

The Spire



Summer 2017

Loch Raven United Methodist Church

Life in the Balance



"You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand."

Psalm 16:11



Confirmation

Please congratulate our newest members: Gabby Schwartz, Erika Stiles, and Caitlin Webster. They have successfully completed the 12 weeks of confirmation classes and will be received into full membership at LRUMC on June 4. A special thank you goes to Cathy Miles for her help with teaching.

Pastor Cliff



June 18

According to some accounts, the first Father's Day was celebrated in Washington state on June 19, 1910. A woman by the name of Sonora Smart Dodd came up with the idea of honoring and celebrating her father while listening to a Mothers' Day sermon at church in 1909.

Summer is around the corner. My retirement is approaching fast. June 11 will be my last Sunday with you in church. Then I'll be clearing my things out of the office. I'll be taking the last two weeks of June off for vacation time that I have left.

Amid all of this, I was thinking about balance in my life. I came across this article the other day entitled *"Ten Best Things to Say If You Get Caught Sleeping at Your Desk."*

"They told me at the blood bank this might happen."

"This is just a 15-minute power-nap like they raved about in that time management course you sent me to."

"Whew! Guess I left the top off the Permanent Marker. You probably got here just in time!"

"I wasn't sleeping! I was meditating on the mission statement and envisioning a new paradigm."

"I was testing my keyboard for drool resistance."

"I was doing a highly specific relaxation exercise to relieve work-related stress."

"Gee why did you interrupt me? I had almost figured out a solution to our biggest problem."

"The coffee machine is broken..."

"Someone must've put decaf in the wrong pot..."

And the #1 best thing to say if you get caught sleeping at your desk...

"In Jesus name, Amen!"

A balanced lifestyle enables us to not only begin well but, far more importantly, to end well. God does not intend for us to be shoot-

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

The deadline for the September issue is **Sunday, August 13, 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

Membership: Loch Raven's Friendly Thermostat Setting

By: Debi Wynn



During the four weeks following Easter, our church has had several first time visitors. The pitfall for many churches is that they think they are friendly because church members are friendly to each other. Have you introduced yourself and offered a welcome to attendees you don't know? Have you invited a visitor to Fellowship Hall for refreshments after the service? You do not have to have the official "Greeter" status to help make Loch Raven a friendly, welcoming congregation. If you are in the back of the church prior to the start of the service and see someone come in you don't know, say "Good morning, welcome to Loch Raven." Make a special effort to greet people you don't already know by name.

If you are chatting with someone at the lower entrance under the awning and see a visitor enter the building, please escort them down the hall, through two doors to the stairs leading them up to the sanctuary, perhaps pointing out the restrooms at the end of that hallway. That 30-second walk with a warm welcome is the initial introduction to the church, a first impression, and provides more of an impact than just telling them how to reach the sanctuary.

According to research:

Most visitors decided in the first 60 seconds whether they will return again.

Visitors are looking for: friendliness, authentic worship, children's program, adult program, and attractive building.

The most threatening time for visitors: Entering the building after the services.

As temperatures rise this summer, let's work together to raise Loch Raven's "friendly temperature" as we all fill the church with warm welcomes for visitors, our new Pastor and his family, the summer substitute organist and the church members you see each Sunday but don't know their names.



Life in the Balance

(Continued from page 1)

ing stars. David prays in Psalm 16:11, “*You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.*”

Solomon says in Ecclesiastes 10:15, “*A fool’s work wearies him; he does not know the way to town.*” People who work all the time don’t know the way to town! They don’t take the time to enjoy the simplest activities of life. We need to balance our life so we can enjoy those simple things.

Exodus 20:8-10 says, “*Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁰but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God.*” It’s not a suggestion that God gave to us. It’s a commandment. That’s how much it means to God for you to create and maintain balance in your life. Your best requires rest.

A balanced life is an even combination of being and doing. If we try to be (exist) without ever doing (anything), we will be out of balance. If we try to do (things) without being (without first existing), we will also be out of balance.

Many people have asked me, as I head into retirement, “What are you going to do?” So, I’ve developed a list. It’s not a bucket list. It’s more of a way of life list. Here is some of my retirement list:

- Read, write
- Build
- Grow
- Spend time with....
- Learn
- Walk, maybe run sometimes
- Play some ball, watch some ball
- Invent or create something(s)
- Develop relationships, meet people, make friends
- Listen
- See new places, see old places
- Love
- Live life
- Experience and see things
- Listen and watch for God

It’s not necessarily in order and it can be amended at any time.

One last thing—I met with your new pastor, Rev. George Winkfield, the other day. We had the Elijah-Elisha hand-off the mantle of leadership-conversation. I like him. Be good to him as I know you will. Keep working in the field. I will be in another part of the field working. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Your pastor,
Cliff

The Nature of the Church

A study of the Church in the New Testament reveals that the Church is:

A worshiping fellowship
(Acts 2:46-47)

A studying fellowship
(Acts 2:42)

A witnessing fellowship
(Acts 2:44-47; 3:9)

A serving fellowship
(Acts 6:1-6; 20:35)

A loving fellowship
(Hebrews 10:32-34)

A praying fellowship
(Acts 1:14; 12:12)

A cooperating fellowship
(Acts 1:11-14; 2:1; 4:23)

A joyful fellowship
(Acts 2:46; 5:40-41; 13:50-52; 16:25)

A suffering fellowship
(Hebrews 10:32-34; Philippians 1:29)

A courageous fellowship
(Acts 4:13; 4:29; 15:26)

A powerful fellowship
(1 Corinthians 4:20)

An enthusiastic fellowship
(Acts 2:43-47)

A generous fellowship
(Acts 2:46; 2 Corinthians 9:10-12)

Peace With Justice Sunday – June 11

*What does the Lord require of you but to do justice,
and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God.*

Micah 6:8b, NRSV

Peace With Justice Sunday is one of the six special offerings of the United Methodist Church and is traditionally observed on Trinity Sunday (*the First Sunday after Pentecost*). It attests to our Triune God's call for a faithful, just and peaceful world.

Jesus proclaimed:

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. (Luke 4:18-19)

The United Methodist Church, moved by Christ's love to pursue reconciliation and peace, is unwilling to turn a blind eye to injustice. We strive to honor the dignity of every individual made in God's image.

Your Peace With Justice gifts enable the church to have a voice in advocating for peace and justice through a broad spectrum of global programs by seeking peaceful solutions, creating and supporting peace-related ministries in our conference and learning about peaceful, just efforts around the world.

This special offering benefits peace with justice ministries in the annual conference and through the General Board of Church and Society.

Through your giving, good news is proclaimed to—and experienced by—the poor.

Thanks be to God!

For more information on this special giving opportunity, see: <http://www.umcsgiving.org/ministry-articles/peace-with-justice-sunday>

Other Special Giving Sundays this year include:

World Communion Sunday - October 1

United Methodist Student Day Sunday - November 26,

United Methodist Women June Schedule

“Women in Christ” Circle

Monday, June 5

6:30 p.m.—Dinner at

Pappas—Taylor Avenue

Phyllis Downes Circle

Tuesday, June 6

12 Noon—Lunch at

Peppermill

FLEA MARKET

Saturday, June 3

8AM—1 PM

To reserve a space for \$20 contact:

Nancy Gillotti

410-823-5187 or

Nancy Harvill

410-828-8271



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.

From the Mailbox

Dear Loch Raven Friends:

Fran and I wish to thank you for your many cards and good wishes when we were ill. It meant so much to be remembered at our church.

We attend a Methodist service but it is not our home—where as young adults with three children we grew up. Many good memories with good friends.

With love,
Betty & Fran Shock

Dear Family of LRUMC,

Thank you for the many cards and prayers during my last illness. It really means a lot to me.

Thank you all again.
Mary Lou Bryan

Summer Birthdays

June Birthdays

- 2 Kerry Webner
- 3 Merrill Harrison
- 4 Judy Zahren
- 5 Tim Shelton
- 9 Nancy Harvill
- 10 Karen Mooney
- 11 Megan Eshelman
- 12 Deborah Olewe
- 15 Karen Danforth
Minnie Webster
- 18 Olu Okerele
- 23 Michele Brown
- 25 Dorothy Thompson
- 26 Londa Lee

July Birthdays

- 1 Jackson Lee Eklund
- 4 Sarah Aidoo
- 8 Robert Cole
- 9 Debbie Shelton
- 10 Shirley Messman
- 11 Luciana Margaret Roman
- 17 William Shock (Will)
- 18 Pauline Graves
- 19 Ellen Underwood
Evan Horn
- 22 Adaeze Alaeze
Christopher Palazzi
- 24 Kristopher Seets
Jennifer Byrd
Rachel White
- 28 Scott LaCompte
Kirsten Scott
- 30 Ruth Weygand
- 31 Jane Cullum
Edward Smith

August Birthdays

- 3 Grace Boner
Lynn Jean
- 4 Jean Oberia
- 5 Russell Thompson
- 6 Brian Miller
- 7 William Bratton
- 9 Janae Edwards
- 12 Betty Shock
- 14 David Frazier
- 16 Betty Cox
- 17 Emily Larrimore
- 18 Jennifer Weaver
- 19 Del Lloyd
Isabelle Burrell
Albertha Sinkler
Mack Briscoe
- 22 Phil Lee
Pamela Williams
- 23 Erica Mink
- 24 Maria Stockton-Porter
- 26 Estelle Batra
Cheryl Wagner Koogler
- 27 Matthew Cuthbert
- 28 Jeanne Amberman



Happy 4th of July!

Missions In Action: Habitat for Humanity

Seeking to put God's love into action, by bringing people together to build homes, communities and hope.

Your mission dollars support a number of worthwhile projects locally, nationally and internationally. Our focus this month is on Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake.

This year Habitat Chesapeake is celebrating 35 years of helping needy families become home owners. 738 area families have become home owners thanks to your donations and many legions of volunteers. Of these families, 153 have already paid off their mortgages thereby building equity and halting the cycle of intergenerational poverty. More than 2,500 children have been able to focus on their schoolwork and a chance for a brighter future because they have a safe, stable place to call home.

Habitat Chesapeake strives to build in neighborhoods with strong anchor institutions and amenities likes parks and walkable green streets to ensure that your investment of money, time and talent is most impactful.

Did you know that every Habitat affiliate tithes a percentage of its revenue to build in developing areas? For the past five years, Habitat Chesapeake has supported work in Haiti.

Last year they also launched HabiCorps, a new workforce development program, which provides 10 months of training to individuals who face employment barriers. The trainees learn a wide variety of skills—from framing, to flooring, to fine carpentry—as they build new homes and renovate existing ones for Habitat families. Participants, in partnership with the Job Opportunities Task Force, receive financial literacy coaching case management services and assistance finding jobs when they graduate. In addition, all trainees receive a living allowance and education stipend for future training thanks to funding provided by Americore.

You can further support Habitat Chesapeake through your donations of furniture, cabinets, flooring and more to an area ReStore (*call 410-633-0506 for a pick-up*). You can also take advantage of their low prices on home goods by shopping at one of the 6 area ReStores—the Timonium store is located at 7 W. Aylesbury Road.

ReStore sales account for nearly 30% of Habitat Chesapeake's revenue.

Donations prevented 3.6 million pounds of construction materials from entering landfills last year.

Volunteers donated 19,735 hours—the equivalent of 10 full-time employees. If you are interested in volunteering call 410-633-0506.

For more information, see: www.habitatchesapeake.org

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.

Manna House Breakfast Club – **May 6, July 15 and Oct. 14.** 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 on-going collection.*

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

UMC Lectionary Calendar June - August

June 4—Pentecost

Church Color: Red or White
Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
(UMH 826)
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
John 7:37-39

June 11—Trinity Sunday 1st Sunday after Pentecost

Peace With Justice Sunday
Church Color: White
Genesis 1:1-2:4a
Psalm 8 (UMH 743)
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Matthew 28:16-20

June 18—2nd Sunday after Pentecost

Father's Day (USA)
Church Color: Green
Genesis 18:1-15
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
(UMH 837)
Romans 5:1-8
Matthew 9:35-10:8 (9-23)

June 25—3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Church Color: Green
Genesis 21:8-21
Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17 or
Psalm 17 (UMH 749)
Romans 6:1b-11
Matthew 10:24-39

June 28

John Wesley b. 1703

July 2—4th Sunday after Pentecost

Church Color: Green
Genesis 22:1-14
Psalm 13 (UMH 746)
Romans 6:12-23
Matthew 10:40-42

July 9—5th Sunday after Pentecost

Church Color: Green
Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49,
58-67
Psalm 45:10-17 or Psalm 72
(UMH 795)
Romans 7:15-25a
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 16—6th Sunday after Pentecost

Church Color: Green
Genesis 25:19-34
Psalm 119:105-112 or
Psalm 25 (UMH 756)
Romans 8:1-11
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 23—7th Sunday after Pentecost

Church Color: Green
Genesis 28:10-19a
Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24
(UMH 854)
Romans 8:12-25
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July 30—8th Sunday after Pentecost

Church Color: Green
Genesis 29:15-28
Psalm 105:1-11, 45b
(UMH 828)
Romans 8:26-39
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

August 6—9th Sunday after Pentecost

Church Color: Green
Genesis. 32:22-31
Psalm 17:1-7, 15 (UMH 749)
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:13-21

August 13—10th Sunday after Pentecost

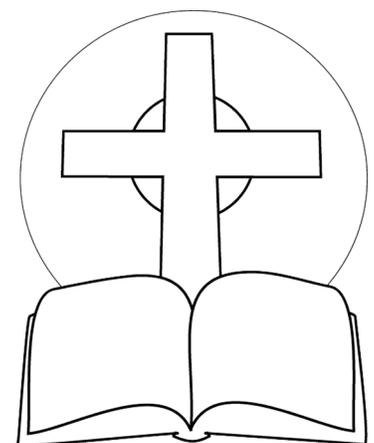
Church Color: Green
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28
Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b
(UMH 828)
Romans 10:5-15
Matthew 14:22-33

August 20—11th Sunday after Pentecost

Church Color: Green
Genesis 45:1-15
Psalm 133 (UMH 850)
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
Matthew 15: (10-20) 21-28

August 27—12th Sunday after Pentecost

Church Color: Green
Exodus 1:8-2:10
Psalm 124 (UMH 846)
Romans 12:1-8
Matthew 16:13-20



The Membership Committee aka Welcoming Ministry

By: Debi Wynn

During the four weeks following Easter, our church has had several first-time visitors.

Loch Raven's Membership Committee has had a fruitful first quarter of 2017 engaging church members and the community. On Mother's Day, women attending the church service were given a symbol of the first Mother's Day service in 1908, a white carnation, which was a flower given to mothers at this service by Anna Jarvis, founder and promoter of this holiday to honor mothers. Many thanks to Bill Bratton, Adrian Palazzi and Patti Ferguson for their help with this service. As May was Older Americans Month, Loch Raven honored its most senior members 90 years and older, and our church is truly blest to have these folks as members.

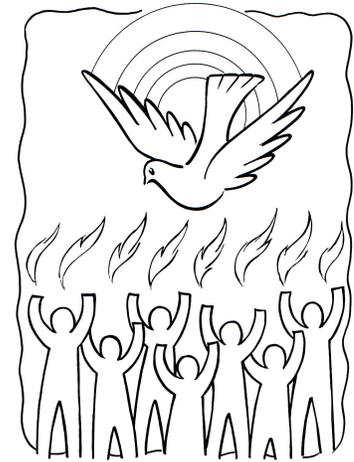


Having met with the President of the Greater Hillendale Community Association, it was discovered that one of the community needs is employment assistance. Serving as a Loch Raven outreach event, our church will be partnering with this group to hold a job fair on Saturday, October 21. We need lots of church members to assist in making this a successful event, and more details will follow next month.

The immediate need of help:

- 1) Job Fair Planning - Folks who have experience with a job fair as an event planner, employer or job seeker and would like to help shape this first-time event for the church and community.
- 2) Workshop leaders - If you have expertise in an area that would assist job seekers, such as resume writing, interview basics, or other topics and would be willing to lead a 30-minute workshop, please let us know.
- 3) Lunch Coordinator - Planning and executing a food service available this day for the job seekers. The food choice is yours from pancakes to subs to spaghetti or whatever menu you choose.

The Roswell United Methodist Church in Roswell, Georgia has a wonderful Job Seekers Ministry, offering networking events twice a month and an Attire to Hire mission. Check out its website at <http://www.rumc.com/connect/adults/job-networking/> to discover the possibilities for Loch Raven's community service in this human needs ministry.



A Prayer for Pentecost

O God, you sent the Holy Spirit to enkindle the zeal of Christ's followers waiting in Jerusalem for his promised gift. Pour the same inspiration on your people here assembled, and on the Church of Christ throughout the world. Revive the power of the gospel in our hearts, that it may be to us a sacred trust for the blessing of all creation. Enable your Church to spread the good news of salvation, so that all nations may hear it in their own tongues, and welcome it into their own lives. Protect, encourage and bless all ministers of the cross, and prosper their words and works, so that Jesus, being lifted up, may draw all people unto him, and the kingdoms of the world may become the kingdom of our Lord and of Jesus Christ. Amen. (Henry Van Dyke, U.S.A., 20th Cent., ALT.)



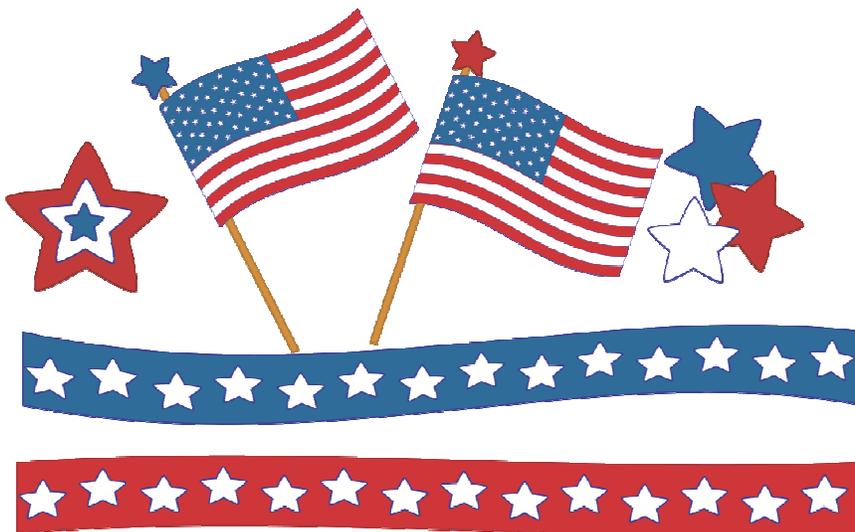
Fate of the Revolutionaries

We call them heroes. The British called them traitors. Many of them turned out to be martyrs. Here is what happened to some of the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence:

- Five were captured and tortured as traitors.
- Nine joined the revolutionary army, fought and died.
- Eight men had property looted by the British army or by vandals.
- One signer's home was taken over by a British general. The owner, Thomas Nelson, Jr., asked General Washington to burn the home down. The general did.
- The home of Francis Lewis was destroyed and his wife put in jail. She died shortly thereafter.
- Three men had their fields and mills destroyed.

In one way or another, all of the men paid a dear price as a result of their rebellion. Still they were faithful to the pledge they made on July 4, 1776:

“We, therefore, the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by the Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States....And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.”



Devon Bittner
North Carolina State with a
major in Kinesiology
In September will continue
working towards a Masters
Degree
Niece of Joyce Johnson

Kani Kane
Lackawanna College,
Scranton, PA
In August will attend Universi-
ty of Delaware to major in
Liberal Arts
Nephew of Joyce Johnson

Trez Kane
Mars Hill University, NC
Major in Special Education
Nephew of Joyce Johnson

Matthew Allan Price
West Virginia University with a
BS in Strategic Communication
with a minor in business
Family: Amy & Allan Price,
Tim and Grace
Grandmother: Nancy Gillotti

Matthew Reed
Potomac Falls High School in
Sterling, VA and will be
Attending Northern Virginia
Community College in Sterling,
VA as a Business major
Grandson of Dan and Jen
Dorsey

Rachel Snack
McDaniel College
Granddaughter of
Ardith Luttrell