

Lytle United Methodist Church
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AUGUST 2021

Scary Summer Stepping-Stones



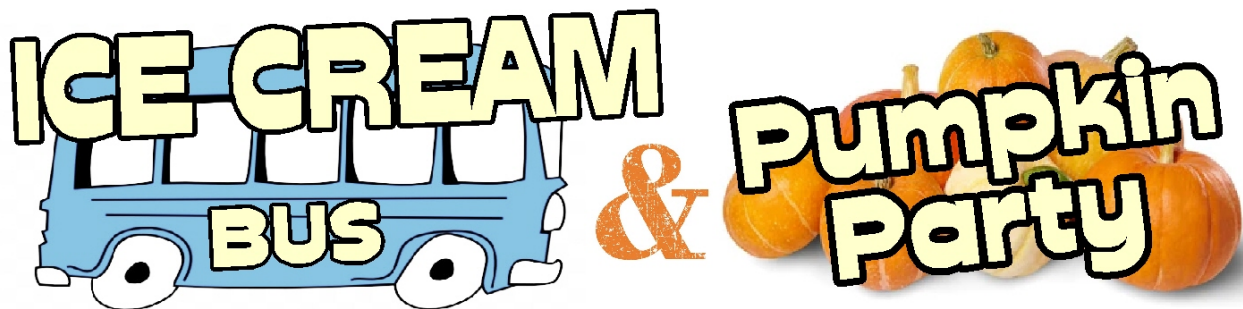
It was May. I looked to the far shore, September, and then I looked down at the four stones I had to get over to get to the safety of dry ground. Those four slippery stones? A Community Fish Fry, Vacation Bible School, A Church Fund Raising Campaign, and Music, Art and Drama Camp. “We will never get enough volunteers because Covid is still a big fear.” “No one will show up.” “We won’t raise enough money.” “I have to make phone calls asking people for help.” “People will say no.” “I’ll make a fool of myself.” Aaaacccckkkkk!

So what are your slippery stones? Financial issues or work problems? Health concerns or ministry opportunities? Family?

Something else? We all have stones we are called to cross. Someone once said, “Courage isn’t the lack of fear, it’s about going despite our fear.” I think trust in God is a lot like that. We sing songs in children’s Sunday school like, “He’ll always guide you and stay right beside you—Trust in the Lord with your H-E-A-R-T,” and these songs are absolutely true, but I think “doubt” is part of the human condition in this fallen world. While I appreciate the episode of David facing down Goliath with no doubts, I think I appreciate Moses at the burning bush a lot more. Moses expresses four different doubts...to God Himself. Yet despite his doubts, Moses went, because his trust in God was greater than his doubts.

I think that’s the point. Trust is not about having no doubts, or even about growing to the point where we have no doubts—it’s about taking the first... and second steps, despite our doubts. Then, when we’re past that particular slippery stone, we have the joy of singing, “He did guide me, He did stay right beside me.” I knew He would all the time.

Grace and Peace,
 Scott



We are continuing our “Catching the Wave” Campaign in the Fall as we seek to reach the new people moving to Lytle with the Good News of Jesus Christ and the joy of Christian Fellowship. In our “Ice Cream Bus and Pumpkin Party” project we will be going out to them, and then calling them in to us.

Ice Cream Bus

Sunday October 10, 2 to 5 PM
and Sunday October 17, 2 to 5 PM

On both Sundays we will be packing our church bus with ice cream, and volunteers will be traveling to three spots around the Lytle area each Sunday to hand out free ice cream cones.

Along with the ice cream we will make connections, share the Good News and invite people to the church parking lot for our October 24 "Pumpkin Party."

Pumpkin Party

Sunday October 24, 2 to 5 PM

On the final Sunday we will park the ice cream bus in the church parking lot for a Pumpkin Party, featuring:

Pumpkin Painting
A Corn Hole or Washer Throw Competition
Pumpkin Pinatas Face Painting
Needle in the Haystack for Little Kids
Music Bounce Castle and More
and Lots and Lots of Ice Cream

Kononia Community Gathering, Friday, August 13th

The next monthly gathering of our own Koinonia Emmaus Community will be on August 13th at St. Paul Lutheran church in Hondo. Fellowship, food, 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.



Starting in October, with the gathering at our church, the meeting day and time will change. The Kononia Community will meet starting in October on Sundays, from 4:30 to 6 PM. To transition to this new meeting day and time, the community will not have a regular meeting in September, but will instead have a picnic gathering on Saturday, September 11, from 11 AM to 1 PM in the Hondo City Park.

Also, a reminder that due to 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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Church Schedule

August 2, Monday - Food Pantry Day, 6 to 7 PM

August 3, Tuesday - Council on Ministries meeting

August 13, Friday - Emmaus Community Gathering at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Hondo. Worship, food and fellowship at 6:30 PM

August 16, Monday - Food Pantry Day, 6 to 7 PM

September 14 - Sing! Bible Study Begins.

October 3 - Visit by Mike and Cindy Williams
- Life Chain, 2 to 3 PM

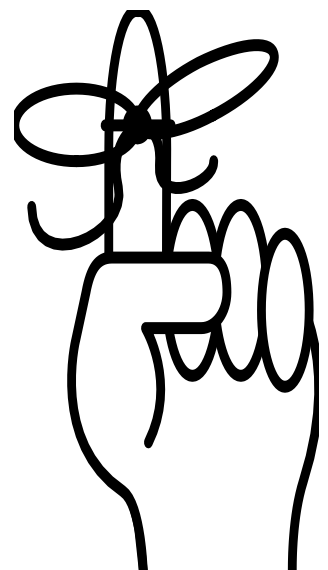
October 6, Wednesday - M.A.D. Club begins, 4 to 6 PM.

October 10 - Ice Cream Bus Project, 2 to 5 PM.

October 12, Tuesday - Pregnancy Care Center Banquet.

October 17 - Ice Cream Bus Project, 2 to 5 PM.

October 24 - Pumpkin Party, 2 to 5 PM.



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Youth Schedule

Youth Breakfast Taco Sales on August 15th: Bowing to the hungry demands of the congregation, the youth are resuming their once-a-month breakfast taco sales. Stop by the fellowship hall after worship to support our youth and satisfy your appetite with the purchase of your favorite breakfast taco (or tacos).

Ice Skating Trip: Meet at the church at 1 PM, return at 6 PM. Come and cool down in August!

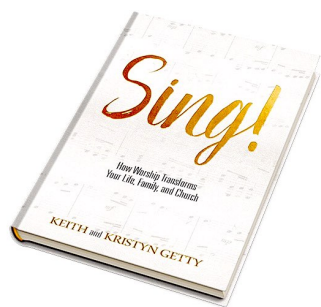
August 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1 U.M.Y.F. At The Church 4:00 pm-6:00 pm	2	3	4	5	6	7	
8 U.M.Y.F. At The Church 4:00 pm-6:00 pm	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15 TACO SALES U.M.Y.F. At The Church 4:00 pm-6:00 pm	16	17	18	19	20	21	
22 Ice Skating Trip Meet at the church at 1 PM	23	24	25	26	27	28	
29 U.M.Y.F. At The Church 4:00 pm-6:00 pm	30	31					



Congratulation to the newest member of our congregation,
Zachary Davis, who was baptized on Saturday, July 24

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New Bible Study Being Offered
Using the Book “Sing!” by Keith and Kristyn Getty

**Tuesday Evenings, 7 to 8:30 PM at the church,
facilitated by Joseph Morrow
Starts Tuesday, September 14**

Singing is one of the most commanded acts in scripture. A congregation that gains a greater understanding of why they sing see singing as an opportunity to proclaim the gospel together in obedience to God. *Sing!* guides individual church members together with their congregation on a campaign to declare with one voice, "This is why we *Sing!*"

Talk to Joseph for more information, or simply come on September 14 at 7 PM.

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The Kitty Project Church Renovation

Thank you one and all for your generosity. We are still accepting donations towards this project, but so far we have received gifts and pledges totally \$40,000. Adding this to the \$20,000 from the church budget gives us \$60,000 to accomplish the project. Those who have donated to this special project include:

Jim Alexander, Kirk and Tawana Jackson, Kyle and Diana Jackson, John Yorke, Glenn and Connie Norton, “Burke” Burkhardt, Jeanice Farmer, Carol McDonald, Betty Kroeger, David and Rose Lynn, Ed and Lisa Garner, Katherine Carroll, Felix and Becky Escalante, Rex Mayhew, Ricardo Castillo, Brad and Nan Boyd, Billy and Linda Stewart, Wanda Yoast memorials, Linda Bahlmann, Sissy Joyce, Carl Ernest, Marty Bennett, Frank and Pam Wanjura, Bob and Garnett Wagner, Chuck and Irma Bayne, Scott and Linda Martin, Jim and Debbie Pruett, Brent and Ginger Meyer, Claude and Michele Brown, Jack and Bethel Kay Bateman, Bobby and Suzie Sollock

Please let the office know if you have donated and are not on this list so we can make sure your gift is put in the right account.

The Kitty Project:

Part A – Renovate the Sunday School Space: Install new carpet, window blinds, lights, and updated child-safe electrical outlets; and paint.

Part B – Renovate the church entranceway: Replace wood paneled walls and tile ceiling with sheetrock; move electrical conduit into the ceiling; install new recessed lighting; and paint.

Part C – Renovate the main building bathrooms: Install new vanities, counters, faucets, and lights; revise the ceiling; and paint.

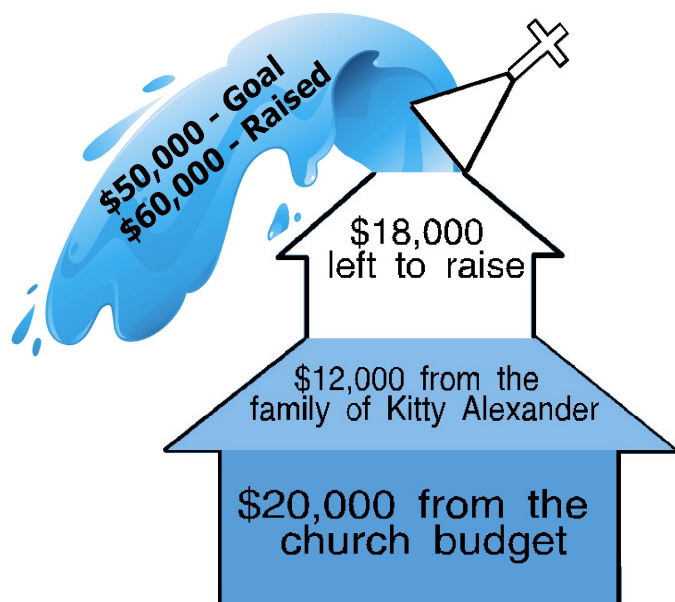
Work has begun, as volunteers clean out closets and rooms in preparation for painting. The plan right now is for classroom painting and the entranceway renovations to occur at the same time, with new light fixtures, new blinds, and carpeting to follow.

Thank you to everyone in the church, and please be patient as the work proceeds. Please keep our building committee, our Trustees, and our contractors in your prayers.

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Food Pantry Ministry Continues to Serve

Our food pantry continues to help between 60 and 100 families twice a month. In August our regular food pantry days are August 2 and 16. 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 with your labor, your prayers and through your donations to the church.

Prayer Concerns

- **Family and friends of Wanda Yoast, who died on June 28**
- **Eric Mangold family**—he committed suicide this week
- **Family and friends of Robert E. Mumme and Alfred Aguinaga, both died recently**
- **Family and friends of Arthur Bowen who is on hospice and not expected to live long**
- **Ricardo Castillo**—fractured vertebra, leg pain, may need surgery
- **Amanda Morrow**—recovering from COVID at home
- **Rosemarie Smith** (Connie Norton’s mother)—difficulty with side effects of cancer treatment
- **Rose Thumann** (Nan Boyd’s mother)—chemo side effects
- **Gibbs family**—grandfather had a stroke, son had a heart attack and daughter has possible spread of breast cancer
- **Suzie Sollock’s father**—in rehab after hospitalization
- **Natalie**—shoulder injury, no health insurance
- **Michelle Keith’s mother**—treatment for thyroid eye disease
- **Brandon Johnson**—weakness, having work up
- **Betty Kroeger**—breast cancer, sugary follow-up
- **Adrian** (son of friend of Chris Brauchle)—brain tumor
- **Elaine** (Betty Kroeger’s sister-in-law)—in assisted living, not doing well
- **Betty and Roger Calk**—health concerns
- **Irma Bayne**—back surgery postponed
- **Linda Bahlmann**—back pain, vertigo
- **Wanda Craig** (Linda Bahlmann’s niece)—cancer, starting chemo
- **Kristy Salazar** (friend of Suzie Sollock)—depression
- **Sharon Berry’s mother** (friend of Connie Norton)—cancer getting worse
- **Lisa Wells**—cancer • **Lois Wanjura**—would love window visits
- **For those dealing with addiction and their families**
- **Kylee Barrera** (Margaret Wilson’s niece)— leukemia and bladder cancer
- **Eddie Simons** (Ian’s grandfather)—recurrence and spread of brain tumor
- **Michele Brown**—cancer • **Our home-bound church folks**
- **Our 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 Soldiers and Civilians Working with the Military

- **Ian Simons**—Air Force • **Brandon Hunt**—Army Reserves
- **Ross Moffitt** (Chris and Fred Brauchle grandson)—Air Force • **William Reichel**—Army, in Germany
- **Forrest Keith**—Kevin Keith’s son, Navy • **Kyle Pringle**—Army
- **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)

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Children’s Sunday School Going Strong!

Children’s Sunday school is going strong. It takes place after worship, from 11:15 AM to 12:15 PM. We have just finished a year-long journey through the Bible called “Digging into the Heart of God,” and are now starting a new study called “Foundations of Faith.” In this wonderful Bible material, we dig into a Bible



episode or teaching, then apply the learning to the kid’s everyday life. We start in the sanctuary with an opening and a video, then head to Bible exploration and application, and finishing with a lesson application craft. See you Sunday!

We Are Looking for More Children’s Teachers and Assistants Talk to the Pastor if you would be willing to help!

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New Convection Oven and Refrigerator for Church Kitchen



The convection oven has not worked right for a long time, and the refrigerator leaks like a sieve, so the church has voted to replace both units, which are both quite expensive. The Trustees agreed to pay for half the cost, and the other half will come from the church memorial account. Thank you to everyone whose contributions to the church have helped pay for these upgrades.



And thank you to our church cooks who use this equipment for so many different

occasions to make such delicious food!

Our First Official “Catch the Wave” Event
Free Community Fish Fry
Sunday, June 27, 11 to 2 PM



Thank you to everyone who helped with our first ever community “Free Fish Fry.” Invite cards were handed out around our community and lots of people showed up. This first major event in our “Catch the Wave” Campaign was a way of meeting new people in our community. We met them as we handed out free tickets to this event, and we met them as they attend this event.

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Vacation Bible School 2021, July 5-9



Vacation Bible school was a great celebration. We had 65 kids in attendance plus over 30 youth and adults. We would like to thank all the adult and youth volunteers; the congregation that prayed and paid for VBS; and all the parents who brought their children to learn about God.

- Monday** – Jesus’ Power Helps Us Do Hard Things!
- Tuesday** – Jesus’ Power Gives Us Hope!
- Wednesday** – Jesus’ Power Helps Us Be Bold!
- Thursday** – Jesus’ Power Lets Us Live Forever!
- Friday** – Jesus’ Power Helps Us Be Good Friends!

Our youth and adult volunteers included Amanda Morrow, Joseph Morrow, Chessa Mapes, Randi Davis, Lisa Meyer, Suzie Sollock, Bobby Sollock, Eric Carlson, Lisa Garner, Tiffany Moreno, Bethel Kay Bateman, Terry Miles, Jennifer Noll, Diana Jackson, Chris Brauche, Linda Martin, Juliana Lingo, Kaitlyn Powell, Auslyn Beezer, Colleen Beazer, Elyssa Beazer, Victoria Hughes, Elena Hughes, Linda Martin, Kellie Meyer, Ginger Meyer, Shelle McMillan, Gibby Moreno, Scott Martin, Robert Hunt, and others.

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Free M.A.D. Camp
July 19-23

Our M.A.D. summer children's program (Music, Art and Drama) was a wonderful success. All week long the children participated in art projects, music and drama, as well as some fun games and refreshments. The center of the camp was the preparation of a musical called “Spend Awhile on the Nile.” The message of the play was the truth about God’s enduring love and faithfulness. All of the kids learned the music, some worked on the drama portion of the musical, and everyone worked on many individual art projects, including painting, stained glass, etc... We thank our leaders: Drama—Kellie Meyer, Music—Irma Bayne and Chris Brauchle, Art—Scott Martin, Lisa Meyer and Lisa Garner, Food—Shelle McMillan. We also thank all of our other volunteers: adults and youth. We especially thank the Lord for making this sixth year of the MAD program a success.



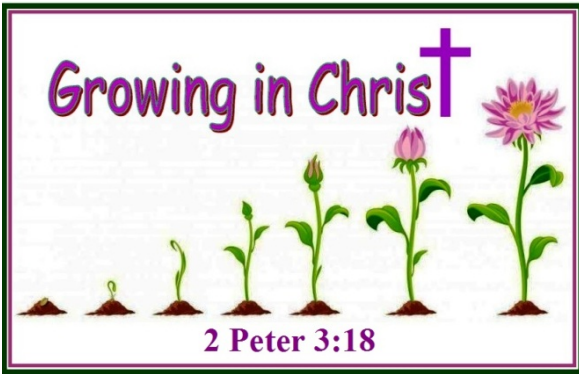
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Lytle ISD School Convocation

The school convocation is a time where businesses and churches have the opportunity to introduce themselves and thank the Lytle ISD teachers and other employees for their service to the community. Our

church made cookies to hand out and we thank those who were involved in many different ways: Ann VanWinkle, Linda Bahlmann, Debbie Pruett, Marty Bennett, Beverly Miller, Laurie Beth and Scott Scantlin, Melissa Hageman, Linda Martin, Terry Miles, Suzie Sollock, Margaret Wilson and Chris Brauchle

Individual Spiritual Goals for 2021



So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in Him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. - Colossians 2:6-7

Thanks to Tiffany Moreno and Amanda Morrow, we have developed a form to help us all grow deeper in our relationship with God and the Christian Community through “Spiritual Inward Action,” and to “bear much fruit” through “Spiritual

Outward Action.” This form can be found and filled out on our website (lytleumc.org). Those folks who need information from this form, like those who schedule worship lay leaders, will automatically get the information they need. For those who would prefer to fill out a written form, call the church and we will send one to you. As Christians we are called to not be stagnant and self-satisfied. We are called to grow!

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Pregnancy Care Center **2021 CELEBRATING LIFE GALA**



Tuesday, October 12, 2021, 6:00pm – 9:00m,
Witte Museum; May Family Center

*"I looked for a man among them
who would build up the wall
and stand before me in the gap." Ezekiel 22:30*

**If you are interested in attending,
please talk to Scott or Linda Martin.**

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Miscellaneous News and Thanks!

To Kasen Boyd and Kyle Jackson - Kyle is working to improve the drainage by the back door of the church, so it doesn't flood. A drainage pipe will be installed, and the alley will be regraded. Thank you to Kasen Boyd for digging out the trench for the drainage pipe.

Highway Trash Pickup - Thank you to everyone who helped with our highway trash pick-up on Saturday, July 31. It went quickly, in part because the grass was so high we couldn't see the trash. Oh well!

UMW Meeting - The United Methodist Women are taking their normal summer break, and will begin meeting again in September.

Monday Night Guy's Group - All of the men of the church, and friends, are invited to a weekly men's gathering. It takes place on Monday evenings starting at 7 PM in the Youth Building and dinner is served. The focus is fellowship as the guys lift one another up.

Music, Art and Drama Program Resumes in October - Our Summer M.A.D. Camp went great, culminating with a wonderful production of "Spend Awhile on the Nile." Now it's time to gear up for our fall M.A.D. Club. M.A.D. Club meets on Wednesday afternoons from 4 to 6 PM. It is open to 2nd graders through 7th graders and starts October 6th.

Regular Worship Meetings Open to All - We meet on the second to the last Wednesday of the month at noon in the choir room. Our next meeting will be September 22nd.