

Lytle United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 608, 19341 Somerset St.
Lytle, Texas 78052-0608
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**New Contemporary
Worship Service
Saturdays at 6 PM
Starting Sept. 30**

SEPTEMBER 2017

...Thousands of people have lost their homes, tens of thousands have been displaced, and the damage to property is immeasurable. Our communities will take months, perhaps even years, to rebuild.

People are asking, "What can I do to help?"

First, we solicit your prayers. Pray for those who grieve, who are disconnected from their families, and who face uncertainty. Pray for first responders, community leaders, police, firefighters, EMT's, troops, and others. Pray for the thousands of volunteers who will descend upon the Coastal Bend to lend a hand in restoring these communities.

Second, financial generosity is vital when responding to this scale of need. There will be a time and place for specific material donations, but our response teams need the immediate flexibility that financial gifts make possible to purchase needed supplies and materials. Your generous gifts make a difference.

I am issuing a special appeal to the churches of the Rio Texas Conference. I ask that our churches take up a special offering this Sunday and direct it to Rio Texas Conference Disaster Response Fund – Conference ADVANCE #2057...

Yours in Christ,
Robert Schnase, Bishop

(For the full text of the Bishop's letter, go to riotexas.org)

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125th Church Anniversary Celebration

In September, our congregation here in Lytle will celebrate its 125th anniversary. Founded in 1892, this congregation has served the Lytle community and surrounding area with great faithfulness. We will celebrate this mile-marker in our church life during morning worship on September 24th. We are swapping worship and Sunday School on that Sunday so we can have a celebratory luncheon right after the service. Sunday school will run from 9 to 9:45 AM, worship from 10 to 11:30 AM, and the special celebratory meal afterwards. Our preacher for that service will be our new district Superintendent Greg Hackett. There will also be a special video message from our new bishop, Bishop Robert Schnase.

New 125th Anniversary Church Picture Directory



We will be taking pictures in September for our new 125th anniversary church directory. The pictures will be taken by Rachel Martin, professional photographer and daughter of the pastor. See rachelmartinphotography.wordpress.com for examples of her work. The photos will be taken outside on the church grounds and dress for the pictures can be whatever you want—casual jeans and cowboy hats or formal attire. Right after you have your picture taken, you will have an opportunity to select your picture for the directory. You may also purchase pictures, and because we are not using a company, the prices will be lower and there will be no pressure to buy anything. In order to have the best lighting (and lowest temperatures) the pictures will be taken early in the morning, or early evening.

Thursday, September 7 – 7:30 AM to 10 AM, 4 PM to 8 PM

Friday, September 8 – 7:30 AM to 10 AM, 4 PM to 8 PM

Saturday, September 9 – 7:30 AM to 10 AM, 4 PM to 8 PM

Sign-up sheets for helpers, as well as photo times, are posted at the church, or you can make reservations by calling the church at (830) 772-3345. After the photos are done and edited, we will assemble the pages of the directory and have it printed locally. We are in the process of compiling photos for the ministry section of the directory, and if you have pictures of church events that you think would be appropriate, please let the church office know.

Church Schedule

September 4, Monday - **Labor Day**

September 5, Tuesday - In-reach meeting.

September 7-9, Thursday thru Saturday - **Picture taking for our new picture directory.**

September 8, Friday - Koinonia Emmaus gathering at St. Paul's in Hondo.
Music starts at 7:30 PM; refreshments afterwards.

September 11, Monday - The United Methodist Women meet at 2:30 PM at the home of Mary Snyder.
Jeanice Farmer will be leading the program.

September 14, Thursday - Quilt Club at the church, 6 to 9 PM.

September 16, Saturday - Lytle Homecoming Parade.

September 17 - **Stewardship Commitment Sunday.**

September 18, Monday - Food Pantry Day, 6 to 7 PM.

September 24 - **125th Anniversary Church Celebration.**

Sunday School: 9 to 9:45 AM, Worship Service: 10 AM to 11:30 AM, Luncheon to follow worship

September 30, Saturday - Quilt Club at the church.

September 30, Saturday - **Contemporary Service to begin on Saturdays at 6 PM.**

October 1 - Life Chain, 2 to 3 PM.

October 4, Wednesday – M.A.D. Club (Music, Art & Drama) begins for children, 2nd thru 5th grade.
Held Wednesdays from Oct. 4th to Dec. 6th.

October 7, Saturday - Adopt a highway Pick-up Day. Meet at the church at 7:30 AM.

October 19-22, Thursday evening thru Sunday - Women's Walk to Emmaus #3.

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September Youth Schedule

The September youth schedule is not available yet because the youth are planning a possible one-day trip to Refugio to help in some clean-up from hurricane Harvey. Talk to youth minister Diana Jackson for schedule information, or to help plan this possible clean-up trip.

Dear friends,

We thank you for offering this wonderful VBS for our children. They came home singing about God and Jesus. They are charged up and excited. For a second year in a row since we moved here, you have provided a great opportunity for them to spend time in fellowship with Christians from the community. Thank you for your generosity and enthusiasm, and your love of God! God bless you.

VBS Parents

Thank you to Ben Bendele, and our church sponsored scout troop for a new addition to our youth building. As his Eagle scout project, Ben constructed a Gaga Ball pit for the youth. Gaga Ball is a wildly popular game that the youth have been playing in the building. Now the walls are safe from the abuse. Thank you Ben!



Two Ways to Help our Schools

Once a Month Prayer Time for the School

We meet at the elementary school and spend about 45 minutes in total praying at the different campuses. The next prayer time is September 21st at 6:30 PM.

Tutoring once a week

The school is always looking for volunteers to help kids read better, or to help in other ways. Talk to the church office for more information.

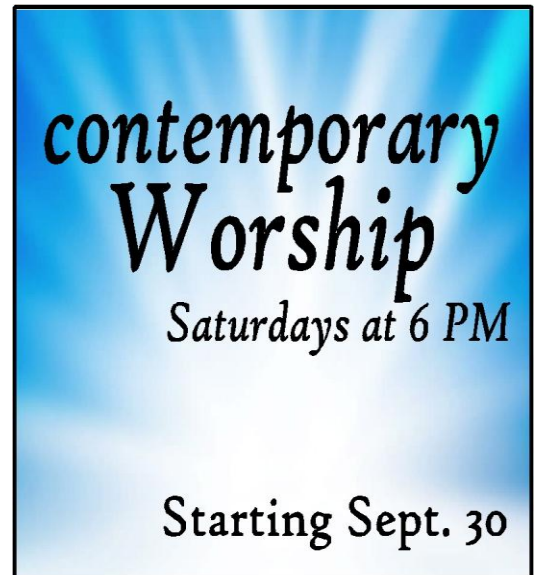


Thank you to J.J. Villarreal, Kevin Keith and Kyle Jackson for organizing two trailer loads of hurricane relief material for the city of Refugio, which is inland from Rock Port. They saw a Facebook posting from a Refugio pastor asking for supplies, and responded quickly. On Monday night the tools in our youth mission trip trailer were unloaded; Wednesday morning the trailer was loaded with material supplied by the church and individuals; and in the afternoon, these supplies were in the hands of people in need.

Congratulations to Heather and Ian Simons on the birth of their second son, Jack Simons, born on August 27th. Congratulations also to his brother, Liam, and to his grandparents.

Thank you to Randy Davis who helped with VBS this year. Her name was accidentally left off the VBS volunteer list in last month's newsletter.

New Contemporary Worship Service
Saturdays at 6 PM
Starting Sept. 30



Everyone interested in contemporary worship was invited to a gathering on August 27, and at that gathering, after much prayer and discussion, it was decided to start a new contemporary worship service on Saturday nights. Saturday night was chosen as a time that was appealing to many unchurched folks and to the younger crowd. The service will feature praise videos as we work to develop a praise band of our own, and preaching from Pastor Scott Martin. The worship will be uplifting and encouraging. Please get the word out to anyone who might be attracted to a contemporary Saturday night worship service.



"If God loves a cheerful giver, why are you supposed to give 'til it hurts?"

Is it possible to give until it hurts and be a cheerful giver? My experience is that it is impossible to be a cheerful giver if you're not giving 'til it hurts. There are three sources of great joy in giving:

- Joy in knowing how our giving will help others**
- Joy in knowing how our giving will please God**
- Joy in knowing we were faithful stewards**

All three sources of joy are great only if our giving is sacrificial—if we're giving 'til it hurts.

September 17 - Stewardship Celebration

Fall is the time of year the 2018 church budget is put together. To set the budget faithfully, we need an idea of how the church will be blessed financially by the people of the congregation. In the next couple of worship services, and in the mail, you will receive an "estimate of giving card" for 2018. As good stewards, we are called by the Bible to tithe, to give 10% of the money God has entrusted into our hands, back to God. We hope you will give 'til it hurts and experience the great joy of being faithful givers.

M.A.D. Club Starts Again October 4
(Music, Art and Drama)

We will be having a fall session of MAD Club in 2017, again meeting on Wednesday afternoons from 4 to 6 PM. We will meet from October 4 through December 6, with a musical performance on December 6th at 7 PM. Please get the word out to all the families you know, and we can always use more volunteers. We need people to provide snacks at 4 PM, publicity, people willing to help with art, a video/computer operator and people willing to help with music and drama. Help us reach the children and families of our community with the Good News of Christ through M.A.D. Club.



United Methodist Women Back in Session

The United Methodist Women will be ending our Summer Break the 11th of September. We will meet at the home of Mary Snyder and the program will be given by Jeanice Farmer. All the women of the church are welcome to join us as we discuss mission work we will be doing, and learn more about our Lord and what He is leading us to do. We will also have a delicious snack at the end of our meeting! In Christ—Linda Bahlmann. Call Linda Bahlmann at (210) 837-0650 for more information.

School Backpack Food Ministry Has Begun

Many children will have little food at home over the weekend in our area. Our church is providing a backpack of food for 15 children to take home on Friday afternoons to help feed themselves and their family. 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 comes from our food pantry 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 pantry ministry account. We meet Thursday mornings at 10 AM to fill the backpacks.



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At an exciting in-reach ministry meeting in August, changes in worship were planned. A two prong approach is being taken. On the one hand, the 9 AM Sunday worship service is being updated, blending hymns with more contemporary Christian songs. On the other hand, a new 6 PM Saturday night contemporary worship service is starting, which is scheduled to begin on September 30. Please keep both of these exciting endeavors in your prayers.

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Prayer Concerns

- **Joy for birth of Jack Simons to parents Heather and Ian**
- **Martha Calk**—health, has moved in with her son, Martin, in Pleasanton
- **For all those affected by Hurricane Harvey** and praise and thanks for those helping
- **For 40 million homeless in India from monsoons and for families of the 1000 who have died**
- **Prayer that Hurricane Irma will diminish**
- **Wanda Yoast**—fractures in back, recovering from procedure.
- **Bethel Kay Bateman**—new diagnosis of lung cancer
- **Linda Bahlmann**—health
- **Dana Dominguez** (health) and her mother Brenda Dominguez (stress and worry)
- **Frank Raines**
- **Wayne VanWinkle**—health
- **Melfred Fey**—health
- **For upcoming women's Walk to Emmaus**
- **Reid Wells** (Mike's father)—hip fracture, for healing
- **Felix Escalante**—health
- **Lisa Wells**—on chemo again, good scan results
- **Jay Bateman** (Jack's son)—mouth cancer
- **John Macaron** (Lisa Meyer's son)—for an end to seizures
- **Jean Rouse**—breast cancer, hip surgery
- **Rose Lynn**—health, and for David
- **Felix Bazan**--health
- **Marsha Boener** (Michelle Keith's aunt)—breast cancer
- **Marta Becerra** (Lollie's sister)--cancer
- **Anna Rhoades**--health
- **Gwen Dominguez** (Jim and Karla Dominguez' niece)—stage 4 brain cancer
- **Felix Alvarez**—rehab, prison
- **Ginger Meyer's Aunt Shari**—stage 4 cancer, now on hospice; also for her husband
- **Our Missionaries**
- **Persecuted Christians around the world**
- **Victims of human trafficking and for an end to human trafficking**
- **Our president and leaders** (1 Timothy 2:1-4)
- **Our military and our veterans**
- **The nation and for the spread of the gospel of Jesus Christ**
- **Church staff and leaders**



Our Church Family Soldiers and Civilians Working with the Military

- **Ian Simons**—Air Force
- **Ross Moffitt** (Chris and Fred Brauchle grandson)—Air Force
- **William Reichel**—Army, in Germany
- **William Meyer**—Marines
- **Chris Saindon**—friend of John Martin, Navy
- **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)

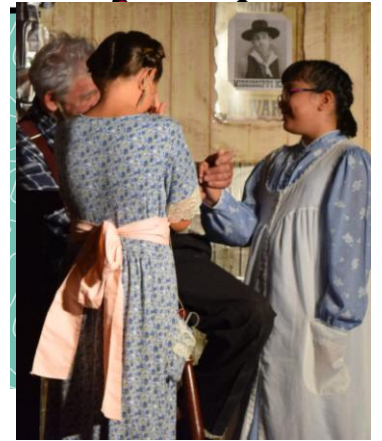
Interactive Comedy Dinner Theater

To help raise funds for Military Ministry

Our fourth annual interactive dinner theater was a great success with well attended performances on both Saturday and Sunday nights, Aug. 5th and 6th. This event served at least three purposes. It was a fund raiser for Cru Military, which assists our military men and women, including active duty,



Guard, Reserve, veterans, retirees, and family members all around the world. Cru military helps them by bringing to them the love, strength and healing of Jesus Christ. Through "The Good, the Bad and the Holy" our church raised \$4,227 for this ministry. This is in addition to the funds in our regular budget that support Cru Military missionaries Stephen and Karen Dorer.



The 2nd purpose of this interactive dinner theater was to reach people in the community, introduce them to our church, and share with them the Good News of Jesus Christ. To this end we were blessed to have many visitors in the audience, as well as church members and family. The 3rd purpose of "The Good, the Bad and the Holy" was to bring the church together in ministry, and it accomplished this well, through the numerous people involved in this production. We would like to thank play director Connie Norton, decorators Ginger Meyer and Connie Scott, food supervisor Diana Jackson and everyone else who took part in this ministry.

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Life Chain, Sunday, October 1



This year the Life Chain will take place on October 1, 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.

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Food Pantry Ministry Continues to Serve

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 September (September 4 and 18). We will again be handing out canned goods, as well as frozen meats and fresh fruits and vegetables, to over 70 families. Thank you for supporting the Methodist Food Pantry.



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Emmaus News for September

Women's Walk to Emmaus #3, sponsored by our Koinonia community, is right around the corner and many women from our church are serving on the team, and many have already signed-up to attend. The walk takes place October 19-22 at Mt. Wesley. Please keep this walk in your prayers. Applications, and more information, can be found in the information rack in the church entrance hallway, or on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. In other Emmaus news, our Koinonia gathering for September will take place at St. Paul's Lutheran church in Hondo on September 8. Take a beautiful drive in the country and join other churches for a time of worship, fellowship and food. Singing starts at 7:30 PM. See you there.

Women's Walk to Emmaus #3 – October 20-23, Sign up today

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The Last 25 Years: A History of Our Church

A church history of the first 100 years was written by Jennie Byrom, with the help of Rev. David Trawek, and was presented to the church at the 100th Anniversary. We are now putting together a history of the last 25 years. If anyone has any stories that would be appropriate for inclusion, please email them to scottmartin9262@sbcglobal.net.

Miscellaneous News!

Lytle Homecoming – Lytle will be holding its homecoming parade on Saturday, September 16. Be sure to head out to Main Street for a fun event.

Highway Clean-Up – It has now been six years since our church adopted highway 463, starting from the Lytle water tower and heading out beyond Lake Shore Estates. Our last pick-up day, July 22, went well, and our next one is scheduled for October 7. Thank you to all our volunteers.

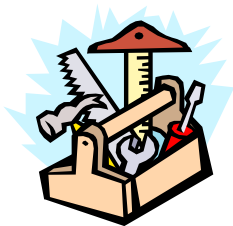
Monday Night Men's Group – All of the men of the church, and friends, are invited to a weekly men's gathering. It takes place on Monday evenings starting at 7 PM in the education building and dinner is served. The focus is fellowship and service as the guys gather to lift one another up in their daily Christian walk.

All-Saints Sunday – On Sunday, Nov. 5, we will be celebrating the lives of church members, and other loved ones of our church family, who have died during the past year. During our annual All Saints Day, roses will be brought forward as a memorial. Please contact Rev. Scott Martin if you would like to participate in this special ceremony.

Quilt Club – A quilt club, headed by Debbie Bacon, meets in the fellowship hall on one Thursday and one Saturday of each month. For more information, please contact her at (830) 931-1640.

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Thank You to All Who Helped with our Busy Summer



It was a wonderfully creative and busy summer this year. We had four big programs to pull off: The youth Mission Trip, M.A.D. Camp, Vacation Bible School and our Interactive Dinner Theater. Alongside these four big programs were lots of other endeavors and ministries. We could not have accomplished all these wonderful ministries if it weren't for our terrific volunteers.

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A Record of Our Faithfulness

August 6 - Sunday School – 33 Worship – 69 Offering – \$11168.00	August 13 - Sunday School – 34 Worship – 66 Offering – \$2669.00
August 20 - Sunday School – 32 Worship – 68 Offering – \$3840.50	August 27 - Sunday School – 35 Worship – 83 Offering – \$2824.00

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Happy Birthday in September

Birthdays:

Lisa Wells	2nd	Ryley Grosz	10th	Claude Brown	24th
Roger Avants	3rd	Felicita Perez	12th	Michele Brown	25th
Franci Floyd	3rd	Billy Stewart	12th	Joshua Jackson	25th
David Johnson	4th	David Foreman	13th	Kyle Jackson	25th
Kyle Grosz	4th	Connie Norton	13th	Sheryl Carrillo	26th
Crystal Norton	5th	Gene Gunn	15th	Saydee Warren	26th
Sandra Miller	5th	James Wilson	16th	Jessie Carroll	28th
Tina Breiten	6th	John Minton	16th	Lloyd Scott	28th
Will Carroll	6th	Theresa Garwood	16th	Beth Burns	30th
Shelle McMillan	7th	Alexander Medina	17th	Jo Beth Kroeger	30th
Chrissy Smith	8th	Brian Cogburn	19th		
Wyatt LaFond	9th	Charlotte Metzger	20th	Anniversaries:	
Shannon Britt	9th	John Broach	20th	Jim & Debbie Pruett	1st
Jolene Martin	9th	Jordyn Marquez	21st	Scott & Laurie Beth Scantlin	12th
Kirk Wagoner	10th	Lindsey Mathis	23rd	Roger and Denise Avants	23rd
Brenda Moore	10th	Anissa Martinez	24th	James and Margaret Wilson	23rd