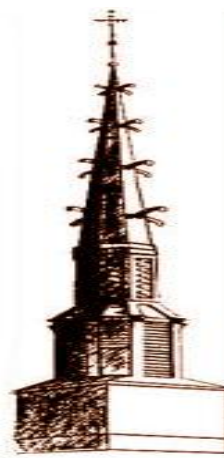


The Steeple

- Fr. Nick's message
- Theologian's Corner
- Pack the Backpacks request
- Concern request
- Pot Luck June 7th
- Pentecost May 24th
- Bookstore closed
- Trinity Sunday May 31st
- Prayer Works
- Jeff's Investiture
- YD off to Colorado



May 21, 2026



The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church

The Mountains are Calling.



As summer approaches our annual Y.D. trip is just around the corner. Before us this year is a journey filled with adventure, fellowship, prayer, laughter, and holy discovery which awaits us in Colorado Springs. The itinerary includes time at Cathedral Ridge, hiking in the shadow of Pike's Peak, exploring the Garden of the Gods, sharing meals together, and simply being present to one another in a way that is often difficult amid the regular rhythms and pace of our programmatic life.

Trips like these are more than vacations. In the life of the Church, we have long understanding of travel undertaken with intentionality, prayer, and community known as pilgrimage. A pilgrimage is not merely about reaching a destination; it is about allowing the journey itself to shape us. Scripture is filled with stories of God's people encountering the holy while on the move. I'm thinking of Abraham leaving home, Israel wandering in the wilderness, and the disciples following Christ. Pilgrimage reminds us that faith is not static. We are continually being formed by where we go, whom we travel beside, and the ways God meets us along the path.

For our kids, this trip offers an opportunity for spiritual formation that cannot always happen within the walls of our church. Relationships have the opportunity to deepen around campfires, on hiking trails, and even in moments of exhaustion and wonder, and especially in the beauty of creation. There, they will begin to discover something essential: that God is not confined to one place but accompanies us always. Community will thus deepen in sharing cabins, meals, prayers, stories, and even the long van ride that awaits us.

This journey also carries special meaning as we remember Chip, whose love for young people, adventure, and those in need has helped shape the spirit of these trips for the past five years. I think Chip understood that some of the most important moments in ministry happen outside the ordinary routines of parish life. He lived that reality. So, when young people are given space to

encounter that same beauty, challenge, friendship, and God's presence in fresh ways Chip's spirit remains ever present and ever new. Chip's legacy remains each time we load the vans, say our prayers, and head toward destinations unknown.

I ask your prayers for safe travels, joyful fellowship, and hearts open to God's transforming presence throughout the pilgrimage.

Peace to you.

Nick+

At Luke's Place: May 22nd – May 28th, 2026

- May 24th** Holy Eucharist, Rite I, 8:00am, Chapel
Faith Forum, 9:15am, Metcalf
Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10:30am, Nave
- May 25th** Memorial Day- office closed
- May 26th** Spiritual Discovery, 9:30am, Library
- May 27th** Choir, 5pm, Choir Room
- May 28th** Men's Group, 7am, Metcalf
Bible Study, 9:15am, Metcalf
Green Country Eucharist, 1pm, GCV
YD Leaves for Colorado

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, 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, Jason Elmore, and Teresa Phares.

Please add the following to your prayers for this week:
St Paul's, Altus The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea

Reminder: Church Office will be closed May 25th in observance of Memorial Day

May requested Item:



Birthdays & Anniversaries for May 24th – May 30th, 2026

Birthdays

Susie Clark	5/24
Gretchen Hoyt	5/25
Sam DuVall	5/26
Sara Clements	5/ 27
Jim Liehr	5/28
Carol Murphy	5/28

Anniversaries

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: canned green beans and tuna; and homeless needs are: single-serve fruit cups, Ensure and electrolyte drinks.

Theologian's Corner:

Dunstan of Canterbury



Dunstan was born near Glastonbury in the southwest of England about the year 909, ten years after the death of King Alfred. During the Viking invasions of the ninth century, monasteries had been favorite targets of the invaders, and by Dunstan's time English monasticism had been wiped out.

In monasticism's restoration in the tenth century, Dunstan played the leading role. He was born of an upper-class family, and sent to court, where he did not fit in. At the urging of his uncle, the Bishop of Westminster, he became a monk and a priest, and returned to Glastonbury, where he built a hut near the ruins of the old monastery, and devoted himself to study, music, metal working (particularly the art of casting church bells, an art which he is said to have advanced considerably), and painting. A manuscript illuminated by him is in the British Museum.

Dunstan returned to court and was again asked to leave; but then King Edmund had a narrow escape from death while hunting, and in gratitude recalled Dunstan and in 943 commissioned him to re-establish monastic life at Glastonbury. (Glastonbury is one of the oldest Christian sites in England, and is associated in legend with King Arthur and his Court, with Joseph of Arimathea, and with other worthies. It has been said that the Holy Grail, the chalice of the Last Supper, is hidden somewhere near Glastonbury.)

Under Dunstan's direction, Glastonbury became an important center both of monasticism and of learning. The next king, Edred, adopted Dunstan's ideas for various reforms of the clergy (including the control of many cathedrals by monastic chapters) and for relations with the Danish settlers. These policies made Dunstan popular in the North of England, but unpopular in the South.

Edred was succeeded by his sixteen-year-old nephew Edwy, whom Dunstan openly rebuked for unchastity. The furious Edwy drove Dunstan into exile, but the North rose in rebellion on his behalf. When the dust settled, Edwy was dead, his brother Edgar was king, and Dunstan was Archbishop of Canterbury. The coronation service which Dunstan compiled for Edgar is the earliest English coronation service of which the full text survives, and is the basis for all such services since, down to the present.

With the active support of King Edgar, Dunstan re-established monastic communities at Malmesbury, Westminster, Bath, Exeter, and many other places. Around 970 he presided at a conference of bishops, abbots, and abbesses, which drew up a national code of monastic observance, the Regularis Concordia. It followed Benedictine lines, but under it the monasteries were actively involved in the life of the surrounding community. For centuries thereafter the Archbishop of Canterbury was always a monk.

Dunstan took an active role in politics under Edgar and his successor Edward, but under the next king, Ethelred, he retired from politics and concentrated on running the Canterbury cathedral school for boys, where he was apparently successful in raising the academic standards while reducing the incidence of corporal punishment. On Ascension Day in 988, he told the congregation that he was near to death, and died two days later.

Together we pray: Direct your Church, O Lord, into the beauty of holiness, that, following the good example of your servant Dunstan, we may honor your Son Jesus Christ with our lips and in our lives; to the glory of his Name, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.



June 7th Celebration

Pot Luck, Anyone? After 10:30am service Lets have a good ole' parish potluck to see the Phares family off. Meat will be provided. Bring a side dish or dessert to share. Canon Betsy from the Diocese will be joining us that Sunday.



Trinity Sunday is May 31st

Fr Nick will be in Colorado with our youth that Sunday. Mother Andrea has graciously agreed to be Celebrant and Deacon Jeff will be preaching.



ST. LUKE'S BOOKSTORE

**We will be closed from
May 24th – June 9th.**

Normal Hours
Tuesday & Thursday
11:00am-1:00pm
Sunday
11:30am



is this Sunday. Be
sure to wear **RED**
that day to
celebrate the
Church!

Collect for Pentecost: Almighty God, on this day you opened the way of eternal life to every race and nation by the promised gift of your Holy Spirit: Shed abroad this gift throughout the world by the preaching of the Gospel, that it may reach to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.* (BCP)

From the **Acts of the Apostles**: When the day of Pentecost had come, the disciples were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.



Update on Adam

This young man has been through many difficulties. St. Luke's parish has been praying for him for a long time. Through your prayers he has confronted his drug addiction, completed his treatment program, gotten his GED, a driver's license, is now planning to enter a welding program, and purchasing a car. In other words, rebuilding his whole life. There is full faith all of this has occurred due to this parish's dedication to pray for those who cannot pray for themselves.



YD Leaves for Cathedral Ridge, Colorado May 28th

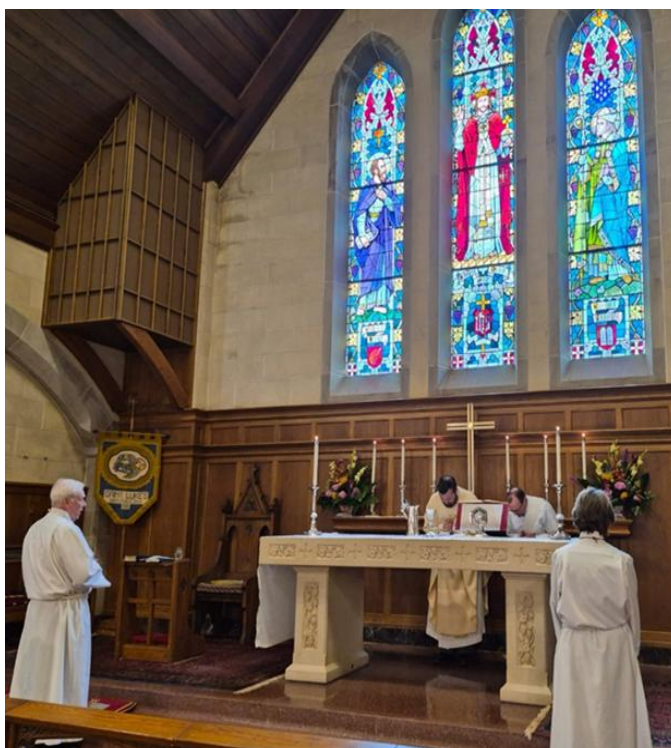
Nestled in the heart of the Colorado mountains, Cathedral Ridge is a sacred space for renewal, connection, and community. Owned and operated by the Episcopal Church in Colorado, they welcome people of all ages, backgrounds, and beliefs to experience the beauty of creation, meaningful fellowship, and spiritual growth. From summer camps and family retreats, to leadership

gatherings and quiet weekends of rest, Cathedral Ridge offers a place where faith and nature meet.



Garden of the Gods

Deacon Jeff's Investiture





Dear St. Luke's family,

Words cannot fully express how humbled I am by your encouragement, support, and prayers over the past few years. While my Ordination to the Diaconate was a significant event, Sunday's Investiture right here at St. Luke's was a significant **emotional** event, for me.

Every time I read the Bible signed by Fr. Nick and the Vestry, I will think of Karole saying, "May the Holy Scriptures be for you the living Word of God: a lamp unto your feet and a light unto your path".

During Ordinary Time I will don the green stole quite often, and I'll recall Steve saying, "May it remind you that the yoke of Christ is easy and its burden is light."

When I wear the Dalmatic for major feasts, I will remember Laura putting it on me and Wendy saying, "Remember always that the beauty of worship flows outward into lives poured out for others."

I'll hang the framed altar cloth in my office. Gazing upon it from time to time, I'll recall Mary Jo saying, "May it remind you that the holy table is prepared not for the perfect, but for the hungry."

As you may know, the communion kit that Andrea gave me was her own. St. Luke's presented it to her while she was a Curate here, in 2000. I will always recall that she used it many, many times throughout her ministry, as well as her words on Sunday, "Friend, colleague ... In bearing the Body and Blood of Christ to others, may you also bear the presence of the Church and the assurance that no member of Christ's body is ever abandoned or alone."

I'll also remember choking up (just a little) during Fr. Nick's closing prayer, "And now, my brother, may the Lord who has begun this good work in you bring it to completion. May the Holy Spirit sustain you with wisdom, patience, gentleness, and courage. May Christ the Servant strengthen your hands for ministry, your voice for proclamation, and your heart for love. Amen."

I also want to thank Laura and all those who helped with the coffee hour by providing food and assistance: Karen Lewey, Sandy Whitson, Suzanne Read, Susie Clark, Linda Huffman, Darian Kedy, Cathy Perrier, Nancy Megee, Debbie and Dennis Mueggelborg, and Steve Van Aken.

Most of all, I thank you all for your kind words, well-wishes, and prayers. I look forward to serving you, and serving alongside you, for many years.

Blessings and peace, Jeff†



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