

The Spire



June 2012

Loch Raven United Methodist Church



Summer Worship Schedule begins June 3rd 8:30 & 10:00 AM.

June 3rd is Music Sunday. Come, hear some wonderful music from our very gifted musicians.

Summer Holiday Weekends July 1st and September 2nd we'll have one service at 10:00 AM.

There is no children's Sunday school in the summer, but nursery care is available at all Sunday services for young children.



Sizzlin' Summer Nights Is Almost Here!!

Are you ready? Are you ready for some fellowship and fun in the sun??? Well, the Family Ministries team has a great summer and fall planned to bring fun and fellowship to Loch Raven. We have some familiar events planned and a few new ideas that we think you are absolutely going to LOVE!

Trust me, you don't want to miss any of the good times ahead! I know the anticipation is driving you crazy, so here is the plan! We are looking forward to seeing you, your family and friends. Just don't forget to let us know you are coming and clear all your Wednesday nights for June, July and a few in August. What else could you possibly want to be doing but having fun with your LRUMC family. Okay, so here is the plan:

Summer Schedule:

June 13

OPENING NIGHT Cookout. Please bring your favorite side dish or yummy dessert. We provide meat, drinks, and buns! 6:30pm

June 20

Bowling at Towson Lanes on Providence Rd. This is a favorite, so don't miss out. We will have pizza and a drink. Time is 6:30pm

June 27

This is Vacation Bible School. NO ACTIVITY PLANNED for Sizzlin' Summer Nights, but come out to VBS!

July 4

Happy 4th of July....See you next Wednesday :-)

July 11

NEW NEW *** Good Old Methodist Hymn Sing—Emory Grove Meeting Camp. Starts at 7:30pm. You can come early and bring a Picnic Dinner. More details to follow!

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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 September issue is **Sunday, August 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

Website: www.LRUMC.org



June 14

Sizzlin' Summer Nights

(Continued from page 1)

July 18

Mini Golf—7pm.
More info to follow.

July 25

HO HO HO, Christmas In July—7pm in Fellowship Hall

August 1

Movie on the Lawn...NEW***
Come join us for a movie outside—Church parking lot—8pm

August 8

Iron Birds Game
LOTS OF FUN!

August 15

Closing Night Cookout—6:30pm.

Did you think I was done?
More to Come in September.
Here is a sneak peek!

September—Amazing Race—info to come later

October 24th—Fall Festival.
Come share a great meal of turkey and all the trimmings and pies too!

January 2013

Book Exchange—more info to come.

Hope to see you all this Summer to share in the Spirit of our Lord and have some great times with your friends and family at LRUMC.

BE there or BE SQUARE!

Yours in Christ,

Karen Jones
Family Ministries

Emory Grove in Glyndon, MD

Emory Grove is an old Methodist Camp Meeting Ground located in nearby Glyndon, MD. It is comprised of an historic hotel, open-air tabernacle and 46 summer cottages. Every summer for the last 145 years there have been religious services held in the open-air tabernacle on Sunday evenings. Local churches of various Christian denominations provide the worship services each week in July and August at 7:30pm. Since 1974, there have also been Hymn Sings held during the week on Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm to provide a time of worship between Sundays. Every week, 15-20 hymns are sung and a guest artist performs 2-3 selections. This year's schedule has been set and there are brochures available in the back of the sanctuary and outside the fellowship hall. Loch Raven will be attending the Hymn Sing on July 11th as part of our Sizzlin' Summer Nights and I encourage you all to visit Emory Grove with us. Other events take place at Emory Grove throughout the summer, including an Afternoon Tea on the porch of the historic hotel and a Choir Fest. Anyone who loves to sing praises to God can join the massed choir for an afternoon rehearsal and then perform in a concert the evening of the Choir Fest. More information can be found in the brochures, on the internet at <http://emorygrove.net> and by asking me, Erin Mellott!! I hope to see you at the Grove sometime this summer!

Cliff's Note

Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.
--I Corinthians 13:12

Since Father's Day is June 17th I want to share some things about our parental role models and how they affect how we live. God, of course, is the ultimate in parental role models. We will tend to live out the image of God that we have in our mind. It's the same way with our human role models. We live what's been modeled for us.

J.B. Phillips, in his book *Your God is Too Small*, writes about five typical distorted concepts of God. If we have a skewed image of God it will affect how we live out our life. Phillips calls the first distorted God concept the "Legal God." This god keeps a strict account of all that we do or say. With this concept we see God as a big bookkeeper, judging our every action, giving out merits and demerits for the good and bad that we do in life. Phillips calls the second distorted concept of God the "Gotcha God." With this concept we see God as someone waiting for us to fail or make a mistake. Once we've done so, he jumps out of the shadows and shouts, "Gotcha!" The third distorted God concept is what he calls the "Sitting Bull God." This god is morally apathetic. He

sits and watches, turning his head when we make a poor moral decision. The fourth distorted God concept is called the "Philosopher God." He describes this god as the unmoved mover. He created the world and all that is in it, but now sits back at a distance and lets it run its course. This is a very impersonal god. Lastly, there is the "Pharaoh God." This god is never satisfied. He offers the carrot on a stick. If we have a god like this, no matter what we do or how much we do, he will not be pleased.

The good news is that we don't need to continue living with these distorted God concepts. Once we become aware of the distortions and aware of ourselves enough to know where the distortions originated, we can change them and begin to develop a relationship with the One True and Living God.

Fanny Crosby, author of the hymn "Blessed Assurance" writes that in knowing Jesus we have "a foretaste of glory divine!" The Apostle Paul says, "For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face." It may well be in this life that we will only ever catch a small glimpse of who God really is, but shouldn't we try to be as accurate as possible so we can live the life that God really wants for us?

Pastor Cliff

Confirmation Graduation

Please congratulate the following new members. They have successfully completed 13 weeks of classes and were received into full membership at LRUMC on May 27th:

Steven M. Gardner
Sarah A. Jones
Eron C. Small
Nicholas S. Webster

A special thank you goes to Cathy Miles for her help with teaching.



United Methodist Women June Schedule

"Women in Christ" Circle
Monday, June 4
6:30 p.m.—Dinner at Peppermill

Phyllis Downes Circle
Tuesday, June 5
12 Noon—Lunch at Peppermill

NO GENERAL MEETING

Birthdays & Anniversaries

JUNE BIRTHDAYS:

- 2 Kerry Webner
- 4 Judy Zahren
- 5 Tim Shelton
- 5 Jonathan Yeich
- 9 Nancy Harvill
- 10 Karen Mooney
- 11 Megan Eschelman
- 12 Deborah Olewe
- 15 Elsie Barker,
Minnie Webster and
Karen Jones
- 18 Virginia Frey,
Lois Uram and
Olu Okerele
- 23 Michele Brown
- 25 Dorothy Thompson
- 26 Lou Kiessling and
Londa Lee
- 27 Tom Graves

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES:

- 19 Charles and Jeanette
Chilcoat— 64 years
- 28 Marcia and Gary Smith
27 years

Habitat Build Day

Habitat Build Day will be in the Pen Lucy neighborhood in northern Baltimore on June 23. If Interested, please contact me by phone at (410)704-2146 or by email: isahayajoe@yahoo.com.

James Manley

JULY BIRTHDAYS:

- 4 Wendy White-Doyle
- 8 Robert Cole
- 9 Debbie Shelton
- 17 William Shock
- 18 Pauline Graves
- 19 Ellen Underwood and
Evan Horn
- 22 Chris Palazzi
- 23 Erin Olsen
- 24 Jennifer Byrd,
Kristopher Seets and
Rachel Lee
- 25 Delroy and Merrill
Harrison
- 26 Ann Mason-Jackson
- 28 Scott Le Compte and
Kirsten Scott
- 30 Ruth Weygand
- 31 Jane Cullum and
Ed Smith

From the Mailbox

I want to thank all of the members, staff and ministers of the Loch Raven family on behalf of both Nancy's family and my family for all the wonderful cards, notes, calls and expressions of condolences and especially the hugs on her passing. I enjoyed so much so many of you telling me that you remember that she always had a big smile whenever you met her.

Marty Marvel



Heart Matters

A relationship between two or more of Christ's followers is simply a heart-to-heart matter.

Methodism founder John Wesley said: "If your heart is as my heart, give me your hand." In other words, when two (or more) people know Christ, they have something wonderful in common. Therefore, they should embrace one another as brothers and sisters in Christ.

Attending worship and being involved in church activities draws us closer to Jesus and to each other. As Christians, we are called to be hospitable toward strangers, not just our friends and acquaintances. Remember Christ's words: "I was a stranger and you welcomed me. . ." (Matthew 25:35, NRSV).



"You're grillin', pastor. That must make you a friar!"

Trustees Report

The LRUMC Board of Trustees hosted a "Garden Party" on Saturday, April 28.

We got started at around 8:30 AM under overcast skies with a brisk wind that all but set to warn those who had braved the weather to prepare for the rain that was sure to come and send us all heading for shelter.

By 9:30 AM we had reached our total of 20 volunteers. Two trustee members manned the kitchen, keeping our thirst quenched, and kept busy preparing the meal that we were sure to enjoy once our work was completed.

We had estimated that 30 bags of mulch would be adequate to complete the task, but we soon realized that more bags were required. Volunteers spaced themselves along the front fence, by the front door, along the building at the driveway, and at the rear entrance from the parking lot, weeding, cutting and lopping off low branches, as we made room for the mulch and new plants. The mulch ran out by 11:00 AM and we had to decide whether to purchase more mulch or request permission to use some of the remaining bags. Our prayers were answered, as members of Troop 769 stopped by to pickup bags to deliver, and they told us that we could have the "scratch and dent" or busted bags.

Without hesitation, we proceeded to spread an additional

26 bags, and so by 12:30 PM, we cleaned up, put away our tools and regrouped in the fellowship hall for the warm meal prepared for us. Beef, pasta, fruit cups, ice cream, brownies, soda and water, were the delicious items on the menu. There was something for everyone, young and old alike.

The Board would like to say thanks to: **Matthew Price** for his tireless effort helping the older volunteers do some of the tough work and the heavy lifting; and the eldest volunteer, **Evelyn Dorfler**, who relentlessly weeded the beds along the building by the kitchen; **Sharon Neumann**, for her role as "mulch transporter", because if not for her, we would all have been burnt out long before noon; **Kathy Ruble**, who selected the plants and their final locations, particularly at the parking lot entrance; and last but not least, **Sandi Cuthbert** and **Rebecca Mickey**, for their tireless service in the kitchen.

Needless to say, the rain held up, and the sun actually came out to greet us, making the day one worth being thankful for. Amen.

The Board members again, want to express our sincere thanks for the effort from all those who came and showed how we can be of service to our Church and Community.

The Board still has work to do, as there are closets throughout the building that have old paint cans and other items that we should discard. The plan is to clear these items out on May 19th at 8:30 AM. So, that is another opportunity to serve. A sign up sheet is on the notice board at the parking lot entrance.

We also have repairs to do to the roof and leaky heating pipes.

In addition, the entrance floor needs a new finish and a few Sunday school classrooms need the lighting improved.

So, keep praying for us as we take on these tasks one at a time.

Respectfully submitted,
Phillip L. Scott, Trustee



Favorite Hymns

It's once again time to vote for your favorite hymns. We'll be voting through the second week of June and singing them in worship through August. Just drop a note in the offering plate on Sunday. You can choose from the "UM Hymnal," "The Faith We Sing," and/or "Worship and Song." We'll do all we can to sing as many as we can. Come to worship and hear your favorite hymns.



Encourage
one another
and build up
each other....

| Thessalonians 5:11, NRSV



Father's Day

Sunday, June 17

**Shake It Up! With
Discoveries in the Bible
Vacation Bible School 2012**

The week of June 25, Monday through Friday, 6:30 - 8:30pm

- Shake it up fun includes fun, fellowship and life-long learning for all ages:
- Bringing to life stories and times in the Bible
- Cooking up science experiments
- Keeping in good physical shape with fun with dance
- Challenging spirited games

Please complete the following form and return it to the church by June 5th.

ATT: VBS, LRUMC, 6622 Loch Raven Blvd, Baltimore, MD 21239

For additional information contact VBS Coordinator Debi Wynn at tnhedutainment@aol.com

Children's Registration:

Parent or Guardian _____
 Address _____ Zip Code _____
 Phone _____ E- Mail _____
 Child's Name _____ Age _____ Child's Name _____ Age _____
 Child's Name _____ Age _____ Child's Name _____ Age _____

Adult Registration

Name _____
 Address _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ E-mail _____



Congratulations Graduates!

Joyce Dixon

From Liberty University Theological Seminary, with a Masters in Theological Studies

Alec Welsh

Grandson of Peggy Kelly
From Hampton Elementary School going to Ridgley Middle School

Kevin Mooney

Grandson of Peggy Kelly
From North Harford High School going to the University of Maryland College Park

Rose Ashe

Granddaughter of Ann Mason-Jackson
Graduating from Kent State University with a degree of Bachelor of Science in Architecture

Aleece Roehl

From Towson State University

Marisa Shea Dorsey

Daughter of Bruce & Marnie Dorsey
Granddaughter of Dan & Jen Dorsey
From Perry Hall High School

DJ Rickels (Donald)

Grandson of Bob & Nancy Lacy
From McDaniel College

Samantha Rickels

Granddaughter of Bob & Nancy Lacy
From Towson High School going to Bucknell University

Serenity Prayer

From: R. J. Fringo

Many people are familiar with The Serenity Prayer, but perhaps no more than the first four lines. There is more to the prayer as indicated below. The author is theologian Reinhold Niebuhr.

The Serenity Prayer

God grant me the serenity
to accept the things I cannot change;
courage to change the things I can;
and wisdom to know the difference.

Living one day at a time;
Enjoying one moment at a time;
Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;
Taking, as He did, this sinful world
as it is, not as I would have it;
Trusting that He will make all things right
if I surrender to his Will;
That I may be reasonably happy in this life
and supremely happy with Him
Forever in the next.
Amen.

God's LOVE has
been poured
into our
HEARTS
through
the
HOLY SPIRIT
that has been
given to us.



Romans 5:5, NRSV

Have You Seen It?

The following two items are not stored where they once were. If you know the whereabouts of these church resources, please call Debi Wynn at 410-583-0270 or email her at tnhedutainment@aol.com

In search of:

1. Collection of Loch Raven church bulletins from past years once stored in the parlor on the book shelves.
2. Church's large outdoor nativity scene.