

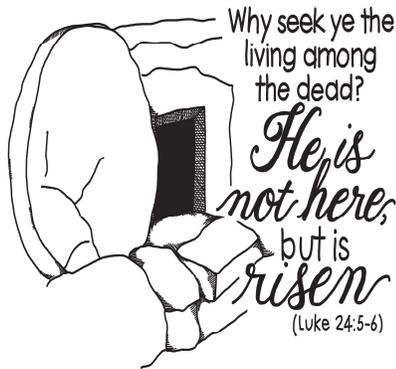
# The Spire



April 2018

Loch Raven United Methodist Church

## He Lives



### Easter Worship Services

#### Sunrise Service

6:30 AM—Front Lawn  
Breakfast to follow in  
Fellowship Hall

#### Easter Service

10 AM in the Sanctuary



One of my favorite hymns is *He Lives* by Alfred H. Ackley. The refrain of the song declares, “He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and talks with me along life’s narrow way. He lives, He lives, salvation to impart! You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart.” This hymn so eloquently sums up the reality of Easter. Easter declares that Christ is not dead but very much alive. That God is not far off and distant but very close and personal.

Easter is a great celebration in the church. A time of large crowds, Easter lilies, special music, and great excitement. This is all wonderful, but in truth Easter is more than just one day and a worship service that comes once a year. Easter is a declaration that death could not hold Jesus in the ground. That death does not have the final say. Easter is the reality of an all-powerful and all-loving God that we are to trust in. So, the question is, how do we live Easter lives? How do we live our lives with resurrection power? Scripture shows us the example of the way Jesus lived when he walked the earth. Jesus ate with sinners and tax collectors, welcomed the stranger, healed the sick, and stood up to injustice.

Another great hymn of the Church, that is a favorite of mine, *Because He Lives* by Gloria and William J. Gather, declares, “Because he lives, I can face tomorrow; because he lives, all fear is gone, because I know he holds the future, and life is worth the living just because he lives.” When we live in Resurrection power we can face the fears and the frustrations of life because he lives. What can that look like in your life? A life where we can face tomorrow soberly but hopefully. A life where fear is gone. When we understand and embrace the reality that God holds the future we can have peace that passes understanding that guards the heart and the mind.

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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 8, at 11:00 a.m.**

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

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Visit us on FACEBOOK.

## Sorting Out the Stuff

By: The Trustees

We need the assistance of all members of the congregation for our next Trustees project. The project relates to probably the most frequent concern that members of Trustees hear about. The concern is about all of the "stuff", or junk, or valuable materials that seem to be everywhere – in every room, in every closet – even in hallways. Requests about where various items can be stored is another concern that Trustees hear frequently. To match up the "stuff" that is approved for keeping at the church with an appropriate identified storage space, Trustees are asking the following:

**If you are the owner of any of the "stuff",**  
please let us know:

What is the "stuff" that you now have at church?

Where do you have it now?

Do you want to keep storing it at the church and are you requesting space?

**If you want to report "stuff" to make sure that we find everything:**

What "stuff" do you want to tell us about?

Where is it now?

Do you know who it belongs to?

The goal is that Trustees will come up with a comprehensive list, to be kept in the church office, so in the future it will be easier to identify what belongs to which committee or people.

With the assumption that this *Spire* article will be distributed the last week in March, we are asking that all notifications of "stuff" be sent to Judy Feustle at [jfeustle@live.com](mailto:jfeustle@live.com) by April 15<sup>th</sup>. Trustees will assign space for the allowable "stuff" that is to remain in the building. "Stuff" that is NOT reported to Trustees by the April 15<sup>th</sup> deadline will be donated or discarded at the discretion of Trustees.

## He Lives

(Continued from page 1)

Easter is an invitation to a life more abundant. An invitation to a journey that is not over on April 2nd but a lifelong journey where we grow in grace as we put our faith and confidence in Jesus Christ.

Grace & Peace,  
Pastor George



## Music Ministry Spotlight

By: Sam Chin, Music Director

This month's spotlight member is Debi Wynn. Engaged and committed to making LRUMC a beautiful place, Debi is always in the forefront of special activities here at church. From coordinating the annual Festival of the Arts to planning the Church's Anniversary Dinner, if there is something special going on Debi always seems to be involved. A talented musician, actor, and leader, I've learned so much from her over these years. Perhaps the most inspiring thing about her is to see how much she truly loves and cares for this church and its congregants. Thank you Debi for all that you do.

### **When did you start attending LRUMC and when did you get involved with the music ministry?**

My introduction to Loch Raven was at 5 years old at a dinner at the church parsonage with Rev. Doggett and his family thanks to my grandparents who had been invited by Rev. Doggett, and since I was visiting them I went with them. My grandparents, Rev. & Mrs. Robert Stephens, lived in Loch Raven Village on Hardwick Rd and they attended LRUMC. During that same visit the church had an outdoor circus-themed event in the parking lot which was a fun time. Two years later my Dad got a teaching job in Baltimore County. We moved to the area and LRUMC became our church home. I was in the second grade, with Martha Vohrer being my Sunday School teacher. I started to sing with the Chancel Choir when in college and also helped Naomi Tscheulin's Youth Choir, choreographing their music programs.

### **What is your most memorable experience in the music ministry?**

The Christmas Eve service during Rev. Buchheister's leadership is my most memorable musical moment, with the service beautifully crafted to provide a meaningful worship experience from the moment you entered the narthex. The music was so well woven within the scripture readings, prayers and hymns supporting Rev. B's message, from the introit the choir sang before they entered the sanctuary, choral responses, anthems, through the singing by the choir of the sending forth as the minister walks down the aisle after he gives the benediction.

### **Favorite Hymns**

*In the Garden, Sweet Hour of Prayer, Joy to the World, Christ the Lord is Risen Today*

### **Three adjectives to describe LRUMC**

Compassionate, steadfast, regenerating

### **How do you envision the Music Ministry and LRUMC growing in the future?**

As the church's mission focus is expanding to further servicing the local neighborhoods, creating a community music ministry would be another reach into the community. I often see on the neighborhood's on-line newsletter postings from parents in search of activities for their children or postings from adults in search of other musicians for organizing jam sessions together. The church's neighboring middle school is a school for the arts and those kids love to sing and play instruments, and having attended the school's programs, I always wonder what do these students do with their musical gifts on weekends. Successful music ministries across the country offer ukulele, kazoo, drum and other instrumental and choral church-offered programs for worship and non-worship church musical performance opportunities.

# Native American Ministries Sunday April 15

*Together, we empower local spiritual development and educate Native American seminary students to serve God faithfully.*



The Missions Committee would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Blanket Sunday appeal. \$400 was collected and will go toward providing hope in the form of blankets and other supplies to survivors of storms, earthquakes and other disasters.

Native American Ministries Sunday, one of six special church offerings, nurtures mission with Native Americans and provides scholarships for United Methodist Native American seminarians.

When you support Native American Ministries Sunday, you equip seminary students who will honor and celebrate Native American culture in their ministries. And you empower congregations that are finding fresh new ways to minister to their communities with the love of Christ.

Your gift helps equip Native congregations—like New York’s Onondaga Nation UMC and Nebraska’s Native American Sacred Winds congregation—to worship and serve as only they can. This work, and hundreds of other ministries, are possible because you give.

For more information on this special giving opportunity, see:

[www.umcsgiving.org/ministry-articles/native-american-ministries-sunday](http://www.umcsgiving.org/ministry-articles/native-american-ministries-sunday)

## United Methodist Women April Schedule

### Women in Christ Circle

Monday, April 2  
7:30 p.m.—Room 202  
Study: *When Faith Is All You Have*—Lesson 2  
Study Leader: Yvonne  
Devotions: Nancy  
Hostess: Joann

### Phyllis Downes Circle

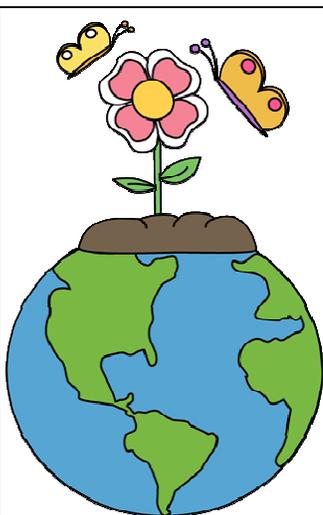
Tuesday, April 3  
10 am—Parlor

### GENERAL MEETING Sunday, April 15

After the church service.  
Covered Dish  
Bring a dish—whatever you wish.  
Program: To Be Announced  
**All are invited.**

### Other Special Giving Sundays this year include:

- Peace with Justice Sunday – May 27
- World Communion Sunday - October 7
- United Methodist Student Day Sunday - November 25



## Celebrate Earth Day Sunday, April 22

The Membership Ministry invites all to attend our celebration of the 48th Annual Earth Day, a national day to focus on the environment. LRUMC will be celebrating with a tree planting followed by a Pot Luck Lunch after the church service. A sign-up sheet is posted on the lower lobby bulletin board.

## IN TOUCH MINISTRY

### Special Prayer Requests

Please refer to insert in Sunday bulletins for up-to-date information.

**Stay in Touch** with some of our members who are not able to regularly attend church. Contact the church office for up-to-date information.



### April Birthdays

- 5 Evan Phillip Christie
- 8 Andrew Cole
- Evan Christopher Welsh
- 9 Ruth Kriel
- 14 Peggy Kendzierski
- 18 Sheila Wyche
- 26 Verna Roman
- 27 Coston Sedgewick
- 28 Helen Blakey
- 28 Sarah Roehl Henson
- 29 William F. Shock (Bill)
- Kali Piper Marsalek

### From the Mailbox

To my LRUMC Family:

Thank you for the outpouring of love, concern, and support I received after the death of my mother, Vesta L. Williams. Mom had been a member since 1956. She loved the church and her *many* church friends.

It had become increasingly hard for Mom to attend church due to her numerous health problems, but she was determined. She especially enjoyed being greeted and getting a hug. Her last service was February 4, just two weeks before her death.

I also appreciate the visits Mom received from Pastor George and Pastor Wayne. Mom treasured them, especially during the times she was less able to be with her loving church family.

*Owen Williams*

### Membership Updates

#### Transfers:

James Manley  
To Silver Spring UMC

#### Deaths:

Vesta Williams  
February 18, 2018

Betty Ford  
March 4, 2018

### Board of Child Care News

#### Membership Renewal

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.

#### Cookie Collection

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 84 packages of cookies and other snacks donated.

*Leslie Christopher*  
Keyperson

**Missions *In Action***  
**Doctors Without Borders**  
*Responding to medical crises caused by  
 conflicts, natural disasters, epidemics, or lack  
 of access to health care*

Your mission dollars support a number of worthwhile projects locally, nationally, and internationally. This month we will focus on an international organization, Doctors Without Borders.

Founded in 1971, Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières is a neutral and impartial humanitarian organization whose primary mission is to provide high-quality medical care to people who need it most. It does not promote the agenda of any country, political party, or religious faith so that it may gain the necessary access to populations in need.

They operate in more than 60 countries and help save lives by providing medical aid to people living in areas where there are armed conflicts, epidemics, natural disasters, and other crisis situations. Although most situations call for a rapid response which requires specialized medical and logistical help, they also run longer-term projects designed to tackle health crises and support people who cannot otherwise access health care. Teams are currently working in conflict zones including Syria, South Sudan, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Pakistan, Yemen, Iraq, and Afghanistan.

Last year, thanks in part to your support, they were able to vaccinate more than a million children against measles in the Democratic Republic of Congo, help mothers survive complicated pregnancies amid the ravages of war in Afghanistan, and respond to a devastating malnutrition crisis in Nigeria. Doctors and other medical personnel were able to perform surgery on innocent victims of the conflict in Iraq and Syria and responded to a devastating cholera outbreak in Yemen.

Their teams focused on facilitating continuity in medical care for people with chronic conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, and upper respiratory tract infections. Pharmacies were damaged and closed, so teams identified pharmacies elsewhere that could provide the necessary medicines that staff then delivered to patients.

How is the money allocated? 1.4% – management and general, 9% – fund raising, **84.6% – program services.**

For more information, see: [www.doctorswithoutborders.org](http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org)

Check out some of their many news stories:  
[www.doctorswithoutborders.org/news-stories](http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/news-stories)

## Upcoming and Ongoing Mission Opportunities

To help better serve food-starved individuals in our community, we will be collecting specific, non-perishable food items monthly for ACTC. Watch the Sunday Worship Bulletin for the most critical need.

We are also collecting books for ACTC—primarily for two age groups: children six and under and six and up. Books for teens and adults are also welcomed, including Bibles and devotionals.

Manna House Breakfast Club  
 April 21, July 14 and Oct. 13  
 If you would like to volunteer to help prepare or serve breakfast, contact Linda Cole: 410-666-5222.

Collection of hotel-size toiletries for Essex UMC. There is a box for the items on the hospitality desk. This is an ongoing collection.

Sandwich making for Essex UMC 3rd or 4th Tuesday of every month.



# UMC Lectionary Calendar April 2018

## April 1 Easter Day

Church Color: White

Acts 10:34-43

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
(UMH 839)

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8

## April 8

### Second Sunday of Easter

Church Color: White

Acts 4:32-35

Psalm 133 (UMH 850)

1 John 1:1-2:2

John 20:19-31

## April 15

### Third Sunday of Easter

*Native American Ministries  
Sunday*

Church Color: White

Acts 3:12-19

Psalm 4 (UMH 741)

1 John 3:1-7

Luke 24:36b-48

## April 22

### Fourth Sunday of Easter

*Festival of God's Creation*

Church Color: White

Acts 4:5-12

Psalm 23 (UMH 754 or 137)

1 John 3:16-24

John 10:11-18

## April 29

### Fifth Sunday of Easter

Church Color: White

Acts 8:26-40

Psalm 22:25-31 (UMH 752)

1 John 4:7-21

John 15:1-8



**But in  
fact  
Christ  
has  
been  
raised  
from  
the  
dead.**

**1 Corinthians 15:20, NSRV**