

The Link

Vol. 64, No. 51

December 20, 2023

ADVENT AT LAKESIDE O Christ: Hoping and Waiting for Emmanuel

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 24, 11:00 a.m. O Desire of Nations, Bring Us Peace

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CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION

December 24, 6:00 p.m.
O, Emmanuel, Set Us Free
Communion
Chris Ellis, violinist \$\Delta Lakeside Soloists

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At this time of year, we celebrate God's wonderful gift to us.



The rest of the year, we share that gift with the world.

Your financial gifts are essential to our ministry! As of December 17, we have collected \$491,816 in support of our 2023 ministries. We will need to receive \$70,106 by December 31 to meet our obligations which we all voted to support last fall and again this past spring. Please send your offerings to Lakeside no later than December 30, 2023.

IF YOU HAVE DIRECTED STOCK SALES OR DISTRIBUTIONS TO THE CHURCH FOR ANY OFFERING, PLEASE LET US KNOW.

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)

Tim and Debbie Ozment, 1249 Green Tee Lane (04)

Brandon Richardson, 1518 Fountain Branch Road (03)

Cody Richardson, 1518 Fountain Branch Road (03)

Joe Warner, 137 Steeplechase Road (04)

Bill Watts, 616 Nichole Lane (03)

Our Members-at-Home

Ann Battle, Gardens of Nashville, 1022 Eastern Avenue, Nashville, NC 27856

Margaret Carpenter, 3833 Westmoreland Drive (04)

Jean Smith, Fountains at the Albemarle, 200 Trade Street, Tarboro, NC 27886

Jim Wiggs, 1441 Rock Creek Drive (04)

We offer our sympathy to Marilyn Kimbro and her family in the death of her husband, Carlton who died on December 19 in Wilmngton. Carlton was previously a member of Lakeside.

WE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

We welcome Denise and Hal O'Geary to the fellowship of Lakeside Church by transfer of their membership. Denise is a native of Rocky Mount and Hal grew up in Henderson where they lived before moving here a few years ago.

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.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The church office will be closed on December 25 and 26 and again on January 1 so that our staff might enjoy the holidays with family and friends.

We are grateful for the privilege of serving you and our community. Thank you for your support and generosity offered in so many ways!

Jody	Elizabeth	Jake
Liz	Zack	Sharon
Cindy	Susan	Rachel

YOUTH NEWS

Great job, everyone who helped make the Candlelight Service such a special time of worship! Be sure to mark your calendar to join us for our holiday lock-in on December 29. This year's Christmas party and Goofy Gift Exchange will be part of the lock-in, so be on the lookout for a fun gag gift (holiday attire costing \$10 or less). I look forward to seeing everyone on Sunday.

MUSIC NOTES

Many thanks to all of the musicians and volunteers who helped to make our Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols a wonderful experience. Please make plans to join us for our Christmas Eve worship which will feature Chris Ellis on violin and several of our Lakeside soloists.

LAKESIDE'S MISSIONS AND MINISTRY PLAN

2023 Missions and Ministry Budget: \$561,922

	Week	YTD	2022
Anticipated Giving	\$10,806	\$551,116	\$585,559
Through December 17	\$39,750	\$485,380	\$473,383
Variance	+\$28,944	-\$65,736	-\$112,176

IT IS THE SEASON OF GIVING! REMEMBER LAKESIDE!

2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES

We are changing how we distribute offering envelopes since now we 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.

Your new envelopes are available in the narthex. Please pick them up as soon as possible.



THIS SUNDAY AT LAKESIDE

Deacon Greeters - Nancy Berry and Travis Ward Ushers - Group III - Alicia Hamrick, Captain Acolyte - Catherine Cobb

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

Many thanks to everyone who has helped to lead in worship this Advent season by decorating, reading, singing, and serving in a multitude of ways. You are the reason Lakeside is such a blessing to our community!

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E-mail: lakesiderm@embarqmail.com
Website: lakesidechurchrmt.org
CareNet Counseling East of Rocky Mount
355-2801 • toll free: 866-355-2801

CHURCH STAFF
Jody Wright
Elizabeth Edwards
Senior Minister
Associate Minister
Associate Minister
Liz Broomell
Administrative Assistant
Secretarial Assistant

The Link
1501 Sunset Ave me
Recky Mount, NC
27804-5014
Address Service requested

LAKESIDE CALENDAR

Susan Skinner Senior Adult Director

Rachel Holloman Preschool Directo

Wednesday, December 20

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 21

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

Sunday, December 24

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

10:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

11:00 a.m. Worship

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

Monday, December 25 and Tuesday, December 26

Office Closed for Christmas Holiday

Sunday, December 31

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

10:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

11:00 a.m. Worship

Monday, January 1

Office Closed for New Year's Holiday

Wednesday, January 3

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.