



LOVE, NOT JUDGEMENT, IS FOUND HERE.

OCTOBER 2018



## LIGHT TO SEE AND LIGHT TO SHARE

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

*"Love the Lord your God with your heart, soul, mind and strength...love your neighbor as yourself." Mark 12:30-31*

It can be hard to follow Jesus, especially to remember the very core teachings of loving our neighbor as ourselves, loving our enemies and trusting that love is stronger than hate.

This past Sunday we read from the book of James and heard the author call us to draw near to God. Something happens when we draw near to God. We begin to wake up. We begin to open our eyes. Drawing near to God is critical for us to see ourselves.

But, here's the thing. As we draw near to God and allow God's Spirit to grow in our spirit, two things happen. And it is very important to stay near to God in order for both things to happen.

One of the things that may happen as we open ourselves to God's Spirit is that we can become aware of the darkness in ourselves. We may become aware of the pain in and around us. We can wake up to the ways that we have fallen short of living lovingly and selflessly. Or we may become aware of the broken world around us. That process is important, but it can also be dangerous if we don't stay connected to God through the whole process in order to move to the second thing that happens. When we start waking up to the ways we have been less than God desires, we can begin to feel pretty unlovable. In those times when we feel so lost, it is critical to remain close to God.

So, we move into the second important thing, and that is receiving God's grace. It would be nice if there were a flashing neon sign that reads - YOU ARE MY BELOVED CHILD! YOU ARE FORGIVEN! I LOVE YOU!

You see, if we stop at the place where we become aware of the ways we aren't living lovingly in the world and give all of our attention to our brokenness or to the world's brokenness, without being open to God's grace, we stay in the darkness.

Unfortunately, there isn't always a sign, certainly not a flashing neon sign. Sometimes we simply find

ourselves in the darkness. In that place of darkness before we can see light is the place where faith begins. Faith is trusting in God's grace even when we can't imagine why God would love us.

It is the awareness of our belovedness and of God's grace that pours over us that brings light into our darkness. And when we experience God's grace, accepting God's love for us regardless of how far we

have strayed or how broken we feel, the light of God's love enters into our darkest places.

When we receive that light, we then begin to reflect it.

Our life in faith is a fluid dance. Sometimes we need to see the truth about our-

selves and our world. The truth allows us to see the places where we need God's forgiveness, where we need to forgive ourselves, where we need to forgive others. The truth allows us to be honest. And there is a truth beyond our brokenness. That is the truth of God's love for us. How important it is to trust that we are forgiven and set free to share that love and forgiveness with others.

Draw near to God. Ask for light to see and don't forget to receive the light to share.



**Blessings, Pastor Betsy**

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# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

***Our backpacks were blessed with prayers for a good school year and our children***



***have prayer sponsors to pray for them from our congregation.***

Thank you to Ms. Tanya Self, Mrs. Ann Willis, Mrs. Evelyn Miller, and Mrs. Libby Smith for stepping in to teach and help Miss Brittany and Ms. Rachel with Sunday school and Children's church while I was out with new grandbaby Grayson.

As we learn the stories of Jesus, we also are learning the Lord's Prayer and we will soon add the Ten Commandments.

October brings pumpkins and learning about stewardship in our church.

- ▶ October 1st - CHILDREN'S COUNCIL meeting at 6:00. Everyone invited, especially PARENTS!
- ▶ October 7th thru 21st - Children will learn to "BE A BLESSING" through their pledges to support our church.
- ▶ Please plan to work in the Pumpkin Patch with your children sometime in October.
- ▶ October 31st - TRUNK OR TREAT! Members of our congregation will decorate their trunks for trick or treating. We will have lots of candy, treats, and games, so plan to join us and bring your friends beginning at 6:00 until 8:00. All are welcome rain or shine.
- ▶ In November...pizza and movie family evening. The date will be announced soon.
- ▶ December 8th - 9:00 to 11:00 AM - BREAKFAST WITH SANTA. Make plans to join us for yummy pancakes, pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus, cool crafts, an Elf Yourself station and door prizes!

Thank you for your support, Christy Terrill, Director of Children's Ministries      318-470-0779      [cwt125@bellsouth.net](mailto:cwt125@bellsouth.net)

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## Music Ministry News

***The Chancel Choir would like to welcome several new choir members!***



Rehearsals have been filled with energy and fellowship, as well as with hard work as we learn anthems to enrich worship every week!

- ▶ October 7<sup>th</sup> will be Laura (Hirsch) Purcell's last Sunday with us. She will be deeply missed by the choir and the congregation, although we are pleased that she will be able to join her husband in Norfolk, Virginia, where he is stationed.
- ▶ The Bell Choir has also been hard at work and played two compositions during morning worship on September 16<sup>th</sup>. We are working on more pieces so that we can be a blessing to the congregation in the near future.

# YOUTH GROUP NEWS



Contact Momma T if you have any comments, questions or need transportation. (318-207-0657 or email [tanialang50@gmail.com](mailto:tanialang50@gmail.com)) or Collin Hughes (318-469-6108 or email [collinbhughes@gmail.com](mailto:collinbhughes@gmail.com))

Special thanks to the Blairs for all that they do for the youth department. They were recently spotted cheering on one of our own, Jonathan Durell, who plays defensive tackle for the Loyola Flyers. We all had a great time even though we went home with soggy socks and wet hair!

## ***We have made a few changes to our youth department...***

- ▶ Sunday School time is now known as SOUL SEARCHING.
  - ▶ Meet at 9:30.
  - ▶ Senior high & junior high meet separately but at 10:10 we will come together for sharing and for a final prayer.
  - ▶ Youth will continue to meet after the 10:45 worship service for a time of fun, fellowship, & food (sprinkled with faith).
  - ▶ Usually done by 2 PM unless we are having a special event. We have about two of these each month. (See dates & times below.)
- ▶ Adding a SENIOR HIGH PRAYER BREAKFAST.
  - ▶ A time to come together to give one another support and pray for any needs.
  - ▶ Meets at 7 am every Tuesday (unless school is not in session) at Strawn's on Kings Hwy.

## **YOUTH EVENTS**

- |              |  |              |   |
|--------------|--|--------------|---|
| ▶ Sept 30th: | Pumpkin Unloading! After Lunch...                      | ▶ Oct. 16th: | No Prayer Breakfast   |
| ▶ Oct. 2nd:  | Prayer Breakfast                                       | ▶ Oct. 23rd: | Prayer Breakfast  |
| ▶ Oct. 7th:  | Youth will help in the Pumpkin Patch after Lunch       | ▶ Oct. 30th: | Prayer Breakfast  |
| ▶ Oct. 9th:  | No Prayer Breakfast                                    | ▶ Oct. 31st: | Trunk or Treat - Set Up Time 5 PM (Rain Or Shine) till 8 PM |
| ▶ Oct. 14th: | Corn Maze. Will leave after Lunch & return around 5 PM |              |   |

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

## **AMOR at St Luke's**



AMOR has entered the fall season in a good and steady rhythm. The 12 Step recovery meetings are very consistently attended. The meetings at St Luke's are an important part of the scheduled, structured program in the Shreveport/Bossier City recovery community. Low Key has completed a season of six months meeting every Friday evening. Attendance continues to increase steadily. We had a wonderful Grill Meal together after Low Key on the September 21st. The meal and fellowship were a great addition to the spirit of Low Key.

Volunteers made it all possible. Special thanks to Bobby and Debbie Laffitte, Mama T, Cyndy Bingham, Darlene Conrad, Linda Neagle, Bill Wellemeyer, David Sewell, Dave Farney, and the extraordinary cookie/brownie bakers of St Luke's!!



# NEW MEMBERS

***Be sure to welcome our newest members:***



***Jonathan, Shawna and Ruth Ann Brown***

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*Stewardship*  
a way of life

***October is Stewardship month!***

***“Be a Blessing!”***

# MISSIONS

***Everyone is invited to join the Missions Committee in serving at Common Ground's Thursday evening meal and Food Pantry pick up on October 4th.***

For more information or to commit, please contact a member of the Missions Committee; Linda Neagle, Bill Allison, Mac Hardy, Larry Blair, Leslie Nolan, Christy Terrill, Mama T, or Libby Smith.



## **...IMPORTANT!...**

There will be a called **St. Luke's** Charge Conference on Tuesday, October 16th, at 7PM during Church Council to prepare for the upcoming District Charge Conference. It will be held in the Conference Room. All church members are welcome to attend.

The **District Charge Conference** will take place at FUMC Bossier on Sunday, October 28th, from 3PM - 5PM.

# PUMPKIN PATCH NEWS

***Wow, what a view from here in New Mexico! The Pumpkin Patch Farm is just simply breathtaking. Pumpkins as far as you can see!***

We spent about 3 hours touring the different fields today. We have learned a lot about Pumpkins, Bees and Prairie Dogs.

The Pumpkin Patch Farm has about 1,000 churches in 48 states to which they supply pumpkins. Due to the warmer than usual summer, the pumpkins have grown faster and larger plus they are having higher yields this year.

The pumpkins will have an even longer shelf life because there is little to no fungi. This year the crop of bulk pumpkins consist of over 20 different varieties of pumpkins of all sizes, shapes and colors. We hope to throw a few of the odd ones on the truck just for Ann Willis.

**THE PUMPKIN PATCH FARM  
HAS ABOUT 1,000 CHURCHES  
IN 48 STATES TO WHICH THEY  
SUPPLY PUMPKINS.**

The patch labor recruiters have been busy hiring 500 + people from the Navajo and Zuni reservations to harvest more than 1200 acres of pumpkins. This year the harvest should result in a 1.5 million dollar payroll for the Native Americans from this region. Their unemployment rate is over 40% so this is a win, win for all.



**OCTOBER 1st thru OCTOBER 31st  
(or until we sell out...)**

**MONDAY thru SATURDAY,  
9 AM to 7 PM**

**SUNDAY, 1 PM to 7 PM**

**Important Dates 2018**

## STORY TIME

- ▶ 10/11 - 10/12, 9:30 - 11:30 AM
- ▶ 10/18 - 10/19, 9:30 - 11:30 AM
- ▶ 10/22 - 10/24, 9:30 - 11:30 AM (Special Needs ONLY)
- ▶ 10/25 - 10/26, 9:30 - 11:30 AM

## KIDS CARD CLASSES

- ▶ Saturday 10/13, 9:30 - 11:30 AM in the Gym

## JAZZ IN THE PATCH - Saturday 10/13, 3:00 - 5:00 PM

- ▶ Church of the Highland Dixieland Jazz Band, 3:00 - 4:00 PM
- ▶ Jazz by Matt Harris & Friends, 4:00 - 5:00 PM

## FAMILY FUN DAY!

- ▶ PUMPKIN FEST, Saturday 10/20, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
- ▶ BLOOD DRIVE, Saturday 10/20, 9:30 AM - 12:00 NOON

TRUNK OR TREAT, Wednesday, 10/31, 6:00 - 8:00 PM



# ST. LUKE'S SOUP MINISTRY

ST. LUKE'S SOUP MINISTRY swung into action again on September 20th cooking up a big pot of chicken soup and a pot of vegetable soup. The soups were bagged and placed in the freezer with some cornbread.

If you are going to visit one of our church members who is sick, had surgery, or just in need of some love, stop by the freezer and pick up a bag of soup and cornbread and take it with you.

If you are inclined, you can make a donation to the Mission Fund and designate it for Soup Ministry.

**Debbie Laffitte**



## CARD MINISTRY

***Have you noticed the greeting cards in the Hospitality Room? If you haven't, please take a look.***

Part of my tithing to the church is through this card ministry, by hand making and supplying the cards for the rack.

- ▶ The cost of the cards is \$3.00 each.
- ▶ I do not profit from the sale of the cards as the money goes into the Mission Fund.





# CRAFTERS

***We still have a few spots remaining for our 4th Annual Holiday Boutique here at St. Luke's. (see below)***

- ▶ Spaces are 8' X 8' for \$25 and we have space inside or outside.
- ▶ Set up is either the night before or early morning before the show.
- ▶ We will have food and drinks available to purchase on site.
- ▶ To get an application, please contact Linda Neagle at [grannysgoneracing@yahoo.com](mailto:grannysgoneracing@yahoo.com), friend me on Facebook, or send me a Facebook message.

***Applications need to be returned along with the fees before October 24th.***

## STAFF

**Reverend Betsy Eaves**  
Pastor

**Beth Duet**

Director of Music  
Office Administrator

**David "Bing" Bingham**

Lay Pastor, AMOR

**Ashley O'Quinn**

Treasurer

**Laura Ozley Hirsch**

Music Accompanist

**Momma T (Tania Lang)**

Spiritual Director of Youth

**Christy Terrill**

Children's Ministry Director

**Brittany Richardson**

Nursery Coordinator

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## WORSHIP

SUNDAYS, 8:30 & 10:45 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL  
9:30 AM

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## CONTACT ST. LUKE'S

6012 Youree Drive  
SHREVEPORT, LA 71105

PHONE: 318.868.3613  
FAX: 318.868.3614

[admin@stlukes.community](mailto:admin@stlukes.community)  
[www.stlukesumc.community](http://www.stlukesumc.community)  
[Facebook.com/stlukesshrevereport](https://www.facebook.com/stlukesshrevereport)

# ST. LUKE'S UMC

*Crafters present*

## Our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

SATURDAY  
November 10<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto:grannysgoneracing@yahoo.com), call me at 318-344-0636, or text me at 228-234-7638..



# OCTOBER 2018

## ST. LUKE'S UMC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### SUNDAYS

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**OCTOBER 7, 14, 21, 28** WORSHIP 8:30 & 10:45 AM  
SUNDAY SCHOOL, 9:30 AM  
YOUTH GROUP, NOON - 2 PM  
AA, 7 PM

**OCTOBER 14** HEALTHY LIFESTYLES, 2 PM  
CIRCLE SERVICE, 5:15 PM  
**OCTOBER 21** BOOK CLUB, 3 PM  
**OCTOBER 28** DISTRICT CHARGE CONF.,  
3 - 5 PM, FUMC BOSSIER

### MONDAYS

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**OCTOBER 1, 8, 15, 22, 29** AA, 8 PM

**OCTOBER 1** CHILDREN'S COUNCIL, 6 PM  
**OCTOBER 15** TRUSTEES, 7 PM

### TUESDAYS

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**OCTOBER 2, 9, 16, 23, 30** SR. HIGH PRAYER BRKFST., 7 AM  
STAFF MEETING, 10:30 AM  
YOUNG ADULTS, 5:45 PM  
(9TH IS TACO TUESDAY)

**OCTOBER 2** WORSHIP COMMITTEE, 7 PM  
**OCTOBER 16** ST. LUKE'S CHARGE CONF./  
CHURCH COUNCIL, 7 PM  
**OCTOBER 23** COMMUNICATIONS, 7 PM

### WEDNESDAYS

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**OCTOBER 3, 10, 17, 24, 31** KOINONIA, 7 AM  
CENTERING PRAYER, 10 AM  
HANDBELLS, 5:30 PM  
CHANCEL CHOIR, 6:30 PM  
AA, 7 PM

**OCTOBER 31** TRUNK-or-TREAT, 6 - 8 PM

### THURSDAYS

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**OCTOBER 4, 11, 18, 25** LECTIO DIVINA, 8 AM  
CRAFTERS, 10AM  
BIBLE STUDY, 6:30 PM  
AA, 7:30PM

**OCTOBER 4** MISSIONS, 5:30 PM  
**OCTOBER 11** UPPER THIRD, 11:30 AM  
**OCTOBER 25** CRAFTERS4MISSION, 5:30 PM  
UMM, 6:30 PM

### FRIDAYS

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**OCTOBER 5, 12, 19, 26** LOW KEY SERVICE, 6 PM  
AA, 8 PM

### SATURDAYS

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**OCTOBER 6, 13, 20, 27** AA, 10 AM  
ALANON, 10 AM