



The Link

Vol. 61, No. 1

January 6, 2021



WORSHIP AT LAKESIDE

January 10, 2021 ✠ Baptism of the Lord Sunday

Lessons: ; Genesis 1:1-5; Mark 1:4-11

Sermon: "Disruption"

Each week, a video of our worship service is available on the home page of our website. Previous worship services are also available on the "Worship Videos" page. Please visit www.lakesidechurchrmt.org and join us for worship!



HOPEFUL NEW YEAR

I always look forward to a new calendar. There is something exciting about looking at all of those empty squares that represent the days of the year and realizing that each of those days holds great potential for good. There is also that feeling of a fresh start, a new beginning, leaving unpleasant things behind and looking forward to better things to come.

We know that the world does not change simply because the ball drops in Times Square. The potential for positive change lies not in calendars and clocks but in the hearts and minds of people. We make life change for the better or we allow ourselves to languish in whatever predicaments we might have created. One of the best gifts God has given us is the gift of free will. Two other astounding gifts are minds to conceive of ways to make life better and hearts to do so.

As much as we wish, Covid-19 did not pass away with 2020. The pandemic is still very much with us. So, using our minds to think wisely and creatively and our hearts to do what is best, we must continue our vigilance against this disease. As a congregation, we are committed to meaningful worship and service to one another and the community. We will continue to do those things. We will also continue to wear masks, to keep safe distances, and to do all in our power to keep one another healthy until we can all be safe.

2021 can be a phenomenal year for us all. Let us make it so by committing to take care of one another while sharing the love of God with all. It should be easy since that is what we have been doing all along. Happy New (and Healthy) Year!

Jody Wright

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

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

At Home:

Brandy Adkins, 6131 Downs Ridge Road, Whitakers, NC 27891

Kathleen Andersen (Richie Cobb's relative)

Tillman Bailey, 313 Stoneybrook Drive (04)

Leo Bishop, 3801 Woodlawn Road (04)

Jennifer Cobb, 1506 West Haven Boulevard (03)

Ricky Cobb, 3417 Brookview Drive (04)

Chuck Daniel (Brenda & Dennis Culpepper's nephew)

Lib Dawes (Linda Dawes Lee's mother), 213 Charlotte Street (04)

Dena Dribin (Deb Parker's mother), Hospice Care in Chicago, IL

Scott Farber (Patty Schirman's brother), 11218 S. Utah, Davenport, Iowa 52802

Agnes Fore (J.N. Willcox's sister-in-law), 177 Forest View Road, Surgoinsville, TN 37873

Glenda Hortman (Karla Willcox's mother), 1820 Willow Glynn Road (04)

Cody Richardson, 1518 Fountain Branch Road (03)

Joe Stanton, PO Box 41, Nashville, NC 27856

Jill Ward, 3833 Westmoreland Drive (04)

Betty Ann Waters, 2820 Berkley Drive (03)

Scott Waters, 2820 Berkley Drive (03)

Our Members-at-Home

Joyce Dickens, 128 Timberlane Road (04)

Mae Joyner, 700 Drexel Road (03)

Sallie Ray Wilkerson, Stoneridge, 105 Convention Drive Apt. 434, Cary, NC 27511

We offer our sympathy to Anna and LaCount Anderson in the death of their brother-in-law, Frank Rountree, of Gatesville, NC, on January 1.

We offer our sympathy to Elva Hux in the death of her sister, Peggy Porter, on January 1. Mrs. Porter is the mother of Cathy Berry.

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of Bobbie Collie who died on January 5. Bobbie was a member of Lakeside for 61 years.



YOUTH NEWS

We are looking forward to seeing children, youth, and parents for a brief, in-person, outdoor gathering on Sunday, January 10, at 11:00 a.m. We will have a chance to connect, receive a schedule and supplies for upcoming activities, and offer a blessing for the new year. Please let me know as soon as possible if you can come. Watch your email for instructions about where to park and how we will gather safely. I hope to see you all on Sunday!

Elizabeth

LAKESIDE'S CHILDREN AND YOUTH: NEAR AND FAR

We will resume our weekly Sunday Zoom meetings on January 17, with hopes of being able to gather in person again once the weather is warmer. We will continue to learn about ways we can share the love of Christ as we focus on some of the local ministries Lakeside supports and how folks in Rocky Mount are sharing the love of Christ near and far.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY GROUP

On Sunday, January 17, we will begin a new adult Bible study group that will meet weekly at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday. We have a limited number of spots for those who would like to meet in person in Robbins Hall (masking, distancing, and sanitizing will be observed), or we can offer Zoom for those who would like to participate virtually. We will begin with a study of the Gospel of Matthew. Please contact the church office to sign up.

2021 MINISTRY GIVING PLANS

Thus far, we have received 82 cards for a total of \$343,240 or 56% in support of this year's ministry needs. We ask each of you to indicate your support by returning your cards.

2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Your 2021 offering envelopes are on their way—an early gift from the church to you! If you do not receive your box, let us know and we will make sure you have your own set to use throughout the year.

LAKESIDE'S MISSIONS AND MINISTRY PLAN

2021 Missions and Ministry Budget: \$615,249

	Week	YTD
Anticipated Giving		\$615,249
Through December 31	\$21,025	\$595,629
Variance		-\$19,620

LAKESIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

1501 Sunset Avenue, Rocky Mount, NC 27804

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

E-mail: lakesiderm@embarqmail.com

Website: lakesidechurchmt.org

CareNet Counseling East of Rocky Mount
355-2801 • toll free: 866-355-2801

CHURCH STAFF

Jody Wright
Senior Minister

Liz Broomell
Administrative Assistant

Susan Skinner
Senior Adult Director

Elizabeth Edwards
Associate Minister

Diana Kirkpatrick
Organist

Milton Marrow
Custodian

Amy Shortt
Minister of Music

Linda Davis
Secretarial Assistant

Rachel Holloman
Preschool Director

The Link
1501 Sunset Ave nue
Rocky Mount, NC
27804-5014

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LAKESIDE LADIES' BOOK CLUB

Join us on Tuesday, February 2, at 7:00 p.m. as we meet by Zoom and discuss *The Book of Lost Friends* by Lisa Wingate.

Please email Deborah (deborahwright@embarqmail.com) so we can add your email address to the Zoom invitation list.

MEDITATION GROUP

If you need a respite from the anxiety of the pandemic, noise of politics and unrest in the world . . . if you need to sit in the sanctuary a while, to just be still and breathe . . . or if you want to have a moment to pray for yourself and others, join us on Thursday, January 14, at noon. Enter through the narthex and be sure to wear your mask.

ANNUAL MLK UNITY PROGRAM

Social welfare and justice advocate Clara J. Ester will be the keynote speaker at the 33rd Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Program on Monday, January 18.

Ester's speech will take place virtually from N.C. Wesleyan's Dunn Center for the Performing Arts. In accordance with COVID-19 guidelines, only program participants will be in attendance. The event begins at 8:00 a.m. and will be broadcasted live via YouTube.

Winners from the MLK Jr. Oratorical Contest held on January 9 will recite their speeches at the Dunn Center. A "Service to Humanity Award" will be presented to a community-based organization on behalf of the city of Rocky Mount Human Relations Commission.