

LINWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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The Linwood Lindy



Volume 51

October 15, 2025

Number 10

What will you do on this Hallowed Evening?

It is mid-October, have you figured out what you are wearing for Halloween yet? I'm still working on my outfit, although I have some ideas in mind. I am leaning toward a top-hat and waistcoat ala late 19th century with "Groucho glasses, eyebrows and a moustache." But that may well change. Yet, there are some in the Church who say we shouldn't be marking the holiday at all. That Halloween is all about worship of the devil and the occult and has no place in the lives of faithful Christians. I am not of such persuasion. But, I do think there is value in understand exactly where the holiday comes from and why we celebrate so that one can make an informed choice.

When I was growing up in the 1960s, I didn't know anyone except a Jehovah's Witness family who lived down the block who didn't "celebrate" Halloween. The hundreds of Catholic and Protestant kids in my elementary schools would dress up in costumes, have school parties, and go trick-or-treating. For weeks leading up to Halloween, we would have school projects that included traditional Halloween images: witches, black cats, jack-o-lanterns, bats, and more. Our parents never questioned if we "should" celebrate the holiday—there was never a belief that what we were doing was evil or unbiblical.

I was in my late 20s, ordained and serving as a youth-pastor in a congregation in Iowa before I met my first challenge to the idea. I was working with youth groups in planning a “Halloween party” at the church, and a couple of concerned parents met with me to express their belief that Halloween should be ignored. If anything, they thought I should be leading the youth in a study of the history of Halloween (of which I was pretty ignorant at the time) and emphasize why it was a sin to take part in Halloween activities. I’m pretty certain I disappointed them in showing no interest in doing either.

In the years since, I have become more “schooled” in the facts around the celebration of Halloween – the short version of which follows.

- **Historical Roots:** Halloween, or All Hallow’s Eve, is rooted in ancient Celtic traditions, particularly the festival of Samhain, which marked the end of the harvest season and the beginning of winter. This festival included honoring the dead, especially those who had passed in the last year.
- **Biblical Connections:** While the Bible make no mention of the Holiday, it does address themes of light versus darkness and the importance of remembering the lives of saints. Christians can reflect on these themes during Halloween by focusing on remembrance and prayer.

Ultimately, how one understands the “proper” celebration of Halloween comes down to a personal choice. As for me, I say let kids have their candy-coated fun and keep things light.

Pastor Frank

Thoughts & Prayers

Health Issues:

Marilyn Henegen, Judy Mecher, Mattie Horne

Prayers have been asked for:

Jerry & Sue Myers, Brian Slowinski, Tobby Parson, Sheila Patton, Doug Engle, Jenn Streycckmans, Nancy Schoen, John Franke, Melissa Martin, Doug Sample, Kristin Helms, Elijah Smith, Liz Arnold, Marjorie Spires, Amy Wooldridge, Tom Reese, Dan Bernd, Steve Marshall, Jessie Patton, CeCe Morris-Walton, Noelle Mae Hicks, Lew Champ, Christina Tylicki, Rosa Vasquez, Chanin Russell, Robert Shelton, Jeff Lewis, Pastor Eddie Carr and Family, Kelly Scrougham, Jackie Robbins

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

Dee Miller, Joyce Franke, Leana Wright, Donna Opel, Donna & Don Shepard, Paula Breeden, Linda Bernd, Serena Vasquez, Ryan Carr, Laura Spires, Fletcher Moore, Debbie Cooper

Prayers of Condolences are offered to the family and friends of: Jerrilyn Wheller who passed away on August 29th, Nancy Terhune who passed on September 10th, Mark Cooper on his passing September 27th, Danny Breeden and Sandy Holstein who both passed away on September 28th.

Prayers of Joy are offered for: Hostages of Hamas and Israel being released on October 13th. Continue to pray for peace in the Middle East and Ukraine and Russia.





The Book Nook

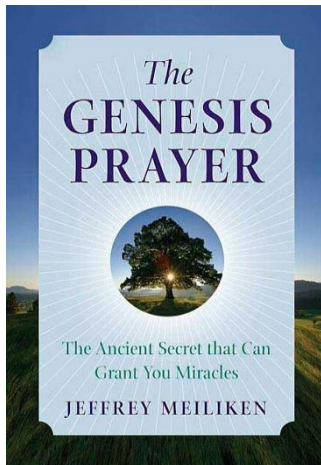
Enjoy a good read as the temperatures fall and the days shorten!



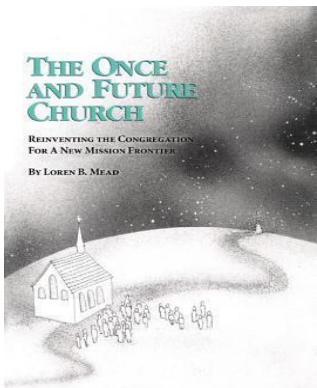
Adventures in Prayer by Catherine Marshall tells how down-to-earth

God wants our prayers to be. To bring us closer to Jesus, she offers a practical, intimate prayer example at the end of each chapter of insight and experience. These include:

- Prayer is Asking
- The Prayer of Helplessness
- The Waiting Prayer
- The Prayer of Relinquishment
- The Prayer in Secret
- The Prayer of Joyous Blessing
- The Prayer That Helps Your Dreams Come True
- The Claiming Prayer
- Let Your Heart Form the Words



The Genesis Prayer by Jeffrey Merliken divulges how we may simply amplify our powers of traditional prayer. For centuries sages, prophets, and scholars have known and used the powerful Genesis Prayer to grant miracles, blessings, health, and happiness. Now, the time has come to bring this life-transforming prayer to people of all faiths. Through the citation of multiple corroborative examples, Meiliken successfully demonstrates that God, far from having abandoned us, is readily available to those seeking his beneficent assistance.



The Once Future Church by Loren Mead spells out the case that the church today is burnt out and needs to change direction. Denominations, once structured to deliver resources to far-off lands of foreign mission, now encounter the mission field in the layperson's workplace and the community surrounding the local congregation. Thus, the church is called to reinvention for this new mission frontier.

Joan Woodruff
Church Librarian



Ed Urban is currently leading us through the Book of Psalms, which is his personal favorite. We meet for 30 minutes on Sunday mornings at 9:20 in the library. Stop by the parlor and bring your coffee and snack along to class.

Linwood Church Directory

Greeting Card season is rapidly approaching, and we plan to publish the hard copy version of the Church Directory in mid-November to help our members and friends reconnect.

We make every effort keep the on-line version current with weekly updates. The on-line version is available at our website linwoodchristian.org/members.html .

In order to protect personal information from world-wide viewers; the on-line directory is password protected. For the password, please check your e-mail for an entry with the subject: **“Linwood Christian Church Website Updated (Latest Lindy added)”** (which is sent out monthly); or check the inside cover of your current printed directory.

We are requesting that (if possible) you check whichever directory you can access for entries for yourself and for any of those friends or relatives you keep in touch with. Please send any needed corrections to: directory@linwoodchristian.org . The deadline to submit corrections, additions, or even deletions is November 2nd.

Please pay particular attention to names included in each household - (some may have moved out or been born recently), postal addresses, e-mail addresses, and phone numbers. We like to have everything up-to-date before going to the expense of printing the directories.

If you are not able to go on-line (for the on-line version) and would like one of the printed copies (to be available on November 16th), please send your request to directory@linwoodchristian.org .

For in-town people we will make them available in the Narthex on that Sunday morning. They will be labeled for each recipient. Please take your copy. If you can take their copy to a local shut-in, please do so. We will mail them to out-of-towners making requests.

We greatly appreciate your attention to this matter,
Jim Woodruff - LCC Clerk and Webmaster

News from the Pews

A moment from Stewardship & Finance -

The attached budget was presented to the board on Monday night. Please be mindful that our insurance, utilities and building maintenance have increased over the past few years and our proposed budget reflects those changes. We will meet and discuss this budget at the November board meeting on Monday November 10, 2025 at 6:30.

Irvington Community Action Network (ICAN) and Linwood Connection –

Please read the attachment which describes the ICAN project and Linwood's participation in it.

******PLEASE NOTE for those who receive the Lindy by regular Postal Service:**

To save on postage, there will be printed copies of the above 2 documents in the Narthex. If you want a copy of either emailed to you, please contact the Church Office.

Since it gets cold here long before Christmas, we have started collecting Mittens, Gloves, Scarves, Socks, and Underwear now so our Pantry clients can stay warm this winter. Please donate new items to a good cause.

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 Or mail to:

With Subject: Lindy

Linwood Christian Church – Attn: Lindy
4424 E Michigan Street

Entries for next Lindy by: November 17, 4p Indianapolis, IN 46201

Your Lindy Crew

A little humor ...

- **What do you call a bear with no teeth?**
A gummy bear!
- **What do you call a sleeping dinosaur?**
A dino-snore!
- **Why do seagulls fly over the sea?**
Because if they flew over the bay,
they would be bagels!

Heavenly Harvest Hunt

Word Search

Solve the puzzle with the word bank below. Puzzle based on Ecclesiastes 3:1

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

REAP HEAVEN TIME SEASON
PLANT EVERY PURPOSE EARTH