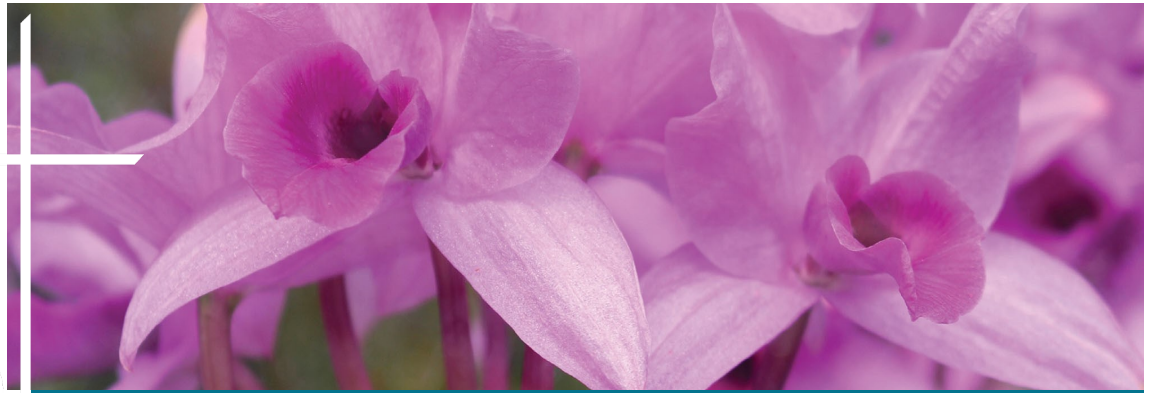


Where We Seek, Serve
and Share Christ

lexmoumc.org
660-259-2483
Rev. Andrew
Sanders, Pastor



May 2026



LUMC NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF LEXINGTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"While he was still speaking to the crowds, his mother and his brothers were standing outside, wanting to speak to him. Someone told him, 'Look, your mother and your brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to you.' But to the one who had told him this, Jesus replied, 'Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?' And pointing to his disciples, he said, 'Here are my mother and my brothers! For whoever

I've been thinking a lot about my own mom lately. Some of my favorite memories go all the way back to those early years. In the middle of what felt like absolute chaos, four boys, six years apart since the last two of us are twins (yes... that meant four teenagers at once) she carried and still carries a quiet strength. That held the house together when everything else felt like it might come undone.

I remember many story times with my twin brother Joshua. But what sticks with me most? The crafts. Sitting at the table, creating something out of nothing, just being together. That kind of time shapes memories, quality time.

Then I look at Julie with our girls remembering her chasing them through the house, laughing around the table, building those same kinds of memories. As a Mom she has this deep care of people in her life, she really sees them. It is evident that when



Rev. Andrew
Sanders

she gives a gift, it's not just something you open, it's something that says, "I know you." That's a different kind of love, a Mother's love

And if we're honest, most of us carry those kinds of memories of mothers, grandmothers, or mother figures who showed up with love, patience, and presence when we needed it most.

So when we hear Jesus say something like this in Matthew 12, it can feel a little unexpected.

"Who is my mother?"

At first, it almost sounds like distance. But if you really listen to his words, it's actually expansion.

Jesus isn't dismissing his mother. He's widening the circle.

He's saying that the kind of love we associate with a mother the nurturing, the protecting, the guiding, the sacrificial kind of love that's not limited to one role or one relationship. That kind of love is meant to be lived out by all who follow God's will.

That's a bold shift.

Because now, being part of God's family isn't about biology, it's about embodiment.

It's about becoming people who carry that same steady grace into a chaotic world.

It's about choosing compassion when it would be easier to walk away.

It's about showing up, again and again, with a love that doesn't quit.

Let's be real, we won't do it perfectly. None of us will. But when Jesus points to the disciples and says, "Here are my mother and my brothers," he's painting a picture of what community can look like when it's shaped by divine love.

A place where people are seen.

A place where people are known.

A place where people are held, especially when life gets messy.

So this month, let's absolutely celebrate the mothers and mother figures who have poured into our lives. Hug them. Call them. Thank them. Remember

Pastor continued on page 4

VISIT US ONLINE AT: lexmoumc.org



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sundays: Worshipping Winds rehearsal
9:30 a.m.

Choir Rehearsal: 10 a.m.

Sundays at 10 a.m.: Adult Sunday School is on hiatus—if anyone is interested in leading this class, please reach out to Liz J in the church office: 660-259-2483 or secretary@lexmoumc.org.

Sundays at 10 a.m.: Children’s Sunday School with Donna Slusher & Katie Dye.

Sundays at 10 a.m.: Young Couples Class, “A Disciples Path: A Guide for United Methodists” by James Hamish, with Sarah Black, facilitator—open to all ages.

BABY GRACE: Call for diaper needs: Jen Coen—660-232-4190.

BABY GRACE HOURS: First Tuesday of the month: 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.; Fourth Saturday of the month: 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Mondays: Quilters at 1 p.m.

HARVESTERS DISTRIBUTION: Monday, May 11, 9 to 11 a.m.

YOUTH GROUP: Sundays at 6 p.m.

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH MEET: Friday, May 8, at Noon for carry-in meal in the Choir Room.

CHURCH COUNCIL TEAM MEETING: Monday, May 18, 6 p.m.

USDA FOODS: Monday, May 25, 9 to 11 a.m. (Commodities is now USDA Foods and now on the 4th Monday).

MONDAY, MAY 25: Church office closed for Memorial Day.

PENTECOST SUNDAY: May 24—Wear red.

YOUTH SUNDAY, May 31, 11 a.m.



May 14
May 15
May 15
May 16
May 16
May 17
May 29

Bailee Johnson
Teri James
Briley Huffman
Sharol McMullin
Dakota Yates
Clayton Yates
Everly Huffman

Fall Fashion Fling

August 22, 2026 | 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Buddy Black Family Life Center
Lexington UMC, 1211 S. Bus. Hwy. 13

NEWBORN TO ADULTS ALL SIZES | GENTLY USED Spearheaded by Kathryn Roberts

Donated items to be brought to Kathryn’s home:
1214 Franklin Ave., Lexington prior to August 15.
Set-up day at the church is August 15.

•Shirts	•Underwear (new)	•Gloves
•Pants	•Shoes/Boots	•Belts
•Dresses	•Coats	•Purses
•Socks	•Hats	•Jewelry

NEEDED ASAP: Laundry soap | Dryer Sheets | White Vinegar
13 Gallon Trash Bags | Quart & Gallon Ziploc Bags

Late member Alice Wiley still remembered for her generosity of spirit

Liz Johnson | Editor

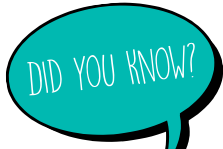


Most members of Lexington UMC remember Alice Wiley, often called “Grandma.” Alice was my dad’s, my sister’s, and for a few years, our next door neighbor. We all loved her. My husband mowed her lawn for her from the time we moved to Lexington in 2002 until she moved to Lexington Care

Center.

For all the years we were neighbors, she would go out to her driveway with an old broom and sweep her driveway and sidewalk thoroughly – even if it rained, snowed or there was ice on the ground – even in her

Wiley continued on page 4



We have an AED Machine

Liz Johnson | Editor



Did you know that Lexington UMC has an AED machine? That's an automated external defibrillator! It's currently hanging in the hallway to the church kitchen on the west side of the church building.

In the event of a heart-related incident, call 9-1-1, retrieve the machine and begin CPR.

Lexington has a wonderful non-profit, volunteer-run ministry called **Sounds of the Heart**, through Trinity United Church of Christ. The ministry includes a community board to raise funds to provide AEDs (Automated External Defibrillators) locally to schools, churches and other non-profit buildings within Lexington. At this time, there are at least 32 AED machines in our community – including one here at LUMC.

Sounds of the Heart also includes free CPR training for up to four individuals for each location where AEDs have been donated.

The free training will continue to be offered to each organization that has received an AED unit. Cynthia Riker, RN, is the certified trainer and is set up with training materials, mannequins, etc., at the First Baptist Church.

Here at LUMC, I personally check our AED machine each month to be sure the battery is operating properly. Our current battery will be good until December 2027. On April 28, 2026, the pads were replaced and will be good until April 2028.

Sounds of the Heart hosts a small meal and updated information, as well as AED machine inspections every Spring. I took our machine to this function on April 28th and had everything checked and inspected.

At this time, Pastor Andrew and myself are certified in CPR, though I am sure other church members are as well. Nurse Cynthia Riker assured me that the AED machine has full instructions for use when turned on and we should not hesitate to use it if the need arises.

CPR classes for 2026: Thursday, May 14, 6 p.m. (almost full); Saturday, June 13, 9 a.m.; Thursday, July 16, 6 p.m. and Saturday, August 15, 9 a.m. Please reach out to Cynthia Riker, RN at criker@lexr5.org if you wish to sign-up for a class.

May 2026

Lexington United Methodist Church

Where We Seek, Serve and Share Christ

www.lexmoumc.org

Office: 660-259-2483

Rev. Andrew Sanders, Pastor
sandman1016@yahoo.com
417-770-6731 (cell)

Liz Johnson,
Administrative Assistant
secretary@lexmoumc.org

Janet Thompson,
Music Director

Steven Fuller,
Council Chair

Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.
Children's Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Adult Sunday School: Hiatus
Young Couples Class: 10 a.m.
Youth Group: Sundays 6 p.m.
Worshipping Winds Rehearsal:
Sundays, 9:30 a.m.
Choir Rehearsal: Sundays 10 a.m.



Vacation Bible School is coming **June 22–26, 2026** at the Presbyterian

Disciples Church, 6 to 8 p.m., with dinner served at 6 p.m. Monday—Thursday.

Friday, June 26 at 6 p.m. will be the closing service followed by a pool party from 7 to 9 p.m. at Lexington Pool.

Flyers are available on our Facebook page or in the church hallway. Scan the QR code at right to register.



HELP FOR THE HUNGRY



MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

Harvesters

Monday, May 11

USDA Foods

Monday, May 25

WORSHIP: Sundays 11 a.m.
Children's Sunday School is 10 a.m.
Young Couple's Class: 10 a.m.
Adult Sunday School: on hiatus
Choir Rehearsal: 10 a.m.
Worshiping Winds Rehearsal: 9:30 a.m.
ONLINE: lexmoumc.org

April: 2026



TREASURER'S REPORT

April Offering: \$ 8,807.19
Easter Offering: \$ 3,350.00
Plus Sav. Transf. \$ 4,000.00
Apr. Expenses: -\$ 22,914.01
Total (tithe) -\$ 6,756.82
Year to Date (3/31): -\$ 14,797.88
****March & April full finance reports are not available at press time.**
*Avg. Expenses 2025 \$ 13,641.00 (per month)
Building Rentals April: \$ 950.00
*Borrowed from Savings to cover four months of church insurance on April 1: \$4,000.00

Teri James: Treasurer
Liz Johnson: Finance Secretary
Janae Fuller, Mary Kate Alkire: 2026 Finance Co-Chairs

Steven Fuller: 2026 Council Chair
Jim Martin: 2026 PPR Chair
Pastor: Rev. Andrew Sanders

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

PASTOR ... continued from pg. 1

them.
But don't stop there.
Let's also live that love.
Let's become the kind of people who:
Create space at the table
Share laughter freely
Offer grace generously

And build memories that remind others they belong
Because in the family of God, that's who we are called to be.
Not just recipients of love...
but reflections of it.
So go ahead carry that "mother's love" into the world.
We could use a lot more of it right now.

WILEY... continued from pg. 2

bathrobe. And when my husband finished mowing her grass, she would present us with some delicious fresh baked goody. She also never failed to let Michael mow her lawn without bringing him an ice cold drink and a cookie.

There truly wasn't a nicer neighbor or nicer human being. We loved Alice, too.

In cleaning out our basement while on vacation a few weeks ago, I came across an article that ran as a special insert to the Lexington News on

September 19, 2003 that featured Alice, then 76 years old, as she worked at the Lexington Laundromat, sorting and folding clothes for the Wentworth Military Academy Cadets. (picture on page 2)

For those who knew and miss Alice, who departed this life on April 6, 2019, at the age of 92, the photo will bring back memories of one of LUMC's servants. To others who didn't know her, you will see Alice and celebrate the life of this woman who truly knew how to serve others and was a fine example of one of God's angels on earth.