

Lexington *Presbyterian*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
MAY 2022 – VOLUME 19

Happy Mother's Day

A Day to Honor the Significant Women in our Lives

Happy Mother's Day! It is good and right that we designate a day to honor mom's and all the significant women in our lives. Each one of us have been blessed, formed, and loved in some way by a woman who played an especially important role in our lives. For most of us, that woman was mom. Mom's not only give us life, they also shape it with their love, care, attention, wisdom, and guidance. Erma Bombeck says, "When your mother asks, 'Do you want a piece of advice?' it's a mere formality. It doesn't matter if you answer yes or no. You're going to get it anyway." Where would we be without mom's wisdom and guidance.

Because of their impact and their God given role in our lives it is right that we honor them with a day. Whether it's filled with flowers, food, rest, presents or just presence, it is a good thing to honor moms and all the significant women in our lives. At the same time these can be complicated holidays. For some it's a reminder that mom is no longer here. For others,

Mother's Day can be a difficult reminder that some moms can be hard to celebrate and honor. But the Bible is pretty clear on this in the 10 Commandments. Right, square in the middle of that famous top 10 list is a command to honor our father and our mother. Honoring means doing things like obeying, listening, helping, and being present with them not just on a special day but throughout the year. That call to honor is not based on merit but position. While that's not easy in every family, we can be helped by understanding that as we honor them, we are ultimately honoring God and that leads to peace and blessing in our lives.

On Mother's Day it is good and right to honor not just our moms but all the significant women in our lives, not just because of what they do, but because of who they are. Daughters of the King of Kings and image bearers of God, and because of that, it is right to honor them on Mother's Day and every day. Happy Mother's Day!

Happy Birthday!

Happy May birthday to our family and friends or happy belated birthday! We hope and pray that each of you have a blessed day celebrating and thanking God for another year to serve and enjoy Him. If we missed your birthday or if you have a May anniversary let Aaron know. And don't forget about the birthday offering basket at church which supports two children overseas: Melvin in Honduras and Shravani in India. Thanks, and have a truly happy birthday!

May Birthdays

- May 1st Bailey Martin
- May 4th Nora Young
- May 4th Martha Clapp
- May 6th Jackson Noble
- May 13th Joyce Keller
- May 15th Bailey Conover
- May 22nd Diane Newman
- May 23rd Emery Campbell
- May 29th Debbie Conover
- May 31st Halee Kitchell
- May 31st Mackenzie Martin

The Birthday Offering Supports



Voting at Church

It's an election year for our state, our nation, and our Church.

I know the last thing anyone wants to read about in a church newsletter is politics. To put your mind at ease, this article isn't about that. What this article is about is how our church is led and a new season that God is leading us into. One of the amazing things about our church is our age. We got our start in Lexington all the way back in 1818. That, in and of itself is amazing. When you think about the history we have lived through as a church, how much things have changed, and all that our church has persevered through; it's a testament to God's grace, and His power to keep us and sustain us. One of the ways that God has sustained us has been through our people. Like any other organization, we certainly have our hall of fame. Favorite pastors, long serving treasurers, Sunday School

teachers, faithful members and godly elders.

The last term in that list might be the least familiar but it's probably the most important group of people in our church. Our church is led by elders. Elders are members of the congregation that display spiritual maturity, faithfulness, commitment, leadership ability, integrity, and the heart of a servant, who have been called by God to help lead the church. God raises them up and used them to steer the direction of our church. Elders partner with the pastor to led the church into a healthy place. They not only make decisions; they also help set the spiritual temperature of the church. They help encourage faithfulness to the word of God which stands faithful and

true no matter the season or how the world changes. They love, support, and pray for us. As you think back over the events of the last 204 years, there have been ups and downs, dramatic changes, and difficult seasons. But through it all there have been faithful elders who helped love and lead our church.

Currently, our church has four elders, but we would like to expand that number if possible. One of our active elders is also ready to retire. With all of that it's time for a new season in the life of our church leadership.

Elders are chosen by the congregation to serve. A nominating committee has met, prayed, looked at the scriptures and they are ready to present two names to be added to our board of elders. We will have a congregational meeting to vote on them and during that time the congregation is free to make additional nominations to the

board of elders and ask any questions.

In many ways change can be challenging, but when God is in it, when He is the one orchestrating the future, change can be exciting. Lexington Presbyterian is ready to enter into a new season. We've celebrated our 200th birthday, we've come through Covid, and now it's time to begin praying and discerning God's will for us in the years ahead. By His good grace and through His faithful people, our church will continue to be a light for Christ until he returns. God has placed us here in Lexington strategically. God has given us a mission and a purpose, and we are ready to follow Christ into this new season.

The congregational meeting will take place after church one Sunday morning. The exact date for meeting will be announced soon. If you have any questions or concerns feel free to reach out to Aaron. In the meantime, be praying for our church as we prepare for a new season and a new day of loving God, loving one another, and loving the lost to Christ!

Update on Ukraine

Last month I was able to spend some time in the Romanian city of Cluj, working with an organization called YWAM which is housing anywhere from 50 to 100 Ukrainian refugees at a given time. While we were there, the director received a phone call from the director of a YWAM base in Ternopil, Ukraine. They were sending buses to Kiev to transport folks from the capital to places like Cluj, Romania. Whenever they would send a bus, they would also bring supplies for those who have choose to stay but their supplies were running out. Our team was able to help secure a truck and purchase 20 tons of food, diapers, and wipes to send to Ternopil where they distributed to Kiev and other cities. Your donations helped with that directly and your supplies were able to be distributed as well. Thank you so much!

As you know, the work is ongoing as is the war. Since the first truck, the folks in Romania have sent two more and they plan to continue to do this as often as they can. The

transportation cost and the cost of 20 tons of food and supplies is around \$40,000 U.S. dollars. As you can imagine, with three trucks, lots of groups have stepped up to help from all over the world. Several of you have continued to give and we would like to send over another donation to help with the next truck. If you would like to give and support this mission you can drop a donation in the offering box at church, just make sure it's marked in some way for Ukraine. We can continue to support Ukraine in the months ahead but we would like to send a donation soon. The deadline for this next donation is Sunday, May 15th. You can follow these groups by searching on Facebook and liking YWAM – ELS Cluj for the Romanian group, or YWAM Ternopil for the folks they are working with in Ukraine. Thank you so much for your generosity and support!

Church Signs

While God's plan seems to be to just give us two hands, we can give moms a big hand by celebrating them, appreciating them, and most importantly, by helping them. Focus on the Family did a survey asking moms what they really wanted for Mother's Day and it wasn't more stuff. These moms said what they wanted was a day off from the constant household chores. Clean the car, inside and out. Breakfast in bed, a long nap, homemade gifts, a spa day, or being told that she's the best mom in the world were their ideas for a good Mother's Day. Mothers, grandmothers, aunts, and wives sure do a lot for our families. If we can't get them an extra set of hands for Mother's Day, we can at least give them a hand. So, let's give them the day off. Tell the significant women in your life how much you love them, and a little pampering sure wouldn't hurt either.



Pastor's Pen

A Big Thank You to All!

I just want to share with you all how grateful I am to you. As a congregation you all bless me in so many ways from your love and kindness, to your faithful support of our church and the work God has laid before us. The last two years has been an interesting and a unique time in our church's history, but by God's grace we have not only maintained, we have continued to do God's work. As we say around here, we believe we exist to love God, love one another, and love the lost to Christ and we've done that in a number of ways during this last season.

In a lot of ways, it feels like we are through the worst of the pandemic, though part of me wants to say that with bated breath because who knows what tomorrow will bring, but things feel better. And this past Easter, things looked so much better at church, and that's where I want to focus my thank you's.

So many folks worked, served, cooked, cleaned and decorated to make this Easter a special time of honoring Christ and celebrating what God has graciously done for us. It's dangerous to recognize individuals by name who helped in some ways because there is the risk of forgetting someone but I am going to risk it and try to name them all.

Easter week started with Palm Sunday and it was so great seeing the kids go up and down the aisle with the palm branches. Even if they had a look on their face that said, "Why are we doing this," it was great seeing them in action. Thanks to the parents, the kids and to Allison Walker for helping direct traffic.

Dawn Taylor did a ton of work to serve and bless us for Easter. She cleaned, cooked, decorated, worked on music and spent multiple days at church getting things just right for Easter. We are so blessed to have her and I am so thankful for all that she does for our church.

Dawn also had a great crew helping her clean. Lois Smith, Donna Sipe, Jeannie Lyons, Margo McCandless, and Debbie Conover all pitched in and worked so hard getting our church back into shape after the pandemic. The building looked wonderful. Thank you all! Daniel Richie, our neighbor also mowed for us and helped the building look great on the outside too.

A big thank you to Donna Sipe for helping organize our meal for Maundy Thursday and breakfast on Easter Sunday. Thanks for all the hard work and for the amazing food, and thanks to everyone who prepared an item, brought something and cleaned up afterwards. That really added to our celebration this Easter.

Thanks to Angie Hinchman for making some wonderful decorations for the windows in the sanctuary and on the sanctuary doorway. Her help in decorating was a help to Dawn Taylor and it blessed all of us. I am so grateful for the way she used her talents and gifts to bless our church this Easter. Thank you so much Angie!

I also want to thank Kayte, Larry, Rich, Dawn and Michelle for all the extra time and work they put in with all the extra music. Thank you for using your talents to bless us and to help us worship and remember the good news of the Gospel. You are a blessing to me and our church!

Thanks to everyone who stuffed Easter eggs and brought candy and especially to Bryan Wallace for single handedly hiding all of the eggs. It was great seeing the families and the kids have a wonderful time on Easter. Thanks to everyone who donated and helped. I also want to thank Allison, Angie, Brandi, and Michelle who put together a great kids program on Easter. Thanks for the hard work, love and care in teaching the kids about the good news of Christ.

With that said, I am sure I am forgetting someone, but I really am grateful to you all for showing up, serving, worshipping, inviting and for helping to make this Easter special. The entire week blessed me and I am so grateful to serve Jesus alongside of you all. Thank you for being a faithful church and for loving Jesus so well.

Blessings, Aaron



Prayer Needs

"In the morning, O LORD, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait in expectation."

Psalm 5:3

- Be in prayer for the family and friends of Bobby Miles, Terry Fulkerson, Lavon LaMaster & Scott Gentry.
- Pray for Brad Gatewood Synder who is recovering from a motorcycle accident.
- The Clapps: Continue to pray for Bonnie and Buddy with their ongoing health issues.
- Sandy Bagby who is recovering from some health issues.
- Dora Hawkins: Betty Tidwell's sister who is dealing with Alzheimer's and dementia.
- Kayte who came through her shoulder replacement wonderfully. Be in prayer for the recovery.
- Jeannie Lyons needs prayers for healing.
- Pray for two excitedly expecting families - Justin and Amelia McMillen and Eric and Valerie Stuber.
- Pray for all of those battling addiction

Pray for those Battling Cancer

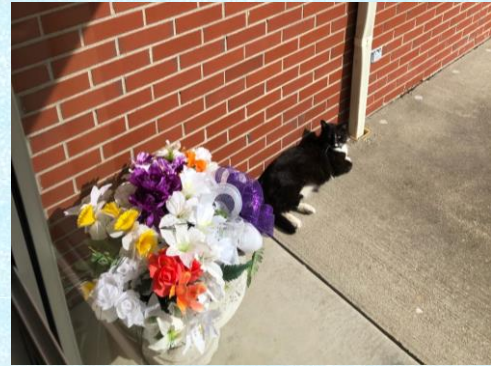
- Catherine Taylor
- John Harlow
- Rich Hinchman's sister Paula and sister-in-law Beth
- Bella a student over at Lexington Elementary
- Ken Medley
- Keithy Thompson

Pray for the people of Ukraine and for peace.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Wednesday Connect Groups meets at 7pm each week in person at the church or you can also join us digitally via zoom. Just give Aaron a heads up and we will get you connected.
- Old Settlers is Back: our town we will be doing a normal Old Settlers celebration on Father's Day weekend, June 17th -18th. The area churches are still discussing what to do about the community service on that Sunday. We will communicate details as soon as we have them.
- Congregational Meeting after Church, tentatively on June 5th to vote on two new elders.
- A new group has been formed in our community called, "**Lovely Ladies.**" Carolyn Nowlin and some folks at Kimberlin Creek Baptist Church are putting together gift baskets and they are planning activities to support and encourage women in our community. Our church has sent in a few items to be included in the gift basket. If you know a lady in our community who could use some encouragement, a visit, a prayer or even an outing, let Aaron know.
- There is a new scholarship available at Hanover College in honor of one of our former members, Mae Huttzell. The scholarship gives preference to a student from Scott or Jefferson County. It is renewable and it would be a great addition to other scholarships or a financial aid package. You can reach out to Hanover College for more info on the **Mae J. Huttzell Scholarship.**

- Thanks again for a wonderful Easter weekend. All glory to our Risen Savior. Here are a few pics from the day.

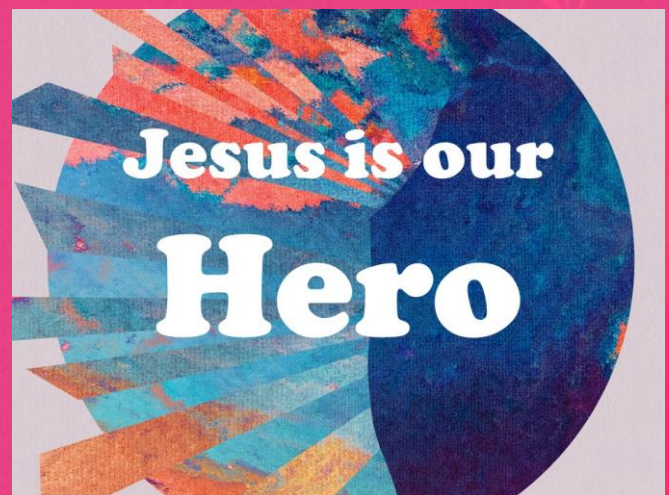


Current Sermon Series

Sunday, April 24th to Sunday, May 29th

As people we love heroes. It's something that transcends time and culture. From the ancient Greeks and the Romans to the modern-day Marvel-Universe, people have loved a good hero story. Whether it's everyday heroes or something on the big screen, hero stories inspire and motivate us. They point us to something better, something good, and there is nothing better than what Jesus did for us at Easter.

From the cross on Friday to the empty tomb on Sunday, Jesus not only altered the course of history, he fulfilled every Old Testament promise about the Messiah, He conquered sin, defeated death, and secured satan's defeat. There is no greater hero than Jesus. We are spending a few weeks after Easter talking about how and why Jesus is the true and better hero, and why He is our Hero!



Church Contact Info:

PO Box 237, Lexington, IN 47138
LexingtonPresbyterianChurch.com
Office Phone: 812-889-2871