



Lexington United Methodist Church
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Visit www.lexingtonumc.org for more information.



Dear LUMC Family,

I've always been a fan of movies across most genres. Ever since I was in high school, movies have been a way for me to connect with stories, ideas, and even with friends. Back then, a group of us would regularly go to midnight premieres of the films we were most excited about. There was something thrilling about being among the first to experience a new movie, sitting in a dark theater with an audience that was just as eager as we were. It was more than just entertainment—it was an event, a shared experience, and a memory in the making. Even now, I still love watching movies, and it's something Diana and I enjoy doing together a few times a month. Just recently, we sat down to watch *The Irishman*, the Martin Scorsese film starring Robert De Niro. It's a sprawling, intense story about the Italian-American Mafia crime families operating in Pennsylvania and the mysterious disappearance of Jimmy Hoffa. The film was powerful, though probably too violent for me to recommend to just anyone. Still, it was an example of the kind of storytelling that grips you and leaves you thinking long after the credits roll.

Over the years, I've also been drawn to war movies and documentaries. I remember being deeply impacted by Ken Burns' *The War* documentary series all those years ago. There's something about these stories—whether fictionalized or real—that reveals the weight of sacrifice, the cost of conflict, and the resilience of the human spirit. One particularly fascinating trope that shows up in these kinds of movies is the wounded soldier. If you've ever watched old black-and-white World War II films set in the Pacific, you've probably seen this storyline: A soldier is wounded in battle, or a pilot's plane is shot down in a dogfight over the ocean. He survives, but his injuries send him to a hospital far from the front lines. And the tension in the story isn't just about his physical wounds—it's about the struggle to heal, to rest, and to deal with the frustration of being sidelined when all he wants is to get back into the fight.

And I think that struggle is deeply relatable. It's hard for us to slow down and tend to our wounds. How many of us really like to take time off, step away from our responsibilities, and focus on the hard, inner work of healing? I know I don't. A friend of mine is an ultra-marathon runner—one of those rare individuals who will push his body to the absolute limit, running 200+ miles in the harsh conditions of Alaska, through snow and freezing temperatures, all to raise money for veterans' organizations. One day, I asked him about his coach. It seemed strange to me—someone that experienced surely didn't need a coach. He already knew everything there was to know about running and technique. So why did he need someone to guide him? I'll never forget his response. He laughed and said, "Oh man, I don't need a coach to tell me when to run. I need someone who can tell me when NOT to run. So that my body can get the rest it really needs." That stuck with me because it's so true—not just physically, but spiritually and emotionally as well. Just as our bodies need time to recover from injury, our souls need time to tend to their wounds. Burnout, exhaustion, anger—all of these things can build up inside of us if we're not careful. And just like an untreated physical injury can get worse, the same thing happens to our hearts and minds when we ignore what needs healing. Sometimes, we don't even realize how much we need rest until the symptoms start showing up. Maybe we find ourselves getting irritated more easily. Maybe we're less excited about the things we used to love. Maybe we're more tired than usual, or we just want to check out—mindlessly scrolling, binge-watching TV, disengaging from the people and activities that usually bring us joy. These signs aren't just random; they're warnings. They're reminders that we need to slow down and do the hard but necessary work of healing. That's why I'm so excited for us to dig into spiritual disciplines this Lent. I truly believe these practices are some of the key ways we can care for our souls, allowing God to bring the restoration and nourishment we so desperately need. So I invite you to join us—on Sundays and Thursday nights at 7:00—for *Practicing the Way*. Together, we'll explore what it means to develop a deep, sustaining relationship with our living Savior. Let's learn what it means to rest, to heal, and to grow in the way God intended. Blessings, Pastor Chris

Youth Fundraisers



Free Will Spaghetti Dinner—March 5th at 6PM in the Family Life Center. Dinner will be before the Ash Wednesday Service in the Sanctuary.

Bake Sale Fundraiser—Saturday, March 22nd @ Snow's BBQ 8AM.
Any Donated baked goods are much appreciated!

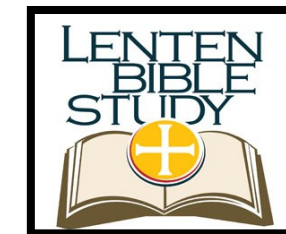


Garage Sale—April 4-5th in the Family Life Center. We will start accepting donations Tuesday, March 18th. Donations can be brought to the church office during business hours, before or after Sunday morning services or please get with Holly Newton to set up a time. **Items should be in good working condition: Electronics work and clothes are not stained or torn.

Anyone wanting to attend summer activities is should plan on helping. All Sales go towards BIG House Mission Trip and Lakeview Summer Camp.

Lenten Study: Practicing the Way

an 8-week course of conversation and learning about how we grow in our spiritual lives. It also gives concrete practices that you can implement in your own life.



This study will start March 6th and will be on Thursdays at 7PM. If you are interested, reach out to us and let us know, and we'll find a time that works for all of us.



Lexington Cub Scout Pack 142 celebrated their annual advancement on Sunday, February 23rd.

Cub Scouts helps children develop confidence, build friendships, and learn valuable life skills through fun and engaging activities.

Ten members earned the prestigious **Arrow of Light** rank, showcasing their skills in character, leadership, and outdoor activities. Throughout their time in the pack, these dedicated scouts have collectively hiked **97 miles**, contributed **180 hours** of community service, and camped for **55 nights**.



MARCH Birthdays

- 1—Derek Jackson
- 3—Stuart McHenry
- 4—Margaret Woodward
- 6— Dawn Stefek
- 6—Judy Everett
- 7—Linda Wright
- 12—Logan Marek
- 18—Orean Frankeny
- 18—Chase Newton
- 19—Mike Wright
- 21—Matt Everett
- 22—Ryann Retzlaff
- 24—Cindy Herklotz
- 27—Erin Truho



Total Monthly Offerings for
January were \$19,055.

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



This Sunday, March 2nd, 2025.

We will have communion in both services at 9:30 and 11:15 AM. We hope you can join us!



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 Easter Egg Hunt is just around the corner and we are looking for donations. For ideas get with Holly Newton in the office.

Deadline for donations will be April 6th. Donations can be brought to church office. Thank you!



- Ash Wednesday**
March 5th
- Palm Sunday**
April 13th
- Maundy Thursday**
April 17th
- Good Friday**
April 18th
- Easter**
April 20th

A Gift was given to Lexington UMC

In Memory of Carter Biehle
In Memory of James Archer

by... Jan Woodward

by... Daryl & Rhonda Janda



"...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.

M&M's and Youth are back on Wednesdays!
M&M's will be from 3:30 to 5:15PM
Middle School Youth will be from 4 to 5:30PM
and High School Youth will be from 6 to 7PM.
If you are interested in volunteering for either program, please let the office know.



WISH LIST—Chips, Cookies, Hawaiian Punch, Grape Kool-Aid, Welch's Fruit Snacks, Apple Sauce and Pudding cups. Individual Packages are appreciated.

Please see the weekly email for a link to our Walmart Wishlist or use this QR Code:



We are looking for volunteers to help with Children's Church; Children's Sunday School and M&M's. If you can help **once a month or once every couple months** please let Holly

There will be no M&M's or Youth on Wednesday, March 12th



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.

Scholarship Applications

High School Seniors—The school has posted the Lexington United Methodist Church Scholarship Application. If you have questions please get with your counselor or Holly Newton.

Applications are due by April 25th.



The **Central Texas Food Bank** is bringing free, healthy food to Lexington! Every month held at the **Lexington City Park at 10 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, March 4th.**

Summer—If you are interested in your youth attending BIG House or Lakeview Summer Camp this year please reach out to Holly Newton (979) 571-6934. **We will also be needing Counselors!!** Please let us know if you or someone you know would be interested.

BIG House—June 11-15th
Lakeview—June 23-27th



Get Connected at LUMC on Sunday Morning

Sunday School 10:30-11:15 a.m.

Men's Gathering; meet in the 2nd classroom with leader, John Gibbs

Journey Class for Adults; meet in the 1st Classroom