



The people of the United Methodist Church

E-MESSENGER

Open hearts
Open minds
Open doors

Saint Luke United Methodist Church

Volume 2023, No. 35

Wednesday, November 8, 2023
Available at: www.st-luke-umc.net



2023 Harvest Table

Join us for in-person worship each Sunday through this Thanksgiving season!



Ezekiel Levi Ndecky

was born:

November 2, 2023

1:15 p.m.

7lbs 1 oz.

Parents: *Stanislas Ndecky & Sollicitee Pore*

Big Sister: *Anne*

Big Brother: *Nehemiah*



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 19 or you can call the church office, 817/838-6834 or email Susan at office@st-luke-umc.com to place an order.



Breakfast with Our Neighbors

Sunday, November 12
9:00 a.m.
Fellowship Hall

Join us for our Community Breakfast

Coming together with our community to share a meal fits in exactly with what we are called to do...**to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.**

We need volunteers to help serve & clean up the Kitchen and Fellowship Hall.



Administrative Board Meeting
Sunday, November 12
12:00 p.m. • Fellowship Hall
Lunch will be provided.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



The Annual United Methodist Women Christmas Brunch will be held Tuesday, December 5 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 5.

Please contact Barbara Blair, 817/656-4031 or Mary Paris, 817/688-2751 to help us plan for plenty of refreshments.



What Is In A Name?

A name is a word or a group of words that is used to identify a person, place or thing distinct from any other, e.g. Abraham, Sarah, Miriam, Moses, St Luke United Methodist Church, etc. There is a good name and a bad name. Solomon said, *"A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches."* (Proverbs 22.1)

It has been said the sweetest sound in the world is your own name. What is in a name? Does a name serve any importance in representing a person? Is it just a form of reference, given to a person at the time of their birth?

I shared with you the story about a man who was named "Odd" by his parents. That's right. His name was "Odd." Poor kid! Obviously, throughout all his childhood, he experienced ridicule and mockery. Because people teased him his entire life, he decided that upon his death, he wanted an unmarked tombstone placed at his grave so his name would never be uttered again. His wishes were honored. The problem was, when people saw this tombstone without an inscription, they almost always said, "That's odd."

Did you know that God is in the name-changing business? God changed Jacob the deceiver to Israel the prince, the fisherman Simon to the Apostle Peter, the persecutor Saul to the preacher Paul, and Joseph of Cyprus to Barnabas (which means Son of Encouragement). There is a promise that you as a child of God have been given a new name. Look at Revelation 2:17: *I will give him a white stone, and a new name written on the stone which no one knows but he who receives it.*

What is your new name going to be? I believe it will represent your inner character of who you really are and how God sees you. Jesus gave to His disciple Simon the new name of Rock. Why? He knew Peter would eventually grow into the name. Biblical names were given based on the character of the person. God is building God's character in you. How does God build this character? God purges out the dross of our old life and creates within us the new life we have in Christ. This is often hard and painful, but God sees the end result.

Now you don't have to change your name to be who God wants you to be. All you have to do is change the perception of who you think you are, to what you want to be.

1. Drop all the negative attitudes about yourself and start living as the child of God.
2. See what you can do, instead of focusing on what you can not do.
3. Use positive affirmations about who you are. i.e. I am a good person, I have good heart, I am generous, I am helpful, I am capable, I am grateful, I can forgive, I can participate, I can enjoy, I am loving, I have hope, I am the child of God, etc.
4. Remember that you can begin a new day now. Trust God.

The following is a beautiful quote I came across the other day, and it is worth sharing. *God help me to focus on truth instead of trial. Help me to give thanks instead of giving into fear. Help me to trust in your power instead of my plan. Help me to elevate your name instead of my own.*

In Christian love and grace, Mel



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK...

Continued Prayer Concerns: Jeanne Anne Pharis; French Congregation & the people of the Congo; Pat Farmer; Jack & Jerrie Lucko; David & Kay Stapp; Sam & Ann Kiker; Byron Lechler; Betty Holshouser; Ovella Russell; Scott Paris; Raymond Hames; Burt & Marylou Moore; Barbara Jones; Charles & Pat Hooper; Alice Cook; Jo Wommack; Doris Crocker; Linda Smith; Melissa Lechler & her son, Lucas; Toni Hood's granddaughter-in-law, Christin; Buddy & DeeDee Hill grandson, Milo; Joe Crawford; Darren Isbell; Betty Ann Carter; Ed Baker; Bonnie Richards; George & Karen Angle's daughter-in-law, Kristine; Ruby Lane; Judy White; Lydia Acosta & her niece; Clifford & Marilyn Smith; Sharon Friddle's daughter, Amanda Govea; Sandra Mason; Cathy Hicks; Mel & Susan Bishara's family in Israel and their nephew, Jimmy; Bob Watkins & family; Art & Cathy Gordon; Mark & Sherry Chandler & family; Mary Ross; family of Joan King; Michelle Paris & family with the loss of her mother, Penny Collins

This Week's Concerns: family of Charlotte Pittman; Michael & Claudia Turner's daughter, Jeri; Suzy Kasonga with the loss of her nephew; Earline Vinnedge's granddaughter; Bill & Leslie Duncan with the loss of their cousin, Sally; Peggy Fallin; those affected by the shooting in Lewiston, Maine; Hurricane Otis in Mexico; the people of the southern of Israel and Gaza; those affected by the flooding in Libya, the earthquake in Morocco; Hurricane Idalia; wildfires in Maui; isolation & loneliness; gun violence each day in our country; the people of Ukraine & the world; prayers for our nation

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



There's always room at the table.

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



Dear Care Connection Members,
Just want each of you to know how much I love and appreciate the cards you have sent to me. It reminds me how much I love each of you and how much I miss my dear friends at St. Luke UMC. May God bless each of you!

Barbara Jones

SUNDAY SCHOOL

GENESIS CLASS:

Another good lesson this week led by Linda. Thank you! No Sunday school this week. Community Breakfast for all. The next lesson on November 19 will be chapter 5 - "Remember That We Can Trust God & Go Forward." Keep Mike and Claudia in your thoughts and prayers as they help rehab Brandi and Jeri after their surgeries. Also, Suzy in the loss of her nephew. Great news from the Hills. Milo is suddenly progressing wonderfully. Miracles still happen. A beautiful service in church celebrating the lives of our Saints that passed this last year. Thank you Mel, David for ringing the bell (doesn't he clean up good?), and Anna Allen for the roses. Also, a big thank you to Linda, Carol N, Carol Wood (she helped, her words, not mine) and Anna Allen for the beautiful Thanksgiving Table. Again, remember the Community Breakfast this week.

Doughnuts 11/19: Art & Cathy Gordon. See y'all Sunday.

Anita Bookout

UPPER ROOM:

Greetings to all from the Upper Room Class. We had 11 in attendance on November 5. Two of our numbers were Mary and Bland, Earline's family. We always welcome them and feel they are a part of our Sunday School family. Our joys these last two weeks are for the wonderful Fall Fest. The Sweet and Craft Shop made over a \$1000. What a great blessing for the church. We thank all those who contributed to the success of the Fall Fest by baking pecan tarts, treats, cakes and crafts. Also, it was a joy getting to visit with Alice Cook and her daughter who we had not seen in many months. Another joy was that Lucas Lechler made All Region Band with his French Horn. Congratulations, Lucas. Our prayer concerns are for the families in Maine, the Ukraine, Israel, Merle and David, Mark Chandler, Earline's granddaughter and her friend, Elaina Sharp, Gail's family, Byron, Joan King's family due to her passing and our world. We pray for peace and love throughout our world. During our business meeting, we voted to send \$500 to the Heifer Project and another \$500 dollars to Samaritan's Purse. Ann Van Schuyver gave the devotion from the book, *Angel Hugs*, titled "A Friend in High Places" based on Proverbs 18:24 and Proverbs 17:17. The point of the story was loneliness equals spiritual poverty. We should all be aware of those who are lonely and make an attempt to brighten their day. Ann, also, did a great job teaching our lesson from Matthew 10. Thanks you, Ann, for filling in for Virgil.

Birthdays for November: Roxie Water 11/2; Charlie Hooper 11/3; Betty Ann Carter 11/7; Bill Whisenant 11/10; Gloria Lechler 11/27.

Anniversaries: Byron and Gloria 11/13

Resale Shop: \$326 and \$250 on Friday, October 27.

Prayer Meeting: Dr. Martha 5:15 p.m.

Church Breakfast: 9:00 a.m.—November 12—Devotion

Refreshments: Debbie and Gloria for November 19

Lesson: November 19—Matthew 10:26

Gloria Lechler



This Sunday we shared with the youth on the importance of staying close to God. Our verse is found in the Book of Psalms 51:10. David said: *Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.* This verse is so deep, David is asking God to create in Him a pure heart because he knows that at times, our heart is not right before God and this is something that pleases God because when we ask him to cleanse us and to create in us a pure heart, we are telling him, Father, we want to be like you. What a powerful prayer. What a humble prayer. While many are driving their lives like they want, we as children of God are asking him to take the wheel and surely he will lead us where we are supposed to be. Amen.

Stanislas Ndecky



Charlotte Ann Pittman

February 9, 1951—November 4, 2023

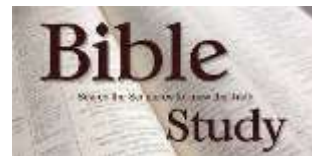
Memorial Service:

Saturday, November 11

St. Luke United Methodist

Church • 11:00 a.m.

*Reception: Immediately following
the funeral service in the
Fellowship Hall.*



Wednesday Bible Study † Book of Hebrews

November 15 & 29 † 10:00 a.m.

We invite you to join us.



The publication dates for our bi-weekly newsletter for the rest of the year are as follows:

November 22 • December 6 & 20



The church office will be closed November 22, 23 & 24 for the Thanksgiving holidays.

All Wednesday activities have been cancelled.



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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Central Texas Conference website: www.ctcumc.org

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

In-person and Online Worship • 10:30 a.m.

French Worship Service • 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



Sunday, November 12, 2023

24th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Breakfast with Our Neighbors
10:30 a.m. Morning Worship Service
12:00 p.m. Administrative Board Meeting
2:00 p.m. French Worship Service

Monday, November 13, 2023

No Activities

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

4:00 p.m. Community Table Food Pantry Distribution

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

10:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Bible Study
6:00 p.m. Youth Activities
6:00 p.m. French Bible Study
6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 16, 2023

9:00 a.m. United Methodist Men Breakfast—Bluebonnet Café
4:00 p.m. Community Table Food Pantry Distribution
5:15 p.m. Prayer Group

Friday, November 17, 2023

10:00 a.m. Second Chance Resale Shop

Saturday, November 18, 2023

10:00 a.m. Second Chance Resale Shop

Sunday, November 19, 2023

25th Sunday after Pentecost

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

Monday, November 20, 2023

9:00 a.m. Newsletter Submission DEADLINE

Tuesday, November 21, 2023

4:00 p.m. Community Table Food Pantry Distribution

Wednesday, November 22, 2023

No Church Activities—Thanksgiving Holidays Begin



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

SLUMC—Haltom City

***Sunday, November 12, 2023 • 10:30 a.m.
Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost***

Sunday School • 9:15 a.m.

Weekly Attendance

*Wednesday Night Youth Activities • October 25—0
French Congregation Bible Study • October 25—12
United Methodist Men Breakfast • October 26—5*

Sunday, October 29, 2023 • 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School—57

In-Person Worship—61

Online Worship—113

French Worship Service • 2:00 p.m.—30

Weekly Attendance

*Wednesday Night Youth Activities • November 1—6
French Congregation Bible Study • November 1—9
United Methodist Men Breakfast • November 2—6*

Sunday, November 5, 2023 • 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School—61

In-person Worship—90

Online Worship—159

Both congregations meet the first Sunday of the month to share communion and worship.