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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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I believe in redemption – perhaps to a fault sometimes. I admit that sounds like a strange statement to make, but people have observed that I tend to believe in God’s redemptive power in situations that seem to exceed possibility. A pastor-mentor once said that if he was ever lost at sea, he hoped that I was on the search and rescue team because I would never give up.

Of course, the greatest redemption we have ever received is Christ’s redemption of us through his death which reconciles us to God and one another. Last Sunday, I mentioned that we are part of God’s greater redemption story – for Christ told us that after his ascension into heaven, we continue in the Power of the Holy Spirit to do even greater things than Christ. (John 14:12) For me and many of us, this seems like a tall order – we can’t go through with it. But hear the good news! We are not alone. Christ never intended for us to do these things on our own. We, together are the Body of Christ, and in his strength and power, we can do greater things!

“Together” means we need each other to accomplish the ministries that Jesus has placed before us. Jesus said, “Let the children come to me, and do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.”¹⁷ Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” (Luke 18:16-17) Ministry to children is one of the ministries that Christ has given us. For the last few years, the Wednesday night children’s ministry has been limited to a meal and tutoring; however, God is calling us to more!

Beginning Wednesday, March 1st, we will have a new Wednesday night Midweek Manna schedule, and we need your help to live into this God’s sized dream and our calling.

3:10 – 3:30 Children are picked up from school by the church bus or dropped off by family

4:00 – 5:15 Children receive a snack and tutoring by our tutor volunteers

5:30 – 6:00 Meal shared by children and adults

6:00 – 7:00 Children’s discipleship, ESL classes, adult discipleship and activities

This is how we need your help to make this calling a reality and comply with our Safe Gatherings requirements:

2 servants to assist with children’s discipleship time each week

1 – 2 Servants to assist with the nursery

2-3 Servants to heat and serve the pre-prepared meal

If you can support this ministry with your presence and service one or more Wednesday evenings a month, please contact the office, Sandy Bobo or Pastor Judy.

It is a big dream for a new day – a new day in which God is redeeming the pain and sorrow, the doubt and frustration, and the despair and confusion of the past. Let us move confidently with hope and assurance of Christ’s redemptive power into the future that is planned for us!

Pastor Judy

What’s Happening @ Lakeside United Methodist Church

Wednesday, February 8

9:30 LAAF
10:00 Food Prep for Distribution
3:00 Coffee with the Pastor
5:30 Mid Week Manna
6:00 Young Disciples meet
6:00 Tutoring & ESL

Thursday, February 9

9:00 Mobil Food Distribution
5:00 Pick Up Food Distribution

Friday, February 10

Office closed

Saturday, February 11

8:00 United Methodist Men meet

Sunday, February 12

8:30 Chapel Worship
9:15 Sunday school
10:30 Sanctuary Worship
11:30 Souper Bowl Pot Luck

Monday, February 13

Tuesday, February 14

1:00 PEO meets

Wednesday, February 15

10:30 Staff meeting
3:00 Coffee with the Pastor
5:30 Mid Week Manna
6:00 Young Disciples meet
6:00 Tutoring & ESL

Thursday, February 16

Friday, February 17

Office closed

Saturday, February 18

Sunday, February 19

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!

Prudent Stewardship

Most of us do not like change. The older we grow, the less we appreciate changes. However, at Lakeside we have reached a point of needing to embrace a change. As you already know, postage has increased, again. Although we use the bulk rate, we are currently spending over \$80 per week in postage to mail The Messenger which adds up to over \$4160 per year! To be good stewards of God's tithes and your contributions, on March 1st, we will discontinue mailing The Messenger to everyone.

During the month of February, we will be reviewing and revising our newsletter email and mailing list. We will initially discontinue mailing the newsletter to anyone who already receives it electronically. We will also discontinue mailing the newsletter to people who may no longer have a connection with the church.

If you currently receive a mailed copy and want to continue receiving the newsletter by email, please call the office and provide your email address. If you currently receive a mailed copy and have no electronic means of receiving The Messenger, please notify the office that you need to continue receiving a hard copy by some means.

We apologize for the inconvenience that this will cause some of our regular recipients of The Messenger. We hope you understand that these changes are necessary to be prudent stewards of God's tithes and your offerings which you entrust to Lakeside.



The Faces of Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday Services

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. It is the day that we remember our mortality, repent of our sins and begin the preparation of our hearts and minds as we travel the six weeks of Lent

toward Easter. Please plan to attend one of our two services: 12:00 pm in the chapel 6:00 pm in the sanctuary Give thanks to Christ for his mercy and grace and leave your burdens with him. The imposition of ashes will be offered in both services.



Due to the icy weather last week, the food prep and distribution has been rescheduled to Wednesday, February 8 and Thursday, February 9 at the following times

Wednesday
10:00 Food Prep

Thursday
9:00 Mobil Food Distribution
5:00 Pick Up Food Distribution



We pray for the sick:

Grieving: The Barbara Powell Family
The Bob Smithey 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



This Sunday, February 12th is our Souper Bowl lunch after the 10:30 service. Please bring your favorite soup to share with others. You may also bring crackers, cornbread, tostado chips or whatever you like with your soup. We will vote on our favorite soups!

Lakeside will also be collecting cans of soup, which along with all monetary donations, will go to Neighbor to Neighbor. You don't want to miss this fun event that also supports our community!

Sandy Bobo

TOWN HALL MEETING

Don't forget that our first Town Hall meeting of 2023 will be held immediately after the Souper Bowl fundraiser. Bring your observations, questions and suggestions to share with the Leadership Board and Lakeside community.

See you there!



FEB. 21 2023 ANNUAL CHILI SUPPER

Come join us for some excellent food, fellowship, and fun!! Dine in or take outs available. Tickets \$5.00. Choice of soups, chili, all the "fixings" for the chili and desserts.



Sunday, February 5, 2023
8:30 Chapel Worship - 12
9:15 Sunday School - 22
10:30 Worship - 57
Online Worship - 20

Our Weekly Service at Church Sunday, February 12, 2023

Senior Pastor: The Reverend Judy Rudd; **Liturgist:** Tommy Brown
Director of Music: Ann Tibbs; **Children's Moments:** Laura Richards
Sermon Title: Why God's Love Prevails!
Sermon Series: Why? Making Sense of God's Will
Scripture: Ephesians 3:16-21

Flowers: Ellen Nelson & Family; **Ushers:** Steve Dobbins, Joe Coles, Rob Wyatt, Bobby Wyatt, Roy Whitaker, Ken Kesterson

February 13 Brass Polishers: Ramona Harkins, Sandy Bobo, Susan Coles

February 13 Counters: Shelby Stone & Laura Richards

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

Happy Birthday!

Ken Theis will be celebrating his 100th birthday on February 16th. If you would like to send him a birthday card his address is as follows:

Ken Theis
6530 Trinity Drive
Pine Bluff, AR 71603



United
Women
in Faith

The first meeting of the United Women in Faith was held on Monday, Feb. 6 at Trinity Village in the Great Room. There were 15 women in attendance!

Attendees shared about what they liked about the meetings when they were under the name United

Methodist Women. This was followed by refreshments and fellowship. I hope more will attend the next meeting in March.

Sandy Bobo

SUMMARY OF LEADERSHIP BOARD BUSINESS APRIL 2022 – JANUARY 2023

To simplify this information, we have grouped the business by topics.

Building & Trustees

Approved replacement of the sanctuary chancel lighting with LED at \$67,642 (4-22 – Paid by Endowment)

Approved replacement of the shades and blinds in the offices and The Center to help with energy efficiency and ease of use at a cost of \$7400. (4-22 – Paid by Memorials)

Approved storage of church vehicle at Humberto and Ernestina @ \$30 per month (4-22)

Repairs to the leaking roof were completed. (6-22)

Roberts McNutt bid \$168,000 to power wash and waterproof the sanctuary. (8-22) A second bid from Western Waterproofing Co. was received and approved for \$145,377. Anticipated costs for the lighting, waterproofing and necessary painting were estimated at \$253,000 with sufficient Endowment funds to cover the expenses. (10-22)

Authorized exploring repair / replacement options for our damaged church bus. (10-22)

Finance

Electricity costs exceeded budget and were anticipated to go over budget in 2022. (8-22) The financial report was \$35,000 in the red due to an unanticipated increase in utilities but December tithes and offerings were anticipated to remedy the situation. (9-22)

Approved Pastor Judy to hire a suitable candidate as a youth or young adult leader and moving the budget line item of \$2000 for A/V assistant to compensate the hire. (8-22)

After receiving a 5-year history of church donations, the Church Treasurer indicated that we needed \$171,177.38 to make the 2022 budget. Tommy Brown, Finance Chair, was authorized to compose a letter to the congregation with the church's need and the situation was to be included in the newsletter. (10-22)

Board notified of significant increase in church insurance. (11-22)

Approved designation of Christmas Eve offerings, other than those designated for the budget, to establish a fund to support Broadmoor Elementary school ministries. (12-22)

Memorial Expenditures: Audio/Visual equipment and licenses \$5594; replacement computer \$2308; landscape design \$1950; programs and miscellaneous \$194.

Programs

Approved \$1500 to purchase music more appropriate for our smaller choir. (5-22–Ayres)

Approved \$1000 to purchase books for the summer reading programs. (5-22– Ayres)

Approved a Volunteer Appreciation luncheon to be funded by Memorials (8-15)

Approved adoption of a revised Safe Gatherings policy in alignment with the Arkansas Conference directive. (9-22)

Approved \$2890 for Organist to purchase equipment that allows individual pieces of music to be recorded and compiled for a worship service in her absence.(12-22 Ayres)

Staff Parish Relations Committee (no confidential matters are included)

Discussed personnel and approved salary recommendations. (4-22; 7-22; 8-22; 11-22; 12-22)

Work accommodations were made for Geraldin Mondragon so that she could work from home over the summer and care for her family.

Leadership

Approved material to disseminate regarding disaffiliation conversations and dates and times of initial Town Hall meetings. (6-22)

Approved a Spanish speaking and additional English Town Hall Meeting. (7-22)

Approved proposal to bring the Endowment Committee under the Leadership Board.(8-22) The Charge Conference to approve this proposal was set for October 10th @ 6:00.

Approval of annual Charge Conference reports with minor changes. (9-22)

Missions

Food Distributions for up to 50 families were held in January, February, March, May, September, November and December at a total cost of approximately \$8500 to be paid from Lakeside's Mission Fund at the Methodist Foundation.

Organized and collaborated with others to provide transportation and hold Midweek Manna tutoring from September through May.

Wrote and applied for numerous grants and successfully received most of the grants.

Planned, organized and held a community Easter Egg Hunt, Back to School Bash, and Trunk or Treat events. The Back to School Bash distributed 120 backpacks and school supplies, provided 97 health screenings and 7 Covid and booster vaccines.

Project Transformation held at Lakeside June 8th-July 27th: Registered Hispanic children for the program, organized and coordinated intern meal preparation, reading buddy volunteers and children's transportation, assisted with planning and coordinating volunteers for Family Fun Night, and created flyers for distribution.

Completed and submitted background checks for all volunteers working with children.