

Lexington & Blue
United Methodist
Churches

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Address service requested

The Voice

Lexington UMC

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Blue UMC

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The Kids of Vacation Bible School 2018



The Voice

Lexington & Blue United Methodist Churches

Volume 18, Issue 8

August 2018

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

Hi Church Family,

First off, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the warm welcome here to Lexington and Blue. From the groceries, the delicious meals, setting up the parsonage, and all the kind words, we have been overwhelmed with y'all's hospitality. So thank you so much for helping us to feel welcome and at home.

This summer has been a busy one for my family, and as August begins it is hard to believe school is just around the corner. With school brings more demands, homework, and a flurry of activity. Even with a vacation, I can't help but wonder, when will things slow down? Yet God speaks out, "Be still, and know that I am God." You see, sometimes, we like to glorify the busy. When we have lots on our plate, it helps us to feel important and needed. If we don't take care of all these things, then who will? That line of thinking leads us to overestimate our importance. I don't know about you, but I need to be reminded that I do not hold the world in balance. In fact, the world will go on without me!

I think this is what God is trying to teach us in Psalm 46. He is trying to teach us with these words. Be still, and know that I am God. God is the one that is in control. God is the one that holds the universe in balance, not us. While God likes to use us for His purpose, God does not need us to overstep our bounds. God does not need us to be slaves to busyness. Instead, God tells us to seek Him. In Psalm 46, God reminds us that He is our refuge and strength. God is our help in trouble. And so we are to listen for God's voice that often comes in the still quiet.

This August, let's not get caught up in the busyness. Instead, let's rest in who God is. Knowing that God will be our sustainer and God always bring us peace.

Blessings,

Raegan

Psalm 46

To the leader. Of the Korahites. According to Alamo. A Song.

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

Selah
There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;

God will help it when the morning dawns.

The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;

he utters his voice, the earth melts.

The Lord of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Selah

Come, behold the works of the Lord;
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.

He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.

'Be still, and know that I am God!

I am exalted among the nations,

I am exalted in the earth.'

The Lord of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Selah

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Scripture for back to school

Proverbs 3:5-6

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.

Philippians 4:13

I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

1 Timothy 4:12

Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity, show yourself an example of those who believe.

Matthew 19:14

But Jesus said, "Let the children alone, and do not hinder them from coming to Me; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."



UPCOMING EVENTS

Come and join us for fun & fellowship!
 August 14th: Prep meeting for Bazaar
 October 6th: Bazaar
 December: Christmas Party

- ♥ People are often unreasonable, irrational and self-centered; forgive them anyway.
- ♥ If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives; be kind anyway.
- ♥ If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies; succeed anyway.
- ♥ If you are honest and sincere, people may deceive you; be honest and sincere anyway.
- ♥ What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight; create anyway.
- ♥ If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous; be happy anyway.
- ♥ The good you do today, will often be forgotten; do good anyway.
- ♥ Give the best you have, and it will never be enough; give your best anyway.
- ♥ In the final analysis, it is between you and God; it was never between you and them anyway.

-Mother Teresa

THE WOMEN OF BLUE & LEXINGTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. Ruth 1:16

Christmas Bazaar

Our Bazaar will be Saturday, October 6th. This year, we will have vendor booths available. The event will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Prices are \$20 for outside and \$25 for inside booths. Bring your own set ups (tables, chairs, etc.). We will ask that vendors be willing to donate a small raffle item for drawings every 1/2 hour. For more information, please Lora Barlow, Gerri Meuth or the church office.

calling all **Vendors**



Volunteer Opportunities

Lexington UMC is sponsoring a monthly free-will lunch on the first Thursday of each month from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Family Life Center at LUMC. Everyone is invited! Please come if you can: help prepare/serve/cleanup; come and eat lunch and donate a few dollars to help fund future lunches; eat lunch for free including those that are customers of the monthly Food Pantry, those living at the Savanna Park apartments, and any other people in need of a hot lunch or with any food insecurities. For more information, please contact Lee Marks or the church office. Join us the 1st Thursday of the month behind the Masonic Lodge as we help distribute food to those in our community who are in need. We meet at 10:30 and start serving at 11 a.m. Typically, we are finished by 11:45 a.m. No experience necessary!

AUGUST 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
			11 a.m. Blue Prayer Group 3:30 p.m. Youth 5-6:30 p.m. BPB Clothes Swap	11 a.m. Mobile Food Pantry 11:30 a.m. Free Will Lunch 6:30 p.m. Lion's Club		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
School Supply Drive	10 a.m. Women's Bible Study 7:30 p.m. BVFD (BUMC)	10 a.m. Lex Prayer Group	11 a.m. Blue Prayer Group 3:30 p.m. Youth	7 p.m. Trustees Mtg	6:30 p.m. Comm. Mtg (BUMC)	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Promotion Sunday Noon Back 2 School Bash	7 p.m. Texas Stars (BUMC)	10 a.m. Lex Prayer Group Noon MA Teachers Lunch 2 p.m. UMW Prep Meeting	School Begins 11 a.m. Blue Prayer Group 3:30 p.m. Youth 7 p.m. Admin Council Mtg	6:30 p.m. Lion's Club		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	9 a.m. Backpack Buddies Pr Hr	10 a.m. Lex Prayer Group	11 a.m. Blue Prayer Group 3:30 p.m. Youth			
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
		10 a.m. Lex Prayer Group 6:30 p.m. TEEA (BUMC)	11 a.m. Blue Prayer Group 3:30 p.m. Youth			

LEXINGTON ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL TREASURER'S REPORT

<i>All Funds Balance as of 7/15/18</i>		Date:	Offering	Worship Attendance	Sunday School Attendance (All Classes)
General Fund	\$17,119.43	July	1	157	-
Early Chapel CD	\$19,243.03				
RTSB CD #1	\$16,548.12				
RTSB CD #4	\$10,693.21				
DESIGNATED FUNDS in GENERAL:					
Pledge Fund Acct. Balance	\$3,270.45				
Early Chapel Cemetery Fund	\$(-788.43)				
Journey Sunday School	\$274.30				
Memorial Fund	\$1,774.50				
Minimum amount needed to stay within budget:		Annual Church Budget for 2018		\$192,536	
\$16,045/month & \$ 3,703/week		Offerings thru July 15, 2018		\$103,017.29	
2018 District Apportionments- \$2,442.00 Paid		<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>			
2018 Conference Apportionments - \$8,065 Paid					

St. Stephen's Fund

\$3,149.69

On Communion Sunday's (the first Sunday of the month), we take a special offering at the rail for the **St. Stephen's Fund**. This money is used to help those in need in our community. With this fund, we help people in emergency situations and those that may need some help with their utilities. To contribute by check, please write "St. Stephen's Fund" in the memo.

OUR E-MAIL ADDRESS: lexingtonunitedmethodistchurch@outlook.com

	Newsletter deadline for September's edition is August 22nd 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

Welcome our New Members



Please welcome Rodney & Peggy Casey (pictured left) and Karen Fairfield (pictured right) as new members of BUMC. Not pictured is Matthew Moreno.



Blue UMC Worship Attendance

July	1	28
	8	40
	15	28

Revival at Blue

Blue United Methodist Church invites you to come and join us Sunday, August 5 through Tuesday, August 7 for our annual Revival. Dinner will be at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Revival Service at 7:00 p.m. each evening.

July's Blue Community Night



Photos courtesy of Carolyn Shirley

BUMC Campout

Photos courtesy of Neta Callahan



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**
 5-7 Revival
 6-BVFD
 10-Community Night
 13-Texas Stars
 28-TEEA

Blue UMC St. Stephen's Fund \$919.13

On Communion Sunday's (the first Sunday of the month), we take a special offering at the rail for the **St. Stephen's Fund**. This money is used to help those in need in our community. With this fund, we help people in emergency situations and those that may need some help with their utilities.



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

Calendar of Events

Sunday

Sunday School
9:45-10:45 AM
(6-12th grade)
With Mr. Stephen

Wednesday

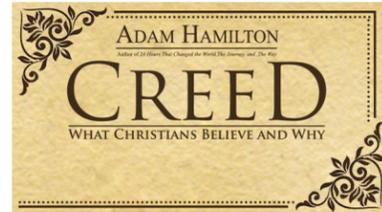
All Youth
3:30 to 5 PM

August

- 1-Youth
- 8-Skating in Brenham
- 12-Promotion Sunday & Back to School Bash
- 15-Back to School, Youth
- 22-Youth
- 29-Youth

Fall Youth

Our youth groups will all meet on Wednesday's this fall. We will be studying from "Creed" by Adam Hamilton. This is a great study and all youth are encouraged to participate. We look forward to seeing you there!



Thank you again for your prayers and donations. Because of you, we are able to continue to send church and community kids to camp this summer. We couldn't do it without YOU!

Church Camp Pics courtesy of Holly Newton



Big House Brenham



Big House Lexington



Vacation Bible School



UM ARMY Mineola



Staff / Parish Relations Committee Update

SPRC Update from John Gibbs

This last quarter was a busy one for the SPRC....and our churches. It was a later-than-normal pastoral change announcement so everyone had to work together to make it happen for Pastor Trey and Pastor Raegan. And work it did as on July 1st Pastor Raegan led her first services at Blue and Lexington UMCs.

If you will bear with me, I would like to share something about our Lexington church and the events over the past seven years. In 2010, our budget was \$75,000 and we were having trouble making it work. Several of our wonderful thinkers in our congregation wanted to do something about the “old” sanctuary which hadn’t been remodeled since the ‘60s. God led us to go full out and do a complete remodel, taking it back almost to the original décor. It cost almost \$100,000 and it was paid for when in June of 2011, Pastor Lance, our first young pastor, held his first service in Lexington as the first service in the remodeled sanctuary. That was no coincidence--it was a God-incidence! Attendance which had been running under 50 per Sunday was soon over 70. As we have changed pastors over the last seven years, our attendance has grown and so has our budget. Our budget now runs close to \$200,000. We even built a new Family Life Center (FLC) with the dream of having contemporary worship and hosting mission groups. We are completing our Pledge Fund Drive this year and we are ahead of payments on the FLC.

Pastor Raegan’s first service in the FLC was to a crowd of about 100 as the first mission group hosted here (BIG HOUSE Lexington 2018) attended the contemporary service. And in attendance were youth and adults from her previous church in Baytown. Yes, it was a God-incidence!!

We are so blessed to have had pastors that have grown our church to the point where we need to reorganize our staff to help the continued outreach into our community. The addition of Holly Newton to handle the weekly administrative duties will free up Stephanie to concentrate on her Director of Church and Community Impact duties.

Hang on, folks, we are just getting started!

METHODIST CHILDREN PROGRAMS

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



Thank you, Jan Alexander and Milissa Davis, 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.

Midweek Methodists

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, in the church office and online. We hope your children can join us this year!

Calendar

- M&M’S Begins Fall Semester – September 5
- Thanksgiving Holiday – November 21
- Last M&M’s for Semester – December 5
- M&M’s Begins Spring Semester - January 23
- Spring Break – March 13
- Last M&M’s for Year – April 24



Children’s Church will start back at the end of this month! If you would like to help out, please let Milissa Davis know.

Sunday School teachers include Jan Alexander, Jan Lynn, Jennifer Marek, & Trudy Doerfler. The children’s Sunday school curriculum comes from the series, Deep Blue. Children will hear the Bible story, apply the Bible message and then live out the message in their lives. Each session is divided into three sections. The 1st section is a large group where the children will meet together. Children will be introduced to a Bible story and Bible verse. Then the children will be divided into two age groups. One group will explore the lesson deeper and do a craft activity and the other age group will have a snack, play games related to the Bible story and practice Bible verses. Then the two groups switch.

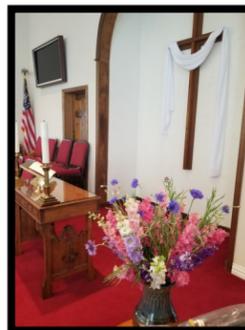


Lexington Backpack Buddies
 School Clothes Swap
 Wednesday, August 1st
 Lexington United Methodist Church



Everyone is invited to join in the fun!
 We will accept clean clothes **sizes 4T to Adult Medium** in gently worn condition
 Clothes should be within school dress code guidelines as well.
 5 p.m. bring clothes to swap.
 5:30 p.m. let the swapping begin!

Price to participate is \$5/family with clothes to donate and \$10/family with no clothes to donate.
 Proceeds will go toward Lexington Backpack Buddies



Flower Calendar: A flower calendar has been placed in the narthex of the sanctuary. Enter the date and your name (under Presented By) on the calendar. If you want your dedication to be noted in the church bulletin, please make sure your entries have been made by the preceding Monday. If you want

additional information included (presented in honor/memory of, or birthday/anniversary, etc.) please submit to the church office (lexingtonunitedmethodistchurch@outlook.com) on that preceding Monday. If you have questions, please call Jan Lynn 979-540-8922 or Judy Curnutte 361-739-5610

**Community
 Back to School Bash**

Lexington United Methodist Church
Sunday, August 12th at Noon

Gaga Ball, Four Square
 Hot Dogs, Chips & Drinks
 Blessing of the Children & Staff

Everyone, all ages & all families, welcome

Registration forms for all Youth Programs (including M&Ms) will be available during the event.

508 N. Rockdale St.
 (Corner of 2nd and North Rockdale Streets)
 Lexington, TX
 979-773-2728



School Supply Drive
 We will continue to collect school supply items for the Lexington ISD through August 5th. 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!

A Gift was given to Lexington UMC

- Memorial Fund*
- In Memory of ... Jerry Ward*
by... Mike & Nancy Organ
- In Memory of ... Clara Sansom*
by... Dick & Sarah Hallum
- Building Fund*
- In Memory of ... Clara Sansom*
by... Willis & Jeannine Brewer

Memorials reflect all gifts received and recorded as of July 15th

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



"...I thank God for you—the God I serve with a clear conscience, just as my ancestor did. Night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers."

2 Timothy 1:3

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 1-Jordan Marek
- 2-Harleigh McHenry
- 3-Courtney Nuckols
- 7-Halle Mitchell
- 8-Cindy Jackson
- 8-Cynthia Lockwood
- 8-Wayne Retzlaff
- 10-Nancy Thomas
- 15-Barbara Demeree
- 16-Chuck Swisher
- 18-Cinda Lewis
- 19-Holly Newton
- 19-Carolyn Weisz
- 21-Gail Langehennig
- 21-Samantha Retzlaff
- 24-Kevin Everett



On Communion Sunday's (the first Sunday of the month), we take a special offering at the rail for the **St. Stephen's Fund**. This money is used to help those in need in our community. With this fund, we help people in emergency situations and those that may need some help with their utilities.



Get Connected at LUMC on Sunday Morning

Sunday School 9:45-10:45 a.m.

Journey Class for Adults

Meet in the Family Life Center with leader, Cinda Lewis

Beyond the Sermon Study

In the Family Life Center at 11 a.m. led by Nancy Thomas

Men's Gathering

Meet in the Family Life Center with leader, John Gibbs



Coffee House

10:45 a.m.

LUMC Fellowship Hall enjoy complimentary coffee & pastries

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness" 2 Timothy 3:16