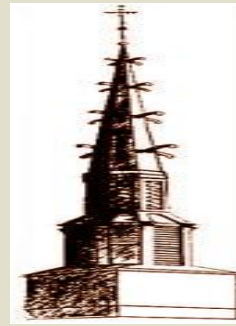


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The Steeple



Oct 25, 2023

The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church



Dear St. Luke's,

As we emerge from another wonderful weekend, full of heartfelt worship, a spectacular Oktoberfest, and an enchanting leadership gathering, I am making some time this morning just to pause and give thanks for God's companionship and for the many ways that you manifest His presence in the world. God is good and so are you.

As I mentioned during announcements on Sunday, I am heading down to St. Crispin's this week for the annual clergy conference. Open to all clergy, this event serves as just one of the ways we, as ministers, can foster a deeper collegiality within the diocese. The bishop really puts an emphasis on such relationship building. Not only are there opportunities for delightful, informal, and impromptu conversations to take place, but the weekend is richly edifying as our gatherings usually feature a learned teacher who guides us through our time together.

This year our featured speaker is the Rev. Dr. Kara Slade. Dr. Slade, is a graduate student affiliated with the Theology, Medicine, and Culture Initiative at Duke University who has most recently been appointed as the Theologian in Residence and associate priest/chaplain of Trinity Episcopal Church, Princeton and The Episcopal Chaplaincy at Princeton University.

In addition to completing a PhD in theology and ethics at Duke University, Slade currently serves on the pastoral staff of the Anglican Episcopal House of Studies at Duke Divinity School and is the vice-chair of the Society of Scholar-Priests. She is a former specialist in the dynamics of nonlinear and complex systems, and earned the BSE, MS, and PhD in mechanical engineering and materials science at Duke's Pratt School of Engineering (and served on the faculty there) before joining the National Aeronautics and Space Administration as a research engineer. After leaving government service, she returned to Duke in 2009 as a student in the Divinity School. She is literally a priest and a rocket scientist!

While I am away, know that I will miss our rhythms. It's one of the things about St. Luke's that I love the most – daily prayer, weekly formation, and wholistic worship. Be well my friends.

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with thy most gracious favor, and further us with thy continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy Name, and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Peace,

Nick+



Theologian's Corner: John Wyclif

Priest and Prophetic Witness, 1384

John Wyclif is remembered as a forerunner of the Protestant Reformation.

Born in Yorkshire, England, around 1330, Wyclif was educated at Oxford. Although he served as a parish priest, he spent most of his vocation teaching theology and philosophy at Oxford and was celebrated for his academic achievements.

In 1374, Wyclif defended the position of the Crown during a dispute with the papacy over finances. Because of this newfound notoriety, Wyclif gathered around him a group of powerful patrons who were able to provide a reasonable level of safe haven and security for him. This meant that Wyclif could begin to test some of his theological views that were at odds with and critical of the positions of the medieval church. Without the support of such powerful allies, Wyclif, a priest, and university professor, could never have withstood the discipline that would have come his way.

A number of Wyclif's radical ideas got worked out in the centuries that followed, as the movement toward reformation gained momentum. Wyclif believed that believers could have a direct, unmediated relationship with God, not requiring the intervention of the Church or its priesthood. He held that a national Church could be fully and completely the Church and not have to tolerate the interference and abuse of international, i.e., papal, authority. Believing that the Scriptures should be available to all who could read them, and not mediated through the instruction of the Church, Wyclif translated the Vulgate—the Latin edition of the Bible—into English.

The tables turned dramatically when Wyclif questioned the eucharistic doctrine of transubstantiation. He believed that the underlying philosophy was problematic and that the popular piety flowing from it led inevitably to superstitious behaviors. He was condemned for his eucharistic views in 1381. Although Wyclif had nothing to do with inciting the Peasants' Revolt of the same year, he was an easy target for blame. He retired, left Oxford, and died three years later in Leicestershire.

Later reformers John Hus (July 6) and Martin Luther (February 18) acknowledged their debt to Wyclif.

Together we pray: O God, whose justice continually challenges thy Church to live according to its calling: Grant us, who now remember the work of John Wyclif, contrition for the wounds which our sins inflict on thy Church and such love for Christ that we may seek to heal the divisions which afflict his Body; through the same Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. 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.



Pantry needs: tuna, SPAM, sleeves of crackers, peanut butter, canned pinto beans
Homeless needs: single serve meals, warm gloves and hats

Luke's Place Oct 26th-Nov 1st, 2023

- Oct 26th Men's Breakfast, 7am, Metcalf
Green Country MP, Rite I, 1pm, GC
- Oct 27th Linda Beard Funeral
- Oct 29th 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
Trunk or Treat, after 10:30 service, parking lot or Metcalf
- Oct 31st Spiritual Discovery, 10am, Library
- Nov 1st All Saints' Day Eucharist, 12:15pm, chapel
Choir, 5pm, Choir Room
YD, 6pm, Rodgers



We did it!!! Thank you to everyone who brought packages of pencils! We reached the goal of 100 boxes! That means we supplied pencils for 100 backpacks! Good job!



Another goal met! The Pie Fund is completely covered! Thank you to everyone who donated!! 300 Thanksgiving baskets will be supplied with pies. You all are amazing and such a gift to this community.



StEWARDSHiP

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

... YOUNG DISCIPLES ...

Young Disciples or YD is St. Luke's youth group. The group is comprised of 6th through 12th graders who meet on Wednesday nights during the school year. YD shares a meal and then participates in a group activity that includes both fun and faith. YD strives to balance social, service, and spiritual activities throughout the year.

YD Leaders are:
Tom Droege, Jennifer McIver, Becky Olsen & Kate Roper

Oktoberfest: A Wonderful Celebration! Thank you, Brunch Bunch!





Oktoberfest Crew



All Saints' Day will be celebrated on November 5th. If you have a saint you would like remembered during the Prayers of the People Necrology, please let the office know by Nov 1st. Thanks!



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.

Birthdays and Anniversaries, Oct 29th –Nov 4th, 2023

Birthdays



Anniversaries



Rhonda Cervený	10/29
Grayson Ellis	10/29
Elaine Ryan	10/30
Lisa Beeman	10/31
Janet Holland	11/2
Jeff Birk	11/4

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 29th: The Currency of Money.

November 5th: All Saints Sunday.

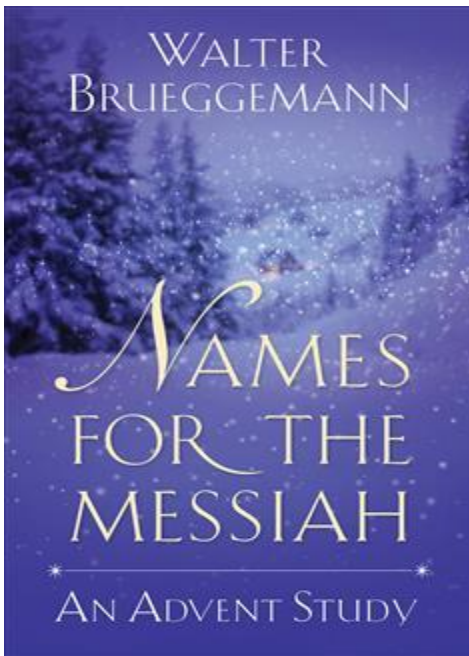
Please bring Pledge Cards to Church this Sunday.
Parish Luncheon at 11:45.



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.



Spiritual Discovery Book Study For Advent

The book that the Spiritual Discovery Group will be reading for Advent is: Names for the Messiah, by Walter Brueggemann. It will begin on 11/28 and end on 12/19, if anyone is interested in joining the group for an Advent study during that time. We meet in the Library on Tuesdays at 10am.

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



Bedlam will happen November 4th for the last time for awhile. Time of the game is to be announced this weekend. 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(rain or shine) on October 29th! Bring your lawn chairs and candy and after the 10:30service , 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(or chairs). Please be a part of the fun and load up your candy and lawn chair and come to the event! Rain plans: If it is raining we will move festivities to Metcalf Hall. The Haunted Garage is covered so we are good there. We can move the trick or treating inside with lawn chairs or folding chairs, candy, and games. Rain or Shine! Lets Trunk or Treat!



Stewardship: If you have not received your pledge card and luncheon invitation, please notify the office. Email: stlukesbartlesville@outlook.com Phone: 918-336-1212.

On All Saints' Sunday, we will present our pledges together at the altar. After the 10:30 service there will be a catered meal and time for fellowship.



All Souls' Day is November 2nd. A Eucharist will be celebrated at Green Country Village at 1pm in the Chapel. Please join us for this feast day.



Congratulations to Margaret Holden for winning the School Dazes Gift certificate in the Bookstore. Watch the Steeple for Cathy's upcoming holiday promotions. And if you need the Spiritual Discovery Advent study book, let her know and she will order it for you.



Many Thanks to Teresa Phares for hosting the first Pinot and Poetry Women's Fellowship in her home last week. It was a wonderful time and you didn't have to read a poem to enjoy the evening. Rumor has it there is another one coming in the future.

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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- Josie McIver-

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Keeli Droege, Choir Director/Organist
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Bereavement Team 3

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