



The people of the United Methodist Church

E-MESSENGER

Open hearts
Open minds
Open doors

Saint Luke United Methodist Church

Volume 2024, No. 6

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

Available at: stlukeumchaltomcity.org



God Is With Us

How many times we have heard the words “NO Way”? Life presents challenges and uncertainties that often cloud our paths. But our faith points us to God who provides a way out of no way.

In his book, Victor Frankl *Man’s Search For Meaning*, shares that he was separated from his wife and family, was uprooted and put in a Nazi concentration camp, as were many of his fellow prisoners who fell into complete despair in the camp. They had lost everything, had been stripped of their human dignity, treated like the lowest of the animals, by their cruel Nazi overlords. Frankl noted that the prisoners saw themselves as utterly powerless, victims of cruel fate. With no way out, little hope of escape from the prison, they died rather than lived. Frankl decided, in his mind, to take another way, he chose Life. Each day, while being marched out to the work site, he thought of a book that he had been writing. He composed the book in his mind, each chapter. In his mind, he went back over the various aspects of the book. He thought of his wife. He pictured their good times in the past; he fanaticized about the future they would have together. Thus Frankl survived. He contributes his survival not only a miraculous act of God, but also due to his own conscious efforts, his own choice to find meaning in this place of terrible meaninglessness.

I believe that one of God’s greatest gifts to us is the freedom to choose, our ability in every situation to decide. Maybe we are not as trapped as we think we are. Even when there appears to be no way, there can be, by God’s grace, a way. Even when all seems lost, there is a divine plan at work, ready to pave a path forward.

I offer few Bible verses to highlight that God is faithful and is committed to making a way for God’s people even in the most challenging times.

Deuteronomy 30:19-20—*I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses; Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him.*

Deuteronomy 31:6—*Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.*

We are assured that God’s constant presence is with us as our way maker. There is no need to fear because God goes with us and will make a way.

Isaiah 43:19—*Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*

Trust that God is able to make a way where there seems to be no way.

Joshua 1:9—*Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.*

Isaiah 41:10—*Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.* Fear grips us when we do not see a way out of our challenges. However, we are encouraged to [face challenges](#) with courage and confidence, knowing that [God’s plan](#) includes the provision of a path forward, regardless of the mighty waters we encounter.

Psalm 46:1-3—*God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.*

1 Peter 5:7—*Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.*

2 Timothy 1:7—*For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.*

Hebrews 12:1-3—*Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.*

Jeremiah 29:11—*For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.*

God has a plan, God is able, God is with us, and God can make a way out of no way.

In Christian love and grace, Mel



Palm Sunday, March 24

On Palm Sunday the children will be processing down the church aisle waving their palms and then later they will be singing during our worship service.

Join us for this special day during the season of Lent.



St. Luke United Methodist Church

Children’s Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, March 30
Fellowship Hall
10:00 a.m.



Lenten Schedule

Palm Sunday Worship Service

March 24 † 10:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday Communion Service † March 28 † 6:30 p.m.

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

March 29 † 6:30 p.m.

Easter Egg Hunt

March 30 † 10:00 a.m.

Easter Sunday Worship Service

March 31 † 10:30 a.m.



Easter Sunday Flower Cross

On Easter Sunday we will continue our annual tradition of having the Flower Cross in the sanctuary for the celebration of Easter.

Please bring your flowers, whether from your own garden or purchased to the narthex by 9:00 a.m. and the cross will be ready for our 10:30 a.m. worship service.

Thank you in advance for participating.



United Methodist Women Meeting & Luncheon

Tuesday, March 26

Fellowship Hall • 10:00 a.m.

Speaker:

Kathleen Brown and her Exhibit of Aprons

If you have a keepsake apron that you would like to share, bring it and tell the story behind it.



Everyone is invited to attend!



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; Scott Paris; Burt & Marylou Moore; Barbara Jones; Charles & Pat Hooper; Alice Cook; Jo Wommack; Melissa Lechler & her son, Lucas; Toni Hood's granddaughter-in-law, Christin; Buddy & DeeDee Hill's grandson, Milo; Darren Isbell; Betty Ann Carter; Ed Baker; George & Karen Angle's daughter-in-law, Kristine; Ruby Lane; Clifford & Marilyn Smith; Sandra Mason; Mel & Susan Bishara's family in Israel and their nephew, Jimmy; Bob Watkins & family; Peggy Fallin; Raymond Hames; Bonnie Richards; Sharon Friddle's daughter, Amanda Govea; Rory Yocum; Doris Crocker; Sandra Whittenburg; David Stapp; Rose Mascari & her son; Art & Cathy Gordon; Gloria Lechler; Larea Pippen; Joe Crawford; Sharon Friddle; Ovella Russell; Stanislas Ndecky & his mother; Lesha Henderson; those affected by the wildfires in Texas Panhandle; George & Karen Angle with the loss of their sister-in-law, Debbie; John Kasonga & family with the loss of his father, Dr. Marcel Kasonga; Mark Chandler's father; Ann Kiker & family with the loss of Sam; David Stapp

This Week's Concerns: the people of the southern of Israel and Gaza; those affected by flooding, earthquakes, & wildfires; 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; Junior Chowe



Please continue your financial support of St. Luke United Methodist Church. There are several ways to contribute that include mailing your offering to the church office or giving online through our website, stlukeumchaltomcity.org.

You may also use your banking online payment services to make your contributions every month.

Thank you for your continued support of St. Luke United Methodist Church!

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

EMMANUEL CLASS:

We had nine in attendance including one member from the PIF class. We are in chapter 4 of our study and we thank Beverly Bradley for being our leader. The UMW is having a program and luncheon on Tuesday, March 26 at 10:00 a.m. Prayer concerns: David Stapp and Raymond Hames. Birthday: Barbara Blair 3/29 *Mary Ross*

GENESIS CLASS:

Just about everyone was back with us Sunday. We'll move on to chapter 7 in *When the World Takes the Wind Out of Your Sails*. UMW has a special meeting on Tuesday, March 26 at 10 a.m. The Apron Lady will be here. The meeting is open to everyone. A delayed LNO is planned for this Thursday, March 21 at Hoffbrau's at 5:30 pm. Amy W. is sending an email. Please respond "reply all." Continued prayers for Sarah Angle in her recovery.

Doughnuts:

March 24—Amy West

March 31—Easter Brunch

April 7—Anita Bookout

Y'all have a great week and we'll see you Thursday or

Sunday.

Anita Bookout

UPPER ROOM CLASS:

Greetings from the Upper Room Class. We had seven in attendance for Sunday, March 17. Thank you to Gail LaRue for the refreshments and the devotion and to Jack for our lesson in Matthew. Prayer concerns are for Rose Mascari, who will be having surgery this coming week, Ronnie and Larea Phippen, Maggie Khoury, Bonnie Richards, Byron Lechler, David and Merle. Joys this week are for Debbie Chapman who closed on her house and for God blessing us with the wonderful spring rains. Rose delivered our morning prayer asking God to grant blessings to our church and to our pastor. Thank you, Jack for another good lesson.

Resale Shop: \$162

Devotion and Refreshments: Gloria and Debbie

Lesson: Matthew 2:1

Gloria Lechler



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 from 10 am to 3 pm!



Our church is in need of nursery workers. Anyone who applies will need to take sexual abuse training which involves a video and a quiz. The process takes less than an hour to finish. If you or anyone you know would like to become a nursery worker, the job pays \$15 an hour.

Anyone interested in becoming a nursery worker needs to contact Susan in the church office at 817/838-6834. Thank you!

ADDRESS CHANGE:



Lisel Randall
(formerly Richardson)
7008 Valley Ford Court
Watauga TX 76148
Her mother, Betty
Holshouser has moved
in with Lisel and no
longer lives at
2914 Primrose Avenue
Fort Worth TX 76111



Wednesday Morning Prayer Group & Bible Study

March 27 † Fellowship Hall

Prayer Group † 9:00 a.m.

Bible Study † 10:00 a.m.

Book of Hebrews

We invite you to join us next Wednesday.



Administrative Board Meeting

Sunday, April 7 • 12:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall • Lunch will be provided.



The next *E-Messenger* Newsletter will be published **April 10** and all submissions need to be in the church office by April 8. Thank you!



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

The *E-Messenger* newsletter is published bi-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 • 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.

NEWSLETTER ONLINE AT:

www.st-luke-umc.net

Sunday, March 24, 2024

Palm Sunday

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

Monday, March 25, 2024

No Activities

Tuesday, March 26, 2023

10:00 a.m. United Methodist Women Meeting & Luncheon

Wednesday, March 27, 2024

9:00 a.m. Prayer Group
 10:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Bible Study
 6:00 p.m. Youth Activities
 6:00 p.m. French Congregation Bible Study
 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 28, 2024

9:00 a.m. UMM Breakfast—Bluebonnet Café
 6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Communion Service

Friday, March 29, 2024

10:00 a.m. Second Chance Resale Shop
 6:30 p.m. Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Saturday, March 30, 2024

10:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt
 10:00 a.m. Second Chance Resale Shop

Sunday, March 31, 2024

Easter Sunday

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

Monday, April 1, 2024

No Activities

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

No Activities

Wednesday, April 3, 2024

9:00 a.m. Prayer Group
 10:00 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study
 6:00 p.m. Youth Activities
 6:00 p.m. French Congregation Bible Study
 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal



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

SLUMC—Haltom City

***Sunday, March 24, 2024 • 10:30 a.m.
 Palm Sunday***

Sunday School • 9:15 a.m.

Weekly Attendance • March 6

Prayer Group—8

Wednesday Bible Study—17

United Methodist Men Breakfast • March 7—7

Sunday, March 10, 2024 • 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School—53

In-Person Worship—55

Online Worship—186

French Worship Service • 2:00 p.m.—40

Weekly Attendance • March 13

Prayer Group—6

Wednesday Bible Study—10

Youth Activities—12

United Methodist Men Breakfast • March 14—7

Sunday, March 17, 2024 • 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School—61

In-Person Worship—62

Online Worship—129

French Worship Service • 2:00 p.m.—33