

The Spire



November 2013

Loch Raven United Methodist Church



It's Visual Art! It's Musical Art! It's the 2013 Loch Raven Festival of the Arts! - November 30 from 1 to 5pm

Daylight Savings Time

Ends on November 3rd

Remember to set your clocks back one hour.

ACTC Thanksgiving

Baskets—*See article on page 2*

All Saints Sunday

November 3

At both services we will be commemorating the lives of those church members who have died since last November.

Charge Conference

Tuesday, November 5

6:30—8:00 PM

This is an opportunity for you to meet our new District Superintendent and hear about the various ministries of LRUMC.

Veterans Day

November 11

Shoe Box Ministry—

Operation Christmas Child

Collection Sunday

November 24

See article on page 2

Thanksgiving Worship Service

Wednesday, November 27th

7:00 PM

Festival of the Arts

Saturday, November 30

1:00—5:00 PM

Saturday, November 30 is the return of the Loch Raven Festival of the Arts. Please plan on launching your holiday season at this celebration of the arts. This is a free event. Donations of canned goods will be accepted during this event in support of the Assistance Center of Towson Churches, a local mission supported by our church. The schedule of the festival's activities includes craft activities for children and exhibits by artists of all ages and skill levels. Musical presentations will be held throughout the Festival and currently include the Baltimore Flute Choir at 3pm. Loch Raven church member Erin Mellott will be performing with this group as they ring the halls of the church with the beautiful flute tones of melodies for a second festival year. Joyous Voices, a Dickens-era ensemble that has been holiday singing throughout the mid-Atlantic region since the 1990's, will also be returning.

Many arts and manger festivals have become an annual 10 to 50+ years tradition for churches, providing their communities with celebrations of the arts. If you are computer connected, read <http://nativityfest.wordpress.com>. This posting describes how a church is transformed, from entry way to each event room, into a special arts exhibit sharing the holiday-themed story. Utilizing the wonderful Loch Raven church facility, the arts festival has the potential to expand in exhibits, explode in artistic color and shapes, and enhance the church's participation as a valuable neighborhood asset.

Your Attendance will help this event become a Loch Raven tradition!

It's a FREE event! Please share news of this festival with your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers. Help to spread the joy of the season with an afternoon of art enrichment.

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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 December issue is **Sunday, November 10, 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

UMW Gift Card Sale

Just in time for the holidays, the United Methodist Women will be taking gift card orders before the 10:00 service on December 1 and between the 8:30 and 11:00 service on December 8. Order forms will be in the bulletin the week before. We urge you to order early. All proceeds go to UMW mission projects.

SHOE BOX MINISTRY (Shining God's Light Around The Globe)

Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes and brochures will be available in early November. The brochure includes specific instructions on what to pack in your box, a boy/girl label to attach to your box, and a detachable donation envelope. **COLLECTION SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 24TH.** All boxes must be brought to church by 11:00 a.m. on or before that date.



As you pack your box, please keep in prayer the children who will be receiving your gifts and learning about Jesus. Together we have the opportunity to share the love of Jesus and the joy of Christmas with children around the globe. Let's spread the "Good News"!

Yvonne Horn
Missions Committee

ACTC Thanksgiving Baskets

As members of the Assistance Center of Towson Churches we help provide Thanksgiving baskets to area families in need. The families will receive a food basket and a gift card to purchase perishable items. This year Loch Raven will be collecting monetary donations to purchase gift cards. Please use the envelopes in the church pews marked *Thanksgiving Baskets*. Checks should be made payable to LRUMC and mark the memo ACTC. We will be collecting donations November 3, 10 and 17. Thanks for always caring.

United Methodist Women November Schedule

"Women in Christ" Circle
Monday, November 4
7:30 p.m.—Room 202
Study: *Moments That Take Your Breath Away*
Lesson 1
Study Leader: Myra
Devotions: Nancy
Hostess: Janet and Joann

Phyllis Downes Circle
Tuesday, November 5
10 am—Parlor
Study: Acts 14, 15

NO GENERAL MEETING

Happy Thanksgiving

There is a time for everything....a time to weep and a time to laugh...-Ecclesiastes 3:1,4 NIV)

My family and I visited the Haunted Mansion in Disney World a number of years ago. There was a butler at the door who told us the story of how the mansion became haunted. When he finished the story, I thought it was funny, so I started laughing. Every head in that crowded room turned to stare at me. That wasn't the first time that has happened to me. It probably won't be the last either. People seem to be amused by my laughter.

Over the years some people have said, "I love the way you laugh." I've been told in church, "I love your sense of humor." Children have even tried to imitate my laugh. At first I thought people were making fun of me. I soon realized it was some kind of compliment. The way I figure, if you're going to be known for something, it may as well be your sense of humor or laughter.

The Scripture tells us there's a time and purpose for everything under heaven. "There's a time to weep and a time to laugh." There needs to be a balance there of course. We wouldn't want to go around crying about everything. We wouldn't want to go around laughing at everything either. It's been my observation that people don't laugh often enough though.

We are not to laugh the serious situations of life off, but too much intensity kills the spirit and, probably, the body too. I've even found it possible and appropriate to bring laughter into some funerals. If the deceased had a sense of humor, then it makes sense to celebrate his/her life with some laughter.

In this month of Thanksgiving, I am thankful for the sense of humor and laughter that God has given me. Laughter is something that has helped me through many difficult times. I once told a pastor friend of mine who was going through a difficult time to not lose his sense of humor. It's something that has worked for me. It can work for you too.

Grace and peace,
Cliff



From the Mailbox

Dear LRUMC Family,

We wish to extend our sincere gratitude and thanks to you for the cards, prayers and words of comfort sent our way at the loss of my brother Ernest. His passing was quite a shock but your expressions of kindness certainly lifted our spirits. We are certainly blessed to have such a wonderful church family and support system.

Yours in Christ,
David and Michele Brown

I want to thank all the loving and caring people at Loch Raven Church who prayed for me while I was in the hospital. I felt your prayers and they pulled me through. I am so fortunate to have such a caring and loving church family. I am thankful I have no aches or pains.

Ev Dorfler

Membership Updates

Address/Phone # Changes:

Margaret Hood
410-818-6229
(her daughter's phone, Beth Paulus)

John Mayden
5037 Westhills Road
Baltimore, MD 21229

Transfers:

James Coleman to St. Peter's UMC in Morehead City, NC

Louis Kiessler, Jr. to Oak Crest Protestant Faith Community

Treasure Chest of Memories

On Anniversary Sunday, items were collected for a time capsule assembled for the church's next big anniversary. Space remains in the capsule for additional 1950's through 2013 items. If you have a selection of church memorabilia, a newspaper depicting an important news story that is a sign of the times, a shopping ad, copies of photographs of a church event, a tech device past or present or a church story you can share in a card or on paper, bring it to church beginning Sunday, November 24

through Sunday, December 21 and place it in the Time Capsule Box that will be in the Narthex. Help us preserve and relate the church history to future Loch Raven generations.

*WE GIVE YOU THANKS,
AND praise YOUR
glorious name.*

(1 CHRONICLES 29:13, NIV)

November Birthdays

List compiled by Marcia Smith

- 5 Gary Smith and Kathleen Frederick
- 7 Nicole Eklund and DeV Vaughn Maddox
- 10 Sandi Cuthbert and Erica Dixon
- 13 Dan Dorsey
- 16 Mary Lou Bryan
- 19 Tendai Ndlovu
- 21 Nancy Lacy
- 22 Seth Thomas
- 23 Abena Aidoo
- 26 Reynold Small



Opportunities available to help beautify the Sanctuary during the Advent/Christmas Season



- _____ 10 wreaths
- _____ Congregational Candles for Christmas Eve
- _____ Window Greens
- _____ Advent Wreath
- _____ Advent Wreath Candles
- _____ 4 Wreaths for front doors and side doors

Please call Audrey Moltz at 410-823-7837 about selection, availability and pricing information. Then send your check made payable to LRUMC along with the information below to the Church Office. All orders and payment must be received by **Friday, December 13th.**

Name: _____

Address: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

To the Glory: _____

Thank you for your participation.
The Altar Guild

Your Participation of displaying your art projects will set the festival into creative motion!

Whether you have one piece or a collection of paintings, drawings, textiles, pottery, photographs or other expressions of creativity, please consider sharing your talents. If you want to sell your art pieces, you can do that in the Marketplace section of the festival. There is no table fee for church members. However, to provide this event as serving as a potential successful fundraiser for the church, there is a table fee for non-members.

Complete the Participation Form on page 6 in this Spire issue and return it to the church office at your earliest convenience.

Folks are also needed with special arts-related skills to lead 15 to 30 minute workshops.

Your Sharing of a manger scene will showcase the Christmas story!

The Christmas nativity has been created in many designs, art forms and in accordance with cultural traditions. As an art exhibit, the Festival includes a display of manger scenes. Please consider sharing your manger scene or art renditions of paintings, Christmas cards depicting the nativity, and any other item displaying the baby Jesus, his family and visitors.

Your Volunteer Services for manning the festival will assist with providing visitors a memorable experience!

Assist to host the community as they attend the Festival by sharing one or more hours of your time:

- 1) Greeter at the parking lot door, welcoming folks, handing out the program and providing directions to events
- 2) Assist with craft making and other activities in the children's area.
- 3) Assist with refreshment selling (proceeds to church fund)
- 4) Hosting in the manger display area
- 5) Assist with Music CD play between performing groups
- 6) Man a church information table
- 7) Assist with set up Nov 29, 6 - 8pm
- 8) Assist with set up Nov 30, 10am to 1pm
- 9) Muscle manpower - Assist with table hauling from Fellowship Hall to the auditorium Sunday Nov 24 after the 11am service
- 10) Muscle manpower - Assist with table hauling from auditorium to Fellowship Hall Nov 30, 5 - 5:30pm
- 11) Serve as photographer
- 12) Serve as announcer introducing performers, promoting the artists, reminders of sale items, children's activities, etc.

Delivery time for art and nativities:

As soon as you decide if you are participating with art or nativities, contact Debi for her display list layout.

Sundays Nov 17 and 24 between services or after the 11am service

Tuesday Nov 16 from 6 - 8pm

Wednesday Nov 27 from 6:30- 7:15pm (before the Thanksgiving eve service)

Friday, Nov 29 from 6 - 7:30pm

Delivery Location: in the Education Office (across from Choir Room)

For art items and collections, please label with your name and phone #.

For nativity sets, please complete and include in your boxed set the form on page 7. Also include a photo of your set if available.

(Continued on page 6)

Pick up time:

After church services Dec 1 or schedule another day and time with Debi for pick up.

Imagine the Possibilities

To explore the potential for growth of a festival of the arts/nativity festival at our church visit these sites:

Nativity Festivals:

<http://www.arlingtonnativityfestival.org/>

<http://nativityfestival.com/>

<http://corvallisnativityfestival.blogspot.com/>

http://tetonvalleynews.net/gallery/holiday-festival-featured-music-mangers-munchies-and-more/collection_c5877aba-210b-11e1-87e2-001871e3ce6c.html

Church festivals of the arts serving the communities:

54 years - Hillcrest United Church of Christ - CA

<http://www.hillcrest-church.org/festival-of-fine-arts.html>

47 years - First UMC - Michigan - <http://www.fumca.org/artsfestival>

41 Years - First United UMC in Louisiana - <http://www.thecelebrationofthearts.com/>

For questions, additional information, contact Debi Wynn at tnhedutainment@aol.com or 410-583-0270

Participation Application for the 2013 Loch Raven Festival of the Arts

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email Address _____

If Youth Gallery submission: Age _____ School _____

Art Categories: All submissions must be family-friendly viewing appropriate

Please describe your art pieces being showcased _____

Do you want to participate as an art vendor selling art/crafts in the Holiday Gift Shop Gallery during this event. ___yes ___no

The Loch Raven United Methodist Church does not insure individual works of art for this event. Artists who wish to insure against damage or loss will do so at their own expense.

Artist Name (Please Print) _____

Artist Signature _____ Date _____

Mail this completed form to: 2013 Arts Festival Registrations, Loch Raven UM Church, 6622 Loch Raven Blvd, Baltimore, MD 21239 or drop it off to Debi at church on Sunday mornings or e-mail it to Debi at tnhedutainment@aol.com

FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS—MANGER SCENE EXHIBIT PARTICIPANT 2013

Please place this completed form in your nativity box along with a photo if available

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

Please check off the following pieces included in your Manger Scene:

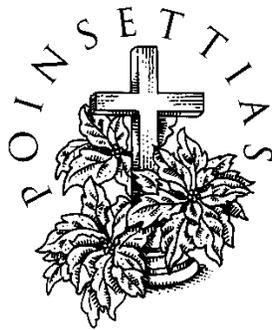
Mary and Joseph ___ Baby Jesus ___ 3 Shepherds ___ 3 Wiseman ___ Manger ___ Animals ___

Scenery (trees, bushels, snow) ___ Star ___

Other pieces _____

Other Nativity Art _____

If your Manger Scene has a special history or story involved in its creation, ownership, traditions, etc. please provide here:



It's time to be thinking of beautifying our sanctuary for the joyous season of Christmas. If you would like to place a poinsettia in the church in honor or in memory of a loved one, please fill in the form below and return it to the Church Office by Friday, December 13. **We cannot accept orders unless accompanied by full payment.**

Plants may be picked up after morning worship on Sunday, December 29th.

POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

In Honor Of: _____

In Memory of: _____

To The Glory: _____

of Plants: _____ RED —\$10.50 each
Plants are 6” pots—1 plant per pot—5-6 blooms per plant

of Plants: _____ RED & WHITE MIX—\$20.00 each
Plants are 6½” pots—2 plants per pot—10-12 blooms per pot

Please check one of the following:

____ I will donate the plant to the church for a “homebound member”

____ I will pick up the plant on Sunday, December 29