

St. Luke's NEWS

LOVE, NOT JUDGEMENT, FOUND HERE

SEPTEMBER 2018



“I AM THE CHURCH! YOU ARE THE CHURCH! WE ARE THE CHURCH TOGETHER!”

Indeed YOU are the church...we are the church. Let me tell you how:

- A visitor to Low Key says he hasn't darkened the door of a church in 7 years because he wasn't welcome, but is so grateful for the warm welcome he received at St. Luke's.
- 11 people have joined the church this year and another couple will join this weekend because YOU told them about something happening at St. Luke's and invited them.
- Recently Linda Neagle shared that she knows first-hand what it's like to come to a new church as a single woman and find a place to plug in. As a result Linda considers it a privilege to help people find a place to get connected, especially when they are coming alone.
- There are many days when someone knocks on the door for help. Because of your generous contributions to Missions and Pastor's Purse and thanks to Larry and Lana keeping our food bags stocked, we can sometimes lend a helping hand like the day we bought a bus ticket for a young man to get home to his wife and child. And another day when a woman with a chemotherapy port pushed her walker into the church asking for a bag of food to help her make it until her disability check came in and thanks to your generosity, she left with a smile, a prayer and something to eat.
- A young adult new to Shreveport found St. Luke's young adult group online and was drawn to the website's "love, not judgment" tag line. The young adult group welcomed him with open arms, and a few months later he told the young adult group that the group has been the best thing that has happened to him since moving to Shreveport.
- Aeryn and Rachal recently brought a family of five to the Children's swim party, and they are interested in coming to the church.
- You check on each other and visit each other. You find out about surgeries and illnesses and keep the staff informed. Like when Lexine Adams reports to the church about Jeffrey Shuler's surgery and makes a visit to Bill and Joyce Mawby. Or when Judy Rausch makes a visit to Elsie Osborne or Donnie Brook checks in on an Upper Third member or homebound friend. And heaven only knows how many of you are caring for and checking on each other in ways I never know about.
- You take care of business like when Kristen Davis gives of her time every week to keep the website and social media updated. Or when volunteers plan for Pumpkin Patch, manage the property, oversee finances and worship and communications.

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CHILDREN'S NEWS

by Christy Terrill, Director of Children's Ministries

The End Of Summer Family Swim Night was lots of fun!

We enjoyed swimming at Mrs. Darby's, yummy hamburgers & hotdogs grilled by Steve, and we even celebrated Owen's birthday! It was a great way to end the summer! Thank you, Mrs. Darby, for hosting in your beautiful backyard & sparkling blue pool!



- Our children completed a mission project by putting together pencil pouches full of school supplies to be donated to Common Ground.
- In September, the children will be sending out special letters to our members who are homebound & in elderly care facilities.
- Thank you to those who committed to pray for a student as they all began a new school year!

We appreciate your support of the children & their activities.

***Please check the FaceBook page for updates
(facebook.com/KidsStLukes)***

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- You give back to the community through the work of the Pumpkin Patch and Crafting4Missions raising thousands of dollars to support local non-profit ministries.
- You lead and teach: Sunday School teachers and weekly group leaders who lead Koinonia, and Centering Prayer, and Lectio Divina, and Crafting4Missions and UMW and UMM. A new Bible study on the Gospel of John is being led by Terri Durel and Ann Willis on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.
- Each week you support Christy and Brittany to teach our children about Jesus and God's love. Each week you support Momma T and Collin as they guide and encourage our youth and young adults as they seek to understand what it means to be faithful followers of Jesus Christ.
- Beth Duet (Welcome, Beth!) brings her enthusiasm and bright smile to the office and to the music each week. And Rick Duet offers his computer and graphics skills every week enhancing our worship and our communications.
- School starts, and you support the missions committee to gather collections of school supplies to help families struggling with the financial demands of the beginning of the school year.
- Each week bell ringers and choir members give of their time to practice in order to enhance our worship experience.
- Each week faithful Sunday School teachers prepare adult classes.
- Bing and his cadre of volunteers create a safe space for a person in recovery every week at Low Key and often without anyone knowing, Bing (David to some of us) counsels someone through a rough place in their recovery process.

YOU are the ministry of St. Luke's. YOU, living and planning and teaching and sharing the love and grace of God, are the hands and feet of God.

Keep it up. It is an honor to serve with you in a place where people feel loved and welcomed into the family of God.



Blessings, Pastor Betsy

October newsletter submissions due in the office by September 23rd. Our monthly newsletter can be viewed on our website at stlukesumc.community. To have a newsletter mailed, please contact Beth Duet at admin@stlukesumc.community or 318.868.3613.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

by Momma T (Tania Lang), Spiritual Director of Youth

August 12th we officially welcomed Austin Stutts to St. Luke's Youth with a round of messy games! Austin is entering the sixth grade at N. Desoto; we are so happy he has joined our group!

- We would like to express our gratitude to Mary Darby for hosting our summer swim study. We had a great time and learned much more about the apostle Peter walking on water than we knew before, O you of little faith!
- School is in full swing, and we are praying for a fantastic year.



As we begin this new school year, I encourage us to remember Romans 5:4-5: "Endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us."

Blessings from St. Luke's Youth Dept!

Contact Momma T for details: taniaLANG50@gmail.com

MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

by Beth Duet, Director of Music Ministry

The Music Ministry at St. Luke's invites you to participate this year!



On July 29th the congregation participated in a Hymn Sing and Potluck Lunch. This was a marvelous way to express our faith, to celebrate the contributions of Hannah Rachal, and to join in fellowship with one another. We wish Hannah the best as she begins her graduate studies at Perkins School of Theology.

The dedicated members of the Chancel Choir and the Handbells are practicing every Wednesday evening. We are having fun working on music to enrich worship experiences. It would be our pleasure to welcome anyone who would like to join either group on Wednesdays at 5:30 PM (handbells) or 6:30 PM (choir). Stay tuned for upcoming news about Christmas plans if you would like to join us for that meaningful season. Special expertise is not needed, just a desire to share your faith through music.



Aaliyah Thomas has begun her first year as a music educator at St. Joseph Catholic School. We are proud of her and pleased that she continues to share her gifts with St. Luke's as well. We would like to offer a special thank you to Gerrie Grant who is helping behind the scenes, especially with the music library.

"Where words fail, music speaks." Hans Christian Andersen



ST. LUKE'S SAFETY AND SECURITY TEAM

IS CHARGED WITH KEEPING OUR CONGREGATION AND OUR FACILITY SAFE. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS,

PLEASE CONTACT: PAUL ROUSSEL AT

318-773-5581 OR

HELICOPTERPR1969@GMAIL.COM



Oct. 1st - Oct. 31st

AMOR AT ST LUKE'S CONTINUES TO GROW AND DEVELOP

by Bing Bingham, Lay Pastor, AMOR

The response to LOW KEY has exceeded expectations.

People have described their experiences with overwhelming affirmation and gratitude to St. Luke's for this service. The spirit of **LOW KEY** is utterly unique, and the evening is often nothing less than miraculous. This is, without question, the work of God.

LOW KEY has met on a weekly basis for 15 weeks. As of the time of this report:

- There are a core of 20 plus regulars every Friday evening. Average attendance is between 30 and 40.
- Every week there are new people who are attending for the first time.
- The "self-supporting contributions" that are collected each week have averaged over \$100 to supplement the operations budget.
- We've developed a core of volunteers who provide set up, refreshments, and hospitality.
- The rotation of musicians includes at least eight different groups or individuals with a wide variety of styles.
- There are tentative plans for a Meal From the Grill following the **LOW KEY** service on Sept 21st. We hope this will help to bridge **LOW KEY** with the Young People's meeting that meets at 8:00 on Fridays.
- AMOR has taken the step of increasing our involvement in the larger recovery community by purchasing a table for Oakwood Home's annual banquet Wednesday, August 22nd.
- The financial status of AMOR is good. We have over \$10,000 in individual contributions this calendar year, not including the weekly collections at **LOW KEY**.

AMOR

A Mission of Recovery

The director is amazed and thankful to share this news!



United
Methodist
Women

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWS

by Debbie Lafitte

UMW will join with the United Methodist Women of Noel Memorial United Methodist and Broadmoor United Methodist for a Fall Study.

- Gatherings will be held the first Tuesday of September, October, and November at 10AM.
- St. Luke's will host the first study on Tuesday, September 4th. Betsy Eaves will focus on Ruth using the book, *Finding God in the Margins*, by Carolyn Curtis James. **Hope to see you there!**



STAFF

Reverend Betsy Eaves
Pastor

Beth Duet
Director of Music Ministry
Office Administrator

David 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
.....

WORSHIP

SUNDAYS, 8:30 & 10:45 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30 AM

.....

CONTACT ST. LUKE'S

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SUNDAY SCHOOL & BIBLE STUDY NEWS

NEVA SALTER MEMORIAL SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

The next study is *Quest for the Historical Apostles: Tracing Their Lives and Legacies* by W. Brian Shelton (available from Amazon or Kindle). If you would like to participate in this study, contact any of the following class members for more information:

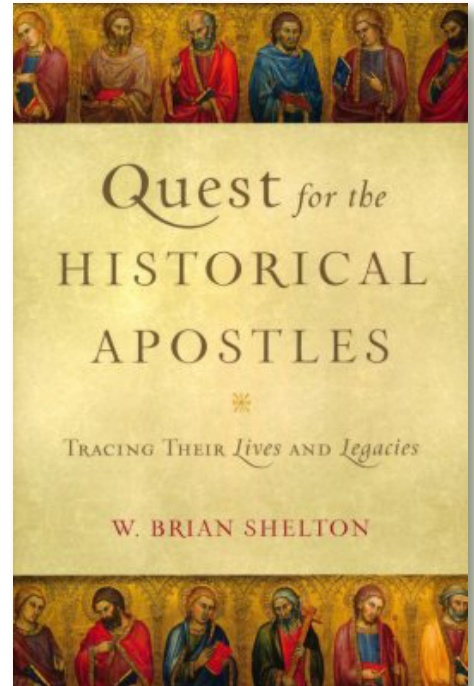
- Mac or Marilyn Hardy (687-6738)
- Lexine Adams (868-2390)
- Sondra Dixon (868-7955)
- Larry or Nancy Marshman (861-0893)

Eager to have you join us!

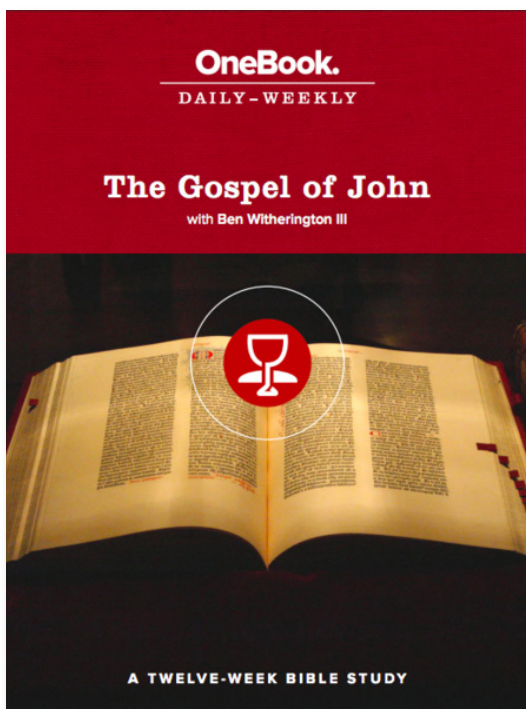
LISTEN TO SERMONS ONLINE @ www.stlukesumc.community



Choose MINISTRIES tab then select SERMONS. (You can listen online or download to your device)



NEW BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY!



A Bible Study based on the book, *The Gospel of John*, by Witherington began on Thursday, August 23rd. The study will continue on Thursday evenings from 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM in the St. Luke's Theater for approximately twelve weeks.

- Terri Durel and Ann Willis lead the study
- Contact Janice Boller (218-1004) if you would like to order a book

Join us on Thursday evenings to build your knowledge and deepen your faith!

MISSIONS COMMITTEE NEWS

(1ST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH AT 5:30 PM)

by Linda Neagle

Our last meeting was quite productive. Our newest member, Leslie Nolan, joined us and brought with her a good dose of excitement and enthusiasm.

Here are some of our past , present & future activities:

- We are getting more info on possible mission projects with Providence House.
- We are getting involved with the Angel Tree Program that the Salvation Army holds every year at the holidays. Thanks to the Crafters, we are building a nice relationship with the Salvation Army. They even had a booth at our Christmas in July event.
- We received 2 donations in July – one from the Crafting4Missions for \$200 earned from the sale of table space at their scrapbook event; the other from the Thursday morning Crafters group for \$525 earned from booth rental fees at the Christmas in July Boutique.
- We began an aluminum can recycling program and have placed trash cans for this in fellowship hall and the kitchen. We are storing the cans in the bus barn, and it was suggested that we purchase a can crusher so that they take up less space. With the youth's purchase of a vending machine, now we can support each other's programs.
- We were blessed to receive enough donations from the congregation to provide two boys with everything they needed to start school. The boys were so excited to receive the backpacks full of school supplies and 4 sets of uniforms.

I would like to say a special thank you to Gerrie, Judy, Tonya, Mary, the Fellowship Sunday School class, and the Crafting4Missions group for their donations. Thank you also to everyone who donated supplies. The rest of the supplies will be donated either to Common Ground or Youree Drive Middle School.

The Missions Committee meets the 1st Thursday of the month at 5:30 PM and EVERYONE is invited to join.



OAKWOOD HOME FOR WOMEN'S 2018 BANQUET



Betsy, Bing and Cyndi Bingham, and Bill at the OAKWOOD HOME FOR WOMEN'S 2018 BANQUET.

- This banquet sold completely out.
- The money raised from the banquet, the raffles and silent auction go toward funding the Home for the next year.
- The company was stimulating and the food was all cooked and served by the members of Broadmoor UMC. It was a great evening spent in good company for a great cause.

Also attending were David O'Quinn (he was helping in the kitchen), Ed & Sissy Wilson, Linda Neagle, Carolyn Wilburn, Audrey Wibker, Judy Rausch, Donnie Brook, Betty Gray, and Lexine Adams.

CRAFTERS GROUP NEWS

(THURSDAYS @ 10 AM)

by Linda Neagle

We are called the Crafters but those of us who attend regularly know that we're really the Thursday morning fellowship group.

How we work:

- Normally bring whatever we are currently working on.
- We sometimes work on projects together.
- What we really seek and receive are fellowship and encouragement. And we get a great deal of that every time we meet!
- Everyone is welcome; you do not have to be a “maker” or a woman to attend.
- We share a lot of information and projects we are working on or considering.
- If you want to learn how to do something, we probably have someone in the group who could teach you.
- Or we could use your help with our group projects, even your opinions.
- Come, check us out! We're in the conference room from 10 am to noon every Thursday.



What we are working on:

- Mats for the homeless, the ones made from recycled plastic bags. Alice and Audrey are the stars of that program and they are helped by Donnie and Carolyn.
- There was a need a while back for red baby caps and several of the ladies made and donated those. Audrey, Ann, and Debbie S. continue to make baby caps for the local hospitals. Our newest member, Annette, has been busy making these caps as well.
- Linda is making smocks for the babies in the NICUs.
- Everyone helped make lap quilts for the residents of a nursing home last Christmas.
- **IF YOU KNOW OF A PERSON OR GROUP THAT NEEDS SOMETHING THAT WE COULD MAKE, PLEASE LET US KNOW.**

What we do:

- We sponsor a Christmas in July Boutique which was a great success!
- We made some money for our future projects and donated the \$525 collected from the booth rentals to the Missions Committee.
- We will hold our annual Holiday Boutique on November 10th, so please mark your calendar and plan to attend. **IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE INCLUDED OR KNOW SOMEONE WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN HAVING A BOOTH, PLEASE CONTACT LINDA NEAGLE AT GRANNYSGONERACING@YAHOO.COM.**

Sara, from The Salvation Army reached out to us, requesting booth space. We were able to grant that request. Hopefully this is the beginning of a partnership that will help many in the community. Fun facts: “The theology of the Salvation Army is derived from that of Methodism. It was founded in 1865 in London by one-time Methodist circuit-preacher William Booth and his wife Catherine.”



SEPTEMBER 2018

ST. LUKE'S UMC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAYS

SEPTEMBER 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

WORSHIP 8:30 & 10:45 AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL, 9:30 AM
AA, 7 PM

SEPTEMBER 9

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES, 2 PM
CIRCLE SERVICE, 5:15 PM

SEPTEMBER 16

BOOK CLUB, 3 PM

SEPTEMBER 30

PP DINNER, 12 - 1 PM
PP UNLOADING, 1 - 4 PM

MONDAYS

SEPTEMBER 3, 10, 17, 24

AA, 8 PM

SEPTEMBER 3

OFFICE CLOSED, LABOR DAY

SEPTEMBER 17

TRUSTEES, 7 PM

TUESDAYS

SEPTEMBER 4, 11, 18, 25

STAFF MEETING, 10:30 AM
YOUNG ADULTS, 5:45 PM
(11TH IS TACO TUESDAY)

SEPTEMBER 4

UMW STUDY, 10 AM
WORSHIP COMMITTEE, 7 PM

SEPTEMBER 18

FINANCE COMMITTEE, 6 PM

SEPTEMBER 25

COMMUNICATIONS, 7 PM

WEDNESDAYS

SEPTEMBER 5, 12, 19, 26

KOINONIA, 7 AM
CENTERING PRAYER, 10 AM
HANDBELLS, 5:30 PM
CHANCEL CHOIR, 6:30 PM
AA, 7 PM

THURSDAYS

SEPTEMBER 6, 13, 20, 27

LECTIO DIVINA, 8 AM
CRAFTERS, 10 AM
BIBLE STUDY, 6:30 PM
AA, 7:30 PM

SEPTEMBER 6

MISSIONS, 5:30 PM

SEPTEMBER 13

UPPER THIRD, 11:30 AM

SEPTEMBER 27

CRAFTERS4MISSION, 5:30 PM
UMM, 6:30 PM

FRIDAYS

SEPTEMBER 7, 14, 21, 28

LOW KEY SERVICE, 6 PM
AA, 8 PM

SATURDAYS

SEPTEMBER 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

AA, 10 AM
ALANON, 10 AM

SEPTEMBER 15

SRSG, 10 AM - 2 PM

SEPTEMBER 29

PP SET-UP, 8 AM - 12:00 PM