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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, December 20

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

6:30 Choir Practice

Thursday, Dec. 21

Friday, December 22

Office closed

Saturday, Dec. 23

Sunday, Dec. 24 Christmas Eve

10:30 Sanctuary Worship

5:30 Candlelight Service

Monday, Dec. 25 Christmas

Office is closed

Tuesday, Dec. 26

Office is closed

Wednesday, Dec. 27

9:30 LAAF

3:00 Coffee with the Pastor

Thursday, Dec. 28

Friday, December 29

Office closed

Saturday, Dec. 30

Sunday, Dec. 31 New Year's Eve

10:30 Sanctuary Worship

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

The office will be open Dec. 27-28 and
back to normal days and time, January 2.

The Lakeside Messenger

Lakeside United Methodist Church, Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71601

Volume MMXXII, Issue 51 December 20, 2023



"And we'll cherish all these simple things wherever we may be"

Can you believe Christmas is Monday? It feels like time sped up and this year just rushed past us. If it wasn't for the music, lights, sweaters, the Hallmark channel, and the wishy washy Arkansas weather I wouldn't believe how little time we have until Christmas. I haven't even started my Christmas shopping!

As stressful as this time is, I love it, whether I'm by myself or surrounded by loved ones. There's comfort in seeing others light up at simple acts of kindness or when receiving an unexpected gift. I can't contain a smile when I see complete strangers singing carols together or wishing each other a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I believe it to be a time where any prejudice or impoliteness tends to mostly dissolve. It's a time for sharing our blessings.

Las Posadas was created as a form for Spaniards to teach Native Americans about Christmas. The word Posadas translates to inn or lodging. Traditionally it is celebrated from December 16 to Christmas Eve, which is when Hispanic countries celebrate Christmas. Even though piñatas are more commonly seen at birthday parties, they were actually created for the Posada Christmas. These piñatas were shaped like stars with 7 points, symbolizing the 7 deadly sins that were broken as soon Mary and Joseph were given shelter. In addition to piñatas, there is a reenactment of the journey of Mary and Joseph, and the children who are involved get to dress like Mary, Joseph, an angel, and in other biblical attire while the adults follow behind.

This year we made it a point to involve the children who participate in Midweek Manna, as well as give an opportunity for families who cannot always participate on weekends to join us. Therefore on Wednesday, December 13 we had the opportunity of having our own Posadas. We expected the Midweek Manna kids and maybe a few of their parents and siblings. We were definitely not expecting there to be a lot more participants or that the food that the parents of our midweek mana kids had brought would run out. This festivity was a great way to incorporate and share a tradition with both our Midweek families and Lakesiders.

Wishing you all the best during this Holiday season,
Vanessa



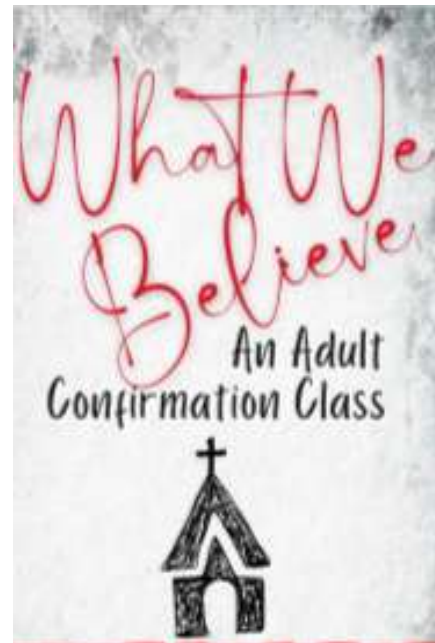
Lakesiders, having promised to be loyal to Jesus Christ through The United Methodist Church and to do all in our power to strengthen its ministries, live out our promise by God's grace together— participating faithfully in the ministries of Lakeside United Methodist Church by our prayers, our presence,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

Chicken Spaghetti Fundraiser

Thank you, Thank you!
We raised over \$2,000 for the Christmas Kid Fund. A huge thank you to Sandy Bobo for cooking and all of you that donated.

Lakeside Christmas Kid Ministry

45 kids received wrapped gifts this year. Thank you to all that shopped, donated, organized, and wrapped. You all helped to make Christmas a little bit more special for some very deserving children.



Do you ever wonder what we believe as Christians? Has anyone asked you about your beliefs as a United Methodist? Do you want to learn more about your faith and the meaning of some of our church traditions? Adult Confirmation small groups might have something for you!

On January 7th at 9:30 am, between worship services, Pastor Judy will lead a brief meeting to discuss Adult Confirmation small group opportunities.

Together, we will find the best days and times to try and accommodate everyone who wants to attend. Join us in The Center on January 7th to help us schedule a small group that meets your needs.



We pray for the sick:

Roman Nodurfth, Barbara Tracy, Jane Nixon, Ken Theis, Sue Frigon, Joy Cross, and Helen Hudson-Holtzen.

We pray for the grieving:

The Robbie Atkinson Family
The Casey Hardin Family (Lee and Elizabeth Hardin)
The Edwin Powell Family (Ron and Janelle Powell)

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.

No Messenger next week.

Next edition will be sent out January 3, 2024!

2024 Altar Flowers

It's time to mark the new 2024 calendar. If you'd like to honor or remember someone with altar flowers, please call Jennifer at 534-6241 or email the church to reserve your Sunday. If you have a particular Sunday that you reserve year after year, please confirm as well.

2024 Commitment Cards

Thank you to all who have submitted your pledges for 2024. Your generosity has been amazing! If you have not yet sent in your pledge, it will be most helpful to the Leadership Board's 2024 budgeting to receive them as soon as possible.

Help us finish 2023 strong and prepared for ministry in 2024. We need an estimated \$51,000 to cover our expenditures. If you need information on your 2023 pledge status, please call our treasurer, Carolyn Hamilton.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

If you are a new(er) member, please take a moment and send the office your dates for our files.



Sunday, Dec. 17 2023

8:30 Chapel Worship -no service
9:15 Sunday school - no Sunday School
10:30 Worship - 112
Online Worship - 18

Our Weekly Service at Church Sunday, December 24, 2023

Senior Pastor: Rev. Judy Rudd; **Pastoral Intern:** Sara Andrews;
Director of Music: Ann Tibbs; **Children's Moments:** Jennifer Fox

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

Dec. 25 Brass Polishers: Deborah Whitaker

Dec. 27 Counters: George Mitchell and Deborah Whitaker

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

www.lakesidepb.org



Latest Sunday School News

Due to the holidays and special events, Sunday School classes will not meet until January 7, 2024

January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 9:30 LAAF 10:30 Staff Mtg 3:00 Coffee w/Pastor 6:00 Choir practice	4	5 Office is closed	6
7 8:30 Chapel Wor. 8:45 Handbells 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Sanctuary Wor. 4:00 Trinity Village	8	9 1:00 PEO - Center 5:30 United Women in Faith Organizational Meeting @Lakeside	10 9:30 LAAF 12:00 N2N 3:00 Coffee w/Pastor 4:00 Mid-wk Manna 6:00 Choir practice	11	12 Office is closed	13 8:00 Men's Breakfast
14 8:30 Chapel Wor. 8:45 Handbells 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Sanctuary Wor.	15	16 5:30 Leadership Board	17 9:30 LAAF 1:30 DAR- Center 3:00 Coffee w/Pastor 4:00 Mid-wk Manna 6:00 Choir practice	18	19 Office is closed	20
21 8:30 Chapel Wor. 8:45 Handbells 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Sanctuary Wor.	22	23	24 9:30 LAAF 3:00 Coffee w/Pastor 4:00 Mid-wk Manna 6:00 Choir practice Food	25 Distribution	26 Office is closed	27
28 8:30 Chapel Wor. 8:45 Handbells 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Sanctuary Wor.	29	30	31 9:30 LAAF 3:00 Coffee w/Pastor 4:00 Mid-wk Manna 6:00 Choir practice			

January Birthdays

3	Rodrigo Gil Deborah Whitaker	16	Annabelle Reed Justin Taylor
8	Owen McNulty		Barbara Tracy
9	Adam Gates Judy Rudd Sam Teague	20	Abby Bobo Martin Huber
10	Anna Bobo Nancy Dobbs Lynn Newton Mildred Elizabeth Reed	21	Rachel Box
11	Allison Morgan	25	Jack Cheshier
13	Bill Hilgefard Teddy Owens	26	Kelli Farnam
14	Salvador Estrada Yvonne Glien Michael Lee	30	Matthew Beatty Dustin Sharp
15	Joe Coles	31	Bob Castleberry Charlie Craig Ramona Harkins

January Wedding Anniversaries

	Day	# of Years
George and Mary Catherine Kyle	4	55
Kelli and John Farnam	11	10
Estefinia and Edgar Jaime	14	12
Clay and Samantha Corkins	25	5
Linda and Ted McNulty	28	51

January 2024

We pray for the sick: Jane Nixon, Barbara Tracy, Joy Cross, Sue Frigon, and Kashimi Elkins.

We pray for the grieving: The Robbie Atkinson Family
The Edwin Powell Family

Other: 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.

Continued prayers for

Shelby Alfaro	Janene Davis	Brandon Rhoden
Glenn Babb	Steve Dobbins	Marilyn Rouse
Kelly Baker & family	Mindy Everetts	Ralph Rouse
John Baltzell	Matt Hart	Gene Russ
Nathan Baltzell	Helen Hudson Holtzen	Elizabeth Sadler
Robert Baltzell	Martin Huber	Diana Schwanhausser
Christie Barron	Carol Ivy	Tina Shepard
Helen Bates	Sissy Jones	Russ Shorts
Donna Barnett	Connie Kitchens	Janice Smithy
Erika Best	Mary Catherine Kyle	John Smithy
Rebecca Bissing	Steve Landon	Kathy Tanner
Lee Blankenship	Brian Langley	Steven Taylor
Luther Bridgers	Colby Lee	Carolyn Theis
Stephen Browning	Nancy Martinez	Ken Theis
Bobbie Bullock	Jimmy McBurnett	Johnny Villareal
Carol Burckhalter	Danny McCauley	Katie Watson
Mary E. Calhoun	Bubba Milam	JoAnn White
Alvaro A. Cano	Jerry Newton	Dawson Whiteside
Lynn Connor	Isaac Peters	Bill Wilcox
Clay Cross	Annetta Richter	Connie Smith
Whitney Crutchfield	Pete Robinson	