

Lytle United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 608
Lytle, Texas 78052-0608
(830) 772-3345
Lytleumc.org
Facebook.com/lytleumc

Highway Trash Pickup
Saturday, January 22, 7:30 to 9:30 AM

JANUARY 2022



The hand of the LORD was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. He asked me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” I said, “Sovereign LORD, you alone know.” Then he said to me, “Prophesy to these bones and say to them, ‘Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.’” – Ezekiel 37:1-6

How appropriate is this scripture to our times? I had written a pastor’s column for this month, but the Lord told me to throw it out and use this space to remind all of us of this passage. It has been a really “dry bones” couple of years. So much of our normal life has gone or has been radically changed. We are often tempted to just give up. But God is not through with us. God is breathing life into our country, our community, our church, and our lives. Let’s watch Him work, but let’s help Him as well!

Grace and Peace,
Scott

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Covered-Dish Lunch
Sunday, February 13, after Worship

Please come to this first fellowship event of the new year as we talk, and laugh, and break bread together.

Carnation Outreach

In this outreach effort, planned by our Council on Ministries, volunteers will walk the neighborhood around the church after the covered-dish lunch on February 13 (The day before Valentines Day). They will simply hand out individual pink carnations door to door as a message of love from the church, and with a message of love (and information) attached. We are hoping to hand out 200 carnations, so we need lots of volunteers. Please consider helping with this event.



M.A.D. Club Starting February 9 **(Music, Art and Drama)**

Our children's ministry program, M.A.D. Camp, went great in the summer. The Council on Ministries decided not to have a fall M.A.D. Club but decided it was time to start M.A.D. Club again this spring. Children from 2nd grade through 7th grade will gather every Wednesday from 3:30 PM to 6:30 PM to do art projects, play games, eat snacks, and work on a spring musical. This musical, called "Back to the Beginning," is a sequel to "Back to the Cross" which began our M.A.D. ministry so many years ago. This play is again a time travel adventure, as we travel back to the beginning, and to many places in-between.

Please get the word out to all the families you know, and we need more volunteers. Help us reach the children and families of our community with the Good News of Christ through M.A.D. Club.



Church Schedule

January 2 - Epiphany Sunday.

January 3, Monday - Food Pantry, 6 to 7 PM.

January 9 - Baptism of the Lord Sunday.

- Koinonia Emmaus Community gathering at Medina Valley UMC.
4:30 to 6 PM.

January 10, Monday - United Methodist Women, 2:30 PM in the fellowship hall

January 11, Tuesday - Trustees meeting at 7 PM.

January 16 - Sanctity of Human Life Sunday.

January 17, Monday - Food Pantry, 6 to 7 PM.

January 18, Tuesday - Administrative Council and Finance meeting.

January 22, Saturday - Adopt a Highway Pick-Up Day. Meet at the church at 7:30 AM.

- "Sew-Busy Quilters" meet in the fellowship hall, 11 AM to 5 PM

February 5, Saturday - Youth Yard Sale

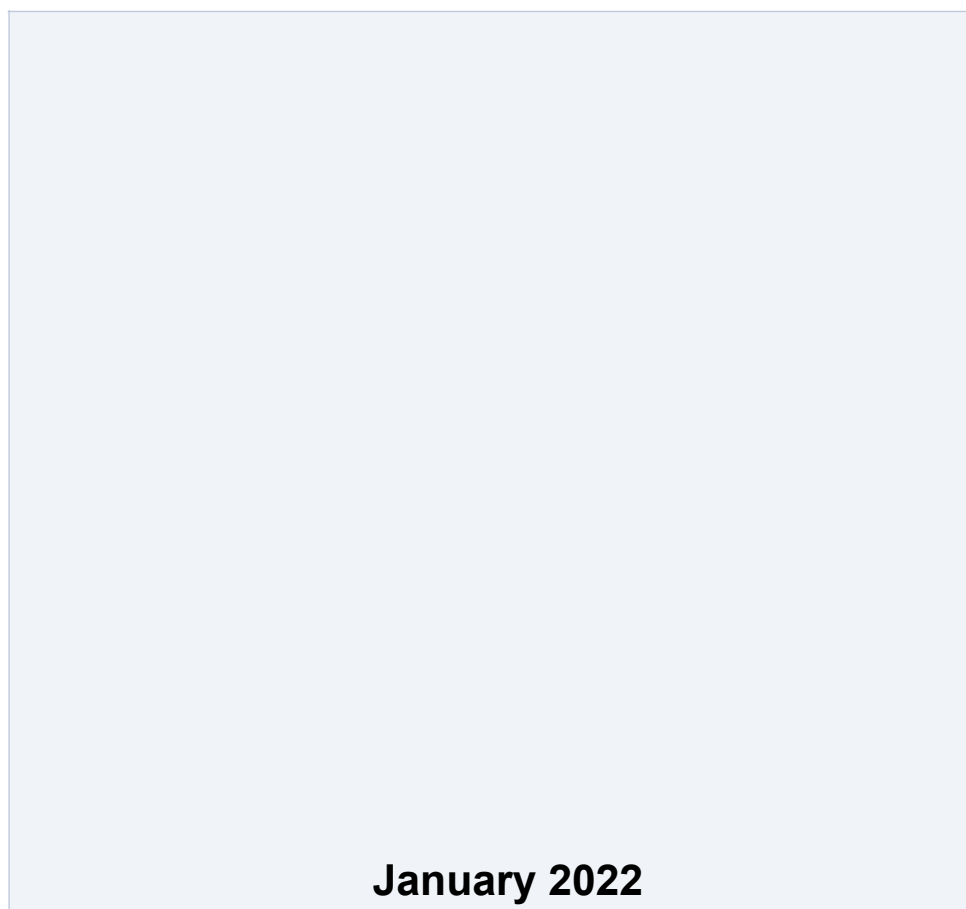
February 9, Wednesday - Music Art and Drama (MAD) Club begins, 3:30 - 6:30 PM

February 13 - Church Covered-dish lunch after the worship service

- Carnation Outreach, after the covered-dish lunch

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Youth News



Regular meeting time changed to 2 to 4 PM so people can get ready for school the next day

Youth Yard Sale Saturday February 5th

January 9: Field trip to the movies to see "American Underdog"
You will get more information via email when movie times re available

January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 No U.M.Y.F.	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 U.M.Y.F. Trip to the movies	10	11	12	13	14	15

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January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
16 U.M.Y.F. At The Church 2 - 4pm	17	18	19	20	21	22 Trash Pickup 7:30am
23 U.M.Y.F. At The Church 2 - 4 pm	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 U.M.Y.F. At The Church 2 - 4 pm	31					



Children’s Sunday School Program

Our children’s Sunday school program is “VBS Style” where the children rotate through three stations in groups that are age inclusive (Kinder through 5th grade) just like in our summer VBS program. The first station is opening music, games and movie clips which introduces the Bible story and Bible truth for the day. Then the children move to the Bible Station where they “dig-in” to the story and the Bible truth. Finally, they move to the third station for crafts and other activities to drive the truth home. Bring your children so they can take part in the fun and grow in their faith.

Thank you to all our Sunday school teachers for their dedication.

We have classes for children and adults, 11:15 AM to 12:15 PM.

Youth Yard Sale, Saturday, February 5

Donated items, including clothes are very welcome, and can be placed in the walkway between the fellowship hall and education building

“Pie Party” Planned for Saturday, March 26



The Council on Ministries is continuing to guide the church to be “Missiactional.” To be “Missional” by reaching out to the community through activities like the “Carnation Outreach” (planned for the Sunday before Valentines Day) and the new church sign. And to be “Attractional” by providing powerful worship, inviting facilities, children and youth programs, and a new free “Parking Lot Event” called “The Pie Party”

Details are still being finalized, but the event envisioned by the COM will be similar to our highly successful “Pumpkin Party.” Food will include free slices of pie and there will be pie related activities for adults and children. To get involved, and share ideas, talk to Suzie Sollock, the new head of the COM, or talk to any member of that group.

Work on Church Sign Continues



God has blessed us by putting us on the route many folks take to get downtown, or to get their children to school. Therefore, we are making a concerted effort to make the front of our church more inviting, including installing a new “inviting” church sign.

This new sign will be in a more visible location and will be electronic! The top part will be a static sign proclaiming who we are, but below the static sign will be a video screen (on both sides) which we can program to advertise programs like VBS, Pie Parties, and MAD Club, and which will also proclaim scriptures and the gospel message. This new sign will replace our existing sign and our semi-permanent plywood billboard. Exciting things are happening at Lytle United Methodist Church. Thanks be to God!

Building Renovations 99.9% Complete



The choir windows have arrived and have been installed and they truly make the choir room shine. Stop by sometime and take a look.

Mirrors have also arrived and been installed in the bathrooms.



Guy's Group

The guy's group meets regularly on Monday nights from 7 to 9 PM at the church for a time of fellowship, mentoring, and study. Dinner is provided.

Thank You!!

Thank you to all those who served with such grace as church leaders in 2021. A very special thank you to Connie Norton for leading the Council on Ministries for so many years. She will be missed!

Methodist Women

A new year is beginning, and all the women of the church are invited to be part of the UMW. They are meeting each 2nd Monday of the month in the fellowship hall. Call Bethel Kay Bateman at (210) 415-0783 for more details.

Free Biblical Counseling

Linda Martin has completed the first phase in certification as a Biblical counselor, and is offering free counseling for women.

New Ways to Give

1. Online: Go to the church website, www.lytleumc.com
2. By text from a mobile device: Text GIVE or TITHE to 830-224-2780

Adopt a Highway Pick-Up Day Saturday, Jan. 22 7:30 AM – 9:30 AM

As the new year starts our church will be doing our once a quarter trash pick-up along highway 463.

We will meet at the church at 7:30 AM for breakfast provided by the church. We will then head out to clean up as a service to our community. We will be done by 9:30 AM.

Free Church Wifi

Network: lytleumc
password: holyspirit987
(all lower case)

Put Together Some “Love Packages” of Christian Material Today

Linda Bahlmann is collecting old Christian material to help Christians in the third world. This includes Bibles, reference materials, books, daily devotionals, sunday school materials, CDs and DVDs. Gather your old stuff together and call her (830-709-5848 or 210-837-0650) and she will pick up the material, package it, and ship it to “Love Packages,” for them to in turn sort it and ship it overseas.

Emmaus Gathering Sunday Feb. 13, 4:30 to 6 PM St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Hondo



Everyone wants to meet, we want to sponsor more walks, and the church-to-church connections are powerful and strengthening, but Friday nights were hard, and attendance was hurting. So the community made a big decision to move to Sunday afternoons from 4:30 to 6 PM.

New Walk to Emmaus Dates Announced

The new dates for the Walks sponsored by our community, delayed by covid, have been announced:

Men’s Walk at Mount Wesley: Thursday Evening, April 28 – Sunday, May 1, 2022
Women’s Walk at Mount Wesley: Thursday Evening, Sept. 29 – Sunday, Oct. 2, 2022

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Food Pantry Ministry

Our food pantry continues to help families twice a month. In February the food pantry days are February 7 and 21. Our workers have been terrific, but we can always use more. Just come at 5:45 PM to help prepare for the 6 to 7 PM rush. Thank you for supporting the Methodist Food Pantry. We would also like to thank the Community National Bank and Woodsman Life Chapter 406 for their nice monetary gifts and for caring about the hungry in the Lytle Area.



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Prayer Concerns

- **Alexander Castillo**—son of Ricardo Castillo, in ICU in California with Covid
- **Kevin Ernest**—recovery from two major colon surgeries
- **Rose Lynn**—worsening Parkinson’s, home from hospital
- **Debbie McLaughlin**—newly diagnosed breast cancer
- **Debbie Metzger**—rare form of cancer
- **Michelle Keith and her mother**—mother in rehab in Seattle
- **Rosemarie Smith** (Connie Norton’s mother)—cancer
- **Debbie Hunt**—pneumonia • **Linda Bahlmann**—vertigo
- **Tony Escalante** (Felix’s nephew)—kidney tumor
- **Irma Kelly**—breast cancer spread to lungs
- **For children who have strayed**
- **Adrian** (son of friend of Chris Brauchle)—brain tumor
- **Chuck and Irma Bayne**—health concerns • **Wanda Craig** (Linda Bahlmann’s niece)—cancer
- **Lois Wanjura**—would love window visits
- **Kylee Barrera** (Margaret Wilson’s niece)— leukemia and bladder cancer
- **Eddie Simons** (Ian’s grandfather)—recurrence and spread of brain tumor
- **For all our veterans**—especially that they would find hope in Jesus (40 veterans a day commit suicide)
- **Mike and Cindy Williams**—starting in a new church in Illinois
- **The missionaries personally supported by our church**
- **For United Methodist Church, General Conference and delegates for 2020**—postponed to 2022
- **Missionaries around the world and for the persecuted church**
- **For the church staff and their families**
- **For our president and leaders** (1 Timothy 2:1-4) • **For our military and our veterans**
- **For our nation and for the spread of the gospel of Jesus Christ**



Our Church Family Military

- **Matthew Staudt** (Chris Brauchle’s grandson)—Army • **Brandon Johnson**—Marines
- **Isaac Johnson**—Air Force • **Kristen Pruett**—Air Force • **Ian Simons**—Air Force
- **Brandon Hunt**—Army Reserves • **Joyce Biggs** (George Bahlmann’s great-niece)
- **Brooke Johnson**—Navy • **Ross Moffitt** (Chris and Fred Brauchle’s grandson)—Air Force
- **William Reichel**—Army • **Forrest Keith**—Kevin Keith’s son, Navy • **Kyle Pringle**—Army
- **Josh Orbinati**—Michele Brown’s nephew, Coast Guard • **Craig Wolf**—Air Force

Christmas Updates and Thanks!

Hanging of the Greens

Thank you to all those involved in our Hanging of the Greens service (especially Irma Bayne and the choir). The “Hanging of the Greens” was wonderful, as was the reception afterwards.

Children’s Christmas Party

Thank you to those who put together our Christmas bags and the pinata, those who decorated and prepared the covered-dish lunch (especially Diana and Kyle Jackson), to the children who participated in the Christmas play, and to Maribel and Orlando Gutierrez: our narrator and our “Bishop of Myra.”

Outreach Christmas Caroling on Sunday, December 12th

Thank you to all those who gave up part of their Sunday to join us in reaching out to the new people of Lytle through song. We would especially like to thank our youth and youth leaders. This second year went very well, and we could see firsthand how our community is growing.

The Angel Tree/Project Hope

The Angel Tree/Project Hope is bringing the light of Jesus Christ to more lives. 89 children (27 families) were helped this year by our church—that’s almost 300 presents! The church would like to thank all those who took part in this important Christmas ministry of our church, including those listed below:
The Stewarts The Escalantes The Boyds The Kirk Jacksons The Morrows The Nortons John Yorke Carol McDonald The Baynes The Daggs Chris Brauchle The Martins The Broaches The Keiths Marty Bennett The Sollocks Terry Miles The Dominguez Family The Habarkas The Simons The Pruetts Marylyn Sollock The McMillans The Garners The Hugh Family Zach Davis Betty McGinnis The Brewers Lingo Family John Trevino Sally Pennington The Kyle Jacksons The Metzgers Ann VanWinkle The Qualls Family The Meyers Kellie Meyer and everyone else
Thanks also go to those who worked as hosts for our Angel Tree Gift Pick up and delivery on December 14th and 15th, especially Billy and Linda Stewart.

Dec. 19th Christmas Offering for Local Missions

A big thank you to all those who gave. You will help a lot of people during the year.

Baby Jesus Birthday Party on Christmas Eve

Thank you to everyone who helped with the “Baby Jesus Birthday Party” on Christmas Eve. It was a big commitment to give up part of their time for this outreach effort. You are a blessing.

Christmas Eve Musicians

Thank you to Joseph Morrow and the music team for the beautiful music at the first service. Thank you to Irma Bayne and the choir for the beautiful music at the second service. A special thanks to Rosemarie Smith, Connie’s mother, for playing the piano at the second service. Both services were a blessing.

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2022 Church Leaders

Administrative Board: Kyle Jackson (Head of Administrative Board), Glenn Norton (Assistant Head of Administrative Board), Brad Boyd (Head of Finance), Suzie Sollock (Council on Ministries leader), Michelle Keith (Lay Leader), Michelle Keith (Lay Delegate to Annual Conference), Kevin Keith (Alternate Lay Delegate), Suzi Sollock (Recording Secretary and Treasurer), Tawana Jackson (Staff-Parish Relations Committee Chairperson), At Large Members: All the members of the Council on Ministry.

Council on Ministries: Suzie Sollock (Head of Council on Ministries), Lisa Garner (Secretary), Michelle Keith (Lay leader), Diana Jackson, Linda Bahlmann, Tiffany Moreno, Kevin Keith, Tawanna Jackson, Becky Escalante, Eric Carlson, Linda Martin and Chris Brauchle. Amanda Morrow, Maribel Gomez, Irma Bayne, Joseph Morrow & Scott Martin (Staff members).

Board of Trustees: Bobby Sollock, Dustin Noll, Kyle Jackson, Debbie Pruet, Nan Boyd, Orlando Gutierrez, Glenn Norton, Brent Meyer and Ricardo Castillo.

Staff Parish Relations Committee: Tawana Jackson (Chairperson), Jim Alexander, Marty Bennett, Betty Kroeger, Jim Rhodes, Carol McDonald, Jim Pruet, John Yorke and Jim Dominguez.

Nominations: Amanda Morrow, Connie Norton, Debbie Pruet, Diana Jackson, Linda Bahlmann, Karla Dominguez, Bethel Kay Bateman, Shelle McMillan and Suzie Sollock.

Other Leaders: Communion Stewards (Kirk and Tawana Jackson), Funeral Family Care (United Methodist Women), Usher Coordinator (Kirk Jackson), Lay Worship Leader Coordinator (Michelle Keith).

Sew-Busy Quilting Group

The Sew-Busy Quilting groups meets in our fellowship hall on a Saturday once a month and welcome visitors and new folks. Call Sandra O'Banion at (210) 347-9205 for more information.

Missionary Notes

With 2020 being the year that wasn't, we looked for better days in 2021. The Lord provided!

(call the church office and we will forward you the rest of the letter) Praying that you have seen the Lord working in your lives this year, and will be blessed as you celebrate God's Greatest Gift this Christmas!

In Him, Steve and Karen Dorner

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Christmas Poinsettias

From Marty Bennett
in memory of Bill Bennett,
beloved husband,
father and grandfather

From Brad and Nan Boyd
in memory of Bryan and Francine Boyd and in
honor
of Leon and Rose Thumann

From Catherine Carroll in memory of
Alfred Carroll and in honor of
her children and grandchildren

From Ricardo Castillo in memory of Encarnacion
and Francisca Castillo and Nikki Holley

From Carl Ernest in memory of
JoAn Ernest, loving wife of 51 years
And in honor of his beautiful and loving family

From Jeanice Farmer in memory of
Ruble Farmer Jr., Jeffrey Farmer,
Si and Darthula Cousins,
and Ruble and Jewell Farmer

From Ed and Lisa Garner in honor of their
children and grandkids

From Steve and Jeanie Habarka
in honor of their family

From Kirk and Tawana Jackson
in memory of Kitty Alexander

From Betty Kroeger in memory of Ernie Kroeger
and in honor of Linda and Billy Stewart

From Scott and Linda Martin in memory of
Ann Jones and Les Martin
and in honor of Vera Martin

From Scott and Linda Martin in honor of Rachel
Martin and John and Megan Martin

From Ann VanWinkle
in memory of

Howard VanWinkle
and in honor of

Don VanWinkle, Linda Becker,
and all of Ann's grandchildren

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Happy Birthday in January

Birthdays:

Cathleen Byrne	2nd	Bobbie Sollock	12th	Sammy White	27th
Amber Moore	3rd	Scott White	14th	Lindsey Scarborough	27th
Nan Boyd	4th	Bryan Bippert, Jr.	15th	Jinny Mangold	27th
Cory Miller	6th	J.J. Villarreal	18th	Coltyn LaFond	29th
Michael Wells	8th	Nancy Burns	24th	Weston Carroll	31st
Nadia Robinson	11th	Richard Crain	25th		
Natasha Keith	11th	Deanna Ahr	26th		

Our Church's Purpose

To reach out to our community and beyond to share the Good News of Jesus Christ
in word and deed, and to welcome people into this body of Christ
where we might all be filled with God's strength and vision.