

News-Line

Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church Newsletter
Lincoln Park, Pennsylvania *September-October 2018*



From Jerry Manhart,
Stewardship
Chairman

Commitment Sunday October 14

Our 2019 Commitment Cards will be mailed to all. They can be placed in the offering plate on October 14. If you cannot be there, please mail them to the Church Office.

*Giving is the master
key to success, in all
applications of*

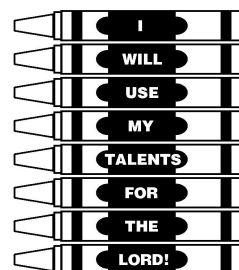
human life. --Bryant McGill, Author

Children's Ministry Workshop Planned

From Pastor SunAe Lee-Koo

**Sunday,
September 9
3-5:30 pm**

If you've volunteered to serve as a leader for Children's Moment in Worship or as a Sunday School Teacher, thank you! Or, if you're interested in Children's Ministry at LP, come and join us for some guidance, inspiration, and tips.



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 pastors. If you'd like to receive *News-Line* in the mail, just notify our Secretary, Marilyn.





at Lincoln Park Church
Sundays at 9 am
(Contemporary)
and 11 am (Traditional)

Every Third Thursday Worship at 8 pm

IT'S THURSDAY NIGHT LIVE! During this casual monthly worship time in our Wagner Room, we'll sing, pray, hear devotions, and join in fellowship.

Breakfast Is Served Every Fourth Sunday

Join us every fourth Sunday for a *free* breakfast, at 8:45 am, before our Contemporary Service at 9 am. We serve eggs, breakfast meats, cereal, pastries, fruit, and more. Hope to see you there!

Order for Sunday Worship and Bulletin to Change

From Pastor KyungMo Koo

Starting the first Sunday of September, the format of our bulletin will change. We currently use a four-page booklet format with inserts. After a year of observing and preparing, we've decided to switch to a six-sided format without inserts. The font size will be the same, but we'll use our space more efficiently. Similar information will be together in one area, while unnecessary information will be omitted. If necessary, we'll include inserts.

The first service will use the same six-sided bulletin, but with its own worship order. So far, the first service did not have bulletins but shared the same insert with the second service.



For the second service, there will be a small change in worship order. For better worship flow, we'll do Children's Moment, Sharing Joys and Concerns, Pastoral Prayer, and Passing the Peace at the beginning of the service. We will not do the Prayer of Confession,

Silent Prayer, the Word of Assurance. Instead, pastors will include the Prayer of Confession in their Pastoral Prayer. For the congregation's convenience, the Lord's Prayer will appear in the bulletin (in rotating versions each

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the pastors. We'll go with this new format for at least one year, unless there's a huge problem along the way.

(Continued on page 8)

From Beverly Perella,

The **SUMMER MINI-CONCERT SEASON** has come to a close but leaves us with warm memories of the concerts. Our gratitude is two-fold: Thanks to our talented church musicians and guests from the community who shared their gifts with us, and thanks to our congregation for supporting the Concert Fund and attending the programs. We had several new artists this summer and look forward to including more next summer. It's never too early to give me the names of additional solo musicians or groups. **We plan to offer a few mini-concerts at 10:45 through the year.**



A WORKSHOP FOR OUR BELL CHOIR will be held **Sunday, October 14**, immediately following the 11 am service. The workshop will be led by **Ron Bellamy**, a handbell artist from Lancaster. He's been a performer and clinician for Hand Bell Exploration, the Hand Bell Musicians of America, Solo/Ensemble Extravaganza, and has directed several massed ringing workshops. Ron is presently directing five hand bell choirs at four churches in Lancaster. Ron performed here at LP several years ago for a mini-concert. The afternoon begins with a lunch for our ringers followed by a two-hour workshop with emphasis on special ringing techniques.



A Solo Hand Bell Concert by **Ron Bellamy** will begin at 4 pm in the sanctuary. **The entire congregation is invited and encouraged to attend.** Let's fill the sanctuary. You'll be amazed at Ron's abilities. The question for the day will be *How can he possibly ring all those bells with only two hands?* Come out and find out!

BACK TO SCHOOL = BACK TO REHEARSALS

BELL CHOIR begins at 6:30 on Wednesday, September 5, with the **CHANCEL CHOIR** following at 7:30. The **CHERUBS** will meet at 6 on Tuesday evenings. And, of course, our **PRAISE BAND** will continue with their Thursday night, 8 pm, rehearsals. In the 13 years I've been at LP, I've made a "cry for help" over and over again, and here I go again.

Rebuilding and Strengthening Our Children's Moment in Worship

From The Rev. KyungMo Koo



As I shared in my last column, since last July we've seen new teachers leading Children's Moment at both services. Previously, two teachers (**Bev and Becky**) took turns, with **Kyle, Nancy/Lindsey**, or **Betsy** helping occasionally. This year, **Pastor SunAe** recruited and educated more leaders for Children's Moment for both services. Thankfully, 20 new volunteers have responded to the invitation, giving leaders the opportunity to rotate and rest. This will not only be a good lesson for our children, but also a path toward developing teachers for children's ministry, and a way to invite more children to our church.

To equip new teachers, we've planned an introductory meeting to guide them and give instructions on September 9.

There may be concerns as we rebuild this special ministry, so I want to offer some answers and assurance. One concern is about lack of participation from children, despite having plenty of teachers lined up to grow this ministry. Some Sundays, no children show up, and I don't doubt that it will happen again. I

don't worry about this issue because it's a natural growing pain when we adopt a new system. If we wait until we have enough children to teach, we'll never see a day of having enough children, or we'll be unprepared. Just as we have our nursery and nursery attendants, we

first need to be ready for the vision we dream of, and God will send us children near and far.

Second, there's a concern among new teachers about what to teach. Ideally our Children's Moments would go along

with the same Scripture or lesson as the pastor's sermon. That way, we'd have a service that flows and connects through one theme. However, there's absolutely no reason to *always* match the Children's Moment to the pastor's sermon. Sometimes, the Scripture is difficult for children to understand or too graphic or violent. As long as we share a lesson from the Bible, whether it ties to the sermon *or* is independent is unimportant.

Third, some congregants expect the pastor to be a part of Children's Mo-

(Continued on page 5)

“Children started to
come, followed by
their parents, who
brought friends, too”

(Continued from page 4)

ment. It would be a good contact point between pastors and children, and I fully understand this opinion. Yet, there is a big factor that we need to consider. As pastors whose mother tongue is not English and thus, having strong accents, we are cautious about teaching children in a direct leadership role. Unlike adults, who understand our background and take time to consider our speech, our children are innocent, honest, and straight forward. If they don't understand, they'll immediately respond with "What?" or eventually lose interest. SunAe and I have had this experience before, and we do not want to become any sort of barrier.

One of my favorite Bible verses is, *Everything is permissible, but not everything is beneficial* (1 Cor.10:23). If Children's Moment were for pastors to practice their public speech skills, we'd willingly do it. However, Children's Moment is for children. And for the sake of our children, we believe it's more beneficial for the church to work behind the scenes, preparing our teachers with good content and resources, and nurturing church leadership through new teachers.



Don't worry – SunAe and I take every opportunity to connect with our children and don't plan to stop, whether it be through VBS, the Valentine's Day event, or a comprehensive lesson for parents and children on the meaning of Holy Communion.

I want to share a wonderful experience I personally had regarding Children's Moment. When I began at my previous church 12 years ago, only five or six children came each Sunday. However, the congregation came together with a vision in faith for children's ministry. I recruited and trained willing teachers with potential, and, through prayer and active support, we experienced God's amazing miracle. Children started to come, followed by their parents, who brought friends, too. Eventually, our children's ministry blossomed. My last Children's Moment on Easter Sunday was unforgettable. I saw 26 little children run from the pews to listen to the children's sermon.

SunAe and I have the same dream and vision in faith here at Lincoln Park, and we are looking forward to your prayers and support for this precious ministry for the congregation to come.

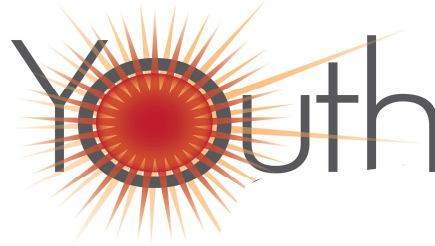
FROM THE EDITOR: One random Tuesday, when my grandson Liam was 2, we happened to be driving by Lincoln Park Church. He recognized the place and said *Chorch!* (that's not a typo) *Stop the car, I wanna go in!* We hope that he always feels that way.

From **Kyle Robbins**, Youth Leader

Our June year-end party was about color: The youth made shirts with our logo and played games with chalk paint.

In August, we had an opportunity to go to camp and spend a week in fellowship and learning about God. We had 12 students go and each had unique times, were challenged in their understanding of God, and shared about what God is doing in their lives. Please take the time to ask our youth about their trip and what it meant to them.

In September we begin our fall kickoff. We'll meet over the Labor Day weekend and begin Sunday School on September 23.



From **Beverly Perella**, Children's Ministry Coordinator



Children's Sunday School for preschoolers' resumes **Sunday, September 9**, in the Nursery. Lessons from the Cokesbury series *At Home with God* will be prepared by **Beverly Perella** and taught by Nursery Attendants **Kathi Ernst** and **Kris Fedeli** during both services. They'll also present it at 10 am if there's a need.

The time for the **Potter's Wheel Class** for children in Kindergarten through Grade 3 has not yet been determined. This curriculum works best with interaction among the children, and we now have about 5 children in this age bracket. We're trying to accommodate the needs of our parents and children and are asking for input from them. As soon as we have a time, we'll announce it.

You're Invited for Our...

September 16

**ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY
CELEBRATION
SEPTEMBER 16**

Lincoln Park Community UMC — 1 Carlisle Ave Reading PA 19609
www.lpcumc.org



WORSHIP in the morning with
Guest Preacher, **the Rev. Barry Ball**
9 am Contemporary Service with Praise Band
11 am Traditional Service with Chancel Choir

OUTDOOR FUN in the afternoon
with Puppeteer, **Jack Foreaker**
3 pm Puppet Show

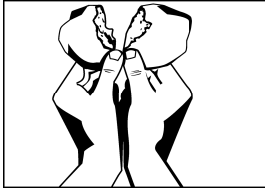
Puppeteer **Jack Foreaker** has worked on movies like *The Gentle People* and *the Quiet Land* and *The Muppets Take Manhattan*, where he performed as a puppeteer in Miss Piggy's wedding.

Admission is Free in Celebration of Anniversary Sunday

New Visitation

Program Begins

From Pastor KyungMo Koo



Starting in September, Pastor SunAe and I will establish a special visitation program for

those of you who cannot come to church but want to receive Holy Communion. Every odd month (January, March, May, July, September, and November), after Communion Sunday, the first Tuesday of the month will be set aside for this visitation when you ask for it.

Please reach out to our Church Secretary, Marilyn, 610-777-1422, to express your desire to receive communion, SunAe or I will visit you on the first Tuesday of each odd month.

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As your spiritual leader, I'd like to share with you about worship and spiritual leadership as we make this change to our worship order. The ordained elders' – your pastors' – role and responsibility at the local church is the Word and Sacrament. We have learned, trained, and experienced for years how to preach, how to lead a spirit-filled worship service, and how to conduct the Holy Communion. Other administrative decisions (Council, Trustees, Finance, SPRC, or Mission) can be made by faithful, talented laity, but this Word and Sacrament belongs to the ordained pastor. Worship cannot be maintained or changed by personal preference or majority rule. That is not how church works and never has never been the case. We serve an Audience of One. Thus, please trust your pastors and follow their biblical, theological, and spiritual guidance in this area. Again, if you need any more clarity, SunAe and I can answer your questions.

Agape Circle plans September Service Project

We're making Chemo Comfort Bags for women receiving cancer treatments at the Reading Hospital/Tower Health. All church members are invited to donate: small packs of tissues, lip gloss, hand sanitizer, body lotion, word search



We extend our deepest sympathies and prayers to **Margaret Welliver** and family on the loss of her husband **Paul**, who passed away on August 7. May God surround you with His love and peace.

Reflections on Labor Day

From Brock Kidd, submitted by Nancy Villecco

The sleep of a labouring man is sweet... Ecclesiastes 5:12 (KJV)

When I was 13, I got my first job working for a local contractor. During those long, hot days hauling bricks, I gained a respect for craftsmen, an admiration for those who labor, and a realization that when I grew up I wanted to wear a suit and work in a climate-controlled office.

Years later, celebrating the long weekend of Labor Day at our family's cabin, my feet were bare, and shorts and a T-shirt replaced my usual jacket and tie. The kids were splashing in the lake, the sun was high, and a slight breeze was blowing through the pine trees. That's when the carefully laid concrete blocks that make up our cabin caught my eye. My grandfather had built this place 50 years earlier with his big hands and a happy spirit. Knowing him, I was sure he labored with a dream of all the good times his family would have here.

Labor. We all have our own style of work, and it's pretty amazing how it

comes together. Bridges and roads, skyscrapers and modest houses, plumbing, electricity, the cars we drive, the foods we eat, health-care workers, service industries, the stores, the restaurants...the list is endless. We are all laborers, serving one another, building dreams.

Today, I pause to give thanks for this concrete-block cabin and the road that brought me here, for the food we'll enjoy tonight and all the other amenities of the good life, which the labor of others affords. And, as I walk down to the shore, ready to dive into the lake, I smile at the good news of Jesus's words: *Come...all who labor...and I will give you rest.* Matthew 11:28, RSV.

Thank You, Father, For the satisfaction that hard work brings and for all of Your children who labor for one another.



Nothing is more practical than finding God, that is, that

Falling in Love

In quite an absolute, final way.

It will decide

what will get you out of bed in the morning,
what you will do with your evening,
how you spend your weekends,
what you read, who you know,
what breaks your heart,
and what amazes you
with joy and gratitude.

Fall in love,

Stay in love,

With God....

And it will decide everything.

Pedro Arrupe, SJ



DON'T THINK THAT LOVE, TO BE TRUE, HAS TO BE EXTRAORDINARY.

How does a lamp burn, if not by continuous feeding of little drops of oil?...

What are our drops of oil in our lamps? They are the small things from everyday life; the joy, the generosity, the little good things, the humility and patience. A simple thought for someone else. Our way to be silent, to listen, to forgive, to speak, and to act. They are the real drops of oil that make our lamps burn vividly our whole life.

Don't look for Jesus far away. He is not there. He is in you.

— Mother Theresa





Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



*October 15
for our
November—
December 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 Kotzer, Beverly Ruffner, Marilyn Seiders, Mark Villecco

From our mailbox...



- ♥ Thank you to the many members of our Lincoln Park Church family who expressed their condolences through the lovely notes, beautiful cards, and prayers sent our way on the recent passing of my mother, **Sarah Yatron.**

With our love and gratitude,

Change of Address

Mary Troutman
2000 Cambridge Ave Apt 303
Reading PA 19610-2737

*spread
joy*

From Cindy Kercher

Our **MONDAY MORNING EXERCISE CLASS** resumes Monday, September 10, at 9:30 AM. All are welcome!



**LP Serves Dinner at
Opportunity House
Tuesday, September 4,
& Tuesday, November 6**



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
10:10-10:50 am - Christian Education
11 am - Traditional Worship
Office hours -10 am-1pm, Mon, Wed, Thurs
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Music Director: Beverly Perella, 610-334-4197
Worship Leader: Mark Villecco
Youth Leader: Kyle Robbins
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