



News-Line

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

Sunday Supper and Study Series Comes to LP this Month

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

Food, fellowship, growth, discussion, and activities for adults and children begin with our Fall Sunday Supper and Study Series, starting **September 20** and alternating four more Sundays, October 4 & 18, and November 1 & 15.

Adults will choose from three courses:

→ *Parenting of Children*, facilitated by **Pastor Dorris McCoy**.

→ *Parenting of Teens*, facilitated by **Cori Pasquale**.

→ *A Trip through the Holy Land*, facilitated by **Beverly Perella** and **Pastor McGrath**.



Sunday Supper & Study

Simple suppers are served at 5 pm, followed by group time from 6-7 pm. Child care and Kids' Club activities for our younger set will be available.

Watch September's worship bulletins for sign-up details and registration flyers!

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Lincoln Park UMC celebrates 64 years of worship and service on **Sunday, September 27**. See p. 2 for details.



WORSHIP IN SEPTEMBER

From Pastor Jerry McGrath

Sunday, September 6

LABOR DAY SUNDAY

Contemporary Worship: "Jerry Letterman:
Christ in the Workplace"

Traditional Worship: "Work a Four Letter Word?"

Genesis 1:1-5, 31; 1Corinthians 3:5-9

Sunday, September 13

RALLY DAY

"Taste the Deep" - Exodus 2:7-8; John 8:21-36

Sunday, September 20

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN KINGDOMTIDE

"Where Are We Going" - Acts 2: 43-47; Matthew 28:18-20

Sunday, September 27

ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY

Special Guest: The Rev. Cliff Flick

64th Anniversary of Lincoln Park UMC Coming Up

From Pastor Jerry McGrath

Join us Sunday, **September 27**, to celebrate our 64th Anniversary, in both the 9 and 11 am worship services. Our special guest alum is **Pastor Cliff Flick**. Cliff served Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church as our associate pastor from 1995-1998. Currently he works for the Defense Distribution Center in New Cumberland, Pennsylvania.



Safe Haven Lighthouse Shines at LP this Fall

From Pastor Dorris McCoy



SAFE HAVEN LIGHTHOUSE, a joint venture with West Lawn UMC, offers children loving, fun care every Tuesday in this after school program, 3-5:30 pm, in our Education Building. Volunteers provide many services to elementary-aged community and LP students:

- ♥ serve snacks
- ♥ supervise homework
- ♥ play games (indoor & out)
- ♥ encourage reading
- ♥ read the Bible
- ♥ plan activities
- ♥ generally, just hang with kids to provide a place of safety and love!

To register your children or join the volunteer team, please contact **Mark** and **Abby Steinmeyer**, 610-777-3513, or see **Pastor Dorris**. Criminal record check and child abuse clearances for volunteers are required, as they are for all LP's children and youth ministry leaders.

September 1

Opportunity House Supper

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

OPPORTUNITY HOUSE, located on North Second Street in Reading, seeks to be a multi-service organization that improves



the quality of life for children, families and adults facing various and often overwhelming obstacles to their independence. The goal is to achieve and maintain self-sufficiency. Please check their website, www.opphouse.org, for specifics.

To help, LP serves supper six times per year. Our next supper opportunity will be Tuesday, **September 1**, with preparation beginning at 4:30 pm in the Church Kitchen. To offer your time and donations of \$\$ or food, please contact Head Chef, **Penny Snook**, 610-781-7704. It may be only a few hours of your time, but those hours can be powerful moments of discovery and increased awareness!



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

We experienced some great ministry opportunities at Lincoln Park this summer. Vacation Bible School was incredible, and our youth participated in another mission trip. We supported summer day camp at Holy Cross and continued to serve at Opportunity House. We had a couple of outdoor community movie nights and performed the musical, *GPS*, for our church and community.

Now, you may be wondering what Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church is planning for fall? Where are we headed? Do we have a direction? Does this ship have a rudder?

Last spring we finished educating many in our congregation about our vision. Our focus this fall continues to be the *Five Faithful Practices of Fruitful Congregations*, which explains essential areas that make up successful ministries of a congregation:

- hospitality
- worship
- faith development
- mission and service
- generosity.

However, *Five Practices* takes these core ministries further by emphasizing

Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Development, Risk Taking Mission and Service, and Extravagant Generosity. Our vision describes the type of ministries.

How will we apply these five practices? Although each of us is responsible for all five practices, every LP ministry team will be responsible for a certain practice. For example, the Worship Committee will investigate, develop, and apply Passionate Worship to the make-up of who we are at Lincoln Park Church. Extravagant Generosity will be the role of the Finance Committee.

The *Five Practices* vision encourages us to examine who we are as a community of faith and how we can better minister to our congregation, community, and world in the name of Jesus Christ. The *Five Practices* has transformed the lives of hundreds of congregations and thousands of Christian disciples.

I truly believe God has wonderful blessings planned for the life of our church and community this fall through the ownership of *The Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*.

Five Practices Of Fruitful Congregations

- 1. Hospitality**
- 2. Worship**
- 3. Faith Development**
- 4. Mission & Service**
- 5. Generosity**



From Pastor Dorris McCoy
LP's ongoing schedule of Sunday Church School for all ages resumes with the Fall Worship Schedule, Sunday, **September 13**, throughout our facilities.

9:15 am

Preschool and Early Elementary Children will leave Contemporary Worship after the Children's Message for lessons and activities.

10:20 am

Choices include:

- Adult options
- Opportunities for Middle School youth (Grades 6-8)
- Opportunities for Senior High youth (Grades 9-12)
- Classes for Preschool through Upper Elementary

Growing spiritually and learning about the stories of our faith is life-long. Bring the family---bring a friend---join the journey. Welcome the Spirit into your growing heart of faith. Be transformed as a disciple!

Want to Get Closer to God? Try...

Centering  Prayer

From Loreen Miller

Centering Prayer is an ancient practice used by Christians to cultivate a deeper relationship with God. This method of prayer is a movement beyond *conversation* with Christ to *communion* with Him. It is often called “resting” in God.

We have begun offering Centering Prayer meetings on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month, from 10-11:30 am in Rm 103 of the Education Building. Sessions will include devotional readings, discussion, and a 20-minute period of silence for the practice of centering prayer. It's easy to learn, and no preparation is necessary. All are welcome.

YOUTH-LINK

UMYF Happenings

From Cori Pasquale, 610-568-0691

UMYF IS GROWING!!!!

This September, UMYF will separate into two groups:

- ◆ Junior UMYF for youth entering grades 6-8
- ◆ Senior UMYF for youth entering grades 9-12

Both groups will meet Sundays with the following schedule:

5-6 pm - Jr UMYF meeting

6-6:30 pm - Jr & Sr groups will prepare & eat dinner

6:30-8 pm - Sr UMYF meeting

Youth group meetings involve Bible study, faith exploration & games.

SAVE THESE DATES...

UMYF Fall Meeting Dates:

September 27, October 11 & 25, November 8 & 22

SR UMYF is forming their own leadership team. The Senior Youth will hold elections for their Youth Leader and Assistant Youth Leader, along with the following Team Leaders:

- Praise Band Leader
- Worship Leader
- Mission Trip/Fundraiser Leader
- Service Projects Leader
- Fun Stuff Leader

These youth leaders will meet once a month to discuss the youth ministry and formulate plans for the future. Keep these amazing teens in your prayers as they enter a new, exciting chapter of their ministry.



**Join the
Youth Group**

Find Fuel for the Spirit in Christian Guides

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

Two excellent publications, *The Upper Room* and *Alive Now!*, offer nourishment for a growing disciple's spiritual discipline. These devotionals promote a sacred way of living and leading. They encourage daily reading of:

- scripture passages
- faith-based insights
- personal testimonies
- prayer

They are designed to aid reflection, questioning, and seeking deeper understanding of our God and God's claim upon our lives. The guides may be picked up from displays in church entranceways and in the Wagner Room. To help defray costs, a suggested \$1 donation may be left by the display - a real bargain for two months' fuel for your spirit!

Pastoral Care Committee To Meet

From Jane Reitz

Members will meet with the pastor on Thursday, **September 17**, at 1pm, in the Wagner Room for discussion and communion. Please contact **Jane Reitz**, 610- 921-3303 if you're unable to attend.

A Reminder: Please Update the Church Calendar

From Pastor Dorris McCoy





We try to keep a master calendar in the Church Office, listing dates of all church events, programs and meetings, along with their requested meeting room space.

As LP's busy fall and holiday seasons fill calendar pages, all committee chairs, staff, and program planners are reminded to use the calendar. Please check dates in making event plans and then add your own news in the appropriate calendar block, along with time and space requirements. When adding a second event alongside another program, please consider contacting organizers of that previous listing.

This assures an accurate reporting in the weekly bulletin's calendar listings and promotes friendly sharing of LP's facilities. Feel free to contact our Church Office for assistance.




September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
		1 Prayer Group 10am Opportunity House 4:30pm	2
6 	7 Office Closed	8 Safe Haven 3pm Trustees 7pm	9 Chancel Choir Bev Perella
13 RALLY DAY Fall Schedule & Church School Begin Church Picnic 12 pm	14 Agape 12pm Finance Comm. 7pm	15 Prayer Group 10am Safe Haven 3pm	16 Nurture & W Chancel Choir
20 Ladies Tea 12:30pm Sunday Supper/Study 5pm	21 Church Council 7pm	22 Safe Haven 3pm 	23 Bell Choir 6:4 Chancel Choir
27 ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY UMYF	28 Book Club 7pm Staff Parish Comm. 7 pm	29 Safe Haven 3pm	30

ber 2009



ed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	3 Praise Team 8pm	4	5
r Dinner at s 7pm	10 Praise Team 8pm	11 	12
itness 7pm r 7:30pm	17 Pastoral Care Comm. 7pm Praise Team 8pm	18	19
45pm r 7:45pm	24 Praise Team 8pm	25	26
			<div data-bbox="626 1198 1177 1503" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Looking ahead to October...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 10/4 First Children's Choir rehearsal; Sunday Supper & Study ◆ 10/18 The Rev. Dr. Gary George, our District Superintendent, preaches Sunday Supper & Study ◆ 10/25 Lunch and Learn Kickoff </div>

Crocodile Dock: Where Fearless Kids Shine God's Light

From Karen Osika and Pastor Dorris McCoy



This year the children at VBS were definitely shining. Crocodile Dock was filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences that kids were able to see, hear, touch, and even taste! Bible Point crafts, team building games, cool Bible songs, interactive Bible stories, and tasty treats were just a few of the activities that helped faith flow into each child's life. We also discovered how to see God in everyday life - something we called *God Sightings*.

We were blessed with so many children, youth and adults. Over 110 people experienced the joy of God's Word. We were also blessed with generous free will offerings. We received \$700 in offerings, \$350 which will be given to the Inter-City Day Camp at Holy Cross in Reading. The remaining offering will be used for VBS operational costs.

The staff of this year's VBS would like to thank the congregation for the generous donations of food and supplies. We could not do what we do without your support. The message at Crocodile Dock was to FEAR NOT! Every year as we organize for the week-long event, Dorris and I remember the support of the congregation, the adults who give of their time and talents, the enthusiasm of the children, and the faithfulness of God, and we remember to FEAR NOT.

Education Leadership Opportunity Awaits You!

From Pastor Dorris McCoy



Expansion of education ministries, new programs and the addition of classes for various ages mean more openings for leadership. Without committed and dedicated volunteers, LP cannot move outward and forward to spread the Gospel and make a difference in people's lives.

YOU are invited to be involved---come---build the Body of Christ for this and the next generation! Contact CED Chair, **Kim DeHart**, 610-775-8835, or see **Pastor Dorris** to explore the possibilities, dream new dreams, consider resources, and develop a plan of action for your involvement and using your gifts of leadership!!!

Grace Notes

From Beverly Perella, Director of Music

The Music Programs at Lincoln Park will resume this month. Mark your calendars with the following dates:

- ♪ CHANCEL CHOIR - Buffet dinner at 7 pm at **Bev Perella's** new home on Wednesday, September 9.
- ♪ BELL CHOIR - Planning session (desserts served) and first rehearsal on September 23 at 6:45 pm.
- ♪ CHILDREN'S CHOIR starts October 4 directly after the Contemporary Service.
- ♪ PRAISE TEAM continues to rehearse every Thursday night at 8 pm.

God and I encourage all of you to consider sharing your gift of music with the Lincoln Park family. Our continued success in praising God through music depends on your listening to God's call.

Women's Book Club

From Jane Reitz



September's selection, *Thirteen Moons*, by Charles Frazier, examines nearly a century in the life of a white boy adopted by the Cherokee Nation in Appalachia. It is also the story of his love for the elusive Claire Featherstone. Join us for discussion and light refreshments at **Bernie Ackelson's** home on Monday, September 28, at 7 pm. Bring along suggestions for books to read in the coming months. Contact **Jane Reitz**, 610-921-3303 if you're unable to attend. Keep reading!

Our Sympathy to...

The family of **Barbara Starr**, who died on June 20, and to

The family of **Eve Kintzer** who died on July 10.

We will keep you in our prayers.



Endowment Fund Exceeds \$100,000

From Harold W. Perkins



*We know
that all
things work
together
for good for
those who
love God....*

Romans 8:28

During the summer, gifts to the glory of God in honor and memory of **Barbara Starr**, along with several single gifts, have empowered the Endowment Fund to a total of \$100,043, providing greater future support of program and physical improvements beyond our operating budget.

In addition, the fund is assured of the proceeds of a \$10,000 irrevocable Charitable Gift Annuity, arranged by a member couple, with immediate tax benefit and annual income while deriving satisfaction from their legacy to God's church in Lincoln Park. Three bequests have also been confidentially disclosed.

The Endowment Fund started with a \$2,000 estate settlement gift in 1982, and has grown steadily over the years, exceeding \$100,000 today. The Endowment Fund Committee wishes to thank once again the numerous members, staff, and friends of the church who have made contributions -- large and small -- over 27 years of the fund's existence.

Rolland Ackelson
Allen Buchanan
Shirley Cline
Nelson Freyling

Ira Mohler
Harold Perkins
Donald Schlosser
Pamela Shenk

A Prayer for Busy People

God, grant me to be silent before you -- that I may hear you; at rest in you -- that you may work in me; open to you -- that you may enter; empty before you -- that you may fill me. Let me be still, and know you are my God. Amen.

--Paul Reeves



Sam Gundy: Naturalist, Educator, Museum Director, War Hero, Loving Husband

From Cheri Fallon



Lincoln Park's **Sam Gundy** was recently called "Berks County's most knowledgeable naturalist," by Bill Ulrich in the *Reading Eagle* (August 17).

Sam was recognized recently by Hawk Mountain officials for his "lifetime commitment to conservation causes."

A boyhood interest in the natural world led Sam to work his way through Kutztown State Teachers College where he studied the biological sciences that were so interesting to him. His education was interrupted by World War II, but he completed it on his return and became first an enthusiastic teacher in the Reading School District, then Director of the Reading Public Museum, and, finally, Professor at Kutztown University.

At 91, Sam Gundy has had a remarkable life, including his service in the US Army Air Force, flying 18 missions in Europe, the last ending when his plane was hit and exploded. Sam parachuted to the ground and was captured by German soldiers. Seriously injured, he was hospitalized and then incarcerated for

over a year.

A thoughtful, well-written account of Sam's life experiences was written for the spring 2008 issue of the *Historical Review of Berks County*, by Barry L. Kauffman, from which much of this information is gleaned.

Determination, courage, thirst for knowledge, and love of his country and wife **Mary** seem to be the hallmarks of Sam's life. Mary and Sam met in 1940 when Mary, a Phys Ed Major at West Chester State Teachers College, worked as a playground leader for the Reading Recreation Department. Sam was the Nature Director and would bring all kinds of animals -- snakes, raccoons -- to the playgrounds for "show and tell."

Mary "grew as fond of the young naturalist as she did of his snakes and things," says Kauffman. The Gundys were married September 30, 1943, before Sam left for combat. Today they have two children, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

It's quite a story! If you'd like to read Kauffman's account -- *Lt. Samuel C. Gundy, Patriotism, Passion, and Perseverance: A Hero's Story* -- I will leave a couple copies in my mailbox in the Church Office.

From our mailbox



♥ Dear Lincoln Park Family:

We were deeply touched by the kind thoughts, support, and prayers sent our way following my Mother's passing. We truly appreciate it.

Special thanks to Pastor Jerry, Pastor Dorris and Cori Pasquale for their selflessness and support during this difficult time. It was indeed a comfort to each of us.

Sincerely,

Jon, Kim & Dylan DeHart

♥ Thank you for another wonderful year of Bible School. It is a special week that we look forward to and we thank you for letting us be a part of it.

The Gavin Girls and
little Madeline

♥ Dear Friends,

Thank you for the assorted groceries, soup, cake, sauerkraut, towels, soup and \$7 you donated to our soup kitchen and food pantry. We are glad for each friend and gift that God sends to us to help feed the hungry. May God bless you for your kindness.

Ann Marie Wallace
Soup Kitchen Manager
New Journey UMC



From
Cheri Fallon

When I worked part-time as a church secretary, doing the newsletter

was one of my tasks. Every month I worked on the computer from the previous month's issue to update it for the current month. Each issue included a list of birthdays so members could send cards.

One month, as I was cutting and pasting to insert the names and addresses of the birthday people, I somehow inserted the *name* of the woman, but left the *address* from the previous month. As luck would have it, the address was: *Wernersville State (Mental) Hospital*. You can only imagine the repercussions of my mistake!

Here are some other funny church secretary mistakes, submitted by **Suzanne Romig**. Ah, the perils of working in a church office!

- ☀ The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.
- ☀ Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale! It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.
- ☀ The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been cancelled due to a conflict.
- ☀ Miss Charlene Mason sang *I Will Not Pass this Way Again*, giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.



Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



September
14
for our
October issue

Change of Address

Nels & Virginia Freyling
Heritage of Green Hills
101 Inspiration Blvd Apt 302
Reading PA 19607

Mrs Rose Hare
1 Reading Dr Apt 69
Wernersville PA 19565

Beverly Perella
27 Tanglewood Dr
Reading PA 19607

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



Come for our Church Picnic September 13

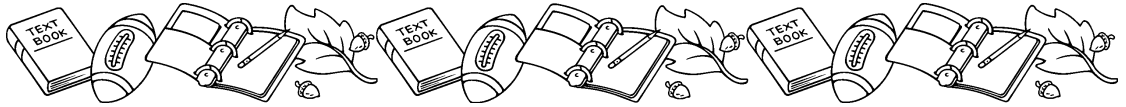
From Tracy Panase

Just when you thought summer festivities were over...think again! Join us Sunday, September 13, immediately following the 10:45 service, for an afternoon of fun and fellowship, marking the start of our Christian Education year.

We'll have games and activities for kids of all ages as well as good old-fashioned hot dogs and burgers hot off the grill. Please bring either a side dish (salad or other) or a dessert. The more the merrier so please invite your friends and neighbors.

Volunteers are needed! If you can run a game, flip burgers or clean up, please contact **Tracy Panase**, Panase@aol.com or 610-739-4766. Please RSVP on our sign-up sheet in the Wagner Room. While we'll pray for bright, sunny skies, the picnic will take place rain or shine. See you on the 13th!





Worship with us:

9 am - Contemporary Worship on Sunday
11 am - Traditional Worship on Sunday
9:15 & 10:20 am - Christian Education

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

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E-mail: lpumc@verizon.net (secretary and church), lpumcpastor@verizon.net (Pastor McGrath),
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(For urgent messages, use voice mail, please.)

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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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PAID

Reading, PA

Permit No. 233

Change service requested