

# The Spire



September, 2010

Loch Raven United Methodist Church

## Fall Bible Study

The weekday Bible study for Fall will be a short-term Disciple study *Invitation to Romans*. Participants will be asked to do reading from the Bible and from a study book in preparation for each class. There will be a video component for each class session. If you've never taken part in a Disciple Class, this might be a good way to check out the format and give it a try. If you have taken Disciple, this will give you a chance to look more closely at this important book of the New Testament.

There are eight lessons, and you may come on Monday evenings from 7:30 – 9, or Thursday mornings from 10 – 11:30:  
Mondays – Sept. 20 & 27, Oct. 4, 11, 18 & 25, and Nov. 1 & 8  
Thursdays – Sept. 23 & 30, Oct. 7, 14, 21 & 28, and Nov. 4 & 11

Please sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex or welcome area or call the church office, 410.825.0900 to register. Any questions? See Pastor Gayle.

## Who's in the Building?

Some of you wonder from time to time if our building is well-used or sitting empty. The answer is: well-used, but not quite full capacity. Here is a list of the organizations housed or hosted at LRUMC.

**St. Paul's Ghana Methodist Church** – a congregation of Methodists from Ghana meeting for worship on Sunday afternoons

**The Learning Garden** – a day care program for preschool children sponsored by Community Assistance Network

**IMPROVE** – before and after school program and summer day camp run by Viola Watson-Bean

**Aerobics** – weekday evenings and Saturday mornings

**Fun With Foreign Language** – a language program for children teaching Spanish and Mandarin Chinese, Tuesday afternoons and Saturday mornings

**Boy Scouts, Brownie Scouts and Girl Scouts**

**Al-anon** – Friday mornings

We also host occasional other gatherings, like the Glendale/Glenmont Community Association meetings, the annual Kiwanis club breakfast, etc. All of this is mutually beneficial. We have a wonderful resource in our large building and spacious rooms, which is a blessing to those who use the space, and the folks who use the building contribute to the finances necessary to keep it up, which is a blessing to the church. When requests for building use are made, we always evaluate by asking some questions. Can the request be accommodated in concert with church and other activities already taking place, and is the activity involved com-

(Continued on page 2)

### *Inside This Issue ...*

Loch Raven Member to Work With Jimmy Carter	Page 2
Pastor's Message	Page 3
Request for Ushers	Page 5
Opportunities in Christian Education	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 October issue is **Sunday, September 12, 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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**Children's Page and Address Page Editor** - Peggy Kelly

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**Pastor of Congregational Care** - Robert J. Fringo

**Church Office Hours:** 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. *Phone:* 410-825-0900. *Fax:* 410-825-2600. *E-mail:* [Info@LRUMC.org](mailto:Info@LRUMC.org)

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

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

## Loch Raven Member to Work With Jimmy Carter

Each of the churches from the United Churches Coalition of Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake (of which LRUMC has been a part for 4 years) was invited to submit 2 names to work during the Jimmy Carter week in October. LRUMC member David Brown's name was drawn from the hat, and he will work with Jimmy Carter and others on October 5 on a Habitat house in Baltimore. David has been a faithful volunteer for the 4 years LRUMC has been affiliated with Habitat, and couldn't be more deserving of this honor. David – we'll be looking for your smiling face on the evening news!

Also, THANK YOU to all who contributed financially to this year's Habitat effort. Everyone's finances are tight these days, but with great support from the Missions Committee of our church and your generous and sometimes even sacrificial contributions, we have reached our \$5000 goal.

## Who's in the Building?

*(Continued from page 1)*

patible with our understanding of our ministry in that activities are open, inclusive and promoting positive things in our community?

All groups that use the building have been advised again recently of the need to insure the safety and security of our building and all the people in it. To that end, please be reminded that when you leave the building or a room in it, please close and lock doors and windows and turn off lights. Do not prop the playground door open unless you are out there, and close it when you come in. If you see someone in the building that seems lost or unsure of where to go, or suspicious in any way, it's always good to ask something like "May I help you?" Let's do all that we can to make sure that everyone in our building, church member or guest, program participant or visitor, has a positive, safe and encouraging experience while here, biblical hospitality at its best. Thanks!.

## Our 6th and 7th graders need your HELP!!!!

We are looking for two or more middle high Sunday school leaders for this upcoming season. This class will have 3 – 5 children in attendance regularly and would really like to be in a class that is age/grade appropriate. If this is an area that GOD has called you to help with, please contact Jen Byrd at: [birdie21234@aol.com](mailto:birdie21234@aol.com) or 443-756-4000.

*No act of kindness,  
no matter how small,  
is ever wasted.*

—Aesop



Dear Friends,  
A number of you have expressed your de-

sire for and appreciation of sermon series. I will confess that the idea of a series was, at one time, quite a hair shirt for me. I tend to be an "in the moment" kind of person, and like to be able to respond to what's happening in news and culture from a Biblical perspective, pretty much one Sunday at a time. Though I have done a series from time to time, perhaps for a special season, it hasn't been a habit.

I'm finding though that seeking to meet this desire that many of you have is good for me.

I'm stimulated by the preparation, the research and the planning. I'm also seeing anew that the Christian life is often a matter of building on what we already know, of adding to or deepening practices that are already part of our lives, of doing the same things with more understanding and more feeling. In faith, as in other areas of life, one thing does often lead to another, and the continuity can be a rich blessing.

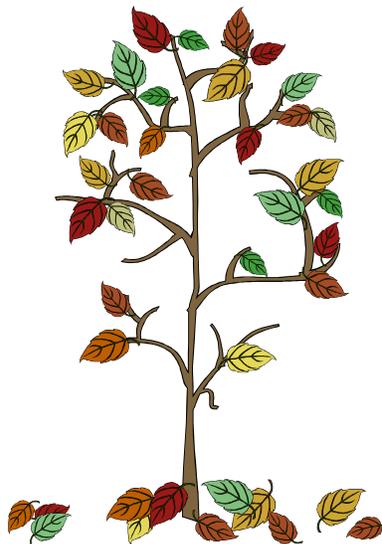
So, this Fall and Winter, I have three different series cued up; a series of 3 weeks on the story of the Prodigal Son, looking at it from each perspective, the father, the prodigal, and the son who never left

home; a series on John Wesley's teachings about the use of resources, "Earn all you can, save all you can, give all you can", and a series called "When Christians Get It Wrong" based on the view that young adults who are not a part of the church have of us Christians. This series will have a weekday study component to it as well, and is based on a resource by Adam Hamilton.

Thanks for your feedback and suggestions. I'm so very blessed to be engaging in the journey of faith with you.

See you in church!

*Pastor Gayle*



*Autumn is a second spring where every leaf is a flower.*

—Albert Camus

## Board of Child Care Auxiliary News

### Fall Meeting

The Fall meeting of the Baltimore Metropolitan District of the Board of Child Care Auxiliary will be held at Loch Raven UMC this year.

The date is **Saturday, October 16**. Please watch for further details in the October *Spire*.

### Thanksgiving Basket Donations

We have been asked to donate cake mix and icing this year for the Board of Child Care Thanksgiving baskets. Baskets are distributed to Board of Child Care foster care families and birth families of the residents at the Board of Child Care.

There will be a collection box in Fellowship Hall from September 12 through October 10.

Thank you for your continued support of the Board of Child Care.

*Leslie Christopher*  
Keyperson

## Choir Rehearsals Resume



The Loch Raven Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir are

looking forward to starting up again in September!

The Chancel Choir rehearses each Thursday at 8:00 p.m. beginning **September 2nd**.

Handbell Choir rehearses each Thursday at 7:00 p.m. beginning **September 9th**.

Are you interested in joining the Music Ministries at Loch Raven? We would love to have you!

Please contact Jennifer Edwards for more information or just come to a rehearsal and join in the fun and praise!

## Loch Raven Youth News

This summer our Youth participated in the Sizzlin' Summer Nights activities, Vacation Bible School and went to Hershey Park. It was a great summer and we are looking forward to our fall activities. Plans for Youth Sunday are underway, as well as a trip to Delaware to see one of our own play football and some mission work. Stay tuned for more information so come.

## Membership Updates

### New Members:

Justin Yu  
36 Brookebury Drive, Apt. 2D  
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Reynold Small  
1714 Sherwood Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21239

Kathy Ruble  
2805 Inglewood Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21234

### Deceased Members:

Ruth Fehrman  
7/11/10

Betty DePrine  
7/24/10

### Address Unknown:

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

Edgar Brinser

## United Methodist Women September Schedule

*Prepared by Betty Shock*

**Phyllis Downes Circle**  
Tuesday, September 7  
10 am—Parlor  
New Study

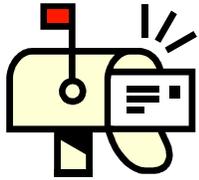
**“Women in Christ” Circle**  
Monday, September 13  
6:30 pm at Yvonne’s home  
Meet for dinner and  
planning meeting  
RSVP Regrets Only to  
Yvonne at 410-296-9555

**Ellen Hoover Circle**  
Wednesday, September 15  
9:30 am—Room 202  
Study: *The Ten Commandments*

### NO GENERAL MEETING

**Executive Committee Meeting will be held on Friday, September 10, at 10 am in the Parlor**





## From the Mailbox

“Thank you” is a simple phrase, but still it’s meant to show that we appreciate your kindness more than you can know.

*The DePrine Family and  
The Collidge Family*

Dear Rev. Fringo and Loch Raven Congregation:

Thank you Rev. Fringo for your hospital visit and prayers. Your and the congregation’s prayers were greatly appreciated. The staff and doctors were amazed at my speedy recovery in the hospital and I credit it to everyone’s prayers and support.

Thank you all again.

*John Davis*

The Cullums and the Priebees would like to express our sincere appreciation to all those who comforted us with your presence, love, cards and prayers after the drowning death of our James on June 25th. We are truly grateful.

Sincerely,

*Jane & Bob Cullum  
Mary, Kevin & Sara Priebe*

My Dear Church Family,

Just a little note to thank you for your many cards, the monetary and love gifts and the gifts and for your love, understanding, patience and kindness during the past 13 years. I also want to thank you for the retirement reception. Everything was so wonderful and beautiful, the food was delicious and the love touched me so ... beyond words.

I was very blessed to be given the opportunity by our Dear Lord to have been the Administrative Secretary for my Loch Raven Church Family. This was the best job ever as the Lord helped me to grow as a Christian woman in the great joy of being His servant and the great pleasure in helping anyone.

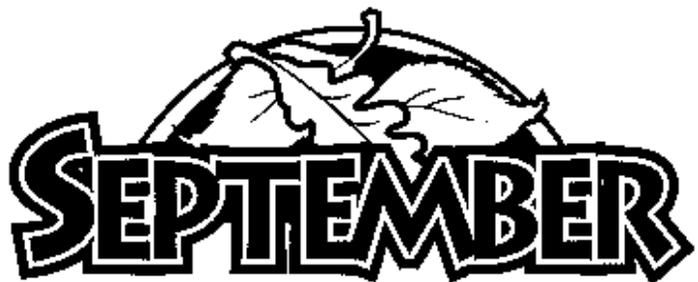
May the grace and the peace of Our Lord Jesus continue to bless you always.

In Christian love and blessings,  
*Lin Jones*

## Ushers Needed

Would you like to assist your church family while attending weekly church service? Serving as an usher is one of the easiest tasks, consuming only an extra few moments per week. We arrive 20 minutes prior to the start of the service, greet those attending and provide them a bulletin. During the service we stand in the back of the church, doing such things as taking count, locking the Sunday school rooms, and generally surveying the sanctuary in case there are any special needs. We take the collection, and when the service is over, we pick up the attendance pads and generally straighten up the pews. Easy, simple, quick and a great way to meet and greet those attending the service. If you have any interest, please call Adrian Palazzi, Head Usher, at 410-821-8752. We promise not to overburden you. All are welcome.

In God’s Service,  
*Adrian W. Palazzi*





With a grateful heart, I would like to thank everyone that attended and participated in the VBS—Galactic Blast space adventure this summer. I would like to recognize those that assisted with the activities this year; the Youth: Michaela, Tim, Matt and Nick and Mrs. Amy Price, Ms. Aleece Roehl and

Pastor Gayle for their leadership roles with the activities. Hope to see more of you next summer. In the meantime... remember we serve a GOD of wonders beyond our galaxy!

Peace and Blessings,  
Space Commander Jen

## Family Ministries Report

The Family ministries committee is starting to wind down from all the exciting happenings from this summer's Sizzlin' Summer Nights (SSN). There was food, ice cream, Jeopardy, games, a Carnival, miniature golf and then more food. We truly appreciate everyone who came out to participate in the activities. We noticed that this year's attendance was a bit lower than in years past. If there is an activity that interests you and you would like to share in that with your church family, please reach out to the ministry chair, Sharon Gardner, with your suggestions.

Be on the lookout for information regarding these **upcoming events**:

October 24th- Fall Harvest

December 5th - Christmas Chill out

### Looking ahead:

February - Family Ski trip

March 8th - Pancake Supper

April - Family Fish Fry

*"Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."*

*Nehemiah 8:10, NIV*



## All Chairpersons of Committees/ Ministries

### Mark Your Calendars

We are in the process of preparing the Church Calendar for the remainder of 2010 through August 2011. It would be very helpful if you would establish your meeting dates and calendar of events at your first Fall 2010 meeting. The computer-generated calendar based on last year's information is available for review.



## Awesome God

When our lives are focused on God, awe and wonder lead us to worship God, filling our inner being with a fullness we would never have thought possible. Awe prepares the way in us for the power of God to transform us, and this transformation of our inner attitudes can only take place when awe leads us in turn to wonder, admiration, reverence, surrender and obedience toward God.

—James Houston  
*The Transforming Power of Prayer*

## Coming this Fall—Exciting Opportunities in Christian Education:

Sunday school will officially resume on September 12th at 10am. Are you currently attending a Sunday school class? If not, there are several to choose from:

Ages 2 through 4 – Amy Price, Room 122

Kindergarten through 2nd grade – Leslie Christopher & Jo Thomas, Room 119

3rd through 5th grade – Merrill Harrison, Room 212

Middle High School Class – Room 210

Senior High School Class – Room 214

Becomers Class – Adult Class, Owen Williams, Room 202

Going His Way – Adult Class, Jonathan Wilson, Room 128

“Younger” Adult study – Room 126

In addition to Sunday school classes, Pastor Gayle will be leading small group studies on Thursday mornings and Monday evenings. Please check the bulletin and *Spire* for more information on these classes.

We have a variety of offerings and we hope to see you and/or your children participating

