

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

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# *The Steeple*



Sept 6, 2023

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

### **Birthdays Abound!**



Greetings beloved,

September 6th is a special day for me as it is Teresa's birthday. We are planning something simple tonight to celebrate. T is going to choir, Pax to Y.D., and I'm cooking fish. It will be quiet, but delightful - full of some of our favorite things.

Today also is Sarah Winn's birthday!

Last month you may recall that we prayed for Sarah on her 70th anniversary of being a member of St. Luke's Episcopal Church. In addition to that, last month Sarah's book, "Reminiscences of a Southern Girl," was featured at the Bartlesville History Museum. I treasure that day as Sarah regaled us with memories of a life well lived.

I learned that Sarah was a History Marker in 2015 and was awarded teacher of the year in 1975. After her retirement, Sarah and her husband Gene dedicated their time to cataloging all of the Woolaroc library books while operating Media Futures Book Store.

Sarah was a founding member of the Word Weavers, past president of Women's Network, twice past president of Washington Count Retired Educators. She was also a member of the OK Education Association, the Washington County Historical Society, Dewey Classroom Teachers Association and the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Sarah you are a legend, and we love you. Happy Birthday and YSR!

As many of our programs start back up this weekend. I am reminded that the Iona School for Ministry meets this weekend. The Iona School is a three-year education and formation program which includes academic work and dedicated fieldwork required for ordination in our diocese. Our own Jeff Birk will make his way down to St. Crispin's this weekend to begin his formal training for the diaconate and they are not wasting anytime in plugging Jeff right into things, as he will preach this Saturday.

Jeff, you make us all proud. God speed.

I hope you all are remembering the opportunity we have to gather this Friday at the Bruins home opener as they take on Sapulpa. We will meet on Valley Road for some snacks around six and then head on over to the game as a group. Please see the notification about the game within for more information.

Nick+



## Theologian's Corner:

### Constance and her Companions

In 1878 the American city of Memphis on the Mississippi River was struck by an epidemic of yellow fever, which so depopulated the area that the city lost its charter and was not reorganized for fourteen years. Almost everyone who could afford to do so left the city and fled to higher ground away from the river. (It was not yet known that the disease was mosquito-borne, but it was observed that high and dry areas were safe.) There were in the city several communities of nuns, Anglican or Roman Catholic, who had the opportunity of leaving, but chose to stay and nurse the sick. Most of them, thirty-eight in all, were themselves killed

by the fever. One of the first to die (on 9 September 1878) was Constance, head of the (Anglican) Community of St Mary.

In 1873, Bishop Quintard of Tennessee, a friend of Mother Harriet, our founder, invited the Community to send Sisters to Memphis to begin a school for girls and establish a Church home for the poor and needy. Four Sisters were sent to start this ministry, but their work was interrupted by the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1878 as mentioned above. During that time, the Sisters, though they had no formal training as nurses, cared for the sick and dying. All but one of the Sisters died in their attempts and are remembered today as the "Martyrs of Memphis" for their heroic service.

Sr. Hughetta Snowdon, the one surviving Sister from the Yellow Fever Epidemic, moved to Sewanee, TN, after the epidemic and in 1888, with the help of other Sisters, started what is now the Southern Province of the Sisters of St. Mary in Sewanee, Tennessee. The Sisters soon opened a school for mountain children known as "St. Mary's on the Mountain," for whom the county school was too distant and the road too difficult. As transportation improved, it became a boarding school for girls until 1968. Later, the school buildings became a retreat center sponsored by the Community of St. Mary, Southern Province. In 1988, the Sisters moved to a nearby location where they built the present convent. The retreat center property was purchased by Robert Ayres and is now known as "St. Mary's Sewanee: The Ayres Center for Spiritual Development." The center is its own separate organization with no legal or

financial connection with the Sisters of St. Mary. However, the Sisters continue to have a relationship with the center as Board Members.

Today the Sisters' ministries include providing spiritual direction, leading retreats, quiet days, and workshops, going out to preach and teach classes at churches both in-state and out-of-state, and training and working with our Oblates, Associates, volunteers, and Organic Prayer Program interns. The Sisters produce items to sell which include jams and jellies from the fruits of their garden, handmade colored cards, and framed photography all made by the Sisters. The Sisters provide Benedictine hospitality to all who visit and invite guests to stay at the Hermitage or the garden level of the convent. They welcome you to come and visit!

Together we pray: We give thee thanks and praise, O God of compassion, for the heroic witness of the Martyrs of Memphis, who, in a time of plague and pestilence, were steadfast in their care for the sick and dying, and loved not their own lives, even unto death; Inspire in us a like love and commitment to those in need, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ; who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

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**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, Liz Burger, Geraldine Wright, Nancy & Joe Norton, and Jack Smith.**

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## **Luke's Place Sept 7<sup>th</sup>-Sept 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

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

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

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

**Sept 8<sup>th</sup> Tailgate Party, 6pm, Valley Road, 7pm Bruins game**

**Sept 9<sup>th</sup> 'Buy Your Priest a Beer' Day, Palace Lounge, 4-6pm**

**Sept 10<sup>th</sup> Holy Eucharist, Rite I, 8:00am, chapel**

**Faith Forum, 9:15am, Metcalf**

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

**Godly Play Class for children, during Rite II, upstairs**

**Scouts selling popcorn, after services, hallway**

Sept 11<sup>th</sup> Finance Committee, noon, Vestry Room  
Vestry, 5:30pm, Karole Cozby's house  
Sept 12<sup>th</sup> Spiritual Discovery, 10am, Library  
Sept 13<sup>th</sup> YD, 6pm, Rodgers & Sooner Park  
Choir, 5pm, Choir Room



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Concern's current pantry needs: canned chili and soup  
Homeless needs: pudding cups



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!**



We at St Luke's are always up for fun and fellowship, so since 'Buy Your Priest a Beer Day' is a thing, let's gather this Saturday and do just that! This will be a come and go event at The Palace Rooms Lounge, 309 S Dewey Ave, hours: 4pm-6pm. Drop in during this time, buy Fr Nick a beer (after all, he IS the guest of honor!), visit with your St Luke's friends, laugh and enjoy! (Psst, we may

need a designated driver for the Padre at the end of the gathering! Any volunteers?)



# 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.



## Nick of all trades!

Last Saturday, while home from college, Nick Olsen was up on the church roof doing some repair. Thanks Nick, for taking care of the building we love.



3920 Nowata Rd

Join us at RoSo's Coffee Co. after the 10:30am service on Sept 17<sup>th</sup> 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!**



## Everyone Invited!

Tailgating starting at 6:00 pm

Sub sandwiches, chips and water will be served. Meeting on Valley Rd (1443 & 1447) at the Droege's and Ellis'. Bruins game at Custer Field starts at 7:00.

Prices of the game is \$5 for students and \$7 for adults. Seniors over 62 can get a Golden Pass by going by the Education Center 1100 SW Jennings hours are 8-4:30. (You might need your drivers license). Please be advised about security measures at the game: **No** backpacks, no purses, only clear bags are allowed.



Your Choir will be back this coming Sunday! If you have been thinking about joining the choir, now is the time! We need your beautiful voice! Rehearsal is every Wednesday at 5pm in the Choir Room. Contact Keeli Droege, Choir Director at 918-697-8509 or [keelidroege@gmail.com](mailto:keelidroege@gmail.com).



# Welcome Back to Godly Play!!!

**On September 10th, Godly Play will start back up with the story of The Holy Family!**

**Children will process up to the Godly Play Room after the Gospel is read during the 10:30 service.**

***\*Contact Teresa Phares if you have questions, or want to volunteer - 269-317-8237 or [tphares@epiok.org](mailto:tphares@epiok.org)***

## Godly Play!!!

Here at St. Luke's, we are fortunate to have an impactful children's formation program – Godly Play!

Here are some things you might be wondering about Godly Play:

- I wonder what Godly Play is...

Godly Play is a way for children to make meaning through story, wonder, and play. A storyteller will share a Bible story with the children, and then they are invited to wonder about how they personally relate to God through that story.

- I wonder when Godly Play will start up again...

On September 10th, we will offer our first Godly Play story of the program year.

- I wonder when the children will meet for Godly Play...

The children will go upstairs to the Godly Play room after the reading of the Gospel at the 10:30 service. They will return to church during the Passing of the Peace. We value the presence of children in our community and in worship, so we want to be sure that they are there to worship with the rest of the congregation during most of the service on Sundays.

- I wonder what ages are welcome at Godly Play...

We invite children ages 4-5th grade to join us for Godly Play on Sundays.



· I wonder if they need more leaders for Godly Play...

YES!!! We could definitely use more adult/older youth leaders in our Godly Play program! The time commitment for leaders can vary, depending on the leader's availability. If you are at least in high school and interested in leading, please contact Teresa Phares at [tphares@epiok.org](mailto:tphares@epiok.org) or 269-317-8237.

· I wonder if you need training to be a Godly Play leader...

You do not have to have training, but Teresa will offer a training for anyone who wants to learn more about Godly Play. The training will take place on Sunday, September 17th from 12pm-4pm (lunch will be included). Please RSVP to Teresa if you plan to attend.

### Nursery

Here at St. Luke's, we love children and families with children! But in the past year, we have struggled with supporting our young families in their endeavors to come to church consistently, because we have not been able to offer nursery care for our youngest churchgoers (ages 0-4). **Hiring nursery workers has been moved to our list of priorities, and we could use your help!** Our hope is to have some nursery workers or volunteers in place when we begin Godly Play –

September 10th. If you know anyone who is 16 or older who would like to volunteer or be paid to care for these young children on Sunday mornings from 10am-12pm, please share this information with them and get them in contact with either Teresa Phares ([tphares@epiok.org](mailto:tphares@epiok.org) or 269-317-8237) or Father Nick ([revphares@outlook.com](mailto:revphares@outlook.com) or 269-788-7063). Let's help show these young families that they belong here at St. Luke's by making sure we are providing care for their children so that they can come and worship with us!

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## Volunteers Needed!



A volunteer is needed to work at Agape Mission on the fourth Thursday of every month from 10:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Agape Mission provides nutritious meals to anyone who walks through the doors. No questions asked. For many, this meal is the only one that they will have that day. During this shift you will work on the line serving meals to individuals. The only qualification needed to work is a smile and willing heart. Not only is it a blessing to serve people who come through the line, but it also is a wonderful time of fellowship with other

members of St. Luke's who participate in this ministry. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Becky Liehr at 918-327-5987.



Knights of Columbus Council #1302

Pancake Breakfast benefitting

**Pack the Backpacks!**

**Sunday, September 17 2023**

**at**

**Fr. Lynch Hall**

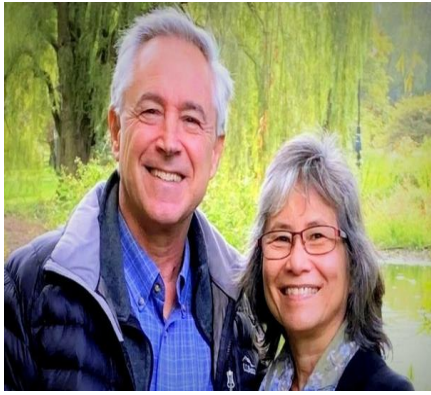
**(715 S. Johnstone Ave)**

**8:30-11:00am**

**\$10**

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





## News from the Greens

Hi friends,

After praying for two Bible storying workshops in a nearby country, we got very good news. About the first workshop, our teammate Lina said, "I would say the workshop was very successful. Before, most of them (50 people) were very shy and nervous to speak in front of others. If they were assigned to do something for a prayer meeting, they would not come to church. . .during the workshop no one had a chance to be inattentive or sleepy. They all had to be alert in case they would be asked questions. . .After the workshop, they gained a lot of confidence to speak publicly. They now know how to learn what God tells us from a certain Bible story and how to help others to learn as well."

It was a women's workshop, but the church pastor and the men's group leader also attended full-time. Lina said, "(The men) were willing to learn and practice their assignments. I saw they did not mind when church members gave comments. . .In addition, (the people) practiced reading the Bible. I encouraged them to make sure everyone reads the passage of the stories they tell. About 30% can read. About 30% learned how to lead a Bible story group, but the rest of them were very much in the stories. Afterward they would give testimonies spontaneously."

About the second workshop, Lina said, "God did a powerful work among them. The people (105 women and 20 men) were going to the front of the church and confessing their sins. They had never had any kind of training like this before. The participants were so motivated and so touched with the Bible stories. Through the story of Jesus healing the little girl, some of them gave testimonies about how Jesus had healed diseases in their lives. Through the story of Mary, God is telling them they should be ready to serve in the ministry when they are invited. They should not hesitate or not be willing to serve but should accept what God calls them to do. Through the story of Paul and Silas, they learned how Paul and Silas forgave the jailer and gave the jailer's family the chance to learn about salvation."

Lina taught at the first workshop with Penni, who attended Roger's September workshop and is a speaker of the language of that area. Then Penni went on to teach the second workshop on her own.

Lina is now making plans to have a Bible storying workshop for a different language group. Thank you very much 🙌 for your support in prayer for people in the language groups of a nearby country! We are overjoyed with this outcome and are praising God.

Praise to Him who uses His Word to pierce hearts,  
Joanne

Esther and Noah arrived three days after Nathan and Rick left. Thank you 🙏 for praying for the time with Esther and Noah. Roger and I really appreciated having that time with them.

*Your words were found, and I ate them,  
and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart,  
for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts.*

Jeremiah 15:16



Begins **September 10<sup>th</sup>** at 9:15am,  
in Metcalf Hall.

### **Birthdays and Anniversaries, Sept 10<sup>th</sup> –Sept 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

#### **Birthdays**



**Robert Lonski**     (9/10)  
**Karole Cozby**     (9/16)

#### **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!



**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*

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BATTLE HUNGER**

Admission of \$75 includes the  
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918-336-4693



# YD Open Mike Night

O what a night! 🎵 🎵 🎵 🎵







## NOTES FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE:

Whew! Its been a week! Re-keying a church is quite a challenge! However I think we are on the downhill slide of it! The locks that were to be re-keyed have been so, but not every lock has been changed inside the building. The key that seems to be a troublemaker is the altar guild key, so ladies, if your key will not open the cabinets, please see me. I have a new key for those, but check yours first. All outside perimeter keys have been changed. The guidelines are pretty strict on access to the building when it is locked. We are the stewards of this beautiful building and we will take care of it-all of us together.

A new event for us popped up this week and we thought we would have some fun and run with it! 'Buy Your Priest a Beer Day' is a day to celebrate our wonderful Father Nick so lets gather at Palace Rooms Lounge on Saturday late afternoon with a Come and Go event. We have reserved a large round booth close to the

front of the room where Fr Nick will be waiting for those beers (here's where he will roll his eyes at me for saying that) and a time to visit with you. So drop in, say hi, and then you can be on about your day. It runs from 4-6pm.

**'As we work towards a Safer Church and an even Safer Community, please let us keep Bishop Poulson's pastoral letter dated 5 September 2023 close to our hearts in prayer. We are better together and even better when we pray together. As the pastoral response involving Bishop Edward J. Konieczny and Julia Ayala Harris, President of the House Deputies evolves, may we continue our work here as servants of a loving, liberating, and life giving God. For further information please consult the diocesan webpage or Ms. Susanna LeMasters, Director of Communications for the Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma.'**

See you at the Church! Penny

### **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)
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- Katherine Powell – [kmpbmp48@gmail.com](mailto:kmpbmp48@gmail.com)
- Steve Roper- [sdroper2006@yahoo.com](mailto:sdroper2006@yahoo.com)
- Josie McIver-

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

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269-788-7063; [RevPhares@outlook.com](mailto:RevPhares@outlook.com)

Keeli Droege, Choir Director/Organist  
918-697-8509 [keelidroege@gmail.com](mailto:keelidroege@gmail.com)

### **Bereavement Team 2**

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