

HATE DIVIDES

Love UNITES



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church®

JULY 2024

**Lexington United
Methodist Church**

*Where We Seek, Serve
and Share Christ*

www.lexmoumc.org

Office: 660-259-2483



Rev. Andrew Sanders, Pastor
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Music Director

Glenda Brooks,
Custodian

Sunday worship: 11 a.m.
Sunday School: On hiatus
**Adult Sunday School: On
hiatus**

A joyful first year with Pastor Andrew brings us another new year of hope and grace

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which we hold so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us" ~ Hebrews 12:1

Greetings friends! I am excited to be writing this as I am appointed another year as your pastor! What a joy this past year has been getting to know each of you. I am honored to have been invited into all moments of life. Times of transformation, heartbreaks, celebrations and joys. Whether these times took place at the church, in your homes or some other introduction to your families and friends.

I thank you for bearing witness to the grace of Christ through your hospitality and care. It is an honor to serve God through these churches, beside you, the faithful servants of Waverly / Lexington UMCs. It is exciting to me how well our churches are spoken of in the community. Your neighbors know that you care, by the work that you have done as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Not only am I proud of the work that we have done at the local level of the church, but our Annual Conference

continues to strive towards ending hate and division. We have a hate divides love unites campaign in the Missouri Conference. I have been attending AC for fifteen years and the spirit this year was different; hope was abundant.



**Rev. Andrew
Sanders**

We experienced celebrations that exceeded losses. Fifteen new churches were started in MO this year. Some new churches were intentional, new "Plants" as they are called. Some others came out of UMCs closing or leaving the denomination. The Methodists in those towns got together and started new churches that are now thriving! I am excited to see what this year in our UMC's will bring. Good things are happening!

I wanted to share with you a few words from my friend Reverend Melissa Dodd the new assistant to the Bishop. I felt her words captured the uplifting spirit

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

-Sunday, July 14—Thursday, July 18, 6 to 8 p.m. Meal is 6-6:30 here at LUMC except for Tuesday, 7/16—is the pool party at Lexington pool. LUMC is hosting the Wednesday night VBS meal.

-Sunday School Adult Class & Children's is on hiatus through the summer.

Mondays: Quilters at 1 p.m

Wednesdays: Exercise Group: 9 a.m.

Thursday, July 4: Church office closed for the Fourth of July holiday.

BABY GRACE: First & Third Saturdays, 10 to Noon. (Lauren Negrete, volunteer)

HARVESTERS DISTRIBUTION: Second Monday of the month 8 to 11 a.m.

WOMEN'S GROUP: Friday, July 12, Noon for carry-in lunch.

Tuesday-Thursday, July 17-18, church office has limited hours with Sarah Black. Liz Johnson is on vacation.

BLOOD DRIVE: Wednesday, July 17, 2 to 6 p.m., John Knox Village East-Meyer Care Center (Higginsville): Activity Room, 1201 W. 19th Street. Sign up: savealifenow.org

COMMODITIES: Thursday, July 25, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING: Monday, August 12, 6 p.m., Choir Room. No meeting in July.



SUNDAY, JULY 14—THURSDAY, JULY 18

6-8 p.m., here at Lexington UMC. Tuesday, July 16, VBS will take place at Lexington municipal pool. Wednesday, July 17, LUMC is hosting the meal. (Meals are 6-6:30 each night)

Pastor Andrew ... continued from pg. 1

that was felt by many throughout AC.

"I started attending Annual Conference (Missouri West) in the 1990s as a district young adult member. I always enjoyed the experience. The annual meeting of clergy and laity of United Methodist Churches is always a great time to see friends and connect as UMs.

Yet, I have struggled to put into words my feelings/thoughts about the 2024 Missouri Annual Conference. The words that come to mind do not seem to capture the experience. They do not draw a good picture. But you know I am still going to try. Spirit-filled, powerful connections and excellently orchestrated are phrases that are true but only seem to skim the surface.

"I will try to unpack a little.

"The positivity and joy that seem to fill the event was tangible. I could feel it in the hallways, hotel elevators, dining areas, as well as the main meeting area. I experienced it in conversations I had with those attending and those working for the event center.

The intentionality and professionalism that surrounded the plans and implementation of this event seem to exceed expectations.

"The music (that came from all over the Conference) was exceptional. The worship services were thoughtfully developed.

"For years at the end of the ordination service, we have invited people to confirm their call. "This year, the response was overwhelming. People were coming down before the invitation was made.

"The diversity of the people in attendance was beautiful. The more we do not all look alike in that room, the more we look like the world we are called to serve. We have a way to go but it is beautiful to witness the differences.

"It would have been hard to miss that we are centered on sharing Christ. And the tangible presence of the Holy Spirit was seen and felt.

"I am not someone who speaks (or writes) more lofty than reality. I am not for drama. The last couple years have been rough. However, It feels like a page has been turned and this weekend the energy was focused on the future. And I am ready. At the end of Annual Conference every year, clergy 'appointments are set.' I am honored to serve the Missouri Conference and Bishop in this role. After this past weekend, I AM excited to see where the next chapter takes us." – Assistant to the Bishop, Rev. Melissa Dodd

I would like to give a shout out as well to our leadership this past year! Through our pastoral transitions I felt that everyone did a tremendous job of embracing the changes, visioning for the future while cheering on or even participating in the ministries of the moment. Each of you who have dedicated your time this past year have demonstrated what it means to be a disciple of Jesus while discipling others. Thank you for your dedication!!

"We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. Each of us should please our neighbors for their good, to build them up. For even Christ did not please himself but, as it is written: 'The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me.' For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.

"May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

~ Romans 15:1-5

Reverend Andrew Sanders

LUMC celebrates Juneteenth at Second Baptist

Liz Johnson | Editor

Juneteenth, also known as Jubilee Day, Emancipation Day, Freedom Day, and Black Independence Day was first celebrated by freed slaves on June 19, 1866, in Texas a year after slavery had ended there. President Abraham Lincoln had signed the Emancipation Proclamation, ending slavery in January of 1863—two and half years earlier.

It wasn't until 1980 that the holiday was officially recognized anywhere. Texas became the first state to designate Juneteenth as a state holiday.

In 2002, eight other states joined Texas. In 2008, fifteen more states began celebrating Juneteenth.

By 2019, 47 states and the District of Columbia had finally recognized or commemorated the day in some way. Between 2020 and 2022, five states (Texas, New York, Virginia, Washington and Illinois) made it a paid holiday for state employees.

But more than a century and a half between 1866 and 2022, Juneteenth has primarily been a celebration confined to Black communities all across America.

On Sunday, June 16th, our LUMC congregation worshiped at the Second Baptist Church in community with them to

celebrate Juneteenth.

We had about 35 of our own members present including Pastor Andrew who assisted in the service. We enjoyed some wonderful music, preaching by Rev. Mary Williams of the First United Methodist Church of Marshall, and an uplifting service.

With a Juneteenth theme, "A Long Time coming," the county has hosted a number of events this year with numerous speakers.



"Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration of the ending of slavery. June 19, 1865, Union soldiers, led by General

Gordon Granger, landed at Galveston, Texas with 2000 Federal troops to issue the order that the Civil War had ended and that all slaves were free. This was 2 1/2 years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation.

The first Lafayette County Juneteenth celebration took place in 2005. There has been annual observance during most years since.

Juneteenth National Independence Day is now a U.S. federal holiday. It was signed into law by President Joe Biden on Thursday June 17, 2021. This year, Juneteenth National Independence Day was observed on Wednesday, June 19, 2024.

PRAYER REQUESTS: If you submitted a prayer request, please look on the middle back panel of the Sunday bulletin. Let Liz Johnson know in the church office if anyone should be removed from or to the prayer list. Please take the bulletin home on Sunday so you can pray the names on the prayer list.

The prayer requests listed on the bulletin are meant to run for three weeks unless otherwise specified, such as a long-term illness. There is space available on the tear off portion of the bulletin for submitting a prayer request. Please indicate if you want prayers to be confidential.



07/03 Emalie Negrete
07/11 Larry Brooks
07/14 Maxine Palmer
07/16 Jessi Harlan
07/19 Kathy Uptegrove
07/28 Lea Ann O'Brien
07/30 Janae Fuller
07/30 Jackson Goodloe
07/31 Kathy Smith
07/31 Hayley Noynaert

Let Liz know in the office if we don't have your birthday!

DID YOU KNOW?

We rent out parts of the church facility. Not only do we have a huge parking lot, but there is a kitchen available as well as plenty of restrooms.

Rentals are perfect for large groups or small, meetings, showers, birthdays, you name it!

Reach out to Liz in the church office to cost and availability.

MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE IN NEED OF HYGIENE ITEMS FOR HCC



**Items are needed for adults and children.

- ◆ SHAMPOO
- ◆ CONDITIONER
- ◆ BODY WASH
- ◆ LAUNDRY DETERGENT
- ◆ TOOTHPASTE
- ◆ TOOTHBRUSHES
- ◆ DEODORANT
- ◆ FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS

**A bin is available for donations in the hallway outside the sanctuary.

Lexington United Methodist Church
1211 South Business Highway 13
Lexington, MO 64067

First
Class
Stamp

WORSHIP: Sundays 11 a.m.

FALL Sunday School: 10 a.m. Adult &
Children's (on summer hiatus)

ONLINE: lexmoumc.org



Treasurer's Report JUNE 2024

June Offering:	\$10,318.00
Plus Reimbursements:	+\$ 497.46
Total	\$10,815.46
Less Expenses:	<u>-\$15,876.18</u>
Total	<u>(\$5,060.72)</u>

**Note: Offering is totaled correctly, expenses are estimated as Teri has not yet closed out June's accounting.

Teri James: Treasurer

Liz Johnson: Finance Secretary

Sharol McMullin: Finance Chair

Phillip Davis: Council Chair

Pastor: Rev. Andrew Sanders

"Whoever has a bountiful eye will be blessed, for he shares his bread with the poor." ~ Proverbs 22:9



TITHE & CHECK-IN ONLINE!

You can scan this QR code with your phone camera and be redirected to our website where you tithe an offering and/or check-in for the service attendance.

HELP FOR OUR QUILTERS

Our devoted quilters, many of whom have been quilting sleeping bags for the homeless since 1989, have requested helping hands! Volunteers are needed. You don't have to be able to sew to help these ladies. Please reach out to Liz in the church office if interested, or: Janet Cado, Nancy Oles, Susan Small, Mable Hawkins or Sharol McMullin. Quilters meet at 1 p.m. Mondays.

Church COUNCIL

Church Council met Monday, June 17th. After minutes and finance report were approved, fundraisers were briefly discussed for this year. We hope to have a Harvest Dinner in October and our traditional Chili

Supper on Election Day.

Church insurance: We received a notification from our insurance company that they've added an endorsement to our policy by changing the deductible for any claims caused by wind/hail damage due to our location "and the likelihood of having such damage." The deductible is now 1% of the total insurance on the building itself. Trustees are meeting with our agent to clarify and seek other possibilities.

We will have the annual Back-to-School collection of school supplies through July & early August.

We will also have our annual Trick or Treat event, though a date is yet to be determined. It will be inside the Family Life Center.

Spiritual Development was presented by Pastor Andrew about 5 ways to teach new small group leaders, based on 2 Timothy 2:2, Acts 16:1-3, 1 Corinthians 16:10-11 and again, 2 Timothy 2:2.

BIKERS FOR CAMP QUALITY



Liz Johnson | Editor

Lexington residents heard the heady rumble of motorcycles Saturday, June 22 when the Heart of God Fellowship Church and about 80 bikers roared into town for its annual Poker Run to benefit Camp Quality.

The final stop on the Poker Run was to Lexington United Methodist Church where Pastor Robert Kaps and bikers were planning on a respite from the heat, some cold water and snacks.

Due to the extreme heat, not as many bikers were on this year's Poker Run, as Kaps had previously estimated 125-150. In the past, there have been 100-150 helping to raise money for Camp Quality. Many of the bikers I spoke with echoed the same sentiment for this particular Poker Run – to raise money and aware-



Saturday, June 22nd bikers from the Heart of God Fellowship Church in Buckner arrived at LUMC at the tail end of a charity Poker Run for a time of respite and fellowship. Due to the excessive heat on Saturday, there were less bikers than anticipated. Consequently, they arrive nearly 2 hours prior to their predicted time of 2 p.m. Nevertheless, they were able to get into LUMC, enjoy some air conditioning, cold water and granola bars while they had fellowship. A video of the bikers roaring out of the parking lot can be found on our Facebook page. (Photos by Liz Johnson)

ness to help kids with leukemia.

"It's close to my heart because of when my grandson had leukemia," said Kaps. "He's 16 now and is cancer free."

The church has had this Poker Run for

the last nine years. "Camp Quality is an organization built around offering hope to families with children who are fighting a cancer diagnosis," Kaps said.

It also offers a network of fellowship and

support to the kids and their families. They offer counseling, support, and mentoring as well as other services year round. In addition, there are summer camps for the kids who are able to simply – be kids – at the camp. The camps are free of charge to the campers and staffed with medically qualified personnel who are able to support the different battles the kids are dealing with.

At this time, Pastor Kaps believes the Poker Run brought in about \$7,000 for Camp Quality, though the figures aren't fully in yet.

Some of the bikers are members of Heart of God Fellowship and some are not. Yet, they ride together with one common goal in mind – to help children with cancer. Kaps is a lifelong avid motorcyclist and said he enjoys combining his passion for motorcycles with his ministry.

"We had a really good time," Kaps added. "We appreciate you (LUMC) letting us come and hang out at the church for awhile.

"Many bikers, as well as myself, were so pleased to see your marquee welcoming us to your church," Kaps said. "It meant a lot to us."

As the bikers fired up their motorcycles to leave, they headed through downtown Lexington and hit 224 Highway along the Missouri River for the scenic ride home.

But they'll be back next year.



Most of the bikers who participated in the Poker Run have done it for many years because it benefits Camp Quality. Founded in Australia in 1983, the first camp here in Missouri took place in 1986 with 43 campers. Today, that figure is now up to about 100 campers. The organization seeks to bring a quality of life to children with cancer. Each location hosts a week long residential camp for children in the summer and a reunion in the fall. Year-round activities include family weekends, holiday parties, day trips, winter weekends and many other events that provide for fun and friendship. (Photo by Liz Johnson)

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Bible Quiz

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In what land and at what age did Moses die?

- A. The land of Israel; 100 years old
- B. The land of Canaan; 70 years old
- C. The land of Moab; 120 years old
- D. The land of Judah; 102 years old

Answer: C (See Deuteronomy 34:5, 7.)