

LAKE SIDE LUTHERAN CHURCH May, 2023

**SERVICES ARE
ONLINE AND ONSITE**

Sunday Worship Service
9:00 a.m. Contemporary

Sunday Worship Service
10:30 a.m. Traditional

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday

8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Friday

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

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THE MESSENGER

*Joyful Christians who Inspire
Spiritual Growth and Discipleship*



MARTIN LUTHER RIGHTLY DECLARED:

The Bible is alive,
it speaks to me;
it has feet,
it runs after me;
it has hands,
it lays hold on me.

“DUSTY BIBLES CAN LEAD TO DIRTY LIVES.”

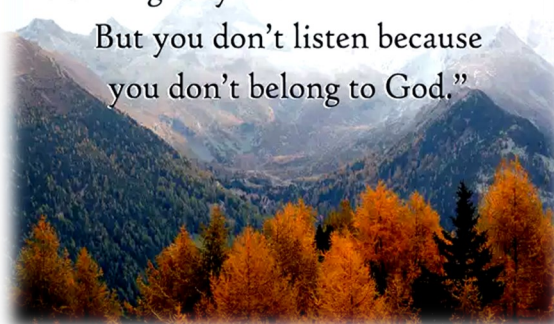
**“THE BIBLE THAT IS FALLING APART USUALLY
BELONGS TO SOMEONE WHO ISN'T.”**

RESULTS FROM A RECENT SURVEY OF CHRISTIANS:

- ✝ Fewer than half of all adults can name the four gospels
- ✝ Many professing Christians cannot identify more than two or three of the disciples
- ✝ 60% of Americans can't name even five of the Ten Commandments
- ✝ 82% of Americans believe "God helps those who help themselves" is a Bible verse.

John 8:4

“Anyone who belongs to God
listens gladly to the words of God.
But you don't listen because
you don't belong to God.”



WHICH ONE ARE YOU?

- 1) The Word of God has first place in your life and it is slowly conforming your life to the image of Jesus Christ (Romans 8:29)
- 2) The World has 1st place in your life and it is squeezing you into its mold. (Romans 12:2)





For what will a man give in exchange for his soul? Mark 8:37

This little Bible verse shows a value. The Bible is full of them and so is the world (and many are not too good). When others see your values they may just see Jesus in you too.

Why Do We Use Values in Ministry?

Values are why we are doing what we do. We all have them. Even those people outside of grace have values even if they are corrupt and selfish. Values dictate and explain our behavior. They guide every decision we make, every goal we set, or ministry we form, every dime we spend. Values tell the world what we stand for, this is what we are all about, this is who we are, this is what we can do for you. Values give us our unique identity. You usually can find values on various websites in an area that say "Who we are" in their language. Values form the common thread that runs through the entire ministry of a congregation. Values shape the character of the congregation, too. Our values come from Jesus and our values show Jesus to others.

Values Communicate What Is Important

In doing God's work, your personal values need to align with the ministry you are working with at any given time. If this is not the case, ministry will be disjointed and run in many directions with little unity and teamwork. Your commitment to these values matters greatly for the bearing of fruit as a congregation in Jesus' name. They help everyone to focus their energy on what is truly important to the ministry of the congregation. We seek to *joyfully inspire others in their spiritual growth and discipleship.*



Values Embrace Positive Change...

... but do not need to Change

Values are designed by God to be timeless in and with His Son. They are helpful in bringing peace because they, like the Bible, do not change over time. We learn to adapt to a changing culture, but our values need not change. These beliefs are so important that they must always come before ministry policies, practices, goals, and politics. This is hard stuff in corrupt and evil generation.

Values Inspire People to Action

When leaders work off strong Biblical beliefs, they carry it through with both words and actions from their heart. This makes the ministry credible in the eyes of others. Most churches are on the cusp of either valuing apathy or Christ in them to bare fruit. We pray for the latter value, for this is the way others see Jesus in a hard world.

Pastor Dahlke



Joyfully Inspiring

What does it mean when something is “hardwired”? In computers or electricity, it means circuits are physically or permanently connected. In people, it refers to actions and behaviors that are instinctive and automatic. We are hardwired to breathe. We are hardwired to seek comfort and flee danger. (Some of us seem hardwired to love chocolate...) Above all, we are hardwired to live for God. We can ignore Him, sidestep His plan, and dismiss His law, but we cannot deny we were created in His image and connected to Him by means of creation.

Let's check our wiring in May. May is the month of spring and all the renewal it brings. Pastor's May sermons center around how we live, what rules our hearts, and our willingness to do what God clearly calls us to do. In his May 14 devotional, David Tripp writes, “You were hardwired to live for God, so even though you may not be aware of it, every good thing or bad thing you do today has verticality to it.” We are hardwired to God.

Thank you to those who shared their joyful inspirations with us in April. God is always working to complete the plan He's begun in each of us.

Preview of May sermon themes:

May 7: All Things God *(Based on New Morning Mercies May 12)*

“You were hardwired to live for God, so even though you may not be aware of it, every good thing or bad thing you do today has verticality to it.”

May 14: Goodbye Conflict *(Based on New Morning Mercies May 19)*

“If your heart isn't ruled by God's honor and your life by God's plan, you may seem religious, but what you're living isn't biblical faith.”

May 21: Living Faith *(Based on New Morning Mercies May 26)*

“Faith is living in light of what God has said, resting in what he has done, and entrusting the future to his care.”

May 28: Rest and Work *(Based on New Morning Mercies Jun 2)*

“It never works to ask people to do for you what only God can do. It never works to wait for God to do what he has clearly called you to do.”

Lakeside Continues to Rally After Hurricane Ian

Hurricane Ian made landfall in our area on September 28, 2022. Soon after, Lutheran Church Charities (LCC) and Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT) contacted Lakeside Lutheran to request we serve as a host site for their teams.

Over a hundred Lakeside volunteers helped support their mission. We rallied, and with God's help, we extended the hands and feet of Jesus into our community.

What has happened since those early days of hurricane recovery? A group of people completed Basic LERT Training, Pastor has connected with service groups in Sarasota County and beyond, Lakeside volunteers continue helping people in need after Ian, and the church started thinking, “How can we continue to serve before, during and after a disaster?”

Fast Forward - An Invitation

Fast forward to now. A group of people has been meeting to discuss hurricane and disaster preparedness for our Lakeside congregation, campus and community. **We'd like to share some ideas with you and get your input on Saturday May 6 from 11 AM to noon in Meyer Hall.** Please sign up in the narthex if you would like to attend so we know how many treats and seats to prepare. We encourage everyone – congregant or other – to join us in these discussions. Thank you.





Church Council Article May 2023

The Council had our Council meeting on 4/12/2023, below is a Summary of our Church's Joyful operations.

We are exploring stronger potential outreach with The Treehouse preschool and getting more congregants involved. A letter was sent out to the parents of the preschoolers inviting them to see their children in the Wednesday Children's Chapel in our church. It is beginning to spark interest from the parents. Perhaps the children really are the crown of mature Christians and an inspiration to them. (Proverbs 17:6)

Our Band of Brothers is becoming more successful. We have been enjoying a web seminar by David Jeremiah: The Apathy of America. We will be following it with The Remedy of Revival with some possible outreach action to trumpet the fading faith and values that is causing us to crumble as a society. The Fire is started! Join us on Saturday morning at 8:30 in the Youth Room. (Galatians 5:1)

Diane Emo has stepped out to lead our L.E.R.T. (Lutheran Emergency Response Team) follow-up effort here at Lakeside! We have formed, and are growing, our own reach out and help group; I believe it will be called LAM (Lakeside Action Ministry).

Our Finances, under Treasurer Larry Sheldrake, continue to be managed accurately and with a positive direction. Our only debt at this point is our mortgage balance \$35,691 and that should be paid off and retired later this year. Thank you Lord for supporting Your House of Ministry and worship through the generosity of your congregants and the fire that Your Holy Spirit ignites in our hearts.

Our Member-at-Large, Susan Tenteromano, continues to outreach through media to our growing population here in Venice and North Port. Yes, we expect our Church to grow as more people awaken to the fact that the only truth that is unchanging can be found in our faith and not in the promises of the secular world.

Lee Knudsvig, our Head Trustee and his trusty crew, are keeping our campus in good operating condition. The major repairs to our ageing plumbing in the sanctuary should be completed by May 1st.

Our Elder board, headed by Pete Gardner, continues to provide structure and worship guidance to Lakeside. We are looking for two more men with the potential to help lead the worship and faith growth here at Lakeside. Be bold and step forward like Christ and the disciples if you have the Holy Spirit leading you.

Sometimes the people in the background get little notice, but they are instrumental in keeping the pulse of the Lakeside family vibrant. Please say thank you when you see them.

Dan Ladigoski





Anniversaries

Don and Sandra Tallman	May 4
Dan and Sally Meyer	May 5
Mel and Charlotte Van Dyke	May 8
Philip and Isabelle Russell	May 9
Ronald and Marlene Ellis	May 10
Frank and Jane Friberg	May 11
Dave and Pamela Gohil	May 13
Joe and June Sonnenberg	May 14
Wendell and Linda Wolka	May 19
Henry and Joan Hajdas	May 21
Robert and Diane Emo	May 26
Kenny and Brenda Gustafson	May 26



Birthdays

Janet Haessler	May 3
Anna Purse	May 3
Paul Adams	May 4
Joseph Wilson	May 4
Edrise Sievers	May 7
Lois Hammond	May 8
Karla Henke	May 10
Carol Bolger	May 13
Charlotte Freeman	May 14
Paul VantHof	May 15
Sandy Boos	May 16
Janet Miller	May 17
Maria Krieger	May 19
Marlene Ellis	May 20
D'Arcy Gonzales	May 21
Jerold Schreiner	May 22
Tina Irwin	May 24
Dolly Hoffer	May 24
Isabelle Russell	May 25
Emma Suko	May 26
Judith Hines	May 26
James Schulz	May 28
Don Tallman	May 29



LWML May Meeting

Ladies - Please come and join us at the May LWML Meeting on Thursday, May 4th at 11:30 in Meyer Hall. We will be celebrating National Day of Prayer with Pastor Dahlke speaking. Our inspiration for the day is **'Never Doubt the Power of Prayer'**. Come enjoy lunch with us. Please sign-up in the narthex. We are looking forward to seeing you!

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League voted unanimously at our April meeting to donate \$300 each to the following ten worthwhile charities. Thanks to Lakeside's members and friends for supporting our fundraising efforts!

One More Child
Lutheran Services of Florida
C.A.R.E.
Kids Needs/Englewood
SPARC

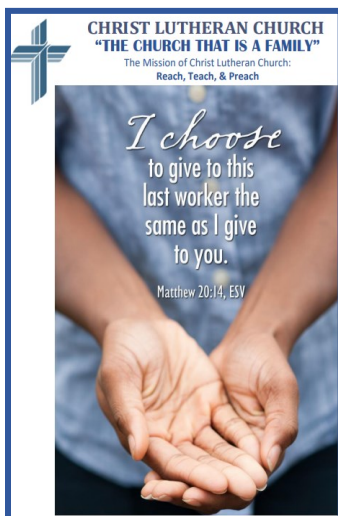
Crossroads Hope Academy/Punta Gorda
The Twig
Orphan Grain Train
Hope Seeds
Agape Flights

The LWML continues to collect the following items:

- Eyeglasses** and **Non-prescription Sunglasses** will be donated to MOST Ministry who distribute the glasses to poor countries around the world
- Clean Empty Pill Bottles** with labels removed will be donated to Matthew 25: Ministries who distribute the bottles to improve the quality of life in hospitals & health clinics in developing countries.

Collection boxes are in the Narthex. Thanks for supporting these worthwhile ministries!

The 1st Sunday of each month is LWML Mite Sunday. Lakeside LWML supports the Florida-Georgia LWML with our mites. Two organizations (of fifteen) that received grants are:



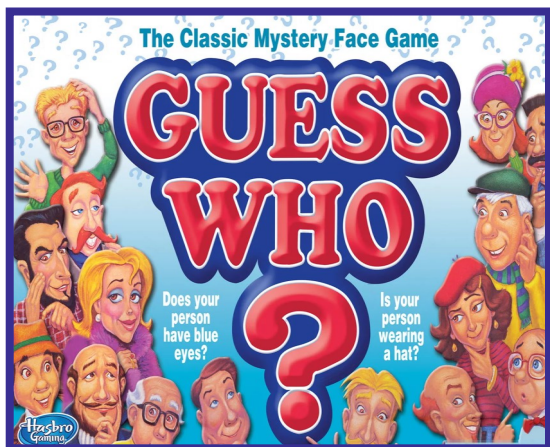
- 1) Christ Lutheran Mission in Brooksville, FL who serve the community with basic life necessities and
- 2) Bible Books for Haitian Families in Creole and French.

Please bring your mite box on the 1st Sunday and put it on the purple table in the narthex - and take a new box! Also, we'd appreciate EVERY-ONE adding their spare change to the Mighty Mites Bucket! Thank you for your generosity and support.



GUESS WHO!

Let's play 'Guess Who' said no church member ever.



You see the game 'Guess Who' every Sunday. Members gather in the small groups of friends with the people they know at church. They laugh and talk with each other because they know each other.

When others try to join the conversation, everyone has to play the 'guess who' game.

That can be embarrassing and it does not lead to a stronger faith family.

We are going to try to stop the 'Guess Who' game and help members get to know each other by name.

We are going to make a homemade church directory. We will need a photo of everyone in order to make a new photo directory. When we finish we will put it into our member's hands. We are currently waiting to finish the work in the narthex, then we will have a photo area set up for a few Sunday's. Please step into our MAKE SHIFT PHOTO BOOTH (it should only take a moment) and we will snap a quick photo. Once we have as many member photos as we possibly can we will upload them to create the directory. (Note: People who have had their photo taken in the 2019 directory can choose to keep the existing photo, or they can choose to have a new photo taken.)

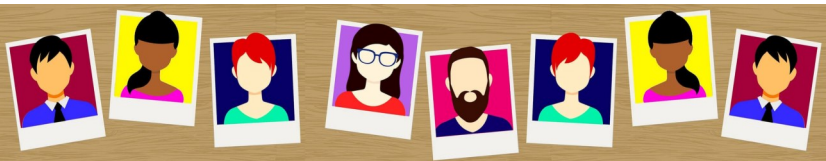
If you have a recent photo that you would like to use feel free to email it to the church office: llc@lakesidelutheran.net

If you already have a photo, but cannot send it through email, you may bring it to the church office or mail your photo to the church. We will scan your photo and get it back to you.

Questions? Contact Brenda (office administrator) Monday-Thursday 8-2:00; or Friday 8:00-Noon: (941) 493-5102

We realize that some **regular visitors** and **seasonal guest** have not joined Lakeside, but attend regularly when in town. We invite you to be included in the church directory. We want to get to know all of the happy faces that we see!

IF SENDING A PHOTO, PLEASE INCLUDE NAME(s), ADDRESS, PHONE(s) and EMAIL(s)



DIY PHOTO BOOTH





COMMUNITY GARDEN - SHARE THE LOVE OF CHRIST

A community garden is designated for sharing gardening. As people in Venice choose apartments or homes with less acreage, this type of growing may be something that interest you? **Come Grow With Us!** Contact Brenda (office administrator) if you are interested in muddying your shoes...

Gardening is a valuable hobby. Healthy produce and saving money is just some of it's benefits. Many families are struggling to afford fresh foods. By providing a share garden, church members and families can help themselves to homegrown foods. In addition, the garden offers an opportunity for Treehouse Pre-School students to learn more about food growth and healthy eating. Finally, South County Food Pantry may be interested in taking some of our fresh produce?

FIRST, WE MUST GAUGE INTEREST FROM OUR MEMBERS

We are trying to determine if there is interest in a community garden. (This might be a one-year trial if there is not interest.) With sufficient interest, the next step is to determine what type of garden would be most useful. We could grow fruits and vegetables, trees, herbs, flowers or a combination.

FINDING A PLOT: We have land determined to be unused, but it would be great for gardens. It is located just behind the choir room and classroom area. This area is free of debris and offers 6-8 hours of sun, as well as access to a water spicket and garden tool closet.

PREPARING THE AREA: Would you like to join our gardening group? People can volunteer time to the garden, or volunteer financially (to purchase soil, fertilizers, seeds, tools or other items needed). Would you like to be a Weeder or Seeder? Email Brenda at llc@lakesidelutheran.net

PLANNING THE GARDEN: Gardening classes and meetings may be necessary for establishing a layout for our garden. We are blessed to have Bob Holmes (horticulture expert) as a beneficial resource for gardening endeavors. Can you dig it? We are eager to Ready-Set-Grow!

MANAGING THE GARDEN: Once the garden is operational, we will need people to oversee the garden bed management. Are you in? Hi Hoe, Hi Hoe, It's off to work we go... Interested?



*Lakeside church can draw more than bees
with a community garden.*

*A sharing garden shows
the love of Christ in a tangible way.*



- MAY CLASSES -

Monday Women's Study (in the Youth Room)

Led by Amy Dahlke
John: The divinity of Christ
 6:00 p.m. in the Youth Room



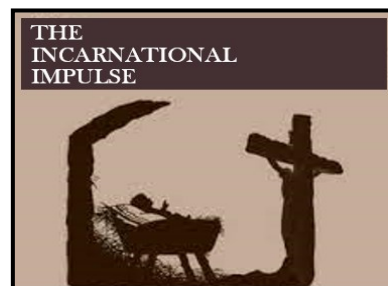
Wednesday Adult Bible Study (Online Zoom)

Join Pastor Dahlke
The Study of 1st Thessalonians
 9:00 a.m. Wednesday's online (Zoom).



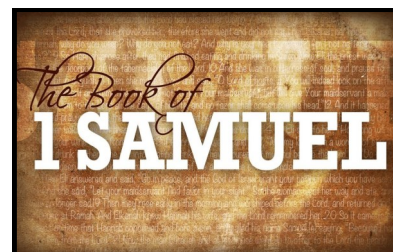
Wednesday Adult Bible Study (On Site)

Join Pastor Dahlke
Incarnational Impulse
 Wednesday's at 10:30 a.m. (Meyer Hall)



Wednesday Evening Adult Bible Study (Online Zoom)

Join Pastor Dahlke
The Study of 1st Samuel
 Wednesday's at 7:00 PM online (Zoom).



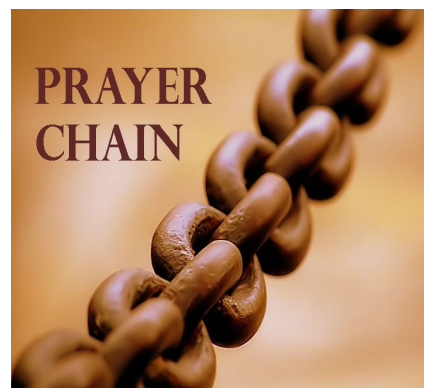
Contact Pastor (PastorDavid@LakesideLutheran.Net) or the church office
 (LLC@LakesideLutheran.Net) to sign up for an online class.

Prayer Chain

Please feel free to make a prayer request. You can fill out a request card at church, or call the office, or send an email. When making a prayer request, please include a brief description of what we are praying for.

Please include your name, address, and phone number if you would like to be contacted or desire a visit.

Please contact the church office to be added to the Prayer Chain.



Helping Hands

We have a group of people who are ready and willing help you! If you need help please contact the church office and we will try to find someone who can assist you.

We are always looking for members who are willing to assist. Please let the office know if you can be a helper.

Altar Flowers

Flowers make excellent gifts for any occasion. For just \$30 you can purchase a bouquet of flowers for the Altar. Your flowers can be picked up after the 10:30 service. Call or email the church office to place your order for flowers. Flowers that are not picked up will be used to brighten someone else's day.



Hurricane Expo Events

INFO from the L.E.R.T. Team: Two hurricane expos are planned in our area to help residents prepare for the 2023 hurricane season. The North Port Hurricane Expo will be held on May 13 at the George Mullen Activity Center from 9 - 1 PM. The Venice Home and Hurricane Expo is scheduled for May 19 at the Venice Community Center from 9 - 3 PM. Both events are free. Please find details online.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE:

Coffee and cookies will continue throughout the summer on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, in the Narthex between services. The May dates will be the 14th and the 28th. Please join us for conversation and coffee. If anyone would like to bring cookies, you may leave them in the Narthex on the day of.

As we had only one "coffee hour" in April, we will continue to collect donations for the same family the month of May. All May donations will go to Rev. Jerry Lawson and his family serving in Latvia.

*Thank you for all your generous donations
to our missionary families!*



APRIL 25th POTLUCK DINNER:

A potluck dinner was held April 25th. It was another night of fun, fellowship, fantastic food - and scrumptious ice cream sundaes! It offered a night to say hi to visitors and at the same time say "see you in September" to some of our seasonal friends. Thanks to all for making it a success. Please mark your calendar for the next potluck dinner - MAY 23. Plan to join us for a great night of food and fellowship.





BREAD BREAKER - CAPTAIN EDDIE'S

One of the Bread Breakers group recently met at Captain Eddie's for lunch and some Bible Trivia. Thanks Tom and Diane Murdock for planning the gathering. If you're thinking about joining a Bread Breakers group, contact the church office or Linda MacDonald. It's a great way to get to know other members at Lakeside. Included were Howard Wellhousen, Elie Miller, Bob McManaman, Edrise Sievers, Dan Ladigoski, Sharon Ladigoski, Joan McManaman, Dianne Murdock, Tom Murdock

BREAD BREAKER - BOCCE BALL

Bocce and lunch at Plantation Country Club was the activity of one of the Bread-Breaker groups. Included were Diane and Herm Bokelman, Stella and Don Reschke, Laura and Mike Mona & Kathryn and Tim Gerken.



This summer we are going to try to go a little further in the mission God has for us through the “40 Tables of God’s Love”. (You can find out more about the 40 Tables of God’s Love on the following page of this newsletter.) Who can be your first table of fellowship and who can be your second? Begin praying about it.

I wonder how many times meals are talked about in the Bible. Table fellowship was an integral part of Jesus’ ministry and yours as well. Jesus frequently used the occasion of a meal to create fellowship with people. For us it is an outpouring of our love for others because of God’s great love for us. God’s love is truly sacrificial to bring us to a spot of love for Him. For some of us a fellowship meal is truly sacrificial. The good news is that when we do table fellowship, Christ is present with us. The atmosphere around the table is one of acceptance, friendship, and peace. It gives us a view of what heaven is like as well.

I also want to mention the three parts that make up a fellowship meal: Jesus presence, sharing our story, and eating in the beautiful atmospheres of acceptance, friendship, and peace. We will look at these more next month. It truly is beautiful when we see Christ working in us to touch the lives of others around our table.

Do you remember in Luke 24:40-43 the meal he had with his disciples after his resurrection as he appeared in a house?

And when He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. While they still could not believe it because of their joy and amazement, He said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” They gave Him a piece of a broiled fish and He took it and ate it before them.



Jesus went on to teach, eat and share. When we open up our tables, or join others at the table, we bring the incarnate Christ into the meal because He is in and with us. Whose lives can be inspired around the table with you because of your faith. People are hungry both physically and spiritually. We can fill them with God’s love because God’s love fills us. No wonder we have an Easter breakfast.



*And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship,
to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Acts 2:42*

In the Bible, we see that Jesus used the table throughout His ministry. He loved coming together and enjoying food around a table. It was an opportunity for him to share in fellowship and bring the Gospel to his neighbors. The dinner table has long been a place of connection, healing of brokenness, and a loving blessing to the participants in Jesus' name.

Goals: To create a joyful fellowship of meals, inspiring stories, and prayer for people both in the congregation and those struggling, confused, hurting, or apart from God's grace.

Motivation: We have been saved by grace in Jesus and desire that salvation for all people.

Strategy: During the months of May, June and July we will seek to have 20 meals within our fellowship of believers. In August, September, and October we will seek to have 20 meals with a mix of believers and non-believers or people who are struggling, confused, hurting, or apart from God's grace in our homes.

The participants will:

Invite 2-6 people to a table for the following:

- ✝ Have a meal that creates an environment of joy, peace, and kindness. Start the meal with a common prayer.
- ✝ Those present have an opportunity to share his or her story with the group about what God is doing or has done in their lives? Specific for a believing table.
- ✝ Take a picture of the table with the people to add to the "50 Tables of God's Love" display in the church.
- ✝ Lead a prayer of thanking and praise or other intercessions.

Invite 2-6 people in your home with at least two of them who are struggling, confused, hurting, or apart from God's grace (some can be disciples from your first meal).

- ✝ Have a meal that creates an environment of joy, peace, and kindness. Start the meal with a common prayer.
- ✝ Those present have an opportunity to share his or her story with the group about what is going on in their life. You may share you story of God if you so choose.
- ✝ Take a picture of the table with the people to add to the "50 Tables of God's Love" display in the church.
- ✝ Lead a prayer of thanking and praise or other intercessions.

Follow up with you guests in about 40 days and see if any prayers were answered they could see.

Determine if you can continue your relationship with them in prayer and fellowship. Discover what you can do next in the relationship?

You may certainly do more that the two tables if you want.

We may have a fellowship meal in October in Meyer Hall to celebrate 40 tables of God love.

THE TREEHOUSE PRESCHOOL

THE TREEHOUSE PRESCHOOL children had a fun day at the 2nd annual Easter Egg Hunt, held on our campus April 4. Again, thanks to LWML for donating the eggs filled with goodies. About 50 children found the 400 plus eggs. It was a fun day for all of us.

The preschool is looking to hire teachers (and volunteers are needed also). Please, if you know of anyone with an interest, please call Elizabeth Randol @ 941-497-5858.

Everyone is welcome to attend Children's Chapel on Wednesday mornings, starting at 9:45AM. What JOY will fill your heart to see the little ones pray and sing!



Pictured Below: Sharon, Linda, Judy, Kim, Colleen and Diane



LAKESIDE LUTHERAN CHURCH

2401 Tamiami Trail South
Venice, FL 34293

Phone: 941-493-5102
Fax: 941-493-1999

Email:
LLC@LakesideLutheran.Net

We're on the web
www.LakesideLutheran.Net



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

And now these three remain:
faith, hope and love. But the
greatest of these is love.

1 Corinthians 13:13



Lakeside Lutheran Church
2401 Tamiami Trail South
Venice, FL 34293

Stamp

"Joyful Christians who Inspire Spiritual Growth and Discipleship"