



The VISITOR

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

LOVE GOD

LIVE HIS WORD

SHARE HIS GRACE

MAY 2017

ISSUE 5

Dear Friends in Christ,

Every Mother Is:

Like Eve giving life to all her household,

Like Sarah the Princess of her domain.

Like Hagar a willing fugitive who covers us with home when we must flee.

Like Rebekah she ties our life to faith.

Like Jochebed she reveals the glory of the Lord.

Like Hannah she is gracious and slow to anger,

Like Elizabeth her promise is strengthened by God's bond,

Like Mary she is the eternal champion of God's greatest vision for our life,

Like the Syrophonecian Woman her kiss frees her children from despair,

Like Salome she gives us peace when the world accuses us of failure,

Mothers are Faithful Life-giving God Glorifying Patient Princesses of Peace; the embodiment of a hospitality that dispels the darkness of fear and failure, and shines Christ's sacred light on the path of our greatest victory. We can only be eternally grateful in return, and live in the joy of a debt we will never fully repay.

Happy Mother's Day

Pastor Darwood



Backpack Ministry Still in Full Swing! Chet and Linda Garner have made deliveries to three elementary Kilgore campuses. The teachers at the schools have expressed how excited the students are to receive these meals for the weekend. Thank you to Don Nicholson and Bill Bryant for volunteering to pick up our food order from the East Texas Food Bank when they pick up the order for Helping Hands. This saves us a lot of time and money. If you would like to be a part of this great new ministry to feed kids (83 are presently being served) who have no food on weekends, you can bring monetary donations to the church office or place in the offering plate by making your check out to St. Luke's UMC and putting "Backpack Food Ministry" on the memo line. Or if you would like to volunteer at East TX Food Bank, they will give us monetary credit toward our account. Just tell them St. Luke's sent you!



ST LUKE'S HISTORIC AEOLIAN-SKINNER PIPE ORGAN NEEDS RENOVATIONS

St. Luke's Aeolian-Skinner Organ is one of the rare "two-manual" Organs in the world!

HOW DID WE ACQUIRE SUCH A PRIZE?

(As recorded in "From Circuit to St. Luke's", The Story Of Methodism in Kilgore, Texas 1873 - 1984)

In 1951, the Wurlitzer organ used by St. Luke's since 1934 was completely worn out and beyond repair. St. Luke's wanted "the best available" to replace it. At that time, Mr. Roy Perry was the very talented organist at the First Presbyterian Church of Kilgore. St. Luke's hired him in 1951 to design a new organ to fit the needs of St. Luke's sanctuary. *(Until his death in 1978, Mr. Perry was a church musician of national acclaim and a leading figure in the development of the American classic organ.)*

Originally, no space in the choir loft had been provided for an organ. Fortunately, St. Luke's had among its members, two architects, Robert Dabney Lipscomb and Don Kerr, who worked with Roy Perry on solving this problem.

When built, the sanctuary contained a baptistery, *an unusual feature for a Methodist church.* This baptistery located behind the choir loft was removed. The stained glass crucifixion window, which had been in front of the baptistery and not visible from the outside of the building, was removed to the far back wall. The new organ pipes were then located behind the choir, centered above where the baptistery had been. Then Dabney Lipscomb designed and constructed a wooden grill with square panels of cloth to hide the side organ pipes while allowing the sound to come through. He topped this with an intricate, hand-crafted, ornamental design in wood compatible with the interior décor of the sanctuary.

The Aeolian-Skinner Organ Company of Boston built the two-manual instrument for St. Luke's according to Mr. Perry's design. It was installed by T.J. and J.C. Williams Pipe Organs of New Orleans.

St. Luke's two-manual Aeolian-Skinner is one of the largest two-manual organs in the world. This organ and the three-manual Aeolian-Skinner at Kilgore's First Presbyterian Church are among the finest organs in the southwest and the equal of those anywhere, even those that are larger.

Both instruments were designed by Roy Perry. The Aeolian-Skinner Organ Co. went out of business in 1984; thus, neither organ will ever be surpassed in tone quality. Both are irreplaceable.

The original cost of St. Luke's organ was \$50,000. At the writing of St. Luke's history book (published in 1984), the organ was estimated to be worth nearly \$250,000 based on 35 stops at \$7,000 per stop. It has since been valued at close to \$1,000,000. *(a full description appears in the Appendix of our history book - a copy may be checked out from the church office.)*

The dedication service for the new organ was held on March 16, 1952, with Roy Perry as organist/recitalist for the service.

In 1978, additions and revisions were made in the organ pipes that included the "en Chamade" - the horn pipes visible in back and above the choir area. These, too, were designed by Roy Perry and executed by Williams Pipe Organs of New Orleans. The Williams father/son duo maintained the organ with rare skill and craftsmanship* for many years whenever repairs were needed.

A NEW CENTURY, A NEW YEAR NEW RENOVATIONS for a PRIZED ORGAN

This little history lesson brings us to the point for information regarding the need to make some **very necessary** repairs and additions to our "very famous organ"!

RENOVATION HISTORIC PIPE ORGAN Phase I

\$ 135,000
\$ 121,500
\$101,500
\$ 81,500
\$ 71,500
\$ 61,600
\$ 51,500
\$ 41,500
\$ 31,500

The renovations will be accomplished in 2 phases. Phase 1 will cost approximately \$135,000. We already have \$81,500 available in the Organ Fund invested with Edward Jones. This fund will begin the goal to meet the cost of the repairs.

OUR GOAL

Before repairs can begin, we must have the total dollar cost available. Our goal is to raise the balance of **\$53,500** **as soon as possible.**

**Your collective contribution gifts
will make this goal possible.**

Mark your gift "Organ Repair"

*All gifts are tax deductible. At the end of the year,
(or earlier if needed), you will receive a statement
itemizing ALL your gifts to*

St. Luke's United Methodist Church.

**The superb craftsmanship of these men is rare and precious in our mass-produced world." ...quote of Mr. Perry, 1952*

Update from Missionaries Aaron & Hannah Mason

(our own David MASON'S BROTHER & SISTER-IN-LAW) "O God, you are my God earnestly I seek you; my soul thirst for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is not water." Psalm 63:1

We are currently in the worst drought in 70 years. Old wells are drying up and it's a challenge to find water for new wells. Each well that is drilled is exciting and a relief for the people here. It truly is a dry and weary land. Life is hard with very little water, little food to feed your family, and little hope to see things change. People are very aware of their need for food and water, but would you join us in praying that they would also see their dire need for the Lord? Would you pray that the lies the enemy has blinded them with would be revealed and that they would earnestly seek the Lord? Thousands upon thousands of people continue to flood into our area fleeing the war in South Sudan. The conditions of South Sudan, just 10 miles from us, are hard for us to comprehend. War and famine plague the country. The refugee situation is not all bad. Hannah has been able to help lead an outreach with youth from our local church to pray and encourage the refugees. During this time we were able to share the gospel and see people accept Christ as their personal Savior. We are now praying and encouraging the local church to help with disciplining these people. It's been some busy months of drilling and serving in our area but sadly we aren't the only ones at work, the enemy is here too. We've experienced a lot of spiritual warfare. Having a western missionary couple move to this area and be out in the community is hard for the people to understand/accept. There are rumors that we are here to get minerals and that drilling for water is only a cover. Also the church we are a part of, Calvary Chapel, has/is experiencing a lot of opposition. For many years some of the Muslims have wanted to take the church land and turn the church into a mosque. The land they want also has our little house and our landlord's home. The land is legally owned by the church and the family we rent from. We know that the church is the body of believers not the building. Our biggest prayer right now is that hearts would be changed and people would not be deceived by the enemy's lies. Thank you for continuing to pray for us and support the work God is doing. We are truly grateful to God that He keeps providing through you all so that we can be here. Thank you for giving and sacrificing to support us drilling and sharing His truth and love.

Prayer Request: Pray for rain! Pray for many wells with lots of water to be drilled. Pray for Aaron and Dogo (our local worker) to have strength, wisdom to deal with the many issues they face, safety, and divine appointments to share God's truth. Pray for clear direction and wisdom. We will be in the testing phase of this program for the next 6 to 9 months. Ask that God would give us His wisdom as we discern exactly where our long term program will be located. Pray for us to build deep relationships, and be able to encourage the local believers. Pray for us to faithfully surrender to Christ daily. Pray for Hannah as she works at the hospital HIV clinic each week and teaches girls discipleship. Our boss, Terry, and one of our WFA prayer warriors and supporters, Jon, came for a visit. We loved having them with us for a week. We love hearing from you and knowing what's going on in your life as well, drop us a line if you get a chance. We love you all!

Aaron & Hannah Mason WFAI

CHURCH FAMILY CONCERNS

Jean Aills (Arabella Memory)	Billie Hale	Vivian Patton
Margarette Allison	(daugh. Joy's	(Arabella, Kilgore)
(Briar Cliff, Tyler)	home, LA)	Rita Peters
Charlotte Austin (Hospice)	Jo Hancock	(Arabella, Long'v)
address: Bradley Bryant, 7279	Millard Harkrider	Charlene Phillips
Juniper Dr.Denton, Tx. 75033)	Steven Jackson	Wanda Renshaw
Jerry Boone (Arbor Grace #10)	Mary Jordan	Linda/Bill Ridder
Barbara Cotten	Yvonne Kennedy	Juanita Riley
Chris Crawford	Richard/Kathy	Pat Sage
Jan Duncan	Kimball	Fred/JoAnn
Daniel Ellis	Nell King	Samford
Laura Farnham	Dwayne Kirksey	Jo Stiles
Tommy Freeman	Marie Murray	Marilyn Summers
Ronnie Jobe	Nina Fern Nichols	Bonnie Sistrunk
Jim/Sarah Galaway	(Arbor Grace #19)	Samuel Thurston
Gary Gray	Guy (#309)--Billie	Wendell/Glennys
Sam Holley	(#404) Oliphint	Travis
Jacque/Todd Gibbs	(Arabella)	Edith Williams
		Wilbur Yates

Deepest Sympathy to family of Jon DeKoker, father of Kraig DeKoker; **family of Tommy McMillian**, Michael McClammy's biological father, died 4-19-2017; and **family of Doris Moore**, Jack Moore's mother, died 4-25-2017. Our church grieves with all of you.

Prayers for Loved Ones:

People will remain on this list about a month.

Please let us know if they need to be on longer - 903-984-3576.

Kathy Adams	friend of many
Mark Allen	Freddie Lollie's family
Bob Barbee	friend of Mickey Smith Family, Ann White family, & many others
Mac Blackstone	father of Donna Shupe & friend of many
Keith Allen Brown	great nephew of Anna Rohde
Rosemary Bocanegra & Martha Emili & Mary Herrera	friend, aunt, & great aunt of Carolina Bryant
Jimmy Brown	friend of David Wilson
Bart Covin	step-brother of Ronda Dickey & friend of Mack/Toby Monday
Kay Davis	mother of Bob Davis
Carolyn Duren	Mother of Allison Thompson (friend of SyRena Witt)
Joe Dyson	nephew of Dorothy Geese
Margie Edwards	friend of Suzanne Gibson
Edna Frazier	mother of Milton Frazier
Reg Garner	father of Chet Garner
Meagan Gibbs	niece of Bill Bryant
Jennifer Gilcrest	friend of Carolina Bryant
Wanda & Bill Haney	brother & sister-in-law of Ludie Courtney
Gail Hargrave & Sherry Lockman	friends of Pat Morchat
Reggie Hawkins	dear friend of the Whitworths & the Cottens
Austin Huckaby	friend of Gus Witt
Kim Hurlburt	ex member & friend of Thompsons & others
Bruce Huther & Rod Allen	brothers-in-law of Sharon & Jim McCann
Loa Johnson	mother of Denise Reinert
Nancy King	friend of Sara Lugeanbeal
Brian & Dianne Lee	Lee family
Henry Lyne	brother of Martha Eschenfelder
Tommy Konczak	friend of Jack Moore
Keith Mattern	friend of Bill Bryant
John McCloskey	father of Bruce Tindel
Melissa McDonald	niece of Sally/Randy Holder
Teresa Miller	neighbor of Sally Holder
Camryn Noll	granddaughter (cancer) of Carolina Bryant's friend
David Penn	friend of Tonya DeKoker
Ron & Carol Procell	family Phillip & Tina Procell
Roy Simmons	brother of Carol Grimes
Orea Smith	uncle of SyRena Witt
Dana Ransom	friend of Larry Phillips & many others
Christin Reeves (cancer)	sister-in-law of David Reeves
Pam Richburg	friend of Sheryl Caraway
Luvia Rios	friend of Carolina Bryant
Cherie Salmons	niece of Jan Duncan
Alejandra Serrano	2nd cousin of Carolins Bryant
Pam Richburg	friend of Sheryl Caraway
Luvia Rios	friend of Carolina Bryant

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MAY BIRTHDAYS 2017 PRAYER CALENDAR



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.

May 1 Guy Howell, Sr. Miles Gaut	May 10 Alma Casey(92) Hudson Harris Mark Hatfield Michael Jobe	May 19 Linda Garner Cameron Stephens
May 2 Jo Pickett	May 11 Stanton Gardenhire Autumn Mosley Charlotte Reynolds	May 20 Robert Davidson Christine George Logan Gilbreath
May 3 Vivian Patton Jeannie Rathbun Todd Tucker Benton Wink	May 12 Pam Robertson Alyssa Johnson	May 21 Jack Christopher Morgan Payne Rita Peters
May 4 Addilyn DeKoker John Freeman Jr. Jacob Mooney Xsavier Ortiz	May 13 Lisa Whetzel Renee Pickett	May 22 Bill Payne
May 5 Sloan Berger Zack Fredenburg Bill Lawson	May 14 Hayden Dean Sami Holley Kent Weir	May 23 Coy Stephenson
May 6 Kennedy Buyher	May 15 Hyahwanah Cecil (94) Misty Shipman	May 24 Marilyn Summers
May 7 Leon Courtney Stanley Davis	May 16 Luke McGilvray Zack Smith	May 25 Aaron Duncan Matt Henderson
May 8 Bill Bryant Rebecca Hale Dennis Ellis Robert Smith	May 17 Madison Dean Matt Huey Zaida Ortiz	May 26 Dallas Torres
May 9 Veronica Sprayberry	May 18 Ray Reinert Emersyn Beets Kaylon Jackson	May 27 Josh Cantu` Stephen Holman
		May 30 Janie Sweeney
		May 31 Jennifer Mooney Cecilia Mitchell

MAY 2017 WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

<u>Names</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Years</u>
Joe/Heather Chism	5-17-1997	20
Bill/Peggy Clarke	5-20-1978	39
Chris/Susan Crawford	5-28-1978	39
Dan/Shelia Cross	5-07-1979	38
Kraig/Tonya DeKoker	5-22-2004	13
Rebecca/Bill Hale	5-22-2009	8
Bill/Scotti Holda	5-20-2001	16
Jeffrey/ Donna Jackson	5-23-2013	4
James/Sharon McCann	5-04-1968	49
Jeff/Cassie Stephens	5-18-1997	20
Todd/Debra Tucker	5-05-2007	10
David/Jessica wilson	5-16-2012	5

PRAYERS FOR LOVED ONES, Con't from page 3

Cherie Salmons niece of Jan Duncan
Alejandra Serrano.....2nd cousin of Carolins Bryant
Josh Shirey cousin of Ludie Courtney
Robert Shugart father of Misty Shipman
Rachel Simpson & 3 children.....submitted by Lori Todak
Robert Stiles son of Jo Stiles
Cristen Sistrunk daughter-in-law of Bonnie Sistrunk
Alicia Stemmerman niece of Bruce Tindell
Kathy & Ronnie Toddsister & brother-in-law of Loretta Ross
Dr. Rob Thoni friend of Jamie Haynes & many others
Billy Vernon friend of many
Watkins family in the loss of daughter/sister.....The Shipman family
Melvin & Sue West brother-in-law & sister of Bill Bryant
Peyton & Langston Whitegrandsons of Curtis & Sigrid Harvey
Harold Wiesefather of Emily Mason
Carter Wilbanks 11 yr. old friend of Richelle Rathbun
Dorothy Williams.....sister of Bonnie Sistrunk
Katy Williamsfriend of Andrea McGilvray
Billy & Linda Williamson grandparents of Logan Gilbreath
Oren Wrightclose friend of Will & Loretta Ross

HELPING HANDS

The Helping Hands of Kilgore Cart located in the East Hallway of the church is in need of groceries, toilet paper, paper towels, hygiene items, etc., for Helping Hands. Can you spare a sack? Just put it in the cart. Your gifts will be delivered to the Helping Hands Center on Martin Street.

Thank you for Giving!

REMEMBER OUR MILITARY

- **Spec. Drew Bryant*
US 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, Kilgore
- **Airman Daniel Ellis*
Air Force - son of Dennis & Mikki Ellis
- **Capt. Stanton Gardenhire*
son of Terry & Christine Gardenhire
- **Cameron Chase Grimes*
Army - Grandson of Carol Grimes
- **PO1 Brian Holcombe* Spec. US Navy
Wendell & Carolyn Holcombe's son
- **Lt. Col. Chad McAdams*
nephew of Loretta Ross
- **Kenny Montross* - USAF, "*Bubba*" *McKinley* - USMC
great nephews of Kay McKinley
- **Jake Pierce*
Navy - son of Debra Sanders & J.B. Pierce
- * *Chief Robbie Reinert*
US Navy - son of Ray/Denise Reinert
- **Ryan Reinert*
Army-Private 1st Class - son of Ray & Denise Reinert,
Courtney (husband), Emma (Daddy)
- **MSgt. Shane Shugart*, brother of Misty Shipman
- **Jacob Whitworth*, Army - son of Anthony & Lori Whitworth,
Grandparents are Herb/Barbara Cotten



Parents' Night Out

Friday, May 5
6:00pm - 10:00pm
\$10 per child

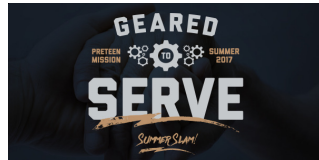
Call Niki Chowdhury

903-235-9401 for more information.

Summer Slam

June 18-21

Mark your calendar for a mission opportunity for children who completed 3rd-5th grade. Cost is \$75 which includes a day at Splash Kingdom. Registration & more info on our church website.



Vacation Bible School

August 7-11, 9:00am-12:00pm
Join us in a VBS where kids learn they were created by God and built for a purpose!



MOTHER'S DAY OUT

Our last day of class for the 2016-2017 school year will be May 12th. We will have Pre-K graduation that morning at 11:30 in the Sanctuary.

MDO is currently holding registration for the 2017-2018 school year which will begin in late August. If you are interested in registering or learning more about how our program can serve you, please feel free to contact me @903-240-4609.

Please keep the cans and cartridges coming!

In His Service,
Misty Shipman

May 14th- No Youth Activities, celebrate Mom

May 15th-19th- Set up for youth garage sale (see Misty or Niki for more info)

May 19th-20th- Youth Garage Sale 8am-2pm each day

May 21st- Senior Sunday

May 22nd- Deadline to register for Lakeview church camp

May 28th- No Youth Activities

June 4th- Confirmation Sunday

June 4th-10th- Sr. High youth to Atlanta, GA for M25 mission trip

July 20th-23rd- BIG HOUSE Jr. High mission trip to Coldspring, TX.

Garage Sale Fundraiser May 19th-20th

Turn your extra stuff into money for the youth's mission trips. You may start bringing your donations on May 11th.

GAME NIGHT - FUN, FUN, FUN

A wonderful fellowship opportunity!

Saturday, April 29, 6:00 - 8:00pm, gym.

Call Barbara Francisco for more information

903-918-6797.

United Methodist Women MORNING CIRCLE

The Morning UMW met for their regular meeting on April 4th in the Fireplace Room of the Family Center.

Lunch was served at the Wesley Foundation on Wednesday, April 12th, with approximately 200 individuals being served. The next time for UMW to serve will be during the Fall semester.

The next Morning UMW meeting will be May 2nd at 10:30 a.m. in the Fireplace Room. The program will be about "Mothers in Action". All women in the church are invited to attend.

-*Sue Jones*, Secretary

United Methodist Women PAM BESSER EVENING CIRCLE

UMW Pam Besser Evening Circle met for our regular monthly meeting in April.

A light supper was provided by Ann Rosson.

Ann Rosson also provided our monthly devotional based on Matthew 26 26-56 from Max Lucado's book Grace for the Moment.

Brenda Culpepper talked about the history of United Methodist Women and the upcoming 150th anniversary in 2019. The national UMW wants each unit to contribute extra to ensure that all the programs and missions around the world are supported. We discussed several fundraising ideas and decided to have an enchilada and salsa fundraiser in September. We then voted to move our September meeting to Thursday to make the enchiladas.

The business portion of the meeting was conducted in which the minutes and treasurer's report for the previous meeting were approved.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday May 2nd, at 6:00 pm in the Fireplace room.

All women are invited and invite a friend to come with you.

Kathy Brown, Secretary

Don't forget Saturday Bread on May 13th. Volunteers are needed, contact Brenda Culpepper for more information, 903-987-1453.

St. Luke's United Methodist Men 2017



2017 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Thursday, May 18, at 6:00pm--Catered Bodacious Bar-B-Q to Honor the Ladies in the Family Center. Rev. Ron Byrd will delight us with program & song. \$10 a person.

Saturday, September 23, 8:00am

Breakfast & Program, Family Center

Saturday, October 28, 8:00am

Breakfast & Program, Family Center

Saturday, November 11, 8:00am

Breakfast & Program, Family Center

Saturday, December 16, 10:00am, Family Center,

CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

HILLTOPPERS

May 3, 2017

Gather at 11:00; eat at 11:30; and program with *Mitzi Hartfiel* singing wonderful, inspiring songs.

Richelle Rathbun will cater chicken pot pies, a wonderful salad bar, & the trimmings. The community is always welcome!



SEND PRAYER REQUESTS TO E-PRAY

TO: lisafrazier09@gmail.com

Do you want to know what is going on at St. Luke's? Do you want to be a part of the best prayer group ever? Do you have a prayer request or want to pray for those that do? Please email requests to Lisa Frazier.

Staying connected with news and special prayers.

Holy Huddlers

Good Christian Fellowship - While We Eat

Upcoming Meeting Dates & Locations

May 5 - Cotton Patch

May 19 - Jucy's BURGER, Hwy 80

June 9 - Dairy Queen, White Oak

June 23 - Val's, Kilgore



Come one. Come all. The meal is on you,
but the fellowship is shared by all!!

Mikki Ellis

A GALA GAL-AWAY FAREWELL

The DATE Is: SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 2017

The PLACE Is: St. Luke's United Methodist Church

SAVE THE DATE

The SCHEDULE Is:

SAVE THE DATE

SANCTUARY, 10:30am, ONE WORSHIP SERVICE
FAMILY CENTER, 11:45am, COVERED DISH LUNCH*
FAMILY CENTER, 12:30pm, PROGRAM GALORE**

This will be Pastor Darwood's and Lee's LAST SUNDAY with us, (*kleenex furnished*)!

We will honor the GALAWAYS with a Basket of Cards with your Money Gift enclosed and your own personal note to them.

We plan for a Full House. For set-up purposes, if possible, please call the office 903-984-3576, with your RSVP of how many will attend. None will be turned away!

***Asterisk:** Meat, Bread and Cake will be furnished. Y'all bring the covered dishes! Bring your best for a banquet "not to be forgotten".

****Galore:** Irish Origin, of course; for GALAWAY

LIVE-IN AIDE NEEDED

We have received a call from Tommy Freeman's Uncle Vernon Fritz. They are seeking someone to live with Tommy, rent free, in his three bedroom brick home in exchange for watching out for Tommy.

Duties would include mostly household chores and shopping. Although Tommy is legally blind, he is very active and mostly self sufficient.

If you are interested, call the office or Pastor Darwood (903-984-3576).

THANKS - UMW Evening Circle

Dear St. Luke's Methodist Church,

Thank you so much for filling and sending shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child in 2016. The children enjoyed opening them and also got to hear the Gospel message of Jesus Christ. The United States collected 9,121,799 shoeboxes and the world collected 11,485,662 shoeboxes.

I can't wait to see how many are collected this coming Nov. 13-20, 2017. Please let me know if I can help in anyway! I'm including my e-mail phone number.

In His Service,
Kathy McGuffin,
Church Relations Team Coordinator
kguffink@yahoo.com 903-790-1290

Evangelism Moment

"Picture Perfect" Peace!

There once was a King who offered a prize to the artist who would paint the best picture of peace. Many artists tried. The King looked at all the pictures, but there were only two he really liked and he had to choose between them.

One picture was of a calm lake. The lake was a perfect mirror for peaceful towering mountains were all around it. Overhead was a blue sky with fluffy white clouds. All who saw this picture thought that it was a perfect picture of peace.

The other picture had mountains, too. But these were rugged and bare. Above was an angry sky from which rain fell and in which lightning played. Down the side of the mountain tumbled a foaming waterfall. This did not look peaceful at all.

But when the King looked, he saw behind the waterfall a tiny bush growing in a crack in the rock. In the bush, a mother bird had built her nest. There, in the midst of the rush of angry water, sat the mother bird on her nest.

Which picture do you think won the prize? The King chose the second picture.

Do you know why?

"Because," explained the King. "peace does not mean to be in a place where there is no noise, trouble or hard work.

Peace means to be in the midst of all those things and still be calm in your heart. That is the real meaning of peace."

Barbara Francisco, Evangelism Team

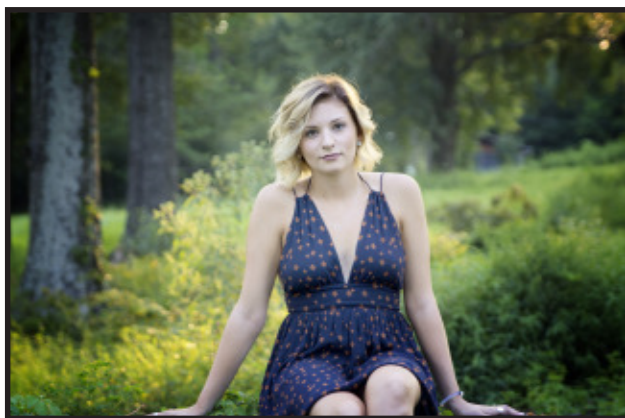
CONGRATULATIONS HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS 2017



Your Name: *Jordan Stephens*
 Parents Names: *Jeff and Cassie Stephens*
 High School where you will graduate: **Kilgore**
 Future Interest:
 College: **Kilgore College studying computers**
 Five Years From Now:
 Designing computer games



Your Name: *Abigail Horst*
 Parents: *Angela Thompson & Curtis Horst*
 High School where you will graduate: **Kilgore High School**
 Future Interest:
 The College at Southwestern in Ft.Worth. I will be studying Biblical studies in humanities with a concentration on Missions. After college I plan on becoming a missionary (don't know where yet)
 Five Years From Now:
 Bringing the gospel to unreached people in different countries



Your Name: *Sloan Mackenzie Berger*
 Parents: *Brian & Tara Hoberecht and Bret Berger*
 High School: **Kilgore High School**
 Awards/Honors: **Honor Graduate-Ranked 8th in class, NHS Vice President, Newspaper Editor, Citizens National Bank Board Member**
 College
 Future Plans: **Stephen F. Austin State University Bachelor of Science in Nursing**
 Five Years From Now: **Hopefully, I will be enjoying a career as a labor and delivery nurse and looking to begin my own family.**



Your Name: *Adrian (AJ) Henson*

My parents: *Reggie and Sandra Henson*

High School: **Kilgore High**

Awards/Honors: **I am part of Texas Scholars, was All-Academic and Honorable Mention in Football 2 years in a row.**

College Plans: **Kilgore College, Majoring in Process Technology. Then I plan on interning at Eastman and starting my career there.**

Five Years From Now: **I plan on living in Longview, and maybe have a family, while working at Eastman.**



Your Name: *Ally Venable*

Parents or Guardians Names: *Jack & Cindy Venable*

High School you are Graduating: **Kilgore High School**

Awards or Honors: **Editor of the school newspaper- Distinguished Merit Awarded 2015 & 2016, Varsity Tennis 1st Place Team & Individual District, Nation Honor Society, 2nd Place Finalist at the Dallas International Guitar 10 under 20 Contest, 2015 & 2016 Blues Band of the Year for the ETX Music Awards, 2015 Female Guitarist of the Year for the ETX Music Awards. Album top 10 on the RMR electric Blues Charts 2016. HAs XM Radio play with the recent CD we put out in 2016.**

College Plans: **Kilgore College, Plan to Major in Business Administration to educate myself for the managerial challenges I may come across to further my music career.**

Five Years From Now: **I see myself touring and playing music with my blues band and enjoying the life that God has blessed me with.**



Your Name: *Troy Jones*

Parents: *Steffen and Colette Jones*

High School you are Graduating: **Kilgore High School**

Awards or Honors: **PHI Theta Kappa, National Honor Society, Sigma Kappa Delta Honor Society**

College Plans: **Kilgore College Pre-Pharmacy**

Travel: **Family vacation--Las Vegas, Grand Canyon, Hoover Dam this summer**

Five Years From Now: **I will still be going to college-Pharmacy School!**

APRIL CALENDAR 2017

* Nursery provided for this event. ** Nursery can be arranged for this event. Call Niki Chowdhury

Monday, May 1

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

Tuesday, May 2

10:30am UMW meeting, Fireplace Room- "Mothers In Action"

6:00pm Pam Besser Circle, Fireplace Room

Wednesday, May 3

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

9:00am-2:00pm MDO

11:00am Hilltoppers gather at 11:00, eat at 11:30 (chicken pot pie, salad bar, banana pudding), & will enjoy singing by Mitzi Hartsfiel

3:15-5:30pm Children & Junior Choirs sing in the community

3:30-7:00pm Youth Activities, Gym

5:15pm Dinner (\$5/adults; \$2/children), mini pizzas, salad, drinks, dessert

6:00pm Mini Methodists for Children

6:00-7:00pm Pastor Darwood's Bible Study (Bring your Bible--Exodus) in F.C. Parlor

6:00pm Prayer Shawl Min., Caring Christians Rm.

6:00-7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary**

Thursday, May 4

6:00pm Wedding rehearsal of Andrew Winkler & Morgan Stanton, Sanctuary

6:30-8:00pm Arise Band Rehearsal, Sanctuary**

Friday, May 5

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

9:00am-2:00pm MDO

6:00pm Winkler/Stanton wedding, Sanctuary

6:00pm Holy Huddlers, The Cotton Patch, Longview

6:00-10:00pm Parents' Night Out, gym

Saturday, May 6

Sunday, May 7

8:30am Arise Worship, Sanctuary

9:30am Sunday School*

10:30am Traditional Worship Service *

1:00pm Handbells Rehearsal, Handbell Room.**

2:00pm Scout graduation, Family Center

11:30-5:00pm Confirmation Class to Russian Orthodox Church in Shreveport, lunch provided, meet in Family Center

4:30pm Youth, gym

5:00pm Great Oaks Ranch, Snacks & Worship

Monday, May 8

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

Tuesday, May 9

Wednesday, May 10 Wonderful Wednesday -

Ends until Fall

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

9:00am-2:00pm MDO

3:15-5:30pm Children & Junior Choirs parties for end of season

3:30-7:00pm Youth Activities, Gym

5:15pm Dinner (\$5/adults; \$2/children), drinks, dessert

6:00pm Mini Methodists for Children

6:00-7:00pm Pastor Darwood's Bible Study

6:00-7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary**

Thursday, May 11

6:30-8:00pm Arise Band Rehearsal, Sanctuary**

Friday, May 12

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

9:00am-2:00pm LAST MDO UNTIL FALL

Saturday, May 13

8:30am Cook; 10:15am Deliver Meals on wheels from 1st Presbyterian

Sunday, May 14 Mother's Day

8:30am Arise Worship, Sanctuary

9:30am Sunday School*

10:30am Traditional Worship, Sanctuary*

1:00pm NO Handbell rehearsal

3:30-4:30pm NO Confirmation Class, Family Center

4:30pm NO Youth, gym

5:00pm NO Great Oaks Ranch, Snacks & Worship

Monday, May 15

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

7:00pm Trustees, Conference Room

Tuesday, May 16 Carol Hinton?

Wednesday, May 17

9:00-9:45 a.m. Exercise, Family Center

Gym closed to set up for Garage Sale

Thursday, May 18

Gym closed to set up for Garage Sale

6:30-8:00pm Arise Band Rehearsal, Sanctuary**

Friday, May 19

8:00-2:00pm Youth Garage Sale, gym

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

6:00pm Holy Huddlers, Jucy's Burgers, Longview

Saturday, May 20

8:00-2:00pm Youth Garage, gym

6:00-8:00pm Game Night

Sunday, May 21

8:30am Arise Worship, Sanctuary

9:30am Sunday School*

9:45am Handell Choir rehearsal, Sanctuary

10:30am Traditional Worship, Sanctuary* High School Senior Sunday

11:45am High School Senior Luncheon, Family Center

1:00pm Handbells Rehearsal, Handbell Room.**

3:30-4:30pm Confirmation Class, Family Center-

5:00pm Great Oaks Ranch, Snacks & Worship

...continued next page

APRIL CALENDAR 2017

* Nursery provided for this event. ** Nursery can be arranged for this event. Call Niki Chowdhury

Monday, May 22

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

Tuesday, May 23

Wednesday May 24

9:00-9:45 a.m. Exercise, Family Center

Thursday, May 25

6:30-8:00pm Arise Band Rehearsal, Sanctuary**

Friday, May 26 KISD Graduation

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

Saturday, May 27

Sunday, May 28

8:30am Arise Worship, Sanctuary

9:30am Sunday School*

10:30am Traditional Worship, Sanctuary*

11:45am Finance Meeting

4:30-5:00pm NO Youth

5:00pm NO Great Oaks Ranch, Snacks & Worship

Monday, May 29 Memorial Day - Offices Closed

Tuesday, May 30

Wednesday May 31



W.W. (Willie) Roberts was presented as a lifetime member in the United Methodist Church on April 2, 2017, and will also be recognized in the Texas Conference. He received a UMM pin, a certificate and a standing ovation from the congregation. We are so proud of you, Willie!

THANKS FROM HELPING HANDS

Your recent contribution is gratefully acknowledged by Helping Hands, Kilgore. It will be used to help the needy. Remember to bring toiletries and non-perishable foods and put in the cart in the hallway going into the sanctuary. We have volunteers to take it to them. THANKS.

St. Luke's Thank You's

Because You're Appreciated
Like flowers in a garden
kindness, fills the air
with a certain bit of sweetness
as it touches everywhere.

A warm note of thanks to say people like you help to make the world brighter by the nice things you do. Thanks for everything. Thanks for all the prayers and support.

-Larry & Charlene Phillips

Dear Members of St. Luke's,

We cannot express our most sincere gratitude for you guys after your gracious invitation of allowing us to stay in your gym for a few days. Being from Michigan, we know no one here in Texas, but southern hospitality is real and having strangers hold off a large room with amenities and showers and what not is truly amazing. It just goes to show you how extraordinary humanity as a whole is. This stay here in Kilgore, our experiences, and your hospitality, compassion, and desire to help out strangers will never be forgotten without you, we would have then experienced so many difficulties in finding lodging.

Thank you all! *Nicholas Camilleri & Johnny Choi*

(Michigan State University) **Note:** These boys came to help at Rehab's Retreat. Because males are not allowed to stay there. We offered assistance and were richly blessed for the assistance.

Rev. Darwood,

I cannot express how much it meant to me for you to visit us after my unexpected surgery.

The love offering made it possible for us to pay April rent. God answers all prayers and relieves all anxiety when you give Him your worries.

We are so thankful!! God bless! *-The Fontenot Family*

Dear Prayer Shawl Ministry

Thank you so much for the beautiful prayer shawl that was made with love for Baby Cora.

I also loved the stuffed animal and Prayer Book, and I know she will too one day. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated. God Bless, *The Mooneys*

Thank you for remembering our mother and wife, **K. Joyce Ross**, this week with flowers.

We truly appreciate your kindness.
Richard, Robert and Neal Ross

Thank you for your recent donation to **Newgate Mission!**

Together we can serve God's people...

We invite you to visit the mission and see the work that is being done and see that your financial support helps us provide that on a daily basis.

May God richly bless you as you have blessed others.

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The VISITOR

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SUNDAY SERVICES:

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

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NEW MEMBERS

BAPTISMS

April 2, 2017

JUSTIN, AMY, KAYLEIGH, & KENNEDY

JOHNSON



Justin and Amy Johnson proudly made their membership vows with their children, Kayleigh and Kennedy, to teach them about their Savior and model a Christian life before them, on Sunday, April 2, 2017. Kayleigh was born 12-31-10 in Minden, LA and Kennedy was born 10-14-14 in Longview, TX.

Justin and Amy also joined on Profession of Faith to our church family. They live at 3802 S. Henderson Blvd., 903-808-2469. Justin is a mechanic at DCP Midstream; Amy is a homemaker and is very good with photography. Kayleigh is in Kindergarten at Kilgore Primary and Kennedy is in our Mother's Day Out program.

