

LUMC'S COMMUNITY REVELATIONS

December 2020 / Volume 3, Number 11

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: 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: Rich Rosfjord

Staff Parish Team Chair: Rose Coram

Children – Youth Education: Sue Newman

Finance Chair: Steve Michalkowski

Head Counter: Becky Buglione

Thrift Shoppe: Elaine Brandt

Mission: Donna Jones

Outreach: Kenny Pitman

Worship: Dawn Marie Kuch

Hospitality Kitchen: Bill Buglione

Hot Lunch Mission: Roseann DePasquale / Ed Weisbrot

Summer Lunch Mission: Sherry Exel / Gail Matuska

THE IMMANUEL PROPHECY

Isaiah 7: 13 – 17: *Then he said, "Hear now, O house of David! Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel. Curds and honey He shall eat, that He may know to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the Child shall know to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land that you dread will be forsaken by both her kings. The Lord will bring the king of Assyria upon you and your people and your father's house – days that have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah."*

+++++

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICES

Blue Christmas Service:

Thursday, December 17 @ 7:00pm

Christmas Eve Worship Services:

7:00pm & 10:00pm

*All three services above are scheduled to feature Communion and candle lighting! Please RSVP due to limited space!

+++++

LUMC ACTIVITIES CANCELLED

Due to a possible Covid-19 exposure by someone who was on church property, the LUMC leadership team has decided to cancel all activities in the church buildings (including support groups and the Joy of Angels Thrift Shoppe) until Sunday, December 13th. Unfortunately, this includes canceling "The Hanging of the Greens" as well as in-person Sunday worship. Sunday worship services will be live-streamed via our Facebook page and website as normal.

+++++

Any submissions to this newsletter should be made to donnieg777@hotmail.com!

Join us on Sundays at 9AM for virtual worship!

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/LaceyUMCNJ/>

Or Web: laceyumc.org

Christmas at Ocean Grove
Choir Concert
 Dec. 5th 3:30pm
 World Milal Missionary
 Choir

The Great Auditorium
 Pilgrim Pathway

Live-streaming at
https://youtu.be/ea2h_oAa9oU

WESLEYAN COVENANT ASSOCIATION
 of Greater New Jersey

WINTER LUNCH PROGRAM

We are collecting chicken noodle soup and peanut butter to be distributed to participants of our Lunch Program for Lacey’s Kids. Snack donations are also appreciated! These donations can be dropped off on Saturday, December 12th, between 11:00am and 1:00pm.

+++++

FRAUDULENT EMAIL ACTIVITY

We have been alerted that Pastor Jonathan Campbell’s name is being used along with a fake email address (pastorjcampbell0@gmail.com) to solicit you to participate in a scheme to purchase gift cards. Please DO NOT respond to the email or engage in any activity the sender is requesting. Pastor Jonathan and Lacey UMC will NEVER ask you to purchase gift cards, send money, or provide personal information via email. Please feel free to contact the LUMC Office with any questions.

+++++

VIRTUAL BIBLE STUDY

Virtual Bible Study is now taking place on Thursdays at 9:00am and 6:45pm. Please contact the LUMC Office to receive the virtual link!

+++++

HELP AVAILABLE FOR THOSE IN TIME OF NEED



We are quickly approaching ten months of dealing with the pandemic. If you are not working; not getting a paycheck; struggling to make ends meet; and you find yourself running out of food necessities, please don’t let yourself or your kids go to sleep with an empty stomach. Don’t be afraid or embarrassed to send us a private message. We will drop and go or order for delivery. No one has to know, and we don’t have to discuss it. We are happy to help. LUMC Office: 609-693-5222 /// Pastor Jonathan Campbell: 845-893-9157. #JoinTheCause

+++++

LUMC DRAMA CLUB PARTICIPATING IN ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICES

During the Advent season, members of the LUMC Drama Club will be assisting with the reading of the scripture and also performing monologues dealing with Pastor Jonathan’s theme for his sermons, “The Redemption of Scrooge.” They will be doing this through recordings due to the current pandemic. The first Sunday had Olivia Stanislawski recite the reading from Matthew. With short notice, Olivia was able to masterfully get the message across to the congregation. In addition, Morgan “Ro” Dimesa brought to life the role of Emily Cratchit during her monologue. Both girls performed in “Straight Outta Bethlehem” last Christmas for our congregation, friends and family. Other surprises are being prepared for the upcoming Sundays taking us through the Christmas season!

God Bless,
 Dominic Gregoria

THE CHRISTMAS GUEST

by J.S. Tubb & R. Hancock (performed by Johnny Cash, as well as many others)



It happened one day near December's end, Two neighbors called on an old friend. And they found his shop so meager and lean Made gay with thousand bows of green And Conrad was sitting with face a-shine When he suddenly stopped as he stitched a twine And he said "Old friends, at dawn today, When the cock was crowing the night away The Lord appeared in a dream to me And said "I'm coming your guest to be." So I've been busy with feet astir Strewing my shop with branches of fern. The table is spread and the kettle is shined. And over the rafters the holly is twined. Now I'll wait for my Lord to appear And listen closely so I will hear His step as He nears my humble place. And I'll open the door and look on His face. So his friends went home and left Conrad alone For this was the happiest day he had known, For long since, his family had passed away And Conrad had spent many a sad Christmas Day. But he knew with the

Lord as his Christmas Guest This Christmas would be the dearest and best. So he listened with only joy in his heart And with every sound he would rise with a start And look for the Lord to be at his door. Like the vision he had had a few hours before. So he ran to the window after hearing a sound But all he could see on the snow covered ground Was a shabby beggar whose shoes were torn And all of his clothes were ragged and worn. But Conrad was touched and he went to the door And he said, "You know, your feet must be frozen and sore. I have some shoes in my shop for you And a coat that will keep you warmer too." So with grateful heart the man went away but Conrad noticed the time of day And wondered what made the Lord so late And how much longer he'd have to wait. When he heard a knock, he ran to the door But it was only a stranger once more. A bent old lady with a shawl of black with a bundle of kindling piled on her back. She asked for only a place to rest But that was reserved for Conrad's Great Guest. But her voice seemed to plead "Don't send me away, Let me rest for awhile on Christmas Day," So Conrad brewed her a steaming cup And told her to sit at the table and sup. But after she left he was filled with dismay For he saw that the hours were slipping away And the Lord hadn't come as He said He would. Then Conrad felt sure he had misunderstood. When out of the stillness he heard a cry "Please help me and tell me where am I?" So again he opened his friendly door And stood disappointed as twice before. It was only a child who'd wandered away And was lost from her family on Christmas Day. Again Conrad's heart was heavy and sad But he knew he should make the little girl glad. So he called her in and he wiped her tears And quieted all her childish fears. Then he led her back to her home once more But as he entered his own darkened door he knew the Lord was not coming today. For the hours of Christmas had passed away So he went to his room and knelt down to pray And he said "Dear Lord, why did you delay? What kept you from coming to call on me? For I wanted so much your face to see." When soft in the silence a voice he heard. "Lift up your head for I kept my word. Three times my shadow crossed your floor And three times I came to your lonely door. I was the beggar with bruised, cold feet And I was the woman you gave something to eat. I was the child on the homeless street. Three times I knocked, and three times I came in. And each time I found the warmth of a friend. Of all the gifts, love is the best. And I was honored to be your Christmas Guest.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

When in-person worship resumes on December 13th, volunteers will be needed to assist with various worship roles (including ushers, counters, etc.). Space is limited due to social distancing guidelines. Please contact the LUMC Office at 609-693-5222 or laceyumcnj@gmail.com to register to attend, volunteer, or obtain a copy of LUMC's re-opening guidelines.

**“Come and adore
Him on bended
knee.**

+++++

**He came to ransom
someone like me.**

+++++

**What could I offer?
What could I bring?**

+++++

**Come and adore
Him King of Kings.”**

+++++

**Ed Cash
&
Chris Tomlin**

THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS (AS RECITED BY LINUS)

*And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field,
keeping watch over their flock by night.*

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them,

and the glory of the Lord shone round about them:

and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold,

I bring you good tidings of great joy,

which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour,

which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe

wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the

heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace,

good will toward men.

-Book 42, Luke (002: 8 – 14)

The Bible, King James Version



LACEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

PO Box 151

Forked River, NJ 08731