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If you are a Facebook



user, like us at [https://  
www.facebook.com/  
LakesidePB/](https://www.facebook.com/LakesidePB/)

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

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

Wednesday, December 25  
**Merry Christmas!**

Thursday, Dec. 26  
*Office is closed*

Friday, Dec. 27  
*Office closed*

Saturday, Dec. 28

Sunday, Dec. 29 One Service  
10:30 Sanctuary Worship

Monday, Dec. 30  
*Office is closed*

Tuesday, Dec. 31 New Year's Eve  
*Office is closed*

Wednesday, Jan. 1

**Happy New Year!**

Thursday, Jan. 2  
*Office is closed*

Friday, Jan. 3  
*Office closed*

Saturday, Jan. 4

11:00 United Women in Faith-  
Epiphany Brunch

Sunday, Jan. 5

8:30 Chapel Worship  
8:45 Handbells (small group)  
9:15 Sunday School  
10:30 Sanctuary Worship  
4:00 Trinity Village Vespers

# The Lakeside Messenger

Lakeside United Methodist Church, Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71601

Volume MMXXIV, Issue 52 December 25, 2024



Dear Friends, The twinkling Christmas lights adorning our homes and neighborhoods have a special way of lifting our spirits during the season. But as the 25th comes and goes, many of us start the process of taking them down, boxing up the decorations, and tucking away the festive glow until next year. What if, instead, we let those lights inspire us to shine a little longer?

Jesus tells us in Matthew 5:14-16, "You are the light of the world. A city on top of a hill can't be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a basket. Instead, they put it on top of a lampstand, and it shines on all who are in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before people, so they can see the good things you do and praise your Father who is in heaven." As we celebrate Christ's birth, let's remember that the light of Christmas is not confined to a single day. It's an ongoing call to embody Christ's hope, peace, joy, and love all year long.

I invite you this week to linger a little longer. Soon enough the glow of Christmas will fade as we settle back into routine. Yet, like the lights that brighten even the darkest winter nights, our faith is meant to shine continually. Small acts of kindness, a forgiving spirit, or simply listening to someone in need can illuminate God's love in a world that often feels cold and lonely.

I am also excited to share that we're embracing this call to shine with a new Sunday School class launching on January 5th. De Gasnier and I will be leading this group in the Youth area starting January 5th. Together, we'll explore The Faith of a Mockingbird by Matt Rawle, a study that connects themes of faith, justice, and grace with Harper Lee's classic novel. It's an opportunity to strengthen our own light and reflect it outward in meaningful ways.

So, before you pack up the ornaments and store away the garland, remember that you don't have to put away your light this season. Let's make a resolution not just for January but for every day: to let our lights shine brightly, to share God's love with others, and to keep the Christmas spirit alive in all we do.

You are the light of the world. Let's keep shining.

Blessings,

Rev. Sam Meadors



*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!*

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year**

So that Lakeside staff and the wonderful volunteers who diligently prepare and send out the Lakeside Messenger may have a well deserved break, there will not be a newsletter next week.



*We pray for the sick:* Logan Mondragon, Jim Webb, Valerie Morgan, Earle Phillips (no calls or texts please) Betty Coles.

Pray for the congregation of St. Paul UMC, Malvern

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

**Gifts given to Lakeside**

Met and Carol Jones  
In honor of Etoyle Mouser by the Bill Caldwell Family  
In memory of Sarah & Loyd Bobo and in honor of Sandy Bobo by Russell & Sarah Short.

**That's a wrap!**

Thank you to everyone that gave generously, shopped cheerfully, and wrapped beautifully this year's gifts for our Lakeside Christmas Kids. Because of you, Christmas morning truly represents the love of Christ and the gifts that our Savior brings to the world— Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.

**2025 Altar Flowers**

The 2025 calendar is here. If you would like to provide the altar flowers on any particular Sunday, please contact Jennifer. This is a great way to honor and remember our loved ones or special occasions.



**Sunday, Dec. 22, 2024**

10:30 Worship - 106  
Online Worship - 13

**Our Weekly Service at Church  
December 29, 2024 One service only**

**Sermon:** Tony Elkins; **Liturgist:** Jennifer Fox  
**Director of Music:** Ann Tibbs; **Children's Moments:** Jennifer Fox  
**Ushers:** Steve Dobbins, Joe Coles, Rob Wyatt, Bobby Wyatt, Roy Whitaker, Ken Kesterson

**Jan. 2 Brass Polishers:** Ellen Wyatt and Yvonne Glien  
**Jan. 2 Counters:** Linda LaClair and Mike Frye

All services are available on Facebook or Facebook Live and 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)



**Mark your calendar!**

United Women in Faith will host an Epiphany Brunch, Saturday, January 4th at 11:00am in The Fellowship Hall. Tickets will be available for \$10.00.

**Las Posadas 2024**



**Young Adults Christmas Party 2024**

**Latest Sunday School News  
December 29, 2024 9:15am.**

Sunday School classes will not meet Dec. 29th.

**January 5, 2025**

**Discovery Class:** Adam Hamilton's Words of Life— Jesus and the Promise of the 10 Commandments.

**Wesley Class:** This week's discussion— Deciding to Follow Jesus. All are welcome to attend.

**The "yet to be named"** new class will begin studying Matt Rawle's book, The Faith of a Mockingbird. Led by Sam Meadors, this class will meet in the Youth area on the 3rd floor. If you've been thinking about attending Sunday School, this is a great time to start.



God's covenant of love with us was fulfilled in Jesus. Please join us for our new sermon series Our Family Tree: Jesus ~ the Way, the Truth, the Life. Let God's covenantal love pour over you through Jesus' teachings, healings, life, death and resurrection this winter and spring.

**Missions News**

Items needed for ongoing ministries  
**Broadmoor Backpack Ministry:** cans of ravioli, spaghetti-os, boxes of Mac & Cheese.  
**Neighbor to Neighbor:** tuna; **Blessing Box:** non-perishable items



# January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <i>Happy New Year!</i>	2  Office is open!	3  Office is closed	4 <i>11:00 Epiphany Brunch- F. Hall</i>
5 8:30 Chapel Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Sanc Worship 4:00 Trinity Village Vespers	6	7	8 9:30 LAAF 12:00 N2N 1:00 Discipleship 3:00 Zoom F & F 4:00 Mid Week Manna 6:00 Choir	9	10  Office is closed	11 8:00 Men's Breakfast
12 8:30 Chapel Wor. 8:45 Handbells 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Sanctuary Wor.	13	14  1:00 PEO	15 9:30 LAAF 1:00 Discipleship 3:00 Zoom F & F 4:00 Mid Week Manna 6:00 Choir	16	17  Office is closed	18
19 8:30 Chapel Wor. 8:45 Handbells 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Sanctuary Wor.	20	21  1:30 DAR	22 9:30 LAAF 1:00 Discipleship 3:00 Zoom F & F 4:00 Mid Week Manna 6:00 Choir	23  10:00 United Women in Faith- Lakeside	24  Office is closed	25
26 8:30 Chapel Wor. 8:45 Handbells 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Sanctuary Wor.	27	28  5:30 Leadership Board Mtg.	29 9:30 LAAF 1:00 Discipleship 3:00 Zoom F & F 4:00 Mid Week Manna 6:00 Choir	30	31  Office is closed	

## January Birthdays

3	Rodrigo Gil Deborah Whitaker	14	Salvador Estrada Yvonne Glien
8	Owen McNulty		Michael Lee
9	Judy Rudd	15	Joe Coles
10	Nancy Dobbs Lynn Newton Mildred Reed	16	Annabell Reed
		20	Martin Huber
11	Allison Morgan	25	Jack Cheshier
13	Bill Hilgeford Teddy Owens	26	Kelli Farnam
		30	Matthew Beatty
		31	Bob Castleberry

## January 2025

### **New Prayer Request Policy**

*"My house will be known as a house of prayer for all peoples, says the Lord God." Isaiah 56:7*

Everyone is encouraged to keep his/her prayer requests updated. Names will rotate off unless a request to continue is received in the office either by email- lakesidepb@arumc.org or a phone call 534-6241.

**Immediate/Pressing Concerns:** Logan Mondragon, Jim Webb, Valerie Morgan, Earle Phillips (please, no phone calls or texts at this time.)

Pray for our partner church– St. Paul United Methodist Church, Malvern and their pastor, Andrew Orr.

## January Wedding Anniversaries

	<b>Day</b>	<b># of Years</b>
George and Mary Catherine Kyle	4	56
John and Kelli Farnam	11	11
Edgar and Estefania Jaime	14	13
Clay and Samantha Corkins	25	6
Ted and Linda McNulty	28	53

## Continued prayers for the following:

Glenn Babb (6/12/24)  
Christie Barron (6/12/24)  
Carol Burckhalter (6/12/24)  
Lynda Pickler (6/12/24)  
Logan Mondragon (6/19/24)  
Caroline Coles (7/17/24)  
Nathan Baltzell (7/17/24)  
Mary Lee Hall (8/26/24)  
Jerry Newton (8/26/24)  
Laura Sparks  
Martin Huber  
Violet Ross  
Kashimi Elkins  
Carol Luebker  
Jerry Ingram  
Etoyle Mouser  
Betty Coles (12/24)

### **Homebound/Assisted Living**

Carolyn Theis  
Ken Theis  
Mary Catherine Kyle  
Dilcy Glien  
Bob Castleberry  
Marilyn Rouse  
Ralph Rouse  
Bill Wilcox  
Billie Doster  
Wannie Pope