



The VISITOR

A monthly publication of St. Luke's United Methodist Church - Kilgore, Texas

LOVE GOD

LIVE HIS WORD

SHARE HIS GRACE

January 2020

Issue 1

BACK TO THE BIBLE

January Sermon Series

January is a great time of year to get back to the basics. The holidays have come and gone and everything seems to be returning to normal. It is a great time to reevaluate the things that matter and the new things we hope to accomplish during the new year. Join us in worship during January as we get back to the basics by exploring the Bible.

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Did You Know?

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Do you have news you would like
to share with the church family?

Submit your items to be
considered for the next
newsletter by email.

stlukesumc@stlukeskilgore.com

UMCOR TRIP

May 17-22, 2020

\$25.00 (non-refundable) application fee - \$250.00 for the week.

The mission team is planning a trip to the United Methodist Mission Depot in Baldwin, LA. This includes food, a little work, lots of fun and meeting new people. Call/Text Barbara Francisco at (903)918-6797 if you are interested in volunteering.

USHERS/GREETERS NEEDED

Often times, the first person a visitor meets is an usher or greeter and upon that experience they will judge the entire ministry of the church. The ministry of ushering & greeting is to greet people with a smile, assist them in finding a seat, and answer any questions they might have. Greeting, seating, taking the offering, and distributing information are some of the tasks that are involved, but the ministry of the usher goes much beyond that. We are currently preparing the usher and greeter schedules for 2020. If you are interested in serving in this ministry please contact the appropriate coordinator or the church office.

8:30am Worship Usher Coordinators - Kathy Brown & Chet Garner

10:30am Worship Usher Coordinators - Bill Bryant & Michael Barnard

Greeters - Richelle Rathbun



STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

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**And whatever you do, whether in word or deed,
do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving
thanks to God the Father through him.
Colossians 3:17**

The last several months around my house have been rather busy. Not including the Thanksgiving Holiday and the impending Christmas season, my family and I have welcomed Adalynn, spent a week in NICU, acclimated to having an infant in the house again, passed around various illnesses and ailments as well as trying to juggle the ordinary everyday demands of life. Busy might be an understatement when trying to describe it.

But even with all the busyness, I am incredibly grateful to each and every one of you. Throughout everything we have had numerous phone calls, text messages, warm meals, visits, gifts, clothing and so much more that help to remind us that we are not in this journey alone. There was rarely a day that we have not been reminded that we are being kept in your prayers and thoughts.

Sabrina and I want you to know just how deeply grateful and thankful we are to be a part of St. Luke's and for everything that our church family has done for us during these last few months. From the bottom of our hearts 'thank you.'

BOARD OF STEWARDS

January will mark the first new class on the Board of Stewards. The nominations team spent time during the end of the year working to cultivate new leaders to be a part of the church leadership and after much time and prayer added 5 new members.

Wendell Holcombe

Lydia Rathbun

Garry Mount

Keith Hooks

Karen Wilson

Each of these members has agreed to serve on the Board of Stewards and help lead the church in the years to come. We will have a time in worship on January 12, to recognize the new members of the Board and also to pray over all of the members. You are also encouraged to attend the Board of Steward Meetings to better understand the work that they are undertaking. The Board typically meets on the third Monday of the month at 6:00pm, and has time at the beginning of the meeting for questions. If you have any questions about the members of the Board or how everything works, please let me know.

Respectfully and thankfully,

Rev. Benjamin Bagley

Sr. Pastor

ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL

During January, the older children's theme is about the connection between knowledge and God's character, as shown through God's big story. Knowledge is learning something new so you can be better at whatever you do.

Memory Verse

"The LORD gives wisdom. Knowledge and understanding come from his mouth."
Proverbs 2:6 (NIRV)

Life Application

Knowledge: Learning something new so you can be better at whatever you do.



CHILDREN'S & JUNIOR CHOIRS CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

Didn't the kids sound great in the Christmas musical? The Cherub Choir started off the night with their performance of "Room Around the Manger", with Lydia Rathbun helping out as the narrator, and the Hope And Angel Tones led us through "Christmas in Reverse". Big THANK YOU to all of the parents and volunteers that helped the evening run smoothly, from setting up the stage and sets, corralling kids, and putting everything away. We could not have done it without you.

MYMU

Methodist Youth Moving Up (4th-5th Grade) Sunday, January 19, 1:30pm-4:30pm

We will be going to Air U Trampoline Park in Longview. Cost \$20. Non-slip, trampoline socks are required. You can bring your own non-slip, trampoline socks or purchase a new pair there for \$2. All jumpers are required to complete an Air U waiver. Please go online and fill this out before your child goes.

JANUARY CHILDREN'S EVENTS

- 3 **Parents Night Out** (6pm)
- 8 **Wonderful Wednesdays Resume**
(3:15pm-7:00pm)
- 19 **MYMU: Air U** (1:30pm-4:30pm)

JANUARY MDO EVENTS

- 8 **Mother's Day Out Resumes**
- 20 **MDO Closed in observance of
Martin Luther King Jr. Day**



89TH ANNUAL KILGORE CHRISTMAS PARADE

St. Luke's was awarded 3rd place for "best use of theme by a group" in the Annual Kilgore Christmas Parade. Huge thank you to Lydia Rathbun, Amber & Will Watkins, and Brittney Copeland for all your hard work on the float.



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers that helped make this event a success. The kitchen crew worked hard to make sure we had lots of pancakes and bacon for breakfast, workers helped set-up and decorate, Santa and Mrs. Claus came; it was amazing.

MOTHER'S DAY OUT

December was a short but busy month for MDO. The three and four year old classes sang Christmas carols at Hilltoppers and at Citizen's Bank. We will be closed for Christmas Break December 19-January 7th. Classes will resume on Wednesday, January 8th. We will be closed on Monday, January 20th in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. day. Have a wonderful, safe Christmas holiday!

Misty Shipman

MDO Director



PRE-SCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL

For our preschoolers, it's time for a Beach Party—sand, sun, and a whole lot of fun! Jesus spent a great deal of time on or near the beach. In fact, He performed MANY miracles near the water. So, the beach is the perfect environment for our preschoolers to learn that Jesus can do anything. Our preschoolers learned that God gave us Jesus in December, and now they will learn that because Jesus is God's Son, He can do anything! With God, all things are possible! Throughout their lives, children will encounter things they can't do. But, in Jesus, they have a friend who can do it all. There is no better friend than Jesus, and He wants to be our friend forever.

Bottom Line

Jesus can do anything.

Memory Verse

"With God all things are possible."

Matthew 19:26, NIV



C.L. SHEP BRIDGE WORSHIP BAND DJ VOW
Special Guest Speakers
 Shy Speaks - Jason Earls

Join your friends all over East Texas at THE RISE 2020 on Jan 30 - Feb 2. This will be an amazing weekend of worship, speakers, music, games and fun! Registration forms are in the church gym. We also have opportunities for adults to help during this weekend. We will be staying Friday and Saturday night in the gym. Because of this, we need male chaperones. You are welcome to join us for all of the sessions or just come from 10pm-7am to chaperone. Please contact either Niki or Misty for more information.

There is also a **ROOTED IN THE RISE PARENT CONFERENCE**. Cost is \$30 per ticket but does not include a shirt. It gives parents the access to parent workshops Thursday, Friday, and Saturday while the students are at their sessions. These parent sessions are led by LeTourneau University professors specializing in psychology, counseling, and Christian ministry.

HOSTED BY: **LETOURNEAU UNIVERSITY** AND **THE PASSAGE INSTITUTE**

WWW.EASTTEXASRISE.COM

THURSDAY:
MELANIE ROUDKOVSKI, PH.D., LPC-S
 "WHAT IS YOUR TEENS FAVORITE COLOR?"

FRIDAY:
DEENA SHELTON, PH.D., LPC-S
 "NAVIGATING PUBERTY"

SATURDAY:
MICHAEL MAURIELLO, PH.D.
 AM- "WEDNESDAY NIGHT IS NOT ENOUGH"
 PM- "ASSEMBLE THE LEAGUE"

JR HIGH YOUTH

This month, the Jr High series is called "Follow". We will discuss that following Jesus means having a relationship with Him, following Jesus starts with a step, and following Jesus means sharing Him with others. Our memory verse is "I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD. WHOEVER FOLLOWS ME WILL NEVER WALK IN DARKNESS, BUT WILL HAVE THE LIGHT OF LIFE." JOHN 8:12B NIV

SR HIGH YOUTH

The Chase

We're all chasing something in life. However, what we may not realize is that when we choose to chase one thing, it often means we have to stop chasing something else. The same is true when it comes to following Jesus. Sometimes we can get so bogged down in trying to do all the right things—serving, reading our Bibles, or praying—that we forget what our faith is really all about: a relationship with Jesus. In other words, sometimes we end up chasing performance instead of chasing Jesus. That's why in this series, we're talking about how Jesus gives us a clear and simple objective in our faith: just be close with Him.



YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY

The youth had a great time at Air U and a movie for their Christmas celebration.

CHRISMON LIST

Thank you everyone that purchased Chrismon's in honor or memory of a loved one.

In Honor Of.....Given By	
Brenda Culpepper & Family.....	Pat Haynes
Kashton & Mackiney Haynes.....	Pat Haynes
Pat Haynes & Family.....	Pat Haynes
Kara Hood & family.....	Wilbur & Kay Yates
Alyssa Johnson.....	Rhett & Anna Rohde
Kristin Marquardt & family.....	Wilbur & Kay Yates
Mack & Toby Monday.....	a friend
Erin Rohde.....	Rhett & Anna Rohde
Sarah Rohde.....	Rhett & Anna Rohde
Brantley Slayton.....	Donna Reaves
Shana Sutcliffe.....	Rhett & Anna Rohde
Mike Tate & family.....	Joy Tate
Melinda Tate Willbanks & Family.....	Joy Tate
In Memory Of.....Given By	
John Banner.....	Paul & Judy Banner
Sidney Branson.....	Carla Branson
Celia Smith & Halton Brewer.....	Polly Greene
Noah Chism.....	The Chism Family
Molly Courtney.....	Leon & Ludie Courtney
Chris Dukes.....	Pat Haynes
James Elms.....	Agnes Oliver
Lois Emerson.....	Barbara Francisco
Buck & Judy Frederick.....	April Watson & Cindy Frederick
Cecil & Frances Freeman.....	Joy Tate
Dorothy Geese.....	Cathy Geese
Gramps & Gigi Geese.....	Kyleigh & Alyssa Lewis
Wayne Geese.....	Cathy Geese
Wayne & Dorothy Geese.....	Jerry & Peggy Medford
Alta Harber.....	Wilbur & Kay Yates
Jimmy Haynes.....	Pat Haynes
Mike Haynes.....	Pat Haynes
Luddie & Zdrich Mullinax.....	Pat Haynes
Emma & Woodrow Hunt.....	Pat Haynes
Marty Jones.....	George & Sue Jones
Mallorie McCann.....	Jim & Sharon McCann
Toots & Hugh McKinley.....	Kay McKinley
Steve Myers.....	Barbara Francisco
Arthur Oliver.....	Agnes Oliver
Our Parents.....	Wilbur & Kay Yates
Sue Steele.....	Celia Mooney
Wes Williams.....	Mark Hatfield
Wilbur & Inda Yates.....	Wilbur & Kay Yates
Bob Zeller.....	Pat & Art Morchat
Char & Russ Zeller.....	Pat & Art Morchat

7 CALENDAR

RECURRING WEEKLY:

Sunday

8:30am Arise Worship (Sanctuary*)
9:30am Sunday School*
10:30am Traditional Worship (Sanctuary*)
1:00pm Handbell Rehearsal
(Handbell Room)

Monday

9:00am-9:45am
Exercise (Family Center)
9:00am-2:00pm
Mother's Day Out

Wednesday

9:00am-9:45am
Exercise (Family Center)
3:15pm Children's & Junior Choir
Youth Activities
5:15pm Dinner
6:00pm Children's Bible Study
Confirmation Bible Study
Youth Bible Study
Adult Bible Study
Choir Rehearsal
Prayer Shawl Group

Thursday

11:45am Lunchtime Bible Study,
(Family Center)
12:30pm Prayer Team (Church Office)
6:30pm Arise Band Rehearsal

Friday

9:00am-9:45am Exercise (Family Center)

* Nursery provided for this event.

** Nursery can be arranged for this event.
Call Niki Chowdhury, 903-984-3576.

A complete schedule of events including
scouts and private events can be found on
our website, stlukeskilgore.com.

ALSO SCHEDULED...

Wednesday, January 1

Happy New Year!
Office Closed

Friday, January 3

6:00pm-10:00pm Parents Night Out (**Activity Center**)

Sunday, January 5

Epiphany Sunday
2:00pm Communion with our Shut-ins

Monday, January 6

6:00pm Just Among Moms (**Conference Room**)

Tuesday, January 7

10:00am Just Among Moms (**Family Center**)
10:30am UMW Morning Cir. (**Parlor**)
6:00pm UMW Pam Besser Cir. (**Parlor**)
6:30pm Worship Team (**Conference Room**)

Wednesday, January 8

All Wednesday Activities Resume

Friday, January 10

6:00pm Holy Huddlers at The Jalapeno Tree, Kilgore

Sunday, January 12

11:30am Board of Stewards Training (**Family Center**)

Monday, January 13

6:00pm Pumpkin Patch Team Meeting (**Parlor**)

Tuesday, January 14

6:00pm Mission Team Meeting (**Conference Room**)

Monday, January 20

6:00pm Board of Stewards Meeting (**Parlor**)

Tuesday, January 21

10:00am Just Among Moms (**Family Center**)

Thursday, January 23

6:00pm Town Hall Meeting (**Knowles Chapel**)

Friday, January 24

6:00pm Holy Huddlers at Dairy Queen, White Oak

Sunday, January 26

4:30pm Soups On-Gumbo Contest and Dinner (**Family Center**)

Thursday, January 30-Sunday, February 2

The RISE Youth Conference

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Praying for our St. Luke's Family.

Please say a prayer for our church family on their special birthday. **If we missed your date, please call the church office (903-984-3576).**

January 2

Ed Aguilar
Danny Harrison

January 3

Scott Clark
Shelia Cross

January 6

John Lewis
Gretchen McDaniel

January 7

Jennifer Powell

January 8

Bob Lindley

January 9

Michael Holland
Kay McKinley
William Watkins
Nathan Watson

January 11

Paul Banner
Ben Hatfield
Michael McClammy

January 12

E.J. Chowdhury

January 13

Maurine Witt

January 14

Lorelai Aguilar

January 15

Sam Holley

January 16

Tracey Varvel

January 17

Leslie Bennett
Karen Lynch
Andrea McGilvray

January 19

Amanda Gillen-Hall
Debra Maloch

January 20

Karsen Davis
Peggy Ferebee

January 21

Kyleigh Lewis
Trey Rathbun

January 23

Kyler Tinkler

January 25

Clay Mooney

January 26

Ginny Anderson
Paul Johnston
Cynthia Stebbins

January 27

Bill Ridder

January 29

Celia Mooney

January 30

Mikki Ellis
Anna Tryon

January 31

Joe Chism

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Name

Date

Dan & Janel Brown	Jan 5, 1963
Scott & Cynthia Stebbins	Jan 5, 2007
Michael & Donna Barnard	Jan 7, 2005
Robert & Sherry Ellis	Jan 7, 1980
Lefty & Cecilia Mitchell	Jan 7, 1967
Paul & Laura Johnston	Jan 11, 2014
Keith & Cynthia Mathis	Jan 15, 2006
E.J. & Niki Chowdhury	Jan 17, 1998
Michael & Heather Holland	Jan 25, 2002
Jeff & Margo Davis	Jan 27, 1990
Dean & Kathe Miller	Jan 30, 1965
David & Annette Morgan	Jan 31, 1981

WEEKLY DINNER MENUS

Dinner is served at 5:15pm every Wednesday.
Meals are \$2 for children and \$5 for 12 years and up.
Make plans to join us.

January 8

Ground Beef Tacos, Nachos, Salad, Dessert, & Drink

January 15

Chicken Fettucine Alfredo, Steamed Broccoli,
Garlic Bread, Dessert, & Drink

January 22

Loaded Baked Potatoes, Dessert, & Drink

January 29

Chicken Nuggets, Mac & Cheese, Salad, Dessert, & Drink

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Your generosity throughout the year allows us to do great ministries in the community. As we make our way into a new year, we have a new way for you to view your contributions. If you are interested in having the ability to access this information, please contact Jennifer in the church office.

9 UPCOMING EVENTS

MISSION Weekend FEBRUARY 22 & 23, 2020

Share His Grace is an important part of who we are at St. Luke's UMC. There is no better way to be a part of sharing God's grace than by joining with us during mission weekend. On Saturday we will have mission projects for people of all ages to participate in. On Sunday we will celebrate all of the mission work both past, present and future in worship and at a luncheon following the service. Make sure to put this weekend on your calendar.

FEBRUARY EVENTS

- 9 Scout Sunday
- Spring Bible Study (February 9-March 8)
- 22 Serve Day (9:00am-12:00pm)
- 23 Mission Sunday
- 26 Ash Wednesday
- Ashes At Whataburger (7:00am)
- Ash Wednesday Worship (6:00pm)

SPRING SHORT-TERM BIBLE STUDY

Starting on February 9th we will be starting our 5-Week Bible Study on Sunday afternoons at 4:00 pm. There will be a Bible Study time for children, youth and adults. Put this study on your calendar and stay tuned for more information about the topics of each study.

FEBRUARY SERMON SERIES

Outcast

Throughout scripture, there are people that seem to always be on the outside. It doesn't matter what is going on, there are always outcasts in almost every story. Sometimes they are tax collectors, Samaritans, women or just people that are sick but what they have in common is that they are pushed to the side by society. Join us in February as we don't just look at the outcast, but how Jesus calls us to love those that are commonly cast aside.

O U T C A S T



**The
VISITOR**

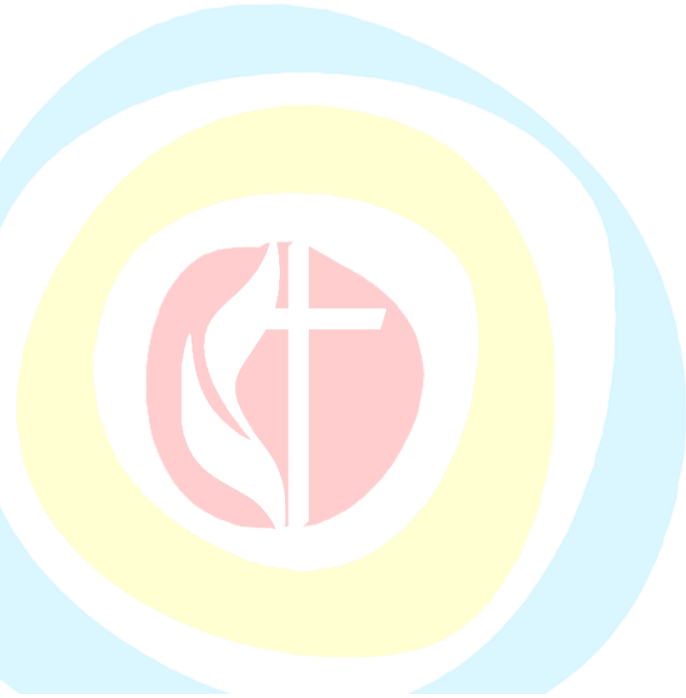
"The Visitor" Published Monthly by:
St. Luke's United Methodist Church
401 E. Main St., Kilgore, TX 75662-5905

SUNDAY SERVICES:

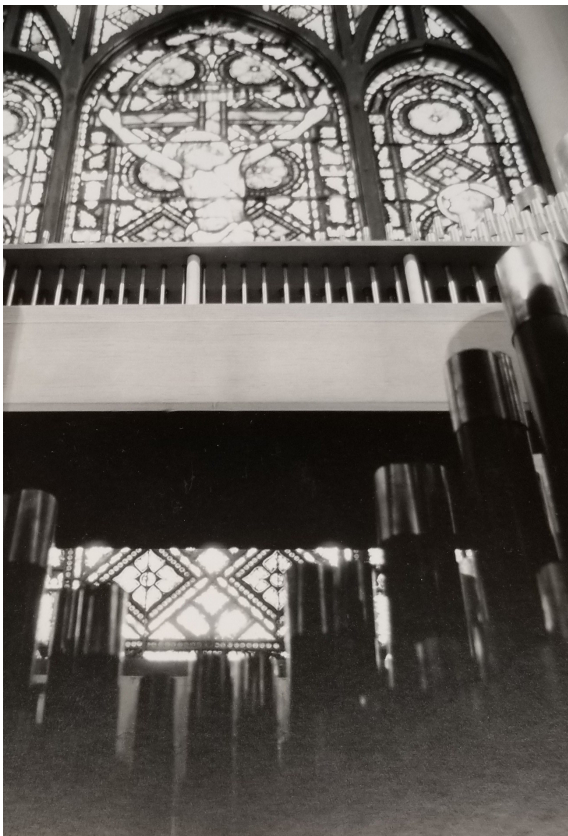
Arise Service.....8:30 AM
Sunday School.....9:30 AM
Traditional Service.....10:30 AM

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Permit No. 202

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



DID YOU KNOW?



The Wurlitzer organ, which had been in use since Christmas 1934, was completely worn out and beyond repair. To replace it, St. Luke's wanted the best available. Roy Perry, talented organist at the First Presbyterian Church of Kilgore, was employed in 1951 to design a new organ to fit the needs of St. Luke's sanctuary. Until his death in 1978, he was a church musician of national acclaim and a leading figure in the development of the American classic organ.

Originally, no space in the choir loft had been provided for an organ. Fortunately St. Luke's had among its members two architects, Robert Dabney Lipscomb and Don Kerr, who worked with Roy Perry on solving this problem.

When built, the sanctuary contained a baptistry, an unusual feature for a Methodist church. The baptistry, behind the choir loft, was removed and two doors were closed. The stained glass crucifixion window, which had been in front of the baptistry and not visible from the outside of the building, was moved to the far back wall, and the organ pipes were located behind the choir and in the center where the baptistry had been. Dabney Lipscomb designed and constructed a wooden grill with square panels of cloth to hide the organ pipes, allowing the sound to come through. This he topped with an intricate hand-crafted ornamental design in wood compatible with the interior decor of the sanctuary.

Excerpt from "Circuit to St. Luke's"