Questionnaire, which you can find in Sunday bulletins and on Information Tables, and returning it to the office by Sunday, November 16. We hope to hear about your memories! Here's a sampling of the questions we're asking...

- What was it like when you were a kid? How was it different from the way things are now?
- How was the story of Christmas shared in your family?
- What do you remember about special foods at Christmas?
- What was it like for you on Christmas Eve?
- When you were growing up, were any Christmases particularly memorable?



Christmas Memories

SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL CALLS YOU

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

The mission of the church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.



This is the directional statement from the United Methodist Council of Bishops for all United Methodists. To fulfill this mission alone is difficult, however, gathering together as the Body of Christ to explore the "how" and "where" builds individual and corporate strength to create new bridges of peace, community and reconciliation. Sunday morning Church School for all ages seeks to engage children, youth and adults in learning how faith leads them inward and outward. The schedule for this is as follows:

- † 9:15 am - L.I.V.E Big for 3 year olds through 4th graders
- † 10:00 am - Adult Lectionary Bible Study
- † 10:20 am - ROCK SOLID for ages 3 through 6th graders
- † 10:20 am - Youth Class
- † 10:20 am - Two adult options taught by **Becky Chadwick** and **Earl Hope**

With questions or suggestions for additional possibilities, please see CEEd Chair, **Kim DeHart**, or **Pastor Dorris**.

Adult Sunday School Class



Adult Christian Education Invites You To Learn & Discuss Sundays, 10:20 am From Earl Hope

Seeing Gray in a Black and White World Adam Hamilton

Everyone agrees that America is polarized, with ever-hardening positions held by people less and less willing to listen to one another. No one agrees on what to do about it. One solution that hasn't yet been tried, says Adam Hamilton, is for thinking persons of faith to model for the rest of the country a richer, more thoughtful conversation on the political, moral, and religious issues that divide us.

Nov 2	Christ, Christians, and the Culture Wars
Nov 9	How Should We Live, the Ethics of Jesus
Nov 16	Spiritual Maturity and Seeing Gray
Nov 23	What Would Jesus Say to America?
Nov 30	(Fifth Sunday Blended Service at 10am—no Sunday School)

A Christmas Carol Bible Story

This DVD-based Bible study features *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens, using movie clips and relevant scripture. Follow Scrooge on the journey of a fallen man to redemption.

Dec 7	Christmas Carol: Selfishness
Dec 14	Christmas Carol: Regret
Dec 21	Christmas Carol: Repentance
Dec 28	(Agape Service—no Sunday School)
Jan 4	Christmas Carol: Salvation

(Continued from page 1)

- know why finding a truly meaningful place of service can be a dynamic ministry.
- discover how individuals are to serve according to their Servant Profiles.

LPCUMC needs to continue its evolution into a vital, transforming church. The average church is filled with people doing jobs. A truly great and vital church is filled with people involved in a ministry. Come...discover how and why!

Breaking Bread and Building Bridges

From Kim DeHart

Breaking Bread and Building Bridges is a dining event that will allow you to experience things that really matter, like developing relationships, purpose, and a deeper connection with God by meeting other members and friends of Lincoln Park Church.

Think about a place where you can laugh with new friends, have a friendly, get-to-know-you-better discussion, and pick up some tips that will make life's path a little more interesting and fun. Yeah, it may take some guts to show up at dinner and talk with someone new, someone you may recognize but never really engaged in conversation. But that's half the fun, isn't it? All are welcome, singles, couples and triples; even youth grades 7 and above if they're interested.



The Breaking Bread and Building Bridges Dinners are scheduled for **March 1, 2009**. Look for more details on how to sign up to attend or host a dinner in future *News-Lincs* and church bulletins.



On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, 1984, Dr. Norman Vincent Peale began his sermon:

“Now it is November, the month that contains the most American of all holidays: Thanksgiving. We Americans invented Thanksgiving, and this is not surprising because of all the nations in the world, we have the most to be thankful for. We have freedom in a magnificent land that stretches from sea to shining sea. We have science, we have medicine, we have rich farmlands and soaring skyscrapers and great cathedrals and quiet churches. If you are an American, you have every right to be proud and grateful. And there's one thing more you should be thankful for: You should be thankful for you.”

If you are precious in God's eyes -- and you most certainly are -- then be grateful for the life God has given you and the constant blessings which are yours.

Excerpt from “Be Thankful for You”

Serve at Opportunity House November 4

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

As Thanksgiving approaches and we give thanks for all our blessings, let us not forget those who come upon hard times.

One very special and simple way to share our abundance is to prepare and serve supper to the homeless men, women, and children at the OPPORTUNITY HOUSE shelter program. To offer your time to cook, to donate foods or \$\$\$, or to serve the prepared supper at the shelter, please contact Head Chef, **Penny Snook**, 610-781-7704.

Come and join us on this outreach to God's children in the wider community on **Tuesday, November 4!**



Reading Habitat for Humanity Workday November 22

From Jim Eckert

Attention: Anyone at least 18!

Join our crew to help construct a home in Reading. The actual work depends on the stage of construction the home is in, but may be painting, drywall work, cleanup, or other jobs not requiring

special skills.

Please sign up in the Wagner Room. We'd like to have about eight folks, and may work with a group from another church. Any questions, contact **Jim Eckert**, 610-373-1064.



Grant Garrity, son of **Harry** and **Gretchen**, has moved to San Diego, where he works at the Burnham Institute for Medical Research. "I'm really enjoying my newfound home," he says. Grant has joined the running squad at Burnham "to raise money for their world-class research against human diseases."

"I've decided to take on my first half marathon (13 miles) in January in Orlando...and have agreed to raise \$3,000 in contributions for our non-profit institute," says Grant. If you'd like to help, you'll find letters and forms in the Wagner Room. Donations are tax deductible. Checks can be made to "Team Burnham" and sent to: Grant Garrity, 4679 Mission Blvd, San Diego CA 92109; 610-781-3486; ggarrity@burnham.org.

"I miss all of you on the East coast," says Grant, "and will keep you in my prayers."



Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



*November 12
for our
December issue*

Please include news for the beginning of January in our December issue. Our 1st issue for 2009 comes out the 2nd week of January. Thanks!

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

Change of Address:

Grant Garrity
4679 Mission Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92109

Jeff Pawlikowski
PO Box 530
Elverson, PA 19520-0530

New Phone Number:

Brian & Leslie Cooley: 610-781-5618
Kathy Hagee: 610-741-6823
Loeb family: 610-370-9669



♥ Dear Friends,

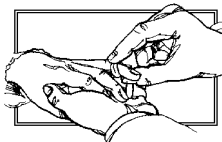
Thank you for the assorted groceries and \$8 you donated to our Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry. We're very grateful for all the support you give us. We couldn't serve our neighbors without your help.

Ann Marie Wallace,
Soup Kitchen Mgr
New Journey UMC

♥ To Our Friends at Lincoln Park:

Barbara and I appreciate all the cards we received in regard to my twin brother's death. It's extremely nice to have the wonderful support you provided to us. We appreciate it very much.

Dean & Barbara Starr



United in Marriage

Congratulations to **Glen Schucker** and Tuong-Uyen Nguyen who were united in marriage on October 4 in Maui. Glen and Uyen are both

graduates of Lehigh University with a BS in engineering. Glen also earned an MBA from Lehigh. Glen is the son of **Ron and Doris Schucker**.



Worship with us:

9:00 am - Contemporary Worship on Sunday

10:00 & 10:20 am - Christian Education on Sunday

11:00 am - Traditional Worship on Sunday

7:00 pm - Prayer Service, last Wednesday of each month

Office hours 9 am-3 pm Mon-Fri

Office phone 610-777-1422

Ext: Kitchen 28; Rm 200 35;

Ed Bldg 40; Nursery 39

Fax line 610-777-4309

Voice mail Pastor Jerry 44, Sandy Bressi 21,

Dorris McCoy 24, Beverly Perella 26,

Nancy Brown 29, Cori Pasquale 31

Pastor: Jerry McGrath, 610-670-1022

Pastor of CE: Dorris McCoy, 610-777-6128

Music Director: Beverly Perella, 610-603-0150

Secretary: Sandy Bressi

Editor: Cheri Fallon, 610-678- 8735

Deb Harvey, 610-775-3041

cherfallon@comcast.net, debharv3@verizon.net

Nursery: Gabi Antunes

Holly Newman

Worship Leader: Becky Chadwick

Bookkeeper: Nancy Brown

UMYF Leader: Cori Pasquale, 610-568-0691

Web: www.lpcumc.org

E-mail: lpcumc@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

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage

PAID

Reading, PA

Permit No. 233

Change service requested