

News-Line

Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church Newsletter
Lincoln Park, Pennsylvania *May – June 2025*

Good News for LP Children, Youth, and Parents We Welcome (Back) Parker Chadwick

From **Barbara Olawae**
Staff-Parish Relations Committee Chair

We are excited to share that SPRC has hired
Parker Chadwick as our new

CHILDREN AND YOUTH EDUCATION COORDINATOR.

Parker grew up in Lincoln Park Community UMC where he was confirmed and attended Sunday School and Youth Group. He is the son of former LP members, **Bill** and **Becky Chadwick**.

Parker graduated from Indiana University of PA with majors in both archaeological and religious studies. He is a Social Studies teacher at the Janus School and lives in Ephrata.



Asked what his vision and goal is at our church, Parker said,
*For the youth (toddler through high school) to have a safe,
comfortable place where they can find their faith.*

For More about Parker See P. 8

Flea Market
LP'S BIGGEST FUNDRAISER AND FUN COMMUNITY EVENT
SATURDAY, MAY 17, 7 AM-2 PM
FLEAS ACCEPTED THROUGH MAY 12; PLEASE SIGN UP TO HELP



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

Worship Notes

From **Mark Villecco**, Worship Chair and
Contemporary Worship Coordinator

June 8 : Music Sunday and

Children's Appreciation Day, 9 and 11 am

Upcoming *One Service Only Sundays* **11 am**

May 25: 11am (with Breakfast at 10 am first)

June 29 11 am

July 6 at 11 am - Guest Preacher **Mark Villecco**

Friends, Family, Neighbors **You're Invited for Fourth Sunday Breakfasts!**

Please join us at 10 am, on May 25 and June 22, for a free, homecooked, delicious meal and to catch up with church friends from both services, too!

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 and appears at the top of the "Posts" listings, just below the picture of the altar. **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."**

Christian Education Committee Update

From Co-chairs, Torie Whiteley & Krista Gilham

It's Time to Get Excited for Vacation Bible School!

We invite children entering Kindergarten through Sixth Grade to join in the fun of Vacation Bible School. Children younger than Kindergarten age are welcome too, if accompanied by a parent during the activities and lessons.

Please save the dates:

**SUNDAY, JULY 13 TO
THURSDAY, JULY 17
6 -7:30 PM.**

We expect fun times learning about and praising God again this year! Stay tuned for an announcement in church about the theme!



The Christian Ed Committee is happy to welcome **Parker Chadwick** as our new Children and Youth Coordinator. We're excited to begin working with him.

A Big Thank You to You, Our Faithful Members

From **Richard Auman**, Staff-Parish Relations Committee

You helped put smiles on the faces of our staff. The Staff Parish Relations and Finance Committees (although a little late asking) felt strongly that you'd want to show your appreciation for everything they do to keep our church strong, loving, and caring. Our staff—**Pastor Quentin Wallace, Mark Villecco, Irina Shmeleva, Linda Livingood, Carl Madeira, Kathi Ernst, and Margaret DAMICO** received their monetary gifts during Holy Week and Easter. Your gifts were much appreciated!

Order My Steps in Your Word, Dear Lord

From Pastor Quentin Wallace

The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and He delights in his way. Though he falls, he shall not be utterly cast down; for the Lord upholds him with His hand. I have been young, and now am old; yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his descendants begging bread.”— Psalm 37:23–25

KING DAVID—a shepherd, musician, soldier, and King of Israel—composed Psalm 37. There he speaks of evildoers and how they may thrive for a time, but, ultimately, God's justice prevails. He also reflects on the blessings of being reverent and faithful to God. In verses 23–25, David highlights key truths:

God directs and guides the path of those who seek Him. God is in control of that path. When a faithful follower stumbles God is there to catch them. Throughout David's lifetime, he has witnessed God's provision for the Righteous and their descendants.

Earlier this week, while listening to music on Pandora, I heard a gospel song by the Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir entitled *Order My Steps in Your Word, Dear Lord*. The song was written in 1991 by African American composer Glenn Edwards Burleigh. He beautifully captures the essence of Psalm 37 in his lyrics. The writer pleads with God to direct every part of his life—his thoughts, actions,



and interactions with others. Every follower of Christ should desire such a faithful walk with God. The song emphasizes the importance of asking God to align our steps with His Word.

In today's world, many seek to bend God's Word to fit their desires, rather than aligning their lives with it. However, as believers, we can remain faithful by remembering God's love, following Christ's example of humility, and reflecting on the Word of God.

If you get the opportunity to listen to *Order My Steps in Your Word, Dear Lord*, I encourage you to do so.

In the meantime, as you go about your daily lives—traveling, visiting family, or interacting with co-workers—consider these lyrics:

*Lead me, guide me every day
Send Your anointing, Father, I pray
Order my steps in Your Word,
YES, Order my steps in Your Word.*

Blessings,

Pastor Quentin

From Music Director Irina Shmeleva

This year Lincoln Park once again had a meaningful Lenten journey, starting Ash Wednesday and lasting six weeks - the most dramatic being the Holy Week leading to a joyful Resurrection Sunday.

Through this pilgrimage we enjoyed music *and* drama:

- ♥ Our adult Bell Choir on Palm Sunday, (a big shout-out to **Krista Gilham!**)
- ♥ She also treated the Easter Sunday early service to the kids' Bell Choir.
- ♥ On Maundy Thursday we enjoyed a dramatization created by **Pastor Quentin**. The cast helped us re-live the events of that dramatic night as if we were in Jerusalem during that week of the Jewish Passover. Thanks to **Jason Corby, Kris Gilham, Brandon Freed, and Krista Gilham!** And our combined choir sounded great with the help of

Jenna Gracias, Krista Gilham and Dmitry Shmelev.

♥ My personal special thanks to

Dorinne Bilger for her music on Good Friday.

♥ And, finally Easter Sunday came — the climax of the last six weeks. Our festively-



decorated sanctuary! **KC Dianna** ordered such beautiful flowers! The church was full, the spirit was raised, the message was excellent, everyone sang with their hearts, and our extended choir sounded grand. We look forward to **Margo** and **Randy Hill** joining us again!

♥ And I have one more special thanks to our wonderful trumpeters- **KC Dianna** and **Kris Gilham!** I can't believe they've hidden their gifts from me! From now on, I'll do everything in my power to bring the sound of trumpets into our services. Guys, you're on the hook!

It's a Contest!

Who can create the best names for our two Bell Choirs? (Both kids' and adults.) Send your ideas to irena.shmeleva@gmail.com.

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!

Celebrating Our 80th Year Anniversary

From Richard Auman

Eighty years ago this September 23, church-minded residents of Lincoln Park gathered in an old school house and held its first organized church service. They decided on the name *Lincoln Park Community Church* and planned to be affiliated with the United Brethren Church. Less than a year later, our church was officially designated a missionary church of the Evangelical United Brethren Church. In 1968 the EUB churches merged with the Methodist denomination, and we became part of the United Methodist Church.

Fast forward, we're now 80 years young and it's time to celebrate. We say "young" because Berks County has many churches dating back to the 1700's.

At the time of our 75th anniversary, Covid was in high gear, and we were limited in our activities. Pastor Quentin feels it's time to celebrate our church heritage and the rebirth of a vibrant, growing congregation. Council agreed, and the Anniversary Committee was formed. They met at the end of March and came up with ideas to celebrate outside of Sunday morning worship.

At the top of the priority list is having a new pictorial directory printed of our

membership and church activities. Please, check out the details and dates for sign up to get your family portraits taken. We need your participation and help to make this project a real success.

Our new Bishop, **Cynthia Moore-KoiKoi**, will be our guest speaker on Anniversary Sunday, September 28. Please mark your calendars; Bishop KoiKoi is a dynamic speaker and will only preach in about two dozen churches this year out of 300+ churches in the conference.

As part of the celebration, **Mark Bisignaro** has arranged for our baseball fans to see the Reading Fightin' Phils on **Thursday, June 12**, and **Thursday, August 14**, at 5:30 pm. The reserved seats (\$15) are right behind the 3rd base dugout. Signup sheets are on the table in the back of the sanctuary. The evenings are listed as *Faith Nights*, and fireworks are on the schedule.

On Saturday night, October 11, we've reserved the Albright College dining room for a banquet, celebrating our work and faith as a strong growing church. We hope to have younger members help transport some of our older members who don't drive at night. Our

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How Are These Connected?
A Pictorial Directory
A Special Church Service
The Reading Fightin' Phils
Kids' Day at the Y
A Banquet at Albright College
Bishop Cynthia Moore-KoiKoi
More!!!
Answer: LP's 80th Anniversary

We Need Your Smiling Faces!

From Linda Hope 80th Anniversary Celebration Pictorial Directory

As we prepare to celebrate our 80th Anniversary in ministry on Sunday, September 28, we're excited about publishing a new pictorial directory, including as many members and friends as possible. Please use the sign-up sheets in church to schedule your photo session. There will also be access online for scheduling.

Photo sessions will be in Memorial Hall:

Thursday, June 5 2 - 8:30 pm,

Friday, June 6 2 - 8:30 pm

Saturday, June 7 10 am - 4 pm.

Each group scheduling a photo session will receive a **FREE** 8x10 and a **FREE** directory.

Additional photos may be purchased at the time of the photo session, but a purchase is *not required*. If you're unable to attend these photo session dates, a picture may be submitted for entry into the directory. So, please be part of our 80th Anniversary Directory Edition by signing up TODAY!



(Continued from page 6)

children and youth are encouraged to attend with their parents.

And finally, back by popular demand, we'll have another "Kids Day" at the Sinking Spring "Y" in the fall. It will be a Sunday afternoon in October or November, to be announced this summer. As other special events are scheduled they will be announced on PNN, weekly emails, and upcoming newsletters. If you have an idea of something you think would be great to do in this special year, please contact the Church Office.

On Generosity

Paul told the Corinthian Christians that *God loves a cheerful giver*. (2 Corinthians 9:7, NRSV) and that *You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity*, (v. 11). People who give of themselves and their resources often feel blessed beyond description. They sense that they're doing God's will and reaping the reward of his presence and blessings. One man, known for his giving, said he wouldn't consider cutting back on his generosity. Doing so, he felt, would also stop the flow of blessings God was bestowing on him.

Our New Children and Youth Coordinator Is No Newcomer to LP Church

From Richard Auman

When **Parker Chadwick** started as our Children and Youth Education Coordinator in late April, his life seems to have come full circle. His parents, **Bill** and **Becky Chadwick**, moved to Berks County in the late '90's, and soon they were active LP Church members. Parker began attending Sunday School as a toddler and remained active in youth programs here until graduating from Wilson. In senior high, he helped **Dorris McCoy**, our Director of Christian Education, working with the younger children.

During Parker's senior year, Bill took a Professor of Archaeology position at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Becky, (who'd been our Worship Leader at the time) moved the rest of the family to Indiana PA; she became Christian Education Director there at a large Presbyterian church.

Parker enrolled at IUP with a dual major: Archaeology & Anthropology and Religious Studies. After graduation in 2022, he worked for two archaeological firms in Tennessee, North Carolina, and

New Jersey, (where he unfortunately sustained a knee injury that put him on workmen's compensation.) At that time he decided to go into Education.

Last spring Parker took a position as a Social Studies teacher at the Janus School in Mount Joy, Lancaster County. I asked him, *But why here in eastern PA?*

I wanted to come back home, he said. *But your family is in Indiana, Pennsylvania,* I said. *But my church family is here,* Parker added.

Then one afternoon a month ago, while cutting through Lincoln Park on his way to Wyomissing, he spotted the *Help Wanted* ad on our electronic sign. We're not sure if he ever made it to Wyomissing that afternoon, because at the top of the hill he turned onto Wellington Avenue where Dorris lives. The rest is history.

He currently lives in Ephrata, and is engaged to **Laura Broughton**, of Harrisburg, whom he met at IUP.

Welcome back, Parker!

Welcome

LP Church will prepare, deliver, and serve dinner at Opportunity House on **May 6 and July 7**. Help is usually needed from 3– 7 pm. Come and join us. It feels good to help others!



From Carol Bashore, Missions



With your generous contributions our church sent \$1,000 to UMCOR (United Methodist Committee On Relief) to help Ukraine's recovery efforts. Kudos to all!

Our current project is to donate money to our local **Olivet Boys and Girls Club**. This longstanding organization has numerous locations in Reading and the surrounding area, including Blue Mountain Camp in Hamburg. Serving 3,000+ youth (6-18 years old) annually, they offer children educational support, after school programs, mentoring, a summer camp, and more. Their programming includes promoting healthy lifestyles, good character, and citizenship.

Our committee will donate \$500 from our current Missions account to Olivet. If you'd like to add a contribution to this non-profit agency, send checks to the Church Office or place them in the offering at church. You can pick up envelopes at the Missions signs at entrances to the sanctuary. Add your name or church number to the envelope, with the directive for it to go to our Missions/Olivet project. We'll continue collecting donations until the second week of May, when the total amount will be sent to Olivet. Thank you! We have many cheerful givers at LP Church!

In the fall we'll support Helping Harvest and, as always, the Salvation Army's Angel Tree project.

We extend our deepest sympathy to...

... **Duane and Sharon Ackelson** on the death of Duane's mother, **LaVerna (Bernie) Ackelson**, 95, on April 5. "Bernie" was the wife of **Rolland** for 70 years, had five children, 8 grandchildren, and 2 great grandchildren. A long-time member at LP Church, she is remembered for her kind smile, quick wit, sweet giggle, and fiery spirit.

...family of **Bonnie Knutsen**, 81, former LP Church member. She was Carl's beloved wife for 56 years; mother of son **Christian** (wife **Jennifer**) and daughter **Elisa** (wife **Deborah**.) She had three granddaughters.

A graduate of the College of Wooster, Bonnie received a Masters degree in Education from the University of Rochester. She worked with Carl at their business, Trim-Master, a local manufacturing company. She had a gentle demeanor and was also charming and kind. At Lincoln Park, she was an assistant editor of the *News-Linc*, a good and witty writer, and always a reliable helper.



Being Part of Our Food Ministry Is Good for the Soul

Food Ministry: 4 Month Report
From **Jim Gehman**

Our Food Ministry continues to move forward on a smooth path, thanks to many of you. We're grateful

for those who've contributed financial assistance, for those who've provided food, and for those who've contributed time to purchase, prepare, and deliver Care Meals, Opportunity House meals, and 4th Sunday Breakfast meals.

With our church family's support, our Food Ministry is assured of success for years to come. A special thanks to our Agape group for their casserole contribution for the March Opportunity House meal. Thanks to the Trustees of the **Dorothy Hass Memorial Fund** for a generous contribution to our Food Ministry. And, our 4th Sunday Breakfasts are self-sustaining: Church families continue to financially underwrite the costs.

With all the positives, our Food Ministry can still do better. We could add more recipients for our CARE Meal.

We average 25 meals a month. There must be more people who'd enjoy a good warm meal.

This is an open ministry; everyone in our church family is part of the Food Ministry.

Please...contact Linda in our Church Office, 610-777-1422, if you know of anyone you who might appreciate a warm meal. Why can't we provide 30 or 35 CARE Meals?

We can always use more kitchen help, or perhaps you'd like to deliver some CARE Meals or serve dinner at Opportunity House. Our philosophy is to share the responsibilities and to give more people the opportunity to experience what it feels like to serve. Talk to any committee member about how you can become involved.

Thanks to all who've been helping. We are grateful. We welcome anyone thinking of getting involved.

Why not jump aboard?



Our Church's Graduates

If you have a graduate in your family, please let us know! We'd like to hear about their accomplishments and plans.

Please send information to...
cherfallon@comcast.net, put it in my mailbox in the Church Office, or call me, 610-914-1875.



Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



June 10

for our
July –August issue

New Phone Number

Suzanne Romig 610-927-8730

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, 610-914-1875

Staff: Nancy Artz, Diane Fisher, Nancy Madeira, Lou & Jerry Manhart, Mark Villecco, Ed Fallon

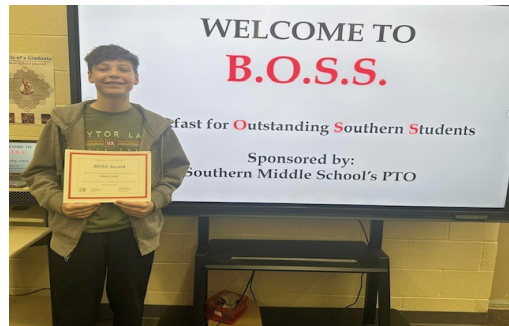


Kate Bobarsky reports that her granddaughter, **Dasha**, has “passed the test” and is an RN at Shady Grove Medical Center, Maryland. She had completed 2 years of medical school in Kiev City before the war in Ukraine started but came to the US to be safe. “She obtained a temporary permit to work in America, got her RN and driver's licenses, and learned English” says Kate, with pride. Her temporary permit has now expired and may be extended. “We have hope for a working visa.” Now, she says “Kiev is under attack and we’re praying for safety.”

We'll pray along with you, Kate.

Did you know that our former Music Director, **Beverly Perella**, is *Mrs Owens* now? She and our own **Pat Owens** were married in a small ceremony on March 14, 2024, in Lititz, by our former Pastor, **Jerry McGrath**. Bev is as busy as ever directing music at St Benedict's in Mohnton and teaching it at LaSalle Academy, Shillington. “I’m exhausted at the end of the day,” she says but also filled with joy!

Ryane Corby, daughter of **Jason** and **Hallie**, won a BOSS award (Breakfast for Outstanding Southern Students) at Wilson Southern Elementary School with other middle school classmates. Her teacher says “She stands out as a leader in our classrooms and is consistently kind to others.” Congratulations to Ryane and her parents!



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)

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**Church Office Hours: Mondays, Tuesdays,
Thursdays, Fridays, 9:30-1:30 pm**

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For urgent messages, use voicemail, please.

