SEPTEMBER 2026

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THE VISITOR

A monthly publication of St. Luke's Methodist Church

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.

Church Office
office@stlukeskilgore.org
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Staying Connected: Why Keeping an Eye on Church News Matters

Every week, our church family moves fast. From community outreach and youth events to small group gatherings and service opportunities, there is always a way to get involved, grow, and serve. Because everyone receives information differently, we use a wide variety of channels to make sure you never miss a beat:

- **Weekly Bulletins & Monthly Newsletters:** Perfect for detailed overviews, upcoming schedules, and in-depth ministry updates.

- **Church-Wide Emails & Text Messages:** Best for timely reminders, urgent updates, and key weekly highlights sent straight to your device.

- **Worship Slides, TV Slides, & Announcement Videos:** Quick visual touchpoints before and during Sunday services to keep key events front-of-mind.

- **Verbal Announcements:** In-person callouts during service to highlight our most pressing upcoming opportunities.

- **Posters & Mail-Outs:** Physical reminders throughout our building and delivered directly to your home mailbox for major seasonal events.

An Invitation to Belong

Every bulletin, email, text message, and announcement screen you see isn't just administrative noise—it is a personal invitation. When our team sends out communication, it is our direct way of saying: *We want you here, and there is a place for you in what God is doing in our church family.*

With a growing congregation and limited staff, we simply don't have the time or resources to call, text, or visit every person individually for every event, volunteer need, or Bible study. Our church-wide communications are the bridge that connects our small team to every single member of our community.

When you take a moment to read the newsletter, check the worship slides, or open an email update, you are doing more than just staying informed:

- **You are answering an invitation to plug in:** Every event notice or sign-up sheet is a opportunity to build deeper relationships, serve others, and grow spiritually.

- **You help steward our church resources:** Paying attention to published info frees up our leadership and staff to spend less time managing logistics and more time providing pastoral care, teaching, and supporting families.

- **You strengthen our unified mission:** A church moves forward best when we move together. Staying in the loop ensures no one gets left behind or misses out on key opportunities to participate.

The next time a church message reaches your inbox, mailbox, or phone screen, view it as your personal tap on the shoulder. We are asking you to be an active part of the life of this church—because our community is always stronger when you are involved.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Super Faith: Abraham Trusts God
Kids are learning how Abraham showed amazing faith in God—trusting Him even when it was hard—and discovering how they can trust God too!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES

5:15pm-5:40pm –Dinner (see pg 6 for menu)
5:40pm-6:00pm-Worship & Word
6:15pm-7:30pm -Studies
Journey Through Judges
Join us as we explore the Book of Judges—stories of courage, faith, and God's faithfulness even in challenging times. Learn how God raises up leaders to guide His people!

PAJAMA PARTY & ICE CREAM!

Celebrate National Ice Cream Day with us on September 13th from 4-6 in the Children's Courtyard! Join for a sweet time of ice cream, fun, and cozy fellowship.

PUMPKIN PATCH PREP!

We're unloading pumpkins and getting ready for a season of fall fun on September 30th @ 4:30pm! Come see what's in store at our Pumpkin Patch.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sundays
8:30am
Arise Worship

9:30am
Kids Sunday School

10:30am
Traditional Worship

Wednesdays
3:30pm-5:30pm
Children's Choir

5:15pm-5:40pm
Dinner

5:40pm
Worship & The Word

6:15pm-7:30pm
Bible Study

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

September 13
Pajama &
Ice Cream Party
4:00pm-6:00pm

YOUTH MINISTRY

I am so excited to finally be here at St. Luke's and to partner with what God is doing in this community! Thank you for how you have welcomed me into this church family! If we haven't gotten the opportunity to meet, I would love to connect. You can text my cell (806)203-0282, email me: youth@stlukeskilgore@org, or come by my office. I am excited to kick off this semester and to get into the swing of things! I cannot wait to see what God does in and through the students this year!

Grace and Peace,

Ben Ellerbrook

Join us for the **Trinity Conference GMC Fall Youth Rally** on **September 12th from 2:00 PM –8:00 PM** at **First Methodist Church of Gilmer in Gilmer, Texas!**

This is a FREE event for students from across the conference to come together for a day of **fellowship, fun, food, discipleship, and worship**.

Throughout the afternoon and evening, students will enjoy fun recreational activities, meaningful breakout-group ministry sessions, fellowship, and a meal together. We'll close out the day with a **live worship service**, bringing everyone together to celebrate what God is doing in the lives of students across the Trinity Conference.

Come ready to connect, have fun, grow in your faith, and worship together as we make this Fall Youth Rally a day to remember!

Please contact Ben Ellerbrook to get your student registered!

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sundays

8:30am
Arise Worship

9:30am
Youth Sunday School

10:30am
Traditional Worship

4:00pm-6:00pm
Youth on Sundays

Wednesdays

4:00pm-5:15pm
Youth Afterschool

5:15pm-5:40pm
Dinner

5:40pm
Worship & The Word

6:15pm-7:30pm
Bible Study

YOUTH ON SUNDAY

Every Sunday
4:00pm-6:00pm

September 6
Board Game Night

September 13
Movie Night

September 20
Game Night in the Gym

September 27
Pumpkin Patch Set-Up
5:00pm-8:00pm

EVENTS

September 12
Next Gen Conference
2:00pm-8:00pm

WHAT'S HAPPENING

WEDNESDAY DINNER MENU

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

5:15pm-5:40pm
Family Center

September 2
Teriyaki Chicken
& Rice W/ Stir-fry veggies
Dessert & Drink

September 9
Street Tacos (Chicken & Pork),
Nachos, Elote Corn,
Dessert & Drink

September 16
BBQ Meatballs W/ Rice,
Mac & Cheese, Green Beans,
Dessert & Drink

September 23
Baked Potatoes, Salad,
Dessert & Drink

September 30
Chicken Nuggets, Waffle Fries,
Veggies W/ Ranch,
Dessert & Drink

$3 for kids under 12
$6 adults over 12

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

METHODIST

WOMEN

Next meeting:
September 1 | 6:00pm

Women who are actively growing their Christian Faith through study and education, while developing a supportive and caring fellowship. We share in God's work through mission. By providing and advocating for ministries in our church, locally, and globally.

We hope to see you at our next meeting.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Help us prepare our sanctuary for the upcoming Advent and Christmas seasons by crafting beautiful new Chrismons for our tree! Pre-packaged Chrismon kits complete with instructions are available now in the church office for you to take home and assemble. For more information or to reserve your kit, please contact Janet Craver.

Join us in celebrating our newest family member.

Jennifer Leeann Sprayberry

Daughter of Cody & Veronica Sprayberry
Baptized on August 16, 2026

LOVE GOD

- Worship Weekly
- Pray Daily
- Give Generously

LIVE HIS WORD

- Join a Small Group
- Find a Place to Serve
- Read Your Bible Daily

SHARE HIS GRACE

- Serve the Community
- Be a Servant Leader
- Share Your Faith Story

WHERE ARE YOU ON YOUR FAITH JOURNEY?

Let us help you find your place to belong.

ST. LUKE'S METHODIST CHURCH
401 E. Main St, Kilgore, TX
(903) 984-3576
office@stlukeksilgore.org

NEW ST. LUKE'S T-SHIRTS ! ORDER YOURS TODAY!

$20 each

Use the QR code to place your order today!

Deadline to order is September 1.

Contact the church office for more information.

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

September 11
Chili's, Kilgore

September 26
Braum's, Longview

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

Pumpkin Patch

The St. Luke's Pumpkin Patch is right around the corner, and we need your help to make this year's harvest a huge success! You can get involved by signing up for volunteer shifts, being a sponsor, or sporting your official patch t-shirt around town. Best of all, 100% of the proceeds directly support our vital local mission work and church programs.

Be on the look out for more information.

2026 Pumpkin Patch Calendar of Events

Decorate the Patch
Sunday, September 27
5:00pm

Pumpkin Unload
Wednesday, September 30
4:30pm

Party in the Patch
Tuesday, October 6
6:00pm-7:00pm

Pumpkin Carving Contest
Wednesday, October 21
6:00pm-dusk

Trunk-or-Treat
Wednesday, October 28
6:00pm-7:30pm

Pumpkin Patch Gala
Sunday, November 1
6:00pm-8:00pm

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

Storytime Sponsor - $2,500
In addition to everything in the Platinum level you will be recognized by name in all Storytime advertising, including the coloring books, that go out to all students.

How to be a Pumpkin Patch sponsor.
Use the QR Code to become a sponsor right now!
Contact Jennifer Powell at office@stlukeskilgore.org

JOYS & CONCERNS

Please use the "Prayer" cards in the pews to keep us updated on your loved ones.

PRAYERS FOR OUR MEMBERS

Akers Family
Jack & Sharry Christopher
Randy & Sally Holder
Ann & Joe White
Roberta Boggs
Tommy Freeman
Mac Lee
Bob Cantu
Gregg Caraway
Sam Holley
Kay McKinley

PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY & FRIENDS

Matt Bammel.....family friend of Josh & Lindsey Cook
Eddie Barnes.....brother of Tonia Belk
Ricky Beets.....friend of Jack & Susan Moore
Vicki Benbow.....sister of Karen L. Wilson
Cherry Black.....sister of Glenda Cochran
Lora Black.....longtime friend of Art & Pat Morchat
Mark Clavenna.....friend of Rhett & Anna Rohde
Valerie Conner.....daughter of Beverly Gray
Keith Henderson.....friend of Beverly Gray
Carol Iker.....friend of Bob & Hope Cantu
Mary Irwin.....friend of Joan Still & Still Collum
Humberto Isassi Jr.....nephew of Bob & Hope Cantu
Norma Isassi.....sister of Bob & Hope Cantu
Betty Johnson.....family of Barbara & Joe Johnson
Cindy Kulak.....friend of Bob & Hope Cantu
Eva McClelland.....friend of Beverly Gray
Chris McLeod.....friend of Tonia & Tim Belk
Jennifer Mooney.....daughter of Bob & Hope Cantu
Remington Robinson.....cousin of Josh & Lindsey Cook
Dale & Lawana Sistrunk.....friend of Chuck & Vernie Kunkel
Ryder Shaw.....friend of Sharon McCann
Jennifer Slade.....neighbor of Joe & Becky Wallace
Kathy Spencer.....cousin of Sheryl Caraway & Susan Moore
Jose Torres.....brother of Hope Cantu
Stephen Ward.....friend of Celia Mooney

WE EXTEND OUR SYMPATHY TO...

The family of **Larry Sullivan.** Larry was the oldest son of Paul & Alice Sullivan, former members of St. Luke's. He passed away on June 29 and his memorial service was held in Arilington, TX on July 25.

The family of **David Hedrick.** David passed away on August 9. He was a friend to many in our community.

The family of **Kaleb Shafer**. Kaleb passed away on August 11. He is a former member of St. Luke's youth and the cousin of Lindsey Exline.

The family of **Jean Gray**. Jean was a longtime member of St. Luke's who has been homebound for several years. She passed away on August 19, in Henderson, TX.

WE SHARE JOY WITH...

Karl Kuenemann on the engagement of his daughter Katie Kuenemann and Tyler Hendrickson.

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 1
Shay Maloch

September 4
Carol Grimes

September 5
Elena Cha

September 9
Samantha Lovell
Richelle Rathbun

September 10
Rhett Rohde

September 11
Emily Mason

September 12
William Bennett
Joan Smith

September 13
Lily Chowdhury
Sarah Gillen-Hall

September 15
Billie Sue Mims
Jordan Stephens
Ann White

September 16
Presley Thompson

September 17
Barbara Francisco

September 18
Keith Hooks
Matt Patton
Isabell Witt

September 19
Lisa McClammy
Billy Mims

September 20
Barbara Boyd
Susan Moore

September 21
Anna Gillen-Hall
Makyla Horton

September 24
Lisa Frazier

September 25
Pat Thompson

September 26
Laura Farnham

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Name	Date
Art & Pat Morchat	9/4/1977
Tony & SyRena Witt	9/16/1995
Cody & Veronica Sprayberry	9/17/2015
Carl & Jolie Basham	9/18/2004

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 **Methodist Women** 6:00pm	**2**	3	4	**5**
6	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**	**11** **Holy Huddlers** 6:00pm	**12** **Saturday Bread** 8:30am **Youth: Next Gen conference** 2:00pm-8:00pm
13 **Kids: PJ's & Ice Cream** 4:00pm-6:00pm	**14**	**15**	**16**	**17**	**18**	**19**
20 **Birthday Bash & Men's Lunch** 11:30am	**21** **Board of Stewards Mtg** 6:00pm	**22**	**23**	**24**	**25** **Holy Huddlers** 6:00pm	**26**
27 **Pumpkin Patch set-up** 5:00pm	**28**	**29**	**30** **Pumpkin Unload** 4:30pm			

SEPTMEBER 2026

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

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)
6:30pm | Arise Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

E-Mail: office@stlukeskilgore.org Office: 903-984-3576 Web Site: www.stlukeskilgore.org

The VISITOR

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

LOVE GOD

LIVE HIS WORD

SHARE HIS GRACE

Step up to the plate and join us for our Annual Men's Luncheon on September 20 at 11:30 AM in the Activity Center!

We're knocking it out of the park with great food, fellowship, and a grand-slam baseball theme you won't want to miss.