



# The Linworth Link

Volume 18, Issue 8

August 2011

## Linworth United Methodist Church

7070 Bent Tree Blvd.  
Columbus, OH 43235

Phone:

614-336-8485

Fax:

614-336-8486

www.

linworthumc.org

## From the Desk of Pastor Rae Lynn

I give thanks for all of you who are a part of this incredible congregation. We are having a wonderful summer and that is because of your gifts and your love for your church.

Thank you for a successful debt-reduction campaign. Together we have pledged over the next three years \$530,000. Our goal was \$500,000 and in the words of Tracy Hiltz, "Goal exceeded!" This means that as we give over these next three years, and indeed meet the amount we have committed, we will reduce the \$1,480,000 to less than half. I am deeply appreciative of your generosity. I am grateful for a debt-reduction team who made it seem so simple to get the job done!

As I write this article, Vacation Bible School is in full swing and the church is filled with "PandaMania!" This year, Alisha, our Children's Director and Beth, our Children's Coordinator made a strategic decision to split the sessions. In the past we had a morning and an evening VBS, and the total number of children participating was 250 to 280. This year we held a morning session VBS of

pre-school to Kindergarten and an afternoon VBS for children who have completed Kindergarten through grade six. Well, I am pleased to share that for our pre-school group we have 120 children and for our elementary group, 240 children, which means we have 100 more children at VBS this year! Thank you teachers, helpers, snack and craft persons, guides, support staff, Children's Center staff and more! Thank you to some of our youth, who just after their mission trip, are taking more of their summer to serve others in the church. I did notice you, and my heart was warmed. Thank you Linworth for purchasing snacks and supplies. I overheard two teen helpers, young men age 15 and 16, talking positively about *their* VBS experience at Linworth years ago. We are making a difference in these young lives.

I have enjoyed the two week preaching series I did on generations and ancestors and I have you to thank for sending me stories of your genealogy. The stories were fun and serious, engaging and revealing. The message would not have been as

interesting without your input. Thank you for responding when I invited you to share. For those who may have missed this series, you can go onto the Linworth website and listen to any of the pastor's sermons.

We have had a number of deaths this summer and I am thankful for our Bereavement Team who offer gentle and healing hospitality after the service to the family. Following their ministry, Stephen Ministers are often assigned to the spouse who is still living to walk with that person during the first year of all the loneliness and change. I am thankful and my heart is lightened when I know that these persons are not alone-our church is present in their lives. Thank you to our Pastor Gene who officiates many of these celebrations of life. He knows their stories and honors their memory.

Seth and Ryan had our youth on a mission trip through Cedarville College. Each day the youth went out to serve in the community, two days in nursing homes and one day in a pregnancy

(continued on back page)

**August  
Worship Schedule**  
**7—8th Sunday after  
Pentecost**  
**Holy Communion**  
Rev. Rae Lynn Schleif  
8:45 a.m.—Traditional  
10:15 a.m.—Contemporary  
11:30 a.m.—Traditional  
**14—9th Sunday after  
Pentecost**  
Rev. Rae Lynn Schleif  
8:45 a.m.—Traditional  
10:15 a.m.—Contemporary  
11:30 a.m.—Traditional  
**21—10th Sunday after  
Pentecost**  
Rev. Rae Lynn Schleif  
8:45 a.m.—Traditional  
10:15 a.m.—Contemporary  
11:30 a.m.—Traditional  
**28—11th Sunday after  
Pentecost**  
Rev. Jeffery Dunn  
8:45 a.m.—Traditional  
9:45 a.m. Brunch Bunch  
10:15 a.m.—Contemporary  
11:30 a.m.—Traditional  
New Member Sunday  
Baptism Sunday



## Adult Small Groups

**Bridge Club:** Contact: Byrdie Lorenz

Bridge Club will meet on **August 5** at 8:00 p.m. in members homes. Call Byrdie for information.

**Building Nesters:** Contacts: Shawn & Amy Brown

We will meet this month on **Thursday, August 4** at 6:30 p.m. Meals On Wheels delivery is **Saturday, August 6**. Later in the month (Day TBD) there's a Social event. Call a contact for details.

**Closer Walk Class:** Contact: Janet Blocher

The Closer Walk Class meets Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in room 225. If you have decided to develop a "Closer Walk" with God, this class is for you! The Closer Walk Class also undertakes service projects and has fellowship opportunities throughout the year. Check us out! We'd love to have you.

**Dining Disciples:** Contacts: Marlene Goodenow/Karen Stahle/Sally Moser

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.

**Hand and Foot Card Club:**

Contact: Jean Balsler  
The group usually meets the first Friday of each month. Next meeting is **August 5**. Call Jean Balsler for details.

**IMPACT Service Group:** Contact: Becki Hollenbaugh  
IMPACT is a service group that meets with residents at Claremont Retirement Village. Join them on **Wednesdays, August 10 & 24** at 7:30 p.m.

**Keen Adult Bible Study:** Contact: Bob Jacobson  
Join them in the Fellowship Hall (room 136) at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings.

**LinWomen Online:** Contact: Sharon Valade

This is an online group for women to chat, encourage, and share spiritual concerns with other busy women. You can write as much as you want, respond to others, give new information, and share joys and concerns.

**Linworth Campers:**

Contacts: Ian & Jean Davidson  
Camping dates are: **August 4-7, & 19-21**. See article on page 6 for details.

**Men's Before-Work Spiritual Sharing Group:**

Contact: Mike Smeltzer  
The Men's Breakfast Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday mornings at First Watch Restaurant at 7:00 a.m. We are taking a summer hiatus. Join us on **Tuesday, September 13**.

**Mom's Study:** Contact: Terese Loudner

We're taking some time off this summer. Contact Terese for September dates. Childcare is available.

**MOPS (Mothers Of PreSchoolers):** (A Christian group for mothers with children ages birth through kindergarten) Contacts: Diane Hamilton & Maria Del Regno. Join us in September when we start up again.

**Peace in the House:** Contact: Shelley Burton

This group supports you finding and maintaining peace with yourself, peace with God, and peace with others. Group normally meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Library. The group is taking a break over the summer months. Check the September calendar for fall start up dates.

**Searchers:** Contact: Doug Stahle  
Meets in the Fellowship Hall (room 138) 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 260 shawls already have been presented to those in pain. You don't have to knit to be involved. Call a contact to get connected.

**Stephen Ministry:** Contact: Sandy Apicella

We meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays. July meetings are **August 2 & 16** at 7:00 p.m. in the Library and room 225.

**Thursday Morning Bible Study:**

Contact: Lea Elshoff  
The Thursday morning Bible Study meets each week September thru May at 10:00 a.m. in room 210. See you in September!

**Women's Bible Study:** Contact:

Jeanne Byers  
Come, join us Sunday mornings at 10:00 in room 210 to grow spiritually with other women.

**Note: Please call ahead regarding meeting dates and times, some groups are taking breaks over the summer months.**

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

---

**Pastors' Hospital Visitation Schedules**  
**Pastor Rae Lynn Schleif:**

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday

**Pastor Gene Folden:**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

**Pastor Jeffery Dunn:**

Sunday

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

## Children's News

Alisha Meacham

(ameacham@linworthumc.org)

Director of Children's Ministries,  
LUMC



### PandaMania—What A Fun, Spirit-filled Week!!

Many thanks to all who volunteered in any way to make our VBS week so special. Your willingness to share your time and talents is a blessing to Linworth UMC.

Put July 16-20, 2012 on your calendar.

See you all next year!!



### Sunday School: It's Fun To Learn About Jesus!!!



## Membership Care News

Brian Gath, Associate Pastor

### Discover Linworth on August 14 or 21

If you've been part of Linworth United Methodist Church for a few weeks, a few months or even longer, you may be ready to "Discover Linworth." In one afternoon you will: get to know our staff over lunch, learn more about what United Methodists believe, discover how this congregation strives to live out those beliefs and hear how you can join with us as together we seek to grow closer to Christ. Join us either: **Sunday, August 14** from 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. or **Sunday, August 21** from 12:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Childcare is available upon request.

Reserve your spot today!  
Contact Brian Gath  
(bgath@linworthumc.org).

### Be baptized August 28

If you would like to be baptized or if you would like to have your child baptized, please plan to attend "A Study of Baptism" on **Sunday, August 14** at 11:30 a.m. This one hour class will help prepare you to participate in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on August 28.

To reserve your spot, contact  
Alisha Meacham  
(amecham@linworthumc.org).

## Youth News

Seth Rowe

(srowe@linworthumc.org)

Director of Youth Ministries

Summer is here and our schedule is changing. Check out the youth website:

(<http://lumcym.blogspot.com/>)  
for details on upcoming events.

## From the Stewardship Committee

Scott Saffell, Chair

The 2011 Stewardship Campaign is almost here! For the third year, we will continue the Stewardship gatherings in members' homes. Over 30 couples are opening their homes to members, attenders and guests, (those very new to our congregation) for an exciting and joyful time of sharing and laughing. We have it all planned out for you. Yes, we will update you on the status of the debt retirement process. And we will hand to you your Every One In Ministry packet, but mostly we will build fellowship and community. We are excited about connecting to one another and connecting each other to the Linworth faith community!

We will communicate the various aspects of the program to you in many different ways....with articles in the *Link*, on bulletin boards, at the Ministry Fair, (where there will be informational booths and table displays set up for many of our ministries) and through a sermon series called "The Five Practices of Healthy Congregations." (A book will be available for your purchase if you wish to study along.)

We are thankful for the many persons who have signed up to host a Stewardship Gathering in their home, a dinner or dessert, coffee or tea. Sign-up sheets will be posted on the bulletin board by the Church office beginning on **August 7** and running past Labor Day for any and all who wish to attend. The Gatherings will be held beginning September 6 and conclude by October 9, 2011. We hope that all of you will take the opportunity to get to know others in the Church more closely through these events. Sign-up and enjoy your Linworth family.



## Linworth Children's Center

www.linworthcc.org

- Spots still available in...
- ⇒ Full Day Kindergarten
  - ⇒ Full Day Program
  - ⇒ Part Day Program

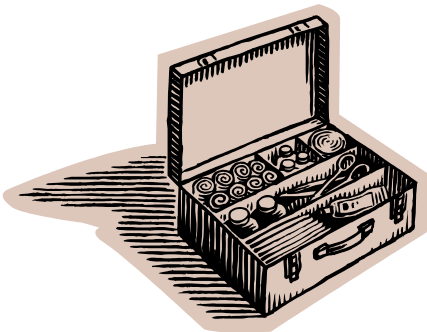
Call 614-336-9559 for a tour or more information.

Remember summer is here. Watch for children playing on the playgrounds. Keep in mind that the barriers may be set up for the safety of the children. Have a safe summer!

### Safety Fact of the Month

#### Do You Know the Answer?

It is YES! We do have an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) unit in the building (thank you First Aid Kit Team). Please make sure you know the location of this device should you ever need to use it (find it in the lobby area near the main hallway). A brief demo will be playing in the lobby near the AED unit to help familiarize you with the ease of its use. Training will be offered for CPR and AED use this fall. Watch for more information.



## Linworthys News (the 55 and over group) Contact: Doug Stahle

Our meeting on **Tuesday, August 23** at 11:30 a.m. is a POTLUCK LUNCHEON. BBQ chicken breasts and dessert provided. Please bring a side dish (vegetable, salad, etc.) to share and your own table service. Cost is \$2.00 each. You will not want to miss our new and very original program. David Schnaidt, who has an auction business in Newark will be our speaker. He desires to talk to us about how to downsize our belongings as we consider moving to smaller quarters. Even if we decide to stay in our current homes, this meeting may help us to unload some items that we no longer use. More space and less cleaning!! So come for an interesting and informative session. For those of you who are not members of the Linworthy group and desire to visit or become part of this group--call Mary Lu Webster --telephone contact chair. "Oh, the fun of going to a Linworthys' meeting, and feeling the spark that tells you that you are going to have a good time." (This quote from the front of our membership book.)

#### LINWORTHYS CAN HELP--

Please consider bringing items to the **Tuesday, August 23** meeting for the UMC Food Pantry. Needed are--peanut butter, crackers of all types, soups with meat, such as vegetable, chicken noodle, etc. Shampoo, face soap, toilet paper etc. Thanks.



## Get Involved with Social Concerns

**Social Concerns**  
Contact: Esther Hunter

⇒ The Open Shelter Meal will be prepared beginning at 8:00 a.m. on **Tuesday, August 9** in the church kitchen. If you can help contact Roy & Arlean Sudhoff.

- ⇒ The Rebecca's House meal will be prepared at 11:00 a.m. on **Tuesday, August 9** in the church kitchen. Call Roy & Arlean Sudhoff if you need information. If you would like to help serve the meal, contact Celeste Thomas.
- ⇒ The next Brunch Bunch will be **Sunday, August 28** Come and join us for the food, fellowship and fun from 9:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Remember to invite someone new to sit with you!



#### Want To Lend A Hand?

Short term Mission Projects are being planned for weekends beginning in September. If you're interested, please call Esther Hunter.





**Contact:**  
**Angela Pucher**

linworthfusion@gmail.com

**A Group for Young Adults**

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

We are a community of Young Adults encouraging one another to grow in our relationship with Jesus Christ, living out our faith by serving others with the love of Jesus Christ. Contact Angela (linworthfusion@gmail.com) for a summer schedule.

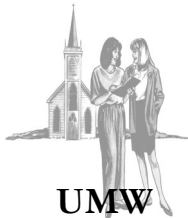


**Stephen Ministers Are There to Care**

Are you going through a difficult time--emotionally, spiritually, or relationally? Are you lonely, experiencing a crisis, or simply stressed by everyday life? You don't have to suffer alone. Our Stephen Ministers are trained caregivers, ready to listen, care for and encourage you, pray with and for you, and provide confidential one-to-one Christian care to help you through whatever it is that you are facing. To find out more, talk with Sandy Apicella, Janet Enck, Cheryn Houston or Pastor Rae Lynn.

**Building Hours**

Please note that the building will be locking doors at 8:00 p.m. Monday—Friday, and will only be unlocked from 9:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m. on Saturday. Please adjust your schedule accordingly.



**UMW Women's Ministries**

**Mission Board Meeting**

Contact: Sue Gabel  
First Monday of every month. Next meeting is **Sept. 5** at 7:00 p.m.

**Evening Circle**

Contacts: Linda

Higgins & Sue Bowen  
Meets the third Monday evening of every month at 7:00 p.m. Regular meetings resume **September 19** with a sing-along with Norma Hoag and Julie Slonecker. Join us **Saturday, August 27** for our Summer Retreat on Haiti.

**Fellowship Day Circle**

Contacts: Nancy Zimmerman & Mary Lynn Jacobson

Normally meets the second Tuesday of every month at the church, 9:30 a.m. Join us **Saturday, August 27** at 9:00 a.m. for our Summer Retreat on Haiti, and on **Monday, September 19** at 7:00 p.m. Join us for an evening meeting and a sing-along with Norma Hoag and Julie Slonecker.

**MOPS**

Contacts: Diane Hamilton & Maria Del Regno  
Begins in September This is a time to rejuvenate and reconnect with other moms on the second and fourth Mondays of the month, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. at the church.

**September dates are 12 & 26.**

Child care is provided.

**Linwomen Online**

Contacts: Sharon Valade & Karen Wood

This is an online group for women to chat, encourage, and share spiritual concerns with other busy women. You can write as much as you want, respond to others, give new information, and share joys and concerns. Join us **August 27** for our Summer Retreat on Haiti.

**Service Circle**

Contact: Lea Elshoff  
Fourth Friday morning of the month. Sandwich making in the church kitchen for Faith Mission. Join us on **August 26** at 9:30 a.m.

**Mission Project Help**

During the month of August we are collecting towels, washcloths, and dishcloths for New Life UMC. Our collection of used postage stamps, Campbell's Soup labels, used reading glasses, and pop can tabs is continuous! Please 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.

**UMW SUMMER RETREAT**

**Saturday, August 27**

**9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

Come and learn about the progress that is being made in Haiti. We'll hear from Peggy Burke, a member of the Mount Olivet Baptist Church here in Columbus. Peggy was in Haiti right after the earthquake and has made several trips there since. She just returned from there at the end of June.





## Linking Linworth With Laos

**A vision comes to reality.** In the eyes of Laotian villagers in

Odomxai Province on the Mekong River a miracle has happened. Where there was once an impassable muddy cliff in the rainy season stands a staircase that permits easy passage from the village to the river in all seasons. This happened because of the generosity of the Linworth Congregation. This project was completed just before the rainy season. We are raising funds for another staircase in a neighboring village to be built when the dry season returns. Laos projects are moving forward. Please look at the before and after pictures of the stairway that was constructed with funds from Linworth UMC. The locals have dubbed it "the stairway to heaven."

### The Final Push to Raise Funds Pledged to Laos Projects

As this is written we have received \$3000 in donations, a commitment of \$3000 from mission budget and \$1000 goal for scholarships from the Vacation Bible School. We have provided to Laotian Projects \$2500 to the vocational school, \$1500 for the first staircase. By the time this article is published we hope to provide \$1000 for scholarships, and \$1200 for church support. This will leave a balance for \$800. We still have pledged \$1200 for church support and \$1500 for the second staircase. We need \$1900 more to complete our pledge. This will permit us to fund two churches in Odomxai Province, build a stairway in each community to the Mekong, and fund a year of education for 67 children. We need your support to raise the remaining \$1900 to make this possible. The Laos Team will speak to you about making this final push starting August 21 until

September 10. Remember, for every donation of \$100 or more Chuck Kemp will provide a personally handcrafted pen turned out of hickory and engraved with the Laotian greeting Sabadee in both English and Laotian. "Thank you for your continued support."

### Linworth Offers Many Study Opportunities - Come Grow With Us This Summer

Please feel free to join any of the classes!

#### A Closer Walk:

9:00 a.m. - Room 225  
"Love Wins"

Contact: Janet Blocher

#### Keen Adult Bible Study:

10:00 a.m. - Room 136  
of the Fellowship Hall  
Contact: Bob Jacobson

#### Searchers:

10:00 a.m. - Room 138  
of the Fellowship Hall,  
Contact: Doug Stahle

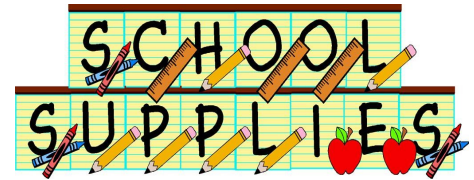
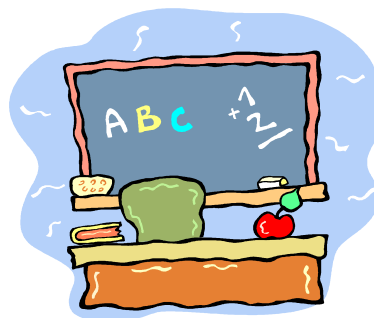
#### Women's Study Group:

10:00 a.m. - Room 210,  
"Revelation,  
The Triumph of God,"  
Contact: Jeanne Byers

#### Children's Sunday School Classes

Preschool - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade  
8:45 & 10:15

Childcare is offered at all three  
Worship Services



### Linworth's School Supply Mission 2011

**August 9, 11 and 13**

Last year Linworth served 65 children and their families in our community by providing them with free school supplies. Our goal again this year will be 100 children and youth. Families will be welcomed into our church and the children will get to pick out their supplies from their school list. The supplies will be set up and organized in the hall outside the worship center for distribution on the dates listed above. We will serve as many children as we can while the supplies last. If we have left over supplies we will donate them to New Life UMC for their supply drive.

Here are the ways you can help:

1. Purchase and donate items listed on the bulletin board outside the worship center beginning July 17<sup>th</sup> through Aug. 7<sup>th</sup>.
2. Donate gift cards from Meijers, Wal-Mart, Target, etc. to be used to purchase school supplies. (Purchase gift cards using our Scrip Program and reduce our debt as well.)
3. Volunteer to help set up and/or clean up for the supply drive.
4. Volunteer to work as a greeter or helper on one or more of the days we will be distributing the supplies as greeters and helpers.
5. Supply and Serve refreshments to our guests on the distribution dates.

Please contact: Denise Kilgore

## Linworth Campers



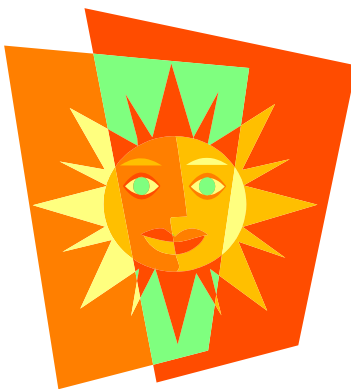
### August 1-7

Indian Creek,  
Geneva on the Lake.  
Hosts: Stu & Sondie Schwotzer

### August 19-21

Lock 30  
(Shaker Woods Festival)  
Hosts: John & Linda Hood

For general information  
regarding the LUMC Campers  
contact Ian & Jean Davidson.



## August Events

August 9, 11 & 13  
School Supply Drive

August 14—Baptism Class

August 14 or 21  
Discover Linworth Class

August 15-19—LCC Work Week

August 23—Ad Council

August 27—UMW Retreat

August 28—New Member &  
Baptism Sunday  
Brunch Bunch



## 125 Years Linworth UMC Honoring the Past Celebrating the Present Shaping the Future 1887-2012

Save the following dates for  
Linworth's Anniversary  
Celebrations!

- ⇒ **March 4, 2012:** Church Potluck & Play (LUMC Beginnings)
- ⇒ **June 17, 2012:** Outdoor Worship and Picnic (1800's style!)
- ⇒ **September 16, 2012:** "Homecoming" Worship Service @ all 3 services



## The Following Notes Were Received:

*"Friends: Randy and I were overwhelmed with the outpouring of sympathy from our church family at the passing of my father. Each and every expression we received was deeply appreciated. Lynne Heiligmann."*

*"To my church friends, I want to thank you for all your prayers, cards, & calls; help from Jennifer of Club 56 and Tom & Marie Hardin for their visits and food during my surgery and recovery. Also Pastor Rae Lynn for being at the hospital during surgery. Thanks again, Rowena Penrod."*



## Membership News:

### Births:

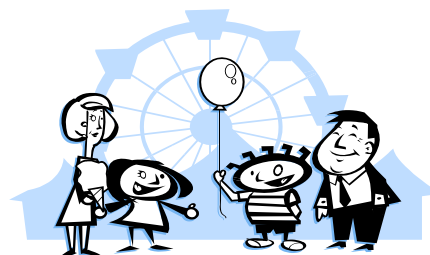
- Levi Joseph Thompson, son of Dan & Christy Thompson and grandson of Jim & Janet Thompson.

### Deaths:

- Bob Sigg

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

**\*SAVE THE DATE\***  
**COMMUNITY  
PICNIC**  
**SEPTEMBER 18**  
**5:30—7:30 P.M.**  
**LUMC - RAIN OR SHINE**





**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 page one)

resource center. Seth shared with me that Mara read to residents and came home saying she wanted to go and spend time with nursing home residents locally. Three others, Annemarie, Mia and Grayson gave manicures to residents. The group also organized the library in the nursing home, pulled weeds and served in other ways. Thank you Seth and Ryan for giving these young persons an experience in risk-taking mission and service. Nursing ministry is a tough one for many persons.

Our new staff person, Brian, has jumped in with both feet and is in the hallways on Sunday trying to learn your names and meet our guests. New groups will be launched this fall. Brian will be preaching on September 18, the

launch of our Stewardship series, and his topic is "Radical Hospitality." This is the first of a five part series on Bishop Schnase's book, Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations. We will have copies for purchase should you like to make it a Sunday School study or to just read along and gain insight each week into the preaching moment.

I could go on and on about all of you and our staff, but I will save some of this for another article.

I hope that you are inviting your friends, neighbors and co-workers to come and discover Linworth. Our congregation is blessed with talent, with energy, with opportunity, and mostly with God's love and grace. I am enjoying who you are and who we are together! We are a church

where together we discover, grow, and serve, and in doing so, we are building a community of deeply committed Christians who love God and neighbor!" In ministry with you, Rae Lynn.