



The Messenger

October 2026

Monthly Newsletter of Lakeside United Methodist Church

INSIDE

85th Anniversary Stories

Sharing our memories

Booktober

Donate books now

What Does It Mean to Be a Church Member?

One of my favorite things to do in ministry is to celebrate the welcoming of new members. It gives me such profound joy to welcome someone into our church family and to guide them as they make a commitment to follow Jesus Christ.

So, what does it mean to become a member of the United Methodist Church?

Being a church member is more than putting your name on a membership list. It is making a commitment to follow Jesus Christ and to be part of a church family. Unlike membership in a social club or an Amazon Prime membership, becoming a church member is a life-changing decision to follow Jesus Christ.

When we become members of the United Methodist Church, we promise to grow in our relationship with Christ and to support one another as we serve God and our community.

We often describe this commitment with five simple words: prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

We pray for our church and for one another. We make worship and fellowship a priority. We share our gifts and resources. We serve others. And we share God's love through our words and actions.

We do not become members because we are perfect or because we have everything figured out. We become members because we want to grow together in faith and follow Jesus together.

If you have been worshiping with us at Lakeside and are wondering what it means to become a member, we would love to talk with you. Membership is an invitation to take another step in your journey of faith and to become more deeply connected to our church family.

Prayers

Presence

Gifts

Service

Witness

***Our 85th Anniversary Celebration
will be celebrated on October 18;
sign up online by clicking on the
Anniversary Information link on our
website, in the Narthex, or calling
the church office
804-266-7016***

***Register by Tuesday,
October 13 11:00AM.
Donations are welcomed***

85th Anniversary Story

Fair Fare

In the 1950's, the State Fair was held at the fairgrounds where the NASCAR track is located now. It was a big deal. Unlike now, churches and non-profits were allowed to set up booths to offer typical fair fare (hot dogs, hamburgers, fries, pie, etc.). Lakeside took aggressive advantage of this situation. and the Methodist Men built a booth which was then staffed by church members. Dozens of church members engaged in support of the fair booth which was an intense time of cooking, baking, transport, organization and staffing. It was an immense challenge, and this is where I came in.

The church's youth were asked to participate in any way they could. Since my parents were at the fair booth just about every night, that meant my sister Kay and I were there, too. Our assigned task was waiting on tables. I caused many unforced errors in taking orders

and getting them wrong...who wanted a burger with onions and mayo? Who ordered the hot dog with relish and ketchup and no mustard? Who got the large fry? And then there was the feedback...I need more napkins...don't you have any ketchup...I want more ice in my Coke...my spoon broke...don't you have Tab...when's my order gonna be ready, I gotta be at the Tilt-A-Whirl in 10 minutes...I don't have anything smaller than a \$50 bill.

So many challenges...so little skill for the task assigned. However, the extraordinary effort by so many Lakeside folks forged a culture of togetherness and care that provided a foundation of focused Christ-followers that set the stage for decades to come.

~Kip Robinson



Henrico Christmas Mother "Booktober"

"Booktober" is here and Henrico Christmas Mother needs your help to provide new books for children from pre-school to high school seniors. Thank you for your generous gift of books last year that helped us provide at least two new books for each child! There will be a bin in the Narthex from October 4th - November 1st.

Plus, Henrico Christmas Mother thanks you for giving us "gently loved books" that our adult applicants who are parents, 65+ seniors and disabled adults can select to read. Fall is a good time to give books you have read, stored or forgotten you have to provide reading opportunities for others. Thank you for excelling in sharing many books over the years! Every year we provide the opportunity! There will be a separate bin for these books in the Narthex from October 4- November .

When the Christmas tree appears in the Narthex, it is bare and needs your hats, headbands, and gloves to decorate it. Last year the knitters provided over 100 hats! What a difference these beautiful knitted items made to the Clothing Committee last year. We need soooo many hats and gloves to give each child at least one. There will be 2700 children or more this year! We continue to be challenged to fulfill this need. So please help us by shopping and knitting. We will be collecting these gifts from November 8th to December 6th.

Thank you! Angela Harper, Henrico Christmas Mother Council member and Robin Smith, sustaining member



October Pastor Appreciation Month

As the leaves fall and the temperatures lower, there are many opportunities for you to bring uplifting words and actions to thank our Pastor Jae Cho and his family for their commitment to our church family. Please take time in October to send a card, email and personal words and gifts to thank them. We are blessed with Pastor Jae's inspiring sermons, his thoughtful outreach to those in need, his stirring of Brunswick stew, and his spiritual guidance to staff and the church's committees and leaders. Remember to include healing prayers for Pastor Jae and his family, as they continue to cope with health challenges.

Keep giving, keep saving lives! This
Month the Blood Drive is
October 31st.





PLACE YOUR ORDERS For Brunswick Stew

Orders can be placed online by emailing
stew@lakesideum.org

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, November 7, 2026!** Our famous Brunswick stew will be ready for pickup starting at **12:00 PM**, and each quart is just **\$10.00**.

All orders must be picked up on the day of the sale.

Musical Notes

The hymn, *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*, has traditionally been the opening hymn in Methodist hymnals, and originally had 18 stanzas, written by Charles Wesley in 1739 to commemorate his conversion the year before (May 1738). He was inspired to write it after a conversation with a Moravian friend in which he asked the friend about praising Christ. The friend replied, "Had I a thousand tongues, I would praise Him with them all." The additional 17 stanzas can be found as no. 58 in our hymnal. The tune name, Azmon, is the Hebrew word for "fortress". It was originally published in Germany in 1704, and is proof that a good text, combined with a strong melody, never goes out of style.

As we celebrate our 85th Anniversary, let us raise our voices in praise as we sing it as our opening hymn for that service.

Caroline 



October Birthday & Prayer Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Benjie Abuan	2 Feral Cats in RVA	3 New Teen Drivers
4 Juliet Cho, Greg Sessions	5 Butch Kelchner	6 Those experiencing loneliness	7 high school & college home-comings	8 Debbie Gillis	9 Lakeside's small business owners	10 aging church
11 police & firefighters	12 tree trimmers / arborists	13 school food service workers	14 road construction crews	15 those struggling to pay their bills	16 Robin Willis	17 The 85th anniversary of our church!
18 Austin Hedrick	19 The volunteers at Feed More & Lamb's Basket	20 long distance truck drivers	21 Jane Gill	22 dry cleaners & laundromat owners	23 Dawn Brayton, Joseph Teel	24 Trick or Treaters at LUMC
25 college students living in dorms	26 Barbara Kamanda, Robert Sims, Lelia Teel	27 Rick Bowers, Linda Crow Willis	28 Vicki Perkins	29 Leslie Elliott	30 excited children in our midst!	31 safety & good times for trick or treaters

Knit Wits

Knit Wits is a group of people that crafts together on Sunday nights from 5:30 until 8:00. It began when several of the younger women recognized the wealth of knowledge held by our resident crafts artisan, Kathleen Nuckols, and wanted to learn from her. Soon another knitting expert, Debbie Gillis, joined the group. As the group developed, they began to see community needs that crafters could provide. Over the years, the group has made prayer shawls for those in times of need. They have knitted and crocheted numerous hats for the needy in the community. This group is open to anyone who wants to learn to knit or crochet, or who already has these skills and would enjoy a time to fellowship with other crafters. While our group has traditionally consisted of women, we are open to anyone who would like to join us. We meet on Sundays at 5:30. If you are new to knitting and crochet and want to learn, please let us know that you are planning on coming so that we can have the necessary supplies available for you.

Debbie Gillis (804)339-2438 Kathleen Nuckols (804)514-6921.



Communication Deadlines

If you would like to include an announcement in the worship bulletin; please send to office@lakesideum.org by 4PM Tuesday. If you would like to include something in The Messenger, please send by the 25th of the month. Thanks a million!

Fall Fun is Here!

Join us for a fun-filled fall season at our church!

Pumpkin Sales

Pumpkins are here! Sign up to volunteer. Come and pick out the perfect pumpkin for your home, porch or family carving night.

Candy Collection Has Started - Bring in Your Donation of Candy

Help us fill our candy supply! We collect bags of individually wrapped candy for our Trunk or Treat. Every donation helps make the event extra sweet. A basket will be in the Narthex for the candy collection.

Trunk or Treat October 24th 4:00-6:00pm

Bring your family and friends for an evening of decorated trunks, costumes, candy, laughter and fellowship! Come enjoy the fun, support our church, and help us make this fall season special for our community!

