



The Linway News

April 2024

Linway **PRESBY**TERIAN
CHURCH

Celebrating 127 Years
June 1, 1897 - June 1, 2024

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR



Dear Friends in Christ,

He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

Years ago I learned a great song,
“Every Morning is Easter Morning” by Avery
and Marsh. Perhaps you’ve heard it?
It cheerfully declares:

***Ev’ry morning is Easter morning,
from now on***

***Ev’ry day is resurrection day
the past is over and gone***

***Good-bye guilt good-bye fear,
good riddance!***

Hello Lord, hello sun!

I am one of the Easter people.

My new life has begun!

One of the reasons I like the song so much is that it reminds us of the incredible truth and grace of Jesus’ rising from the dead. Having endured the pain of betrayal, rejection, humiliation, scourging and death on a cross, Jesus rose victorious over every enemy... even death! Do you know anyone like that? Do you know people who have experienced loss, defeat, failure, rejection, doubt or fear? I do. I see them every day I’m here at Linway. As a matter of fact, I’m one of them. Guess what? There’s good news for people like us!

The good news is that Jesus takes people like that and turns their lives around! Remember Peter, Thomas, John, & Mary? They were people like us. Look around you



next Sunday and be reminded of the incredible grace of our incomparable Lord. People who were desperately in need of a Savior who could take them from the depths of despair, and turn their weeping into dancing and their fears into faith!

We are surrounded by the evidence of God’s faithfulness, power and love. We need only look around, and the evidence is right in front of us! Right here, every day, in the midst of the same challenges that Jesus and those disciples faced and conquered, we are the people of God, filled with the gifts of God, and empowered for the ministry of God!

Easter morning isn’t just another day on the calendar, it is a new way of living! So let’s join together and let the world know:

***“Goodbye guilt, goodbye fear,
good riddance.***

Hello Lord, hello sun!

I am one of the Easter people.

My new life has begun!”

He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

Blessings,
Pastor Larry Ruby



**The Lord's Supper depicted in one of
Linway's beautiful stained glass
Sanctuary windows**

HOLY WEEK ACTIVITIES

Maundy Thursday Meal & Communion
Thursday, March 28 at 6:30 p.m.

Good Friday Tenebrae. Service
Friday, March 29 at 7:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday Services
Sunday, March 31 9:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

**Maundy Thursday Dinner & Communion
6:30 p.m. in Social Hall**

This Maundy Thursday, March 28, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper the way Jesus and the disciples did. They gathered together not in a worship service, but around a table to celebrate the Passover. Everyone is welcome to gather downstairs in our Social Hall at 6:30 p.m. to share a simple meal of soup (chicken noodle or chicken rice soup) and bread. Following the meal, Pastor Larry will share the radical way that Jesus broke all the rules and redefined the Passover so that not only Jews were invited to the table, but all who would follow Jesus! There is no charge for the meal, but a free will basket will be available should you wish to

contribute. Please invite friends, family, youth, and children to join us as we remember and reflect on the first Lord's Supper so many years ago.

Good Friday Tenebrae Service 7:30 p.m.

The Good Friday Tenebrae Service is a solemn service in which we remember Jesus' life, crucifixion, and death. Stemming from Latin, the word "Tenebrae" means "darkness." Such a definition is suitable for this service, which centers around the increasing darkness of the church as the lights on the candelabra are extinguished.

A special candelabra is used during Tenebrae. After each reading, whether from the Psalms or gospels, a candle is extinguished until one is left. By the end of the service, the church is cast into darkness, except for the continual light of the Christ candle, symbolizing Christ as the Light of the World.

As a service with deep biblical meaning, each part of Tenebrae sets the mood for the congregation as they consider the darkness of that day as the Savior hung on the cross and died for the sins of the world. At the conclusion of the service, all who are present exit the sanctuary in silence. Please consider attending this powerful, moving service in person.

Easter Sunday Services

Join us for worship as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord!

-9:15 a.m. Contemporary Service

-10:30 a.m. Traditional Service

Congregational Meeting: April 14

A brief Congregational Meeting will be held on April 14 at 11:30 a.m. for the purpose of approving an individual that has been nominated to serve on the Board of Deacons.

Guest Speaker: Rev. Brian Wallace

Rev. Wallace will be visiting on April 7 and sharing a message about faithfulness in times of transition, discipleship, and dedication. Rev. Wallace is the Associate Minister for Congregational Support & Emerging Ministries for the Pittsburgh Presbytery and also currently the Acting Head of Staff. He has been one of the individuals assisting the Linway Transition Team.

Transition to New Pastor

This month, we've taken a significant step in our transition to a new pastor. On March 10, the congregation approved the members of the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). The PNC will soon be meeting with members of Presbytery to initiate the search process for our next pastor. I encourage you to keep them in your prayers.

Another crucial aspect of this process is a Congregational Survey, which aims to assess our current state. In mid to late April, you'll be receiving the survey. While we recognize that completing the survey will require an investment of your time, we deeply appreciate your participation. The survey results will be professionally analyzed and will serve as a vital tool to guide Linway's future.

Should you have any questions or concerns during the transition period, please don't hesitate to reach out to the Transition Team, the PNC, or a member of Session. We are committed to addressing all inquiries promptly.

As we journey through this process, let's continue to lift up Linway Church, the PNC and the Transition Team in your daily prayers. With faith and prayer, we'll discern God's plan for our congregation.

Yours in Christ,

Linway Transition Team

(Keith Eremic, Lila Sedlak, Jamie Stewart)

Church Activities

Wed, March 27	Men's Breakfast 8:00 am Kid's Club 6:30 pm
Th March 28	Maundy Thurs. Meal & Communion 6:30 pm
Fri March 29	Good Fri Service 7:30 pm
Sun March 31	Easter Sunday Services 9:15 am & 10:30 am
Mon April 1	Women's Breakfast 10 am
Tu April 2	Craft Ladies at 12:30 Christian Ed Meeting 7 pm
Th April 4	Choir Rehearsal at 7 pm
Sun April 7	Deacon Meeting 11:45 am <i>Tentative</i> PNC Meeting 11:45 Retreat Registrations Due Hoagie Orders Due
W April 10	Kid's Club 6:30-7:30 pm
Th April 11	Choir Rehearsal at 7pm
Sun April 14	Congregational Mtg. 11:30
Tu April 16	Craft Ladies at 12:30 Session Meeting at 7 pm
Th April 18	Hoagie Pick-Up 5:00-7:00p Choir Rehearsal at 7pm
Wed April 24	Men's Breakfast 8:00 Kid's Club 6:30-7:30 pm

The Session

Next Session Meeting: April 16 at 7:00

Property Committee

Repairs were made to the boiler this month after it sprung a leak. Fortunately, the weather has been warmer than usual this month, and repairs were quickly made.

Demolition of the floor in basement room B7 (the former freezer room) will soon begin. Thank you to the individuals who sorted, consolidated, and moved the flea market items out of B2. Kitchen items that were stored in B7 are now being stored in B2 while the construction is underway. Cups and table covers are now in B11.

Fundraising Committee

Anchor Hoagie Sale: Please see the order form included with this newsletter. Orders with payment are due by Sunday, April 7. Hoagie pick-up will be in Linway's Kitchen on Thursday, April 18 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Giant Eagle Gift Cards in various amounts are always available for purchase after the 10:30 worship service or by calling the church office. Currently, we also have Eat N' Park, Dunkin Donuts, and Denny's gift cards available. The church receives a percent of each gift card that is purchased

Sarris Candy is available for only a short time longer. We will not be re-stocking our candy once the warm weather arrives. We plan to resume this popular fundraiser again in the fall. Candy is available after the worship services or by contacting the church office. \$1 for Candy Bars (Milk Chocolate, Almond, Peanut Butter, or Crisp Rice flavors) 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>.

Deacons

Next Deacon Meeting:
Sun, April 7 at 11:45 a.m.

THANK YOU!

The Board of Deacons would like to thank everyone who supported their Palm Sunday Breakfast, which is not only a

delicious breakfast and time of fellowship, but is also their fundraiser. Congratulations to Joe Pribanic who won the raffle basket!

In March, the Deacons also prepared Easter baskets and delivered them to our shut-ins.

Music Ministry

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. All levels of singing, from beginners to experienced, blend nicely in our choir. Talk to our organist, George Hawkins.

Bell Choir played for the offertory during the 10:30 service on Palm Sunday and will be playing the prelude during the 10:30 service on Easter Sunday.



Christian Education Committee



Linway Retreat: April 26-28

The Linway Retreat will be held April 26-28 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 Linway friends. **Registration forms are due by Sunday, April 7, but please register as soon as possible.** More information about the retreat and registration is available at the back of this newsletter. Extra forms are on the table in the church Nathex or by contacting the church office.

Children's Sunday School

Sunday School is offered every other Sunday during the 10:30 Service, based on teacher availability. It will also be posted on the Linway Facebook Page when Sunday School will be held. Coloring pages, word searches, and crayons are always available at the church entrance. Kids may help themselves to these items during worship services.

VBS

Planning has begun for our Vacation Bible School which will be held June 3-6. The theme is "In The Wild: Amazing Encounters with Jesus". Information will be available as the date gets closer.



Kid's Club

Next Date: April 10 & 24

Kid's Club meets the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the lower level of the church. Each Kid's Club night has a Bible lesson, game, craft, and snack.

Kid's Club is open to children in Kindergarten through 6th grade, regardless of their church affiliation or school district. Feel free to share information about our program with other families that have children in kindergarten through 6th grade.

Please contact the church office for registration forms or if you have questions. When parents/guardians bring their child to sign-in, please use the James Street Entrance (back door) of our church. Please ring the doorbell if the door is locked.

Linway Lending Library

Parents/Grandparents, please remind your child to return library items if he/she is finished with them so items 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, which is usually held late May/early June.

Save the Date: Church Picnic June 9

We hope you can join us for our annual picnic at White Oak Park!

Summer Camps

Camp Crestfield and Ligonier Camp & Conference Center are two wonderful, local Christian summer camps for kids. There is scholarship money to attend available through the church and also through the camp. The Christian Education Committee will do their best to help or find financial help for any Linway child who wants to go. Consider having your child invite a friend to make the camp experience even better! More information is available on the camps' websites: www.ligoniercamp.org or www.crestfieldcc.org

Linway Preschool

The students at our Linway Preschool are ready for Spring! The bulletin boards in the hallway are decorated with Easter and Spring artwork done by the kids. Pastor Larry visited the classrooms and shared the Easter story with them. This week they will have an Easter celebration with games, crafts and other assorted fun.

Registrations for the 2024-2025 School Year are now being accepted.

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 can mail a registration form or provide more information. Classes are held September thru May. Three-year olds meet Tuesdays & Thursdays. Four-year olds meet Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays.

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 on April 1. Come on out and let someone else do the cooking and the dishes!

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 dates will be March 27 and April 24. Come on out for breakfast and lively conversation!

Craft Ladies

The Craft Ladies meet the first and third Tuesday of the month downstairs in the Friendly Fellowship Room at 12:30. Please use the James Street Entrance (back door of the church). Contact Clara Welty or Nancy Waszkiewicz for more information.

Meals on Wheels

Volunteers Needed

Meals on Wheels could use a few extra volunteers to help get hot meals to those who need them. We can use drivers, runners (deliver meals to the door), packers, and kitchen help. One day a week for an hour or two is what is needed. We are also in need of people to substitute for volunteers that are taking a day off. Please consider donating your time to this worthy cause. For questions about volunteering, contact Leslie Gray at 412-977-2938 or Terry Claycomb at 412-327-6908.

Meals on Wheels operates out of the Linway kitchen 5 days a week to provide meals for their clients. To enquire about receiving meals, call: 412-327-6908.

Need for Prayer



Please remember the following in our prayers:

Chris Alexander, Patty B., Blake, Donnie Baker, Chris, Cheryl D., Paul & Diana C., Janet & Doug F., Betty Frommell, Frank & Mary Lou Fawcett, Heather G., Ginger, Bev Harcum, Jill Hardy, Lara Hilbert, Marilyn H., Clare & Sandy Hillgartner, Vanessa J., William K., Frank Kordalski Sr., Michelle K., Kevin, Jean Lawton, Vickie Lofgren, Bernie & Chrissy M., Ken M., Linda P., Maureen P., Carol Pascarella, Joan Pierro, Donna Pottinger, Iris R., Laura Shawley, Shawn, Anna Marie S., Sami Stewart, Cindy S., Donna T., Cindy Taylor, Pat V., Linda Wetzler

With Sympathy

Our sympathy is extended to the Strong family. The office received word that James Strong, a long-time member, went home to be with our Lord on January 27.

Happy Birthday + Anniversary!

Happy April Birthday to:

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

Happy April Anniversary to:



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

If you would like to share your birthday or anniversary, please contact the office.

MA's Pantry

Upcoming distribution dates are
April 6 & 20 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. at
1000 Broadway in East McKeesport.
Phone 412-824-0277 for more information.

Volunteers Needed

Help distribute groceries to those in need in
N. Versailles or E. McKeesport. Volunteers
needed on Thursday, Friday, or Saturday
mornings before distribution dates.
Groceries distributed twice a month.

Volunteer Positions where help is needed:

Grocery Bag Packers - pack bags of food
for pick-up

Home Delivery Driver - deliver bags of food
to those unable to travel to the Pantry

Food Donation Pick-up - from local
supermarkets and bakeries

Loading/Unloading Truckload of Food -
Friday mornings before food distribution

Computer Operators -help with record-
keeping

To volunteer, call MA's at 412-824-0277.

*"And this is the promise that He
Himself made to us: eternal life."*

-1st John 3:16

Have a blessed Easter!

The Linway News

Linway United Presbyterian Church
600 Lincoln Highway
North Versailles, Pa 15137
(412) 824-3555
www.LinwayChurch.org

Church Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs 9:00-3:00; Fri 9:00- Noon

Please use our East Entrance to
visit the office during the week.

Sunday Morning Worship:

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



8" SPECIALTY HOAGIES - \$8.50 each

Classic Italian

Ham

Turkey

Veggie

All Sandwiches come with

Lettuce | Tomato | Onion | Cheese
Oil & Vinegar | Salt & Pepper | Oregano

ALL ORDERS WITH PAYMENT ARE DUE ON:

Sunday, April 7th

HOAGIE PICK UP **IN LINWAY'S KITCHEN** IS:

Thursday, April 18th from 5:00pm-7:00pm

Name: _____

Phone# _____

Classic Italian # _____ x \$8.50 = \$ _____

Ham # _____ x \$8.50 = \$ _____

Turkey # _____ x \$8.50 = \$ _____

Veggie # _____ x \$8.50 = \$ _____

Total Due \$ _____

A fundraiser for Linway Church.

Church Staff:

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Larry Ruby

Email: pastor.ruby@linwaychurch.org

Church Office Manager: Leanne Cornell

Email: contact@linwaychurch.org

Financial Secretary: Christine Stewart

Email: financial@linwaychurch.org

Organist/Choir Director: George Hawkins

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

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RETREAT 2024 ~ April 26th thru 28th
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Sunday April 7th

The Linway Christian Education Committee welcomes you to join your Linway family as we “retreat” from everyday life at Ligonier Camp & Conference Center (LCCC), **Friday evening, April 26th thru Sunday morning, April 28th**

The 2024 retreat will provide activities for fun, fellowship, and Christian education for all ages and is a great way to get to know members of your Linway family. LCCC has private rooms, prepared meals, and beautiful surroundings.

The weekend cost includes meals and lodging based on a two-night package and cannot be reduced for only one night of lodging. Discounted weekend rates for Linway members, their immediate family members, or anyone who participates in the life of Linway are \$60 per adult / \$30 per child (3 years thru 12th grade). Linway children or youth program participants attending the weekend without an adult family member will be charged the adult discount price of \$60. Any guest who does not meet discounted rate guidelines, regardless of age, will be charged the full fee of \$116.

Attendance for only part of the weekend without overnight lodging is encouraged for those who have limited availability or would like to experience the retreat (maybe for the first time) without committing to the entire weekend. Meal cost without lodging ranges from \$8-\$12, based on the meal. **LASER TAG**, supervised by LCCC staff, will be an optional Saturday afternoon activity at the cost of \$15 per participant.

Anyone on LCCC property for any amount of time is required to submit a LCCC Release of Liability form. The form is available at www.ligoniercamp.org, from Amy Gida or the Linway Church office. **MINORS attending the retreat without a parent or legal guardian must have their form completed and signed BEFORE arriving at LCCC.** Additional health forms are no longer required for laser tag participants.

Pets are not permitted on LCCC property. Smoking and vaping are allowed only in **designated outdoor areas.**

We hope you will join us for RETREAT 2024! **All registration forms must be received by Sunday, April 7th** but, please, register as soon as possible. If you have questions, contact Amy Gida at 412-607-8430 or luckyfool67@aol.com.

LINWAY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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RETREAT 2024 REGISTRATION ~ Complete this form & return to the Linway office or Amy Gida **by Sunday, April 7th**.

NAME: _____ (If child, age: _____) LASER TAG: Yes / No

If attending without lodging, please indicate arrival & departure times and meals: _____

NAME: _____ (If child, age: _____) LASER TAG: Yes / No

If attending without lodging, please indicate arrival & departure times and meals: _____

NAME: _____ (If child, age: _____) LASER TAG: Yes / No

If attending without lodging, please indicate arrival & departure times and meals: _____

NAME: _____ (If child, age: _____) LASER TAG: Yes / No

If attending without lodging, please indicate arrival & departure times and meals: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ EMAIL: _____

FOOD ALLERGIES or RESTRICTIONS: _____

IF PLANNING TO ROOM WITH ANOTHER PERSON/PARTY, PLEASE INDICATE WHO: _____