

# LUMC'S COMMUNITY REVELATIONS

August 2020 / Volume 3, Number 7

## 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](mailto:laceyumcnj@gmail.com)

[www.laceyumc.org](http://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: Dawn Slate

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: Steven 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

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SUNDAY SERVICE

On July 19<sup>th</sup>, our church reopened for Sunday service utilizing the restrictions that were listed in last month's newsletter. These restrictions may be adjusted depending on the condition of the pandemic at any given time. The 9AM service is still available on the website or through facebook. To attend in person, you should notify Joann Michalkowski at (609) 693-5222 to sign up. There is limited seating available due to social distancing. For the safety of those in attendance, masks are required to be worn. The first Sunday had 37 people attend, while the 26<sup>th</sup> had 29.

With not everyone feeling comfortable attending at this time, there is a need for people to volunteer to assist with the video, the PowerPoint projection and the handling of the sound. In addition, extra ushers are also needed. Currently, ushers are taking temperatures, dispensing sanitizer and directing attendees to and from seats. Those interested should contact Joann at the number listed above.

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## BIBLE VERSE FOR FACING TRIALS

**Philippians 4: 5 – 9:** *Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

*Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me – put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.*

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## LET US KNOW YOUR FAVORITE HYMN

Do you have a favorite hymn that you hope to hear during Worship? Our Worship Team would like to hear from you! Please email your 5 favorite hymns / praise songs to [lacyumcnj@gmail.com](mailto:lacyumcnj@gmail.com). The next hymn you hear during worship may be one of your favorites!

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Join us on Sundays at 9AM for virtual worship!

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

or Web: [laceyumc.org](http://laceyumc.org)

**EVERYDAY DISCIPLES: JOHN WESLEY'S 22 QUESTIONS**

1. Am I consciously or unconsciously creating the impression that I am better than I really am? In other words, am I a hypocrite?
2. Am I honest in all my acts and words, or do I exaggerate?
3. Do I confidentially pass on to another what was told to me in confidence?
4. Can I be trusted?
5. Am I a slave to dress, friends, work, or habits?
6. Am I self-conscious, self-pitying, or self-justifying?
7. Did the Bible live in me today?
8. Do I give it time to speak to me every day?
9. Am I enjoying prayer?
10. When did I last speak to someone else about my faith?
11. Do I pray about the money I spend?
12. Do I get to bed on time and get up on time?
13. Do I disobey God in anything?
14. Do I insist upon doing something about which my conscious is uneasy?
15. Am I defeated in any part of my life?
16. Am I jealous, impure, critical, irritable, touchy, or distrustful?
17. How do I spend my spare time?
18. Am I proud?
19. Do I thank God that I am not as other people, especially as the Pharisees who despised the publican?
20. Is there anyone whom I fear, dislike, disown, criticize, hold a resentment toward or disregard? If so, what am I doing about it?
21. Do I grumble or complain constantly?
22. Is Christ real to me?



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**BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES VIA ZOOM**

Wednesdays 9:00AM & 6:45PM: Contact LUMC Office to receive the Zoom link!

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**LACEY FARMER'S MARKET**

Every Friday 11:00AM until 5:00PM until October 2.

Rain or shine in Lacey United Methodist Church parking lot.

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**COMING SOON: YOUTH GROUP**

Discussions are underway to resume the Youth Group sessions for those youth attending 5<sup>th</sup> grade thru 12<sup>th</sup> grade. As of this publication, Zoom options and in-person options were being considered. April Rucki and Pastor Jonathan have been looking at all the possibilities into making this happen. Of course, the main priority will be making sure that this is done in a safe format for the children.

## **“YOU CHOOSE” SERMON SERIES**

Pastor Jonathan would like your input on the next sermon series which will begin in September. Which one of the four sermon series listed below would you like to see Lacey UMC focus on next? Please email us at [laceyumcnj@gmail.com](mailto:laceyumcnj@gmail.com) with your selection. Your choice just might be the sermon series we start in September.

Choice 1: “The Prayers of Jesus” – Learn about the prayers Jesus prayed and what they teach us about how to live our lives.

Choice 2: “What makes someone a Methodist?” – This series focuses on the unique Christian beliefs of United Methodists.

Choice 3: “Jesus’ Greatest Sermon” – This series explores the Sermon on the Mount and what it means for us today.

Choice 4: “Glimmers of Hope” – What lessons from scripture can we learn about how to find hope during difficult times.

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# **THE HOLY SPIRIT BREAKS DOWN BARRIERS**

(As taught in the Action Bible Curriculum)

Imagine following God’s commands for your entire life and one day, out of the blue, the rules change. That’s what happened to the apostle Peter shortly after Jesus ascended to heaven. Since earliest times, the Jews had been instructed not to eat certain animals, which were considered unclean (Leviticus 11: 44 – 47). They were not even to associate or eat with Gentiles, who consumed these unclean animals. But when Jesus died on the cross and rose again, and the Holy Spirit came upon believers, everything changed.

In Acts 10: 1 – 8, we meet Cornelius, a Roman centurion who fears God and seems to be an all-around generous and caring man. An angel of God appears to Cornelius, telling him to send for Peter – a Jew and disciple of Jesus – who is in Joppa, 30 miles away. Cornelius immediately sends his men. God is already beginning to break down barriers in supernatural ways!

Before Cornelius’s men arrive, Peter falls into a trance while he is waiting for lunch to be prepared. In his vision, heaven opens up and a sheet descends. On the sheet are all types of clean and unclean animals. And a voice says, “Rise, Peter. Kill and eat.” Peter protests. After all, his years of Judaism have taught him to revile what is unclean.

But the voice says something like, “What God has made clean, do not call impure or common.” Just then, Cornelius’s messengers arrive and tell Peter about their God-fearing master. Prepared by his vision, Peter invites them to be his guests. The next day Peter accompanies them to their master’s house.

As explained in Acts 10: 23 – 33, Peter goes to Cornelius’s house, where the centurion has gathered his close friends and family. Cornelius greets Peter as a god, but Peter is quick to explain that he is only human. He also tells them that though it has been unlawful for Jews to associate with Gentiles in the past, God has shown him not to call any person unclean. Peter seems uncomfortable with this new situation, but he also has confidence that the Holy Spirit is directing his actions.

Cornelius asks Peter to preach the message God has provided, and Peter shares some wonderful news! He understands that God doesn’t play favorites. He accepts all people from all nations who fear him and does what God says is right. Peter then preaches the gospel – to the Gentiles! In response, they receive the Holy Spirit and Peter sees that they are true believers who need to be baptized. Through one Gentile, the Holy Spirit has broken barriers that have been present for thousands of years!

Think about times when the Holy Spirit has broken down barriers and given you supernatural love for and cooperation with people who are different from you. How did He provide for this to happen? For Peter, it was a strange dream. But God speaks to us in many ways.

Pray that our families rely on the Holy Spirit to dissolve divisions they may have with other people. Ask Him to lead them to people who will help them live out their callings and to even bless their differences and use them for His kingdom.

**“Days may be darkest**

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**But Your light is greater**

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**You light our way**

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**God You light our way”**

*Mandisa, Jon Reddick*

## **LUMC DRAMA CLUB ZOOMS ON**



First off, I would like to thank those youth that have been participating in the Zoom sessions since May 12<sup>th</sup>. While the class isn't as large as when we used to meet in person (remember that far back), the sessions have still been very productive. Over the past month, we have

covered Konstantin Stanislavski's System, Method Acting, the Meisner Acting Technique, the Practical Aesthetics Acting Technique and the Viola Spolin Method. Mixed in with every session are Improv tips, games and vocal exercises to go along with each lesson. Although Zoom does present certain challenges for certain aspects of the club, I have been impressed with our ability to overcome those challenges. New participants can sign up at any time for these Zoom sessions. In addition, you don't have to be a member of the church. To sign up, your child must be of a reading age (youngest member is 6) until the age of 18. The sooner we can meet in person again, then performances can re-start up. Of course, we will have to work on getting a larger troupe together as before. My gratification is seeing the progress each student is making. To sign up, email me at [donnieg777@hotmail.com](mailto:donnieg777@hotmail.com). God Bless, Dominic Gregoria

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### **LACEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

PO Box 151  
Forked River, NJ 08731