

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

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

Breckenridge Retirement Center, 2500 Hunter Hill Road (04)

Sheila Whitley, Room 156

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

Charlotte Gilliam, Room 205

Wilson Medical Center Rehab, 1705 Tarboro Street, Wilson, NC 27893

Lois Creech (Doug Edwards' aunt), Room 8

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

Pat Judge, ICU

At Home

Lois Abernathy, 3362 S NC 581, Spring Hope, NC 27882-8415

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

Robyn Edwards Chapman (Jeannette Pittman's cousin)

Dave Corn, 3611 Browning Place, Raleigh, NC 27609

Joyce Cuthrell (JC Cuthrell's mother)

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

Michelle Costa Foster, 105 Gloucester Court (03)

Ethel Hines, 125 Cobblestone Court (04)

Bill Jones (Dorrie Wright's brother)

Celab Marrow, 115 Sunshine Lane (01)

Jim Martin, 116 Cobblestone Court (04)

C.B. Morris, 1930 Northern Boulevard (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

Our Members-at-Home

Martha Bulluck, Spring Arbor, 1251 South Winstead Avenue (03), Room 208

John Cappiello, Brookridge Retirement Community, 1199 Hayes Forest Dr.,

Winston-Salem, NC 27106, Room 534

Daisy Howell, Landings of Rocky Mount Mills, 1365 River Dr., Room 512 (04)

The family of Carlton, Marilyn, and Christopher Kimbro invite friends to join them in honoring their loved ones at an inurnment service in the Lakeside Columbarium on Saturday, December 27, at 2:00 p.m. In case of inclement weather, the service will be held in Sugg Foyer.

70TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE ITEMS

These make great commemorative gifts for family and friends this holiday season! NEW SALE PRICES: Tumbler: \$15 or 2 for \$25; Mug: \$8 or 2 for \$15; Bag: \$5; OR Bundle (Bag, Mug, & Tumbler) Price: \$25.

You can also buy updated giclee prints of Marion Weathers' artwork, the "Lehman Benediction." Costs are: \$75 for 16x20, \$50 for 11x14, and \$35 for 8x10, or 8 Notecards for \$15.

You can order these items online using the Give page of our website or in the church office.

YOUTH NEWS

Thank you to everyone in the congregation who supported our Candy Gram fund raiser. We mailed out almost 70 Candy Grams to spread holiday cheer to your family and friends! Youth, be sure to respond as soon as possible about scheduling a Holiday Break Christmas Party. Our regular schedule of Sunday night activities will resume on January 11. Elizabeth

MUSIC NOTES

A big thank you to all of the musicians and volunteers who helped make our Candlelight Lessons and Carols service a wonderful experience. All music ensembles are on a well-deserved rehearsal hiatus and will not meet on Wednesday evenings until January 7. Chancel Choir will still meet Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. to prepare for worship. Jake

TOPNOTCHER NEWS

Make plans to join us! Continue the Communion will be held Sunday, January 4, after worship at El Jimador (2181 Lawrence Circle). Then on the afternoon of January 6, we will visit the Dunn Center to view the Life & Art of Charles M. Schulz exhibit. Call the church office to sign up. Sue

THIS SUNDAY AT LAKESIDE

Deacon Greeter – Don Raper and Dan Herring

Ushers – Jerry Hamrick, Dick Berry, and Brenda Hurdle

Acolyte – Catherine Cobb

December 21, 2025 ♦ The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Lessons: Isaiah 7:10-16; Matthew 1:18-25

Sermon: "Making Room for Love"

Anthems: "A Great and Mighty Wonder" – Praetorius

"Who Would Think That What Was Needed" – Bell

LAKESIDE'S MISSIONS AND MINISTRY PLAN

2025 Missions and Ministry Budget \$588,144

	Week	YTD	2024
Anticipated Giving	\$11,310	\$565,523	\$539,477
Through December 14	\$16,131	\$512,327	\$471,129
Variance	+\$4,821	-\$53,196	-\$68,348

YEAR-END GIVING

We depend on your generous giving! As of December 17, we have collected \$517,195 in support of our 2025 ministries. We will need to receive \$70,949 by the end of the year to meet all of our ministry plan goals. Please make sure to meet (or exceed!) your giving goals by December 31 so that we might end the year well financially. *If you have directed stock sales or distributions to the church for any offering, please let us know as soon as possible.*



The Link

Vol. 66, No. 50

December 17, 2025

LAKESIDE 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
252-355-2801 • toll free: 866-355-2801

CHURCH STAFF

Libby Grammer
Senior Minister
Lisa Meadows
Minister to Children
Sue Bulluck
Senior Adult Director

Elizabeth Edwards
Associate Minister
Liz Broomell
Administrative Assistant

James Mauk
Minister of Music
Zackary Ross
Organist, Worship 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

Thursday, December 18

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

Friday, December 19

10:30 a.m. Lakeside Preschool Christmas Program, Robbins Hall

Sunday, December 21

9:45 a.m. Growing Together Groups, Education Building
10:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary
12:15 p.m. Diaconate, Conference Room
6:00 p.m. Longest Night Service, Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 24

6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Communion Service, Sanctuary

Thursday and Friday, December 25 and 26

Church Office Closed for Christmas Holiday

HAVE YOU TURNED IN YOUR GIVING PLAN CARD?

If you have not yet completed your giving plan card, we ask that you prayerfully consider your financial pledge to Lakeside for 2026 and turn in your card to the church office this month. We *BELONG* together!

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS AT LAKESIDE – “MAKING ROOM”

“Let every heart prepare Him room...”

This year’s theme for Advent and Christmas is “Making Room.” Advent is the season that prepares our hearts for the coming of Christ. We must *make room* for Christ’s life and message in our lives as we hear these stories of hope, peace, joy, and love once more.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE OF SERVICES & EVENTS

Sunday, December 21 ♦ Fourth Sunday of Advent

11:00 a.m. Advent Worship
6:00 p.m. Longest Night Service

Wednesday, December 24 ♦ Christmas Eve

6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship & Communion

Sunday, December 28 ♦ First Sunday after Christmas

11:00 a.m. Christmas Worship

THIS SUNDAY EVENING: LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

We will host the Longest Night Service, a service of remembrance and renewal, on the longest night of the year: Sunday, December 21, at 6:00 p.m. This service will provide a space of prayer and support for anyone coping with loss, grief, depression, or those who simply need some quiet time for reflection during the stressful holiday season. Participants from several area churches as well as chaplains in our community will join us. Childcare will be provided. All are welcome, and feel free to bring a friend.

LAKESIDE PLAYGROUND RENOVATION

You may have noticed a crew working on our playground this week. Our preschool has received a grant, raised money, and provided funding to resurface the playground, including grading and new turf. As of December 17, this project has been completed, and we are excited for our preschool and children’s programs to enjoy this updated space!

MINISTRY TEAM ORGANIZATIONAL LUNCHEON

Members of Lakeside’s Committees and Ministry Teams, mark your calendar to join us following worship on Sunday, January 11, for an important time of information and organization as we prepare for a new year of ministry together. A light lunch will be provided. Please sign up through the church office or the Event Registration page of the website by January 8.



LAKESIDE CHURCH NEEDS YOUR HELP – YOU BELONG HERE!

As we find ourselves in these final busy and reflective weeks of the year, we wanted to reach out with a heart full of thanks and encouragement. It is easy to feel the year slipping by, but it is a crucial time for us to pause and acknowledge the incredible journey we have all shared this year at Lakeside Church.

This year, we have celebrated our 70th Anniversary, dedicated the Wright Commons, and augmented our Children's ministry with the hiring of Lisa Meadows (thanks to the Corbi Bulluck Children's Endowment). Our church is well-positioned to continue moving forward with our strategic plan: "Planning Together for a Bright Future."

The generosity of our congregation is what ensures that the missions and ministries are funded and enable us to meet our goals and commitments. As of this past Sunday, we find ourselves \$76,000 short going into the last two weeks of the year. We ask that you prayerfully review your current giving to Lakeside to ensure we can deliver upon the 2025 commitments we have already made.

Nancy Berry	Libby Grammer	Keith Ballentine
Chair, Diaconate	Senior Minister	Chair, Board of Finance