



HOW DO WE REMAIN HOPEFUL & GRATEFUL...

PASTOR'S MESSAGE



I borrow these words from Philippians 1:2-6
GRACE BE UNTO YOU, AND PEACE, FROM GOD OUR FATHER, AND FROM THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. I THANK MY GOD UPON EVERY REMEMBRANCE OF YOU. ALWAYS IN EVERY PRAYER OF MINE FOR YOU ALL, MAKING REQUEST WITH JOY, FOR YOUR FELLOWSHIP IN THE GOSPEL FROM THE FIRST DAY UNTIL NOW; BEING CONFIDENT OF THIS VERY THING, THAT HE WHICH HATH BEGUN A GOOD WORK IN YOU WILL PERFORM IT UNTIL THE DAY OF JESUS CHRIST.

November is the season of thanksgiving. When the air is crisp and the sun is shining it can be easy to recognize that we have much for which to be thankful. I know also that November is the season for mid-term elections which can raise tremendous anxiety in our nation and that we are reeling from the violence and hatred of the last week of October. I am also deeply aware that the United Methodist church is facing great divisions over theological and biblical interpretations that will impact our future together. How do we remain hopeful and grateful amid anxiety and uncertainty?

Scripture reminds us that we are to give thanks in every circumstance. Scripture reminds us that God has begun a good work in us. And I believe that an attitude of gratitude, trusting in God's work among us, helps us to remain aligned with God's intention for us. Gratitude helps us to see where God is present, even in confusing and uncertain times. Gratitude focuses our attention.

Let me tell you what I mean. In these times of hatred and division, rejection of people who are different from us, there are also people and places where love and kindness and compassion carry the day. Our congregation has long been relatively homogeneous with many of us looking alike and coming from similar backgrounds. I looked across our congregation this past weekend and caught a glimpse of the kingdom of God. Many ages and ethnicities, families of all sorts – single parents with children, grandparents with grandchildren, families formed from biology and adoption – single folks, married folks, gay, straight – people with

different theological and sociological leanings all gathered in the house of the Lord for worship. Handshakes and hugs shared with people who will vote differently this month. A welcoming smile offered to friends who have been at St. Luke's for a lifetime and to those who only just came through the doors this week. As I thought about the stories of the people gathered, I gave thanks for the many ways people come. You have come because you were brought by your family. You have come because someone offered you a hand during a troubled time. You have come because someone in the community told you that you would find a place here. You have come because the warmth you felt when you attended Low Key or an AA meeting or a youth paintball outing or Breakfast with Santa or Upper Third made you decide to drop in on a Sunday morning.

IN THESE TIMES OF HATRED AND DIVISION, REJECTION OF PEOPLE WHO ARE DIFFERENT FROM US, THERE ARE ALSO PEOPLE AND PLACES WHERE LOVE AND KINDNESS AND COMPASSION CARRY THE DAY.

God is doing a good work among us. I know we live in troubled times. But, I look across our congregation and see the body of Christ in all our difference and diversity, loving and celebrating and supporting one another, making a place for all of God's children and I thank

God upon every remembrance of you. It is a season of thanksgiving and I believe that God will guide God's people. I see it. Don't you?



Blessings, Pastor Betsy

INSIDE

PASTOR'S MESSAGE	PAGE 1
CHILDREN'S NEWS & MUSIC MINISTRY	PAGE 2
CRAFTERS.....	PAGE 3
YOUTH GROUP NEWS & AMOR.....	PAGE 4
DONNIE BROOK & STAFF	PAGE 5
MISSIONS & HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE	PAGE 6
INVITATION TO LISTENING SESSION	PAGE 7
CALENDAR OF EVENTS.....	PAGE 8

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED THANKSGIVING WEEK

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

We are enjoying having lots of friends in the Children's Sunday School and Children's Church!

With all these new friends, we will need volunteers to be extra hands.

Please check your calendar and let me know which Sunday you can help from 9:30 AM - 12:00 Noon. You will have fun and will love meeting all of our wonderful children!

- ▶ ***We have Safe Sanctuary training for anyone who has not been trained in October on Sunday, Nov 4th at 12:15 PM.***
 - ▶ ***It takes less than 30 minutes.***
 - ▶ ***If you need another time, give me or Momma T a call.***
- ▶ The children will host a **Pizza and Movie Afternoon** on Nov. 11th from 4:30 - 6:30 PM. Plan to join us. The movie will be announced soon.
- ▶ **Breakfast with Santa** will take place on Saturday, December 8th from 9:00-11:00 AM. Hope you can join us for yummy pancakes, fun pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus, crafts, and door prizes!



Thank you for your support! Christy Terrill, Director of Children's Ministries
318-470-0779 / cwt125@bellsouth.net

MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

The Chancel Choir is gradually learning new anthems and exploring repertoire to enrich worship. New members have contributed both to the fellowship of the group and to the quality of music presented each Sunday.

- ▶ The Chancel Choir has begun work on a Christmas cantata, **Nativity**, which is a medley of carols blended with narration that will take the congregation from the manger scene, to spreading the Good News, to the fields of the shepherds.
 - ▶ This will be performed during the worship services on December 16th.
 - ▶ IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO JOIN WITH THE CHOIR FOR THIS MUSICAL PRESENTATION, REHEARSALS FOR CHRISTMAS MUSIC ARE UNDERWAY EVERY WEDNESDAY EVENING AT 7PM. FOR MORE DETAILS, SEE BETH DUET.
- ▶ The Handbell Choir will play again on November 11th and will ring in the first Sunday of Advent with two special numbers.
- ▶ Laura Hirsch Purcell, our former accompanist, has happily joined her husband in Chesapeake, VA, and they are settled into a new apartment. SPRC approved SueEllen Coleman as the church's new accompanist and she started on October 10th. **Welcome SueEllen!**

Beth Duet, Director of Music Ministry
admin@stlukesumc.community

CRAFTERS

Although this group of crafters spends a lot of their time in the meetings showing off what they've been working on, sharing ideas for future projects, and socializing, we are not all fun and crafts!

We continue to make the mats for the homeless out of recycled plastic grocery bags. Alice Sis-trunk is not a part of our group as she has a conflicting standing appointment at our meeting time, but she deserves a big "thank you" for the number of these mats that she has made. Audrey Wibker and the others just can't keep up with her.



This group also sponsors the Holiday Boutique and the new Christmas in July Boutique. We sell booth space and donate it to the Missions Committee. Last year we donated over \$1000. Often, out of our own pockets, we create and make items to sell in the Crafters' booth in the Boutiques.



This group also helped make gifts for the folks at a nursing home. Debbie Shepard makes different things for the children of the church for most holidays. Ann Willis works with several other groups that help underprivileged children sharing her love of crafting with them. We have also made crocheted caps and special gowns for babies in the NICU. We always make a few items that we donate to the Pumpkin Patch to sell; this year we made the cutest pumpkin coasters, a few bowl buddies and crosses made from old picture frames and ribbon.



So, although we have a lot of fun together, and make things for ourselves or as gifts, we also make an awful lot of things for others, too.

Everyone is welcome. If you think you are not creative, I promise you we'll help you find your creativity. Come see us any Thursday from 10 to noon.

Thankful

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

OPPORTUNITY TO GATHER FOR YOUTH!

St. Luke's Youth have begun a Senior High Prayer Breakfast on Tuesday mornings at 7AM at Strawn's on Kings Hwy. We share prayer requests & have a short devotional.

We are working on a similar opportunity for our junior high students to gather during the week.

The youth have changed our Sunday morning time together from "Sunday School" to **"SOUL SEARCHING"** time.

- ▶ Youth meet on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM.
- ▶ Youth continue to fellowship after church on Sundays.

The month of October has been full of activity helping with pumpkin unloading & working in the patch.

Young Adults continue to meet on Tuesday evenings at 5:45 PM

PLEASE CALL MOMMA T IF YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS OR NEED TRANSPORTATION.

(318-207-0657 OR EMAIL TANIALANG50@GMAIL.COM) OR COLLIN HUGHES (318-469-6108 OR EMAIL COLLINBHUGHES@GMAIL.COM)

YOUTH EVENTS

- ▶ November 4th, 12 NOON, BOWLING
- ▶ November 11th, 12 NOON, FISHING ADVENTURE

*****Thank you for entrusting your precious youth to us! Shalom!*****

AMOR at St Luke's

AMOR will have a full calendar of activities in November. Jen Janet, Jimmy Wooten, Buddy Flett, Pocket Change, and Joe Nadeau will all be playing this month.

Low Key continues to grow and there are lots of opportunities for you to share in this remarkable experience. The volunteers at Low Key offer the best hospitality that St Luke's has to offer. Volunteering on Friday nights is an especially rewarding way to serve the ministry of AMOR.

We have started our early planning for another meal at Low Key on the Friday after Thanksgiving. Consider being a part of this holiday meal. It will be a different kind of day.

Our commitment is that Low Key will meet on Friday without exception. If it's Friday, it's Low Key. We have decided that we will not have Low Key only if Caddo Parish schools are closed because of bad winter weather. Otherwise, God rocks on Friday at 6:00.

SHARE THE WORD. INVITE A FRIEND. FRIDAY AT 6:00.





DONNIE BROOK COMMISSIONED AS LAY SERVANT!

On Sunday, October 21st, Donnie Brook was commissioned to continue in her role as Lay Servant at St. Luke's United Methodist.

Those who know Donnie know that she embodies the heart of a servant. Her very presence is a gift to those who meet her. She cares for many through the ministry of the Upper Third group and her visits to our homebound members and notes or calls to members of the congregation who need to feel connected and uplifted. Donnie often quietly volunteers to help with administrative duties in the church office. For a number of years, Donnie has served St Luke's as our Lay Delegate to the Louisiana Annual Conference.



Thank you, Donnie, for all you do for your church!



STAFF

Reverend Betsy Eaves

Pastor

Beth Duet

Director of Music
Office Administrator

David "Bing" Bingham

Lay Pastor, AMOR

Ashley O'Quinn

Treasurer

SueEllen Coleman

Music Accompanist

Momma T (Tania Lang)

Spiritual Director of Youth

Christy Terrill

Children's Ministry Director

Brittany Richardson

Nursery Coordinator

.....

WORSHIP

SUNDAYS, 8:30 & 10:45 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:30 AM

.....

CONTACT ST. LUKE'S

6012 Youree Drive
SHREVEPORT, LA 71105

PHONE: 318.868.3613
FAX: 318.868.3614

admin@stlukes.community
www.stlukesumc.community
facebook.com/stlukesshreveport

MISSIONS

In case anyone has any doubts – or you just crawled out from under a pumpkin – St. Luke's is one of the most active churches in this region, if not the state, in missions.

In addition to the thousands of dollars raised annually for local charities by the Pumpkin Patch, Crafters4Missions and the Crafter's Holiday Boutique, St. Luke's Mission Committee is very active in hands-on projects helping to meet local needs.



So far this season, the Missions Committee has collected school supplies for 2 little boys whose mother had escaped an abusive situation and helped with the food distribution at Common Ground's food pantry. Before the end of the year, we will participate in the Salvation Army's Project Angel Tree and will provide a meal for the homeless served at Hope House downtown, as well as working at the Common Ground's food pantry on a regular basis. Watch this newsletter for more information on these projects, and others.

We hope that you will join us in these activities. And, if you are involved in any project that focuses on hands-on service to others, or know of a need, please let the Mission's Committee know about it. We would love to assist you in any way we can.

Linda Neagle, Chairwoman, Missions Committee

ST. LUKE'S UMC *Crafters present* **Our 4th Annual** **HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE**

SATURDAY
November 10th, 2018
9 am to 2 pm

**HANDCRAFTED ITEMS, WREATHS, CARDS,
PAINTINGS, JEWELRY, TOYS, WOODEN ART,
HOLIDAY DECOR & MUCH MORE**

**6012 YOUREE DR
SHREVEPORT, LA**

For more information contact *Linda Neagle*, the Boutique Coordinator. You can friend me on Facebook, email me at grannysgoneracing@yahoo.com, call me at 318-344-0636, or text me at 228-234-7638.



UPDATE

Good things are created rain or shine.

We were able to switch gears and entertain 1,200 kids during Story Time!

- ▶ 6 days of 3 - 5 year-olds
- ▶ 3 days of Special Needs kids

Even though we could not take the kids out in the wet patch, they all had an awesome experience with Story Time, craft projects, touch & feel discovery time and a walk around the outside of the patch!

We've reached our new goal of \$20,000 which will further serve the needs of our community.



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

INVITATION TO THE SHREVEPORT DISTRICT LISTENING SESSION (NOVEMBER 27TH)

Bishop Harvey of the Louisiana Conference of the United Methodist Church and Wybra Price, Shreveport District Superintendent, invite the members of St. Luke's United Methodist and all interested persons to attend the **Shreveport District Listening Session** for an overview of the proposed legislation to be considered at the 2019 Special Session of the General Conference in St. Louis February 23-26, 2019.

The Listening Session will be held on Tuesday, November 27th at First UMC, Shreveport (500 Common Street, Shreveport, LA 71101) from 6:00 – 8:00pm.

At the Listening Session, Bishop Harvey will...

- ▶ Provide a general overview of the report released from the 32-member Commission on a Way Forward
- ▶ Provide a general overview of the plans that will be considered by delegates with a specific focus on the Council of Bishops recommended plan
- ▶ Provide clarity on the process of what's happening now as well as what processes will take place before and during the Called Session of General Conference 2019
- ▶ Offer ideas on how individuals and churches can discuss the issues facing the church

Given the purpose of the Listening Session, the primary focus will be centered on information and clarification of the process rather than discussions of biblical interpretations or theological debates on homosexuality.

Please consider joining Bishop Harvey and Wybra Price in this time of learning and discerning. More information will be made available throughout the month of November.



NOVEMBER 2018

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED THANKSGIVING WEEK

SUNDAYS

NOVEMBER 4, 11, 18, 25	WORSHIP, 8:30 & 10:45 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL, 9:30 AM YOUTH GROUP, NOON - 2 PM AA, 7 PM	NOVEMBER 4	YOUTH, NOON, (BOWLING)
		NOVEMBER 4	SAFE SANCTUARY TRNG, 12:15 PM
		NOVEMBER 11	YOUTH, NOON, (FISHING ADVENTURE) CIRCLE SERVICE, 5:15 PM
		NOVEMBER 18	BOOK CLUB, 3 PM

MONDAYS

NOVEMBER 5, 12, 19, 26	AA, 8 PM	NOVEMBER 5	MISSIONS, 5:30 PM
		NOVEMBER 5	COMMUNICATION COMM, 7 PM
		NOVEMBER 12	TRUSTEES, 7 PM
		NOVEMBER 26	CARD CLASS, 5:30 PM

TUESDAYS

NOVEMBER 6, 13, 20, 27	SR. HIGH PRAYER BRKFST., 7 AM STAFF MEETING, 10:30 AM YOUNG ADULTS, 5:45 PM (13TH IS TACO TUESDAY)	NOVEMBER 6	UMW STUDY #3, 10 AM WORSHIP COMMITTEE, 2 PM
		NOVEMBER 13	FINANCE, 6 PM CHURCH COUNCIL, 7 PM
		NOVEMBER 27	SHREVEPORT DISTRICT LISTENING SESSION, 6 - 8 PM

WEDNESDAYS

NOVEMBER 7, 14, 21, 28	KOINONIA, 7 AM CENTERING PRAYER, 10 AM HANDBELLS, 5:30 PM CHANCEL CHOIR, 6:30 PM AA, 7 PM
-------------------------------	---

THURSDAYS

NOVEMBER 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	LECTIO DIVINA, 8 AM CRAFTERS, 10AM BIBLE STUDY, 6:30 PM (15TH, LAST) AA, 7:30PM	NOVEMBER 8	UPPER THIRD, 11:30 AM
----------------------------------	--	-------------------	-----------------------

FRIDAYS

NOVEMBER 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	LOW KEY SERVICE, 6 PM AA, 8 PM
----------------------------------	-----------------------------------

SATURDAYS

NOVEMBER 3, 10, 17, 24	AA, 10 AM	NOVEMBER 10	HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE, 9 AM - 2 PM
-------------------------------	-----------	--------------------	-------------------------------