

Congregational Letter

A PASTORAL LETTER TO LEXINGTON UMC

"To all God's people in Christ Jesus ... grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ ... I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it to completion until the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and ... all of you share in God's grace with me. God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus." - Philippians 1:1-8 NIV

Friends and family of Lexington UMC -

I have been eagerly awaiting the opportunity to send you a State of the Church letter, and now that the U.S. government tax deadlines along with the United Methodist Church Apportionment deadlines have passed, I am finally able to pen some thoughts in writing to you. And ... GOOD NEWS ... those thoughts contain nothing but abundant sentiments of joy, appreciation, and thanksgiving!

Over the past six months of our shared ministry, it has been such a JOY to get to know so many of you through small group studies, church council and committee meetings, email correspondence, telephone conversations, office visits, outdoor UMW circle gatherings, and neighborhood cul-de-sac fellowship opportunities. In spite of the social distancing and mask requirements accompanying this coronavirus pandemic, still, we have found creative ways to become a family of faith in Christ Jesus!

Over the course of our half-a-year shared ministry, I have also come to APPRECIATE Lexington UMC's "can do" spirit of ministry! From your commitment to keeping the business of the church rolling, to your willingness to begin or re-serve in a leadership position, to your conviction to keep reaching out to those in need through your generous mission and service efforts, to your support of the expansion of our digital worship opportunities, it is so very inspiring to witness the unquestionable truth that LUMC is a church truly intent on bringing Light into darkness!

And finally, as we close "the books" on our 2020 fiscal year, I just want to express my genuine THANKSGIVING for your continued gracious financial stewardship to Lexington UMC. With the gift of the government PPP grant at the start of the pandemic ... but simultaneously in the face of a two month closure of the church facilities, reduced worship attendance over the past ten months, along with personal financial challenges so many are facing as a result of job losses ... your generous financial support of LUMC enabled us to still have the resources to meet our annual budget obligations, maintain our commitment to staff salaries, provide both existing and even some new in-house and community ministries, fulfill our United Methodist Conference obligations, and still have a substantial amount of funds to carry over into a brand new year of witness, outreach and service!

"Well done, good and faithful servant(s)!" - Matthew 25:23

"You are my son(s) (and daughters) whom I love; with you I am well pleased!" - Mark 1:11

So thank you, brothers and sisters of Lexington United Methodist Church – thank you for your strong WITNESS as disciples of Jesus Christ ...

Thank you for the beautiful Light your PRESENCE reveals in reflection of your faith ...

Thank you for the loving and caring SERVICE you give to "the greater community" ...

Thank you for the abundant GIFTS you provide to any and all in need ...

And thus, in gratitude and abundant love, I leave you with this PRAYER ...

"That your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best, and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ – to the glory and praise of God!" Philippians 1:9-11 NIV

Peace – Rev. L. Kim Eanes Senior Pastor, Lexington UMC Lexington, South Carolina

A SHAKE UP OF YOUR LENTEN SEASON

"The earthshaking promise of Easter is that God has not forsaken any of us" ... United Methodist pastor, writer, and teacher James Harnish suggests. "The risen Christ will meet us along the confused, chaotic, fearful paths of our lives, and speak the same words the women heard at the tomb: Do Not Be Afraid!"

Please join us each week, beginning Monday, Feb. 22nd as we participate in this energizing study which invites us to explore how Jesus' resurrection shifts our assumptions about ourselves and about God. Each week of this six week Lenten study contains thoughts for reflection, a prayer focus, and a suggested hymn for you to research on your own.

Due to continued safety and health concerns amidst the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, this study will be made available virtually only. Each week's lesson will be posted every Monday, beginning February 22nd and will be available for you to view at your leisure throughout the entire Lenten season.

For inquiries or further questions, please contact Pastor Kim.

An Invitation to a New Season

AN INVITATION TO A NEW SEASON

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word ... lencten ... which means ... Spring.

A Service of Worship for Ash Wednesday emphasizes a dual encounter as we confront our own mortality and confess our sin before God within the community of faith. The form and content of the Ash Wednesday service focuses on the dual themes of sin and death in the light of God's redeeming love in Jesus Christ.

Lexington UMC will offer two distinct opportunities for you to acknowledge the beginning of the holy season of Lent through the Imposition of Ashes. On Wednesday, February 17th, from 5pm-6pm, you are invited to participate in a drive through Ash Wednesday service in the west parking lot of the church grounds (the large parking lot adjacent to the municipal buildings). Detailed instructions regarding the logistics of this Service will be provided one week prior to the Service.

Then, at 6:30PM that same evening, Wednesday, February 17th, you are invited to a full Ash Wednesday Service in the LUMC Ministry Center.

Provided for both services will be a safe and healthy opportunity to receive the ashes. Each participant will receive the ashes on their forehead by means of a Q-tip. A fresh Q-tip will be provided for each participant. Masks will be required for BOTH the in-person AND the drive-through services, for the protection of both the worshipers and the worship leaders. Participants will be asked to stay in their vehicles during the drive-through worship. Participants will be asked to stay in their seats during the in-person service, as only clergy members move throughout the worship space.

Please join us! The Imposition of Ashes experience is the historic focus of the Ash Wednesday observance, and the experience is a powerful non-verbal and experiential way of participating in the call to repentance and reconciliation.

Please contact Pastor Kim with any questions or concerns you may have.

A LENTEN STUDY OF JESUS' LAST WORDS

Throughout the season of Lent, you are invited to participate in a journey through the very last words of Jesus from the cross. Perhaps you have never thought about it this way before, but Jesus' last words from the cross actually epitomize messages of ... love, not hate; grace, not rage; and mercy rather than vengeance ... messages which we so desperately need to hear AND speak in these threateningly dark times of the current age.

As we move through the sacred words of Jesus each week, we will learn more about the origins of Christianity, and how Jesus' final words created a foundation for both oral and written traditions - a foundation that literally upended the very order of the world!

Due to continued safety and health concerns amidst the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, this study will be offered virtually only. Each week's lesson will be posted every Thursday, beginning February 18th and for the seven Thursdays thereafter. Each weekly lesson will be available for you to view at your leisure throughout the entire season of Lent.

For questions or further inquiries, please contact Pastor Kim.

PASTOR KIM WOULD LIKE TO GET TO KNOW YOU!

Quite obviously, with a global pandemic still in circulation around the world and within our community, it's been a little more difficult to "get to know" the good people of LUMC through the "normal" means of home visits. Additionally, because of the wide gamut of "perspectives" folks have about the "virus situation" it's difficult to discern the level of "safety comfortability" of each person.

Consequently, I am extending this invitation to you! If you are comfortable EITHER coming to church to share a personal visit OR hosting me in your home for a pastoral visit, I would be delighted to spend some time getting to know you!

In light of ongoing concerns about health and safety, please know that if we are sharing a visit at the church, LUMC is continuing to uphold the CDC's suggestion of a mask ordinance. Similarly, if you would like me to visit you in your home, I am also VERY COMFORTABLE wearing a mask in all settings which require interactions with others. So you need not be worried or concerned about asking me to "remain masked" if I am visiting you in your home.

I look forward to hearing from you as we plan our "get to know you" visit. My cell number is: 843/685-3659. Please call anytime - and if I don't answer immediately, please leave a voicemail so that I can get right back to you! - Pastor Kim

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Here For You

HERE FOR YOU

We don't have to look very far either in the news headlines we read on our computer screens and/or the news reports we hear over our television speakers, to become aware of the drastic toll the ongoing coronavirus pandemic is taking on the mental and emotional health of so many individuals.

Remote learning, social isolation, constant anxiety over health issues, boredom, lack of hope - all of these issues and so many more are valid reasons for people to feel depressed, discouraged, and possibly even in total despair!

Do you need to talk? Please know that, as your pastor, I am easily available to you and I am very willing to listen. And while I may not be a "licensed" therapist, I do have a seminary degree in pastoral care and counseling (my Master's Thesis was in this very arena).

So if you are looking for someone who is open to listening; if you are in need of a spiritual guide to offer a word of hope and promise; and/or if you simply need to "vent" to someone else beyond the circle of your closest friends and family members, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I am here for you. I am available to you. And I can offer a confidential setting for us to talk.

Please feel free to call me and we'll make time to talk. Pastor Kim - 843/685-3659



Tuesday, 2/2 - 10am - SCUMC UMW Advocacy Day
Wednesday, 2/3 - 6:30PM - Vespers Service
Sunday, 2/7 - Souperbowl of Caring - 9am Worship Scouting Sunday - 11am Worship
Monday, 2/8 - 2:30PM-5:30PM - Wespath Benefits Virtual Workshop
Tuesday, 2/9 - 2:30PM-5:30PM - Wespath Benefits Virtual Workshop
Wednesday, 2/10 - Pastor Kim on Vacation
Thursday, 2/11 - Pastor Kim on Vacation
Friday, 2/12 - Pastor Kim on Vacation
Sunday, 2/14 - 6pm - End/Clayton Wedding

Tuesday, 2/16 - 11:30am - Columbia District Zoom Meeting

Wednesday, 2/17 - 5pm - Ash Wednesday Drive Through Worship 6:30PM - Ash Wednesday In Person Worship (Ministry Center)

- Thursday, 2/18 2pm SCUMC UMW Advocacy Day
- Thursday, 2/18 Last Words of Christ Virtual Study posting
- Saturday, 2/20 9am-Noon LUMC Church Council Planning Meeting
- Monday, 2/22 Easter Earthquake Virtual Study posting
- Tuesday, 2/23 10am Clergy Mentoring via Zoom
- Wednesday, 2/24 6:30PM Vespers Worship
- Thursday, 2/25 Last Words of Christ Virtual Study posting
- Thursday, 2/25 1pm Duke Divinity School Webinar
- Friday, 2/26 SCUMC Statistical Reports Due
- Saturday, 2/27 10am SCUMC UMW Advocacy Day





Henrietta Lacks (1920-1951) After being diagnosed with cervical cancer at The Johns Hopkins Hospital in 1951, a sample of Lacks' cancer cells were taken without her consent by a researcher. And though she succumbed to the disease at the age of 31 that same year, her cells would go on to advance medical research for years to come, as they had the unique ability to double every 20-24 hours. "They have been used to test the effects of radiation and poisons, to study the human genome, to learn more about how viruses work, and played a crucial role in the development of the polio vaccine," Johns Hopkins said.

Groundhog Day



Groundhog Day

February 2nd each year brings the most-watched weather forecast of the year—and the only one led by a rodent. Legend has it that on this morning if a groundhog can see its shadow, there will be six more weeks of winter. If it cannot see its shadow, spring is on the way.

Why the Groundhog?

Since a groundhog (or woodchuck or "whistle pig") hibernates for the winter, its coming out of the ground is a natural sign of spring. In Europe centuries ago, people watched for other

hibernating animals, including badgers, bears, and hedgehogs, as signs of winter's end. Germans who immigrated to Pennsylvania in the mid-1800s began keeping an eye on the groundhog. The widespread population of the rodent made it a handy agent for this particular weather superstition. And a superstition it is. But there's a grain of truth: the winter days when you can see your shadow clearly are often especially cold because there are no clouds overhead to insulate the earth.

Why February?

Early February is midway between the winter solstice and the spring equinox. Throughout history, numerous holidays have marked this seasonal crossroads. Among these is Candlemas Day, February 2, a Christian holiday that celebrates Mary's ritual purification. Early Christians believed that if the sun came out on Candlemas Day, winter would last for six weeks more. The ancient Romans observed a mid-season festival on February 5, and the pagan Irish celebrated one around February 1. In many parts of Europe, early February might herald the start of spring when crops could be planted.

Punxsutawney Phil and Friends

In the 1880s some friends in Punxsutawney, Penn., went into the woods on Candlemas Day to look for groundhogs. This outing became a tradition, and a local newspaper editor nicknamed the seekers "the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club." Starting in 1887 the search became an official event centered on a groundhog called Punxsutawney Phil. A ceremony still takes place every year.

In Milltown, New Jersey, Milltown Mel predicts the weather at the American Legion in an early morning ceremony.

Buckeye Chuck, Ohio's official State Groundhog, is one of two weather predicting groundhogs. He resides in Marion, Ohio. **Staten Island Chuck** is the official weather-forecasting woodchuck for New York City. **Dunkirk Dave** (a stage name for numerous groundhogs that have filled the role since 1960) is the local groundhog for Western New York. In Raleigh, NC, an annual event at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences includes **Sir Walter Wally**. According to museum officials, Wally has been correct 58% of the time vs. Punxsutawney Phil's 39%. Elsewhere in the American South, the **General Beauregard Lee** makes predictions from Lilburn, Georgia. The University of Dallas in Irving, Texas has boasted of hosting the second largest Groundhog celebration in the world.

Due to the pandemic, this year's Groundhog Day celebrations will be virtual.

Thank a Mail-Carrier Day

Date when celebrated: Always February 4

Thank Your Mail Carrier Day is your chance to say thanks to the people, who deliver your mail. After all, your mail carrier delivers seven days a week now with Amazon packages. They are a hardy lot. The reliable postal worker is always there doing their job, regardless of the weather. You'll find some mail carriers walking routes, wearing shorts in all but the coldest of winter days.

Did you know?

Pony Express riders were the most famous early American "mailmen". Their motto was "Neither rain, nor snow, nor death of the night, can keep us from our duty". This motto is believed to be taken in part from a motto dating back to ancient times. Among the most popular variation is "Through rain or snow, or sleet or hail, we'll carry the mail. We will not fail". Use these examples of how you can show your appreciation to ALL the delivery drivers in your life... (USPS, FedEx, UPS, Amazon).





Jesse Owens (1913 - 1980)

Owens was a track-and-field athlete who set a world record in the long jump at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin and went unrivaled for 25 years. He won four gold medals at the Olympics that year in the 100 and 200-meter dashes, along with the 100-meter relay and other events off the track. In 1976, Owens received the Presidential Medal of Freedom and was posthumously awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in 1990.

LUMC Preschool



We are very thankful and extremely blessed to have had Jenny Kennedy leading our LUMC Preschool over a challenging yet exciting and productive time for our program. Under Jenny's leadership, and with the support of Church staff, leadership and the Preschool Board, we have enhanced our financial accounting system, established new Bylaws, and worked through the many challenges of the pandemic to ensure that the Preschool remained open and available to provide a quality Christian education to children in the Lexington area. With our deepest appreciation,

we want to wish Jenny and her husband a safe, healthy and exciting future as they enter retirement. She will always remain a member of the LUMC family.

We are very fortunate to have an excellent candidate among our LUMCP family ready and eager to assume the position of Director of the Preschool. Please join us in welcoming Lindsey Warner.

As a Greenwood, SC native Lindsey received her higher education from Lander University with a degree in Management and Marketing. After starting her working career in Insurance, she later moved to the Administrative and Marketing Specialist role for a local small business. She left the small business last year to be at home full time with her four children as well as the foster children that have passed through her care. In addition to being a Mom, she has been the regular library volunteer and substitute teacher for the preschool for the last year. Lindsey and her husband Spencer have lived in the Lexington area for eleven years. Their four children are Alee, Laney, Katie, and Nicholas as well as two dogs, Carolina and Joules. They are members of Lake Murray Baptist Church.

She was drawn to Lexington United Methodist Church Preschool in 2011 when her oldest daughter turned 1. Growing up In Greenwood SC, her family regularly attended St. Mark United Methodist Church where she obtained her foundation of spiritual growth. Lindsey's younger brother attended the church's preschool and she remembered how much he enjoyed it. She and her husband sought to find an environment like that for their own child and Lexington United Methodist Church Preschool fit the bill perfectly. Her three daughters participated in the ones class all the way to 4K graduation, and her adopted son is currently in the three's class.

She is a firm believer that positive early education is not only for academic purposes, but that children should also be nurtured spiritually, emotionally and socially. Lindsey believes that Faith-based preschools afford the unique opportunity to nurture spiritual growth that traditional education cannot provide. Being a licensed DSS foster parent for the last two and half years, Lindsey has had the opportunity to work with thirteen foster children, along with their birth families. Something that surprised her on her journey in the foster care ministry was realizing that nurturing children not only serves them in their spiritual growth, but also has an impact on the adults in the child's life. This grew her own spiritual understanding of discipleship. She hopes to use these experiences to serve the LUMC preschool, staff, children, and supporters.

Please join the LUMC Staff, Leadership, and the LUMCP Board in welcoming Lindsey and we are sure everyone will give her the same love and support you have always so generously provided Jenny.

Blessings to each of you.

Connie Cooper Director, LUMC Preschool Board



LUMC Preschool

Will you be our Valentine and get us something sweet off our Amazon wish list? We would certainly LOVE it! We are always in need of these items if you would like to drop them by the office or have them delivered here directly!

The Preschool will be selling Wooden Spoon cookie dough from **Feb 22nd to March 8th**! Each package of cookie dough holds 2.5 lbs. of ready-to-bake pieces for \$16. Flavors include: chocolate chip, triple chocolate, peanut butter, white chunk macadamia nut, snickerdoodle &

Disinfecting wipes

Copy paper

Oreo cookies

Goldfish

oatmeal cranberry white chunk. The orders will be ready for pick up at the church on March 28th. You can order by visiting the fundraiser website:

https://store.myfundraisingplace.com/12af01cb-0d96-4b4a-9c84-aec227e6fb18

or by calling the preschool office at (803) 359-6838 ext. 107. Checks are accepted and can be made out to LUMC Preschool. Please help us raise funds for supplies!!!



Wooden Spoon

Dr. Rebecca Lee Crumpler (1831-1895)

Rebecca Lee Crumpler was the first Black female doctor in the United States. After attending the prestigious Massachusetts private school West-Newton English and Classical School, she worked as a nurse for eight years until applying to medical school in 1860 at the New England Female Medical College. She was accepted and would go on to graduate four years later. Though little is known of her career, PBS reported that she worked as a physician for the Freedman's Bureau

PERFLARY BLACK INSTORY MONTH

for the State of Virginia. She later practiced in Boston's predominantly Black neighborhood at the time, Beacon Hill, and published *A Book of Medical Discourses in Two Parts*.

Shirley Chisholm (1924 - 2005)

Congress is more diverse now than it's ever been. However, when Chisholm was attempting to shatter the glass ceiling, the same couldn't be said. During the racially contentious period in the late '60s, she became the first Black woman elected to Congress. She represented New York's 12th District from 1969 to 1983, and in 1972, she became the first woman to run for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination. Her campaign slogan: "Unbought and Unbossed" rings even louder today. Vice President Kamala Harris recently paid tribute to Chisholm in her presidential campaign announcement by using a similar logo to Chisholm's.





Rose Marie McCoy (1922 - 2015)

McCoy's name may not be instantly recognizable, but she wrote and produced some of the biggest pop songs in the 1950s. In an industry dominated by white males, McCoy was able to make her mark through her pen, even if she couldn't through her own voice. Her songs, "After All" and "Gabbin' Blues" never quite took off on the charts, but she was courted by music labels to write for other artists, including hit singles for Big Maybelle, Elvis Presley, and Big Joe Turner. So now when you hear Presley's "Trying to Get You," you'll remember the name of the African American woman who wrote it.

Girl, 15, Guilty In Bus Seat Case

MONTGOMERY, Als. — A 15-year-old girl who refused to move to the rear of a city bug was found guilty in Juvenile court here last Friday on charges of assault and battery, disorderly conduct, and with violating a city ordinance which makes it "unlawful for any passenger to relate or fail to take those serie!

ordinance which makes is a manager to the set of the se

Negro Girl Found Guilty Of Segregation Violation



Annie Lee Cooper (1910 - 2010)

The Selma, Alabama, native played a crucial part in the 1965 Selma Voting Rights Movement. But it wasn't until Oprah played her in the 2014 Oscar-nominated film, *Selma*, that people really took notice of Cooper's activism. She deserves to be celebrated for fighting to restore and protect voting rights.



Claudette Colvin (1939 -)

9 months before Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama in 1955, there was a brave 15-year-old who chose not to sit at the back of the bus. That young girl was Colvin. Touting her constitutional rights to remain seated near the middle of the vehicle, Colvin challenged the driver and was subsequently arrested. She was the first woman to be detained for her resistance. However, her story isn't nearly as well-known as Parks'.



Baby wipes

Card stock (any color)

Fruit snacks

Cheese crackers



	FI	B	Rl	JA	RY	2021
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday 2 Groundhog Day	Wednesday 3 Breakout Kidz (4/5th) Zoom @ 6:30pm	Thursday	Friday 5	 Saturday 6
7 Moses GP Lesson	8	9	10 Breakout Kidz (4/5th) Zoom @ 6:30pm	1)	12	13
14 Valentine's Day Mystery of Easter	15 Presidents' Day	16	17 No Breakout Zoom Ash Wednesday	18	19	20
21 Faces of Easter #1	22	23	24 Breakout Kidz (4/5th) Zoom @ 6:30pm	25	26 Breakout Kidz Meet Up 4pm TBD	27 KidzWay Playdate 10-11:30am TBD
28 Faces of Easter #2	1	2	3	4	5	6 () () () () () () () () () () () () ()



At LUMC we promise to surround our children with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their service to others.

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At LUMC we promise to surround our children with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their service to others.

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February is **Black History Month**...take time to learn something new about all of the inspiring individuals and groups who have worked and are working tirelessly toward racial justice. Check out: *Preaching to the Chickens: The Story of Young John Lewis* by Jabari Asim, illustrated by E.B. Lewis or *Howard Thurman's Great Hope* By Kai Jackson Issa or countless other wonderful books, many available through our local library.



Gwendolyn Brooks (1917 - 2000)

Today, Brooks is considered to be one of the most revered poets of the 20th century. She was the first Black author to win the Pulitzer Prize in 1950 for *Annie Allen*, and she served as poetry consultant to the Library of Congress, becoming the first Black woman to hold that position. She was also the poet laureate of the State of Illinois, and many of her works reflected the political and social landscape of the 1960s, including the civil rights movement and the economic climate.

Ethel Waters (1896 - 1977) Waters first entered the entertainment business in the 1920s as a blues singer, but she made history for her work in television. In addition to becoming the first African American to star in her own TV show in 1939, *The Ethel Waters Show*, she was nominated for her first Emmy in 1962.



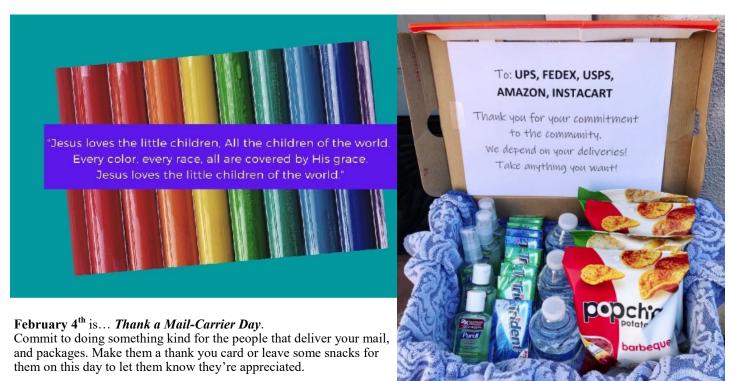


Minnie Riperton (1947 - 1979)

Mariah Carey is heralded for her whistle register, which is the highest the human voice is capable of reaching. But Riperton perfected the singing technique years before and was best known for her <u>five-octave vocal range</u>. The whistling can be heard on her biggest hit to date, "<u>Lovin' You</u>." The infectious ballad was originally created as an ode to her daughter, Maya Rudolph, of <u>Bridesmaids</u> and <u>Saturday Night Live</u> fame. However, before she could become a household name, she died in 1979 at the age of 31 from breast cancer.

Save the Date! Breakout Kidz Meet Up Friday, February 26th 3:45-5pm location TBD: We will collect our "Snowman banks" for The Arc of the Midlands at this meeting.

Save the Date! KidzWay Meet Up Saturday, February 27th 10-11:30am location TBD.





DATES

Middle School Mission Trip July 17-23rd: Memphis, Tennessee

After an extensive conversation with Praying Pelicans Missions, we are going to (tentatively) go on our 2nd Memphis middle school mission trip. This is for **CURRENT** 6-8th graders.



Our LUMC youth group participated in their first ever MLK Day of Service this morning.

They cleaned up the LUMC Preschool playground, wrote cards to some of our church members, polished the pews, picked up trash at the park and along Main Street, packaged and delivered care packages to the police station, and refilled the blessing box!! We also spent some time learning about Dr. King-- what he was fighting for, and what his legacy is today. Covid limited some of our work, but we are thankful to do a little something for our church and town. This day of service might become an annual thing! Thanks to everyone who participated!





Dorothy Height (1912 - 2010)

Hailed the "godmother of the women's movement," Height used her background in education and social work to advance women's rights. She was a leader in the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) and the president of the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) for more than 40 years. She was also among the few women present at the 1963 March on Washington, where Dr. King delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech.



Bessie Coleman (1892 -1926) irst licensed Black pilot in the world, Coleman wasn't recognized as a

Despite being the first licensed Black pilot in the world, Coleman wasn't recognized as a pioneer in aviation until after her death. Though history has favored Amelia Earhart or the Wright brothers, Coleman—who went to flight school in France in 1919—paved the way for a new generation of diverse fliers like the Tuskegee airmen, Blackbirds, & Flying Hobos.



BE Bayard Rustin (1912 - 1987)

CI Dr. King is usually credited for the March on Washington in August 1963. But it was Rustin who organized and It strategized in the shadows. As a gay man who had controversial ties to communism, he was considered too much of a liability to be on the front lines of the movement. Nonetheless, he was considered to be one of the most brilliant minds, and served his community tirelessly while pushing for more jobs and better wages.

Mission Lexington Thrift Shop



The purpose of our Thrift Shop in Lexington, SC is to provide for those in need. When our Lexington neighbors arrive in the social services department and qualify for a clothing voucher, they are directed to shop at our thrift shop, Mission Store, to choose the items they need most at no cost. Your generous donations allow us to provide this invaluable service to our Lexington County neighbors.

In addition to offering free clothing to our neighbors, Mission Store is also a fun place to shop, and is a treasure trove of goodies and specially priced items!

We offer clothing for all ages, housewares, shoes, purses, books & DVDs, jewelry, linens, home décor, seasonal decorations, furniture, electronics and more.

There are many opportunities to volunteer in the Thrift Shop and Donation Center. Our Shop volunteers stock merchandise, assist neighbors using

vouchers and check-out customers. We even have a volunteer who tests every donated electronic item to make sure it works before it is stocked in the shop! We also have volunteers in the Donation Center that sort donations, along with pricers who determine the value of each item that goes out for sale. The goodies don't last long and they change daily, so shop often - shop TODAY!

Shop Mission Store

Mission Store provides clothing for our neighbors free of charge and is also a full-service Thrift Shop open to the public

The Money **YOU** Spend Here Generates enough revenue to pay all of our overhead; enabling us to provide more money to help our families in need



ITEMS WE DO NOT ACCEPT

Cribs Car Seats Mattresses Older TVs and Computer Monitors Tires Printers Large/Executive Desks Pianos

Ceiling Fans/Light Fixtures

Hours

Thrift Store: Monday - Friday 9:00am - 1:00pm (Doors close at 12:45 pm to new shoppers.)

Location

216 Harmon Street, Lexington, SC 29072

Our Donation Center accepts new and gently used goods, along with food donations. Donated items are given to our neighbors in need, free of charge. Items are also sold at Mission Store, with profits returning to our ministry to continue serving those who visit Mission Lexington.

Our Mission Store is a vital part of our ministry and open to the public for shopping.

Our Donation Center accepts:

- Clothing (Men's, Women's, Children's, Baby)
- Shoes
- Books

Household items

- Electronics (No Tube TVs)
- Books
- Linens

We also accept food donations (non-perishable, produce, fresh, frozen, prepared, etc) during business hours

(803) 957-6656 info@missionlexingtonsc.org

American Red Cross

American



Lexington United Methodist Church

Sponso	or Group			
January	11, 2021			
Date o	of Drive			
44	3			
Total Number of Donors	First Time Donors			
43	129			
Units Collected	Potential Number of Lives Saved			
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When you made the decision to host a blood drive, you helped change lives.

The American Red Cross would like to thank everyone that participated in the January 11th blood drive.



Robert Sengstacke Abbott (1870 - 1940)



Without Abbott's creative vision, many of the Black publications of today—such as *Ebony*, Essence, Black Enterprise, and Upscalewouldn't exist. In 1905, Abbott founded the Chicago Defender weekly newspaper. The paper originally started out as a four-page pamphlet, increasing its circulation with every edition. Abbott and his newspaper played an integral part in encouraging African Americans to migrate from the South for better economic opportunities.

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Snack Sack Ministry & Blessing Box Ministry

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SNACK SACK UPDATE

Snack sack continues to be fluid. In-person classes vary from week to week. We are currently feeding 400 students in 8 schools. We restarted our High School Program the last week of January. We feed students through the Athletic Departments of both Pelion and White Knoll High Schools. We are feeding over 500 students each week.

I thank LUMC for the support of this family. Ms. Caldwell is part of our Snack Sack Family. We never get this deep into one family's needs. But, this family has no support system, they have no way to better themselves. Ms. Caldwell and children had a good Christmas. They appreciated your donations and presents. We paid for their January rent and December Power bill. We have enough money to pay the February Rent and the January Power bill. Thank you for your support.



BLESSING BOX UPDATE

We are low on food for our Blessing Box. Please donate any of these items: **Canned meats, canned fruits** or vegetables, instant oatmeal or grits, cheese or saltine crackers, individually packed cereal, Pop-Tarts, cereal bars and Ramen noodles.

* * * * * * * * * *	
Individual Instant Oatmeal	
Individual Grits	
Individual Cereal Boxes	
Raisins	
Pudding Cups	
Peanut Butter Crackers	
Snack Crackers	
Granola Bars	

Bring the food to church and leave in the donation carts in the foyer of the Ministry Center. We have numerous families that depend on our food on a daily basis. The Blessing Boxes provide food and toiletries to anyone that is in need, anytime day or night. Donations are always needed. Please continue to help this Ministry feed the needy. We need donations of money or non-perishable food. Thank you for your continued support!

Valentine's Day



Valentine's Day, also called **St. Valentine's Day**, when lovers express their affection with greetings and gifts. The holiday has origins in the Roman festival of Lupercalia, held in mid-February. The festival, which celebrated the coming of spring, included fertility rites and the pairing off of women with men by lottery. At the end of the 5thcentury, Pope Gelasius I replaced Lupercalia with St. Valentine's Day. It came to be celebrated as a day of romance from about the 14th century. Valentine's Day is celebrated on February 14th every year.

Although there were several Christian martyrs named Valentine, the day may have taken its name from a priest who was martyred about 270 CE by the emperor Claudius II Gothicus. According to legend, the priest signed a letter "from your Valentine" to his jailer's daughter, whom he had befriended and, by some accounts, healed from blindness. Other accounts hold that it was St. Valentine of Terni, a bishop, for whom the holiday was named, though it is possible the two saints were actually one person. Another common legend states that St. Valentine defied the emperor's orders and secretly married couples to spare the husbands from war. It is for this reason that his feast day is associated with love.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Formal messages, or valentines, appeared in the 1500s, and by the late 1700s commercially printed cards were being used. The first commercial valentines in the United States were printed in the mid-1800s. Valentines commonly depict Cupid, the Roman god of love, along with hearts, traditionally the seat of emotion. Because it was thought that the avian mating season begins in mid-February, birds also became a symbol of the day. Traditional gifts include candy and flowers, particularly red roses, a symbol of beauty and love.

The day is popular in the United States as well as in Britain, Canada, and Australia, and it is also celebrated in other countries, including France, Argentina, Mexico, and South Korea. In the Philippines, it is the most common wedding anniversary, and mass weddings of hundreds of couples are not uncommon on that date. The holiday has expanded to expressions of affection among relatives and friends. Many schoolchildren exchange valentines with one another on this day. **Happy Valentine's Day!**



Ruby Bridges (1954 -) Bridges probably had no idea that the bold act she committed in 1960 would set off a chain reaction leading to the integration of schools in the South. She was just six years old when she became the first African American student to attend William Frantz Elementary in Louisiana at the height of desegregation. She is now the chair of the Ruby Bridges Foundation, which was formed in 1999 to promote "the values of tolerance, respect, and appreciation of all differences."

The Advocate

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The South Carolina United Methodist Advocate is the monthly print newspaper focusing on the United Methodist church and its people throughout South Carolina. Delivered to your mailbox as a hard copy, and also available online, the award-winning Advocate was founded in 1837 and is the oldest newspaper in Methodism. It is a newspaper ministry with a prayer-driven mission is to inform and connect South Carolina Methodists by reporting news, engaging readers, providing a forum for dialogue and sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is independent but receives funding from the South Carolina Conference of the UMC and other sources, including subscriptions, ads and donations. It also operates a successful Christian book publishing arm.

You can subscribe at <u>www.advocatesc.org/subscribe</u>, calling 803-786-9486 ext. 335, or mailing a check to Advocate, 4908 Colonial Dr., Columbia, SC 29203. Cost is \$15/year print and \$8/year online only.

Learn more: www.advocatesc.org.

Blessings,

Jessica

Jessica Brodie, editor

South Carolina United Methodist Advocate newspaper Winner of 118 journalism excellence awards 4908 Colonial Dr., Columbia, SC 29203 803-735-8772 (O) 803-807-0018 (C) AdvocateSC.org

South Ca

Shepherd's Center of Lexington

Shepherd's Center of Lexington will not be meeting for the Winter or Spring 2021 sessions. We hope that we will be able to resume classes no later than the Fall of 2021, depending on the severity of the virus threat at that time.

We know that you miss our in-person classes - as do we. We have a list of virtual learning opportunities on our website. To see this list, go to sclex.org and click on the Virtual Learning link.



Phillis Wheatley (1754 -1784)



The West African-born poet spent most of her life enslaved, working for John Wheatley and his wife as a servant in the mid-1700s. Despite never having received a formal education, Wheatley became the first African American and third woman to publish a book of poems, entitled, *Poems on Various Subjects*. However, she died before securing a publisher for her second volume of poetry and letters. You can see the monument erected for her at the Boston Women's Memorial.



Benjamin O. Davis Sr. (1880-1970)

Benjamin O. Davis Sr. was the first Black general in the American military. He served for 50 years as a temporary first lieutenant at an all-Black unit during the Spanish American War. Throughout his service, Davis Sr. was as a professor of military science at Tuskegee and Wilberforce University, a commander of the 369th Regiment, New York National Guard, and special assistant to the Secretary of the Army. When he retired in 1948, President Harry Truman oversaw the public ceremony. Davis Sr. is buried at Arlington National Cemetery.



& Member News

- 2/1 Elizabeth Rogers Carter Yeh
- 2/2 Sandra Anderson Robert Burton Amy Trezise
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- 2/4 Cynthia Satcher Jill Slapnik
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- 2/6 Kellie Johns Billy Fuller Jr.
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- 2/10 Thomas Mincey Gina McCuen

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2/19 Tracy Powell Wanda Branch Joe West Bebe Street 2/20 Ann Decell Kayla Driggers 2/21 Paxton Brooks 2/22 Lynn Brewer Eric Peake Edwin Rikard Mark Cook **Dianne Butler** Isabella Rawl 2/23 Trip Rainey Kellve Hucks **Bailey Kicklighter** Grant Goldsmith Alex Carter III Mary Miller Scott Riles 2/24 Dan Backman Marcia Mincey Elizabeth Reynolds Svdnev Torbett

2/24 Cori Britner 2/25 Randi Cogswell Logan Miller 2/26 Charles Gatch Jr. Earl Havnes Jill Leonard Bill Neely Daniel Maltz Marshall Johnson Greg Roberts Gene Wilson Shelley Fentress Havden Trezoglou 2/27 Dick Laisure Sydney Segui Vivian Smith Clint Carter 2/28 Perry Rainey Joyce Bumgarner Laura Cato David Wilkie Janet Hawkins 2/29 Noah Miller

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Gifts in memory of:



Gifts in honor of:

The Bowers Children

Cherie Bowers

Bobby Bowers The Bowers Children

Joan Kruger Tommy & Sandra Brabham George & Luanne Renwick

Martha Stevenson Open Door SS Class Buddy & Lynn Brewer

Everett Waterfield Buddy & Lynn Brewer

Bennie Powell Buddy & Lynn Brewer

Lee Powell Buddy & Lynn Brewer

Israel Brown Buddy & Lynn Brewer

Pat Bickel Don Bickel, Sr.

Betty McCurry Buddy & Lynn Brewer

Bobbie Goldin

Mary Hazelton Marshall & Julia Johnson Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Sox Woody & Brenda Manus Dr. Albert & Helen Thomas George Mathias Mike & Terrie Gibbs Cynthia Satcher Hugh & Patsy Caldwell Jim & Connie Brock Terry & Daisy Hicks Rick & Stephanie Thain Linda Gladden Buddy & Lynn Brewer John & Joyce Bumgarner Henry Brooks Wade & Alice Jackson Ginny Kurtz Charles Gatch Joe & Shauna Todd Keith & Melissa West Mina Brooks



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