

We pray and worship
to build a closer relationship
of love with Jesus Christ.
We study the Bible
to dig deeper and learn everything
we can about God's love.
We make friends
because lives are changed in community.

FALL GUIDE 2025

ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

We tell our stories
to share with others how
God is still at work in the world.
We give ourselves away
in generosity and service as apostles, sent
by Jesus to be the good news in the world.

Now more than ever...



St. Paul writes to the church in Corinth: *“As God’s partners, we beg you not to accept this marvelous gift of God’s kindness and then ignore it. For God says, ‘At just the right time, I heard you. On the day of salvation, I helped you.’ Indeed, the right time is now!”* (2 Corinthians 6:1-2 NLT)

Yes, the right time is now—now more than ever. Now more than ever, each one of us needs the community of the church and the message of Jesus’ love. Now more than ever, the world needs the people of the church to live and love like Jesus, so that our city can be transformed by that love. Now more than ever, the church needs every one of us to join in the movement that Jesus began.

This guide contains all sorts of ways you can take the best next step for you to be engaged in the life and work of St. Luke’s, and I invite and challenge you to take the best next step for you. Perhaps it is to make a commitment to be in worship every week. Perhaps the best move forward is to join a class, a Bible study, a choir, a small group. Perhaps you feel a tug to serve on a team—hospitality, outreach, children’s ministry, student ministry, prayer ministry, or some other volunteer service. Or maybe God is calling you to pitch in at *branches* or head out to experience our Gethsemane campus and The Garden Community Youth Center.

There are lots of ways to engage in the joy of living and working as part of God’s kingdom. Like St. Paul, I beg you not to ignore God’s gift of salvation. Now is the time—now more than ever.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ian Heston".

COURAGE *for the* JOURNEY

SERMON SERIES | DATES
s e r m o n s e r i e s

Courage for the Journey | August 17-31

Life isn’t easy, and the Christian journey is one that requires courage. Courage isn’t the absence of fear; it is the willingness to move forward in the face of fear and anxiety. As we kick off the fall season, we will consider what the Bible teaches about taking hold of the courage of our convictions, the courage of our calling, and the courage to care. Be strong and of good courage!

Extraordinary God, Ordinary Life | September 7-28

Most days are pretty ordinary, and are full of routine tasks and challenges. In the midst of those ordinary days, our extraordinary God shows up and offers us the opportunity to experience divine presence. In response, the Bible calls us to *“Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering.”* (Romans 12:1 MSG) During September, join us as we explore how to turn everyday life into an act of worship.

For the Common Good | October 5-26

In 1 Corinthians 12:7 we are taught that “a demonstration of the Spirit is given to each person for the common good.” The work of the church includes ministries by and for all sorts of people in all sorts of ways, and we all have a responsibility to do our part. God then takes all the parts and works them together into a beautiful creation. Come and find out more about why St. Luke’s does what we do and the many ways you can be a part of God’s purposes.

November 9 | 80th Anniversary

This November, St. Luke’s celebrates 80 years of helping people live and love like Jesus.

Since our first worship service at Lamar High School in 1945, St. Luke’s has touched countless lives in our city and beyond as we’ve laid a faith foundation for generations of children and youth, developed faithful disciples and servant leaders, offered inspiring music that brings people closer to God, and launched transforming outreach programs and non-profits. Join us on November 9 for special worship services and a celebration as we reflect on 80 years of God’s faithfulness and look ahead to the bright future God has for us. Our vision remains as bold as ever—to see our city transformed by the love of Jesus. And the best is yet to come.



We study the Bible.

Register: StLukesMethodist.org/groups

Men's Life with Dr. Tom Pace *Becoming Wise Guys: The Proverbs of Solomon and Other Street-Smart People*

Wednesdays, September 17–November 19 | 6:30–7:45 a.m. | Fellowship Hall

Some people are just wise. They may not be book smart, but they understand how life works. More importantly, they know how to put that wisdom into practice. King Solomon, son of David, was known as the wisest man of his generation. This fall, Men's Life will take a look at some of the important proverbs of Solomon and mirror them with some more recent ones that echo similar thoughts. Dr. Tom Pace will share his thoughts, and you can enjoy being a part of a table group of men where “iron sharpens iron,” and you can become all the wiser together.

Beyond Sunday

Wednesdays | Noon to 1 p.m. | ES309 | Led by Katie Brown and Drew Scoggins

Join a lively group discussion based on our current sermon series. We will look at the scripture passage together, share our big takeaways, and talk about life application as we dive deeper into each sermon. Please bring your Bible, notes, thoughts, and class questions.

Study of Matthew: The Gospel of Promised Blessings by Matthew Skinner

Sundays, August 10–September 21 (No Class on 8/31) | 2–3 p.m. | ES301 | Led by Katie Brown

This study takes readers into the heart of Matthew's story about the life and work of Jesus. Chapters focus on how the Gospel of Matthew speaks to believers today. (See p. 25 for more information)

Study of Acts: Catching Up With The Spirit by Matthew Skinner

Sundays, October 5, 12, 19, 26, and November 2, 9 | 2–3 p.m. | ES301 | Led by Katie Brown

Matthew Skinner's book explores the ways in which reading Acts is capable of igniting our imagination about the character of the Christian message, the work of God's people (the church), and the challenges of living faithfully in a complex and changing world. (See p. 25 for more information.)

Men's Group on Thursday Mornings

Thursdays | 7–8 a.m. | Online | Led by John Holmes

Join men of all ages in this ongoing group for Bible study and fellowship. Attend as your schedule allows.

Higher Grounds at Gethsemane

Thursdays | 10–11 a.m. | 1107 | Led by Corky Fowler

(see p. 18 for more information.)

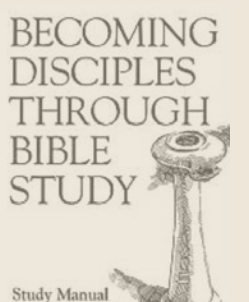
There's is a place for you!
Find more studies at StLukesMethodist.org/groups

Disciple Bible Studies

Disciple 1

Wednesdays, beginning September 3 | 6:30–8:30 p.m. | ES311

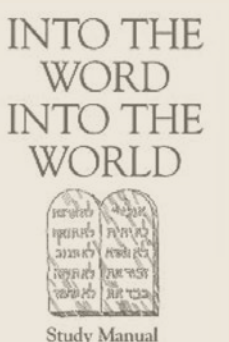
A 34-week study led by Jana Gaddy that moves through the biblical story from Creation to the New Jerusalem. *Disciple* emphasizes disciplined reading of and listening to the scriptures. Students use both the Bible and the study manual to complete daily reading assignments.



Disciple 2

Sundays, beginning September 7 | 4–6 p.m. | ES311

A 32-week study led by Jana Gaddy that proclaims the transforming power of scripture while teaching Bible study skills that take participants deeper. Equal attention is given to the Old and New Testaments with a concentration on Genesis, Exodus, Luke, and Acts. Requires the completion of *Disciple 1*.



Just for Women...



Esther: Daring Faith for Such a Time as This by Kelly Minter

Women's Fall Bible Study | Led by Louise McEvoy

In Person

Wednesdays, September 3-October 29 (no class on 9/17 and 10/15 | 9:30-11 a.m. | ES314

Online

Thursdays, September 4-October 30 | (no class on September 18 and October 16) | 7- 8:30 p.m. | Zoom

Let's explore the daring faith modeled by Esther and her cousin Mordecai—lived out through extraordinary circumstances and used to change the world. Although our time looks different from Esther's, our God is just as active and faithful today, and He has called you for such a time as this.

Matthew: The Gospel of Promised Blessing by Matthew Skinner

The Study for Women | Led by Katie Brown and Suzi Pitts

Tuesdays | 12-1p.m. | August 19-September 23

How does the Gospel of Matthew speak to us today? Explore the tenderness and the tensions in the teachings of Jesus, full of compassion and urgent warning. This six-week series focuses on blessing and comfort, the meaning of discipleship, and Jesus' vision for the Church and world.

The Gospel According to John

Go With Grace: A Bible Study for Women Led by Rhonda Ward

Thursdays, beginning September 4 | 10-11:15 a.m. | Hines Baker Room

Through studying John's gospel, Jesus becomes real, full of light and warmth and promise. Part of its greatness is the way it reveals its secrets, not just to those with high-flown learning, but to those who come to it with humility and hope. No homework—bring your Bible. Attend as your schedule allows.

Wired Word: A Women's Lunchtime Roundtable

Fourth Tuesdays of the month | 11 a.m.-12 p.m. | Hines Baker Room | Led by Louise McEvoy

We all crave authentic relationships and desire to have real conversations about faith with other women. Each month, we will have Spirit-filled fellowship and interactive discussions. Registrants receive a monthly devotional about a current event/topic and thought-provoking questions. You are invited to bring your lunch. Your "commitment" is just once a month. Join anytime. You got this.

Women's Night Circle

3rd Tuesdays | 6:30-8 p.m. | Online and In Person

This multi-generational group of women are committed to study, prayer, and projects that benefit women and children. The gatherings rotate between the Westheimer campus and member's homes. A supportive prayer circle is shared at each meeting.

God and Girlfriends

Wednesdays, starting September 3 | 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. | ES306 | Led by Mary Schuler

Throughout the school year, these women gather weekly to study the Bible, encourage each other, and pray. The group includes a variety of ages and professions—all women are welcome. Primarily empty nesters, current members include mothers of late teens and beyond, as well as grandmothers.

Busy Moms' Bible Study

Thursdays, beginning August 21 | 1:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. | ES309

Led by Lori Fahrbach and Rev. Katie Montgomery Mears

Striking a balance between work, motherhood, and all of the other things that fill up our lives can be tough... but the truth is that time spent studying scripture and being in fellowship with other women brings refreshment. Join Lori and Katie for encouragement and meaningful discussion about our faith.

Women's Bible Study at Gethsemane (See p. 18)

Tuesdays | 12-1 p.m. | PX cafe | Led by Rev. Julie Ellerbrock

Moms of Littles

Tuesdays | 9:30-10:30 a.m. | ES309 and Online | Led by Cindy Donaldson

Want to join a community of other moms to share in the joys and hardships of motherhood? We just were not made to do it alone. Together is better. This is a place to find friendship, community, resources, and support as we grow in our faith together. Childcare is available with reservation.

Register: StLukesMethodist.org/groups

Save the Date

Saturday, November 8 | 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

A Beautiful Creation Women's Retreat

Our full-day creative retreat returns! Details coming soon.



The Psalms are the Bible's prayer book.

They speak directly to every season of life—from celebrating God's faithfulness to honestly expressing our deepest doubts—and these ancient prayers can be a guide for our own worship, hopes, and struggles.

Join us for Scripture+Shared starting September 28.

Discover how the Psalms can transform your prayer life and deepen your relationship with God. Look for registration information in September, or study with your existing small group or Sunday School class.

Interested in starting a small group?

Grab a few friends and contact Katie Brown at kbrown@stlukesmethodist.org.



Working Faith Breakfast Series



New day and time! You don't want to miss it!
We will kick off our monthly Working Faith Breakfast series on Thursday, September 4 | 7–8 a.m. | branches building

Each month, we will feature a thought-provoking speaker who will challenge us to live out the Gospel in our respective workplaces and hold small group table discussions on Working Faith questions that the speaker poses. We will meet on the 1st Thursday of each month from 7–8 a.m. in the branches building. We also offer a livestream option if you are already at work or commuting at this time, so please join us virtually if that's best for you.

Working Faith Cohort

Ever wonder how your Sunday and Monday are connected? A new Working Faith cohort is launching this fall to help you explore the connection between your faith and your work in an intentional way with other Christ followers in the corporate world. Email Drew Scoggins: dscoggins@stlukesmethodist.org

Working Faith Mentorship

Our Mentorship Ministry is a group of St. Luke's members who support mentees as they navigate faith, work, family, and community life. Email Drew Scoggins: dscoggins@stlukesmethodist.org for more information.



Trunk or Treat

Sunday, October 19 | 4:30–6 p.m. | South Parking Lot

Our families' new favorite tradition is back! Invite a friend to this free event, and join us for Kona Ice, treats, games, music, and, of course, costumes!

Churchwide Social

Sunday, October 26 | 10:50 a.m.–12:15 p.m. | Ellipse

Everyone is invited to join us for snacks, games, music, and fun. Meet other St. Luke's families after Sunday School!

Children's Ministries



Decoding Digital Stress: Guiding Our Youth Through Anxiety and Technology Sunday, September 14 | 4–5:30 p.m.

St. Luke's Parenting Center is thrilled to welcome back Dr. Chelsie N. Sargent, DPC, LPC-S, as she walks us through topics including:

- Understanding generational divides and technology
- How to talk to your kids about anxiety
- Navigating technology and social media in your family
- Creating sacred spaces in your home for technology-free connection

The cost is \$10, and childcare is available (registration required) at stlukesmethodist.org/parentingcenter



Playground Playdates

**Sunday, September 21 & November 2
10:50 a.m.–12:15 p.m. | Edloe Playground**

Two-year-olds through PreK children and their families are invited to join us for snacks and fellowship. This is a great opportunity to meet other families in your child's Sunday school class!

Children's Church Service Project

Sunday, November 2 | 10:50 a.m.–12:15 p.m. | ES213

Children in Kinder–5th Grade are invited to participate in a service project during Children's Church supporting Kids' Meals. The cost is \$20 per child to cover supplies. Register: stlukesmethodist.org/children

Visit StLukesMethodist.org/children for more information, and follow us on social media @stlukeschildren

Students

Vision Morning
Sunday, August 24 | 9:45–11 a.m.
Student Ministries Building

Come for the breakfast tacos and stay for the community! All families with students in 6th–12th grade are invited to come hear about small groups, trips, and events we are offering this year. Those who attend will receive discounts on trips and events for the year!

6th Grade Confirmation Begins
Sunday, September 7 | 9:45–10:50 a.m.
Student Ministries Building

Through interactive lectures, table discussions, and retreats, students make connections and friendships that we hope will last a lifetime—all while engaging with scripture and discovering what it means to be part of God’s big story.

Sunday Night Live Returns
September 7 | 5–7 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

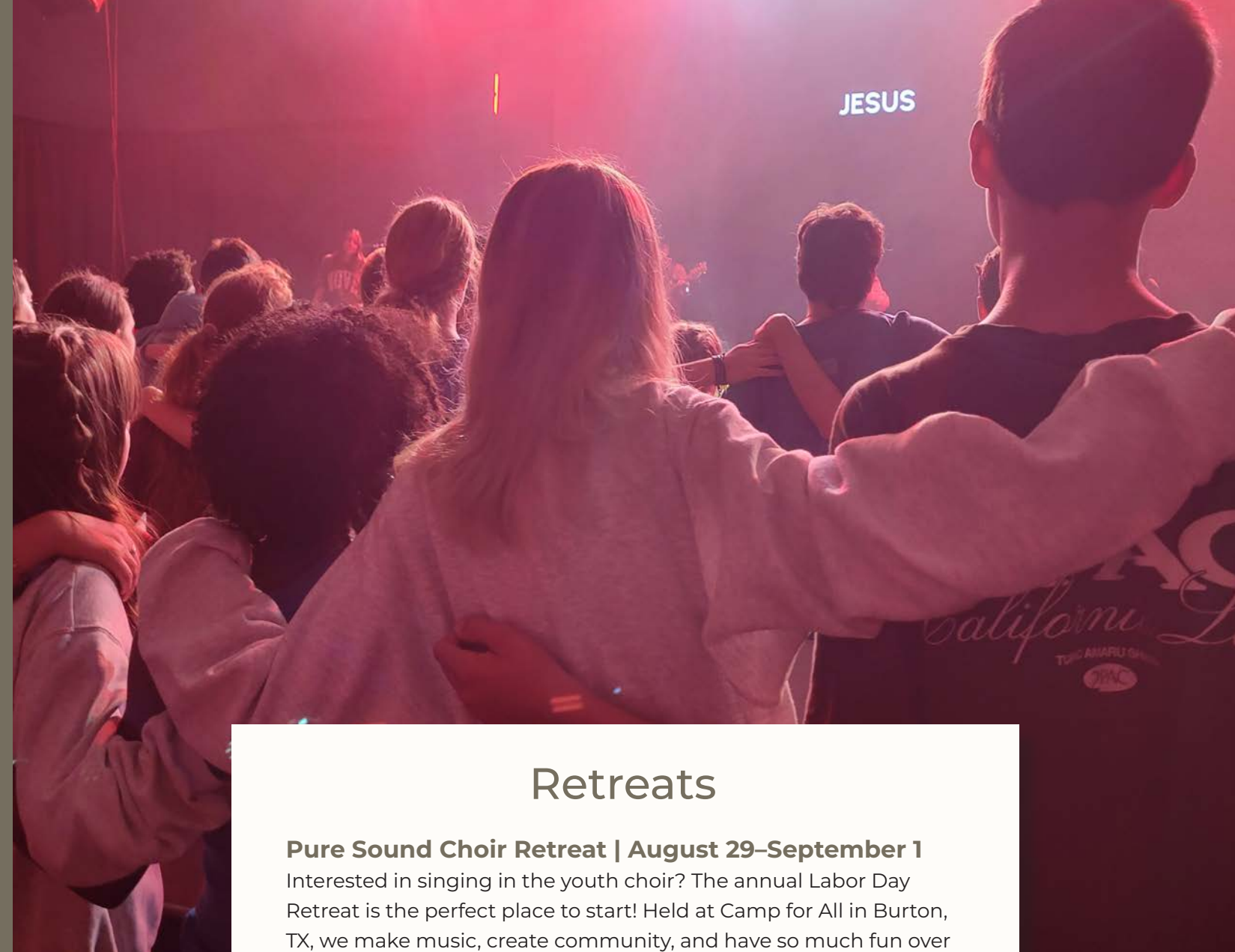
Join our whole church family for an evening of food, fellowship, and friendly competition at Bingo Night! Student Ministries will have nine-square and other lawn games set up outside. Friends are always welcome! Cost \$10.

Small Group Kickoff
Wednesday, September 10 | 7–8:30 p.m.
Student Ministries Building

Student small groups kick off with games and fun in the Student Ministries Building! Watch your email for more information.

Small Groups Begin
Wednesday, September 17 | 7–8:30 p.m.
Area Host Homes

Each week, students gather to eat dinner, catch up with friends, and explore the Bible through discussion-based studies guided by volunteers. Students are placed in host homes for the year based on grade and gender.



Retreats

Pure Sound Choir Retreat | August 29–September 1

Interested in singing in the youth choir? The annual Labor Day Retreat is the perfect place to start! Held at Camp for All in Burton, TX, we make music, create community, and have so much fun over four days. Cost \$340

Middle School Fall Retreat | September 26–28

Students in grades 6–8 are invited to Stoney Creek Ranch! We’ll sleep in cabins, worship and learn together, and enjoy amazing outside recreation, games and lake activities. Cost \$285

High School Fall Retreat | October 24–26

Students in 9th–12th grade are invited to a weekend getaway just for them! We will spend time disconnecting from technology and the stress of our daily lives. We’ll stay in cabins and immerse ourselves in nature, enjoying recreational activities with plenty of time to relax. Cost \$285

Follow us on Instagram! [@stlukes_students](#)



The Big Serve

One Day | One City | One Church Family
November 1 | 9 a.m.–12 p.m.

Bring your friends, family, or small group and join us for this special day filled with simple acts of service that make a big community impact!

Sign up to love our city
StLukesMethodist.org/bigserve

Change a Life!

Mentor a preschooler through Small Steps Nurturing Center, a child at Sutton Elementary or Briarmeadow Charter School through Kids Hope , or a student at Lamar High School through Houston reVision.

Second Saturday Serve

Looking for a meaningful way to spend a Saturday morning?

- Make sandwiches for Kids' Meals (ages 5+) 9–11 a.m.
- Drop off non-perishable foods at our Food Drive (all ages) 9 a.m.–12 p.m.
- Come to the Woodshop and make toys for kids (ages 18+) 9–11 a.m.

StLukesMethodist.org/ministry/outreach

To learn more about any of these opportunities to serve, contact Karen McCarver:
kmccarver@stlukesmethodist.org.

Wednesday Night Fellowship

Wednesdays | Gethsemane | 6 p.m.

The fellowship hall of our Gethsemane campus is packed every Wednesday night with young people coming from The Garden or school sports practices as well as neighbors of all ages that live in Gulfton/ Sharpstown. The community depends on this free meal and the space to experience connection, belonging, and access to church and community resources. Sign up to provide food and/or serve and clean!

StLukesMethodist.org/wnf

What's better than Thanksgiving Dinner?

Neighborhood Thanksgiving Dinner
Wednesday, November 19 | 5:30 p.m.
Gethsemane Campus

Help us put on a traditional Thanksgiving dinner for neighbors who are new to the US!

Love to cook?

Purchase and prepare a turkey, your favorite Thanksgiving side dish, or a dessert and deliver it in a disposable serving dish!

Enjoy being behind-the-scenes?

Sign up to help decorate tables, serve food, or clean up after dinner!

StLukesMethodist.org/thanksgiving

Music & Fine Arts

Pure Sound Youth Choir’s 30th Annual Retreat | August 29–September 1 | Camp For All, Burton, TX
Going on our annual Labor Day Retreat is the perfect place to get plugged in to our fun and supportive youth choir. We make music, create community, and most importantly, have so much fun over four days. Grades 6-12. Contact Grace Roman for more information: groman@stlukesmethodist.org.

SundaySing! Round Up | Friday, August 29 | 5:30–7 p.m.
SundaySing! for grades 1–5 kicks off the year with their “Round Up” in the Rotunda Theater. To register your child, please visit stlukesmethodist.org/sundaysing. Contact Jake Woodson for more information: jwoodson@stlukesmethodist.org.

Bridges Academy Fall Registration
Did you know we have a music academy at St. Luke’s? Our faculty of 20+ instructors are some of Houston’s finest, teaching piano, strings, voice, guitar, organ, winds, and percussion to students of all ages! Visit our website to learn more: www.bridgesfinearts.org.

Choir Kickoff Potluck
Wednesday, September 3, 5–7 p.m. | Fellowship Hall
Bring your favorite side dish to the potluck and then come to one of our rehearsals afterwards, whether it’s our men’s or women’s chorus (Veritas or St. Cecilia) and/or our mixed chorus (Chancel Choir.) No audition or experience is required. Contact Grace Roman for more information: groman@stlukesmethodist.org.

Tapestry Players Auditions
Sunday, September 7 | 1 – 4 p.m. and Monday, September 8 | 6:30.– 9 p.m. | Rotunda Theater
Our resident theater company will hold auditions for the play *Almost, Maine* and a new, original work by Angela Foster tentatively titled *Beauty and the Beast: An Enchanted Retelling*, running October 16-19 and December 6-7, respectively. Details and signup: tapestryplayers.org/auditions.

Pure Sound Pumpkin Patch on the Front Lawn
October 4–31 | Monday-Saturday from 10 a.m.–6 p.m. and Sundays from 9 a.m.–6 p.m.
Come get your pumpkins while supporting our Pure Sound Youth Choir in their biggest fundraiser of the year. This is also the perfect place to take some gorgeous fall family photos! See you there!

Organ Anniversary Concert with Jim Roman | Friday, October 10 | 7 p.m. | Sanctuary
St. Luke’s Organist & Artist-in-Residence, Jim Roman, guides you through a musical journey that explores the many sounds and colors of the organ along the way—perhaps in ways you might not hear on a Sunday morning!

Tapestry Players presents *Almost, Maine* | October 16–19 | Rotunda Theater
In this charming and unexpected journey, ordinary people in an extraordinary town discover the joys, sorrows, and surprises that come with opening their hearts—offering laughter, reflection, and a touch of theatrical wonder you won’t want to miss. Visit tapestryplayers.org/almostmaine for tickets.

Christmas Greenery on sale late September through early November
Support Pure Sound Youth Choir and order some beautiful Christmas greenery this year, fresh from the Pacific Northwest! This greenery is also able to be shipped anywhere in the contiguous United States, so it also makes a wonderful holiday gift for family and friends! Greenery is delivered after Thanksgiving. Contact Grace Roman to place your order: groman@stlukesmethodist.org.

Gesualdo Six in Concert
October 23 | 7:30 p.m. | Sanctuary
Come see this award-winning British vocal ensemble in a stunning evening of choral music. Tickets will go on sale soon. Contact Grace Roman for more information: groman@stlukesmethodist.org.

Follow us on social media @stlukesmusic



Gethsemane



We study the Bible... in English, Spanish and Swahili

Women's Bible Study | Tuesdays | 12-1 p.m.

This commitment is simple—just come. The conversations are rich. The studies are impactful. The relationships formed are life changing. A special bonus: we meet in the PX cafe! Led by Rev. Julie Ellerbrock: jellerbrock@stlukesmethodist.org

Higher Grounds | Thursdays | 10 a.m.

Join this open group, led by Corky Fowler, as we explore a specific scripture passage each week and learn new Bible study strategies.

Mosaic Class | Sundays | 9:30 a.m.

Each class requires no preparation or prior knowledge for scripture. We talk, observe new things in scripture, ask all our questions and laugh together. Scripture is provided in English, Spanish, Swahili, and we are happy to add more. Come check us out!

Challengers Sunday | Sundays | 9:30 a.m.

While this class is primarily older adults, Challengers warmly welcomes all to grow in friendship and faith together.

Bible Studies

Getsemani Class | Domingo | 10 a.m.

Únase a nosotros para el estudio bíblico y conversaciones en español

Basics of Our Faith | Wednesdays September 10–October 15 | 6:45 p.m.

What does it mean to be a Christian? To be a part of our Methodist Church? Join us for six weeks as we dig into the basics of our faith and denomination. Led by Rev. Julie Ellerbrock

Fundamentos de Nuestra Fe Miércoles 10 de Sept.-19 de Oct | 6:45 p.m.

¿Qué significa ser cristiano? ¿Ser parte de nuestra Iglesia Metodista? Acompáñenos durante seis semanas para profundizar en los fundamentos de nuestra fe y denominación. Guiado por Juana Chavez.

gethchurch.org

Follow us on Instagram, youtube, facebook:
[@stlukesgethsemane](https://www.instagram.com/stlukesgethsemane)

More at Gethsemane...

Silver Circle | Canterbury Hall

Dates to be announced

Calling all senior adults! Join us for monthly games, lunch, and fellowship! Sign up to receive notifications of these upcoming events by contacting Getrida Deleo gdeleo@stlukesmethodist.org.

Wednesday Night Fellowship

Every Wednesday beginning August 20 | 6-7 p.m. | Free Meal

Join us for our favorite night of the week! Enjoy a free dinner, fun activities and small groups, games, worship, service projects, and more!

AUGUST

Children & Youth Kickoff | August 17 | 12 p.m.

Kids and youth, don't rush home after service. Stick around for a Sunday Funday packed with games, giggles, and goodies!

Kinship Sunday Multicultural Worship | August 31 | 11 a.m.

Join our congregations in English, Spanish, and Swahili as we gather to proclaim one name: JESUS! You're invited to bring a side dish to share for kinship lunch at 12:15 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

College & Young Adults Ministries | September 7

This fall, we are inviting all young adults, college students, and those who are looking for a place to grow their faith to come find real community and be inspired! Join us for worship at 11 a.m. with lunch to follow.

OCTOBER

Trunk or Treat | October 29 | 6 p.m. | West Parking Lot

Get ready for a spooktacular evening! Dress up and be part of the magic. We'll be serving dinner outside, making it a night filled with spook-tastic fun! Let's make memories that will haunt us with laughter.

NOVEMBER

November 1 | The Big Serve | 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. (Details on p. 14)

One day. One church. One city. Join us on November 1 for The Big Serve! We're filling hundreds of volunteer opportunities and working together to make a powerful impact on the city we love.

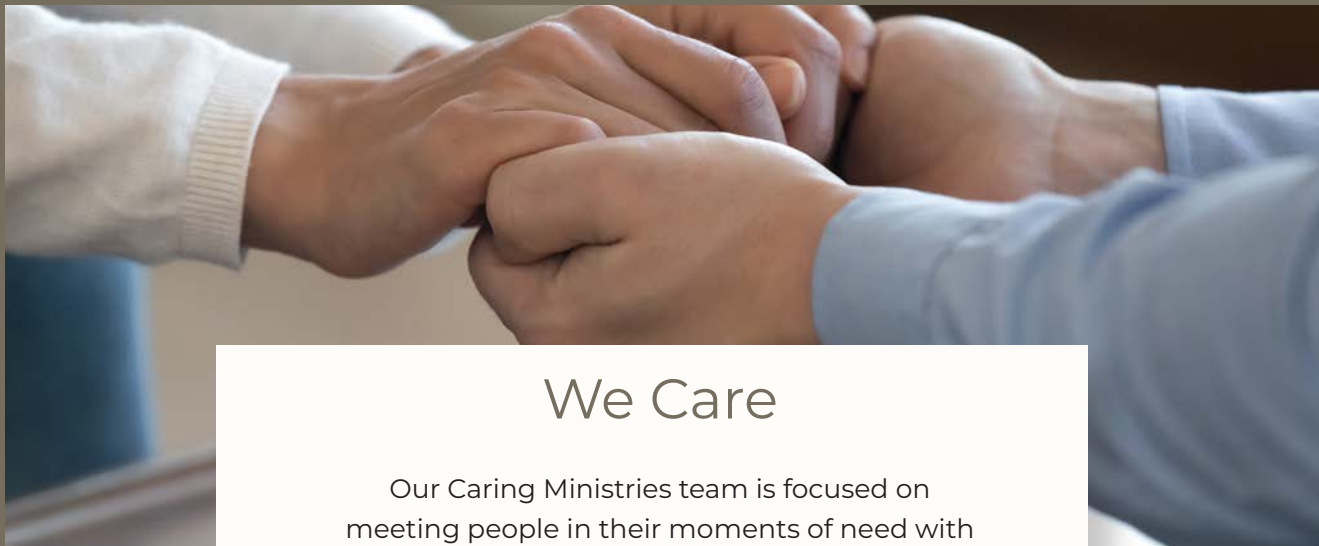
Las Americas & Newcomer Thanksgiving Dinner | Wednesday, November 19 | 5:30-7 p.m.

Join us for this special Thanksgiving Dinner— an annual feast of gratitude, unity, and cultural delights that warms hearts and fosters community.

The Garden

The Garden youth center for ages 11–24 has welcomed over 1,000 members since opening in June 2024! We're launched new sports, arts, and community programs for fall. Join us Monday–Thursday, 4–7:30 p.m., or Friday, 3–6:30 p.m.

For details, contact Ryan Villarreal: R.villarreal@thegardenhtx.org



We Care

Our Caring Ministries team is focused on meeting people in their moments of need with compassion, mercy, and a word of grace. We seek to come alongside those in our congregation and community who may benefit from an added measure of God's unconditional love.

Experiencing the loss of a loved one? GriefShare begins Tuesday, September 9 | 1-2:30 p.m. | ES301

Whether it is the loss of a spouse, a parent, a child, a sibling, or friend, the pain of grief can be intense and each person has a unique story to share. In this small 13-week group, we give voice to our personal and shared grief. Workbook/Participant Guide \$20. If you feel the time may be right to seek help on this journey, contact Katrina Dagher: kdagher@stlukesmethodist.org.

Hurting from the pain of separation or divorce? DivorceCare begins Tuesday, August 29 | 6:30-8:30 p.m. | ES314

DivorceCare is a safe place where a caring group of friendly people will walk alongside you to find healing and hope from the pain of separation or divorce. During this 13-week video-based program, you'll find helpful guidance to manage the emotional turmoil and practical tools for decision-making. The group meets on Tuesday evenings, beginning August 19 at 6:30. The \$25.00 registration fee is for workbooks. Contact Facilitator Doug Boyer: DC.Boyer@outlook.com, or register online: www.divorcecare.org/groups/265158

Need prayer, a visit, or a listening ear?

Prayer: Our dedicated prayer team would like to pray for you throughout the week. Please submit your prayer requests either electronically via the church website or app, or by filling out a pew card on Sunday.

Visits: If you or a loved one is in the hospital, rehab, hospice, entering long-term care, or undergoing a medical procedure, please let Caring Ministries know so we can offer support through prayer and care.

Stephen Ministers: If you are going through a difficult time, a trained Stephen Minister can offer one-on-one, confidential support, and a listening ear.

Please let us know by contacting Katrina Dagher: kdagher@stlukesmethodist.org or 713-402-5004 or by calling the church office at 713-622-5710.



Senior Adults

To learn more and to register for senior adult events:
StLukesMethodist.org/senior-adults

Thursday with Friends

End of Summer Special:
All About the Organ! with Jim Roman
August 21 | 10:30 a.m. | Sanctuary

Afternoon at the Movies:
Bye Bye Birdie
September 4 | 1:30 p.m. | Rotunda Theater

Serve with Friends
September 11 | 9:30-11:30 a.m. | ES314

St. Luke's Senior Adult Fall Kickoff and "Picnic":
Rob Landes Returns!
September 18 | 11 a.m.-1 p.m. | Choir Room

Day Trip:
Houston Maritime Center and Museum
September 25 | 10:45 a.m.-3 p.m. | \$10

Program and Luncheon:
Scammers and Fraudsters and Tricksters, Oh My!
October 2 | 11 a.m.-1 p.m. | ES314

Serve with Friends
Kids' Hope and Periwinkle Foundation
October 9 | 9:30 a.m.

Dinner and a Show: *Almost Maine*
October 16 | 6 p.m. | Hines Baker Room

Day Trip
October 23

Afternoon at the Movies
November 6 | 1:30 p.m. | Rotunda

Program and Luncheon
November 13 | 11 a.m.-1 p.m. | ES314

Other Opportunities

Amazing Place
Memory Enhancement Training
Wednesdays | October 8 and 15 | 1 p.m.

Caregiver Conference
Saturday, October 25 | 8:30 a.m.-noon

Games Groups on Mondays
Bridge: Contact Kathy Austin 713-252-6727.
Mah Jongg: Contact Ann Weiss 832-969-0676.

Women's Book Group
2nd Mondays | 10 a.m. | ES306
Contact Janet Knight: jsknight88@att.net

Caregiver Support Groups

- **Alzheimer's Caregivers Group (MEN ONLY)**
3rd Tuesday of each month | 1:30-3 p.m.
Contact: Don German 713-899-6522 or Bob McClelland 713-205-6408
- **Caregivers' Caregiving Group**
4th Tuesday of each month | ES301 | 10-11:30 a.m.
Contact Honi Boudreaux: 832-656-0049

Did you know that St. Luke's has a durable medical equipment lending closet available?
If you find yourself with a short-term need for a wheelchair, walker, or rollator or have one of these items to donate to the closet, contact Mary Schuler: mschuler@stlukesmethodist.org.

We make friends.



Community Night: Bingo Edition

Sunday, September 7 | 5–7 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

Don't miss an evening of food, fellowship, and friendly competition at our fall Community Night: Bingo Edition in Fellowship Hall. All ages are welcome to participate, and we'll have special children's tables and student activities available as well! Bring a friend and get ready for prizes, laughs, and a warm St. Luke's welcome to all.

Details and registration:
StLukesMethodist.org/communitynight

Coffee with the Pastor

Interested in church membership? Take the first step.

Join Dr. Tom Pace, Senior Pastor at St. Luke's, for coffee as he shares his spiritual journey and invites you to examine your own. You will learn more about St. Luke's vision, structure, mission, and what it means to be a member of our church. Register: StLukesMethodist.org/CWP

Wednesday, August 27 | 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 19 | 4– 6 p.m.

Sunday, December 7 | 4– 6 p.m.

Starting Point | An opportunity to “jumpstart” your spiritual journey!

Sunday, September 14 | 9:45–10:45 a.m. | ES308 and

Sunday, November 16 | 9:45–10:45 a.m. | ES308

Whether you recently joined the church or have been here a while but haven't found your +1 or a way to get connected, this class is for you!

Pickleball at St. Luke's. We have open court play for all levels

Saturdays 9 a.m.–noon and Sundays 4–6:30 p.m. | Activity Center

Register: StLukesMethodist.org/pickleball | Questions? mschuler@stlukesmethodist.org

Coming in October!

You're Invited to Join a Neighborhood Group!

Gather with our church family in your neighborhood. You'll share a potluck-style meal together and share stories of what God is doing in your life. This is a great opportunity to meet new friends and grow in your relationship with others in our church family. Please contact Katie Brown if you would like to host a group or register to be a part of one. These groups fill up fast, and we look forward to you being a part of one!



Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 5 | 3:30–4:30 p.m.
On the Ellipse

Save the date and celebrate the Feast of St. Francis! Bring your beloved pets for a special blessing by one of our pastors. Don't miss this opportunity to invite your neighbors to receive blessings for their furry friends too. See you there!



Pure Sound Pumpkin Patch | October 4–31

Monday-Saturday from 10 a.m.–6 p.m.
Sundays from 9 a.m.–6 p.m.

Come get your pumpkins while supporting our Pure Sound Youth Choir in their biggest fundraiser of the year. This is also the perfect place to take some gorgeous fall family photos! See you there!

Family Reunion Church Conference

Sunday, September 28 | 4–5:30 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

Come hear updates and learn all that St. Luke's is doing.



branches is celebrating its third birthday this September with a special night of worship. Join us September 18 at 7 p.m. to pray, worship and look forward to what God will do in our community in the future. We're so excited about everything God has done these last three years at branches and look forward to celebrating with you this year!

If we say we want to live and love like Jesus, then our starting point should be immersing ourselves in His story, over and over.

Common is a shared, daily rhythm of reading one chapter from the Gospels every day, starting with Matthew 1, going all the way to John 21, and looping back to Matthew again.

It's not a class. It's not a short-term plan. It's an ongoing, simple practice of formation in the way of Jesus—together.

Learn more: brancheshtx.org/common



Young Adults

Are you in your 20s or 30s and looking for community? We are glad you're here and want to welcome you to join us as we grow closer to God and one another! Some of our events are just for people in this same life stage, while other events are intergenerational and are a great way to get to know more people in our church family! You can find all of our weekly and monthly events listed at StLukesMethodist.org/youngadults. If you have any questions or would like more information, please reach out to Katie Brown at kbrown@stlukesmethodist.org. She would love to meet you and help you find a place to grow in your faith and community.



Dr. Matthew L. Skinner

Matthew Skinner is a New Testament professor at Luther Seminary in Saint Paul, Minnesota. His teaching experience covers the full range of the New Testament canon. His courses focus on the ancient settings and circumstances surrounding the creation and preservation of Biblical writings and how this literature continues to be experienced and interpreted in congregations and other public venues.

You're Invited: A Special Sunday with Dr. Matthew Skinner as our guest preacher on November 16

What does it mean to live as people of "Advent"—followers of Christ who look to the future with hope while fully engaging in the beauty and calling of the present? Dr. Skinner's message will inspire us to live faithfully, expectantly, and with purpose.

Join a small group as we journey through his newest book, *Voices of Advent*—a meaningful way to connect and reflect on how Advent shapes our daily lives, preparing us for the birth of Christ.

Look for details on our website. We'd love for you to be part of the journey!



CLICK TO CONNECT with St. Luke's Online!

Download the App!

You can livestream Sunday morning services, catch up on past sermons, send us a prayer request, give securely online, and stay up to date on events and activities.

Get the app at StLukesMethodist.org/app

Join the conversation!

Did you know you can do even more online? Working Faith Breakfast speakers, Bible studies, sermon Discussions, and our Family Reunion church conference are all available.

Check them out at StLukesMethodist.org/online

Click, Like, Subscribe, Follow!

Our social media accounts are a great way to stay connected.



[stlukeshouston](https://www.facebook.com/stlukeshouston)



[stlukeshouston](https://www.instagram.com/stlukeshouston)



[StLukesUMCHouston](https://www.youtube.com/StLukesUMCHouston)



For the Common

GOOD

*"A demonstration of the Spirit is given
to each person **for the common good**"*
1 Corinthians 12:7

GENEROSITY 2026



SAVE THE DATE: A Sunday for the Common Good
Sunday, October 26

Mark your calendar for a powerful day in the life of our church.
Commitment Sunday is more than a moment to pledge;
it's a celebration of how we live generously **for the common good**.

Leaving a Legacy



ST. LUKE'S
LEGACY SOCIETY

The leaders of St. Luke's United Methodist Church created the St. Luke's Methodist Church Foundation in 1961 to support the church's programs and ministries. As a member of the St. Luke's family, you can help perpetuate this mission by including a gift to the Foundation in your will. Your planned gift will ensure the future of the church you love and make a lasting impact on those who follow in your footsteps. If you have already included St. Luke's in your estate plans, please let us know—we would be honored to recognize your generosity and welcome you as a member of the St. Luke's Legacy Society. Members of the Legacy Society are invited to special gatherings throughout the year. If you are considering a legacy gift, we invite you to contact Jamie Grissom: jgrissom@stlukeshouston.org to learn more.

Guard the good treasure that was entrusted to you. 2 Timothy 1:14

SAVE THE DATE

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OCT 4	Blessing of the Animals - p. 22
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