



“A New Coat of Faith”

April 24, 2009

Dear Lindenwood Family,

We are rapidly approaching the end of our fiscal year. The stewardship campaign is upon us. Once again I am Chairing the stewardship campaign. (I guess I did a good job last year) I feel privileged to chair such an important ministry in our church and am glad to be joined by such a strong stewardship team composed of Steve Herrington, Lynn Pleasants, Dorothy Bruce, Kevin Kenny, David Brown, Barbara McConville, Brian Burks and Barbara Williams. We're also delighted to have Rev. Johnny Wray working with us. We're very excited about our theme -- A New Coat of Faith: Giving out of Hope; Living into Wholeness and believe it is very timely for where we are as a congregation.

Stewardship always excites me. It's the time of year when I prayerfully consider my commitment to God and Lindenwood Christian Church. I also take the time to thank God for you and the underwriting of the budget for the coming year. I know some people dread the stewardship campaign because we talk about "money" and some feel it takes away from the worship at the services. Remember: Jesus spoke more about money during his teachings than any other subject. I am excited for Lindenwood and all the possibilities ahead of us.

I am a very optimistic person, but I am also aware of the financial crises in our country and congre-

gation. This is when faith plays a BIG role in our lives.

Luke 12:24 "Consider the ravens for they neither sow nor reap which neither have storehouse or barn and God feedeth them. How much are ye better than the fowls".

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son and whosoever believeth in him shall not perish but have everlasting life".

We will officially launch the campaign on Sunday, April 26 with Consecration and Commitment Sunday on May 17. The Stewardship Team is preparing a number of activities and resources to engage all Lindenwood members and friends in the campaign, including a Thank You Celebration on Sunday, June 28.

I truly believe that if we all could put on "A New Coat of Faith", we could have 100% pledging from every member of Lindenwood Christian Church. It's not all about the \$\$\$ but your commitment to God and Lindenwood that will allow our current ministries to continue and even new ministries to develop. I look forward to the campaign and wish you and your family a blessed year.

Joe Filipiak
Chair Stewardship



Giving out of Hope.
Living into Wholeness.

Pulpit Committee Update

The pulpit committee is very pleased with their progress and current status in our search for our new senior minister. The past few weeks have resulted in great progression forward, and we are very excited as to what our very near future holds.

While we understand everyone is very anxious, we again ask for your patience and continued prayers, as we are prayerfully hopeful we might make a significant announcement to you very soon.

Ministers Prayer List

Your ministers ask you to join them in praying for:

- Those affected by the downturn of the economy
- New Stephen Ministers: May they gain deeper insight into what it means to be cloaked in compassion
- Graduating Seniors
- Nominating Process for Elders, Deacons and Board Members
- A New Coat of Faith..... May we give out of hope and life into wholeness
- Pulpit Search Committee and the new Senior Minister
- Pastor's Class



MESSAGE FROM OUR MINISTER

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.
Genesis 1:27-28

Dear Lindenwood Family,

As we go through the Great Fifty Days of Easter, we continue to give thanks for our Risen Redeemer; the One who continues to reveal to us the God in whose image we are made. The meaning of being created in the *imago Dei* (image of God) has been interpreted in many different ways; but, as we ponder the resurrection during this Easter season, I find myself intrigued by Jesus' ability to dream with God. He dreamed God's dreams of a creation completely restored; he dreamed God's dreams of a kingdom where there would be no more tears and no more sorrow. It's been said that Jesus shows us what it means to be truly human, to live out life in the image of God. Jesus lived completely for God and in thankful obedience to God, and completely for fellow human beings and for their good. Like Jesus, we too are made in God's image; that means that we too have the capacity to dream with God. Many in the Bible dreamed with God. An elderly Abraham looked at the stars and saw more children than he could count; Moses dreamed of real freedom for his people so oppressed in slavery in Egypt. And, when the angel told her that "with God all things are possible," a young Mary dreamed of a special Son whose kingdom would have no end. Yes, we who are made in the *imago Dei* can dream with God—dream of a life, a world, a church based on love of God and love of neighbor.

Of what do you dream, Lindenwood? Yes, we are dreaming of a new Senior Minister—but, if we're really dreaming with God, we'll be dreaming of a church fully engaged in the mission and ministry of Christ Jesus. We'll be dreaming of a church where every member is spiritually nourished and growing a bumper crop of the fruits of the Spirit—a church whose outreach far exceeds their inreach. We'll be dreaming of a Midtown Memphis without poverty

or homelessness; we'll be dreaming of a world where peace triumphs over war and love triumphs over hate.

Some of you have already begun dreaming with God. I've heard dreams of an expanded Life Center, a K-12th grade school, an Alzheimer's Day Care Center, Senior housing. And there are visions of global mission where our efforts would touch others in need all around the world. Others of you have spoken of a "tapestry of fellowship" where a very diverse membership holds one another in respect and Christian love. God is waiting to dream with us—of what are you dreaming, Lindenwood?

Dreaming with God is especially encouraged during our Stewardship campaign! What will that "New Coat of Faith" look like? How will we "Give out of Hope?" In the radical hope of Easter, we find amazing possibilities; in the radical hope of Easter, we can let our imaginations run free. And, with such visions and dreams dancing before the eyes of our hearts, we will indeed give abundantly out of the abundant hope with which God has gifted us.

Over the next days and weeks, find a quiet place and prayerfully dream with the God who said, "*For surely I know the plans I have for you, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart.*" (Jeremiah 29:11-13)

Of what do you dream, Lindenwood?

Judith



Easter with the children of Lindenwood



Picture left to right: The Crossover class led by Jeff and Angie Brittain. They have made Sunday School a fun and meaningful learning experience for the kids in grades 4 & 5. The K & 1st Grade class drawing Easter pictures. Jesus and Mary at the tomb.



A CORNER FOR PRAYER

An Amazing Fact:
Jesus is Our Prayer Partner, He Prays For Us!

One of the most encouraging facts about prayer is this – Jesus prayed for us. He taught His disciples and us how to pray (Matthew 6:7-13). Also, Jesus prayed for His disciples and He prayed for us!

Read the seventeenth chapter of the gospel of John. It is all about Jesus praying to God on His own behalf, on behalf of the twelve disciples, and on behalf of everyone else who has faith because of what the disciples said about Jesus. Of course, this includes you and me.

What a blessing! What assurance! Read the seventeenth chapter of John – not just once but several times. Read it from several different translations. You will receive a blessing.

In this chapter Jesus prays that we could experience the glory of God (John 17:22). He prays that we would obey the word of God (John 17:21). He prays that all His followers would be one in spirit (John 17:21). He prays that all people of the world would know that God sent Jesus. This is another mandate that we share our faith with the entire world (John 17:23). He prays that we will experience the joy of God (John 17:13).

What a powerful fact: Jesus is our prayer partner. Read this chapter and you will have cause to rejoice.



LIFE IN FAMILIES

Congratulations to:

Todd & Heather Fox on the birth of their daughter, Sophie Joy Fox born April 6.

Jeremy & Jessica Underwood on the birth of their daughter, Ashlyn Elizabeth Underwood born April 12. Proud grandparents are: James & Mary Margaret Buck.

Love and sympathy to:

The family of Virginia Carpenter who passed away, April 2.

Vickie Wright in the recent death of her father.

Graduate Recognition

We will recognize all graduates Sunday, May 3 at the 11:00 Service. Following the service the graduates will be treated to lunch at Shogun Japanese Steakhouse. The graduates will be featured in a May edition of Life@Lindenwood. We need, biographical information on each student, RSVP for Sunday recognition and lunch and a current picture. Forms are available at the Reception desk in Easterwood Gallery or the Kiosk in the Foyer. Deadline to turn in information/reservations is April 26.

Lindenwood's New Steeple Arrives



The old steeple being lifted off the sanctuary roof.

Lindenwood has a multi-generational complex. Our oldest was built in the mid-50's with the latest (Stauffer Hall) built in 1994. Care and upkeep of our facilities are funded through our Foundation and the Bobbie Adams Trust. However, the replacement of our steeple was funded through an insurance claim from storm damage that occurred in February 2008. The contractor for the steeple replacement submitted a proposal to apply a new skin to the steeple. The insurance company rejected the proposal and



The new steeple ready to go in place.



The new steeple in place.

instead approved replacing the entire steeple. During this replacement process the contractor was able to integrate the carillon bell speakers within the steeple as well as close off the roof to the interior. This improves our roof appearance and our energy savings.



LIVES & MINISTRIES WE HONOR AND REMEMBER

REMEMBERING

Col. John F. Reed Scholarship Fund
Col. John F. Reed.....Elinor Reed

Extreme Makeover
Martha Gatchell...Disciples Women's
Ministry

Kole's Club
Kole Keller.....Steve & Nancy Keller

Mission & Ministries
Martha Gatchell.....Frank & Helen Fly
Travis Wright.....Bill & Katherine
Eddings

Stephen Ministry
Freddie Snyder.....Stephen Ministers

HONORING
Benevolent Fund
Bill & Anna Hough.....David & Ann
McCabe

Music

George & Dare Estok.....Anita Jones,
Karen Keywood, Thomas & Eileen
Proffitt, Col. Charles O. Smithers, III,
Dr. Maureen Smithers, Richard
Stanley, Michael & Jennifer
Swearingen

Wellness & Fitness

David Johnson.....Angela Craig

DONATIONS

LifeQuest.....Mike Baber, Douglas
Wright
Minister of Music Discretionary.....
High Point Funeral Chapel, Peggy
Bishop
Music.....Kim & Jessica Hunter
Pantry.....Walter White Open Door
Class
SAMSAL.....Mr. & Mrs. Jack Blake
SWAT Team.....Laverne Harder

Worship @ Lindenwood

8:30 a.m. Chapel Worship
9:30 a.m. W.O.W. Worship
in Stauffer Hall
11:00 Sanctuary Service

2nd & 4th Wednesday
Healing Service
6:00 p.m. - H.T. Wood Chapel

Prayer and Healing Service

If you or a loved one is going through a difficult time because of the economic down turn you may find renewed hope and faith in God and faith in yourself. A special time of prayer for those who have lost their jobs/income. Those who find they have no job, face a time of uncertainty and stress.

The healing team will be available to bring comfort and encouragement and a measure of hope to all who attend this worship service Wednesday, May 13th at 6:00 pm in the Chapel.
Rev. Harold Goodwin

