

*In this week's Steeple >>>*

- Message from Fr Nick
- Theologian's Corner
- Walk in Love series
- Pub Theology
- Hoodie and shirt sale
- Oct Pack the backpacks
- YD
- Bereavement Committee
- Flower Fund Request
- Jim Brooks Memorial Service
- Music Notes

# *The Steeple*



September 25,  
2024



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



Dear friends in Christ,

I cannot believe that Diocesan Convention is just around the corner. As was the case for the past couple of years, convention will be held at St. Crispin's Camp and Conference Center. This annual gathering is a cherished tradition in our diocese, serving as a time for us to come together as the Body of Christ, reflect on the past year, and look forward to the future with hope and prayer.

For those of you who are new to the church, the Diocesan Convention is much more than a business meeting. It is a sacred opportunity to discern together where God is calling us as a church in initiatives both big and small. We gather not just to discuss and make decisions but also to celebrate our shared mission and ministry in Oklahoma. Through worship, fellowship, and discussion, we are reminded of our connection to one another and to the wider Episcopal Church.

It is such a blessing to hold this event at St. Crispin's, a place that many of us know well as a center of diocesan spiritual renewal, where the beauty of creation surrounds all who gather there. There, amidst the trees and the serene waters of the lakes, we find a setting that invites us to listen more deeply to God's voice and to each other. The peaceful environment at St. Crispin's is an ideal place for us to be renewed in faith and refreshed in our commitment to serve God and neighbor. And what's more it's not just for convention and camp, St. Crispin's is there as a resource for all of us throughout the year.

I invite you all to pray for the success of this gathering and for the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we discern the year ahead. Please offer deep prayers for open hearts,

who are ready to receive God's grace and direction for our journey as a diocesan family.

Convention begins next Thursday.

Peace,  
Nick+

## Pack the Backpacks monthly request

### For October

For October please bring either small packages of 8 to 12 count pencils or large packages of 16 to 24 count pencils. Either size needs to be number 2 pencils with the eraser. Don't spend the extra money for sharpened pencils. The pictures are Walmart or Staples brands of the large packages. Price should be about \$0.50 for the small packages and \$1.00 for the large.



We are delighted that the Flower Fund is full through September, but there are many openings for Sunday memorials and thanksgivings in October and November. Advent begins December 1st so there are no flowers during that month until Christmas. Please consider adding the name(s) of special people in your lives and let me know which Sunday you would like to place flowers. (Cost is only \$50 for the two vases, or whatever you chose to give.) No rush on the money, but we do need names.

Many thanks,  
Jo Baughman  
Flower Fund Chairman  
jybokla@aol.com ,or church office, stlukesbartlesville@outlook.com



## Theologian's Corner



### Wilson Carlile Priest, Founder of the Church Army

You remember the song, “O When the Saints Go Marching In.” You remember that one. I’ll bet your humming it now.

In some ways it has fallen out of fashion. Get that! Fallen out of fashion in a religion that considers itself countercultural. Well, there is lots to talk about there. Maybe a future corner article. Nevertheless, “When the Saints Go Marching In” is no doubt on Carlile’s greatest hits.

Wilson Carlile was born in 1847 in Brixton. He suffered from a spinal weakness all his life, which hampered his education. He entered his grandfather's business at the age of thirteen but soon moved on and learnt fluent French, which he used to good advantage in France trading in silk. He later learned

German and Italian to enhance his business, but was ruined in a slump in 1873.

After a serious illness, he began to take his religion more seriously and became confirmed in the Church of England. He acted as organist to Ira D Sankey, during the Moody and Sankey missions and in 1881 was ordained priest, serving his curacy at St Mary Abbots in Kensington, together with a dozen other curates. The lack of contact between the Church and the working classes was a cause of real concern to him and he began outdoor preaching. In 1882, he resigned his curacy and founded the Church Army, four years after the foundation of the Salvation Army. He continued to take part in its administration until a few weeks before his death on this day the 26<sup>th</sup> September in 1942.

Together we pray: God of boundless energy and light: We offer thanks for the courage and passion of Wilson Carlile who, after the example of thy Son, sought new ways to open thy Church to diverse leaders as beacons of the Gospel of Christ. Quicken our hearts to give bold witness to Jesus Christ; who with thee and the Holy Spirit, livest and reignest, one God, now and for ever. Amen.



## Prayer List

**Please pray for:** Liz Green, Michelle Sheffield, Catherine Sheffield, Ben Baker, Steve McCraw, Josh Harris, David Swindell, Norma Perrier, Connie Finch, Peggy Kauffman, Tony Clapper, Terry Grogan, Tyler Roberson, Jerry Nezam, Miriam Petrovich, Lynette Beebe, Joe Norton, Jack Smith, Danny Clem, David McAtee, Shawn, Stephanie Gallegos, Pat Sare, Jim & Kate Carroll, Steve Linn, Chuck McCarty, Bob Baughman, Jean Mason, Estelle Sams, Ron Adams, Adam Thomas, Bob Lambert, Carla Curry, Jack Bridendolph, Tom Oakes, Bill Pendley, Mary Wallace, Connie Freebern, Lynda Stephens, Jim Perrier, Sandy Whitson, Joann Gallery, Janet Biggers, Marcie Zervas, and Roberta Johanssen.

**Please add the following to your prayers this Eighteenth Week after Pentecost**

<b>St. John's, Vinita</b>	<b>St Thomas, Pawhuska</b>
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**At Luke's Place : Sept 26<sup>th</sup> – Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> , 2024**

**Sept 26<sup>th</sup> Men's Breakfast, 7am, Metcalf**  
**Bible Study, 9:15am, Metcalf**  
**Green Country MP, 1pm, GCV**  
**Pub Theology, 6:30pm, Tumbleweed's**

**Sept 28<sup>th</sup> Jim Brooks Memorial Service, 10:00am**

**Sept 29<sup>th</sup> Eucharist, Rite I, 8:00am, Chapel**  
**Faith Forum, 9:15am, Metcalf**  
**Eucharist, Rite II, 10:30am, Nave**

**Sept 30<sup>th</sup> Ladies' Prayer Warriors, 11:30am, classroom**

**Oct 1<sup>st</sup> Spiritual Discovery Study, 9:30am, Library**  
**Catechesis Class, 6pm, Vestry Room**

**Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> Choir, 5:00pm, Choir Room**  
**YD, 6pm, Rodgers**

## Birthdays and Anniversaries, Sept 29<sup>th</sup> – Oct 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024



## Birthdays

Joan Heidorn	(9/29)
Greta Olsen Gardiner	(10/2)
Cheryl VanAken	(10/3)
Oliver Ellis	(10/3)



## 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 just about time for Pub Theology again! Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm, Tumbleweed's

## CONCERN NEEDS

Pantry needs are macaroni and cheese, 15 oz canned tomato sauce and homeless – canned single serve proteins and vegetables and reusable bags with handles.



The Service for Jim Brooks will be Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am, here at St Luke's.

## YD Prepare College Care Packages









## Music Notes

By Keeli Droege

Fall is here and I can hardly believe that it's been over a year since I began the position of music director at St. Luke's. Thank you for giving me this amazing, God filled opportunity to help lead you in song each Sunday.

Some of you know the back story that led me here and some of you may not. When St. Luke's was searching for a music director, it didn't immediately occur to me that I might be the person for the job. With three children at home and working another job, I wasn't sure if the timing was right. Plus, I was a little scared to step into a position previously held by such a great musician who has been here for over 40 years! Oh yeah, and although I'm a classically trained pianist, I didn't know how to play the organ - a much more complex musical instrument. However, God kept tugging on my heart, and with God all things are possible.

This new journey hasn't been easy. Learning to play music with my feet has proven to be much more challenging and is taking longer than I anticipated. During Holy Week, I directed five services and two funerals and felt completely overwhelmed. I thought "What am I doing? I'm not even good at this!" Then I remembered that it's not about me. It's about praising The Lord. Whenever I needed encouragement, God sent one of you my way with support and love. Thank you, my friends!

There are many things about music at St. Luke's that brings me joy. I knew it would be great to learn new pieces and work with our wonderful choir, but I didn't expect that there would be so many more blessings in store. I've felt the Holy Spirit work through our lives at funerals, weddings, and celebrations. Sometimes when I'm practicing the organ, people come into the chapel to pray or the altar guild sets up for service. Other times, I'm there when nobody else is around and the peacefulness brings me closer to God.

In one of his recent sermons, Fr. Nick referenced this quote, "singing is like praying twice". I have never thought of it that way, have you? There are 52 Sundays in a year and with approximately 10 songs per service (including fraction anthems) that is 520 extra prayers! The next time you're in church, don't be shy. Sing out and make a joyful noise (prayer) to the Lord!



## Bereavement Committee

The Bereavement Committee is a valuable ministry of St. Luke's and provides a reception for family and friends after the funeral or memorial

service of a loved one. The Committee is made up of 4 teams---4-6 women each. Teams rotate according to funeral schedules and provide-----Set Up, Food, and Drink. They serve with compassion and care to meet the requests of the family.

If you're unable to commit to a team, but would like to help, another option is to agree to provide a Food item to be served.

This ministry offers flexibility for its team members since funeral dates aren't usually scheduled much in advance.

If you are interested in serving in this wonderful, caring group, please contact Chairman, Susie Clark. She would like to add several new members and will be glad to answer any questions and give more details.

[susstecla@gmail.com](mailto:susstecla@gmail.com) or 918-519-7580

A note written by a former team member---reflecting the ministry's purpose.

"I love our Episcopal sendoff---the Service and Reception truly are a "Celebration of One's Life". For me, this gives a great deal of comfort, knowing that when I die, my family that I have just "left", is being surrounded with such love, comfort, and friendship...They will have a beautiful place to have an hour of transition time, to catch their breath, hug, talk, share stories, a tear, or laugh---share food, and continue living their lives, thankful for family, at peace within, and with hearts knowing God's love for them. I find it very humbling to be a part of this special ministry at St. Luke's. It is important that we continue offering this loving tradition for the members of St. Luke's and those they love." Barbara Martin---Sept. 2015



# YD Fundraiser

Stay cozy and show your St Luke's spirit! Order your sweatshirt and or long-sleeved tee today. Proceeds will go to support YD. Payment is due on delivery. Please make checks payable to St Luke's. Contact Laura Birk 918-914-1013 if you have any questions. October 13th is the last day to order. Thanks for your support.

The Bookstore will be reordering the Rose Window black tees if you would also like one of these. Please contact Cathy Perrier about them.

## [Luke's Place Clothing Order Form](#)



All come in grey or navy blue

Order your St Luke's swag today!



As a minority member of Trinity Cathedral, Sacramento, I am grateful for the opportunity to reflect on the stewardship theme and the call to “Walk in Love.” My journey to this community began nearly 30 years ago when I immigrated from Sierra Leone in West Africa to pursue a better life for myself and my family.

Since then, I have been blessed to serve in various capacities within my church and broader community. My involvement as an usher, livestream volunteer, lector, vestry chaplain, and Eucharistic minister has been a source of great joy and fulfillment. These roles have allowed me to express my dedication to the Anglican Church, a commitment that has been a central part of my life since childhood. My life’s journey has provided me with a unique perspective on the concept of stewardship. As the African proverb goes “It Takes a Village” expresses the notion that success and overcoming obstacles frequently involve the assistance, collaboration, and group effort of others, which was deeply ingrained in my upbringing and highlighted the value of community, cooperation, and teamwork in achieving long-term objectives.

This makes me aware of the value of community, the importance of supporting one another, and the power of love in transcending cultural boundaries. Stewardship, to me, is about more than just financial contributions—it is about giving of oneself, sharing one’s talents, and fostering a spirit of love and inclusivity within the community. Matthew 25:14-30 is a parable that teaches about the importance of using one’s talents or abilities wisely.

As I reflect on the phrase Walk in Love, I am reminded of the profound impact that love can have when expressed through our actions. Walking in love demonstrates care and concern for others, fosters a sense of belonging, and builds a community rooted in compassion and empathy. Through this lens of love, I approach my stewardship responsibilities, seeking to nurture a community where everyone feels seen, heard, and supported. Together, let us walk in love, embracing our differences and nurturing a community where everyone can thrive and contribute their unique gifts to the greater good. | [tens.org](https://tens.org)

#### Questions for Reflection:

What is an experience of collaboration you have had in your life that demonstrates how we combine our skills to create community?



**Bismarck Maddy** is a parishioner at Trinity Cathedral, Sacramento and walks in love with his beloved community of faith



## St. Luke's Vestry Members

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### Bereavement Team 1

Susie Clark, Nancy Woods, Jeanne Julstrom, Sally Lindsey

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