



The Linway News

June 2022

Linway United
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Celebrating 125 Years

1897 - 2022

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR



Dear Friends,

Greetings! Can it really be true? Am I sitting down to write my article for the June newsletter? It just seems that yesterday I was sitting here writing my May newsletter article. We are almost half way through the year! Spring has come. We have been mowing the lawn for almost two months. Gardens have been planted. Memorial Day, with the gathering of family and friends, is here. *Tempus fugit*: it seems that time really does fly.

Our faith does speak about time. Time is understood as either *Chronos*, meaning calendar time that is ordinary, or *Kairos*, meaning the appointed time for the fulfillment of God's purpose. In the Apostle Paul's letter to the community of faith in Rome, he wrote: *While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.* Paul was not speaking of calendar time, but of *Kairos*, the appointed time for the fulfillment of God's purpose. According to God's purpose, the gift of Jesus Christ, from birth through his earthly ministry, crucifixion, and resurrection, occurred at precisely the correct time.

We can only begin to understand this when we realize that God's time is not comparable to time as we understand it. God's time is perfect. There is an old saying that: *God's actions are rarely early, but never late.* On the other hand, we humans know what it means to us to be early or late for a scheduled appointment. There is also an old saying that pertains to

human punctuality: *to be early is to be on time. To be on time is to be late.*

This year the celebration of the *Day of Pentecost* occurs on June 5th. It is the celebration of the gift of the Holy Spirit as recorded in the New Testament Acts of the Apostles chapter two. At this *Kairos* moment, the promise that Jesus made to the disciples was fulfilled, and the Holy Spirit was given to be our companion, counselor, and guide in our calendar time. The Holy Spirit is the fulfillment of God's *Kairos* and our ordinary calendar time. And God's gift to us through Jesus Christ and the outpouring of God's Holy Spirit is perfect. As another old saying reminds us: *timing is everything.*

It just so happens that on the Day of Pentecost this year, our Lord's Linway congregation will mark the 125th Anniversary of being chartered. Sometimes the Day of Pentecost is referred to as *the Birthday of the Church*. It couldn't be more perfect for the Linway congregation to celebrate its 125th birthday than on this day. In the calendar year 1897 a group of Reformed Christians petitioned their Presbytery to charter a new congregation in East McKeesport. They wanted to be able to worship and engage in ministry in their local congregation without having to travel an extended distance. Their petition was approved, and the First Presbyterian Church of East McKeesport was chartered.

Over the years the congregation has witnessed many changes. It witnessed many wars with the service and sacrifice of several young members. It witnessed the Spanish Flu Pandemic that saw that illness



Celebrating 125 Years
1897 - 2022

Join Us Sunday, June 5
To Celebrate!

Plans Include:

Worship Services at 9:15 & 10:30
Lunch on the Lawn
Displays from the Time Capsule
Bounce House
Activities for Kids
And More!

The Community is Invited!

Please reach out to
friends from Linway
and invite them to join us.

Activities will conclude at 3:00.

Help Is Needed:

If you can lend a hand
with any of these activities
or have an item to include
when the Time Capsule is re-sealed,
please contact Keith Eremic or
the church office.

Church Picnic: Not Held in June

With all the festivities going on with the 125th Celebration, the annual Church Picnic at White Oak Park will not be held this month.

take many from our community. The name of our congregation may have changed, and that's an interesting story, but the purpose of this congregation has remained steadfastly the same. We worship in the Reformed tradition with an emphasis on the Word of God read, proclaimed, and made visible in the Sacraments. These have been called the marks of the true church. These are the standards to which our Lord's Linway Church has endeavored to embody for 125 years.

Along with worship, the church has sought to engage in mission and ministry to the East McKeesport and North Versailles communities. Sunday School and Vacation Bible School have long been an outreach to families. In 1975, the leadership of the congregation established *the Linway Nursery School* which continues today as *the Linway Preschool*. Linway, along with four other Christian congregations in the community, founded MA's Pantry with the purpose of serving unemployed, under employed, and needy families in the East McKeesport and North Versailles communities. This is just a sample of the ministry of our Lord's Linway Church.

You can view memorabilia from our 1997 time capsule and help us celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the chartering of Linway by coming to worship and staying for refreshments and activities on the lawn. Pass the word and plan to take time to be here on June 5.

Please review the information contained in the rest of this newsletter. It can be a 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



Memorial Day: May 30

Rev. Dennis is giving the Invocation and Benediction at the annual community Memorial Day Service to honor and remember our Veterans at 11:00 a.m. at the Grandview Cemetery located along Route 30 at 1301 Lincoln Highway in North Versailles. We suggest taking along a lawn chair, sunscreen, and a hat.

May 29th Video Recording Unavailable

Due to the Memorial Day Holiday, there will not be a video recording of the May 29th worship service. We apologize for the inconvenience.



Father's Day: Sun., June 19

We wish a very Happy Father's Day!

to all of our fathers and grandfathers and also to all of the men of Linway who share their concern and care for others! We also fondly remember the men in our lives who have gone home to the Church Triumphant.

"A righteous man who always walks in his integrity; how blessed are his sons after him."
Proverbs 20: 7

The Session

Next Session Meeting: June 21 7:30 pm
This will be an in-person meeting downstairs in the Friendly Fellowship Room.



Fundraising Committee

Thank You to everyone who helped in any way with our chicken barbecue in May!

Thank You to those who purchased gift cards to support our Gift Card Fundraiser in May!

Giving Bean Coffee & Tea On-Going

Fundraiser: Online orders may be placed directly with Giving Bean at any time and

Linway will earn 25% of the sale. Orders will then be shipped directly to you. Use this link to order:

<https://www.givingbean.com/store/home.php?partner=83fa1#.YgaOeJbMJPY>

Sarris Candy: is available after the worship service or by contacting the church office.

The following flavors of 2 oz. candy bars are available for \$1 each: milk chocolate, almond, peanut butter, or crisp rice. Also available are packages of 2 chocolate covered pretzel rods for \$2 per package.

Gift Cards: Giant Eagle Gift Cards in various amounts are always available for purchase after the 10:30 worship service or by calling the church office. The church receives a percent of each gift card that is purchased.

Property Committee

Thank You:

B-1 Storage Room Renovation

Progress continues to be made with the renovations to the basement storage room used by Meals on Wheels. Thank You to everyone who has 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

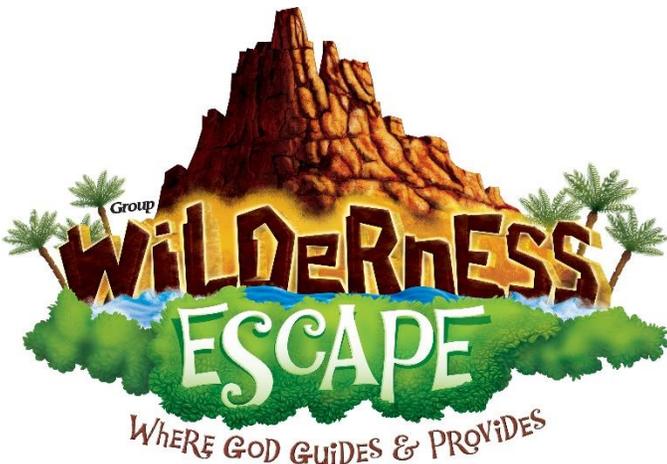
Next Deacon Meeting: Tentatively set for June 5 at 9:00 a.m. in the Friendly Fellowship Room. Moderator Glenn Marrow will email to confirm.

The Deacons handed out carnations to all of the women in church on Mother's Day. Additionally, the Board of Deacons would like to send out a big congratulations to our church's high school graduates.

Christian Education Committee

Save the Date: VBS July 18 - 21
6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

For Ages: 5 years old by Sept. 1 thru
completion of 5th grade



VBS: Help Needed

Planning Meeting June 7 at 7:30 p.m.

If you are willing to help in any way with VBS, please contact Jaime Ruffing at 412-823-1901. There will be a VBS Planning Meeting on Tuesday, June 7 at 7:30 p.m. downstairs in the Friendly Fellowship Room for those able to lend a hand with VBS. Please come and help us plan!

Linway Retreat

Forty individuals attended the Linway Retreat at Ligonier Camp & Conference Center on May 7. Though the weather could have been warmer, everyone had an enjoyable day. It was a good way for everyone to comfortably get back into our retreat after not being able to have it for a few years due to the pandemic. Thank you to Amy and Wayne Gida for organizing it!

Kid's Club: Summer Break

Kid's Club will meet on May 25 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. but this will be the last date until they meet again in the Fall. Thank you to everyone who participated in or helped with Kid's Club!

Linway Preschool

Registrations for 2022/23 are now being accepted. Classes will begin the end of August/early September. The 3 Year Olds Class will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The 4 Year Olds Class will be held on Mondays, Wednesday, and Fridays. Contact the church office for more information.

Music Ministry

Handbell Choir: The Linway Handbell Choir started meeting in May with a mix of experienced and unexperienced players. If you would like to give it a try, you are welcome to come to practice on Thursdays at 6:00. Previous experience is not needed. Please use the West Door (near the grand piano). Talk to our organist, George Hawkins, if you have any questions.



Chancel Choir: The choir will be singing during the 10:30 service on June 5, but then will take a break for the summer. The last regular rehearsal will be on Thursday, June 2 at 7:00 p.m.

Special Music for the Summer



We are seeking individuals who would like to provide 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 or George Hawkins.

Women's Breakfast

The first Monday of the month, the women of Linway get together for breakfast at 10:00 a.m. at North Versailles Eat 'N Park. Any woman from the church is welcome. Contact Nancy Waszkiewicz 412-823-3916 or Sandy Hillgartner at 412-877-1518 with questions.

Men's Breakfast

The men are also getting together for breakfast at 8:00 a.m. at North Versailles Eat 'N Park, however their next breakfast date has not yet been determined. Watch the bulletin for the next Men's Breakfast date or contact the church office. All men are invited.

Craft Ladies

The Craft Ladies meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 12:30 downstairs in the Friendly Fellowship Room. Ladies are welcome to bring along a craft to work on while enjoying fellowship. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Waszkiewicz or Clara Welty.

*"Whatever is true,
whatever is honorable,
whatever is just, whatever is pure,
whatever is lovely...
think about these things."
Philippians 4: 8*

Meals on Wheels

Congratulations to Vi Hensler who is retiring after many years of service as coordinator of the East Allegheny Meals on Wheels. Vi will be "passing the baton" to former Linway member Terry Claycomb, who will be the new coordinator. Terry also has been volunteering with Meals on Wheels for several years. We'll still be able to find Vi downstairs in the kitchen since she plans to continue volunteering with 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 by calling: 412-327-6908.

New Baby Congrats!

Congratulations to Kris and Shannon Daugherty and big brother Camden on the arrival of Lily Rose in early May. Please continue to remember Lily and her family in your prayers. Lily was eager to enter the world in time for Mother's Day and arrived a little earlier than expected.

You're Invited: 65th Party!

The Wetzler family invite you to help Jim and Linda Celebrate their 65th Wedding Anniversary on Sunday, June 19. Everyone is invited to the Social Hall immediately following the 10:30 worship service for some anniversary cake. Linda and Jim are giving strict orders that they would like everyone's "presence" but do not want any "presents". The best gift you can give is your smiling face to help them celebrate this milestone!

Congrats H.S. Grads!



Three students were recognized on May 22 during our annual Cross and Crown Ceremony to honor our high school graduates:

Andrew Mahoney,

East Allegheny High School

Andrew is the son of David and Jodi Mahoney. At East Allegheny, Andrew participated in STEM Club, was on the Honor Roll, recognized in the Senior Spotlight, and volunteered for various school activities. Andrew played baseball through EA Athletic Association. He is a 3rd Degree Black Belt in Tang Soo Do and a 1st Degree Black Belt in Haidog Gumdo. He also is a member of the Bridge City Church Youth Group and has helped at Linway with set-up/clean-up for various church functions. After graduation, Andrew will be entering the United States Air Force, seeking to become a Pararescueman.

Matthew Mahoney,

East Allegheny High School

Matthew is the son of David and Jodi Mahoney. At East Allegheny, Matthew participated in STEM Club and Chorus, was a member of the National Honor Society, was on the High Honor Roll, and received student recognitions all four years of high school. He received a Certification in Building Construction Technology from the Forbes Road Career and Technology Center. Matthew played basketball through the White Oak and EA Athletic Associations, and he is a 3rd Degree Black Belt in Haidog Gumdo. He has volunteered for various school activities and for United Health Care. At Linway, Matthew has helped with Property Committee projects, chicken barbecues, fall festival, flea market, and December's Christmas Nativity. After graduation, Matthew will be working at the McKeesport Housing Authority again this

summer, and then plans to attend a trade school or become an apprentice in the Fall

Jacob Young,

Norwin High School

Jake is the son of Glen Young and Stephanie Young. At Norwin, Jake participated in Football, Track, Chamber Choir, and Show Choir. He received the 2nd Team All-Conference Award for Football, was nominated for the Bill Fralic Award, and selected to play in the PSFCA East-West Game. Jake will be attending Notre Dame College of Ohio in the Fall.

Congrats College Grad!

Congratulations to Katie McKeever who graduated in May with high honors with a degree in Psychology from Theil College. She will be attending IUP in the fall seeking her Master's Degree. Katie is the daughter of Diana McKeever and Kevin Aston.

Our Daily Bread

The June-July-August edition of *Our Daily Bread* is available at the Sanctuary entrance. Please pick-up your free copy of this daily devotional booklet and grow your relationship with our Lord.

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.



Next Newsletter: July/Aug

A reminder that the next Linway News is the July/August edition.

Need for Prayer

Please remember the following in our prayers:



Michelle B., Margaret,
John Campbell, Lily Daugherty,
Daxton, Gwen DeSarno,
Janet Doherty, Dorian, Mike Feigh,
Wally Fox, Charlie Freyer,
Betty Frommell, Michelle H.,
Bev Harcum, Heather Hardcastle,

Jill Hardy, Richard Hickox, Jean Lawton,
Jill M., Ken M., Rita Marrow, Linda P.,
Carol Pascarella, Joey Pecar, Renee R.,
Cindy S., Barbara Shoop, Michelle Smith,
Sophia, Ariella T., Leslie T., Cindy Taylor,
Peg Torbich, Arnetta W., Ed Waszkiewicz,
Jim & Linda Wetzler, Carol Wolf

Happy Anniversary!



Happy June Anniversary to:

Jackie & Tom Thornton
Jaime & Ed Ruffing
Linda & Jim Wetzler

Happy Birthday!

Happy June Birthday to:

Dorothy Black
Tom Thornton
Willie Marrow
Duane Welty
Cathy Walters
Ed Matko



Samantha Stewart
Stephanie Spingola

Caden Sivrich
Pam Susan
Scott Susan
Dale Frye
Deanna Buchman
Jacquelyn Ruffing
Ellen Hardy
Marissa Lapp

Summer Office Hours



Church Office
Summer Hours

The office will be closed on
Memorial Day and then will
be open during the summer:

Monday-Thursday 9:00-Noon

MA's Pantry

MA's Pantry Seeking New President

Recently, Ed Sites announced his retirement as President of MA's Pantry. The Pantry is in great shape and running smoothly with things like new equipment; ample, dependable and energetic volunteers; a strong organization with all the approvals and permissions necessary to function; a working Board; strong community support; and financially in the black.

Please prayerfully consider whether you or someone you know might be a good fit to help at the Pantry. This is a needed and rewarding opportunity to serve the North Versailles and East McKeesport communities. For information, please call the MA's Pantry office at 412-824-0277.

WE Are The Church: 125 Years

Some Thoughts
from Frank Kordalski, Jr.

Hello all, your friendly local church historian here! Can you believe that our congregation is 125 years old?? Well, I can! (I guess I'm predisposed to say this, being that the study of history is a passion of mine).

Historically, 1897 was quite a year! On May 14th, the patriotic march by John Philip Sousa, *The Stars and Stripes Forever*, was performed for the first time. On May 26th, the novel *Dracula* was originally published. June 22 saw the festivities surrounding Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee (a milestone not reached again until her great-great-granddaughter Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee in 2012). The Klondike Gold Rush began in July of that year (an event which went on to inspire Jack London to write some of his many esteemed stories).

Did you know that Linway has connections to some major historical figures? Well, it's true! According to a

Pittsburg Press article from Nov. 26, 1900, George Westinghouse donated \$500 to the new First Presbyterian Church of East McKeesport, which has since been renamed Linway Presbyterian Church. James Evans, president of the National Bank of McKeesport, also donated \$500. Andrew Carnegie procured the original church building's pipe organ. When the original church building was completed (down at the corner of Fifth Avenue and modern-day Route 30), dedication services were overseen by our first pastor, Rev. Charles Huss, and "a dedicatory sermon" was preached by Rev. A.H. Jolly of Carrick.

Also, just think of all of the changes that have occurred in the last 125 years. Early on in Linway's existence, automobiles were practically non-existent (The first American-made automobile was designed only a few years before, in 1893, by Frank and Charles Duryea of Springfield, Massachusetts). Many members of our church who remembered the first three decades of Linway's existence have moved onto their eternal home, but they certainly would have had quite different recollections of what the East McKeesport/North Versailles area was like. My grandfather, who grew up in the 1920s and 1930s in the structure that sits at 620 Lincoln Highway, remembered a time when "The Highway" was a two-lane road.

There were certainly many more congregations in existence 100, or even 50 or 25 years ago. I can recall the Religion Page in *The McKeesport Daily News* being several pages long with details surrounding weekly events at local churches. Now, there are far fewer congregations in existence in our area. *The Daily News* also joined the annals of history.

I didn't make that statement in order to end this article on a low note. Rather, I would like to end my historical musings on

a high note – Linway United Presbyterian Church *is* still here. I know there is much attachment of a congregation to its church building (and don't get me wrong, I love Linway's stained glass windows) – but we, the Linway Church family, make up Linway United Presbyterian Church.

WE are the church, and we all should rejoice that we're able to celebrate 125 years of continuous history in the East McKeesport-area! We sent our sons and daughters to fight in countless wars – from the World Wars thru Korea and Vietnam to the War on Terror. We weathered the so-called Spanish Flu pandemic, and we continue to weather the Corona Virus pandemic. With God's grace and continued hard work, in the year 2147 perhaps our descendants will be celebrating the 250th anniversary of Linway's founding.

God Bless,
Frank J. Kordalski, Jr.

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 Hours are:
Mon – Fri 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Summer Hours Mon-Thurs. 9:00 a.m. to 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: George Hawkins

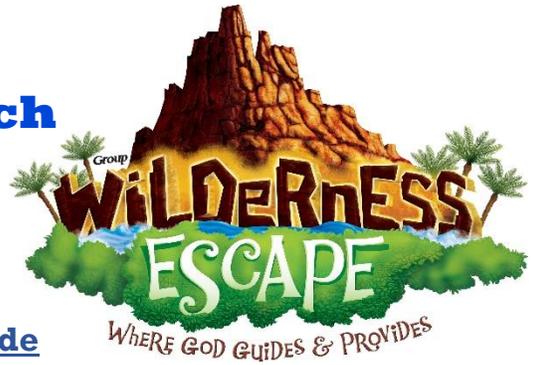
Organist: George Hawkins

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

© License CCLI#:1761256

Vacation Bible School

**Linway United
Presbyterian Church**
VBS Registration
July 18-21, 2022
6:30 to 9:00 p.m.



For Ages: 5 years old by Sept. 1 thru completion of 5th grade

****Please, complete one form per child.****

Name: _____ Age: _____ Birth Date: _____

Last grade completed: _____ Home Phone: _____ Sibling(s) attending VBS: _____

Street Address: _____ City, State Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

Parent/Guardian's Name: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian's Name: _____ Cell Phone: _____

In case of emergency, contact Name: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Allergies or other medical condition: _____

Name of home church, if any: _____

Names of designated adult(s) other than the parent to pick child up from VBS:

1. _____ VBS Date: _____

2. _____ VBS Date: _____

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature: _____

We take photographs of our VBS activities. Some photos will be class groups & other will be of activities in which your child is a participant. Photographs may be used as part of a PowerPoint presentation shown during the closing day program. We may use some photos on our bulletin boards, in our monthly publications and/or on the church's website. We will not use the names of any of the children. With your permission, please complete the information below. If you do not want photos of your child to be used, please initial the request at the bottom.

I/We, the undersigned parent(s)/guardian(s) of _____, hereby give consent to photographs of my/our child being displayed (check your consent, for either or both) ...

- on the Church premises/in Church publications
- on the Internet website maintained by the Church

I/We hereby waive and release the Linway United Presbyterian Church, its officers, board members, employees, and members from any liability related to the use of such photographs.

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

- I/WE DO NOT give consent to have photographs of my/our child to be displayed on the Church premises or on an internet website maintained by the Church.

For planning purposes & to aid in the first night's drop-off process, it would be helpful if you could return this form to the church by July 13. Thanks!

**Mail to: VBS
Linway Church
600 Lincoln Highway
North Versailles, PA 15137**



June 1, 1897 - June 1, 2022

One Hundred and Twenty-Five Years

By Frank Fawcett

God of Creation
God of All times
God of All reason
God of All rhyme

One in the Spirit
Yet somehow unique
We all have good reason
To reach out and speak

Thank God and give glory
For all of these years
He truly has blessed us
With Laughter and Tears

Good reason to celebrate
To dispel all our fears
Thank God for
"One Hundred & Twenty-Five Years"

With Friendship and Fellowship
We, Together are one
One in the Father
One in the Son

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