

News-Line

*Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church Newsletter
Lincoln Park, Pennsylvania
April, 2011*

We Welcome a New Worship Leader for Contemporary Services

From Staff Parish Relations Committee
Rich Auman, Chairman

Maine native, **Julianna Stites**, has been hired by the Staff Parish Relations Committee as our Worship Leader. Julie will work with the Praise Band and our pastors to coordinate contemporary worship services.

A resident of Denver, Lancaster County, Julie received a Bachelor's Degree in Music Therapy from Elizabethtown College and is currently employed as a music therapist at Living Unlimited in Harrisburg. She has performed with the Harrisburg Singers and was a deacon in the Presbyterian Church.

Julie, her husband Sean and their two children, John and Samantha, began attending our church last year. Julie is also active with our Senior and Children's Choirs.



CHILDREN'S EASTER PARTY

Saturday, April 16

10 am to noon, Memorial Hall

From Linda Woll

Come to celebrate Jesus' resurrection with us through a variety of activities: crafts, music, games, snacks, and more.

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WORSHIP IN APRIL



From Pastor Jerry McGrath

Sunday, April 3

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Journey of Stones: Hearts of Stone

Leviticus 23:3, Luke 17:37-53

Sunday, April 10

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Journey of Stones: Upon this Rock

Isaiah 51:1-6, 12-17, Matthew 16:13-20

Sunday, April 17, PALM SUNDAY

Journey of Stones: Crying Stones

Psalms 31:1-16, Luke 19:20-40

Thursday, April 21, 7 pm, HOLY THURSDAY

Foot Washing and Communion

Rejected Stones

Psalms 118, Mark 12:1-2

Friday, April 22, 7 pm, GOOD FRIDAY

Tenebrae Worship

Sunday, April 24, EASTER SUNDAY

Flowering of the Cross (Please bring fresh flowers to decorate the cross.)

Journey of Stones: He's Alive, Acts 10:34-43, John 20:18



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!

Making Lent More Meaningful

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

LENTEN DISCIPLINE RESOURCES

Ash Wednesday marked the beginning of Lent, which traditionally offers us a time of preparation and self-examination. In this solemn season, we move through the stories of Jesus' ministry and the last week of His earthly life and into the joy of his Resurrection on Easter Sunday. To help you with your Lenten disciplines of prayer and Scripture reading, check out the *UPPER ROOM* and *ALIVE NOW* resources, available at church entrances.

LENTEN STUDY

Also, join us for the remaining Sunday Night Supper and Study sessions, April 3 and 10, 5-7 pm, designed to strengthen our prayer lives by offering hands-on experiences of various prayer practices. So far, we've learned to focus more clearly on God by walking the prayer paths of our Labyrinth, built intercessory prayers by praying in color, and written our own psalms or prayers of Lament.

We continue to explore "Praying the Scriptures," the Examen, and Lectio Divina to enrich our prayers lives and open our ears to hear God. **Loreen Miller** closes this series April 10 by teaching us the history of Centering Prayer and leading us to experience the inner peace gifted to us by spending quiet time with our God. Questions? Please see Pastor Dorris.



Our hearts go out to **Dr. Michael** and **Kathy Avedissian**, and their family—**Heather, Chris, and Emily**—on the loss of Michael's father on March 25. May God surround you with His love and comfort.

(Continued from page 1)

The Easter bunny will be hopping by for a visit, so bring your camera. Donations and volunteers of all ages are needed: Please see the sign-up sheet and Easter basket in the Wagner Room for more information and details. We need lots of volunteers to assist the children. There will be egg hunts for all the ages (birth up to age 10).

"Hop" to see you there!

From the Pastor's Desk

From Pastor Jerry McGrath

So what if the Easter bunny wins the hearts of children everywhere? Why not strike "Easter Vacation" from the vocabulary of schools and substitute "Spring Break?" What difference does Easter make anyway?

It makes a difference to those who are in touch enough with reality to take life and death seriously. It made a lot of difference to a real woman named Mary. Let me tell you her story.

Mary had the heart-wrenching honor of washing the dried blood from Jesus' lifeless body as two other followers prepared the tomb cut into Jerusalem's cold limestone. Mary wept as she washed--wept and remembered.... She had seen her Lord die an excruciating death, His body weight hanging limp from the nails driven through His hands and feet, suspended from a cross like a common criminal.

Was her hope for nothing? What of the thousands of diseased bodies He had healed? The broken lives He had restored? The promises of the Kingdom of God?

But early Sunday morning she was back at the tomb to finish anointing His body. When she arrived, the tomb stood

open, stone pushed to the side, ashes of the Roman guards' watchfire still smoldering.

"How can they be so cruel?" she cried as she ran to tell the apostles. So cruel.

Mary saw Him, mistaking Him for the gardener. But there was no mistak-

ing His familiar voice --"Mary." She fell at His feet, tears of grief melting into tears of joy. "Rabboni," she said, as she looked into His face. "Teacher."

Yes, Easter bunnies capture the hearts of children, and schools talk about spring break, but you and I know what really happened on Easter.

In an instant, history changed forever; where once the human mortality rate had held steady at 100%, now it skipped a beat as Jesus, Savior of all mankind, stepped out of dead statistics into life. *Death* is the last word no longer for Jesus' followers; *life* is. "Jesus," Mary would tell us, "He changed my life." And millions around the globe would echo, "Mine, too. He touched my life, too." While religious leaders have come and gone, the fact remains: Only One stepped forth from the tomb. Only One has risen



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from the dead. Only One has conquered death. Only One offers the promise of eternal life to those who follow Him.

"I am the resurrection and the life," Jesus said. "He who believes in me will live, even though he dies, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die." So why do Jesus' followers gather in churches on Easter morning? To show off their Easter finery? God forbid. Rather:

To celebrate the victory of Life over death,
To help their children and grandchildren share their faith that Jesus is alive, and
To declare that Jesus Christ is Lord indeed!

Sunday Church School Continues its Walk in the Park of Faith

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

Be a learning, growing Christian. Find meaning and prayerful support in our high-speed culture by joining LP's ongoing Sunday Church School and its Walk in the Park of Faith. Come and bring your children to begin their journeys too!

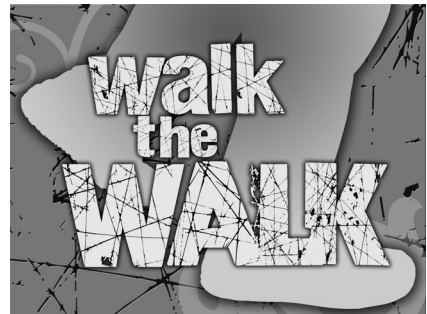
Each Sunday offers opportunities for all ages to hear and explore the biblical message and learn how to apply it in our harried world.

AT 9:45 AM, after the Children's Message at Contemporary Worship, LP's younger children enjoy LIVE B.I.G.: activities designed for learning to live and believe in God, while adults gather in the Library for Lectionary Bible Study.

AT 11 AM, children ages 3 through 6th grade, use the Methodist curriculum **ROCK SOLID**; youth are currently using Adam Hamilton's resource, *When Christians Get It Wrong*, Adults can choose between:

- Stone Soup, in Rm 103, for a time of reflection and service, making meals once a month for those in need,
- or a video series in Memorial Hall focusing on the Easter message.

Ideas for new topics and classes — as well as offers to teach and lead — are always welcome; bring your ideas to **Pastor Dorris**.



You're Invited to Join Our Team

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

YOU are hereby invited to be part of the many learning ministries at LP! Join LP's amazing teaching team and help bring God's Word to lives here and around the world!

Consider a survey from *Success* magazine (9/10) where volunteers shared these responses:

- 1) 68% say serving makes them feel better
- 2) 73% say it lowers their stress levels
- 3) 92% say it enriches their sense of purpose in life!

Remember: The church has the highest purpose and calling around — a calling from God to (as the UMC mission statement tells us) *make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*

Many opportunities exist at LP to share God's love and teach His ongoing story and involvement in covenant with us---Come! Be enriched! Enjoy life! Know the joy and peace serving God brings to you and others!

Volunteer Opportunities



Our specific needs include:

- alternating Sunday leadership for our multi-age, 9:30 am children's experience---to help, contact **Tricia Pence**, 610-404-8574, or **Pastor Dorris**

- Grades 1-3 at the 11 am Church School hour---to help, contact **Jeff** or **Wendy Werner**, 610-750-5580, or **Pastor Dorris**

- Youth Class at 11 am---call **Mark Villecco**, 710-781-3164, or **Pastor Dorris**

- Christian Education Committee

membership — to plan events and address CE'd needs during the upcoming staffing transition period---contact **Pastor Dorris**

- Chairperson for the Christian Ed Committee, see **Pastor Dorris**

Contact **Pastor Dorris** for details about these opportunities, resources available, and curricula used in various classes.

**COME ABOARD and SHARE
CELEBRATE GOD'S LIVING AND LOVING WORD!!**

Flea Market — Saturday, May 14, 7am- 3pm

From Beverly Perella

Fleas are on the move... Have you started to itch?

Chairpersons: **Michelle Ringler, Carol Bashore, and Bev Perella**

After every Flea Market someone says, "I wanted to help, but I didn't know what I could do." Well, here's a list so there will be no excuse this year.



- Please bring FLEAS -- beginning Sunday, March 27 -- to the basement of the Church Office.
- Donate countertop appliances and exercise equipment in working condition. Don't donate computer components, appliances, TVs, or glassware with logos.
- Help price FLEAS on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday mornings 10 am - noon, beginning March 28. No experience needed.
- Donate books, CDs, and DVDs, but please DO NOT bring textbooks, magazines, encyclopedias or Readers' Digest.
- Donate your time for set-up and tear down.
- Volunteer the day of the Flea Market: for food stands, as kitchen servers or cashiers, with outside sales and plants, and as general helpers with large, medium, and baby fleas, and in our boutique.
- Help with publicity.
- Help with food preparation and food donations.
- Donate items for the SILENT AUCTION- Examples from last year: a car wash and polish, cheesecakes, candy, a body massage, earrings and a bracelet, children's books, a cookie bouquet, a vacation weekend, a dinner for 8. DO YOU HAVE A SPECIAL SKILL OR TALENT? CAN YOU PAINT A ROOM? CAN YOU OFFER A FEW HOURS OF YARD WORK? Think about what you can offer! This is our second year for this auction and we'd like to expand it.
- Make crafts for the new craft stand.
- Donate items for our expanded Boutique. We accept purses, scarves, GOOD shoes, jewelry, belts, unopened make-up and perfumes.
- ATTEND ON FLEA MARKET DAY AND SPEND LOTS OF MONEY!

NOTE: We are NOT accepting clothing this year. It was too time-consuming.

BUT: Do you have furniture in GOOD condition that you might like to donate? Call **Bev Perella** to see if we could display and sell it.

LINCOLN PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

BUDGET WORK-

March 21, 2011

SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENSES

	2010 APPROVED BUDGET	2010 ACTUAL*	2011 APPROVED BUDGET
INCOME			
Envelopes	\$ 316,500.00	\$ 285,388.35	\$ 285,000.00
Plate	\$ 4,300.00	\$ 4,624.12	\$ 4,500.00
Special Envelopes	\$ 7,925.00	\$ 7,929.00	\$ 7,700.00
Other	\$ 26,532.00	\$ 30,707.83	\$ 18,345.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 355,257.00	\$ 328,649.30	\$ 315,545.00
EXPENSES			
CHURCH COUNCIL			
Ministries of Ad-	\$ 23,575.00	\$ 20,636.42	\$ 20,939.00
Program Ministries	\$ 48,276.00	\$ 42,348.44	\$ 40,025.00
STAFF PARISH	\$ 188,812.92	\$ 176,833.76	\$ 167,668.78
BOARD OF TRUS-	\$ 96,586.00	\$ 89,072.35	\$ 87,407.27
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 357,249.92	\$ 328,890.97	\$ 316,040.05
INCOME MINUS EX-	\$ (1,992.92)	\$ (241.67)	\$ (495.05)

* Budget included \$10,200 income where the church supplemented the income.
Therefore, the actual year end would be -\$10,441.67.

The above budget was approved by the Finance Committee on March 14 and then by Church Council on March 21. If you have any questions regarding the budget, please see Alex Ross or Bill Chadwick, Co-Chair of the Finance Committee or Linda Hope, Church Treasurer.

What is a Tenebrae Service?

From Communication Resources

In the early years of Christianity, a worship service called Tenebrae (Latin for “shadows”) was held during Holy Week.

Today many churches hold a Tenebrae service on the evening of Good Friday, the night Christ died.

For those who knew and loved Him, that night must have been the darkest night of their lives. Imagine their shock, despair, gnawing grief, and utter hopelessness.

The Tenebrae service moves from light into darkness. The service usually begins in a dim light. The chancel, cross and altar are often draped with black cloth, and the altar may have 13 candles — one representing each of the 12 disciples and one larger one symbolizing Christ.

To begin the service, an appropriate prayer is offered or a hymn about Jesus, the Light of the world is sung.

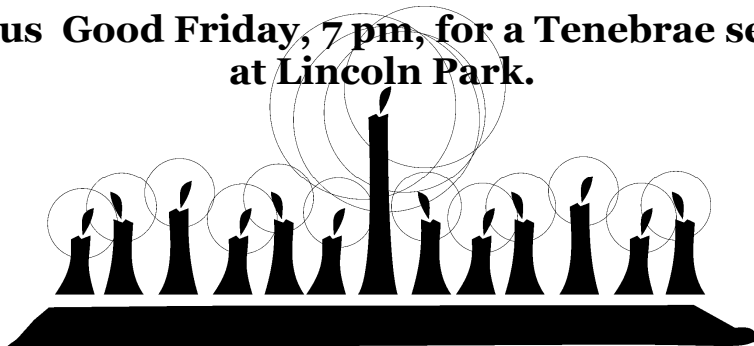
In some services 12 people, representing the apostles, make brief individual statements about their relationship to Christ. After speaking, the “apostle” lights one altar candle.

When 12 candles are burning, the pastor lights the Christ candle.

A voice from outside the sanctuary reads Isaiah 53:3-9, followed by the pastor’s reading of Matthew 27:45-46 and Mark 14:43-50. The moment the pastor reads, “All of them deserted Him and fled,” each apostle walks quickly to his candle and extinguishes it. Next, the pastor extinguishes the Christ candle, and the remaining church lights are turned off. After a period of silent reflection, one light is turned on allowing worshipers to exit quietly and safely. The pastor may say finally, “We leave in the shadows, mindful of our Lord’s death on the world’s behalf.”

There are other variations of this powerfully moving service.

**Join us Good Friday, 7 pm, for a Tenebrae service
at Lincoln Park.**





Apri

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
<p>“He that seeks God in everything is sure to find God in everything.” —William Law</p>			
<p>3 One Great Hour of Sharing</p> <p>Sun. Supper Study 5pm</p>	<p>4 Trustees 7 pm</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 Bell Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir 7:00 Confirmation 7:30 UMYF 7pm</p>
<p>10 Sun. Supper Study 5pm</p>	<p>11 Finance 7 pm</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 Bell Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir 7:00 Confirmation 7:30 UMYF 7pm</p>
<p>17</p>  <p>PALM SUNDAY</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 Bell Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir 7:00 Confirmation 7:30 UMYF 7pm</p>
<p>24 EASTER</p> 		<p>26</p>	<p>27 Bell Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir 7:00 Confirmation 7:30 UMYF 7pm</p>

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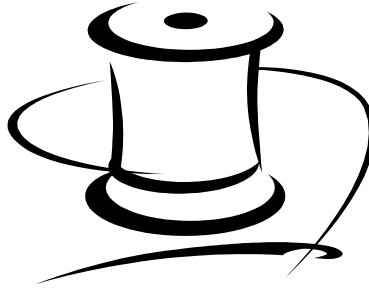
ed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <div data-bbox="536 493 1146 761"> <p>Looking ahead to May</p> <p>5/2 Trustees 7pm</p> <p>5/3 Opportunity House</p> <p>5/9 Finance 7pm</p> <p>5/14 Flea Market 7am-3pm</p> <p>5/19-5/21 Annual Conference</p> <p>5/22 Music Sunday - Both Services</p> </div>	2
30pm r 7:30pm 6pm	7 Craft Group 1pm Praise Band 8pm		
30pm r 7:30pm 6pm	14 Craft Group 1pm Praise Band 8pm	15 <div data-bbox="485 1005 840 1078"> <p><i>News-Line Deadline</i></p> </div>	16 Easter Party 10am <div data-bbox="952 997 1137 1235"> </div>
30pm r 7:30pm 6pm	21 Craft Group 1pm HOLY THURSDAY Communion 7pm	22 GOOD FRIDAY Tenebrae Service 7pm	23
30pm r 7:30pm 6pm	28 Praise Band 8pm	29	30 Chili Supper 6 pm

Here's How You Can Help Children in Haiti

From Suzanne Romig

Last month Pastor Dorris came to the quilters and asked us if we'd be interested in encouraging other sewers in our church to make little "pillowcase" dresses for children in Haiti. The information came across her desk about a UM Church in Franklin, Tennessee, which was making these dresses.

Betty Frederickson and I gave it some thought and decided we'd supply directions and some fabrics. The original directions call for a pillowcase, but fabric may be substituted. Betty and I have each made a couple sample dresses for you to see, which are displayed in the Wagner



Room and Memorial Hall.

I'll supply some unused fabrics from my "stash," but you may use a pillowcase or fabric of your own. The fabric and directions will be in Memo-

rial Hall, in front of the quilter's wall. I also plan to buy some inexpensive panties and supply a pair with each dress I make. The dresses are easy to make and can be completed in a morning. Please give it some thought. I'll ask Mark Gillette from West Lawn Methodist to send them with other supplies to the orphanage he works with in Haiti.

Your Trustees at Work

From Jerry Manhart

- Hopefully we can put our show shovels away. Thanks to **Kris Sewell** and **Carol Bashore** for helping our snow team.
- Two sections of spouting (twisted by ice) were repaired by LM Martin, and they are also checking on a leak in the steeple that ruins the ceiling tiles in the Narthex.
- A circulating pump for the heat in the office basement was repaired by Triangle Heating & AC.
- Also, a new carpet cleaner was purchased to replace our broken one.



A Furnished Room

Woman's Testimony on Use of Talents

Submitted by Nancy Villecco from *Parish Publications*

In the midst of a prayer meeting in a large downtown church, with several hundred people present, a timid little woman arose to speak. It was in the midst of the Lenten season and the pastor had asked a simple but searching question: "Suppose you had the chance to be someone associated with those last days of Jesus in Jerusalem, whom would you choose to be?" The woman was trying to reply to that question.

"There are a lot of people in the passion story whose place I could never fill," she said. "I could not carry my Master's cross as Simon of Cyrene did. Nor could I have followed Him out to the garden as some of the others did. But I could make ready for Him the best room in my house, where He might eat the last supper with His disciples. I could promise Him that it would be made ready to His satisfaction."

There was something very simple in her testimony, but those who knew the little woman were well aware of the truth in her words: "...it would be made ready to His satisfaction." She was that kind of a person.

Someone had to make ready a room and furnish it. There is no record of any such thing in the scripture, but it is easy



to imagine some housewife telling her Christian friends, years afterward, how the Lord had come to their home that night and had eaten that last solemn meal under her roof. She never wrote a gospel nor became a martyr, nor did she hold an office in the church; but she could provide a furnished room!

A great deal of the service of the kingdom of God (and the Church) must be rendered by those who never get their names into the papers, are never publicly commended, and are never elected as a delegate. But there is need for a furnished upper room, and some devoted heart furnishes it without thought of publicity or commendation. In the eternal records of God the name is inscribed and after it the notation clearly written:

*Well done,
thou good and faithful steward.*

Pandamonia 2011 Targets Adventure!

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

Make plans now for:
Lincoln Park's 2011
Vacation Bible School Adventure

PANDAMANIA: WHERE GOD IS WILD ABOUT YOU!

Get set for Monday-Friday, June 20-24, 9 am-noon, right here at LP!!

PANDAMANIA offers an incredible week of multi-sensory, Bible-learning experiences!

All **PANDAMANIA** learning stations relate to daily Bible points which teach that: *God made us, listens to us, watches over us, loves us no matter what, and gives us each good gifts.*

Stations include: crafts, team-building games, cool songs, tasty treats, God sightings, outreach projects, and fabulous daily rowdy wrap-ups.

How can you help? First, sign up your kids, your neighbors' kids, your friends'

kids, your nieces and nephews, your grandkids (I've invited mine from Texas)...bring any kids you know who are itching to get rid of some energy and have some fun in the bamboo forests of Pandamonian!

Then...raid your closets and share any of those HUGE stuffed pandas you won at the boardwalk last summer! Bamboo trees and any bamboo forest decor are also welcomed!

And...watch the Wagner Room for our wish list of supplies and snacks needed!

Also...station leader orientation was held last week, but there are still openings for possible ways to serve and help **PANDAMANIA** be successful! To help

or ask questions, give one of **PANDAMANIA**'s Co-Directors a call: **Karen Osika**, 610-670-4726, or **Lisa Sinnamon**, 610-777-0150. Kids are always excited to come for our awesome Vacation Bible School!!!



Open Mic Night a Showcase for Talent

From Linda Woll, Nature and Witness Committee

Our first "Open Mic Night/Coffee Bar" was a big success, thanks to many of our talented members! Memorial Hall was transformed by our own "Design on a Dime" decorator, **Michelle Ringler**. Volunteers served baked goods and savory snacks while the aroma of fresh brewed coffee filled the air.

Rejeanna Goldsborough was our host for the evening. The show began and ended with a vocal duet from **Mark** and **Lindsey Villecco**. Their mom, **Nancy**, a puppeteer, followed with three different puppet shows featuring favorite skits from past church services.

One of our youngest members, 7-year-old **William Lamm**, played piano twice - once accompanied by **Bev Perella**, then a solo while his brother **Nathan** and cousin **Claire Chelius** did a puppet show. William has performed for numerous audiences, which was obvious when he took a bow.

Next was **Claire Chelius** playing piano. **Jen Hope** sang *Don't Know Why*, accompanied by **Bev Perella**. **Gabe Chelius** told some funny jokes. **Dick Larsen** did some amazing magic tricks during his *Magical Moments*. (Be sure to

ask him about his ring-and-rope trick next time you see him!)



Julie Stites was accompanied by several youngsters (including her daughter **Samantha** and son **John**) when she taught us to spell D-R-U-M while drumming along. Julie called upon audience members to assist her: **Jack Villecco** surprised everyone when he did an impromptu drum solo on stage; **Jen Hope** showed off her drum skills as well.

Sandi Rosencrans held everyone's attention reading delightful excerpts from the book *Vile Verses*. She told two tales, one about the "tummy beast." **Katie Osika** WOW'ed everyone with her senior project - a purple robot dragon named Oriana. Katie made the dragon talk, open and close her eyes, and wag her tail.

The finale was our own **Bev Perella** (or her fashionable German cousin) recapping the entire show by commenting on everyone's talents playfully, causing the audience to erupt in constant laughter. She played piano and, believe it or not, had the entire audience doing the Hokey Pokey! A DVD copy of the performance will soon be available in the Church Office for your viewing pleasure.

One Great Hour of Sharing Supports UMCOR

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

LP's participation in the annual *ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING* (OGHS) offering on Sunday, April 3, allows LP's members to support UMCOR (United Methodist Committee On Relief) and its relief efforts around the world. The funds may help rebuilding efforts after earthquakes in Haiti, Chile, and the Pacific, provide helping ministries after tornadoes in our midwestern states, or aid older adults in Armenia.

UMCOR is the United Methodist Church's humanitarian assistance agency; it sends supportive aid and hands-on teams, often within hours of catastrophes.

Donations to UMCOR generally mean that "100 % of your gifts support..." the designated ministry.

OGHS offerings allow smooth administration of all UMCOR programs and outreach work in 81 countries. YOU share in UMCOR's efforts by making your contribution in the special OGHS envelopes placed in bulletins, Sunday, April 3, at both LP worship experiences.

Thank you for your generous gifts to LP's involvement with OGHS, one of six church-wide Special Offering Sundays, sharing the love of Jesus and goodness of life with God's children everywhere!

Double Your Giving to Opportunity House This Month

From Nancy VILLECCO, Stewardship Chair



I was once watching a program that stated that:

Every major religion in the entire world has this same tenet...Treat others how you wish to be treated.

If you wish to make a difference by helping others less fortunate, make your gift go further, from March 1 through April 30, when you donate to Opportunity House (www.opphouse.org). What better time than the season of Lent to remember those in need?

During that time, your gift will be matched by a grant from the Alan Feinstein Foundation, through his annual campaign to fight hunger. (For information, visit www.feinsteinfoundation.org) Gifts can be mailed to: Opportunity House, PO Box 12303, Reading, PA 19612-2303.

May you be blessed for your generosity!

Sharing Notes from *Leading Beyond the Walls*

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

Participants in a recent workshop examined why and how churches grow and envisioned a Christian community where non-religious and nominally religious people become committed Christians. The Eastern PA UM Church's workshop was led by Debi Nixon, staff member of The United Methodist Church of the Resurrection, Leawood, Kansas.

Pastor Jerry, Shirley Cline, and I attended as representatives of LP Church, and we want to share some key questions and insights presented.

Opening worship began with questions:

- How many of us are on spiritual call waiting?
- What are we willing to give up to answer God's call as the first disciples did?
-

Debi's presentations spoke about 10 characteristics of growing churches:

- † They take prayer seriously. How is LP making prayer the beginning point for everything it does?
- † They have leaders who lead effectively and spiritually. Are LP's leaders symphony conductors? Coaches for God? Downward spiral or possibility thinkers?

† They have a clear purpose and vision. Are LP leaders going in the same direction and do they know where we are going as LP Church?

† They focus *outwardly*. Will LP's ministries be friendly and help not only those within our fellowship, but also those outside our walls?


† They pursue evangelism. What are four reasons for people to attend LP Church? Will members invite people to Easter worship this year?

† They do excellent follow-up on visitors. What is LP's current strategy for contacting

visitors?

† They offer worship that inspires and connects people to God. What makes LP's worship worth coming back to? Does it inspire, excite, change people's lives, and through Scripture, prayer and spoken word, prepare us to go out to serve?

† The pastors preach sermons that connect with un-churched people. Is LP's preaching and teaching evangelistic? Does it heal and equip us to do God's work in the world?



**Whatever you do,
work at it
with all your heart.
Colossians 3:23**

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- † They care and disciple their people well. How do we set membership expectations, counsel those who consider leaving the church, and support lay care teams to help pastors with pastoral care visits and prayer ministries?
- † They make plans in their ministry. What are our strengths and weaknesses, current realities, purpose, vision, and objectives? What action

steps shall we take to assure growth in our ministries and mission? Describe the 20,000 foot vision for LP five years from now...20 years from now.

Okay, my friends in Christ, how might you and I answer the above? Let's hear Paul's invitation to the Colossian church,

**"Whatever you do, work at it
with all your heart."
Colossians 3:23**

It's Time to Plan for Summer

From Pastor Dorris McCoy



The 2011 Eastern PA Conference's summer camping brochures are already off the presses and coming to churches! This summer's theme for all camping experiences is:

NO MATTER WHAT---

A LOVE THAT WON'T LET GO!

Children, youth, and adults can attend camp and retreat settings for lots of fun but also for new and renewed life in Jesus Christ. Camping programs partner with congregations to nurture people on their life and faith journeys and address the needs of our communities.

Brochure titles at Gretna Glen Camp (the first received) are intriguing: *Puddle Stompers Day Camp, Mud Mania Day Camp, Wet and Wacky Day Camp, Awesome Art Adventure, Float 2 Flight, Young Creation Caretakers, Experiments & Explosions, Mountain Bike Mania, Movie Mania, Camp Rock: Worship 101, Native American Adventure on Wilderness Ridge, and Road Trip to Creation 2011.*

Stay tuned for more details at all EPAUMC camp sites and watch for scholarships available for LP's children and youth attending camping activities.



Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



*April 15
for our
May issue*

Change of Address

Linda Woll
Olyvia & Dylan too!
100 N. Church Street
Robesonia, PA 19551
610-781-8046

90th Birthday Coming Up!

Evelyn Davidheiser will celebrate her 90th birthday April 16. Let's help her celebrate with a card shower.

Her address is:
Rittenhouse Senior Living
of Reading
2900 Lawn Terrace
Suite 109
Reading, PA 19605



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

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From our mailbox



♥ Dear LPUMC Members,
Thank you. The flowers are beautiful. They sure do brighten up the day, and they are still very beautiful.

Henry and Margaret Christ

♥ Dear Friends,
Thank you for the assorted groceries and money. We are glad to have so many friends to help us feed the hungry. Each donation helps us put food in one more house. May God bless you for your kindness.

Ann Marie Wallace
Soup Kitchen Mgr
New Journey Food Ministry

♥ To All Our Friends at LP Church,
Tom and I want to thank everyone for their many cards and kindnesses for us during the recovery from my fall. I also know that the prayers from everyone helped the most. I hope to be back in action soon.

Bunny Carlson

NEWS-LINC

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

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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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Pastor of CE: Dorris McCoy, 610-777-6128
Music Director: Beverly Perella, 610-603-0150
Worship Leader: Julie Stites
Secretary: Marilyn Seiders
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Web: www.lpcumc.org

E-mail: lpumc@verizon.net (Secretary and Church), lpumcpastor@verizon.net (Pastor McGrath),
dmccoy2@verizon.net (Pastor Dorris McCoy (For urgent messages, use voice mail, please.)