

Messenger

Lakeside United Methodist Church

February 2018

<http://www.lakesideum.org>

Hospitable
Always faithful
Nurturing
Discipleship
Service



*We envision Lakeside United Methodist Church to be God's **HANDS** in our community and beyond: **Hospitable, Always faithful, Nurturing, Discipleship, Service.***

From the Pastor

Communications—a two way street.

As I have spoken with church members I've received many warm welcomes and thought inspiring words about our church. One topic of conversation that has come up with some regularity is 'communications.' Here at LUMC we have various means to pass along important information.

How do you stay informed about church activities? I'd like to review our primary channels of communications:

***Worship bulletin** — each Sunday a page of announcements is included with the worship bulletin. In preparing this document we strive to include timely information about upcoming events or other items.

***The Messenger Newsletter** — this newsletter that you are reading now provides information on a monthly basis about past and future activities. In this newsletter you can read financial and church council reports,

ministry happenings and much more. The monthly birthday list is included in the newsletter as is a 'dates to remember' section for the coming month.

***Phone Tree** — in the case of urgent or more important information we will use the phone tree to pass along communications. We do not use the phone tree on a weekly basis, only as needed.

***Email** — this method of communications has been happening less frequently since the passing of our office administrator. However, we are very close to hiring a new person and when we have a regular administrator in the office we will be getting back to sending regular emails. The previous process we had been using to send email was not very efficient. We are currently exploring options to provide more effective email communications.

***Facebook** — there is a Lakeside UMC Facebook page. On this site you can find information about upcoming church events, sermons, photos and more. Facebook is primarily geared toward internal communication efforts—our congregation.

***Church website** — our church website is the primary means by which we communicate with the world around us. Through the website we present a picture of who we are, what we are doing and what we believe to those who want to learn about us. Our current website is not fully functioning but in the months to come you will see an entirely new Lakeside UMC website with a completely new look. I anticipate this will be by late in 2018.

These methods represent our current means of communication. It is our goal to improve communication efforts. One thing that has been learned in recent weeks is that up to date contact information is not available for everyone connected to Lakeside Church. To that end we are beginning a project to gather up to date information. Attached to this newsletter is a one page member data form. **Even if you think we may already have your correct data, I am asking that you please complete this form and send it in to the office.** If you are coming to the church there is a basket for these forms on the Welcome Center.

Thank you for helping us reach our goal in this regard.

One final aspect of effective communications involves each of you. If you are aware of anyone connected to the church who is sick, in the hospital, has experienced a loss or need, it is very helpful if you would communicate that to the church office by phone or email. It is not uncommon for me to speak with someone before or after worship and learn that they have been in the hospital or experienced a need that I was not aware of when it was happening. Communication is not just from the church to you. Communication is also from you, to the pastor or office. Communication is a two-way proposition.

In this way, the ministry of communications reminds me of the act of prayer. So often we sit down in our quiet place and read off our laundry list of needs to God followed by an "Amen." And then we wonder why God seems so distant. Well, perhaps it's partly because we never stopped to hear what God had to say to us. Communication, and prayer—both a two-way proposition.

Grace upon grace,

Pastor Mark

Children's Ministry News

Children's Calendar for 2018

Sundays	<i>Children's Choir: Practice 4:00 – 4:30 pm</i>	
First Sunday Every Month	<i>Birthday Recognition</i>	
March 31, 2018	<i>Celebration and egg hunt</i>	Saturday, 10 am - noon
June 18 - 22, 2018, Daytime	<i>Vacation Bible School</i>	Monday - Friday, 9:30 - 11:30 am
June 24, 2018	<i>Vacation Bible School Celebration</i>	

Youth Sunday School Update

Over the past "several" years, Sunday School attendance of our youth has declined. We have now combined the Senior High and the Middle School classes. So this is both an information message, and a plea to parents to get your kinds to Sunday School! If your teenager doesn't want to come, understand that is the main thing we try to overcome in class. The **world** would prefer that they not come. The **world** has them far more than the 45 minutes that we do. And we understand that Sunday is a day of rest and if they were out Saturday evening, getting them up for a 9:40 class can be challenging....

That being said, here is an overview of how a given Sunday morning would go. Bob Friend and I co lead the class. We loosely follow Cokesbury's Submerge quarterly leaders guide for Middle School. Class usually opens with a breakfast pastry (provided by Bob) and a few questions directed to the youth. We will ask one youth to open with prayer. It also sets a reverent tone for the balance of class time. We next review the previous week (weeks) lesson(s) calling on one or more youth to recall the lesson. We then temporarily lose our reverence and have a game which introduces the day's topic. Next is the reading of the scripture which the lesson is based on, as we try to get the youth to understand its biblical content. The writers do a great job of transitioning from biblical context to one the students can relate to, by giving us a well written play. These are one page plays which we photocopy and pass out to each youth. Each is assigned a part, and we jump right into it. Youth are required to act the part through enthusiasm and articulation. This segment is the most fun of all. However it leads directly into our final segment: "discuss it". Either Bob or I will introduce a series of related questions with a statement based on the scripture or the play. The other will then ask the questions, often adding our own. Youth are encouraged to answer these poignant questions and we call on shy ones to participate. Where the preceding segments of class tend to be directed toward Middle schoolers, this segment is challenging for all ages, including Bob and myself. We close with a related passage of scripture and a short prayer.

Stony Creery and Bob Friend

Music Notes

One month into the new year, and already we (Jeanne, me, the choir) are thinking ahead to the Lenten season, Palm Sunday and Easter. Lent begins early this year on February 14, so we have already begun work on the Easter cantata by having a listening session. The cantata, *The Passion and the Promise* by Lloyd Larson and Mark Hayes, is a portrayal of our salvation through Christ's suffering, and will be presented at the morning service on April 1, accompanied by our usual fine instrumentalists. It will also be a pleasure this year to have the youth and children's choirs take part in this presentation. Once again, there is the opportunity to "adopt" an instrument, either individually or by groups. There will be more about this in the March Messenger.

The Chancel choir will also be part of the community-wide Good Friday service at Christ Lutheran Church. The choir welcomes Lori Little as its new president, and thanks the past president, Pat Niemczyk, for her two years of service. The torch was passed (literally!) from Pat to Lori at a gathering of the choir January 25, the occasion being the choir's twice-delayed Christmas party at my house.

Thought for February: "When a choir sings anthems of praise and devotion, with beauty and sincerity, it helps the entire congregation to worship. Music is a language we use to express thoughts we have of God, His church, His world, and all that is in it." (From *Why Do We Have Choirs?* By Helen Clair Lowe)

Caroline Fergusson

United Methodist Men

Tuesday, February 13, the United Methodist Men will host their annual Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner. Everyone is invited to attend; we only ask that you fill out the reservation form that will soon be a bulletin insert or you can email me at e.kelchner@comcast.net so we can get an approximate count of those desiring to partake of the golden disks! In addition to pancakes, we will offer baked apples, sausage, and beverages. There is no cost for the dinner, but we will ask for a love offering to support the Summer Arts and Music Camp.

Sunday, April 1, 2018, will be a unique day; traditionally, pranksters celebrate April 1, as April Fools' Day. This year, we will celebrate April 1, as Easter Sunday. Easter Sunrise service will be followed by the United Methodist Men's traditional sausage and egg casserole breakfast. Planning for this event is still a ways in the future, but traditionally we have started serving at 8:45 AM. Please accept the men's invitation for breakfast following the Sunrise service. Additional details will follow during the Lenten season.

Calling All (Hungry) Men!



Gentlemen, you are invited to join the ROMEOS for breakfast on **Wednesday, February 7th** at **Shoney's in Virginia Center Commons**. Romeos is an acronym for Retired Old Men Eating Out Sometimes. We meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 8:00 A.M for good food and fellowship. You need not be retired, nor old, but possessing a good appetite is a requirement. Please contact Bob Friend, if you have questions.

How are we being the hands and feet of Jesus in our community and beyond?

Sometimes we look for the “big things” to exemplify how we minister to others, the community and the world. Sometimes it’s not the big things, but the little things we do that make a big difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Over the past decade LUMC has partnered in two projects that could be termed trash to treasure. Each fall a box appears on the Narthex welcome table and becomes a repository for those pesky old frames and lenses that we might put in a drawer when the new, stronger eyeglasses are picked up from our optometrist or optician. Over the years our church has participated in Project 20/20 and most recently with *Friends of Barnabas*, where these used eyeglasses are cleaned, processed, and directed to the visually impaired during medical missions to Central America. In 2017, Lakeside UMC collected 36 pairs of used eyeglasses for *The Friends of Barnabas*. Your participation in this project enables the miracle of the restoration of sight to the visually impaired. As Jesus restored sight to a man born blind, you have helped do the same.

Do you pay attention to the little house that is located on the Narthex welcome table? This miniature house is a home for those aluminum pull tabs found on soda, beer, and now a lot of vegetable and food cans. It doesn’t seem like much, but collecting these pull tabs make a difference in someone else’s life. These tabs are periodically taken to Ronald McDonald House for recycling with the proceeds going to support families away from home while their children receive treatment in Richmond area hospitals. The little things we do add up; we collected twelve pounds that will soon be taken to Ronald McDonald House.

And speaking of pounds, we continually provide food for Lamb’s Basket; we keep track of the poundage that is collected each week. In 2017 we sent over a ton of food to Lamb’s Basket, 2,547 pounds to be exact. This poundage does not include the 27 bags provided for distribution through the church office. Lamb’s Basket doesn’t need just food; to be a successful program, Lamb’s Basket needs volunteers. Lakeside UMC regularly provides volunteers to sort, pack, and distribute donated food. During 2017 LUMC volunteers spent over 430 hours at Lamb’s Basket. Your continuing efforts in this vital ministry are appreciated by Lamb’s Basket and the ultimate recipients of your generosity, the hungry of your community. If you would like more information on this ministry, or would like to volunteer, contact me at 746-9005.

And lastly, but surely not the least is the blood... Jesus shed his blood for our salvation asking nothing in return but our belief in him and the One who sent Him. We have shared life giving blood through our participation in the Virginia Blood Services blood drives sponsored by and held here in our church since 1999. Even if you do not participate as donor, you made this lifesaving gift possible through your support of this church and its ministries. In 2017, this church assisted Virginia Blood Services in signing up 124 donors with the collection of 111 units of red blood cells and numerous units of platelets. Through your participation in these blood drives the lives of over 333 persons were affected.

So, you see, our lives are not lived in a vacuum; we are directly connected to, and can directly affect the lives of others; just ask your neighbor who has needed blood during surgery or a transfusion after chemotherapy. You can, and do make a difference; keep up the good work!
Well done good and faithful servant.

Jo Anne Kelchner, Health and Welfare

Mission News

Your support raised \$611.00 for the “Cents Ability” program which will go towards filling backpacks with food for children that are distributed each Friday afternoon at designated schools, which for us is Lakeside

Elementary, Holliday Elementary and Maude Trevette Elementary. **Job Well Done!** Being an Olympic year, let's go for the gold this year and fill that can each month!

Also, Because of your generous support for our Christmas offering we were able to send "All God's Children Camp" and "Camp Rainbow" \$600.00 each.

Did you know if you put aside \$.02 a meal per day for one month you would have saved \$1.80. Multiply that times one hundred people and we as a congregation will have raised \$180 per month and multiply that amount times 12 and we will have raised \$2,160 for hunger. This is not a new program. It originated in 1976 by the Presbyterian Women to involve people to help stop hunger and has expanded throughout the United States. It began as 2-cents-a-Meal; then the name changed to Cents-Ability. Containers are on the Welcome Center.

WE HAVE DESIGNATED THE LAST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH AS COLLECTION SUNDAY.

There will be a collection container on the Welcome Center. Proceeds continue to help the Back-Pack program by providing food for children for the weekend.

The LAMB's Basket -Our Pantry Needs Food



The LAMB's Basket is our community food pantry sponsored by the churches in the Lakeside and surrounding areas. Donations needed are: jelly, peanut butter, canned meat/tuna, *Lunchables*, canned pasta, macaroni & cheese, snacks for children's bags, crackers, soup, personal items, dish detergent, toilet paper, cat and dog food, dried pasta, spaghetti sauce, cooking spray, butter, cooking oil, salt and pepper, laundry detergent, paper and plastic grocery bags. The hours are all during the mornings. To volunteer, contact Jo Anne Kelchner at 746-9005. (No previous experience required.)

Lamb's basket has an urgent need for paper grocery bags with handles!

Lamb's basket February schedule:

Friday	February 9
Monday	February 12
Friday	February 23

New Entrance Way Construction to Begin Soon



MAINTENANCE

At long last, construction of a new covered entrance way to the church from the parking lot will soon begin. A contract award has been given to E. Granville Wade, Jr., Inc. General Contractors which will begin construction after Henrico County issues a building permit. Total construction time will be about one month with potentially two full weeks of no access through the present entrance way. The alternate entrance will be on the ramp side of our building

through the Education Wing during the period of closure. Watch for key notices about this temporary arrangement in the near future.

The scope of the project includes construction of a covered, lighted walkway, removal of the uneven surface of the present concrete ramp and replacing it with a constant slope smooth concrete ramp. The roof will be slate, matching our other roofs. One major difference between the previous entrance way and the new one is that the overhang portion covering the car drop-off area will be a fabric canopy rather than wood and steel. In this way, a future collision will not result in destruction of the entire covered walkway.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Award for Aaron Robinson

The Sons of the American Revolution honors Public Safety Officials for outstanding service with a Commendation Award. This year, **Lt. Aaron Robinson** of the Hanover County Fire-EMS Department was recognized as the SAR's Emergency Medical Services Provider of the Year for his excellent pre-hospital emergency care work. Aaron is the son and step son of Kip and Nancy Robinson

February Birthdays

Glenda Adams	2/01	Diana Peaco	2/09	Delores Dale	2/22
Bernie Pomfrey	2/01	Joy Nuckols	2/11	Griffin Nettles	2/23
Michelle Robinson	2/02	Kyle Giese	2/13	Bettie Sue Mills	2/23
Florence Tarley	2/02	Beth Moses	2/15	Gwen Brannan	2/23
Mark Rooks	2/03	Larry Robertson	2/17	Gina Richardson	2/24
Nina Teel	2/04	Rob Ward	2/19	Becky Waters	2/24
Thomas Rosen	2/06	Grace Mimbe	2/20	Paul Davis	2/26
Roland Tarley	2/07	Mary Eckart	2/21	Sam Burruss	2/29

Church Council Highlights, January, 2018

NEW YEAR, NEW COUNCIL, NEW ORGANIZATION

The January Church Council meeting featured a new organization and new Council members in the smallest core of church leaders in many years, clearing the way for a more focused and efficient Christ-centered approach to Lakeside's ministries. There was an emphasis on 2018 being one of transition, learning, and discerning big picture items crucial to the future direction of our part of God's Kingdom in the Lakeside community. Orientation by the Chairperson emphasized greater use of the Internet for greater communication opportunities among our leaders. Ministries were challenged to establish their own goals and direction with emphasis on communicating with our congregation with great expectations for the coming year. For the first time, Council is organized along a GRACE model emphasizing the importance of our ministries in worship, mission, evangelism, congregational care and Christian education.

Council approved a bid for construction of a new entrance way to the church from the parking lot, destroyed years earlier by a truck crashing into the former entrance way (see *New Entrance Way Construction to Begin Soon* in this *Messenger*). Council also approved a church policy relating to the handling of memorial gifts, and approved a Finance Committee recommendation for a change in petty cash funds to give the pastor greater flexibility in the pastor's discretionary fund.

Council meets each month on the third Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. Visitors are always welcome and can contribute (without vote) to the meeting in any and all discussions.

~Kip Robinson, Church Council Chair

SAVE THE DATES CALENDAR 2018

FEBRUARY	3	RVA Scrappers: if you like to scrapbook come join Jeannie Wermuth and others from 10-5. Have questions, see Jeannie.
	13	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner sponsored by UMM 6pm Donations will go towards our Music Arts Camp.
	14	Ash Wednesday Service, 7pm
	16 - 18	Richmond District Youth Retreat-Eagle Eyrie
	18	Family Lunch-following worship
	28	UMM Dinner 6:30
MARCH	18	Family Lunch following Worship
	28	UMM Dinner 6:30
	29	Maundy Thursday Service 7pm
	31	Community Easter Egg Hunt 10am-12pm/ Cantata Rehearsal 9-11am
APRIL	1	SonRise Service 8am followed by breakfast prepared by UMM
	7	Blood Drive 9-2
	13	Life Screening 8:30-5
	15	Family Lunch
	21 - 28	We will be hosting CARITAS
MAY	20	Family Lunch followed by Youth Ensemble Harp Concert
JUNE	9	Blood Drive 9-2
	18 - 22	Children's Vacation Bible School 9am -12pm
	24 - 28	Adult Vacation Bible School 6pm-8pm
JULY	16 - 19; 23 - 26	Music Arts Camp Grand Finale Performance (July 26)

Member Data Update

We are beginning a project to confirm and update contact information so that we can improve church communications. You are asked to please provide the following. Please provide the following even if you feel we may have your correct information. You may place responses in the basket provided on the Welcome Center. Additional sheets are on the Welcome Center. **PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY. THANK YOU!**

Head of Household _____ DOB _____

Married Single Widow(er)

Cell Phone _____ Email Address _____

Spouse (if applicable) _____ DOB _____

Cell Phone _____ Email Address _____

Child/Dependents (If attending at LUMC)

Name _____ DOB _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home address (if different) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Numbers

Home _____

Work (optional) _____

I wish to be included in church email distributions.

I wish to be included in the telephone tree.