

LAKESIDE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
LAKESIDE LANTERN
SHARING THE GRACE OF GOD IN OUR 57TH YEAR

DECEMBER

John 17:18 "As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them..."

Merry Christmas to All,

The scripture I have quoted from is the basis for our Advent Study this year by Jorge Acevedo, *Sent: Delivering The Gift Of Hope At Christmas*.

In this scripture, Jesus is praying for his disciples, whom soon would be left without him and would soon be called to be his light in a darkened world. Not unlike the circumstances we find our world and even ourselves in today. We as Christians must keep reminding ourselves that we have been called to be the light of Christ in the world. As this Christmas season once again reminds us that a Savior can come in the form of a baby, Jorge Acevedo reminds us that Jesus' birth was not a one-time occurrence. Every Christmas has the possibility of Jesus being born again in our lives and in our world.

As we enter into this Advent Season, we are to prepare a place for the newborn Savior to reside within us. During this time of joy we should always remember the sacrifice that was to come. The one he willingly accepted on our behalf. Being the light can be a daunting task, but one you and I both are capable of fulfilling. I ask that this year we take time away from the hustle and bustle of the season to prepare our hearts to receive the greatest gift of all, in return be willing to share the Good News with someone who needs it.

The Advent study this year promises to be the catalyst for inspiring us to be the people of HOPE that Jesus has asked us to be. I hope that you will join me for this uplifting study on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Blessings of the season to you and your family.

Merry Christmas
Pastor David & Nanci

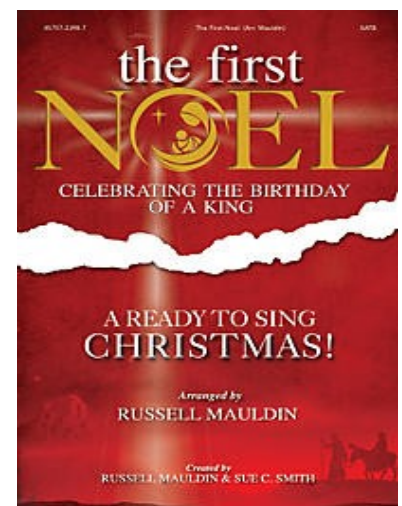
DECEMBER AT A GLANCE

- | | |
|--|---|
| 01- Sanctuary Committee
Boy Scouts | 16- Healing and Communion
Advent Bible Study |
| 02- Susanna Wesley Circle
Advent Bible Study | 17- Church Holiday Dinner
Chancel Choir Practice |
| 03- Chancel Choir Practice | 18- Book Club |
| 04- | 19- Matthew Meals |
| 05- Men's Breakfast Group | 20- 4th Sunday of Advent
Choir Christmas Cantata |
| 06- 2nd Sunday of Advent
Holy Communion
UMW/UMM Church Pot-luck Luncheon | 21- |
| 07- Bookworms
UMM | 22- Boy Scouts |
| 08- Boy Scouts | 23- Advent Bible Study |
| 09- Keenagers
Advent Bible Study | 24- Christmas Eve Service |
| 10- Chancel Choir Practice | 25- CHRISTMAS
Church Office Closed |
| 11- Food Pantry | 26- |
| 12- | 27- 1st Sunday after Christmas Day |
| 13- 3rd Sunday of Advent | 28- Game Night |
| 14- | 29- Boy Scouts |
| 15- DOWLL
Boy Scouts | 30- |
| | 31- Watch Night
New Year's Eve |

From the Music Office

Sunday, December 20, 2015, at 10am, the Chancel Choir of Lakeside United Methodist Church will present the cantata "The First Noel." This vibrant musical by Russell Mauldin is sure to encourage all ages as we once again welcome the Christ Child into our lives. Please plan to attend as we turn our hearts and minds to the Savior during this Holy Season.

Wendell



SAVE THE DATE - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6TH 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!



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 6 Pastor Rachel Hollingsworth
- 7 Susan Sylvester
- 8 Leta Lewis
- 10 Catherine Shelton
- 11 Beverly Josephson
JoAnn Grimm
Andrew Loor
- 12 Myra Grove
- 16 Glenisha Browne
John Meyer
- 18 Ellen Keene
- 19 Tawayna Elder
- 20 Annetta Boer
- 24 Bernice Ohannes
- 27 Teresa Gaydo
- 29 Chris Boer
- 30 Rosalie Frye
- 31 Jackie Ball
Karen Schneider

Healing and Communion Service - The next Healing and Communion Service will be Wednesday, December 16th at 6 PM in the Sanctuary.

Men's Breakfast Group

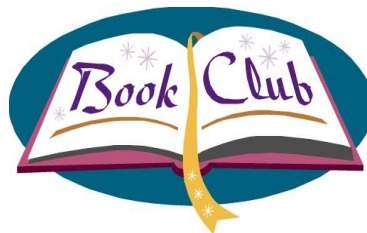
Lakeside's men will meet at the church fellowship hall on **Saturday, December 5th** at 8 AM. Come and join us for a great time of fellowship and food.

United Methodist Men will meet on December 7th at 7 PM.



COMMUNITY

REMINDER:
The church public office hours are Monday - Friday from 9 AM to 1 PM. Please plan to conduct your business during these hours.



Book Club will meet on Friday, December 18th at 12 PM. Contact Sharon Bouyoucas (968-1892), if you have any questions.



Don't see your December birthday listed? Please let us know.



The Lakeside United Methodist Church Memorials Committee

Gifts made in honor of a loved one are used to enhance the worship service, or are used for beautification of the sanctuary or other church properties. The donor, or the family, may choose to designate the use of the funds. Please consider remembering a loved one in this manner. Contact Tom Harden for more information.

BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE

After the death of a member of the church family, the Bereavement Committee shows sympathy to, and concern for, the family by providing a simple meal after the funeral service.

The committee volunteers are led by Jean Crawford (561-584-4458) and Betty McMurchy (561-968-9497). If you would like to help this group by providing food, helping with set-up, or assisting with cleaning up, contact the ladies listed above.

While there is no charge for this service, donations to help defray the costs can be made payable to the church, with Caring Committee listed as the notation.

LAKESIDE'S GAME NIGHT

The 4th Monday is December 28, 2015; Games are played from 6:30PM until around 8:30PM. Bring a favorite game (maybe a new gift?), your own beverage, and a friend or two! Feel free to bring some leftover Christmas treats to share! All ages are welcomed at this activity.

CARD MINISTRY

Thanks to all the great people that signed a card for someone in the Military. We mailed 87 cards to the organization that distributes the cards! It will definitely brighten each recipient's day!

Please continue to stop by the Card-Signing Table each week. We have many folks in our Lakeside Family that appreciate receiving the cards signed by so many friends. Thanks for your continued support!



D O W L L (Dining Out With Lakeside Ladies)

Save the date! The 3rd Tuesday is **December 15, 2015**. This month the ladies are headed to Outback Steakhouse located at 6266 Lantana Road in the Pinewood Square Shopping Center on the SE corner of Lantana and Jog. Watch your paper (or online) for money-saving coupons!

As usual, if you plan to join us, contact Teresa Wilhelm by email, text, or phone, or you may call Carolyn at the church office. Please reserve your place **by 12:00 Noon on Tuesday, 12/15/15**. If you forget to call, you may still attend the activity, but we cannot promise that you will be sitting with our group.

Teresa Wilhelm; wilhelmwellness@gmail.com; 561-317-2808 cell
Carolyn/Church Office: 561-585-7519



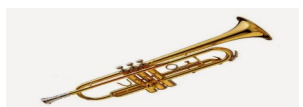
MATTHEW MEALS MINISTRY

As Pastor David says, "Be a blessing to others!"
Lakeside blesses our community with a hot, cooked meal on a Saturday at the end of every month. Why not volunteer to help with this ministry? Food prep begins at 2:00PM. The food is boxed in carry-out containers and given out at 4:00PM. Please prayerfully consider joining in this ministry. There is a place for you to help!
Saturday, December 19th will be the next Matthew Meals distribution.
For more information, see Sally Chennell.

FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY

Volunteers are needed to assist with this ministry on the 2nd Friday of this month. While the pantry hours are 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon, volunteers are needed 9:30AM –12:30PM. For more information, see Sally Chennell. The next date is Friday, December 11th. Distribution of food: 10:00 AM-12:00

**Put bow to string and lip to horn And let it be heard, a child is born;
Put lip to horn and stick to drum And make it known, the Christ is come.**



The Mission Jar Focus for December will be CROS Ministries.

Donations to CROS Ministries' Gifts of Hope, touch lives in powerful ways—

Gifts to CROS Ministries

- feed hungry children, families, seniors, individuals;
 - provide a safe and educational summer camp for children;
 - build community across diverse economic, religious, racial, and age groups;
 - support caring staff and volunteers;
 - ensure CROS Ministries continues to serve the hungry in our community.
- See your bulletin for more information and how to give.

KEENAGERS (THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING)

We wish to welcome back everyone age 50+ to our first "Keenager" meeting of the season. We'll meet in the Fellowship Hall at **11:30am** (new time) on Wednesday, Dec. 9, 2015, hosted by your officers. Please come and join us for a covered dish lunch and program. Bring enough to feed 10-12 people, a plate, a cup, and your own table service. We are excited to be getting together again on the 2nd Wednesday from December - April. See you there and invite a friend!

For more information call: Beverly/Marty Hartman @ 561-585-3058

Teresa Wilhelm @ 561-317-2808.

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. A marked container will be placed in the narthex Dec. 6th, 13th, and 20th 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 20th will be the last date to contribute.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

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

BOOKWORMS CIRCLE meets the first Monday, September thru May at 7 pm in Fellowship Hall. Meetings usually include a book report, devotions, brief business meeting & refreshments. Contact Chmn Shirley Turner (319-1354).

SUSANNA WESLEY CIRCLE meets the first Wednesday, September thru April at 10 am in the Library. Meetings usually include a “response” moment, devotions, brief business meeting & refreshments. Contact Chmn Peggy Morphesis (267-3588).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, Dec. 7– Bookworms Circle, Fellowship Hall, 7 pm. Contact Chmn Shirley Turner (586-8223).

Wednesday, Dec. 2– Susanna Wesley Circle, Library, 10 am. Contact Chmn Peggy Morphesis (267-3588).

SANCTUARY FLOWERS: The Altar Flower Calendar for 2016 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!

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.

Our florist in Greenacres was killed last month. It may take a little time to find another one. We may need to divide up the two floral arrangements so we have an arrangement for two families each Sunday instead of one. If that happens we should be able to reduce the price since you would get only one.

Never a Christmas morning, Never the old year ends,

But someone thinks of someone, Old days, Old times, Old friends.

Did you know Lakeside has a paper recycling program?

There is large recycling container at the south end of the parking lot. It is for paper ONLY! Please put your newspapers, magazines, catalogs, and office paper in the bin. Lakeside receives \$\$ from this program.

Non-acceptable items are listed below:

Plastic bags

Phone books

Wrapping paper or bows

Wax or plastic covered paper

Cardboard or trash

PLEASE DO NOT PUT THESE ITEMS IN THE BIN!

This is an easy way to raise funds for our church. Spread the word! Tell your friends!

For more information, contact Carolyn in the church office: 585-7519



COLLECTIBLE RECYCLABLES

Recycling is the way of the future! The folks at Lakeside UMC want to do their part to help the environment and other groups of people. Here is a list of the things we are asking you to save and take to church:

Newspaper (Put in large metal bin in parking lot near the Church Office)

Box-Tops for Education

Pop-Top Tabs

Labels for Education

Metal Bottle Caps

Restaurant Coupons

Used Greeting cards

Ink Cartridges

Plastic Bottle Caps

For more information see Sally Chennell, Anne Fralick, or Teresa Wilhelm

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 20th.

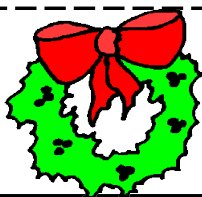
Hello Gleaners!

Can you believe we are weeks away from the start of gleaning season, and we need your help!

There will be no gleaning until further notice. The corn is not ready. Gleaning will resume in December.

We are excited to be starting the season soon. See you in the fields! Keith Cutshall

For more information about gleaning, please contact Keith at kcutshall@crosmministries.org or 561-233-9009 x107.



MEALS ON WHEELS

Do you know someone that cannot shop or prepare hot meals for themselves? The **Meals On Wheels** organization has now expanded to our Lake Osborne area! **Meals on Wheels** focuses on caring for individuals whose diminished mobility makes it hard to shop for food and prepare meals. Generally, the program serves adults age 60 and over. The program begins via an application and leads to an assessment of the need for meals.

At the core of the **Meals on Wheels** service is a nutritious meal, companionship and a watchful eye on the health and safety of our seniors. Adequate nutrition is necessary for health, functionality and the ability to remain independent.

Meals on Wheels ensures that seniors have access to adequate nutrition even when family support, mobility and resources are lacking. For many seniors, the trusted **Meals on Wheels** volunteer who shows up every day with a hot meal and a warm smile is the only person they see or speak with all day. The safety check that accompanies each meal delivery ensures that, in the case of an emergency or problem, medics will be called, families will be notified and our seniors will not be forgotten. Depending on individual circumstances, meals are provided on a sliding fee scale.

There are informational flyers on the Narthex table. Take one for yourself or a friend.

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 19th. The Dollar Stores have many things that are very economically priced.



May the blessings of God be with you,

May the Christ child light your way,

May the Holy Spirit guide you

to keep you safe each day.



Ancient Christian Symbols as Christmas Ornaments and *Chrismons

Ascension Lutheran Church, Danville, VA, holds the copyright on the word "Chrismons". It was given to them by Mrs. Frances Spencer, who originated the concept and brought it to fruition in that church in 1957.

WHAT'S A CHRISMON?

Chrismons are a type of Christmas Tree decoration used in many churches and often in the homes of Christians. The symbols used represent a variety of biblical and theological concepts that are well known among most believers. Often, if the ornaments on a Christmas tree are comprised mostly of Christian symbols, the tree is known as a "Chrismon Tree." Chrismons are white with gold decorations of beads, ribbon, glitter, etc. It is common, however, to see these ancient Christian designs in other colors than white and gold. These would not be Chrismons, however, but simply Christian symbols -- and there's nothing wrong with that!

THE PURPOSE: A WONDERFUL CHURCH FELLOWSHIP AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION PROJECT!

Gather your church group together, study what these symbols mean, and make a collection of them as ornaments for your church and hang them on a tree! The idea is to have fellowship and learn, as much as it is to create something beautiful for your church.

We have new Chrismon Trees this year. Several people have been making new Chrismons. Please check them out on the trees. If you want to know more about Chrismons and their meanings, there are booklets in the Narthex.



Lakeside United
Methodist Church

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David Branson, Pastor

Newsletter Editor:

Carolyn Ludwig

**We have a Place for
You!**

Sunday Small groups

8:45 AM

Sunday worship

10:00 AM

**2016 Leadership Council for Lakeside United
Methodist Church**

Leadership Council Chairman: Bob Going

Pastor: David Branson

Lay Leader: Michael Garrett

Treasurer: Barbara Russum

Trustees: Garfield King (Chairman)

Anne McCartney

Lane Laubscher

Staff Parish: Marilynne Tilley (Chairman)

Bill Taylor

Donna Harris

Finance: Ken Chennell (Chairman)

Barbara Russum

Wendell Waltman

To Mail or Not To Mail?

That *IS* the question!

Included in this newsletter is a post card asking you to contact the church about receiving this monthly newsletter. Costs are rising. Saving trees is important.

Please respond before the deadline, 12/31/2015. If we do not hear from you, we assume you will be reading the news online and your name will be removed from the mailing list. Thank you for helping to keep expenditures low and "Going Green"!

Choir

Lakeside Chancel Choir
practices on Thursdays
at 7 PM in the Library.
Make a joyful noise unto
the Lord! See Wendell
Waltman if you have
questions.