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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, February 14

9:30 LAAF
12:00 Ash Wed. Service in Chapel
3:00 Coffee with the Pastor
4:00 Mid-Week Manna
6:00 Ash Wed. Service in Sanctuary
Choir practice to follow service

Thursday, Feb. 15

10:00 United Women in Faith @
Trinity Village

Friday, December Feb. 16

Office closed

Saturday, Feb. 17

8:00 Men's Breakfast

Sunday, Feb. 18

8:30 Chapel Worship
8:45 Handbells
9:15 Sunday School
10:30 Sanctuary Worship

Monday, Feb. 19

6:00 What We Believe Class- library
6:00 What We Believe Class - zoom

Tuesday, Feb. 20

1:30 DAR

Wednesday, Feb. 21

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

6:00 Choir Practice

Thursday, Feb. 22

Friday, Feb. 23

Office closed

Saturday, Feb. 24

Sunday, Feb. 25

8:30 Chapel Worship
8:45 Handbells
9:15 Sunday School
10:30 Sanctuary Worship

The Lakeside Messenger

Lakeside United Methodist Church, Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71601

Volume MMXXIV, Issue 7 February 14, 2024



My weekend away at the Compelling Preaching Initiative Cohort contained an unexpected invitation to the spiritual gift of “wonder.” Although “wonder” is not included on any spiritual gift inventory, my reacquaintance with it last weekend impressed upon me its spiritual nature.

Wonder is a rare gift these days. It is a gift that we give and receive in humility and vulnerability. Being open to the wonder of what is and what can be without lading them with our own expectations or preconceived notions allows the Holy Spirit to intercede and catapult us into a heart understanding beyond our wildest dreams. The more I contemplate this gift of wonder, the more I realize that we are a church, community and world in desperate need of wonder.

While many of us have clung to what we know, want and believe like a life preserver in a turbulent and dangerous sea over the last few years of Covid and disaffiliation, could our openness to wonder be like Jesus walking across the waters and offering us his hand? What might it be like to pry our tired and cramping fingers from the life preserver of certainty that has been barely buoying us above the water and reach for the strong and saving hand of Jesus?

Wonder, curiosity, awe are gifts few of us know we need. They are not found on Christmas or birthday lists. And yet, in a world rife with opposing opinions about everything from toothpaste to politics, we need these gifts. When we are at odds with a friend, neighbor or loved one, can we give him or her the gift of wonder? Can we take a breath, let go of the assumption that we know another person’s motivation or availability and give us both the gift of wonder? Can we suspend our emotional reaction to a situation and instead approach it with curiosity? I offer you the following poem by Mary Oliver from my weekend. Due to space constraints, I had to format it in columns which you read top to bottom. Invite your spirit to embrace the wonder of this poem and ask God to fill you with the gift of wonder so that you may share God’s gift of wonder with others.

“Mysteries, Yes”

Truly, we live with mysteries too marvelous
To be understood.

How grass can be nourishing in the
Mouths of the lambs.

How rivers and stones are forever
In allegiance with gravity
While we ourselves dream of rising.

How two hands touch and the bonds will
Never be broken.

How people come, from delight or the
Scars of damage, To the comfort of a poem.

Let me keep my distance, always, from those
Who think they have the answers.

Let me keep company always with those who
say “Look!” and laugh in astonishment,
And bow their heads.

By Mary Oliver

Pastor Judy

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!



Ash Wednesday Services

Ash Wednesday will be observed **TODAY** 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

Zoom with the Bishop

Bishop Merrill will be hosting a zoom meeting on February 29, 2024 at 6:00pm which is open to all United Methodist laity to cast a vision for the UMC in Arkansas in 2024. Here is the link for join in on the conversation on Zoom
Click on the link below

<http://tinyurl.com/BishopsLaityZoom>

Or enter the information below

Meeting ID: 884 0421 6523; Passcode: 848248

Methodist Family Health Foundation

Spring Get Up and Give Campaign

This Spring, we are asking for new items and contributions to stock our Donation Closet. You may order goods directly from Amazon or Walmart; the wish list links can be found on our website:

methodistfamily.org/get-up-and-give.

Copies of the list are also available in the church office.

The Methodist Foundation for Arkansas

The Foundation is excited to offer the opportunity for laity members in your congregation to attend the annual Perkins Summit for Faith and Learning at Southern Methodist University, Perkins School of Theology.

The Summit for Faith and Learning offers a wide range of theological mini-courses for laypersons. Somewhere between seminary and Sunday School, the Summit leverages the rich learning community of Perkins School of Theology to provide a unique, self-paced experience in theological education-for the church and world.

The Foundation will cover all registration costs, a group dinner while in Dallas, and hotel expenses for laity both Thursday, March 21 and Friday, March 22, 2024. Email Cathy Hall, the Foundation's Office & Hospitality Manager, at chall@methodistfoundationar.org or call 501-8632



We pray for the sick:

Caroline Coles, Colby Lee, Kashimi Elkins.

We pray for the grieving:

The Bob Blackford Family
The Joy Cross 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 Dot Boyd by Dan and Barbara Chambliss, Debbie, Tim and Timothy Ogg, Pat McIntyre and Janet Ford, Frances Smith, Dr. and Mrs. David Nixon, Earle and Rebecca Phillips, The Wesley Sunday school class, Glenn and Betty Babb, Cliff and Liz Matthews.

In memory of Joy Cross by Dr. and Mrs. David Nixon, Glenn and Betty Babb, Andy and Elaine Vaccaro, Roy and Deborah Whitaker, Phil and Jane Rice Dave and Laura Richards.

In memory of Jane Nixon by Clyde and Claire Campbell, The Wesley Sunday school class, Glenn and Betty Babb, Cynthia and Walter Coleman

In memory of Robbie Atkinson by Clyde and Claire Campbell
In memory of Claude Young by Glenn and Betty Babb.
In memory of Charles Morgan by Glenn and Betty Babb.



February Food Distribution

Last week we served 40 food boxes to families in our community. This important ministry would not have been possible if not for the guidance of Sandy Bobo, the scheduling of Vanessa Hernandez, the food preparation work by Nancy Gieringer, Janelle Powell and Pete Stone, and finally the delivery and distribution help by George Mitchell. A HUGE THANK YOU for your big hearts!

We would also like to recognize Mr. Glen in the produce and Mr. Willie in the meat departments of Super 1 Foods on Hazel. They have consistently gone above and beyond to be helpful and courteous to prepare and load our orders. If you see them in the grocery store, give them a high five!

-Linda LaClair



Sunday, February 11, 2024

8:30 Chapel Worship - 14
9:15 Sunday school - 28
10:30 Worship - 71
Online Worship - 18

Our Weekly Service at Church Sunday, February 18, 2024

Senior Pastor: Rev. Judy Rudd; **Pastoral Intern:** Sara Andrews;
Liturgist: Yvonne Glien; **Director of Music:** Ann Tibbs;
Children's Moments: Jennifer Fox
Scripture: Matthew 5:21-24, 18:21-35
Sermon Title: Foolish Love... Forgives
Sermon Series: Foolish Love

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

Feb. 19 Brass Polishers: Ellen Wyatt and Yvonne Glien
Feb. 20 Counters: Gerald Majors and Elaine Vaccaro

All services are available on Facebook or Facebook Live and now You tube. Join us online for worship at:
www.facebook.com/lakesidepb
www.youtube.com/@lumc_pinebluff
Check out what is happening at Lakeside on our website

Black History Month Music and Composers

This week, Donald Warren will highlight the piece "I Want to See My Jesus Someday," a traditional Caribbean tune arranged by Glenn Jones. You will find more information about this song in this Sunday's bulletin.



Tuna for Neighbor to Neighbor

Don't forget to bring tuna for Neighbor to Neighbor.

Latest Sunday School News February 18, 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 the Lord's Prayer. All are welcome to join.