

In this week's Steeple >>>

- Message from Fr Nick
- Theologian's Corner
- Parents' Group
- Need Water
- Pub Theology
- Feast Day of St Mark
- Music Appreciation
- YD Yard Cleaning Services
- St Crispin's Summer Camp
- Pack the Backpacks Benefit

The Steeple



April 24, 2024



The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church



As many of you know, part of having a conversation about end-of-life decisions is often put off until it's too late. I get it, the subject matter isn't something we like to talk about and if we do, we don't necessarily want to talk about it for very long. More and more, I see families who are bewildered when it comes time to talk about this particular stage of life, or the fact that their parents or grandparents are entering into it or coming to the end of it. It's distressing. And yet, again and again I find myself wishing for a more compassionate understanding of what we all must go through; one that includes not just the people at the end of life themselves, but those who will inevitably be left behind because it is not their time yet.

To that end, I think it's helpful to keep ourselves informed and by doing so take on huge topic, with massive implications a little bit at a time. Of course, one of the most direct ways you can do this is by starting the work yourself by using a trustworthy guide. We have a very concise and helpful one from the Episcopal Church Foundation in the office should you like to take a look at it. Not only that, but there are levels of support within the church to help clarify what is being asked of you as you fill it out. This support includes pastoral support as well as limited medical and financial support that can help you best make a particular decision or at the very least, help you plan for the next step in seeking the best counsel for your situation.

Another way to expand the conversation is to follow what is being discussed at the local and state levels of government concerning end of life planning and care. For instance, "as many of you know, Medicaid is a federal government program that provides health insurance for adults and children from low-income households. The program is partially funded by and managed by state governments. The Senate Appropriations Committee, last Thursday, passed HB 3980 by Majority Floor Leader Jon Echols (R-OKC) and Senator Brenda Stanley (R-Midwest City) which would allow Medicaid funds to cover hospice care services. This bill allows for coverage of services provided by a hospice facility, a nursing home, or any in-home program. The bill would take effect November 1." You can follow it as it develops here:

<http://www.oklegislature.gov/BillInfo.aspx?Bill=hb3980&Session=2400>

That is important information. And as with any change, whether it be changes in lifestyle or changes in our life cycle, it's important to be informed and to plan ahead to the best of our ability.

And planning doesn't have to wait until things get beyond our control. In fact, it's better to plan early and then adapt as necessary. Allow the Pastoral Care Team to help you in this meaningful work. Time, they say, is of the essence.

In Peace,

Nick+



Theologians Corner: Robert Hunt Priest and First Chaplain at Jamestown, 1607

Robert Hunt was born in England around 1568. He was a parish priest in Reculver, Kent, beginning in 1594, and in 1604 became vicar of Heathfield Parish in the Diocese of Chichester.

In 1607, Hunt accompanied Captain John Smith and the Jamestown colonists, serving as their priest and chaplain. The first celebration of the Anglican rite of Holy Eucharist recorded in North America took place on May 24, 1607, and Hunt is believed to have presided. Captain Smith's diary notes another celebration of the Holy Eucharist on June 21, 1607, and Hunt is more clearly indicated as the presiding priest.

In Captain Smith's journal, the following tribute to Robert Hunt and his ministry may be found: "He was an honest, religious and courageous divine. He preferred the service of God in so good a voyage to every thought of ease at home. He endured every privation, yet none ever heard him repine. During his life, our factions were oft healed and our great extremities so comforted that they seemed easy in comparison with what we endured after his memorable death. We all received from him the Holy Communion as a pledge of reconciliation, for we all loved him for his exceeding goodness."

Hunt died sometime prior to April 10, 1608. A memorial has been erected by the National Park Service in Historic Jamestown.

Together we pray: Almighty God, we bless thy Name for the life and witness of Robert Hunt, first chaplain to the Jamestown colony, who sought to unite thy people in thy love amid great hardship: Help us, like him, to work for reconciliation wherever we may be placed; through Jesus Christ thy Son, who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Please pray for: Liz Green, Michelle Sheffield, Catherine Sheffield, Pris Snow, Ben Baker, Diana Farris, Joel Hahn, Steve McCraw, Josh Harris, David Swindell, Norma Perrier, Connie Finch, Peggy Kauffman, Tony Clapper, Tim, Shania Smith, Terry Grogan, Tyler Roberson, Jerry Nezam, Jim Brooks, Don Doty, Luke Karel, Miriam Petrovich, Lynette Beebe, Nancy & Joe Norton, Jack Smith, Danny Clem, David McAtee, Tim Curry, Shawn, Nancy Bradford, Stephanie Gallegos, Pat Sare, Tom Chamberlain, Jim Carroll, Sherri & Steve Linn, Jack Stoecker, Ben Stoecker, Tom McLoughlin, Dionna Cameron, and Raphael .

Please add the following to your prayers this Fourth Week of Easter:
All Saints', Duncan **St John's, Durant**

At Luke's Place : April 25, 2024 -May 1, 2024

- Apr 25th Men's Breakfast, 6:30 am, Metcalf
- Bible Study, 9:15am, Metcalf
- Green Country Eucharist, 1pm, GCV
- Pub Theology, 6:30pm, Tumbleweed's
- Apr 28th Holy Eucharist Rite I, 8am, Chapel
- Faith Forum, 9:15am, Metcalf
- Holy Eucharist Rite II, 10:30am
- Godly Play, during service after the Gospel
- Apr 29th Ladies' Prayer Partners, 11:30am, Library
- Apr 30th Spiritual Discovery, 10am, Library, Book Study
- May 1st Choir, 5pm, Choir Room
- YD, 6pm, Rodgers
- Catechism Class, 6:30pm, Vestry Room

Birthdays and Anniversaries, April 28th – May 4th, 2024

Birthdays



Connie Freebern (4/29)
 Roberta Johansen (5/1)
 Betty Rheingans (5/1)
 Bob Baughman (5/2)
 Luke Olsen (5/3)

Anniversaries



Sheila & Jim Taylor (4/29)

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!



MUSIC APPRECIATION

It has been said that music is the song from the soul. It reaches down and picks up anyone listening. It can have a voice in the song that tells a story, or it might just be an instrumental piece that has that connection with you. Sometimes, it will bring up memories that bring you Joy. This is the connection that is in its truest form. Singing in Church is one of those times because the songs have a story to tell. When you hear that song that you know, you just must sing along and then it's with you giving you that good time feeling. The funny thing about music also is that when you are driving in town, you reach over and sometimes turn the volume down so you can see where you are going. Trust me, I think everyone has done that. Music can be a complicated distraction if it's a good song. Music helps some people to escape from reality if just for a little while. Like when you pull into your driveway and you just sit there because a really good song just came on and you have to listen to it all the way through. When it's over, then you continue on with your life.

While being a music teacher, Janice loved to have Music Appreciation classes. She would start in the 1500's and work forward. Some of her students at the beginning of the year would ask if they were going to be singing. Janice always reassured them that, no, there would not be any scheduled singing in class. By mid-semester, not only were they singing in class, but also in the hallways going to their next class. This was done all on their own time and management. Janice would come home at the end of the year with lists of songs that each student wanted downloaded on a CD so they could continue listening. But you don't have to sing, you just want to.

The Bible even has many times that music is involved in teaching. That is why the Psalms are sung. It is the way that they can truly be understood and conveyed to everyone. It is a good way to teach what the Psalms really mean to everyone. Even Jesus was recorded singing a hymn. In Matthew 26:30 "And when they had sung a hymn, they went out into to the Mount of Olives." Then there is the duet between Moses and Miriam in Exodus 15 that gives the words that were sung but not the melody. These are some of the stories people have written music for. Handel's Messiah is a classic example of taking words from the Bible and making a classic masterpiece. Songs will always tell a story if you will listen to the words. Then there is the instrumental music that has a voice of its own. If you listen closely to some instrumental music, close your eyes, and think of a happy time in your life, you can actually go back in your mind and re-enjoy and relive it. This can happen. I started going to Elder Care and working out every morning for 45 minutes. While on the, I call it the skiing machine, I go for 15 minutes or 3 laps whichever comes last. When I start, I close my eyes and listen to the music in the room. I think about what I'm going to do that day and see myself doing it. I'll open my eyes and think I've only gone 1 or 2 minutes, and it's been 8 to 10 minutes. Music calms the mind and time flies by. As I am writing this, I am listening to Celtic love songs. Very inspirational and calms a troubled heart. Yea, there are some good Celtic love songs. Most of them I have never heard of, but when listening to the words, they do tell a story and will calm a troubled soul. The one that comes to mind is, "Scarborough Fair". When I was baking bread, Janice suggested that I use parsley, sage, rosemary, and thyme for a bread. If it's good for a song it sounded better for a bread, especially if you're making garlic toast for an Italian meal. Music can inspire you to do things you never thought about. Thinking of that, maybe it's thyme, I mean time to make some bread for later.

So I will close with Psalm 98:4 “Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!”

Peace & Love

Robert

YD divided and conquered to deliver on their promise from the auction. One team went to the Mueggenborgs and the other to the Ryals to do spring yardwork.





Parents' Group

Single parent seeking other parents to build honest, non-judgmental, supportive and encouraging relationships in a confidential environment.

So what exactly am I proposing? Is this a Bible study, a counseling group, a bowling league, an offer to babysit – what?!?

Well...I am still waiting for God to make that clear.....BUT if this spoke to you at all, please reach out and let's figure it out together.

Sara Clements

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Thursday, April 25th , 6:30pm Tumbleweed's. Lets talk about St Mark and his gospel!

Feast Day of St Mark

We will have Eucharist for the Feast Day of St Mark (April 25th), however, since it's a Thursday the venue has changed to Green Country Village Chapel. And the time is now 1pm for the service. So please join us at Green Country on April 25th to celebrate the Eucharist for the Feast Day of St Mark.



Cases of Bottled Water needed-

Bartlesville Masonic Lodge #284, 610 NE Washington Blvd, is holding a Benefit Breakfast for the Washington Co. School Supply Drive (Pack the Backpacks) on May 4th from 7am-11am. \$9.00 per person, 6-11yrs old \$4.50, and 5yrs and under free. See Steve Clark for more information and tickets.



ST. CRISPIN'S
Summer Camp
SUMMER 2024

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



STCRISPINS.ORG/CAMP

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