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Aug 28, 2025



The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church



From Revelation to Genesis

One of the most challenging and revealing experiences of our Thursday Bible Study has been walking together through the Book of Revelation. We've wrestled with its visions, imagery, and promise, and in doing so, we've encountered the hope of a God who brings all things to their completion.

Now, we are beginning again - turning the page from the end of Scripture back to the very first words: "In the beginning..." This move from Revelation to Genesis is not simply about starting over with a new book. Rather, it embodies a deeper truth of our spiritual lives: with God, there is always a new beginning.

To "begin again"... again does not mean forgetting what we have learned. It means carrying our wisdom and wonder into fresh terrain, discovering newness even in stories we thought we knew well. Genesis is an epic we've all grown close to full of tales of creation, covenant, and call that have shaped our faith from the very beginning. Yet, when we slow down, listen carefully, and study together, these stories surprise us anew. They meet us where we are today, not just where we were the last time we heard them.

This pattern, as you know, is written into the Christian life itself. Every Sunday, when we confess our sins and hear the words of absolution, we begin again. Every time we return to the waters of baptism in prayer or in the sign of the cross, we remember that God's mercies are new each morning. Every Eucharist is both a familiar meal and a fresh encounter with Christ's presence. Even the Church calendar tells this story - each Advent, each Lent, each Eastertide invites us to walk the path with new eyes and renewed hearts.

The Christian life therefore is a rhythm of renewal. From the vision of the new heaven and new earth to the poetry of creation, God continually invites us to live into beginnings, not just endings.

I warmly invite you to join us on Thursdays as we open Genesis together. Whether you've studied these passages many times or not at all, there is room for you. Come, listen, learn, and be surprised by God's Word once more.

Nick+

At Luke's Place: Aug 29th – Sept 6th, 2025

Aug 31 st	Holy Eucharist, Rite I, 8:00am, Chapel Faith Forum, 9:15am, Metcalf Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10:30am, Nave
Sept 1 st	Labor Day- office closed
Sept 2 nd	Spiritual Discovery, 9:30am, Library
Sept 3 rd	Choir, 5:00pm, Choir Room YD, 6:00pm, Rodgers Hall
Sept 4 th	Men's Fellowship, 7am, Metcalf Hall Bible Study, 9:15am, Metcalf Hall Green Country Eucharist, 1pm, GCV

Books from the Library of David King

There is a table with books from the Estate of David King in Metcalf Hall. These books are free for you to take. David was an avid reader with many interests. Hope you find something there for you.





Theologian's Corner

The Martyrdom of John the Baptist

This week the church solemnly observes not only the martyrdom of one of the twelve, Bartholomew, this past Monday but also John the Baptist this Friday.

The martyrdom of John the Baptist was a result of the orders of Herod Antipas through the vengeful request of his stepdaughter Salome and her mother Herodias.

According to the Gospels, Herod, who was tetrarch of Galilee under the Roman Empire, had imprisoned John the Baptist because he reproved Herod for divorcing his wife, Phasaelis, and then unlawfully taking Herodias, the wife of his brother Herod Philip I to be his bride.

On Herod's birthday, Herodias' daughter, whom Josephus identifies as Salome, danced before the king and his guests. Her dancing pleased Herod so much that in his drunkenness he promised to give her anything she desired, up to half of his kingdom. When Salome asked her mother what she should request, she was told to ask for the head of John the Baptist on a platter. Although Herod was appalled by the request, he reluctantly agreed and had John executed in the prison.

The Jewish historian Flavius Josephus relates to us in his Antiquities of the Jews that Herod killed John, stating that he did so, "lest the great influence John had over the people might put it into John's power/mind and inclination to raise a rebellion, for his followers seemed ready to do anything John should advise." So, he wrote, "Herod thought it best to put John to death." Josephus further states that many of the Jews believed that the military disaster that fell upon Herod at the hands of Aretas, his father-in-law (Phasaelis' father), was God's punishment for his unrighteous behavior.

Nevertheless, it is John, the forerunner, whom Jesus said if we were willing to believe was Elijah to come, who we remember on this 29th day of August.

Together we pray: Almighty God, who didst call thy servant John to be the forerunner of thy Son our Lord both in life and death; grant, we beseech thee, that as we remember his faithfulness unto death, we may with boldness speak thy truth and with humility be ready to hear it; through Jesus Christ, the firstborn from the dead, who with Thee and the Holy Ghost, livest and reignest one God, world without end. Amen.

Prayer List

Please pray for: Ben Baker, Steve McCraw, Josh Harris, David Swindell, Connie Finch, Terry Grogan, Tyler Roberson, Jerry Nezam, Miriam Petrovich, Lynette Beebe, Jack Smith, Danny Clem, David McAtee, Shawn, Stephanie Gallegos, Pat Sare, Steve Linn, Jean Mason, Adam Thomas, Tom Oakes, Bill Pendley, Mary Wallace, Lynda Stephens, Marcie Zervas, Audrey Harris, Peggy Rockey, Ken Harvey, Nan Buhlinger, Bill Birk, Carol McSpadden, Dionna Cameron, Betty Rogers, David Anderson, Dan & JoAnn Gallery, Freda Bretz, Kathleen Turner, Steve Clark, Lauren Gandy, Betty Hardin, Susan Brooks, Dean Zervas, and Graham Hunt.

Please add the following to your prayers for the Eleventh Week of Pentecost
St Luke's, Tulsa Espiritu Santo, Tulsa Church of the Province of South East Asia

DISCUSSION GROUP

St. Luke's is forming a group to discuss a wide variety of topics that are of interest to the St. Luke's family. Beginning September 9, 2025, we will meet on Tuesday nights at 6:30PM – meeting room yet to be determined. We will meet for one hour and discuss one topic. This will not be a lecture class - it will be a discussion. We may not solve any problems or answer every question but we will exchange ideas, concerns, suggestions and hopes.

We will discuss topics that are suggested by the participants in addition to some that will be suggested to the group. The topic for our first meeting will be "Does God answer all our prayers? If not, why not?" You will see articles in the "Steeple" and the Service bulletins announcing the topic for the next week so you can come to the sessions that interest you.

This group will be intergenerational so hopefully we will have some participants from all age groups.

If you have questions or comments about this group, please contact Tom Reyburn (our Lay Catechist) at 970-209-4695 or SJMtnMan@gmail.com.

Hope to see you at the sessions that interest you beginning on September 9th.

Concern's current needs are canned proteins: chicken, tuna and Vienna sausage, and for the homeless, single serve proteins and 8-ounce paper cups.



Birthdays and Anniversaries Aug 31st – Sept 6th, 2025

Birthdays



Anniversaries

Heidi Droege	(8/31)
James Warring	(8/31)
John Werts	(8/31)
Yvonne Walters	(9/1)
Annabelle Droege	(9/2)
Nancy Warring	(9/3)
Mark Peterson	(9/5)
Teresa Phares	(9/6)

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!

For September please collect either small packages of 8 to 12 count pencils or large packages of 16 to 24 count pencils. Either size should 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.

Collection basket is in Nartex.



4th ANNUAL
LIP SYNC
**BATTLE IN
BARTLESVILLE**

September 27 | 2025
Hilton Garden Inn | 6 pm

Such a fun time that
kept the toes a tapping
and some good hardy
laughs. A wonderfully
fun family event!

Ronda Riden-Wilson

**WATCH LOCAL
CELEBRITIES BATTLE
HUNGER**

Admission of \$75 includes
the Battle, a festival style
buffet and 2 adult drinks.

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Bereavement Team 2

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