

News-Line

Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church Newsletter
Lincoln Park, Pennsylvania *July-August 2023*



**Climb aboard the Rocky Railway
at LP's Vacation Bible School.**

July 17-20...6-7:30 pm

All children pre-school-Grade 5 are welcome. Guests, too!
On this faith-filled adventure, kids discover that trusting Jesus
pulls them through life's ups and downs.

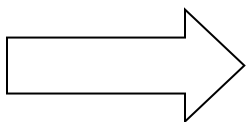
**Register online at lpcumc.org
Monetary donations are welcome.**



**Please Join Us Sunday, July 2
Combined Service at 10 am
Meet and Greet
The Rev Dr Quentin Wallace**



9 am:
Contemporary
11 am: Traditional
Loving Childcare
Available for both
services.



Sunday, July 2: WELCOME SERVICE
FOR PASTOR QUENTIN WALLACE
A COMBINED SERVICE AT 10 AM

Sunday Services Continue Virtually on Facebook

To view, go to lpcumc.org, and click the blue *Facebook Live* button. The service livestream begins at 9 & 11 am (EDT) and appears at the top of the “Posts” listings, just below the picture of the altar area of our sanctuary.

Please submit prayer requests by clicking on the *Prayer Request* tab at the top of the LPCUMC home page, or by using this link and filling in the *Prayer Request* fields:

<https://www.lpcumc.org/prayer-request/>

A “pop-up,” may ask you to log in or create a Facebook account. **Simply click “Not Now.”**

Join Us for Breakfast on Fourth Sundays!
Between Worship Services

Welcome Newcomers to Lincoln Park!

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, let us know.

Please join in at Lincoln Park!

From Music Director Irina Shmeleva

Believe or not- one more season of our Chancel Choir singing at Lincoln Park flew by in a blink of an eye. We had so many good performances this season; our choir puts incredible work into making the service meaningful and beautiful. Fall 2022 began with the Anniversary Service, then Christmas Cantata Sunday.

I'm proud of the singers and our wonderful performance at the special May service celebrating Pastor Chris's time at Lincoln Park. Soon after was our traditional Music Sunday, and, once again, it was a lot of practicing for the choir.

Besides these big events, every Sunday the choir sings its anthem- to glorify our God, to lift up the spirit, to bring joy, and to warm our hearts.

I want to tell you this: Working with our choir brings much happiness to my life. I highly appreciate the singers' dedication. I'd say that we make a great team. Our team recently welcomed a new singer —**Joan Smith**— who is definitely a great addition to the group.

For all potential choir members, I want to say: It's a wonderful experience joining this team of people who love music, church, and worshipping God. But, we also laugh a lot, and hopefully we'll establish some new

traditions of spending time together, as we did at the end of the season. Thank you, **Lou and Jerry Manhart**!

Also I can't say enough about the Bell Choir. This relatively small but enthusiastic group adds a new tone to our holiday and special services. **Krista Gilham** guides rehearsals with skill and confidence, and it's great to see happy **Alexa**'s face when she plays her bell's part.

I should stop here, but after the Father's Day service, I need to express my feelings. It was such a delight! **Dave Gehr**'s message spoke to every heart. It was not only the subject he'd chosen, but his pristine way of speaking. Our music selection proved to me that it's not us working for the service- no! It's the Holy Spirit working

through us! Our special guest, **Aaron Rucker**, is a blessing to play with.

To conclude- you can enjoy all the variety of music in our church quite soon.



Choir members **Jack Villecco** and **Ann Heller** relax in the Manharts' backyard.

On July 2, we welcome **The Rev Dr Quentin Wallace** as our new Pastor. But no more words- shhh- we want you to be surprised and proud of our amazing musicians when that service comes!

From Pastor Quentin Wallace

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28

Hello Lincoln Park Family,

As you will see, I'm an avid TV and movie fan, and I often use pop culture to help convey theological points in Bible study and sermons. That said, I recently finished a TV series entitled *Manifest*. The plot involved an airplane flight that was mysteriously lost for over five years and then suddenly returned with passengers who had not aged a day and had no idea they had been lost for half of a decade.

Over the next four seasons, those whose names were on the Flight 828 manifest sought answers as to why they'd gone through and shared this unique experience. Without giving away the ending, I will say that flight number 828 was intentionally added by the writers of the series. Romans chapter 8: verse 28 says, *All things work together for good for those who love the Lord and are called according to his purpose.*

At the conclusion of each episode it was evident that all things had worked together for good. Nothing had ever occurred by accident or happenstance.

I believe my appointment to Lincoln Park Community UMC at this time in history is when we were supposed to enter into our ministry journey together, and it's not by chance but a divine appointment.



Let me explain. In 2002, while still an Elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, I spoke with a United Methodist District Superintendent about ministry opportunities in the United Methodist

Church, and he mentioned the possibility of my being an associate at Lincoln Park. As you know, things didn't work out for that to happen. In my life experiences, I've found that people don't always go straight to their destinies but are sometimes detoured.

In my case, before arriving at LPCUMC, I went from one Methodist denomination to another, from being a fulltime college administrator and part time pastor to becoming a full time pastor. I served three congregations in Reading and then one in Lancaster before arriving at Lincoln Park.

I believe God needed to prepare me and my family for Lincoln Park and the LP congregation for me and my family.

I thank God for the preparation and I'm so excited about this opportunity to serve your congregation. Together we'll use our gifts and skills to accomplish what God has called us to. We'll bless one another and the community as we fulfill God's plan for us. I look forward to meeting the LPCUMC members and building relationships.

Thanks and Blessings,
Pastor Quentin

Many Helpful Hands Bring Success Flea Market Raises \$4,600

From Jerry Manhart, Chair

Thank you, to all who donated fleas or books, helped set up or clean up, donated food or drink, worked a shift or all day, or made purchases.

Once again, we feel we achieved our three goals: to have a successful fund raiser, provide a community service, and have an enjoyable socializer for members.

After expenses, we had a net of \$4,600. Over 40 members were involved either before, during, or after May 13, helping our success.

We provided useful items to the community at very low cost. Nothing was wasted. Leftover food was delivered to Opportunity House by **Dave Kercher**. A truckload of leftover fleas was delivered to Goodwill by **Joe and Jill Raber, Ann Heller, and Sarah George**. An SUV load was delivered

to ReVisit by **George and Jean Weikel**, a carload to Jubilee by **Linda Mann**, and a van full to Jubilee by **Jim Gehman and Jerry Manhart**. (By the way, Jerry gave away Jim's golf clubs by mistake, but they were recovered the next day.) Leftover books were donated to the student-run EspressoYourself Book Café.

Jack Villecco observed **Lou Manhart and Cindy Kercher, Carol Bashore, Jill Raber, Jean Weikel, Roe Gehman, Kris Wright, Sharon Ackelson, Nancy Madeira, and Margo Hill** busily marking and arranging the fleas on the tables in Memorial Hall and gave them the name *Flea Bees*. **Thank you** to all!



UPDATE



**From Office Administrator
Linda Livingood**

Our church directory is being updated. If you're no longer using a land line or work phone, have added or changed a cell phone number or email address, or if you changed your home address please contact Linda at the Church Office, linda@lpcumc.org, or 610-777-1422.

Congratulations Graduates!

Hanna Bilger...

granddaughter of **Dorinne Bilger** and daughter of **Carla** and **Dan Bilger**, graduated summa cum laude from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Because of COVID, her studies were from home until junior



year. Hanna's major in music for gaming focuses on composing. She is considering a graduate degree, perhaps in Boston, but is at home in South Carolina this summer on the family's 28-acre farm (with lots of animals.) **Dorinne** admits they are : "proud parents and proud grandmother!"

Samantha Chadwick...

...daughter of **Becky** and **Bill**, graduated from Indiana Area HS and will attend the Indiana Career and Technology Center to study cosmetology. Becky says, "She's always been creative with makeup, but her real



interest is theatrical makeup." She needs a degree in cosmetology before working towards a license in theatrical makeup. Samantha also works at Goodwill, is an ice skater, and also coaches skating.

Samantha and Becky will head to Hawaii soon to visit her brother **Christopher Savell**. He is a Sargent in the military, stationed in Honolulu, and pursuing a Masters Degree.

Jack Fallon...



...son of **Jeff** and **Chelsea** and grandson of **Ed** and **Cheri**, graduated from Arlington Career Center in VA and will attend Shenandoah University. He's most interested in computers. Jack was adopted from China when he was not quite three. Cheri says, "Watching him grow and learn all these years has been a wonderful adventure. We're so proud of him."

Caitlyn Christopher...

...daughter of **Dan and Deb** and granddaughter of **Nancy Artz**, graduated from Drexel University in June with her Bachelor's and Master's in biomedical engineering with a concentration in biomaterials, as well as a minor in psychology. She also graduated from the Drexel Pennoni Honors College with high honors.

Dan says, "Caitlyn is excited to begin a new chapter as she has accepted a position as a Bioengineer and Health Analyst at Invoxy LLC, in Irvine, California. Her church family has always been an important part of her life. Thank you for your unwavering support over the years, and please continue to pray for her as she begins her new life journey."



Nathan Lamm...

...graduated from Conrad Weiser this month. He is the son of **Robert** and **Sally**. He'll attend Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology in Lancaster to study Computer Integrated Machining to be a machinist. He'll create/mill the parts for any problem or defect and make sure the machines continue to run.

Nathan earned over 100 hours community service (much of it for the CW area School District) and was honored with a silver cord at graduation. He also did a lot of



work with the Boy Scout troop. "He is always busy," says Sally.

Nathan earned his Eagle Scout badge this spring. For his project **he built a bridge** (see photo) over the Hospital Creek on Sportsman Road in Wernersville.

He was also honored with three scholarships through local Conrad Weiser organizations and also earned a scholarship from the United Methodist Church Eastern PA Conference. Nathan thanks Pastor Chris for his support and encouragement.

Lincoln Park Welcomes New Members

From Cheri Fallon, Editor

Donald Gracias...131 Kathleen Ln...Wyomissing ...19610...dzap4u2@gmail.com

Donald Gracias, husband of **Jenna (Hope)** and father of **Maddie**, was born in Kuwait, and raised in Goa, India. He has two brothers: **Allan** (in Goa) and **Ronny** (in Louisiana.) When he can, he visits his grandmother, mom, and aunt in India.

Donald has a Master's in Marine Biotechnology from Goa University, and a PhD in Microbiology and Immunology from Drexel University College of Medicine (where he and Jenna met in grad school.)

He is an immunologist studying the development of new autoimmune therapies at Janssen, part of Johnson and Johnson.

When not chasing after Maddie, he is an avid reader, enjoys movies, spending time at the beach with his family, and rock climbing with his brother-in-law.



Joan Smith...208 Springside Dr...
Reading...19607...484-579-0707

Michael Sands (missing photo)...
208 Springside Dr...
Reading...19607...484-579-0707

Joan is retired from the Reading Hospital after many years as an operating room nurse. As you can see, she has already joined our Chancel Choir.

Richard Galley ...408 Lawrence Ave ...Reading, PA 19609.
717-413-5335...galley@lsabear.com

Richard is the husband of **Lori Donofrio-Galley**. They have two grown daughters, **Tessa** and **Emma**, and one son, **David**, 14, a sophomore at Wilson HS. They also have two grandchildren, **Evie** and **Maddie**.

Richard grew up in East Greenville PA and went to Upper Perkiomen Valley HS. He and Lori met at Elizabethtown College. Richard has worked most of his life in K-12 Public Education, in Administration and as Director of Technology. He currently works at LaSalle Academy in their middle school as Director of Technology and a teacher of science and computer science.

This summer Richard is excited to teach 4th– 12th grade kids science and technology for an Albright College summer camp called *Total Experience Learning*. He says, “It’s a whole new way to learn — a very exciting program.”



Deb and Dave Gehr...2949 Linda Ln
Sinking Spring, PA 19608...
610-927-2176

Dave and Deb Gehr grew up in Reading— Deb right here in Lincoln Park in the same house where her Dad still lives. (Our own **Carol Bashore** was her teacher at LP Elementary.) Deb went to Wilson HS; Dave to Reading High. They have one son, **Adam**, who’s a student at Robert Morris University in Pittsburgh.

Dave, Deb, and Adam have been active at LP Church for a while. (Dave gave the sermon on Fathers’ Day!) Deb says it was Adam who drew them in to our church. He was confirmed here, part of a large, friendly Confirmation Class.

Deb works for Lehigh Valley Hospital, doing inpatient coding from home. Dave is a purchasing manager for Enersys, a company that makes batteries.

Goodbye,
Best Wishes
& Thank You!





Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



August 15
for our
September-
October
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, Diane Fisher, Nancy Madeira, Lou Manhart, Mark Villecco, Ed Fallon

*Let's pray for the success of
our Rocky Railway VBS,
thanking God for Barbara
Leas and all the teachers
and volunteers who make it
possible!*



Baptisms

Lily Belle Guercia, daughter of **Nick** and **Lindsey (Villecco)** and granddaughter of **Jack** and **Nancy Villecco**, was baptized by **Pastor Chris Kurien** on April 30 in our sanctuary.

Milo Morgan Enright was baptized in our church by **Pastor Chris Kurien**, on May 7. He is the son of **Kevin** and **Heather (Hope)** and brother of **Liam** and **Finn**. His proud grandparents are **Earl** and **Linda Hope**. **Betty Larsen** is his great-grandmother.

May these precious little ones continue to grow in God's love and grace.



Come out and Join our Walking Group , Mondays at 9:30

NEWS-LINC

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

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage

PAID

Reading, PA

Permit No. 233

Change service requested

Worship with us: In-Person at **9 & 11 AM CURRENTLY** (Subject to change)

WORSHIP IS LIVESTREAMED AT BOTH SERVICES (See p. 2)

Pastor: The Rev Dr Quentin Wallace, pastorquentin@lpcumc.org

Contemporary Program Coordinator: Mark Villecco

Director of Music: Irina Shmeleva, irina@lpcumc.org

Office Administrator: Linda Livingood, linda@lpcumc.org

Children's Ministry Coordinator: Barbara Leas

Nursery: Kathi Ernst

Custodian: Carl Madeira

Editor: Cheri Fallon, cherfallon@comcast.net

610-678-8735

Let's do good to all people.



Galatians 6:10, NASB



Church Office Hours: Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, 10-1 pm

Office phone 610-777-1422; Ext: Kitchen 17; Ed Bldg 15; Nursery 14

Fax line 610-777-4309

Voicemail: Church Office 10

Web: www.lpcumc.org

E-mail: info@lpcumc.org (Secretary and Church)

For urgent messages, use voicemail, please.