

<>< *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; Keith Gibbons; Christine Morgan; Joseph Ensinger; Michelle Reyes; Hudson Hendrixson; Jeff Merceron; Mrs. Nunez; Lois Pozsar; Patrick Jemas; Paul H.; Helen Wooley; Gary; Sally Potter; Gary; Levi Kern; Greg R.; Frank Huscha; Rich Rosfjord; Kenny & Kathie Pitman; Sara Carpini; Ronnie Sadowski; Nancy & Rev. George Reid; Dorothy Cochran; Andrea Almeida; Betty Carty; Cindy Kuch; Linda & John Ansbach; Bill Wehner; Rich C.; Chris Mignone; Denise Applegate; Randy M.; Lois; Sue & Rich Newman; Dawn Slate; Gail Matuska; Monika & Fred Sisbarro; Marilyn Slate; Shirley; Aubrey; Betty Carhart; Rosalie Mulvaney; Dottie & Bill Connolly; Frank & Mary Timmerman; Cynthia Pedemonti; Andrea Schenker; Helen DeLa Cruz; Peg Bea; Shannon Callaghan; Will Cotton; Carole Exel; Patricia Potter; Susan Schlotter; Joan McGavin; Phyllis Smith; Bill & Becky Buglione; Lorraine; Katrina & Peter Borchester; Sally & Don McErlean; Pat Grant; our whole Church Family.

For God's Comfort & Strength during Time of Mourning and Loss ~ Don Reppert Family; Daniel Watkins Family; Kevin McGrath Family; Dashaun Witter Family; Phil DePasquale Family; Mandie Buron Family.

Praise and Thanksgiving for Answered Prayer ~ Thanks be to God for answered prayer!

For Those Serving in the Military ~ Peter Borchester; Jordyn Breur; Kevin Carhart; Luke Derflinger; Ellen Hamner; Gavin Hamner D'Adamo; Raymond Kitson; T. Ryan McDonald; Ryan Palmieri; Daniel Schenker; Jason Schenker; for all Soldiers; Sailors; Marines; Airmen; and 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; 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.

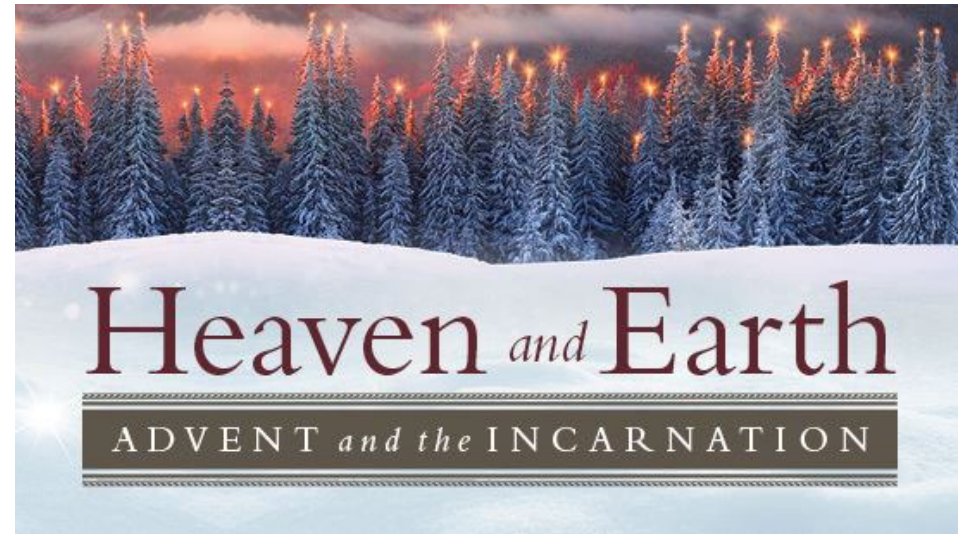
For Greater NJ Annual Conference ~ Bishop John & Beverly Schol; DS Rev. Ronell Howard; all Clergy and Laity of the Greater UMC Annual Conference & United Methodist Denomination

World Council of Churches & USA Prayer Atlas ~ People of Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam; Alabama, Alaska; 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 10, 2023



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 Liturgist: Diane Collins
Pastor: Jonathan Campbell Lay Leader: Dominic Gregoria
Music Director: Dawn Slate Special Music: Betty Carhart
Guest Musician: Sue Gill

Advent Family: Sherry Exel and Cynthia Pedemonti
Welcoming Team: Lori Osborn & Deb Waddell
Head Ushers: Sherry Exel & Rick Waddell
Thank You to All Who Share Their Prayers, Presence, Gifts,
Service, Witness & Time!

All Music Used with Permission – CCLI#2274807

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 and Announcements

*Hymn ***Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*** UMH 196

*Call to Worship

Come! Listen! A voice cries out: "In the wilderness, prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God." **We come, and we wait in the just peace of the coming Messiah.** Pay attention! God is removing barriers and leveling the playing field, making a way for all people to witness the glory of the Lord. **We pay attention, and we wait in the just peace of the coming Messiah.** We wait, and we work as God's landscapers, filling in valleys and making rough places a plain, bringing justice where conflicts and obstacles once reigned. **We wait, and we work in the just peace of the coming Messiah.** As we gather, may we prepare our voices to proclaim and our hands to get messy as our lives declare the coming of our Savior and Comforter. **We come to worship and to grow in the just peace of Jesus Christ, the coming Messiah. Amen.**

Advent Candle Lighting

Hymn ***Advent Song*** Vs. 2 TFWS 2090

Prayer for Illumination

Gracious God, give us humble, teachable, and obedient hearts, that we may receive what you have revealed, and do what you have commanded. Amen.

Gospel Lesson: Mark 1:1-8

Message: Heaven and Earth: "Surprised"

*Hymn ***Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*** UMH 213

*Affirmation of Faith UMH 885

Pastoral Prayer

Offering

Anthem: Special Music Offered by Sue Gill

*Doxology UMH 95

*Prayer of Dedication

Almighty God, we enter this season from a chaotic world filled with violence, division, and injustice. We hear your prophet Isaiah promising comfort -- then John the Baptist calling us to construction projects. We are reminded we are called to prepare the way, to be the designers of peace, the builders of justice, the producers of kindness. As we bring our tithes and offerings to you, we pray that our giving continues to point to the Christ who comes in love and compassion. May our giving

in this season reflect our hope for the promised kingdom to reign in our world. We pray this in the name of the Messiah, Jesus our Savior. Amen.

Hymn ***A Place at the Table*** Vs. 1,5 W&S 3149

The Invitation

Prayer of Confession

God of love and kindness, you have promised to renew our lives, to be with us in a new heaven and new earth—a realm where steadfast love and faithfulness embrace forever. **We are afraid of your promised coming. We cling to rules we understand: the rules of privilege and power.** We are afraid of a world of true justice and peace, afraid that you will change the way things have always been. **As we wait for you to live among us, we confess our unwillingness to see that you have always been here.**

A Time of Silent Confession and Reflection

In God's love and mercy, we are given each new day for the healing of the world. In the name of Christ, you are forgiven.
In the name of Christ, you are forgiven.

The Assurance of Pardon

Passing of the Peace

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Prayer of Consecration

The Lord's Prayer

The Breaking of the Bread and The Sharing of the Cup

The Prayer of Humble Access

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs from under your table; but you are the same Lord whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us, amen.

The Reception

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 ***It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*** UMH 218

Benediction and *Postlude

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.

FINANCIAL STATISTICS

Statistics December 3, 2023:

Attendance ~ 49 in-person; 60 via YouTube

Offerings: \$1,632.00 Offerings via Vanco: \$1,167.36

Plate: \$74.00 Discretionary: \$145.00

Hospitality: \$30.00 Bayshore Fellowship Rent: \$1,311.27

Harvest Fest: \$10.00 Thanksgiving: \$50.00

Joy of Angels Deposit: \$1,660.00

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!!

Reminder: The basket on the side table as you walk up the center aisle is for giving to the Pastor's discretionary fund which enables us to directly help members of our community who are in need.

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



Hope Chest Food Pantry Needs...shelf-stable milk and juice!
Drop off at the LUMC office during the week or after worship.

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!

Joy of the Angels Thrift Shoppe

Hours of Operation:

Tuesday ~ 10:00AM – 1:00PM

Wednesday ~ 10:00AM – 4:00PM

Thursday ~ 8:00AM – 4:00PM

Friday ~ 10:00AM – 4:00PM

Saturday ~ 10:00AM – 4:00PM

Extended Hours!!!

↵ The Joy of Angels Thrift Shoppe is a vital mission of Lacey UMC.
Volunteers are needed to help extend the hours of operation.

*Scripture to read & pray over in preparation for
December 17th – John 1:6-8, 19-28*

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!!!

Monthly Pastor's Breakfast: December 11th at 9:30 AM

at Lacey Perkins. Everyone is welcome!

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

We are collecting **boxed potatoes** 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!

Please consider donating holiday turkeys and/or hams!

Christmas at Lacey UMC

Friday, Dec. 15 6:30PM – Christmas Movie Night (Title TBD)

Thurs., Dec. 21 7:00 PM – Blue Christmas Worship Service held at FR Presbyterian Church

Sunday, Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Worship Services:

9 AM: Morning Worship

7 PM: Family Candlelight Service

10 PM: Traditional Candlelight Service

Sunday, Jan. 7 3PM-6PM – Epiphany Party at the Parsonage, 744 Devon Street, Forked River

The OC Board of Health will be holding a **vaccine clinic** on **Thursday, December 21st from 11AM – 1PM** at LUMC.

Appointments are not necessary – stop by to learn more!

↵↵ Membership Class – January 2024!!! ↵↵

Please contact Pastor Jonathan at 845-893-9157 if you would like to join the LUMC family!

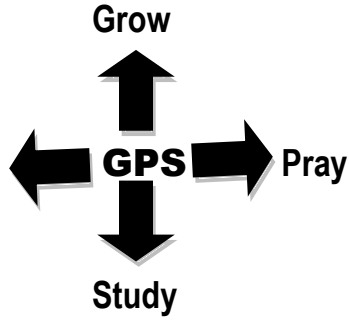
Join our media team!!! The media team coordinates the live stream, sound, and video screen presentation during worship.

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



We're social! Like & follow us on...
LUMC: Facebook, Instagram, & YouTube
Joy of Angels Thrift Shoppe: Facebook

Week of 12/11



Monday- Isaiah 40:1-11

How do you comfort others in the LUMC community?

Tuesday- Isaiah 40:1-11

How have you experienced comfort through the LUMC community?

Wednesday- Isaiah 40:1-11

How are you clearing the way for God to enter the heart and lives of others?

Thursday- Mark 1:1-8

What does repentance look like in your life?

Friday- Mark 1:1-8

What is the connect between baptism and repentance?

Saturday- Mark 1:1-8

Write a prayer thanking God for your baptism.

Notes:
