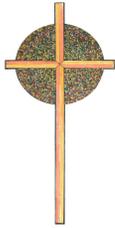




The Link

Vol. 61, No. 52

December 30, 2020



WORSHIP AT LAKESIDE

January 3, 2021 ✚ Epiphany Sunday

The Celebration of Communion

Lessons: Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon: "Home by Another Way"

Anthems: "Star in the East" - ed. Holmes

"The Coventry Carol" - arr. Pilkington

"We Three Kings" - KINGS OF ORIENT

*As you prepare for your time of worship this Sunday,
we invite you to have something to eat or drink,
whatever represents the body and blood of Christ for you.*

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!



MERRY WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS

For the past two years several of Lakeside's women have gathered for Women's Christmas, a custom rooted in Ireland that originated as a day when the women took Epiphany as an occasion to celebrate together at the end of the holidays. Women's Christmas offers an opportunity to pause and step back from the busyness of the Christmas season and spend time in reflection before moving forward into a new year. Although we won't be able to travel together to Warrenton this year, Mary Catherine Harris will once again lead us on our journey. We will meet via Zoom on Wednesday, January 6, from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon and again on Wednesday, January 13 at the same time. This year's theme is "What The Light Shines Through" and invites us to "ponder the practices by which wholeness happens" and to focus on the work of mending, restoration, and healing.



To learn more about Women's Christmas or sign up to participate please email Deborah Wright (deborahwright@embarqmail.com).

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

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

Kathy Hutcheson, c/o The Wards, 332 Iron Horse Road (04)

Cody Richardson, 1518 Fountain Branch Road (03)

Frank Rountree (Anna Anderson's brother-in-law), 76 Mill Pond Road,
Gatesville, NC 27938

Joe Stanton, PO Box 41, Nashville, NC 27856

Betty Ann Waters, 2820 Berkley Drive (03)

Scott Waters, 2820 Berkley Drive (03)

Our Members-at-Home

Bobbie Collie, Spring Arbor, 1251 S. Winstead Avenue, Room 214-B (03)

Dozia Collins, 2552 North Old Carriage Road (04)

Sherry Johnson, c/o Brighton Gardens, 3101 Duraleigh Road, Room 165,
Raleigh, NC 27612

My Lakeside Family,

Linda and I are truly humbled by your prayers and outpouring of love during this difficult time. Your actions exemplify what "Family" really means. We miss our Lakeside Family and look forward to the day we can all rejoice together!

Again, thank you, Cameron and Linda

THANK YOU, LAKESIDERS!

Many, many thanks to everyone who offered time, energy, and talent to enrich our Advent and Christmas celebrations. Volunteers set up our Chrismon Tree, hung wreaths on the outside doors, set up the creche, and made and placed the Advent Wreath. Many of you gave poinsettias to brighten the chancel with color. You participated in our worship services by leading in worship and participating at home. Above all, you offered an abundance of support and encouragement to one another. We are all blessed and grateful. Thank you for your generous and loving spirit.

YOUTH NEWS

Thanks to all of you who contributed photos and videos for our Photo Scavenger Hunt. What fun! You can view the slideshow on the church Facebook page or on the Youth page of the website.

We are planning an in-person, outdoor gathering for youth, children, and their parents on Sunday, January 10, time to be announced. It will be a brief time for us to connect, receive supplies to use for upcoming activities, and offer a blessing for the new year. Please let me know as soon as possible if you can come and what time would be best for your family.

Here's to a happy, healthy 2021 for us all!

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.

2021 MINISTRY GIVING PLANS

Thus far, we have received 81 cards for a total of \$341,440 or 55% in support of next 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		
2020 Missions and Ministry Budget: \$615,249		
	Week	YTD
Anticipated Giving	\$11,832	\$615,249
Through December 30	\$51,390	\$574,604
Variance	+\$39,558	-\$40,645

END OF YEAR GIVING

As December draws to a close, we need to demonstrate the generosity that is a hallmark of our family of faith. It is essential that each of us considers our part in fully funding the ministries of our congregation. All gifts to the church should be received by December 31. Thank you!

LAKESIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

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E-mail: lakesiderm@embarqmail.com

Website: lakesidechurchmt.org

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

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U.S. POSTAGE PAID

Jody Wright

Senior Minister

Elizabeth Edwards

Lz Broome

Administrative Assistant

Susan Skinner

Senior Director

Milton Marrow

Linda Davis

CHURCH STAFF

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Rocky Mount, NC 27804

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HAPPY NEW YEAR . . . PLEASE!

Two years ago, I wrote the following article. It seems particularly appropriate this year so I offer it again with some adjustments:

As clocks strike midnight from time zone to time zone on December 31, shouts of "Happy New Year" will go up all around the globe. The beginning of a fresh year always fills us with hope and anticipation of good things to come. If that be the case, then in 2021 of all years: Happy New Year to us all!

Followers of Christ began celebrating a new year on November 29, 2020 when Advent and the Christian year began. For so many reasons, we, too, entered a fresh year of faith with hope and anticipation. Without a doubt, we hope for health, happiness, peace, and prosperity as never before. Fortunately, we know the source of our hope. We know the gift of life comes from God and that true happiness is found in relationship to God through Jesus Christ. We know the Prince of Peace and understand that true prosperity is experienced in the life of service. We know that just as in 2020, not everything that happens in the next twelve months will be good. As in 2020, we also know that we are not alone and that God will bring good to us despite our circumstances.

A new calendar year begins January 1. May it bring health, happiness, peace, and prosperity for all people. May it also offer fresh opportunities for growing our faith and sharing God's love. Happy New Year indeed!

Jody Wright