*In this Week's Steeple>>>>*


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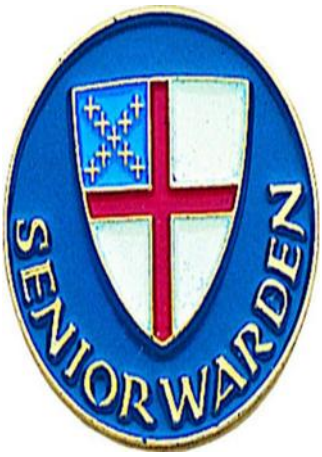
# The Steeple

July 16, 2026

Ordinary Time

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




## Hello dear friends,

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer and an easier, more relaxed schedule. As we continue our move forward, I want to keep you abreast of the steps we are taking now and also in the near future. The Search Committee has met twice and secured a foundation for the survey to go out to the parish. Just as a reminder, the committee is led by Steve Van Aken and Doug McIver, along with Becky Liehr, Linda Huffman, Glenn Bonner, Penny Williams and Tom Droege. We thank them for their willingness to serve in this way and to lovingly give of their time and talents. Our Search Committee along with Canon Betsy is moving forward…there is more to come! Supplying Priests during this time can be a challenging situation. As of now, we have Fr. Thom, Mother Andrea, Fr. Bob and of course, our very own Deacon, Jeff, who have graciously offered their time to serve. As we all know, schedules can change. I simply ask for your patience and understanding. The following is the prayer the Vestry says at the end of each meeting.

May we all join together in prayer.

Heavenly Father, as we journey together on this mission, make our life together a sign of Christ's love for us, that we may overcome any differences, that forgiveness abounds and that joy and hope conquers all doubt. Grant us your grace and mercy.

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, so guide the minds of those who shall choose a priest for this parish that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Deep Peace always…
Karole

## At Luke's Place: July 17th – July 23rd, 2026

| | |
|---|---|
| July 18th | Celebration of Life for Tom Brown, 11:30am |
| July 19th | Holy Eucharist, Rite I, 8:00am, Chapel |
| | Faith Forum, 9:15am, Rodgers |
| | Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10:30am, Nave |
| July 20th | Ladies Prayer Partners, 11:30am, Metcalf |
| | Back to Basics, 6:30pm, Metcalf |
| July 23rd | Men's Group, 7am, Metcalf |
| | Bible Study, 9:15am, Metcalf |
| | 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, **Danny** Clem, **David** McAtee, **Steve** Linn, **Jean** Mason, **Mary** Wallace, **Lynda** Stephens, **Marcie** Zervas, **Audrey** Harris, **Nan** Buhlinger, **Dionna** Cameron, **Betty** Rogers, **Dan** & **JoAnn** Gallery, **Kathleen** Turner, **Steve** Clark, **Dea**n Zervas, **Frank** Molina, **Diane** Mitchell, **Frank** Traylor, **Steve** Hand, **Donna** Steward, **Penny** Johnson, **Kim** Shipman, **Shaina** Smith, **Ann** Morrow, **Carrie** Washington, **Miriam** Petrovich, **Jason** Elmore, **Teresa** Phares, **Jun**e Mosley, **Marsha** Tibbits, **Larry** Mueggenborg, and **Sherry** Breitman, and **Sheila** Taylor.

**Please add the following to your prayers for this week:**
**St Basil's, Tahlequah** **Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan**

## Birthdays & Anniversaries for July 19th – July 25th, 2026

| Birthdays | | Anniversaries |
|---|---|---|
| Nick Phares | (7/20) | |
| Pax Phares | (7/21) | |
| Jason Carroll | (7/23) | |
| Barbara Todd | (7/24) | |
| Henry Tedstrom | (7/25) | |

**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:  adult toothbrush and toothpaste, unisex deodorant, travel size shampoo and conditioner.

## Name Tag for Sunday Services

**If you need a name tag to help our visiting clergy, please let the office know and one will be made for you.  You can leave a note in the offering plate, email the office, or leave a note on the desk.**

## Theologian's Corner:

### St. Mary Magdalene

power of his unending life; who with you and the Holy Spirit A disciple of Jesus, she was from the city of Magdala in Judea, hence the surname Magdalene. She was the woman Jesus delivered from evil spirits. Mary was among the women who accompanied and supported Jesus and the apostles. She was present at the crucifixion. Mary was also the first to witness the resurrection, which Jesus told her to announce to his disciples. Some traditions identify her with Mary of Bethany. Since she witnessed the resurrection, she has been called "equal to the Apostles." Bernard of Clairvaux called her the "apostle to the Apostles." Later tradition identified Mary Magdalene with Mary the Sinner, the penitent prostitute who anointed Jesus' feet. Mary Magdalene is commemorated in the Episcopal calendar of the church year on July 22.

According to ancient lore, Mary Magdalene used an egg to explain the concept of Christ's emergence from a sealed tomb into new life. Holding the egg, she proclaimed, *"Christ is risen!"* Emperor Tiberius mocked the statement, replying that a man rising from the dead was just as impossible as the egg in her hand turning red. Immediately, the egg transformed into a deep, blood-red color as a miraculous testament to the truth of her message.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son restored Mary Magdalene to health of body and of mind, and called her to be a witness of his resurrection: Mercifully grant that by your grace we may be healed from all our infirmities and know you in the lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.* *BCP*

## July School Supply Item Needed

For July and August 2026, the featured item for Pack the Backpack will be 24-count Crayola Crayons. Please purchase the Crayola brand; for your reference, the current pricing at Walmart is $1.44. Staples has them on sale for $0.50 right now, limit 10.

Last year, we distributed over 2,600 boxes to students.

## KOSO

Don't know if any of you have looked at our sexton, Courtney's teeshirt or hoodie and wondered about the KOSO on the front with our Rose window. Courtney IS our KOSO. Sexton means 'keeper of sacred objects (koso). The title is derived from the Medieval Latin word *sacristanus*. Now you know!

## Pack the Backpacks information and timeline:

Join us for the packing of the backpacks or backpack pickup. If you have not seen the process it is pretty amazing. I am including a link to Signup Genius where you can sign up for a time, or just come to St. Luke's Church 8th, and Dewey at the times below.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F054BA8A92CAAFF2-64437884-pack#/
(copy and paste this site in your web browser to sign up)

**Packing backpacks**

Thursday July 30th through Saturday August 1st

- Thursday July 30 – 6-8 pm
- Friday July 31 – 9:30-11:30am AND 1:30-3:30pm
- Saturday August 1 - 9:30-11:30am

**Backpack pickup**

- Sunday August 2nd 2pm – 7pm
- Monday August 3rd 8:30am – 7pm

## Steeple Articles

If anyone would like to write an article for the Steeple one week, Karole and I would certainly welcome it. You could tell of a book you have enjoyed, something in the scriptures that spoke to you, a happening in your life when God was so near, or a certain ministry you are involved with. Reach out to me! Penny

## Intergenerational Connection

What is it? It is a program developed for our Young Disciples where one of our St Luke's folks share an evening with our youth. The program is one you present. It can be a craft, an educational trip you took, a life lesson such as cooking, sewing, or balancing a check book. It could be a history lesson or a community connection. Its something you have knowledge of and can share with our youth. A more in depth article is coming next week, but please, consider presenting a program to our kids. Contact Karen Lewey if you are interested.

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Many have asked for Fr Nick's new address. I have published it before but here it is again for those of you who missed it:

Rev. & Mrs Nick Phares
311 Fire Tower Rd
Sewanee, Tn 37375

And yes, most of you have noticed his picture has now turned from color to black and white.

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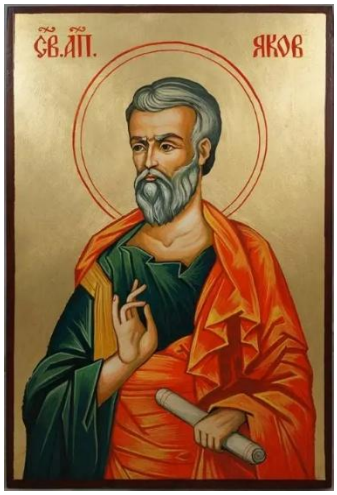


St James the Apostle Feast Day:

July 25th - This commemorates the son of Zebedee and brother of John. Known as one of Jesus' closest companions (along with Peter and John), he was the first of the Apostles to be martyred.

## St. Luke's Vestry Members

- Karole Cozby, Sr. Warden- kscozby916@gmail.com
- Karen Lewey, Jr Warden - kgrammy07@yahoo.com
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- Chase Almy – chasealmy88@gmail.com
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- Fred Whitson- sandyswhit@gmail.com
- Robert Lonski- rjtazski@yahoo.com
- Cathy Perrier – bling4mimi@hotmail.com

**Bereavement Team 3**

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

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Penny Williams, secretary 918-766-2157