

The Spire



March 2014

Loch Raven United Methodist Church

Pastor's Spring Bible Study

John Wesley lived nearly 300 years ago, but the Christianity he taught and practiced still captures our hearts and imaginations in the 21st century. Edgy, challenging, revolutionary, and rewarding, Wesleyan Christianity rings true to modern ears. It's a faith that matters.

Scott Jones, the author of the study, is the resident Bishop of the Great Plains area of the United Methodist Church. He was formerly the McCrless Associate Professor of Evangelism at Perkins School of Theology (Southern Methodist University), where he taught courses in evangelism and Wesley studies.

Our Spring Bible study will be on four consecutive Mondays beginning on March 24th @ 7:00 PM. We will be studying *The Wesleyan Way---a Faith that Matters* by Bishop Scott Jones. Sign up sheets are posted on the downstairs entrance bulletin board and in the narthex upstairs.

Special Lenten/ Easter Events

March 4th Shrove Tuesday
Pancake Dinner, 6:00 PM

March 5th Ash Wednesday
Worship, 7:00 PM

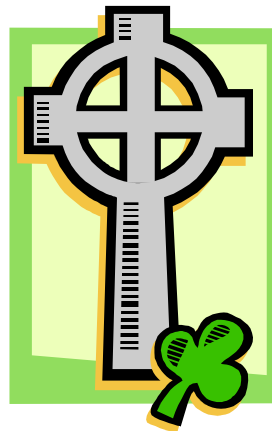
March 9th *Redeeming Value*
Series begins

April 13th Palm Sunday

April 17th Holy Thursday
Worship, 7:00 PM

April 20th Easter Sunday
Sunrise service @ 6:15 AM;
Worship: 8:30 & 11:00 AM.

Easter Egg Hunt 10:00 AM
for elementary aged children



The "Redeeming Value" Series

Come to church and find out just how much you matter to God. The 7-part sermon series "Redeeming Value" begins Sunday March 9th on the first Sunday of Lent and runs through Easter Sunday on April 20th.

Here are the weekly sermon titles and Scriptures:

3/9 *Repentance* from
Luke 1:68 and Isaiah 53:7-9.

3/16 *Freedom* from
Romans 6:19-23

3/23 *No Condemnation* from
Psalm 121:1 and Romans 8:1-4

3/30 *Change* from Exodus 3:1-4
and Luke 13:6-7

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

Don't miss this. It could
change your life.

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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 April issue is **Sunday, March 9, 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.

Editor - Nancy Williams

Children's Page and Address Page Editor - Peggy Kelly

Pastor - Cliff Webner

Church Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. *Phone:* 410-825-0900. *Fax:* 410-825-2600. *E-mail:* Info@LRUMC.org

Change of Name/Address - Call, mail or e-mail church office

Website: www.LRUMC.org

United Methodist Women March Schedule

“Women in Christ” Circle

Monday, March 3
 7:30 p.m.—Room 202
 Study: *Moments That Take Your Breath Away*
 Lesson 4
 Study Leader: Yvonne
 Devotions: Judy
 Hostess: Myra

Phyllis Downes Circle

Tuesday, March 4
 10 am—Parlor
 Study: Ruth, 2nd lesson
 Study Leader: Joyce Dixon

GENERAL MEETING Wednesday, March 19

6:30pm—Covered Dish Program—to be announced
 Circle Assignments:
 Set-up—WIC
 Main Dish—D-I
 Vegetable—J-M
 Salad—N-Z
 Dessert—A-C
 Clean-up—P.D.

Youth News

By: John Mayden

Friday, March 21 7 pm—9 pm

Youth's Game Day

Sunday, April 20, 10 am

Loch Raven United Methodist Church's Youth Group will assist in the annual Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 26, 9:30 am

The Youth will go to "Helping Up Mission" to volunteer to serve lunch. "Helping Up Mission" is a Christian substance abuse recovery center for men in East Baltimore.

I just want to thank the Youth for participating in the Black History Presentations during the month of February.

Share Your Talents

A talent is worth only what you do with it. Imagine your talent as a plain bar of iron that's worth about \$5.00. That same bar of iron, when made into horseshoes would be worth more than \$10. If made into needles, it would be worth around \$3,500. And if turned into balance springs for watches, its worth would become over \$250,000!

What is your talent, and how are you using it?



Boy Scout Troop 792 Mulch Madness Sale

Boy Scout Troop 792 Alumni will hold its 6th annual Mulch “Madness” Sale on Saturday, April 12th. We are selling a tan bark mix, which is a unique blend of oak barks, chocolate brown in color, double shredded and aged to produce a high quality ground cover.

The mulch is packaged in 3 cubic ft. bags at a cost of \$5 per bag. Free delivery is provided for all orders of 10 or more bags. The deadline for all orders is April 5th. For questions, additional information or to place an order please contact Larry Bearden at 443-465-9606 or csc4jobs@verizon.net.

“The Rejected Stone”

The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the Lord has done this and it is marvelous in our eyes.

--Psalm 119:22 (NIV)

There is a legend based on the above Scripture. According to that legend, when the Temple of Solomon was being built, the masons sent a stone up from the quarry which was different in size and shape from all the rest they had sent up.

Looking at it, the builders said, “There’s no place for this stone. It doesn’t fit with the rest of them. There must be some mistake.” So they rolled it down the edge of the cliff into the valley of Kidron below the Temple area. As time went on (the Temple took seven years to build), they were ready for the chief cornerstone. When they asked for it they were told, “We sent it up to you long ago.”

One of the workers said, “I remember now. There was a stone altogether different from the rest. We thought there was no place for it so we rolled it down to the valley below.” Workers were sent down to the valley to find the stone. They succeeded in doing so. When the stone was brought up it fit perfectly into its place---the headstone of the corner.

Jesus is that cornerstone. Still today there are times we reject him by the way we choose to live. We think we’re not ready for him or we don’t need him. We’d rather do things our own way. But when we allow him to be Lord of our life we see that he’s a perfect fit. During this season of Lent, instead of learning the hard way, let’s allow Jesus to be the cornerstone of our life.

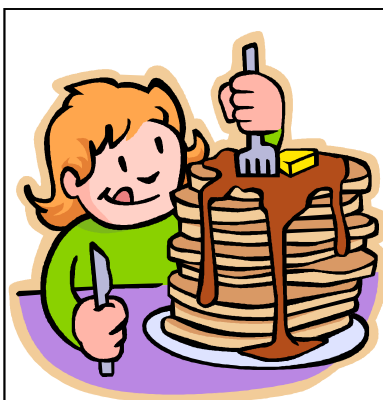
Grace and peace,
Cliff



March Birthdays

List compiled by Marcia Smith

- 1 Franklin Aidoo
Stan Kriel
- 2 Erin Potter
Brianna Lee
- 4 Eddie DePrine, Jr.
- 7 Shannon Larrimore
- 10 Peggy Kelly
- 11 Michaela Jones
Heather Marsalek
- 12 Jason Myers
- 14 Norma Jones
- 15 Anne Marie Smith
- 16 Doris Blottenberger
Karen Seets
- 17 Roy Dorfler
Matthew Price
- 19 Robert Weaver
- 20 Phil Scott
- 22 Erin Mellott
- 23 Tiffany Hively
- 24 Tim Price
- 25 Sam Boner
- 30 Dave Jackson
Robert Cullum
Irene McCrea



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper March 4 at 6 pm

There will be a fellowship activity following the supper.

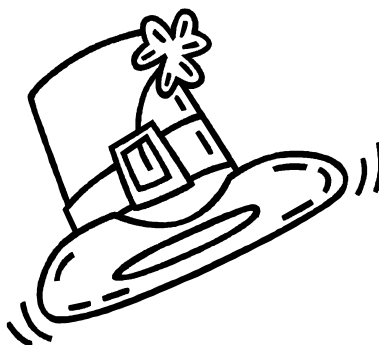
Please sign up in advance at the front entrance or in the Narthex.

Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step.

—Martin Luther King Jr.

Spring Cleaning Request

If you are downsizing your paper files and have a file cabinet you no longer need, please consider donating it for storage of Vacation Bible School files. Contact Debi Wynn or Maria Stockton Porter to arrange a pickup.



St. Patrick's Day Monday, March 17

Be A Greeter

Would you be willing to greet someone with a smile and a handshake? Would you be willing to show someone the way to the sanctuary? **If so, then we need you to be a GREETER before the morning services.** If you are willing, please contact the office so that we can get you started.



Chocolate Covered Easter Eggs

Individually Wrapped Easter Eggs
\$10.00 per dozen

**Vanilla Cream, Chocolate Cream,
Coconut Cream, Peanut Butter**

- Deadline for ordering: Sunday, March 30
- Pick-up order: Sunday, April 6 9 a.m.—12:30 p.m.
- *Payment due when placing order*
- **checks payable to: Loch Raven United Methodist Women**
- Submit order(s) with payment via the offering plate, Church Office or give to Nancy Gillotti

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

# _____dozen—Vanilla Cream (dark chocolate)	# _____dozen—Chocolate Cream (dark chocolate)
# _____dozen—Coconut Cream (dark chocolate)	# _____dozen—Peanut Butter (milk chocolate)
# _____dozen—Assorted (three of each kind)	# _____dozen—Peanut Butter (dark chocolate)

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: \$ _____

Sunday School Easter Celebration

Easter is just around the corner and once again the Loch Raven Youth will be hosting a celebration for our Sunday School Children. There will be games, snacks and, of course, an egg hunt!

We need your help in stuffing our eggs. Please consider donating a bag of wrapped Easter candy. The candy collection will begin on March 23rd. A box marked *Easter Candy* will be in the narthex each Sunday until April 13th. Thank you for continued support.

Carole Webner and
the Youth Sunday School

Fast and Feast

Arthur Lichtenberg, when presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church, quoted this Lenten advice:

- Fast from criticism, and feast on praise.
- Fast from self-pity, and feast on joy.
- Fast from ill-temper, and feast on peace.
- Fast from resentment, and feast on contentment.
- Fast from jealousy, and feast on love.
- Fast from pride, and feast on humility.
- Fast from selfishness, and feast on service.
- Fast from fear, and feast on faith.

—*The SourceBook of Wit and Wisdom*

Facebook Sharing

Did you know the church has a new Facebook page—a 21st century marketing tool for promoting organizations and their events in social media. The church has a great web page thanks to Cheryl Koogler as she posts updated information on a regular basis. Now there is a Facebook page. For the church congregation to grow, sharing what the church does, its many events of fellowship, worship and spiritual education is a good way to reach out to the community and potential new members. We are in search of photos for posting to provide a photo history, past and present, of the church. If you have photos for including on the Facebook page, please email them to Debi Wynn at tnhedutainment@aol.com. Please label the photos with event, date and names.



"EASTER CELEBRATION"
EGG HUNT, GAMES AND SNACKS
EASTER SUNDAY
APRIL 20, 10:00 AM
IN THE LOCH RAVEN AUDITORIUM
ALL PRE-SCHOOL AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
CHILDREN ARE INVITED

