

Lectio Divina

Every Thursday at 8 a.m. in the Seeker classroom. Led by Rev. Rachel McConnell-Switzer.

Looking for something different?

October at 20
6:00 p.m.
LOW KEY

Centering Prayer

Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m.

Crafters meet every Thursday morning at 10am

Crafters 4 Missions
Will meet Oct 26th at 5:30pm

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Tuesday Afternoons
At 5:45 to 6:45pm

If you have something to submit for the November newsletter or calendar, please have it in the office by October 20th. Our monthly newsletter can be viewed on our website at stlukesumc.community. To have a newsletter mailed, please contact Hannah in the church office.

United Methodist Women

will meet Tuesday, Oct 17 at 12:00 p.m.

United Methodist Men

will meet Tuesday, Oct 24th at 6:30 p.m.

Koinonia meets every Wednesday morning at 7am for breakfast and Bible study.

Upper Third

Thursday, October 19 at 11:30am.
Ranger Teri Jacobson with Red River National Wildlife Refuge will be our guest speaker.
Please bring a covered dish to shared.

Healthy Lifestyles

October 8th & 22nd at 2:00 p.m.

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

Nan P. Ferguson in Memory of Delores Gamble
Clyde Patterson in Memory of Delores Gamble
Linda Biernacki in Memory of Delores Gamble
Marilyn and Kelly Deupree in Memory of Delores Gamble
Louise P. Williams & Family in Memory of Delores Gamble
Jerry and Kim Fisher in Memory of Delores Gamble
Frank and Mary Hughes in Memory of Mary Gleason
Ann Quarles in Honor of Nancy Marshman

ST. LUKE'S UMC

3rd ANNUAL

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

SATURDAY NOV. 4, 2017

10 AM TO 3 PM

Artwork Cards Decor
JEWELRY
WREATHS
Toys
Capri the Clown's balloon art
Food Vendor on site
& Much, much MORE!!!

Book Club

The St. Luke's Book Club will meet on October 15th at 3:00 pm. The book for the October meeting will be **The American Spirit: Who We Are and What We Stand For** by David McCullough. Join the book club for an interesting discussion, all are welcome.

Missions Committee will meet on Monday, October 2nd at 5:30 p.m.

Worship Committee will meet on Tuesday, October 3 at 7:00 p.m.

Trustees will meet Monday, October 16 at 7:00

St. Luke's

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Love, not judgement, is found here.

ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

OCTOBER 2017

6012 Youree Drive
Shreveport, LA 71105
Phone: 318-868-3613
Fax: 318-868-3614
www.stlukesumc.community
admin@stlukesumc.community
facebook.com/stlukesshreveport

Staff

Rev. Betsy Eaves
Pastor

Hannah Rachal
Director of Music Ministry
Office Administrator

Laura Hirsch
Music Accompanist

Momma T (Tania Lang)
Spiritual Director of Youth

Christy Terrill
Children's Ministry Director

Brittany Richardson
Nursery Coordinator

Worship Hours

8:30 & 10:30 a.m.
Traditional Service
9:30 a.m.
Sunday School

The PUMPKINS are HERE!!!!

We do a lot of good things at St. Luke's. We prepare and hand out food bags to friends in need. We offer Centering prayer and Lectio Divina and Koinonia Bible Study every week. We gather to study and serve. We welcome the community to our Labyrinth Prayer garden and share ministry with friends in recovery hosting five twelve step groups. We worship each Sunday and every third Friday. But, few things identify St. Luke's to the Shreveport/Bossier community better than our identity as the "Pumpkin Patch" church.

At first glance, one might think that has little to do with living and sharing the gospel or loving God and neighbor as self. But, don't be deceived. As Rafiki says to Simba in The Lion King "Look harder." Beneath what may appear to be a fun time in the fall filled with pumpkins and hay rides is a story that celebrates who we are as Christ followers.

Did you know that the pumpkins we sell at St. Luke's UMC are grown on a Navaho reservation in New Mexico that provides seasonal employment for Native Americans from four tribes? For many of the seasonal workers, the harvest labor makes a significant difference in their quality of life.

And did you know that the proceeds of the St. Luke's Pumpkin Patch do not come back into St. Luke's, but are used to support non-profit missions and ministry in the Shreveport-Bossier community? Through the work of the Patch, we have been able to provide help for families with troubled teens, work to get housing for the homeless, support people in recovery through twelve step work, offer a lifeline to young women seeking a way out of the sex-trafficking industry and provide protection for victims of abuse, to name just a few. The programs who receive donations from the St. Luke's Pumpkin Patch are organized and structured to work in specific areas that do far more than we could do to address these needs if we were working alone.

We are proud to be the oldest running Pumpkin Patch in the state of Louisiana. Even more, we are proud to be in partnership with friends beyond our walls as together we seek to be the hands and feet of Christ, sharing hope

Join us this month as we celebrate Life in the Patch that brings joy to those who volunteer and hope to those who receive support for their ministry.

See you IN THE PATCH!!

Just Showing Up. Rev. Betsy Eaves

On Friday, September 22 I had some relatively minor foot surgery that required my missing church on September 24. That Sunday morning I wrote the following post on Facebook while most of my St. Luke's family gathered together for worship. I share it with you again here:

This weekend I chose to take the route of extra self-care. Not knowing how my pain would be after a little foot surgery Friday and hearing the doctor's recommendation to elevate my foot for at least 48 hours I worked with Mama T and Hannah to plan for worship at St. Luke's sans Betsy - video sermon and lots of help from others. I probably could have pushed. I don't know. But, for once I didn't. And while I sit in the quiet of a Sunday morning at home I am pondering. I am reminded of the value of community. St. Luke's has become my family and I miss my faith family this morning. I miss the smiles, the laughter, the hugs, the conversations, the excitement about Pumpkin Patch. Like family, we don't always agree. We sometimes see life and faith and theology and politics and priorities differently. But, we have made a commitment to live and love in a community that puts loving God and neighbor as self at the top of the list. I cherish the opportunity to be in a faith community that puts love first, that believes in listening to one another and honoring and trusting one another. During Story Time at the Pumpkin Patch, Ann O'Brien Willis makes a point of teaching the children about all the different kinds of pumpkins and how each one is beautiful in its own unique way. During this time in our world when it is so easy to be harsh and critical of people who are different or who think, look or vote differently, I give thanks for a community that is my faith family....and for all who are willing to walk the road together while we figure it out in the midst of our diverse ways of seeing the world. I think of all the people who have given up on living life in a faith community because of disagreements or differences and I grieve the loss. We need each other and the world is a better place when we figure out how to love, honor and respect each other. In a small way I think we do that each time we gather ...on a Sunday morning or in a Bible study or at the third Friday Low Key service or to work with each other in the Patch. Just showing up together says "I'm here and I'm here to walk alongside you. Together we will find our way." That's a start. Just showing up. A quiet Sunday morning while I heal is nice in its way. But, next week I'll show up to hang out with my family...because I'm better when I do. I hope to see some of you there, too. And if not at St. Luke's with us, I hope you will gather sometime this week with people who welcome each other in the midst of diversity and put love first.

Children's Ministry

Christy Terrill

This month is the Pumpkin Patch month. Please make plans to visit our awesome patch. Each Sunday in October there are exciting things happening so stop by and pick your pumpkins!

This month in Sunday School we will be learning about David. Come join us at 9:30 each Sunday for stories, songs, and creative activities! Our boys and girls will also create mission bags for new friends visiting during church worship, children's church and Sunday school. The bags will have activities, treats and information about our children's ministry. We hope to see you there!

Music Ministry

Hannah Rachal

If you were here for Stewardship Sunday you heard me discuss my loves for music and neuroscience. We know that music is good for our hearts, souls, and enhances our worship experience...but what does it do for and to our brains? Music lowers cortisol, increases immunoglobulin A, and increases dopamine. Musician's brains are more likely to be better at combining and using auditory and visual cues. This leads to larger corpus callosums and better functional brain connectivity... more practically stated, music decreases stress, helps immunity, causes pleasure receptors to be activated, and aids motor skills and movement.

I realize at this point you may be thinking "Okay, Hannah, this is great trivia and all but what does this mean for St. Luke's?" Well, my answer to you is: Couldn't we all profit from these positive attributes of music? What if we were to harness all the great benefits? My guess is that we'd be a happier, healthier congregation. For this reason, I am going to be offering lessons in learning to read music beginning in November. **All** are welcome! It will begin with the very basic information and build on that. There will be two times I'll be leading these lessons: Sunday mornings (during Sunday school hour, 9:30am) and Wednesday evenings (time TBD). Each week the material will be similar, if not the same, but Sunday morning will serve more to connect to sacred music and the importance of hymnody and Wednesday evenings will be geared more toward practical application in music performance. I hope you'll join me!

Youth Ministry

Momma T

October is here, that means pumpkins are on there way!!! In fact they arrive this Sunday , October 1st. For the next month we will be colored in oranges! With everyone's help it will be the best year ever! All youth sign up to help in the patch, your smiles are needed.

St. Luke's youth will be meeting at the church next Friday, Oct 6th at 6:00 p.m. for snacks before traveling to the Loyola game! Bring a friend!

Later this month we will have the famous Trunk or Treat event. Be thinking of how you want to decorate your car.

For the month of September we have been digging in the gospel of Luke. We learned that Luke was a Gentile, of all things! According to the Jewish leadership of the first century, salvation belonged to the Jews alone. Everyone else was outcast. Luke tells us in his gospel over and over that God's grace encompasses the entire earth. That includes us!

Take time in the coming month to notice the leaves changing and be reminded of the awesome glory of our Creator. Know that He is always with us surrounding us with love, mercy, and Grace!

See you in the pumpkin patch.

Honoring the Past, Serving the Present, Providing for the Future

Just a reminder to get your 2018 pledge cards turned in. This helps the Finance committee prepare wisely for the coming year.