

# News-Line

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

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## **KRISTKINDLMARKT Coming to Lincoln Park**

From Linda Woll,  
Nurture & Witness Committee

**International Christmas Festival  
Tuesday, December 9, 6 pm**

Take a stroll through our German marketplace and get a "taste" of German food and culture at our KRISTKINDLMARKT (Christ-children's market).

Come enjoy an evening of German culture, food, crafts, music and fel-

lowship. Learn about the Advent Calendar, Santa Clause, Christmas trees, gingerbread and much more.

For more information, please contact **Linda Woll**, 610-781-8046, or email [lmwoll@aol.com](mailto:lmwoll@aol.com).



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### **ANGEL TREE BRINGS CHRISTMAS TO NEEDY FAMILIES**

From Jim Eckert

In what has become a tradition at our Lincoln Park Church, we'll be sponsoring local families this Christmas season for the Salvation Army ADOPT A FAMILY CHRISTMAS

*(Continued on page 13)*

# WORSHIP IN DECEMBER

From Pastor Jerry McGrath



**Sunday, December 7**

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

“Stirring Up Recipes for Relationships: Covenant” -  
Jeremiah 33:14-16, Luke 19:28-40

**Sunday, December 14**

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Contemporary Service: “Stirring Up Recipes for Relationships: Grace”  
Malachi 3:1-7b, Luke 3:1-14

Traditional Service: *Holy Night of Miracles*, Christmas Cantata  
with Chancel Choir, Bell Choir, and Soloists

**Sunday, December 21**

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

“Stirring Up Recipes for Relationships: Empowerment”  
Zephaniah 3:14-20, Luke 7:18-28

**Sunday, December 21, 7 pm**

Contemporary Christian Worship

**Wednesday, December 24**

CHRISTMAS EVE

6 pm: Children's Musical, *Midnight Miracle*

8 pm: Family Candlelight Service - *God Touches Us*, Micah 5:2-5a, Luke 2:1-20

10 pm: Christmas Candlelight Communion Service - *God's Intimate Communication*,  
Micah 5:2-5a Luke 2:1-20

**Sunday, December 28**

ONE Service at 10 am - Agape Worship

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*A*

*Christmas  
Blessing*

May you have the Spirit of Christmas, which is Peace,  
The Gladness of Christmas, which is Hope,  
The Heart of Christmas, which is Love,  
The Gift of Christmas, which is Christ.

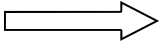
—Ada Hendricks

# Sunday Morning Church School For All Ages

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

Our Church School program seeks to engage children, youth and adults in learning about their faith. The schedule each Sunday is:

- † **9:15 am** - L.I.V.E Big for 3 year olds through 4<sup>th</sup> graders.
- † **10 am** - Adult Lectionary Bible Study, led by **Norm** and **Nancy Dettra**, assisted on alternating Sundays by **Bob Robertson**, as they delve into traditional Advent readings to prepare for the Christ Child's birth.
- † **10:20 am** - ROCK SOLID for ages 3 through 6<sup>th</sup> graders.
- † **10:20 am** - Youth Class.
- † **10:20 am** - Two adult options taught by **Becky Chadwick** and **Earl Hope**.



Please note: there will be *no Church School on Sunday, December 28*, as that is the AGAPE SERVICE at 10 am. Children are invited to attend with their parents in Memorial Hall.

## Adult Sunday School Class



Dec 7  
Dec 14  
Dec 21  
Dec 28  
Jan 4

## Join Us Sundays, 10:20 am

From Earl Hope

### *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.

Christmas Carol: Selfishness  
Christmas Carol: Regret  
Christmas Carol: Repentance  
(Agape Service at 10 am—no Sunday School)  
Christmas Carol: Salvation



## 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

*In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.' Matthew 3:1-3*

**L**ike many people during this time, I recently went Christmas shopping. In one of the malls, I stopped by a toy store and noticed a clerk showing a little boy all the wonderful toys. After a while the boy looked perplexed and asked, *But where is the baby Jesus?*

Where is the baby Jesus, indeed? In our fast-paced world of big bucks and materialism, where Christmas is Spendmas, do we remember to ask ourselves, *But where is the baby Jesus*, in all this commercialization?

Yes, shopping, wrapping, baking, eating, decorating, and singing Christmas carols are fun, but is Jesus included as the central part of our celebration? Do we see Christ as the

greatest gift in our lives, and not a new stereo or DVD player?

The season of Advent challenges us to fulfill John the Baptist's exhortation:

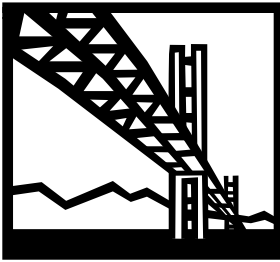
*Prepare the way of the Lord.* Advent is the time to make ready for the coming of Jesus Christ.

Are we ready? In this spirit of preparation, let us reflect on our readiness to receive the Lord. As we prepare for Christ's birthday may we take some time aside from baking,

shopping, and decorating and set some quiet time for prayer, meditation, and spiritual recommitment.

Remember, Christmas is not supposed to be exhausting. It is supposed to refresh and excite our spirits. So let us rejoice! Christ is set to be born in our hearts again.





## Breaking Bread and Building Bridges

From Kim DeHart

Would you like to connect with members and friends of Lincoln Park Church? Are you looking for an opportunity to stretch and grow socially?

Why not host a Breaking Bread and Building Bridges dinner? The dinners are scheduled for **Sunday, March 1, 2009**. Let us know how many guests

you'd like to entertain, and we'll supply the guest list. Yes, the guest list will be a surprise even to the host. But that's half the fun, isn't it?

No need to stress – we'll provide the guest lists, invitations, and even tips on how to get conversations started. All you need to do is open your home and provide an inexpensive dinner of your choice. If you're interested in hosting a dinner, please contact **Pastor Dorris** or **Kim DeHart**.

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## Monday Morning Bible Study Seeks Leader

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

Church research tells us that numerical and spiritual growth happens in churches with small groups. Are you aware that a small group has been meeting faithfully on Monday mornings *for over 25 years* to study the Bible, ask questions of faith and support one another in prayer?

Now their faithful leader of the past number of years would like to take a break from her tasks. Thus your help is needed; either let **Hildamay Bartron** or **Pastor Dorris** know if you'd like to be their new facilitator or if you know someone who could fill those shoes. And...when you pass Hildamay in the hallway, stop her and share a great big hug and **THANK YOU** for her leadership and support of this wonderful group!



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*“Strive to be first: first to nod, first to smile,  
first to compliment, and first to forgive.”*

*Anonymous*





# Grace Notes

From Beverly Perella



## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

### Christmas Musical/Children's Service, 6 pm

*Midnight Miracle*, a musical Christmas story by Gene Grier and Lowell Everson, will be presented. *Midnight Miracle* tells the familiar Christmas story through the eyes of the shepherds and the animals. All are invited to participate in the many roles this program has to offer (speaking and singing as well as staging and costumes). Practices will be held on the following dates and times:

Tuesday, 12/2 - 6:30 - 8 pm

Sunday, 12/7 - 11 am - Noon

Monday, 12/8 - 6:30 - 8 pm

Sunday, 12/14 - 11 am - Noon

Tuesday, 12/16 - 6:30 - 8 pm

Saturday, 12/20 - 9:30 - 10:30 am

Monday, 12/22 - 6:30 - 8 pm

Wednesday, 12/24 - 10 - 11 am (Dress Rehearsal)

Wednesday, 12/24 - 5 pm (Warm Up & Costumes)

CHRISTMAS EVE



### Family Candlelight Worship, 8 pm

This service will be accompanied by organ and our Lincoln Park Instrumental Ensemble. Preludes begin at 7:45 pm. Rehearsal will begin at 7 pm.

### Candlelight Communion Service, 10 pm

Preludes begin at 9:30 pm. The music for this service will feature a string trio, soloists and the Chancel Choir.

Please join us and be part of this wonderful Christmas experience! For more information, please contact **Linda Hope**, **Pastor Dorris McCoy**, or **Beverly Perella**.



## Christmas Cantata

## CHANCEL CHOIR CANTATA

From Beverly Perella

It's a must for our Christmas preparation. Join us on **Sunday, December 14**, 11 am, as the Chancel Choir presents *Holy Night of Miracles*, by Lloyd Larson. Soloists include John Perella, Keith and Peg

Ruch, **K.C. Buchanan**, and trumpeter, James Spangler. The Bell Choir will add to our preparation with musical selections.



## LP'S CHRISTMAS INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Saturdays:

November 22 - 10:30-12:00

December 6 - 10:30-12:00

December 13 - 10:30-12:00

December 20 - 10:30-12:00

## Amazon.com and Lincoln Park Church Team Up!

From Chad Chelius




One of the largest book retailers in the world, Amazon.com can now benefit Lincoln Park Church. When you go to our website at [www.lpcumc.org](http://www.lpcumc.org) and click on the Amazon.com banner at the bottom of the home page, we earn money on every purchase made!

If you've never shopped on Amazon.com, it's a great experience. Books, electronics, toys, and much more can be found on Amazon.com and just in time for the holiday season. Tell your friends and family that if they plan on doing holiday shopping on Amazon.com this Christmas or anytime thereafter, to do so by first going to our web site -- [www.lpcumc.org](http://www.lpcumc.org) -- and clicking on the Amazon.com banner at the bottom of the page. It's a great way to help earn money for our church.

One last thing... If you're in a study group requiring books available on Amazon.com, e-mail **Chad Chelius** at [cchelius@lpcumc.org](mailto:cchelius@lpcumc.org). I can give you direct product links that will earn even more money for our church! If you have questions about this program, feel free to e-mail me. Happy holidays and happy shopping!





# December

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
	<i>1</i> Trustees 7pm	<i>2</i> Safe Haven Lighthouse 3-5:30pm Children's Musical rehearsal 6:30-8pm SPR 7pm	<i>3</i> Bell Choir 6:30pm Chancel Choir 7pm
<i>7</i> Child. Musical Rehears. 11-12 Confirmation Class 2pm; Jr Group; UMYF 6pm  Second Sunday of Advent	<i>8</i> Children's Musical Rehearsal 6:30-8pm Finance 7pm	<i>9</i> Pastoral Care 1pm Safe Haven Lighthouse 3-5:30pm Kristkindlmarkt 6pm	<i>10</i> Bell Choir 6:30pm Confirmation 7pm Chancel Choir 7pm
<i>14</i> Chancel Choir Cantata & Bells 11am Children's Musical Rehearsal 11-12 Labyrinth  Third Sunday of Advent	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i> Safe Haven Lighthouse 3-5:30pm Children's Musical Rehearsal 6:30-8pm	<i>17</i> Bell Choir 6:30pm Chancel Choir 7pm
<i>21</i> Contemporary Christian Worship 7pm  Fourth Sunday of Advent	<i>22</i> Children's Musical Rehearsal 6:30-8pm	<i>23</i> Safe Haven Lighthouse 3-5:30pm	<i>24</i>  Christmas Eve Worship
<i>28</i> Agape Service 10am	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i> New Year's Eve



# er 2008



ed	Thu	Fri	Sat
m 30pm	<p><i>4</i> Children's Choir 6pm Praise Team 8pm</p>	<p><i>5</i></p>	<p><i>6</i> Sweet Street Sale 8-4 LP Ensemble Rehearsal 10:30-12 Holiday Fellowship at the Pyles 6pm</p>
m n 30pm	<p><i>11</i> Crafts Group 1pm Children's Choir 6pm Praise Team 8pm</p>	<p><i>12</i></p>  <p><i>Peace</i></p>	<p><i>13</i> LP Ensemble Rehearsal 10:30-12</p>
m 30pm	<p><i>18</i> Children's Choir 6pm Praise Team 8pm</p>	<p><i>19</i></p>	<p><i>20</i> Children's Musical Re- hearsal 9:30-10:30am LP Ensemble Rehearsal 10:30-12 Youth Place Psetias 10:30 am</p>
<p>Services at ve 6-8-10pm</p>	<p><i>25</i></p>  <p><b>Christmas</b></p>	<p><i>26</i></p>	<p><i>27</i></p>
			<div data-bbox="645 1193 1128 1453" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p><b>Looking ahead to January...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunity House 1/6</li> <li>Confirmation Class 1/14</li> <li>Leadership Orientation at LP 1/17</li> <li>Church Council 1/19</li> <li>EPAUMC Leadership Training 1/24</li> <li>Youth Worship 1/25</li> </ul> </div>



**OPPORTUNITY HOUSE SUPPER: Tuesday, January 6.** Start to cook in the Church Kitchen at 4:30 pm and leave to serve at 6:30, finishing up by 8 pm at the church. To share time, food, or \$\$\$ to purchase food, please contact **Penny Snook**, 610-781-7704. You might be surprised to learn (as were the November servers) that 149 persons were already at the shelter in not-so-cold, early November for a warm bed and hot supper.

**LINCOLN PARK LEADER ORIENTATION** for all committee chairs, new and continuing committee members, and those interested in learning about leadership responsibilities and goals/vision for 2009 will be offered on **Saturday, January 17**, 9 am-noon, in Memorial Hall. Mark your calendars now and plan to learn what's in store for the Body of Christ called Lincoln Park UMC!!!! With questions, please see **Pastor Jerry** or **Pastor Dorris**.

**EPAUMC LEADERSHIP TRAINING: Saturday, January 24**, 8:30 am-2:30 pm, throughout all the districts of the Eastern PA Annual Conference. This experience offers workshops for leaders of all areas of church life and ministry including Staff Parish, Trustees, Safe Sanctuary, Children's and Youth Ministry, Finance and more, plus great conversation to garner ideas from leaders of other churches! Watch for details!

## **Unique Opportunity for Endowment Giving**

From Rolland Ackelson

Again in 2008, donors who are age 70½ have a unique opportunity to make gifts from a traditional IRA or Roth IRA.

If made before December 31, 2008, IRA donors may give all or portions of their mandatory IRA withdrawals (up to \$100,000) directly to charity. While there is no income tax deduction, donors who make gifts directly from their IRA will not increase their adjusted gross income, and so avoid a higher level of taxation.

If you must make mandatory withdrawals from these types of plans and have accumulated more than you need in retirement, this gift option in favor of Lincoln Park UMC Endowment Fund should be of interest.

Please consult your financial advisor before making any significant charitable gift decision.



## WHO AM I?

From Susie Romig

**I**sn't it remarkable that in one small congregation there can be such diversity? We are tall and short, fat and thin, young and old, introverts and extroverts, and yet we're all members of one fellowship who manage to accommodate each other in our Christian journey.

The gentleman I wish to tell you about is a man of the "old school," always polite and considerate of others. (He still prefers to see a lady into his car and closes the door as she is seated, or will hold your coat as you struggle into it.) He greets everyone with ease and can engage you in polite conversation, and he always shows up for church in suit and tie.

He and his wife were born and reared in Sharon, PA, where he graduated from high school, and then graduated from Washington and Jefferson College in western PA, in 1941. He stayed on at W and J as Secretary of Admissions for eight years, though he spent 2½ years of that time in Army service during WWII.

Later he earned a master's degree in psychology and a doctorate in higher

education from Penn State, where he served for 10 years as Assistant Dean and later Associate Dean of Men. In 1959, he was named Director of the newly established Wyomissing Center of Penn State, one of 14 centers of the college established in the Commonwealth. Under his leadership, the center grew into what is now Penn State Berks Campus.

He and his wife were married in 1941, have three children and six grandchildren, most of whom were able to gather this year to help celebrate their 66<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. What a milestone!

As a member of Lincoln Park Church he's served as Lay Leader, Chair of the Building Campaign for the Education Building, Stewardship Leader, and in recent years as chair of the Endowment Committee. He'd be happy if there were a way to improve our parking, or add space to our buildings, but those things must wait for the moment.

His vision for our church is that people give of their interests to a *total* church, contemporary and traditional, and continue to grow with enthusiasm as a *united church of God*, seeking and sharing Christ, with respect and support for any committed form of worship and service within and beyond our membership.

**WHO AM I?**

**TURN TO P. 15 FOR ANSWER.**

# Medical Mission Outreach Memorable and Rewarding

From Betty Frederickson

**I**t was my privilege to join a Christian medical team serving those living near Zalantun, Inner Mongolia-Northern China, from October 10-24. The approximate distance of travel was 10,000 miles from Harrisburg, PA to Inner Mongolia.

Our team included six doctors, one PA, two dentists, two pharmacists, four fourth-year medical students, one surgical resident, one registered dietician, four nurses, one team leader and four logistics personnel. We were joined by several Chinese doctors and our interpreters at Zalantun.

The people are hard working farmers, with much of the labor done by hand. We were greeted by smiles, banners, and welcoming speeches by clinic officials. Our patients were kind, appreciative, and orderly, and there were always enough people to keep our team busy.

Medical needs included hypertension, diabetes and dental care. We had a portable ultrasound machine which was very popular.

As the clinic continued, many children would come on their bicycles or on foot to see and interact with our team. Some of the team would engage in playing,

learning or teaching games. The children could speak some English, and delighted in saying *Hello*, then with post card or paper and pen would ask each of us, *Write your name please*.

Our team shared the Lord's love for the people of Inner Mongolia and helped lead several to accept Jesus as their Savior. Six Chinese Bibles were inscribed

with words of encouragement by our team and given to six of the Chinese doctors who wanted to know more about this Lord we love and serve.

Through our work we were able to demonstrate firsthand the joy of Jesus in our personal lives.

Our medicines were adequate for the duration of the clinics. The \$400 given to me was left in the care of the Christian organization, SHIC, which provides aid in times of disaster, including food, blankets, cots, or tents.

We had one day to see in and around Beijing, a city of 16,000,000. We walked on The Great Wall and visited a Jade and Silk factory.

Thank you for your gifts, and especially your prayers, which made His work possible. This trip was one of my most memorable and rewarding.



# MISSIONS

## COATS FOR KIDS From Kathy Avedissian



THANK YOU  
from the Missions  
Committee to everyone who donated to the COATS FOR KIDS drive. This year a total of 65 coats, 19 hats, 10 scarves, and 7 pairs of gloves were donated, including some beautiful handmade items!

Over the past four years our congregation has given over 200 coats, which were cleaned and then distributed to those in need by the Salvation Army. Your generosity has made a significant difference in our community by providing outerwear to many families as they strive to get through the cold winter months. Our church's continuous support for this worthy program is greatly appreciated.

*(Continued from page 1)*

PROGRAM. Families are selected by the Salvation Army. Circumstances for our three families this season include:

- being ousted from condemned housing
- a son leaving a job to take care of a baby brother, due to mother's illness
- a grandmother taking on several young children

The support of our people at Lincoln Park has lightened past Christmas seasons with grim prospects for several families. Please help again this season by finding "angels" attached to the trees in the Wagner Room. All gifts should be returned to the church by **Sunday, December 14**, with gift tag attached.

## NOVEMBER FOOD DRIVE From Marian Longenecker

Thank you to all who donated food items for the food pantry at New Journey UMC (Central Park) during our collection time. All items were delivered and our support is much appreciated. Our Blue Bucket overflowed!



*"Maybe Christmas, the Grinch thought, doesn't come from a store."*

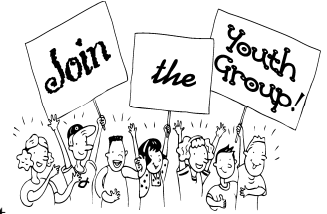
*--Theodor Geisel*



# YOUTH-TALK

## UMYF Happenings

From Cori Pasquale, 610-568-0691



Our **SAFE HALLOWEEN** was a huge success with over 25 children participating. Children learned about Moses by trying the 10 Commandments game, walking through the Red Sea maze, and playing the baby Moses water game. They also learned about plagues by walking into the “dark” room with their “Jesus is the light” flashlights, and challenging each other in the frog races. Crafts were also available, and they enjoyed decorating cookies and pumpkins along with creating their own baby Moses to take home. Admission was free, but families were encouraged to bring cereal to be donated to the local food pantry.

The **FIRST YOUTH WORSHIP SERVICE** was held Sunday night, October 26, with about 50 people in attendance. This service was completely created by our youth. They decided the theme, created the Order of Worship, and chose the songs and discussion items. *Hope* was the theme with scripture readings from Isaiah and Mark. The Youth Praise Band did a wonderful job leading, and our teenagers surprised a number of people with their depth and understanding of their faith. People were encouraged to bring their old cell phones to be donated to “Cell Phones for Soldiers,” a program that provides phone cards for our troops overseas. Over 100 phones have been collected. The next Youth Worship Service will be Sunday night, January 25, at 6:30 pm. All ages are encouraged and invited to attend.

### UMYF Upcoming Schedule:

Sunday, December 7	6 – 8 pm :	Youth Group Meeting
Saturday, December 20	10:30 am:	Poinsettia Decoration
Sunday, December 21	7 pm:	Contemporary Christmas Service Youth Praise Band Playing
Sunday, January 11	6-8 pm:	Catacombs!!



# Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



December 31  
for our  
abbreviated  
mid-January issue

## Change of Address:

Jeremy Miller  
2909 Fairmont St  
Falls Church, VA 22042-1306

*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

## Celebrate Christmas



Decorate your Christmas tree.  
Ring a Christmas bell.  
Sing a joyful carol  
With a jubilant noel!

Light your Advent candle wreath.  
Rejoice with friends on Earth.  
Give thanks to God for sending Christ  
In this, His Christmas birth.

Share your joy of Christmas  
And God's blessings from above.  
Celebrate God's Graciousness! Celebrate  
God's Love!

-- Peggy Ferrell, *Prayers and Poems*



Congratulations to **Nick**  
**Birth** and **Sue Ann O'Buck** on  
the birth of their first  
grandchild, Emma Gail,  
on November 7. Proud  
parents are Andrea and Rick Salatino,  
of Weirton, WV.

**ANSWER TO WHO AM I?**  
**HAROLD PERKINS**





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

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Dorris McCoy 24, Beverly Perella 26,  
Nancy Brown 29, Cori Pasquale 31

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(For urgent messages, use voice mail, please.)

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Editor: Cheri Fallon, 610-678- 8735

Deb Harvey, 610-775-3041

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Nursery: Gabi Antunes/ Holly Newman

Worship Leader: Becky Chadwick

Bookkeeper: Nancy Brown

UMYF Leader: Cori Pasquale, 610-568-0691

## *NEWS-LINC*

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

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