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Scripture for Easter

John 12:23-25 Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life."

Mark 16:5-7 As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. "Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.'"

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

As we continue our journey through Lent and get ready to celebrate Resurrection (Easter) Sunday, I have one question for you. Does Easter mean anything to you?

I don't mean that to sound snarky or rude. I simply ask because we have a tendency to go through the motions for religious holidays. We celebrate Jesus birth, wave palms on Palm Sunday, and then skip right to Easter. I wonder if we sometimes forget what a big deal Easter is. Do we understand what it means to be held captive by sin and death? Do we understand that cost Jesus paid for us? Do we see where we are still in bondage? Easter is about new life. Easter is about freedom. Easter is about VICTORY!

Thomas Merton, a Trappist Monk, in his book Seasons of Celebration puts it this way, "Let us not then darken the joy of Christ's victory by remaining in captivity and in darkness, but let us declare His power, by living as free men and women who have been called by Him out of darkness into His admirable light."

Easter calls us to step out of that dark tomb into the light. It calls us to let God shine in those dark places we don't want anyone to see. It calls us to freedom. So why stayed chained? God's love reconciles and rescues us. We don't have to live in the past with our mistakes, regrets, shame, and sin. We can move forward in to new life with freedom and eternal life.

Paul tells us that it is "For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery." (Galatians 5:1)

Let's live as people who are free!

Blessings,
Pastor Raegan



LEXINGTON & BLUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH'S WOMEN'S MINISTRY

"Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up." Ecclesiastes 4:9-10



Volunteer Opportunity

Join us the 1st Thursday of the month on the Square 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!

Tentative Schedule for the Year

- 4/14 @ 6 p.m. Painting Class
- 5/10 @ 6 p.m. Movie Night
- 6/20 @ 2 p.m. Yoga Class
- 7/10 @ 3:30 p.m. Nails at Assisted Living Homes With Youth
- 8/14 @ 3:30 p.m. Forgiveness Cookies with Youth
- 9/10 @ 6 p.m. CASA Speaker
- 10/10 @ 6 p.m. Bazaar Prep (evening)
- 11/23 Bazaar
- 12/8 Christmas Party



Garage Sale Help Needed

The Youth appreciates the help the ladies of the church have given in the past setting up for the garage sale. If you are available to help price Thursday or Friday, April 4th & 5th, please let Stephanie know.

Creativity is a Gift from God

Thursday, April 11th at 6 p.m.

Join us for a night of fun and creativity at The Post. We will paint canvases with messages for Easter. There is a charge for this and space is limited. The class is \$25, please RSVP with Stephanie. The scripture for this meeting is **Luke 1:37**

Where Two or More Gather in my Name

Friday, May 10th at 6 p.m.

We will have a movie night watching a Christian-based movie together. The scripture for this meeting is **Matthew 18:20**

Glorify God in Your Body

Thursday, June 20th at 2 p.m.

A class on stretching and flexibility for all levels of ability. The scripture for this meeting is **1 Corinthians 6:19-20**

BLUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Don't Miss The **Easter Egg Hunt** on Easter Sunday (April 21st) after service



On March 24, 2019 Charlotte Grace Biehle was baptized, daughter of Christopher and DeAnna Biehle.

Please welcome Charlotte Grace to our church family!

St. Stephen's Fund

\$1,136.13

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. To contribute by check, please write "St. Stephen's Fund" in the memo.

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 me to learn more about membership in our congregation.

Blue UMC Worship Attendance

March	3	41
	10	41
	17	49
	24	39

April Birthdays

- 4-Lucy Torn
 - 7-Vicki Tindall
 - 13-Clinton Hutson
 - 29-Mike Harrell
- 

UPCOMING BLUE EVENTS

Sunday Mornings

- 9 a.m. Worship
- 10:15 a.m. Sunday School

Wednesday Mornings

- 11 a.m. Prayer Group

APRIL

- 1-BVFD
- 2-NWLC 4H
- 8-Texas Stars
- 21-Easter
- 23-TEEA



Calendar of Events

Sunday

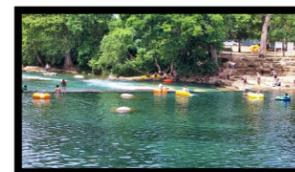
Sunday School
9:45-10:45 AM
(6-12th grade)
With Mr. Stephen

Wednesday

Youth
3:30 to 5 PM

April

- 3-Host Dinner for Lent
- 6-Garage Sale



End of Year Youth Party Floating the San Marcos River!

Thursday, May 30th
Middle School & High School Youth

The price is \$15 and will need to be paid by Wednesday, May 22nd.

We will leave the church at 10 a.m. and return mid-afternoon.

Due to limited transportation and adult sponsors, we will only be able to take kids who participate in Youth, Sunday School or church services.

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

April Fundraiser Dinner

Wednesday, April 3rd 6 p.m.

Family Life Center

Sandwich Bar

There is a signup for this event. If you did not receive it and would like to help, please let Stephanie know.



April Garage Sale

Saturday, April 6th

8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Items should be in good condition: electronics work and clothes are not stained or torn. We will need campers and parents to help out with the sale. **We will start collecting items at the church on Sunday, 3/31.**

Summer Camp 2019: June 23-28

Are you signed up for this year's Summer Camp?

Contact Stephanie Kellenberger for more

information: lumcyouth@outlook.com



BIG HOUSE 2019

July 24-28

Asbury UMC in Pasadena, Texas

Registration is due by April 5th.

Please contact Stephanie at lumcyouth@outlook.com to sign up!



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



DON'T MISS THE EASTER EGG HUNTS
 Easter Sunday at 9:30 a.m. & 10:30 am
 Pictures with the Pastor on the Front steps of the
 Sanctuary will be at 10:50 am

VBS is just around the corner.

July 15th - 17th! 6:00 - 8:30pm

It is 3 nights only

There will be a preschool group for 3 and 4 year olds.
 Volunteers are needed. Please contact Milissa Davis if
 you are interested in helping out.



M&M's



We were truly blessed this year with such a large crowd of eager kids coming to M&Ms weekly. Thank you to our wonderful volunteers: Wanda and her team who organized and served food weekly; Michelle for providing kids and volunteers from My Friend's House; Sarah keeping the group organized; Pastor Raegan for the great messages each week. Our last M&Ms will be Wednesday, April 24



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.

April Acolyte: Carson Jackson



Kairos Prison Ministry Weekend #6 April 11-14

Kairos Prison Ministry International (KPMI) is a ministry of the church ... a ministry of the apostles whom Jesus Christ has called into community and sent forth into the environment of correctional institutions. KPMI has been called the best example of the early church in existence today. Kairos incorporates curriculum designed to build and encourage pro-social character and behavior. Society spends over \$60 billion/yr. to keep 2.3 million inmates incarcerated. The Kairos program, 100% funded by private donations, is offered at no cost to State and Federal Institutions. It's best illustrated by an inmate's witness, "It's been said that it cost the government \$1 million to keep me locked up and a \$250 program from Kairos set me free". You can support this ministry by buying meal tickets, donations, making cookies, and prayers. See Barry Lynn or John Gibbs. Donations may be sent to Kairos (Luther in memo), PO Box 91281, Austin TX 78709-1281.

How can you help?

- Volunteer to be on the inside team or the outside team. Training is extensive and you will be prepared for the weekend.
- Pray. Prayer chain links will be available for each Kairos event. These links are put together into a chain that will surround the incarcerated participants.
- Placemats and posters. We will be asking our youth programs to help prepare posters for encouragement and placemats for meals for each participant.
 - Support through donations.
 - Direct donations to Kairos (Luther Unit in the memo). (Kairos Luther Unit PO Box 91281, Austin TX 78709-1281.)
 - Buy "meal tickets," \$5 per meal or \$30 for weekend.
 - Attend closing ceremony on Sunday afternoon, April 14. Application required.

If you would like an in-depth explanation of Kairos, please contact John Gibbs, 512.751.3923 or jgibbs78947@zochnet.com.



"...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

A Gift was given to Lexington UMC

Backpack Buddies

In Memory of ...Bubba Poston

by... Jan Woodward

Building Fund

In Memory of ...Bobbie Lou Quinney

by... Willis & Jeannine Brewer

In Memory of ...Ann Chernosky

by... Willis & Jeannine Brewer

Memorial Fund

In Memory of ...Pat Marquart

by... The Seifert Reunion

Memorials reflect all gifts received and recorded as of March 24th.

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.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 3-Isaiah Washington
- 4-John David McKinley
- 5-April Herklotz
- 6-Chester Thomas
- 10-Aiden Newton
- 11-Jennifer Stowers
- 17-Brad Aduddell
- 18-Sarah Hallum
- 18-Maiken Ahrendt
- 19-Jorden Kelley
- 19-Tyler Otte
- 22-Crystalyn Keating
- 24-Kristal McHenry
- 26-Sophia Keating
- 28-Donna Harbers
- 29-John Seaton



"...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

Report from Food Pantry/Free Will Lunch and Home Deliveries

Donations totaled \$79. We served loaded baked potatoes with bbq brisket and/or chili and cheese; sautéed cabbage; yeast rolls; blueberry cobbler with ice cream, and tea.

We thank Joe Franks for finding the briskets for us, and Hildebrandt Meat Market for cooking them.

Home deliveries since last month:

2/11	12 recipients	pork chops, home fried potatoes	cookies
2/19	12 recipients	chicken tenders, broccoli/rice	brownies
2/25	9 recipients	chili mac	
2/27	1 family	chili, cornbread	
3/6	8 recipients	sausage, baked potato	

Purchases made for the March Thursday meal and deliveries:

Milk, flour, yeast, bacon, sour cream, BBQ sauce, ice cream, butter

Thank you to everyone whose help has been instrumental in making this program work!

Cindy Gibson

HERITAGE SUNDAY

at Early Chapel Cemetery

April 28, 2018

Pot Luck Lunch at Noon

We will have a combined 10:30 a.m. service in the Sanctuary and then go to Early Chapel Cemetery for a pot luck lunch.

Everyone is invited to enjoy this annual event.



SAVE THE DATES

Homecoming is May 2nd through May 5th. Be on the lookout for information on the Homecoming Sing, Parade (we will need someone to volunteer to put this together), Pancake Breakfast, Fish Fry and Sunday Services.



Giving to the General Fund

How your money helps when you give your tithe or offering to the General Fund.

Supplies / Work Areas:

Specific money in the budget is designated to some of our important local ministries in the church. Funds are used to support Vacation Bible School, M&Ms, Youth Groups and Sunday School (all ages). This fund helps to provide curriculum, food, craft items, etc. From time to time, these groups may ask for special donations in case we are unable to cover additional costs.



The bell received a much-needed clean up in March. It was sandblasted and painted black. Thank you Chuck Moore and Adam Retzlaff for prepping and Barry Lynn for “supervising”. And thank you to Cedar Creek Sandblasting for doing an amazing job!

Lent Plays and Dinner

Please continue to join us Wednesdays during Lent in the Family Life Center for Free-Will Dinners and a play from The Potter and Me. Dinner is served at 6 p.m. followed by the play at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is invited!



LEXINGTON ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL TREASURER’S REPORT

<i>All Funds Balance as of 3/24/19</i>		Date:	Offering	Worship Attendance	
Bank Balance	\$8,340.75				
Early Chapel CD	\$19,473.42	February	25	\$5,769	120
RTSB CD #1	\$16,657.76	March	4	\$4,091	116
RTSB CD #4	\$10,773.83		11	\$2,482.50	106
			18	\$2,972	110
			25	\$3,803.59	110
DESIGNATED FUNDS in GENERAL:		Annual Church Budget for 2019			\$211,924
Pledge Fund Acct. Balance	\$3,937.25	Offerings thru 3/24/19			\$40,789.09
Early Chapel Cemetery Fund	-\$788.43				
Journey Sunday School	\$10.43				
Memorial Fund	\$2,956.79				
Minimum amount needed to stay within budget:					
\$17,660.34 month & \$ 4,075.47/week					
2019 District Apportionments– PAID IN FULL					
2019 Conference Apportionments - \$2,500.34					

*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

\$4,796.11

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

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

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



Coffee House

10:45 a.m.

LUMC Fellowship Hall enjoy complimentary coffee & pastries
Coffee & Pastries are also available during the 10 a.m. service in the Family Life Center

NewsLetter DEADLINE

Newsletter deadline for May’s edition is **April 18th**
Articles and photos are always needed. Please submit yours to Stephanie in the church office.
Stephanie Kellenberger
Editor of *The Voice*

APRIL 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31						
	1 7:30 p.m. BVFD (BUMC) 6:30 p.m. Bible Study (Great Reversal)	2 10 a.m. Lex Prayer Group 6:30 p.m. FPU	3 11 a.m. Blue Prayer Group 3:30 p.m. M&M's; Youth 6 p.m. Lent Play (Camp Kids To Host)	4 11 a.m. Mobile Food Pantry 11:30 a.m. Free Will Lunch 6:30 p.m. Lion's Club	5 Big House Reg. Due	6 Church Garage Sale (Camp FR)
7	8 7 p.m. Texas Stars (BUMC) 6:30 p.m. Bible Study (Great Reversal)	9 10 a.m. Lex Prayer Group 6:30 p.m. FPU	10 11 a.m. Blue Prayer Group 3:30 p.m. M&M's; Youth 6 p.m. Lent Play (Free Will Lunch To Host)	11 6 p.m. WM Painting Night	12 Kairos	13
14 Palm Sunday	15 6:30 p.m. Bible Study (Great Reversal)	16 10 a.m. Lex Prayer Group 6:30 p.m. FPU	17 11 a.m. Blue Prayer Group 3:30 p.m. M&M's; Youth 6 p.m. Lent Play (Cub Scouts To Host)	18 Maundy Thursday 6:30 p.m. Lion's Club 7 p.m. Service at BUMC	19 Good Friday	20
21 Easter 7 a.m. Sunrise Service 9:30 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt 10:30 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt	22 6:30 p.m. Bible Study (Great Reversal)	23 10 a.m. Lex Prayer Group 6:30 p.m. FPU 6:30 p.m. TEEA (BUMC)	24 11 a.m. Blue Prayer Group 3:30 p.m. M&M's; Youth 7 p.m. Admin Council	25 7 p.m. Service at LUMC	26 10:30 a.m. HOPE Distribution	27
28 Heritage Sunday 10:30 a.m. Combined Svc 2-3PM Cub Scout Committee Mtg. 5 p.m. Bible Study Grow at Home	29 6:30 p.m. Bible Study (Great Reversal)	30 10 a.m. Lex Prayer Group	1	2	3	4

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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78947
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LENTEN & EASTER SERVICES

Maundy Thursday:

April 18th at 7 p.m. at BUMC

Good Friday:

April 19th at 7 p.m. at LUMC

Easter Sunday:

April 21st

- 7 a.m. Sunrise Service at the Square
- 9 a.m. Service at Blue UMC
- 9:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Easter Egg Hunts
- 10 a.m. Contemporary Service
- 11 a.m. Traditional Service

