

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

AUGUST 2019

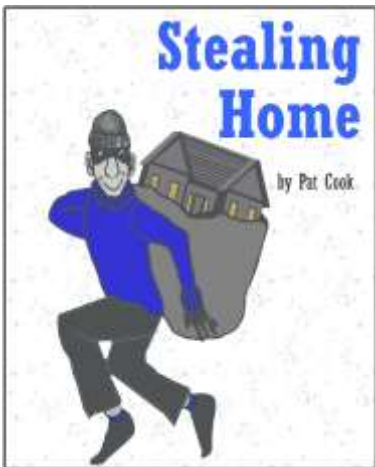
I need VBS. Not all the work, but the yearly reminder that “God is Bigger than the Boogie Man,” as the VeggieTales song goes. Heading into Vacation Bible School I am usually overwhelmed with worry: “How can I get enough volunteers?” “Have I forgotten anything?” “Will the air conditioning break down?” Then once again God does His thing and it all works out.

Often our tasks and our problems seem overwhelming, as big as all of Texas. But the good news is God is a lot bigger than Texas. Linda and I saw this t-shirt pictured here in a shop window on our Alaskan trip and we got a good laugh. I picture God looking down on our worries and our problems and saying “Aren’t they cute?” Not belittling them, or us, but simply reflecting His truth: Nothing is impossible with God, and this life is just the beginning.

I need VBS. I wish I was so strong I didn’t need the yearly reminder, but we live in a fallen world and troubles and worries abound. Thank you Lord that you’re bigger than the boogie man, and thank you for the yearly reminder.



Grace and peace,
 Scott



A Comedy Dinner Theater Experience

To raise funds for Military Ministry,
Saturday, Sept. 7 at 6 PM or Sunday, Sept. 8 at 5 PM

Tickets are on sale this Sunday, or call (210) 772-3345 to make reservations for “Stealing Home”—burglars, funeral homes and family. Rehearsals take place Sundays at 2 PM and if you are interested in helping with the production, with cooking, or serving, please talk to director Connie Norton. Remember that all the funds raised will help our active and retired military through Bible studies, Bible resources, Christian marriage counseling and retreats, and PTSD recovery through CRU Military Ministry. Show you care and help promote this comedy dinner theater.

Silent Auction to be held

There will also be a silent auction with this play, since silent auctions are fun and a good source of extra funds for our military ministry. Think about what items you might be willing to donate.

* * * * *

Touching God In Prayer...



Tuesday Morning Prayer Group
at the Church, 9 AM to 10 AM
Come and Join us!

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. - Philippians 4:6-7

Church Schedule

August 5, Monday - Food Pantry Day, 6 to 7 PM.

August 9, Friday - Koinonia Emmaus gathering at Medina Valley UMC in Castroville. Food and fellowship start at 6:30 PM. Come and enjoy the music, worship and fellowship.

August 10, Saturday - Quilt club meets in the fellowship hall.

August 17, Saturday - Women's Walk to Emmaus Team meeting.

August 18 - Worship/Creative Team Meeting after Sunday School – Everyone is invited!

August 19, Monday - Food Pantry Day, 6 to 7 PM.

August 24, Saturday - **Highway Trash Pick-up. Meet at the church at 7:30 AM.**

August 27, Tuesday - Trustees meeting.

September 3, Tuesday - Council on Ministries meeting at 7 PM.

Interactive Dinner Theater to raise funds for military ministry.

September 7, Saturday at 6 PM

September 8, Sunday at 5 PM

September 25, Wednesday - MAD (Music, Art & Drama) Club resumes.

September 28, Saturday - Women's Walk to Emmaus Team meeting.

October 24-27, Thursday evening thru Sunday - Women's Walk to Emmaus in Kerrville.

* * * * *

Youth Schedule

August 2019						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 No U.M.Y.F. Taco Sunday	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 U.M.Y.F. At The Church 4:00 pm-6:00 pm	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 U.M.Y.F. At The Church 4:00 pm-6:00 pm	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Trip To the Movies	26	27	28	29	30	31

First Sunday Breakfast Taco Sales



The youth group continues to feed the hungry hoards at their "First Sunday Breakfast Taco Sales." They will be selling your favorite breakfast tacos before Sunday school. The next sale is on September 1st.

Trip to the Movies, August 25th

Trip to the movies to see "Overcomer". This is the newest movie produced by the Kendrick Brothers / Provident Films (the same company that produced War Room, Fire Proof and Facing the Giants). Kyle and I have seen it, and it is very, very good. I will let you know what time once the theaters have released their info. I am hoping to work it around play practice. We may have to switch it to Saturday.

Highway Clean-Up

It has now been seven years since our church adopted highway 463, starting from the Lytle water tower and heading out beyond Lake Shore Estates. Our next pick-up day, will be Saturday, August 24. Meet at the church at 7:30 AM for breakfast tacos. We will be done by 9:30 AM. Thank you to all our volunteers.



* * * * *

“Roar: Life is Wild-God is Good” Vacation Bible School, July 15-19



Vacation Bible school was a great celebration. We had 83 kids in attendance plus over 45 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.

VBS again consisted of five stations: Wild Bible Adventures, Stampede Sports, KidVid Cinema/Music Mayhem, Imagination Station and Hungry Herd Cafe, plus the opening and closing assembly.



Monday – When life is unfair... God is good!

Bible Story: The Israelites are slaves for the Egyptians. (Exodus 1-6)

Key Verse: “The Lord is good, a strong refuge when trouble comes” – Nahum 1:7

Tuesday – When life is scary... God is good!

Bible Story: God sends plagues on Egypt (Exodus 7-12)

Key Verse: “Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for You are close beside me.” – Psalm 23:4



Wednesday – When life changes... God is good!

Bible Story: The Israelites enter the wilderness (Exodus 14-17)

Key Verse: “Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! His faithful love endures forever.” – Psalm 106:1



Thursday – When life is sad... God is good!

Bible Story: Jesus dies and comes back to life (John 16-21)

Key Verse: “The Lord is close to the brokenhearted.” – Psalm 34:18

Friday – When life is good... God is good!

Bible Story: The Israelites enter the Promised Land (Joshua 3-4)

Key Verse: “Remember the Lord, who is great and glorious” – Nehemiah 4:14

Our youth and adult volunteers included Amanda Morrow, Chessa Mapes, Kitty Alexander, Trisha Broach, Raquel Alfaro, Alexis Hunt, Randi Davis, Linda Stewart, Billy Stewart, Suzie Sollock, Tiffany Moreno, Deb Herman, McKinzy Bazan, Marty Bennett, Bill Bennett, Bethel Kay Bateman, Margaret Wilson, Jocelyn Harris, Destiny Carlson, Nicole LaFond, Becky Escalante, Carmen Swift, Lisa Meyer, Terry Miles, Victoria Hughes, Connie Norton, April Bodie, Kaden Moore, Lisa Wells, Cindy Hughes, Linda Martin, Kellie Meyer, Maribel Gutierrez, Orlando Gutierrez, Saydee Warren, Destiny Gomez, Jessica Crouch, Connie Scott, Shelle McMillan, Scott Martin, Jerry Flores, Debbie Hunt and Robert Hunt.

* * * * *

Emmaus News: Upcoming Woman’s Walk!

The monthly gathering of the Koinonia Emmaus Community will be at Medina Valley UMC in Castroville on Friday, August 9. Mark the date now and be sure to be at the gathering for lots of music, praise and testimonies, and some fun, food and fellowship. Fellowship starts at 6:30 PM.

The women's walk is just 2 months away, at Mt Wesley, October 24-27. Michelle Keith is the lay director, and several women from our church are on the team. This would be a great walk to attend as a pilgrim, so talk to the pastor or someone else who has already gone and get your application submitted. If you would like more information about Emmaus, a very special Christian retreat, call the church office, pick-up a brochure in the church entranceway, or see the Emmaus bulletin board.

A New Mobile Refrigerator Purchased

The church has come up with a creative way to provide more refrigerator space for both our dinner theaters and our regular food pantry—a refrigerator on wheels! Thank you to our church leaders for this great solution, and for Kyle Jackson and company for being willing to move it twice a year.

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 at the church and dinner is served. The focus is fellowship and study as the guys gather to lift one another up in their daily Christian walk.

Prayer Concerns

- **Ronnie Litteton**—death of daughter
- **Bill Bennett**—diagnosed with lung cancer
- **Ruble Farmer**—transferred to Castroville for rehab Saturday, had cardiac issues in night, back in hospital today
- **Mark Downing** (Nicole LaFond’s father)—had unexpected heart surgery, and other health issues
- **Chuck Bayne**—In rehab, prayers for return home, prayers for Irma as well
- **Michelle Keith’s Mom**—her health, eyesight and travelling to Washington and back
- **Robert Alexander** (Jim Alexander’s brother)—on hospice, moved in with Jim and Kitty
- **Al Garza** (Alexis Hunt’s father)—stage IV cancer, for healing and salvation
- **Debbie Pruett’s son James and wife**—James hospitalized
- **Lisa Wells**—continues on chemotherapy • **Annette Nixon**—healing
- **Vickie Wanjura** (Franklin and Pam’s daughter-in-law)—cancer
- **Amber Moore**— struggling with health condition since January, pray for healing
- **Shep**—young child, in severe pain from Williams Syndrome
- **Fidel Rodriguez**—recovering from bad accident, multiple surgeries
- **Mary Snyder** • **Dorothy White**
- **Ernie Nichols** (good friend of Robert Hunt)—has terminal cancer
- **Laura Farrell**—has benign brain tumor causing major problems
- **Linda Bahlmann**—health and travelling to see her brother Lee
- **Sharon Pilgrim**—breast cancer • **Ann Sollock**—cancer
- **Cruz Gomez**—brain tumor, surgery went well
- **Mark Pringle** (Bethel Kay’s son)—severe stroke, now in rehab
- **Jeannie Simmons**—severe health problems
- **Merry Merz**—cancer • **Rose Lynn**
- **Sunny Sramek** (Dave and Tiffany Johnson’s niece)—18-year-old, missing in Nebraska
- **Virginia Geagenbacher** (GM of VBS students)—stage 3 lymphoma, started chemotherapy
- **Irma Kelley** – stage IV breast cancer • **Martha Foster** (Shelle McMillan’s mother)—dementia
- **Nell Nixon** (Annette’s sister) dementia, poor health, prayers for Annette as well
- **Felix Escalante**—health • **Nancy Burns**—health
- **For United Methodist Church, General Conference and delegates for 2020**
- **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**—joining 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)

* * * * *

Miscellaneous News and Thanks!

Kyle work – A big thank you to Kyle Jackson for fixing a major leak in our church water supply line. Kyle and company all fixed a water leak at the cemetery. It is that time of year when the ground cracks and pipes break. We are very blessed to have Kyle.

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

Music, Art and Drama Program Resumes in September - Our Summer M.A.D. Camp went great, culminating with a wonderful production of “Danny and the Shacks,” the story of the people of Israel in exile in Babylon. 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 6th graders and starts September 25th.

Regular Worship Meetings Open to All – We will be meeting on Sunday, August 18 at 11:30 AM (lunch included) to plan worship for the fall, and we meet every Monday morning from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM to plan weekly worship. Please come to either type of meeting, and help us design Godly worship.

* * * * *



Electrical Update in the Fellowship Hall

Because we increased the size of the fellowship hall many years ago, and added a new air conditioner last year, our electrical system needs a major overhaul. **The power in the fellowship hall will be cut off from Monday, August 12 to Friday, August 16.** The work is being done by our own Ricardo Castillo, licensed electrician. He is donating all his labor, and we received the necessary materials, including a new circuit breaker box, major electrical lines, and new outlets at a reduced price. Thank you to Ricardo and our other church trustees.



Methodist Food Pantry Ministry

Our workers have been terrific, but we can always use more. Just come at 2:30 PM to help sack the groceries or at 5:30 PM to help prepare for the 6 to 7 PM rush on the first and third Mondays in August (August 5 and 19). We could also use help picking up the food from the San Antonio Food Bank. Talk to Billy Stewart or Kyle Jackson if you are available during the day on Mondays. We will again be handing out canned goods, as well as frozen meats and fresh fruits and vegetables, to over 80 families. Thank you for supporting the Methodist Food Pantry.

* * * * *

School Backpack Food Ministry to Start in September

Our church seeks to help the Lytle school system whenever we can and starting in September, we will again be participating in a backpack food ministry. Because of our area, many children will have little food at home over the weekend. Our church will provide a backpack of food for a number of children to take home on Friday afternoons. On Mondays, the backpacks are returned and our church fills them again for the next weekend. The children are selected by the school and the backpacks are handed out by school teachers. Funding for this ministry will come from our food ministry account. We need help with this ministry—specifically people to purchase food, help pack the backpacks, and people willing to donate to our food ministry account.



* * * * *



Ephesians: God's Master Plan

Sunday morning worship during the summer has been focusing on an expository sermon series on the book of Ephesians, which details God's master plan for bringing light into the darkness of the world. Except for breaks to celebrate our MAD and VBS programs, each Sunday we have marched through the book of Ephesians: from Ephesians 1:1 on June 2, to the command to "Put on the Full Armor of God" in Ephesians 6 at the end of August. Come and join us.

* * * * *

New Giving Options

In recognition that many people no longer use checks, two new ways of giving donations to the church, or to church ministries, has been put into place:

1. Online:

- Go to the church website, www.lytleumc.com, and go to the "donate" page. with a link to our giving portal. Once there, you will be able to register and give one time or regularly (for example monthly) by check or credit card.

2. By text from a mobile device:

- Text GIVE or TITHE to 830-224-2780. The GIVE text will give you all the choices of funds (tithes and offerings, youth, etc.); the TITHE text will go directly to tithes and offerings.



Children's Sunday School **The Bible in One Year is taking 15 Months**

Our children's Sunday school program is continuing to go through "The Bible in One Year." Our lesson topics for August are:

- August 11 – John: Jesus Answers Nicodemus' Tough Questions (John 3:1-21)
- August 18 – Matthew: Jesus Sends Out Twelve Disciples (Matthew 10)
- August 25 – Matthew: Jesus Answers a Rich Man's Questions (Matthew 19:16-30)

"Dig In" is designed for great flexibility as the kids experience different activity blocks including: Core Bible Discovery, Deeper Bible, Talk-about Video and crafts. Be sure to bring your children to Sunday school, from 10:15 to 11:15 AM each Sunday.

Cru Military: a caring community passionate about connecting the global military community to Jesus Christ

As our servicemen and women defend our freedom, they face unique challenges. We recognize they need spiritual support and guidance that addresses their specific needs.

Cru Military works with recruits: Cru Military has developed a series of classes that clearly present the gospel to young recruits. Cru Military staff and volunteers serve with Chaplains to build their foundation in Christ.

Cru Military works with Active Duty, National Guard, Reservists & Veterans:

Through small groups, biblical resources, and partnerships with Chaplains, and church-based ministries, Cru Military helps spiritually develop our military men and women through their careers and as veterans. Cru Military provides resources and lay counselor training for recovery from PTSD and combat trauma, as well as resources and seminars to develop and maintain strong covenantal marriages and godly families.

Cru Military works with military families: We provide hope on the home front through our spiritual resources, devotional web-sites, military marriage seminars, small groups, and church-based ministries.

Cru Military works with local churches: Service members and their families need welcoming communities to build them up and when its time, help them transition to civilian life. Cru Military is here to provide churches with training, resources, and strategies.



Lytle UMC supports Cru Military through our summer Comedy Dinner Theater and through our support of Stephen and Karen Dorner. See more information about Cru Military at crumilitary.org.