

# The Spire



January 2020

Loch Raven United Methodist Church

## Upcoming and Ongoing Mission Opportunities

Christmas greetings—**Lifewater Canada Campaign** (to help build and maintain wells in third world countries) runs through **Jan. 5.**

Marty Marvel Food Pantry: 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month. January dates are the 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>.

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

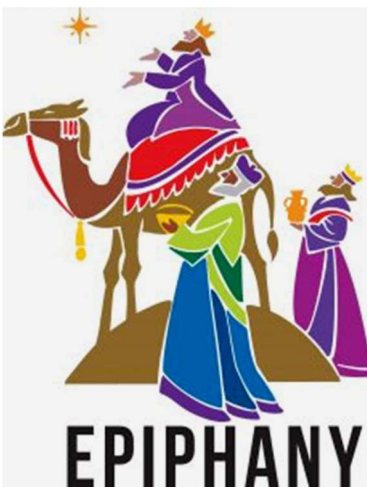
Manna House Breakfast Club **Feb. 15, May 16, July 11, and Oct. 10** (If you would like to volunteer to help prepare or serve breakfast, contact Linda Cole (see church directory for telephone number or contact church office).

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

Sandwich making for Essex UMC 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month.

## A New Year, Time to Celebrate

Often times we celebrate when new things come into our lives. We have housewarming parties to celebrate new homes. We celebrate new jobs, new opportunities, and even new relationships. When God puts new things in our lives it is cause for celebration. Indeed, every new year is a cause for celebration. Some years we pray for continued success and other years we pray for a fresh start. 2020 is



not only the start of a new year but of a new decade. It is a time to celebrate what God has done and to anticipate what God will do. This month we celebrate Epiphany, which marks the observance of the arrival of the wise men to encounter the Christ child. However, Epiphany is more than a historical event, it reminds us of the newness that is available through Jesus Christ. The word *Epiphany* means “A moment of sudden and great revelation or realization.” It is an awakening of possibilities caused by a new reality. When you are clothed in Christ, you act differently, see the world differently, and think differently. The birth of Christ speaks to this newness.

Christ was born in a manger, not in the lap of luxury but as a common person. The God of glory came not as a king or a powerful person, but as a babe from humble circumstances. Jesus did not come preaching business as usual but a new commandment. In John 13:34 Jesus tells his disciples, “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.” So, the question is, how will you allow the message of Epiphany to resonate in your life? Will you open yourself up to the

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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 February issue is **Sunday, January 12, 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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**Change of Name/Address** - Call, mail or e-mail church office or leave in mailbox in hallway outside the church office.

**Website:** [www.LRUMC.org](http://www.LRUMC.org)

Visit us on FACEBOOK.

## Human Relations Day—January 19

**Together, we extend a helping hand to those in crisis so they can overcome formidable obstacles.**

Your Human Relations Day offering supports neighborhood ministries through community developers, community advocacy in the United States and Puerto Rico through United Methodist Voluntary Services, and work with at-risk youth through the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program.

Turn on the news or drive around the outskirts of your town and you will find what Jesus called “the least of these.” These are the people living in the margins— the homeless, the almost homeless, the incarcerated, the impoverished, the hungry. We are called to serve our brothers and sisters in this place.

We are called to embrace them; to love them. When we love and serve the disenfranchised and the marginalized, we are continuing the ministry of Jesus and we are helping our neighbors understand provision, grace and who God is.

Jesus served even the least of us so that we might all reach our potential.

Human Relations Day is about celebrating the local and national ministries that do this work everyday. It's about giving generously to make sure they can continue to do so.

Over and over Jesus served people like this, embracing them. And that's what we want to model as the people of The United Methodist Church. To continue the ministry of Jesus, Human Relations Day was established as a Special Sunday that calls all of our churches to participate in helping all God's children to realize their potential.

For more information, see: [www.umcgiving.org/ministry-articles/human-relations-day](http://www.umcgiving.org/ministry-articles/human-relations-day)

### Other Special Giving Sundays in 2020:

UMCOR / One Great Hour of Sharing Sunday - March 22

Native American Ministries Sunday – April 26

Peace with Justice Sunday – June 7

World Communion Sunday - October 4

United Methodist Student Day Sunday - November 29

*Merrill Harrison*



## Outreach/Evangelism Prepares for 2020

By: Debi Wynn



As we head into a new year, we look back at 2019 events and thank the congregation for its support of outreach projects. Many thanks for our 13 trunk and one storytime corner participants for the 2019 Trunk or Treat! As the day progressed, we were expecting a weather call challenge of should we have the event outdoors or move it indoors due to possible rain that evening. Thankfully, the wet weather held off as we hosted some 25 costumed families each half hour with some being returnees from our first Trunk or Treat year, families from Dundalk, Cockeysville and those from Loch Raven's neighborhoods. If you missed last year's event, mark your calendar now to set up your trunk on October 24, 2020 from 5:30 – 7pm.

Donations of clothing, clean and on hangars ready for the display racks, continue to be accepted for the new clothing ministry scheduled to open in February. Place items on the clothes rack in the arcade with size information.

### 2020 Events: Outreach/Evangelism

Outreach/Evangelism Calendar of Events for 2020: Join in the mission, fellowship, fun and sharing with folks of all that Loch Raven and a connection to Christ has to offer. If you are available to participate in any of these events, please contact a member of the Committee. Your assistance is very much appreciated.

February – date TBA—**Opening of The Corner Hope Chest, the free clothing ministry of Loch Raven UM Church**

Saturday, February 8, 2020, 11am to 12pm.

**Giveaway of 50 remaining book bags with school supplies** - Fellowship Hall—No program

February 7<sup>th</sup>, April 3, June 5, August 7, October 2, November 4, December 4 at 7 - 9pm

**Family Movie Night Out**—Auditorium

Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am.

**Easter Egg Hunt**, rain or shine

Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 – 11:30am

**Back to School Book Bag Giveaway:** includes a Values Presentation and light refreshments – Fellowship Hall

Saturday, September 12, 10am to 1pm (set up Friday night)

**Health Fair** – Auditorium, Fellowship Hall

October 24 at 5:30 – 7pm

**Trunk or Treat** – Parking Lot

Sunday, Nov 8 – during/ after worship service **Veterans Day** – 75<sup>th</sup> WWII anniversary veteran recognition as well as for other veterans (including past church members who served in the 1940's), special invites, reception—Fellowship Hall. If you have a current or past military service person in your family and would like to have them included in the photo display, please send a photo and info on branch served, where and when they served and any other details you would like to share.

## 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.

### January Birthdays

- 1 Laurie Collidge  
Garrett Larrimore
- 2 Gregory Sinkler
- 7 Hannah Yeich
- 9 Richard Shock
- 14 Scott Eshleman  
Daniella Roman
- 16 Owen Williams
- 21 Hortense Fauntleroy  
Stephen Ferguson
- 25 James Ferguson  
Corey Burton
- 26 Margaret Tracey
- 27 Nancy Gillotti
- 29 Evelyn Dorfler  
Carolyn Lutz  
Michael Koogler
- 31 Alec Welsh

### Membership Updates

Contact the church office for up-to-date information.

## Missions Thank You Messages

### Assistance Center of Towson Churches (ACTC)

We are so grateful to all of you who helped us come together to provide Thanksgiving to so many in our area. Together, we gathered 2,417 Thanksgiving bags filled with food designed to provide a hearty meal for a family of five.

This year we had 605 turkeys to give to families! We gave away many other good things: candy, books, makeup, household items, other fresh foods and baked goods, stationary and festive napkins and so forth.

We set aside 75 bags to give away at Christmas, and the remaining 52 we broke down to put into our regular food stream. We received many other donations of additional non-perishable food over the course of the week and into this week. Last quarter, we gave an average of 4.5 tons of food a week from ACTC's pantry. That is an incredible amount of food, and we are so grateful to our volunteers and donors for making this possible.

*Linda S. Lotz*  
Executive Director

### Manna House

Thank you for your continued participation in the Breakfast Club at Manna House. The support received from members such as you enables us at Manna House to provide a hot breakfast to about 200 men, women, and children 365 days a year.

Thank you for helping to make a vital difference in Baltimore City. Because of Manna House, hungry people get a satisfying meal and needy people get assistance leading toward their independence. Your continuing support makes all this possible.

*Saleem Gauhar*  
Executive Director

### Thank you for supporting our fall Mission Projects:

71 shoeboxes were filled with Christmas gifts for children around the world.

\$540 was donated for the purchase of gift cards to include with the ACTC Thanksgiving baskets.

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### From the Mailbox

We thank our church family for their calls and cards and Rev. George and Rev. Wayne for their visits and calls concerning our health issues. We love you all.

*Dan & Jen Dorsey*



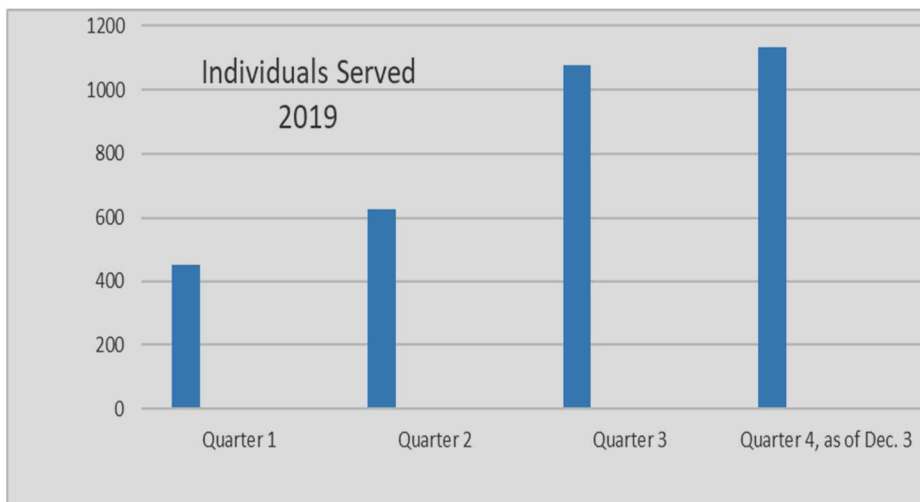
**Feeding the Community**

## Food Pantry Update

...“Master, what are you talking about? When did we ever see you hungry and feed you...” Then the King will say, “I’m telling the solemn truth: Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me—you did it to me.” Matthew 25: 37-40 (The Message)

We are blessed to be able offer this ministry to food-insecure families in our community.

**1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month**  
**11:00 AM – 1:00 PM**  
**Upcoming Dates: January 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>**



**As of December 3, 2019, we have served 3,289 individuals this year.**

Just as our patrons have increased so has our need for more volunteers. If you would like to join our crew or have any questions, contact Merrill Harrison, Linda Cole, or the church office (see church directory for telephone numbers).

Please continue to pray for us and our guests, and spread the word that our pantry is open to all—including church members—who need help in putting food on their table.

## A New Year, Time to Celebrate

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newness that Christ offers? Will you embrace the new or try to cling to the old and comfortable ways of doing things? You do not have to be captive to life as usual but can experience newness through Christ. Individually and as a congregation, we can embrace new opportunities and new ways to bless others. Epiphany is like a spiritual new suit. A new opportunity to see the world differently and for the world to see you with fresh eyes. Let us celebrate the new opportunities that God blesses us with.

Grace & Peace,  
*Pastor George*

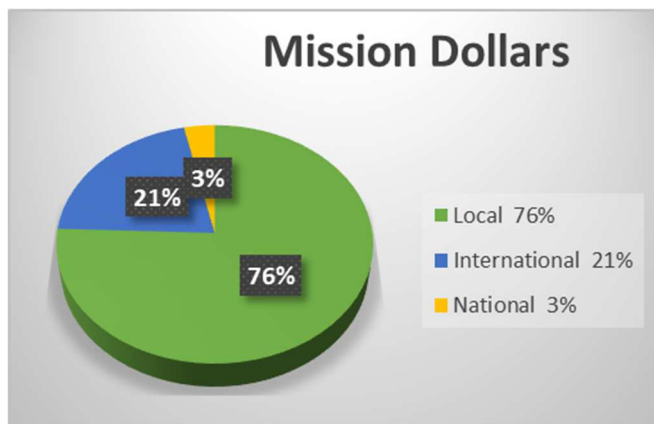
## Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Update

If you packed a shoe box or donated money to cover the mailing/handling of the boxes, a big THANK YOU to everyone who participated in this ministry of Samaritan’s Purse. Our church members packed **71** boxes this year. Along with receiving this box, these children will have the opportunity to be introduced to the Good News of Jesus. Thanks again for supporting this important, world-wide project.

*Yvonne Horn*  
 Missions Committee

## Missions *In Action*: Your Dollars in Action

You may not be able to serve on the mission field, but **the giving of your tithes, offerings, talents and service** are just as important. Thanks to your giving, you help support a number of worthwhile projects locally, nationally, and internationally. Here are some of the many projects you help support:



### Local Missions

- Abbottston Elementary
- Assistance Center of Towson Churches
- Board of Child Care Auxiliary
- Breakfast Club (Manna House)
- Chesapeake Habitat for Humanity
- Deaf Interfaith Camp
- Food Bank
- Halstead Academy
- Healthcare for the Homeless
- Manna House
- Table of Grace & Sandwiches

### National Ministries

- Society of St. Andrew
- The Samaritan Women

### International Missions (*including U.S.*)

- Heifer International
- Lifewater Canada
- Ludhiana Medical College
- N.E. Zaire Dispensary Program
- UMCOR *new*
- Warne Baby Fold

In addition, the Missions Committee also sponsors the following monthly activities which you so generously support through your gifts, time, and prayers:

#### February or March

- Blanket Sunday

#### April

- Food Drive for the ACTC

#### June – August

- Collection for Christian Blind Mission

#### November

- Samaritan's Purse Shoeboxes
- ACTC Thanksgiving Baskets

#### December

- Angels for Abbottston Elementary School

#### Every Month

- Sandwiches for Essex UMC
- Toiletries for Essex UMC
- ACTC Food Collection

#### Quarterly

- Manna House Breakfast Club

*and other events as needs arise.*

## Loch Raven United Methodist Church 2020 Committees and Teams

### Children's Ministries

Amy Price

### Church Council

Marcia Thomas Smith—Chair  
 Rev. George Winkfield—Pastor  
 Cecelia Miller—Secretary  
 Helen Blakey—Treasurer  
 Melvin Miles—SPRC Chair  
 Audrey Moltz—Altar Guild  
 Scott Eshleman—Finance Chair  
 Phil Lee—Financial Secretary  
 Adrian Palazzi—Board of  
 Trustees President  
 Judy Zahren—Worship Co-Chair  
 Jonathan Wilson—Lay Leader  
 Brian Miller—Lay Member to  
 Annual Conference  
 Merrill Harrison—Missions Chair  
 Nancy Gillotti—UMW President  
 Amy Price—Children's Ministries

### At Large Members:

Linda Cole  
 Peter McGinnes  
 Adiaha Essien

### Evangelism/Outreach Team

Rebecca Mickey  
 Theresa Alaeze  
 Sandra Edmonds  
 Patti Ferguson  
 Phil Scott  
 Edward Smith  
 Adelaide Wilson  
 Rhoda Wilson  
 Debi Wynn

### Family Ministries

Amy Price—Chair  
 Adiaha Essien  
 Nancy Gillotti  
 Yvonne Horn  
 Cheryl Wagner-Koogler  
 Audrey Moltz  
 Sharon Neumann  
 Jean Oberia  
 Miriam Roehl  
 Phil Scott  
 Jennifer Webster

### Finance Committee

Scott Eshleman—Chair  
 Helen Blakey—Treasurer  
 Phil Lee—Financial Secretary  
 Melvin Miles—SPRC Chair  
 Judy Feustle—Board of  
 Trustees Representative  
 Marcia Thomas-Smith—Church  
 Council Chair  
 Rev. George Winkfield—Pastor  
 Linda Cole  
 David Cole  
 Dan Dorsey  
 Adiaha Essien

### Lay Leader

Jonathan Wilson

### Lay Member to Annual Conference

Brian Miller

### Lay Servants

Jan Hoener  
 Jonathan Wilson  
 Judy Zahren

### Memorials Committee

Helen Blakey—Treasurer  
 Scott Eshleman—Finance Chair  
 Mary Lou Bryan  
 Adiaha Essien

### Missions Committee

Merrill Harrison—Chair  
 Theresa Alaeze  
 Michele Brown  
 Linda Cole  
 Sandra Edmonds  
 Jim Harvill  
 Yvonne Horn  
 Joann Munden  
 Sharon Neumann  
 Reynold Small  
 Myra Wagner

### Nominations (Lay Leadership Development)

Rev. George Winkfield—Pastor/  
 Chair  
 Cheryl Wagner-Koogler—Vice  
 Chair  
 Franklin Aidoo  
 Linda Cole  
 Nancy Gillotti  
 Stephanie Houston  
 Beverley Mignott  
 Judy Zahren

### Public Relations Committee

Caitlin Webster  
 Jennifer Webster  
 Cheryl Wagner-Koogler—ex-officio

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**Loch Raven  
United Methodist  
Church  
2020 Committees  
and Teams**

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**Staff-Parish Relations  
Committee (SPRC)**

Melvin Miles—Chair  
Rev. George Winkfield—Pastor  
Megan Eshleman  
Gary Messman  
Nancy Gillotti  
Jan Hoener  
Phil Scott  
Jennifer Webster

**Trustees**

Adrian Palazzi—President  
David Brown—Vice President  
Franklin Aidoo  
Amanda Brown  
Judy Feustle  
Gary Horn  
Cheryl Wagner-Koogler

**Worship Committee**

Judy Zahren—Chair  
Rev. George Winkfield—Pastor  
Sam Chin—Music Director  
Audrey Moltz—Altar Guild  
Cheryl Wagner-Koogler—Liturgist  
Coordinator  
Rick Neumann—Head of Ushers  
Patti Gould—Organist  
Linda Cole  
Patti Ferguson

**UMC Lectionary Calendar  
Year A January 2020**

**January 1**  
**New Year's Day**  
**Last day of Kwanzaa**  
Church Color: White  
Ecclesiastes 3:1-13  
Psalm 8 (UMH 743)  
Revelations 21:1-6a  
Matthew 25:31-46

*Call to Prayer & Self Denial  
any period during January –  
March*

**January 5**  
**Epiphany Sunday**  
Church Color: White  
Isaiah 60:1-6  
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 (UMH 95)

**January 6**  
**Epiphany of the Lord**  
Ephesians 3:1-12  
Matthew 2:1-12

*January 11: Human Traffick-  
ing Awareness Day*

**January 12**  
**Baptism of the Lord; First  
Sunday after Epiphany**  
Church Color: White  
Isaiah 42:1-9  
Psalm 29 (UMH 761)  
Acts 10:34-43  
Matthew 3:13-17

*January 18-25 Week of Prayer  
for Christian Unity*  
*Korean American Day*

**January 19 Second Sunday  
after Epiphany, Human  
Relations Day**  
Church Color: Green  
Isaiah 49:1-7  
Psalm 40:1-11 (UMH 774)  
1 Corinthians 1:1-9  
John 1:29-42

*January 20: Martin Luther  
King, Jr. Day, Observed*

**January 27 Third Sunday  
after the Epiphany,  
Ecumenical Sunday**  
Church Color: Green  
Isaiah 9:1-4  
Psalm 27:1, 4-9 (UMH 758)  
1 Corinthians 1:10-18  
Matthew 4:12-23

**United Methodist  
Women  
January Schedule**

**Phyllis Downes Circle**  
Monday, January 6  
10:00 a.m.—Parlor

**“Women in Christ” Circle**  
Monday, January 6  
7:00 p.m.—Room 202  
Study: *Becoming Women of  
Purpose*  
Lesson 3—Gifted for a Purpose  
Study: Yvonne  
Devotions: Yvonne  
Hostess: Linda

**NO GENERAL MEETING**