



Lindenwood's Gary Beard Chorale invited to Park Avenue Christian Church



The Gary Beard Chorale has been invited by Park Avenue Christian Church (PACC) in New York City to sing for their Sunday morning wor-

ship and an afternoon concert on February 8. anthems for the morning worship service, where they will sing from the rear gallery with the 56-rank organ. For their concert, the Chorale will sing from the altar steps with the Steinway piano accompanying. As part of PACC's concert series, the Chorale will sing their popular "Broadway Concert" for this performance, which is in great contrast to the many and varied other offerings presented on their season.

Park Avenue, at 1010 Park Ave at 85th Street, was organized in 1810, with the current sanctuary, modeled after La Sainte Chapelle in Paris, built in 1911, and boasting Tiffany windows. The church is a mainstay in New York's tony Upper East Side. PACC's website is

<http://parkavenuechristian.com/>

Dr. Jackson and Chris go back many years, as Chris would play for Good Friday services, Christmas concerts, and various other events both in Memphis and out of town with Dr. Jackson and the Mississippi Blvd. Choir. When Dr. Jackson became Senior Minister at National City Christian Church in Washington, D.C., Chris played for that congregation several times, again for worship, concerts and organ recitals.

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Dr. Alvin O. Jackson, Senior Minister of PACC, and former Senior Minister of our sister congregation Mississippi Blvd. Christian Church, extended the invitation while having lunch with Chris Nemeč last March. Dr. Jackson was in town to preach at the Lenten Preaching Series at Cavalry Episcopal Church and Chris played for the service. "I have wanted to have Lindenwood's Music Ministries at PACC for some time. I'm so pleased this will come to fruition," said Dr. Jackson.

The Chorale will provide service music and two

Live at Lindenwood

"Live at Lindenwood - It's Wednesday Night" begin January 14 with the Youth being introduced to their new rooms. They immediately begin spackling the walls to begin painting. Also Ryan's Wednesday night class had a good crowd.



IN OUR LIFE TODAY...

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MESSAGE FROM OUR MINISTER

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another; in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Romans 15:5-6

Dear Lindenwood Family,

As you read this, we are in the midst of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, which, in our part of the world, is usually observed January 18th – 25th. Of course, Christian unity is very near and dear to the hearts of Disciples of Christ – indeed, our denomination was founded on the belief that divisions among Christians are a denial of Christ's reconciling love on the cross. Founders Thomas Campbell and his son, Alexander, Barton Warren Stone, along with others gave voice to the biblical call for reconciliation and wholeness in the body of Christ "so that the world may believe." From then until now Christian unity has been foremost in the Disciples' doctrine of the Church and in their witness to the kingdom of God.

We live in a world that continues to be so deeply divided. Lately, we've seen some of the horrific consequences of division in Palestine and Israel; we see images of war and genocide almost daily. Likewise, the Church universal is terribly divided; anger, bitterness and resentment continue to hinder Christ's mission and ministry to a world so in need of the Good News. And, if we're very honest, we'll admit that our own congregation does not enjoy the unity that Christ intends. Indeed, we need to be praying fervently!

Christian unity is grounded in our belonging to Christ, to God. As we grow in our faith and knowledge of Christ Jesus, we find ourselves being reconciled by the power of the Holy Spirit. Prayer for Christian unity, then, is an acknowledgement of our trust in God; it is an opening of ourselves fully to the work of the Spirit.

Therefore, during this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, I invite you to join me in prayer.

Let us pray to the Lord for a deeper appreciation of our common baptism into the one body of Christ. May each one of us be sustained by the power of the Spirit as we work towards Christian unity.

Let us pray for our spiritual leaders and church authorities that the Spirit may continue to enlighten them and grant them the grace to work in harmony and love.

Let us pray for all civil authorities. May they work towards justice and peace and have the divine wisdom to attend to the needs of all, especially the most vulnerable.

Let us pray for nations and communities who live with deep divisions and internal conflicts.

Let us pray in thanksgiving for those who, inspired by Christ Jesus, who have reflected Christ's own forgiveness, compassion and love.

Let us pray for Christians in every place that one day we may all be able to gather around Christ's table and share the fellow of holy communion.

Let us pray for the Christians at Lindenwood that we might continue the work of our ancestors in the faith who were guided by the "polar star" of Christian unity. May all that we do or say contribute to the harmony and peace of this church as well as the Church universal.

May the Lord Jesus who prayed that "they all may be one," in the multitude of his mercies, hear our prayers.



Judith F. Reese

LIFE IN FAMILIES...and a child shall lead them

By Phil Vaughn

Sunday, a family showed up at the nursery trying to find out where to take her 3 school age kids for Sunday school. It turns out the family also attends our Life Center after school care. The youngest daughter who is in kindergarten, told her Mom that she wanted to go to church. Living in the area and already acquainted with the Life Center, she said sure, let's go to Lindenwood. I heard later that the kids had a great time in Kidz Xpress with Coach David. Special thanks to the caring church member who greeted the family, asked if she could help them, and brought them to me. Also thanks to all the volunteers is the children's program who took the time to share not only with this family, but with all the children who attend our programs.

Kidz Xpress & Crossover

The children of Lindenwood are learning the Bible story "Jesus Feeds the 5000" and learning that Jesus wants us to share what we have with others less fortunate. Dot Williams and Jennifer Wells talked to the children about the Food Packers and Angel Food ministries. We are asking the children to do small chores around the house in exchange for canned goods so they too may share.

IT'S A BABY GIRL

By Kate Korzewka

Wonderful News. Our Cherith Dresser, the pretty white dresser, located in the Bookstore is being filled with as many girl baby things to overflowing that we can get to be given to a new young mom to help her and her sweet little munchkin out in their first year as a family.

It is being filled with beautiful things donated by some very special people here at Lindenwood. I can't begin to thank you enough. One of the 'Angels' who is helping us to locate our little family is also most appreciative and extends her heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you.

So delivery of the dresser will be taking place in a few short weeks. And it's not too late to get in on the blessing but don't delay.

This is a list of possible items that you can have the pleasure of obtaining to help fill the need. Please call the bookstore in advance to mark that item off the list.

A bag of cloth diapers to use for burping etc., disposable diapers, wipes and refills, baby bottom cream, baby thermometer, socks, teething ring, sippy cups, kids bowl and spoon, a baby carrier, baby powder, receiving blankets, baby quilt, soft fleece blanket, hat, sweater, a changing pad, baby face cloths and towel, pacifiers, Kroger gift certificates, baby sheets, baby gate, a high chair, a stroller, little play gym that they lay in and look up at the toys, a folding take it with you padded playpen, a musical mobile, a night-light, plastic books, baby carrier, a sling or a snuggie so Mom can carry baby hands free. Do they still make those zipper sacks with sleeves that baby can sleep in?

Most items especially clothing, blankets and toys should be brand new. Larger, used items in excellent condition are most welcome.

Isn't this exciting? We're gonna have a baby!!!



Star Saver Basketball Registration Ages 5-8 yrs old

Six Sundays
beginning January 25
2- 4 p.m.
(Limited Space Available)

Star Saver Basketball is a great way to teach your child how to play the game of basketball. We have one hour of group practice that focuses on developing the fundamental skills needed to play the game. The second hour is devoted to games. All activities, practices and games take place on Sundays between 2 and 4 p.m.

For more information or to register contact David Johnson at 832-6978.

LIFE IN SERVICE

PONTOTOC UPDATE

A brief update on the family...the house is not on the market currently. Cheryl hasn't been able to secure a position with Kroger in Memphis just yet but is still trying. Until then the house will not be for sale- probably a good thing right now with the economy crunch plus it's the middle of a school year. She is doing well physically. Her life is still very busy and hectic with all three boys. I did hear she is getting some baby-sitting help with Michael a few days a week after school so Christian is able to do things he wants to do (sports, girls, etc?). I don't think anything else has been done to the house's interior. The deck work is still planned to be completed by the Faith Builders group soon. They will keep me posted.

The family continues to need our prayers. Thank you again for all the work, money and supplies given last year to this project. It was amazing and made a huge difference in their everyday living conditions.

Christy Leard

GO GREEN: If you would like to receive "Life@Lindenwood" through email, sign up at www.Lindenwood.info or call the Church Office at 458-8506.

DISCIPLES GENERAL MINISTERS AND PRESIDENT SELECTED TO DELIVER SERMON AT NATIONAL PRAYER SERVICE

Please join Disciples everywhere in congratulating General Minister and President Sharon Watkins in being selected to deliver the sermon at President-Elect Barack Obama's National Prayer Service on Wednesday, January 21.

Washington, D.C. - The Presidential Inaugural Committee announced that General Minister and President Dr. Sharon E. Watkins of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has been selected to give the sermon at the National Prayer Service on Wednesday, January 21st. The National Prayer Service will be held at the National Cathedral at the conclusion of Inaugural activities and will celebrate America's diversity of faith. Reverend Dr. Sharon Watkins will be the first woman to deliver the sermon at this traditional Inaugural event.

"I am truly honored to speak at this historic occasion," said Reverend Watkins. "My prayer when I preach is always that God will use me to bring a Gospel message that is uplifting and appropriately challenging to those who hear it. I hope that my message will call us to believe in something bigger than ourselves and remind us to reach out to all of our neighbors to build communities of possibility."

Reverend Dr. Sharon E. Watkins has served as General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada since 2005. She is the first woman to hold this position. As General Minister of

the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), she is the general pastor of the 700,000-member denomination. As General President, she is the chief executive officer for the denomination, responsible for overseeing the work of the church's various structures. She is serving a six-year term that extends through 2011.

Dr. Watkins has an extensive background of service both in this country and abroad. She is a member of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches based in Geneva, and serves on the WCC's Permanent Committee for Consensus and Collaboration. In 2006, she was a representative at the World Council's General Assembly in Porto Alegre, Brazil. She is the former pastor of Disciples Christian Church in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, where she served for eight years. Reverend Watkins holds a Doctor of Ministry degree from Phillips Theological Seminary, a Master of Divinity from the Yale Divinity School, and a Bachelor's Degree in French and Economics from Butler University. She is married to Reverend Dr. Richard (Rick) H. Lowery, Interim Dean and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Lexington Theological Seminary in Lexington, Kentucky. They have two children, Bethany and Christopher.

The National Prayer Service, a tradition dating back to George Washington, will include prayers, readings and hymns delivered by religious leaders spanning a diverse array of faiths.

January Member Birthdays

1/1 - Katherine Keifer, Haley Company, Coley Webster

1/2 - Whit Ford

1/3 - Bill Bond

1/4 - Paul Manning, Brent Chalker, Kaleb Eldred, Diane Dozier, Triston Causey

1/5 - Ian Heim, Jackie Moore, Cleide Teixeira, Bobby Wilkerson

1/6 - Pamela Hallin, Charles Askew, Jay Buck, Mark Harris

1/8 - Ian Crosno, Birgitte Rasmussen

1/9 - Mary Stephenson, Larry Lewis
1/10 - Kim Douglas, Keith Mattila, Thurmond Snyder

1/11 - Nancy Hutson, Dallas Minner, Jim McKinney

1/12 - Alan Wells

1/13 - Samantha Carruth, Erica McIntyre

1/14 - Ramon Diaz

1/15 - Christopher Duncan

1/16 - Tracey Petersen

1/17 - Mary Wilson, Tracy Aulfinger, Vikki Connelly

1/18 - Jonnett Maurer, Terrie Kidd

1/19 - Kelly Kempner, Marla Moore, Al Davidson, Sarah Scroggins

1/20 - Melissa Tully, Hailey Wilkerson,

1/21 - Betty Scott, Kim Swinger

1/22 - Sue Anne Duffy, Dorothy

March, Sarah Wender, Jeff White

1/23 - Agbeke George, Celia Poag,

Pat Champer, Judy Harris, Garrett Hollowell, Kathleen Halleron, Scott Maurer

1/24 - Shiela Ratzlaff, Pat Shook, Jerry Stauffer,

1/25 - Mason Nungesser, Gavin Campbell, Dylan Campbell, Tracy Bingham, Chad Wilson

1/27 - Michelle Eubanks, Tiffany Casey, Jane McKay

1/28 - Mary Sharp

1/29 - Jackson Fortenberry, Ethel McPherson

1/30 - Jack Blake, James Winston Summers, Latee Dolley

1/31 - Betty Clark

A CORNER FOR PRAYER

WHY DO WE PRAY?

One of the reasons we are drawn to God and have a deep need to stay connected to God through prayer is this: We are created in God's image. Deep within us is this indelible image of God. It can never be erased, removed, or completely lost.

Certainly this is our cause for hope. It may seem at times that human lives, including our own, can become hopelessly broken. But let us remember this: God's image remains within us. That image may become partly faded, encrusted with hate or bitterness, yet it remains and it is that very image within us

that causes us to pray.

We pray because we can do no less to fulfill this deep longing to remain one with God. We pray because we have needs that only God can fulfill. We pray because at times we are overwhelmed with God's love for us, His grace that flows into our lives.

At times the greatest prayer that we can pray is simply to sit quietly in God's presence aware of His image and His great love. Find time to do this daily. You will be blessed.



Pulpit Committee Report to the Elders and Congregation

By Loyal W. Murphy, III
Chair, Pulpit Search Committee

Your Pulpit Committee has been quite busy the past eleven months. This is our seventh congregational report in the church newspaper. Additionally the committee has brought reports to congregational meetings, Elders' meetings, and other forums since we began our work in early 2008. The members of the committee have given over 1,800 hours in search for our new Senior Minister.



We began this journey with a congregation survey, seeking your advice and opinions. We have considered about 50 ministers to date and talked with about 40. The great preponderance of these ministers is not actively considering a change. They are happy, successful, love the members of their congregations, and are loved by them. These ministers' contentment with their current ministries and congregations does not indicate a negative feeling about Lindenwood. Lindenwood is highly regard-

Remember, you the congregation, will finally decide who will be called to be our next Senior Minister.

ed within the Disciples of Christ.

We have interviewed seven prospects by long conference calls, and individual committee members have had separate telephone conversations with them. Four potential candidates were identified and interviewed in Memphis. We also have heard them preach or teach in Memphis. Over the past two months, the committee began concentrating attention on one candidate. He was further interviewed multiple times and he, in turn, interviewed us. Four members of our committee visited and attended services in that candidate's home church on two different trips.

The Pulpit Committee and the General Board of Directors on Sunday, January 4th, began to make plans to introduce that candidate to the congregation for your consideration and approval. Later in the week, that candidate reported that he did not feel that he had a call from God to come to Lindenwood at this time. We accept and respect his decision. This is part of the process and we have learned from this candidate and he has been a great help to your committee and to Lindenwood.

This candidate's name, and all candidates' names and information, must be kept confidential. To do otherwise might embarrass them or damage their relationships with their present church members. If prospects lose confidence in Lindenwood's ability to keep their information private it may prevent us from gaining the level of trust necessary to find the best candidate for Lindenwood.

There is misinformation in the halls of Lindenwood. Please be patient. Please let us do our job. You will know the outcome as soon as possible within the proper process. Remember, you the congregation, will finally decide who will be called to be our next Senior Minister. We who are members of the pulpit committee believe that God is in this process. We are not discouraged.

...pray for Lindenwood and the process of finding our next Senior Minister.

Begin to pray for that minister, whoever he or she may be.

Your pulpit search committee is open to any advice that you care to give us. Normally, I would be pleased to receive questions, but there is nothing else that I can tell you at this time. Please have patience and pray for Lindenwood and the process of finding our next Senior Minister. Begin to pray for that minister, whoever he or she may be.

LIVES & MINISTRIES WE HONOR AND REMEMBER

REMEMBERING

Benevolent Fund

Bill Harris.....Bill & Ann Morris

Travis Wright.....Jack & Dottie Blake,
Martha Cain, Charles & Barbara Sue
Dando

LifeQuest

Bill Harris.....Mike Baber

Lindenwood/Mt. Olive Partnership

Bill Harris.....Erika Keaveney

Music Fund

Erich Merrill.....Eye Center Physicians
Travis Wright.....Jeanette Hettinger

Pantry Fund

Nadine Ditzel.....Sandra Laratta
Bill Harris.....Jimmy, Denise, Matt &
Allison Hinson
Travis Wright.....Martha Ledger & Al

Parker, Mrs. Don Rich, Earlean
Sudbury

Stephen Ministry

Bill Harris.....Mary Lois Lawrence

HONORING

LifeQuest

Alan Dunn.....Mike Baber

Music Fund

Elinor Reed.....Kim & Jessica Hunter

Worship Committee

Barbara McConville.....Joy & Jim
Coleman

DONATIONS

Benevolent Fund.....Ramon & Arlene
Diaz
LifeQuest.....Mike Baber, Douglas
Wright

Minister of Music Discretionary
Fund.....Peggy Bishop
Music Fund.....Ramon & Arlene Diaz
SamSal.....Jack & Dottie Blake

Our love and sympathy go to the following: Gail Mallery in the death of her mother, Irene Jones; Cleo Wright and Family in the death of Travis Wright and the family of Sylvia Blomberg.

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 Sunday

Healing Service

5:30 p.m. - H.T. Wood Chapel

