

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**

March 2011

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



*The Methodist Message*

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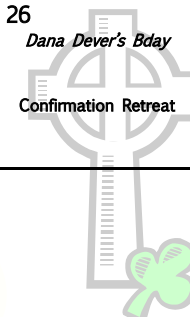
**Sunday Worship Schedule**

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
<b>March 2011</b>		1 <i>Kristi Sailey's Bday</i>  Ladies Bible Study 10am @ the Parsonage	2 <i>Jan Bradford &amp; Linda Stott's Bday</i> CONFIRMATION 6pm YOUTH 7pm Prayer/Bible Study-7pm	3 Emmaus Gathering @ Austin Avenue UMC 6:30pm  Financial Peace University Intro Meeting 6:30	4 Spiritual Growth Conference @ Lakeview Camp  <i>World Day of Prayer</i>	5 Spiritual Growth Conference @ Lakeview Camp  Laura Edward's Chris- tian Learning Center Fundraiser 12-5pm
	6  CHANCEL CHOIR 4pm Ladies Bible Study 5:30pm NO CONFIRMATION	7 <i>Lee Johnson's Bday</i>	8  Ladies Bible Study 10am @ the Parsonage	9  NO CONFIRMATION YOUTH 7pm Prayer/Bible Study 7pm  <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	10 <i>Bethel Calfee's Bday</i>	11
----- <b>Spring Break</b> -----						
13 <i>Brittany Lebowsky's Bday</i>  CHANCEL CHOIR 4pm Ladies Bible Study 5:30pm CONFIRMATION 12 & 5pm	14 <i>Keith Grigsby, Luke Pritchett, &amp; Jacob Towns' Bdays</i>	15 <i>Billy Pigg, Juan Qien, &amp; Ava Shelley's Bday</i>  Ladies Bible Study 10am @ the Parsonage	16  CONFIRMATION 6pm YOUTH 7pm Prayer/Bible Study 7pm	17  Financial Peace University 6:30	18 <i>Nell Blanchard's Bday</i>	19 <i>Clayton Rabbe's Bday</i>
20 <i>First Day of Spring</i>  CHANCEL CHOIR 4pm Ladies Bible Study 5:30pm CONFIRMATION 12 & 5pm	21 <i>Emily Peterson's Bday</i>	22  Ladies Bible Study 10am @ the Parsonage  NOW Committee 7pm	23 <i>Claire Kultgen's Bday</i>  CONFIRMATION 6pm YOUTH 7pm Prayer/Bible Study 7pm FOOD PANTRY 5-7pm	24  Financial Peace University 6:30	25 <i>Sarah Burnett &amp; Chip Burnett's Bday</i>  Confirmation Retreat	26 <i>Dana Dever's Bday</i>  Confirmation Retreat
27 <i>Don Swaner's Bday</i>  CHANCEL CHOIR 4pm Ladies Bible Study 5:30pm CONFIRMATION 12 & 5pm	28  Emmaus Reunion 6:30pm	29  Ladies Bible Study 10am @ the Parsonage	30 <i>Frank Galbreath &amp; Jeff Sutton's Bday</i> CONFIRMATION 6pm YOUTH 7pm Prayer/Bible Study 7pm	31  Financial Peace University 6:30		

As we reach the end of a very long "After Epiphany" season, we approach the season of Lent. Though many of our congregation are familiar with the seasons of the Church Year, I thought it may be helpful to share a bit of explanation. Churchyear.net says of Lent:

*"The purpose of Lent is to be a season of fasting, self-denial, Christian growth, penitence, conversion, and simplicity. Lent, which comes from the Teutonic (Germanic) word for springtime, can be viewed as a spiritual spring cleaning: a time for taking spiritual inventory and then cleaning out those things which hinder our corporate and personal relationships with Jesus Christ and our service to him. Thus it is fitting that the season of Lent begins with a symbol of repentance: placing ashes mixed with oil on one's head or forehead (Ash Wednesday). However, we must remember that our Lenten disciplines are supposed to ultimately transform our entire person: body, soul, and spirit. Our Lenten disciplines are supposed to help us become more like Christ. Eastern Christians call this process theosis, which St. Athanasius aptly describes as "becoming by grace what God is by nature."... some basic tasks associated with Lent...fasting, almsgiving, and prayer. In addition, reading the Scriptures and the Church's Writings can help one grow during Lent.*

The practice penitence and preparation for Lent, including the concept of spring cleaning, may have had roots in the Jewish week-long cleansing ritual which precedes Passover by purifying their houses of all yeast and leaven as a symbol of removing all sin from their homes and lives.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**DAVE RAMSEY'S FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY**  
**\*\*PREVIEW MEETING\*\***  
 THURSDAY MARCH 3RD @6:30 PM  
 CLASSES START THURSDAY MARCH 17TH & CONTINUE UNTIL JUNE 9TH

**LAURA EDWARDS CHRISTIAN  
 EARLY LEARNING CENTER  
 2011 FUNDRAISER - SATURDAY MARCH 5TH**  
 Austin Ave Methodist Church  
 1300 Austin Ave, Waco  
 FEATURING JOHNNY MEMPHIS  
 "Elvis Tribute Artist"

**SPIRITUAL GROWTH CONFERENCE**  
**MARCH 4-5TH**  
 @ LAKEVIEW CAMP

Fasting is a physical practice to achieve a spiritual purpose – to overcome self-dependence in order to become more God-dependent drawing closer to God. John Wesley practiced fasting week throughout the year, not just during Lent, beginning by forgoing the evening meal on Thursday and not eating until after 3:00 PM on Friday. On a weekly basis I try to fast at least one meal. I find it helps to remind me that I must be more focused on God than anything else, including food. If you have not practiced fasting and if you are able\*, I invite you to join me (as I requested last July) in a season of prayer and fasting that God may have central place in our hearts and lives and Church.

Lovingly yours,  
**Rev. Ron Albertson**

*\*Please check with your doctor. This is only a voluntary suggestion for those whose health permits.*

## SING TO THE LORD A NEW SONG!

Sing to the Lord a new song as we prepare for Ash Wednesday and the Forty Days of Lent. Ash Wednesday is on March 9 this year. Think of our Lord and all He did for us. Remember His sacrifice—for us! Reverend Ron has been preaching on giving things up and on making New Year's Resolutions. What can you give up for Lent this year? Or what can you do for someone else to be a blessing in their lives?

Chancel Choir has already been working on special music for Lent, Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter. If you would like to join us for any of these services, talk to Doris Ann or come to Choir Practice on Sunday, March 13, at 5:00 P.M. We will sing on Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter. You may join us for all of these worship services or only one. If you would like to bring special music to 10:45 worship at any time, talk to Doris Ann. There are vacant spots in the choir loft for singers at any time. Chancel Choir meets at 4:00 P.M. on Sunday. If the special talent the Lord has given you is in music, join us.

### MARCH CHOIR REHURSAL TIMES:

Sunday, March 6 - 4PM

Sunday, March 13 - 4PM; EASTER CHOIR - 5PM

Sunday, March 20 - 4PM; EASTER CHOIR - 5PM

Sunday, March 27 - 4PM; EASTER CHOIR - 5PM

### RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Easy Cheesy Chicken Enchiladas by Amber Shelley

#### INGREDIENTS:

- Whatever you eat or drink, ...do it all for the glory of God!  
~Cor. 10:31
- 1 can - Cream of Chicken
  - 1 - 16 oz. loaf of Velveeta (cut into cubes)
  - 1 can - Rotel
  - 1 - 8 oz. tub of sour cream
  - 1 packet of Ranch Dressing mix
  - 2 cans - Chunk White Chicken
  - 1 package of tortillas (20 small or 10 large)

In large, microwavable bowl, combine all ingredients except the tortillas. Microwave until completely melted; Stirring frequently. When melted, fill each tortilla with cheesy chicken mix, roll up and place in casserole dish until full. Pour the remaining cheesy chicken mix on top and serve!

My grateful thanks go to Matt Oberhelman, Amber Shelley, Bobby Safley and Jan Bradford, and Chancel Choir for leading in worship as I recovered from surgery. I feel we are so blessed at LUMC to have such talented and special people to lead in worship.

As always, children will lead the procession of palms on Palm Sunday, April 17. We will be learning special songs and scripture for that Sunday—both services at the beginning.

Isn't this a great and awesome season in the Christian year? We will consciously walk with our Lord as He goes through His last days on earth. And then the agony of the Crucifixion followed by the incredible joy of the Resurrection! Wow!



Singing praises to God  
with Joy in my heart,  
Doris Ann

### 4F NEWS



The 4F club will meet Tuesday, March 2nd at 11:30. We will be eating at Doc's in McGregor since the weather prevented us from meeting there in February.

### Lorena UMC Emmaus News



On Thursday, March 3, the Emmaus Gathering is at Austin Avenue 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, March 28, 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

## Laura Edwards Christian Early Learning Center 2011 Spring Fundraiser

Saturday, March 5 from  
12-5pm @  
Austin Ave Methodist  
Church  
1300 Austin Ave  
FEATURING  
JOHNNY MEMPHIS  
"Elvis Tribute Artist"



### Member Bulletin Board:

LUMC Child Care Center is in need of a Large TV. Please contact the church office if you have a donation.

Leyla Anderson's address for cards & greetings is:  
Cornerstone Hospital  
4207 Burnet Rd,  
Rm.# 321  
Austin, TX 78756

Food Pantry is in need of donations! Especially peanut butter & crackers. Please bring your donations to the church office.

Gary & Nancy McCully's address is:  
133 Towne West  
not 113.  
THANKS!

Revised 2010 financial statements are ready! Please let Amber know if you need a copy.

Check out the link below to read about the new biography book about Felipe Reyna,  
**FROM JANITOR TO JUSTICE**  
<http://www.wacotrib.com/accesswaco/116498838.html>

## Thank You's

LUMC,

What a great group of people! I can hardly thank you all enough for the dinners, cards, visits and calls. It has actually been overwhelming! When we say this is our church family, we are not messing around...this is the best of family! Thank you all so much for your kind attention and I hope to see you soon.

Sharon Lavender

Dear Church Family,

Thank you all so much for supporting me with your prayers, visits, delicious food, cards, and your thoughtfulness throughout the course of my recent surgery and recovery. I am feeling better every day thanks to the Lord and to wonderful friends like yourselves. I am so blessed to be a part of this church!

In Christ,  
Melanie Melton

## Congratulations to the 2010 Lay Persons of the Year!

Adult - CURTIS POTEET

Youth/ Young Adult - KEVIN HUGHLETT

Covenant Keepers Ladies Sunday School Class will be starting a study of Max Lucado's book

### CURE FOR THE COMMON LIFE.

The study started Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>. We invite any interested lady to join us. Books can be purchased for \$6.99 at Mardels.

Please join us and "Cure Your Common Life"!

February 7, 2011

## Youth News

Dear Church Family,

It is with mixed emotions that I submit my resignation as your Youth Director that will be effective immediately. I have been struggling with this decision over the past week but after much prayer I truly feel God has given me an opportunity to do my life's passion for a career with a job that was offered to me last Tuesday. Words are hard to come by to fully describe the joy, pleasure and blessing that serving with this wonderful church family has been for me over the short, past two months. It has been an incredible joy.

This has, without question, been one of the most difficult things I have ever had to do. I genuinely ask for your prayers as I make this significant transition. I feel very nervous and overwhelmed. Yet, I take comfort in the fact that "when I am weak, He is strong." I have no doubt that God will continue to do incredible things in your Youth Ministry—you have fantastic students and a wonderful Minister in Rev Ron and staff. Even though it was short-lived thank you for allowing me to partner with each and everyone of you for the glory of God's kingdom. I will continue to pray for the Lorena United Methodist church family.

Warmest Regards,  
Meghan Mullens