

LAKESIDE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
LAKESIDE LANTERN
SHARING THE GRACE OF GOD IN OUR 54TH YEAR

DECEMBER

Greetings from your Pastor

Welcome back to more of our northern residents, it's good to see your smiling faces back in worship with us. As we begin this Christmas season with the anticipation of the birth of the Christ child. I am once again reminded how we sometimes equate this time of year with Black Friday sales, consumerism and anything but the real reason we should stop and remember the salvation that came with the birth of this child.

Our Advent Study began on November 28th and I encourage you to join us for this "step back and take a closer look" at the real message of the Christmas season. Our study by Mike Slaughter, "A Different Kind Of Christmas" will help us to refocus on the true meaning of Christmas.

You may recall the message from Isaiah a few weeks back when he told the Israelites of the coming Messiah he said, "And He is named, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace."

Who doesn't need to know the Wonderful Counselor? Who doesn't need to know the One who can offer advice when they are facing a difficult situation? This One who has the answers for their marriage and family dilemmas?

Who doesn't need to know the Mighty God? You certainly know people who are dealing with a rebellious teenager or an aging parent or a sick child or an impossible job situation. When was the last time you told them how strong the arms of your God are? Perhaps you need to be reminded of how mighty God is by reading Isaiah 40.



Who doesn't need to know the Eternal Father? Who doesn't need the sense of hope that comes from knowing that-although we may suffer for awhile-we have a God that dwells in eternity, which means that there is more to life than what we see around us?

Who doesn't need to know the Prince of Peace? In a culture of road rage and long lines and short fuses, with strained relationships and simmering discontentment, who isn't starving for deeper, more-lasting peace? Who doesn't need to know why even the most desirable possessions and experiences leave them feeling unsatisfied? Who doesn't need a peace that passes understanding?

Who doesn't need more of the Prince of Peace and His peace in their home?

This was taken from a devotional from crosswalk.com and I felt it conveyed the perfect message for this Christmas season. Let's keep our eyes open for the opportunity to be as innocent as the baby that was to be born that night. Only if we have the faith, as that of a child will we be given our seat with the Father. This Christmas, be watching for people who need to know Jesus for who He is.

Merry Christmas

I Pray God's Richest Blessings For Each Of You

Pastor David and Nanci

NURSERY NEWS: Thank you to everyone that donated items to the Lakeside nursery. We greatly appreciate your help! The nursery is still in need of highchairs, and a foldable play yard. If you have any of these items that you no longer need, please consider donating them to Lakeside's Nursery. Please see Christina Harden for more information.

Our Cradle Roll class is growing! The children, ages 1-4, are no longer coming to church to play. They are actively involved in learning about Jesus! By law, there must be 2 adults present in the Nursery. Thanks to Mr. Lane, we have our first volunteer! The goal is to have 5 assistants that will each help once a month. Are you willing to be a helper with these adorable Cherubs? Contact Chrissy Harden. You will receive such a great blessing from these little darlings!

Lakeside will be celebrating the Christmas holidays and honoring loved ones with "Un-poinsettias". Donations in honor or memory of loved ones will go directly to Lakeside's missions.

This year, the designated missions are:

- **Lakeside Pastor's Fund**
- **Lakeside's Youth Group**
- **Lakeside Food Pantry**

Names of donors and honorees will be printed in the Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Bulletins

Please fill out the following and drop it in the offering plate ,call the church office or mail to

Lakeside United Methodist Church

1801 12th Ave S

Lake Worth FL 33461

with your check to support these ministries:

Given by _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Gift to go to: (Circle one)

Lakeside Pastor's Fund

Lakeside's Youth Group

Lakeside Food Pantry

The last date to contribute will be December 16th.

We have received **Thank You's** from the Florida United Methodist Children's Home, First Care Family Resources, and C.R.O.S. Ministries for the thoughtful and generous donations that Lakeside has sent them. They all appreciate your continued support.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Lakeside's 2nd Annual Talent Show

– Friday, January 18th at 7p.m. See Christina Harden now to start signing up your wonderful acts. Whatever your talent, we want to see it. Can you sing, dance, recite a poem, play spoons?

Come one, Come all! Come join us for a time of talent, fun and enjoyment. All are welcome!



Pop Tabs: We are still collecting pop tabs from soda cans, soup cans, etc... They are used for the aluminum in them. The McDonald House is the charity that benefits from these. Please give them to Kathy Chandler.

MATTHEW MEALS—

We are blessed each month to be able to serve our community by giving them a hot cooked meal, but we need your help. In November 170 hot meals were served.

Lakeside's next Matthew Meals will be on Saturday, December 22nd.

Volunteers are needed to prepare the food, serve the meals, and clean up the kitchen afterwards. Lakeside needs your help with these meals each month. Cooking begins around 1:30pm. The meals are served 4-6pm. in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

NEEDED: Holidays Baked Goods, Coloring Books, Crayons for December 22nd Matthew Meals. See Jane Harden for details.

Keenagers:

The time has come...Keenager's first regular meeting of the season will be Wednesday, 12/12/12 at 12:00 Noon! Please bring a dish to share with about 10-12 servings. We are expecting several guests as part of our program. There needs to be enough food to feed everyone! If you can arrive early to help set up, you will be greatly welcomed. A clean-up crew is also needed. If everyone lends a hand, it won't take long!

Thank You's in the Mail:

Hi Lakeside Family,

I just wanted to thank you all for the cards I've received. It means a lot to know my church family hasn't forgotten me. When I'm down one always seems to appear in my mailbox, that cheers me up. I want to also thank everyone for all the prayers to God. Somehow he always gives us an answer in his own time not ours. I can't wait until I can return back to church regularly. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Love You All, Tammy Mauldin

Card Ministry

Lakeside's Card Ministry is growing! Over 100 cards were distributed during it's first year. We expect the number to be greater this year as our membership numbers grow, and as we contact folks that we haven't seen in a while. Many, many thanks for the donations of stamps and money to buy stamps. You are some of the most generous people ever!

After the first of the year, we will accept any of your extra greeting cards: All Holidays, Get Well, Sympathy, Thinking of You, and blank cards. It's OK if the cards and envelopes don't match. Bring what you have & we'll mix and match!

**WEDNESDAY
NIGHT
DINNERS**

We continue to have a nice time of fellowship at our Wednesday Night Dinners! Pastor David & Susan Sylvester have been leading our Bible study at 7 pm which we all are enjoying.

Whether you stay for the Bible Study or just come for dinner at 6 pm, we hope you will join us each Wednesday Night for this time of Christian fellowship with your brothers and sisters. Everyone is welcome!

NEW IN THE UMM: The Men's Breakfast Group is meeting at the Lake Worth Pier for breakfast and fishing. You are invited to this time of Fellowship on Saturday, December 1st @ 8:00 am. Please come and join in. Invite a friend to come along with you!

United Methodist Men will meet on Monday, December 3rd at 7 PM in the Library. Hope to see you there!

Save the Date - Saturday, January 5, 2013 - Mission Study on "Immigration and the Bible" presented by the United Methodist Women. Guest speakers will include Rev. Marilyn Beecher and Rev. Pam Cahoon. Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. See Betty McMurchy or Nancy Gettys for details.

UMW NEWS

Intercessory Prayer Circle, Tuesdays, 10:30 AM Library

Bookworms: Monday, 7 PM December 3 Fellowship Hall

Susanna Wesley Circle: 10 AM Wednesday, December 5 Library.

Advent Study

Join us on Wednesday November 28th as we begin a 5 week Advent Study based on Mike Slaughter's popular book *Christmas Is Not Your Birthday*,

A Different Kind Of Christmas is a practical and inspirational new study for the Advent season. It will empower your family and your church to avoid the traps and discontentment of consumerism and cast a vision for how Christians can experience the true joy of living and giving like Jesus.

Begin this Christmas season to live generously in fulfillment of God's mission in the world, and ultimately as a lifestyle of following God's call.

I look forward to leading this study and spending this Advent season with you as we grow closer to our Lord together.

Blessings, Pastor David

COUPONS FOR C.R.O.S.

Your response to this activity is amazing! Keep it up! The box is in the Narthex. Ask the Ushers to direct you to it.

All coupons from mailers and newspapers are requested. If you don't have time to cut them apart, we'll do that for you. The Food Pantry recipients are so very grateful!

Mission Jar Outreach

How would you like to help sponsor a child for Christmas through CROS Ministries? We will be collecting \$25 gift cards from Wal-Mart, K-Mart and Target. Just buy a \$25 gift card from one of these stores and drop it in the Mission Jar. Or, you can donate any amount of cash in the jar and CROS Ministries will buy the cards. Help a local child have a Merry Christmas.

Thanks for supporting Lakeside's Mission Jar. Lakeside Finance Committee

Thank You's in the Mail:

Anne McCartney thanks all of her Lakeside Family for all the prayers, cards, calls, visits, transportation, and good thoughts during her recent surgery and recovery.

Needed: Clear Plastic Lids (small to medium size) for Christmas and Advent Craft Projects that the Youth are planning to do. Please give to Chrissy Harden.

STAFF LOVE OFFERING

In appreciation for all our church employees do for us, the Staff-Parish Relations Committee has arranged for a love offering for all the church staff. The wooden model church will be placed in the narthex Dec. 2, 9, and 16 for this love offering. Please make checks payable to Lakeside United Methodist Church. The church staff includes Pastor David Branson, Carolyn Ludwig (administrative assistant), Wendell Waltman (music director), Dennis Simmons (keyboard), Gary Simmons (sound tech), Christina Harden & Teresa Wilhelm (nursery attendants), Luann Call (bookkeeper), Gary Fitzgerald (custodian). December 16th will be the last date to contribute.

YOU'RE INVITED! UMW/UMM Pot Luck

Luncheon... Sunday, Dec 2, after Worship Service. Bring your favorite dish to share. Meat & beverages will be provided. Everyone is invited.

The Lakeside United Methodist Church

Memorials Committee uses memorial funds for the enhancement of the worship service or for the beautification of the sanctuary & church property. Funds received as memorials are placed as designated or undesignated categories as specified by the family or donor. We urge you to consider a gift to the Memorials Committee when you are honoring or remembering loved ones. Call the Church Office for more information.

IMPORTANT NEWSLETTER MESSAGE!!!

As of January 1st, 2013 we will go to a computerized newsletter to save money. It will be listed on the church website at www.lakesideumchurch.org each month.

If you would like to receive a notice as to when the church newsletter/ church calendar is put on-line each month please make sure the church office has your e mail address.

If you do not have a computer and would still like to get a church newsletter/calendar, they will be given out in the Narthex or you can arrange to still have it mailed by letting the church office know. If we do not hear from you, we will assume that you no longer wish to receive the newsletter/calendar.

Christmas Food for Thought

1 Corinthians 13—Christmas Version

(attributed to Sharon Jaynes)

If I decorate my house perfectly with plaid bows, strands of twinkling lights and shiny balls, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another decorator.

If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of Christmas cookies, preparing gourmet meals and arranging a beautifully adorned table at mealtime, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another cook.

If I work at the soup kitchen, carol in the nursing home and give all that I have to charity, but do not show love to my family, it profits me nothing.

If I trim the spruce with shimmering angels and crocheted snowflakes, attend a myriad of holiday parties and sing in the choir's cantata but do not focus on Christ, I have missed the point.

Love stops the cooking to hug the child. Love sets aside the decorating to kiss the husband. Love is kind, though harried and tired. Love doesn't envy another's home that has coordinated Christmas china and table linens.

Love doesn't yell at the kids to get out of the way, but is thankful they are there to be in the way. Love doesn't give only to those who are able to give in return but rejoices in giving to those who can't.

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. Video games will break, pearl necklaces will be lost, golf clubs will rust, but giving the gift of love will endure.

Lakeside United Methodist
Church

1801 12th Ave. S.
Lake Worth, FL 33461

Phone: 561-585-7519

Fax: 561-585-3195

Email:

lumc_lw@bellsouth.net

www.lakesideumchurch.org

David Branson, Pastor

Newsletter Editor:

Carolyn Ludwig

Address service requested

**We have a Place for
You!**

**Sunday Small groups
8:45 AM
Sunday worship
10:00 AM**

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 6 Pastor Rachel Hollingsworth
- 7 Vaughn Early, Susan Sylvester
- 11 Beverly Josephson
- 12 Myra Grove
Ken Holloway
- 18 Ellen Keene
- 20 Annetta Boer
- 24 Bernice Ohannes,
- 27 Teresa Gaydo, James Benjamin
- 29 Chris Boer
- 30 Rosalie Frye

If you are receiving this newsletter in error, please contact Lakeside United Methodist Church to be taken off the mailing list.



Did we miss your birthday? Please let us know.
Happy Birthday!

FOOD PANTRY The next date for the Food Pantry will be Friday, December 21st. The Food Pantry will be open 10am to 12:30pm. We gave out 63 bags of food last month. Thank you for your continued support of this outreach ministry.



Family Movie Fellowship: We had 14 people attend last month's adventure to the movies. Saturday, December 8th we will see "Rise of the Guardians". Remember this is open to all ages not just children. We go to the Boynton Cinemark by the Boynton Mall.