

# The Spire



October 2013

Loch Raven United Methodist Church

## Loch Raven Festival of the Arts: Creativity in Action

The Festival of the Arts on November 30 from 1 - 5pm offers many opportunities for folks to participate. You can showcase your paintings, drawings, pottery, needlecraft, photography or other artistic projects. Assistance is needed for serving as hosts to visitors and groups to this event in our church, for promoting the event, for setting up and cleaning up. If you are interested in being a part of this exciting second year of this event, contact Debi Wynn at 410-583-0270 or at [tnhedutainment@aol.com](mailto:tnhedutainment@aol.com)

## Charge Conference

Charge Conference is Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:00 PM. This is an opportunity for you to meet our new District Superintendent and hear about the various ministries of Loch Raven UMC.

### October Events

**Awujoh  
Multicultural Dinner**  
Sunday, October 6  
12:30 pm

**Community  
Health Fair**  
Saturday, October 12  
10 am—1 pm  
*See page 5 for details*

**Missions Indoor  
Yard Sale**  
Saturday, October 19  
8 am—1 pm  
*See page 3 for details*

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All signed articles, letters, announcements, and other information of interest are welcomed and considered for publication.

The deadline for the November issue is **Sunday, October 13, at 11:00 a.m.** *Electronic Submission:* You may send articles by e-mail to: [njk.williams@yahoo.com](mailto:njk.williams@yahoo.com) or place articles in the Church Office's newsletter box.

**Editor** - Nancy Williams

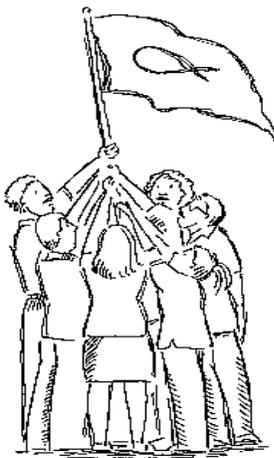
**Children's Page and Address Page Editor** - Peggy Kelly

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

**Website:** [www.LRUMC.org](http://www.LRUMC.org)



UNITE IN  
CHRIST

## Youth News

By: John Mayden

On July 27th the youth had a Game Day at the Church. Prior to the event, Robert Porter (a youth) and I walked throughout the community and invited youth to the church for the Game Day. One youth came back to the church and joined us for the Event.

On August 24th the youth sponsored a very successful *Back to School Extravaganza*. We began the Event with prayer for the children and their parents. With the assistance of LRUMC members, over 30 book bags and other school supplies were distributed to children and youth from the community. Contact information was taken for all those that received school supplies. Thanks to all who participated in this project.

### Calendar of Events

TBA- Harvest Festival Event in October 2013

TBA- Clothing Giveaway for Christmas (December 2013)

All Youth in grades 6th-12th or ages 11-18 are invited to attend any youth meeting or event. The youth meet every second and fourth Sunday from 1pm—2:30pm. Hope to see you there!!

## 60 Year Celebration: Follow the Steeple and Experience the Joy

As October's Spire is going to press, the Anniversary Committee is moving into full swing with the outdoor signage being prepped for hanging, final press releases and Patch.com postings completed, table placements being set, readers rehearsing, program line up completed and all of the little tidbits of prep ready to ignite a day of celebrating the past while looking towards the future, thanking the church members who have propelled the church through six decades and exciting the newest generation of members for continuing the exemplary service of the founding members and those that followed in the six decades. By the time you read this issue, Charter Sunday and the festivities of the day will be over. It is hoped that the excitement of the day for celebrating all that the church family has accomplished will carry over through this year and the next 60 years, enticing and encouraging others to follow the steeple and experience the joy of worship and church fellowship.

## If I were Rich

“Test me,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.” — Malachi 3:10

We are so fortunate to be associated with this great God of ours. Sometimes I don't really think that we pay much attention to it, but it's true. We have a great God who is filled with wonder and power and he shares it with us. That's right—God shares his resources with us. Actually, it's even better than that. The fact is that God has put us in charge of many of his resources. We are stewards of God's resources.

God entrusts people like you and I with his power. It reminds me of something that was said in one of the latest Spiderman movies—“With great power comes great responsibility.” That's a true statement. I think God would agree with that. Actually, in the church, we call that good stewardship.

That's why I'll be preaching a four-week sermon series about stewardship. The series is called *If I Were Rich*. The series begins on October 20<sup>th</sup> and runs through November 10<sup>th</sup>.

Here are the sermon titles and Scriptures so that you can read up ahead of time:

**October 20<sup>th</sup>** *Risky Business* is based on Matthew 25:14-18. Here's a guiding question for you: “How many people identify the call of Jesus with a willingness to take a risk for the sake of his Church and kingdom?”

**October 27<sup>th</sup>** *The Grace of Giving* is based on II Corinthians 8:1-9. The Apostle Paul describes the Macedonian church situation saying, “During a severe ordeal of affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part.”

**November 3<sup>rd</sup>** *Who Are We That We Should Give?* is based on I Chronicles 29:10-17. King David was preparing to build the house of God. He asked a question for the ages: “But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly as this? For all things come of you, and of your own we have given you.”

**November 10<sup>th</sup>** *If I Were a Rich Man* is based on Malachi 3:8-12 and Luke 16:1-10. Haven't you ever dreamed of being rich? What would you do with your resources if you were rich?

Come and experience what God has for you as we walk together at LRUMC.

Grace and Peace,  
Cliff

## Indoor Yard Sale

The 3rd annual Mission Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, October 19, from 8am to 1 pm. Please help us out by donating items we can sell. We need clothing—women's, men's, kids—in very good condition, household linens, kitchenware, small appliances, books, CD's, DVD's, household decorative items, holiday decorations, toys, and tools. We cannot accept TV's, computers or baby car seats or swings.

All proceeds go to a mission project. Thanks for your support.



## New Member's Class

There will be a New Member's Class for adults interested in joining LRUMC. We will meet in the downstairs parlor on October 27<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 pm. Please see Pastor Cliff if you have any questions.

## What Is A Boss?

I was thinking about this question the other day. As a teacher I often complained of having too many bosses. There was my principal, of course. Also the director of the hearing-impaired department, the director of the preschool special education office, and, for a few years, the director of the early learning office were giving me their input on what and how to teach my students. Many times, my 4 “bosses” gave conflicting directions.

That leads me to my current job. Why would I complain of “too many bosses” (3 - 4) and then take a job with even more (100 - 200)? The New Oxford American Dictionary defines “boss” as a person in charge of a worker or organization. So, who is my boss, now? I guess it seems my first boss is Pastor Cliff, since I sit right outside his office. But the Staff-Parish Relations Committee are the ones who actually hired me, so they are my bosses. Pastor Bob worked in the office also, so he was another boss. There are the chairs of all of LRUMC’s committees and groups that I answer to also. And then there are all of you. Yes, YOU are my boss. You are in charge of this organization (LRUMC), so I work for you! But really, I consider my main “boss” to be God. He’s the one that has led my journey thus far and blessed me in all of my working experiences.

So as Boss’s Day nears (October 16), I am thanking God for giving me this opportunity to serve Him and His people here at LRUMC. Happy Boss’s Day, everyone!

*Myra Wagner*  
Administrative Secretary

*being kind and fair throughout the year*



*Thank You*

The Colossal Coaster VBS kids collected \$50 for their missions project. We have decided to donate the money to the Susanna Wesley House.

Again, THANKS SO MUCH to our wonderful church body for helping us have such a FANTASTIC VBS!!!

In Christ Service,  
*Viola, Deb and Maria*

## United Methodist Women October Schedule

### “Women in Christ” Circle

Monday, October 7  
7:30 p.m.—Room 202  
Study: *Great People of the Bible*  
Lesson 15: Barnabas

### Phyllis Downes Circle

Tuesday, October 1  
10 am—Parlor  
Study: Acts 13

### GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, October 16  
6:30 p.m.—Covered Dish  
Program: To be announced  
Bring a dish to share.

## Urgent Call for Ushers

Think how cold it would be if you were to walk into the front doors of our church and no one was there to greet you, to say good morning and hand you a bulletin. That is not what Loch Raven United Methodist Church is all about. We are a warm and welcoming congregation. In order to maintain our image, we need volunteers to help us with the ushering responsibilities. If you can spare one month or more per year, you could be part of the official greeting team that sends a message to members and visitors that we want everyone here at our church. This invaluable, non-time consuming job is extremely important. Please consider helping. Contact Adrian Palazzi at 410-952-8890 or Myra Wagner at 410-825-0900 to join in and let's make the next sixty years as great as the first sixty.

*Adrian Palazzi*  
Head Usher

## Community Health Fair

### Location:

Faith Presbyterian Church  
5400 Loch Raven Blvd. (at corner of Loch Raven and Woodbourne, and across from St. Matthew Catholic Church)

**Date:** Saturday, October 12

**Time:** 10am to 1:00 pm

**Questions**—call Katherine McKinney at 410-323-7995

## The Beauty of Stewardship

Stewardship has to do with how we manage our time, talent, resources—basically our entire lives. It's a beautiful concept when properly understood. Here are the basics of good stewardship.

God is the primary source of all creation, including our lives. God is the primary owner of all that exists.

We are blessed by being given the task of managing well all that we have influence over: our lives, our abilities, our minds and bodies, our time, our part of the earth, our finances, our children, our church buildings, our automobiles, etc.

Although we can make decisions regarding each of the above, ultimately we are responsible to God. Sooner or later, we must give an account of our management of God's creation and of God's gifts.

When we properly use the talents, resources and property that God allows us to manage, we find great joy. Think of planting a garden which soon overflows with colorful flowers, wonderful vegetables and flavorful herbs, etc. God gave us the plot of ground, God gave us the seed, God gave us the wisdom and strength to bring forth such beauty, such good things to see or eat, or smell. Yet we did the work, with God's help, to make it a reality. Like Adam we tilled it and kept it. But God gave the increase. God's provisions and our labor

brought the garden to its fulfillment.

Good stewardship enables us to do something positive and wonderful with the money God has allowed us to have. What feels better than knowing one has managed money well? Our bank account, our checkbook and our portfolio tell the story. When money is handled well, we have enough for ourselves and are still able to give to God's work.

That is the beauty of stewardship.



## October Birthdays

List compiled By Marcia Smith

- 1 Anne Palazzi
- 2 Adelaide Wilson
- 2 Doris Ndlovu
- 3 Gary Messman
- 4 Jen Dorsey
- 5 Harriet Williamson-Taylor
- 7 Jo Thomas
- 8 Molly Shock
- 11 Larry Smith
- 14 David Brown
- 15 Dorothy Jackson
- 16 John Mayden
- 17 Hazellene Milligan
- 21 Chidozie Osuwa
- 22 Donna Welsh
- 23 Ardith Luttrell
- 30 Bob Fringo