

## OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

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

### The Lodge at Rocky Mount, 3322 Village Road (04)

**Charlotte Gilliam**, Room 205

**Jeannette Pittman**, Room 228

**Sheila Whitley**, Room 243

### The Carrollton of Nash, 7369 Hunter Hill Road (04)

**Pat Judge**, Room 809

#### At Home

**Janice Bobbitt** (Chuck Taylor's sister), 4204 Whitehurst Dr, Wilmington 28409

**Robyn Edwards Chapman** (Jeannette Pittman's cousin)

**Lois Creech** (Doug Edwards' aunt), 320 Canal Drive, Wilson, NC 27893

**Bob Davis** (Dan Davis' brother), 427 McIver Street, Greenville, SC 29601

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

**Shirley High**, 1205 McDuffers Road (04)

**Ethel Hines**, 125 Cobblestone Court (04)

**Linda Hoyle**, 210 Gravely Drive (04)

**Bill Jones** (Dorrie Wright's brother)

**C.B. Morris**, 1930 Northern Boulevard (04)

**Grady Pittman**, 313 Englewood Drive (04)

**Cornelia Singletary**, 15 Weatherstone Drive (04)

**Patricia Taylor** (Napoleon Taylor's wife), 514 Hammond Street (04)

**Barbara Valentine**, 112 Hickory Street, Greenville, NC 27858

**Richard Wrenn** (Chuck Taylor's brother-in-law)

#### Our Members-at-Home

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

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

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

**Keith Abbott**, 3413 Brookview Drive (04)

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR & SHARE YOUR STUFF:

### LAKESIDE YOUTH YARD SALE 2026

If you are starting off the new year by cleaning out closets and decluttering your home, consider hanging on to those unwanted items for a few more weeks. This year's Lakeside Youth Casserole & Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, March 7. Donations can include: furniture, décor, linens, kitchen items, sports & outdoor equipment, and more (no clothes or books, except cookbooks & children's books, please).

### KEEP KIDS HEALTHY. SUPPORT OUR TEACHERS.

We are collecting tissues, hand sanitizer, and sanitizing wipes for the teachers at our Backpack Buddies partner school, Benvenue Elementary. Please bring donations to the church by February 1. Collection bins are located in the office hallway, Narthex, and Sugg Foyer. Thank you for your continued commitment to this important ministry partnership in our community.

## YOUTH NEWS

We are excited that our group continues to grow as we welcome new friends into our youth and children's programs. I encourage you to invite friends to join us each week. We will have a regular schedule of activities this Sunday night. A calendar of activities for the first half of 2026 has been sent out electronically. Be sure to mark your calendars. Many thanks to our Youth & Children's Committee for all the ways you support Lakeside's young people!

Elizabeth

## MUSIC NOTES

This week we are excited to welcome our newest Choral Scholar, Rebecca Blackwell! Rebecca comes to us most recently from Minneapolis, is an avid runner and hiker, and enjoys singing with professional ensembles across the country. In addition to holding vocal performance degrees from New York University and University of Minnesota, Rebecca is a dual-licensed mental health therapist and alcohol and drug counselor and holds a Master of Professional Studies in Integrated Behavioral Health. Welcome, Rebecca! As a reminder, you can support our Choral Scholars by giving to the Gossett-Biggs Music Fund so that our scholars program can continue to enhance worship at Lakeside! Jake

## TOPNOTCHER NEWS

We are continuing to enjoy the camaraderie with our communion lunch. Our next lunch will be Sunday, February 1, at Papa Cibo's (1314 Benvenue Road). Mark your calendars: We will hold the annual Topnotchers Valentine's Luncheon on Sunday, February 15. The youth will feed, serve, and entertain us. They work really hard on this, so please make every attempt to attend!

Sue

## THIS SUNDAY AT LAKESIDE

Deacon Greeter – Justin Sykes and Sheila Martin

Ushers – Brenda Hurdle, Robert Sykes, and David Corn

Acolyte – Madi Stinson

**January 18, 2026 ♦ The Second Sunday after Epiphany / Deacon Ordination**

Lessons: Isaiah 49:1-7; John 1:29-42

Sermon: "The Task of Servanthood"

Anthems: "In Loving Partnership" – Strathdee

"These are They Which Follow the Lamb" – Goss

## LAKESIDE'S MISSIONS AND MINISTRY PLAN

2026 Missions and Ministry Budget \$599,734

	Week	YTD	2025
Anticipated Giving	\$11,533	\$23,067	\$22,621
Through January 11	\$8,993	\$13,429	\$14,904
Variance	-\$2,540	-\$9,638	-\$7,717

**LAKESIDE CHURCH**  
1501 Sunset Avenue, Rocky Mount, NC 27804  
Phone: 252-446-0126 Fax: 252-446-4997  
E-mail: [lakesideirm@embargmail.com](mailto:lakesideirm@embargmail.com)  
Website: [lakesidechurchmt.org](http://lakesidechurchmt.org)  
CareNet Counseling East of Rocky Mount  
252-355-2801 • toll free: 866-355-2801

<b>CHURCH STAFF</b>	
Libby Grammer <i>Senior Minister</i>	James Mauk <i>Minister of Music</i>
Lisa Meadows <i>Minister to Children</i>	Liz Broomell <i>Administrative Assistant</i>
Sue Bulluck <i>Senior Adult Director</i>	Cindy Davis <i>Custodian</i>
	Rachel Holloman <i>Preschool Director</i>

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# The Link

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## DEACON ORDINATION & INSTALLATION

This Sunday we will ordain Kate Barnes and Ginny Etheridge and install Carol Barker, Sam Johnson, and Will Lucas to the Diaconate. They will join Alan Clements, Jennifer Cobb, Linda Graham, Dan Herring, Bill Hoyle, Lori Joyner, Ginger Maynard, Matt Paszek, Andrew Robillard, and Justin Sykes and as servant-leaders of our congregation.

We are grateful to the deacons who have completed their term of service: Nancy Berry, Bill Bulluck, Sammie Crumley, Sheila Martin, Don Raper. In addition, we offer our thanks to Nancy Berry for her leadership as Chair of the Diaconate, to Dan Herring as Vice Chair, and to Sammie Crumley and Ginger Maynard as Co-Secretaries.

Ordination is the recognition and blessing of the congregation bestowed upon persons who are called to ministry. Through the laying of hands we convey our blessing in a tangible way. You will all be invited to participate.

## MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. UNITY BREAKFAST

Join us on Monday, January 19 for the 38th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Breakfast, sponsored by the City of Rocky Mount MLK Commission. The theme for this year is "The Power of Community." This year's keynote speaker is David Crabtree, a broadcast journalist and former news anchor at WRAL, now the CEO of PBS North Carolina. The program will also feature speeches by the Youth Oratorical Competition winners. Breakfast opens at 7:00 a.m., with the program beginning at 8:00 a.m. at the Rocky Mount Event Center at 285 NE Main Street.

## HAVE YOU TURNED IN YOUR GIVING PLAN CARD?

We have received 69 Giving Plan cards for the 2026 Ministry Plan. That is a total of \$367,442 pledged, or 61% of the 2026 Ministry Plan. Can you help us reach our goal of 80% of our Ministry Plan pledged? If you have not yet completed your giving plan card, prayerfully consider your financial pledge to Lakeside for 2026 and turn in your card to the church office. We *BELONG* together!

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS: GET TO KNOW LAKESIDE LUNCHEON

### Sunday, February 1 - Following Worship - Robbins Hall

For new members, visitors, and anyone who would like to know more about Lakeside. After lunch, we will share information about our ministries and offer tours of the campus. Childcare is available. Please sign up by January 28.

## JOIN THE AUDIO/VISUAL TEAM!

In the new year, we are creating a rotating group of people to run the sound and streaming equipment. We will train anyone interested in serving. Please let us know if you are willing to serve!

## LAKESIDE CALENDAR

### Thursday January 15

5:30 p.m. Board of Finance, Conference Room

### Sunday, January 18

9:45 a.m. Growing Together Groups, Education Building  
10:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary  
11:00 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary  
4:00 p.m. Deacon Orientation and Meeting, Conference Room  
5:00 p.m. Preschool, Children, and Youth Activities, Youth & Music Building  
5:30 p.m. Deacon Banquet, Robbins Hall

### Monday, January 19

7:00 a.m. MLK Unity Breakfast, Rocky Mount Event Center

### Tuesday, January 20

10:00 a.m. Coffeehouse Writers, Parlor

### Wednesday, January 21

6:00 p.m. Lakeside Ringers Rehearsal, Music Suite  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Music Suite

*Keep up with all that's happening at Lakeside with the calendar on the website or the downloadable, printable monthly calendar that is sent to you by email.*

## FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR 2025

We gratefully inform you that we received a total of \$562,975 in offerings to our 2025 Ministry Plan. However, this was \$25,169 short of our Budgeted Goal.

Although some of our planned disbursements were lower than expected, only \$5,224 remained in receipts before the planned disbursement to Denominational Missions of \$19,800.

Upon consultation with staff and a vote of your Board of Finance, the 2025 Denominational Missions payments were reduced to \$8,500, with \$3,276 of this amount being transferred from our general fund reserve, and distributed as follows:

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (Global)	\$2,500
Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (NC)	\$4,500
Alliance of Baptists	\$1,000
Identity Partners	\$500

Our 2025 Unified Budget Offering receipts were higher than last year, but so was our budget. During 2025 we received \$28,224 in additional mission contributions (outside of the Budget) for local benevolences, Backpack Buddies, Lakeside Involved, Gatekeepers Workcamp and the food drive collections for United Community Ministries. We also received \$144,057 in contributions to the Corbi Bulluck Children's Legacy Endowment, Lakeside Endowment, Gosset-Biggs Music Fund, Youth Trip Fund, Wright Commons, memorials, and advent poinsettias.

Through the generosity of our congregation and friends, we received monetary contributions totaling over \$735,256.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Missions and Ministries of Lakeside in 2025. Your generosity supports God's work in our church and community.

Keith Ballentine  
On behalf of your Board of Finance

Hope Reese  
Treasurer