

NEWS-LINC

Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church
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*Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church Newsletter
Lincoln Park, Pennsylvania
May, June 2015*

We're Getting Ready for Our Annual Flea Market Saturday, May 16, 7am-3pm



It's our biggest fundraiser of the year, and we hope **you** are part of it. It's time now to bring in the "fleas," women's clothing, and accessories you've been saving for this massive rummage sale. It's also not too late to offer your help pricing beforehand, making or donating food, working at the event itself (it's fun!) or helping with the cleanup afterward. You can call **Bev Perella**, 610-603-0150, or the Church Office, 610-777-1422. And please, tell your friends to come and browse and have lunch! See you there!

Worship With Us, Sunday May 10 One 10 am Service for Family Day From Beverly Perella

The Potter's Wheel Class and Youth Group will lead this special service, performing a skit called *They Got It Wrong*. Guest actors tell the story of God's love for us based on I Corinthians 13. Featured will be the Easter photos of our church families. A fellowship hour will follow in the Wagner Room. Please join us!



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-1pm, Mon-Thurs Pastor: David McMillan, 610-670-1022
Music Director: Beverly Perella, 610-603-0150
Worship Leaders: Becky Chadwick and Mark Villecco
Secretary: Marilyn Seiders
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From Pastor David McMillan

In May and June, we'll continue to consider the questions Jesus asked in the four Gospels. Following the Rabbinical tradition, Jesus uses questions to send his listeners on a "quest" for truth and transformation. What response will Jesus' questions elicit within those of us who confess him as "Savior and Lord?"

We have a few special Sundays coming up. On **Sunday, May 10**, we'll gather for **one worship service at 10 am** to celebrate our Church Family. On **Pentecost Sunday, May 24**, we'll recognize our graduates for 2015. **Sunday, June 7, is Music Sunday**, including special musical performances for the glory of God and the building up of Christ's Church! Finally, **on Sunday, June 28, Debbie Pyle** and her piano students will lead us at our late service as we give thanks for our nation's independence.

| | |
|---------|---|
| May 3 | Guest Worship Leader: Pastor Frank Sanders |
| May 10 | Family Celebration Service (One service at 10 AM) |
| May 17 | <i>Questions About Identity</i> – Luke 8:26-39 |
| May 24 | <i>Questions About Worry</i> - Matthew 6:25-34 |
| May 31 | <i>Questions About the Reach of Love</i> - Luke 10:25-37 |
| June 7 | MUSIC SUNDAY |
| June 14 | <i>Questions About Healing</i> - John 5:1-17; Mark 10:46-52 |
| June 21 | Guest Worship Leader: Pastor Steve Belinski |
| June 28 | <i>A Question About Abundance</i> – Mark 6:31-44 |
| July 5 | <i>Questions About Who Jesus Is</i> – Mark 8:27-30 |

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!



Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



*June 15
for our
July-August issue*

Change of Address

Arlene Lentz
2000 Cambridge Ave Apt 310
Reading PA 19610-2737

Danielle Pasquale
106 S Morwood Ave
Reading PA 10609-2017

From our mailbox...

♥ Dear Friends,
Please accept our thanks to all of you at Lincoln Park for the prayers, cards, and sincere condolences on the death of our father Richard Gaylor.

Bev Perella and Judy Gaylor

♥ Thanks to all who have inquired about me, sent cards, or called. My recent fainting spells are something I hope to soon forget, but not the thoughtfulness extended to me from so many friends at Lincoln Park UMC! Thanks so much for your kindness.

Nancy Villecco ☺

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, Elaine Meckes, Mark VILLECCO

From the Church Office

Our very efficient and lovely Church Secretary, **Marilyn Seiders**, had knee replacement surgery recently and will be recuperating for six weeks and out of our Church Office. We all hope she is recovering well. If you'd like to send a card, her address is : 74 Turning Leaf Way, Reading PA 19605.



From Cheri Fallon

Jenna Hope, daughter of **Earl** and **Linda**, is in the Netherlands right now pursuing her PhD in Immunology, which she hopes to finish by next spring. Earl and Linda are planning a visit this summer! Safe travels!

We'd love to have news of Lincoln Park members and their families to share with *News-Linc* readers. Please email (cherfallon@comcast.net) or call me, 678-8735!

Everyday a New Start...And God Be With You

From Lisa Bogart, submitted by Nancy Villecco

From the *Daily Guideposts* 2015 Edition, p. 56-7 (February 7, 2015)

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

~ Lamentations 3:22- 23 (NIV)

Today when I flipped the calendar page I thought, "Let's see how my New Year's resolutions are going." I was going to swim one mile every week; I've given up my pool membership. I was going to blog daily on my website; I post sporadically at best. My plans have definitely not gone the way I thought they would.

So I decided to flip them around. I don't swim anymore, but I've taken up walking. I push myself, so my pedometer reads 10,000 steps a day. I have trouble posting consistently on my website, but I set deadlines to keep me blogging twice a month.

I usually beat myself up for not following through with my grand plans. Instead, I will look at what I have accomplished and smile. My resolutions may become a habit, or I may fall short of my goals. Either way, I am a child of God, loved and cherished. And, I get a fresh start every morning, even if it's not New Year's Day.

~Dear Father God, I want to start fresh this morning. I'm going to hold Your hand, and we'll tackle my goals together. Amen.



"How we walk with the broken speaks louder than how we sit with the great."

—Zig Ziglar

Sunday, May 17, at 3 pm

The Yocum Institute for Arts Education
Two Pianos/ Eight Hands and Ballet Company. A freewill offering will be taken.

SUNDAY, JUNE 7, at 11am

Music Sunday, featuring Chancel Choir, the Bell Choir, and guest soloists.

Theme: Spirituals and early American music.



From Beverly Perella

SUNDAY, JUNE 14, Summer Mini-Concert Series begins.

SUNDAY, JUNE 28, at 11am

Patriotic Music Celebration by **Debbie Pyle** and her students.

SUNDAY, JULY 19– SUNDAY, JULY 26

FAMILY MUSIC CAMP

This musical, open to all ages from baby to grandparents, begins on Sunday, July 19, with a dinner at 5pm, followed by a rehearsal until 7:30. Rehearsals are Monday through Thursday evening, from 6-8 pm, with a dress rehearsal Friday, at 6 pm. Our performances are Friday, at 7:30 pm, and Sunday, July 26, at 10 am. There will be only one service that day. Staff for this event: **Lindsey Villecco**, Director, **KC Dianna**, Choreographer, and **Bev Perella**, Music Director.



From Pastor David
McMillan

in the United Methodist Church is a rite of passage in which young people accept

for themselves the faith into which they were baptized. A few of our youth have expressed interest in making this passage. If you have a child, grandchild, nephew or niece, or if you know of a young person who would like to be confirmed, please contact me at the Church Office.

Welcome to Our Staff

Rebecca Chadwick and **Mark Villecco** will be sharing the Worship Leader position at our Contemporary Service, 9 am, Sundays. Please lift them up in your prayers.

Thinking Out Loud

From Pastor David McMillan

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.'— John 20:19

You may not have guessed it. In fact, it may surprise some of you that your pastor is, by nature, a

skeptic: *one inclined to doubt in religious and/or spiritual matters.* So, you can imagine what went through my mind when my eldest sister Jean called in March to tell me of her *close encounter of another kind.*

Let me preface by telling you that Jean is the most free-spirited in our extended family. Once, she unexpectedly flashed her chest to one of my brothers-in-law, (who was seated at the other end of our dining room table, complaining of weakening eyesight) saying “Here, can you see these?” Fortunately, most of us were looking in *his* direction.

Jean also likes to hold a needle and thread over the stomach of expecting mothers to predict the sex of their babies...with an astonishing degree of success, I might add. She also grew up during the early 70’s when Mary Jane and other recreational drugs were plentiful. So, you get my picture.

“Dave,” she said with obvious excitement when I answered her call. “You won’t believe what happened to me today. I was in my car on the way to our Poconos home when I came to a detour. I was feeling frustrated, but the next thing I knew Dad was in the car talking to me. I remembered coming to a detour when I’d been in the car with

him as a little girl and how he’d reassured me that we would be fine... it was an opportunity to explore unfamiliar territory. And there he was again sitting next to me. I could hear his voice and see his nostrils flaring like they used to every time he was getting ready to say something funny.”

“Then, all of a sudden, he was gone and a hawk appeared, out of nowhere, just outside of my driver’s side window and flew beside me for a long time, flapping his great wings. Hawks have always been my *sign bird*. And then, when I called Diane (our youngest sister) to tell her

(Continued on page 5)

“We’re never really alone and we’re probably being reminded of it all the time.”



From Pastor Dave McMillan

May 17, 4-5:30 pm: We’ll be helping out some of our at-home members with yard work.

May 31, 5-8 pm: We’ll spend the afternoon and part of the evening at Ozzie’s. Look for more information in your Sunday bulletin.

Unfortunately, our Youth Group will not be going on a Mission Trip this summer, but we hope to be back on board next year!

We Recognize Our Graduates May 24

Do you know of any high school, college or trade school graduates for 2015? If you do, please submit their names to the Church Office. On May 24, during both worship services, we’ll recognize our graduates with a small gift and prayer for their accomplishment and next step into the future.

Is There a 2015 Graduate in Your House?

From Cheri Fallon

If so, please send us information about him/her for our *News-Linc* this spring. We like to recognize our graduates with a blurb about their schools, future plans, awards, activities, summer jobs. Please send me an email: cheri-fallon@comcast.net, or a note in the *News-Linc* mailbox in the Church Office, 610-777-1422.



Did You Know You Can Read the *News-Linc* Online?

Our *News-Linc* and much more is available on our church website, which has been redesigned and is maintained by **Mark Villecco**. You can check it out at: lpcumc.org.

And I Mean Really Sorry...

From Cheri Fallon

We've kept every school paper, trophy, and greeting card as our four children grew up. Our home is cluttered, but every so often I clear out a drawer, and in the process find a gem like this one:

*Dear Dad,
I'm very sorry about
what happen to night and
I mean really sorry.
But please when you get
home come up with your
big head cards and say
good night. Love, Andy
XOXOXOXO*

I've shared his note with others and posted it on my refrigerator. One friend took a picture to show her husband! And, it got me thinking about apologies in general.

My grandchildren asked *What did Uncle Andy do?* and, of course, *What are big head cards?* Actually no one, even my husband, knows what happened or about the cards in particular. Apparently it's a kind of baseball card — which Ed and the boys collected — I'm guessing the players' heads were close-ups? Who knows, it doesn't matter, just adds humor to my story!

My daughter Christy and I are close, but we occasionally get into some tiffs.

Lately, both of us have been including Andy's phrase...*And I mean really sorry...* whenever we apologize to each other. I love its sincerity!

I also love that, after apologizing, Andy tries to make a loving connection with his Dad: *Come up with your big head cards and say good night.*

Recently I was upset with my husband and aired (probably a mild word for it) my feelings. A bit later, he sincerely apologized, but I was still simmering. Then he said, *Do you want to come down and we'll have some dinner?* I said *I'm not hungry right now.* Ugh.

What soon popped into my head was Andy's apology: *What if Ed didn't go upstairs with his big head cards and say good night?* That would have been awful. So, I trotted on downstairs and ate a nice dinner with my husband of 46+ years.

So, I don't know what makes me think I can tell you how to act or apologize, but I'm very sorry — and I mean really sorry!

***“Come up
with your
big head
cards and
say good
night.”***

(Continued from page 4)

what had happened, she asked ‘Did I know?’ ‘Did I know what?’, I asked. ‘Did you know that today is the anniversary of Dad’s death 11 years ago? So, Dave’ she asked, ‘What do you think about that?’”

Too afraid to tell her what I, the family priest, was really thinking, I tried to match her excitement and said something profound like “Wow!...That’s *something!*” While I’m a skeptic by nature, I’ve heard my share of similar stories and lived long enough to know that there are certain things that happen in life that are outside of my own experience and seemingly beyond reason. So, who is really to say about these things?

Clearly, for my sister, this had been an epiphanal moment. Who’s to say the dead don’t make themselves known to the living? According to my late Aunt Margaret, Jesus came and appeared to her when she was a young girl making her bed one morning. If you saw her face while she was telling her story, you

couldn’t help but believe. In the gospel of John, after his crucifixion and death, Jesus appears to his disciples who are hiding behind locked doors in an upper room. Later, he appears to his disciples along the Sea of Galilee. And, the Apostle Paul writes how Jesus appeared to him in a blinding light on the Road to Damascus.

“That’s *something*,” I said to her trying to sound convincing. “It’s a thin veil that separates the living from the living. It’s probably more permeable than we think.” Looking back, instead of trying to explain mystery, the pastoral thing would have been to ask her what her experience had meant for her. As a brother, I should have asked how old my father looked and did he have his teeth in.

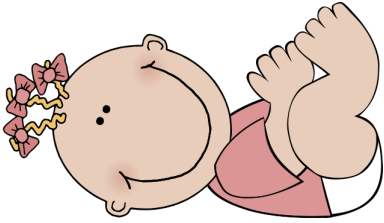
It’s a mystery this life, but I believe it’s a shared life. We’re never really alone and we’re probably being reminded of it all the time. I guess, it’s whether or not we have eyes to see and ears to hear.

United Methodist Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference Convenes

Pastor Dave and George Weikel, our Annual Conference Lay Delegate, will attend the conference in Oaks, PA, May 14-16. The theme this year is *Faithful Stewardship of Our Time, Treasure and Environment*. Please keep the members of our conference in your prayers as we discuss and make decisions concerning the life of our United Methodist Church.

Here's a Need You Can Help Us Meet

From Kathy Avedissian, Missions Committee



The Salvation Army is in great need of baby essentials which are part of their monthly food distribution. Our church has been asked to help. Now **through May 17**, there's a designated box at the rear of the

church to collect the following items:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Diapers, any size | Baby formula |
| Baby wipes | Jars of baby food |
| Baby cereal | Baby shampoo, wash, or lotion |

Please help provide these little ones with a healthy start in life. Call **Kathy Avedissian**, 610-372-1735, with questions. Thank you!

Basics For Babies

Opportunity House Mission - May 5

From Pastor Dave McMillan

COME AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE OUR POOR in the city of Reading. We begin with preparing a meal in the church kitchen at 4 pm before serving the men, women and children of Opportunity House at 6:30 pm. We remember Jesus' words "I was hungry and you fed me... whatever you did for the least of these my children, you did for me." Matt. 25:31-46

WE NEED YOUR HELP! Volunteers are needed to lead the planning and preparation of the Opportunity House meal the first Tuesdays of May, July, September, November. If you can help out, please contact **Linda Hope** at lslhope@aol.com or 610-670-9731. Thank you in advance for your willingness to help in this important ministry!

Join Us for a Third Congregational Meeting

Saturday, June , 9-11 am

Church Re-Visioning Action Plan to Be Discussed

From Pastor Dave McMillan



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Since our two congregational meetings over the winter to address the state of decline affecting our church and many other Methodist congregations, a volunteer Vision Team has been hard at work preparing a preliminary Re-Visioning Action Plan.

To date, our Vision Team has met twice to pray, process, and prioritize concrete recommendations for church revitalization. These recommendations will be presented at a Congregational Meeting on Saturday, June 6, 9-11 am, in Memorial Hall, for discussion. These recommendations, with possible revisions, will then be finalized and presented to our Administrative Council for a vote and implementation.

Good Morning Lincoln Park Men!

From Pastor Dave McMillan

On the first Wednesday of each month (May 6, June 3), all men are invited to breakfast at 8 am, at the Deluxe Diner, on Old Lancaster Road in Shillington. Together, we share the scriptures, our thoughts, and daily bread. Please join us!

