In this Week's Steeple>>>>

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The Steeple

July 23, 2026

Ordinary Time

The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Dear St Luke's Family,

The heat is on! Outside, anyway. Thank goodness, our a/c here at the church is holding true so far. I pray your summer has been relaxing and peaceful.

Next Thursday is Backpack Packing day! The first of many of those days. Thursday evening at 6pm begins the sprint to disbursement on Sunday, Aug 2nd. We are the hub during that time and people from all over the county walk through our doors. Many are here to help and many are here who need help. And we help make that connection. Mr. Rogers always said 'Look for the helpers'. Next week all you have to do is journey through the red doors to see them. Check out the schedule for packing in this week's Steeple and just show up during one of those times and you will experience the machine that is the Pack the Backpacks program.

Be sure and read the article about the Parish Survey and note the time frame to fill it out and get it back. Next week is the mailing so if you haven't received one by August 1st, please email or call me at the office and I will put one in the mail for you. The Search Committee wants to hear from every member of your household, individually. The completed surveys will not only tell the Search Committee what kind of priest to look for but also help shape our Parish Profile for a priest looking for a parish like us. Maybe I am a bit prejudiced, but I believe we are quite a gemstone.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to help Sandy Whitson with the parish potluck during the Bishop's visit on September 20th! Sandy expressed her gratitude for everyone of you. She now has her team, and things are falling into place.

Fr Thom Crowe will be back this coming Sunday to celebrate the Eucharist with us. Sadly, we will only have him one Sunday a month through December. However, there is a silver lining! We also

get Fr. Bob Gates and Mthr Andrea once a month and the remaining Sunday will be Morning Prayer with Deacon Jeff, or Eucharist with Mthr Andrea celebrating and Jeff preaching. Either way, our services are covered for the remainder of the year. By then the Search Committee and Vestry will have either a candidate for Rector or a clearer picture of who we are looking for to fulfill the position. Not our time, but God's and He will direct to us the person He wants for us.

I would like to thank everyone of you who came to see CMT's 'Frozen' at the Center. The kids were amazing, bringing the story to life. Thank you for your compliments and support. I know we had fun putting it on and I'm so grateful that it came joyously through the stage to you. And yes, I am exhausted. Many do not know that for those of us preparing the sets, props and costumes, we begin those jobs in March and work through the weeks to performance time in July. Long hours and loving care bring the characters and story to the stage. At last count, there were well over 5,000 volunteer hours from parents, grandparents, and volunteers turned in for this show alone.

Having said the above, I am hoping to take a week off in August. I am monitoring our needs and events, so that I can clear a week to be gone. I will let everyone know which week soon. During that time, if you drop by the church and it is locked, have patience. If you have a pastoral need, contact Jeff. Any other need, you may contact your Senior Warden, Karole. Those two will have the church well in hand. Many tease me about running the church, but the truth is we all run the church, not one person. We need each other to keep our parish healthy and thriving.

Stay cool if you can! It's brutal out there, but that's July in Oklahoma!

Peace,

Penny

At Luke's Place: July 24th – July 30th , 2026

July 26th	**Holy Eucharist, Rite I, 8:00am, Chapel**
	Faith Forum, 9:15am, Rodgers
	Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10:30am, Nave
July 27th	**Ladies Prayer Partners, 11:30am, Metcalf**
July 30th	**Men's Group, 7am, Metcalf**
	Bible Study, 9:15am, Metcalf
	Green Country Eucharist, 1pm, GCV
	Pack Backpacks, Rodgers, 6-8pm

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 Crispin's Conference Center, Wewoka Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan

Birthdays & Anniversaries for July 26th – Aug 1st , 2026

Birthdays		Anniversaries
Nancy Hix	(7/26)	
Arason Ellis	(7/29)	

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.

Theologian's Corner:

Fr William Reed Huntington, Priest

William Reed Huntington (September 20, 1838 – July 26, 1909) was an American Episcopal priest and author, and known as the "First Presbyter of the Episcopal Church."

Huntington was born September 20, 1838, in Lowell, Massachusetts. He was the son of Elisha Huntington and Hannah Hinckley. He was also descendant of Christopher Huntington, one of the founders of Norwich, Connecticut He began his education at Norwich University at Alden Partridge's military college in Norwich, Vermont, and eventually transferred and graduated from Harvard College in 1859 and in 1859–1860 taught as Assistant in Chemistry to Professor Josiah Parsons Cooke. Huntington studied theology under Frederick Dan Huntington and served as his assistant at Emmanuel Church in Boston, Massachusetts. Huntington was ordained deacon on October 1, 1861, and priest on December 3, 1862. Entering the Episcopal ministry, he was rector of All Saints Church, Worcester, Massachusetts, in 1862–1883 and of Grace Church in Manhattan, New York from 1883 until his death.

Huntington always took a prominent part in public affairs. He was active in the movement for liturgical revisions and was secretary of the Prayer-Book Revisions Committee, and editor with Samuel Hart of the *Standard Prayer-Book* of 1892. The 1892 General Convention adopted his proposal to set the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds as the confession of faith. Huntington was elected a member of the American Antiquarian Society in 1875.

The Chicago-Lambeth Quadrilateral had its genesis in an 1870 essay by Huntington. In *The Church Idea, an Essay toward Unity* Huntington's goal was to establish "a basis on which approach may be by God's blessing, made toward Home Reunion," i.e., with the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox Churches. The Quadrilateral is a four-point articulation of Anglican identity, often cited as encapsulating the fundamentals of the Communion's doctrine and as a reference-point for ecumenical discussion with other Christian denominations. The four points are:

1. The Holy Scriptures, as containing all things necessary to salvation;
2. The Creeds (specifically, the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds), as the sufficient statement of Christian faith;
3. The dominical sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion;
4. The historic episcopate, locally adapted.

The Quadrilateral has had a significant impact on Anglican identity since its passage by the Lambeth Conference.[] The Resolution came at a time of rapid expansion of the Anglican Communion, primarily in the territories of the British Empire. As such, it provided a basis for a shared ethos, one that became increasingly important as colonial churches influenced by British culture and values, evolved into national ones influenced by local norms.

In 1907, he published *Tract 91: The Articles of Religion from an American Point of View*. Its title was a reference to John Henry Newman's Tract 90, which had also attempted a reinterpretation of the Thirty-Nine Articles. The *New York Times* called the book "an anachronism at the present day."

Huntington received honorary Doctor of Divinity (D.D.) degrees from Columbia University, Princeton University, and Harvard University. He also received a Doctor of Civil Law (D.C.L.) degree from the University of the South and a Doctor of Humane Letters (L.H.D.) from Hobart College.

Huntington is honored with a feast day on the liturgical calendar of the Episcopal Church (USA) **on July 27**.

O Lord our God, we thank you for instilling in the heart of your servant William Reed Huntington a fervent love for your church and its mission in the world; and we pray that, with unflagging faith in your promises, we may make known to all people your blessed gift of eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

August 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. .

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

Pack the Backpacks need your help to pack and distribute

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

Bread Makers for Communion

St. Luke's is in need of bread makers for first, third and fifth weeks. If interested please call or text Wendy Hall at 918-440-4355 and she will be happy to give you the recipe.

Intergenerational Connection

Intergenerational Connection is a monthly opportunity for members of our congregation to share their gifts and experiences with our Young Disciples.
Do you have a hobby, craft, special interest, favorite trip, career experience, life skill, or ministry you would enjoy sharing? We would love to hear your story!
On the second Wednesday of each month, we are looking for members to share dinner, typically starting at 6:00 pm, followed by a 30-minute presentation.
You may present, provide the meal, or do both! If you would rather not do it alone, you can partner with someone and share the presentation and/or the meal.
A few months are already reserved, and we would love to add you to a future date on the calendar, (September-May).
If you are interested or have questions, please contact me.
Thank you!
Karen Lewey

Parish Survey

The search committee has developed a survey which will be mailed out at the end July. There will be a copy for every member of the household no matter their age. Everyone is encouraged fill out the survey as we will lean heavily on the information to complete our Parish Profile. The profile will be the very first thing any candidate for rector sees when looking at the community of St. Luke's. As our last priest said many times, our profile stood out from the others he looked at and was what made him want to visit and learn more about us. So please, take some time, prayerfully answer the questions and return the survey to the church by August 16th. Our goal is to have our profile available by the first part of September. If you have any questions, please call Steve Van Aken at 918-914-9041 or Doug McIver at 785-342-4328

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Bereavement Team 3

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

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