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# *The Steeple*



March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022

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



### **Congregational Vitality Assessment Kick-off**

Egg Casseroles? Who knew there would be such a variety? Thanks to our cooks last weekend: Dennis Muggenberg, Jeff and Laura Birk, and Penny Williams. Thank-you also to Jeff Birk and Nancy Woods who set up all the technology needed for Kate's presentation. And, to Kate Bond – wow! Thank-you for travelling up from the City and spending time with everyone at Luke's Place. We enjoyed having you with us and hope you will come back soon!

As Kate mentioned on Sunday we have two weeks, for as many folks who can, to complete the CVA. Doing so should give us a pretty good snapshot of where we are relationally and missionally after this first year of transition. I have a hunch that this assessment will also provide some very helpful information on how we can not only serve each other more intentionally, but or community too. In case you missed the email with the link here it is <https://www.cvatool.org/survey/take/st-lukes-bartlesville-31/>

A few of you have asked about Kate's power point presentation. We have several copies of it in the office should you like to pick one up. I don't know about you but there was quite a bit of information coming at me really fast on Sunday. It was great information, don't get me wrong, I just need to spend a little more time with it and let it soak in. If a paper copy isn't what you're looking for, please check the website and we will have a copy of it there for you.

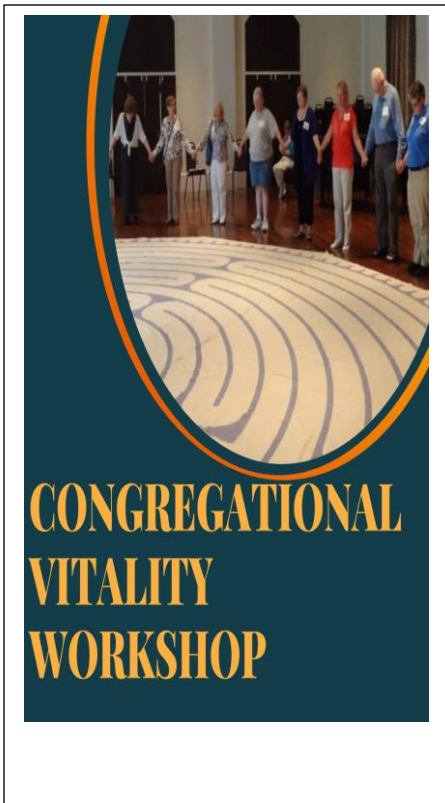
Also, you may have heard some buzz around the parish about a book Dolores mentioned called Ladder to the Light: An Indigenous Elder's Meditations on Hope and Courage; by Steven Charleston. I've read it and it was absolutely fabulous – a gem. Several copies have been purchased by a friend for anyone who wants one. Come by the office while the supply lasts and Penny will hook you up.

Finally, as we enter into the heart of Lent, I hope that you all have decided on some meaningful ways to encounter God a new this season and that you all have been intentional about what those ways might be. Right now, is a good time to reorient, take stock, let things go, pick things

up, holler God's name, and listen for his call. Now is the time to return – to love and gather - and my word, spend time with each other! That is how I'm spending my Lent – my springtime – loving every minute with you. See you all around.

Every Blessing,

Fr. Nick+







## Ukrainian Refugee Crisis What are we to do?

*Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.*

-- Mathew 25:40

The number of refugees fleeing the war in Ukraine is climbing every hour. Families very much like our own are now part of the more than 26 million people from around the world including families from Afghanistan, South America and Africa who have been forced from their countries and are seeking the kindness and hospitality of others - often strangers who open their hearts, their homes and their wallets.

As Christians, we are all called upon to help one another regardless of our differences in faith, language or ethnic background. We are all God's children, and God calls upon each of us to reach out with compassion and care "for the least of these."

These photos were taken just days ago at a church nave transformed into a refugee center at a Polish community just 20 minutes from the border with Ukraine. We cannot offer such shelter ourselves thousands of miles away at St. Luke's. But we CAN pray for the safety and care of these families, and for those who are providing compassion and comfort.

And we CAN offer our financial aid to the dozens of nonprofit organizations that are supporting the day-to-day needs of refugees around the world. Below these photos are links that will take you to some of those organizations including our own Episcopal Relief and Development Fund. If you are able, help make a difference in the lives of these brothers and sisters in desperate need.



*Twenty minutes from the border with Ukraine, members of a Polish church have removed the pews in their nave and moved in cots for nearly 300 arriving refugees. As night falls, they rest by the Light of the Cross.*

### How you can help:

- [Episcopal Relief & Development Fund](#)
- [Charity Navigator Guide to Ukrainian Relief Efforts](#)
- [International Committee of the Red Cross – Ukraine Crisis](#)
- [The United Nations Refugee Agency \(UNHCR\)](#)

*(Exclusive photos provided to St. Luke's by Bartlesville contact for Go Global)*

Coffee Hour is happening this Sunday!  
Stop by after the 10:30a.m. Service  
Metcalf Hall



## Theologians Corner: Amy-Jill Levine



Amy-Jill Levine is University Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies, Mary Jane Werthan Professor of Jewish Studies, and Professor of New Testament Studies at Vanderbilt Divinity School, Graduate Department of Religion, and Department of Jewish Studies; she is also Affiliated Professor, Woolf Institute, Centre for the Study of Jewish-Christian Relations, Cambridge UK.

Holding a B.A. from Smith College, M.A. and Ph.D. from Duke University, and honorary doctorates from the University of Richmond, the Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest, the University of South Carolina-Upstate, Drury University, Christian Theological Seminary, and Franklin College, Professor

Levine has been awarded grants from the Mellon Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the American Council of Learned Societies. She has held office in the Society of Biblical Literature, the Catholic Biblical Association, and the Association for Jewish Studies. She served as Alexander Robertson Fellow (University of Glasgow), and the Catholic Biblical Association Scholar to the Philippines. She has given over 500 lectures on the Bible, Christian-Jewish relations, and Religion, Gender, and Sexuality across the globe.

Her books include *The Misunderstood Jew: The Church and the Scandal of the Jewish Jesus* (Publisher's Weekly Best Books of 2007; audio books); *Short Stories by Jesus: The Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi* (Catholic Book Club; translations: Spanish, Italian; audio books); *The Meaning of the Bible: What the Jewish Scriptures and the Christian Old Testament Can Teach Us* (with Douglas Knight; translation: Chinese); *The New Testament, Methods and Meanings* (with Warren Carter); and *The Gospel of Luke* (with Ben Witherington III -- the first full-length biblical commentary co-authored by a Jew

and an Evangelical). Her most recent book is *The Bible With and Without Jesus*, co-authored with Marc Z. Brettler

Her children's books (with Sandy Sasso) include *Who Counts? 100 Sheep, 10 Coins and 2 Sons* (2017 Junior Library Guild List; translations: Spanish, Korean); *The Marvelous Mustard Seed* (2018 Junior Library Guild List; translation: Norwegian); *Who Is My Neighbor?* and *A Very Big Problem* and the forthcoming boardbook, *100 Sheep: A Counting Parable*.

With Marc Brettler, she co-edited *The Jewish Annotated New Testament*; she is also the editor of the 13-volume *Feminist Companions to the New Testament and Early Christian Writings*, and *The Historical Jesus in Context* (Princeton Readings in Religion; translation: Japanese). Presently she is editing several volumes in the *Wisdom Commentary* series, and she is the *New*

Testament editor of the new Oxford Biblical Commentary Series. With Joseph Sievers, she is co-editing a collection of essays on the Pharisees.

Her adult education volumes and videos include the Teaching Company Great Lectures: "Introduction to the Old Testament," "Great Figures of the Old Testament," and "Great Figures of the New Testament"; Abingdon adult education: Short Stories by Jesus Study Guide; Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week; Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent; and most recently, Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven; and The Kingdom of Heaven: 40 Devotionals.

In Spring 2019 she was the first Jew to teach New Testament at Rome's Pontifical Biblical Institute; in 2021, she was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

At Vanderbilt, she chaired the faculty senate.



## *Choir for Holy Week and Easter*

Yes, we will try again to *resurrect* our St Luke's Choir. And what better time than for Holy Week and Easter. It is our hope that we can have a choir to lead singing for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Easter! We may discover that having a choir is such a great addition to our worship that we will just keep on keeping on!

The plan is to have rehearsals on Wednesdays, at 5:15pm. Yes, I know this is different from our once-upon-a-time rehearsal schedule. However since we will be enjoying the Lenten Manna special event for Wednesdays in Lent, it seems prudent to combine our choir rehearsal with the Manna activities. So, we will meet in the Choir Room for a short rehearsal (5:15-5:57!) and still make it down to Metcalf Hall in time to join the supper line by 6:00.

Like to sing? Join us!

## FAITH FORUM on Sundays 9:15 a.m.- 10:15 a.m. Metcalf Hall

BEING  
CHRISTIAN  
BAPTISM, BIBLE, EUCHARIST, PRAYER

March 13<sup>th</sup> Eucharist

March 20<sup>th</sup> Prayer

This Sunday we will have our discussion on the Eucharist. If you would like to join us and participate in the discussion, let Fr Nick know and he will get you a copy of Being Christian.



### Project Manager Needed: Parish Archivist

I hope you have enjoyed looking through the old photo albums as much as I have recently. It was like finding buried treasure when Penny located

them tucked away in the Tom Beard Library. Perhaps the reason they were placed there isn't so much that they were forgotten but was because the Parish Archive Room needs some loving attention. To my delight, Dennis Mueggenborg has volunteered to go through the archived Parish Financials and get us into compliance with diocesan standards. Nevertheless, there will still be a significant amount of material history to go through, organize, and catalogue upstairs when he is finished. I am hoping that someone might read this and feel called to this faithful and loving work. There is history to preserve upstairs and as good stewards of what has been given to us, it is my hope that our history could be tended to in such a way as it would be accessible to everyone and preserved the right way for future generations. Does such a mission call to you?





### **Pub Theology**

Pub Theology is scheduled for the last Thursday of each month. The next meeting will be at **6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 31st** at **Tumbleweed's Steak House.**

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### **Cans in a Basket for Concern Lenten Discipline**

Place one canned good a day in a basket during Lent and at Easter bring those canned goods to church for Concern Food Pantry

## Children's Programming K-5<sup>th</sup> grade

### Music this week!

Drop your K-5<sup>th</sup> graders off upstairs at 10:15am. 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. Please contact Keeli Droege: [keelidroege@gmail.com](mailto:keelidroege@gmail.com)

### Midweek Manna

**Wednesdays**

**Metcalf Hall**

**5:45pm**

**Dinner Provided**

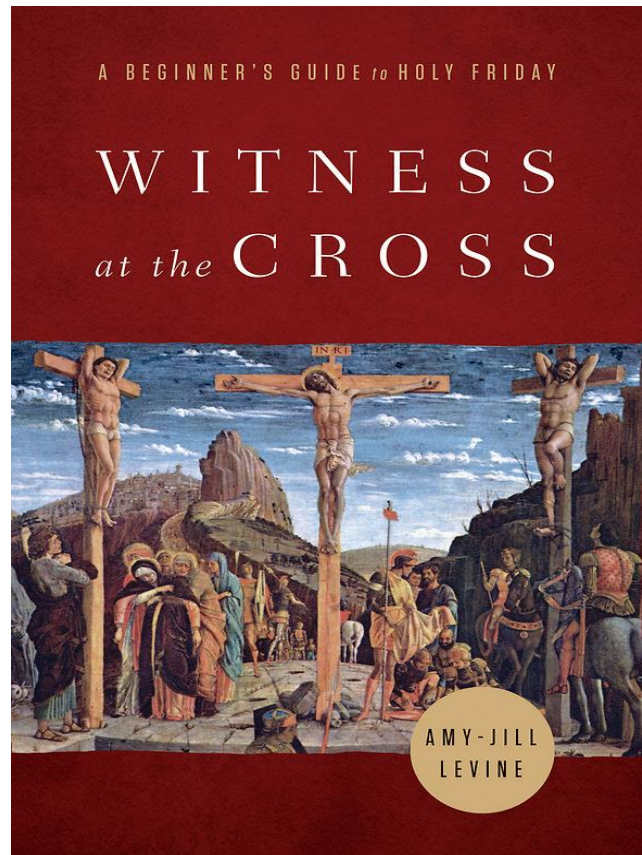
**Continues March 16<sup>th</sup>**

**studying**

**“Witness at the Cross”**

**By**

**Amy-Jill Levine**





You never know who is going to drop by St Luke's!



# *We are a busy place!*

**Luke's Place March 10<sup>th</sup> -March 16<sup>th</sup> , 2022**

- Mar 10<sup>th</sup> - Men's Breakfast, 7-8:30am Metcalf Hall**  
**Rector's Bible Study, 9:15- 10:15am Metcalf Hall**
- Mar 12<sup>th</sup> – Memorial Service for Glenn Blackburn, 3pm**
- Mar 13<sup>th</sup> - Rite I Eucharist, 8am, Chapel**  
**Congregational Vitality Workshop, 9:15-10:15am, Metcalf Hall**  
**Children's Godly Play, 10:15am, upstairs Playroom 1**  
**Rite II Eucharist, 10:30am**  
**COFFEE HOUR IS BACK! Metcalf Hall, after 10:30am service**
- Mar 14<sup>th</sup> – Vestry meeting, Vestry room, 5:30pm**
- Mar 16<sup>th</sup> - Choir Rehearsal 5:15pm Choir Room**  
**Midweek Manna 5:45pm Dinner Metcalf Hall**

**Morning Prayer is held every Monday- Thursday at 9am, Chapel**  
**Evening Prayer is held every Monday-Thursday at 4pm, Chapel (or via Facebook)**

## **Rector's Bible Study** **Thursdays, Metcalf Hall 9:15am-10:15am**

**Birthdays and Anniversaries, -March 10<sup>th</sup> – March 16<sup>th</sup> , 2022**

### **Birthdays**

**Geraldine Wright 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**Walt Gasior 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**Shelley Hopkins 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**Paul Stuart 15<sup>th</sup>**

### **Anniversaries**

**Steve & Cheryl VanAken 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Friends: Walter & Donna Allison 15<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 Vestry Members

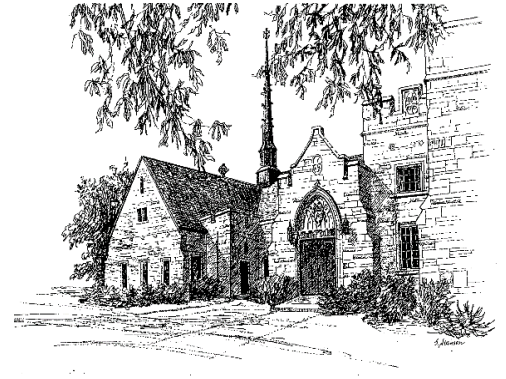
- Doug McIver, Sr. Warden -- [dmciver@susandickcpa.com](mailto:dmciver@susandickcpa.com) 785-342-4328
- Nancy Woods, Jr. Warden – [Nancywoods120@gmail.com](mailto:Nancywoods120@gmail.com)
- Jo Baughman – [jybokla@aol.com](mailto:jybokla@aol.com)
- Karole Cozby – [ksozby916@gmail.com](mailto:ksozby916@gmail.com)
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- Katherine Powell – [kmpbmp48@gmail.com](mailto:kmpbmp48@gmail.com)
- Brad Borg- [bradborg@yahoo.com](mailto:bradborg@yahoo.com)

# *Welcome Spring!*



## *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.



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

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

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Keeli Droege, Christian Education Coord.;  
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Email: [StLukesBartlesville@outlook.com](mailto:StLukesBartlesville@outlook.com)

918-336-1212

Or contact

Penny Williams, secretary 918-766-2157