

<>< *Lacey United Methodist Church Prayer Page* ><>

<>< YOUR WILL, LORD GOD, BE DONE ~ NOTHING MORE, NOTHING LESS, NOTHING ELSE <><

For God's Healing & Discernment ~ Covid sufferers & Care Givers; Judy Mihalkovitz; Virginia Schoeneberg; George Reid; Will Cotton; Dawn Slate; Carole Exel; Karen; Tom & Mary; Terry H.; Peg Bea; Davette & Leslie Bivins; Lizzie Britton; Linda & John Ansbach; Saccal Family; Evelyn Handchen; Patricia Potter; Michael Potter; Sara Carpini; Joseph; Rosalie Mulvaney; Ed & Monique Wojciechowski; Beccari Family; Emmett & Gloria Bivins; Ellen Larney; Brittney; Diane Collins; Rick & Ashleigh Handchen; Marousis Family; George & Adrienne Melnyk; Ike & Joan Icenhower; Thomas Helle; Susan Schlotter; Daryl Simmons; Dee & Paul Burrowes; Colleen Brandt; Dottie & Bill Connolly; Ray MacPherson; Barkley Family; Mihalkovitz/Przybylski Families; Marjorie Moore; Bev Krott; Charles Cometa Jr.; Peggy LaPorta; Sandi Smith; Gesine Klein; Joan McGavin; Cindy Dreher; Nancy Dean; Allyson Cotton; Lisa Burger; Patricia Potter; Sally & Trevor Potter; Kenny & Kathie Pitman; BettyAnn Britton; Tommy Britton; Dawn Marie & Stash Kuch; Kyle Kuch; Gail Matuska; Phyllis Smith; Bill Jones; Sue & Rich Newman; Bill Hulst; Bill & Becky Buglione; Melody Pryor-Tasco; Lorraine, Katrina & Peter Borchester; Sally & Don McErlean; Hunter; Pat Grant; Bill Keyworth; Deb Burnette; Shannon, Noel, & Brandon Weaver; our whole Church Family.

For God's Comfort & Strength during Time of Mourning and Loss ~ Covid19 Victims; Larry Radomski Family; Mary Rose K Family; Peg Cotton Family; Ann Taylor Family; Phillip Schoenberger/Buglione Family; Patrick Callaghan Family; Debby Nugent Family; Dee Cala Family; Robert Bea Family.

Praise and Thanksgiving for Answered Prayer ~ Thanks be to God for answered prayer! For the birth of James Frederick Stapleton!

For Those Serving in the Military ~ Peter Borchester; Jordyn Breur; Kevin Carhart; Luke Derflinger; Randall D. Donithan; Ellen Hammer; Gavin Hammer D'Adamo; Raymond Kitson; James Lubbers; T. Ryan McDonald; Ryan Palmieri; Daniel Schenker; Jason Schenker; for all Soldiers; Sailors; Marines; Airmen; & Guards-Men/Women of our Armed Forces.

For the Ministries of our Church ~ Bible Studies; Christian Education; Community Outreach; DOC Connection Ministries; Extension Ministries; Finance Team; Healing Ministries; Hope Chest Food Pantry; Hospitality & Welcoming Team; Joy of Angels Thrift Shoppe; Kúrios' Kids; Music Programs; How It Works and Why; AA Group; Senior Ministries; SHALOM for the Homeless; Stewardship Team; Summer Lunch for Lacey's Kids; The Tuesday & Thursday Hot Lunch Mission; Youth Ministries.

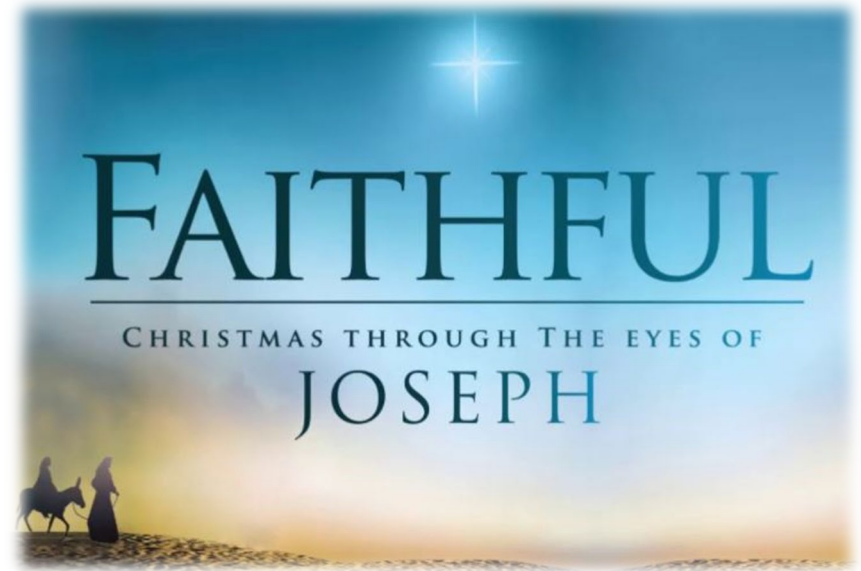
For Greater NJ Annual Conference ~ Bishop John & Beverly Schol; DS Rev Dr. Gina Hendrickson; all Clergy and Laity of the Greater UMC Annual Conference & United Methodist Denomination

World Council of Churches & USA Prayer Atlas ~ People of Myanmar, Thailand; Washington, West Virginia; Lacey Township Committee, Leaders & First Responders; Senators; Congressmen and leaders of our United States of America; Uniting of all American political parties; President Joe Biden & Vice President Kamala Harris; Gov. Murphy, NJ Officials working to end CoVid19; Praying an outpouring of God's spiritual renewal and healing of all the people of America.



Lacey United Methodist Church

December 5, 2021



Whose Child is This?

203 West Lacey Road - PO Box 151 Forked River, NJ 08731
Church Office ~ (609) 693-5222 Pastor Cell ~ (845) 893-9157
Email ~ laceyumcnj@gmail.com Website ~ www.laceyumc.org

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

Ministers: All of Us Liturgists: Dominic Gregoria & Lori Osborn

Pastor: Jonathan Campbell Lay Leader: Ed Wojciechowski

Music Director: Dawn Slate Welcoming Team: Virginia Schoeneberg

Head Ushers: Sherry Exel & Rick Waddell

Junior Head Ushers: Kenshin Frangos & Abby Michalkowski

Thank You to All Who Share Their Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service, Witness & Time!

Welcome in the Name of Jesus Christ to All Visitors, Members, Family and Friends!

** Please feel free to rise in body or spirit*

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

O come, O come, Immanuel,
And be light for our darkness.
Be comfort in our grief,
Be a friend for our loneliness,
An oasis for our searching.
O come, O come, Immanuel,
Restore our joy, heal our wounds, and bring us peace.

Hymn *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus UMH 196

Advent Candle Lighting

Reading: Malachi 3:1-4

Hymn *Light the Advent Candle v.2 FWS 2090

Prayer for Illumination

Speak to us, Lord. Speak to us in the waiting, the watching, the hoping, the longing, the sorrow, the sighing, the rejoicing. Speak to us by your Word in these Advent days, and walk with us until the day of your coming. Amen.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 1:18-19

Message: Faithful: "Whose Child is This"

Praise Song *Like A Child

Pastoral Prayer

Ministry of Giving and Prayer of Dedication:

God of mercy and grace, we pray that the gifts we offer this morning might be used to bring some compassion to the chaos that is our world. We give these gifts in love, hoping they will heal some of the hurting; and as they do, make the crooked road straight for the coming of the Christ. May the hills that separate us from sisters and brothers be made flat and may the valleys of our isolation be raised up, so we will be ready to welcome the Christ as one. In that holy name, we pray. Amen.

***Praise Song**

Sanctuary

Prayer of Confession

O Lord God, as we begin to prepare our hearts to receive the One whom you are sending, forgive us for all the times we have missed seeing you in our midst, for all the times we have doubted your presence, and for all the times we have failed to help others find their way. Forgive us, in the name of Jesus, the One who is coming. Amen.

(Time of Silent Confession and Reflection)

Assurance of Pardon

The Lord is merciful and forgiving, a great and compassionate savior. God rescues us from darkness and frees us from fear. Like a refiner's fire, the Lord makes us shine with the brilliance of the purest gold and silver. The one who began this work in us seeks to bring it to completion. May the day of Christ find us flawless and without blame.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Lord's Prayer

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Gratitude

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn *Everlasting God W&S 3021

Benediction

Postlude *Njalo

All Music Used with Permission – CCLI#2274807

Lacey Christmas Parade ~ TODAY at 3PM

Help is needed in preparing and serving hot chocolate/water and goodies to those marching in the parade.
Volunteers, please come at 1:00PM. THANK YOU!!!

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.

*Scripture to read & pray over in preparation for
December 12 – Matthew 1:18-21*

Holy Grounds Coffee Hour Volunteers are needed to MISSION! Please see Pastor Jonathan if you can help us!

FINANCIAL STATISTICS – Week of November 28, 2021

Attendance ~ 38 in-person; 15 via YouTube
Envelope Offerings ~ \$1,541.00 Offerings via Vanco ~ \$753.86
Plate ~ \$25.00 Funeral Service ~ \$500.00
Thanksgiving Dinner ~ \$100.00 Poinsettias ~ \$60.00
Match Donation ~ \$20.00 Discretionary Fund ~ \$192.00

Thank you for your continued support of LUMC! If you are able, please explore giving on-line by using Vanco for electronic giving (details below) or mail your tithes and offerings to LUMC PO Box 151 Forked River, NJ 08731. Thank you and God bless you!!

Poinsettia Flowers ~ See Dawn Marie Kuch after Worship or contact her at 732-232-7270 to place your order!

Electronic Giving is Here! Follow these easy steps:

- 1) Visit our website at laceyumc.org
 - 2) Click **Electronic Giving**, then follow the instructions
- Or scan the image you see here to locate the giving page:
Contact the LUMC office for more information 609.693.5222



Shop Online? Here are two ways you could earn donations for LUMC!

- ✓ umcmarket.org - You earn for LUMC every time you click through the umcmarket.org site to shop. Sign up for free at umcmarket.org!
- ✓ [amazonsmile.com](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-2279634) - Support LUMC by starting your Amazon shopping at <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-2279634>

ShopRite Gift Card Fundraiser

ShopRite makes a \$50 donation to LUMC for every \$1,000 we sell in ShopRite gift cards! Cards are available through the LUMC Office. All you have to do is buy cards through LUMC and shop at ShopRite!

Memorial Brick Orders

4" x 8" Brick / 4 lines / 18 characters each line including spaces = \$50
8" x 8" Brick / 6 lines / 18 characters each line including spaces = \$100
Contact Elaine Brandt for more information. Please visit our website or contact the LUMC Office for an order form!

**** Winter Lunch Program for Lacey's Kids ****

We are collecting **pasta and sauce** to be distributed to participants of our Lunch Program for Lacey's Kids. Drop off after worship or through the LUMC Office by December 12th!
Questions? Contact Sherry at 609-290-6682.

Christmas Happenings at LUMC

Dec. 8 6:30PM – Holiday Movie Night featuring "Elf"
Dec. 17 6:30PM – Intergenerational Carol Singing
Dec. 22 6:30 PM – Blue Christmas Worship Service
Dec. 24 7PM & 10PM – Christmas Eve Worship Services.
Both services will include Communion and candle lighting.
Jan. 9 – Epiphany Party at the Parsonage 3PM-6PM

Bible Study Opportunities

- ✚ Wednesday mornings at 9:00am.
- ✚ Wednesday evenings at 6:15pm at the home of Donna Jones. Please contact Donna at 609-276-7383 for more information.
- ✚ Thursday evenings at 6:45pm.

☪ United Methodist Women Attending "Girl Talk" ☪
Wednesday, December 8 at America's Keswick. The UMW will meet in the LUMC parking lot at 9:30am. Tickets \$12.
Contact Monique at 732-492-1494 for more information.

Drama Club at LUMC – Tuesdays 5pm-6:30pm

Contact Dominic 732.904.9945 or donnieg777@hotmail.com for info.
Open to all children and youth, reading age and up.

Monthly Pastor's Breakfast: 9:00 AM Monday, Dec. 13th at Lacey Perkins (Rt. 9, Forked River). Everyone is welcome to be part of the food, fellowship, and fun!

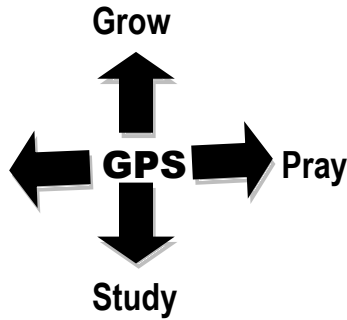
Calling All Children & Youth

Sunday School: All are welcome! (K-12th Grade)
Confirmation Class: Forming soon. (5th Grade and older)
Youth Group: Fridays 6:30PM (5th Grade and older)

Joy of the Angels Thrift Shoppe

Hours of Operation: Thursdays ~ 8:00AM – 11:00AM
Wednesdays, Fridays, & Saturdays ~ 10:00AM – 1:00PM
⇒ Volunteers are needed to extend hours/days of operation. ⇐
Please contact Elaine Brandt to learn how you can help!

Week of 12/6



Monday- Matthew 1:18-19

Have you ever faced a situation that, even if not as severe as Joseph’s, involved some of the same feelings? A time when someone you trusted let you down, and you had to face pain, disappointment, perhaps anger, perhaps tears, certainly shock? What was it like?

Tuesday- Isaiah 43:1-4

Isaiah 43 came in a section of the book many mainline scholars call “Second Isaiah.” It spoke first to Israelites returning from exile in Babylon. It emphasized God’s personal bond with God’s people—“I will be with you....I love you.” It did not promise an easy, pain-free life, but pledged that whatever happened, God’s presence was dependable. How could such a passage speak to Joseph’s hurting heart? How does it speak to you today?

Wednesday- Matthew 1:18-20

What do you learn about Joseph’s inner qualities from his measured response (“he decided to call off their engagement quietly”)? How safe for others are you? Like Joseph, do you choose not to humiliate others?

Thursday- Matthew 1:1-17

In an unusual move for his time, Matthew named five women (including Mary) in Jesus’ genealogy. The other four (Tamar, Rahab, Ruth and “the wife of Uriah”—i.e. Bathsheba) had all, like Mary, faced obstacles, even scandal, in their lives. Yet God had worked through each of them to advance the story of God’s redeeming mission in the world. Does God still work through unlikely people? In what ways is God at work through you?

Friday- Mark 14:36

The apostle Paul adopted the prayer practice that Mark reported of Jesus, encouraging believers to cry out to our heavenly “*abba*”. What are your prayers like? Are you able to speak with God comfortably and trustingly, as you would to an infinitely wise and caring father? Why or Why not?

Saturday- Matthew 1:20-21

Scholar N. T. Wright wrote that “Matthew sees Jesus as the one who will now complete what the law of Moses pointed to but could not of itself produce. He will rescue his people, not from slavery in Egypt, but from the slavery of sin, the ‘exile’ they have suffered not just in Babylon but in their own hearts and lives.” In what ways has missing God’s path led your heart and life into a kind of “exile”? What are the benefits of letting Jesus save you from that exile?

Notes:
