

Chrismons Patterns

for Lakeside United Methodist Church

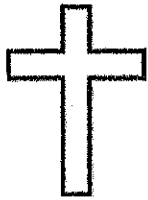
Chrismons are Christmas decorations with Christian symbols on them. They help us remember that Christmas is the celebration of Jesus's birthday. The word, Chrismon, which is a combination of Christ and monogram (meaning symbol.) It is a tradition that Christian groups/families can make their own Chrismons with their favorite symbol on them.

Chrismons are traditionally hand made using ONLY the colors white and gold. White is the liturgical (or church) color for Christmas and symbolizes that Jesus was pure and perfect. Gold symbolizes His Majesty and Glory. Chrismons can be made from anything, but paper and embroidered ones are the most common. Please feel free to be creative with your materials. You may find ideas on Pinterest and the internet.

You will bring back your ornament during normal church services during Lent. (November 27-Dec. 18) There will be an announcement during the offering song to place it on the tree in the sanctuary.

Please see some common Chrismons and what they represent to Christians.

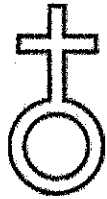




The Cross symbolises that Christians believe Jesus Christ died for everyone on a Cross.



The Irish or Celtic Cross is a normal cross with a circle in the middle to symbolise eternity.



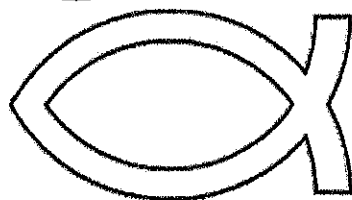
The Triumphant Cross represents the earth with the cross on top. It symbolises Jesus is triumphant over anything we can face in the world.



The Anchor Cross reminds Christian's that Jesus is the anchor of their faith.



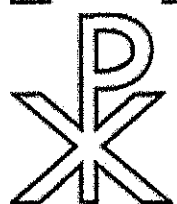
IHS are the first three letters of 'Jesus' in Greek. I've added them on a Cross as it looks more interesting!



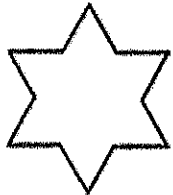
The Fish is one of the oldest Christian symbols. The letters, from the Greek word for fish (ichthus), stand for Jesus (I), Christ (X), God (Q), Son (Y), Savior (S). Some of Jesus' disciples were fishermen.



Alpha and Omega are the first and the last letters of the Greek alphabet. Used together, they symbolise that Christians believe Jesus is the beginning and end of all things.



The Chi-Rho looks like a 'P' with an 'X' on top of it. These two letters are the first two letters of the Greek word 'Christos' which means Christ.



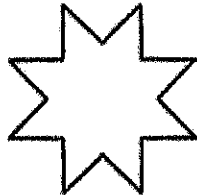
The Star of David, sometimes called the Star of Creation, is a symbol that Jesus was a Jew and a descendant of King David.



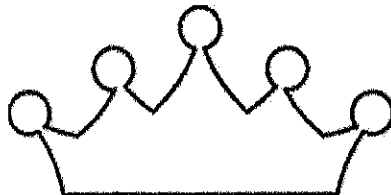
A Five Pointed Star represents the five wounds of Jesus on the cross.



The Nativity Star is the symbol of the Star of Bethlehem or Epiphany, when the Wisemen visited Jesus.



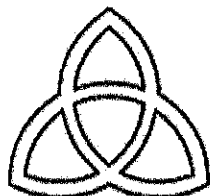
An Eight Pointed Star represents baptism and regeneration.



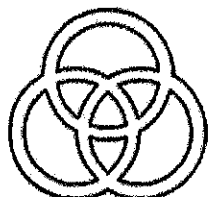
The Crown is the symbol that Jesus is King. It shows that Christians believe Jesus is ruler over heaven and the earth.



The Shepherd's Crook or Staff remembers that Jesus sometimes called himself a shepherd. It can also represent the shepherds who were the first people told about the birth of Jesus.

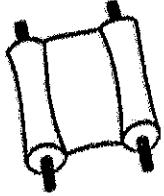


Both of these symbols represent the Christian 'Trinity' of God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. **The Triquetra** is made of three loops making a triangle representing the three parts of the trinity. **The Trefoil** (at the bottom) is three equal circles intertwined to form a whole.





Hands in Prayer help Christians remember that they should pray to God.



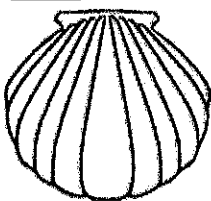
The Scroll represents the Bible.



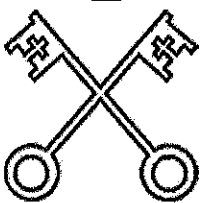
The Dove is the symbol of peace and the Holy Spirit. It is shown pointing down to represent the Holy Spirit that appeared as a Dove when Jesus was baptised.



The Lamp and **The Candle** both represents that Christians believe Jesus in the Light of the World.



The Shell is a symbol for baptism. It reminds Christians of the water that they are baptised in. It is also a sign of Pilgrimage, as Pilgrims to the Holy Land (Israel) would use a shell as a drinking vessel.



The Keys are a symbol for the Church in all the world. Jesus told his friend Peter that "I will give you keys to heaven", so this means that Christians have to tell other people about Jesus.



The Ship is also a symbol of the Church, sailing towards heaven.