



A WORD FROM PASTOR MACK

Blessings to you, sisters and brothers in Christ at Lexington United Methodist Church!

There have been some very wonderful happenings in your household of faith throughout the year 2025! I have been very blessed and happy to share in all that we have done together in the mission and ministry of Jesus! In our last month of this year as we enter the season of Advent, we are looking forward to wonderful Christmas festivities as a church, including our Christmas Cantata, Children's Pageant, Moravian Love Feast, and Christmas Eve services.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for letting me worship alongside 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. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas, and a very blessed New Year. May God continue to smile upon our church and community in all that we do together!

Rev. Mack McDowell



CONTENTS

Church News	2
<i>Advent Worship Schedule, Wednesday Night Suppers & MORE!</i>	
Children's Ministry	4
Youth Ministry	5
Adult Ministries	6
<i>UMW Winter Tea, Craft-a-Card Ministry & MORE!</i>	
Outreach	7
<i>Blood Drive, Angel Tree Ministries, Snack Sack Donation & MORE!</i>	
Memorials, Honorariums & Birthdays	9
Church Calendar	10



Church News

Advent Worship Schedule & Events

Sun, Nov. 30th **First Sunday of Advent**

- 8:30 AM Traditional Worship – Sanctuary
- 9:30 AM Coffee Time – Connector
- 9:45 AM Sunday School
- 11 AM Traditional Worship – Sanctuary
- Contemporary Worship – Wesley Hall (Gym)



Sun, Dec. 7th **Second Sunday of Advent**

- 9 AM Sunday School
- 10 AM Combined Worship, Chancel Choir Cantata – Sanctuary

Sun, Dec. 14th **Third Sunday of Advent**

- 9 AM Sunday School
- 10 AM Combined Worship, **WOW!** Children's Pageant – Sanctuary



Sun, Dec. 21st **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

- 9 AM Sunday School
 - 10 AM Combined Worship – Wesley Hall (Gym)
 - 6:30 PM Moravian Love Feast – Sanctuary
- The Moravian Love Feast, or Agape Meal, is a Christian fellowship meal recalling the meals Jesus shared with disciples during his ministry and expressing the koinonia (community, sharing, fellowship) enjoyed by the family of Christ. It is celebrated during the Advent Season with lessons, carols, music, and the sharing of buns and hot chocolate.*



Wed, Dec. 24th **Christmas Eve**

- 4:30 PM Candlelight Worship Service – Wesley Hall (Gym)
- 7 PM Candlelight Worship Service – Sanctuary

Sun, Dec. 30th **First Sunday After Christmas Day**

- 9 AM Sunday School
- 10 AM Combined Worship – Sanctuary





Christmas Eve Nursery Workers Needed

We are in need of four Safe Sanctuary trained volunteers, two per service, to work in the nursery during our Christmas Eve services (December 24th, 4:30 & 7 PM). If you are able to help with one or both services, please contact [Laura Henrickson](#).



Food & Fellowship, Wednesday Night Suppers

Weekly Wednesdays – 5 PM | Asbury Hall



Whether you forgot to grocery shop, don't feel like cooking again, or are just looking for some fellowship, all are welcome to join for Wednesday Night Suppers in Asbury Hall hosted by **Matt & Becky Goudelock**! Be sure to check the bi-weekly announcement emails for the menu and help us know how many to prepare for by [clicking here](#) or scanning the QR code to sign up! Volunteers are appreciated!



Coffee Time Refreshments

Due to the adjusted worship schedule for December, there will be no Coffee Time. Coffee Time will return as regularly scheduled in January. If your class or group would like to help in January or another month, please contact **Wendi Walsh** at 803-622-7053.

THE HOUSEHOLD of Faith

Kaitlyn Handell, Signing Off

While it has been a pleasure serving the mission of Lexington UMC through the Household of Faith over the past two years, this issue will be my last. **Susan Mitton**, who served so faithfully in this role for many years prior to me, will be temporarily taking back the reins while searching for someone to fill the position more long term. If you are interested in assisting with the Household of Faith or have information to include in future issues, please contact Susan Mitton at swmitton@gmail.com.

In Christ, Kaitlyn Handell



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. If you have any questions, please contact Laura Henrickson at laura@lexumcsc.com.



Children's Christmas Pageant & Sunday School

Weekly Rehearsals: Sundays – 10 to 10:45 AM | Sanctuary

Extra Rehearsal: Sun, Dec. 7th – 5 to 6 PM (During Evening Programming)

Dress Rehearsal: Saturday, December 13th – 9 to 11 AM | Sanctuary

Performance: Sunday, December 14th – 10 AM | Sanctuary

In lieu of Sunday School, all children participating in the Children's Christmas Pageant, **WOW!**, are asked to join Laura and Lessie in the sanctuary from 10:00 to 10:45 AM to rehearse and practice for the performance on **December 14th**. Children are also asked to attend the dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 13th for final preparations. Regularly scheduled Sunday School will return on December 21st in the purple awning room.

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.

Sunday Evening Programming (4k - 5th)

On Sunday evenings, children gather in Asbury Hall for KidzWay for a time of play, creativity, wonder, and growing together in God.

Nov. 30th Falling for Serving God – 5 to 6:30 PM

Epic prizes, helping others, and an incredible message! Join us as we serve God! Why? Because God never "leaves" us!

Dec. 7th Comfy Cozy (Hot) Chocolate Night – 5 to 6:30 PM

Join us for a bonus rehearsal for the Christmas Pageant followed by hot chocolate and a movie! PJs and blankets encouraged!

Dec. 14th NO PROGRAMMING

Dec. 21st NO REGULAR PROGRAMMING

Moravian Love Feast – 6:30 PM, Sanctuary

Dec. 28th NO PROGRAMMING

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 School

Adults with Safe
Sanctuary Training



Nursery

Adults with Safe
Sanctuary Training

Children's Message
for Both Services



Acolytes
for Traditional
Services

KidzWay

Adults with Safe
Sanctuary Training





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.



Christmas Game Night

Sunday, December 7th – 5 to 6:30 PM | Wesley Hall (Gym)

The best way to spread Christmas Cheer is by playing Christmas games for all to hear! The youth are invited for an evening full of Christmas games with some fun prizes for the merriest of the bunch.



Youth Christmas Party

Sunday, December 14th – 5 to 7 PM | Wesley Hall (Gym)

It's all fun and games for the youth Christmas party! Youth will test their luck in games of chance for Todd's infamous Christmas Bag Bonanza and exchange gifts for the White Elephant Gift Exchange. Don't forget to bring your Todd Dollars! Sign up to bring a dish for the potluck at the link in the [youth newsletter](#).



Volunteers Needed for the Moravian Love Feast

Sunday, December 21st – 6:30 PM | Sanctuary

Each year, youth and children help serve the bread and hot chocolate for the Moravian Love Feast. Volunteer servers are asked to arrive approximately 45 min. early (around 5:45 PM) wearing white dresses or white shirts with dark (navy or black) pants or skirts. Please contact **Katy Handell** at 803-917-9864 or if your student would like to serve.



Winter Retreat D.U.D. 2 – Registration Now Open!

January 23-24, 2026 – Lexington, SC | Cost: \$60

A Winter Retreat unlike any other (except the one 2 years ago) because we aren't going anywhere! That's right, we're "Doing Unknown Destinations" again. It may spell D.U.D., but we can promise (not really) that it will NOT be a dud! We've ramped it up to make the D.U.D. 2, Deja Vu, Brand New, Just for You! We will spend the weekend doing "unknown" activities around Lexington. It's going to be an awesome 2 days together of surprises and fun! Sign up by **Sunday, January 11th, 2026** at the link in the [youth newsletter](#) where you can also watch the hype video!



Adult Ministries



Prime Timers Christmas Luncheon

Tuesday, December 2nd | Country Club of Lexington

Prime Timers will gather for their annual Christmas Luncheon at the Country Club of Lexington on Tuesday, December 2nd. RSVPs are required and have already closed, but Prime Timers will continue in 2026 with regularly scheduled lunches on the first Tuesday of each month. Stay tuned to see where lunch will be in January!

G.A.L.S. Widows' Support Group Lunch

Tuesday, December 16th – 11:30 AM | Applebee's

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 December, the group will gather at Applebee's at 11:30 AM. For questions or to RSVP, contact **Linda Gladden** at 803-920-0114.



Mark Your Calendars! UMW Winter Tea

Sunday, January 11th – 2 to 4 PM | Asbury Hall

All women of the church are invited to enjoy some refreshments, tea and fellowship with the Lexington United Methodist Women. Guests are encouraged to come in their tea time attire; fancy hats will be provided. No RSVP required.



Craft-a-Card Ministry & Outreach

Tuesday, January 13th – 1:30 to 3:30 PM | MC004 (downstairs craft room)



The Craft-a-Card Ministry is an ongoing outreach at Lexington United Methodist Church created in January 2025 and meeting the second Tuesday of each month to create homemade greeting cards. The group will not meet in December, but will return again in January.

The ministry's most recent project focused on creating Christmas cards (pictured at left) for LUMC's Caring Connections Team and the Lexington Reaching Everyone (LRE) Ministry. The group extends a heartfelt thank you to Becky Parker who graciously donates her talents and many of the supplies that make this ministry possible.

For questions or additional information, contact **Donna Dunnagan** at dunnagans@yahoo.com or 803-479-9290.



Outreach



American Red Cross Blood Drive

Monday, December 1st – 1 to 6 PM | Asbury Hall

Each pint of blood the American Red Cross collects can help save up to three lives and will touch the lives of so many more. What a great way to pay it forward and make an impact on people in our community. Donors can sign up [here](#) or by scanning the QR code.



Prison Fellowship Angel Tree Ministry

The Prison Fellowship Angel Tree Ministry provides Christmas presents to children of incarcerated parents. We have 45-50 Angel Gift Tags hanging on the tree in the Connector. If you are able, please prayerfully consider taking one or more tags and adding your name and phone number next to the tag number in the gift notebook next to the tree. Please wrap the gift with the angel attached to the outside and return to the church by **Sunday, December 7th**. We are also looking for some Driver Angels who are willing to deliver gifts the week of December 14th. If you're willing to be a driver or have any other questions, please contact **Sandy Knight** at (703) 901-4664.



Epworth Angel Wish Mission



Epworth Children's Home has released their Angel Wishlist for the children under their care and is asking for help in granting these wishes! When you commit to a wish, you are asked to purchase and return the unwrapped item into the church office no later than **December 7th**. This is one of the only times when the kids are able to choose items they want, so it's important

to purchase the exact item selected by the child. Donations can also be made to the church (designate as "Epworth" or "Angel Wish") and we will shop for you! If you would like to grant a wish for one or more children, please contact **Lori Torbett** at ldtorbett@gmail.com or **803-629-7126**.

The mission of Epworth is to serve children, youth and families through caring, safe, Christian communities where hurts are healed, hope is nurtured, and faith in God, self, and others is developed. Epworth, located in Columbia, SC, was established in 1985 by the Methodist people of South Carolina. To this day, the South Carolina United Methodist Conference remains dedicated to the mission of Epworth.

Help Us Fill the 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. The **LUMC Children's Ministry** needs your help keeping it filled so we can continue to bless all God's children. Consider adding a few items to your cart on your next trip to the grocery store!

HIGH NEED ITEMS:

- Instant Oatmeal
- Canned Tuna or Chicken
- Canned or plastic cups of fruit and vegetables
- Basic Seasonings
- Personal Hygiene Items
- Pet Food
- Bottled Water



Collect Items for the Holiday Food Drive

Join Mission Lexington in collecting items for the annual Holiday Food Drive! Collect the items listed below and return directly to Mission Lexington (216 Harmon Street) or place in the cart in the main hallway outside Pastor Mack's office. You can also purchase items in bulk from [Mission Lexington's Amazon Wish List](#) to be sent directly to Mission Lexington. This is a fun way to teach your kids the importance of helping others in need! Any brand is acceptable, but please no glass containers.

- \$10 Grocery Gift Card
- Jellied Cranberry Sauce
- Brown Gravy Packet
- Turkey Stuffing Mix
- Canned Sweet Potatoes
- Canned Collard Greens (NOT Green Beans)
- Fudge Brownie Mix
- Corn Muffin Mix



Snack Sack Receives Generous Donation

LUMC Member **Whitney Williams** presented Snack Sack with a donation of \$3,500 from **100 Women Who Care of the Midlands**. This donation will go a long way in providing food to students in area schools who may otherwise not have food to eat at home on the weekends. Many thanks to 100 Women Who Care for this generous donation!

Snack Sack's expenses for the 2024-2025 school year were \$52,000. With inflation and the need for food continuing to grow along with the number of children being served, expenses are expected to be up to \$60,000 for this school year. [Monetary donations are greatly needed](#) and appreciated! If you have any questions or would like to get more involved, please contact Snack Sack coordinator [Rick Cunningham](#).



Memorials, Honorariums & Birthdays

MEMORIALS

Charles Taylor

Bruce & Joann Sidaway

Sam Marshall

Jim & Jennie McGill
Open Door SS Class

NEW MEMBERS

Jerry Wingard

503 Old Cherokee Road
Lexington, SC 29072

Rob & Julie Poole

341 Carola Lane
Lexington, SC 29072

Matt & Ginni Patterson with children Mary, Will & Knox

166 Sterling Lake Drive
Lexington, SC 29072

BIRTHDAYS

12/1

Tracy Rowe
Kris Cato

12/2

Carolyn Johnson
Matt Maxwell
Rylee Stewart

12/4

Cindy Bowman
Sutton Sinclair

12/5

Angie Cunningham
Deryl Barr
Sammie Brown

12/6

Jason Fortenberry
Bruce Fogle
Matt Cunningham
Ginny Kurtz
Barbara Bodie
Nicole Hayes
Vivian Robbins
Brad Montgomery

12/7

Meghan Field
Louis DeBruhl Jr.
Kathryn Duffie
Everette Denny
MyKenzie Britner

12/8

Todd Taylor
David Reynolds II
Gralynn Roberts
Michael Logan

12/9

Cody Turner

12/10

Alison Davison
Debra Lyles
Todd Brandes
Candance Craig

12/11

Jack Young
Brice Parnell
Olivia Grace O'Neal
Idris Kukuman
Sophie Shannon
Gus Powell

12/12

Donna Dunnagan
Craig Powel
Trish Palmer
Maddie Masters
Emma Masters
Kristen Richardson-Frick

12/13

Stephanie Loadholt
Charlie Robbins Jr.

12/15

Cameron Rainey
Ann Childers
Lois Stuber
Deanna McGee

12/16

Melanie Anderson
Steve Burnett

12/17

Kitty Spence
Kirk Lehman

12/18

Matthew Bowman
Kevin McGee
Cameron Smith
Eric Owens
Elijah Stewart

12/19

Edens Baker
Adam Britner

12/20

Vonnie Folk
Cliff Rivers Jr.
Edie Beckum

12/21

Douglas Crossman
Jenny Culler

12/22

Ann Cimburke
Summer Edwards
Sandra Young

12/23

Ruth Murphy
Donna Bashline

12/24

Donald Bickel
Joseph Whetstone
Luanne Brabham

12/25

Lily Laffin

12/26

Cam Hakim
Zoe Trezise Ayers
Jackson Goldsmith
Jennefer Thomas
Mack Blume
William Vernon

12/27

Don Myers
Treislyn Davis
Penny Wilson
Jill Kunkle

12/28

Kimball Harrison Jr.
Zach Rankin
Sarah McKnight
Taylor Stevenson
Lorri Johnson

12/29

Mike Gregory
Sutton Betcher
Ray Gravett

12/30

Mary Corley
Ken Parnell
Colin Martin
Briggs Johnson
Conner O'Neal

12/31

Pat Smiley
Chris Bussell



December Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
	1 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class 12:00pm -1:00pm Amazing Athletes 1:00pm -6:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive 7:00pm -8:00pm AA Meeting	2 10:00am -12:00pm Snack Sack Packing 10:00am -11:00am Staff Meeting 11:30am -12:30pm Prime Timers Lunch 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 Bible Study	3 7:00am -8:00am Men's Weds. AM Group 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class 12:00pm -1:00pm Soccer Stars 5:00pm -6:30pm Weds. Supper 6:00pm -7:00pm Handbell Practice 7:00pm -8:00pm Choir Practice	4 10:00am -11:30am Line Dancing 2:00pm -4:30pm Prime Timers Cards 6:30pm -7:30pm Pack 507 Den Meetings	5 9:30am -10:30am Shepherd's Center Committee Meeting 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class 6:30pm -8:00pm Worship Band Practice	6 7:00pm -8:00pm AA Meeting
7 9:00am -9:45am Sunday School for All Ages 10:00am -11:00am Combined Worship Svc-Cantata 5:00pm -6:00pm Christmas Pageant Rehearsal 5:00pm -6:30pm KidzWay-PJ's & Movie Night 5:00pm -6:30pm Youth Group-Christmas Game Night	8 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class 12:00pm -1:00pm Amazing Athletes 7:00pm -8:00pm AA Meeting	9 10:00am -12:00pm Snack Sack Packing 10:00am -11:00am Staff Meeting 11:30am -12:30pm Prime Timers Lunch 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 Bible Study	10 7:00am -8:00am Men's Weds. AM Group 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class 12:00pm -1:00pm Soccer Stars 5:00pm -6:30pm Weds. Supper 6:00pm -7:00pm Handbell Practice 7:00pm -8:00pm Choir Practice	11 10:00am -11:30am Line Dancing 2:00pm -4:30pm Prime Timers Cards 5:00pm -7:00pm Staff Dinner	12 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class 6:30pm -8:00pm Worship Band Practice	13 10:00am -11:00am Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal 7:00pm -8:00pm AA Meeting
14 9:00am -9:45am Sunday School for All Ages 10:00am -11:00am Combined Worship Svc-Children's Pageant 5:00pm -7:00pm Youth Group-Christmas Party	15 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class 11:00am -2:00pm Preschool Teacher's Christmas Luncheon 12:00pm -1:00pm Amazing Athletes 7:00pm -8:00pm AA Meeting	16 10:00am -12:00pm Snack Sack Packing 10:00am -11:00am Staff Meeting 11:30am -1:30pm G.A.L.S.-God's Amazing Love Sustains 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 Zoom Bible Study 7:30pm -8:30pm Questers Group	17 7:00am -8:00am Men's Weds. AM Group 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class 12:00pm -1:00pm Soccer Stars 5:00pm -6:30pm Weds. Supper 6:00pm -7:00pm Handbell Practice 7:00pm -8:00pm Choir Practice	18 PRESCHOOL OUT-CHRISTMAS BREAK BEGINS 10:00am -11:30am Line Dancing 2:00pm -4:30pm Prime Timers Cards	19 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class 6:30pm -8:00pm Worship Band Practice	20 7:00pm -8:00pm AA Meeting
21 9:00am -9:45am Sunday School for All Ages 10:00am -11:00am Combined Worship Svc 6:30pm -7:30pm Moravian Love Feast	22 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class 7:00pm -8:00pm AA Meeting	23 10:00am -12:00pm Snack Sack Packing 10:00am -11:00am Staff Meeting 5:30pm -6:30pm Al-Anon 6:30pm -7:30pm Tuesday Evening Svc 7:00pm -8:00pm Zoom Bible Study	24 CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED-CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY 4:30pm -5:30pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7:00pm -8:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	25 CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED-CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY 10:00am -11:30am Line Dancing 2:00pm -4:30pm Prime Timers Cards 6:30pm -7:30pm Pack 507 Den Meetings	26 CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED-CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class	27 7:00pm -8:00pm AA Meeting
28 9:00am -9:45am Sunday School for All Ages 10:00am -11:00am Combined Worship Svc	29 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class 7:00pm -8:00pm AA Meeting	30 10:00am -12:00pm Snack Sack Packing 10:00am -11:00am Staff Meeting 5:30pm -6:30pm Al-Anon 6:30pm -7:30pm Tuesday Evening Svc 7:00pm -8:00pm Zoom Bible Study	31 7:00am -8:00am Men's Weds. AM Group 10:30am -11:30am Exercise Class 5:00pm -6:30pm Weds. Supper	 <p><i>Click here or scan the QR code for the most current event calendar.</i></p>		





Lexington

United Methodist Church

309 E Main Street | Lexington, SC 29072

Return Service Requested

CHURCH STAFF

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Matthew 24: 36-37, 40-44 But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man...Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.