

LAKESIDE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
LAKESIDE LANTERN
SHARING THE GRACE OF GOD IN OUR 60TH YEAR

DECEMBER

COMING EVENTS IN DECEMBER

December 5 - **Advent Bible Study** 7pm Fellowship Hall

“Christmas Gifts That Won't Break”, by James W. Moore with Jacob Armstrong, explores God's unbreakable gifts: hope, love, joy, and peace.

December 9 - **UMM/UMW Holiday Pot Luck Meal**

Fellowship Hall after Worship Service

December 12 - **Advent Bible Study** 7pm Fellowship Hall

December 14 - **Food Pantry** 10am-Noon Fellowship Hall

A bag of non-perishable food is given to those in need.

December 16 - **Christmas Cantata** 10am Sanctuary

December 19 - **Advent Bible Study** 7pm Fellowship Hall

December 22 - **Matthew Meals** 4-6 pm Fellowship Hall

Hot meals given in take home containers to those in need.

December 24 - **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

7pm Sanctuary

An evening of singing carols and lighting candles in preparation of our Lord Jesus Christ's Birthday.



What is Advent?

The season of Advent, which comes from the Latin word *adventus* meaning "coming" or "visit," begins four Sundays before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. Advent is the beginning of the liturgical year for Christians.

[Liturgical -- from liturgy, which means the forms and functions of public worship.]

During Advent, we prepare for, and anticipate, the coming of Christ. We remember the longing of Jews for a Messiah and our own longing for, and need of, forgiveness, salvation and a new beginning. Even as we look back and celebrate the birth of Jesus in a humble stable in Bethlehem, we also look forward anticipating the second coming of Christ as the fulfillment of all that was promised by his first coming.

O Come All Ye Faithful

What do the candles in our Advent wreath mean?

The Advent wreath, four candles on a wreath of evergreen, is shaped in a perfect circle to symbolize the eternity of God. In some churches, four purple candles, one for each week in Advent, are used with one larger white candle in the middle as the Christ candle. Other churches prefer three purple or blue candles with one candle being rose or pink, to represent joy.

While the Advent wreath with its four candles did bring light to churches, it was not to illuminate the interior as much as to symbolize the coming of Christ. The Advent wreath began in the time of the Protestant reformer Martin Luther.

During each Sunday of the Advent season, we focus on one of the four virtues Jesus brings us: Hope, Love, Joy and Peace. Others consider the lighting of the first candle to symbolize expectation, while the second symbolizes hope, the third joy and the fourth purity. The Christ candle is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day reminding Christians that Jesus is the light of the world. The order and exact wording vary among churches, but the wreath continually reminds us of whom we are called to be as followers of Jesus.

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 Fourth Sunday of Advent & Christmas Eve Bulletins.

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

Lakeside United Methodist Church

1901 12th Ave S.,

Lake Worth, FL 33461

The last date to contribute is December 16th.



SAVE THE DATE - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9TH 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!

The Lakeside Finance Committee would like to thank you for all of your donations throughout the year to our Church Mission Jar Focus and Missions. Your continued support is appreciated in our ministry to the community and others around the world.

Mission Jar Focus

The **December Mission Jar Focus** will be CROS Christmas. We will be collecting donations of cash in the Mission Jar to help CROS provide families with help for Christmas.

Cash or checks accepted. Checks should be made payable to Lakeside UMC with "CROS Ministries Gift of Hope" on the memo line.

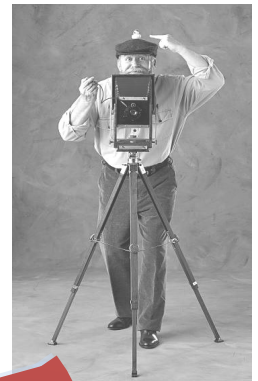
Last day, December 2nd to donate to this Mission Jar.



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

NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY COMING

It's time!! It's time to update our pictorial directory. We will photograph all families and friends January 16-19, 2019, here at the church. Be sure to save the date! Our directory won't be complete without you! Watch the newsletters and Sunday bulletins for more information as we get closer to January.



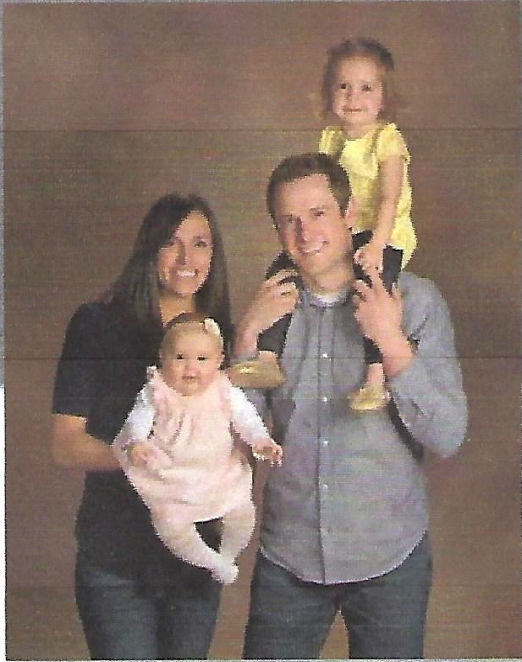
SAVE THE DATE!

"Hello family/friends.

You're invited to be a part of our new photo directory. Our last directory was printed in 2014. As you look around you today, you will see that we have new families; there have been weddings, and even some babies! The directory is a great resource tool to help us connect names with faces. Every participating family receives a free 8x10 portrait and a printed copy of our directory. Our directory won't be complete without you! Sign up today."

Connect Cards

Please remember to sign your name on the **Connect Card** every week. If you have changes, please indicate the new information on the card. **We want to have your current information for Lakeside's new directory!** These cards are also used to document attendance for the church's annual reports and to keep your contact information current. Thank you!



You are invited to

♥

Capture Memories for a Lifetime

Be a part of our new family directory program. Our goal is to include everyone!



We are partnering with Lifetouch for professional photography that will connect our families and tell our story.

Create treasured keepsakes
 More information will be coming soon about scheduling your photography session.

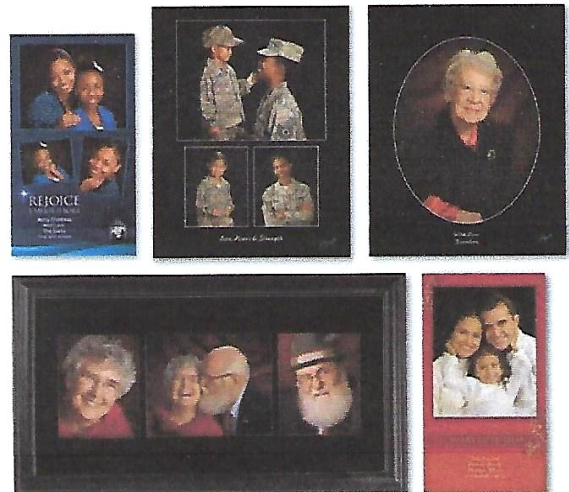
Convenient

Lifetouch will photograph at our location. In your one-hour session you will:

- Be professionally photographed
- Immediately view your portraits
- Be able to purchase portrait gifts



Each family will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait & directory for participating



Exclusive products for your cherished memories

Hangings of the Greens - Christmas is such a special time of year- a time of **celebration, family, and the birth of our Lord.** With this in mind, you are invited to join together as we prepare the house of our Lord to celebrate His birth. There are jobs for every skill level, so everyone can help. Come **Saturday, December 1st at 9 AM** to the Sanctuary to make Lakeside UMC ready for the Advent Season.

JOY TO THE WORLD

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. 2nd, 9th, and 16th 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), Gary Simmons (sound tech), Christina Harden & Teresa Wilhelm (Sunday School Teachers and nursery attendants), Destiny (nursery helper), Luann Call (bookkeeper), and Gary Fitzgerald (custodian). December 16th will be the last date to contribute.



Advent Bible Study will meet on Wednesdays, December 5th, 12th & 19th at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. "Christmas Gifts That Won't Break", by James W. Moore with Jacob Armstrong.

"The study explores the spirit of Christmas. As you light the candles on your Advent wreath, reflect on the unbreakable gifts that God has given us: hope, love, joy, and peace. And remember God's greatest gift, Jesus Christ, who comes to us as a baby and leads us through all the days of our lives.

Sunday School/Kids Church

We are looking for small boxes WITH SEPARATE LIDS (shoebox or shirt size) for an ongoing project. Please drop them off at the Card Signing Table. Thank you.

Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 16th, 2018 at 10 AM

“WHEN EARTH RECEIVED HER KING”

Created, Arranged and Orchestrated by Marty Parks.

God's people had long awaited a King. Scriptures prophesied of His coming, and with great desire and longing, His people waited. To some, when He finally came, the simplicity of His birth seemed to contradict the magnitude of His purpose. Born in a humble stable..."Born a Child and yet a King": Prophecy foretold it..."Unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given...And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince Of Peace." Thus was the stage set for the day when Earth received her King. "When Earth Received Her King" features new songs written by Marty Parks, a nostalgic song by his father, the late Joe E. Parks, along with favorite carols and select songs of the seasons all designed to bring praise to Jesus Christ, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

O Sing a Song of Bethlehem



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 22nd. The Dollar Stores have many things that are very economically priced.

UMW WOMEN

**Bookworms– Monday,
December 3rd, at 7 PM in
Fellowship Hall.**

**Susanna Wesley Circle–
Wednesday, December
5th at 10 AM in Library.**

KEENAGERS

The first meeting of the season will be held Wednesday, December 12, 2018, at 11:30am in the Fellowship Hall. The hosts will be your officers! Please bring a dish to share (10-12 servings) and the serving utensils needed to serve it. Also bring your **own** plate, silverware, and beverage cup. (We don't "do dishes" at Keenager meetings!)

The December get-together will be a business meeting to make plans for the 2019 season. Bring your calendar and be prepared to choose a date to host a Keenager meeting. EVERYONE takes a turn to co-host one meeting January through April.

Any questions? Contact Teresa Wilhelm, President, at 561-317-2808.

Your other Keenager officers are:

Beverly Hartman, Vice President

Marty Hartman, Treasurer

Nancy Gettys, Secretary

Jean Crawford, Sunshine

UMW BAZAAR A special thanks to all who helped the Lakeside UMW raise \$2,400 at their Holiday Bazaar.



2019 35th United Methodist Florida Conference Women's Retreat

Theme: "...got joy?"

Life Enrichment Center, 4991 Picciola Rd., Fruitland Park, FL 34731

Weekend 1- February 8—10, 2019

Weekend 2- March 8 -10, 2019

Register at: www.flumc.org/floridaconferencewomensretreats

Click on the weekend you want to attend.

Cost is \$190.00 (per person, based on double occupancy, including all meals + snacks).

Speak to Jane Harden if you have any questions.

DECEMBER AT A GLANCE

01- WORLD AIDS DAY

Men's Breakfast Group

02- 1st Sunday of Advent

Holy Communion

03- Bookworms

04- Boy Scouts

05- Susanna Wesley Circle

Advent Bible Study

06- Choir Rehearsal

07- AA Meeting

08-

09- 2nd Sunday of Advent

UMW/UMM Church

Holiday Pot Luck

Luncheon

10-

11- Boy Scouts

12- Keenagers

Leadership Council

Advent Bible Study

13- Choir rehearsal

14- Food Pantry

AA Meeting

15-

16- 3rd Sunday of Advent

Christmas Cantata

17- Book Club

18- Boy Scouts

19- Advent Bible Study

20- Choir rehearsal

21- AA Meeting

22- Matthew Meals

23- 4th Sunday of Advent

24- Christmas Eve Service

25- CHRISTMAS

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

26- Advent Bible Study

27- Choir rehearsal

28-

29-

30- 1st Sunday after Christ-

mas Day

Children's Home Offering

31- Watch Night

New Year's Eve

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The Altar Flower Calendar for 2019 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!

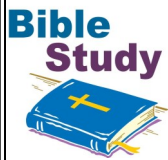
The cost is \$40 per Sunday.

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.



Deck the Halls

Lighthouse Academy is renting our classrooms again this year. The students are still using our Fellowship Hall for their lunch room from 11:30 AM -1 PM . Please be mindful of the time that you enter so as to not disturb them. Also, be mindful of your driving in the parking lot so we can all be safe. Thank you.



Advent Bible Study- started on November 28th and continues on Wednesdays, 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. See article below.

UMM MEN

Men's Breakfast Group will meet on Saturday, December 1st in the Fellowship Hall at 8 AM.

Gleaning

DECEMBER

Saturday	12/01/2018	Belle Glade/Clewiston
Saturday	12/08/2018	Belle Glade/Clewiston
Saturday	12/15/2018	Belle Glade/Clewiston
Saturday	12/22/2018	Belle Glade
Saturday	12/29/2018	Belle Glade

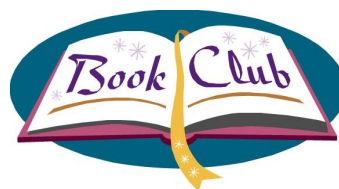
You must sign up for each event ahead of the day.

You can register for gleaning events on our website <http://crosministries.org/gleaning/> or by emailing Keith at keutshall@crosministries.org.

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



Lakeside Chancel Choir meets on Thursdays at 7 PM. Please contact Wendell if you wish to join them.



Book Club will meet on Monday, December 17th at 12 PM at Atlantis Grill. Contact Sharon Bouyoucas at 968-1892.

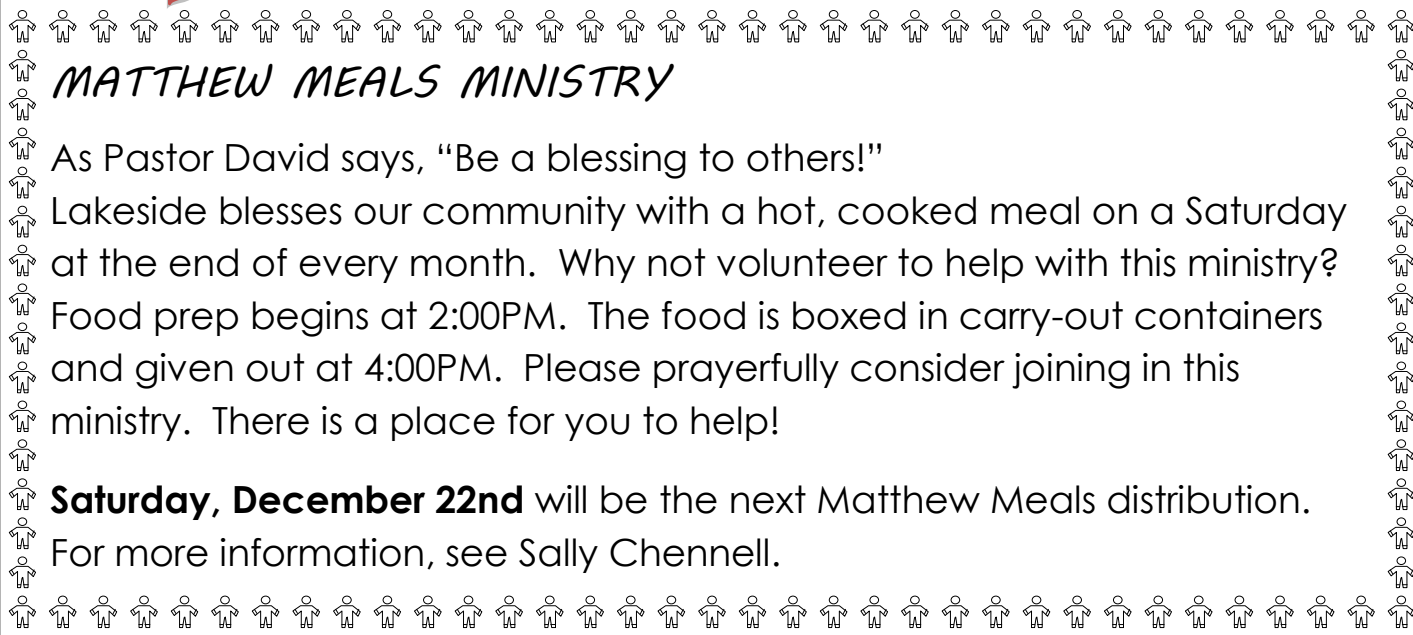
DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 6 Pastor Rachel Hollingsworth
- 7 Susan Sylvester
- 8 Judy Jaksch
- 10 Catherine Shelton
- 11 Beverly Josephson Andrew Loor
- 16 Glenisha Browne John Meyer
- 18 Ellen Keene Clare Shore
- 18 Tawayna Elder
- 20 Annetta Boer
- 21 Janice Hatt
- 24 Bernice Ohannes
- 27 Teresa Chesnut
- 29 Chris Boer
- 30 Rosalie Frye
- 31 Karen Schneider

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

Please notify the Church Office if you have a change of address, phone number, or email address. Thanks.

DATE CHANGE DUE TO HOLIDAYS



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 22nd will be the next Matthew Meals distribution. For more information, see Sally Chennell.

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

We often hear the comment, "I would like to donate to the Food Pantry, but I don't know what they need!" Here is a list of items that are always needed:

- | | | |
|---------------|--------------|--|
| Baby Food | Baby Diapers | Baby Wipes |
| Peanut Butter | Jelly | Big Boxes of Cereal |
| Canned Pasta | Rice | Spaghetti |
| Canned Soup | Canned Fruit | <u>CLEAN</u> plastic grocery bags |

Remember "Buy One, Get One" offers are a great way to help without spending a lot of cash!

Put your donations on the stage nearest the Food Pantry closet.

Thank you so very much for your help!

FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY

Volunteers are needed to assist with this ministry on the 3rd 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 14th. Distribution of food: 10:00 AM-12:00 PM.



Lakeside United Methodist Mission Statement

Sharing the grace of God through: Worship, Sacraments, Fellowship,
Prayer, Study, Service, Witness, and Love.

Vision Statement

Be a welcoming church reaching people with God's love within our
community and beyond.

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.

NEW CHURCH ADDRESS- Please make the change on your address books, computers, etc.

Lakeside United Methodist Church

1901 12th Ave. S., Lake Worth, FL 33461

Advent Devotion by the Rev. Jerry Chism

Oh Immanuel, God with us, truly in this Advent season we celebrate that you are not hidden in some faraway cloud, but you chose to be with us in the blur and mystery of our lives.

In the midst of lists and rush, you are with us as a song that echoes in our minds, as the light of a candle, as a card from a friend. They are signs of your presence.

We turn to you this season and pray that you would birth joy and healing, blessing and hope in us.

Let something wonderful begin in us — something surprising and holy.

May your hand be upon us. Let your love fill us. Let your joy overwhelm us.

Let our longing for you be met on a coming holy night. Immanuel with us once again.

Amen.

Lakeside United
Methodist Church

1901 12th Ave. S.
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Email:

lumc_lw@bellsouth.net

www.lakesideumchurch.org

David Branson, Pastor

Newsletter Editor:

Carolyn Ludwig

**We have a Place for
You!**

Sunday Small Groups 8:45 AM

Sunday Worship 10:00 AM

Stable

Most scholars believe that the stable referred to in the Gospels was most likely a cave built into the rocks behind, or adjacent to, the inn, which illustrates the divine truth that the Son of God came down to the very heart of the earth to dwell among humanity. Later, the cave would be revered as Christ's burial place, from which he would be resurrected.

Nativity scenes: More than meets the eye

A UMC.org Feature by Lilla Marigza

Nativity scenes are a common sight at [Christmas-time](#) but what could seem like a simple decoration actually has a lot of spiritual lessons if you look hard enough. St. Francis of Assisi created [the first crèche in 1223](#), in an attempt to bring the focus of Christmas back to the birth of Christ and away from material, gift-giving customs.

Jesus' outstretched arms

The Christ Child's outstretched arms reflect the invitation to salvation through him.

Hands over heart

At times, Mary is seen with hands clutched over her heart, alluding to St. Luke's account:
"But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart."

(Luke 2: 19)

Shepherds

The shepherds represent the common man. They also reference David, the shepherd who became king, and indicate Christ's ancestral lineage.

Lambs

Having accompanied the shepherds, lambs are almost always present. The lamb symbolizes purity and points toward Jesus' sacrificial death upon the cross.