



The Link

Vol. 56, No. 49

December 9, 2015

ADVENT AT LAKESIDE

Our Advent theme this year is “Starry Stranger, Guiding Light,” borrowed from a poem by Richard Crashaw (1613-1649) titled, “A Hymn of the Nativity.” Our Advent journey will seek to follow this guiding light to discern who this “Starry Stranger” is. As always, worship and other activities are planned to provide you with a meaningful and joyful Advent season.

December 13 ♦ The Third Sunday of Advent

“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Joy”

The Handbell Choir

5:00 p.m. - Caroling to our Members at Home

Sharing the music of the season followed by food and fellowship in Robbins Hall in the Kincheloe Building

December 20 ♦ The Fourth Sunday of Advent

“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light to Peace”

6:00 p.m. - Service of Carols and Candlelighting

Adult, Youth and Children’s Choirs, Adult Handbell Choir

December 24 ♦ Christmas Eve Communion

“Starry Stranger, Guiding Light”

Chris Ellis, violinist; Lakeside Soloists

CAROLING TO OUR MEMBERS AT HOME

This Sunday evening, December 13, we will meet in Sugg Foyer at 5:00 p.m. to go caroling. It is always a special experience to visit our friends who are no longer able to worship with us each Sunday. We go with the intention of offering them a gift of the music of the season but we return having been blessed by their gratitude and resilient faith. Please join us on Sunday evening for caroling and a fellowship supper afterward.

HONOR CARDS—THE GIFT THAT GIVES TWICE

The 2015 Honor Cards are available in the church office for \$5 each. These cards, designed by artist William Mangum, provide needed funds for our local homeless shelters at UCM. They are also a wonderful gift to family and friends who care about all people in our community.

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

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

At Home:

Bettina Godwin Batts (Betty Godwin’s daughter)
Ernest Bridgers, 4758 Gardenia Circle (04)
Lee Broughton, 516 Pelican Drive East, Pine Knoll Shores, NC 28512
Natalie Stewart Cortez, 6410 Lakewood Blvd., Dallas, Texas 75214
Ann Crane, 5105 Corner Rock Drive, Rolesville, NC 27571
Hank Dunham, 1109 Meadow Drive, Townville, SC 29689
Mike Evans, 1617 Rivera Drive (03)
Brenda and John Hartness, 1041-I North Jamestown Road, Decatur, GA 30033
Vernon Hoyle (Bill Hoyle’s brother), 201 J Morgan St., Forest City NC 28043
Winnie Johnson, 105 Hampton Court (03)
Harlon Mosley, 421 Charlotte Avenue (04)
Frances Pittman 580 Coral Drive, A-4 Westport 1, Pine Knoll Shores, NC 28512
Cristi Gonzales Pollock, 5032 Crown Point Lane, Wilmington, NC 28409
Cody Richardson, 1518 Fountain Branch Road (03)
Pat Van Horn, 3804 Hawthorne Road (04)
Betty Watts, 616 Nichole Lane (03)
Tom Wicker, c/o Andy Barker, 6313 Sapony Trail, Elm City, NC 27822
Andy Wiggs (Jim Wiggs’ son), 523 Ward Street, Graham, NC 27253

Circle 10 did bell-ringing at Harris-Teeter for the Salvation Army on Thursday, December 3. I would like to thank the following who helped to raise needed funds for the children and families needing help in Rocky Mount. Thank you to Don Conley, Connie Griffin, Ann Winstead, Susan Skinner, Mary McAdams, Deborah Wright, Molly Pitt, Ginger Maynard, and Vel Johnson.

Thank You, Denise Cappiello

We offer our sympathy to Grady and Jeannette Pittman and their family in the death of their sister-in-law, Mildred Pittman of Elm City, on December 2.

We offer our sympathy to Norma Turnage and her family in the death of her brother-in-law, Bill Mackie, Jr. of Chapin, S.C., on December 4.

We rejoice with Laura and Justin Ellis in the birth of their daughter Aubrey Rose on December 8. Cheryl and Joe Stanton are the proud grandparents.

TOPNOTCHERS NEWS

All Lakeside’s Senior Adults are cordially invited to our annual Christmas Party on Sunday, December 20, following the Candlelight Service. Jane Snow has graciously invited us to her lovely new home at 213 Cobblestone Court. You will not want to miss this festive event as we share our love and friendship. Please call the church office to let us know you can come. (Transportation from the church will be provided for those who would like a ride.)

CHILDREN’S CHURCH

Children in Kindergarten–Grade 5 are invited to participate in Children’s Church on Sunday. They will leave worship during the second hymn and may be picked up in the Youth Building. Jennifer Cobb will lead our children on Sunday.

YOUTH GIFT WRAPPING FUND RAISER

Lakeside's youth will wrap gifts on Saturday, December 12, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Lecture Room. Donations will support the youth trip fund.

YOUTH NEWS

What a fun time we enjoyed at the Christmas party on Sunday night! Many thanks to the Rapers for hosting us. I love the creativity you showed with your gag gifts and the sweet spirit you all share as a group. I hope you will continue to cherish and nurture those friendships as well as the support you receive from so many in our congregation.

Please plan to arrive no later than 9:30 a.m. for the gift wrapping fund raiser on Saturday. Watch your email for further details.

I hope all of you will plan to go caroling to our homebound members this-coming Sunday. This is always a fun and important time of ministry to others in our congregation. Your help will also be needed at the Candlelight Service on December 20. Youth Choir will sing and other youth will be needed to assist with lighting candles.

Each of you is such a blessing and an important part of the Lakeside family. I look forward to seeing you all on Sunday. Elizabeth

MUSIC NOTES

Sunday's presentation of Part I of *Messiah* was a wonderful experience, and I am grateful to the many people whose time, talents and gifts make this opportunity possible for our church and community. It was a pleasure to work with the soloists from ECU, the string quartet from the N.C. Symphony, and Mark Pichowicz on harpsichord. Chancel Choir, in my opinion, you really are the world's greatest volunteer choir. Well-done!

I would also like to thank those who worked behind the scenes moving furniture and the creche, setting up chairs, instruments and music stands. A special thank you to Jerry Hamrick who, on short notice, designed and built a platform on which I could conduct.

As the late American choral conductor Robert Shaw said, "... the thing which we are trying to do together is somehow greater—more important and more rewarding—than most things which we attempt alone." To lead this collaborative musical effort, I am thankful. To be part of a supportive congregation that values music and worship, I am grateful.

Lakeside Ringers will lead in worship on Sunday, December 13. Please meet in the sanctuary at 9:15 a.m. for rehearsal.

Plan to join us for Caroling on Sunday afternoon at 5:00 p.m.

All choirs will participate in the evening Service of Carols and Candlelighting on December 20. The rehearsal schedule is as follows: 4:00 p.m.—Lakeside Ringers; 4:30 p.m.—Children's Choir; 5:00 p.m.—Youth and Chancel Choir. Amy

SUNDAY AT LAKESIDE

Deacon Greeters - Wayne Cotton and Dan Herring

Ushers - Group III, Bill Hoyle, Captain

Crucifer - Foster McAdams; Acolyte - Anna Adkins

Extended Session - Ann Winstead; Nursery - Greyson Tillman

Audio Booth Volunteer - Ricky Cobb

LAKESIDE'S MISSIONS AND MINISTRY PLAN

2015 Missions and Ministry Budget: \$637,111

	Week	YTD
Anticipated Giving	\$12,252	\$600,354
Receipts December 2	\$24,617	\$513,234
Variance	+\$12,365	-\$87,120
Needed to meet 2015 Ministry Commitment:		\$123,877

LAKESIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

1501 Sunset Avenue, Rocky Mount, NC 27804

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

E-mail: lakesidem@embarqmail.com

Website: lakesidechurchmt.org

CareNet Counseling East of Rocky Mount

355-2801 • toll free: 866-355-2801

CHURCH STAFF

Jody Wright
Senior Minister
Linda Davis
Administrative Assistant
Susan Skinner
Senior Adult Director

Elizabeth Edwards
Associate Minister
Liz Broomell
Secretarial Assistant
Napoleon Taylor
Custodian

Amy Shortt
Minister of Music
Mark Pichowicz
Interim Organist
Samantha Saiz
Preschool Director

The Link
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LAKESIDE CALENDAR

Thursday, December 10

12:00 p.m. Meditation Group, Parlor

Saturday, December 12

10:00 a.m. Youth Gift Wrapping, Lecture Room

Sunday, December 13

9:15 a.m. Lakeside Ringers Rehearsal

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

10:30 a.m. Coffee and Fellowship, Education Building Foyer

11:00 a.m. Worship

5:00 p.m. Caroling to our Members at Home, Sugg Foyer

6:30 p.m. Caroling Supper, Kincheloe Hall

Monday, December 14

10:30 a.m. WMU Group 6, Margaret Carpenter, 120 Plymouth Road

11:15 a.m. WMU Group 9, Parlor

7:00 p.m. WMU Group 10, Parlor

Tuesday, December 15

10:30 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting, Godwin Library

Wednesday, December 16

6:30 p.m. Lakeside Ringers Rehearsal

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 17

12:00 p.m. Meditation Group, Parlor

Dear Friends,

There is no question that we have been generously blessed at Lakeside. While the ministries of our congregation require robust financial support, many of the programs and opportunities we enjoy are supported by special gifts. The musicians and soloists for last Sunday's performance of *Messiah* were made possible by the Virginia Robertson Memorial Music Fund. The beautiful renovation of Robbins Hall, the new church bus, and our handsome new Lakeside sign were all memorial gifts. The Frederick E. Turnage Distinguished Speaker Series: Conversations on Christian Citizenship is made possible by gifts from Fred's friends and family.

We enjoy wonderful programs and facilities which enrich our worship, enhance our ministries, and touch many lives; however, the generosity of everyone at Lakeside is essential to meet our church's ongoing ministry needs. As a church family, we committed to support every aspect of our ministry together, and we still have work to do. As of December 9, we have received gifts of \$513,234 for our 2015 Ministry Plan of \$637,111. Therefore, in order to meet our current ministry commitments, we must receive \$123,877 before the end of the year. Please check your records and complete your 2015 intended giving plan if you have not done so. Our denominational and other missions contributions are made in December, and we have never failed to meet those commitments, even during the years when our giving did not meet the amount of our approved budget. Those mission entities depend on Lakeside just as much as Lakeside depends on you.

As the year end approaches, please be as generous as you can to do your part to support our ongoing programs and ministries. And please share your confidential giving intentions for 2016 with Linda Davis in the church office in order to help with the work of the church going forward. We have received 99 giving plans totaling \$325,736, which equals 50% of our approved budget for 2016. Last year we received giving plans totaling 74% of the church budget, and our goal is to increase that percentage this year. Your generosity is our only means of reaching this goal.

Lakeside is blessed . . . because you are a part of who we are. Thank you for helping us to be all that God calls us to be—now—and into the future.

Vel Johnson, Chair, Board of Finance