

*A Word from Father Steve*  
*Casa Hispana Bingo Night March 7*  
*Retreat for High School Students*  
*Lenten Soup Series Tuesdays at 5:30 in March*  
*Employment Opportunity in Nursery*  
*Sunday School volunteers needed*  
*St. Luke's is now on Instagram*  
*Coronavirus Awareness and Response Tips*



March  
4, 2020

The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 210 E. Ninth St., Bartlesville, OK 74003

# The Steeple



## *A Word from Father Steve*

Phone: 918-330-6108 email: fathersdhood@gmail.com

All: Bishop Ed sent out a pastoral letter on the coronavirus earlier in the week. Regarding the virus, he wrote:  
Our role in responding, as churches, dioceses and compassionate Christians, is to:

- Combat fear with knowledge in order to encourage preparedness and decrease stigma.
- Maintain operational continuity and continue worship life in case of potential quarantine or disruption.
- Show God's compassion and care to those in our communities who are affected.

In that spirit, St. Luke's will continue to serve our community by following best practices. We will follow the direction of local and state health officials as well as any instructions that come from the diocese. I will be meeting with our lay leaders in the next few days to look at ways in which we can worship together while minimizing exposure to the spread of illnesses.

As it stands right now, there are no confirmed cases of coronavirus in Oklahoma, but I don't want to wait until it is here to take action. At the same time, I don't want to overreact. Currently, best practices suggest that regular hand washing and minimizing personal contact like hand shaking are helpful in reducing the spread of coronavirus as well as the cold and flu.

- If you are ill or your immune system is compromised, please stay home. Contact the church and someone can bring communion to you.
- I will be commissioning some lay members to as Lay Eucharistic Visitors to bring communion to members in their homes.
- When you are at church, minimize personal contact. If someone doesn't want to shake hands or hug, please honor their wishes. I rarely exchange *The Peace* during flu season, and I also use hand sanitizer after the *The Peace*. One of the protocols I will be implementing is the altar party will be washing our hands vigorously in the sacristy between *The Peace* and before distributing communion.
- If you are worried about the common cup, you don't have to receive the wine. However, epidemiological studies have found the common cup is safe when best practices are followed. However, if your immune system is compromised, it would be prudent to refrain from the common cup at Holy Communion (especially during cold and flu season). Also, we may explore using *Morning Prayer* for a time if coronavirus begins to spread locally.
- References: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/local/1980/06/20/is-common-communion-chalice-a-public-health-threat/a18c7092-a327-4ffb-8b9c-2a2f6fd2894b/> and <https://www.ntnl.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Common-Cup-CDC.pdf>

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to call or text me at 918.330.6108.

Peace, Fr. Steve



# BINGO

BY  
CASA HISPANA

## night

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

Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup>  
5:30 PM  
St Luke's  
Episcopal Church



**\$12**  
Ticket

Include:  
Admission Price &  
10 cards

Games start at 6:00 PM



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 providing highly subsidized dental care to under-served communities

## Retreat for High School Youth

The Oklahoma Episcopal Diocese will hold the "Created in the Image" Retreat for high school students on March 27 as part of a series of four separate retreats, held once a year, at which difficult topics our youth experience at school and in society and how our faith frames these experiences will be discussed. The retreats are facilitated by youth ministers from around the Diocese under the direction of the Director of Youth/Young Adults. The cost is \$125 each. Register at [epiok.org](http://epiok.org) or call the Diocese to learn more at 405-232-4820. Details of each year's retreat are on the website. Four-year participants will be recognized by the Diocese at their home congregations.

## Kitchen Table Conversations A Lenten Series

hosted by  
Disciples Christian Church  
&  
St. Luke's Episcopal Church

### Tuesdays in March

Dinner 5:30PM

Program 6:00-7:00PM

March 3, 10, and 17 at St. Luke's  
March 24 and 31 at Disciples Christian Church



## Employment Opportunity>>>

*Nursery Worker needed on Sundays at 10  
a.m. for 10:30 a.m. Church service  
This is a paid position. Please call the office  
to apply at 918-336-1212.*

**Note: the location of each of the upcoming Lenten Soup Suppers and Programs on Tuesdays in March at 5:30 p.m. The suppers on March 10 and 17 will be in Metcalf Hall. The last two suppers March 24 and 31 will be at Disciples Christian Church at 5800 Douglas Lane in Bartlesville, which is joining St. Luke's for these suppers.**

### Agape Mission Volunteer Schedule

#### Thursday, March 12:

9-11am: Jeanne Julstrom, Becky Liehr  
10:45am – 1pm: Kris Bonner, Rita Childers, Becky Liehr,  
Kathy Zervas, Dolores McCreary  
1:00 – 2:45pm: Peter Julstrom, Miriam Petrovich,  
Wendy Hall

#### Thursday, March 26:

9-11am: Jim Liehr  
10:45am – 1pm: Jeff Birk, Dean Zervas  
Glenda Garrison, Darian Kedy, Jen Peterson,  
1:00 – 2:45pm: Carol Murphy, Radomir Petrovich,  
Becky Olsen



## St. Luke's Prayer List

Please keep the following persons  
in your prayers:

Elizabeth, Jenny, Georgia, Diana,  
Millie, Bryson, Suzanne, Sydney,  
Ed, Evelyn, Toni, Milton, Joseph,  
Lyndee, Alan, Bill, Karen, Ethan,  
Elaine, Marjean, Helen, Mark,  
Cynthia, Steve, Barbara, Brent,  
Katie, Ruth, Glenn, Marsha, Jerry,  
D.J., Sarah, Mary, Emily, Whitney,  
Lloyd, Melt, Belinda, Wendy, David,  
Tracy, Linda, Terry, Leaona,  
Connie, Tracy, Mark, Diana F.,  
Jim, and all members of our armed  
forces and their families.

If you have a prayer request,  
contact our Prayer Ministry  
Coordinator Thelma Blackburn  
918-333-7902 or  
TPBGEN@aol.com or the church  
office at 918-336-1212 or  
office@episcopalbartlesville.org.  
(Names on the Prayer List are  
rotated off every 4 weeks. If there  
is need for continued prayers,  
please let us know.)

### March 8, 2020 Volunteer schedule >>>

Lay readers: Scott Williams 8 a.m.; Lauren Green 10:30 a.m.

Intercessor: Jeff Birk 10:30 a.m.

Greeters: Debbie & Dennis Mueggenborg 10:30 a.m.

Ushers: Dean Zervas 8 a.m.; Brian Ferguson and Mark Fregin 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Plate Counter: Mark Fregin

### Sunday School Volunteers Needed:

Thanks to all who volunteered  
for February! Sunday School  
teachers are needed for March.  
Doorkeepers/assistants too!  
Detailed lesson plan provided &  
video demo for each week's  
lesson. For info call 918-697-  
8509 or sign up online at  
[https://volunteersignup.org/KDE  
74](https://volunteersignup.org/KDE74)

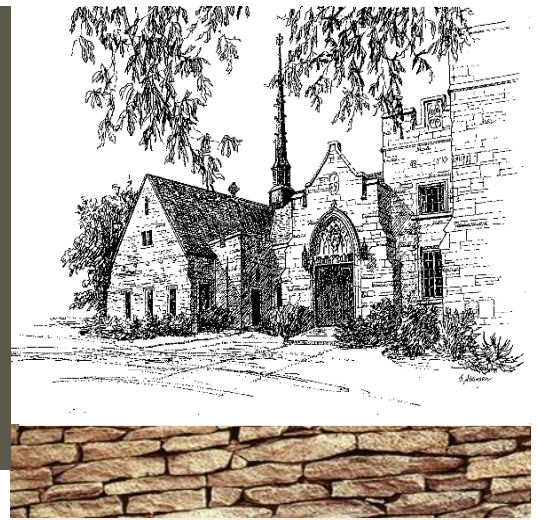
Keeli Droege, Christian  
Education Coordinator





# final thoughts...

- Sunday's 8 a.m. services will continue to be held in the chapel.
- Be aware -- Father Steve will not request gift cards or other monetary support through email. All financial requests/special appeals at St. Luke's go through normal channels and any special requests will be made by phone or in person.
- Sun. verses: Genesis 12:1-4a; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17; Psalm 121
- Sunday sermons may be accessed at our website: <http://episcopalbartlesville.org/>
- **St. Luke's is now on Instagram! Follow St. Luke's at episcopalbartlesville.**



## COVID-19 / Coronavirus: Awareness and Response

The emergence of cases of COVID-19 (the "coronavirus") in Europe, and recent deaths in northern Italy associated with the virus, should be a matter of concern to all of our communities.

There are basic steps each of our communities can follow to minimize risks to all of our people and the ministries to which they contribute or by which they are served.

First, the best advice on precautions to take is provided on the website of the World Health Organization (<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>). Information is available in English, French, and Spanish.

To summarize the WHO suggestions:

- Wash your hands frequently, using soap and water or an alcohol-based rub. All eucharistic ministers should use an alcohol-based rub before the distribution of the sacrament, whether in the context of the liturgy or in visiting someone at home or in the hospital.
- Practice respiratory hygiene. Cover your mouth when sneezing or coughing; discard tissues immediately in closed bins.
- Practice social distancing. In general, maintain a distance of a meter between you and others, particular those who are coughing, sneezing, or evidently ill.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Any parishes involved in ministries in which food is served should give particular attention to The WHO recommendations regarding food safety.
- Needless to say, we should send a clear message that if anyone feels ill or unwell, they should, as a general rule, seek medical care immediately and not attend parish events.
- Related to this, if someone who is elderly or lives alone does not appear at church in what would otherwise be a regular function, create systems for wellness checks.

Caring for each other and for all the people of God means being careful in the midst of an epidemic. With a reasonable amount of caution we can keep our people, our communities, and those we serve healthy—and continue to minister to those who are ill and in need of our care.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church contacts:  
The Rev. Stephen Hood, Rector  
[fathersdhood@gmail.com](mailto:fathersdhood@gmail.com) 918-330-6108  
The Rev. Douglas Freebern, Deacon, retired  
[dfreebern@gmail.com](mailto:dfreebern@gmail.com) 918-914-0525  
In an Emergency, contact any of the clergy listed above.  
Roseanne McKee, Office Manager/Asst. to Rector ([office@episcopalbartlesville.org](mailto:office@episcopalbartlesville.org))  
Dolores McCreary, Organist/Choir Director ([dolores@episcopalbartlesville.org](mailto:dolores@episcopalbartlesville.org))  
Dan Droege, Sr. Warden ([dbdcomm.2@gmail.com](mailto:dbdcomm.2@gmail.com))  
Doug McIver, Jr. Warden ([dmciver@susandickcpa.com](mailto:dmciver@susandickcpa.com))  
Office Phone: 918-336-1212

## Bereavement Team 1

Susie Clark, Nancy Woods,  
Georgia Gates, Jeanne  
Julstrom and Sally Lindsey.



St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
210 East 9<sup>th</sup> St.  
Bartlesville, OK 74003

### Wash your hands

Wash your hands with soap and running water when hands are visibly dirty

If your hands are not visibly dirty, frequently clean them by using alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water



### Protect others from getting sick

When coughing and sneezing cover mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue



Throw tissue into closed bin immediately after use

Clean hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water after coughing or sneezing and when caring for the sick

