

LAKESIDE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
LAKESIDE LANTERN
SHARING THE GRACE OF GOD IN OUR 56TH YEAR

DECEMBER

Greetings from your Pastor,

First of all, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because the news about your faithfulness is being spread throughout the whole world.

I greet you with the words of Paul who was writing to the faithful in Rome before he had a chance to visit them. Paul is acknowledging the faithfulness of the church in Rome for the spreading of the gospel among Jews and Gentiles alike. My prayer for Lakeside has been the same as Paul's for the early church, that we would be in the forefront of bringing Christ's light into a dark world. As we prepare for the coming of our Savior during the Advent season, let's be mindful of how each of us can be the light for someone who finds themselves engulfed by the darkness. This time of year can be lonely and stressful for many of us. As we show the face of Christ to those who find themselves in that sad place, remember how you felt when Jesus became your best friend. When the opportunity arises, be the face of Christ for someone looking for the light.

I am reminded of the story of Zacharias and Elisabeth, who had prayed for a child but seemed destined to not succeed. They had given up on the dream. And then the angel shows up and gives them the good news. They had thought their prayer had gone unanswered. Then the angel told them they would have a son whose sole purpose would be to prepare Israel for the coming of the Messiah, Jesus. This all sounded impossible to Zacharias; Not the miracle that Jesus would come, but that John would be the forerunner. Zacharias, as a believing Jew, knew the Scriptures and believed this. He just had a hard time thinking God could use silly old him. After all, he and his wife were well beyond the age to have children. He did something many of us do. We believe in the BIG things of God, like sending his son to be our Savior, but when it comes to the "little" things, we limit Him. Yes, God can create the earth in six days, be born as a baby, and send us to Heaven, but He can't possibly change me, fix a relationship, or get me a job.

But God's answer is **Yes I can!** You see, the biggest miracle has already been done Jesus. Everything else is small to God. (Crosswalk.com)

I am praying that each of you may be a part of God's "smaller" miracles this Christmas season.

Merry Christmas and God's richest blessings
Pastor David & Nanci

DECEMBER AT A GLANCE

01-UMM	15-Book Club
Bookworms	16-Advent Devotional Time
02-Advent Devotional Time	Boy Scouts
Boy Scouts	17-Healing and Communion
03-Susanna Wesley Circle	Bible Study
Bible Study	18-Chancel Choir
04-Church wide Catered Dinner	19-
Chancel Choir	20-Matthew Meals
05-Guardians of Children	21-4th Sunday of Advent
06-Men's Breakfast Group	22-
07-2nd Sunday of Advent	23-Advent Devotional Time
UMM/UMW Fellowship Pot Luck	24-Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Dinner after morning service	25-CHRISTMAS
08-	Church office closed
09-Advent Devotional Time	26-
Boy Scouts	27-
10-Keenagers	28-1st Sunday after Christmas Day
Bible Study	29-
11-Chancel Choir	30-Watch Night
12-Food Pantry	New Year's Eve
13-	
14-3rd Sunday of Advent	<u>Please read newsletter</u>
Christmas Cantata during morning	<u>articles for specific times</u>
worship	<u>and information.</u>

Advent Devotional Time—Tuesday, December 2nd in the Library at 10:00 AM.
All are welcome to this devotional time. Come and be blessed. Contact
Marty Hartman if you have any questions.

The Chancel Choir
Lakeside United Methodist Church

Presents

“The Gifts of Christmas”

December 14, 2014 at 10:00 AM

This year the chancel choir will present the Christmas Cantata “The Gifts of Christmas” by Lani Smith. Through the medium of music we will celebrate the joy and praise of God’s greatest gift, the birth of his son. Through song and word this presentation encourages all to live their lives in a manner that prove themselves worthy of this gift. By following God’s example, we are moved to do good things for others and proclaim God’s love to the world.

It is my fervent prayer that our voices, the voices of Lakeside United Methodist Church, will fill our sanctuary with praise to our Heavenly Father, to the glory of God, that all may know His love. *Wendell*

Please save all USED greeting cards to be used for a Bazaar craft project. (Writing on the back of the pictures is OK.) Give them to Teresa at the Card-Signing table.

Our Capital Campaign- On December 1st, the Capital Campaign will be came to an end. All monies received will be used as intended and as designated. To date we have received \$14,030 toward our goal of \$20,000. Thank you for your continued support! Blessings on your prayerful consideration. Pastor David

The Mission Jar Focus for November - December is C.R.O.S. Christmas Gift Cards. 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 may donate any amount of cash in the jar and CROS Ministries will buy the cards. The deadline to turn them in is Sunday, December 7th. Help a local child have a Merry Christmas.

Thanks for supporting Lakeside’s Mission Jar.



Healing and Communion Service - December's Healing Service will be Wednesday the 17th at 6PM in the Sanctuary.

Bible Study each Wednesday, at 7 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We are studying "The Story" by Randy Frazee. Each story reveals the God of grace; the God who speaks; the God who acts; the God who listens; the God whose love for his people culminated in his sacrifice of Jesus, his only Son, to atone for the sins of humanity.

Israel (Holy Land Trip)

Its official! Nanci and Pastor David are registered to be Tour Hosts for a trip to the Holy Land (In Israel, not Orlando) with a departure date of February 9, 2015. They are very excited to be returning to the land where Jesus trod. This is a once-in-a-lifetime kind of trip, on your bucket list for sure! If you are interested in joining them, Pastor David will be glad to talk to you about the trip and give you more information.

There's a great book that Pastor David recommends; We will be using it during our trip. If you are interested, it is produced by Abingdon Press, "An Illustrated Guide to the Holy Land for Tour Groups, Students and Pilgrims" by Lamontte M. Luker.

It's not too late to be included on this exciting journey.

Money deadline is Sunday, December 14th for your final payment.



MATTHEW MEALS
We are blessed each month to be able to serve our community by giving them a hot cooked meal. We need more people to assist with this most beneficial ministry. Lakeside's next Matthew Meals will be on Saturday, December 20th. Volunteers are needed to prepare the food, serve the meals, and clean up the kitchen afterwards. Cooking begins around 2:00PM. The meals are then served 4-6PM in the Fellowship Hall. Prayerfully consider helping with this great outreach to our community! All are welcome.

Keenagers-The time is coming when our famous group of people are getting ready to meet. Yes it is THE KEENAGER group,

We will have our first meeting of the year (2014 - 2015) on December 10th at 12:00 noon. We meet in Fellowship Hall and have a POT LUCK. Every one bring a covered dish with enough to serve 8 to 10 people, AND your own table service. Beverage will be provided.

Keenagers is open to all people 55 years of age and older. You do not have to be a member of Lakeside to join us. All are welcome.

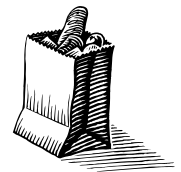
Thank you and hope to see you all. Put the date on your calendars, December 10th.
Bev. Knapp

SAVE THE DATE - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7TH,
WILL BE THE **UMW/UMM Pot- Luck Luncheon...**
AFTER THE MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE. MEAT
& BEVERAGES WILL BE PROVIDED. EVERYONE IS
INVITED! PLEASE BRING A DISH TO SHARE THAT
WILL SERVE AT LEAST 8-10 PEOPLE.
THIS WILL BE A GREAT TIME OF FUN,
FOOD, AND FELLOWSHIP!



FOOD PANTRY-

The Pantry will be open 10 AM to 12:00 PM. Our food pantry will be held on the 2nd Friday of the month for December due to the holidays. The next Pantry date will be Friday, December 12th. Thank you for your continued support of this outreach ministry.



**The Lakeside United Methodist Church
Memorials Committee**

This 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 Tom Harden, Chairman, or the Church Office for more information.

HELP NEEDED- We could use your help. If you could give a few hours of your time for the Food Pantry on the 2nd Friday of the month from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM to help us, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Sally Chennell 641-2185.

United Methodist Men

The men will meet on
Monday, December 1st at
7 PM, Library.

Men's Breakfast Group

Our men will meet at
IHOP on the corner of
Federal Hwy. and
Hypoluxo Rd. on
Saturday, December
6th at 8 AM. Come
and join us for a great
time of fellowship and
food.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS: The Altar Flower
Calendar for 2015 is in the Narthex on the bulletin
board. Sign up for the Sunday of your choice. It is
the perfect way to honor a loved one or to
celebrate a special occasion!

Please only list one family per line. *The cost is \$40 per
Sunday.*

The flower arrangements certainly make our
church service more lovely each Sunday and it
brightens someone's day when they receive the
flowers after the service.

**STAFF LOVE OFFERING**

In appreciation for all that our Lakeside church employees do for us, the Staff-Parish Relations Committee has arranged for a love offering for all of the church staff. The wooden model church will be placed in the narthex Nov. 30, Dec. 7th, 14th, and 21st 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), Maria Borrelli (Sunday School Teacher), Gary Simmons (sound tech), Christina Harden & Teresa Wilhelm (nursery attendants), Luann Call (bookkeeper), and Gary Fitzgerald (custodian). December 21st will be the last date to contribute.

UMW Mission Study-Mark your calendars for Lakeside's next annual Mission Study "The Church and People With Disabilities". Join us on Saturday, January 3, in the fellowship hall. The leader will be Danny Davis from First UMC of Boca Raton. A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. Gathering and breakfast at 8:30 AM. The program will conclude at 2:00 PM. See Nancy Gettys or Betty McMurphy for more information.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWS (UMW)

All women are invited to attend our United Methodist Women meetings. You do not have to be a member of Lakeside UMC.

Bookworms – meets the first Monday, Sept. – May at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Meetings usually include a book report, devotions, brief business meeting and refreshments! Contact Shirley Turner (319-1354).

Susanna Wesley – meets the first Wednesday, Sept. – April at 10:00 AM in the church Library. Meetings usually include a current mission study, brief business meeting and refreshments! Contact Frances Smith for information (585-7259).

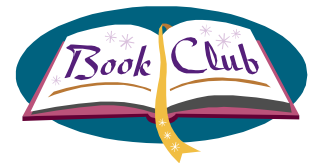
Bookworms– will meet on Monday, December 1st at 7 PM, FH.

Susanna Wesley Circle - will meet on Wednesday, December 3rd at 10 AM, Library.

UMW Executive Committee- will not meet in December

Donations for December Matthew Meals:

In December, instead of the usual dessert, we would like to ask for donations of Christmas cookies, breads, etc. that could be given with the meals for the dessert portion to make the dinner more "holiday festive." Also, we would like some coloring books, crayons and small toys to give to the children at the Matthew Meals pick up on Saturday, December 20th. The Dollar Stores have many things that are very economically priced.



Book Club
will meet the third
Monday of the
month, December
15th at 12 PM at
Sharon Bouyoucas's
house. Contact
Sharon Bouyoucas
(968-1892), if you
have any questions.

Special Events Committee- I would like to start a committee to help organize special events including the Mother's Day Tea, Father's Day Dinner, and the Community Egg Hunt. If you are interested in being a part of this committee please contact me, Christina Harden, at 561-313-7470 or email me at hchrissy@bellsouth.net. I am looking forward to working with you on these fun events.

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

Lakeside Pastor's Fund

Lakeside Food Pantry

UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief)

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

Please call the church office (561) 585-7519 or mail your donation and request to:

Lakeside United Methodist Church

1801 12th Ave S.,

Lake Worth, FL 33461

The last date to contribute is December 21st.

Tai Chi

We are planning a second tai chi class at Lakeside starting in January. Tentative days and times are Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00 - 12:00. Participants must commit to attending all the sessions for the three-month time period. We must have a minimum of 14 students and no more than 20. Tai Chi lessons are provided at no cost by the Area Agency on Aging. Contact Nancy Gettys for more information or to pre-register.



Dear Lakeside,

I am so blessed to have such a loving, supportive and caring church family. All of your cards and visits have been so uplifting and I can't thank you all enough. Continue to keep me in your prayers and I miss you all so much.

God bless you all, Betty-Lee Gray

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 www.lakesideumchurch.org
 David Branson, Pastor
 Newsletter Editor:
 Carolyn Ludwig



Did we miss your birthday?
 Please let us know.

Happy Birthday!

**Reminder: The church
 public office hours
 are Monday through
 Friday from 9 AM to
 1 PM. Please conduct
 your business during
 these hours.**

- 3 Bill Carpenter
- 6 Pastor Rachel
Hollingsworth
- 7 Susan Sylvester
- 10 Catherine Shelton
- 11 Beverly Josephson
JoAnn Grimm
- 12 Myra Grove
- 16 Glenisha Browne
John Meyer
- 18 Ellen Keene
- 20 Annetta Boer
- 24 Bernice Ohannes
- 27 Teresa Gaydo
- 29 Chris Boer
- 30 Rosalie Frye

**We have a Place for
 You!**

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

by Nancy Brummett

I said a Christmas Prayer for you
 because the season's near.

I didn't ask for riches
 but for gifts so much more dear.

I asked for joyful gatherings
 with your family all around,
 and for carols to inspire you
 with their old familiar sound.

I asked for quiet moments
 in your heart on Christmas morn,
 for a special time to celebrate
 the Savior who was born.

I asked for friends to
 send their best that you
 might know they care...

I asked for peace & love & hope;
 and I know God heard my prayer.



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

**The Church Office will be
 closed Thursday, Dec. 25th
 for Christmas.**

The 20th Annual End Hunger Walk aka
 CROS Walk was a great success. There
 were more than 400 walkers from 28
 different congregations and groups and a
 total of \$36,000 in pledges! Thank you,
 Lakesiders, for your support.