

News-Line

Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church Newsletter
Lincoln Park, Pennsylvania

September, October 2013

Join us for EXPERIENCE

From Julie Stites

EXPERIENCE at Lincoln Park is a night of worship and fellowship, to be held in Memorial Hall, at 6 pm, on the third Saturdays of October, January, and April. This year the entire family can *experience* God's presence and word at some exciting performances — through mimes, jugglers, and an open mic night!

EXPERIENCE is a wonderful time to bring new visitors to church because it's not a routine program. When we gather together intentionally to pray and learn, through whatever medium, His Amazing Presence can renew our cups and further our mission to Seek and Share Christ! So plan to come and invite friends to a "neat program" on a Saturday and get ready for an **EXPERIENCE**!

October 19 – 6 pm - Drama Ministries,
www.dramateam.org

January 18 – 6 pm - Darren and Kevin,
Jugglers, www.dkers.net

April 19 – 6 pm - Open Mic Night!!!



Lincoln Park Cooks!
September 3 &
November 5

Serve Christ by Serving Others at Opportunity House Suppers

From Linda Hope

For many years, Lincoln Park has served dinners at Opportunity House as a ministry to their residents. This outreach began when **Rhonwyn Counihan** saw the need and started the program with the 4-6th grade Sunday School class. After the Counihans moved to Tennessee, **Penny Snook** took over the program and has been

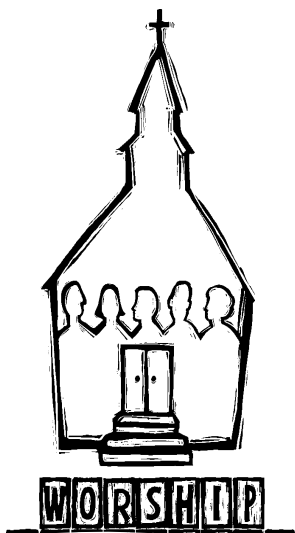
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Come and Worship with Us

From Pastor David McMillan



Author and pastor Gordon McDonald writes “The world can do almost anything as well as or better than the church. You need not be a Christian to build houses, feed the hungry, or heal the sick. There is only one thing the world cannot do. It cannot offer grace.” According to the Apostle Paul, the Church’s unique gift to the world is the gospel of grace. Unfortunately, he writes, many churches exchange “the gospel of grace” for rules and regulations (Ephesians 1:1-14). In September, with the help of Philip Yancey’s book *What’s So Amazing about Grace*, we’ll consider how we can become a grace-filled and grace-sharing church in a grace-hungry world.

On Sunday, September 29, we’ll celebrate Anniversary Sunday with guest preacher Doris McCoy, who recently completed her requirements at Wesley Theological Seminary and is now a certified Licensed Local Pastor. We look forward to celebrating Doris’s accomplishment and our 68 years of being in ministry together here at Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church.

On Sunday, October 13, we’ll celebrate Laity Sunday, recognizing and giving thanks for those who volunteer their gifts to serve Christ and His Church.

On Sunday, October 20, we begin a new sermon series entitled: *When Christians Get It Wrong*. Over 40% of young people in America today have turned away from the Church. While considering themselves “spiritual,” they believe the Church is hypocritical, too political, anti-intellectual, judgmental, and anti-homosexual. With the help of Pastor Adam Hamilton, for six Sundays mornings and Sunday nights, we will consider the places where the Church gets things wrong and where we get it right. Look for more information in your Sunday bulletin as the time draws near.

September 1 *Grace: How Sweet the Sound* - Luke 15:11-32

September 8 *Breaking the Cycles of Ungrace* – Luke 11:1-4

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September 15 *The Scandal of Grace* – Acts 10:9-16

September 22 *Grace Notes for a Deaf World* – Ephesians 1:1-8

September 29 Anniversary Sunday: Guest Preacher – Doris McCoy –
One 10 am Service

October 6 World Communion Sunday:
Gravity and Grace – Luke 3:36-50

October 13 Laity Sunday

October 20 *When Christians Are UnChristian* – Luke 15:1,2

October 27 *Christians, Science and Politics* – Genesis 1:1-8; 22:16b,-22

Sunday School Kick-Off

From Pastor Dave McMillan

This year's Sunday School program for children will kick-off **Sunday, October 6**. Look for more information in your church bulletin for Sunday School times and classrooms.



Confirmation

Pastor Dave will offer a Confirmation Class this fall beginning Sunday, October 6, from 10:10-10:50 am, in the Pastor's Office. This Confirmation Class will run for 10 weeks. Current plans are for the Confirmands to be confirmed on Christmas Eve.

A Confirmation Retreat at Mount Grenna United Methodist Camp has already been scheduled for the weekend of October 11-13. All Confirmands are encouraged to attend. If you'd like your child to be confirmed, please contact Pastor Dave.



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!



Thinking Out Loud

From Pastor David McMillan

*Even fools are thought wise if they keep silent,
and discerning if they hold their tongues.* Proverbs 17:28

While some may say my sermons are a little long, I like to think of myself as a fan of the economy of words. It seems to me, the more words I use, the bigger the chance of getting myself into trouble. This is why I recently enjoyed reading *The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter*, by Carson McCullers.

McCullers was born in Columbus, Georgia, in 1917, and this first novel of hers centers around a middle-aged, deaf-mute by the name of John Singer. He works as an engraver in a jewelry store in a southern mill town during the early 1930's. Tall and thin, with a gracious, stately appearance and quick, clear-looking eyes, Singer is proficient at reading lips.

Singer rents a room in the Kelly Boarding House where he becomes the confidant of various misfits. They include characters like Biff Brannon: the young, widowed proprietor of the New York Café where Singer eats his evening meals; Jake Blount, a drunk carnival worker; Doctor Benedict Mady Copeland, an aging, Negro doctor with consumption

who's grown weary of the injustices and indignities suffered upon his race; and Mick Kelly, the youngest of the Kelly daughters, who's on an intense personal search to find beauty. Unaware at first that Singer is a deaf-mute, and because of his silent, accepting presence, all these

misfits — the rejected, forgotten, mistreated, and misunderstood — believe they have finally found someone who understands them.

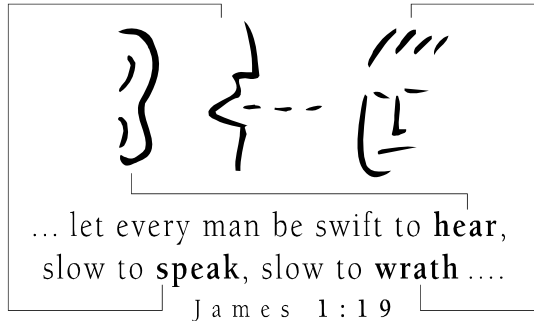
One of my favorite images in McCul-

lers's book is Singer's habit of putting his hands in his pockets. Can you imagine the image of a deaf-mute with his hands in his pockets?

It is Singer's silence, his disarming eyes, and unassuming posture that seem to invite the self-revealing of the others. How often do we wish for someone like Singer to whom we could pour out our soul in confidence, who would simply listen to us without a word or judgment?

I have always imagined Jesus in a similar way: quiet, unassuming, non-

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judgmental. For this reason, I believe, multitudes were drawn to him: fishermen, crooked tax collectors, adulterers, the unsatisfied rich and poor, and the demon possessed. He lived his life with a disarming, inviting quietness to which others were drawn, and in whose presence others felt understood and healed.

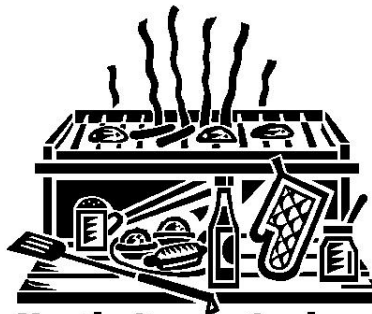
I don't know about you, but I often find myself getting into trouble or being unhelpful because of my too many words. So, I'm trying to turn a new leaf. I've found a new image for the pastoral ministry.

If you ever find me being unusually quiet with my hands in my pocket, don't be alarmed. It doesn't mean I'm not interested. On the contrary, it means I'm all yours.

Looking for Five Good Men!

From Pastor Dave McMillan

I'm looking for five good (or not so good) men to meet with me through the fall, beginning on Wednesday morning, **September 25, 7-8 am**, at Café Harmony in West Reading, for coffee and discussion on various subjects as they relate to our faithfully following Christ. Please speak with me, if you've got game?



Youth Group Cookout

From Pastor Dave McMillan

All youth, Grades 7-12, are invited to a cookout at Pastor Dave's house (50 East Court Boulevard, West Lawn) on Sunday, September 29, 5-7 pm. After some fun and games, we'll begin planning our group meetings for the coming year. Hope to see you there!

Stewardship: Nurturing Generosity

From Pastor Dave McMillan

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's annual stewardship program, *Nurturing Generosity*. Your pledged financial support for 2014 helps us to be good stewards of our financial resources as we prepare our budget for the coming year.

If you didn't fill out a financial pledge card for 2014, but would like to do so, pledge cards and envelopes can be found on the welcome table in the back of the church and in the Church Office. For further information, please speak with Pastor

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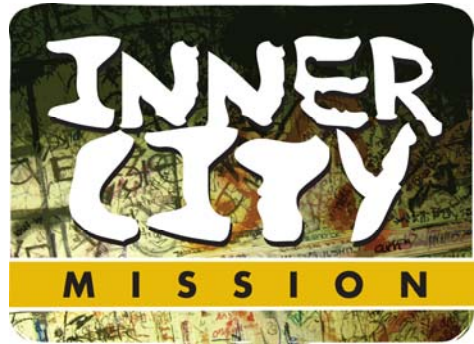
planning and cooking dinners every other month (typically the 1st Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November). Unfortunately, Penny can no longer serve in this manner so we are looking for new volunteers to continue this ministry. If we don't have volunteers, this ministry will no longer be part of Lincoln Park's outreach.

So...here's how we need people to serve:

1. Coordinator - someone willing to organize volunteers to serve dinner and to plan the meal to be served.
2. Shoppers
3. Desserts - people willing to make desserts (prepared at home and brought to the church the day of the dinner.)
4. Cooks - people willing to cook the meals and clean-up the kitchen.
5. Transporters/Servers - people willing to transport and/or serve the meal to residents of Opportunity House.

There is money in a designated fund to support this ministry. All we need are the volunteers to make this work. If you'd like to help, please contact Marilyn Seiders, Church Secretary.

Let's continue to serve up these meals to our friends in Reading and spread our mission...to seek and share Christ!



From Beverly Perella

Our Clothing Ministry at New Journey Church is alive and well, but they can always use our donations. I cannot work at the Clothes Closet on Friday mornings, but I've made a commitment to collect and deliver the items to the church.

Here's what we need for fall: all types of men's clothing (except suits), men's shoes and sneakers; all sizes of ladies' clothing, shoes, and handbags; children's clothing; towels, blankets, and sheets (Please mark the sheet size as this saves a lot of time.) all kinds of toiletries, including the small ones from hotels.

Please do not donate winter coats until October as storage space is limited. This is an easy ministry for us to participate in. Just a little bit of time and packing are involved, but the need and the benefits are enormous. There are smiles and thanks for every article donated!

Truly Desperate

From Beverly Perella

Yes, we are truly desperate for singers for the Chancel Choir. We need vocalists for all four voices (sopranos, altos, tenors and basses), but particularly for the women's parts. At this point we have only two sopranos and two altos. If one is sick or can't be in church on a particular Sunday, this puts a great burden on the other singer, and on the choir as a whole.



with us? Music is one of our greatest ministries. Let's keep it that way!

A POT- LUCK GET-TOGETHER FOR ALL CHURCH MUSICIANS is Wednesday,

September 11, at 6 pm, in Memorial Hall. Bring your favorite side dish or dessert. Please let Bev Perella know if you are coming.

MUSIC REHEARSAL SCHEDULE: Praise Band, Thursdays at 8 in the sanctuary; Chancel Choir, Wednesdays at 7:30 in the new choir room in the education wing, room 104; and Bell Choir, Wednesdays at 6:30 in the Wagner Room. The first fall rehearsal is Wednesday, September 18, for the Chancel Choir and the Bell Choir. There is always room for someone new in all three groups!

To be honest, I've never directed a choir with so few women. If you can't rehearse on a Wednesday evening at 7:30, but could meet with me to practice at another time, let me know. You would still be able to rehearse with the entire choir on Sunday mornings. This is a scary position to be in. Can you help? Do you know someone who can sing

Singing in Our Choir May Improve Health and Well-Being

From Cheri Fallon

- ☺ A 2008 study by Harvard and Yale found that "a Connecticut town had a higher average life expectancy directly tied to the large number of residents who participated in choir activities," reports Eric Pfeiffer, *Yahoo!News*.
- ☺ "Singing lowers levels of anxiety and depression in the elderly and improves well being at any age" according to a study from the University of Newcastle, Australia.
- ☺ "Deep, controlled breaths and coming into harmony with those around you," says Pfeiffer, are two positive effects that choral singing and yoga have in common.

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The End of an Era

From Suzanne Romig

After my mother passed away in 1974, I brought her quilting supplies to my home, though she had not taught me to quilt. In 1978 I took a quilting class at Wilson HS and started a quilting group at Lincoln Park Church. The group continued until 2013 when **Kathryn Hafer** had to quit for health reasons, **Betty** and **Gene Frederickson** moved to Omaha, and I was the lone quilter left.

It was 35 years of quilting joy, much conversation, and by nickels and dimes, we added almost \$10,000 to the church treasury.

We donated money to projects: tables for the nursery and the hand-crafted blue toy storage shelf made for us by **Harvey Davidheiser**. We purchased fabric and made the green tablecloths used for dinners and commissioned the making of altar flower shelves, and over our 35 years added money to other needs of the church when asked. Finally, to close out our account, we purchased the new white altar paraments, and added the rest of the money to the mission and music funds.

We took our very first quilt to the Kutztown Folk Festival and sold it for \$125. We were delighted! We entered a “Crazy Quilt” top, donated to the church by Ella Bressler, in the Reading Fair, where it received 2nd place and sold for

\$125. And on we stitched for 35 years.

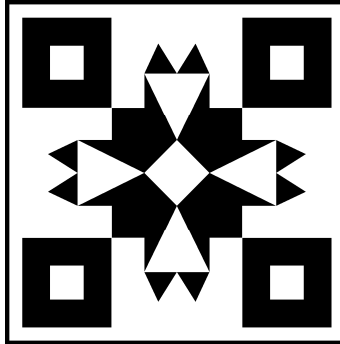
We have one unsold quilt donated by **Kathryn Hafer**, a 1930’s collectible appraised at \$750. Please let me know if you know of anyone willing to make a reasonable offer for it.

When **Nancy Buttimer** chaired her Christmas Bazaars, we always donated hand-crafted articles, and

for the Autumn Auctions we donated a small piece — a crib quilt, wall hanging, or table runner. When our pastors moved on to other churches, we presented each with a small wall hanging as a gift from the quilters.

In 2005, we read a *Reading Eagle* article in which Col. Scott Wagner, a local man, asked for donations to a project that American Troops at Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan were supporting. “Adopt-a-Village” supported a local orphanage. The quilters sent three cartons of clothing, snacks, school supplies, and small toys there yearly until this year. It wasn’t much, but we hoped it helped.

Thus our journey ends, with thanks to those who purchased or commissioned our work, to the church for putting up with us, and for the happy memories we made.



SING “MESSIAH” will be held at our church on Sunday afternoon, November 17. Please note that this is two weeks earlier than usual. Brian Gibson will be conducting.

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- ☺ “Those who sing regularly breathe more efficiently,” claims Pfeiffer. “There seems to be an abundance of evidence indicating that singing is healthy, including the simple fact that singing has been shown to release endorphins, which tend to make people feel better.”
- ☺ “Choral singing is an aerobic activity, meaning it gets more oxygen into the blood for better circulation, which tends to promote a good mood.,” says Julia Layton, *howstuffworks*.
- ☺ “Choral singers need to concentrate on music and techniques...and it’s hard to *worry* when you’re actively concentrating on something else...choral singers tend to have a *stress-free zone*,” says Layton.
- ☺ Also, she claims “learning is part of the process—new songs, harmonies, methods of tempo. It keeps brains active and fends off depression.”
- ☺ Being part of a group is always healthy. Bjorn Vickhoff, in a University of Gothenburg study of high school choir members, found that “heart rates slow down as they begin to sing and their heartbeats eventually synchronize, beating as one.”

Mark Your Calendars

- SEPT**
- 3 Opportunity House Supper
 - 7 Trustees Workday 8am-12
 - 9 No Exercise Class Today
Agape Noon
Finance Committee 7 pm
 - 11 All Musicians’ Potluck Dinner
 - 12 Worship Committee 6:30pm
 - 16 Exercise Class 11am
Bible Study Noon
 - 23 Exercise Class 11am
Bible Study Noon
Book Club 7pm
 - 25 Men’s Coffee/Discussion 7am
 - 29 Anniversary Sunday
Youth Group Cookout 5-7pm
- OCT**
- 6 Sunday School Kick-off
Confirmation Classes Begin
 - 7 Finance 7pm
 - 11-13 Confirmation Retreat
 - 15 *News-Line* Deadline for
Nov-Dec Issue
 - 19 **EXPERIENCE** 6pm
Drama Ministries
 - 20 Laity Sunday
 - 21 Book Club 7 pm
- Sundays: Confirmation Classes 10:10am
(Beginning October 6)
- Mondays: Exercise Class 11am
(except 9/9)
Bible Study Noon
(beginning 9/16)
- Wednesdays: (resuming 9/18)
Bell Choir 6:30pm
Chancel Choir 7:30pm
- Thursdays: Praise Band 8pm

A Story Shared...In Loving Memory

From Sabra Ciancanelli

From the 2013 *Daily Guideposts*, pgs. 181-2 (April 21, 2013)

As soon as I pray, you answer me; you encourage me by giving me strength..~ Psalm 138:3 (NIV)

In Loving Memory of my Mom and Dad, who would have each been 100 years old this fall. This story has elements that SO remind me of them. They have both passed away...my Mom in 1992 and my Dad in 2001. Loved and missed!

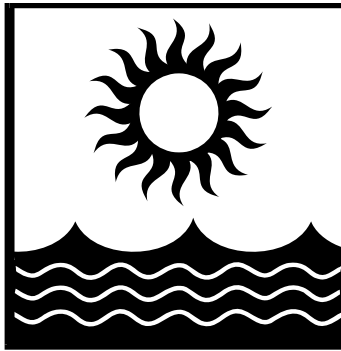
I sat on the beach, watching my sons draw their names in the sand. The ocean was icy, too cold for me. The waves crashed at the shore. A few brave souls swam just beyond the rough surf where it was calm and peaceful.

I looked down at my book and then back at the water. Behind us, an older gentleman was helped down the sand dune over the beach grass by his wife and daughter. He wore dark blue swim trunks and held a cane in his hand, but the women supported him, guiding him

slowly toward the lacy edge of the waves. The man approached the water with difficulty, dragging his feet in the unstable sand.

“You’re doing it,” his wife said.

“We’re almost there. Let me take your cane.”



As they reached the water, they stiffened at the chill.

“Cold,” the wife said.

“Beautiful,” the man said.

They continued on, deeper, arm in arm, shivering in their bathing suits as the rise of the rough waves reached their shoulders. Beyond the crashing surf, they stood in the calm water and stopped.

“Ready?” his wife asked. The man nodded. They let go. The man spread out his arms as if he were flying.

“You got it, Dad!” the daughter shouted.

The man lay on his back, floating, and lifted his feet so the tips of his toes rose to the surface. He smiled.



Dear God, Thank you for these beautiful moments when I witness another’s spirit soar and feel Your love in my heart.



Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



October 15
for our
Nov-Dec issue

Change of Address

Bronwyn Graeffe
318 Creekside Ln
Lititz PA 17543-6823

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Gaithersburg MD 20877

Danielle R Pasquale
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Reading PA 19607-3370

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



Lord, take me where you want me to go;
Let me meet who you want me to meet;
Tell me what you want me to say,
And keep me out of your way.

—The Rev. Mychal Judge,
FDNY Chaplain
and the first official casualty, 9/11



From our mailbox

♥ Members & Friends of Lincoln Park,
Thank you so much for the support and encouragement the past several years as I accomplished this milestone in my career. The gift card is great as I hope to have time for some pleasure reading now. Thanks very much,
Linda Lee

♥ Thank you for your generous donation of \$358.41 from the children at VBS to the Mifflin Community Food Ministry. We appreciate your contribution and are especially grateful for gifts that come in during the spring and summer when giving frequently is not at a peak.
We use all gifts of time, money,

food, paper products, and other types of donations to serve God and the families in need in our area through this ministry. The Food Ministry is open the third Saturday of every month from 9-11 am.

Sincerely yours,
Janet C. Reese, Secretary

♥ Dear Friends,
Thank you for the groceries you donated to our food pantry. We are glad for all who help us feed the hungry. May God bless you for your kindness.
Ann Marie Wallace
Food Ministry Coordinator
New Journey UMC

NEWS-LINC

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

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Change service requested



Worship with us: 9-9:55 am - Contemporary Worship
 9:55-10:10 - Fellowship
 10:10-10:50 am - Christian Education
 11 am - Traditional Worship

Office hours 9am-2pm, Mon-Thurs Pastor: David McMillan, 610-670-1022
 9am-Noon, Fri

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