

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



The Linwood Lindy



Volume 52

April 15, 2026

Number 4

The Gift of a Doubting Faith: Some More Thoughts on “Doubting” Thomas

For those of you who were in worship on Sunday, you know the text and sermon focused on “Doubting Thomas.” (see John 20:19–29). The preacher certainly had plenty to say about the subject then, but a few more lingering thoughts have come to pass since I thought worthy of sharing. If you read nothing else of this article, linger on this thought:

Thomas’s doubt is not the opposite of faith—it is one of the ways faith is born and refined.

Thomas is absent from the upper room when the risen Christ appears to the others. We are not told why in the scriptures. Perhaps he was grieving alone. Perhaps he needed distance. Whatever the reason, he misses the moment—and when the others tell him what they have seen, he cannot accept it secondhand. He needs to encounter Jesus for himself.

Thomas's demand to see and touch the wounds can sound stubborn or cynical, but it is deeply honest. He is not rejecting faith; he is refusing pretense. He will not settle for borrowed belief or rehearsed certainty. Thomas shows us that faith which has cost something—faith that has endured disappointment and loss—often asks harder questions, not fewer ones.

When Jesus appears again, this time with Thomas present, he does not rebuke him. He does not shame him for his doubt or lower his eyes from Thomas's questions. Instead, Jesus invites Thomas to bring his doubt fully into the light. He offers his wounded hands and side as evidence, not as proof in a courtroom sense, but as an act of grace. The risen Christ still bears the marks of suffering. Resurrection has not erased the wounds; it has redeemed them.

In that moment, Thomas moves from doubt to the clearest confession in the Gospel: "My Lord and my God." His faith is not naïve or abstract. It is relational, personal, and grounded in encounter. Thomas believes not because doubt was silenced, but because it was taken seriously.

Jesus then speaks a word that reaches beyond Thomas to every generation of believers who will follow—those who will not see with their physical eyes and yet still trust. This is not a condemnation of doubt, but a blessing on faith that must learn to live without certainty. It is an invitation to trust in the midst of ambiguity, absence, and unanswered questions.

A doubting faith is not a weak faith. It is a faith that wrestles, searches, and longs for truth. It is a faith that refuses easy answers and instead leans toward authenticity. Like Thomas, we are invited to bring our doubts, questions, and wounds directly to Christ. We need not hide them or apologize for them.

Pastor Frank

Please lift up into God's light

e-mail: prayer@linwoodchristian.org



Health Issues:

Marilyn Henegen, Judy Mecher, Martha Etheridge, Beth Meyer, Mark Johnson, Julie Hendley

Prayers have been asked for:

Brian Slowinski, Toby Parson, Doug Engle, Jenn Streyckmans, Kristin Helms, Elijah Smith, Tom Reese, Chanin Russell, Carrilya Hatley, Tom Smith, Steve Folsom, Karen Plemons, Tom Newton, Pastor Richard Clayton, Rex Marling, Jacob Tucker, Wayne Lee, Frank Poynter, Tracy Hacker, Susie Squire, Jodi Martin, John Proctor, Harold Scrougham, Wilbur Truitt, Carol Fowler, Sue Manthei, Rebecca Taylor, Kendall Robbins, Mrs. Lee Sizemore, Donna Opal, Anne Williams, Darlene Schleisterman, Kristi Walton and family, Ron Sedy, Nora Bennett

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

Joyce Franke, Leana Wright, Yolanda Hollow, Ed Miller, John Franke, Randy Hacker, Dilcia Hernandez, Axel & Alex newborn twins, Vanessa Blair, Chrissy Richley & family, Bennett Carden & family, Lauren Jones & family, the Chris Sanders/Neubauer families

Prayers of Condolences are offered for the family and friends of: Ronnie Richey who passed away on April 3rd. And Barb Johnson on her passing April 10th.

A Special Prayer is offered for: all of the deployed US Military and their families

**Adult
Sunday School
Class**

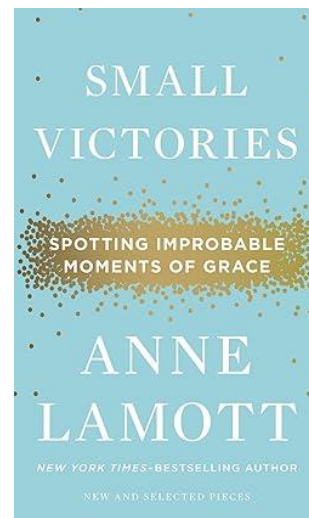
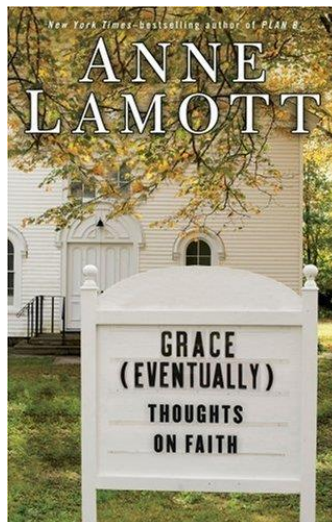
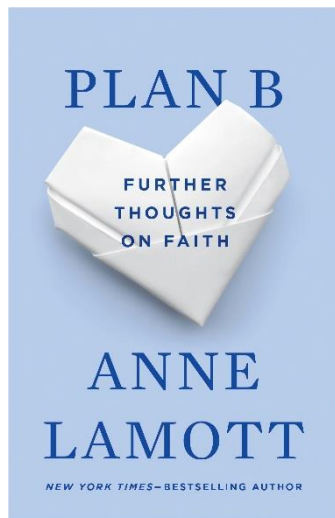


Ed Urban is back to teaching in the Sunday School class, and leading us through the last 50 Psalms (Psalms: 101 – 150). Come and join us at 10:20 am each Sunday morning in the church library. Stop by the parlor first, and bring your coffee and snack with you.



The Book Nook

If the April showers have you caught inside, why not enjoy one of these inspiring books by Anne Lamott from our church library?



Plan B: As Anne Lamott knows, the world is a dangerous place. Terrorism and war have become the new normal. Environmental devastation looms even closer. And there are personal demands on her faith as well: getting older; her mother's Alzheimer's; her son's adolescence; and the passing of friends and time. Fortunately for those of us who are anxious about the state of the world, whose parents are also aging and dying, whose children are growing harder to recognize as they become teenagers, *Plan B* offers hope that we're not alone in the midst of despair. It shares with us Lamott's ability to comfort and to make us laugh despite the grim realities.

In *Grace (Eventually): Thoughts on Faith*, Lamott examines the ways we're caught in life's most daunting predicaments: love, mothering, work, politics, and maybe toughest of all, evolving from who we are to who we were meant to be. This is a complicated process for most of us, and Lamott turns her wit and honesty inward to describe her own intimate, bumpy, and unconventional road to grace and faith. Throughout these essays, she writes of her struggle to find the essence of her faith, which she uncovers in the unlikeliest places.

In *Small Victories*, Lamott offers a new message of hope that celebrates the triumph of light over the darkness in our lives. Our victories over hardship and pain may seem small, she writes, but they change us—our perceptions, our perspectives, and our lives. Lamott writes of forgiveness, restoration, and transformation, how we can turn toward love even in the most hopeless situations, how we find the joy in getting lost and our amazement in finally being found. Profound and hilarious, honest and unexpected, the stories in *Small Victories* are proof that the human spirit is irrepressible.

Joan Woodruff, Church Librarian



2026 Easter Flower Dedications

In memory of Mom, Daddy, and Barbara from **Mary Ruth Clouse**

In honor of Marilyn Henegen from **Kathy & Gary Harding**

In honor of Anne & Dana Crapo, Beth Aubrey Meyer, and Linwood Christian Church members, and in memory of the Linwood Saints through the years from **Pat & Larry Kerr**

In honor of Pat & Larry Kerr, Silvia & Kelly Martin, Anne & Dana Crapo, Kathy & Gary Harding, Jim & Joan Woodruff, Jan Sharp, Nancy Pottorff, Mattie Horne, Diane Merriman, Kathy Shickles, and in memory of Merle & Eileen Merrifield, David Merrifield, Ed & Judy Merrifield, and Kathy Johnson from **Joyce Lee**

In memory of Michael List, Mary Stinnett, Delores Mathis, and Penny Brown from **Deeann List**

In memory of our parents Al & Marilyn Wagner and Jack & Ella Mae Martin from **Kelly and Silvia Martin**

In memory of my parents Georgia Graham and Claude Bigbee from **Barnedia McBride-Williams**

In memory of my grandparents Delores Mathis and Florence & Franklin Wiggins from **the McManus family**

In memory of Donna Metzger, Rev. Dan Huff, Geneva Westmeyer, and the Pastricks: Margie, Andrew, Della Diane, Don and Larry from **Vickie & Ron Pastrick**

In memory of George and Helen Pottorff from **Nancy Pottorff**

In memory of Rich Sharp, Jane & Roy Gorton and Velma & John Sharp from **Jan Sharp**

In memory of Ruth & Loren Stackhouse from **Gayle Stackhouse**


In honor of Genoveva Perales and in memory of Josefa Vasquez from **Margie Wilson**

In memory of Wayne & Effie Woodruff and Ray & Ethel Reimer from **Jim & Joan Woodruff**

In honor of Adam Yednak & Kalyn, and in memory of Nick & Doris Cridlin and Glenn Yednak from **Elaine Yednak**



News from the Pews

Please send my regards to everyone on the prayer list. I think we have gone through the most terrifying time of our lives and knowing that it has been accompanied by the footsteps of the Lord and his ardent servants has been a blessing indeed. Keep praying - I'm still a way from well. Love you all. **Beth** 

It was good to see **Pat Kerr** back in her pew last Sunday.

What a lovely display of Easter Flowers adorned our sanctuary on Easter morning. A heart-felt thank you to all of you who donated to bring a breath of Spring to our eyes and noses!

Cece Walton wants to invite you to join in some weekly exercise at Linwood, See the Flyer at the end of this newsletter.

A joke about Creation...

An atheist scientist came to God and said, "We've figured out how to make a man without you." God said, "OK, let me see you do it." So the atheist bent down to the ground and scooped up a handful. But God stopped him and said, "Oh, no you don't. Get your own dirt!"

Live and archived service streams are available at: [YouTube.com/@LinwoodCC](https://www.youtube.com/@LinwoodCC)

Visit our Web Page at www.linwoodchristian.org to learn what is going on at Linwood.

To submit an entry or comment on what you want to read about in the Lindy, you can

Email us at:

linwoodcc@sbcglobal.net

With Subject: Lindy

Or mail to:

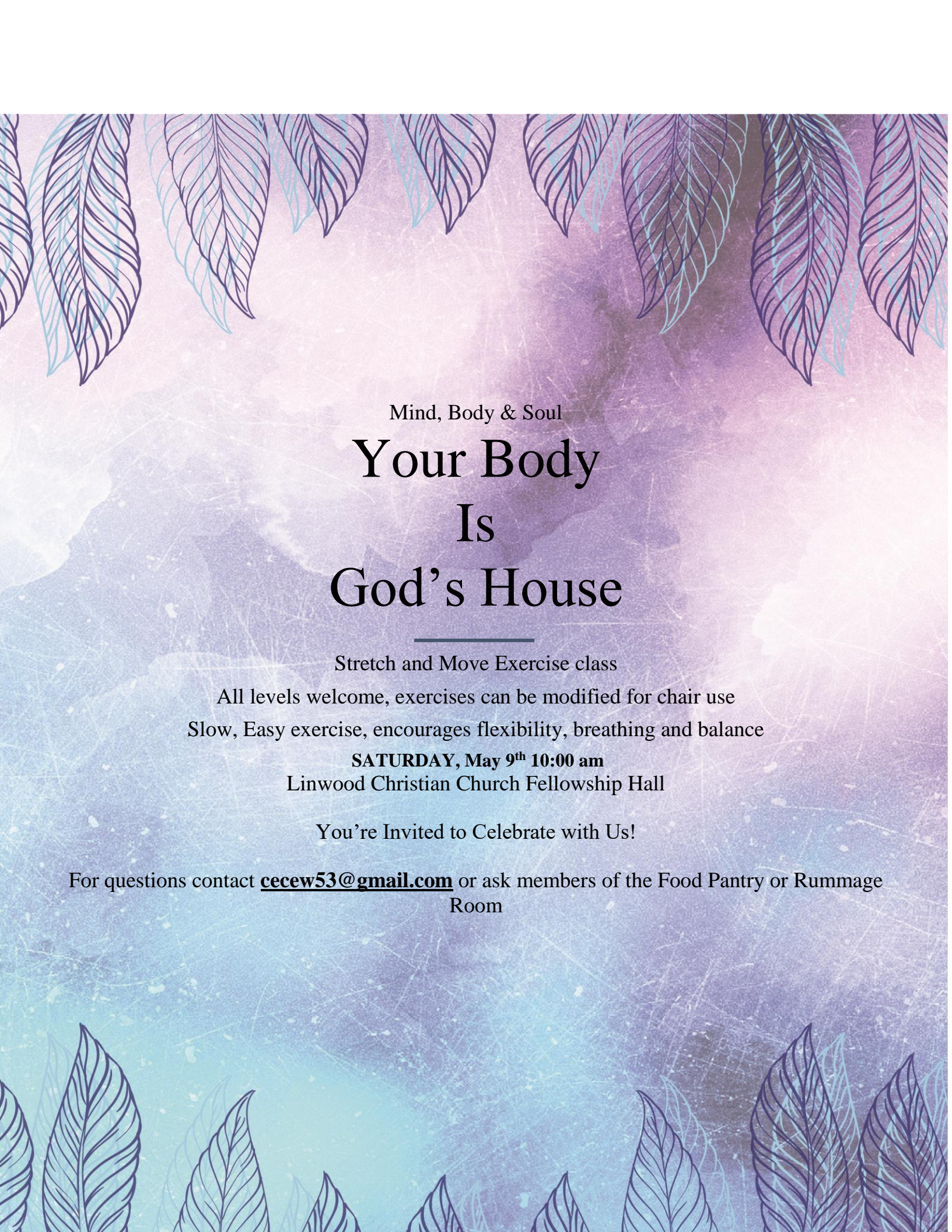
Linwood Christian Church – Attn: Lindy

4424 E Michigan Street

Indianapolis, IN 46201

Please submit Entries for the next Lindy by: April 13th, 4p

Your Lindy Crew



Mind, Body & Soul

Your Body Is God's House

Stretch and Move Exercise class

All levels welcome, exercises can be modified for chair use

Slow, Easy exercise, encourages flexibility, breathing and balance

SATURDAY, May 9th 10:00 am

Linwood Christian Church Fellowship Hall

You're Invited to Celebrate with Us!

For questions contact cecew53@gmail.com or ask members of the Food Pantry or Rummage Room

Word Search

On the Road to Emmaus



Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him.
Luke 24:31a (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 24:13-35 (NIV).

W X Q T T I Z H E G H W Z O R
V O D H L I F G J S E C R O E
Q P E A Y N I Q I H Y Q T G U
C E P N A B J L X D E I A T X
T N Y K D R O I E E S L Y U H
J E I S E O Z K F I L C K G R
I D S V F A L L V I G R R J X
B P K T T A H T V K U U S K E
D E R W W B R E A D N C U F I
U S L O C L E O P A S I F V E
O T D I P H F V S C M F F I A
W T I M E H I C J I O I E C D
J M S M C V E Y K J S E R Z G
E M M A U S E T Y L E D P C O
J V K V I D K H J E S U S R Z

WALKED

MOSES

THANKS

CLEOPAS

JESUS

BREAD

FOOLISH

OPENED

SUFFER

BELIEVE

PROPHET

VILLAGE

CRUCIFIED

VISITOR

EYES

EMMAUS