The VOICE

September 2025



Lexington United Methodist Church 979-773-2728

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Dear LUMC Family,

Did you know that most Americans rarely attend church anymore? According to a recent study by the Pew Research Group, the leading voice on religion in America, 67% of adults say they attend in person only a few times a year, or not at all. In fact, about half of U.S. adults say they seldom or never step foot inside a church.

And yet, here's the surprising part: 81% of Americans still say they believe in God. That means there's a huge gap; millions of people who believe in God, who may even call themselves Christian, but who aren't living that faith out through the community of the church, the way God intended.

A phrase I hear often is, "I love Jesus, but I don't need the church." On the surface, that may sound appealing, even modern. But the problem is... well, it's Jesus. In Matthew 16, Jesus makes it clear that His plan to continue His work after the Resurrection was through the church. And when we look at the book of Acts, what do we see? The apostles spent years traveling from city to city, sharing the good news and planting churches. The church was never meant to be optional; it was always God's design for how His people would grow in faith and live out the mission of Christ together.

The church today is still called to that exact purpose. For 2,000 years, the church has been God's chosen way of connecting people to Himself. The God who loves us so deeply and longs for us to know Him. That hasn't changed.

But here's the part that hits closer to home: we, right here in Lexington, Texas, need to ask ourselves some honest questions. Are we showing the world a true picture of Jesus' church? Or do we sometimes fall into the traps of being a consumer church, an angry church, a cliquish church, an inhospitable church, a lifeless church... even a wounding church? Are we a people who push others away from God, instead of drawing them closer to Him?

That's why over the month of September, I want us to lean into this question together: What does it mean to be a church that invites? A church that doesn't just exist for itself, but one that lives out Jesus' mission, welcoming people into the life of God with open arms.

Blessings, Pastor Chris

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M&M's starts Wednesday September 3rd!

We currently have 66 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; as well as someone to clean tables after eating.
- 2. **Donate items!** Please see our Wal-Mart and Amazon Wishlist by scanning the QR codes above, in the weekly email, in service or contact Holly Newton in the church office.

Fall Calendar

M&M'S Begins - 9/3

Last M&M's for Semester - 11/19













A Gift was given to Lexington UMC

In Memory of Susan Hatfield

by... Matt and Judy Everett



"...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.

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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 28th. 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.



Total Monthly Offerings for July were \$27,268.

Thank you for continuing to send in your tithes! 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



"Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it." Proverbs 22:6



- 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
- 26— Priscilla Brister
- 28— Lorene Hall







Middle School and High School Youth Groups will start back on Wednesday, August 20th.

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.









The Central Texas Food Bank is bringing free, healthy food to Lexington! Every month held at the Lexington City Park at 10 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, August 5th.

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



Summer Recap Sunday

Youth and Adults helped with service and talked about all the amazing summer blessings!











Communion—Will be on September 7th, 2025. We will have communion in both services at 9:30 and 11:15 AM. We hope you can join us!

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.



Our Prayer Group meets **every Tuesday** morning at **10 AM** in the middle class room to pray for those on our prayer list. Everyone is invited to join!

Lexington UMC Membership

We would love for you to become a part of the Lexington United Methodist church family. Our church community promises to nurture your faith and walk with you through the journeys of life. As you get involved in small groups, Bible studies or missions, you will enjoy faith – filled relationships with others. If you are interested in joining, please let the Pastor know on Sunday or call the church office. Pastor Chris will walk you through the membership process, and will help you pick a Sunday to take your vows of membership at the end of a worship service.

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