

Lexington & Blue
United Methodist
Churches

P.O. Box 116
Lexington, Texas 78947

Address service requested

The Voice

Lexington UMC

508 North Rockdale

Blue UMC

4184 West Highway 696

Church Office: 979-773-2728

Church E-mail:

lexingtonunitedmethodistchurch@outlook.com

Website: lexingtonumc.org

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The Voice

Lexington & Blue United Methodist Churches

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August 2016

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

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Scriptures for August:

Trust in the LORD with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight
Proverbs 3:5-6

I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.
Philippians 4:13

Do not sharply rebuke an older man, but rather appeal to him as a father, to the younger men as brothers, the older women as mothers, and the younger women as sisters, in all purity.
1 Timothy 5:1-2

Train up a child in the way he should go, Even when he is old he will not depart from it.
Proverbs 22:6

Getting to Know Y'all

First of all, I want to thank everyone for the wonderful support and welcome that Sidney, Thomas, and I have received. Y'all have gone above and beyond in the hospitality department, and we deeply appreciate it. The parsonage is in wonderful shape. There were meals, food, and supplies in the house. Additional food and things have been arriving for at least two more weeks after that. All of these things have gone a long way to make moving in and getting settled a lot easier and more pleasant. Thanks to each of y'all from the bottom of our hearts.

As I've talked and listened to people over the past few weeks, I hear the same half-joke/half-truth about over and over: Folks who have been here for more than ten years referring to themselves as newcomers. It's funny, especially to me who has been bouncing around so much for the past ten years, but it also expresses a deep truth about our community and our two churches. This is a place where people have put down deep roots that run across generations. I've gotten glimpses. While on a prayer visit, someone showed me the site in Old Town, Lexington, where the Lexington church used to stand. I've also been shown the marks on the walls at Blue that reveal its history as an old school house. As your pastor, I want to know y'all's story, what our God given gifts are, and where y'all see these churches in the future.

To that end, I'm hosting a couple of different events this month to speed up this getting to know you process and help me seem less like a newcomer. On Tues, Aug 9th (after the Revival) at Blue and 7:00pm, Sun, Aug 14th at Lexington, I'll lead "Ask Pastor Trey Anything." I mean this literally. These events are open to anyone who would like to come and ask me any question about any topic. The only catch is that I'll answer any question someone is willing to ask. My hope is that this will help y'all to get to know me better.

The other events that I'll be hosting are what I call, "Listening Sessions." I'm holding two for each church (Blue: Tues, Aug 16, 7:00pm and Sun, Aug 21, 6:00pm/Lexington: Thurs, Aug 25, 7:00pm and Sun, Aug 28, 6:00pm). My hope is that as many people as possible can come to one or both sessions for their church. The idea behind these is that I'll ask y'all a series of questions about the history, identity, and directions of each church. For me, the answers to these questions are key to us all discerning God's direction for our churches over the next few years. I strongly encourage as many of y'all as possible to come out and participate. The more people that we have the stronger the conversation and the more complete the perspective.

My hope is that these events will be informative and fun and will help jumpstart the getting to know each other process, but it does not end there. Keep an eye out this fall for community dinners, where we can all sit down and break bread together. I'm looking forward to all of these conversations. I can't wait to get to know y'all better.

Another Great Summer Fish Fry!



LEXINGTON ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL TREASURER'S REPORT

<i>All Funds Balance as of July 24</i>		Date:	Offering	Worship Attendance	Sunday School Attendance (All Classes)
General Fund	\$51,242.23	July	3	\$6,041.00	87
Early Chapel CD	\$18,716.13				
RTSB CD #1	\$41,618.80				
RTSB CD #4	\$10,379.26				
			10	\$2,355.10	114
			17	\$2,296.02	124
			24	\$1,363.00	84
DESIGNATED FUNDS in GENERAL:					
Pledge Fund Acct. Balance	\$38,988.38	7/31 will be in the September newsletter.			
Early Chapel Cemetery Fund	\$(-138.43)	Annual Church Budget for 2016 \$186,674.00			
Journey Sunday School	\$205.23	Offerings thru June 26, 2016 \$122,083.46			
Memorial Fund	\$2,430.90	2016 District Apportionment - Paid in Full! 2016 Conference Apportionments - Paid in Full!			
Methodist Men	\$0				
Quintet	\$1,559.34				
Backpack Buddies	\$8,090.12				
<i>Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine. Proverbs 3:9-10</i>		St. Stephen's Fund \$4,097.18 Money for this fund is given by placing it on the communion rail during communion or by giving a check in the offering plate and putting "St. Stephen's Fund" in the memo.			
Church Office Hours Monday to Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.					

OUR E-MAIL ADDRESS: lexingtonunitedmethodistchurch@outlook.com

<h1>NewsLetter DEADLINE</h1>	Newsletter deadline for September edition is August 24
	Articles and photos are always needed. Please submit yours to Stephanie in the church office.
	Stephanie Kellenberger Editor of <i>The Voice</i>

BLUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Revival at Blue

Blue United Methodist Church invites you to come and join us Sunday, August 7 through Tuesday, August 9 for our annual Revival. Dinner will be at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Revival Service at 7:00 p.m. each evening.

Blue United Methodist Church is located at 4184 FM 696 West. For more information please contact the church office at (979) 773-2728.

Blue UMC Worship Attendance		
July	3	34
	10	43
	17	37
	24	34

7/31 will be in the September newsletter.

August Birthdays

- 1-Gary Torn
- 10-Angie Turner



UPCOMING BLUE EVENTS

- Sunday Mornings
 - 9 a.m. Worship
 - 10:15 a.m. Sunday School
- Wednesday Mornings
 - 11 a.m. Prayer Group

AUGUST

7-9 REVIVAL

Blue UMC St. Stephen's Fund \$608.54



If you have photos to share, please send them to the church office at lexingtonunitedmethodistchurch@outlook.com.



YOUTH PROGRAMS

"Don't let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity." 1 Timothy 4:12

Every Sunday
Sunday School
9:45-10:45A
(6-12th grade)



We're looking for some "on fire" people to help us recharge our Youth Program. If you feel the calling, please let us know. There's a group already started just looking for some more helpers to engage our young and keep them on fire for God! Please call the church office if you are interested in being a part of this new group.

GARAGE SALE

Did you resolve to get organized this year? With the heat keeping you indoors, summer is a good time to clean closets and cabinets and set aside those items you no longer need for the church wide garage sale **October 1st**. Remember that proceeds of the garage sale support local programs, many that benefit the youth of our community. We will begin accepting donations on **Sunday, September 25th**.



Big House Brenham 2016

Our team of six youth and three adults were joined with others from around Texas in Brenham July 21st through 25th. There were around 130 youth and adults working on 28 sites. All were completed in two days. We were blessed to make new friends, rekindle old ones and get to know each other even better. We thank you, Lexington UMC, for making this trip possible for us!

What's happening?

Attention Youth! Please watch for e-mails, bulletin notices and other forms of communication as we continue to plan for this upcoming year. Parents & youth-please continue to pray that our programs for Middle and High School kids grow and help enrich all of the lives involved in it.

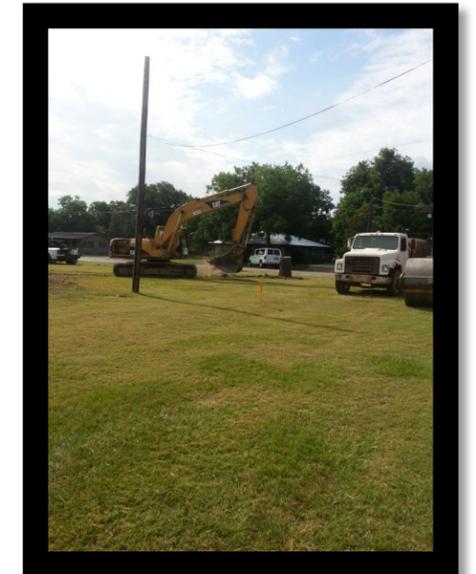
Now Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, "Oh that You would bless me indeed and enlarge my border, and that Your hand might be with me, and that You would keep me from harm that it may not pain me!" And God granted him what he requested. 1 Chronicles 4:10

Family Life Center Update



- * The Building Committee has a bid for the project that will total around \$650,000 for the building and kitchen equipment.
- * We have \$184,180 pledged and we have received \$64,159.00 in pledges towards the FLC as of 7/24/16. A check for \$100,000 was sent to the Texas Methodist Foundation (TMF) on March 14th to set aside funds for the start of the project.
- * The Texas Methodist Foundation (TMF) has approved our loan request for the project and the paperwork has been processed for the loan.
- * The West District Committee on Building and Location has approved our Family Life Center project.
- * At our called Church Conference on May 3rd the congregation overwhelmingly approved the project and the loan. With this, we have full approval to move forward with construction.
- * The playground has been removed and will be stored offsite until we are ready to reinstall it later this summer. The trees have also been removed.
- * Stumps have been removed and dirt work has begun.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support in growing God's Kingdom.



These photos were taken on Monday, July 25, 2016

Snapshots from Vacation Bible School



METHODIST CHILDREN PROGRAMS

What an awesome Surf Shack: Catch the Wave of God's Amazing Love we had at Vacation Bible School. Many of you have given generously of your time and talents for VBS this year. A great big thank you to you all! You have made it possible to take an opportunity to minister to our community children. We averaged sixty children each night. We saw God at work to continue his loving relationship. Our leaders were able to nurture all of our children, even when more arrived than we planned for, by being creative and imaginative. All the kids were shown God's love. Thank you to all the people who gathered here to care for the children who were entrusted to us.



God's Love to you,
Jan Alexander

Thank YOU, Jan Alexander, for putting together another wonderful Vacation Bible School. The children of Lexington were blessed to see God's love through you and all of the volunteers you organized for VBS. Your many hours of planning and implementing did not go unnoticed. You are a blessing to our church community.

Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday, August 21st
During 11 a.m. service
Lexington UMC

Bring your Backpack to church to have it blessed before the first day of school.



Back to School Bash

Sunday, August 21st
4 p.m.
Lexington UMC

Follow us on Facebook for updates on the Bash!

M&M's

M&M's is our community-wide after school program for children in Kindergarten through 5th grade. It runs from 3:30-5:00 p.m. on Wednesdays during the school year. Each week children are picked up by bus at Lexington Elementary School and dropped off at the church where they enjoy a snack, music, bible story, crafts, and outdoor recreation. We sincerely believe that your child will be blessed as they study God's word each week with their friends! Registration begins in August. Forms will be available at the Back To School Bash as well as in the church office. We hope your children can join us this year!

Calendar

- M&M'S Begins Fall Semester - September 7
- Thanksgiving Holiday - November 23
- Last M&M's for Semester - November 30
- M&M's Begins Spring Semester - January 25
- Spring Break - March 15
- Last M&M's for Year - April 26

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14



A Gift was given to Lexington UMC

Memorial Fund

- In Memory of ...Billie Ann Langebennig*
by... M&M Wesley Hobbs
- In Memory of ...Billie Ann Langebennig*
by... John & Janie Johnson
- In Memory of ...Billie Ann Langebennig*
by... Doris Moberley
- In Memory of ...Billie Ann Langebennig*
by... Beatrice Langehennig
- In Memory of ...Billie Ann Langebennig*
by... Fischer Families
- In Memory of ...Billie Ann Langebennig*
by... Ronald & Julie Schreiner
- In Memory of ...Billie Ann Langebennig*
by... Charles & Diane Mudd
- In Memory of ...Billie Ann Langebennig*
by... Jan Woodward
- In Memory of ...Jule Frankeny*
by... Jan Woodward
- In Memory of ...Jule Frankeny*
by... Chester & Norma Thomas

- In Memory of ...Billie Ann Langebennig*
by... Mike & Nancy Organ
- In Memory of ...Billie Ann Langebennig*
by... Rudy & Betty Stroeker Olfers
- In Memory of ...Billie Ann Langebennig*
by... Ken & Bonita Rademacher
- In Memory of ...Billie Ann Langebennig*
by... Bob & Judy Belyeu
- In Memory of ...Graham Dickerson*
by... Mike & Nancy Organ
- Building Fund*
- In Memory of ...Graham Dickerson*
by... Willia & Jeannine Brewer
- In Memory of ...Billie Ann Langebennig*
by... Gail Walther
- In Memory of ...Billie Ann Langebennig*
by... Matt & Judy Everett
- In Memory of ...Jule Frankeny*
by... Matt & Judy Everett



To make a memorial place "memorial" in the subject line of your check & place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church office.

Memorials reflect all gifts received and recorded as of July 17.

With Gratitude

Thank you to all for the wonderful luncheon you provided for our family after my grandma's funeral. We have grateful hearts for your consideration, presence, good food and kindness. I know Billie Ann was glowing with appreciation and gratitude from above for all your kindness. We are truly blessed to be a part of this wonderful and most caring congregation.

Blessings,
Kaleigh Langehennig Taizan

I would like to thank the United Methodist Church, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis, and Matt and Judy Everett for the wonderful grauation wishes. Your thoughts and payers have meant a lot to me. I hope to do big things in my future.

Shane Worley



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 1-Jordan Marek
- 3-Staci Franke
- 5-Michael Von Rosenberg
- 5-Katelyn Braly
- 7-Halle Mitchell
- 8-Cindy Jackson
- 8-Cynthia Lockwood
- 8-Doug Ramsey
- 8-Wayne Retzlaff
- 10-Nancy Thomas
- 11-Chloe Tschepl
- 15-Barbara Demeree
- 17-Larah Braly
- 18-Cinda Lewis
- 19-Carolyn Weisz
- 21-Gail Langehennig
- 21-Samantha Retzlaff
- 24-Kevin Everett
- 25-Michael Butler
- 26-Lewis Larson
- 27-Jerry Ward
- 30-Melanie Ramsey

School Supply Drive

We will be collecting school supplies for the Lexington ISD beginning the last week of July. Please bring in the supplies during service or during business hours. If you would like to make a donation to the drive, please write "school supplies" in the memo of your check on Sunday morning.

Thank you!

Our very generous members of BUMC & LUMC helped to provide much needed supplies to the kids of LISD last year.



Lexington Backpack Buddies Update

We are gearing up for another wonderful year feeding our future at the elementary and middle schools here in Lexington. Here is how we prepare for this coming year:

- * We are budgeting for 70 children
- * Our group is reaching out to local organizations for donations toward the program
- * We are searching for grants available to assist with the program
- * In August, we will begin doing inventory on food that we have not distributed during the summer and prepare to order food for the upcoming year
- * In September, we will have our first Power Hour of the year and begin distribution



If you would like to donate to Backpack Buddies, please let the church office know or go to our website <http://lexingtonumc.org/ways-to-help/index.html>. Online giving is located on the right side of the screen.

Get Connected at LUMC on Sunday Morning



- Sunday School** 9:45-10:45 a.m. Meet in the Church Library with leader, Cinda Lewis
- Journey Class for Adults** Meet in the Fellowship Hall with leader, John Gibbs
- Men's Gathering** Meet in the Fellowship Hall with leader, John Gibbs

Coffee House 10:45 a.m.
LUMC Fellowship Hall enjoy complimentary coffee & pastries

Financial Peace University this Fall Are you being called to lead?

Are you feeling lead to facilitate this fall's Financial Peace University class? We need someone to lead a group this fall. You pick the day and time that works best for you. Materials provided and all the publicity will be done through the church office. This is a great opportunity for either those that have taken the class to get a refresher, or if you have not taken it before, to learn all about it. The program is very easy to follow—you just need to show up.



This life-changing class taught by Dave Ramsey and the FPU teaching team on video and coordinated at LUMC will help you achieve your financial goals by showing you how to eliminate debt, save for the future, and give like never before. You will be challenged and motivated to make a plan for your money and change your family tree forever. In 9 action-packed lessons, you'll learn how to beat debt, build wealth, invest for the future, give like never before, and much more!