



The people of the United Methodist Church

Open hearts  
Open minds  
Open doors

# E-MESSENGER

## Saint Luke United Methodist Church

Volume 2025, Number 14

Wednesday, August 6, 2025

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

### A Message from Pastor Todd Pick:

Dear beautiful and beloved people of God,

What an amazing first month with you here at St. Luke! God's faithfulness is evident in your stories of what this church means to you as well as in all that you've already accomplished in mission and ministry here in Jesus's name. What a privilege to be your pastor in this time as we look ahead with discerning hearts, ready and open to hear where God might be calling us to go *next*. I know that I have felt the stirrings of the Spirit moving among us, and I hope you have felt it, too!

Throughout the coming month, we will continue in our summer sermon series, "Building Blocks of Faith." As I thought about this season of new beginnings, I wanted to share with you some of my favorite Scriptures with you: the passages that have carried me, held me, inspired me, and sustained me throughout my life. These are also the same passages that I return to, time and time again, when I need God to remind me of who I am and what I am called to do.

It is my hope that sharing with you some of my favorite verses on Sunday mornings gives you a bigger picture of who I am. But at the same time, it's as though we are going "back to the basics"—reviewing some of the fundamentals of what it means to be Followers of the Way; what it means to be those who create this beloved community centered in Christ. And I hope that we are reminded—together—of who we are and whose we are; reminded of our shared mission and purpose. I hope that together, we are rediscovering the joy of simple acts of faith, such as prayer, worship, and fellowship.

Faith is a mysterious gift that only God can give us. And in our United Methodist understanding, faith is a dynamic and ongoing journey of growth and transformation in the likeness of Jesus Christ. Faith formation occurs throughout our whole lives.

As we review some of the "building blocks" this summer, we also remember that faith requires *practice*. It requires finding ways to live into the likeness of Love daily.

As you think about your faith walk as a life-long journey, what are some of the "building blocks" you would include as foundational and formative? What are some basic practices that keep you grounded in God daily? What Scriptures have sustained you throughout your life? And is there one, small way to perhaps share your faith with someone this week? As always, stop by the office for a cup of coffee and share your thoughts. I would love to hear your reflections as well as what you might need to grow in faith!

*Blessings, Pastor Todd*



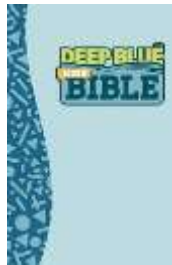
### Blessing of the Backpacks & Teacher Appreciation Sunday, August 10

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Our students, teachers and administrators will return back to school in the HEB & Birdville School Districts on August 13.

Join us on this Sunday to bless our children with their backpacks and to celebrate our teachers, retired teachers and school administrators.

3rd Grade Bible Presentation and  
Honoring our Sunday School Teachers  
Sunday, August 24  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service



We will honor our Sunday School teachers  
and present Bibles to the children who are  
entering the 3rd grade this  
school year.



*Roberta Reeves passed away  
July 21, 2025.  
Her Celebration of Life will be  
Saturday, August 9 with  
"Food & Memories" in the  
Fellowship Hall at 12:00 p.m.*

*Judy Connolly passed away  
July 28, 2025 with her  
Memorial Service on August 2  
at First UMC, Corsicana.*



*Barbara Kimbrough passed away  
August 5, 2025.  
Her funeral service will be  
August 30 at 2:00 p.m. at  
St. Luke United Methodist  
Church.*

*Steve Johnson passed away  
August 5, 2025.  
Memorial Service will be held on  
August 23 at 11:00 a.m. at  
First Baptist Church of Pasadena,  
7500 Fairmont Parkway,  
Pasadena, Texas 77505.  
To send a card to Elizabeth,  
5530 Fairfield Lane, Pasadena,  
Texas 77505.*



*Please keep Judy, Roberta, Barbara, and Steve's  
families in your thoughts and prayers.*



**Continued prayers for:** Jeanne Anne Pharis; French  
Congregation & the people of the Congo; Barbara Jones;  
Charles & Pat Hooper; Byron Lechler; Melissa Lechler &  
her son, Lucas; Christin Osborn; Darren Isbell; Ed Baker;  
Sandra Mason; Bob Watkins & family; George & Karen  
Angle's daughter, Sarah & daughter-in-law, Kristine;  
Lydia Acosta & her husband; Peggy Fallin; Anita  
McCullar; Doris Crocker; Burt & Marylou Moore; Buddy  
& DeeDee Hill's grandsons, Milo & Levi; Claudia &  
Michael Turner; Betty Longeway; Roy & Joan Hudson's  
son, Richard; Marilyn Smith; Ruby Lane's nephew, Dan  
Reynolds; David & Kay Stapp; Barbara Provenzano with  
the loss of her sister, Lynn Hindelang; Cathy & Art  
Gordon; Lisel Randall & family with the loss of her  
mother, Betty Holshouser; Sharon Friddle's daughter,  
Ragan Byron; Nathan Chandler; Deana Hoffman; family  
of Judy Connolly; family of Roberta Reeves

**Special prayers this week for:** Bonnie Richards; family  
of Steve Johnson; family of Barbara Kimbrough; Linda  
Smith; flood victims in Central Texas; people of  
Nazareth, Israel, Gaza, Lebanon & Syria; those affected  
by flooding; isolation & loneliness; gun violence each  
day in our country; prayers for our nation; the people of  
Ukraine & the world

**Prayer for those serving in the military:** Ryan Kelly  
Hampton; Krystal Calvert; Evan Hill; 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 twelve in attendance with one visitor, Jan Unkart. It was so good to see Joyce Seat and her daughter, Susan. There will be a Celebration of Life for Roberta Reeves Saturday, August 9 at 12:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Keep Tom Connolly and his family in your prayers.

Mary Ross

## GENESIS CLASS:

We had a full house with 13 in attendance. Just a few missing and know you truly are missed. We want to welcome Carmen Flores back last week. Good to have Cathy, Art, Ray, Linda, Mike and Claudia back. We will start on chapter 7 in Revelation this week, the seventh seal. Keep these in your prayers: Linda Savell's friend, Jerry Bowling and her son Brandon Hill; family of Steve Johnson; Roberta Reeves' family; Anita Bookout's daughter-in-law, Crystal Coursey; Michael & Claudia Turner's grandson, Coby Richerson; our school employees and kiddos going back to school in the next couple of weeks. The next Ladies Night Out is Thursday, August 14th at Hoffbrau's around 4:30ish. Be on the watch for a text next week.

Doughnuts:

August 10 - Amy West

August 17 - Ray & Linda Savell

August 24 - Dayna Cox

See y'all Sunday. Remember the 30 days of prayer.

Anita Bookout

## UPPER ROOM CLASS:

Our attendance for last Sunday was eleven. Thanks to Ann and Virgil for the refreshments and Gloria for our music. The class voted to donate \$200 toward the backpack project and school supplies. Joys: Ronda Hantz, Ronnie's daughter, had successful surgery, Miya, Gail's daughter, made a successful and safe trip, Byron was able to attend church and Sunday School and Evan and his wife are expecting a baby girl. Prayer concerns: Byron, Melissa, Lucas, Ragan, G3, Rose and Tom Connolly and family. Ann delivered our devotion on "Guarding our Tongues" taken from *Walking in Grace*, based on Matthew 12:36-37. The Resale Shop will be selling children's clothing for 25 cents per garment in order to help families get their children ready for back to school. The shop will follow their regular schedule for Friday, but will be closed on Saturday from 11:30 am—1:30 pm to honor the Celebration of Life for Roberta Reeves.

Resale Shop: \$365

Devotion/Refreshments: Jack & Lorna Bostick

Lesson: "Living as Ambassadors of Christ"

2 Corinthians 5:20, Matthew 5:14, 2 Corinthians 5:18-19, Matthew 28:18-20, Philippians 2:15, John 20:21, Acts 1:8, Romans 10:14-15

Gloria Lechler



Article by Alvin Eclavea,  
Youth Director

Dear Church Family,  
Our journey through the **Book of James** continues in Sunday School! This past week, we delved into chapters three and four, which provided some powerful lessons for our youth. We discussed the incredible power of our words, with James 3:5 reminding us, "The tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark." We also talked about our relationship with the world versus our relationship with God, and the call to draw near to Him, as found in James 4:8: "Come near to God and he will come near to you." These discussions were a great opportunity for our young people to reflect on their own words and priorities.

We're so excited about our new youth group meeting schedule! We've officially moved our weekly gatherings to **Sundays from 4-5 PM in the youth group room**, located next to the French congregation Chapel. We had a good turnout this past week, including some of the youth from our French congregation, and we're hoping to build more participation with the rest of our church family. It's wonderful to see our community coming together!

Speaking of community, we are actively looking for ideas for **service projects** we can do to help St. Luke. As we establish a consistent routine with our Sunday meetings, we want to make serving our church family a regular part of what we do. If you have any ideas at all, please don't hesitate to reach out to me! Your suggestions are incredibly valuable.

Thank you all for your continued support and prayers. We pray for you all.

In His Grace, Alvin



Prayer Group  
Wednesday • 9:30 a.m.  
Fellowship Hall

We invite you to join us  
each week.



The next *E-Messenger* Newsletter will be published **August 20** and all submissions need to be in the church office by **August 18**.



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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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.stlukeumchaltomcity.org](http://www.stlukeumchaltomcity.org)

## Faith & Fellowship



### Sunday, August 10, 2025

#### **9th Sunday after Pentecost**

9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
 10:30 a.m. Morning Worship Service  
 2:00 p.m. French Worship Service  
 4:00 p.m. Youth Group Activities

### Monday, August 11, 2025

No church activities

### Tuesday, August 12, 2025

No church activities

### Wednesday, August 13, 2025

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

### Thursday, August 14, 2025

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

### Friday, August 15, 2025

10:00 a.m. Second Chance Resale Shop

### Saturday, August 16, 2025

10:00 a.m. Second Chance Resale Shop

### Sunday, August 17, 2025

#### **10th Sunday after Pentecost**

9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
 10:30 a.m. Morning Worship Service  
 2:00 p.m. French Worship Service  
 4:00 p.m. Youth Group Activities

### Monday, August 18, 2025

9:00 a.m. Newsletter Submission DEADLINE

### Tuesday, August 19, 2025

No church activities

### Wednesday, August 20, 2025

9:30 a.m. Prayer Group  
 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: St. Luke UMC Haltom City**

**Sunday, August 10, 2025 • 10:30 a.m.**

**9th Sunday after Pentecost  
 Sunday School • 9:15 a.m.**

**Weekly Attendance • July 23**

Prayer Group—6  
 French Bible Study—8  
 UMM Breakfast • July 24—8

**Sunday • July 27**

Sunday School—58  
 In-Person Worship—70  
 Online Worship—56  
 French Worship Service—41

**Weekly Attendance • July 30**

Prayer Group—7  
 French Bible Study—9  
 UMM Breakfast • July 31—6

**Sunday • August 3**

Sunday School—49  
 In-Person Worship—57  
 Youth Group Activities—10  
 French Worship Sunday School—22  
 French Worship Service—31