



# The Lakeview Beacon

*we're so glad you're here!*

## REDEMPTION OF SCROOGE

### PHILIPPIANS 3:4B-14

## The Remembrance of Christmas Past

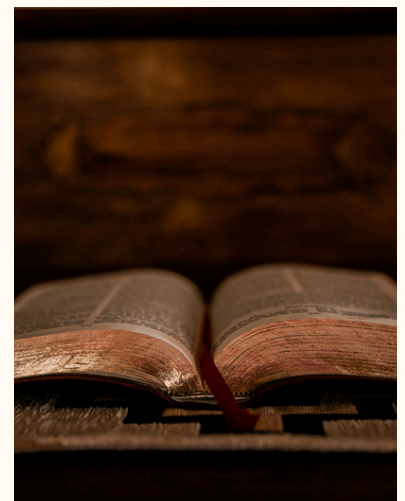
Philippians 3:4b-14 is part of Paul's letter written from prison to the church at Philippi, where he confronts false teachers who emphasized religious credentials and law-keeping. In this passage, Paul lists his impressive Jewish pedigree - circumcision, tribal heritage, Pharisaic training, and zealous law-keeping - only to declare all of it worthless compared to knowing Christ. Paul considers everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake he has lost all things, calling his former achievements "garbage" or "rubbish" in comparison. Paul deems these things "refuse" or "excrement" since the strength of the word is hardly an accident, expressing not just willingness to pay a price but revulsion at what he once prized.



Pastor Brandon  
Lead Pastor

## Commentary on Philippians 3:4b-14

Just beforehand, Paul asks the Philippians to beware of "those who mutilate the flesh" (this is advocate for circumcision as key to faithfulness), implying these opponents place undue confidence "in the flesh" (3:2-4a). In principle Paul's churches place no significance on such externalities. But now Paul goes on to boast: "If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more" (verse 4b).



[Read More Here](#)

# The 8:00am Service

## Order of Worship

- Welcome
- Advent Candle Lighting
- Hymn Sing
- Pastoral Prayer, The Lord's Prayer
- Scripture Reading
- Message
- Holy Communion
- Benediction
- Response



## The 9:30am Service - Order of Worship

- Prelude
- Welcome
- Advent Candle Lighting
- Opening Hymn - *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus* - #196
- Prayer Concerns, Silent Prayer
- Prayer Song - *Lord Listen To Your Children Praying* - #2193
- Pastoral Prayer, Lord's Prayer
- Special Music - *The Lakeview Choir*
- Scripture Reading - *Philippians 3:4b-14* - Barb Littlejohn
- Offering
- Message
- Holy Communion - *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent* - #626
- Closing Hymn - *Be Now My Vision* - #451
- Announcements
- Benediction & Response - *Grace Alone* - #2162
- Postlude





## We lift up the following in prayer this week;

*Lyle Adams, Caryl Jo Dagro, Mary Dianis, Leo Dicino, Mark Gipson, Connie Heide, Sharon Gruhn-Hicks, Jeannie Hill, Joyce Hughes, Joyce Hutchins, Barbara Kolacki, BJ Martin, John Riddiough, Allen Whited, Nancy Will, Lydia Woods & family*

## SHARE YOUR HEART: SUBMIT A PRAYER REQUEST

We believe in the power of prayer and the comfort it brings. If you or someone you know is in need of support, we invite you to share your prayer request with us. Whether it's for guidance, healing, or thanksgiving, your request will be held in love and lifted up in prayer by our community. You're not alone—let us pray with you and for you.

[Submit your request here](#)

## Join us for a festive celebration!

**Christmas Day Luncheon tickets go on sale Monday, December 9th**, in the church office. For a suggested donation of just \$13, you'll enjoy a delicious meal and warm fellowship with your church family on this special day. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to share in the joy of Christmas together—stop by the office or go to our website starting Monday to reserve your spot at the table!



## Lights, camera, Christmas!

Join us every Thursday in December at 3:30 PM in the Chapel for a special holiday movie series! We'll be watching different film versions of *A Christmas Carol*, perfectly paired with our sermon series "The Redemption of Scrooge." It's the perfect way to get into the Christmas spirit with popcorn, great company, and timeless stories of hope and transformation. Grab a seat and be part of the fun!



## Get ready for a dazzling show!

Come see the Sun City Poms light up our stage on Thursday, December 12th, at 6:30 PM! Known for their vibrant dance routines, dazzling costumes, and spirited performances, the Poms bring an unforgettable blend of showmanship and community pride. It's an evening of energy, talent, and pure entertainment you won't want to miss—bring your friends and get ready to be amazed!



## THIS WEEK AT LAKEVIEW

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 8

Lakeview Wrappers - 8:00 a.m. - Smoot Hall  
Monday Exercise Class - 9:00 a.m. - Smoot Hall  
Meals That Matter - 9:00 a.m. - Fellowship Hall  
Stephen Ministry Training - 9:30 a.m. - Conference Room  
United Women in Faith Board - 11:00 a.m. - Library  
Finance Committee - 12:00 p.m. - Conference Room

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9

Staff Parish Relations - 11:00 a.m. - Conference Room  
Board of Trustees - 1:00 p.m. - Conference Room  
Mary Martha Circle - 1:00 p.m. - Fellowship Hall

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

Wednesday Exercise Class - 9:00 a.m. - Smoot Hall  
Meals That Matter - 9:00 a.m. - Fellowship Hall  
Caregiver Support Group - 10:00 a.m. - Conference Room  
Amazing Grays Lunch - 11:30 a.m. - Smoot Hall  
Games - 12:30 - 3:00 p.m. - Smoot Hall  
GriefShare Group - 12:30 p.m. - Conference Room

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11

Mission & Outreach - 10:30 a.m. - Conference Room  
Administrative Council - 1:00 p.m. - Fellowship Hall  
A Christmas Movie - 3:30 p.m. - Chapel  
Thursday Bible Study - 3:30 p.m. - Conference Room  
Choir Rehearsal - 4:00 p.m. - Music Room  
TNT Dinner - 5:00 p.m. - Smoot Hall  
Sun City Poms - 6:30 p.m. - Smoot Hall

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

Friday Exercise Class - 9:00 a.m. - Smoot Hall  
Meals That Matter - 9:00 a.m. - Fellowship Hall

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

No Events Scheduled

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

Worship Service - 8:00 a.m. - Chapel / Online  
Worship Service - 9:30 a.m. - Worship Center / Online  
Fellowship Hour - 9:00 & 10:30 a.m. - Smoot Hall

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT LAKEVIEW

## AMAZING GRAYS LUNCHEON MENU

Wednesday, December 10 - Pastor Stuart & Team - Surprise Entrée, Salad, Dessert. Sign up online, between services or call the Church office before 4:00 PM on December 8th.

[MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS HERE](#)

## THURSDAY NIGHT TOGETHER DINNER MENU

Thursday, December 11 - Sausage w/peppers & onions, Fried Potatoes, Corn, Biscuits, Salad Bar, Dessert. Sign up online, between services or call the Church office before 4:00 PM on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

[MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS HERE](#)



# Ladies, let's gather together!

The United Women in Faith Board meets this Monday, December 9th, at 11:00 AM in the Library. Please note the time change! Join us for fellowship, inspiration, and meaningful conversation as we continue our important work together. We can't wait to see you there!



## New Member Connect

We invite you to join us next Sunday, December 14 at 10:30 AM in Smoot Hall, for a special opportunity to meet our pastor, learn about our ministries, and discover how you can connect and find a place to belong within our church family.



## A sacred space for reflection and comfort

We warmly invite you to our Blue Christmas Worship Service on Sunday, December 21st, at 3:00 PM in the Worship Center. When the holiday season feels heavy, this compassionate service offers a gentle place to acknowledge sadness, find solace in community, and connect with God's healing presence. You're not alone—come as you are and discover comfort, hope, and the peace that only God can bring.



## The Lakeview Cookbook

### SLOW COOKER ITALIAN SAUSAGE SOUP

Use your slow cooker for this comforting Italian sausage soup with ziti pasta and sausage in tomato sauce topped with cheese." It couldn't be easier, and we couldn't think of a more perfect December dish. Serve it with French bread and a side salad, and you're set.

[Get the recipe here](#)



## The "Ask it Basket"

We'd love to hear what's on your heart! Submit your questions, and our pastors will address them in our video blog through authentic, honest conversations. It's a wonderful opportunity to dive deeper into topics that matter to you, so don't hesitate to send in your thoughts—we can't wait to connect with you!

[Submit Your Question Now](#)



# Connecting Deeper

## Your Spiritual Journey Starts Here

Discover New Ways to Grow in Faith – We're thrilled to introduce digital resources designed to nurture your spiritual path and bring our church community closer together. These tools are created with love, just for you.

### Spiritual Strength: Daily Devotionals

Imagine spiritual nourishment that fits perfectly into your life:

- Dive into a rich devotional library
- Download inspirational content to enjoy anytime
- Explore meaningful themed series tailored to your growth
- Enhance your reflections with your personal Bible and journal

### Echoes of Faith: Pastor's Blog

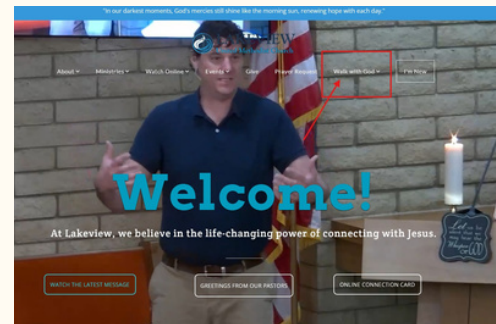
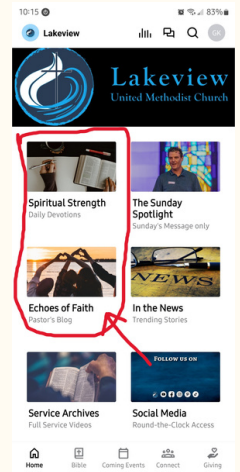
Stay connected with our pastoral team's heartfelt perspectives:

- Read uplifting reflections on recent Sunday messages
- Share your thoughts and connect with fellow believers
- Be part of a compassionate, supportive community

### Getting Started is Easy

Your faith journey is just a click away:

- Visit [LakeviewUMC.net](http://LakeviewUMC.net) and select "Walking with God"
- Download our mobile app by searching "Lakeview Online"
- Begin exploring, growing, and connecting today



Your spiritual growth matters. We're here to support you, every step of the way.

## Generosity: Our Response to Grace

Your gifts matter. When you give to Lakeview, you're not just supporting a ministry—you're joining God's transformative work in our community and beyond.

### Why Generosity Matters

Our giving reflects our hearts. As recipients of God's boundless generosity, we're invited to participate in His kingdom work through our own generous giving. Every gift—whether large or small—becomes part of something greater than ourselves.

### Simple Ways to Give

We've made giving convenient with seamless online options that allow you to participate in ministry impact anytime, anywhere.

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." — 2 Corinthians 9:7

Join us in experiencing the joy that comes from stewarding God's resources with open hands and grateful hearts.

[Make a donation here](#)