

“Making disciples for the transformation of the World”

Meet Our Church Staff:

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Lexington
United Methodist Church

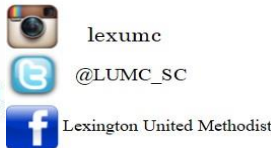
November 29, 2020

Weekly Worship Opportunities:
9am – Traditional Sunday Service
(Wesley Hall)
11am – Contemporary Sunday Service
(Wesley Hall)
6:30pm – Wednesday Vespers
(Wesley Hall)

Church Office: 803-359-6838
www.lexumcsc.com



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



1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:00AM
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2020

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Christ Is the World’s Light*

Paris Antiphoner

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH (This Place Is a Mess)
Isaiah 64:1-9
Mark 13:24-37

***OPENING HYMN OF PRAISE #211** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

PSALTER READING: Psalm 130

Rev. Elizabeth Murray

¹“I cry out to you from the depths, Lord—
² my Lord, listen to my voice!
Let your ears pay close attention to my request for mercy!
³ If you kept track of sins, Lord—
my Lord, who would stand a chance?
⁴ But forgiveness is with you—
that’s why you are honored.
⁵ I hope, Lord.
My whole being hopes,
and I wait for God’s promise.
⁶ My whole being waits for my Lord—
more than the night watch waits for morning;
yes, more than the night watch waits for morning!
⁷ Wait for the Lord! Hope in the Lord!
Because faithful love is with the Lord;
because great redemption is with our God!
⁸ He is the one who will redeem us
from all our sin.

ANTHEM

O Come, Emmanuel, Come Soon

Byrd

PRESENTATION OF THE BIBLES

Heather Connor

***EPISTLE LESSON** 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

***GOSPEL LESSON** Matthew 24:36-44

***GLORIA PATRI #70**

WITNESS TO THE WORD

Where Is Your Hope?

Rev. Jim Rogers

***SONG OF PRAISE # 3048**

View the Present through the Promise

OFFERTORY #214

Savior of the Nations, Come

***THE DOXOLOGY #95**

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH UMH #887**

Romans 8:35, 37-38

Leader:

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

Shall tribulation or distress,
or persecution or famine,
or nakedness or peril or sword?

ALL:

No!

**In all things we are more than conquerors
through the One who loves us, and by whom
our faith and hope rests.**

**We are sure that neither
death nor life,**

nor angels, nor principalities,

nor things present, nor things to come,

nor powers, nor height, nor depth,

nor anything else in all creation,

**will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**PRAYER CONCERNS, PASTORAL PRAYER,
THE LORD'S PRAYER #895**

CLOSING HYMN OF PRAISE #368

Our Hope Is Built

***DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**

***POSTLUDE #2279**

The Trees of the Field

Stuart Dauermann

*Please stand as you are able

ADVENT WORSHIP SERIES

Hope, Peace, Joy, Love - Do you believe in these words anymore? Do you trust in these promises still? 2020 most certainly has been a challenging, exhausting, discouraging year for us all! But thanks be to God, our Christian faith brings us a brand new year with the upcoming season of Advent - a season full of renewed hope, peace, joy, and love! Beginning today, November 29th, you are invited to join us either live or virtually for each worship celebration of the Advent season. Throughout the Sundays of Advent, in the midst of beautiful and symbolic decorations we've come to know and love at LUMC this time of year, we will remember, reflect on, and renew the promises of our faith in which God calls us to believe despite whatever chaos is going on in the world around us! On Advent #1, we will concentrate upon the HOPE that God always provides; on Advent #2 we will reflect upon the PEACE which God always brings; on Advent #3 we will highlight the JOY which God always makes possible in our lives; and on Advent #4 we will celebrate the LOVE which God continues to

share with us through the ever-present gift of His Son, Jesus Christ. Stay tuned in coming weeks for details of the culmination of our Advent Worship Series - our Christmas Eve services.

VESPERS

Vespers is a sunset evening prayer service. We gather every Wednesday evening at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary. Casual attire is encouraged. Face coverings are required & social distancing is practiced. Each service lasts about 30 minutes & includes opportunities for song, Scripture, prayer, and quiet reflection. Please join us!

ADVENT ZOOM STUDY

Join Pastor Elizabeth on Mondays at **7pm** for a 4-week Zoom Advent study on Almost Christmas! This study began **Nov. 23rd** and goes through **Dec. 14th**. Make your Wesleyan heritage a part of your Christmas. In Almost Christmas: A Wesleyan Advent Experience, we will explore how we can make the same commitment to Christ during Advent and connect our Wesleyan heritage with the traditional Advent themes of Love, Hope, Joy, and Peace. One chapter of the book will need to be read in preparation for each week! Check out the book here: <https://www.cokesbury.com/Almost-Christmas-1> Questions? Email at Elizabeth@lexumcsc.com

NEW ADVENT STUDIES COMING!

Pastor Kim will be providing three Advent studies/devotions throughout this season, all of which will be offered for your viewing pleasure via pre-recording and a follow up post on our website.

On **Tuesdays**, you are invited to "tune in" to a Study entitled: "Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes". This "approximately 20 minute study" is a unique approach for participants to reflect upon the meaning of Christmas through the lens of the four Gospels. Every **Thursday**, you are invited to "tune in" to a second Study entitled: "Awaiting the Already". This "approximately 20 minute" study highlights a different character(s) out of each Gospel every week, while simultaneously uncovering Advent's tension between the past and the future. Finally, every **Friday**, you are invited to "tune in" to a devotion titled "Imagining A New World". This experience will highlight brief 5-minute devotions based upon Advent lectionary texts which will offer words of vision, courage, and inspiration as we move through this

challenging time of "Christmas amidst a pandemic". Weekly links to these studies/devotions will be sent to you via email. And of course, these studies/devotions will also be available on the LUMC website. Please join us!

LUMC PRESCHOOL NEWS

If you are a parent of a one year old and are interested in starting your child in Preschool, we have good news for you! We are starting this class in January 2021! The one year old students will attend each week on Mondays and Wednesdays. The monthly tuition is \$120 & there's a one-time registration fee of \$125. All church members get a 10% discount on tuition. This class is open to church members and all others in our community, so share this with your friends. Please contact Jenny Kennedy, the Preschool Director: 803-359-6838 ext. 107 or jenny@lexumcsc.com if you are interested or have questions.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

We are so excited to pass out Bibles to your children today, **November 29th**, for the 2nd grade Bible ceremony.

There will be no youth group tonight, **November 29th**, in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday!

MISSION LEXINGTON HOLIDAY MEALS

Mission Lexington is collecting for our neighbors in crisis for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Donations will be accepted now through **Dec. 7th**. You will find donation

barrels outside of Wesley Hall and the main office. Feel free to add a personal note or prayer for the family. The wish list includes: \$10 gift cards for turkey or ham, canned sweet potatoes, canned collards or turnips, canned green beans, stuffing mix, cranberry sauce, cornbread mix, gravy mix or jar and brownie mix. Questions? Please contact Sammie Brown at 803-351-0784 or sbrown8885@sc.rr.com.

CARING CONNECTIONS

The Caring Connections Team at LUMC is an outreach program which has the joy of sending out cards/notes to shut-ins, those in assisted living, military, get well, sympathy, cheer and new members.

If you have a loved one you would like for us to send a card to, please let us know. Also, if you already have someone on our list that has had an address change, please let us know that as well. We have found that military addresses change often. We do not want anyone to be forgotten.

Please send the name, address and birth date to ssbrabham@icloud.com or call: 803-359-109.

CHURCH EMAIL

LUMC sends out church-wide emails almost daily. It's the way the church notifies members of the congregation about events, links to worship services and to the HOF, general announcements, and notices about hospitalizations and health issues of our members. Email is not perfect and occasionally, some members of the congregation stop receiving them from LUMC. It's a random thing and we don't know why this happens. If you don't receive any email from the church for several days or a week, please notify David Marshall at

David@Marshallgenealogy.org and we'll see about fixing the problem. Remember to check your SPAM and JUNK email folders, our messages may be there.

Most Recent Stewardship Figures:

Our Presence

9:00am (Traditional)	67
11:00am (Contemporary)	21
Viewed live online (Traditional)	25
Viewed live online (Contemporary)	9
Views (Traditional)	126
Views (Contemporary)	38
Vespers	8
Total:	294

Our Gifts as of Nov. 22, 2020:

Received:	\$13,625
Needed Weekly	\$20,616
Budget Goal to date	\$948,336
Receipts to date	\$786,758
Expenses to date	\$800,118
Over/Under (revenue vs. expenses)	-\$13,360

Our Service

Ushers: John Cooper, Rick & Stephanie Thain

OUR CALENDAR

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29

9:00am Traditional Worship Svc. (Wesley Hall)
 11:00am Contemporary Worship Svc. (Wesley Hall)
 5:00pm Special Svc-Witnessing Into Hope (Wesley)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30

7:00pm Almost Christmas Advent Study (on Zoom)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1

Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes Study
 5:30pm Al-Anon (MC106)
 7:00pm Boy Scout Meetings (MC Downstairs)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2

6:30pm Vespers Service (Sanctuary)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3

Awaiting the Already Study
 10:00am Line Dancing (Wesley Hall)
 6:30pm Cub Scout Pack 507 Den Mtgs (DwnstnsMC)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

Imagining a New World Devotion
 7:00am Centering Prayer (MC106)
 6:30pm Worship Band Practice

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

9:00am Traditional Worship Svc. (Wesley Hall)
 11:00am Contemporary Worship Svc. (Wesley Hall)
 6:00pm Happy Birthday Jesus Drive-In Movie (Playgnd ParkgLot)

Make Christmas Merry!

There are several opportunities for our members to brighten the Christmas season for children who are less fortunate.

The **Angel Wish** Mission is a chance to provide a gift to children at Epworth Children's Home.

Please bring wishes (unwrapped toys) to the church, by Sunday, **December 6th**. Thank you!

The **Angel Tree** Mission is a chance to provide a gift to children who have an incarcerated parent. Rachel and Matt Buchanan are the coordinators for LUMC. The tree is up in the foyer between Asbury and Wesley Hall (where it always is). If you take an angel, make sure you fill out the sheet. There is a \$20 limit per child and wrapped gifts are due back to the church by Tuesday, **December 8th**. Thank you in advance for your help with this program!

Snack Sack

School is now in full swing and we are feeding 500+ students again this year. Harvest Hope has delivered our inventory of food for November. The food comes prepackaged when delivered. This speeds up and limits the handling of food items. But this change also brings an increased cost! We now pay \$6 per student per week for the Harvest Hope food. We expect 32 weeks of feeding, starting with 500 students for an approximate cost of \$96,000. These numbers will change based on student counts. We thank you for your continued support of our Snack Sack Ministry.

Lexington United Methodist Women

The LUMW are selling wooden flags and crosses. You can view them on the church website or the church Facebook page. We will be adding painted crosses on canvases very soon to the sites. The money for these items will go to LUMW missions which includes about 10 different organizations.