



The people of The United Methodist Church

# E-MESSENGER

Open hearts  
Open minds  
Open doors

Saint Luke United Methodist Church

Volume 2022, No. 44

Wednesday, November 16, 2022  
Available at: [www.st-luke-umc.net](http://www.st-luke-umc.net)



## A Time of Giving

It's hard to believe that we are approaching the end of the year. It's hard to fathom how time flies by. This time of the year is a busy time filled with so many great things to ponder, to reflect, to give thanks, to study, and to worship. Thanksgiving will be here before you know it, then Advent, then Christmas. The song says "It's the most wonderful time of the year." But you and I know there are many who do not feel or even believe it is the most wonderful time of the year. Maybe they have lost a loved one, or struggling financially, emotionally, and physically, or haven't had a good experience in the past.

Advent speaks of the peace, joy, hope, and love of the Jesus story. We are drawn to experience a journey into the little town of Bethlehem, amidst the animals, the mess, and the dirt of life. We enter with Mary and Joseph not into a hotel, a home, or even a clean room, but into the space, a manger where the light of the world, Jesus was born.

That's what we have to do. We move through the things that get in the way of our path to Jesus. Our world is full of obstacles and distractions. We have work, home, sports, kids, hobbies, and a never-ending list of things to entertain us. Sometimes, even church gets in the way. It's all about making sure you give time to Jesus. Personal and uninterrupted.

Matthew 6:33 says, "But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." Jesus was giving us instruction to let go of the worry. Let go of the things holding us back from complete obedience. And when we drop the things of this world and focus on the important things, we begin to experience the peace, joy, hope, and love of Jesus. And that's when we can really start living.

May this Holy season be a time of giving our gratitude to God for the many blessings we receive. May it be joyful. May yours and your family's health be good. And may you receive the many rich blessings that God has in store for you.

*In Christian love and grace, Mel*



## 2022 Advent Schedule

### **Advent Bible Study**

*Faithful—Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph*  
Partners in Faith Classroom • 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, November 29

Monday, December 5

Tuesdays, December 13 & 20

### **Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal & Pizza Party**

Saturday, December 10 • 10:00 a.m.

### **Children's Christmas Program**

Sunday, December 11 † 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

### **Children's Christmas Party**

Immediately following the Worship Service  
Fellowship Hall

### **Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata**

Sunday, December 18 † 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

### **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

Saturday, December 24 † 6:00 p.m.

### **Christmas Day Worship Services**

*No Sunday School Scheduled*

Sunday, December 25 † 10:30 a.m.

French Worship Service † 10:00 a.m.

### **Epiphany Sunday**

January 1, 2023 † 10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
with Communion

French Worship Service † 10:00 a.m.



The church office will  
be closed for the  
Thanksgiving Holiday:

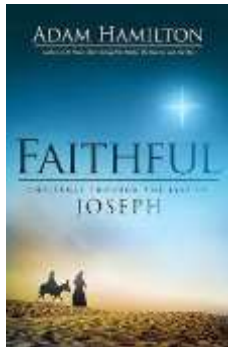
November 23, 24 & 25  
Wednesday, Thursday  
& Friday



## *Poinsettia Sales Sponsored by the United Methodist Men*

The United Methodist Men are taking orders for Poinsettia plants to decorate our Sanctuary for the Advent Season. The cost is \$20 per plant. If you would like to order a poinsettia, you can purchase your poinsettia starting Sunday, November 20 or you can call the church office, 817/838-6834 or email Susan at [office@st-luke-umc.com](mailto:office@st-luke-umc.com) to place an order.

We have a limited number of plants this year, so please place your orders early.



### **Advent Bible Study** *Faithful—Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph* By Adam Hamilton

Led by Rev. Page Hines  
Partners in Faith Classroom

Tuesday, November 29  
Monday, December 5  
Tuesday, December 13 & 20  
10:00 a.m.

From his beginnings as a humble carpenter to his all-important role as the earthly father of Jesus Christ, Joseph's place in the Nativity story is sometimes overlooked but contains valuable lessons for all of us. His courageous actions were crucial to the birth of Christ and God's salvation for humanity.

Come and join us for this beautiful Advent study.



On Monday, November 21 at 9:00 a.m. the Patton Christmas Tree Company will be here to decorate our sanctuary and foyer. We invite you to come and help decorate the church and your classrooms for the Advent Season.

The company will return January 5, 2023 to take down the decorations, we invite you to come again to help take down your classroom decorations as well.



### **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK...**

**Continued Prayer Concerns:** Jeanne Anne Pharis; French Congregation & the people of the Congo; Pat Farmer; Marilyn Smith's cousin, Kim Masters; Jack & Jerrie Lucko; Vicki Kovar; Lisel Richardson's Aunt Vicki; Sam & Ann Kiker; Ross & Betty Longeway; Sandra Mason; Byron Lechler; Sarah Harris' husband, Tom; David & Kay Stapp; Betty Holshouser; Ovella Russell; Lou Coursey; J. R. & Bettie Lennox; Scott Paris; Karen Angle's brother & sister-in-law, Jerry & Debbie Biles; Bill Henderson's daughter, Sandy; John Benson's son & daughter-in-law, Paul & Carolyn Benson; Larea Phippen's sister, Lanette; Steve Johnson; Danny & Jerry Chism; Bill & Pat Whisenant; Cathy & Art Gordon; Barbara Burnett's sister, Mary Neeb; Ron & Larea Phippen's granddaughter, Kassie; Bill & Pat Whisenant's daughter-in-law, Sheila Brown; Gail LaRue's daughter, Maya and her son; Patty Tucker; Pat Hooper; Libby Conant; Buddy & DeeDee Hill's sisters, Susan & Karen; Jack Bostick's sister; Pastor Ditu's sister & brother-in-law; Doris Crocker; John Kasonga's father; Raymond Hames; Don & Karen Carter; Mary Khoury & family; Michelle Paris' mother, Penny Collins; Marilyn Smith; Bart Hines; Burt & Marylou Moore; Kelly Henderson's father; Angela Wienecke with the loss of her grandmother; Chuck & Carol Negozio's daughter, Dee; Barbara Blair with the loss of her cousin; Cheryl Cantwell with the loss of her cousin; Bill Whisenant

**This Week's Concerns:** those affected by isolation & loneliness; those affected by flooding and wild fires; those affected by gun violence each day in our country; the people of Ukraine & the world; prayers for our nation; those affected by COVID-19; our first responders, doctors, nurses, essential employees & frontline workers

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



### **The Community Table Food Pantry**

Hours of Operation:  
Tuesday & Thursday:  
4:00—7:00 p.m.

If you or someone you know is in need of food, the food pantry offers the following:  
Dairy Products, Meat, Fresh Fruit & Vegetables, Bread Products, Canned Vegetables, and Non-Perishables

***There's  
always  
room at  
the table.***



The Annual United Methodist Women Christmas Brunch will be held Tuesday, December 6 at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All church members and friends (which includes men) are welcome to this festive holiday occasion with special music by Linda & Ray Savell and tasty Christmas treats!

UMW ladies, please plan on bringing your Christmas dishes for the brunch on December 6. Please contact Barbara Blair, 817/656-4031 or Mary Paris, 817/688-2751 to help us plan for plenty of refreshments.



*Grandmother To Be Baby Shower  
Honoring Linda Schmidt  
Saturday, December 3 • 2:00 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall*



The Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal and Pizza Party  
Saturday, December 10 • 10:00 a.m.



The *E-Messenger* Newsletter will not be published November 23 because of the Thanksgiving Holiday. Please submit items for the next newsletter on Monday, November 28 by 9:00 a.m.  
*Thank you! Susan*



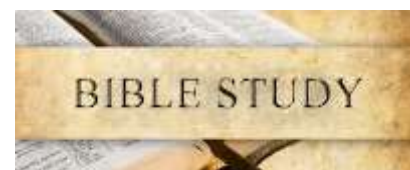
*Children's Christmas Program*  
Sunday, December 11  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Mark your calendars for a special morning of worship with Breakfast at 9:00 a.m. and the Children's Christmas Program at the 10:30 a.m. worship service! Come and help the children celebrate the birth of the Baby Jesus in music. You will receive a wonderful blessing from these precious voices!

After the worship service, the children will have their annual Christmas Party immediately following the worship service in the Fellowship Hall. It's rumored that a special guest will make an appearance!



Please bring your food items for The Community Table Food Pantry on Sunday, November 20: *The food collected will be used for their Christmas Baskets.*  
Macaroni & Cheese  
Instant Mashed Potatoes  
Stuffing Mix  
Canned Green Beans  
Cream of Mushroom Soup  
Canned Cranberries



*Wednesday Morning Bible Study  
Gospel of John  
November 30 • 10:00 a.m.  
Fellowship Hall • We invite you to join us.*



St. Luke United Methodist Church  
Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata  
with Orchestra  
*Noel*  
Sunday, December 18  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service



The Resale Shop is in need of volunteers to work Thursdays to help with pricing and moving merchandise. We also need volunteers to work Friday and Saturday!



St. Luke United Methodist Church  
 3200 Denton Highway  
 Haltom City, TX 76117  
*Open hearts, open minds, open doors*

The *E-Messenger* newsletter is published weekly online. Deadline for submission of articles is 9:00 a.m. every Monday. The editor reserves the right to edit for content and space.

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Sunday Services: Sunday School • 9:15 a.m.

In-person and Online Worship • 10:30 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.

Community Table Food Pantry Open Tuesday & Thursday • 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

NEWSLETTER ONLINE AT:

[www.st-luke-umc.net](http://www.st-luke-umc.net)



**Sunday, November 20, 2022**

***Christ the King Sunday***

- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 2:00 p.m. French Worship Service
- 4:00 p.m. Committee on Nominations Meeting

**Monday, November 21, 2022**

- 9:00 a.m. Hanging of the Greens

**Tuesday, November 22, 2022**

- No Activities Scheduled

**Wednesday, November 23, 2022**

- Office Closed—Thanksgiving Holiday
- All Wednesday Activities Cancelled

**Thursday, November 24, 2022**

- Office Closed—Thanksgiving Holiday

**Friday, November 25, 2022**

- Office Closed—Thanksgiving Holiday

**Saturday, November 26, 2022**

- 10:00 a.m. Second Chance Resale Shop

**Sunday, November 27, 2022**

***1st Sunday of Advent***

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



Join us for worship every Sunday at 10:30 a.m.  
 for In-Person Worship or via our  
**Facebook page & You Tube:**

**SLUMC—Haltom City**

**Sunday, November 20, 2022**

***Christ the King Sunday***

**Sunday School - 9:15 a.m.**

**Weekly Attendance**

**Wednesday Night Youth Activities • November 9—11**

**Wednesday Bible Study • November 9—11**

**United Methodist Men Breakfast • November 10—6**

**Sunday, November 13, 2022**

**St. Luke UMC • 10:30 a.m.**

**Breakfast with Our Neighbors—60**

**In-Person Worship—46**

**Online Worship—94**

**French Worship Service**

**In-Person Worship—30**