

Dear Lillian UMC family,

Our February edition of the Lay Leader focuses on our Children's Department. Last year, Children's Director, Joyce Ellison, persevered in the midst of the uncharted waters of pandemic lockdowns and hurricanes, keeping the children's department active and vibrant. Although the COVID lockdowns forced the cancellation of the 2020 Vacation Bible School, the Fall brought renewed vigor into the program.

In October, the tradition of Trunk or Treat continued undeterred. Many LUMC members participated, opening their vehicle trunks to the children of Lillian for Halloween. This was a safe, and welcome outdoor event, enjoyed by all. The turnout was massive. COVID protocols were followed and children of all ages (especially Pastor Daniel) got lots of candy and had a great time. Without a doubt, the activity was beneficial to our local children, who, like their parents, have endured pandemic and hurricane. This was a tremendous success.

Again, the laity of the LUMC, under Joyce's leadership, stepped up and served the children of our community, in the name of Jesus. In December, Joyce led the children on a train ride at Wales West. They enjoyed hot chocolate, crafts and beautiful lights.

2021, promises to be another eventful year for our children. Safe activities are already planned for the new year. On Sunday, February 21, from 3:30pm until 5:30pm, a Valentine get together is scheduled promising food, fun and a Bible time. Please watch for further announcements in the bulletin.

Vacation Bible School is planned, as conditions permit. The upcoming dates will be announced. Your participation as volunteers has always made our VBS successful. Your continued help is necessary to ensure another meaningful campaign to impact children for Christ. Prayerfully consider how you can help this year.

Finally, Joyce has been faithfully assisting in our Drive-In service by helping collect the offering and distributing bulletins every Sunday. A brief word of appreciation from Sunday morning worshipers is in order. She serves our fellowship of believers with humility and grace. (But please keep it brief or our Sunday morning parking staff will get anxious. John Wade runs a tight ship!)

Next month we will focus on another aspect of ministry here at LUMC.

Your Servant in Christ,  
Perry Cunningham  
Lay Leader