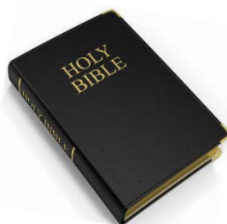


Linway Church In Touch

Staying In Touch Without Touch

May 13, 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR



Dear Friends,

Greetings! The resumption of activities on a limited basis has begun for us as Allegheny County is one of the counties in southwestern Pennsylvania that has been lifted from red status to yellow status. This simply means that the first, limited steps can be taken to resume the activities we practiced before the Corona Virus spread over our country and around the world. Unfortunately, this does not include the opening of public, corporate worship. That probably remains for several week in the future provided there is not a resurgence of the virus. I know that the virtual messages I have recorded have been appreciated as some have told me. Caution is still the watchword as we begin to exercise more liberty to come and go as we please. Our individual caution may not only prevent someone else from contracting this virus, but may keep us safe as well. I look forward to the time when we may gather at our Lord's Linway Church for worship and service. I know that you are as anxious to resume our "normal" activities as I am.

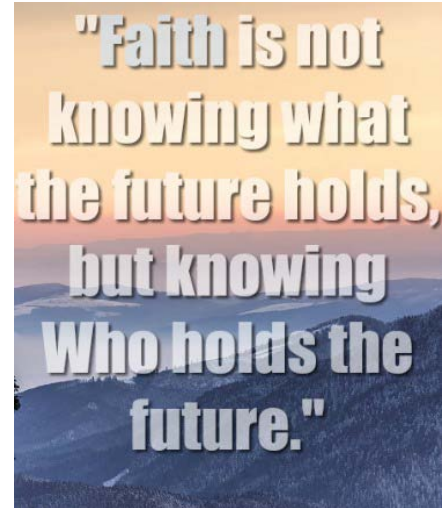
This coming Lord's Day, May 17th, is the Sixth Sunday in the Easter Season. It is also listed as *Mission Worker Sunday* on our Presbyterian Church (USA) Planning Calendar. There was a time when congregations would have a Missionary, who was home on furlough, come and give a presentation on their efforts in the Mission Field. Technology has made it possible for people to communicate mission work to a far greater audience. You can search the National P.C. (USA) website for information at www.pcusa.org and see what communications they have to offer. Nevertheless, we would do well to remember the men and women who have felt the call to the Mission Fields as we worship. They are grateful for our prayers and they need our financial support as well. Part of the money we send to support our denomination does go to mission work both here in our country and in other parts of the world. I am asking once again that you take time, find time, and make time, for your own private, or family devotional worship. Please include *Mission Workers* in your prayers.

Let me share with you the Scripture readings designated for this coming Sunday, May 17th, the Sixth Sunday of Easter:

- [Psalm 66:8-20](#)
- [Acts 17:22-31](#)
- Epistle: [1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11](#)
- Gospel: [John 14:15-21](#)

As before, I encourage you to read one or all of the Scripture texts. I would like to share the message based on Acts 17:22-31. As Paul waited for his companions Silas and Timothy to join him in Athens, Paul was *deeply distressed to see that the city was full of idols* (verse 16). The pantheon of Greek gods and goddesses was well known in the ancient world, and many of the same gods had been adopted and rebranded by the Romans. Most of these gods were linked with some aspect of life such as: romance, reason, war, or even messaging. Religious cults developed around each god or goddess, and their temples were well known across the Roman world. It is important to understand that a person's religious faith is actually shorthand for the lens through which that person sets priorities, focuses on desires, and looks at the rest of the world. Sometimes it is called one's world view. The "*Who*" one worships has a great deal to do with one's world view.

Today, the number of people who declare themselves to be people of no religious faith is on the rise. According to statistics, they accounted for 23.1 percent of the U.S. population in 2019. That reveals an increase from 21.3 percent in 2016. It also means that people who claim no religious faith are statistically tied with Roman Catholic Christians on a percentage basis in the country. If they claim to have no religious faith, in what do they believe? Followers of Jesus Christ do not believe in "*what*". We believe in "*Who*"! This was Paul's message, and it must be ours as well.



I will be writing to you again next week. I will also give a message from the Linway Sanctuary that will be available on the Linway Church Facebook page and on the Linway website at www.LinwayChurch.org for this coming Sunday, May 17th. For those able to access this technology, I hope you find it meaningful. I sincerely look forward to the day when it is finally safe to welcome you for worship at our Lord's Linway Church.

With services and programs suspended, there has been a slight decrease in our utility expenses. That is helpful, but there are still expenses that must be covered for our Lord's Linway Church. While your support has **always** been appreciated, it is necessary more than ever now. Finally, let me encourage you to continue to send your tithe and offering to the church. As always, you may send your offering envelope by mail, or you can use the new electronic system called *Tithe.ly*. There is information about how to access this technology in the monthly newsletter and on the Linway website. It is one more way we can stay connected as we seek to live out our faith in the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. In the meantime, keep the faith and stay safe.

God Bless You,

Eric E. Dennis, Pastor



*Please remember the following
in our prayers:*

Helen Alexander	Anne
John Arnold	Dennis Bernhardt
Betty Brinker	Charlotte
Bill Chobanic	Clay & Lois
Dorothy	Cindy Druga
Mike Feigh	Betty Frommell
Gloria	Jason & Jackie
Karen	Tim King
Audrey Koppel	Edward Lloyd
Rita Marrow	Nellie Nicholls
Nan Oskin	Carol Pascarella
Pat	Fran Pepler
Ann Puscaric	Renee
Doreen Sever	Linda Smith
Michelle Smith	Cindy Taylor
Jim Welsh	Irene Young

*“I constantly remember you
in my prayers night and day.”
-2 Timothy 1: 3*



WE HAVE TROUBLES

**ALL AROUND US,
BUT WE ARE NOT DEFEATED.**

WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT TO DO,

**BUT WE DO NOT
GIVE UP THE HOPE
OF LIVING...**

**WE ARE HURT SOMETIMES,
BUT WE ARE NOT DESTROYED.**

2 CORINTHIANS 4: 8-9 NCV

Linway United Presbyterian Church

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Church Office: 412-824-3555 contact@linwaychurch.org

Church Website: www.LinwayChurch.org Facebook Page: [Linway Church](https://www.facebook.com/LinwayChurch)

We are happy to announce
plans are underway for our:



CHICKEN BARBECUE
FUNDRAISER

Take-Out Meals Only

at

Linway United

Presbyterian Church

600 Lincoln Highway (Rt. 30)

in North Versailles

Saturday, June 6

Held on the Front Lawn - Rain or Shine

HOURS: To Be Determined

COST: To Be Determined

More information will be shared
when it is available.