



News-Line

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

Fun, Fabulous Fundraiser: LP's Annual Flea Market Saturday, May 14, 7 am - 3 pm

From Beverly Perella

It's a rummage sale, a "picnic," a boutique, an auction, a flower garden. It's a time for working together on our biggest fundraiser of the year. How can you help? Here's what we need:

- **FANTASTIC, FASCINATING FLEAS**
Bring these unwanted but usable items and books to church (to the basement of the office building until May 1, after that to the hallway between Memorial Hall and the Education Building. NOTE: *We're not collecting clothing this year.*
- **FRAGRANT, FANCY FLOWERS**
We need donations of flowers, plants, and potting soil.
- **FASHIONABLE, FUNCTIONAL FURNITURE**
We'll pick up your quality donations

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Don't Miss MUSIC SUNDAY, May 22

From Beverly Perella

...at both services. The emphasis for the 11 am service is on vocal and instrumental selections for the church from the various musical periods -- Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Modern and Contemporary. If you've ever wondered what the differences are, you'll learn about these on Music Sunday while enjoying selections from Bach (Baroque) to Bernstein (modern).

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From Pastor Jerry McGrath

Sunday, May 1, Second Sunday of Easter

Pastor Dorris McCoy Preaching, *Looking Beyond a Nickname of Doubt*
Psalm 16:5-11, John 20:19-31, Let's look beyond the nickname to consider
that Thomas may deserve a new reputation!

Questions can push us to grow, like Thomas, in belief and discipleship!

Sunday, May 8, Mothers' Day

9:30 am: Youth Celebration for Mothers, 11 am: *A Mother's Love*
Proverbs 31:10-31, Matthew 20:20-23

Sunday, May 15, Fourth Sunday of Easter

From Shame to Sheep, Psalm 23, John 10:1-10

Sunday, May 22, Music Appreciation Sunday at Both Services

Sunday, May 29, Celebration of Creation, Two services at 9:30 and 11 am
(Note that this is different than the normal fifth Sunday "blended" service.)

Put the Whole World in Our Hands, Genesis 1:26-31, Psalm 19

Upcoming Worship Services

Sunday, June 5 – One service at 10 am; Pastor Jerry McGrath's last service at Lincoln Park, followed by a farewell reception

Sunday, June 12 - Services at 9:30 and 11 am; Pastor Dorris McCoy will preach.

Sunday, June 19 - One service at 10 am; Pastor Dorris McCoy's last service at Lincoln Park, followed by a farewell reception

Sunday, June 26 - The Rev. Paul Hetrich, retired UCC pastor and missionary, speaks.

Sunday, July 3 - One service at 10 am; The Rev. Nicholas Camacho, an Army lieutenant colonel (who served several tours in the Middle East) and former pastor at New Journey UMC, Reading, speaks at a patriotic service, including special music.

Sunday, July 10 - One service at 10 am; Pastor David McMillan's first service at Lincoln Park, followed by a welcome reception.

Sunday, July 17 - Regular worship schedule resumes at 9:30 and 11 am.

Thank You for Spreading God's Word

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

Each church ministry spreads God's Word in and outside the confines of the faith community. Each can change lives and change the world with the power of God's love through us.

We especially thank LP's educational leaders who faithfully serve in different capacities to nurture disciples on their faith journeys and assure the Gospel's telling for another generation of believers — be it Church School, Sunday Supper and Study Leaders and Kitchen Crew, Stone Soup, Vacation Bible School, Children's Time, Bible Study, Labyrinth Walks, Worship Buddy Paks, or Kid-to-kid Mission Projects. Thank you to all who are committed to teaching and reaching through our educational ministries!

However...the tasks are ongoing, so call Pastor Dorris to see how your gifts may help continue LP's efforts. Some possibilities include: UMYF Team Leader, LIVE B.I.G. 9:45 am Coordinator and Teacher, Christian Education Committee Member or Chairperson, and 11 am Church School Coordinator and Class Teachers (Gr. 1-3).

Come aboard; experience the difference you can make in someone's life!

GOING DEEPER IS GOING STRONG

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

LP's newest small group experience — *GOING DEEPER* — though small in number, is going strong in effort at reflection and prayer. This group uses Parker Palmer's *40-Day Journey* as a springboard for focus and discussion. *GOING DEEPER* resumes its next cycle for May through June on Tuesday, May 3, on Day 20 in the book's contemplative guide for spiritual journeying for wholeness and health. Drop in to join us, or call me or **Loreen Miller**, with questions!



From the Pastor's Desk

From Pastor Jerry McGrath

Learning from Doubting Thomas

The Apostle Thomas is a late bloomer, I guess. A commercial fisherman, he grew up around the Sea of Galilee. Jesus comes to Capernaum, calls him, and he follows. For three years Thomas follows. But Thomas is a pessimist. Oh, he's full of courage, but also possesses a streak of fatalism.

Once, when Jesus and His disciples hear about their friend Lazarus's death near Jerusalem, the center of Jesus' opposition, Thomas comments darkly, "Yes, let's go there that we might *die* with him."

His words are almost prophetic. Soon, his world falls apart. Thomas sees his Master arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane and flees for his life. On Good Friday he watches at a distance as they spike his Friend to a cross on the Roman killing grounds of Golgotha. As Jesus' life drains away, so does Thomas's hope. On Saturday he's in shock. On Sunday he's so disillusioned that he doesn't gather with his fellow disciples for an evening meal. Thomas is dazed, hurt, bitter -- and lashing out. Monday morning, the disciples go looking for Thomas and tell him what's hap-

pened in his absence.

"Thomas, we were in that upper room where we'd been meeting. We locked the doors for protection. Yet, all of a sudden, Jesus appears. 'Peace, Shalom' He says."

"I don't believe it," barks Thomas. "I don't believe a word of it." Thomas is cold, with an edge in his voice that cuts like ice. "Unless I see the nail marks in His hands and put my hand into His side, I will not believe it."

But Thomas's anger cools, and by the next Sunday evening he's eating with his fellow

disciples in the same locked room. Suddenly, Jesus stands among them again and speaks -- "Shalom, peace be with you. Put your finger here, see my hands." Jesus holds out scarred hands, and Thomas recoils. Not out of fear, really, but of amazement. Thomas slips to his knees and says in awe, "My Lord and my God!"

Thomas, "Doubting Thomas," as he's sometimes called, is the first disciple to put into words the truth that Jesus is both Lord *and* God. "Doubting Thomas" utters

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the greatest confession of faith recorded anywhere in the Bible.

Jesus replies, "Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

What happens to him? Doubting Thomas does not stay a doubter. When he sees the risen Jesus, all that Jesus has taught clicks in, and to his death Thomas is an outspoken advocate for his Lord.

Church tradition tells us that he sailed to India preaching relentlessly. Near Mylapore, about 72 AD, near present-day Madras, he is killed — thrown into a pit,

then pierced through with a spear thrown by a Brahmin.

Thomas would speak to doubters today, to those of us who have seen our hopes and dreams destroyed. Doubting Thomas would tell his story of how Jesus' life had intercepted his own. He would tell us of his fears and his doubts. And then, with a radiant, joyful face, St. Thomas, Apostle to India, would recount his joy at seeing and knowing the risen Jesus himself.

"My Lord and my God!" he would say. "My Lord and my God!"

(Continued from page 1)

if necessary.

▪ **FLAVOR-FILLED, FABULOUS FOOD**

New this year - pizza; long-time favorites - barbeque, hot dogs, desserts, plus vegetable and chicken corn noodle soups

▪ **FAVORITE FEATURE - OUR EXPANDED BOUTIQUE**

Jewelry, handbags, new shoes, scarves, and more.

▪ **FRIENDLY FUN - OUR SILENT AUCTION**

Do you have something special to donate or a skill to offer?

▪ **FUN-LOVING FACES TO STAFF AND ATTEND OUR FLEA MARKET**

Bring smiles and lots of money!




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!



May

Sun	Mon	Tue	We
1	2 Trustees 7 pm	3 Opportunity House Supper Going Deeper 6:30	4 Bell Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir Confirmation UMYF 7pm
8 Mother's Day Youth Service 9:30	9 Finance 7 pm	10 Going Deeper 6:30	11 Bell Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir Confirmation UMYF 7pm
15  May the LORD GIVE STRENGTH to his PEOPLE! PSALM 29:11, NRSV		17 Going Deeper 6:30	18 Bell Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir UMYF 7pm
22 MUSIC SUNDAY Last Day of Church School	23 Church Council 7pm Book Club 7pm	24 Going Deeper 6:30	25 Chancel Choir UMYF 7pm
29 Two Worship Services 9:30 & 11am	30 MEMORIAL DAY	31 Going Deeper 6:30	

2011



Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3:30pm or 7:30pm 6pm	5 Craft Group 1:30pm Praise Band 8pm	6	7
3:30pm or 7:30pm 6pm	12 Praise Band 8pm	13 <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> News-Linc Deadline </div>	14 7am-3pm  Flea Market
3:30pm or 7:30pm	19 Craft Group 1:30pm Praise Band 8pm	20 ← Annual Conference →	21
or 7:30pm	26 Praise Band 8pm	27	28
		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Looking ahead to June</p> <p>6/5 Confirmation, Pentecost Reception for Pastor Jerry</p> <p>6/6 Trustees 7pm</p> <p>6/13 Finance 7pm</p> <p>6/19 Reception for Pastor Dorris</p> <p>6/20-6/24 Vacation Bible School</p> </div>	



While unpacking and marking items for the FLEA MARKET, we found a valuable piece of the famous Spanish porcelain Lladro — "A Night to Remember." If someone placed that figurine in the box by mistake, please let us know, and we'll return it. If not, we'll add it to our Silent Auction.

Eastern PA UM Church ANNUAL CONFERENCE

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

Inspiration from the Rev. Rudy Rasmus, election of delegates, and an opportunity to minister to the poor will highlight EPAUMC's Annual Conference, May 19-21.

More than 1,000 clergy and lay members will gather at the Philadelphia Expo Center in Oaks. They'll reflect on *Journeying with the Poor*, one of four United Methodist focus areas, and experience three teaching sessions with the Rev. Rasmus, emergent church leader, global humanitarian, and pastor of a Houston church with more than 3,000 homeless or formerly homeless persons.

LP will be represented by **Shirley Cline**, LP Lay Delegate, **Pastor Jerry** and **Pastor Dorris**.

It's Time for Supper at Opportunity House

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

Yes, two months have passed and we're preparing to serve supper again on Tuesday, May 3, at Opportunity House, in Reading's N. 2nd St. area.

Come to the Church Kitchen around 4:30 pm to help cook, or stop by around 6:15, to go to Opportunity House to serve the delicious supper the kitchen crew has ready for transport. Donations of \$\$\$, fresh fruits, veggies, salads, desserts, or meats are always welcomed. To share time or foods, please contact Head Chef, **Penny Snook**, 610-781-7704.

Is There a Graduate in Your Family?

From Cheri Fallon

We like to recognize our graduates every year by writing about them in the *News-Linc*. If you could supply some information: school, interests, activities, honors, awards, future plans, and more, that would be so helpful. Please email cherfallon@comcast.net, or leave a note in my mailbox in the office. Thank you! We enjoy hearing your news.



Your Trustees at Work

From Jerry Manhart
SAVE THE DATE!

No, you're not being invited to a wedding, but you *are* invited to a paint party. It's customary to spruce up the Parsonage when there is a pastoral transition. *The last week or two of June* will be a busy time to accomplish the inside and outside painting and general cleanup. Please reserve some time to give a hand.

The old slate roof near the church driveway was replaced with new shingles by LM Martin. Also, the circulating pump for hot water heat in Room 200 had to be replaced by Triangle Inc.



Pandamania Lets Loose at Lincoln Park

From Pastor Dorris McCoy

Come and partner with Panda at LP's Vacation Bible School, PANDAMANIA! Come on board and help us get ready for some panda-riffic faith fun at LP, Monday-Friday, June 20-24, 9 am-noon!

There will be exciting Bible-learning drama, toe-stepping music, dynamic openings and energetic finales, luau treats, themed games, and creative crafts---all designed to help kids —

GO WILD ABOUT GOD
because God is wild about them!!!

To be a leader or make a wish list donation, please contact Co-Coordinators, **Lisa Sinnamon**, 610-777-0150, or **Karen Osika**, 610-670-4726. Watch the church bulletin and Wagner Room displays for PANDAMANIA registration forms for your kids, their friends, or neighbors!



You Are Not Junk

Submitted by Nancy Villecco, from *Parish Publications*

Whether or not you are a fan of J.S. Bach and his music, all of us would recognize the unique talent this man had. He probably did not think it was so unusual. Bach did so much writing and composing each week for his church job that he tossed his anthems, motets, and organ pieces in a closet. Much of this cache was discovered long after his death. Bach apparently considered most of it unimportant.

When someone commented on his incredible organ skills, Bach replied, “There is nothing remarkable about it at all. All one has to do is hit the right notes at the right time and the instrument plays itself.” Indeed! Don’t the rest of us wish it were so easy!

But Bach’s point carries over to this passage. When you let yourself become a *human* instrument — and when God hits the right notes at the right time, great things happen in your life, in the life of your church.



When you are seeking to do God’s will, He can use the uniqueness you possess.

Recognize you have a nametag: *Child of God*. Realize how much God loves you. **Decide to use your skills for Him.** What can you and you alone do? Everyone can do something. As the late Ethel Waters loved to say, “God don’t make no junk!” You are not junk. You count.



Here's an Opportunity to Serve

Can you help? The church recently received a letter from Peggy Newton Hile regarding her mother, **Jeanne Newton**, Lincoln Park member for over 50 years. Jeanne lives with her daughter Jan at Deer Creek Rd, Sinking Spring, just off the Adamstown exit of Rt. 222.

“Our family is trying to arrange transportation to and from the Phoebe Adult Day Care Program in Wernersville. We would gladly compensate any volunteer who would help. We’re looking for a woman who could stop by her home around 9 am, assist her to the car, and take her to the Phoebe complex. The return trip time in the afternoon could vary. She would need assistance to walk back inside; she walks by herself but is a little unsteady as she is 88 years old.”

Please contact Peggy Hile, (h) 717-938-1676 or (c) 717-818-0897.



Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



May 13
for our
June issue

Change of Address

Jeff & Chelsea Fallon
6279 Park Rd
McLean VA 22101



IT'S A BOY!

Congratulations to Scott J. and Dr. Dana (Hysock) Witham on the birth of their son, Owen Christopher, on April 7, in Nason Hospital, Roaring Spring, PA. His proud (first-time) grandparents are Jim and **Dorean (Zuber) Witham**.



Reminder:
EPAUMC Summer
Church Camp Info
Available!

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, Betsy & Allen Buchanan, Bunny Carlson, Kathleen Hogg, Gloria Kotzer, Elaine Meckes, Suzanne Romig, and Doris Schucker

From our mailbox



♥ Dear Friends,
I wish to thank you for all the cards and notes I received during my illness. I miss coming to church. May God bless you all.

Sincerely,
Anne Mishler

♥ Thank you once again for taking the time to collect box tops for Tyson-Schoener. The money the school receives from the collection is used in so many ways. Last year our total was \$861. It is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continuous support of Tyson-Schoener.

Sincerely,
Lori Flamm-Eckel, Coordinator

"You don't raise heroes, you raise sons [and daughters], and if you treat them like sons [and daughters], they'll turn out to be heroes, even if it's just in your own eyes.." —Walter Schirra, Jr.

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

Voice mail Pastor Jerry 44, Church Office 21, Dorris McCoy 24, Beverly Perella 26, Julie Stites 31
Web: www.lpcumc.org

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

Pastor: Jerry McGrath, 610-670-1022
Pastor of CED: Dorris McCoy, 610-777-6128
Music Director: Beverly Perella, 610-603-0150
Worship Leader: Julie Stites
Secretary: Marilyn Seiders
Editor: Cheri Fallon, 610-678- 8735
cherfallon@comcast.net
Nursery: Nina Cirulli, Robyn Harris