

Lytle United Methodist Church  
 P.O. Box 608  
 Lytle, Texas 78052-0608  
 (830) 772-3345  
 Lytleumc.org  
 Facebook.com/lytleumc  
 19341 Somerset St., Lytle

---

SEPTEMBER 2021

---



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.

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

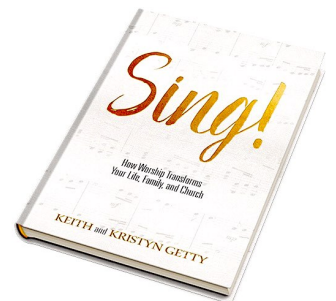
On the final Sunday we will park the ice cream bus in the church parking lot for a Pumpkin Party, featuring:

- Pumpkin Painting
- A Corn Hole Tournament for Adults
- Pumpkin Pinatas
- Face Painting
- Needle in the Haystack for Little Kids
- Music
- Bounce Castle
- and More
- And Hot Dogs and Lots and Lots of Ice Cream

\*\*\*\*\*

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

**Tuesday Mornings, 10 to 11:30 AM and**  
**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 10 AM or 7 PM.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Life Chain, Sunday, October 3**



This year the Life Chain will take place on October 3, from 2 to 3 PM, and will take place in Lytle! Meet at the True Value parking lot around 1:45 PM to receive your sign and take your position along Main Street. The purpose of the chain, a yearly event, is to visibly show that the church is united in its *Biblical* stand for the sanctity of unborn human life. For more information about the Chain, talk to Linda Martin.

## Child/Youth Protection Training

Our church, in conjunction with our Rio Texas Annual Conference, has put in place common sense practices and training to protect our children and youth:

- Step 1 – register on [safegatherings.com](http://safegatherings.com) and provide information for background checks.
- Step 2 – a slide show training you go through on your computer.
- Step 3 – a live training class that can be easily taken on your computer as a webinar.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Water Heater Fixed in Youth Building!



A big thank you to Brent Meyer for replacing the tankless water heater in the youth building. It has been kind of a saga. At first we thought it was an electrical problem and Ricardo Castille checked it out. Not an electrical problem. Then we thought it was clogged up due to the calcium in the water—nope. Finally, we bit the bullet and called a plumber. Bad news—totally broken; Good news—under warranty. A replacement unit was procured and handed to Brent, who, with a few adaptions, got it in and working. Yeah!

\* \* \* \* \*

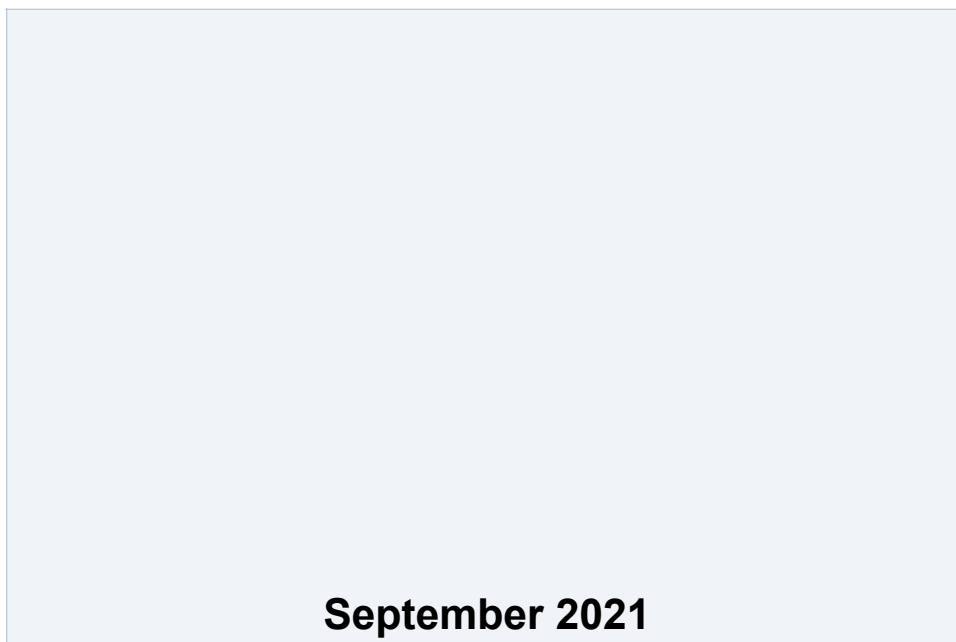
## Church Schedule

- September 6, Monday - LABOR DAY, Food Pantry, 6 to 7 PM**
- September 7, Tuesday - Council on Ministries meeting
- September 11, Saturday - Emmaus “Big Event” picnic at Hondo City Park, 11 AM to 1 PM.
- September 14 - Sing! Bible Study Begins.  
10 to 11:30 AM at the church  
or 7 to 8:30 PM at the church
- September 20, Monday - Food Pantry Day, 6 to 7 PM**
- October 3 - Covered-dish lunch  
- Life Chain, 2 to 3 PM
- October 10 - Ice Cream Bus Project, 2 to 5 PM  
- Emmaus Gathering at our church, 4:30 to 6 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 in the church parking lot.



\* \* \* \* \*

## Youth Schedule



Youth Breakfast Taco Sales on September 19th: Bowing to the hungry demands of the congregation, the youth have resumed 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).

### September 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4

Youth Breakfast Taco Sales on September 19th:  
 Bowing to the hungry demands of the congregation, the youth have resumed 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).

## September 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>5</b> No U.M.Y.F. For Labor Day Weekend	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> U.M.Y.F. At The Church 4:00 pm-6:00 pm	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> TACO SALES At The Church 4:00 pm-6:00 pm	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> U.M.Y.F. Special Outing Details pending	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>		

# The Kitty Project Moving Along

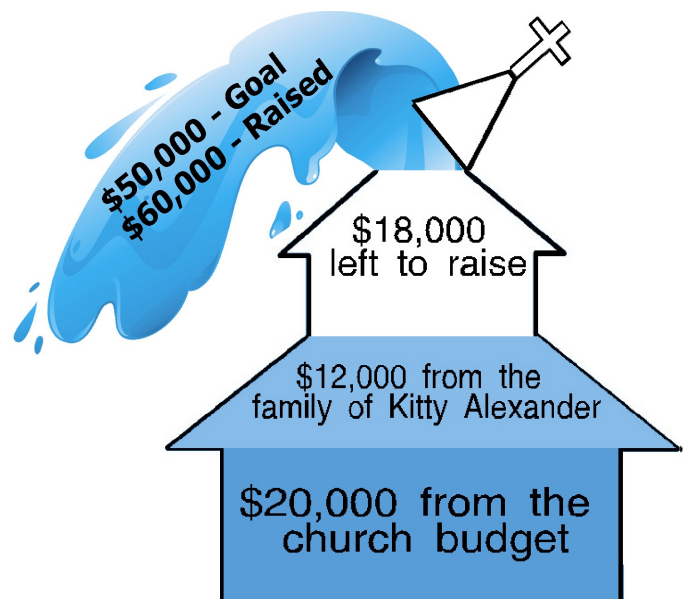


Our church renovation project is moving along smoothly thanks to our faithful and tolerant contractor and to lots of loving church volunteers. The big job of removing the paneling and ceiling tiles in the entrance, parlor, hallway and narthex, and replacing it with sheetrock has been accomplished. Most of the wall painting has been done, and the trim painting is in the works. Additional trim for the floors and ceiling in the places where the paneling was removed is next on the agenda. A big hunk of work was added to the job when it was decided to replace the paneling in the choir room with sheetrock. A really big thank you to the youth and youth leaders for removing this old and smelly paneling. All of the electrical work has been done by Ricardo Castillo and his assistance, youth leader Maribel Gomez, and it has been a ton of work, including new lights, switches and lots of wire runs. In the process they discovered and replaced worn out and sometimes faulty wiring. God has truly blessed us through them. The bathrooms are being worked on, and carpeting should be completed in two weeks. There is a lot of work that has been done, and is being done, and we thank everyone. We especially thank our building committee: Nan Boyd, Tawana Jackson, and Diana Jackson

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.

We thank everyone for their prayers, and we thank God for blessing us with the resources and the spirit to see this work through. May we use these renovations to bring glory to the Lord

## Prayer Concerns

- Family and friends of Arthur Bowen who died on August 5
- Family and friends of Sandra Cogburn, who died on August 15. Prayers for Bryan and David Cogburn.
- Bethel Kay Bateman—health concerns and hospitalization.
- Martha Foster and Shelle McMillan—both with COVID
- For those with COVID and in quarantine for COVID
- For the Christians of Afghanistan and for the Afghans
- For those impacted by Hurricane Ida
- Sharon Simpson—recovering from stroke
- Jeannie Simmons—

health

- Ginger Meyer's nephew, Steven
- Megan Gibbs--Hodgkin's lymphoma
- Lisa Meyers' son, Johnny—recovering from surgery
- Ricardo Castillo—fractured vertebra, leg pain, may need surgery
- Betty Kroeger—breast cancer
- Adrian (son of friend of Chris Brauchle)—brain tumor
- Elaine (Betty Kroeger's sister-in-law)—in assisted living, not doing well
- 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
- Rosemarie Smith (Connie Norton's mother)—difficulty with side effects of cancer treatment
- 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
- Rose Thumann (Nan Boyd's mother)—chemo side effects
- Kylee Barrera (Margaret Wilson's niece)— leukemia and bladder 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
- Michele Brown—cancer
- Our shut-ins
- 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)

\* \* \* \* \*



### Our Church Renovation: Noah's Ark or Titanic?

I ask myself this question as I look around my office, which is now set up in the fellowship hall—the fellowship hall which looks a lot like the youth yard sale gone very very wrong. The church is in chaos right now, but order is coming, and God is with us. Definitely Noah's Ark, not the Titanic.

Covid: Noah's Ark or Titanic? Linda and I just got back from vacation and our last stop was Boston. Good News—Boston has not become a police state. When it comes to mask use, business closures and attitude, Boston felt a lot like Texas. Covid is moving into the flu category. Yes it can be deadly, yes there will be tragedies and times of resurgence, yes it's

here for the long term, but we can deal with it. Over 95% of Covid hospitalizations are those who are not vaccinated. There is a lot of chaos out there (especially in the media and online), but order is coming, and God is with us. Noah's Ark, not the Titanic.

Our Nation: Noah's Ark or Titanic? This one's harder to call. It sure feels at times like those two termites who came on board with the rest of us animals have become a horde who are eating away the hull. But God is still with us, and His grace and power are enormous. 29 years ago I wrote an article for the local paper proclaiming that our country might be circling the drain. The editor placed his column next to mine, and it began, "There is always some idiot out there predicting the end of this country...." I think he had a point. God is still with us and we'll keep afloat... if we don't give up or give in.

Your Life: Noah's Ark or Titanic? Twelve guys were convinced their boat was the Titanic. A huge storm was upon them, and they knew they were going down. Then one of them thought to wake up Jesus, who was sleeping on the deck. Jesus stretched, then held up his arms, and the storm calmed. Your life: definitely Noah's Ark, not the Titanic. Just don't forget to ask Jesus for help on a regular basis.

Grace and Peace,  
Scott



**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.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Covered-dish, October 3rd**

Following the service on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, we will be having a covered-dish lunch in the fellowship hall. Don't forget the life-chain that afternoon from 2 to 3 PM.



Thanks to John LeBlanc (See 1Peter 5:8) 05-11-2006  
**DAVE AND ARDY PROWL AROUND THE  
 POTLUCK LIKE ROARING LIONS, SEEKING  
 WHAT THEY CAN DEVOUR**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Koinonia Big Event, Saturday September 11**

Join the entire community at the Big Event, and Celebration of the reopening of the Emmaus Community, on Saturday September 11th, 2021, at the Hondo City Park from 11 AM until 1 PM. There will be music and fun. Covered side dish or desserts are welcome.



**Koinonia Gatherings Moved to Sunday Afternoons**

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 starting in October. Let's get this new time off to a great start. Be there, or rather be here, on October 10<sup>th</sup>. See the Southwest Texas Koinonia Emmaus community website ([swtxkoinonia.org](http://swtxkoinonia.org)) for more information.

**Koinonia Gatherings Here at Lytle UMC, October 10th**

Starting in October, with the gathering at our church, the meeting day and time will change. The Koinonia Community will meet starting in October on Sundays, from 4:30 to 6 PM. Mark the date now, and be sure to be here to praise the Lord and connect to the Body of Christ.

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.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Food Pantry Ministry Continues to Serve**

Our food pantry continues to help between 60 and 100 families twice a month. In September our regular food pantry days are September 6 and 20. 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.







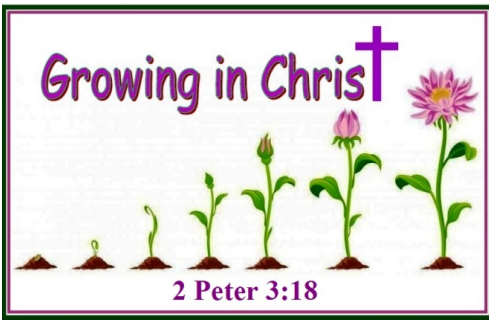
## **New Convection Oven and Refrigerator Have been Purchased and Installed**



A new convection oven and refrigerator have been purchased and installed in the kitchen, paid for by the church trustees fund and the church memorial account. The refrigerator is in use already but we still need to hook-up the gas and exhaust for the convection oven. Thank you to everyone whose contributions to the church have made these upgrades possible.



\* \* \* \* \*



## **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!

\* \* \* \* \*

## **Miscellaneous News and Thanks!**

**A Big Thank You to Joseph Morrow** - Thank you to Joseph for subbing for the pastor for two weeks in August while Scott and Linda were on vacation. It is a blessing to have people willing to step up, and we are very blessed by Joseph and Amanda.

**Annual Church Conference, November 7, in Devine** - Last year our Church Conference took place via Zoom, but this year we will be having a two church in-person church conference, led by our district superintendent. It will be taking place at the Devine UMC on Sunday November 7 at 6:30 PM.

**UMW Meeting** - The United Methodist Women have temporarily delayed resuming their meetings after their summer break due to the building renovations and Covid.

**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 Postponed to the Spring** - The Council on Ministries decided not to have a fall session of MAD so as not to interfere or exasperate Covid problems at the schools. Hopefully things will be better for the school and kids in the Spring and we can resume this wonderful midweek program.

**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.