

Vol. 2024

April 9, 2024

No. 15

Tom Mullins, Pastor

THE NEWSLETTER

Church 870-829-3178

Nina C. Guest, Secretary

MARVELL/LEXA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Tom's Cell 620-768-9919

marvellumc@gmail.com

www.umcmarvell.org

Pastor's Note

We experienced the total eclipse of the sun this week and I am always impressed with God's creative power. It is amazing to see what God does for us by placing the heavenly bodies in their respective places. Each object has its place in the vastness of space, which testifies to God's plan for us. Despite the small size of the moon compared to the sun, and the small size of humans against the vast backdrop of the universe, God still loves us and cares for us. We are nearing the end of the 2023-2024 school year, and I was reading a story about a boy who was in the 5th grade and loved to volunteer and help his favorite teacher. He loved doing things to help his teacher in the classroom. He was always volunteering to hand out papers or take notes to the school office. He asked to help an awful lot—but it made him feel special when he helped.

One day the class was doing math problems, and he finished his assignment. As he often did, he got up from his desk and asked if she had anything he could help with. Unfortunately, he picked a bad time because she was crouched next to the desk of another student helping her with the assignment. When he interrupted to ask if he could help, she explained she was helping his friend and that he needed to return to his seat. As he was walking back to his seat, she called his name and told him that if he wanted to help, he should go and help one of the other students who was having trouble completing his, or her work. He learned something that day that changed the way he saw his teacher. She was telling him that she did not need a helper—she was a helper. Her job was to make sure each student had the help he or she needed.

After that, he realized that the best way to be her helper was to do the same thing she was doing and look for ways he could be helpful to others. I tell you this story because "... whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and to give his life a ransom for many" (Mark 10:43-45). I am sharing this story above with you because something similar happened in Chapter 10 of Mark's Gospel. James and John come to Jesus and ask to be his special helpers. Jesus explains that he does not need helpers for himself—and that he is here to help others. Then he tells them that he wants them to do the same. This is an important lesson. I invite you to find opportunities this week to help others.

In Scripture, we are told by the apostle Paul, "My brothers and sisters, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:1-2). He goes on to say "He who rescued us ... will continue to rescue us; on him, we have set our hope that he will rescue us again, as you also join in helping us by your prayers, so that many may give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many (2 Corinthians 1:10-11). These are the promises of help we have from God, and God expects us to help others.

Peace and Blessings.

Pastor Tom Mullins

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Wednesday

5:00 p.m. Youth

Sunday

8:45 a.m. Lexa Worship

9:00 a.m. Marvell Sunday School

9:30 a.m. Choir Practice

10:00 a.m. Marvell Worship

Third Sunday of Easter

(Native American Ministries Sunday)

Luke 24:36-48

Jesus Appears

Lexa 64, 381, 548

Marvell 569, 451, 364

Liturgist Kimberly King

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

2024 Budget	\$210,585
Needed each week	4,050
Received this week	4,329
Building Fund	1,125
Holy Week	100
Lilies	120
Newsletter	20

ATTENDANCE

Lexa Worship	2
Marvell Sunday School	25
Marvell Worship	41 + 52

VISITORS

Iggy Verwey – Marvell/South Africa
Henne – Marvell/South Africa