



"THE END" IS ALWAYS GOOD NEWS!

During those years when I was serving Grace Community UMC in Fort Mill, South Carolina, I took advantage of my close proximity to both sporting and fine arts events. There were several Sunday evenings and/or Monday nights when I would head over with friends to Bank of America stadium to watch the Carolina Panthers in action! Likewise, there were several Thursday, Friday, or Saturday nights when I enjoyed a multiplicity of performances, concerts, plays, and stage productions at the Charlotte venues of the Belk Theater, the McGlohon Theater, the Knight Theater, the Booth Playhouse, Ovens Auditorium, and the Levine Center for the Arts.

I remember one performance in particular that I attended on a Friday night. The reason this production stands out so vividly in my mind, is because it included audience participation! That is to say, the actors performed the story on stage ... all the way up to the climax. But then, as we all sat there on the edges of our seats, wondering "how it was all going to end", the main character of the production came out on stage and started asking the audience questions! Based on the feedback we gave, all of the actors then returned to the stage and finished the production in the way we had written it! How cool is that!

As the crowd exited the theater that night following the conclusion of the production, I overheard many conversations among guests who were saying to each other ... "I wonder how the story will end tomorrow night!"

You know, as we move into the 18th month of trying to live Christian lives in the midst of a global pandemic, I would guess that we are all mumbling amongst ourselves that very same question, "I wonder how the story will end tomorrow night". But I bet our "suspected answer" is not nearly as exciting as it was when I participated in that audience feedback exercise at Charlotte's McGlohon Theater! Masks on ... masks off; vaccinations climbing ... vaccinations falling; stores and restaurants reopening ... stores and restaurants closing; events scheduled ... events cancelled; schools opened ... schools closed; "I wonder how the story will end tomorrow night"?

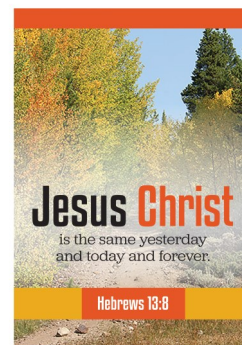
Interesting. But if you really think about it, that is actually the "typical storyline" for the lives of those of us who call ourselves Christians. If you are a follower of the Christian calendar, you would know that right now, we are almost exactly in the middle of that season known as Pentecost ... a season where, through our weekly Bible lessons, we follow the ups and downs of the post-resurrection church of Jesus Christ. And of course, one of the "main characters" on the stage during Pentecost, was the Apostle Paul.

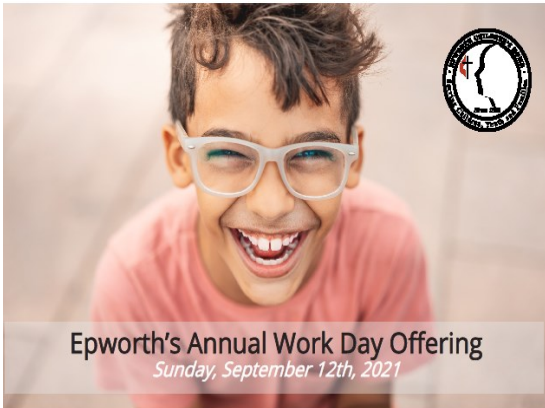
In reflecting upon our knowledge of the New Testament, as the book of Acts closes we are left with a very real sense that "the story" is not yet over. And hence, we find ourselves asking that same question of the day ... "how will this story end?" The last few verses of the book of Acts gives us some insight into the answer to that question, as we read about the Apostle Paul spending two solid years preaching the gospel from his very own rented house in Rome. "Boldly and without hindrance Paul preached the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ" (Acts 28:30-31).

Isn't that an inspiring climax to the book of Acts? And notice, if you will, what is implied from that passage regarding Paul's enthusiasm, Paul's courage, Paul's willingness to be a witness to the gospel even under difficult circumstances. And let's not miss, as well, Paul's refusal to be intimidated by the abundant negative and critical voices which

September 2021 INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Bible Studies	5
Birth	7
Birthdays	14
Blessing Box	4
Blood Drive	2
Calendar	6
Children's Ministry	11
College Members	12
Communion	5
Elizabeth's Plans	10
Epworth Offering	2
Eyeglasses for Guatemala	8
Grandparents Day Reminder	14
Holiday Market	3
Memorials/Honorariums	7
Paternity Leave Plan	9
Preschool News	11
Sound Booth Volunteer	4
Thank You!	7
Ushers	4
Wednesday Morning Men's Group	8





OPEN DOORS FOR CHILDREN IN NEED.

Epworth Children's Home goes above and beyond providing food and shelter for children who have experienced abuse, neglect, and tragedy. It provides children with tutoring, counseling, health care, fun activities, and the spiritual formation they need to heal and gain a sense of belonging. Through the ministry of Epworth Children's Home, we open our doors to these children, surround them with comprehensive care and provide them with the opportunity to transform their lives.

On Sunday, September 12 our congregation will stand with Epworth to break the cycle of abuse, neglect, and shame through our collection of the Annual Epworth Work Day Offering. Without the support of churches like ours, Epworth could not provide transformational care for children in need. We invite you to give generously to the children who are served by Epworth. For more information, please visit Epworth at www.epworthchildrenshome.org.



We are in need of receptionist volunteers for the 3rd Friday of each month from 9am until noon, beginning in September. Duties would include answering phones and stuffing Sunday bulletins. If you are willing to help out, please contact Mary Jane Teague at 803-530- 3556 or call the church office.



We are searching for a part-time front office secretary. Hours are 8:30 am—12:30pm. If you would like to see the job description, or to apply, please contact Tim Chandler, chair of Staff-Parish, or a member of the Staff-Parish Committee. You do need MS Office skills. This is a paid 20 hour position.



surrounded him! Clearly, the Apostle Paul used his trials and his setbacks as opportunities to spread the gospel even at the highest levels of the Roman government. And the inspiration continues, in that these final chapters of Acts also tell the story of how Jesus' witnesses continued to carry the gospel message from Jerusalem to the very "ends of the earth". Despite all of the disappointments and roadblocks they faced, Jesus' followers kept moving forward in action ... they kept writing the script ... they kept telling the Good News story ... and of course, the world would never be the same as a result!

No matter what happens in this life on earth, the church of Jesus Christ and the Good News gospel lives on! The end of the story is yet to be written ... and WE are all a part of its' writing! Like that audience at the McGlohon Theater that night in Charlotte, every single one of us has a voice in determining "how this story will end".

So as we continue to move forward in our Christian ministry together, and as we continue to invest in building up the Body of Christ we call Lexington UMC, let's stay encouraged ... let's stay the course ... and let's continue to proclaim the Good News as frequently, as boldly, and as safely as we can, even in such a time as this. As people of Pentecost ... as followers of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, may we share the confidence and the courage of the Apostle Paul as we continue to live, love, speak, and act as Christ's witnesses to the world!

Pastor Kim

- Chicken dinner meal (see below)
- The Youth will offer a bag lunch for \$5.00
- Don't miss the bake sale, lots of yummy home baked goods will be available.

Would you like to bake goodies for the bake sale? Please let Cindy Vance: vancecindylou@aol.com or Karen Waterfield karen.bennettwaterfield@gmail.com know.

Bring to church on Friday, October 8.

- There will be 20+ vendors-including jewelry, books, pocketbooks, wood work, ladies and children clothes, Christmas ornaments, food items, and more.

Don't miss this opportunity to do some of your holiday shopping !



Holiday Market BBQ Chicken Plate Fundraiser

"Not Your Ordinary Chicken Dinner!"

Saturday, October 9, 2021

11-1pm Pickup Times (at Church)

Pre-Orders with payment required by October 2

\$10 Per Plate (to go or stay and eat while you shop)

What Are We Serving?

Slow cooked BBQ chicken quarters (fresh off the grill!)

Handmade Marinated Cole Slaw (it's so yummy!)

4 Bean Baked Beans (you are going to love these!)

Old Fashioned Cheese Drop Biscuits (what a treat!)

All proceeds support the LUMC Debt Reduction Fund

Name _____

#of Plates _____ **Total \$ included** _____

Meat (Check) White _____ **Dark** _____

Note- if ordering multiples of each note how many of each type meat

Mail orders with payment to LUMC (Attn: Lorri Yarborough) Print out this page or :

309 E Main St. Lexington, SC 29072

Or Order Online at www.lexumcsc.com

For questions contact: Lorri@teamia.com or 803-351-9772

VENDORS INCLUDE:

SANDI'S PLACE

VINTAGE JOY

OLIVE & EVE

TOBACCOWOODS CREATIONS

MEGGIE MAE DESIGNS

HAND-TAYLORED

LJW DESIGNS

HALEY BEE BOUTIQUE

APOTHECARY SOAP COMPANY

FAITHFUL FOODS

THE GATHERING ROOM

PBJ CREATIONS

SOUTHERN CREATIVE SOLUTIONS

PENNY'S QUILTS & GIFTS

MARY KAY

CHARCUTERIE BOARDS

CROCHET ITEMS

AND MORE...

Order your BBQ Chicken Here



Scan for Order Form

Beginning Sept. 3

A NEW STUDY THAT INVITES YOUR FEEDBACK

Did you know that the fastest growing religious sector in the United States is the "formerly churchd" as well as those who have never even entered a church building?!

Call them by whatever label you wish, but this group is made up of our friends, our family members, our children, our grandchildren, our neighbors, and our co-workers.

Because we are Wesleyan, we are supposed to believe that God is present in the lives of these people. Because we are evangelical, we are supposed to sense a calling to share the gospel with these people. Because we are United Methodist, we are supposed to be committed to the purpose of making disciples for the transformation of the world. And because we are apostolic, we are supposed to believe that we CANNOT WAIT for these persons to flow into our church buildings on Sunday mornings at 8:30am or 11:00am!

So why don't we get together and have a constructive conversation about where **WE CAN GO** - the networks, the neighborhoods, the other places - where the "nones and the dones", the unchurched and the dechurched increasingly gather? You know, there's already plenty of blame and judging going around about "whose fault" diminishing church attendance is. Simultaneously, there is already sufficient cynicism and criticism being shared regarding "a solution" to "this problem". So why don't we sit down and talk about **WHAT** we can actually DO, **WHERE** we can actually GO, and **WHO** we can think about *INVITING* with the goal of building and/or rebuilding vital congregations in our communities and in our country?



Fresh Expressions is not a laundry detergent. Neither is it a breath freshener. And neither is it a last ditch effort to save the institutional church. Rather, it's a Study about a movement ... a movement of the *Holy Spirit* for the purposes of introducing and offering new expressions of Christianity outside the pattern of traditional church practice.

Along with studying a multiplicity of passages from the New Testament, we will also share in discussions around vital reflection questions that the Church of Jesus Christ desperately needs to be addressing in this increasingly multi-religious and non-religious 21st century.

Please join us every Wednesday night **beginning September 15, at 6:30pm** in Asbury Hall.

This Study will be in conjunction with our Wednesday Night Faith and Family gatherings. Contact Pastor Kim for more information and/or if you have questions.

Celebrate the Lord's Supper with Us. Due to the safety protocols required amidst the Covid-19 pandemic, we are only celebrating Communion in worship every other month. However, if you would like to participate in Communion in the sanctuary once a month, it will be offered at both 8:00am and 10:00am on the following Sundays: (these times are pre-Service times and in between services) – Sept. 12, Oct.10, Nov.14, and Dec.12.



Pre-packaged elements will be used. The full Communion liturgy will be shared.

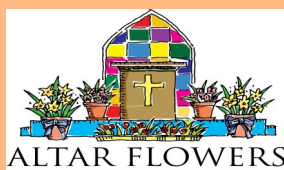
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat- urday
September Find the church calendar on church web site here: Calendar Lexington United Methodist Church			1 6:30 AM - 7:30 AM Men's Weds. AM Group 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM Walking Warriors 9:00 AM - 11:15 AM Preschool Open House 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Exercise Class 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Psalm 23 Study 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Psalm 23 Study 6:30 PM - 7:00 PM Vespers Service	2 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM CPR Training 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM Line Dancing 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Senior Card Playing 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Pack 507 Den Meeting 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM Good News Bears Softball Team!	3 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM Centering Prayer 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM Walking Warriors 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Exercise Class 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Worship Band Practice	4
5 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM Traditional Worship Service 9:45 AM - 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Contemporary Worship Service-with Children's Church 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Traditional Worship Service-with Children's Church	6 Offices Closed-Labor Day Holiday 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Exercise Class	7 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Al-Anon 7:00 PM - 8:15 PM Troop 507 Boy Scout Meetings	8 6:30 AM - 7:30 AM Men's Weds. AM Group 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM Walking Warriors 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Exercise Class 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Psalm 23 Study 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Psalm 23 Study 6:30 PM - 7:00 PM Vespers Service 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Chancel Choir Practice	9 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM Line Dancing 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Senior Card Playing 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 2207-Lisa Gaherty 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM Good News Bears Softball Team!	10 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM Centering Prayer 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM Walking Warriors 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Exercise Class 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Worship Band Practice	11
12 8:00 AM - 8:15 AM Individual Communion 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM Traditional Worship Service 9:45 AM - 10:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM - 10:15 AM Individual Communion 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Contemporary Worship Service-with Children's Church 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Traditional Worship Service-with Children's Church 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Cub Scout Popcorn Sales	13 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Exercise Class 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Soccer Shots 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM Red Cross Blood Drive	14 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Cards R Us card making 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Al-Anon 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 2375-Leah Smith 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Holiday Market Team 7:00 PM - 8:15 PM Troop 507 Boy Scout Meetings	15 6:30 AM - 7:30 AM Men's Weds. AM Group 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM Walking Warriors 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Exercise Class 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Fresh Expressions-Adult Bible Study 6:30 PM - 7:00 PM Vespers Service 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Chancel Choir Practice	16 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM Line Dancing 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Senior Card Playing 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Good News Bears Softball Team! 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Pack 507 Den Meeting	17 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM Centering Prayer 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM Walking Warriors 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Shepherd's Center Board Meeting 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Exercise Class 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Worship Band Practice	18
19 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM Traditional Worship Service 9:45 AM - 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Contemporary Worship Service-with Children's Church 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Traditional Worship Service-with Children's Church	20 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Exercise Class 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Soccer Shots	21 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM Clergy Gathering at Mt. Hebron UMC 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Al-Anon 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Questers Group 7:00 PM - 8:15 PM Troop 507 Boy Scout Meetings	22 6:30 AM - 7:30 AM Men's Weds. AM Group 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM Walking Warriors 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Exercise Class 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Fresh Expressions-Adult Bible Study 6:30 PM - 7:00 PM Vespers Service 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Chancel Choir Practice	23 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM Line Dancing 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Senior Card Playing 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 2207-Lisa Gaherty 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Good News Bears Softball Team!	24 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM Centering Prayer 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM Walking Warriors 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Exercise Class 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Worship Band Practice	25
26 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM Traditional Worship Service 9:45 AM - 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Contemporary Worship Service-with Children's Church 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Traditional Worship Service-with Children's Church	27 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Exercise Class 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Soccer Shots	28 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Suzanna Wesley Circle 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Al-Anon 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 2375-Leah Smith 7:00 PM - 8:15 PM Troop 507 Boy Scout Meetings	29 6:30 AM - 7:30 AM Men's Weds. AM Group 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM Walking Warriors 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Exercise Class 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Preschool Board Meeting 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Fresh Expressions-Adult Bible Study 6:30 PM - 7:00 PM Vespers Service 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Chancel Choir Practice	30 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM Line Dancing 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Senior Card Playing 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM Pack 507 Den Meeting 9:30 PM - 10:30 PM Good News Bears Softball Team!	1 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM Centering Prayer 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Exercise Class 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Worship Band Practice	
6						

MEMBER NEWS

EVERY GOOD GIFT
AND
EVERY PERFECT GIFT
IS FROM ABOVE

JAMES 1:17

GLOBE



If you would like to sign up to have flowers placed in the sanctuary, please do so on the flower chart that is on the wall outside of the main office.

Gifts & Memorials

In MEMORY OF:

Brenda Newman
Viril Caughman
Harriet Householder
Sam & Terry Cheatham
Jim & Connie Brock
Lois Samellas
Bob & Cindy Graham

Glenn Hornsby
Bob & Cindy Graham
Buddy & Lynn Brewer
Terry & Daisy Hicks
G.I.F.T. SS Class

Carol Dunnagan
Buddy & Lynn Brewer
Terry & Daisy Hicks

Cheryl Brigman
Buddy & Lynn Brewer
Terry & Daisy Hicks

Helen Edmonds
Terry & Daisy Hicks

Marilyn Hornsby
Peggy Tarr
Nancy Monts-Rayfield
Linton Phillips
Jana Huggins
Karen Girard
Linda Gladden

Buddy & Lynn Brewer
Jim & Connie Brock
Cherie Bowers
Mildred Monts
Juli Moseley

Terry & Daisy Hicks
Connie Austin
Jewell Pritchett
Anne Subotich
Delos Corderman-
Fellowship SS Class
Ginny Kurtz
John & Joyce Bumgarner
Kathy Rish & Family
Joy Holston
John & Beth Altenberg
Marty & Wannelle Lefkowitz

In HONOR OF:

Lynn & Buddy Brewer
(50th Wedding
Anniversary)
Phill & Debbie Dooley

God's Blessings for your new Baby



Hadley Rae Rogers
Daughter of
Rev. Jim & Kendall Rogers
August 17, 2021



THANK
you.

Thank you for the
cards, calls, & prayers
since my fall.

They are very much
appreciated.

Linda Gladden

EPWORTH
Children's Home

Thank you all for supporting our ministry. Each year as we prepare for Back to School, we can depend on your congregation to fulfill the need to supply book bags for our entire campus. Thank you all for this amazing gift!

Blessings, Beth C. Robinson
Epworth Children's Home

Thank you for supporting our Vespers Services!

August 18 marked the closure to our Vespers services ... at least for a while ... as we look toward re-starting some of our Wednesday night fellowship and study activities.

Our Vespers services were a very unique and special way to experience some midweek spirituality - at first, weekly for several months, and then monthly as we moved into the summer season. The Vespers experience offered us a consistent opportunity to intentionally focus on God's Word through Scripture and song, as well as God's Spirit through prayer.

Special thanks is extended to Vespers Coordinator Lessie Polk, as well as accompanist Ken Robbins. Additional appreciation is extended to all of the volunteers who helped with "set up" and "tear down", and the reading of Scripture.

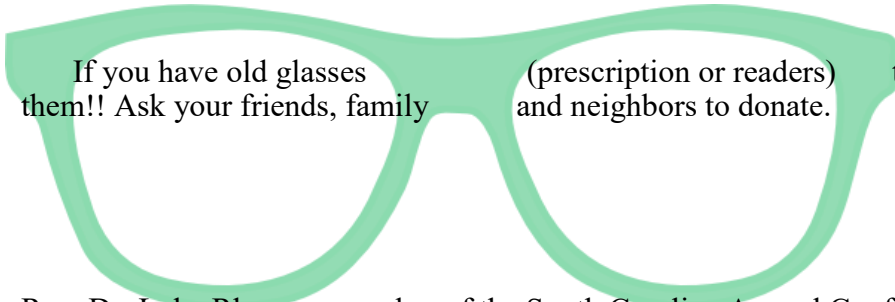
Please stay tuned in months to come for additional Vespers and/or Taizé worship opportunities.



Healing Guatemala is a non-profit organization that focuses on healing disease, poverty, and the soul. This is accomplished through several ministries:

Rev. Luke Rhyee (our District Missionary) needs our help!

Glasses for Guatemala Campaign through Thursday, September 30 .



If you have old glasses them!! Ask your friends, family

(prescription or readers) and neighbors to donate.

that you are no longer using, we need We need glass cases too!

Rev. Dr. Luke Rhyee, a member of the South Carolina Annual Conference who served in the Columbia District, is currently serving in Guatemala. He is active there as both a Pastor and a physician.

Almost everyone who wears glasses has at least one or two old pairs lying around the house—maybe because of a prescription change, or because of cataract surgery, you no longer need those glasses. Rev. Dr. Luke Rhyee is currently serving as a missionary in Guatemala. He is active there as both a Pastor and a physician. His missions is Healing Guatemala and his people need glasses. He has asked the Columbia District for help in collecting glasses, and our church is going to help answer his call. There will be a collection box outside the offices for the glasses. Please be sure to drop your old glasses in the box by September 30!

Aren't we fortunate to have the opportunity to share with people of other countries. God finds a way to help all of His people. Thanks be to God for Rev. Dr. Rhyee and for his missionary work in this country. Read more about his mission here: [Home \(healingguatemala.org \)](http://healingguatemala.org)



Red Cross Blood Drive! Red Cross Blood Drive! Monday, Sept. 13 from 2-7pm in Asbury Hall. While summer is typically a difficult time for blood collections, this summer we are already experiencing unique challenges as people return to pre-pandemic activities and resume travel to visit loved ones. As a result, on Monday, the American Red Cross launched a severe blood shortage

appeal to the public as the number of trauma cases, organ transplants and elective surgeries rise – depleting the nation's blood inventory. Sign up online at www.redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code: lexingtonumc. Please give blood!

Join the Wednesday Morning Men's Prayer Breakfast group gather at 6:31am. They begin with breakfast followed by sharing of prayer concerns (and praises); and conclude with a Bible study, with some excellent study leaders!



MEN'S BREAKFAST

They wrap up by 7:30am, but you are encouraged to attend even if for a portion of time (arrive after 6:31 or leave before 7:30). They will not meet on July 7 or September 8 and will take several weeks off during the holidays.



Staff Parish Relations Committee News

In celebration of the Rogers new little arrival (see p.6) Pastor Jim will be taking two separate phases of paid Paternity Leave - the first from August 16 through August 29. Pastor Jim will take the first two weeks of his paternity leave with Kendall and baby Hadley Rae. He will return to LUMC during the 6 week phase of wife Kendall's maternity leave. In October, October 13 through December 22, Pastor Jim will go back on leave for the remaining 10 weeks of his allotted time of paternity leave.

According to the 2016 United Methodist Book of Discipline, Paragraph 355 - *"maternity or paternity leave, not to exceed one fourth of a year, will be available and shall be granted by the bishop and the cabinet, and the executive committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry to any local pastor, provisional member, associate member, or clergy member in full connection who so requests it at the birth or arrival of a child into the home for purposes of adoption; 355:2 - during the leave, the clergy member's annual conference relations will remain unchanged, and the health and welfare benefit plans will remain in force; 355:3 - a maternity or paternity leave of up to one quarter of a year will be considered as an uninterrupted appointment for pension purposes; 355:4 - compensation will be maintained for no less than the first eight weeks of leave; 355:5 during the leave time, pastoral responsibility for the church or churches involved will be handled through consultation with the committee on pastor parish relations of the local church(es) and the district superintendent."*

Arrangements have been made for pulpit supply during Pastor Jim's absence (please see article below entitled: "A New Face In Town"). Please keep the NEW Rogers' family in prayer as they bond with one another and celebrate daily the consistent miracles our good God is constantly bestowing upon us!



A New Face In Town

As mentioned in a previous article regarding Pastor Jim's paternity leave, it is our blessing to announce the pulpit supply assigned to LUMC during Pastor Jim's absence!

The Rev. Cathy Jamieson along with the Cabinet and the Bishop of the South Carolina United Methodist Conference have assigned **Rev. Laurie Brandes** as pulpit supply for LUMC for the following Sundays: August 22, August 29, October 17, October 24, October 31, November 7, November 21, November 28, December 5, December 12, and December 19, 2021. Rev. Cathy Jamieson will serve as pulpit supply on Sunday, November 14, prior to LUMC's 2021 Charge Conference at Noon on Sunday, November 14.

Rev. Brandes will preach and lead worship at the 11am Contemporary Worship Service and will also supply pastoral care as needed to our LUMC congregation throughout the months of October, November, and December, 2021. Rev. Brandes will be introduced at all three worship services on Sunday, August 22, 2021.

Rev. Laurie Brandes has been a Diaconal Minister and employee at Epworth Children's Home for 30 years. Rev. Brandes just completed an 8 year term on the Camp and Retreat Ministry Board of Directors. She has also served on a committee called PACT at Midlands Technical College, a service which provides academic support to foster and at-risk young people. Rev. Brandes is a graduate of the University of South Carolina and Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. She has been married to her husband David for 32 years and they have two grown sons, Mason and Dillon, who both live in Columbia. Rev. Brandes enjoys reading, kayaking, and hiking. She also enjoys traveling to Disney World, Asbury Hills, and the Caribbean!

Oh, and by the way, Rev. Brandes is also the sister-in-law to our own LUMC members, Todd and Rayna Brandes, which also makes her the aunt to Ben and Sam!

Please welcome Rev. Brandes when you see her over the next several months, and share with her that abundant and gracious Christian love for which LUMC is known!

Staff Parish Relations Committee News Continues

Our LUMC Minister of Youth and Young Adults is taking on a new ministry in Paris, France! Rev. Elizabeth Murray will become the Associate Pastor of Youth and Young Adults at the American Church in Paris. As Pastor Elizabeth gets closer to her departure date, the LUMC Staff Parish Relations Committee wanted to inform you of some important upcoming dates throughout the month of September.



American Church in Paris

Pastor Elizabeth's final day in the office will be Thursday, September 9 and the last Sunday Pastor Elizabeth will worship with us is Sunday, September 12. Pastor Elizabeth will then begin a 30-day paid Renewal Leave until October 13.

The 2016 United Methodist Book of Discipline, Paragraph 350, offers the following information regarding Renewal Leave: "throughout their careers, clergy shall engage in continuing education for ministry, professional development, and spiritual formation and growth in order to lead the church in fulfilling the mission of making disciples for Jesus Christ. This shall include carefully developed personal programs of study augmented periodically by involvement in organized educational and spiritual growth activities. These practices embody the Wesleyan emphasis on lifelong growth in faith, fostered by personal spiritual practices and participation in covenant communities. Each annual conference, through the chairs of the Clergy Orders and Fellowship or other leaders designated by the bishop, shall provide spiritual enrichment opportunities and covenant groups for deacons, elders, and local pastors; 350:2 - a clergy member's continuing education and spiritual growth program shall include professional formation leaves at least one week each year and may include at least one month during one year of every quadrennium. Such leaves shall not be considered as part of the minister's vacations and shall be planned in consultation with their charges or other agencies to which they are appointed as well as the bishop, district superintendent, and annual conference continuing education committee; 350:3 - a clergy member may request a formational and spiritual growth leave of up to six months while continuing to hold an appointment in the local church. Such leaves are available to clergy members who have held full time appointments for at least six years. Such a leave shall be with the approval of the committee on pastor-parish relations, the church council, and the district superintendent. Annual conferences are encouraged to assist with pulpit supply and other temporary support for such leaves; 350:4 - financial arrangements for continuing education as part of one's professional development, formation, and spiritual growth shall be negotiated in the following manner: (a) for elders and local pastors it shall be done in consultation with the district superintendent and the committee on pastor-parish relations; (b) for deacons, with an appropriate supervisory body; (c) for district superintendents, with the district committee on superintendency; (d) for conference staff, with the appropriate supervisory body; (e) for others in extension ministries or appointments beyond the local church, with the appropriate persons in their agency; 350:5 - clergy shall be asked by the district superintendent in the charge conference to report on their programs of continuing education, formation, and spiritual growth for the past year and plans for the year to come. The district superintendent shall also ask the local church to describe its provision for time and financial support of continuing education for ministry, professional development, formation and spiritual growth for the pastors, diaconal ministers, and deacons serving their primary appointment in that local church".

In response to Pastor Elizabeth's plans for transition, the LUMC Staff Parish Relations Committee is actively seeking a replacement for the staff role of Minister to Youth and Young Adults. The LUMC SPRC has posted an updated job description for the position of Minister to Youth and Young Adults; the LUMC SPRC is currently reviewing applications which have already been received; and interviews with viable candidates are pending.

Please keep Pastor Elizabeth, the LUMC SPRC, potential candidates interested in this position, as well as our entire church family in your prayers, as we are led by the Spirit to move through this transition as smoothly and productively as possible.





Both Children's and Youth Sunday School start dates have been postponed to a prospective start of September 12. We will continue to monitor and make the decision that is best for the health and safety of our children and youth.

KidsWay & Breakout!

The prospective Wednesday night KidsWay (3K-3rd) and Breakout (4th/5th) start is **September 15**. More information will be released as the date draws closer.

Looking for a way to support LUMC Children's Ministry?

Fall is here!

We need **YOU** to help make it happen for our children.

Contact heather@lexumcsc.com to find out where to serve, or if you have any questions about these opportunities, or any children's activities. Volunteers with children will continue to wear a mask and children will do so as well since they cannot yet be vaccinated.* Classes are: PreK-K, 1st-2nd, and 3rd-5th. Lessons will be provided but your presence is needed. Please prayerfully consider signing up!

OR sign up here by clicking on these links to:

- ☞ [Volunteer for Fall Sunday School](#)
- ☞ [Help with children's church](#)
- ☞ [Acolyte](#)
- ☞ [become a Nursery Volunteer](#)



Welcome
Back!

September 7th is our first day of the 2021-2022 school year! Please be in prayer for all our students, staff, and parents!

Preschool is in need of :

Paper towels
 Kleenex
 Clorox wipes
 Baby wipes
 Hand sanitizer
 Napkins

Donations can be brought to the church office or left on the table outside the Preschool office.

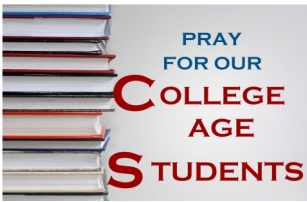
We also have an Amazon Wish List. Find it at:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/4xl48pda7xf?ref=wl_share



Did you know that we have a scholarship account at the preschool?

This account is currently low on funds and needs your help. These funds provide preschool tuition assistance for preschool families that are experiencing a hardship. Just write Preschool scholarship fund on the memo line of your donation.

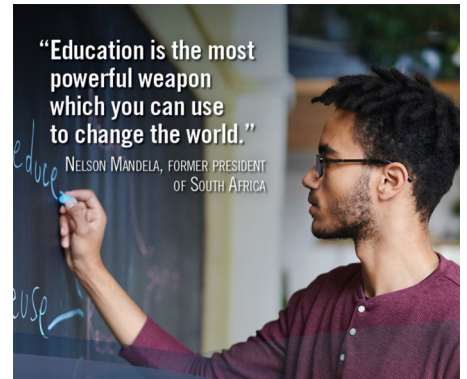


Keep these students in your prayers as they begin their college and further opportunities beyond high school:

Sam Brandes- Clemson
Anne Huntley Crouch- UofSC
William Osborne- Clemson
Cole Stilwell- Palmetto Conservation Foundation (via AmeriCorp)
Ella Stilwell- Midlands Tech
Brooks Torbett- UofSC

And pray for those who are continuing their journey:

Seth Altenburg - UofSC
Cameron Beckum - Wofford
Ben Brandes – Clemson
Paxton Brooks – University of Tennessee
Chase Crouch – Erskine College
William Crouch - Wofford
Anna Gatch - UofSC
Adam Graybill - UofSC
Jack Hornsby – College of Charleston
Michael Keisler - UofSC
Joseph Ness - UofSC
Nick Schirato - Clemson
Sydney Torbett - UofSC
James Walsh – UofSC Aiken



Our teachers, school nurses and staff are dealing with an unimaginable year! Covid is a worry everyday— worrying what students are able to be in class, what students are quarantined. How to make sure they all get the lessons they need. Please keep our schools in your prayers.

Hope to see you there!



YOU'RE INVITED

*Fall Youth Kick-off
&
Going Away Party*

**Sunday, September 12th
2-4PM**

**The Register's House
168 Dark Hollow Drive**

Let's start the fall off with a BANG! Come for fellowship, swimming, 6th grade Bible presentation, and say goodbye to Elizabeth

Dear LUMC Family and Friends -

As you are certainly aware, the surge of the Delta variant of Covid-19 is most definitely upon us. However, as a result of our August 5, 2021 meeting of the LUMC Coronavirus Committee, we presently have no plans to return to any prior restrictions nor to a more stringent church shut-down. This is, in part, because those who are vaccinated are not exhibiting life threatening cases of Covid-19. Consequently, as of August 10, 2021, we will continue to practice the best options possible for safety and protection - thorough hand washing, the wearing of face coverings (recommended), and social distancing (when/where possible). **Additionally, please get vaccinated if you can.** As we continue to host our in-person worship celebrations as well as any other LUMC adult group gatherings, while it is optional, you are **strongly encouraged** to wear a face covering for your protection as well as for the welfare of those around you. As needs warrant, further decisions will be made to protect everyone.

Concerning our LUMC Children's Ministry, we will continue to practice our current requirement of the wearing of face coverings by all volunteers in all settings/activities involving children who are not eligible for immunization due to their age. This MANDATE includes: Sunday School, LUMC Pre-school, Break-out Kids, as well as any other Children's Ministries activities on the LUMC campus.

At LUMC Preschool, the wearing of face coverings by all teachers/adults/parents is required. The wearing of face coverings by LUMC Preschool children will be at the discretion of their families, due to their age and ineligibility for the vaccine at this time.

Concerning our LUMC Youth Ministry, while the wearing of face coverings is **strongly recommended**, they are not required. Many of our Junior High youth are not yet able to be vaccinated due to their age and hence we **strongly encourage** the wearing of masks when in ministry with this group. This RECOMMENDATION includes: Sunday School, UMYF gatherings, as well as any other Youth Ministries activities on the LUMC campus.

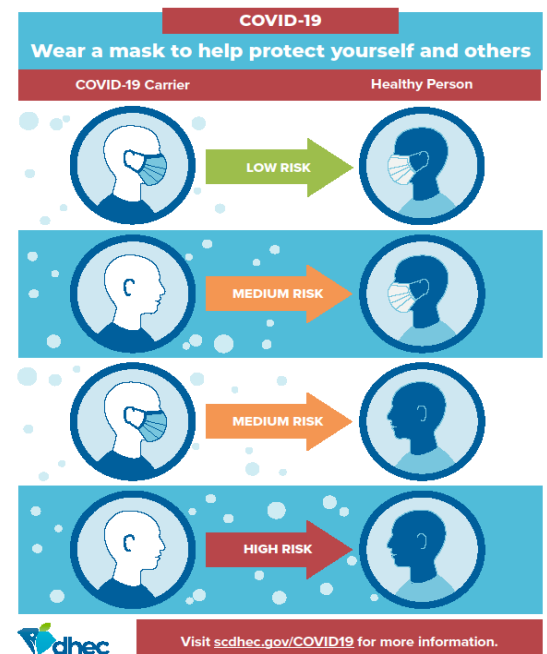
Concerning our LUMC Scouting ministry, the aforementioned MANDATE for children under the age of vaccine eligibility will apply; and the aforementioned recommendation for youth will apply.

As we continue to be in ministry together during these challenging times, please use your best judgement regarding these precautionary practices, and stay safe.

For more guidance in Best Practices for Dealing with Covid-19, especially in regard to faith communities, please visit the South Carolina Conference of the UMC webpage: www.umcsc.org. There you will find an updated list of guidelines and protocol.

LUMC Coronavirus Committee

PS: It's up to **you** to help **protect others around you**, as well as yourself—you know what to do, it's all over the news! Here's a reminder from the editor of this newsletter:



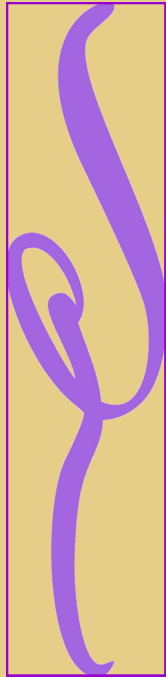
SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

9/1 Danielle Dunnagan Tim Chandler Copeland Pitts Valerie Knight Leah Smith	9/9 Ted Hammett II Stacy Shealy Lori Meyers Tyler Pool Peter Gurgigno	9/16 Adam Connor 9/17 Elaine Elliott Beth Carter 9/18 George Brickle 9/19 Bryan Smith Nancy Caulder 9/20 Marshal McGee Brandon Corley Dyson Carroll 9/21 Mary Parnell John Whetstone Katie Martin Elizabeth Roland 9/22 Betty Pardue Claudia Waits Rachelle Rogers Rayna Brandes Cole Decell 9/23 Irma Van Scoy Diane Coleman Kim Hawkins 9/24 Jennifer Templin Sarah Rodriguez John Cafferty 9/25 Lynn Silvey Charles Polk Megan Currier Brett Finley Frankie Seeby Mark Wilson Merle Mabe 9/26 Stephanie Thain Susan Atwood Marlee Metts	9/27 Ann Lever Nelle Matthews Katherine Merrell 9/28 Sandy Agee Robin Andrews Callie Krantz 9/29 Lou Ellen Decell Judy Hayes Scott Segui Carol Shealy Simon Shealy Daniel Hucks Zack Altenberg Mike Morrison Jack Collum 9/30 Katie Swearingen Britt Welch Katy Handell Laura Beckham Ron Deeds
9/2 Stephanie Watts Harold Young Don McCracken Mary Handell	9/10 Nancy Sinclair Andrew Hanson Juan Rodriguez 9/11 Jorene Goldin Ward Inabinet Gina Johnson Cal Stevenson Jr. Grayson Millwood Maggie Moser 9/12 Cathy Whetstone Benjamin Connor 9/13 Earl Sanford Cathy Johnson Jason Torbett Yvonne Creekmore Chrissy Wilson Nannie Lou Kibler 9/14 Katie Bowman Mindy Goist Kay Hutson Joseph West Braelyn Davis Shanti Moore 9/15 Evelyn Corderman Liam Stilwell Paisley Buchanan Nathan Stone Elaine Hahne		
9/3 Sam Cimburke Robin Thompson Chantz Fogle Trip Miller III 9/4 Michele Backman Christine Workman Joan Floyd 9/5 Benjamin Ruiz 9/6 Nancy Azzara Betty Fant Phil Yeh 9/7 Russell Lybrand Miyoung Paik Alex Young Michael Slapnik Gabrielle Sinclair Charles Taylor Tommie Taylor Joseph Rodriguez 9/8 Chris Epting Susan Mitton Mary Jane Teague Brittany Rowe Pascal Pitts Jr. Jessica Carroll			



Lexington

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

The Household of Faith

is published monthly

September 2021



Rev. Kim Eanes,	Senior Pastor	lkeanes@umcsc.org
Rev. Jim Rogers,	Associate Pastor	jim@lexumcsc.com
Rev. Elizabeth Murray,	Youth Pastor	elizabeth@lexumcsc.com
Diane Crosby, CUMCA,	Administrator	dcrosby@lexumcsc.com
Heather Connor,	Children's Director	heather@lexumcsc.com
Lindsey Warner,	Preschool Director	lindsey@lexumcsc.com
Michael Jack,	Sexton	michael@lexumcsc.com
Dr. Jerry Gatch,	Director, Chancel Choir	jgatch@hotmail.com
Ken Robbins,	Organist	kenbearken@msn.com
Jacob Selzer,	ANew Worship Leader	jacob.selzer@cmc.com
Tamara Selzer,	ANew Worship Leader	sav3db13ssed1@gmail.com
Lessie Polk,	Director, Children's Choir & Youth Choir	lespolk@aol.com