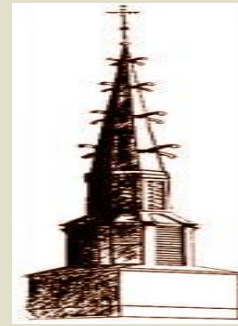


- Message from Fr Nick
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- Star Tree is in Narthex
- Nov Pack the Backpacks ite
- Bookstore Christmas Open House
- YD makes Christmas Cards
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- David's 100<sup>th</sup> BD parade

# *The Steeple*



Nov 15, 2023

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



### **Y.D. Celebrates 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Friendsgiving**

Many things were born during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Among them was the profound awareness of just how much we missed each other. Do you remember that? I remember when the restrictions were easing up a bit, reunions were all the rage - even if those reunions needed to be held outside with smaller guest lists. The important thing was that people were getting together again. Other than the Men's Group, I think one of the first groups to meet together again as restrictions were easing was Y.D.

"Friendsgiving" was officially added to the dictionary in 2020 with roots that go back as far as 2007. Most folks credit the sitcom "Friends" as the inspiration for the day that celebrates Thanksgiving with friends, sometimes, in lieu of having Thanksgiving with family. In our case, however, the feast is in addition to – for good reason. Why have one Thanksgiving when you can have two?

There is no "official" date for Friendsgiving, however, at St. Luke's Y.D. has set the date on the Wednesday a week prior to Thanksgiving itself. Done pot-luck style, most of the traditional fixings are present. The addition of parents to the evening's frivolity is most welcome, but the best - is in seeing folks come together just to eat and enjoy one another's company.

Coming together (gathering) essentially is one of the most fundamental practices of the Christian life. We are to be a community in every way that we can. And we are to be this community not just one day in seven but over time, seven whole days in seven - through the practices of worship, fellowship, and witness. The things that bind these three practices together are of course our relationships which you'll recall is a form of stewardship. The currency of relationship is increased when we take time to just be with one another outside the well-established domains of church life. Many of the ministries of St. Luke's are figuring that out just as Y.D. has done.

I am convinced that the more we find ways to be together the easier it will be to call upon each other when we need each other. Someone once said, "alone we can do so little; together, we can do so much." That is true, whether we offer our witness as Christians in the world or as members of a church that makes it a priority to do life together. For there is wisdom in understanding that friends are the family we choose and that the only way to have friends is to be one.

Peace, Nick+



## Theologian's Corner

### Margaret Queen of Scotland, 1093

Shakespeare made familiar the names of Macbeth and Macduff, Duncan, and Malcolm; but it is not always remembered that Malcolm married an English princess, Margaret, about 1070.

With considerable zeal, Margaret sought to change what she considered to be old-fashioned and careless practices among the Scottish clergy. She insisted that the observance of Lent, for example, was to begin on Ash Wednesday, rather than on the following Monday, and that the Mass should be celebrated according to the accepted Roman rite of the Church, and not in barbarous form and language. The Lord's Day was to be a day when, she said, "we apply ourselves only to prayers." She argued vigorously, though not always with success, against the exaggerated sense of unworthiness that made many of the pious

Scots unwilling to receive Communion regularly.

Margaret's energies were not limited to reformation of formal Church practices. She encouraged the founding of schools, hospitals, and orphanages, and used her influence with King Malcolm to help her improve the quality of life among the isolated Scottish clans. Together, Margaret and her husband rebuilt the monastery of Iona and founded Dunfermline Abbey, under the direction of Benedictine monks.

In addition to her zeal for Church and people, Margaret was a conscientious wife and the mother of eight children. Malcolm, a strong-willed man, came to trust her judgment even in matters of State. She saw also to the spiritual welfare of her large household, providing servants with opportunity for regular worship and prayer.

Margaret was not as successful as she wished to be in creating greater unity in faith and works between her own native England and the Scots. She was unable, for example, to bring an end to the bloody warfare among the highland clans, and, after her death in 1093, there was a brief return to the earlier isolation of Scotland from England. Nevertheless, her work among the people and her reforms in the Church made her Scotland's most beloved saint. She died on November 16, 1093, and was buried at Dunfermline Abbey.

Together we pray: O God, who didst call thy servant Margaret to an earthly throne that she might advance thy heavenly kingdom, and gave her zeal for thy Church and love for thy people: Mercifully grant that we, who commemorate her this day, may be fruitful in good works and attain to the glorious crown of thy saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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, Nancy & Joe Norton, Jack Smith, Haley Grogan, and Wayne Phyle.



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

## **Luke's Place Nov 16<sup>th</sup> -Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023**

**Nov 16<sup>th</sup> Men's Breakfast, 7am, Metcalf**

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

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

**Nov 18<sup>th</sup> Geraldine Wright Celebration of Life, noon**

**Nov 19<sup>th</sup> Holy Eucharist, Rite I, 8:00am, chapel**

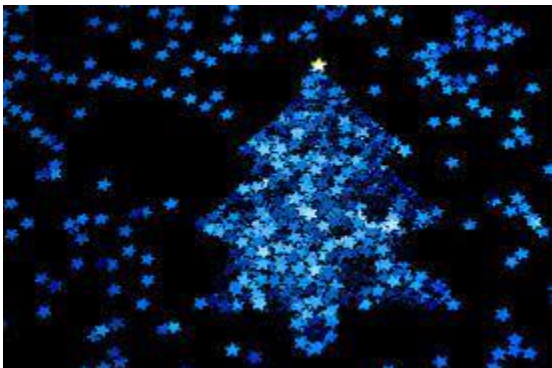
**Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10:30am**

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

**Nov 20<sup>th</sup> Meditation Group, 3pm, Library**

**Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> Office closes at noon and will be closed through the 26<sup>th</sup>**

## **Christmas Wish Tree**



foster kids in the Bartlesville area.

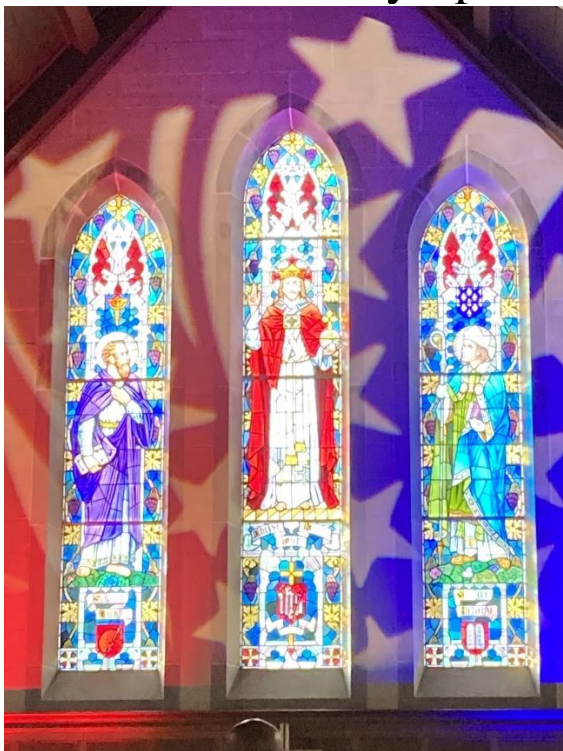
The Christmas Wish Tree is in the narthex. This year we have been asked to provide 30 remote control monster trucks for 7 - 8 year old boys in foster care. There will be 30 stars on the tree and also a sign up sheet so we know when we have reached our goal. Please return the unwrapped trucks to the church by **Dec 3rd** so they will be ready to be distributed at the DHS Christmas Party given for the kids

God bless you and thank you for your annual support for

– Steve & Cheryl Van Aken



## Bartlesville Symphony Concert on Veteran's Day



### Birthdays and Anniversaries, Nov 19<sup>th</sup> –Nov 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023

#### Birthdays



#### Anniversaries



Debbie & Dennis Mueggenborg (11/22)  
Bob & Jo Baughman (11/24)

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!

YD made dozens of Christmas cards for delivery to residents of Green Country Village in December. Special thanks to Kate Roper for bringing all the creative supplies.



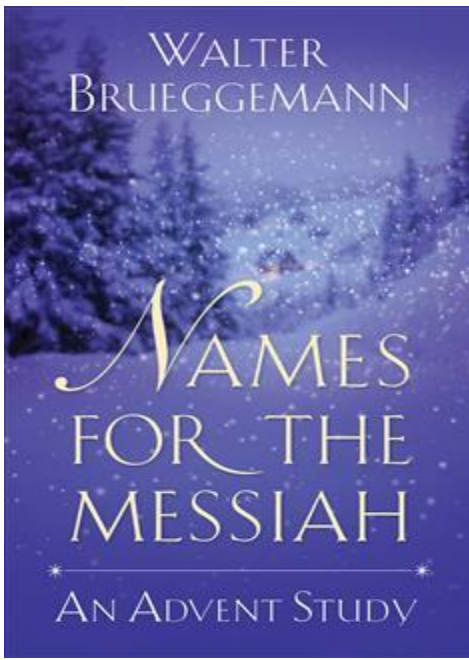


## Mark and Mary Jo Super-Sprucers!

The next time you see Mark and Mary Jo Peterson, give them a big thanks for all the painting they've been doing during the last several weeks to transform the exterior of Stephens House, the church's rental home at 801 S. Osage. Until recently, the lower stucco portion of the home was a cracked and soiled white that distracted from this otherwise handsome structure, dating back to the 1920s. After the stucco was repaired, Mark and Mary Jo went to work and white-primed the entire surface (there's a lot of it counting the inside of two porches). Now they're well into applying the finish coat, a restful blue-gray. Mark handles the cut-in brush work while Mary Jo follows with the paint roller. It may be a few more weeks before the job is complete, but in the meantime, please let them know how much we appreciate their volunteering for this major spruce-up project.

-Dan Droege





## 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.



## HELP FILL THE BASKET!

We're almost there! Just a few more boxes and the basket will be filled. We have until the 30<sup>th</sup> of November. Lets pile it over the top!



ST. LUKE'S BOOKSTORE

St Luke's Bookstore Christmas Open House will be December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10am-3pm. We will have a surprise visitor at 1:30pm. So come shop for the holidays and bring the kids! (The bookstore will be closed the week of Nov 27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> in preparation for Open House)







## David King's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Parade -Thank you, St Luke's!







Very soon work on St Luke's 2024 budget will begin. If you haven't turned in your pledge card, please bring it to church with you and drop it in the offering plate or mail it to the church: St Luke's Church, 210 E 9<sup>th</sup>, Bartlesville, OK 74003. If you cannot find your card, call the office 918-336-1212 and we will send you another. Many, many thanks to those who have turned yours in already. We are a blessed church!



Can you believe Thanksgiving is NEXT WEEK? Whether you are traveling to visit family or waiting for family to arrive, may God bless your sacred time together! I'm sure there is probably an old Irish blessing somewhere that says 'May your turkey be golden and juicy as your sweet potatoes', but then maybe not. Don't quote me.

If you haven't looked out into the court yard- you really should. The leaves are falling and laid a beautiful red, pink, and orange carpet across the Memorial Garden and with the change of the hour, the sun is setting just as I leave and shines a glorious gold across lawn there. What a Holy sanctuary our beautiful courtyard is!

Onto business.....This next week will be a short one in the Office. If you have anything you want in the Steeple, please get it to me by Monday. The office will close at noon on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and will be closed until Monday the 27<sup>th</sup>. Fr Nick and family will be out of town next week and as far as I know, most activities here at the church are taking the week off. The Green Country Village service will be on the 22<sup>nd</sup> instead of Thursday for those of you who attend. A big thank you to those who made up the Birthday Parade for David King last Sunday. David was a little slow coming out the door, but once he was in position, he was having a wonderful time. Even his long time neighbors came over to wish him Happy Birthday. It was quite a reunion day for him. Thanks to Jeff and Laura Birk and Steve Clark, for helping me set it up. It takes a village to celebrate that milestone. In a few weeks you will be receiving a letter and envelope for the Christmas poinsettias. Watch for it in your mail and return it to the office with your memorials and honorariums. The time will be here before you know it. Don't forget Nancy Woods is having her come and go Open House on Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>. Time and place to be announced. We will have an Advent Dinner and program on December 20<sup>th</sup>. Save that date. More information is forthcoming. And Please Notice the Christmas Open House for the Bookstore. Cathy has some fun things planned and most will know that special visitor. The next two weeks after Thanksgiving you will notice some very large equipment trucks parked in our lot on and off. I ask for patience as we will be helping a movie set out. Advent starts Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> and the countdown to the birth of

Our Lord and Savior. The Advent wreath will make its appearance and the Altar Guild will be washing and polishing candlesticks and vessels, readying them for the coming celebration. It is such a busy and happy time around St Luke's this time of year. Find a time to come in and soak in the Joy that surrounds your church and find rest. ----- Penny

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Heartfelt condolences to Mark Wright on the loss of his mother and long time member of St Luke's, Geraldine Wright. Her Celebration of Life and Holy Eucharist will be Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at noon, St Luke's Episcopal Church. A reception will follow.

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Keeli would love a few more voices in the Choir during the Advent and Christmas seasons. Maybe the songs during this time of year are your favorites. Maybe you just want to committ to singing for a few weeks. Come and join the Choir at 5pm Wednesdays in the Choir room for rehearsals beginning November 29<sup>th</sup> and enjoy singing the songs of the Coming of Christ and His birth.

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Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm, Tumbleweed's



## 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)
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- 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-

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

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

### **Bereavement Team 4**

Becky Liehr, Jo Baughman, Karen  
Lewey, and Cathy Perrier