

Lexington United Methodist Church | October 2026 | lexmoumc.org | 660.259.2483 | Rev. Andrew Sanders, Pastor

Where is the Holy Spirit moving within?

Jesus said, **"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into the harvest." — Matthew 9:37–38**

October is harvest season. Fields around us are being gathered in, the leaves are changing, and once again creation reminds us that seasons come and go. The same is true in the life of the church. Ministries grow, leadership changes, new people step forward, and through it all, God continues calling us into the harvest.


Rev. Andrew Sanders

One of those ministries is our annual **Trunk or Treat**. This year will look a little different. For many years, Teri and Tony James carried a wonderful vision for this ministry. We cherish the memories of Trunk or Treat indoors, surrounded by all those terrific inflatables they provided, welcoming children and families through our doors. Teri and Tony poured tremendous time, energy, creativity, and love into making this outreach fruitful.

Over the years, we have watched hundreds, perhaps thousands of children and their parents come through Trunk or Treat. Some of those little ones aren't so little anymore! We have had the privilege of watching them grow year after year, and that is one of the beautiful things about community ministry. We aren't simply handing out candy. We are building relationships, welcoming our neighbors, and reminding families that Lexington United Methodist Church is a place where they are loved.

Sometimes ministry also means **picking up the mantle** when someone needs a season of rest. I am grateful for those who have volunteered to help carry Trunk or Treat forward this year. There is still a sign-up sheet in the foyer if you would like to participate, and if you would like to donate candy, bags may be dropped off at the church office.

It warms my heart to see new people, new ideas, and new energy becoming part of the ministries of our church while we continue honoring those who have faithfully served before us. That is part of what it means to be the Body of Christ. No one person carries the ministry alone. We encourage one another, support one another, rest when we need to, and step forward when the Holy Spirit nudges us.

And there are plenty of places to step forward @ LUMC!

Maybe your place is helping with Harvesters, sewing with our quilters, handing out candy at Trunk or Treat, organizing clothing for our giveaways, helping

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sundays: Worshiping Winds rehearsal 9:30 a.m.
Choir Rehearsal: Sundays, 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, Ages 5—11.

Sundays at 10 a.m.: Young Couples Class with Sarah Black, facilitator.

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.

YOUTH GROUP: Sundays at 6 p.m.

HARVESTERS DISTRIBUTION: Monday, Oct. 12, 9 to 11 a.m.

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH: Friday, Oct. 9, at 11:30 a.m. at the Margaret Gray Center.

SUNDAY, OCT. 18, NOON: Halloween & Harvest Favorites—themed meal in the Buddy Black Family Life Center. Please bring a fall dish to share.

CHURCH COUNCIL TEAM MEETING: Monday, Oct. 19, 6 p.m.

TUESDAY, OCT. 20, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Charge Conference at First Marshall UMC, 225 E. Arrow St., Marshall, MO.

USDA FOODS: Monday, Oct. 26, 9 to 11 a.m.

Liz Johnson is on vacation Oct. 16-25.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

10 a.m. SUNDAYS

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL with Donna Slusher, Katie Dye, Christ Kids 1 Room

Young Disciples Class with facilitator Sarah Black, Faithful Room (Chapel)



Oct. 2	**Karen Yates**
Oct. 10	**Jennifer Coen**
Oct. 12	**Vera Johnson**
Oct. 21	**Susan Small**

***If your birthday is not being recognized, please reach out to Liz J in the church office.**

Where We Seek, Serve and Share Christ

Oct 2026
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with youth, participating in a Sunday school class, or inviting someone to one of our monthly fellowship meals. Maybe your ministry happens more quietly through prayer, financial giving, donating supplies, or working behind the scenes where few people ever see what you do.

The question isn't whether your contribution looks like someone else's. The question is: **Where is the Holy Spirit moving within you? Where might God be inviting you to plug into the life and ministry of the church?**

Jesus told the disciples that the harvest was plentiful, and that remains true today. From those first disciples who carried the Gospel beyond the places they knew, all the way to disciples like us today in Lexington, Missouri, Christ continues sending people into the world with good news.

There are still people who need to experience love. There are still people searching for grace. There are still neighbors longing for community, children needing encouragement, families needing support, and people wondering whether there really is a place where they belong.

The harvest is still plentiful.

Our calling is not to accomplish everything by ourselves. Our calling is to faithfully offer what God has placed within us. What seems impossible becomes possible when God's people work together, sharing the love, grace, and mercy of Christ so that others may experience the renewing presence of the Holy Spirit.

As October draws to a close, we will also gather on the first Sunday following Halloween, or All Hallows' Eve, for our **All Saints remembrance**, giving thanks for those saints who have gone before us. We remember their faith, their service, and the ministries they helped build. Then we continue the work they placed into our hands.

That is the beautiful rhythm of the Church: one generation plants, another waters, another gathers the harvest, and through it all, **God gives the growth.**

So this harvest season, I invite you to ask one simple question:

Holy Spirit, where are you calling me to serve?

And when God answers, don't be afraid to step forward. For those who hope in the Lord "shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles" (Isaiah 40:31).

The harvest is plentiful. The mission continues. And by God's grace, there is a place in it for every one of us.

If you or someone you know would appreciate a pastoral visit, I am in the church office each Wednesday from **9 a.m.–12 p.m.** Outside those hours, you are welcome to call or text me at **417-770-6731**, or email me at sandman1016@gmail.com.

Grace and Peace,
Reverend Andrew Sanders



MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

Harvesters
Monday, Oct. 12

USDA Foods
Monday, Oct. 26



Our '70s themed fellowship meal held on Sept. 13, was a hit. Lots of delicious food was enjoyed by all who attended. Many thanks for the hard work of our hosts, Shawn Hodgeman and Jacob Lamb and their helpers. Our next meal is October 18.

We are in need of volunteers to give out candy at our Trunk or Treat and for candy donations! Please turn those into the church office.





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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.
Worshiping Winds Rehearsal: Sundays, 9:30 a.m.
Choir Rehearsal: 10 a.m.

Blessing Box Ministry

Our Blessing Box now has a lovely sign on it that also honors the late Tony James. **We are in regular need of unexpired, nonperishable food and hygiene items to fill the box.**



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

First Class Stamp

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

Sept.: 2026

TREASURER'S REPORT

Sept. Offering: $ 7,631.00
Sept. Expenses: -$ 13,967.72
Total (tithe) - $ 6,336.72
Aug. 2026 YTD: - $ 9,811.99
**Finance Report for September not available yet.
*Avg. Expenses 2025 $ 13,641.00 (per month)
Building Rentals Sept: $ 250.00

*Borrowed from Savings to cover four months of church insurance on April 1: $4,000.00
**Repaid $4,000 to Savings in June 2026.

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

OCTOBER IS PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH



May we remember and pray for Pastor Andrew Sanders for his spiritual guidance, hard work and community leadership with gratefulness, not just this month, but every day as he continues to serve us—with continual messages of encouragement and love.

We now have a way to digitally tithe to Lexington UMC via PayPal. Simply visit our website: lexmoumc.org and click on DONATE in the upper right menu.

You do not need to be a PayPal member to tithe a gift. Just follow the prompts after clicking "Donate." You can even choose to tithe, or gift to the Memorial fund or Endowment. You can also scan this QR code to be directed to our website.