

News-Line

Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church Newsletter
Lincoln Park, Pennsylvania *January– February 2024*

Six Months in Review for Children, Youth, and Young Adults at LP Church

Michelle Drumheller, to our team of faithful teachers. They teach the Youth/Young Adult class which has been revived due to our increase in membership.

Since September both classes have been meeting every Sunday, with some youth and young adults supporting our nursery ministry when needed.

We thank our youth and young adults for assisting with Trunk or Treat and our **HOLIDAY FAMILY FUN NIGHT** on December 9. We welcomed over 70 people, many from our community, to enjoy a meal and entertainment by KooKoo the Magician.

This event was supported by the Dewees grant. The next grant-sponsored event will be at Eastertime. During the Christmas holiday, we were blessed to provide young people with a fun-filled Christmas party, and all children under 17 received gifts on behalf of the church. It was also delightful to see our children involved in the Christmas Concert and Christmas Eve service.

Please continue to encourage our young people as they use their gifts for the Lord.

From Dr Brenda Ingram-Wallace

WE GIVE ALL PRAISE TO GOD for a thriving nursery program along with a strong Children's and Youth/Young Adult Sunday School. We welcome two of our newest members, **Tyler Birts** and





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

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.”

How Do We Know If Church Services or Events Are Cancelled?

From George Weikel, Trustee Chair



The Church Trustees have decided to use **CALLING POST** to notify our congregation of service and event cancellations. *Calling*

Post will send a message to each person on a list to be compiled by our Church Secretary. It will inform members and non-members of cancellations. For instance, a message might say *All church services and events are cancelled for Sunday, or All services are cancelled Sunday, but the Sunday Supper is still planned for 6 pm, or the Contemporary Service is cancelled, but a later com-*

bined service will be offered at 11 am.

TO IMPLEMENT THE CALLING POST SYSTEM, the Church Secretary will create a list of phone numbers of people who desire to be notified. We'll need a **single** phone number from each family and from each churchgoer living alone.

Please call the Church Office, **610-777-1422**, as soon as possible, to give Linda your phone number for the list or leave that number on the church voicemail. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

From Music Director Irina Shmeleva



What beautiful music we had at Lincoln Park this December! It's hard to know where to start telling you about it: our play and concert, on December 17, or our two Christmas Eve services.

However, I'll begin with thanking **Linda Livingood**, our Church Secretary, choir member, wonderful soloist, and flute player. Her input to our music program was above and beyond. Throughout Advent and Christmas, she sang, played flute solo music, and, on December 31, Linda and her friend performed in a quartet arrangement. What a treat!

If you didn't see our **HEARTWARMING CHRISTMAS**- you missed a Broadway-like production! **Pastor Quentin** shined in the play, along with our young artists on stage. They brought energy, eagerness, talents, and voices to make the show heartwarming indeed. I must

lift up **Krista Gilham**. As always, her work with the kids is amazing. Thank you, Krista, so very much!

Let's talk about our Chancel Choir: Wasn't their performance glorious?! Especially on Christmas Eve at 10 pm, the group was small, but they filled the sanctuary with their voices, singing with all their hearts. I love working

with our choir; we've got the best people.

And, what would life be without friends?

Both **Robin Lilarose** and **Donna Danielski** are a blessing for me to play with and a joy for Lincoln Park to hear as

they share their gift of music with us.

I wish that 2024 will bring more beautiful music to Lincoln Park. Because music talks to our hearts, lifts up the sad, calms the anxious, and sings along with those who are happy.

Happy New Year, Lincoln Park!

When, Not IF

From Pastor Quentin Wallace

Faith is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see. Hebrews 11:1 (NLT)

Some years ago, I recall an episode of the Dr. Oz program. His guest was Michael Strahan who has been successful in many venues. He's been an NFL football player, sports commentator, talk show co-host for the Kelly and Michael morning talk show, a clothier, and was promoting a book he had written.

At the time Dr. Oz was emphasizing the importance of health and positive thinking, so he asked Michael, "What is your motivation for success?" Michael indicated that his initial inspiration came from his father who told him to never use the word *if* while striving for success, instead to use the term *when*. According to Strahan, *If* implies the possibility of failure, while the term *when* indicates the possibility of success.

Wake Up Happy: The Dream



Faith is the assurance
of things hoped for,
the conviction
of things not seen.

Hebrews 11:1, NRSV

Big, Win Big Guide to Transforming Your Life is the title of Strahan's book. It shares daily practices for this type of positive thinking.

I want to highlight one concept he presented: "Don't say *If* but *When*." While Michael was inspired by his Dad's advice, we —as Christ fol-

lowers— must be inspired by the words of our heavenly Father.

God speaks of things in the present as if they have already occurred. An example in John's gospel is this: "Andrew brought his brother Simon to Jesus, Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon, the son of John. Your name will be Cephas (Cephas means Peter or the Rock)" John 1:42-44.

In 2023, at LPCUMC we began a journey, and our goal is to accomplish many things in ministry together. For 2024, as a

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church family, let us agree to use the language of our Father, by speaking positively. Let's use *if* a great deal less and *when* a great deal more.

How can we put our faith into action? Let's anticipate:

- *when* we'll bring in 50 new disciples this year
- *when* we'll feed 1000 people this year
- *when* we'll add 20 new prayer groups
- and *when* we'll be healed.

Our positive thinking is not merely presumption. We'll accomplish all that God has for us through faith in our God who has brought us this far and is able to supply our every need.

From Rich Auman

Attendance at our three Christmas Eve services in 2023 totaled 289; that was 130 people, an 82% increase over the numbers we had at three services in 2022. Whether it was the weather, the time of the services, or the pandemic running its course, it was truly a blessing in celebrating the birth of Jesus.



Adult Class Restarts January 21

Children, Youth, and Young Adults Already Meeting Between Services

We know people enjoy conversation after the 9am service, so grab your drink and snack and head down to the Library by 10:15ish to continue the conversation led by **Barbara Olawae**.



We extend our deepest sympathy...

† To **Marian Longenecker** and family on the loss of her husband **Robert** on December 24. Marian's address is The Highlands, 2000 Cambridge Ave, Room 622 Personal Care, Wyomissing PA 19608.

May God surround you with His love and care.

Hello Church Family!

From **Jim Gehman**

As we prepare for our January CARE Meal, we celebrate our two year anniversary. January is our 24th month of providing meals to church members and non-members. That's 500+ CARE meals in the past 24 months. We want our recipients to know that LP Church CAREs about them.

We're grateful to our church family for funding our FOOD MINISTRY. We continue to function without the aid of our church general budget. The committee hopes you'll continue to support our ministry.

The focus of this message is not on money, but rather on input from you. All of us enjoy a home-cooked meal, but what about a person or family who could use a boost...a gesture showing LPCUMC does indeed CARE about them? If you know anyone meeting this description, please call **Linda** in our office — 610-777-1422 —Monday, Tues-

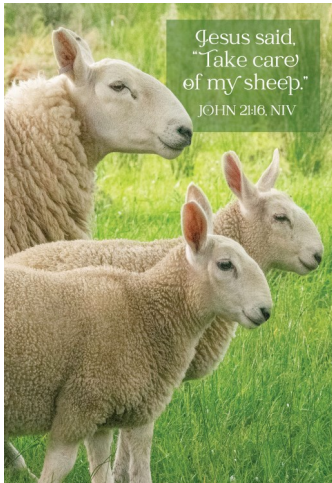
day, Thursday, or Friday, 9:30 - 1:30. Give Linda the information: name, address, phone. Also let her know if

you've contacted the person or persons you're suggesting.

Do you have a suggestion for a CARE meal menu: a main dish with one or two sides? The dinner roll, salad, and dessert are taken care of. This is another way you can be part of this ministry. Just call Linda, give her the information, and we'll add your suggestion to our menu list. We'd like to create a menu now for all of 2024.

You can help us do just that.

Our menu for January was ham with pineapple stuffing, veggie, salad, dinner roll, and dessert. Maybe we'll prepare your menu in March... "What da ya think"??? You can help the Food Ministry grow. Jump on board!!! Let us know you CARE.



"The wonderful thing about praying is that you leave a world of not being able to do something and enter God's realm, where everything is possible. He specializes in the impossible. Nothing is too great for his almighty power. Nothing is too small for his love." —Corrie ten Boom

Introducing Our Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church

Office Bearers and Committee Members for 2024

STAFF

Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Quentin Wallace
Music Director & Organist	Irina Shmeleva
Worship Leader, Contemporary Service	Mark Villecco
Office Administrator	Linda Livingood
Children's Ministry Coordinator (Interim)	Barbara Leas
Custodian	Carl Madeira
Nursery Attendant	Kathi Ernst

CHURCH COUNCIL

Chair	Geoffrey Whiteley
Vice-Chair	Jack Villecco
Secretary	Kris Wright
Lay Leader	Kris Gilham
Associate Lay Leader	Jim Gehman
Lay Member to Annual Conference	Jerry Manhart
Alternate Lay Member to Conference	Jack Villecco
Trustee Chair & Vice Chair	George Weikel & Rich Bashore
Finance Chair	Jerry Manhart
Treasurer	Cindy Kercher
Financial Secretaries	Richard & Carol Bashore
Nurture Chair	Barb Leas
Missions Committee Chair	Carol Bashore
Nominations & Leadership Development Chair	Pastor Quentin Wallace
Nominations & Leadership Development Vice Chair	Roe Gehman
Worship Committee Chair	Mark Villecco
Staff Parish Relations Chair	Barbara Olaewe
Christian Education Co-Chairs	Krista Gilham & Tori Whiteley
Endowment Chair	Rich Auman
Historian	Carl Madeira
Membership Secretary & Native American Ministries	Jack Villecco
Newsletter Editor	Cheri Fallon

**STAFF: Quentin Wallace (Pastor), Mark Villecco (Worship Leader),
Irina Shmeleva (Director of Music), Barb Leas (Children's Ministry Coordinator)**
MEMBERS-AT-LARGE: Dan Christopher, Tom Blakely

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

George Weikel (Chair) Richard Bashore (Vice-Chair) Linda Mann (Secretary) Sandi Rosencrans, Mark Bisignaro, Jim Gehman, Nick Guercia

Ex Officio: Pastor, Lay Leader, Lay Member to Annual Conference

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP

Jerry Manhart (Chair) Cindy Kercher (Treasurer) Rich & Carol Bashore (Finance Secretaries) Geoff Whiteley, Jack Villecco, Pam Shenk

Ex Officio Members: Pastor, Lay Leader, Lay Member to Annual Conference, Church Council Chair, Trustees Chairs, Endowment Chair

ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE

Rich Auman (Chair) Beth Auman (Secretary) Dan Christopher (Treasurer) , Don Schlosser, Jim Gehman, Jerry Manhart, Nick Guercia

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS & LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Roe Gehman (Vice Chair) Mark Villecco, Lou Manhart, Linda Hope, Karen McFeaters, KC Dianna, Beth Auman

Ex Officio: Pastor (Chair) Associate Lay Leader, Alternate to Annual Conference

STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Barbara Olaewe (Chair), Kweku Addae-Mensah, Sandi Rosencrans, Michele Bausher, Kasey Pierson, Rich Auman, Dave Gehr *Ex Officio:* Pastor, Lay Leader, Lay Member to Annual Conference

NURTURE COMMITTEE

Barb Leas (Chair) Jackie Kauffman, Gretchen Garrity, Jenna Hope Gracias, Krista Gilham, Minister Brenda Wallace, Nancy Madeira, Mike Kauffman, Michelle Drumheller *Ex Officio:* Pastor, Lay Leader

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Barb Leas (Coordinator) Barbara Olaewe, Krista Gilham (Co-Chair) KC Dianna, Lindsey Villecco, Victoria Whiteley (Co-Chair) Lauren Pierson

Members at large: Children's Time Leaders, Children's Cherub Choir Leaders, Sunday School Adult Leaders *Ex Officio:* Pastor, Lay Leader

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MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Carol Bashore (Co-Chair) Diane Fisher, Cheri Fallon, Dave Kercher, Victoria Whiteley, Jim Eckert, Deb Gehr (Co-Chair) Barbara Olaewe

Ex Officio: Pastor, Lay Leader

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Mission Plans for 2024

From Carol Bashore

In 2024 your Missions Committee plans to reach out again to people and organizations in need. Our team's goal is to support UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) and to assist at least four local charities to assist each year.

Helping Harvest and the Salvation Army's Angel Tree have been past favorite fundraisers. In 2024 we may choose to assist the Hope Rescue Mission with their new Women's and Children's Center, just opened in 2023. **If you have other ideas or recommendations you'd like us to consider, please let us know.** Our team will meet at the end of the month to map out plans for this year's missions. Thank you.

**Missions Committee
thanks all who made
the Angel Tree project
successful .**

**Also, your Christmas
Eve offerings were
added to other checks
and sent to groups we
assisted
in 2023:
Hannah's Hope
Safe Berks
Opportunity House
Helping Harvest
Salvation Army**

"It's amazing how giving and considerate our congregation has been in 2023. They obviously share our dedication to help the needy." —Carol Bashore

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Mark Villecco (Chair) Jean Weikel, KC Dianna, Kris Wright (Secretary) Kevin Villecco, Karen McFeaters, Ann Heller, Lindsey Villecco Guercia, Deb Gehr
Ex Officio: Pastor, Lay Leader, Director of Music, Custodian, Jack Villecco & Church Secretary (Lector, Greeter, & Usher Scheduling) George Weikel & Nancy Madeira (Communion Set-up) Linens & Communion Removal & Cleanup OPEN, Altar Flower Scheduling OPEN, Usher Team Captain 11 am OPEN.

FOOD MINISTRY TEAM

Alan Koeble (Chair) Dave & Cindy Kercher, Jen Born, Jim Gehman, Kris Gilham

AUDIOVISUAL TEAM

Mark Villecco, Kris Gilham, Dennis Antunes, Nick Guercia, Jerry Manhart, Jack Villecco, Rich Auman, Geoff Whiteley, Kevin Villecco

AUDIT TEAM —Dave Gehr

Welcome to Four of Our New Members

More to Come Next Issue!
From Cheri Fallon, Editor



Michelle Drumheller

...of 27 Girard Ave, Reading 19605, was born in Indiana but later moved to Berks County, where she attended Oley Valley HS. She studied Medical Billing and Coding at RACC and works at home for Raintree Systems Inc. Michelle has two children and six grandkids. She's known the Wallaces for 20 years and regularly attended their Lancaster church. She says, "They practice what they preach." We're grateful at LP Church that she is teaching the new Youth/Young Adults Class here on Sunday mornings every other week.

Brandon & Jennifer Freed

Brandon and Jennifer live at 410 Lawrence Ave, in Lincoln Park. Originally from Nazareth PA, Brandon has a BS in Chemistry from Alvernia and is currently the Lab Manager at Timet Titanium Metals Corporation in Morgantown. He also coaches wrestling. Jen, who's originally from Massachusetts, works as a Certified Ophthalmic Assistant. They have two children — **Austin**, 9, and **Adeline "Addie,"** 6. Brandon has been helping in our Food Ministry.



Thomas Bruce Lasher III

Tom lives at 121 N. Walnut St, Fleetwood 19522, but says, "I grew up about a mile and a half from LP Church." He graduated from Wilson HS in 1994. He has two grown children — a daughter who lives in Austin TX and son who lives locally. He enjoys skiing and watching baseball (especially the Orioles) and the Dallas Cowboys. He currently works at Uline Business Supply Company and he is studying at Kutztown University for his Bachelor's Degree in Accounting and Personal Finance.





Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



February
15
for our
March-April
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

From the Church Office

Thank you *snow* much for shoveling!! – **Jerry & Lou Manhart, Geoff Whiteley, Jim Gehman, Rich Auman, Dave Gehr, Brandon Freed, Kris Gilham, Rich Bashore.** A timely and efficient job on January 7.



Wrap us in your warm love
on this winter day, ☺ God.



♥ **Audrey Ann Blakely and Jacob Wright** were married on December 2, at Merritt Island, Florida. She is the daughter of **Tom and Pamela** and youngest sister of **Lorraine, Martha, and Grace.**

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!

NEWS-LINC

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

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage

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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, 610-334-8472

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, 9:30-1:30 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.