# LUMC'S COMMUNITY REVELATIONS

### JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2024 / #69 / 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

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

Ministers: All of Us

Pastor: Jonathan Campbell

Lay Leader: Dominic Gregoria

Lay Rep. to the Annual Conference: Dawn Marie Kuch

Admin. Assistant: Joann Michalkowski

Pianist / Choir Director/ Chimes Director: Dawn Slate

Facility Maintenance / Grounds: Mike Orlick

Trustee Chair: Kenneth King

Church Council Chair: Lori Osborn

Staff Parish Team Chair: Laura McDonald

Children - Youth Education: Eric DeLa Cruz

Finance Chair: Rich Rosfjord

Head Counter: Becky Buglione

Thrift Shoppe: Maddie Stapleton & Laura McDonald

Outreach: Judy Mihalkovitz

Worship: Dawn Marie Kuch

Hot Lunch Mission: Ed Weisbrot

Hope Chest Food Pantry: Robert Furbeck & Lori Osborn

Submissions to this newsletter can be sent to:

donnieg777@hotmail.com

#### **ASSURANCE OF THE RESURRECTION**

**2 Corinthians 5: 1-8:** For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, if indeed, having been clothed, we shall not be found naked. For we who are in this tent groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that morality may be swallowed up by life. Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

So we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord. For we walk by faith, not by sight. We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

### **EPIPHANY PARTY**



On Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, there will be an Epiphany Party at the Parsonage, located at 744 Devon Street in Forked River, from 3:00pm until 6:00pm.

The Epiphany is a Christian feast day which is celebrated every year on January 6<sup>th</sup>. Also known as Three Kings Day and Theophany, it is a celebration of Jesus' birth and His baptism by John The Baptist. According to an article

by Jen McCaffery and Meghan Jones, "The twelve days of Christmas mark the amount of time it took after the birth of Jesus for the magi, or wise men, to travel to Bethlehem for the Epiphany when they recognized Him as the Son of God."

Please rsvp to Pastor Jonathan at (845) 893-9157 if you are able to attend.

# MEDIA TEAM



Volunteers are needed to join our Media Team. This team coordinates the live stream, as well as the sound and video presentation during worship. There also may be some additional opportunities to assist with promotional youtube videos in the near future as well. For more information, contact Steve Michalkowski at (732) 300-1956.



# **MONTHLY PASTOR BREAKFASTS**

Monthly Pastor Breakfasts will be held at the Lacey Perkins, located at 113 South Main Street in Forked River, at 9:30am on Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, and Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome to be part of the food, fellowship and fun.

#### **MEMBERSHIP CLASSES**

Membership Classes will be taking place in January 2024. Please contact Pastor Jonathan at 845-893-9157 if you would like to join the LUMC family!

### **WINTER TIME by Robert Louis Stevenson**

Late lies the wintry sun a-bed, A frosty, fiery sleepy-head; Blinks but an hour or two; and then, A blood-red orange, sets again. Before the stars have left the skies, At morning in the dark I rise; And shivering in the nakedness, By the cold candle, bathe and dress. Close by the jolly fire I sit To warm my frozen bones a bit; Or with a reindeer-sled, explore The colder countries round the door. When to go out, my nurse doth wrap Me in my comforter and cap; The cold wind burns my face, and blows Its frosty pepper up my nose. Black are my steps on silver sod; Thick blows my frosty breath abroad; And tree and house, and hill and lake, Are frosted like a wedding-cake.



#### RABBIT HOLE

Friends in Faith of LUMC are planning a theater outing on Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, to see "Rabbit Hole" at the Jay and Linda Grunin Center for the Arts, located on College Drive in Toms River. Presented by the OCC Repertory Theatre Company, "Rabbit Hole" is a winner of the 2007 Pulitzer Prize. As stated in their press release, "Becca and Howie Corbett have everything a family could want, until a life-shattering accident turns their world upside down and leaves the couple drifting perilously apart. 'Rabbit Hole' charts their bittersweet search for comfort in the darkest of places and for a path that will lead them back into the light of day."

As written in Variety, "David Lindsay-Abaire has crafted a drama that's not just a departure but a revelation-an intensely emotional examination of grief, laced with wit, insightfulness, compassion and searing honesty."

With a showtime of 7:30pm at the Black Box Theater, tickets are \$15.00 for adults and \$12.00 for seniors with a \$3.00 processing fee per ticket. The show is being presented in the loving memory of William Salmons. Please contact Diane Collins at 609-618-7346 for more information.

#### WHITE ELEPHANT

On Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, LUMC will be hosting a White Elephant Gift Exchange in Fellowship Hall at 11:30am. All you need to bring is a wrapped gift to exchange (valued up to \$10.00), a smile, and a sense of humor! Everyone is welcome! Re-gifting is strongly encouraged.

## THE ADVENT WREATH

As we did at the first Advent Service this past season, here is an explanation of the candles that were lit each week. LUMC possesses the most common Advent Wreath with five candles.

- 1) Candle 1 (The Prophet's Candle): In our church, this candle is blue and is lit during the first week of Advent. It symbolizes hope, as Isaiah foretold the birth of Christ.
- 2) Candle 2 (The Bethlehem Candle): Also blue, this candle is lit during the second week of Advent. Symbolizing faith, this candle reminds us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.
- 3) Candle 3 (The Shepherd's Candle): This candle is pink and is lit during the third week of Advent. Representing joy, it reminds us of the joy of Jesus' birth.
- 4) Candle 4 (The Angel's Candle): Also blue, this candle is lit during the fourth week of Advent. This candle represents peace, as in "peace on earth and good will toward men."
- 5) Candle 5 (Christ's Candle): This candle is white and is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. Representing the Advent child (Jesus), it is white for purity because Christ is our Savior.





THANK YOU TO CHRISTINE URBAN, MAGGIE REALLEY AND BRIAN GILMORE FOR KEEPING THE MUSIC GOING THROUGHOUT THE HOLIDAY SEASON!

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