



The Link

Vol. 64, No. 29

July 19, 2023

REPORT FROM THE PULPIT COMMITTEE

The churchwide meeting held on June 11 was intended to provide our members a forum to express their views on the qualities and capabilities we should seek in our new Senior Minister. The entire Pulpit Committee was present and we appreciate the expression and discussion of viewpoints we heard. We indicated at the meeting that we would be circulating a follow-up questionnaire to the Church membership soliciting their views on the ministerial qualities and capabilities they value most and believe are the most needed for our Church at this time. The questionnaire will be sent by email on Thursday, July 20, to those who receive *The Link* in that way, and responses may be submitted online. Printed questionnaires are included in this week's edition of *The Link* with the responses to be returned by mail addressed to me at the Church. Responses are requested by August 2 and may be anonymous or you can sign them.

Our search for a new Senior Minister involves not only the determination of what we need and want in a new Senior Minister but also the presentation of Lakeside in a winsome way which will be attractive to a minister considering accepting our call. In that light, we have been compiling a Church Profile which discusses our Church's history, ministries and missions, programs, principles and approach to discipleship and worship. We will include facts and figures describing our membership demographics and financial information. While we work on the Church Profile, we are also creating the distribution list of contacts we will make to announce our search and seek references of qualified candidates to lead Lakeside.

Our plan is to have the Church Profile ready for distribution with our "Planning Together For a Bright Future" Strategic Planning Committee report by mid August. Your response to the questionnaire will help us complete and fine-tune our presentation.

At the meeting on June 11, we concluded the meeting by asking those present to name things they think make Lakeside special, attractive and meaningful to them. Responses included: inclusive atmosphere; community involvement; mission orientation; collaborative/ecumenical approach; facilities and location; music/organ; worship and preaching; acceptance of diversity; and open-minded, intellectual curiosity about our faith. We invite and encourage you to include on your response to the questionnaire anything that makes Lakeside special, attractive and meaningful to you.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sam Johnson, Pulpit Committee Chair

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

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

ECU Health Medical Center, 2100 Stantonsburg Road, Greenville, NC 27835

Brandon Richardson, Room 435

The Lodge at Rocky Mount, 3322 Village Road, Rocky Mount, NC 27804

Doris Booth, 305 ♦ Jim Martin, 210 ♦ David Ozment, 308A

Magnolia Glen, 5301 Creedmoor Road, Raleigh, NC 27612

Margaret Harper, Cottage #5209-101

At Home:

Denise Bennett, 9773 Groffs Mill Drive #404, Owings Mills, MD 21117

Chuck Daniel (Brenda and Dennis Culpepper's nephew)

Michele Costa Foster, 105 Gloucester Court (03)

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

Jim Pittman, 333 Iron Horse Road (04)

Cody Richardson, 1518 Fountain Branch Road (03)

Joe Stanton, PO Box 41, Nashville, NC 27856

Joe Warner, 137 Steeplechase Road (04)

Bill Watts, 616 Nichole Drive (03)

Our Members-at-Home

Joyce Siler, 1575 John Knox Drive PB-206, Colfax, NC 27235

Ethel Hines, 125 Cobblestone Court (04)

J.N. Willcox, c/o The Landings of Lake Gaston, Room 111, 206 N. Mosby Avenue, Littleton, NC 27850

We would like to thank you for your kindness in letting our family use your parking lot during the loss of our loved one, Annie Mae Stokes Pitt.

The Pitt and Stokes Family

LAKESIDE INVOLVED: WORKING TOGETHER IN HARMONY

Twenty-four summers ago, Dr Wright led Gatekeepers Workcamp using the theme "Working Together in Harmony," and participants refurbished homes in Thelonious Monk's neighborhood. This year's Lakeside Involved will play upon that theme as we plan and partner together to creatively address some of the needs in our community. Our annual day of service will be held on Saturday, November 4, culminating on Sunday, November 5, with an Afternoon of the Arts to celebrate our 20th year of Lakeside Involved. Even though this special weekend is a few months away, we are asking members and friends of Lakeside to get their creative juices flowing. We are bringing back our Silent Auction and need everyone to think of something they can create and donate. You may be a painter, poet or potter, a writer or woodworker, a chef or chauffeur, a gardener or quilter, a music maker or cake and cookie baker . . . or something in between! Think of what you can contribute and let Dorrie Wright or Deborah Wright know how you'd like to be involved.

YOUTH NEWS

On Sunday morning, as our congregation is worshipping, nine of our youth and three adults will board a train headed for New York! We are excited to be returning to the Big Apple after being unable to go for the past three summers. During our week there, we will spend our mornings visiting various houses of worship and the afternoons working with our long-time friends at Fresh Youth Initiatives. In addition to these important activities, we will visit the 9/11 Museum, the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, attend the opening game of the Subway Series at Yankee Stadium, and enjoy other exciting sites and sounds of New York. Thank you, Lakeside, for your generosity in making this trip possible for our youth. We will look forward to sharing highlights of our adventures when we return.

Elizabeth

MUSIC NOTES

This week we are excited to welcome back Ted Gossett as our guest organist. A native of Rocky Mount, Ted was organist at Lakeside from 1971-1980 and has maintained his organ playing throughout the years while maintaining a career in real estate in North Carolina, Florida, and Washington DC. We are grateful for his commitment to the music ministry at Lakeside, which includes support of the current Casavant-Frères organ and his establishment of the Gossett-Biggs Music Fund which provides for our choral scholars and other musical guests. Jake

THIS SUNDAY AT LAKESIDE

Deacon Greeters - Nancy Berry and Travis Ward

Ushers - Group I - Alan and Joyce Clements, Co-Captains

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

July 23, 2023 ♦ The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Lessons: Genesis 28:10-19a ; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Sermon: "Can You Really Trust God?"

Anthems:

"Introit on *Diadem*" - Ellor/adapt. Mauk

"Lead me, Lord" - Wesley

"Jesus Shall Reign" - arr. Aarons

LAKESIDE'S MISSIONS AND MINISTRY PLAN

2023 Missions and Ministry Budget: \$561,922

	Week	YTD	2022
Anticipated Giving	\$10,806	\$313,372	\$332,965
Through July 16	\$7,234	\$242,506	\$247,050
Variance	-\$3,572	-\$70,866	-\$85,915

How do you respond to God's generosity? Do you give generously of your financial assets? Do you volunteer in one or more of our ministries? Stewardship is an attitude of gratitude for all that God does for us.

LAKESIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

1501 Sunset Avenue, Rocky Mount, NC 27804

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

E-mail: lakesidemc@embarqmail.com

Website: lakesidechurchmt.org

CareNet Counseling East of Rocky Mount

355-2801 • toll free: 866-355-2801

Rachel Holloman

ROCKY MOUNT, NC

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

CHURCH STAFF

Jody Wright
Senior Minister
Secretary: Mary Edwards
Administrative Assistant: Susan Skinner
Seminaries Director

27804-5011 Minister of Music

The Link

1501 Sunset Avenue

Rocky Mount, NC

Address Service requested

LAKESIDE CALENDAR

Sunday, July 23

- 9:45 a.m. Growing Together Study Groups, Education Building
- 10:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 11:00 a.m. Worship
- Youth depart for New York mission trip

Tuesday, July 25

- 12:00 p.m. Al-Anon, Conference Room
- 5:30 p.m. Pulpit Search Committee, Conference Room

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND

In the spring, we announced that significant contributions had been received for our Deferred Maintenance Reserve and shared a list of the repairs and replacements needed. Several of those projects have been completed. We also announced a modest Capital Campaign to raise additional funds with a goal of \$25,000. So far we have received \$18,200 toward that goal. We invite you to join in reaching our goal and completing the improvements to our facilities.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

The Discussion Class continues its conversations on issues that are critical to our faith and to our community. This Sunday, July 16, we will gather in the Parlor of the Education Building at 9:45 a.m. to listen and talk about abortion. We are using the PBS series, *Ear to the Common Ground*, to guide our conversations. Join us, won't you?

TRANSFORMED



*"And I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you. I will take away your stubborn heart and give you a heart that is tender and open."
Ezekiel 36:26*

GATEKEEPERS WORKCAMP 2023

It would be impossible for us to do this ministry each year without the support of many community partners: Daughtridge Gas & Oil/Fuel Doc & Oasis Stores (with special thanks to Southco Distributing Company, COCA-COLA Consolidated, Frito Lay, Inc., Pepsi Bottling Ventures LLC, and Snyder's-Lance), Don Bulluck Chevrolet, Long Beverage-Raleigh, Boddie-Noell Enterprises, Jim Dickens Printing, Pamela Bailey Photography, Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse, Customized Tree Service, Top Dog Waste Solutions, Flora's Glass, Pizza Inn - Hunter Hill Road, Chick-Fil-A - Cobb Corners, Subway - Westridge Shopping Center, Chew and Chat, and Rocky Mount Academy.

2023 Participating Churches:

Church of the Good Shepherd, Conetoe Baptist Church, First Presbyterian Church, First United Methodist Church, Lakeside Baptist Church, Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church, West Haven Presbyterian Church.



We also had individual participants from Englewood United Methodist Church, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Word Tabernacle Church, and Boys & Girls Clubs-Tar River Region.

GATEKEEPERS WORKCAMP

"TRANSFORMED"

Ezekiel 36:26

July 9-14, 2023

***For their tireless support of our ministry, we dedicate
Gatekeepers Workcamp 2023 in loving memory of
Brenda Cotton and Diggs Wimberley.***

Gatekeepers Workcamp began at Lakeside Baptist Church in 1992 as a missions partnership of Rocky Mount churches. In this, the 32nd year of Gatekeepers Workcamp, we had about 60 youth and 30 adults from 10 area churches. Special thanks to those from the Lakeside family who invested so much of themselves at our work sites throughout the week: Alaya Banks, Aydan Banks, Andy Barker, Dick Berry, Tyler Broomell, Barkley Browder, Jerry Carter, Catherine Cobb, Wayne Cotton, Sammie Crumley, Cindy Davis, Daniel Edwards, Barnes Haley, Bruce Harris, Dan Herring, Tyler Holden, Dalton Jordan, Chase Joyner, Phillip Joyner, Katie Kos, Rich Kos, Will Robillard, Jayden Stephenson, Riley Stussie, and Jody Wright.

Many other people also helped to make Gatekeepers run smoothly. Thanks to our photographers, Sue Bulluck and Terry Martin; our refreshment coordinators, Dennis and Brenda Culpepper, Hope Reese, and Anne Whitaker; our lunch coordinators, Susan Skinner and Deborah Wright; and our cookout coordinator, Jennifer Cobb. Others who also made donations of food or supplies or volunteered their time are: Angela Allen, Keith Ballentine, Carol Barker, Nancy Berry, Phil Broomell, Bill Bulluck, Trey Bulluck, Richie Cobb, Edna Corn, Linda Davis, Mark Edwards, Linda Graham, Michele Harrold, Teresa Herring, Kathy Hutcheson, Vel Johnson, Lori Joyner, Anjum Kos, Sheila Martin, Jake Mauk, Mary McAdams, Beth Murphy, Molly Pitt, Theo Pitt, Caroline Stussie, Andrew Robillard, Jan Robillard, Carrie Roney.

Thank you to the Lakeside staff for all of your extra time and effort preparing for Gatekeepers - Liz Broomell, Doug Edwards, and Sharon Rigenbach. Thank you, also, to those who made contributions to the Workcamp Scholarship Fund.

THANK YOU, LAKESIDE!

A PORTRAIT OF THE MINISTER WE SEEK

An important priority of the Pulpit Committee is to obtain from all church members their opinions regarding which ministerial qualities they value most and/or believe to be most needed by our church at this time. Please take a moment to complete the following questionnaire and return it to the church. We need and appreciate every member's input. Thank you for your assistance. Circle the number that best describes your feeling about a minister's qualities, with 1 being **most** important, two **fairly** important, and three **least** important. **Please add any other comments you wish to make.**

1 2 3 A. WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

The ability to plan and lead worship services in a meaningful way, including the selection of worship materials such as responses, prayers, and affirmations of faith.

1 2 3 B. PREACHING/COMMUNICATION

Provides sermons that are biblically based and made relevant to the everyday needs of the congregation. The length of the sermon and the ability to communicate it effectively are important.

1 2 3 C. PASTORAL SKILLS/COUNSELING

Devotes time to those who are most in need – the ill, the troubled, those in grief situations, and those in need of special counsel. Concern for the elderly. Attentive to hospital visitation.

1 2 3 D. CHURCH GROWTH/OUTREACH

Leads the church in a systematic program of enlisting new members, including "marketing" the church to prospective members and providing programs for the various age groups, especially younger families.

1 2 3 E. CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

Emphasis is placed on developing fellowship and encouraging lay support among the members. Involves creating opportunities for members to know each other better.

1 2 3 F. INVOLVEMENT IN COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

Concern for involving the church in local ministries and providing opportunity for members to become informed and involved. Would continue to emphasize our role with local missions like United Community Ministries, Crisis Ministry, Summer Youth Workcamp, Meals on Wheels, and response to individual instances of need and our annual Lakeside Involved missions effort.

1 2 3 G. TEACHING/SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Emphasis on teaching ability, with opportunity provided for individuals and groups to reflect on beliefs, current issues, and other matters important to spiritual growth. Will provide creative approaches to Bible study, alternative worship services, and other occasions for spiritual development not necessarily related to Sunday worship.

1 2 3 H. ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP

Exhibit skills in guiding and directing the business affairs of the church on a day to day basis. Works well with staff. Is skilled in planning and administering financial matters. Has "business sense."

1 2 3 I. STEWARDSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Will develop a stewardship education program to communicate the church's financial needs and motivate members to a deeper financial commitment.

LIST ANY OTHER QUALITIES YOU CONSIDER IMPORTANT AND ANY OTHER COMMENTS:
