

# Lexington UMC Housebold of Faith

### December 2018

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Don't Miss these:	
Advent Activities	
Article about Mary Scott's lemonade stand	

Labyrinth Walk

**Movie Night** 



Advent and Christmas traditions are all important to us. We celebrate the season with timeless traditions. Some traditions are quite old.

1. The Christmas tree began as a German tradition as early as A.D. 700 and moved to England and America through immigrants.

2. The first manufactured Christmas Tree ornament was sold at Woolworth's in 1880. Martin Luther is credited with first decorating trees with candles in the sixteenth century. Calvin Coolidge ceremoniously lit the first outdoor tree at the White House in 1923.

- 3. Mistletoe has been used as a decoration for thousands of years, but because of its association with pagan rituals, the Church forbade its use in any form, suggesting holly as a substitute. The pointed leaves of the holly symbolize the thorns on Christ's crown and the red berries, the drops of his blood.
- 4. Christmas cards started in London in 1843 and in America in 1848. Today, about two billion Christmas cards are exchanged each year in the United States.

(Marshall Brain, "How Christmas Works,")

Living God's Word~

Sharing God's Love

There are some who would like to see the world move away from tradition and do things new. While that may not be a bad idea with reference to some traditions...with Christmas, it would be a shame. For Christmas proclaims an *"old, old story that will never lose its power and glory."* Be mindful of our Christmas traditions as they stand the test of time just as the eternal Word of God remains timeless.

Please find your place in December in anticipation of the birth of Christ. We do not just remember...we try to relive as much of the story as possible for the good of all. Prepare your calendar for what's happening at LUMC. See page 2 for schedule.

Allow me to propose a few more traditions:

- 1. Gather as a family around the Christmas Tree on Christmas morning and read the Gospel account of the birth of Christ.
- 2. Say a prayer for all and make a plan to help someone less fortunate.
- 3. Leave your decorations up beyond Christmas day to commemorate the season. I know, the tree needs to go quickly. Leave some of the other decorations up to inspire continued celebration. Christmas is more than a day.

And just one more tradition. From the Ministry Team of LUMC we wish you and yours a glorious Advent and a Merry Christmas.

Ken Timmerman

### Advent is Here!

**Advent Activities** 

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No services on Christmas Day nor New Year's Day.

### Outreach News

**Update on Walk to End Alzheimer's**: Our LUMC team walked on Nov.3 in support of ending Alzheimer's. The collections from our flower/exchange donations and other donations in support totaled \$1432.22! Thank you for your love of others in need, for your support of these ministries which care for the ill or those in less fortunate circumstances. LUMC always provides a team willing to show LUMC's love and care as disciples of Christ. Thank you for participating and giving!

Connie Brock, Lynn Brewer, Alexis Watts, Lindsey Woolley

### Epworth Home News

Kudos to Mary Scott Handell and family. This article appeared in the Epworth Children's Home newsletter:



Epworth's Foster Care Program is quickly growing as individuals and families in Columbia and the surrounding areas are stepping up to open their hearts and homes to children in need. The program currently has fourteen licensed foster homes and just as many completing the process. While not everyone may be able to foster, everyone can do something to impact the foster care community. No matter your age, ability, or schedule, your passions and talents can make an impact. This was recently proven true by five special girls, who unprompted, wanted to do something to help foster children. Their "something" came in the form of lemonade stands. Sisters Vivienne, Lucy

Katherine, and Betsy Fonte are the daughters of Chris and Katie Fonte who are currently in the process of becoming a licensed foster family with our program. They set up their stand weekly throughout the summer to bring awareness to their Rosewood neighbors. **Mary Scott Handell, daughter of Epworth Foster Parents Kevin and Katy Handell,** along with her friend, set up their stand and created a colorful sign with a powerful message- "You are not alone." The efforts of all of these young business women raised over \$200 for the Foster Care Program. You too can show foster children and foster parents that they are not alone. From spreading awareness and raising money with lemonade sales, to supporting foster parents or even becoming one yourself, it takes a village. Epworth's Foster Care Program is very thankful for that village! *If you would like more information about how you can make a difference for children in your community, we would love to talk with you! You may contact Haley Huff at 803-828-7724 orhhuff@epworthsc.org.* From *The Record, News from Epworth*, Fall, 2018.



If you chose an "Angel Wish" for a child who lives at Epworth Home, please be sure to return your gifts, unwrapped, no later than December 2

## Nativity Movie Night



Don't miss this **perfect** addition to the **Advent season**—two wonderful movies that tell the story of the birth of our Savior.



Children, you're invited to wear your pajamas and bring a blanket or pillow to get comfy to watch *The Star*.

The movie tells the story through the eyes of the animals. "It takes many tails to tell the greatest story ever" A small but brave donkey and his animal friends become the unsung heroes of the first Christmas. A great follow-up to the Children's Nativity story program.

# CHILDREN, YOUTH AND ADULTS: PLEASE BRING LOTS OF PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY FOR SNACK SACKS



**The Nativity Story,** for adults, youth and maybe older children (older children may want to watch this one, *parents can decide*, see description here: <u>https://dove.org/review/6169-the-nativity-story/</u>)

The movie transports you back to Nazareth, before the of the birth of Jesus, to live the story of Mary and Joseph. The movie is biblically based and is a wonderful imagining of the Nativity story. Who knew the Wise Men were full of humor?

Please do not miss this movie!

# **December 5** (last Fall Wed. night supper). Both Movies begin at 5:45 pm Children meet in the KidsWay room, 4th/5th grade in BreakOut room The Nativity Story is in MC005/007

Children will stay in KidsWay room until *The Nativity Story* has finished (about 15 minutes) Movie will be finished by 7:25 pm

Adults: If you need to bring your supper to the movie, please plan to do so. The Wednesday night Supper Crew will have disposable plates, etc. available for you to fill your plates and bring to movie (\$6); or you can "brown bag" your supper.

Movie candy, popcorn and drinks will be available.

## Love Feast and the Labyrinth

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#### The Origins of the Love Feast

The first Love Feast was served in Germany on August 13, 1727, following the renewal of the Moravian Church. The Love Feast, or Agape Meal, is a Christian fellowship meal recalling the meals Jesus shared with disciples during his ministry and expressing the koinonia (community, sharing, fellowship) enjoyed by the family of Christ. Although its origins in the early church are closely interconnected with the origins of the Lord's Supper, the two services became quite distinct and should not be confused with each other.

The Love Feast is styled after the common meal partaken in love and fellowship by the early church as described in the book of Acts:

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Acts. 2:42

The Love Feast nourishes the soul, give us pause and inspire; and transport us to sacred realms and add beauty to our often complicated lives. John Wesley first experienced it among the Moravians in Savannah, Georgia. His diary notes: "After evening prayers, we joined with the Germans in one of their love-feasts. It was begun and ended with thanksgiving and praver, and celebrated in so decent and solemn a manner as a Christian of the apostolic age would have allowed to be worthy of Christ."

John Wesley instituted this service in the Methodist church after the Moravian pattern:

During the love feast a small meal of a bun and mug of coffee is served. "A simple, ritual meal where hymns are sung, special music shared, and scripture is read." The Christmas Love Feast is made special with the addition of candles, lit at the end of the service as a reminder of the light of Christ's love.



If you long for a moment's peace and quiet in this sometimes hectic season; if you seek an alternative path to prayer and meditation; if you're curious and seeking, then come and walk with us and discover the joy the Christ Child brings.

When our labyrinth is unfolded and in place -- and lit only by battery-operated candles and a bit of natural light through the windows Wesley Hall is transformed into a special place.

Labyrinths are an ancient form of 'walking meditation', which flowered in medieval times with the building of the great gothic cathedrals in Europe. Our labyrinth is canvas, measures 36' across, and is a replica of the famous "Chartres Labyrinth" built 800 years ago at Chartres Cathedral in France.

According to Veriditas, an organization that promotes labyrinths worldwide, labyrinths are used to "quiet the mind, recover balance in life, and encourage meditation, insight, self-reflection, stress reduction, and to discover innovation and celebration. The practice of labyrinth walking integrates the body with the mind & mind with the spirit."

#### **Guidelines for a walk:**

People of all faiths, ages and abilities are welcome to walk or sit quietly in contemplation. Please begin your walk 30 minutes before closing time. A finger labyrinth is available for those who can't walk.

Quiet your mind. Allow yourself to find the pace your body wants to go, walking quickly with prayer, or a slow meditative walk. Since the path is two-way, those going in will meet those coming out. You may "pass" people or let others step around you. Do what feels natural. Walk the labyrinth with an open mind and an open heart.

Watch our labyrinth video here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XUVf-GyNSxU Idea for you to keep Christ in your Holiday Season

## R E V E R S E ADVENT CALENDAR EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX. ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A FOOD BANK. Mission Lexington December 1 - box of cereal December 2 - peanut butter December 3 - stuffing mix December 4 - boxed potatoes December 5 - macaroni and cheese December 6 - canned fruit December 7 - canned tomatoes December 8 - canned tuna December 9 - dessert mix December 10 - jar of applesauce December 11 - canned sweet potatoes December 12 - cranberry sauce December 13 - canned beans December 14 - box of crackers December 15 - package of rice December 16 - package of oatmeal December 17 - package pasta December 18 - spaghetti sauce December 19 - chicken noodle soup December 20 - tomato soup December 21 - can corn December 22 - can mixed vegetables December 23 - can carrots December 24 - can green beans PASSIONATEPENNYPINCHER.COM



Angel Tree-Christmas gifts for children of those incarcerated. The Angel tree still has 3 angels on it! If you'd like to help with this important ministry, please pick an angel from the tree that is located in the area between Wesley Hall and Asbury Hall and put your name & phone number on the check out sheet.

Shop for your child and bring your gifts with the angel attached to the church office by Sunday, Dec. 9. We will also need some Santa helpers to deliver the gifts. Contact Chuck (687-3748) or Candy (687-3884) Brennan if you'd like to help deliver.

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# UMW



Ladies, please join the United Methodist Women for the

## Christmas Tea, December 9, 2 to 4 pm

A Time of Remembering and Celebration the Blessings of the Season

We will remember the reason for the season, remember UMW women lost this year, celebrate our new members and our new officers.

Annie Laurie George Circle will provide the delicious desserts and tea.

Program—Katie Bell Fox Circle, Mary Hazelton Susanna Wesley Circle, Sally Meise, Robin Andrews Mission Spotlights: Nancy K Perry Children's Shelter, Epworth Children's Home



The approaching Christmas holidays does not bring with it the joy and happiness that is advertised on television or in greeting cards for many people. Not everyone is up and cheery for the Christmas holidays. Dealing with the death of a loved one; facing life after divorce or separation; coping with the loss of a job; living with cancer or some other disease that puts a question mark over the future; feel-

ing pressured and overwhelmed by holiday preparations; and a number of other human situations make the parties and merriness painful for many. Join with others in this service of comfort and hope—consolation that you are not alone in your grief—and that others care, most especially Christ.



The 2019 UMCSC Adult Spiritual Retreat is scheduled for Jan. 29-31, the <u>Landmark</u> <u>Resort</u> in <u>Myrtle Beach</u>.

The Rev. Angela Ford Nelson, pastor of Good Hope Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church in Camden, will be the keynote speaker. There also will be opportunities for study, workshops, recreation and fellowship. The retreat – hosted by Adult Ministries of the South Carolina Annual Conference – costs \$185, which includes four meals and two receptions

Registration here: http://www.umcsc.org/data/adultretreat.php

Once you register for the retreat, you will receive an email confirmation. Call the phone number in that email to book your room(s) at the group rate. One person should make a reservation on behalf of everyone staying in the room. All rooms are oceanfront standard double or king:

1 person per room: \$170 for two nights

2 people per room: \$170 for two nights

3 people per room: \$201 for two nights

4 people per room: \$215 for two nights

Deadline for retreat registration and hotel booking at conference rate: Jan. 4, 2019



## Children's Ministry exington

At LUMC we promise to surround our children with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life. Methodist Church

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Join us at Carolina Gardens to spread some Christmas cheer! (behind Wolfs Gym off of Hwy 1) All Ages and stages are welcome to participate!

Meet Jaimee O'Neal in the lobby at 4:15 pm on Wednesday, December 12. This is the time to share your talents. There is a piano available for those who would like to play a Christmas song for the audience. Come prepared! Parents/guardians do need to accompany their children at all times. Come dressed to spread your holiday cheer! Wear your favorite Christmas sweater! Finished in time for birthday party at church.



e Joi of Christmas

All 4th and 5th graders are invited to our



WESLEY HALL 5:30pm . . . . . . . . .

LEXINGTON UMC

A pizza dinner will be served donations toward dinner will be given to the LUMC Snack Sack Ministry

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . IN LIEU OF GIFTS. PLEASE BRING ITEMS FOR THE LUMC SNACK SACK MINISTRY

> LET US CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF JESUS AT A CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

DECEMBER 2, 2018 11:00 A.M. WESLEY HALL

There will be one combined worship service at 11:00. Preschool Nursery and Children's Church will not be held. We encourage all children to attend the service.

> Saturday, December 22 5-7 pm The Register's House 168 Dark Hollow Drive

Join us for food, games, and a white elephant (\$10 max) gift exchange! Please email jennifer@lexumcsc.com to RSVP and to sign up to bring a dish!

## YOUth News



Middle school and high school are separate for Sunday school. Both groups will be studying the four **Gospels** for Fall. Join us at 10:00 am each Sunday

#### December events:

- 2 Fun Night:
  - **Middle Schoolers**—meet at Frankie Fun Park from 4-6 pm. The cost is \$20, due to Elizabeth, for a group package, but you can bring more money if you want for the video games.

**High Schoolers**—join us for ice skating at Columbiana Centre parking lot from 6:30-8:30p. Cost is \$10!

- 9 Lexington County combined worship night at Mt. Hebron UMC from 5:30-8pm. Wear your tacky sweater!
- 16 Christmas Party-Bring a white elephant gift.



The Youth are selling new "Love God Love People" t-shirts for \$20 to raise money for the middle school mission trip to Memphis next summer.

They can be purchased via Rev. Elizabeth Murray at any time. Sizes available are: Youth M, L and Adult S-XL.

6:15—7:15 pm



Middle School: *Believe-it-or Not* Bible Study (Pack Snack Sacks 1st Wednesdays) High School: *Love Does* DVD study 3rd Wednesdays: Off site mission project, 6—7:15, All youth



Our church support of the Snack Sack Ministry is very strong. You support this program with your time by packing the meals, unloading the delivery trucks and delivering the meals to our schools. Most of all your donations allow the purchase of the food that we deliver, the materials that we use to carry the food to each school and the bags that each child uses to carry the food home. Without each of you, Snack Sack would not be suc-

cessfully feeding 525 students in 10 schools in 2 Districts each week.

We always need funding. Our monthly cost is now over \$9000.00. Our bank balance is very low. Please help. PLEASE REMEMBER TO DONATE TO THIS MINISTRY WHEN POSSIBLE.

Rick Cunningham

(It takes \$20 a month to provide a bag for one child. If you pledged to support a "sack for a child" last February during our Love Our Church month, please remember to donate your \$20 each month.)

## Member News

Gifts in memory of:

**Betsy Marshall** Rex & Vicki Boylston Peggy Byess Cynthia Satcher

#### **Ruby Rawl**

Norman & Marilyn Boyd Barr-Price Funeral Homes Paul & Gale Harman James & Carol Metts Betty "Frankie" Sharpe Robert & Barbara Weed Robert & Barbara Lowman Charlotte Compton

James Steele Josephine DeBruhl



A big shout out and THANK YOU to all of the volunteer receptionists, bulletin stuffers, attendance posters, sanctuary and ANew stewards, nursery workers, scripture readers, ushers, greeters, trustees, acolytes, and the many others that help to make LUMC complete! We love our church volunteers and we couldn't do it without you!

Matthew 4:5

Gifts in honor of:

Earle & Rev. Patty Mayfield

emor

**Ruby Kaminer Rawl** 

**November 5, 2018** 

Lewis Bryant Davis, Jr.

November 24, 2018

Blessed are those who

mourn, for they will be

comlorted.

**Clara Bryan** 

We are so thankful for the ways in which you give to Lexington United Methodist Church, not just during the holiday season, but all year long.



Have you upgraded your LCD TV to a Smarter TV, or just a bigger screen size? Does your old TV need a new home? If so, we have rooms at church where we would like to add newer TVs, preferably 40" or larger

We **do not** want old TVs that look like this:



Just flat panel models that can be mounted to the wall.

Please email <u>Swmitton@gmail.com</u> if you have one to give. Thank you/



An anonymous donor family has offered to to match donations made in December, up tp \$15,000, for a church bus. What a generous offer! The purchase of a new, reliable bus for LUMC would provide transportation for our youth, senior

adults and others for outings, trips and service projects.

You can make your donations out to LUMC by check (memo: bus fund; online at: <u>lexumcsc.com/give</u>; or through your personal bank's online account (if you have that set up), memo or note line: attention bus fund.

When we meet this goal at the end of 2018 there will be an additional \$30,000 in our current bus fund, and a new bus can be purchased at the beginning of 2019.

> (Whoop, Whoop!) Thank you for your generosity to this fund.



Jennifer Anthos and Olivia 420 Settlers Trail Lexington, SC 29072



Jennifer Anthos Olivia Anthos October 28, 2018 Page 9

# Happy December Birthdays:

- 12/1 Rowe, Tracy Cato, Kris12/2 Johnson, Caro
- 12/2 Johnson, Carolyn Maxwell, Matt12/3 Edens, Ashley
- Setzer, Dianne 12/4 Bowman, Cindy Bradham, Gregory
- Sinclair, Sutton 12/5 Severson, Briana Brown, Sammie Pierce, Teresa Macaulay, Frank Macaulay, Deryl Reynolds, Harvey Cunningham, Angie
- 12/6 Epting, Anne Landry, Weatherly Fogle, Bruce Robbins, Vivian Bumgardner, Deb Montgomery, Brad Hayes, Nicole Kurtz, Ginny Bodie, Barbara
- 12/7 Denny, Everette Lowery, Lillian Coleman, Elsy Britner, MyKenzie Duffie, Kathryn Seeby, Frank DeBruhl, Louis Field, Meghan

12/8 Guy, Matt Guy, Joseph Taylor, Todd Logan, Michael Roberts, Gralynn Reynolds, David
12/9 Turner, Cody

- 12/10 Craig, Candace Bennett, Allen Brandes, Todd Grubbs, Kristin Davison, Alison Lyles, Debra
- 12/11 Gatch, Dolores Young, Jack O'Neal, Olivia Parnell. Brice Millwood, Greg 12/12 Palmer, Trish Masters, Maddie Masters, Emma Kerwin, Joey Athey, Jim Powell, Craig Dunnagan, Donna 12/13 Loadholt, Stephanie Robbins, Charlie 12/14 Lovell, Phillip Jack, Michael Pautz. Willis 12/15 Stuber, Lois McGee, Deanna Childers, Ann

Rainey, Cameron Bodie, Bill 12/16 Brown. David Burnett, Steve Gourley, Hannah Boylston, Vicki Anderson, Melanie McGill, Jim 12/17 Spence, Kitty Rish, Gary 12/18 Brabham, Sandra Smith. Cameron Owens, Eric Bowman, Matthew McGee. Kevin Collins, Del 12/19 Britner, Adam Baker, Edens Pendergrass, Samuel 12/20 Beckum, Edie Rivers, Cliff Setzer, Tony Folk, Vonnie 12/21 Crossman, Douglas Culler, Jenny Atwood, Stephanie Giles, Colton 12/22 Young, Sandra Edwards, Summer Cimburke, Ann Mack, Nancy 12/23 Murphy, Ruth

Seeby, Kathy

Dill, Cody Dill, Lacy Bashline, Donna 12/24 Brabham, Luanne Bickel, Donald Whetstone, Joseph 12/25 Hutson, Ron 12/26 Trezise, Zoe Goldsmith, Jackson Vernon. William Wicker. Eli Blume, Mack Hakim, Cam 12/27 Randhawa, Amber Wilson, Penny Hellams, Carrie Keith, Barry Kunkle, Jill Myers, Don 12/28 Johnson, Lorri Rankin, Zach Rogers, Levy DeBerry, Sarah Stevenson, Taylor 12/29 Gregory, Mike Betcher, Sutton 12/30 Johnson, Briggs O'Neal. Conner Martin, Colin Parnell, Ken Corley, Mary 12/31 Smiley, Pat





Wednesday mornings at 6:31 AM



Remember, if you can't make it on Sunday mornings, there is the Tuesday Evening Service at 6:30 pm.

#### Lexington United Methodist Church

309 E Main St Lexington, SC 29072

Return Service Requested



May the God of hope fill you with all **JOY AND PEACE** as you trust in him so that you may overflow with **HOPE** by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13



#### We're on the web: http://www.lexumcsc. com



lexumc



Lexington United Methodist

Church office: 803-359-6838

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## **Church Staff**

Dr. Jerry Gatch,

Ken Robbins,

Lessie Polk,

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#### **Age-Level Ministries**

Katie Vitters,Children's MinistryJennifer Cammann,4th/5th Grade CoordinatorRev. Elizabeth Murray,Youth PastorSusan Unger,Director of Preschool

katie@lexumcsc.com jennifer@lexumcsc.com elizabeth@lexumcsc.com susanu@lexumcsc.com

### **Music Ministries**

Director of Chancel Choir Organist Director of Children & Youth Choirs