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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, November 8

9:30 LAAF  
10:30 Staff Mtg.  
12:00 Neighbor to Neighbor  
3:00 Coffee with the Pastor  
4:00 Mid-Week Manna  
6:00 Choir Practice

#### Thursday, Nov. 9

#### Friday, Nov. 10

*Office closed*

#### Saturday, Nov.11

8:00 Men's Breakfast  
**Sunday, Nov. 12**  
8:30 Chapel Worship  
8:45 Handbells  
9:15 Sunday School  
10:30 Sanctuary Worship

#### Monday, Nov. 13

#### Tuesday, Nov. 14

10:00 United Women at Trinity  
Village

1:00 PEO

5:30 Leadership Board

#### Wednesday, November 15

9:30 LAAF  
Food Distribution sorting  
3:00 Coffee with the Pastor  
4:00 Mid-Week Manna  
6:00 Choir Rehearsal

#### Thursday, Nov.16

8:00 Food Deliveries  
4:00-6:00 Food Pickups

#### Friday, Nov. 17

*Office closed*

#### Saturday, Nov. 18

#### Sunday, Nov. 19

#### Commitment Sunday

8:30 Chapel Worship  
8:45 Handbells  
9:15 Sunday School  
10:30 Sanctuary Worship  
12:00 Potluck and Town Hall Mtg.

# The Lakeside Messenger

Lakeside United Methodist Church, Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71601

Volume MMXXII, Issue 45 November 8, 2023



On November 19<sup>th</sup>, our Lakeside family will offer their financial and ministry commitments to the church for 2024. Afterwards, we will celebrate with a potluck and Town Hall meeting. As that date quickly approaches, I have been struggling to find just the right words to inspire each person and family to give generously to the kingdom work happening at Lakeside. I have read stewardship articles and visited with colleagues and church leaders, searching for the perfect message of inspiration to motivate our church family to cheerfully and generously give to our church. Unfortunately, I haven't found the magical formula that I hope will nudge those who haven't previously pledged to give, or motivate those who have been giving at the same rate for a while to increase their giving, or even prompt those who can, to increase their giving to God's full tithe. So I've decided to share with you a little about my giving and tithing journey.

As a very young child, I have vivid memories of hearing the clink of my quarter in the offering plate each Sunday as it passed. In my teens, I remember my father in his body and radiator shop faithfully making out his weekly tithe check and telling me that our financial contribution to the church should always be the first check we write. As I entered the workforce, I recall wanting to give God a tenth of my income as the Bible instructs but not seeing a way to do it. I settled into what I thought I could give, but it was never close to a tithe.

I will never forget the life-changing Sunday morning when a member of the stewardship committee at Pulaski Heights encouraged the congregation to begin pledging to the church if we were not already doing so or increase our giving by one or two percent until we reached a tithe of our income. He urged us to consider second-mile giving once we reached a tithe. I was thrilled to have a plan, but I had my doubts about my ability to follow through.

I prayed and asked the Holy Spirit for the amount I would pledge. Some weeks were difficult because my income was low, so I prayed for faith and courage. Over the years, I was able to increase my giving until I reached a regular tithe. My pledges to my churches were opportunities to pray for wisdom in my financial giving and to discern the Spirit's guidance.

Of course, there was the year I prayed long and hard about my additional contribution to the three year building campaign. I discerned what I believed to be an extravagant amount to give. I reluctantly wrote the amount on my pledge card anyway. I worked hard the next couple of years to give the extra amount I had promised, but I missed it by about a third. My unmet commitment remained on my heart even after I moved. Some ten years later, I was able to pay the remainder of that pledge with deep gratitude to God for the willingness and opportunity.

We all have different circumstances and abilities to give to our church. Scripture tells us that what we give is dependent on the focus of our hearts. Where our treasures are, there our hearts will be also (Matthew 6:21). Will the amount you pledge this year reflect the gratitude and generosity in your heart? "Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not regretfully or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7). May your gift be given with a cheerful heart to the glory of God!

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!*

### Commitment Sunday

Join us Nov. 19 as we present our commitments to furthering God's kingdom during our worship services followed by a potluck and Town Hall meeting at noon.

Please make plans to attend.

Chicken and ham will be served so please bring your favorite side-dish and/or dessert.



### November Food Distribution

Our November distribution is Thursday the 16th. I need volunteer help with the following:

- At least 1-2 people to help with the shopping on Tuesday, Nov. 14.
- 4-6 people are need to fill boxes on Wed. morning, Nov. 15 at 9:30 a.m.
- Help load boxes for delivery on Thursday at 8:00a.m.
- Help with box pick-up from 4-6p.m.

If you are able to help, please call me at 540-7099.

Thank you,  
Sandy Bobo

### Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata

The choir will present a Christmas Cantata on Sunday, December 17th during the 10:30 service. If you'd like to sing with the choir but can't commit to every Sunday, we'd love to have you for this special time of worship. Choir practice is from 6-7p.m on Wednesday evenings. The cantata will be rehearsed first and then you are welcome to leave.

### Nursery Attendant

Lakeside is in need of a nursery attendant while Kimberly Mercado is out on maternity leave. This is a paid position. Hours are 5:30-7:00p.m. on Wednesdays and 8:30-12:00 on Sunday mornings.

Please spread the word. For more information, call the office 534-6241.



### We pray for the sick:

Jane Nixon, Sheila Mitchell, Ken Theis, and Helen Hudson-Holtzen.

### We pray for the grieving:

The Charles Morgan 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.**

### Gifts given to Lakeside UMC

In memory of Hope Clement by W.F. Foster, Taylor and Linda Lewis Eubank, and Barrie Hardin



### Calling all "Grandparents, Aunts, and Uncles"

Our partner school, Broadmoor Elementary, will be hosting their Thanksgiving Feast on Wednesday, Nov. 15. They would like for volunteers to sit with students that may not have any family available. If you'd be interested in "sitting in" as a family member, please contact the office for more details.

### Trinity Village Assisted Living Fall Queen

Barbara Tracy was recently crowned Fall Queen at Trinity Village. We've always known that she's special, we're just glad that the rest of the world now knows!



### Neighbor to Neighbor Holiday Baskets

Don't forget your green beans for Christmas baskets.

Please place in the baskets in the office and outside the elevator by November 28.



### Sunday, Nov. 5 2023

8:30 Chapel Worship - 16  
9:15 Sunday school - 29  
10:30 Worship - 70  
Online Worship - 9

### Our Weekly Service at Church Sunday, November 12, 2023

**Senior Pastor:** Rev. Judy Rudd; **Pastoral Intern:** Sara Andrews;  
**Liturgist:** Laura Richards; **Director of Music:** Ann Tibbs;

**Children's Moments:** Jennifer Fox

**Scripture:** Psalm 95

**Sermon Title:** Why United Methodists Worship.

Sermon Series: Why United Methodists \_\_\_\_\_.

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

**November 13 Brass Polishers:** Penny Whitener and Susan Brown

**November 13 Counters:** Shelby Stone and 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](http://www.lakesidepb.org)

### Blessings Box Food Pantry

The cupboard is bare and the need is great! Please grab a few items the next time you are at the store.

Canned vegetables, soup, fruit, tuna kits, individual packages of crackers, cereal, microwavable cups of Mac-n-cheese etc.

Pull-tops make it easier for the recipients.

Please place your items in the baskets available by the elevator or in the office.

### Latest Sunday School News November 12, 2023 at 9:15a.m

**Discovery Class:** Discussion on the New study, *Forgiveness*, will begin on page 87. It's never too late to join in the study.

**Wesley Class:** This week's discussion- Finding Home in Unusual Places. All are welcome to join.