

# The Spire



October 2016

Loch Raven United Methodist Church

## October Birthday Celebration

On October 16, following the morning's worship service, Loch Raven will be celebrating birthdays, everyone's special day – all months, all members! Join us for cake after church. To add to the fun and fellowship, we are asking folks to bring in a baby photo (name on back only), give or email a photo to Cheryl Wagner (cwagner@jhu.edu) or Jen Weaver by Sunday, October 9th to ensure time for members to assemble the display. Then, on October 16 there will be a contest to see who best matches the photos with the names with the most accurate guesses!

If you have any questions, please contact Cheryl by email or phone (410-599-8976).

Hope you'll invite your friends and family to share in our birthday celebration – especially those of you with birthdays in October!



Here are a couple of things from the Pastor's desk.

I will be finishing up the "Follow" sermon series on October 2. We will continue with the theme of discipleship as we begin a class called "Follow."

Here is an excerpt from the Leader's Guide about the class:

*Religion says "Change and you can join us." Jesus says "Join us and you will change." There's a huge difference. Jesus doesn't expect people to be perfect. He just wants them to walk with him. Being a sinner doesn't disqualify anyone. Being an unbeliever doesn't disqualify anyone. In fact, those points of imperfection are the only places we can start. Jesus says "Follow." How will you respond?*

**"Follow" classes are on Mondays at 7:00 PM beginning October 10** in the parlor and continue for four weeks. Don't miss this opportunity to grow deeper as a disciple of Jesus Christ. It could change your life.

Also, I'll be teaching a **Membership class for adults on Sunday, October 30**. We will meet in the parlor following worship. If you would like to join LRUMC now is your time. The Membership class provides an opportunity to learn about LRUMC, about the United Methodist Church, about our faith, about each other and much more. Don't miss it and bring your questions.

Your Pastor,  
*Cliff*

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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 9, 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.

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**Visit us on Facebook**

## Music Notes

Sam Chin, Music Director



Beginning this October marks the start of my 6<sup>th</sup> year serving at Loch Raven UMC. By far, the most rewarding part of my job has been interacting with the members of the Music Ministry. It has truly been a joy to work with them weekly in this wonderful, supportive family environment. To showcase some of these wonderful people we start a new series of articles spotlighting a member each month. We start with Pete McGinnes.

Pete started attending LRUMC during the late 1980s when his father was no longer able to drive himself to church. After a couple of years of driving his father he decided it made sense to transfer his membership to LRUMC. Pete recalls several members of the choir inviting him to join. After several years of their insistence Pete relented and joined the choir in the late 1990s.

When asked about his most memorable moment(s) here Pete, without hesitation, recalled two performances. First, a cantata performance commemorating the events of September 11, *Canticle of Hope*, by Joseph Martin. The performance took place a year after the tragic events still fresh in everyone's mind. He described this performance as the "most moving performance I ever sung in". Second, Pete recalled the performance of Faure's *Requiem*. He fondly remembers Judy Zahren, then Music Director, teaching and leading this momentous choral masterpiece.

Three adjectives Pete used to describe LRUMC were GROWTH, NURTURING, and EXPRESSION. As we wrapped up our conversation his tone of voice became reflective and at times very philosophical. "Music is one of the ways we sense and connect to God." Pete shared how his early musical experiences of playing the clarinet in high school and learning the guitar in college, attempts to master the technical aspect of the instrument, evolved into musical appreciation of listening to others during his adult years. Coming back full circle, after his retirement 4 years ago, Pete has picked up the harmonica and resumed playing the guitar, finding great joy in expressing himself through the language of music. Pete elegantly stated, "our performing music is our love letter to God."



## United Methodist Women October Schedule

### “Women in Christ” Circle

Monday, October 3

7:30 p.m.—Room 202

Study: *Woman of God*

Lesson 1—Ready for God’s Call

Study: Nancy

Devotions: Nancy

Hostess: Joann

### Phyllis Downes Circle

Tuesday, October 4

10 am—Parlor

Study: *Spiritual Warfare*

### GENERAL MEETING

October 9

Following the morning  
worship service—

Covered Dish Luncheon

Bring a dish—whatever you  
wish!

Program to be announced

### Coming Up:

November 13

Women’s Service

All women of the church are  
invited to participate.



## Charge Conference Monday, November 7 7 – 9 PM

The fall season has begun at Loch Raven United Methodist Church and we begin turning our attention to the upcoming Charge Conference. All in the LRUMC Family are invited to attend to meet our interim District Superintendent, Edwin DeLong, and to learn about all areas of ministry LRUMC has provided over the past year.

By now, all committee chairpersons should have received forms to be submitted this year. If you have not received yours, please contact the office. Completed forms are due in the office by Monday, October 7.

Thank you,  
*Myra Wagner*  
Administrative Secretary

## Board of Child Care Thanksgiving Baskets

The Board of Child Care Auxiliary is preparing Thanksgiving baskets again this year. We have been asked to provide cranberry sauce and green beans (15 oz. cans) and sweet potatoes (29 or 40 oz. cans). There will be a box outside Fellowship Hall from October 2 through Oct 30. Thank you for your continued support of the Board of Child Care.

*Leslie Christopher*  
Keyperson

## Trustees Report

During the summer months the Trustees have worked hard addressing a few key issues. We have been gathering information and pricing for the replacement or complete re-skinning of the steeple to stop further leaking issues for the building in that area. Currently it seems that re-skinning may be the most viable solution with its steel upper structure. We are currently working on finding a timeline with a suitable contractor.

Another issue addressed over the summer was the need for painting the interior of the narthex and sanctuary. This is to be completed as close to the finishing of the steeple work as possible. Also, new contracts were drawn up for the tenants of the church to clarify the correct costs and procedures for additional use of the church facilities. These will go into effect as soon as the final drafts are complete.

In addition, the need for new hot coating and re-coating of the parking lot was raised, as well as discussion of the future need for winter snow removal. Hopefully, we will have more information on these issues by the next *Spire* edition.

Lastly, we discussed the ramifications and requirements of allowing The Learning Garden to expand in order for them to add infants to their program.

Any questions or concerns please contact me or one of the Trustees.

Respectfully,

*Michael Koogler*  
Head of the Trustees

## Missions *In Action*: Essex United Methodist Church Table of Grace

*We can stretch a pot of soup further than you'd ever imagine.*



Your mission dollars support a number of worthwhile projects locally, nationally and internationally. One of our hands-on, local projects is Table of Grace.

Table of Grace, a hot meal program sponsored by Essex United Methodist Church, marked its seventh anniversary September 16. The church began this ministry after checking into other hot meal programs in the area and discovered there were no hot meals available on Wednesdays. At first, the program served around 30 people and quickly grew to 70-80. Today, the program serves 120-160 people.

Every Wednesday, the church serves a full hot meal with sides and desserts. A typical day's menu might be baked chicken, rice, green beans seasoned with ham, two or three salads (tossed green, coleslaw, potato salad, macaroni salad and fruit salad), dinner rolls, Jell-O, various desserts (home baked pies, cobblers and cakes) and drinks (iced tea, lemonade and coffee). The local Food Lion supplements the meal through donations of desserts, bread and sometimes deli items every Wednesday morning. Guests are also given some takeaways, such as extra baked goods, toiletries or clothing—plus bagged sandwiches prepared by members and friends of our Missions Committee so they have a meal to go.

Anyone can come to the Table. “We don’t ask any qualifying questions. Some people are homeless, and some just have a room somewhere. Some are seniors on a fixed income; we even have children who come with their moms or by themselves,” said Carol Wehner, who co-chairs the program with Dawn Remines and a team of volunteers who cook, serve and clean up. “We offer warm meals and warm fellowship. We want them to know they are welcome in God’s house.”

Once a month on Thursday, the church gets fresh produce and other food from the Maryland Food Bank. These donations are sorted and bagged and given to those in need. Currently, the delivery cost (\$300 a month) is covered by a grant.

When asked how we could better support their ministry, Carol said, “Your sandwiches are such a welcome addition. We thought it would be nice for our guests to take with them, but often they gobble them up right away because they are so hungry. Volunteers are always welcome—especially to help with the monthly Food Bank distributions. Guests are especially thankful for the toiletries (soap, shampoo, razors, shaving cream, etc.) and other cosmetics you donate.” Carol also said they would like to give every guest a bag of non-perishable, ready-to-eat foods and a variety of toiletries this Christmas. “Our guests are so appreciative and in such critical need of so many things we take for granted. I can’t thank your church enough for all you do in supporting our mission to the community.”

If you are interested in volunteering at the Table of Grace or the food distribution ministry, call Carol Wehner, 410-866-1198, or the Essex UMC office, 410-686-2867.

## IN TOUCH MINISTRY

### Special Prayer Requests

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

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

### From the Mailbox

A very late thank you to my church family. Your prayers, cards and encouraging words are so helpful during my ups and downs. Thanks also to Pastor Cliff and Rev. Harting for your visits. I can't forget to thank Brian Miller for his visit. He always lights up my spirit. Thanks to all.

*Bob Lacy*

I am so grateful for the prayer and cards sent to me after my operation. It proves that prayers are answered. Reverend Harting visited me in the hospital and called me on the phone. Reverend Webner also called me at home. These were true blessings. I am so thankful for my church family. Praise the Lord.

Love,  
*Ruth Kriel*

## October Birthdays

- 1 Anne Palazzi
- 2 Adelaide Wilson  
Doris Ndlovu  
Henry Thompson
- 3 Gary Messman
- 4 Jen Dorsey
- 5 Harriet Williamson-Taylor
- 7 Jo Thomas
- 8 Molly Shock
- 9 Kirstyn Mayden
- 14 David Brown
- 16 John Mayden
- 17 Hazellene Milligan
- 21 Chidozie Osuwa
- 22 Donna Welsh
- 23 Ardith Luttrell
- 26 Joyce Deitrich
- 29 Edith Pratt
- 30 Lydia Kendzierski
- 31 Stephanie Houston

### God, please help me be...

**D**ependable

**I**nvolvement with people

**S**incere

**C**aring

**I**nterested in others

**P**rayerful

**L**oving

**E**ager to serve God and people

...a follower of Jesus.

## Membership Updates

### Marriage:

Olayinka Akerele to Oyetola Olufidipe  
August 20, 2016

### Address Changes:

Oyetola and Olayinka Olufidipe  
5485 Glenthorne Court  
Baltimore, MD 21237

### Baptism:

April Elizabeth Eshleman  
August 21, 2016  
Daughter of Scott and Megan Eshleman

### Address Unknown:

If you know the current address for the following members, please call the Church Office:

Joseph and Tammy Caleb  
Jermaine Carter  
John Williams Daniel  
Mary Ann Foster  
Frances Fraling  
Grace Hilton  
Paul Hively  
Jessica Lauttenshlager  
Susan Morgan  
Kingsley and Linda Ngameduru  
C. Rowland Nworgu  
Gregory Olsen  
Erin Olsen  
Charles Per Dieu  
Latoya Sewell  
Beatrice and Scott Welsh

## Upcoming and Ongoing Mission Opportunities

Start collecting items for our Christmas Shoebox donations to Samaritan's Purse. (National collection date is the third week of November.)

Instead of sending individual Christmas cards to your church family, consider posting one card on our display, and donate the money saved to Missions for Life Water Canada.

To help better serve food-starved individuals in our community, we will be collecting specific, non-perishable food items monthly for ACTC – *stock up on sale items!*

October—Jelly (18-20 ounce jars) and boxes of macaroni and cheese

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 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month.

*Every day  
is a good day  
when you receive  
and give love,  
see, hear and learn  
new things.*

## Children's Sunday School

Jesus called the children to Him and said,

*Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.*

Luke 18:16

If you haven't already found us, check out our Sunday School classes for children:

Sunday mornings  
9:00 – 9:45

Ages 3 to kindergarten  
Room 115, Carole Webner, teacher

1st grade and up, Room 119,  
Merrill Harrison, teacher

The school age children are studying some of the same stories Jesus learned as a little boy in the synagogue.

In September, we studied God's creation of the world, Noah and the flood, and the tower of Babel. In October, we will study the call of Abraham and learn about the early patriarchs.

Come join us!



## Festival of the Arts 2016

Mark your calendars for the Fifth Annual Loch Raven Festival of the Arts on November 5.

If you or someone you know would like to showcase artistic or musical talents, or sell home-made arts and crafts, plan to participate this year.

At 1pm the doors will open for art viewing, a holiday craft session and music showcasing.

At 2pm, there will be a community sing-along of Handel's *Messiah*, the Christmas selections, and we hope you will attend for singing and/or listening enjoyment as well as help to spread the word that this is a wonderful community warm up for the holiday season. Attendees are requested to bring canned food items for the Towson Assistance Center.

A silent auction will also be a part of the Festival as the Festival's fundraising portion, and donations of items are being accepted.

Volunteers are needed for this three-hour event as door greeters, auction monitors, snack and bean soup sellers and exhibitor hosts.

For volunteering, donating items or artistic showcasing contact Debi Wynn at 410-583-0270 or at [tnhedutainment@aol.com](mailto:tnhedutainment@aol.com).

The Festival began in 2012 and the Loch Raven Church family is working to make this year's the biggest and most successful year. Join us in this creatively fun community outreach endeavor.



**WORLD  
COMMUNION  
SUNDAY**

## October 2

*Together, we enable national and international graduate students to change the world.*

World Communion Sunday provides scholarships for U.S. racial- and ethnic-minority students and international students, on both undergraduate and graduate levels. Your giving helps to provide scholarships for national and international graduate students whom God has gifted to learn and to serve.

Around the globe, countless gifted and qualified people face financial obstacles that hinder them from preparing for the vocation God has given them, especially youth and young adults. For ethnic students who will be the first generation in their families to attend college, or for those people of color who haven't historically had access to resources that make higher education possible, the road toward education has often been unwieldy.

By giving generously on World Communion Sunday you will make education and vocational impact possible by equipping gifted and qualified students from around the globe to become the world-changers God created them to be.

Nelson Mandela said, "Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world." And because the people of the United Methodist Church believe that all of God's children have been created and gifted to build the kingdom Jesus ushered in, we're resourcing them to do just that. Because of your giving on World Communion Sunday, the most powerful tool to change the world is in more hands.

For more information on this special giving opportunity, read a story about the impact you are making with your gifts (<http://www.umcsgiving.org/ministry-articles/world-communion-sunday>).

### **Remaining Special Giving Sunday this year:**

United Methodist Student Day Sunday - November 27

## UMC Lectionary Calendar October, 2016

**October 2** – Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost, Year C  
Church Color: Green  
Lamentations 1:1-6  
Psalm 137 (UMH 852)  
2 Timothy 1:1-14  
Luke 17:5-10

**October 9** – Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost, Year C  
Church Color: Green  
Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7  
Psalm 66:1-12 (UMH 790)  
2 Timothy 2:8-15  
Luke 17:11-19

**October 16** – Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost, Year C  
Church Color: Green  
Jeremiah 31:27-34  
Psalm 119:97-104 or Psalm 19 (UMH 750)  
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5  
Luke 18:1-8

**October 23** – Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost, Year C  
Church Color: Green  
Joel 2:23-32  
Psalm 65 (UMH 789)  
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18  
Luke 18:9-14

**October 30** – Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost, Year C  
Church Color: Green  
Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4  
Psalm 119:137-144 (UMH 840)  
2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12  
Luke 19:1-10