



The VISITOR

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

LOVE GOD

LIVE HIS WORD

SHARE HIS GRACE

July 2020

Issue 7

Childhood Bible Stories for a Modern World



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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

WAYS TO GIVE at *St. Luke's*



ONLINE
at
stlukeskilgore.com



APP
search for
Tithe.ly



BY MAIL
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**We praise you, God, we praise you, for your Name is near;
people tell of your wonderful deeds.**

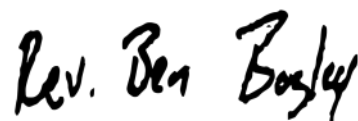
Psalm 75:1

It seems crazy to be able to say that we have made it to the halfway point of this year. It feels as if the first six months of this year have lasted a decade, but here we are starting the month of July. There have been many changes to church over the last several months, including how we are able to meet together. In the midst of all of the changes and hardships, I want you to hear the words for Psalm 75:1. There is no denying that the first six months of this year brought numerous hardships and life changing moments, but we also cannot deny that God is still in charge and doing great things in our lives, if we open our eyes to them. I hope that you can still find ways to praise God for the great things that God is doing in each of our lives and at St. Luke's UMC.

I wanted to mention a few updates for the upcoming month and let you know how we are expecting ministries to move forward through the next half of the year.

- We are thrilled to be worshipping together again. There are numerous precautions that we are taking to ensure that we are not transmitting Covid-19 or any other illness. We will continue worshipping at 8:30, 9:30 and 10:30 through the month of July. Masks are still mandatory so that we are able to sing during worship.
- We are closely monitoring the guidelines to safely reopen. As long as we are encouraged to social distance at 6ft, we will continue to worship in the gym. While I await the day we can be back in the sanctuary, due to the setup, the space would be too limited to gather in there.
- Even though we are meeting in person for worship, there are still many that are live streaming worship on Facebook and we want to be mindful of that. If you are worshipping with us in person you will notice some changes to worship to ensure that all of those that are worshipping, whether in person or online, will be included and able to participate.
- The Board of Stewards is meeting later in July and will discuss plans for August. We are hoping that Sunday School and Bible studies, both for youth and children, will be able to resume in a safe way.

Thanks for your patience and prayers during this time. The Board of Stewards and I appreciate your prayers as we work to navigate through this unprecedented time. If you have any questions or concerns please let me know.



Rev. Ben Bagley
Sr. Pastor

3 ST. LUKE'S KIDS & YOUTH

ST. LUKE'S MDO

Registration is
NOW OPEN
for the
2020-2021 School Year!

Register online
stlukeskilgore.com

The Toddler and the
3year Old Classes are
currently full.

Please contact Misty
Shipman to be placed
on the waitlist for
these classes.

Misty Shipman
(903) 984-3576 (ext 204)
midshipman@hotmail.com



STAYCONNECTED

Like and Follow our Facebook
pages to stay up to date on all the
great things happening in children's
ministry and at Mother's Day Out.

St. Luke's MDO
[https://www.facebook.com/
stlukesmdo](https://www.facebook.com/stlukesmdo)

St. Luke's Kids
[https://www.facebook.com/
stlukeskilgorekids](https://www.facebook.com/stlukeskilgorekids)

PRESCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL

This month for our preschoolers, we continue with the incredible truth, I can believe in Jesus. This truth is so powerful that we will continue asking the question, "Who can believe in Jesus?" so our preschoolers will know, "I can believe in Jesus!" It's hard to imagine, but one day, our preschoolers will make a choice that they think is so bad they'll wonder if Jesus still loves them. Or, they'll leave a classroom wrestling with what their teacher or professor just taught and how it fits with what they believe. We want them to believe Jesus is real and know that He loves them no matter what. Jesus is who He said He is, and He wants to be their friend forever. That's the truth friends. You better believe it.

Bottom Line:
I can believe in Jesus.

Memory Verse:
""These are written so that you may believe
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God."
John 20:31, NLV

I SPY

ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL

FOCUS

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK

"FAITH IS BEING SURE
OF WHAT WE HOPE FOR.
IT IS BEING SURE OF WHAT
WE DO NOT SEE."
HEBREWS 11:1, NIRV

For our Elementary Kids: We
can't see God with our eyes.
but we can grow in our faith
when we focus on who He is
and what He's done. When
we take a closer look, we
learn to trust in what we
CAN'T see because of what
we CAN see.

Check us out on our "St.
Luke's UMC Children's Minis-
try" Facebook page for daily
activities or lessons.

Congratulations Class of 2020!

We had a few graduating seniors that we missed in the May Visitor

Merryann Hodnett

Merryann is the daughter of Thomas Jon & Hollyann Hodnett. Her high school achievements include: Art Club, Health Science Club and lettered in ART. Never missed a blood drive and as Merryann put it she has special blood that can save anyone's life. She plans to obtain her CNA from Kilgore and work in a nursing home. She loves to help the elderly in her community. In DEC 2020 Merryann will apply for Aggie Achieve Program at Texas A&M so she can follow in her father's footsteps and achieve a dream of being an Aggie one day. In ten years she sees herself traveling and hopefully working her way to LVN School and able to live an independent life.



Davis Aaron Hodnett

Aaron is the son of Thomas Jon & Hollyann Hodnett. His high school achievements include, Boy Scouts- Scout of the year - Marine Military Academy Football all conference, Special teams MARINE Military Academy and Cadet Instructor. Aaron graduated June 1, 2020 from East Texas Charter High School. He plans to attend Kilgore College Line Man School, and work for a year while attending Kilgore College before transferring to Texas A&M for a Wildlife Management Program.



Carter Nettles

Carter is the son of Alan & Robyn Nettles. He is graduating from Nettles Christian Academy. Carter's high school achievements include various Science & Math Certificates, Recognition in Writing (currently writing a novel), Volunteer litter pickup, Gardening Greenhouse. He will be attending Kilgore College, then UT Tyler to major in Computer Science.



SR. HIGH BIBLE STUDY

Explained

We will spend the first part of July finishing our series, "What to Do When You Don't Know What To Do." In this series, we've been looking at the life of Joseph and learning how to handle those situations where we just don't know what to do. We will then begin a new series titled, "Explained." In this series we'll take a closer look at the documents that make up the Bible, why we trust them, how we use them and why we believe they can be trusted. In other words, we're talking about the Bible...explained. We will be discussing these lessons each week at 7pm on Zoom. If you aren't getting my weekly text messages with links to the videos and the invitation to Zoom, please let me know.

~Misty Shipman



JR. HIGH BIBLE STUDY

In Jr. High Youth, we are finishing up our five-week series on Joseph called "Big Picture". Then, we will be starting a four-week series on reading the Bible, called "Break It Down". This series looks at how we use the Bible to get to know God better and that we can use the Bible to see the whole story which helps us see more clearly.

Hope to see you at our Zoom meetings on Wednesday nights at 6:00pm. If you do not know code for zoom meetings or, are not getting Jr. High emails, please let me know and I can add you to the list.

~Niki Chowdhury

CALLED BY GOD TO SERVE

Do you desire to respond to God's call on your life?

Lay Servant Ministries is one of the most significant lay leadership development programs already available within the United Methodist connection. This system of training courses is focused on equipping and empowering laypersons who have responded to the call of God to serve in mission and ministry.



These laypersons are called to live out their own discipleship as servants in leadership through ministries of leading, caring and communicating. The United Methodist Church has established three categories for laypersons in the area of servant ministries to develop, prepare and engage Christian leaders.

They are:

Certified Lay Servant – serves the local church and beyond by leading prayer, trainings, study and discussion. Assists in services of worship, preaches the Word, fosters caring ministries and more.

Certified Lay Speaker – serves by preaching the Word when requested by the pastor, or district superintendent. This is a specific call for the ministry of pulpit supply.

Certified Lay Minister – serves with a mentor and the supervision of their district superintendent. Conducts public worship, cares for the congregation, develops new faith communities, preaches the Word, leads small groups, assists in program leadership and more.

If you are interested in learning more about the resources designed to equip laity for these roles in ministry as disciples of Jesus Christ, you can find brochures and more information in the "Resource Center" in the church office at St. Luke's UMC. You can also visit www.UMCdiscipleship.org/laity and/or email or call Anna Rohde at the contact information below. Many of the courses for certification are available online and soon courses will be conducted in the classroom setting in the Fall.

Anna M. Rohde

Conference Director of Lay Ministries

Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church

arohde@txcumc.org 903-522-0490

Thank you!!

Dear St. Luke's United Methodist Church:

Thank you so much for selecting me to receive a St. Luke's United Methodist Church Scholarship.

I am honored to have been selected and wanted to thank you and the scholarship committee for your generous support.

I am a Business Management major who will be attending Kilgore College in the Fall. Upon completion at Kilgore College, I plan to further my studies at The University of Texas at Tyler. I'm not sure what my future holds, but I have high hopes of becoming a businessman that is not only successful, but also a role-model for others.

I would also like to thank you for your support throughout the years. Without your support and guidance, I wouldn't be the person I am today.

By awarding me the St. Luke's United Methodist Church Scholarship, I am well on my way to achieving my goals. Thank you again for your generous support.

Sincerely,
Scott Silvey

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

**Confirmation Sunday
August 2**

**Senior Recognition
August 9**

Be on the lookout for more information

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

Anonymous prayer request for personal reasons
Bill Brown.....friend to many
Babby Carroll.....sister of April Watson
Bella Crosby.....friend
Linda Fontineau.....MDO teacher
Cindy Frederick.....sister of April Watson
Sharon Schoenemann.....sister of Jan Hattaway
Isabel Shipman.....mother of Daniel Shipman
Juanita Shughart.....mother of Misty Shipman
Charles White.....brother of Joe White
Edith Williams.....friend of many
Kim Worl.....sister of Shelia Cross

PRAYERS FOR OUR MEMBERS

Don & Cynthia Adams
Sharry & Jack Christopher
Marian Clemens
Mikki Ellis
Tommy Freeman
Linda & Chet Garner
Jacque & Todd Gibbs
Gary Gray
Wendell Holcombe
Sam Holley
Ronnie Jobe
Sue & George Jones
Wilma Jones
Dean & Kathe Miller
Stephanie Prine
Richelle Rathbun
Willie Roberts
Ralph Rudy
Angela Thompson
Glennys Travis
Wilbur & Kay Yates

MONTHLY PRAYER FOCUS

Our Local and State Government having to
make hard decisions
Our friends and neighbors in need

JULY 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).**

July 1

Lynne Cross
Bobby King
Hudson Loyd
Mark Varvel

July 2

Kraig DeKoker
Will Ross

July 3

Garrett Davis
Sherry Ellis

July 5

Mary Jordan

July 6

Patti Sweatt

July 7

Glenda Cochran
Tommy Freeman
Vernie Kunkel

July 8

Robert Johnson
Gunner Patton
Wade Silvey

July 9

Nina Miller-Pitt

July 10

Tommy Farnham

July 11

Noah McClammy

July 12

Mike Kerr

July 13

Sara Lugeanbeal
Henry Tryon

July 14

Carla Branson
Gene Harville
Kevin Tinkler

July 15

Rodney Bell

July 16

Janel Brown

July 17

Jerry Ann Boone
Erin Rohde

July 18

Chris Crawford
Emallyn Galvan

July 20

Todd Gibbs
Pat Morchat
David Morgan

July 21

Bill Clarke
Chad Stephenson

July 22

Holly Davis
Joe Johnson
Dalton Mason

July 23

Sharry Christopher

July 24

Gary Moore
Bryan Thurston
Karen S. Wilson

July 25

Margo Davis

July 26

Laura Clark

July 27

Madison Holman

July 28

Cruz Castaneda
Elizabeth Rabius

July 29

Sheryl Caraway

July 30

Susan Crawford
Rick Huey
Colette Jones
Ami Smith

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Name

Date

Willie & Ima Roberts

Jul 2, 1949

Leon & Ludie Courtney

Jul 4, 1964

Larry & Richelle Rathbun

Jul 16, 1983

Bob & Cindy Lindley

Jul 17, 1981

Dwaine & Elaine Kirksey

Jul 22, 1966

Bill & Dot Denham

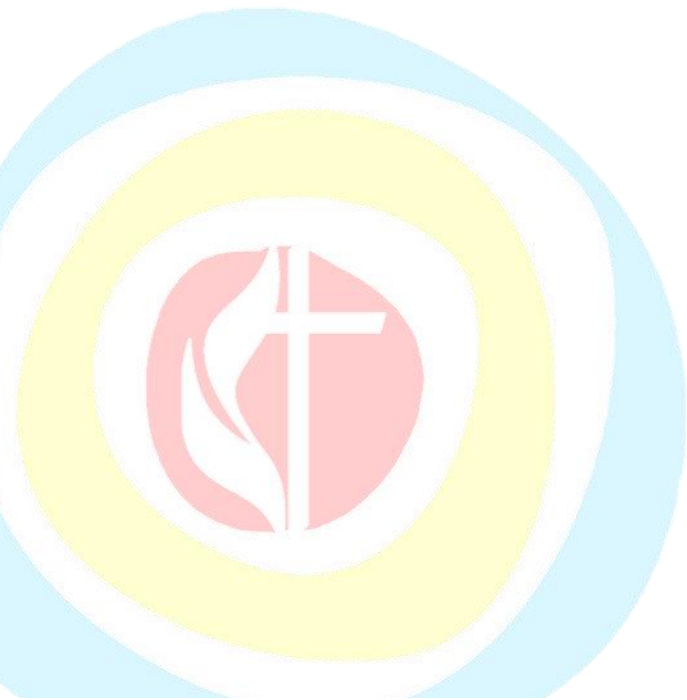
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



WORSHIP TIMES

8:30am

Traditional Worship

For those at high-risk

9:30am

Arise Worship

10:30am

Traditional Worship

All worship services will be held in the Gym
9:30am & 10:30am worship will be live streamed on Facebook
All services will be broadcast on 94.7FM into our parking lot

See page 6 for more information.