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Lakeside Messenger  
Lakeside United  
Methodist Church  
1500 Olive Street  
Pine Bluff AR 71601

### What's Happening @ Lakeside United Methodist Church

#### Wednesday, January 31

9:30 LAAF  
3:00 Coffee with the Pastor  
4:00 Mid-Week Manna

6:00 Choir Practice

#### Thursday, Feb. 2

6:00 What We Believe Class - Library

#### Friday, December Feb. 3

Office closed

#### Saturday, Feb. 4

#### Sunday, Feb. 5

8:30 Chapel Worship

8:45 Handbells

9:15 Sunday School

10:30 Sanctuary Worship

4:00 Trinity Village Vespers

#### Monday, Feb. 6

6:00 What We Believe Class - zoom

6:30 What We Believe Class - Library

#### Tuesday, Feb. 7

#### Wednesday, Feb. 8

9:30 LAAF

10:30 Staff Mtg.

3:00 Coffee with the Pastor

4:00 Mid-Week Manna

6:00 Choir Practice

#### Thursday, Feb. 9

6:00 What We Believe Class - Library

#### Friday, Feb. 10

Office closed

#### Saturday, Feb. 11

8:00 Men's Breakfast

#### Sunday, Feb. 12

8:30 Chapel Worship

8:45 Handbells

9:15 Sunday School

10:30 Sanctuary Worship

Food Distribution has been moved to  
**February 7th and 8th.** Please contact  
Sandy Bobo to volunteer- 870-540-7099

# The Lakeside Messenger

Lakeside United Methodist Church, Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71601

Volume MMXXIV, Issue 5 January 31, 2024



Bishop Merrill wrote a beautiful Advent reflection on her fall trip to Cambodia and the Philippines with the General Board of Global Ministries. Below are some excerpts that reveal a glimpse of her vision for UMC's future in Arkansas. You can find the full article at <https://arumc.org/2023/12/advent-message-from-bishop-merrill/>

*I cannot help but think that gentleness is key to our path forward. As we awaken to this day, in which God has called us to live and to serve, . . . our way forward must be a gracious one. We must note that gentleness does not preclude working for justice. . . . Gentleness does not mean lying down and bending over and giving up. But it does mean clinging to the goodness of God as people who know that goodness is from whence our salvation comes, the source of our very lives and of every other life, whom we must take care to regard as such.*

*. . . In our own church, we have heard lies told about us, over and over. In certain little Arkansas communities, there is active, public shunning of people who chose to remain United Methodist. In other places, more traditional folks feel ostracized. . . . But this willingness to harm each other, on any side of a fight, is dangerous.*

*In that context, we know, as United Methodists, that we have stayed for a reason. Even if you feel you haven't quite made up your mind yet, you are here, and not someplace else. Not because we all agree, not because the answers are clear, not because it makes us right or the biggest or most powerful. But because, in the midst of the violence of the world, we are trying to do no harm. In the midst of fighting, we want to choose not-fighting. In a place of war, whether in Gaza or Ukraine or Facebook or the local school board, we seek gentleness that sows the path of peace. In the place of tension, we seek the love that will turn our striving into grace. I am convinced that this is who we are as United Methodists. This is the time and the way to which God has called us.*

*. . . [O]ur communities need that kind of church. There is a desperate need in this world for who we are at our most humble, for what we know, especially we who have sat in a hard place and chosen grace anyway. And that kind of church will naturally find that it needs the community. I truly believe that this is what's coming. A day when God's own life has been poured out in the midst of death, and we have the privilege of being witnesses to it, in a world weary to its very bones. A day when we stop talking about what we lack, because we've found it all in the hearts and lives and dreams of people outside the church. . . . A day when the skies tear open, and justice rolls down like water and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream, love flooding the earth.*

*What more could we hope for as a church? What deeper, sweeter promise could God make to us? We will surely yet face days when it feels that the mountains themselves are shaking. What is now is not what will be for the church or the world. But those who wait upon the power of God, incarnate in Jesus, can trust that our tension will find its rest. So keep watch, beloveds; claim Christ's gracious, gentle culture, no matter what; and do not be afraid.*

**If you want to hear more, Bishop Merrill is holding a Vision for the AR Conference Zoom Discussion on Thursday, February 29, 6:00 pm. Registration is coming soon.**

*Lakesiders, having promised to be loyal to Jesus Christ through The United Methodist Church and to do all in our power to strengthen its ministries, live out our promise by God's grace together— participating faithfully in the ministries of Lakeside United Methodist Church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!*

### What We Believe Classes

Here is the link for the Monday Night Zoom class  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86043396767?pwd=la44DIAJMbvLXd45wFjrL8QjZIMqWc.1>

Meeting ID: 860 4339 6767  
 Passcode: 414082

Sundays 9:30 – 10:00 am Room 107  
 Mondays 6:00 – 7:00 pm Zoom  
 6:30 – 7:30 pm Library  
 Thursdays 6:00 – 7:00 pm Library



### Ash Wednesday Services

Ash Wednesday will be observed on Wednesday, February 14, 2024 with two services  
 12:00pm in the Chapel  
 6:00pm in the Sanctuary.

Mid-week Manna Schedule for the 14th  
 4:00 tutoring  
 5:30 dinner  
 6:00 Ash Wednesday Service  
 6:45 Choir practice

### Black History Month

In honor of Black History Month, Donald Warren will be sharing some history of famous and not so famous black composers and musicians. Each Sunday, a selected piece will be presented during the service and an insert of Donald's research will be in the bulletin. Thank you, Donald for sharing your love of music and history with us.



*We pray for the sick:*  
 Caroline Coles, Colby Lee, Joy Cross, Kashimi Elkins, and Allen Swob.

*We pray for the grieving:*  
 T.J Young on the death of his brother, Claude Young  
 The Dot Boyd Family

**Sheridan Healthcare Rehab:** Don Massey; **Woodland Heights Senior Living:** Billie Doster; **Woodland Heights Memory Care:** Wannie Pope.  
**Lakeside's Hispanic Ministry, Young People around the world, Families in trouble, City Council members & Mayor, Students of all ages, Teachers, First Responders.**

### Gifts given to Lakeside

In memory of Jane Nixon by Joseph and Sue Szostak, Fred and Jane Arnold, Ann White, and JRMC Administration Board of Directors.  
 In Memory of Dot Boyd by Rob and Ellen Wyatt, Ted and Linda McNulty, and Nancy Paschal.



### Souper Bowl Sunday is February 11, 2024

Pull out your crockpots and your favorite soup recipe, it's time to crown a new champion.

Following the 10:30 worship service, we'll meet in Fellowship Hall to share a meal and vote on this year's winning soup. We will also need corn bread, crackers, cheese, chips etc. to go along with the delicious soups.

Canned soups will be collected for Neighbor to Neighbor along with monetary donations.

### Trinity Village "Adopt-a-Need"

There are times when a nursing home resident will have needs that need to be met! Furniture to set-up their room such as nightstands, dressers, lamps, pictures etc.

Clothing is also needed sometimes.

Monetary donations are always appreciated.

Please contact Bee Bee Fenters at 870-489-1281, if you have questions or would like to donate.



### Sunday, January 28, 2024

8:30 Chapel Worship - 15  
 9:15 Sunday school - 35  
 10:30 Worship - 84  
 Online Worship - 19

### Our Weekly Service at Church Sunday, February 4, 2024

**Senior Pastor:** Rev. Judy Rudd; **Liturgist:** Deborah Whitaker; **Pastoral Intern:** Sara Andrews; **Director of Music:** Ann Tibbs;

**Children's Moments:** Jennifer Fox

**Scripture:** Matthew 6:12-15 and 26:27-28

**Sermon Title:** The Forgiveness of Sins

**Sermon Series:** What We Believe: The Apostles' Creed

**Ushers:** Steve Dobbins, Joe Coles, Rob Wyatt, Bobby Wyatt, Roy Whitaker, Ken Kesterson

**Feb. 5 Brass Polishers:** Dixie Webb and Donna Rickels

**Feb. 5 Counters:** Ramona Harkins and Ellen Wyatt

All services are available on Facebook or Facebook Live and now You tube. Join us online for worship at:

[www.facebook.com/lakesidepb](http://www.facebook.com/lakesidepb)

[www.youtube.com/@lumc\\_pinebluff](http://www.youtube.com/@lumc_pinebluff)

Check out what is happening at Lakeside on our website

[www.lakesidepb.org](http://www.lakesidepb.org)

### February Food Distribution

The next distribution will be **Feb. 7** for organizing and **Feb. 8** for distribution and deliveries. To volunteer, call Sandy Bobo at 870-540-7099.

### Tuna for Neighbor to Neighbor

Don't forget to bring tuna for Neighbor to Neighbor. Each month, we are asked to provide 75 cans or pouches of tuna. Baskets are in the office or by the elevator.



### Children's Choir

When a young man asks for a kid's choir, you get a kid's choir together! In order to do this, we are looking for volunteers with a heart for children and music. If you'd be interested, please contact Jennifer at 870-489-0790 or the office 870-534-6241.

### Latest Sunday School News February 4, 2024 9:15am.

**Discovery Class:** Our class will be participating in What We Believe with Pastor Judy (9:30-10:00 am.)

**Wesley Class:** This week's discussion-Praying Continually? How Do We Do That? All are welcome to join.