

Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church Newsletter
Lincoln Park, Pennsylvania

March, 2011

The Rev. David T. McMillan III Appointed New Pastor at Lincoln Park

From Staff Parish Relations Committee, Rich Auman, Chairman

For the first time in our church's 65-year history, a former associate pastor of Lincoln Park is coming back as our 14th senior pastor.

The Rev. David McMillan, current pastor of Hibernia United Methodist Church in Coatesville, will take over for Pastor Jerry McGrath in July, when Jerry moves

to Lancaster County to fill the senior pastor post at Lititz United Methodist Church. The announcement was made following an interview process with our Staff Parish Relations Committee and District Superintendent, the Rev. Dr. William Gary George.

Pastor McMillan was our associate from 1989 through 1995, when he left to become pastor of Boehm's United Methodist Church, Lancaster. He re-

(Continued on page 12)

Pastor Jerry McGrath Accepts Lititz Appointment

Pastor Jerry McGrath will become Senior Pastor at Lititz United Methodist Church in Lancaster County, effective July 1, 2011.

The Lititz church has a membership of 1,000, with average attendance between 450 and 500, between their Saturday night vespers and Sunday morning contemporary and traditional services. Jerry, Karen, and the girls will purchase their first home when they move to their new church.

Inside this issue

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| Worship | p. 2 |
| From Pastor McGrath | p. 4 |
| Opportunity House | p.13 |
| Endowment Fund | p. 6 |
| Lenten Supper/Study | p. 3 |
| Flea Market | p. 7 |
| VBS Planning | p.11 |

WORSHIP IN MARCH

From Pastor Jerry McGrath



Sunday, March 6

Transfiguration Sunday
A View from the Mountain
Exodus 24:12-18, Matthew 17:1-9

Wednesday, March 9, 7 pm

Ash Wednesday
All Fall Down
Joel 2:1-2, 12-17, Romans 3:9-12, 22-24

Sunday, March 13

First Sunday in Lent
Written in Stone, Exodus 32:1-24, 1Peter 2:4-10

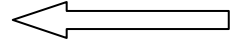
Sunday, March 20

Second Sunday in Lent
Rejected Stones, Psalm 118, Mark 12:1-2

Sunday, March 27

Third Sunday in Lent
Sticks and Stones, Deuteronomy 17:2-7, John 8:1-12

Sermon Series:



Journey of Stones

Worship Committee Meets March 17

From Shirley Cline, Worship Committee Chair

If you're a Worship Committee member, or have any part in our Sunday services, please be there when we meet at 7 pm, Thursday, March 17, in Memorial Hall. We'll be making final preparations for Holy Week services, and *your input is important*. Thanks, see you there!



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!

Join Us for Lenten Supper & Study *Experiences of Prayer*

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

Do you hunger to know God better? Would you like to invite God into your heart, mind and soul? As Jesus' disciples begged him to teach them to pray, we often long for instruction in prayer, contemplation, and meditation to draw us nearer to the Source of Life.

To feed us on our prayer journeys, the Lenten Supper and Study will take us down a variety of prayer paths, Sundays, March 20, 27, and April 3 & 10, 5-7 pm, in Memorial Hall. We'll explore prayer practices such as Lecto Divina, Praying in Color, Praying from Scripture, Centering Prayer, Body Prayers, and Ignatian Prayers.

LP's child care attendants will also offer activities and care for our children. Watch the Sunday bulletin and Wagner Room displays for sign-up flyer and details. Questions? Please contact Pastor Dorris.



Labyrinth Ushers in Lenten Preparations

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

LP's Labyrinth Team invites you to begin your Lenten journeys with a **LABYRINTH PRAYER WALK**, Ash Wednesday, March 9, after evening worship, on Sunday, March 13, following morning worship, and from 4-6 pm, in Memorial Hall.

The labyrinth, a path of prayer, is a walking meditation inviting us to find our way with God. It offers us time to reflect, to enjoy, to approach the sa-

cred...an extraordinary time-out from our ordinary day. The labyrinth takes us on a symbolic journey inward towards God's illumination and then outward, grounded in God, and empowered to act in the world. Come...draw closer to God; be emptied of all distractions; be present in the moment with God; leave in gratitude to continue your life with God more present.

With questions or to help with set-up, please contact **Shirley Cline**, 610,796-3946, or Pastor Dorris.

From the Pastor's Desk

From Pastor Jerry McGrath

For the most part, I find that people think of the season of Lent as a "four-letter word," which of course it is, but you know what I mean. As a child, I dreaded Lent because it meant I had to eat fish which I hated as a child. I had to "give up" something and cut back on sweets. (Sugar withdrawal is a terrible thing.) The famous Lenten "hot cross buns" appeared, looking pretty good from the outside, but filled with disgusting little chunks of fossilized fruit....just a reminder, I suppose, that Lent is not a time to be filled with tasty treats.

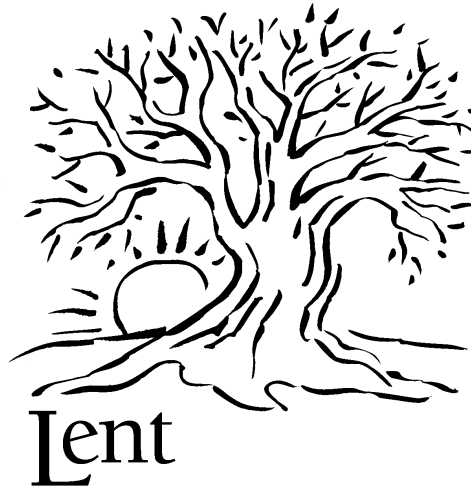
Over the years, however, I've grown into a deep appreciation for Lent. In fact, I *like* Lent and actually *look forward* to it each year. It is a season of reflection, re-evaluation, repentance, and reconciliation. Lent is a time of profound Grace; we're invited to let that Grace sink in, take root, and change us. When we observe these days -- by listening to Scripture from Lenten liturgies and by participating in traditional practices of the Church, we are invited, in this holy season, to be stripped down and cleansed from all obstacles that keep us from see-

ing our true selves clearly; stripped down so we may understand more powerfully the Love of God, who embraces all of who we are.

There are many ways to enter into the spirit of the season and to "observe" these days. It's not as important *what* we do as it is that we make these days different from all the rest. One great way to observe the season is by following traditional church practices: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. These give us ways to enter into this sea-

son of healing with body and soul, physically and spiritually.

Almsgiving, which is more than giving money but also giving our time through serving others, is a practice which encourages us to let go of things (money, possessions, our valuable time) which may have taken on too high a priority in our lives. Almsgiving encourages us to strip away the "things" which can cause us to be separated from one another. It also challenges us



(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

to distinguish between *what we need* and *what we want*.

In the same spirit of examining our needs and wants, we practice fasting -- rearranging our eating habits, by cutting down or by abstaining all together. It reminds us of our need for God to fill us. Fasting allows us to feel physically the ongoing spiritual needs of the soul and can help us to feel that only God can truly satisfy our deepest longings. Almsgiving and fasting help us to do, to feel, to tangibly experience the season of Lent.

Prayer is the other traditional practice in the Church, and through prayer we're able to experience Lent on a spiritual level. Prayer slows us down, allows us to be focused, enables us to be stripped away from our obsession with this world, and moves us to a higher consciousness.

Prayer allows us to "see" our life and our works with eyes of faith, opening the heart to seeing God in the midst of it all.

Sunday Church School Continues the Walk

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

All ages are invited to be nurtured in body and soul and challenged to search deeply for faith meaning and application in LP's weekly Sunday morning church school classes.

† At 9:45 am children leave Contemporary Worship for a multi-age experience (Live B.I.G./Joyful Noise) while adults delve into Bible Study based on the Lectionary Scripture readings.

† At 11 am,

--**CHILDREN** age 3 through 6th grade use **ROCK SOLID** (the United Methodist curriculum based on Jesus' parable of the sower) which encourages a strong faith for standing strong in the life's storms;

--**YOUTH** connect with each other and seek God in their relationships and challenges;

--**ADULTS** choose between Stone Soup, in Rm 103, (outreach plus prayerful focus, led by **Becky Chadwick/Loreen Miller**) and discussion in Memorial Hall, facilitated by **Earl Hope**, and based on Adam Hamilton's *When Christians Get It Wrong*.

Questions, ideas for new classes and learning experiences and offers to lead are welcomed by **Kim DeHart**, Christian Education Chair, or Pastor Dorris.

Come---Be Challenged---Re-Discover God's story for your life!

STATEMENT OF LPCUMC ENDOWMENT FUND
1982 TO DECEMBER 31, 2010
GROWTH OF THE FUND SINCE INCEPTION 1982

From the Endowment Fund Committee: George Pyle, Chairman
Rolland Ackelson, Allen Buchanan, Shirley Cline, Nelson Freyling,
Ira Mohler, Donald Schlosser, Pamela Shenk

| | 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 | 39,469 | 86,822 | 10,794 | 9,797 |
| 2008 - 10 | <u>45,187</u> | 132,009** | <u>10,098</u> | <u>10,337</u> |
| TOTAL | \$132,009 | | \$36,969 | \$33,765 |

** 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 | \$40,528 |
| Gifts in Honor and Memory | 38,651 |
| Gifts (ranging from \$10 - \$5,000) | 49,739 |
| Annual transfers from income (10%) | <u>3,091</u> |
| TOTAL | \$132,009 |

*BENEFITS TO OUR MINISTRIES IN GOD'S SERVICE

| | |
|---|--------------|
| For Trustees | \$2,550 |
| For Ministry of Christian Education (teacher training, programs, materials, equipment) | 6,869 |
| For Ministry of Music | 2,650 |
| For Ministry of Missions (support of volunteers, travel, special designations) | 2,000 |
| For Family Programs | 400 |
| For 50 th Anniversary Program | 170 |
| For Consultation Study | 2,000 |
| For Task Force on Church Adaptation | 1,000 |
| For Nurture and Witness | 1,500 |
| For Contemporary Service | 5,300 |
| For Church Improvements Outside Budget | 4,900 |
| For Stewardship Program | 800 |
| For Endowment Fund Expenses | 535 |
| For 10% Annual Transfer of Interest to Principal | <u>3,091</u> |
| TOTAL | \$33,765 |

A significant strength of Lincoln Park Church is its Endowment Fund. The purpose of this annual statement is to give all members a clear understanding of its history, the ways of giving to it, and the numerous benefits derived from it.

Flea Market Alert

From Beverly Perella

May 14 is fast approaching. Here are some details about this annual fundraiser for Lincoln Park Church:

1. Unfortunately, we are NOT accepting clothing this year. (This has become a most time-consuming, difficult task.)
2. We will have a boutique with jewelry, handbags, NEW shoes, scarves, etc.
3. We will NOT accept televisions or computers.
4. We will have our flower stand again and would appreciate donations of plants, pots, potting soil.
5. We would like to add a craft stand. Do you have any items that you make?



Please watch for the date to start bringing in your donations.

For the second year we will have a Silent Auction for special items and services. Last year our auction made about \$1,500. Wouldn't it be great if we could double that number this year?

What can you offer for this auction?

I'll be offering a *Thanksgiving in the Summer Dinner* for six people. Why should we enjoy a Thanksgiving meal only once a year? Shouldn't we be thankful all year round? I hate cooking for one person, but I do love to cook for a group. Who's willing to bid on my dinner? I make a mean apricot cream pie.

WHAT CAN YOU OFFER FOR THIS AUCTION? See me, **Carol Bashore**, or **Michelle Ringler** to offer your gift.



March

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed |
|--|--|--|--|
| | | 1 Opportunity House Supper <i>Going Deeper</i> 6:30pm | 2 Bell Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir Confirmation UMYF 7pm |
| 6 | 7 Trustees 7 pm | 8 <i>Going Deeper</i> 6:30pm | 9 Ash Wednesday Worship 7pm |
| 13 Daylight Saving Time Labyrinth Open 9:30-12:30pm, 4-6pm | 14 Finance 7 pm | 15 <i>Going Deeper</i> 6:30pm <i>News-Line Deadline</i> | 16 Bell Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir Confirmation UMYF 7pm |
| 20 SUNDAY SUPPER STUDY 5-7pm | 21 Church Council 7pm | 22 <i>Going Deeper</i> 6:30pm | 23 Bell Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir Confirmation UMYF 7pm |
| 27 VBS Mtg 12:15 Rdg Philharmonic Concert 3pm SUNDAY SUPPER STUDY 5-7pm | 28 Lifeline Screening Memorial Hall -- All Day | 29 <i>Going Deeper</i> 6:30pm | 30 Bell Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir Confirmation UMYF 7pm |

h 2011



| ed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-------------------------|---|---|----------------------------|
| 30pm r 7:30pm 6pm | 3 Craft Group 1pm Praise Band 8 pm | 4  <i>WORLD</i> <i>Day of Prayer</i> | 5 |
| esday om | 10 Praise Band 8 pm | 11 <i>Leading Beyond the Walls: Conference Training</i> 5:30-9 pm Paoli PA 8am-5pm | 12 Bell Choir Rehearsal |
| 30pm r 7:30pm 6pm | 17 Craft Group 1pm Praise Band 8 pm | 18 | 19 |
| 30pm r 7:30pm 6pm | 24 Praise Band 8 pm | 25 | 26 |
| 30pm r 7:30pm 6pm | 31 Praise Band 8 pm | <div> Looking ahead to April 4/3 & 4/10 Sunday Supper Study 4/4: Trustees 7pm 4/11 Finance 7pm 4/16 Easter Party & Egg Hunt 4/17 Palm Sunday 4/24 Easter Sunday </div> | |

Make Music a Part of Your Life



From Beverly Perella

Music, music all around
And your talents do abound.
Offer them to God above,
Showing Him your grateful love.

All musical organizations are in need of musicians, young and old, with great or small talents. See the head musician for your audition. (Only kidding!) New members welcomed and expected by GOD. **MUSIC SUNDAY is MAY 22.**

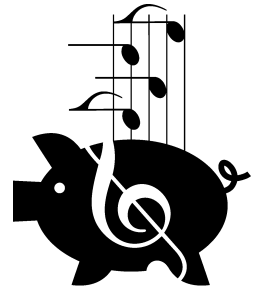
Second Call for Contributions to our Concert Fund

From Beverly Perella

Remember the glorious sounds of bass Brian Gibson on Sunday, January 30? Those heart-warming spirituals, superbly sung, were brought to you by our Concert Fund.

We can't offer gifts for donating money like radio and television studios do, but we *can* offer you outstanding music programs that proclaim God's greatness.

All you have to do is place a check, marked *Concert Fund*, in an envelope and mail it to the church or put the check in the offering plate. No one will call you or sell your name to advertising companies. This donation is between you and God (and the bookkeeper, of course.) In return you'll hear the finest musical praises to God that we can offer. And, your donations are tax-deductible. --- This ad is sponsored by our Music Director.



Hearts for Haiti: Treat Sale Raises \$200+

From Rebecca Chelius

A very special thank you! Our second annual Hearts for Haiti sweet treat sale raised over \$200!! Thank you to everyone who bought chocolates and sweet treats! And a very special thank you to all of you who said "keep the change." Through UMCOR we hope to bring change to Haiti, for the better. We hope you enjoyed your sweet treats and thank you again for all your support!

Stewardship Questions

Submitted by Nancy Villecco from *Parish Publications*

What is the purpose of understanding Stewardship?

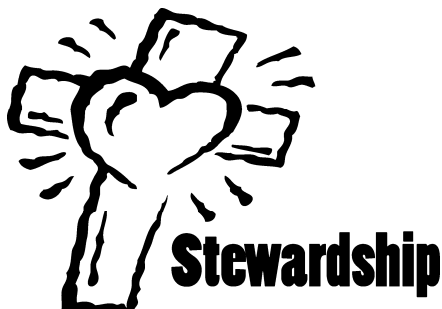
The purpose of understanding stewardship is to reflect on our personal commitment to Jesus Christ and His Church.

I thought Stewardship only had to do with money.

To say that Stewardship only involves money is like saying marriage only involves paying the household bills. Stewardship, like marriage, involves all aspects of demonstrating the love and commitment one person has toward another - it grows out of the relationship.

I'm not sure I understand!

Stewardship involves all of the many different ways that God's people demonstrate their love for Him and for what He has done for them in His Son, Jesus Christ.



What are some of the ways I can do this?

Ways that we demonstrate our love for Jesus Christ and His Church include: attendance at worship, involvement in personal and group study of God's Word, sharing Christ's love with others, willingly serving as opportunities arise, setting aside a regular portion of our income for use in His Church, and living in obedience to His Word. There are many others.

PandaMania: Vacation Bible School 2011

From Karen Osika

It's that time of year again. **Pastor Dorris, Lisa Sinnamon**, and I are excited about the upcoming summer extravaganza. From music to snacks and everything in between, PandaMania VBS is designed to focus on things that matter—connecting kids to God—and eliminating things that don't. It's about preparing each child's heart to receive the gospel message in an unforgettable way. It's about enabling kids to share God's love with others.

We are looking for adults who want to share the love of God with our children. Please come to a planning meeting, in Room 101, on Sunday, March 27, at 12:15. We look forward to seeing you there.

**“This Jesus
God raised up,
and of that all
of us are
witnesses.”**

Acts 2:32, NRSV

Can you guess who said these words?

- A. Paul
- B. Peter
- C. John
- D. Luke

For answer, see Acts 2:32.

Come with Us: Leading Beyond the Walls

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

LP Church is invited to send at least three members in addition to pastoral staff to an exciting growth opportunity at Paoli UMC, on March 11 (5:30-9 pm) and 12 (8am-5pm).

As a follow-up to Adam Hamilton's keynote presentations at 2010's Eastern PA Annual Conference gathering, staff from Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, KS, where the Rev. Hamilton serves as Lead Pastor, will conduct leadership training sessions.

To attend, contact Pastor Jerry or Pastor Dorris. One member has volunteered so far. Come aboard and help build the LP team!

(Continued from page 1)

mained there until he took the Hibernia appointment in July 2000.

While Dave is now divorced, he was married in our church prior to being transferred and is the father of a 13-year-old daughter who lives in Mount Penn.

At Lincoln Park, David taught junior and senior high Sunday school and led our high school youth group. He has continued to be active with youth programs at both Boehm and Hibernia churches. David also led two mission team trips while at Lincoln Park.

During his last 10 years of ministry he has also been involved with small group experiences in marriage enrichment, blended families, anger management and setting boundaries.

Dave is a 1983 Penn State graduate and studied at both Palmer and Asbury Theological seminaries before earning his Master of Divinity degree in 1987. He also completed post-graduate certification in Marriage and Family Therapy in 2008 at the Council for Relationships in Philadelphia.

Can You Help?

OPPORTUNITY HOUSE SUPPER

March 1

From Pastor Dorris McCoy



You're invited to LP's next supper-prep-and-serve night, Tuesday, March 1. You can choose one or both times: 4:30 pm prep time or 6:15 pm serving time departure.

Or consider a \$\$ or food donation from the following: egg noodles, corn, carrots, celery, small rolls, cheese, ham slices, salad fixin's, fruit, salad dressing, butter, cool whip, eggs, canned cherries, or crushed pineapple. Please drop donations marked *OPPORTUNITY HOUSE SUPPER* in the Church Kitchen or call Head Chef, Penny Snook, 610-781-7704.

At LP's January tour of Opportunity House, we learned that meals are only a part of an extensive network of services provided for area homeless. However, they are an outreach we can help provide, freeing up funding for other programs such as employment training, addiction counseling, housing, parenting workshops, and the Second Street Learning Center.

Dear Lord, enable us to sense a new dawn in our spiritual lives, that we may glorify you always.

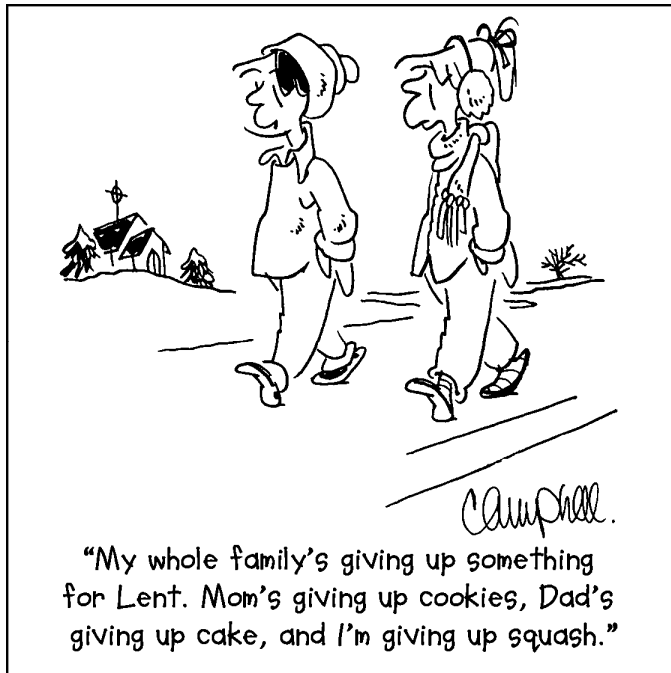




Lent is a season of repentance. But, for many of us, “repentance” is an offensive word. It sounds so remorseful. In reality, it isn’t at all. The root word for *repentance* is the Greek word *metanoia*, from which our word *metamorphosis* comes.

The great image of this is the butterfly emerging from its cocoon; the caterpillar being transformed into new life. No one is remorseful about that! Nor should we be with repentance, which involves leaving the past and emerging into new life.

--from *The NewsletterNewsletter*





Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



*March 15
for our
April issue*

Change of Address

Erika Garrity Pied
11/22 Soi Roamrang
Moo Ban Naifun
Intarakeree Road
Amphur, Mae Sot, TAK
Thailand 63110

Jeff Madeira
34 Old Morris Rd
Harleysville PA 19438

Change of Phone Number

Linda Woll
610-781-8046.



Easter Flowers

From Betsy
Buchanan

We'll soon be selling flowers (tulips of various colors, and lilies) for Easter. Please watch the bulletins for order forms or call **Lou Manhart**, 610-777-2347, with questions.

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

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

From our mailbox



- ♥ Dear Friends,
Thank you for being so kind, remembering my 90th birthday. I will remember this day for a very long time. God bless all of you.

Sincerely,
Kathryn Hafer

- ♥ To My Church Family,
What can I say to express our thanks for all the support during the past two months of illness. The visits, cards, phone calls, prayers, and personal words of encouragement have helped Betty and me through a very stressful period. Needless to say, I am back in physical condition, minus a few parts, after a bout with pancreatitis and the removal of my gall bladder.

Thanks,
Jim and Betty Garraway

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



Worship with us: 9:30 am - Contemporary Worship
 11 am - Traditional Worship
 9:45 & 11 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

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dmccoy2@verizon.net (Pastor Dorris McCoy)

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