



News-Line

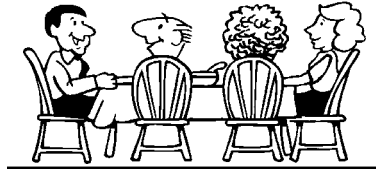
Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church Newsletter
Lincoln Park, Pennsylvania
October, 2011

Fall Sunday Supper Series Begins October 30

From Pastor David McMillan

Our six-week Sunday Supper Series will kick-off October 30, from 5:30-7:30 pm. We'll be using a Wesley Bible Study by James Moore, entitled *How God Takes Our Little & Makes It Much*.

We'll break bread together from 5:30-6:30 pm, in Memorial Hall, and then join together in an evening discipleship program. **Earl Hope**, our Lay Leader, will be our facilitator.

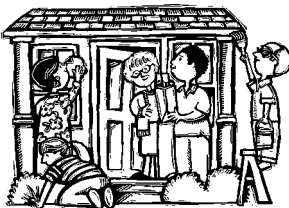


The dinner will follow our newly formed Grief and Divorce Support Groups, which meet from 4-5:30 pm. For more information about these groups, see p. 7.

Missions Committee Needs Your Help Habitat for Humanity Saturday, October 29

From Pastor David McMillan

Mark this date on your calendar! Our Missions Committee has organized a work-day in Reading with Habitat for Humanity, on Saturday, October 29.



If you can attend, please contact **Jim Eckert**, 610-373-1064, or **Pastor Dave** at the Church Office. Please

look for further information on time and location in your Sunday bulletin.

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From Pastor David McMillan

During October, we'll begin a sermon series based on the book *Life's Healing Choices: Freedom from Your Hurts, Hang-ups, and Habits*. In his book, Pastor John Baker of Saddleback Church in Orange County, California, shows how choosing to live according to Jesus' Beatitudes in His Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5: 1-11) can lead to healing and happiness.

- October 2 World Communion Sunday
Admitting Need: The Reality Choice, Matthew 5:3
- October 9 *Getting Help: The Hope Choice*, Matthew 5:4
- October 16 Laity Sunday – Guest Preacher, Earl Hope, Lay Leader
- October 23 *Letting Go: The Commitment Choice*, Matthew 5:5
- October 30 *Coming Clean: The Housecleaning Choice*, Matthew 5:8

Join Us October 30 for a Special Worship Service:

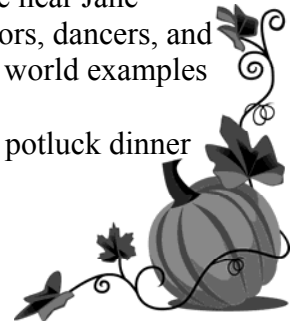
The Family Song

From Julianna Stites

By now there was water coming out from under the bathroom door, and Suzette and Bonita began to cry. Father invited the police officer to come in, although it made him nervous...

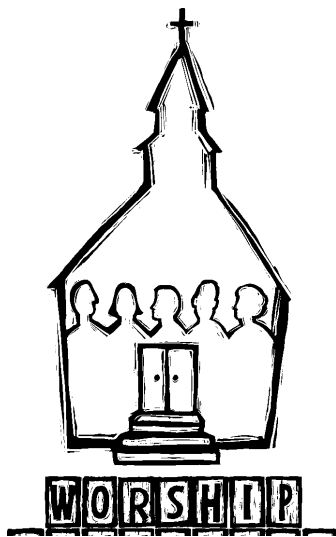
We worship together in one service on October 30, as we hear Jane Hooper Peifer's *Family Song*, along with special music, actors, dancers, and a few surprises. From Lancaster, Jane reminds us with real world examples that God is with us, right where we are.

Afterwards we'll have a **FALL FESTIVAL** starting with a potluck dinner followed by fun fall activities, sponsored by our Youth.



You Can Help Us Provide Nurturing Worship

From Beverly Perella



From Pastor Dave McMillan

One challenge in creating an environment for meaningful worship on Sunday mornings is overcoming the disconnect between the pulpit and the pew. As your pastor, I have my own concerns, heartaches, aspirations, and experiences that lead me to choose the biblical passages and topics I preach on Sunday morning.

While we all hold many things in common, everyone's life is unique. As a way of bridging the gap, I'd like to invite everyone to write or email me the subjects, concerns, biblical stories, beliefs, and hopes that you'd like to have addressed on Sunday mornings. While I'm not promising to preach on the subjects I receive, I do promise to make them part of my prayer life, study reflection, and messages as the Spirit leads.

I like the word *nurture* because it implies that someone really cares. Nurture means to take care of something, to help it grow, to spend time with it, allowing it to be the best possible.

Now I can hear you thinking *What does this have to do with worship?* I say: *Absolutely everything!* Your ministry staff (**McMillan, Stites and Perella**) nurtures every worship service we plan. We pray, read the Scripture, brainstorm, research, listen for inspiration, AND then, we put the service together!

On Monday after the service, we reflect on how it went. *Did we accomplish what we had hoped, do we believe the people Got it! or was there something we could have done better or differently?*

This is NURTURING WORSHIP.

Now we ask you to help the service grow. A major ingredient in worship is music — singing or listening. When we choose music for a worship service, we make certain it fits the scripture and theme or tone for the day.

Is there a special hymn you find to be nurturing or meaningful? I know you all have one. Give us the title, and we'll find an appropriate worship service for it.

We are all nurturers.

From the Pastor's Desk

From Pastor David McMillan

Lessons Learned

I arrived a few minutes late to pick up John for lunch. Recognizing my car, he descended his porch steps to greet me.

To make room for veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, the Veteran's Administration Hospital in Coatesville found off campus homes for John and other veterans capable of semi-independent living. John now lives in a group home with a single mother, her two teenage children, and four other veterans of war.

It had been a few months since I'd left Hibernia United Methodist Church to come to Lincoln Park, and I was happy to see John. After some quick catching up and before we were around the corner from his house, he eagerly told me that he was working on a sermon on Ruth from the Old Testament. He was hoping to preach his sermon at Hibernia some time soon.

He said that Ruth had been a godly lady and there was a lot the church could learn from her. As in the past, I was not always sure of John's train of thought, and, not wanting to make difficulties for the new pastor, I nodded in recognition of his desire and changed the subject.

John had served in the army during the first Gulf War. If my memory serves me correctly, it was while he was enlisted that he was diagnosed with schizophrenia and bi-polar depression and given a medical discharge.

“All six feet and 230 pounds of him, dressed in his football jersey, recessed down the center aisle of the sanctuary, bearing the light of Christ into the world.”

There had been seasons and days when it was clear, from his disheveled look on Sunday mornings, that he had spent the prior evening or week struggling for his sanity. There were times when I would go to the VA to visit him when he would not come to the door, but spoke loud enough for me to hear that he was locked in a spiritual battle. Yet, in all the years I've

known him, even in his darkest moments, I've never heard John utter a word of self-pity or complaint.

John is a gentle giant of a man. In his early 40's, he stands about six feet tall and is over 230 pounds. I know. I've asked. He is one of the most sensitive, compassionate, and humble human beings I have ever known.

One morning, he came to our Adult Sunday School class looking pensive. I learned from others that earlier in the week a few boys in the city of Coatesville had attempted to rob him and an elderly friend. The boys thought they would be an easy target since they came from the VA Hospital. John's friend was thrown to the ground and broke his arm. Then John had wrestled the two teenage boys into submission before letting them up, shouting as they fled that "they needed to find Jesus." His violent encounter had left him clearly troubled.

We were blessed to have several veterans, with various psychological disabilities, become members of our congregation. While there was initial concern from a few members, they became an integral part of our shared life. John was a lay reader and youth leader, and when one of our children forgot their acolyte duties, he was quick to step in. All six feet and 230 pounds of him,

dressed in his football jersey, recessed down the center aisle of the sanctuary, bearing the light of Christ into the world.

When we arrived at the Old Country Buffet in Downingtown to join the church secretary and another war veteran for our monthly lunch date, the new pastor, Joan Trout, was with them. Joan is the first female pastor that Hibernia has ever had in its 169-year history. Unfortunately, there have been a few members in the church who have had a difficult time accepting her.

It was while we were eating together that it came to me. The reason John was so eager to preach on the biblical character "Ruth" was to support his new female pastor and make her case before the congregation. Joan was like Ruth, in that God had sent Joan to them and "there was lot to learn from her."

In that moment, I realized why I love God so much. I love how God, in His mercy, continues to break through my preconceptions of people, confronting me with my self-pride. I love the way God, in His mercy, opens my eyes, again and again, to see how He is busy at work ushering in His kingdom through the meek of the earth.

Blessed
are the
meek,

for they
will
inherit
• t h e •
earth.
Matthew 5:5

Music Notes

From Music Director Beverly Perella

Summer Mini Concerts in Review



The concerts are over,
The summer is gone,
But let's not forget
Our talented ones!
It doesn't rhyme, but who cares!

What I do care about is how good God has been to this church with our many gifted musicians. We offer a sincere *Thank you* to church members who offered musical gifts to our summer concert series: **Dan Brown, Debbie Pyle, Fred McCoy, Julie Stites**, the **Villecco family, Jenna Hope, Dorinne Bilger**, and honorary church member **Jack Perella!**

A Memorial Fund Thank-You

From Beverly Perella

Thanks to **Nancy Dettra** for designating \$1,000 from **Norm's** Memorial Fund to the Concert Fund. Norm knew more hymn verses than anyone I've ever met, loved to sing them, and certainly did appreciate our music program!

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!



New! Six-Week Grief & Divorce Care Support Groups Begin October 30

From Pastor David McMillan

Over six Sunday afternoons, beginning October 30, from 4-5:30 pm, we'll offer two support groups for those wrestling with grief and divorce. **Sandi Rosencrans**, an active sister in Christ and trained counselor, will be our Grief Support Group facilitator. Pastor Dave, who has gone through his own divorce and is also a trained therapist, will lead the Divorce Care Group.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND THE GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP?

Grief comes to all of us, sooner or later, expected or unexpected. No one is exempt. Your grief may be the death of a child, the loss of a spouse or parent, a life-altering medical condition, an injury from war or accident, or another of life's hard blows. Perhaps the cause of YOUR grief is recent or decades old and you still search for understanding. If YOU'd like to explore YOUR grief – or the grief of those you love - - in a place of confidentiality and open hearts - - then this group is for YOU. Please contact **Sandi Rosencrans** if you'd like to attend, 610-376-2176, or sandirosen2000@yahoo.com.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND THE DIVORCE CARE GROUP?

In my experience, divorce is never an easy process whatever the reasons. There's a process of mourning and the re-envisioning of one's life that can be heart-breaking, eventually giving rise to a new beginning - not what we necessarily imagined, but filled with endless possibilities.


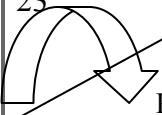

YOU may be currently going through a divorce, recently divorced, or divorced for years but still feeling its effects. Over six weeks, we'll gather to talk, listen, and explore the emotional process of divorce, the needs of our children, co-parenting and communicating with your ex, the spiritual implications of divorce, and self-care. If YOU'd like to be part of this group experience to

explore the mix of emotions and issues surrounding YOUR divorce - - in a place of confidentiality and open hearts - - then this group is for YOU. Child-care can be provided. Please contact Pastor Dave if you'd like to attend, 610-777-1422, ext. 44, or dmcmillan@lpcumc.org.



October 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
<p>"How far that little candle throws his beams! So shines —William Shakespeare</p>			
<p>2</p>  <p>WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Trustees 7 pm</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Bell Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Agape Noon</p> <p>Finance 7pm</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Bell Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir</p> <p><i>News-Line</i></p>
<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Bell Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir</p>
<p>23</p>  <p>Single Service Potluck Lunch Grief/Divorce Groups 4pm Sunday Supper 5:30</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Halloween</p>	<p>25</p> 	<p>26</p> <p>Bell Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir</p>



Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>is a good deed in a weary world."</p> <p>e</p>			1
<p>30pm r 7:30pm</p>	<p>6 Men's Night Out 6pm Youth Group 6:30pm Praise Band 8pm</p>	<p>7 Women's Night Out 6:30pm</p>	8
<p>30pm r 7:30pm</p> <p>Deadline</p>	<p>13 Youth Group 6:30pm Worship Cm 7pm Praise Band 8pm</p>	14	15
<p>30pm r 7:30pm</p>	<p>20 Youth Group 6:30pm Praise Band 8pm</p>	21	22
<p>30pm r 7:30pm</p>	<p>27 Youth Group 6:30pm Praise Band 8pm</p>	28	<div data-bbox="575 1192 1185 1461" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Looking ahead to November</p> <p>11/7 Trustees, Finance 7pm</p> <p>11/14 Agape 12pm Church Council 7pm</p> <p>11/6, 11/13, 11/20 Grief/Divorce Groups 4pm Sunday Supper 5:30 Presentation 6:30</p> </div>

Your Labels, Computer Codes, Box Tops Support Red Bird Mission & More!

From Suzanne Romig

For many years Lincoln Park Church has supported the Red Bird Mission in Appalachia. The Agape Circle oversees the collection of labels and computer codes and sends them yearly to a collection center in Kentucky. Last year I mailed 2,000 of the codes before I turned the job over to **Hildamay Bartron. Pat Park** was in charge before I took over from her.

In the beginning of our association, **Evelyn and Harvey Davidheiser** headed the collection process. One year they piled their truck with clothing, furniture, and goodness knows what else and drove to the mission themselves so they could really see what it was all about. They were faithful servants of the Lord and that was just one of

“One year they piled their truck with clothing, furniture -- and goodness knows what else -- and drove to the mission themselves...”

their many services to our church.

As Red Bird begins its 90th year of operation, please remember to save the computer bar codes from Campbell, Pepperidge Farm, Tyson, and now Bic products, too. There's a large jar in the

Church Kitchen below the phone for you to deposit your labels and bar codes.

I'll post an updated list on the kiosk in the Wagner Room.

If you wish to save Box Tops for Education, you can deposit them in the same jar. Sylvia Ross collects them for First Baptist's after-school program. Your labels have helped buy school busses, provide scholarships, and offer children educational experiences they may not have had otherwise.

GoodSearch.com Makes a Difference

From Rebecca Chadwick

I just joined GoodSearch.com – and now every time I shop online and search the internet, a donation is made to my favorite cause. It's easy, doesn't cost me a thing, and turns my every day actions of searching and shopping into ways to make the world a better place.

Oh...and even better, GoodSearch.com provides over 100,000 of up-to-date coupons, so not only am I doing good, but I'm saving money too! Please help me support Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church - LPCUMC (Reading, PA) or choose your own favorite cause and start making a difference today!

Get started on GoodSearch now and help change the world!

Ladies' Night October 7 for All LPCUMC Women

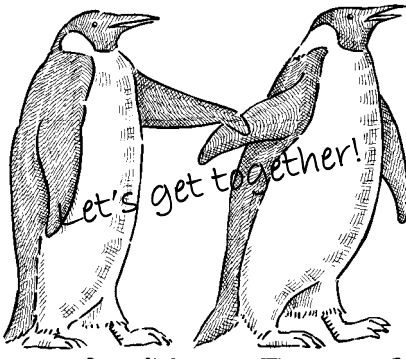
From Linda Woll

Ladies, please come and enjoy a homemade pot-luck meal (anything goes!) in Memorial Hall. We'll meet Friday, October 7, 6:30 pm till 8:30— or longer! So bring a dish of your choice and get ready for a huge helping of Christian fellowship.



We'd like to make this a quarterly event and are looking for ideas and alternate locations. Your input is needed and appreciated.

Questions? Please contact **Sandi Rosencrans**, 610-376-2176, or **Linda Woll**, 610-781-8046.



Methodist Men's Night Out: Join Us!

From Todd Beamsderfer

WHEN: Thursday, October 6, 6 pm
Meet at Church
(Change in Location)
WHAT: Food and Fellowship
Questions: **Todd Beamsderfer**
610-678-7434

Generation X Alert

From Beverly Perella

We're on the prowl for members (singles and couples) of this group — born between 1965 and 1976, plus or minus a few years. You have a mission, a simple but important one!

Be in Memorial Hall on Sunday, October 9, at 5:30, for a FREE dinner. Bring your little ones or partially grown ones and drop them off in the Nursery. You will not see them again until 7:30.

Your duty this night is to meet and greet new and old friends, eat, and play a game of BINGO with terrific prizes and Pastor Dave's jokes. Baby boomers **McMillan** and **Perella** are leading this first mission; the second one will be up to you!

Random Acts of Kindness Stories

Simple Acts Can Change the World

From Sandi Rosencrans

We've all heard of them. We're pretty sure we know what they are. The dictionary offers several definitions of *random*, but the one most relevant here is *lacking causal relationships*, so we're talking about performing kind acts without specific impetus to do so. Such acts then require us to *get out of our current comfort zones to do things that are unexpected by those for whom we are performing the unexpected kindnesses*.



Editor's Note: We're happy to present the first in a mini-series of articles "intended to stimulate thought and inspire action." We welcome your own *Random Acts of Kindness Stories*. To submit, you can email them to me at cherfallon@comcast.net or leave them in my mailbox in the Church Office.

Reversing the Norm

I am in Trinidad, a condensed, combined version of Africa and India on a Caribbean island. It's also a place of long-standing tensions between Indian descendents of indentured servants and black descendents of imported slaves. Sprinkle in some white people — known there as "the English" — and more drama ensues.

My Islamic hostess, Vidiya, a former Hindu who converted to Islam (whose brother is a Baptist preacher in New York) is also my three-week tour guide.

"If a white woman is seen with an Indian of either sex, it is assumed the latter is her servant," she explains during

my orientation.

"Well Vidiya," I declare, "we must give Trinies a new perspective, something to think about."

Hesitant at first, Vidiya was soon persuaded to support my plan. My public performance — of opening doors for her, holding her umbrella, carrying her packages, and behaving like the attentive, well-trained servant I am — produced countless stares, dropped jaws, and incredulous on-lookers. Exotic, dark-skinned Vidiya was every inch the exalted mistress in charge. Trinies got something to think about, and Vidiya and I deserved an Oscar!

Your Trustees at Work: Improvements to our Church

From Jerry Manhart

Come see the hall in front of the original ladies' restroom. (Please, don't call it the "old ladies' restroom!") New tile, matching the color of the narthex tile, was donated and installed by **Rodney Goldsborough**. Thank you, Rodney!

The threat of rain prevented any outside painting on Trustee Workday. However, workers were able to repair doors and concrete, replace broken glass, scrape and burn cracked paint, remove weeds, and paint the indoor steps leading to the narthex. Many thanks to: **Donald and Todd Beamesderfer, Jim Gehman, Bill Lape, Pastor Dave McMillan, Carl Madeira, Ron Schucker, Gerry Shaeffer, and Ron Woessner.**

The kitchen sparkles! On workday, the ladies cleaned everything that didn't move in the kitchen. Thanks to: **Hildamay Bartron, Betty Frederickson, Nancy Lape, Nancy Madeira, Genevieve Matthews, Bev Perella, Suzie Romig, Bev Ruffner, Joan Shaeffer, and Elizabeth Stoud.**



An Endowment Minute

From George Pyle, Chair

Did you know that our Endowment Fund was established in 1982? It was started to offer members and friends opportunities to make gifts for present and future missions of the church. Your gifts symbolize deep faith in the inner value of God's presence and a desire to assure the Church's future.

The Fund consists of growing accumulated "principal" which is kept intact. The principal is invested to produce "income," which is used for special physical improvements, new dimensions of church programs or services, or an unexpected emergency beyond budgeted operating expenses.

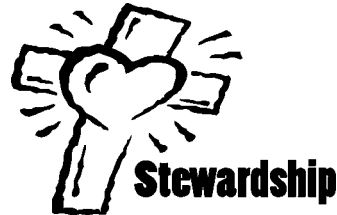
Why not consider a donation to the Endowment Fund? For more information, please contact a member of the Endowment Task Force, the Pastor, or the Church Office.

Stewardship Opportunities for You!

From Nancy Villecco

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. — I Peter 4:10

- ♥ Voluntarily **PARK FURTHER AWAY** at church to leave room for visitors — those who journey in to seek and share Christ — to find parking. And, leave some extra seating in the back rows for those folks.



- ♥ Offer a “service” in the offering plate — something that could help a “neighbor,” for example.
- ♥ Visit or send a card to someone who can no longer attend church regularly.
- ♥ Volunteer for the Opportunity House Supper by donating time, funds, or food items.
- ♥ Pick up a water bottle or soda can left in the street or parking lot and recycle.
- ♥ **SERVE WILLINGLY** where “called” (by God) or asked! You’ll meet more folks and learn more about our church.

♥ *Dear Friends,*

Thank you for the assorted groceries, money, and minestrone soup donated to our food pantry. Each donation adds to what we can offer our clients. May God bless you for your kindness.

Ann Marie Wallace, Soup Kitchen Mgr, New Journey UMC



Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



October 12
for our
November issue

Change of Address

John Cooper
3078 Pricetown Rd
Temple PA 19560-9761

Grant Garrity
1922 Rising Sun Ln
Wilmington DE 19807-3033

Bronwyn Graeffe
3701-4 Orchid Pl
Emmaus PA 18049-1600

Janelle Salamone
1055 Alexander Dr
Temple PA 19560-9579

Congratulations to **Grant Garrity** and **Nicole Woomer** on their recent marriage. Grant is the son of **Harry** and **Gretchen**. Best wishes!



Grace

Blessings on this day,
may I make it special in some way.
Blessings on all people,
may I see goodness in everyone.
Blessings on nature,
may I notice its beauty and wonder.
Jane D. Westmoreland

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 Members and Friends

at Lincoln Park Church,

As I said at the Farewell Celebration you all so graciously hosted for me, *"Thank You" just doesn't say it all!*

However, "Thank You" is where I must begin in expressing my deep, heartfelt appreciation for not only the beautiful clergy robe and many other gifts and cards of remembrance showered upon me, but also for the love and friendships shared and cultivated in our many years of relationships and ministries together.

So...thanks for the memories — of faith shared, of learning and serving together, of challenges and sadnesses overcome, of support in new ventures and programs, of nudges for my own growth and study as a local pastor, and of the joys and love and life shared with you all in a caring faith community.

With much gratitude and prayers of blessings upon you all,
Dorris McCoy

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

Voicemail: Pastor Dave 44, Church Office 21, Beverly Perella 26, Julie Stites 31

Web: www.lpcumc.org

E-mail: info@lpcumc.org (Secretary and Church), dmcmillan@lpcumc.org (Pastor McMillan) For urgent messages, use voicemail, please.

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Secretary: Marilyn Seiders
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Nursery: Christina Boyer, Robyn Harris