

## *In this week's Steeple >>>*

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# *The Steeple*



May 12,  
2021

## The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church

### Senior Sunday

If you can believe it, graduation season is upon us. On May 21<sup>st</sup>, Bartlesville Public High School will hold a Commencement ceremony at Custer Stadium to honor the Class of 2021. Among the graduates are St. Luke's own: Evan Mitchell, Kyle Peterson, and Jaden Keirse. This week, nine days shy of their commencement, marks my last meeting with them as members of the Young Disciples group. Naming that gives me pause and the impulse to play "Don't You (Forget About Me)" by Simple Minds.

It's happening. I just told Jeff to brace himself.

I think it's safe to assume that the period ahead of our young friends will be charged with possibility, full of decisions, and (hopefully) wisdom beyond their years when it comes to encountering the fullness that is found in independence. I trust that the foundation Evan, Kyle, and Jaden have encountered in this community will serve them well in the years ahead... not in the sense that it offers them any absolutes, save two: that Jesus loves them, and that they possess the confidence to think for themselves when it comes down to serving the Lord, loving their neighbors, and taking care of themselves.

There are a host of ways we've figured out how to say "goodbye", "until then", or "see you later" when the situation warrants it. Despite this, I've always been intrigued by cultures that have no specific words that define a nuanced goodbye. For as much as there is some sense of finality in saying any goodbye, there also remains a hope that we will see those we love again. I think this is true whether that goodbye happens at the end of life or in the middle of it. Learning to love well means that when it's time, one of the things folks take with them when they go is a piece of us, just as those who go leave a piece of themselves behind. In that way, I guess love travels. This Sunday is the beginning of many goodbyes that will provide us all the opportunity to honor that exchange.

Beyond endings there is celebration. And I want Kyle, Evan, and Jaden to know that we celebrate them. There is no more fitting venue for us to do this than through the celebration of the Eucharist - the sacrament of unity which bears witness to the way we are joined to one another through Christ. So, just as part of you leaves, I know that the part of you which remains will always be present in the place we gather each week. No, not in the church perse - but in the very heart of God. There, we all will be, and there you'll be too - as close to us as prayer.

Deep Peace  
Fr. Nick+

## Pub Theology

Pub Theology is scheduled for May 27th, 7pm, at Painted Horse.

What is 'Pub Theology'? It's a time to gather informally and talk about different subjects around our core values of faith. What feeds your faith? Where did you see Jesus this week?

What literature are you reading that has had some inspiration for you?

A host of topics are brought up and discussed over drinks and appetizers.

(We pay our own tabs). There is usually a facilitator to throw out topics for discussion.

No politics, no gossip, and what is discussed in Pub Theology that is personal stays in the group. Respect the dignity of every person. It's a fun and relaxed time to get to know each other. Call Roseanne in the church office and let her know if you will be joining us so we can have enough tables set up at Painted Horse.

If you have any questions, contact Fr Nick, Penny Williams, or Nancy McGee.

We will be happy to share. Let's share some theology!



**Emily Update:** The May 1st yard sale at Roseanne's house, raised \$492.50 to be applied to the current balance of \$770, leaving \$277.50 owed.

The next hearing is 9 a.m. May 24, when the judge will decide on a motion to remove the ex-husband's attorney, due to a conflict of interest.



The 5/24 hearing will likely generate an attorney bill of \$275 making the balance \$552.50.

On April 19 Emily was awarded \$1,000 in attorney's fees, which when paid by her ex-husband will be applied to future legal fees. Emily thanks you for your donations/prayers!

## Diocesan Congregation COVID-19

# GUIDELINES

On Pentecost, May 23rd , we will remove all mandatory COVID protocols for congregations in the Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma, except for

- 1 Mask wearing 
- 2 Sanitizing hands 
- 3 No common cup 
- 4 No indoor eating 

Everything else is permitted including outdoor meals, nursery care, singing, use of books, in person meetings, and removing the social distancing requirements.

These protocols expire July 17th.

\*\*\*Churches may use discretion for their own guidelines\*\*\*

[EPIOK.ORG/COVID-19](https://EPIOK.ORG/COVID-19)



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

After a year of serving take-out meals, Agape Mission has reopened its dining room for inside dining. This reopening is a tremendous blessing to its clients since they once again can eat in a restaurant like setting with a sense of dignity. For the past year, we have been able to get along with a skeleton crew to make the take-out meals. Now it is time for us to "reopen" our commitment to serving those individuals who struggle in their daily lives and volunteer to give the diners a warm welcome and fill their plates with delicious food. We need one more volunteer to work serving meals and help with clean-up on the fourth Thursday of each month. Specifically, we need one volunteer for the 12:45 to approximately 2:00 shift. If you are interested, please email Becky Liehr at [jbliehr@gmail.com](mailto:jbliehr@gmail.com) <<mailto:jbliehr@gmail.com>> or call her at 918-327-5987. The blessings abound in this ministry as you become the hands of Christ to those individuals who otherwise may not have a well-balanced meal that day. Their smiles and gratitude for this service will warm your heart. Please prayerfully consider joining the St. Luke's team in this wonderful ministry.



## Easter Faith Forum Series

### *Resurrecting Wounds*

**Faith Forum 9:15 – 10:15 in Metcalf Hall**

Session Five: May 16<sup>th</sup> Discovering Wounds.

Session Six: May 23<sup>rd</sup> Communal Afterliving.

## FLOWER DONATIONS

Realizing how much everyone enjoys seeing the beautiful flowers on the Altar each Sunday, it is also important to understand that they do cost money.

Please consider choosing a Sunday that is special to you as a memorial tribute or honoring an important event and contribute to the Altar Guild Flower Fund. The suggested amount is \$45 total for both vases, but any extra donation is appreciated.

You may then have the exact wording you wish in the Sunday bulletin for that specific day. Checks may be dropped in the Sunday offering basket or left in the church office or locked mailbox beside the North door of the church.

Many thanks,  
Cheryl Fregin and Jo Baughman  
Flower Chairmen

## Regular Office Hours

Monday – Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

**Roseanne is on vacation May 10 – 17.**

**Jeff Birk will be filling in during her absence.**

Please note that even during office hours, the doors are locked per COVID-19 protocol. If you need to come in, just ring the north entrance bell or call the office at 918-336-1212.

## *St. Luke's Prayer List*

The prayer list can be found in the Sunday bulletin and on the St. Luke's website.

Call or email our office with prayer requests at 918-336-1212 or [office@episcopalbartlesville.org](mailto:office@episcopalbartlesville.org).

## Agape Mission Volunteer Schedule

### Thursday, May 13

10:45 am – 1 pm: Fr. Nick Phares, Becky Liehr, Kris Bonner, Dolores McCreary, Kathy Zervas

12:45 pm – 2 pm: Jeanne & Peter Julstrom, Wendy Hall

### Thursday, May 27

10:45 am – 1 pm: Jeff Birk, Darian Kedy, Becky Olsen, Dan Droege, Jo Baughman

12:45 pm – 2 p.m.: Steve Clark, Steve VanAken  
(one additional volunteer needed)

## **Bereavement Team 1**

Susie Clark, Nancy Woods, Sally Lindsey, Jeanne Julstrom.

## Planning to attend the upcoming Sunday service?

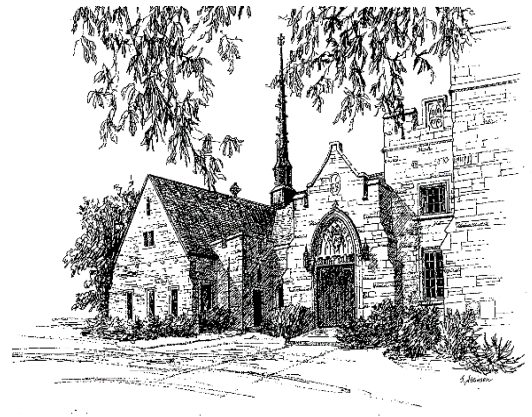
If you have a standing reservation, there's no need to call. However, if you've not been attending regularly in-person – Reserve your spot by emailing to [office@episcopalbartlesville.org](mailto:office@episcopalbartlesville.org) or by calling 918-336-1212.

## Connecting with St. Luke's

To learn various ways to connect at St. Luke's, visit our website at: <http://episcopalbartlesville.org/>

# Alert on solicitations...

Be aware – No one from St. Luke’s will request gift cards or other monetary support through email. If you receive such a message in your email, it is spam. All financial requests/special appeals at St. Luke’s go through normal channels and any special requests will be made by phone or in person.



## Birthdays and Anniversaries, May 12 - May 26

### Birthdays

Sigrid Williams, 12<sup>th</sup>  
Sydney Beasley, 12<sup>th</sup>  
Murphy Warring, 13<sup>th</sup>  
Robert Matthews, 14<sup>th</sup>  
Nancy Megee, 19<sup>th</sup>  
Steve Martin, 19<sup>th</sup>  
Jim Brooks, 20<sup>th</sup>  
Peter Julstrom, 20<sup>th</sup>  
Linda Maloney, 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Ed Beasley, 24<sup>th</sup>  
Susie Clark, 24<sup>th</sup>  
Gretchen Hoyt, 25<sup>th</sup>

### Anniversaries

Walt & Cindy Gasior, 16<sup>th</sup>  
Wendy & David Hall, 21<sup>st</sup>  
Kris & Glenn Bonner, 22<sup>nd</sup>

If your or a loved one’s name doesn’t appear on the list, please email or call the office, and we will add your birthday or anniversary!

### St. Luke’s Episcopal Church Contacts:

The Reverend Nick Phares, Rector  
269-788-7063; [RevPhares@outlook.com](mailto:RevPhares@outlook.com)  
Dolores McCreary, Choir Director/Organist  
918-397-4828 [dolomc37@gmail.com](mailto:dolomc37@gmail.com)  
Roseanne McKee, Secretary; 918-336-1212;  
[office@episcopalbartlesville.org](mailto:office@episcopalbartlesville.org)  
Keeli Droege, Christian Education Coord.;  
918-697-8509; [keelidroege@gmail.com](mailto:keelidroege@gmail.com)

St. Luke’s Episcopal Church  
210 East 9<sup>th</sup> St., Bartlesville, OK 74003

## St. Luke’s Vestry Members

- Dan Droege, Sr. Warden – [dbdcomm.2@gmail.com](mailto:dbdcomm.2@gmail.com) 918-331-7936
- Doug McIver, Jr. Warden - [dmciver@susandickcpa.com](mailto:dmciver@susandickcpa.com) 785-342-4328
- Penny Williams - [oklaborn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:oklaborn@sbcglobal.net)
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- Nancy Megee - [sc4me81@yahoo.com](mailto:sc4me81@yahoo.com)

# Online & Mobile Giving Through Tithe.ly

Now there's a way to support of St. Luke's with secure online or mobile methods. In conjunction with The Network for Episcopal Stewardship, the Tithe.ly online giving application is now available to St. Luke's members. The instructions for using this convenience are provided below and also on the [St. Luke's website](http://episcopalbartlesville.org) (<http://episcopalbartlesville.org>)

## Step-by-Step Instructions for Giving through Tithe.ly

- 1) Get started by going to Tithe.ly (yes, there's a dot between the "e" and the "l") and download the application. Go to: <https://get.tithe.ly/download-tithely-app>
- 2) From the above link, you may donate directly from your home computer (vs. your phone/mobile device) by picking the Give Online option OR you may donate from your phone or other mobile device by selecting either the Apple or Android (Google Play) version.
- 3) Open the application and enter your name and email, and then **create a personal password and PIN.**
- 4) In the **Find a Church** window at the top, type in: St. Luke's Episcopal Church (if several St. Luke's Episcopal Churches will pop up, be sure to pick ours in Bartlesville)
- 5) Select the method of payment at the bottom: credit, debit, or bank account withdrawal.
- 6) Enter the amount of your gift and indicate whether you would like it to be Recurring and at what frequency.
- 7) Pick **General Fund** as the destination.
- 8) If you want to provide the full amount of your gift to the church, check Cover Fees box and the Tithe.ly service charge will not be deducted from your gift to the church. There service charge is 2.75% + 0.30 per credit/debit card transaction, which reflects a slight discount through association with The Network for Episcopal Stewardship.
- 9) The application will save your donation information for the next time you give. All you have to do is enter your PIN. Both the Give Online and mobile methods of Tithe.ly giving are secure. If you have questions, they will probably be answered by clicking: <https://get.tithe.ly/faqs>

