

THE VOICE



Lexington United Methodist Church

July 2020

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Church is back in person! Visit www.lexingtonumc.org for more information.

Happy July!

We have made it half-way through a completely insane year! Can you believe it? I barely can! I think a part of me is still in March wondering what has happened. And yet even in this chaotic time, we have so much to give thanks to God.

The last Sunday in June we celebrated seven confirmands making a profession of faith and joining Lexington UMC. A special thank you to their parents and Stephanie Kellenberger for helping lead and instruct under unusual circumstances.

We have continued to help those in need through St. Stephen's, Ministerial Alliance, Free Will Lunch, and more. Please let us know in the office if you know of anyone in need or if you are in need of anything.

We have also continued with VCI. God has blessed us immensely during this time, and the VCI teams are so excited to share with you the hard work they have been doing. We will see some of their fruit this month and more as we get back to school.

Friends, it is so easy to get caught up in all the negativity around us. But we are people of hope. We are people of the Resurrection. We know that God is still at work, even we can't see it. And we cling to His promises and the good He can bring from all things.

Before we sign off, I have a couple of housekeeping items I want to let you know. First, as of July 1st Lexington UMC is a single charge church. Blue UMC has a new pastor, Keith Kennedy. I am really excited and hopeful for both churches are about what God can do in this change. Please keep both churches in your prayers as we make this transition.

Second, Lee County has issued a mandatory mask ordinance. This means if you come by the church office, you need to wear a mask. We are also strongly encouraging you to wear a mask to worship.

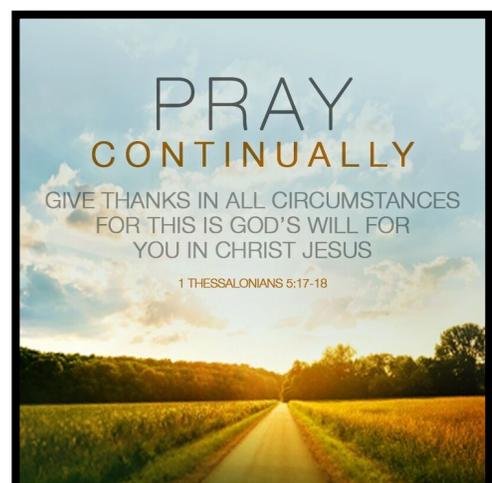
Third, Vacation Bible School will be canceled for this year. After much conversation and prayer, we felt like we could not keep the children safe during these times. It was a very hard decision to make. We love our kids and youth so much, but we want to keep them safe and healthy.

Finally, for our sermon series this month and into August, we will be studying the book of Jonah. We will be challenged to let God be God, to move us out of our comfort zones, and to embrace a calling that will take us to the edges of the world we know. We will also be reading through the entire book. I hope you will join us in worship, online or in person, as we embark on this exciting adventure.

If you have any questions, concerns, or just want to chat, feel free to reach out!! I would love to catch up with everyone!!

Blessings,

Pastor Raegan



Vibrant Church

Initiative

We have restarted our Vibrant Church Initiative Prescriptions teams. We had Mike Tyson come out and get us back on an adjusted timeline. You may remember that we were using Easter as our target date but COVID-19 took that out of play. Our new target date is "back-to-school-ish". More details to follow as we sort it all out. Here's a quick update on the Prescription Teams:

Finance—still mirroring our new system against our old. We have requested the company supplying our software to visit us and help us tweak our operation. So far it is definitely a better financial tool and more reports are in progress.

Vision—Good progress has been made in the past month. Know-Grow-Share are our key factors and we are in the final phase of tweaking the wording and the logo. We will present the entire vision package to the Admin Council in July.

Hospitality—Due to the social distancing measures of COVID-19, the team is concentrating on a system to track our guests for follow up. Our consultant will be visiting in the near future to help with our overall plan and some details on our facility signage. The plan to start is mid-September.

Communications—Work continues to ensure all the methods we have now are effective and brainstorming what other methods would make the communications more effective. Shooting for an August implementation, which will probably be a rolling schedule.

Leadership—The team will be ready to work on 2021 church leadership this fall. One of their tasks is to make sure we are aligning with our new vision.

If you have any questions, please send them along to John Gibbs or Pastor Raegan.

Thank You!

On behalf of the family of **Roger Moore**, we would like to thank everyone for your prayers, cards, and meals provided during our time of need. We really appreciate our church family. May God bless! ~Chuck Moore

Mobile Food Pantry

July's Mobile Food Pantry will be **Friday, July 10th 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 July 10th as well.



Ways to Help

We have volunteer opportunities available at this time and none involve leaving your home!

1. Call other church members to see how they are doing.
2. Send in prayer requests.
3. Write to our shut-ins and those in assisted living.
4. Let us know if you or anyone you know is in need of prayer, financial assistance, etc.



Flower Calendar

A flower calendar is in the narthex of the sanctuary. If you want your dedication to be noted in the church bulletin, please make sure your entries have been made by the preceding Monday. If you have questions, please call Jan Lynn 979-540-8922 or Judy Curnutte 361-739-5610



Tithes & Offerings

Thank you for continuing to give your tithes and offerings! **May** total contributions were **\$11,062** and **June** were **\$13,900.73..**

Ways to give:

1. **At Church:** during service, at the church office or in 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



The Voice

July's newsletter is available online at lexingtonumc.org and printed ones are available at service and in the pass through (Library).

Church Directory



Make sure to stay in touch with fellow church members. On your phone, go to your app store and search "Instant Church Directory". Put in the email you have given the church to access the directory. Need help or prefer a hard copy? Call or email the church.

July Birthdays

5-Becky Sims
6-Hannah Jackson
8-Carson Jackson
8-Genevieve Eberz
8-Adam Retzlaff
13-Dan Harris
14-Bradley Reynolds
16-Joe Jackson
17-Suzy Borgfeld
20-Robert Ahrendt

20-Willis Brewer
21-Wyatt Retzlaff
23-Keegan Brade
24-Darrell Marek
28-Joshua Seaton
29-Wayde Dodds
30-Cecil Reynolds

