



The VISITOR

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

September 2022

Issue 9



Make plans to join us for our next sermon series,
"What Lies Beneath." We will be exploring what it takes
to have an emotionally mature faith and how we can deepen our faith walk.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

PAGE 2

Discernment

PAGE 3

St. Luke's Kids

PAGE 4

We Are St. Luke's

PAGE 5

Wednesday Activities

PAGE 6

What's Happening

PAGE 7

St. Luke's Youth

PAGE 8

From the Pastor

PAGE 9

Calendar

PAGE 10

Joys & Concerns
Birthdays
Anniversaries

BACK PAGE

Woman to Woman Conference

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

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

Watch Worship Live

<https://stlukeskilgore.org/watch-live/>

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Office

(903) 984-3576
office@stlukeskilgore.org

Rev. Dr. Allison Andrews

pastor@stlukeskilgore.org

Jennifer Powell

Dir. of Communications
(903) 984-3576
office@stlukeskilgore.org

Scarlett Hartsell

Business Manager
(903) 987-2593
finance@stlukeskilgore.org

Richelle Rathbun

Hospitality Coordinator
(903) 371-3499

James Vermillion

Music Dir.
(903) 241-1447
music@stlukeskilgore.org

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.

How do I participate in discernment?

St. Luke's Kilgore is currently in a period of discernment. We want you to join us in this process of prayer, learning, and discussion as we plan for the future of our church. Here are some ways that you can participate in discernment:

1.

PRAY FOR YOUR CHURCH

Pray for the Board of Stewards, Pastor Allison, and our church family as we wrestle with our hopes for the future. Be on the look out for information about a prayer vigil from the Prayer Team.

2.

ATTEND AN INFORMATION MEETING

There will be a town hall meeting in the Sanctuary on Monday, September 12 at 6:00 pm.

3.

CHECK ON YOUR CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

If the Board of Stewards decides that we should vote to stay or leave the United Methodist Church, you must be a member on our rolls to vote. If you aren't sure if you have ever officially joined the church, don't hesitate to get in touch with the office – we can check!

4.

ASK QUESTIONS

Please feel free to call, email, schedule a lunch meeting, etc., with Pastor Allison. She is here to help you understand what the church is going through.

More information about this process can be found on our website,
stlukeskilgore.org/discernment/

3 ST. LUKE'S KIDS

CHILDREN'S EVENTS

September 2

Parent's Night Out

6:00pm-10:00pm

September 7

Wednesday Activities Resume

Children's Choir

3:15pm-5:30pm

Wednesday Night Dinner

5:15pm-6:00pm

Wednesday Night Bible Studies

6:00pm-7:00pm

September 11

Third Grade Bible Sunday

8:30am & 10:30am

Please see the calendar on page 9 for a complete list of this month's events and meetings.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Wednesdays, 3:15pm-5:30pm

The St. Luke's Children's Choir program is the first part of our weekly Wednesday evening ministries. Children age 4 (by September 1) through 5th grade are invited to join us regardless of church membership. The St. Luke's Vans will pick up students from Kilgore ISD schools at the end of the day and transport them to the church. Children should be picked up from the gym by 5:30pm and must be signed out by an adult. Visit our website to register your child and to print out a transportation form to be returned to the church office. There is a \$10 snack fee for each child to help cover the cost of snacks for the year. If you have any questions or need assistance registering your child, please contact the church office.

****More information about Wednesday Night Dinner & Wednesday Night Bible Studies can be found on Page 5.**



REGISTER NOW!!

THIRD GRADE BIBLES

Sunday, September 11 | 8:30am & 10:30am

Third Grade Bible Sunday is an important milestone in the lives of our children. Owning your own Bible is the beginning of claiming your own faith story. Every year we present our third grade class with their own Bibles. If your child is in third grade and would like to receive a Bible please contact the church office.



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>

WELCOME TO OUR NEW *Children's Ministry Director*

The Board of Stewards is pleased to present **Celia Mooney** as the next Children's Director for St.

Luke's. Celia has been a long time member of St. Luke's. She has served our church in many capacities - as children's Sunday school teacher, volunteer on Wednesdays with children's choir, head of the Just Among Moms group, chair of the Endowment Committee, part of the technical help within the traditional service, provider of food for bereavement dinners, and a host of other volunteer services. She is very familiar with the children's program as her three children have been or currently are participating in its ministries. She feels she has been coached by the best as she refers to her time working with both Niki and Misty.

We are excited about her leadership within the Just Among Moms group. Her relationship with the young mothers can be a bridge for bringing new people into the church and possibly into volunteer positions.

Celia's devotion and faithfulness to this church has given her a broad and balanced understanding of the church at large. We look forward to all she can bring to our children's program.



Meet our BOARD



Lydia Rathbun

Lydia and her amazing husband Trey are parents to the sweetest son, Brantley. Trey grew up in St. Luke's and Lydia joined the church about 6 years ago. We are blessed to have Lydia share her gift of art with our congregation through various art opportunities. She would like to see St. Luke's continue to grow in membership and to continue to provide a loving home to new and old members and guests.

Make sure to thank Lydia for her service to St. Luke's.

ST. LUKE'S Spotlight

Dear St Luke's Family,

Thank you so much for your prayers, love, care, support, encouragement, concern, kindness & cards. This journey has brought me face to face with the love of God thru His people at St Luke's. The enchilada fundraiser was such a thoughtful project and has helped us a lot — to each of you who worked so hard on this Thank Ya Thank Ya Thank Ya!

I have completed the chemo regimen and had surgery on July 25.

We continue to covet your prayers and willingness to keep us lifted before the throne of God. We KNOW prayer works!

**Much love to each of you,
April Watson**

****NOTE: St. Luke's is providing meals for April and Nathan Watson during August & September. If you would like to help provide a meal please contact Richelle Rathbun.**

HERITAGE Highlights

On Sunday, August 23, 1931, the history of the Kilgore Methodist Episcopal Church South changed forever. It was on this day that the small white wooden sanctuary that housed the congregation burned down in an act of arson.

Five fires were set that day, destroying the Presbyterian Church, The Methodist Church, a cottonseed storage house and damaging the Dublin Grocery Company and an abounded building. All five fires were started with gasoline soaked trash ignited and placed under the buildings.

For the Methodists, it was as if the flames of the burning church building ignited a fiery zeal within the congregation. Attention turned again 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. Jessie Reynolds, J.A. Knowles, John Henry Laird, and Mrs. S.G. Andrews.

On November 20, 1932 the new St. Luke's Methodist Episcopal Church South Sanctuary was opened for worship. Almost 90 years later and the Methodist congregation in Kilgore is still worshipping in that beautiful rock structure.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT *Bible Studies*

Wednesdays beginning September 7

6:00pm-7:00pm

Make plans to join us on Wednesday evenings for a time of fellowship and Bible study. We have something for the whole family.

Nursery Care (infant-3 years)

Kid's Bible Study (4years-5th Grade)

Confirmation (6th Grade)

Youth (7th Grade-12th Grade)

JAM (Just Among Moms)

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Pastor Allison's Bible Study

This Semester Pastor Allison's bible Study will be about Wisdom.

LUNCH TIME *Bible Study*

Tuesdays beginning

September 6

11:45am | Family Center

Tuesday Lunch Time Bible Study is back. Join Pastor Allison in the Family Center on Tuesdays at 11:45am each week. This semester the Bible Study will be talking about Wisdom.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT *Dinner*

Wednesdays beginning September 7

5:15pm-6:00pm | 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).

We are offering a discount if you pre-pay for the entire semester early. Use the QR Code to pay online or contact the church office for assistance.

Single Adult Meal-\$6.00

Single Child's Meal-\$3.00

Full Semester Adult-\$72.00

Full Semester Child-\$36.00



SEPTEMBER MENUS

September 7

Taco Salad, Nachos,
Chips & Salsa, Dessert
& Drink

September 21

Ham, Cheesy Potatoes,
Green Beans, Roll, Drink
& Dessert

September 14

Chicken Nuggets, Waffle
Fries, Veggies, Dessert
& Drink

September 28

Chicken Pitas, Salad,
Dessert, & Drink

WAYS TO GIVE AT St. Luke's



IN PERSON

Drop your gift in one of the offering boxes at worship or in the offering plate



ONLINE

at
stlukeskilgore.org



TEXT

"give" to 903-833-3576



BY MAIL

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

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.

September 9

6:00pm

Papacita's, Longview

September 23

6:00pm

Whataburger, Kilgore

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

SCHOLARSHIPS

The St. Luke's Scholarship is proud to announce that the following students have been awarded Scholarships for the Fall 2022 semester.

Peyton Berger

Mackenzie Chowdhury

Sydney Chowdhury

Abby Hattaway

Thomas Hattaway

Aubree McCann

Victoria Shipman

Carmen Vermillion

Luke Weathers

Gus Witt

Sam Witt

This semester St. Luke's has awarded \$5,200 in scholarship funds.

St. Luke's UMC is blessed with a scholarship endowment fund that enables us to provide scholarship funds for our students as they continue their education. If you would like to make a donation to the Scholarship fund in honor or in memory of a loved one please contact the church office.

7 ST. LUKE'S YOUTH

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

Wednesdays

3:15pm-5:15pm | After School

5:15pm-6:00pm | Dinner

6:00pm-7:00pm | Studies

Yay! It's time for Wednesday Activities to resume. All youth 6th Grade-12th Grade are invited to join us on Wednesdays for games, Bible study, and dinner. The St. Luke's vans will pick up Kilgore ISD students at the end of the school day and transport them to the church. All students planning to ride on the church vans must complete and turn in a "Consent & Medical Authorization Form" prior to September 7. The form can be found on our website or by using the QR code. Please fill out the form and return it to the church office or email it to office@stlukeskilgore.org.

****More information about Wednesday Night Dinner & Wednesday Night Bible Studies can be found on Page 5.**

CONFIRMATION

Wednesdays 6:00pm-7:00pm

Confirmation is a milestone in the lives of our 6th graders. This is a time when they can dig deeper into their faith and what it means to be a Christian. The confirmation class will meet on Wednesdays at 6:00pm in the Youth Lounge. If you have a 6th grader that would like to participate in the Confirmation class please contact Jennifer Powell in the church office and make plans to attend the Confirmation Parents Meeting on Sunday August 28 at 9:30am.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW Youth Ministry Director

The Board of Stewards is pleased to announce that Michael Moore will be St. Luke's next Youth Director. Michael currently is serving as a para-professional with Longview ISD at Bailey Elementary School (formerly South Ward Elementary School), a job he will be able to keep while serving as our Youth Director. Michael is a long time citizen of Kilgore, having been employed by Kilgore ISD, active in its youth sports programs, active in the Boys and Girls Club, and part of Kilgore Men of Alliance.

Michael seems to have a true heart for children and youth. He recognizes the need to provide our youth with a good role model and mentor. He also feels that establishing a solid foundation of faith is important so our youth will have that a foundation throughout their lives.

During our visits with Michael, we discovered that his connections to children and youth through the Kilgore sports program have enabled him to develop coach/player relationships already with at least 3 of our current youth. We have also enjoyed discovering how many adults of our congregation know Michael.

Michael has expressed that he is excited about the fact that his presence here will bring some added diversity to our congregation and to our already diverse youth group. All of us who have become acquainted with him through this hiring process feel excited about his potential here at St. Luke's.



YOUTH EVENTS

September 7

**Wednesday Activities Resume
Youth Afterschool (Gym)**

3:15pm-5:30pm

Wednesday Night Dinner

5:15pm-6:00pm

Wednesday Night Bible Studies

6:00pm-7:00pm

**Please see the calendar on page 9
for a complete list of this month's
events and meetings.**



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](https://www.facebook.com/stlukesyouthkilgore)

@sly_srhigh

What Lies Beneath?

About 20 years ago, I went to the theater to watch a supernatural thriller, *What Lies Beneath*. In the movie, Harrison Ford and Michelle Pfeiffer portray an extraordinary couple in which she is a beautiful cellist and he is a successful college professor. They live in a gorgeous house and are admired by their community. Of course, all of this is the early setting for the stark contrast which will come later: Ford's character is actually a cheating and murderous husband. In the movie, Michelle Pfeiffer's character barely escapes with her life. And the moral of the movie was clearly that looks can be deceiving and, as well, we often deceive even ourselves!

What lies beneath the veneer of our lives? We have our daily routines and responsibilities which we value and work hard to maintain. The basic framework for our living is the picture which defines for other people who we are, essentially. We likewise can only know so much about the people in our milieu. Appearances and actions are the major components for the basic understanding of a person.

In our honest moments, however, most of us will admit that, much like an iceberg, we are made up of deep layers that exist well beneath the surface awareness of others and even ourselves. (Only 10% of an iceberg is visible above the water line, and the other 90% lies beneath the water.) It often takes a traumatic circumstance or major life change for us to really look at the hidden compartments of ourselves and decide change is necessary.

The Apostle Paul taught in 2 Corinthians that when you become a Christian, old things pass away and all things become new. Wow! That sounds so immediate and easy, doesn't it? This can only be true, however, if we let Jesus address the hidden 90% of ourselves which may be hindering our Christian growth.

Becoming emotionally healthy in our spirituality is clearly something we all want for ourselves and the people we know and love. A necessary factor in living the full life for which God created us is the willingness to come out of hiding. Pretending that struggle isn't real only isolates us from the One who loves us most and would stop at nothing to bring healing and change. With this in mind, let us boldly step forward to God and present our entire selves to Him. God will gently mold us into works of art, using our flaws to refashion us into our intended createdness.

Jeremiah 18 "I went down to the potter's house and I saw him working at the wheel. But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as it seemed best to him."

What lies beneath the veneer? What needs to be reshaped? This will be our focus in our next sermon series beginning the last week of August and extending to September 4.

In Christ we walk forward together,



Rev. Dr. Allison Andrews
Sr. Pastor

<p>* Nursery provided for this event. ** Nursery can be arranged for this event. Call Niki Chowdhury, 903-984-3576</p>				1	2 Parents Night Out 6:00pm	3
4	5	6 Lunchtime Bible Study Resumes 11:45am	7 Wednesday Activities Resume	8	9 Holy Huddlers Papacitas, Longview 6:00pm	10
11 Third Grade Bible Sunday	12 Town Hall Meeting 6:00pm	13	14	15	16	17 Woman to Woman Conference 9:00am-1:30pm
18	19 Board of Stewards Meeting 6:00pm	20 Mission Team Meeting 6:00pm	21	22	23 Holy Huddlers at Whataburger 6:00pm	24 Serve Day Decorate the Patch 9:00am-12:00pm
25	26	27	28 Pumpkin Unload 5:00pm	29 Pumpkin Patch Opens 10:00am-6:30pm	30	

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 (Children's Courtyard)

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

9:00am-2:00pm | Mother's Day Out (Children's Courtyard)
3:15pm-5:30pm | **Children's Choir** (Gym/Choir Room)
5:15pm-6:00pm | **Dinner** (Family Center)
6:00pm-7:00pm | **Studies**
6:00pm | Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

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

Sharry Christopher	Dwaine & Elaine Kirksey
Cindy Frederick	Agnes Oliver
Tommy Freeman	David Phipps
Gary Gray	Angela Thompson
Pat Haynes	April & Nathan Watson
Sam Holley	Wilbur & Kay Yates

PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY & FRIENDS

Luke Briscoe.....	friend of SyRena Witt
Babby Carroll.....	sister of April Watson
Allison Covington.....	niece of Bill & Peggy Clarke
Lisa Gillespie.....	daughter of Jack & Sharry Christopher
Gloria Kinney.....	granddaughter of Jack & Sharry Christopher
Marilyn Kitchens.....	friend
Sam, Sandi, Kelsey, & Jenna Lewis.....	friends of many
Lydia Lim & Family.....	St. Luke's Organist
Melody Martins.....	great niece of Bill & Peggy Clarke
Brianna McClung.....	Spring Hill Student
Nelda Morgan.....	St. Luke's Custodian
Tommy & Mary Patton.....	friends of Dan & Shelia Cross
Joey Pipkin.....	nephew of Dan & Shelia Cross
JR & Laurie Tarply.....	friend
Keith Thompson.....	friend of Jim & Sharon McCann
Jan Watson.....	sister of Bill & Peggy Clarke
Tom Watson.....	nephew of Bill & Peggy Clarke

WE SHARE JOY WITH...

Kai Tucker and his family. Kai is a student at Kilgore High School that was diagnosed with cancer in the spring. He is currently in remission.

WE EXTEND OUR SYMPATHY TO...

The family of **Marilyn Summers**, who was passed away July 28.

The family of Linda Garner, who passed away on July 31.

The family of **Ruben Pipkin**. Rubin was a former member of St. Luke's UMC. He passed away at the age of 103.

Anna Rohde on the loss of her mother, Beatrice Fernandez.

Lydia Lim on the loss of her mother, Hanna Kim.

SEPTEMBER 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).

September 3

Kay Evans

September 17

Barbara Francisco

September 4

Carol Grimes

September 18

Keith Hooks

Isabell Witt

September 7

Brittney Copeland

September 19

Lisa McClammy

Billy Mims

September 9

Troy Jones

Richelle Rathbun

September 20

Barbara Boyd

Susan Moore

September 10

Dwaine Kirksey

Rhett Rohde

September 21

Anna Gillen-Hall

September 11

Emily Mason

September 25

Pat Thompson

September 12

Joan Smith

September 26

Laura Farnham

September 13

Lily Chowdhury

September 29

Jana Castaneda

September 15

Billie Mims

Jordan Stephens

Ann White

September 16

Presley Thompson

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Name

Date

Art & Pat Morchat

September 4

Clay & Celia Mooney

September 8

Tony & SyRena Witt

September 16

Cody & Veronica Sprayberry

September 17

Randy & Alice Crocker

September 25

Jeff & RoseAnna Howell

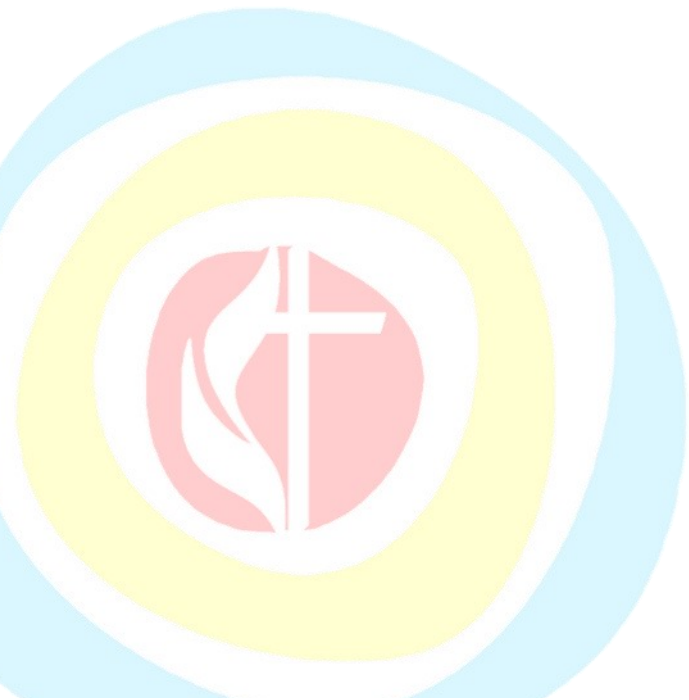
September 30

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



Warrior

Woman to Woman

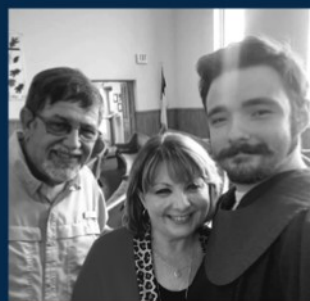
CONFERENCE

Hosted by St. Luke's UMC

September 17
9:00am-1:30pm

So do not fear, for I am with you;
Do not be dismayed, for I am God.
I will strengthen you and help you;
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 41:10



**Featured
Speaker**

*Tonia
Belk*

**Register
NOW!!**

