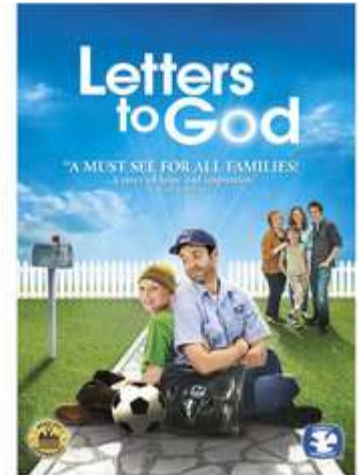


My family in Christ:

For the past several years, Linden Heights has made it a priority to reach out to our community with the message of God's hope. Last year, a Live Nativity, was offered so that those who live nearby could experience the true meaning of Christmas (without even leaving their cars!) This summer, several children from the community attended Vacation Bible School. This year, we are hoping to engage in a few more outreach ministries that, we hope, will draw people from the community into a living relationship with Christ.

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, our church will host a viewing of the film *Letters to God*. This movie portrays the human condition of lost hope as a family and community struggle with cancer, heartbreak, addiction, family trauma and loneliness. Yet, in the midst of these trials, an unlikely hero, 8-year-old Tyler Doherty inspires hope through his letters to God. His unlikely witness is the catalyst for the entire community to realize that hope is contagious!



Each of us has experienced the ups and downs of hope. Some days we are filled with hope for our future and other days it seems like all hope is lost. Webster defines hope as, "to cherish a desire with anticipation." There are times when hope seems certain; at other times it seems foolish to cherish *any* desire with anticipation.

In a world where tribulation is commonplace, trials are the norm and pain is inevitable, divine hope is essential. C.S. Lewis reminded us that: "God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks to us in our conscience, but shouts in our pains." When we embrace God's divine hope, God brings unexpected benefits! Our deepened hope in Jesus and His Word, and our strengthened hope through the fellowship of others brings the purifying work of Christ-likeness.

Attached to this newsletter, you will find a ticket to our *Letters to God* movie event. I hope that you will make a commitment to become an ambassador of hope by praying over this ticket and giving it to someone who may need encouragement. Please invite them to join you and our church family on September 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm as we gather to watch the film and share the hope of the living Christ.

In God's peace,

Pastor Karen

## September Highlights

Thursday, September 2	8:00 PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal Resumes
Thursday, September 9	9:00 AM	Missions Craft Group
Sunday, September 12	9:15 AM	Sunday School Begins - meet in the Sanctuary
	9:15 & 11:00 AM	Dedication of Sunday School Teachers
	6:00 PM	Youth Group
Thursday, September 15	7:00 PM	Healing Service
Thursday, September 16	6:30 PM	Bell Choir Rehearsal Resumes
Saturday, September 25	7:00 PM	<i>Letters to God</i> Movie Night

### Fall Worship Schedule Starting September 12, 2010

Sunday school	9:15 AM
Informal service	9:15 AM
Traditional service	11:00 AM



### Healing the Family Tree

Is there a disturbing pattern recurring through the generations of your family or that of someone you know? Problems such

as addictions, abuse, physical diseases, mental illness, spiritual deadness, phobias, and the like seem to plague some families.

You are invited to a new study, *Generational Healing*, which teaches

prayer to break such patterns and is based on CD's by Francis McNutt. The class begins Wednesday, September 8 at 7:00 PM in the parlor and is moderated by a retired pastoral counselor and a retired physician. Come join in this fascinating study.

## Flea Market

We are having a flea market on Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 8 am to 2 pm. We are looking for volunteers to help with the flea market. The areas of help will be set-up, selling church items, food and clean-up.

You can also buy a space and sell your own items. A 10' x 10' space is being sold for \$15.00 each. You must provide your own table.

There will be a Linden Heights church table. We are looking for **good, sellable** items. Please do not donate any clothing, we have found this does not sell well. Please have all items at the church before September 26<sup>th</sup> to allow time for pricing. If you have any questions or would like to purchase a space, please call Debbie Singer at 410-668-6181 or contact her via email at [lindenheightsumc@verizon.net](mailto:lindenheightsumc@verizon.net).

Pit beef, hamburgers, hotdogs, and drinks will be served, so tell your friends to drop by, pick up a sandwich and do some shopping. Proceeds from this fundraiser will be going towards our general fund.

Please consider donating some of your time. Thank you.

Deb Singer



## SUNDAY SCHOOL START-UP

September 12, 2010 will be the first Sunday of our fall/winter schedule. Our Sunday School will have classes for ages three through adult. Sunday School will begin at 9:15 AM.

We invite all of the children and parents to gather in the sanctuary at 9:15 AM for the first 20 minutes of the informal service. We will enjoy a portion of the service together and then the children will move to their new classrooms.

The Sunday school children will be attending the informal service on the first Sunday of each month. Please come and spend this time of worship with your children.

Our teachers this year are:

Preschool & Kindergarten

Jennifer Sheats

Grades 1 & 2

Brenda & Paul Fader

Grades 3, 4, 5

Barb Yingling

Mid-High

Patti Lawrence

High School  
Lead by different members of the  
Congregation  
Sunday school Superintendent  
Ruth Snyder

## **Charge Conference**

Our Charge Conference for this year is scheduled for Sunday, October 24 at Linden Heights. Charge Conference is scheduled to begin at 1:30 PM. Come learn about the mission and ministry of Linden Heights United Methodist Church.

All members of the Church Council are expected to attend but all members and friends of the church are welcome to participate. If you are a committee chairperson, budgets for 2010 are due by September 4 so the budget can be finalized before Charge Conference. Thank you.



**Dear Members of Linden Heights,**

Thank you so much for the out pouring of support and prayers at this difficult time. The memorial service for my husband, Hans, was so nice thanks to wonderful people like Pat Erdman, Nancy Marshner, Rose Ruppertsberger and Cheryl Wooden.

My daughters and I thank all of you for your thoughts, prayers and help.

Susi Klassen

**Dear Weber Memorial Scholarship  
Committee,**

Thank you very much for awarding me a scholarship to be used toward my college expenses this fall. I plan to put the money toward the cost of books. It was very thoughtful of the scholarship committee to acknowledge me and the words of encouragement as I embark on my journey to college.

Blessings  
Bryan Johnson

**Dear Linden Heights UMC Family,**

Thank you so much for your generous scholarship award. I used the money toward purchasing my college books for my first year. I greatly appreciate receiving this toward my education.

My Mom and Grandparents personally knew Chuck Weber and I will use this toward his families' dream.

Thank you so much!

Jackie Sauer  
(Granddaughter of Doris & Mitch Pittillo)

**To My Linden Heights Church Family,**

I'm writing to express my appreciation for the generosity of the church in providing me with a scholarship for college. Thank you so much for that and for everything

you have done for me throughout the years! I have been coming to Linden Heights since I was born and it has been a great place to grow up. All the people here have always been so caring toward my siblings and me. We've always looked forward to seeing everyone on Sunday. I have so many great memories including Sunday school, church plays, trips to Ocean City for ROCK, playing in the church band, church picnics, and Vacation Bible School. Lots and lots of good times!

It is hard to believe that I'm off to college. I will look forward to seeing all of you when I'm home on breaks. Thank you again for everything!

Love,  
Juleanne Conrad



**Family First  
Sunday  
October 3**

As we return to our regular church schedule,

I want to thank everyone who made our Family First coffee hours possible.

It takes many people to make this event come together. From perking the coffee so it is ready on time, setting up tables and chairs, and setting up for both services as well as putting items away in between. A special thank you to those dear people who stay to help us clean-up. The members of the committee also bring

treats each month. Thank you to each and every one of you!

I want to thank everyone who contributed snacks and sweets. Your contributions made each gathering a mouth watering surprise. We appreciate you.

Please mark your calendar for this year's dates:

October 3	March 6
November 7	April 3
December 5	May 1
January 2	June 5
February 6	

We look forward to your contributions and the fellowship we all share.

Cheryl Wooden

**Finances for June & July:**

**For June:**

Operating Expenses:	
Income	\$13,503.96
Expenses	<u>\$15,436.79</u>
Loss	(1,932.83)

**Improvement Fund**

Income	\$1,002.00
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**For July:**

Operating Expenses:	
Income	\$10,678.00
Expenses	<u>18,046.31</u>
Loss	(7,368.31)

Improvement Fund

Income

\$1,706.00



During the summer months, we tend not to attend church as much with vacations and outdoor gatherings. Unfortunately, the expenses of the church don't get to take a vacation. Please remember your commitment to Linden Heights of your prayers, your presence, your gifts and your service. The church always needs the support of the congregation. Thank you.

- The Finance Committee

### **Paper Recycling**

Don't forget the recycling bin in the parking lot. You can recycle paper, newspapers, catalogs, magazines, junk mail, weekly advertisement circulars, folders, construction and poster paper, spiral notebooks and shredded paper (in a bag). If all of these items go into the bin, many trees don't have to be cut down and a lot of land fill space will be saved. Even better, Abitibi Paper Retriever pays us for all the recycling material they retrieve. I have had several people ask me why they don't take cardboard. It's because Abitibi turns everything in the bin into newsprint and cardboard is too thick for them to use. Please consider using our recycling bin and helping the church with this fundraising effort.

- Deb Singer

## **Bishop's Day with Laity:**

Join Bishop John Schol, special guest speaker Olu Brown, and fellow laity from throughout the Baltimore-Washington Conference for a day of fun and fellowship, Saturday, Sept. 25, at the Turf Valley Country Club, 2700 Turf Valley Road in Ellicott City. The event will be from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., with worship in the morning, lunch, entertainment and Brown speaking at 1:45 p.m. Early bird registration is \$38 from July 15-Sept. 10, and will increase each week of September. Late and walk-in registration is \$53. Online registration is preferred but paper registration and payment by check will be available. For information and registration, go to [www.bwcumc.org/bishopsdaywithlaity](http://www.bwcumc.org/bishopsdaywithlaity).

### **Baltimore-Washington Conference on Facebook**

Join the growing number of fans of the conference Facebook. Here's how. The direct URL to the Facebook fan page is [www.facebook.com/BWCUMC](http://www.facebook.com/BWCUMC).

### **Missions**

The Missions Committee is sponsoring Alvaro A Hernandez Vasquez, a child through World Vision who turns three years old this August. Missions paid \$472 to World Vision this year.

Jim Hedgespeth and Carolyn and Christina Conrad participated in the Baltimore

County Christian Work Camp the week of July 18<sup>th</sup>. This organization is a great opportunity to share the love of Christ and give back to our community. Each year, since 1984 the work camp improves homes and provides assistance for limited income families in Baltimore County. There is a lot of fellowship working with other volunteers and participating in the breakfast and dinners each day. Among the many things we did this year include repairing a stone sidewalk, made a step to the deck, installed a deadbolt, finished a wall, repaired and painted a door, and installed burglar alarm devices. The Missions Committee paid \$500 to this organization to help pay for materials used on job sites.

The date for the next Cecil County homeless meal is October 9<sup>th</sup>. Details will be forthcoming. We will need help in preparing the meal and serving. There are a lot of homeless people in Cecil County. They need our help. Please join us.

Don't forget the food box. People are still going hungry. We delivered 1,039 pounds of food from August, 2009 through July, 2010. The last deliveries went to Bea Gaddy, Victor's Vittles (Christus Victor Lutheran Church), Cecil County Homeless, and a member of our congregation.

Missions Committee  
Jim Hedgespeth

## The Choir Needs YOU!

It is that time again, the nights are beginning to be a little cooler, kids are going back to school, stores are putting out Christmas (or maybe Valentine's day) stuff, and, most importantly, the Linden Heights Chancel choir is back from their summer hiatus!

This year, there are two opportunities to join the choir at Linden Heights. The first is to jump in with both feet and come to the **first rehearsal September 2<sup>nd</sup> from 8 to 9:15 p.m.** I hope that many of you will prayerful consider joining us this year. Most substantial choral music is four parts (two parts for men and two parts for women). Unfortunately our choir at Linden Heights has recently lost some of our male voices and will be very limited on the music we can sing this year unless we are blessed with a few more male voices to round us out. Of course female voices are welcome, too! Remember, you are never asked to sing a solo and no audition is needed.

If you don't know if you are ready for that, there is a way you can "test the waters". Like last year, the choir is looking for guest singers to join the choir for our **Christmas Concert** which will take place on **Sunday, December 12, 2010.** This year we will collaborate with the choir from Fork UMC (where Jen McDonnell is music director) to perform a concert of classical Christmas music and arrangements of familiar carols. Singing for this concert only requires coming to

only a limited number of shortened rehearsals on Thursday nights in October and November and two Saturday morning rehearsals. See the enclosed flyer for complete details.

The choir needs you! Please consider giving some of your time to support this important worship ministry- I know you will be enriched and fulfilled. If you are interested in either of the opportunities above, come talk to me after church on Sunday or give me a call (410-256-0021) or e-mail (gvanessen@live.com).

-Gary Van Essen

## "Operation Christmas Child"

Once again this year, through the Franklin Graham ministries, we will be participating in Operation Christmas Child. "It is a unique project of Samaritan's Purse that enables caring people to share God's love with hurting boys and girls in the far corners of the globe." **We are asking for donations of new gifts for boys and girls ages 2-14 that will fit into an ordinary shoe box.** If you would prefer to make a cash donation to help with the shipping costs or to purchase additional gifts that would be greatly appreciated. The last day to bring items will be **Sunday, October 17**.

Suggested Gifts:

**Toys:** small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch A Sketch,

toys that light up or make a noise (with extra batteries), Slinky, etc.

**School supplies:** pens, pencils and sharpener, crayons, markers, stamps coloring books only, writing pads or paper.

**Hygiene items:** toothbrush, toothpaste, comb, washcloths.

**Other:** hard candy, lollipops, mints, gum, sunglasses, ball caps, socks, toy jewelry, hair clips.

**Shoe Boxes are also needed. We would greatly appreciate it if you could wrap the boxes before they are brought to the church. Please place them in the donation box in the narthex.**

Please **DO NOT** include the following:

Use or damaged items, war related items: guns, knives, military figures, chocolate or food, liquids or lotions, medications or vitamins, breakable items: snow globes, glass containers, aerosol cans.

"This is an extraordinary gift for a child in need of joy and hope. Most important of all, these shoe boxes provide wonderful opportunities to tell children and their families about the greatest gift of all- Jesus Christ! Remember to pray especially for the children who will receive these shoe boxes. Through Operation Christmas Child, you can make a world of difference."

## "Letters to God"

Linden Heights will be having a movie night on September 27. We will be showing the movie, *Letters to God*, based on the true

story of Tyler, a young boy who's battling cancer. Throughout his journey, he writes letters to God and encourages others to do so as well. But he isn't asking for healing for himself, he's interceding on behalf of others - his mom, his brother, his friends at school. The letters wind up in the hands of a down-and-out postman who befriends the boy and his family. As the stories intertwine, you see the power of prayer and faith at work in the lives of everyone Tyler meets.

The producers and partners of *Letters to God* invite churches to become beacons of hope and faithful ministries for those touched by cancer and other life challenges, so they might feel the love of God and find peace. Please join in the viewing of this touching movie.



*Russell Dodge*

*Entered in our church fellowship*

*September 29, 1985*

*Entered into the church triumphant*

*August 19, 2010*

*Our deepest sympathy goes to Russell's family and friends.*

## **Discipleship Academy Courses At Linden Heights**

The Baltimore-Washington Conference has given us a unique opportunity to learn from some of its expert leaders. There will be three courses offered at Linden Heights this fall. Courses on Basic Lay Speaking Ministries and on Teaching Adults are offered on Sunday evenings in September and October. Conflict Management is offered on Wednesday evenings in October. If you are interested in attending any of these courses, please contact Debbie in the church office.

We are also looking for volunteers to greet the participants and provide snacks and drinks. If you are interested in helping, please contact Jeff Lawrence.

## **Haiti Missions Trip**

One of our members will be going to Haiti in December to help with housing and clean-up projects after last January's earthquake. Ken Simmons will be our Missions' Ambassador to Haiti. This is a very expensive trip and the conference is coordinating the trip but is not supplying any monetary help. It would be greatly appreciated if you would like to make a donation to help off-set some of the cost of this trip. The people of Haiti are still very much in need of help and going on a mission trip there is such a selfless, Christian act of kindness. Any amount that is given is a help. Thank you.

## Address Changes

Baltimore-Washington Conference Center  
11711 East Market Place  
Fulton, MD 20759-2594

Cokesbury Christian Book Store  
6618 A Security Boulevard  
Woodlawn, MD 21207



*Ian Joseph Fitzpatrick  
Son of Erin & Katie Fitzpatrick  
July 25, 2010*

*Gregory Bruce Walker  
Son of Kathleen & Charles Walker  
August 8, 2010*

*We welcome Ian and Gregory as  
preparatory members of our congregation.*

## Community News

Hiss United Methodist, 8700 Harford Road will be holding a "Help for Haiti" Relief Concert on Friday, September 17 at 7:00 PM. Come hear Contemporary Christian, Pop and Traditional Music with Joe Ayala. Special Speaker: Dr. Sarla Chand - Survivor of the January 12<sup>th</sup> earthquake. All proceeds go to Haiti Relief. A free-will offering will be appreciated! Reception following. Also a fall plant & bulb sale.

## Upcoming October Events:

Flea Market	October 2
Cecil County Meal	October 9
Pastor Karen away on Continuing Education	October 7-9
Tentative Date for Davey Jones Walk	October 10
Fall Retreat	October 15-17
Charge Conference	October 24
Manna House Breakfast	October 30
Youth "Slime Time" Night	October 30



Pastor	Rev. Karen Davis
Director of Music	Gary Van Essen
Piano Accompanist	Heather Traxler
Hand Bell Director	Deidre Duda
Administrative Assistant	Deb Singer
Nursery Attendant	Stacey Poe

### Informal Service Volunteers:

Dan O'Neil	Jeff Lawrence
Greg Singer	Mary Lee O'Neil

### Linden Heights Office Hours:

Tuesday & Thursday	9:00 - 5:00
Wednesday	10:00 - 2:00

Church Phone	410-668-6181
Church Fax	410-668-6485
E-Mail	<a href="mailto:lindenheightsumc@verizon.net">lindenheightsumc@verizon.net</a>
Pastor Karen	<a href="mailto:PastorKaren24@msn.com">PastorKaren24@msn.com</a>
Web	<a href="http://www.lindenheights.org">www.lindenheights.org</a>

Deadline for the October Linden Letter is September 16, 2010.