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April 23, 2026



The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church



A Letter From the Rector

Dear St. Luke's,

"My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a goodly heritage." Psalm 16:6

What I know to be true is this: serving as your rector these past five years has been one of the great privileges and joys of my life. You are a goodly heritage! Almost every day, I have been aware of the gift of being entrusted with the work of shepherding and encouraging this remarkable parish. For that, I give thanks to Almighty God and to you.

Because of that love, it is not easy to say what comes next. I have taken the call to serve as the next chaplain at St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Sewanee, Tennessee, beginning July 1st. My last Sunday with you will be June 7th.

A dear friend once told me that love travels. And as St. Paul reminds us, love never ends. What we have built together here at St. Luke's, these bonds of affection, trust, and shared life in Christ, will not be undone by distance or change, for they are held together by something far stronger - Life in Christ.

Again and again, we have seen that God is at work among us. And what we have learned together is fundamental: our response to Christ's love is to give it away freely. Love is not diminished in the giving; it is renewed. And you have shown, time and again, how to do just that.

I trust that Christ is present in this moment, just as surely as he has been present in every step of our life together. Thank you for your gracious trust, your faithfulness, and your love. My life among you has changed me, and I will carry you with me always.

Keep Christ before you, friends. Keep welcoming the stranger. Keep caring for one another. In these things, you honor Christ, the Christ who is Risen and present in each person you meet.

With deep gratitude and abiding affection,

Nick+

At Luke's Place: April 24th – April 30th, 2026

- April 26th** Holy Eucharist, Rite I, 8:00am, Chapel
Faith Forum, 9:15am, Metcalf
Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10:30am, Nave
- April 27th** Ladies Prayer Partners, 11:30am, Metcalf
Back to Basics, 6:30pm, Metcalf
- April 28th** Spiritual Discovery, 9:30am, Library
Discussion Group, 6:30pm, Rodgers
- April 29th** Choir, 5pm, Choir Room
YD, 6pm, Rodgers
- April 30th** Men's Group, 7am, Metcalf
Bible Study, 9:15am, Metcalf
Green Country Eucharist, 1pm, GCV

Prayer List

Please pray for: Ben Baker, Steve McCraw, Josh Harris, David Swindell, Connie Finch, Terry Grogan, Tyler Roberson, Jerry Nezam, Lynette Beebe, Danny Clem, David McAtee, Steve Linn, Jean Mason, Adam Thomas, Bill Pendley, Mary Wallace, Lynda Stephens, Marcie Zervas, Audrey Harris, Peggy Rockey, Nan Buhlinger, Bill Birk, Dionna Cameron, Betty Rogers, Dan & JoAnn Gallery, Kathleen Turner, Steve Clark, Lauren Gandy, Dean Zervas, Frank Molina, Diane Mitchell, Frank Traylor, Steve Hand, Donna Steward, Clay Smith, Penny Johnson, Kim Shipman, Fred Whitson, Dayna Rathman, Shaina Smith, Ann Morrow, Carrie Washington, Miriam Petrovich, and Eleanor Travaglini.

Please add the following to your prayers for this week:

**St. John's, OKC St James, Antlers The Church of the Province of Myanmar
(Burma)**

May requested Item:



Tuesday Discussion Group

6:30pm

Rodgers Hall

Topic this coming week: ?

Birthdays & Anniversaries for April 26th – May 2nd, 2026

Birthdays

Anniversaries

Connie Freebern	4/29
Margo Proctor	4/30
Robert Johansen	5/1
Betty Rheingans	5/1

If your or a love one's name doesn't appear on the list, please email or call the office, and we will add your birthday and/or wedding anniversary.

Concern

Concern's current needs are : ramen noodles, Vienna sausage and Jiffy Mix. Homeless needs are: single-serve proteins, single-serve pudding and squeezable jelly.



Ministries

All these ministries within St Luke's need you

Please consider volunteering

Altar Guild
Stewardship
Ushers
Prayer Shawl Ministry

Grounds & Courtyard
Bookstore
Compassionate Care
Youth

Bereavement
Lay Readers
Choir
Audio/Video

Theologian's Corner: Mark the Evangelist



The book of Acts mentions a Mark, or John Mark, a kinsman of Barnabas (Col 4:10). The house of his mother Mary was a meeting place for Christians in Jerusalem (Acts 12:12). When Paul and Barnabas, who had been in Antioch, came to Jerusalem, they brought Mark back to Antioch with them (12:25), and he accompanied them on their first missionary journey (13:5), but left them prematurely and returned to Jerusalem (13:13). When Paul and Barnabas were about to set out on a second missionary journey, Barnabas proposed to take Mark, but Paul thought him unreliable, so that eventually Barnabas made one journey taking Mark, and Paul another journey taking Silas (15:36-40). Mark is not mentioned again in Acts. However, it appears that he became more reliable, for Paul mentions him as a trusted assistant in Colossians 4:10 and again in 2 Timothy 4:11.

The Apostle Peter had a co-worker whom he refers to as "my son Mark" (1 Peter 5:13). Papias, an early second century writer, in describing the origins of the Gospels, tells us that Mark was the "interpreter" of Peter, and that he wrote down ("but not in order") the stories that he had heard Peter tell in his preaching about the life and teachings of Jesus.

The Gospel of Mark, in describing the arrest of Jesus (14:51f), speaks of a young man who followed the arresting party, wearing only a linen cloth wrapped around his body, whom the arresting party tried to seize, but who left the cloth in their hands and fled naked. It is speculated that this young man was the writer himself, since the detail is hardly worth mentioning if he were not.

Tradition has it that after the death of Peter, Mark left Rome and went to preach in Alexandria, Egypt, where he was eventually martyred.

Mark's symbol in art is a Lion, usually winged. In the book of Revelation, the visionary sees about the throne of God four winged creatures: a lion, an ox, a man, and an eagle. (Compare with the cherubs in Ezek. 1 and 10.) It has customarily been supposed that these represent the four Gospels, or the four Evangelists (Gospel-writers). One way of matching them is to say that the man stands for Matthew, whose narrative begins with the human genealogy of Jesus; that the lion stands for Mark, whose narrative begins with John the Baptist crying out in the desert (a lion roars in the desert); that the ox, a sacrificial animal, stands for Luke, whose narrative begins in the Temple, and that the eagle stands for John, whose narrative begins in Heaven, with the eternal Word.

Together, let us pray, Almighty God, by the hand of Mark the evangelist you have given to your Church the Gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God: We thank you for this witness, and pray that we may be firmly grounded in its truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.





Carol Murphy is downsizing her extensive book collection as she prepares to move to Green Country Village in the coming weeks. Well over 150 of her books are now available for the taking on the tables along the south wall of Metcalf Hall.

Book topics range from the inspirational and spiritual to cooking and how-to advice. You can browse this free, no-return library after

Sunday services or any other time the church is open (Monday-Friday, 9 am-4 pm).

For future reference, Carol will be moving to apartment 308 at Green Country Village, 1025 Swan Drive. Thank you, Carol, for sharing with us!



ST. LUKE'S BOOKSTORE

Stop by the Bookstore and check out our new cards, jewelry, and books!

Tuesday & Thursday
11:00am-1:00pm

Sunday
11:30am

St. Luke's Vestry Members

- Karole Cozby, Sr. Warden- kscozby916@gmail.com
- Karen Lewey, Jr Warden - kgrammy07@yahoo.com
- Becky Liehr – jblihr@gmail.com
- Chase Almy – chasealmy88@gmail.com
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Bereavement Team 3

Becky Liehr, Cathy Perrier, Kris Bonner,
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