



Lexington United Methodist Church

979-773-2728

lexingtonunitedmethodistchurch@outlook.com



Visit www.lexingtonumc.org for more information.

Dear LUMC Family,

One of my favorite stories about prayer is from a friend of mine. Many years ago, he taught his daughter how to pray. She was a big fan of the show Sesame Street, so he thought, just like they do in the show, the best way for him to teach her was to have her parrot him. So he begins

Dad: Dear God

Daughter: Dear God

Dad: We Thank You

Daughter: We Thank You

Dad: For

Daughter: Five. AH AH AH AH

I laugh every time I think about this story, but I recognize it can be hard to teach and talk about something like prayer, which seems so simple. Especially with kids, who can get some part of it wrong so innocently and innocuously that it turns it from a lesson to a Sesame Street moment. But even simple things are often more challenging than we expect. Prayer is often one of those. Of the many conversations I have with folks about faith and spirituality, prayer is one of the biggest ones. And for many, there is a struggle with many different things around worship.

Everything from How do I pray? What should I say? Should I ask God for stuff or say what I'm grateful for? How long should it be? What happens when I lose focus? All the way to, why didn't God answer that prayer? How come when I talk to God, it doesn't seem like I can hear him? Does it really work? Will my prayer actually change God's mind? Did I not have enough faith in my prayer?

Prayer seems so simple and can be more complicated than it looks. So, for the month of September, I want us to think about prayer in a few ways. One, I want to look at Jesus' pattern of prayer; looking at the Lord's prayer gives us a helpful insight into what we should learn about prayer. Second, I want to talk about how there's no proper method of prayer. Much like a toolbox full of tools, the great saints of the faith have come up with all sorts of ways to pray: Adoration, Petition, Lament, Contemplation, and so on. Each one is like a different tool in our spiritual toolbox. If we don't change up the tools we need, it would be like repairing a house with just a hammer. That hammer helps pull nails out of the wall or drive them in. But what about when you need to use a screw or lay some tile.

Let's get more direct. Maybe you often talk to God, but you need to be still before God? Maybe on the other end, you bear your stress and burdens because you don't want to bother God, and you need to share with God.

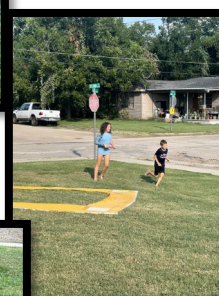
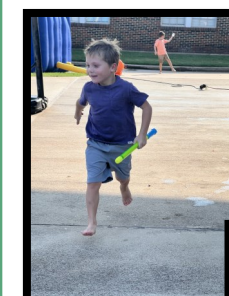
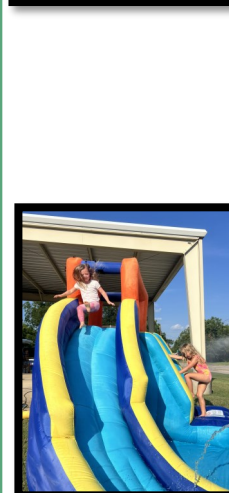
Lastly, I want to teach us a simple method for prayer that came to me from Pete Greig's book How to Pray. He talks about the P.R.A.Y. method of prayer. Pause, Rejoice, Ask, Yield. This simple framework, I think, helps us cover a variety of different ways that we can talk to God. In our busy world, it allows us to pause and slow ourselves down. When we can so easily focus on all the negatives in our lives, we can look beyond that limited view and find God's joy all around us. We're invited to share our needs before God when we're encouraged to keep our problems to ourselves. And finally, in a world of control, we're asked in prayer to yield. We should give up some of that control to the one who controls everything.

At its heart, prayer should reflect our dynamic relationship with God. There is more than one way for us to talk with God; when we do so, we'll discover the richness and depth of our relationship with God.

Blessings,

Pastor Chris

LUMC's annual Back-to-School bash was a great success!



DIY Fall Paint Night at Lexington United Methodist Church

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND
4:00-6:00PM

REGISTER BY: SEPTEMBER 5TH



Choose one of the 22 inch signs to paint while enjoying fellowship!



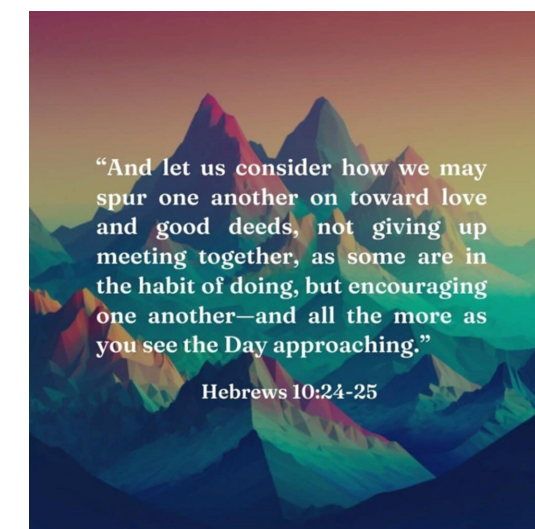
SCAN TO SIGN UP



\$45 +tax

For information call:
979-540-0664 or
512-393-9228

DIY Fall Paint Night
Sunday, September 22nd in the Family Life Center from 4-6PM. Pick from 2 designs; \$45+tax.
Register by September 5th by clicking on the link in the weekly email or scan the QR code on the picture!
Come enjoy fellowship and fun!



"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

Hebrews 10:24-25



On Sunday, August 11th during a combined service we held our Summer Recap. Students who attend BIG House, District Camp and Vacation Bible School helped to lead service and also each took turns telling about their experiences of the summer. Our youth are so grateful to have such a great support system and each are looking forward to what next summer will bring them!



Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.
1Peter 4:10

We have so much to be thankful for! **Volunteers and donors** are definitely at the top of that list!!

Thank you to **Janie Ahrendt** for cooking 4lbs of pinto beans for the Ministerial Alliance is hosting their annual Back-to-School Teacher's Luncheon. Thank you to **Belinda Robertson** for getting them to there! Thank you both for representing LUMC!

Thank you to **ALL** who donated School Supplies! Thank you to the two **families** who adopted students this year!

Thank you to **ALL** the Kitchen Ladies, **Peggy Borgfeld, Kayla Janda** and **Cara Carter** for helping put on the Back-to-School Bash!

Thank you to our Committee Leaders! **Rebecca French, Stephanie Kellenberger, Tina Woodward** and **Kristin Swisher.**

Thank you to **Cindy Herklotz** (Trustee) for all your help in working on the Blue House!

We appreciate you all!

THANK YOU



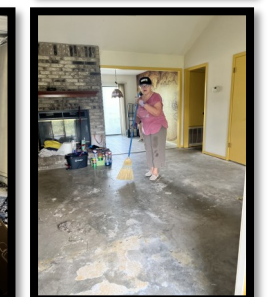
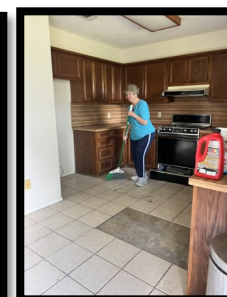
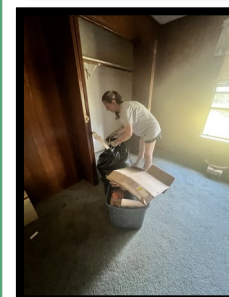
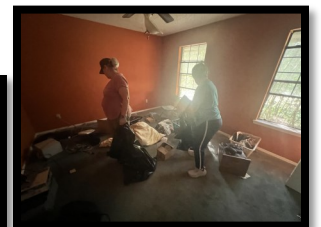
Help us decorate for Christmas! Poinsettia's ordered in **Memory** of and/or in **Honor** of will be placed in the front of service for all to enjoy! **Poinsettia Orders** for Christmas Eve Service are due by Sunday, September 29th. Orders can be placed by filling out a form at the church and returning it to the church office. Poinsettia's are **\$12 per plant.** Poinsettia's are purchased from Down Home Ranch. Plants can be taken home after the Christmas Eve Service.



We are looking for someone who is interested in running our local Christmas Outreach "Angel Tree". LUMC will collect names of families who are in need during the holidays. We reach out to the families to gather the information needed. Then, create "Angel" tags to hang on the Christmas Tree for the congregation to pick-up. The items will be delivered to the church office and then families will be notified so we can deliver them while the children are not home. If you are interested in helping head this program **please reach out to Holly Newton** in the church office.

Workday at the Blue House

Thank you to all those who were able to make it out to the Blue House on Saturday to help out!!



Midweek Methodists

M&M's starts **Wednesday September 4th!**

We currently have **68 kids** registered to be with us this year!!

Ways you can help:

- 1. Your time!** We are looking for volunteers to help watch over the children when they are in the sanctuary and activities.
- 2. Donate items!** Please see our Wal-Mart Wishlist in the weekly email, in service or contact Holly Newton in the church office.

Calendar

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| M&M'S Begins – 9/4 | Spring Semester Begins - 1/22 |
| Last M&M's for Semester – 11/20 | Spring Break – 3/12 |
| Thanksgiving Holiday – 11/27 | Last M&M's for Year – 4/30 |



“Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.” Matthew 28:19



Middle School and High School Youth Groups have started back!!

Middle School Youth starts at **4pm** but latecomers (due to sports are always welcomed) This year Middle School Youth will run until **5:30PM**. Middle schoolers can walk over from the school or be dropped off.

High School Youth Group starts at **6PM** and will end at **7PM**. Each group will enjoy food, fellowship, lessons and recreation. If you are interested in helping with a Youth Group this year please reach out to Holly Newton in the church office.

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

Youth and Children's Sunday Schools will be taking a break during summer!

If you are interested in helping with Youth or Children's Sunday Schools please reach out to Holly Newton in the church office.



- 4—Kaleigh Taizan
- 7—Tara Schaffer
- 7—Stacey Washington
- 9—Jan Woodward
- 11—Michael Brewer
- 13—Pat Rao
- 14—Chris Borgfeld
- 15—Austin Retzlaff
- 15—Dana Brewer
- 20—Misty Schumpert
- 23—Noah Boettcher
- 26— Priscilla Brister
- 28— Lorene Hall



The Central Texas Food Bank is bringing free, healthy food to Lexington! Every month held at the **Lexington City Park 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, September 3rd.**

Charge Conference is once again upon us and one of our joys every year is the celebration of how God is working in our churches! We celebrate what God has done and look forward to how we will follow God's direction in the year ahead.

November 3 - 6 pm
at Bryan Community Church
2901 Austins Colony Pkwy,
Bryan, TX 77808



Tithes + Offerings

Tithes & Offerings

Total Monthly Offerings for **July were \$11,068**

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
- 4. QR Code**



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.

Looking Forward This Fall



Trunk -or- Treat and Chili Cook-off
Halloween, October 31st

At the FLC

Enchilada Lunch Fundraiser

November 3rd

At the FLC





| | Income | Expense |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | \$117,132.63 | \$149,483.31 |
| | | -\$32,350.68 |
| **As of July 31, 2024 | | |

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



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.



A Gift was given to Lexington UMC

"...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.

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 the church office or Pastor to learn more about membership in our congregation.



Children and Youth Sunday School will start back on **Sunday, September 8th!** Back in school...Yay! But we're always in God's school—sharing, listening, learning the joys of being in the light of God as His family...

Children, please come and share learning and exploring how special it is to be God's kids through our Sunday school lessons. We'll draw nearer to God through the love of His Son Jesus Christ.

We begin at **10am**, and conclude at **11:05am**.

Children will meet in the **3rd classroom**; Middle School and High School will meet in the Youth room located in the **Family Life Center**

We teachers-Jennifer Stowers, Holly Newton and Jan Alexander look forward to seeing you all there!

We are looking for volunteer teachers! If you would be interested in teaching Sunday school for the **Elementary ages; 1 or 2 Sundays a month** please contact Jennifer Stowers or Holly Newton.

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

Kairos

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.

Kairos Prison Ministry shares the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ to incarcerated men, women, youth and their families. Kairos sprang from the Cursillo movement and is supported by volunteers from the 4th Day movements such as Cursillo, National Episcopal Cursillo, Presbyterian Cursillo, Lutheran Via de Cristo, The Upper Room's Walk To Emmaus, and independently ecumenical Tres Dias as well as volunteers from independent and nondenominational churches. As a ministry, Kairos embraces a diverse group of volunteers working together to fulfill Christ's call to action in Matthew 25:36. 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, and prayers.** See John Gibbs.

Donations may be sent to Kairos of Texas (Luther in memo), 3515-B Longmire Dr #233, College Station TX 77845.

