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The Steeple



Sept 13, 2023

The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church



Greetings beloved,

A festive welcome was held for the Droege family at this month's vestry meeting. Karole Cozby graciously opened her lovely home up for the occasion and after our agenda was accomplished, we took time to pray and celebrate with Keeli and her family well into the evening.

Without skipping a beat, our time with the Droege's came right after your exceptionally generous gift to our beloved Dolores on Sunday morning. Both of these events, which are seminal in the life of our parish, say a few

things to me:

1. It matters how we say thank-you.
2. It matters how we navigate transition.
3. It matters how we are gentle with each other.
4. It matters how we say farewell.
5. It matters how we welcome.
6. It matters how we forgive.
7. It matters how we reconcile.
8. It matters how we are church.

And the more I think about it, these events they probably say more - but for right now, these are the ones that are rising to the surface for me. If there is a word for me in this moment, perhaps it's tenderness. At least that is what I hope.

You know, it's almost 10 p.m. as I steal away to write this. Teresa and Pax are nestled in at home. Clericus and Y.D. are tomorrow and then after that, our full Thursday. In the half-light that surrounds me, it strikes me how fragile our life together actually is and how wonderful it can be if we let it. And so, I'm thankful for now.

I'm thankful that you all decided to be the church you claim to be. I'm thankful that you saw the willing servant that Keeli is. I'm thankful that you know that it's not just her, but her family who step into this ministry and it matters how we support them as they do so. And I'm

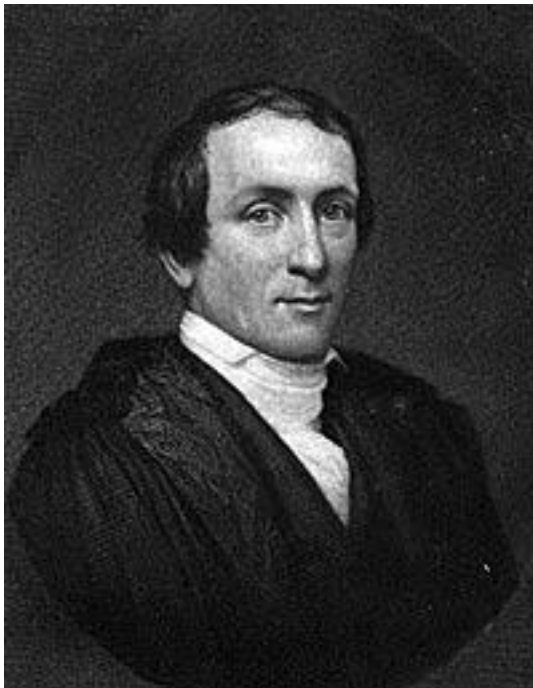
thankful for the grace that will be theirs because as you say - this life is meant to be lived together with arms wide open.

I'm thankful that you continue and how you will always surround Dolores with unfailing love, how you continue to encourage her in living into her art -- her gift, and for the way that she is realizing that though she claims to be an OOO (You can ask her what that means) that she still has a very important purpose here - that of mentor, minister, and perhaps most profoundly... sister.

All that stuff matters.

Nick+

Theologian's Corner:



James Chisholm

James Chisholm, born in 1815, was the rector of St. John's Episcopal Church in Portsmouth, Virginia, when, in 1855, an aggressive yellow fever epidemic swept through tidewater Virginia. Many of the region's wealthy citizens were able to escape the area to avoid exposure and fears of contamination. In most cases, the physicians and clergy who served them departed as well. This left the area's poor bereft of doctors, caregivers, and, in some cases, the basic provisions of food and water to sustain life.

James Chisholm sent his family away to safety, staying behind to provide whatever care for the sick he could. Chisholm provided food, amateur medical assistance, and pastoral care. He was even known to have dug graves for those who had died.

As the ravages of the plague were beginning to subside, Chisholm, weary to the point of exhaustion from his faithful priestly service, contracted the fever, and died the same year.

An account of Chisholm's sacrifice, written only months after his death, marvels at the inner strength that Chisholm discovered that enabled him to stay behind and serve the people, many of whom were only waiting to die. Before the crisis, Chisholm was described as having been retiring to the point of bashfulness, delicate, weak, and lacking much fortitude. When faced,

however, with the call of these priestly duties in the face of great hardship, Chisholm showed a strength and courage few knew he possessed.

From William S Forrest 1856:

“Who, that knew the Rev. James Chisholm by sight, would have dreamed that that frail body of his held such a lofty spirit! Weak and delicate, with a degree of modesty that almost amounted to bashfulness, as shrinking and retiring as a young girl, thousands would have passed him in the crowd unconscious that they were in the presence of a ripe scholar and an able divine. His look a personification of meekness; and, to the superficial thinker, he would seem to have been one of those who would quietly have retreated to his solitude, far away from the noise and bustle of an excited community. But the disease came — Chisholm's flock nearly all left — and he, too, was preparing to spend a portion of his summer in the mountains but stern duty said 'Stop.' And then it was that this pale, delicate, frail, retiring man came forth to the struggle, and the great fond noble soul, which was, after all, the stature of the man, rose in its God-given strength, and he was here at the bedside of suffering, and there by the fresh-made grave; here pointing the sinner to the cross of Christ, and there carrying food and drink to the needy; now in the pulpit, seizing upon the circumstances of the visitation, to warn men to prepare for death, and then in the hospital whispering peace to the penitent and departing soul. Death came to him, and he met him as one who,

Sustained and soothed
By an unfaltering trust, approached the grave;
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

Together we pray: Merciful God, who didst call thy priest James Chisholm to sacrifice his life while working amid great suffering and death: Help us, like him, to live by the faith we profess, following in the footsteps of Jesus Christ our Lord; who with the Father and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

Please pray for: Liz Green, Michelle Sheffield, Catherine Sheffield, David King, Pris Snow, Ben Baker, Sanawbar, Diana Farris, Joel Hahn, Stacey & Butch Webster, Steve McCraw, Josh Harris, Katie Rolielard, Debbie French, Jody & George Bracken, David Swindell, Norma Perrier, Connie Finch, Dorothy Buchanan, Peggy Kauffman, Ryan Kiesel, Tony Clapper, Bruce Neiswander, Jack & Karla Stoecker, Joseph, Tim, Shania Smith, Terry Grogan, Tyler Roberson, Jerry Nezam, Jim Brooks, Tom Martin, Don Doty, Luke Karel, Radomir & Miriam Petrovich, Lynette Beebe, Geraldine Wright, Nancy & Joe Norton, and Jack Smith.

Luke's Place Sept 14th-Sept 20th, 2023

Sept 14th Men's Breakfast, 7am, Metcalf

Bible Study, 9:15am, Metcalf

Green Country Eucharist, Rite I, 1pm, GCV, Holy Cross

Sept 17th Holy Eucharist, Rite I, 8:00am, chapel

Pack the Backpack Fundraiser, 8:30-11:00am, Fr Lynch Hall

Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10:30am

Godly Play Class for children, during Rite II, upstairs

Coffee Hour at RoSo's after service

Sept 19th Spiritual Discovery, 10am, Library

Sept 20th YD, 6pm, Rodgers

Choir, 5pm, Choir Room



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Pantry needs: tuna, SPAM, sleeves of crackers, pancake mix (just add water)

Homeless needs: reusable bags



ST. LUKE'S BOOKSTORE

Past and Present.....

Everyone! Turn in your favorite 'school picture' of yourself to the Bookstore during the month of September and be entered into the drawing. You will receive a number for your picture and the photo will be displayed in the Bookstore window. The lucky number will be drawn at the end of the month and win a \$25 gift certificate to the Bookstore.



"SEE" you in the Bookstore!



Trunk or Treat will be Oct 29th this year and plans are in the works for the Haunted Garage again! We could use some help planning other activities. Email or call the church office to volunteer and I will fill you in.

PINOT & POETRY



*JOIN THE WOMEN OF
ST. LUKE'S FOR A FUN
EVENING!*

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20TH - 6PM
TERESA PHARES' HOUSE - 2649 REGENCY RD.**

Bring your favorite Pinot (or other
wine/drink), your favorite poem, and a
snack to share with the group.



3920 Nowata Rd

Join us at RoSo's Coffee Co. after the 10:30am service on Sept 17th for St Luke's Coffee Hour!

Check out their menu on the left and join Laura and the fellowship committee as we have Coffee Hour at **RoSo's!**

The new sign at St Crispin's was dedicated in August to the memory of our beloved Georgia



Iona Formation Begins

By: Dean Crider:



We kicked off the new 2023-2024 Iona academic year with three new juniors Jeff Birk (left), Jim McCollom (center), and Robert Kuhlman (right) and our two returning middlers (David Braddock (second from left) and George Justice (second from right)).

Tim Sean Youmans and Kate Bond aren't in the picture. Tim Sean continues to teach the scripture class to the first year students and I'm teaching church history to the second-year group. Kate, in addition to her role as Director of Faith Formation and Discipleship (of which our Iona school rolls up to) is there on weekends to lead workshops on congregational vitality. We're grateful to Canon Stephen Carlsen to be with us this weekend as they both discussed the CVA and the insights that have been gained from it. Thanks to Fr. Everett Lees for the homiletics practical he led. We have several clergy and lay leaders who have already committed to helping lead practical sessions this year and I'll be reaching out to more of you as we continue planning ahead for the winter/spring calendar.



Knights of Columbus Council #1302

Pancake Breakfast benefitting

Pack the Backpacks!

Sunday, September 17 2023

at

Fr. Lynch Hall

(715 S. Johnstone Ave)

8:30-11:00am

\$10

Come join us for biscuits and gravy,
sausage, breakfast casserole, and all you
can eat pancakes!



YD Tours Downtown

After a delicious meal provided by the Jacksons, YD went on a scavenger hunt downtown Wednesday night. One team was clearly more directionally gifted. But, we all had fun and the other team should get kudos for their awesome photos.







The Winning Photo



The Winning Team

Birthdays and Anniversaries, Sept 17th –Sept 23rd , 2023

Birthdays



Stefanie Tedstrom (9/20)
Nick Olsen (9/20)
Bill Jones (9/21)
Nick Olsen (9/21)
D J Nezam (9/22)
Anna Oliphant (9/22)

Anniversaries



The NEED is greater than ever

Support Concern through this fundraiser and enjoy performances by "Tiffany",
"Run DMC" and many more.....to purchase tickets, used QR code below, call
Concern at 918-336-4693 or see Pam Hanson.

**2ND ANNUAL
LIP SYNC
BATTLE IN
BARTLESVILLE**

September 23 | 2023
Hilton Garden Inn | 6 pm

**Great food ... a
night of fun and
laughter ... like a
real concert**
Karen Lowe-Alton

**WATCH LOCAL CELEBRITIES
BATTLE HUNGER**
Admission of \$75 includes the
Battle, a festival style buffet and
2 adult drinks.

PROCEEDS BENEFIT CONCERN
www.concerncares.com
918-336-4693

Faith Forum Schedule: Holy Currencies.

September 17th: No Faith Forum. We will meet at Fr. Lynch Hall for Pack the Backpacks Fundraiser.

September 24th: The Currency of Relationships.

October 1st: The Currency of Truth.
Stewardship Sunday Announcement: Nancy Woods.

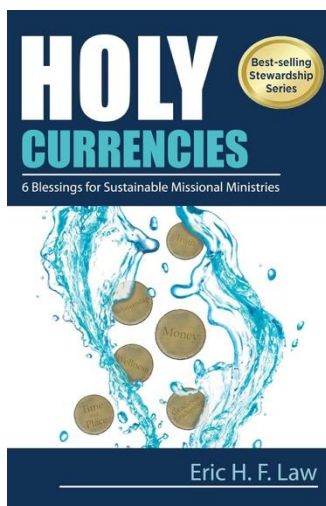
October 8th: The Currency of Wellness.
Stewardship Sunday Announcement: Karole Cozby.

October 15th: The Currency of Gracious Leadership.
Stewardship Sunday Announcement: Nancy Woods.

October 22nd: The Currency of Time and Place.
Stewardship Sunday Mailout.

October 29th: The Currency of Money.

November 5th: All Saints Sunday.
Please bring Pledge Cards to Church this Sunday.
Parish Luncheon at 11:45.



Money is not the only currency your ministry needs. Eric H. F. Law shows us how the six blessings of time and place, gracious leadership, relationship, truth, wellness, and money flow through successful missional ministries. Learn how to use these gifts to rejuvenate, recirculate, regenerate, and expand your ministry through Law's insightful stories, instruction, processes, exercises, and activities. Tools in the book help evaluate how your church uses each gift and enables church members to measure and value the six blessings. Holy Currencies will push you to think beyond your church's current boundaries and create rich, sustainable missional ministries.

Snaps of Last Weekend's Activities

Tailgate Party for the Bruins Game and Buy Your Priest a Beer Day





And to top off the weekend- The Sunday Children's Sermon



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
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- Mark Peterson- m_mpeterson@hotmail.com
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- Katherine Powell -- kmpbmp48@gmail.com
- Steve Roper- sdroper2006@yahoo.com
- Josie McIver-

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

St. Luke's Episcopal Church Contacts:

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269-788-7063; RevPhares@outlook.com

Keeli Droege, Choir Director/Organist
918-697-8509 keelidroege@gmail.com

Bereavement Team 2

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

Coming Oct 4th
Watch the Steeple for
details !

