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# The Linworth Link

Volume 17, Issue 1, January 2010

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## Linworth United Methodist Church

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## Words from Pastor Gene A New Song for a New Year

The writer of the 96th Psalm encourages us to "Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth." Four other Psalms also recommend the virtues of singing to God a new song, and one, the 100th, suggests that if we cannot sing we can at least make a joyful noise to the Lord. As we turn the page of a new year and think about resolutions -- starting diets, recovering from the indulgences of the holiday season, and considering the lessons learned in a year now past, perhaps it is also a good time to sing a new song to the Lord as well.

When I sang in my college choir, we often groaned when our director pulled out a new song and we had the notes and words of a composition that sounded strange to our ears and which demanded of us new skills. We weren't lazy or uncooperative, but once you have mastered a great piece of music, it's natural to want to enjoy that piece, to sing it often, to hear it again and again, revel in your ability to perform it well. Adding to the repertoire is difficult. We often struggled to master a piece by Bach, or Meissen, music very different from what we already knew. But the sign of a good choir is one that can master a variety of music from different eras, addressing a variety of topics, and making very different sounds as a result. Sing to the Lord a new song indeed.

Surely all the iPods we see in people's ears as they pass us in the street, in the mall, or as they cross the oval, represent the desire to hear again and again the familiar strains of music that are well known. And yet, given the fact that downloading music is a multimillion dollar industry, clearly enjoying new songs is something people crave to do as well.

In a slightly different vein I have always appreciated the monastic disciplines of monks and members of religious orders who developed prayers, chants, and songs appropriate to the various canonical hours of the day. These hours marked the daily rhythm and life of the community, by marking the passing day with scheduled times of prayer known as Vigils, Matins, Lauds, Sext, Vespers, and Compline. Each day was marked by prayer and singing.

What strikes me as relevant for us who are not monastic, is that our days are spent in rhythms and repetitions that offer us an opportunity to lift up a prayer, sing a song, live each moment conscious of the presence of the

### January Worship Schedule

#### 3 - Epiphany Sunday Holy Communion

Rev. Rae Lynn Schleif  
8:45 a.m.—Traditional  
10:15 a.m.—Contemporary  
11:30 a.m.—Traditional

#### 10 - Baptism of the Lord

Rev. Rae Lynn Schleif  
8:45 a.m.—Traditional  
10:15 a.m.—Contemporary  
11:30 a.m.—Traditional

#### 17 - Human Relations Sunday

Rev. Jeffery Dunn  
8:45 a.m.—Traditional  
10:15 a.m.—Contemporary  
11:30 a.m.—Traditional

#### 24 - 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Rev. Rae Lynn Schleif  
8:45 a.m.—Traditional  
10:15 a.m.—Contemporary  
11:30 a.m.—Traditional

#### 31 - 4th Sunday after Epiphany

Dr. Eugene Folden  
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 discuss books with other fiction lovers, join the Between the Lines book club. We will meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. January's meeting is **Jan 13** at 7:00 p.m. in room 226.

### **Bridge Club:** Contact: Byrdie Lorenz

Bridge Club will meet on **Friday, Jan 8** 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:** Contact: Sara Schwanzl

Join us on **Jan 7 & 21**, the group will meet for Bible study from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in room 228. Our monthly meetings are on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month.

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

The Closer Walk Sunday School class will begin a new study based on the book, "Reimagining Christianity: Reconnecting you Spirit without Disconnecting your Mind" by Alan Jones on **Sunday, January 10, 2010** at 9:00 a.m. in room 225. Books can be purchased at the Seed Sower kiosk in the main church hallway. Pastor Jeff will lead the study. If one of your New Year's resolutions is to develop a "closer walk" with God, join this group for what will prove to be a faith enhancing discussion based study!

### **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 Balser

The Club will meet on **Friday, Jan 8** 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 Wednesday. Join them on **Jan 13 & 27** at 6:30 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 **Monday, Jan 11 & 25** 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.

### **Marriage Matters:** Contact: Mary Torok

This is a group for couples who want to give their marriage an extra boost. The group meets on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month. Join us at 11:30 am in room 228. We will be looking at John Ortberg's book, **God Is Closer Than You Think**.

### **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 **Jan 12 & 26** 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 **Jan 14 & 28** at 6:30 p.m. in room 226.

### **MOPS (Mothers Of PreSchoolers):**

Contacts: Holly Meister & Andrea Orofino

Start off the new year with MOPS! **MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)** is a Christian group for mothers with children ages birth through kindergarten. Our **January** meeting dates are the **11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>** from 9:30 a. m.- 11:30 a.m. in the Worship Center.

### **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. January dates are **Jan 6 & 20** 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

We meet **Tuesdays, Jan 5 & 19** at 7:00 p.m. in the Library.

### **Thursday Morning Bible Study:**

Contact: Maxine Bartelt

We meet each Thursday from 10:00—11:30 a.m. We began the study of "Neglected Voices—Biblical spirituality in the margins" by John Indermark in early Dec. This study will get us better acquainted with some of the lesser known Biblical characters. All visitors are welcome. 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 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).

## Children's Sunday School Change

Due to an abundance of preschoolers at 10:15, we are re-configuring the 10:15 kindergarten class to include 5 year olds who are not yet attending kindergarten. This change will alleviate the crowded preschool class, and will bring more energy to the small kindergarten class. Questions? Call Mary Torok (336-8485).



## Club 56 News

Club 56, a group especially for youth in grades 5 and 6, will meet on **January 17** for some winter fun at the church, and **January 31** for a movie night! Gather at Linworth from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. for fun, fellowship and service. Friends are always welcome! Questions? Call Jenifer Wynne or Julie Ricketts.

## Do you have a child that needs to be baptized?

### Do you need to be baptized yourself?

Our next Baptism Sunday will be **February 14**. A class for parents will be February 7 from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. with childcare available. Meet other parents, and explore the sacrament of baptism together. Call Mary Torok (336-8485) to register or pick up a form in the church office.

## Interested in becoming a member of Linworth?

Plan now to join us for our next series of Membership Classes that begins on **January 24** and continue on **January 31** and **February 7** from 3:00-5:30 p.m. Childcare will be provided. Indicate interest on the registration pad in worship, or contact Mary Torok (336-8485) for more information.

## 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.



## Linworth Campers

Contact:  
Sharon McManis

Watch for details about the winter planning dinner.

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

## 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.



## Membership News

### Births:

- Gavin Michael Satterfield, son of Buddy & Tiffany Satterfield

- Adam Lawrence Ahijevych, son of Jeremy & Ellen Ahijevych

### Deaths:

Kyle Colello, son of Paul & Holly Colello

## 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!**

# Xtreme Impact

Youth News from Seth Rowe (406-9234)

Xtreme Impact, the student ministry at LUMC, will be starting back up in January. If you are a middle school or high school student looking to get connected to something fun, something real, and something with meaning and purpose, come check us out.

In the month of January alone we will be hanging out together on Sunday nights, eating together (pretty much every time we see each other some sort of eating is involved), singing together on some Sunday nights, digging into God's Word together at our weekly Bible studies, and even staying up way too late together at our Lock-in. If you're missing this, then you're missing out! For more information, email Seth Rowe at [sethrowe@gmail.com](mailto:sethrowe@gmail.com).

### Regular Schedule:

Middle School: Sundays, 5:00-6:15 p.m.

High School: Sundays, 7:00-8:15 p.m.

Check the youth website for our winter calendar!

<http://www.lumcym.blogspot.com>



### **A Group For Young Adults**

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

Fusion, a small group for fellowship and study for young adults. We meet weekly on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. at LUMC room 228 for Bible Studies. Contact Angela at [linworthfusion@gmail.com](mailto:linworthfusion@gmail.com) for exact details for our upcoming social and service events. January events are: **Jan 6** - Social event; **Jan 13** - Bible study; **Jan 20** - Bible study; **Jan 27** - Service event.

For more information and to be added to the list-serv, please email Angela Pucher at: [linworthfusion@gmail.com](mailto:linworthfusion@gmail.com).



Happy new year!

## Mission Board Meeting

Contact: Sue Gabel

First Monday of every month. Next meeting is **January 4** at 7:00 p.m.

## Evening Circle

Contacts: Linda Holloway & Kathy Balakrishnan

Third Monday evening of every month. **January 18** 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

## Fellowship Day Circle

Contact Nancy Zimmerman & Sue Bowen

Second Tuesday morning of every month. **January 12** at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

## MOPS

Contacts: Holly Meister & Andrea Orofino

Second and Fourth Monday Mornings. Join us on **January 11 & 25** in the Worship Center from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

## SERVICE CIRCLE

Contact: Lea Elshoff

Fourth Friday morning of the month. Sandwich making in the Church Kitchen for Faith Mission. Join is on **January 22** at 9:30 a.m. in the Kitchen.

## Thank you

Thank you, thank you to EVERYONE who prayed, baked and bought cookies at our 7<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas Cookie Sale. It was our best one yet with over \$4,000 donated to Missions. Heartfelt thanks to the many people who worked during the sale also. We all can, & do, make a difference!

## Mission Project Help

During the month of January we are collecting new socks and underwear; plus hats, mittens and gloves 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.

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU...

for the 101 tab tie Baby Blankets that were donated in 2009! These blankets have already been distributed to needy mothers in Franklin and Delaware counties, as well as the Ronald McDonald Home.

## Our Children's Center News--

The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Linworth Children's Center Gift and Craft Fest was a huge success. Money raised by this event will provide scholarships to children to attend LCC. Thanks to all the church members who gave their time by volunteering, making donations, and shopping. We really enjoyed seeing all of you and getting to know you better.

In January, LCC will have a Kindergarten Information Night on **Wednesday, January 20** at 7:00 p.m. to introduce our full day Christian based Kindergarten program to interested families. Please pass the word to anyone you know who may be interested in this program. We would love to share this special opportunity for their children with them.

LCC has openings in some of our classes, including the full day infant program. Please refer your friends and neighbors if they are looking for an early childhood program for their kids.

It is great to see how connected LCC and the church have become. We continue to be thankful for the way the congregation has embraced us and look forward to continuing in ministry with you.

Anna Lambert and Susan Craig



## Strategy Team Work to be Shared

The Strategy Team has been meeting monthly since September. We will soon place, within the worship folder, a synopsis of our work and an invitation for all of us at Linworth to come to an event. At the event we will share the outline of our vision for our church with you. This will be a time to gain your input! Look for it and come!

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

Meet with us **Tuesday, January 26** at 11:30 a.m. for a great start to 2010. Our lunch menu is meatloaf, au gratin potatoes, vegetable, salad, and dessert. \$6.00 per person. Our program is Carol Clark who takes many adventure trips. Her primary subject will be her "Climbing Mount Kilimanjaro" (the world's highest mountain). Carol, since her retirement has taken many adventure trips around the globe, many hiking trips, has swum with whales and much more. She has entertained many groups with her adventures, which are well received. Many have enjoyed her programs and now the opportunity is ours. So shake the January blahs, get out, feel young, share thoughts and ENJOY. Any of you who are 55 plus are more than welcome. Make new friends, but keep the old, one is silver and the other gold. An old Brownie song.

Note: 2009--hopefully you were pleased with the programs, trips, and the November and December complimentary lunch. A first!! A special thanks to all the participants, as you make this possible. Also a huge thank you to all who worked, donated, and yes purchased items at our Garage Sales We realize 10 % of the net proceeds which helps with our mission donations. We were able to donate as follows: our giving to the memorial fund, \$185.00 for members and next of kin of members; \$1359.00 towards automatic door openers for our LUMC; \$145.00 to programs such as Pilot Dogs, St. Paul's Methodist Church and Ted Lewis Museum. Total giving was \$1,689.00.

**Get Involved with Social Concerns**



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

**Social Concerns**  
Contact: Esther Hunter

**January 5 & 19:**  
Scioto Ridge Job Networking Group meets in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m. This is a great way to network if you are looking for employment or considering a change in employment. Contact Sue Kuhn with questions.

**January 12:**  
- Open Shelter Lunches are being prepared in the kitchen beginning at 8:00 a.m. Contact Roy or Arlean Sudhoff for details.  
- Rebecca's House Meal is being prepared at 11 :00 a.m. in the kitchen. Contact Roy or Arlean Sudhoff to assist. Delivery begins at 4:00 p.m. Call Celeste Thomas if you can help deliver and serve the meal.

**January 24:**  
Brunch Bunch is back from 9:45 a.m.—1:30 p.m. Join us for Brunch in the Fellowship Hall.



**Pastor Is Going to SE Asia**

In April of 2010, Pastor Rae Lynn will be traveling to Southeast Asia for 16 days (**April 6-21, 2010**). She invites up to four or five persons from Linworth who would be interested in traveling to Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam to see our church at work in the world to come along. Cost would be close to \$4,000, which includes air fare, hotels, other travel needs and most meals. Plan to meet on **Sunday, January 3** at 12:30 p.m. at the church. If you are interested but unable to attend this meeting, e-mail Rae Lynn at: [rschleif@linworthumc.org](mailto:rschleif@linworthumc.org).

Let Pastor Schleif know by **January 15** if you want to come along!



## Thanksgiving Offering

The Thanksgiving Offering this year provided \$2,406 for Grace Hospital in Haiti and Methodist Theological School in Ohio as well as other mission projects for 2009.

## Christmas Celebration

The Linworth congregation provided brightly wrapped gifts and food to 30 families. It was a total church project. Some people collected the cut-out figures and supplied the gifts indicated on the cut-out. Others wrapped and delivered the packages. This year's Christmas Celebration supported over 30 families with groceries for Christmas Dinner, over 240 gifts for 80 children, and gift cards and cash worth over \$4,500. There were over 50 volunteers who helped with this project.

## Alternative Gift Cards

The Alternative Gift Table was very busy with the purchase of many animals for Heifer International and hats and mittens purchased for New Life UMC. You continue to make a difference in the world.

## Habitat Housing a "Church" Experience

For Mike Torok, the Habitat for Humanity Housing Project creates "Church" on Saturday for him. He said, "I go to Church on Sunday but my real 'Church' experience comes on Saturday when I work with volunteers building houses." He continued, "A Mom brought her teenage son to the project sight. He was a little lost at first. I saw an elderly retired carpenter reach out and begin to work with that young man. The young man became proud that he could learn and apply new skills to the home building project. He was so happy with his work that he began to recruit his teenage friends to work on the project. That whole process was really rewarding to watch." Mike then talked about a child from a family who would inhabit the new home. He said, "A five year old from the family came up to me at the home build site and said how much he appreciated having a new home. He wanted to show me his appreciation by giving me the rolled up 50 pennies from his savings. I asked him to keep the pennies and buy something nice for his new room." Mike, Mary, and their children celebrated Thanksgiving with a family in their new home; quite a Thanksgiving indeed! Participating Churches are trying to raise money for a new building start this spring. Let Mike know if you want to participate in his Saturday "Church" experience.

## Wash Cloths for New Life

New Life Church is in constant need of basic items for everyday living. The need is for towels, wash cloths, blankets, and sheets. Please bring these donations to the Church Office through the week. They will be taken to New Life on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Thanks for your support to this project.

## Fill the Bread and Water Dates

On the left side of the Worship Center sits a loaf of bread and a pitcher of water. These symbols are a tangible reminder of Linworth's commitment to support 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 in the back hallway near the kitchen. There are open dates next year for contributions to Bread and Water. If you have questions about Bread and Water contact Virginia Brizendine.

The church received the following notes:

*"Dear friends:*

*Jackson Area Ministries (JAM) received your generous donation of \$50.00 for seeds to our garden program and we were more than delighted. JAM will be enlarging both the territory and the number this next growing season. We envision next summer helping over 3,000 participants produce their own vegetables and flowers. When we launched this project in the early 1970's we had no idea that the acceptance of the concept would be of this magnitude. I want to add this word of appreciation to our thank you. Please share our gratitude with everyone involved in the giving of this gift.*

*Thanks again,  
Rev. Bob Davis."*

*"Dear Esther Hunter!*

*My congratulations with Thanksgiving Day! And I want to say 'thank you very much' for your kindness during the Church Garage Sale in October.*

*Exchange student from Russia,  
Anna Shvetsova.*

*(I was with Jan Valentine Melvin. Thank you, thank you, so much!!!)"*


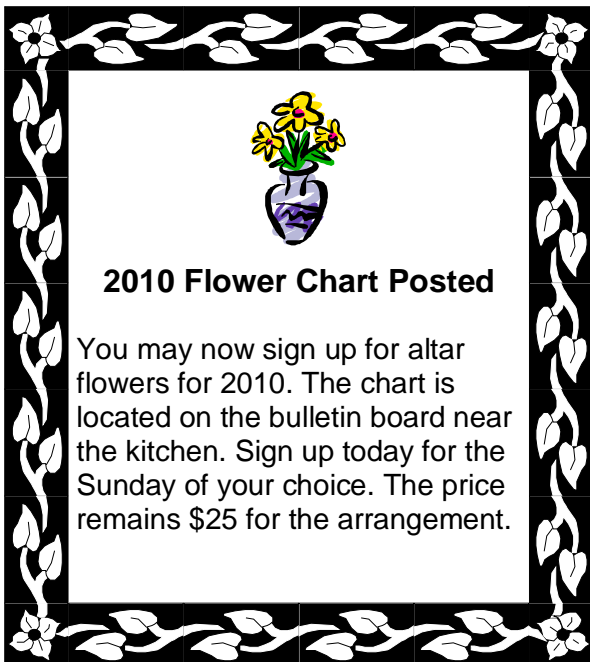


**Linworth United Methodist Church**  
7070 Bent Tree Blvd.  
Columbus, Ohio 43235

*Creating Community  
Growing in Christ  
Serving the World*

**Sunday Morning  
Worship  
Opportunities**

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



**2010 Flower Chart Posted**

You may now sign up for altar flowers for 2010. The chart is located on the bulletin board near the kitchen. Sign up today for the Sunday of your choice. The price remains \$25 for the arrangement.

(Continued from first page)

Holy about us. We can, in each day, sing a new song to the Lord with our lives.

Whatever the new year may bring, I invite you to consider the possibility that your life is a song you are singing to God and that the opening of the new year provides an opportunity to make new harmonies, offer new sounds, and lift up new melodies of praise and worship and thanksgiving to the One who has given us life and breath and all things. Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the Earth. May it be so with you and with me.

Pastor Gene