

# LUMC'S COMMUNITY REVELATIONS

July 2021 / Volume 4, Number 6

## Lacey United Methodist Church

203 West Lacey Rd., PO Box 151,

Forked River, NJ 08731

Church Office: (609) 693-5222

Pastor Cell: (845) 893-9157

[laceyumcnj@gmail.com](mailto:laceyumcnj@gmail.com) // [www.laceyumc.org](http://www.laceyumc.org)

Head of the Church: Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God

Ministers: All of Us

Pastor: Jonathan Campbell

Lay Leader: Ed Wojciechowski

Admin. Assistant: Joann Michalkowski

Pianist / Choir Director/ Chimes Director: Dawn Slate

Facility Maintenance / Grounds: Mike Orlick

Trustee Chair: Bill Jones

Church Council Chair: Rich Rosfjord

Staff Parish Team Chair: Kenneth King

Children – Youth Education: Eric DeLa Cruz

Finance Chair: Steve Michalkowski

Head Counter: Rich Rosfjord

Thrift Shoppe: Elaine Brandt

Mission: Donna Jones

Outreach: Pastor Jonathan Campbell

Worship: Dawn Marie Kuch

Hot Lunch Mission: Roseann DePasquale / Ed Weisbrot

Summer Lunch Mission: Sherry Exel / Gail Matuska

Submissions to this newsletter can be sent to:

[donnieg777@hotmail.com](mailto:donnieg777@hotmail.com)

## THE TRUTH SHALL MAKE YOU FREE



John 8: 31 - 36: *Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."*

*They answered Him, "We are Abraham's decedents, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can You say, 'You will be made free'?"*

*Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be freed indeed."*

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## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



The United Methodist Women will be holding their first meeting on Thursday, July 22, at 6pm in the Lacey UMC Prayer Garden. Please speak with Monique Wojciechowski or contact the LUMC Office at (609) 693-5222 for more info.

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## CHURCH-WIDE DISCUSSION

The second virtual discussion on human sexuality and the coming denominational separation will take place on Thursday July 15 at 6:30pm. The focus will be on the Biblical and Theological issues surrounding human sexuality and church unity. There will be someone representing the traditional side, as well as the progressive one. Questions should be sent in to the LUMC Office before Friday July 9. Pastor Jonathan can be contacted at (845)

893-9157 or [pastorjcampbell@hotmail.com](mailto:pastorjcampbell@hotmail.com) for further information.

Join us on Sundays at 9AM for virtual worship!

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/LaceyUMCNJ/> or Web: [laceyumc.org](http://laceyumc.org)

**PARADE & CHURCH SPONSORED 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMUNITY PICNIC PLANNED**

A parade is being organized to take place on Thursday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, for the late day /early evening hours. The theme is going to be "150 Years of our Church." There will be a lineage of our church, beginning at Good Luck and ending as LUMC. Hopefully, there will be a replica of Forked River UMC. There are also plans to have a small float with people walking beside it. Water bottles will be handed out that would contain our church lineage, service info and an invite to our community picnic. The parade will begin at Town Hall and travel to Gille Park. Donations of small water bottles are welcome! Keep checking church bulletins and communications as a call to help will be put out soon. Please seek out Donna Jones or Laura McDonald for more info.

We will also be having a Church Sponsored Community Picnic coordinating with the town's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. There will be a Blessing of our Town and prayers of Thanksgiving for God's Blessings and Guidance throughout the past 150 years and prayers for His continued Blessings. Advertisements will be distributed inviting Lacey Township residents. This will take place at the Forked River Fire Department. Live music and games are expected to go along with some great food! Help will be needed to set up, break down, man the grills, run the activities, etc. A list of donations will be forthcoming. Please reach out to Donna Jones, Laura McDonald and Elaine Brandt to volunteer or for additional information. Also, the LUMC Office can always direct you to the proper person by calling (609) 693-5222.

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**PRAISE TEAM RETURNS**

 The Praise Team has returned to practicing every Tuesday evening at 6:30pm. If you would like to donate your vocal gymnastics to the Lord, contact Dawn Slate at (609) 296-6252.



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**FOOD PANTRY**

The Food Pantry is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 12:00pm until 2:00pm. No advance registration is required. We have been offering eggs, butter, shelf milk, canned goods, pasta, rice, cold cereal and meat, among many other items. If you are lucky, you may arrive when we have a variety of baked goods and snacks. We are located in the garage behind the Thrift Shoppe.

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**FREE MEAL DISTRIBUTION**

Free meals are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12:00pm for those who register by calling the LUMC Office at (609) 693-5222 to ensure that we have the proper number of meals needed for your family.

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**SHOE DRIVE CONTINUES**

We are coming upon the home stretch of the shoe drive as we stop collecting gently used or new pairs of shoes on July 20<sup>th</sup>. Besides the LUMC Office and The Joy of Angels Thrift Shoppe, drop-off locations include Retro Fitness, Lacey Recreation, Jersey Charm Coffee, OTA Car Care and Gladiator Gym. For more information about the program, contact Lori Osborn at (732) 904-6461 or the LUMC Office at (609) 693-5222.

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**DRAMA CLUB ROLLING LONG**

Aaron Celeste and Kara Cripps are the latest actors to join the Drama Club, alongside Abby Michalkowski, Carly Carpini, Olivia Stanislawski and Kaellyn Graf. There is still room for more to join. The Drama Club is held every Tuesday between the hours of 5:00pm and 6:30pm. Before getting into the lesson for the day and stage work, each session usually begins with a warmup game. These games include Yoo-Hoo, Heads Up, Alien / Tiger / Cow, The Emotions Game, What Am I Eating? And Zip Zap Zop. Sally Potter, as the second adult for Safe Sanctuary, has proven to be an excellent assistant to all activities. To find out more, contact Dominic Gregoria at (732) 904-9945 or donnieg777@ hotmail.com.

## A MESSAGE FROM A NEW CHURCH MEMBER



Sunday, June 13, 2021, was a very exciting day for me. I became a member of the Lacey United Methodist Church. My husband was the Pastor of Lacey Christian Assembly in Bamber, NJ, for 30 years. I didn't need to look for a church home. I had one. When Covid took John home to be with the Lord, I needed to find a new church home. But of all the churches in Ocean County, how and why did I settle into the Methodist church?

The story starts back in 2012. I had known about LUMC and the move to the old St. Pius building, but why would I go there? I had a church home. Super Storm Sandy changed everything! It destroyed homes and disrupted lives. LUMC jumped into action and the town of Lacey took notice. Meals, supplies and help were offered. Shelter was given to families without a place to stay. I got involved in washing blankets and bedding for the rooms where people stayed. I also had an author who had visited my school the year before donate 25 books with puppets for children who needed such comfort. I smelled wonderful aromas coming from the kitchen and saw tables decorated with pretty flower arrangements when I dropped off the books. That spoke of hope and better times! I imagined weary souls dragging themselves into fellowship hall to be greeted with smiles, kind encouraging words, hot food, and shelves full of supplies that they could take after breakfast, lunch or dinner. I stopped and thought surely this is Jesus in the flesh serving these people.

My one daughter was getting married and we needed a larger church for the wedding. LUMC allowed us to hold the ceremony there. Pastor Linda was gracious enough to allow my husband to officiate the wedding in her church.

I next encountered the church when my granddaughter got involved with the youth group and was chosen to be Mary in their 2018 production of "Three Wise Men and a Baby." The next year, my other granddaughter had a role in "Straight Outta Bethlehem" through the Drama Club. Both of these experiences had a huge impact on my granddaughters. Both shows provided an uplifting holiday experience.

In April 2020, my husband became ill and was taken to the hospital. I reached out to LUMC to put him on the prayer list, as he had developed a relationship with the church over the years. Not only was he put on the prayer list for LUMC, but this church reached out to the churches in Lacey to get everyone praying. Once again, one church stood head and shoulders above all others in my eyes. Pastor Linda called me to talk and pray with me. Pastor Linda prayed with me again after John went home to the Lord. So, when I needed to find a new home church, the search was not too hard. My husband used to tell the congregation to go out and be Jesus with skin on. In LUMC, I have found a group of Christians who are Jesus with skin on to the town and the world.

Thanks for accepting me,  
Betty Carhart



PHOTO: FRED SISBARRO GUARDS THE NEW FLOORING AS IT WAS DELIVERED AND THE CONNOLLY CENTER WAS PREPARING FOR A MAKE-OVER!!!

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United Methodist Men's Breakfast on Saturday, August 21, at 6:30am in Fellowship Hall!

*"I felt the flames I heard death knocking*

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*My hands were tied my feet were bound*

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*Buried alive covered in ashes*

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*My soul was 6 feet under ground*

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*Then you rolled that stone away*

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*You pulled me from the grave*

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*Praise the Lord I saw the light*

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*And I'll never be the same"*

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*Zach Williams  
Jonathan Lindley Smith  
&  
Jordan Frye*

**WELCOME NEW LUMC MEMBERS**



*Lisa Burger,  
Deirdre Callaghan  
and  
Betty Carhart*

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Join us for "Outside Fellowship"  
after Sunday Services. Please  
bring your own chair!

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**LACEY UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**  
PO Box 151  
Forked River, NJ 08731