



Jan./Feb 2019 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

“At about four o’clock in the morning, Jesus came toward them walking on the water. They were scared out of their wits. ‘A ghost!’ they said, crying out in terror. But Jesus was quick to comfort them, “Courage, it’s me. Don’t be afraid. Peter, suddenly bold, said, ‘Master, if it’s really you, call me to come to you on the water. ‘He said, “Come ahead.” Jumping out of the boat, Peter walked on the water to Jesus. But when he looked down at the waves churning at his feet, he lost his nerve and started to sink. He cried, ‘Master, save me!’ Jesus didn’t hesitate. He reached down and grabbed his hand. Then he said, “Faint heart, what got into you?” The two of them climbed into the boat, and the wind died down.” Matthew 14: 25-31 The Message Bible

My dear congregation,

I like to stand on me head. Really! I can still do it. My granddaughters think it’s pretty amazing! I love that moment when I get both of my feet over my head and relax into the stand. It’s exhilarating. And then, I get nervous- perhaps I begin to think about what I might hit on the way down or get distracted and I lose the posture and crash! I wonder if Peter felt the exhilaration before he began to sink? I wonder what that moment of gliding across the water, eyes on Jesus, felt like to him? I wonder what it might be like to be Jesus, so sure of God’s love and support, so filled with faith, that he can do what most of us consider impossible.

I love this passage because it is filled with hope and because Jesus never takes the training wheels off on Peter, never says, “You do it Pete”, and lets him sink in fear. He reaches out and grabs his hand when he loses his concentration and looks away from Jesus. There is great power in that kind of love.

If Jesus loved Peter that way, surely, he loves us in the same kind of way. So, when we are doing our best to try some new faith posture- perhaps deciding to trust God will see us through in any difficult situation and that God will not let us sink perhaps we can imagine for ourselves and for our congregation that Jesus is within arm’s reach and will catch us as we slip. Or what if we decided to give each other the grace to try something scary and truly be Jesus to each other- that we will not let one another slip as we grow in faith.

What might that look like? Covenant. Holding each other up in trying times. Offering encouraging words. Taking on responsibilities for the good of the



congregation that might be challenging. Setting boundaries around behavior and helping each other recover from a crash with forgiveness and grace. Jesus modeled that kind of relationship for us in every story in the Bible.

If he could do it, if he still does it, we can too. As we move bravely into this New Year let's try out our water shoes. Let's see what is possible for us as a church with faith, risk, love and forgiveness.

Standing on my head in my office and praying for all of us this year. Faint hearts, let's believe our way forward. Peace, Greta



Board of Diaconate

Happy, Healthy New Year, 2019!

Thanks goes to everyone for supporting the Advent activities.

We, also, want to thank everyone for donating flowers, bulletins & dedications, lighting candles, greeting, and participating in the service. Special thanks goes to Rev. Greta, Brad and the Choir for their time and talents.

Thank you for holding our congregation in your prayers.

Blessings,

The Deacons

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

From the Trustees

Happy New Year! 2018 was a year of generosity and some major projects at our church were completed, the parking lot was completed, the sanctuary was painted, there are new granite posts at the entrance to the parking lot and there are new lights in Fellowship Hall. Some of these projects were due to the generosity of a few families, and some due to the generosity of many in the congregation. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

At the January Council meeting there was a lot of discussion about a 2019 wish list of things that will need to be done in the coming year(s). Once that list is prioritized and quotes are sought, we will be presenting our wish list to the congregation and will be discussing fund raisers. Watch this space.

The light at the exit driveway at the side of the church is now fixed. With winter, slippery weather coming, we would again like to caution everyone that the stone pillar is very close to the driveway so be extra careful.

We have a new, very large AA group that will be using Fellowship Hall on Sunday evenings from 6:30pm, starting January 6th. With two AA groups, one Bagpipe Band, Over Eaters Anonymous, one Boy Scout troop and two Girl Scout Troops regularly meeting at our church, we have become very much a vital part of the community, which is great.

We look forward to 2019 being a happy and healthy year for our church and our congregation.



From Women's Fellowship

Women's Fellowship celebrated the holidays with a Pot Luck Supper and Yankee Swap at their December meeting. The first meeting of 2019 will be on Tuesday January 15th at which we will finalize our 2018 year-end charitable donations and plan a budget for 2019. Nominations for 2019 officers will also be decided and the official installation of those officers will take place at the February meeting.

Women's Fellowship meets the third Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm in Fellowship Hall. All women of the congregation are welcome to join us. If you would like to join or would like more information about what Women's Fellowship is and does, please contact Leslie Metzler on 508-947-1376 or email lesliemetz2@hotmail.com.

Reap As You Sew –“RAYS” Craft Group

RAYS is a fun and creative group of women who get together every month to make things for the Christmas Fair. We meet at Leslie Metzler's house to craft, sew, laugh, talk and generally have a good and creative time of fellowship. We always welcome new people and it is a great way to get to know people if you are new to the church, and even if you're not. To find out more or to join us, call Leslie on 508-947-1376 or email lesliemetz2@hotmail.com.

The 2019 schedule for RAYS (until life gets in the way and necessitates changes) will be Thursdays at 6:30pm:

January 24th, February 28th, March 14th, April 25th, May 23rd, June 27th, July 18th, No August meeting, September 26th, October 24th, November 14th.

Mark your calendars now! If you use permanent ink to mark your calendar then you are an obvious optimist, which means this is the group for you. If you use pencil, it means you're flexible, so this is the group for you. If you use colored pencils on your calendar, you're creative, so this is definitely the group for you. Basically, this is a good group for just about everyone and all are welcome.



Social Outreach Committee

Christmas Gift Program at LUCC

Your generosity is overwhelming! Over 40 people in the Lakeville and Middleboro community received Christmas gifts this year due to your generous donations supporting the Christmas Gift Program. The group of Confirmands including Monroe Macuch, Rebecca Johns, Naomi Cooper, Nolan Cooper, and Mason Macuch, Patti Parent, Johnna Rowley, Kim Mulgrew, Alex Parent, Jack Mulgrew, Brenda Hartford, Bob and Kathleen Barrack and others shopped for all the gifts, then wrapped the gifts and the next day, the gifts were delivered to the Sacred Heart Food Pantry and Freetown Lakeville Middle School by Brenda and Marty Hartford. Thank you very much for your contributions – many people in the community were able to receive gifts this year!

Additionally, your contributions to the Christmas donation this year were \$1074. LUCC will provide \$535 to a member of our local community who lost

his home in a fire and the balance will be deposited to the Local Needs Account at LUCC that will help us to provide support to a needy family or individual over the upcoming winter months. This account is managed by the Social Outreach Committee. We encourage people to inform the committee of any needs. Thank you!

"Remembering Madison" Blanket Mission – In remembrance of Madison Gallagher, the blessing of the blankets will be on February 3, 2019 during service. We have so many blankets this year! What an awesome sight it will be when the sanctuary is filled with blankets of comfort and love that will be blessed and delivered to Hasbro Children's Hospital that afternoon. Member of the "Knotty Hookers of Middleboro" will be here to take part in displaying and blessing the blankets. If you have blankets that you would still like to donate please bring them by January 27th so they can be washed and counted for this year's donation. There is a donation box outside of Rev. Greta's office.



Music Committee

The choir will meet to practice whenever Brad calls us together for special music on Sunday mornings. We look forward to preparing for the spring season music activities. We welcome all to join us in the choir and try us out!

Respectfully submitted,

Loretta Baldwin



January Birthdays

3 Kaitlyn Barrack
5 Bruce LaFave
6 Casey Nee
7 William (Will) Sparrow, Jr.
14 David Baldwin
16 Trent Arancio
17 Casey Ward
18 Maggie Driscoll

21 Dan Newton
22 Gary Hermanson
24 Bill Brown
26 David Horton
27 Aili Ramsden
27 Matt Anderson
29 Reinaldo Barbosa

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February Birthdays

- 1 Nicholas Barriga
- 2 In Loving Memory of Madison Gallagher
- 2 Dennis Driscoll
- 2 Rita Garbitt
- 6 Loretta Baldwin
- 7 Randy Hays
- 7 Mike Nolan
- 8 Katelyn Joyal
- 18 Colette Macuch
- 20 David Arancio
- 24 Vinnie Annichiarico
- 25 Caitlyn Rowley
- 28 Michelle Arancio



February Anniversaries

- 14 Marty & Brenda Hartford



JANUARY 2019






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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		 AA 7:00 pm	Bible Study 10 am	Daisies 5 - 6:30pm Committees 6:45 pm Council 7:45 pm	Girl Scouts 6 - 8 pm	OCHPB 9:30 am - 1 pm
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Confirmation 9 - 10 am Worship 10:00 am Communion AA 6 - 9 pm	Overeaters Anonymous 7pm	AA 7:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm	Bible Study 10 am	OCHPB 6 - 9:30 pm		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Confirmation 9 - 10 am Worship 10:00 am AA 6 - 9 pm	Overeaters Anonymous 7pm	AA 7:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Women's Fellowship 7 pm	Bible Study 10 am	Daisies 5 - 6:30 pm OCHPB 6 - 9:30 pm		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Confirmation 9 - 10 am Worship 10:00 am AA 6 - 9 pm	 Overeaters Anonymous 7pm	AA 7:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm	Bible Study 10 am	OCHPB 6 - 9:30 pm		
27	28	29	30	31		
 Confirmation 9 - 10 am Worship 10:00 am Breakfast 8:30 - 9:30 Meeting 10:30 am AA 6 - 9 pm	Overeaters Anonymous 7pm	AA 7:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm	Bible Study 10 am	OCHPB 6 - 9:30 pm		
						

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