

*In this week's Steeple >>>*

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- Stewardship Luncheon

# *The Steeple*



October 30, 2024



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



Dear Friends in Christ,

As we look forward to the season of giving and gratitude that is before us, I'm excited to invite you all to our annual Stewardship Sunday on All Saints Day – this Sunday, a special day set aside to reflect on the gifts God has given us and to renew our commitment to walk in love, just as Christ loves us.

This year's theme is inspired by Paul's words in Ephesians 5:2: "Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." You probably recognize that as it is part of the offertory sentence we use here at St. Luke's. For these words remind us that every act of giving, every moment of kindness, and every step we take together in faith is a fragrant offering pleasing to God.

Stewardship Sunday is a day to celebrate all that God has done in our lives, not only as individuals but as a community. As we gather, we'll take time to reflect on the ways God is calling us to walk in love through the ministry of this church, offer our pledge cards, and celebrate Eucharist together. For we are, after all, a church family that celebrates God's richness, life, and each other... one that tends to the lonely, and welcomes everyone with arms wide open. Be assured that your gifts—of time, talent, and treasure—make all of this possible and keep us growing and walking together in faith.

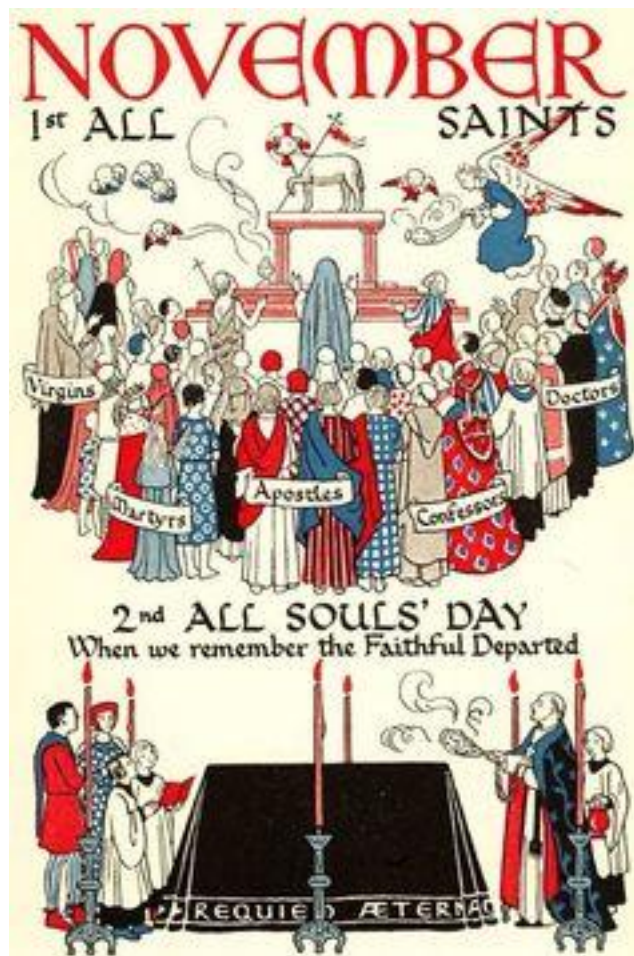
After our service, we'll continue the celebration with a delicious lunch in the Metcalf Hall, a chance to share in fellowship, laughter, and conversation. Whether you're new to St. Luke's or have been a part of this family for years, I encourage you to stay and enjoy this time together. Stewardship is as much about relationships as it is about resources; in fact, it's through our shared relationships that we see God's love most clearly.

So, mark your calendars, remember to set your clocks back, bring your families, and join us on this special Sunday. Let's walk in love, step by step, grateful for each other and for the journey we share. I look forward to seeing each of you as we celebrate our shared blessings and consider how God is calling us to steward those blessings with joy and faith.

With love and gratitude,

Nick+

## Theologians Corner:



### Allhallowtide

As we approach the end of October, we enter a deeply significant time in the church calendar known as Allhallowtide, a season dedicated to remembrance, reflection, and gratitude for the lives of those who have gone before us in faith. This season encompasses three days: All Hallows' Eve on October 31, All Saints' Day on November 1, and All Souls' Day on November 2. Each day has its own unique meaning and traditions, inviting us to honor the communion of saints and deepen our connection with the wider family of God.

Most of us are familiar with Halloween, or All Hallows' Eve, as it is commonly celebrated today. However, its roots run far deeper than costumes and candy. Historically, the evening before All Saints' Day was a time for Christians to prepare spiritually by recalling the power of God's light over darkness. It was a night of vigil, prayer, and reflection, particularly in honoring the saints who shone as beacons of faith throughout history.

Early traditions included lighting candles, ringing bells to remember the dead, and engaging in prayer for the faithful departed.

As the world around us celebrates Halloween with secular festivities, we might take a moment to pause and remember that we, too, are part of the same communion of saints. One simple practice to honor All Hallows' Eve is to light a candle in memory of those we love who have passed and say a prayer of thanksgiving for their lives. Some families find meaning in carving a cross or other Christian symbols into pumpkins as a reminder that Christ's light always prevails.

The next day, November 1, marks All Saints' Day, a principal feast day in our church. This day is set aside to honor all saints, known and unknown, who have lived lives of exceptional faith, courage, and love for God. Saints are examples of holiness who inspire us to pursue our faith journey with

dedication and humility. Many of them endured great hardships, and through their lives, we see the power of God's grace to transform and strengthen.

The Episcopal Church traditionally celebrates All Saints' Day with a special Eucharist, during which we remember these heroes of the faith, asking for their intercession and seeking to follow their example. Some parishes also display icons or portraits of saints, providing a visual reminder of the "great cloud of witnesses" who encourage us in our walk with Christ (Hebrews 12:1). It is also common to renew our baptismal vows on this day, affirming our commitment to live as disciples of Christ, as did the saints before us.

On All Souls' Day, the focus shifts from the canonized saints to all who have departed from this life, particularly those who may not have been recognized officially as saints but who are beloved members of our families and communities. This day is sometimes called the Commemoration of All Faithful Departed, a day to remember those we have lost, lift them up in prayer, and thank God for the lives they lived.

All Souls' Day provides us with an opportunity to express our love for those who have gone before us and affirm our hope in the resurrection. Many churches observe this day with a requiem mass or prayer service such as St. John's in Tulsa. Some congregations invite parishioners to write down the names of their departed loved ones and place them on the altar, lifting them in prayer together as a community. Lighting a candle at home and saying a prayer for departed loved ones is another meaningful way to honor this day.

Together, these three days invite us to reflect on the full communion of saints—those who lived extraordinary lives of faith and those closer to home who quietly inspired us by their love and dedication. During Allhallowtide, we honor our place in a vast family, stretching across time and space, united in Christ's love.

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We are only about \$500 away from our pie goal! Lets sprint to the finish line! Can you help?





## CONCERN NEEDS

Concern's current needs are canned green beans, tuna and chicken; and homeless - single serve canned proteins, reusable vinyl or canvas bags and toothpaste.

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### *Prayer List*

**Please pray for:** Liz Green, Michelle Sheffield, Catherine Sheffield, Ben Baker, Steve McCraw, Josh Harris, David Swindell, Norma Perrier, Connie Finch, 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 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, Marcie Zervas, Margaret Holden, Don McCoy, Jean McCoy, and Audrey Harris

**Please add the following to your prayers this Twenty Third Week after Pentecost**  
**Retired Clergy, Spouses, Widows, and Widowers**

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**At Luke's Place : Oct 31<sup>st</sup> – Nov 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Oct 31<sup>st</sup>** Men's Breakfast, 7am, Metcalf  
Bible Study, 9:15am, Metcalf  
Green Country Service, 1pm, GCV  
**Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>** Eucharist, Rite I, 8:00am, Chapel  
Faith Forum, 9:15am, Metcalf  
Eucharist, Rite II, 10:30am, Nave  
Stewardship Luncheon after 10:30am service  
**Nov 4<sup>th</sup>** Ladies' Prayer Partners, 11:30am, classroom  
**Nov 5<sup>th</sup>** Spiritual Discovery Study, 9:30am, Library  
General Election, all day  
**Nov 6<sup>th</sup>** Choir, 5:00pm, Choir Room  
YD, 6pm, Rodgers

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## Birthdays and Anniversaries, Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> – Nov 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024

### Birthdays



|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| Jeff Birk      | (11/3) |
| Laura Birk     | (11/8) |
| Brian Ferguson | (11/9) |

### 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!



## StEWArDShiP SunDay

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY IS THIS COMING SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3.

Please bring your pledge cards with you  
and we will offer them together at the altar during the service.

After the 10:30 service there will be a  
STEWARDSHIP LUNCHEON  
to celebrate and give thanks for our work together.



### Fellowship POTLUCK

With the Bishop! November 10<sup>th</sup>, after the 10:30am Confirmation service. Please bring a dish to share and join in a meal with our Bishop Poulson Reed and the Confirmands.

**Last chance!**



**ST. LUKE'S BOOKSTORE**

**Last chance!**

The Bookstore will be ordering the 'Rose Window' tee shirts at the end of October. There are 2 different images: One with HOPE and one with JOY on the front of the shirt. These will be black long sleeve tee shirts, sizes S-XXXL

**Last chance!**

**Last chance!**



and will be \$40.00. Short sleeve black tees are \$35.00 Please order through the Bookstore or call Cathy Perrier 918-336-7974.\_(the image on the right is not the actual shirt- but lets you see the image logo)



All Saints' Day will be celebrated Sunday, Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> along with Pledge Sunday. If you have the name of a loved one you would like listed in the Necrology during this service, please contact the church office to add their name(s) **by tomorrow!**

**918-336-1212**

[stlukesbartlesville@outlook.com](mailto:stlukesbartlesville@outlook.com)

## Game Night with the YD







We had a fun YD last week. A big thanks to the **McIvers** for providing a tasty dinner before we headed on our walk to Sonic. Charades was the game of choice. We played at Sonic (yes, that is Father Nick pretending to be a fighter jet on the table) and after some weird looks from other customers, we moved the game back to the privacy of St. Luke's :)



The Christmas Wish Tree will be in the narthex starting November 10th. We have been asked to provide 40 baby dolls for little girls 1 to 3 years old that are in foster homes. There will not be any stars this year, just a sign up sheet by the tree. The DHS Christmas party, where the dolls will be distributed, is on December 6th so they need to be brought to the church no later than December 4th. Thanks, as always, to the Good People of St. Luke's for making this happen every year.

God's Peace,  
Steve & Cheryl Van Aken



# IMPORTANT CHILDREN/YOUTH DATES

2024-25



## CAMP REGISTRATION OPENS

November 1, 2024



## IGNITE HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT

November 8-10, 2024 @ St. Crispin's



## NEW BEGINNINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT

February 15-16, 2025 @ St. Crispin's



## ACOLYTE & CHOIR FESTIVAL

February 22-23, 2025 @ St. Paul's Cathedral, OKC



## SUMMER CAMP SEASON

June 1-July 2, 2025 @ St. Crispin's



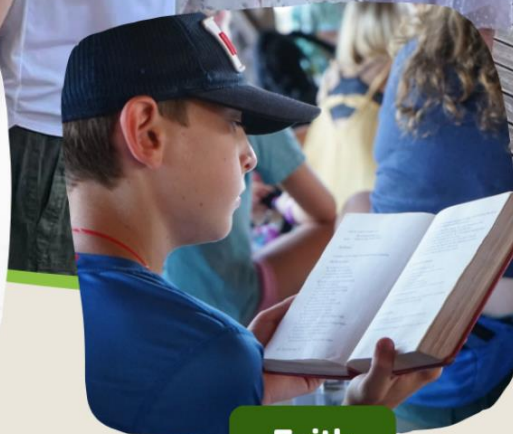
For More Information

[www.epiok.org](http://www.epiok.org)





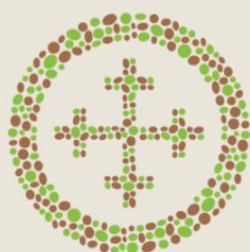
Fun



Faith



Friends



## ST. CRISPIN'S SUMMER CAMP

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.



**EARLY BIRD RATE ENDS APRIL 1ST! | [STCRISPINS.ORG/CAMP](https://stcrispins.org/camp)**



November 3<sup>rd</sup>!

### St. Luke's Vestry Members

- Nancy Woods, Sr. Warden – [Nancywoods120@gmail.com](mailto:Nancywoods120@gmail.com)
- Jo Baughman – [jybokla@aol.com](mailto:jybokla@aol.com)
- Karole Cozby, Jr Warden – [kscozby916@gmail.com](mailto:kscozby916@gmail.com)
- Chad Ellis – [w.chadwick.ellis@gmail.com](mailto:w.chadwick.ellis@gmail.com)
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- Laura Birk – [lpbirk73@gmail.com](mailto:lpbirk73@gmail.com)
- Mark Peterson- [markandmarypeterson@gmail.com](mailto:markandmarypeterson@gmail.com)
- Steve Heidorn- [sgheidorn@yahoo.com](mailto:sgheidorn@yahoo.com)
- Dolores McCreary – [dolomc37@gmail.com](mailto:dolomc37@gmail.com)
- Steve Roper- [sdroper2006@yahoo.com](mailto:sdroper2006@yahoo.com)
- Erin Roper-
- Robert Lonski- [rjtazski@yahoo.com](mailto:rjtazski@yahoo.com)

### Bereavement Team 3

Wendy Hall, Darian Kedy, Kris Bonner, Debbie Mueggenborg, Mary Jo Peterson

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

The Reverend Nick Phares, Rector  
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Keeli Droege, Choir Director/Organist  
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