In this Week's Steeple>>>>

- News from the Music Director
- Theologian's Corner
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- Pies for Concern
- Cross Timbers Debate
- Bookstore Open House
- Extra Services
- Brunch Bunch coming up
- Journey to ADVENT
- PTBP Breakfast Fundraiser

The Steeple





November 19,2026



Ordinary Time

The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church

St. Luke's episcopal church



The Season of Advent is Upon Us

Keeli Droege
Organist and Music Director

Every year it seems like we start decorating and celebrating Christmas earlier. The stores start stocking the shelves with Christmas décor before Halloween and "How to Decorate Your Tree" videos start going viral on social media on Nov. 1st or perhaps earlier.

This Advent and Christmas season is my third year as music director of St. Luke's. One thing I've grown to love about the Episcopal church and specifically St. Luke's, is that we prepare our hearts during Advent and save Christmas for the twelve days of Christmas. Truthfully, I didn't always feel this way and was even slightly annoyed that we didn't sing Christmas hymns before Christmas. I absolutely love Christmas music and can't wait to play it and share it with others as soon as it's socially acceptable (now apparently before Thanksgiving). In fact, as a musician, you start practicing and scheduling many months in advance. (Some of the musicians playing with us this Christmas Eve were asked to participate back in August.)

During my first Advent as music director, a few parishioners asked if I "could sneak a few Christmas hymns" into the service several weeks before Christmas. I was tempted and even added a few during communion (hoping that the cradle Episcopalians might not notice). Now I've grown to love the Advent carols in our hymnal and treasure the time of preparation for Christ's

birth. Christmas is even more special when we patiently wait and prepare our hearts with ancient hymns. "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" paraphrases the O Antiphons and was sung by medieval monks during evening Advent vespers. Each antiphon is a title of Christ, one of his attributes mentioned in Scripture.

Our musical heritage runs deep, and I encourage you to follow our supply priest Fr. Thom Crowe's "Journey to Advent" at *journeytoadvent.com.* During the 26 days of Advent, he will explore a different hymn and scripture each day. Our chancel choir and instrumentalists also have some wonderful music planned during Advent. Come to church, sing with us and "Prepare Ye the Way"!

At Luke's Place: Nov 20th – Nov 26th, 2026

Nov 20th Holy Eucharist, Rite I, 8:00am, Chapel
Faith Forum, 9:15am, Metcalf
Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10:30am, Nave
Nov 23rd Ladies Prayer Partners, 11:30am, Metcalf
Nov 24th Bible Discussion Group, 6:30pm, Metcalf
Nov 26th & 27th Office closed for holiday

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, **Dea**n Zervas, **Frank** Molina, **Diane** Mitchell, **Frank** Traylor, **Steve** Hand, **Donna** Steward, **Penny** Johnson, **Shaina** Smith, **Ann** Morrow, **Miriam** Petrovich, **Jason** Elmore, **Jun**e Mosley, **Larry** Mueggenborg, **Sherry** Breitman, **Barbie** Hirst, **Jack** Stoecker, **Dorothy** Buchanan, **Ashleigh** Lawson, **Chris** Loftis, and **J T** Moore.

Please add to your prayers:

Retired Clergy, Spouses, Widows, and Widowers **Iglesia Anglicana de Chile**

Concern

Concern's current needs are: ramen noodles and canned fruit and tuna; homeless needs are single-serve proteins.



Christ the King Sunday

November 22nd

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Birthdays & Anniversaries for Nov 22nd – Nov 28th, 2026

Birthdays	Anniversaries
	Dennis & Debbie Mueggenborg (11/22)

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.



A Journey to Advent by Fr Thom Crowe (from his website : https://www.journeytoadvent.com)



Theologian's Corner:
Edmund, King of East Anglia
870d.
Feast Day November 20th

Edmund ascended the throne of East Anglia at the age of fifteen,one of several monarchs who ruled various parts of England at that period of its history. The principal source of information about the martyrdom of the young king is an account by Dunstan, who became Archbishop of Canterbury ninety years after Edmund's death. Dunstan had heard the story many years before from a man who claimed to have been Edmund's armor bearer.

Edmund had reigned as a Christian king for nearly fifteen years when Danish armies invaded England in 870. Led by two brothers, Hinguar and Hubba, the Danes moved south, burning monasteries and churches, plundering and destroying entire villages, and killing hundreds. Upon reaching East Anglia, the brothers confronted Edmund and offered to share their treasure with him if he would acknowledge their supremacy, forbid all practice of the Christian faith, and become a figurehead ruler. Edmund's bishops advised him to accept the terms and avoid further bloodshed, but the king refused. He declared that he would not forsake Christ by surrendering to pagan rule, nor would he betray his people by consorting with the enemy.

Edmund's small army fought bravely against the Danes, but the king was eventually captured. According to Dunstan's account, Edmund was tortured, beaten, shot through with arrows, and finally beheaded. By tradition, the date of his death is November 20th, 870.

The cult of the twenty-nine-year-old martyr grew very rapidly, and his remains were eventually enshrined in a Benedictine monasteryin Bedericesworth—now called Bury St. Edmunds. Over the centuries, Edmund's shrine became a traditional place of pilgrimage for England's kings, who came to pray at the grave of a man who remained steadfast in the Christian faith and loyal to the integrity of the English people.

MERCIFUL God, who gave grace and fortitude to Edmund to die nobly for your Name:

Bestow on us your servants the shield of faith, with which we can withstand the assaults of our ancient enemy; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen **Amen.**



November Item: 8 or 16 ct watercolors
Preferably Crayola brand







This Sunday's celebrant and preacher is: Fr Bob Gates



Thank you to everyone who donated toward the Concern Thanksgiving Baskets. Our goal was reached with your help.

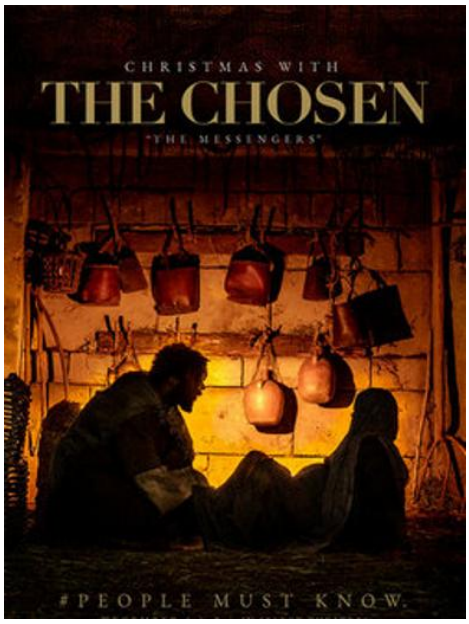


Please note these days the office will be closed

Nov 26th & 27th Thanksgiving
Dec 24th & 25th Christmas

I will be on vacation Nov 19th -25th and Dec 23rd -Dec 31st. -Penny

Advent Program offered this Year

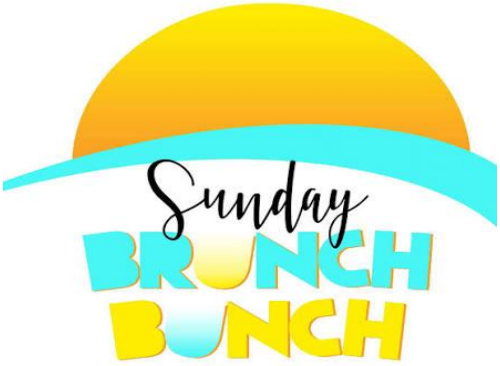


We will not have a special Advent program offered this year during the week. **However**, beginning Nov 29th (first Sunday in Advent) Faith Forum will begin **at 9:00am** and last an hour. We will watch 'Holy Night, The Chosen: The Messengers' in clips and discuss each section afterward. "The Messengers"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

Plot and Storyline

• The Birth of Christ: The episode explores the first Christmas through the eyes of Mary and Joseph as they travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem and face the crowded inn before Jesus is born in a manger.

• Framing Story (AD 48): Decades later, Mary Magdalene meets with Mary and Lazarus during a time of Roman persecution. Mary recounts her experience of Jesus's birth and asks Mary Magdalene to deliver the complete written account and her Psalm to Luke, who is gathering eyewitness testimonies.



The Brunch Bunch will be treating us to Christmas goodies and savory appetizers on December 6th after the 10:30 service. Save the Date!

Then at 4pm come back for a Christmas Concert by Keeli Droege, Marjoleine Gravley, Mary Warren, and Susan Mueller

Extra Services Dates and Times: St Andrew the Apostle Feast Day
Nov 30th – 12:15pm, chapel



St Thomas the Apostle Feast Day
Dec 21st – 12:15pm, chapel

Christmas Eve
Dec 24th – 4:30pm, nave
Dec 25th – 10:00am, nave

Christmas in the Woods

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, Dec. 12th

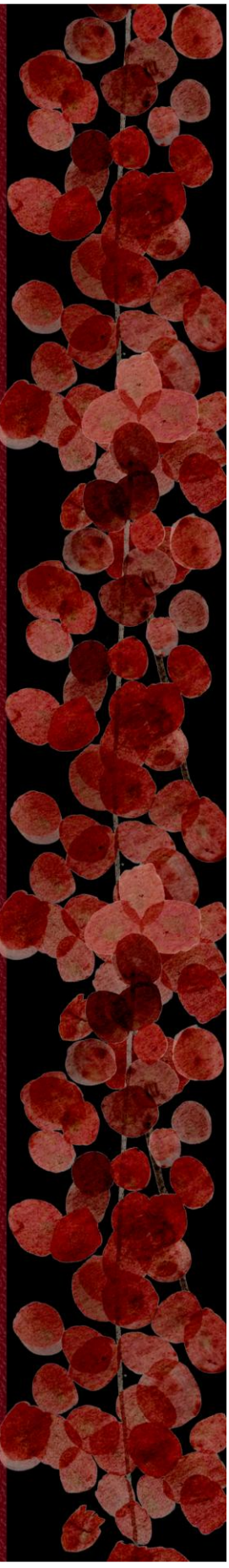
4pm - 8pm

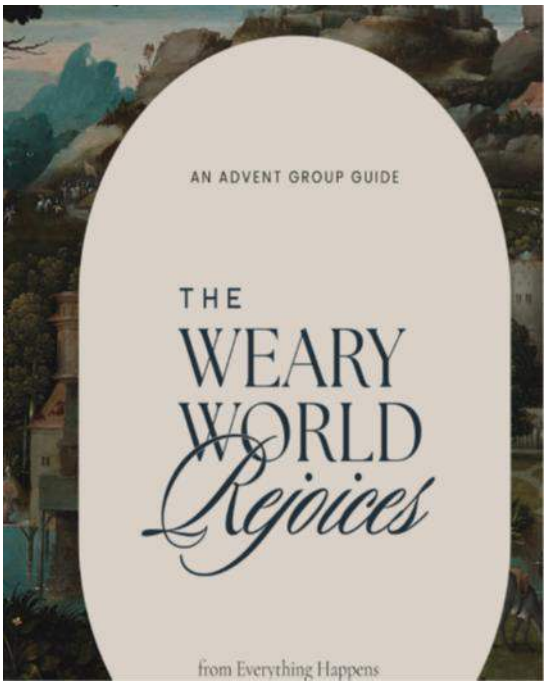
1000 Hazel Ct.

Food Cocktails Mocktails

ALL ARE WELCOME!

We love having families celebrate with us! While there won't be children's games this year, a challenging puzzle will be available for all to enjoy.





Evening Advent Study

The Discussion Bible Study Group will host a Tuesday evening Advent study starting Tuesday, December 1, 2026. We will start at 6:30 PM in Metcalf Hall. The study will be based on "The Weary World Rejoices" by Kate Bowler. Study guides will be available at the meetings or by contacting Lay Catechist Tom Reyburn.



See Steve Clark for tickets



St. Luke's
Episcopal Church
Bookstore
& Gifts

Christmas OPEN HOUSE

A selection of inspirational books, gifts, and seasonal items perfect for Christmas giving will be available.

ENJOY HOLIDAY TREATS!

Thurs. December 3rd 5-8
Saturday December 5th 10-4
Sunday December 6th 11:30-1:30

St. Luke's Episcopal Church 210 E. 9th Bartlesville, OK

AN INVITATION FOR OUR BARTLESVILLE COMMUNITY

100 students are coming to Bartlesville

Help us welcome them and their families

January 7–9, 2027 · Bartlesville, Oklahoma

Hosted at **Hope Presbyterian Church** & **St. Luke's Episcopal Church**

The **Cross Timbers Classic** is a Christian speech and debate tournament hosted by LAUNCH Speech & Debate, bringing homeschool students and their families from as far as California, plus Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri and Alabama. You don't need to be a homeschooler or know anything about debate to take part. If you care about civic life and a well-reasoned faith, here are four ways to help.

01 Judge a round

No experience needed

- Choose a **3-hour slot** to judge a debate or speech event; speech rounds are especially fun for younger kids.
- Children are welcome to come and listen quietly. Training and refreshments provided.
- Meet families from seven states and encourage young people learning to speak with clarity, conviction and grace.

Scan to judge

02 Host a family

January 6–10

- Traveling families need a **clean place to sleep and shower**. A simple, meaningful way to bless a homeschool family visiting from out of state.
- **No meals needed.** Guests are at the tournament from 7:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. each day.
- No room yourself? **Please share this** with friends, neighbors or your Bible study who might have extra space.

Scan to host

03 Sponsor

Businesses & churches

- Your **food, gift and other sponsorships** help reduce costs for this educational opportunity and make Bartlesville the **most hospitable tournament in the league** this season.
- Sponsors are **recognized in the tournament program and on signage** seen by local and out-of-town families.

Call or text **214-549-9956**

04 Compete

Homeschool students
Seniors 12–18
Juniors 6–12

- Requires a **Stoa family membership** (**stoausa.org/membership**); each family provides a parent judge and chaperone.
- Know a homeschool student who'd love this? I'm happy to provide **free coaching and support** to families new to Stoa.
- Family registration is open November 30 – December 6.

Tournament info

Care about civic life? So do these students.

Debaters research real questions of law, liberty and government all season, then argue both sides before community judges.

TEAM POLICY · 2 VS. 2

Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially reform its agriculture policy.

LINCOLN-DOUGLAS · 1 VS. 1

Resolved: Liberty ought to be prioritized over order.

Questions? I'd love to talk with you.

Candis Grover, Tournament Co-Director · candis@launchspeechanddebate.org · 214-549-9956

Contact info: Shelly Jackson: shellymjackson@gmail.com; 405.215.3773

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

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

Bereavement Team 3

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