

# ST. LUKE NEWS

April & May

2025



## Texas Ramp Ministries Project



On March 15th St. Luke partnered with Texas Ramp Ministries to build a ramp for a family in need. We are extremely grateful for the volunteers from St. Luke UMC and Kappa Delta Rho from ASU, for coming together to give back to our community. We look forward to future volunteer opportunities in our community.

Congratulations to our very own Dave Engelman for receiving SAISD's teacher of the week award this past month! Congrats, Dave! keep on rocking!



*"We filled up both of the fabric bins with household cleaning supplies. When I delivered them to Rust Street Ministries, they were most grateful! Thanks everyone."*  
- Cathy Talley, Chair of Missions Committee



We are so excited to introduce our new church custodian, Armando Ramon, to the St. Luke Family.



## RUST STREET MINISTRIES

We are taking donations of household cleaning items to donate to Rust Street Ministries. Pick a four leaf clover and help our community.



## PROJECT DIGNIDAD

An ecumenical ministry providing food and clothing to individuals and families in emergency situations since 1976

We are taking year round donations of non-perishable food items to help our community in need. Please place all non-perishable food items into the box labeled "Project Dignidad" located in the Narthex





# PASTOR'S PEN

At St. Luke UMC, we are living into the steadfast love of God—*hesed*—through worship, study, and the ways we show up for one another and our neighbors. This love is not just a feeling; it's a commitment, a practice, a way of life. And lately, we've seen it come alive in some incredible ways.

Our *Ramp Ministry* made a real difference for a family in need, thanks to the partnership between us, Kappa Delta Rho and Texas Ramp Ministry. So many of you came out, giving your time and effort with steadfast love and care. A simple ramp became a symbol of accessibility, dignity, and compassion—love in action.

A new initiative, *Cancer Companions*, is taking shape in our church because of that same deep care for others. Bill Yorston and Leigh Lloyd are leading the charge, preparing to launch Concho Valley Cancer Companions once their training and marketing are complete. This ministry will walk alongside those facing the challenges of cancer, offering support, prayer, and a listening ear—with steadfast love and care. Our District provided a grant to cover this new initiative.

You also showed up for the LGBTQ+ community by coming to hear from Jennie Wagner of Open Arms. Your willingness to learn, to engage in meaningful conversation, and to stand with others in love is a testament to the heart of this church. And we're not stopping there! In July, we will host a mixer for LGBTQ+ adults, a space where, for some, it will be the first time they've experienced steadfast love and care on a church campus. What a witness to God's inclusive love! A grant received from our conference will help offset expenses for this endeavor.

Your outreach team delivered drinks to the Preschool and to Bradford Elementary School, as part of their consistently loving outreach program. It matters deeply to those who receive the "thank you," knowing there is a church praying for them, consistently, steadfastly.

Every day, we are on the road with Christ. We're learning, growing, and embodying the vitality of the Holy Spirit in ways that truly make a difference. As we journey through the remainder of Lent and into the Easter season, may we continue to be a people of *hesed*—steadfast, faithful, and overflowing with love.

## **Faith Formation and Fellowship**

Both our Sunday School class and *Hesed* Wednesday night gatherings have brought us together in Bible study and friendship. It has been a joy to do this through the Lenten season.

Our **Service Saturday** for March was a ramp build and we would like to partner with other community endeavors to do so monthly. Please talk with Matt Groth, Beth Gummere, or Pastor Janet if you have service opportunities St. Luke can put on the schedule.

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# St.Luke Budget Acct.

March 28, 2025

## INCOME:

Pledged Giving: \$23,440.95  
Unpledged Giving: \$11,210.31  
Miscellaneous Giving: \$0.00  
Total Income: \$34,651.26

## EXPENSES:

Administrative Expenses: \$3,262.37  
Building and Grounds: \$15,348.19  
Staff Salaries: \$9,682.56  
Programs: \$138.00  
Apportionments, Outreach, etc.: \$249.10  
Total Expenses: \$28,680.22

## April & May



### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Clayton Short- 3rd  
Addison McLaughlin- 4th  
Sydney Franke- 5th  
Cathy Pitcock- 8th  
Kelle Wilson- 14th  
Ashleigh Robles- 14th  
Chloe Hansen- 22nd

### MAY BIRTHDAYS

Billy Cavin- 1st  
Bruce Franke- 1st  
JoEllen Tianen- 12th  
David Engelman-17th  
Nicole Russwurm- 19th  
Larry Tianen-22nd

\*We are updating our list, if you want to be included or you know of someone who is no longer a member, please call the church office.  
(325)949-1545



# ST. LUKE

Child Development Center

## UPCOMING EVENTS!

WEDNESDAY- APRIL 2ND- FINAL PARENT CHAPEL FOR THE YEAR 9:30 AM

WEDNESDAY-APRIL 2ND- RAFFLE TICKET DRAWING- 1 PM on the Playground

WEDNESDAY-APRIL 9TH- EASTER EGGS DUE

FRIDAY- APRIL 11TH-RODEO (3'S AND UP- 10:30 in Skeete Hall)- EARLY DISMAL @ 11:45

APRIL 14TH-17TH- SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR- 8:00 AM-8:45 AM AND 1:15 PM-2 PM in Skeete Hall

WEDNESDAY-APRIL 16TH- EASTER EGG HUNT- More information to follow

FRIDAY- APRIL 18TH- NO SCHOOL  
EASTER MONDAY-APRIL 21ST- NO SCHOOL

WEDNESDAY-APRIL 23RD- PTO MEETING IN SKEETE HALL-12:30

FRIDAY-MAY 16TH - LAST DAY OF SCHOOL.

## Storybook Character Day



Mrs. Garcia's Class dressed as their favorite storybook character's

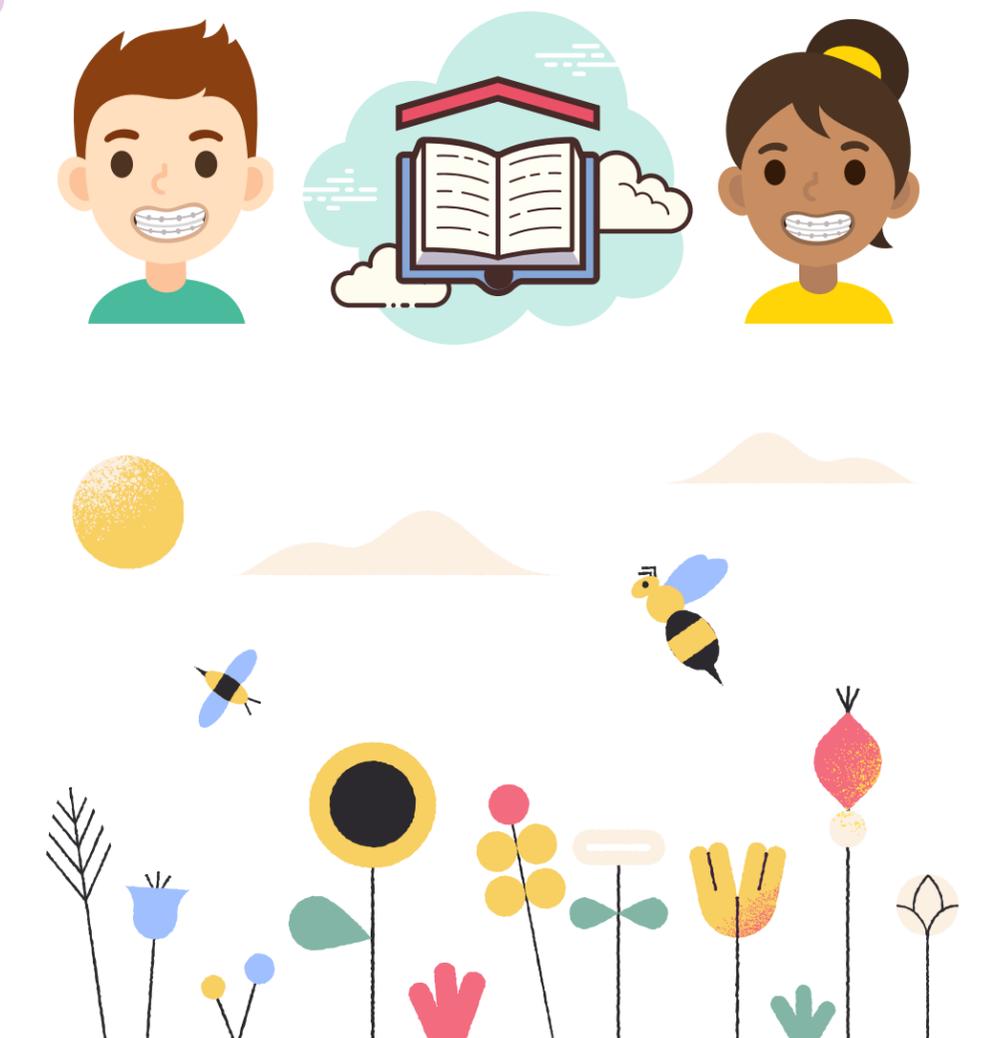


Mrs. Walter & Mrs. Sawyer as their favorite storybook character's

## CONTACT US

**CCDC Director- Mary Cook:**  
[stlukeccdc@gmail.com](mailto:stlukeccdc@gmail.com)  
**Phone: (325)-949-8311**

**CCDC Assistant Director:**  
**Renee Taylor**



## Church Grapples with the loss of foreign aid

By Heather Hahn March 25, 2025 | UM News



*The Rev. Stephanie Vader (left), senior pastor of Capitol Hill United Methodist Church, joins with parishioners in a protest in support of the U.S. Agency for International Development. USAID, which was established by Congress to distribute U.S. foreign aid, is being dismantled by the Trump administration without congressional action. Vader made the sign that says “USAID Makes America Great.” She said a parishioner who worked with the agency is most concerned that the suspension of the agency’s funds and work will cost lives on the continent of Africa. Photo courtesy of the Rev. Stephanie Vader, Capitol Hill United Methodist Church.*

### Key points:

- *United Methodists around the globe are feeling the impact of the cutoff of U.S. foreign aid.*
- *Africa University and the United Methodist Committee on Relief are among the United Methodist ministries that have long worked with partners in the U.S. government.*
- *A former United Methodist missionary explains why USAID has served both U.S. interests and her own call as a Christian.*

Read the full article at: <https://www.umnews.org/en/news/church-grapples-with-loss-of-foreign-aid>

## Youth ministries help historic churches stay vital



*Children in a science, technology, engineering and math class at Holman United Methodist Church in Los Angeles pose for a photo with Ricardo Mowatt, their teacher. The church’s STEM Center partnership with A-MAN Inc. started in 1991 to interest African American children in science education and careers. File photo courtesy of Holman United Methodist Church.*

*Editor’s note: This is the third in a four-part UM News series on legacy Black United Methodist churches that are maintaining their traditions while also doing innovative ministries to serve the present age. The series features venerable yet still vital African American churches in the United Methodist connection.*

Many historic African American United Methodist churches grew during the 20th century Great Migration that brought Black citizens from the rural South — with its poverty and oppression — to urban communities in the North and West searching for new opportunities.

Two such churches, St. Mark United Methodist in Chicago and Holman United Methodist in Los Angeles, established revered legacies of spiritual and social ministry that are still vital today. Much of their focus is on preparing youth for accomplished futures and collaborating with partners to forge effective outreach ministries that serve their growing communities.

Read the full article at: <https://www.umnews.org/en/news/youth-ministries-help-historic-churches-stay-vital>

## Rio Texas Realigns from 7 Districts to 3

Our conference is making some strategic adjustments as of July 1, 2025. These changes are a result of the disaffiliation process to make better use of resources.

For further information, please visit: <https://riotexas.org/new-districts>



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## *All Wednesdays In Lent*

Discover Lent: 6:00pm Community Meal  
6:30pm All ages activities

*April 13, 2025*

Palm Sunday

*April 17, 2025*

Maundy Thursday Service

*April 18, 2025*

Good Friday Service of Darkness

*April 20, 2025*

Easter Service - Combined

*This is what makes the church thrive and resound in a community: connections and care. Let's do this together!*

## Office Hours & Contact Information



**(325)949-1545**



**Mon-Thurs: 9:00am-4:30pm**  
**Friday: 9:00am-12:00pm**