



The people of the United Methodist Church

E-MESSENGER

Open hearts
Open minds
Open doors

Saint Luke United Methodist Church

Volume 2024, Number 22

Wednesday, November 20, 2024
Available at: stlukeumchaltomcity.org



The entire staff of St. Luke United Methodist Church wishes you and your family a very Happy Thanksgiving!

Rev. Mel Bishara, Pastor Abel Ditu, Susan Briles,
Mark Chandler, Randy Fox, Stanislas Ndecky,
Debbie Diviney, Anna Allen, & Ray Savell



Joy to the world!



Children's Program Rehearsal & Pizza Party
Saturday, December 7 • 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, December 8
Children's Christmas Program
The ABC's of Christmas
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Parents: Please have your children at
Sunday School no later than 9:15 a.m.

Immediately following the worship service the
children will have their Christmas Party
in the Fellowship Hall.

Guess who coming to the Christmas Party this year??



Saying thank you is very important

One of the things I've grown to realize, is that most people who do ministry through the local church, are not looking for a great deal of recognition and/or huge monetary rewards... they just want to be appreciated. A verbal or written "Thank You" goes a long way in putting life to that appreciation.

The reality is this.. if we are not careful... we can crush the enthusiasm for doing God's work among the people we need most when we just point out and notice the mistakes, errors, and negatives that even the best of us will make. But – if people show up, do their ministry as well as they know how, get the job done, and we fail to notice... it takes the wind out of the sails of people quickly. A heartfelt "Thank You" puts gas in our ministry tanks and can keep us going past the stopping points.

Trust me... we cannot underestimate the power of saying "Thank You." I've heard people say that I'm not going to thank someone for the job they're supposed to be doing anyway. Aren't they serving God and isn't that enough? Isn't God's affirmation enough? That concept is foolish and irresponsible. We can be "quick" to notice the wrong but when we never recognize the "right" that is foolishness and hardhearted. A "Thank You" is huge.

How often do you notice the "bad" and not the "good" in other people who serve Christ with you. How many "Thank You's" have you left unsaid? How many do you need to say next month, next day, next year? If the only prayer you said in your life was "thank you," that would suffice. ~Meister Eckhart

Thank you St. Luke United Methodist Church for your support, encouragement, prayers, friendship, and faithfulness to our Lord and to the mission of the our church.

In Christian love and grace, Mel



There's Three Ways to Purchase a
Poinsettia for this Christmas Season

1. See Carol Negozio in the north foyer on Sunday mornings
2. Email the church office at office@stlukeumchaltomcity.org
3. Call the church office at 817/838-6834

**The cost is \$15 per plant and as of
November 20 we only have
8 poinsettias remaining.**



Come and help us decorate the church for the
Christmas Season

Monday • November 25 • 10:00 am.

The Christmas Tree in the Sanctuary will be
decorated Tuesday, November 26



St. Luke United Methodist Church Advent Schedule

Advent Sermon Series by Rev. Mel Bishara
Sundays, December 1, 8, 22 & 29
Intersection of Hopes and Fears

Advent Bible Study Series
Wednesdays, December 4, 11 & 18
Intersection of Hopes and Fears

Rehearsal for Children's Program & Pizza Party
December 7 † 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Children's Christmas Program
The ABC's of Christmas
December 8 † 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Children's Christmas Party
December 8 † 12:00 p.m. † Fellowship Hall

United Methodist Women Christmas Brunch
Entertainment: Linda & Ray Savell
George Angle will be performing
The Living Christmas Tree
Everyone is invited.
December 10 † 10:00 a.m. † Fellowship Hall

Chancel Choir Cantata
December 15 † 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Christmas Caroling
December 18 † 6:00 p.m.
Everyone will meet in the Fellowship Hall

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
December 24 † 6:00 p.m.

French Congregation Christmas Day Service
Chapel † 10:00 a.m.

French Congregation New Year's Eve Service
Chapel † 9:00 p.m.



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; Betty Holshouser; Scott Paris; Burt & Marylou Moore; Barbara Jones; Charles & Pat Hooper; Alice Cook; Melissa Lechler & her son, Lucas; Toni Hood's granddaughter-in-law, Christin; Buddy & DeeDee Hill's grandson, Milo; Darren Isbell; Ed Baker; Bonnie Richards; Sandra Mason; Mel & Susan Bishara's family in Nazareth and their nephew, Jimmy; Bob Watkins & family; Rory Yocum; Larea Pippin; David Stapp; Joe Crawford; George & Karen Angle's daughter, Sarah & daughter-in-law, Kristine; Roy & Joan Hudson's son, Richard; Byron Lechler; Patty Tucker; Barbara Kimbrough; Ann Kiker; Barbara Provenzano; sister, Lynn; Kelly Roberts; Lydia Acosta & her husband; Beverly Bradley's grandson-in-law; Jean P. Isbell; Roy Hudson; Peggy Fallin; Ruby Lane's nephew, Buddy Hill; Dan Reynolds; Mary Steward; Roberta Reeves; Linda Schmidt; Mel & Susan's friend, Stephanie Montero with the loss of her husband; Jim Levine's sister; Mel & Susan's friend, Lisa Hart; Betty Turnage; Linda Savell; Burt Moore

This Week's Concerns: George & Libby Conant's daughter, Cheryl with the loss of her husband, Bob; Art & Cathy Gordon; those affected by Hurricane Helene & Milton; the people of the Nazareth, Israel, Gaza & Lebanon; those affected by flooding; 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!



Christmas Caroling
Wednesday, December 18
6:00 p.m.

We invite you to join us to go Christmas Caroling to the members of our church who are homebound.
Everyone will meet in the Fellowship Hall.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

EMMANUEL CLASS:

We had eleven members in attendance last Sunday. It was so good to have Judy White back in class. Congratulations to Lydia Acosta on the birth of her great-great-granddaughter. Our class wishes to thank Carol Negrozio for all she does for our class and for Roberta Reeves. She keeps us connected. Prayer Concerns: Joe Crawford & Art & Cathy Gordon.
Mary Ross

GENESIS CLASS:

Our numbers were down a little with travel and illness, but the discussion was not lacking. We will start with page 31 and we'll wrap up chapter 1 this week. Art is in rehab. Amy W. is in Florida. Keep these and others along with Susan's friend, Lisa, and Dayna's friend in your prayers. Our December LNO/Annual Christmas Party is December 12 at the Savell's. The children's program is the December 8 and the Chancel Choir Cantata is December 15.

Doughnuts:

11/24—George & Karen Angle

12/1—Open

12/8—George & Karen Angle

12/15—Christmas Brunch

See y'all Sunday.

Anita Bookout

UPPER ROOM CLASS:

Greetings from the Upper Room Class. We had twelve in attendance last Sunday. It was a joy having a great attendance today. Other joys were for the beautiful weather and David Lasiter's continued healing. Also, Ann is looking forward to a visit this week from her sister, Monnette. Our prayer concerns are for Doris Crocker, Byron Lechler, Rose Mascari, Cheryl Conant Hopmann, Gail LaRue's family and Cindy Lasiter. We thank Sharon Friddle for the delicious refreshments and Gloria Lechler for the devotion, "You Can Trust the Bible" taken from *Daily Truth*, Saturday, November 16, 2023. An excavation site in the Babylon area found ancient tablets that proved King Jehoiachin was actually captured and enslaved in Babylon during the same time as the Hebrew Bible records. I love it when archeologists make these amazing discoveries. Just think, these discoveries can turn a doubting atheist into a believing Christian. Halleluiah! The class voted to buy 2 poinsettias for the sanctuary during the Advent season. Our class sent a peace lily to the Hopmann family for the funeral service of Bob, Cheryl's husband. Thank you, Virgil for another good lesson from John 14.

Resale Shop: \$324

Refreshments/Devotion: Debbie/Gloria

Lesson: John 15

Class Secretary: *Gloria Lechler*



The church office has a new email address, please update your contact info for Susan:

office@stlukeumchaltomcity.org

Youth News:



This past Sunday we shared with the youth the importance of knowing that we are always in the hands of the almighty God. Our Bible verse is found in the Book of Philippians 4:19. In this verse, the author is reminding us that God cares about us and that he takes care of us. God takes care of small ants, and he gives them their food. God feeds the bird in the air who has no knowledge of harvesting and saving for tomorrow. God feeds the big whale in the sea. God takes care of all his creations, how much more, we his children made in his image. Won't he take care of us? Yes, he will. Let us learn today to rely on him for everything because he cares for us. Amen.
Stanley Ndecky



United
Women
in Faith



United Women of Faith

Annual Christmas Brunch

Tuesday, December 10 • 10:00 a.m.

Fellowship Hall

Entertainment will be provided by
Ray & Linda Savell singing your favorite
Christmas songs.

George Angle will be performing

The Living Christmas Tree

Everyone is invited to attend!



Newsletter

The next *E-Messenger* Newsletter will be published
December 4 and all submissions need to be in the
church office by **December 2**. Thank you!



***Wednesday Morning Prayer Group
& Bible Study***

December 4, 2024

Fellowship Hall † Book of Exodus

Prayer Group † 9:30 a.m. • Bible Study † 10:00 a.m.

We invite you to join us.

***There will be no Prayer Group & Bible Study on
November 27 due to the Thanksgiving holiday.***



The church office will be closed Wednesday through Friday, November 27-29 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.



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. Monday. The editor reserves the right to edit for content and space.

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Central Texas Conference website & phone: www.ctcumc.org • 817/877-5222

Sunday Services: Sunday School • 9:15 a.m.
 In-person and Online Worship • 10:30 a.m.
 Expansion Hispanic Church Service • 1:30 p.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.stlukeumchaltomcity.org



Sunday, November 24, 2024

Christ the King Sunday

9:15 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Morning Worship Service
 1:30 p.m. Expansion Hispanic Church
 2:00 p.m. French Worship Service

Monday, November 25, 2024

10:00 a.m. Hanging of the Greens

Tuesday, November 26, 2023

No Activities

Wednesday, November 27, 2024

Church Office Closed
 No Wednesday Activities due to the
 Observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday

Thursday, November 28, 2024

Happy Thanksgiving!

*Church Office closed in Observance
 of the Thanksgiving Holiday*

Friday, November 29, 2024

Church Office Closed
 10:00 a.m. Second Chance Resale Shop

Saturday, November 30, 2024

10:00 a.m. Second Chance Resale Shop

Sunday, December 1, 2024

1st Sunday of Advent † Communion Sunday

9:15 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Morning Worship Service
 1:30 p.m. Expansion Hispanic Church
 2:00 p.m. French Worship Service

Monday, December 2, 2024

9:00 a.m. Newsletter Submission DEADLINE

Tuesday, December 3, 2024

No Activities

Wednesday, December 4, 2024

9:30 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 & You Tube:
 SLUMC—Haltom City*

**Sunday, November 24, 2024 • 10:30 a.m.
 Christ the King Sunday
 Sunday School • 9:15 a.m.**

Weekly Attendance • November 6, 2024

Prayer Group—6

Bible Study—18

Youth Activities—0

French Congregation Bible Study—10

UMM Breakfast • November 7—3

Sunday, November 10, 2024

Sunday School—62

In-Person Worship—52

Online Worship—199

French Congregation Sunday School—13

French Worship Service—42

Weekly Attendance • November 13, 2024

Prayer Group—7

Wednesday Bible Study—18

Youth Activities—5

French Congregation Bible Study—13

UMM Breakfast • October 31—5

Sunday, November 17, 2024

Sunday School—57

In-Person Worship—58

Online Worship—158

French Congregation Sunday School—8

French Worship Service—25