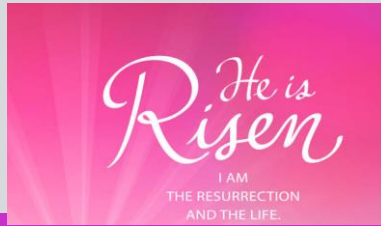


In this week's Steeple >>>

- Message from Fr Nick
- Theologian's Corner
- News from the Greens
- Treasure Sale
- Christian Formation
- Birthdays & Anniversaries
- Weekly Schedule

The Steeple

Apr 12, 2023



The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church



The Great Fifty Days Begins

Happy Easter!

As I reflect on Holy Week this year, it is my hope that you felt a sense of accompaniment throughout those holy days and that the intentionality behind the preparation of those services enriched your experience of the Triduum. I offer my profound gratitude to the staff and all the ministries that put in so much work to make the week what it was: holy and beautiful. Thank-you.

Throughout the Easter octave, we will have the chance to pray and to worship with at least three candidates for the position of music director. As of right now we are looking to complete our interviews by Pentecost or shortly thereafter. A decision will then be made sometime in June, and we will look to extend a call sometime in July. I anticipate these next few months to be rather bittersweet as we anticipate the arrival of a new minister while at the same time giving thanks for perhaps the longest and most significant ministry in the history of St. Luke's – that of Dolores McCreary.

This morning as I began morning prayer Mary Jo Peterson stopped by. The chapel altar is so beautiful this time of year. Mark, as you probably guessed it, was out fishing. As I lit the altar lights Mary Jo reminded me of a prayer in the prayerbook that I've rarely had to pray but it makes so much sense now. If your Book of Common Prayer is handy, turn to page 828. There you'll see the words for a much-needed blessing: rain. Perhaps this Easter season as you celebrate the Resurrection and as we cope with stricter conservation efforts, we can pray this prayer together. We'll be sure to add it to the office at 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday too.

In case you don't have a Book of Common Prayer, let me offer you a few resources. First and foremost, see Ms. Cathy in the bookstore. You can also visit the following website if a computer version is what you seek at <https://www.bcponline.org> If a hard copy is not your preference and you'd rather not mess with a website go to

<https://test.churchpublishing.org/products/electroniccommonprayerecp20> to find the eCP. My friends, there are plenty of ways to immerse yourself in the tradition of the prayer book this Easter!

May God bless you and keep you.

Nick+

Theologians Corner:



KATERI TEKAKWITHA **Prophetic Witness, 1680**

Tekakwitha, “She who bumps into things,” was born in the Mohawk village of Ossernon in upstate New York around 1656. Her childhood and adolescence were marked by hardship. A smallpox epidemic, which claimed the lives of her parents and younger brother, also scarred her face and severely impaired her vision. Her aunt and uncle, as adoptive parents, attempted to pressure her to marry beginning at age 11, but she resisted every attempt.

Moved by the preaching of Jesuit missionaries, Tekakwitha followed in the path of her late mother and converted to Christianity. She was baptized on Easter Sunday, 1676, at 19 years of age. As part of her conversion, she took the name Kateri, in honor of Catherine of Siena. Kateri Tekakwitha devoted her life to chastity, pledging to marry only Jesus Christ, and asking the Virgin Mary to accept her as a daughter.

Her piety was mocked and derided by her fellow villagers, some of whom threatened her life. She fled to a village south of Montreal, where with her friend Marie-Therese, she attempted to begin a monastic community of indigenous women. They were dissuaded by the local priests, who believed they did not have enough experience to begin such a community. Kateri therefore accepted an “ordinary” life of chastity and good works among the people, especially the elderly and sick.

At age 24, she succumbed to a serious illness. Tradition accords her final words as being “Jesus, I love you,” as she entered eternal life on Holy Wednesday, 1680. Following her death, it was reported that her body softened and her face took on the appearance of a child, even including a smile. The pockmarks of her childhood smallpox faded, and her skin became smooth. Pilgrimages were made to her grave as early as 1684.

Kateri Tekakwitha is known as the Lily of the Mohawks, and was the first Native American to be canonized in the Roman Catholic Church, where she is considered the patron of ecology and the environment, as well as persons in exile.

Together we pray: Almighty and everliving God, who didst open the heart of Kateri Tekakwitha, Lily of the Mohawk, to receive the Good News of Jesus Christ, and to devote her life to thy service: grant us the same zeal of devotion to persevere in faith through the trials.

Christian Formation at Luke's Place

FAITH FORUM
9:15am Sundays
Metcalf Hall

Bible Study, Thursdays
at 9:15am, Metcalf Hall

Spiritual Discovery
Group

Tuesdays, 10am,
Upstairs Library

Children's Programming
Sunday Mornings,
9:15am
Upstairs

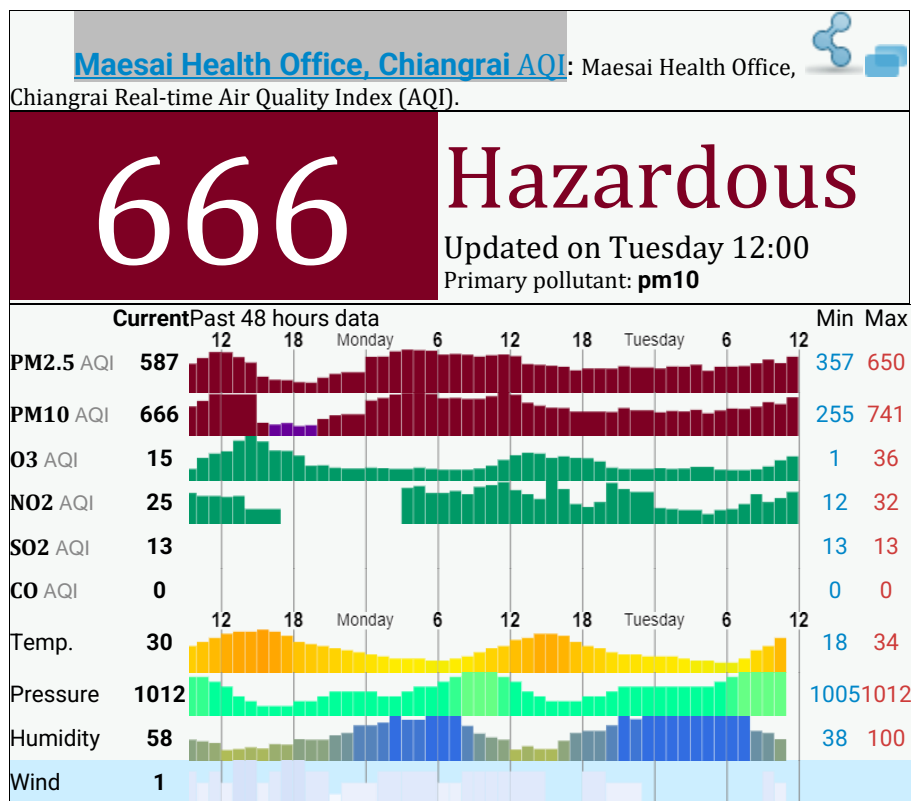
wonder.



News From Thailand

Joanne Green

The bad news is that air pollution has been horrible. (Below is copied from a website we refer to often.) The good news is that we have air purifiers in our house and are going to Chiang Mai tomorrow for our organization's conference. Air quality in Chiang Mai is 200 as compared to here. For reference, below 50 is healthy, below 100 is acceptable, above 100 begins to be concerning for health. A wind blew through yesterday that cleared the air quite a bit (down to 190 yesterday!). We were grateful for that. Our home church has been praying. We would appreciate your prayer, too, for rain and wind.



A couple of days ago Mae Sai happened to be ranked #1 as the most polluted city in the world at that real-time moment.

On the good news side is that Roger returned from the nearby country. The training for six church leaders went well. He presented and then provided many practice times for exegesis for lay leaders, storying, how to lead a discussion, family devotions, blessing your children and digital resources. He also had several meetings with people leading Bible translation projects. Thank you very much for praying for him!

The interns (in the attached photo) were a huge help to me. They looked at my worldview research. We talked through our observations about the responses and what new questions would be good. We also talked through proposals that could be presented to the pastor. It was good to have the help in thinking through everything.

We're making progress on the May 5 to 6 parents/sons retreat (new name). Pastor Bee had more suggestions to make. The Thai moms and I are still working on details and praying a lot. Please continue to ask God for good health for all, building a Biblical foundation for the boys' future roles and much encouragement to the parents and sons.

I'm especially happy that I made my first presentation on Zoom to a non-Christian Japanese lady regarding an introduction to person-centered thinking. Her daughter has an intellectual disability and is also deaf. A Japanese Christian friend interpreted for me. The session went well. I am encouraged that this planning process will be helpful for Japanese families who have a family member with intellectual disabilities.

The sometimes symptom-less ways that bad air affects our bodies reminds me of how sin affects us. We may not notice the bad effects of sin right away. Nevertheless, sin causes much damage. The challenge is to communicate in a way that the danger will be well understood, and people will make life changes to address the hazard. The blood of Jesus cleanses us more than air purifiers can cleanse the air.

Thank you for praying!



◆◆St. Luke's Treasure Sale◆◆

◆7th Edition◆

April 28th & 29th, 2023

Metcalf Hall



Mark your calendar now for
St. Luke's 7th Edition Treasure Sale.

When you see the wonderful variety
of beautiful, interesting and unusual
TREASURES being given for this event,
you'll want to be sure to attend
and bring lots of friends!

Add your own appreciation for
and your own history to items that have been
enjoyed and treasured by other families.

*All proceeds from the Treasure Sale
will be used for Outreach projects
supported by St. Luke's.*

Still have TREASURES you want
to include in this Treasure Sale?

Call

Becky Liehr, Kris Bonner, Dolores McCreary

Please pray for: : Linda & Terry Piper, Liz Green, Michelle Sheffield, Catherine Sheffield, David King, Pris Snow, Ben Baker, Sanawbar, Diana Farris, Cindy Moffitt, Joel Hahn, Stacey & Butch Webster, Steve McCraw, Josh Harris, Katie Rolielard, Debbie French, Jody & George Bracken, Janice Lonski, David Swindell, Norma Perrier, Connie Finch, Dorothy Buchanan, Diana Schremmer, Peggy Kauffman, Colleen, Shawn, Ryan Kiesel, Tony Clapper, Merry Lou & Bruce Neiswander, Jack & Karla Stoecker, Joseph, Tim, Beth, Kay Boman Harvey, Shania Smith, Luke Karel, Terry Grogan, Tyler Roberson, Jerry Nezam, Jim Brooks, Harris Moreland, Tom Martin, Tanis Reyburn, Skip Birkner, Connie Freebern, Don Doty, and Maria Dawson.

Luke's Place April 13th – April 19th, 2023

Apr 13th Men's Breakfast, 7am, Metcalf

Bible Study, 9:15am, Metcalf

Green Country Eucharist, Rite I, 1pm, GCV

Apr 16th Holy Eucharist, Rite I, 8:00am, chapel

Children's Programming, 9:15am, upstairs

Faith Forum, 9:15am, Metcalf Hall

Holy Eucharist Rite II, 10:30am

Apr 18th Spiritual Discovery Group, 10am, Library

Apr 19th YD, 6pm, Rodgers

Choir, 7pm, Choir Room

Birthdays and Anniversaries, April 16th – April 22nd, 2023

Birthdays



Ethan Peterson (4/16)
Becky Liehr (4/18)
Aaron Williams (4/18)
Bill Gallery (4/19)
Kris Bonner (4/20)
Marsha Tibbits (4/21)

Anniversaries



Dean & Kathy Zervas (4/20)

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
- Steve Roper- sdroper2006@yahoo.com
- Josie McIver-



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

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

Bereavement Team 2

Laura Birk, Nancy Megee, Rita Childers,
Sandy Whitson, Margo Proctor