


News-Line



Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church Newsletter
Lincoln Park, Pennsylvania *January, 2009*

Winter Games in LP!

Come to LP's Family Game Night

Saturday, February 7, 6:30-8:30 pm, in Memorial Hall

From Linda Woll

Bingo! UNO! Candyland! Do any of these sound familiar? Whether you have children at home or not, there is a game for everyone during our Family Game Night. Join us for an evening of fun, food and fellowship. Light refreshments and drinks will be provided.

We are looking for a *game coordinator* to collect games from our church members. Games need to be dropped off by



Sunday, February 1 and can be taken home on Game Night, or on Sunday,

February 8. Please watch for drop off boxes in the Wagner Room and in Memorial Hall. If you are interested in helping, please contact **Linda Woll**, 610-781-8046, or email Lmwoll@aol.com. We need help with refreshments, set-up and clean-up, and donations of items such as hand soap or small items to be used for winners.

Inside this issue

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| Worship | p. 2 |
| From Pastor McGrath | p. 4 |
| 2009 Budget | p. 5 |
| Mission Report | p. 6 |
| Grace Notes | p. 7 |



WORSHIP IN JANUARY

From Pastor Jerry McGrath

Informal Service, 9 am

Traditional Worship, 11am



WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday, January 11 - FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

“Praying Through the Lord's Prayer, Part 1”

Psalm 51:1-17, Matthew 6:5-15

Sunday, January 18 - SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

“Praying Through the Lord's Prayer, Part 2”

2 Kings 5:1-15, Luke 11:1-4

Sunday, January 25 - THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

“Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations: Radical Hospitality”

Deuteronomy 24:10-22, Romans 12:9-21

Wednesday, January 28, 7pm

“New Beginnings”

Isaiah 43:19-2, II Corinthians 11:23-26



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!

Leadership Training Scheduled



From Pastor Jerry
McGrath

Ministry Chairs,
Staff, and Commit-
tee Members will
meet **Saturday,
January 17** at 9

am in Memorial Hall for leadership
training. We will cover role descrip-
tions, leadership characteristics, and
explore our vision for the future based
on Robert Schnase's book, *Five Prac-
tices of Fruitful Congregations*. Our
session will end at 12 noon. For further
information, please contact **Pastor
Jerry McGrath** or **Pastor Dorris
McCoy**.

TOOLS FOR MINISTRY **Offered by EPC Board**

From Pastor Jerry McGrath

The Board of Lay Ministry is sponsor-
ing a conference-wide training event for
local church leaders in the Eastern Penn-
sylvania Conference. The event will take
place on **Saturday, January 24** at 9 am
at Christ United Methodist Church in
Lansdale. The workshops include:

- † Worship
- † Stewardship
- † Youth Ministry
- † Church Treasurer/Finance
- † Trustees
- † Evangelism and Church Growth
- † Children's Ministry
- † Lay leaders
- † Church Council

For further information see **Pastor
Dorris** or **Pastor Jerry**.

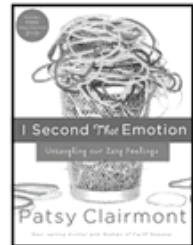
Sunday Morning Women's Group Begins New Study

From Becky Chadwick

The Women's Bible Study will be starting a new book on January
11 at 10:20 am. Please join this very diverse group of women for
laughter and learning. We will be discussing:

I SECOND THAT EMOTION: UNTANGLING OUR ZANY FEELINGS

By: Patsy Clairmont



Popular speaker and author Patsy Clairmont wants you to know that emotions - even
the not-so-pretty ones - are simply proof of our humanity. With her trademark humor,
Patsy shares from personal experience and biblical stories to encourage women of God
to untangle those emotions. A DVD and study guide make it easy to share the journey
with other women.

From the Pastor's Desk

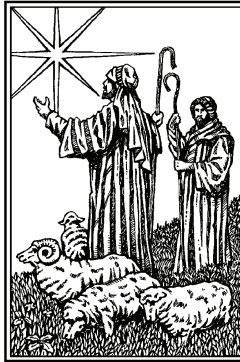
From Pastor Jerry McGrath

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told to them. Luke 2:20

After the first Christmas the shepherds returned to their tasks *glorifying God*. Nothing had changed outside. They went back to the same old work of watching sheep. The ground on which they slept was hard as ever, the weather as disagreeable and the sheep cantankerous as always. But something inside the shepherds had changed, their spirits had been altered. In some such way the shepherds went home after Christmas *glorifying God*. They were not just singing praises and shouting hallelujahs. That would have been easy. They were being something, revealing a quality of spirit and character that

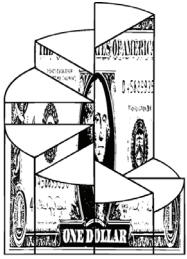
would honor God through all the years.

Something like that can happen to us if we have caught the meaning of Christmas. We can go through the days and the years *glorifying God* with character and courage that change things and people. To be sure, we may go back to the same old desk, the same irritating customers or clients, the same old problems we had before Christmas. But things can be different if we are different. The old roads won't be nearly so impossible, not because the ruts and bumps are less pronounced, but rather because we have a new spirit with which to manage them.



Thank You

The Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church staff would like to thank the congregation for the generous Christmas gift. You helped make this Christmas season so meaningful. We as a staff are truly blessed. Thanks for your thoughtfulness and compassion.



Budget Adopted

2009 BUDGET ANNOUNCED

From Jerry Manhart

The 2009 LPCUMC Budget was adopted by Church Council on December 15. A balanced budget of \$357,560 was passed.

The income anticipated from the results of the Stewardship Campaign was not enough to support the \$403,960 that was requested by the staff and committees; therefore, reductions had to be made. The 2009 budget is actually \$2,215 less than the 2008 Budget.

Sunday Morning Christian Education Continues this Winter

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

Each Sunday LP offers Christian Education as follows:

- "Live B.I.G." Bible Lessons for preschoolers (beginning with 3 year olds) through 4th graders after the Children's Message at Contemporary Worship, 9:15 am, in Room #101.
- Lectionary Bible Study alternating between the **Dettras** and **Bob Robertson**, at 10 am in the Church Library.
- Church School for all children, youth, and adults at 10:20 am throughout our facility.



The 10:20 am education time includes two adult options:

- **Earl Hope** presents a video series on the roots of our faith traditions, in Memorial Hall.
 - **Becky Chadwick** leads a women's small group Bible study in Room #102.
- See page 3 for details.

With questions or suggestions for more learning and faith growth opportunities, please see Christian Education Chair, **Kim DeHart**, or **Pastor Dorris**.



From Jim Eckert

**Successful Outreach Programs spearheaded by
Mission Committee
in November and December**

ANGEL TREE

Gift collection for the Salvation Army ADOPT A FAMILY CHRISTMAS PROGRAM was completed December 14. Thank you to all who participated by taking a gift tag off one of the trees and bringing back the present - every tag was taken for the three families we sponsored this season. We Christians often like to bemoan over-involvement with the "materialism and business" of this season. Yet we know even these things certainly have their place, especially when it involves sharing with and caring about folks we may not know, to lighten their season during difficult circumstances. Gifts ranging from clothing, bedding, toys, gift certificates and a crib helped meet several needs and a few wants for these folks.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Thanks to all who helped with the shoe box collection in November for children in many different countries through the SAMARITAN'S PURSE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD. We col-

lected at least 55 gift boxes this season. You can be sure the relatively simple gifts gathered will completely delight children, many of whom have never received such things before, and that many will hear of Jesus the Christ perhaps for the first time as well.

**WORK DAY AT
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**

Teaming up with another area church, eight volunteers (with skills ranging from "none" to actual former construction workers) from Lincoln Park Church spent hours from about 9 to 2 on Saturday, November 22, working on a home at 1129 Luzerne Street.

Tasks ranged from inside painting to laying drainage pipe and constructing porch structures. Some late November days can be fairly nice, or there can be days where we endure a bit (or more) of cold. Maybe shooting for a September-October date next time would be good! Thanks to all volunteers. We attained the maximum number we were advised by Habitat to have participate from our church.

Thanks
for your
participation



Grace Notes

From Beverly Perella

'Twas The Night Before...

'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the church
The people were arriving, not leaving me in a lurch.

The scenery was placed at the altar with care,
The star shining brightly, the manger still bare,
The children weren't snuggled away in their beds
They were practicing their songs in their cute little heads.
When out in the Wagner Room there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from the organ to see what was the matter.

There the choirs all lovely rehearsing and singing
The story of Christmas was their real true meaning.
The instruments all tuned and playing their notes
Across the sanctuary the heavenly music did float.

When what to my wondering eyes did appear
The shepherds, the angels and a baby so dear
With Mary His mother and Joseph by His side
The love of our Savoir this day still abides.

Merry Christmas to all,
A great New Year, too,
Many thanks from a director
Who's so grateful for you!

SAFE HAVEN LIGHTHOUSE NEEDS YOU!!!

From Pastor Dorris McCoy



SAFE HAVEN LIGHTHOUSE, LP's cooperative effort with West Lawn UMC to provide safe after school care for area elementary school children, is in need of additional helpers to serve snacks, supervise homework, lead indoor and outdoor games, and plan Bible-related activities. To review the possibilities and dates you have available, please see **Pastor Dorris** immediately to assure the continuance of this outreach ministry. SHL meets every Tuesday, 3-5:30 pm, in the Education Building. Come and check it out!

Looking Ahead...

February 1 - **SOUPER BOWL** to support the homeless and hungry in our community. Watch for LP's children and their soup pots as you exit worship this Sunday!



February 22 - *FIVE PRACTICES* Kick-off Event. Stay tuned for details.

March 8, 15, 22, 29 and April 5 & 19 - *FIVE PRACTICES OF THRIVING CONGREGATIONS* Sunday Supper Series; a congregation-wide focus to stimulate new initiatives and encourage radical hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith development, risk-taking mission and service, and extravagant generosity. Watch the Sunday worship bulletin for registration information!

Upcoming JR Group Events for Grades 3-6

February 7

JR Group joins Family Game Night for a Wii competition-bring family and friends.

March 15

Bowl-A-Thon to support Mary's Shelter.

April 4

Easter Party Helpers.

June 7

Hawk Mountain Hike.



Contact person is **Tracy Goldsborough**, 610-777-6991, or e-mail at f1floors@ptd.net if you have questions or would like to assist.



On the calendar for the remainder of January...

Monday 1/12 - Agape Group, 12pm
Wednesday 1/14 - Confirmation Class, 7pm
Saturday 1/17 - LP Leader Orientation, 9am-12pm
Monday 1/19 - Church Council, 7pm
Thursday 1/22 - Craft Group, 1pm
Saturday 1/24 - EPAUMC Leadership Training, 9am-2:30pm
Monday 1/26 - Book Club at Bernie Ackelson's, 7pm;
- Nurture and Witness, 7pm

THANK YOU!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

...to our Christmas Decorators and Celebration Helpers

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

Thank you to all who helped decorate LP's facilities for the Christmas season! Your efforts assured a festive, warm welcome to all who attended worship and fellowship programs during this holiest of seasons. From comments overheard by several church mice, you are appreciated for sharing your creative talents to help us celebrate the birth of our Savior!

LP's staff also expresses a heartfelt, spirited note of appreciation to all who helped with planning, performing and presenting special fellowship programs, the Christmas Eve Children's Musical and all worship and music throughout this blessed holiday time. We anticipate a new year where we again join together in ministry to make disciples for Jesus Christ and strive to offer a welcoming place of worship, learning and serving...with open hearts, open minds, and open doors to all God's children.

Christkindlmarkt

Danke to all who participated!

From Linda Woll

Our annual International Christmas Festival was a very enjoyable evening on December 9, attended by 53 people. **Pastor Jerry** began the evening with prayer in German (thanks to **Beverly Perella** for help with pronunciation). While German music played, a delicious variety of foods was shared, including chicken and vegetables with Reisling wine, bratwurst, noodle dishes and an array of desserts. During dinner everyone was asked to remove their shoes and place them in the hallway. St. Nick's elves then filled them with clear toy candy. In Germany, St. Nick fills only the shoes of good girls and boys.

Emily Levan sang *O, Tannenbaum* in German. What a treat to hear her sing!

Everyone learned two Christmas carols in German, again thanks to **Beverly Perella**. **Tina Bisignaro** and **Beverly P.** sang *Silent Night* as a duet, followed by everyone joining in.

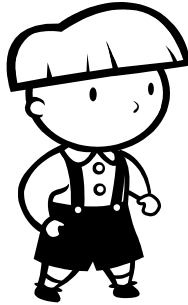
Sue Kappenstein gave a demonstration on how to make clear toy candy.

Children were invited to hunt for the pickle ornament on the Christmas tree. It is a German tradition to hide the pickle ornament in the tree. Whoever finds it receives an extra gift. **Chloe Laity** was the lucky recipient of her very own pickle ornament.

Door prizes, authentic hand-made German wooden ornaments, were given to three people who happened to pick the right seats. The children made crafts for our shut-ins; several cards were collected. What a great way to show our love for Christ and fellow Christians!

This is what nurture and witness is all about. A special Thank You to everyone who helped make this event such a success, including planners, decorators, bakers and cooks, kitchen crew, those who donated German items, and our clean-up angels.

What country shall we "visit" next year?



Danke!
Thank You!



Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



January
for our
February issue

**From our
mailbox**



I wish to express my heart-felt thanks to the women of the Monday Morning Bible Study for their kindness, their devotion and also for their gift.

I love you all.

-Hildamay

Nurture & Witness Committee Seeks Members

From Linda Woll, Chairperson

Anyone is welcome to attend our next Nurture & Witness Committee meeting, **Monday, January 26**, 7 pm in the Library. We will discuss upcoming events. Join us as we explore our vision of how to increase LP's outreach to our church members as well as the Lincoln Park community. If interested in joining our committee, contact **Linda Woll** or **Pastor Jerry**.

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

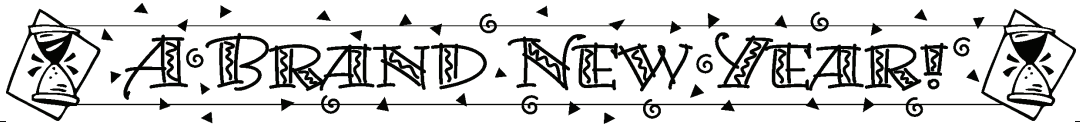
Staff: Nancy Artz, Bunny Carlson, Ginny Freyling, Kathleen Hogg, Gloria Kotzer, Elaine Meckes, Suzanne Romig, and Doris Schucker



Congratulations to the family of Madeline Jane, daughter of Elizabeth (Buchanan) and Paul

Kirkpatrick, born on December 1. Madeline joins sister Megan, and is the granddaughter of **Betsy** and **Allen Buchanan**. May God surround this family with his loving care.





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, Church Office 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:

Editor: Cheri Fallon, 610-678- 8735

Deb Harvey, 610-775-3041

cherfallon@comcast.net, debharv3@verizon.net

Nursery: Holly Newman/Nina Cirulli

Worship Leader: Becky Chadwick

Bookkeeper: Nancy Brown

UMYF Leader: Cori Pasquale, 610-568-0691

Web: www.lpcumc.org

E-mail: lpumc@verizon.net (secretary and church), lpumcpastor@verizon.net (Pastor McGrath),

dmccoy2@verizon.net (Dorris McCoy), nbrown@lpcumc.org (Nancy Brown)

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

NEWS-LINC

Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church

1 Carlisle Avenue

Reading, PA 19609

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage

PAID

Reading, PA

Permit No. 233

Change service requested