

### ***In this week's Steeple >>>***

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# *The Steeple*



Nov 30, 2022

## **The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church**



### **We Are All on the Way to Bethlehem**

There are many traditions and teachings associated with the Season Advent – so where to start? I like what Jerome Berryman, founder of Godly Play, has to say about Advent:

“It is now the time of the color purple!

Purple is the color of getting ready. Sometimes purple is the color of the sky just before dawn. Advent is the season of getting ready.

Mary, the mother of Jesus, is about to have a baby. But this will be a very special baby. This baby will be a king. But the king who is coming is not the kind of king that people thought was coming. This king had no army, no great house, and no riches. This King was a baby who was born in a barn.

The King who was coming is still coming. This is full of mystery. You know, a mystery is hard to enter sometimes. That is why this time of Advent is so important. Sometimes people can walk right through a mystery and not even know it is there. This time of year, you will see people hurrying in the malls buying things and doing this and that, but they will miss the Mystery. They don't know how to get ready or maybe they just forgot.

The Church learned a long time ago that people need a way to get ready to enter or even come close to a mystery like Christmas. The Church set aside four weeks to get ready. This is such a great Mystery that it takes that long to get ready. During this time, we are all on the way to Bethlehem. We are all making the journey. We are all getting ready to enter the Mystery of Christmas, so let's go with the prophets, the Holy Family, the shepherds, the angels, and the Magi and all the rest to make the journey that was not just back then. It is also now.”

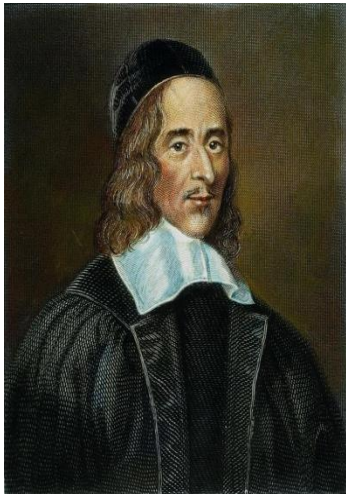
The line that gets me every time is, “Sometimes people can walk right through a mystery and not even know it is there.” That is so true! It is still true, but it doesn't have to be.

How are you getting ready during this season?

To Bethlehem we go.

Nick+

## Theologians Corner:



### Nicholas Ferrar, Deacon, 1637

Nicholas Ferrar was the founder of a religious community at Little Gidding, Huntingdonshire, England, which existed from 1626 to 1646. His family had been prominent in the affairs of the Virginia Company, but when that company was dissolved, he took deacon's orders and retired to the country.

At Little Gidding, his immediate family and a few friends and servants gave themselves wholly to religious observance. They restored the derelict church near the manor house, became responsible for services there, taught many of the local children, and looked after the health and well-being of the people of the neighborhood. A regular round of prayer according to the Book of Common Prayer was observed, along with the daily recital of the whole of the Psalter. The members of the community became widely known for fasting, private prayer and meditation, and for writing stories and books illustrating themes of Christian faith and morality.

One of the most interesting of the activities of the Little Gidding community was the preparation of "harmonies" of the gospels, one of which was presented to King Charles I by the Ferrar family. The community did not long survive the death of Nicholas Ferrar. However, the memory of the religious life at Little Gidding was kept

alive, principally through Izaak Walton's description in his *Life of George Herbert*: "He (Ferrar) and his family . . . did most of them keep Lent and all Ember-weeks strictly, both in fasting and using all those mortifications and prayers that the Church hath appointed . . . and he and they did the like constantly on Fridays, and on the vigils or eves appointed to be fasted before the Saints' days; and this frugality and abstinence turned to the relief of the poor . . ."

The community became an important symbol for many Anglicans when religious orders began to revive. Its life inspired T.S. Eliot, and he gave the title, "Little Gidding," to the last of his *Four Quartets*, one of the great religious poems of the twentieth century.

Together we pray: Lord God, make us worthy of thy perfect love; that, with thy deacon Nicholas Ferrar and his household, we may rule ourselves according to thy Word, and serve thee with our whole heart; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**



**YOU ARE WELCOME EVEN IF IT IS *LAST MINUTE*...  
BUT...IF YOU KNOW YOU ARE COMING...**

**Nancy Woods text/call 918-914-3263 or  
nancywoods120@gmail.com**

**Come support Pack the Backpacks by eating at McAlister's Deli!**



The fundraiser is December 6th 5:30 till 9:30 pm. Dine in, carry out, drive up or delivery.

Must mention before you order that you are there supporting Pack the Backpack.

Please signup at the bottom of the webpage below if you think you might get food on the 6th. We need at least 50 to sign up before the 2nd or McAlister's will cancel the event.

**[Click here to sign up!](#)**



Women's Fellowship will be meeting at The Crafty Candle Shoppe, 201 S Osage, at 1pm on Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> for candlemaking. There will be some supply costs and details are being finalized. To RSVP so we know how many to expect, here is the **[Sign Up Genius link](#)** for your RSVP and more info about the event.

## FAITH FORUM

Sundays 9:15am-10:15am, Metcalf Hall

No Faith Forum on Dec 4th



Wednesday evenings during the Season of Advent, we will be having a light supper and Compline afterward. Time: 6pm in Metcalf Hall.

**Find the 'quiet' in the Season.**





## Let's Paint!

You asked for it and here it is! We are having a 'Painting Party' again at Boots and Brushes for the whole parish on Dec 13<sup>th</sup>, 5:30pm, 322 S Johnstone Ave. We will be painting something 'seasonal' and the whole family is invited! \$20 plus tax per station (station=1 canvas, brushes, and paint), bring snacks to share, and ready for some fun. Please let me know if you are

coming so we make sure to set up enough painting stations. There will be step by step painting by an instructor so you will not be on your own unless you want to be. Either text 918-766-2157, email [stlukesbartlesville@outlook.com](mailto:stlukesbartlesville@outlook.com), or call 918-336-1212 and let me know to expect you! Deadline is Dec 12<sup>th</sup>. .....Penny



## St Luke's at the Rink!

St Luke's Vestry will be working at Christmas in the Ville December 11<sup>th</sup>, checking out and in skate rentals at the Skate Hut, selling hot chocolate at the concession stand, and monitoring the ice rink from 3pm-9pm (Of course Fr Nick will be supervising). Come out

and support your Vestry and ice skate, walk the park, investigate the Train, watch a movie on the lawn, or take a ride in the horse drawn carriage. Let's make it a St Luke's Night at Christmas in the 'Ville!



## Luke's Place Dec 1<sup>st</sup> – Dec 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022

- Dec 1<sup>st</sup> Men's Breakfast, 7-8:30am, Metcalf  
Bible Study, 9:15am, Metcalf  
Green Country Service, 1pm, GCV
- Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> Women's Fellowship, 1pm, Crafty Candle Shoppe
- Dec 4<sup>th</sup> Morning Prayer Rite I, 8:00am, chapel  
Morning Prayer Rite II, 10:30am, Nave
- Dec 6<sup>th</sup> Spiritual Discovery Group, 10am, Beard Library
- Dec 7<sup>th</sup> Advent Program and lite supper, 6pm, Metcalf  
YD, 6pm, Rodgers  
Choir, 7:15pm or after Advent program, Choir Room

**Ryan McIver's Eagle Scout project**  
**December 11 after 10:30 service in Metcalf Hall**  
**Brunch fundraiser for Automated External Defibrillator**  
**(AED) for St. Lukes**  
**Brunch will include sausage egg casserole, hashbrowns,**  
**fruit, and homemade pastries by Josie**  
**Troop 5 scouts will be serving, cooking, and cleaning**  
**Donations are appreciated**



**Birthdays and Anniversaries, Dec 4<sup>th</sup> – Dec 10<sup>th</sup> , 2022**

**Birthdays**

**Anniversaries**

**Jo Baughman     12/4**  
**Jan Dreiling     12/7**

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 Bookstore** will be open:  
Every Sunday after the 10:30 service  
**Come in and shop for Christmas!**  
Advent items have arrived!

### **St. Luke's Vestry Members**

- Doug McIver, Sr. Warden -- [dmciver@susandickcpa.com](mailto:dmciver@susandickcpa.com) 785-342-4328
- Nancy Woods, Jr. Warden – [Nancywoods120@gmail.com](mailto:Nancywoods120@gmail.com)
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- Steve Van Aken – [scvanaken@sbcglobal.net](mailto:scvanaken@sbcglobal.net)
- Katherine Powell – [kmpbmp48@gmail.com](mailto:kmpbmp48@gmail.com)

### **Bereavement Team 4**

Becky Liehr, Jo Baughman, Karen Lewey, &  
Cathy Perrier

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918-336-1212  
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Penny Williams, secretary 918-766-2157

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The Reverend Nick Phares, Rector  
269-788-7063;  
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Dolores McCreary, Choir  
Director/Organist  
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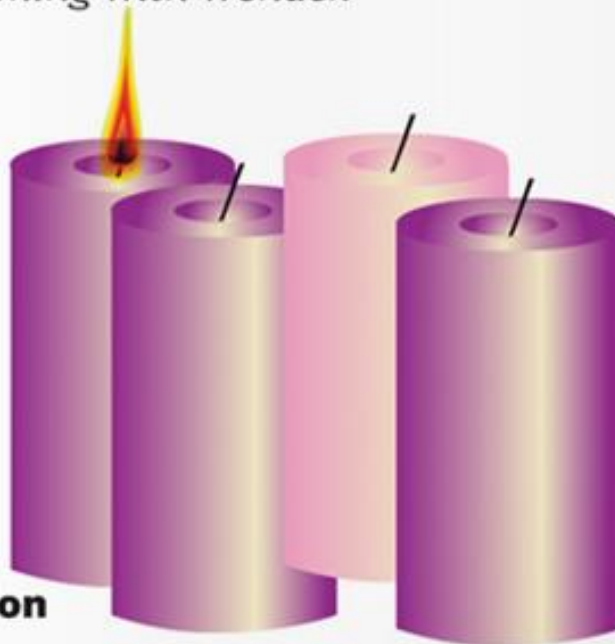
**SCAM  
Alert**

## WEEK 1

*Light one candle and sit for a moment in silence.*

*Christ our Light,  
Shine in our lives with hope and promise.  
Give us right vision so that we remain attentive  
to this holy season.  
Remind us to look for you in small acts of  
kindness and love.  
We await your coming with wonder.*

*Amen*



**Sadlier Religion**