



# Lexington United Methodist Household of Faith

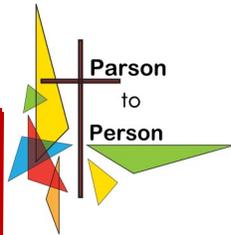


# Living God's Word~ Sharing God's Love

May 2019

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There's a story told by a Bishop in our United Methodist Church of how his grandmother used to take him to church every Sunday. The worship was an energetic service with many people jumping and shouting and singing and praising the name of the Lord. The young man noted that his grandmother remained seated and stoic while all this energy surrounded her. On the way home he asked his grandmother why she would sit so still and quiet in the midst of such praise. She said, "It doesn't matter how high you jump, it is how straight you walk when you land that counts."

In the Old Testament the word "straight" is a word that speaks to justice. When the Lord measures our lives he does so by how closely we are "aligned" with him. A life of justice is a life that stands "straight" with God. It is important that the church speak up and out about the issues of our day...and to speak, not just throwing opinions around, but to speak the words God has already given us. It is a high and holy privilege to speak about God to and for the world in which we live. Sometimes we're afraid to do so because some lone voice will ask, "Who are you to speak out? What gives you the right to speak such words? Why is your vision better than others?"

People question our voice at times because they cannot see how close we walk with the Lord and how our faith has changed our perspectives. We are not called to be in the "secret service" of God. Does our faith show? Are our values different than those out in the world? Does our faith make an impact on our thinking? Does our walk with the Lord influence our choices and decisions?

I like that we offer confirmation for our youth. I want their faith to impact their thinking about life and circumstances. I want them to ponder and ask question about the ministry of Jesus and how he taught people to live. There are some who think confirmation is a process by which the church just "processes" young people into the church and we rubberstamp them as members of the church. To the contrary, we spend time helping them explore their faith journey. Confirmation has come a long way since my days sitting with two or three in the pastor's study and going through the questions of our "then" Methodist catechism. We want our young people to think about their profession of faith and taking their place in the church's membership. Most of all, I am grateful that we ask them to think about life and how Jesus influences the way we live. It has always helped me to live as one "confirmed into the fellowship of all true believers of Jesus Christ."

For example, I have struggled for some time with the death penalty and its place in our justice system. After much prayer and soul-searching plus my inability to see the Lord "pulling the switch," I must confess that I am not a proponent of it. The Scripture speaks of "vengeance being mine, says the Lord" pushes me to leave all judging to God. Sure, my heart still gets angry and still there is a part of me that would like to help God with judgment in certain situations. But for me to walk with God and to be influenced by God I must choose to stand against the structure that utilizes a "death penalty." We are smarter than that as a society and there has to be a better way like life in prison without parole. As May comes we think of many things. Mother's Day, Graduation times approaching, young people getting ready to go off to college, and Memorial Day. Let us not lose sight of needing to let Christ influence our living and our thoughts. As a believer and disciple it's important.

My faith must influence my emotions, decisions, and choices. I see it as God's plumb line.

Ken Timmerman

P.S. It's also time for many of us to get back to Church and Sunday School.

# MEETING AT THE CROSS, EASTER SUNDAY





PB&J

PAJAMA PARTY

at LUMC Sunday, May 19

Bring (plastic) jars of Peanut Butter and Jelly  
to donate May 1--May 19, put in cart in hallway outside Weston's office

*Wear your PJs or your church T-shirt (any church T-shirt you may own—youth, tie-dyed, blue) to church on May 19 to celebrate another year of the LUMC Snack Sack Ministry.*

*Children's Sunday School classes will pack snack sacks during their class.*

*All church members are encouraged to stop in and pack sacks*

*In the elevator lobby area*

*Between services, during Sunday School,  
or during a worship service you are not attending.*



U.S. President Woodrow Wilson declared May 8, 1914, the second Sunday in May, as a special day to honor the nation's mothers, especially those who had lost their sons to war.

Anna Marie Jarvis and fellow members of the Methodist Episcopal Church led the charge to make Mother's Day an official observance. When Andrew's Methodist Church of Grafton, W.Va., held the state's first official Mother's Day on May 10, 1908, Jarvis marked the victory by bringing in 500 carnations, honoring her late mother, who had been a leader in the initial efforts to mark the occasion. Though gift- and card-buying and secular activities abound, the church still plays a prominent role in Mother's Day. Different, often regional, traditions are deep-rooted, and woe to the pastor who decides to ignore those most special to his or her flock.

This raises some thorny questions about how to keep the focus on worshipping God, while celebrating and honoring the gifts of mothers. The answer seems obvious: Just turn to the Bible. We hardly have to turn a page before encountering Eve, the mother of all, in the second chapter of Genesis.

When we do meet Eve, who doesn't get a name until near the end of her story, we are introduced to a jarring reality: There are scant tender moments or lovingly sentimental words. For the most part, biblical mothers face daunting hardships, and many were smart, savvy and occasionally, ruthless. The majority of accounts in the Hebrew Scriptures involve the relationship of mothers and sons and questions of power and dynasty. With the exception of Mary, mother of Jesus, the Christian texts offer few developed stories involving motherhood.

The following cameos of biblical mothers, both named and unnamed, give us pause to reflect:

### **Eve**

She enters in Genesis 2:18-22, the result of God's search for an *ezer kenegdo* ("helper") for his creation, Adam.

### **Sarah**

As the first wife of Abraham, Sarah (meaning "princess") is the matriarch of the Hebrew people.

### **Rebecca (Rebekah)**

In Genesis 24, a very old Abraham sends a trusted servant back to his homeland to find a suitable wife for Isaac. Rebecca also has trouble conceiving. Isaac prays for his wife, and their wishes are granted. The pregnancy turns out to be difficult as her twins struggle within her. The Lord tells her that she is carrying two nations in her womb, two peoples destined to be divided, and that the younger would serve the elder. The first son is named Esau, because he was red and hairy. The second is named Jacob (he who supplants) because he is born holding on to his brother's heel.

### **Mary (mother of Jesus)**

Mary is the central character in Luke's birth account. She is the primary one through whom God works, and the Divine plan to establish God's Kingdom on earth is risk-filled.

### **Ruth**

We circle back to the Hebrew texts to close with the Bible's only extended story of mother-daughter love, and like so many Bible stories, there is an unexpected twist: Ruth is not a daughter, but a daughter-in-law.

Excerpted from and read the full story here:

<https://www.umnews.org/en/news/biblical-mothers-not-a-job-for-the-faint-of-heart>





Wondering what **Mission Lexington's** greatest needs are right now?

Hygiene Items (Shampoo, soap, toothpaste/brushes, deodorant, razors)  
Canned Fruit, Instant Potatoes, Kid Snacks, Applesauce, Pet Food

Fill up the cart in the hallway outside Weston's office, or you can drop off M-F, 9 to 5 at 216 Harmon Street in Lexington!  
Thanks for sharing.

**From Mission Lexington:** We met over 26,000 needs across our county last year. Our Food for Living (FFL) program is a monthly food access program for seniors, veterans and disabled neighbors. Once qualified and enrolled, individuals on this program receive food monthly from our pantry or mobile food pantry. This program has grown exponentially over the years; 969% since 2012. The growth rate and rise in enrollment continues as we see a large population of individuals retiring from the workforce and relying on Social Security alone. Also, an increase in individuals qualifying for disability for themselves or for a child, and the overall increase in population in our county continues to create a greater need.

At Christmas, 857 children received gifts from our Christmas Shop, run by volunteers. The gifts were collected throughout the year in our Donation Center and from local churches, individuals, law enforcement and businesses. Families were able to shop for the gifts that were best for their children.

On Saturday, March 16, Mission Lexington hosted Lexington's Race Against Hunger at Lexington High School. The 10k, 5k, and 1 mile fun run was hosted by a group from Saxe Gotha Presbyterian for over 17 years in Lexington.

In 2018, the race was turned over to Mission Lexington to run and all proceeds came back to us. This year, we are proud to have raised over \$18,000 to help our neighbors in crisis right here in our county. We are grateful for the support of our sponsors, runners and walkers, our volunteers, board, staff, and everyone who played a part in making this year's race a success!





GLORY TO GOD, WHO IS ABLE TO DO FAR BEYOND ALL THAT WE COULD ASK OR IMAGINE BY HIS POWER AT WORK WITHIN US!

EPHESIANS 3:20



VBS volunteers: There are still 3 options for Safe Sanctuary Trainings this Spring/Early Summer. You should plan to attend one of these if:

- ⇒ You are a **new volunteer** to the Children’s Ministry/Nursery Ministry/Youth Ministry and haven’t attended a meeting in the past.
- ⇒ You are a **VBS volunteer** and will be on site for any part of VBS 2019.
- ⇒ You need a **refresher** on the policy, You have **any questions** about the policy, It’s been **3 years** since your last meeting

If you are unsure whether or not you need to attend the meeting, please contact Rev. Pendergrass Pendergrass.

Sunday, May 5—9:45-10:15am

Sunday, June 9 —9:45-10:15am, Sunday, July 7—9:45-10:15am, All in Sanctuary



We are “wishing on stars” and so very thankful for all who make our wishes come true!



If you are able to make a VBS wish (or two) come true, pick a star (or two) off of the children’s bulletin board by Asbury Hall

(or contact [Katie@lexumcsc.com](mailto:Katie@lexumcsc.com))

Purchase the item and return the items to church before July 7th (the earlier the better!)

July 14—17, 2019

5:45—8:00 pm

rising 3 yr. old—rising 5th grade

REGISTRATION OPEN TO EVERYONE May 1

click on picture to register:

- \* **\$10/child—includes t-shirt**
- \* **Participants must be 3 years old by September 1 to attend**
- \* **Spots are limited—particularly in 3 year old class and 4th/5th graders**
- \* **Please register early to make sure you have a spot!**



REGISTRATION DEADLINE is Sunday, July 7th, there will be no walk-up registration.

(All registrations must be made online.)

- ♦ Meals will be offered for registered volunteers and their families only.
- ♦ Nursery (under age 3) is available for registered volunteer children or grandchildren only.
- ♦ Children requiring nursery care should NOT register on the participant registration form. This information can be entered on the Volunteer registration form.

# Confirmation



Congratulations to our confirmands:

Confirmation Sunday was **May 5, 2019**. We welcomed these 8th graders into the church by profession of faith: Lily Laughlin, Sally Bumgarner, Oliva Grace O'Neal, Samantha Stillwell, John Walsh, Creighton Buchanan, Blake Beckum



There will be a rising 6th grade parent/guardian meeting **in room MC106, off of Wesley Hall on Wednesday, May 8 at 5:15 pm.**

Please RSVP to [elizabeth@lexumcsc.com](mailto:elizabeth@lexumcsc.com) if you can attend



## Graduation Breakfast

The High School Graduation Breakfast is **Sunday, June 2** at 9:45am.

All graduating high schoolers and their immediate families are invited to attend! Please RSVP to [elizabeth@lexumcsc.com](mailto:elizabeth@lexumcsc.com) if you can attend and how many in your party.

**Sunday School**— join us at 9:45 am. We all meet downstairs in the main youth space in the ministry center for prayers and announcements. Then, we break up for respective studies. Middle schoolers meet in youth room and High schoolers meet across the hall.

## *Salkehatchie Summer Service June 22-29*

Fourteen years old and up are able to serve God and others in Camden, SC.

Please be praying for this group.



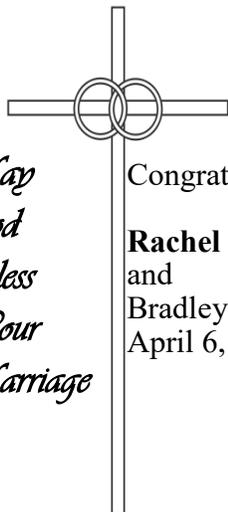
The Youth are selling new “Love God Love People” t-shirts for \$20 to raise money for the middle school mission trip to Memphis this summer, July 27—August 2.

They can be purchased via Rev. Elizabeth Murray at any time. Sizes available are: Youth M, L and Adult S-XL.



# Happy May Birthdays:

- |  |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|---|
| 5/1 Rhoten, David<br>Brown, Sally<br>Lewis, Laura<br>Wojtylak, Jerry<br>Mayfield, Patty  | 5/9 Jackson, Vicky   | 5/15 DeBerry, Steve<br>Moseley, Diane<br>Spence, Caleb<br>Polk, Lessie<br>Rhoten, Bill                     | 5/23 Phillips, Linton<br>Pool, Logan<br>Haynes, Chris   |
| 5/2 Taylor, Caroline<br>Anderson, Bethany  | 5/10 Loadholt, Troy<br>Stinecipher, Traci<br>Gunter, Bailey  | 5/16 Addington, Barbara<br>Byess, Jeffrey  | 5/24 McCollum, Megan<br>Edmonds, Nancy<br>Stevenson, Andrew   |
| 5/3 Epting, Melissa<br>Roshto, Linda<br>Taylor, Kateland<br>Lepp, Wilson   | 5/11 Lowery, Patrick<br>Phillips, Stephen<br>Cagney, Cathy   | 5/17 Myers, Noel<br>Myers, Adan<br>Lewis, Matthew<br>Rodden, Richard                                       | 5/25 Young, Robby<br>Giles, Karen<br>Arant, Ruth<br>Yarborough, Lorri   |
| 5/4 Leonard, Gaye<br>Rish, Violet<br>Hayson, Dylan<br>Lambdin, Bob   | 5/12 Harmon, Harvey<br>Johnson, Tucker<br>Abercrombie, Peggy   | 5/18 Johnson, Lilly  | 5/26 Guy, Linda   |
| 5/5 Church, Jennie<br>Hatfield, Pam<br>Chittam, Hollis<br>D'Amico, Austin  | 5/13 D'Amico, Walker<br>Summerford, Anderson<br>Chittam, Heather<br>Marshall, David<br>Hakim, Walid  | 5/19 Betcher, Emily<br>Braund, Bethany<br>Decell, Grady  | 5/27 Reynolds, Wade<br>Willis, Mia<br>Smith, Elana  |
| 5/6 Field, Jonathan<br>Chittam, Adam<br>Turner, Teresa   | Brandes, Samuel<br>Preston, Carmen<br>Edwards, Kaitlin   | 5/20 West, Barbara<br>Trezise, Thomas<br>Schilling, Barry<br>Graybill, Adam<br>Brennan, Candy              | 5/28 Kruger, Joan<br>5/29 Walsh, Jimmy<br>Wilson, Jacob<br>Mitton, Mike<br>Childers, Robyn<br>Keisler, Michael<br>Waterfield, Robert<br>Harmon, Diana |
| 5/7 Beaty, Doug<br>Owens, Matt<br>Black, Janice<br>Phillips, William<br>Kunkle, Abby<br>Mabe, Janet<br>Maxwell, Owen<br>Oswald, Gracen | 5/14 Polk, Hannah<br>Decell, Kimberly<br>Edwards, Brooks<br>Harmon, Brian<br>Lightle, William<br>Stewart, Andrew<br>Maxwell, Ella<br>Pendergrass, Weston | 5/21 Pitts, Hampton<br>Laisure, Nathan<br>Young, Marcella<br>DeBruhl, Trey<br>Culler, Jeff                 | 5/30 Pappas, Laura<br>McCarty, Bonny<br>Brown, Earle<br>Goldin, Bobbie<br>Kruger, Marissa   |
| 5/8 Brodeur, Bud<br>West, Elizabeth  | Keith, Tanner<br>Kunkle, Ainsley   | 5/22 Lambdin, Elizabeth Ann<br>Finley, Belinda<br>McCollum, Chris<br>Kirkpatrick, Colt<br>Robinson, Andrea | 5/31 Brown, Ashleigh<br>Maxwell, Sharon   |



*May  
God  
Bless  
Your  
Marriage*

Congratulations!

**Rachel Gaines**  
and  
Bradley Williams  
April 6, 2019



**Matt & Maggie Moser**  
**Logan**  
113 Dawson Hill Lane  
Lexington, SC 29072

**Clint & Nan Carter**  
**Wells and Camp**  
101 Firethorn Court  
Lexington, SC 29072

**Gifts in memory of:**

**John & Patricia McCormack**  
John & Becky McCormack

**Everette & Dorothy Taylor**  
John & Becky McCormack

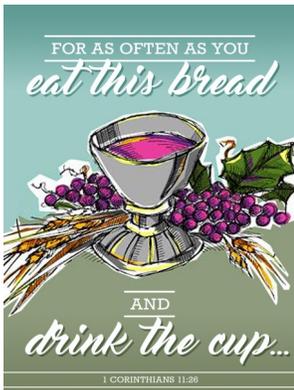
**Anne Epting**  
Wesleyan Disciples Class  
Woody & Brenda Manus  
Bob & Cindy Graham

**Timothy Borsum**  
Bob & Cindy Graham

# Butterfly

Release

Easter Sunday 2019



**HOLY COMMUNION** will be offered on the following dates and times:

**9:30—9:45 am**

- May 19
- June 16
- August 18
- September 15
- November 17

**During Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am**

- July 14
- October 6

**Special Worship Service**

- December 24



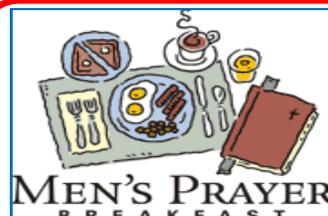
**Taizé**

The Tazié Service is May 14 at 12:10 pm, in the Sanctuary. This service lasts 30 minutes. Rest with God through song, scripture and prayer

**Tuesday evening worship**



Remember, if you can't make it on Sunday mornings, there is the Tuesday Evening Service at 6:30 pm.



**MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST**

Wednesday mornings at 6:30 AM

**Lexington United  
Methodist Church**

309 E Main St  
Lexington, SC 29072

Return Service Requested



We are a  
**STEPHEN MINISTRY**  
  
Church  
**We're on the web:**  
<http://www.lexumcsc.com>

 lexumc

 @LUMC\_SC

 Lexington United Methodist

Church office:  
803-359-6838

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Ken Robbins,	Organist	
Lessie Polk,	Director of Children & Youth Choirs	