



The VISITOR

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

LOVE GOD

LIVE HIS WORD

SHARE HIS GRACE

November 2020

Issue 11



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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>

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FROM THE FINANCE OFFICE

Good afternoon,

As your Financial Secretary, I wanted to touch base with you as we emerge from too long confined . As a body of Christ we have missed our time together in growth and in ministry . We are excited to be back to love on our families and community, that being said we are starting many activities and support ministries back up. This is a great time to focus on our opportunity to give Financially as well as our time. We are coming back to new ministry opportunities as our world has changed on some levels. One thing has not changed, our God is still on His throne and we still have work to be done. Let us give generously and joyfully in anticipation of God's work. Please, if I can answer or help in any way, I am available at the church 903-984-3576.

I am grateful to serve alongside each of you as we begin to prepare for a new year of beautiful service.

Scarlett Hartsell
Financial Secretary

WAYS TO GIVE at *St. Luke's*



ONLINE
at
stlukeskilgore.com



APP
search for
Tithe.ly



BY MAIL
401 E. Main St
Kilgore, TX 75662

GENEROSITY CARD

Help us get ready for our 2021 budget by filling out your Generosity Card. You can return your paper card to the church office, or you can fill out a digital card using the link below.

<https://forms.gle/aXqS3HCLbwb78TDH8>

Pumpkin Patch Sponsors

Back Porch
Automotive Supercenter
D & D Industrial Supply
All Star Ford
C & S Lease Services
Luxury Nails
Kynan Laird
Patterson Chevrolet
Gabriel Jordan Buick/GMC
Gibson Systems
Jo Hancock

Donations

Honey's
Charlie's Snowballs
Kilgore Mercantile
Chili's
Camping with the Featherly's



STAYCONNECTED

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

St. Luke's Pumpkin Patch

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

@stlukespumpkinpatch



Pumpkin Patch by the numbers

696

The number of mini pumpkins given out to local schools and daycares.

20

the number of contestants in the Pumpkin Carving Contest

686

The number of pumpkins sold in the pumpkin patch this year

48

The number of participants in the 3rd Annual 5K

37

The number of kids who received prizes for completing the Scavenger Hunt

PRESCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL

November is time to make thankful trees for our preschoolers! Making thankful trees is so much fun! The colors get prettier and prettier as the trees get bigger and bigger. And, it feels so good to think about and write down what we're thankful for – for an entire month! This time of year helps us refocus on all the good in our lives. And there is SO much good when it comes to God. Because God is good! is what we want preschoolers to learn this month. God is good and we have A LOT we can thank Him for. So, get ready to create those thankful trees and tell God, "Thank You" for all the good things He's made and done! We can't wait to celebrate thankfulness all month long! And, in case you didn't know, we are very thankful for you and all that you do to help preschoolers know that God made them, God loves them, and Jesus wants to be their friend forever.

Bottom Line:

God is good.

Memory Verse:

"Give thanks to the Lord for he is good."

Psalms 107:1, 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>



The Kilgore Christmas Parade will be December 1, at 6:30pm. The theme is "Christmas in the Oil Patch". If you would like to volunteer to decorate the St. Luke's float or would like to ride on the float, please let Niki Chowdhury know.

ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our elementary kids' theme will be gratitude. Gratitude sometimes feels like a lost art. Yet gratitude is an idea close to God's heart. Think about all of the Bible stories where people give thanks to each other, celebrate God with feasts and festivals—not to mention the Psalms filled songs of praise. Just take a moment to consider everything God has done for you: the world He made, the promises He's kept, the new life He offers through Jesus. When we remember all of that, we can always be thankful.

Memory Verse:

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever."

Psalms 136:1, NIV

Check out our
"St. Luke's UMC Children's Ministry"
Facebook page for activities
and lessons.



October is traditionally a busy month at MDO and this year was no exception. The kids enjoyed exploring the Pumpkin Patch, taking pictures in the Patch, Halloween parties, and trick or treating around the church offices. They were also treated to story time in the Patch with Rev. Bagley.

The Bible memory verse for November is Psalm 107:1, "Give thanks to the Lord for he is good." Our chapel lessons this month will focus on identifying all the things that God has given us to be thankful for.

~Misty Shipman



DOWNLOAD
THE PARENT CUE APP





SR. HIGH BIBLE STUDY

It's Personal

We all have one thing in common: We want to be seen, known, and valued for who we are. This month, we're going to look at five specific questions we can ask to make the relationships in our lives more real and more personal. How do we know it can happen? Because we're taking a tip from the way Jesus did it to give us an idea of just how to make everything—including our relationship with Him—a little more personal.

~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



JR. HIGH BIBLE STUDY

In November, the Jr. High youth will start a new series called "It's Personal" that focuses on ways in which Jesus makes it personal by pursuing us, knowing us, valuing us, and loving us just as we are. The goal of this series is two-fold. One, it's to help students inwardly develop a growing, personal relationship with Jesus. And two, it's to encourage students to look outward by applying some of the same principles Jesus uses to love and value them to the way they love and value others.

Blessings,

~Niki Chowdhury



Thank you to all the runners, walkers, and volunteers that made the 3rd Annual Pumpkin Run 5K a huge success. We had a record number of participants in this year's race with over 40 racers. All the proceeds from this event support kids and youth summer activities at St. Luke's.

Your participation is making a difference in the lives of our young people.

NOVEMBER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

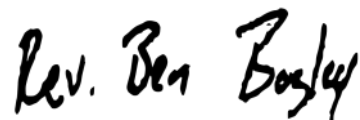
Mission Opportunity at Crossroads Methodist Church on Saturday, November 7th at 8:30am. We will be repairing and painting the church's wheelchair ramp. Drop off and pick up at Crossroads 6070 CR 281, Kilgore, TX 75662. Bring a sack lunch, water bottle, gloves, paintbrush, and safety glasses. Please wear sunscreen and closed toe shoes.

Thanksgiving and Christmas are almost here. If you are like me, you were unsure if we would make it this far into 2020, but we have survived and are getting excited about the upcoming holiday season. Before long we will be gathering around the table with family and slowly starting to watch the world turn into a twinkling wonderland of lights and joy. I am excited about the two upcoming sermon series that will help us capture the spirit of the season and help us celebrate even in light of everything we have been through this year.

As we begin November we are starting a worship series called Meals with Jesus. During this series, we are going to follow him during his ministry to the many different tables that he sat at. Some of them were large tables at parties, while others were small and intimate. Some of the tables had friends at them and others had thousands of people gathered around. As we watch Jesus share meals throughout his life, we not only see the importance of food but also the importance of the people that we eat with. Join us in November as we sit at the table with Jesus and begin preparing our lives for those that will sit at the table with us.

Our Advent Series, which begins the last Sunday of November, is Blue Christmas. We won't be singing any Elvis songs, but instead will be focusing on celebrating Christmas while being honest about the rough year we have had. Every year we traditionally do a Blue Christmas service where we acknowledge pain, heartache, grief, and sadness as a real part of the holiday season. This year is no different. We have all been impacted by the loss of loved ones, jobs, freedoms and so much more. Our Blue Christmas Worship series will help us to acknowledge the grief and sadness in our lives while moving us towards the joy of Christmas.

I hope you join us as we begin celebrating the holiday season.



Rev. Ben Bagley
Sr. Pastor

SAFE SANCTUARY TRAINING**Sunday, November 8 (9:30am)****Wednesday, November 11 (7:00pm)**

In order to provide a safe environment for our kids, youth, and volunteers we require all volunteers to undergo Safe Sanctuary Training and submit to a background check. We will be holding our next training opportunities in November. If you help in any youth and children's events including: children & youth Sunday school, children's music, children & youth Bible study, youth mission opportunities, vacation Bible school, or church camp, please make plans to attend one of the training opportunities.

CHARGE CONFERENCE MEETING**Sunday, November 15 (5:00pm)**

Every year we hold a Charge Conference Meeting to close out the year and get ready for the next one. This meeting is led by our District Superintendent and our Senior Pastor. We will go over the things we have accomplished in the last year and approve the leadership team for the upcoming year. All church members are invited to attend this meeting.

WORSHIP FACEBOOK GROUP

For those worshipping with us on-line we have a new way for you to join us. We will no longer be posting our live worship services to the St. Luke's Facebook page. Instead we have created a Worship Group, anyone can join the group and watch our worship services. This will allow us to have a central location for all of our worship videos without having to wade through all the posts on our page. Use the link below to join our worship Facebook group or search for St. Luke's UMC Worship on Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/394986931511537>

**CHRISMON'S FOR SALE**

Instead of purchasing Christmas Poinsettias, we want to offer you the opportunity to honor and remember your loved ones by purchasing a Chrismon. The Chrismon's are ornaments that we place on our church Christmas tree that help tell the story of our faith. When you purchase a Chrismon, the person that you are honoring or remembering will have their name written on the back of the ornament. These ornaments will not just be displayed this year, but will continue to be used alongside our other Chrismon's for years to come. Each handmade ornament will cost \$10. Orders can be placed in the church office or by contacting Jennifer Powell.

903-984-3576

stlukesumc@stlukeskilgore.com

SHOW YOUR ST. LUKE'S PRIDE!

Purchase your St. Luke's Yard sign today!

\$10 each

Contact the church office for more information or to purchase your sign.





MEALS *with* JESUS

November Sermon Series

November 1

Eating With Purpose
Luke 22:14-23

November 8

Eating With The Multitude
Luke 9: 10-17

November 15

Eating With The Uninvited
Luke 7:36-43

November 22

Eating With The Enemy
Luke 5:27-32

HOLY HUDDLERS

Come Eat and Fellowship with Friends

All are Welcome - 6:00pm

November 13
The Tackle Box
Kilgore, TX

If you have any questions, please call
Miki Ellis at 903-987-2506.

WOMEN'S GROUP PAM BESSER CIRLCE

November 17
6:00pm
Fire Place Room

Hanging *of the* Greens



TO-GO SOUP LUNCH & HANGING OF THE GREENS

Sunday, November 22

Lunch served 10:30am-12:00pm (Free-Donations accepted)

Hanging of the Greens 12:00pm-until finished

Christmas is such a special time of year - a time of **celebration, family,** and the **birth of our Lord.** With this in mind, you are invited to join us as we prepare the house of the Lord to celebrate His birth. There are jobs for every skill level, so everyone can help. Join us for a soup lunch on Sunday, November 22, and stick around to help us decorate. You can pick up your To-Go Bowl of soup and take it home or have a picnic on our picnic table in front of the Family Center.

OUR CREATOR SPOKE
— THE UNIVERSE —
INTO EXISTENCE.

*St. Luke's
United Methodist Church*

B V B N M F R T H D Q W E R T Y U I O P G F D S A
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WORD BANK

Kilgore Society
 Laird Hall
 Ballard Activity Center
 Knowles Chapel
 Knowles Tower

Isaac Alexander
 Carillon Bells
 Main Street
 Baptism
 Apostles Creed

Communion
 Confirmation
 Holy Bible

The Day the Churches Burned Sunday, August 23, 1931

12



On that day, Phil Barton, superintendent of the Sunday School of the Presbyterian Church, had just said the benediction for the Presbyterian Sunday School. Approximately 60 people had attended and most of them walked the block over to the Methodist Church to attend worship services, for the Presbyterian Church had services only when the minister from Henderson came to Kilgore.

Fifteen minutes after the Presbyterian Sunday School benediction, the roof of the Presbyterian Church, a weather-beaten structure more than 50 years old, caught fire. Rev. Dent hastily dismissed the Methodist worship service and the men rushed out to help fight the fire.

Begrimed oil field workers dashed into the burning building. They managed to bring out the old oak pulpit, the shiny new upright piano, a desk and a few hymnals before the roof fell among the pews.

The Methodist Church was only one block from the ashes of the Presbyterian Church. The large frame structure which the Methodists had built only 16 years before was a mass of fire before hotel attendants next door turned in the alarm. Not one stick of furniture-not even a hymn book-was saved.

Weary firemen had barely smothered out the last embers of the second church fire when another alarm was sounded from a cottonseed storage house about three blocks away on the opposite side of the railroad track. The seed house was behind a garage belonging to Trip Elder on the street paralleling the north side of the railroad track. This was quickly brought under control.

To this day, the series of five fires remains unsolved. The consensus is that some unknown oilfield worker or workers, disgruntled by the loss of jobs under the new proration order, set the fires.

For the Methodists, it was as if the flames of the burning church building ignited a fiery new zeal within the congregation. Attention turned again to the needs of the Lord's work. At the Fourth Quarterly Conference on October 11, 1931, a building committee was appointed, consisting of Roy H. Laird, Mrs. Nell Hamilton, Mrs. Lynch (Jessie) Reynolds, J. A. Knowles, John Henry Laird, and Mrs. S. G. Andrews. On December 8, the name of L. P. Griffin, Jr., was added.

All assessments for the year were paid in full, including the pastor's salary of \$1,800. The Woman's Missionary Society, under the strong leadership of Mrs. S. G. Andrews, grew to a membership of 25 divided into two circles; and Rev. Dent, now much encouraged, wrote, "We feel that their efforts are going to be worth much in replacing our church."

13 CALENDAR

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
6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
(Tenor & Bass Section)

Tuesday

11:00am Lunchtime Bible Study
(Family Center)

Wednesday

9:00am-2:00pm Mother's Day Out
6:00pm Children's Bible Study
Children's Music
Youth Bible Study
Adult Bible Study*
6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
(Soprano & Alto Section)

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...

Sunday, November 1

Daylight Savings Time Ends
All Saints Sunday

Tuesday, November 3

5:30pm-6:30pm Drive-Thru Communion (Gym Portico)

Saturday, November 7

8:30am Youth Mission Project at Crossroads UMC

Sunday, November 8

9:30am Safe Sanctuary Training (Family Center)

Wednesday, November 11

7:00pm Safe Sanctuary Training (Family Center)

Friday, November 13

6:00pm Holy Huddlers @ The Tackle Box, Kilgore

Saturday, November 14

3:00pm-8:00pm A Very Derrick Christmas (Downtown Kilgore)
Lighting of the Derricks
We will have a booth

Sunday, November 15

5:00pm Annual Charge Conference (Sanctuary)

Monday, November 16

6:00pm Board of Stewards Meeting (Family Center)

Tuesday, November 17

6:00pm Town Hall Meeting (Sanctuary)
6:00pm Women's Group—Pam Besser Circle (Fire Place Room)

Sunday, November 22

10:30am-12:00pm To-Go Soup Lunch
12:00pm Hanging of the Greens

Thursday, November 26

Thanksgiving Holiday

Sunday, November 29

First Sunday of Advent

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 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
Isabel Shipman.....mother of Daniel Shipman
Juanita Shughart.....mother of Misty Shipman
Edith Williams.....friend of many
Kim Worl.....sister of Shelia Cross

PRAYERS FOR OUR MEMBERS

Don & Cynthia Adams
Marian Clemens
Tommy Freeman
Jacque & Todd Gibbs
Gary Gray
Sandra Holley
Sam Holley
Ronnie Jobe
Wilma Jones
James Reynolds
Willie Roberts
Glennys Travis
Wilbur & Kay Yates

MONTHLY PRAYER FOCUS

St. Luke's Staff
Tatum ISD
Friendship Baptist Church

NOVEMBER 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).**

November 2

Mona Effler
Alex Mathis
Harrison Weathers

November 3

Heather Chism
Scott Stebbins

November 4

Jacqueline Womack

November 5

Cathy Geese
Misty Hodnett
Tina King
Pat Rudy

November 6

Shane Hightower

November 7

Amy Bruyere
Dorothy Denham

November 8

Liz Rodgers

November 9

James Hanshaw

November 11

Mallory Burgess
Cathy Mount
Carson Palmer

November 12

Emma Reinert

November 14

Bob Davis
Amanda Patton

November 15

Michael Barnard
Luke Weathers

November 16

Cason Castaneda

November 18

Matt Patton

November 19

Dan Cross
Suzie Gibson

November 21

Victoria Shipman

November 22

Steven Jackson

November 26

Joy Tate

November 27

Tamara Dean

November 29

Carolina Bryant

November 30

Pat Sers

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Name

Date

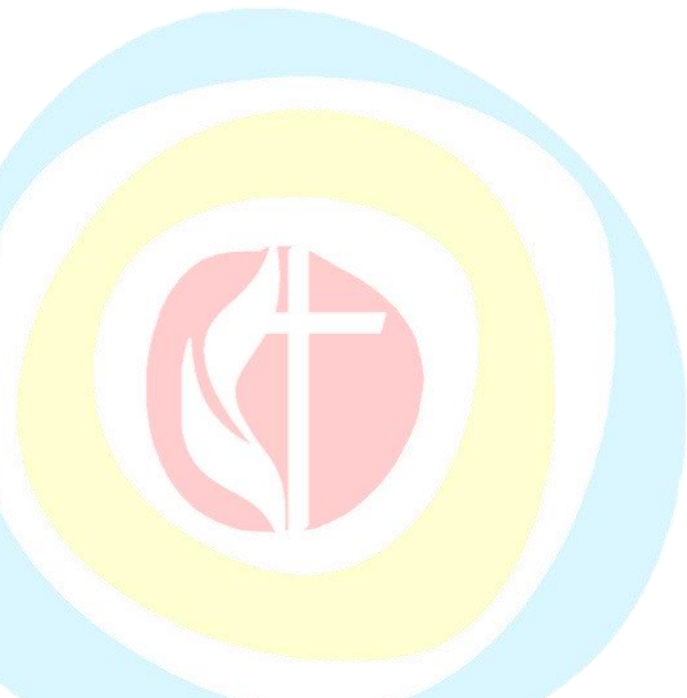
Bo & Amy Bruyere	Nov 10, 2018
Randy & Sally Holder	Nov 12, 1988
Robert & Joan Smith	Nov 15, 1985
Tommy & Laura Farnham	Nov 19, 2001
Randy & Tina King	Nov 26, 1977
Gregg & Sheryl Caraway	Nov 28, 1987

The
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



LET'S PLAY A LITTLE GAME!

Do You know who this baby is?

The first one to figure it out and
contact the church office with the
correct answer will win a prize.