

Lenexa United Methodist Church Historical Timeline

1856, Oct. 23	The Kansas and Nebraska Conference was organized.
1866, March	The circuit eventually known as the Lenexa Circuit was established.
1869, March	Rev. Amos Avery was appointed preacher in charge of the seven-appointment circuit.
1869, July 18	A class of five female members was organized in Lenexa, which made eight appointments on the circuit.
1870, Spring	Pledges were sought for the building of a parsonage in Lenexa.
1870, May 31	The Lenexa Society of the Methodist–Episcopal Church was incorporated.
1870, Oct. 3	The trustees for the Methodist Episcopal Church at Lenexa acquired the first one-half acre of land at Third & Hickory (later 91st Terrace & Caenen Lake Road).
1870, November 1878	Rev. G. R. Houts moved into the parsonage. The first church building was erected north of the parsonage for \$1,200.
1891–1895	The Lenexa Camp Meetings were held in Roswell Allen’s Grove.
1899	The Lenexa Methodist Episcopal Ladies Aid Society was organized.
1910, October	Rev. James A. Davies moved into the new two-story brick parsonage. It was built with lumber from the old Asbury church and \$1,800 in cash, and was valued at \$4,000.
1914, Mar. 18	The new Kansas Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church was established.
1914, March	The Lenexa charge became a station — meaning there were no longer multiple churches on the circuit.
1924, Feb. 22	The existing church building was moved to the back of the lot to make room for the construction of a new building.
1925, Nov. 15	The new church building, which included the current sanctuary, was dedicated. It was built at a cost of \$25,000 with much volunteer labor, and was valued at \$35,000.
1939, May 10	The Methodist Church was formed by the merger of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and the Methodist Protestant Church.
1943, May 16	Burning of the mortgage on the new church building was held.
1946, March 31	Boy Scout Troop 186 was chartered by the Lenexa Methodist Church.
1951	Rev. Charles Schneeberger was appointed as the church’s first full-time pastor.
1956, Jan. 5	Volume 1, Issue 1 of the Methodist Messenger was published.
1956, June 24	The Church School and Fellowship Hall (later Schneeberger) Addition was opened. Cost: \$60,000.
1964	A new parsonage was purchased at 12917 W 96th Street for \$19,000.
1968, April 23	The United Methodist Church was created by joining the Evangelical United Brethren Church and the Methodist Church.
1969, Feb. 23	The cornerstone of the new addition with a time capsule placed inside was laid.
1969, Oct. 5	Celebrated the centennial of the church and consecrated the new addition, which included offices, classrooms, library, new main entrance and major remodeling of the sanctuary. Cost of the new addition: \$225,000.
Circa 1975	Spectrum Sunday school class began.
1977	Pathfinders Sunday school class began.
1979, September	Three octaves of handbells were purchased, and the first bell choir was formed.

Lenexa United Methodist Church Historical Timeline (continued)

1981, Sept. 27	The Opus 2020 Reuter pipe organ was dedicated. Cost: \$49,320.
1983, May	Members of Lenexa UMC served their first meal at St. Mary's Food Kitchen.
1984	The Mother's Day Out program began.
1985	The LUMC Preschool began. (The church had previously housed a privately run preschool.)
1986	The summer "Worship in the Park" began.
1989	The PEANUTS Workcamp began.
1990, March 11	The corner addition, which included the elevator, music room, Wesley room and loft, was consecrated. Cost, including furnishings and other repairs and renovations: \$641,000.
1991	Rev. Evelyn Fisher was appointed as the first woman Senior Pastor.
1992	The Salty PEANUTS began.
1999	The Green PEANUTS began.
1999, June	Kid's Kingdom, a rotational model Sunday School for children, began.
2004, August	Heavenly Half Hour began.
2007	The Mixed Nuts began.
2009, June	Foundations Sunday school class began.
2009, September	Dashers Sunday school class began.
2009, Nov. 8	Celebrated the 140th Anniversary of the church and consecrated the new Education Building. Cost of the new Education Building: \$3.2 million.
2013, Fall	The sponsorship of a Hillcrest Transitional Housing apartment began.
2014, Jan. 1	The Great Plains Conference was formed, which united the Kansas East, Kansas West, and Nebraska conferences.
2015	Pulled Pork Paradise, now Dinner's on Us, began.
2019, June 30	Celebrated the 150th Anniversary of the Lenexa United Methodist Church.
2019, July 1	Rev. Ezekiel Koech was appointed pastor.
2019, November	YAC: Young Adult Conversations began.
2020, Mar. 22	The beginning of livestream worship only as in-person worship was suspended because of the COVID-19 pandemic.
2020, June 21	In-person worship resumed with safety protocols in place.
2020, Nov. 22	In-person worship was suspended again on recommendation of the Great Plains Conference Bishop as the COVID-19 pandemic was in a critical state.
2020, December	The final payment on the new Education Building loan was made.
2021, Feb. 21	In-person worship resumed with safety protocols in place.
2021, Oct. 31	The burning of the mortgage for the Education Building was celebrated.
2022, January	Received the Certificate of Occupancy for the newly renovated kitchen. Cost: \$377,000.
2022, May 1	The new kitchen was formally opened.