

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

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- Father Nick and Teresa at St. Crispin's
- Funeral Announcements
- Open House at Rectory
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# *The Steeple*



June 9,  
2021

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



These days I find myself saying a lot of goodbyes. In proportion to “Hello” or “Hi. How are you?” however, farewells are a drop in the bucket – so there is that to consider. And yet, the feelings I have go quite deep. I don't know about you, but the emotional weight of these goodbyes is profound. After reflection, I realize that if the feelings I have in these moments are as strong as they are for me personally, I can only imagine how deep they go for some of you who are saying goodbye to lifelong friends and do dahs.

Throughout the years I have created a scrapbook of poems that I return to again and again when I am having trouble expressing what I need to. I don't know why I started but the fact remains that something about these poems captures an essence I can't quite put my finger on when approaching existential limits. I wonder if you have things like that or if there are mediums that help you make sense of feelings that are often intense and at times leave you wondering what you should do with them.

Something in me says that, as your priest, I should say that you should take those feelings to God in prayer, and you should! Please hear that. Nevertheless, I know there are times when we don't have the words. I've also had to learn that not having the words is okay - that silence is okay. I've even heard that silence was the first language, God's language, and therefore a powerful conduit of creation. Yet stillness and quietness often reveal a great restlessness within us. And the more I am silent, I realize that the part of me that is restless and that seeks has to do with these goodbyes, impermanence, and, most profoundly, hope.

In his book *Confessions*, St. Augustine opens up to God by saying, “our hearts are restless until they rest in you.” And, if there was ever a sentence that describes how I feel when standing next to someone when saying goodbye or who through circumstance must depart from our community, I feel a deep sense of restlessness that holds many other feelings. I wonder if you feel that way at times?

I believe that the part of me that is restless at those moments, that sees and feels these intense feelings of joy when I approach certain thresholds in life must be the part of what is deep in me calling out to what is deep in you. (Ps. 42:7) It must be the Spirit that Paul talks about in his letter to the Romans that calls to your Spirit, which is ultimately God's Spirit longing to be whole. Perhaps that is why goodbyes are so hard... because deep down we know we are meant to be together and that when we are, we are that much closer to God.

This, my friends, is something to celebrate and something to feel. The way we say goodbye matters. The way we feel matters a great deal. It bears witness to what once was and now, what will be. That is, until at long last, in the fullness of time we rest in Christ with those who sojourned with us in this wonderful thing called life.

Be still. Be at Peace. You are loved.

Fr. Nick+



Mark your calendars for Sat., June 26, 9-11 a.m. Let's all meet at the Pathfinder for an easy hike or stroll on one of Bartlesville's gems. Everyone is invited! Let's spend a portion of Saturday morning together out in God's front yard. We'll hike for a bit and meet back at the entrance for refresh-ments and fellowship. Trailhead entry to be announced. Feel free to invite others.



### **Father Nick and Teresa are going to St. Crispin's!**

Father Nick and Teresa have been asked to help lead formation and worship for the Rookie and ABC sessions at St. Crispin's. They will be there June 27-July 3 helping the K – 3<sup>rd</sup> graders learn about the gifts that God have given us to help us bring about justice and righteousness. They loved their time serving at Camp Beckwith in the Central Gulf Coast, and they are really excited for their first opportunity to serve at St. Crispin's!



## FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our sister Millie Harrison's funeral will be on Thursday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. We will celebrate the life of our sister Millie using Burial Office, Rite II with Holy Eucharist. There will be a cookie reception to follow.



Our sister Evelyn Tibbits' funeral will be on Saturday, July 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. We will celebrate the life of our sister Evelyn using Burial Office, Rite I with Holy Eucharist. There will be a reception to follow.



### *Open House at the Rectory*



**Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

Stop by the Phares Family Home to gather with Father Nick, his family, and other church friends! The pool will be open and the refreshments will be flowing. Kids are welcome! Our address is 2649 Regency Road. See you there!  
Feel free to invite others.



## Keeli Droege Piano

Tuesday, June 15, 11:00 a.m. •  
Bartlesville Community Center  
Community Hall

*Free; RSVP required*

Join us for a beautiful piano performance with local musician Keeli Droege as she takes festival-goers around the world. Compositions include works by Debussy, Bartok and Granados. Droege began playing piano at the age of nine and was running her own mobile piano studio by the age of sixteen. She received her Bachelor of Music at the University of Northern Colorado's School of Music.

**To attend Keeli's performance, RSVP to the OKM Music  
by calling 918-336-9900 or via the website at  
[www.okmmusic.org](http://www.okmmusic.org)**

Emily update: the next yard sale fundraiser for Emily's legal fees in her custody case has been scheduled for June 12 from 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. at 1328 S. Cherokee Avenue – weather permitting.

Funds raised will be used to pay the outstanding attorney's fees of \$752.50 and for the cost of the next hearing June 14, expected to cost \$550.

The \$2,000 retainer needed for a guardian ad litem, which the judge ordered at the last hearing May 26, has been donated by a local business.

## Agape Mission Volunteer Schedule

### Thursday, June 10

Agape will be closed for the week.

### Thursday, June 24

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, Carol Murphy

## 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

## 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  
[StLukesBartlesville@outlook.com](mailto:StLukesBartlesville@outlook.com)

Follow us on Facebook at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Join Father Nick for live prayer most weekdays at 5 p.m.

## Pub Theology

Pub Theology is scheduled for the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month.

The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 24 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 Megee.

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



### Regular Office Hours

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

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.

### Bereavement Team 1

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

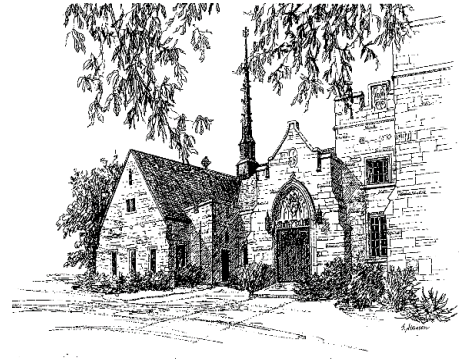
### Connecting with St. Luke's

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, June 9 – 20

### Birthdays

Dolores Theis, 13<sup>th</sup>  
The Rev. Mike Watkins, 16<sup>th</sup>  
Dan Droege, 19<sup>th</sup>  
Brad Borg, 20<sup>th</sup>  
Kelli Bradshaw, 20<sup>th</sup>

### Anniversaries

Lauren & Juanita Green, 12<sup>th</sup>  
Fred & Pam Pierce, 12<sup>th</sup>  
Nick & Teresa Phares, 14<sup>th</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;  
Email: [StLukesBartlesville@outlook.com](mailto:StLukesBartlesville@outlook.com)

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

Email:

[StLukesBartlesville@outlook.com](mailto:StLukesBartlesville@outlook.com)

## 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)
- Nancy Woods - [Nancywoods120@gmail.com](mailto:Nancywoods120@gmail.com)
- Steve Van Aken - [scvanaken@sbcglobal.net](mailto:scvanaken@sbcglobal.net)
- Heather Boyle - [heatherboyle@sbcglobal.net](mailto:heatherboyle@sbcglobal.net)
- Nancy Warring - [newarring@cityofbartlesville.org](mailto:newarring@cityofbartlesville.org)
- Karl Franks - [ktdfranks@gmail.com](mailto:ktdfranks@gmail.com)
- Katherine Powell – [kmpbmp48@gmail.com](mailto:kmpbmp48@gmail.com)
- Karole Cozby – [kscozby916@gmail.com](mailto:kscozby916@gmail.com)
- Chad Ellis - [w.chadwick.ellis@gmail.com](mailto:w.chadwick.ellis@gmail.com)
- Nancy Megee - [sc4me81@yahoo.com](mailto:sc4me81@yahoo.com)

Sunday's altar flowers are given: In thanksgiving for St. Luke's many prayers for Milt Enderlin, from his family.