

FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE – December 2020

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.”
Matthew 6:19-20

2020 has been a challenging year in so many ways, not the least of which is financial. Lakeside has been blessed by those who have continued to share their treasures amidst the trials and tribulations.

Below are income statement highlights as of the end of November. As we conclude the year, we are hopeful that we will be close to budget. This includes a deficit but with end-of-year giving, the endowment left by our faithful predecessors, and the CARES Act Payroll Protection Act, we remain optimistic that we will be close to our forecast.

As of November 30, 2020

Year-to-Date Income - \$201,660.45*	Year-to-Date Expenses - \$256,773.25
Year-to-Date Budgeted Income - \$259,258.00	Year-to-Date Budgeted Expenses - \$267,703.00

(*Does not include CARES ACT PPP grant)

We as a church have much work to do and we ask for your prayerful support in the coming year. The puzzle of Lakeside Presbyterian Church is incomplete without you! For those who have already returned your pledge card, THANK YOU! For those who have not yet returned it, PLEASE do so as soon as possible.

As you have read in other articles in this Beacon, the mission of our church remains strong. We look forward to opportunities for continued growth through increased membership, mission, and enhanced youth programming. Your pledge allows us to plan for the future and to meet the needs of our community of faith.

May God bless you and Lakeside Presbyterian Church in 2021!

Respectfully Submitted,
Heather Ferguson
Chairman, Finance Committee



TOGETHER IN MINISTRY

Roger P. Richardson, *Minister*
Mark Aliapoulos, *Director of Music Ministry*
Kimberlee Aliapoulos, *Assistant Music Director*
Amy Mohammed, *Office Administrator*
Tom Hobbs, *Treasurer*
Doug Bailey, *Financial Secretary*
Heather Ferguson, *Financial Secretary*



WELCOME



WE MADE IT THROUGH 2020!!!!!!

“...old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.” -- 2 Cor. 5:17b

The past is over and done! The present is just that - God's Gift! And the Future is full of Promise and Hope!

“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.” -- Jeremiah 29:11



LAKESIDE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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THIN PLACES

The understanding of "Thin Places" was given to us by Celtic Christianity. These thin places refer to those spaces where we encounter the divine. The word "Celtic" refers to a variety of Christian devotions practiced in Ireland and Scotland since the fifth century A.D. So, with our Lakeside Presbyterian Church Scottish connection, I am drawn to this idea of life have experiences in those "Thin Places." In recent years, there has been a revival of interest in Celtic spirituality because of the wide influence of the Iona Community, a Christian community on the Scottish island of, you guessed it, Iona. You see the idea of a "thin place" is explained in its meaning in this way. A "thin place", is a place where the boundary between heaven and earth is especially thin. It's a place where we can sense the divine more readily.

Many years ago while studying in Edinburgh, when I heard for the first time about thin places, sunsets were the preferred metaphor. In describing holy encounters, it seemed perfect: the moment where the skies and the ocean meet at the horizon for a technicolor kiss - the moment where heaven and earth dance - the instance where creator and creation overlap.

Eric Weiner writes, though, that thin places are "those rare locales where the distance between heaven and Earth collapses." My Navajo friend Julius Pete seems to be more in tune with this than I. He could see the hand of God reach into his community through those "thin places" and fashion so many people and circumstances as they sense a movement in God's will and way.

I continue to be astounded in how God has operated in "thin places" in my life as it pertains to Lakeside Presbyterian Church. How was it that I was available to serve when the church needed someone to serve it as pastor? How was it possible for the church to have a Clerk of Session with knowledge, energy, and dedication when her service was most needed. How did it happen that the church music director not only was available over and over to be the glue and fill in the gaps of continuity but also was talented and connected enough to create a music program that binds the church together in spiritual terms? How did the Church Administrator become available as our secretary left after only a few months? How did our church maintenance and housekeeping supervisor step up to go above and beyond to care both for our facilities and our members individually? How did the Pandemic need for food give our church through Palm Beach Harvest a way to shine the light of God's love to the community? How was it that our "Family Education" program developed a sense of diversity over a comfortable period to prepare us for a growing church? How did COVID-19 close our sanctuary the very day a new member with the needed technical skill joined us as a member. How is it that the Synod of South Atlantic has grant funds that can help us in strengthening our technology presentations? How did it happen that a Youth Director needed part-time work as we have acknowledged our need for Youth Ministry?



THIN PLACES, that's how!! We believe that God is always with us but there are those times, those "thin times," when we sense His presence more than most. We need to have the courage and faith to respond in committed lives.

In Jesus,

Roger Richardson

To OPEN or NOT to OPEN, that is the question!

We have been persistent in our pursuit to OPEN!! But we have also been persistent in our listening to the experts and their call to be careful and "stay the course". So, we have made it this far and have done our very best to keep our Lakeside Church Family informed along the way. We have also tried our best to continue our connections and our communications through our Sunday Worship, weekly "Message in a Bottle" note, our daily devotions, this "the Beacon", zoom meetings, phone calls, and special mailings. But even with all of this, it is still not as fulfilling as "in-person" gatherings. The vaccine is here and vaccinations are happening. This is a light at the end of a



very long dark tunnel! Between now and Lent (Ash Wednesday, February 17th) we feel sure that we will have a "Grand Re-Opening" of our Church Family Life together in-person and face to face. so please "HOLD ON!" and we will be back SOON!



WORSHIP ONLINE

Every Sunday morning at 10:30 we are presenting our regular worship service on our Lakeside Presbyterian Church Facebook Page. If you have been able to tune in, you have seen your church continue as you experience worship just as you experienced it in the past when you were able to be present in our Sanctuary. We continue to work through the "glitches" and week by week try to improve our ability to present meaningful worship to the Lakeside Presbyterian Church family and friends. Join us by clicking the link here <https://www.facebook.com/LakesidePCUSA/videos>. We are working with local experts knowledgeable in this field to purchase the needed equipment to enhance our presentation with the understanding that we will continue to present online worship beyond the reopening of our Sanctuary for corporate worship.



LAKESIDE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Classes of Elders

2021	2022	2023
Heather Ferguson	Heather Floyd	Nancy Anthony
Susan Morgan	Nancy Jones	Tom Hobbs
Fran Thew	Jay Martin	Joan Maybury
Ben Walton	Dana Straub	Goerge Mead

Classes of Deacons

2021	2022	2023
Paula Hanser	Chris Lambert	David Bunting
Janice Hobbs	Ellie Manzano	Dianne Mead
Deborah Morgan	Ken Seemann	Debora Richardson
Christine Stewart		
Christa Tiedge		

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING LAKESIDE!

Your giving is keeping us strong so that Lakeside can continue to minister to its members and to the community. Whether you give electronically or by mail, we want to say thank you. We couldn't be God's hands and feet without you. If you would like to help us continue our ministry in the community and online, you may contribute by:

- Setting up automatic deductions from your checking account. For help setting up electronic giving or other giving questions, call 561.844.3756.
- To give through the website, Click on the button to give at www.lakesidepres.org or use the QR code found here
- To mail in your gift, please send it to:
Lakeside Presbyterian Church
4601 S. Flagler Dr.
West Palm Beach, FL 33405



WILLS AND LEGACIES

Leaving a legacy of faith – February is designated as Legacy in Wills and Bequests month by the Presbyterian Church denomination.

Remembering your church in your will

To Lakeside Presbyterian church in thanks for the gift of faith...a gift for the future of faith. Prior to making a gift, we recommend that donors receive independent professional advice concerning the possible financial, taxation, and legal consequences of doing so. To obtain more information about leaving a bequest to your Church. If you need information the Church Treasurer is available to help.



Why planned giving?

Lakeside Presbyterian Church has been there for you and your family during the most important moments of your lives. You want to be there for the Lakeside Church family of tomorrow as they start their journey of faith. By supporting our Planned Giving Program, you can ensure that the mission and pastoral outreach continue and grow both for today's needs and for those of our children and grandchildren.

Why a donation in your will?

Benefits to you: • Donation receipt which can be used in year of death and previous taxation year

- You benefit from the assets during your lifetime
- You retain control of assets

Benefits to the church:

- Income from bequest will continue your regular donations
- Insures continued support of the Church for its ministries
- Provides assets and funds for the future

BEWARE OF SCAMMERS (a note from Dr. Richardson)

Dear Lakeside Members,

I really wish that I would not have to write something like this but I do not want our members to be fooled in this way! We have been made aware of "church related scams" that have affected some of our Tropical Florida Presbytery churches. One of the scams features someone posing as the church pastor asking a church member specifically for a gift card, auto transfer of funds or a gift in bitcoins to help someone in need and promising to pay back whatever funds are spent. Please understand I will NOT solicit funds this way. We do have our regular ongoing stewardship program/drive and will be seeking funds for our Youth program BUT other than that NO, NO, NO, please do NOT think that I will ever ask for anything to be sent directly to me for any reason. Any requested donations will always be sent directly to LAKESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!

A POSSIBLE ANSWER TO OUR PRAYERS

We have been praying for years for a Youth Ministry Program at Lakeside that can minister to our young people and attract families join our church family. God is always at work making it possible for us to be His Church, His hands and feet, in the world. Even during the pandemic, it feels like God is calling for Lakeside to expand our ministry and outreach even during this pandemic.

Meet Jessica Haugan, or "Shay" as she prefers to be called. She has the knowledge, she has the connections for Youth Ministry, she has an education in Christian ministry, and she has a proven Youth Ministry track record. Shay has built a youth group in Palm Springs who are not initially connected presently to the church by visiting schools and recreation centers and encouraging youth to invite their friends. Shay brings the Word of God to about 50 youth who might not hear it otherwise. Several teens have even accepted Jesus into their lives as a result of this mission.



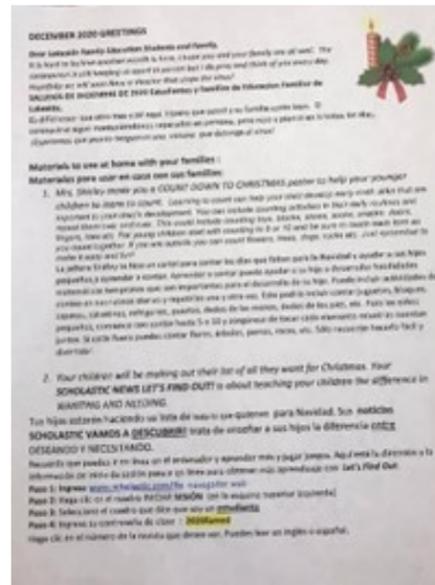
We have the possible opportunity to share this fantastic youth director from Faith Presbyterian Church on a part-time basis. This opportunity could bring new faces and new energy into our congregation. The prospects are exciting and enriching but our finances are very concerning right now and we are worried about making a financial commitment. Despite our financial difficulties, the session has approved us taking the next step to investigate ways to make this become a reality for Lakeside. We need your prayers as we try to discern where God is trying to lead Lakeside in 2021.

A personal note from our Personnel Chair, Nancy Anthony.

Both as the Personnel Chair and also as a concerned grandparent of two of our youth I would like to add my perspective on this subject. I would love to be able to say that Shay has joined us. I was at one meeting when she was introduced to us and I found both her credentials and her over all demeanor most pleasing. I feel very strongly that this is one way for us to grow our church. I would love for my grandson to be able to invite his friends to Lakeside and have them go home and report about the wonderful experience that they had and how much they learned and enjoyed being part of the group. If the youth are excited, they will want to return and with them eventually might come their parents and other friends. This is so much better than the opposite scenario where one of our teens is invited by a friend to visit a youth group in another church and is so moved by the experience that he or she begs to be able to return again and again. It would break my heart if my daughter or another parent found it necessary to worship elsewhere in order to ensure that their children can participate in the programs that they need to grow spiritually and build their personal relationships with God. Our timing might not be perfect with this but the quality and ideas this young woman would bring makes it an answer to a long-held dream here at Lakeside.

As I write this we are a week away from Christmas Eve and still in the throes of the Pandemic. 2020 has been a challenging year.

PALM BEACH HARVEST continues to distribute produce, food stuffs and meals throughout Palm Beach County and North as far as Ft. Pierce. The amount of food they have provided from the end of March through the end of November is astounding, 62,084 meals and 7,312,027 pounds of bulk produce and meals! They have been such a blessing to those who are struggling. THANK YOU, Deborah Morgan, Denise Proffitt and all of their helpers! If you wish to give support to this ongoing mission either financially or physically please contact Deborah.



FAMILY EDUCATION under the great leadership of Janice Hobbs has been able to continue virtually.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD collected and shipped 772 Shoe Boxes. Thank you to Susan Morgan and all of her elves who were able to accomplish this through outdoor drop offs and proper social distancing.

FEBRUARY 14

While we certainly hope that we will be meeting in-person by February 14, nothing is certain with the way this virus spreads and the unpredictability of the spectrum of symptoms that one might experience. Whether we are meeting in person or not, we hope to make February 14 a memorable occasion in the life of Lakeside. Traditionally, we have honored our more experienced members with a luncheon and a wall of pictures. That will not be possible this year as we will not be fellowshiping after worship services for a while but we are looking into other ways to honor our folks born on or before 1940. So put this date on your calendar and know that we will be doing something special for our honored members who have given so much of their lives to the church and continue to inspire and motivate us to "be the church" in so many different ways.



January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 10:30 AM Worship ONLINE	4 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE Session Meeting	5 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	6 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	7 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	8	9
10 Children's Sunday School ONLINE 10:30 AM Worship ONLINE	11 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	12 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	13 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	14 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	15	16
17 Children's Sunday School ONLINE 10:30 AM Worship ONLINE	18 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	19 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	20 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	21 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	22	23
24 Children's Sunday School ONLINE 10:30 AM Worship ONLINE	25 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	26 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	27 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	28	29	30/31

February 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	3 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	4 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	5	6
7 10:30 AM Worship ONLINE	8 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	9 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	10 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	11 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	12	13
14 Children's Sunday School ONLINE 10:30 AM Worship ONLINE	15 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	16 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	17 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	18 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	19	20
21 Children's Sunday School ONLINE 10:30 AM Worship ONLINE	22 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	23 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	24 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	25 10:30 AM Meditation and Inspiration ONLINE	26	27
28 Children's Sunday School ONLINE 10:30 AM Worship ONLINE						