



Lexington UMC
Household of Faith



Living God's Word~
Sharing God's Love

April 2020

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I remember many facets of Easter as I grew from being a child to an adult. As Easter approaches I have been thinking about the many things I have learned.

- ✠ I remember waking on Easter morning to get an Easter basket and being taught that the eggs were symbols of God's love and the resurrection.
- ✠ I remember being taught that new clothes on Easter were not nearly as important as a new heart.
- ✠ I remember growing up and learning to love singing "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" and the great celebrations that music inspired.
- ✠ I remember pictures of family and the church and the beautiful lilies.
- ✠ I remember thanking God for people like the Reverend Dr. John M. Younginer, Jr. whose ministry taught me about the significance of Lent and how important it is to remember and to relive the journey to the cross and the victory of the empty tomb.
- ✠ I remember the great power of hearing grand Easter music and how the message of Easter rings forth through it.
- ✠ I remember the many flowers decorating the Living Cross
- ✠ I remember the numbers of people coming to worship.

Easter is a great day in the life of the church. In the resurrection of Jesus comes the promise of new life and the gift of eternal salvation. Is there greater news? The Gospel of Mark declares that when those who encountered the empty tomb left, they did in silence and said nothing to anyone. It was Easter silence. Yet, the world got the message!

All of our April worship opportunities will be online including Holy Week...Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunrise. Worship "in home" will remain in place until April 30, as per directions from the Bishop. These challenging times call for us to exhibit extraordinary resolve as we remain one in Christ, though not in person.

All services are on You tube (Lexington United Methodist) or can be found on our website lexumcsc.com

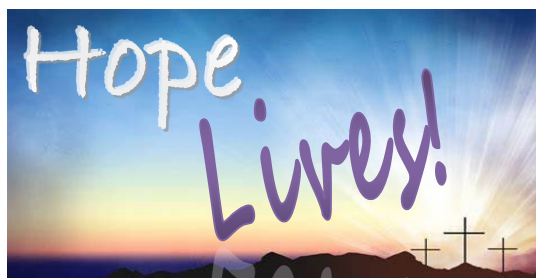


Continued on page 2

Beyond Easter, April is also the time when we will hear of changes coming. Most changes are not enjoyed because change can be difficult. Yet, God is in the changes coming our way. And God is good...all the time. As we live out our Easter faith there are some random thoughts I want to share. They are below:

- ✚ There is no such thing as wrapping up a ministry. Ministry belongs to God. It is my intent to press on and keep breaking new ground for the good of the Kingdom.
- ✚ I'd like to see us working on the creation of small groups in the church. Some call them neighborhood groups. It is a gathering of no more than 12 and the primary thing to be talked about for an hour and a half is, "What is God doing in your life now?" Small groups are about spiritual growth. In churches, many problems we have are actually spiritual problems and can only be resolved in spiritual ways.
- ✚ I'm pleased that since we do not have a children's minister yet that we are adjusting our VBS plans. The four evenings planned for different days and times will be a blessing. We are coloring outside the lines and doing a new thing. Also, I have never believed that a staff person should be directing VBS. Katie Vitters did an amazing job, but I believe members should be selected to direct VBS annually. The staff person should be a resource person and help those directing and leading.
- ✚ Please keep working toward debt reduction.
- ✚ Mission needs to grow and gain a life of its own. We do some things now, but we need growth in this area. Establishing our own mission teams could be a part of that. Habitat for Humanity is great. Snack Sacks is wonderful and need ever expanding growth. Mission Lexington is good. Redbird Mission is something we need to support. Apportionments are a part of our mission too.
- ✚ Member to member care is important. Take note of attendance and notice who is and who is not present. Seek out faces that you miss and ask, "Is there something you need for me to pray about? Are you okay? You are missed."

Lastly, Easter changes everything. The power of God over death and the glory of God seen in the resurrection raises us who believe to new life and a greater sense of purpose.



Ken Timmerman



The story of **Holy Week** is not exactly family-friendly, but that doesn't mean we can skip the part about Jesus' journey to the cross when sharing our faith with our children.

"I think it's important for parents to share the whole story of **Holy Week**," says Kathy Schmucker, Spiritual Formation Director at Faith United Methodist Church in North Canton, Ohio. "Often children are in worship on Palm Sunday and then not again until Easter Sunday and they miss out on these important stories of our faith."

Mark Burrows, Director of Children's Ministries at First United Methodist Church in Fort Worth, Texas agrees. "One of my mantras around here is, Children need more, and want more, than rainbows and butterflies... Without the Holy Week experiences," he continues, "the story is incomplete."

Adults should be mindful of how they tell children the difficult and sad story of Jesus' death, but children are capable of processing it when shared appropriately.

"Children are open to the cycle of life and the reality that everything has birth and dies," Melanie Gordon, former Director of Ministry with Children with Discipleship Ministries of The United Methodist Church explains. "We only need to make it simple for them. Talk to them in terms they will understand."

Maundy (Holy) Thursday

Water and washing: During Holy Week we can do a foot washing on Maundy Thursday," the night Jesus washed his disciples' feet (John 13). "We can create similar moments in the home at bath time, while washing the dishes, or watching rain. As the water makes everything clean, Jesus makes us clean and new through the forgiveness of our sins."



A family meal: Dinner on Holy Thursday can also be a teaching moment. Share with your children how when Jesus gathered his disciples for that special meal, he told them he was excited to be with them before things got difficult (see Luke 22:15). Tell your children how much you enjoy eating dinner together. Remind them that they can come to you when things are hard, and that you and Jesus will always be there for them.



Good Friday

Acknowledge sadness: Sharing the painful and sad story of Good Friday with your children can be challenging. "We talk about the day Jesus died, that he died on a cross, and that it hurt," Burrows explains. "But we don't focus on what people did to Jesus. Instead, we focus on what Jesus was doing for them—blessing the people, asking God to forgive, he even blesses another who is on the cross."

Burrows reminds parents that "children can't un-see images or un-hear words." He continues, "I work very hard to be honest without being graphic." It is a good time to remind children that sometimes we feel sad, and that is OK. God is with us even in our sadness.

Legos and butterflies: One year, Schmucker taught children about grief by telling them about the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem. She shared people's sadness at the destruction of the Temple, an image Jesus used to talk about his death (John 2:18-22). She also told them that people today write prayers and place them in the crevices in the wall. The children then helped her build a prayer wall out of Legos. When it was complete, they put their prayers in the wall. We can do this at home.



Or, we can set aside places in our homes for our families to write their prayers on scraps of colored paper each day during Holy Week. Then on Easter Sunday, the family can work together to make a colorful butterfly collage with the prayers.

"I believe it's important ... that [parents] also share the Resurrection story so that children are learning the whole story, that this is a story of God's amazing love for us," Schmucker concludes. "The events of Maundy Thursday and Holy Week may be hard to hear and tell, but they are important to our understanding Easter."



From: <https://www.umc.org/en/content/teaching-children-about-holy-week-telling-the-whole-story>

LUMC Sewing Ministry Update and Request for Help: What happens when a small group of ladies who love to sew get together to sew for others? We have a LOT of fun and get a lot done! LUMC's sewing ministry "**SEW FAITHFUL**" began meeting in February of 2019 and so far have made 603 feminine hygiene pads, 64 cloth bags, 69 dresses. All of these will be delivered to women and children in Zimbabwe and other areas in great need. Once we can get back to gathering as a church again, check out our display in Asbury Hall of some of the beautiful dresses that have been made.



How can you help?

- ◇ Pray for our ministry.
- ◇ Volunteer.
- ◇ Make a financial contribution to help purchase needed materials.

If you have questions or want to volunteer, call Terrie Morrison (957-2089). If you can help financially, checks can be made payable to LUMC and put in the offering plate, but be sure to indicate the donation is for "Sewing Ministry" on the memo line.

**Mission
Lexington**



Mission Lexington is one of our local partners that is on the front lines meeting the needs of folks here in Lexington County. They are in need of the following items to restock their food pantry:

Personal hygiene items, canned chicken, tuna or stew, jelly, canned pastas, soup, rice, pasta sauce, boxed mashed potatoes.

Please drop off at 401 Jericho Court, Lexington



100% OF DONATIONS ARE USED TO SUPPORT THIS MINISTRY. Volunteers from LUMC and the community shop for food items, unload trucks and pallets, prepare items for packing, pack items into grocery bags, and deliver bags to schools.

Today, we feed 525 students each week of school and serve ten schools in Lexington School District One and Two.

We now deliver meals of canned meat (Spaghetti, Beans and Frank's and Macaroni and Cheese), cereal or grits and oatmeal, 1% Milk, fruit in pouches and snack items. These meals have protein and provide five meals for each weekend.



The Importance of the Egg: Children and Easter



**EASTER
TRADITIONS**

<https://youtu.be/Gv8bCsS5dz4> : In this video experts, from the age of five to ten, as well as the Rev. Mary Jane Pierce Norton, talk about the traditions of the Easter egg — from hunting eggs, to coloring them, to the egg as a symbol of new life. The egg became associated with Easter somewhere near the 400s and was often a food that was given up at Lent. According to Norton, "In some of the early church traditions, people brought their eggs to the church to be blessed before they ate them, as the first joyful food of Easter." Enjoy!



In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see. Hymn of Promise

Both a symbol of transformation and resurrection, the butterfly is a mesmerizing creation that captures the beauty of God's creative power. A butterfly is a symbol of Easter because it begins life as a caterpillar and changes into a chrysalis where it appears to be dead. An amazing change or transformation is actually happening inside the chrysalis and out of the chrysalis comes a beautiful butterfly!

Our butterflies have been nurtured at the homes of David Marshall and Lori Meyers. Lori has posted a video here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/11bXIUzRgMJnaMBrJrIp_iaT0IIjN0EbA/view?usp=sharing



Bobby Bowers

Helen Rivers
John & Connie Cooper
Nelle Matthews
Dr. Albert & Helen Thomas
George & Harriette Kinard
Ned & Ann Wallace
Hugh & Maro Rogers
Billy & Brenda Fuller
Rick & Stephanie Thain
Sammie B. George, II
Linda Gladden
Janes & Jenniger McGill
Bill & Barbara Bodie
John & Joyce Bumgarner
Mary Hazelton
Richard Davis
Thomas Harman, Jr.
George & Kathryn Dorn
Shirley Bowers
Reggie & Heather Corley
Woody & Brenda Manus
Cynthia Satcher
James & Carolyn Fields
James Meggs
Joy Fellers
Paul & Gale Harman
Jerry & Doris Richardson
Warren & Rebecca McCormack
Caroline & Liz Bryson
Charles & Dolores Gatch
Myron & Linda Corley
Mr. & Mrs. Warren Wells
Bobbie Goldin
P.D. & Cheryl Bullard
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Metts
Little Folks Daycare
Charlie & Debra Rountree
David & Theresa Hodge
Brian Blatt
Bill & Linda Gillespie
Terry & Susan Fellers
Edith Harmon
Bill & Allene Dubose
Wynona Cox
SC School Boards Association
Tom & Becky Inabinet
John & Janice Rockholz
LHS Class of 1965
William & Mary Low
Ginny Kurtz

Ronnie & Linda Cromer
Charlie & Lessie Polk
Otis & Melissa Rawl
Ken & Linda Clarke
Mary Ann Green
Bob & Cindy Graham
Wade & Alice Jackson
Ed & Reve Richardson
Terry & Daisy Hicks
Tim & Ann Chandler

**My Family: Roy Wilson,
Jim Clark,
O.H. & Toona Wilson,
Max Wilson,
Betty & Jerry Jones
Joyce Clark**

Rock Gladden
Linda Gladden

Mike Burton
Helen Rivers

Robert Scoggins
John & Connie Cooper

John & Joyce Bumgarner

Phillip & Julie Mentnech
Jamie & Jennie Bumgarner
Dr. Albert & Helen Thomas



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

swmitton@gmail.com if you have one to give. Thank you



If you would like to give online, you can do so here:

<https://www.shelbygiving.com/app/giving/lexumc>

Or you can give through your own bank, or send your tithe by mail.

A lovely way to celebrate moms, grandmoms and all the special women in our lives !
We are hoping to still hold this event.

If you would like to decorate a table,
please contact Mary Alice Bechtler mabechtler@hotmail.com or (803) 315-8185

Festival of Tables

May 9

Wesley Hall

11:00 am ~ doors open

Luncheon ~ 12:00 pm

Tickets:

\$15, adults

\$5, children under 10

*On sale beginning soon, watch for updates
find a U/MW member before & after
church services*

or call 359-0058 for ticket information

Proceeds benefit UMW missions:

*Bethlehem Center, Epworth Home, Epworth
Foster Care, Killingsworth Home, LaVie
Crisis Pregnancy Center,
Wallace Family Life,
N K. Perry Children's Shelter*

Menu:

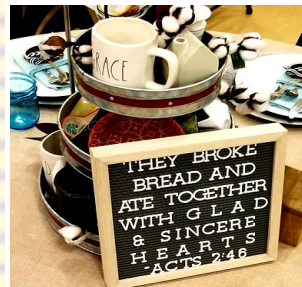
*Chicken Caesar
and Veggie Wraps*

Pasta Salad, Fruit

Dessert Bar

Children: 1/2 wrap, chips, fruit

Dessert Bar



This year we are bringing **SUMMER EXCITEMENT** to the whole congregation. In lieu of Vacation Bible School



(VBS), you're invited to "**A Very BLESSED SUMMER.**" We are grateful for our past VBS volunteers, and we pray that each of you can use this opportunity to nourish yourself a bit.

Some of our volunteers and staff have discerned that "**A Very BLESSED SUMMER**" experience is the way to go for both children and adults in our congregation and community this summer. The purpose of "**A Very BLESSED SUMMER**" is to engage with those you know from the church and also have the opportunity to meet new people in a Christian environment, and grow in our knowledge and Spirit. This is a different way for us to worship together—young and old, single and married; an opportunity for all of us to grow in faith together.

LUMC will host **FOUR** interactive nights filled with Worship, Work, and the Word. Each night will begin with a brief worship, a craft, activity, or mission project to work on, followed by *Sharing God's Word* together. Each person will receive a take home memento from the Bible lesson.

Again, "**A Very BLESSED SUMMER**" is for **all** children, youth, and adults.

No dinner will be provided—we encourage you to eat with your family or friends, before or after.

More specific information about each night will be provided closer to the summer.

If you would like to be a part of "**A Very BLESSED SUMMER**" **Team**, please contact Rev. Elizabeth Murray Elizabeth@lexumcsc.com or Heather Connor simplyecoonline@gmail.com.





4/1	Jennifer Anthos Laura Beck Alice Gibson Chris Thain	4/12	Alex Chavis Lucy Herpst Deborah Hutchison Revé Richardson Warren Scoggins Madilynn Templin Kent Wolfe	4/22	Becky Godelock Becky Parker Hannah Vitters
4/2	Rachel Blume Al Borsum			4/23	Lauren Blackwell Chuck Brennan Laurel Evans Lee Huber Braddock Watts
4/3	Rebecca Hawkins Hunter Hook	4/13	Russell Chandler II Ava Hendrix Bruce Walsh	4/24	Corey Workman
4/4	Beau Collins III Janice Hipp Boyd Jackson Michelle Welch	4/14	Kristen Kirby Woody Manus	4/25	Marilyn Hornsby Ransom Nates Robin Rivers Cole Stilwell
4/5	Joey Lott Joey Parsons II Natalie Spence Andy Wilson	4/15	Erin Blume Janice Eskridge Donna Gaines	4/26	Olivia Anthos John Collum Paul Harrell Jack Hornsby
4/6	Sara Ford Cody Hawkins Ryan Hucks Alisha Millwood Addison Rankin Connie Reynolds Elliott Schilling	4/16	Abigail Beck Ashley Beck Olivia Kate Leaphart Edna Moore Vernon Russell III Dan Smith	4/27	Carolyn Campbell Payton Frawley Wade Jackson Amber Marshall Ollie James Williams
4/7	Eddie Hicks Michael Hook Benjamin Yarborough	4/17	Maddy Akers Brenda Dunn	4/28	Barbara Anderson Danny Backman Diane Dunbar Bryan McCarty Sari Ness Barrett Wilson
4/8	Kathy DeBerry Ali Hornsby Robbie Lyles Tyler Reynolds	4/18	Stacey Martin		
4/9	Alex Dunbar Bruce Gahm Kathy Harrison Sally Herpst Clay Roberts	4/19	Christina Duffie Lewis George Jayne Hammett David Howard Harriet McCormick John Mills	4/29	Bennett Hammett Billie Hudson Jeremy Slapnik Len Wall Jr.
4/10	Jennifer Cullop Margaret Rhoten	4/20	Camp Carter Evie Cullop Miles McGee Jennifer Montgomery Emily Phillips	4/30	Anne Huntley Crouch Brian Groves Chris Groves Brian Rhoten
4/11	Mike Pautz Cynthia Rikard	4/21	Isabelle Farmer Rusty Koss Aaron Lawrence		



Welcome to EARTH DAY SC. It took us fifty years to get here. Together we can avert climate catastrophe and restore the natural balance of our earth. EarthDaySC.org



Plans pivot because of coronavirus

By Jessica Brodie, *The Advocate*, April 2020

The threat of COVID-19 means United Methodists and other people of faith in South Carolina are now planning a virtual gathering to celebrate this year's Earth Day, April 22. It is the 50th anniversary of the environmental event.

Instead of an in-person gathering at the South Carolina State House, those plans have been postponed until the fall.

"However, we are working on various virtual opportunities for Earth Day—webinars, a media event and so on, possibly interviewing our speakers and presenting online teach-Ins," said the Rev. Marvin Lare, retired United Methodist elder who is helping to organize the interfaith event.

Organized by the Columbia Circle of GreenFaith, of which Lare is a part, the now-virtual Earth Day at the Dome is designed to help people live into what it means to be good stewards of the earth in the way God intended.

Lare said they will focus on four themes: renewable energy as an alternative to extractive fuels; sustainable land and water use; environmental justice; and strategies to fight the climate crisis such as divestment.

Their website, EarthDaySC.org, notes the event is postponed, not canceled, and encourages people to participate online.

"What began as a dire cry for clean air and water fifty years ago has now reached a boiling point," the website says. "The climate is in a state of emergency that can no longer be ignored."

For more information on the event or how to help, visit EarthDaySC.org or email Lare at milare@bellsouth.net.

The First Earth Day—1970

Earth Day founder Gaylord Nelson came up with the idea for a national day to focus on the environment after Nelson, then a U.S. Senator from Wisconsin, witnessed the ravages of a massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, California, in 1969.

On April 22, 1970, 20 million Americans – at the time, 10% of the total population of the United States – took to the streets, parks and auditoriums to demonstrate for a healthy, sustainable environment in massive coast-to-coast rallies. Thousands of colleges and universities organized protests against the deterioration of the environment.

Groups that had been fighting individually against oil spills, polluting factories and power plants, raw sewage, toxic dumps, pesticides, freeways, the loss of wilderness and the extinction of wildlife united on Earth Day around these shared common values. Earth Day 1970 achieved a rare political alignment, enlisting support from Republicans and Democrats, rich and poor, urban dwellers and farmers, business and labor leaders. By the end of 1970, the first Earth Day led to the creation of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the passage of the [Clean Air](#), [Clean Water](#) and [Endangered Species](#) Acts.

"It was a gamble," Senator Gaylord recalled, "but it worked." <https://www.earthday.org/history/>

Pastoral Changes



I write to you today with an open heart and an announcement of upcoming plans for our church family. Jeremiah 29:11 says *For I know the plans I have for you' declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.*

I would like to announce that Bishop Holston and the Cabinet have called Reverend Ken Timmerman and Associate Pastor Weston Pendergrass to new appointments effective June 24, 2020.

On behalf of the SPRC, I would like to thank Pastor Ken for his leadership over the past two years in bringing stability to our congregation and church family. We pray for him as he embarks on a new calling to provide spiritual guidance and leadership to a new congregation, John Wesley UMC in Charleston. I would also like to express thanks and blessing to Reverend Weston Pendergrass for his spiritual leadership and guidance here at LUMC over the past 5 years. As he and his family embark on a new appointment, we want to lift him up in prayer to prosper and grow in his new church, Grace United Methodist Church in Greer, South Carolina.

As we send Reverend Ken and Reverend Weston off to their new churches, we want to welcome our new incoming Senior Pastor, Rev. Kim Eanes. She is coming to us from First United Methodist Church in Cheraw. She has 27 years of full-time ministry experience. She is a graduate of Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary. She is a widow of 17 years. She comes to us with a passion for Christ and a passion for creative worship with a reverence for both ritual and tradition. She is energetic, precise, detailed, task oriented but is flexible and adaptable to what is presented to her. She cares for all people. We welcome Rev. Eanes to Lexington UMC with open hearts and the loving Spirit of Christ.

Our new Associate Pastor is Rev. Jim Rogers. He is currently serving a two-point charge, Bethel and Monticello United Methodist Churches, outside of Winnsboro, South Carolina. He was recently married in June 2019 to Kendall Rogers. Jim is a graduate of the Citadel and of Duke Divinity School. His wife is a teacher and will be seeking employment in the Lexington area. We want to be in prayer for them as they follow God's plan to serve our church family at LUMC.

We will share details in the next few months about both a send-off for our current pastors, as well as a reception for our incoming pastors.

We want to be in prayer for this transition of pastors, as we send off Revs. Ken and Weston to their new appointments and as we welcome Rev. Eanes and Rev. Rogers.

Tim Chandler, Chair
Staff Parish Relations Committee

Lexington United Methodist Church

309 E Main St
Lexington, SC 29072



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



lexumc



@LUMC_SC



Lexington United Methodist

Church office:
803-359-6838

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Church Staff

Rev. Ken Timmerman,	Senior Pastor	ktimmerman@lexumcsc.com
Rev. Weston Pendergrass,	Associate Pastor	weston@lexumcsc.com
Rev. Elizabeth Murray,	Youth Pastor	elizabeth@lexumcsc.com
Diane Crosby, CUMCA,	Administrator	dcrosby@lexumcsc.com
Shanti Moore,	Secretary	shanti@lexumcsc.co
Jennifer Cammann,	4th/5th Grade Coordinator	jennifer@lexumcsc.com
Jenny Kennedy,	Preschool Director	jenny@lexumcsc.com
Michael Jack,	Sexton	michael@lexumcsc.com
Dr. Jerry Gatch,	Director, Chancel Choir	jgatch@hotmail.com
Ken Robbins,	Organist	kenbearken@msn.com
Jacob & Tamara Selzer,	ANew Worship Leaders	jacob.selzer@cmc.com
		sav3db13ssed1@gmail.com
Lessie Polk,	Director of Children & Youth Choirs	lespolk@aol.com