LAKESIDE LUTHERAN CHURCH

January, 2024

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.

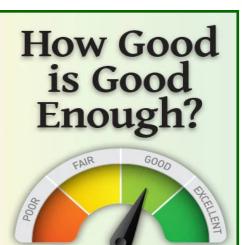
Friday 8:00 a.m. - 12::00 p.m.

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How Good is Good Enough?

The message of Jesus offends some people. Surveys tell us that most Americans believe that all good people go to heaven. It is a wonderful thought. It would make life so much easi-Logically, though, the idea just doesn't work. If it's true that all good people go to heaven, just how good does one have to be? Or to put it the opposite way, just how bad can one be and get away with it?

Do you see how difficult it is to make sense out of the statement? Everything the Bible tells me is that it isn't true. Apart from Jesus, nobody is

good enough to go to heaven. That's why the good news of the Gospel is so marvelous. We can all be good enough to go to heaven, not because we manage to do more good than evil, but because God sent His Son into the world to do for us what we cannot do for ourselves. God sent His Son to be one with us, God with us, to take our place under the Law and live the perfect life we can't live, and to die an innocent death in payment for the sins of the whole world. (John 3:16)

The Bible is clear, and it proclaims the message over and over again: All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God and are made right with God by His grace as a gift through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

"Let us be glad at Christmas that God sent His Son!"

But now an important question remains: How do we, as Bible-believing Christians, positively address those who respond negatively?

These times give us an opportunity to engage in dialog - Our outreach efforts are attempts to get people to listen. As we respond, we would be well advised to remember "a soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger" (Prov. 15:1).

lesus' words to His disciples as He sent them - armed with their faith and the Gospel alone - into hostile and

unbelieving communities can be our guide. He told them to be as "wise as serpents and innocent as doves" (Matt. 10:16). Exerpts taken from utheran Witness June 5, 2008 by Dr. Daniel G. Mueller

BECAUSE YOU ARE PERFECT. YOU ARE WORTHY BECAUSE He is perfect.

YOU ARE NOT WORTHY

You may be encouraged to attend the Spiritual Conversations Workshop being held Feb. 3 and Feb. 17, from 9:00-11:30. More information is available on page 9.



I wonder how many newsletter articles you read this season of the church year that find sound doctrine or other nice Biblical informational that gives timely comfort. They are all wonderful. But recently I had a unique experience that I would like to share. An experience that causes me to laugh at burnout and drive me to live out Jesus more loudly. The sermon given on December 3rd was called "The Big Point" and shared eight applications that King David talked about. And then the following came in a text soon after.

I was so excited to see life applications coming into fruition through intentional well thought out goodness. As I basked in joy and encouragement these happened to find their way to me in Emails.



Pastor - I will...

<u>I will extol God by</u> helping facilitate the collection of Angel Tree gifts so our congregation can have the opportunity to elevate, share and show God's love to others less fortunate in Venice.

<u>I will bless Your name by praying for opportunities to be a blessing to others.</u>

<u>I will praise God by</u> attending Wednesday Advent services and join in the table fellowship meals to encourage and support others in the congregation and the World Renew folks.

<u>I will meditate on God by</u> reading and meditating on the Florida-Georgia Districts Advent devotions in the Advent-ure of the Along-Sider.

<u>I will speak/tell about God by</u> joining Jesus on His mission in my "neighborhood" and by seeing what God is up to and stepping out to join Him and share His love to others in the Venice area.

<u>I will declare God's greatness by</u> raising up, encouraging and guiding Diane & Craig to facilitate the Spiritual Conversations class in the new year - so our congregation can be better prepared to share God's love and greatness to others that are lost.

<u>I will pour fourth God's goodness by</u> sharing my love with those I come in contact with so they can see God's goodness and love through me.

I will sing of God's righteousness by loudly singing Christmas carols this holiday season.

Dear Pastor,



<u>I will extol God by praying the Lord's Prayer around the hexagon shape, pausing on "hallowed be Thy name" to praise Him with all my heart.</u>

<u>I will bless His name by giving Him honor as the redeemer of the lost, the salvation of our souls, our protector from evil.</u>

<u>I will praise God for</u> Pastor Dahlke and Amy, who have taught me more about spiritual growth in four short years than in the 6 decades of my life – talk about spiritual acceleration!

<u>I will meditate on God by</u> thoughtfully considering his love for me, undeserved and yet relentless.

<u>I will speak about God</u> in a world that badly needs to hear they are loved.

<u>I will declare God's greatness by</u> revealing my heart to Him and removing "me" from the center of my spiraling thoughts, knowing He's always got me in His hands.

<u>I will pour forth God's goodness by</u> continuing to learn about inspiring disciples through Huddle sessions, and stepping out in faith to co-lead "Spiritual Conversations."

<u>I will sing of God's righteousness</u> in every Christmas song, thanking Him for sending Emmanuel to live among us and die for our sins – amazing love, how can it be?

What is going on here? Then these next things happened in texts and Emails.

(continued on Pg. 3)

The Big Point Plan Psalm 145: 1-12

I will bless Your name by following teres in thought would dead

I will praise God by thinking on wonders of creation

I will meditate on God by morning devotion

I will speak/tell about God by shore with Marley + Jet ze

I will declare God's greatness by sharing God moments' online

I will pour forth God's goodness by sharing God with reighbors.

I will sing of God's righteousness by sharing God with reighbors.

The Big Point Plan Psalm 145: 1-12

I will extol God by warshipping on Sunday & hidnesday

I will bless Your name by serving at the Lenten meal

I will praise God by thanking thin in my prayer journal.

I will meditate on God by reading God's Word every day

I will speak/tell about God by talking about esus as our mediator @ a party

I will declare God's greatness by teaching others in Bible study + huddle

I will pour forth God's goodness by Sharing my blessings whothers (denate to the will sing of God's righteousness by Listuning to unorship music.

The Big Point Plan Psalm 145: 1-12

I will extol God by being an example of his love for me.

I will bless Your name by being nore kind, gentle of humble.

I will praise God by attending services whenever I can

will meditate on God by teading the bible more often.

will speak/tell about God by the conversation with more people

will declare God's greatness by thang what he's hard me

will pour forth God's goodness by helping ofters as I've been, blessed

will sing of God's righteousness by humming boully as I can't sing

(continued from the Pastor page 2 ...)

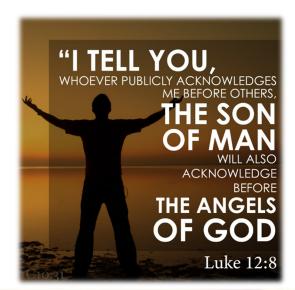
In a world of negative chatter and terrible actions the church, that is alive in the Holy Spirt, motivated by the resurrection Jesus for the forgiveness of sins, and blessed by the mercy and grace of the Father, intentionally rises above the noise and self-centered demands. It always has and always will be victorious in the Alpha and the Omega.



I cannot not smile over these applications. I can't imagine the joy of the angels with Jesus in heaven as they see these responses to His Word.

It is a Happy New Year!

Pastor Dahlke







Your Lakeside Lutheran Council are guiding and facilitating the following items:

We have renewed our contract-lease with The Treehouse for another year, 2024. They have plans to convert part of their building space into a "Home-School" environment: Faith and Family Hybrid Christian Academy. This will include older children on our campus - God at work. I am always amazed – but never surprised!

Our Vice President, Bill Meints, has stepped down as of December 31st after many, much appreciated years and getting our finances properly directed. With the help of our Treasurer, Larry Sheldrake, and Assistant Treasurer, Terry Warner, we have a very sound and clear footing going forward. Our Constitution requires the Church Council President to fill the vacancy of Vice President. We welcome Tim Gerken to fill the remainer of Bill's term through 2024. Thank you for stepping up Tim!

World Renew volunteers have joined us to spread the Christian help to all Gods children in the area who are still needing help restoring their homes from Hurricane IAN (last year!) There will be crews (men and women) rotating in and out each three weeks for several months through the end of April. We are considering an extending this beyond April. They will be headquartered and stay at our church property. The Holy Spirit has truly blessed us with this opportunity to serve others.

Lee, our Head Trustee, is working on prospective major alterations to our "youth" building to include re-purposed shower, lavatory, kitchen and laundry facilities. Once again, God moving us from the *old-Lakeside* to new possibilities to enable us to reach out in new ways as a SENT congregation!

There are exploratory efforts toward a new Church Plant in the area, especially considering the growth in population. Once again, a passion inspired by the Holy Spirit mayt lead us to greater glory for Christ and a beautiful opportunity for all of us at Lakeside. I encourage all our congregants to stop and listen for that quiet voice from within and ask "What can I do Lord and where will you lead me?"

The amazing giving of our congregation towards the Band-of-Brothers "Help Us Help Others" food drive has offered a great response of food. Thank you everyone! There are many people in the community that will benefit from the generosity of Lakeside congregants in this season of both need and Joy.

The Seminarian support (part of Band of Brothers) is exploring a new avenue since our initial support has moved on to other focuses. We are investigating how we may work to enhance future pastors in our area as our population continues to grows. We're waiting to see what the Holy Spirit has in store for us!

Financially, we are doing well thanks to God's provision and the support of all the congregants that are helping to support the Light of Christ going out to our congregants and also outward to the world around us. Also – Hallelujah! We are mortgage debt-FREE as of the end of October. Our assets have certainly grown, but also our maintenance costs and certainly our insurance costs (as I am sure we are all aware in this part of Florida) have grown. As the Lord said so many times in scriptures "FEAR NOT". Trust in God and as we spread His good News. He will always provide.

To all the souls that help keep our Christian Family alive, vibrant and inspired – Thank You.

We can do all this through Christ who gives us strength (Philippians 4:13)

President's Corner

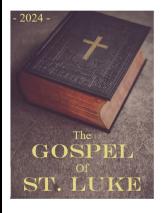
I am honored and privileged to answer God's calling to be your Church Council President for the upcoming two years.

While my role within the Church Council is to work with the other officers to transact the business of the congregation, we all share a much bigger role in living out the Word of the Gospel. Toward that end, this coming year Lakeside will continue to offer many opportunities to learn, to fellowship, to help those in need, to lead or participate, and to pray. I encourage you to review our website, llc.lakesidelutheran.net, read the weekly bulletin, and converse with your fellow parishioners and our church leaders to learn more about these opportunities.

We are blessed to have a wonderful, active congregation and a fully engaged, caring and supportive pastoral leader in Pastor Dahlke.

As we roll into 2024, let us go forth "Joyfully inspiring more and stronger disciples"!

God bless, Tim Dell



2024 SERMON SERIES STUDY GUIDES

Next year's focus for readings will be take from the Book of Luke. There are Study Guides for the 2024 reading series available in the Narthex (or electronically upon request).



INSTALLATION OF 2024 CHURCH OFFICERS

The 2024 Church Officers will be installed to their position during the services Sunday, January 7th. Installation will take place during both services

Officers for 2024: Please plan to come forward following the Prayers of the Church.

Birthdays

Elizabeth Bauer	January 1	Lloyd Foster	January 18
Bob Bradha:	m January 1	Tracy Adkirson	January 19
Faith Dahlke	January 2	Conor Groves	January 21
Michael Ehrat	January 2	Thomas Langenel	x January 21
KennaTippma	n January 4	Alexandra Surma	January 21
Janet Vargo	January 4	John Warner	January 22
ElnorMiller	January 6	Rob Adkirson	January 25
Jennifer Shepard	d January 6	Dennis Bakalik	January 25
Richard Stadler	January 6	Karen Gonzales	January 26
Nina Rausch	January 7	Linda Lally	January 26
Jeff Cornwe	ll January 8	Kathleen Witte	January 27
Diane Kremko	w January 8	Sandra Feinsod	January 28
Dave Gohil Page 1	January 9	George Johnson	January 30
Barry Panozzo	January 11	Sonja Correa	January 31
Jeannette Eaves	January 14	Lawrence Waters	January 31
Lesley Bowers	January 15		



Anniversaries

Rob and Tracy Adkirson January 25
Robert and Joan McManaman January 24
Jeff and Kim Payne January 15
Jim and Pat Williams January 21

- JANUARY CLASSES -

Monday Women's Study (On Site)

Led by Amy Dahlke **Ist and 2nd Timothy and Titus**

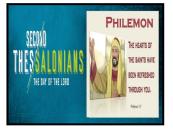
6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary



Join Pastor Dahlke

The Study of 2nd Thessalonians and Philemon

9:00 a.m. Wednesday's online (Zoom).



and TITUS

Wednesday Adult Bible Study (On Site)

Join Pastor Dahlke

The Study of 1st Samuel

Wednesday's at 10:30 a.m. (Meyer Hall)



Wednesday Evening Adult Bible Study (Online Zoom)

Join Pastor Dahlke

The Study of 1st Samuel

7:00 p.m. Wednesday's online (Zoom).



Saturday Morning - Men's Group Study (Varies)

Join the men

New Morning Mercies

Saturday at 8:30 AM - (Meyer Hall)

(Note: the 1st Saturday of the month is at 8:00 at Skillets)



NEW* In-Home Study - Mike Lange and Tim Matheny

Join the Group beginning January 9, 2024

(Off Site - from home to home)

Contact Mike: mikeland626@gmail.com or 937-728-2927

Held between the home of Tim and Kay Mathey and Mike Lange.



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

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JOY COLUMN

We are offering a new Joy Column in our Newsletter. We would like for members to submit a short description of a Christian experience they have had. Include the Joy you experienced from reaching out and spreading the Good News of the love and truth of Jesus. Your column can even be someone else experience that you witnessed...



Try to limit your column to approximately 100 words or less. Do not include your name (the article will remain anonymous). Any emails or written articles (paper) should be sent to the church office. Write in the description "for use in the Joy Column" (IIc@lakesidelutheran.net).

We look forward to hearing from you.

LAKESIDE BAND-OF-BROTHERS

Striving to know the Joy of Christ better through the study of His Word, loving and serving our Lord as He first loved and served us, the Band of Brothers is committed to becoming the men that GOD has called us to be.

The Band-of-Brothers meets each Saturday morning at 8:30-10:00 a.m. in the Meyer Hall (except the first Saturday of the month in which we meet at Skillets Restaurant at 8:00 a.m.).

We meet each week to discuss and join together to find ways that we – as Christian Men – can better serve our Lord and our faith in our efforts and outreach. In this crazy world we cannot hope to change the culture back to Christ, that is for the Holy Spirit, but we can reach out and offer a hand to those falling into despondency so they can truly be known by the heart of God.

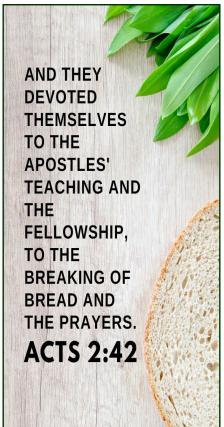
We have continued our fund-raising for support of a seminary student. Our faith desperately needs trained leaders that shepherd more of us to the Truth of Jesus instead of the false truth the world often presents. The Seminarian support will be a line-item in our regular budget going forward. This line item is being funded by collections from our Band-of-Brothers and special donations from extraordinary individuals helping to spearhead a rebirth of our faith.

We commend the amazing generosity of our congregants as we have been able to exceed collections and distribute food to the South County Food Pantry far beyond our greatest expectations. There are so many people in need. 'The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' (Matthew 25: 40)

Men, please come join us. Coffee and donuts are included!

As we band together as brothers-in-Christ we become unstoppable for our faith and His glory.





BREAD BREAKERS

The Bread Breakers offers an opportunity to become involved in living the Lakeside Vision: "Joyful Christians who inspire More and Stronger Disciples." People get together in small groups for friendship, church community, and fun. Through conversations we are encouraged and filled with the Joy of Jesus. Bread Breakers is designed so all who attend Lakeside will have an opportunity to create bonds with others in a close, caring, supportive environment.

We are preparing to shuffle groups around, so we can get to know others. Groups formed are composed of long-standing members, new members, couples, singles, full-time and seasonal members. Each group should plan to meet monthly: Jan. - May.

Each of the groups is autonomous and agrees on a different volunteer each month to plan and coordinate the next month's activity. Members communicate their availability to attend, or they send their regrets. Participation is encouraged, but entirely voluntary.

There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for the kick-off of the January season. Please sign the sheet by the end of December, or you may contact Linda MacDonald if you have questions, or to sign up.

(573) 693-8446 craiglindamac@gmail.com



You'll learn during these two -part workshops how to talk about your faith without fear of offending or being rejected. Sign-up sheets will be in the narthex.

SPIRITUAL CONVERSATION

Save the Dates!

Back by popular demand!!!

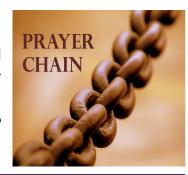
The Spiritual Conversation Workshops will be held
February 3rd & 17th from
9:00 AM to 11:30 AM in Meyer Hall.



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.





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 \$35 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.





Poinsettias

If you purchased a poinsettia, please pick it up by Sunday, December 31st (following both services). The sanctuary Christmas items will be cleaned up the following Saturday, January 6th, at 10:00. Helpers are encouraged and welcome!

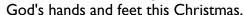
2024 Offering Envelopes

The 2024 Offering envelopes have arrived. The envelopes will be available in the narthex on Sunday, December 31st; then they will be moved to the church office area. Please let the church office know if you do not have offering envelopes and would like some.



LWML says, "Thanks for your Generosity Lakeside!"

LWML was overwhelmed with the generosity of our congregation in support of the Angel Tree! The angels all disappeared very quickly and then reappeared attached to numerous presents. The Christmas presents were given to the ladies and children at Prodigal Daughter Sarasota and to the Venice Pregnancy Center recipients. On behalf of these two organizations a BIG THANK YOU for being









January LWML Meeting

Ladies - Please join us for our January LWML meeting on Thursday, January 4 at 11:30. The theme will be Prodigal Daughters Journey Home. Our guest speaker will be Karlee Hudson, Director of Outreach for Prodigal Daughters of Sarasota. They are a faith-based 24-month residential program for women and children. They specialize in recovery from addiction and other life altering circumstances. Our Angel Tree gifts this year benefited the ladies and their children in the home. A sloppy joe sandwich lunch will be served. Please sign-up in the narthex. We hope to see you there!

LWML Bakeless Cake Sale

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League will be holding a "Bakeless Cake Sale" Fundraiser on January 21st and 28th. Look for the flyer/envelope that you will receive in your January 21st and 28th bulletin. Then place the envelope in the cake in the narthex. Money received will go towards LWML mission projects. Thank you for your support!



LWML Mite Sunday

The 1st Sunday of each month is LWML Mite Sunday. Lakeside LWML supports the Florida-Georgia LWML with our mites. District scholarships are provided for Pastoral and Church

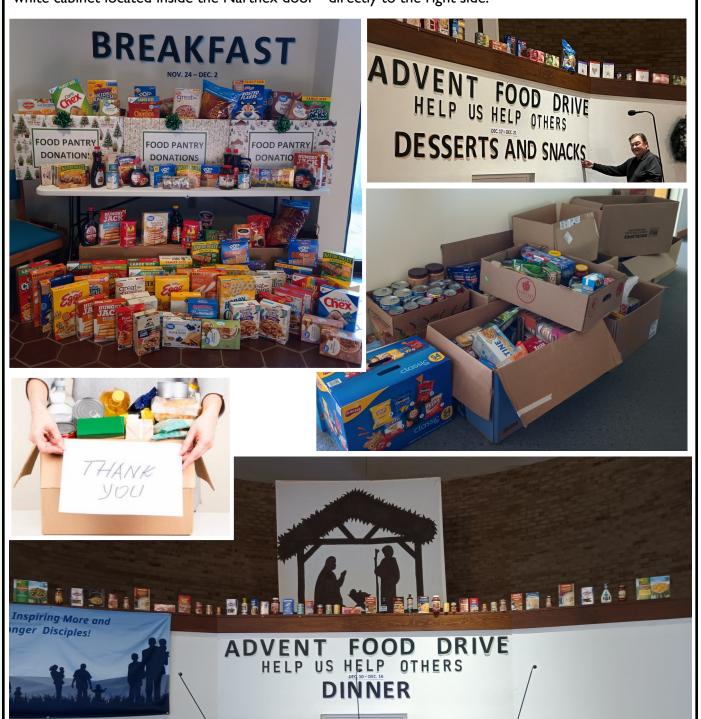
worker students from our mites. Please bring your mite box on the 1st Sunday and put it on the purple table in the narthex and take a new box! Also, EVERYONE is welcome to add their spare change to the Mighty Mites Bucket!

Thank you for your generosity and support.



HELP US HELP OTHERS

I am happy when challenging the members of Lakeside to step-up and give, because you folks are always so awesome and donate above and beyond what I ever imagined. Thank you so much Lakeside for your generosity! The foods that was collected will go to help many people. Thank you as well to Thrivent Financial for funds that went toward this Advent Food Drive. Please know that Lakeside continues to collect food for South County Food Pantry throughout the year. If you have food, toiletries, pet food or cleaning supplies to share, simply bring the items to the church office or place them in the white cabinet located inside the Narthex door - directly to the right side.



THE TREEHOUSE PRE-SCHOOL



HERE COMES SANTA CLAUS... Santa and Mrs. Claus arrived early to surprise the Treehouse preschool students on Monday, December 18th, in Meyer Hall. Once the children finished their lunch, Santa and Mrs. Claus presented a little gift bag to each of the 45 students. Many parents and grandparents attended to see their child with Santa and hear them sing lingle Bells. It was JOYFUL to see the excitement of the little ones (and the big ones too)! Many thanks to Wendell and Linda Wolka for making the trip to Venice (from the North Pole) to share the Christmas JOY. Also thanks to the Lakeside volunteers: Diane Emo, Kris Knudsvig, Sharon Ladigoski, Colleen Umphrey and Terry Warner. The Treehouse is always looking for volunteers. If you are interested please contact Sharon Ladigoski, sladd52@gmail.com.





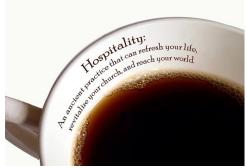




HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

We enjoy coffee, cookies and the opportunity to say hi to friends and visitors! Coffee and cookies will be served January 7th and 21st. Plan to stop by and say hi! While sipping your coffee, try to find to someone new who you can connect with at Lakeside!







Thanks for supporting our missions with your donations in the basket!

Cookie donations are always appreciated too!

Speak to Sharon Ladigoski for more info.

NOTICE FROM THE HANDBELL CHOIR - The handbell choir would welcome more ringers for Lent/Easter season. They plan to rehearse on Wednesdays from 4:00-5:00pm. Speak to Dr. Jim Domzolski (music director/organist) or any of the bell choir members. They will all tell you how much fun it is to ring a bell.









Communicating Lakeside's Vision

(Moving from Paper and into the Hearts of People)

Joyfully inspiring more and stronger disciples.

- 1. Do you have the joy of the Lord as your strength? Nehemiah 8:10
- 2. Do you **inspire** others for good works? Hebrews 10:24
- 3. Do you see your mission to make **more** disciples? Matthew 28:19
- 4. Do you make disciples stronger? I Cor. 16:3

Are you able to convey the vision in both words and actions? People can lose the message quickly, so it needs to be communicated often over the long haul. Vision drip is when other activities slowly replace the vision. Do the resources we use at Lakeside support the vision or does is support pet projects that make us feel good about ourselves?

Communicating the Vision Strategy

- 1. The vison was cast November 8th at the Voter's meeting.
- 2. Talk the vision: People cast the vision in conversation, in worship, in the narthex, in our studies, in the parking lots, in our homes, in our fellowship events, and much more.
- 3. Banner displaying the vision.
- 4. Newsletter articles: Each month we will assign one person to submit an article to the newsletter sharing the vision in their life.
- 5. Worship Testimonies: Once a month have a testimony reflecting the vision given.
- 6. Worship: Vision incorporated into the worship service.
- 7. Worship: I5 Sermons that highlight the vision throughout the year in 2024 Jan 7, Feb. 2, Feb. 18, Mar. 24, May 5, 19, June 9, 16, July 14, Aug. 4, Sept. 1, Sept. 22, Oct. 13, Nov. 17, Dec. 15
- 8. Mission Pathways Transformation events.
- 9. What can you do? When 150 people work to deliver the vision, it moves. When we depend on the pastor to do it for us we destroy the pastor's effectiveness.
- 10. Review its effectiveness January 29th SWOT Meeting.

Why is building the vision so important? You may have the greatest vision in the world but if it is not communicated to the people, by the people, for the people it will prove to be impotent. When we fail to communicate the vision, the people will begin to assume that the vision is not really important, or that leaders are no longer committed to it. When the mission is not communicated to the hearts of people, we fall into default mode of just critiquing people, visions, programs, and worship.



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





Lakeside Lutheran Church 2401 Tamiami Trail South Venice, FL 34293

Stamp

Toyfully inspiring more and stronger disciples.