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The Steeple





Apr 19, 2023

The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church



9:02

Most days here at St. Luke's, morning prayer begins at 9:00 a.m. For the past couple of years on April 19th just after the versicle is read, we pause before offering our daily confession. It strikes me that this year after saying, "Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor, the clock read 9:02.

For some, 9:02 is just the time. For Oklahomans, 9:02 carries with it more than just the hour. 9:02 bears with it 168 names; names we remember today. Although it has been 28 years since the Alfred P. Murrah Federal building was bombed, these names are not forgotten nor are their lives.

There is an old Southern tradition of stopping a clock as a way of marking the time of one's death and honoring the one who died. The clock remains stopped, only to be restarted again after the funeral. For many that is true, but after visiting the City I know as well as you, that there is place not far from here that will forever remain at 9:02 in the morning.

A new building sits adjacent that space now. The City continues to grow around the scar. Green grass and still water cover sacred ground, and no one can miss the clock that sits affixed to the gates.

And so,

I am reminded of a friend of mine who said to me recently, "Give it time." But I wonder, if the time is always fixed – what or who restarts the clock again? I guess

the what of it would have to be love. Isn't it always? And not just any kind of love but the kind that is timeless. Such love has a name. I think you know what it is - grace.

Someone once said, "Scars are a testament to life. Scars are a testament that we can (and have) loved deeply, lived deeply, and that we can be cut or even gouged and still heal...love and live." You can do hard things. But what is more — some of us will always bear the memory that those scars mark, and though they may be sanctified by time, what ends up healing those wounds is what ultimately surrounds the grief the wound leaves in its wake, love.

I wish you so much love.

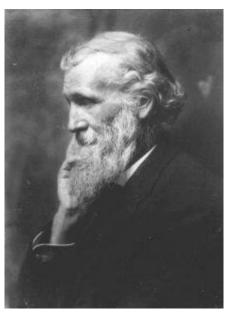
Peace,

Nick+



Theologians Corner

John Muir, Naturalist and Writer, 1914, and Hudson Stuck, Priest and Environmentalist, 1920



Born in Scotland in 1838, John Muir immigrated to the United States in 1849, settling in Wisconsin. Muir sought the spiritual freedom of the natural world. As a college student, Muir studied botany, of which he later said, "This fine lesson charmed me and sent me flying to the woods and meadows with wild enthusiasm."

In 1868, Muir arrived in Yosemite Valley, California, which he called "the grandest of all the special temples of nature." During a hiking trip through the Sierras, Muir developed theories about the development and ecosystem of the areas. Some years later, Muir took up the cause of preservation, eventually co-founding the Sierra Club, an association of environmental preservationists.

Muir, an ardent believer in the national parks as "places of rest, inspiration, and prayers," adamantly opposed the free exploitation of natural resources for commercial use. This

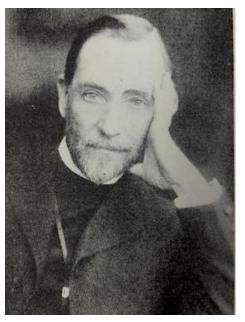
position put him at odds with conservationists who saw natural forests as sources of timber and who wanted to conserve them for that reason.

Muir was influential in convincing President Theodore Roosevelt that federal management and control were necessary to insure the preservation of the national forests. Today, he is revered as an inspiration for preservationists and his life's work stands as a powerful testament to the majesty and beauty of God's creation.

Hudson Stuck was an Episcopal priest and explorer. Born in England in 1863, he came to the United States in 1885. He graduated from The University of the South in 1892. From 1894 to 1904, Stuck was Dean of the Episcopal Cathedral in Dallas, Texas. In 1905 he moved to Fort Yukon, Alaska, where he spent the rest of his life, serving as archdeacon of the Diocese of Alaska.

With a group of fellow explorers, Stuck was the first to completely ascend Denali (Mt. McKinley). He later wrote of the experience as a "privileged communion" to be received in awe and wonder. Upon reaching the pinnacle of Denali, Stuck led the climbers in prayer and thanksgiving.

Archdeacon Stuck died in 1920.



Together we pray: Blessed Creator of the earth and all that inhabits it: We offer thanks for thy prophets John Muir and Hudson Stuck, who rejoiced in thy beauty made known in the natural world; and we pray that, inspired by their love of thy creation, we may be wise and faithful stewards of the world thou hast created, that generations to come may also lie down to rest among the pines and rise refreshed for their work; in the Name of the one through whom all things art made new, Jesus Christ our Savior, who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Concern Pantry Needs:

Canned fruit, Spam, canned pinto beans, pudding cups, jelly in plastic squeezable containers, and tuna pouches

Snaps of the Great Easter Vigil









COMING SOON!

♦St. Luke's Treasure Sale♦

7th Edition

Friday, April 28 – noon – 6 p.m. Saturday, April 29 – 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

When you see the wonderful variety of beautiful, interesting and unusual *TREASURES*

that have been given for this event, you will 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.

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, Audrey Foote, Skip Birkner, Connie Freebern, Don Doty, and Maria Dawson.

Luke's Place April 20th – April 26th, 2023

Apr 20th Men's Breakfast, 7am, Metcalf
Bible Study, 9:15am, Metcalf
Green Country Eucharist, Rite I, 1pm, GCV
Apr 23td 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

Brunch Bunch Brunch, after 10:30 service, Metcalf

Apr 24th Prayer Vigil for Luke Karel, 9-noon, chapel

Apr 25th Spiritual Discovery Group, 10am, Library
St Mark the Evangelist Feast Day Eucharist, 12:15pm, chapel

Apr 26th YD, 6pm, Rodgers Choir, 7pm, Choir Room

Birthdays and Anniversaries, April 23rd - April 29th, 2023

Birthdays



Anniversaries



Kathy Zervas (4/23) Sheila & Jim Taylor (4/29)

Rita Childers (4/25)

Dorothea Ketchum (4/26)

Travis Luke (4/27)

Connie Freebern (4/29)

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!

AED Training Night





We had 4 firemen, 8 parishioners and 2 visitors from another parish in addition to the McIvers and 2 other scouts.













BINGO NIGHT is May 3rd with dinner from Manna Leftovers! Dinner starts at 5:30pm in Metcalf Hall with Family Bingo after 6:00pm. Come, eat, and win some prizes! YD will be joining in the fun!



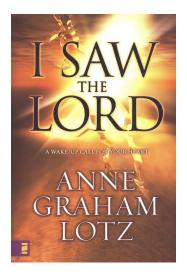
Thursday, April 27th, 6:30pm Tumbleweed's

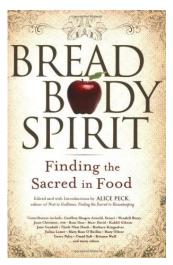


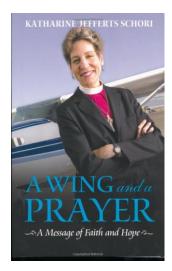
The St Luke's Brunch Bunch will be serving Sunday brunch right after the 10:30am service this coming Sunday, May 23rd in Metcalf Hall. Join Us!

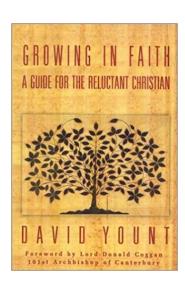


Check out these titles in your St Luke's Bookstore! Did you know that any profit made from the bookstore goes to Outreach here in our community? Mother's Day is coming up and Cathy has some beautiful jewelry, home décor, and puzzles, not to mention BOOKS! So come, shop, and not only support the bookstore but our companion ministries as well. Bookstore is open after the 10:30 service on Sundays, Tuesdays from 11:45am to 1:45pm, and Thursdays from 10:30am to 12:30pm. NOTE: Watch for a Mother's Day Special!





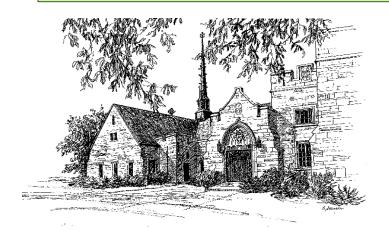






St. Luke's Vestry Members

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