



The VISITOR

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

LOVE GOD

LIVE HIS WORD

SHARE HIS GRACE

July, 2021

Issue 6



SUMMER^{at the} MOVIES

One of the activities I am beginning to miss is going to see a movie. I enjoy being able to grab a big popcorn, drink, and enjoy the entertainment as the lights dim. While I cannot make Hollywood start making movies again, we can enjoy some of our favorite movies together. This summer we will be exploring different movies and the messages they have to tell during worship.

But I need your help. Do you have a favorite movie? Is there a movie that always makes you laugh? One that you can watch over and over again without getting tired of it? Let us know so that we can use your favorite movies as we start Summer at the Movies.

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STAY CONNECTED

EVERYDAY | ALL DAY LONG

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

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<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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Financial News: June, 2021

Needed to meet budget each week	\$8,000.00
Received 6/6	\$10,633.26
Received 6/13	\$3,775.48
Received 6/20	\$8,875.34
Needed to meet budget Through June 21	\$200,000.00
Total received for budget Through June 21	\$184,495.69
Difference	-\$15,504.31

**WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE OBEY GOD
AND COMMIT TO TITHING****We get to partner with God in ministry.**

God does not need our money. He owns everything and can do anything.

In **Psalm 50:7, 9–12**, God reminds us, "I am God, your God... I have no need of a bull from your stall or of goats from your pens, for every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills. I know every bird in the mountains, and the insects in the fields are mine. If I were hungry I would not tell you, for the world is mine, and all that is in it."

When God commands us to bring the tithe to the local church, He is engaging us in His work on Earth. God doesn't have to work through us, but He chooses to.

1 Corinthians 16:2

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

Welcome NEW MEMBERS

We are excited to welcome our newest members to St. Luke's UMC.

New members received by transfer of membership
ROY & PAMELA BROWN

HOLY HUDDLERS

We would like to invite and welcome everyone to eat and fellowship as the Holy Huddlers. We will meet twice a month (not always the same week of the month due to holidays). Supper will be on you, but the fellowship will be shared by all.

July 9

6:00pm

Charburger Stockade

July 23

6:00pm

Schlotzky's, Kilgore

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

COMMUNITY BACK TO SCHOOL BASH SPONSORS

We are kicking off our fall celebration with a Family Movie Night. Because of your willingness to help and contribute, our Glow in the Easter Egg Hunt and movie night were a great success where we welcomed people from the community to join us in celebrating Easter. We need your help again. Our Back to School Family Movie Night will not only have a movie, popcorn, and snow cones, but also two water slides for kids to enjoy before the movie starts. We need your help in two different ways. It was great seeing people from the community at our event, but in order to welcome them, we need greeters and people willing to visit with our guests. We also need sponsors. The water slides cost a combined \$500 and the movie and projector cost \$250. If you would like to help offset the cost of this fun event, please let us know.

SERVE DAY

Ramp Building

Saturday, July 17

8:00am-12:00pm

Now that the weather has finally cleared off and the rain has stopped, we are able to plan another Serve Day. Our last several attempts were rained out, but we will meet on Saturday, July 17, to take care of a few projects around the church. The main project will be the construction of a ramp in the children's courtyard which will allow mobility-impaired people to reach all of our classrooms. We look forward to this project and to seeing you there.

SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

We encourage all St. Luke's high school seniors to apply for the St. Luke's church scholarship to help with expenses for the college of your choice.

To be eligible, the student must be an active member of St. Luke's or of the St. Luke's youth organization, and/or the student's immediate family must be active supporting members of the St. Luke's church family.

Applications are available in the church office or on our website, stlukeskilgore.com. The deadline for the return of the application is July 1, 2021. Contact Jennifer in the church office for more information.

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

An Opportunity for Fellowship

There are coffee and tea, conversation and fellowship available in the Family Center on Tuesdays from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m..

This is a part of the Beyond Sunday Ministry that is creating opportunities for fellowship and sharing beyond the time on Sunday morning. Come and enjoy!

HELPING HANDS

Summer is a tough time for families. Helping Hands is there to fill in the gap making sure that families have enough food to eat. Help us support our neighbors by donating food to Helping Hands.

Donations can be dropped off in the Helping Hands Cart in the Family Center.

Helping Hands Summer Needs List

Peanut Butter

Cereal

Tuna

Beans

Rice

Mac & Cheese

Chili

Canned Stews

Canned Soups

Canned Fruits

Canned Veggies

Pop Top Food Items

St. Luke's WOMEN'S GETAWAY

September 17-19

Cost \$175

Space Limited

Registration opens June 28.

Grab the girls and spend a weekend away for a chance to grow and to be refreshed at St Luke's Women's Getaway, Friday, September 17-19 in Beavers Bend, OK.

Cost \$175 includes lodging and transportation, food and activities are extra. Rooms based on double occupancy. Optional activities (for an extra fee) include zip lining, hiking, kayaking, and Girls Gone Wine. Register online. Registration is on a first come basis and is not confirmed until payment is fulfilled. Space is limited to 15 women due to lodging restrictions.



JULY EVENTS

July 4

Red, White, & Blue Celebration

10:00am Worship

11:00am Lunch

NO 8:30am Worship or Sunday School

July 5-July 9

Church Camp at Lakeview

PRESCHOOL
SUNDAY SCHOOL

We don't want trusting God to be hard for our preschoolers. God has done so much to show us that we can trust Him. That is why we are going to continue teaching our preschoolers that they can Press Play and trust God with everything. The music, the dancing, and the instruments continue this month. And most importantly, we have more true stories from the Bible of people who show us why we can trust God. We want preschoolers to trust that God is always with them. We want them to look to Jesus so He can show them they can trust God. We want them to put on the armor of God and trust Him to use it to make them strong. And, we want them to trust that nothing can ever separate them from God's love. It is our prayer that they will always remember all of the reasons why they can trust God.

ELEMENTARY
SUNDAY SCHOOL

When it comes to confidence, we might try and base it on what we do well or what a teacher or parent might say about us. But true confidence should be built on something that lasts forever. We think that's found in understanding how God sees us. God created us, and God loves us. Nowhere is this more evident than in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. And, when you put your confidence in Jesus, you can truly see yourself as God sees you.

"Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

Philippians 1:6, 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>

Thank You SO MUCH

Huge thank you to everyone who made VBS extra special this year with your donations, prayers, and time! During our VBS, we used scripture to learn that we can have confidence because we are known, belong, forgiven, and can make a difference. All because of Jesus!



There is still time to enroll for our upcoming school year beginning on August 23. You can register online or drop by the church office to fill out the enrollment form.

Each of our classes are taught by two teachers who have been trained in infant/child safety, first aid and CPR. They have also completed Safe Sanctuary training and pass an annual background check. If you have any questions about how our program can meet the needs of your family, contact me @ 903-240-4609.

In His Service,

~Misty Shipman



Scout Pack 251, sponsored by St. Luke's Methodist Church for about 50 years, is sponsoring a swim party at the Kilgore city pool on Tuesday, August 3, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Children, grades kindergarten thru 5th grade, and their parents and siblings, are invited to come join in the fun. Please RSVP to Carolyn Holcombe, 903-808-7475, by July 30, so I can secure extra lifeguards for the children's safety.



Parent's Night Out

Friday, July 2

6:00-10:00pm.

Cost \$10

Parents can drop their kids off in the gym to enjoy playing games with friends and eating pizza. You can register on our church website.



**DOWNLOAD
THE PARENT CUE APP**



7 ST. LUKE'S YOUTH

JULY EVENTS

July 4
Red, White, & Blue Celebration
10:00am Worship
11:00am Lunch
NO 8:30am Worship or Sunday School

July 5-July 9
Church Camp at Lakeview

July 14
Volunteer at Dream Center
9:00am-1:00pm
Bring \$ for lunch

July 21-25
Big House Mission Camp

SR HIGH BIBLE STUDY

Rebellious

The world around us operates with certain unspoken rules like "look out for yourself" or "only do what you have to," but what if we didn't have to live by those rules? This month, we'll discover how Jesus sets us free to rebel against the rules of the world and live in a way that reflects His Kingdom on Earth.

And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me.' **Matthew 25:40 NLT**

~Misty Shipman

JR HIGH BIBLE STUDY

Movement

In July, we will study a new series, Movement, on the topic of serving others. The goal in this series is to help your middle schooler feel excited about, and understand, their potential to serve others in a new way. While they may not always recognize their potential to make a difference, they have an enormous ability to change the world. And you can be part of this movement with them! Partner with your middle schooler to make joining the movement to serve a regular part of your faith and to show your student that they can truly make a difference.

~Niki Chowdhury

CONFIRMATION

The Confirmation Class will meet on Wednesday evenings during the school year in conjunction with our Wednesday Night Activities. The classes will conclude in May with Confirmation Sunday, where your child will be invited to become a full member of the United Methodist Church. We have designed the Confirmation process so that your child will have multiple opportunities to experience the lessons required to adequately claim their faith. This process includes weekly classes, mission opportunities, a mentor program, and participation in worship. We will be holding a parent meeting in August, to go over the expectations and process. If you are interested in having your child participate in Confirmation, please contact the church office or fill out the Confirmation form on our website, www.stlukeskilgore.com.

For more information or questions, please contact me in the church office.

YOUTH VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Wednesday, July 14 (9:00am-1:00pm)

The youth will be volunteering at Longview Dream Center on Wednesday, July 14. We will leave St. Luke's @ 9am and return @1pm. Bring \$ for lunch.

The purpose of Longview Dream Center is to provide basic needs, resources, and life enhancing programs to the people of Longview and the greater East Texas region. Their focus is providing hunger relief, free clothing, and community service projects.



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

**In the month of Kislev in the twentieth year,
while I was in the citadel of Susa, Hanani, one of my brothers,
came from Judah with some other men, and I questioned
them about the Jewish remnant that had survived the exile,
and also about Jerusalem.**

Nehemiah 1:1-2

Jewish history in the Old Testament is riddled with problems. From the earliest times, God pledged to remain faithful to the Israelites, and in turn, they should remain faithful to him. It seems like a simple and easy pledge, but time and time again the Israelites forget about the goodness of God and try to handle things on their own. The worst of problems come after a long period of the Israelites turning their back on God. God gave them ample chances to repent and change their ways, but eventually it became apparent that change was not coming. The entire Israelite nation suffers for its stubbornness.

The Babylonian army invades Israel and takes all of the Israelites captive while also destroying Jerusalem. The walls are destroyed and the Temple is pulled to pieces. All of the important people are taken away, and the Israelite nation is left in destruction. After 70 years in captivity and with a complete loss of identity, the Israelites are finally allowed to return home. One of the first groups to head back to Jerusalem was led by a man named Nehemiah. Upon returning, Nehemiah knew there was a great deal of work that had to be done. Everything was different than it had been 70 years ago. These important places no longer existed. The people that were with him needed both a home and a sense of identity. So Nehemiah began rebuilding. Not by himself, but with the help of his entire community.

While we have not been in exile for 70 years, it certainly feels like the last year of the pandemic has robbed us of so much. Our sense of normalcy is still changing, our identity has been rocked and we are looking to rebuild everything that we once had. In August we are going to journey alongside Nehemiah as we seek to rebuild our sense of purpose together as a community. Be on the lookout for more information about ways that you can get plugged in and be a part.


Rev. Ben Bagley
Sr. Pastor

9 CALENDAR

RECURRING WEEKLY:

Sunday

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

Monday

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

Tuesday

8:00am Prayer Group
(Knowles Chapel)
9:00am-11:00am Coffee & Conversation
(Family Center)

Wednesday

9:00am-9:45am Exercise (Family Center)
6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
7:30pm Prayer Group (Parlor)

Thursday

6:30pm Arise Band Rehearsal

Friday

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

ALSO SCHEDULED...

Friday, July 2

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

Sunday July 4

Red, White, & Blue Celebration

10:00am Combined Worship
11:00am Lunch
NO 8:30am Worship or Sunday School

Monday, July 5-Friday July 9

Youth at Church Camp

Friday, July 9

6:00pm Holy Huddlers at Charburger

Wednesday, July 14

9:00am-1:00pm Youth Volunteer at Dream Center

Saturday, July 17

8:00am-12:00pm Serve Day **(Family Center)**

Monday, July 19

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

Wednesday, July 21-Sunday, July 25

Youth at Big House Mission Camp

Friday, July 23

6:00pm Holy Huddlers at Schlotzky's, Kilgore

Monday July 26-Friday, July 30

Church office Closed

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, August 6

Community Back to School Bash

6:30pm Water slides
8:30pm Outdoor movie

Sunday, August 8

Promotion Sunday

Sunday, August 15

Back to School Blessing Sunday

* 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.

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

Pamela Brown	Jan Hattaway
Marian Clemens	Carolyn Holcombe
E.J. Chowdhury	Sandra Holley
Sherry Ellis	Sam Holley
Tommy Freeman	Ronnie Jobe
Chet Garner	Wilma Jones
Linda Garner	Wilbur & Kay Yates
Jacque & Todd Gibbs	
Milton Hattaway	

PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY & FRIENDS

Babby Carroll.....sister of April Watson
Bella Crosby.....friend
Cindy Frederick.....sister of April Watson
Lisa Gillespie.....daughter of Jack & Sharry Christopher
Holly Morchat.....daughter of Art & Pat Morchat
Jim Rucker.....father of Jessica Wilson
Toady Sanders.....brother-in-law of April Watson
Dennis Wheeler.....father of Veronica Sprayberry
Edith Williams.....friend of many
Kim Worl.....sister of Shelia Cross

JULY PRAYER FOCUS

St. Luke's Young Adult Class
Kilgore College
Pirtle UMC
Japan

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Name	Date
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	Jul 27, 1977

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).**

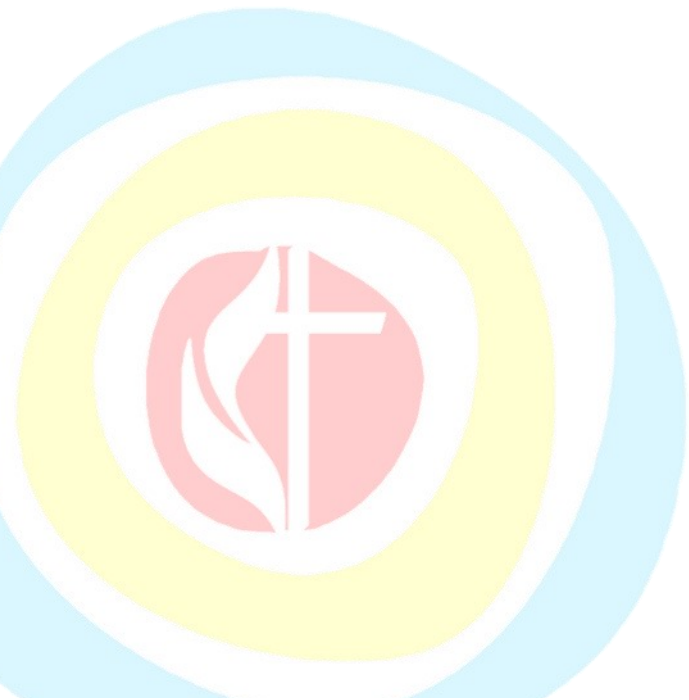
July 1 Lynne Cross Bobby King Hudson Loyd Mark Varvel	July 16 Janel Brown
July 2 Kraig DeKoker Kimberly Miller-Pitt Will Ross	July 17 Erin Rohde
July 3 Garrett Davis Sherry Ellis	July 18 Chris Crawford Emallyn Galvan
July 5 Mary Jordan Mickea Smith	July 20 Todd Gibbs Pat Morchat David Morgan
July 6 Patti Sweatt	July 21 Bill Clarke Chad Stephenson
July 7 Glenda Cochran Tommy Freeman Vernie Kunkel	July 22 Holly Davis Joe Johnson Dalton Mason
July 8 Robert Johnson Gunner Patton Wade Silvey	July 23 Sharry Christopher
July 9 Nina Miller-Pitt	July 24 Gary Moore David Phipps Bryan Thurston Karen S. Wilson
July 10 Tommy Farnham Colby Thompson	July 25 Margo Davis
July 11 Noah McClammy	July 26 Laura Clark
July 12 Mike Kerr	July 27 Madison Holman
July 13 Sara Lugeanbeal Henry Tryon	July 28 Cruz Castaneda Elizabeth Rabius
July 14 Carla Branson Gene Harville Kevin Tinkler	July 29 Sheryl Caraway
July 15 Rodney Bell	July 30 Susan Crawford Colette Jones Ami Smith

The
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Red, White, & Blue CELEBRATION

Sunday, July 4

10:00am Worship (Sanctuary)
11:00am Lunch (Family Center)
NO 8:30am Worship or Sunday School

