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Edith Valdez Castro &  
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Humberto Solis, Security

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, January 8

9:30 LAAF  
1:00 Discipleship Class  
1:30 Bess Jenkins  
3:00 Zoom F & F  
4:00 Mid-Week Manna  
6:00 Choir Practice

#### Thursday, Jan. 9

#### Friday, Jan. 10

Office closed

#### Saturday, Jan. 11

8:00 Men's Breakfast- weather permitting

#### Sunday, Jan. 12

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

#### Monday, Jan. 13

#### Tuesday, Jan. 14

1:00 PEO

#### Wednesday, Jan. 15

9:30 LAAF  
10:00 Staff Mtg.  
1:00 Discipleship Class  
1:30 Bess Jenkins  
3:00 Zoom F & F  
4:00 Mid-Week Manna  
6:00 Choir Practice

#### Thursday, Jan. 16

#### Friday, Jan. 17

Office closed

#### Saturday, Jan. 18

#### Sunday, Jan. 19

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

# The Lakeside Messenger

Lakeside United Methodist Church, Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71601

Volume MMXXIV, Issue 1, January 8, 2025



Do you remember how you felt when you walked into your church home for the first time? Perhaps you were anxious or timid. Perhaps grief and loss had pushed you through the doors. Perhaps you were excited about what and who were on the other side. Or perhaps you don't remember because you first entered in your parent's arms.

People attend churches for the first time for a variety of reasons: geographic moves, personal losses or catastrophes, God nudges, and most recently, church disaffiliations. Whatever the reason for taking those first steps, walking through the door is often not easy.

But people today no longer must open the door of the church to enter! They are no longer required to drive by the church or view the marquee. Today, people enter a church for the first time through the church's online presence. Before persons step into a church, they experience the church and it's people through the church's website and/or online worship. Just like you can use your phone to see the hours of operation of a restaurant or discover if a store has what you need in stock, people can use their phone or computer to see Lakeside's worship, ministries, activities, bulletins, newsletters, staff and much more!

Last Sunday, the importance of our online presence was affirmed! Two visitors entered the front doors and greeted Edith Valdez by name. While looking at her phone, one of the visitors easily identified Edith by her picture on our Lakeside website. Similarly, they already knew that the 8:30 service was in our chapel and sought directions. Our two visitors were Mayor Vivian Flowers and her Chief of Staff, Rev. Joyce Campbell!

The importance of Lakeside's website, online presence and technology team cannot be underestimated! While we may remember first walking through the front doors into our church home, today, our brothers and sisters in Christ will likely first enter our church's online front doors. If you have never looked at our website, your visit is long overdue! George Mitchell and Linda LaClair work hard to keep our information updated and our content fresh! They are diligent to include images of worship, music, children's ministries, and adult ministries that are informative and appealing to a variety of people. They also provide information that helps orient and equip people as they walk through the doors for the first time. We are so blessed to have George and Linda to ensure that when people knock at our electronic front door, they are welcomed with the same warmth and greeting that they would if they were walking through the physical doors.

Praise be to God for Lakeside's willingness and tenacity in offering Jesus to people in ways that meet them where they are today!

*Pastor Judy*



*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!*

### 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.



*We pray for the sick:* Linda McNulty, Bobbie Bullock (Elaine Vaccaro), Jim Webb, Valerie Morgan, Betty Coles, and Earle Phillips.

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.*

### Logan Mondragon Family

Once again Logan has conquered sickness and is back to his normal happy self. My heart was full of happiness to know from many of you and to see how much you care for my boy through his ups and downs and to see the many forms of love towards my family.

Thank you for all of your prayers, sweet texts, gifts and get-well cards.

With love,  
The Mondragon Family



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.

### Bus News

Heartfelt thanks go out to Ellen Wyatt and Foster's Towing and Recovery for quickly installing three child restraint floor mounts in our new bus! This makes our bus to roll ready on January 8th for the return of Mid-Week Manna.



### Sunday, January 5, 2025

8:30 Worship - 17  
Sunday School - 22  
10:30 Worship - 71  
Online Worship - 18  
Trinity Vespers - 22

Christmas Eve 12:00- 15  
5:30- 142

Dec. 29, 2024- 65 (one service)

### Our Weekly Service at Church January 12, 2025

**Sermon:** Rev. Judy Rudd; **Liturgist:** Laura Richards  
**Director of Music:** Ann Tibbs; **Children's Moments:** Jennifer Fox  
**Ushers:** Steve Dobbins, Joe Coles, Rob Wyatt, Bobby Wyatt, Roy Whitaker, Ken Kesterson

**Jan. 13 Brass Polishers:** Catherine Anne Atkinson and Sue Merritt  
**Jan. 13 Counters:** Shelby Stone and Laura Richards

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)

### Latest Sunday School News January 12, 2025 9:15am.

**Discovery Class:** Starting soon- Robert Schuller's The Be (Happy) Attitudes. Please order a copy or a let Terry know if you need a book. They will run about \$9.

**Wesley Class:** This week's discussion- Christ's Community  
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.

### 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



### Volunteer Opportunities

We are in need of one or two more nursery nannies to help in the nursery on Sunday mornings. If you're good at playing with toys and love a cuddle, this is a great way to serve.

We need more adults to help with Mid-week Manna. Many of our children would benefit from one-on-one tutoring. If you would be willing to help with either of these opportunities, please contact Sandy Bobo at 540-7099 or Jennifer Fox at 534-6241

### SUMMARY OF DECEMBER 21, 2024 LEADERSHIP BOARD MINUTES

- The financial and endowment reports and the consent calendar were reviewed and approved.
- With Trustee Chair, Gerald Majors' report that the down-spout repair is close to completion, the trustee's report was approved.
- The Leadership Board extends its congratulations and deep appreciation for all of Linda LaClair's efforts in researching, acquiring, and receiving delivery of the new church bus as well as ensuring a secure parking space upon its arrival. Thank you, Linda! Well done!!
- The 2025 budget proposed by Finance Chair Tommy Brown with the recommended staff salary increases recommended by SPRC Chair Linda McNulty was approved.
- Townhall meetings in 2025 are tentatively set for March 16, July 13 and November 9 and expenditures of up to \$1200 for each of seven food distributions were authorized to be paid from the Mission Fund in 2025.
- The Mi Casa Director position and alternatively a remote translating position for Lakeside's ministries will be posted.

### 2025 Stewardship Campaign

Although Lakeside's stewardship campaign is early in the new year this year, Lakeside's annual budget runs from January 1 through December 31, 2025. Our church's administration and ministries depend on your regular pledges and giving. Please know that all your 2025 contributions prior to presenting your pledge cards will be credited to your annual 2025 pledge. For those who do not pledge, your 2025 contributions will likewise be credited to you in 2025.