



THE UMBRELLA

Lecompton United Methodist Church

Pastor Rob Ernest

402 Elmore Street, P.O. Box 91



August 2020

Church Service Facebook Live 9:30 a.m. Sunday

Children's Time Facebook 11:00 a.m. Wednesday

Sally Landoll, editor

“Learning the Texas Two-Step”

I lived in Texas for almost 15 years; learned a few things whilst there, like...it ain't real chili if'n there's beans in it; Blue Bell is the only acceptable ice cream to serve at political rallies; and knowing the Texas two-step will serve a cowboy well at the barn dance.

I never learned how to do the Texas two-step.

Maybe that's why I'm having such a hard time with this pandemic thingy. It's been two steps forward, one step back. Or sometimes one step forward, two steps back. Slide, jump, repeat... If you're like me, you've been tripping all over yourself trying to do the dance. Just when we think we've got it figured out, whammo! We have to back up and start over or go in a completely different direction.

Last month's article in this place boldly announced the grand re-opening of our building (or at least the sanctuary) on July 5th for “No Touch” in-house, live services. Then, the week before that first Sunday in July, COVID cases spiked in Kansas, the Governor issued the wear-a-mask mandate, and our Re-Open Team decided not to.

As of this writing, no re-open date for in-house, live services has been announced, although the Re-Open Team has a very good plan in place for when we do. As we have seen, the fluidity of this crisis prevents much long-term scheduling, for our churches, schools, businesses, etc. It is a dance we are still learning. Trouble is, the music keeps changing.

At LUMC, we will continue to learn the dance—taking new steps to stay connected. One of those things is “LUMConnections”, a simple card containing a short update on what is going on in the life of the church and/or the community. “LUMConnections” will be mailed three or four times a month to those who are not well-connected electronically.

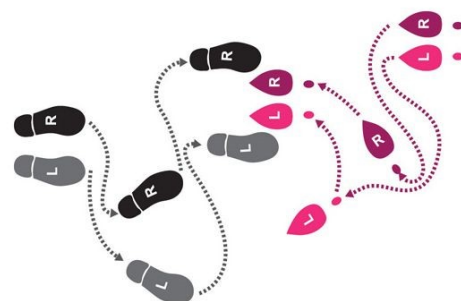
Another new connectional step is a podcast which I've started called “Turning Home”. If you are not familiar with a podcast, think of it as an audio-only version of our weekly scripture and sermon with a little bit of music thrown in. Each program is 12-20 minutes long and available on the website, www.LecomptonUMC.org or at www.PodPoint.com. Of course, our “regular” services are still available on Facebook live each Sunday morning at 9:30, with a “Kid's Message” Wednesdays at 11am. In the meantime, “Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. And I'll lead you all wherever you may be, and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.” Lord, even though we be lacking in rhythm and cursed with two left feet, lead us in this dance, we pray. It is in your name and for your honor and glory that we dance. Amen.

Blessings on your head!

Rob Ernest

rernest@greatplainsumc.org

870-307-2712



BIRTHDAYS

Grace Lister
Travis LaDuke
Sherilyn LaDuke-Driver
Catherine Meacham
Lynn Berendsen
Tanner Hartley
Jim Driver
Aimee Hackathorn
Lindsey Neill
Jerry Kasson
Donna Ernest
Ed Smith
Laura Wenger
Mia Christiansen
Ken Norwood
Kyle Higgins
Jason Behlke
Jared Powell
Janell Schrader
Bill Bylaska
Bob Apprill
Stephanie (Neill) Confer
Ryan Mullins
Bonny Fugett
Isaac Christman
Julie Clement
Trevor Hastert
Paula Wenger
Ramona Smith
Ashlyn Bartling
Andrew Landoll
Darby Lohrding
Carol Stevenson
Austin Breuninger
Louise Norwood
Opal Goodrick
Simond Apprill
David Smith
Skyler Bauman
Lori Heckard



ANNIVERSARIES

Tiffany & John Gomel
Terri & Tim Morris
Julie Fugett & Steve Schrick
Shari & Dorrان Mullins
Olga & Jason Lister
Tammy & Kevin Morgison
Catherine & Tony Meacham



Food and Fellowship

Ladies Luncheon

There will be no ladies' luncheon this month.

Community Dinner

There will be no Community Dinner this month.

Goldenrod Luncheon

The Goldenrod Dinner will not be held this month.

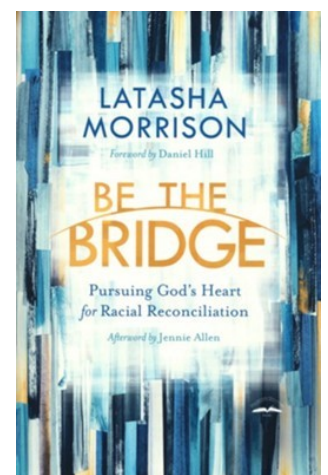
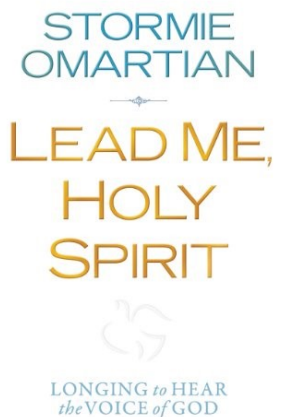
Wednesday Bible Study with Deb

A new location for our Wednesday Evening Bible Study is City Park. Join us at 6:30 p.m. for a discussion of the book "Lead Me, Holy Spirit" by Stormie Omartian. Everyone welcome. . A word to the wise from Pastor Rob, "Bring bug repellent."



Saturday Morning Bible Study With Allyson

Beginning August 15th, we will start studying "Be the Bridge: Pursuing God's Heart For Racial Reconciliation" by Latasha Morrison. Join us via Zoom at 9:00 a.m.



Nurture and Outreach Team News

The July Pantry helped over **40** families. In addition to food items, we also had boxed fans to give away.

Thank you to Linda Smith, Kenny Smith, Maddy Welch, Joanna Long, and Mary Sue Sledd for all of the help!

The Clothes Closet **WILL BE OPEN** in August. We will be in the Ft. Titus room of the Pride Building on August 15th at 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. The wearing of a mask will be required.

We had Farmer to Family produce boxes to give away this month, plus some locally grown produce to offer. A local rancher donated 3 pound packages of ground beef, so each family was able to receive a package.

The Harvester's Deliveries this month were a huge help to our pantry. On July 8th, we received around 5,800 pounds of food. Karmell Thacker, Mary Sue Sledd, Joe Ward, Lynely Sanford, and the driver were on hand to help bring in all of the food. Karmell, Mary Sue, Joe, and Lynely stayed and helped stock shelves and sort items. This is by far our largest order to date.

On July 24th, we received around 2,200 pounds of food. Mary Sue Sled, Mary Ann Stewart, Nicole Munoz-Crow, Rob Ernest, Tom and Toby Meyer were on hand to help bring in the food, sort, and stock shelves. It is a hot job right now, but these volunteers make the work go quickly. **THANK YOU!**

A special thank you to Rose for her willingness to make 2 trips to pick up Senior Commodity boxes and the Farmer to Family boxes from Just Food.

Just Food also donated:

- half gallons of milk
- 3 pound boxes of cream cheese
- And a few other items that we could not get from Harvesters

We received our new 23 Cubic foot refrigerator this past month. This refrigerator was made possible through a grant that Mary Jane Hoffer applied for at a Live Well meeting with Just Food, Douglas County Extension office, and the Douglas County Health Department. This grant has been in the works for some time and our pantry has been on the list. The virus delayed delivery, but it is now at the church and ready to receive dairy and produce!

The delivery driver had delivered 40 of these units before he got to us. Thank you to Greg and Austin Sled for helping unload and set it up for us. It is truly a blessing.



Devotional from Great Plains United Methodist Conference

The Lectionary Text referenced in this thoughtful devotion comes from Ecclesiastes 1: 17-18. This text was one that spoke clearly to me and I hope it does for you.

“17And I applied myself to the understanding of wisdom, and also of madness and folly, but I learned that this, too, is a chasing after the wind. 18 For with much wisdom comes much sorrow; the more knowledge, the more grief.”

Devotional for 7/25/2020

Is anyone else grieving each time the next thing is cancelled? It seems 2020 is a year of loss. Lost graduations, lost sporting tournaments, lost camping experiences. Today seems a special day of loss as the news is released that we will not meet for an Annual Conference session this October and we are not greeting campers at Baker University for Institute. Yes, we have found ways to do new things, but it's not the same and we grieve the loss of things held dear. Our local congregation has had to cancel so many events, including our grand plans to celebrate 150 years in the community. Loss and disappointment seem to come rolling down the mountain like a landslide, threatening to sweep us away with all we cherish. Like Solomon, I find myself trying to find the meaning in all of this, only to feel like it's chasing after the wind. I know it's okay to feel that grief and even allow myself to cry for the loss. And yet, at times, I feel overwhelmed, like my world is spiraling down to a certain crash.

I imagine the disciples must have felt this desolation after the crucifixion of Jesus. Their world as they knew it was in tatters. Should they go back to their old occupations? This isn't how it was supposed to be. What did the last three years mean? They didn't know, as we do, that the promised Holy Spirit would come and send them in a totally new direction.

I don't know what all is going to change permanently due to the pandemic. Only God knows what lies down the road. I do know that I was comfortable with life and maybe that, too, is the Holy Spirit sending me in a new direction. This I know- God understands our grief, surrounds us with His love and walks with us down this strange unfamiliar road. That, after all, is what faith is all about.

-Mary L. Brooks
Five Rivers Lay Leader and LSM Director
marylbrooks6401@msn.com

Prayer for Reflection

God of the ages, we weep for many things. Comfort us in our grieving, but don't let us linger there. Send us in new directions to a future only you can see. Amen.



Lecompton United Methodist Church
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August 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29 Deb's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. City Park	30	31 Drive Thru Pantry 1:00-2:00 p.m. Church Parking Lot	1
2	3	4	5 Deb's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. City Park	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 Deb's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. City Park	13	14	15 Bible Study with Allyson 9:00 a.m. Zoom Clothes Closet 9:00-11:00 a.m. Lecompton Pride Building- Ft. Titus room Food Pantry 7:00 -11:00 a.m.
16	17	18	19 Deb's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. City Park	20	21	22 Bible Study with Allyson 9:00 a.m. Zoom
23	24	25	26 Deb's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. City Park	27	28 Drive-Thru Pantry 1:00-2:00 p.m. LUMC Parking Lot	29 Bible Study with Allyson 9:00 a.m. Zoom
30	31	1	2 :	3	4	5

Lecompton United Methodist Church



Pastor Rob Ernest

P.O. Box 91

Lecompton, KS 66050

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A New Way to Hear the Good News from Pastor Rob

Pastor Rob has branched out his ministry to a new platform. He is now the proud owner of a podcast page. The podcast is located on PodPoint and the title of his podcast is "Turning Home with Rob Ernest." He is sharing a message of hope and inspiration with you from the Word of God. You can listen in by go to this web address <https://podpoint.com/turning-home-wrob-ernest> or by following the link on the church website. Each podcast will be approximately 10-12 minutes. Let Pastor Rob know you are listening by sending him an email or by sharing on Facebook.



If you would like to sign up for an electronic version of The Umbrella or if you have news to send, email Sally Landoll at:

landollks@embarqmail.com