



# The Link

Vol. 65, No. 1

January 3, 2024

## January 7, 2024 ❖ Epiphany Sunday The Celebration of Communion

Lessons: Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon: "We No Longer Follow the Star"

Anthems:

"Brightest and Best" - SOUTHERN HARMONY

"The Kings of Tarshish" - Grassi

"O Splendour of God's Glory Bright" - Monteverdi



## 2024 GIVING PLAN CARDS

Thus far, we have received 69 cards for a total of \$317,310 or 57% in support of this year's ministry needs. Thank you to everyone who has returned a Giving Plan Card. You may bring your card to worship and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church office. By indicating our financial support now, we can better plan and fulfill this year's ministry.

## 2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES

We are changing how we distribute offering envelopes since we all give in a variety of ways. Unless you use envelopes each week for your offering, you will not receive a box of envelopes for next year. Instead, you will receive the number of envelopes you tend to use. For example, someone who donates monthly will receive 15 envelopes. Someone who gives quarterly will receive seven. Those who no longer use envelopes will not receive any. This change will result in significant savings to the church. Your new envelopes are available in the narthex. Please pick them up as soon as possible.

## WELL DONE IS BETTER THAN WELL SAID

The Director of the N.C. Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing will be the guest speaker at our annual Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Breakfast on January 15. Jan Withers will address the 36th annual gathering to honor the slain civil rights leader. This year's event will be held at the Rocky Mount Event Center. Breakfast will be served at 7:00 a.m., with the program to follow at 8:00 a.m.

This year's program will also feature local talent and the winners of the MLK Oratorical Contest (to be held this Saturday, January 6, at 9:00 a.m. at the Imperial Centre) who will speak on the theme: "Well Done Is Better than Well Said."

## OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

Please remember the following persons who need our prayers and support:

### At Home:

**Chuck Daniel** (Brenda and Dennis Culpepper's nephew)

**Stan Ford**, 1103 Belvins Trace Drive, Durham, NC 27703

**Michele Costa Foster**, 105 Gloucester Court (03)

**Bill Jones** (Dorrie Wright's brother), 2957 Tillinghast Trail, Raleigh, NC 27613

**David Morris**, 1930 Northern Boulevard (04)

**Cody Richardson**, 1518 Fountain Branch Road (03)

**Joe Warner**, 137 Steeplechase Road (04)

**Bill Watts**, 616 Nichole Lane (03)

### Our Members-at-Home

**Doris Booth**, The Lodge at Rocky Mount, 3322 Village Road, Room 305 (04)

**Margaret Carpenter**, 3833 Westmoreland Drive (04)

**Margaret Harper**, Cottage #5209-101, Magnolia Glen, 5301 Creedmoor Road, Raleigh, NC 27612

We offer our sympathy to J.N. Willcox and his family in the death of his sister, Ann Rawls of Easley, S.C., on December 26.

We offer our sympathy to Patsy and Bill Marshburn and their family in the death of Patsy's brother, Bill Wiley of Macon, Georgia, on December 27.

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of Steve Raper who died on December 28. Steve was a member of Lakeside for 27 years. A memorial service celebrating his life will be held January 13 at 1:00 p.m.

## JANUARY ACTS OF KINDNESS

The Lakeside Youth are collecting tissues, sanitizing wipes, and hand sanitizer for the staff of Benvenue Elementary. Donations may be dropped off in the church office or Sugg Foyer by January 21. Thank you for your support of our youth.

## LAKESIDE LADIES' BOOK CLUB

Our Lakeside Ladies Book Club has opted for a different way to begin the new year. Instead of meeting to discuss a book, we're going to the movies! Our group read and enjoyed *The Boys in the Boat* the first year we began meeting, and the movie version of this story is now out in theaters. We will still gather together on Tuesday, January 9, but will now meet at 3:40 p.m. at the UEC Theater located at 821 Benvenue Road. The movie begins at 4:00, so this will give us time to purchase tickets and popcorn. Anyone is welcome to join us, and we hope to see you at the movies!



**AT THE TABLE**

We continue "Praying the Psalms" through faith and the arts when we meet next on Wednesday, January 10 at Benvenue Country Club from 10:30 a.m. - noon for a time of study, reflection, and prayer. Afterward, we will enjoy lunch and fellowship. We hope to see you at the table!

## LAKESIDE COFFEEHOUSE WRITERS

Join us on Tuesday, January 16, at 10:00 a.m. in Lakeside's Parlor as we explore ideas, share stories, offer suggestions, and find encouragement in Anne Lamott's *Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life*.



## YOUTH NEWS

Friday night's Holiday Lock-In was super fun! Thanks to all the youth who participated, and special thanks to Mark and Spencer Edwards and Carol and Andy Barker for helping to host our Progressive Dinner. This Sunday, January 7, we plan to meet at the church at 5:30 p.m. to go out to dinner. Details will go out by text. Regular activities for all youth and children will resume on January 14, and parents are needed to sign up to provide Sunday night suppers beginning that night. We are looking forward to a fun schedule of youth events into the spring. As always, I hope you will make plans to join us and bring a friend. Elizabeth

## MUSIC NOTES

Chancel Choir rehearsal will resume this week at 7:00 p.m. Handbells will not meet this week, and will resume rehearsals next Wednesday, January 10. The Children's Choir is scheduled to sing in worship on February 4. More information will be available when we resume youth and children's activities next weekend.

Jake

## MERRY WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS

Join us on Tuesday, January 23, as we celebrate the end of the Christmas season with friends. Readings and images created by Jan Richardson will help us reflect upon and re-imagine our lives as we explore the theme, "In the Light of a New Constellation." Richardson writes, "We each come to times when we need to reinvent ourselves—when we have to dream anew of what our life might look like and what it would take to create it again." This year's Women's Christmas retreat will offer us a space to pray, share together, and discover how God allows the pieces to come together in unexpected ways.

We will gather at the home of Marion Weathers (1421 Country Club Road) from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Please call the church office to sign up.

## THIS SUNDAY AT LAKESIDE

Deacon Greeters - Sammie Crumley and Don Raper  
Ushers - Group I - Alan and Joyce Clements, Co-Captains  
Acolyte - Ramsey Ward

*Worship is live on our homepage and YouTube channel at 11:00 a.m.,  
but we love having you with us in the sanctuary!*

## LAKESIDE'S MISSIONS AND MINISTRY PLAN

2023 Missions and Ministry Budget: \$561,922

	Week	YTD	2022
Anticipated Giving	\$10,806	\$561,922	\$597,040
Through December 31	\$48,867	\$557,615	\$550,309
Variance	+\$38,061	-\$4,307	-\$46,731

*THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY IN 2023!  
IMAGINE WHAT WE CAN DO IN 2024 IF WE ALL DO OUR PART!*

## LAKESIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

1501 Sunset Avenue, Rocky Mount, NC 27804

Phone: 252-446-0126 Fax: 252-446-4997

E-mail: [lakesidem@embarqmail.com](mailto:lakesidem@embarqmail.com)

Website: [lakesidechurchmt.org](http://lakesidechurchmt.org)

Care/Net Counseling East of Rocky Mount

355-2801 • toll free: 866-355-2801

## CHURCH STAFF

Elizabeth Edwards

Associate Minister

Jody Wright

Senior Minister

Liz Broomell

Administrative Assistant

Susan Skinner

Senior Adult Director

James Mauk

Minister of Music

Sharon Riggensbach

Secretarial Assistant

Rachel Holloman

Preschool Director

*The Link*  
1501 Sunset Avenue  
Rocky Mount, NC  
27804-5014  
Address Service requested

NON-PROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
ROCKY MOUNT, NC  
Permit No. 240

## LAKESIDE CALENDAR

### Wednesday, January 3

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### Sunday, January 7

9:45 a.m. Growing Together Study Groups, Education Building

10:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

11:00 a.m. Worship

5:30 p.m. Youth meet for dinner out, Church Parking Lot

### Tuesday, January 9

12:00 p.m. Al-Anon, Conference Room

3:40 p.m. Lakeside Ladies' Book Club, UEC Theater (821 Benvenue Road)

### Wednesday, January 10

10:30 a.m. At the Table, Benvenue Country Club

6:00 p.m. Lakeside Ringers Rehearsal

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

## FLOWER CALENDAR

You may reserve dates for altar and narthex floral arrangements by signing up on the 2024 Flower Calendar in the office hallway or by calling the office.

## SUNDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES

The regular schedule of Sunday evening activities for Preschoolers, Children, and Youth will resume at 5:00 p.m. on January 14.