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The Steeple



October 22, 2026



Ordinary Time

The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church



**From our
Deacon
Jeff**



In the life of the Church, stewardship season presents us with conversations about pledges, parish budgets, and the ministries we support together. These are important parts of our common life. But in the Gospel of Luke, stewardship is about even more: it is about how we respond to God's grace with our whole lives.

Luke's Gospel reminds us that all we have comes from God. Our time, talent, treasure, and care for creation are not simply our own; they are gifts entrusted to us for service in Christ's name. Jesus teaches that "from everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required" (Luke 12:48). Stewardship, then, is not merely a financial matter. It is a spiritual practice of gratitude, faithfulness, and love.

Several times throughout his Gospel, Luke connects stewardship with generosity and care for those in need. We hear this in John the Baptist's call to share with those who lack even basic necessities. We see it in Jesus' warnings about wealth that closes the heart, and in his praise for humble, sacrificial giving. In Luke, stewardship always reaches beyond ourselves toward our neighbors, especially the poor and vulnerable.

This vision speaks deeply to our Episcopal life together. Through our pledges, our worship, our outreach, and our prayers, we participate in God's mission. We support the ministry of this parish,

the universal Church, and the work of serving Christ in all persons. Giving becomes more than meeting a budget; it becomes an outward and visible sign of our inward trust in God.

As we reflect on stewardship, may we do so in the spirit of the Baptismal Covenant: seeking and serving Christ in all persons, striving for justice and peace, and proclaiming by word and example the Good News of God in Christ.

Blessings and peace, Jeff†

At Luke's Place: Oct 23rd – Oct 29th, 2026

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|----------------------|---|
| Oct 24 th | Casa Hispana Bingo, 5:30pm, Metcalf |
| Oct 25 th | Holy Eucharist, rite I, 8:00am, Chapel |
| | Faith Forum, 9:15am, Metcalf |
| | Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10:30am, Nave |
| | Trunk or Treat, 11:45am, Parking Lot |
| Oct 26 th | Ladies Prayer Partners, 11:30am, Metcalf |
| Oct 27 th | Spiritual Discovery, 9:30am, Library |
| | Icon Group, 5:30pm, Icon room |
| | Bible Discussion Group, 6:30pm, Metcalf |
| Oct 28 th | Walking the Mourner's Path, 2:00pm, WTMP room |
| | Choir, 6pm, Choir Room |
| | YD, 6pm, Rodgers Hall |
| Oct 29 th | Men's Group, 7am, Metcalf |
| | Bible Study, 9:15am, Metcalf |
| | Green Country Morning Prayer, 1pm, GCV |

Prayer List

Please pray for: Ben Baker, Josh Harris, David Swindell, Connie Finch, Terry Grogan, Tyler Roberson, Jerry Nezam, Lynette Beebe, Danny Clem, David McAtee, Steve Linn, Jean Mason, Mary Wallace, Lynda Stephens, Marcie Zervas, Audrey Harris, Nan Buhlinger, Dionna Cameron, Betty Rogers, JoAnn Gallery, Kathleen Turner, Steve Clark, Dean Zervas, Frank Molina, Diane Mitchell, Frank Traylor, Steve Hand, Donna Steward, Penny Johnson, Shaina Smith, Ann Morrow, Miriam Petrovich, Jason Elmore, June Mosley, Larry Mueggenborg, Sherry Breitman, Barbie Hirst, Jack Stoecker, Dorothy Buchanan, and Bob Lambert.

Please add to your prayers:

St Paul's, Claremore

The Anglican Church of Canada

Birthdays & Anniversaries for Oct 25th – Oct 31st 2026

Birthdays

Ben Powell (10/28)
Rhonda Cerveney (10/29)
Grayson Ellis (10/29)
Lisa Beeman (10/31)

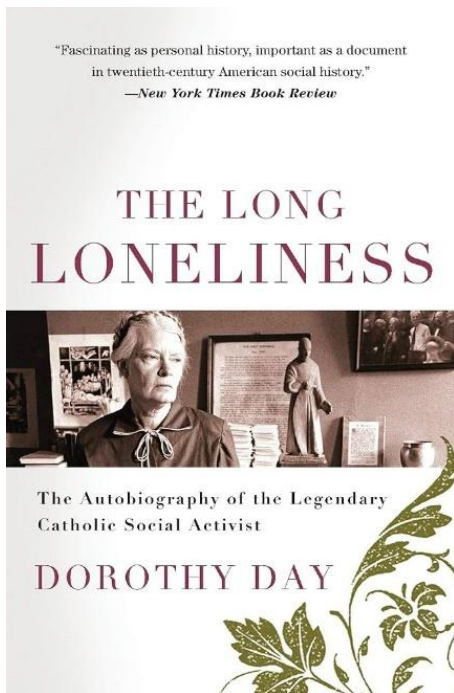
Anniversaries

Scott & Jen Peterson (10/25)

If your or a love one's name doesn't appear on the list, please email or call the office, and we will add your birthday and/or wedding anniversary.

Concern

Concern's current needs are: Ramen noodles, canned tuna and cereal; homeless needs: winter gloves.



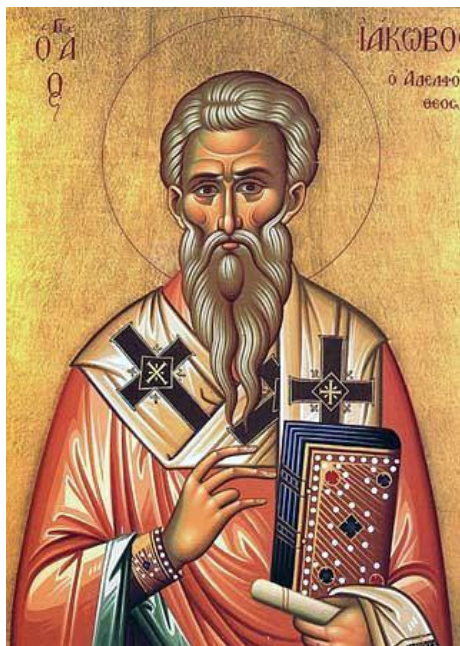
The Spiritual Discovery book group will begin a new study next week :

The Long Loneliness

By

Dorothy Day

The Spiritual Discovery book study group meets every Tuesday at 9:30am in the Library. Everyone is welcome to join. This study will begin next week.



Theologian's Corner:

St James of Jerusalem

Brother of our Lord Jesus Christ and Martyr

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In the Gospel according to Matthew and in the Epistle to the Galatians, the James whom we commemorate today is called the Lord's brother. Other writers, following Mark's tradition, believe him to have been a cousin of Jesus. Certain apocryphal writings speak of him as a son of Joseph's first wife. Whatever his relationship to Jesus—brother, half-brother, or cousin—James was converted after the resurrection. Eventually, he became Bishop of Jerusalem.

In the first letter to the Corinthians (15:7), Paul says that James was favored with a special appearance of the Lord before the ascension. Later, James dealt cordially with Paul at Jerusalem, when the latter came there to meet Peter and the other apostles. During the Council of Jerusalem, when there was disagreement about whether Gentile converts should be circumcised, James summed up the momentous decision with these words: "My judgment is that we should impose no irksome restrictions on those Gentiles who are turning to God" (Acts 15:19).

Eusebius, quoting from an earlier church history by Hegesippus, declares that James was surnamed "the Just." He was holy, abstemious, did not cut his hair nor oil his body, and was continually on his knees in prayer, interceding for his people. "As many as came to believe did so through James," says Hegesippus.

James' success in converting many to Christ greatly perturbed some factions in Jerusalem. According to Hegesippus, they begged him to "restrain the people, for they have gone astray to Jesus, thinking him to be the Messiah...We bear you witness that you are just...Persuade the people that they do not go astray...we put our trust in you." They then set James on the pinnacle of the temple, bidding him to preach to the multitude and turn them from Jesus. James, however, testified for the Lord. Thereupon, they hurled him from the roof to the pavement, and cudged him to death.

GRANT, O God, that, following the example of your servant James the Just, brother of our Lord, your Church may give itself continually to prayer and to the reconciliation of all

who are at variance and enmity; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

October Item: 24ct Colored Pencils



ALL THINGS PAUL

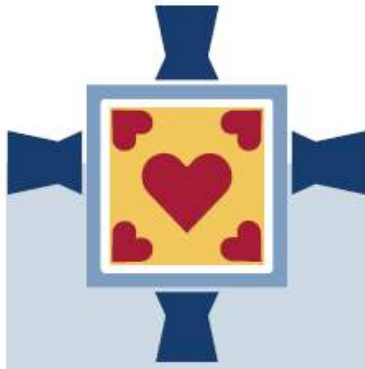
If you like to study the Pauline books of the New Testament or anything in the Holy Scriptures about the subjects discussed in Paul's writings, join us in Metcalf Hall every Tuesday at 6:30 pm for one hour.

Congrats to Glenn & Kris Bonner
On receiving the Bishop's Cross



Mthr Andrea & Deacon Jeff
co-sermon





Plenty Good Room

Making Space is an Invitation

Questions for Reflection:

How might we shift a grumbling heart into a welcoming wave?



The Rev. Cn. Dina van Klaveren is Canon for Development at the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland and is a past-president and member of the Board of Directors for TENS.

A year ago I began practicing yoga at a studio near my home. The instructor is a grounded, gifted practitioner who sets the tone for movement, relaxation, and growth. Her class has grown in popularity and sometimes we are packed a bit close in the space. If someone comes in a little late, we all adjust our mats and make space graciously- although in my heart I grumbled at the inconvenience of it. That is, until I was stuck in traffic and arrived the very minute class was starting and opened the studio door to find the room full. I closed the door and felt frustrated. Darn traffic! I stood outside alone in my disappointment when the door open and a fellow student waved me in, mouthing the words: "we made room for you."

I felt tears selling up in my eyes as I hurried to the open space and rolled out my mat. Another person smiled and waved at me. It almost felt like too much to bear- this grace-filled way that my fellow students offered plenty good room for me to enter and find the balance I craved.

Making space for one another, without judgement, creates a powerful connection in community. I no longer grumble in my heart as a latecomer arrives because I've been there. And, I hope they feel the acceptance I felt as we slide our mats to make more room.

There is plenty good room for us to accept one another, just as we are right now. I pray that in all aspects of our life in community, and especially in our faith community, we learn to wave one another in and with a gentle smile mouth the words: "we made room for you." tens.org



THE EPISCOPAL
NETWORK FOR
STEWARDSHIP



Thanks to all who have donated for flowers for the high altar in thanksgiving or remembrance this year. With no flowers during Advent, we only have two open Sundays between now and Christmas. Do the following Sundays or weeks have special meaning to you? November 1 and November 8?

If so, please claim an available Sunday and contact Penny in the office and Jo Baughman, Flower Fund Chairman, with the exact words you wish to have in the bulletin, and provide a minimum of \$55 to the Flower Fund for our always lovely fresh flowers.



Stewardship is coming up on Sunday,
November 1

Please bring your pledge cards with you and we will offer them together at the altar during the 10:30 service.

Following the service, please join us for our Stewardship Luncheon as we celebrate and give thanks for our work together.

This Sunday's celebrant and preacher: Fr Bob Gates

BINGO



BY CASA HISPANA

night

Join us for an evening of Bingo, Raffles, Family Fun, and Hispanic Food

**Saturday, October
24th, 2026**

5:30 PM

**St Luke's
Episcopal Church**

CasaHispana.Bartlesville@gmail.com



Games start at 6:00 PM

**For tickets call
918.907.1584**

**\$12
Ticket**

Include:

-  **Admission Price &**
-  **10 cards**



All proceeds benefit Casa Hispana a Bartlesville non-profit organization that provides support to local individuals and families by enabling connections to community resources, offering translation services, English and citizenship classes, and connecting under-served communities with local resources

It's Pumpkin Pie Season!



CONCERN will be providing their annual Thanksgiving boxes to our neighbors in need, and St. Luke's has a long tradition of supplying delicious pies. **If you'd like to contribute, checks made out to St Luke's and in memo Concern Pies can be dropped off in the offering plate or**

in the office through 11/15.



October 25th, 11:45am, Parking Lot
THIS SUNDAY

Bring candy, a lawn chair, and join in the fun. Invite all the kids you know! Dress up in costume or not! We will have hot chocolate, popcorn, games, and face painting. If it rains, we will move inside Metcalf Hall.



Advent Programs offered this Year

We will not have a special Advent program offered this year during the week. **However**, beginning Nov 29th (first Sunday in Advent) Faith Forum will begin **at 9:00am** and last an hour. We will watch 'Holy Night, The Chosen' in clips and discuss each section afterward.

Also, the Tuesday Discussion Group will also be watching a film relating to Advent and discussing it as well.

Enhance your Advent Season by joining one or both of these classes as we journey through the time of Anticipation and Preparation for the Christ Child.

St Luke the Evangelist Feast Day





St. Luke's Vestry Members

- Karole Cozby, Sr. Warden
- Karen Lewey, Jr Warden
- Becky Liehr
- Chase Almy
- Lisa Beeman
- Steve Heidorn
- Dolores McCreary
- Steve VanAken
- Fred Whitson
- Robert Lonski
- Cathy Perrier

St. Luke's Episcopal Church Contacts:

Keeli Droege, Choir Director/Organist
918-697-8509 keelidroege@gmail.com



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Email: StLukesBartlesville@outlook.com
918-336-1212
Or contact
Penny Williams, secretary 918-766-2157

Bereavement Team 3

Becky Liehr, Cathy Perrier, Kris Bonner,
Mary Jo Peterson