SPAM PREVENTION & SCAM AWARENESS

PAUSE. CHECK. PROTECT.

🚩 Common Red Flags

- Urgent or threatening language
- Requests for money, gift cards, passwords, or verification codes
- Unexpected links or attachments
- A sender address that doesn't match the claimed organization
- Requests to keep things secret
- Prizes or offers that seem too good to be true

📱 Text & Email Rule

Don't click first. If a message might be legitimate, open the organization's official app or website yourself. Don't use a link or phone number supplied by a suspicious message.

☎️ Phone Rule

Caller ID isn't proof. Hang up and contact the organization using a trusted number.

🎁 Gift Card Rule

Never buy gift cards because someone urgently asked you to. Legitimate organizations do not require gift cards as payment.

🔐 Never Share Verification Codes

A verification code is for you. If someone asks you to read a code back, don't.

⛪ The Lakeview Rule

If a message claims to be from Lakeview, Pastor Kristin, a staff member, or a church ministry and something feels wrong: don't respond, don't send money, and contact the church directly using information you already know is legitimate.

⏱️ The 10-Second Scam Test

- Was I expecting this?
- Is someone rushing me?
- Are they asking for money or information?
- Is there a link or attachment?
- Can I verify this another way?

STOP • CHECK • ASK

There is no shame in asking for a second opinion.