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If you are a Facebook user, like us at <https://www.facebook.com/LakesidePB/>

Lakeside Messenger
Lakeside United
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1500 Olive Street
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The Lakeside Messenger

Lakeside United Methodist Church, Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71601

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The Case for Christ

Several years ago, I saw a movie called, "The Case for Christ," based on a book by Lee Strobel. In the movie, an investigative reporter, who was also a self-proclaimed atheist, sought evidence to disapprove that Jesus was the son of God and that the resurrection occurred after his wife unexpectedly became a Christian. It was a compelling movie that caused me to reflect more deeply on the post-resurrection sightings of Jesus.

In my daily devotionals today, I was confronted with the passage from the gospel of Matthew where guards are paid to say that they were asleep when the disciples stole Jesus' body. Their lies were to refute the truth of the resurrection. (Matthew 18:11-15) So, how do we know that the resurrection was real? How are non-believers convinced of the truth of the resurrection with such lies abounding? In the words of a famous detective – the facts ma'am, just the facts!

The Bible has numerous eye-witness accounts of people seeing the resurrected Jesus: at the tomb, on the road to Galilee, in the upper room – twice, on the seashore, on the mountain in Galilee, in Bethany and on the road to Emmaus. Paul reports that no fewer than 500 hundred people were eye-witnesses to the resurrected Christ. (1 Corinthians 15:6) The first century historian, Josephus, reported that many people said they witnessed the resurrected Christ.

So what does all of this mean for us today? The chorus of the hymn, "He Lives" seems to say it best. "He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way. He lives, He lives, salvation to impart! You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart."

Do you sense Jesus living in your heart? No, I mean do you *REALLY* sense Jesus living in your heart? Do you talk with him and walk with him? Do you hear him speak truth into your inner being – encouraging you, loving you and guiding you? Do you sense him with you in times of distress and times of joy and all times in between? If you don't have that sense of Jesus with you, you are not alone. If we do not prioritize and nurture our time with Jesus, we let other things get in the way. Prioritizing our lives with Jesus is why each of us needs to set aside time daily to read our Bibles, pray and just be with Jesus. It is also why we need to occasionally take time away to be with our Savior.

Next week, I will be on an Academy of Spiritual Formation weeklong retreat for a time of spiritual renewal. We will have worship three times a day along with two plenary sessions and intentional times of prayer and reflection for the presence of the Holy Spirit to speak into our lives. Do you need a time of spiritual renewal to reset your spiritual thermostat? There are many options available: weekend Walks to Emmaus, Face to Face for people 60 and over, weeklong Academy experiences like the one I will attend, or even private retreats with a spiritual director. If you are feeling the need for a soul reset, please contact me to visit.

Pastor Judy

What's Happening @ Lakeside United Methodist Church

Wednesday, April 12

9:30 LAAF
MID WEEK MANNA
3:10 – 3:30 Children picked up
4:00 – 5:15 Snack and tutoring
5:30 – 6:00 Meal for All
6:00 -7:00 Children and adult activities

Thursday, April 13

Friday, April 14

Office closed

Saturday, April 15

Sunday, April 16

8:30 Chapel Worship
9:15 Sunday school
10:30 Sanctuary Worship

Monday, April 17

3:00 Coffee with the Pastor

Tuesday, April 18

Wednesday, April 19

9:30 LAAF

Mid Week Manna

3:10 – 3:30 Children picked up
4:00 – 5:15 Snack and tutoring
5:30 – 6:00 Meal for All
6:00 -7:00 Children and adult activities

Thursday, April 20

Friday, April 21

Office closed

Saturday, April 22

9:30-2:00 DCOM mtg. in F.H

Sunday, April 23

8:30 Chapel Worship
9:15 Sunday school
10:30 Sanctuary Worship

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!



SMU Perkins School of Theology Certification for Practical Ministry program is coming to The Methodist Foundation for Arkansas on Thursday, May 18- Saturday, May 20, 2023. Join Perkins faculty here in Little Rock for this incredible opportunity.

The Perkins Certificate in Practical Ministry is designed for non-credit students seeking specialized training in relevant, applicable, practical knowledge that informs and empowers their life-long spiritual journey and ministry. The certificate program is great for both lay and clergy students looking to expand and enhance their education related to ministry within and without the walls of the church. **Little Rock courses include:**

- "Models of Evangelism" with Priscilla Pope-Levison, Research Professor of Practical Theology, SMU Perkins School of Theology
- "Engaging the Bible" with Jack Levison, W. J. A. Power Chair of Old Testament Interpretation and Biblical Hebrew, Perkins School of Theology.

For more information or to apply visit: smu.edu/perkins/cpm

Additional Ways You May Assist with Disaster Relief

Hands-on help is requested for the following service areas:

Data entry Making phone calls Food delivery Running errands

Delivery of supplies (lunches, buckets, donated items, etc.)

Onsite disaster response

Begin collecting items for Wynne and Pulaski County:

NEW (in packages, all sizes) socks, underwear, t-shirts

NEW containers of shampoo, toothpaste

The new collection site for Pulaski County will be at Pulaski Heights UMC, 4823 Woodlawn Dr. Little Rock, entrances 1&7 beginning April 6. Items may be dropped off Mon.-Fri. from 9am to 4:30pm.

If you want to volunteer to serve at a command center, please contact disaster@arumc.org.



We pray for the sick:

Linda McNulty, Chris Mitchell, Becky Simpson and Drew Tanner

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.

April 23rd is Native American Ministries Sunday

Since 1989, United Methodists have observed the third Sunday after Easter as Native American Ministries Sunday specifically to support leadership development, ministries, and education of Native Americans in our denomination.

You can give online at www.umcsgiving.org/giveNAMS



Not So Hidden Figure

Our very own Etoyle Mouser was recently celebrated as one of the community's "Hidden Figures" in her contributions and dedication to Pine Bluff and the surrounding area. You can read about her and the other designees on-line.

[Arkansas Online \(pressreader.com\)](http://Arkansas Online (pressreader.com))



Lakeside Food Distribution

Food distribution to those in need is a vital part of Lakeside's mission. Working with Mi Casa, 30 boxes of food were given out to 28 families on March 30th. Passing out food boxes is the easy part, it's the planning, shopping, and sorting that takes time, muscle, and money.

Please consider helping with this wonderful ministry. If you aren't able to help, make sure to thank one of the many volunteers that give their time.

Pictured are Sandy Bobo, Linda LaClair, and Laura Richards



Sunday, April 9, 2023

7:00 Sunrise -16
8:30 Chapel Worship -10
9:15 Sunday School -18
10:30 Worship -139
Online Worship -13

Our Weekly Service at Church

Sunday, April 16, 2023

Senior Pastor: The Reverend Judy Rudd; **Liturgist:** Claire Campbell

Director of Music: Ann Tibbs; **Children's Moments:** Jennifer Fox

Sermon Title: Nothing Can Separate

Scripture: Romans 8:31-39

Sermon Series: Love That Will Not Let Us Go

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

April 17 Brass Polishers: Penny Whitener and Susan Brown

April 17 Counters: George Mitchell and Deborah Whitaker

All services are available on Facebook or Facebook Live.

Join us online for worship at:

<https://www.facebook.com/LakesidePB/live/>

Check out what is happening at Lakeside on our website

"Change Starts at Home"

Mi Casa was awarded \$2,000 from the 200k Reasons Grant for a Midweek Manna Program theme of "Change Starts at Home." This theme comes from the belief that in order for children to grow to be the leaders of tomorrow as well as break a cycle of poverty, children must have accessibility to food, educational resources, literacy enhancement, and ample opportunity for growth. This grant will assist with the development of the students' personal libraries, the mobile food distribution, and family participation. We plan to incorporate the parents of the children attending Midweek Manna by offering a parents' series of classes. Our parents' series will consist of workshops and informational sessions focused on life skills and resources such as but not limited to, resume building, bible studies, basic computer skills, cooking classes, ESL, gardening, FAFSA assistance, communicating with children's teachers, as well as post high school opportunities. Parent involvement in these classes will improve student engagement, as they witness that actions speak louder than words. We aim to open doors for these students that perhaps seem to be impossible to both them and their parents. Thank you Lakesiders for all your support towards Mi Casa and our efforts to improve the Hispanic Community around us.

"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples."

-Mother Teresa

"One child, one teacher, one book and one pen can change the world."

-Malala Yousafzai