

Lytle United Methodist Church
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 (830) 772-3345
 Lytleumc.org
 Facebook.com/lytleumc

APRIL 2021



Will We Catch the Wave?

Last year at our January “pastor/school meeting,” held at the Lytle ISD administrative office, we were talking about the new housing developments being built in Lytle, and all the new people moving into the area. The school officials were describing the plans the school was making for accommodating the new kids, and they wondered what the plans were at the churches to make room for all the new people. Some of the pastors talked about adding worship services, or building new rooms, but in my head, I was saying “maybe,” because the school is different from the churches. Kids are required by law to go to school—church involvement is optional. The truth is a wave is coming to Lytle, and the question is, “are we going to catch it or be left behind?”

From my few experiences with body surfing, “catching the wave” is not as easy as it looks. It takes effort, and learning, and commitment. Our Council on Ministries has committed to focusing in 2021 on catching this wave. It will take real effort, and lots of prayer, and commitment from us all. It will take “church events,” like December’s Community Christmas Caroling, and our Community Fish Fry planned for Pentecost Sunday, May 23. But it will take even more “personal events”—all of us getting out of our comfort zones, meeting new people, forming relationships, connecting people to Christ. The question is, “Are we going to be left behind, or are we going to be faithful to our calling?” It’s going to take all of us, and a concerted effort to “Catch the Wave.”

Grace and peace,
 Scott

Youth Yard Sale, Saturday May 1st, 8 AM to 3 PM

This big fund raiser for the youth, and community awareness effort for the church, will take place Saturday May 1st. Donations of all types are accepted. If you need pick up, call the church office at 772-3345, or talk to one of the youth or youth leaders. They will be setting up on Friday night, with a youth lock-in, so you can come by and drop off things after 5 PM. You can also put items in our storage shed between the church and the youth building. Just pull hard on the doors. The youth, and especially the youth leaders, could also really use adult help on Friday night and on Saturday. This is an important youth fund raiser, but as mentioned above, it is a huge community awareness effort as well. Time after time we hear people who know of our church because of this event. Please keep it in your prayers, and help!!!



Pregnancy Care Center 5K & 10K Walk/Run Saturday, May 1



We are running/walking as a group to support the San Antonio Pregnancy Care center. Go to sapregnancy.org for more information or talk to Linda Martin.

Vacation Bible School 2021
5:30 to 8:30 PM, July 5th to 9th
Music, Art and Drama Camp 2021
9:00 AM to noon, July 19th to 23rd

New Ways to Give

1. Online: Go to the church website, www.lytleumc.org, and go to the “donate” page.
2. By text from a mobile device: Text GIVE or TITHE to 830-224-2780

Free Church Wi-Fi

Network: lytleumc
password: holyspirit987
(all lower case)

CHURCH SCHEDULE

- April 5, Monday - Food Pantry day, 6 to 7 PM.
April 6, Tuesday - Council on Ministries meeting.
April 9, Friday - Koinonia Emmaus Community gathering at Lakehills United Methodist Church in Lakehills. Music, Worship and Fellowship at 6:30 PM.
April 10, Saturday - Highway trash pick-up day. Meet at the church at 7:30 AM.
April 19, Monday - Food Pantry day, 6 to 7 PM.
April 20, Tuesday - Administrative Council and Finance meeting at 7 PM.
April 21, Wednesday - Worship Committee meeting at noon.
May 1, Saturday - **Youth Yard Sale.**
May 1, Saturday - **Pregnancy Care Center 5K Walk/Run.**
May 23 - Pentecost Sunday. Church/Community fish fry after the worship service.

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Youth News

April 2021							May 1: Youth Yard sale.
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
				1	2	3	
4 No U.M.Y.F.	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11 U.M.Y.F. At the Church 4 pm – 6:00 pm	15	16	17	18	19	17	
18 U.M.Y.F. At the Church 4 pm – 6:00 pm	22	23	24	25	26	24	
25 U.M.Y.F. At the Church 4 pm – 6:00 pm	26	27	28	29	30 Lock-in starting after school to prepare for the yard sale		

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Being Resurrected

Christ has been raised from the dead

1 Corinthians 15:12



Jesus is fully human; He was dead in a tomb; and God raised Him from the dead. Among that powerful truth is the truth that God can raise us from the dead as well. He will raise us from physical death to eternal life in heaven, but He can also raise us from emotional death, material death, and spiritual death right here and now.

Think about the darkness of that tomb, and then think of the darkness we experience at times. We live in a fallen world and we are all sinners, which is a powerful recipe for dark times: darkness in our relationships, in our finances, in our health, in our habits and behaviors, etc.... God can raise us from them all, just as he raised Jesus from the dead. It is powerful to think of God walking with us through the dark valleys, and it is even more powerful thinking of God leading us, guiding us, out of the dark valleys. Easter is about the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is also a reminder that nothing is hopeless when we are walking with God. We too can be resurrected.

Plans Going Forward for Renovations and Rededication

A small group of people have been busily working to gather costs and make plans to present to the Trustees and the Finance Committee for approval. They have broken the proposed work into two parts:

- Part A – New carpet, paint, lights, window blinds and bathroom renovations in the Sunday school building.
- Part B – Renovations to the church entranceway (replacing the wood paneling and the obsolete ceiling tiles with sheetrock).

The entranceway renovations have long been a desire of our church trustees, and we can save money by doing both Part A and Part B at the same time. Whether we will be able to do both will depend on financing, and this whole plan still needs to be approved. Please keep this endeavor in your prayers.

**KITTY ALEXANDER
SUNDAY SCHOOL
BUILDING**

**Dedicated to teachers
of the past, present, and future**

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. - Matthew 28:19-20

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New Food Pantry Prayer Booth

This ministry, started by Trisha Broach and Suzie Sollock, is a great addition to our food pantry (and thank you Wendy Conover for providing signs). People who receive food are invited to stop by the booth to request prayers and to pray with church volunteers. Please consider volunteering once a month or so—you will be a blessing and you will be blessed.

Food Pantry Ministry, Monday, April 5th and 19th

We need your help. For safety, we are having those we are serving stay in their cars and drive by to pick up the food, but we still need people to move the food and put the food in their trunks. Please come to help from 6 to 7 PM on Monday, April 19. We would also like to thank everyone who orders the food from the San Antonio Food Bank, who picks it all up and stores it in our food pantry, who bags the food, who separates and bags the vegetables and who does all the paperwork. Thank you!!

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Fill-up the Crib Thank You



Thank you for the wonderful bounty of items for the Care Closet of the Pregnancy Care Center. The Closet provides clothing for mothers in unintended pregnancies and then layettes for their newborns. And thank you Chris Brauchle, a Pregnancy Care Center volunteer from our church, for getting all the items, including the crib to the center.

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Fish Fry Fellowship Meal
And Outreach Ministry
Sunday, May 23



In John 21, we read about Jesus gathering with his disciples at the Sea of Galilee for a fish fry. During the meal, Jesus asks the question, “Do you love me?” Then He goes on, “Then feed my sheep.”

This event, in the planning stages, will be a fellowship meal for the church combined with an outreach event for the community. Please join us as we show our love for Jesus by feeding His sheep.

Spanish Edition
of Our Church Newsletter

The Council on Ministries is working to provide our monthly newsletter in English and Spanish for the website and for mailing. If you are interested, or know of anyone who might be interested, in receiving a newsletter in Spanish, please contact the church office at 830-772-3345 or text 210-414-3291.

New Church Management
Software Being Explored

This software would do at least four things:

1. Hold information on our current church body
2. Provide the ability to group email and text
3. Provide a portal to an online church directory
4. Hold our historic church member information

I Believe in “Two for One” When Possible

Most Christian ministries and churches have an important declaration at the beginning of their web page. It is usually stated in terms of “We believe that...” and its purpose is to reassure the visitor that this ministry or church is faithful to God’s Word. Our Council on Ministries undertook the task of rewriting the opening of our website and we decided a bunch of “I believe statements” wasn’t good enough. In our culture, where so many believe that truth is relative, “I believe statements” might lead people to think: “That’s nice, but I believe something different, and my beliefs are just as valid as yours.” And, in addition, “I believe statements” just wouldn’t be a powerful enough presentation of the life-saving Good News. So, we decided to not share “Our Beliefs”, but to share “God’s One and Only Truth.” So, based wholly on scripture, this is the new opening declaration on our website:

Welcome! We are excited to share the truth of Jesus Christ with you! Scripture tells us that we are all sinners and have disobeyed God’s laws (see Romans 3:23). The cost of that sin is eternal death (see Romans 6:23), but we also know that God has offered us the gift of eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord (see also Romans 6:23). God loves us so much that He sent His son to die and pay for our sins and redeem us to eternal life, even while we are sinners (see Romans 3:24 and 5:8)! God has instructed us to repent of our sins and believe this good news (Mark 1:15)! We invite you into our community of faith.
Please let us know how we can support your faith journey.

Actually, this isn’t just a two for one; it’s a three for one:

- 1. A Statement of Truth!**
- 2. A Statement that they can trust that this church believes and teaches the Truth!**
- 3. A Statement that they will be welcomed and loved!**

Please check out our website, lytleumc.org, and check out all the great stuff it contains.

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Prayer Concerns

- **Family of Frank Medina**—especially for Kyle and Andrew as their father is buried
- **Lisa Wells**—health and recent hospital stay
- **Angel Escalante**—brain tumor
- **Joyce Christopher**—having biopsy
- **For those who are suffering, in pain, unemployed**
- **Kenny Wagoner**—health
- **Raina Estrella** (Wanda Yoast’s granddaughter)—health
- **Wanda Yoast’s recent move**—Wanda moved from the Lytle Nursing Home to Castroville
- **Cleotide Rodriguez** (friend of Shelle McMillan)—age 93, severe UTI, stopped eating
- **Lois Wanjura**—would love window visits
- **Jeannie Taylor** (Linda Bahlmann’s sister)—recurrence of heart problem, possible surgery
- **Debbie Hunt**—knee replacement March 23, healing at home
- **Diana Jackson**—upcoming knee surgery, April 14
- **Marty Bennett**—health
- **Irma Bayne**—for upcoming medical procedure, April 14
- **Bethel Kay Bateman**--vertigo
- **For those dealing with addiction and their families**
- **Rose Thumann** (Nan Boyd’s mother)—starting chemo again
- **Sharon Berry**—stomach cancer
- **Kylee Barrera** (Margaret Wilson’s niece)— leukemia and bladder cancer
- **Robert Mumme**—diagnosed with stage IV non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma
- **David Lynn’s brother**--cancer
- **Michele Brown**—cancer
- **Rosemarie Smith**—metastasis of cancer, doing well on treatment
- **Our shut-ins**
- **Irma Kelley** – stage IV breast cancer
- **For all our veterans**—especially that they would find hope in Jesus (40 veterans a day commit suicide)
- **Eddie Simons** (Ian’s grandfather)—recurrence and spread of brain tumor
- **Felix Escalante**--health
- **For United Methodist Church, General Conference and delegates for 2020**—postponed to 2022
- **Our military and their families and our president and government**
- **Our missionaries around the world**
- **For persecuted Christians around the world**
- **For victims of human trafficking and for an end to human trafficking**



Our Church Family Military

- **Brandon Johnson**—Marines
- **Isaac Johnson**—Air Force
- **Kristen Pruett**—Air Force
- **Ian Simons**—Air Force
- **Brandon Hunt**—Army Reserves
- **Brooke Johnson**—Navy
- **Kyle Pringle**—Army
- **Ross Moffitt** (Chris and Fred Brauchle’s grandson)—Air Force
- **William Reichel**—Army, in Germany
- **Forrest Keith**—Kevin Keith’s son, Navy
- **Josh Orbinati**—Michele Brown’s nephew, Coast Guard
- **Craig Wolf**—Air Force
- **Jonathan Heiman**—Navy
- **Jon and Brianna Hartwig**—Army, Jill Daggs’ daughter and son-in-law
- **Joyce Biggs** (George Bahlmann’s great-niece)

Monday Night Guy’s Group

The men meet regularly on Monday nights from 7 to 9 PM in the church Joan Ernest Youth Building for a time of fellowship, mentoring, and study. The group also participates in mission work and fellowship activities. Come and be part of this great group. Talk to Kyle Jackson for more information.

Dinner Theater Fund Raisers

The goal the Council on Ministries has set for our Dinner Theater Fund Raisers is to hold the next one in August/September. Please look for more information in May and June.

United Methodist Women

The women of the UMW have decided not to have regular meetings during the spring for safety’s sake, as the virus continues in our area. But they are still staying in contact with one another—supporting and lifting up one another. To find out more about the UMW, contact Bethel Kay Bateman at (210) 415-0783.

CMA: Christian Motorcyclists Association

CMA is a non-profit, interdenominational organization, dedicated to reaching people for Christ in the highways and byways through motorcycling. Since its beginning in the mid 70’s, CMA has had over 136,000 applicants for membership and over 1,000 chapters chartered in the United States. CMA is not a motorcyclist club but a ministry. Robert Hunt is our church contact for the local chapter of the Christian Motorcyclists Association.

Run for the Son – Saturday, May 1

On Saturday, May 1, 2021, motorcyclists from all over the United States and Canada will participate in the thirty-third annual Run for the Son, which raises funds to spread the light of Jesus around the world. Those participating in this event will raise money by seeking individuals to sponsor them on a ride, usually taken with their local chapter. Donations are tax-deductible and information about how the funds will be distributed is available at www.cmausa.org. Robert Hunt will be representing our church in this event. Will you help spread the light of Jesus through CMA’s “Run for the Son?”

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Emmaus News – Gathering at Lakehills UMC April 9

The Koinonia Emmaus Community gathering for April will take place at Lakehills UMC on Friday, April 9. Fellowship, music and worship will start at 6:30 PM. This gathering will take place in person and it will also be live streamed. See the Southwest Texas Koinonia Emmaus community website (swtxkoinonia.org) for more information. Mark the date now and be sure to be there to praise the Lord and connect to the Body of Christ. Also, a reminder that due to the pandemic, and heavy restrictions at the Mt. Wesley retreat center, both our spring men’s walk and our fall women’s walk have been moved from 2021 to 2022. We will let you know the new dates once they are set.

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Communion Revision Went Well

During this time of transition, we are serving communion in two ways: through the communion packets we have been using during the last year, and, starting on Holy Thursday and Easter, we offer communion up front. After having their hands sanitized by a third person, the servers, wearing masks, handed out piece of bread from a common loaf, and small glasses of juice. Our plan is to continue to offer communion in these two ways for the coming months.

Thank you to Kirk and Tawana Jackson for preparing communion.

If you would like to have a communion packet delivered to you prior to Communion Sunday, please let Becky Escalante or Suzie Sollock know, or call the church office at 830-772-3345

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A Big Thank You to Irma Bayne and Our Easter Choir

On the Lookout for Musicians and Singers

If you can play guitar, bass, keyboard or percussion; If you can sing solo or backup; the church is looking for you. Just talk to Joseph Morrow, Irma Bayne, or call the church office. We could really use your help.



Highway Trash Pickup – Saturday April 10

Prayer Garden Thanks - Thank you to Gibby Moreno for fixing the broken water faucet in the prayer garden; to Scott Martin for cutting back dead branches and vines and weeding; to Suzie Sollock for adding new flowers and plants.

National Day of Prayer - Thursday, May 6, is National Day of Prayer. Please look in next month’s newsletter for details about this event and mark this day on your calendar.

Alcoholics and Narcotics Anonymous - While Narcotics Anonymous, which normally met on Tuesdays at 6 PM, has not resumed meeting because of Covid, Alcoholic Anonymous has resumed and meets on Wednesday evenings at 7 PM in the youth building.

Free Counseling for Women From a Biblical Perspective

Linda Martin has completed the first phase in certification as a Biblical counselor. If you have questions about Biblical counseling, or are struggling and would like to consider Biblical counseling with her, she can be contacted by email (lindamartin9262@sbcglobal.net) or phone or text.

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.

Easter Lily Dedications

From the Alexander
and Jackson families in memory of Kitty Alexander

From Linda Bahlmann
in memory of George Bahlmann and Lee Craig

From Irma Bayne in honor of Kellie Meyer

From Irma Bayne
in honor of Joseph,
Amanda and Fiona Morrow

From the Bennett Family in memory of Bill Bennett

From Catherine Carroll in memory of Alfred Carroll

From Catherine Carroll
in honor of her kids and grandkids

From Ricardo Castillo in memory of Encarnacion and
Francisca Castillo and Priscilla Carreon

From the Escalantes in honor of those God will place in
our path to share the love of His Son, Jesus

From the Escalantes for their family, the Honns and
Escalantes, for their loving care and support

From the Escalantes in honor of the Lytle United
Methodist church, for their servant's hearts, wisdom,
and encouragement done in love through Jesus Christ

From Becky Escalante to her husband
for his courageous strength, gentle spirit
and for always making us all laugh

From Jeanice Farmer in memory of Ruble Farmer

From Jeanice Farmer in memory of Jeffrey Farmer

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

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 John and Rachel Martin

From Terry Miles in memory of Joshua Miles

From Billy and Linda Stewart in memory of
J. D. and Frenchy Grant

From Billy and Linda Stewart
In honor of their children, grandchildren
and great-grandchildren

From Lisa and Mike Wells
in memory of lost loved ones,
and in honor of their loving family