



Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church Newsletter
Lincoln Park, Pennsylvania *Spring, 2017*

The Rev. David T. McMillan Accepts Appointment to St. Paul's UMC, Wilmington

From Cheri Fallon

After serving six years at Lincoln Park Church, "Pastor Dave" will move to Delaware to be Pastor at St. Paul's UMC, beginning July 1. He and his fiancée, **Kim Walker**, of Newark, Delaware, plan to marry in the next year.

Pastor Dave was an Associate Pastor at LP previously — from 1989 through 1995 — before appointments to Boehm UMC, Lancaster, and then Hibernia UMC, Coatesville. His 19-year-old daughter, Hannah, is a student at Bryn Mawr University.

We're thankful for Dave's warm presence here and wish him joy and success!

With Appreciation

From Sharon Ackelson, Staff-Parish Relations

Our English language defines the word *appreciate* as "to value highly and to be thankful for."

However, the definition seems lacking in regard to how Pastor Dave has entered our hearts and minds as our pastor. Along with teaching us God's word, he has made us look inside ourselves, made us laugh at ourselves as we laughed along with him.

His constant support and concern for the infirm and shut-ins has meant so much to so many parishioners. With his warmth and humor he has created a very special church family. We thank him for being such a part of our lives. As he moves on to another chapter in his life, he will always remain a light in our hearts. We wish him the very best in his new life and his new endeavors.



Go with Peace and Love, Your LPCUMC Congregation



From Pastor David McMillan

In May and June we follow the Revised Common Lectionary for Easter and Pentecost. These two Christian seasons expound upon Resurrection life and Holy Spirit living.

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| May 7 | <i>Jesus: The Gate</i> (John 10:1-10) – Communion Sunday |
| May 14 | <i>Mother's Day</i> - ONE SERVICE 10 AM - Cherub Choir sings.
Led by the Youth Group Summit and Potter's Wheel classes.
Youth Leader, Kyle Robbins , is preaching. Refreshments follow. |
| May 21 | <i>Inescapable Grace</i> (I Peter 3:13-22) |
| May 28 | <i>In-between</i> (Acts 1:1-11) – Ascension Sunday |
| June 4 | <i>Music Sunday</i> (both services) Holy Communion postponed to June 11 |
| June 11 | Guest Preacher: The Rev. Melinda McKonly
(Pastor Dave will be here) |
| June 18 | <i>Proclaim the Good News</i> (Matthew 9:25-10:8)
PASTOR DAVE'S LAST SUNDAY |
| June 25 | Guest Preacher: The Rev. Clifford Flick |

Every Third Thursday Join Us for Worship at 8 pm

IT'S THURSDAY NIGHT LIVE! Please come for a special monthly worship service in our Wagner Room the third Thursday of every month. During this casual worship time, we'll sing, pray, hear devotions, and join in fellowship with one another. This is a great opportunity for anyone who cannot attend worship on Sunday mornings, or for anyone who'd like to supplement weekly worship with a new experience in a different setting.

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!



Here are Some Dates to Remember

From Beverly Perella



Family Sunday, May 14: One Service at 10 am

Our Youth Leader, **Kyle Robbins**, will preach, and the service will be led by the Youth Group Summit and Potter's Wheel classes. The theme is ***Sticky Faith***. Our **CHERUB CHOIR** will sing, and there will be refreshments afterward. Please come and enjoy!!

Music Sunday, June 14, Both Worship Services, 9 and 11 am

The Praise Band under the leadership of **Mark Villecco** and **Becky Chadwick** will perform at the 9 am Contemporary Service. The Chancel and Bell Choirs will present music leading us through the Liturgical Year, which includes the music of Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Thanksgiving, Pentecost, and general Sundays.

Summer Concert Mini-Series: June 11 through September 3

If you have a suggestion for a guest musician, please tell **Beverly Perella**. If you'd like to support the series financially, you may give cash or a check marked *Concert Fund*. There are small envelopes in the pews for donations. On July 9 we'll feature a **PATRIOTIC CONCERT** by **Debbie Pyle** and her piano students.

Learning & Discussion for You

From Pastor Dave McMillan

In May and June, the Topics Sunday School Class will view and discuss Pastor Adam Hamilton's video series *Confronting the Controversies: Biblical Perspectives on Tough Issues*.

Hamilton's controversial issues include: The Separation of Church and State, Evolution, Prayer in Schools, Abortion, and Homosexuality. We meet downstairs in Memorial Hall from 10:10-10:50 am.



Monday Morning Bible Study...

gathers in the Church Library in the Perkins Education Building. We are currently reading and discussing the gospel of Luke. Everyone's invited to a lively time of reflection, questions, and discussion.

Thinking Out Loud

From Pastor David McMillan

All those years I fell for the great palace lie that grief should be gotten over as quickly and as privately as possible. But what I've discovered since is that the lifelong fear of grief keeps us in a barren, isolated place and that only grieving can heal grief; ... only by experiencing that ocean of sadness in a naked and immediate way do we come to be healed – which is to say, we come to experience life with a real sense of presence and spaciousness and peace.
- from *Small Victories* by Anne Lamott

The intensity of my grief may come as a surprise to some. Ours has possibly been an hour a week together on a Sunday morning, a hello and well-wishing at the front door after a service, a brief conversation in the Wagner Room catching up on children. For others, there have been additional hours spent in Bible Studies, Sunday School, over church meals, meetings, Trustee Workdays, and visits.

But I hope you've known that for me it has always been more than this.

That I have always been prayerfully attempting to weave these moments together into a more intimate knowing of your story – your family, your aspirations, joys, and sorrows. I hope you have known that when I look at you, I have always tried to see you whole.

"I have always been prayerfully attempting to weave these moments together into a more intimate knowing of your story – your family, your aspirations, joys, and sorrows."

There will be many things I'll miss about Lincoln Park: my drive down the hill on Jefferson Boulevard into our tiny hamlet, our beautiful brick colonial church. An introvert by nature, I'll miss my second story office (which was my bedroom for six years when I served as associate pastor) where I could escape to read,

prepare Bible Studies, and write sermons, while listening to the sometimes steady flow of traffic below — of people stopping by to drop something off or speak with Marilyn. I'll miss our sanctuary with its high white ceiling, tall window, and soothing green painted

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walls, the same paint used by the trustees in the parsonage living room and hallway, bringing everything full circle.

Of course, what I'll miss most are the people. I feel fortunate to have been able to work with a gifted, dedicated staff. There has been many a Sunday when our Worship Leaders, **Mark** and **Becky**, and **Bev**, our organist, pianist and Music Director, have helped carry a service, especially when I've struggled. The Music Ministry at Lincoln Park, with our Praise Band, choirs, and special music has been inspiring. **Marilyn**, our Office Administrator and Bookkeeper, while often sleep deprived, has been a joy. **Carl**, our Sexton, is one of a kind. **Kyle**, our Youth Leader, has connected with our youth and has great promise. And our Nursery Attendants, **Kathy** and **Kris**, have been Godsenders. **What endears me most about our staff is that they love our church and it shows.**

If I were to start expressing appreciation for members who've been special to me

over the years, it would be a long list. Each of you, whether we've known each other for a long or short time, have been special to me in your own way. But let me say that I am very grateful for those of you who have accepted positions of leadership while I've been here. Your love and commitment for our church has made us a better people and has often made me look good in the process. Where would we be without those who are willing to accept the call to lead and serve in the church?



While I believe in my heart that my choice to move to a new congregation and soon marry is the Lord's path for me, it is bittersweet. But, this only reminds me of what a meaningful and wonderful experience I have had here: how much I have felt loved. I will always have a special place in my heart for the folks at Lincoln Park.

A forewarning: I imagine several of you will be showing up in my future newsletter articles. If you do, please know that it will be with love.



Do You Have a Graduate in Your Family?

From Cheri Fallon

Please let us know by putting a note in my church mailbox or preferably an email (cherifallon@comcast.net) about his/her school and future plans, including any activities, awards, or spe-

Lincoln Park's Biggest Annual Fundraiser
Is Saturday, May 20, 7-3pm
From Beverly Perella



Here's your chance to support an event that's brought \$\$\$\$ to LP's annual budget, plus fun and fellowship to the volunteers who make it possible. Join us to make this year's Flea Market a successful fund raiser and a lively "funraiser."

Here's how you can be part it:

- ☺ There are a few days left till our **DEADLINE OF MAY 16** to bring us your unwanted books, collectibles, dishes, antiques, **women's** clothing, and any garage-sale type items good enough to sell. If you have a question about whether an item is suitable for the Flea Market, call **Bev Perella**, 610-603-0150.
- ☺ Volunteer to work at our various stands on sale day. Two – hour shifts are available : 7-9, 9-11, 11-1, 1-3, and clean up. Call Beverly to sign up. Additional help is needed to pack up items on Mon-

day morning, May 22, at 9 am. No experience necessary. Pricing continues every Monday and Wednesday, 11 am-1 pm, in the Education Building and Memorial Hall, and we welcome your help.

- ☺ Donate food items: Barbecue, hot dogs, hamburger or hot dog rolls, cans of soda, small bottles of water, or baked goods can be brought to the Church Kitchen on Friday, May 19, and early Saturday, May 20.

Please remember to place ready-to-sell women's clothing (**only women's!**) on hangers, available at the church, if needed.

And finally, attend and support your church at this fun and profitable event!

Volunteers from Lincoln Park Join Others on Mission Trip to North Carolina

From Pastor Dave McMillan



During the week of June 4-10, nine volunteers from Lincoln Park, Mohnton, and Olivet UMC, in Coatesville, will travel to the United Methodist Disaster Response Center in Tarboro, North Carolina. Along with 40 other Methodist volunteers from across the country, we will help families still recovering from hurricanes and flooding of the

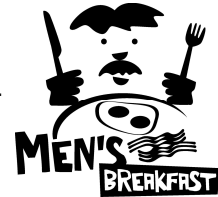
past two years.

Our work will include demolition, cleaning, laying tile and flooring, studding walls, installing insulation, dry walling, spackling, and painting. **Brian Hibshman**, a member of Mohnton UMC, general contractor and veteran of numerous work trips, has graciously agreed to lead our expedition. Please keep us in your prayers that we might be the “salt of the earth.”

Rise and Shine for Breakfast

From Pastor Dave McMillan

In May, our Men’s Breakfast will be held on the first Wednesday, May 3, at 8 am, at the Deluxe Diner on Old Lancaster Avenue. In June, we’ll meet on the second Wednesday, June 14. Everyone is invited for a brief devotion, food, and good Christian fellowship.



**Please Bring Your Pre-Schoolers
for Vacation Bible School**

July 25, 26, and 27

From Beverly Perella

6-7:15 pm in the Nursery

Children Age 2 - Grade 1

The Youth Group Summit will assist.



A New Old Way to Pray

An ancient Jewish form of prayer, still in use today, involves sprinkling one's day with short prayers of gratitude to God. The prayer typically begins: "Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who ..." and concludes with a phrase that fits the specific situation. Such a prayer works well in good circumstances and bad. For example:

- "Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who has provided clean water for my shower this morning."
- "Blessed are you, O Lord ... who brings friends to support me in my grief."
- "Blessed are you, O Lord ... who has blessed me with a keen mind; please help me focus while I take this test."
- "Blessed are you, O Lord ... who holds my children in unconditional love."

Try using this form of prayer liberally as a way to "pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17) and to weave your faith throughout your day.



Mentors Needed at Olivet Boys and Girls Club

Would you like to make a difference in the life of a child? Sign-up to be a one-on-one mentor and help kids develop positive relationships with adults! Commitment is only four hours per month for one year! For more information, please contact Abby Goldberg @Abigail.Goldberg@olivetbgc.org.



From Kyle Robbins,
Youth Pastor

SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:10-10:50 am, Youth Room

UM YOUTH GROUP
for Grades 6-12
Sundays, 6-8 pm

Please join us! Bring friends!

Here are some upcoming events:

May 13: We'll meet at church at 12 pm to rehearse the skits, music, and more for the next day's worship service.


May 14: Youth will lead our Family Sunday (Mother's Day) Worship Service at 10 am. There will be **no Youth Group meeting tonight**.

May 20: Youth Car Wash at the Church Flea Market, 9 am-12:30 pm
Please try to have your child attend.

June 10 : School Year-End Party, 4-6 pm, plenty of games and snacks. No cost! Bring your friends!

June 18: All remaining tickets and money from BBQ Pit sales are due.

JUNE 22-25: CAMPING TRIP
It's official: We're going to Camp Ichthus Ministries in Palmerton, PA. I worked at this camp for many years and am familiar with its campground and amenities. **The cost will be \$60 dollars**



Our Youth lead worship
on Family Sunday,
May 14,
One Service at 10 am

per student. This covers everything except money at the snack bar. (If you send money with the kids, it's optional; I suggest \$10 MAX.) We'll leave at 3:30, Thursday, June 22, and return around 1 pm, Sunday, June 25.

There will be swimming, rock climbing, a service project, and a Bible series. The sooner I know if your child can come, the better. Respond at krobbin3@eastern.edu or text message, 570-869-1312. I'll collect money when we leave on June 22. If money's a problem, please contact me! I'd love to help.

As a product of camp ministry, I highly encourage sending your kids to camp. This could potentially be a life changing experience. Questions, contact me, 570-869-1312.

Leave Room in Your Schedule for Shepherding

From Katie Ganshert, submitted by Nancy Villecco

From *Daily Guideposts* 2016, June 20, 2016

When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my lambs." John 21:15 (NIV)

Luke 12:27 (NKJV)

I have a young friend. She admitted to me a serious temptation she struggles with, and I agreed to hold her accountable.

A couple of stressful, busy months went by. Not only was I on a deadline, I was leading Bible study on the weekends. Add to that a husband and a son, and I had zero margin in my life.

So when I opened up a message from my young friend, calling me out for not being there for her, I had a thousand excuses. Only none of them would cut it.

I could hear the words Jesus spoke to Simon Peter: "Feed my sheep." God had put one of His sheep into my path, to serve and love and disciple, but in saying yes to so many ministries, I no longer had

time for other people. How could I let Jesus be Lord of my schedule or how could I say yes to His opportunities if my days were already jam-packed and laid out?

Instead of giving my friend a list of excuses, I apologized. She graciously forgave, and I'm in the process of simplifying. Because even good things can get in the way of God's best.

Lord, please never let me overlook or ignore the sheep You have given me to feed. Forgive those times I let my schedule get so busy, I don't leave room for what You cherish most — people.





Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



*June 15
for our
July-August
Issue*

From our mailbox...

♥ Dear Lincoln Park Friends,
On behalf of all of us at New Journey, I want to thank you so much for your donation of the buckets of soup! As you probably know, the operation of the Soup Kitchen depends not only on organizations such as the Food Bank, but also donations from individuals and churches like yours. We truly appreciate your support. May God bless you.
Susan Summer
NJCO Volunteer



**LP Serves Dinner
at Opportunity
House**
Tuesday, July 4
Can You Help?
**Sign-up sheets are in
the Wagner Room.**

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 Kotzer, Beverly Ruffner, Mark Villecco

Births

Congratulations to **Kristopher and Krista Gilham** and **Alexa** on the birth of their daughter and sister, **Hannah Grace**, on March 10. She weighed 8lbs.10.8oz and was 20.5 inches long.



Best wishes to **Matthew Brown** and **Amy Frazier** on the birth of a son, **Mateo Lawrence Brown**, on March 7. He weighed 8lbs 7oz. His proud grandparents are **Fred and Tina Brown Eckart**.

Thank You for Your Lenten and Easter Donations

As of April 24, Lenten donations total \$1775, and Easter donations total \$1,590. Thank you!

*"We can complain because rose bushes have thorns,
or rejoice because thorn bushes have roses."*

—Abraham Lincoln

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
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