A WORD FROM PASTOR MACK

"Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's."

— MATTHEW 22:21B —

In a box of stuff that I have collected over the years, lies a Roman silver denarius coin from the first century, that came from Israel many years ago. A silver denarius was the equivalent of one day's pay in ancient times, so it was a valuable coin to have! The obverse (front) of the coin bears the side profile of Julius Caesar. On the reverse is the scene of a soldier standing over two bound captives, with the title "Caesar" across the width of the base. The coin reminds us of what Jesus did with Caesar's denarius in Matthew's 22nd chapter. The Herodians and the Pharisees joined together to trap Jesus so he could be arrested for either sedition or encouraging tax evasion. When they asked Jesus if it was lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, he simply asked them to produce the denarius, asked them whose image and title it bore, and then told them to "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's."

We take this to mean that because the coin was made in Caesar's image, it is right to use it for Caesar's purposes. But what about you? Whose image were you created in? You were created in God's image. All of us were created by our awesome and loving God in God's image. Given that, do you give yourself to be used for God's purposes? Do you give the very best of your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness, to God? Sometimes this passage is only interpreted to mean that we should tithe our money to God.

We certainly should tithe, because Lexington United Methodist Church uses your financial gifts to bless those in need, every day of the year. This passage from Jesus is about more than that, though. It is about you and I giving the very best of ourselves off the top to God first. It is about putting God first in every aspect of our lives. Scripture is filled with references to giving the "first fruits" of the harvest back to God before anything else is taken. Do you do that with the

gifts that God gives you? One way of helping your church do that for the community is to tithe 10% of your disposable income to your church.

As your pastor, I have continued to tithe at least 10% of my income, both my church salary and my Army pension, to your church. I keep the other 90% for the things I need to do with my family. I am comforted to know that God can do much more with the 10% than I can do with the 90%. We are grateful for all that you return to the church from what God has blessed you with. So much is done with what you give including ministries for the marginalized and hungry, counseling for those who have lost their way, help for struggling families, support for world-wide ministries and missions, multiple weekly worship services, children's and youth activities, and community events in your church. The list goes on and on. All of these are possible because you, who are created in God's beautiful image, are willing to be used for God's purposes.

Thanks be to God,

Rev. Mack McDowell

CONTENTS **Church News:** Trunk or Treat Sign Ups, Bereavement Groups, New Organist & MORE! **Children's Ministry** 4 **Youth Ministry** 5 **Adult Ministries:** New Adult Bible Study, Men's Prayer Breakfast & MORE! Outreach Alpaca Shoebox, Blessing Box, & MORE! Memorials, Honorariums & Birthdays 10 **Church Calendar** 11



Church News.

Trunk or Treat - Volunteers & Candy Collection

Sunday, October 27th – 5 to 7 PM | LUMC Main Parking Lot



Trunk or Treat is a great opportunity for LUMC to have a visible presence in the community. Last year, over 1,000 people turned out for this event. We need your help to make it successful again! This year, we will have two categories of trunks for our fan-favorite voting: traditional trick-or-treat trunks and interactive game trunks. If you are interested in hosting a trunk, click here or scan the QR code. We have also started collecting candy and allergy-friendly non-food items for the event. Please help us ensure we have plenty of prizes for all the community visitors!



Coffee Time Refreshments

Coffee Time before the Sunday School hour is a great time for fellowship and fosters community within our church. The True Believers & Disciples (TBD) class will host refreshments for the month of October. If your class or group would like to help with Coffee Time in upcoming months, please contact **Wendi Walsh** at 803-622-7053.

Bereavement & Hospitality Teams

Serving families during their times of grief is a tremendous blessing for them. In order to better care for these families, we are establishing Bereavement and Hospitality Teams who will rotate to provide meals when needed. Teams are asked to provide items such as sandwiches, macaroni and cheese, fruit, dessert and something to drink along with cups and plates provided by the church. The time commitment is approximately one to one and a half hours each time your team is called upon. **Wendi Walsh** will contact you when the need arises. To sign up for a Bereavement and Hospitality Team, *click here* or scan the QR code to the right.



Welcome Our New Organist, Taylor Glomb!

On October 6th, Taylor Gomb will participate in her first Sunday services as the organist for Lexington United Methodist Church. Taylor has extensive piano performance and teaching experience with her Bachelor's from Drake University and Masters from Northern Arizona University both in piano performance. Taylor has recently relocated to the area where she has been a substitute pianist and organist while pursuing a doctorate at the University of South Carolina. We look forward to Taylor sharing her many talents with our congregation! Please help us give her a warm welcome!

Do you have content you would like included in the Household of Faith? Contact Kaitlyn Handell at <u>obrien.kaitlynm@gmail.com</u> by Oct. 23rd to be included in the next issue.

Children's Ministry

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 they may be nurtured in a dignified and loving manner. For all the latest info regarding upcoming events, visit <u>lexumcsc.com/childrens-ministry</u>.

Nursery (infant - 2k)

Nursery services are offered for infants and toddlers during the Sunday School period (beginning at 9:45 AM) through the end of the 11AM services. If you have any questions, please contact Heather Connor.



Children's Christmas Program

Rehearsals: Sundays – 10 to 10:45 AM | Performance: Sun, Dec. 8th – 10 AM

All children are invited to participate in this year's Children's Christmas program, A Very Mixed-Up Christmas Pageant, by joining for rehearsals in the sanctuary in lieu of Sunday School.

Save the Date: Children's Sabbath

Sunday, November 10th – 8:30 Traditional, 11 AM Combined Worship in Wesley Hall (Gym)

Began by the Children's Defense Fund in 1991, Children's Sabbath is a weekend that unites people of all faiths to advocate for and improve the lives of children. There will be opportunities for all ages, especially our children, to participate. Contact Heather if your child may be interested in speaking during the services.

Sunday Evening Programming (3k - 5th)

Children meet for KidzWay (3k - 2nd) & Breakout (3rd - 5th) for a time of play, creativity, wonder, and growing together in God. Parents are asked to drop off children at the playground.

Oct 6th Shoebox Packing – 5 to 6:30 PM

Help us sort and pack items for Operation Christmas

Child shoeboxes!

Oct 13th Creative Workshop – 5 to 6:30 PM

In preparation for Children's Sabbath on November 10th, kids will have a creative workship to film videos and create art.

Oct 20th NO PROGRAMMING

Oct 27th Trunk or Treat – 5 to 7 PM

Kids are invited to join in on the fun of Trunk or Treat! Come dressed in your best costume and collect candy or consider hosting a trunk. See <u>page 2</u> for more info on hosting!

VOLUNTEER CORNER

Volunteers are needed to help support our Children's Ministry programs. Click the titles or scan the QR codes to sign up.

Sunday Morning Programming

Adults with Safe Sanctuary Training



Sunday Evening Programming

Adults with Safe Sanctuary Training



Acolytes

for Traditional Services





Youth Ministry





The Youth Ministry at Lexington United Methodist Church seeks to serve all students in grades 6th through 12th grade. For all the latest info regarding upcoming events, scan the QR code to view the monthly youth newsletter or visit lexumcsc.com/student-ministry.





Mastermind Night

Sunday, October 6th – 5 to 6:30 PM | Wesley Hall (Gym)

Do you have what it takes to outwit the master? Youth are invited for a night full of games, riddles, puzzles and more that will test your mental strength!



Sunday Scaries

Sunday, October 13th – 5 to 6:30 PM | Wesley Hall (Gym)

We all know how scary the end of the weekend can be, but no need to be scared here! We will play a lot of fun Halloween-themed games and give away ALL THE CANDY!! Like so much candy. If you are thinking a lot of candy, its even more than that!



Fall Retreat - Team Survival Challenge

October 18th to 20th - Awanita Valley | Marietta, SC

Please pray for the youth and chaperones as they travel to Awanita Valley in Marietta, SC for a weekend of fun and fellowship. Throughout the weekend, youth will participate in Team Survival Challenge where they will compete as teams in physical and mental challenges, with a grand game of Capture the Flag as the final challenge.



Trunk or Treat – Volunteers Needed

October 27th – 5 to 7 PM | Main Parking Lot

It's an all hands on deck kind of night as our church gets ready to host our annual Trunk or Treat! Host a trunk with your family with the sign up on <u>page 2</u> or sign up to help serve the Hot Dog Dinner at the link in the <u>youth newsletter</u>.



2025 Winter Retreat - Registration Now Open!

January 17-20 – Pigeon Forge, TN | Cost: \$160

Youth are returning to Pigeon Forge, TN for Winter Retreat 2025! We will have a weekend full of winter activities, some of which won't be revealed until we arrive to keep an element of surprise! Students will also spend time growing together and with God. Registration is now open at the link in the *youth newsletter*.

VOLUNTEERS – NEEDED –

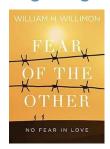
Adults and parents – your help is needed for Sunday night Youth programming! We still have several weeks where we need a volunteer to help run activities and, on some weeks, provide a snack. Find the sign up in the <u>youth newsletter</u> to see what weeks still need to be filled.



Adult Ministries

Adult Small Group: Fear of the Other by William H. Willimon

Beginning October 7th – 6:30 to 7:45 PM | MC006 (downstairs in Ministry Center)



Beginning October 7th, **Heather Connor** will lead another Bible study on Monday evenings running 6 weeks. This study will follow William H. Willimon's book *Fear of the Other* which can be purchased online at your favorite retailers. Please contact Heather if purchasing the book or child care is prohibitive to your participation. *Click here* or scan the QR code to sign up for the study.



Prime Timers Lunch

Tuesday, Oct 1st – 11:00 AM | Mediterranean Cafe, 326 W Main St.



Prime Timers is a ministry at Lexington United Methodist Church for persons 50 years of age and older as well as for others who enjoy participating in these activities. The group will gather for lunch and a time of fellowship at Mediterranean Cafe in Lexington on Tuesday, October 1st. Please contact **Sammie Brown** at 803-351-0784 or sbrown8885@sc.rr.com to make your reservation.

G.A.L.S. Widow's Support Group Lunch

Tuesday, October 15th – 11:30 AM | Grecian Gardens, Sunset Blvd.

God's Amazing Love Sustains (G.A.L.S.) is a support group for widows. The support group meets the third Tuesday of every month at a local restaurant for lunch and a time of fellowship. For October, the group will gather at Grecian Gardens. For questions or to RSVP, contact **Linda Gladden** at 803-920-0114.





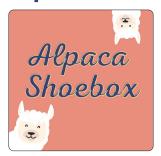
Weekly Men's Prayer Breakfast

Every Wednesday – 6:30 to 7:30 AM | Asbury Hall

On Wednesday mornings, the men of the church gather together for a time of prayer while enjoying a continental-style breakfast. All men of the church are invited to join for this time of fellowship and prayer. Contact **Tim Chandler** if you have any questions.

Outreach

Alpaca Shoebox



After collecting donations for the past 9 months, we are ready to start assembling and packing boxes for **Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child mission**. If any individual or group would like to help with this effort, please contact **Sandy Knight** at <u>sfknight58@gmail.com</u>.

As always, you can also support this ministry through a monetary donation to the church by designating "Alpaca Shoebox" in the memo line. Monetary donations are used to cover postage/handling expenses and to purchase additional items.

Blessing Box



There are many people in our community who benefit from items placed in the Blessing Box – those experiencing homelessness or food insecurities of many kinds. We need your help keeping it filled so we continue to bless all God's children. Consider adding a few items to your cart on your next trip to the grocery store!

The **LUMC Children's Ministry** continues to collect <u>bottled water</u> to place in a cooler by the Blessing Box to keep people cool for the hot SC summer. They have also started collecting <u>baby and toddler foods</u> as well as <u>pet food</u> to ensure all God's creatures are provided for.

SUGGESTED ITEMS:

- Vienna Sausages
- Tuna Packets
- Canned Spaghetti
- Canned Veggies
- Lentils & Beans
- Protein bars
- Fruit Cups
- Cake Mix & Frosting
- Baby Food Pouches
- Toddler-Friendly Foods
- Pet Food
- Personal Care Items

Snack Sack Ministry

The new school year is in full swing and Snack Sack is providing meals to over 660 students each week of the school year. These students are in 10 schools across Lexington Districts One, Two and Three and our mission is to ensure they have food to eat at home over weekends and holidays. This ministry would not be possible without the generous donations and volunteers from this congregation and many



others. If any individual or group would like to volunteer with meal packing or distribution efforts for Snack Sack, please contact *Rick Cunningham*. Monetary donations are also needed to support this important ministry!



The Green Team Needs You!

A relationship with God's creation and a minsitry of caring for and healing the earth are integral to what it means to be a United Methodist. In response to God's calling to be caretakers of the natural world (Genesis 1: 26-31), LUMC is working to revitalize the Green Team.

Congregation, please support the Green Team in caring for God's creation by bringing a reusable coffee cup for coffee time!

If you would like to be a part of the Green Team, contact **Heather Connor**.



COFFEE TIME

Memorials, Honorariums & Birthdays

MEMORIALS

Ann Decell

Charles Gatch Delos Corderman Fellowship Greg & Debbie Howard Hugh & Maro Rogers James & Carol Metts Janice Hipp Jim & Connie Brock Jim & Nancy Caulder Jim & Shirley Gregory John & Connie Cooper Malcolm & Loretta Jackson Marcia Mincey Milton & Cheryl Dunn Phil & Debbie Dooley Rex & Vicki Boylston Shane & Sandra Horne

Cynthia Satcher

Lawrence Childs, Jr.

Pat Bickel

Don Bickel, Sr.

Robyne Gross

John & Connie Cooper Dana Lott Tucker

NEW MEMBERS

Don & Rebecca Jones

723 Lundie Lane Lexington, SC 29072

THANK YOUS

From the Dunnagan Family

The Dunnagan family would like to thank the congregation for their words of encouragement and many beautiful sympathy cards received after the passing of Donna's father, Mr. Jack Helmer on August 26, 2024.

BIRTHDAYS		<u>10/12</u>	Betty Monts Donna Hornsby	10/24	Wanda Williams Jody Huffstetler
10/1	David Workman		Cameron Beckum Jack Brickle		Prater Street Jack Armstrong
	Bob Derrick Ben Locklier Rob Coleman III		Ed Ulmer Joe Broadway	10/25	Ann Byess Richard Hornsby
	Blake Beckum Mary Taylor	<u>10/13</u>	Sasha Coleman Dargan Gore	<u>10/26</u>	Peggy Derrick Amy Harmon
10/2	Jeffrey Anderson Ben Satcher Jr. Wanda Edmonds Braxton Seeby	10/14	Gina Krantz Henry Power II Phil Gaines Will Graybill Jr.	Matthe	Bobby Yarborough Ron Edmonds w Campbell Church Coco Simmons
<u>10/3</u>	Thomas Walsh Tim Sinclair	<u>10/15</u>	Richard Cook Jackson Handell	10/27	Dakota Spence Christian Selzer
	Lacey Lawrence Tyler Williams		Morgan Roland Bonnie Pruitt	10/28	George Renwick John Smiley Jr.
10/4	Wendi Walsh	<u>10/16</u>	Laraine Cooper Winston Jordan		Randy Scoggins Kersten Epting
<u>10/5</u>	Bobby Epting Tom Fol Michael Lyons		Ryan Henson Kristin Lyons		Linda Burnett Ray Hyde
	Justin Craig		Joan Laisure	10/29	Griff Rogers
<u>10/6</u>	Ralph Cooper William Parsons	<u>10/17</u>	Henry Leaphart Laura Lambdin Houston Teague	40/20	Britt Welch II Matthew Welch
	Peggy Chavis Matthew Lawrence	<u>10/18</u>	Evelyn Keck	<u>10/30</u>	Jane Brailsford Anne Young
<u>10/7</u>	Dixie Brown	10/19	Tristan Fender	40/04	Kimberly Rauch
`	Stephen McCormack Stephanie Akers	10/20	Sherri Frank Haynes Teague	<u>10/31</u>	Connie Brock Elsie Harrell
	Tom Burner Reese Chittam	10/21	Jennifer Crossman		Will Hahne Caroline Ford
10/8	Bill Dunnagan Jr.		Jack Gould Donna Smith		Caronine rord
	Ed Wilson Logan Moser	10/22	Judy Culler		
10/9	Susan Matthews Kevin Handell Staci Sansone Robert Curtis	Cl	Jim Looney Sue Shumpert Glenn Williams Brenda Fuller neryl Sapp McManus		
10/10	Carolyn Williams Vernon Russell Jr.	10/23	Anne Neely Logan Wilson		
<u>10/11</u>	Calvin Cammann		Samantha Stilwell		

Jacob Jibaja

Tonia Medrick

Jonathan Trezoglou



Church Calendar _____

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
Click here or scan the QR code for the most current event calendar.		10:00am -11:00am Staff Meeting 11:00am -12:00pm Prime Timers Luncheon 5:30pm -6:30pm Al-Anon 6:30pm -7:30pm Tuesday Evening Svc 7:00pm -8:00pm Boy Scouts Troop 507 7:00pm -8:00pm Zoom with Pastor Mack	6:30am -7:30am Men's Weds. AM Group 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class 7:00pm -8:00pm Chancel Choir Practice	9:15am -2:00pm Shepherd's Center Classes 2:00pm -4:30pm Prime Timers Cards	4 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class 6:30pm -8:00pm Worship Band Practice	5 7:00pm -8:00pm AA Meeting
6 WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY 8:30am -9:30am Traditional Worship Svc 9:30am -9:45am Coffee Fellowship Time 9:45am -10:45am Sunday School for All Ages 10:00am -10:45am Christmas Pageant Practice 11:00am -12:00pm Contemporary Worship Svc 11:00am -12:00pm Traditional Worship Svc 5:00pm -6:30pm KidzWay 5:00pm -6:30pm Youth Group-Mastermind Nt	7 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class 12:00pm -1:00pm Amazing Athletes 12:00pm -1:00pm Kelly's Gymnastics 2:00pm -3:00pm Caring Connections 6:30pm -7:30pm Fear the Other- Bible Study 7:00pm -8:00pm AA Meeting	8 10:00am –11:00am Staff Meeting 5:30pm –6:30pm Al-Anon 6:00pm –7:30pm Girl Scout Troop 2375 6:30pm –7:30pm Tuesday Evening Svc 7:00pm –8:00pm Boy Scouts Troop 507 7:00pm –8:00pm Zoom with Pastor Mack	9 6:30am -7:30am Men's Weds. AM Group 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class 7:00pm -8:00pm Chancel Choir Practice	9:15am -2:00pm Shepherd's Center Classes 2:00pm -4:30pm Prime Timers Cards 6:00pm -7:00pm Charge Conference 6:15pm -7:30pm Girl Scout Troop #2207	PRESCHOOL OUT 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class 6:30pm -8:00pm Worship Band Practice	12 10:00am -11:00am Book Club 7:00pm -8:00pm AA Meeting
8:30am -9:30am Traditional Worship Svc 9:30am -9:45am Coffee Fellowship Time 9:45am -10:45am Sunday School for All Ages 10:00am -10:45am Christmas Pageant Practice 11:00am -12:00pm Contemporary Worship Svc 11:00am -12:00pm Traditional Worship Svc 5:00pm -6:30pm KidzWay 5:00pm -6:30pm Youth Group-Sunday Scaries	PRESCHOOL OUT 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class 12:00pm -1:00pm Amazing Athletes 12:00pm -1:00pm Kelly's Gymnastics 6:30pm -7:30pm Fear the Other- Bible Study 7:00pm -8:00pm AA Meeting	15 10:00am –11:00am Staff Meeting 2:00pm –3:00pm LRE-Lexington Reaching Everyone 5:30pm –6:30pm Al-Anon 6:30pm –7:30pm Tuesday Evening Svc 7:00pm –8:00pm Boy Scouts Troop 507 7:00pm –8:00pm Zoom with Pastor Mack 7:30pm –8:30pm Questers Group	6:30am -7:30am Men's Weds. AM Group 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class 7:00pm -8:00pm Chancel Choir Practice	9:15am-2:00pm Shepherd's Center Classes 2:00pm-4:30pm Prime Timers Cards 6:00pm-8:00pm Girl Scout Unit 648	Oct. 18-20 Youth Fall Retreat-Awanita Valley-Marietta, SC 10:30am –11:30am Exercise Class 6:30pm –8:00pm Worship Band Practice	7:00pm -8:00pm AA Meeting
8:30am -9:30am Traditional Worship Svc 9:30am -9:45am Coffee Fellowship Time 9:45am -10:45am Sunday School for All Ages 10:00am -10:45am Christmas Pageant Practice 11:00am -12:00pm Contemporary Worship Svc 11:00am -12:00pm Traditional Worship Svc	21 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class 12:00pm -1:00pm Amazing Athletes 12:00pm -1:00pm Kelly's Gymnastics 7:00pm -8:00pm AA Meeting	9:00am -12:00pm Preschool Fall Festival 10:00am -11:00am Staff Meeting 10:30am -12:00pm Suzanna Wesley Circle 5:30pm -6:30pm Al-Anon 6:00pm -7:30pm Girl Scout Troop 2375 6:30pm -7:30pm Tuesday Evening Svc 7:00pm -8:00pm Boy Scouts Troop 507 7:00pm -8:00pm Zoom with Pastor Mack	6:30am -7:30am Men's Weds. AM Group 9:00am -12:00pm Preschool Fall Festival 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class 7:00pm -8:00pm Chancel Choir Practice	9:15am -2:00pm Shepherd's Center Classes 2:00pm -4:30pm Prime Timers Cards 6:15pm -7:30pm Girl Scout Troop #2207 6:30pm -7:30pm Pack 507 Den Meetings	25 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class 6:30pm -8:00pm Worship Band Practice	7:00pm -8:00pm AA Meeting
8:30am -9:30am Traditional Worship Svc 9:30am -9:45am Coffee Fellowship Time 9:45am -10:45am Sunday School for All Ages 10:00am -10:45am Christmas Pageant Practice 11:00am -12:00pm Contemporary Worship Svc 11:00am -12:00pm Traditional Worship Svc 5:00pm -7:00pm Trunk or Treat-with Youth Hot Dog Fundraiser	28 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class 12:00pm -1:00pm Amazing Athletes 12:00pm -1:00pm Kelly's Gymnastics 6:30pm -7:30pm Fear the Other- Bible Study 7:00pm -8:00pm AA Meeting	28 10:00am –11:00am Staff Meeting 5:30pm –6:30pm Al-Anon 6:30pm –7:30pm Tuesday Evening Svc 7:00pm –8:00pm Boy Scouts Troop 507 7:00pm –8:00pm Zoom with Pastor Mack	6:30am -7:30am Men's Weds. AM Group 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class 7:00pm -8:00pm Chancel Choir Practice	9:15am - 2:00pm Shepherd's Center Classes 2:00pm - 4:30pm Prime Timers Cards		





309 E Main Street | Lexington, SC 29072

Return Service Requested

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. James McDowell, Senior Pastor

Rev. Meegian Gossard, Associate Pastor

Heather Connor, Children's Pastor

Todd Handell. Youth Pastor

Diane Crosby, CUMCA, Administrator

Sunshine Tucker. Preschool Director

Bonnie Pruitt, Director, Chancel Choir

Lessie Polk, Director, Children's & Youth Choirs

Taylor Glomb, Organist

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James 5:13-16 Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up, and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.