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The Steeple



Jan 10, 2024



The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church



Two Programs to be Launched in 2024

I am looking forward to the launch of two programs in February at St. Luke's. Most likely you've heard them mentioned before. But, in case you haven't, I am referring to Walking the Mourner's Path and a new Confirmation class. One of the hallmarks of a vital community is that there are opportunities for faith formation, not just for adults and children but also formation opportunities that deal with stages or situations we encounter in life. Mourner's Path and

Confirmation are two programs we have been intentional about focusing on in response to feedback from the parish.

For the past few months Nancy Woods and Karole Cozby have been preparing for the launch of Walking the Mourner's path in early February. This has included a walk back through their training that they received in Jackson, MS last fall and doing some incredible work in preparing a space in the church that will serve as the meeting place for all those choosing to walk the path. While we keep most of the doors in the church locked while not in use for safety reasons, I encourage everyone who is interested to take a look at the transformation that has occurred in room 208 upstairs.

It is truly remarkable! Thank you to Nancy, Karole, and Monica Butts!

Walking the Mourner's Path has been mentioned previously in the Steeple, but should you like to know more please visit their website at: <https://www.mournerspath.com> or grab Karole or Nancy when you see them and they'll give you an honest take on what to expect and what our hope is for the Path's future here at Luke's Place. Our first group will accommodate six people and is reserved to members of St. Luke's at this time. There are a few spots left, so if this ministry interests you, please see Nancy, Karole, or myself to see if this group is what you are looking for and needing in your life at this time.

As a part of planning the year ahead, it's prudent to take into account if the Bishop will visit us for Confirmation or not. I'm happy to report that Bishop Poulson will be with us in November and while that is ten or so months away, getting a Confirmation class of some substance done in between now and then takes some intentional planning and indeed commitment. I'm happy to

report that we will be launching a Confirmation course beginning Wednesday, February 21st for all those who are interested in committing to being a part of an intentional community for the length of the class.

Using a variety of sources our conversations and group work will focus on the following areas: The Holy Scriptures, Church History, Fundamental Beliefs, Episcopal Practices, and Rule of Life. Over the course of eighteen sessions, it will be our goal that anyone wishing to be confirmed, received, or reaffirm their faith this year will be sufficiently informed before making their vows before the Bishop this coming November. If that is you - please let me or Tom Reyburn know, as Tom will be cofacilitating this year's confirmation class with me on Wednesday nights.

While these two opportunities are fresh, I'd like to remind you all of some very vital and ongoing ministries here at Luke's Place. One of the best ways to deepen your practice as a member of St. Luke's is to have a ministry within the church and outside of the church. Here is a working list of those ministries. Perhaps as a part of the new year you might be thinking about learning more about one of the following. To help you streamline that inquiry please - for the [Ministry] see [Contact].

WORSHIP

Acolytes	Scott Williams, Tom Droege
Altar Guild	Wendy Hall
Audio/Video	Jeff Birk, Steve Clark, Nancy Woods
Choir	Keeli Droege
Lay Eucharistic Visitors	Fr. Nick
Layreaders	Jeff Birk
Ushers	Steve Clark, Glenn Bonner

FELLOWSHIP

Coordinators	Kris Bonner, Becky Liehr
Midweek Manna	Fr. Nick

PASTORAL CARE

(Vestry Liason Karole Cozby)

Bereavement	Susie Clark
Safeguarding Coordinator	Penny Williams

Prayer Warriors – would love to start this.

Prayer Shawls – is there any energy around this?

Caregivers Ministry – would love to start this

Pastoral Assistance Team	Fr. Nick
Parish Nursing	Susie Clark
Walking the Mourner's Path	Nancy Woods, Karole Cozby
Faithful Friends	Karole Cozby

CHILDREN & YOUTH

(Vestry Liason Laura Birk)

Godly Play

Teresa Phares

Sweet Studies – would love to start this, bible study for 3-5th grades

YD

Jennifer McIver, Becky Olsen, Tom Droege, Kate Roper

Confirmation

Fr. Nick, Tom Reyburn

OUTREACH & MISSION

Agape Mission

Becky Liehr

Angel Tree

Steve Van Aken

Pack the Backpacks

Steve Clark

Book Store

Cathy Perrier

Concern Center

Pam Hanson

Family Promise

Dan Droege

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Christian Meditation

Tom Reyburn

Faith Forum

Fr. Nick

Men's Group

Steve Clark

Pub Theology

Penny Williams

Rector's Bible Study

Fr. Nick

Spiritual Discovery Group

Andrea Jones

Women's Fellowship – would love to get this restarted.

Iconography – would love to start this, theory, and writing (painting).

Water from the Well – bible study for adults in the evening.

Living Compass for Adults

BUILDING & GROUNDS.

(Vestry Liason Mark Peterson)

Memorial Garden

Kathy Zervas

Mechanical

Dan Droege

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship

Planned Giving

Fr. Nick, Dennis Mueggenborg

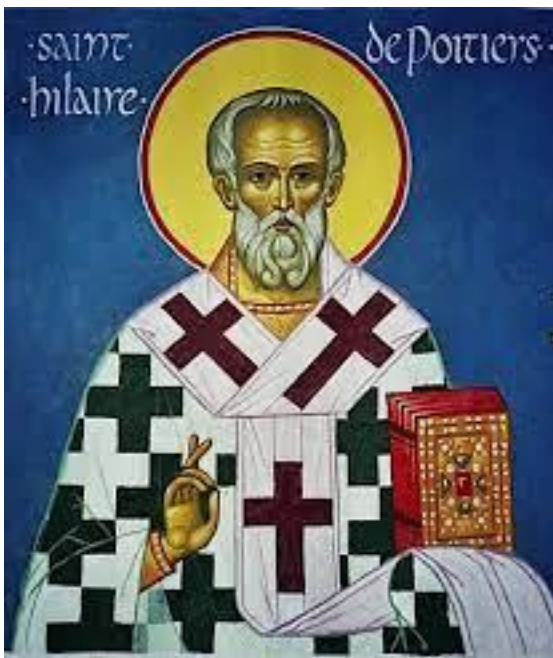
The list above is as I said, a work in progress. At best, it's a start. As I mentioned above, as you are looking at the year ahead, I invite you to consider digging deeper into the ministries that you are already apart of or take a look at this list a consider something new.

Sometimes it's difficult to start something new – trust me, I get it. Some of us are even pros at offering excuses not to pursue certain things because we get discouraged easily or frustrated that it seems like no one ever knows anything. Well let's find out together! We can get there my friends.

While at times certain awareness's are warranted, there is this truth ... All of us are still learning! And, everyone here wants you to find your place, your thing, your ministry. Whatever that might be, I hope that if you are vulnerable to ask that you will also have the fortitude to stay with your inquiry until it's answered. In every case, know that my prayer for you is that you discover the ministry that you are passionate about. Nothing is more important.

Happy New Year

Nick+



Theologians Corner: Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers (St. Hilary is on the right, behind our altar)

Hilary was a prolific writer on scripture and doctrine, an orator, and a poet to whom some of the earliest Latin hymns have been attributed. Augustine called him “the illustrious doctor of the churches.” Jerome considered him “the trumpet of the Latins against the Arians.”

Hilary was born in Poitiers, in Gaul, about 315, into a pagan family of wealth and power. In his writings, he describes the stages of the spiritual journey that led him to the Christian faith. He was baptized when he was about thirty.

In 350, Hilary was made Bishop of Poitiers. Although he demurred, he was finally persuaded by popular acclamation. He proved to be a bishop of skill and courage. His orthodoxy was shown when, in 355, the Emperor Constantius ordered all bishops to sign a condemnation of Athanasius, under pain of exile. Hilary wrote to Constantius, pleading for peace and unity. His plea accomplished nothing, and, when he dissociated himself from three Arian bishops in the West, Constantius ordered Julian (later surnamed the Apostate) to exile him to Phrygia. There he remained for three years without complaining, writing biblical commentaries and his principal work, *On the Trinity*.

Hilary was then invited by a party of “semi-Arians,” who hoped for his support, to a Council at Seleucia in Asia, largely attended by Arians. With remarkable courage, in the midst of a hostile gathering, Hilary defended the Council of Nicaea and the Nicene doctrine of the Trinity. He wrote again to Constantius, offering to debate Saturninus, the Western bishop largely responsible for his

exile. The Arians feared the results of such an encounter and persuaded Constantius to simply return Hilary to Poitiers.

In 360, Hilary was welcomed back to his see with great demonstrations of joy and affection. He continued his battle against Arianism, but he never neglected the needs of his people. While fierce in controversy with heretical bishops, he was always a loving and compassionate pastor to the people of his diocese. He died in Poitiers in 367. Among his disciples was Martin, later Bishop of Tours, whom Hilary encouraged in his endeavors to promote the monastic life. The hymn “Hail this day’s joyful return” (The Hymnal 1982, #223; #224) is attributed to Hilary.

Together we pray: Keep us steadfast, Lord God, in that true faith that we professed at our baptism; that, like thy servant Hilary of Poitiers, we may rejoice in having thee for our Father, and may abide in thy Son, in the fellowship of the Holy Ghost; for thou livest and reignest for ever and ever as one God in Trinity of Persons. Amen.

Please pray for: Liz Green, Michelle Sheffield, Catherine Sheffield, David King, Pris Snow, Ben Baker, Sanawbar, Diana Farris, Joel Hahn, Steve McCraw, Josh Harris, 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, Tina Holland, Margaret Holden, and Molly Ferguson.

**Please add the following to your prayers this first week of the Epiphany:
St Mark’s, Perry**



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Winter Needs

Concern's current Pantry needs: peanut butter, canned beans, canned vegetables, chunky soups
For homeless -

GLOVES, SOCK HATS, AND HAND WARMERS.

Luke’s Place Jan 11, 2024 -Jan 17, 2024

- Jan 11th** Men’s Breakfast, 7am, Metcalf
Rector’s Bible Study, 9:15am, Metcalf
Green Country Eucharist, Rite I, 1pm, GCV
Meditation Group, 3pm, Library
- Jan 14th** Holy Eucharist Rite I, 8am, Chapel
Faith Forum, 9:15am, Metcalf
Holy Eucharost Rite II, 10:30am
Godly Play, after children’s sermon, upstairs

Jan 15th Office closed for MLK Day
Jan 16th Spiritual Discovery, 10am, Library
Jan 17th Choir, 5pm, Choir Room
YD, 6pm, Rodgers

Birthdays and Anniversaries, Jan 14th- Jan 20th , 2024



Birthdays

Fr Lee Stephens	(1/14)
Charlie Olsen	(1/14)
Dean Zervas	(1/15)
Karen Lewey	(1/15)
Frank VanDuker	(1/16)
Grace Stephens	(1/19)
Glenn Bonner	(1/20)



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!



Its COMING! YD's Canned Food Drive for Concern. Start collecting those canned goods because YD will have a challenge for you soon!
LET'S TACKLE HUNGER!

January Item

This month's Pack the Backpacks items are zippered pencil bags for 3 ring binders. These run for less than \$2 a piece at Walmart. You can find them on line, Staples, and most of the Dollar stores. The goal is 100. Will you help?





*Young Disciples' Valentine's
Italian Dinner and Auction,
February 4th, 2024, 6pm,
Metcalf Hall*

\$30 per person

*Tickets sold after 10:30am service
located in hall by Metcalf.*



Save the date of February 11th for our Annual Parish Meeting. We will have the election of our leaders and the budget for the coming fiscal year presented. We will also look back on this past year of growth and development.

(Ministry Leaders- I will need your ministry report in the office by January 30th for the Annual Parish Report. Thanks! Penny)



The Diocese of Oklahoma is offering an acolyte festival at St. Matthew's in Enid, January 20-21. Registration is [here](#). We will have training, as well as games and social time. See Teresa Phares for more info!

Pack the Backpacks

BINGO!

Saturday, January 27th

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Doors open at 5:30pm, Games start at 6pm

Tickets \$12

Includes: admission price and 10 cards

for tickets, call 918-331-6924 or message us on
Facebook-Washington County School Supply Drive

Frito chili pies, popcorn, and homemade
desserts for sale as well!



We are a nonprofit run solely
by donations and grants. All
proceeds from bingo will go
towards buying school supplies
and backpacks





ST. CRISPIN'S SUMMER CAMP

A Quick Guide to Summer 2024

Mission

At St. Crispin's Summer Camp, our mission is to form our campers and encourage a passion for Jesus in a safe and inclusive environment with no barriers to experiencing God's love - because we are all God's children. We seek to accomplish this through prayer, study, daily worship, meaningful relationships, play, and an established rule of life.



Testimonial

"St. Crispin's has been a wonderful experience for my daughter. They really pour into the campers and she always has a blast, grows and comes home with fantastic memories."



Dates

May 19-June 1	Staff Training
June 2-4	CIT Training
June 2-8	Junior High 1
June 9-15	Senior High
June 16-22	Intermediate 1
June 23-29	Junior High 2
June 30-July 3	Mini Session
June 30-July 3	Ropes/Adventure Intensive
June 30-July 3	Arts & Crafts Intensive
June 30-July 3	Music & Theater Intensive
July 5-6	ABC Camp
July 7-13	Intermediate 2



Cost

CIT Training = \$100
ABC Camp = \$200
Mini Session = \$300
Intensives = \$350 (+\$25 for Ropes)
Full Week = \$500

Rates increase after April 1st, so register early! Many churches offer scholarships, as well as the Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma. We seek to meet all financial need! Check with your church and see our website for more information on discounts and financial assistance.



www.stcrispins.org/camp

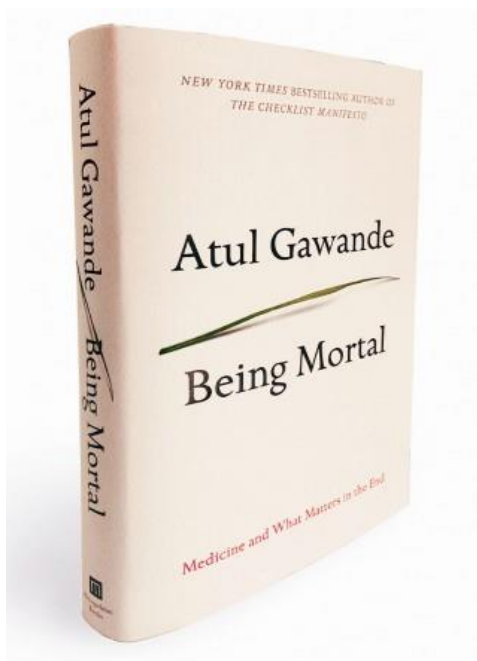
New Beginnings: Youth can now register for New Beginnings. This is a retreat for middle schoolers, but I also need high schoolers to serve as peer leaders. I am also looking for adults to serve as Moms and Dads. The dates are February 16-18 for high schoolers and February 17-18 for middle schoolers. Registration ends on February 4th.

-Teresa Phares



New Beginnings

Junior High Retreat



The Spiritual Discovery Group will be starting a new book study entitled 'Being Mortal' by Atul Gawande. In his bestselling books, Atul Gawande, a practicing surgeon, has fearlessly revealed the struggles of his profession. Now he examines its ultimate limitations and failures – in his own practices as well as others' – as life draws to a close. And he discovers how we can do better. He follows a hospice nurse on her rounds, a geriatrician in his clinic, and reformers turning nursing homes upside down. He finds people who show us how to have the hard conversations and how to ensure we never sacrifice what people really care about.

The Spiritual Discovery Group meets every Tuesday, 10am, in the Beard Library.



Come Shop YOUR St. Luke's Bookstore!

NOTES TO MARGARET

Margaret is missing us. She is back home now and awaiting the results of her CAT scan and MRI. She will find out the results and what needs to be done toward healing on the 17th of this month. Please keep her in your prayers. In the meantime, she needs to hear from us. She loves cards and personal notes and is keeping a scrapbook. Her address is 1420 S Oak Ave, Bartlesville, OK 74003.

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
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- Katherine Powell – kmpbmp48@gmail.com
- Steve Roper- sdroper2006@yahoo.com
- Josie McIver-

Bereavement Team 1

Susie Clark, Nancy Woods, Jeanne
Julstrom, Sally Lindsey

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Keeli Droege, Choir Director/Organist
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