

LAKE SIDE LUTHERAN CHURCH

June, 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*



Why "Fellowship" Is So Much More

Fellowship is a word used to describe a close relationship between people. The word "fellowship" in Scripture is speaking of the close relationship Christians have with the Lord, "God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord" ([1 Cor. 1:9](#)) The gospel brings us all into communion, into family, into partnership, into association with one another. John said he and the other apostles were preaching the gospel, "So that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ" ([1 John 1:3](#)). It's not entirely accurate to say we get together with our church family to fellowship. We need to stop thinking of fellowship as something we do, and start thinking of it as something we have. People should be able to look at the relationship between Christians and say, "Do you see the fellowship they have? Isn't that a beautiful thing!" That's the way it was in the earliest days of the church ([Acts 2:42-47](#)): Many Christians do not experience true fellowship; they show up for worship and then slip out the back door. They don't discuss Scripture, share intimate prayer, join with any groups, know the needs of others, or share their belongings with those in need.



Can people see the fellowship you have with the church family? Jesus said, "By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" ([John 13:35](#)). If there are no indicators of the fellowship we have with our brothers and sisters in Christ, how are people supposed to see our love?

Fellowship begins with worship service, but Lakeside has many gatherings such as 40 Tables of God, potluck dinners and Bread Breakers just to name a few. These opportunities help to encourage the strengthen fellowship. Fellowship will not be strengthened without ample time together. We must realize we are not getting together to fellowship, we are getting together because we are in fellowship.



"So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God." -Ephesians 2:19 ESV

"And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near" ([Hebrews 10:24-25](#)).

Article Paraphrased from Wes McAdams; Radically Christian - Learning to Love Like Jesus



The Quest for Discipleship

Can you define a disciple? Disciple: Someone who believes, follows, and shares Jesus. He or she is committed to being a lifelong student of Jesus; someone learning to master life through imitating the Lord. God is intentional in his or her lifestyle and faith journey.

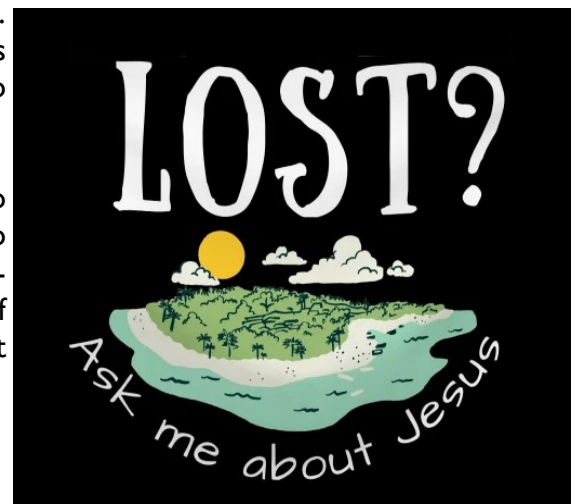
The main characteristics of a disciple includes faithfulness to the Lord, living a fruitful life of service, and having a passion for one's calling in life. But what about discipleship? It is the process of transformation every Christian undertakes to become more like Christ. It includes the systems, methods, and environments we create to guide another along his or her journey of Christ formation.

The destination of discipleship is to be a person who loves God and loves others with the love of God. Their earthy goal is making disciples that make more replicating disciples. When is the last time you talked about this over table fellowship? Imagine thousands of churches taking note that the worship service is not the end game for church members, but it is to inspire them to go and disciple. This gets way more push back than celebration. This gets way more lip service than boots on the ground.

Let's talk about Christ formation. Christ formation begins with God, not us. God calls us into a relationship with Him. The formation begins with God because it was He who first reached out to us, in offering us the forgiveness of our sins and then inviting us into the lifelong process of becoming more like Him. Christ formation means knowing Christ personally and intimately, not just knowing facts about Him. Christ formation means understanding our value because we are created in the image and the likeness of God. People have value because God created them, and because Jesus died for them. Therefore, God determines a person's value, and when we truly believe this, it changes the way we treat people. Christ formation teaches us that God is for us, not against us. Rather than running from God to hide, we run to Him to confess and bask in grace and deliverance. Christ formation shows us the importance of our relationship with other Christians. Christ formation means understanding Godly sorrow. This is when you know that your sin hurts God and you want to stop your sinful actions.

What does your Christ formation look like? I would love to talk with you about it, if you seriously are ready to do something different. It means moving from passive Christianity into joyfully inspiring others. It means stepping out of critiquing church stuff - to being Jesus in the lives of the lost and the found. I think you may be ready.

Pastor Dahlke



Joyfully Inspiring

I pray I'll lose ten pounds before September. I pray my son gets a new job. I pray my neighbor stops criticizing everything. I pray my husband stops snoring. I pray we have more ice cream, preferably mint chocolate chip.

Good prayers? Or are they all about us – our wants, desires and needs? David Tripp writes, “Regrettably, in much of our prayer, we’re actually asking God to endorse our pursuit of self-focused little glories.” But, prayer is actually a surrender. Prayer surrenders our plans for the wiser plans of another. Prayer puts us in our rightful place. Prayer acknowledges our weaknesses. Prayer reminds us that there is so much we don’t know or understand. “All to Thee my blessed Savior, I surrender all.”

No wonder Jesus taught us to pray! It is not natural for us to surrender our will and wisdom, and to embrace our weakness and failure. Pastor’s June sermons take us from hope, to prayer, to redemption, to the difference between amazement and faith. “God doesn’t just want to blow your mind; he wants to rule your heart.” Thy kingdom come, thy will be done!

Thank you to those who shared their joyful inspirations with us in May, and for the beautiful voices of our preschool children in their weekly “Kid’s Church.” Lakeside Lutheran continues to reach out to others with God’s loving grace.

Preview of June sermon themes:

•**June 4: Hope – Part 2** *(Based on New Morning Mercies June 6)*

“Every human being places his hope in something, and every human being asks that hope to deliver something. Where have you placed your hope?”

•**June 11: Prayer** *(Based on New Morning Mercies June 12)*

“Prayer is abandoning your place in the center of your world and daily surrendering that place to God alone as an act of heartfelt worship.”

•**June 18: Redemption** *(Based on New Morning Mercies June 19)*

“Grace has the power to do what nothing else can do – rescue you from you, and in so doing, restore you to what you were created to be.”

•**June 25: Amazement and Faith** *(Based on New Morning Mercies June 27)*

“There is a significant difference between amazement and faith. God doesn’t just want to blow your mind; he wants to rule your heart.”

Below: PHOTOS OF **SHUTTER PRACTICE** AT THE TREEHOUSE PRESCHOOL





Church Council Article June 2023

The Council had our meeting on 5/10/2023; here is a Summary of Church 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. The invitation is beginning to spark interest from the parents. Perhaps the children really are the crown of mature Christians and an inspiration to them (see Proverbs 17:6).

Our Band of Brothers is becoming more successful. The video seminar by David Jeremiah has inspired extraordinary response: The Apathy of America – followed with The Remedy of Revival. ***In light of the declining cultural values and it's effect on our faith and worship, something needs to be done and not just talked about.*** We plan to have an open-video and seminar in June to fire-up and inspire some real action by Christians – Lakeside and otherwise (the date and time to be announced). The Fire is started! Join us on Saturday morning at 8:30 in the Youth Room. The Band of Brothers participated in a “shutter practice” for emergency installation on the Treehouse preschool building – after sorting out much of the clutter of confusion we have organized everything and can install all shutters in about 1½ hours. We have also posted open invitations to many Christian churches in the area to attend the Worship Songs on the Beach (Venice beach every Friday, 1 hour before sunset.)

Diane Emo has stepped out to lead our CREW (Christians Ready Equipped and Willing) follow up effort here at Lakeside! We are growing our own Reach-out-and-Help group. We have been organizing and attending ways to work through the emergency response Expos in both North Port and Venice.

Our Finances, under Treasurer Larry Sheldrake, continue to be managed accurately and with a positive direction. Our new asset value at Lakeside is over \$4 million and our only debt at this point is our mortgage balance \$30,517 (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 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 even directing from his Northern office. The major repairs to our ageing plumbing in the narthex are completed. The cost was mitigated by the construction expertise of Lee (see *photo on Page 13*). Dan will be a surrogate go-to trustee until Lee returns.

Our Elder board, under Pete Gardner, continue to provide structure and worship guidance to Lakeside. There is a job in progress to upgrade our use of the Church database and add photos for all people so we can produce a new Church photo directory in the near future (see *more information on page 7*).

Sometimes the people in the background get little noticed – A shout-out to just a few: Sharon Ladigoski, Arlene Haegel, Janet Gardner – and there are so many others.

Dan Ladigoski - Church Council President

Birthdays

Pamela Gohil	June 3	Jane Hillwig	June 18
Chuck Kinter	June 4	Leah Bookwalter	June 19
Helen VantHof	June 4	Margaret Fitchlee	June 22
Roland Miller	June 5	Lawrence Kunkle	June 23
Richard Purse	June 5	Shirley Preston	June 23
Nancy Lindquist	June 7	Ken Arney	June 25
Nancy Johanson	June 8	Maureen Dell	June 25
Jeanell Peek	June 8	Sharon Bradham	June 27
Annie Nichols	June 9	Michael Roggi	June 27
Georgene St. Pierre	June 9	Jacey Tippman	June 27
Connie Foster	June 11	Joyce Perkins	June 28
Joseph Stanjones	June 13	Joan Waters	June 28
Sheila Otten	June 15	William Meints	June 29
June Sonnenberg	June 16		

Happy Birthday and Anniversary



Anniversaries

Joseph and Diane Szkola	June 7	Arnt and Heidi Nyvoll	June 25
Peter and Carol Joseph	June 9	Pastor and Amy Dahlke	June 26
Robert and Cynthia Holmes	June 9	Ronald and Suzanne Dehardt	June 26
Don and Emma Suko	June 10	Roland and Sherer Miller	June 26
Rudy and Meredith Dornemann	June 16	John and Cindy Zachau	June 28
Dana and Jeannette Eaves	June 16	Don and Stella Reschke	June 29
James and Cheryl Brown	June 21	George and Jennifer Shepard	June 29
Terry and Carol Williamson	June 22	Robert and Patty Thompson	June 29
Brian and Nancy Johanson	June 24		



Lakeside's LWML will be taking a break for the summer. We will hold our first meeting in the Fall on Thursday, October 6th. We are looking forward to seeing you in the Fall!

During our May meeting we celebrated the National Day of Prayer with Pastor Dahlke leading a special Prayer Devotion. The graduating class from the Treehouse Preschool stopped by and treated us to a cute Thank You song - giving thanks for the Easter Egg Hunt we hosted for them and the Mother's Day gifts that we made. A fun time was had by all.



The 1st Sunday of each month is LWML Mite Sunday. Lakeside LWML supports the Florida-Georgia LWML with our mites. An organization that received grants is Lutheran Hands and Hearts Helping with Haitian Earthquake Response—to help Ministry in Mission and Haitian Lutheran congregations in providing physical and spiritual care to the survivors of the 2021 Haitian earthquake. 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 **EVERYONE** adding their spare change to the Mighty Mites Bucket! Thank you for your generosity and support.

LWML continues to collect clean pill bottles and glasses



HOMEMADE PHOTO DIRECTORY

We are going to create a homemade church directory. We would like a photo of all people in order to make the updated photo directory which includes everyone. We will have a photo area set up on June 18 and June 25. Please step into our MAKE-SHIFT PHOTO BOOTH (it should only take a moment). We will be using individual photos in this directory. We will snap a quick photo - there is no appointment necessary, simply step in. Once we have as many photos as possible we will upload them to create the directory. (Note: People who have had their photo taken in the 2019 directory can choose to keep their 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 Gustafson (office administrator) Monday-Thursday 8-2:00; or Friday 8:00-Noon: (941) 493-5102 or llc@lakesidelutheran.net

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

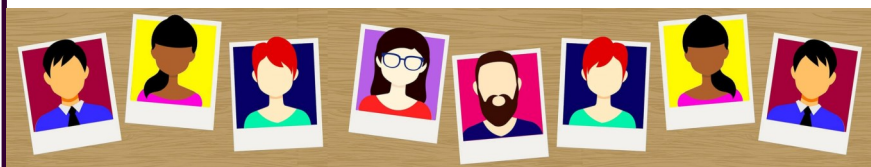
IF YOU ARE SENDING YOUR PHOTO, PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FOR THE DIRECTORY

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____





COMMUNITY GARDEN - SHARE THE LOVE OF CHRIST

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

THE ESTABLISHED GARDEN: 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). Call the church office if you would like to be a Waterer, Weeder, or Seeder.

MANAGING THE GARDEN: The garden is up and growing. We need people to oversee the garden. Are you in? Hi Hoe, Hi Hoe, It's off to work we go...

Feel free to pick up a **SHARING GARDEN - BIBLE STUDY** available in the Narthex (or email the church to receive it electronically)



- JUNE CLASSES -

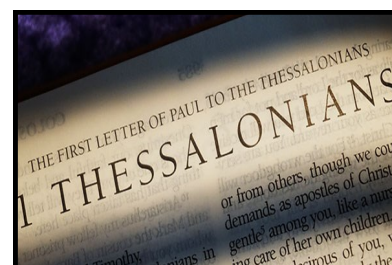
Monday Women's Study (in the Youth Room)

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



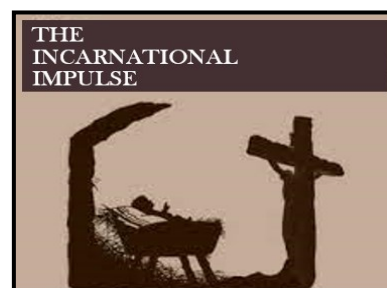
Wednesday Adult Bible Study (Online Zoom)

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



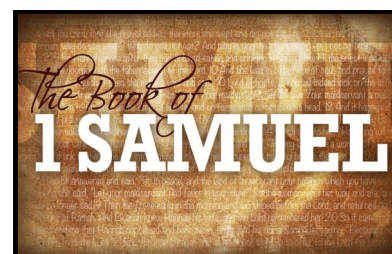
Wednesday Adult Bible Study (On Site)

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).



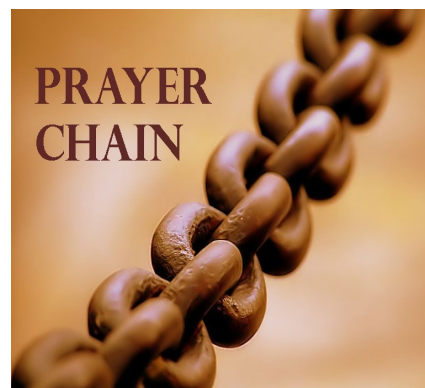
Contact Pastor (PastorDavid@LakesideLutheran.Net) or the church office
 (LLC@LakesideLutheran.Net) to sign up for an online class.

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.



Join the Fun

Mixing up the Bread Breaker Season
There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex
Do you need more information?
Contact: Linda MacDonald
(573) 693-8446
craiglindamac@gmail.com



HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE:

Our coffee and cookies hospitality mission baskets will continue throughout the summer. Look for them on June 11 and 25...with the June mission donation will go to Reverend Dr. Arthur & Linda Just serving in Latin America. Thank you for your support of our monthly missionaries. Donations of cookies and cake plates are always welcome! We could always use more helpers if you'd like to set-up coffee and cookies. Contact Sharon Ladigoski for information: (516) 383-9429 or sladd52@gmail.com

A festive red, white and blue potluck dinner was held on May 23, it was a fun time getting to know our brothers and sisters at Lakeside, while enjoying great dishes and desserts. Thank you to all for making the potluck evening a success.



BREAD BREAKERS:

Lakeside offers a fellowship opportunity called Bread Breakers. These groups consist of 8-10 people. The groups meet at various locations throughout the season. Be watching for a new Bread Breakers Group sign-up sheet for the summer season. The sheet will be in the Narthex. Would you like more information? Contact Linda MacDonald (573) 693-8446 or craiglindamac@gmail.com

Table Fellowship:

Are you being Jesus at meal time or being something else?

Why is table fellowship of great importance both to the early Christian church and to us today? Can you think of a few reasons? Table fellowship is a theme throughout the Bible, and is used to teach the stories of God to God's people and beyond. The stories of God's prophets often involve eating and sharing the things of God that were needed to be shared and to connect with eternity. It seems like Jesus was always eating with someone for the same salvation. The Last Supper points to Christ's own sacrifice for our life, and to the Great Banquet that will be held for all of us in heaven. The early Church continued the table fellowship both in daily meals and in holy communion, and so do we.



Christ is present in all of our table fellowship because we are the temple of Christ. (1 Cor 6:19) Christ's presence at the table means that we recognize that God is the giver of all good things. We see that Jesus is the "true bread of life." (John 6:33-48) When we eat together, we welcome the Lord's presence. When in the presence of the Lord, we joyfully celebrate the gift of food, the gift of Christ's sacrifice, and the promise of His presence both now and in the future when we partake in the eternal banquet.

God's desire for His people is wonderful table fellowship. It leads us right into the Lord's Table. These relationships are made to be marked with love, and eating is a time of celebration of God's goodness.

What does table fellowship look like when you invite some people that need the presence of Jesus through you? Stay tuned next month for some thoughts on Table fellowship. But I can't hold back - here are six ingredients that go into table fellowship:

Inviting non-Christians
Building community & unity
Expressing present and future hope

Teaching the Word
Sharing
Telling the Christian story



THE TREEHOUSE PRESCHOOL

The Treehouse Preschool had 16 graduates in the class of 2023. Graduation took place May 27 at Lakeside Lutheran Church, followed by a reception in Meyer Hall...more details and pictures will be in our next newsletter.



Thanks to LWML for making little flower baskets to give to the preschool moms for Mother's Day. Beautiful cards were also presented from Lakeside Church. The moms were delighted with the special thought and gift on May 4th, 15 Treehouse children surprised the ladies at the LWML meeting... they came in and sang a "thank you" song.



The children continue their weekly visit to our sanctuary on Wednesday mornings at 9:45 a.m. for Children's Chapel. A few of our helpers have gone north for the summer, if you would like to help out, come by any Wednesday to see what JOY the children bring to us as they sing and pray.

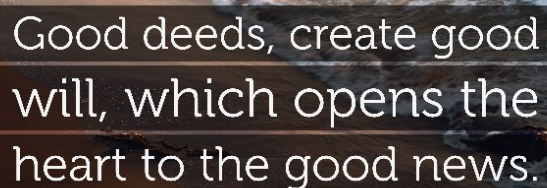
Introducing...The Lakeside CREW!

In the past few months we've talked about the "LERT follow-up team," a group of people who started meeting after Hurricane Ian with a desire to help others. This group has evolved into a new ministry called the Lakeside CREW (Christians Ready Equipped and Willing). This externally focused ministry seeks to serve the needs of our congregation, campus and community in preparation and response to adverse situations, such as a storm, tragedy or unexpected event.



What is an externally focused ministry?

Externally focused ministries and churches integrate good news and good deeds. Jesus was externally focused. He was out in the community, connecting with people through tangible, relevant acts of love,



Good deeds, create good will, which opens the heart to the good news.

kindness and healing. By being externally focused, churches have the chance to build relationships and share God's grace in the midst of real need. Through their actions, lives are transformed as people both see and hear God's love. All of us are part of an externally focused ministry. Everything done inside our church doors strengthens, prepares and equips us for loving outreach to our families, friends, and communities.

So, where do we start?

The CREW established some A-list priorities with the goal of preparing for the upcoming storm season. The four projects listed below are actively in motion. Pastor is also part of the Sarasota County Long Term Recovery Group (LTRG), a "cooperative body made up of representatives from faith-based, non-profit, government, business, and other organizations working within a community to assist individuals and families as they recover from disaster." Simply, they will match resources to needs. Once we have defined the Lakeside CREW's support niche, we intend to be part of their resource pool. Then what? Going forward, we plan to leverage our campus and resources to house youth and service groups that come into our community to minister to others. Let's see where the Lord leads Lakeside in outreach!

What can you do to help today?

Pray. Lift up this new ministry. One member shared her prayer for the CREW: "Dear God, I pray for the Lakeside CREW as it seeks to be of service to others. Please guide their steps and grant them wisdom and energy to be the hands, feet, hearts and listening ears of Jesus to those in need. Thank you for all of your faithful servants at Lakeside who first seek to serve you. Amen."



HURRICANE SEASON IS HERE.
**LET'S MAKE SURE
EVERYONE
IS PREPARED.**

Take a moment to sign up for Alerts. Create an account at www.alertsarasotacounty.com. When signing up, you can enter your address to help determine which jurisdiction alerts you should receive.

FROM LAKESIDE CREW: SUGGESTIONS FOR HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

- ☐ Evacuation Plan
- ☐ Medications and Medical Supplies – Two Week Supply
- ☐ Cash
- ☐ Flashlight – Batteries
- ☐ Battery Weather Radio
- ☐ Important Documents:
 - ☐ Birth Certificates
 - ☐ Insurance Cards
 - ☐ Social Security Cards
 - ☐ Bank/Credit Card Numbers
 - ☐ Wills
 - ☐ House Inventory Photos
 - ☐ Titles (cars, boats, etc.)
 - ☐ Vet/Microchip Records for Pets
- ☐ Phone List:
 - ☐ Doctors
 - ☐ Insurance
 - ☐ Electric, Gas, and Water Companies
 - ☐ Family/Friends/Neighbors
 - ☐ Landlord or Property Manager
 - ☐ Bank or Credit Union
- ☐ Keep Your Vehicle filled with Gas
- ☐ Emergency Kit:
 - ☐ Nonperishable Food and Water (1 gallon per person per day) for 7 days
 - ☐ Non-electric Can Opener
 - ☐ Cooler
 - ☐ First Aid Kit
 - ☐ Pet Supplies – Pet Food and Water, Leash and Collar, Bowls, Medications, Carrier/Cage
 - ☐ Sleeping Bags
 - ☐ Tool Box/Rope
 - ☐ Plastic Sheetting
 - ☐ Work Gloves
 - ☐ Duct Tape
 - ☐ Fire Extinguisher
 - ☐ Cleaning Supplies
 - ☐ Clothing
 - ☐ Special Needs Items for Infants/ Small Children or Elderly/Disabled
- ☐ COVID-19 Supplies
 - ☐ Face Masks
 - ☐ Disinfectant Wipes
 - ☐ Hand Sanitizer

THANKS FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE!

Below:

Lee Knudsvig, Head Trustee, repairs the tile floor in the narthex following the plumbing repairs to the restrooms.



Below:

Members of the Band of Brothers and CREW join to help move local residents back into their newly repaired home.



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



We should encourage and enable a father to become a better Protector, Order keeper, Provider, and Stabilizer of their family. The need for a father in a child's life is a growing need. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 24 million children in America (one out of three) live without their biological father in the home.

Today we thank God for good fathers; but not just today, always!

**And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children
and the hearts of children to their fathers. *Malachi 4:6a***



Lakeside Lutheran Church
2401 Tamiami Trail South
Venice, FL 34293

Stamp

"Joyful Christians who Inspire Spiritual Growth and Discipleship"