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The Steeple



Oct 11, 2023

The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church



Then Were We Like Those Who Dream

Taken from Psalm 126, "Then were we like those who dream," was the theme of this year's diocesan convention. While congregational vitality remains a top priority for our bishop, how that is measured, quantified, and addressed, became the concentration of this year's convention from preaching all the way down to individual spiritual practices.

Several resources are available for congregations who desire to make vitality a core element of their life together. These include but are not limited to: The Congregation Vitality Assessment, Faithful Innovations, Shaping the Parish, Renewal Works, The Living Compass, and having a multifaceted view of stewardship such as an understanding of Eric Law's Holy Currencies and the like.

In one way or another St. Luke's is working with each of these programs. In and of themselves, they provide only a means, however, of developing an understanding as well as a vocabulary that deals with a piece of what might make up a wholistic understanding of congregational vitality.

For instance, we took the Congregation Vitality Assessment shortly after my arrival in 2021. The results of that assessment were then added to the assessments of almost all of the churches in our diocese. Those results gave us a bird's eye view of what we as a Church are doing well and what we need to work on.

Programs such as Faithful Innovations follow up on the CVA and seek to help churches develop relationships with their neighbors. Shaping the Parish concentrates on the principles of organizational development. Renewal Works on spirituality. The Living Compass on Wellness, and Stewardship, of course, is related to every domain.

Fluency in each of these major categories was at the heart of the message this past weekend along with the idea that none of them really matters unless a robust spiritual life is present within the community that gathers. Thus, the invitation to develop spiritual practices within the community became more and more a single point of focus for all of us moving forward.

We do worship well at St. Luke's but worship as was stated in many of the panel discussions, is only part of a healthy spirituality. I understand that spirituality is a pretty big word and that it can be used in lots of ways but spirituality in the sense of deepening our connection with St. Luke's and our community, in my mind, is made up of finding ways that we can move from being grounded in weekly Eucharist and daily prayer to the processes of reflection and living more fully into community, which will ultimately (I hope) foster collective action as a community of hope and love.

There is no community I'd rather do this work with and there is such a need to figure out how to do the work that is before us. There is a great sense of urgency in the call to love more deeply and to work more intentionally in the vineyard that is Bartlesville. As you come home to the practices you are already committed to and as you prayerfully consider your financial support of our community, what are some ways we can work together to find the energy we need to remain vital my friends?

That is a very important question for us to consider and yes,answer.

Peace,

Nick+

Theologians Corner: : Edith Louisa Cavell (December 1865 – 12 October 1915)



Edith Cavell was a British nurse. She is celebrated for saving the lives of soldiers from both sides without discrimination and in helping some 200 Allied soldiers escape from German-occupied Belgium during the First World War, for which she was arrested. She was accused of treason, found guilty by a court-martial and sentenced to death. Despite international pressure for mercy, she was shot by a German firing squad. Her execution received worldwide condemnation and extensive press coverage.

The night before her execution, she said, "Patriotism is not enough. I must have no hatred or bitterness towards anyone." These words were later inscribed on a memorial to her near Trafalgar Square. Her strong Anglican beliefs propelled her to help all those who needed it, both German and Allied soldiers. She was quoted as saying, "I can't stop while there are lives to be saved."

Cavell, who was 49 at the time of her execution, was already notable as a pioneer of modern nursing in Belgium.

She was born on 4 December 1865 in Swardeston, a village near Norwich. She was the eldest of the four children of the Reverend Frederick Cavell, vicar of Swardeston, and his wife Louisa Sophia Warming.

After a period as a governess, including for a family in Brussels from 1890 to 1895, she returned home to care for her father during a serious illness. The experience led her to become a nurse after her father's recovery.

In 1907, Cavell was recruited by Dr Antoine Depage to be matron of a newly established nursing school, L'École Belge d'Infirmières Diplômées (or the Berkendael Medical Institute) in Brussels.

In November 1914, after the German occupation of Brussels, Cavell began sheltering British and French soldiers as well as Belgian and French civilians of military age, and funneling them out of occupied Belgium to the neutral Netherlands. This placed Cavell in violation of German military law. German authorities became increasingly suspicious of the nurse's actions, which were further fueled by her outspokenness.

She was arrested on 3 August 1915 and charged with harboring Allied soldiers. She was held in Saint-Gilles prison for ten weeks, the last two of which were spent in solitary confinement. She made three depositions to the German police (on 8, 18 and 22 August), admitting that she had been instrumental in conveying about 60 British and 15 French soldiers, as well as about 100 French and Belgian civilians of military age, to the frontier and had sheltered most of them in her house.

At her court-martial, she was prosecuted for aiding British and French soldiers, in addition to young Belgian men, to cross the Dutch border and eventually enter Britain. She admitted her guilt when she signed a statement the day before the trial.

In spite of diplomatic pressure placed by the United States and other neutral countries, she was executed by firing squad in Brussels on 12 October 1915.

Together we pray: Living God, who art the source of all healing and wholeness: we bless thee for the compassionate witness of thy servant Edith Cavell. Inspire us, we beseech thee, to be agents of peace and reconciliation in a world beset by injustice, poverty, and war. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, who livest and reignest with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, unto the ages of ages. 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, 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, Miriam Petrovich, Lynette Beebe, Geraldine Wright, Nancy & Joe Norton, Jack Smith, and Wayne Phyle.

Luke's Place Oct 12th-Oct 18th, 2023

- Oct 12th Men's Breakfast, 7am, Metcalf
Bible Study, 9:15am, Metcalf
Green Country Eucharist, Rite I, 1pm, GC
Meditation Group, 3pm, Library
- Oct 15th 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
- Oct 17th Spiritual Discovery, 10am, Library
- Oct 18th Feast of St Luke the Evangelist Eucharist, 12:15pm, Chapel
Choir, 5pm, Choir Room
YD, 6pm, Rodgers
Church Potluck, 6pm, Metcalf
Bunco, 6:45pm, Metcalf



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



Annular Solar Eclipse is this Saturday starting around 10:20am. (Margaret and I thought it would be fun to have our lawn chairs and mimosas out in the courtyard and watch it-if it's a pretty day. I have just a handful of the NASA glasses to view it but you are welcome to join us about 10:15am, bring your lawn chair, and glasses if you have them and we will enjoy the eclipse together. Penny)



In Memory of our beloved Radomir Petrovich :

Radomir Petrovich Radomir was born June 21st, 1936, in Belgrade, Yugoslavia to the late Siniša and Kosara Petrovich.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years Helen Miriam Petrovich (Steele), daughter Sophia, son-in-law Chris, and grandchildren Magdalena and Cormac. He will be missed by relatives in Belgrade, Cleveland, Boston, and Tacoma and by many close family friends in Bartlesville,

Oklahoma.

After obtaining an engineering degree from the University of Belgrade, Radomir emigrated to the US in 1964 for PhD studies in geochemistry at Yale University. He taught for a few years at Northwestern University, Evanston IL, and then spent the next 43 years in Bartlesville where he worked at Philips 66 Petroleum Research Center. In 2020, he and Miriam moved to St. Anne's Court in Fredericton to be close to their daughter's family.

Radomir was a gentleman-scholar who had a deep love of nature, classical literature, and music. His intellectual pursuits included ancient history, philosophy, Shakespeare, political science, philology, and world religions (to name a few). His personal library would fill a small house. He had a sharp mind, quick wit, and almost photographic memory for details. Foremost, he was a dedicated husband and father. We will miss his stories, insights, and most of all his kindness.

The funeral service will be held Saturday, October 7th at 1:30 pm at St. Anne's Chapel of Ease (Christ Church Parish Church), 245 Westmorland St, Fredericton. Reception will follow.

If desired, the family have suggested memorial donations in Radomir's memory be made to Nature Trust New Brunswick (<https://www.naturetrust.nb.ca/en/donate>)

Bishops Funeral Home & Crematorium 540 Woodstock Road has been entrusted with the arrangements. The online sharing of condolences & memories can be made at www.bishopsfuneralhome.com



Pack the Backpacks is asking area groups and churches to help with school supplies throughout the year because the cost and demand is becoming harder to meet. Every month a certain school item will be requested. This month a package of 24 count #2 pencils are needed. Here at St Luke's we



have placed a large basket in the Narthex with the above photos of the item needed. You can find this item in just about every store that carries stationery supplies. We have a goal of 100 boxes from St Luke's. Can you help us? So far we have collected 12 boxes- so we need 88 more. For every box we give, that is one backpack that will have pencils supplied for the students.



Stewardship

TOGETHER WE ARE CALLED TO BE STEWARDS OF GOD'S ABUNDANCE AND CARETAKERS OF ALL HE HAS ENTRUSTED TO US.

Lay Eucharistic Visitor

The Lay Eucharistic Visitor (LEV) ministry is part of the Pastoral Care Team. As a Lay Eucharistic Visitor, we take Holy Eucharist to members of the parish who cannot attend regular church services. We "bring the church to them." The individuals whom we visit really miss attending church and have expressed how blessed they feel to receive Eucharist. Our visits go beyond just serving and sharing the Eucharist with them. It's a time to listen to their concerns and to share thoughts and prayers, and in the process, we develop close relationships with these individuals. To become an LEV, you must complete an application that is approved by Fr. Nick and the Vestry. The application then is sent to the Diocese for approval. Upon approval, the Diocese issues a three year license to the LEV. If you feel called to serve in this ministry, please contact Fr. Nick

Blessing of the Animals





Make plans to join the **Brunch Bunch** shortly after 10:30 service on October 22 for our first Oktoberfest. We'll be serving brats and hot dogs and our best attempts at creating German side dishes and desserts. Did you know that in addition to Riesling, Spatburgunder (aka Pinot Noir) is also a German wine? Yes, there will be beer and nonalcoholic drinks also.



St. Luke, also called **Saint Luke the Evangelist**, (flourished 1st century CE; feast day October 18), in [Christian](#) tradition, the author of the [Gospel According to Luke](#) and the [Acts of the Apostles](#), a companion of [St. Paul the Apostle](#), and the most literary of the [New Testament](#) writers. Information about his life is scanty. Tradition based on references in the Pauline Letters has regarded him as a physician and a [Gentile](#). He probably accompanied Paul on several missionary journeys. He is a [patron saint](#) of physicians and artists. Luke is the only Gentile to have written books in the Bible. He is the writer of the third Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles and his writings have been proven to be historically accurate. In the third Gospel, Luke emphasizes Christ's compassion for sinners and for those who suffer.

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.

Birthdays and Anniversaries, Oct 15th –Oct 21st, 2023

Birthdays



Mthr Andrea Jones 10/15

Brian Olsen 10/20

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!

Faith Forum Schedule: Holy Currencies.

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.

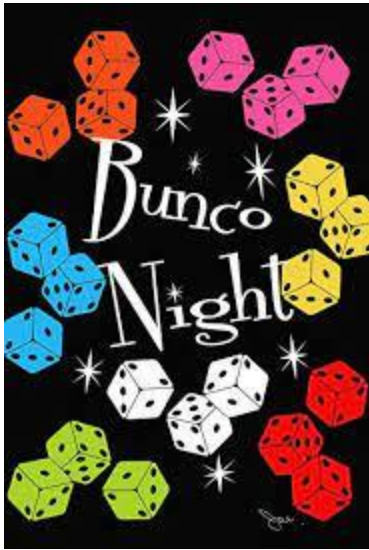
November 5th: All Saints Sunday.

Please bring Pledge Cards to Church this Sunday.
Parish Luncheon at 11:45.



Eric H. F. Law

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.



Its Potluck and Bunco Night on St Luke's Day, **Oct 18th, 6pm**, in Metcalf Hall. We will have dinner first then break into groups for Bunco. Never played Bunco? We will teach you. Its an easy game to learn- no strategy, just roll the dice. Don't want to play-would rather watch others? That's fine, too. So come, bring a dish to share, and ready to learn Bunco or just visit. The YD'ers will join us. Hope to see you October 18th and lets celebrate our Patron Saint together!



It's a glorious, beautiful Fall day! I have the office window open and the sounds from the Courtyard are so peaceful. Autumn tones are starting to creep into the landscape of our little corner of the City. It seems such a contrast as to what is going on in Israel. The nightly news is horrifying with scenes of destruction. Please pray for the peace of Jerusalem. Now closer to home: There are a few things I wanted to mention and highlight going on here at the

Church. On your Sunday bulletins, you will notice a QR code to tithing is now being printed on the back. This is a quick way to reach our website to give via on line. For those who are wondering how this works- you find your camera app, open it (like you were photographing something), hold it over the QR code and it will show a bar and ask if you want to open the site. You touch that bar and it opens our web page and then you follow the instructions. Quick and easy. We will have 2 extra Eucharist services for Feast days in the next two weeks. One on the 18th for our Patron Saint and the other on the 23rd for St James of Jerusalem, Brother of our Lord Jesus Christ. Both services will be in the chapel at 12:15pm on those days. There are BIG plans for our Stewardship Sunday on November 5th, so watch the Steeple and listen to the announcements. November 5th will also be All Saints' Sunday, so please start thinking of the names of those saints that were in your life you would like mentioned during the Prayers of the People. Please remember we need to provide 300 pies for Concern Thanksgiving Baskets. Its sounds very daunting, but that is when we as a parish really shine. Buy frozen pumpkin pies while you are out shopping or donate to the Pie Fund. Same as with the Back Pack group. When you are out shopping, grab a box or 2 of pencils for those school supplies. One thing in everyone's mind is the surge of Covid cases right here in Washington County. It has affected several of our

church family (including me) and seems to be very contagious. I have recovered but we still have a few out with it. I mention this because Margaret and I have gone on the offensive and are trying to keep the Church free of the nasty bug. Margaret is wiping down and spraying every surface with sanitizer and disinfectant. We have hand sanitizer everywhere we can think of and right next to it are masks. Even though it doesn't seem to be deadly as the first wave that hit us a few years ago, no one wants to be sick and stuck at home or spread it to others. Please keep Chase and Courtney in your prayers. Courtney lost her cousin this week and it was an unexpected death. The rest of this month and the beginning of next month is hopping around here! So many activities and opportunities for fellowship. Take advantage every chance you get! We have a wonderfully fun church family! Drop by the office and let's gab! Penny



We have had a request to kick start Coffee Hour again. There is a sign up in Metcalf at the serving window. We can try again but it takes volunteers to keep it going. Please consider just bringing a package of cookies or cheese and crackers. We always have the coffee brewing.



Decorating of the Haunted Garage for Trunk or Treat will begin the week of October 23rd and extra hands would be greatly appreciated. Blood and gore are NOT in the plans, but surprise and creepy are. Please let Steve Van Aken, Nancy Woods, or the Jackson boys know if you would like to help. The decorations are here but more manpower is needed.

Pub Theology will be Oct 26th at Tumbleweed's,
6:30pm. Plan to come!



300 Pies for **CONCERN**

11 NOVEMBER 2023

FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS WE HAVE COLLECTED A SPECIAL FINANCIAL OFFERING AND USED IT TO PURCHASE PIES FOR THANKSGIVING BASKETS THROUGH A LOCAL VENDOR. THIS YEAR WE WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE THAT TRADITION. IF YOU FEEL SO MOVED, PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO ST. LUKE'S. PLEASE MAKE SURE TO DESIGNATE THE OFFERING TOWARDS THE "PIE FUND."

WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO EXTEND THE INVITATION TO ANYONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE A FROZEN PIE AS WELL. PLEASE BRING THE PIE TO THE CHURCH THE FIRST WEEK OF NOVEMBER. WE WILL PLACE IT IN OUR FREEZER UNTILL WE DELIVER ALL THE PIES ON THE 11TH.



Bedlam will happen November 4th for the last time for awhile. We still don't know a time but the plans to stream the game and have a Bedlam party are in the works for that Saturday.

OSU and OU fans and really anyone who loves Oklahoma football are invited to come, have some game food and enjoy the rivalry. Prizes for the best tailgate food and best team swag for each team will be given. Bring your game food, dress in your Team's colors and symbols, bring your lawn chair and be ready to cheer your team to victory.



REMEMBER Trunk or Treat on October 29th! Bring your lawn chairs and candy and after the 10:30 service, the fun will begin. Kids (and adults) can wear their costumes to church. There will be refreshments, games, face painting, and the Haunted Garage, plus the parade of Trick or Treaters going from open trunk to open trunk. Please be a part of the fun and load up your candy and lawn chair and come to the event!



St. Luke's Vestry Members

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- Nancy Woods, Jr. Warden – Nancywoods120@gmail.com
- Jo Baughman – jybokla@aol.com
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Keeli Droege, Choir Director/Organist
918-697-8509 keelidroege@gmail.com

Bereavement Team 3

Wendy Hall, Darian Kedy, Kris Bonner,
Debbie Mueggenborg, Mary Jo Peterson



QR code for tithing

Is this chair yours?

