

THE VOICE



Lexington United Methodist Church

April 2021

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Visit www.lexingtonumc.org for more information.

Christ Is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

If you happen into my office these days, you will notice an abundance of items. Yes, it could be books and crosses, but I am thinking of my LEGO collection. Each week I seem to add more and more LEGO pieces to my office.

Now I have always had LEGO in my office. I have a box of loose ones that were given to me by a friend at my last church. She had older grandkids and didn't need them anymore. I kept them in my office because often times I have kiddos in my office, and it is good to have them to keep them busy. (Side note: You must always call them LEGO. You will be corrected by LEGO aficionados if you say legos or something else. Trust me, I found out the hard way.)

These new LEGO are not gifts, but instead my purchases. Because it turns out, I really like LEGO. Building LEGO helps me to relax. It gives me something to focus on so my mind can quiet down. And at the end I have a finish product of something I can be proud. It lets me create.

Part of being made in the image of God means that we are creators like God. Now, we can't make what God can make but there is something in us that longs to take things and make them in to more than they were. We see things in

Yet, somewhere along the way, we relegate creating new things to artist or kids. Only the "creative types" can do those things. The rest of us are just out of luck. But the scripture speaks to our ability to create and God tasking us with creating to do His work.

In Exodus 35, God is giving the people instructions about how to build the tabernacle. Each person is tasked with bringing specific offerings to Moses so they can be used for the tabernacle. And then Exodus 35:34 says:

Then Moses said to the Israelites, "See, the LORD has chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, and he has filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills—to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, to cut and set stones, to work in wood and to engage in all kinds of artistic crafts. And he has given both him and Oholiab son of Ahisamak, of the tribe of Dan, the ability to teach others. He has filled them with skill to do all kinds of work as engravers, designers, embroiderers in blue, purple and scarlet yarn and fine linen, and weavers—all of them skilled workers and designers.

God specifically gave these people skills! They are filled with the Spirit of God to create and make beautiful work for God's glory. The scripture continues:

So Bezalel, Oholiab and every skilled person to whom the LORD has given skill and ability to know how to carry out all the work of constructing the sanctuary are to do the work just as the LORD has commanded." Then Moses summoned Bezalel and Oholiab and every skilled person to whom the LORD had given ability and who was willing to come and do the work. They received from Moses all the offerings the Israelites had brought to carry out the work of constructing the sanctuary. And the people continued to bring freewill offerings morning after morning. So all the skilled workers who were doing all the work on the sanctuary left what they were doing and said to Moses, "The people are bringing more than enough for doing the work the LORD commanded to be done." Then Moses gave an order and they sent this word throughout the camp: "No man or woman is to make anything else as an offering for the sanctuary." And so the people were restrained from bringing more, because what they already had was more than enough to do all the work.

Can you believe that? God called all these people to create and people to give things for them to make the tabernacle and eventually they have to say stop giving us stuff!!!

Let's take some time to create! Color, plant, draw, sing, play music, build something! Whatever it is, let the image of God flow out of you in a creative way. Celebrate the gifts God has given you!

Blessings,

Pastor Raegan

Lenten & Easter Services

Maundy Thursday—April 1st 7PM Sanctuary

Good Friday—April 2nd Stations of the Cross

Easter Sunday—April 4th

7 a.m. Sunrise Service at the Square

9:30 a.m. Contemporary Service

10:45 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt LUMC

11:15 a.m. Traditional Service



TDCJ has opened up prison ministries (and others) starting March 15th. Weekly Prayer and Share at Luther should start soon.

Save the Dates

Homecoming is April 30th through May 2nd. Be on the lookout for information on the Homecoming Sing, Parade, Pancake Breakfast and Sunday Services. If you are interested in helping with any of these events please contact the church office.

Heritage Sunday

On Sunday, April 25th we will celebrate Heritage Sunday at Early Chapel Cemetery. We will join for worship at 10am with one service, and then have a picnic afterwards. Make sure you bring chairs, blankets, a picnic basket, and your yeti coolers. We will provide the bathrooms! We hope you will join us for this special event as we celebrate and remember the legacy of faith left for us.



Lakeview District Camp this year is **June 28-July 2**. Please let the office know if you would like to be a counselor or if your child would like to attend. Spots for kids going are limited to how many counselors we have. Thanks!

Memorials

Memorial Fund

In Memory of ... Travis Everett
by... Jan Woodward

In Memory of ... Billie Tillery
by... EVR Properties

In Memory of ... Billie Tillery
by... Matt & Judy Everett

Backpack Buddies Fund

In Memory of ... David Harbers
by... Jan Woodward

"...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

Mobile Food Pantry

April Mobile Food Pantry will be Friday, April 9th at 11 a.m. Distribution will be similar to the recent ones where clients will remain their cars and pick up food in a drive thru line. The Free-Will Lunch will be at the Family Life Center on April 9th as well. This month's menu is: Pulled Pork, Buttered Carrots, Sweet Potato Rolls and Orange Juice Cake. Served as carryout only.



April Birthdays

3—Isaiah Washington
4—John David McKinley
5—April Herklotz
6—Chester Thomas
10—Aiden Newton
11—Jennifer Stowers
16—Aiden Garza
17—Brad Aduddell
17—Sidney Walker

17—Julie Brade
18—Sarah Hallum
18—Maiken Ahrendt
22—Crystalyn Keating
24—Kristal McKinley
26—Sophia Keating
28—Donna Harbers
29—John Seaton



Tithes & Offerings

Thank you for continuing to give your tithes and offerings! **As of March 28th** total offerings were **\$21,301.25**.

Ways to give:

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