

St. Luke Presbyterian Church

Epistle

NAN KEMP & MELISSA SHIELDS, CO-EDITORS

NOVEMBER 2022 | VOLUME 57, ISSUE 11

Daylight Saving Time

ends at 2 a.m. on **November 6.**



Remember to set your clocks back one hour before you go to bed Saturday night.

Connect with us!



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Called Congregational Meeting October 30

Your Session has called a congregational meeting on Sunday, October 30, immediately following the worship service. The purposes of the meeting are to (1) elect new officers and (2) dissolve the relationship with Rev. **Kati Collins**. Her final Sunday with us will be November 6.

The Officer Nominating Committee will nominate the following members to fulfill the role of Ruling Elder for the Session Class of 2025: **Ross Clopton, Robert Hansen, Barbara Taylor, and Kary Wingo**. The floor will be open to additional nominations; however, anyone nominated must have agreed to be nominated prior to the congregational meeting.

The ONC also recommends the following at-large members for positions on the 2023 Officer Nominating Committee: **Mary Graff, Kim Lacey, and Helen Thorsheim**. These are one-year terms elected by the congregation.

Farewell Reception

St. Luke will host a reception for Pastor **Kati** after the worship service on Sunday, November 6. Make plans to attend to thank Pastor Kati and wish her a fond farewell.

All Are Invited to Thanksgiving at St. Luke

The annual St. Luke Thanksgiving Dinner will be held on November 20 in the fellowship hall after the morning worship service. The Fellowship Committee will provide the turkey, ham, and fixings; otherwise, members with surnames starting with the letters A-Q are requested to bring side dishes and those with surnames beginning R-Z are requested to bring desserts. Donations to Presbyterian Women will be accepted. We hope everyone can attend!

PW Thank Offering

The Presbyterian Women Thank Offering began in 1888, asking women to give a "thank offering to their Lord" and support mission initiatives at home and abroad. Close to \$27 million has been granted to more than 1,600 different projects in the U.S. and around the world.

St. Luke Women will be collecting donations for the Thank Offering at the Thanksgiving Dinner on the 20th. Baskets will be available on the tables, or you may leave your check (memo: PW Thank Offering) in the offering plate or the church office.
— KENDRA JONES

Strokes of Grace

A NOTE FROM PASTOR KATI

THANK-FULL

We must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of everyone of you for one another is increasing. 2 THESSALONIANS 1:3

By now, hopefully you have received the news that I have accepted a new call to the First Presbyterian Church of Stillwater, Oklahoma as their Interim Pastor and Head of Staff. We still have two more Sundays to worship together, and then we will transition during the week of November 7. **Robbie** and I are grateful for the season of life that we have shared with you, and we are thankful for the many blessings we have received over the past four years. One of those blessings has been the shelter and comfort of the church manse on Torre Drive. With our addition of two children and with the restrictions of the pandemic, we have spent a lot of time at home and enjoyed a lot of life inside and outside of these walls. The backyard became a respite and oasis while we healed from COVID this summer. The kitchen, although it is small, gave me the space to follow my baking inspirations, and the oven adequately baked delicious and fluffy French macarons, whole wheat honey challah bread, and many, many loaves of gluten-free sourdough bread. The girls would probably say the bathroom is their favorite room, for they have shared many baths full of laughter and bubbles! Robbie has enjoyed the laundry room/office which includes the bookshelves added by Rev. **Jim Wallace** when he used the room as his home office. Robbie has also enjoyed caring for the lawn and trimming bushes. My phone is filled with photos of the yellow, pink, and red roses from the bushes out front and the daffodils were always a pleasant surprise each spring!

We carry with us many memories of love and grace shared with this congregation, and we pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to bless you and the pastors to come. Grace and Peace to our beloved family and friends of St. Luke.



Our prayer from the St. Luke Fall Retreat 2022

We pray that St. Luke will...

- Continue with joy,
- Listen to Spirit,
- Thrive,
- Unleash our hospitality,
- Practice tolerance,
- Find balance,
- Be Holy Ghost inspired,
- Receive a pastor who will continue Christ's will for our church,
- Do the things other churches don't have the guts to do,
- Continue to grow together and be caring towards each other and the larger community,
- Support and care for each other x2,
- Continue to fill the halls with laughter,
- To be known for our love,
- Relax (not get too wound up),
- Be led by the Spirit to make greater use of the library,
- Continue to love each other,
- Look for the good in one another,
- Have faith that Christ will put us where we need to be in the community, find our place, and thrive.



May they know we're St. Lukans by our love. Amen.

Fall Retreat October 22

Top row:
Nicole Payne,
Ashley Denham,

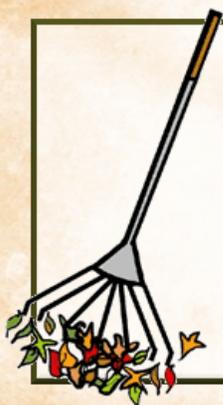
Bottom row:



November BIRTHDAYS

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

- | | |
|--------------|----------------------|
| 3 • Kim* | 19 • Helen |
| 6 • Darcy | 23 • Robbie |
| 6 • Madison | 23 • Patrick |
| 10 • Barbara | 24 • Lois |
| 14 • Kati | 24 • Resa |
| 14 • Karen | 25 • Eldon |
| 19 • Stacy | 30 • Dean |
| 19 • Becky | * friend of St. Luke |



Church Workday October 29

The Property Committee is leading a church workday on Saturday, October 29, starting at 9 a.m. The goal is to anchor the play set in the courtyard, trim bushes, and clean up the flower beds. Your help will be most appreciated!

Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration

The 25th Thanksgiving Gathering, A Place at the Table, is a community-wide event. It will take place Sunday, November 13, noon - 3 p.m. at Temple B'nai Israel Social Hall, 4316 Albert Avenue. Monetary donations will be accepted to benefit High Plains Food Bank and gloves and hand warmers are appreciated for the Code Blue Warming Station. Attendees are invited to bring bread; several St. Lukans are providing soup. Some St. Luke members are helping to lead the worship service. If you plan to attend, you are asked to let **Mary Holmlund** know ().

Church offices will be closed on November 24 and 25 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Top Ten Christian Books of 2022

The St. Luke library has no budget for books, magazines, or audio-visual media (indeed, it has no budget at all). The library depends on donations, and many members have been generous in their giving. These donations help keep the library up to date, although many books given are from years past rather than being current.

So, I have a modest proposal for you. Barnes & Noble has just issued its list of top books of 2022. Among these are their top ten Christian books of the year, which are listed below. Some are exclusively for Christian readers. Some are more generally spiritual.

My proposal is this: buy or order a book from this list that appeals to you. Read it with joy. Then donate it to the library. Your reward is a bookplate acknowledging your gift, and the knowledge that you are enriching a future reader with an up-to-date volume. — DOUG TANNER

- 📖 Allen, Jennie, *Find Your People: Building Deep Community in a Lonely World*
- 📖 Bream, Shannon, *Mothers and Daughters of the Bible Speak: Lessons on Faith from Nine Biblical Families*
- 📖 Cahn, Jonathan, *The Return of the Gods*
- 📖 Earhardt, Ainsley and Barnes, Kim, *I'm So Glad You Were Born: Celebrating Who You Are*
- 📖 Faulkner, Harris, *Faith Still Moves Mountains: Miraculous Stories of the Healing Power of Prayer*
- 📖 Gifford, Kathie Lee and Sobel, Rabbi Jason, *The God of the Way: A Journey into the Stories, People, and Faith that Changed the World Forever*
- 📖 Limbaugh, David and Bloom, Christen Limbaugh, *The Resurrected Jesus: The Church in the New Testament*
- 📖 Niequist, Shauna, *I Guess I Haven't Learned That Yet: Discovering New Ways of Living When the Old Ways Stop Working*
- 📖 Riley, Cole Arthur, *This Here Flesh: Spirituality, Liberation, and the Stories that Make Us*
- 📖 TerKeurst, Lyusa, *Good Boundaries and Goodbyes: Loving Others Without Losing the Best of Who You Are*



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.

SEPTEMBER 2022

YEAR-TO-DATE

Security Task Force Update

Necessary elements for the next phases of the security project are not all in, so to minimize disruptions, we will delay work until next year. — HELEN THORSHEIM

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Following is the clerk's report from the stated Session meeting in October:

Clerk's Report:

- September 2022 average attendance for worship - 60
- Active membership for September 30 - 143
- Communion was celebrated on World Communion Sunday, October 2
- **Scout Mikana Wingo** was born peacefully at rest and baptized by Rev. **Kati Collins** on September 20, 2022. A memorial service was held at St. Luke on Saturday, September 24, 2022.
- Adjustments to the church roll: remove **Brian Rose** (Midland, TX) and list him as a "friend of St. Luke" and remove affiliate member **Nicholle Ticken** (Conroe, TX).

Session highlights:

- A discussion was held about all committees offering Zoom options for their meetings to offer flexibility for members to attend. The Outreach Committee is going to discuss options and will get back to Session in a timely manner.
- Budget worksheets for committees were distributed and will be returned to the Finance Committee by November 13. Also, a draft of the Narrative Budget descriptive paragraphs was distributed for feedback.
- **Ann Hefner** has offered to contact other ministries about the success (and the need for additional participating laundromats) of Laundry Love.
- Officer Nominating Committee reported the following nominees: for Class of 2025 Elders - **Ross Clopton, Bob Hansen, Barbara Taylor, and Kary Wingo**. Scholarship Committee - **Sam Burnett, Nona Fulton**. Endowment Committee - **Nan Kemp, Eldon Wingo**. Nominating Committee 2023 - **Mary Graff, Kim Lacey, and Helen Thorsheim**.

- Church workday set for October 29 in the morning.
- Positive comments were shared about the annual seminar at St. Luke and the Presbytery meeting in Sweetwater.
- Worship Committee has been busy filling the pulpit (completed through the end of the year) and getting volunteers for various parts of upcoming services.
- Congregational meeting to dissolve the relationship with Pastor **Kati** and elect Class of 2025 Elders was set for October 30 after worship.
- The Session unanimously agreed to move forward with a search for a permanent pastor thereby skipping the interim position search. Committee on Ministry will be asked to approve this.

Commendations:

- ▶ **Phillip Periman** and the Seminar Committee for their recent event featuring speaker Dr. **Angela Parker**.
- ▶ Nominating Committee for their hard work with procuring volunteers for the new slate of committee and Session nominees.
- ▶ Worship Committee for their hard work in organizing worship services and filling the pulpit until year end.
- ▶ All volunteers helping with the Interfaith Celebration.
- ▶ **Donna Clopton** for her diligent and excellent service as Congregational Care moderator for the last three years.
- ▶ **Ann Hefner** for taking and preparing the minutes for the Congregational Care meeting.
- ▶ **Doug Tanner** for keeping a current message on the Bell Street sign and for providing the labor for necessary repairs to the plexiglass.
- ▶ Pastor **Kati** for her participation and leadership on the Finance Committee through her tenure at St. Luke.
- ▶ Chancel choir and musicians for an outstanding anthem.
- ▶ Pastor **Kati** and Rev. **Scott Hill** for their leadership and sharing of resources for the pet blessing service.

GAP Game Night

GAP, Growing Adult Presbyterians, is going to meet in November for a board game night! They are going to meet at the home of **Ki and Darcy Hargis**, 3421

, at 6:15 on November 16.

Childcare will be provided at St. Luke, starting at 6:00. You are invited to bring your favorite board game and a snack to share. If you have any questions, feel free to text or call Darcy at
Can't wait to see you there!



St. Luke Women

St. Luke Women will meet Wednesday, November 9, at 9:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall. **Linda Peirce** and **Sharron Fitzner** will provide the brunch. **Kendra Jones** will lead a short business meeting, then **Margaret Heyde** will present a devotional. The theme this year is Celebrating Sabbath and the lesson for November is #3 – "Sabbath and Sunday." All women of the church are invited to attend.

Looking ahead to the devotional, Margaret Heyde asks us to picture Snoopy and Lucy dancing a jig as displayed on the cover of Charles Schultz's book *Sunday's Fun Day, Charlie Brown*. Is that true for you? Is Sunday "fun day," and if so, is God okay with that? Put another way, nurturing our faith is key to discerning how God through the Holy Spirit would like us to be (and act) in this world.

Young at Heart

Young at Heart's monthly luncheon will be held Wednesday, November 16, at noon. **Ann Hefner** will speak about Geraldine Brooks, the Pulitzer Prize winning author. A small fee of \$8 covers the cost of the meal. Please RSVP by noon on the 15th if you plan to attend. If you have any suggestions for future speakers or programs, contact **Bob McCracken**.

Men's Breakfast

The monthly men's breakfast will be held at 6:30 a.m. on Tuesday, November 8. **Eldon Wingo** will host. All men are welcome to attend.

November

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
EACH SUNDAY 9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship 9:40 am Choir Rehearsal 9:45 am Adult Sunday School 11:00 am In-Person Worship and service will stream Live on Facebook Children's Church		1 All Saints' Day 10:00 am Exercise Group 4:00 pm Congregational Care Com. Mtg. 6:00 pm Hebrews Study	2 1:30 pm Luke Study 6:00 - 7:15 pm LOGOS	3 10:00 am Exercise Group 2:00 pm Threads of Love Ministry 6:30 pm - ACA 8:00 pm - AA 8:00 pm - Al-non	4 World Community Day	5 10:30 am - ACA
6 DST ends All Saints' Sunday Candle Lighting Communion will be celebrated. Rev. Collins' last Sunday in pulpit. Following worship Farewell Reception	7 10:30 am Adult Piano Class 2:00 pm Christian Educ. Com. Mtg.* 5:30 pm Mission Com. Mtg. 8:00 pm - AA 8:00 pm - Al-non	8 Election Day 6:30 am Men's Breakfast 10:00 am Exercise Group 5:45 pm Worship Com. Mtg. 6:00 pm Hebrews Study	9 9:30 am St. Luke Women 12:00 noon Finance Com. Mtg.	10 10:00 am Exercise Group 12:00 noon Property Com. Mtg. 2:00 pm Threads of Love 6:30 pm - ACA 8:00 pm - AA 8:00 pm - Al-non	11 Veterans Day <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> 5:30 pm Fellowship Hall is reserved for Kappa Kappa Iota Sorority Mtg. </div>	12 3:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall is reserved for McCarthy baby shower 10:30 am - ACA
13 9:30 am Hargis Baby Shower Noon - 3:00 pm Interfaith Thanksgiving @ Temple B'nai Israel 4:30 pm Stated Session Mtg.	14 10:30 am Adult Piano Class 8:00 pm - AA 8:00 pm - Al-non	15 10:00 am Exercise Group 6:00 pm Hebrews Study	16 12:00 noon Young at Heart 1:30 pm Luke Study 6:15 - 7:15 pm GAP	17 10:00 am Exercise Group 2:00 pm Threads of Love Ministry 6:30 pm - ACA 8:00 pm - AA 8:00 pm - Al-non	18	19 8:00 - 10:00 am Laundry Love Event @ 10th Street Laundry 4:00 pm Fellowship Com. Mtg. 10:30 am - ACA
20 Christ the King Sunday Following worship Thanksgiving Church Dinner <i>E-pistle</i> deadline	21 10:30 am Adult Piano Class 8:00 pm - AA 8:00 pm - Al-non	22 10:00 am Exercise Group 6:00 pm Hebrews Study	23 6:15 pm Outreach Com. Mtg.	24 Thanksgiving Church offices will be closed. 6:30 pm - ACA 8:00 pm - AA 8:00 pm - Al-non	25 Church offices will be closed.	26 10:30 am - ACA
27 First Sunday of Advent Advent Study begins during adult Sunday school	28 10:30 am Adult Piano Class 8:00 pm - AA 8:00 pm - Al-non	29 Giving Tuesday 10:00 am Exercise Group 6:00 pm Hebrews Study 7:00 pm Farkle Group	30	* if needed <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>HAPPY thanksgiving</p> </div>		

Hebrews Bible Study

The Hebrews Bible Study continues at 6 p.m. on Tuesday nights through November 8 at the **Lacey** home. After that, it will be at **Barbara Taylor's** house until the study ends. All are welcome.

Giving Joyfully!

Thank you to each and every individual and family that has returned a stewardship form! Your joyful support of the ministries, missions, and programs of the church are most appreciated.

If you requested a t-shirt on your form, you may pick it up from the table in the hall. Each bundle is labeled with a name or names, so be sure that you grab the right one!

If you don't have a t-shirt yet, it's not too late! Turn in your stewardship paper A.S.A.P! Printed forms are available for pick-up from tables in the hall or go to www.stlukeamarillo.com/stewardship-drive/.

All Saints Sunday, November 6th

All Saints' Day is a time to rejoice in all who through the ages have faithfully served the Lord. The day reminds us that we are part of one continuing, living communion of saints.

During the November 6 worship service, we will light candles in memory of our loved ones who have died in the past year, including Rev. Dr. **James Paskell "Pat" Kennedy**, former minister at St. Luke (1944-2021); **Johnnie Edwin "Eddie" Dugger** (1935-2021); Dr. **Cecil Travis McBride** (1927-2021); **Barbara Ann Powell** (1940-2022); **Doyle Lynn Leathers** (1948-2022); and **Scout Mikana Wingo** (2022).

Advent Series to Begin

Advent season begins November 27. The adult Sunday school class will present *Making Room* by Dr. Ed Robb. There are four topics:

- 1) Be A Neighbor
- 2) Welcome Strangers
- 3) Leave the Light On
- 4) Walk Each Other Home

Class is at 9:45 a.m. in the activities/craft room. If you want your own study guide, it can be purchased through Cokesbury or Amazon. If you are unable to attend the class, there are *These Days* devotional booklets on the entry table by the sanctuary. Also, you can download a free Advent study from the PC(USA) store and obtain a unit from the *Follow Me* curriculum entitled "Hope." — KENDRA JONES

Town & Gown

Alice Cooke invites everyone to a Town and Gown concert at WT's Mary Moody Northen Hall on December 5 at 7 p.m. These concerts are always enjoyable – and free!

Joys & Concerns

Recent prayer requests:

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

† Our love and sympathy are extended to the **Wingo** family. **Pat Wingo** was killed in a car accident near Seagraves on October 9. Pat is **Delma's** sister-in-law, **Eldon's** aunt, and **Sumner's** grandmother.

† We extend prayers for peace and comfort to the **Castleberry** family. **Roger's** brother, **Larry Castleberry**, passed away on October 6. He had been battling long-term health issues. A memorial was held in Quannah.

Continue to remember those with COVID-19 and also

the St. Luke Session; 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.

The most recent

ST. LUKE TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

is available from tables
in the hallway.

Please take
one per family.

THREADS OF LOVE

each Thursday
2:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall



Thank you!



Thank you, everyone, for the lovely cards and gift cards shared on Pastor Appreciation Sunday! Thank you for helping me grow, too! — *Pastor Kati*



Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the December *E-pistle* will be Sunday, November 20. Please send your news to editor **Nan Kemp** before we are all occupied by Thanksgiving festivities. Because the usual mailing date falls on a holiday in November, the newsletter will be delayed until early the following week. If you are not on St. Luke's emailing list and would like to receive the newsletter, please contact the church office to be added.

SAVE THE DATE: WARP'D, February 11

WARP'D (Weekend Activity Retreat in Palo Duro) Youth Retreat returns to Palo Duro for middle school and high school students. The event will be held at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Lubbock.

The Austin College ACTivators and the Rev. Dr. John Williams will be presenting this retreat. Recreation, music, the keynote, small groups, and plenary games will follow the theme of "Every Living Creature" (Genesis 9:12).

At least one responsible adult must accompany each congregation's youth. Friday night lodging and showers are available at Covenant (bring a sleeping bag and towel).

For questions, contact **SarahLee Morris** at _____) or email _____

Heal the City

Heal the City is a charitable organization selected by our Mission Committee to receive a monthly, budgeted donation. Our small gifts when combined with others help provide free quality medical care and referral services with dignity and compassion to the uninsured of our community. Each month, in response to our gift, we receive a letter of thanks that includes a heartfelt testimonial from a client of the clinic. The fundraiser shown below is another means that you can choose to support Heal the City's ministry.



HEAL *the* CITY

An Evening With:

New York Times Best-Selling Author

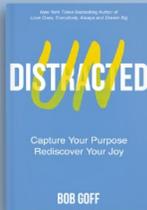
Bob Goff

November 18th, 2022

Polk Street United Methodist Church

Doors open at 7:00 pm

www.healthycityamarillo.com



TICKETS



Thank you to our event sponsors:

Anonymous Speaker Sponsor

