



The VISITOR

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

LOVE GOD

LIVE HIS WORD

SHARE HIS GRACE

January 2021

Issue 1



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

PAGE 2

2021 Board of Stewards

PAGE 3 & 4

Children's Ministry
Mother's Day Out

PAGE 5

Youth Ministry

PAGE 6

Chrismon List

PAGE 7

Upcoming Events

PAGE 8

From the Pastors Desk

PAGE 9

Calendar

PAGE 10

Joys & Concerns
Birthdays
Anniversaries

BACK PAGE

Worship With Us

STAY CONNECTED

EVERYDAY | ALL DAY LONG

Like and follow us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/StLukesUMCKilgore/>

Like and follow us on Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/stlukeskilgore/>

Subscribe to our YouTube page

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQI83akQH4YDK-LYIHM0QXQ>

Sign-up to receive our emails

<http://stlukeskilgore.com/EmailList>

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Office

(903) 984-3576
stlukesumc@stlukeskilgore.com

Rev. Ben Bagley

(903) 984-3576

Niki Chowdhury

Children & Jr. High Youth Dir.
(903) 235-9401
nikichowdhury5@gmail.com

Jennifer Powell

Dir. of Communications
(903) 984-3576
stlukesumc@stlukeskilgore.com

Richelle Rathbun

Hospitality Coordinator
(903) 371-3499

Misty Shipman

Sr. High Youth Dir.
(903) 240-4609
mdshipman@hotmail.com

James Vermillion

Music Dir.
(903) 241-1447

Board of Stewards Officers

At the beginning of each year, the Board of Stewards has a period of transition. Every year, four of our Board Members rotate off after serving three years and four more rotate on. This previous year the Board of Stewards has had a great deal of unprecedented work before them as they led the church faithfully through a global pandemic and helped to ensure that worship and ministries happened in a safe way. While their work is never done, we do want to recognize those who have given a great deal of time to leadership. When you see them, please express your appreciation for their leadership.

Members Finishing their Term

Anna Rohde
Danial Shipman
Bill Bryant
Danny Harrison
Kathy Brown

We also have new members who are rotating onto the Board and are preparing to help lead the church. I encourage you to pray for each of them.

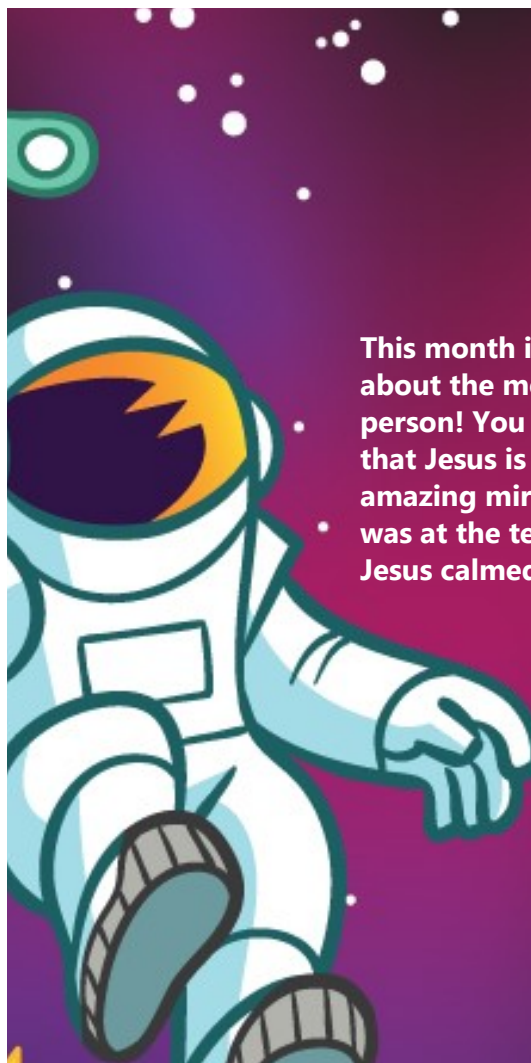
Members Joining the Board

Syrena Witt
Tommy Farnham
Michael Barnard
Sheryl Caraway
Denise Reinert

On Sunday, January 17, we will recognize each of these members and pray over the Board of Stewards in both worship services. I invite you to come and be part of worship and prayer as we prepare for the year ahead.

Members Still Serving on the Board

Wendell Holcombe
Keith Hooks
T.J. Gillen-Hall
Andrea McGilvray
Karen Wilson
Garry Mount
Carla Branson
Lydia Rathbun
Ginny Anderson



PRESCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL

This month is going to be Out of This World! We are going to teach preschoolers about the most amazing thing ever, which turns out isn't a thing at all. No! He's a person! You know who I'm talking about – Jesus! We are teaching preschoolers that Jesus is amazing! And, we're doing it by sharing stories about some of Jesus' amazing miracles. Jesus displayed an amazing understanding of God when He was at the temple as just a young boy. The people who heard Him were amazed! Jesus calmed a storm with just a word. Amazing! Jesus filled fishermen's nets with fish. Amazing! Jesus healed a blind man with mud and spit. Amazing! This world, well this universe, is filled with amazing things, but nothing will ever be more amazing than the One who created it all. Jesus is amazing, and we want our preschoolers to know it!

Bottom Line:
Jesus is amazing.

Memory Verse:
"Everyone who heard him was amazed."
Luke 2:47, NIV



STAYCONNECTED

Follow us on Facebook to stay up to date on all the great things happening in children's ministry and at St. Luke's MDO

St. Luke's Kids

<https://www.facebook.com/stlukeskilgorekids>

St. Luke's MDO

<https://www.facebook.com/stlukesmdo>

Wednesday Night Activities Resume

**January 13
6:00pm**

Children's Music & Activities
Adult Bible Study
Youth Bible Study
Nursery Care

ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our elementary kids will be learning about Responsibility – showing you can be trusted with what is expected of you. The psalmist wrote, The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, (NIRV). God is the author of creation, and God has entrusted us to care for and cultivate it. We do that by taking responsibility. From the work we need to accomplish to people we meet and to the words we use; life is filled with moments where we can decide to reflect God's character, take responsibility, and use what we have wisely. When we follow through and do what needs to be done, we can point others to Jesus, the One who took the ultimate responsibility for us and made it possible for us to be with God forever.

If you are unable to come to church, be sure to check out our lesson videos on our website at www.stlukeskilgore.com/childrensvideos



As I reflect on the past year, I am overwhelmed with gratitude. There were so many people who worked to make MDO run smoothly despite the challenges that we faced in 2020. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the MDO Board of Directors for their support and guidance. Thank you also to the Board of Stewards and the church staff. You have all helped to make sure that everything was in place to reopen this school year. And finally, I would like to extend my gratitude to the MDO teachers and the families that support our program. Without the patience, understanding and grace that you all have shown, this program would not be possible. Everyone turned the challenges we faced into opportunities for growth. As our program heads into our 49th year of operation, I look forward to continued growth in 2021.

This month in Chapel we are sharing stories about some of Jesus' amazing miracles. Jesus displayed an amazing understanding of God when He was at the temple as just a young boy. The people who heard Him were amazed! Jesus calmed a storm with just a word. Amazing! Jesus filled fishermen's nets with fish. Amazing! Jesus healed a blind man with mud and spit. Amazing! This world, well this universe, is filled with amazing things, but nothing will ever be more amazing than the One who created it all. Jesus is amazing, and we want our preschoolers to know it!

"Everyone who heard him was amazed." Luke 2:47

MDO will be closed for Christmas Break though January 5. Classes will resume on January 6.

In His Service,

~Misty Shipman



DOWNLOAD THE PARENT CUE APP





JR. HIGH BIBLE STUDY

One of the biggest challenges your middle schooler faces on a daily basis is managing their moods. They're feeling a lot of feelings, many of which they may be experiencing for the first time. Because of that, they struggle to name, express, or acknowledge their feelings in this phase. That's why we're doing a four-week series called Moods, designed to help students develop an awareness of their feelings and the emotional vocabulary to express their moods in a healthy way.

Check out the series devotionals on the YouVersion Bible App and follow along with your students! Just search for MOODS in the "Plans" section of Bible.com or in the YouVersion Bible App. Challenge your students to complete the plans with you, and share what you're learning through the devotionals.

Blessings,

Niki Chowdhury



Mark your calendars for the community wide youth RISE conference, January 22-24! There will be three sessions we will attend at the RISE which include amazing worship music and awesome speakers. Masks will be worn at all times and we will social distance from the other churches at the conference. Cost is \$65 per student (includes shirt). Anyone registering after January 10 will NOT get a shirt. To register, or for questions, please contact Niki Chowdhury or Misty Shipman.



STAYCONNECTED

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook to stay up to date on all the great things happening with St. Luke's Youth.

St. Luke's Youth

<https://www.facebook.com/stlukesyouthkilgore>

@sly_srhigh

VIBES

SR. HIGH BIBLE STUDY

Vibes

Nobody has more vibes—more moods they experience or things they feel in a deep and real way—than your teenagers. And while there's nothing wrong with this, the problem comes when they let these passing vibes become the motivators of their moods and actions. That's why in this series, we're going to dive deep into some of the feelings we all feel and the way they inspire our actions in an effort to figure out what we can do to better control our vibes instead of letting our vibes control us. "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death." Romans 8:1-2 NIV

Misty Shipman

2018 Chrismon's

In Honor of.....Given by
 Ginny Anderson.....Sara Lugeanbeal
 Rev. Ben Bagley & Family.....Karen Wilson
 Sam Holley.....Sara Lugeanbeal
 Sandra Holley.....Sara Lugeanbeal
 Curtis & Tara Lindley.....Bob & Cindy Lindley
 Carol Poling.....Bob & Cindy Lindley
 Roy Simmons.....Carol Grimes
 St. Luke's Children's Choirs.....Karen Wilson
 Becci, Bryan, Les, Robbie, Sam, & Lindley Thurston
Bob & Cindy Lindley
 Joshua & Jathan Watson.....April Watson
 Leslie, Shelby, & Justin White.....Ginny Anderson

In Memory of.....Given by
 Elizabeth Delashaw.....Sara Lugeanbeal
 Judy & Buck Frederick.....April Watson
 Chris Henderson.....Bob & Cindy Lindley
 Nick Holley.....Sara Lugeanbeal
 Mary Lamb.....Karen Wilson
 Dick Lindley.....Bob & Cindy Lindley
 Dick Lindley Sr.....Bob & Cindy Lindley
 Dorothy Lindley.....Bob & Cindy Lindley
 Mama Bob Lindley.....Bob & Cindy Lindley
 Trey White.....Ginny Anderson
 Jack Williams.....Bob & Cindy Lindley
 Jackie Williams Jr.....Bob & Cindy Lindley

2019 Chrismon's

In Honor of.....Given by
 Brenda Culpepper & Family.....Pat Haynes
 Mackiney & Kashton Haynes.....Pat Haynes
 Pat Haynes & Family.....Pat Haynes
 Kara Hood & Family.....Wilbur & Kay Yates
 our daughter, Alyssa Johnson...Rhett & Anna Rohde
 Kristin Marquardt & Family.....Wilbur & Kay Yates
 Mack & Toby Monday.....A Friend
 our daughter, Erin Rohde.....Rhett & Anna Rohde
 our daughter, Sarah Rohde.....Rhett & Anna Rohde
 Brantley Slayton.....Donna Reaves
 our daughter, 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
 my parents, Celia Smith & Halton Brewer
Polly Greene
 Noah Chism
Joseph, Heather, Gage & Madison Chism
 Molly Courtney.....Leon & Ludie Courtney
 Chris Dukes.....Pat Haynes
 James Elms.....Agnes Oliver
 my Mother, Lois Emerson.....Barbara Francisco
 Buck & Judy Frederick
April Watson & Cindy Frederick
 my parents, Cecil & Frances Freeman.....Joy Tate
 Dorothy & Wayne Geese.....Peggy & Jerry Medford
 Dorothy Geese.....Cathy Geese
 Gramps & Gigi Geese.....Kyleigh & Alyssa Lewis
 Wayne Geese.....Cathy Geese
 Mrs. Alta Harber.....Wilbur & Kay Yates
 Jimmy Haynes.....Pat Haynes
 Mike Haynes.....Pat Haynes
 Emma & Woodrow Hunt.....Pat Haynes
 Marty Jones.....George & Sue Jones
 Mallorie McCann.....Jim & Sharon McCann
 my parents, Toots & Hugh McKinley.....Kay McKinley
 Lucy Morchat.....Art & Pat Morchat
 Luddie & Zdrich Mullinax.....Pat Haynes
 my brother, Steve Myers.....Barbara Francisco
 Arthur Oliver.....Agnes Oliver
 our parents.....Leon & Ludie Courtney
 my mother Sue Steele.....Celia Mooney
 Wes Williams.....Mark Hatfield
 Wilbur & Inda Yates.....Wilbur & Kay Yates
 Bob Zeller.....Art & Pat Morchat
 Char & Russ Zeller.....Art & Pat Morchat

2020 Chrismon's

In Honor of.....Given by
 Lennox Nicole Besser.....Jennifer Powell
 Sandra Holley.....Sami & Ned Nelson & Sam Holly

In Memory of.....Given by
 Eric Beck.....Suzie Gibson & Family
 Jerry Ann Boone.....Misty Shipman
 Leon Gibson.....Suzie Gibson & Family
 Mary Gibson.....Suzie Gibson & Family
 Nick Holley.....Sami & Ned Nelson & Sam Holly
 Rose Johnson.....Misty Shipman

7 UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY SERMON SERIES

Jesus spent a great deal of his ministry teaching anybody and everybody that came to him. Many of his teachings were simple and easy to follow but there are many teaching that are down right hard. Much of Jesus' ministry was spent trying to show people a different way that pleased God, but went against much of culture. Even as we read many of his words today, if we are honest with ourselves, they can be hard and confusing for us. His teachings are just as counter culture today as they were two thousand years ago. Join us in January as we look at some of Jesus hard teachings and explore how Jesus does not call us into an easy life but a life that is faithful and pleasing to God.

WORSHIP UPDATE

On **Sunday, January 10**, we will return to our regular Sunday morning worship schedule.

8:30am **Arise Worship** (Gym)
9:30am **Sunday School**
10:30am **Traditional Worship** (Sanctuary)

For those unable to worship with us in-person, both services can be viewed in our Facebook Worship Group.

2021 Saturday Bread Dates

February 6
May 1
Jul 24
Oct 16

Mark your calendars now!

Contact Brenda Culpepper for more information about how you can volunteer!

LUNCHTIME BIBLE STUDY

The Lunchtime Bible Study will resume on **Tuesday, January 12**. This group will meet in the Family Center at **11:45am**. You are encouraged to drop by and join Pastor Ben in a time of Study.

Wednesday Night Activities

We are excited to resume our Wednesday Night Activities, on January 13 at 6:00pm. We will have Bible Study and activities for all ages.

Adult Bible Study (Gym) *

Youth Bible Study (Youth Rooms)

Children's Music & Bible Study (Family Center)

Nursery care will be available

*you can also view the study online by joining the St. Luke's Adult Bible Study Facebook group.

TOWN HALL MEETING

Thursday, **January 21**, we will host our regular monthly Town Hall meeting. The meeting will begin at **6:00pm** in the Sanctuary. Don't forget to wear your mask and practice social distancing while inside.

SOUP'S ON

Sunday, **January 31**, stick around after worship and grab a bowl of soup on us. If the weather is nice we encourage you to grab a seat at one of the picnic tables and spend a little time in fellowship.

Please remember to wear a mask or remain 6ft away from those who are not in your household.

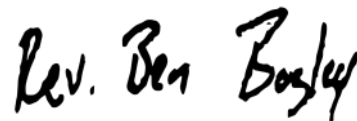
**Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,
let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely,
and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us**

Hebrews 12:1

There is one week between Christmas Day and New Years Day. I find this week to be a very interesting week. Christmas Day is the culmination of our expectation of the birth of Jesus. We spend the month of December preparing for the life-change that comes with the birth of Jesus. We are expectant for Emmanuel. Then Christmas is over and there is a week lull until the start of a new year. In one week's time, 2020 is behind us, and 2021 starts. We again start getting expectant for what the new year brings. We begin making plans for changes in our lives that we hope and desire for a better year ahead. One week we are making plans for our spiritual life and the birth of Jesus and the next week we are making plans for the rest of our life and the year that is ahead.

I spend a lot of time thinking during that time about how this week could bring both these ideas together. What if instead of simply looking forward to 2021 and the life changes we hope for, we take our excitement about the birth of Christ and cast that forward in 2021. How is your faith going to change the year for you? What new habits do you want to take on to deepen your relationship with God? How do you want to use the time you have to do things that inspire others to faith? Paul writes in Hebrews about taking that which is good and using it while leaving behind that which holds us back. 2020 has been hard. 2021 might be hard. But we know that Jesus is born and we know that our lives are changed because of it.

Use this time to be excited not just about the new year but also the possibilities that God is creating in your life to do good things. God is working in your life. Leave everything else behind and follow God into this coming year.



Rev. Ben Bagley
Sr. Pastor

RECURRING WEEKLY:

Sunday

8:30am Arise Worship* (Gym)
 9:30am Sunday School*
 10:30am Traditional Worship *
 (Sanctuary)

Monday

9:00am-2:00pm Mother's Day Out
 9:00am-9:45am
 Exercise (Family Center)
 6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday

11:45am Lunchtime Bible Study
 (Family Center)

Wednesday

9:00am-2:00pm Mother's Day Out
 9:00am-9:45am
 Exercise (Family Center)
 6:00pm Children's Bible Study
 Children's Music
 Youth Bible Study
 Adult Bible Study*
 6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday

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...

Friday, January 1**New Year's Day****Sunday, January 3**

8:30am Arise Worship (Gym)
NO Sunday School
 10:30am Traditional Worship (Gym)

Tuesday, January 5

5:30pm-6:30pm Drive Thru Communion

Wednesday, January 6

9:00am-2:00pm MDO Resumes

Sunday, January 10

8:30am Arise Worship (Gym)*
 9:30am Sunday School Resumes*
 10:30am Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)*

Tuesday, January 12

11:45am Lunchtime Bible Study Resumes (Family Center)
 6:00pm Nominations Team Meeting (Conference Room)

Wednesday, January 13

6:00pm Wednesday Night Activities Resume
 Adult Bible Study (Gym)*
 Youth Bible Study (Youth Rooms)
 Children's Music & Study (Family Center)

Sunday, January 17

11:30am Board of Stewards Training (Parlor)**

Monday, January 18

6:00pm Board of Stewards Meeting (Parlor)

Thursday, January 21

6:00pm Town Hall Meeting (Sanctuary)

Friday, January 22-Saturday, January 23

THE RISE Student Conference

Sunday, January 30

11:30am Soup's On (to-go soup Lunch)

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

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

January 2 Ed Aguilar Danny Harrison	January 13 Carlos Ortiz Maurine Witt	January 21 Alice Crocker Kyleigh Lewis Trey Rathbun
January 3 Scott Clark Shelia Cross Madison Todak Matthew Todak	January 14 Lorelai Aguilar	January 23 Lefty Mitchell Kyler Tinkler
January 6 John Lewis Gretchen McDaniel	January 15 Sam Holley	January 25 Clay Mooney Shannon Perry
January 7 Jennifer Powell	January 16 Tracey Varvel	January 26 Ginny Anderson Paul Johnston Cynthia Stebbins
January 8 Bob Lindley	January 17 Leslie Bennett Karen Lynch Andrea McGilvray Belynda Zimmerman	January 27 Emily Jackson Bill Ridder
January 9 Michael Holland Kay McKinley William Watkins Nathan Watson	January 18 Laramie Cox Addison Hatchett	January 29 Chris Beck Celia Mooney
January 11 Paul Banner Ben Hatfield Michael McClammy	January 19 Amanda Gillen-Hall Debra Maloch	January 30 Mikki Ellis Anna Tryon
January 12 E.J. Chowdhury	January 20 Karsen Davis Peggy Ferebee Lori Todak	January 31 Joe Chism

JOYS & CONCERNS

Please keep us updated on your loved ones.
People will remain on this list for one month.
Please let us know if they need to be on longer,
903-984-3576.

PRAYERS FOR OUR MEMBERS

Don & Cynthia Adams
Carla Branson
Marian Clemens
Tommy Freeman
Chet Garner
Jacque & Todd Gibbs
Gary Gray
Sandra Holley
Sam Holley
Ronnie Jobe
Wilma Jones
Agnes Oliver
Willie & Ima Roberts
Wilbur & Kay Yates

WE EXTEND OUR SYMPATHY TO...

Sabrina Bagley on the death of her grandmother,
Ada Grace Lacaze.

Vivian Gordon on the death of her husband, **C.R. Gordon.**

Dennis Ellis on the death of his step-father, **Jimmie Smallwood.**

PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY & FRIENDS

Babby Carroll.....sister of April Watson
Cindy Frederick.....sister of April Watson
Deb Gibson.....**wife of Scott Gibson**
Sharon Schoenemann.....sister of Jan Hattaway
Edith Williams.....friend of many
Family of Nathan Wehr.....**friend of Lydia Rathbun**
Kim Worl.....sister of Shelia Cross
Louis.....**friend of Dan & Shelia Cross**

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

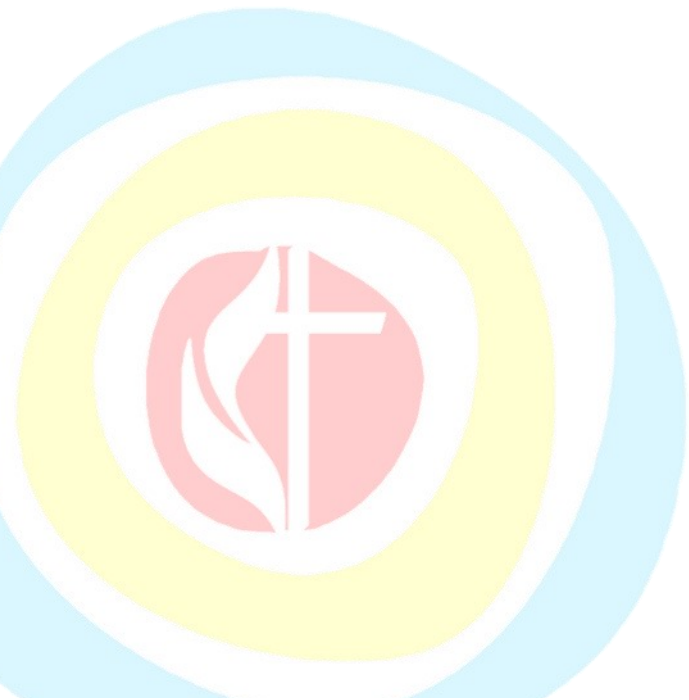
Name	Date
Dan & Janel Brown	Jan 5, 1963
Scott & Cynthia Stebbins	Jan 5, 2007
Michael & Donna Barnard	Jan 7, 2005
Robert & Sherry Ellis	Jan 7, 1980
Jack & Kay Evans	Jan 7, 1977
Lefty & Cecilia Mitchell	Jan 7, 1967
Paul & Laura Johnston	Jan 11, 2014
Keith & Cynthia Mathis	Jan 15, 2006
E.J. & Niki Chowdhury	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

The
VISITOR

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

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Kilgore, Texas
Permit No. 202

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



A CHURCH FOR EVERYONE

St. Luke's United Methodist Church
Sundays at 8:30am & 10:30am

Wouldn't it be great to be part of a caring community, where your kids could make new friends, where you could find supportive mentors to give advice, and where everyone was learning and growing together? That is what you will find at St. Luke's Kilgore. We are a church that is committed to providing you the resources, encouragement and insight you'll need to make your family strong. Come give us a try this weekend and be part of our family!