

# The Spire



April 2014

Loch Raven United Methodist Church

## Special Lenten/ Easter Events

**April 13—Palm Sunday**

**April 17—Holy Thursday**  
Communion Service, 7:00 PM

**April 18—Good Friday**  
Tenebrae Service, 7:00 PM

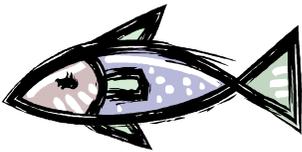
**April 20—Easter Sunday:**

Sunrise service, @ 6:15 AM

Worship @ 8:30 & 11:00 AM

Easter Egg Hunt 10:00 AM for  
Sunday School children

## LRUMC Annual Fish Fry



**Friday, April 11  
6:00 pm**

Cost: \$8.00 (adults) and  
\$5.00 (children 10 years old  
and under)

Tickets are available Sundays  
between services in Fellowship  
Hall and weekdays in the  
Church Office.



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*The Spire* is published monthly (except July and August) by Loch Raven United Methodist Church, 6622 Loch Raven Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21239.

All signed articles, letters, announcements, and other information of interest are welcomed and considered for publication.

The deadline for the May issue is **Sunday, April 13, at 11:00 a.m.**

*Electronic Submission:* You may send articles by e-mail to: [njk.williams@yahoo.com](mailto:njk.williams@yahoo.com) or place articles in the Church Office's newsletter box.

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## Endless Possibilities

It may well be that the world is denied miracle after miracle and triumph after triumph because we will not bring Christ what we have and what we are. If, just as we are, we would lay ourselves on the altar of service of Jesus Christ, there is no saying what Christ could do with us and through us.

—William Barclay

## Imagine NO MALARIA

At this year's Charge Conference our District Superintendent, Rev. Cynthia Moore, challenged our church to support the "Imagine No Malaria" Conference Campaign. In past years this mission project was known as "Nothing But Nets." Our Conference joined with other agencies to raise awareness and to wipe out the malaria epidemic in Africa. We were asked to purchase mosquito nets that would cover children and their family members as they sleep and protect them from the deadly mosquito bites that cause malaria. This was just a start to curing the problem. It is time to teach prevention as well as communicate treatments and resources. The Conference is asking for our help and our resources. Starting April 1st you will find a container in the narthex labeled "Change Lives." We are asking everyone to consider placing their pocket "change" in the container every Sunday until Mother's Day. The funds collected will be presented in worship at Annual Conference at the end of May. God has blessed our country and our church with so much—let us reach out and share our blessings with others.

Thank you for your continued support.

*Carole Webner*

Lay Member to Annual Conference

## United Methodist Women April Schedule

### "Women in Christ" Circle

Monday, April 7

7:30 p.m.—Room 202

Study: *Moments That Take Your Breath Away*

Lesson 5

Study Leader: Nancy

Devotions: Nancy

Hostess: Nancy and Linda

### Phyllis Downes Circle

Tuesday, April 8

10 am—Parlor

Study: Ruth, 2nd lesson

Study Leader: Joyce Dixon

**NO GENERAL MEETING**



## From the Pastor



*Come, all who are thirsty, come to the waters...* ---Isaiah 55:1

God is the great inviter. He invites all of us to come, be a part of his life. He wants to share his life with us. He wants us to share our life with him.

God is once again issuing an invitation is this passage from Isaiah. He says, "Come, all who are thirsty, come to the waters." In this world we live in, I am always looking for good news. I count three good news statements in this Isaiah passage.

First of all, it is good news that we have a Creator who wants us to come and be with him. Second, we are all invited. God doesn't single people out like choosing sides for a pickup baseball game. Remember how you never wanted to be the last one chosen? That's not how God works. God says, "I want you and you and you and you..." The third piece of good news in that Isaiah passage is that God has something for us----and not just anything. God has something for us that will quench our thirst. He has something that will meet our need. Notice that it doesn't just say "water." It says, "Come to the waters." It is plural as in an endless supply that goes on and on and on.

As we finish up this season of Lent and prepare ourselves for the resurrection of Easter, let's take time to let that Isaiah passage sink in. Let's accept God's invitation to grow closer to him. Let's revel in the understanding that we are part of the accepted "all." Let's drink from the endless supply of God's life-giving water.

Grace and peace,  
Cliff

## The "Redeeming Value" Sermon Series:

4/6—*Take a Look* from I Corinthians 11:23-32 and I Corinthians 10:16-17

4/13—*A Different Strategy* from Isaiah 50:4-8 and Luke 19:29-40

4/20—*Rock and Roll* from John 20:1

## Spring Bible Study

Our Spring Bible study continues on Monday nights at 7:00 PM on 4/7 and 4/14. Drop in on us as we learn about *The Wesleyan Way – a Faith that Matters*. We will be in the downstairs parlor.



The day before Good Friday is called Maundy Thursday. The word "Maundy" comes from the Latin word *mandatum*, which means "commandment." In the gospel of John, Jesus makes this statement during the Last Supper: "I am with you only a little longer . . . I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:33-35, NRSV).

Maundy Thursday should always be a time of sharing with others, showing loving concern for one another, and partaking of Holy Communion. That is what the Lord asked of his disciples and asks of us.



## Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd—  
That's relationship

I shall not want—That's supply

He maketh me lie down in  
green pastures—That's rest

He leadeth me beside still  
waters—That's refreshment

He restoreth my soul—  
That's healing

He leadeth me in the paths  
of righteousness—That's  
guidance

For His name sake—That's  
purpose

Yea, though I walk through the  
valley of the shadow of death—  
That's challenge

I will fear no evil—  
That's assurance

For thou art with me—  
That's faithfulness

Thy rod and thy staff they com-  
fort me—That's shelter

Thou preparest a table before  
me in the presence of mine  
enemies—That's hope

Thou anointest my head with  
oil—That's consecration

My cup runneth over—That's  
abundance

Surely goodness and mercy  
shall follow me all the days of  
my life—That's blessing

And I will dwell in the house of  
the Lord—That's security

FOREVER  
THAT'S ETERNITY!

Amen



## SAVE THE DATE

UMW presents  
**Ladies of Loch Raven Tea**  
**Saturday, May 10, 12 Noon**  
**Cost: \$10.00**

Checks made payable to  
LRUMC United Methodist Women  
Guests Welcome

Because seating will be limited, tickets  
should be purchased by Sunday, May 4.  
For tickets, see Yvonne Horn  
or Isabelle Burrell.

**Watch church bulletin  
for additional details.**

## Membership Updates

### Telephone Number:

John Mayden  
Cell Phone: 443-545-6643

### Baptisms:

3/9/14  
Nevaeh Doris Kolb  
Parents: Joseph M. Kolb and  
Nicole D. Miceli

## April Birthdays

List compiled by Marcia Smith

- 2 James Edmonds
- 7 Vesta Williams
- 8 Andrew Cole
- 9 Ruth Kriel
- 14 Peggy Kendzierski
- 18 Sheila Wyche
- 26 Verna Wilson
- 28 Sarah Roehl
- 29 Bill (Fran) Shock

## April is Membership Renewal Month at Board of Child Care

During April, you will have the opportunity to join or renew your membership in the Board of Child Care Auxiliary. Why join the Auxiliary? Proceeds from the membership drive help the children of the Board of Child Care by providing amenities not covered by the Board's government funding. Auxiliary projects include Easter baskets, birthday cards and gifts, gifts for high school graduates, field trips and arts and recreation activities. The Auxiliary hopes to provide driver education for eligible students, college visits for graduating seniors and assistance with prom costs.

A one-year Membership is just \$2.00 per person, but the funds raised make a big difference to the children. Envelopes will be in the pews during the month of April. Please consider helping the children by joining the Auxiliary.

Thanks to the congregation for your continued support of the children of the Board of Child Care. The cookie collection was successful again this year with 121 packages of cookies and snacks donated.

*Leslie Christopher*  
Keyperson

## From the Mailbox

Dear Loch Raven Church,

I want to thank you so much for Pastor Cliff and Carole's visit to the hospital and the lovely cards, phone calls and prayers during my hospital stays December 21-January 8 and January 10-12. I finally feel like myself. Praise the Lord.

Love,  
*Ruth Kriel*

I wish to thank you for your kind expressions of sympathy in the death of my husband, James F. Nimmo, Jr. (October 31, 2013). Also, thank you for the Christmas cards.

Sincerely,  
*LaVerne Nimmo*

Many thanks to my church family for all the wonderful support you have given me since last August. I am so aware your prayers have been answered as my strength and breathing have greatly improved. Also, thank you for your visits, cards and calls.

Thank you also for supporting me during my brother Donald's illness and death.

Pastor Cliff, thank you for your continued support and prayers.

May God bless LRUM Church.

*Bob Lacy*

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your generous gift to Heifer International, where it has already been put to work towards igniting transformation in families and projects all over the world.

While it's winter here at home, thousands of families around the world are entering into their summer harvest, with an abundance of fruits and vegetables for the first time ever, thanks to the gift of livestock and training in their care. A new confidence in sustainable livelihoods allows project participants to grow ever more self-reliant, rather than face hopelessness and defeat.

Best of all, through our cornerstone philosophy of Pass on the Gift, another family will receive the animals and training needed to start a powerful and life-changing journey of their own. Thank you for making this possible.

*Pierre U. Ferrari*  
President and CEO  
Heifer International

