



Lexington United Methodist Church

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Visit www.lexingtonumc.org for more information.

Dear LUMC Family,

He is Risen! What great news we celebrate together as God's people—that we worship a risen savior who is in the world today. One of my favorite lesser-known holy days is the Sunday after Easter, sometimes known as Holy Humor Sunday. The theological idea behind it was that the week following Easter would be marked with joy and laughter since death had been defeated. Christians celebrate with picnics and parties and center the service around joy and laughter.

I think humor is one of the most underrated and underutilized tools that God has given us. Who among us hasn't had a bad day turned around by a good joke. A sour spirit lifted up by a sweet smile. Some of my best memories as a kid were when my dad and I watched some martial arts parody movie that was so funny that we were on the floor laughing, tears rolling down our cheeks.

One person I have a lot of respect for around this is Stephen Colbert, the host of CBS' Late Show. Now, I know he represents a particular side of the political spectrum. So, put that aside because that's not what I will talk about. I've always respected how Colbert spoke about his faith as it connects to his work. He occupies a prime position in television where we might think a person would lean away from their faith, but instead, he leans into it. In an interview he did on his show, he had a bit where he invited the person to interview him. Singer/songwriter Dua Lipa asked, "What is the relationship between your faith and your comedy?" She talked about how his views know and appreciate how public he is about his faith. How does that intersect or get in the way of your comedy? Colbert gave a longer answer, but here's my favorite quote from it:

"Death is not defeat...If there is some relation between my faith and my comedy, it is that no matter what happens, you are never defeated. You must see this in the light of eternity and find some way to love and laugh about it."

I love that death is not defeat. That at its heart is the Easter message. And because of that, as he says, we can have love, joy, and laughter because we know those broken places are not the end of our story. If you know Colbert's story, you know how true that was in his life. When he was 10 years old, his dad and two brothers died in a plane crash, leaving behind just his mom and him. As he looks back on that tragedy, he reflects on how important his faith was in getting him through that.

That's the reminder for all of us this Easter season. This good news isn't something we just dress up for to take some nice pictures and eat a nice meal with our family. As Christians, we believe this makes a real difference in our lives here and now. That's why we can have peace when things are turbulent, joy when there is sorrow, and light when there is darkness. Because those places are not defeat. As Christians, we know that death was defeated.

"Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh." Luke 6:21

Blessings,
Pastor Chris

Lexington Homecoming

May 3rd-5th is the Lexington Homecoming. We will be hosting the following:

- * Men's Pancake Breakfast—Family Life Center
- * Parade Float
- * Fish Fry

If you are interested in helping with any LUMC events that week please contact the church the church office. We will be taking **candy donations** for the parade float. Be on the look out for more information about the United Methodist Men's Pancake Breakfast and Fish Fry! We will end the weekend celebrations with Sunday Services and hope to see you all there!

Our Youth Groups have been going diving into Holy Week this month. They shared communion after discussing Muandy Thursday.



Thank you to all those who donated and stuffed eggs for the annual Easter Egg Hunt!



Heritage Sunday



Heritage Sunday On Sunday, April 28th we will celebrate Heritage Sunday at Early Chapel Cemetery. We will join for worship at 11am

with one service, and then have a potluck 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. Everyone is invited to enjoy this annual event.



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.

Registration is **open** now to Campers who have completed 3rd grade through high school. Registration is also **open** for BIG House kids who are in Middle School and High School.

BIG House—June 19th-23rd
Lakeview—June 24-28th

During these camps we will have: Fun activities, Distractions Removed, New Adventures, Fellowship and Worship, New Experiences and Amazing Memories. Come join us!!!



Garage Sale Fundraiser

Friday and Saturday, April 26 & 27th from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Family Life Center. We will start collecting items in the FLC on Monday, April 1st. ~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.

M&M's

We have been blessed with another amazing year with M&M's. Thank you so much to our volunteers both new and regular for making this happen.

Our last M&M's is Wednesday, April 24th.

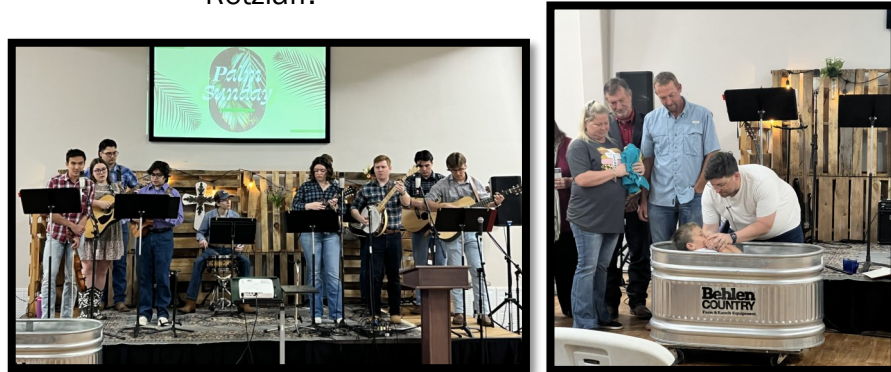
Memorials

*as of February 29, 2024

*"...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.

On Palm Sunday our contemporary service enjoyed music from the A&M Wesley Bluegrass Band and witnessed the Baptism of Riddick Retzlaff.



Thank you to all who provided baked goods for the Summer Activities Fundraiser.



VBS 2024 is just around the corner!! This year we will host "Hero Hotline: Called together to serve God!" on July 8th–10th in the evenings like previous years. If you are interested in helping please let the office know!



April Birthdays

- 3—Eleanor Waks
- 3—Isaiah Washington
- 4—John David McKinley
- 5—April Herklotz
- 6—Chester Thomas
- 10—Aiden Newton
- 11—Jennifer Stowers
- 12—Katharine Ladd
- 17—Brad Aduddell
- 17—Julie Brade
- 17—Ashlyn Boettcher
- 18—Sarah Hallum
- 18—Maiken Ahrendt
- 22—Crystalyn Keating
- 24—Kristal McKinley
- 26—Sophia Keating
- 28—Donna Harbers

Pastor Chris gave the opening prayer at the Lexington Youth Baseball and Softball Opening Ceremonies on March 23rd.



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.

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 26th.



Tithes & Offerings

Total Monthly Offerings for February were **\$14,700.**

Thank you for continuing to send in your tithes and offerings!

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

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 with leader, Cinda Lewis

Children - 3rd classroom; with leader Jennifer Stower
Youth - FLC Youth Room; with leaders Jan Alexander and Holly Newton



The Central Texas Food Bank is bringing free, healthy food to Lexington! Every month the food pantry is held at the **Lexington City Park starting 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, April 2nd.** Lexington UMC sponsors a monthly **free-will lunch** each month starting at **11:30 a.m. in the Family Life Center at LUMC.** Everyone is invited! Please come if you can: help prepare/serve/cleanup; come and eat lunch and donate a few dollars to help fund future lunches; eat lunch for free including those that are clients of the monthly Food Pantry, those living at the Savanna Park apartments, and any other people in need of a hot lunch or with any food insecurities. For more information, please contact Lee Marks or the church office.

This Month's Menu: Spaghetti with meat sauce Tossed Salad Garlic Bread Cranberry-Oatmeal Cookies



May 3rd–5th- Homecoming; Men's Pancake Breakfast, Parade Float and Fried Fish at the Square

May 19th - Graduation Sunday

May 22nd - Baccalaureate

May 24th - Graduation

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.