

LUMC'S COMMUNITY REVELATIONS

February 2022 / Volume 5, Number 1

Lacey United Methodist Church

203 West Lacey Rd., PO Box 151,

Forked River, NJ 08731

Church Office: (609) 693-5222

Pastor Cell: (845) 893-9157

laceyumcnj@gmail.com // www.laceyumc.org

Head of the Church: Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God

Ministers: All of Us

Pastor: Jonathan Campbell

Lay Leader: Dominic Gregoria

Lay Leader to the Annual Conference: Ed Wojciechowski

Admin. Assistant: Joann Michalkowski

Pianist / Choir Director/ Chimes Director: Dawn Slate

Facility Maintenance / Grounds: Mike Orlick

Trustee Chair: Bill Jones

Church Council Chair: Lori Osborn / Dennis Pontani

Staff Parish Team Chair: Laura McDonald

Children – Youth Education: Eric DeLa Cruz

Finance Chair: Judy Mihalkovitz

Head Counter: Rich Rosfjord

Thrift Shoppe: Elaine Brandt

Witness Coordinator: Donna Jones

Outreach: Pastor Jonathan Campbell

Worship: Dawn Marie Kuch

Hot Lunch Mission: Roseann DePasquale / Ed Weisbrot

Hope Chest Food Pantry: Robert Furbeck

Submissions to this newsletter can be sent to:

donnieg777@hotmail.com

THE JOY OF FORGIVENESS

Psalm 32: *Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord does not impute iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.*

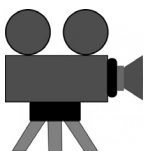
When I kept silent, my bones grew old through my groaning all the day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my vitality was turned into the drought of summer. I acknowledge my sin to You, and my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

For this cause everyone who is godly shall pray to You in a time when You may be found; surely in a flood of great waters they shall not come near him. You are my hiding place; You shall preserve me from trouble; You shall surround me with songs of deliverance.

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye. Do not be like the horse or like the mule, which have no understanding, which must be harnessed with bit and bridle, else they will not come near you.

Many sorrows shall be to the wicked; but he who trusts in the Lord, mercy shall surround him. Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, you righteous; and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

MEDIA TEAM



Volunteers are needed to join our Media Team! Contact Steve Michalkowski at (732) 300-1956 to learn more.

You can now watch Sunday Service by clicking on <https://youtube.com/channel/UC9ShWURuTPdbtQbihxNelvA> We have been broadcasting Worship Service exclusively on our YouTube channel: Lacey United Methodist Church.

WINTER FOOD PANTRY HOURS

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 12:30pm – 1:30pm

The vision and mission of Lacey United Methodist Church is to welcome, nurture and serve all. Sharing God's grace with open arms. Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the Glory of God.

UNITED METHODIST SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE

The deadline to apply is March 24. If you are a United States citizen (which you don't have to be to qualify for one of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry {GBHEM} scholarships), the applicant must be an active, full member of The United Methodist Church for at least one year. Applicants must be pursuing a degree program at an accredited institution within the United States. High School students may apply if they will be college students in the fall term. Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale. Applicants are required to be full-time students according to their school's standards for the program for which they are enrolled. A student may receive GBHEM scholarships for up to seven award years maximum. These scholarships are separate from the ones offered by the United Methodist Higher Education Foundation (UMHEF). You can apply to both through each organization.

The funds for GBHEM's loans and scholarships are generated 63 % from endowments, 22% from wills and annuities, 13% from United Methodist Special Sundays, 1% from online gifts, and 1% from fiduciary income. Find out more by visiting www.gbhem.org .

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP NIGHT

On Thursday, February 10, America's Keswick (601 County Road 530 in Whiting) will be hosting a Men's Fellowship Night at 6:15pm. The guest speaker will be Pastor Bill Pruitt from New Hope Philly. A \$12 ticket includes a dinner, message and use of the Activity Center. To preregister and prepay, call (800) 453-7942.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The Lacey United Methodist Women will be having their next meeting on Thursday, February 24, at the Lacey Perkins (113 South Main Street in Forked River) at 6:00pm. All women are welcome and invited. For more info, contact Monique Wojciechowski or the LUMC Office.

MONTHLY PASTOR'S BREAKFAST

Please join Pastor Jonathan for breakfast on Monday, February 21, at the Lacey Perkins at 9:00am. Everyone is welcome to be part of the food, fellowship, and fun! For more information, contact Pastor Jonathan at (845) 893-9157.



LITURGISTS WANTED

If you are interested in being a liturgist for our Sunday service, contact Dominic Gregoria at donnieg777@hotmail.com . The current schedule is Rich Rosfjord (Feb. 6), Elaine Brandt (Feb. 13), Sally Potter (Feb. 20) and Sherry Exel (Feb. 27).

In addition, a greeting team is also being put back together. These are friendly people who can pass out the sign-in books and bulletins. Most importantly, they are to make people feel welcome when they come through the doors of our church. In other words, they are to be a part of the uplifting experience of attending our church.

PASTOR'S VACATION

Pastor Jonathan will be on vacation from Tuesday, February 1, until Tuesday, February 15. During this time if you need assistance, please contact Joann at the LUMC Office at (609) 693- 5222. If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Rev. Dawn Corlew at (609) 338-9711.

BSA INFORMATION SESSION

On Wednesday, January 26, an information zoom session was held by GNJAC in order to discuss the BSA bankruptcy settlement. According to Bishop Schol, there were more than 300 attendees that participated in this zoom session. Besides Bishop Schol, the session was led by Sang Won Doh, Rob Zuckerman, Vasanth Victor, Kay Dubuisson, Matt Enzler, Eric Drew and Rev. Shelley Smith. According to Victor, all conferences have churches with claims of sexual abuse among sponsored Boy Scout troops. He also claimed that "GNJ is where scouting first took root."

All those on the session were able to participate in a poll in regards to how GNJ will contribute financially to the Survivor Trust Fund of \$910,420. 94% agreed to supporting the fact that the UMC and GNJ will contribute to the Survivor Trust Fund. 88% were in agreement that our congregations should share in the responsibility of this settlement over three years. The exact percentage that churches are to contribute was all over the board, with the majority agreeing with 50%. These and the results to other questions in the poll will assist the team with deciding on legislation for the May 2022 Annual Conference Session.

There is also in play a good faith effort to raise an additional \$100 million, which was stated a few times during the session is not a guarantee! The Boy Scouts of America bankruptcy filing states that there were more than 82,000 claims of sexual abuse that happened since 1940. A report goes on to state that several thousand of these allegations have been committed by United Methodist-chartered Boy Scout troops and Cub packs. Included in the settlement are also other schools, churches, public and private organizations that offered their buildings and property to Boy Scout Troops for their use.

The following terms have been reached so far according to a report put out by Rob Zuckerman, CFO and Treasurer of GNJ:

1. Provide an opportunity for survivors to share their experiences and hope for the church.
2. Publish a series of articles about the Boy Scout bankruptcy case and the sexual abuse of young people in denominational publications and U.S. annual conference communication resources.
3. Review all Safe Sanctuary / Ministry Safe policies and procedures for congregations in the U.S. to ensure they are up to date and are being followed.
4. The Methodist Church in aggregate has committed to raise a \$30 million settlement to contribute to the Survivor Trust Fund. This contribution would be 1% of a \$3 billion settlement.
5. Ensure that all BSA chartered organizations receive a release for Boy Scout-related claims. While United Methodists have the capacity to organize and have legal representation, most chartering organizations do not. Small community nonprofits, small denominations (including sister denominations of the Pan-Methodist Commission), parent-teacher associations, grange halls and many other chartered organizations were not represented in the mediation process, leaving them vulnerable to future lawsuits. Our United Methodist mediators advocated for their release from BSA claims, not only to assist them but also to help ensure that scouting will be able to continue. (This is why the United Methodists came up with that extra \$100 million dollar goal).
6. The United Methodist Church will provide a representative to the survivor working group that will work to make Scouting and youth programs safer for young people.

Many of these claims occurred during the 50s, 60s and 70s. When the question was asked about the possible splitting of the United Methodist Church, it became apparent that there is still plenty of brainstorming that needs to be done with this issue, but Mr. Zuckerman did seem to believe that those churches leaving the fold will still be responsible for their share. Please visit www.gnjumc.org for more info.

As United Methodists, we should feel compelled to assist the victims of this travesty in any way we can. As a person who works with the youth, I believe that they are the future of our church and I cringe every time I hear of these situations. Let's pray for anyone whom has ever been victimized in this way.

God Bless,
Dominic Gregoria

+++++

***“I won’t give up on
this race***

+++++

***Broken but I still have
faith***

+++++

***That this old life is all
part of a plan***

+++++

***And I can feel it in my
soul***

+++++

***One day, I’ll stand
before the throne***

+++++

***With nothin’ left but
hope and these two
hands.”***

+++++

Sheryl Crow & TobyMac

UPCOMING HAPPENINGS

****The Youth Group is expected to resume meeting in February on Fridays at 6:30pm.****

****Look for 2 Dine-To-Donate events to be scheduled in February or March.****

****Confirmation Classes will take place on Sundays from 1pm until 2:15/2:30pm. These sessions will take place from February 27th until June 5th. (excluding March 20th, April 17th and May 29th). Confirmation Sunday is June 12th.****

****Look for special dinner services to take place during Lent. At press time, they will be scheduled on Sunday evenings. Any musicians that would like to accompany Dawn Slate for these sessions should contact Dominic at donnieg777@hotmail.com .****

****Any adults that would like to participate in a small Easter play that the Drama Club is working on should also contact Dominic at the above email.****

****A Car Show is currently being finalized to take place sometime in the upcoming Spring / Summer.****

**LACEY UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

PO Box 151
Forked River, NJ 08731