



The Linway News

April 2023

Linway United
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Celebrating 125 Years
1897 - 2022

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR



Dear Friends,

Greetings! When I wrote my letter for the March Linway News in mid-February, I had no idea what a difference one month would make. In one month's time, my beloved wife's health rapidly declined and we lost her to the Church Triumphant. While we knew that we were in an uphill battle with the disease that had invaded her body, we had no idea of the rapidity of what was to take place. I want to say "**Thank you**" to each and every one for the many cards with the lovely sentiments you sent. I cannot begin to express how grateful Scott, Andrew, and I are for the many gifts of food, Memorial Gifts in Margaret's name, for those who attended the Memorial Service held in our Lord's Linway Sanctuary, and for the outpouring of support that we have received.

I cannot help but wonder if the events of Holy Week almost two thousand years ago caught the disciples of Jesus off guard. The Scriptural accounts of what took place certainly leads us to believe that Jesus was fully aware that events would rapidly overtake him and those closest to him. Perhaps some of his followers were uneasy about his journey to Jerusalem, but there really was no way they foresaw the events as they developed. What a shock. He had done nothing to deserve such treatment and death.

But those events were not the conclusion. On the morning of the third day, the first day of the week, Jesus was raised from death, and the disciples found the tomb empty. Easter is the **GREATEST** celebration in the Christian faith! It was and remains to this very day, the greatest sign of God's redeeming love. The Apostle Paul put it this way when he wrote to the community of faith in Rome: *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* (Romans 8:38-39).

This is what our faith affirms. My Margaret believed this and I believe this. In one of Jesus' post-Resurrection appearances to the disciples behind closed doors in the Upper Room, Thomas, one of the disciples, was not present. When told of Jesus' appearance, he is reported to have said: *"Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in his side, I will not believe"* (John 20:25).

Scripture informs us that eight days later Jesus once again appeared to the gathered disciples behind closed doors in the Upper Room, and this time Thomas was present. After greeting them, Jesus spoke to Thomas and said: *"Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing."* Thomas answered

him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe" (John 20:27-29).

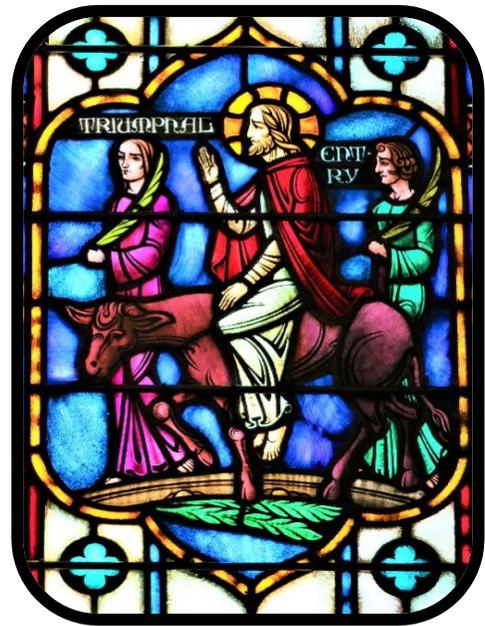
I hope you will make plans to attend worship services during Holy Week. This year Palm Sunday is April 2nd and we will be reminded of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem at the beginning of that incredible week. Thursday, April 6th is Maundy Thursday and we will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (Holy Communion) during worship at 7 p.m. in recognition of Jesus' institution of it with his disciples under the mandate to *do this in remembrance of Me*. Good Friday, April 7th we have been invited to the St. John's Lutheran Church for a service of remembrance at 7 p.m. Your Pastor has been invited to bring a message at that service. And let us not forget that our celebration of the Resurrection is on April 9th Easter Sunday. I hope your plans include being present during the course of Holy Week, as well as every Sunday, the Lord's Day.

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

Have a blessed Easter!

The Triumphal Entry



HOLY WEEK ACTIVITIES

Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast

April 2 8:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

Palm Sunday Services

April 2 at 9:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Children's Parade of Palms

During the 10:30 a.m. Palm Sun. Service

Maundy Thursday Communion Service

Thursday, April 6 at 7:00 p.m.

Good Fri. Service at St. John's Church

Friday, April 7 at 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday Services

Sunday, April 9 at 9:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Good Friday Service at St. John's

In the spirit of community, Rev. Dennis and Linway have been invited to St. John's Lutheran Church for a Good Friday Service on April 7 at 7:00 pm. We hope you will consider attending.

Easter Flowers: Please use the form located on the last page or call the church office if you wish to order Easter Flowers. The deadline to order is **Mon., March 27.**

The Children's Easter Egg Hunt will not be held this year.

The Session

Next Session Meeting: April 18 at 7:30 pm through Zoom.

Property Committee

Thank you to those who have been able to contribute to our Building Repair Fund! We are more than 75% of the way to reaching our goal of \$10,000.



Fundraising Committee

Sarris Candy: is available after the worship service or by contacting the church office. \$1 for Candy Bars (Milk Chocolate, Almond, Peanut Butter, or Crisp Rice) and \$2 for a pack of 2 Chocolate-covered Pretzel Rods.

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. Items available are: Ground Coffee, K-Kups, Whole Coffee Beans, Cocoa, Artisan Loose Tea, Chai, & Shortbread Cookies
Use this link to order from Giving Bean:
<https://www.givingbean.com/store/home.php?partner=83fa1#.YgaOeJbMJPY>

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.

Deacons

Next Deacon Meeting: Sunday, March 26 9:00 a.m. in the Friendly Fellowship Room.

You're Invited: Palm Sunday Pancakes!

The Board of Deacons will be hosting a "Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast" April 2 from 8:30 to 10:15 a.m. in the Social Hall. \$9 meal includes: 3 pancakes, 2 sausage links, fruit salad & drink. Flavored blueberry or chocolate chip pancakes are \$1 extra. A la carte items and children's meals are also available. This is a fundraiser for the Deacons. We hope you can come!

Christian Education Committee

Linway Retreat: Register before Easter!

The Linway Retreat will be held April 21-23 at the Ligonier Camp and Conference Center. Everyone is encouraged to take some time away from the hustle and bustle of our daily lives and "retreat" to Ligonier, where you can enjoy the beauty and quiet of nature while enjoying fellowship with friends. Registration forms are due by Easter Sunday, April 9, but please register as soon as possible. More information about the retreat and registration is available at the back of this newsletter. Forms are also available by contacting the church office.

Kid's Club!

April Kid's Club Dates: April 12 & 26
Kid's Club meets the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. There is a Bible lesson, game, and craft. Kid's Club is open to children in kindergarten through 6th grade, regardless of their church

affiliation or school district. Please encourage your child to invite friends to Kid's Club and feel free to share information about our program. Contact the church office for Kid's Club registration forms. Any child coming with someone who is not their parent/guardian must have these forms completed in advance. Please use the James Street entrance to sign-in/out.

Linway Lending Library for Kids & Youth

Located upstairs in room 204. There are Christian books, puzzles & games for kids & youth to borrow after Sunday School or Kid's Club. The children/youth will visit our library at the end of Sunday School & may be delayed in returning to the Sanctuary. Parents are welcome to meet their children upstairs in the library after worship. Please return library items when finished so they can be shared with others. Thanks!

May/June High School Grads

Please contact the church office if you have a high school graduate in the family that would like to participate in/be recognized at our Cross & Crown Service on May 21.

Save the Date: Church Picnic June 11

We hope you can join us at White Oak Park!

Linway Preschool

Registration for the 2023-2024 School Year are now being accepted.

If you are interested in enrolling a child for classes starting this September, please contact the church office at 412-824-3555. Classes are held September thru May. Three-year olds meet Tuesdays & Thursdays. Four-year olds meet Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays.

An Open House for prospective families to learn about our preschool will be held Wed, April 5 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Please use our church's east entrance.

Music Ministry

Like to Sing? Give Choir a Try!

The Chancel Choir practices on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. New choir members are always welcome to sing joyfully to the Lord. We are happy to share our gift of music & invite you to join us for fun, fellowship & singing. Talk to George Hawkins if you have any questions about our Music Ministry.

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. The next breakfast will be April 3.

Men's Breakfast

The men are also getting together for breakfast at 8:00 a.m. at North Versailles Eat 'N Park. All men are invited. The next breakfast will be April 26.

Craft Ladies

The Craft Ladies meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month at noon 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.

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.

Need for Prayer



Please remember the following in our prayers: Donnie Baker, Betsy Bernhardt, Jordan B, Amanda & Mark D, Dennis Family, DeSarno Family, Betty Frommell, Mike Feigh, Frank & Mary Lou Fawcett, Duane Garbett, Michelle H., Bev Harcum, Jill Hardy, Richard Hickox, Clare & Sandy Hillgartner, Frank Kordalski, Sr., John L., Jean Lawton, Marilyn, Rita Marrow, Shari Morgan, Chrissy & Bernie Martin, Carol Pascarella, Linda P., Joan Pierro, Donna Pottinger, Renee R, Laura Shawley, Barbara Shoop, Michelle Smith, Leslie T., Cindy Taylor, Thornton Family, Pat V, Ed Waszkiewicz, Linda Wetzler & family, Carol & Jack Wolf

Our Sympathy

Our sympathy is extended to Linda Wetzler and her family. Jim Wetzler, a long-time member of Linway, went home to be with our Lord on March 10. A remembrance of Jim & a celebration of his life will take place during the 10:30 worship service April 16. Friends & family are invited to join us.

Happy April Birthday!

Gary Buchman	Nancy Waszkiewicz
Frank Fawcett	Chris Alexander
Amy Gida	Gary Walters
Wesson Hillgartner	Betty Brinker
Gwenn Heshizer	Zachary Hilbert
Carol Pascarella	Judy Augustin
Linda Wetzler	Shannon Daugherty
Andrew Dennis	



Happy April Anniversary!



Ashley & Kurt Hillgartner
Kim & David Brown
Nancy & Steve Hilbert
Sandy & Clare Hillgartner

Malawi Support

Dear Church,

The Pittsburgh Presbytery has had a partnership with the Blantyre Synod of Southern Malawi since 1991. For more than 30 years we have been sending pilgrims to Malawi, staying in their homes, receiving our brothers & sisters in Christ from Malawi into our homes in Pittsburgh, and building life-changing relationships.

Cyclone Freddy has hit Malawi hard, dumping the equivalent of six months of rainfall in six days. The death toll will only increase as rescue teams are able to clear roads that are currently impassable. Many homes have been washed away completely and villages lack clean water and power, during a time when there is already a significant cholera outbreak.

By happenstance, there was a team in Malawi from the Pittsburgh Presbytery that arrived as the cyclone hit and rode out the storm. McKeesport, Hampton, East Liberty, Eastminster, Crafton Heights, and Wexford Presbyterian Churches all sent representatives as part of an annual visit.

Prayers are needed! But in addition, we are asking for help from congregations and individuals who are able to send funds directly to the disaster relief fund line of the partnership through the international presbytery.

Zikomo kwambiri (Thank you),
Eddie Willson, Moderator
Pittsburgh International Partnership

If you wish to donate, make checks payable to “Linway Church” and in the memo line note that it is for “Malawi,” or place your donation in an envelope and mark it “Malawi”. We will then send one check from Linway to the Malawi Disaster Relief Fund in care of the Pittsburgh Presbytery.

Easter Flowers

If you wish to place potted Easter Flowers in the Chancel on Easter Sunday “in memory” or “in honor” of a loved one, please complete this order form & return it to the church office with payment or call the office **by Mon., March 27.**

*Mum color substitutions might be necessary. We appreciate your understanding if your color selection cannot be supplied and an alternate color is supplied in its place.

Easter Flowers Order Form

Flowers Given By:

(Please include your name & phone number)

“In Memory Of”or.....”In Honor Of”
(Circle above, list name(s) & include relation
– parent, child, g.parent, friend, aunt, etc.)

Please select flower type & write quantity:

___ 6” Lily -5 Blooms \$10.00 = _____

___ 6” *White Mums \$8.00 = _____

___ 6” *Yellow Mums \$8.00 = _____

___ 6” *Pink or Purple Mums
\$8.00 = _____

___ 6” Daffodils \$6.00 = _____

___ 14” Bowl of Pansies \$15.00 _____

Total Amount Due: \$ _____

MA’s Pantry

Volunteer Drivers Needed: 2 Saturdays a month for 1-1.5 hours to deliver food supplies to homebound individuals in the E.McKeesport/N.Versailles area. Substitute drivers are also needed. Deliveries are grouped by address, so driving is limited. To help, call Paula at 412-401-1856.

Furniture Donations

The Blessing Board is a volunteer-based, Christian non-profit organization which provides donated household furnishings to those in need at no cost. They accept donations of used household furniture and home furnishing accessories in good condition.

Items may be dropped off Mon.-Thurs. 9:00-1:00 at their south showroom located at 1200 Lebanon Road, West Mifflin, PA 15122. For a fee, you may also arrange for pick-up from your home by calling 412-828-1023. More information may be found at www.TheBlessingBoard.org

The Linway News

Linway United Presbyterian Church
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Church Phone: (412) 824-3555
www.LinwayChurch.org
LinwayChurch Facebook Page

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Email: contact@linwaychurch.org

Financial Secretary: Christine Stewart

Email: financial@linwaychurch.org

Organist & Choir Director: George Hawkins

Newsletter Deadline: 3rd Sunday of the month.

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