

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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Non-Profit Org.
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UPCOMING FUNDRAISERS & EVENTS

Sept 3	High School Youth Resumes
Sept 6	M&Ms Begins, Middle School Youth Resumes
Sept 11	Backpack Buddies Power Hour & S3 Bible Study Begins
Sept 12	UMW Program "World Thank Offering"
Sept 17	Back to Church Day, Back to School Bash (rescheduled from Aug. 27th)
Oct 21	Chocolate Lovers Day
Oct 29	Ministerial Alliance 5th Sunday Sing (Tanglewood Baptist Church)
Nov 5	Enchilada Lunch
Nov 18	UMW Bazaar
Nov 19	Ministerial Alliance's Thanksgiving Celebration
Dec 3	UMW Christmas Party, Family Life Center Open House & Dedication
Dec 10	Children's Christmas Program

For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them. ~Matthew 18:20

The Voice

Lexington & Blue United Methodist Churches

Volume 17, Issue 9

September 2017

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

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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.

Joshua 1:9
"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

1 Corinthians 10:13
No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

It's back to school time again, and for us, it's back to church time as well. We will be holding our **Back to Church Sunday on Sept 17th** as a way of encouraging folks to build or rebuild that church-going habit. Getting up early on a Sunday, cleaning behind your ears, and wrangling the kids can be an easy routine to fall out of, and for many, it may not be a routine that they ever got into in the first place. As folks are already getting back into the swing of things, make church a part of that.

It is also a chance for us to reflect on why we got to church. How often do we think about that? For all of us, I'm sure that answers spring to mind. Scripture certainly encourages us to worship God regularly, and worshipping God is one of church's primary activities. However, as you have no doubt heard from someone or thought yourself, you can worship God anywhere. In fact, here in the 21st century, cable television and the Internet offer a wide variety of worship services that you can tune into or log onto complete with multi-million-dollar talent and production values.

We live in an increasingly interconnected age and often isolates as much as it brings people together. The devices in our hands can theoretically build connections around the globe. This social web can be a remarkably isolating place – especially when your life doesn't match what you see online. In my newspaper column, I recently cited a study about teenagers and their Internet use. They are being less traditionally social and connecting more digitally. What I didn't mention in that article is that the study also shows a lot of troubling mental health challenges for the constantly connected generation. Always online can mean never being able to escape one's tormentors and never get away from images that manipulate your sense of inadequacy.

Even in our small, interconnected town, many people experience isolation. Maybe, they are a teenager who doesn't quite fit or can't find their niched. Or, a young family trapped in the tunnel of living from paycheck to paycheck and kid's activity to kid's activity. Or, they are an older person whose family and primary social connection have moved. These are not hypotheticals. We all know people who fit into these archetypes.

Church is meant to be a place where we worship together. It is God's great reminder that we are not alone. We can find in our brothers and sisters in Christ the cure for our collective isolation. Can we worship God alone? Yes, but it misses part of the point. A community of faith is a tremendous gift where one can experience the unconditional love of God and true connection.

So, for this Back to Church Sunday, this is an opportunity. Come join us. If you know someone feeling isolated, invite them to join us. God has been bringing people together for millennia, and God continues to do it to this day. We are not meant to be islands – disconnected. God made us to worship together.

It is also an opportunity to recommit ourselves to be the church that God wants us to be. At our best, we can be that place that accepts people unconditionally, that loves consistently, and that grows together continually. It is a high calling. My prayer is that with God's help, we may always strive for it and show all that we encounter God's grace.

Vaya con Dios,

Pastor Trey



And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Matthew 25:40

UPCOMING UMW EVENTS

Come and join us for fun & fellowship!
 September
 12 UMW Meeting
 November
 18 Fall Fundraiser



Formerly known as the Bazaar, this event will take place **Saturday, Nov. 18th**. It will feature a Bake Sale, casseroles, soup and chili lunch, and a Silent Auction. None of these will be a success without the participation of everyone, so please be thinking of what you can contribute. Be creative in thinking of silent auction items, as these could suit a wide range of ages and prices, be handmade or nice white elephant items. Remember that money raised will support local programs, including many for children and youth. Call Mary Beth Gibson, 773-2202, or the church office if you have questions.

**BLUE & LEXINGTON
 UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

A Call to Community

UMW September's Program
 Tuesday, September 12th at 2 p.m.
World Thank Offering:
A Community of Thankful Women
 Program led by Nancy Organ
 Enjoy fun, food and fellowship...bring a friend!

United Methodist Women is the largest denominational faith organization for women with approximately 800,000 members whose mission is fostering spiritual growth, developing leaders and advocating for justice.

Members raise up to \$20 million each year for programs and projects related to women, children and youth in the United States and in more than 100 countries around the world.

United Methodist Women and The United Methodist Church's principles and values include:

- Promoting the empowerment of women, children and youth.
- Promoting anti-racism and multiculturalism.
- Promoting inclusion and equity.
- Promoting fair labor practices.
- Promoting economic and environmental stewardship and sustainability.

THE VISION OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Turning faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world.

LIVING THE VISION

We provide opportunities and resources to grow spiritually, become more deeply rooted in Christ and put faith into action.

We are organized for growth, with flexible structures leading to effective witness and action.

We equip women and girls around the world to be leaders in communities, agencies, workplaces, governments and churches.

We work for justice through compassionate service and advocacy to change unfair policies and systems.

We provide educational experiences that lead to personal change in order to transform the world.

		SEPTEMBER 2017						
		Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27		28		29	30	31	1	2
3	4 Labor Day	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Back to School Bash 5 p.m. Youth	10 a.m. Lex Prayer Group 7 p.m. NWLC 4H (BUMC)	11 a.m. Blue Prayer Group 3:30 p.m. M&Ms & Youth	11 a.m. Blue Prayer Group 3:30 p.m. M&Ms & Youth	6:30 p.m. Lion's Club	6:30 p.m. Lion's Club	6:30 p.m. Lion's Club	6:30 p.m. Lion's Club
10	9 a.m. Backpack Buddies Pr Hr 7 p.m. S3 Bible Study 7 p.m. Texas Stars (BUMC)	12 9:30 a.m. Min. Alliance Mtg (LFT) 10 a.m. Lex Prayer Group 2 p.m. UMW Meeting	13 11 a.m. Blue Prayer Group 3:30 p.m. M&Ms & Youth	14 4:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7 p.m. Trustees Mtg	15 First Backpack Distribution	16	17	18
	2 p.m. Scouts 5 p.m. Youth	18 7 p.m. S3 Bible Study	19 10 a.m. Lex Prayer Group	20 11 a.m. Blue Prayer Group 3:30 p.m. M&Ms & Youth 7 p.m. Admin Council Mtg	21 6:30 p.m. Lion's Club	22	23	24
	Back to Church Day Back to School Bash 5 p.m. Youth	25 Assign Elijah Partners 2 p.m. Scouts BUMC Progressive Dinner 5 p.m. Youth	26 10 a.m. Lex Prayer Group 6:30 p.m. TEEA (BUMC)	27 11 a.m. Blue Prayer Group 3:30 p.m. M&Ms & Youth	28 11 a.m. Blue Prayer Group 3:30 p.m. M&Ms & Youth	29	30	31

LEXINGTON ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL TREASURER'S REPORT

<i>All Funds Balance as of August 27 2017</i>		Date:	Offering	Worship Attendance	Sunday School Attendance (All Classes)	
General Fund	\$6,622.28	July August	30	\$3,310.00	85	-
Early Chapel CD	\$19,072.40		6	\$5,172.00	80	19
RTSB CD #1	\$17,643.98		13	\$1,970.11	71	11
RTSB CD #4	\$10,535.06		20	\$1,468.00	56	12
			*27	\$674	47	4
DESIGNATED FUNDS in GENERAL:		*Hurricane Harvey, massive flooding.*				
Pledge Fund Acct. Balance	\$4,734.97	Annual Church Budget for 2017		\$199,699.00		
Early Chapel Cemetery Fund	(\$588.43)	Offerings thru August 27, 2017		\$105,212.52		
Journey Sunday School	\$31.30	Minimum amount needed to stay within budget: \$16,640/month & \$ 3,840/week 2017 District Apportionment - \$2,018.04 2017 Conference Apportionments owed - \$13,861.00				
Memorial Fund	\$2,867.42					

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

St. Stephen's Fund

\$2,393.15

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 October's edition is September 20 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



New!
 Children's Sunday School
 Beginning in September
 10 a.m. during Sunday School Time

Blue UMC Worship Attendance		
July	30	37
August	6	35
	13	34
	20	31
*Hurricane Harvey	27	3



Save the Date:
 Sunday, September 24th.
 Hope you can join us!
 Please see the weekly bulletin for more information.

September Birthdays

- 10-Ben Harrell
- 12-Ben Berg
- 19-Nolan Hutson
- 25-Eric King



UPCOMING BLUE EVENTS

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

SEPTEMBER

- 4 BVFD
- 5 NWLC 4H
- 11 Texas Stars
- 24 Progressive Dinner
- 26 TEEA

Blue UMC St. Stephen's Fund \$928.54

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.

Pictures from Revival





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
High School Youth
5 PM

Wednesday

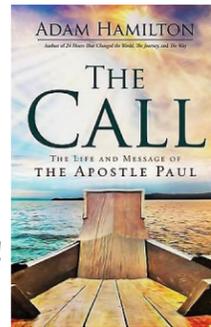
Middle School Youth
3:30 to 5 PM

September

3 HS Youth Begins
6 MS Youth Begins

Fall Youth Study

Our youth groups will split up again beginning the week of September 3rd with High School meeting on Sunday evenings (5 p.m.) and Middle School continuing to meet on Wednesday's (3:30 p.m.). Both groups will be studying from "The Call" by Adam Hamilton. This is a great study and all youth are encouraged to participate. We look forward to seeing you there!



SUMMER MISSION & YOUTH TRIPS



Youth Council

We are forming a Lexington UMC Youth Council. Youth Council is a small group of students who represent the larger youth group of Lexington United Methodist Church. They are the body that gives input as to what events and/or programs our youth group creates or participates in. They give input on the structure of our Student Ministry, they help determine meeting times & locations, as well as participate in behind-the-scenes ministry stuff like branding and marketing our student ministry.

Being a member of the Youth Council requires a commitment to quarterly meetings but it also teaches students important leadership skills (*great thing to put on résumés or college applications*). More importantly, it gives students a chance to be creative and really think through what it means to reach their friends with the gospel of Jesus Christ!

If you are interested in being a part of Youth Council, please contact Stephanie in the church office at 979-773-2728 or lumcyouth@outlook.com.



5th Quarter

Youth 6th grade to seniors are invited to join us for fun, food & fellowship after all Lexington home games. With construction here, these will be held at First Baptist Church this year. Invite your friends!

Dates:

9/1, 9/22, 9/29,
10/20, & 11/10

Congratulations to Abigayle Hardy for her Profession of Faith!



CALLING ALL KIDS & YOUTH

The **Christmas Program** will be Sunday, December 10th and we want to know if you would like to participate in it this year. All kids (toddlers to teens) are invited to be a part of this annual tradition on Sunday, December 10th at 6 p.m. Please let Jennifer Marek know if you would like to be in the program. Practices are held on Sunday's during Sunday School (9:40 a.m. to 10:40 a.m.). Please check the bulletins and e-mails for when practice will begin.



Lexington Backpack Buddies Update



We will begin distribution of backpack food Friday, September 15th. We are budgeted to feed 65 children a week. Last year, we fed around 60 children a week. Our numbers fluctuate from week to week as parents change their situations or children move schools.

Our first fundraiser was in August, a children's clothing swap and it went well for our first time doing it. We would like to start our Feed the Teacher lunches back up as we did in the 2015/16 school year. These were a great way to help support Backpack Buddies while also providing a meal for our elementary teacher. For \$5, the staff gets a great meal with salad and dessert made by some of our wonderful volunteers. We made nearly \$1,000 with these lunches and would like to do those again if we get volunteers willing to donate.

If you would like to help out with Backpack Buddies, please let Sarah Hallum or Stephanie Kellenberger know. There are several ways you can make a difference in a child's life.

"...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

Back to Church Sunday

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10:24-25

Help us to celebrate “**Back to Church Sunday**” by bringing a friend or two to church with you. And if you have been out of the habit of coming to church, let this be a fresh start for you and your family. Spread the word!

Sunday, September 17th

9 a.m. Traditional Service (Blue)

10 a.m. Contemporary Service (Lexington)

11 a.m. Traditional Service (Lexington)

Noon Back to School Bash Lunch, Fun & Games
(Rescheduled from August 27th)

5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Senior High Youth

**WELCOME
BACK!**



METHODIST CHILDREN PROGRAMS

M&M's

Mid-Week 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 as well as in the church office. We hope your children can join us this year!



Calendar

M&M'S Begins Fall Semester – September 6

Thanksgiving Holiday – November 22

Last M&M's for Semester – December 6

M&M's Begins Spring Semester - January 24

Spring Break – March 14

Last M&M's for Year – April 25

Children's Sunday School

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.



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



Children's Church has resumed during 11 a.m. service. This part of the service is for elementary-aged children.

The Acolyte for September is Aiden Newton



A new worship service is now available at Lexington United Methodist Church

Sunday's at 10 a.m.
Family Life Center
Pastor: Rev. Trey Comstock
Worship Leader: Chuck Moore

contemporary Worship

S3 Bible Study
Resumes on
Monday,
September 11th
7 p.m.
Family Life Center
Everyone is invited to
attend this program
which includes Study,
Song and Sustenance.

Lexington Backpack
Buddies
Power Hour
Monday, September 11th
9 a.m. LUMC
Fellowship Hall



A Day for Chocolate Lovers
Saturday, Oct. 21 2017
Lexington United Methodist
Church

Chocolate Sampling and Tastings
Best Chocolate Cake/Dessert contest
and auction
Silent Auction
Pancake Breakfast
Cupcake decorating
for Kids



5th Quarter

This year, 5th Quarter will be held here
at Lexington UMC.

Here are the dates:

September 1, 22, 29; October 20; November 10

We always need volunteers to help with 5th Quarter. If
you would like to help, please contact the office or see
Lee Marks.

**School Supply
Drive**

Thank you to
everyone who
donated items for
this year's school
supply drive!



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

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 train-
ing in righteousness" 2 Timothy 3:16*

A Gift was given to Lexington UMC

Backpack Buddies

In Memory of ...Betty Drosche
by...Carolyn Shirley

Building Fund

In Memory of ...Hannab Pounders
by...Willis & Jeannine Brewer



*"...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*

Memorials reflect all gifts received and
recorded as of July 23rd. 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.

With Gratitude

Thank you to everyone who helped and participated in the Backpack
Buddies Clothing Swap last month. It was a great success and we look
forward to the next one.
Blessings,
Lexington Backpack Buddies

SEPTEMBER
BIRTHDAYS

- 1-Karl Barnikow
- 4-Kaleigh Taizan
- 7-James Norment
- 7-Stacey Washington
- 9-Jan Woodward
- 10-Richard Townsend
- 11-Michael Brewer
- 13-Kermit Langehennig
- 13-Pat Rao
- 14-Chris Borgfeld
- 15-Austin Retzlaff
- 15-Dana Brewer
- 19-Timothy Tschepl
- 26-Priscilla Brister
- 27-Coots Rhodes
- 28-Lorene Hall



Poinsettia Orders for Christmas Eve Service are due by
Sunday, September 24th. Orders can be placed online at
www.lexingtonumc.org or by filling out a form at the church
and returning it to the church office.

Save the Date

Family Life Center Open House and Dedication

Sunday, December 3, 2017

4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Everyone is invited to attend