



Lower Light

April 2024

LOWER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

IN THIS ISSUE

Caring For One Another

by Rev. Yosub Namgung



Hebrews 10:24-25, "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

When a first child is born, parents, especially mothers, develop a habit. It's checking if the baby is breathing well. They find peace of mind in confirming that the baby is breathing. As time passes, they want to check again if the baby is breathing. Even though they know the baby is in a good environment, they can't relax without checking themselves. Perhaps it's because we had such parents that we could grow up healthy.

Churches also need this kind of care. Especially for newcomers and those trying to settle in the church. We need to care for them, checking if they are doing well, if there are any problems, if they need help, and so on. We need to keep checking, not just once. Through this process, we see newcomers settling well in the church.

Jesus doesn't just care for us once. After his resurrection, Jesus continued to care for his disciples. When their faith weakened, he comforted and encouraged them. He sent the Holy Spirit to grant them the power and wisdom they needed. Jesus didn't leave them; he continued to be with them. So the disciples continued to grow in faith and live lives that pleased God. *(Continued on page 2.)*

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As April begins, it would be good to reflect on whether there are people around us who need our check-up. And through caring together and serving people, I pray that we become a healthy community that pleases God.

April Worship Services

- 7 "We Walk in the Light"
- 14 "We Purify in Hope"
- 21 Casual Sunday and Breakfast with Friends
- 28 "We Bear Fruit"
Communion



Communion – April 28th

Cambodian Ministries

To see the March newsletter of the Susanna Wesley Ministries in Cambodia, go to <https://umccambodia.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/3-March-2024.pdf>. To support their work, you can make your check payable to Lower UMC with Advance #3020791 in the check memo, or donate online at: <https://advance.umcmmission.org/p-393-children-and-youth-scholarships.aspx>



Love. Grow. Serve.



The current needs for the Cinderella Project include:

Disinfectant spray (Lysol)

Water bottles

Cereal bars (Nutrigrain)

Soft mints (like Red Bird)

High protein/low carb snacks
(Slim Jim/beef jerky)

Juice boxes (Juicy Juice)

Baby Wipes



Casual Sunday and Breakfast with Friends

Make plans to join us for Casual Sunday on April 21st with breakfast and a morning service including a brief message, hymns and special music in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone bring a dish to share. We'll meet at 9:30 and have breakfast at 9:45. The service will begin at 10:30. **Be sure to bring a friend!**

Martha-Sarah Circle of UWF Update

by Susan Chaney

The Martha-Sarah Circle of United Women in Faith sponsored a presentation by Bay Aging at our last meeting. The presentation outlined the many services that Bay Aging provides to local residents. Just a few of the services they offer are transportation, home and personal care services, insurance counseling, legal aid and active lifestyle centers. For more information you can visit their website at bayaging.org or call at 804-758-2386. The website also identifies ways in which you can help with their mission.

The next meeting of the Martha-Sarah Circle will be **Tuesday, April 9th at 10:00 A.M.** in the Fellowship Hall. All women from any church are invited to join us as we share in Christian fellowship and discuss ideas and plans for future missions in the community. We hope to see you there.



LUMC Extension Ministry to the Army Reserves

by Rev. Yosub Namgung

When making decisions in the military, we go through a process called MDMP (Decision-Making Process). During this time, staff officers discuss how to effectively execute the mission and propose several options to the commander. The commander then makes decisions based on these suggestions. Last month, while participating in MDMP together, I had an opportunity to practice this process as a team. This process is very interesting, but I've come to realize that it requires people's wisdom. Please pray for wisdom for the staff members in the military to make good suggestions and for the commanders to make wise decisions.



March Council Meeting Notes

After approval of the consent agenda, Rob Brooks led discussion on action item updates.

Building and Grounds – Johnny Fleet gave updates regarding the flooding and leaks and says the issue seems to be resolved, but he will keep an eye on it during the next rainstorms. The gutters are stopped up and he is trying to find someone to clean them out.

SPPR and Preschool Committee – There was discussion regarding the Preschool’s request for full time employees to participate in a group health insurance plan. Stan Coloff has reviewed information on the plans offered by the conference. He asked if the preschool employees are considered church lay employees. Kelly Walden will be consulted regarding the cost and source of funding. It was also suggested that Kelly investigate whether there are any preschool groups or associations that may offer group health insurance plans.

Planning Retreat – An April date was originally discussed for a planning retreat that Rosabeth Ward and Tim Earnhardt will be organizing, but a date will have to be set in May instead.

New Business: Kristie Brookshire made a request to move 10,000.00 from the Building Fund investment account to our Operating Fund which is currently too low to meet expenses. She explained that after the investment account was established in December of 2022, nearly 94,000.00 was moved from the Operating Fund in the checking account to the Building Fund investment account in order to earn a higher rate of interest. The Operating Fund is Tithes and Offerings – not funds designated to the Building Fund. Donna made a motion to move 10,000.00 from the investment account to the Operating Fund. Stan seconded the motion which was approved.

Pastor’s Report: Pastor Yosub thanked everyone for their support and prayers during his training to be an Army Reserve Chaplain. Elizabeth Johnson has resigned from her leadership positions of Recording Secretary, Annual Conference Delegate and Outreach Ministries. Due to current financial circumstances, Pastor Yosub checked with the Conference to determine the least amount of apportionments that can be paid. They advised to pay as much as the church is able. The Finance Committee will meet in the near future to determine what monthly amount will be paid.

The next Church Council meeting will be on **Tuesday, April 2, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.**

April Birthdays

Johnny Fleet	2
Robin Lambert	5
Hannah Lambert	7
Genie Saunders	7
Will Leggett	10
Kathleen Kruse	13
Madonna Frisch	22
Helen Ward	25
Judy Evans	29



April Anniversaries

John and Susan Fleet	2
Paul and Karen Murray	17
Wesley and Kristen Holland	27
Craig and Tammy Revere	29



REMINDER!

Scholarship applications are due **May 1st**. See our website for more information and an application: lowerumc.org.

Lower United Methodist Church

SUNDAYS:

CHOIR PRACTICE at 9:00 a.m.

WORSHIP at 10:30 a.m.

April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 6:00 p.m. Council Meeting 	3 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting  6:30 p.m. Worship Committee 	4	5	6
7	8	9 10:00 a.m. United Women in Faith 	10 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting 	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting 	18	19	20
21 Casual Sunday and  Meet at 9:30 Breakfast at 9:45 Service at 10:30	22	23	24 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting 	25	26	27
28 	29	30	Scholarship Applications Due 5/1 			

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Email Us
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Check Us Out on the Web
www.lowerumc.org

And on Facebook, X and Instagram



Sunday Worship

10:30 a.m.

Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday

9:00 to 12:00