



The Linway News

July/August 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR



Dear Friends,

Greetings! Welcome to summer. This summer is different from last summer. It feels different. The shadow of the Corona Virus Pandemic seems to have lifted. People are beginning to think that our summer will be more like what we remember summers used to be. You can almost hear the sigh of relief from families as they plan their summer. Where can we go? What shall we do?

In the gospel according to Mark chapter four, a large crowd came to hear Jesus by the Sea of Galilee. In an effort to be heard, he got into a boat and set off from the shore so that he could speak so that all on shore could hear him. He taught them with many parables. When evening came Jesus said to his disciples in the boat, *let us go across to the other side* (Mark 4:35).

They set off from the relative safety of the near shore to cross the Sea of Galilee. It was evening and storm clouds loomed. When they were midway in the crossing, a horrible storm arose. Waves began crashing against the boat and no doubt some were splashing into the boat. The boat was in danger of sinking due to taking on so much water. The disciples began to panic, and all the while Jesus was asleep in the stern of the boat.

The disciples wake him up screaming over the storm: *Teacher, do you not care if we perish?* (Mark 4:38). Jesus arises, rebukes the wind and the waves, and he then speaks to the lake: *Peace! Be still!* (Mark 4:39). To the disciples' astonishment, the wind and the

waves settle down, and there was a great calm. Jesus turns to his disciples and says: *Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?* (Mark 4:40). The author of the gospel indicates that the disciples were filled with *awe* (Mark 4:41) and they begin to ask each other: *Who is this that even the wind and the sea obey him?* (Mark 4:41).

I think it is important to note that this nighttime sailing was Jesus' idea. This gives us an important insight. When you sign on with Jesus, that is no guarantee of smooth sailing. When the waves began to beat against the side of the boat, and the boat began to take on water, the disciples were afraid they were about to drown. I think what they say out of their fear is significant: *Teacher, do you not care if we perish?*

Isn't this question one that resonated with all of us? Isn't this the question that surfaces when we find ourselves in great distress? Isn't this the question that we want answered by God? Even if we do not have the courage to ask this question openly, isn't it the one we want answered: *Teacher, don't you care? Son of God, don't you care?*

Yes Jesus cares, but not always in the way we expect and want him to care. He cares by calling us, sometimes calling us to venture forth in the storm. Faith is not having all of the answers. Faith is the willingness to follow Jesus wherever he leads us. It takes courage and strength to live out the truth that was expressed by the Apostle Paul in his letter to the community of faith in Rome, chapter eight: *For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor*

depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. All this is because Jesus cares.

As you have opportunity to travel this summer, let me invite you to worship with family, friends, and strangers who are our brothers and sisters in the Lord. Jesus does care for you, and he cares for them also. Worship is part of our response to the call of Jesus on our life to follow him where he will lead us. Let me invite you to stay current with your offerings and gifts to Linway. As we worship and work together, we become a beacon of witness to those looking for the One who is *the way, the truth, and the life*.

Please review the information contained in the rest of this newsletter. It can be a great help as we plan our continuing witness. By the grace of God we are one people and together part of the Body of Christ in this time and place. I look forward to sharing with you the worthy and sacred work of worship, mission, and ministry at our Lord's Linway Church.

Grace & Peace,
Eric E. Dennis, Pastor

Summer Worship Schedule

Sunday 9:15 a.m. Contemporary Service
Sunday 10:30 a.m. Traditional Service

This schedule will remain in effect through September 5.

The Session

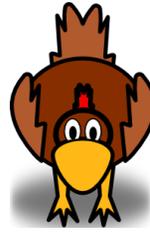
The Worship Service Policies that were approved by the Session on May 18 are still in effect, this includes the use of masks until you are seated in a pew. We thank you for your cooperation in following our policies.

Next Session Meeting: August 31 at 7:00 pm

Fundraising Committee

Chicken Barbecue

Saturday, July 24 3:00 - ???



Dinners are for take-out only. Pull into the East Parking Lot to order. The cost is \$10.00 per dinner, and includes half of a delicious barbecued chicken, baked potato, coleslaw, and roll & butter. They sell out fast!

Volunteers Needed for Chicken Barbecue

To make our Chicken BBQ Fundraiser a success, we need volunteers to help in a number of ways both Friday & Saturday, July 23 & 24. Please contact Scott Gray at 412-977-8254 if you can help on Friday starting at 11:00 to prepare the chicken and the potatoes. Please contact Keith Eremic at 412-455-8385 if you are able to help on Saturday starting at 2:15 with set-up, serve, & clean-up.



Linway Quilt Raffle

The sewing group of Linway made a beautiful, king-size winter quilt to be raffled off at last year's Fall Festival...and then along came COVID. We are now moving ahead with the raffle and plan to draw the winner on Sunday, November 13, 2021. Tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 tickets for \$5.00. All proceeds, minus the cost of the fabric and quilting, will be donated to the church.

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Linway Quilt Raffle

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To help make this fundraiser a success, please share our raffle information with friends and family. Tickets will soon be available after the Sunday services, or by contacting Clara Welty, Nancy Waszkiewicz, or the church office. Tickets will also be available at our Chicken Barbecue on July 24.

Property Committee

Work continues in the basement. Thank you to Rick & Ricky Morgan who have been doing the bulk of the work and to the extra hands and backs that have also helped with this project.



Lawn Care Donations Requested

It's Grass Cutting Time! We would appreciate donations

toward our Lawn Care Fund to help defray the cost of the lawn mowing service that takes care of the church's lawn and landscaping. Each weekly cut of the grass costs \$40.00. If you are willing and able to help with this expense, please use one of the all-purpose pew envelopes and designate it for "Lawn Care" or mark it on your check memo line. Thank you so much for helping us keep the church's lawn and grounds looking nice.

Deacons

Next Deacon Meeting: in-person meeting on Sunday, September 12.

Christian Education Committee

Children's Sunday School

Session approved that we may begin holding Sunday School every other Sunday starting in July. The kids would wear masks, sit apart from each other, and each child would have his/her

own baggie of crayons, scissors, & glue stick. At the moment we have a limited number of teachers and helpers, so that is why we are offering it every other Sunday. If you would be willing to be a teacher or a helper, please contact the church office. Adults teaching or helping with Sunday school would need to have their clearances on file in the church office. There is no charge to get your clearances, and the office has more information on how to do this.

VBS: July 10 at East Field!

We are holding a one day Vacation Bible School the morning of Saturday, July 10 at East Field in East McKeesport! The age range is for kids who have completed kindergarten through 5th grade.

Plans are:

8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. Check-in/Registration +

Parent/Caregiver-Supervised Carnival Fun!

9:30 a.m. Parents/Caregivers may leave

Noon Parents/Caregivers Pick-up their Child

A registration form is included with this newsletter and is also available on the church website. Please share with a family who may have a child interested in participating.

If you are willing to help in any way with VBS, please contact the church office or a Christian Education member.

Linway Preschool

Registration for 2021-2022 School Year

If you or someone you know is interested in enrolling a child in the Linway Preschool program starting this September, please contact the church office at 412-824-3555 and we provide registration information. Classes are held September thru May. Three-year olds meet Tuesdays and Thursdays. Four-year olds meet Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. More information, including registration forms, is on our church website.

Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels operates out of the Linway kitchen 5 days a week to provide meals for their clients. More information on Meals on Wheels is available at: 412-327-6908.

Linway Church will be providing desserts for Meals on Wheels: July 12-16 and July 19-23.

If you would like to provide store-bought, pre-packaged desserts, please take them to the church kitchen Mon-Friday 7:00 am –10:30 am.

They cannot accept home-made items. They also welcome pre-packaged sugar-free dessert items too!

If you wish to send money towards a dessert, please place your donation in the offering box and label it "For Meals on Wheels" or mail your check to: Meals on Wheels

600 Lincoln Highway
North Versailles, PA 15137

Need for Prayer

Please remember the following in our prayers:



Helen Alexander, John Arnold,
Tracy Augustin, Alyssa Bernhardt,
Betty Brinker, Janet Doherty,
Richard Eboli, Bobby Fazio, Mike Feigh,
Wally Fox, Betty Frommell,

Jim Hawthorne, Richard Hickox, Nancy Kelley,
Kim, Bill & Carmella Knight, Audrey Koppel,
Jean Lawton, Linda, Lois, Rita Marrow,
Loretta Matsko, Carol Pascarella, Joey Pecar,
Renee, Rick, Debbie Ruffing, Barbara Shoop,
Ellen Stevens, Samantha Stewart,
David Swauger, Cindy Taylor, Wilma Taylor,
Pat Vastadore, Irene Young

Women's Breakfast

Mon., July 5 and Monday, Aug. 2 at 10:00 a.m. at North Versailles Eat 'N Park. Any woman from the church is welcome to come. Contact Nancy Waszkiewicz at 412-823-3916 with questions.

With Our Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to Linda Wirth and the Wirth Family. Gene "Ted" Wirth, a long-time member of Linway, went home to be with our Lord on May 29.

We extend our sympathy to the Churchfield Family. Don Churchfield, a long-time member of Linway, went home to be with our Lord on June 24.

Thank You

Sandi, Tracey, and the Szmuc Family are thankful for your support, cards, visits, and prayers during Tom's long illness. We thank God every day for Linway and our supportive church family.

God is good to us all!

-Sandi

Thank you for the love and support you have given us when Ted was ill and when he passed away. The cards, the memorials, the Elder Service, and serving the funeral luncheon has meant so much. We appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,

Linda, Jeff, & Greg Wirth and Family

Thank you for the well wishes, kind thoughts, and prayers that are helping me on my road to recovery after my back surgery.

Sincerely,

Pat Vastadore

Happy Anniversary!



Happy July Anniversary to:

Melanie & Brian Blackall
Chrissy & Keith Eremic
Fran & Nick Sivrich
Peggy & Nick Sivrich
Bill & Carmella Knight
Kris & Shannon Daugherty
Judy & Don Augustin
Pam & Scott Susan

Happy August Anniversary to:

Amy & Wayne Gida

Happy Birthday!

Happy July Birthday to:

Kathy Berger	John Masters
Laura Shawley	Mia Sivrich
Mary Lou Fawcett	Deanna Walters
Nancy Hilbert	



Happy August Birthday to:

Kristopher Daugherty	Linda Wirth
Camden Daugherty	Jamie Stewart
Tatiana Ritz	Mike Marrow
Helen Alexander	Keith Eremic
Don Watt	Thomas Hazard
Jeannette Briggs	

Projector Operators Needed



We are in need of a few more folks to help video and run the slideshow during the worship service. Please contact the church office if you are willing to lend a hand.

**This is the day the
LORD has made;
let us rejoice and
be glad in it!**
Psalm 118:24



MA's Pantry

Matching Donations for MA's Pantry Through the Pittsburgh Foundation's Day of Giving

The Pittsburgh Foundation will match online gifts given to them on August 3 for our local Food Bank, MA's Pantry! This was a very successful fundraiser for the Pantry last year, and their goal this year is to raise \$35,000. Linway will collect monetary donations for MA's Pantry through August 1 and will make one online gift from Linway.

YOU DONATE + THEY MATCH =
DOUBLE THE IMPACT!

This is a great opportunity to double your monetary gift for the Pantry! Since we are combining all donations given through Linway, no monetary amount is too small. If you'd like to help, please mail your donation to Linway or place in the offering box by Aug. 1. Checks should be made payable to "Linway Church" and in the memo line mark that it is for "MA's Pantry".

Thank you for helping those in need!

Special Music for the Summer

We are seeking individuals who would like to provide any type of Special Music for a Sunday service during the summer. If you would like to share your gift of music at one of the summer services, please contact the church office.



Summer Office Hours



The office will be closed on July 5 and then will be open during the summer the following times:
Monday thru Thursday
9:00 - Noon.

As always, if you need something, please leave a message on the machine, and we will get back with you.

Next Newsletter: September

Please note: this is the combined July/August edition of the Linway News. The next newsletter you will receive will be in Sept.

EA High School Musical

East Allegheny's premier of the musical, *A Pirate's Tale*, will set sail this month. The students were ready to perform this musical in the spring of 2020, but the pandemic knocked the ship off course and it ran aground two weeks before opening night. The cast is again rehearsing their swashbuckling and they can't wait to perform the show.

Several Linway members participate in this production. Kaitlyn Gida is the Assistant Producer and a crew member aboard the Spanish frigate that gets taken over by the pirates. Zach Hilbert used his carpentry and construction skills to fill the stage with an enormous pirate ship. TJ Cornell plays the dim-witted pirate, who can skillfully swordfight, but can't handle a painful splinter in his finger.

Performances are in the EA HS Auditorium July 15, 16, & 17 at 7:30 p.m. and a matinee at 2:00 on July 17. Ticket prices are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students & seniors. Tickets may be purchased in advance at <https://easd.booktix.com> or at the door. Non-vaccinated patrons are asked to wear a mask. Come on out and enjoy the show!

The Linway News

Linway United Presbyterian Church
600 Lincoln Highway, N. Versailles, Pa 15137
Church Phone: (412) 824-3555

www.LinwayChurch.org

LinwayChurch Facebook Page

Church Office Summer Hours:
Monday thru Thursday 9:00- Noon

Church Staff:

Pastor: Rev. Eric E. Dennis

Email: pastor@linwaychurch.org

Church Office Manager: Leanne Cornell

Email: contact@linwaychurch.org

Financial Secretary: Christine Stewart

Email: financial@linwaychurch.org

Choir Director: Margaret Dennis

Organist: Nancy Kelley

Deadline for newsletter information is usually the Sunday before the last Sunday of the month.

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**Happy
Fourth of July!**

