Dear Members and Friends,

March is the month in this presidential year of 2016, at least, when many states are voting in primary elections and caucuses for candidates seeking to secure their party’s presidential nomination. If a candidate does well on Super Tuesday that can influence their bid for their party’s support, and hopefully they can eventually win the Democratic or Republican presidential nomination.

Super Tuesday in Ohio is March 15, 2016. I would encourage you to vote in this primary election. As citizens of this great country, the voting privilege is a right that many brave men and women have fought to protect. I believe that voting is one of my responsibilities as a United States citizen. I hope you’ll join me!

Now, in the Church, we want meaningful leadership ... especially spiritual leadership. So, please let me share with you some qualities of spiritual leadership. And although these qualities of spiritual leadership may not be the only kind of leadership that is needed in our country in this election year—maybe, these qualities will provide food for thought as you go to the polls on Super Tuesday.

A strong Spiritual Leader is characterized by G.R.A.C.E.

1. **Grounded in God.**

   Good Spiritual Leaders effectively lead others by first being led. The best (if not only) way to teach and lead is by example. Jesus never made a major move in His ministry without first consulting His Heavenly Father. The goal of a good Spiritual Leader is not to gain disciples who will walk behind you, but to gain disciples of Christ who will walk with you.

   “Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you to will and work for God’s good pleasure.” Philippians 2:12-13

2. **Related to God.**

   Good Spiritual Leaders effectively lead others by showing that they have a meaningful relationship with God. Jesus stayed connected to God by spending long periods of time in prayer. The best way to grow your relationship with God is through prayer. Both personal prayer and corporate prayer in Church are the best ways to develop true intimacy with our God.

   “If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

   [continued on next page]
2 Chronicles 7:14

“Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:6-7

5. Energized about teaching others.

Good Spiritual Leaders show their genuine enthusiasm for leading others by being prepared to lead. They work and study hard and are faithful in their task of leading which usually involves some form of teaching. Being responsible and ready to lead is vital.

“There are certainly additional qualities needed for good and strong Spiritual Leaders, but I thought I’d stop after sharing with you five. Hopefully, these qualities provide insight and meaning in the days ahead.

See you at Church!

3. Attuned to God.

Good Spiritual Leaders are people of faith. One definition of faith is choosing to believe in God even when you don’t feel like it. Anyone can say they believe in God when life is going well; it is an act of faith to believe, and believe in God, in the midst of a crisis or tragedy.

“Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.”
1 Corinthians 16:13-14

4. Compassionate toward others.

Good Spiritual Leaders demonstrate compassion and concern for those they lead especially in times of need, but also by lovingly calling them into accountability when appropriate and necessary.

“But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into Him who is the head, Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love.”
Ephesians 4:15-16
Member Surveys Still Needed
The Nominations and Leadership Development Committee would like to thank those members and friends who completed the interest inventory last August. This survey was compiled in order to obtain new information about what our current members and friends are involved in here at our Lindenwald Church AND what they would like to be involved in. We all have God-given talents and abilities to use for the Kingdom.

So, if you did not fill out a survey, you may still pick up a copy here at church and let us know what you’re involved in and what you would like to be involved in. Thanks for helping us to plan events that honor God with your service and devotion. We appreciate your input.

Together, we can make a difference for Christ in this world!

Free Community Meal
Feeding the Body & Soul Community Meal offers a free meal to those who may be hungry and have no food. This meal, on Saturday, March 19, 2016, is free and open to the public and will be served from 5:00 to 6:30pm. Our food pantry is also open during those same hours and bags of groceries are given to those in attendance. Transportation is available, if needed.

Prayer Drive Thru
The next Prayer Drive Thru is on Thursday, April 7, 2016, from 4:00 to 5:00pm (weather permitting), when we open our parking lot to our community for drive thru prayer. As you’re driving home, stop in and our prayer team will listen to your request and pray with you. Volunteers are always needed; call Freda Halderman if you’d like to help. [February 4 Drive Thru=14 cars, 23 people, 10 volunteers]

New Members Join Easter Sunday
If you are interested in joining our Lindenwald Church, please talk to Pastor Val. New members will join on Easter Sunday at both worship services, March 27, 2016.

Girl Scout Sunday—March 13, 2016
We welcome our Girl Scouts and their families on Sunday, March 13 to our Lindenwald United Methodist Church. Together, we will celebrate their accomplishments and applaud their leaders. Please join us.

Barnabas Cards
These postcards (with our church’s picture on them) can be sent out to encourage someone you know or to let someone know you’ve missed them! Just fill in your message, the person’s name and address and return to the church office. We’ll take care of the postage and getting them in the mail. Look for them in the Sanctuary, Welcome Center and the tables in Fellowship Hall!

UM Men’s Breakfast
The United Methodist Men will meet on Saturday, March 12, 2016 at 9am at Perkins Restaurant in Fairfield. All men are invited to attend!
Save Those Empty Pill Bottles
The Missions Team continues collecting pill bottles (both prescription and over-the-counter) for Matthew 25 Ministries. This is a ministry that helps in all parts of the world and is located in Cincinnati, Ohio. They collect used pill bottles in order to shred and then sell to companies that recycle. They then use this money to support their outreach. There are containers in the Welcome Center and Fellowship Hall in which you can place your empty pill bottles. Labels do not need to be taken off as they are shredded also. If you prefer, you can take a marker and mark through the name on the label.

LUMC Food Pantry
Don’t forget our Lindenwald Food Pantry. Watch for the following items when you’re out shopping . . .

- 12 oz. cans of tuna
- Canned chicken breast; Spam
- Spaghetti and Spaghetti sauce
- Regular size can of vegetables
- Regular size can of fruit
- Pancake mix and Pancake syrup
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Beans
- Peanut Butter and Jelly

UMW Circle Meetings

Friendly Circle—March 2 and April 6 @11:15am at LaRosa’s Restaurant in Fairfield

Mizpah Circle—March 10 @ 1:00pm in Room 204

Genesis Circle—March 9 @ 5:30pm and April 12 in the LUMC kitchen

Caring Cards For Our Homebound
The following Homebound Members and Friends have MARCH birthdays:

- Mickey Bramble—March 13
- Donald Gray—March 27
- Wendell Gibson—March 29
- Verill Marchant—March 29

Birthday cards are available in the baskets in the Welcome Center and in Fellowship Hall. Place your completed cards in the basket; we will address and mail them each week. Special thanks to all who have embraced this ministry.

Teddy Bear Ministry
Missions continue to collect Teddy Bears or any other soft, stuffed animals that will fit into a gallon zip-lock bag. These stuffed animals will then be taken to local Police and Fire Departments to be given to children in order to comfort them when they are in a stressful situation. The bag includes a message that reads, “This beary special pal comes to you with love, hugs, and prayers. Jesus loves you!” It includes the church name and address as well. Anybody who wishes to make a donation can either purchase a bear or make a donation by putting money in an envelope and marking it “Teddy Bear Ministry” and putting it in the offering plate. There is a marked container in the parlor for the teddy bears.
TIME TO ORDER EASTER FLOWERS

The Altar Guild will be ordering lilies and mums to beautify our sanctuary for Easter. If you would like to be a donor of a plant(s), please complete the form below and place in the collection plate or return to the church office. The last day to place your order is Sunday, March 20. The cost this year is $10.50 per plant. Payment can be placed in the collection plate or mailed to the church office. Please remember to write “EASTER FLOWERS” on the memo portion of your check.

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Easter Flower Order Form

Name: _______________________ Phone #: _____________

In Memory of . . .

_________________________________________________________________

In Honor of . . .

_________________________________________________________________

No. of Lillies _________ No. of Mums _____________

Total Due___________ Amt. Enclosed____________

☐ I will pick up the plant after the Easter service.

☐ I will leave it for delivery to a shut in.
Children’s Department News
from Lisa Gebhart, Director

CAMP FUN

Last year at the beginning of June of 2015, the children in our church and community were able to take a trip to a UMC camp. Eleven children and youth went to a one-day adventure camp at Camp Wesley. The kids were able to relax on a two-hour van drive to Bellefontaine, Ohio and enjoy a UMC camp experience. They were able to choose to participate in archery, arts & crafts or canoeing. And they all went swimming in the freezing water!! Brr it was a little chilly on June 8! They all worshipped together and were introduced to the summer theme of Plant, Grow and Thrive. They all had a great experience and really enjoyed being at one with nature that God made.

After experiencing a great day at Camp Wesley, the children and teens stated they would like to go back in the summer of 2016, but to stay the week. So in September of 2015, the children and teens started fundraising by selling candy bars, volunteering at the Amaizing Grace Kettle Corn booth and by the help of their parents the kids raised $1050.00! Wow, we were half way there and needed to raise $850.00 more. The children received a $50.00 donation, then a $200.00 donation. On January 31, 2016, our church raised $345.00 from Noisy Sunday, and this was offered to the children’s camp fund. After looking at the financial report and discovering that we had raised $1645.00 and were only $255.00 away from our goal, I immediately got on the phone and started speaking to Phil White, Camp Wesley Director and told our story about how the children and church were raising money for 10 children and teens to attend this year. Lindenwald UMC has not had children and teens attend a UMC camp in at least 10 years. So, I wanted this to be the first group to attend. Phil loved the story. He then spoke with Ken Overholser, the Director of Camping and Retreat Ministries, who also loved the story, so the UMC offered each child that was attending a $25.50 scholarship. So Praise the Lord this was the $255.00 that we were still trying to raise. God answered my prayers that these 10 children will get to experience camp this year!

Attending camp this year from our Children’s Department will be Amanda, William, Alacia, Olivia and Natalie who will go to the Camp Wesley Explorer Camp from July 5 to July 7. Attending from our Youth Department will be Autumn, Carson, Yeager, Hailey and Elijah who will go to the Camp Wesley Ultimate Camp from July 5 to July 8.

God has protected us and guided us through this journey in sending 10 children to experience the beauty of God’s creation through nature. The children will be able to hear God’s voice calling in their own journey of faith in Christ. We look forward in hearing the children and teen’s adventures as they return from their first Camp Wesley Experience!
March 20, 2016  |  Palm Sunday Worship
Lindenwald UMC ~ 9:30am & 11:40am
We’ll have palms at both Sunday worship services as we prepare our hearts and minds for the passion of Christ during Holy Week. Our Sanctuary Choir will sing at 9:30am and our Praise Band will lead us at our 11:40am service.

March 24, 2016  |  Maundy Thursday Worship
Lindenwald UMC ~ 7:00pm ~ Sanctuary
Our Sanctuary Choir will sing and we will remember “The Last Supper” that Jesus shared with his disciples on the night He was betrayed. We will also share together in Holy Communion.

March 25, 2016  |  The Way of the Cross
Noon ~ Downtown Hamilton - The Old Courthouse
We will join other downtown churches in walking the path that Christ took on His way to the Cross, and we’ll begin at the old courthouse across from the former Elder-Beereman store. Pastor Val will offer a reflection at First St. John’s Church on Front Street.

March 25, 2016  |  Community Good Friday Worship
Lindenwald UMC ~ 7:00pm ~ Sanctuary
We will tell the story of Christ’s passion and we will move from light to darkness remembering Jesus’ suffering and death. At the end of the service we will remove everything from the altar symbolizing the crucifixion of our Savior. Special music will be presented and all are invited!

March 27, 2016  |  Easter Sunrise Worship
River’s Edge Amphitheater in Downtown Hamilton
7:00am ~ Bring Lawn Chairs

March 27, 2016  |  Easter Worship
Lindenwald UMC ~ 9:30am & 11:40am
Our Sanctuary Choir will sing during our first service and there will be baptisms and new members joining at both 9:30 and 11:40. Please remember to invite your neighbors and friends to be with us this Easter!

MORE GOOD EGGS!
Our Lindenwald Church has been blest by many church members and friends who are giving of their time and energy to teach us and to beautify our classrooms and offices.

We thank our amazing and gifted teachers . . .

- Greg Albright – Wednesday Evening Bible Study
- Nancy Albright – Thursday Morning Bible Study
- Tony Brown – Wednesday Evening Bible Study and Teen Guard
- Melissa Backscheider – Adult Sunday School
- Lisa Gebhart – Pathways and J-Zone Children’s Ministries
- Freeman James – Spiritual Gifts Class
- Nancy McCormick – Choir Director who teaches us how to sing!
- Jim Mullaney – Adult Sunday School
- Judy Nesselroad – A Disciple’s Path Class
- Cheryl Salzman – The Daniel Plan
- Pastor Val Waibel – Adult Sunday School

We thank our hard-working and talented “Friends of the Trustees” . . .

- Greg Albright – Cleaning, waxing and buffing the floor in Room 106
- Paul Himes – Repairing the wall cabinet in the Church Office
- Ray Kissinger – Repairing the wall cabinet in the Church Office
- Lou Stickler – Cleaning, waxing and buffing the floor in Room 106

We certainly appreciate our “Good Eggs!”
UMCOR HEALTH KITS

A Lenten Project
Sponsored by the Mission Committee

UMCOR is a ministry of The United Methodist Church through the General Board of Global Ministries, and their goal is to assist the most vulnerable persons affected by crisis or chronic need without regard to their race, religion, gender, or sexual orientation. They believe all people have God-given worth and dignity.

UMCOR’s work reaches people in more than 80 countries, including the United States. They provide humanitarian relief when war, conflict, or natural disaster disrupt life to such an extent that communities are unable to recover on their own.

"While UMCOR cooperates with other aid organizations to extend our reach, our most important partners are the people we serve. We are confident that successful solutions to emergency or chronic conditions begin with the affected population. UMCOR provides these survivors not only temporary relief but long-term education, training, and support."

UMCOR spends 100 percent of designated donations on the projects their donors specify. When UMCOR donors give their time, money, and supplies, they join UMCOR as the hands and feet of Christ.

This year, our LUMC Missions Committee would like each of us to participate in their church-wide Lenten project by putting together Health Kits for UMCOR. Health kits provide basic necessities to people who have been forced to leave their homes because of human conflict or natural disaster. Health kits are also used as learning tools in personal hygiene, literacy, nutrition, and cooking classes.

One health kit can be put together for less than $12, and on the reverse side of this sheet you will find a listing of the items that should go inside the kit. (Please read all of the instructions, as it is important that kits contain only the requested items and nothing more.) We would really like to reach our church-wide goal of 100 kits, so won’t you please consider helping with this important project? You will be hearing more about this project in the weeks ahead; however, if you would like more information or have questions, contact Sis Rimer (513.889.1413) or Rita Green (513.889.4568).
Health Kit
Value: $12.00

1 hand towel
- 15' x 25' to 17' x 27'
- kitchen, cleaning and microfiber towels not acceptable

1 washcloth

1 comb
- comb needs to be sturdy and longer than 6'
- no pocket combs or picks, please
- rattail combs and combs without handles are acceptable with a minimum of 6" of teeth

1 metal nail file or clipper
- no emery boards, please

1 bath-size soap
- 3 oz. and larger sizes only
- no Ivory or Jergens soap due to moisture content
- do not remove from original packaging

1 toothbrush
- adult size only
- do not remove from original packaging

6 adhesive bandages
- ¾" to 1" size
- common household Band-Aids

1 plastic bag
- one-gallon size sealable bags only

$1 to purchase toothpaste

Assembly directions
Set the $1 for toothpaste aside to be included in a separate envelope. Lay out the hand towel flat on a table. Lay the washcloth flat in the center of the hand towel. Place all remaining items on top of the washcloth. Fold over the sides of the hand towel to cover all of the items. Fold over one end of the hand towel so that it covers all of the items. Grasp the bundle of items tightly and roll over the remainder of the hand towel tightly. Place the tightly rolled bundle in the plastic bag. Remove as much air as possible and seal the bag.

Important notes
- All items must be new.
- Do not wash any of the items as they will be considered used.
- Please remove all packaging.
- All emergency kits are carefully planned to make them usable in the greatest number of situations. Since strict rules often govern product entry into international countries, it is important that kits contain only the requested items – nothing more.
- DO NOT include any personal notes, money or additional material in the kits. These things must be painstakingly removed and will delay the shipment.
Spring Retreat

Saturday, March 12, 2016
9:30 a.m. to Noon
(Breakfast and Registration begins at 9:00 a.m.)
The Presbyterian Church
23 South Front Street, Hamilton, OH 45011

Praying Always in All Ways

Do you feel like your prayer life is running on empty? Are you looking to add sparkle to your relationship with God? We will look at ways we can pray and how we can pray at all times. We may need new ways of finding time with God so we can experience our own transformation! Come for a morning of peace and calm....

Presented by S. Olga Wittekind, OSF, Ph.D.
Director of Oldenburg Franciscan Center

All Welcome $10 per person includes continental breakfast

Reservations required by March 2, 2016. For more information or registration form contact Sue Stephenson at 513-673-4877 or stsmsteph@aol.com or contact the church office at 867-5411.

Oldenburg Retreat Center, Oldenburg, Indiana
Picture from www.oldenburgfranciscancenter.org

Please return this portion with your payment of $10 made payable to The Presbyterian Church
Mail to Susan Stephenson, 251 Heathwood Lane, Hamilton, OH 45013

Name ___________________________ Phone ___________________________
Address __________________________ E-mail ___________________________
_________________________________
BECOMING A MISSIONAL CHURCH
SPIRITUAL SUMMIT
CREATING A SPIRITUAL OUTREACH TEAM

MARCH 7, 2016
7:00-9:00 P.M.

LINDENWALD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
3501 PLEASANT AVENUE, HAMILTON, OH 45015

PLEASE JOIN US to learn more about accepting the challenge of Christ’s Great Commission, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 28:19). Guest speakers include Rev. Bruce Dickerson, Rev. Mark Finfrock, and Rev. Valerie Waibel. Refreshments will be served!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: PASTOR VAL WAIBEL @ 513-863-8822
Contact Information
Phone: 513-863-8822
Email: lumc@lindenwaldumc.org
Website: www.lindenwaldumc.org
We’re on Facebook!

LUMC Staff
Senior Pastor, Rev. Valerie Waibel
Youth Director, Tony Brown
Children’s Director, Lisa Gebhart
Organist/Choir Director, Nancy McCormick
Adm. Secretary/Office Manager, Linda Rouse
Custodian, Glen Chastain
Treasurers, Nancy Albright, Sue McPeek
Financial Secretaries, Jerry Smith, Carrie Titus

Church Office Hours
Monday through Friday
8:00am to 12:30pm and 1:30pm to 5:00pm

Newsletter Deadline: Fifteenth day of month
Bulletin Deadline: Wednesdays—5:00pm

Lindenwald Community
Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, March 19, 2016
11:00am ~ Ages 2-12
Lindenwald Splash Pad
(Corner of Benninghoffen, Noyes and Allen Avenues)
Sponsored by LUMC and Lindenwald PROTOCOL