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

Lakeside Messenger
Lakeside United
Methodist Church
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The Lakeside Messenger

Lakeside United Methodist Church, Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71601

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When I was a little girl, I helped my aunt make tins of goodies for my father's customers each year. She would place a homemade fruit cake in the center surrounded by an assortment of homemade candy. The pecan fudge, green and white divinity and the family favorite – cornflake candy – was carefully placed in little paper liners and stacked two layers deep. These tins of pure goodness and love were highly anticipated by my father's customers. Did I mention that my aunt used to make 50 of these each year?

Of course, I had the delight of helping my aunt. I would cut up fruit, stir fudge and divinity, and crush cornflakes, all for that grand finale of licking the spoon and bowl! One year, I scored the pot and spoon containing the creamy goodness of the light green divinity. For some reason, there was more left over than normal, and I feasted to my hearts delight. I thought it was impossible to eat too much delectable sweetness until I ate too much divinity. Suffice it to say, I still do not eat divinity to this day!

During this season of Advent when we prepare for Christ's birth by decorating, purchasing gifts, preparing sugary goodness and both entertaining and being entertained, it is easy to overindulge as I did with the divinity so many years ago. It seems that one more ornament, one more present, one more batch of confectionary heaven, or one more party will make our Christmas celebration complete. Our outward preparations for Christmas too often cause us to abandon our inward preparations for the arrival of the Meaning of Christmas – Jesus.

As we travel through Advent this year with the words of the prophet Isaiah, I invite you to take some time each week to linger with his words. Reflect on what it must have meant for the Hebrew people to desperately need a Messiah. Consider how the mountains and valleys of their lives might have caused them to wander from God only to later discover their desperate need for a Savior. Then think about your own life and how you might wander from and return to God. What are the distractions, both in this season and throughout the year, that entice you away from your awareness of your need for Jesus?

November 28th Isaiah 11:1-10

December 5th Isaiah 40:3-11

December 12th Isaiah 7:10-16

December 19th Isaiah 40:1-8; Jeremiah 23:5-6; Zechariah 9:9-10; Haggai 2:6-9; Isaiah 35:1-6; Luke 1:26-35, 38; Mark 1:1-15

As you reflect on the words of Isaiah and the others, allow the Holy Spirit to whisper into your heart and mind an invitation to come home to the heart of Jesus. Let that invitation transform into your own yearning and even into a desperate plea for Jesus to be born anew in your heart and life on this journey of Advent. And find the only true sweetness that satisfies – the sweetness of the Lord! O Come, O Come Immanuel!

Pastor Judy

What's Happening @ Lakeside United Methodist Church

Wednesday, December 1

10:30 Staff Meeting
3:00 Coffee with the Pastor

Midweek Manna

5:30 Meal
6:00 Tutoring
6:00 ESL
6:00 Mom's Group
6:00 Choir practice
6:00 - 7:00 Youth
(Nursery available ages 0-4)

Thursday, December 2

Friday, December 3

Office closed

Saturday, December 4

Sunday, December 5

2nd Sunday of Advent

New Worship Times

8:30 Chapel Worship

9:15 Sunday School

10:30 Worship

11:00 Chicken Sp. Meal Fund Raiser

4:00 Trinity Village Vespers

Monday, December 6

6:00 Mi Casa Board Meeting/Library

Tuesday, December 7

6:00 Mission Mtg./The Center

Wednesday, December 8

3:00 Coffee with the Pastor

Midweek Manna

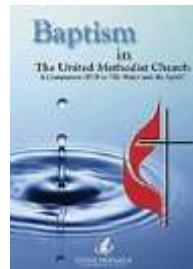
5:30 Meal
6:00 Tutoring
6:00 ESL
6:00 Mom's Group
6:00 Choir practice
6:00 - 7:00 Youth
(Nursery available ages 0-4)

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!



Ladies and gentlemen, you are invited to a Baby Shower honoring Sarah Enoch (and Patrick).

The Baby Shower will be held in The Center at Lakeside UMC on Sunday, December 12th at 2:00 p.m. Hint: it's a girl!



Dennis Matthew Jones will be baptized during the Worship Service in the Sanctuary this Sunday, December 5th.

Matthew is the son of Dawn and William Jones IV, the grandson of Bill & Sharri Jones, the great grandson of Sissy Jones and Bobby & Sharon Wyatt.



A Housewarming party was given for Ernestina and Humberto this past Sunday at Sandy Bobo's house. Sandy said a house full came to honor the couple!



We pray for the sick — Allen Swob
Grieving:
Other: The Beltrañ Rodriguez Family
Sheridan Healthcare Rehab: Don Massey
Woodland Heights Senior Living: Billie Doster
Lakeside's Hispanic Ministry; Young People around the world; Families in trouble; City Council members & Mayor; Students of all ages; Teachers, First Responders

A Gift Has Been Received in Memory Of:

Rev. Ed Matthews by Earle & Rebecca Phillips



Thanks everyone listed below for representing Lakeside by Ringing those Bells for the Salvation Army! Nancy & Ronnie Dobbs, Sharon Blankenship, Elaine Vaccaro, Gerald & Sue Majors, Bobby Wyatt, Ken Kesterson, Lynn Newton, Linda LaClair, Delos & Hazel McCauley, Greg Yanez, Mike Webb, Ellen & Paige Wyatt, Linda McNulty and Lynda Pickler.



December 5 - Christmas Fundraiser for Children in Need - Individual Chicken spaghetti meals in "to go" boxes may be picked up after the first and second service. All proceeds will go to provide Christmas for 5 children at Neighbor to Neighbor and children in need through our Lakeside's Mi Casa ministry.

"Surely the Spirit of the Lord is in this place" we call Lakeside. The Christmas Kids Mission Team has asked and you are responding. Thank you! Donations are coming in even from outside our own congregation! This Spirit is contagious! If you are in service as a buyer, please bring your purchases to the Parlor by 3:00 Thursday, December 9th. Those in service as wrappers will meet at 1:00 Sunday, December 12th to wrap the purchases destined for wrapping, and to wait on the parents who will be coming by to pick up the gifts they will be giving their children and those brought in by Santa. It is such a joy to be involved in this mission! Let's make some 'Stone Soup' together!

You, as Lakesider's, have promised to do all in your power to strengthen its ministries. Please, give ...of your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness that this ministry of giving to the poor and the needy may honor God and speak volumes of your faithfulness. Alicia, Susan, Ramona, and Penny



Join us after the 10:30 worship service on December 12th for Nathan Baltzell's Retirement Potluck! We will send Nathan off to retirement with a Lakeside World Famous Potluck. Bring your favorite dish and wish Nathan well in his retirement.



Our Presence in Worship and Study

Wednesday Night November 24, 2021
 No Activities

Sunday, November 28, 2021
 8:30 Worship Service - 16
 10:00 Worship Service - 62
 9:00 Sunday School - 23

Our Weekly Service at Church

Sunday, December 5, 2021

Senior Pastor: The Reverend Judy Rudd; Liturgist: Deborah Whitaker
 Music: Rene Leus; Flowers: Sharri Jones

Sermon Title: 'Thunder in The Desert' Scripture: Isaiah 40:3-11

Sermon Series: Prophets' Promises and Hymns of Hope

Advent Wreath Lighters: 8:30 Ronnie & Nancy Dobbs

10:30 Gerald & Sue Majors

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

December 6 Brass Polishers: Shelby & Pete Stone

December 6 Counters: George Mitchell & 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 www.lakesidepb.org

From Rene'



Hola, mi familia! During this time of Advent and the Christmas season, I often think of "The Messiah", Handel's famous choral work, which includes the wonderful 'Hallelujah' chorus. One year, I was invited by a church choir to come help the sopranos sing the first half (Christmas portion) of Handel's Messiah. The performance was accompanied by an orchestra, and I must say, it was one of the best experiences I ever had...I've never forgotten that particular Christmas in my life. So, in thinking of Handel, I've chosen one of his pieces for Sunday's prelude entitled "Sarabande".

In addition to composing choral and orchestral works, Handel also wrote suites—mostly dances and other short sketches—for the harpsichord which were wildly popular among players of the period. This stately dance from his Suite No. 11 and two of its variations were issued in 1733 by Handel's publisher, who neglected to even obtain the composer's permission to print his work! However, the Sarabande reached a host of new admirers, and still does today, having been used in film and television productions. Though written in a minor key, I find Sarabande to be very celebratory, fitting for Advent, and celebrations soon to follow!

Shalom!!

Lakeside United Methodist Church
Christmas Worship Services

Dec. 19th ~ Lessons and Carols 8:30 & 10:30 am
 Dec. 21st ~ Blue Christmas Service 6:00 pm
 Christmas Eve ~ Candlelight Communion 3:00 & 5:30 pm
 Dec. 26th ~ One Service 10:30 am