



The people of The United Methodist Church

E-MESSENGER

*Open hearts
Open minds
Open doors*

Saint Luke United Methodist Church

Volume 2021, No. 35

Wednesday, September 15, 2021
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We are not an island to ourselves. God created us to be in relationships with other people. We all need a brain to pick, an ear to bend, a nudge, a poke, a push, or even a loving shove from someone we genuinely trust. We all need close confidants with whom we can share important matters, our deepest longings, our personal struggles. We all need someone who's been there, or someone who's going there with us, or someone who's willing to go to the ends of the earth on our behalf.

We are not designed to go at it alone. We never were. We never will be. But that doesn't stop most of us from trying. Over the last forty years, a growing percentage of U.S. Americans report having shrinking networks and fewer relationships. Today, the average U.S. American has only one close confidant, down from 2.94 in the mid-1980's. It's no coincidence that, over this same period, we've become the loneliest generation in American history.

Please allow me to invite you on a quest to name and claim the handful of people whom you can trust and share your blessings as well as your struggles:

- to commit to making time for them in your life; to invest your energies in cultivating relationships with them;
- to seek out their wisdom; to learn from them; to confide in them;
- to invite them into your story and alongside you on your journey.

On this quest, you're also invited to consider those in your life who just might see in you the kind of person that they can open up to and confide in. But it's possible that they're waiting for you to make time for them in your life; to invest your energies in cultivating a relationship with them; to share your wisdom, your story, or simply your hand on the journey of life.

The truth is that we, humans, need people who each bring different gifts, perspectives, experiences and commitments to offer.

In the next few weeks I will be addressing a sermon series on questions we struggle with in life. If you have questions please let me know, write, call or email me your questions. I will do my best to answer them as candidly as I can. I may not have all the answers, but we will trust together, support each other, be there for each other, and continue to love one another.

In Christian love and grace, Mel



Estate Sale at the home of Patsy Sullivan
4613 Starlight Drive
Haltom City, Texas 76117
September 23, 24, 25 & 26, 2021
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



SAVE
THE DATE



FALLfest



The Fall Fest Committee voted unanimously to hold Fall Fest this year. It is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, November 13
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Fall Fest will consist of the Silent Auction, Bake Shop and a boxed lunch.

We are exploring creative ways to have Fall Fest this year online as well as in person if possible.

More details to come.



Children's Sunday School classes have been cancelled until further notice.



Please continue your financial support of the church for it is now more important than ever. You may mail your offering to the church office or give online through our website, www.st-luke-umc.net, or mail checks through your online banking programs. Thank you for your continued support of St. Luke United Methodist Church!



PLEASE NOTE THAT WE HAVE CHANGED OUR NAME ON FACEBOOK & YOU TUBE:

*Join us for worship every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. for In-Person Worship or via our Facebook page or YouTube.com: **SLUMC—Haltom City***

***Sunday, September 19, 2021
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Youth & Adult Sunday School - 9:15 a.m.***

Weekly Attendance

***Wednesday Night Youth Activities • September 8 - 8
Adult Bible Study • September 8 - 9***

Sunday, September 12, 2021

St. Luke UMC—10:30 a.m.

Sunday School—61

In-Person Worship—47

Online Worship—468

French Worship Service—2:00 p.m.

In-person Worship—42

Online Worship—25



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK...

Continued Prayer Concerns: Jeanne Anne Pharis; Scott Paris; French Congregation & the people of the Congo; Pat Farmer; Doris Mobley's son, Don; Marilyn Smith's cousin, Kim Masters; Jack & Jerrie Lucko; Vicki Kovar; Hilaire Lukalema; Lisel Richardson's Aunt Vicki; Leslie Duncan's aunt, Ruth Smith; Joyce Hejl's brother & sister-in-law, Mike & Marianne Hejl; Sam & Ann Kiker; Judy White; Patty Tucker; Ross Longeway; Howard & Kara Schwoppe & their family; Sandra Mason; Pastor Ditu's sisters, Ruth & Marie; David & Kay Stapp; Wynelle Hencke; Byron Lechler; Betty Holshouser; Bill & Roberta Reeves; Dena Hughes; Peggy Fallin; Marilyn Smith; Sarah Harris' husband, Tom; George & Karen Angle's sister-in-law; Norm & Betty Turnage; Keith & Amy West's friends, Michael Lewis & Debbie Dilliard; Lydia Acosta's daughter, Donna & her husband, Alfred; George Conant; Carolyn Hodge; Art Gordon; Martha Smith; Jane West; family of Cathy Henderson; Linda Smith; David Ellis; Bill Worthington; Maureen Carr; Leslie Duncan; George & Karen Angle's daughter-in-law; Linda Wills' father; Gloria Bailey with the loss of her husband, Glen; families of the military who died in Kabul

This Week's Concerns: Karen Angle's sister-in-law, Debbie Biles; Bill Hoffman's mother, Maxine; those affected by Hurricane Nicholas; George & Mary Paris' sister, Jackie; Joe & Betty Crawford; Tom & Judy Connolly; those affected by Hurricane Ida; the people of Haiti; the people of Afghanistan; those affected by wildfires; prayers for our nation; all of those affected by COVID-19; our first responders, doctors, nurses, essential employees & frontline workers

Military: Ryan Kelly Hampton; Kyle Johnson; Sam Burnett; Krystal Calvert; Evan Hill; Matt Miller; Nathaniel Hill; Alex Sullivan-Green; Harrison Lenox



***Wednesday Morning Bible Study
Book of Galatians
September 22 • 10:00 a.m.
Fellowship Hall
We invite you to join us.***

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

EMMANUEL CLASS:

We had eleven present for Sunday School this week. Roxie continued her lesson on the New Testament. Prayer concerns for Joe Crawford and retired pastor Tom Connolly and his wife Judy.

GENESIS CLASS:

Things I saw going on this past week proves that many of us are very busy. The Robert's enjoyed Haltom High School's Home Coming Parade. Some class members made a quick trip to Tampa to attend the Cowboy's opening game. I saw Linda Savell enjoying the TCU game with one of her grandsons. The Hills' are beginning to see some signs of progress toward their new home in Paradise. They have put down the forms for the house and plumbing is next. I am sure there are many more things going on, but these are just a few that I saw. We hope that Linda Savell had a special birthday last week and this week our class celebrates special days as we say Happy Birthday to Corey Wells on Monday and Happy Anniversary to Cathy and Art on Thursday. We hope your special days are exactly as you hope they will be. Again this week I have not heard of any specific prayer requests besides the ones that we mention each week. Those that we carry in our hearts and minds always need our prayers. So many are going through so much that we might not even know about, we just need to pray for all of our church family, our first responders, front line workers, leaders, and our nation.

PARTNERS IN FAITH CLASS:

We were going to sing for Jack Lucko, whose birthday was Sunday, but he didn't make it so we now must say Belated Happy Birthday! Thanks to Linda Wills for the sweet treats and for bringing Sandra with you each Sunday. You are a true blessing to all who know you. Our choir members in class said what a wonderful time they all had, getting together again last Wednesday. Our study on Solomon resumed with discussion of the First Temple in 957 BCE and the fact that archeologists have yet to find a trace of it although items have been found elsewhere from that era. Snacks next week: Raymond Hames

UPPER ROOM CLASS:

We had fifteen members in attendance. We were notified that the Upper Room Class will be in charge of the Bake Shop at Fall Fest coming up on Saturday, November 13. Our class will be making pecan tarts and anyone can contribute other baked items for the Bake Shop. More information will be given later on. Our study on the Book of Luke will start with chapter 22. It was reported last week that Roxie Waters would have surgery on her leg, which should have been her back, but we are still praying for her and always hope for the best. Hope that more of the Upper Room members are in attendance on Sunday.

Devotional: Toni Hood

Refreshments: Sharon Friddle



Upper Room Disciplines *A Book of Daily Devotions*

Mark 9:30-37

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

The disciples have been arguing about who among them is the greatest. When Jesus inquires about their conversation, they have nothing but an awkward silence to offer in response.

We are so scared to let Jesus know how important it is to us to be great. But Jesus already knows. The disciples did not have to recount their conversation for Jesus to know what they had been talking about. Jesus knows, sits with their awkward silence, and lovingly responds. He challenges them to become "servant to all." Then, as an unforgettable visual aid, he brings a child among them and embraces the child. He urges them to welcome children as he does. Jesus only asks them to do what he is willing to do.

The disciples' preoccupation with greatness is born of misunderstanding and fear. We too can get sidetracked by pursuing false standards of greatness. Our problem is not in wanting to be great but about living humbly. It is about welcoming those who have great need and cannot care for themselves.

Where in your life are you serving all? Do you strive to be great through humble service, or through seeking recognition and achievement? Do you need a particular seat at church, a prestigious title, or the acceptance and approval of certain people? Jesus tells the disciples that they do not need such recognition. Instead, they are to serve all. We can embrace this challenge too. Jesus calls us to adopt an attitude of humility among all people—not just those who look and live like us, not just those with well-balanced lives, and not just those on our familiar corners of the community. Jesus provides both the instruction and the example. If we want to be great, we will humble ourselves among all, as he did.

Jesus, help me remain mindful today of what it really means to be great. Help me to welcome those with great need and adopt an attitude of humility. Amen.



St. Luke United Methodist Church
 3200 Denton Highway
 Haltom City, TX 76117
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Sunday Services: In-person and Online Worship • 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday School • 9:15 a.m.

French Worship Service: In-person and Online Worship • 2:00 p.m.

Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 Friday 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

NEWS ESPECIALLY FOR YOU:



NEWSLETTER ONLINE AT:

www.st-luke-umc.net



Sunday, September 19, 2021

17th Sunday after Pentecost

9:15 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Morning Worship Service
 2:00 p.m. French Worship Service

Monday, September 20, 2021

9:00 a.m. Newsletter DEADLINE
 1:30 p.m. Patricia McCullough Funeral Service

Tuesday, September 21, 2021

7:00 p.m. Staff Parish Relations Committee Meeting

Wednesday, September 22, 2021

10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study
 6:00 p.m. Youth Activities
 6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 23, 2021

6:00 p.m. Prayer Group

Friday, September 24, 2021

10:00 a.m. Second Chance Resale Shop

Saturday, September 25, 2021

10:00 a.m. Second Chance Resale Shop

Sunday, September 26, 2021

18th Sunday after Pentecost

9:15 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Morning Worship Service
 2:00 p.m. French Worship Service

Youth News:



Hey everyone! Hope you are having a wonderful week! How often do we find ourselves judging others? Sometimes we don't even realize that's what we're doing, right? Like "why is she wearing THAT shirt?" "Why is HE trying out for the team? He's not athletic at all!" Or here's one you don't even think about I bet... "I look horrible, why did I even try this morning?!" Did you know judging yourself is just as bad? That is a sign you don't love yourself. If you don't love yourself, how can you show others you love them? If you don't love yourself, you are hurting God. After all, He created you in His image. That's pretty hurtful to Him. And I don't say this because it's "so easy." Sometimes we lose our way against ourselves. We keep running ourselves ragged and not really paying attention to what our own needs are. Taking care of your mind and body is much more than yoga or meditation. Eating healthy has a lot more to do with feeling good than looking good. Of course if you feel good on the inside, you look better on the outside. There is a healthy glow. Spiritually if you feel good on the inside, you bet you are going to have a glow on the outside. Make sure you are taking care of you, Mind, Body and Soul. And if you see someone who is a little "off their game," be kind, be a friend. This will make all the difference in the world, believe me! Please keep Colton and his family in your prayers for the loss of his Grandfather. I'm missing all those who haven't been there. We will be there Wednesday for food, fellowship and fun! Be there at 6 pm! See you then!

Love you all so much! -Lisel