

The Spire

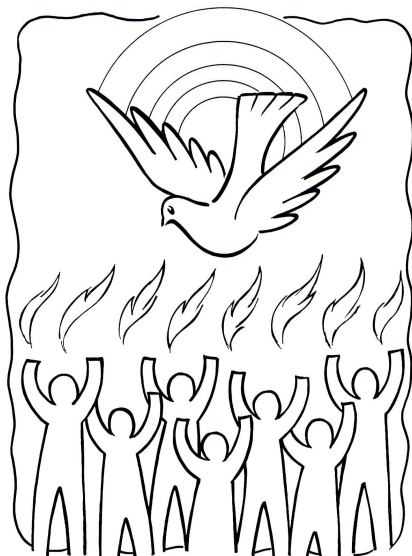


May 2018

Loch Raven United Methodist Church



Sunday, May 13



**Pentecost
Sunday, May 20**

A QUEEN FOR A DAY?

As many in Methodist circles are aware, the modern iteration of Mother's Day was first celebrated by a Methodist woman named Anna Jarvis at Saint Andrew's Methodist Church in West Virginia in 1908. Ms. Jarvis honored her mother who had passed away and fought to have the day officially recognized. Due to her hard work and perseverance, by 1911 all 50 states observed Mother's Day. Mother's Day is a time where we celebrate mothers and motherhood. Even though the modern celebration started in the early 20th century, honoring mothers has deep biblical roots. Honoring mothers is not just a good idea, it's a biblical mandate.

Exodus 20:12 declares "Honor your father and mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord gives you." Terence E. Fretheim in describing this commandment informs us that, "No interhuman relationship is so basic as that between children and parents. It is a fundamental order of creation. At no age do people cease to be children of parents. The importance of this commandment is measured not simply by its foundational relationship to society but also by its nurturing role for those who will inevitably function in that context." Fretheim also notes that it is striking that the commandment "places father and mother together as equally to be honored. This is striking, given the evident patriarchal character of Israelite society." To honor our mothers does not mean that we are to blindly obey everything they say. Instead, honoring our mothers means that we are giving them our attention and our respect.

In honoring our mothers, we should not see them one dimensionally as ones whose primary function is to serve the various needs of their families. Our mothers are diverse, complex, and imperfect but are to be honored by recognizing the fact that they are human and make mistakes. Honoring our mothers is more

(Continued on page 4)

Inside This Issue ...

Membership Committee News	Page 2
Missions In Action: The Samaritan Women	Page 3
Congratulations Graduates	Page 6
Christian Blind Missions Project	Page 7

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 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 Committee News

By: Debi Wynn

Loch Raven's Membership Committee met April 8 and plans are underway for exciting new activities and expanding events beginning with the month of May.

Mark your calendars to attend church on Mother's Day and bring a mom with you, be it your own or a friend or neighbor whose children live far away, or one of Loch Raven's seniors who need transportation to come to church. May brings Older Americans Month, a month for celebrating Loch Raven's older members, and this committee will be on the hunt for the older attendees on a special May Sunday.

Looking ahead to August 25th, we are planning for the second annual career/job event. New this year is a career panel where participants will share stories of their work experiences that may help to set someone on an unexplored career path. If you would like to share your career journey or if you can serve as a greeter this day, please let us know.

Mark your calendars now not to schedule anything so that you can be at church on Saturday, October 27 for Trunk or Treat!

We are asking everyone who attends on Sunday

(Continued on page 7)

UMC Lectionary Calendar May 2018

May: Asian Pacific American Heritage Month; May 7-13 Christian Family Week

May 6

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Church Color: White

Acts 10:44-48

Psalm 98 (UMH 818)

1 John 5:1-6

John 15:9-17

May 10

Ascension of the Lord

Church Color: White

Acts 1:1-11

Psalm 47 (UMH 781)

Ephesians 1:15-23

Luke 24:44-53

May 13

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Church Color: White

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

Psalm 1 (UMH 738)

1 John 5:9-13

John 17:6-19

May 20 Pentecost

Heritage Sunday

Church Color: Red

Acts 2:1-21

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

(UMH 826)

Romans 8:22-27

John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15

May 27 Trinity Sunday

First Sunday after Pentecost

Peace with Justice Sunday

Church Color: White

Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalm 29 (UMH 761)

Romans 8:12-17

John 3:1-17

Missions In Action: The Samaritan Women

Providing restorative care to survivors, and bringing about an end to domestic human trafficking through awareness, prevention, and advocacy.

Your mission dollars support a number of worthwhile projects locally, nationally, and internationally. This month we will focus on a national organization: The Samaritan Women.

The Samaritan Women (TSW), a national Christian anti-human trafficking ministry founded in 2007, is Maryland's first long-term residential program for victims of domestic human trafficking. They now operate three houses, and for over ten years have been serving young women who are survivors of domestic human trafficking. They provide a comprehensive trauma-informed program of spiritual, educational, vocational, relational, life-skills, and case management. All services are offered at no cost to the survivor.

Their mission is to glorify God by seeking justice, reconciliation, and healing. They fulfill their mission through:

1. The operation of transitional and restorative shelter programs for women recovering from domestic human trafficking. The program focuses on life-rebuilding, personal accomplishments, social re-entry, and spiritual reconciliation.
2. Helping to inspire people—inside and outside of the Church—to engage in combatting domestic human trafficking through awareness, prevention, service, and advocacy. They also provide the education and tools for them to do this work.

They have expanded their work to include a Graduate Program where women who have completed the Restorative program can continue their healing and their relationship with college, employment, and their TSW family for up to two more years.

When asked what it means to be a Christian organization, they listed the following:

- View both the problem and the solution through the life and teaching of Jesus Christ. Jesus' own life taught us to love **all persons**, especially those who are lost to sin, broken, imprisoned, orphaned.
- Look at the problem from an eternal, not worldly, perspective. We cling to the truth that God is in control, from the beginning to the end, and **all things** are under His dominion.
- Operate from a position of **faith**, not fear, knowing that we are limited, and believing that God can heal all wounds, and bring all persons to Himself, as He desires.
- Believe the Church is vitally important to bringing reconciliation and healing to a broken world.
- Do everything because God gives us the intellect, skills, power, and provision to do it. Without Him, we could do nothing.

Note: The Samaritan Women have been certified by the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability for outstanding fiscal responsibility, has achieved GuideStar's Platinum Star rating for financial transparency, and have been a Top-Rated Nonprofit for 2014, 2015, 2016 by GREAT Nonprofits.org (Data for 2017 is not yet available.)

For more information, see: <http://thesamaritanwomen.org>

Peace With Justice Sunday – May 27

*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.umcgiving.org/ministry-articles/peace-with-justice-sunday>

Other Special Giving Sundays this year include:

World Communion Sunday - October 7

United Methodist Student Day Sunday - November 25

A Queen for a Day?

(Continued from page 1)

than a one-day obligation to take them to brunch after church. It is a lifelong endeavor. We are to be in right relation with our mothers and honor them in life and honor the memories of our mothers who have passed away.

Grace & Peace,
Pastor George

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.

We are also collecting books for ACTC—primarily for two age groups: children six and under and six and up. Books for teens and adults are also welcomed, including Bibles and devotionals.

Manna House Breakfast Club—July 14 and Oct. 13 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.

Membership Updates

Address Changes:

Nicole Eklund-Mader
6600 Kilmarnoch Drive
Catonsville, MD 21228
Email:
nikkieklundrn@gmail.com

Cathy Gansert
6540 23rd Avenue NW
Seattle, WA 98117-5728

Alma Jackson
7836 Hillsway Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21234-5911

Kelechi Osuwa
221 Oregon Street Apt. 205
Milwaukee, WI 53204-2495

Betty Shock
615 Chestnut Avenue
Room #458
Baltimore, MD 21204
410-842-0395

Bill Shock
615 Chestnut Avenue
Room #462
Baltimore, MD 21204
410-842-0399

Phone Number Change:

David Cole
410-241-6785

Dolores Courtney
410-657-7604

Judy Feustle
410-913-5998

Cathy Miles
Cell: 443-388-6096

Cecelia Miller
Cell: 410-925-0268

Email Change:

Dave Jackson
daveljackson@comcast.net

Sharon Neumann
sharneumann@gmail.com

Transfers:

Adelaide Lloyd
Oakcrest Protestant Faith
Community
March 20, 2018

Withdrawn:

Harriet Garner
April 11, 2018

Tiffany Hively
April 16, 2018

Marriage:

April 7, 2018
Amanda Brown and
Phillip Scott
5403 Purdue Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21239-3329

Address Unknown:

*(Please let the office know of
any current addresses of
which you are aware.)*

Joseph & Tammy Caleb
Jermaine Carter
John Daniels
Frances Fraling
Jessica Lautenschlager
Susan Morgan
Kingsley & Linda Ngameduru
C. Rowland Nworgu
Erin Olsen
Gregory Olsen
Doris Passley
Virginia Skelly
Scott & Beatrice Welsh

IN TOUCH MINISTRY

Special Prayer Requests

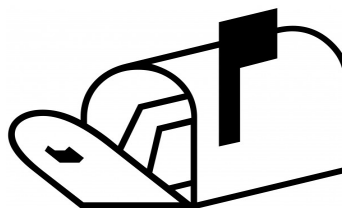
Please refer to insert in Sunday
bulletins for up-to-date infor-
mation.

Stay in Touch with
some of our members who are
not able to regularly attend
church. Contact the church
office for up-to-date infor-
mation.

May Birthdays

- 2 Tammy Caleb
- 2 James Yeich
- 3 Olive Githinji Njuguna
- 6 Beverly Lambe
- 9 Samuel Buszczak
- 11 Samantha Shelton
- 12 Steve Webster
- 13 Sara Priebe
Justin Thompson
- 15 Adrian Palazzi
- 17 Linda Jones
Cathy Miles
- 21 Patti Ferguson
Melva Scruggs
- 22 David Cole
Jonathan Cuthbert
- 26 Harriet Cole
- 27 Melvin Alaeze

**United Methodist
Women
May Schedule**



From the Mailbox

Phyllis Downes Circle

Tuesday, May 1
10 am—Parlor
Study: Ecclesiastes, Chapter 7

Women in Christ Circle

Monday, May 7
7:30 p.m.—Room 202
Study: *When Faith Is All
You Have*—Lesson 3
Study Leader: Nancy
Devotions: Nancy
Hostess: Sharon

I would like to thank Loch Raven Church for the cards that were sent to me regarding my brother Roland Grant's death. Please continue to keep me and my family in prayer.

Joyce Johnson & Family

Dear LRUMC Family,

I wish to thank everyone for their Easter cards. I miss you all and am grateful not to be forgotten.

Albertha Sinkler

Congratulations Graduates

Loch Raven United Methodist Church is blessed to have a family that shares milestones with each other. Graduation is one such event that everyone celebrates. If you or a member of your immediate family is experiencing such a milestone, please share it with your church family by returning the form below to the church office by May 9.

2018 Graduates

Name

Relationship

School

Degree

School Attending in September

Looking for a Special Mother's Day Gift? Want to be a game changer in the life of a child?

The Need Is Great



In resource-poor countries, only 1 in 10 people have access to the mobility devices they need. Many of those people are children who are missing a limb.

3D printing of prosthetic sockets is a game changer. What once took 5 days to create can now be produced in 1½ days.

Donate to the **Mission Committee's** project to help **Christian Blind Missions** set up an early adopter hospital to connect this technology with the children and families who most need it.

See the special pew envelope or send a check payable to LRUMC, marked *Missions* on the memo line, to the church office.

*Without the ability to walk, the children are sidelined.
Most can't attend school or help with chores. They are unable
to participate in social activities with other children.*

Membership Committee News

(Continued from page 2)

mornings to greet at least one person you see every week but do not know their name and to always greet and welcome visitors. On Easter, 1977, over 800 people attended Loch Raven that Sunday for the two services. So history has shown that the sanctuary can hold more folks than currently attend in 2018. When folks visit our church on Sundays, give them a warm welcome and then, after they join the church, welcome them into church activities. Making them feel a vital part of our church family goes a long way in retaining new members. If you came to church one Sunday and one side of the church seating area was blocked off from sitting, and everyone had to sit on one side together, and there were no visitors this day, would you know the names of everyone sitting near you? Get acquainted with your church family as we share God's word, guidance and love with each other and the new folks coming through Loch Raven's doors. Make each Sunday a family reunion "how are you" Loch Raven family affair!

