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Jan 17, 2024



The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church



Pastoral Care Team Holds First Quarterly Meeting of 2024

This week, on a frigid Monday, members of the Pastoral Care Team met for what I hope will be the first of four meetings throughout the year. To date, members of the PCT tend to twenty-one of our members who are either homebound, in a nursing home or assisted living, currently in hospital or in recovery. The PCT is made up of the following:

Lay Eucharist Visitors

Jeff Birk
Becky Liehr
Shelly Jackson
Tom Reyburn

Companions in Christ

Karole Cozby
Pam Hanson
Jeanne Julstrom
Mary Jo Peterson

Parish Nurse

Susie Clark

Clergy - Fr. Nick

Our Lay Eucharistic Visitors are licensed through the diocese to bring the Holy Eucharist to the homebound and hospitalized in our congregation. This sacred work is more than just transporting the previously consecrated elements of Bread and Wine, but sustains an important connection with our brothers and sisters to their Lord and with their community of faith with His Body and Blood.

Likewise, Companions in Christ also provide a similar connection as "soul friends." In their ministry of companioning, these women embody a ministry of presence and practice listening with the heart. Some might call their visits check-in's, but they are so much more – they are moments of witness in the up's and down's of life of those they love.

When acute transitions require intentional counsel, especially when the realms of spirituality and health intersect, our parish nurse is there. Susie Clark not only tends to those under her care with unparalleled devotion she focuses primarily on the triad of spiritual, physical, and emotional care within our community. In addition to nurturing our spirits, Susie's passion is to teach people about

relevant health issues and link them to social support in the wider community and medical network if possible.

Through the combination of Lay Eucharist Visitors, Companions in Christ, and Parish Nursing the PCT has exponentially increased not only the frequency of connection but the quality of connection with those who are ill and homebound in our parish. An enormous amount of the pastoral work of St. Luke's is shouldered by these servants of Christ and, I for one, couldn't be more grateful for their ministry.

In a typical meeting, lasting two hours, we start with Holy Eucharist then we have time for check in's and personal prayer requests. After that holy time, we discuss how our communication system is working or not working and what we can do to fix it, then we go over our charges. Moving forward, we have decided to read slowly through some material as a group - material that will assist us all in developing our pastoral skills.

It is our hope as a group that those who are unable to attend church will know deep within themselves that they are not forgotten and deeply loved by God and the people of Luke's Place. For through their ministry, these shepherds have left the ninety-nine so to speak and pledged on behalf of Christ and St. Luke's to be witnesses of love to those who need church to come to them.

To God be the Glory,

Nick+

Morgan Phares sharing her experiences in Ghana.



Photos by Mark Peterson

Theologian's Corner

Vincent

Deacon of Saragossa, and Martyr, 304



Vincent has been called the protomartyr of Spain. Little is known about the actual events surrounding his life, other than his name, his order of ministry, and the place and time of his martyrdom. He was a native of Huesca, in northeastern Spain, and was ordained deacon by Valerius, Bishop of Saragossa. In the early years of the fourth century, the fervent Christian community in Spain fell victim to a persecution ordered by the Roman emperors Diocletian and Maximian. Dacian, governor of Spain, arrested Valerius and his deacon Vincent, and had them imprisoned at Valencia.

According to one legend, Valerius had a speech impediment, and Vincent was often called upon to preach for him. When the two prisoners were challenged to renounce their faith, amid threats of torture and death, Vincent said to his bishop, “Father, if you order me, I will speak.” Valerius is said to have replied, “Son, as I committed you to dispense the word

of God, so I now charge you to answer in vindication of the faith which we defend.” The young deacon then told the governor that he and his bishop had no intention of betraying the true God. The vehemence and enthusiasm of Vincent’s defense showed no caution in his defiance of the judges, and Dacian’s fury was increased by this exuberance in Christian witness. Valerius was exiled, but the angry Dacian ordered that Vincent be tortured.

Although the accounts of his martyrdom have been heavily embellished by early Christian poets, Augustine of Hippo writes that Vincent’s unshakeable faith enabled him to endure grotesque punishments and, finally, death.

Records of the transfer and present whereabouts of Vincent’s relics are of questionable authenticity. We are certain, however, that his cult spread rapidly throughout early Christendom and that he was venerated as a bold and outspoken witness to the truth of the living Christ. Together we pray: Almighty God, whose deacon Vincent, upheld by thee, was not terrified by threats nor overcome by torments: Strengthen us, we beseech thee, to endure all adversity with invincible and steadfast faith; 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, 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, Danny Clem, and Molly Ferguson.

Please add the following to your prayers this second week after the Epiphany:

St Mary's, Edmond	St. Mary's School, Edmond
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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 18, 2024 -Jan 24, 2024

Jan 18th Men's Breakfast, 7am, Metcalf
Rector's Bible Study, 9:15am, Metcalf
Green Country Eucharist, Rite I, 1pm, GCV
Meditation Group, 3pm, Library

Jan 21st 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 23rd Spiritual Discovery, 10am, Library

Jan 24th Choir, 5om, Choir Room
YD, 6pm, Rodgers

Birthdays and Anniversaries, Jan 21st - Jan 27th, 2024



Birthdays

Ryan McIver

(1/25)



Anniversaries
DJ & Jerry Nezam (1/25)

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!



Put Your Cans in the Van!

Its COMING! YD's Canned Food Drive for Concern. Start collecting those canned goods because YD has a challenge for you! Fill the Church Van with canned goods and nonperishables for Concern! Food Drive will last till Feb 11th.

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. **We still need 24!** We are almost there!



*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.

Still need a few ministry reports

Thank you to those who have turned in your reports. I really appreciate it. Next week I will begin to compile them and put them in booklet form. Email is the best way to get them to me, but I understand if its not for you. The email address is: stlukesbartlesville@outlook.com . If some are still using the email address that ends in .org I will not be able to receive it. Thank you for your commitment to St Luke's and to the community.
-Penny

Children's Sermon from the Day of Epiphany



Photos curtesy of Mark Peterson

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

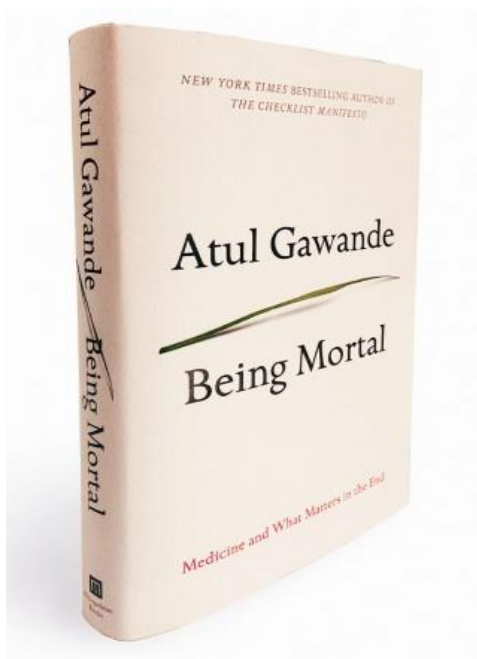
for tickets, call 918-331-6924 or message us on
Facebook-Washington County School Supply Drive

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





The Spiritual Discovery Group will be starting a new book study Tuesday, January 30th, 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
Her address is 1420 S Oak Ave, Bartlesville, OK 74003.



ST. CRISPIN'S Summer Camp

SUMMER 2024

EACH PERSON IS A UNIQUE CREATION OF
GOD, WITH GIFTS TO BE AFFIRMED.



STCRISPINS.ORG/CAMP

Contact Fr Nick if you know a child who wants to go!



January 25th, 6:30pm, Tumbleweed's

Possible New Ministries (or old ones revived)

Are any of these calling to you? If so, reach out to Fr Nick and he will fill you in on possibilities, needs, direction, and goals:

Prayer Warriors- A parish prayer team

Prayer Shawls- given to those needing to be held in prayer (can you knit or crochet?)

Caregivers Ministry-

Sweet Studies- bible study for 3rd-5th grades

Women's Fellowship- in the past we have a gathering every month or so

Water from the Well- evening bible study for adults

Living Compass for Adults-



Hope everyone is staying warm and safe during this sub zero weather and the likelihood of more to come! Frozen pipes have been my biggest challenge but thank goodness it has only been on the north side of the house, not the main part. I had been expecting it, so was somewhat prepared.

Lots of things coming up in the next three weeks so I hope you are plugged into some of it. This year you will notice a few more holidays where the office will be closed. The Vestry voted to follow the example of the Diocesan office and close

during the federal holidays as well. MLK Day, President's Day, Juneteenth, and Veteran's Day are some of the holidays added where we will be closed. I also wanted to let everyone know that I will be in and out of the office for the next three weeks as well. I am dealing with several family issues and business that is taking me out of town but after the middle of February most everything should be settled and I won't have to leave. Please bear with me as I navigate these waters.

There are possibilities of new ministries here at St Luke's and if any are calling to you, please talk with Fr Nick about them. There is something here for everyone who wants to serve. We are a very vibrant parish with many offerings in the community.

Our Facebook page is becoming more active, many thanks to Teresa Phares. If you are on Facebook and are not following St. Luke's page, you should! Wonderful postings of events coming up, news, and Monday-Thursday (when he is at the parish), Fr Nick has evening prayer live at 4pm.

Cans, Cans, Cans!! Start bringing your canned goods to help our YD fill up the church van with food for Concern. We will have a drop off place in the church from which they will be moved to the van.

The budget committee has been meeting to give the parish a workable budget for this coming year. Your pledges help guide them and thank you so much for turning those in. The nominating committee has met and soon you will see a roster of leaders to be voted on during the Annual Meeting. We are a blessed parish indeed with the leadership of both of these committees.

Stay Warm and Reach Out if you need anything! Penny

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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Email: StLukesBartlesville@outlook.com
918-336-1212
Or contact
Penny Williams, secretary 918-766-2157

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Keeli Droege, Choir Director/Organist
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