

# News-Line

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

*November-December 2018*

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## Operation Christmas Child – The Power of a Simple Gift

From Jim Eckert, Missions Chair

It's time to fill a shoe box! Since 2002, generous participants at our church have filled some 800 boxes with small gifts for children, many of whom have never before received a gift. Check the Wagner Room for brochures explaining the ministry, suggested gifts, and instructions for preparing the box. Even non-shoppers like myself have found this to be fun and rewarding. Some boxes will be provided in the Wagner Room. Note that a plastic con-



tainer may be substituted for a shoe box.

*How to Pack a Shoebox* brochures can be found in bulletins or in the Wagner Room. Take note in the brochure of prohibited items, especially all food-stuffs, toothpaste, liquids, which had been permitted in the past. For more information go to [samaritanspurse.org/occ](http://samaritanspurse.org/occ).

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## Autumn Silent Auction: It's Not Too Late to Join In!

From Carol Bashore



Thank you to everyone participating in our fall fundraiser. We received many tempting items and services that are still on the auction block. **The last day for bidding will be Sunday, November 5, at 12:30.** If you've not had a chance to view these terrific gifts, go to the

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## 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.

### **Free Breakfast Served Every Fourth Sunday**

Join us 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!

December 2: **CHRISTMAS PARTY**, 5-7 pm

December 9: **CHRISTMAS CANTATA**, 11 am

December 24: **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**  
7 and 10 pm

**FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**, 7 pm, features the talents of our youth and children in a traditional Christmas pageant, directed by **Beverly Perella**. Enjoy special music by the youth and soprano soloist, **Lindsey Villecco**. A candle lighting at the end sends us into the world prepared to greet the precious Holy Baby.

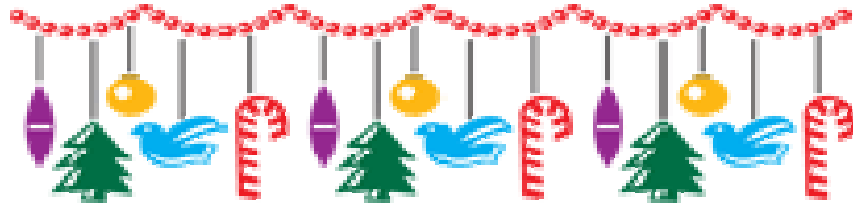
**Traditional Candlelight Service**, 10 pm, features music of the Chancel Choir, guest musicians **JIM SPANGLER** and **MAEVE BARTA** on trumpet, **ROBIN LILAROSE** on flute, and **Emily Levan**, vocalist.



**YOU CAN HELP** decorate our beautiful church this season by ordering red, white, or pink poinsettias. They cost \$6 each and can be dedicated *in honor* or *in memory of* (someone) or *to the glory of God*.



Order forms (in bulletins, Wagner Room, or Church Office) must be received **by December 2**. Please place orders — with cash or check payable to LPCUMC — in the basket in the Wagner Room or mail them to the Church Office at 1 Carlisle Ave, Reading PA 19609. **Betsy Buchanan**, 610-777-2501.



From Jim Eckert, Missions Chair

Our **Salvation Army Adopt-A-Family Angel Tree** will be up the Sunday after Thanksgiving – **November 25**. Gifts will be collected up to Sunday, **December 16**. We plan to assist two-three families, totaling around 10 folks.

The Missions Committee and Salvation Army want to thank our church family for their response to the Angel Tree last year. We helped two families, totaling nine individuals. One family was a widowed mother with three boys, living with her mother. The other was a newly single mother with three girls, one of whom had taken a job to help with bills. Gift requests were daily needs items like winter clothing, boots, simple toys or crafts for children, household items. All items placed on the tree were taken by generous folks who wanted to help make the season a little better for those whose needs are great. In addition, individuals who made donations for gift cards to Giant and Wal-Mart allowed these folk to make some choices of their own.



**From Beverly Perella, Music Director**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, AT 11 AM**

***What Child Is This?*** by contemporary composer Joel Raney. "This is an exciting choral experience with music that inspires, thrills, informs, and entertains with both familiar and original music for the Christmas season," he says. Narration adds to the depth and warmth of each selection. The Chancel Choir will have about 18 singers along with instrumentalists, trumpet, flute, drums, piano, and hopefully, violin. The Bell Choir and the Cherub Choir will present their own music for this blessed time.



## Grateful to God for the Nurture Committee's Ministry at LPCUMC

From The Rev SunAe Lee-Koo



Last year, through the Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development, we re-formed the Nurture Committee as an umbrella committee for many groups that have led fellowship and caring ministries at LP Church. Led

by **Barbara**

**Leas**, this Committee focuses on the ministry of nurture in fellowship, providing opportunities for congregants from both services — contemporary and traditional services — to get to know each other, as well as for neighbors to come to feel the love of God.

As our first project, before Valentine's Day, the Nurture Committee held a *Sweetness of God's Love* event. For this event, members of the committee met several times, planned, and shared tasks, while decorating the Memorial Fellowship Hall with colorful tables, making chocolate candies, hosting each table with games, bagging goodies for shut-ins, and managing the photo booth. We were open to any and all ideas: **Linda Woll's** daughter, **Olivia**, gave input that

was especially creative, and we were happy to be guided by this sweet teen's direction.

One memory that all the committee members hold dear is that a man named

Joe came to this sweet event. He had come to the first service that morning and shared his prayer request that he had only one week left to live, according

to his doctors. We invited him to come to *Sweetness of God's Love*, and he did. How Joe enjoyed the sweet cookies and lime punch, how he smiled every time he filled his cup and grabbed a cookie. He came back to church the following Sunday. He passed away after three weeks, but those of us who met him that afternoon at *Sweetness of God's Love* knew that even though not all the congregation came for this event, we had enough reason to share God's love that particular Sunday. The goodie bags filled with hand-made chocolates and candies were to be given to shut-ins. For that purpose, the Nurture Committee wrote cards and visited them to deliver God's love.

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The Committee's second project was making *Welcoming Bags* for visitors. After compiling ideas and hearing the Worship Committee's input, researching prices for months, and receiving **Linda Mann's** donation of pens with the church logo, **Barbara Leas** made the first 50 Welcoming Bags. Now, we're ready to make more as we're pleased to see the diminishing number of bags left over.

For our third project, *National Night Out*, in August, we updated our church brochure and made flyers for **Anniversary Sunday**, to invite the wider community to our church. Every time we met, a new idea arose. We painted stones with magnets, decorated a frame with weaving ribbons, did face painting ... Our enthusiasm grew as we received 240 bags of pretzels free from Sturgis Pretzels. Although the National Night Out was cut short by rain, the Nurture Committee felt grateful to the many church members who came out to meet the community. Above all, we were grateful because through the preparatory meetings, each of us enjoyed being on the committee as we built our relationships through the ministry events.

The fourth project of the Nurture Committee was celebrating our **Anniversary Sunday** in a special way: through a Puppet Show and Potluck

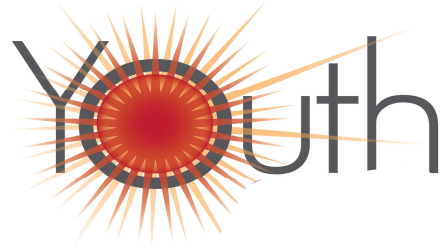
Picnic. Though some of us were worried about the number of people who might come based on past picnic experience, we prayed for good weather and planned willingly. Thanks be to God, we had plenty of food that was all consumed. It was an event where we as the church gathered inter-generationally, from both Contemporary and Traditional Services. It was filled with laughter, relaxation, food, comfortable chatting, and drawing on tables and faces. This gathering of about 70 people was truly exciting and encouraging for the Nurture Committee's ministry.

The Committee's last project this year will be our **Christmas Party (on December 2)**, which has been led by **Beverly Perella** for many years. We began our preparatory meetings under **Barb's** leadership as soon as **Bev** asked us to take charge.

I love each of the ladies on the Committee. Their willingness to serve the church with their best talent is evident, as we heard them say *I can* or *I will do* and *Let's do* or *I agree*, encouraging one another's ideas. Have you heard a comment at a committee discussion such as *That's an awesome idea! You're smart to think of apple sauce for a Christmas Party!* Yes, there'll be applesauce and other dishes along with Redner's fried chicken. We'll keep our tradition of Santa's Workshop,

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From **Kyle Robbins**, Youth Leader



Over the last few months, our ministry has been placing an emphasis on two areas: prayer and outreach. We've had several events specifically geared for our students to reach out to friends and invite them to our Summit Youth Ministry program. One very successful event was our annual trip to the corn maze.

We've also been placing a heavy emphasis on prayer through the fall semester. As a ministry we're completing a 4-week *video series* with small group discussion on the importance, practice, power and styles of prayer. This will lead into a *speaking series* on different prayers, and ways people have prayer through the Christian tradition. At the end of the small groups and the eventual speaking series, the kids are challenged to go into a time of individual prayer for a set amount of time. Our goal as a ministry is to move our kids from a prayer time of five minutes to near 20 to 30 minutes of prayer.

As for upcoming events, we have two coming in November and more.

**NOVEMBER 2 - MOSAIC CONFERENCE Worship Night** in Lebanon County. This is a no cost event.

**NOVEMBER 16 - RE-VERB**

This annual all-night event is in Allentown this year. It includes games (like bubble soccer) ice skating, watching a hockey game, and hearing a message with a Gospel presentation. This is a great event for bringing a friend!

**DECEMBER 9 – YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY**

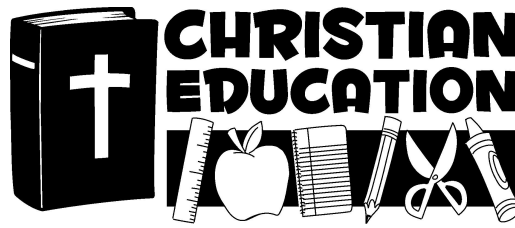
**JANUARY 27- PARENTS APPRECIATION NIGHT**

We'll show parents our year-in-review video, host a meal for our families, and, as a ministry, use this as an opportunity to say *THANK YOU* to our parents. We'll also announce the dates for camp and other upcoming events!



**LP Serves Dinner at  
Opportunity House  
Tuesday, November 6**

**Can you help? Sign-up sheets are in the Wagner Room.**



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

The **POTTER'S WHEEL CLASS** for children, Kindergarten – Grade 3, will be held from 10:15-10:55 in Room 101 of the Education Building. **We're asking for volunteers to teach this class; however, I will prepare the lessons.** We want to offer Sunday School for kids at the time we offer classes for adults. Thus, parents and kids can attend at the same time. We have children in this age bracket who attend both services. So, it seems like this is the right time to combine the kids and offer one lesson for both groups at 10:15. Our nursery attendants will continue to offer a lesson at 9, 10:15 and 11 AM as needed from infants through pre-kindergarten. Please call Beverly at 610-334-4197 with any questions or to volunteer to teach.

### ***If You Build It They Will Come***

Remember this phrase from the movie *Field of Dreams*? That's what we're trying to do with our Sunday School at Lincoln Park. We want to spread the word about Jesus and the way he taught us to live to as many children as possible.

Please bring your children, grandchildren, friends and neighbors so our dreams will come true. **Your personal invitation can make a difference in a child's life!!**

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Baking Cookies, Wrapping Books; and we'll think of more creative ideas to build fellowship through the Christmas Party.

The Nurture Committee has lifted my spirit because it's a committee that focuses on doing what is good and productive. It brings our church together in sweet, delicious ways. Please keep the Nurture Committee in your prayers, and respond positively whenever Barb or other leaders stand up to make an announcement about ministry opportunities, through which all of us can be nurtured as One Body of Christ Jesus.

**A New Beginning...**  
**Bev Perella Resigns As Coordinator of Children's Ministries,**  
**but Thankfully Continues as Director of Music**

From Beverly Perella

One of my favorite scriptures is Ecclesiastes 3; 1-8, a time for everything, a season for every purpose under heaven. And, it is, indeed, my time for a little more inner peace and more time to pursue some different activities. I've recently submitted my resignation as Coordinator of Children's Ministries, effective December 31, 2018. I'll continue to help with pageants and special family Sundays, but I'll no longer select, write, and prepare Sunday School lessons and other activities and responsibilities associated with the Coordinator's position.



This is the time for others to step forward in this most important ministry. I will continue as Director of Music and will be able to focus on doing the best I can for our Music Ministry. There's a time for things to begin and to end! And God often has His way of showing us those times.

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Wagner Room and put in a bid.

If you win an item, please see one of the committee members to make your payment. Please try to do this within a week so we can clean up the Wagner Room and announce our grand total. If you are unable to attend the final bidding day, but still had the highest offer, you'll receive a phone call informing you of your win. If your item did not get any bids you may reclaim your item at the end of the sale. Thanks again to all.

Committee Members: **Carol Bashore, Betsy Buchanan, Cindy Kercher, Lou and Jerry Manhart,**



*There's a Place for You!*

From Pastor SunAe Lee-Koo  
**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY, 10 am**  
 The Sacrament of Baptism  
 (November)  
 The Sacrament of Holy Communion  
 (December)



## Falling into Grace: Giving Thanks

From Marci Alborghetti, submitted by Nancy Villecco

*He, Jesus said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?"*

**FROM NANCY:** Due to the fact that I, personally, have fallen about 32 times in the last few years and could not find a submission for the *fall* time of year, I've resorted to a submission about truly *falling*.

I kept my eyes closed for a moment after waking. I wanted to savor the feeling of thankfulness. God had been healing me, and I had been learning to live with the changes and continuing pain from my fall. The journey since my broken collarbone and cracked rib led my husband, Charlie, and me to put our condominium on the market. We were better at trusting God and had accepted an offer for the purchase price, a blessing in our recession-struck city. Today, I felt a moment of bliss.

Then, Charlie walked into our room. "The buyer pulled out." "No!" I closed my eyes and howled in sadness and frustration. I could see the future we thought God had provided us collapsing into one big mess.



Another fall. Another mistake. Another accident. The doubts and depressing thoughts overwhelmed me. I was tired of trying to think positive. What did God want from me? What was I supposed to learn from this?

I opened my eyes and saw Charlie seated on the edge of the bed, head in hands, his back to me. Abruptly, the packed boxes, the vision of Christmas in the gleaming new apartment, my self-pity were all swept away. This man, who had done so much for me, loved me through everything, was hurting as much as —maybe even more than— I was. He counted on my faith to strengthen his.

I wrapped my arms around Charlie. "It's Thanksgiving time. We're together. And I can hug you with both arms. Who knows what God has planned for us next?"



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This ministry not only provides smiles and gifts, but reading materials and follow-up (by Samaritan's Purse ministry founded by Franklin Graham, son of Billy) to introduce children to Jesus Christ, in over 160 countries. Over the years they've distributed over 157,000,000 gift boxes. An on-line feature allows you to trace where your box goes.

**Boxes are due in the Wagner Room by Sunday, November 18.**

## You're Invited for Our Family Christmas Party

**Sunday, December 2, 5-7 pm**

From Barbara Leas, Nurture Committee



### CHURCH CHRISTMAS PARTY

#### Chair

Come and celebrate the season with us! As in past years, we'll do some community service projects first, followed by dinner. We'll be wrapping books for students in the Reading School District and addressing cards

for shut-ins and residents at the Hope Rescue Mission,

Santa's Workshop will be open again where kids can shop for Mom and Dad and have their gifts wrapped.

Our meal has a Southern theme, and we'll provide the main course of fried chicken, ham, and applesauce. What can you bring?

- a side dish or dessert (with Southern flair?)
- cookies that we can package for the residents at Hope Rescue Mission
- extra Christmas cards that we can address for our shut-ins and the men at the Mission.

To All of the Picnic Volunteers who helped set up, clean up, and donated food, I thank you! **Barb Leas**



WE EXTEND OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES AND PRAYERS to **Kris** and **David Wright**, their daughter **Megan DiPiano** and son **James Wright**, on the loss of their mother and grandmother, **Kathryn Hafer**, who passed away on September 4. Kathryn lived in Lincoln Park most of her life and was an active member of our church, having been Church Treasurer for 15 years and served in many choirs and outreach committees.

And to the family of **Thelma Godshalk**, who passed away on September 30, at the age of 101.



# Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



**December 30**  
for our  
**Winter (Jan-Feb)**  
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,  
**Debbie & George Pyle**



Last issue the Pyle's names disappeared here...so sorry !!!

## Change of Address

Dr & Mrs Mike Avedissian  
PO Box 591  
Coatesville PA 19320-0591

Mr & Mrs Denis Dorward  
3348 Harwood Ln  
Sinking Spring PA 19608-8811

Margaret Christ  
612 Golden Dr  
Blandon PA 19510-9658

Mr Grant Garrity  
36884 Grove Estate Rd  
Lewes DE 19958-2756

- ♥ Our church really cares about others — especially its members— I am so thankful for your prayers and good wishes for my recovery from an auto accident on July 11. My love to all for your kindness, cards, visits, and delicious food.

Sincerely,  
**Harry Garrity**



We have in our hearts and prayers...**Debbie and George Pyle** on the death of Debbie's father, **Stratton Yatron**, in September.

And to **Sandi Rosencrans** on the death of her sister in September...

And to **Barbara Radcliffe** on the recent death of her daughter.

May God bless you and surround you with His love and peace.



# 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 Pastors: KyungMo Koo, SunAe Lee-Koo  
Music Director: Beverly Perella, 610-334-4197  
Worship Leader: Mark Villecco  
Youth Leader: Kyle Robbins  
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; Ed Bldg 15; Nursery 14  
Fax line 610-777-4309  
Voicemail: Church Office 10, Beverly Perella 16  
Web: www.lpcumc.org