the quarterly magazine of the linden presbyterian church

inside

ake Me with You

volume 2, issue 2

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IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST - WE WELCOME YOU!

We praise and thank God that you are here today - whether this is your first time or you have been worshipping here for decades, we hope that you experience Jesus Christ's blessing on your life through the worship of this church today.

We invite you to take this magazine with you so that you can get to know more about how we try to keep Christ at the center of our lives and lift up his holy name in worship!

Sunday Morning Information

Here is some information that we hope will help guide you through your time with us this morning, there is more information in the worship bulletin you received when you came in. Please ask a greeter, the pastor, or the person next to you if there is anything we can help you with during your time with us this morning!

RESTROOMS

The nearest restrooms are beneath the sanctuary. Please go down the stairs behind the sanctuary and they will be on your right.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We offer Sunday School for children pre-school age through fifth grade at our lone 10:00 summer worship. Children begin worship in the sanctuary and are dismissed to go to their classrooms with their teachers. Classrooms are beneath the fellowship hall and are best accessed during worship by going down the stairs behind the sanctuary. Children return to the sanctuary for communion on days communion is celebrated.

COFFEE HOUR

We invite you to a time of fellowship, coffee, and food after each of our times of worship. This is a great opportunity to get to know folks and share in a relaxing time of friendship.

CHILD CARE

We are pleased to offer childcare at all Sunday morning worship services and at special worship services. Our nursery caregiver, Sandy Oda, is certified and loves children. Our nursery is designed for children birth to age two but can accommodate older children on a case-by-case basis.

FREE WI-FI

We invite you to take advantage of our free wireless internet throughout the church. The guest network is guestlindenpres and no password is necessary to log on.

INFO TABLE

The info table in the fellowship hall has sign-up sheets, church information, mission opportunities, and many resources to help you and your family as we seek to honor God together. If you heard about it during worship, the information will be on the info table in the fellowship hall.

CONTACT US!

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Mission Statement

Linden Presbyterian Church is a Christcentered, biblically-based community seeking to serving, engaging, and leading all to become deeper disciples of Jesus.

We invite you to join us in our mission of glorifying God through Jesus Christ with everything we have and with all of who we are!

Our Mission

In everything we do we seek to glorify our loving God who seeks out a personal relationship with each one of us. The call on our lives is to let the Lord into every part of our lives, love God with everything that we are and with everything that we have, and to love those around us with a radical love that transforms relationships! We do this in many ways. We are:

Christ-centered We strive to have our whole lives centered on God's one and only Son Jesus Christ. We seek for nothing apart from Christ but do our best to praise him and seek him alone. Our worship and praise is centered on Christ. Our preaching, teaching, and message to the world is centered on Christ and the new life of grace we have in him.

Biblically-based We believe that the only true and reliable source for information on the salvation we have in Christ and God's plan for our lives and the world is contained in God's Word written for us: the Bible. The Bible is our source for what we believe, our preaching, teaching, how we organize ourselves, and our lives.

Community We are a community of seekers, disciples, and apostles of Jesus Christ who come together as God's Church to worship, learn, serve, and do life together. Jesus Christ calls us to do these things *together* and so we form a community to do these things in relationship with each other.

Serving We are a community called to serve one another and to serve the world with Christ's love, grace, and mercy. We strive to serve people with Christ's heart and passion whether it is a church mission activity, at our places of work, and everywhere in between.

Engaging We engage people with the message of forgiveness and transformation in Jesus Christ. This is the best news that the world has ever and will ever receive! We look to communicate this news through ministries that engage each other and the world.

Leading We look to lead ourselves and our brothers and sisters into the knowledge of Jesus Christ. We seek to be faithful in the leadership of our lives, our families, our vocations, our community, and our world.

All The Good News of Jesus Christ is for everyone and we continue to break new ground in making LPC a place for everybody.

Become deeper disciples of Jesus We deeply desire that everything that we do, say, minister, and live is to make ourselves and those around us have a deeper joy and love of Jesus Christ permeate throughout our lives. We desperately attempt to be a community that makes and grows disciples.



Christian worship joyfully ascribes all praise and honor, glory and power to the triune God [God the Father, God the Son (Jesus Christ), and God the Holy Spirit]. In worship the people of God acknowledge God present in the world and in their lives. As they respond to God's claim and

Psalm 146:5-9 Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God, who made heaven and earth. the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith for ever; who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down: the Lord loves the righteous. The Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

redemptive action in Jesus Christ, believers are transformed and renewed. In worship the faithful offer themselves to God and are equipped for God's service in the world. - Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Put another way: we give our whole lives over to the whole God and recognize and celebrate the presence of God in our whole lives. We respond to what Jesus Christ has done for us and for the world and know that our lives have radically changed because of the person and work of Jesus Christ. We offer ourselves in service to God.

All of that is definitely true and yet we fall short of getting it right. While we don't often like to proclaim that we don't do things right in our lives we actually are called to come worship God out of admitting that we don't get it right! We come to worship because we know that God does get it right and we praise him for welcoming us into his presence. Jesus Christ takes our efforts at worship and turns it into glorious praise before God the Father - our worship is holy and pleasing before God.

We come to worship to be transformed and celebrate transformation. In Jesus Christ, we know that we have a new life. We aren't stuck in our old habits and our old ways of thinking. We don't have to play by the same depressing rules. We are freed to have our joy in Christ! When we come together to praise God or to be in the presence of others praising God, we are opening ourselves up to the Holy Spirit working in our lives - we are being opened to letting our old identity go and being given a new identity in Christ.

We do this in old and new ways. There are hymns and spiritual songs contained in the Bible. Interestingly, the words are often closer to what we consider hymns today, but the instruments and way they would have been sung are closer to what we consider praise songs today. Some of us connect with formality, some of us connect with casualness. Whatever style of worship God is calling you to engage in (probably all of them!), we want to welcome you and know that you have a spiritual home in our communal worship.

In all of our worship we seek to be focused on Christ and His Word and organize our worship on what is commanded of us in Scripture!



Why Do We Do That In Worship?

In this section, we will try to briefly shed some light on why we do what we do in our times of communal worship. All of our times of worship include something along these lines. You'll notice that a theme throughout is that we do these things because we find God's call to do them in the Bible.

Call to Worship Our call to worship is a summons from God to come and worship Him. We are called and reminded to be faithful to the call we have to give all glory to God the Father through Jesus Christ. We use passages directly from or inspired by the Bible.

Singing and Music Whether hymns or praise songs or whatever you like to call them, we sing so that we can make melody to the ears of God. Music and singing are very expressive forms of communication that we have been given to express all manners of praise - through joy and through sorrow. We are told in Ephesians 5:19-20 to "be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." We encourage you to sing loudly and boldly and let it make a sweet sound to our God!

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon We confess our sins together that we may confess that Jesus is Lord and Savior and that we need his salvation. We take this time to unburden ourselves of the sin that weighs us down as a community and as individuals just as Jesus taught us in the Lord's Prayer. We are then assured that because of the work of Jesus Christ and through our faith in Him that all our sins are forgiven.

Sharing in the Peace of Christ This is a tangible way that we show that we are at peace with one another. We have God's peace through Jesus Christ and we extend this peace to others to show that we are united and that nothing stands between us.

Scripture Reading We read passages from both the Old and New Testaments because the whole Bible is God's Word written to us and for us and is useful so that we will know of God's love for and actions in the world, the salvation we have in Christ, and the presence of the Holy Spirit amongst us. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 tells us that, "All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

Sermon We have the sermon so that the pastor can have a job. Not really. God calls us to proclaim the Word that all may believe because the Good News of Jesus Christ is *heard*. We mine the scriptures so that we may be transformed by and live our lives according to the Living Word Jesus Christ.

Offering The offering is a time to live into the commands of scripture to return what we have been blessed with to the Body of Christ - the Church. It is a time to commit our time, talent, and resources to living a Christ-centered life.

Prayers of the People We are called by God to be a people that are in regular communication with Him and we call this prayer. It is a time to adore God, thank God, and ask that God be active in particular situations in our world and in our lives. We invited you to verbally lift up a prayer to God that our whole community might join you in that prayer - the heart behind the prayer is more important than the words!



Opportunities to Connect

by Gretchen Sutto, elder leading the christian education team

Vacation Bible School - July 28 to August 1 from 9:00am to 12:00pm

Vacation Bible School is right around the corner! Mark your calendars! Our theme this year will be Agents of Truth. Children PreK – 6th grade are welcome and encouraged to attend.

In their "Truth Force Teams," children will hone their Agent skills by "Uncovering Counterfeits," "Finding Fingerprints," "Cracking Codes," "Collecting Clues," and show that they are "Hot on the Trail" of finding out how God's Word applies to all areas of their lives and is relevant today.

The PreK – 4th grade groups will enjoy a Bible story, snack, craft, games, and music each day, while the 5th and 6th grade group will complete a service project in our community, learning how to put their faith into action.

We are still in need for volunteers to make this year's VBS a success! We need Team Leaders, volunteers to run the games/snacks/crafts, volunteers to make/donate snacks, help setting up/cleaning after, and much much more! If you are willing, we can plug you in! Please contact Gretchen Sutto, Gayle Wagner, Gemma Amendola, Kristen Garmyn, Kim Neuville, or the office for more information. *Our next planning meeting will be Thursday, June 12 at 7:00pm in the fellowship hall - you are encouraged to attend and see how you can plug in!*

New 20s-40s+ Group

Do you fall in the age group of 20s-40s? Even if you don't, do you feel like you still do? Then this new group is for you! Come join us once a month to socialize, serve, and just have fun strengthening your relationship with the people here at LPC.

Have you felt like you are too old to hang out with the youth group but the Men's Club and/or Presbyterian Women don't meet when you can make it? We love those groups but some of us are permanently incapable of being up and about by 8:30am on a Saturday or are so occupied with our blessed children's activities at that hour that we have no time for faith activities. This group is taking a stab at filling this need - something lower commitment than our fantastic small group ministry and with a great deal of flexibility.

Our first event is a "Getting Acquainted" night on Friday, June 27 at 7:00 PM. We hope to see you there for munchies and a bonfire out back! We will hangout, dream, and plan our future together.

Get Connected!

If you have any questions or comments about VBS or the 20s-40s groups, please contact Gretchen Sutto at gsutto915@yahoo.com



Small Groups

by Gretchen Sutto, small group leader

What exactly is a small group?

Small groups are simply a regular gathering of three or more people who meet in order to strengthen each other as Christ's disciples. These meetings could take place in a home, church, or other common location. We hang out, study the Word, and pray with one another. Members in a small group share life together.

Why should I join a small group?

Biblically, we are called to do so: "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together... but encouraging one another..." (Hebrews 10:24-25). When Jesus sent the disciples out to preach in towns, "He began to send them out two by two..." knowing the importance of supporting one another (Mark 6:7). "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." (Proverbs 27:17), we are stronger together than we are by ourselves. At the end of the Gospel according to Matthew, in the Great Commission, Jesus says to "go and make disciples." That is what small groups do. They teach us how to be stronger followers of Jesus. Even Jesus was in a small group! While He had the twelve disciples, in addition to the multitudes that followed Him, He had an even closer relationship with Peter, James, and John. While it's important and wonderful to have a church family, it's also important to have a core group you know you can always count on.

What do small groups do?

A variety of things! Just as no two people are alike, no two small groups are exactly alike. Some study the Bible more in-depth, others read a book, still others do service projects, and even more plan social activities. Whatever interests you, there is a small group to meet your needs and desires.

But I really don't know anyone.

Small groups are a casual, non-threatening way to meet people. And even though you may see the same people week after week, do you really know them? Small groups are a way to connect on a deeper level. Coming from an introverted person, being in a small group has really made the Passing of the Peace and fellowship time much easier. When I know that there are people there who I am excited to see, and who in turn are excited to see me, it makes it easier to reach out to and talk to even more people.

I'm really busy already...

Life is hectic. There are always places to be, kids to drop off, papers to grade, and any number of things that pop up. But it's in these times that we need to step back and refocus. Before Jesus was crucified, He went up to the Garden of Gethsemane to have some alone time and pray, knowing that He would need that strength to get Him through. The same applies to us. The busier we are, the more time we need to spend strengthening our faith life to make it through those crazy times. Plus, small groups only meet once every other week for about an hour.

I want to know more.

Ask! Please get in touch with Sue Chapel, Laurie Jones, Liz Knuth, Fred Lewis, Wendy Mueller, Gretchen Sutto, or Pastor Seth. We can help answer any more questions you may have and get you connected!



The Heidelberg Catechism

background as we begin our sermon series based on the confession

Starting in October, we will begin a 52 Sunday journey through the tenets of the Christian faith in the Reformed tradition using the Heidelberg Catechism. We hope this will be an exciting time of inspiration, learning, and growth.

What is a Catechism?

A Christian catechism is a summary of what we believe and adhere to as members of Christ's Church. They have been used to instruct children and adults coming into the Church from New Testament times right up until today. They are almost always a series of questions and answers that the catechumen (person studying the catechism) would memorize. This way they would have a solid understanding of the tenets of the faith and what was expected of them.

What is the structure of the Heidelberg Catechism?

The Heidelberg Catechism is divided into three main sections consisting of a total of 129 pairs of questions and answers. For use during the Church year it has been further divided into 52 Lord's Day sub-sections. You will notice from the outline below that the Catechism covers other major documents important to the Church such as the Apostle's Creed, the Ten Commandments, and the Lord's Prayer The three main sections are:

- 1. The Misery of Humans (Lord's Days 2-4) (The first question is treated on its own)
 - The Fall
 - The natural condition of humanity
 - God's demands on humanity in God's Law
- 2. The Redemption (or Deliverance) of Humans (Lord's Days 5-31)
 - The need for a Redeemer
 - The importance of faith, using the Apostle's Creed
 - Justification
 - The sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper
 - The keys of the Kingdom of Heaven

3. The Gratitude Due from Humans (Lord's Days 32-52)

- Conversion
- The Ten Commandments

We are on the homestretch! We are starting section three in June!

- The Lord's Prayer

What is the history of the Heidelberg Catechism?

Celebrating its 450th anniversary in 2013, the Heidelberg Catechism was commissioned by Elector Frederick III, the sovereign of the Electoral Palatinate (a territory of the Holy Roman Empire located in the western part of contemporary Germany), so that his territory would have a catechism that reflected the newly formed Protestant churches and to even out the religious situation in his territory so that religious strife would be minimized. The goal was to create a statement of faith that would combine the best of the Reformed (Presbyterians are part of the Reformed family tree) and Lutheran understandings of the faith. One of the chief goals was to counter the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church and thus the Heidelberg Catechism goes to great pains to locate each of its statements in the words of the Bible.

While the Catechism claims to be a product of the theological faculty of the area, Zacharius Ursinus, a leading Reformed theologian, is credited as writing the work almost single-handedly, although it might be more accurate to call him the compiler. More than half of the question-answers were taken from other catechisms and used essentially verbatim or modified only slightly. The theological orientation of the catechism is unique in that it does not strictly follow the theology of any one major figure but is often thought to be a kind of hybrid. Ursinus has been credited with a particular genius in creating a catechism that included the major tenets of the Protestant understanding of the faith and leaving out discussion of narrower, more particular issues that could divide the Protestant family.

The Catechism was approved by the Synod of Heidelberg in 1563 and shortly thereafter approved by synods in the Netherlands. It is common for the Catechism to be preached through on a regular basis in many Reformed churches throughout the world. The Catechism is part of the Book of Confessions of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Why spend a year studying the Heidelberg Catechism? Why preach through it?

If you have been with us the past few years, we have studied/preached through the Letter to the Hebrews, the Gospel of John, done a series on relationships, and a series on God's design for work. Hopefully, you have found them all to be enriching to your understanding of the faith our Triune God has gifted you. Each series has had its strengths. For instance, preaching through the Gospel of John, we heard rather provocatively and concretely that Jesus is the Son of God and what that means to the world, to us as a community, and to the world. We had deep teaching on the person of Jesus by looking deeply at one Gospel. Contrast that with the series we did on relationships. This series focused more on Godly wisdom and drew verses from all over Scripture and more overtly tackled issues we face in our everyday lives.

By preaching through the Heidelberg Catechism, we hope that our understanding of the grand sweep of salvation history will come alive and we will have a more solid foundation in what we believe as followers of Jesus Christ. This solid foundation should help us in our own understanding of the faith and also give us more confidence as we share our story of God's love and grace with our friends and neighbors. Our prayer is that you will have a richer understanding of how God's story intersects and alters your story.



Who is That Guy?

a short biography of Pastor Seth Normington

Pastor Seth was born and raised in Spokane, Washington where the weather is nothing like the weather in Seattle. Both his mother's and father's families have a rich farming and ranching heritage but his grandparents were the ones in their families who found something else to do. He was baptized at a Presbyterian church that his mother joined the summer before he was born. He grew up playing every sport he could possibly play. He stopped going to church in fifth grade but things of faith were consistently on his mind.

In junior high and high school, Seth spent most of his time outside of school running cross country and track. In high school, he was at school by 6:30 in the morning to run and almost every day spent time after school running (he was thinner then). During his senior year his parents divorced. He was a captain on the 5th-ranked track team in the nation.

The summer before college, Seth felt called to take a deeper look at his faith but didn't know what to do about it besides reading his Bible. The day before classes started at Western Washington University, he went to the INN with a friend. There he found 600 college students praising God. He knew immediately this is where God was calling him. At the INN, he joined and led small groups, went on mission trips, wrote and performed in skits and videos, and spent a year working at the INN after graduating with a degree in human services.

Feeling called to ministry of some stripe, Seth was in youth ministry in Spokane while earning an MA in Religious Studies at Gonzaga University. He then moved to the San Francisco area to serve as youth director at the Presbyterian Church of Novato. During these years, he went to Tijuana, Mexico seven times to build houses and his heart was struck by the need for mission work and the depths of poverty in our world.

He went to Princeton Theological Seminary in New Jersey where he earned a Masters of Divinity degree and served people with developmental disabilities and led the educational ministry at a local church.

Pastor Seth has been the pastor at LPC since July 2010. He especially loves the opportunity to preach and teach God's Word, celebrate the sacraments, and teach and lead people to deeper discipleship in Christ.

In his off hours, Seth is the assistant coach for Linden High School boys cross country (which came in second in the state last season) and boys and girls track and field. He also enjoys watching shows on Netflix, cooking, golfing, drinking coffee, reading several newspapers/ websites each day, pretending to himself that he reads more books than he actually does, exercising, and watching baseball.

You can reach Pastor Seth at pastorseth@lindenpres.com or 810.735.5755.



Youth Ministry

growing disciples

As school ends, our regular schedule goes on hiatus, too. Please look to the newsletter and Sunday bulletin for special events and camps going on throughout the summer. If you have questions, comments, or would like to get involved, please contact our Youth Ministry Intern, Jake Kirk, at 810.730.3783

Regular ScheduleMiddle School6:00-7:00High School7:30-9:00

Campaigners is a Friday morning Bible study for high school students. We meet at 6:00am for breakfast, good times, and Bible study. We meet at 521 South St. and are happy to provide a ride to school.

Ministry with Youth Mission Statement

The youth ministry at Linden Presbyterian Church is committed to love, nurture, inspire, and equip our youth to be faithful, lifelong disciples of Jesus Christ who reach out to the community and beyond.

<u>Values</u>

Welcome We seek to live as a unique community of faith in which everyone feels welcome.

- **God based** We seek to be more like Jesus, living out the fruits of the spirit, remembering that God is the center of everything we do.
- **Spiritually Grounded** We base our programming on the foundation of a common faith in Jesus Christ.
- **Excitement** We strive to create an environment that attracts youth and families, both members and non-members.

Growth We endeavor to be lifelong disciples who are continually growing in our faith.

- **Love** We strive to be aware of the needs of others and to demonstrate love and compassion to all who come in contact with our youth ministry.
- **Safety** We provide trustworthy adult leaders for all youth and a welcoming environment in which youth feel safe asking questions and seeking support and guidance.

Youth Support Team

The Youth Support Team is a team of adults that supports the mission and continuity of our ministries with youth by partnering with the youth ministry intern and the pastor to holistically nurture, support, promote, pray for, and lead our ministry. The team includes Gretchen Sutto, Susan Malinowski, Fred Lewis, Denny Manner, Tammy Neuville, and Gayle Wagner.



Missional Connections

by Melissa Dugan , elder leading the missional connections team Gretchen Sutto, elder leading the christian education team

Free Lunch Mondays

Linden Presbyterian is excited to again offer Free Lunch Mondays for the summer of 2014! A kidfriendly lunch will be served beginning on June 23 (delayed due to the lengthened school year) and will end on August 25. Food will be served each Monday from 11:30 – 1:00. Free Lunch Mondays is open to <u>anyone</u> who could benefit from a free, hot meal or feels called to come hangout. Please do not let the "kid-friendly" part discourage you from coming – it is open to one and all. (And who doesn't like macaroni-and-cheese, sloppy joes, hot dogs, and hamburgers?)

We need your help! Volunteers of all ages and abilities are needed to make this program a success. Each week, we need help cooking the food, cutting fruit, serving, interacting with those who come, and cleaning up. Please contact Melissa Dugan, Kristen Garmyn, Fred Lewis, or Gretchen Sutto if you are willing and able to help. We would like a minimum of four volunteers each week.

I have been blessed to be able to help with Free Lunch Mondays for the past two summers and have watched it flourish. The first summer I helped, our numbers averaged about 6 people served each week. Then last year those numbers soared. Our average was about 15 people, and a few weeks we even reached the mid-twenties. The need is there in our community. For the summer of 2013 we also added in extra activities to make it more fun: music, coloring on the table coverings, and face painting. Having extra people on hand to sit with people, help them color, and just talk made it a more inviting experience, too. I hope you can come join us to see how God is blessing this ministry!

Fun Fair For FISH

Our Fun Fair for FISH will be held on Sunday, June 22nd immediately following service. Admission is either a financial or food donation to FISH. We'll be serving hot dogs and hamburgers with chips and a drink for lunch and will also have the following attractions:

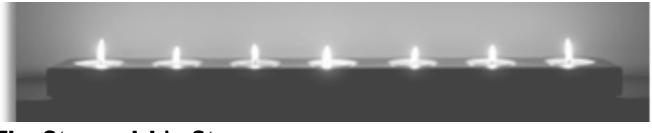
Concert, Bounce House, Face Painting, Games & Prizes, Lunch, and Great Fellowship

In an effort to get as many people involved as we can, we will be giving everyone a grocery bag to take home after service on June 15th. The idea is to fill the bags with food and bring them back the following Sunday as your admission to the Fun Fair. We hope everyone will join us for this fun event!

Get Connected!

If you have any duestions or would like to help out. please contact Melissa Dugan at dugan.melissa@att.net





The Stewardship Stop

by Laura Huston, elder leading the finance & stewardship team and finance secretary

What is stewardship? Simply stated, stewardship is using the gifts God has given us to do the things Gods asks (calls) us to do. This includes time and talent as well as financial resources. Think of each day as an opportunity for effective stewardship. Time is a precious commodity and we have a limited number of days, hours, and minutes. Live every day and use every opportunity expressly for His glory and purpose.

Participate - we have a place for you! There's a place for everyone at Linden Presbyterian Church. God has gifted us with at least one spiritual gift. "We have different gifts according to the grace given each of us. If your gift is prophesying then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully (Romans 12:6-8)." As a community of Christ's followers, we have spiritual gifts in abundance, we need only to put them to use.

Good stewardship involves returning to God generous portions of ALL he has bestowed upon us. Our time, our energy, and our spiritual gifts count among the bounty we receive from our Lord. In addition to the gifts God grants us, we have wide ranging interests and passions. Wherever your interests lead, we have a place for you. Prayerfully reflect where you can join in serving God and enriching our community. Whether you choose leadership, Christian education, hospitality, missions, music, buildings and grounds, or the many other areas of ministry here, we can use your time and talent. Heed the call to be God's stewards.

Romans 12:6-8 We have different gifts according to the grace given each of us. If your gift is prophesying then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully



Upcoming Events

a look at upcoming events

Hoosier Harmony - June 21

Hoosier Harmony is a gospel music quartet out of - you guessed it - Indiana. They have blessed us with their music for several years. They will be performing an hour long concert on the 21st. They will not be joining us on Sunday morning this year as they will be blessing another church with their music. More information about the group can be found at hoosierharmony.com.

FISH Fun Fair - June 22

Our Fun Fair for FISH will be held on Sunday, June 22nd immediately following service. Admission is either a financial or food donation to FISH. We'll be serving hot dogs and hamburgers with chips and a drink for lunch and will also have the following attractions: Concert, Bounce House, Face Painting, Games & Prizes, Lunch, and Great Fellowship.

20s-40s+ Gathering - June 27

Our first event is a "Getting Acquainted" night on Friday, June 27 at 7:00 PM. We hope to see you there for munchies and a bonfire out back! We will hangout, dream, and plan our future together.

Mission Service at the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan - July 12

Join us as we once again serve at the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan. Winter holidays get all the glory but people dealing with food security all hungry all year! Please take some time out of your recreating to help this agency help our own food pantry and all of Eastern Michigan keep food on the table!

Vacation Bible School - July 28 - August 1

Vacation Bible School is right around the corner! Mark your calendars! Our theme this year will be Agents of Truth. Children PreK – 6th grade are welcome and encouraged to attend. In their "Truth Force Teams," children will hone their Agent skills by "Uncovering Counterfeits," "Finding Fingerprints," "Cracking Codes," "Collecting Clues," and show that they are "Hot on the Trail" of finding out how God's Word applies to all areas of their lives and is relevant today. The PreK – 4th grade groups will enjoy a Bible story, snack, craft, games, and music each day, while the 5th and 6th grade group will complete a service project in our community, learning how to put their faith into action.

Mission Service at Carriage Town Ministries - August 2

Come along and see how we can be blessed to be a blessing to this fantastic ministry that reaches out to people in the direst of need in the Flint area!

Worship under Pavilion - August 24

We will be worshipping outside under our new pavilion. We invite you to make a joyful noise to our Lord while you are sitting under the pavilion, out in a lawn chair, wearing your finest Bermuda shorts. We'll also have a tasty summertime treat for afterwards!

Gazing Ahead: Calendar

JUNE

- 1st Health Kit items due
- 3RD PRESBYTERY MEETING IN MARLETTE
- 3RD BOARD OF DEACONS MEETING
- 5TH LINDEN HIGH SCHOOL BACCALAUREATE
- 8th Pentecost
- 8TH CELEBRATING GRADUATES DURING WORSHIP
- 11TH COMMITTEE/TEAM MEETINGS
- 14TH PCUSA GENERAL ASSEMBLY BEGINS IN DETROIT
- 15th TRINITY SUNDAY, FATHER'S DAY
- 21st Hoosier Harmony
- 22ND FUN FAIR FOR FISH
- 23RD NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
- 25th Session meeting
- 27^{TH} 20s-40s+ gathering

July

- 1st BOARD OF DEACONS MEETING
- 4Th INDEPENDENCE DAY OFFICE CLOSED

 $7^{\rm th}\text{-}12^{\rm th}$ Pastor Seth away at national track coaching seminar

- 9Th COMMITTEE/TEAM MEETINGS
- 12TH FOOD BANK OF EASTERN MICHIGAN MISSION SERVICE
- 13TH ELDER JOHNATHAN DUGAN, PREACHING
- $21^{\mbox{st}}\mbox{-}26^{\mbox{th}}$ Pastor Seth away at pastor's conference
- 28th Newsletter deadline
- 28th VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL BEGINS
- 30th Session meeting

AUGUST

- 1ST VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL ENDS
- 2ND MISSION SERVICE AT CARRIAGE TOWN
- 5TH BOARD OF DEACONS MEETING
- 8^{TH} 9^{TH} Synod Assembly
- 13TH COMMITTEE/TEAM MEETINGS
- 17th Elder Kim Herbert, preaching
- 24TH WORSHIP OUTDOORS UNDER PAVILION; ELDER JARROD MONTAGUE, PREACHING
- 25^{TH} Magazine and Newsletter deadline
- 27th Session meeting

For a more complete listing of upcoming events, please look to the monthly newsletter and the weekly worship bulletin. You may also go online to lindenpres.com, call the office at 810.735.5755, or email at

lpcoffice@lindenpres.com for more information