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The Steeple



July 14,
2021

The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church

New Connections



Over the next few months, you will begin to hear the word REALM quite a bit. Be not afraid my friends. REALM is a cloud-based version of church management software that we have moved to in order to integrate, digitize, and automate some of our record keeping, data entry, and financial management at St. Luke's. For several months now, a select and determined team of individuals has been learning the intricacies of the software and how we can best leverage the tools it offers us in some really unique and dynamic ways.

When I was in the Navy, I worked as part of the Combat Systems Department on board the USS Eisenhower (CVN 69). As an electronics technician, I worked in the field of big data, ensuring that our captain had the most accurate and expansive view of whatever theater the ship was steaming in. REALM, in a way, allows us to do just that. It allows us to connect with each other and by doing so it expands our view. It does this by allowing us all the ability to communicate with one another on a single platform and the ability to add and manage a variety of data points.

Utilizing the platform in this manner ensures that there is the opportunity for us to reference and engage with a more substantive and accurate report of where we are as a parish in relation to our mission. These capabilities alone allow all of us within the parish to reflect on trends, plan, and engage with one another in real time - and it does this all from the convenience of our own computers and cell phones, not just a lone terminal in the church office. REALM is not your average database.

I once heard that culture eats strategy for breakfast. In a way, that is true. Especially if you find yourself at odds with culture on every front when you really don't have to. By going digital in some aspects of our management, I believe we will be able to bridge the gap between our legacy systems and the new space that REALM will allow us to enter. I know I can tout the software's praise all day long. Nevertheless, whether this venture will be determined as just a lateral move, or a great success will rely significantly on the level of engagement we all give the program when it becomes available for wider dissemination in the parish.

I realize that for some of us, encountering a new software will result in a bit of a learning curve. Alas, there is a cost to every change. In fact, moving from analog to digital has already allowed us to see what is working and what isn't. However, in just a few weeks, all of us have seen a variety

of ways of how this move will begin to pay dividends in the future and add a much-needed margin to those who volunteer their time and talent in the office.

REALM is secure, intuitive, and for the most part easy to learn. I hope that as you hear of ways to become acquainted with the software or are invited to engage with it in small groups, you will do so with an open and inquiring heart. I assure you there is plenty of support to go around. That is key and I could not be more thankful for Nancy Woods, Jeff Birk, Dan Droege, and Dennis Mueggenborg, who all have been working so hard behind the scenes to make sure this transition happens smoothly. This past Monday, at our regularly scheduled Vestry meeting, all those in attendance were able to sign in and start exploring REALM because of their hard work. It was as easy as one, two, three.

My friends, signs of revitalization and renewal abound. How we measure and reflect on these signs enables us to discern where our focus is and where else it should be. In moving forward through this exciting time, it would be wise for us to recognize the multi-dimensional aspects of our life together and realize that at the heart of our engagement with REALM is the premise that that engagement will give us a greater insight into our current context in ways that our perception alone cannot. That, my beloved, is a truly empowering source of joy for all of us who seek to know how better to serve each other and love everyone with arms wide open.

Every Blessing,
Fr. Nick+

WITH A VOICE OF SINGING



Remember our wonderful CHOIR? Yes, your voices have continued to be lifted up in praise and thanksgiving these past many months. And for this we are thankful.

Now it is time for our CHOIR to come together again to rehearse and prepare once again and sit in the chancel and lead our wonderful St. Luke's family in singing the hymns and Psalms and anthems we so dearly love.

Who can sing in the St. Luke's Choir? Anyone who loves to sing and is willing to devote time for regular Wednesday evening rehearsals – 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Do you have to audition? No audition is required. It is helpful if you read musical notes and have a vocal range of more than just a few notes! Singing with our choir will help improve your ability to read music and to improve your singing voice.

REHEARSALS BEGINS WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17th at 7:00 p.m. in the Choir Room. We hope to be ready to begin singing for the 10:30 Sunday Eucharist on August 29th. Questions? Contact Dolores McCreary any Sunday morning or by phone at 918-397-4828.

FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our sister Evelyn Tibbits' funeral will be on Saturday, July 24th at 11:00 a.m. We will celebrate the life of our sister Evelyn using Burial Office, Rite I with Holy Eucharist. There will be a reception to follow.



Our sister Georgia Gates' funeral will be on Friday, August 6th at 1 p.m. We will celebrate the life of our sister Georgia using Burial Office, Rite II with Holy Eucharist. There will be a reception to follow. The Rt. Rev. Poulson Reed, Bishop of Oklahoma, will officiate.



Volunteer Opportunities for 2021
Go to <http://www.packthebackpacks.org>

Where:
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
8th & Dewey
Bartlesville, OK



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| Sunday, July 25 2 to 4 p.m. Move supplies | Monday, July 26 9:00 to 3 p.m. & 6:30 to 8 p.m. Move supplies & set up | Tuesday, July 27 9 to Noon & 6 to 8 p.m. Pack Elementary Schools |
| Wednesday, July 28 9 to Noon Pack Elementary Schools | Friday, July 30 1 to 4 p.m. Pack MS/HS Schools | Saturday, July 31 9 to Noon Pack High School |

Pickup Days: August 1st from 2 to 6 pm August 2nd from 8 to 1 pm and 2 to 6 pm

Agape Mission Volunteer Schedule

Thursday, July 22

10:45 am – 1 pm: Jeff Birk, Darian Kedy,
Becky Olsen, Dan Droege, Jo Baughman

12:45 pm – 2 p.m.: Steve Clark, Steve VanAken, Carol Murphy

Thursday, August 12

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

12:45 pm – 2 pm: Jeanne Julstrom, Peter Julstrom, Wendy Hall

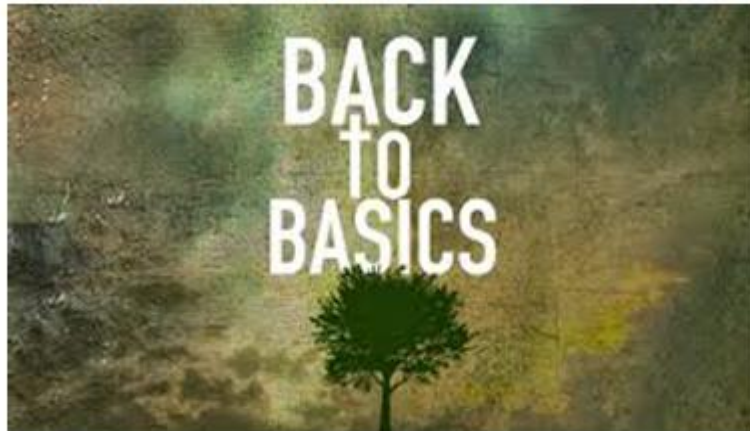
St. Luke's Prayer List

The prayer list can be found in
the Sunday bulletin and on
the St. Luke's website.

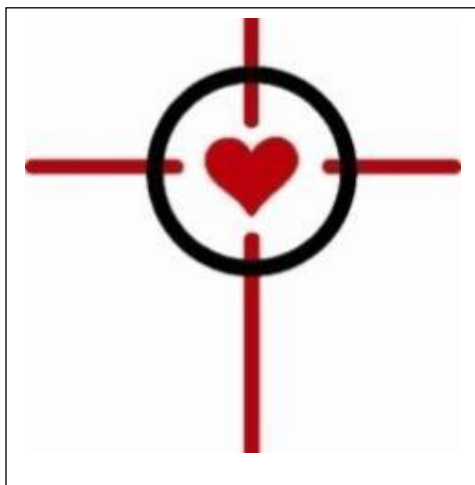
Call or email our office with
prayer requests at
918-336-1212 or
StLukesBartlesville@outlook.com

Follow us on Facebook at St.
Luke's Episcopal Church.
Join Father Nick for live
prayer most weekdays at 5
p.m.

Summer Faith Forum Series



Sundays from 9:15 – 10:15 a.m. in Metcalf Hall



CONCERN of Bartlesville
Sundry Needs:

Cans of Rotel Tomatoes

Ramen Noodles

Snack Tuna

Crackers

Tooth Brush and Toothpaste sets

Pub Theology Moves to Crossing 2nd

Pub Theology is scheduled for the 4th Thursday of each month.

The next meeting will be at **7 p.m. Thursday, July 22 at Crossing 2nd.**

What is 'Pub Theology'? It's a time to gather informally and talk about different subjects around our core values of faith. What feeds your faith? Where did you see Jesus this week?

What literature are you reading that has had some inspiration for you?

A host of topics are brought up and discussed over drinks and appetizers.

(We pay our own tabs). There is usually a facilitator to throw out topics for discussion.

No politics, no gossip, and what is discussed in Pub Theology that is personal stays in the group. Respect the dignity of every person. It's a fun and relaxed time to get to know each other. Call Roseanne in the church office and let her know if you will be joining us so we can have enough tables set up at **Crossing 2nd.**

If you have any questions, contact Fr. Nick, Penny Williams, or Nancy Megee.

We will be happy to share. Let's share some theology!



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.

Bereavement Team 1

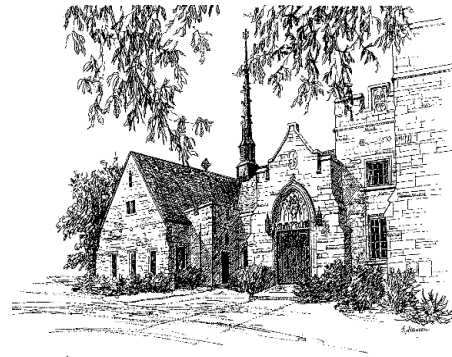
Susie Clark, Nancy Woods, Sally Lindsey, Jeanne Julstrom.

Connecting with St. Luke's

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

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, July 15 - 21

Birthdays

Jeanne Julstrom, July 17th
Susan Brooks, July 18th
Fr. Nick Phares, July 20th
Emily Megee, July 20th
Paxton Phares, July 21st
Logan Martin, July 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!

The power washer that belongs to the church has gone missing. If you know where it is or have borrowed it, please call the church office. Margaret needs it to power wash the outdoor furniture. Thank you!

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 dolomc37@gmail.com

Roseanne McKee, Secretary; 918-336-1212;
Email: StLukesBartlesville@outlook.com

Keeli Droege, Christian Education Coord.;
918-697-8509; keelidroege@gmail.com

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

Email:
StLukesBartlesville@outlook.com

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
- Jo Baughman – jybokla@aol.com
- Karole Cozby – kscozby916@gmail.com
- Chad Ellis – w.chadwick.ellis@gmail.com
- Karen Lewey – kgrammy07@yahoo.com
- Nancy Megee – sc4me81@yahoo.com
- Katherine Powell – kmpbmp48@gmail.com
- Steve Van Aken – scvanaken@sbcglobal.net
- Nancy Warring – newarring@cityofbartlesville.org
- Penny Williams – oklaborn@sbcglobal.net
- Nancy Woods – Nancywoods120@gmail.com

Sunday’s Altar Flowers are given by Ms. Roberta Johansen: “In loving memory of Jean Johansen.”