

NEWS-LINC

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Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church Newsletter
Lincoln Park, Pennsylvania *September, October 2015*

Do You Want to Live a Healthy, Fulfilling Life?

From Pastor David McMillan

It's God's will for us to be well in body, mind, soul, and spirit. To this end, He's given us steps and principles in the Bible for living healthy, fulfilling lives, *not just for our own happiness*, but also for God's own happiness and glory.

For seven weeks in October and November (Oct 11-Nov 29), we'll follow a church-wide, spiritual growth campaign entitled *Transformed: How God Changes Us*. Over the weeks we'll look at seven key areas of life in which God wants to bless us with **SPIRITUAL, PHYSICAL, MENTAL, EMOTIONAL, RELATIONAL, FINANCIAL, and VOCATIONAL HEALTH**.

The campaign will include a seven-week sermon series, small groups, and daily devotionals. Each week, small groups will meet to watch a video and discuss one of the seven key areas covered in that week's sermon. Each par-

ticipant will also receive a workbook which includes daily meditations and memory verses.

We're looking for volunteers willing to host a small group in your home or at the church. A HOST is someone who

- Has to like people,
- Opens their home or church to others,
- Serves something to drink, and
- Turns on the TV.

Hosts will receive one hour of training. If you'd like to host a small group, please speak with **Michelle Bausher**, our Nurture Team Chairperson, or call **Pastor Dave**, 610-777-1422.

The world shouts for our attention: with answers to our relationship struggles, solutions to our financial trouble, and explanations to our search for meaning. But the world's promises leave us empty, searching for more. We find in the Bible the answers that promise to transform our lives from the inside out. Please begin to prayerfully consider taking part in this church-wide campaign!



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, Mark Villecco
Secretary:	Marilyn Seiders
Editor:	Cheri Fallon, 610-678- 8735, cherfallon@comcast.net
Nursery:	Kathi Ernst, Kris Fedeli
Office phone	610-777-1422; Ext: Kitchen 17; Nursery 14
Fax line	610-777-4309
Voicemail:	Pastor Dave 12, Church Office 10, Beverly Perella 16
Web:	www.lpcumc.org
E-mail:	info@lpcumc.org (Secretary and Church), dmcmillan@lpcumc.org (Pastor McMillan) For urgent messages, use voicemail, please.



From Pastor David McMillan

September and October bring changes. After we finish our summer sermon series, *Secrets about Relationships*, we'll gather to worship for the remaining Sundays of September and the first Sunday of October, considering a Stewardship Sermon series, *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*. On Sunday, October 11, we celebrate the gifts and work of the laity in our church. Finally, on Sundays, October 18 and 25, we begin a new seven-week sermon series entitled *Transformed*, based on Romans 12:2 *Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind...*

Come and let us worship together... surrendering our lives in praise, confession, and thanksgiving to the Living God, made flesh in Jesus Christ.

Sept. 6	Secrets of Relationships: Finding Forgiveness Matthew 6:14,15
Sept. 13	Extravagant Generosity – 2 Corinthians 9:11
Sept. 20	Radical Hospitality – Romans 15:7
Sept. 27	Passionate Worship & Intentional Faith Development Psalm 84:1-2; Acts 2:42
Oct. 4	Risk-Taking Mission and Service — Matthew 25:40 World Communion & Commitment Sunday
Oct. 11	Laity Sunday

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 receive *News-Linc* in the mail, just notify our secretary. Please join in at Lincoln Park!



Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



*October 15
for our
Nov-Dec issue,
including the 1st week
of January*

From our mailbox...

♥ To Our Church Family,
Thank you for all your expressions of sympathy in the passing of **Polly Madeira**. They were greatly appreciated.
God Bless All of You,
Carl, Nancy and family

♥ A great big *Thank You* to all who sent cards, called, or inquired about my extended stay in the hospital, sent food, flowers, or took time to come and visit with us. It has been four months and after two surgeries, I feel that I can finally say that I am in recovery mode.

There is a lot to be said for having kind and caring friends during difficult times, and the people of LPCUMC certainly know the meaning of kindness and caring.

Also, thank you to Pastor Dave for his visits and prayers. And a special thank you from Bob for all the wonderful food that was delivered to our home.

We are truly blessed.

Lucy Flail

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

Birth

Congratulations to **Andrew and Sonja Fallon** on the birth of their daughter **Elin Jean**, on August 8. Her proud grandparents are **Ed and Cheri Fallon**.



Change of Address

Dennis Antunes
302 Amy CT #2
Reading PA 19607-1101

Mr Steven Schlosser
PO Box 622
Saranac Lake NY 12983-0622

Ms Elizabeth Heist
2000 Cambridge Ave Apt 349
Wyomissing PA 19610-2738

Ms Amy Lee Riley
1437 W Wyomissing CT
Reading PA 19609

Matt & Heather Walters
233 Hamilton Rd
Rockville Ctr NY 11570-2630

Another Example:

From Roberta Messner, in the *Daily Guideposts* 2015 Edition, p. 265 (June 27)
Submitted by Nancy Villecco
And he saw also a certain poor widow casting in thither two mites.
~Luke 21:2 (KJV)

... Tara Sharma, MD, was a beloved urologist at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, where I'm a nurse. Last year, he passed away. Those who worked closely with him were particularly devastated.

On a quiet Saturday, I attended Dr. Sharma's estate sale. "I would love to purchase a wonderful keepsake for Tara Porter," I thought. Tara was a nurse who'd worked with him. "My namesake," Dr. Sharma, who was originally from India, often observed.

Money had been short lately, thanks to some trees that had fallen on my property during a storm. But I spotted a crystal

bowl on the Sharmas' dining room table in the Star of David pattern. One of the neighbors remarked that it was always filled with something delicious at the parties the Sharma's were known for. I bought the bowl for four dollars.

When I handed it to Tara, she couldn't contain her joy. "That was so loving of you," she said. "It's perfect. And did you know, in India, the name Tara means star?"



We extend our deepest sympathies and prayers to Carl and Nancy Madeira and their family upon the loss of Carl's mother, **Pauline (Polly) Madeira**, 99, who passed away on August 4. Polly was the last survivor of the original 23 members of Lincoln Park Church, founded in 1945.



"Be faithful in small things
because it is in them that your strength lies."

—Mother Theresa



From Beverly Perella

Wednesday, September 16 marks the beginning of the return to Bell Choir and Chancel Choir with a covered dish social at 6:30. The Praise Band is invited to attend along with anyone who'd like to participate in our music program.

Are you sitting in the congregation with unused musical talent? God's gifts are meant to be shared. Perhaps He's asking you to help. Are you listening?

8th Summer Mini-Concert Series

A sincere thank you to all who shared their talents with us for this summer program. And another heart-felt thank you for all of you have contributed to the Concert Fund.



From Nancy Villecco,
Worship Committee

If you've had a close family member pass away in November or December of 2014 or any time in 2015 and would like them included in our All Saint's Day memorial (on or near November 1, 2015) please send in their name, relation to you, the date they passed away, and a photo (if you have one available) to Marilyn in the Church Office as soon as possible. Thank you.

Charge Conference Is Open to All Members

Our annual Church Charge Conference with our District Superintendent Dr. Anita Powell, will be held here at the church on Wednesday night, October 14, at 7:30 pm.

Fall Auction

**Sundays:
November 8,
15, 22
Please bring
your donations
to the Music
Office.**



Thinking Out Loud

From Pastor David McMillan

*Do not be conformed to the pattern of this world,
but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. —Romans 12:2*

Consider this question: If you were to describe the condition of your spiritual health and the spiritual wellbeing of our church family here at Lincoln Park UMC, what would you say?

As a pastor, I've often wondered and prayed over the spiritual condition of my flock. I'm together with folks on Sunday mornings, for evening meetings, and for a small weekly Bible study, but I've often wondered about the spiritual health of my congregations throughout the week.

Do they have a vital relationship with God? Do they start and end each day with prayer? Do they read their Bible or spend a few moments each day meditating upon *The Upper Room* or *The Daily Bread*? Are they aware of the grace of God in their lives? Do they seek to love their neighbor, family members, co-workers, and strangers as Jesus loves them? Do they talk about their faith with others? Are they going on to be "perfected in love?"

Standing at the front door of the narthex shaking hands and exchanging pleasantries as members of my flock head out the front door and into the world to raise families, work, and pay

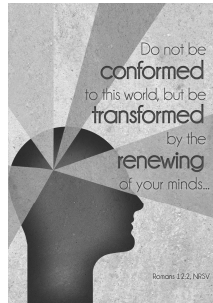
bills, looking in their eyes, I have often wondered *How is it with their soul?*

In his letter to the church in Rome, the Apostle Paul recognized how easy it is to become distracted by the cares of the

world and to lose sight of our soul's aim, which (according to the Westminster Confession) is "to glorify God and enjoy him forever." So he warns us, *Do not be conformed to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind so that you might discern what is the will of God—what is good, acceptable and perfect.*" Romans 12:2

In a world of distractions and competing claims upon our time and allegiance, we are constantly in need of the renewing of our mind — which is, of course, the work of the Holy Spirit, working from the inside out. To this end, this fall we'll take on, as a congregation, a short-term spiritual growth campaign entitled *Transformed: How God Changes Us*.

If, like me, you had to pause for several moments to contemplate the condition of your spiritual health and the spiritual health of our church, I take this as telling: There is still work to be done, a growing in grace that requires our full attention.



(Continued from page 5)

and cons of giving cash, vouchers, and addresses of other social agencies. One day's discussion took considerable staff time with few conclusions.

As the pastor was leaving the church later that afternoon, he noticed the part-time custodian carrying out the garbage to the large trash bin in the alley. There was a homeless person sprawled out beside the bin, looking barely conscious. As the custodian approached the trash bin, he set down the garbage bag he was carrying, reached into his pocket, pulled out his wallet, and removed a few dollar bills. Without having been asked, he walked over to the homeless person and gave him the money, said something, then continued his work, and returned to the church. The pastor was amazed and humbled by this extraordinary display of generosity. The part-time janitor, who earned less than anyone else on staff, gave generously without even being asked, while the staff has spent several hours trying to figure out policies and procedures. The pastor asked the custodian why he gave the money without even being asked and also pressed him about whether he thought the homeless person might misuse the money for alcohol or drugs. "I always do that when I can," the janitor answered. "I give them a little money and say, "God bless you," because I figure that even though they may be pretty messed up, they are some mother's son,

BLESSING BAGS



Make these practical gifts to share blessings with homeless people and others in need.

What you need:

- Gallon-size zippered baggies
- Clothing (socks, mittens, scarves, rain ponchos)
- Travel-size toiletries (toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, sunscreen, lip balm, lotion, tissues, bandages)
- Snacks
- Water bottles
- Paper
- Pencil

What you do:

1. Pack baggies with supplies listed above (and more, if desired).
2. Write encouraging notes (including Bible verses), and add them to the baggies.
3. Keep the gifts in your car, and give them to people who are homeless or asking for help.

Lincoln Park Graduates Are Awesome!

From Cheri Fallon

Grace Deibler...

graduated from Governor Mifflin HS in June. She is the daughter of **Dave** and **Valerie Deibler**.

She has begun studying at Robert Morris University in Pittsburgh, where she is studying Sports Management and Finance, in an Honors Program. Valerie says Grace developed an interest in this major, probably “from going to Reading Royals games.”

At Governor Mifflin, Grace was in the National Honor Society, on the lacrosse team, and played cello in the orchestra. She was also one of the GM Ambassadors, who greet and help new students to the school.

“Grace is loving school,” says Valerie, of Robert Morris, and “she’s playing on the rugby team.”



Johanna Gaylor...

daughter of Judy Gaylor, graduated from Wyomissing HS in June. She participated in Track & Field in sprints and discus as a freshman and sophomore. She loves baseball and joined the girls’ softball team in her junior and senior years, playing

second base, shortstop, third base, and outfield.

Johanna developed a love for wrestling over the years while attending her brother’s matches and became manager of the Wyomissing HS team.

During drag racing season, she works at Maple Grove raceway, mastering her hand at making ice cream cones, floats, and funnel cakes.

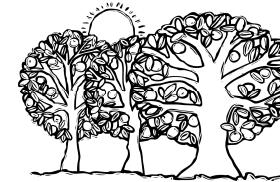
Johanna is following in her brother’s footsteps, attending Ursinus College, with a major in Business and Economics. She will continue her involvement in wrestling as manager of the Ursinus team. We wish her success in all her endeavors!

“Happiness does not come from doing easy work but from the afterglow of satisfaction that comes after the achievement of a difficult task that demanded our best..”

Theodore Isaac Rubin

Annual Stewardship Campaign: Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations

From Pastor Dave McMillan



Our annual stewardship program for 2015 is *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*. In the gospel of Luke, Jesus tells us that we will “know a tree by its fruit.” I have not had much experience with stewarding fruit trees, but I do know that they need to be cared for: watered, fertilized, pruned, and receive sunlight. If you steward a fruit tree well, you’ll be blessed with delicious, abundant fruit.

So it is with the stewarding of our church. If we care for our church — offering radical hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith development, risk-taking mission, service, and extrava-

gant generosity — through much prayer and faithfulness, there’s the potential of life-bearing, satisfying fruit, but only if we’re willing to do the work.

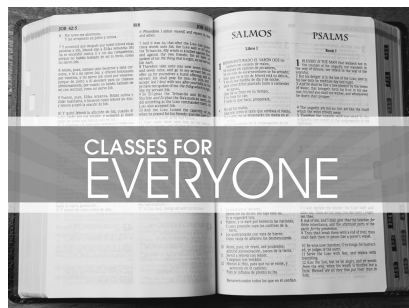
Our stewardship season will run for four Sundays, September 13 through October 4, **Commitment Sunday**, when all members and friends of our church family will be asked to make a financial promise to the General Fund for 2016. The General Fund of our church is used to support programs, missions, staff, and building maintenance. Please begin to prayerfully consider how you can help Lincoln Park UMC bring forth lasting fruit in the kingdom of God.

Caught Doing Good

By Robert Schnase, from *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*,
Submitted by **Jerry Manhart**.

A downtown congregation in a moderately-sized community had occasional transients, homeless persons, and street people who would ask for handouts. Often street people were found sleeping on the front steps. The staff developed rules, guidelines, and policies for how to help or how to refer those who asked for help. They had many discussions about the pros

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Join Us for Adult Classes

From Pastor Dave McMillan

We offer three adult classes on Sunday mornings.

† **THE BIBLE CLASS**, currently studying *The Parables of Jesus*, meets in the Church Library, in the Perkins Education Building from 9:50-10:50.

† **THE WOMEN'S CLASS**, which also meeting in the Perkins Building, will resume meeting on Sunday, September 20, from 10:15-10:55. All women are welcome!

† **EARL HOPE'S CLASS**, which meets in Memorial Hall, will also resume meeting on September 20, from 10:15-10:55. Together, they will be discussing Adam Hamilton's new 6-week video series, *The Call -- The Life and Message of The Apostle Paul*.

Monday Morning Bible Study

From Pastor Dave McMillan

The Monday Morning Bible study meets from 11-12 am in the Church Library. We are currently reading and discussing *The Gospel of John*. All are welcome to our humble group of four to eight pilgrims.

Confirmation Classes to Begin

From Pastor Dave McMillan

This year's Confirmation Class, for children in sixth grade and up, will begin on Wednesday night, October 7, from 6:30-8:00 pm, in the Wagner Room. Classes will continue to be held on Wednesday nights throughout October, November, and December. Please note that, as part of the Confirmation experience, Confirmands are asked to attend a Confirmation Retreat at the United Methodist Gretna Glen Retreat Center, in Gretna Glen, PA, the weekend of Oct. 9-11. If you'd like your child to participate in this year's Confirmation Class, please contact me at the Church Office, 610-777-1422.

Christian Education for Lincoln Park's Children

The **Potter's Wheel Class** (Grades 1-6) meets from 9:15-10:35 on Sunday mornings.

Beverly Perella will lead from 9:15-10 am, focusing on the theme through music, dance, and drama. The second part of the articulated lesson will begin at 10 am with another teacher. This will be a more traditional Bible lesson with emphasis on the Bible references, prayer, and stories. At 10:35 the children will be served snacks and have guided activities to complete, if desired, until parents pick them up at the end of the adult Sunday School program. Children who attend our 9 am service with their parents will go to the Potter's Wheel Class after the Children's Message at 9:15. Parents who attend the 11 am service may bring their children at

9:15 for the entire class, or at 10 for the second part.

While both parts of Potter's Wheel class are independent, the theme for both is the same. Thus, all children can benefit from both parts, or only one.

Parents who attend the 9 am service are encouraged to remain until 10:35 and visit with other parents and enjoy snacks. And they would certainly be invited to attend an adult class if they desire.

Nursery Education-

The children in the Nursery (Infant through Kindergarten) will have a weekly Bible lesson during both the 9 and 11 am services. Each child will receive a coloring-book style hand-out each week.



Youth Sunday Class

From Pastor Dave McMillan

Our Youth Sunday Morning Class will begin on Sunday, September 20, from 9:10-9:50, in the Youth Room. This fall we will be using Group's Live Curriculum *A Jesus-Centered Life*. Youth Sunday Morning Class is for all youth, grades 7-12.

From Pastor Dave

YOUTH GROUP, for kids grades 7-12, will kick-off at Pastor Dave's house (50 East Court Boulevard, West Lawn), on Sunday, October 4, from 3-5 pm. We'll gather for burgers and dogs, games, and to plan our meetings for the fall. I'm looking forward to a great year!

