

April 2011

# Winds of the Spirit

Lindenwald UMC . . . a Stephen Ministry Church

**Our Mission Statement: The LUMC exists to make disciples!**



Dear Members and Friends,

As we move into the month of April, our Lenten journey to the cross continues by using our devotional "The Sanctuary for Lent;" by using our daily devotional guide found in the bulletin each Sunday and online at our church's website and Facebook page; by asking questions of faith and then praying for answers. We will shout for joy on Easter morning that "Christ is Risen!" As Christians and especially on Easter Sunday, we celebrate the miracle of God's forgiveness and love and new life when we gather as the Lindenwald Church to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I invite you to join me for all of the life-changing ministries and activities and worship services in April as we journey to the cross and Easter Sunday on April 24, 2011.

**Sunday, April 3:** Fourth Sunday in Lent with Holy Communion at 9:30am and 11:40am. Sermon: "Jesus and Judas" based on Mark 14:43-51.

**Wednesday, April 6:** Immersion Service's Question of Faith: "Can we see God's miracles, or are we blind to God's work?"

**Sunday, April 10:** Fifth Sunday in Lent with the Sermon entitled: "Jesus and Simon Peter" based on Mark 14:66-72 at both 9:30am and 11:40am.

**Wednesday, April 13:** Immersion Service's Question of Faith: "Are you angry at God?"

**Sunday, April 17:** Palm Sunday at both 9:30am and 11:40am. Sermon: "Jesus and Pontius Pilate" based on Matthew 27:15-26.

**Wednesday, April 20:** Immersion Service's Question of Faith: "Why did Jesus die?"

**Thursday, April 21:** Maundy Thursday Service at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary with our Choir singing and Holy Communion.

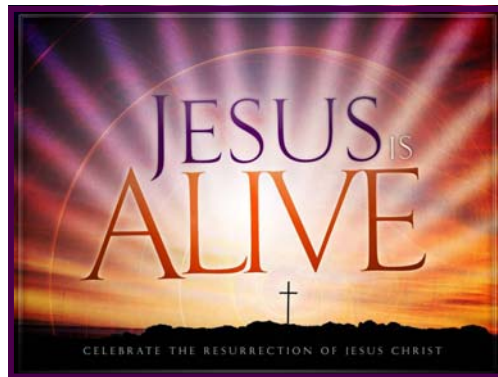
**Friday, April 22:** Noon: "Come Walk the Way of the Cross" begins at the old courthouse in Hamilton. Please join Pastor Val for this meaningful journey.

Then, at 7:00pm in our Sanctuary, with our choir singing and an emphasis on the "Stations of the

Cross" as we tell the Crucifixion Story.

**Saturday, April 23:** Community Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt, Lindenwald UMC, 10:00am to 11:00am with breakfast served in Fellowship Hall first and the Easter Egg Hunt outside in the front parking lot immediately after the breakfast.

**Easter Sunday, April 24:** 7:00am Sunrise Service, Vora Technology Park, 101 Knightsbridge Drive, Hamilton. Please bring a lawn chair to sit upon. Our combined Praise Band will sing and lead us in our praise songs. We will join First UMC and Park Avenue UMC for the service. Breakfast will be served immediately following at First UMC in their Fellowship Hall. In case of rain, we will hold the service at First UMC.



(continued)

Birthday  
Birthday



Dorothy Ruoff ~ April 12

Louise Neal ~ April 13

Al Kurtz ~ April 26

## National Day of Prayer Breakfast

Thursday, May 5 @ 7:15 am

Special Speaker: Brad Johansen



You are invited to attend the 60th Annual Observance of the National Day of Prayer with a breakfast at Courtyard by Marriott, 1 Riverfront Plaza, Hamilton, Ohio.

Cost is \$20 per person. Seating is limited and payment must accompany your reservation. Make checks payable to "The Presbyterian Church" and return to National Day of Prayer Breakfast, c/o The Presbyterian Church, 23 S. Front Street, Hamilton, Ohio 45011 by April 18, 2011. Questions . . . call 513-867-5411.



Please be sure to let the church know if you or a loved one will be entering the hospital.

Also, in case of pastoral emergency and you are unable to reach Pastor Val through the church office, you may call her at home (513-863-6733).



Did you know that the church van is available to provide transportation to church on Sunday?

If you need a ride to Sunday worship (or any other activity here at church) call the church office and we'll arrange to have the van pick you up. Call the church office (863-8822) Monday thru Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

Dear Lindenwald UMC Family,

Harold and I want to thank everyone for the calls, cards, condolences, visits, and especially the prayers we received when my brother, Fred, passed away recently. It is truly a blessing to be members of such a loving and caring church family.

Thank you and God bless you all,

Sue McPeck



Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for letting the Daisy/Brownie Troop #44039 use the Sunday School room downstairs. Please accept this small donation to say "Thank You".

Lisa Gebhart and Trema Minning

To this most wonderful LUMC family,

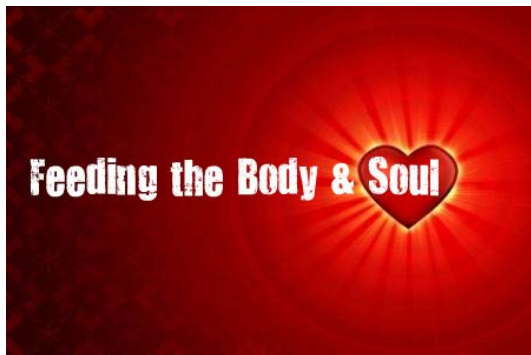
I thank you for your prayers for my son, Eric, daughter-in-law, Lisa, and granddaughter, Katelyn. Your thoughts and prayers are appreciated by my whole family.

Lisa is home now from her kidney transplant, Eric also is home recovering slowly and on dialysis. Obviously it has been difficult for Katelyn as both parents are dealing with kidney disease.

My thanks also to Pastor Val when she visited me in the hospital.

Blessings to each and every one of this wonderful family.

Cheri Palmer



### Free Community Meal

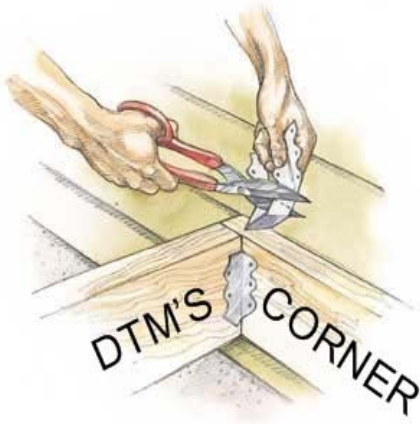
Feeding the Body & Soul offers a free meal to those who may be hungry and have no food. This meal is free and open to the public and will be served on the third Saturday of each month from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm. If transportation is an issue and you live within the limits of Butler County, Ohio, we will arrange to have our church van pick you up and take you home.



### Prayer Drive Thru

We hold our Prayer Drive Thru from 4:30 to 6:00 pm in our front parking lot and the next one will take place on April 8. As you're driving home for the evening, stop in and our prayer team will listen to your request and pray with you. Volunteers are always needed to help with the drive thru. Call Bruce (863-8822) if you'd like to help.

[brucedtm@hotmail.com](mailto:brucedtm@hotmail.com)



## Director of Transformational Ministries . . . Bruce Dickerson

On my trip to Egypt, I learned that it was illegal for any religion to evangelize in public. This means that there are no street corner preachers, no guys with bullhorns shouting about the saving power of Jesus Christ, not even someone with a homemade sign that says “REPENT: THE END IS NEAR!” It seemed to be taboo to even discuss religion out in public.

If this type of conversation did occur, it was always accompanied by looks around to see who could be watching or listening in. We experienced this first hand in our debriefing sessions and meetings in our hotel’s restaurant that was set up for our use when they were not used for meals. Every time we met, there always seemed to be one or two older folks trying hard to look like they were not listening in. It was like something out of a cold war era spy movie. This is the environment I experienced in Egypt.

Now that I am home, I have started to notice that although it is not against the law to evangelize in this country, we act as though it is. We live in a country that we do not have to fear being arrested for expressing and speaking about Jesus, yet we struggle to do just that. I think there are several reason why. I do not believe we are ashamed of our faith. I do not believe we are scared to share; look what we are willing to share on our Facebook and Twitter pages. I do not even believe that we have not been trained to share our faith. Yes there are techniques and different ways to do it, but when we are really passionate about something, a book or movie, we are more than able to share that passion. Why not our faith then? I believe that what we have fallen victim to is society. We have become so concerned with what society says is proper and of us being labeled, that we simply stop seeking out the opportunities to share our faith. I know that in many work environments, we are told it is against policy to share one’s faith. My concern is that we let society rules such as these infiltrate every part of our lives. When we are on our own free time, there is no rule saying you cannot share your faith. There is no rule saying that you cannot invite someone to church. There is no rule saying that you cannot go about the true business we are to be about in this life, to go and make disciples of all nations. So join me, won’t you, and let’s go make some disciples!

### Other Dates and Times to Know. . .

immersion service  
Wednesdays — 6:30 pm

Office Hours  
Monday and Wednesday  
2:00—4:00 pm  
Day Off—Thursday

### Upcoming Event sponsored by the immersion service. . .



Cruise-in For Christ  
Saturday, August 13, 2011

## A Word on Finance by Ed Gebhart, Finance Chair

I wanted to take a moment and update our church family on the current finances of the church. We completed the financial campaign for 2011 at the end of last year. The final numbers were 108 pledge units totaling \$210,077. I want to thank everyone for their pledges and their dedication to the Lindenwald United Methodist Church. Through the first two months of 2011 our giving has been in line with what was pledged and we have been able to operate at only a small deficit. This is great because January and February are typically the worst months financially for the church because of low attendance and high utility bills. I encourage everyone to keep up the good work.

I also wanted to give you a few numbers from other programs here at our church. Last year we were able to give out 480 bags of groceries which equals about

\$9,600. We also had donations totaling \$3,500 to the Body and Soul meals and have donated \$7,631 through our Brother's Keeper program. I think this is a great snapshot of what our church has been able to accomplish in Christ's name to help our community. I would encourage everyone to continue to support these missions with your donations and efforts.

I would also ask everyone that pledged to Miracle Sunday to remember that commitment as well. We are winding down the second year of a three year campaign. This is very important to the church budget. We have been able to use money raised to renovate the church, work on mission projects, and pay on salaries and programs. If you have any questions on this campaign, or any other finance questions, please feel free to contact me about them.



*"So, little Snowbird, take me with you  
when you go to that land of gentle breezes  
where the peaceful waters flow..."*

*A note from one of our "Snowbirds" . . .*

*Snowbirds meet in the South! Dean and Janet Cline and Deanna, who live in Estero, Florida visited with Doris Webber and her sister Viola Pater, who lives in North Fort Myers.*

*We had a great time reminiscing with our church friends, and the weather was great!*

*We miss all of you!*

*Love,  
Doris Webber*

## Hey ... Pass the Word!



### Free Community Meals

**First United Methodist Church**  
225 Ludlow Street – Hamilton  
3rd ~ 4th ~ 5th Saturdays/month  
11 am – 2 pm

**Lindenwald United Methodist Church**  
3501 Pleasant Avenue – Hamilton  
3rd Saturday/month  
5 – 6:30 pm

**Park Avenue United Methodist Church**  
801 Park Avenue – Hamilton  
3rd Thursday/month  
6:00 pm



**Lindenwald  
United Methodist  
Preschool**

*Where  
Learning is Fun!*

Ages 4 and 5  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday  
9:15 – 11:45 am  
\$120 per month

Age 3  
Thursday and Friday  
9:15 – 11:45 am  
\$90 per month

Registration Fee: \$45 (\$40 for church members)  
School begins in September!

**Register  
Now!**

**513-863-8822**

## UMW News for April

### Circle Meetings

**Friendly Circle**  
April 6 – 11:15am  
LaRosa's Restaurant

**Genesis Circle**  
April 12 – 7:00pm  
TBA

**Mizpah Circle**  
April 14 – 11:30am  
Spinning Fork

## The United Methodist Women Want Your Recipes!

The United Methodist Women would like your recipes to make a cookbook. All kinds are welcome. Low-fat, low-salt and sugar-free ones are especially wanted.

There's only a few days left to get your recipes in the cookbook; recipes must be turned in by May 1.

There is a box on the bookcase in the parlor where they can be dropped off. Please include your name with your recipe. **Thanks!**



## Are We Looking For You?

Well, we just might be if you enjoy gardening and would like to volunteer some time here at church.

We are in need of people who would be willing to take care of the plants and shrubs around the church building and lot. This would include planting flowers, caring for the shrubbery, and watering throughout the spring and summer and into the fall.

If that sounds like something you might enjoy doing, please contact the church office and let us know.



(513) 863-8822

[lumc@lindenwaldumc.org](mailto:lumc@lindenwaldumc.org)

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY MOMENT BY DAWN TRAPP

April showers bring May flowers, I hope this does not apply to April snow! I am ready for warm weather to begin! This time of the year is always a reminder of new beginnings and how our loving heavenly Father offers us a new beginning through His Son, Jesus Christ. Once we start this journey, we are to be active in our faith, moved by the Holy Spirit to bring others to know of this new beginning in Jesus Christ.

The message of Christ is for all age groups. We have the opportunity to present the message of Jesus Christ to the children of Hamilton, but we are being held back ... NO HELP! We continue to add new children to our Wednesday night program, but we need to have helpers.

Areas needing help:

- ♦ Sunday morning teachers for both the 9:30 and 11:40 services; simple and easy lesson plans.
- ♦ Wednesday night helpers with crafts, games and snacks from 6:30 to 8:00pm ; we only have April and May left for this year.
- ♦ Wednesday nights helpers cooking food for the kids from 5:00 – 7:00pm.
- ♦ Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights van drivers are needed for picking up and dropping the kids off at home.

I have asked many times for help with the kids; and if we do not get any help, the program will suffer. If we can reach a child with the message of Christ, the seed will be planted for the future leaders of our church. Please search your heart and help a child come to know our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Blessings,

Dawn Trapp



# TASC FORCE NEWS

## CORRECTION

TASC Force Secretary for 2011 is Ashley Wheeler; Daulton Reames is the Alternate. It was incorrectly printed in the March Newsletter.

## HOW MAY WE HELP YOU . . . TO GET INVOLVED WITH US?

Here are some great ways to exercise your faith! Pray, and then say: "Here I am Lord, don't let someone else do what you are calling me to do."

**Amen** stands for Action-men/women!

- ♦ Assist us with mulching the church grounds. Call and ask when.
- ♦ Assist with the youth involved in Rays of Hope during Summer Shine. Call and ask when.
- ♦ Assist in training our new TASC Force officers. Call and ask when.
- ♦ Assist with our fundraisers – planning, typing, calling, networking, sponsoring, donating, participating. Call and ask when.
- ♦ Assist with keeping the youth bulletin board creative and informative. Call and ask how.
- ♦ Assist with "little things." Call and ask what this means.
- ♦ Assist with mission opportunities – mentor, chaperone, provide supplies/materials, training, computer work, gifts-in-kind, marketing, printing. Call and ask when.

## STRINGS ATTACHED

Cooper Osborne, Nick Brown, and Ashley Wheeler have volunteered to become part of an LUMC Youth String Trio/Quartet. They will begin practicing together soon. Stay tuned for their first public appearance! Encourage them when you see them.

## MULCH MADNESS!!!

Look out here come the youth and some adult volunteers along with their shovels, rakes, leaf bags, and a truck load of mulch to beautify and grace the flower and bush areas around the church property. When? Soon? Keep an eye out! You may get excited enough to get your own hands dirty! Community Service at work! Slam dunk!

## MARK'S MADNESS!!!

The TASC Force invites you to check out the Gospel according to Mark, the earliest recorded Gospel, during MARCH MADNESS. Look at all the excitement that college basketball brings to our TV screens, restaurants, shops, and homes!

Imagine the fervor of 1st Century Middle East *as Mark moves* around sharing the movements and life of Jesus moving from Nazareth to Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, Galilee and the Sea of Galilee, Capernaum, Bethany, the country of the Gerasenes, the Jordan, Gethsemane, even to Golgotha!

Imagine the crowds that gathered, sat and listened with amazement, ran and shouted to tell others, became healed, healed others! Let Mark's Madness (affirming the realness of the resurrection) lead you to Easter, and Eden, and Eternal Life – here and now!!! Like the Chrysler car TV commercial: *Never Neutral!* (Interesting that the Christ-let company came up with that slogan!) Keep your eyes on that which is moving!

## LIVING WORDS from your Youth Director

"Become like a Child and enter the Kingdom of Heaven." Simple words of Jesus from the Gospels placed in a positive format.

Several decades ago, the University of Pennsylvania made a monumental decision that went completely

## TASC FORCE NEWS (continued)

Unnoticed at any and every level of society, except for a small “filler article” on an inside page of their local newspaper – not even a headliner! Outside of the small group of visionaries who were inspired to make this decision, no one noticed, not a single politician, city planner, church or temple leader. Yet, it stands as one of the most formidable expressions of what it is to be “youthful,” or in scriptural terms “like a child.” And, in my mind, it reflects an example of “the kingdom of heaven at hand.”

They decided to build a “Y-shaped” dormitory. The upper left arm was college dorm rooms for young adult college students. The upper right arm was ingeniously for retired senior citizens who were committed to “*staying young.*” The leg of the “Y” was a common student lounge area where the two age groups could interact and mingle – share, learn, and grow together.

**Think about that for a moment!** Young people who were learning to become independent free thinkers, still impressionable, energetic for sure, idealists, knowing all the newest fads and ideas were placed alongside a group of mature, wide, time-tested, experienced, knowledgeable, and persons full of gratitude for their wonderful life to date, and a passionate desire to share life while they have breath. Incredible!

Which brings my thoughts to Lindenwald. Think about Lindenwald for a moment! What if ...?! And, what if YOU ...?! Got ideas?! Got energy?! Got a passion to give or do?! Got the urge to “grow young” instead of to “grow old”?!

How will this Youth Director’s little message end for you – as a question mark (?) or as an exclamation mark (!) Think about that for a moment?!

The Lord’s Blessing and mine, Dan

## YOUTH PROGRAM STRUCTURE UPDATE

The TASC Force program “*Developing a Structure*” is a **Phase One** effort and is underway.

**Goal One:** Establish an organized youth group as part of congregational/community life

**Action -** A loose association of middle and high school students has been instituted. To date, 18 different youth have frequented TASC Force gatherings/activities, regular and/or occasional attendees. The program involves *one group* (mixture of MS/HS students) which currently has been meeting on Wed. evenings. We conducted our *first election of officers* in February. Officer training is required and will be coordinated by our Youth Director.

The TASC Force will be attempting to *expand to two groups* beginning in September 2011 – a Middle School group meeting on Wednesday evenings and a High School group meeting on Sunday evenings with both groups meeting at the church. An effort to *collaborate with area UMC youth groups* to meet together, on a once-a-month or quarter rotating basis, is being discussed with the Pastors’ Cluster Group and respective Youth Leaders.

**Goal Two:** Establish a collaborative network with Miami University-Hamilton involving youth

**Action -** A collaborative *Community Pep Club* has been created, involving area youth and members of the college student body. The Pep Club attended home men/women basketball games (free admission, free hot dog and soda, free t-shirt). To date, 36 t-shirts were issued with limited marketing time. A mix of local middle school youth and college students comprised this inaugural pep club. MU-H has invited the Pep Club to be part of the softball/baseball home game season with inclusion of volleyball this Fall as well. A celebrative/appreciation event will be part of Lindenwald’s March 19<sup>th</sup>

## TASC FORCE NEWS (continued)

Community Meal. The pep club was also represented at MU-H's 1<sup>st</sup>-ever Homecoming Dance to help decorate, chaperone, and clean up. An August College Kick-off the School Year Parade is in the works with our involvement. Devotional, chaplain, and additional inspirational/motivational activities are being explored. *Mentoring* opportunities are being discussed. MU-H has graciously provided space for our group to hold two major *fundraisers* this summer: a boys/girls basketball camp and a strongest guy/gal competition. The Youth Director also coordinated the college's Staycation event providing youth interaction, overnight accommodations, food, and the "Dawn & Bruce Show" who eloquently elaborated on our community service ministries - Immersion Service, Summer Shine, Rays of Hope, J-Zone, ...., Treat Street, Community Meals, Shepherd's House, Drive Thru Prayer and TASC Force. A plan is being explored to provide monetary *scholarship* opportunities for Lindenwald TASC Force members upon high school graduation to attend MU-H.

**Goal Three:** Establish a viable Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) Huddle at Hamilton HS

**Action -** An initial sign up FCA meeting was held in March for interested Hamilton High School athletes. Discussions with interested support adult coaches is in process. An organizing meeting has taken place. Proper paperwork for the FCA Organization is being completed, election of officers is being planned, a meeting place at Lindenwald is being explored (day, time, etc.), and a planning retreat is being organized. Summer activities, including FCA Camps and collaboration with Miami University-Hamilton will be initial outcomes in the development process. An FCA Huddle fully functional is anticipated beginning this Fall with regular meetings being held at Lindenwald, including joint gatherings with the already existing FCA Huddle at Fairfield HS.

**Phase Two** (developing trained young adult/adult volunteer church/community support staff will be elaborated upon in the May Newsletter.) Growing pains are a good thing!!! Come and see.

+ + + + +

## The Pastor's Page (continued from front page)

**Easter Sunday, April 24 (continued):** 9:30am Traditional Service with Adult Choir and special music. 11:40am in our Fellowship Hall, Contemporary Service with our Praise Band.

I look forward to sharing in these services and activities and ministries with all of you as we anticipate shouting together on Easter Sunday: "Christ is Risen!"

See you in Church and Sunday School!



Dance as though  
no one is watching you.

Love as though  
you have never been hurt.



Sing as though  
no one can hear you.

Live as though  
heaven is on earth.

# Stephen Ministry News

*"Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2*

On Sunday, March 20, 2011 four new Stephen Ministers were commissioned here at our Lindenwald United Methodist Church.

Dale, Vera, Greg, and Kim each completed over 50 hours of training to be equipped to serve and to give Christ-centered care to those in need.



**Dale Titus**



**Vera Hoffman**



**Greg Kelly**



**Kim Kelly**

Stephen Ministry is . . .

- ♦ A healing ministry of Christ-centered caring
- ♦ A ministry of presence
- ♦ A ministry of walking beside a person in need
- ♦ A ministry of listening
- ♦ A ministry of confidentiality
- ♦ A ministry of trust

Could you or someone you know benefit from the care of a Stephen Minister? Call Pastor Val or any of the following Stephen Leaders:

Julia and Neil Hayes - 867-1027

Judy Nesselroad - 829-8311

*"Therefore encourage one another and build up each other."*

*1 Thessalonians 5:11*



**UMW MOTHER'S DAY  
FLOWER SALE WILL BENEFIT  
BROTHERS KEEPER FUND**

The United Methodist Women will be offering Hanging Baskets of flowers for sale prior to Mother's Day. This year all proceeds will go to the LUMC Brothers Keeper Fund. The baskets will sell for \$20.00. Order forms will be accepted through April 24, 2011. Baskets may be picked up on Friday, May 6 or Saturday, May 7 at the church from 1 to 5pm.

The church's Brothers Keeper Fund is funded by private donations and is not part of the operating budget. Each month approximately five \$10 gas cards and two food vouchers worth \$10 each are given to people in need. There is never any change given back to the holder of the card or voucher and no alcohol or cigarettes may be purchased. As funds allow people may receive help with utilities, rent, vehicle repair, getting an ID Card, etc.

The Brothers Keeper Fund also allows members of the congregation to donate anonymously to a specific family they know to be in need.

The United Methodist Women hope you will prayerfully consider a donation to this Brothers Keeper Fundraiser by purchasing a flower for Mother's Day.

Contact Judy Nesselroad at 829-8311 with questions about the flower sale. For additional questions about our Brothers Keeper Fund, contact Pastor Val ([val\\_waibel@lindenwaldumc.org](mailto:val_waibel@lindenwaldumc.org)).

**UMW  
4th ANNUAL  
FLOWER SALE**

ORDERS WILL BE TAKEN FOR OUR BEAUTIFUL  
HANGING BASKETS DURING THE  
MONTH OF APRIL.

DELIVERY IS THE WEEK OF MOTHERS DAY

QUANTITY	PLANT NAME	COLOR
	Impatiens	Pink
		Purple
		Red
		White
	New Guinea Impatiens	Rose
		Magenta
		Red
	Ivy Geranium	Pink

COST IS \$20.00 PER BASKET DUE WITH ORDER  
QUESTIONS: CALL JUDY NESSELROAD @ 829-8311

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

AMT PAID \_\_\_\_\_

## News from Tokyo . . .

When the earthquake hit Japan, Paul Shew was in a meeting at Aoyama Gakuin University where he serves as a UM missionary. Although the school is over 200 miles from the epicenter, Dr. Shew says that between the main quake and the large aftershock that occurred about 30 minutes later, *“the shaking continued so long that I actually got a bit of motion sickness.”* Dr. Shew serves as Chaplain and Associate Professor in the College of Literature at the University. Two other Methodist missionaries, who work at the university also survived the quake. Paul Shew and family are members of Middletown First UMC along with his parents, JC and Anita Shew. Aoyama Gakuin became a refuge center where 8,000 people have stayed each night. The university will be organizing relief and volunteer efforts for the affected areas as soon as possible. Visit their website [www.aoyama.ac.jp](http://www.aoyama.ac.jp) to learn more. In addition, *“UMCOR is closely monitoring the unfolding situation in the Pacific,”* said Melissa Crutchfield, UMCOR executive for International Disaster Response. *“We’re in contact with our partners in the region, mindful of the still developing emergency in Japan as well as of the risk to other countries, such as Indonesia and the Philippines, and to Hawaii, which are expected to be impacted by the tsunami,”* she said. UMCOR head, the Rev. Cynthia Fierro Harvey, urged prayers for those affected by the disaster. She said that as needs become clarified, UMCOR will respond. Your support for **Pacific Emergency, UMCOR Advance #3021317**, is urgently needed. Please give now. **NOTE:** If giving through Lindenwald United Methodist, make your check out to Lindenwald UMC and earmark your checks for **Pacific Emergency**; one check will be sent from the church to UMCOR.



## United Methodist Church Tops 12 Million . . .

While the United Methodist Church’s US membership has continued to shrink, its growth elsewhere in the world has put it over the 12 million member mark, newly released statistics show. The church’s membership in Africa, Europe and Asia grew from 3.5 million to 4.4 million in the five years ending in 2009, according to the General Council on Finance and Administration (GCFA). In that time, worldwide membership increased from almost 11.6 million to nearly 12.1 million.

*“The major growth has been in Africa and the Philippines,”* said Scott Brewer, connectional services director for GCFA. That growth has occurred despite further slippage in the United States membership. US professing membership in 2009 was down 1.22 percent from 2008, to 7.8 million members, according to new GCFA data.



The United Methodist Church remains the third largest religious group in the United States, and its membership trends – decreases in the United States and increases in other countries – mirror those of other mainline denominations. Most Protestant denominations reported declining US membership between 2008 and 2009, according to the 2011 Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches (<http://www.yearbookofchurches.org>). According to the yearbook, the UMC saw the smallest declines of any mainline denomination. Meanwhile, United Methodism outside the United States continues to thrive, led by the Congo Central Conference during the 2005-2009 period, according to the GCFA.



**Lindenwald United Methodist**

**3501 Pleasant Avenue**

**Hamilton, Ohio 45015**

**Return Service Requested**

**Contact Information**

Phone: 513-863-8822

Fax: 513-863-4666

**Web Info:**

[www.lindenwaldumc.org](http://www.lindenwaldumc.org)

We're on Facebook!

**Email Info:**

Church

[lumc@lindenwaldumc.org](mailto:lumc@lindenwaldumc.org)

Rev. Valerie Waibel

[val\\_waibel@lindenwaldumc.org](mailto:val_waibel@lindenwaldumc.org)

Linda Rouse

[linda\\_rouse@lindenwaldumc.org](mailto:linda_rouse@lindenwaldumc.org)

Dawn Trapp

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Bruce Dickerson

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Daniel Dennis

[danieljdennis@gmail.com](mailto:danieljdennis@gmail.com)

Charlene Elam

[charleneelam@yahoo.com](mailto:charleneelam@yahoo.com)

**LUMC Staff**

Senior Pastor

Valerie Waibel

Transformational Ministry Director

Bruce Dickerson

Children's Director

Dawn Trapp

Youth Director

Daniel Dennis

Music Director

Charlene Elam

Organist

Nancy McCormick

Office Manager/Adm. Secretary

Linda Rouse

Preschool Director

Jane Dickey

Custodian

Glen Chastain

Treasurers

Nancy Albright, Sue McPeek

Financial Secretaries

Jerry Smith, Carrie Titus

If the church is locked, contact Pat Schick @ 844-1064.

Church Office Hours

Monday through Friday

8:00 AM—12:30 PM and 1:30 to 5:00 PM

Newsletter Deadline: Fifteenth day of month

Bulletin Deadline: Wednesdays—5:00 PM