

LAKESIDE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
LAKESIDE LANTERN
SHARING THE GRACE OF GOD IN OUR 62ND YEAR

FEBRUARY

When You're Facing a Tough Decision

I am the most indecisive person I know....**at least, I think I am.** Maybe I'm not.

On top of that, I am a chronic people pleaser.

Add those things together, and **you can imagine the anxiety I accidentally carry around most days when it comes to making decisions.**

This was obvious again recently when we had an illness outbreak in our office. My husband has a chronic illness and is immunocompromised, so we've had to be extra careful over the last couple of years. We're trying to live our lives, but we also have to take more precautions than the average person.

With cases surging, I found myself having to make some hard decisions that I'm no stranger to: what do I need to cancel? What should I say no to? Do I need to work from home? And once again, **I started to shut down by the weight of trying to make the right decision while making everyone around me happy.**

When I get to that place, I have to remind myself of the only thing I can do: **make the next right decision.**

Psalms 119:105 says, "**Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path.**" There are days where I wish God gave us a giant spotlight on the road ahead of us so we could properly plan out the next year, month, or even day.

But consistently, time after time, **He continues to guide us forward one step at a time.** And so that's my prayer today: "**God, show me the next right thing. Because I can't do this without Your guidance.**"

The Bekah Show, WAY-FM

The Lord's Prayer: The Meaning and Power

January 10th, 2022

By Adam Hamilton

In Luke 11, one of Jesus's disciples approaches and makes a simple request: "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John [the Baptist] taught his disciples" (v. 1). In response, Jesus teaches the disciples what has become known as the Our Father or the Lord's Prayer. No other prayer is more important to Christians than this prayer. It is the Lord's prayer—the prayer he taught us to pray. There are a host of other prayers we overhear Jesus praying in the Gospels, and I'll mention them below. But only with this prayer does Jesus say, "Pray like this."

Each word is saturated with meaning, a meaning that we often miss when we pray it by rote as we gather in our churches for worship. Each of its six petitions (five given by the Lord, one added by the early church) reflects the major themes from Jesus's life and ministry. The prayer is meant by Jesus to shape our lives and, through us, to shape and change the world.

Multiple Versions of the Lord's Prayer?

There are three versions of the Lord's Prayer that came to us from the earliest period of Christianity. We are most familiar with Matthew's account, found in the middle of the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 6:9-13). The English version of that prayer was influenced by William Tyndale's 1525 translation, which in turn shaped the form of the prayer as it appeared in the sixteenth-century *Book of Common Prayer* and finally the *King James Version* of 1611. Tyndale's version was modified slightly into the version most English-speaking Protestants and Catholics pray today. Let's look at the *King James Version* side by side with a modern translation of Matthew's version of the Lord's Prayer. Modern versions, in this case, the *Common English Bible*, are based upon more reliable Greek versions of Matthew's Gospel than were available in 1611:

*Our Father which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.*

*Thy kingdom come, Thy will be
done in earth, as it is in heaven.*

Give us this day our daily bread.

*And forgive us our debts, as we
forgive our debtors.*

*And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil: For
thine is the kingdom, and the
power, and the glory, for ever.
Amen.*

(KJV)

*Our Father who is in heaven,
uphold the holiness of your name.*

*Bring in your kingdom
so that your will is done on earth
as it's done in heaven.*

*Give us the bread we need for
today.*

*Forgive us for the ways we have
wronged you, just as we also
forgive those who have
wronged us.*

*And don't lead us into
temptation,*

but rescue us from the evil one.

(CEB)

In addition to different versions of the Lord's Prayer rendered by various English translations, we have a different version found in Luke's account of the prayer. Here it is from the *Common English Bible's* translation of Luke 11:2-4:

*Father, uphold the holiness of your name.
Bring in your kingdom.
Give us the bread we need for today.
Forgive us our sins,
for we also forgive everyone who has wronged us.
And don't lead us into temptation.*

Notice that neither of these New Testament versions of the prayer, Matthew's or Luke's, includes the traditional closing doxology, "For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen."

There is a third version of the Lord's Prayer that comes to us from the early church, in a document called *The Didache* or *The Lord's Teaching Through the Twelve Apostles to the Gentiles*. This is a fascinating document describing the practices of the early church that some scholars believe was written in the first century, and others the second century, offering guidance in the Christian life. In chapter 8 of *The Didache* we find Matthew's version of the prayer quoted.

Do not pray as the hypocrites, but as the Lord commanded in his Gospel, pray thus: "Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, as in Heaven so also upon earth; give us today our daily bread, and forgive us our debt as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into trial, but deliver us from the Evil One, for thine is the power and the glory for ever." Pray thus three times a day.

Note that this version included the doxology. Note, too, the closing words that are in bold, "Pray thus three times a day." This is a remarkable testimony to the importance of the Lord's Prayer for early Christians.

Over the years this prayer has come to mean a great deal to me. I pray it with my church family every weekend in worship. I pray it and meditate upon its words in my morning walks. I pray it together with my seven-year-old granddaughter at bedtime when she spends the night. I've prayed it with broken people sitting in my office. I've prayed it at every wedding I've officiated. I pray it at every hospital call I make. I pray it with the dying, and with their friends and family at each funeral or memorial service.

I once visited a woman in hospice care. Helen hadn't been responsive in hours. Her eyes were closed, her breathing had become more labored, and the hospice nurse said that the end was imminent. She had not spoken since the previous day. I pulled up a chair to the bed, gently took her hand in mine, spoke to her, and also to her family sitting around the room. I reminded her of Christ's love and his promises. I read Scripture to her. And I told her how grateful I was to have been her pastor.

I then took anointing oil and, with my thumb, made the sign of the cross upon her forehead, a reminder that she belonged to Christ. Finally, with each of her loved ones touching her, we prayed, giving thanks to God for Helen's life and entrusting her to God's care. At the end of this prayer, I said words I had spoken thousands of times before. "Now, let us join together in the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray saying,

*Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.*

*Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

Give us this day our daily bread.

*And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.*

*And lead us, not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.*

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

As we concluded, one of her children spoke up and said, "Did you all see that?" Another replied, "Yes, I was watching her. She moved her lips, speaking the Lord's Prayer with us." It was a holy and beautiful moment. These were the last words Helen would attempt to speak before she passed a few minutes later. I've seen this happen again and again. (I'll share another similar story later in the book.) Each time it happens, it reminds me of just how important this prayer is to so many. It is deeply embedded in the hearts and minds of most Christians.

Spreading God's Love



Be My Valentine

FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY

**THE CROS FOOD PANTRY IS ON THE 1ST, 3RD AND 5TH 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, February 3rd and 17th 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.

Lakeside Family and Friends,

We hope you all are safe and well.

As you know there are several variants of the COVID-19 virus presenting themselves all over the country. Even though some of them are not as harmful to us, they do spread more easily. Those who have been vaccinated/boosted are able to catch these viruses just as easy as those who are not vaccinated. Please follow the guidelines that we have been asked to follow from the beginning of all of this. Wash your hands frequently, wear a mask in crowded areas, social distance yourself whenever possible, not just for your health & safety, but for the health & safety of those around you.

We are still having in person worship on Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

We are observing facial covering and sanitizing guidelines from the CDC and the UM Conference. We want to see smiling faces in worship even if it is behind a mask. We love you all and want us to be safe and together again in God's House.

On Sunday morning we will be live streaming the service on our website. www.lakesideumchurch.org and on youtube for those of you who do not feel comfortable meeting in person.

We will take prayer requests and special needs through the office via phone (561-585-7519) or email lumc_lw@bellsouth.net.

We encourage you to continue with your giving through your tithes and offerings. Keeping our campus functional and the mission and ministry that we currently support to be maintained; We hope you prayerfully consider supporting the amazing ministry Lakeside UMC is known for. As this situation continues it will have a lasting effect on our community and we want to be the refuge so many will seek.

God is firmly in control and we are confident we will weather this storm together and be stronger in our faith for it.

Book Club 2022 Selections

January Book Club will be on Zoom again. We hope YOU will be ready to join us on FEBRUARY 17th at Noon.

Here we go again ... COVID-19 concerns.

We thought it would be safe to meet together at Lakeside in the library. Some are having reservations about that and want to Zoom again this month.

Please watch your emails for our final decision. If you do not have email then call the church office if you are not sure where we are meeting as we get closer to the date.

Book Club List for 2022.

FEBRUARY 21: The Forest of Vanishing Stars by Kristin Harmel. Janice Hatt, leader.

MARCH 21: Greater Journey: Americans in Paris by David McCullough. Helen Gilmore, leader

APRIL 18: Defending Jacob by William Landay. Joyce Gooding, leader

MAY 16: That Summer by Jennifer Weiner. Cecilia Broadwater, leader.

JUNE 20: A Psalm for the Wild-Built by Becky Chambers. Clare Shore, leader.

JULY 18: On the Rez by Ian Frazier. Janet Lane, leader.

AUGUST 15: Eternal by Lisa Scottoline. Betty McMurchy, leader.

SEPTEMBER 19: Title not chosen yet. D'ette Mathews, leader.

OCTOBER 17: Hornet Flight by Ken Follett. Anne McCartney, leader.

NOVEMBER 21: selection of books for 2023

DECEMBER 19(?): Christmas Luncheon. Location to be determined closer to the event.

FEBRUARY is Black History Month. The Lake Worth Interfaith Network has many activities to commemorate February 2022 as A Month of Anti-Racism. You can learn about them at The Lake Worth Interfaith Network website.

<https://www.interfaith.net>



United Methodist Women News

There have been so many changes in our lives during the past few months that sometimes fear, frustration and anxiety can creep in on us. We need to remember Philippians 4:6-7: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Find a quiet place to pause and listen for God's voice (from the Upper Room).

The Bookworms Circle and Susanna Wesley Circles won't meet until whenever we can resume meeting at the church. Members will be notified of the next meeting and the meeting schedule will be discussed at that time. The book club that meets at Lakeside has had several zoom meeting for their book reviews. We do not plan to issue a new yearbook now so please use the current one for phone numbers.

Barbara, our Treasurer, has sent our pledge money to the district. Payment of our district pledge is one of the requirements for the Mission Today award. Our pledges also support many local and national projects. Even though the district payment has been made please consider completing your pledge for this year if you haven't done so. You might also consider giving an amount equal to the cost of a ticket to our luncheon that we were unable to hold this year. Make checks payable to United Methodist Women. They can be sent to the church (1901 12 Ave. South, Lake Worth FL 33461) attention Barbara Russum/UMW.

When we do meet to make plans for a new year, we need to consider the following: What can we do to make a difference? How can we improve what we do? Your suggestions and comments would be appreciated.

Nancy Gettys, President
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United
Methodist
Women
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

Church and Mission giving– Our giving has to be modified to accommodate the reality that not all of us are comfortable gathering in person to worship right now. Electronic giving through PayPal is the best way of giving from home. Many of you are already on our giving platform. If you are not giving electronically, this would be a good time to think about it. You can click on the giving option on our website at lakesideumchurch.org under the GIVING banner

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

Lakeside UMC
 1901 12th Avenue S.
 Lake Worth, FL 33461

SHOWING GOD’S LOVE IN COMMUNITY

Matthew Meals

Matthew Meals will be on Saturday, February 26th 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



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.

Lakeside United
Methodist Church

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David Branson, Pastor

Newsletter Editor:

Carolyn Ludwig

**We have a Place for
You!**

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

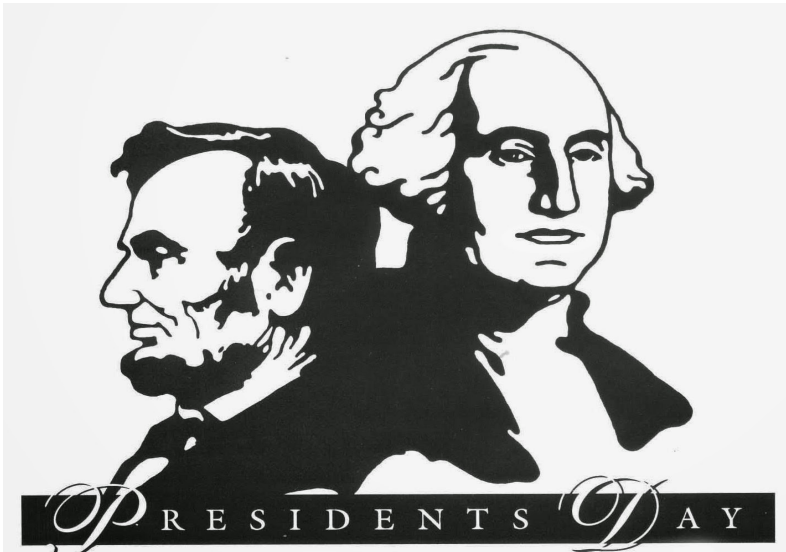


February Birthdays

- 2 Daniel Walsh
- 3 Wanda Laubscher
- 4 Megan Call
- 8 Arlie Taylor
- 11 Charles D'Augustine
- 12 Peggy Morphesis
David Branson
Ruby Gilmore
- 14 Happy Valentine's Day!
- 15 Frank Call III
- 18 William Kruger
- 21 Janae Harden
- 22 Nicole Blanton
- 27 Tom Harden
Frank Call Jr.
- 28 Eleanor Dosh

KEENAGERS:

Due to COVID 19, KEENAGERS will not be meeting until further notice.



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.