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The Steeple



April 14,
2021

The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church

COVID Protocols Changing in May

Greetings, everyone.

With Fr. Nick away for a while taking care of family needs in Battle Creek, he's asked me to share with you a few items of interest in the life of St. Luke's. He will be back, by the way, around the 19th or 20th. As you probably know, Fr. Bob Gates has graciously agreed to officiate this coming Sunday, and we'll look forward to seeing him "up front" again. How lucky we are to have him as such a supportive member of our family.

Some of you may already be aware that Bishop Poulson, on behalf of the Diocese of Oklahoma, released new guidelines this week regarding COVID protocols in light of the growing number of vaccinated residents and the significant declines in infections, hospitalizations and deaths from the virus. I encourage you to watch the video the Diocese produced in which the Bishop provides the new guidance in more detail. [CLICK HERE](#) to watch if you're reading this Steeple electronically.

In a nutshell, here's what the new guidelines spell out:

Beginning on Pentecost – **May 23** – all mandatory COVID protocols for congregations will be removed with these exceptions:

- We will continue to wear masks.
- We will continue to sanitize our hands regularly.
- We will not share the chalice (the common cup).
- We will not have any indoor eating (as in after-service refreshments beyond coffee, etc.)

These last four COVID protocols will expire on **July 17**. The Bishop notes that he reserves the right to reinstate COVID protocols if things change drastically. An example of such a change would be if the state experiences a large spike in a COVID variant that is highly resistant to the vaccine. Furthermore, the new diocesan mandates do not preclude local congregations from continuing their own COVID protocols if they wish. A text of the Bishop's comments and background for the changes is available by [CLICKING HERE](#).

The Vestry met Monday night and received a very encouraging financial report compiled by Dennis Mueggenborg and presented by Junior Warden Doug McIver. Through the first quarter of the year, income is running slightly ahead of budget and expenses somewhat under. Most encouraging was the fact that pledges came in virtually right on target for this time of year.

The Vestry and Stewardship Committee appreciate all those members who have kept up-to-date on their pledging.

On a related topic, the church office has been notified by a few members who never received 2021 pledge cards during the mailing late last year. Whether the cards were lost in the mail or somehow overlooked, we apologize. New cards are available in the church office or on the table just under the bulletin board at the end of the hallway before you enter the narthex. There's also a card printed in this Steeple, which can be clipped out and sent to the office or dropped in the Sunday offering plate.

Finally, please keep Fr. Nick and the Phares family in your prayers this week. It's hard to believe they will mark their 3-month anniversary with us at the end of this month. Certainly, there have been unanticipated challenges, but so much progress has been made since their arrival. Thanks be to God for bringing our families together.

*Dan Droege, Sr. Warden
On behalf of the Vestry*

**PLEASE RETURN THIS CARD
BY MAIL, AT SUNDAY SERVICE OR TO CHURCH MAILBOX**

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Bartlesville, OK

This is my/our pledge for 2021

\$ _____ Per week
\$ _____ Per month

\$ _____ Per year
\$ _____ One-time
Special Gift in addition to pledge

Name (please print): _____

Signature: _____

Did We Miss You?

Some members apparently did not receive their pledge cards as part of the regular stewardship mailing late last year.

Your pledge is important! If you were somehow missed, please fill in and clip out this pledge slip. Mail it in or drop it in the offering plate or at the church office. Thank you!

-- The Stewardship Committee

The Altar Guild invites all who wish to take an Easter lily home with you through Sunday. The remaining lilies have been trimmed but can be planted for blooming next year. They are in the Metcalf Hall kitchen.



The Altar Guild is in need of immediate help with providing altar bread for the Eucharist. If you would like to help bake for one Sunday a month and need more information, please call Wendy Hall, bread chairman. at 918-440-4355.



2021 Bishop's Cup Golf Tournament

May 15

The Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma's mission is to transform lives in the love of Jesus Christ. One impactful way we do this is through the vital work we do with our youth. The Bishop's Cup (TBC) utilizes the funds raised during the golf tournament to assist St. Crispin's Conference Center and Camp. St. Crispin's is an inclusive camp where we strive to meet all physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. Campers leave St. Crispin's forever changed by the beauty, joy, and friendships found at camp.



This year, on Saturday, May 15, we will be holding the 6th Annual The Bishop's Cup at **Buffalo Rock Golf in Cushing, OK**. TBC allows us the opportunity to gather as a community in support of our beloved St. Crispin's Summer Camp. Whether you're a pro or a novice, all skill levels are welcome in this friendly tournament.

We are thrilled about this event and ask you to sink a winning putt by joining us as a sponsor. Enclosed is a sponsorship form detailing the 2021 levels and benefits. Please register below or send in a check by mail to 924 N. Robinson, Oklahoma City, OK 73102. Please put "The Bishop's Cup" or "TBC" in the memo line.

The Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma understands the importance of investing in and empowering the youth of our region. Your participation is vital to making this event a success. We look forward to seeing you on **May 15!**

A foursome is \$360; tee box sponsor \$250; hole sponsor \$1,000; driving range and putting green sponsor \$1,500; cart sponsor \$2,500; birdie sponsor \$5,000; mulligans \$5.

Registration closes May 5th. All participants will receive a swag bag and the top 3 teams will receive top notch golf gear. Lunch IS included!

For additional sponsorships and to register, visit the Diocese website at <https://www.epiok.org/eventcalendar.aspx> and scroll down to 2021 Bishop's Cup Golf Tournament or call the diocese at 405-232-4820.

Veterans Connection Organization Golf Tournament
Title Sponsor - JO ALLYN LOWE FAMILY



Friday, May 14, 2021
Adams Municipal Golf Club
5801 Tuxedo Blvd. Bartlesville, Ok

Proceeds benefit: Veterans Connection Organizations
LTJG Jo Allyn Lowe Scholarship Fund

Registration 10:00 am
Lunch and Ceremony 11:30 am
Shot-Gun Start 1:00 pm

\$100 - person or \$400 - team
(includes green fee, cart, range balls, lunch, and prizes)
Mulligans are 4 for \$20 (Limited to 4 per person)



www.vcobville.com

For more information and/or Sponsorship Opportunities Please call the Tournament Chair
Charlie Pilkington at (918) 688-4002 or cpilkington@bankregent.com

SERVICE TIMES

Beginning April 11th, our Rite II service scheduled at 10:00 a.m. will go back to its originally scheduled time of 10:30 a.m.

Changing the time will allow us the opportunity to hold a faith forum in between the services from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. in Metcalf Hall.

Please consider adding the Faith Forum to your Sunday morning practice.

Sunday Services at St. Luke's beginning April 11th, 2021

8:00 a.m. Rite I (Traditional Language)

Faith Forum 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. (Metcalf Hall)

10:30 a.m. Rite II (Contemporary Language)



Emily Update: Prayers are requested the next hearing April 19 in Noble County Family Court. Because of cold weather, **the next yard sale will be held Saturday, April 24, 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.**, at Roseanne's house at 1328 S. Cherokee Ave. Items for the sale can be left on Roseanne's screened-in porch. Hot dog and chili dog combos will be \$4 and \$5 at the sale.

Emily thanks everyone for their donations at the table at St. Luke's where Emily's masks, zipper bags and tablerunners are located.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

After a year of serving take-out meals, Agape Mission has reopened its dining room for inside dining. This reopening is a tremendous blessing to its clients since they once again can eat in a restaurant-like setting with a sense of dignity. For the past year, we have been able to get along with a skeleton crew to make the take-out meals. Now it is time for us to "reopen" our commitment to serving those individuals who struggle in their daily lives and volunteer to give the diners a warm welcome and fill their plates with delicious food. We need volunteers to work serving meals and help with clean-up on the fourth Thursday of each month. Specifically, we need two volunteers for the 10:45 to 1:00 shift and three volunteers for the 12:45 to approximately 2:00 shift. If you are interested, please email Becky Liehr at jbliehr@gmail.com or call her at 918-327-5987. The blessings abound in this ministry as you become the hands of Christ to those individuals who otherwise may not have a well-balanced meal that day. Their smiles and gratitude for this service will warm your heart. Please prayerfully consider joining the St. Luke's team in this wonderful ministry.



Easter Faith Forum Series

Resurrecting Wounds

No Faith Forum April 18th

Session Two: April 25th Erasing Wounds.

Session Three: May 2nd Touching Wounds.

Session Four: May 9th Surfacing Wounds.

Session Five: May 16th Discovering Wounds.

Session Six: May 23rd Communal Afterliving.

The Altar Guild Team and Flower Fund Chairmen would like to give our sincere appreciation and thanks to all who made contributions for the gorgeous Easter Lilies that adorned St. Luke's, not only on Easter but the following Sunday. We also thank you for the additional money that allowed us to place the bowl of fresh spring flowers on the Chapel Altar. Hopefully, most of you saw these in person or were able to see the beautiful sanctuary on Facebook or your iPhones.

Now it's time to select a date that has special meaning for you to honor or remember loved ones on the remaining Sundays this spring. We always place fresh flowers on the High Altar except during Lent and Advent. (COVID did cancel flowers during the early pandemic when there were no services in the church). This is a great opportunity to make your remembrance known to God and also our Parish Family.

Please select a Sunday from now through the end of June, and notify either Jo Baughman via email at jybokla@aol.com or Cheryl Fregin via email at cherylfregin@yahoo.com; and then send a check to the office or place it in the offering basket, **noting the exact wording you choose for the Sunday bulletin**. The suggested amount is \$45 but we are happy with any extra that you might donate. If it's easier, just give it to Roseanne in person in the office at your convenience or drop your check in the north locked mailbox by the parking lot doors. Or simply mail to St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 210 East Ninth, Bartlesville, OK 74003. Please don't forget to note Flower Fund on the bottom corner of your check.

Many thanks for keeping fresh flowers on our High Altar.

Cheryl and Jo
Flower Fund Co-Chairmen.

Regular Office Hours

Monday – Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Please note that even during office hours, the doors are locked per COVID-19 protocol.

If you need to come in, just ring the north entrance bell or call the office at 918-336-1212.



St. Luke's Prayer List

The prayer list can be found in the bulletin enclosed herewith at the end of the bulletin.

Call or email our office with prayer requests at 918-336-1212 or office@episcopalbartlesville.org.

Agape Mission Volunteer Schedule

Thursday, April 8

10:45 am – 1 pm: Becky Liehr,
Kris Bonner, Kathy Zervas, Dolores McCreary

Thursday, April 22

10:45 am – 1 pm: Darian Kedy, Becky Olsen,
Jeff Birk

Bereavement Team 1

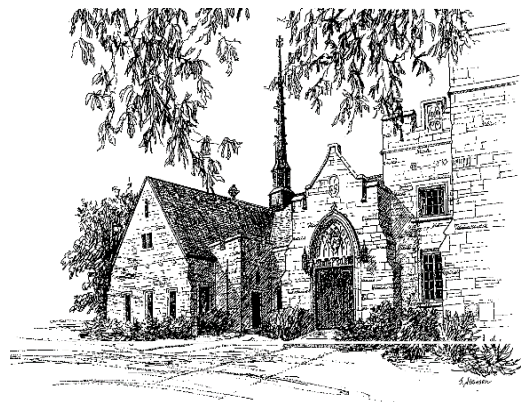
Susie Clark, Nancy
Woods, Sally Lindsey,
Jeanne Julstrom.

Planning to attend the upcoming Sunday service?

If you have a standing reservation, there's no need to call. However, if you've not been attending regularly in-person – Reserve your spot by emailing to office@episcopalbartlesville.org or by calling 918-336-1212.

Alert on solicitations...

Be aware – No one from St. Luke's will request gift cards or other monetary support through email. If you receive such a message in your email, it is spam. 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.



Birthdays and Anniversaries, April 14 - 21

Birthdays

Tyler Dean, 15th
Ethan Peterson, 16th
Becky Liehr, 18th
Bill Gallery, 19th
Kris Bonner, 20th
Marsha Tibbits, 21st

Anniversaries

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 Episcopal Church Contacts:

The Reverend Nick Phares, Rector
269-788-7063; RevPhares@outlook.com
Dolores McCreary, Choir Director/Organist
918-397-4828; dolo37@cableone.net
Roseanne McKee, Secretary; 918-336-1212;
office@episcopalbartlesville.org
Keeli Droege, Christian Education Coord.;
918-697-8509; keelidroege@gmail.com

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
210 East 9th St., Bartlesville, OK 74003

St. Luke's Vestry Members

- Dan Droege, Sr. Warden – dbdcomm.2@gmail.com 918-331-7936
- Doug McIver, Jr. Warden - dmciver@susandickcpa.com 785-342-4328
- Penny Williams - oklaborn@sbcglobal.net
- Nancy Woods - Nancywoods120@gmail.com
- Steve Van Aken - scvanaken@sbcglobal.net
- Heather Boyle - heatherboyle@sbcglobal.net
- Nancy Warring - newarring@cityofbartlesville.org
- Karl Franks - ktdfranks@gmail.com
- Katherine Powell - kmpbmp@cableone.net
- Karole Cosby – kscozby916@gmail.com
- Chad Ellis - w.chadwick.ellis@gmail.com
- Nancy Megee - sc4me81@yahoo.com

Connecting with St. Luke's

To learn various ways to connect at St. Luke's, visit our website at: <http://episcopalbartlesville.org/>