



# The Good News

LYONSVILLE CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

"A Home for The Spiritual Journey"

May 2018

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Pastor

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Editor

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## PASTOR'S CORNER

On May 20, Pentecost Sunday, we will celebrate two birthdays. We celebrate the founding of our "little c" church, and the founding of the "big C" Church.

The "big C" Church is so big it is hard to get our heads around it: it is all of the Christians throughout the whole world, living and dead. We here at Lyonsville are but one tiny slice of that Church. On May 20, Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate the day that the Holy Spirit miraculously drew together a people of diverse languages, culture, and belief into the family of Jesus Christ. We also celebrate the founding of the "little c" church that we call our spiritual home: Lyonsville Congregational United Church of Christ. For 175 years, this congregation has sought to draw people to the love of Jesus Christ, and send people out in ministry and mission to the community and world.

Both the "big C" church and "little c" church have a remarkable history – stories of amazing goodness, and yes, stories of pain. I hope you will join us to remember what God has done in this place and around the world, through this messy and holy thing we call Church.

No matter what the future holds, I know that God has been with God's people here at Lyonsville and around the world, every step of the way. It's easy to think of church as something that we humans do, but that's not the whole truth. Church is something that God does with us.

In order to know where we're going, we have to know where we've been. I hope to see you on Pentecost Sunday as we celebrate the founding of Lyonsville Church, and the founding of the Church itself.

Beloveds: God has been with us every step of the way. God is with us today. Let's celebrate!

*Pastor Sean*

# Worship Opportunities

May 6 (Holy Humor Sunday)

**Scripture:** Psalm 126, Philippians 4:1-9

**Sermon:** Playing Together

It's important for people of all ages to have time for play. Joy and laughter are essential in the life of faith, especially given all the challenges in the world. Join us for Holy Humor Sunday!

May 13 (Mother's Day)

Rev. Emily Mitchell preaching.

Emily is an ordained minister in the UCC. Growing up in Michigan, she moved to Chicago in 2007, where she received her M.Div and served the local church in the Fox Valley Association for five years. Currently, she wears many hats--as a writer, spiritual retreat leader, and operations guru for Enzo AV, a tech automation company. Emily loves camping, rainbow chip frosting, and snuggling her cat. You can find some of what she's up to at [www.sourcematerial.net](http://www.sourcematerial.net).

May 20 (Pentecost - 175th Anniversary Celebration)

**Scripture:** Ezekiel 37:1-14, Acts 2:1-21

**Sermon:** And You Shall Live

We celebrate Lyonsville's 175th anniversary in worship, and look forward to the future. We will hear the story of God bringing new life to the people of Israel, and God bringing the energy of the Holy Spirit to the early church. Even today, God offers us everything we need to accomplish the church's mission.

May 27 (Trinity Sunday)

**Scripture:** Isaiah 6:1-8, John 3:1-10

**Sermon:** Born of the Spirit

Have you ever wondered what it means to be "born again?" or "born of the Spirit?" What did Jesus mean when he said no one can enter God's realm without being born of water and the Spirit? Join us to explore the gift and challenge of new life that God's Spirit offers today.

## Summer Music Opportunity

With the end of the choir's season fast approaching, there is an opportunity for anyone in the extended Lyonsville Family who would like to contribute some music for summer worship. There are 15 Sundays this summer: May 27, June 3, 10, 17, 24, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, August 5, 12, 19, 26, and September 2. Contact Mike Molloy if you, or someone you know are interested.

**Happy Birthday** (click here for birthday wishes)

Nayna Byers	5/6	Wilma Mrazek	5/14
Michael Molloy	5/7	Sean Weston	5/23
Bill Ressler	5/11	Trinity Byers	5/29

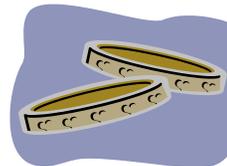



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Justin Skweres	6/3	Pricie Rogan	6/16
Jean Hegner	6/5	Lauren Castner	6/20
Rob Mueller	6/6	Kelsey Byers	6/23
Chloe Cihak	6/7	Chuck Helms	6/30
Ellen Corlett	6/9	Christy Smith	6/30
Justin Hegner	6/16		

**Happy Anniversary**

Jack and Nan (Byers) Wolf	5/14
Jack and Evelyn Godar	5/29




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Aleta & Michael Belletete	6/1	Erika & Joe Wierdak	6/19
Nicole & Art Helms	6/5	Susan & Rob Mueller	6/25
Maria & Chris Korber	6/5	Beth & Larry Doria	6/26
Jean & Robert Hegner	6/10	Sanna & Darrel Bashor	6/30
Marianna Mikat-Stevens & Rom Stevens	6/13		

*Please contact the church office if any information is missing or incorrect.*

**Remember in Your Prayers**

Marvin Davis	Byron Loehman
Jamie Hankus	Kathy Loehman
Chuck Helms	Marion Randolph
Chuck Holloway	Beth Smidt
Barbara Loehman	Dee Wallace



## Mark Your Calendars

### Esther Bible Study continues — 7 PM on Wednesdays

At Lyonsville, led by Pastor Sean.

### Church Women United of LaGrange and Western Springs

#### May Friendship Day

#### Friday, May 4, 2018—Luncheon and Celebration

9:30 Bible Study

10:30 Celebration

11:30 Luncheon

At St. James Lutheran church

5129 Wolf Rd, Western Springs

Advance tickets necessary—cost \$7.00

Deadline—April 29

This year's theme is "Reaching for wholeness in gratitude for God's presence".

Contact: Wilma Mrazek for questions and tickets.

### A Healing Service

#### Sunday, May 6th, 6:00-6:30 PM Lyonsville Chapel

When you feel overwhelmed with health problems, bad news, relationship struggles, the Word of God can be your source of comfort, peace, hope, and healing. All are invited to come to our healing service on Sunday, May 6th from 6:00-6:30pm in the Lyonsville chapel for a short service, anointment, and laying on hands. For more information or if you have any questions, please see Pastor Sean or Laurie Tsukuno.

Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28.



**Mother's Day is May 13.**

### GAME NIGHT FRIDAY, MAY 18 6:30-9PM

Come out and join us for our any Game Night on Friday, May 18. ANY GAME! YOUR CHOICE! BRING YOUR FAVORITE GAME and snacks! Just come to laugh, play and enjoy great company. Invite friends and neighbors, too. We'll meet in Fellowship Hall from 6:30—9:00pm. Any question, see Laurie Tsukuno.



**Lyonsville's 175th Anniversary Celebration**  
**"I Love to Tell the Story"**  
**Sunday, May 20, 2018**

Our 175th anniversary is this month! Please plan to participate in the celebration as follows:

10:00-11:15am	Worship
11:30- 1:00pm	Brunch
1:30-3:00	Concert

Also, throughout the day view our historical artifacts/pictures and take a self directed cemetery tour. Tickets for the brunch are available to purchase after worship or contact Wilma Mrazek. Tickets must be paid for by 5/13 and tickets will NOT be sold at the door. Ticket prices:

Ages 12 to Adult	\$25.00
Children Ages 5-11	\$10.00
Children Under 5	Free

Let us celebrate our rich heritage and hopes for the future together!

The 175th Anniversary Committee

**MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE:** The American Legion will be commemorating Memorial Day with a brief ceremony at the flagpole in the northwest corner of the Lyonsville Cemetery on **Monday, May 28th** at approximately 10:00 am (though we know from previous years they have arrived as early as 9:30 and as late as 10:30). Lyonsville Cemetery Board members will have complimentary snacks and beverages available while you wait.

Lyonsville Cemetery holds special interest to the Legion as it is the resting place of more than 90 veterans with service ranging from the Civil War to the Vietnam War. Join the American Legion for this tribute to those who served our country in the armed forces!



**SAVE THE DATE - The Building & Grounds Board will host a summer church clean up day on Saturday, July 14** to work on projects around the church. Look for more details soon. If you have ideas for projects or want to volunteer particular skills, please contact Byron Loehman.

## News from The Pews



Join Pastor Sean at **Community Office Hours** Tuesdays from 2-4pm at the [Starbucks near Joliet & La Grange Road](#).

**Do you enjoy making repairs, painting, gardening, or other building & grounds work?** The Building and Grounds Ministry Board would love to hear from you, and help match the work you enjoy doing with our needs at Lyonsville. Reach out to board chair Tom McSweeney to let us know how you'd like to contribute.

**Pastoral Relations Committee Formed:** Did you know that Lyonsville Church now has a pastoral relations committee (or PRC for short)? A PRC works with the pastor to help the pastor and congregation maintain a healthy relationship. Karen Oberg chairs the PRC, and Melissa Corlett and Sherry Suomi are also members. If you have any thoughts about how to nurture a healthy relationship with Pastor Sean, feel free to reach out to him or any member of the PRC.

### PRAYER BOARD

A prayer board has been created/set up down in West Fellowship Hall. It's an additional way of asking for prayers. Just write out your prayer (it can be general or specific) on the paper that's provided and post it on the board. Your prayers will be kept up as long as you need it to be. Everyone is encouraged to look at the prayers requested, keep them in your hearts, and lift them up to God. For more information, please see Laurie Tsukuno/ Pastoral Care.

[Click here](#) to join the **new Facebook group** for members and friends of Lyonsville. This is a way for us to stay connected as a community, different from our [public page](#).



### PRAYING HANDS

Please help us send our "praying hands" to members and friends in need of God's healing and comfort. These hands are a reminder that our prayers are with them. All you need to do is trace the outline of your hand(s) on the piece of paper. All supplies are found in our Praying Hands box in Fellowship Hall. It is optional if you'd like to add: your name, a verse, or thought. Pastoral Care will then cut out the hands and mail them out. If you would like us to send out the praying hands to a particular person, please let Laurie Tsukuno know. Thank you for helping to send out God's love.

**Pastor Sean will be on vacation from May 10-16.** Rev. Gary Faleide is on call for pastoral care emergencies.

### **Lyonsville Prayer Chain- A supportive and meaningful ministry**

All are welcome to join our Prayer Chain (you do not need to be a member). A prayer chain is a specific type of prayer ministry. It consists of a group of people willing to take time to pray for a particular prayer request. You do not need any special talent or a lot of time. You don't need to attend any meeting. All you need to be able to do is - pray. If you are interested in joining or have questions, please see or email Laurie Tsukuno.

### **Finance and Budget News**

Glad to say things are progressing at the new F&B. New members include Bruce Cady, Linda Hankus and Robin Schuck. Starting May 1<sup>st</sup> Linda will be the new Treasurer and Robin the Assistant Treasurer.

Our new Bookkeeper Steve is setting up the accounts and we expect to have a beginning report in May.

We have also started moving the Endowments to Hinsdale Associates for professional financial advice.

Marcia and Gail continue to record and deposit the Sunday offering .

### **Bags of Blessings**

What do you do when you see a homeless person on the street asking for help? Look away? Give money? Do nothing? There's also another option, – give them a bag a blessing. Each (quart size) bag of blessing contains small items of non-perishable food, personal care items and a note of hope. If you are interested in helping to pack items, writing notes, or would like to purchase (for \$2.00) a bag of blessing, please see Laurie Tsukuno/ Pastoral Care. There are samples of these bags and a sign up sheet in Fellowship hall.

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## **Join Us**

**MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP** meets on the second Saturday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at [Willow Hills Restaurant](#), next to Walgreens at Joliet Rd. and Willow Springs Rd. in Indian Head Park. All men are welcome to join us for this chance to eat and talk! For more information contact Byron Loehman.

**WOMEN'S BABY BOOMER BUNCH (WBBB)** will meet for breakfast at [Willow Hills Restaurant](#) at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 5. They will also meet Saturday, June 2. All boomers and their friends are invited. Contact Judy Birmingham for more information.



## News From Your Mission Board

### GREATER CHICAGO FOOD DEPOSITORY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Please come join us to help volunteer at the Greater Chicago Food Depository (GCFD) on **Saturday, May 19**, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. We also go every Wednesday from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. For more information go to [www.chicagosfoodbank.org](http://www.chicagosfoodbank.org) or see/call Cindi Fiandaca or Judy Birmingham to sign up. The depository would like all volunteers to register in advance. Please use this link: [Greater Chicago Food Depository](#)



**Our May Mission project is to put together items that you would need for a kids birthday party** (i.e., cake mix, frosting, box of birthday candles, paper plates, paper napkins, party hats, etc.). We will put these in our own food pantry so our guests with children (or grandchildren) will be able to provide a cake for their birthday.

**Gift cards for Constance Morris House** - We have been in touch with the [Constance Morris House](#) and they are in need of gift cards for their residents. In particular, they would like Target, Walmart, Walgreens and gas cards. As we are currently processing orders through Manna, we thought this would be a good way to help out both the Constance Morris House and Lyonsville by purchasing gift cards through Manna. If you are interested and need an order form, please let one of us know. Orders are due by April 29 with a delivery date of May 6.

**Bibles for Angola** - Lyonsville made a donation of \$200 to the Illinois Conference Angola Partnership Team to purchase Bibles for the Evangelical Congregational Church in Angola. If you would like to make an individual contribution or find out more about this mission, you can do so here: <http://ilucc.org/angola-mission-and-partnership/>.

### LYONSVILLE CHURCH FOOD PANTRY

Come and help out at our own food pantry for just 45 minutes. It is on **Sundays from 11:30am to 12:15pm**. We would like to have two people there to help assist our guests/visitors during this time. You just need to help restock any food dropped off, check expiration dates, and help bag food. Please contact anyone on the Mission Ministry Board for May and June dates.





Thank you to all who participated in the mission project of filling the Easter eggs with money for Heifer International. We collected a total of \$116 which has been sent to Heifer International.

Thank you to Tom McSweeney and his crew for all their hard work, and for spreading mulch in front of the church. It looks great!

Thank you to all who donated food or money towards the Easter Ham dinners. We were able to provide 20 families with a dinner. We are still hearing from the families who received the dinners saying how thankful they are and appreciated receiving the food.

Thank you to all who donated canned goods to the End 68 Hours of Hunger program. The food we collected will be blessed by Pastor Sean during worship service on April 29th and then we will deliver it to the organizers of the program the following week.

Thank you to the following who went to Wheaton Academy on Sunday, April 22nd to help Willow Creek Community Church with their seed packing event: Laurie and Kay Tsukuno, Cindi Fiandaca, her mom, Judy Pedersen, her sisters Karen Urbanski, Sue Garcia and her niece Lauren Urbanski. These seed packs will be used to grow vegetable gardens and provide nourishment and sustainable income for families in Africa.

Thank you to all who donated to One Great Hour of Sharing, one of our 5 yearly offerings.

Thank you to all who participated in the craft Sunday (no-sew fleece blankets) on April 29th - a full report will appear in the June newsletter.

Thank you so much to everyone who helped make the installation service a wonderful and joyful occasion. Thanks especially to the Search Team both for coordinating the reception and for the gift of a beautiful portable Communion set. I feel tremendous love and support from Lyonsville - and I hope you feel the same from me.

In gratitude,  
Pastor Sean.

Thank you to Bruce Cady, Marianne Johnson, and Cindi Fiandaca for volunteering at the Greater Chicago Food Depository on April 21, 2018. We sorted and packed 11,418 pounds of potatoes.

Thank you to the following who went to Willow Creek church on Sunday, April 22nd to help with seed packing: Laurie and Kay Tsukuno, Wilma Mrazek, Nayna Byers, Cindi Fiandaca, her mom, Judy Petersen and her sister.

## Contact Lyonsville

The Good News is produced monthly, except for a combined July/August edition.

Please submit your articles to  
lyonsville@sbcglobal.net.

**The deadline for the next issue is May 20.**

Phone 708-246-1255  
Email Lyonsville@sbcglobal.net

Visit us on the web at  
[www.lyonsvillechurch.org](http://www.lyonsvillechurch.org)

Please return this form to update your contact information.

\_\_\_ Please correct the information on the mailing label.

\_\_\_ No thanks. Please remove from mailing list.

\_\_\_ I prefer email delivery. Here's my email address:

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### LYONSVILLE CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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