



ISSUE 10 | OCTOBER 2025

THE VISITOR

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



IT'S PUMPKIN TIME

THIS ISSUE:

In Case You Missed It

Page 1 & 2

Get Connected

Page 3 & 4

**A Message
from Pastor Kelly**

Page 4

Pumpkin Patch

Page 5 & 6

Give Back

Page 7

Joys & Concerns

Page 9

October Calendar

Page 10

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

We want to help you get connected and become part of the St. Luke's family.

If you have any questions about a ministry opportunity or need assistance, we encourage you to contact a member of our staff.

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IN CASE YOU MISSED IT



Our Methodist Men's group hosted a "Kick-Off" lunch to celebrate the beginning of a new Men's ministry. Be on the lookout for information about new opportunities.



COLLEGE MINISTRY

We are excited to be bringing back our connection with Kilgore College. We have partnered with Rev. Gene Evans to provide meals for the Bible Study that he hosts at Heights Hall, a private dormitory serving Kilgore College.

Richelle Rathbun provided tacos for the first meal on September 14. If you are interested helping provide meals for this program, contact Richelle Rathbun. Monetary donations can be made to the Designated Fund to help cover this cost of the program.



Our Methodist Women hosted their annual Birth Bash Lunch on September 21. Annette Morgan graced with beautiful music on the piano, while the ladies visited and enjoyed lunch.



To connect with others at church, actively participate, initiate conversations, and engage in church activities. Building genuine relationships is key, so take the initiative to learn names, sit with new people, and extend invitations to social events. Consider joining a small group or volunteering to further deepen your connections within the church community. Here are just some of the ways you can get connected at St. Luke's.

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.

All gatherings begin at 6:00pm

October 3

The Cracker Barrel, Longview

August 15

Jucy's, Longview

If you have any questions, please call
Barbara Francisco, 903-918-6797

METHODIST

Women

Tuesday, October 7 | 6:00pm

This month the Methodist women's group will not hold a regular meeting. Instead, the ladies will be helping to serve food at the Party in the Patch. All ladies are invited to help us support this community event.

PRAYER GROUP

Tuesdays | 8:00am

Knowles Chapel

The door is always open
for you to join us.



WELCOME

TO THE Family

We are excited to welcome Dori Feagin and her sons, Benjamin, Wendell, Frederick, and Sam to the St. Luke's family.

Dori and her boys joined on September 7.

WEDNESDAY

NIGHT MEALS

Join us for food and fellowship every Wednesday during the school year.

5:15pm-6:00pm
Family Center

October 1

Chicken Nuggets, Waffle Fries,
Veggies W/ Ranch, Dessert & Drink

October 8

No Wednesday Night Meal
KISD Holiday

October 15

Teriyaki Chicken W/ Rice & Stir Fry
Veggies, Dessert, & Drink

October 22

Baked Potatoes, Salad,
Dessert, & Drink

October 29

Hot Dogs, Chili Dogs, Nachos,
& Drink

\$3 for kids under 12
\$6 adults over 12

Cash, Check, and Credit Cards
will be accepted at dinner.

FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART

Rev. Kelly J. Inman, Sr. Pastor
St. Luke's Methodist Church, Kilgore

A Season of Growth, Study, and Service at St. Luke's

What a wonderful start we have had to the semester! Our new study, *Profoundly Christian, Distinctly Methodist*, has been a blessing to many—whether around the table at Tuesday lunch or in fellowship on Wednesday evenings. Each week we are diving deeper into what it means to be shaped by our Methodist heritage and, more importantly, to live fully as disciples of Jesus Christ in today's world. The energy, participation, and conversation in these gatherings have been inspiring, and there's always room for more to join.

This season in the life of our church is also filled with opportunities to serve our community. October is especially full of chances to share the love of Christ in practical ways. From the opening of the Pumpkin Patch to the grand finale of the 5K Pumpkin Run, there are events and ministries happening every week. Saturdays in particular are chock-full of opportunities—whether it's greeting families, helping with pumpkins, or lending a hand at one of our outreach events.

The best part? You don't need any special skills or prior experience. Just bring a willing heart and a smile! St. Luke's is a great place to let the light of Christ shine through you, and every hour you give makes a difference.

So whether you join us in study, in service, or in both, know that you are part of something bigger than yourself. This is a season to grow together and to show our community what it looks like when Christ's love is alive and at work.

With gratitude and excitement,

Rev. Kelly J. Inman



Pumpkin Patch 2025



Pumpkin Unload

October 1 | 5:00pm

Everyone is invited to join us for The Great Pumpkin Unload of 2025! We will meet on the Activity Lot at 5:00pm to unload ALL of the pumpkins from their boxes. This is a church-wide project, and we will have work for everyone. Stick around after the unload for Wednesday Night Dinner. See page 4 For the Wednesday Night Menu.

Pumpkin Patch Sunday

October 5

Help us celebrate the opening of the 27th Annual St. Luke's Pumpkin Patch. Join us for worship at 8:30am & 10:30am on Sunday, October 5. Everyone is encouraged to wear a Pumpkin Patch t-shirt.

Party in the Patch

October 7 | 6:00pm

Join us for a neighborhood party. The state of Texas celebrates National Night Out in October to avoid the heat of August. We will be celebrating our neighbors by throwing a Party in the Patch. We will have live music from the Arise Band, FREE food, backyard games, and 1/2 price pumpkins. Grab a friend and join us for the fun.



We need volunteers to help us set-up beginning at 4:30pm, as well as helping to serve food, and greet our guests to the patch. If you are interested in volunteering for Party in the Patch please use the QR code to sign-up or contact Jennifer in the church office.

Worship in the Patch

October 15 | 6:00pm

Join us for worship in the pumpkin patch on Wednesday, October 15. We will have music, a devotion with Pastor Kelly, and smores.???

Pumpkin Carving

October 22 | 6:00pm

Grab a friend and join us for the Pumpkin Carving Contest on Wednesday, October 22. All contests will be able to purchase their pumpkin at half price and carving tools will be provided. We will have prizes for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place winners.

Family Fun Day

October 25 | 4:00pm-6:00pm

Families are invited to join us for carnival games, food, prizes, and fun at the annual Family Fun Day event. Carnival game wristbands will be on sale for \$10 each.



We will need volunteers to help man the game booths, welcome guests, sell game wristbands, and serve food. . If you are interested in volunteering for Family Fun Day please use the QR code to sign-up or contact Lindsey Exline in the church office.

Trunk-or-Treat

October 29 | 6:00pm-7:00pm

Every year we provide a safe alternative to traditional trick-or-treating at our Trunk-or-Treat event. Families are invited to dress up and enjoy treats, games, candy, and fun at this annual event.

We are in need of volunteers willing to decorate their vehicles and hand out candy. Please contact Lindsey Exline if your group or class would like to participate.

Candy donation

We are collecting candy for Trunk-or-Treat on October 30. Donations of unopened bags of individually wrapped candy can be dropped off in the church office or in the bins in the welcome space & in the Family Center.



Silent Auction

October 5-26

The silent auction will soon be taking over the St. Luke's Family Center with a variety of items; crafts, baked goods, events, gifts, décor, for you to bid on. Make sure to stop by frequently to see new items and stay ahead of the bid.

If you have any item you would like to donate for the silent auction please contact Susan Moore or the church office..

Closing Lunch

October 26 | 11:30am

Stick around after the 10:30am worship service for our Pumpkin Patch Closing Lunch. This gathering of food fellowship marks the end of the pumpkin patch season and the closing of the Silent Auction. This is your last chance to outbid your neighbors on the amazing items we will have available in the Silent Auction.

Storytime in the Patch

October 6-9 & 13-16

10:00am-1:30pm

Schools, daycares, homeschool groups and others are invited to Storytime in the Patch. The groups will have story time with a volunteer reader, enjoy a snack, and receive a mini pumpkin. This free activity is an opportunity for our church to welcome students and their families to the patch.

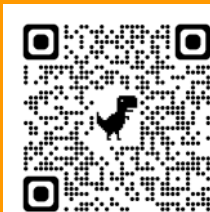
Volunteers are needed to hand out snacks, prepare for classes, and read stories. If you are interested in volunteering for Storytime in the Patch please contact Jennifer in the church office.

Volunteer in the Pumpkin Patch OPEN DAILY

October 2 -31 | 10:00am-6:00pm

The Pumpkin Patch officially opens to the public at 10:00am on Thursday, October 2, and is open daily through October 31 or until we are out of pumpkins.

It takes a lot of volunteer hours to keep the patch open and that means we need lots of volunteers to welcome visitors and collect money. Please consider giving a bit of time in the patch. The volunteer sign-up can be found on our website, or at the welcome center at the back of the sanctuary. Contact Jennifer Powell for more information.



Pumpkin Run

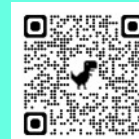
October 25 | 8:00am

Calling all runners! It's time for the annual Pumpkin Run! We encourage you wear your Halloween or fall attire and join us for this annual 5k walk/run, to raise money for our youth program. All registration fees and sponsorships will help send youth to camps and other activities.

Here's how you can participate

Register to run or walk this 5k in beautiful downtown Kilgore.

Use the QR code to register NOW!



Volunteer to help on the day of the race. We will need at least 40 volunteers to help set-up, welcome racers, and cheer them along the race. Contact Jennifer Powell or use the QR code to volunteer.



Be a Race Sponsor. Race sponsorships are available for \$100, \$250, or \$500 dollars. All sponsors will be listed on the back of the race shirt. Sponsorship funds help cover the cost of putting on the race and go toward the youth fund to help provide future activities for our students. Contact the church office for more information.



GIVE BACK

Giving to St. Luke's is a way to support its mission, express gratitude for blessings, and participate in a spiritual practice of generosity. It allows the church to continue its work of spreading the gospel, providing community outreach, and caring for those in need.

How your support helps our community

Funds raised at the 2025 Pumpkin Patch will go to help support Backpack Ministry.

St. Luke's partners with the East Texas Food Bank to provide weekend meals for students at Kilgore Primary School, Chandler Elementary School, and Kilgore Intermediate School. This program feeds almost 100 students each week during the school year.

How to be a Pumpkin Patch sponsor.

Use the QR Code to become a sponsor right now!
Contact Jennifer Powell at office@stlukeskilgore.org for more information.



Sponsorship Levels

Orange - \$25

You will receive recognition in the Pumpkin Patch, in the monthly newsletter, and on our website

Bronze - \$50

In addition to everything in the Orange level you will receive a Pumpkin Patch yard sign.

Silver - \$100

In addition to everything in the Bronze level you will receive recognition in a group social media post and your business logo and hyperlink on our website.

Gold - \$250

In addition to everything in the Silver level you will receive an individual social media post

Platinum - \$500

In addition to everything in the Gold level you will receive an individual sign in the Pumpkin Patch

WAYS TO GIVE St. Luke's



IN PERSON

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



ONLINE

At

stlukeskilgore.org



BY MAIL

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



QR CODE

WAYS TO *Connect* WITH OUR COMMUNITY

BE A GOOD LISTENER:

Show genuine interest in others by actively listening to their stories and perspective.

MAKE THE FIRST MOVE:

Don't be afraid to offer a friendly smile, introduce yourself, and ask open-ended questions to start a conversation.

BE INCLUSIVE:

A connected community welcome people from all different backgrounds, cultures, and experiences.

SHARE YOUR OWN STORY:

Be open to sharing a little about yourself, too, to make the connection more meaningful for everyone.

The events listed below are opportunities for you to represent St. Luke's in our community. Help us connect with people and begin building relationships that will bring others closer to a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Derrick Fest

October 4 | 12:00pm-8:00pm

Derrick Fest is a community event hosted by the Kilgore Historical Preservation Society. Held in downtown Kilgore, this event features music and a vendor market.



St. Luke's is excited to be selling lemonade and handing out information about all things St. Luke's. We are in need of volunteers to help set-up our booth, man the booth during the event, and clean-up at the end of the night. We have volunteer time slots throughout the day. Use the QR Code to sign-up for a volunteer spot.

Oktoberfest

October 11 | 11:00am-7:00pm

Oktoberfest is an annual event sponsored by the Kilgore Main Street. This FREE event takes place October 11th in Historic Downtown Kilgore from 11AM – 7PM!



St. Luke's will have a booth selling pumpkin themed baked goods. We need volunteers to help set-up our booth, sell baked goods, hand out St. Luke's Information, and clean-up at the end of the day. We have volunteer time slots throughout the day. Use the QR Code to sign-up for a volunteer spot.

SAFFE Day

October 18 | 9:00am-2:00pm

SAFFE Day is a community event launched by our local firefighters. This free annual event is designed for special needs kids and adults to interact with first responders in a non-threatening environment.



St. Luke's will be hosting a fall game booth at SAFFE Day. We need volunteers to help set-up our booth, man the booth during the event and clean-up at the end of the day. We have volunteer time slots throughout the day. Use the QR Code to sign-up for a volunteer spot.

Downtown Trick-or-Treat

October 31 | 4:00pm-7:00pm

Trick-or-treating in Historic Downtown Kilgore is a cherished tradition that has been delighting families since 1986. Sponsored by the Downtown Merchant Association and Kilgore Main Street, this annual event transforms the charming streets into a festive, spooky wonderland. Children in costumes parade through the historic district, collecting treats from local businesses and enjoying the community spirit. It's a celebration that brings together residents and visitors alike, creating lasting memories in the heart of Kilgore.

St. Luke's will have a small booth handing out candy. We will need help setting up and people willing to man our spot. If you are interested in helping at this event please contact the church office.



JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYERS FOR OUR MEMBERS

Roberta Boggs	Gregg Caraway	Jack & Sharry Christopher
Glenda Cochran	Brenda Ellis	Tommy Freeman
Jo Hancock	Emilee Hanshaw	Pat Haynes
Carolyn Holcombe	Sam Holley	Mac Lee
Noah McClammy	Kay McKinley	Jim Williams
Ann & Joe White		

PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY & FRIENDS

Lori Akers.....	sister-in-law of Tammy & Patrick Akers
Charlotte Allen.....	friend to many
Ricky Beets.....	friend of Jack & Susan Moore
Richard & Holly Davis.....	Jim & Alana Williams
Andrew Ezell.....	friend of Debra Maloch
Cindy Garcia.....	sister of Ronda Dickey
Joan Gauget.....	friend of Beverly Gray
Gayle & Kerry Hargrave.....	friends of Chuck & Vernie Kunkel
Keith Henderson.....	friend of Beverly Gray
Kyle & Lucy Inman.....	son & daughter-in-law of Kelly & Keri Inman
Norma Isassi.....	sister of Bob Cantu
Diana Johnston.....	sister of James Hanshaw
Carolyn Landry.....	friend of Dean and Kathe Miller
Melissa LeBlanc.....	sister of Sally Thompson
Chris McCloud.....	friend of Tim & Tonia Belk
Maureen Martin.....	family of Joe & Barbara Johnson
Sandra Melville.....	sister-in-law of Jan Hattaway
Shawna Neeley.....	friend of Sally Holder
Margie Nelson.....	friend to many
James Pace.....	step-father of Angela Thompson
Dale & Lawana Sistrunk.....	friend of Chuck & Vernie Kunkel
Jude Shantz.....	relative of Tonia Belk
Terri Smith.....	friend of Jan Hattaway
Kathy Spencer.....	cousin of Sheryl Caraway & Susan Moore
Kay-Lee Tarbutton & baby Hudsyn.....	
.....	daughter-in-law and grandson of Bob & Hope Cantu
Bonnie Venable.....	Sharon McCann

OCTOBER 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).

October 6

Nancy Bullock
Steffen Jones

October 8

Mackenzie Chowdhury

October 9

Robert Ellis
Sally Thompson

October 10

Bo Bruyere

October 11

Angela Middlebrooks

October 14

Meggan Clark

October 15

Carmen Sanders

October 16

Emilee Hanshaw
Jake Thompson

October 21

Lori Beck
Ludie Courtney

October 22

Cooper Clark
Toby Monday

October 29

Luke Cha

October 30

Annette Morgan

October 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Pumpkin Delivery 8:00am Pumpkin Unload 5:00pm	2 Pumpkin Patch Opens 10:00am-6:30pm	3 Holy Huddlers 6:00pm	4 Derrick Fest 12:00pm-8:00pm
5 Pumpkin Patch Sunday	6 Storytime in the Patch 10:00am-1:30pm	7 Storytime in the Patch 10:00am-1:30pm Party in the Patch 6:00pm-7:00pm	8 Storytime in the Patch 10:00am-1:30pm NO Wednesday Activities KISD Fall Break	9 Storytime in the Patch 10:00am-1:30pm KISD Fall Break	10 KISD Fall Break	11 Oktoberfest 11:00am-7:00pm
12	13 Storytime in the Patch 10:00am-1:30pm KISD Fall Break	14 Storytime in the Patch 10:00am-1:30pm	15 Storytime in the Patch 10:00am-1:30pm Worship in the Patch 6:00pm	16 Storytime in the Patch 10:00am-1:30pm	17 Holy Huddlers 6:00pm	18 SAFFE DAY 9:00am-2:00pm
19	20 Board of Stewards 6:00pm	21	22 Pumpkin Carving 6:00pm	23	24	25 Pumpkin Run 8:00am Family Fun Day 4:00pm-6:00pm
26 Closing Lunch 11:30am	27	28	29 Trunk-or-Treat 6:00pm	30	31 KISD Break Downtown Trick-or-Treat 4:00pm-7:00pm	

RECURRING WEEKLY:

Sunday

8:30am | Arise Worship* (Sanctuary)
 9:30am | Sunday School*
 10:30am | Traditional Worship * (Sanctuary)
 11:30am | Handbell Choir (Handbell Room)
 4:00pm-6:00pm | Youth on Sundays (Gym)

Monday

9:00am-2:30pm | Mother's Day Out
 6:30pm | Arise Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Tuesday

8:00am | Prayer Group** (Knowles Chapel)
 9:30am-10:30am | Exercise Group (Gym)

Wednesday

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

Thursday

9:30am-10:30am | Exercise Group (Gym)

The
VISITOR

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

LOVE GOD

LIVE HIS WORD

SHARE HIS GRACE



**DID YOU
KNOW?**

Last month a team of ladies from St. Luke's delivered over 120 meals to our friends and neighbors through the Meals on Wheels program?

If you are interested in volunteering with Meals on Wheels please contact the church office.