



The VISITOR

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

LOVE GOD

LIVE HIS WORD

SHARE HIS GRACE

March 2018

Issue 3

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

"For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain."
-Philippians 1:21

There is an animated movie that my kids love watching called *The Croods*. The movie is about a prehistoric family that is trying to survive dinosaurs, volcanoes, giant bugs and everything else the crazy prehistoric world can throw at them. The dad is fiercely overprotective. He has watched many other families perish because they faced the dangers of the world. In order to protect his family, he creates so many rules that the family is hardly able to leave their cave.

In one scene the father and daughter are fighting. He wants to protect her and she wants freedom of her own. At the climax of the argument he yells "Don't you want to live?" To which she quickly responds "It's not living, it's just not dying." She then proceeds to storm off and the argument ends as the dad sits pensively trying to figure out the difference between living and no dying.

I believe this is a struggle we all encounter. We want to live. We want a life that is full and is hopeful of the future. We want a life where the words from Philippians rings true. That in living life, we have lived to the fullest in Christ and that in dying we gain eternal life. But I also know that in my own life sometimes I get so bogged down in everything life has to throw at me that many times I am simply not dying. There are so many appointments, rules, anxieties and stressors that I rarely have time to look at living life to the fullest.

We are halfway through lent and moving quickly towards the joy and amazement of Easter. The resurrection is just around the corner and it is the ultimate reminder of living life to the fullest. It is a great example of what it means to have hope and peace in our lives. I encourage you as we move through the next several weeks of lent that you look at the things that are keeping you from living. Find those things that are robbing the joy and hope from your life and find a way to remove them. My prayer is that as we move closer to Easter the excitement of the resurrection builds in your life so that you have no choice but to live.

Rev. Ben Bagley
St. Luke's UMC

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HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday

March 25

All children are invited to participate in the palm procession at the beginning of each service. Children will meet at the entrance of the sanctuary.

All the Children & Junior Choirs will be singing in the 10:30 service.

Maundy Thursday Seder Meal

March 29

6:00pm, Family Center

Communion is a powerful time for us as Christians. We gather around the table to celebrate the ultimate Sacrifice of Christ. But have you ever thought about why Jesus was at the table to begin with. He had gathered his disciples together to celebrate the Passover Meal. It was a traditional Jewish meal that celebrated God's deliverance of the Israelites. I invite you to join me on Maundy Thursday as we experience the Traditional Seder Meal and hear the story of God's deliverance.

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

March 30

6:00pm, Sanctuary

Tenebrae, a service of darkness with participation by the congregation will be led by the Chancel Choir and instrumental ensemble. We remember the crucifixion of Christ and why it happened.

Easter Sunday in addition to regular services

6:30 am Sunrise Communion Service on the Activity Lot by the white cross.

7:15 am Breakfast provided in the Family Center

9:30 am Easter Egg hunt in the gym for children.

YOUTH MINISTRY

March 11th, from 4:00-7:00 - Rock Climbing in Tyler, Cost \$16. Go online to tylerrockgym.com to sign waiver before we go.

Youth Chicken Spaghetti Luncheon and Dessert Auction - The youth will hold their annual Chicken Spaghetti Luncheon and Dessert Auction on Sunday, March 25, following the 10:30 service. Dine in and take outs will be available. All proceeds will go toward youth summer camps and mission trips.

REMEMBER OUR MILITARY

Spec. Drew Bryant, Navy
nephew of Bill & Carolina Bryant

Derek Chamness
Loretta Ross's "adopted" son

Captain Chris Conte, Army
Sandra Holley's Grandson

Staff Sgt. Joel Crenshaw
son of Mike Crenshaw,
step-son of Ronnie Jobe,
brother of Shanna Burgess

Shawn Decker, National Guard

2nd Lt. Jack France, Air Force
nephew of Jan Hattaway

Major Stanton Gardenhire
son of Terry & Christine Gardenhire

Cameron Chase Grimes, Army
Grandson of Carol Grimes

PO1 Brian Holcombe Spec., Navy
son of Wendell & Carolyn Holcombe

Lt. Col. Chad McAdams
nephew of Loretta Ross

Kenny Montross, Air Force
"Bubba" McKinley, Marines
great nephews of Kay McKinley

Jake Pierce, Navy
son of Debra Sanders & J.B. Pierce

Chief Robbie Reinert, Navy
son of Ray/Denise Reinert

Private 1st Class Ryan Reinert, Army
son of Ray & Denise Reinert,
wife, Courtney, daughter Emma

MSgt. Shane Shugart
Brother of Misty Shipman

Jacob Whitworth, Army
son of Anthony & Lori Whitworth,
Grandparent, Barbara Cotton

If you have a family member serving in the military and want to include him/her on our prayer concerns, please call the office, 903-984-3576.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Rod Allen
 Robert Cochran
 Chris & Susan Crawford
 Jennifer & Ella Dot
 Martha Emili
 Marcos Escobar
 Laura Farnham
 Edna Frazier
 Tommy Freeman
 Leeann Georges
 Jacque & Todd Gibbs
 Gary Gray
 Jo Hancock
 Jayce Hankins
 Jacob Hankins
 Millard Harkrider
 Curtis & Sigrid Harvey
 Shirsten Hobbs
 Bob Hooks
 Joan Hughes
 Bruce Huther
 Jan Jaynes
 Ronnie Jobe
 Loa Johnson
 Wilma & Wilton Jones
 Mary Jordan
 Diana Jordan
 Yvonne Kennedy
 Paul Kern
 Richard & Kathy Kimball
 Nell King
 Doris Leak
 Jeanette Morgan
 Marie Murray
 Zach O'Neal
 Sharon Palmer
 Bill & Linda Ridder
 Angela Riely & Family
 Kayley Rocha
 Pat Sage
 JoAnn Samford
 Cathy Schier
 Cristen Sistrunk
 Bill & Peggy Ann Start
 Jo Stiles
 Samuel Thurston
 Wendell & Glennys Travis
 David White
 Carter Wilbanks
 Edith Williams
 Dorothy Williams
 Sami Wise
 Wilbur & Kay Yates

ZOE

Building on a foundation of indigenous staff, community leaders, and local resources, ZOE empowers orphans and vulnerable children to become entrepreneurs who are socially, economically, and spiritually strong — transforming entire communities in the process.



PARTNER

ZOE is not about “us” and “them.” Together, we seek to connect our lives with orphans and vulnerable children in areas of high concentration of extreme poverty around the world. As we partner together, community leaders are equipped to identify and empower groups of 60-100 orphans and vulnerable children throughout the three-year program.



EMPOWER

ZOE stands behind each group of orphans across multiple areas of intervention by providing the training, mentoring, and resources necessary for food security, safety, health and hygiene, education, spiritual strength, and sustainable economic development. Nothing is done for the children that they are able to accomplish themselves.



MULTIPLY

Harvests increase, animals reproduce, education and vocational training yield benefits, better health results in better lives, businesses grow — as does the love for God and each other. Empowered children begin adopting other orphans into their group, hiring others to work in their businesses, and giving back to their communities and churches.

The St. Luke’s Mission Team is excited to partner with ZOE to support a half group of children in Rwanda. This three year commitment will allow us to foster relationships with children in need. We will receive regular communications with our group enabling us to watch them grow and change.

We will even have a chance to travel to Rwanda and meet the children in person. Zoe has a trip planned for September 19-27, 2018. If you are interested in traveling to Rwanda please contact Pastor Ben or visit the ZOE website for more information, <https://www.wearezoe.org/get-involved/zoe-trips/>.

Over the next three years we will be asking the congregation to support this missions through regular financial giving and specific giving opportunities. Please be in prayer about how you can be a part of this exciting new mission project.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Praying for our St. Luke's Family. Please say a prayer for our church family on their special birthday.

If we missed your date, please call the church office (903-984-3576).

March 1 Chester Garner Shawn Harris	March 7 Randy Holder Arthur Morchat	March 14 Curtis Harvey	March 21 Jackson Dean Joyce Morris	March 26 Rose Johnson
March 2 Elizabeth Johnson	March 9 Laura Guzman Robyn Nettles	March 16 Anna Rohde	March 22 Pam Davis	March 27 Kathy Brown Peggy Medford Keith Meyers
March 4 Brendon Hoberecht	March 10 Robert Hatchett	March 17 Brian Hoberecht Garry Mount	March 23 Dorothy Geese Bryan Johnston	March 29 Judith Banner
March 5 Dorothy Heatherly Joyce Northcutt	March 11 Alexander Martinez	March 18 Buddy Jobe	March 24 Leah Gillen-Hall Denise Reinert	March 31 Jessi Meyers
March 6 Timothy Gillen-Hall Morgan London	March 13 Leeland Hatt Michael Rabius David Reeves	March 20 Miranda Gaut Megan Kirby Mack Monday	March 25 Hollie Boone Danny Morchat	

MOTHER'S DAY OUT

St. Luke's MDO will begin registration for currently enrolled families on March 19th. Registration will open to the public on March 26th. We will change to a Monday/Wednesday schedule in Fall 2018.

Class Easter parties will be held on Wednesday, March 28th. Please check with your child's teacher regarding party details.

We will be closed on March 30, for Good Friday.

Please remember that we recycle your donated aluminum cans and ink cartridges as part of our fundraising activities.

In His Service,
Misty Shipman

FINANCIAL REPORT

We are two months into the new year and I have already heard great stories of how our ministries are touching lives and helping to build faith. We hit the ground running and have many more plans in store for the next several months. It is only through your support and giving that our ministries are able to reach so many lives. February has always been a lower month for giving and this year was no different, but we are still moving forward with all the plans God has in store for St. Luke's UMC. If you have any questions about your giving, contributions or pledge for 2018, contact the church office.

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Name	Date	Years
Garry & Cathy Mount	3/2	39
Matt & Yan Blair	3/5	7
Richard & Loretta Ross	3/7	38
Anthony & Kristi Boone	3/8	15
William & Sheri Payne	3/10	11
Pat & Angela Thompson	3/10	6
Michael & Charlotte Allen	3/14	21
Don & Cynthia Adams	3/16	61
William & Amber Watkins	3/16	4
Keith & Paula Hooks	3/18	40
Luis & Laura Guzman	3/21	9
Brian & Jaleesa Hatchett	3/23	16
Dennis & Carmen McFadin	3/23	5
Brian & Tara Hoberecht	3/24	7

SUNDAY ALTAR FLOWERS

Please consider providing a floral bouquet for Sunday Worship Services in honor or memory of a loved one. Call Kalynn Harrison, 903-985-1562 or 903-984-4267 to schedule your order.

SATURDAY BREAD

Saturday Bread is a ministry that provides a free lunch every Saturday of the year (11am - 12 Noon) to shut-ins, lower income wage earners, seniors and anyone who finds themselves in need. While most meals are delivered, a sit down meal is served in the Fellowship Hall of the First Presbyterian Church beginning at 11am.

Each week, over 160 people receive hot meal deliveries with an additional 8 to 14 regular "walk-ins" who come to the church's Fellowship Hall for their meal.

St. Luke's is one of six churches that volunteer their time to help make this mission a success. Four times a year we provide a volunteer team to plan, cook and deliver these delicious and nutritious meals to anyone in need.

February 10 was our first opportunity of 2018. We cooked, boxed, delivered 141 meals and approximately 20 meals were picked up at the kitchen.

Thank you to the following volunteers who assisted on February 10:

Richelle Rathbun, Brenda Culpepper, Ann Rosson, Barbara Francisco, Sam Holley, Pam Davis, Mikki and Dennis Ellis, Matthew Ellis, Daniel Reyes, Jan and Milton Hattaway, and Dee Arbuckle

Please consider volunteering for our next Saturday Bread on May 5, 2018. For more information please contact Brenda Culpepper.

HILLTOPPERS

MARCH 7

11:30am - Family Center
Meal \$6.00
Catered by Richelle Rathbun

PROGRAM - 11:30AM*

Keith Hooks will be helping us understand tax laws and how they affect us

LUNCH - 12:00PM

Baked Pork Chops, Cheesy Grits,
Greens, Dessert, & Drink

We are not exclusive! EVERYONE INVITED
Young and Old !! Y'all Come !!

HOLY HUDDLERS

Come Eat and Fellowship with Friends

All are Welcome - 6:00pm

March 9, Jucy's Taco, Hwy 80, Longview, TX

March 23, Val's Italian Restaurant, Kilgore

If you have any questions, please call

Miki Ellis at 903-987-2506.

EASTER LILIES

Now is the time to order and pay for memorial or honorary flowers for our Easter worship services. Please fill out the form below, make your check payable to St. Luke's UMC, drop off your order to the church office, put in offering plate, or mail to St. Luke's, 401 E. Main St., Kilgore, TX 75662.

The deadline to order is March 18, 2018.

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

Given By _____ Phone Number/email address _____

Payment information Number of lilies _____ @13.50 ea. = _____

Make payments to St. Luke's UMC and mark Easter lilies in the memo line

MARCH CALENDAR

Thursday, March 1

6:30pm Arise Band Rehearsal

Friday, March 2

9:00am Exercise Class, Family Center
9:00am MDO
6:00-10:00pm PNO (Parent's Night Out), Gym

Saturday, March 3

6:00pm Movie Night, Activity Center

Sunday, March 4

8:30am **THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**
Contemporary Worship,
Sanctuary*
9:30am Sunday School*
10:30am Traditional Worship, Sanctuary*
11:30am Handbell Rehearsal
11:45am-1:30pm Confirmation Class
Jr. High Youth Room, Gym
1:30pm-2:30pm Children's Choir Parts Rehearsal
Gym
4:30pm-6:00pm Youth Devotional & Games

Monday, March 5

9:00-9:45am Exercise, Family Center

Tuesday, March 6

10:30am UMW Morning Circle,
Fireplace Room
6:00pm UMW Pam Besser Circle,
Fireplace Rm.

Wednesday, March 7

9:00-9:45 a.m. Exercise, Family Center
9:00am-2:00pm MDO
11:30am Hilltoppers, Family Center
NO AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY
3:15pm Children & Junior Choir
Rehearsal
3:30-7:00pm Youth, gym
5:00pm Family Dinner:
Adults \$5 / Under 12, \$2
**Mini Pizza, Salad, Dessert,
& Drink**
6:00pm Adult Bible Study, Parlor
6:00pm Children's Bible Studies,
Family Center
6:00pm Prayer Shawl Meeting,
Family Center
6:00-7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 8

6:30pm Arise Band Rehearsal

Friday, March 9

9:00-9:45am Exercise, Family Center
9:00am-2:00pm MDO
6:00pm Holy Huddlers, Jucy's Taco

Sunday, March 11

8:30am
9:30am
10:30am
11:45am-1:30pm
1:30pm-2:30pm
4:00pm-7:00pm

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Contemporary Worship,
Sanctuary*
Sunday School*
Acolyte Training
Traditional Worship, Sanctuary*
Confirmation Class
Jr. High Youth Room, Gym
Children's Choir Parts Rehearsal
Gym
Youth Rock Climbing in Tyler

Monday, March 12

9:00-9:45am Exercise, Family Center
5:30pm **NO MOPS, Spring Break**

Wednesday, March 14

9:00-9:45 a.m. Exercise, Family Center
NO MDO - SPRING BREAK
NO AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY
NO WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES
6:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, March 16

9:00am Exercise Class, Family Center
NO MDO - SPRING BREAK

Saturday, March 17

8:00am Methodist Men's Breakfast,
Family Center
6:00pm-8:00pm Game Night, Family Center

Sunday, March 18

8:30am
9:30am
10:30am
11:30am
4:30pm

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Contemporary Worship,
Sanctuary*
Sunday School*
Traditional Worship, Sanctuary*
Handbell Rehearsal
NO CONFIRMATION CLASS
Youth Devotional & Games

Monday, March 19

9:00-9:45am Exercise, Family Center

Wednesday, March 21

9:00-9:45am Exercise, Family Center
9:00am-2:00pm MDO
11:45am
3:15pm
3:30-7:00pm
5:00pm
6:00pm
6:00pm
6:00pm
6:00-7:30pm

Exercise, Family Center
MDO
Afternoon Bible Study,
Family Center
Children & Junior Choirs
Youth, gym
Family Dinner:
Adults \$5 / Under 12, \$2
**Ham, Cheesy Potatoes, Green
Beans, Roll, Dessert, & Drink**
Adult Bible Study, Parlor
Children's Bible Studies,
Family Center
Prayer Shawl Meeting,
Family Center
Chancel Choir Rehearsal

CALENDAR CONT'D**Thursday, March 22**

6:30pm Arise Band Rehearsal

Friday, March 23

9:00am Exercise Class, Family Center
 9:00am-2:00pm MDO
 6:00pm Holy Huddlers
 Val's Italian Restaurant & Pizza

Saturday, March 24

9:00am Tenebrae Rehearsal, Instruments
 10:00am Tenebrae Rehearsal, All Parts

Sunday, March 25

8:30am **PALM SUNDAY**
 Contemporary Worship,
 Sanctuary*
 9:30am Sunday School*
 9:30am Hope & Angel Tone Choirs
 Rehearse
 10:30am Traditional Worship, Sanctuary*
Hope & Angel Tone Choirs sing
 11:30am Youth Chicken Spaghetti Lunch,
 Family Center
 11:30am Handbell Rehearsal
 11:45am-1:30pm Confirmation Class,
 Jr. Hi. Room, Gym
 4:30PMpm Youth Devotion and Games

Monday, March 26

9:00am Exercise Class, Family Center
 5:30-7:30pm MOPS, Family Center, Gym*

Wednesday, March 28

9:00-9:45 a.m. Exercise, Family Center
 9:00am-2:00pm MDO
 11:45am Afternoon Bible Study,
 Family Center
 3:15pm Children & Junior Choirs
 3:30-7:00pm Youth, gym
 5:00pm Family Dinner:
 Adults \$5 / Under 12, \$2
**Chicken Fettuccini Alfredo,
 Steamed Broccoli, Garlic
 Bread, Dessert & Drink**
 6:00pm Children's Bible Studies,
 Family Center
 6:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 6:00pm Adult Bible Study, Parlor
 6:00pm Prayer Shawl Meeting,
 Family Center

Thursday, March 29

6:00pm **MAUNDY THURSDAY**
 Seder Meal, Family Center*

Friday, March 30

6:00pm **GOOD FRIDAY**
OFFICE CLOSED
 Tenebrae Service, Sanctuary*

* Nursery provided for this event.

** Nursery can be arranged for this event.

UMW MORNING CIRCLE**March 6 - 10:30am - Fireplace Room****Devotional:** Ima Roberts**Hostess:** Toby Monday (Donuts & Coffee)**Program:** Gene Evans, Director of the Kilgore College Wesley foundation will be joining us.**Date to Remember**

March 21, 2018

Birthday Party for The Willows - 2:30pm

**UMW PAM BESSER
EVENING CIRCLE****Tuesday, March 6, 2018****6:00pm - Fireplace Room**

Our next meeting will be on March 6th with Ann Rosson as hostess. The speaker will be David Hampton, director of The Kilgore Fuller Center for Housing. David will be explaining the reasons behind the change from Habitat for Humanity and discuss any changes that will affect the Kilgore community. A question and answer segment will follow his presentation. After David's presentation we will work on our Easter project. Ladies, don't forget to bring the "goodies". Sally Holder is "Junkin Across Texas" selling RADA knives. Stay tuned for the April newsletter to get the date and location of where she will be next. All ladies are welcome to join and bring a friend.

-Barbara Francisco, Secretary

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT Friday, March 2, 6:00pm - 10:00pm \$10 per child - Pizza included. Call Niki Chowdhury 903-235-9401 for more information.

SUMMER SLAM June 10-13 Mark your calendar for mission opportunity for children who have completed 3rd-5th grade. Cost is \$75 which includes a day at Splash Kingdom.

Save the Date

Vacation Bible School June 25-29

Office: 903-984-3576

E-Mail: stlukesumc@stlukeskilgore.com

Web Site: www.stlukeskilgore.com

The VISITOR

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401 E. Main St., Kilgore, TX 75662-5905

SUNDAY SERVICES:

Arise Service.....8:30 AM
Sunday School.....9:30 AM
Traditional Service.....10:30 AM

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Kilgore, Texas
Permit No. 202

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

UPDATE

Renovation-Aeolian-Skinner Pipe Organ

PHASE 1
\$135,000
\$121,500
\$101,162
\$ 97,247
\$ 87,515
\$ 71,500
\$ 51,500

Renovations will be accomplished in 2 phases

Phase 1: \$135,000

Currently Available
\$99,024

*To Meet the Goal,
Balance Needed is \$28,173.

FEBRUARY ATTENDANCE

Date	8:30am Worship	10:30am Worship	Sunday School
February 4	70	114	118
February 11	68	155	123
February 18	54	128	110
February 25	65	140	119
Ash Wednesday Service			116

EASTER EGG HUNT

April 1 - 9:00am - Gym

IT’S TIME FOR Wrapped CANDY for our PLASTIC EASTER EGGS for the Easter Egg Hunts!!

Please drop off candy at the Church office.

Many thanks for your help.

ACOLYTE TRAINING

March 11 - 9:30am

An acolyte is a person who assists the presiding minister/pastor in worship and carries out certain duties, including candle lighting; carrying the processional cross; holding or getting items the pastor needs at baptisms, Holy Communion, and other worship acts.

Pastor Ben will be leading an Acolyte Training on Sunday, March 11 at 9:30am. Children 3-6th Grade are invited to attend the training and begin participating in leading worship.