

Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church Newsletter Lincoln Park, Pennsylvania June 2012

Building to be Dedicated to Harold Perkins

From Pastor David McMillan

Sunday, June 17, at our 11 am worship service, we'll have the joy of dedicating our Education Building in loving memory of **Dr. Harold Perkins**, a long-time member of Lincoln Park Church.

Harold and Jeanne joined Lincoln Park in 1959. For 51 years, Harold served our church faithfully, including overseeing the fundraising for our Education Building in 1979. Having served as chairperson or member of almost every church committee, Harold was also instrumental in starting our church Endowment Fund, which now has a balance of over \$140,000.

One member said, "Harold was a gentleman's gentleman and a kind-hearted man." An educator himself, Harold taught through word and example the true meaning of being a disciple of Jesus Christ. His memory will live on through the **Harold Perkins Education** Center, as present and future disciples are called and equipped for spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ.

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LP Flea Market Rocks!

From Beverly Perella
Our **FLEA MARKET** made a
profit of \$8,000 for LP Church!
This includes the starting bid
prices for the Silent Auction
which will end on June 3. There
is still time to place bids.

LATE-PREAKING NEWS

THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED!

Come & Worship with Us

From Pastor David McMillan

June is filled with unique worship opportunities. The first Sunday, we'll cele-



brate Music Sunday at both the Contemporary and Traditional Services. On the 10th, we'll bless and commission our youth before their mission trip to Cherokee, NC, and we'll recognize our graduates. On the 17th, The Rev. Tim Perkins will be our guest preacher for Father's Day as we dedicate our Education Building in memory of **Dr. Harold Perkins** during our Traditional Service. And then on the 24th, we meet at Colony Park, Wyomissing, at 10 am, for our Annual Church Picnic including: worship, lunch, and games for the whole family.

June 3 9:30 AND 11 AM — MUSIC SUNDAY

At 9:30, the Praise Band leads a special Contemporary Service: *Sing of Mercy*. At 11, our theme is *The Church Year in Music*, featuring our Bell and Chancel Choirs. A pot-luck luncheon will follow the 11 am service in honor of our church musicians.

June 10 **9:30** AND **11** AM

The Painted Window Series: The Parable of the Good Samaritan Commissioning of our Youth Mission Trip to Cherokee, NC Recognition of Graduates

June 17 **9:30** AND **11** AM

FATHER'S DAY with guest preacher, The Rev. Tim Perkins Dedication of the Harold Perkins Education Center at the Traditional Service

June 24 **10** AM —OUTDOOR WORSHIP AND ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC



Colony Park, 2519 Cromwell Drive, Wyomissing Games, food, and fun for the whole family

Note: This combined service at Colony Park will be the only worship service on June 24!

SKY: Vacation Bible School at Lincoln Park

From Lisa Sinnamon

Have you ever wondered what it might be like to float on a kite or a cloud? Have you ever wanted to fly high in a hot air balloon or an airplane? Well then, come spend a week in the Sky at VBS. At Sky, you'll learn that EVERYTHING is possible with God. We'll explore the wild blue yonder and learn that we're never far from God and His amazing love.

Kids will enjoy crafts, hands-on science experiments, team-building games, cool songs, and tasty treats at Sky, while building a strong foundation of faith. Plus, we'll pull out those trusty binoculars to see evidence of God in our daily lives, something we call God Sightings.

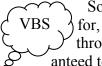
Our mission projects this year will benefit the people of the greater Reading area, as well as Nothing but Nets, a global



organization that provides mosquito netting for the people of Africa in an effort to pre-

vent malaria

So mark your calendar for June 18 through June 22, 9 am—noon. You can pick up registration forms in the Wagner Room. If you have questions, or would like to help, please call **Rebecca** Chelius, 610-775-4651, or Lisa Sinnamon, 610-777-0150.



So what are you waiting for, come soar with us through the Sky! It's guaranteed to be out of this world!

Church Picnic and Outdoor Worship Service Sunday, June 24, 10 am

Colony Park Playground, Paper Mill Rd, Wyomissing

From Linda Woll



Summer's almost here, and so is our annual Church Picnic! Pack up your lawn chairs and

a side dish or dessert. We'll have one combined worship service at Colony Park Playground, followed immediately by our picnic. We'll serve burgers, hot dogs, and drinks - provided by our Nurture & Witness Committee. Lots of fun activities and games have been planned for this (rain or shine) occasion.

Please note that the church will be closed on this day. Transportation is available upon request. To arrange, please contact the Church Office by June 18. See you there!

From the Pastor's Desk

From Pastor David McMillan

Speaking Christian

"The frequent

referencing of blood

in the Bible and

in hymns has

long troubled me."

I believe we have a crisis of communication in the Church in America today.

Much of the language we've used to speak about God and His love for the world, revealed in Jesus, no longer captures the hearts and imaginations of young people. We need new ways of explaining or recapturing old words. To this end, over the next several months, I'd

like to share my thoughts and some gleaned from Marcus J. Borg's recent book, *Speaking Christian: Why Christian Words Have Lost Their Meaning and Power - and How They Can be Restored.*

A word I've wrestled with over the years *blood*. The sound of the word elicits a visceral reaction within me. Not that I'm not particularly squeamish about blood. I don't look away when giving blood. As a boy, I split my lip playing football and tucked it in my mouth until the game was over before going to the hospital for stitches. But the frequent referencing of *blood* in the Bible and in hymns has long troubled me.

We read about blood throughout the Bible. Jealous and enraged that Abel's offering was accepted by God when his own was not, Cain kills his brother. When God inquires as to Abel's whereabouts, Cain evades responsibility, saying,

"How should I know; am I my brother's keeper?" But God is on to him.

"What have you done?"
God asks. "Listen! Your
brother's blood cries out to
me from the ground."

During the exodus of the Hebrews from Egypt, the first of 10 plagues that God

visits upon the Egyptians turns the Nile River to "blood." On the night of the final plague, when the Hebrews are delivered, they sprinkle blood of a lamb above their doorposts so the Angel of Death, visiting upon the firstborn of Pharaoh and the Egyptians, will pass over them.

The shedding of blood through animal sacrifice also played a central role in worship in ancient Israel. Many scholars believe it was a practice incorporated from pagan cultures. The term Israel used for animal sacrifice was *korban*, loosely defined as "wood offering." When God called Abraham to sacrifice his only son Isaac, father and son climbed Mount Moriah. "Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering (korban) and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. Isaac said, 'Father! ... The

fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering (korban)?' Abraham said, 'God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering (korban) my son.'"

The Hebrew word *korban* is derived from the verb *karab*, meaning "the act of being brought closer to God." Ancient Israel believed that through the shedding of blood, signifying their own mortality and obscience, they could be brought closer to God and atone for their sins.

But, this practice of *korban* in the form of animal sacrifice and the shedding of in-

nocent blood was later rejected (Psalm 40:6, Hosea 6:6, Joel 2:13, Micah 6:6-8). There was within Judaism a change of heart in their understanding and worship of God. One did not draw closer to God through the shedding of innocent blood. Rather, "The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit and contrite heart, which God will not cast

away" (Psalm 51:17). According to the prophets, the sacrifice (*karab*) which brings us closer to God "is to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God" (Micah 6:8).

In the 19th and 20th centuries, particularly among American Evangelicals, the belief in a God who condones the shedding of Jesus' innocent blood — to appease His

wrath and sense of justice and to reconcile Himself to humankind — became the prevailing orthodoxy of the church. Read the index in the back of the Methodist Hymnal, and you'll find no less than 50 hymns dedicated to the blood of Jesus, "the lamb of God slain before the foundation of the world." But, here is where I have struggled. Is God violent? Is God really blood thirsty?

I believe this image of God no longer speaks to the majority of churched or un -churched people in America. In the 21st century, we'll have to reinterpret our

understanding of "the blood" of Christ and the belief in a God who requires the death of His Son to placate His wrath.

Instead —like ancient Israel who came to understand that the sacrificing of innocent animals was an abomination to God the church will proclaim a God, not of violence, but of love.

And what does the LORD require of you

To act justly to love mercy and to walk humbly with your

M I C A H 6 : 8

The blood Jesus shed has never been on God's hands, but our own. Jesus' sacrifice was "to do justice, and to love kindness and to walk humbly with God," and — from upon a cross, as blood and life flowed from Him— to offer us absolution:

"Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

Meet Our New Members

From Pastor Dave McMillan

For three Sunday evenings, the New Members Class met at the parsonage to share a meal and our stories, to discuss the history and beliefs of United Methodists and God's plan of salvation, and to discern and celebrate the spiritual gifts

given to us to serve Christ's Church. It was a wonderful experience, resulting in the reception of the following four new members.

Please keep each new member in your prayers, that they may continue to grow as

true disciples of Jesus Christ and walk in the way that leads to life.

Eleanor M. Evans

Eleanor recently returned home to Reading after living for 25 years in Myrtle Beach, SC. She currently lives at 309-1 Beverly Court, Shillington. Eleanor was once a member here at Lincoln Park, over 60 years ago, when we were a United Brethren Church under the leadership of the Rev. Hostetter. Eleanor was very active in her Lutheran Church in South Carolina and is already finding places within our church to serve. In her leisure time, she enjoys knitting, cooking and crocheting.

Barbara (Reinish) Leas

Barb is married to Dan Leas and resides at 413 Pennwyn Place, Shillington. Barb works as a school bus driver for Keystone School Bus Service. On one of her routes, Barb is responsible

for 72 elementary school students! Barb grew up in Lincoln Park UMC and is happy to be returning. She's excited about starting and leading a small group Bible Study within the church. In her spare time, she enjoys reading and exercising.

Paul and Margaret Welliver

Paul and Margaret live at 306 Evans Avenue, Wyomissing. Both are now retired. They come to Lincoln Park from Saint Paul's UM Church in State College. Paul and Margaret have two daughters, Laura and Gwen, and two grandchildren. Margaret enjoys reading, gardening, family history, and spending time with her grandchildren. Paul likes to help his granddaughter with her sports and homework and enjoys working around the house. Both Paul and Margaret look forward to learning more about Lincoln Park and seeing where they best fit in.

Your Trustees at Work Much Accomplished at our May WorkDay

From Jerry Manhart

On Saturday, May 12, many jobs were completed on our scheduled workday. Windows in the Office Building were glazed and their frames painted. An outside faucet was replaced. Stain was added to the fire escape in the rear of the Office, and the garage frame was painted.

Overgrown shrubs were removed from in front of the Church. A pipe drain was extended in the boiler room. Also, new gutter guards were installed on the breezeway between the Church and the Education Building.



Many thanks to: Sandy Beam, Donald Beamesderfer, Todd Beamesderfer, Nate Brown, Bill Lape, Carl Madeira, Lee Posey, Ron Schucker, Jack Villecco, and Ron Woessner.



Our next scheduled workday is June 9, from 8 am to noon.

(Continued from page 1)

I hope you'll be present to be a part of this celebration. Light refreshments will be served following the worship service.

On Sunday, June 10, during both worship services, a free-will offering will be taken to cover the cost of the memorial plaque dedicated in Harold's name. I know that many of you will be grateful for the opportunity to pay tribute to one of the beloved saints of our church.

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!



June 2012



| Sun | Mon | Tue | W |
|--|--|--------------------|-------------------|
| | n opportunity of s God's handwriti | _ | |
| 3 MUSIC SUNDAY— 9:30 AND 11AM | 4 Church Council 7 pm Book Club 7pm | Happy father's Day | 6 |
| Recognition of Graduates Commissioning of Youth Mission Trip | 11 Finance 7pm | | |
| 17 FATHER'S DAY Dedication of Harold Perkins Education Center after 11am Service. The Rev. Tim Perkins will preach. | Trustees 7 pm YOUTH MISSION TRIP TO C | 19 VACATION BIBL | 20 E SCHOOL 9A |
| 24 10 am Colony Park CHURCH Outdoor Worship Only | 25 Book Club 7pm | 26 | 27 |



| ed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----------|---|--|--|
| , | | 1 | Spaghetti Dinner 5:30 |
| | 7 | 8 | For Youth Mission |
| | Praise Band 8pm | | Trustees WorkDay 8am-Noon |
| | raise Band 8pm | 15 News-Line Deadline for July/August Edition | 16 |
| м то 12 - | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| | Praise Band 8pm | | |
| | Coming Up this Summer | | |
| | July 1 Anita Powell will 9 Finance 7pm 16 Trustees 7pm 29 10 am worship wan preaching | preach August 6 C | Church Council 7pm Finance 7pm rustees 7pm |
| | | 9 | |

Random Acts of Kindness Stories

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



Halting Dental Decay?

From Sandi Rosencrans

I leave my dentist's office with the confident smile and positive outlook of a patient with really clean teeth and no dental problems. My day is off to a good start. Heidi, my dental hygienist, leaves with me to retrieve something from her car.

"I don't know why Dr Martin* always does that," she says, clearly irritated. "I've explained to him countless times how the other method saves the practice time and money, but he doesn't get it."

*Not his real name

I have no idea what she's talking about so I ask — and listen. Heidi elaborates. I suppress the urge to look at my watch. Calling on my pool of management experience, I offer suggestions on how to effectively manage Dr. Martin's behavior to achieve the end result.

"I never thought of that," she declares. "You made my day!"

I relish my own smile of satisfaction; I'm not late for my business commitment, and Heidi's re-inspired to be an agent of constructive change.

"Too often we underestimate the power of a touch,
a smile, a kind word, a listening ear,
an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring,
all of which have the potential to turn a life around."

—Leo Buscaglia

Spaghetti Dinner, June 2, 5:30 pm Will Support Youth Mission Trip

From Tracy Goldsborough

Will you join us on June 2 for a din-

ner in Memorial Hall to support our upcoming trip? We all appreciate the prayers and support of our congregation greatly.

From June 17-22, a group of five youth — Jon and Ryan

Chadwick, Gabe Chelius, Trisha Goldborough, and Dylan DeHart
— plus two chaperones — Rodney and

Tracy Goldsborough — will travel to

Cherokee, NC. This impoverished area is home to a band of Cherokee Indians, many of whom are in great need. Our youth will help with home repair and renovation.

Our youth are excited about the trip and appreciate your help. Can

you help them put their faith into action?



to all those who supported our fundraiser at Friendly's in May. We raised over \$300!



- © Congratulations to **Betty** and **Gene Frederickson**, who celebrated their 50th anniversary at Galen Hall recently. There was much dancing to a polka band! Happy Anniversary!
- © **Richard Bashore** has retired! He worked for Encompass Insurance, a division of Allstate. He was a support center manager and worked there for 32 years. He plans to spend time playing golf, tennis, and enjoying his two granddaughters. According to his wife

Carol "Our son, (Jeff) who lives in St. Augustine, FL, has put in a pool where Richard plans to sit, relax, and read all the books he never had time to read." Congratulations!

We extend our deepest sympathies and prayers to **Andrew** and **Sonja Fallon** on the death of Sonja's father, John Louis Smith, on April 30. May God surround you and your family with lots of love at this difficult time.



Living Monuments

Submitted by Nancy Villecco by Evelyn Bence, from 2011 Daily Guideposts, for February 21, 2011 (p.58)

Like living stones be yourselves built into a spiritual house...I Peter 2:5 (RSV)

Playing tour guide, I welcomed my niece and her young family to Washington, DC. When four-year old Colin returned to New York, he gave his teacher a report of his trip. After naming creatures on display at the Natural History Museum, he noted seeing "a green man with a dog." His final comment: "And Mr. Lincoln just sits there."

But my log also hone of the strip of t

The green man? The focal statue of FDR and his dog, Fala, at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial. And, of course, a stone-faced Abraham Lincoln strikes an impressive pose in his memorial, keeping watch over the National Mall. Colin also saw memorials to two Founding Fathers: the obelisk that commemorates George Washington and the dome that keeps rain off the bronze statue of Thomas Jefferson.

Washington, DC, is full of stone and metal monuments to past heroes and

presidents: Andrew Jackson, Ulysses S. Grant, Theodore Roosevelt, to name a few who are less conspicuous than the postcard scenes I showed Colin. But my local area, as well as yours, is also honored to be the home of what Oswald Chambers called *living monuments of God's grace*: men and women

and younger folk who pray and serve, help and hope, overcoming hardship and reaching out with encouragement.

They'll never receive the type of recognition we re-

serve for our national leaders. Most won't even be acknowledged by a plaque in a park, to say nothing of a chiseled likeness sitting regally in a marble chair. But these are the people who build strong communities and, multiplied from region to region, a strong nation. Today I intend to list a few names and send a few cards expressing my heartfelt thanks.

Lord, thank You for the living monuments of Your grace who grace my neighborhood.

Congratulations to Our Graduates!

Emily Avedissian

graduated from Boston University where she majored in graphic design, and minored in art history and printmaking. She is the daughter of **Dr. Michael** and **Kathy Avedissian**.

Two highlights during her 4 years were a semester in London and a summer internship at the Children's Museum of Manhattan.

She was also a recipient of the Anderson Scholarship, enabling her to do a week of art study in Colorado.

This year Emily worked at the Student Activities Office doing design work, and she served as secretary for AI-

GA, a student design organization. Emily's interests include travel and reading. She hopes to pursue a career in

graphic design.

Heather Hope

graduated from DeSales University on May 19, with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Heather is the daughter of **Dr. Earl** and **Linda Hope**. She is currently applying for positions at hospitals and would love to work in Labor and Delivery.

Heather graduated Cum Laude and also received The Humanitarian Service

Award for Outstanding Individual, for her participation in service-oriented activities. One of these was pre-orientation in which she participated as a freshman and served as a leader in subsequent years. The group helps freshmen acclimate to college living and also provides services to the Lehigh Valley area. Heather also started a service club her freshman year, serving as President for three years. The club organized numerous functions, including a 5K run to sup-

port eradication of polio in third world countries

Nicholas J. Mulalla

will graduate from Wilson High School in June. Neko is the son of Carolyn Gehman Mulally and Joseph Mulally, and brother of Logan. His grandparents are Roe and Jim Gehman.

While a student at Wilson, Neko was a member of the Swimming and Diving team and also competed in Track and Field. He was a member of the FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America)

Among Neko's favorite books is *Sacred Hoops*, by Phil Jackson, who was Michael Jordon's professional basketball coach. His favorite movie is *Into the Wild*

(Continued on page 14)

Generation X Gathering Saturday, July 7, 5pm

From Linda Woll

Calling all "Generation X'ers" and their families! **Julie** and **Sean Stites** will host a fun-filled family outing at their home. Children are encouraged to attend with their parents. Pot Luck - so start searching your cookbooks and recipe cards. Julie's address is: 1284 Horning Road, Denver, PA 17517-9721. Directions will be available in the Church Office and the Wagner Room. Questions? Please contact Julie via email: juliannastites@aol.com, or call 717-579-1534.

(Continued from page 13)

Neko has been a professional Mountain Bike rider for the past three years and has traveled worldwide with his racing team. He is currently ranked 14th in the world in Downhill Mountain Bike Racing. At this time, Neko will continue racing professionally...because that is his passion. He will further his education, but has not finalized his plan.

More about grads next month. See below to submit info about your graduate!

Book Club Meets Mondays, June 4 & 25, 7pm

From Jane Reitz

Location: **Bernie Ackelson**'s home 1719 Garfield Ave Wyomissing

Selection: June 4: *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak



June 25: *Home Front* by Kristin Hannah All are welcome!

We're Looking for News from YOU!



From Cheri Fallon

Do you have a graduate in your house? If so, we'd like to recognize them and high-

bralluates light their activities and school careers in our *News-Linc*. We're looking for information about their activities, awards, employment, future plans, and more. Their favorite book and movie, too.

Please leave a note in the *News-Linc* mailbox in the Church Office or email me with information:

cherfallon@comcast.net.

We're always looking for information about church members— joys, accomplishments, sports news. If something special has happened to you or your family member, please share it with us!



Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



June 15 for our July/August issue

Keep in Mind

Our summer *News-Linc* is a single issue covering both July and August. Please plan to submit all summer news by our June deadline.

Change of Address

Mrs Genevieve Matthews 5 Griffin Cir Okatie SC 29909-7007

England, Ireland, and Scotland Summer of 2013 Are You IN?

The flea lady also flies! Are you aware that **Bev Perella** has led about 20 trips to Europe with students and adults? Now she has the Wanderlust to see England, Ireland, and Scotland again. Want to join her in July, 2013? Call if you're interested., 610-603-0150. And, yes, this trip is open to your friends and family.

Baptized

Kathryn May Light was baptized on April 22 in our church. She is the daughter of **Matt** and **Pam Bailey Light**. May God bless Kathryn and her family!

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



- Youth Educators of Antietam thank you for hosting the Spirit of Peace Conference. We learned together and had an awesome time.Stephanie Schmoyer, Advisor,Joan Caba, Tori Wagner, Kira Chisolm,Emilie Cooper, Courtney Murray
- ▼ Thank you for all you did to ensure the Spirit of Peace Conference was a great success...Action +Awareness= Change. Thank you for everything. Berks Women in Crisis — Peaceworks
- ▼ Dear Friends, Thank you for the groceries and money donated to our food pantry. We're glad to have good friends who help us feed the hungry. May God bless you for your kindness.

Ann Marie Wallace Soup Kitchen/Pantry Manager New Journey UMC

NEWS-LINC

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

Change service requested

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage PAID

Reading, PA Permit No. 233



Worship with us: 9:30 am - Contemporary Worship

11 am - Traditional Worship

9:45 & 11 am - Christian Education

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