



News-Line



Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church Newsletter
Lincoln Park, Pennsylvania *Summer 2016*

We're Inviting the Community: Meet Us at the Playground

From Pastor Dave McMillan



On **SATURDAY, JULY 9**, from 10-2 pm, we'll hold a community fair at the Lincoln Park Playground, 400 Dorchester Avenue. Come and enjoy a few hours of community building, including: community health information, games for children, refreshments, live music, and the Spring Township Police Dept. Child Identification Program. Parents receive an ID card for their child including: a picture, finger print and other information in case of an emergency.

Come and bring your animal companion for a celebration of the relationship between all of God's creatures. On **SUNDAY, JULY 31**, from 6-7:30 pm, at Lincoln Park Playground, 400 Dorchester Avenue, we'll hold a Blessing of the Animals. Our evening will include live music, a brief service, and refreshments. All are invited to bring animal food for the Animal Rescue League of Berks County. Also, please come with a lawn chair or blanket.



Anniversary Sunday, August 28

From Pastor Dave McMillan

On August 28, we'll celebrate our 71st anniversary with **the Rev. Melinda L. McKonly**, pastor of Lincoln Park Community UMC from 1986-1988. We will join together for our celebration at 10 am, followed by a pot-luck luncheon in Memorial Hall. Please remember to mark this special occasion in your calendar.





From Pastor David McMillan

Over the summer, we'll contemplate Paul's letter to the Church in Ephesus, which celebrates the life of the Church: a unique community established by God through the work of Jesus Christ, and established for God's purposes in the world. The Church is diverse and set apart for love and the redemption of the world.

July 3	Destined for Adoption – Ephesians 1:3-14
July 10	A Dwelling Place for God – Ephesians 2:11-22
July 17	Guest Preacher: Becky Chadwick
July 24	Guest Preacher: The Rev. Cliff Flick
July 31	Godly Sorrow – 2 Corinthians 7:1-13
Aug. 7	Be Angry, But Do Not Sin – Ephesians 4:17-52
Aug. 14	Making the Most of Your Time – Ephesians 5: 15-20
Aug. 21	The Full Armor of God – Ephesians 6:10-20
Aug. 28	ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY with The Rev. Mindy McKonly

Congratulations Graduate!

Summer Ringler graduated from Wilson HS and Berks Career Technology Center, where she earned her certificate in Portrait Photography and Adobe Photoshop. She was in the National Technical Honor Society at BCTC. Summer is the daughter of

Robert and Michelle Ringler.



Although she received an award of excellence in Altered Image Photography from the Goggleworks, Summer prefers Business Administration and Finance. She'll attend Kutztown University this fall, a member of the class of 2020.

Surprisingly, she enjoys fishing, working at Mama's Pizza, and searching record stores for vintage Grateful Dead and Pink Floyd albums.

IF YOU HAVE A GRADUATE IN YOUR FAMILY, PLEASE LET US KNOW BY PUTTING A NOTE IN MY CHURCH MAILBOX OR EMAILING ME AT CHER-

From **BEV PERELLA**

Summer Mini-Concert Series.

This is our 10th summer for offering special music at 10:45 am each Sunday from June through Labor Day. Our featured musician/musicians, some from our own church family and others guests from the community, offer 15 minutes of preludes and additional selections during the service. Each summer we bring back many of our favorites and include newcomers. If you have any suggestions, let Bev Perella know at 610-334-4197. Small envelopes marked Concert Fund are located in each pew if you would care to contribute to this music ministry.

July 3- Patriotic Celebration featuring our church musicians and flutist **Robin Lilarsen**

July 10- **Jim Spangler**, trumpet

July 17- TBA

July 24- **Cliff and Wendy Flick**

July 31- **Doug Holder** and **Beverly Perella**, piano and organ duets

Our Musicians Offered Their Very Best on Music Sunday

What is perfection for God? I'm certain it's not the same for Him as it is for us! His is much simpler. On **MUSIC SUNDAY**, June 12, I believe we reached God's perfection.

What God expects from us is to offer Him the best we can, be honest and sincere in what we do, and simply *do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.*

(Micah 6:6-8.)

Through God's gift of music, we could answer this call as His children. Our selections were chosen from our favorites; they were meditative, filled our hearts and souls, and drew us into a closer relationship with our Father and our sisters and brothers. Although the musical styles ranged from Baroque to contemporary, the messages were as eternal and timeless as God's word.

Through instrument and voice, we offered God our praise, asked Him for help in our darkest hours, found solace in and shared His word to all. We answered His call to share our musical talents, with humility, honesty, thoughtfulness, dedication, and love. We the musicians of this church family are indeed grateful to God, our Father, Creator

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: *Eulogy*

From Pastor David McMillan

Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature,

Summer came into my life late one spring not long after I separated from my wife. My niece, who works for a veterinarian, called to say that a young family was looking to find their puppy a new home. With two small children and another on the way, they had more than they could handle in a six-month-old Labrador retriever!

I still remember picking up "Sunny," which was her name at the time. The look of relief on the young couple's face made me think twice, but, for the price of two quarts of fresh strawberries, this bundle of perpetual motion still seemed a bargain.

For almost 12 years, Summer, whom my daughter renamed, has been my four-footed companion. At first, it was like raising another child. She seemed stuck in the *terrible twos*: chewing on the rungs of my dining room chairs, baseboards, and shoes, refusing to come when called, and resisting every collar and leash made. There were days when she'd go missing, running off into the

woods behind my parsonage. One afternoon, after searching everywhere, I came upon her eating the entrails of a deer left by hunters. She was sick (as a dog) for days!

But there have been moments and days of blissful friendship: walks and runs along the West Brandywine Creek, wres-

tling on the living room rug, long belly rubs, sitting quietly together, her cheerful disposition whenever seeing me, and her unconditional love when I left her alone for the day or scolded her for taking too long to do her business. A truer friend I could not have asked for.

Summer's been slowing down for some time now. Her medical bills exceed my own. I've begun to accept that she is not long for this world.

Over the years, I have thought about what separates humans from other animals. Some say animals, unlike humans, have no soul, but even the Bible seems to suggest otherwise (Ecclesiastes 3:19-22). There have been times when I was sure that Summer read me like a book, giving

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unlike humans,
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About Our Secretary, Marilyn Seiders

From Cheri Fallon

Marilyn — our faithful and efficient Church Secretary — taught Business at Reading High for 34 years, and she's seen many advances in technology over those years. "I taught myself," she says. "I got textbooks; I studied all the software apps. I worked with really good kids, and helping them taught me a lot."

Born in Reading, Marilyn went to Reading HS, and graduated from Shippensburg University with a degree in Secretarial Accounting. "It's not called that anymore," she says, but, at Lincoln Park, we've benefited greatly from her skills in accounting. She does all the book-keeping these days, including paying

(Continued from page 4)

me space when I've needed it, and prodding me to awareness with her nose or some wild antic when I'm lost within myself. I have no doubt that she is a sentient being although I believe she knows better than to let on. Over the years, I know this also to be true, she has given me far more than she has asked for, and because of her friendship I've been blessed.



the bills and monthly reports.

Marilyn retired from teaching in 2009, and fortunately for us, she found that "staying home didn't stimulate the mind." Seeing our ad in the paper, she came in for an interview with **Rich Auman, Dorris McCoy, and Pastor Jerry McGrath.**

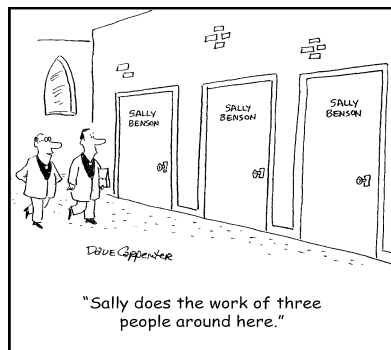
Dorris recognized her from jazz concerts they had both attended, Marilyn's nephew and niece and Dorris's boys played music together. Plus, she realized that she had vacationed with **Jennifer Auman,** who came along

with Marilyn's niece. "It was like old home week," she says of the interview.

Marilyn loves to travel. Her favorite spot is the "very laid back and quaint" island of Vieques, Puerto Rico. In August, she'll cruise the Danube River from Budapest to Prague with a group of 10 friends. They've traveled together before, seeing Italy by cruise ship, and France on a river cruise.

Marilyn enjoys knitting, reading suspenseful thrillers, and watching NCIS on TV.

Luckily for us at Lincoln Park, Marilyn says of her job here: "I love working here. I feel like family."



Thank You, God, for Rebirth and Renewal

From Brian Doyle, submitted by Nancy Villecco

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. ~ Matthew 5:16 (ESV)

I have not been to every country on this round, amazing rock. But I have been to other continents and another hemisphere; I have seen new stars and birds and trees, and I have tried to swim in various other languages and gaped at the glories and machinations of other tribes and nations. I feel informed, experienced, and seasoned to say this: I do not think we sing the miracle and joy of Americanness enough.

We complain, argue, accuse, debate, snarl, roar, insult; there are endless good reasons for our intemperate burble. But we ought not to forget we are free to speak, free to worship, free to gather, and free to call a spade a spade. We take this for granted. We forget the joy of the American idea. We forget that even as we make endless mistakes, we have done brave and glorious things — like outlaw selling Americans of other colors, saving millions of people from slavery, and facing down every bully there is.

There never was an idea like America before — to live free, and it's still a wild and courageous idea that's not dead yet. And there are seeds of great peace, creativity, justice, and mercy in the American idea, seeds that might flower in other forms all over this round, amazing rock if we drop our weapons and quash our squabbles. Even as I gnash my teeth at our violence and greed and xenophobia, I take pride in who we are, who we might still be. And bigger than mere pride is joy that we are a country yet of the most amazing possibility ever. What a gift. What sweet work.

Dear Lord, as if it wasn't enough that I was born into this miraculous world, You also made me an American. Grant me the courage and creativity to help my country put violence and greed out of business, and show the world we still can be.



“When a train goes through a tunnel and it gets dark,
you don't throw away the ticket and jump off.
You sit still and trust the engineer. “

—Corrie ten Boom



Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



*August 15
for our
Sept-Oct Issue*

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, Bunny Carlson, Kathleen Hogg, Gloria

Change of Address

Lindsey M Villecco
1904 Van Reed Rd Apt D1
Wyomissing 19610-1095

Welcome to Our New Members Received on May 8

Gwendolyn Fischer has four children and seven grandchildren; she recently moved into the Highlands.

Barry and Nancy Goodolf enjoy their two children, 4 grandchildren (and their activities!) They like to camp.

Ken Hoch, a retired teacher and coach, has two children and three grandchildren. He sings in our choir and praise band.

David Meade, recently married, is also a grandfather and a cook at the Hitching Post (his specialty: potatoes au gratin).

Sue Neumuller works at Penske, volunteers at an animal shelter, and will serve on our Staff Parish Relations Committee.

Barbara Radcliff, a retired children's librarian, has two daughters, seven grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

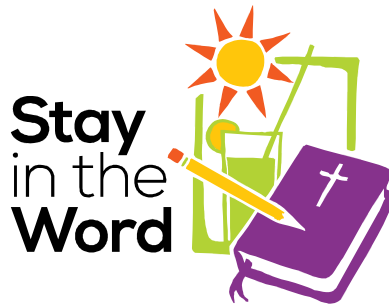
From our mailbox...

- ♥ Thank you for the soup, rolls, casseroles, and soap donated to our Soup Kitchen. We are glad to have you as friends in the fight against hunger. Each donation is a blessing to us.

Anne Marie Wallace
New Journey Community Outreach

- ♥ Many thanks for your generous contribution of \$140 to New Journey Community Outreach (NJCO). Your gift helps us provide charitable food and clothing for individuals and families in need.

Sue Krall



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-1pm, Mon-Thurs Pastor: David McMillan, 484-883-1050
 Music Director: Beverly Perella, 610-334-4197
 Worship Leaders: Becky Chadwick, Mark Villecco
 Youth Leader: Kyle Robbins
 Children's Ministry Coordinator: Beverly Perella
 Secretary: Marilyn Seiders
 Editor: Cheri Fallon, 610-678-8735, cherfallon@comcast.net
 Nursery: Kathi Ernst, Kris Fedeli

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