



The Linworth Link

Volume 17, Issue 4, April 2010

Linworth United Methodist Church

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Thoughts from Pastor Rae Lynn

Easter will soon be upon us and with Easter comes an overwhelming crowd of persons who want to hear the story again! Some of those persons will be coming to us for the first time. Others have not been here for awhile and they are drawn in looking for Good News, for a worship service that will touch them deeply, fill them with a lift of joy, or comfort them with a word of peace! And it is our gift to them to make this happen.

We will ready our church, the sanctuary will be bright with colors, banners will tell of new life, lilies and flowers will burst with blooms. Our musicians will practice fanfares and featured songs and we will glorify God's gift to us in Jesus Christ.

How might we ready ourselves for our guests, those coming in new among us this Easter? Last year people came in to worship, and the worship center was filled so full that some who came in just as worship was beginning, finding no room for their family to sit together, turned around and left. This year if every seat in the worship center is filled, and people are still coming in, are we ready to welcome in the stranger, our guests, by giving up our places and standing in the back? Could entire Sunday School classes make a decision to wait and come in just as worship is starting, leaving your seats open for guests and finding whatever places are left? Are we willing to move to the center, fill in around the edges, sit in the seats out in the narthex, even behind the glass doors if the need presents itself, so that those who come in new to us will have the choice seats?

Last year our parking lot was so crowded that cars drove through the lot and left. We were not ready for the overflow. Perhaps some of us could park at The Andersons and walk over to the church leaving spaces open for our guests. Maybe we could even call our friends who worship the same hour we do and on Easter Sunday carpool creating the availability of more parking spaces.

We need to think about how we communicate hospitality. Hotels, restaurants and stores serve their guests with intentional care, greeters who hold the door open, smile at us with a greeting, and are close by to answer our questions. We let our guests (visitors) wander through our hallways, fend for themselves to find restrooms, meander around looking for the nursery or other classes for their children and then hope that they find direction to our sanctuary. We shake their hands while chatting to our friends, all the time giving the appearance that we really are not concerned with meeting anyone new or offering them a connection to Christ. After worship, many slip away even before we have given any thought about walking them to the Gathering Area and handing them a cup of coffee.

Think that this does not happen at Linworth? I recently received this e-mail from a young man who visited with us in March. These are his words, words that got me thinking about how we will each personally prepare to receive people this Easter.

"As a visitor I was greeted at the door. I was handed a bulletin by the usher who said good morning. I was greeted by 3 people during the welcome. I heard a great sermon and beautiful music. If I had been a visitor looking for a home church I doubt if I would be inclined to return. Here's why: The person who greeted me at the door seemed pleasant, however was busy in conversation with a friend about Saturday evening and barely spoke, where does a new person go to get to the sanctuary or was I looking for Sunday school? The usher handed me the bulletin and at the same time he was saying good morning he was in a conversation with a friend so I had the bulletin and nothing more. During the welcome time I was sitting on the center aisle, 1/2 way up, I spoke to another woman who was new in front of me and when I turned around to greet the couple behind me no one initiated a welcome with me. The sermon was really nice, I took several notes, and the music was beautiful. I left and no one said another word to me."

April Worship Schedule

1 - Maundy Thursday Service

Drama, Holy Communion
7:00 p.m.

2 - Good Friday Service Tenebrae Service, Chancel Choir

7:00 p.m.

4 - Easter Sunday Holy Communion

Rev. Dr. Eugene Folden

8:45 a.m.—Traditional

10:15 a.m.—Contemporary

11:30 a.m.—Traditional

11 - 2nd Sunday of Easter

Rev. Jeffery Dunn

8:45 a.m.—Traditional

10:15 a.m.—Contemporary

11:30 a.m.—Traditional

18 - 3rd Sunday of Easter

Seminary student -

Shannon Marie Berry

8:45 a.m. —Traditional

10:15 a.m.—Contemporary

11:30 a.m.—Traditional

25 - 4th Sunday of Easter

Rev. Rae Lynn Schleif

8:45 a.m.—Traditional

10:15 a.m. Contemporary

11:30 a.m.—Traditional

(Continued on back page)



Small Groups

NEW!!! Aging Parents Group: Contact: Karl Holloway
This group for persons with aging parents meets every other Sunday (**April 11 & 25**) at 11:30 a.m. in room 228. They will also gather for monthly speakers on the first Wednesday (**April 7**) of the month.

Bridge Club: Contact: Byrdie Lorenz
Bridge Club will meet on **April 9** at 8:00 p.m. in private homes. 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: Contacts: Shawn & Amy Brown
Join us for Bible Study in room 228 as we read "Living the Questions in Matthew." Our meetings in April will be on **April 1 & 15**. Childcare is provided. Also, on **April 17** we will be heading to COSI for a fun filled day.

Closer Walk Class: Contact: Janet Blocher
Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in room 225. The Closer Walk class continues a study based on the book, *Reimagining Christianity* by Alan Jones. Pastor Jeff is leading this thought provoking discussion-based study. If you are looking to develop a "closer walk," this group is for you. Newcomers are always welcome!

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, April 9** (note the date change) at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a snack to share. The group usually meets the first Friday of each month.

IMPACT Service Group: Contact: Becki Hollenbaugh
IMPACT is a service group that meets with residents at Claremont Retirement Village on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays. Join them on **April 14 & 28** at 7:30 p.m. at Claremont.

In Daily Places: Contact: Debby Fuller
Ladies join "In Daily Places" as we continue our study of *Catching Fireflies: Teaching Your Heart to See God's Light Everywhere*, by best-selling author and "Women of Faith" speaker, Patsy Claremont. We will meet this month on **Mondays, April 12 & 26** in room 226 at 7:00 p.m. 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 meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday mornings at First Watch Restaurant. Join them on **April 13 & 27** at 7:00 a.m.

Mom's Book Study: Contact: Julie Yeater
This is a book study for moms of all ages! We meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursday evenings of each month. Join us on **April 8 & 22** at 6:30 p.m. in room 226.

MOPS (Mothers Of Preschoolers):
Contacts: Holly Meister & Andrea Orofino
MOPS is a Christian group for mothers with children ages birth through kindergarten. Join us on **April 12 & 26** from 9:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m.

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 the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month. April dates are **April 7 & 21** at 6:30 p.m. in the Library.

Sensational Older Singles (SOS):
Contact: Lois Gifford
3D Diner to be held on **April 10**. See article on page 7.

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
We meet **Tuesdays in April** at 7:00 p.m. in the Library and room 225.

Thursday Morning Bible Study:
Contact: Maxine Bartelt
We meet from 10:00-11:30 a.m. in room 210. As a study guide we are now using "Living The Questions in Mark" by the Navigators. This is a 10-week study of Mark's look at some questions raised by Jesus. This is a very informal study group led by members. Visitors always welcome.

Unemployment Support Group:
Contacts: Charlie & Linda Krumm
Group meets the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Join us on **April 8** as we rally around each other in support.

Women's Bible Study: Contact: Jeanne Byers
Join us each Sunday in room 210 at 10:00 a.m. This is a great small group to get to know some people, and enjoy a study at the same time.

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)

Love Children?

Sunday school assistants are needed for our growing preschool, and first-second grade classes at the 10:15 hour. No preparation or teaching is required. Just come one or two Sundays each month and have FUN! Questions? Call the church office (336-8485).



Nursery Workers Needed

There are paid positions open for Nursery Care on Sunday mornings. If you are available during the first 2 services each week (all three services once a month) and have lots of love to give the youngest members of our church, contact Tracey Jozefowicz (tjozefowicz@linworthumc.org) or call the church office (336-8485).

Aarrgggh Maties!! VBS is just around the corner!

Watch for information coming soon about how you can get involved in this great summertime ministry! High Seas Expedition is this year's theme. Save the week of **July 19-23** for this week of excitement!

Club 56 News

Join this group for students in 5th & 6th grades on **April 11 & 25** from 6:00-8:00 p.m. They will take a look at the Games of life! Friends are always invited. Be sure to eat dinner before you arrive.

Interested in Joining Linworth? What about Baptism?

Join us for the New Member sessions or the Baptism session. Call the office (336-8485) to register.

2010 New Member Sessions

Spring Session: April 25, May 2 & 9; Membership Sunday, May 16
Summer Session: July 25, August 1 & 8; Membership Sunday, August 22
Fall Session: October 24 & 31, November 7; Membership Sunday, November 21

2010 Baptism Sessions

Spring Session: May 9; Baptism Sunday, May 16
Summer Session: August 15; Baptism Sunday, August 22
Fall Session: November 14; Baptism Sunday, November 21

A Group For Young Adults

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

In April, we will continue our study of the book "Crazy Love" by Frances Chan. God is Love. Crazy, Relentless, All-Powerful Love. Join us for inspiring discussions and fall in love with God. We meet

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in room 228. We will also have a social event at the end of the month (tba).

Contact Angela for more details at: linworthfusion@gmail.com.

Linworth Campers

The weather is getting warmer and the outdoors is calling. Join the Linworth Campers this season for a fun camping experience!

Watch the worship folder for information on the upcoming 2010 schedule.

Contact is Sharon McManis.

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!

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.



7th Annual Chili Cook Off Winners

The LUMC 7th Annual Chili Cook Off was held on March 14. The winners for the contest were Tom Houston for Spicy; Kenan Dunn for Non-Traditional; and Eric Reidinger and Jeff Dunn tied for Mild. Everyone seemed to enjoy the new tradition of square dancing. Make plans to join us for the 8th Annual Chili Cook Off in 2011.



Youth News from Seth Rowe (406-9234)

Xtreme Impact April Schedule

- 4—Easter, No XI
- 11—Middle School: 5:00—6:15 p.m.
High School: 7:00—8:30 p.m.
- 18—Garage Sale Setup All Day!
- 25—Middle School: Confirmation Rehearsal,
Times TBA
High School: 6:45—8:00 p.m.

Remember the Garage Sale is Coming!
April 23 & 24
Plan to help with setup on Sunday, April 18!

Small Groups April Schedule

- Every Monday—
Middle School Girls: 6:00—7:00 p.m.
High School Bible Study: 7:00—8:00 p.m.
- Every Tuesday—
Middle School Guys: 6:00—7:00 p.m.

For updates and details visit the Xtreme Impact website at: <http://www.lumcym.blogspot.com>

Linworthys News (the 55 and over group) Contact: Doug Stahle/Chuck Kemp

Our meeting on **Tuesday, April 27** at 11:30 a.m. is a potluck luncheon with GRILLED CHICKEN and DESSERT PROVIDED. Bring dishes such as salads, vegetables or whatever you feel will add to our grilled chicken menu. The cost--only \$2.00 per person. Program: We welcome back the Clintonville Mother Singers as they present their new Spring Concert for us. These singers entertained us several years back with their voices and arrangements. We were well pleased with their performance. So think Spring (YEAH), attend, and again enjoy the afternoon.

NOTE: **Wednesday, May 26** is our La Comedia bus trip. We will not have our regular meeting at church. We will leave the church at 8:30 a.m. and be back at 4:30 p.m. The cost is \$60.00 (includes transportation, stage play, and buffet lunch). The name of the show is CHURCH BASEMENT LADIES, a musical comedy that covers four women as they prepare food and solve the problems of a rural Minnesota church in 1964. Donna Hughes has posted flyers, a good read, and tells us what to expect!!! And those of us who have attended past stage shows can testify that the buffet lunch is excellent, the transportation fun, and the stage show full of laughter. So MAKE YOUR RESERVATION with Donna Hughes. Checks made out to Linworthys and mailed to Donna Hughes. The deadline for reservations is APRIL 20. (One month prior to play.) Refunds will not be made after this date. Let's fill the bus!!!!!!

From the Garage Sale Kitchen Committee

Thank you for all the monetary donations we have received so far for food for the volunteers of the upcoming Spring Garage Sale. LUMC – you are unbelievably generous!!!

It is not too late to still contribute to this great social week for LUMC. Just give or send your gift cards for Kroger or GFS, or cash or checks to Donna Hughes or Shirley Galloway.

The Garage Sale Kitchen Committee

Hungry? Got Dinner? Guess What?

It's time for Sensational Older Singles (SOS) to resume the 3D Diner (Delicious Debt Reduction Dinners). We will again have a great home cooked meal of lasagna available for all to enjoy. The first dinner will be on **Saturday, April 10**. Tickets are \$9 for adults; \$5 for children 12 and under. All proceeds go toward Debt Reduction. Look for details in the worship folder, or contact Lois Gifford.

Mission Board Meeting

Contact: Sue Gabel

First Monday of every month. Next meeting is **April 5** at 7:00 p.m.

Evening Circle

Contacts: Linda Holloway & Sue Bowen

Normally, the third Monday evening of every month. (See below)



*The Fellowship Day Circle will join with the Evening Circle for a very special evening devoted to the Hymns and Music of the Church. The combined meeting will be on **Monday, April 12** at 7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Norma Hoag and Julia Slonecker will lead us in this special evening of music to celebrate our Methodist heritage. The hostesses for the evening are Maxine Bartelt, Dawn Moore and Linda Krumm. Devotions will be led by Pansy Geiger-Ostrander. (Please note : The Fellowship Day Circle will not have a morning meeting in April.)*

Fellowship Day Circle

Contacts: Nancy Zimmerman & Marlene Heltzel

Normally meeting the second Tuesday of the month in the Fellowship Hall. (See above)

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.

MOPS

Contacts: Holly Meister & Andrea Orofino

Second and fourth Monday mornings. Join us on **April 12 & 26** in the Worship Center from 9:30-11:30 a.m.

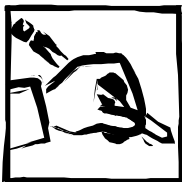
SERVICE CIRCLE

Contact: Lea Elshoff

Meets the last Friday morning of the month. Sandwich making in the Church Kitchen for Faith Mission. Join us on **April 30** at 9:30 a.m. in the Kitchen.

MISSION PROJECT HELP

During the month of April we are collecting shampoo, conditioner, combs, hairbrushes, or ethnic hair products 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.



The following notes were received by the church office:

"Many thanks to ALL who have helped me with my shoulder replacement surgery. I was truly blessed to have NO PAIN with this and I feel this was due to the many prayers, cards, visits, food and phone calls I received. Again, my gratitude to my LUMC family and friends. Pat Burkey."

"Dear Linworth UMC, Thank you for such a special send-off. My kids and I are enjoying the rest of the cake and the lovely flowers. When Mike returns from Mobile, we will all celebrate with a dinner out, using our gift cards. Ministry at Linworth has been a joy. I will miss you all. Thanks again, Mary Torok."

Linworth Church has received a "thank you" for shawls that were taken to Ruth and Carol Green by the Shawl Ministry.

"Thank you so very much. We really appreciate being able to meet in your choir room! Thanks again! Sincerely, Members of Worthington Area Nurses Association."



Get Involved with Social Concerns

Social Concerns
Contact: Esther Hunter

⇒ Scioto Ridge Job Networking Group will meet on **Tuesdays April 6 and 20** at 6:30 p.m. Call Sue Kuhn for information.
 ⇒ The next Open Shelter & Rebecca's House meals will be on **Tuesday, April 13**. Call Roy and Arlean Sudhoff for meal preparation or Celeste Thomas for serving.
 ⇒ The 3D Diner is coming back to LUMC! Remember the Delicious Dinners for Debt Reduction we had several years ago? Well, on **Saturday, April 10** from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m., you will be able to enjoy them again! We will feature our famous home made lasagna with salad, bread, drink and dessert. The 3D Diner is sponsored, prepared and served by SOS (Sensational Older Singles). Tickets will be sold between March 21 - April 4 in the Lobby. Cost is \$9.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children age 12 and under. ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARD DEBT REDUCTION AT LUMC. Call Lois Gifford for information.

- ⇒ The Brunch Bunch will be on **Sunday, April 25**. Join us for good food, family, fellowship and fun from 9:45 a.m.—1:30 p.m. Call Marie Hardin if you would like to help.
- ⇒ The Worthington Food Pantry & Resource Center received a \$500.00 award from the Ancient Order of Hibernians (the oldest Irish Catholic organization in the country). The award was presented to Esther Hunter, Director of the WFP & RC on Friday, March 12 at Columbus City Hall during Proclamation Day in honor of St. Patrick. There was also a presentation on Monday, March 15 at the Worthington City Council. Both were extremely well planned and lots of fun. The AOH also awarded \$500.00 to the Methodist Children's Home and the McConnell Arts Center. They have established the "Worthington Cares Foundation" to raise funds and give back to the community.
- ⇒ From July 8, 2009 - February 28, 2010, since the opening of the WFP&RC, they have served 310 families (1081 individuals including 456 children, 586 adults and 41 seniors). They have distributed 615 food boxes, plus grooming kits, infant bags and holiday food bags. They have distributed approximately 151,375 pounds of food. Many LUMC members have volunteered their time or donated food. Thank you Linworth UMC for the continuing support you have given to our community.
- ⇒ Hear ye, hear ye! Calling all Garage Sale volunteers to serve once again at this unbelievably successful event! We will start setting up on **Sunday, April 18** after the 11:30 service. The sale is on **Friday, April 23 & Saturday, April 24**. We have lots of openings in all areas. Bring a friend or two and enjoy working with interesting people, great meals, the hustle and bustle of shoppers seeking treasures and just plain fun! This is a great way to meet people and make friends (old & new). If you have never worked at the Garage Sale, there is no experience needed. We will have you "hooked" after the first day. For information call Denny Devine or Esther Hunter and REST UP! You're going to need it!

2009 Financial Summary of Operations	2009 Actual	2009 Budget	2009 Over/(Under) Budget	2010 Approved Budget
Collections:				
Pledge Receipts	\$ 729.0	\$ 786.0	\$ (57.0)	\$ 778.0
Non-Pledge Receipts	169.0	180.0	(11.0)	170.0
Other	<u>57.0</u>	<u>54.0</u>	<u>3.0</u>	<u>48.0</u>
Total Collections	\$ 955.0	\$ 1,020.0	\$ (65.0)	\$ 996.0
Expenses:				
Apportionments	\$ 118.0	\$ 118.0	\$ 0.0	\$ 118.0
Staff Related	482.0	495.0	(13.0)	475.0
Office/Building	171.0	186.0	(15.0)	186.0
Programs	64.0	79.0	(15.0)	64.0
Other	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0
Debt Service	<u>152.0</u>	<u>153.0</u>	<u>(1.0)</u>	<u>151.0</u>
	\$ 988.0	\$ 1,031.0	\$ (43.0)	\$ 994.0
Surplus (Shortfall)	\$ (34.0)	\$ (12.0)		\$ 2.0

General Comment: While total collections were \$65,000 under budget (see above) we were able to manage expenses to compensate for a significant portion of this reduction in anticipated collections and minimize the shortfall. The shortfall has been covered by prior year surplus.



Membership News

Births:

- Coralynn Abigail Miller, daughter of Ben & Jennifer Miller;
- Alison LeAnn Schwanzl, daughter of Greg & Sara Schwanzl, sister of Zachary and Brandon.

Easter Offering Designated

Easter offering has been designated for the Linworth Habitat Project and Grace Hospital in Haiti. The Easter offering will be used for the Habitat and Grace Hospital budget commitments as well as other mission projects if the offering exceeds the commitments. The Habitat Group is planning its building projects for this year. Habitat works in partnership with God, homeowners, and volunteers to build affordable homes, empower families and develop communities. Grace Children's Hospital, founded in 1967, is the flagship ministry of International Child Care. Grace Children's Hospital is recognized as Haiti's leading medical facility dedicated to the treatment of children with tuberculosis (TB). Each year, the hospital receives thousands of children who are suffering from TB, HIV and other diseases.



Interested in a Flood Recovery Trip?

A team of people from Linworth UMC and Prospect Street UMC (Marion, OH) will be traveling to Iowa to do flood recovery the week of **June 20-27**. This is the second year that Prospect Street UMC will be traveling to the Cedar Rapids area that was heavily hit by flooding in 2008. They have opened up this opportunity to our congregation as well. The cost of the entire trip is only \$250, covering all expenses. For more information and forms, contact Holly Meister.

Habitat For Humanity Builds Houses In Alabama

The week of February 22nd Linworth United Methodist Church participated in their 3rd annual trip to Mobile, Alabama to assist in building houses for Hurricane Katrina victims who have moved to this area from New Orleans. Participants were Howard Dean, Vicki Nichols and Steve Beard. The group left on Saturday, February 20 and returned early Sunday morning, February 28th along with 12 other folks from Habitat for Humanity Hilliard United Methodist Group. The group installed sheathing on the walls and roof. They shingled the roof, installed windows and installed over 80 " Hurricane" screws into the foundation and ceiling of a home. It was a great week of hard work and fellowship for all. Thank you Linworth United Methodist Church for your support of this worthwhile cause. If you want to participate in Habitat house builds contact Steve Beard.

Mission Budget for 2010

The Linworth Budget supports mission projects in three categories—Local (Creating Community), National (Growing in Christ), and International (Serving the World). This year's budget provides **\$27,280 to 25 projects**.

Creating Community

Faith Mission \$ 1,000
South Side Settlement Camp \$ 2,000
Open Shelter \$ 500
Habitat For Humanity \$ 3,000
New Life UMC \$ 2,000
Methodist Children's Home \$ 500
Adopt a Family \$ 500
International Friend \$ 1,000
New Life Sunday Dinner \$ 500
Sarah Casto Memorial \$ 500
NNEMAP \$ 500
Worthington Food Pantry \$ 500
Impact Ministry \$ 300

Growing in Christ

Youth Volunteer U-2 \$ 500
Cherokee UMC \$ 1,000
Pharr Outreach \$ 4,000
Jackson Area Ministry \$ 2,000
Northern Chaplin Service \$ 500
Methesco \$ 500

Serving the World

Southeast Asia Ministry \$ 1,500
Operation Christmas Child \$ 500
Grace Hospital \$ 2,000
Africa University \$ 1,000
Health Kits for Haiti \$ 480
Disaster Relief \$ 500



Spring Planting – Jackson Area Seed Drive – Fill the Wheel Barrow

Jackson Area Ministries (JAM) is a mission project of The United Methodist Church serving the Appalachian counties of Ohio. Its Garden Project (Green Thumb Garden Project) in 2009 initiated 3,174 gardens throughout the 19 counties of southeast Ohio. Since the early 1970's, JAM has been assisting families and individuals in improving their food supply by enabling them to "grow" their own vegetable gardens. We are collecting seeds and donations for the Jackson Area Ministry Green Thumb Garden Project from **April 11—May 9, 2010**. This project provides seeds for low income families in southern Ohio to plant and harvest food for their families. So your donations of seeds and money support needy Ohio families. Please place your seeds in the wheelbarrow and your designated check in the offering plate.

Fill the Bread and Water Dates

On the right of the sanctuary sits bread and water. These symbols are a tangible reminder that Linworth commitment to supporting those in need. You can commemorate a family event or person in your life with a contribution to bread and water. The sign up sheet for bread and water is located on the mission bulletin board on the back hall way near the kitchen. There are open dates in the fall for contributions to Bread and Water. If you have questions about Bread and Water contact Virginia Brizendine.



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 first page)

In Nelson Searcy's book *Fusion*, he writes these words, "The Ritz-Carlton is in the business of sleep. Their single goal is to make you feel good about spending your money with them so that you will do it again—simply for a nice place to lay your head." Searcy goes on to say, "We have not taught our staff nor our congregation to serve guests with grace and hospitality. We have not internalized the gravity of our burden to reflect God's character in the way we treat them. The new people who come through our doors have the opportunity to come into relationship with their Creator."

So I ask each of us to consider, before Easter Sunday, what might I do on Easter to engage those I meet, not just my friends, but those who attend that I have yet to learn their names, and the guests who will step through our doors for the very first time? I ask us to consider that some people will come into our House on Easter looking for a connection with God and a part of that connection will come through our welcoming of them. Mustering up the courage for them to come into our worship on Easter may be a turning point in their lives and we can impact that experience with how well we offer a word of welcome and a moment of recognition. All of us, all of us need to be known, need to find a place where we belong, a connection to community and to God. How will we intentionally engage at least two persons on Easter that we have never met and let them know they are welcome at this home we call Linworth, and that we hope this will be their home too? And don't forget, ask them their name, call them by that name at least once before the morning is over. To be known and to be named is a powerful connection!

May the grace we receive from Christ be the grace we give to one who is looking for Christ.

Rae Lynn

p.s. I hope we make this practice of hospitality and welcoming a part of every Sunday, beyond Easter, 52 times year round.

**HOLY WEEK
OPPORTUNITIES**

**April 1, Maundy
Thursday Service**
7:00 PM Service in the
Worship Center with
Drama and Holy
Communion

**April 2, Good Friday
Service**
7:00 PM Service in the
Worship Center with
Chancel Choir and
Tenebrae Service.

April 4, Easter Sunday
8:45, 10:15, & 11:30 AM
in the Worship Center
Rev. Dr. Eugene Folden
preaching
Chancel Choir at the 8:45
& 11:30 AM services,
Hand Bells at the 8:45 AM
service.