

# LAKEWOOD

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## December 2017/January 2018 E-REFLECTIONS



### ADVENT EVENTS

#### SPECIAL ADVENT SERVICE

**Saturday, December 2**

7:00 pm in the CAC Dining Room

We hope you will join us as we seek to come together to encourage each other at the beginning of our Advent season.

#### FAMILY CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

**Sunday, December 3**

5:00 pm program in the Sanctuary

6:00 spaghetti dinner in the CAC Gym

Limited tickets are available at the door.

#### CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

**Sunday, December 10**

8:30 & 11:00 am in the Sanctuary

*How Should A King Come?* - a presentation by our Music Ministries

#### CHILDREN OF THE WORLD INTERNATIONAL CHOIR

**Wednesday, December 13**

6:30 pm in the Sanctuary

**LADIES ADVENT DEVOTIONAL DINNER  
WITH GUEST SPEAKER, KIM SKINNER**

**Monday, December 11**

6:30 pm in the CAC Gym

Call the church office for tickets: 733-8477.

Last day for ticket sales is December 8.

**TESTIFY! CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

**Saturday, December 16**

7:00 pm in the Sanctuary

*Christmas Stories*

**MARCH TO THE MANGER**

**Sunday, December 17**

As part of our wonderful Lakewood tradition, you will be invited to bring a gift to honor Jesus at both Sunday morning worship services. Whether you want to help support the whole church with a donation to the General Fund, support a favorite local outreach program, or perhaps offer a gift to support one of our ministries, there are many great opportunities to bless people near and far.

**CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP**

**Sunday, December 24**

**\*10:00 am Family Candlelight Service**

*Join us in the MORNING for this single, special service as our children of all ages lead us in worship.*

**\*7:30 pm Candlelight & Communion**

*This service features our Chancel Choir, a string quartet, and guest vocal.*

**11:00 pm Candlelight & Communion**

*This service features our Aglow youth choir, Testify! praise band, and the reunion hymn with former Aglow and Testify! members.*

\*Nursery provided

***Invite a friend or a neighbor to one of our services!***

***Click below to forward this message:***



Forward to a Friend

**SACRAMENT OF  
HOLY BAPTISM**

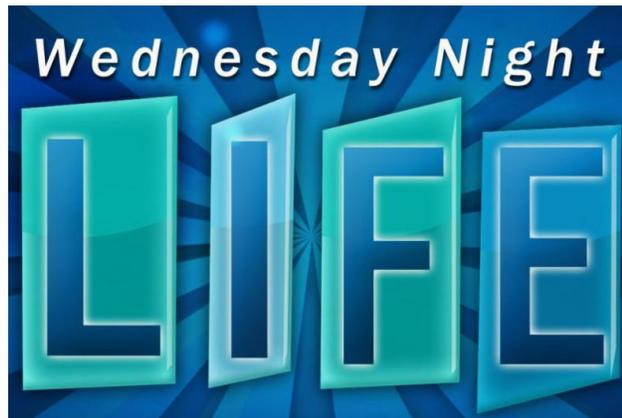
**CECELIA JANE BROWN**

**November 26, 2017**



Standing with Cecelia are Pastor Scott Farman, and Cecelia's parents, Alex and Jacquelyn Brown; siblings, Isabella Handley-Davoli, Zoe, Audrey, and Andrew Brown; great grandmother Jane Strange; grandparents John and Sandra Davoli; and godparents, Mark and

Brooklynn Davoli.



**YOUTH AFTER SCHOOL**

- 2:30 pm til . . .

Youth meet in Youth Room - CAC

**FEASTING IN THE WORD** - 4:00-5:30 pm -

Church Library - All are welcome at this Bible study!

Join us as we study the Book of Matthew.

Contacts: Karen Phillips, 238-4052 or [karene86@aol.com](mailto:karene86@aol.com)

Ree Unterspan, 524-6071 or [jau64@bellsouth.net](mailto:jau64@bellsouth.net)

**DINNER** served 5:15-6:00 pm in the CAC

**GROUPS** 6:30 pm

Special Advent services:

December 6 - "Our Coming Savior"

December 13 - Children of the World International Choir

January 10 - Wednesday Night Dinners and Programs resume.

**CHILDREN'S CHOIR** - 6:00 pm

Program Follows - Choir Room

Contact: Bethany Coleman, [bethany.coleman@lakewoodumc.com](mailto:bethany.coleman@lakewoodumc.com)

**ADULT CHOIR** - 7:30 pm

Music Suite

Contact: Steve Chapman,

[steve.chapman@lakewoodumc.com](mailto:steve.chapman@lakewoodumc.com)

## Wednesday Night Menu

Prices: Adults \$7, Children under 5 free,  
ages 6-12 \$5, Family under one roof \$20

Lite menu: Soup, Salad, & Roll \$5

*All dinners include soup, salad, bread, and dessert.*

**December 6:** Swedish Meatballs / Servers: Modern Family

**December 13:** Roast Chicken / Servers: New Beginnings

**December 20, December 27, & January 3:** *No Dinner or Programs*

**January 10:** Hoppin' John / Servers: Belote

**January 17:** Blue Cheese Chicken / Servers: Cheers

**January 24:** Baked Ziti / Servers: Mendoza

**January 31:** Smothered Pork Chops / Servers: Faith Builders



### REMEMBER OUR PARTNER SCHOOL- SAN JOSE ELEMENTARY

While you are preparing Christmas goodies, remember to save box tops, and place them inside the collection boxes in the church office or CAC reception area. Please note the

expiration date on the box tops. Expired ones are not redeemable. The school collects BOXTOPS4EDUCATION labels only. They do not accept labels from comparable collection programs.

### SAN JOSE ELEMENTARY BOOK FAIR A SUCCESS

Many thanks to volunteers Sherry Melkerson, Sheila Draper, Mitzie Griffin, Amy Cape, Diane Perry, Jodi Pope, and Suzanne Biery. They assisted Lakewood's own Jennifer Evans, the Media Specialist/Librarian at San Jose Elementary, with the school's fall Book Fair. Per Jennifer, "We had the best Book Fair ever at San Jose! It was a huge success, and I thank God for the people who came to help. He made it all possible!"

## HAPPENING AT LAKEWOOD

### Church Council Meeting

Church Council meets on Tuesday, December 5, at 6:00 pm in the CAC Dining Room. This is an open meeting to all church members. Come see what our church has accomplished. Bring your questions, suggestions, and friends.

### First Thursday Bible Study with Gloria Short

On January 4, we will study "The Seeds of God's Word" from 10:45 am - 12:00 pm in Room EB 102. Questions? Call Gloria, 396-6342.

### Missions Prayer Request

People around the world are struggling. As Christians, our calling is to help and deliver the Good News "unto all nations." Sometimes we feel helpless; however, we all can pray. Consider praying for a specific country and their peoples in the coming weeks as we approach this Christmas season. Please email E.J. McKnight and tell him which country will receive your

prayers: [EJM22048@aol.com](mailto:EJM22048@aol.com).

### Listen To Lakewood's Sermons Online

Click here to listen to our sermon podcasts from our website:

<http://www.lakewoodumc.com/sermon-podcasts>



We welcome all visitors and enjoy sharing with those who have never taken advantage of our wonderful lunches, fellowship, and varied programs.

*YAH will not have an offsite luncheon in December in view of many other holiday opportunities.*

**December 10:** The YAH visit Elmcroft of Timberlin Parc sharing fellowship, worship, and communion with residents. Share this experience with us at 3:30 pm.

**December 17:** Join YAH for lunch following the 11:00 am worship service in the CAC Dining Room. It will be a special treat. Our program will include a special Christmas story. Come and share the blessing!

**January:** We will gather on Thursday, January 11, for an offsite luncheon. On January 14, we will visit Elmcroft of Timberlin Parc. Our monthly luncheon and program in the CAC Dining Room is Sunday, January 21. The "Christmas Continues" program will feature Ben Goldsmith.



### Congratulations

... to Phillip Shuck and Kelly McDearman, who married on November 4.

### Thank You

Please offer your thanks and appreciation to the following Lakewood members who donated blood at the church's last blood drive: Chris Blythe, David Boyd, Denny Britt, Terry Collins, Janice Cox, David Dinkins, Pat Green, Laura Jacqmein, Quell Luce, Bill Ramp, Jennifer Ramp, Tanya Turpin, and Tim Turpin.



We want to thank our church family for all the cards, visits, and food received since I had my first surgery January 24. We are finally back enjoying church, and appreciate all the thoughts and PRAYERS from everyone! *-Judy Hiden*

### Thanks To Rich Klahr

*ALAS AND ALACK.* After many years of dedicated service, Rich Klahr has opted to step down from his role as the "self-appointed Supervisor" of the "Biscuit Boys." Rich now joins Ralph Hiden in "early retirement;" both helping to prepare and serve more than 125,000 biscuits and cinnamon rolls over the

last 25 years. David and Michelle Johnston (two people) have graciously agreed to assist Jim Blythe and Jim McKoy carry on each Sunday. Please express your appreciation to Rich (and Mary) for a job well done. -*Jim McKoy*



Rich Klahr



### **Our Christian Love and Sympathy**

... to Ann Latimer and family on the death of her mother, Mary Martin, October 12.

... to Kay Harrison and family on the death of her husband, the Honorable James Lee Harrison, November 16.



## **CHILDREN OF THE WORLD EVENT**

World Help is proud to present Children of the World International Children's Choir, which will present a concert in the Lakewood United Methodist Church Sanctuary on Wednesday, December 13, from 6:30 pm to 7:20 pm. The concert is free, but a love offering will be taken to support the World Help charity.

The Choir is composed of 14 children from the countries of Nepal, Uganda, Honduras, and the Philippines. They come to us from a handful of children homes supported by World Help. For a taste of the concert, click [here](#).

Children of the World Choir began in 2000 out of a desire to share the untold story of millions of orphaned and disadvantaged children around the world. They have since performed in such venues as Brooklyn Tabernacle, Focus on the Family, and Disney World, and have also recorded with Michael Tate and Steven Curtis Chapman.

The Choir represents a rich and culturally-diverse set of backgrounds and experiences, each with an urgent story to tell. Through the powerful mediums of song, dance, and creative media, Children of the World Choir presents the staggering realities of poverty, but also the hope of change through advocacy, investment, and true compassion in action. The 2017-2018 tour will focus on raising funds for refugees.



## ATTENTION: WOMEN OF LAKEWOOD

Put on your jingle bells, and join in the fun at the annual Christmas dinner meeting of **Enrichment Circle** on Thursday, December 14, at 6:30 pm. It's at the home of Melanie Dunkle. Bring your favorite covered dish. (Bringing a friend would be a blessing for both of you!) We look

forward to seeing you at this special evening of Christmas cheer. If you have questions, or need directions to the Dunkle home, contact Peggy Bowen at 733-1082.

Enrichment Circle's January meeting is on Thursday, January 18, at 6:30 pm in the CAC Dining Room. All women are invited. Pizza will be served. Please attend this important meeting; we will be planning 2018. Questions? Contact Peggy Bowen, 733-1082.

**The Women's Advent Devotional Dinner** is Monday, December 11, at 6:00 pm in the CAC. (Doors open at 5:45 pm.) We are excited to announce that Kim Skinner will return as our guest speaker. Many of you will recall hearing her personal and inspiring testimony last year. So we know you will look forward to hearing her speak on "The Sheep and the Shepherd" this year. Davoli's Catering will provide a delicious Christmas meal. Tickets will be sold on Sundays during the breakfast hour and following the 11:00 am worship service, on Wednesday nights, and in the church office. *Deadline to purchase tickets is Friday, December 8.* Complimentary childcare is available by calling the church office, 733-8477. For more information, contact Ree Unterspan at 524-6071 or [jau64@bellsouth.net](mailto:jau64@bellsouth.net).



## STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministry is such a gift to folks who are receiving care. People who are going through a job loss, divorce, grief, or other difficulties receive comfort and find hope. The relationships formed in Stephen Ministry become life altering.

This becomes an immense opportunity for the church to be the church; to be a family for folks who are lonely, searching for spirituality, or in pain. But a church can't be a support system if it isn't equipped to help people during moments of pain. Stephen Ministry has helped us to equip people, so when somebody is in pain, we're able to say, "Here's someone who can come alongside you and love you."

"I LIKE TO REMIND OUR CONGREGATION THAT WE'VE GOT QUIET

HEROES IN OUR MIDST WHO ARE DOING AMAZING MINISTRY. THAT'S A COOL THING FOR THE WHOLE CONGREGATION."

- John Ortberg

Testimony from a Care Receiver: *"The time I spent with my Stephen Minister was the only time in the week when I could truly focus on my own needs. She was there just for me. The consistency of our Stephen Ministry relationship was crucial in helping me cope. Her weekly visits became an anchor in my life - something I could rely on when everything else was so uncertain. She was a steady reminder of God's presence, helping me know I was never alone. The compassionate, consistent, and confidential support of my Stephen Minister was so important in helping me cope - and then beginning to heal."*

If you, or someone you know, could benefit from a trained confidential Christian friend to walk with you, listen to you, and support you during a difficult time in your life, please contact Pastor Eric Williams at 733-8477.



## CELEBRATE RECOVERY

Every Monday Night!

6:00 - 7:00 pm Dinner

7:00 - 8:00 pm Main Meeting

8:00 - 9:00 pm Small Groups

9:00 pm Cornerstone Cafe

Bring your kids ages 5 - 12 to Celebration Place! While adults explore topics that bring

healing and wholeness, kids discover the same truths in age-appropriate ways! Celebration Place helps to lead kids as they make Jesus the enduring, rock-solid foundation of their lives and is designed to inspire kids with hope, joy, and happiness while they learn to rely on God.

### WHAT IS CELEBRATE RECOVERY?

Celebrate Recovery is a biblical and balanced program that helps us overcome our hurts, hang-ups, and habits by experiencing the loving power of Jesus Christ through a recovery process.

### WHO IS CELEBRATE RECOVERY FOR?

You and me! It's for people who've been hurt. It's for people who've hurt others. It's for any of life's struggles that we all have to deal with.

To volunteer, take a step study, or to get involved in any way, please contact Mark Biery (813-5669), Suzanne Biery (576-2755), or Cyndi Morpew (318-6539). <http://www.celebraterecoveryjacksonville.com/>

## E-Reflections

If you have questions, comments, or suggestions, or would like to submit an article, contact Karen Chaudhry ([karenchaudhry@lakewoodumc.com](mailto:karenchaudhry@lakewoodumc.com)). Submissions must be

received by the 15th of the month. Copies of Lakewood UMC's E-Reflections are available in the church office, in the Sanctuary, and on our website (<http://www.lakewoodumc.com/>).

**STAY CONNECTED:**

