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www.facebook.com/  
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Lakeside Messenger  
Lakeside United  
Methodist Church  
1500 Olive Street  
Pine Bluff AR 71601

# The Lakeside Messenger

Lakeside United Methodist Church, Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71601

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I was visiting with someone the other day about some of the struggles of life. To my surprise, he quoted Jesus' words from the Sermon on the Mount. "*Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*" (Matt 6:33) Of course, when I think of this passage, I recall the song we sang in children's and youth choir. If you know it, sing it with me, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness. And all these things shall be added unto you. Hallelu- Hallelujah!"

For some this Scripture passage contains words of comfort and hope. When life is difficult or overwhelming and we are feeling lost, afraid, sad, angry, confused, or desperate, Jesus' words can be a beacon lighting the path forward and reinforcing our faith. These words give us clear and concise directions to find our way as the storm clouds swirl around us.

For others, these same words hold challenge and conviction. When facing a difficult decision or when considering our level of commitment to a person, a ministry, or our faith, Jesus' words help us to recognize our most important priority. Jesus told us to seek God's kingdom first. Although it may be difficult to fully comprehend the "kingdom of God" and all that it means, we know that God's kingdom is found when we are earnestly fulfilling God's commandments to love God whole-heartedly and love our neighbors as ourselves.

We must be cautious though. These commandments are so well-known that we are tempted to say them without living into them! When we arise in the morning and go to bed at night and live in between with Jesus absolutely first in our lives, and when we know and care for neighbors as we do ourselves, not only will we witness the kingdom of God, but also we can trust God's promise to provide all the other things that we need.

In addition to "*Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well*" (Matt 6:33), another verse has been resonating in my spirit as I prayerfully ponder what discipleship looks like in the post-pandemic church. "In all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight." (Proverbs 3:6) Both of these Scripture passages point to God. They make a promise to us that when we make our relationship with God our number one priority that everything else in our lives will be provided and we will walk God's path. What a life-giving promise!

But what must we do to receive God's promises of provision and righteousness? Do we receive these things by being good or by God's grace? If it were only that simple! No! These promises are received when we put God first and acknowledge God in all that we do!

Perhaps the questions I have been pondering for myself will be helpful to you. Do you turn to God before all else in your life? Do you have times of prayer or reading Scripture each day that affirms God is your priority? To my chagrin, I often cannot answer with a "yes." The first step is simple. We must identify what we must change to make God the most important priority in our lives. Then do it! Will you join me on the road of discipleship?

*Pastor Judy*

## What's Happening @ Lakeside United Methodist Church

### Wednesday, Oct. 16

9:30 LAAF  
12:00 N2N  
3:00 Zoom F & F  
4:00 Mid-Week Manna  
6:00 Choir

### Thursday, Oct. 17

10:00 United Women in Faith at Lakeside

### Friday, Oct. 18

*Office closed*

### Saturday, Oct. 19

1:00 Visitation  
2:00 Arlis Minter service

### Sunday, Oct. 20

8:30 Chapel Worship  
8:45 Handbells  
9:15 Sunday School  
10:30 Sanctuary Worship

### Monday, Oct. 21

### Tuesday, Sept. Oct. 22

5:30 Leadership Board with special guest,  
Lynn Kilbourne from Methodist  
Foundation

### Wednesday, Oct. 23

9:30 LAAF  
3:00 Zoom F & F  
4:00 Mid-Week Manna  
6:00 Choir Practice

### Thursday, Oct. 24

11:00 Trinity Village Soup and Shop

### Friday, Oct. 25

*Office closed*

### Saturday, Oct. 26

1:00 Colby Lee service- reception to follow

### Sunday, Oct. 27

8:30 Chapel Worship  
8:45 Handbells  
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!*

**Trunk or Treat**

Wednesday October 30th  
from 5:30-6:30p.m

Mark your calendars to participate. We need cars, individually wrapped candy, and volunteers to help with food, set-up and take-down.



*We pray for the sick:* Valerie Morgan, Jerry Ingram, Nathan Balztell, Etoyle Mouser, Carol Luebker, and Bill Wilcox.

*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**

**In memory of Michael Motes** by Barbara Massey, Ross and Donna Rickels  
**In memory of Colby Lee** by Ross and Donna Rickels  
**In memory of Arlis Minter** by Ross and Donna Rickels

**UMCOR Disaster Relief**

Please be in prayer for all of the communities affected by Hurricanes Helene and Milton. A link to give to UMCOR has been added to our website page [www.lakesidepb.org](http://www.lakesidepb.org) under the Missions tab or use this QR code with your phone's camera. As always, 100% of all donations to UMCOR go directly to the mission.



**Mid Week Manna Schedule**

- 3:10-3:45 Children are picked at schools by church bus
- 4:00-5:15 Snack and tutoring
- 5:15-5:30 Meal for all
- 5:30-6:00 Children's choir
- 6:00-7:00 Children and adult activities
- \* Disciple time for children kindergarten and higher
- \* English Class (ESL)
- \* Chancel Choir practice

Volunteers are needed!  
Contact Jennifer at 534-6241 or Sandy Bobo at 540-7099



Barry Bates discussing the "reward" system with our new Children's Choir.

**You're invited....**

to hear about Lakeside's Endowments. Tuesday, Oct. 22 at 5:30pm. in The Center. Lynn Kilbourne from The Methodist Foundation will be here to answer all of your questions.

**Green Beans for Neighbor to Neighbor**

Don't forget canned green beans for Neighbor to Neighbor. Holiday sacks will be going out in November and December. Place your beans in the baskets by the elevator or in the church office.



**Do Unto Others Yard Signs**  
A campaign for kindness during the 2024 Election Season.

Don't forget to come and get your sign from the office.



**Sunday, Oct. 13 2024**

8:30 Chapel Worship - 13  
9:15 Sunday school - 21  
10:30 Worship - 75  
Online Worship - 29



**Our Weekly Service at Church**  
**October 20, 2024**

**Sermon:** Rev. Judy Rudd; **Liturgist:** Debbie Owens  
**Director of Music:** Ann Tibbs; **Children's Moment:** Jennifer Fox  
**Sermon:** They Have Rejected Me  
**Sermon Series:** Our Family Tree- The Story of God's Love  
**Scripture:** 1 Samuel 8:4-9; 9:15-17

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

**Oct. 21 Brass Polishers:** Peggy Swob, Sue Cheshier, and Dell Gorman  
**Oct. 21 Counters:** Ramona Harkins and Ellen Wyatt

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**  
**October 20, 2024 9:15am.**

**Discovery Class:** Adam Hamilton's Words of Life- Jesus and the Promise of the 10 Commandments. Sunday's discussion will begin on page 128.

**Wesley Class:** This week's discussion- The Importance of How We Treat Others.  
All are welcome to attend.

**Miracle Sunday Bus Drive**

Total as of 10/15/2024  
\$47,600.00

If you'd like to designate your memorial gifts to Miracle Sunday, mark your check on the memo line

**United Women in Faith**

United Women in Faith will meet at 10:00am this Thursday, Oct. 17th at Lakeside in The Center.



**Have you been praying?**  
**Set your reminder to pray each day.**

**Trinity Village Annual Soup and Shop**

Thursday, October 24th

Doors open at 11:00am. Donations will be taken at the door. Enjoy an array of different soups and shop to your heart's content from over 19 different local vendors who will be there until 3:00pm.



**We have new prayer partners!**

In a way to feel more connected with our fellow South District brothers and sisters, we have been partnered with St. Paul United Methodist Church of Malvern.

Their pastor is Rev. Andrew Orr. Please be in prayer for this congregation and they will be doing the same for us. As time goes on, we will have more opportunities to share with this congregation.

**Trinity Village Christmas gifts**

Trinity Village is asking for small gifts to be donated so that every resident will receive something at their Christmas party in December. Items or monetary donations may be dropped off at the Medical Center- attention of Ashley Goins. Gifts, blankets, body wash, socks, caps, and gloves.