



The people of the United Methodist Church

# E-MESSENGER

Open hearts  
Open minds  
Open doors

Saint Luke United Methodist Church

Volume 2025, Number 05

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

Available at: [stlukeumchaltomcity.org](http://stlukeumchaltomcity.org)



I was appointed to St. Luke UMC 13 years ago. I count it a great privilege and honor to serve among a great loving congregation. We have overcome many obstacles, we have achieved some mile stones, we have loved you and continue to do so, we have prayed and struggled together, we have seen hundreds of lives touched and transformed by God's grace and love, we have celebrated births and baptism, we have confirmed many who are now grown to be faithful young men and women, we have reached out to communities affected by disasters, and the list is endless. We did this together. St. Luke UMC, you are an awesome congregation.

Every year I stand before you and tell you that we are appointed by the bishop one year at a time. We, the clergy, have committed ourselves to the itinerate system within our United Methodist Church. This July 1 I will be retiring, and this means that you will have a different pastor to serve you.

Susan, Nate, Max, and I are so grateful for serving as your parsonage family during these years. We have grown to love you. You made us feel welcome. You have supported, befriended us, and responded to our leadership.

Please pray for us as we for you in the next few months. Let me ask you also to pray for the new pastor starting in July. We want nothing but the best for St. Luke UMC. Stay together, pray together, work together, and remember always our mission is to "make faithful disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the World."

It was announced Sunday that Rev. Todd Pick is appointed by Bishop Rubin Saenz to serve as your pastor. It was also announced elsewhere that his wife Dr. Jennifer Pick is appointed as an associate pastor to First UMC, Fort Worth. Todd will bring excitement, new vitality, and lots of energy into the life of St. Luke UMC. I know that you will love, support, encourage, work with, and pray for him and his family as he leads you. Todd is graced with many gifts to lead St. Luke UMC into new heights in worship, outreach, mission, and leadership. I know that that you will nurture Todd and Jenn and their son Andrew as they will be your parsonage family. I am excited for the future of St. Luke United Methodist Church.

Meanwhile, we have lots to do. The Lenten journey, Holy Week, Easter, Mother's Day, Senior Graduation, Father's Day, and Confirmation are among the ministry activities that are coming up. Please put a priority to these events in your calendar and make plans to attend them.

*In Christian love and grace, Mel*



*St. Luke UMC welcomes  
new pastor, Rev. Todd Pick  
effective July 1*

It is our joy to share with you that Bishop Ruben Saenz has appointed Rev. Todd Pick as the new pastor for our congregation. Pastor Todd will begin his new responsibilities on July 1 of this year. As a United Methodist Church, we are a part of an appointment system. Our congregation's Staff Parish Relations Committee has met with district superintendent Philip Rhodes to identify our congregation's needs and the needed skills in a pastor. They have also met with Pastor Todd to get to know him and to ask questions.

Rev. Todd Pick is an Elder in Horizon Texas Conference currently serving Revive UMC, a new church start in the Fort Worth area. Todd is a cradle United Methodist, and his parents were both music ministers who served on every committee possible in the life of the church. He grew up in the choir loft and learned the importance of singing our faith from childhood.

For the last 17 years, Todd has pastored congregations of all sizes and even worked on Conference staff here in Central Texas. He has learned that God is always doing new things and has witnessed the transformation of many local churches through ministries of preaching, teaching, consulting, and coaching.

Before entering the ministry, Todd was an award-winning graphic designer who worked in advertising on multiple Fortune 500 accounts including MasterCard, M&M Mars, and Hilton Hotels. He learned the importance of building collaborative teams that work creatively to meet goals. Feeling a calling to ordained ministry, he then attended Drew Theological School where he was artist-in-residence. Todd later returned to Drew to teach as adjunct faculty, and more recently received a grant to pair the arts with local church ministries. While at Drew, he met Jennifer—a native of Red Oak, Texas—and they have been partners in life and ministry for the last 15 years.

Todd has created stage visuals and planned worship for various United Methodist conferences across the country including General Conference 2012 and 2016. He has crafted meaningful liturgies and preaching series for regional and national worship gatherings that have been featured in The Abingdon Preaching Annual, Magnet Magazine, Worship Arts Magazine, as well as on [umdiscipleship.org](http://umdiscipleship.org). His artwork has also been featured on the cover of *The Upper Room*.

Blessed to have a partner in life as well as in ministry, Todd and Rev. Dr. Jennifer Pick enjoy consulting, writing, and teaching about the art of worship together. They also have a 10 year-old son, Andrew, who constantly reminds them to see wonder within the ordinary! Andrew loves all God's creatures great and small (but especially orcas and sea creatures), loves to write short stories, and loves his acting classes at Casa Mañana. They can't wait to meet you and are looking forward to all God has in store as we work together to serve the Lord at St. Luke!



**Holy Communion † Sunday, April 6, 2025**

Communion will be served during our in-person worship service. We will invite all who are able to come to the altar to receive communion. As usual during our online worship service we will invite you to participate in communion by having your own elements ready.



**Financial Report:**  
Receipts for February 2025:  
\$22,203



**Lenten & Holy Week Schedule**

**Palm Sunday**

April 13 • 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

**Maundy Thursday Worship Service**

April 17 • 6:30 p.m.

**Good Friday Worship Service**

April 18 • 6:30 p.m.

**Easter Egg Hunt**

April 19 • 10:00 a.m.

**Easter Sunday**

April 20 • 10:30 a.m. Worship Service



The next *E-Messenger* Newsletter will be published **April 9** and all submissions need to be in the church office by **April 7**. Thank you!



**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; Barbara Jones; Charles & Pat Hooper; Melissa Lechler & her son, Lucas; Christin Osborn; Buddy & DeeDee Hill's grandson, Milo; Darren Isbell; Ed Baker; Sandra Mason; Mel & Susan Bishara's family in Nazareth and their nephew, Jimmy; Bob Watkins & family; David Stapp; George & Karen Angle's daughter, Sarah & daughter-in-law, Kristine; Roy & Joan Hudson's son, Richard; Ann Kiker; Barbara Provenzano; sister, Lynn; Lydia Acosta & her husband; Jean P. Isbell; Peggy Fallin; Ruby Lane's nephew, Dan Reynolds; Mary Steward; Mel & Susan's friend, Lisa Hart; Burt Moore; Art & Cathy Gordon; Anita McCullar; Doris Crocker; Bonnie Richards; Clifford & Marilyn Smith; Art Gordon's brother; Betty Longeway; Kaylan & Devin Jones with the loss of their daughter & sister; Jean Crenshaw

**This Week's Concerns:** Lou Coursey; Dayna Cox's son, Brennan; Buddy & DeeDee Hill's grandson; Levi; Ray & Linda Savell's son, Brandon; Joyce Payne's grandson, Don; Barbara Blair's son, Scott; Jack Bostick; Wayne Vinnedge; those affected by the fires in California; those affected by Hurricane Helene & Milton; the people of the Nazareth, Israel, Gaza, Lebanon & Syria; 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](http://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 eleven in attendance and enjoyed another great Sunday School lesson. Prayer concerns: Joe Crawford, Joyce Payne's grandson, Don, Barbara Blair's son, Scott and Ruby Lane's neighbor. Birthdays: We wish a belated Happy Birthday to Joyce Payne on March 7 and Happy Birthday to Judy Connolly on March 25 and Barbara Blair on March 29. *Mary Ross*

## GENESIS CLASS:

We had a good group last Sunday and we had a wonderful discussion about upcoming changes in the church.

Joys and Concerns:

Amy West's friend, Glenna with the loss of her husband.

The Angle's friend's wife who has pancreatic cancer.

Dayna's friend, Angie's husband fighting brain cancer.

Dayna's son, Brennan.

The Hill's grandson Levi and the birth of their great-nephew.

Cathy's Mom, Lou.

Linda's son, Brandon's health.

Kudos to the Angle's granddaughter, Amelia, for her hard work and determination in learning the discus throw!

April Doughnuts

April 6—George & Karen Angle

April 13—Dayna Cox

April 20—Easter Brunch

April 27—Amy West *Amy West*

## UPPER ROOM CLASS:

Greetings from the Upper Room Class. We had fifteen members in attendance last Sunday with one visitor, she goes by Cindy Sue. We were proud to have her in our class and hope she will return. We give God thanks for the rise in our attendance. Thank you to Sharon Friddle and Linda Blackwood for our delicious breakfast. It was a real treat. Joys: Great attendance, Cindy Lasiter and husband, David, are enjoying a ski trip this week, Lucas Lechler receives his National Youth Leadership Graduation Honor in Boy Scouts this Sunday, and Gary's new grandson, born this week, named Emerson Brook. New life, what a great joy! Prayer concerns: Jack Bostick, Wayne Vinnedge, Sharon Friddle's niece in Turkey and Byron Lechler. Ann delivered our morning prayer and devotion on Dwight L. Moody. We had an inspiring lesson on "Our Gifts" presented by Virgil.

Resale Shop: \$367

Devotion/Refreshments: Debbie/Gloria

Lesson: Matthew 6:31-33 *Gloria Lechler*



## Second Chance Resale Shop Yard Sale • March 22 • 10 a.m.—3 p.m.

INSIDE & OUTSIDE YARD SALE

Fill a bag (supermarket size) of clothes for \$3.

All clothes INSIDE 50% off.

All items in the kitchen, books and puzzles are priced 50% off.

The yard sale does not include jewelry, the curio cabinet, fixtures, or furniture.

*Selling grilled hotdogs & a small bottled water for \$2 and a bag of chips for 50¢.*

**PUNCH CARDS ARE NOT ACCEPTED AT ANY YARD SALE.**



*Article by Alvin Eclavea,  
Youth Director*

"We've been busy in the youth room, formerly known as "The Fishbowl," and it's starting to look less like a fishbowl and more like a vibrant, welcoming space for our young people! We've been working hard to refresh the room, making it a place where our youth can feel comfortable, connect with each other, and grow in their faith.

As we continue this exciting process, we're reminded of Proverbs 22:6: "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it." We believe that by creating a nurturing environment, we can help our youth build a strong foundation for their spiritual journey. We're passionate about growing our youth group and providing a place where young people can experience the love of Christ. To do that, we need your help! We invite you to share the exciting things happening in our youth group with any young people you know. Tell them about the refreshed room, the fun activities we have planned, and the opportunity to build lasting friendships.

We're also thrilled to announce that we're working on collaborating with our neighboring United Methodist churches for some upcoming activities! This is a wonderful opportunity to expand our community and provide even more enriching experiences for our youth.

Our next youth room improvement meeting will be on **Wednesday, March 26 at 6:00 pm**. Please join us if you are able! We would love to have you help us make this space the best it can be.

Please keep our youth group and our collaborative efforts with neighboring churches in your prayers. Pray that we can create a welcoming and transformative space for our young people, and that we can reach out to many more in our community. Pray for the youth of our church, and for all the youth of our community.



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

March 26, 2025

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

Book of Exodus • Fellowship Hall

*We invite you to join us.*



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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Horizon Texas Conference website & phone: [htcumc.org](http://htcumc.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](http://www.stlukeumchaltomcity.org)

## Faith & Fellowship



### Sunday, March 23, 2025

#### *3rd Sunday in Lent*

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

### Monday, March 24, 2025

No Activities

### Tuesday, March 25, 2025

No Activities

### Wednesday, March 26, 2025

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

### Thursday, March 27, 2025

9:00 a.m. UMM Breakfast—Bluebonnet Café

### Friday, March 28, 2025

10:00 a.m. Second Chance Resale Shop

### Saturday, March 29, 2025

10:00 a.m. Second Chance Resale Shop

### Sunday, March 30, 2025

#### *4th Sunday in Lent*

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

### Monday, March 31, 2025

No Activities

### Tuesday, April 1, 2025

No Activities

### Wednesday, April 2, 2025

9:30 a.m. Prayer Group  
 10:00 a.m. Bible Study  
 6:00 p.m. French 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: SLUMC—Haltom City*

**Sunday, March 23, 2025 • 10:30 a.m.**

**3rd Sunday in Lent**

**Sunday School • 9:15 a.m.**

#### **Weekly Attendance • February 19**

Prayer Group—0  
 Bible Study—0  
 Youth—0  
 French Bible Study—9  
 UMM Breakfast • February 20—2

#### **Weekly Attendance • February 26**

Prayer Group—8  
 Bible Study—15  
 Youth—16  
 French Bible Study—10  
 UMM Breakfast • February 27—6

#### **Weekly Attendance • March 5**

Prayer Group—4  
 Bible Study—15  
 Youth—0  
 French Bible Study—0  
 Ash Wednesday In-Person Service—45  
 Online Service Attendance—290  
 UMM Breakfast • March 6—4

#### **Weekly Attendance • March 12**

Prayer Group—6  
 Bible Study—15  
 Youth—6  
 French Bible Study—9  
 UMM Breakfast • March 13—5

#### **Sunday, February 23**

Sunday School—55  
 In-Person Worship—62  
 Online Worship—555  
 French Sunday School—45  
 French Worship Service—8

#### **Sunday, March 2**

Sunday School—67  
 In-Person Worship—69  
 Online Worship—0  
 French Sunday School—14  
 French Worship Service—33

#### **Sunday, March 9**

Sunday School—54  
 In-Person Worship—55  
 Online Worship—458  
 French Sunday School—11  
 French Worship Service—35

#### **Sunday, March 16**

Sunday School—65  
 In-Person Worship—76  
 Online Worship—424  
 French Sunday School—13  
 French Worship Service—50