



# The Linworth Link

Volume 18, Issue 7

July 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 Gene

Dear Linworth Family,

In I Corinthians 9:23 Paul writes these words, "Though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all... To the Jews I became a Jew... to those under the law I became as one under the law... to those outside the law I became as one outside the law... to the weak I became weak... I have become all things to all people..." And then he says, almost as an afterthought, "I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings." In other words, what Paul is saying is that what delights him most is not making others come to him, but going to others, reaching out to them, speaking their language, understanding life from their side of things, becoming like them, even as Christ became like us. "All this I do," he said, "for the sake of the gospel."

And it's *all* blessing to Paul. All the hours, the work, the traveling, the going to places he might never have gone, the being with people that he had formerly persecuted, the work he did for folks that before that time he had called "unclean." "I do it all for the sake of the gospel,"

he said, "so that I may share in its blessings."

I understand what Paul is saying, because it has been *all* blessing to me, too. For the past twenty-five years it has been *all* blessing for me to care for the souls of the people of this church, to provide for your spiritual welfare, to stand by you in joy and in sorrow, to note the occasions and passages of your life, to celebrate births, to baptize, to confirm, to marry, to offer prayer for the sick, and to officiate at funerals. It has been *all* blessing for me that you have shared with me your joys and sorrows, your hopes and concerns, and the dreams and discouragement that make up the stories of your lives.

It's also been *all* blessing for me to see how you have sought ways to live out God's will for your lives. I've witnessed the many ways you care for one another, to be ministers to one another, to hold each other in prayer, to rejoice at one another's rejoicing, and to weep at one another's weeping, to work for the building up of the whole body. I've witnessed how you invite people to discover who

they are as children of God. And once they have discovered this (or have begun to see themselves as works in progress), you have supported and equipped them to live authentically and faithfully at home, at school, at work, and in their neighborhoods and communities. And I have witnessed your creative energy and imagination used to further the variety of ways that this community lives out God's love for the world.

In these past weeks as you have celebrated with me the twenty-five years of ministry we have shared, I have been profoundly reminded that my life has been richly blessed by the gift of your presence in it. I have received grace upon grace from so many people in so many ways from dear and tender telephone calls, emails, and cards, to post-it notes on my office door. And the outpouring of love bestowed on me at the anniversary reception on Sunday, June 12 was nothing short of sheer joy. I am almost embarrassed by the riches of love that have been showered upon me.

(continued on back page)

### July

#### Worship Schedule

#### 3—3rd Sunday after Pentecost

##### Holy Communion

Rev. Jeffery Dunn

8:45 a.m.—Traditional

10:15 a.m.—Contemporary

11:30 a.m.—Traditional

#### 10—4th Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Rae Lynn Schleif

8:45 a.m.—Traditional

10:15 a.m.—Contemporary

11:30 a.m.—Traditional

#### 17—5th Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Rae Lynn Schleif

8:45 a.m.—Traditional

10:15 a.m.—Contemporary

11:30 a.m.—Traditional

#### 24—6th Sunday after Pentecost

Dr.. Eugene Folden

8:45 a.m.—Traditional

9:45 a.m. Brunch Bunch

10:15 a.m.—Contemporary

11:30 a.m.—Traditional

#### 31—7th Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Rae Lynn Schleif

8:45 a.m.—Traditional

10:15 a.m.—Contemporary

11:30 a.m.—Traditional



## Adult Small Groups

**Bridge Club:** Contact: Byrdie Lorenz

Bridge Club will meet on **July 1** 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, July 7** at 6:30 p.m. 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. We are currently reading Love Wins. 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. However in July we will meet on **July 8**. Call Jean Balsler for fall start-up date.

**IMPACT Service Group:** Contact: Becki Hollenbaugh

IMPACT is a service group that meets with residents at Claremont Retirement Village. Join them on **Wednesdays, July 13 & 27** 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: **July 1-4; July 14-17 & August 4-7**. 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. See you on **July 12 & 26**.

**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 **July 5 & 19** 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).



## Children's News

Alisha Meacham

(ameacham@linworthumc.org)

Director of Children's Ministries,  
LUMC



**PandaMania—VBS – 2011**  
**July 18-22**

**Preschool session:**  
**9:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

**Elementary session:**  
**1:00 - 4:00 p.m.**



## Summer Sunday School

There may be some "minor" adjustments to our Sunday School classes for the summer. We appreciate your patience with the changes.

## Membership Care News

Brian Gath, Associate Pastor

Thank you for your welcome to Linworth United Methodist Church. My wife, Amy, and I along with our children Jacob (3) and Lucy (1) are excited to be here and ministering with you. We look forward to getting to know you all and becoming part of the church family. We've met so many great people already - people who love God and love God's church in Linworth. Please grant us grace as we work to learn your names and strive to know you well.

In the next several weeks I'm going to be focused on learning more about Linworth's history and diverse ministries - especially about how the church lives out Christ's command to welcome the stranger and bring them into the fold of the congregation. Already I've been impressed with the number of people who are directly involved in welcoming guests and connecting them to the congregation. I look forward to learning from you and trust that together we can fulfill Linworth's vision of making disciples for Jesus Christ, especially by creating community.

If you have a heart for welcoming or a passion for connecting people into Christ's community, please contact me, Brian Gath (bgath@linworthumc.org) about how you might be part of this vital ministry.

## 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.



---

## LUMC Has A Facebook Page.

If you would like to join in on the communication, here is the link: [www.facebook.com/1887lumc](http://www.facebook.com/1887lumc). ( fyi, you must have a personal Facebook account to join in.)

## Still Need A Pictorial Directory?

If you still need a copy, please call the church office (336-8485) to make your request known.



## 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

Have you noticed? We have 4 new First Aid Kits mounted on walls throughout the facility. Please take a moment to locate all four. They can be found: 1) in the usher's closet; 2) outside the church office; 3) in the kitchen; 4) in the Library,



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

### JOIN US FOR OUR JULY BINGO FUN TIME!!

Meet with us **Tuesday, July 26** at 11:30 a.m. for a luncheon of pork chops, a gratin potatoes, vegetable, salad and dessert prepared by our kitchen social staff. Cost is \$6.00 each. Thank you Donna and staff for all the delicious meals, plus the hours you gals work to prepare and serve this group called the Linworthys. After lunch we'll have some fun with our Bingo Bash with prizes galore. The prizes are ready, and gift wrapped. No need to bring items --just come for the great Christian fellowship--and a fun filled afternoon.



### Membership News:

#### Births:

- Caleb Jack Shrom, son of Karl & Leah, brother of Payton
- Victoria Ossa, daughter of Joanna Finch & Fernando Ossa, sister of Olivia. Grandparents are Bob & Linda Wead.

#### Deaths:

- Kathleen Jenkins
- George Petznick



### Social Concerns Contact: Esther Hunter

## Get Involved with Social Concerns

⇒ The Open Shelter Meal will be prepared beginning at 8:00 a.m. on **Tuesday, July 12** 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, July 12**, 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, July 24**. 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!





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.

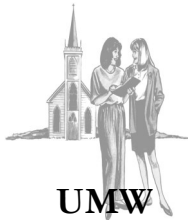


**Stephen Ministers  
Are There to Care**

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.

### New 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 **July 11** at 7:00 p.m.

### Evening Circle

Contacts: Linda Higgins & Sue Bowen

No meeting in July.

### Fellowship Day Circle

Contacts: Nancy Zimmerman & Mary Lynn Jacobson

No meeting in July.

### MOPS

Contacts: Diane Hamilton & Maria Del Regno

We'll not meet until September.

### 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.

### Service Circle

Contact: Lea Elshoff

Sandwich making in the Church Kitchen for Faith Mission. Join us on **July 22** at 9:30 a.m. in the Kitchen.

### Circle of Caring Cares

Did you know your Community Ministries apportionment giving helps frail, elderly and disabled people remain in their homes? Martha Buller, Director of Circle of Caring in Pickaway County writes, "We finished our first ramp this spring at the mobile home of an 84 year old woman. 7 volunteers were able to see it through from start to finish in one day." Circle of Caring is truly Faith in Action! For more info about the many ways Circle of Caring helps people in need, contact Martha Buller (marthabuller@bergerhealth.com).

### Want To Help Spring Storm Victims? Here's how.

You can give to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) through Linworth for assistance to all of those suffering from the devastation of tornadoes and floods. UMCOR funds are very low due to all the devastation around the globe and in the states. 100% of every dollar goes directly to relief, and none of it goes toward administrative costs. Make your check payable to LUMC, mark "UMCOR" on the memo line. The Advance Special number is 3021326.

**The UMW Retreat  
Saturday, August 27**  
Watch for additional information on this annual UMW happening.





**Laos Update—  
Linworth  
Supporting  
Villages and  
Churches**

We have three opportunities as a part of our connection link to the people and churches in Laos.

**I - Building Stairs and Supporting Churches**

Two villages are in need of stairways from the banks of the Mekong River up to the village. We have already given support for one of these stairways, yet another is needed in a nearby village. \$1500 builds a concrete stairway from the Mekong River to a village on a cliff overlooking the river. A second need in these villages is supporting a local congregation. \$1200 supports a village church for a year. During the month of July we will have photos of the banks of the Mekong, village church, and more posted on a bulletin board right outside of the Sanctuary. We hope that many are willing to give toward this ministry. 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 Sabaidee in both English and Laotian.



**II - Sending Children to School**

One of the mission goals for our Linworth Vacation Bible School is to raise \$1000 for scholarships for children in Laos. \$15 helps a child attend school for a year. With this contribution our Vacation Bible School children will make a connection with children in Laos.

**III - Change in Plans for Mission Trip in October**

Bishop Ough is planning to be at the Laos Annual Conference Meeting the end of September or first part of October, 2011. The Conference will be held in Thailand. He asked if we would consider arranging our schedule to coincide with the event and three persons have volunteered to attend the annual conference and then visit Vientiane, Luang Prabang and Odomxai. The group is planning to spend three days in Vientiane working with the missionaries on the vocational school project. We will take time to more fully learn the needs of the ministry in preparation for a consultation in the US on Laos. After visiting Vientiane they will visit with folks in Luang Prabang and Odomxai.

This, along with learning that most of the people wanting to go to Laos would rather go in the spring of 2012, has led us to change the original date for our Linworth group to travel. Therefore we are planning the mission project work trip for April, 2012 with six volunteers.

**Pastors' Hospital Visitation Schedules**

Pastor Rae Lynn Schleif:  
Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday  
Pastor Gene Foden:  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
Pastor Jeffery Dunn:  
Sunday  
As always, contact the church office (336-8485) with any pastoral needs.

---

**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 Campers



### July 1 – 4

Sauder Village,  
Archbald, Ohio.  
Hosts: Andy & Karen Ahijevych

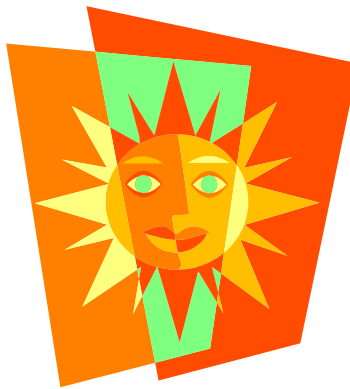
### July 14 – 17

Lake Cumberland, KY.  
Hosts: Jim & Sandy Cornett

### August 4 – 7

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

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



## July/August Events

- July 4—Building Closed
- July 11-15—Youth Mission Trip
- July 18—22—Vacation Bible School, PandaMania
- July 24—Brunch Bunch
- July 26—Administrative Council Meeting
- August 15-19—LCC Work Week
- August 27—UMW Retreat
- August 28—New Member & Baptism Sunday



## 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

# Happy Summer





**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)

Paul was right you know. It is all a blessing: every breath we breathe, every sunrise, every sunset, every child, every step we take, every thing we see, the world alive. It's all a blessing. And the only right thing to do is to give thanks. So I give my heartfelt thanks to every one of you. Thank you for continuing to show me and so many others the good news of God's love that is given to us in Jesus Christ. It is what binds our lives together, and it is our deepest hope and greatest blessing.

My dear friends, it has been the joy and honor of my life to be in ministry with you for twenty-five years, and it is my fondest desire that God will bless us with many more years of ministry together.

In ministry with you, Pastor Gene I hope the following poem conveys to you how I feel about each of you, my wonderful church family.

Gift of God by Ann Weems

Gift of God  
You sit next to me  
and pass me Bread and Wine...  
You are always there  
with communion in your  
countenance  
reaching, ready, aware,  
accepting, affirming.  
Gift of God  
You touch this lepered me to  
wholeness.  
Instrument of God  
You hear alleluias through  
obscenities  
see rainbows in the darkest  
storms

unearth flowers in the snow  
Gift of God  
I thank God for you!

