

The Spire



May, 2013

Loch Raven United Methodist Church

One Worship Service

The Worship Committee, the Church Council, and you (through your surveys from last summer) have chosen to have one worship service throughout the summer. We will begin on Memorial Day weekend. That's Sunday, May 26th. The service throughout the summer will be at 9:30 AM. Please make note of it now. Highlight it on your calendar and write down 9:30 AM in big, bold letters. We will be having one worship service at 9:30 AM beginning on Memorial Day weekend, May 26th, and running through the Loch Raven Church 60th anniversary date of September 15th.

Graduates

Are you graduating from high school, college, trade school, or maybe receiving your G.E.D.? Please contact the church office with the details: Name of Graduate, School graduating from, and date of graduation. We'll post your graduate's name and information in the next *Spire*. We want to be able to pray for them and celebrate their achievement with them.



Mother's Day Celebration

Mother's Day is May 12th, and we have a special gift for all of our mothers. Come to worship that day for a special treat.

As part of our 60th year celebration and in celebration of Mother's Day we will be doing an old fashioned hymn sing at both of our services. We'll take some requests from the congregation. And we will also share some of the stories of the great hymns. So, come celebrate Mother's Day with us as we sing some of the great hymns of the past and present.

Inside This Issue ...

Music Notes	Page 2
Pastor's Message	Page 3
Habitat for Humanity	Page 5

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 June issue is **Sunday, May 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.

Editor - Nancy Williams

Children's Page and Address

Page Editor - Peggy Kelly

Pastor - Cliff Webner

Pastor of Congregational Care

- Robert J. Fringo

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



Your Favorite Hymns

It's time again to pick your favorite hymns. We'll be singing them over the summer. Over the next three or four weeks take some time to look at our hymn books and select your top three favorite hymns. Write them down and drop them in the offering plate. We'll look at them and see what Loch Raven's top ten favorite are. We will sing more than just the top ten.

United Methodist Women May Schedule

"Women in Christ" Circle

Monday, May 6

7:30 p.m.—Room 202

Study: *Great People of the Bible*—Lesson 14—Paul

Study Leader—Karen

Devotions—Nancy

Hostess—Nancy

Phyllis Downes Circle

Tuesday, May 7

10 am—Parlor

Study: Acts—Chapter 12

No General Meeting in May



Music Notes

By: Sam Chin
Music Director

He is Risen! I want to thank everyone in-

involved with our music ministry that made Holy Week and Easter Sunday so special. It's great to be part of a church that has so many talented members involved with the worship and music ministries.

Mark your calendars! On Saturday, May 4th @ 2:30 PM, the Chancel Choir will present a community outreach concert at Pickersgill Retirement Community. The Choir will perform some of our favorite anthems that we have performed throughout the year, as well as feature some of our soloists.

Finally, please congratulate our organist, Lizao Wang, on her acceptance to the Masters Program in Organ Performance from the Peabody Institute of Music. She will continue to study with Professor John Walker as a merit scholarship recipient. Congratulations Lizao!

Kindness, if you show it to others, will radiate from you like the warmth of the sun over the hilltops.

—Source unknown



I was reading the comic strip, "Peanuts" the other day. There was Linus, tenaciously clinging to his security blanket. Wherever he goes or whatever he does, Linus must have his blanket. He feels insecure without it. This may seem humorous, but actually all of us

have our security blankets of one kind or another.

Before Jesus' physical departure from this world he speaks some comforting words to his insecure disciples. He says, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you." (John 14:15-18, NRSV)

Jesus makes good on his promise on the day of Pentecost. The disciples were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:1-4, NRSV)

So many people today find their security in all the wrong places, when it's the comforting presence of God's Holy Spirit they really need. Only the abiding Spirit of the living God will give security in all the situations of life. As the season of Pentecost approaches (May 19) I invite you to come and gather together in one place, the church, and wait for the Holy Spirit to fill your life.

Grace and peace,

Cliff

The Fire of the Spirit

The presence of the Spirit of God is often symbolized in the Bible by fire. Moses, for example, saw a burning bush from which God called to him (Exodus 3:2-6).

In the New Testament, fire is said to have "rested" on each of the believers gathered together on Pentecost (Acts 2:3).

It has been common for many believers to talk of feeling something like an electrical current or a burning sensation when they have encountered God. For example, John Wesley, Methodism's founder, spoke of feeling his heart "strangely warmed" as he attended a worship service one Sunday evening.

Those who have had such experiences feel compelled to share the Good News of Christ with others. Someone said that a "burning heart will soon find for itself a flaming tongue." The flame of faith inside one Christian is likely to start a fire in the hearts of others when the message is shared. The fire of the Spirit in a single person can kindle a fire within many others. The compulsion to speak about the love of God can lead others to the wholeness that comes with salvation.

		<h3>United Methodist Women Annual Flea Market</h3> <p>Saturday, June 1 8 am—1 pm</p> <p>To reserve a space for \$15 contact: Nancy Gillotti—410-823-5187 or Nancy Harvill—410-828-8271</p>
		

Yard Sale



Memorial Day emerged from the grim shadows of the American Civil War. Before the close of the war, women began decorating the graves of soldiers who had died in that war. The practice quickly spread, and a few years later May 30, 1868 was designated as Decoration Day—a day for placing flowers on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers throughout the United States.

In 1882, Decoration Day became known as Memorial Day, and soldiers who died in other wars were also honored. Over the years, it has become a day when all loved ones who have died—in war and otherwise—are remembered. In 1971, the United States Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be observed annually on the last Monday in May.

On this Memorial Day, remember those who gave their lives for our country. But also pray for those who continue serving to keep America free, especially those who are in harm's way.

From the Mailbox

Dear Youth Group,

I would like to thank all the youth who participated in the Holy Thursday Drama and the Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt. All who attended these special events enjoyed your service and witness to the congregation. I am proud to be your Sunday school teacher and to watch you grow in your faith.

In Christian love,
Mrs. Carole

To the Congregation,

How blessed I am to be a member of our Loch Raven family! During all the traumas of my son, Chris, and other devastating events in my life, you have always shown me loving concern. Your prayers, cards and offers of help were a wonderful comfort. As I now face decisions concerning my own health problems, once again knowing you will be there for me is a priceless gift.

Heartfelt thanks and love,
Marlene Dennstaedt

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for your cards, prayers, and visits while I was in the hospital.

Dick Patry



May Birthdays

- 2 Tammy Caleb
- 3 Olive Githinji Njuguna
- 11 Samantha Shelton
(18th birthday)
- 12 Steve Webster
- 13 Sara Priebe
(25th birthday)
- 14 Adele Mueller
- 15 Adrian Palazzi
- 17 Linda Jones and
Cathy Miles
- 21 Patti Ferguson
- 22 David Cole
- 25 Gayle Webb
- 26 Melvin Alaeze
- 27 Margaret (Peggy) Hood
- 31 Justin (JT) Thompson
(22nd birthday)

Anniversaries:

May 7
Cheryl & Michael Koogler

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.

—Leo Buscaglia

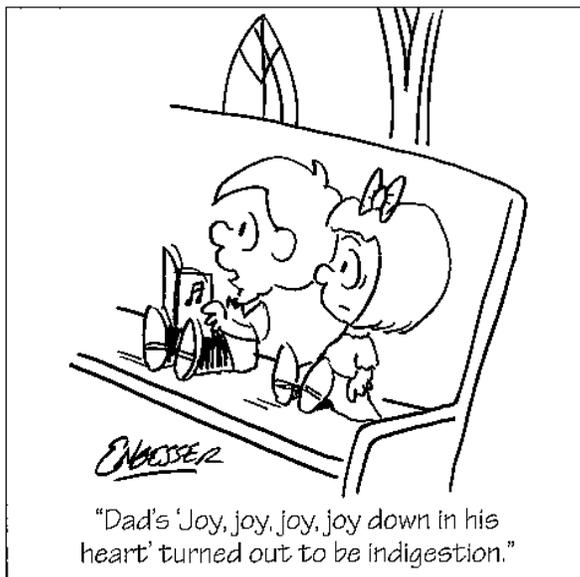
Back to Work at Habitat

By: James Manley

As the weather finally warms up again, for some of us that means getting back to work on Habitat houses. There is a lot of work happening in the Pen Lucy neighborhood, just east of where York becomes Greenmount. As I write this I am looking forward to meeting for the first time with Matt Herzberg, the new coordinator for the United Churches contributions to Habitat, who visited Loch Raven Church on April 21st. I hope you were able to attend to learn about how much great work Habitat is doing in our area. Thanks in part to our church's regular donations, Habitat of the Chesapeake finishes 15-20 houses in our area each year. As always, thanks for your support!

If the warm weather has you thinking about doing some work on your home, don't forget that Habitat also has its own store, the ReStore, filled with donated, leftover, and reclaimed materials. Prices are low, quality is good, and when you buy from there you are helping out the environment as you help contractors have an incentive to reuse. What's more, you are also making a contribution to Habitat, helping us take one more step against the urban blight that plagues Baltimore. There is one ReStore at 505 Kane Street in Dundalk, one at 3741 Commerce Drive in Halethorpe, and one at 8101 Fort Smallwood Road in Curtis Bay.

Have a blessed May and please contact me if you are interested in volunteering (whether for construction or administrative work) or if you're able to make a contribution. Hope to see you soon! Take care and God bless.



Membership Updates

Room Number Change:

Virginia Frey
615 Chestnut Avenue
Room 435
Baltimore, MD 21204

New Email Address:

Aleece Roehl
roe848215@email.ccbcmd.edu

Address Change:

Harold Gowie
2302 Hamiltowne Circle
Rosedale, MD 21237

