



More Jesus, More Jesus, More Jesus

If you've been around me much this year, I hope you've heard me delivering a consistent message. Like any good minister, although I don't preach in standard pulpits much these days, my message has three points and a strong closing. My three points are as follows... More Jesus, More Jesus, More Jesus.

When I survey the current socio-political realities, marked extremism, and Covid pandemic, I am convinced now more than ever that accepting the invitation to "fix our eyes upon Jesus" in the midst of our personal and corporate efforts toward peace with God and each other has never been more critical. I believe fully, with all of my heart, mind and soul that More Jesus, More Jesus, More Jesus has to be the driving force behind our action if in fact we are to move toward LLF's mission and His high calling of "complete unity."

Consider Jesus' prayer in John 17: 20-23

"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."

LLF's mission

Through Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit we **CONNECT** leaders, **UNIFY** the body, and **MOBILIZE** people to **TRANSFORM** Lexington into a city for God.

In the midst of such uncertainty and turmoil, it may be hard to forecast the Heavenly reality of complete unity. Fortunately, we have a picture of it in Revelation 7, which I have been reading and re-reading to build my faith. I contend that this portion from verse nine should give us hope.

"A great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb."

And while I know this takes place someday, I am also calling us to believe and work toward it taking place today. The beauty of the Kingdom of God is that "here and now" we can take hold of the "there and then."

Again, my three points are... More Jesus, More Jesus, More Jesus. But I also promised a strong closing. So, let me end by saying... More Jesus.

Eric Geary
CEO



Creative Spirit!

We are forever grateful to the amazing Mercedes Harn! Not only for her hard work on this beautiful mural, but for her heart and passion for our kids and the city of Lexington. We love her creative spirit and infectious smile! Mrs. Harn is a dedicated Urban Impact volunteer, schoolteacher, artist, mother, wife, and friend! Be sure to come by and take a picture with our new mural located behind the Woodhill Community Center, highlighting our community garden.

FATHERHOOD INITIATIVE

The 2020 Way went Okay!

Despite what we've come to know as 2020, on June 20 FI and its committed partners were able to successfully pull off the 16th Annual Father's Day Family Celebration. The prayer breakfast that was shifted to virtual was well received and has gotten lots of reviews and positive feedback. The innovative "Daddy Drive Thru" event and resources fair saw great response as well, with an estimated 150 cars and more than 400 attending. We were glad to have several Lexington leaders join us at the event including Mayor Gorton, Chief Weathers, and Commissioner of Social Services Chris Ford. Thank you to all those that participated and the many folks who helped organize and make it happen. See you in 2021!



2020 Kentucky Fatherhood Summit

The Commonwealth Center for Fathers and Families is again partnering with the Cabinet for Health & Family Services, Department for Income Support, and others to organize and present the 2020 KENTUCKY FATHERHOOD SUMMIT on OCTOBER 27-29. Last year's inaugural summit was well-attended and highly regarded. This year's conference theme will be "E4 - Equity, Empowerment, Engagement & Economic Stability: Impacting Families & Communities through Positive Fathering." The conference will be virtual and is free to all that register. Attendees will hear from fathers and experts from across the state and nation. Fathers are strongly encouraged to attend to learn of their rights, responsibilities, and roles; as well as interact with agencies and policymakers (local, state, federal) which impact families and themselves as parents and providers.

Register online at:
<https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dis/Pages/fs.aspx>



PRAYER ROOM

Invitation to Worship with Us

"The Prayer Room exists to turn people into walking prayer rooms when they leave."

-Curt Vernon

Among the 10 groups currently meeting for intercession at The Prayer Room, the mid-week worship fellowship stands out – not only for its longevity but for the faithfulness of the attendees. Formed in 2015 by Curt Vernon and Tommy Green, now approximately 15 people gather from 12-1:30 every Wednesday.

We pray for the gift of repentance to flow throughout the Body of Christ and beyond, for community and cultural transformation, and for revival in Lexington. Part of the beauty of the gathering is the multi-generational expression of Jesus in the participants – people in their 70's worshipping together in close relationship with teenagers, college students, and younger adults.

Feel free to join us for Worship on Wednesday with Curt Vernon, weekly at 12pm. When we determine to give ourselves to the Lord and one another for the purposes of corporate prayer, He more fully establishes His rule and reign of love in our midst.

The Prayer Room is located at 1218 S. Broadway
 Lexington, KY 40504

2020 KENTUCKY FATHERHOOD Summit
Virtual Summit

E⁴ Equity
 Engagement
 Empowerment
 Economic Stability

Building Communities Through Positive Fathering

SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
OCT 27	OCT 28	OCT 29
8:30-3	8:30-3	8:30-12

CHFS, Department for Income Support · Presenting Partner
 Commonwealth Center for Fathers and Families · Organizing Partner
 REGISTER AT
<https://secure.kentucky.gov/farmservices/CHFS/FatherhoodSummit>

URBAN IMPACT



Summer Interns: Tyra, Amira, Dulce, Johnathan

Shifting Gears

During this past summer, our facilities were used much differently than what we were used to or designed for! It was announced on March 13th that school would be online only as our city was adjusting to the Coronavirus outbreak. Our team shifted gears immediately and began serving meals to our kids and some of their families. In many cases, school was the chance for students to get

a hot meal during the day and we wanted to ensure that they were eating and not suffering as a result of not going to school daily.

Over the course of 20 weeks, our Quarantine Team of staff, volunteers and high school summer interns turned our cafe into a food pantry. In addition to creating food bags for families, we also served lunch daily. With the help of partners like Culver's, Simply Done Invites, Food Chain, and many others, we served over 26,000 meals! An awesome team of volunteers delivered most of those meals to families all over Lexington.

As things around the world changed, we also had to adjust how we did summer camp in order to serve our neighborhood kids safely. We decided to do "Street Camps" and spend a week with a group of kids that were already together. These Street Camps were designed and implemented by our Summer Youth Workers. One of the major lessons they learned this summer was to be flexible. I think that lesson goes for all of us, as we now shift gears again and prepare our space to serve as a socially distanced online learning facility. Stay tuned for more next time!

AMACHI

Sweet Blessings

Sweet Blessings, one of our ministry partners since 2011, has worked with LLF, schools, and other entities to provide more than 15,000 birthday cakes for kids living in poverty, those with special needs or a life-threatening illness. Through the creative (and delicious!) work of this organization, thousands of children in the Bluegrass have been blessed by receiving unforgettable, one-of-a-kind birthday cakes. Founder Ashley Gann has worked tirelessly along with her board of directors and many volunteer bakers and decorators. Through this ministry, many young people who might not have had a birthday celebration received a special cake along with the message that they are loved, valued, and treasured. In May of this year, Sweet Blessings baked its final cake and had a final birthday celebration. As a partner, we want to celebrate all of the joy, hope, and love that Sweet Blessings has gifted to the children of our community over the past nine years! While they will no longer be serving Central Kentucky as an organization, the impact they have left will no doubt be felt for many years to come. We are so thankful to God for the opportunity to have been a partner and for hundreds of our LLF young people to have received cakes.



Ashley Gann

As Sweet Blessings came to the decision that ceasing operations was what was best, they continued in their spirit of joyful giving and generosity. Sweet Blessings began an endowment several years ago and the board decided to dedicate that to LLF's Amachi program. This gift was unexpected, lavish in generosity, and beautiful in spirit. We want to take this opportunity to thank Ashley and Sweet Blessings for serving so many of our kids over the past decade, and for this continued support of Amachi and its children for years to come!



THANK YOU for your support to LLF during these very challenging times. We continue to covet your prayers and support. To make a gift to LLF please go to [LEXLF.ORG/GIVE](https://lexlf.org/give)

Help LLF Win \$150,000!
Please **VOTE** Nov 7-21!



LEXINGTON LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION



- Download the Chick-fil-A app
- Create an account
- Click on Rewards at the bottom of the screen
- Click on News at the top of the screen
- Click on Vote Now
- Select Atlantic Region
- Vote for Lexington Leadership Foundation
- SHARE ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

*** voting closes on 11/21/20; only one vote per email address*

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

There are many ways to get involved volunteering during this time. Amachi mentor recruitment is on-going, Fatherhood Initiative is actively seeking class facilitators, and Urban Impact is seeking hot lunch providers for a small group of students using our Center for online learning.

For more information about volunteering please email volunteer@lexlf.org or call our office at 859-277-3087.