



The **VISITOR**

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

LOVE GOD

LIVE HIS WORD

SHARE HIS GRACE

May 2022

Issue 5



**WHAT DOES
THAT MEAN?**

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STAY CONNECTED

EVERYDAY | ALL DAY LONG

Like and follow us on Facebook

<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

<https://stlukeskilgore.org/newsletters/>

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Music Dir.
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music@stlukeskilgore.org

Financial News: March 2022

Needed to meet budget each week	\$8,000
Received 3/6	\$6,798
Received 3/13	\$6,508
Received 3/20	\$7,466
Received 3/27	\$6,231
Needed to meet budget Through March 31	\$120,000
Total received for budget Through March 31	\$100,077
Difference	-\$19,923

WAYS TO GIVE

AT

St. Luke's

**BY MAIL**

St. Luke's UMC
401 E. Main St
Kilgore, TX 75662

**ONLINE**

at

stlukeskilgore.org

**APP**

Search for
Tithe.ly
in the Apple or
Google Play Store

2022 BOARD MEMBERS**Board Chair**

Keith Hooks

Staff Parish Relations

Karen Wilson

Endowments

Celia Mooney

Lay Leader

SyRena Witt

Trustees

Garry Mount

Class of 2022

Carla Branson
Lydia Rathbun

Class of 2023

Michael Barnard
Sheryl Caraway
Tommy Farnham
Denise Reinert

Class of 2024

Gabrielle Fraschiseur
Milton Hattaway
Jim McCann
Susan Moore

These volunteers have agreed
to help lead the church.
If you have any questions
about what is happening
around St. Luke's please contact
one of them.

Children's SUNDAY SCHOOL

PRESCHOOL

Preschoolers will ask questions countless times as they get to know the world around them. It's like they're beginning a lifelong Scavenger Hunt. This is the perfect opportunity for us to not only tell them what they are looking at but Who made it as well. That's why we are going to add another question to their inquisitive minds. Who made everything? Who made the red ladybug? Who made the grey rocks? The white clouds? The blue bird? We want preschoolers to know that God made everything. We want them to think of God as they explore and get to know this wonderful, colorful world we live in. And even more, we want them to know that the same God who made everything made them and loves them.

"GOD SAW EVERYTHING HE HAD MADE. AND IT WAS VERY GOOD" **GENESIS 1:31, NIV**

ELEMENTARY

God is strong and faithful, always working in our lives. We might get knocked down from time to time, but when we put our trust in God, we find the strength we need to get back up again. Jesus showed us how to face life with resilience. No matter what happened, Jesus relied on God to help Him accomplish the mission set before Him. Because of Jesus, we can trust God no matter what. We can bounce back from whatever knocks us down and complete the mission God has for us.

Memory Verse: But those who trust in the Lord will receive new strength. They will fly as high as eagles. They will run and not get tired. They will walk and not grow weak. **Isaiah 40:31 (NIV)**



Mark your
CALENDAR

May 30-June 2
Summer Slam
Completed 3rd-5th grade

June 20-24
Vacation Bible School
3yrs-5th grade

Register now at
<https://linktr.ee/StLukesKilgoreStudents>

4TH & 5TH GRADERS

East Texas Zoo & Gator Park

Sunday, May 29 | 2:00pm

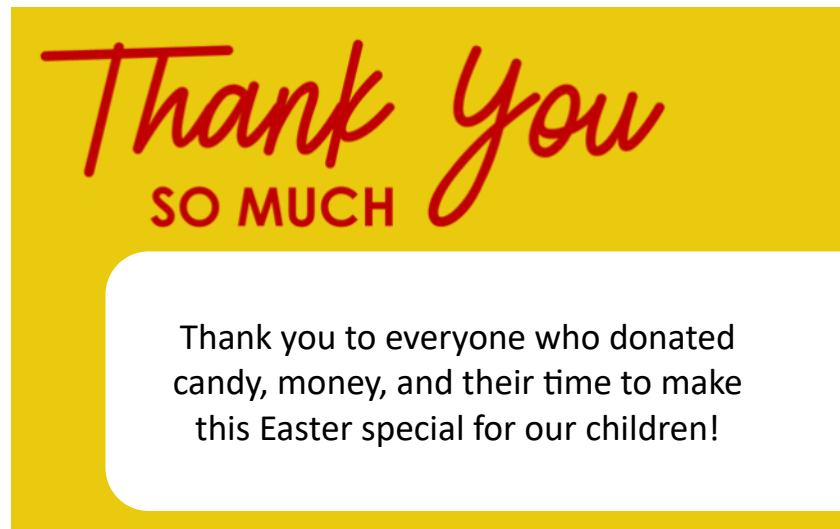
All 4th & 5th graders are invited to join us for a day at the East Texas Zoo & Gator Park on May 29. We will meet outside the gym at 2:00pm. The cost is \$12. Invite a friend and join us for an afternoon of fun.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

June 20-24 | 6:00pm-8:00pm

Training: Sunday May 22 (11:30am)

Ready to join the Monumental VBS volunteer team? Youth and Adult volunteer registration is now open. Visit <https://linktr.ee/StLukesKilgoreStudents> to register. VBS volunteer training is on Sunday, May 22, at 11:30am in the Family Center.



Thank You
SO MUCH

Thank you to everyone who donated candy, money, and their time to make this Easter special for our children!



The final day of MDO for this school year will be Wednesday, May 11. We will have Pre-K graduation at 11:30 am in the Sanctuary followed by a lunch reception in the Family Center for our graduates and their families.

Registration for the 2022-2023 school year is still open. Classes will begin on Monday, August 22. If you would like to register for our program, please contact me ASAP. Classes are filling up quickly.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the MDO Classroom Wishlist. All of the items on the wish list were purchased thanks to your generosity.

In His Service,
~Misty Shipman



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>

MAY CHAPEL

This month in Chapel we will be learning that God made everything. We want the kids to think of God as they explore and get to know this wonderful, colorful world we live in. And even more, we want them to know that the same God who made everything made them and loves them.

MAY SCRIPTURE VERSE

"God saw everything he had made. And it was very good." Genesis 1:31, NIRV
Genesis 1:31, NIRV

MDO EVENTS

May 11
MDO Graduation
& the last day of class

CHILDREN'S EVENTS

May 4
Last Wednesday Night Dinner
& Activities
5:15pm

May 6
Parent's Night Out
6:00pm

May 11
Kids & Youth End-of-Year Party
3:15pm-5:30pm

May 14
Tacky Prom
Summer Camp Fundraiser
6:00pm-8:00pm

May 29
4th & 5th Graders: ETX Zoo
& Gator Park
2:00pm)

May 30-June 2
Summer Slam Mission Camp

Please see the calendar on page 13 for a complete list of this month's events and meetings.

5 ST. LUKE'S YOUTH

SR HIGH BIBLE STUDY

We've all had or will have experiences that confirm that life can be tough, but have you ever noticed how some people are able to bounce back from the setbacks they experience? What's their secret? For almost everyone, it all comes down to one word: resilience. In this month's series "Never Give Up", we're going to focus on becoming the kind of people who can get through difficult experiences with a sense of hope, by building our resilience. We'll talk about what resilience is, and what it has to do with God, others, and our view of ourselves. By the end of this series, our hope is, we'll be better equipped to discover how hope changes everything.

MEMORY VERSE:

"The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth."

Psalms 145:18, NIV

~Misty Shipman

JR HIGH BIBLE STUDY

In this month's series, Never Give Up, we're encouraging our middle school students to see that resilience is a part of their DNA. Middle schoolers may struggle in the face of challenges, as many of them will find themselves navigating difficult circumstances, rejection, or loss for the first time in this phase. That's why encouraging them to know that God doesn't give up on them and doesn't want them to give up on themselves or others is so crucial to encourage them to keep going and keep growing in resilience.

MEMORY VERSE:

"The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth."

Psalms 145:18, NIV

~Niki Chowdhury

Parents, check out the series devotionals on the YouVersion Bible App and follow along with your students! Just search for "Real Talk" 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.

TACKY PROM FUNDRAISER

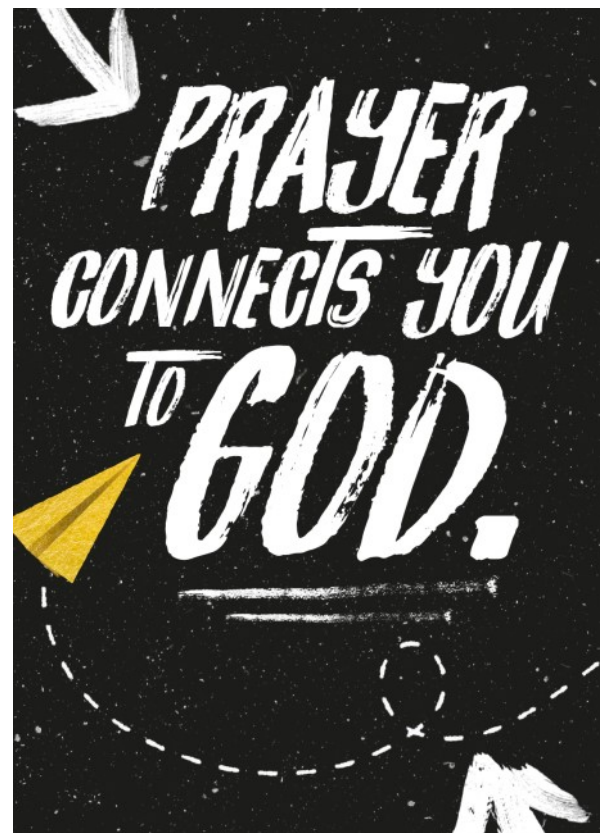
Volunteers needed!

All Kids and Youth wishing to attend Church camp or Summer Mission Camps are encouraged to volunteer at the Tacky Prom Fundraiser on May 14. Volunteering at a fundraiser event will make your child eligible to receive discounts on the cost of summer activities.

For more information on how you can help contact Sabrina Bagley or the church office.

Thank you
SO MUCH

Huge thank you to Richelle Rathbun, Cassie Stephens, Cameron Stephens, Kathy Brown, Bret Daigle, Tracey Varvel, Meggan and Alan Clark, and to all those who attended for helping make the spaghetti fundraiser a success for the children and youth.



Mark your CALENDAR

June 9-12

Big House Mission Trip

Completed 5th-12 grade

Cost: \$135

July 4-8

Lakeview Church Camp

Completed 2nd-12th grade

Cost: \$440

Register now at
<https://linktr.ee/StLukesKilgoreStudents>

YOUTH EVENTS

May 4

**Last Wednesday Night Dinner
& Activities**

5:15pm

May 11

Kids & Youth End-of-Year Party

3:15pm-5:30pm

May 14

Tacky Prom

Summer Camp Fundraiser

6:00pm-8:00pm

May 15

Confirmation Sunday

10:30am

May 22

Sr. Sunday

HONEST PRAYER
IS GREATER
THAN FANCY PRAYER



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_srhgh

7 2022 SENIOR CLASS

Class of 2022

Congratulations to our
2022 Graduating Senior,
Dalton Mason.



Dalton Mason

Parents: David & Emily Mason

Dalton is a homeschool graduate. In addition to Dalton's academic studies, he has volunteered many hours with Partnership for Pets at Petco and the Longview Animal Shelter. Dalton is a member of The Young Musicians of East Texas Band where he plays the snare and bass drum. His other musical talents include the ukulele and the piano.

Dalton has volunteered at St. Luke's Wednesday afternoon activities and assisted in children's Sunday School. He is a part of the worship team and has operated the computer at the 8:30am service with his father for the last 7 years.

Dalton plans to pursue a career in the security industry after graduation.

TOTALLY**AWESOME**

TACKY PROM

PHOTOBOOTH, SNACKS, DJ, PROM QUEEN & KING CONTEST**Saturday, May 14****6:00pm-8:00pm****Tickets: \$20 per person
\$50 for a family**

Have you ever wanted to relive your High School Prom? Have you looked back at pictures and wondered why you thought your clothes were a good idea? Do you want to spend an evening walking down memory lane while supporting a good cause?

We invite you to join us at our first Tacky Prom. It will be a dance inspired by all of our worst and tackiest memories from high school dances. The themes and music will be appropriate for all ages and will create an atmosphere of fun and tackiness.

Tickets are on sale in the church office or at the Welcome Desk on Sundays, \$20 each or \$50 for a family. Childcare will be available for children under the age of 4. Registration for childcare is required and can be made on our website, stlukeskilgore.com. Just click on the "Resources" link in the menu. All proceeds from ticket sales will go to the Kids & Youth Summer Camp Fund to help cover the cost of Church Camp and Summer Mission Trips.

You are not too young or too old to come to join us at Tacky Prom and support our youth while you dance the night away.



Meet our BOARD



Milton Hattaway

Milton has been involved with ministry at St. Luke's since his father, Rev. Dr. William Hattaway was appointed as Senior Pastor in 1955. He and his wife Jan, raised their three children at St. Luke's and he has spent over 60 years as a member. Milton participates in Chancel Choir, Prayer Group and Bible Study opportunities. He would like to see St. Luke's grow and support our local community through missions. Make sure to let Milton know how grateful we are for his legacy and leadership as a member of St. Luke's.

ST. LUKE'S Spotlight

We want to take a minute to recognize the families of our church staff. They may not be getting a paycheck, but they put in lots of hours working for the church. From working in the nursery, being called in last minute to run sound at worship, spending hours putting together a new changing table, or dressing up in the bunny suit, ministry at St. Luke's could not happen without them.

Make sure to let the Bagley's, Chowdhury's, Hartsell's, Rathbun's, Shipman's, & Vermillion's know how much we appreciate them.

A MESSAGE FROM the Board

For the last fifteen years, Misty Shipman has been an important part of the ministries of St. Luke's UMC. She has helped lead and guide the Mothers Day Out Program as well as nurture and teach our Sr. High Youth. Under Misty's leadership, we have seen both programs grow and flourish even as we navigated the pandemic and the aftermath.

Recently, Misty felt led to take her gift for working with children and move in a new and exciting direction. Beginning in August, Misty will be a teacher for Kilgore Independent School District. While we are excited for her and this new endeavor, it will present some change around the church. The Board of Stewards and the Mothers Day Out Board are working with Misty on a timeline and potential candidates to fill both the Mother's Day Out Director and Senior High Youth Director positions. Misty will finish out the school year with the MDO and will continue working as Senior High Youth Director through the summer.

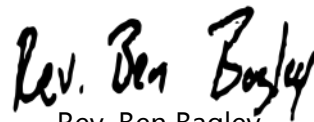
While we are sad to be losing Misty on staff we are excited about this new direction in her life.

I love to read. I typically have two books going at any given time. One book I read for my own entertainment. I read it at night, when I am running or when I have a few minutes of free time. The other book I read is typically for work and could cover a wide range of topics from theology to leadership. There is a third book that is normally cracked open on my desk that I spend a great deal of time with, the Bible.

I went back and looked at my preaching notes and over the last five years of my ministry at St. Luke's UMC, I have preached approximately 275 different sermons. This includes Sunday, Special Services, Weddings, and Funerals. During that time we have used just over 500 different scripture passages covering 56 of the 66 books of the Bible. I have led over 35 different Bible studies that covered many of the same passages, as well as the remaining 10 books that we had not preached over. I am not mentioning all this to brag, but instead to show just how important a good understanding of scripture is to me and to the health of our spiritual lives.

Throughout Lent, we explored the overarching story of Scripture. It helped us to understand how the Old and New Testaments work together. In May we are going to be using our time in worship to look at scriptural words that we often misconstrue to our own benefit. My hope is that you do not take these two sermon series as all the biblical understanding you need, but instead that it strikes curiosity inside of you. I hope that hearing scripture on Sunday inspires you to read more during the week and see how God is moving, not just through scripture but through your life as well.

On Palm Sunday we had cards available that will help you read through the entire Bible in one year in manageable chunks. We have more cards available in the office if you were not able to get one. I hope that you will take one and begin a journey through scripture over the next year.



Rev. Ben Bagley
Sr. Pastor

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER**Wednesdays****5:15pm | Family Center**

In order to help Richelle better plan the weekly meals, we will be taking online payments. Meals will cost \$3 for kids (under 12) and \$6 for adults (over 12). Please Pre-pay on our website, stlukeskilgore.org.

MAY MENUS**April 6**

Chicken Nuggets, Waffle Fries, Salad,
Drink & Dessert

HOLY HUDDLERS

We would like to invite and welcome everyone to eat and fellowship with the Holy Huddlers. We 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.

May 6

6:00pm

Jucy's Taco, Hwy 80

May 20

6:00pm

Charburger

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

STROKE SCAN**Saturday, May 28****9:00am-5:00pm | Family Center**

St. Luke's is hosting a community Stroke Scan event on May 28. The Stroke Scan company provides affordable, painless ultrasound screenings for the early detection and prevention of stroke, cancer, and other health issues. Be on the look out for more information and registration opportunities.

SERVE DAY**Saturday, May 21****9:00am-12:00pm | Family Center**

It's time for Serve Day. Join us for a day of serving our church and our community. We will have several outdoor projects as well as simple indoor projects. There is work for everyone when we are serving our community.

TOWN HALL MEETING**Thursday, May 12****6:00pm | Knowles Chapel**

Every other month we host a town hall meeting to discuss all the things you need to know at St. Luke's. If you have any questions about what's happening at St. Luke's or suggestions on ministry opportunities, this is the place for you. We hope to see you there.

Let us
LEND A HAND

The St. Luke's Mission Team wants to lend you a hand. Do you have light bulbs that need to be replaced, but you can't reach them, or you don't feel steady on a step ladder? Maybe it's time to change the water filter in your refrigerator, but it's not easy for you to get to. Have you been unable to rake your leaves or mow your lawn? The Mission Team is getting together a group of volunteers to call on when we have people in need of assistance with household projects. If you or someone you know is in need of a helping hand, please contact the church office so we can help out.



1. The Easter Bunny visited MDO
2. Living Cross
- 3-5 Volunteers stuff Easter Eggs
- 6 & 8 Easter Worship
- 9 Easter Egg Hunt
- 7, 10, & 11 MDO celebrates 50th with a petting zoo

13 CALENDAR May 2022

1 Children's Art & Music Program 6:00pm	2	3 Methodist Women ** 6:00pm	4 Last Wednesday Night Dinner & Activities	5	6 Parents Night Out 6:00pm-10:00pm Holy Huddlers at Jucy's Taco (Hwy80) 6:00pm	7
8 Mother's Day	9	10	11 Children & Youth End-of-year Party 3:15pm MDO Graduation 11:30am	12 Town Hall Meeting 6:00pm	13	14 Tacky Prom: Youth Fundraiser 6:00pm-8:00pm
15 Confirmation Sunday	16 Board of Stewards** 6:00pm	17 Mission Team Meeting** 6:00pm	18	19	20 Holy Huddlers at Charburger 6:00pm	21 Serve Day 9:00am-12:00pm
22 Sr. Sunday VBS Volunteer Training 11:30am	23	24 Worship Team Meeting** 6:00pm	25	26	27	28 Stroke Scan 9:00am-5:00pm
29 4th & 5th Graders: ETX Zoo & Gator Park 2:00pm	30 Memorial Day Office Closed Summer Slam Mission Camp	31 Summer Slam Mission Camp	<div> <p>* Nursery provided for this event. ** Nursery can be arranged for this event. Call Niki Chowdhury, 903-984-3576</p> </div>			

RECURRING WEEKLY:

Sunday

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

Monday

9:00am-2:00pm | Mother's Day Out

Tuesday

8:00am | Prayer Group (Knowles Chapel)
11:45am | Lunchtime Bible Study (Family Center)

Wednesday

9:00am-2:00pm | Mother's Day Out
3:15pm-5:30pm | Children's Choir/Children's Art/Youth
5:15pm-6:00pm | Wednesday Night Dinner (Family Center)
6:00pm-7:00pm | Wednesday Activities
6:00pm | Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday

6:30pm | Arise Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

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 the list longer, 903-984-3576.

For a complete list of Joys & Concerns, military members, and members in care facilities, please contact the church office.

PRAYERS FOR OUR MEMBERS

Hope Cantu	Dwaine & Elaine Kirksey
E.J. & Niki Chowdhury	Angela Thompson
Cindy Frederick	April Watson
Tommy Freeman	Wilbur & Kay Yates
Linda Garner	
Pat Haynes	

Rod & Cindy Allen.....sister & brother-in-law
of Jim & Sharon McCann

Vicki Benbow.....sister of Karen L. Wilson

Cherry Black.....sister of Glenda Cochran

Babby Carroll.....sister of April Watson

Valerie Conner.....
.....daughter of Gary & Beverly Gray

Les Cross.....brother of Dan Cross

Jerry & Linda Fontineau.....friend of many

Lisa Gillespie.....
.....daughter of Jack & Sharry Christopher

Peggy Hutchins.....sister of Joe White

Gloria Kinney.....
.....granddaughter of Jack & Sharry Christopher

Merilyn Kitchens.....friend

Sherry Lockman.....friend of Paula Hooks

Brianna McClung.....Spring Hill Student

Richard & Sandra Melville.....
.....sister of Milton Hattaway

Kate Mills.....former MDO student

Nelda Morgan.....St. Luke's Custodian

Neighbor (end-of-life hospice).....Louise Fielding

Joey Pipkin.....nephew of Dan & Shelia Cross

JR & Laurie Tarply.....friend

Keith Thompson.....
.....friend of Jim & Sharon McCann

Kai Tucker.....KHS Student

Julie Warren.....family of Rhett & Anna Rohde

MAY PRAYER FOCUS

St. Luke's Mother's Day Out
Kilgore High School
Grace Fellowship
Sweden

MAY 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).

May 1 Michael Allen	May 14 Sami Nelson
May 3 Jeannie Allison Brooklyn Patton	May 15 Misty Shipman
May 4 Addilyn DeKoker Jacob Mooney	May 16 Luke McGilvray
May 5 Sloan Berger	May 17 Madison Dean
May 6 Kennedy Buyher	May 19 Linda Garner Cameron Stephens
May 7 Leon Courtney	May 20 Christine George
May 8 Bill Bryant Dennis Ellis Robert Smith	May 21 Jack Christopher
May 9 Veronica Sprayberry	May 22 Janet Craver
May 10 Alma Casey Cade Clark Mark Hatfield Cora Mooney	May 23 Christian Stephenson
May 11 Charlotte Reynolds	May 24 Marilyn Summers
	May 27 Madden Ridge
	May 28 Keith Mathis

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Name	Date
Jim & Sharon McCann	May 4, 1968
Dan & Shelia Cross	May 7, 1979
Jeff & Cassie Stephens	May 18, 1997
Bill & Peggy Clarke	May 20, 1978
Kraig & Tonya DeKoker	May 22, 2004

E-Mail: office@stlukeskilgore.org

Office: 903-984-3576

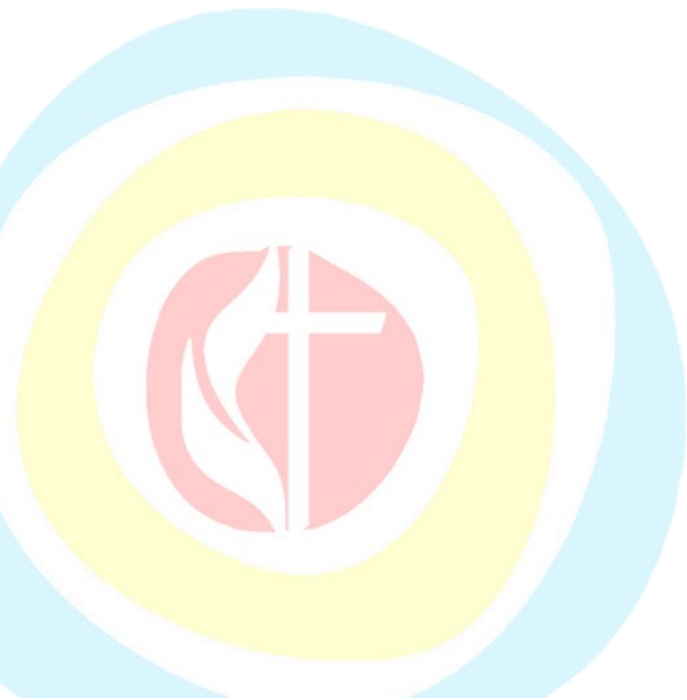
Web Site: www.stlukeskilgore.org

The
VISITOR

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

Non-Profit Organization
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Kilgore, Texas
Permit No. 202

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ST. LUKE'S KIDS Art Show & Concert

**SUNDAY, MAY 1
6:00PM
FAMILY CENTER**

Our Wednesday Afternoon Programs have been working hard and learning a lot this semester. Help us celebrate these talented students at our 1st Annual Art Show & Concert. We will be exhibiting artwork from our art students and our music kids will be performing. Some of the artwork will be available for purchase through our live auction.

We hope to see you there.