



St. Luke Presbyterian Church



NAN KEMP & MELISSA SHIELDS, CO-EDITORS

VOLUME 59, ISSUE 2 | FEBRUARY 2023

Installation Held

The Elder Class of 2025 was installed during worship on January 15. Rev. **Robin Gantz** officiated the installation of **Ross Clopton**, **Bob Hansen**, **Barbara Taylor**, and **Kary Wingo**; all of whom had been previously ordained. These Elders are serving St. Luke along with the 2023 and 2024 classes. Ross moderates the Personnel Committee, Bob co-moderates the Worship Committee, Barbara serves as Clerk of Session, and Kary moderates the LOGOS Committee. Please support our Session with your prayers as they discern God's will for St. Luke.

Lenten Study Planned

A Lenten study will begin Sunday, February 26 during the Sunday school hour. We will be using *The Thoughtful Christian: An Introduction to the Book of*

Matthew. As a companion to the class, we will be using the book by N.T. Wright, *Lent for Everyone* — devotional readings from the Book of Matthew. This book “provides readers with an inspirational guide through the Lenten season, from Ash Wednesday through the week after Easter.” N.T. Wright provides his own scripture translation of Matthew, brief reflection, and a prayer for each day of the season. If you'd like a book, **Kary Wingo** has eight copies left. The cost is \$10.

Congregational Meeting

St. Luke's Annual Congregational Meeting will be held at noon on January 29 in the fellowship hall. The purpose of the meeting is to receive reports from the various committees as well as the 2023 operating budget (that was approved by Session in December.) The annual report is available to be picked up from tables in the hall; please take one copy per family.

The Fellowship Committee will provide soup for the luncheon that accompanies the meeting. If your surname begins with A – P, please bring sandwiches to share; those with last names Q – Z, please provide cookies.

All members are requested to be a part of this meeting. Anyone can attend; however, only members may vote.

RULING ELDERS

Ann Hefner, Camille Hoy,
Bob McCracken, Doug Tanner,
Jennifer Denham, Kendra Jones,
Tim Lacey, Cruse Messer,
Ross Clopton, Bob Hansen,
Barbara Taylor, and Kary Wingo

Stay in touch! 

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@stlukeamarillo
-  Find us on Instagram:
stlukeamarillo
-  Download the Sharefaith App
on the App Store
-  Get St. Luke Pres., Amarillo TX
on Google Play

SESSION REPORT for January

Clerk's Report:

- December 2022 average attendance for worship - 62
- Active membership for December 31, 2022 - 141
- Communion was celebrated Christmas Eve, December 24, 2022 with Rev. **Robin Gantz** presiding.

Actions:

- **Barbara Taylor** was elected Clerk of Session.
- **Helen Thorsheim** was elected Treasurer.
- **Jennifer Denham** will serve as Commissioner to the Palo Duro Presbytery meeting, February 3.
- **Camille Hoy** will moderate the Officer Nominating Committee.
- **Jennifer Denham** will serve on Scholarship Committee.
- Mission Committee fundraiser/silent auction to benefit Laundry Love to be held on September 10.

Commendations:

- ✓ **Tom Heyde** for his faithful service to the Property Committee.
- ✓ **Donna Clopton** for her dedication to the care of congregational members and for her outstanding leadership as Moderator of Congregational Care during her term on the Session.
- ✓ **Wesley Wingo** for his leadership and enthusiasm in leading the LOGOS Committee last year.
- ✓ **Melissa** for persevering through accounting software issues caused by a mandatory payroll program conversion.
- ✓ **Krista Berry** and **Camille Hoy** for their work with the Palo Duro Presbytery Grant.
- ✓ **Sam Burnett** for his monetary contribution to Laundry Love when we ran out of coins.
- ✓ Those filling the pulpit in January: **Phillip Periman**, **Wesley Wingo**, **Tim Lacey**, **Helen Thorsheim**, and **Bob Hansen**.
- ✓ **Fred Kunkel** for his vocal solo on January 8.
- ✓ Rev. **Robin Gantz** for officiating Communion and installation of officers.
- ✓ Rev. **Janell Blair** for serving as Session Moderator.

Souper Bowl Tradition Continues

February 12 is Souper Bowl Sunday at St. Luke and many other churches. This is 'soup-er' with an "o" as in chicken noodle. While the other Super Bowl is a once-a-year occurrence, food insecurity is ever present in our community.

St. Luke Women are inviting you to donate to relieve hunger in Amarillo and our surrounding area. Your contributions will go to the Amarillo College Food Pantry, which serves thousands of AC students in need. You can donate by sending a check with Souper Bowl written on the memo line to the church or via the St. Luke website using the online giving option. Select the "Other" fund and Special Missions from the dropdown menu. You can also put a donation in a soup bowl offered to you by a roving St. Luke Women member.

I'll leave you with LUKE 3:11 – Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same.

Epistle Deadline

The deadline for the March edition of the *Epistle* will be February 23. The newsletter will be mailed on February 27. As always, please send your news to editor **Nan Kemp**. If you are not on St. Luke's emailing list and would like to receive the newsletter, please contact **Melissa** in the church office.

From the Mailbox

Dear St. Luke,

Mother and I would like to thank everyone for the cards, calls and condolences following the recent deaths in our family. We appreciate and love you all.

—Lois Ball and Sharen Baker

THANK YOU

for your faithful giving!

Detailed financial reports are always available for review by church members. Stop by the church office during regular hours and request to examine the previous month's financial documents.

Dec. Finances

Year-to-Date

By the Numbers

St. Luke continues to reach out to the online community to provide worship services to our homebound members, those who are out of town or traveling, and people who wish to find out more about us.

In addition to worship services, our Facebook feed provides reminders for the many activities and programs that St. Luke has to offer, updates for weather closings, and church-related news, so we invite you to *follow us* if you haven't already.

Currently, we have 499 followers with 611 people engaging in our posts. We have added a handful of followers and page "likes." Our posts have garnered 185 reactions, and we had 31 "shares." The more we share, like, and comment, the more reach we will get beyond the church walls.

In the past 90 days, St. Luke's Facebook page has reached 6,893 viewers. Over 60% of our audience is from the Amarillo area; however, we have reached as far as the Czech Republic, India, Brazil, Ghana, Ireland, Turkey, and Uganda!

- ♥ January 1 service—We experienced technical difficulties and were unable to stream the service. Fortunately, the problem was resolved by the next week. We have a very good track record thanks to many volunteers who work hard to get the service out there!
- ♥ January 8—141 people were reached, and 5 stayed to worship live; 15 reactions, comments, and shares.
- ♥ January 15—76 people saw the post, and 7 stayed to worship live; 7 reactions, comments, and shares.
- ♥ January 22—60 people were reached, and 7 stayed to worship live; 8 reaction, comments, and shares.

It is worth noting that not all worshipers watch the service live. We are happy to offer a way for people to participate at their convenience by watching at a later time or date. (If you view the service on Facebook, please leave a comment.)

Congratulations

to **Alli and Micah**
upon the birth of
VON EDWARD

on January , 2023.

Proud grandparents are
Roger and Cheri

Birthdays in FEBRUARY

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 3 • Sue | 16 • Kaci |
| 5 • Victoria | 16 • Choice |
| 6 • Farley | 17 • Tyler |
| 6 • Peter | 19 • Hudson |
| 8 • Holland | 20 • Blaine* |
| 8 • Jesse* | 24 • David |
| 9 • Shona | 24 • Sharron |
| 9 • Nicole | 25 • Ashley |
| 10 • Mary | 26 • Bob* |
| ♥ 14 • Matthew | 26 • Laquita |
| ♥ 14 • Anne | 26 • Steve |
| 16 • David* | 27 • Jim* |

* Friend of St. Luke

If your birthday is not listed or if there is an error,
please call the church office.

BOOK NOTES

Doug Tanner wants you to know that library titles recently donated by St. Luke members are as follows:

- Cleverly, Anita, *Deep Night, Bright Morning: Rediscovering the Power of Hope* (2019). Gift of **Bob and Mary McCracken**
- Crossan, John Dominic, *Render Unto Caesar: The Struggle over Christ and Culture in the New Testament* (2022). Gift of **Bob and Mary McCracken**
- Davis, Kim P. with Beth Moore, *Voices of the Faithful: Inspiring Stories of Courage from Christians Serving Around the World*, 2 vols. (2005, 2009). Gifts of **Nan and Dave Kemp**
- Faulkner, Harris, *Faith Still Moves Mountains: Miraculous Stories of the Healing Power of Prayer* (2022). Gift of **Doug Tanner**
- Limbaugh, David, *The True Jesus: Uncovering the Divinity of Christ in the Gospels* (2017). Gift of Rev. **Robin Gantz**
- Limbaugh, David & Christen Limbaugh, *The Resurrected Jesus: The Church in the New Testament* (2022). Gift of Rev. **Robin Gantz**
- Rohr, Richard & Andreas Ebert, *The Enneagram: A Christian Perspective* (2019). Gift of **Nan and Dave Kemp**
- Rohr, Richard, *The Universal Christ: How a Forgotten Reality Can Change Everything We See, Hope for, and Believe* (2021). Gift of **Bob and Mary McCracken**

Under **Doug's** care, St. Luke maintains a well-organized library with many new titles. It is an asset to our church! If you haven't perused our collection lately, you should "check it out." And "Thank you!" to all who have donated books over the past several years.

Joys and Concerns

Von Edward was born on January at
to **Alli and Micah**. Alli grew up in St.
Luke and is the daughter of **Roger and Cheri**
and sister of **Paige** and **Darcy**
. Congratulations!

Recent prayer requests:

We extend our condolences and prayers to all who have lost loved ones. May God bless and comfort these families during this time of grief.

† We send our love to **Nolan and Taytum Agrella** and family upon the death of Nolan's father, **Richard Robert Agrella**, on December 15, 2022.

† We send our love to **Lois Ball, Sharen Baker**, and family upon the death of **Doug Hubbard** on December 28. Doug is Lois' son-in-law and Sharen's brother-in-law. He is also survived by his wife, **Karen**.

† We send our love to **Delma Wingo** and her family upon the death of her brother, **Tom Andrews**. Tom's service will be held in Shamrock on January 30.

Continue to remember those with COVID-19 and also

the St. Luke Session; the Officer Nominating Committee as they recommend the slate for the Pastor Search Committee; the staff and residents at Amarillo Children's Home; the people of Johnson Chapel A.M.E. Church; Glenda Moore (Kind House Ukraine Bakery); our participants at Laundry Love; and the students, teachers, and staff at Mesa Verde Elementary School.

Mission News

February already! Tax time already! Time to get the year started already!

Your Mission Committee has begun the year with a bang. We hosted Laundry Love on January 21 at the 10th St. Laundry and were joined by a small group from a local business, exploring the possibility of establishing their own chapter of Laundry Love. They contributed four enthusiastic workers and \$450 to the January event. We were thankful to have them aboard.

On February 21, the Fellowship Committee is sponsoring a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper to which the congregation is invited. The Mission Committee will be helping, and the donations will go to our Laundry Love program. So come join us in the true spirit of Mardi Gras and enjoy a delicious serving (or two) of pre-Lenten pancakes. They will be delicious. We promise.

Watch for further information on other missions as the year progresses.

Small Groups & Gatherings

St. Luke Women—Feb. 8

St. Luke Women will meet Wednesday, February 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall. **Robin Gantz** and **Donna Clopton** will host the brunch. **Kendra Jones** will lead a short business meeting, then **Priscilla Sheets** will provide the devotional. **Nan Kemp** will introduce the lesson, Chapter 6, "Sabbath and Hospitality," from the *Horizons* Bible study. All women of the church are invited to attend.

Men's Breakfast—Feb. 14

The monthly men's breakfast will be at Hud's (on Bell, just north of 45th St., on the east side) at 6:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 14. At press time, the devotional deliverer was "Hugh Knoze."

GAP Game Night—Feb. 15

GAP (Growing Adult Presbyterians) will meet at the Hadley's house on Wednesday, February 15 at 6:15 p.m. for a game night. Childcare will be available at the church beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Young at Heart—Feb. 15

Aaron DeLong from Amarillo Strength and Balance (physical therapy clinic) will present the program at the February Young at Heart luncheon. Join us at noon on Wednesday, February 15 in the fellowship hall. To reserve a lunch, contact the church office by noon on Tuesday. The fee is \$8, which covers a half a Schlotzsky's sandwich, soup/salad, and a drink. If you forget to call, show up anyway and BYOB (bring your own bag). See you there for fellowship and an informative program.



LOGOS

LOGOS will meet at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 1. We hope to plan a trip to High Plains Food Bank in March. Watch for more news next month!

Star Words

For the past several years, we have celebrated with a "star word" (or maybe "heart word" is a good sentiment for February) of the year. You can choose your word as something that you can focus on for this year. The words are located on the table under the window in the narthex.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
SUNDAY SCHEDULE 9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship 9:40 am Choir Rehearsal 9:45 am Adult Sunday School Class 11:00 am In-Person Worship Children's Church after the anthem 11:00 am Service will stream Live on Facebook * If class time changes, Kary will send a notification.			1 6:00 pm LOGOS	2 10:00 am Exercise Group 2:00 pm Threads of Love Ministry 8:00 pm - AA 8:00 pm - AI-non	3	4
5 Mesa Verde Sunday Rev. Lynn Brack will fill the pulpit.	6 9:00 am * Yoga Class 10:00 & 11:00 am Adult Piano Class 2:00 pm Christian Educ. Com. Mtg. 8:00 pm - AA 8:00 pm - AI-non	7 10:00 am Exercise Group 5:30 pm Mission Com. Mtg.	8 9:30 am St. Luke Women 12:00 noon Finance Com. Mtg.	9 10:00 am Exercise Class 2:00 pm Threads of Love 8:00 pm - AA 8:00 pm - AI-non	10	11
12 Souper Bowl Sunday Ruling Elder Barbara Taylor will fill the pulpit.	13 9:00 am * Yoga Class 10:00 & 11:00 am Adult Piano Class 8:00 pm - AA 8:00 pm - AI-non	14 6:30 am Men's Breakfast 10:00 am Exercise Group 5:45pm Worship Com. Mtg. 6:00 pm Property Com. Mtg.	15 12:00 noon Young at Heart 6:15 pm GAP Game Night @ the Hadley's house <div>6:30 pm Fellowship Com. Mtg.</div>	16 10:00 am Exercise Class 2:00 pm Threads of Love 8:00 pm - AA 8:00 pm - AI-non	17 9:00 am - 5:00 pm <i>The fellowship hall is reserved for a Scrapbook Club event.</i>	18 8:00 - 10:00 am Laundry Love Event @ 10th St. Laundry 9:00 am - 5:00 pm <i>The fellowship hall is reserved for a Scrapbook Club event.</i>
19 Transfiguration of the Lord Ruling Elder Jennifer Denham will fill the pulpit. Communion 4:00pm Stated Session <i>E-pistle</i> deadline	20 <i>Presidents' Day</i> 9:00 am * Yoga Class 10:00 & 11:00 am Adult Piano Class 8:00 pm - AA 8:00 pm - AI-non	21 10:00 am Exercise Group 5:30 pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	22 Ash Wednesday 6:00 Ash Wednesday Service 6:15pm Outreach Com. Mtg.	23 10:00 am Exercise Class 12:00 noon Fourth Thursday Lunch Bunch 2:00 pm Threads of Love 8:00 pm - AA 8:00 pm - AI-non	24 Newsletter is e-mailed/mailed.	25
26 1st Sunday in Lent Lenten study begins in Sunday school Elder Stacy Clopton will fill the pulpit.	27 9:00 am * Yoga Class 10:00 & 11:00 am Adult Piano Class 8:00 pm - AA 8:00 pm - AI-non	28 10:00 am Exercise Group 7:00 pm Farkle Group	<div> </div>			

Security Upgrades Starting

Things are happening! You may notice keypads near several doors that will be used to disarm the security system once we have the entire system installed. There have been quite a few wires pulled through the ceilings that lead to the closet in the library where all of the new system controls will be housed. IdeaCom has had some issues with getting wires to the new tower, because of the way it was built, but we are sure that they will come up with a solution in the near future. There is still quite a bit of work that will be done in January, and we do not have an idea of a completion date, but this is all very exciting, after such a long wait!

On the new door front, there have been some issues with damage that has occurred to the doors in shipping. The contractor is communicating with the supplier to try to get four undamaged doors within the timeframe needed. If gorillas continue to interfere, they plan to install the least damaged doors (they have scratches and dents but are functional) and then replace them with undamaged ones, once they finally arrive. So, don't be concerned if a new door is installed that looks a little subpar.

We will also be learning the new system, working on protocols and developing training for everyone who will be receiving a fob as a replacement for their current keys. That probably will not happen this month, so watch for our update in the March newsletter.

The Security Task Force

Mark Your Calendar!

The Worship Committee has set Communion dates for the next several months. Communion will be celebrated on February 19, April 6, and May 28.

Lent Begins February 22

IMPORTANT DATES:

ASH WEDNESDAY - February 22

We will be celebrating the beginning of Lent with our Ash Wednesday service, Wednesday, February 22 beginning at 6:00 p.m. Please come as you are and join us for the imposition of ashes.

Palm Sunday - April 2

Hosanna! Alleluia! Palm Sunday begins Holy Week on April 2 with our morning worship service at 11:00 a.m. We will be entering the sanctuary with palm branches so come a bit early to help.

Maundy Thursday - April 6

Come share Communion during our Maundy Thursday service on April 6 at 6:00 p.m.

Good Friday Tenebrae - April 7

The joy of Palm Sunday and the celebration of the Passover meal are past. We will share this somber day's service on April 7 at 6:00 p.m.

Easter - April 9

He has risen! He has risen indeed! Put away the gloom of the grave; Christ is no longer there! Easter Sunday service will begin at 11:00 a.m.

The steadfast *love* of the Lord
never ceases,
His mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning;
great is thy faithfulness. LAMENTATION 2:22, 23

Thank You!

Thank you so much for the support during this exciting time. We truly appreciate the gifts, meals, and love! We can't wait to see what is in store for our growing family. Thanks again!

Love,
Ki, Darcy, Holland, and Sutton

[The original card, complete with adorable pictures of the family, can be found on the bulletin board in the hallway.]

**THREADS OF LOVE
MINISTRY**
each Thursday
2:00 p.m.

FARKLE GROUP
last Tuesday
of the month
7:00 p.m.

Postscripts

Dale Conner's work will be shown at the Ann Crouch Gallery at Arts in the Sunset from January 28 through February 18. You are invited to an opening reception on Saturday, January 28 from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. Please see the card on the bulletin board for details.

Hadlee Shields' name appeared on the President's List for her academic performance (4.0) during her first semester at Oklahoma Statue University. **Melissa** is proud of her Poke!