

THE EPISTLE

The Monthly Newsletter of St. Luke's United Methodist Church

Tearing Down ... Or Building Up?

Ten little church members came to worship all the time, one fell out with the pastor, and then there were nine.

Nine little church members stayed up late. One overslept and then there were eight.

Eight little church members on their way to heaven, one took the low road and now there are seven.

Seven little church members all chirping like chicks, one didn't like the music, now there are six.

Six little church members pulling up for heaven's shore, two tired and got disgruntled, and this left four.

Four little church members, busy as can be but one got his feelings hurt, and now there are three!

Three little church members and the story's almost done for two of the got weary and this left one.

Now everybody knows that one can't do much, but ne brought a friend last month and then there were two.

Two little church members each one brought one more, now don't you see?
 $2 + 2 = 4!$

Four little church members each one brought one more, and now there are eight.

Have you got the message, pointed and true? Come on folks, we've got a job to do. For you see, these eight church members if they doubled as before, in just seven weeks would have 1,024.

In this little jingle there is a lesson true. You belong to one of the two- either the building or the wrecking crew. Copied.

Faithfully,




HELPING HANDS CELEBRATION



On Sunday, June 22, St. Luke's welcomed home our Appalachia Service Project volunteers, pictured above, who had been working in Magoffin County, Kentucky. We are so proud of our ASP team and their dedication to helping repair homes in Appalachia so that those who live in them will be drier, safer and warmer. We also celebrated the American and Christian Spirit of helping our neighbors. Each table was given a different piece of paper and a set of "hands." They were instructed to create a piece of our service quilt by having each person write their favorite way of serving others on a hand and then gluing them to the paper square. Our church family serves in so many ways, both here at church and in the community, by being blessed to be a blessing. A picture of the "quilt" is below. Feel free to look at it in Hospitality Hall and see all the ways St. Luke's serves.



**PIRATES & PRINCESSES
BACK TO SCHOOL BASH
FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 2025
5:30 TO 7:30 P.M.**

**WATER SLIDES,
BOUNCE HOUSE,
TONS OF WATER FUN!**

**PLAY FOR FREE
HAMBURGER OR HOTDOG DINNER WITH CHIPS,
DRINK AND DESSERT
\$8.00 WITH A \$25 FAMILY MAXIMUM**

EVERYONE'S WELCOME - BRING A FRIEND!



SHERWOOD ELEMENTARY

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

COLLECTION TIME
July 1 - Aug 8

What We Need:

**SEE ATTACHED 2025-2026
SUPPLY LIST**



SHERWOOD ELEMENTARY SUPPLY LIST

TI-30X ISS CALCULATORS
WIDE RULED ONE SUBJECT NOTEBOOKS
WIDE RULED COMPOSITION NOTEBOOKS
PACKS OF WIDE RULED PAPER
PACKS OF GRAPH PAPER
FOLDERS 2 POCKET WITH AND WITHOUT FASTENERS
BINDERS ONE INCH
BINDERS HALF INCH WITH POCKETS AND PROTECTIVE COVER
BINDER TABS PACK OF 5
#2 PENCILS SHARPENED
HIGHLIGHTERS
LOW ODOR DRY ERASE FINE TIP BLACK MARKERS
6 PACK MULTICOLOR DRY ERASE MARKERS
SHARPIES FINE AND EXTRA FINE POINT
CRAYOLA CRAYONS 24 PACK
CRAYOLA WATERCOLORS 16 COLOR PALETTE CRAYOLA
MARKERS CLASSIC COLORS CRAYOLA MARKERS THIN
CLASSIC COLORS CRAYOLA COLORED PENCILS 12 PACK
FISHERS CLASSIC 5 INCH SCISSORS
ELMER'S GLUE STICKS
ELMER'S WHITE GLUE
ERASERS: LARGE PINK AND PENCIL CAPS
HEADPHONES
EXTERNAL COMPUTER WIRELESS MOUSE
ZIPLOC BAGS QUART AND GALLON
FACIAL TISSUES
CLOROX WIPES
HAND SANITIZER
ZIPPERED PENCIL BAGS
PLASTIC SCHOOL BOX
LARGE PENCIL/ART SUPPLY BOX
DRAW STRING TOTE BAG STURDY NO HANDLES
PENS
POST-IT NOTES

Children's Ministry

In June we had the most amazing time in Egypt for Vacation Bible School. The kids enjoyed visiting all of the shops this year which included the Barbershop & Salon, Food Shop, Tent Making, Jewelry Shop, Hieroglyphic Artist's Shop, Embalmer's Workshop, Basket Weaving, and even a Petting Zoo with live animals! They played lots of fun games in the Palace Playground and heard stories from Joseph himself about how he went from the prison to being second in command for Pharaoh in the Palace, all thanks to God! We sang songs and learned fun dances too! We had over 50 participants and so many incredible volunteers truly made it a wonderful, intergenerational experience. This year we had the most children registered than ever before!

The rest of the Summer we will be giving our volunteers a much needed break as there will be no Sunday School for children in July, however the nursery will always remain available. We will resume our combined class on Sunday, August 3rd which will also be our Blessing of the Backpacks following a fun-filled intergenerational event on Friday, August 1, our Back to School Bash! Be sure to come and join in all the fun!

Paint Party for Kids & Youth

July 13th, 11:30 - 1:00

Come Join the Fun!



Immediately following worship on Sunday, July 13, the Evangelism Committee will host a Painting Party where we will paint pots to hold prayer plants that will be given to our visitors beginning in the Fall. We need both experienced and inexperienced painters for this fun activity that will welcome people to our church and show God's love to others. Parents are welcome to stay. We will have pizza, lemonade, and a sweet treat. If you can come, please text Lynne McAlexander at 550-3091, so we will have enough food and supplies.



On April 24 United Women in Faith and St. Luke's fed approximately 50 students lunch at Wesley Memphis. It was getting near the end of the semester and students were talking about studying, finals and summer plans. Helping to serve were Shirley Robinson, Sheridan Harris, Pat Anderson and Ashley Jacobs.

DaySchool News

We are into our fourth week of Summer Camp and the kids are having a blast! So far, we've enjoyed "All Things Art," "Under the Sea," "Culinary Creations" and "Camping Out." We are looking forward to "Zoo Week," "Party in the USA," "Superheroes" and "Science."

Our last day of camp will be July 18. The school will be closed the week of July 21 - 25 and return July 29 - August 1, for Professional Development. "Meet the Teacher" will be Friday, August 1 and school will start Monday, August 4. We have 78 students signed up for the fall.



The Fun Bunch Roadtrip!

Fun Bunch will be going to Dorothy Day House July 23rd arriving at their Peabody Ave location at 10:30 am. Tracy and Beth Ryan will be there to explain how they provide shelter for homeless families and move them into more permanent housing. After the tour, we will be stopping at Central BBQ for lunch. Please signup at the Hospitality Hall desk.

Call Jim or Jeanne Debo for any questions: 413-3341

JUNE 2025 HONORIUMS AND MEMORIALS:

Honoriums:

In Honor of Melinda Kaler from Barbara Simpson
In Honor of Bette Colter from Barbara Simpson
In Honor of Jacki Romey from Barbara Simpson

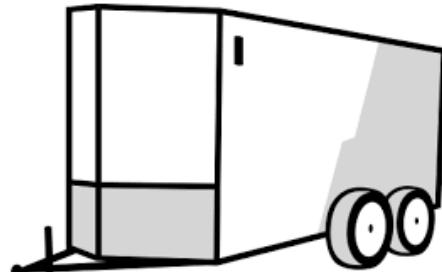
Memorials:

In Memory of Nita Barlow from David and Virginia Wages
In Memory of Mary Evelyn Goodwin from Hal and Betty Padgett, Miller Delgadillo, Rita Richardson, Sarah Jordan, Karen Kinney, Janie Hendrix
In Memory of Kay Hawes from James and Amy Pearson
In Memory of Hudson from Rorie Read



United Women in Faith

- On July 23 at 6 pm the United Women in Faith and St. Luke's plan to feed the Project Transformation interns at Wesley Memphis. We started by feeding them on the first day so we want to end it with feeding them on the last day. If you would like to donate just mark your donation PT interns. If you have any questions please contact Phyllis Gay phyllispgay@yahoo.com or Pat Anderson at pata9276@gmail.com
- On May 13 the United Women in Faith assembled and packed 20 hygiene kits for East Tennesseans who have lost everything in the past few storms. They consisted of hand towels, wash clothes, toothbrushes, Bandaids, fingernail clippers, and soap. They were delivered to Colonial Park where they were put on a trailer with other hygiene kits but also storm buckets and other supplies that were taken to East Tennessee.



On June 3, the first day of Project Transformation, St. Luke's United Women in Faith fed 9 interns that are in Memphis this summer to help students continue their reading. Each year Project Transformation engages over 80 college age adults in ministry and service with more than 700 children in 9 site churches across Tennessee. 99% of children and youth maintain or improve their reading levels over the summer.