



# Lakewood Leader

Lakewood United Methodist Church - 2443 Abrams Road - Dallas, TX 75214

June 24, 2014

## VACATION, VACATION, VACATION!

After the 6<sup>th</sup> of July, I will be on vacation for three weeks. Taking this much time all at once is a rare treat for pastors, especially single pastors! I am very grateful to the Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) for the opportunity. Dave and I will be entertaining our niece and nephew for the first part, then I am going with him to his jobs in Las Vegas and Sacramento. I hope to spend some long days reading and studying at the Bridwell Library. Preaching will be covered by Chris Venable on the 13<sup>th</sup>, Scott Larson on the 20<sup>th</sup>, and Rev. Mike Baughman on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Music on the 27<sup>th</sup> will also be provided by the Union Coffee House worship team.

If we have an emergency while I am gone, Rev. Kerry Smith and Rev. Ann Willet will be covering for me. Sheila will have their contact information, as do I. So, in order to reach them, do as you always do – call my cell phone or during regular office hours, you can call the church.

The early Communion Service will not meet on the Sundays I am gone, and will resume on the first Sunday of August. Disciple IV will also resume on Sunday, August 3. Disciple I will be coming soon! Let me know if you think you are interested in beginning this amazing journey.

In the meantime, notice the progress on the columbarium! It is taking shape! Have a wonderful, restful summer month.

Peace,  
Gayle

### Upcoming Events...

July 3<sup>rd</sup> – Float Decorating in the parking lot – 6 p.m.

July 4<sup>th</sup> – Lakewood Parade – 10 a.m. Be sure to let us know if you are planning to ride on the church's float in the parade.

July 6<sup>th</sup> – Hamburgers on the grill after church! Plan to be there and bring your family and friends.

July 13<sup>th</sup> – Chris Venable preaching

July 20<sup>th</sup> - Scott Larson preaching

July 27<sup>th</sup> - Rev. Mike Baughman preaching



Tom Fomby – 7/5  
 Jean Fowler – 7/5  
 Laura Beil – 7/7  
 Carol Stone – 7/7  
 Carolyn Miracle – 7/8  
 Jane Hughes – 7/12  
 Ginny Venable – 7/12  
 Melba Westbrook – 7/19  
 Barbara Brooks – 7/20  
 Hannah Freeman – 7/22  
 Charlotte Sheaner – 7/23  
 Charlie Estee – 7/27  
 Bill Adair – 7/28  
 Eileen Boyd – 7/29  
 Tom Cherry, Jr. – 7/29

### JULY MEETING SCHEDULE

Because many of our families will be enjoying family vacations, the following meetings/events will **NOT** take place in July:

- Trustee Meeting
- Church Council Meeting
- Choir Rehearsals on Wednesday evenings
- Game Night

If we have missed a birthday, please call the Church office so we can get it added to our records.

### UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

**Tuesday, July 8**

Wesleyan Guild  
 Potluck Dinner at 6:30 p.m.  
 with the meeting at 7 p.m.

Cindy Estee will be speaking on International Child Care Ministries. Everyone is invited.

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Equal Exchange/Fair Trade coffee, teas and chocolates will be available for sale after church by the Library on July 13.



William Rothe, Carly Rutledge, Wanda Godfrey, Michael Miranda, Eric Galvan, Ian and Eliot Champlin, Elizabeth Robbins, Robin Robbins, Gladys Cherry, Brian Medlin, Kate Yenne, Jean Fowler, Linda Castor, Michael Cimino, Rusty Owens, John Chrisley, Beverly Fraser, Michael Smith, Gail Baldwin, Amy Duncan, and Kathy Smith.



### **PROGRESS IN THE MAKING...**

The columbarium is progressing nicely - wooden beams are in place and the structure is taking shape. Even with our lovely spring rains, the construction has seen few delays.

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### **CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**

The Church Office will be closed on Friday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day.

### **LAKWOOD SUMMER ARTS FAIRE**

The 2014 Lakewood Summer Arts Faire has been scheduled for the weekend of September 5. This will mark the eleventh year that this successful event has taken place at our church. Mark your calendars and plan to participate. Closer to the date, you will be given the opportunity to sign up to volunteer.

### **NOTES FROM ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Mary Zaby attended the 2014 Annual Conference that took place in June as our church's delegate, along with Rev. Landis. Below you will find Mary's synopsis of the 2-day meeting.



The theme of Annual Conference this year was "IMPACT." How can we make an impact in the world? How can we show people the difference that a relationship with God can have on their lives? Acts 1:8 tells us, "...and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." What impact will we have?

Our own Bishop Michael McKee led the conference with grace and a wonderful sense of humor. Bishop Sally Dyck, Resident Bishop of the Northern Illinois Conference, led us in each of the worship services, lighting the fire for having an impact in the world. Then, Rev. Sue Nilson Kibbey, Director for Connectional and Missional Church Initiatives for the West Ohio Conference and author of Ultimately Responsible: When You're in Charge of Igniting a Ministry, guided us to some fresh ideas that have worked in other places, and in some exciting possibilities. "Musical Storyteller" Ken Medema was on hand during every session to capture each meaningful portion of the conference in his creative song styles.

Below are a few points from Bishop Dyck:

- ❖ **YOU ARE THE EQUIPMENT!** In Matthew 9:37, Jesus tells the disciples, "*The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.*" The disciples were likely thinking to themselves, "Yes! We need more Jesuses!" Jesus then "equipped them for service." Who is needed? Is it I, Lord??? Of course, it's you!!!
- ❖ **EACH OF US HAS A "CONGREGATION!"** We are each called to have a congregation, whether it is at work, with our grandchildren, in our book club or for our running partners. We are EACH called to nurture a congregation. We're each called to "get outside of these four walls, and to be a 24/7 church."
- ❖ **OUR COMBINED LEADERSHIP OF THE CHURCH IS NOT ROCKET SCIENCE! OR IS IT?** Our church has become more complex as the society has become more complex. The change in complexity affects all industries, not just the church! We say that ministry is "not rocket science," but perhaps it is! For both ministry in the church and rocket science,
  1. We have to collaborate using different specialties;
  2. We must be ready to change, to invite the new, and to realize that what worked last week might no longer work this week; and
  3. We have to imagine what hasn't been done before!



Rev. Gayle Landis, placing a stole on the newly-ordained Rev. Penny Mitchell!

It was an honor to see "our own" Rev. Penny Mitchell ordained, and even better to learn that "our own" Rev. Gayle Landis would return to be with us at Lakewood UMC for another year!

In upcoming months, you will learn more about the fantastic ideas Gayle and I learned during the conference. To quote a song by Mark Miller, sung at the opening worship service, "*Till God's will is done and all things are made new, God has work for us to do!*" Thank you for allowing me to be your delegate at this year's Annual Conference!

Blessings! Mary Zaby