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The Steeple



June 22, 2022

The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church



A Home Away From Home

As most of you know Teresa and the kids are down at St. Crispin's for the summer. This week marks their fourth session and since their arrival last month there has been a lot of water under the bridge. I look forward to my daily check-in's with T and feel intimately connected with the operations of summer camp, given the fact that the entire Phares family is working for Jesus this summer.

While our check-in's usually center on staff morale, the ever-present challenges of homesickness, heat, and constipation, they always end with beautiful stories of spiritual transformation. I love these stories and hearing Teresa talk about them. My hope for her has always been to see her step into her own pastoral identity and at St. Crispin's she has.

This week St. Luke's is mightily represented in God's front yard. Our two campers Pax and Ramona are also joined by the doctors Pam and Tim Hanson. Before heading down, I told Tim about how good the fishing was, however, with ninety-six kids in session this week I think he has his hands full. I do hope that both of them will get a chance to get out and explore the camp while there. Perhaps I'll encourage them to do just that when I head down tomorrow.

The trip, while mostly pleasure, has a business component to it. Deacon Kay Bowman Harvey is one of the deans this week along with Fr. Lee Domenick and Mary Susan Whaley. Late yesterday, I learned from the Fr. David Bumsted (Chair of the Commission on Ministry) that Kay Bo has agreed to be Jeff Birk's liaison to COM as he begins the aspirancy phase of his discernment for ordination to the

diaconate. I hope to see Kay Bo and share the excitement of our community that she will join us as we walk with Jeff and Laura through discernment.

Every time I arrive at the gates St. Crispin's I can hear Kris Bonner talking about the calm she feels as she enters the grounds. I hear Penny laugh as she remembers the campers who are now priests in this diocese. I think of Georgia as her irises are in bloom. And as I enter, I think about my friend Bob and about how intimately St. Luke's is connected with St. Crispin's – how it really is a home away from home.

Gracious God, we give you thanks and praise for the beauty of creation. We give you specific thanks for the camps and conference centers we cherish, especially St. Crispin's where we grow in our love for you and one another. We give thanks for your stalwart servants - courageous and creative camp directors, staff, counselors, cooks and doctors. Support them in their faith and increase their joy as they proclaim by word, example, and loving care your Good News in Christ.

Finally, dear God, pour out your Grace on all campers, that they may know your love through prayer, holy places, inspired programs and loving people. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ who, living, dying and raised to new life in the midst of community and creation, showed us your extravagant and abiding love, so that we might have life and have it in abundance forevermore. Amen.

Every Blessing,

Nick+



Our newly formed Luke's Brunch Bunch invites you to stay after the 10:30am service on **July 10th** for brunch which will include:

Sausage and Egg Casserole

Fruit Salad

Coffee Cake and Banana Bread

Coffee, Orange Juice, and Mimosas

We hope you can join us for fellowship, food and laughter: we plan to do this quarterly.

Blessings and hugs,

Luke's Brunch Bunch (AKA Margo, Kelley, Judy, Cathy, and Sandy)

Concern current food needs are: 64oz of non-refrigerated apple or grape juice, canned tomatoes, canned tomato sauce, and toothbrush kits. And Milk. Always Milk.

Theologian's Corner



James Weldon Johnson

James Weldon Johnson was born on June 17, 1871, in Jacksonville, Florida. His parents stimulated his academic interests, and he was encouraged to study literature and music. Johnson enrolled at Atlanta University with the expressed intention that the education he received there would be used to further the interests of African Americans. He never reneged on that commitment. In the summer after his freshman year, Johnson taught the children of former slaves. Of that experience he wrote, "In all of my experience there has been no period so brief that has meant so much in my education for life as the three months I spent in the backwoods of Georgia." After graduation, he became the principal of the largest high school in Jacksonville, during which time he was paid half of what his white counterparts were paid, even though the school excelled under his leadership.

In 1900, he collaborated with his brother, Rosamond, a composer, to create "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing." Written in celebration of President Lincoln's birthday, the song, still popular today, has become known as the "African American National Anthem." Due to the success of their collaboration, Johnson moved to New York in 1901 to join his brother, and together they attained success as lyricist and composer for Broadway.

In 1906, Johnson was invited to work for the diplomatic corps and became U.S. Consul to Venezuela and later Nicaragua. During his Nicaraguan tenure, Johnson was a voice of reason and reconciliation in a time of civil unrest and turmoil. His ability to bring together people of differing viewpoints toward a common vision served Johnson well in the 1920's, when he became an organizer for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

Johnson was a prolific poet and anthologist. He edited *The Book of American Negro Poetry* (1922), a major contribution to the history of African American literature. His book of poetry,

God's Trombones (1927), seven biblical stories rendered into verse, was influenced by his impressions of the rural South.

James Weldon Johnson died on June 26, 1938.

Eternal God, who gave thy servant James Weldon Johnson a heart and voice to praise thy Name in verse: As he gave us powerful words to glorify thee, may we also speak with joy and boldness to banish hatred from thy creation; in the Name of Jesus Christ, who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

FAITH FORUM on Sundays 9:15 a.m.- 10:15 a.m. Metcalf Hall



Luke's Place June 23rd -June 29th, 2022

June 23rd - Men's Breakfast, 7-8:30am Metcalf Hall

Rector's Bible Study, 9:15am Metcalf Hall

Green Country Eucharist, 1pm GC Village

June 26th - Eucharist Rite I, 8:00am Chapel

Faith Forum, 9:15am-10:15am, Metcalf Hall

Eucharist Rite II, 10:30am

June 29th – Feast Day of the Apostles Saint Peter and Saint Paul Eucharist, 12:15pm

June 30th – Pub Theology, Tumbleweed's Steakhouse, 6:30pm

Morning Prayer is held every Monday- Thursday at 9am, Chapel

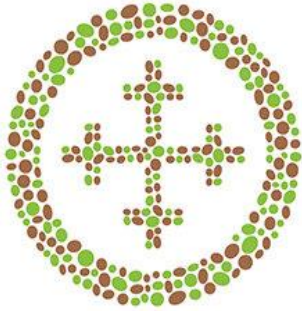
Evening Prayer is held every Monday-Thursday at 4pm, Chapel (or via Facebook)



Please help: We need Coffee Hour treats for the Sundays of July 3rd and July 24th. Can you help? Sign up is in Metcalf Hall kitchen or email the Church office at stlukesbartlesville@outlook.com. If you can provide treats but not set up or clean up, please let us know and we will take care of it. Thanks!



St Luke's has another camper at St Crispin's! Lets send notes and cards to: Elliott Ingram. He will be attending the Junior High I camp session the week of June 26th – July 2nd. He would love hearing from his church family. Address your cards and notes to: (camper's name)
c/o St Crispin's Summer Camp
36302 State Highway 9
Wewoka, Okla 74884



ST. CRISPIN'S

CONFERENCE CENTER + CAMP



June 30th, 6:30pm at Tumbleweed's Steakhouse! Join us for good talk and good food!

THE *Episcopal* CHURCH

On June 29th, the Church will remember the martyrdoms of Sts. Peter and Paul, apostles and martyrs.

While there are no explicit testaments to the deaths of St. Peter or St. Paul in Scripture, and though they were not martyred at the same time, tradition has placed the commemoration of their deaths together, as a result of the Neronian persecution of Christians in 64 A.D. Placing the commemoration on June 29th was likely a reference to an event in 258 A.D. when the remains of the martyrs were moved from their resting places to avoid desecration during persecutions ordered by Valerian.

According to *Holy Women, Holy Men*, the martyrdoms of these apostles were markedly different. The book records, “As a Roman citizen, Paul would probably have been beheaded with a sword” (*HWHM*, 446). His death would have been faster and less painful than that of Peter, who, tradition holds, was crucified upside-down at his own request, considering himself unworthy of dying the same way as Jesus.



Images of Sts. Peter and Paul often include the instruments of their martyrdoms. Paul may be depicted holding a sword and holding open a book that reads “*Spiritus Gladius*,” or “sword of the Spirit.” This references both Paul’s beheading with a sword and his letter to the Ephesians, in which he asks the Church to take up “the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God” (Eph. 6:17). Peter, along with his traditional symbols of keys to the kingdom of heaven, is regularly depicted with an inverted cross.

The relationship between the two can be instructive to us as modern-day Christians. From *Holy Women, Holy Men*, “Paul, the well-educated and cosmopolitan Jew of the Dispersion, and Peter, the uneducated

fisherman from Galilee, had differences of opinion in the early years of the Church concerning the mission to the Gentiles. More than once, Paul speaks of rebuking Peter for his continued insistence on Jewish exclusiveness; yet their common commitment to Christ and the proclamation of the Gospel proved stronger than their differences; and both eventually carried that mission to Rome” (*HWHM*, 446). Where might we within the Church learn to appreciate each other’s differing viewpoints? How can our common commitment to Jesus Christ and the Gospel carry us to the testing ground and beyond?

Collect for St. Peter and St. Paul

Almighty God, whose blessed apostles Peter and Paul glorified you by their martyrdom: Grant that your Church, instructed by their teaching and example, and knit together in unity by your Spirit, may ever stand firm upon the one foundation, which is Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.



Birthdays and Anniversaries, -June 23rd – June 29th, 2022

Birthdays

Bill Pendley 6/26
Sally Sheridan 6/29

Anniversaries

Dan & Melinda Droege 6/25
Nancy & Jim Warring 6/29

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 Vestry Members

- Doug McIver, Sr. Warden -- dmciver@susandickcpa.com 785-342-4328
- Nancy Woods, Jr. Warden – Nancywoods120@gmail.com
- Jo Baughman – jybokla@aol.com
- Karole Cozby – kscozby916@gmail.com
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- Brad Borg- bradborg@yahoo.com

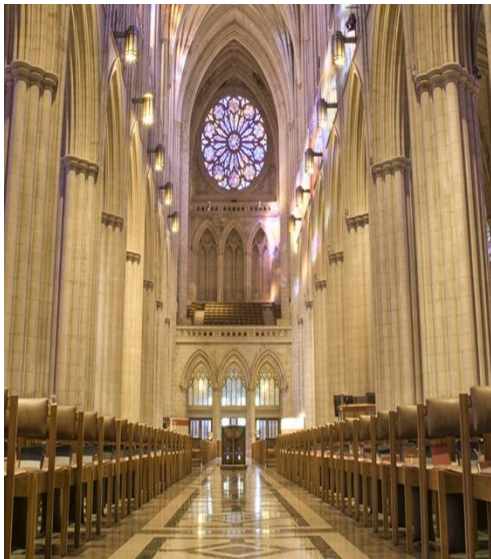
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Days Til YD Leave for
DC! Got your bags
packed yet?

