

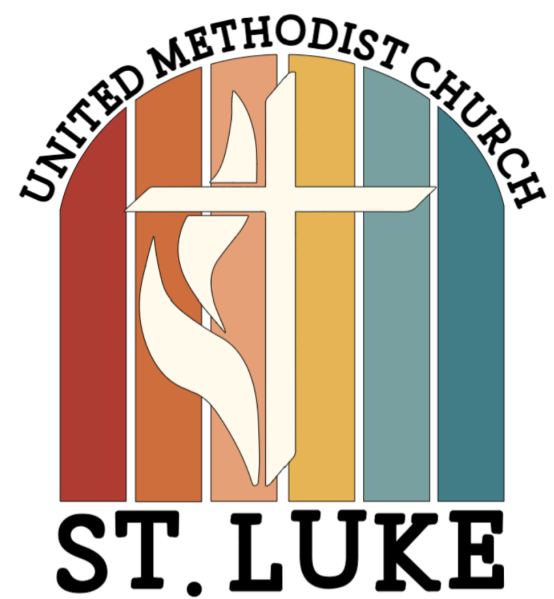
ST. LUKE UMC NEWSLETTER

October & November Edition

2024



West Texas Round Up



WE ARE

ST. LUKE UMC!



Pastor's Pen

Pastor Janet

Pastor's Pen

Beloved community,

As we move deeper into the fall, I'm knee deep in the book of Hebrews where we are reminded of the greatness of Jesus—God's final word, the radiant expression of God's glory (Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12). This October, we set the table with a question, "Why Jesus?" and as we move through Hebrews, we see not only why Jesus is worthy of our faith, but also how He shapes who we are and what we do as a church.

Apologetics is not just about defending our faith with words but living it out through our actions. Our lives are living testimonies of what we truly believe. Hebrews tells us Jesus is the "GOAT"—the greatest of all time (Hebrews 4:12-16), our source of salvation (Hebrews 5:1-10), and the one who made a complete sacrifice for us, "one and done" (Hebrews 7:23-28). As we live in response to these truths, we become reflections of Christ to the world, showing the grace of God in tangible, meaningful ways.

As a local church, we are called to embody this grace in our community. We do this by being present in the lives of our neighbors, engaging in acts of service, and sharing the good news through our everyday interactions. Our quirky, artistic, and beautiful way of being "a place where all are welcome at the table" is our unique way of living out Christ's mission in the world. Whether through our creativity, our love of community, or our willingness to embrace those on the margins, we reflect God's kingdom in ways that are authentic and transformative.

At the same time, this season also calls us to reflect on stewardship—the ways we use our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness to further the work of God's kingdom. Stewardship is not just about what we give financially but how we give of ourselves in service and love to others. How can we steward our time, talents, and resources to make the most impact in our community?

In November, we will turn our focus to the Gospel of Mark (Mark 12 and 13), where Jesus teaches us what it means to be the church. Here, we are reminded that being the church is not about buildings or programs but about people—about loving God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and loving our neighbors as ourselves. It is about watching and waiting for the return of Christ, even as we live in the present with purpose and intention.

With the unveiling of our new logo, we are not just branding ourselves; we are marking our identity as a community where all are welcome, where love abounds, and where Christ's grace is available to everyone. As we live into this identity, we become ambassadors of Christ in a world that so desperately needs hope, healing, and hospitality.

Onward!

Pastor Janet

St. Luke Budget Acct.

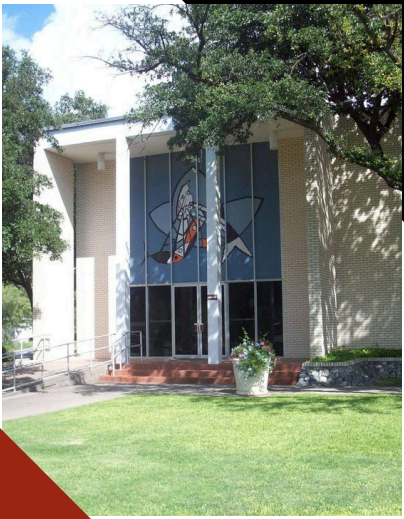
September 30, 2024

INCOME:

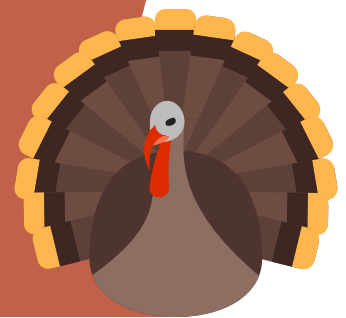
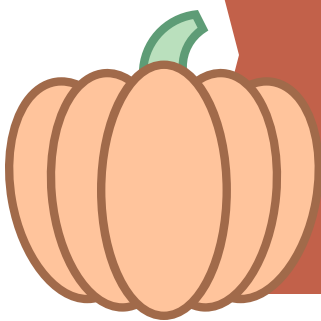
Pledged Giving: \$104,945.98
Unpledged Giving: \$8,214.25
Miscellaneous Giving: \$250.00
Total Income: \$113,410.23

EXPENSES:

Administrative Expenses: \$6,611.31
Building and Grounds: \$54,516.70
Staff Salaries: \$68,859.32
Programs: \$982.45
Apportionments, Outreach, etc.: \$10,499.01
Total Expenses: \$141,468.79



October & November **BIRTHDAYS**



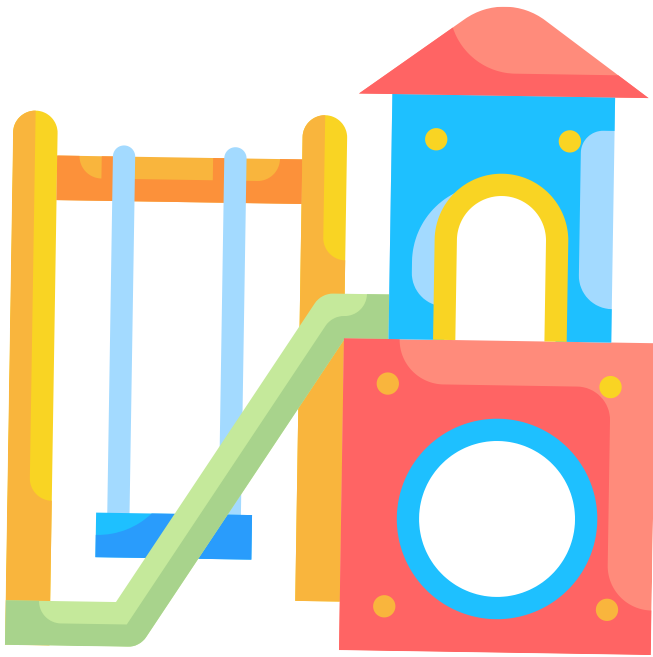
October Birthdays

Dallas Franke-6th
Taylor Franke-6th
Maggie Blair-7th
Dakota Turner-11th
Marsha Taylor-17th
Ron Taylor-19th
Fischer Russwurm-19th
Anissa McLaughlin-21st

November Birthdays

Russ Weatherford-2nd
Michael Taylor-9th
Kevin Russwurm-11th
Adam Farris-14th
Rhiannon Moss-19th
Nettie Cavin-21st
David Jenkins-28th
Christopher Taylor-29th

St. Luke CCDC Director- Mary Cook
St. Luke CCDC Assistant Director-
Skyla Grothe-Sanchez
(325)949-8311



Upcoming

Events

October 7th -10th: Scholastic Book Fair
October 23rd: Sharing with Parents Day
(open house-3's & up)
October 30th: Trunk or Treat
November 11th: Veterans Day Program
(High 5's)
November 20th: Harvest Festival

UMC NEWS

How would John Wesley vote?

By Jim Patterson Sept. 24, 2024 | UM News



In these polarizing times, United Methodists across the connection are being called to faithfully participate in civic engagement as a witness for peace and justice. The United Methodist Board of Church and Society has produced a toolkit to help United Methodists participate in the November elections with integrity. Logo courtesy of the United Methodist Board of Church and Society.

Key points

- The United Methodist Church does not tell its members how to vote, but it does enumerate the values members of the denomination could consider as they make their decisions.
- An election toolkit is available online as a guide, put together by the United Methodist Board of Church and Society, the Baltimore–Washington Conference and United Methodist Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century.
- Voter suppression is a danger with this election, Church and Society leaders say, and United Methodists should serve as poll workers if they can, to help prevent it.

Read the full article at: https://www.umnews.org/en/news/how-would-john-wesley-vote?mkt_tok=MDc4LUpYUS02NDMAAAGVxBNuD2uZvUxJyQ1HspgPK0hvDvFiskzPCoDVMMfEn6e1AYaTkfCdrpagCgueeAddT8h1RTg366TIR_-QeR1M4n-K_-yyRJ17KnWEak6R04oyM

UMCOR: 2023 Annual Report - Loving and serving together September 23, 2024



ATLANTA – The 2023 Annual Report for Global Ministries and the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is now available. The report focuses on the main programmatic themes of 2023, taken from Hebrews 10:24, and describes many ways that the work of mission extends both love and service throughout the world. Continuing work on four main mission priorities – humanitarian relief and recovery; missionaries; evangelism and church revitalization; and global health – Global Ministries and UMCOR further defined the main tenets of their work to serve alongside communities in need of partners to improve their lives.

Read here: https://umcmmission.org/news-statements/2023-annual-report-loving-and-serving-together/?mkt_tok=MDc4LUpYUS02NDMAAAGVxBNuD7fJlJjy62iVaIz4Syy-1cdA6UJ1VABfaGQOGbF91bvueM_JxXuyP21052xBheJQphHiWKJrj6HkctY9GpqRzBWHkQUSjHZ2DqI21zvND6o

CONNECT WITH US



OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday 9:00am–4:30pm

Friday 9:00am–12:00pm

Email: Pastor@stlukeumcsa.com

alicia@stlukeumcsa.com

Phone Number: 325–949–1545

Visit our website: www.stlukeumcsa.com