

News-Line

Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church Newsletter
Lincoln Park, Pennsylvania *July - August 2026*



Vacation Bible School

July 12-16, 5:45-7:30 pm

**From Krista Gilham, Torie Whiteley
Christian Ed Co-Chairs**

Please bring your children and friends (ages 4-12) to learn about the God who cares for them. Psalm 123 will guide the way from fear to faith and uncertainty to peace. Themes each day can help kids crossover from: Fearful to Peaceful, Shaky to Sure, Grumbling to Grateful, Lost to Found, and Wrong Path to Right Path.

We welcome them for stories, snacks, songs, and games with our experienced, loving staff. To register: use this code or at [https://](https://lp.myanswers.com/emerald-crossing)

lp.myanswers.com/emerald-crossing



Two Committees Join Forces to Help Allentown UM Church

From Richard Auman

The headline of a story in April's *EPA Digest* read: **Help a Fellow EPA Church! Emmanuel UMC Seeks Support After Storm.** The church had lost the roof of its education wing and shingles of the sanctuary, which led to extensive water damage in the preschool, nursery, and classrooms. While the Allentown church is covered by Conference insurance, the actual reconstruction project was held up until the church could meet more than \$50,000



Plastic cover furniture and classroom material until the roof is replaced at Emmanuel Church

The article caught the eye of a LP Endowment Committee member who asked

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

From **Mark Villecco**, Worship Chair &
Contemporary Program Coordinator

July 5 - **Independence Day Weekend**
One combined service at 11 am
Guest preacher **JACK VILLECCO**

July 12 - Communion



JOIN US FOR THURSDAY NIGHT LIVE WORSHIP, JULY 23

Including music, prayer and a message from Pastor Quentin.

It's a perfect worship opportunity for those who cannot attend church on Sunday mornings, or for those who want a mid-week "pick-me-up!"

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

Please join us on fourth Sundays this summer for a breakfast of quiche, pancakes, fresh fruit, and desserts, brought to you by our Food Ministry.

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."**

A Reflection on Music Sunday

Everything That Has Breath Praise The Lord

From Music Director Irina Shmeleva

What a powerful, Spirit-filled celebration we experienced at our Music Sunday service on June 14! It was a beautiful testimony to the strength of our church and vital impact of our Music Ministry. From the very first note, the Holy Spirit moved through the sanctuary, as every song perfectly prepared our hearts for a transformative message.

When the Holy Spirit works through us, we can't help but sing. Pastor Quentin's powerful sermon led us to a spontaneous and joyful rendition of *I Trust in God*, reminding us of Psalm 150: *Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!* (This is the last sentence in the book of Psalms.)

We're incredibly blessed to witness three generations of musicians sharing



their God-given talents to enrich our worship every week. Thank you to all the instrumental soloists and three groups who made this day so special:

- **THE KIDS' BELLS**

ENSEMBLE: For bringing pure joy, focus, and youthful energy to our worship.

- **THE PRAISE BAND:** For leading us with passion and modern energy, keeping our hearts anchored in praise.

- **THE CHANCEL CHOIR:** For your dedication, beautiful harmonies, and for elevating our spirits through sacred song.

To everyone who shared their musical gifts, helped behind the scenes, or lifted their voice from the pews—thank you. You're a reminder of how blessed we are to worship as one family.



Liberty in Jesus

From the Rev Dr Quentin E Wallace

*Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is,
there is freedom. — 2 Corinthians 3:17*

My favorite movie of all time is *Independence Day*. In the film, the world is suddenly attacked by aliens, and humanity finds itself oppressed by a force far stronger than itself. As nations unite in the struggle for freedom, Independence Day takes on a whole new meaning.

While the movie is fiction, it reminds us that freedom is something we all cherish. Whether it's freedom from oppression, fear, injustice, or uncertainty, people long to live free.

As Christians, we celebrate a freedom even greater than political liberty. Through Jesus Christ, we've been liberated from the power of sin and its spiritual consequences. The Apostle Paul writes:

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. — 2 Corinthians 3:17

This freedom is not simply the ability to do whatever we want. It's the freedom to become what God created us to be. Through Christ, the chains of fear, guilt, bitterness, and hopelessness are broken. We're free to live with hope,

forgive others, love generously, serve faithfully, and trust God through every season of life.

This freedom comes through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, who guides, comforts, strengthens, and transforms us. We do not walk alone. God is with us every step of the journey.

As we enjoy summer, let us celebrate our freedom in Christ by living lives marked by faith, hope, and love. May we be ambassadors of Christ wherever we go—through a kind word,

a helping hand, an invitation to worship, or a simple act of compassion.

I pray that you and your family have an enjoyable Juneteenth celebration and a safe, joyful Fourth of July. May these occasions remind us of both the gift of freedom and the responsibility to use it wisely.

Also, mark your calendars for **NATIONAL NIGHT OUT** on Tuesday, August 4. This community event is a wonderful opportunity to build



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relationships, support our first responders, and strengthen the bonds that make our neighborhoods thrive.

Church family, let us continue *Seeking and Sharing Christ* throughout the summer. May we walk in the freedom Christ has given us and share the hope of the Gospel with everyone we meet.

Blessings,
Pastor Quentin
Lincoln Park Community United Methodist Church
Seeking and Sharing Christ



Two LP Youth Confirmed May 17



Ryanne Corby,
daughter of Hallie
and Jason Corby

Sammy Dianna,
son of KC and Jay
Dianna

**Congratulations and welcome to
Ryanne and Sammy, now members of
our church congregation. May God
bless them as they grow in faith.**

We extend our deepest sympathy to...



... family and friends of **Curt Glass**, 83, who died on April 27. He was the husband of **Sandra**, who passed in 2019. They have two daughters, **Wendy Gunderson** and **Audrey Mikita**, and four grandchildren.

Curt, an Albright College graduate, became CEO at the Bollman Hat Co. He and Sandra were avid golfers. Curt sang in the choir and was a longtime member at LP Church.

A Celebration of Life service was held at our church on May 31.

Congratulations Graduates!



**Broderick
Myers**

Cole J. Muth



Family: Grandson of **Sharon & David Palmertree**

Graduation: From Salisbury HS, Allentown. He has played basketball since 4th grade and loves all sports. He was accepted to six universities and chose Arizona State, where he will major in Communications and Sports Broadcasting with an academic scholarship.

Family: Grandson of **George & Jean Weikel**

Graduation: From George Mason University in Virginia with a Bachelor of Arts in Media Communications. He also recently completed an internship with the Gettysburg Historical Society, supervised by Lee Majors.



**Chelsi Jayne
Johnston**

Family: Granddaughter of **David & Dena Perez**.

Graduation: University of Houston - Masters of Arts in Teaching, Curriculum & Instruction. Chelsi is the first of David and Dena's grandchildren to receive a college degree and first to receive her Masters — being proud is an understatement!



**Deacon Blue
Johnston**

Family: Grandson of **David and Dena Perez**.

Graduation: Tomball HS in Tomball, Texas — National Honor Society; Homecoming King; Prom King; Mr. Tomball 2026; state finalist for his documentary, *Coogs 2*.

Next Step: Attend University of Texas this fall.

David and Dena's final grandchild to graduate high school and begin his college career.



Giuliana Ditsky

Family: Daughter of **Josh & Andrea Ditsky**; granddaughter of **Joe & Jill Raber**

Graduation: From Lebanon Valley College with a degree in Business Management.

Next Steps: She plans to further her education and coach college lacrosse.

Sean Stone



Family: Grandson of **George & Jean Weikel**

Graduation: Brookdale Community College

Next Step: Transfer to Rutgers University this fall to earn a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science

Michael Hathaway, Jr.

Family: Son of **Alicia and Mike Hathaway**



Graduation: From Wilson HS, Class of 2026.

Next Steps: Attend Penn State Berks to study Criminal Justice. He'll also continue serving with the Spring Township Fire Department as he moves from intern to volunteer firefighter.

Nicklas Stone

Family: Grandson of **George & Jean Weikel**

Graduation: From Colts Neck HS, NJ

Next Step: Brookdale Community College in Lincroft, NJ, pursuing a business degree.



Mia Greenly



Family: Granddaughter of **George & Jean Weikel**

Graduation: From Agnes Irwin School for Girls in Villanova, PA.

Next Steps: She will attend Hamilton College in Clinton, NY, in the fall to pursue a degree in Law.

Project for Tanzania Deaf School Is Successful

From **Debra Gehr & Jim Eckert**, Missions Co-Chairs

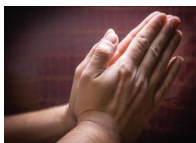
THANKS TO THE GENEROSITY OF OUR CONGREGATION, we collected \$987 for the Tanzania Deaf School project and were able to send a check for \$1,000 toward this worthy cause. We appreciate all your contributions and prayers for this important mission!



Next up is assisting with supplies for Vacation Bible School as well as collecting school supplies for an organization to be determined. In addition, watch for information on a clothing drive for Hope Rescue Mission in the near future as well as our annual food drive for Helping Harvest. Thank you

(Continued from page 1) Supporting Emmanuel UM Church, Allentown

Pastor Quentin about supporting a nearby UM Church with a contribution. He thought it was a great idea for our Missions Committee to undertake. **Deb Gehr**, Missions Co-Chair, agreed—and even though her committee funds had been largely allocated for other purposes—approved a \$500 donation. The Endowment Committee voted to match the \$500 from unused 2024 earnings.



Your prayers are needed for Alan Koelble, Food Ministry Wizard, who is the Lehigh Valley Hospital awaiting surgery.

Giving Is Worship

From Linda Hope, Stewardship

As summer arrives, many of us experience changes in our routines with travel, family time, and opportunities for rest. Even so, the ministries of our church continue—offering worship, care, and outreach to our community. We invite you to remember your church in your summer giving, whether you're present or away. For your convenience, online giving is available at [<https://www.lpcumc.org/online-giving>] including one-time gifts and recurring contributions. Your faithful support helps us continue sharing God's love in meaningful ways. Thank you for your generosity and commitment.

A Big Thank You from From Janet Avery, Administrator Emmanuel United Methodist Church, Allentown PA



Grace and peace to you. We extend our deepest and most heartfelt thank you for your incredible support and generous offering of \$1,000 during this challenging time. Since the storm we have been worried and overwhelmed. In what felt like an impossible situation, with a solution so far out of reach, we are now filled

with renewed hope. Your gift has brought not only tangible relief, but a beautiful light in a dark and difficult time.

Your willingness to support us reminds us that we are not alone — that the body of Christ is alive, connected, and full of compassion. We see the love of God made visible and are truly humbled and grateful. We've been praying for provision, guidance, and strength; your gift is an answer to those big prayers. God is faithful, and this moment will forever be a testimony to His faithfulness. Praise the Lord, He is still working miracles.

Please know how deeply grateful we are, and how much your support means to us —not just in helping to restore our building, but in strengthening our faith and spirit as a congregation. We will keep you in our prayers, asking that God bless you abundantly for the love and generosity you have shared.

Stairway to Heaven

God sent His singers upon the earth, with songs of sadness and of mirth, that they might touch the hearts of men, and bring them back to heaven again.

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow



Our New Welcome Center Needs Your Smile!

From **Jack Villecco** and **Pastor Quentin Wallace**

Have you noticed our new **Welcome Center** located between the sanctuary and the Wagner Room? It's a wonderful place to help visitors and guests feel at home from the moment they arrive. We're looking for some friendly, outgoing people who enjoy meeting others, sharing information, and extending the warm hospitality that makes Lincoln Park Church such a special place.

As a Welcome Center Volunteer, you will:

- Greet guests and help visitors with basic questions about our church
- Share information about ministries and events
- Help distribute welcome bags and materials
- Be one of the first to help someone feel connected to our church family.



Volunteer shifts are available each Sunday: **8:45–10:15 am** (First Service)

10:45 am–12:15 pm (Second Service)

Your ideas, creativity, and gifts can help shape this new ministry from the beginning.

If you have a heart for hospitality and would like to help people feel welcomed, valued, and connected, please contact or speak to **Jack Villecco**: Phone: [484-256-9861](tel:484-256-9861)

Email: Good2no247@aol.com

A warm smile can make a lasting difference. Join us in helping everyone who walks through our doors experience the love of Christ and the welcome of our church family!

Scoops of Fellowship & Game Night

Saturday, August 29 from 5-7:30 pm

We invite you to a fun evening — a Game Night, including an Ice Cream Social and light snacks. Come out and join us. **MEET NEW FRIENDS ONE SCOOP AT A TIME!** There will be a sign up sheet in the Wagner Room as we get closer to the date.





Lincoln Park's Bulletin Board



August 15

For our September Issue

Change of Address

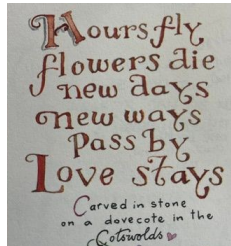
Tiffany Welch
1115 Felty Ave SE Apt 106
Rochester MN 55904-8307

Harry & Gretchen Garrity
Chestnut Knoll Apt 417
Boyertown PA 19512

Nancy Sparr
325 Wesley Dr Apt 3231
Mechanicsburg PA 17055

New Member
Daniel Ray Unger
145 Bainbridge Circle
Sinking Spring PA 19608
610-763-9429

Reinstated
John Obold
310 Amherst Ave
Reading PA 19609
610-202-0595



Birth

Congratulations to **Caitlyn** and **Adam Wojnak** on the birth of their daughter **Brinley Jane**, on June 8. Her proud grandparents are **Dan & Deb Christopher**. Welcome to the world, precious little one!

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

Dear LPCUMC,

I'll be celebrating my 100th birthday in August 2026. I look back on 70 or more years as a member of LPCUMC. My husband and I made the church a major part of our lives. We made so many dear friends, and I just want to thank all of you for being such a vital part of my life.

My children help me pull up the service on Sunday mornings and that has been a great benefit in making me feel part of the community. I miss you all and wish for a continuing and growing church in the future.

With Christian love,

Anne Wardrop

8300 Burdette Rd Unit C573
Bethesda MD 20817

Happy
ANNIVERSARY

to these loving LP couples:

George & Jean Weikel - 30 years
Duane & Sharon Ackelson - 47 years
Tom & Pamela Blakely - 55 years
Jerry & Lou Manhart - 58 years
Ed & Cheri Fallon - 58 years
Jim & Roe Gehman - 64 years!!

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, 610-334-8472

Contemporary Program Coordinator: Mark Villecco, mv559er@gmail.com

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Bookkeeper: Diane Hartz, Diane@lpcumc.org

Children & Youth Education Coordinator: Parker Chadwick
chadwickparker156@gmail.com

Nursery: Kathi Ernst, Margaret DAmico

Custodian: Carl Madeira

Editor: Cheri Fallon, 610-914-1875

cherifallon@comcast.net

**Church Office Hours: Monday,
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday,
9:30-1:30 pm**

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Fax line 610-777-4309

Web: www.lpcumc.org

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

For urgent messages, use voicemail, please.

