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# *The Steeple*



Nov 9, 2022

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



### **Bishop Poulson to make Bi-annual Visit**

This Sunday Bishop Poulson will make his bi-annual trek from the City to St. Luke's. He will preach and preside at our 10:30 service, lead our faith forum in between services, and stay for our luncheon. Our meal will once again be prepared by our beloved friends at Casa Hispana! I can't wait. I hope that you all will make every effort to be present as we have several confirmations, receptions as well as a baptism this weekend. It's hard to pick my favorite Sunday but this one comes close.

This Sunday also is Consecration Sunday (a.k.a Stewardship Sunday), where we will offer up our pledges for the year ahead. During the service, my family will join with you all as we take some time to place our pledges in the basket before the altar during the offertory. Before Eucharist Bishop Poulson will lift our gifts up high as he offers our life and labor to the Lord.

Eucharist means thanksgiving. And above all we offer our thanks and praise to God for the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ. Simultaneously, I give thanks for you as I recall the prayer that says, "O God, you manifest in your servants the signs of your presence: Send forth upon us the spirit of love, that in companionship with one another your abounding grace may increase among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord." Amen.

I hope you have encountered grace here at Luke's Place. I hope you see God moving in and about this place and in your life. For such grace is given not because we have done good works ourselves, but in order that we may be able to do them and do them with arms wide open.

Speaking of grace and mission - please mark your calendars for **Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m.** I hope that you all will be able to join with me as we bless the house at 801 Osage. We will be honored to host Mayor Copeland that afternoon as he recognizes the efforts of several members of St. Luke's. Preparations are underway for a new sign in front of the house as well as a small reception afterwards so please consider staying a bit

afterwards. Y'all will be done in time for supper. Above all, please join with me that day to lift up those amongst us who have moved mountains for Family Promise.

As always may God richly bless you – now and forever.

Nick+



## Theologians Corner:



### **Leo the Great Bishop of Rome, 461**

When Leo was born, about the year 400, the Western Roman Empire was almost in shambles. Weakened by barbarian invasions and by a totally inefficient economic and political system, the structure that had been carefully built by Augustus had become a chaos of internal warfare, subversion, and corruption.

The social and political situation notwithstanding, Leo received a good education, and was ordained deacon, with the responsibility of looking after Church possessions, managing the grain dole, and generally administering finances. He won considerable respect for his abilities, and a contemporary of his, Cassian, described him as “the ornament of the Roman Church and the divine ministry.”

In 440, Leo was unanimously elected Pope, despite the fact that he was absent at the time on a mission in Gaul. His ability as a preacher shows clearly in the 96 sermons still extant, in which he expounds doctrine, encourages almsgiving, and deals with various heresies, including the Pelagian and the Manichean systems.

In Gaul, Africa, and Spain, Leo's strong hand was felt, as he issued orders to limit the powers of one over-presumptuous bishop, confirmed the rights of another bishop over his vicars, and selected candidates for holy orders. Leo's letter to the Council of Chalcedon in 451 dealt so effectively with the doctrine of the human and divine natures of the One Person of Christ that the assembled bishops declared, "Peter has spoken by Leo," and affirmed his definition as orthodox teaching. (See page 864 of the Prayer Book.)

With similar strength of spirit and wisdom, Leo negotiated with Attila when the Huns were about to sack Rome. He persuaded them to withdraw from Italy and to accept an annual tribute. Three years later, Genseric led the Vandals against Rome. Again Leo negotiated. Unable to prevent pillaging by the barbarians, he did dissuade them from burning the city and slaughtering its inhabitants. He worked, thereafter, to repair the damage, to replace the holy vessels in the desecrated churches, and to restore the morale of the Roman people. Leo died in Rome in 461.

Together we pray: O Lord our God, grant that thy Church, following the teaching of thy servant Leo of Rome, may hold fast the great mystery of our redemption and adore the one Christ, true God and true Man, neither divided from our human nature nor separate from thy divine Being; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.



### Christmas Wish Tree

After some miscommunication, we learned that DHS requests we purchase gift cards for the teens in foster care that live in the Bartlesville area. Gifts for the younger children have already been provided. We will still put up the Star Tree with stars that say Visa Gift Card as a reminder of our outreach. Take a star and then sign your name on the sign up sheet so we know how many intend to purchase the gift cards. We would

like to get 50 \$20 Visa Gifts Cards to be given to the teens at the DHS Christmas party which is on December 9<sup>th</sup>. So our purchase time is shortened to have them back at the church by Sunday December 4<sup>th</sup>. Please call Steve or Cheryl Van Aken at 918-914-9041 with any questions. We apologize for any confusion.

**Take note: Concern's November food items need are: canned tomato sauce, complete pancake mix (just add water), and peanut butter.**



St Luke's Bookstore- Tee shirt orders are going in **Nov 14<sup>th</sup>**, so be sure to get your tee shirt order in NOW! The Bookstore will be open on Sundays from 11:30am-12:30pm. Pay upon delivery. **Don't MISS OUT!** Get some Luke's Place swag!



### Luke's Place Nov 10<sup>th</sup> – Nov 16 , 2022

- Nov 10<sup>th</sup> Men's Breakfast, 7-8:30am, Metcalf  
Bible Study, 9:15am, Metcalf  
Green Country Eucharist, 1pm, GCV  
Women's Fellowship, 5:30pm, Metcalf
- Nov 13<sup>th</sup> Eucharist Rite I, 8:00am, chapel  
Faith Forum, 9:15am, Metcalf  
Children's Programming, 10:20am, upstairs  
Eucharist Rite II Confirmation, Reception, Reaffirmation & Baptism, 10:30am, Nave
- Nov 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Committee, noon, Vestry Room  
Vestry, 5:30pm, Vestry Room
- Nov 15<sup>th</sup> Spiritual Discovery Forum, 10am, Library
- Nov 16<sup>th</sup> YD, Metcalf, 6pm  
Choir rehearsal, Choir Room, 7pm





# SATURDAY DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>



fun-food-fellowship & *libations!*  
(duh...we ARE Episcopalians!)

*MARK YOUR CALENDARS...*

## Birthdays and Anniversaries, Nov 13<sup>th</sup> – Nov 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022

### Birthdays

Steve Clark	11/13
Wendy Hall	11/13
Nicki Ingram	11/15
Josie McIver	11/15
Penny Williams	11/15
Nate Bonham	11/17
Sandy Whitson	11/17
Tonya Thurman	11/18

### Anniversaries

Jeanne & Peter Julstrom	11/17
Ben & Katherine Powell	11/18

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!

## FAITH FORUM

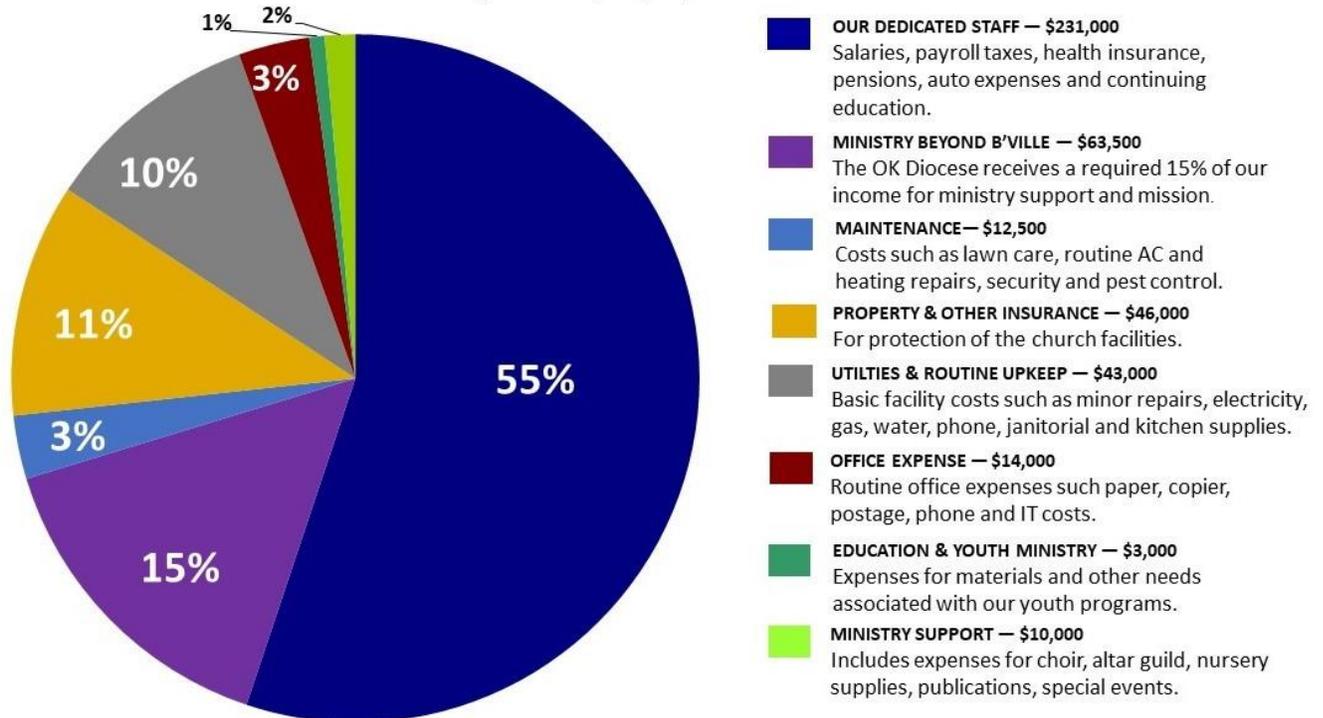
Sundays 9:15am-10:15am, Metcalf Hall

# St. Luke's by the Numbers

With Consecration Sunday approaching, it's helpful to have in mind the financial needs of St. Luke's as we head into 2023. Below is a graphic representation of what we expect next year's expenses will be. This is preliminary, but based on this year's spending and anticipated cost increases next year, we think it is pretty close. The budget specifies what is needed to pay our staff, keep the doors open, the lights on, and our beautiful facility heated and cooled, well-insured and in good repair. As always, supporting the work of our Diocese is also a major ongoing need.

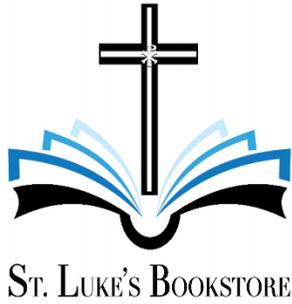
## Preliminary 2023 Expense Budget

(Est. total = \$423,000)



Pledging is the best way to guarantee the church's financial stability. Without a clear indication of what the church's income will be each year, it's difficult for the Vestry to adopt a reliable expense budget. Thankfully, many members step forward and make a pledge- and stick to that commitment. If you're in a position to raise your giving in 2023, you'll be helping to cover the inevitable increases in costs next year.

Pledging is a personal, Christ-driven decision. Thank you from the Finance Committee for your help in nurturing the vitality and mission of St Luke's.



**St Luke's Bookstore** will be open in November:

Every Sunday after the 10:30 service and...

Nov 15	11:45am- 1:45pm
Nov 17	10:30am-12:00noon
Nov 22	11:45am- 1:45pm
Nov 29	11:45am- 1:45pm
Dec 1	10:30am- 12:00noon

**Come in and shop for Christmas!**

Advent items arriving soon!



Bishop Reed will be visiting St Luke's on November 13<sup>th</sup> for Baptism, Confirmation, Reaffirmation and Reception. He will also be teaching the Faith Forum "The Path" at 9:15am in Rodgers Hall and joining us for our Consecration Sunday celebration dinner after the 10:30am service.



Keep your Wednesday evenings open during the Season of Advent. We will be having a light supper and programming much like we had during last Lent. Time: TBA in Metcalf Hall.

# Consecration Sunday

Is November 13<sup>th</sup>! Plan to stay after the 10:30 service for a meal provided by Casa Hispana!



PIES! PIES! PIES!

Thank you! You provided all the funds needed for the Thanksgiving Basket PIES for Concern! What a beautiful and giving community of faith!



Pub Theology will be the 17<sup>th</sup> of November due to the last Thursday of the month being Thanksgiving. We will meet at Tumbleweed's, 6:30pm.

**EVENTS @ TPAC**

TULSA, OK | WWW.TULSAPAC.COM

TULSA PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

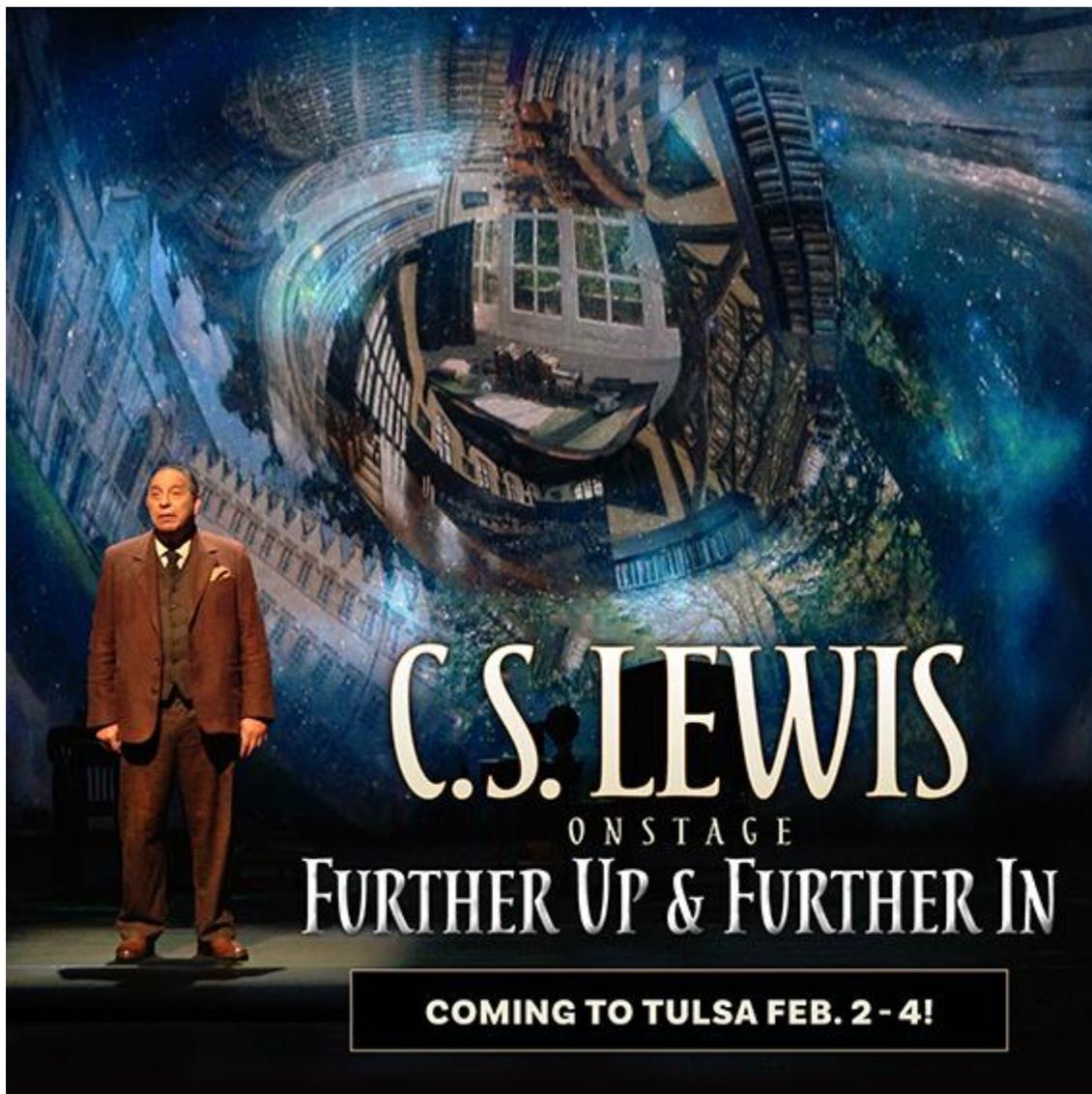
**TPAC**

ARTS. ELEVATED.

**Fellowship for Performing Arts  
presents C.S. Lewis Onstage**

# **Further Up & Further In**

Written and Performed by Max McLean





## TAKE A WALK IN THE PARK

FantasyLand On Foot will be held on November 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm-8:00pm in Johnstone Park. This is your one chance each year to walk through the park and take in the wonderful Christmas lights on display. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$20 for families and children are free with proceeds going to Bartlesville Daybreak Rotary for upkeep of the lights and to fund new displays. Once inside the park, there will be free hotdogs, coffee, and hot

chocolate. In just two years, this event has become incredibly popular. So come out and enjoy the lights and take a walk in the park!

### 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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**SCAM  
Alert**



Happy Harvest!