



Lexington United Methodist Church

979-773-2728

lexingtonunitedmethodistchurch@outlook.com



Visit www.lexingtonumc.org for more information.

Dear LUMC Family,

One of my favorite sports traditions is the celebration that happens throughout the year during the baseball season. When a beloved player returns as part of a new team, it's customary to give them a standing ovation for a minute when they enter the batting box. After a record home run, folks will stand and clap until they come and take a curtain call.

On the other end, when a rookie hits their first home run and comes back into the dugout, teams will run into the locker room, so they return to an empty dugout. Other times, players will ignore them and pretend like nothing happened. All in good fun, for a bit of hazing for the rookies.

But, no celebration in baseball is better, than the walk of home run. Bottom of the 9th, two outs, tie ball game. You step up to the plate, swing, and hear the crack of the bat as the ball is sent up into the stands. It's the thing baseball players, and all of us really dreamed about as kids. As they round third base, the whole team has crowded around home plate. Ready to receive the game-winning player. They jump on them, throw water on them, steal their jersey! It's a joyous moment, a celebration of achievement that we can all relate to.

It's one of the reasons we love sports. I remember when I was in Atlanta in January. My friend Shuler and I went to an Atlanta Hawks game because we found cheap seats up in the nosebleeds. About five minutes into the game, I leaned over and told him, I hope we see a buzzer-beater. The game was won on a last-second shot from Atlanta. And the whole stadium was in celebration.

But, those moments as fun as they are, can be good reminders to look around in our life and see what are we celebrating. One of my favorite Christian writers, Tony Campolo, says that God is a God of celebration. When Jesus tells the parable of the prodigal son returning home? What does the Father do? He throws a party! It was cause for celebration. There is so much we can be celebrating in our life. Our family, our friends, a life well lived. Let's not forget to celebrate these blessings, big or small, that God has bestowed upon us.

When we feel like we don't have much to celebrate, that's not always a sign that we need something more or something different in our lives. Sometimes, we have to better celebrate what is already there. Let's consciously find joy every day and celebrate the small victories and blessings that come our way.

We've got a lot that we can celebrate as a church! M&Ms is off to a great start with over 80 kids. We received a \$62,000 grant for the purchase of new playground equipment. And we've received significant interest in the house donated to the church.

But I know we're also not without our challenges as a church. And it's felt a bit like a trying year in some ways. But, the good news of scripture reminds us that when things are hard, God is with us. We don't have to worry about the little things because God is in control! Instead, we can take joy and celebrate. I encourage you to find a place where you can recognize God's joy this week!

Blessings,
Pastor Chris

M&M's

Ways you can help:

1. **Your time!** We are looking for volunteers to help watch over the children when they are in the sanctuary and activities.
 2. **Donate items!** We've updated the list! Chips and cookies are our weekly needs. Please see our Walmart Wishlist in the weekly email, in service or contact Holly Newton in the church office.
- Thank you all for your continued support!!**



DIY Christmas Paint Night
 Saturday, November 9th in the Family Life Center from 6PM
 Pick from 3 designs
 \$45+tax
 Register by October 20th by clicking on the link in the weekly email or scan the QR code on the picture!

You will always harvest what you plant
Galatians 6:7

Looking Forward This Fall



Trunk -or- Treat and Chili Cook-off
 Halloween, October 31st

At the FLC

Enchilada Lunch Fundraiser
 November 3rd
 At the FLC





Middle School and High School Youth Groups have started back!!

Middle School Youth starts at **4pm** but latecomers (due to sports are always welcomed) This year Middle School Youth will run until **5:30PM**. Middle schoolers can walk over from the school or can be dropped off
High School Youth Group starts at **6PM** and will end at **7PM**.

Each group will enjoy food, fellowship, lessons and recreation.

Tithes + Offerings

Total Monthly Offerings for **August were \$10,464.**

Thank you for continuing to send in your tithes!

Ways of sending in your monetary gifts:

- 1. At Church:** during service, at the church office, or the drop box on the office door.
- 2. Online:** www.lexingtonumc.org on the "donate" page.
- 3. Mail or Bill Pay** (through your bank):
Po Box 116 Lexington, TX 78947
- 4. QR Code**



- 1—Ron Brewer
- 2—Patsy Durkin
- 6—Jan Alexander
- 7—Peggy Wacha
- 7—Alexus Taizan
- 10—Kristin Swisher
- 12—Marc Owens
- 12—Andy Woodward
- 12—James Brewer
- 16—Adam Everett
- 20—Allison Crow
- 25—Daryl Janda
- 27—Wendy Stover
- 28—Bob Rao
- 30—Alaya McKinley

A Gift was given to Lexington UMC

*"...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*



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

Get Connected at LUMC on Sunday Morning Sunday School 10:30-11:15 a.m.

Men's Gathering; meet in the 2nd classroom

Journey Class for Adults; meet in the 1st Classroom

Children will meet in the **3rd classroom;** Middle School and High School will meet in the Youth room located in the **FLC**

If you are **interested in helping** with Youth or Children's Sunday Schools please reach out to Holly Newton in the church office.



October is Here!!

We will be having our annual Trunk or Treat and Chili Cookoff on Halloween; October 31st. If you would like to **donate candy**, it can be brought to church service or the church office during business hours.

Weekly Emails

If you'd like to be added to the weekly email please send your e-mail address to: lexingtonunitedmethodistchurch@outlook.com
Or call the office at (979) 773-2728.



Charge Conference is once again upon us and one of our joys every year is the celebration of how God is working in our churches! We celebrate what God has done and look forward to how we will follow God's direction in the year ahead.

November 3 - 6 pm
at Bryan Community Church
2901 Austins Colony Pkwy,
Bryan, TX 77808

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.



The **Central Texas Food Bank** is bringing free, healthy food to Lexington! Every month held at the **Lexington City Park at 11 a.m.** If you know of anyone who would benefit from this program please let them know. This month's mobile food pantry is **Tuesday, November 5th.**

A note on membership in the church

Maybe you have visited with our congregation a few times and you have wondered what it would be like to be a member. Or perhaps you have been "visiting" for a few years now and are thinking about making that plunge into membership. No matter what your situation might be, the most important thing about membership is making a commitment to all the other people who are part of this congregation. Members make the commitment to be there for each other; to help each other grow in love of God and love for God's world. If you are considering making that commitment then please contact the church office or Pastor to learn more about membership in our congregation.