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# *The Steeple*



Jan 24, 2024



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



### **Take a Walk With Jeff**

I never had the chance to ask my father what he loved about ministry. It's a shame really, those who knew him learned a great deal from him. His friend and fellow deacon Brad Allard once told me that my dad was a deacon's deacon. I often wondered what that looks like in practice, a deacon's deacon.

In our ordinal, the examination of a deacon reads thus: "As a deacon in the Church, you are to study the Holy Scriptures, to seek nourishment from them, and to model your life upon them. You are to make Christ and his redemptive love known, by your word and example, to those among whom you live, and work, and worship. You are to interpret to the Church the needs, concerns, and hopes of the world. You are to assist the bishop and priests in public worship and in the ministration of God's Word and Sacraments, and you are to carry out other duties assigned to you from time to time. At all times, your life and teaching are to show Christ's people that in serving the helpless they are serving Christ himself."

My guess is that there are certain things within that framework that my dad did well. The only thing I remember him saying with certainty was that the most controversial task in some way, was that deacons have been tasked with interpreting to the Church the needs, concerns, and hopes of the world." That can be tricky – he used to say.

As it so happens on his journey towards ordination Jeff has already begun to ask us to join him in that quest to find out how to interpret the needs around us. As a part of his coursework, Jeff has been given the assignment to have folks join him in walks around the neighborhood that St. Luke's is in. Perhaps the questions behind the assignment are thus: Do we really know what's going on in our neighborhood? Can we honestly say we know our neighbors? If not, how can we effectively interpret to the church the needs, concerns, and hopes of the world? Especially, if we don't even know what's happening right outside our own door?

These are probing questions at the heart of diaconal ministry for sure, but they are also questions that should be at the heart of laity's ministry as well. And so, if an adventure is on your list this

Epiphany, I encourage you to take a walk with Jeff and then join with him in letting the church know what you find.

In hope,  
Nick+

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## Children's Sermon on Sunday

Courtesy of Mark Peterson



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Molly Ferguson has moved. Her new address is:  
Brookdale Bartlesville North  
Room 126  
5420 SE Adams Blvd  
Bartlesville, OK 74006

Her new phone number is: 539-529-8120





## Theologian's Corner: Andrei Rublev Monk and Iconographer, 1430



Generally acknowledged as Russia's greatest iconographer, Andrei Rublev was born around 1365 near Moscow. While very young, he entered the monastery of The Holy Trinity and, in 1405, with the blessing of his igumen (the Orthodox equivalent of abbot), he transferred to the Spaso-Andronikov monastery where he received the tonsure and studied iconography with Theophanes the Greek and the monk Daniel. Among his most revered works are those in the Dormition Cathedral in Vladimir, a city east of Moscow.

The icon ("image" in Greek) is central to Orthodox spirituality. It finds its place in liturgy and in personal devotion. An icon is two dimensional; despite being an image of someone, it is not a physical portrait. Western art, especially since the Renaissance, has sought to represent figures or events so that the viewer might better imagine them. A Western crucifix seeks to enable us to

imagine what Golgotha was like. Icons seek to provide immediate access to the spiritual and the divine unmediated by the human, historical imagination.

Rublev was trained in the spiritual discipline of iconography. Writing an icon involved the ritual of preparing the surface, applying the painted and precious metal background, and then creating the image, first outlining it in red. Throughout, he would repeatedly say the “Jesus Prayer” (“Lord Jesus, Son of God, have mercy on me”). He was creating a window into the Divine which he knew was always before

him but which was invisible to the human eye. He knew he was able to create such an image of God because he himself was made in the image of God. His object was to be totally focused on receiving God's love and loving in return.

Rublev is best known for his icon of the Holy Trinity based on the story of the three visitors of Abraham in Genesis 18. He died peacefully in 1430. In 1551, the “Council of the One Hundred Chapters” decreed that all icons in the Russian church were to be drawn from the models provided by ancient Greek icon writers and Rublev.

As Jesus was the icon of God, so each one of us is also. Ascetic practice aims at freeing that image from sinful distraction and claiming it more and more. To venerate an icon is to find some of the ineffable beauty that is God, that is manifest in Christ and the saints, and is also in each one of us.

Holy God, we bless thee for the gift of thy monk and icon writer Andrei Rublev, who, inspired by the Holy Spirit, provided a window into heaven for generations to come, revealing the majesty and mystery of the holy and blessed Trinity; who liveth and reigneth through ages of ages. 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, Sarah Winn, Danny Clem, David McAtee, and Molly Ferguson.

Please add the following to your prayers this third week after the Epiphany:  
 Trinity, Guthrie                      St Paul's Church, Progreso, Uruguay

Miriam Petrovich emailed us to thank us again for the beautiful tribute to Radomir. It was wonderful for her to see so many friends gathered together in one place.





## Winter Needs

Concern's current needs are: peanut butter, and complete pancake mix (just add water). Homeless needs are single serve canned proteins.

**GLOVES, SOCK HATS, AND HAND WARMERS.**

**At Luke's Place Jan 25, 2024 -Jan 31, 2024**

- Jan 25<sup>th</sup>** Men's Breakfast, 7am, Metcalf  
Rector's Bible Study, 9:15am, Metcalf  
Green Country Eucharist, Rite I, 1pm, GCV  
Pub Theology, 6:30pm, Tumbleweed's
- Jan 28<sup>th</sup>** Holy Eucharist Rite I, 8am, Chapel  
Faith Forum, 9:15am, Metcalf  
Holy Eucharist Rite II, 10:30am  
Godly Play, after children's sermon, upstairs
- Jan 29<sup>th</sup>** Vestry Meeting, 5:30pm, Vestry Room
- Jan 30<sup>th</sup>** Spiritual Discovery, 10am, Library
- Jan 31<sup>st</sup>** Choir, 5om, Choir Room  
YD, 6pm, Rodgers

**Birthdays and Anniversaries, Jan 28<sup>th</sup> - Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024**

**Birthdays**



**Scott Williams**

**(1/29)**

**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!**



## Put Your Cans in the Van!

Its HERE! YD's Canned Food Drive for Concern. Start bringing 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 11<sup>th</sup>.

LET'S TACKLE HUNGER!



### January Item

YOU DID IT!!!! Over 100 pencil pouches are heading to the Washington County School Supply Drive! Thank you so much!!!



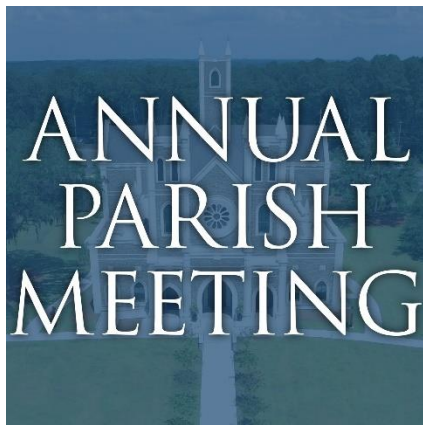
*Young Disciples' Valentine's Italian  
Dinner and Auction,*

*February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 6pm,*

*Metcalf Hall*

*\$30 per person*

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



## St Luke's Annual Parish Meeting February 11<sup>th</sup>, Metcalf Hall Immediately following the 10:30 service

### STILL need a few ministry reports

Thank you to those who have turned in your reports. I really appreciate it. I am compiling them now to 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](mailto: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

### Sunday's Snap Shots

Courtesy 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

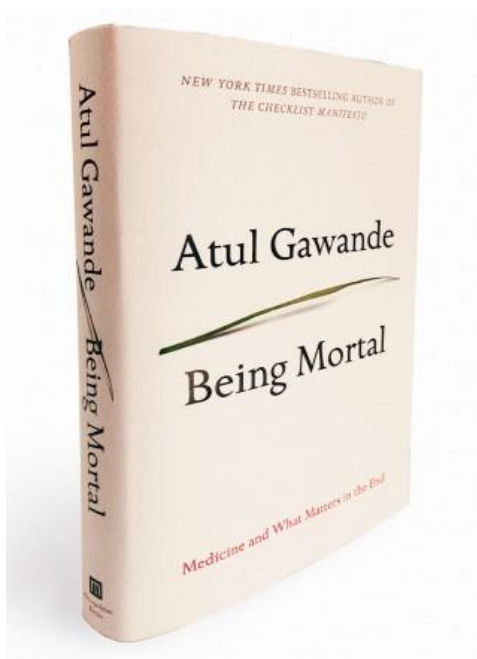
Frito chili pies, popcorn, and homemade  
desserts for sale as well!



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 30<sup>th</sup>, 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. Books are available in the Bookstore!



January 25<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm, Tumbleweed's



# ST. CRISPIN'S *Summer Camp* SUMMER 2024

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



[STCRISPINS.ORG/CAMP](http://STCRISPINS.ORG/CAMP)

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

## 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 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> 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-

### **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)
- Karole Cozby – [kscozby916@gmail.com](mailto:kscozby916@gmail.com)
- Chad Ellis – [w.chadwick.ellis@gmail.com](mailto:w.chadwick.ellis@gmail.com)
- Karen Lewey – [kgrammy07@yahoo.com](mailto:kgrammy07@yahoo.com)
- Laura Birk – [lpbirk73@gmail.com](mailto:lpbirk73@gmail.com)
- Mark Peterson- [m\\_mpeterson@hotmail.com](mailto:m_mpeterson@hotmail.com)
- 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-

### **Bereavement Team 1**

Susie Clark, Nancy Woods, Jeanne  
Julstrom, Sally Lindsey

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Email: [StLukesBartlesville@outlook.com](mailto:StLukesBartlesville@outlook.com)  
918-336-1212  
Or contact  
Penny Williams, secretary 918-766-2157

### St. Luke's Episcopal Church Contacts:

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