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The Steeple

Nov 6, 2025

The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Concern

Dear Friends in Christ,

I am happy to share that the Thanksgiving pies have been delivered to Concern. As you know, they will soon become part of the annual Thanksgiving Baskets that bring hope and nourishment to families throughout our community.

Each year, Concern coordinates with area churches, schools, and local businesses to assemble and distribute hundreds of baskets filled with the essentials for a full Thanksgiving meal: turkey, vegetables, stuffing, and dessert. These baskets ensure that every family, regardless of circumstance, can gather around a table of abundance and gratitude.

This outreach is one of the many ways Concern lives out its mission of compassion in action. It also reminds us that when we share even a simple pie, we become part of something larger - neighbors caring for neighbors, sharing grace in practical and tangible ways.

Following this note, you'll find a letter from Peggy, who is the Director of Concern. Her letter will offer a closer look at the ministry of Concern and other nonprofits highlighting the impact communal generosity continues to make in the lives of others.

Before you read her letter, I want to offer a heartfelt thank you to Pam and Tim Hanson, whose leadership and goodwill once again made this year's contribution from St. Luke's possible. Through your coordination and the support of our parish family, we are helping to set more tables with joy this Thanksgiving.

May the simple gifts we share continue to bear witness to the love of Christ among us.

With gratitude,

Nick+

Letter from Concern

With the anticipated SNAP changes, Concern has substantially increased their food distribution. We thoroughly evaluated our greatest need for the next two months and have determined our biggest need is meat. In the last few months, we have been extremely low in inventory with frozen meat. While this is a hard item to purchase and bring to Concern, we are asking for monetary donations and/or canned chicken. Recently, we have received inquiries of local hunters that would like to donate their harvest. If you are interested in donating 1lb processed frozen meat, please call 918-336-4693.

Recently several of the major local food pantries in Bartlesville, OK met to develop a plan for working together to make sure families are fed while SNAP benefits are not being paid during the government shutdown. Representatives from City Compassion, Concern, Delaware Tribe of Indians, Mary Martha Outreach and Salvation Army shared information and strategies for keeping food on their shelves.

A list of the main food pantries, their days and hours of food distribution, and holiday closings have been curated into a list you can find on Concern's Facebook page, Concern Bartlesville or on their website at www.concerncares.com/resources. Please share this list with anyone that might find it beneficial.

Thank you,

Peggy Crowder
Concern, Executive Director

At Luke's Place: Nov 7th – Nov 13th, 2025

Nov 8th	**Game Night, 5:30pm, Metcalf**
Nov 9th	**Holy Eucharist, Rite I, 8:00am, Chapel**
	Faith Forum, 9:15am, Metcalf
	Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10:30am, Nave
	Stewardship Luncheon, 11:30am, Metcalf
Nov 10th	**Ladies' Prayer Partners**
Nov 11th	**Spiritual Discovery, 9:30am, Library**
	Office Closed for Holiday
	Discussion Group, 6:30pm, Rodgers Hall
Nov 12th	**Choir, 5:00pm, Choir Room**

YD, 6:00pm, Rodgers Hall
Nov 13th Men's Fellowship, 7am, Metcalf Hall
Bible Study, 9:15am, Metcalf Hall
Green Country Eucharist, 1pm, GCV

Prayer List

Please pray for: Ben Baker, **Steve** McCraw, **Josh** Harris, **David** Swindell, **Connie** Finch, **Terry** Grogan, **Tyler** Roberson, **Jerry** Nezam**, Lynette** Beebe, **Jack** Smith, **Danny** Clem, **David** McAtee, **Shawn**, **Stephanie** Gallegos, **Pat** Sare, **Steve** Linn, **Jean** Mason, **Adam** Thomas, **Tom** Oakes, **Bill** Pendley, **Mary** Wallace, **Lynda** Stephens, **Marcie** Zervas, **Audrey** Harris, **Peggy** Rockey, **Ken** Harvey, **Nan** Buhlinger, **Bill** Birk, **Carol** McSpadden, **Dionna** Cameron, **Betty** Rogers, **Dan** & **JoAnn** Gallery, **Freda** Bretz, **Kathleen** Turner, **Steve** Clark, **Lauren** Gandy, **Susan** Brooks, **Dea**n Zervas, **Graham** Hunt, and **Frank** Molina.

Please add the following to your prayers for the Twenty-First Week of Pentecost
Diocesan Seminarians, Iona School of Formation, and Aspirancy Program
The Church of the Province of West Africa

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Theologian's Corner:
Adeline Blanchard Tyler and her Companions

Adeline Blanchard Tyler (1805-1875) was the first Episcopal deaconess. Along with Caroline (Carrie) Elizabeth Guild (1827-1880), Eveline Black (1825-1875), and Catherine Minard (1837-1917), she was admitted to the office of deaconess on the 4th of November 1856. They provided nursing care, religious and practical education, material support, and advocacy at the newly established St. Andrew's Infirmary in Baltimore. They cared for men, women, and children, Black and white, from near and far, and would become known as the United Deaconesses of Maryland.

The need for experienced nurses and hospital superintendents during the Civil War led Adeline to the Camden Street Hospital in Baltimore, where she ministered to both Union and Confederate soldiers with an evenhandedness that sparked accusations by some of being "a Rebel sympathizer." Shortly thereafter, at the request of Dorothea Dix, she was placed in charge of the military hospital in Chester, Pennsylvania, where her colleagues included volunteer nurses from Maine and Massachusetts. They often had 1,000 men under their care. By early 1863 Adeline was

in charge of the military hospital at the former Naval Academy in Annapolis, again with members of the nursing cohort who had served at Chester. She died on January 9, 1875.

Together we pray: Merciful God, who endowed Adeline and her companions with faith and courage, wisdom and humility, and called them to serve you as deaconesses, ministering to the sick, the oppressed, and the poor: By your grace, grant that we, following their example, may live to serve you as they did, revealing your steadfast love to the world, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

DISCUSSION GROUP: Next Discussion 11/4: Discussion topic will be "Why does God allow evil to exist?".

Concerns current needs are: sugar and "just add water" pancake mix.

Star Tree

This year we have been asked to provide 40 Barbie dolls for girls 7 to 9 years old that are in foster care. The sign up sheet will be in the narthex beginning November 9th. Please bring all Barbies to the church by November 30th so they will be available for the DHS Christmas party the following week. Thank you as always for your support of this ministry.
Steve and Cheryl Van Aken

CALLING ALL ST. LUKE'S ARTISTS/CRAFTERS

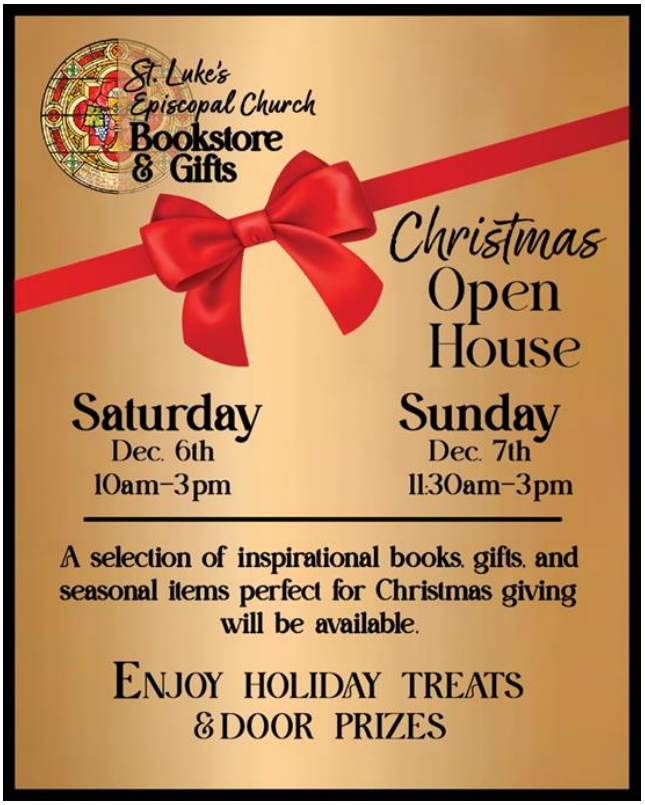
The Bookstore would like to feature the talent here at St. Luke's. Paintings, sketching, sewing or handwork, beading, jewelry making etc. Items will be displayed and can either be for sale or for display only.

Contact Cathy Perrier at 918-336-7974 or 918-520-9927 for further information.

You did it! St Luke's will be supplying 300 pies to Concern for the Thanksgiving Baskets. Thank you to everyone who dontated and made this possible. And Many Thanks to the Hansons for picking up and delivering the pies to Concern.

Pack the Backpacks School Supply Item for November

For November please collect 0.7mm (lead size) Mechanical pencils.
1000 are needed for all the students


St. Luke's
Episcopal Church
Bookstore
& Gifts
Christmas
Open
House
Saturday
Dec. 6th
10am–3pm
Sunday
Dec. 7th
11:30am–3pm
A selection of inspirational books, gifts, and seasonal items perfect for Christmas giving will be available.
ENJOY HOLIDAY TREATS
& DOOR PRIZES

FOOD!
PRIZES!!!
fun!
it's almost time!
bring a friend!
Saturday
November 8th
5:30 pm
Metcalf Hall
fun for the whole family!

SAVE THE DATE!

12•14•2025

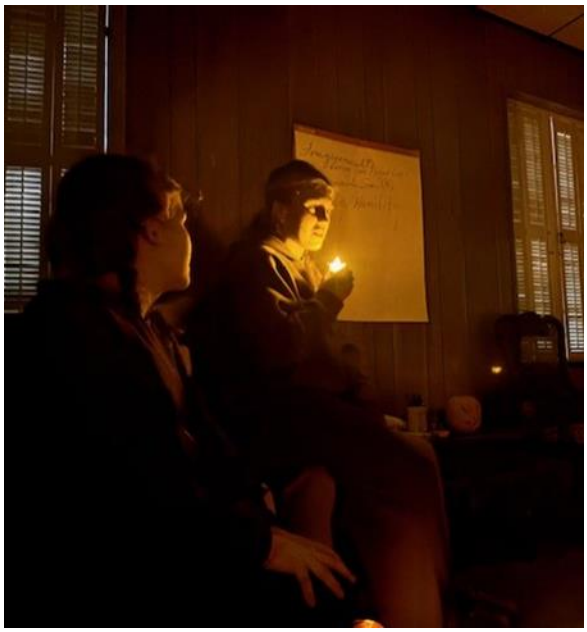
Ho Ho Ho!

Looking for a few good men and women!

DO YOU LIKE TO PLAY IN THE DIRT?
OR...TRIM BUSHES?
OR...PLANT STUFF?

Then you too could be part of an ELITE team of helpers taking care of our grounds!
Contact Kathy Zervas for more details! Text: (918) 766-1445

YD



This past Wednesday, the Ropers provided hotdogs and s'more bars at the church after a windy evening snuffed out our bonfire plan. Our teens made some very "creative" pumpkins, and we shared some spooky stories in the church library!

Birthdays and Anniversaries Nov 9th – Nov 15th , 2025

Birthdays **Anniversaries**

Brian Ferguson	(11/9)
Nancy VanDuker	(11/11)
Steve Clark	(11/13)
Wendy Hall	(11/13)
Marilyn Taylor	(11/14)
Josie McIver	(11/15)
Penny Williams	(11/15)

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

- Nancy Woods, Sr. Warden – Nancywoods120@gmail.com
- Karole Cozby, Jr Warden – kscozby916@gmail.com
- Chad Ellis – w.chadwick.ellis@gmail.com
- Karen Lewey – kgrammy07@yahoo.com
- Laura Birk – lpbirk73@gmail.com
- Steve Heidorn- sgheidorn@yahoo.com
- Dolores McCreary –dolomc37@gmail.com
- Steve Roper- sdroper2006@yahoo.com
- Fred Whitson- sandyswhit@gmail.com
- Robert Lonski- rjtazski@yahoo.com

Bereavement Team 2
Laura Birk, Nancy Megee, Wendy Hall, Karen Lewey, Debbie Mueggenborg

St. Luke's Episcopal Church Contacts:

The Reverend Nick Phares, Rector
269-788-7063; RevPhares@outlook.com

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

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918-336-1212
Or contact
Penny Williams, secretary 918-766-2157