



# The Linworth Link

Volume 17, Issue 9

September, 2010

## Linworth United Methodist Church

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## Thoughts from Pastor Rae Lynn

Ever wonder what a pastor does with his or her time? Well, recently the Staff-Parish Relations Committee met with Pastor Gene and me to have our annual evaluation and review, and at that time we each shared with them our goals for this next year. I thought, since it is fall, I would share with you my goals for the rest of 2010 and through 2011. If any of these excite you and you want to be a part of one of the teams to make ministry happen with the pastor, I welcome your call! Otherwise, I will indeed be calling upon some of you.

So, weekly we clergy attend to hospital calls and crisis, follow up with visits to those who are struggling, attend meetings such as Trustees, Finance, Administrative Board, Stewardship, Worship team and Staff-Parish Relations, prepare for any classes we are teaching, and prepare messages for Sunday as well as create the worship liturgy. Oh, a few other items are sprinkled in and there is always the unexpected every week. No two weeks are identical which makes this vocation fascinating and challenging!

In addition to these weekly ministries, I spend much time in administration and planning ahead. My six goals over these next 16 months are:

1. Deepening the relationships within the congregation and with those coming into our doors through greater ministries of hospitality and spirituality.

We have a revolving door here at Linworth. Many guests come in and visit, stay awhile and then within six months disappear from our fellowship. I am concerned about our not retaining persons and so I spend time considering how we can better connect with those who come in, make them welcome, find a place for them to be received and become engaged in learning and growing. We will be offering training in hospitality and creating new small groups over this next year.

2. Continually supporting and developing our staff, working with their gifts and employing them in the best use of their gifts.

As we grow as a team, we lead the congregation together with excitement and spiritual energy.

3. Creating a healthier financial future for LUMC.

We actually have done well through these last two years of economic down turn in our country. Our giving level has not increased, but it also has not decreased, and we have kept our annual budget fairly flat for the last three years. But we need to begin to move forward in our budgeting and in our debt retirement. Our facility is beginning to age and so every year we need to build in more dollars for the Trustees to address issues before they become concerns.

As new persons come into our home, we will want to consider new ministries that need to be developed and offered and this, too, takes additional finances. All of us will benefit and receive.

And then, as a part of our financial future, I am hoping that we will aggressively tackle our building debt through a debt retirement campaign in 2011. This will free up many resources that can be applied to ministry, mission and a strong future for Linworth.

4. Strengthening Congregational Care.

Caring and connection are primary to our spiritual health and life. I try to make two to three visits on members and attenders each week as a way to get to know you more personally. Of

### September Worship Schedule

#### 5- 15th Sunday after Pentecost

##### Holy Communion

Rev. Dr. Eugene Folden

8:45 a.m.—Traditional

10:15 a.m.—Contemporary

11:30 a.m.—Traditional

#### 12 - 16th Sunday after Pentecost; 1st Sunday of Stewardship

Rev. Rae Lynn Schleif

8:45 a.m.—Traditional

10:15 a.m.—Contemporary

11:30 a.m.—Traditional

#### 19 - 17th Sunday after Pentecost; 2nd Sunday of Stewardship

Rev. Rev. Jeff Dunn

8:45 a.m.—Traditional

10:15 a.m.—Contemporary

11:30 a.m.—Traditional

#### 26 - 18th Sunday after Pentecost; 3rd Sunday of Stewardship

Rev. Dr. Eugene Folden

8:45 a.m.—Traditional

10:15 a.m.—Contemporary

11:30 a.m.—Traditional

(Continued on back page)



## Small Groups

### Aging Parents Group:

Contact: Karl Holloway

This group for persons with aging parents normally meets every other Sunday at 11:30 a.m. in room 228.

Watch the worship folder for future plans for this group.

**Bridge Club:** Contact: Byrdie Lorenz

Bridge Club will meet on **September 10** at 8:00 p.m. in private homes. Our meetings are the 1st Friday of the month at 8:00 p.m. (with a few exceptions caused by holidays).

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

Come join us for Bible study the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month! Join us on **September 2 & 16** as we finish up "Living the Questions in Matthew." Child care provided. Our social event in September will be a tailgate on the OSU campus, date and time TBD. Please feel free to join us.

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

Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in room 225. The Closer Walk class is getting ready to start a new study based on the book, *Crazy Love* by Francis Chan. 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

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, September 10** 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 **September 8 & 22** at 7:30 p.m. at Claremont.

**In Daily Places:** Contact: Debby Fuller

Looking for a ladies' fellowship and study small group that meets in the evening? Welcome to "In Daily Places," where women from their twenties through their seventies learn, grow, serve and laugh together. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of every month at 7:00 p.m. We will begin our new study, "Discovering Joy in Your Creativity: You are Made in the Image of a Creative God" on **September 13**. Hope to see you there.

**Keen Adult Bible Study:** Contact: Bob Jacobson

Join them beginning September 12 in the Fellowship Hall (room 136) at 10:00 a.m.

**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.

**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 **September 14 & 28**.

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

This is a book study for moms of all ages! We will start the new session on Thursday, **September 9** at 6:30 p.m. The new book is: Lord, Change my Attitude: Before it's too Late, by James McDonald.

**MOPS (Mothers Of Preschoolers):**

Contacts: Holly Meister & Andrea Orofino

This is a time to rejuvenate and reconnect with other moms on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month, **September 13 & 27**, 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the church. Child care is provided.

**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 meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. Class resumes on **September 15**.

**Sensational Older Singles (SOS):**

Contact: Lois Gifford

Call Lois for details.

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

**Stephen Ministry:** Contact: Sandy Apicella

We meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays. September meetings are **September 7 & 21** at 7:00 p.m. in the Library and room 225.

**Thursday Morning Bible Study:**

Contact: Maxine Bartelt

Join us beginning **September 2** at 10:00 a.m. This is a very informal study group led by members. Our new study is: 10 Commandments: Laws of the Heart, by Joan Chittister. Visitors are always welcome.

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

Come join us as we continue our study of the Parables of Jesus. We meet Sundays at 10:00 a.m. in room 210. Besides our Sunday morning Bible study we have mission activities, as well as, social events. All women are welcome to be a part of this wonderful group that loves sharing their love of God and growing in their journey of faith.

### **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 News

### Fall Kick Off Just Around the Corner

"Kick Off" or "Move Up" Sunday will be on **September 12**. There will be a lot of exciting changes to the fall Sunday School curriculum! Come check it out!

### Third Grade Bible Presentation

The 3rd graders of Linworth UMC will be presented their very own Bibles during the 10:15 worship service on **September 12**. Come support our special young people.

### Sunday School Teachers Needed for Fall

Interested in helping with Children's Sunday School this fall? Please contact Alisha Meacham, Director of Children's Ministries (336-8485, ext. 202 or [ameacham@linworthumc.org](mailto:ameacham@linworthumc.org)) or Beth Pearson, Sunday School Coordinator ([bpearon@linworthumc.org](mailto:bpearon@linworthumc.org)) to see how you can serve in our Sunday morning children's program.

### Paid Nursery Position Open

We are looking for an individual to provide child care on Sundays during worship hours, and other days throughout the week for meetings and small groups. Applicant must be 18 years of age or older. Please contact Alisha Meacham, Director of Children's Ministries (336-8485, ext. 202 or [ameacham@linworthumc.org](mailto:ameacham@linworthumc.org)) or Beth Pearson, Sunday School Coordinator ([bpearon@linworthumc.org](mailto:bpearon@linworthumc.org)) if you are interested in this paid nursery position.

## Every Member In Ministry

As the summer winds to a close and vacation season is almost over, it is time to again turn our attention to our spiritual health and the health of our church. There are several very exciting events coming over the next few months that we hope you will prayerfully consider being an active participant in....and we would like to highlight three of them for you.

First, our pastoral staff has planned an exciting sermon series that will stretch over six weeks in the fall that will focus on Stewardship. Themes for this series will be taken from the book, *Treasures of the Transformed Life*, written by John Ed Mathison. We hope that you will read the book and follow along with the sermon themes each week. There are also Sunday School classes that will be studying the book including The Closer Walk Class (9:00 a.m. in room 225), The Searchers Class, led by Pastor Gene (10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall). In addition, Pastor Rae Lynn and Denise Kilgore will be teaching from the book on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:15 p.m. We hope to create a buzz around the Church as many of us study from the same text and hear the words each Sunday.

Secondly, everyone has heard of the Stewardship gatherings that are being hosted in people's homes beginning on September 7<sup>th</sup> and running through October 10<sup>th</sup>. These Gatherings were piloted during our Stewardship Campaign in 2009 and we want to expand them to include everyone within the congregation who would like to attend one in 2010. There are 36 sign up sheets with a variety of dates, times and formats to choose from. Many members of our congregation have graciously offered to open their homes to host dinners, desserts or teas where the objective will be a little stewardship and a lot of fellowship. Persons who sign up to attend a Gathering will receive their Stewardship packet at the event. A portion of the event will be dedicated to going over what is in the packet, but the main focus of the event is Creating Community....getting to know each other a little better, sharing a bit about yourselves and your hopes for Linworth United Methodist Church and enjoy an hour or two of fellowship.

Lastly, our annual Ministry Fair is rapidly approaching. The Ministry Fair will be held on **October 9 & 10 and October 16 & 17** in areas all over the Church. During the Ministry Fair, many of the small groups and connectional programs will be highlighted and information made available to help you determine if you feel called to participate in them. The Ministry Fair is held over two weekends due to the large number of small and connectional groups that are currently active at Linworth. The displays will stay up around the Church during the weeks of the Fair for you to peruse at your leisure. Hopefully, people will browse these displays on Sundays between worship services to meet and greet other members of the congregation.

Hopefully, the programming in the fall months will help us live our Mission Statement... Creating Community, Growing in Christ and Serving the World.

Your Stewardship Team



**Youth News** from Seth Rowe (406-9234)

Hello Church family!

I wanted to use our space in the Link this month to share with you some highlights from our recent mission trip:

- ⇒ Each morning we helped tutor, play with, and love the kids from the Volunteer of America Youth Education Program. We had a great time demonstrating love to the kids by giving our time and attention. We also planned a scavenger hunt and several games for the kids throughout the week.
- ⇒ Each afternoon we worked on a variety of projects through the Church for All People. We ended up finishing more projects than we had even planned, including ripping out the rotting wood of an old front porch and replacing it with new, sturdy boards; laying a new kitchen floor for an older gentleman struggling with diabetes and amputated toes; laying new flooring in two entryways at the church; and scraping old paint off a porch to prepare for a fresh coat. All students worked hard to accomplish

these projects. Special thanks to Gene Hughes and Howard Dean for all their help!

- ⇒ Each evening we tried to experience and discuss a different aspect of poverty. This included an evening where the students had to plan a menu for dinner based on what a family living at the poverty line would be able to spend on food. They had \$11 to plan a meal for 11 people. After planning, we bought, cooked, and ate that meal (sloppy joes, corn-on-the-cob, and grapes). We also spent one evening serving dinner at Broad St. UMC's Manna Café.
- ⇒ One of my favorite parts of this trip was that we were able to do so much right here in Columbus. We learned that we don't have to travel far to find real need and poverty. I want to thank all the students for their hard work, Christina Smith and Julie Rowe for helping me lead the week, and all our great garage sale volunteers who help make trips like this one possible. Thanks!

Seth Rowe

## Linworthys News

(the 55 and over group)

Contact: Doug Stahle/Chuck Kemp

Our meeting Tuesday, **September 28** at 11:30 a.m. will be a Tailgate Party. Football season has arrived. We are going to try to display your favorite school colors this year. To add to the fun, come dressed in colors of either your school or your favorite team (optional). Not sports minded? Just come for the fellowship and support our Linworthy group. We always seem to have a great time. Our luncheon is hamburgers, potato salad, baked beans, and dessert. Only \$6.00 per person. Program pending. More publicity when finalized. Friends and visitors are welcome. You do not have to be a church member to become a part of this group. If interested call Mary Lu Webster, Telephone Contact Officer.

Mark your calendar for the October Mystery Trip on Tuesday, October 26. Cost: \$64. Time: 7:30 a.m.—6:30 p.m. Not a lot of walking. Tour guides said this is a trip not to miss!!!

## 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!**

## Mission Board Meeting

Contact: Sue Gabel

First Monday of every month. Next meeting is **September 13** (due to the holiday) at 7:00 p.m.



## Women's Ministries

## Evening Circle & Fellowship Day Circle Combining for September Event

We will be "Remembering Our Roots" the evening of **September 20** at 6:00 p.m. The UMW Fellowship Day Circle and the Evening Circle will join together for a potluck dinner at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall followed by a program designed to give us an understanding of how Linworth Church got started. Jim Thompson will take us on a journey back to the late 1800's to explore the connection Linworth has with the "Last of the Wyandottes" ...with Leatherlips and Bill Moose. We will learn the connection Elias Lewis and Elizabeth Davis had in the founding of Linworth Methodist Church. Bring a covered dish and join us for dinner and Jim's presentation about the basic history of Linworth United Methodist Church. This will be a potluck meeting open to everyone in the church. Contacts: Evening Circle—Sue Bowen & Linda Holloway; Fellowship Day Circle—Marlene Heltzel & Nancy Zimmerman.

## 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

This is a time to rejuvenate and reconnect with other moms. Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month, **September 13 & 27**, from 9:30–11:30 a.m. Child care is provided.

## 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 **September 24** at 9:30 a.m. in the Kitchen.

## MISSION PROJECT HELP

During the month of September we are collecting AAA and D batteries, along with sheets and bedding 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 cupboard opposite the Church Office, or they may be brought to any Circle or Board meeting. Thank you for your ongoing support.



Membership News

### Deaths:

Charley Thornton



## A Group For Young Adults

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

Fusion Fall study will be Life Matters, Bible Studies for Life. Life Matters has weekly personal Bible study readings, discussion guides, and more discussion topics aimed at moving biblical truths from the lesson into real life.

### September Schedule

- Sept 2—Planning & finalizing for Kick Off Event, 7 pm at church
- Sept 9—Fall Fusion Kick Off
- Sept 16—New Study, Life Matters
- Sept 23—New Study, Life Matters
- Sept 26 (Sunday) —Volunteer at Brunch
- Sept 30—Study, Life Matters

Contact Angela for more details at: [linworthfusion@gmail.com](mailto:linworthfusion@gmail.com)

Come one and all and invite a friend to:

## The Annual Community Picnic

Sunday, September 19

5:30—8:00 p.m.

Here at the Church

**There will be fun for all ages and lots of great food!**

Be sure and pick up an invitation to give to someone you know.



### Linworth's Endowment Program asks.....

- ⇒ Have you protected your assets and family by having had a will prepared?
- ⇒ Have you remembered the church as a legacy?

If you would like to speak to someone about these important life responsibilities, please call the church office and ask for a referral.

One of the Endowment Fund trustees will assist you.



**Come join the fun and fellowship of our Church Fall Garage Sale!**

**Mark Your Calendars NOW!**

**October 8th & 9th**

Set up starts on Sunday, October 3 and runs through Thursday, October 7. We need many hands to make this Sale a success so please keep this week open so you will be able to help.

To donate items to the Sale please call the church office at 336-8485. You can schedule a pick up during the sale week or find out how to bring your items over to the storage unit.

Please let your family, friends, and neighbors know about our Sale! A little free publicity never hurts.

Any questions can be directed to the church office at 336-8485.

## Operation Christmas Child Gearing Up

We know it's way too early to think about Christmas, but helping children enjoy a nicer Christmas has to start early to be successful. That is why we will be filling shoe box sized boxes with surprise gifts for children in developing countries in September and October. Jenifer Wynne and Win Smith will be contacting Sunday School classes and the congregation to help fill and wrap hundreds of boxes to send overseas to waiting children. Please be prepared to participate. For questions or to lend a hand call Jenifer.



## Get Your Hammer Ready to Help Habitat!

We expect to hear soon on our Habitat for Humanity schedule. Steve Beard is meeting with our partner churches to see how this can be another productive year in helping deserving families acquire a home of their own.

Correction: The following persons were inadvertently left out of the July New Life Meal article—Thanks to Barb Beymer, Helen Becker, Sandy Hebert, and Allen & Burdetta Moore.



## 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, September 14** in the church kitchen. If you can help contact Arlean Sudhoff.

⇒ The Rebecca's House meal will be prepared at 11:00 a.m. on **Tuesday, September 14** in the church kitchen. Call Arlean Sudhoff if you need information. If you would like to help serve the meal, contact Celeste Thomas.

⇒ The Sunday Brunch will be **September 26** from 9:45 a.m.—1:30 p.m. Come and enjoy the great food. Questions or want to volunteer? Call Marie Hardin.

⇒ The next Red Cross Blood Drive will be on **Saturday, September 18** from 8:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. If you can donate the gift of life, bake cookies, or work during the Blood Drive, contact Esther Hunter (336-8485, ext. 231).

⇒ Thank you to everyone who helped the Worthington Food Pantry & Resource Center move to the new location at 445 E Dublin Granville Road on the OSU/Harding Campus. We could not have done it without you!



Contact:  
Sharon McManis

## Linworth Campers

**September 3-5**

Cedarbrook Campground, Lebanon  
Hosts: Stu & Sondie Schwotzer

**September 24-25**

Lake Loramie State Park (Gourd Festival)  
Hosts: Ian & Jean Davidson

## Pastors' Hospital Visitation Schedules

Pastor Rae Lynn Schleif:  
Sunday, Thursday, Saturday

Pastor Gene Folden:  
Monday, Tuesday, Friday

Pastor Jeffery Dunn:  
Wednesday

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



**Linworth United Methodist Church**  
7070 Bent Tree Blvd.  
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*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)

course, at that rate, it will take me 6 years or more to see everyone! We have the Stephen Ministry, Staying In Touch, Prayer Group and we are currently in the midst of developing a Healing Prayer Ministry and team. All are ways to connect us with one another relationally and not miss needs and concerns, and a way for us to deepen our faith walk with one another. Many persons come into the church as the result of a shift or change in their lives. Being aware of those shifts and changes and offering support is the work of the clergy and the congregation.

5. Developing and strengthening our adult discipleship ministries.

We live in such busy times and have such a little amount of time to give to deepening our spiritual lives. I believe that one of the ways that we can become stronger and more connected as a congregation is to all be engaged at least once a year in a sermon series that follows a book study. This fall we are all invited to study the book Treasures of the Transformed Life as a part of our stewardship month. Sign up to buy a book. In January Pastors Gene, Jeff and I will launch the new year with the preaching series on the book Three Simple Rules.

This fall studies will be taught on Treasures of the Transformed Life, healing prayer, and Disciple Bible Study I. I am a firm believer that joining a study group is essential for living out our faith well.

6. Preparing and offering worship that responds to our current community and considers how we may reach those we are not engaging.

Worship is the one time of the week when the entire community of faith comes together to praise God and enter into community with God and with one another. We will continue to strengthen our current worship styles, traditional and contemporary, giving the best that we can give to God. We will begin to ask, who is missing? Which age demographic? Do we need to create a new worship service? What would it look like, who will we be trying to reach? What would be the best time of the week? This will be a study, think tank, not an implementation group. Issues around worship times and styles are emotional and need to honor how we each already are drawn to worship as we look to the future.

Well, that will keep me and all of us involved and engaged for more than the next year. I will be calling upon many of you in the months ahead to work with the staff and me as we listen to God and move forward creating community, growing in Christ and serving the world.

Rae Lynn