

News-Line

Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church Newsletter
Lincoln Park, Pennsylvania *May-June 2019*

Annual Flea Market Returns **Saturday May 18 , 7 am — 3 pm**



Have you ever heard the expression that it takes a village to raise a child? Well, it also takes a village to have a successful Flea Market. Lots of volunteers giving their time, talent, and treasures are needed.

First, you must have people willing to donate the fleas, women's clothing, and books to sell. Also needed are hotdogs, barbecue, buns, small cans of soda, bottled water, and baked goods. Next, you

must have volunteers to price the fleas, set up the tables and clothing racks, arrange the books, sort the clothing, and make the soup.

Then, the day of the Flea Market, many are needed to work two hour shifts or longer to sell the items. Last, it's not finished until all left over fleas, books, and food are boxed up and donated to Opportunity House, Hope Rescue, Goodwill, and Berks Book Bonanza. Tables must be stored, and the Church and Memorial Hall returned to normal.

Please become a member of the Flea Market village. Help your church, serve your community, and join the fun.

We can accept your donations through Tuesday, May 14. Thank you!



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!

Family Sunday, One Combined Service 10 am

From Kyle Robbins, Youth Leader

On **May 12, Mother's Day**, our youth will be leading the service, and the children of the church will be singing in the Cherub Choir. There will also be a special offering to help support the summer youth missions trip.

Our missions trip is going to be to the Philadelphia Project from June 23-28. We'll be working to repair some homes in the city of Philadelphia. There will also be time for worship and fellowship built in to the schedule.



Music Sunday

June 9

From Beverly Perella, Music Director

The theme for our 11 am service, with the Chancel Choir, the Bell Choir and instrumentalists, is *God's Creation*. The Praise Band has selected music to highlight their theme of *Storytellers*, Part II.

God's gift of music is to be celebrated! Share this day with us! Why not invite others to join us?



Summer Mini-Concerts at Lincoln Park

Another summer is about to begin and that means we'll begin our Summer Mini-Concert season. We begin our 11 am worship service, **at 10:45 am**, with this special music. Here are the first two concerts:

June 16- **Donna Danielski**, Soprano
June 23- **Ron Bellamy**, Solo Bell Ringer.

Summer Concerts ☀

Can you help fill the other Sundays? Please give your suggestions to **Bev Perella** or call her, 610-334-4197. If you'd like to donate to this ministry, be sure to mark *Concert Fund* on your check or envelope.



Mark Your Summer Calendars for Vacation Bible School

Monday, July 22- Thursday, July 25
6-7 pm

From **Beverly Perella**
Christian Education Chair

Please mark these dates on your calendar. Look around your neighborhood and invite your family, your friends and your

neighborhood children age 2- Grade 3 to come from 6-7 pm. This year we have added an extra day to praise God through Bible stories, activities, crafts, music and even snacks. There are plenty of ways you can help! If I need to tap you on the shoulder to volunteer, I will.

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-Linc* in the mail, just notify our Secretary, Marilyn.



Our Small Welcoming Act is the First Step in Showing God's Hospitality

From The Rev KyungMo Koo



I'll never forget the feeling. It was as if I'd suddenly become invisible. A few years ago I'd gone into a luxurious department store called *Neiman Marcus* to buy a gift for my wife. I made my way to the proper section and stood by the counter. Nothing happened. I moved around and tried to look eager to buy. Still nothing happened. I could not get waited on. The store was not busy. I could see two or three clusters of clerks engaged in conversation and decoration. Others were straightening racks. But no one acknowledged that I was there. Nobody waited on me. I didn't look rich and luxurious so they didn't concentrate on me. I was invisible in that moment. I finally went to another store and bought the gift I wanted.

Many people around us have an even greater need to know about Jesus Christ and His gift of salvation. This need is only highlighted by the countless mission and ministry programs that all churches offer as invitation. Some people yearn for us to acknowledge and reach out to them. They respond to our kind deeds done in Jesus' name. Still others may require our gentle persuasion to accept the offer of salvation. Some knock at our church doors or show up at a random Sunday service.

What if we lose these people—whoever they are: visitors, seekers, or church shoppers—in our church sanctuary on Sunday mornings as they come by themselves? How can we stop this?

**“Let us be more
intentional,
stepping out of our
comfort zones to meet
new faces ...”**

Let's say you're a shop owner wanting to sell good things to the customer. You've been looking forward to receiving many customers. You prepared for them, cleaning the shop inside and out, even installing a nice sign in front of the shop for a good first impression. You prepared gourmet coffee and tea and even a small gift for visiting. But, what if you do not warmly welcome them as

they open the door and step inside? What if you don't recognize or respond to the customer kindly, or you're too lazy to answer the customer's questions... what will happen? You know the answer. You'll lose customers and won't sell anything, even if you have the best product.

We need to show through our words and actions that the people who step through the doors are not invisible.

A church newsletter mentioned a man who visited 18 churches on successive Sundays. He was trying to find out what the churches

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

were really like. He said, "I sat near the front. After the service, I walked slowly to the rear, then returned to the front and went back to the foyer using another aisle. I smiled and was neatly dressed. I asked one person to direct me to a specific place: a fellowship hall, pastor's study, etc. I remained for coffee if served. I used a scale to rate the reception I received. awarding points on this basis:

- 10 for a smile from a worshiper
- 10 for a greeting from someone sitting nearby
- 100 for an exchange of names
- 200 for an invitation to have coffee
- 200 for an invitation to return
- 1000 for an introduction to another worshiper
- 2000 for an invitation to meet the pastor

On this scale, 11 of the 18 churches earned fewer than 100 points. Five actually received less than 20. The conclusion: The doctrine may be biblical, the singing inspirational, the sermon uplifting, but when a visitor finds nobody who cares whether he's here, he's not likely to come back.

Gratefully, God continues to send new faces and families to Lincoln Park. Whenever we see new faces, SunAe and I reach out to them, and if they're open, visit, with small gifts as a welcome. After a while, we receive them as our new family through New Members Class when they're ready. However, the congregation's first smile, kind hug, welcome, and hospitality are a huge deal breaker for newcomers and their decision to come again. Our small act of welcome, whether it be a smile, handshake, hug, caring attitude, or welcoming words,

helps newcomers feel invited, comforted, and cared for as they visit Lincoln Park.

Before people are willing to worship with us and before they share God's amazing grace with us, they expect to feel welcomed by us in the name of Jesus Christ. They look forward to seeing God's acceptance, hospitality, and grace through us. Every Sunday, we have a precious opportunity to show new faces that we cherish relationships and strive to love everyone who walks through our doors.

Even though Lincoln Park has a reputation as a warm congregation, we need to raise our welcoming attitude to a new level to bring people in and give them a reason to stay. Let us be more intentional, stepping out of our comfort zones to meet new faces as we pass the peace and after service. Introduce ourselves and guide visitors when needed. Build friendships and be a contact for newcomers, if possible. Share information with other members or pastors. Let us not only welcome them, but show kindness; let us help them settle down and be rooted as a part of our family. I strongly believe that our small welcoming act is the first step in showing God's hospitality; that He will embrace anyone who comes to Him. Let us serve the Lord by welcoming others into the house of God!

Young Mothers Refresh at Spiritual Retreat

From Pastor SunAe Lee-Koo



We hope that our young mothers at Lincoln Park are feeling recharged after spending Saturdays in April at church, sharing stories, painting, drawing, writing, dancing, walking, and meditating.

Thank you very much, volunteers, for your help: **Margaret Welliver** for the welcoming decorations every Saturday; **Cindy Kercher** for delicious snacks every Saturday; **Jim Eckert** for cleaning up; **Linda Woll** for babies' foot printing; **Deb Gehr** for providing towels; **Jan Ferree** for entertaining our children through storybooks, playing music, and snacks; **Kathi** and **Kris** for supporting us at the nursery; **Pastor Koo** for sharing his perspective with the moms; **Haley Kim** for teaching us quill art; **Chelsea** and **GaHye** for beautifying our moms' feet; **Alan Koebler** for providing lunch; and those who prayed for this retreat.



Value support and friendship
A daughter in Christ
Evolving as a Mother
Adventure and opportunity await
A daughter in Christ
To achieve inner peace
Adventure and opportunity await
Inspiration of limitless creativity
To achieve inner peace
Evolving as a Mother
Inspiration of limitless creativity
Value support and friendship

Young Mothers' Prayerful Poetry





I am loved by my family and friends.
 I try to be perfect, but I am flawed.
 I am a good mother to Juliette.
 I try to be kind in all situations,
 Although it can be difficult..

I try to be perfect, but I am flawed.
 I am a wife and support my husband.
 I try to be kind in all situations,
 Although it can be difficult.
 Being a perfectionist is unrealistic.

I am a wife and support my husband.
 I am a good mother to Juliette.
 Being a perfectionist is unrealistic.
 I am loved by my family and friends.

When some 2nd-graders were quizzed about *Moms*, the results were funny. For instance, to *What are mothers made of?* One child answered, *God makes mothers out of clouds, angel hair, and everything nice in the world, and one dab of mean.*

To *What does your mom do in her spare time?* one youngster said, *Mothers don't do spare time.*

When asked *Why did God give you your mother and not some other mom?* one child replied, *God knew she likes me a lot more than other people's moms like me."*
 Published in: May 2011



I am a mother, a strong one.
 Loving is the only way to be.
 With the help of strong friendships &
 being a friend,
 This life will be full of many creative moments.
 Loving is the only way to be.
 My heart must be full of peace, hope, joy,
 & the love of God.
 This life will be full of many creative moments.
 So I will be alive!

My heart must be full of peace, hope, joy, & the love of God
 With the help of strong friendships & being a friend.
 So I will be alive!
 I am a mother, a strong one.



Come and Visit Our Garden! A Garden Tour Opportunity

George and I have accepted an offer to have our property on this year's *Shillington Library's 4th Annual Spring Garden Tour*. The tour will be held on Saturday, June 22, from 10 am to 4 pm. A total of five area gardens will be on the tour, and a map with a brochure will direct you to each of the five properties. A description of our garden as well as the gardens on the other four properties is provided in the brochure.

At our property we hope you'll enjoy a colorful variety of perennials and annuals, as well as container plantings which compliment the beauty and charm of Berks County's only "Round House," built in 1927, by a two-term Pennsylvania Congressman, Cyress K Brendle.



With both shade and full sun environment, you'll see a garden of ostrich ferns, one of far-fugium (leopard plant), knock-out roses, an assortment of hostas, and a lengthy curbside bank of orange day lilies.

The cost of the tour is \$15, and all proceeds go toward the operation of the Shillington Library. Tickets may be purchased there during normal operating hours: Monday, Tuesday, and

Thursday: 9 am - 8 pm, Wednesday: 9 am - 5 pm, Friday: 9 am - 1 pm, and Saturday 9 am - 4 pm.

Come and enjoy the day outside, get some new garden ideas and most of all, see one of God's greatest creations, flowers and more flowers.

New Members Always Welcome at Book Club

All are invited to Lincoln Park's Book Club, which meets monthly at the home of **Marian Longenecker**, 610-775-4528. The May selection will be *Lilac Girls*, by Martha Kelly.

We Remember Those Who Served

From John Dilworth, submitted by Nancy Villecco

Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.
John 15:13 (NIV)

Standing aboard the USS Missouri, where the treaty was signed ending World War II, our tour guide remarked, *You are experiencing today the beginning and end of World War II.* The Missouri is docked near the USS Arizona, which is resting where it sank during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

I had spent the morning at the USS Arizona Memorial. The smell of oil still leaking from the sunken ship drew me deeper into that moment of history. I heard stories of the attack and scanned the names of the 1,177 sailors and marines who died on the Arizona.

The short distance separating the two ships does not capture the magnitude of sacrifice made between these two historical bookends. Some lost their lives at the start, others, during the journey, returned home. For me, each became a hero the moment he or she pledged to defend and protect our nation no matter the cost.



Today we observe Memorial Day, established to honor those who died in military service. In our township all heroes are honored, living or deceased- veterans, active military, firefighters, teachers, police officers, coaches, mentors, medical professionals, family members, and friends- with a flag placed with each of their names on a *Field of Heroes*.

Walking among hundreds of flags, reading the tributes, and honoring their contributions fills my soul with an indescribable gratitude.

Join me today in honoring all of your heroes. And, at 3 pm- the national moment to pause- remember especially the sacrifice of those who gave their lives so we can fly the Stars and Stripes.

Dear God, we give thanks for all who laid down their lives in service to our grateful nation.

Thank You for Your great sacrifice, Lord, that gives us hope for eternal reunions with each one. Amen.



PERSONAL NOTE: After Jack's service in Korea through 1974, he got a great assignment in Hawaii. We found a townhouse to rent up a VERY steep hill just above Pearl Harbor. It was a very emotional (yet lovely and peaceful at the time) place to live. We will always treasure that time and continue to have grateful memories of those who served and may have perished there.

Can You Help?

From KC Dianna

I run my school carnival at 13th and Union Elementary School. The carnival is the biggest fundraiser we do all year. It is for students at 13th and Union, their families, and the community. We have food vendors, moon bounces, a dunk tank and tons of games and prizes. I'm looking for volunteers to help me run games from 5-7 pm, on Friday May 31. Please let me know if you can help me! Thank you! **KC Dianna**



Prayer Rests on Trust

As a man and his young daughter were boating one day, their vessel sprang a leak. The father knew he'd have to swim to shore but couldn't with the child in tow. She hadn't gotten far in swimming lessons but could float on her back, so he told her to do so and promised to return.

Coast Guard personnel were skeptical that a child could survive so long in the water. But hours later, as the sun set, and they considered halting the search, someone spied

TRUST
yourself
TO THE
God
WHO MADE YOU

a red dress amid the waves. The girl, still floating, was singing a hymn. Astounded, rescuers asked how she held on so long. "My daddy said he'd come back for me," she said, "and he never breaks his promises."

Prayer rests on just such trust. We can't know when God will answer or act, but we know he promises never

to abandon us and that God keeps his promises. So we can lie back and float — on faith.

WE EXTEND OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES AND PRAYERS to our former Pastor, **the Rev. Larry Carl** and his wife **Brenda**, on the recent loss of Larry's sister, **Patricia**.

We were saddened to hear of the loss of long time LP member **Vivian Leber**, 94, on March 20. Our sincere sympathies to her sons, John and Kerry. Vivian was always a smiling presence at our church. A 1943 graduate of Wernersville HS, she grew up with four brothers.





Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



*June 15
for our
July-August 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

Change of Address

Dr & Mrs Mike Avedissian
1660 Goosetown Rd
Coatesville PA 19320-4641

Mrs Mary Klein
9 Heidelberg Dr #93
Wernersville PA 19565-1642

CELEBRATE



If you have a graduate in your family, please let us know! We like to hear about their accomplishments and future plans. Please send information to cheri-fallon@comcast.net or put it in my mailbox in the Church Office. Or call Cheri Fallon, 610-678-8735.

Happy Birthday!



Best Wishes to **Bernie Ackelson**
who celebrated her 90th birthday
on April 19.

“What can you do to
promote world peace?

Go home and
love your family.”

—Mother Theresa



LP Serves Dinner at Opportunity House
Tuesday, May 7 and Tuesday, July 2. Can you help?
Sign-up sheets are in the Wagner Room.

NEWS-LINC

Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church
1 Carlisle Avenue
Reading, PA 19609

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Change service requested



He ascended into Heaven

Worship with us: 9 am - Contemporary Worship
 10 - 10:15 am - Fellowship
 10:15-10:50 am - Sunday School for Adults, Youth, Children
 11 am - Traditional Worship

Office Days and Hours: 9am-1pm, Monday, Wednesday & Thursday

Pastors: KyungMo Koo, 610-6701022

SunAe Lee-Koo, sleekoo@lpcumc.org

Secretary: Marilyn Seiders, 610-777-1422, fax: 610-777-4309,
info@lpcumc.org

Editor: Cheri Fallon, 610-678- 8735, cherfallon@comcast.net

Music Director: Beverly Perella, 610-334-4197, bperella@lpcumc.org

Contemporary Worship Leader: Mark Villecco, mv559er@gmail.com

Youth Leader: Kyle Robbins, krobbin3@easternedu