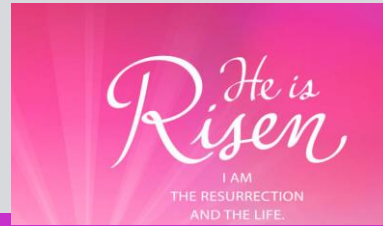


## *In this week's Steeple >>>*

- Message from Fr Nick
- Theologian's Corner
- Treasure Sale
- Birthdays & Anniversaries
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- Senior/ Youth Sunday
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- What is May Day?

# *The Steeple*

Apr 26, 2023



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



## **The Brunch Bunch Does It Again!**



You might think by the title, that the Brunch Bunch's love language would be food – but spend some time with them and you'll realize that while food certainly is important, their love language is laughter! Thank-you Margo, Tim, Fred, Sandy, Boots, Kelley, Steve, Pam, Cathy, Jim, and Joan. Thank-you for feeding us, taking time to serve us, to share in faith with us, and for the gift of you – your presence and the way you all equipped us to head into this week with love and food from the soul.

Thank-you also to the many hands that helped consolidate our treasures for the sale this weekend. To Becky, Kris, and Dolores – you three are rock stars! Thank-you. Thank-you also to the many wonderful folks who are working with you behind the scenes to pull the sale off! It's a massive undertaking and since we are making room in the church for new ministries to take shape and donating all the money we make throughout the sale this weekend to our community, there is a lot to celebrate.

Along the lines of service, Y.D. will be making meals for Hope Clinic this week. Shepherd's Pie is on the menu and as this weekend is Good Shepherd Sunday, the timing couldn't have been more apropos! Thank-you to our Young Disciples!

In a recent article by the New York Times entitled, "Lots of Americans Are Losing Their Religion. Are You?" Jessica Grose wonders, "about what may be lost by not having a community connected by belief anymore." Looking above... my answer would be, "So very much!" Let your lights shine lovely people.

Love you all,

Nick+

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## **Theologians Corner:** **Catherine of Siena**



Catherine Benincasa was the youngest of twenty-five children of a wealthy dyer of Siena. At six years of age, she had a remarkable vision that probably decided her life's vocation. Walking home from a visit, she stopped on the road and gazed upward, oblivious to everything around her. "I beheld our Lord seated in glory with St. Peter, St. Paul, and St. John." She went on to say, later, that the Savior smiled on her and blessed her.

From then on, Catherine spent most of her time in prayer and meditation, despite her mother's attempts to force her to be like other girls. To settle matters, Catherine cut off her hair, her chief beauty. The family harassed her continually; but in the end, convinced that she was deaf to all opposition, her father

let her do as she would: close herself away in a darkened room, fast, and sleep on boards. Eventually, she was accepted as a Dominican postulant.

Catherine had numerous visions, and was also tried most severely by loathsome temptations and degrading images. Frequently, she felt totally abandoned by the Lord. At last, in 1366, the Savior appeared with Mary and the Heavenly Host, and espoused her to himself, so ending her years of lonely prayer and struggle. She became a nurse, as Dominicans regularly did, caring for patients with leprosy and cancer, whom other nurses disliked to treat.

Opinion in Siena was sharply divided about whether she was a saint or a fanatic, but when the Bishop of Capua was appointed her confessor, he helped her to win full support from the Dominican Mother House. Catherine was a courageous worker in time of severe plague; she visited prisoners condemned to death; she constantly was called upon to arbitrate feuds and to prepare troubled sinners for confession.

During the great schism of the papacy, with rival popes in Rome and Avignon, Catherine wrote tirelessly to princes, kings, and popes, urging them to restore the unity of the Church. She even went to Rome to press further for the cause.

Besides her many letters to all manner of people, Catherine wrote a Dialogue, a mystical work dictated in ecstasy. Exhausted and paralyzed, she died at the age of thirty-three.

Together we pray: Everlasting God, who didst so kindle the flame of holy love in the heart of blessed Catherine of Siena, as she meditated on the passion of thy Son our Savior, that she devoted her life to the poor and the sick, and to the peace and unity of the Church: Grant that we also may share in the mystery of Christ's death, and rejoice in the revelation of his glory; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

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### Concern Pantry Needs:

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

Homeless needs are: men's deodorant. Concern is still in need of a volunteer for the front desk on Monday's from 11:00 am - 2:30 pm. If you are interested, please contact Melody at 918-336-4693.



Hi friends,

Roger will be leading a Women's Bible Study Workshop next week here for women coming from a nearby country. I will assist him. Our coworker will interpret for us. Please ask God to give wisdom and strength to Roger as he finishes the details for the Women's Bible Study Workshop. He will focus a lot on how to tell a Bible story naturally and how to help people to discuss it.

I am finishing details for the Parents/Sons Retreat May 5 and 6. We have gone through many curves in the road, but so far we are still going forward. Please ask God to help us to be a big encouragement to the boys.

Air in this area is still hazardous. Please ask God to bring rain and a way for Thai leaders to make a solution for this terrible problem. We still have the worst air in the world right now.

Esther will graduate from college on May 6. Please ask God to help Esther to make a good transition to post-undergrad life. She plans to begin training to become an occupational therapist.

Attached is a photo of Phoo. I'm continuing to research options for him to get training after he ages out of the school system next month. I'm reaching out to local pastors to get advice. I'm also still hoping to get families together on Aug. 4 and 5 for mutual encouragement. Lots of conversations are ahead of me. Please ask God to provide continuing training options for Phoo and for other people who are disabled.

My health is not great. It's not a good idea for me to make frequent trips to the U.S. Please ask God to heal my body and give me wisdom to make the best lifestyle and medical choices.

Thank you for praying!

Joanne





The picture you didn't see.....



May 14, 2023  
At the 10:30am service  
Our Young Disciples will be leading  
the service. Come and celebrate  
our Seniors: Keaton Mitchell and  
Lexi Phares!



## **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 27<sup>th</sup> – May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023

**Apr 27<sup>th</sup> Men's Breakfast, 7am, Metcalf**

**Bible Study, 9:15am, Metcalf**

**Green Country Eucharist, Rite I, 1pm, GCV**

**Pub Theology, 6:30pm, Tumbleweed's**

**Apr 30<sup>th</sup> Holy Eucharist, Rite I, 8:00am, chapel**

**Holy Eucharist Rite II, 10:30am**

**May 2<sup>nd</sup> Spiritual Discovery Group, 10am, Library**

**May 3<sup>rd</sup> YD, 6pm, Rodgers**

**Choir, 5pm, Choir Room**

**Family Bingo Night, Dinner 5:30pm**

## Birthdays and Anniversaries, April 30<sup>th</sup> – May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### Birthdays



Betty Rheingans	(5/1)
Roberta Johansen	(5/1)
Bob Baughman	(5/2)
Luke Olsen	(5/3)
Max Mitchell	(5/5)
Jennifer McIver	(5/6)

### Anniversaries



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!

# FAMILY BINGO NIGHT!



BINGO NIGHT is May 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 27<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm Tumbleweed's Fr. Nick and Teresa will be absent, but, hey, let's break bread together, visit, toast Lexi's accomplishments!

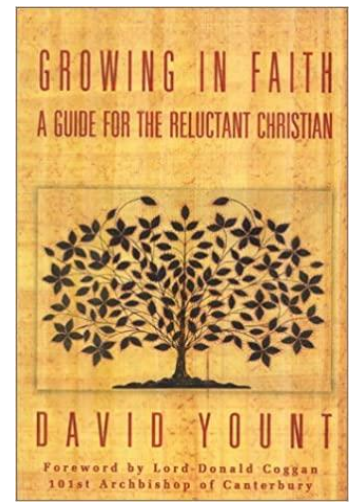
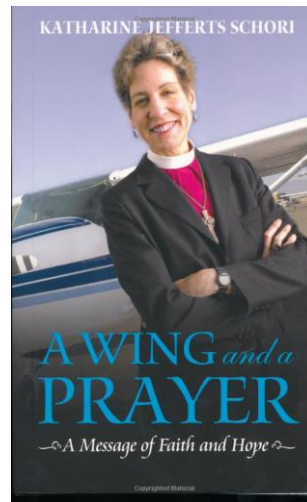
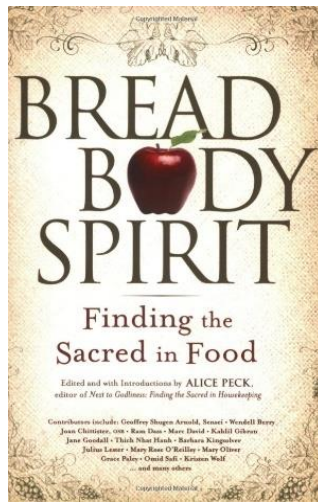
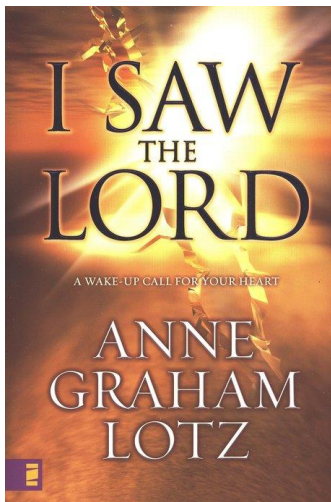






ST. LUKE'S BOOKSTORE

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!



## 10 Ways to Celebrate May Day

Why not celebrate May Day? Here are some joyful May Day traditions marking the return of spring and the renewed gift of life.

1. Among the many superstitions associated with May Day was the belief that washing the face with dew on the morning of May 1 would beautify the skin and bring good luck.
2. On May 1, people in Britain welcome spring by **“Bringing in the May,”** or gathering cuttings of flowering trees for their homes.



3. Make that May Day Basket of flowers! Get the kids involved.



*Credit: Suzanne Tucker.*

4. May 1 in Hawaii is called **“Lei Day,”** and people make pretty leis. Leis are garlands or wreaths that are often made with native Hawaiian flowers and leaves. These days, leis are given as a symbol of greeting, farewell, affection, celebration, or honor—all in the spirit of aloha.
5. Kids would go barefoot on May Day for the first time.
6. In parts of Ireland, people would make a May bush; typically, this was a thorn bush or branch decorated with flowers and ribbons.





7. Beekeepers traditionally moved bees on May 1.
8. Fishermen expect to catch fish on May Day.
9. Traditionally, farmers planted turnips on this day. Other folklore has it that, to protect cucumbers from insects, they should be planted on May 1.
10. The Kentucky Derby starts off the month of May (the first Saturday of the month).

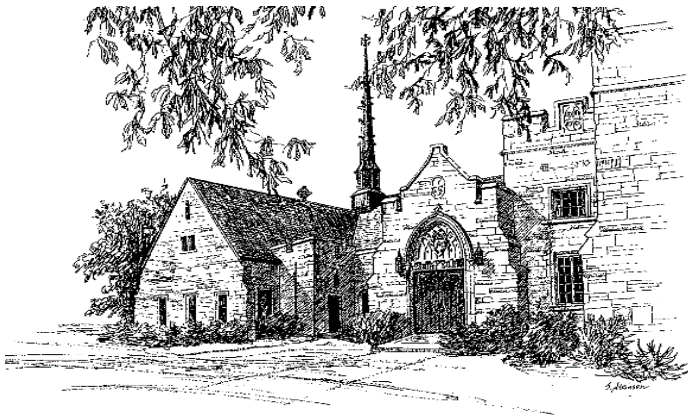
## The Maypole Dance

Did you ever dance around the maypole as a child? Wrapping a maypole with colorful ribbons is a joyous tradition that still exists in some schools and communities.

- Originally, the maypole was a living tree chosen from the woods with much merrymaking. Ancient Celts danced around the tree, praying for the fertility of their crops and all living things! For younger people, there was the possibility of courtship. If a young woman and man paired by sundown, their courtship continued so that the couple could get to know each other and, possibly, marry 6 weeks later on June's Midsummer's Day. This is how the "June wedding" became a tradition.
- In the Middle Ages, all villages had maypoles. Towns would compete to see who had the tallest or best maypole. Over time, this Old English festival incorporated dance performances, plays, and literature. People would crown a **"May Queen"** for the day's festivities.

## 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)
- Jo Baughman – [jybokla@aol.com](mailto:jybokla@aol.com)
- Karole Cozby – [kscozby916@gmail.com](mailto:kscozby916@gmail.com)
- Chad Ellis – [w.chadwick.ellis@gmail.com](mailto:w.chadwick.ellis@gmail.com)
- Karen Lewey – [kgrammy07@yahoo.com](mailto:kgrammy07@yahoo.com)
- Laura Birk – [lpbirk73@gmail.com](mailto:lpbirk73@gmail.com)
- Mark Peterson- [mpeterson@hotmail.com](mailto:m_mpeterson@hotmail.com)
- Steve Van Aken – [scvanaken@sbcglobal.net](mailto:scvanaken@sbcglobal.net)
- Katherine Powell – [kmpbmp48@gmail.com](mailto:kmpbmp48@gmail.com)
- Steve Roper- [sdroper2006@yahoo.com](mailto:sdroper2006@yahoo.com)
- Josie McIver-



### St. Luke's Episcopal Church Contacts:

The Reverend Nick Phares, Rector  
269-788-7063; [RevPhares@outlook.com](mailto:RevPhares@outlook.com)

Dolores McCreary, Choir Director/Organist  
918-397-4828 [dolomc37@gmail.com](mailto:dolomc37@gmail.com)

St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
210 East 9<sup>th</sup> St., Bartlesville, OK 74003  
Office Hours: 9am-4pm, M-F  
Email: [StLukesBartlesville@outlook.com](mailto: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