

**LAKESIDE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**LAKESIDE LANTERN**  
**SHARING THE GRACE OF GOD IN OUR 63RD YEAR**

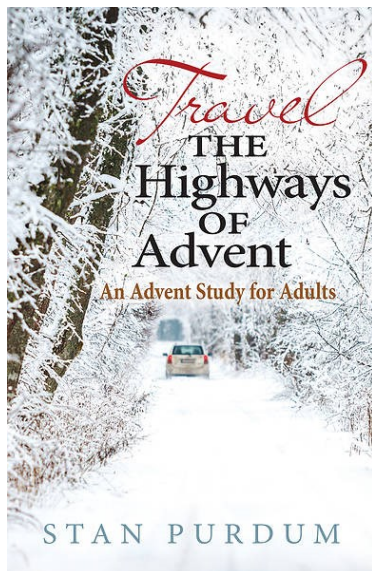
# DECEMBER

**Advent Bible Study starting Wednesday, December 1st**

**at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.**

**If you need a book let us know or come to the office to pick one up.**

**Call before coming to make sure someone is here.**



Engage in spiritual practices and grow in faith during Advent.

There's a difference between standing and looking down a road and putting one foot in front of the other and walking down the road. That's the premise of this thematic Advent study for individuals or small groups. Instead of merely reading and talking about growing in faith this season, *Travel the Highways of Advent* uses each chapter to show you how to take what you learn from the Bible and apply it to everyday, practical life experiences, nurturing your faith development and spiritual growth as you journey down the pathway to Jesus.

## **An Epic Year of Gratitude and Praise**

The only way through hard times is ... well, through them.

You can't go over, under or around difficult seasons.

You simply plow through, one step at a time.

Last year was hard. And that didn't go away  
because the calendar flipped to 2021.

But there is still good in *the* world.

*This month, is another letter of gratitude which is more of a sermon by a pastor. His name is Pastor Don Baker. He used to have a church here in West Palm Beach. He and his family have moved many times as the Lord has led them. Hopefully, his message will speak to you too.*

My pessimist self looks at this past weekend and realizes how adept our culture is at secularizing all of life. We have taken a holiday set aside to give thanks to God and turned it into a day of gluttony and a kick-off to a month of lusting.

My optimist self counters that at many tables God was praised, and assures me that during the next four weeks I can choose a path that is different than the world's--different, even, than the one I walked last year.

As I observe the frenzy of purchasing gifts, I am reminded of the strangest thank-you note I have ever read. It was a note written by the Apostle Paul to the church in Philippi to say thank you for a financial gift that had been brought to him by Epaphroditus, a member of that church. It's an odd note, first of all, because Paul waits until the end of his letter to even mention the gift (my mother always taught me to lead with that). Then, when he does finally mention the gift, he says that he didn't really need it, even though it was clear to everyone else that he did. Paul was actually in prison at the time, so you know he needed help.

Like everything else he wrote, Paul's thank you note contains a whole lot of wisdom. Wisdom I'd like to share with you as we face this season of giving and getting.

The note is found in Philippians 4:10-19:

I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. 11 I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. 12 I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. 13 I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

**CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE**

14 Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles. 15 Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; 16 for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need. 17 Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account. 18 I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. 19 And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

From this thank-you note, I would like to point out four principles:

1. Giving is an opportunity to put feelings into action. In verse 10, Paul says he knew the Philippians cared about him, but care without action is incomplete. Their gift was a way to give expression to what had been, until then, only a feeling.
- 2, My gifts will not fill the real need. Although Paul seems to be saying in verses 11-13 that he didn't need the money, he did need it, and I'm sure he used it. However, Paul wants to make clear that contentment comes from within our hearts and not from anything that people are able to give us. The secret of contentment is God's strength working through us.
3. Giving connects me to another person. Paul says in verse 14 that the gift has made them partners because they have now shared his troubles. Through their giving, they have sat beside Paul in his prison cell. He goes on to say in verses 15 and 16 that the gifts they sent have created a special bond between them.
4. Giving enhances life for the giver. In verse 17, Paul reveals that his real desire is not what the Philippians' money will do for him, but what giving it does for them. It gave them the satisfaction of knowing that a need had been met because they got to be God's means of meeting it (verse 18), the offering had been received by God as an acceptable and pleasing sacrifice (verse 18), and their gift had unlocked God's storehouse of provisions for future needs (verse 19).

My prayer is that this Christmas will be different and your giving will bring glory to Christ.

By Pastor Don Baker



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.

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 Matthew Meals***

***UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief)***

***Florida United Methodist Children's Home***

***Names of donors and honorees will be printed in the newsletter & available at worship services.***

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 19th.**

**Music Notes**

**Please mark your calendars.**

**On December 19, 2021, at the 10:00 am service,  
Harpist, Kay Kemper will be providing beautiful  
harp music for our service that day.**

**Please plan to attend.**

**Wendell**

## **UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

From its beginning United Methodist Women has focused on the needs of women, youth and children. We support programs and projects that aim to improve the special needs of women, youth and children in the United States and abroad.

In “normal” times our members meet in small groups called circles for programs that include Bible study, fellowship, prayer, and information on local and world-wide missions. Our meetings are open to all women. Because of Covid, we have not been able to meet together for over a year. Hopefully, we will be able to resume meeting in 2022.

Mission giving makes mission happen – in our community and around the world. To support the mission work of the United Methodist Women members pledge their financial support to the local unit. Your gifts matter. Your Pledge to Mission is a gift to the local unit to fund our programs and mission support. Usually these pledges are turned in to the circles and then on to our unit treasurer.

Please consider completing your pledge for this year if you haven’t done so. The World Thank Offering is one of United Methodist Women’s five channels of undesignated mission giving. Traditionally this offering is collected in November. You can put your offering in an envelope, mark it UMW World Thank Offering and give it to Barbara Russum or Betty McMurchy on Sunday, put in the offering plate or drop off at the church office. If you mail them to the church office (1901 12 Ave. S, Lake Worth 33461) please indicate offerings are for the UMW, Attention Barbara Russum.

Thanks for all you do for Lakeside, United Methodist Women and each other.

Nancy Gettys, President  
561-622-8309  
Nancygettys13@hotmail.com

## **ASSEMBLY 2022**

Every four years United Methodist Women meet for Assembly! Thousands of women from all over the country meet for seminars, workshops, special programs, guest speakers, music, an exhibit hall and much more! Assembly 2022 will be held at the Convention Center in Orlando, Florida, May 20-22, 2022! (Previous locations have been Anaheim, Philadelphia, St. Louis, and Louisville.) Assembly is awesome!! For more information and registration go to United Methodist Women Assembly.



## COMING EVENTS IN DECEMBER

December 1 - **Advent Bible Study** 6 pm Fellowship Hall

December 2 - **CROS Food Pantry** 4 –6 pm, end of Fellowship Hall

December 4- **Men's Breakfast Group** 8 am

December 8 - **Advent Bible Study** 6 pm Fellowship Hall

December 13– **Book Club End of Year Luncheon** 12 pm

December 15 - **Advent Bible Study** 6 pm Fellowship Hall

December 16 - **CROS Food Pantry** 4 –6 pm, end of Fellowship Hall

December 18 - **Matthew Meals** 4-6 pm Fellowship Hall

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

December 22 - **Advent Bible Study** 6 pm Fellowship Hall

December 24 - **Winter Holiday for Church Office**– Office Closed.

### Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

7 pm Sanctuary

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

December 25– **CHRISTMAS, HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS!**

December 29- **Advent Bible Study** 6 pm Fellowship Hall.

December 30- **CROS Food Pantry** 4 –6 pm, end of Fellowship Hall

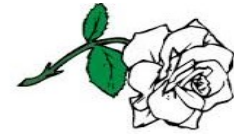
December 31– **Church Office Closed.**





## 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. 5th, 12th, and 19th 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), Luann Call (bookkeeper), Christina Harden & Teresa Wilhelm (Children & Nursery), and Kym Grumsha (custodian). December 19th will be the last date to contribute.



## 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.

## Book Club

**Luncheon will be on December 13, 2021. Likely at Noon**

**Likely at LW Municipal Golf Course. 1 7th Ave. N., LWB**



**Janet will have to confirm the reservation a week before ... SO ... PUT IT ON YOUR CALENDAR and then wait for a confirmation.**

**Meanwhile — PLEASE — let me know if you hope to join us for the luncheon on Dec. 13. (It was moved up a week so that it wouldn't be during the week of Christmas). So far I've only gotten 4 yesses and 1 maybe. (3 no). That's only 1/2 responding. ????**

**I'm working on the list of presenters and their selected books for 2022. I'll get it out to you ASAP.**

**Karyn Columbo has picked her choice for our January meeting.**

**Still Life by Louise Penny**

**There are quite a few available through the PBC Library System. The date will be January 17. Not sure at this point if we can gather or stick with Zoom.**

## Matthew Meals

**Matthew Meals will be on December 18th this month from 4 - 6 PM.**

We will follow the most recent CDC regulations for the preparing of the food and providing the food to the public. Due to the new social distancing concept, if people are interested in helping, please reach out to Bob Going 561-951-4533 or Robynne Ryals 561-719-5464.

Good Meals



and Good  
Helpers



## FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY

**THE CROS FOOD PANTRY IS ON THE 1<sup>ST</sup>, 3<sup>RD</sup> AND 5<sup>TH</sup> THURSDAY  
OF EACH MONTH IN THE AFTERNOON.**

**Remember all you need to bring is a picture ID and something with your current address on it. The next Food Pantries will be on Thursdays, December 2nd, 16th, & 30th from 4 – 6 PM. We will be partnering with CROS Ministries, who will be bringing the food to pass out from their truck.**

**At this writing they will still be coming to give out already bagged food to people. Because the Pantry is held outside on the porch if it is raining they do not come.**

**Church and Mission giving**– Our giving has to be modified to accommodate the new reality of not gathering in person. Electronic giving through PayPal is the best way to do this. Many of you are already on our giving platform. If you are not giving electronically, this would be a good time to do that. You can click on the giving option on our website at [lakesideumchurch.org](http://lakesideumchurch.org) under the GIVING banner

If you prefer to make your gifts by check, you can mail it to:

Lakeside UMC,  
1901 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue S.  
Lake Worth, FL 33461



# PRAYER REQUESTS



**Pastor David**  
**Police and Military personnel**  
**Health Care workers and First Responders**  
**COVID-19 deaths and illness**

**Cancer:**  
**Marilynne Tilley**  
**Lane Laubscher**  
**Kathy Staszak**

**Other Health:**  
**David & Marilyn VanVleet**  
**Helen Branson**  
**Wanda Laubscher- Lupus.**  
**Selburn & Joan Dacres**  
**Carl Linderson**  
**Don & Peggy Morphesis**  
**Vinnie Manna**  
**Albert Jordan**  
**Debby & Jim Aliff**  
**Debby, friend of Barbara Russum**  
**Destiny Harden**  
**Beverly Josefson**  
**Donna Linderson**  
**Ken & Linda Friend**  
**Mary Ann Giel**  
**Donna Harris**

**Dan & Mo Walsh**  
**Tom Roenbeck**  
**Mary Degens**  
**Ron Swift**  
**Jeff Staszak**  
**Tony Merrill**  
**Nanci Branson**  
**Susan Marshall**  
**Rowan Fry**  
**Mo Walsh**  
**Chuck Blankenship**  
**Shari Tarazon**  
**Stanley Moretz**  
**Wade Martin**  
**Tom & Jane Harden**  
**Beverly Engler & Kathy Chandler -**  
**Hospice Care**

## Breakfast Fellowship

You are invited to join the Breakfast Fellowship Group that meets on Wednesday mornings at 8 am at the Kona Bay Café located at 310 E Ocean Ave, Lantana, FL 33462

A time of food, friends and fellowship.

## THANK YOU FROM MINISTRIES WE GIVE TO

Dear Lakeside Friends,

Thank you for giving to empower women facing crisis pregnancies to choose life and hear the good news of Jesus Your gift is making a difference for life right here in your community!

Without you, hundreds of hurting women would not have a place where they and their unborn babies are valued, loved, and protected. We deeply appreciate you and your support.

Yours in faith, Beau Heyman

Executive Director of First Care Women's Clinic

Dear Congregants,

Thank you for your generous donation to assist those impacted by the Surfside Condo collapse. We continue to be humbled by how our amazing God moves through his people to provide for those who have experienced the heartbreak and devastation of this unforeseen disaster. Your generosity supports the recovery of not only survivors, but families and loved ones of residents. Everyone affected needs the hope and strength that comes from being blessed by sacrificial kindness during difficult times like these.

The Florida Conference Disaster Recovery Ministry has been able to support and aid over 121 families/survivors and loved ones of residents thus far and is committed to partnering in these efforts until all those in need have been assisted.

Through your financial support, you are a part of a bigger story of bringing God's love, grace, and light to hundreds of our brothers and sisters in need. On behalf of all of those impacted by this tragedy, thank you for reaching out your hands in support.

Sincerely, Trish Warren

Conference Disaster Response Coordinator

Dear Friends in Mission,

Thank you! The dear people you just helped with your gift to UMCOR may never have the opportunity to meet you, but if they did, I am certain their response would be- Thank you!

Through your financial support you are serving within a vital network of interactive relationships in the U.S. and in more than 60 countries in which UMCOR and partnering agencies engage in direct ministry to persons in need.

Grace and Peace, Roland Fernandez

General Secretary of Global Ministries

## THANK YOU FROM MINISTRIES WE GIVE TO

Dear Friends,

New beginnings happen each year because of your generosity. Through your love and support, our children are able to realize a new beginning that they never thought was possible. Chloe is a 17 year old girl who came to us after a failed adoption. She was originally removed from her birth home as a result of abuse, and she still carries that trauma with her today. Through the support of her therapist and house parents, as well as the other staff at the Children's Home, she's learning that the past isn't her fault and her future is wide open.

Chloe recently was accepted into a GED program at Daytona State College and is expected to complete the program before summer. Now she is setting her sights on college, and is looking forward to beginning classes in the fall, all thanks to your support.

New beginnings for children like Chloe are only possible through your loving gifts, which translate into providing the children with therapy, education, clothing and daily living necessities to reach their potential. The Lord tells us in the book of Job, "And though your beginning was small, your latter days will be very great." And you are certainly making great things happen here at the Children's Home.

From our children and staff, thank you for your continued love, support, and prayers.

Sincerely, Elisabeth Gadd, MNM, CFRE

Chief Development Officer at the Florida United Methodist Children's Home

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your donation to CROS Ministries. With your gift, we can distribute bags of food from the community food pantries, provide meals to anyone who is hungry through our Caring Kitchen program in Delray Beach, give out food to families with children through our camp meal distribution program, and make client referrals to our partner agencies for other community services.

For 43 years, CROS Ministries has been a constant presence in the community, "standing in the gap" for our hungry neighbors in Palm Beach and Martin Counties. Our mission is to serve the hungry in Palm Beach and Martin Counties through community collaborations. We use the talents of more than 3,500 volunteers to help families and individuals from falling into the downward spiral of poverty, food insecurity, and in many case, homelessness.

With gratitude, Ruth Mageria

Executive Director of CROS Ministries

Lakeside United  
Methodist Church

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

Phone: 561-585-7519

Fax: 561-585-7519

Email: lumc\_lw@bellsouth.net

www.lakesideumchurch.org

David Branson, Pastor

Newsletter Editor:

Carolyn Ludwig

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



### December Birthdays

- 6 Pastor Rachel Hollingsworth
- 7 Susan Sylvester
- 10 Catherine Shelton
- 11 Beverly Josephson  
Andrew Loor
- 16 Glenisha Browne
- 18 Ellen Keene
- 20 Annetta Boer
- 21 Janice Hatt
- 27 Teresa Chesnut
- 29 Chris Boer
- 30 Rosalie Frye

**We have a Place for  
You!**

### **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.



### **CROS Ministries Gleaning Opportunity**

Bridge the gap and become a Hunger Hero by donating your time. Help us continue to get fresh food to the tables of those that need it most, while reducing food waste in our State.

Did you know it's now easier than ever to Volunteer for one (or more) of our Gleaning Opportunities? Check out the link on our website <https://www.crosministries.org/gleaning> and register to join us for an upcoming event.

