

Lytle United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 608
Lytle, Texas 78052-0608
(830) 772-3345
Lytleumc.com,
Facebook.com/lytleumc
Worship Sat. Night at 6 PM
Sunday morning at 9 AM

MARCH 2018



What Will Heaven Be Like?

Hint: It won't be anything like the cartoon to the left

Heaven has received a lot of attention in recent years as bestselling books and movies tell the stories of people who claim to have been there. But what does the Bible actually say about Heaven? In his book, *The Real Heaven*, Chip Ingram sets aside the hype and myths and digs into the Scriptures to discover what God actually wants us to know about the hereafter. Most importantly, Chip examines why our understanding of Heaven matters now, in this life. Because what we believe about heaven actually affects us today in more ways than we could have imagined.

Starting April 8, the Sunday after Easter, our church will begin a six week church wide worship and Bible Study venture to learn the scriptural truth about heaven, with the help of Chip Ingram's scholarship. We will have resources for our existing and new small group Bible studies, and we will have some copies of "The Real Heaven" for purchase. The more we understand God's Word about heaven, the more joy we will experience anticipating it and preparing for it here and now.

Scott

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Food Pantry Fund Raiser

Dinner Theater and Silent Auction, April 7 & 8

Armed with a sharply judgmental attitude and a pair of binoculars, homeowner Leona Crump is consumed with anxiety over her new neighbors. Will they be California beatniks? Or paroled drug pushers? Or more frightening yet, perhaps someone with children?! Her worst fears are realized when an odd-ball "hill-folk" family move in across the street. Adding to Leona's exasperation are her daily dealings with her refrigerator-raiding neighbor Paul, the local real estate saleswoman, the mailman, an Avon lady, a police officer, and a paper boy... all, she is sure, who were only put on this earth to annoy her.



This new dinner theater, a fund raiser for the church's food pantry, will take place on Saturday Night, April 7, at 6 PM and Sunday Night, April 8, at 5 PM, and will include dinner. **There will also be a silent auction each night – so think about what items you could donate for the food pantry ministry.** Talk to Ginger Meyer if you have something you would like to donate, and be sure and buy your tickets for the dinner theater this Sunday! Please keep this ministry in your prayers.

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Walk to Emmaus News!

The next Koinonia Emmaus Community gathering will take place at Lakehills UMC on Friday, March 9. The Koinonia community is made up of Emmaus people, from many denominations, who join together on the second Friday of each month (7:30 PM) for a praise-filled community gathering. This year's walks sponsored by our Koinonia Emmaus community will be Men's walk #4, which will take place May 3 through 6, and Women's walk #5, which will take place October 18 through 21. Get your pilgrim and team applications in for these walks, and let's all keep these walks in our prayers. For more information about Emmaus, a very special Christian retreat, see the Emmaus bulletin board or go online.

COVERED-DISH BRUNCH – MARCH 25

Church Schedule

- March 9, Friday - Koinonia Emmaus Community gathering at Lake Hills UMC.
- March 12, Monday - The United Methodist Women will be meeting at 2:30 PM at Bethel Kay Bateman's. Marty Bennett will be leading the program.
- March 18 - Prayer Garden Celebration.
- March 19, Monday - Methodist Food Pantry, 6 to 7 PM.
- March 25 - **Passion/Palm Sunday.**
- **Covered-dish Brunch**
- March 29 - Holy Thursday service at 7 PM.
- April 1 - **EASTER.**
- April 4, Wednesday - **M.A.D. Club play performance at 7 PM.**
- April 7 & 8, Saturday & Sunday - **Dinner Theater and Silent Auction.** A Food Pantry Fundraiser.
- April 8 - Church wide worship and Bible study venture begins: The Real Heaven, by Chip Ingram.
- April 22 - Dedication of tree in honor of Ruby Reichel.
- May 12, Saturday- Church Workday

5K Run/Walk Benefit for AugustHeart

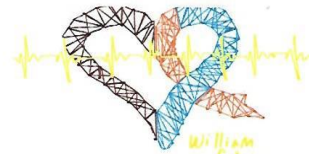
In Memory of



MAY 5th

*William
Cogburn*

@ Lytle High School
18975 West FM 2790 South * Lytle, TX
Registration 7:30 - 8:00 AM **Pre-Reg \$25**
Race Begins @ 8:30 AM **Race Day \$30**



SPONSORED BY LYTLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH YOUTH GROUP

AUGUSTHEART GIVES ACCESS TO FREE LIFESAVING HEART SCREENINGS FOR TEENAGERS BECAUSE THEY KNOW IT SAVES LIVES! PLEASE JOIN US IN REMEMBERING WILLIAM AND HIS PASSION FOR RUNNING AND HIS DEDICATION TO AUGUSTHEART AND THEIR LIFE SAVING SCREENINGS!

COME JOIN THE FUN!

Pre-registration available soon @ run.signup.com

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United Methodist Youth Fellowship Schedule

March 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
					Set up for yard sale and prepare for Bar-Be-Que Plate Sale 4:00 pm -	Yard Sale & Bar-Be-Que Plate Sale 7:00 am - ?
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
No U.M.Y.F.						
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
No U.M.Y.F.						
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Trip to the Movies to see "I Can Only Imagine"						
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
U.M.Y.F. At The Church 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm						

March 2-3: Yard Sale & Bar-b-que Plate Sale Fund-raiser. Come to the church as soon as you can on the 2nd. I will be there by 4 p.m. We will set up for the yard sale, prepare potato salad and beans for the plate sale, spend the night at the church and have the yard sale and Bar-b-que Plate sale on Saturday, March 3. We will be finished by 5:00 p.m. that afternoon (or earlier!).

March 18: Trip to the Movies to see, "I Can Only Imagine". Movie times are usually not posted until the Wednesday before, so the time will be announced then. (It will take up most of the afternoon.) Depending on the time of the movie, we will either go get ice cream afterwards or eat dinner provided by the youth group.

Other Important Dates - Put These Dates on Your Calendar!

April 7 – 8: Church Dinner Theater to raise money for the Food Pantry

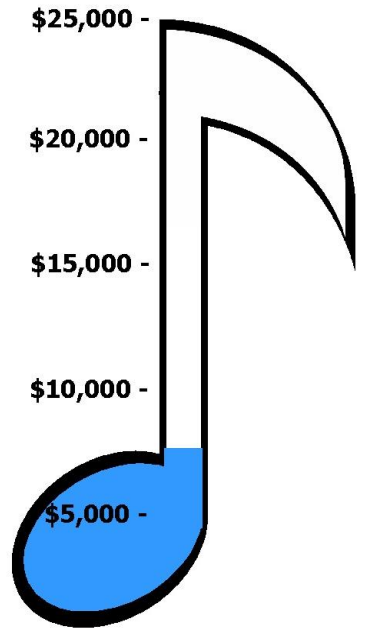
May 5: Jogging for William

June 23 – 30, 2018: Mission Trip to San Augustine County, TX.

Following Christ/Sound System/Capital Campaign
To Officially Kick Off on Easter

“So faith comes from hearing,
and hearing through the word of God” – Romans 10:17

Rather than using the old thermometer for our new sound system capital campaign we decided a musical note would be more appropriate. Right now we have over \$6,000 in the bank already and the campaign hasn't even officially started. During Holy Week you will be receiving an offering envelope for donations and pledges, and on Easter this “Musical Note Chart” will be posted in the church entranceway so we can watch it fill-in week by week until we pass our \$20,000 goal. The funds raised will be used to:



- Part 1: Replace the Sanctuary Sound System – \$19,488**
- Part 2: Replace the Speakers in the Main Hallway - \$840**
- Part 3 (If Sufficient Funds are Donated) Work on the Fellowship Hall Sound System – Around \$3,000**

The Trustees of the church took bids from three different reputable contractors. The bids were also reviewed by a friend of the congregation very knowledgeable in professional sound systems. The bid from San Antonio Sound and Light was selected as the best fit for our church. San Antonio Sound and Light was the company that installed our present sound system 21 years ago. The president of the company, Mark Stevens, visited with the Trustees and was instrumental in preparing their bid.

FOLLOWING CHRIST/SOUND SYSTEM/CAPITAL CAMPAIGN GIFT RANGE CHART			
GIFT SIZE	NUMBER OF GIFTS NEEDED	SUBTOTAL	CUMULATIVE TOTAL
4,000.00	1	4,000.00	4,000.00
2,000.00	2	4,000.00	8,000.00
1,000.00	2	2,000.00	10,000.00
750.00	4	3,000.00	13,000.00
500.00	6	3,000.00	16,000.00
250.00	10	2,500.00	18,500.00
under 250.00	15	1,500.00	20,000.00
TOTALS	40		20,000.00

Please be in prayer about how God is calling you to be involved in this church-wide effort. Remember the gift chart below. Gifts can be a one-time donation, or you can pledge a certain amount to be paid off by the end of the year. Remember how critical this need is. The theme for our 125th anniversary was “Celebrating 125 years of Ministry: Following Christ into the Future.” Our sound system is vital to our future. It is not only essential to our Sunday morning worship service (so that people can hear the lay speakers, the choir and the pastor), it is the backbone to our children’s Music, Art and

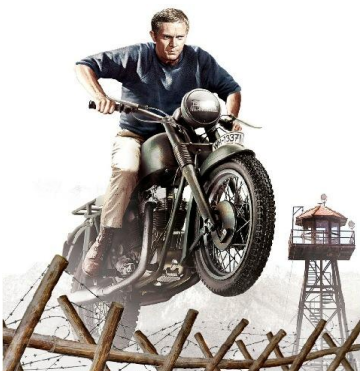
Drama program, our Saturday night service, our children’s Sunday school, funerals and weddings, Vacation Bible School, and much more. We will succeed because God still has plans for this church—His church!

M.A.D. Club Play Performance, April 4th at 7 PM



Our MAD Club (Music, Art and Drama) spring session is ending with their musical performance on April 4th at 7 PM. The play is called “Kingdom Connections,” and takes us into the lives of some of the kings of Israel. The performance will last about thirty-five minutes and refreshments will be served afterwards. Please support this community outreach program and the kids by coming to the play. M.A.D. Club meets on Wednesday afternoons from 4 to 6 PM, and all kids from 2nd through 6th grade are welcome. We have both spring and fall sessions of M.A.D. club, and M.A.D. camp will meet during the summer, June 11-15.

Lenten Worship Series
“The Great Escapes of the Bible”



Our Lent worship series this year is focusing on some of the great escapes described in the Bible, from Daniel escaping the lion’s den, to Peter and then Paul escaping from prisons. Through these thrilling stories we are learning how we as Christians can face the perils of our world.

Church Helps the San Antonio Pregnancy Care Center Care Closet



During the month of February church members filled up a crib full of supplies for mothers in unintended pregnancies and for their newborn babies. The Pregnancy Care Center offers parenting classes and rewards those who attend with credit to be used in the care closet. The supplies collected, plus the crib, will be delivered to the Pregnancy Care Center. Thank you to everyone who donated.

“Wall of Stock” Youth Mission Trip Fund-raiser

Starting the last Sunday in February and then continuing on the last Sunday of March and April and then each Sunday in May, we will be having a fund-raiser for the Youth Summer Mission Trip. There will be a cork board with stock envelopes pinned to the board. Each envelope will have a stock (donation) amount printed on it. Amounts will range from \$1.00 to \$150.00. Stock holders can simply take an envelope or envelopes and put that dollar amount into the envelope. Place the envelope into the collection plate or give to Diana Jackson or Scott Martin. If cash is used, please write your name on the back of the envelope so that your contribution can be credited to you.

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Prayer Concerns

- **Brad Boyd’s mother, Francine Boyd**—diagnosed with cancer
- **Annie Rhoades**—had two toes amputated
- **Gunner Crouch**—fever
- **Debbie Hunt**
- **Dorothy Granberg** (Karla Dominguez’ mother)—recovering from lower leg amputation and complications
- **Penny** (Suzie Sollock’s aunt)—cancer worse, new treatment
- **Helen Tietzman** (Connie Scott’s mother)—health, and prayers for Connie and her family
- **Kevin Warren**—had a seizure
- **Bobby McConathy** (coach in Lytle)---esophageal cancer
- **Lupe Gomez**--hospice, stage IV breast cancer
- **Joseph**—13-year-old with brain tumor
- **Austin Zavala** (LB and Scott Scantlin nephew)—motorcycle accident
- **Belinda Newman**—on dialysis
- **Felix Escalante**
- **Warren Wanjura**—starting radiation for cancer
- **Nancy Burns**—health, surgery rescheduled
- **Terry Gray Chandler**—brain tumor
- **Wayne Morgan** (Escalante brother-in-law)—return of lung cancer
- **Roger Lockhart**—on hospice
- **Molly Melton** (Malcolm Brown’s daughter)— brain tumor
- **Marsha Boener** (Michelle Keith’s aunt)—breast cancer
- **Marta Becerra** (Lollie’s sister)—cancer
- **Felix Alvarez** (Gloria Johnson’s brother)—released from halfway house, prayers for success
- **Gwen Dominguez** (Jim and Karla Dominguez’ niece)—stage 4 brain cancer
- **Lisa Wells**—on chemo again, good scan results again
- **Jay Bateman** (Jack’s son)—mouth cancer
- **Jean Rouse**—breast cancer, hip surgery
- **Rose Lynn**—health, and for David
- **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)

Ruby Reichel Memorial

A tree has been planted at the entranceway to the church parking lot in memory of Ruby Reichel, and on Sunday, April 22 at 10 AM we will be spending a few minutes to dedicate the tree and the marker and to remember Ruby.

Thank you to Ricardo Castillo

Ricardo and friend rewired some of the chancel area lights to make them easier to use for our M.A.D. program and Saturday night worship.

Prayer Garden Lights

The lights for the pillars in the prayer garden had to be special ordered, but they have now arrived. As soon as Ricardo Castillo gets another break at work he will begin to install them. Thank you to Kyle Jackson for getting the lights and to the Trustees for this great addition to the church.

Church Work Day May 12

Our spring workday is scheduled this year for Saturday, May 12. We will gather at 9 AM to begin work, and take a break at lunch for a meal provided by the church. This will be a very satisfying day and joyful day as we all work together.

Safety Training Going into Effect

I am really excited that our church and our conference, Rio Texas, are taking seriously the safety of our children, youth and vulnerable adults. Last year a gunman entered a local church in Sutherland Springs and shot many of the church members. One of the reasons he attacked this church was that he saw it as a “soft target.” Well, in the eyes of sexual predators, our church is a soft target. We trust everyone and fail to take precautions that are common sense. Our church, in conjunction with our Rio Texas Annual Conference, is putting into place common sense practices and common sense training to protect our children, youth and vulnerable adults from abuse: sexual, physical and emotional. But this isn’t something I can simply do as a pastor—It is something we have to do together. The key component is training and background checks every two years for all staff and volunteers who work with children and youth, and for all members who are willing to help make our church a safer place.



This free training is broken down into three steps:

- Step 1 – register on safegatherings.com and provide information for background checks.
- Step 2 – a 1.5 hour slide show training you go through on your computer.
- Step 3 – a 2 hour live training class that can be easily taken on your computer as a webinar, or which you can attend at a physical site (at a nearby church).

Details about each of these steps is provided at <https://riotexas.org/safesteps>. I know you are probably feeling that this is a huge mountain that you have to climb, because that was how I felt. Then I did the three steps, and looking back it seemed more like a little hill and I felt a little bit foolish for being so anxious. In closing, please remember how important this is. We are counting on you. - Scott

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Easter Holy Week Events

Palm/Passion Sunday - March 25

Come and participate in the palm parade, listen to the story of Jesus’ last week in Jerusalem, and experience the power of God.



Holy Thursday - March 29

The Holy Thursday service this year will take place in the sanctuary as we celebrate communion and remember the death of Jesus through music, videos and readings. Come and be part of this powerful time as we remember when the “Lamb of God” gave up his life for us, and as we remember when we accepted His death as payment for our sins.

Easter Sunday, April 1

Sunrise Service (7 AM) – The Easter sunrise service will again be held on the front lawn of our church, and will include a short sermon by the pastor and Holy Communion. It will be a quiet contemplative service to begin the Easter celebration.

Regular Easter Service at 9 AM

Christ is Risen! This service will feature communion and beautiful music, including beloved Easter hymns sung as we transform the cross of Good Friday into the flower covered cross of Easter, and powerful choir anthems. After the service we will be serving coffee and donuts. Come, be part of the most special day of the Christian year, and experience God’s love.

Sunday School and Easter Egg Hunt (10:15) - Our traditional Easter egg hunt will again be held during the Sunday school time, Easter morning, beginning around 10:30 AM. Have your child bring their basket, but we will have spares just in case. To give our celebration the South Texas twist, we will also have piñatas for the children.



New Church Directories

Our new picture church directories have arrived. We ordered enough copies so that everyone can have one. Just pick one up on Sunday, stop by the church during the week, or call us and we will deliver. Thank you to those who put this directory together, and to Rachel Martin our photographer.

Youth Yard Sale/Bar-b-cue

Thank you to everyone who donated items to the youth yard sale, or helped put it on. The youth made over \$1,500 to be used for their summer mission trip. Thank you as well to those who bought bar-b-cue plates on that same day, and big thanks to Linda and Billy Stewart for all their work.

**Church Food Pantry
And Backpack Ministry**

Both our Food Pantry and our Backpack Ministry are going strong. The next food pantry days are March 19 and April 2, and we can always use more help. Just come at 2:30 PM to help sack or at 5:30 PM to help prepare for the 6 to 7 PM rush. If you are interested in helping with the weekly backpack ministry, please talk to Nan Boyd.

**United Methodist Women
March Meeting**

The UMW will meet at 2:30 PM on March 12, 2018 at Bethel Kay Bateman's home. Marty Bennett will give the program. The ladies will be making Easter decorations for the Lytle Nursing Home. They welcome all the ladies of the church to join them for a spiritual program and devotional, good fellowship and refreshments. Call Linda Bahlmann at (210) 837-0650 for more details.

**Monday Night
Guy's Group**

The men meet regularly on Monday nights from 7 to 9 PM at the church 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.

Miscellaneous News

Time Change - Don't forget to set your clocks forward this Sunday, March 11th.

Youth Group Taco Sales - The youth group sells your favorite breakfast taco before Sunday school on the first Sunday of every month. The next sale is on April 1. Come hungry!

Highway Pick-up Day - Our church has adopted highway 463, starting from the Lytle water tower and heading out past Lake Shore Estates, and our next pick-up day is scheduled for Saturday, April 21st.

Souper Bowl of Caring - On Feb. 4 our youth took up a "Souper Bowl of Caring" offering of \$294.73, which goes to support our food pantry. Thank you youth!

Fellowship A/C Controls - If you try to start the air conditioning in the fellowship hall and it doesn't come on, make sure the "schedule" switch on the bottom of the control is in the off position.

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Order Easter Lilies

Once again this year our Sanctuary will be filled with lilies for Easter. Purchasing a lily in memory of, or in honor of, a loved one is a meaningful tribute. This year lilies are only \$10.00 per plant. Just complete the form below and place it in the offering plate with your check. The deadline to order is March 25.



Name(s): _____

Phone: _____

In Memory of: _____
AND/OR

In Honor of: _____