

LINWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH
4424 East Michigan Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46201
(317) 357-8771
Rev. Carolyn Watkins, Senior Pastor
Email: linwoodcc@sbcglobal.net



The Linwood Lindy



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On the 4th Sunday of Advent we light the candle of Love, and this year we will read from the Gospel of Matthew about the birth of Jesus. We will hear the story of Joseph, who could easily have rejected Mary and the child she was carrying. Fortunately, Joseph chose to believe the angel who came to him in a dream; he went ahead and made Mary his wife, and gave shelter to her son, Jesus. In Joseph, we witness the love for God and the love for family intertwined, giving strength to move forward in a difficult world.

My prayer this week is that, no matter who you call “family,” you, too, will find your love for God and your love for family intertwined in a way that gives you strength. I pray that you find people in your life who will shelter you when you need shelter, will give you a nudge when you need nudging, and who will always support you, as you support them.

May you be blessed during the celebration of the birth of Christ!

On another note, I want to share with you news about a health concern that I am facing. On January 6th I will be having surgery to repair a hiatal hernia in order to prevent the development of a more serious situation. My surgeon tells me that I will need to be off work for 4-6 weeks in order to recover, and I have already met with the chairs of the Board, Worship, and Pastoral Relations to discuss plans for that time.

We are drawing on our Sabbatical experience as we make plans. Once again, we will have guest preachers each Sunday beginning in February, and for the Elders to shoulder many of the pastoral care duties. After 4 weeks we will assess how my recovery is progressing and whether or not I am ready to return to work.

I know that I can count on you for prayer during this time, and that you will continue to serve God and neighbor as you always do so faithfully.

May God's peace be with you this Christmastide!
Pastor Carolyn

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Health Issues:

Juanita Adams
Dottie Baugh
Mikki Sanders
Martha Etheridge
Janet Lawrence

Glenda Gonzales
Lori Cox
Melissa Hartley
Bud Hartley
Ron Pastrick

Marty Lord
Beth Aubrey Meyer
Kaye Perry
Deeann List
Jenny Gonzales



Prayers have been asked for:

Earl Ivory, Roger Freeman, Luke Alberts, Steve & Pam Etheridge, Jerry & Sue Meyers, Fred Fowler, Jean Williams, J.R. Williams, Maxine Turner, Joy England, Richard Vincent, Patty Dennison, Rose North, Roger Schumacher, Wayne Powell, Bruce Burgdoff, Sandy Freeman, Barbara Schwenzer, Emily Burgdoff, Nancy, Roseberr, Karen Damon, John Miller, Lee Motley, Charlie Keber, Carol Miller, Janice Cooper, Stephanie Fox, Cristina Tylicki, James Zickefoode, Terri Widner, Rob Ammerman, Jan Hopes, Sean Meritdith, Pail Gebery, Carol Niccum, David Harris, Forest Rowland, Fern Dyer, Robin Sachs, Brian Slowinski, Paul Palusko, Jim Cecil, Tammy Garner, Gary Charlton, Abby Raney, Robin Sachs, Jessie, Buddie Gibbons, Patty, Michael List, Katlyenn Feene, Sally Green, Sue Griffith, Cheryl Jacques, Don Freeman, Brandon Webb, Greg C, Jill, Hariette & Penny.

We join with God's loving concern for those facing life's difficult times:

Darin Hartley, Gerald Harris, Melissa Haartley, Allison Pittman & Family, Paul & Linda Gebert, The Bowling Family, Robert Votzie, Angela Murphy, the Palusko Family & Friends, Jayna W, Stacy Stewart, Gary Charlton.

Many Thanks....

The Food Pantry would like to thank all of their volunteers, donors, and support for all their kindness and time spent during the holiday season and year-round. We simply can't do it without you!

Christmas Eve Services—Tuesday Dec. 24, 2019

7:00 pm Informal Service in Fellowship Hall

8:00 pm Christmas Fellowship Time
Food, games, crafts, movies, conversation

11:00 pm Candlelight Service in Fellowship Hall



Christmas Special Offering

The Crusaders (Linwood's Adult Sunday School Class)

The Crusaders meet in the church Library each Sunday from 9:30 am – 10:00 am. We begin and end promptly due to many members needing to rehearse for Choir at 10:00. Currently the class is led by Kathy Shickles and Joan Woodruff. Here is a list of the upcoming lessons for the month:

December 22	Matthew 23: 1 – 39	Seven Woes
December 29	Matthew 24: 1 – 31	Prophecy and King's Return
January 5	Matthew 24: 36 - 51	Be Watchful
January 12	Matthew 26: 1 - 5	Plot against Jesus
	Matthew 26: 6 – 13	Jesus anointed at Bethany
	Matthew 26: 14 – 15	Judas Betrays Jesus
January 19	Matthew 26: 17 – 30	The Last Supper
	Matthew 26: 31 – 35	Peter's denial
	Matthew 26: 36 – 46	Jesus' prayers

CHRISTMAS IS SUCH A GREAT TIME OF GIVING AND RECEIVING.

SATURDAY, WE RECEIVED FROM THE FIRST FRIENDS CHURCH ON KESSLER BLVD. A LOAD OF TOYS FOR THE RUMMAGE ROOM.

BILLIE MAIN, THE WIFE OF OUR OWN FORMER MEMBER DON MAIN, FACILITATED THIS FOR LINWOOD. SHE ALSO PRESENTED LINWOOD WITH A CHECK FOR \$125.00 TO BE USED AS NEEDED.

WE ARE SO GRATEFUL THAT THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE WHO CONTINUE TO HELP US IN OUR MINISTRIES.