

# The Steeple



## In This Week's Steeple:

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November  
10, 2021

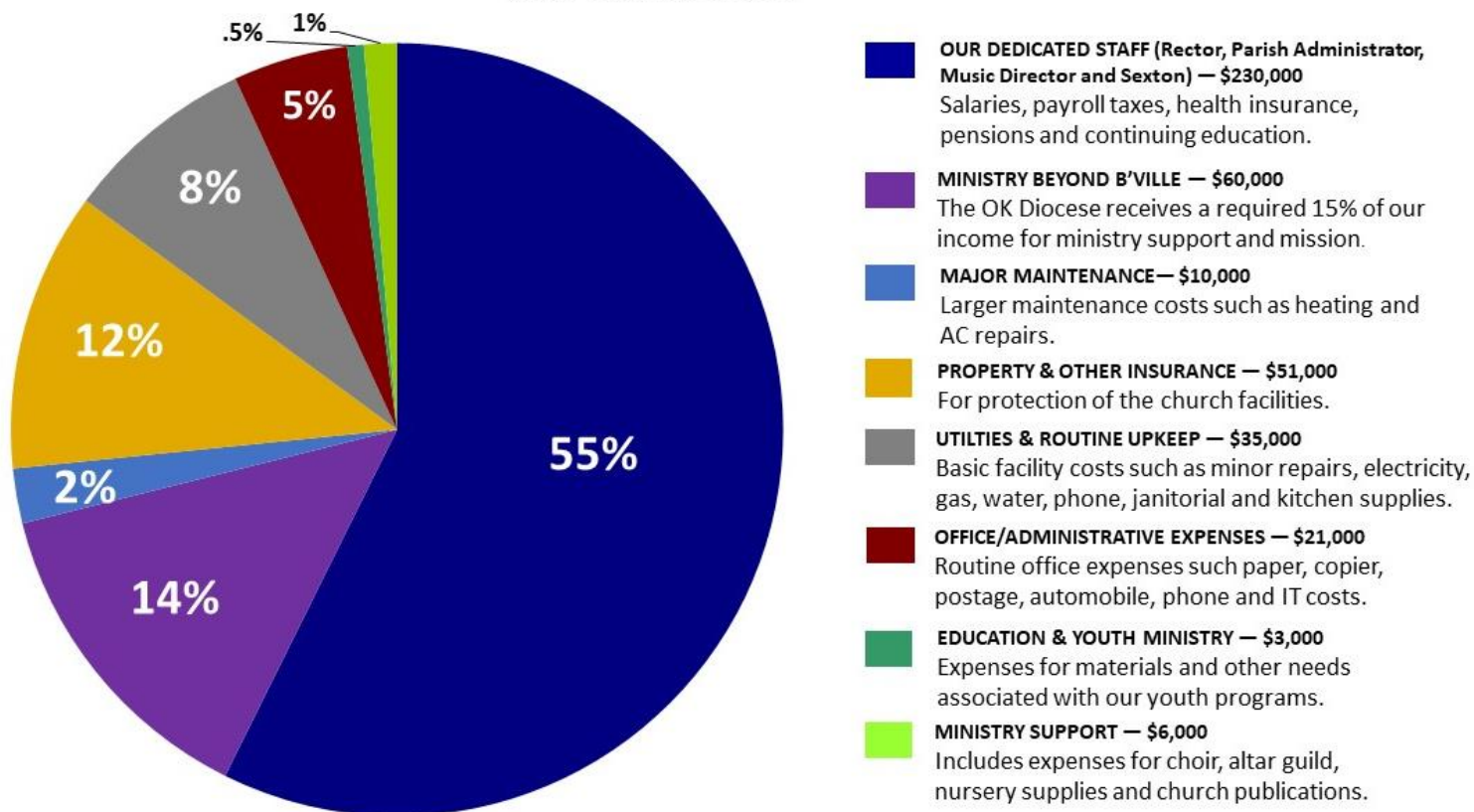
The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church

## St. Luke's by the Numbers

With Consecration Sunday approaching, it's helpful to have in mind the financial needs of St. Luke's as we head into 2022. The finance committee has developed next year's preliminary budget shown below. This pie chart specifies what's needed to pay our staff, keep the doors open, the lights on, and our beautiful facility heated and cooled, well-insured and in good repair. As always, supporting the work of our Diocese is a major ongoing need.

### Preliminary 2022 Expense Budget

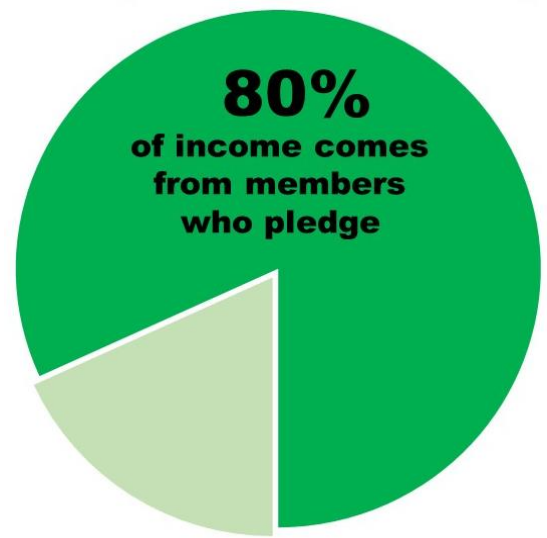
(Total = Approx. \$418,000)



(All numbers and chart percentages rounded)

Pledging is the best way to guarantee the church's financial stability. Without a clear indication of what the church's income will be each year, it's difficult for the vestry to adopt a reliable expense budget. Thankfully, many members step forward and make a pledge — and stick to that commitment. If you're in a position to raise your pledge for 2022, you'll be helping offset an anticipated reduction in income resulting from the deaths, relocations or changing life circumstances of some members.

Pledging is a personal, Christ-driven decision. Thank you from the finance committee for your help in nurturing the vitality and mission of St. Luke's!



### All May, Some Should, None Must

My friends as plans take shape for our time together this weekend, I just want to share how excited I am for us to be together. You know, one of the things that seems to surface regularly in our conversations with each other, are the wonderful memories you carry of time spent together around the table at St. Luke's. The desire to gather, to eat with one another, and to talk with each other is a strong one. My friends, I think it's time that we lean into those desires.

As COVID infection rates continue to decline, I've been in conversation with members of the vestry and our worship team to determine when it would be okay to relax our masking protocols.<sup>i</sup> With the advent of boosters, vaccines for kids, flu shots, the availability of additional hygiene stations in and around campus, and a better understanding of our parish's response to these public health measures, I think we are in a secure posture to do so. And so, all may wear masks! Some should. None must.

After Eucharist on Sunday, Casa Hispana of Bartlesville will be providing a sumptuous feast for us to enjoy together. On the menu is: Grilled Chicken Tacos with salsa, Empanadas, Peruvian Salad, and dessert. I hope you will do all you can to be present this Sunday to worship, to feast, and to reconnect with one another – to enjoy each other! YES!

One of my favorite blessings in the church says this, "Life is short. We don't have much time to gladden the hearts of those who walk this way with us. So, be swift to love and make haste to be kind."<sup>ii</sup> Be present. Walk with each other. Love God. Be a witness. All these things I see in you. Let's celebrate that. Let's celebrate each other. If it's one thing I've learned in the past ten months with you all it's that we don't know how much time we have. And so, please forgive me for being selfish. I want as much time as I can get with you.

I'll see you Sunday, when we will offer our lives and labor unto the Lord and then celebrate this - our life together.

Deep Peace,

Fr. Nick+

<sup>i</sup> <https://oklahoma.gov/covid19.html>

<sup>ii</sup> <https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/209251-life-is-short-we-don-t-have-much-time-to-gladden>

# Children's Programming is Back!

On October 24, we began gathering with children again on Sundays. Drop your K-5<sup>th</sup> graders off upstairs at 10:15 am. Each week, we will alternate between music and Godly Play, giving children a chance to experience both! The children will rejoin their families in church before communion.

We are looking for people to serve as doorkeepers. Please reach out to Keeli Droege at [keelidroege@gmail.com](mailto:keelidroege@gmail.com) to sign up!

\*Children will be asked to wear a mask, and all adults working with children will be masked.



## Christmas Wish Tree

We once again will be partnering with the Salvation Army to provide Christmas gifts for area children in need.

The tree will be in the narthex on Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, and gifts need to be returned to the church no later than Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>.



This year there will be sign up sheets by the tree to indicate the number of the tag/tags you have taken.

Please buy one or more gifts for the child/children, firmly attach the tag to the unwrapped gifts and return to the church office.

We will also gladly accept monetary donations. Please make check out to St. Luke's and write Christmas Wish on the memo line.

Many thanks to the Young Disciples who will do the shopping this year. Please call Steve or Cheryl Van Aken at 918-914-9041 with any questions.

This Sunday's altar flowers are given by Dennis and Debbie Mueggenborg:  
"In loving memory of Greg Mueggenborg."

# Fantasy Land on Foot

Come take a walk in the park!

On November 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Fantasy Land of Lights will once again be open for a walk through Johnstone Park to view the thousands of Christmas lights on display.

Admission is \$10 per person or \$20 for a family and will include free hot dogs, hot chocolate and other treats.

All proceeds go to the Bartlesville Daybreak Rotary Foundation to fund college scholarships for are students.

The regular drive through the park, for which donations are gladly accepted, starts on November 20<sup>th</sup> and runs through December 30<sup>th</sup>.



Come join us for a great evening of fun and fantastic light displays!

## *Weekly Words of Wellness*

### Recalculating Our Routes

By Scott Stoner & Holly Hughes Stoner

My wife and I recently took a road trip, and because we had some extra time and were in no hurry to get to our destination, we turned to Google Maps to help us chart some less traveled and more scenic routes. Several times we spontaneously made changes to our route, or we missed a turn we were supposed to make, and each of these times, we received a friendly message that the app was “recalculating our route.”

I have read several stories recently about “the great resignation” that is currently happening in America’s workforce. The articles described how many people have resigned from their jobs during the pandemic, and their life is taking a new direction. While there are a variety of reasons that people are leaving their jobs, one clear theme is that people are choosing not to return to the kind of pace, or balance, or unsatisfactory working conditions that they had before the pandemic. One subgroup within the larger population that is not returning to their jobs is older workers who have chosen to retire rather than return to their

previous employment. And of course, many have lost their jobs and have no choice but to find a new direction for their work.

All of this has me thinking that this time of “the great resignation” is really a time of “the great recalculation.” Many of us are recalculating our routes, some by choice, some by necessity. As awful as the pandemic has been, perhaps one benefit that has come from it is that it has given many people the opportunity to rethink their lives. People are now wondering what parts of their lives they wish to return to and which parts they do not.

I love that the Google Maps voice is always so calm and patient when I miss a turn. There is never a hint of judgment or criticism. Perhaps we can all keep that voice in mind as a model for our inner voice when we find ourselves making changes in our lives. May we be as calm and patient with ourselves and others when it comes to recalculating the routes, routines, and relationships in our lives, many of which have been dramatically changed over the last year and a half.

**Making It Personal.** *These prompts are offered to help you reflect on how you might apply the content of this week's column to your own life. You might write your responses to them in a journal, discuss them with someone else or in a group, or simply take a few moments to reflect on your responses.*

1. Has the pandemic caused you to recalculate some aspect of your life?
2. If so, what has been the tone of your inner voice as you have been making changes in your life?
3. Do you know someone who is working to reroute their life right now and could use your compassion and support? If so, what might you do to offer your support?

Check out our [Wellness Compass podcast](#) this week, where we expand on the subject of this column. We discuss how the pandemic has brought to mind for many people questions regarding their understanding of their vocation, vocation being the way we express our gifts and talents in the world.

*\*Vocation is one of the eight dimensions of wellness in our Wellness Compass Model for Well-Being. You can learn more about that model [HERE](#).*

## CONCERN Needs



CONCERN is in need of the following items: Ramen Noodles, Sugar, Tea Bags, Complete Pancake Mix, Jiffy Mix, Toothbrush Kits, and Deodorant.

Also, Thanksgiving is just around the corner.

Please consider offering a contribution towards our annual fundraiser for Thanksgiving Pies.

Make your check out to St. Luke's, and write Thanksgiving Baskets in the memo.

### ***Thanksgiving Coloring Sheets!***

[Click here for printable coloring sheets for your kiddos!](#)

## **Pub Theology at ¡El Maguey!**

Please join us on [November 18<sup>th</sup>](#)!

November's Pub Theology is scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month.

**The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. Thursday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at El Maguey.**

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 the church office and let us know if you will be joining us

so we can have enough tables set up at El Maguey.

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

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



## Faith Forum Series



**Sundays 9:15– 10:15 a.m.  
in Metcalf Hall**

## Rector's Bible Study



**Thursdays 9:00 a.m.  
in Metcalf Hall**

### St. Luke's Vestry Members

Dan Droege, Sr. Warden – 918-331-7936  
[dbdcomm.2@gmail.com](mailto:dbdcomm.2@gmail.com)

Doug McIver, Jr. Warden – 785-342-4328  
[dmciver@susandickcpa.com](mailto:dmciver@susandickcpa.com)

Jo Baughman – [jybokla@aol.com](mailto:jybokla@aol.com)

Karole Cozby – [kscozby916@gmail.com](mailto:kscozby916@gmail.com)

Chad Ellis – [w.chadwick.ellis@gmail.com](mailto:w.chadwick.ellis@gmail.com)

Karen Lewey – [kgrammy07@yahoo.com](mailto:kgrammy07@yahoo.com)

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)

Nancy Warring – [newarring@cityofbartlesville.org](mailto:newarring@cityofbartlesville.org)

Katherine Powell – [kmpbmp48@gmail.com](mailto:kmpbmp48@gmail.com)

Nancy Megee – [sc4me81@yahoo.com](mailto:sc4me81@yahoo.com)

### St. Luke's Prayer List

Our Prayer List can be found in the Sunday bulletin and on our website.

Call or email our office  
with prayer requests.

918-336-1211 or  
[StLukesBartlesville@outlook.com](mailto:StLukesBartlesville@outlook.com)

### Bereavement Team 2

Laura Birk, Kris Bonner,  
Nancy Megee, Rita Childers,  
Carol Murphy

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

The Reverend Nick Phares, Rector  
[RevPhares@outlook.com](mailto:RevPhares@outlook.com) 269-788-7063

Dolores McCreary, Choir Director/Organist  
[dolomc37@gmail.com](mailto:dolomc37@gmail.com) 918-397-4828

Keeli Droege, Christian Education Coord.  
[keelidroege@gmail.com](mailto:keelidroege@gmail.com) 918-697-8509

### Connecting with St. Luke's

To learn various ways to connect at St. Luke's,  
visit our website at:

<http://episcopalbartlesville.org/>

# **Agape Mission Volunteer Schedule**

## **Thursday, November 11**

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

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

## **Thursday, November 25**

Agape closed for Thanksgiving

## **Birthdays and Anniversaries November 11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>**

### **Birthdays**

**Nancy VanDuker 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Steve Clark 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Wendy Hall 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Nicki Ingram 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Josie McIver 15<sup>th</sup>**

**John Thomas 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Penny Williams 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Nate Bonham 17<sup>th</sup>**

### **Anniversaries**

**Peter and Jeanne Julstrom 17<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!