

<>< *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; Frank Nordyk; Pete & Kathy Jensen; 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; Brittny; 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 Hults; Bill & Becky Buglione; Melody Pryor-Tasco; Lorraine, Katrina & Peter Borchester; Sally & Don McErean; 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'Adam; 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.

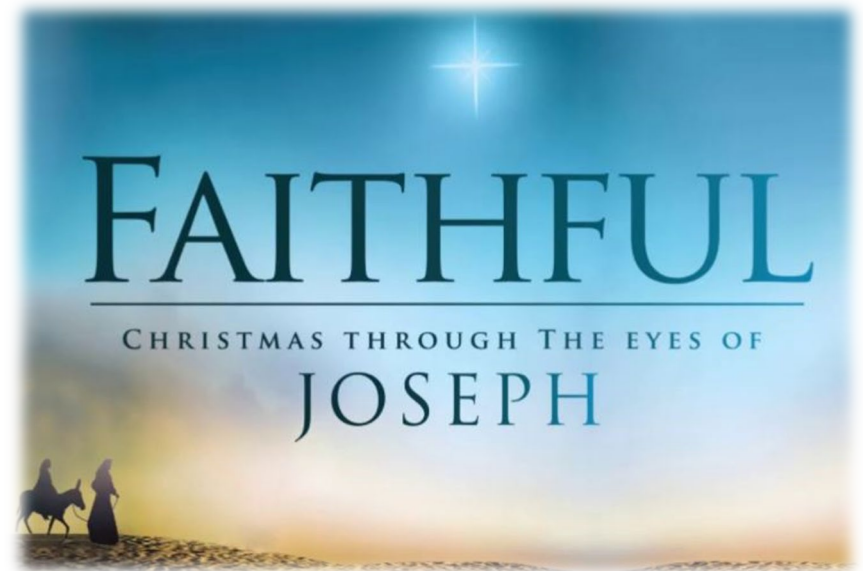
For Greater NJ Annual Conference ~ Bishop John & Beverly Schol; DS Rev Dr. Gina Hendrickson; all Clergy and Laity of the Greater UMC Annual Conference & United Methodist Denomination

World Council of Churches & USA Prayer Atlas ~ People of Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam; Wisconsin, Wyoming; 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 12, 2021



Raising a Child Not Your Own

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: Sherry Exel & Cynthia Pedemonti

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

Joy to the World

Shared by Betty Carhart & Robert Pentland

Welcome

Call to Worship

A path to our God,

Winding through the ordinary,

Weaving through the busyness,

Overcoming roadblocks and detours.

A way to go home,

Leaving the past in the past,

Moving from darkness and exile,

Coming into the light.

Advent is a path to our God,

A way to come home,

A discovery of God's voice:

Rejoice, rejoice. God is with us!

***Hymn**

People Look East UMH 202

Advent Candle Lighting

Readings: Zephaniah 3:14-20 and Luke 3:7-18

***Hymn**

Light the Advent Candle v.3 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 1:18-21

Message: Faithful: "Raising a Child Not Your Own"

***Hymn**

Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine FWS 2099

Pastoral Prayer

Ministry of Giving and Prayer of Dedication:

God who gives all gifts, in this season, we focus so much on giving gifts to one another. Help us, we pray, to remember what John the Baptist tells us is on your wish list: that we might bear

fruit worthy of the repentance that is the very heart of this season: fruit of compassion, fruit of sharing, fruit by denying ourselves so that others who have little will have enough. In response to you, we give that our fruit might please you. In the Savior's name, we pray. Amen.

***Praise Song**

Let Us Break Bread Together

Prayer of Confession

Holy and loving God,

we have dwelt in darkness and preferred it to the light;

we have been proud of our accomplishments and despaired

over our shortcomings. Smooth down the mountains of our

pride, and lift up the valleys of our doubts. Open a path in the

wilderness of our lives that we might find our way to you again.

Refine us and prepare us once again for life in your kingdom.

Hear our prayer, O Lord. Amen.

(Time of Silent Confession and Reflection)

Assurance of Pardon

*Through the grace of God, granted us in Jesus Christ, we have been
enriched in every way: in speech and knowledge of every kind.*

Through the grace of God in Christ, we find grace and peace.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Lord's Prayer

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

***Hymn**

What Child Is This UMH 219

Benediction

***Postlude**

Away in a Manger

Shared by Betty Carhart & Robert Pentland

All Music Used with Permission – CCLI#2274807

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 19 – Luke 2:1-5*

FINANCIAL STATISTICS – Week of December 5, 2021

Attendance ~ 42 in-person; 20 via YouTube

Envelope Offerings ~ \$420.00 Offerings via Vanco ~ \$1,078.32

Plate ~ \$50.00 Summer Lunch Program ~ \$50.00

Poinsettias ~ \$20.00 Match Donation ~ \$285.00

Discretionary Fund ~ \$144.00

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!

✓ [amazonmile.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 - **TODAY!**
Questions? Contact Sherry at 609-290-6682.

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

Christmas Happenings at LUMC

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.

Volunteers are needed to join our Media Team!

Contact Steven Michalkowski 732-300-1956 to learn more!!

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

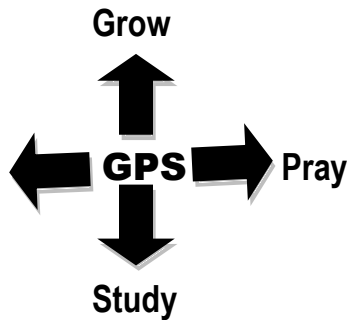
Hours of Operation: Thursdays ~ 8:00AM – 11:00AM

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 12/13



Monday- Matthew 1:18-21

How is your Christmas shaping up? Do you expect it to be “Norman Rockwell” perfect? If not, what factors, big or little, may play a part in making your Christmas “imperfect”?

Tuesday- Matthew 1:18-21

In what ways can you, your family and your group be an “angel” for others, finding more joy in your Christmas by increasing theirs?

Wednesday- Matthew 1:18-21

When (if ever) have you sensed a call from God that brought challenge and risk with it? How did you respond?

Thursday- Matthew 1:20-23

Is it possible for God to communicate with you today through a dream? If so, how could you tell if it was God, or just the cold medicine or pizza you ingested before bed time? In what other ways can God communicate with you? Are you “listening” for all (or any) of them?

Friday- Luke 2:41-49

When Jesus, in Luke 2:49, called the Temple “my father’s house” (clearly not referring to Joseph), how do you believe Joseph felt? Was he offended? Awed? Puzzled? Hurt? Or is it possible that he humbly nodded in agreement?

Saturday- Matthew 28:16-20

How is God calling you to share the Advent story and make disciples?

Notes:
