

December 2018 Newsletter
Lakeville United Church of Christ
1 Precinct Street - Lakeville, Massachusetts 02347
(508) 947-4979 - admin@lakevilleucc.net
www.lakevilleucc.net
The Reverend Greta MacRae, Pastor

“The people walking in great darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.” Isaiah 9:2

“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.” Isaiah 60:1

My dear congregation,

The light has shifted in the natural world and people, as people have a want to do, have taken the initiative and changed time to their liking. We adjust our clocks to seek more light in the darkening days of winter. What if seeking after the light of God could be a ritual akin to adjusting our clocks?

I have a hand painted sign in my living room that says, “Prayer changes things.” I believe it wholeheartedly. Often, we pray to change a situation with prayer. More often, we come to understand that prayer changes us from the inside out. Our ability to have compassion or courage or a sense of humor can be the direct result of prayer.

Yesterday, on my yoga mat I set an intention, a prayer for the day. I asked God to fill me with light. As I moved through the poses, I felt my spirit lifting. Joy began to bubble up and as I lay at the end of class in shivasana- dead man’s pose- the sunlight in the room beamed straight onto me lying on my mat. It manifested itself as warmth and filled me with wonder. Prayer doesn’t always bring that kind of result sometimes it’s more subtle.

The folks who volunteer to lead our church in council have been praying for each other the last few months. We began by taking a name and praying for that person for two months without revealing whom we prayed for. At the November meeting we let our person know and told them about praying for them every day. We also talked about the effects of those prayers.

As we move through the Christian season of Advent I invite you into a practice of prayer. Each day set aside one person and intentionally set a time to pray. Or, in the same way, take a hurt in the world and ask in prayer to be used by God to ease the situation’s pain or enhance the light of God in the world.

As Isaiah writes, “Arise, shine...” We are the light of the world. Let’s let people know.

Praying with you,

Greta

To our dear church family,

David and I and all of the Erickson/Plissey family would like to thank you for all that you have done to help us celebrate the life of Alice Erickson. The day was filled with a sense of love, beauty and fellowship that would have made Alice very proud.

When times became challenging for Nana (Alice), coming to church on Sunday to talk to and be surrounded by all of you was paramount in her life. Every Sunday when I called her at 8:30am to see if she wanted to go to church I could tell in her voice what her week was going to be like. When the response was "no, I don't think so, not today" I knew she would need extra support and love in the week ahead. But when the answer was "yes, can you bring me?" I knew the week ahead would be easier and lighter.

Nana truly loved all of you. She respected how hard all of you work to do what you do to keep the LUCC alive and thriving. She respected all of your opinions even when she did not agree with the decisions being made. She was grateful for each hug, kiss, smile and pat on the back which she received on a given Sunday. She was thankful for all the friendships she had made and the lives she had touched. Her smile was genuine because her heart was full.

Her wish for all of us is that we continue to move forward. Continue to love one another and support each other without conflict. Open our hearts to the needs of those around us. Above all serve others out of love and respect never forgetting from where we have come and where we are going.

The life of Alice Erickson is truly one to be emulated. This church has created and will continue to create great people. People who are the pillar of support for those in need either in our church or beyond our walls. We are proud and thankful to have all of you in our lives. Thank you for your love and support.

With Love and gratitude,

Renee and David Horto

*The Reverend Greta MacRae, Pastor
Lakeville United Church of Christ
1 Precinct Street - Lakeville, Massachusetts 02347
(508) 947-4979 - admin@lakevilleucc.net - www.lakevilleucc.net*

Board of Diaconate

Greetings from the Diaconate!

It is that time of year!

Thanksgiving Sunday was also Recognition Sunday on Nov. 18. We recognized the gifts of members of ten or more years of active service to the church. We appreciate the gifts of all our newer members and friends, too. Special thanks to the Deacons Sue Stiller and Maggie Driscoll, Organist Brad Bates, our Administrator Debra, and anyone else who helped with the service on the 18th.

We continue to accept flowers or plants on any given Sunday. Thanks to our frequent greeters and for those helping with the service.

This year the Deacons will not be having a live poinsettia order on display on the 3rd Sunday in Advent. Special decorations will be in the Sanctuary. Poinsettias are sensitive to the cold and the last few years we have had to deal with a large variation in the Sanctuary's temperature. Last year we did a poinsettia ornaments which could be given in memory, honor, or celebration. This was very popular. The form was similar to the live flower order form. There are two options this year: 1. The cost will be \$5 for a "resin ornament which is accompanied by a card telling its Christmas legend". 2. The cost is \$3 for just a dedication in the bulletin. Deadline to order will be Dec. 9. We will preorder the ornaments and that means that there will be a limited number. Forms will be available upstairs and downstairs. All the dedications will be listed in the Sunday, Dec. 16 & 23 and Christmas Eve bulletins. Please contact Nancy LaFave (508-947-2688 or <bnlafave@gmail.com>) with any questions.

We still have some bulletins available for dedication at \$10 each.

We realize that the Advent season can be a time of joy and sadness. On Thursday, Dec. 13, at 6:30 pm, we will hold our annual "Blue Christmas" Service.

The Diaconate

Bob & Nancy Oldfield, Maggie Driscoll, Bonnie Sparrow, Sue Stiller, Johnna Rowley, Sue Norton, Scott Holmes, Kena Gallagher, & Nancy LaFave

Made in Lakeville

On Saturday, December 1, our church will again participate in the annual "Made in Lakeville" which has been renamed "All That Glitters" event sponsored by the Lakeville Cultural Council. Drop by for our Open House with the soft music and the serenity of the Sanctuary, drop by for fellowship served with complimentary hot chocolate, mulled cider and homemade cookies, and drop by and check out our gifts, baskets, baked goods, candy, and ornament area. We will have reasonably priced items for sale. Use the stairs or ramp for easy access to the event held on the main floor of the church sanctuary, classroom, and hallway. Our doors open at 9 a.m and close around 2 p.m. For further information, contact Nancy LaFave.

From the Trustees

The Fall Clean Up day on November 10th was cold and wet and a stoic team of workers got the job done. Thanks to those who came to help.

Due to a lot of very wet weather in November the line painting in the parking lot has been delayed until Spring.

Southeast Fence has just been contacted again to chase up the date of installation for the granite posts at the parking lot entrance. I will keep you posted as any news is forthcoming on the date of their installation.

From Women's Fellowship

The Christmas Fair on November 17th was a huge success, raising over \$8,000 so far. Added to that will be any money made on December 1st 10am-2pm, as part of the All That Glitters (formerly called Made in Lakeville) Holiday event.

There are still frozen apple pies (\$12) available for your holiday entertaining as well as a variety of fresh nuts and dried cranberries available for your holiday baking. Contact Leslie Metzler on 508-947-1376 or email lesliemetz2@hotmail.com to order either nuts or pies.

Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone who baked for the Christmas Fair, made handmade items for the Fair, worked at the Fair, forwarded emails about the Fair,

and shopped at the Fair. All your hard work was vital for its success.

There were 112 hostess cookie plates made and sold due to all your fantastic baking. There were also 103 Gift Baskets made and most of those have already been sold. If you are still in need of a last-minute gift, check out the remaining baskets. They make wonderful hostess gifts if you're going visiting over the holidays or if you need a Secret Santa gift for a party.

Thanks especially to Christine Ward for being in charge of all of the finances, before, during and after the Fair, an enormous job; huge thanks to Deb Zablowsky, Scott Mulgrew and Fred Barriga for being our chefs and running the kitchen and to Ben, Nicholas and Mathew Barriga and Caleb and Casey Ward and Susie Kettler for waiting tables. Thanks to Barbara Pomeroy for heading up the Treasures table; Ann Joyal for handling jewelry; Marie Nolan for all of the hand-made scrubs; Diane Cerignano at the Baked Goods table and Betty Ford for her incredible Turkey and Pumpkin decorated cookies; Nancy La Fave for her tireless work organizing the creation of all the gift baskets; Maureen Baird for her special candy creations and advice, and Kathleen Barrack for taking charge once again of the hostess cookie plates. Thanks to Joan Goulart for setting up and displaying so beautifully all of the handmade ornaments made by the Reap as You Sew Craft group, and for Maureen Baird's wonderful bird ornaments, and for all of the decorations Joan made on her own; thanks to Marilyn Knox for her

fabulous flower arrangements; and Corry Darling and Johnna Rowley for taking charge of the handmade table. Not leaving out the men, thanks to Bruce La Fave and Dennis Driscoll for slicing and serving the Cabot cheese. I have only named those who were in charge of the various elements of the Fair, thanks also to all of the people who helped those in charge of the tables. None of us can do the work alone.
Leslie Metzler

Social Outreach Committee

Moments on Mission During this Holiday Season

The Thanksgiving and Christmas Seasons are busy months for charitable giving and helping our community. Lucc provides several options for your consideration:

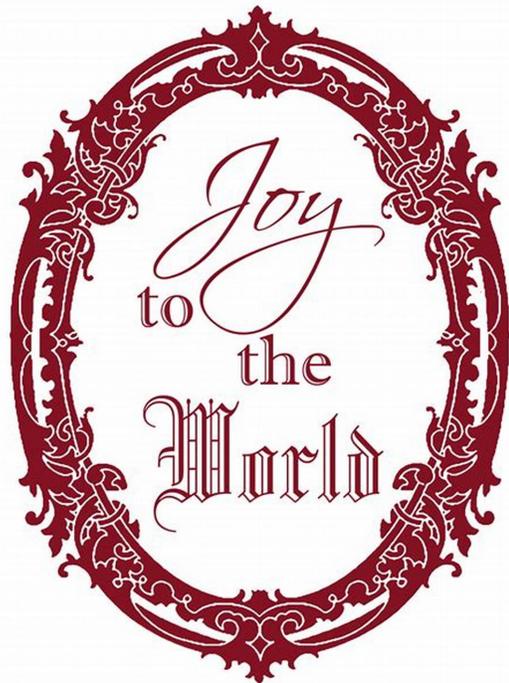
At the Alter, there is a basket where we are collecting Thanksgiving food for Central Congregational Food Pantry. When you shop, if you can pick up an extra item to donate for the family, it will be greatly appreciated.

For the Christmas season, Lucc will provide the Giving Tree program supporting families in need through the St. Vincent de Paul and Freetown Lakeville School family programs. Similar to last year, instead of asking you to shop for specific gifts, we ask you to consider taking a Gift Tag and make a monetary donation to the program by writing a check to Lucc for a certain

amount and writing "Gift Tag" in the memo on the check. The SOC will then use this money to purchase gift cards at Walmart through the Lucc Gift Card program and receive 2.5% back to the general budget.

Then, the SOC, Confirmands and anyone else who would like to join us, will shop together on Sunday 12/9 to purchase the gifts, wrap, prepare the gifts for delivery AND enjoy delicious pizza and hot fudge Sundaes together.

On behalf of the Social Outreach Committee, we thank you for your consideration and generosity.



*The Reverend Greta MacRae, Pastor
Lakeville United Church of Christ
1 Precinct Street - Lakeville, Massachusetts 02347
(508) 947-4979 - admin@lakevilleucc.net - www.lakevilleucc.net*

Music Committee

Christmas Caroling Event

There is a sign-up sheet in fellowship hall for this event. Remember to include your phone number and whether you can drive other carolers! Thank you!

The Lakeville United Church of Christ will visit local nursing homes to share songs of the Christmas season on:

Sunday afternoon, December 2nd, 2:30-4:00 pm.

All are welcome to join us.

Please gather in the upper church parking lot no later than 2:00 pm. We will carpool to the Hannah B.G. Shaw Home and to the Nemasket Health Care Center.

We look forward to having a wonderful afternoon of music and fellowship with our friends who look forward to these visits so much.

Peace and blessings to all,

Loretta Baldwin

Questions?

[Email: lcbaldwin77@gmail.com](mailto:lcbaldwin77@gmail.com) / call: 508-577-007

In celebration of all our past accomplishments and gifts

Please join us for the annual

Stewardship Breakfast on Sunday December 2 at 8:30 AM.

This is a great opportunity to enjoy fellowship

as well as offer your 2019 pledge.

We look forward to seeing you all and congratulating you all

for our successful year!



The Reverend Greta MacRae, Pastor
Lakeville United Church of Christ
1 Precinct Street - Lakeville, Massachusetts 02347
(508) 947-4979 - admin@lakevilleucc.net - www.lakevilleucc.net

December Birthdays

- 1 David Corette
- 1 Paul Macuch
- 11 Mark Tranter
- 12 Nolan Cooper
- 12 Emily Goodwin
- 13 Nancy Oldfield
- 21 Thomas Ketler
- 26 Charles (Chuck) Evirs
- 31 Kyla Piquette



December Anniversaries

- 23 Corry & Jared Darling
- 28 Leslie & Steve Metzler
- 29 Sofia & Surendran Abraham

