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The Steeple



May 4th, 2022

The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church



Good Shepherd Sunday

This weekend we all look forward to hearing from our seniors and celebrating our mother's here at St. Luke's. This Sunday is also known throughout the church year as Good Shepherd Sunday because in each year of the liturgical cycle on the 4th Sunday after Easter the Gospel is always taken from the 10th chapter of John where Jesus speaks of himself as the "good shepherd."

"This Sunday's reading falls between the stories of Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the raising of Lazarus. Following the controversy that ensued when Jesus healed the man born blind, Jesus directs his allegory about the sheep and the shepherd toward the Jewish religious leaders of his time, the Pharisees.

Throughout John's Gospel the Pharisees fail to accept Jesus' ministry and teaching. They show themselves to be "robbers and thieves" because they try to lead the sheep without entering through the gate, Jesus. Through these metaphors, Jesus is telling his listeners that those who follow him and his way will find abundant life. He identifies himself both as the shepherd and the gate. The shepherds who are faithful to him are the ones whom the sheep (Jesus' disciples) should follow.

The relationship between the sheep and their shepherd is based on familiarity. Sheep recognize their shepherd and will not follow a stranger. At the end of the day, shepherds lead their sheep from pastures to a common gated area called a sheepfold. There, one shepherd protects all of the sheep until the next day when each shepherd returns to lead his own sheep to pasture. As shepherds move among the sheep, the sheep follow only their shepherd."

This weekend we will also recite one of the most beloved Psalms in all of Scripture – Psalm 23. Not only that but it will be paired with one of my all-time favorite hymns by Isaac Watts, "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need." Not only does Watts's paraphrase capture the childlike trust articulated by Psalm 23, recalling Jesus' words about entering the reign of God 'like a little child', but also it calls to our attention the communal dimension of Psalm 23.

To be a child at home means inevitably to be part of a family, to share community around a table. Thus, we are led to reflect on what it means to be a part of God's household. The implications are profound and radical: We are not our own! We belong to God and to one another!" And for that I give thanks. Until this Sunday.

Peace,

Nick+



Metcalfe Hall Audio/Visual Improvements

Our Vestry recently approved significant improvements to the Audio/Visual capabilities of Metcalfe Hall.

Phase 1 of the project will improve the overall audio experience for those attending events in person by activating the southside ceiling speakers, and integrating additional devices with the Williams Hearing Assist System, (e.g. multiple microphones, TV and PC sound, etc.).

Individual donations have already provided 70% of the \$8,500 necessary for Phase 1, and the Vestry approved funding for the remainder of this Phase from existing memorial funds.

Phase 2 of the project will enable St. Luke's to provide video capabilities for any event in Metcalfe Hall. Meetings and events such as Faith Forum, Bible Study, Midweek Manna, and the like can be recorded, as well as streamed via Zoom, YouTube, and Facebook for those who cannot attend in person. These services can be offered to other organizations which utilize Metcalfe Hall, as well.

Fundraising events are being planned, and donations are welcome, to fund the \$18,500 cost for Phase 2 of this project. Don't miss the first Fundraiser, Bingo!, on May 11th!

Want to be a part of the A/V Team? We could use you! No experience necessary! Contact Jeff Birk, Nancy Woods, or Steve Clark and they will train you well.



Senior Sunday is May 8th!

Charlie Olsen – Bartlesville High School
Class of 2022

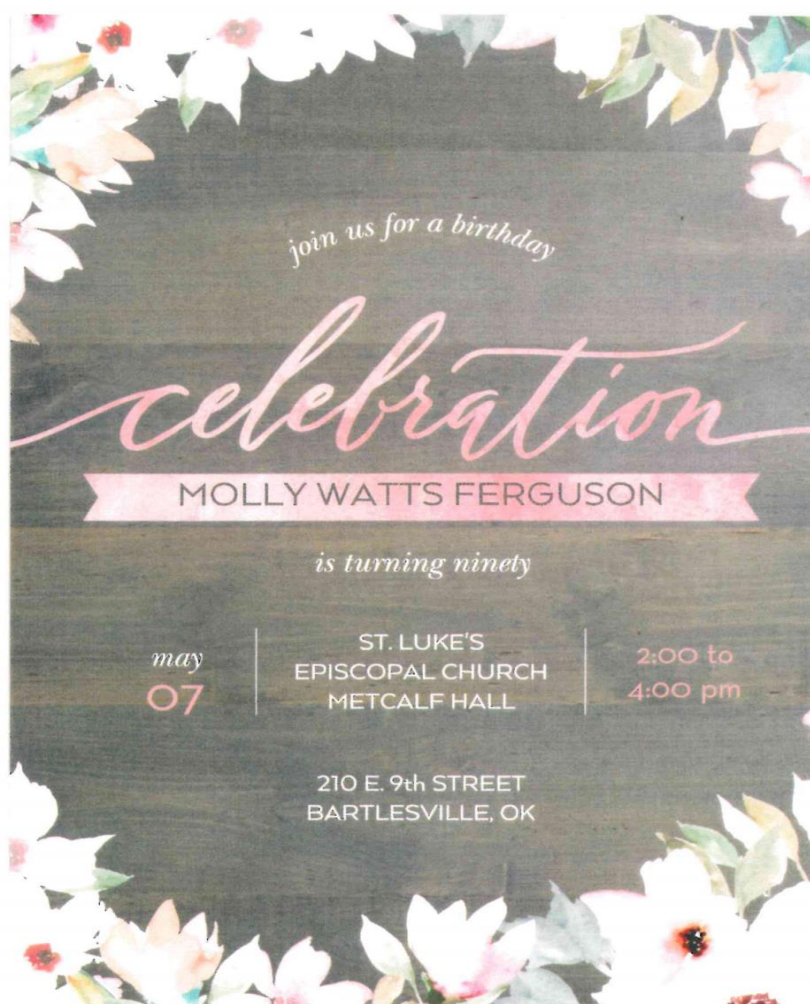
Charlie is the son of Becky and Brian Olsen has attended and been active at St. Luke's with his family since he was around 6 years old. He has served as an acolyte, audio/visual crew volunteer, and has participated in the Young Disciples (YD) program since sixth grade.

Charlie has been a member of the varsity cross country and track team for seven years. He competed at the state cross country competition in 2020 and was elected cross country team captain this past season. He was also part of the 2019 & 2020 State Academic Champion cross country team. In high school, Charlie was

part of the Spanish Club, National Honor Society, and Symphonic Orchestra. He was awarded Junior Student of the Year in 2021 and is a National Merit Finalist.

Charlie has worked as a learn to swim instructor with Splash Club and a math tutor. In his spare time, Charlie enjoys exploring the woods by his home, playing card games, biking, and hanging out with his friends and brothers. Charlie plans to attend Oklahoma State University in the fall with a major in Mechanical Engineering. Charlie is thankful for St. Luke's church and especially the YD leaders (past and present) who always made Wednesday nights fun and special. He hopes another YD member can carry on his Jeopardy! hosting tradition.


Congratulations
CLASS OF
2022



In lieu of gifts, please consider sending a note with a favorite memory c/o brianferguson119@gmail.com or Brian Ferguson PO Box 2222 Bartlesville, OK 74005. Please RSVP your attendance with a call or text to Lisa Traylor @ 918-408-3077.

Everyone is Invited! Come celebrate with our Molly!



LET'S CONNECT!

We will soon be calling to get you connected with our new church management software! With that you can:

- Update your personal information
- Communicate with groups & teams
- Follow church announcements
- Look up members
- Keep track of your giving
- Create and join events



There's an app for that! For those who want Realm on your cell phone, go to your app store and download the free Realm app. The icon is the same as in the bottom right corner of the above announcement. After you have the app, we can walk you through.

Rector's Bible Study **Thursdays, Metcalf Hall 9:15am-10:15am** **Studying the Book of Isaiah**



Theologians Corner: Abraham Joshua Heschel

Abraham Joshua Heschel was born in Warsaw in 1907 as the youngest of six children of Moshe Mordechai Heschel and Reizel Perlow Heschel. He was descended from preeminent European rabbis on both sides of his family. His paternal great-great-grandfather and namesake was Rebbe Avraham Yehoshua Heshel of Apt in present-day Poland. His mother was also a descendant of Avraham Yehoshua Heshel and other Hasidic dynasties. His siblings were Sarah, Dvora Miriam, Esther Sima, Gittel, and Jacob. Their father Moshe died of influenza in 1916 when Abraham was nine.

After a traditional yeshiva education and studying for Orthodox rabbinical ordination (semicha), Heschel pursued his doctorate at the University of Berlin and rabbinic ordination at the non-denominational Hochschule für die Wissenschaft des Judentums. There he studied under some of the finest Jewish educators of the time: Chanoch Albeck, Ismar Elbogen, Julius Guttman, Alexander Guttman, and Leo Baeck. His mentor in Berlin was

David Koigen. Heschel later taught Talmud at the Hochschule. He joined a Yiddish poetry group, Jung Vilna, and in 1933, published a volume of Yiddish poems, *Der Shem Hamefoyrosh: Mentsch*, dedicated to his father.

In late October 1938, when Heschel was living in a rented room in the home of a Jewish family in Frankfurt, he was arrested by the Gestapo and deported to Poland. He spent ten months lecturing on Jewish philosophy and Torah at Warsaw's Institute for Jewish Studies. Six weeks before the German invasion of Poland, Heschel left Warsaw for London with the help of Julian Morgenstern, president of Hebrew Union College, who had been working to obtain visas for Jewish scholars in Europe and Alexander Guttman, later his colleague in Cincinnati, who secretly re-wrote his ordination certificate to meet American visa requirements.

Heschel's sister Esther was killed in a German bombing. His mother was murdered by the Nazis, and two other sisters, Gittel and Devorah, died in Nazi concentration camps. He never returned to Germany, Austria or Poland. He once wrote, "If I should go to Poland or Germany, every stone, every tree would remind me of contempt, hatred, murder, of children killed, of mothers burned alive, of human beings asphyxiated."

Heschel arrived in New York City in March 1940. He served on the faculty of Hebrew Union College (HUC), the main seminary of Reform Judaism, in Cincinnati for five years. In 1946, he took a position at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America (JTS) in New York City, the main seminary of Conservative Judaism. He served as professor of Jewish ethics and Mysticism until his death in 1972. At the time of his death, Heschel lived near JTS at 425 Riverside Drive in Manhattan.

We will be using AJH's book *The Prophets* in our Bible study on Thursdays.

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

Easter Series – A 5 Week Series- Atonement.

May 8 Healing & Reconciliation

May 15 The Biblical Tradition

May 22 Theory and Meaning Making

May 29 Transformed Lives Reconsidered

June 5th Pentecost - No Faith Forum (Parish Picnic).

Children's Programming K-5th grade

Drop your K-5th 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.

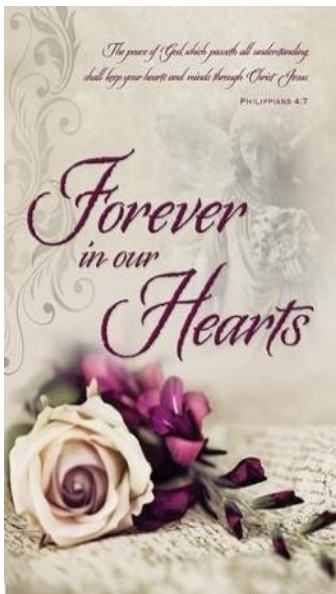
**We are looking for people to serve as doorkeepers.
Please reach out to Keeli Droege at keelidroege@gmail.com to sign up!**



Coffee Hour is in need of treats, hosts/hostesses and clean up crews! It usually takes just a couple of folks and enough treats for around 25 people. A sign up sheet will be in Metcalf Hall. Questions? Call the Church office or email: stlukesbartlesville@outlook.com. Lets keep coffee hour going!



.....and also with you!



The Celebration of Life for Jeanne Rowlett will be May 21, 2022, St Luke's, 11:00am. Reception will follow. The service will be live streamed on Zoom, You Tube, and Facebook for those who cannot attend. Please hold Susie and Steve Clark and family , Susie's sisters and their families in your prayers.

“May her soul, and the souls of the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. *Amen.*”



EVERYONE IS INVITED AND FRIENDS ARE ENCOURAGED AND WELCOME TO THE

ST LUKE'S BINGO FUNDRAISER

for the hearing impaired and video system for Metcalf Hall.

May 11th DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 AND BINGO CALLING AT 6:00

Bingo cards are \$20 for 10 games plus \$5 in concession tickets

CONCESSIONS:

Pork Sliders Hotdogs Chips

Fun sized Candy (3/\$1)

Water Soft drinks

Beer & Wine available for \$3

TICKETS
available
at the door
OR
at church
May 8th



Luke's Place May 4th -May 11th, 2022

- May 5th - Men's Breakfast, 7-8:30am Metcalf Hall**
Rector's Bible Study, 9:15am Metcalf
Green Country Eucharist, 1pm GC Village
- May 8th - Rite I Eucharist, 8am, Chapel**
Rector's Forum- 9:15am-10:15am
Children's Godly Play, 10:15am, upstairs Playroom 1
Rite II Eucharist- Senior Sunday & Mother's Day, 10:30am
COFFEE HOUR Metcalf Hall, after 10:30am service
- May 9th - Vestry Meeting , 5:30pm**
May 11th -Bingo Night, Metcalf , 5:30pm

Morning Prayer is held every Monday- Thursday at 9am, Chapel

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

Birthdays and Anniversaries, -May 5th – May 11th , 2022

Birthdays

Anniversaries

Max Mitchell 5/5
Jennifer McIver 5/6
Keeli Droege 5/8

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 785-342-4328
- Nancy Woods, Jr. Warden – Nancywoods120@gmail.com
- Jo Baughman – jybokla@aol.com
- Karole Cozby – kscozby916@gmail.com
- Chad Ellis – w.chadwick.ellis@gmail.com
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- Robert Lonski- rjtazski@yahoo.com
- Katherine Powell – kmpbmp48@gmail.com
- Brad Borg- bradborg@yahoo.com

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Or contact
Penny Williams, secretary 918-766-2157

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