

LINWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
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# The Linwood Lindy



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Number 01

**“We love others as we want to be loved. It is what we do....”**

In one of my devotional books the entry for January 18 shares a story from India called *The Spider and the Sage*. (I confess to being partial to stories from India since I have been there several times on mission trips.) Let me share it with you as it is told in my book:<sup>1</sup>

A kind, quiet man prays in the Ganges River every morning. One day after praying, he sees a poisonous spider struggling in the water and cups his hands to carry it ashore. As he places the spider on the ground, it stings him. Unknowingly, his prayers for the world dilute the poison.

The next day the same thing happened. On the third day, the kind man is knee deep in the river, and sure enough, there is the spider, legs frantic in the water. As the man begins to lift the creature, the spider says, “Why do you keep lifting me? Can’t you see I will sting you every time, because that is what I do?” And the kind man once again cups his hands about the spider, replying, “Because that is what I do.”

I share this story because in reading it on this cold January night my heart is warmed. Why? Because it reminds me of what we are asked to do as people of faith and as disciples of Christ. How many times have you waded into the waters of trying to help others only to be stung by those you are trying to help? How many times have you offered love and the best you are to someone only to have them betray you in a most harsh and mean-spirited way, doing their best to injure you? How did you respond? Sting back? Walk away swearing never to put yourself at such risk again?

As followers of Christ, we are often called to reach out and lovingly cup our hands around those who are so hurt by the world that all they can do is “sting” others in response, even those who try to help them. While the sting hurts, there is no question what our response as followers of Jesus is to be: to keep offering our hands of protection and comfort and love. To many it seems crazy. They just don’t understand, it is what we do....

*Pastor Frank*

<sup>1</sup> From: “The Book of Awakening,” by Mark Nepo, pp. 20&21.

## ***Thoughts & Prayers***



### ***Health Issues:***

Martha Etheridge, Marilyn Henegen, Anne Crapo, Judy Mecher

### ***Prayers have been asked for:***

Jerry & Sue Meyers, Brian Slowinski, Aaron Cepeda, Toby Parson, Jake Marshall, Jessie Patton, Sheila Patton, Rob Welch, Megan Clouse, Bud Riddle, Billie Carson, Karen Raub, Doug Engle, Floyd Nott, Jenn Streyckmans, Margie Wilson, Louise Scrougham, Nancy Schoen, George Hill, Dan Bernd, Charlotte Schumaker, Christopher Ignaut, Damea Carr, Dan Rau, Larry Nigh, Katrina Habig, Charles Weaver, Mary Tyson, Greg and Becky Spudic, Tom Chisolm, Connie Kramer, Lana Tekulve, Pete Steitz

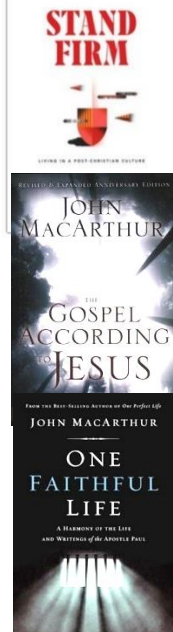
### ***We join with God's loving concerns for those facing life's difficult times:***

Tom & Nancy Horstman, Faye Carson, Doug Wickham, Linda Bernd, John McMillan, Debbie Ignaut, James Neubauer, Dee Miller, Laurelle Zarins

***Our prayers of Joy are offered for:*** Emily Hicks and her new daughter Noelle Mae born on December 27<sup>th</sup> with congratulations from the Harding and Richmond families; baby Theo Law went home from the hospital on Christmas Day; Megan Clouse whose surgery went well and was released January 13<sup>th</sup>. Her progress has been unprecedented. We pray it will continue but understand this is a process. Words cannot express our family's gratitude for your love, support & prayers. I continued to remind Megan, "Linwood has your back". She has already been released by Physical Therapy; and, since this was a congenital heart defect, no rigid dietary restrictions. That's a good start to recovery. Obviously we have a ways to go, so we continue to appreciate your prayers. Again, my heartfelt thanks to all of you. Mary Ruth Clouse

***Prayers of Condolences offered for the family and friends of:*** our own very dear friend, Doretta Terry, who passed away on January 11<sup>th</sup>, Dave Hart on his passing January 4<sup>th</sup>, Tom May passed away on December 7<sup>th</sup>, Ron Ammerman on his passing December 20<sup>th</sup>, Scott Stackhouse's brother-in-law, Bill Brower, who passed on December 25<sup>th</sup>, Bill Rainwater who passed away on December 30<sup>th</sup>, Jim Thistlewaite who passed away on December 15<sup>th</sup>, and Wayne Vannice's Mom passed on December 19<sup>th</sup>.

***Our prayers of Safety, Healing, and Comfort are offered for:*** all of those involved in or affected by the California fires including Pastor Frank's son, Spencer, as well as those seeking shelter due to Winter Storms Blair and Cora



## The Book Nook

Here are some reading suggestions while you're trying to stay warm this Winter all by the author John MacArthur.

*Stand Firm.* This book describes the Christian life as a war for holiness in which we are to be set apart and hold fast to the Word of God.

*The Gospel According to Jesus.* This book exposes and urges rejection of any watered down Gospel message and promotes adherence to what Jesus actually taught during His ministry.

*One Faithful Life.* In this book MacArthur provides a detailed review of the missionary journeys of Paul.

Joan Woodruff  
Church Librarian

## Adult Sunday School Class



Ed Urban continues to lead the class on a journey through the book of **Psalms**, adding insight and commentary as we go. We expect to finish Psalm 50 sometime during February and then study The Acts of the Apostles for a few weeks before returning to the second third of the Psalms.

We meet for 30 minutes on Sunday mornings at 9:25 in the library. Stop by the parlor and bring your coffee and snack along to class.

## *From the Pews*

Dear Linwood Family,

Thank you for your love, kindnesses, prayers, cards, calls, and visits during such a difficult time for me, Kathleen, and April. We are beyond grateful and thank you very much. Your support made all the difference for us. Again, thank you. Deeann List

We celebrate a generous offering of \$236.60 given in our coin boxes and envelopes for the Society of Saint Andrew special offering during Advent. Your gifts really make a difference in feeding the poor and needy in our community. Society of Saint Andrew provided our Advent devotions and we look forward to their Lenten devotions this spring in preparing our hearts for Easter. Thank you for sharing with "the least of these." God loves the world and loves a generous giver. Kathy Shickles

It is with great sadness and yet great joy as this special lady, Doretta Terry, who was a great and wonderful friend and sister in Christ has now gone to be with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in heaven. May she rest in peace and have joy being in the presence of our Lord. Love you and miss you my special angel!! Char Urban

What a beautiful display before the Altar Table on Epiphany Sunday. Vickie Pastrick provided examples of the gifts from the Magi which were items of gold as a symbol of kingship on earth, frankincense (an incense) as a symbol of deity, and myrrh (an embalming oil) as a symbol of death.

Email us at: [linwoodcc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:linwoodcc@sbcglobal.net) Or mail to:

With Subject: Lindy

Linwood Christian Church – Attn: Lindy

Entries for next Lindy: February 17th, 4p

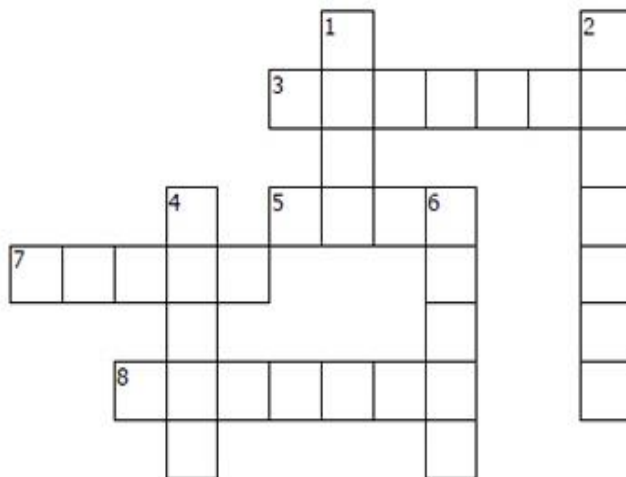
4424 E Michigan Street

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*Your Lindy Crew*

## *Jesus performs his first miracle*

### **Crossword Puzzle**



#### ACROSS

3. An event that cannot be explained by the laws of nature
5. Of the highest quality; One that surpasses all others
7. Low in cost; of poor quality; inferior
8. One who is employed to perform services for someone else

#### DOWN

1. A beverage made of the fermented juice of grapes
2. A ceremony joining a man and woman as husband and wife
4. A clear, colorless, odorless, and tasteless liquid, H<sub>2</sub>O
6. To eat or drink a small amount

TASTE	SERVANT	WATER	MIRACLE
WEDDING	BEST	WINE	CHEAP

<sup>i</sup> From: "The Book of Awakening," by Mark Nepo, pp. 20&21.