



FEBRUARY/MARCH 2010

NEWS CLIP

LRPC NEWS AND EVENTS

LOCH RAVEN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH P.C.A.

“The Greatest Response to Grace”

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Most pastors like to believe their congregations are listening attentively to their sermons, so naturally their ears perk up when a church member greets them at the door after the sermon and starts the conversation with, “I really liked your sermon today, especially the part...” or, “I didn’t understand when you said...”; they would even be pleased with, “I don’t agree with you when you said...” Pastors like it when people respond to the preached word and think about what has been shared. However, it’s not just a pastor’s preference that we respond to the sermon. Each time the Word is read or preached, the Bible says it has an effect on people. It never comes back to God without a response (Isaiah 55:11).

Sometimes the response to the Word of God is *comfort*, at other times *conviction*, while at other times *confession* of sins and turning to Christ. That is because each time you come to church, the Holy Spirit is working and encouraging you to respond to His leading in some manner. One time I preached a message and someone responded by thanking me for saying something I didn’t even say! That’s because the Spirit was speaking and giving that person a different interpretation from what I actually said.

Since last fall I have been preaching a sermon series through Galatians entitled, *Becoming a People of Grace*. How are you responding to these messages of God’s grace? Is God *comforting* you through a very difficult time in your life, and giving you the strength to go on? Is God *convicting* you to change some behavior or attitude you have been carrying over the years? Is God urging you to *confess* your sins and turn to Christ for forgiveness? However you respond, it should be Spirit-led and sincere between you and God. But the greatest response to these messages of Grace is always a deeper appreciation for God’s love and as a result a deeper love for others.

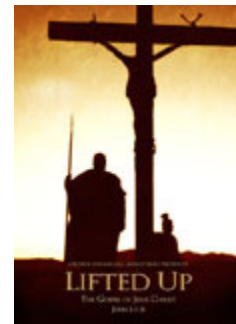
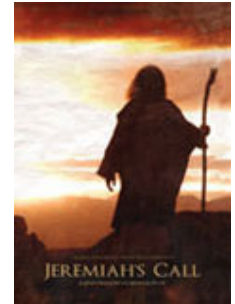
Love is the greatest response to Grace. Jesus illustrates this beautifully in Luke 7:36-47. Jesus had been invited to dinner at Simon’s house, a Pharisee. Along with Jesus’ disciples and Simon’s usual guests, Simon must have been shocked to find a woman who “*had lived a sinful life*”! Everyone in town knew it, and he probably just waited for Jesus to kick her out at any moment. But just when he thought no one would notice her, she came up to Jesus and made her presence known, first by weeping, then pouring expensive perfume on his feet, and then – she had the nerve to kiss his feet! How could Jesus put up with her? Why doesn’t he just throw out this ‘sinner’? Imagine his shock and dismay when Jesus used her actions

“The Greatest Response to Grace” (continued)

to show the superiority of her faith to his own! He hadn't given Jesus water for his feet, nor given him a greeting; nor did he put oil on his head. But this woman, though a 'sinner', had not only done these things, but did them all out of a grateful and sincere love for Jesus. Her response to God's grace was a grateful demonstration of what she was experiencing in her heart. She had been forgiven 'much' and so demonstrated 'much' love (Luke 7:47).

What is your response to God's message of grace? Is it purely intellectual, where you file more knowledge of God's word into your storehouse of theology? Or is it a Spirit-led, where a deep intimacy with God grows and manifests itself in deeper love for those around you? The Spirit is speaking through God's Word each week, and you are responding in some manner. But are you responding in the way the Spirit wants you to? God's people of grace respond to the message of grace with the *greatest* response – faith, hope and love, but the *greatest* of these is love (1 Corinthians 13: 13).

- **Pastor Lou**



Mark your calendars now to attend the “God Provides” series being held at

Loch Raven Presbyterian Church

six consecutive Sunday evenings—February 21 thru March 28, from 7:00 to 8:15 p.m.

Come by 6:30 p.m. to register, have light refreshments and participate in a hymn sing. The film program will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. Handouts are available to all in the narthex.



LRPCA WOMEN IN THE CHURCH

Dear Women in the Church,

I know with al of this record breaking snowfall we are all ready for spring. Our WIC Council and circle reps met on Friday, February 5, right before "snowmageddon" and made plans for 2010. Please pray the Lord will give us His guidance and blessing for the following activities:

1. Spring book Club—April 23 (Friday) - Selection is Mere Christians: Inspiring Encounters with C. S. Lewis. See Lee Goon to obtain a copy—\$11.00.
2. NOTE—June 13 (Sunday) - 2nd Sunday of June will be our Annual Strawberry Festival. This is a change from 1st Sunday in June to the 2nd Sunday! Mark your calendars.
3. Fall Retreat—2nd or 3rd weekend in October. One day or Saturday overnight to be determined.
4. Annual Christmas Tea—Monday, December 6. If you have suggestions for the program see me (Debbie Soukup).

Circle leaders have your WIC directories for 2010. Finally, but most importantly is our theme for 2010—"Imitating Christ's Humility" - Philippians 2:1-2.

In His Service, Debbie Soukup, WIC President

March 2010 WOMEN'S CIRCLE SCHEDULE

CIRCLE	DATE/TIME	HOSTESS
Elizabeth	Friday, March 19, 2010 9:30 a.m.	Lee Goon 410-668-1706
Esther	Wednesday, March 17 12:30 p.m.	Joan Higdon and Anne Rogers 410-882-0286
Hannah	Thursday, March 11 7:15 p.m.	Sandy Magsamen 410-687-6090
Rebekah	Thursday, March 11 10:30 a.m.	Lee Coard 410-825-2357
Ruth	Thursday, March 11 10:30 a.m.	Louisa Smith 410-252-9263
Half-Baked Girls	Monday, March 1 7:00 p.m.	Church Library Fran Donofrio 410-661-5901

SESSION SPEAKS

December 2009 Recap

The Session met on three (3) occasions in the month of December, 2009 for a stated meeting and two (2) called meetings. In addition, there was a Congregational meeting for the Presentation and approval of 2010 Budget.

Session happily examined and approved Ms. Joan Higdon as a candidate for a Trustee, Class of 2011. Ms. Higdon was examined by the Session because she never served as a Trustee in the past for LRPC.

Upon hearing the proposals for sidewalk repairs by Trustee, Mr. Dan Master, Session approved a budget of Fifteen Thousand (\$15,000.00) Dollars for the sidewalk repairs.

Christian Education Committee reported that the White Gift Service

would be held at 7:00 p.m., on Sunday, December 20, 2009. TE Quievryn would lead the service. Session approved the proposed Sunday Evening Bible Study based on "The GOD Provides" series to proceed for six (6) consecutive Sundays beginning February 21, 2010.

List of Church Officer Nominees for the Year 2010 was submitted by Nominating Committee and Session approved the list. Please continue to pray for the Church and the nominees as we are in great need of faithful servant workers serving in various officer positions.

The Consolidated Balance Sheet and Income/Expense Statements for the Church finances were reviewed. Despite unstable economy God blessed LRPC financially and

LRPC continues to be in good shape.

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Friday, January 29, 2010, at 7:00 p.m.

Youth Pastor Search Committee's request to change the job description to include an Assistant Pastor position was approved.

Young Adult Group Singles (YAGS) continue to have Afternoon Fellowship and Bible Study after each Sunday Service. YAGs will have a winter Retreat in January, 2010, and all young people of LRPC are encouraged to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

David B. Woo, Temporary

Clerk of Session

JANUARY 2010 RECAP

The Session met on three (3) occasions in the month of January 2010 for a stated meeting and two (2) called meetings. Additionally, the Annual Congregational Meeting was held on January 29, 2010, at 7:00 p.m., in the Sanctuary.

The Board of Trustees proposed that we should erect a sign about our Church near the playground to inform those who use the playground to encourage them to join our Church. Session agreed and responded positively and will be referred to the Board of Trustees for more specific proposals.

Session spent much time in the last year and continuing this year to prepare and propose a building construction plan for the congregation for review and approval. A large sum of money was donated to LRPC last year for the specific purpose of promoting Fellowship, Outreach and Youth Ministries. We need much prayer in seeking God's will to effectively use the money for the right purpose.

Christian Education Committee reported that long time Sunday School teacher, Mr. Dan Master, has resigned and was in the process of seeking a new teacher. Please pray that we will fill the position timely and effectively. We express our sincere appreciation for Mr. Master's long and faithful service.

We thank all those who volunteered to serve the Church and pray that all newly elected church officers will serve well. We look forward to their dedicated service in the coming year.

The Consolidated Balance Sheet and Income/Expense Statements for the Church finances were reviewed. With God's blessings, LRPC is financially very stable and secure.

Missions Committee reported that Missions Conference would be held from May 22 to May 23, 2010. The key note speaker will be Missionary Don McCurry. He will also preach during our Sunday Worship Service.

Session would like to encour-

age many more to join our Wednesday Prayer Meeting. It is a great time of sharing of our love and care with prayers.

Young Adult Group (YAGS) held its First Annual Winter Retreat at the Skycroft Conference Center from January 21 to 23, 2010. Thirteen (13) people attended. It was a time of great joy and shared blessings. We encourage all young people of the Church to join them next time.

Session prayed for Tom Goon, Helen Goon and their family, Rachel Wamsley, Tedd Stastny, Pei-Hsin, Tim Boone for various needs, good and/or bad. We pray that God's rich blessings will be with all of them.

Respectfully submitted,

David B. Woo

Clerk of Session

Youth News

Greetings to All!

Since the last report in December, it has been somewhat of an irregular schedule for the youth group after the holiday events and the "Blizzards of 2010." It has been quite an adventure getting two Friday Night Fellowships in a row! Although hopefully we will return to a more "routine" schedule in March and April, March already promises to be a busy month as well! More on that in a moment.



We started the year on Friday, January 1st with the annual "Rock-In, Lock-In", a very enjoyable...and long...evening! We had 22 middle and high school youth join together for games ("Human Battleship", hockey, "Mission Impossible" and even volleyball!!), food (pizza, pizza and more pizza!) and a time of sharing. Our sharing time offered an opportunity for everyone to reflect on how God has worked in their lives in the past year. It has become a favorite time for me, as I am encouraged how the youth really do see God working in their lives...even under difficult and trying circumstances. 15 of the youth stayed for the "sleepover", although not much sleep was had...especially the girls!! In the morning, Ben Shields, one of our recent graduates, came very early to help prepare breakfast of scrambled eggs and pancakes.."Thanks", Ben!

Also in January, we started a study of the book of Jonah during our Friday Night Fellowships. Jonah is a short book of four chapters, but very full and rich in teachings of faith, obedience and then repentance as he submitted his will to God's command. We completed our study of Jonah in early February with a study of Chapter 4 which showed God's deep compassion for man (and all of us!). It was also interesting for us to see the irony of Jonah's anger at God, who had showed His compassion to the people in Nineveh, yet failed to remember God's compassion for him when he disobeyed His command! Next up, will be a study of the book of Esther in March and April.

Speaking of March, we already have two dates that you must put on the calendar! The first is the Baltimore Blast/Christian Youth night on Friday, March 12th which will feature a concert by the Christian band, Hawk Nelson. Tickets are only \$10 per person, but they must be ordered by Friday, March 5th! We will leave for the First Mariner Arena church parking lot around 6:30 p.m. and be back around 11:30 p.m. Please watch the bulletin for more details, or contact Brian and Carol Sweeney (410-665-2728). The second event is the Senior High weekend retreat, "Impact 2010: Noise," in Ocean City, Maryland from March 26th to 28th. This year we have 7 high schoolers coming (Holly, Jen, Jessica, Taylor, Alan, Joe B. & Matt!). Please keep these ones in prayer that God may use speakers, seminars and the praise/worship/concert bands to point their hearts and mind to Christ! We are all looking forward to the weekend!!

Thank you all again for your prayers and support. We deeply appreciate your care and concern for this ministry!

In Christ,

Carol and Brian Sweeney

ATTENTION! SUMMER YOUTH WORKER POSITION

A part time position for a Summer Youth Worker is available and will be involved with organizing and leading/assisting with youth activities during the summer. If you or if you know someone who might be interested in this position, please have them contact Brian Sweeney for more information or an application. All applications should be submitted no later than April 15.

TECH BYTE

FEBRUARY/MARCH, 2010

WE THANK THE CONGREGATION FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE TECH TEAM. WE APPRECIATE YOUR PRAYERS AND ENCOURAGEMENT CONCERNING THE WORK WE ARE DOING. WE WANT TO NOTE THAT WE WELCOME YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT THE USE OF THE SOUND EQUIPMENT (MICROPHONES AND SPEAKERS) THAT IS LOCATED OUTSIDE OF THE TECH BOOTH. SINCE THIS EQUIPMENT IS SPECIALIZED, WE WOULD ASK THAT PEOPLE NOT MOVE OR TRY TO ADJUST THIS EQUIPMENT WITHOUT CHECKING WITH THE TECH TEAM FOR DIRECTION.

WE HAVE RECENTLY PURCHASED ALCOHOL WIPES SO THAT THE PEOPLE WHO NEED TO USE THE HEARING DEVICES CAN CLEAN THEM AFTER USING THEM AND BEFORE RETURNING THEM TO THE TECH BOOTH. THAT WAY THEY ARE CLEAN WHEN THEY ARE HANDED OUT.

THE TEAM IS GROWING; RECENTLY ANDY WOO AND RICHIE BROWN HAVE AGREED TO BE PART OF THE SOUND TEAM AND ARE BEING TRAINED.

THERE IS STILL A NEED FOR AT LEAST ONE WOMAN TO TRAIN AS A SOUND OPERATOR SO THAT SHE CAN TAKE CARE OF SOUND NEEDS AT WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES, AND THERE IS NEED FOR OPERATORS WHO ARE AVAILABLE DURING THE DAY AND/OR ON SATURDAYS.

PLEASE CONTACT BARBARA REED IF YOU WOULD BE WILLING TO SERVE THE LORD BY TRAINING TO OPERATE THE SOUND SYSTEM.

DEACONS' CORNER

“Bear one another’s burdens...”

Galatians 6:2

MARCH, 2010 ACTC FOOD DRIVE

The Deacons will be sponsoring a food drive for the Assistance Center of Towson Churches in March. This organization provides a much needed service to the poor and needy of **our** communities. As part of our commitment to the Center, we participate in 2 food drives per year, in addition to the Thanksgiving Basket food collection in the fall. The Center serves 500-600 individuals a month—you can be part of this ministry.

Please bring in the following items **ONLY**. Give what you can. There will be a collection box in the narthex on **March 7, March 14, and March 21**. If you prefer, you may give a monetary donation—checks payable to ACTC.

Cereal	Saltines
Peanut butter	Jelly
Spaghetti sauce	Pork and beans
Pasta meals	Tuna
Canned tomatoes	Canned meats (beef stew, chili, spam)

PLEASE,

No perishables, home canned foods, or institutional size cans

ACTC and the people it serves greatly appreciate your generosity. Your gift will be the answer to someone's prayer!

The last date to donate is March 21, 2010.

ANNUAL BLOOD DRIVE



*Please mark your calendar for the Annual Blood Drive which will be held on **Tuesday, May 4, 2010**. Also, **March 8, 2010** would be the last date you could donate blood and still be eligible to donate for our **May 4th Blood Drive**.*

The Trustees' Toolbox



Because of the winter wonderland, the Board of Trustees was unable to meet until Monday, February 21st. Because of the increasing frequency of mechanical and control problems with our heating and cooling systems, we are recommending the purchase of a maintenance service contract. Several companies were contacted for estimates. BGE Home far surpassed all the companies contacted with their proposal in the areas of value, service and knowledge. In the last two years, we have had four major malfunctions of our HVAC system that required emergency action at critical church usage times. As our system ages, it will be in need of more TLC and the eventual replacement and upgrading of components. It is our position that a company with a thorough knowledge of our system and associated maintenance issues will be better able to keep it up and running the next time that the gremlins strike.

By the time you read this, the sanctuary side entrance door stairwell hallways will have benefitted from a much needed paint job. Because of safety issues, the work has been done by a professional. A two-tone color scheme was chosen to create a transition for the stairwells leading to the narthex and the downstairs classrooms. A solution has finally been found for the air gap between the doors at all three sanctuary exterior entrances. The original felt weather strips have worn away and original replacements could not be located. Traditional stick-on felt and foam weather strips proved unsuccessful. A foam rubber and metal strip was located that, when screwed onto one of the two doors, provides a better and more durable seal.

As requested, a combination coat rack and shelf has been built and installed in the men's bathroom in the downstairs hallway. This is very similar to the ones in the ladies bathroom except it is all one piece. We have been hearing many favorable comments about the new sidewalks, especially the one connecting the upper parking lot to the sanctuary sidewalk. This allows us to totally avoid walking down the lane and avoiding ice, water and vehicles. When the weather permits, the sidewalks near the dumpster door entrance will be replaced and improved.

Please mark Saturday, April 24th on your calendar as the date for our annual church grounds spring clean up. The work will begin at 9:00 a.m. and lunch will be provided. A sign up sheet and list of jobs will be posted in the narthex closer to the event. The turn out has been outstanding in years past and, along with completing many tasks, it is a great opportunity to get to know each other a little better.

Finally, we would like to thank out-going trustee Dan Master for many years of faithful service and welcome in-coming trustees Joan Higdon, Kathy Fagan and Bob Fagan. Also, we thank trustee Nancy Stagge for agreeing to be the Co-Head Trustee this year so that she will be better able to serve as the Head Trustee next year.

In His Service,
Curt Soukup
Head Trustee

LRPCA FAMILY AND OTHER

ASSISTANT PASTOR YOUTH AND FAMILIES SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

To the Members of LRPC:

After extended discussions through the Fall of 2009, and as a result of the number and quality of applications being received, the Committee expanded the scope of the position sought to be filled from "Director of Youth Ministries" to "Assistant Pastor—Youth and Families." The committee recommended one particular candidate for interview by the Session. That interview took place on January 18, 2010. After extended consideration of this candidate's qualifications, which included a joint meeting of the Committee and Session January 25, 2010, the Session voted to reject the Candidate. Following that joint Committee/Session meeting, it was felt that the review process could be accelerated if two Session members joined the Committee. The Committee is now meeting weekly on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. and the members are : Brian Sweeney, Carol Sweeney, Laurie Calka, Diana Knight, Austin Kenly, and Ted Shields. Pastor Lou will participate in an advisory capacity and will join the Committee on telephone interviews. We anticipate having one or two telephone interviews within the next two weeks.

Please direct any questions or suggestions you may have to me and please know that we appreciate your continued support of the Committee with your prayers.

Respectfully submitted,
Ted Shields, Chairman

Brothers and Sisters of Loch Raven

Many thanks for all your prayers and concerns during my recent surgeries and progress towards recovery. My special thanks to Pat Greve for her constant care and companionship and keeping everyone abreast of my condition. God was so merciful in that there was never a moment of pain during either operation or recovery and all the results and prognosis have been extremely favorable. Even the surgeon, who was scheduled to be off this year for Christmas, came in Christmas morning just to check on me! He said the family had attended midnight mass and were sleeping in.

Prayer works. Believe it. God bless you all.

In Christ's love,
Tedd Stastny

THANK YOU!!!



Dear Brothers and Sisters at LRPC,

We are profoundly grateful for the love and support you have shown us during Charlie Coard's rapid decline and recent passing. Your prayers, calls, visits, cards, words of encouragement, and offers of help have been a source of great comfort during this difficult time. Charlie loved this church, and he would be happy to know how supportive you have been to us. We cannot thank you enough.

In Christ,
Lee Coard, Trish and Kelly Spicer
Scott, Laura, Greg, Thomas and
Emma Coard

MISSION POSSIBLE

February/March, 2010

Simon Shi, COM at the U. of Maryland
Ministry to the Military, International

The 2010 Missions Budget introduces two new ministries: one a work of China Outreach Ministries on the U. of Maryland campus and the other an effort to establish “a Presbyterian and Reformed church and witness near every major base and professional military school throughout the world.”

Simon Shi, a native of China, leads COM’s outreach at College Park. Before coming to the USA in 2004, Simon served in a house church in China. He graduated from Henon College of Traditional Chinese Medicine. His graduate education includes a M. Div from Harvest Seminary and a Master of Historical Theology from Shiloh Bible College. Late last year he was ordained by his church, Chinese Bible Church at College Park.

Simon’s ministry reaches out to Chinese students, visiting scholars and spouses to build relationships through practical steps and to share the gospel and make disciples so that they will carry the gospel with them when they return to China.

Teaching Elder Doug Hudson is the director of Ministry to the Military, International. Pastoring Trinity Reformed Church in Ramstein/Landstuhl, Germany, from 1993 – 2008 led him to develop his vision for establishing a church planting effort targeted to the military community. It is expected “that God will use these church plants to reach other Americans living overseas and English speaking internationals with the Gospel of Christ.” A new church plant in Okinawa has recently begun, and a second one in Germany is moving forward but still needs funding and a pastor.

MARCH 2010



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7:00 p.m. Half-Baked Girls Bible Study	2 6:15 p.m. TOPS	3 1:30 p.m. Logans' Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Worship Committee 7:00 p.m. Pastor Search Com. 7:30 p.m. Congregational Prayer Mtg.	4 7:00 p.m. Praise Team Men's Bible Study 7:45 p.m. Choir	5 7:00 p.m. Youth Fellowship "Stitches of Love" Knitting Group	6
7 7:00-8:15 p.m. The GOD Provides Series	8 7:00 p.m. Session Mtg. Deacon Mtg. Trustee Mtg.	9 6:15 p.m. TOPS 7:00 p.m. GreifShare Committee Mtg.	10 7:00 p.m. Pastor Search Committee 7:30 p.m. Congregational Prayer Mtg.	11 7:00 p.m. Praise Team Men's Bible Study 7:45 p.m. Choir	12 6:15 p.m. Baltimore Blast/Christian Youth Night	13
14 7:00-8:15 p.m. The GOD Provides Series	15	16 6:15 p.m. TOPS	17 1:30 p.m. Logans' Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Pastor Search Com- mittee 7:30 p.m. Congregational Prayer Mtg.	18 7:00 p.m. Praise Team Men's Bible Study 7:45 p.m. Choir	19 7:00 p.m. Youth Fellowship "Stitches of Love" Knitting Group	20 6:30 p.m. LRPC Annual Dinner NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
21 7:00-8:15 p.m. The GOD Provides Series	22	23 6:15 p.m. TOPS	24 7:00 p.m. Pastor Search Committee 7:30 p.m. Congregational Prayer Mtg.	25 7:00 p.m. Praise Team Men's Bible Study 7:45 p.m. Choir	26 "IMPACT 2010: Noise" - Senior High Weekend Retreat	27 "IMPACT 2010: Noise" - Senior High Weekend Retreat
28 7:00-8:15 p.m. The GOD Provides Series COMMUNION SUNDAY						

LOCH RAVEN
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Presbyterian Church in America

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Sunday Worship
9:30 a.m.—Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship Service

Loch Raven Presbyterian Church
exists to glorify God and make known
His eternal and unchanging purpose,
fulfilled through a living relationship
with Jesus Christ.

Rev. Lou Quievryn, Senior Pastor
Rev. Ralph Kidwell, Pastor of Visitation
Suzanne Woo, Music Director
Pei-Hsin Kao, Accompanist
Lee Goon, Church Secretary
Austin Kenly, Church Treasurer

Church Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday—9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday and Friday—The Office is Closed



The GOD Provides Film Series
By Crown Financial Ministries
7:00 to 8:15 p.m.
February 21—March 28, 2010