



HE IS RISEN

CELEBRATE THE RESURRECTION

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." ~ 1 Peter 1:3

April 2023

**Lexington United
Methodist Church**

*Where We Seek, Serve
and Share Christ*

www.lexmoumc.org

Office: 660-259-2483



Rev. Rob Allen, Pastor
pastorrob419@gmail.com
816-258-1717 (cell)

Liz Johnson,
Administrative Assistant
secretary@lexmoumc.org

Janet Thompson,
Music Director

Glenda Brooks,
Custodian



WELCOME OUR NEW PASTOR!

from Charles Dickens' Tale of Two Cities is considered a masterpiece of literature that will move ones soul. There is a greater piece of literature which was written long before Charles Dickens ever thought of two cities. The literature I'm speaking of is, "For God so loved the world, He gave His only begotten son." - John 3:16

This scripture is not only a beautiful piece of literature it also offers a promise of grace for

Rev. Andrew Sanders

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times. This line

all of humanity.

Through that grace I answered a call into ministry within the Missouri United Methodist Conference. Since 2009, my wife Julie and our two girls, Destiny and Drew, have enjoyed the journey that has brought us to different congregations and now to Lexington.



Rev. Andrew Sanders

I grew up in Southern California moving to

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Asking God for Help

By Jenny Allen

The truth is we cannot get by without help. What you are about to read is a witness to the help I receive everyday through her faithful devotion to God. This month's article/devotion is written by Jenny, my wife, to whom I give

thanks for her help and encouragement offered to me daily. – Rob Allen, Pastor

"Don't worry about anything instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank him for all he has done."
~ James 4:6

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Meet new pastor Rev. Andrew Sanders

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Missouri at the age of 14. After graduating high school I joined the Missouri Army National Guard where I served as a (44B) Welder for 8 years. I am an Iraq combat veteran. After returning home from Iraq I became a welding inspector for 3 years before answering my call into ordained ministry in the UMC. I attended seminary at United Theological Seminary in Dayton Ohio.

Both our daughters, Drew and Destiny, love art. Destiny is 23 years old; she is a healthcare worker.

Drew is 17, she will be a senior in high school this year. Drew is an

Rev. Sanders will celebrate his first worship service here July 9, 2023. Pastor Rob's last service will be Sunday, June 4.

Mo UMC for 12 years.

For fun we like to hike, spend time with our dogs, our girls and anything else that draws us outside.

aspiring actress. She has played many parts in productions all around Missouri and Iowa. Her dream is to be on Broadway one day.

Julie and I have enjoyed 23 years of marriage. We are high school sweethearts. Over the years I have been honored to have Julie by my side as a partner. Julie has been a pastor in the



Asking God ... continued from page 1

This came from a line from a comedian on the radio this morning about, "trying not to ask God for much"...

Why do we try so hard not to "bother" God by asking Him for things? Are we afraid God will run out of good things to bestow on His children? Are we afraid we're not worthy of good things? Or are we just ashamed to admit we can't do it on our own and need help? Likely, it's all of the above. Which is, to put it bluntly, ridiculous.

God wants His children to come to Him – just like any good parent wants to take care of their kids. Except God doesn't have an age limit or timeline of when He expects His kids to be on their own instead of relying on Him. God wants His kids to rely on Him their *entire* lives. For everything. God is THE source for all good things. God will never run out

because He is the Creator of ALL.

God loves us – flaws and all. He made us human and loves us in spite of our humanness. God wants only good things for His kids. However, because of our human "free will," we make wrong choices/decisions for ourselves and that can have an effect on those around us as well. Yet God takes everything and turns it to good – if we let Him.

So that leaves being ashamed to ask God for help. Being ashamed does not come from God. Adam and Eve weren't ashamed until they ate from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. That knowledge of evil is where being ashamed came from. It is an Earthly concept – not a God concept. Society perpetuates the idea that if you cannot make it on your own, you are worthless. People are praised for accomplishing things "on their own" and considered "less than" if they admit they need help. However, God wants us to be dependent on Him. God's "grace is

made perfect in our weakness." (2 Corinthians 12:9)

Learning how to "let go and let God" frees us from the shackles of our circumstances. It allows us to experience God's peace in ways we can never reach through our continual striving for it. Letting go and letting God is a scary concept that goes against everything this world teaches us. Still, we should be more eager and willing to learn from the Creator of ALL than embrace what this broken and sin-stained world tries to teach us.

God, thank You for loving us, protecting us and providing for us in spite of our weaknesses, stupidity and hard-headedness. Help us to rely on You and reach out to You with all our needs and not be ashamed to ask for help. Instead, we should feel honored and awed at the magnitude of Your unconditional love for us. Thank you. May we honor You with our heart, thoughts, words and in our actions. Amen.



SAVE THE DATE!

HAM AND BEAN DINNER April 18

We'll be all done with our taxes by mid-April! So let's celebrate with a delicious Ham and Bean dinner with homemade cornbread, dessert & beverage.

APRIL 18, 2023 from Noon to 7 p.m. Free Will Offering. Proceeds will benefit the Margaret Gray Senior Center and Lexington UMC Missions.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT LEXINGTON UMC

Lexington UMC hosts a Holy Week Breakfast



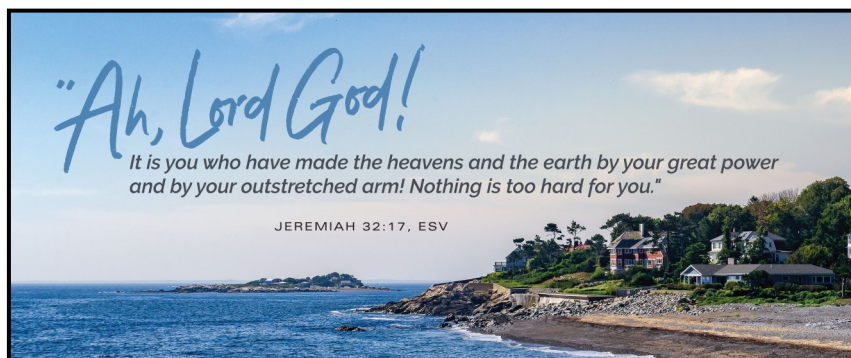
We hosted a Holy Week breakfast, continental style, on Wednesday, April 5 in Hicklin Hall. Above right: Pastor Rob presents a Holy Week devotion. Above: Phillip Davis, Sharol McMullin and Susan Small (behind table) were part of the team that planned and set up the breakfast. Right: Folks enjoy some coffee, goodies and fellowship.



Girl Scout Sunday, March 5 at LUMC



Girl Scouts from troops 1738, 2227, 0398 and 2795, recite the Girl Scout Promise at the beginning of the March 5 2023 service at LUMC. Later that afternoon, the Boy Scouts had its Scout Court of Honor for accomplishments and achievements, in the sanctuary followed by a reception in the Family Life Center.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY WORSHIP: 10:45 a.m.

Choir Rehearsal, Sundays 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, April 9: Sunrise Easter Service in the church parking lot at 6:45 a.m. Bring lawn chairs. Traditional service is in the sanctuary at 10:45 a.m.

Monday, April 10-Sunday, April 16: Pastor Rob is on vacation.

Monday, April 10: Church office is closed.

Mondays, 1 p.m.: Quilters meet.

Wednesdays: 9 a.m.—Exercise class

6 to 7:30 p.m.: Children's Ministry

6:30 to 8:30 p.m.: Youth Group

First & Third Saturdays, (April 1 & 15)

9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Baby Grace distributes. On the 15th, Baby Grace will distribute at the first church entrance near the office.

First Saturday of the month, 8 a.m.:

Men's Group meets at McDonald's in Lexington.

Monday, April 10, 8 to 11 a.m.:

Harvesters distribution.

Friday, April 14, Noon: Women's

Group meets for a carry-in lunch in the choir room. This month they will host a baby shower for Yolanda Rowland.

Thursday, April 27, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.:

Commodities distribute in LUMC parking lot.



04/04 Carol Busch

04/07 Janet Thompson

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

First
Class
Stamp

WORSHIP: Sundays 10:45 a.m.

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Mission Minute

Our Youth Group, under the leadership of Thomas Rowland and assisted by Lauren Negrete and Jordyn Ortega, have a busy time planned for the next few months.

GIFT OF CLOTHING: Our Youth Group is collecting new or gently used, clean clothing for those in need in Bolivia. A box is located in the hallway outside the sanctuary for donations. Deadline is before April 12 (mailing date). Girls: age 6-8, 12-14. Boys: age 7-11. (no shoes please)

May 24: SENIOR BANQUET—Lots of youth are graduating this year. The Youth Group are hosting a special banquet for them.

June 10: START OF SUMMER LOCK-IN.

July 2-9: Puerto Rico Service/Mission trip—Youth will be working with SBP USA on home rebuilding and hurricane relief in San Juan. (sbpusa.org) Three leaders will accompany the youth. Help support this mission trip if you can. Prayers for all of those participating in our third mission trip!



SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:30 a.m. SUNDAYS

We're talking about "Equipped for Life" by Rosekidz! Join us at 9:30 and bring a friend!



Nancy Oles holds up the Grand Marshal sign from the 2023 St. Patrick's Day Parade that took place in Lexington, March 11. It rained on parade day, but with no blarney, the parade still took place with Nancy as this year's Grand Marshal!