

News-Line

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

March — April 2014

Come and Enjoy Our Third Saturday Dinner Experience

From Becky Chadwick

Looking for something fun and free to do with friends and family or by yourself? Then our **3RD SATURDAY DINNER EXPERIENCE** is for you! Every 3rd Saturday of the month, we gather in Memorial Hall for a free dinner at 5 pm and a family activity at 6 pm. We have decorated cookies, enjoyed a juggling act, watched a movie fit for all, and seen a Christmas Concert by the Praise Band.

This activity is advertised in the community as a *free* event, and we've had



Talent Show

six to eight neighbors join us each month. We'd love for that number to grow!!

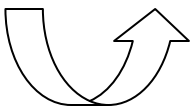
On **March 15** we'll host a **TALENT SHOW**. If you have a talent to share, please let **Julie Stites** know. If you'd like

to help cook, set-up, serve, or clean up, please contact **Becky Chadwick**.

April will be a dinner and a child-friendly **REENACTMENT OF CHRIST RISING FROM THE DEAD**. Everyone will be invited to join in the reenactment!

Please join us for food, fun, and fellowship!

**Reading Philharmonic Orchestra
Concert at Lincoln Park Church
Sunday, March 23, 3pm
Free will offering**



Inside this issue

Worship	p. 2
From Pastor McMillan	p. 4-5
Youth	p. 7
Flea Market	p. 8
Music	p. 7
The Potter's Wheel	p. 3

Come and Worship with Us

From Pastor David McMillan

...and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near. -Hebrews 10:24

Through the season of Lent, we'll continue to consider the many ways that Jesus is The Way, and we'll join with Jesus as he prays on his way to the cross. On Easter morning, we will gather to worship our risen Lord who triumphs over our many deaths. And throughout the Easter season, we will consider the reality and meaning of Resurrection Life.



- March 2 *Jesus the Way: Isaiah of the Exile:
How Beautiful on the Mountain (Isaiah 52:7)*
- March 5 **ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE** with Communion - 7 pm
Ashes (Job 42:6)
- March 9 *Jesus the Way: The Way of Herod (Luke 13:31-35)*
- March 16 *The Way of Jesus: The Way of Caiaphas (John 18:12-14)*
- March 23 *The Way of Jesus: The Way of Josephus (John 10:32-39)*
- March 30 *Jesus Prays in Anticipation of the End (John 12:27-28)*
-
- April 6 *Jesus Prays for Us (John 17)*
- April 13 *Jesus Prays the Agony of Gethsemane (Matthew 26:39,42)*
- April 17 **MAUNDY THURSDAY** with Communion - 7 pm
Jesus Prays from the Cross (Matthew 27:45-46)
- April 20 **EASTER Morning - Rolling the Stone Away (Mark 16:3)**
- April 27 *This Jesus God Raised Up (Acts 2:14a,22-32)*

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!



Order Your Easter Flowers

From Betsy Buchanan

We'll be selling lilies, daffodils, and tulips for \$7 (same as previous years). Order forms will be in the bulletins 3/23, 3/30 and 4/6. **Deadline for ordering is April 11.**

Questions? Please contact me, 610-777-2501.



Confirmation Class Underway

From Pastor Dave McMillan

Please continue to keep our Confirmands, their parents and mentors in your prayers. During March, they'll be attending a Confirmation Retreat at Gretna Glen, a United Methodist Camp in Mount Gretna, and a worship service at Temple Oheb Shalom in Wyomissing Hills. In April, they will take part in a service day and prayer service at the Islamic Center in Shillington. They will also continue their weekly classes and journaling.

Library Monday Bible Study Come & Try It!

From Pastor Dave McMillan

Except for the second Monday of the month, we offer a regular Bible Study in the Church Library from 12-1:15 pm. We're currently studying the Gospel of Mark. Each week, we read our text together and discuss what we believe to be its meaning and application in our own lives.

You don't need to be a Bible scholar — only the desire to learn and grow in your faith with others. I hope you will join us.



From Pastor Dave McMillan

KIDS FOR CHRIST, a ministry for our children, Grades 1-6, will meet

March 23, 3-4:30 pm,

for an afternoon of miniature golf, weather permitting. On

April 13, 3-4:30 pm,

we'll meet in the Youth Room, for an devotion, fun and food.

Thinking Out Loud

From Pastor David McMillan

By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat and wept...Psalm 137:1

I'm sorry. I know that means little at this point, but I tried. I think you would all agree that I tried. To be true, to be strong, to be kind, to love, to be right, but I wasn't. All is lost.

—From the movie *All is Lost*

After spending most of winter holed up in the house, and feeling the full weight of my solitude, I searched for some kind of reprieve. My salvation came, believe it or not, in a movie entitled *All is Lost*, starring Robert Redford.

The movie begins as Redford's character, who had been sailing his 39 foot yacht alone in the Indian Ocean, writes his final note to his family. Days earlier, he'd been awakened by the sound of water pouring into his cabin. The side of his sailboat had been impaled by a floating cargo container.

All seems to go downhill from there. Capsized in a violent storm, he clings to life in a tiny raft. After several days in the ocean's current, he passes through a shipping lane, but his attempts to signal passing ships go unnoticed. His rations exhausted, he sees the light of a boat in the distance. Attempting to signal the boat, he carelessly sets his raft on fire

and is forced into the ocean.

For a few moments, he bobs just above the surface of the water and then, with resignation, allows himself to sink. Looking up, he sees the illuminated outline of the hull of a boat moving toward his burning raft. His will reclaimed, he struggles to swim up to the surface of the water before his air gives out. Then, in the final few frames of the film, just as you think he is at his end, an arm quickly reaches down beneath the surface of the water to pull him out, as the screen goes dark.

This theme of survival is as old as the ages. In the Bible, around 600 BC, the southern kingdom of Judah was invaded by Babylonians and its people exiled. No longer a nation, feeling God-forsaken, they despaired. Yet, in time, God raised up a stump for them from the root of Jesse. God reached down beneath the waters of chaos to rescue them.

I have witnessed this time and time again. Sometimes in life, it's all we can do to survive. Recently, while I attended a pastors' conference in Florida, I stayed with my cousin, his wife, and son. Brad-

(Continued on page 5)



(Continued from page 4)

ley, now 17, has been accepted to several Florida Universities. He was born with muscular dystrophy.

Every morning, while I slept, my cousin and his wife awoke at 5:30 to bathe and toilet Bradley before lowering him into his motorized wheelchair to catch the school bus. Many evenings, unable to move once in his bed, Bradley called for them to turn him. Several nights, I found my cousin asleep on the couch not far from Bradley's room. In those seven days, I saw the great, great love that my cousin and his wife have for their son, but also how they struggle to survive as a couple, to keep their heads above water.

Let's be honest. For some of us, this long cold winter has left us feeling undone...struggling to survive. Perhaps it's coping with an illness or depression, a failed or troubling relationship, the care of a loved one, the responsibility of paying bills and providing for our family, and it's all we can do to keep from sinking.

Then there's that arm...that arm in the last few frames of the movie... that reaches beneath the water's surface to grab us when we've been left to believe that "all is lost."

Mark Your Calendars

- MAR**
- 5 Ash Wednesday Service 7pm
 - 9 Daylight Savings Time Begins
 - 10 Agape Noon
Speaker Anne Wingert
 - 15 **EXPERIENCE** 5pm
Talent Show

 - 23 **READING PHILHARMONIC CONCERT** - 3pm
Kids for Christ 3-4:30 pm
Mini-golf
- APR**
- 13 **Kids for Christ** 3-4:30 pm
 - 14 Agape Noon
 - 17 **MAUNDY THURSDAY** 7am
 - 18 **GOOD FRIDAY** 5pm
 - 20 **EASTER**

- Sundays: Youth Group Meets 6-7pm
- Mondays: Exercise Class 11am
Bible Study 12pm
(except 2nd Mondays)
- Wednesdays: Youth Group Meets 6-7pm
Bell Choir 6:30pm
Chancel Choir 7:30pm
- Thursdays: Praise Band 8pm

What Is the Pastor's Discretionary Fund?

From Pastor David McMillan

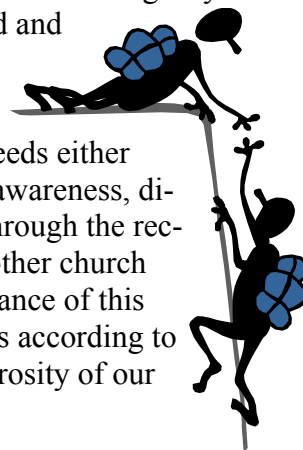
One of the ministries here at Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church is the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. This is a "designated fund," which means it's not part of our annual church budget. It is a reserve of money provided by individual donations from friends and members of our congregation. Checks are placed in the offering plate with the designation in the memo: *Pastor's Discretionary Fund.*"

As noted, this fund is used at the discretion of the Pastor, who makes a request through the Church Treasurer. Primarily, the fund helps members of our congregation who are in a financial crisis to buy groceries, children's clothing, pay a medical bill, meet a mortgage or rent payment, pay for an unexpected car repair, send a child to a Methodist summer camp, and more. It has also been used to

help non-members with emergency needs such as food and gas.

The Pastor becomes aware of needs either through personal awareness, direct requests, or through the recommendation of other church members. The balance of this fund rises and falls according to need and the generosity of our people.

I can personally attest, through the words of appreciation expressed to me from various recipients of this fund, that this is an important and vital ministry of our church. If you would like more information concerning the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, please catch me at the church or give me a call.



Congratulations to our own **Pam Sherk**, who is now Senior Vice-President, Residential Mortgage Sales Manager, at VIST Bank, a Tompkins Community Bank. She says, "One of my proudest moments is when I can make the dream of home ownership a reality." Pam brings more than 30 years of banking experience to the job!

As always, the **CHURCH MOUSE** welcomes news about our members and their families. Please leave your newsy tidbits in our box in the Church Office or email cherfallon@comcast.net

Welcome to **Fusion!**

From Youth Leader, Todd Frey



We invite all Lincoln Park youth, Grades 7-12, and their friends to our youth activities, including a Sunday School Class, Wednesday and Sunday night meetings, special events, mission trips, and much more. You can check out all our information and activities at lpcmc.org/youth page. But, here's an idea of what's happening for our youth:

- **WEDNESDAY NIGHT** meetings, weekly in the Youth Lounge, 6-7 pm
These meetings offer students fellowship, skits, activities, student testimonies and challenging messages from God's Word (the Bible).
ALSO, an adult leader will onsite at 5 pm so youth are welcome to come early to hang-out and enjoy Xbox 360, ping pong, foosball, air hockey, pizza/snacks/drinks, and music (BEFORE 6 pm OR AFTER 7 pm).
- **SUNDAY SCHOOL** meets weekly in the Youth Lounge, 10-11 am
Bring your Bible. We offer students focused opportunities to grow in relationship with Christ and to relate the Bible to our everyday lives.
Sunday School is led by the Youth Leader and other staff.
- **SUNDAY NIGHT** meetings held weekly in the Youth Lounge, 6-7 pm
Fun, fellowship, and games unite our students in the name of Christ.
- **MONTHLY ACTIVITIES/EVENTS**
Sporting Events, Amusement Parks, Mini Golf, Bowling, Museums, Concerts, Ozzy's Fun Center, Laser Quest and much more!
Suggestions welcome. Adult volunteers will be needed, so please contact me if you'd like to help.
- **ANNUAL EVENTS**
Winter retreat, spring break trips, Vacation Bible School, dynamic special event speakers, national and international mission opportunities and a variety of mini-retreats and trips.

WE STRIVE TO LIVE IN FAITH, HOPE & LOVE

Time to Prepare for LP's Annual Flea Market

From Beverly Perella

If you've been hibernating this winter, here's something to think about:

OUR ANNUAL LP CHURCH FLEA MARKET!

This important fundraiser for our church is not only a massive rummage sale, but also a time for fellowship with other volunteers, working together to produce a fun and delicious event.

So here's how you can help:

- ☺ Mark your calendar for **Saturday, May 17, 7am-3pm.**
- ☺ Clean out your closets, basements, garages, and attics. Set aside the fleas (appropriate for sale, in good condition and working order) Items except for clothing and furniture can be brought to the lower level of the Office Building *now*.
- ☺ Volunteer to help price items on Tuesdays and/or Wednesdays from 10am-1pm.
- ☺ Gather your women's clothing and place these clean items on hangers. Bring them to church *beginning Sunday, April 27.*
- ☺ Help us set up tables on **Monday, April 28, 7pm.**
- ☺ Consider what you might donate for the Silent Auction which is a big part of our Flea Market. For example, your crafts, paintings, treasures, talents, services.
- ☺ Donate food items and baked goods.
- ☺ Be prepared to volunteer on May 17. It's a fun day for those working, and the preparations and cleanup, too, offer opportunities for getting to know church members better.



Congratulations to our own **Pam Shenk**, who is now Senior Vice-President, Residential Mortgage Sales Manager, at VIST Bank, a Tompkins Community Bank. She says, "One of my proudest moments is when I can make the dream of home ownership a reality." Pam brings more than 30 years of banking experience to the job!

As always, the **CHURCH MOUSE** welcomes news about our members and their families. Please leave your newsy tidbits in our box in the Church Office or email cherfal-lon@comcast.net



From our mailbox

♥ Dear Church Friends,

Where do I begin to thank you for your many kindnesses from the beginning of Mike's illness to his death and well beyond. Your cards and notes were always a joy to him.

Thanks to our wonderful staff who went far beyond their role in planning his funeral. My family and I were so pleased to see so many of you at his funeral. He loved his church and served it in many capacities since we joined in the 1950's.

You continue to support me with your asking, "How are you doing?" and your many hugs. Being part of LPCUMC is truly a blessing.

A special thank you to Pastor Dave for his many visits to Mike and his concern for my welfare at the present time.

Love,
Anne Wardrop

♥ Dear Friends,

Thank you for the groceries you donated to our food pantry. We are glad for all our friends who help to keep our shelves stocked. Each donation is a blessing to us. May God bless you for your kindness.

Ann Marie Wallace
Food Ministry Coordinator
New Journey UMC

To All Concerned:

I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to the children who made my Valentines and to Bev Perella who delivered them.

Bev seems to have boundless energy and enthusiasm. The children are fortunate to have her working with them, and I thank them all for the good cheer they brought with the Valentines.

Sincerely,
Mary Gundy

Stop, Look, Listen

Christians observe Lent for these reasons:

- It causes us to STOP. Lent says, "Stop and rest awhile," as well as "Stop doing wrong."
- It tells us to LOOK. Look inward for an honest self-examination. Look upward to see the cross of Christ offering healing and love. Look forward to the hope of the Resurrection.
- It tells us to LISTEN. Listen to the words of Christ. Listen to the voice of God. Listen to the winds of the Spirit of God.

Stop, look and listen. These three words aren't only important for our safety in travel; they're also helpful for our journey through the 40 days of Lent.

What St. Patrick Did

From Brock Kidd, submitted by Nancy Villecco

From the *2013 Daily Guideposts*, pgs. 122-3 (March 17, 2013)

He shall receive blessing from the Lord,
And righteousness from the God of his salvation.~ Psalm 24:5 (NKJV)

My birthday falls on March 14, just three days shy of St. Patrick's Day. So, through the years, many of my birthday parties have conveniently adopted a St. Patrick's Day theme. Just imagine pots of fake gold for centerpieces, gold-foiled chocolate coins for favors, and lots of shamrocks and leprechauns perched on cakes. There's really no reason for me to imagine I have anything in common with Patrick, since my fore bearers are as much Scottish and English as they are Irish. But since he always shows up at my parents' house on March 14, I decided to better acquaint myself with him.

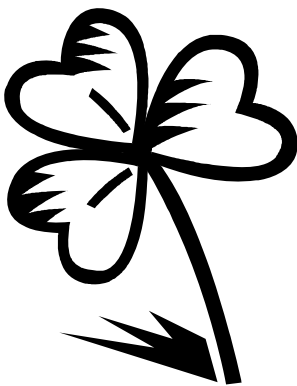
The first thing I learned was that he was far from a saint in his early years. Okay, so we had that in common. Patrick was a self-professed pagan and only found the Christian faith during a stint in prison. He studied in a monastery where he

found his life's passion. I'm not sure where the leprechauns, rainbows, and pots of gold came into the mix, but Patrick spent more than 30 years converting the Celtic Druids and building schools and churches across Ireland.

I also discovered that there is one truth hidden in all those birthday decorations my mom comes up with every year. It's hidden within the green shamrock. History says that Patrick used the shamrock in his sermons as a visual to represent the Trinity, showing how the Father, Son and Holy Spirit can all exist as separate parts of the same entity.

Not a bad takeaway for a sermon or, for that matter, a birthday party!

God, all I have to do is look and I can find You- not just in celebrations, but in everything I see, hear and do.





Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



*April 15
for our
May-June issue*

Change of Address

Sally Bennett
PO Box 116
Crosby PA 16724-0116

Erika Garrity-Pied
812 E Jefferson St
Rockville MD 20852-1107

Ruth Kohberger
2000 Cambridge Ave OFC
Reading PA 19610-2750

Danielle Pasquale
426 Carroll St
Reading PA 19611-2004

Mr & Mrs Phillip Piersody
145 E Charles St
Wernersville PA 19565-1322



*In the
morning
I will sing
of your love.*

Psalm 59:16, NIV

News-Linc, bi-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, and Elaine Meckes



In the Spirit

In many places, March is notoriously windy: “In like a lion ...!” Though I don’t like the damp chill that’s often part of the transition to spring, I love windy days. Something about the air’s movement — a gentle breeze or ferocious gale blowing through trees, against the house, in my hair — breeds excitement in me, anticipation that something new is astir.

How fitting that in conversation with Nicodemus, Jesus said, “The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit” (John 3:8, NRSV). Like Nicodemus, we fail to comprehend the Spirit of God. But Jesus reminds us that though we can’t see the Spirit, we feel his love, see his actions of justice and hear his sounds. These include kind words, bold preaching, weeping for another, shared laughter and songs of praise.

—Heidi Mann

NEWS-LINC

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

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Reading, PA
Permit No. 233

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 Music Director: Beverly Perella, 610-603-0150
 Worship Leader: Julie Stites
 Secretary: Marilyn Seiders
Office phone 610-777-1422 Youth Leader: Todd Frey
Ext: Kitchen 28; Rm 200 35; Editor: Cheri Fallon, 610-678- 8735
Ed Bldg 40; Nursery 39 cherfallon@comcast.net
Fax line 610-777-4309 Nursery: Kathi Ernst, Kris Fedeli
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.