

Lorena United Methodist Church
 205 South Bordon St.
 PO BOX 86
 Lorena, TX 76655
 Phone: 254-857-4283
 Fax: 254-857-8044
 E-mail: lorenaumc@lorenaumc.org

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 Lorena, TX

Lorena United Methodist Church

April 2011



The Methodist Message

We're On The Web!
 Lorenaumc@lorenaumc.org

He's Alive!

«AddressBlock»

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:30 AM Casual Service

9:30 AM Sunday School

10:45 AM Traditional Service

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
April 2011						
					1 <i>Rita Linder & Walt Linder's Birthday</i>	2 <i>T.J. Scott's Bday</i>
3 Communion & Food Pantry Worship Service Chancel Choir 4pm Ladies Bible Study 5:30pm Confirmation 4:20pm	4 	5 Ladies' Bible Study 10am @ the Parsonage	6 Youth 7pm Prayer Bible Study 7pm <i>Morgan Wolfe's Bday</i>	7 Financial Peace University 6:30pm <i>Erin McCulley's Bday</i>	8 <i>Peggy Pritchett's Bday</i>	9 <i>Kaitlyn Bell & Louis Moore's Birthday</i>
10 Chancel Choir 4pm Ladies Bible Study 5:30pm Confirmation 4:20pm <i>Collin Pennington & Bunny Scott's Birthday</i>	11	12 Ladies' Bible Study 10am @ the Parsonage <i>Ruby Safley's Bday</i>	13 Youth 7pm Prayer Bible Study 7pm <i>Courtney Settlemyer & Joe Fernandez's Birthday</i>	14 Financial Peace University 6:30pm <i>Joe Quaa's Bday</i>	15 <i>Grace Keeland's Bday</i>	16 <i>Ashlee Dowdle's Bday</i>
17 Palm Sunday Chancel Choir 4pm Ladies Bible Study 5:30pm Confirmation 4:20pm	18	19 Ladies' Bible Study 10am @ the Parsonage <i>Esme Fonseca's Bday</i>	20 Youth 7pm Prayer Bible Study 7pm <i>Trey Settlemyer's Bday</i>	21 —NO FPU— Maunday Thursday Gathering on the Green 6:30pm Communion Service 7:30pm	22 Good Friday Service of Tenabrae 7:30pm < -----21st <i>Alyssa Martin's Bday</i>	23 Easter Egg Hunt! 10am <i>Marsha Pennington's Birthday</i>
24 <i>He's Alive!</i> Chancel Choir 4pm Ladies Bible Study 5:30pm Confirmation 4:20pm <i>Jeanne Martin's Bday</i>	25 Emmaus Reunion 6:30 pm <i>Amy Keeland's Bday</i>	26 Ladies' Bible Study 10am @ the Parsonage	27 Youth 7pm Prayer Bible Study 7pm NOW Committee 6pm FOOD PANTRY 5-7pm <i>Andy Ramsey's Bday</i>	28 Financial Peace University 6:30pm	29	30 Men at the Cross 8am-12:45pm @ Midway PAC <i>Amber Shelley's Bday</i>

Dear friends,

As we are making our way through Lent, my prayer is that each of us may be feeling a growing sense of hope and expectation of something mighty and wonderful approaching. We often hear and perhaps feel the opposite, a "looming doom" that would overtake us from behind that would destroy us while we are looking the other way, like a mighty tsunami or powerful earthquake. I am thankful that "God's got our back!" as I heard someone say recently. What a wonderful promise and hope. I am more and more confident of the promise in Romans 8:38-39 that assures us that, if we are committing our whole lives to him, "There is NOTHING that can separate us from the LOVE OF GOD IN JESUS CHRIST, OUR LORD!" I don't think Paul used capital letters as I have for emphasis, but that phrase is worthy of them and more. God's love is so powerful that nothing that might sneak up on us from behind or threaten to bowl us over from ahead will ultimately succeed if we are fully trusting in God's love demonstrated in our Lord, Jesus Christ.

God is looking for persons of strong character, not strong characters like we see ranting on TV about "winning." They think winning is everything, but it only leads to ultimate defeat in separation from God, eternally. Strong character, Paul says in Rom. 5, is produced in the lives of those who have endured suffering holding fast to our Lord who knew suffering greater than most. But, suffering, holding strong to God's promises, produces "character" as Paul calls it, that is not defeat-able, but is empowered by a force greater than anything the world can throw at us, greater than 9.0 earthquakes, 60 feet high tsunamis, out of control nuclear power. It is GOD'S LOVE-FILLED HOPE! Paul says with confidence and experience that hope like that does not disappoint us, because it is

UPCOMING EVENTS

**2ND ANNUAL PASSION PLAY:
JERUSALEM 33 A.D. - TRIED • CONVICTED •
CRUCIFIED • RESURRECTED**

FUMC KILLEEN PRESENTS THE MIRACLES, TRIALS, CRUCIFIXION & RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST. THURSDAY, APRIL 21 & 22 5-7 P.M. AT METHODIST PARK, SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THEIR NEW CHURCH CAMPUS AT 3501 E. ELMS IN KILLEEN

MEN AT THE CROSS DICILPLESHIP CONFERENCE

LEAP OF FAITH - EMPOWERING MEN TO REACH MEN! SATURDAY, APRIL 30 FROM 8:00AM—12:45 PM AT THE MIDWAY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER BUY TICKETS ONLINE AT WWW.MENATTHECROSS.ORG **FREE** BREAK-OUT SESSIONS FOR GUYS AGES 13-18!

promised by the powerful presence of the God's Holy Spirit who has been and is being poured into our hears. That is a power you not only can feel, but you can stand on, no matter what may come against you. "If God is for us, who (or what) can stand against us?" (Rom. 8:31b). Thank God!

With love and thanks as your Pastor,

-Rev. Ron

CONFIRMATION

I am excited for the four young Christians we have in our Confirmation Class. We are meeting weekly studying great elements of the faith in Christ and the life in the Church. Please keep Drew, Braylin, Elliot, and Joseph in your prayers - and me too. They are great and I love sharing with them.

Confirmation Sunday is May 22.

SING TO THE LORD A NEW SONG!

At this time, we are drawing close to the end of the Lenten season. Our Lord gave His life so that we might live and that we could be saved for all time if we believe in Him. In April, we in the Christian Churches will walk with our Lord as He lives His final days as a human. We walk with Him as He enters Jerusalem on the back of a donkey and people throw cloaks and palm branches for Him to walk on. We are with Him on Maundy Thursday as Jesus washes the feet of the disciples and shares a meal with them. We are with Him as He is taken to the cross and crucified. But...after the darkness of the crucifixion comes the Glory of the Resurrection on Easter morning! Is there anything else that proclaims any more what He did for us and what it really means to be a Christian?

Chancel Choir is working on music that takes us through all of these last days with Christ. The Choir will sing all through April. Palm Sunday is April 17

and the children will lead the procession with the palm branches as they have the last several years in both services. On Maundy Thursday, April 21st, there will be a Gathering with snacks & a light meal, Devotion with the Confession & Pardon then sharing of Holy Communion. Good Friday is April 22. Then, Easter is on April 24. Wow—what a month in the Christian Year!

If you would like to join the choir for any or all of these Sundays and Special Days, come to choir practice at 4:00 P.M. on Sunday and/or talk to Doris Ann. There is always room for more singers in the choir loft. Join us as we go through Christ's final days on earth.

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary as we go through the final days of Lent and on to the glory of Easter that I may keep and hold all of Christ's blessings in my heart...always.

~Doris Ann

SPECIAL THANKS

Dear LUMC Church Family, Chancel Choir & Music Staff,

Thank you for all of the prayers, the cards, the food, the caring, the phone calls, the text messages before, during, and after my surgery. I am so blessed to be part of this Great Church Family! This church is very, very special to me. I could feel your prayers surrounding me as I prepared for surgery and then as I awaited the results. Wow! I feel that I have been given a new life! I wonder what God has in mind for me now? I wish His blessings on each of you as I have felt through this time.

Choir & Music Staff -Thank you for stepping in and leading in Worship as I have been going through the recovery mode of my surgery. I cannot begin to tell you how very special you are to me and in my life. We are so blessed to have so many talented musicians at Lorena UMC. You are truly special.

Love, Blessings and Joy,
Doris Ann

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Cowboy Caviar by Pam Cooper

Whatever you eat or drink, ...do it all for the Glory of God!
~Cor. 10:31

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 can white shoepeg corn, drained & rinsed
- 1 can black-eyed peas, drained & rinsed
- 1/2 bunch green onions, chopped
- 3-4 Roma tomatoes, chopped
- 3 avocados, chopped or mashed
- 1 tsp lemon juice
- 1 pkg dry Italian dressing mix
- Chopped cilantro (fresh or dried) to taste)

Mash or chop avocado. Stir in lemon juice and dressing mix. Add all other ingredients and mix well. Chill an hour or two before serving with tortilla chips. ENJOY!

4F NEWS



The 4F club will meet Tuesday, April 4th at 11:00am. We will be eating at George's in Hewitt.

Come join us for Fun, Food, Fellowship & Forgetfulness!



Lorena UMC Emmaus News

On Thursday, April 7th, the Emmaus Gathering is at Bosqueville UMC. The Agape Feast is at 6:30 with Worship at 7:00. The Lorena UMC Emmaus Reunion will meet in the Betties House on Monday, April 25th, at 6:30 P.M. Bring a brown-bag meal. If you are interested in going on an Emmaus walk, contact any of the Emmaus group for further information and a list of 2011 scheduled walks.

De Colores, Doris Ann

Special Offering for Disaster in Japan

John 3:16 says for God so loved the world...THE WORLD! We will be receiving a special offering for the unbelievable needs in Japan following the multiple disasters that are ongoing. Our United Methodist people always respond quickly and generously to such crisis's and so should be the case for Japan. A special offering can be made for the overwhelming needs in Japan, made payable to Lorena UMC & marked as "Pacific Emergency" or "Pacific special offering."

If you are unable to give financially at this time, you can always give prayerfully! A special way to remember to pray for Japan is to, using a red sharpie marker or pen, put a red dot about the size of a pea on your hand as a symbol of their flag. In this Lenten season it is also a reminder of Christ's blood, shed for his children all over the world!



Information Bulletin Board:

U.M.W.

will meet Sunday April 10th. The program will be 2 book reports by Nancy & Peggy. Don't forget your \$1 for the door prize & salad.

Food Pantry Sunday!

Don't forget to bring your food donations on Communion Sunday, April 3rd!

Community Easter Egg Hunt!

Saturday, April 23rd at 10am on the LUMC church grounds!



Sunday Evening Ladies' Bible Study will finish up the week before Easter. We will not start again until June because of all the Sunday activities in May. We are hoping to do "Breaking Free" by Beth Moore. If you have the updated version or know someone who does, please let us know! More info to follow in the May newsletter.

Thank You's

LUMC,

Thank you for the support that you provide to our center. We are truly blessed by the various ways in which you support us. Your generosity and care of this ministry allows us to meet important goals for a successful early care program. From our hearts to yours, we wish to honor you with huggables of joy in appreciation of your devotion, prayers & service. We ask for your continued prayers as we inch our way to success in the year of our Lord - 2011. Thanks for a phenomenal 2010!

Barbara Howard, Executive Director,
Laura Edwards Early Learning Center

Dear LUMC,

Your generosity is overwhelming! Thank you so much.

Love,
Gigi, Autumn Villas, Apt. 102

Thank you to those wonderful folks that sent cards, goodies and called when Paul had surgery.

Also thank you to Rev. Ron for being with us and providing much needed comfort and Christian love during this time. We are blessed to be a part of such a compassionate and loving Church family!

Paul, Dora, Tori & Barrett Batt

LUMC,

Thank all of you for the groceries you brought us. Your thoughtfulness is always a blessing. May God continue to bless you as you bless others

Love & Prayers,
Bonnie Nutt, Autumn Villas Apts.

Youth News

LUMC Welcomes **Trey Prohaska** as our new Youth Minister! Trey is currently a Junior at Baylor University, studying Economics and Marketing. For the past year he has volunteered with the First Baptist Robinson youth group. Over the summer of 2010, he served as a counselor for Sky Ranch Camps where he primarily worked with high school boys. He is a member of Baylor's Student Foundation, and also serves as the chaplain for this organization. Trey has a big heart for youth ministry and is very excited to continue his ministry with Lorena UMC youth!