



The Linworth Link

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Linworth United Methodist Church

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Words from Pastor Rae Lynn

Thank you all for an October filled with activity, events, and great conversations. I want to give an update on the ministry of the Vision Strategy team. We have gathered information from you through a variety of channels. The Stewardship team launched a pilot project this fall inviting groups of persons to social gatherings to chat about the church, their personal experiences of Linworth UMC and what they would hope and dream for Linworth in the future. We gathered that information from 120 of you and it has become a part of the Vision Strategy team's information.

The Stewardship team learned a lot about how to do these social events better. Next year we will make this a church wide event. We want to thank all those who took on the challenge to host an event and those who participated. This is a great way to connect all of us, as well as a great way to gather the thoughts and insights of the congregation.

In late September, we sent an e-mail out to all of you who have e-mail asking you to respond to questions around vision, hopes and dreams. A few folks took on the challenge and responded back. We wanted to involve the entire faith community. We know that often as a lead group moves into a visioning process, the rest of the church may feel left out of the process. So, we invited you to have stake in this process. We have all of your comments on a spread sheet. Thank you for participating. Periodically we will share with you the data, seek your response and to continue to glean your reflections.

The vision strategy team meets monthly. In our October meeting we forged a framework for 3 vision strategies for our congregation. The top three vision strategies focus on congregational spiritual health, creating a congregation that reflects the diversity of our neighborhood, and continuing to grow our already stellar mission and outreach ministry.

Often times what we receive from people are goals instead of visions which are the things that we would like to see happen in our church. Here are a few of the most common goals submitted:

- Development of small groups, discipleship groups, study groups, shepherding groups where families consider their church community their primary means of support and friendship. This idea of small groups was offered more than seven times.
- Debt retirement and a building program for a multi-purpose/gym.
- Be better at welcoming new persons, getting them involved and adding them to the family.

November Worship Schedule

**1 - 22nd Sunday after
Pentecost**
All Saints Day
Holy Communion
Daylight Saving Time ends
8:45 a.m.—Traditional
10:15 a.m.—Contemporary
11:30 a.m.—Traditional

**8 - 23rd Sunday after
Pentecost**
8:45 a.m.—Traditional
10:15 a.m.—Contemporary
11:30 a.m.—Traditional

**15 - 24th Sunday after
Pentecost**
8:45 a.m.—Traditional
10:15 a.m.—Contemporary
11:30 a.m.—Traditional

**22 - Last Sunday after
Pentecost**
3rd Grade Bible Sunday
8:45 a.m.—Traditional
10:15 a.m.—Contemporary
11:30 a.m.—Traditional

29—1st Sunday of Advent
8:45 a.m.—Traditional
10:15 a.m.—Contemporary
11:30 a.m.—Traditional

(Continued on back page)



Small Groups

Between the Lines: Contact: Faye Black

If you love to read fiction and would like to talk about books with other fiction lovers, plan to join the Between the Lines book club. Our next meeting is **Wednesday, Nov 11** at 7:00 p.m. in room 226. We will meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, except September, December, June, July and August. The book chosen for November is *Pretense* by Lori Wick.

Bridge Club: Contact: Linda Kemp

Bridge Club will meet on **Friday, Nov 6** at 8:00 p.m. Linworth Bridge Club is looking for new members who like to play bridge, make new friends, and have an all around good time. Our meetings are usually the 1st Friday of the month at 8:00 p.m. (with a few exceptions caused by holidays). We meet in the homes of members.

Building Nesters: Contact: Sara Schwanzl

Join us on **Nov 5 & 19**, the group will meet for Bible study from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in room 228. Our social event is TBA.

Closer Walk Class: Contact: Janet Blocher

This discussion based class meets at 9:00 a.m. Sunday mornings in room 225. It is designed to give adults who typically attend the Contemporary Worship Service an opportunity to develop a closer spiritual walk.

Dining Disciples: Contacts: Marlene Goodenow/Karen Stahle/Sally Moser/Julie Yeater

For fun and fellowship, join Dining Disciples. Groups of singles and married couples meet in homes or restaurants for a meal about 4 times a year. What a great way to get to know each other. To sign up, call a contact.

Hand and Foot Card Club: Contact: Jean Balsler

The Club will meet on **Friday, Nov 6** at 7:00 p.m. in the Library. Join this fun bunch for an evening of fellowship and laughter while playing cards. Bring a snack to share.

HomeBuilders: Contact: Mary Torok

This group is part of the *Making Love Last a Lifetime* study. The class continues on Sundays through **November 22** in room 210.

IMPACT Service Group: Contact: Becki Hollenbaugh

IMPACT is a service group that meets with residents at Claremont Retirement Village. Join them at 7:30 p.m. on **Wednesdays, Nov 11 & 25.**

In Daily Places: Contact: Debby Fuller

Ladies: Join "In Daily Places" as we begin our new study of *Catching Fireflies: Teaching Your Heart to See God's Light Everywhere*, by best-selling author and "Women of Faith" speaker, Patsy Clairmont. We will meet this month on **Mondays, Nov 9 & 23** in room 226. Call with questions.

Keen Adult Bible Study: Contact: Bob Jacobson

This Sunday morning Sunday School class meets at 10:00 a.m. in room 136 of the Fellowship Hall.

LinWomen Online: Contact: Sharon Valade

A virtual community of Linworth Women who are able to share using modern technology. Call Sharon to sign up and get logged on.

Men's Before-Work Spiritual Sharing Group:

Contact: Mike Smeltzer

The Men's Breakfast Group normally meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday mornings at First Watch Restaurant. Join them on **Nov 10 & 24** at 7:00 a.m.

Mom's Book Study: Contact: Julie Yeater

This is a book study for moms of all ages! Our book for this fall is "The Sister Circle Handbook: Discover the Joy of Friendship" by Nancy Moser and Brenda Josee. Normally we meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursday evenings of each month, however because of Thanksgiving we'll only meet on **Nov 12** at 6:30 p.m.

MOPS (Mothers Of PreSchoolers):

Contacts: Holly Meister & Andrea Orofino

MOPS is a Christian group for mothers with children ages birth through kindergarten. Our November meeting dates are **Nov 9 & 23. CHILDCARE VOLUNTEERS** are needed!!!! MOPS is in need of volunteers for one or two Mondays a month from 9:00 a.m. - noon. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Holly or Andrea.

Peace in the House: Contact: Shelley Burton

This group supports you finding and maintaining peace with yourself, peace with God, and peace with others. Meet with us on **Wednesdays, Nov 4 & 18** at 6:30 p.m. in the Library.

Sensational Older Singles (SOS):

Contact: Lois Gifford

Call Lois to find out what this group is planning.

Searchers: Contact: Doug Stahle

Meets in the Fellowship Hall (room 128) at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings for thought provoking and stimulating discussion on a number of religious issues.

Shawl Ministry: Contacts: Marilyn Pohlman/Jean Davidson

More than 230 shawls already have been presented to those in pain. Call a contact to become involved.

Stephen Ministry: Contact: Sandy Apicella

Meet **Tuesdays, Nov 3 & 17** at 7:00 p.m. in the Library.

Thursday Morning Bible Study: Contact: Maxine Bartelt

As a study guide we'll use the booklet, "The Fruit of the Spirit" by Sewart Brisco. Visitors are always welcome. Extra booklets are available. Leadership (in the absence of their regular leader, Lillian Payne) is shared by the members. Visitors always welcome!

Women's Bible Study: Contact: Jeanne Byers

Join us as we continue our study entitled "Women at Midlife: Embracing the Challenges." Midlife is a time of transitions. Thankfully, the Bible provides principles and guidance for dealing with challenges and difficult times - midlife included. In this study, you will tap into that wisdom and learn how you can experience God's grace today and move forward with confidence. Join us as we meet in room 210 at 10:00 a.m.

PLEASE NOTE:

If you need a phone number or email for a contact person for an event or group, please contact the church office (336-8485).

Children's Ministry at Linworth



Do you have a child who needs to be baptized?

Need to be baptized yourself?

Join us for our next Baptism Sunday on **December 20**. A class for parents will be offered on **Sunday, December 13** from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Registration forms are located in the church office. Contact Mary Torok (336-8485) for more information.

Third Grade Bibles

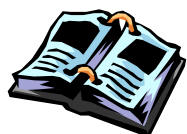
Bibles will be handed out to our awesome third graders on **November 22**. Parents, please watch the mail for a letter concerning this in early November. Contact Mary Torok (336-8485) for more information.

Club 56 News

Club 56, a group especially for youth in grades 5 and 6, will meet on **Sunday, November 1** from 6:11 (as in Ephesians 6:11) until 8:00 p.m. at The Worthington Rec Center. They will gather again at Linworth on **Sunday, November 15** from 6:11 - 8:00 p.m. Friends are always welcome! Questions? Call Jenifer Wynne or Julie Ricketts.

Family Advent Festival

Linworth's Annual Family Advent Festival will happen on **Saturday, December 5** from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Join us for a hot breakfast, crafts, a mission project, a puppet show, and a visit from a jolly old elf! Tickets are \$5/person or \$15/family and scholarship money is available. Tickets go on sale later this month. Interested in volunteering for this exciting morning of ministry, see Mary Torok or sign up outside the Worship Center later this month. Questions? Call Mary at 336-8485.



Pastors' Hospital Visitation Schedules

Pastor Rae Lynn Schleif: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday & Sunday

Pastor Gene Folden: Monday, Wednesday & Friday

Pastor Jeffery Dunn: Available upon request

As always, contact the church office (336-8485) with any pastoral needs.

Do You Have an Aging Parent?

We are exploring the possibility of forming a new group to support and educate those who are dealing with an aging parent. If you are interested in participating, if you want to be part of the visioning process, or if you have skills to offer, please contact Mary Torok at 336-8485.



Membership News

Births:

Andrew Thomas Beymer
Rylie Christine Kuhn

Deaths: Kathryn Sharon

Lonely? Sad? Discouraged?



Going through a tough time—emotionally or spiritually? Struggling with a crisis in life? Or simply feeling down?

Consider letting a Stephen Minister help. A Stephen Minister is a member of our congregation who is trained to listen, care, encourage, pray, and walk alongside you during difficult times. It's confidential, free, and very helpful.

To learn more, talk with a pastor or Sandy Apicella.

Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

— Galatians 6:2

Our Stephen Ministers are there to care!

X TREME IMPACT

Youth News
from Seth Rowe (406-9234)

November Dates
1—Regular Schedule
8—Regular Schedule
13-15—Retreat at Camp Akita
22—Middle School: Regular
High School: Bowling offsite
29—No Xtreme Impact

Regular Schedule:
Middle School: 5:00 - 6:15 p.m.
High School: 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Check the youth website for our fall calendar!
<http://www.lumcym.blogspot.com>



Preaching Texts for November

November 1 - Dr. Gene Folden
John 11:32-44

November 8 – Pastor Rae Lynn Schleif
Mark 12:38-44

November 15 - Pastor Jeffery Dunn

November 22 - Pastor Rae Lynn Schleif
Revelation 1:4-8

November 29 - Pastor Rae Lynn Schleif
Luke 21:25-36
I Thessalonians 3:9-13

Have You Noticed?

We give special thanks and recognition to the following creative artists for sharing their artistic ability to enhance the décor in our Worship Center. Jan Elliott - who designed and made the hanging banners depicting the waters of baptism that flow from the cross out to and through all of us. Marilyn Cook and Sandy McCall - for designing and making paraments for the Communion table and lectern, and stoles for the pastors to match the hanging banners.



Linworth Campers

Watch for details about the winter planning dinner.

Contact:
Sharon McManis

If you would like a complete schedule, contact Sharon McManis.



**Daylight Saving Time ends
November 1, 2009**

Fall back one hour!

Mission Board Meeting: Contact: Sondie Schwotzer
First Monday of every month. Next meeting is **November 2** at 7:00 p.m. in room 210.

Evening Circle: Contacts: Linda Holloway & Kathy Balakrishnan
Third Monday evening of every month. Join us on **November 16** at 7:30 p.m. in the Gathering Area.

Fellowship Day Circle: Contacts: Nancy Zimmerman & Marlene Heltzel
Second Tuesday morning of every month. **November 10** at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

MOPS: Contacts: Holly Meister & Andrea Orofino
Meets the second and fourth Monday mornings. Join us on **November 9 & 23** in the Worship Center from 9:30—11:30 a.m.

Service Circle: Contact: Lea Elshoff
Circle will meet Friday morning **November 20** at 9:30 a.m. for sandwich making in the Church Kitchen for Faith Mission.

Thank Offerings To Be Given

If you have not yet completed your pledge to missions for 2009 we respectfully ask that you do this before the end of the year. Please contact Kathy Bell with any questions. During November we will be sharing our Thank Offering Services.

It's THE most WONDERFUL time of the year!

The **7th Annual Christmas Cookie Sale** will be Saturday morning, **December 5** from 8:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m. We will have sign-ups throughout the month of November for both bakers and helpers. This is one fun, busy activity that brings us all together to raise money for missions: locally, nationally, and internationally. *You are asked to bring your cookies to Church on Friday, December 4.* Feel free to stay a while; work with us for an hour or so. Contact: Jean Davidson (jeandavidson@nremt.org). Be a missionary...Bake, Bake, Bake and Pray, Pray, Pray!

MISSION PROJECT HELP

During the month of NOVEMBER we are collecting new and gently used hats, caps, gloves and mittens for New Life UMC. Our collection of used postage stamps, Campbell's Soup Labels, used reading glasses, and pop can tabs is continuous! Please note; our colorful three-drawer container for these items has been removed. You are now asked to place all of these items in the UMW – Club 56 Cupboard opposite the Church Office, or they may be brought to any Circle or Board meeting. Thank you for your ongoing support,

Make Holiday Plans Now

Mark your calendars and join us for our **Annual Christmas Party on Tuesday evening December 8.** Join us for Faith, Fellowship & Fun, in the Worship Center and Fellowship Hall. We are pleased to have guest speaker Julie Fritz-Bergman to present "Let's Go Over to Bethlehem." As is our usual custom, we shall be collecting layette items for Church Women United.



A Group For Young Adults

(students, young working adults,
young marrieds and singles)

Join us for FUN!

For more information and to be added to the list-serv, please email Angela Pucher at linworthfusion@gmail.com.

Linworthys News
(the 55 and over group)
Contacts: Doug Stahle & Joe Strickland

Note Date Change to Third Tuesday

The next meeting on **Tuesday, November 17** at 11:30 a.m. is a celebration of both Thanksgiving and Christmas as in December we are not meeting at church. We feel sure you will enjoy the program that is still in the planning stages. **AND--A COMPLIMENTARY LUNCH WILL BE SERVED.** Keep in mind this is one week before Thanksgiving.

Our menu follows:

A turkey dinner with dressing, mashed potatoes, carrots, sweet potatoes, and a pumpkin dessert. So come, enjoy as we give thanks for our blessings, as well as praising God for the birth of our Lord, Jesus! Thanks be to God.

Dinner Theatre Trip Planned

Join us for our December trip to La Comedia Dinner Theatre in Springboro, Ohio, 5 minutes from the Dayton Mall. The date for our trip is **Friday, December 18**. The stage show is titled "Christmas Spectacular." The cost of \$60.00 per person includes transportation, lunch and stage show. For more details and reservations call Donna Hughes, and then mail or give check payable to: Linworthys, to George Bilderback. Many of us have made this trip in the past and found that we certainly got our money's worth, the trip on the bus is great for fellowship, the food and folks serving lunch are excellent, and always an enjoyable stage show with talented actors. Make your reservations early--let's fill the bus--all 46 seats!! We leave the church at 8:30 a.m. and arrive back at 4:30 p.m.



Get Involved with Social Concerns

Thanks to all who made the **Garage Sale** another great success! Many hands put in many hours of work and we appreciate it. You will be rewarded in Heaven! Thank you, Esther & Denny.

Social Concerns
Contact: Esther Hunter

The November **Scioto Ridge Job Networking Group** will meet on **Tuesdays, November 3 & 17** at 6:30 p.m. If you are searching for a job or thinking about changing careers, please feel free to come. For information, call Sue Kuhn.

The **Open Shelter** meal will be prepared on **Tuesday, November 10** at 8:00 a.m. If you can help, call Roy & Arlean Sudhoff.

The **Rebecca's House** meal will be prepared on **Tuesday, November 10** at 11:00 a.m. We will deliver and serve the meal at 4:30 p.m. If you would like to help serve, call Celeste Thomas.

The next **Red Cross Blood Drive** will be held on **Saturday, November 21**. Please donate the gift of life. Looking for information? Call Esther Hunter.

The **Community Thanksgiving Dinner** will be on **Thursday, November 26** from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. (Please note time change.) All are welcome to join us for food, fun, and fellowship. The church will provide turkey, gravy and beverages. You may sign up to bring a vegetable, potato, casserole, salad or dessert. Check with Esther Hunter for additional information.

The **Adopt-A-Family** ministry will begin on **Sunday, November 29** and continue thru distribution on **Monday, December 21**. If you would like to help, please call Donna Hughes or Virginia Brizendine.

(If you have questions regarding items of Social Concern, please contact Esther Hunter.)



Thanksgiving Offering Dedicated

During our family gatherings at Thanksgiving dinners, we celebrate our good fortune of supportive families and material abundance. As you think about your great good fortune please ponder those who struggle on a daily basis. The Thanksgiving Offering will give you a tangible way to share with those who struggle. This year we will support the following mission projects and others with your generous gifts:

Grace Hospital in Haiti

Haiti is the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere. One out of every eight children in Haiti will not live to see their fifth birthday because a preventable disease will claim their precious, young lives. It was this unjust circumstance that led Jim and Virginia Snavley to sell their farm in Indiana, move to Haiti and open Grace Children's Hospital for children with tuberculosis in 1967. Since then, International Child Care's programs in Haiti have expanded to include a variety of community-based health services, and our focus has shifted toward preventive care, health education, and other projects that target the root causes of sickness and suffering.

Methodist Theological School in Ohio

Ten miles north of Columbus, the Methodist Theological School in Ohio opened its doors in 1960 to prepare leaders to engage the church and the world in leadership and service. Grounded in our Wesleyan tradition, it is a center for rigorous theological inquiry, spiritual formation and professional development which is rooted in the scriptures and traditions of the Christian faith. It prepares skilled, passionate transformational leaders for churches, religious institutions, emerging faith communities, and the wider world. Today, Methodist Theological School in Ohio enrolls over 250 students in four Master's degree programs and a Doctor of Ministry degree program. The program central to the School's identity, the Master of Divinity program, enrolls the largest number of students, but Counseling Ministries, Christian Education and Youth Ministry, and Theological Studies have seen enrollments climb.

Donations for New Life Church Needed

Daily living items we take for granted are a struggle for families that depend on the services of New Life United Methodist Church. The Church is having trouble getting enough donations of toothpaste, towels, and blankets to meet the need. Please help fill this gap. Please leave toothpaste, towels, and blankets in the New Life section of the cabinets by the south entrance across from the church office.

Christmas is Just Around the Corner

Even as we still anticipate Thanksgiving, Christmas is just around the corner. The Mission Committee will begin the Advent Season by selling Alternative Gifts. With Alternative Gifts you make a donation to commemorate your friends and loved ones. Proceeds from Alternative Gifts will support the Heifer International Project or New Life Church. The Committee will sell Alternative Gifts from **November 29** through **December 20**. Honor someone on your Christmas list with a "donation" gift of hats and gloves (for New Life Church) or various farm animals and trees (for Heifer International). Look for our table in the hallway between Sunday services starting November 29.

The following note was received by the church office:

"I would like to thank everyone who has made and donated the beautiful Tab Tie Baby Blankets. So far this year, we have donated 86 blankets! These blankets are distributed through Church Women United who make up "Layette Kits" for needy mothers in Franklin County. Although the kits are what we would call "the bare minimum" these mothers leave the hospital with enough products to keep their infants cozy, comfy and nourished. Please be assured that a mother and baby is feeling your love and prayers in the softness and warmth of these blankets. Don't forget it only takes one yard of Baby Fleece plus an hour of your time, a good pair of scissors and a loving heart. For a pattern or more information please contact me at (614) 785-1618.

THANK YOU,
Jean Davidson"



Linworth United Methodist Church
7070 Bent Tree Blvd.
Columbus, Ohio 43235

Creating Community
Growing in Christ
Serving the World

**Sunday Morning
Worship
Opportunities**

8:45 Traditional
10:15 Contemporary
11:30 Traditional

(Continued from front page)



Upcoming Events

Nov 1—Daylight Saving Time ends
All Saints Day
Nov 3—Church Conference at Powell UMC
Nov 13 & 14—Our Linworth Children's
Center Gift & Craft Fest from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Nov 13-15—Youth Retreat @ Camp Akita
Nov 21—Red Cross Blood Drive
Nov 22—Third Grade Bible Sunday
Nov 26—Thanksgiving Community Dinner
Nov 29—First Sunday of Advent
Dec 5—UMW Annual Christmas Cookie Sale
Family Advent Festival

- Create a compelling place of worship through music, ministry and messages that encourage us to live the Word.

Our next step will be giving wording to the three vision strategies and then developing the appropriate goals and objectives to make the vision strategy a reality. As we create more of the details, we will keep you informed and enlist your participation. These are exciting days for our church. We thought you would like to know where God is leading us.

In ministry together,

Rae Lynn