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The Steeple



Sept 14, 2022

The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church



SPIRIT, TRADITION, AND IDEALS

As Teresa and I prepare to sojourn to the Holy Mountain, several of you have asked about Convocation Weekend and the gowning ceremony Morgan is about to go through. Here is what I know.

Among Sewanee's many customs, none perhaps is more distinctive than the wearing of the gown by students and faculty. Gowns were originally authorized to be worn by all students in 1871, and the Order of the Gown (OG) was established in 1873 at the instigation of Chaplain William Porcher DuBose. The students who are members of the OG have worn the gown as a badge of academic distinction ever since. The OG was the original and only form of the student government until the 1960s.

Today, the Order works parallel with the Student Government to voice student opinion. It is also uniquely charged with the maintenance and promotion of the spirit, traditions, and ideals of the University. In addition, the OG runs the Election Committee, which is composed of all Proctors and is chaired by the President of the Order.

Undergraduates earn membership in the OG as seniors (students with 96 or more hours) if their academic average for the previous two semesters at Sewanee is 3.00; as juniors (students with 64-95 hours) if their academic average for the previous two semesters is 3.20; as sophomores (students with 32-63 hours) if their academic average for the previous two semesters is 3.40.

Convocation weekend begins this Friday at noon.

Along with the marks of spirit, tradition, and ideals I am reminded that our bi-annual visit from Bishop Reed will be coming up in November. I am greatly anticipating his arrival knowing that on November 13th several of you will make your way before him either to be confirmed, received, or re-affirm your faith.

Usually there are several weeks of intense catechesis prior to the Bishop's visit. At St. Luke's we have been preparing through our formation time (Faith-Forums, Bible Study, and Worship) for the past two years! Preparation is surely a vital aspect of the experience, but so too is further instruction after the liturgy itself.

Typically, churches begin catechesis eight weeks ahead of the Bishop's visit and then end that instruction right after the Bishop's visitation. May I suggest we follow another model?

Using the ancient model of catechesis *and* mystagogy, I hope that instead of a full stop after the Bishop's visit we instead focus on November 13th as a threshold - a point of continuation rather than a destination. I hope we might use that special day as a way of choosing to cross over together into a space where through our various vocations – and through prayer, worship, and work we can commit ourselves to lifelong discipleship in the Episcopal Church.

Together we pray: Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated unto you; and then use us, we pray you, as you will, and always to your glory and the welfare of your people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Every Blessing,

Nick+

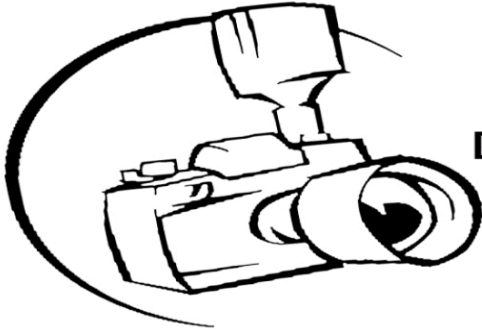
Make Music a
Part of Your Life



Voices Needed!

Choir rehearsals are every Wednesday 7:00pm, in the Choir room upstairs. Robes and hymnals will be provided! We just need voices who love the Hymns. Join St Luke's Choir!

SMILE!



**SEPT. 18TH
METCALF HALL**
DUE TO NO FAITH FORUM
PICTURES WILL BE TAKEN
ANYTIME BETWEEN
SERVICES!
(...and after 10:30)



**Children's
Programming will
center on the Creation
story this Sunday at
10:15am upstairs. K-5th
graders welcome!**

YD meets every Wednesday in Rodgers Hall at 6:00pm.



Goodbye Summer!

Father Nick and family opened their home and pool to 19 youths (at last count) for a final farewell to summer with a pool party and cook out. After a wild night in the water, the kids dried off and read Compline prayer together before heading home for the night. This fall, the Young Disciples (YD) plan to continue its long tradition of service, prayer and play on Wednesdays at 6 pm.



Yes, I know its way too early...but not for planning! And yes, we ARE having it again! The date is set for Oct 30th ..but that is as far as planning goes—so planners are NEEDED! And, as in good

Episcopalian tradition, we need a small committee to plan. Who would like to help? It's a fun event and would be even better with more input. Let me know! Email, call, or grab me when you see me at church! Lets raise the bar this year!Penny

Theologians Corner



Hildegard of Bingen, born in 1098 in the lush Rhineland Valley, was a mystic, poet, composer, dramatist, doctor, and scientist. Her parents' tenth child, she was tithed to the Church and raised by the anchoress Jutta in a cottage near the Benedictine monastery of Disibodenberg.

Drawn by the life of silence and prayer, other women joined them, finding the freedom, rare outside women's religious communities, to develop their intellectual gifts. They organized as a convent under the authority of the abbot of Disibodenberg, with Jutta as abbess. When Jutta died, Hildegard, then 38, became abbess. Later she founded independent convents at Bingen (1150) and Eibingen (1165), with the Archbishop of Mainz as her only superior.

From childhood, Hildegard experienced dazzling spiritual visions. At 43, a voice commanded her to tell what she saw. So began an outpouring of extraordinarily original writings illustrated by unusual and wondrous illuminations. These works abound with feminine imagery for God and God's creative activity.

In 1147, Bernard of Clairvaux recommended her first book of visions, *Scivias*, to Pope Eugenius III, leading to papal authentication at the Synod of Trier. Hildegard became famous, eagerly sought for counsel, a correspondent of kings and queens, abbots and abbesses, archbishops and popes.

She carried out four preaching missions in northern Europe, unprecedented activity for a woman. She practiced medicine, focusing on women's needs; published treatises on natural science and philosophy; and wrote a liturgical drama, *The Play of the Virtues*, in which personified virtues sing their parts and the devil, condemned to live without music, can only speak. For Hildegard, music was essential to worship. Her liturgical compositions, unusual in structure and tonality, were described by contemporaries as "chant of surpassing sweet melody" and "strange and unheard-of music."

Hildegard lived in a world accustomed to male governance. Yet, within her convents, and to a surprising extent outside them, she exercised a commanding spiritual authority based on confidence in her visions and considerable political astuteness. When she died in 1179, at 81, she left a rich legacy which speaks eloquently across the ages.

Together we pray: God of all times and seasons: Give us grace that we, after the example of thy servant Hildegard, may both know and make known the joy and jubilation of being part of thy creation, and show forth thy glory, not only with our lips but in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**FAITH FORUM resumes on Oct 2nd
Sundays 9:15am-10:15am, Metcalf Hall**



Luke's Place Sept 15th – Sept 21st , 2022

Sept 15th - Men's Breakfast, 7-8:30am

Bible Study, 9:15am, Metcalf

Sept 18th – Morning Prayer Rite I, 8:00am, chapel

Photo Wall pictures taken, 9:15am, Metcalf

Children's Programming, 10:15am, upstairs

Morning Prayer Rite II, 10:30am, nave

Sept 20th -Spiritual Discovery Forum, 10am, Library

Sept 21st -YD, Rodgers Hall, 6pm

Choir rehearsal, 7:00pm, Choir Room

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

Evening Prayer is held every Monday-Thursday at 4pm, Chapel, on Facebook

More.....

Sept 17th – Community Fest- Unity Square, 4pm

The Journey to the Diaconate for Jeff Birk- We are here....

Parish Discernment Christian ministry is our faith in action, expressed in service as lay or ordained people of all ages. Five core practices (identified in the Education for Ministry program) ground all Christian ministry: Living in community, regular prayer and worship, theological reflection, study of the Christian tradition and history, and vocational discernment. Discernment of how to live and serve as a Christian happens every day for each attentive Christian. The exploration of a Christian's call begins at baptism. The sense that God might be calling someone to a new or different expression of Christian ministry is a crucial part of discernment and must be done within community. Ministry can take many different forms. "We do not need to be ordained to have a ministry." **1 The first step into formal discernment begins with a conversation with one's local priest. Formal ministry discernment begins by applying to the Commission on Ministry (COM) to form a Parish Discernment Committee (PDC). An individual is considered an Aspirant at that point. ACOM Liaison will be assigned to guide the Aspirant through the PDC process. The PDC's main goal is to assist the Aspirant in their exploration and clarification of call, and to listen how each person in the group is responding to their call as Baptized Christians. Hopefully, as individuals share their sense of call, the Aspirant's exploration of what form their call to ministry could take will become clearer. (Diocese of Oklahoma regarding Ordination)**



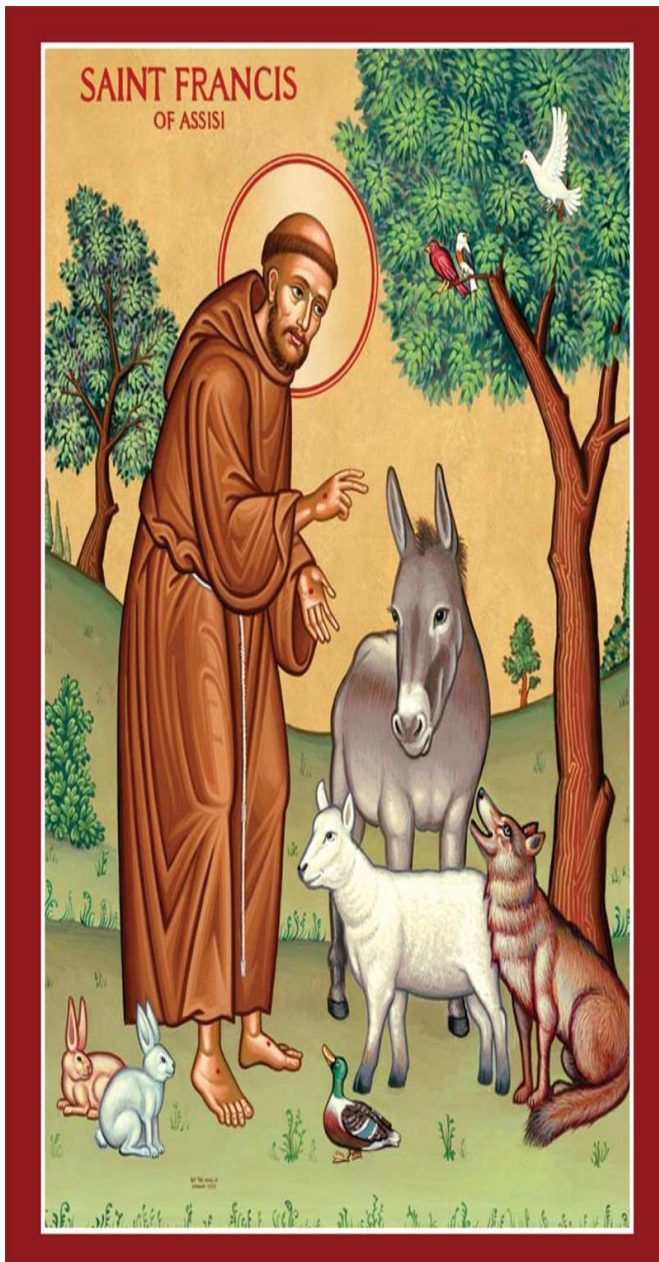
Wedding on the Prairie

Ah, the lengths to which Fr. Nick will go to serve his parishioners...

Countless thanks to our dedicated and beloved rector from the Olsen, Droege and Gardiner families for conducting the one-of-a-kind September 3 ceremony of the marriage of our own Greta Olsen to Quanah Gardiner on the prairie of southwestern Kansas.

Pictured above is the ceremony rehearsal on the day before, held on the sprawling Gardiner Angus Ranch outside of Ashland, KS. That's Fr. Nick, in the 95-degree sun with clerical collar, in front of the rustic arch directing the wedding party on how to behave the next day. About 300 people attended the ceremony with (covered) hay bale seating.

Thanks also to our church families the Clarks and the Petersons for making the long trek west to be a part of this blessed event. Greta and Quanah have made their home near Ferndale, Washington, where Greta is an environmental engineer with the Phillips 66 refinery there and Quanah is the northwest regional manager for the American Angus Association.



Blessing of the Animals

OCT 5, 2022 6:00pm

St Luke's will be holding a Blessing of the Animals, Oct 5, 2022 at 6pm. A light supper will be served for those humans attending. Our furry friends will have biscuits to chew on. Maybe even some bird seed or lettuce for the more discreet pets. So bring the two or four legged extended members of your family and lets celebrate them!

Blessing
- of the -
ANIMALS



The Lip Sync Battle in Bartlesville for CONCERN

St Luke's Performers SHINE at Lucky Luke's





ST. LUKE'S BOOKSTORE

St Luke's Bookstore is in need of volunteers to help! From selling merchandise to stocking to organizing, see Cathy Perrier if you are interested in this ministry. Cathy is hoping to open additional days and longer store hours if there are enough volunteers. All profits from the Bookstore go to Outreach. This month store hours are Sundays 11:30am-12:30am with featured new merchandise in stock. Come in and shop your St Luke's Bookstore!

We're HIRING!

• CHILDREN'S MINISTER

We are seeking a part-time Children's Minister to work alongside our Youth Ministers.



St. Luke's
Episcopal Church

DO YOU HAVE...

Christian faith and integrity?
Contagious love of God and neighbor?
Good communication skills?
Passion for teaching kids?
A strong grasp of the details?
A love of the story of scripture?

Knowledge of the liturgical calendar is a plus. Candidates are required to pass a thorough background check & once hired complete safeguarding training.

WE ARE ALSO seeking two part-time nursery workers to love and safeguard our children, 0-4, during our second service on Sunday morning and Wednesday night programming.

INTERESTED? Contact: RevPhares@outlook.com

It's a Beautiful Day for a Picnic! St Luke's Courtyard Sept 11, 2022



Birthdays and Anniversaries, Sept 18th – Sept 24th , 2022

Birthdays

Anniversaries

Stefanie Tedstrom	9/20
Bill Jones	9/21
Nick Olsen	9/21
D J Nezam	9/22
Anna Oliphant	9/22
Shari Eslick	9/24
Steve Van Aken	9/24

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
- Chad Ellis – w.chadwick.ellis@gmail.com
- Karen Lewey – kgrammy07@yahoo.com
- Laura Birk – lpbirk73@gmail.com
- Mark Peterson- m_mpeterson@hotmail.com
- Steve Van Aken – scvanaken@sbcglobal.net
- Katherine Powell – kmpbmp48@gmail.com

Bereavement Team 3

Wendy Hall, Darian Kedy, Kris Bonner,
Debbie Mueggenborg, Mary Jo Peterson



Scammers are creative cons. Please do not respond to any emails or texts claiming to be Fr Nick or the church that asks you for personal information or money/gift cards without checking with the office first. Fr Nick will NEVER ask for money/gift cards through emails or texts. Things to look for:

Email Address-if there is ANY variance of Fr. Nick's email address, it is NOT from him. If you do not recognize the cell phone number on a text- it is NOT from him. Feel free to delete and again, call the church office to verify.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
210 East 9th St., Bartlesville, OK 74003
Office Hours: 9am-4pm, M-F
Email: StLukesBartlesville@outlook.com
918-336-1212
Or contact
Penny Williams, secretary 918-766-2157

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



Got something you want in "The Steeple"? Email me with pictures, articles, notices, group information of church events by Tuesday afternoon!

stlukebartlesville@outlook.com

Thanks! Penny



And it begins.....

