



## *A Message from our CEO*

It was a Friday morning. I pulled into the parking lot where my friend and I were meeting to carpool to the airport for a trip we were taking to visit another ministry. I saw his car and pulled up next to him. Before I could even open my door to get out and grab my luggage to join him, I could hear music blasting from his vehicle. It was soooo loud!

So, I got my luggage and went to open the passenger door. When I got in, I could clearly make out that it was Kool and the Gang, singing “Celebration.” And my friend was singing at the top of his lungs. Mind you he is normally conservative in the way he handles himself. I, on the other hand, am karaoke waiting to happen. So, of course, I join in the fun. He cranked it up even more and we started the trip with “Celebrate good times, come on!”

When the song ended, he told me that he and some friends were investing in song rights. And that “Celebration” was part of the investment portfolio. Now the loud music coming from his car and our impromptu duet made sense!

So, what does that have to do with this newsletter?

Well, I admittedly know very little about purchasing the rights to songs. And I didn’t explore the concept further with my friend. However, the other day, as our communications team relayed the stories that you’ll find in this newsletter to me, I heard clearly that celebration was the theme. As I thought more about what I would try to convey in this article, the carpool karaoke with my friend popped into my mind. And it hit me. As a follower of Jesus, because he paid the price to purchase the rights to true celebration, I have been afforded the right to “Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say rejoice!” (Philippians 4:4)

So, as you read these incredible stories of the leaders involved in our ministry, I’d ask you to join in and sing along with us because we have been given the rights to “Celebrate!”

Peace,  
Eric Geary *CEO*



We want to recognize Blake Carlson and the team at Lexus of Lexington for their continued support of our work in the community. Lexus of Lexington recently brought glowing smiles to the faces of youth in the Woodhill neighborhood by purchasing 60 pairs of indoor soccer shoes for every young person that regularly plays futsal at our Woodhill Community Center gym. This contribution ensures that our youth have the proper equipment to thrive while developing their skills and love for the game, while simultaneously reminding them that they are valuable and worthy of an investment. We celebrate the generosity of Lexus of Lexington and the joy they brought our young people!

## URBAN IMPACT

### *Summer Arts Return to Woodhill*

In the wake of two summers of Covid-19 shutdowns, Urban Impact reignited an exciting partnership with amazing teachers from Breckenridge and Lansdowne Elementary schools to host Summer Arts Camp at Woodhill Community Center. Since its inception in 2011, the purpose of Arts Camp has been to create opportunities and avenues for young people to express themselves and build relationships among peers, volunteers, and our Urban Impact Staff. (In fact, some campers from the early years loved these relationships so much that they are now summer camp interns with us!)

Woodhill Community Center is always buzzing, but it really came alive when nearly 70 students from each school

came to develop their creative talents at Arts Camp. They painted, papier-mâché, danced, jammed on djembes, sang, created street art, and even wrote and performed theater skits. On the last day of Arts Camp, parents, friends and families were invited to celebrate the student's work during an Art Showcase, which included live dance, music, and skit performances to go along with displays of all the incredible artwork students had created throughout the week. During the Showcase, students put their hearts into entertaining the community — even if that meant

performing to the beat of their own drum!

After Summer Arts Camp came to a close, Urban Impact wasted no time before bringing in kids for our Academy Camp. At Academy Camp, our Woodhill community kids experienced the love of Jesus as they learned life skills, developed their leadership skills, and enjoyed a summer full of fun, faith, and friendship.



### *Back 2 School Rally*

We are blessed to be a part of such a compassionate community. During our Back 2 School Rally, over 300 children in our neighborhood received a backpack full of school supplies! Thank you to Crossroads Church, Southland Christian Church, and community donors for your generosity and help. This would not have been possible without you!

## Be a Mentor!

Email [VOLUNTEER@LEXLF.ORG](mailto:VOLUNTEER@LEXLF.ORG) for more information.

## AMACHI

### *Celebrating Graduates*



And while our staff prepares them for celebrations during the orientation process, nothing compares to the real thing.

Many of our Amachi seniors have been paired with their mentors for several years, some from elementary school through high school. Can you imagine what these mentors have celebrated with their mentees? Birthdays, learning new skills, making the school honor roll, improving grades, earning places on school teams, winning games, and so much more.

God is a God of celebrations. Encountering this fact is inescapable when reading through the scriptures. From festivals and weddings to feasts and worship gatherings, God's people have a rich history of celebrating. As people of faith and good will mentoring children of promise, the tradition of celebrating what God is doing in and through his people continues with Amachi. This time of year, mentors find themselves long past where they were when they filled out their initial application to become a mentor.

In May, we reflected on all these moments while celebrating the incredible milestone of graduating high school. Mentors were acknowledged for their commitment and dedication to their mentees, and mentees were honored for their accomplishments. In addition, each young person's future ambitions were shared and celebrated. Amachi students are now beginning their careers, continuing their education at ECU and BCTC, and even joining the AirForce.

## FATHERHOOD INITIATIVE

### *Father's Day Family Celebration*



After months of planning and countless community collaborations, the 18th Annual Father's Day Family Celebration was held on June 18th — and what a beautiful day it was for THE FATHER! The sunny Summer Saturday morning started rightly with scripture and strong words of encouragement, exalting the name of Jesus, during the Men's Prayer Breakfast at First African Baptist Church on Price Rd. While there, over 125 people gathered from

30 different congregations to eat, pray and worship before marching together as brothers and sisters united in Kingdom mission to serve THE LORD!

Upon entering Douglass Park, the marchers were warmly greeted and recognized by a vibrant community full of family resources, kids' activities, health and wellness resources, and of course lots of prize giveaways and a free cookout lunch. Father-Family photos were in full swing, and the cotton candy, popcorn, and free ice cream were flowing! In all, over 45 community agencies and resources were present. All made possible thanks to the 65 volunteers that came together for setup,



cleanup, and everything in between. Most excitingly, throughout the entire three-hour event, church leaders from varying congregations came together to pray with folks in the community at the Prayer Tent. It was an exemplary display of our core mission to Connect, Unify, and Mobilize The Body of Christ, all while promoting the father!

The Fatherhood Team is so thankful for how our community and volunteers came together to serve, support, and recognize the value of Fatherhood in our homes, businesses, schools, congregations, and government and we are already looking forward to next year's celebration!



### *Thank You, Caddie127!*

A special thank you to Caddie127 and the PGA Barbasol Championship! Caddie127 (the philanthropic arm of the Barbasol Championship) exists to empower women and children in our city. We were honored to be chosen as one of the six community organizations Caddie 127 invested in this year. Check out [caddie127.org](http://caddie127.org) for more info.

## PRAYER ROOM

### *City-Wide Prayer & Worship*

The Prayer Room, in partnership with a variety of other ministries, recently launched “40 Days of Prayer & Fasting for the Body of Christ in Lexington.” In an ongoing effort to promote unity in the city-wide Church, worship and intercession gatherings were hosted at multiple sites, attended by people from over 25 congregations. Additionally, to help guide and inform the journey, LLF produced a booklet comprised of 40 revival-oriented prayers written by local leaders from the pastoral and marketplace communities.

As a partial result of seeking God through prayer and fasting, the Lord appears to be continually aligning hearts in order for the fullest possible dimensions of prayer to emerge in our city. For instance, LLF is currently in discussion with various prayer ministries throughout the region to dream about ways in which we can partner to work toward a 24/7 expression of intercessory worship in Lexington.

If you would like to receive a digital copy of the prayer booklet, or if you have thoughts or suggestions for the prayer movement in Lexington, please email [tgreen@lexlf.org](mailto:tgreen@lexlf.org).





Become a monthly donor and support the Kingdom work happening in our city. To give, please visit [LEXLF.ORG/GIVE](https://lexlf.org/give)

**WOODHILL INTERNATIONAL MARKET**  
June 2nd- November 17th | Every Other Thursday | 5-7 PM | 422 Codell Dr. Lexington, KY 40509

**Farm Fresh Produce For All!**  
*All shares are available to purchase on a sliding scale to ensure everyone has access to fresh and affordable produce.*

**PICK YOUR PRICE**

<b>GREAT VALUE</b> <b>\$12</b> One share of fresh produce: 8-10 varieties of delicious vegetables at an affordable price.	<b>GREAT VALUE</b> <b>\$25</b> One share of fresh produce: 8-10 varieties of delicious vegetables at an affordable price.	<b>SHARE THE LOVE</b> <b>\$40</b> One share of fresh produce: 8-10 varieties of delicious vegetables and your share supports a family facing food insecurity.
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The International Woodhill Market will NEVER ask you to document your income to receive food. We believe that food justice is impossible without trust.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS: 2022 MARKET DATES**

June 2nd | June 16th | June 30th | July 14th | July 28th | August 11th | August 25th | September 8th | September 22nd | October 6th | October 20th | November 3rd | November 17th

**ORDER YOUR SHARE AT:**  
[LEXLF.ORG/WOODHILL-INTERNATIONAL-MARKET](https://lexlf.org/woodhill-international-market)

**WANT TO GET INVOLVED?**

Is God stirring something within you that is encouraging you to get involved in creating Kingdom impact in our city? If you would like to learn more about how to activate your passions and your faith this summer and fall, please email [volunteer@lexlf.org](mailto:volunteer@lexlf.org) or give us a call at 859-277-3087. We would love to have a conversation with you, listen to what it is you're passionate about, and see where God takes it from there.