

Lexington United Methodist Church

Household of Faith

Living God's Word, Sharing God's Love

January
2023

2023

MAY YOU SHINE
THE LIGHT OF
CHRIST IN THE
NEW YEAR!

New Year's Day
WORSHIP SERVICE



We celebrated with one service, Praising
God for the New Year!

and celebrated Epiphany Sunday with
Communion

A New Year, a new opportunity to connect with your God in church — Choose your service — Sundays 8:30 and 11:00 am; Tuesday 6:30 pm and commit to be present! Sunday School @ 9:50, all ages!

Wednesday Nights are still being planned. Watch for dates when the activities will begin.

Commit to bring yourself and your children and enjoy fellowship with your church family.

Adult study will begin. Children and Youth will spend some quality time together and in the Word and learn how they can Shine their light for Jesus.

**Want to dig into the Bible this year? Here's a plan that might work for you —
Click this link: [The Busy-Life Bible Reading Plan \(biblestudytools.com\)](https://biblestudytools.com)**

Arise! Shine! For your light arrives! The splendor of the LORD shines on you!
Isiah 60:1

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Blessings to you, brothers and sisters in Christ at Lexington United Methodist Church! There have been some very wonderful happenings in your household of faith, as we were happy to share in wonderful Christmas festivities as a church, which included our Children's Pageant, Christmas Cantata, Moravian Love Feast, plus Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.

We are also now blessed that the South Carolina United Methodist Church has offered churches a path to "a faithful step forward", to ensure congregations are equipped to make decisions that enable them to best live into their disciple-making mission. South Carolina Conference leaders have adopted a process through which a local church can discern whether it will continue in ministry within The United Methodist Church or separate from the denomination.

The Local Church Discernment Process is designed to help local churches determine whether they can function as a United Methodist church if they firmly believe that the denomination has not consistently upheld its stated doctrine on issues of human sexuality. It will provide an opportunity for church members to engage in dialogue, to allow every voice in the congregation an opportunity to be heard, and to discern the congregation's sentiment regarding separation. The new process is distinct from the disaffiliation pathway created when the 2019 General Conference added Paragraph 2553 to The UMC Book of Discipline.

In South Carolina, no local church that has inquired about disaffiliation from The United Methodist Church has qualified under this provision, since they do not profess to disagree with the human sexuality language in the Book of Discipline or how the South Carolina Conference has interpreted it. "It has been my hope that the division so present in the rest of the denomination would not affect us in a negative way," said Bishop L. Jonathan Holston. "But it has become increasingly difficult over time to shield South Carolina United Methodists from these distractions. "There are a growing number of churches in our conference inquiring about a way to leave the denomination, especially since disaffiliation under Paragraph 2553 is not available to them. While this is a source of real sadness, I have concluded that providing churches the space for conversation and discernment is a faithful step forward within the provisions of The Book of Discipline."

The Trustees of the Annual Conference and the Extended Cabinet have prayerfully developed the Local Church Discernment Process. Their intentional and meticulous work is not intended to encourage churches to

leave the denomination or to remain with The United Methodist Church. Rather, it was designed with the singular goal of ensuring that churches will be fruitful in their mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. While similar to the disaffiliation process found in Paragraph 2553, the Local Church Discernment Process is grounded in Paragraph 2549 of the Discipline, which is typically employed when a local church is closed because it no longer serves the purpose for which it was organized. Unlike the disaffiliation process, the Local Church Discernment Process has no long-term "sunset" provision.

The process consists of multiple steps, including but not limited to:

- 1) If the church council of a local church determines that it is in the best interest of the church to allow the congregation to pursue separation, the council must ask the district superintendent to call a church conference.
- 2) Before the church conference takes place, the local church must complete an intentional, 30-day process of discernment to consider whether the congregation can continue to function as a United Methodist church.
- 3) Representatives of the congregation will be assigned the responsibility of ensuring that certain financial obligations – as calculated by conference trustees – are satisfied before the congregation can vote on whether to separate. These payments include:
 - A tithe equal to 10 percent of the appraised value of all church property and liquid assets.
 - All unpaid apportionment giving for the prior year, as well as for the year of closure up to the date of the Annual Conference vote to close the church.
 - An additional 12 months of apportionment giving.
 - All unpaid salary and benefits due to clergy appointed to the church.
 - A withdrawal liability equal to the church's proportional share of any unfunded pension obligations.
- 4) Other financial considerations and legal liabilities of the local church – such as the disposition of any debts, loans, leases, endowments, foundations and cemeteries – must be satisfied or transferred to a new entity.
- 5) At the church conference meeting, support of two-thirds of professing church members present and voting is

- 5) At the church conference meeting, support of two-thirds of professing church members present and voting is required to formally declare that the church can no longer continue to function as a United Methodist church. This vote must take place by March 1 each year to be considered by Annual Conference members during their regular session the following June.
- 6) Once all terms of separation are satisfied, the members of the Annual Conference must vote on a resolution to close the local church and transfer its assets to a new entity. A simple majority vote in favor of the resolution is the final step before the local church separates from The United Methodist Church, maintaining its property.

All inquiries about the Local Church Discernment Process must be communicated by the church council to the district superintendent. Bishop Holston continues to implore South Carolina United Methodists to remain patient and focused on what should be the top priority of every local church – our mission to make disciples of

Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. “During this time of discernment, I am encouraging everyone to pray for our church and for each other, to trust in the Lord with all your heart and not lean only on your own understanding,” Bishop Holston said. “Amid all of the distractions the world casts across our path, let us seek a more excellent way to focus on what matters most – trusting, believing and knowing that God is with us.”

Regardless of what the future of Lexington United Methodist Church may be, I am grateful to be worshipping with you as your pastor. You have continued blessing the community as hands and feet of Jesus Christ, and I look forward to our fellowship together.

God bless you all,
Mack McDowell

LUMC Confirmation Classes

Begin
Late
January



For Students
8th Grade
and Up

Contact
todd@lexumcsc.com
If Interested



Confirmation Class 2023

If your student is in 8th grade or above and hasn't completed confirmation class, then now is the time to sign up. Classes will begin late January and confirmation Sunday will take place early May. If your student wants to participate, email Todd at todd@lexumcsc.com.

Karaoke
Night

The Anew Crew and Grace Station will be hosting a **KARAOKE Night** in Wesley Hall, January 20, 5:30 to 7:00pm. This is a fun, *family friendly* event!

We need everyone who is interested in singing to please sign up by sending **your name** and the **song you would like to sing** ahead of time. Please send these to Michael Slapnik @ mslapnik@gmail.com or you can text him: 803-528-6191.

Feel free to bring a snack, or dessert to share!
We look forward to a super fun night of singing and fellowship!



Women's Winter Tea

Ladies, please join us for the **Winter Tea** to begin the New Year on a sweet note.

January 8, 3-5pm in Asbury Hall

Mary Hazeleton is slated to entertain us with her light-hearted humor

A L George Circle will be serving the tea and goodies

The missions spotlights are Nancy K. Perry Children's Shelter and Epworth Foster Care

UMW officers will be installed and we will



remember the women we have lost this past year.

Please come and share in this fun afternoon.

If there are any questions, please contact Katy Handell: kevinandkathyhandell@gmail.com

Lexington Reaching Everyone—



The LRE team is *Living God's Word and Sharing God's Love* by reaching out to church visitors and let them know that we are glad they came. We offer to visit with them and to share with them about our Sunday school classes as well as other opportunities to become fully involved.

We also call members who have not been attending, maybe because of mobility issues or health concerns, to let them know they are missed and find out if they would like a visit. If any church member knows of someone who would welcome a visit from our LRE team please contact the church office, or contact us.

The LRE is now meeting on Tuesday afternoons at 2pm. If you would like to be a part of this team, please just show up. Or you can contact Julie Robinson for more information. jgr5214@gmail.com





Epiphany is season from Jan. 7 through the day before Ash Wednesday. It may include anywhere from four to nine Sundays, depending on the date of Easter. The liturgical colors for the Season after Epiphany are white for the first Sunday (Baptism of the Lord) and last Sunday (Transfiguration) and green for the rest of the season.

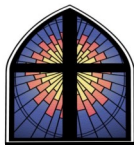
The arrival of these visitors was a sign that the incarnation of God in Christ had been made known and was recognized by the heavens to the whole world, so that even Gentile wise men from the East came to pay him homage. This is an observance of great majesty, solemnity and awe.

Christmas says Christ is here, born into the world. Epiphany says it's up to us to find him, and it may not be easy. We may have to walk a long road, follow strange guidance, and encounter Herod-like dangers. Epiphany celebrates humankind's accomplishment of a very difficult task. Christ's birth is a miracle indeed, but it's possibly a still greater miracle that we, the earnest yet ever-benighted human race, manage to recognize him, tiny and humble, lying in a barn in some no-name town. Sarah Parsons [The Upper Room](#)

When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him.

Matthew 2:10-11





Children's Ministry
Lexington
 United Methodist Church

LUMC promises to surround our children with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their service to others. Our intention is to minister to the needs of all children and provide them with a caring community where all may be nurtured in a dignified and loving manner.



We need children to ring the bell at the start of both the 8:30am and 11am traditional services. Email Heather (above) and let her know if your child is interested!

Acolytes, we need you in both the 8:30am and 11am services. Want to become an Acolyte? Email Ms. Heather at heather@lexumcsc.com. Acolyte training will be December 11 after the 11 am services.

Sign up
to **Acolyte**
here



Will you help just one Sunday a month with Children's Church? We desperately need volunteers during the 11am worship hour. Heather will lead the lesson; two people are needed in the classroom each Sunday. [Sign up here.](#)



**REGISTRATION
 FOR 23-24
 SCHOOL YEAR!**

Registration opens to
 Church Members on
 January 22nd.

All registration is online, you can find more information on the church website under the preschool tab. Contact Lindsey at lindsey@lexumcsc.com for a tour or if you have further questions!



The Winter Session of the Shepherd's Center Adventures in Learning classes begin January 19 and continue each Thursday through February 23.

Brochures are available outside Asbury Hall and outside Wesley Hall. You may also find a copy here along with the registration form: [Home - The Shepherd's Center of Lexington, SC \(sclex.org\)](http://Home-The-Shepherd's-Center-of-Lexington-SC-sclex.org). Scroll down the page. Sign up soon!



JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

13-16 Winter Retreat - Pigeon Forge, TN
We will hit the road up the Mountain to Pigeon Forge for our Winter Retreat! Sign up today!

22 Youth Group Winter Kickoff- 5 to 6:30 pm
Join us as we kickoff our Winter Semester Sunday Nights! Things will get extreme.....

25 Wednesday Nights Return
Join us on Wednesday Nights as we return to dinner and bible studies.

29 Open Gym / Sundae Serve 4 pm to 6:30 pm
Open Gym is available from 4 to 5 pm followed by our Sundae Serve from 5 to 6:30 pm! Come join us!

1,8,15 Wednesday Nights Continue
Our Dinner and Bible Studies continue on Wed Nights

5, 19 Youth Group - 5 to 6:30 pm
Sunday Night Youth Groups continue as we gather together for games and a devotion.

21 Pancake Supper Fundraiser - 5:30 pm
All hands on deck needed to pull off this annual fundraising event!

22 Ash Wednesday Services
Join us for our Ash Wednesday Service in the Sanctuary.

26 Open Gym / Sundae Serve 4 pm to 6:30 pm
Open Gym is available from 4 to 5 pm followed by our Sundae Serve from 5 to 6:30 pm! Come join us!

JANUARY

Birthdays

1/1	Tracy Steele Julia Johnson Larry Hayes Mark Edmonds Chris Stanford		DeSean Logan Brynn Hahne Alice Young	1/23	Michael Wessinger Margie Spence Beth Altenberg Cora Field Jessica Gore
1/2	Jim Gregory Jr. Shelley Lyles Gaines Roberts Tamara Selzer	1/12	Taylor Young Jr. Jake Mesaros Brian Dunbar Todd Carroll Jenilee Armstrong	1/24	Robyne Gross Celeste Burner Vince Clayton
1/4	Jerry Gatch Mike Gatch Beth Keith Swapna Kumar	1/13	Caroline Taylor Lori Fite Rose David Morris Jonathan Wojtylak	1/25	Linda Gladden Jim Kruger Anna Armstrong
1/5	Berniece Phillips Judi Powell Jennifer Stevenson Amit Kumar Elizabeth Denson Bradley Dargan Gore	1/14	Spencer Brooks Ashley Thompkins	1/26	Becky McCormack Richard Hendrick Traywick Duffie Doris Frye Katelyn Turner Mike Johnson Brian Hahne
1/7	Barney Williams Ken Fentress	1/15	Troy Rivers Linda Hyde	1/27	Maree Gilliam
1/8	Pam Hayes Zackery Moats	1/16	Molly Laurence Harley Britner Maeve Larion	1/28	David Davison Andy Preston Jr.
1/9	Adam Backman Matt Cooper Will Copeland Brooks Torbett Chuck Crouch Jr.	1/17	Llora Miller	1/29	Tracy Roughton
1/10	Brent Hawkins Ava Blume Brooks Yeh	1/18	Ashley Culley Wanda Pettus Dan Osborne	1/30	Tobi Harmon Erin Cogswell Bette McKenney Sara Stone Olivia Robinson Jaimee O'Neal
1/11	Tim Groves Adam Howard Amy Cook	1/19	Nelson Spence Brandon Roshto	1/31	Russell Cammann Victoria Wahl
		1/20	Margaret Oswald Kristi Fogle Thomas Leonard		
		1/21	Jennifer Stanford Alice Hott Lurene Carlson Mary D Merrell		
		1/22	Barbara Booth Lori Torbett Lilly Groves		

Gifts & Memorials

In HONOR OF:

In MEMORY OF:

John Bumgarner

Phillip & Julie Mentnech

John & Joyce Bumgarner

Jamie & Jenny Bumgarner

Cherie Bowers

Delos Corderman SS Class

Susan Matthews

Brenda Dunn

Delos Corderman SS Class

Connie Brock

Delos Corderman SS Class

Ben Satcher, Jr.

GINNY KURTZ

Mary Alice Bechtler

Cynthia Satcher

Cynthia Satcher

GINNY KURTZ

Barbara Bush

Linda Gladden

Our outstanding church staff

Linda Gladden

Cynthia Satcher

Sammie George

James W. Gladden

DeePal, Meg, Karen, & Kaylin

Jim Morris

George & Luanne Renwick

Jim Walsh

Angela Wingard-Brusch

Janice Hipp

John Bashline

Lisa Kosicki

Terry

Buddy & Lynn Brewer

Helen Daniel

Buddy & Lynn Brewer

Billy Burley

Buddy & Lynn Brewer

Anne Pitts

Suzanna Wesley Circle

Annie Jane Gable

Suzanna Wesley Circle

Becky Johnson

Suzanna Wesley Circle

Dolores Gatch

Suzanna Wesley Circle

1 NEW YEARS DAY 10:00am - 11:00am Traditional Worship Service- Epiphany Sunday	2 CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED 10:30am - 11:30am Exercise Class 4:00pm - 8:30pm Volleyball Game	3 10:00am - 10:30am Staff Meeting 11:30am -1:30pm Prime Timers Lunch- eon 2:00pm-LRE-Team 5:30pm - 6:30pm Al-Anon 6:30pm - 7:30pm Girl Scout Troop 2375- Leah Smith 7:00pm - 8:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm - 8:00pm Zoom with Pastor Mack	4 10:30am - 11:30am Exercise Class	5 10:00am - 11:30am Line Dancing 2:00pm - 4:30pm Prime Timers Cards 6:30pm - 7:30pm Pack 507-Den Meet- ings	6 10:30am - 11:30am Exercise Class 6:30pm - Worship Band Practice	7
8 8:30am - 9:30am Traditional Worship Service 9:30am - 9:45am Coffee Fellowship Time 9:45am - 10:45am Adult Sunday School 10:00am - 10:45am Youth Sunday School 11:00am - 12:00pm Contemporary Worship Service- with Children's Church 11:00am -12:00pm Traditional Worship Service-with Children's Church 2:00pm - 6:00pm Free Throw Championship 3:00pm-5:00pm Women's Tea , Asbury	9 10:30am - 11:30am Exercise Class 4:00pm - 8:30pm Volleyball Game 6:00pm - 7:00pm Caring Connections Meeting	10 10:00am - 10:30am Staff Meeting 5:30pm - 6:30pm Al-Anon 6:30pm - 7:30pm Tuesday Evening Service 7:00pm - 8:00pm Troop 507 Boy Scouts 7:00pm - 8:00pm Zoom with Pastor Mack	11 10:30am - 11:30am Exercise Class 11:00am - 11:30am Preschool Chapel 7:00pm - 8:00pm Chancel Choir Practice	12 10:00am - 11:30am Line Dancing 11:00am - 11:30am Preschool Chapel 2:00pm - 4:30pm Prime Timers Cards	13 Youth Winter Retreat-Pigeon Forge, TN 10:30am - 11:30am Exercise Class 6:30pm - 8:30pm Worship Band Practice	14 Youth Winter Retreat- Pigeon Forge, TN
15 Youth Winter Retreat-Pigeon Forge, TN 8:30am - 9:30am Traditional Worship Service 9:30am - 9:45am Coffee Fellowship Time 9:45am - 10:45am Adult Sunday School 10:00am - 10:45am Youth Sunday School 11:00am - 12:00pm Contemporary Worship Service- with Children's Church 11:00am - 12:00pm Traditional Worship Service-with Children's Church	16 CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED-Martin Luther King, Jr. Day 10:30am - 11:30am Exercise Class 4:00pm - 8:30pm Volleyball Game	17 10:00am - 10:30am Staff Meeting 5:30pm - 6:30pm Al-Anon 6:30pm - 7:30pm Girl Scout Troop 2375- Leah Smith 6:30pm - 7:30pm Tuesday Evening Service 7:00pm - 8:00pm Troop 507 Boy Scouts 7:00pm - 8:00pm Zoom with Pastor Mack 7:30pm - 8:30pm Questers Group	18 6:30am - 7:30am Men's Weds. AM Group 10:30am - 11:30am Exercise Class 7:00pm - 8:00pm Chancel Choir Practice	19 9:15am - 2:15pm Shepherd's Center Classes 2:00pm - 4:30pm Prime Timers Cards 6:30pm - 7:30pm Pack 507-Arrow of Light Crossover/Den Meetings	20 9:00am - 10:30am Shepherd's Center Board 10:30am - 11:30am Exercise Class 5:30pm - 6:30pm Karaoke Night with Grace Station 6:30pm - 8:30pm Worship Band Practice	21
22 8:30am - 9:30am Traditional Worship Service 9:30am - 9:45am Coffee Fellowship Time 9:45am - 10:45am Adult Sunday School 10:00am - 10:45am Youth Sunday School 11:00am - 12:00pm Contemporary Worship Service- with Children's Church 11:00am - 12:00pm Traditional Worship Service-with Children's Church 5:00pm - 6:30pm Youth Group Winter Kickoff	23 10:30am - 11:30am Exercise Class 2:00pm - 7:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive 4:00pm - 8:30pm Volleyball Game	24 10:00am - 10:30am Staff Meeting 10:30am - 12:00pm Suzanna Wesley Circle 5:30pm - 6:30pm Al-Anon 6:30pm - 7:30pm Tuesday Evening Service 7:00pm - 8:00pm Troop 507 Boy Scouts 7:00pm - 8:00pm Zoom with Pastor Mack	25 6:30am - 7:30am Men's Weds. AM Group 10:30am - 11:30am Exercise Class 11:00am - 11:30am Preschool Chapel 7:00pm - 8:00pm Chancel Choir Practice	26 9:15am - 2:15pm Shepherd's Center Classes 11:00am - 11:30am Preschool Chapel 2:00pm - 4:30pm Prime Timers Cards	27 10:30am - 11:30am Exercise Class 6:30pm - 8:30pm Worship Band Practice	28 9:00am - 1:00pm Indian Waters Coun- cil Cub Col- lege
29 8:30am - 9:30am Traditional Worship Service 9:30am - 9:45am Coffee Fellowship Time 9:45am - 10:45am Adult Sunday School 10:00am - 10:45am Youth Sunday School 11:00am - 12:00pm Contemporary Worship Service- with Children's Church 11:00am - 12:00pm Traditional Worship Service-with Children's Church 4:00pm - 5:00pm Youth Open Gym 5:00pm - 6:30pm Youth Sundae Serve	30 10:30am - 11:30am Exercise Class 4:00pm - 8:30pm Volleyball Game	31 10:00am - 10:30am Staff Meeting 5:30pm - 6:30pm Al-Anon 6:30pm - 7:30pm Girl Scout Troop 2375- Leah Smith 6:30pm - 7:30pm Tuesday Evening Service 7:00pm - 8:00pm Troop 507 Boy Scouts				



Lexington United
Methodist Church

309 E Main St.
Lexington, SC 29072

Return Service Requested



**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**
CARE MINISTRY
CONGREGATION

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

 lexumc
 @LUMC_SC
 Lexington United Methodist

Church office:
803-359-6838

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