



The VISITOR

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

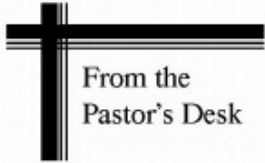
LOVE GOD

LIVE HIS WORD

SHARE HIS GRACE

SEPTEMBER 2017

ISSUE 9



“And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.” -Romans 8:30

I cannot begin to tell you the amount of times I have felt underqualified for the task I was about to engage in. I have had way too many conversations with God about how unprepared I was for where he was calling me. One of the scariest moments in my life was a few minutes before my oldest son was born. I was terrified. There was nothing wrong with Sabrina and Will as they were healthy, but I was a mess. There was nothing in my twenty-two years of life that prepared me for that moment. No previous experience, no school knowledge, no stories made me feel any better. In that moment, I had to face up to the fact that the only way I would be prepared to be a good parent was through the grace of God. God had blessed me with a child, God had called me and the only way to be successful in parenting was with God leading me. I wish I could say that was the only time I have been terrified like that, but the reality is I face it frequently and I thank God for that.

It is in those moments where I realize I am underqualified that I rely on God the most. Those are the times in which God is able to shine through my life and use me in ways I could not have done on my own. Charge Conference is coming quickly. If you are unfamiliar, Charge Conference is a meeting in which we turn in a lot of paperwork. One of the papers we turn in is our leadership for 2018. As we prepare this paperwork I am asking for your help. Is there an area that God is calling you to serve? Do you feel God nudging you or even dragging you to a new area of service? Don't let fear get in your way. It is in those moments that God is able to shine through you and help others in ways you would never have thought possible. If you would like to serve or have any questions about the coming year, please give me a call and let me know.

-Rev. Ben Bagley

CHECK OUT THESE UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE PASTOR

Summer is officially over. The unplanned busyness of summer has now been replaced with the scheduled routine of fall. As fall starts around the church we are gearing up for our regular fall activities. Wednesday Sept. 6th is our first Wonderful Wednesday. Dinner will be available and then there will be a time of discipleship for all ages. The children will have a great time at Mini Methodist, the youth have an opportunity to gather together in the gym and the adults will have a Bible Study available.

The first Adult Bible Study will be about the 10 Commandments. We talk about the ten commandments and we even recite them from time to time, but how many times have you stopped to think about what they actually mean and how they apply to your life. This will be a five-week study where we discuss each commandment in depth and answer any questions that you might have.

There will also be a new opportunity available this fall. Wednesday from 11:45am on September 27, we will have a lunch Bible Study. This study will be designed so that if you work, you can come during your lunch break. Food will not be provided, but I encourage you to bring a lunch as we study together. The first study will be five weeks and we will cover Baptism, Communion and the Lords Prayer. This will give us a great opportunity to look at each one in depth and look at what the Bible says and what we believe as United Methodist.

I hope that there you will be able to come and dig into the Bible with us.

-Rev. Ben

Thank You's

I appreciate the books the church sent me from the Grief Ministry. I am grateful for the years I shared with Glyn.

-Jane Ann Stone

I want to thank all those prayer warriors who are praying for me and my medical team. Thank you for the beautiful prayer shawl that went with me to M.D.Anderson on August 15 for additional treatments.

With Love & Faith,
Sigrid Harvey

Everyone knows about Newgate Mission or do they?



When was the last time you heard an update about the new and exciting ministries taking place at Newgate? Or asked the question "How can I help?"

Linda Cunningham (Executive Director) or Rev. Romnie Scott (Worship Director) would love to give an update about Newgate Mission to your church, Sunday school class, Bible Study group, etc.

Contact the Newgate Mission office at 903 757-6146 for more information or to schedule a time for Linda or Romnie to give a presentation.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Attention youth groups, Sunday school classes, men's groups, etc. –

Volunteer groups are needed for yard work and house repairs for a Disabled Veteran. If you can volunteer one day, long term, or would like to donate towards the cost of materials, please contact Rev. Romnie Scott at NEWGATE Mission of Longview 903 757-6146.

United Methodist Wesley Foundation Student Center

Dear Churches,

The Wesley Foundation has several Wednesdays open this fall in need of lunches for the students. Please contact their office if your church and/or church group can fill their need, 903.984-6922. Here are the dates: Wed. Sept 20, Wed. Sept 27, Wed. Oct 25, Wed. Nov 8, Wed. Nov 15, Wed. Nov 29.

- Anna M Rohde

Dist. Administrative Assistant

Evangelism Moments. . .

Center of the Bible

- What is the shortest chapter in the Bible?
Answer: Psalms 117
- What is the longest chapter in the Bible?
Answer: Psalms 119
- Which chapter is in the center of the Bible?
Answer: Psalms 118
- Fact: There are 594 chapters before Psalms 118
- Fact: There are 594 chapters after Psalms 118
- Add these 2 numbers up and you get 1188.
- What is the center verse in the Bible?
Answer: Psalms 118:8

Does this verse say something significant about God's perfect will for our lives?

The next time someone says they would like to find God's perfect will for their lives and that they want to be in the center of His will, just send them to the center of His Word.

Psalms 118:8 "It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man."

Man's way leads to a hopeless end – God's way leads to an endless hope.

From the book of
Bible Questions, Poems & Stories
by Laura Wilson



School Employees & Church Teachers
were blessed in the August 13 worships beginning a new school year. Our hope is that you and your students will have a happy and successful work year!.

CHURCH FAMILY CONCERNS

Cynthia Adams	Jo Hancock	(Arabella)
Margarette Allison	Curtis/Sigrid	Vivian Patton
(Briar Cliff, Tyler)	Harvey	(Arabella, Kilgore)
Charlotte Austin,	Millard Harkrider	Rita Peters
(Hospice Denton, Tx.	Sally Holder	(Arabella, Lvw.)
75033)	Steven Jackson	Charlene Phillips
Jerry Boone	Ronnie Jobe	Wanda Renshaw
(Arbor Grace #10)	Mary Jordan	Linda/Bill Ridder
Jack Christopher	Yvonne Kennedy	Pat Sage
Barbara Cotten	Richard/Kathy	Fred/JoAnn Samford
Chris/Susan Crawford	Kimball	Jo Stiles
Bill/Dot Denham	Nell King	Marilyn Summers
Jan Duncan	Dwaine Kirksey	Bonnie Sistrunk
Daniel Ellis	Doris Leak	Samuel Thurston
Laura Farnham	Jerry Medford	Wendell/Glennys
Tommy Freeman	Pat Morchat	Travis
Jacque/Todd Gibbs	Marie Murray	Edith Williams
Gary Gray	Nina Fern Nichols	Wilbur/Kay Yates
Sam Holley	(Arbor Grace #19)	
Billie Hale	Guy (#309)–Billie	
Arabella #200)	(#404) Oliphint	

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.

Amber Acoinniece of Gary & Beverly Gray
Kathy Adamsfriend of many
Lorna Alaniz ..friends of Jeff/Lori Beck & William/Amber Watkins
Genny Alfia (aunt) & Tracey Powell (sister)..of Richelle Rathbun
Stephanie Allencousin of Debra Maloch
Bob Barbeefriend of Mickey Smith Family, Ann White
Mac Blackstonefather of Donna Shupe & friend of many
Macy & Blake Bowne
granddaughter & grandson of Peggy Bowne
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
Daniel Callson of Tom & Theta Call
Bart Covinstep-brother of Ronda Dickey
& friend of Mack/Toby Monday
Carolyn DurenMother of Allison Thompson
(friend of SyRena Witt)
Jeff Dykesfriend of many
Joe Dysonnephew of Dorothy Geese
Beatrice Fernandezmother of Anna Rohde
Millis Finnegansister of Mikki Ellis
Edna Frazier..... mother of Milton Frazier
Reg Garner.....father of Chet Garner
Meagan Gibbsniece of Bill Bryant
Jennifer Gilcrest, Deanna Douglas, Jennifer Jencks, Camryn Noll, Luvia Riosfriends of Carolina Bryant
Wanda & Bill Haney....brother & sister-in-law of Ludie Courtney
Reggie Hawkins.....dear friend of the Whitworths & the Cottens
Dennis Huckabee family friend of Loretta Ross
Gene Hutchisonuncle of Misty Shipman
Kim Hurlburt.....ex-member & friend of Thompsons & others
Bruce Huther & Rod Allen..... brothers-in-law of

con't next column

.....Sharon & Jim McCann
Rob Ites brother of Mark Hatfield
Jan Jaynesdaughter of Doris Leak
Loa Johnsonmother of Denise Reinert
Joshua Kennedy co-worker of Garry Mount
Dave Kellystep-father of Misty Tuck
Nancy King.....friend of Sara Lugeanbeal
Henry Lyne.....brother of Martha Eschenfelder
Keith Matternfriend of Bill Bryant
John McCloskey..... father of Bruce Tindel
Melissa McDonald.....niece of Sally/Randy Holder
Betty McKay friend of Suzie Gibson & many others
Larry & Elonore Miller friends of Curtis & Sigrid Harvey
Teresa Millerneighbor of Sally Holder
Janice /James Mills grandparents of Madison Tapler
Marta Morales friend of Carolina Bryant
Robert Morchat, Kingston, Canada.....brother of Art Morchat
David Pennfriend of Tonya DeKoker
Ron & Carol Procellfamily Phillip & Tina Procell
Roy Simmonsbrother of Carol Grimes
Orea Smithuncle of SyRena Witt
Dana Ransomfriend of Larry Phillips & others
Christin Reeves (cancer).....sister-in-law of David Reeves
Pam Richburg friend of Sheryl Caraway
Cherie Salmons niece of Jan Duncan
Alejandra Serrano.....2nd cousin of Carolina Bryant
Sharon Schoenemannsister of Jan Hattaway
Josh Shirey cousin of Ludie Courtney
Robert Shugart father of Misty Shipman
Cristen Sistrunk/Dorothy Williams.daughter-in-law/sister
to Bonnie Sistrunk
Kathy & Ronnie Toddsister & brother-in-law of Loretta Ross
Russell Turnerfriend of Sara Lugeanbeal
Robert Stiles son of Jo Stiles
Billy Vernon friend of many
Watkins family in loss of daughter/sister.....the Shipman family
Melvin & Sue West brother-in-law & sister of Bill Bryant
Peyton & Langston White great-grandsons
of Curtis & Sigrid Harvey
Harold Wiese father of Emily Mason
Carter Wilbanks 11 yr. old friend of Richelle Rathbun
Katy Williams friend of Andrea McGilvray
Billy & Linda Williamson grandparents of Logan Gilbreath

SUNDAY ALTAR FLOWERS

Sunday Service Altar Flowers in honor of, in memory of,
 or in celebration of a special person may be
 scheduled/provided by calling

Kalynn Harrison, 903-985-1562 or 903-984-4267

The flowers serve a dual purpose: adorn our altar in honor of someone special AND are then broken into small bouquets and taken to our members in nursing homes or homebound, sharing love with them.

Call Kalynn! Love God, Live His Word, Share His Grace

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS 2017**PRAYER CALENDAR**

Please say a prayer for our church family on their birthday and/or send a card. If we missed your date, please contact the church.



<u>September 1</u> Merryann Hodnett	<u>September 12</u> William Bennett	<u>September 21</u> Jeff Beck
<u>September 2</u> Shanna Burgess	Marian Clemens	Anna Gillen-Hall
<u>September 3</u> Kay Evans	Joan Smith	Makyla Horton
Willie Roberts	<u>September 13</u> Lily Chowdhury	<u>September 22</u> Jackie Jobe
<u>September 4</u> Hollyann Davis	Thomas Tapler	Amy Johnson
Doug Effler	Bruce Tindell, Jr.	Cheyenne Jones
Carol Grimes	Prentice Wink	Greg Watson
<u>September 5</u> Gretchen Smires	<u>September 14</u> Billie Sue Mims	<u>September 24</u> Bob Cochran
<u>September 6</u> Misty Lewis	Jordan Stephens	Lisa Frazier
<u>September 7</u> Gretchen Smires	Ann White	<u>September 25</u> Sarah Gallant
<u>September 9</u> Christine Gardenhire	<u>September 16</u> Pat Thompson	<u>September 26</u> Don Adams
Troy Jones	<u>September 17</u> Ryder Konczak	Don Adams
Rhett Rohde	Barbara Francisco	Laura Farnham
<u>September 10</u> Frances Ritter	<u>September 18</u> Mason Gathright	<u>September 27</u> Nathan Barnfield
Rhett Rohde	Keith Hooks	<u>September 28</u> Kyle Nations
<u>September 11</u> Reese Burgess	Brinlee McGilvray	Lucas Pitchon
Emily Mason	Isabell Witt	Jacob Ryle- Barron
Debra Tucker	<u>September 19</u> Andy Hearn	<u>September 29</u> Jana Castaneda
Karen Wilson	Lisa McClammy	Wes Hardin
	Billy Mims	<u>September 30</u>
	<u>September 20</u> Barbara Boyd	
	Susan Moore	

SEPTEMBER 2017**WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

<u>Names</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Years</u>
Chet & Linda Garner	9-21-2013	4
Jeff & RoseAnna Howell	9-30-1989	28
Rick & Marcy Huey	9-18-1999	18
George & Sue Jones	9-16-1967	50
Richard & Kathy Kimball	9-07-2007	10
Daniel & Janet Marley	9-02-1988	29
Mack & Toby Monday	9-22-1967	50
James & Celia Mooney	9-08-2001	16
Art & Pat Morchat	9-4-1977	40
Cody & Veronica Sprayberry	9-17-2015	2
Tony & SyRena Witt	9-16-1995	22

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

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

***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 (wife), Emma (daughter)

***MSgt. Shane Shugart**, brother of Misty Shipman

***Jacob Whitworth**, Army - son of Anthony & Lori Whitworth, Grandparents are Herb/Barbara Cotten

Holy Huddlers

Good Christian Fellowship - While We Eat
6:00 p.m. - Upcoming Meeting Dates & Locations

Sept. 8: Las Tejanitas, Kilgore

Sept.22: Butcher Shop, Longview

Oct. 6: Cotton Patch, Longview

Oct. 20: Bodacious BBQ

Nov. 3: Charburger, Kilgore

Nov. 17: Dairy Queen, White Oak

Dec. 1: Val's, Kilgore

**Dec. 15: Jucy's Burgers, Eastman Rd. @
Hollybrook, Longview**

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

GAME NIGHT - FUN, FUN, FUN

A wonderful fellowship opportunity!

Saturday, SEPTEMBER 23, 6:00 - 8:00pm, gym

Call Barbara Francisco

for more information, 903-918-6797.

Tommy Freeman**Looking For a Roommate**

Tommy Freeman is looking for a roommate and offers free room and board in exchange for day to day help.

Call his Uncle, Vernon Fritz at 903-235-9236.

UMW Pam Besser Circle Having an Enchilada Fundraiser

The circle will be selling cheese enchiladas and salsa. Choose one dozen enchiladas with either cheese sauce or chili sauce for \$20 each and/or one pint of Richelle's homemade salsa for \$5. Orders will be taken Sunday, 8/27/17-9/10/17. Pickups will be Friday 9-15-17-Sunday 9/17/17.

THANK YOU, ACOLYTES

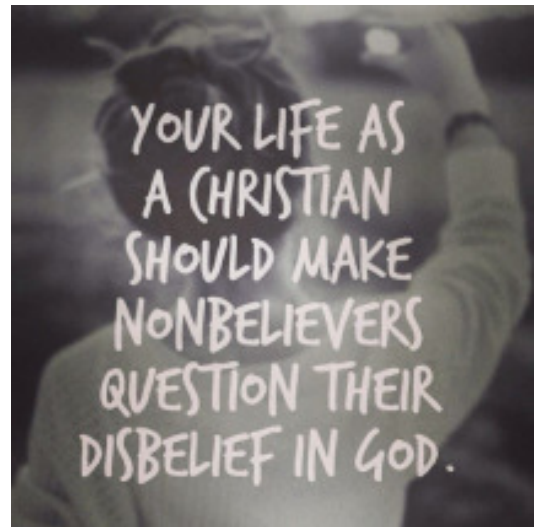
Acolytes have been part of the church in one form or another for nearly 2,000 years.

The word acolyte comes from the Greek word *akolouthos*, meaning follower, a helper or assistant. In the early church, acolytes were a clerical order. Acolytes carry into worship the light, processional cross, banners or Bible and assist the pastor with communion, baptism and other duties. Children and youth often serve as acolytes, but adults can serve as well.

“Jesus said: ‘I am the light of the world’” (John 8:12). The presence of the light reminds us of Jesus coming into our world and into our lives. The light is carried into the worship service as a symbol of Jesus coming into the presence of the worshipping community.

Many congregations use two candles on the altar to point out that Jesus was both a human being and God. At the end of the service, the light is carried out into the world to show that Jesus Christ is for all people everywhere. . . . This symbolizes the light of Jesus Christ going out into the world where believers are to serve.” (Worship Matters, Vol II, “The Work of Acolytes”)

Thank you, Carolina Bryant, who coordinates this ministry at St. Luke's.



Dear Pastors, Lay Ministers and Churches of the North District,

Grace and peace to you all from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ! I pray this letter finds you well.

I am sure you have been watching the weather and have heard about Hurricane Harvey, expected to make landfall somewhere along the Texas Gulf Coast. Significant flooding is anticipated as well.

In years past, when such has occurred, communities of our district have received large numbers of people fleeing the storm, and I think we can anticipate that again this time very soon, and possibly lasting for a week or more.

With this in mind, I am asking all of you to encourage your churches to pray continually for those in the storm's path - for protection, for direction, for peace and comfort. Every church can be engaged in prayer. And many of our churches can be involved more directly. I am asking you to visit with your leadership to prayerfully consider opening your church as a shelter for those needing a place to stay. If your church decides to be open as a shelter, could you please email me at chuffman@txcumc.org to let me know. It would also be helpful to know how soon your shelter could be open and for how long, as well as how many people you could comfortably accommodate with beds, cots, etc.; if you can provide meals daily, if you can provide showers, etc. Please let me hear from you as soon as possible if you are able to offer this assistance.

Thank you for all you do to share the love of Christ!

Blessings!

-Chuck

Let us *consider* our callings,
Let us *reflect* on our responsibilities,
and
Let us *follow* Jesus Christ.

--Thomas S. Monson



Worship Music - Why Do We Have Choirs and Instruments?

an excerpt from *Your Ministry of Singing in the Church Choir* by Roger N. Deschner

When David organized temple music with official choirs of singers and instrumentalists, he knew the power that music played in worship. That power was not only the voice of celebration, it was also the act of prophecy itself. To us, this is a strange way of looking at worship music. But the ecstatic song of the ancient seers had always been a form of prophecy. Of those whom David picked for musical leadership, it is said of Heman, Asaph, and Jeduthun that they “should prophesy with lyres, harps, and cymbals” (1 Chronicles 25:1). Of Jeduthun (whose name comes from the act of pointing out with the hand that for which we are thankful or about which we confess) it was said that he “prophesied with the lyre in thanksgiving and praise to the Lord” (1 Chronicles 25:3).



The idea of prophecy in music might be strange to us, but it provides an important clue for those of us who join the choir and play instruments in our churches today. In the temple, music accompanied the deepest moments of worship when sacrifice was made at the altar. In the sacrifice—which was later replaced by the act of prayer in the synagogue—the people, through the priests, offered their best gifts to God and burned them at the altar. After making the sacrifice, they then waited for God’s returning gift. Music at just that point, through the words of the psalms and the sound of the music itself, was part of the revelation of God’s returning word. Music, with the words of the psalms, helped make hearable and graspable God’s returning gift of God’s word at the most sacred moment of the service.

Come and Be a Part of Worship Leadership

Chancel Choir - Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Chancel Choir leads worship music in the 10:30 service each Sunday.
Come be a part and see worship from a different perspective!

Arise Band - Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

The band leads worship music in the Arise service each Sunday at 8:30 a.m.
Come play and sing for a group keeping a new song going for our Lord!

Handbell Choir - Sundays at 11:30 a.m. in Handbell (Myrtle Andrews) Room

The Handbell Choir rings one Sunday a month and occasionally for special events.
It’s like being a part of a piano, but only being responsible for two or three keys! Come ring out with us in worship!



Parents' Night Out

Friday, Sept 1, 2017

6:00pm - 10:00pm

\$10 per child

Call Niki Chowdhury

903-235-9401 for more information.

Methodist Youth Moving Up (MYMU)

Sunday, September 3

Trip to Splash Kingdom, Canton

Leaving after Sunday School (10:15am)

Pickup in church gym at 6:00pm

Cost \$30 includes admission & lunch

Bring extra money if you want snacks

M&Ms (Mini-Methodists), Children's Choir, & Wed Dinners

Starts back Wednesdays, Sept 6

Register online on the St. Luke's website.

3rd Grade Bibles

Sunday, Sept 10 during 1st and 2nd service

All 3rd graders will be honored and receive a bible with their name on it. If your 3rd grader does not receive a letter from the church, contact Niki Chowdhury to get them on the list.



MOTHER'S DAY OUT

MDO had *Meet the Teacher* on August 23rd. It was a fabulous night for the kids to see their classrooms, meet their teachers, and make new friends. Our classes began on August 30th, but we still have a few spaces available. 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

Sept. 3rd- Labor Day (no youth)

Sept. 6th- After school-7:00pm--Wonderful Wednesdays begin. Church vans will pick up students at KMS and KHS.

Sept. 27th- See You at the Pole in the morning at your local school.

Upcoming Events:

October 14th-Youth will help with Pumpkin Patch Family Fun Day.

October 15th- Youth trip to Six Flags. See Niki or Misty for more details.



CHURCH ATTENDANCE

	SUNDAY SCHOOL	WORSHIP
August 6	137	190
August 13	106	181
August 20	140	238
August 27	137	215

DECORATE ME, PLEASE



Not sure if you all knew or not, but “Decorate the Patch Day” is September 23, 2017. We will meet for breakfast at Burrito Shop between 7 and 7:30am (for those who want to eat beforehand) and then go to the church to decorate!! Bruce Tindell usually helps us that day so hopefully that is still ok for him to be on the clock that day?? If not, just let me know and I will see what we can do.

Thank you all so much for your help!! I will be sending e-mails etc. as time gets closer. If anyone asks, we need donations of anything pumpkin and anything Fall (fake fall leaves, scarecrow clothing, wood, anything at all!!)

Thank you so much to each of you for all your hard work and dedication!!
-Lisa Frazier

Pumpkin Patch Booth Requests

If anyone is interested in having a Craft Booth or a Food Booth in the Pumpkin Patch Craft Show on October 14, please notify George Jones at 903-984-0102 or the church office.



Dear Local Churches,

Rev. Huffman has been working on preparing a **Vision Day Training Event** for the clergy and laity of our district from the representatives of “**Fresh Expressions**”. The Fresh Expressions Workshop that was held at the District Training Event in February of this year at Marshall First UMC was very well attended and many attendees left desiring to learn more about how to expand their mission field and renew their church.

Our training date is set for **SEPTEMBER 30** from 9 am to 3:30 PM at **LONGVIEW FIRST UMC**. Your help is needed **NOW** to advertise this event. Your support for this awesome event for our district will insure many attend and benefit from the training. A tasty hot meal prepared by Chef Debbie Fleming of Longview First will be served at lunch time with snacks available all day. There will be childcare available. Everyone must register online! Thank you,

Anna M Rohde, Dist. Administrative Assistant

Cherokee Legend— Author unknown

Do you know the legend of the Cherokee Indian youth’s rite of Passage?

His father takes him into the forest, blindfolds him and leaves him alone.

*He is required to sit on a stump the whole night and not remove the blindfold until the rays of the morning sun shine through it.

*He cannot cry out for help to anyone.

*Once he survives the night, he is a MAN.

*He cannot tell the other boys of this experience, because each lad must come into manhood on his own.

*The boy is naturally terrified. He can hear all kinds of noises. Wild beasts must surely be all around him. Maybe even some human might do him harm.

*The wind blew the grass and earth, and shook his stump, but he sat stoically, never removing the blindfold. It would be the only way he could become a man!

*Finally, after a horrific night the sun appeared and he removed his blindfold. It was then that he discovered his father sitting on the stump next to him. He had been at watch the entire night, protecting his son from harm.

*We, too, are never alone. Even when we don’t know it, God is watching over us, sitting on the stump beside us.

*When trouble comes, all we have to do is reach out to Him.

Moral of the story: Just because you can’t see God, doesn’t mean He is not there.’For we walk by faith, not by sight.’

United Methodist Women - MORNING CIRCLE

The UMW Morning Circle began their Fall schedule with a Round-Up luncheon on Aug. 1. A memorial service was held for all the members who had passed away this year.

Delivery of Meals on Wheels began on Aug. 28 and will continue through Sept. 23, with our ladies taking turns with the daily delivery of lunch for several of our shut-in neighbors and friends.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, Sept. 5, at 10:30am in the Fireplace Room. Program Chair, Sherry Christopher, will present a program on "How to be a Prayer Warrior" and share how the St. Luke's Prayer Chain works (with Lisa Frazier at the computer).

We will furnish and serve lunch at the Kilgore College Wesley Foundation on Wednesday, Sept. 13. (If you can make a cake or cookies for this, please take it to the Wesley by 10:00am.)

The ladies are making plans for the Annual UMW Soup and Pie fundraiser. This event is a busy time for all of St. Luke's, and one of the "fun-est" times to work together. Ask how you may help!

Ladies, come visit us! See who we are and what we do. We welcome new faces and new ideas and friends.

PAM BESSER EVENING CIRCLE

UMW Pam Besser Evening Circle met for our regular monthly meeting in August. A light supper was provided by Kathy Brown and April Watson.

David and Carolyn Snow came and talked to us about their non-profit mission in Marshall, *My Friend's House*. They provide temporary and transitional housing for \$10 a day per person. Anyone wanting to stay must pass a background check, find a job and attend church services. They are funded by private donations and the sale of merchandise in *My Friend's Warehouse*. *My Friend's House* exists to follow Jesus' teaching about feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, giving a bed to the homeless, clothing the cold, visits to the sick and help for prisoners.

Brenda Culpepper provided our monthly devotional based on the scripture from 2 Timothy 1:7.

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 Thursday, September 14, at 6:00pm in the kitchen, during which we will be rolling enchiladas for our enchilada fundraiser. We will be selling cheese enchiladas with either chili or cheese sauce for \$20 a dozen. Don't miss this opportunity! Be sure to watch for bulletin inserts for more information.

All women are invited and invite a friend to come with you.
-Kathy Brown, Secretary

National Guard Send off Event St Luke's Methodist Church Fellowship Hall and Gym September 7th - 5-7 PM

Julie Beck (J & Co) is heading-up the event for soldiers and their families. They expect up to 430 people in all.

There will be food, live music, bounce houses for kids, goody bags for soldiers, photos taken to be mailed to them, snow cones, and lots of Love, Care and Compassion from Kilgore!

If you or an organization would like to donate to this event, please Make check out to: **St Luke's Methodist Church, Note: Natl. Guard Event, 401 E Main St, Kilgore TX 75662.** Or drop off at church office.
-Mayor Ronnie Spradlin

A dinner will be served by donated restaurants. They will have carnival style games set up in our gym and need help manning those games. It begins at 5pm and will most likely wind down by 9:00pm. Volunteers do not have to commit to the entire time. Call Julie at 903-631-8322 to volunteer for a specific time slot.

This is a wonderful opportunity to show our support for these men and women and their families who are willing to keep America safe. Many in the city is eager to be a part.

Thank you, *Misty Shipman*
P.S. Barrett Besser will be deployed. His parents will be here to see him off.

St. Luke's United Methodist Men 2017 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Breakfast and Program, Family Center
8:00am the Following Saturdays:
September 23--Don't miss our new preacher, Ben Bagley, who will present the program.

October 28 November 11

Special Date & Program
December 16, 10:00am, Family Center,
CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

Missionaries Hannah & Aaron Mason Update in Uganda (Brother of David Mason of our church)

We are excited to report that it's been raining here. The last harvest sadly failed again, but people are starting to replant now. Thank you so much for praying for rain. Please continue to pray for consistent rain and a good harvest.

The guys just finished cementing in a pump for a new well drilled last week. This was a test well in a new district we have never drilled in before.

We are excited to be headed to the States for a quick visit. Hannah's sister is getting married and we are so thankful that we are able to return to celebrate with family. We are excited about worshipping with some of you and hopefully seeing many of you at our open houses. Our desire would be to be able to visit and speak to each of our supporting churches and share with you in person what God has been doing here in Uganda. Because our time is short and we will be travelling between 3 states we are not going to be speaking this trip. Our hearts are filled with gratitude and we are so thankful for your support. We hope to see many of you at church and during our Open House. We will be at New Harmony Baptist Church in Salem, MO August 13th and Liberty City Baptist Church in Liberty City, TX September 3rd. You are invited to join us for food and fellowship.

September 3rd at 6:30pm: Join us for dinner and fellowship at First Baptist Church Liberty City in the gym.

Prayer Request:

Please pray for smooth and safe travels. Also for a time of sweet fellowship, refreshment, strength and good health during all our travels.

Continue to pray for the WFA Uganda program. Ask for wisdom for us and Colin and Ronnie as we work here to share His truth, disciple those around us, and work to help people get clean water.

Please pray for many opportunities to share His truth and love. And that we would daily surrender and live by His Spirit.

Excited to see you soon!

Blessings,
Aaron and Hannah Mason

Sept. Calendar con't from p 11)

	Cherubs (Pre-K - Kindergarten) Angel Tones (1st - 3rd grades) Hope (4th - 8th grades)
3:30-7:00pm	Youth Activities, Gym
5:15pm	Dinner (\$5/adults; \$2/children), Beef Spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, drinks, dessert
6:00pm	Mini Methodists for Children
6::00pm	Prayer Shawl Meeting, Family Center
6:00pm	10 Commandment Bible Study, parlor
6:00-7:30pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
6:30pm	Scouts, Laird Hall
<u>Thursday, September 21</u>	
6:30-8:00pm	Arise Band Rehearsal, Sanct.**
<u>Friday September 22</u>	
9:00-9:45am	Exercise, Family Center
9:00-2:00pm	MDO
6:00pm	Holy Huddlers, Butcher Shop, Longview
<u>Saturday, September 23 Decorate Pumpkin Patch</u>	
6:00-8:00pm	Game Night, Gym
8:00am	UMM Breakfast, Family Center
<u>Sunday, September 24</u>	
8:30am	Arise Worship, Sanctuary
9:30am	Sunday School*
10:30am	Traditional Worship, Sanctuary*
11:30am	Handbell Rehearsal, Handbell Room
11:45am	Finance Meeting, Family Center
4:30pm	Youth, gym
<u>Monday, September 25</u>	
9:00-9:45am	Exercise, Family Center
<u>Tuesday, September 26 Meals on Wheels</u>	
10:00am	Staff Meeting, Conference Room
<u>Wednesday, September 27 Pumpkins Arrive</u>	
9:00-9:45am	Exercise, Family Center
9:00-2:00pm	Mother's Day Out
12:00noon	Bible study, Family Center
3:15-5:30pm	Children & Junior Choirs Cherubs (Pre-K - Kindergarten) Angel Tones (1st - 3rd grades) Hope (4th - 8th grades)
3:30-7:00pm	Youth Activities, Gym
5:15pm	Dinner (\$5/adults; \$2/children), Pulled pork sandwiches, cole slaw, macaroni & cheese, drinks, dessert
6:00pm	Mini Methodists for Children
6::00pm	Prayer Shawl Meeting, Family Center
6:00pm	10 Commandment Bible Study, parlor
6:00-7:30pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
<u>Thursday, September 28</u>	
6:30-8:00pm	Arise Band Rehearsal, Sanctuary**
7:00pm	Scout Pack Meeting, Family Center
<u>Friday, September 29</u>	
9:00-9:45am	Exercise, Family Center
9:00-2:00pm	MDO
<u>Saturday, September 30</u>	

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR 2017

* Nursery provided for this event.

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

Friday, September 1

9:00-9:45am Exercise, Family Center
9:00-2:00pm MDO
6:00-10:00pm Parent's Night Out, gym

Saturday, September 2

Sunday, September 3

8:30am Arise Worship, Sanctuary
9:30am Sunday School*
10:30am Traditional Worship, Sanctuary*
10:15am MYMU going to Splash Kingdom
11:30am Handbell Rehearsal, Handbell Room
4:30pm NO Youth, gym

Monday, September 4 Labor Day

Offices Closed

Tuesday, September 5

10:30am Morning UMW, Fireplace Room

Wednesday, September 6

9:00-9:45am Exercise, Family Center
9:00-2:00pm MDO
11:00am Hilltoppers Program: Rev. Dan Hoke will put a bit of humor in your life. The menu will be Chicken & Dressing, green beans, sweet potatoes, fruit salad, rolls, dessert & drinks

3:15pm Wonderful Wednesdays begin
3:15-5:30pm Children & Junior Choirs
Cherubs (Pre-K - Kindergarten)
Angel Tones (1st - 3rd grades)
Hope (4th - 8th grades)

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
6:00pm Prayer Shawl Meeting, Family Center
6:00pm 10 Commandment Bible Study, parlor
6:00-7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 7 All Day National Guard

Farewell

6:00pm Pam Besser preparing for enchilada fundraiser, Kitchen & Fireplace Room
6:30-8:00pm Arise Band Rehearsal, Sanctuary**

Friday, September 8

9:00-9:45am Exercise, Family Center
9:00-2:00pm MDO
6:00pm Holy Huddlers, Las Tejuanitos, Kilgore

Saturday, September 9

7:00am Newgate Mission in Longview

Sunday, September 10- 3rd graders will receive

Bibles

8:30am Arise Worship, Sanctuary
9:30am Sunday School*
10:30am Traditional Worship, Sanctuary*
11:30am Handbell Rehearsal, Handbell Room
4:30pm Youth, gym

Monday, September 11

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

Tuesday, September 12

10:00am Staff meeting, Conference Room
7:00pm Scout -Parent Orientation, gym & Family Center

Wednesday September 13 (UMW Feed Wesley Foundation)

9:00-9:45 a.m. Exercise, Family Center
9:00-2:00pm MDO
3:15pm Wonderful Wednesdays
3:15-5:30pm Children & Junior Choirs
Cherubs (Pre-K - Kindergarten)
Angel Tones (1st - 3rd grades)
Hope (4th - 8th grades)
3:30-7:00pm Youth Activities, Gym
5:15pm Dinner (\$5/adults; \$2/children), Chicken Tacos, nachos, chips & salsa, drinks, dessert

6:00pm Mini Methodists for Children
6:00pm Prayer Shawl Meeting, Family Center
6:00pm 10 Commandment Bible Study, parlor
6:00-7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 14

6:30-8:00pm Arise Band Rehearsal, Sanctuary**
6:00pm Pam Besser preparing for enchilada fundraiser, Kitchen & Fireplace Room

Friday, September 15

2:00-6:00pm Enchilada pick-up, Kitchen
9:00-9:45am Exercise, Family Center
9:00-6:00pm MDO

Saturday, September 16

10:00-2:00pm Enchilada pick-up, Kitchen
4:00-6:00pm Family Fun Night

Sunday, Sseptember 17

8:30am Arise Worship, Sanctuary
9:30am Sunday School*
9:30-12:30pm Enchilada pick-up, Kitchen
10:30am Traditional Worship, Sanctuary*
11:30am Handbell Rehearsal, Handbell Room
4:30pm Youth, gym

Monday, September 18

9:00-9:45am Exercise, Family Center
6:30pm Scouts, Laird Hall
7:00pm Trustee Meeting, Conference Room

Tuesday, September 19

8:00-3:30pm Emmaus Team Training, Sanctuary
6:30pm Scouts, Laird Hall

Wednesday, September 20

9:00-9:45am Exercise, Family Center
9:00-12:00pm AuCourant, Fireplace Room
9:00-2:00pm MDO
3:15-5:30pm Children & Junior Choirs

con't on page 10

Office: 903-984-3576 Fax: 903-984-2738

E-Mail: stlukesumc@stlukeskilgore.com

Web Site: www.stlukeskilgore.com

The VISITOR

"The Visitor" Published Monthly by:
St. Luke's United Methodist Church
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
AND STRAIGHT TO THE POINT!**
Renovation-Aeolian-Skinner Pipe Organ

PHASE 1	RENOVATIONS
\$135,000	will be accomplished
\$121,500	in 2 phases
\$101,500	Phase 1: \$135,000
\$ 97,247	Currently Available
\$ 87,515	\$97,247
\$ 71,500	OUR GOAL
\$ 51,500	Balance of \$37,753

**BALANCE MUST BE AVAILABLE
BEFORE REPAIRS CAN BEGIN
WE ARE GETTING THERE!!
St. Luke's has received 2 Grants
totaling \$7,000.00.**

**A huge THANK YOU to the
GIBSON FOUNDATION
and the
ROSA MAE GRIFFIN FOUNDATION
and to ALL who have donated
to get us to our current total!**



HILLTOPPERS

September 6, 2017
Family Center at 11:30am
Meal (\$6.00)

Catered by Richelle Rathbun

Menu: Chicken & dressing, green beans,
sweet potatoes, fruit salad, rolls, dessert &
drinks--all for \$6.

Everyone and all ages are invited.

Program: *Rev. Dan Hoke will delight us
with humor that will make you glad you
attended.*

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry needs your help! We need
people who knit or crochet to join us. If you don't know
how, we will teach you!

We meet every Wednesday night at 6:00pm in the
Family Center. We also would like to start a morning or
afternoon group. Please contact us if you would like to
help. Jan Hattaway (903-720-0138) or
Pat Sers (903-918-5066)