

NAN KEMP & MELISSA SHIELDS, CO-EDITORS
VOLUME 59, ISSUE 6/7 | JUNE & JULY 2023

Confirmation Classes in June

It's not too late to join the confirmation class for 6th grade and up. We will meet Sunday, June 11 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. and then Monday through Wednesday, June 12-14, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The curriculum is called *Big God, Big Questions*, published by PC(USA). We will explore our faith together and have a lot of fun at the same time. We ask the congregation to pray for us during this journey together. A special thank you to the mentors that will be participating and our special guest speakers! If you would like more information, please contact **Kary Wingo**.

GAP Bible Study Is Back

Tim and Kim Lacey have graciously offered to host a weekly Bible study starting in June. We will meet on Wednesday evenings at the Laceys' home—June 7, 14, 21 and 28.

Important Church-Wide Events

June 10th and 11th are a big weekend for all of us to first help beautify our church and then revel in the beauty of our manse! On June 10, starting at 8:00 a.m., the Property Committee hopes to have lots of helpers to work on numerous projects both outside and inside the church (though mostly outside—have you seen all those weeds in the flower beds and sidewalks?) Please bring your gloves, trimmers, shovels, dandelion-pullers, and friendly selves to help us!

Then on Sunday, June 11, come join us after church to tour the manse and see all the improvements that have been made at our future pastor's house. Bring cash too, because we will have a wide variety of items in the garage that you can purchase with donations. Lots of gently used laundry and cleaning supplies, window blinds, tools, car jacks, plant pots, and more. Proceeds will go towards the future manse improvements.

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



Holiday Observed — The church office will be closed, and there will be no adult piano class on Monday, May 29 in observance of Memorial Day. ★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Sharing Our Resources

We have exciting news to share regarding our Methodist friends! They will officially be chartered as a church on Sunday, June 4. They will hold worship as usual from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. Then beginning at 10:30 they will be gathering in the fellowship hall for an official meeting and meal. We ask that St. Luke members please not exit through the fellowship hall after our services on this day. The Methodists have also hired a secretary, and her first day was May 22. Her name is **Melissa Stovall**, and she will be officing in the craft room located in the education wing. And lastly, our Methodist friends have been appointed a pastor, Rev. **Robert Burke**, and his first Sunday will be June 25. He will be officing in the parlor, also in the education wing. If you get a chance, please congratulate our friends on the exciting way the Spirit is moving through their congregation! —**Kary Wingo**

Shhh! Silent Auction Planned

Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 10 as we plan a silent auction to benefit our Laundry Love mission. If you have a special gift of creativity and would like to make something to donate to the auction, now is a great time to get started. If you have any questions, please contact **Camille Hoy** or any member of the Mission Committee.



1 • Maddie	1 • Sara
3 • Donald	2 • Dona
3 • Travis*	2 • David
4 • Louise	7 • Katelynn
7 • JoAnn	12 • Becka
8 • Ruth	12 • Kary
10 • Gary	20 • Cortney
16 • Robert	21 • Sallie
18 • Dannette	30 • Jonathon
21 • Sam	30 • Janet
23 • Elizabeth*	31 • Delma
26 • Lilly	
27 • Dale*	
30 • Celinda	

* Friend of St. Luke

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

Security Report

The new door access system seems to be working well, and users are getting comfortable with it. We have switched to fully using fobs instead of keys, so please do NOT use your key anymore. Although the keys will not be useful as soon as we change the locks, we would still like to have them returned to Melissa at your earliest convenience. There will be some small additional enhancements in the future related to the grant, including some written guidance and training, but we are mostly done! Please contact any member of the task force if you have any questions. —**Helen Thorsheim**

REMINDER: When the church doors are locked, please use the new intercom system on either the north doors (main entrance) or the fellowship hall doors to request entry to the building. Your call will be answered by the office during business hours or by the ushers on Sunday. Please discontinue use of the tower entrance. Thank you for your cooperation!

MAY SESSION REPORT

Below is a brief summary of the May Session meeting:

Clerk's Report

1. April 2023 average attendance for worship – 94
2. Active membership as of April 30, 2023 – 140
3. Communion was celebrated on May 7, 2023 with Elder **Stacy Clopton** presiding.

Commendations

- **Stacy Clopton** for presiding at her first Communion.
- St. Luke Women for sharing their salad luncheon leftovers with the Finance Committee.
- **Helen Thorsheim** for her perseverance with the security system.

congratulations
to our friends for their achievements
and special recognitions. *Kudos!*

- ★ **Mila Abbasova** was recently awarded WT's Sybil B. Harrington College of Fine Arts and Humanities award for Outstanding Contributions in Professional Service.
- ★ **Carly Powell** was named River Road Middle School's Teacher of the Year.
- ★ **Cailyn** is a trombonist and member of the River Road beginning 6th grade band that received an outstanding score in the Greater Southwest Competition. Cailyn also came in second place in the UIL Math Calculator Competition. Outstanding!
- ★ **Tom Heyde** will receive a Texas Panhandle Quilt of Honor on Saturday, May 27 at the Texas Panhandle War Memorial Center.

Joys and Concerns

We pray for:

We extend our condolences and prayers to all who are experiencing losses. May God bless and comfort these families through their grief.

- † Our love and sympathy are extended to **Robin Gantz** upon the death of her brother, **Jim Sumner**, on May 9 in Colorado.
- † **Matthew Lawrence**, dear friend of **Margaret Heyde**, passed away in Joliet, IL.

Continue to remember those with COVID-19 and also

the St. Luke Session; the Pastor Nominating Committee; the staff and residents at Amarillo Children's Home; the people of our sister church, Johnson Chapel A.M.E.; **Glenda Moore** and Kind House Ukraine Bakery; our participants and helpers at Laundry Love; and the students, teachers, and staff at Mesa Verde Elementary School.

PNC Update

The Pastor Nominating Committee thanks all of you for your thoughtful responses on the surveys that were distributed. We appreciate your support and prayers as we read and consider your input and move forward in the search process.

—**Bob Hansen**

Outreach Announces Events

The Outreach Committee will have several events in June and August, and we want to be sure the congregation knows about the events and will participate as they feel comfortable and able.

- PRIDE worship service & potluck brunch – June 10, 10:00 a.m. at Amarillo Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
- Panhandle PRIDE – June 24, 3:00-10:00 p.m. at Starlight Ranch
- Neon Nebula – June 30, 6:00 p.m. at Starlight Ranch
- Juneteenth Parade, June 19 – (More information will come later in the month as this is still in the planning stage.) OAC churches will probably walk in the parade.
- AATAG Children's Camp, coming in August
- AMA-CON, August 5 & 6, at the Amarillo Civic Center

—**Jennifer Denham**



Linda Peirce and Mila Abbasova paid a visit to our special friend, Dorothy Baggerly! Dorothy sends greetings from Lubbock.



THANK YOU

for your faithful giving!

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

April 2023

Year-to-Date

PW Winds Up

Lesson Year ★★★★★

Members of St. Luke Women, our PW circle, celebrated another lesson year with a salad luncheon in May. Thanks go to **Kendra Jones** for moderating so ably last year. The new series will start on September 13. The intriguing title is *Sacred Encounters*. All women are invited to attend. Each meeting includes a delicious brunch and a thought-provoking Bible lesson.

★★★ Men's Breakfast

The monthly Men's Breakfast will be held on Tuesday, June 13, at 6:30 a.m. at HUD'S (4411 Bell St. just north of 45th St., east side). **Ross Clopton** will deliver the devotional. **David Kemp** has volunteered to do the honors in July. All men of the church are welcome to fellowship and chow down on excellent food.

Young at Heart ★★★★★

The Young at Heart luncheon will be at noon on Wednesday, June 21. **Margie Netherton** will speak on the mental health crisis. A small fee of \$8 covers the cost of the meal from Schlotzsky's, or you are welcome to bring your own lunch. Kindly RSVP to the church office by 11:00 a.m. on the 20th so we'll know how much food to order.

Mission Committee Had Busy Month!

The committee hosted a Laundry Love event on May 20. We would like to thank **Eldon** and **Kary Wingo** for helping out. We welcome any and all volunteers to support this mission on the third Saturday of each month.

Teachers at Mesa Verde Elementary were celebrated each and every day during Teacher Appreciation Week and were thanked for their hard work with a special meal on May 26. Thanks to all the volunteers who make this mission possible!

Library Adds to Collection

The following titles have been added to the St. Luke library:

- Beal, Timothy. *The Book of Revelation: A Biography* (2018). Traces the origins of the visionary book of Revelation and the evolution of thinking about it.
- Egan, Timothy. *A Pilgrimage to Eternity: From Canterbury to Rome in Search of a Faith* (2019).
- Greenblatt, Stephen. *The Swerve: How the World Became Modern* (2011). How the rediscovery during the Renaissance of Lucretius's poem, "On the Nature of Things," helped lay the foundation for modern, secular humanism.
- Matthews, Rupert. *The Popes: Every Question Answered, from Saint Peter to Pope Francis* (2019; originally published 2008).
- Netherton, Margaret. *Bearing Witness in a Broken World: Practices to Cultivate Wholeness* (2023). The author is Formation Coordinator at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Amarillo.
- Wilson, Catherine. *How to Be an Epicurean: The Ancient Art of Living Well* (2019). Traces the roots of empirical materialism espoused by early Greek philosopher Epicurus and poet Lucretius, and explores the applicability of their principles to modern life.

Bell Ringers Wanted

Last summer, a bell choir was heard once a month during the worship service. We hope to continue this practice in 2023. If you would like to participate, let **Bob Hansen** know. Rehearsals will be on the day of each performance, which will take place the second Sunday of each summer month.

Plan Ahead for Summer

Summer is a busy time that often takes us out of town, but just as you can listen to sermons while you are away, you can continue your giving even when you can't be physically present! If you haven't already done so, setting up bill pay with your bank or giving online are convenient ways to make sure you don't miss a beat.

If you estimated your giving for 2023 (or maybe set an unofficial goal for yourself) but aren't quite sure if you are on track, summer is a good time to pause and check your Giving Statement. The reports will go out by email to all givers the second week of June. (Call for a printed copy.)

Thanks go to all our members, friends, and visitors who continue to faithfully give and to those who have recently begun giving as an act of worship.

Here are some interesting statistics:

Social media stats for the past twenty-eight days: Facebook followers - 522, post reach - 966, post engagement - 675, new followers - 4. The post with the most engagement was the Easter cantata. We need to encourage attendees to 'check in,' 'like,' and 'share' to continue the post-reach and engagements outside of the church.

—**Jennifer Denham**

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS: April 30 through May 14 [Due to technical difficulties, we were unable to stream the service on the 21st.]

Worship services on Facebook Live:

Average reach = 93.67 (high of 106, low of 74)	Average engagements = 15.67 (high of 22, low of 12)	Average peak "live" viewers = 7 (high of 9, low of 4)
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Epistle Deadline

The deadline for the August edition of the *Epistle* will be July 23. The newsletter will be mailed on July 28. As always, please send your news to editor **Nan Kemp**.

Upcoming Birthday?

The Endowment Committee encourages you to celebrate your birthday by donating the amount of your age. Your gift is added to St. Luke's Perpetual Endowment Fund to continue the mission of the church in years to come.

JUNE



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
SUNDAY SCHEDULE No Adult Sunday School Class or Children's Church this summer. See you in the fall! 9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship 9:45 am Sunday School is on summer break 10:15 am Choir Rehearsal 11:00 am In-Person Worship Children's Church after the anthem 11:00 am Service will stream Live on Facebook * Kary Wingo will notify participants if the schedule changes.				1 10:00 am Exercise Group 2:00 pm Threads of Love Ministry 4:00 pm Personnel Com. Mtg.	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Trinity Sunday Mesa Verde Sunday Communion Elder David Kemp will fill the pulpit. Methodists will be using the fellowship hall for a meeting 10:30 to 12:30	9:00 am* Yoga Practice 10:00 & 11:00 am Adult Piano Classes 5:30 pm Mission Com. Mtg.	D-Day 10:00 am Exercise Group 4:00 pm Congregational Care Com. Mtg.	6:00 pm GAP Bible Study & Dinner @ Laceys' house	10:00 am Exercise Group 2:00 pm Threads of Love Ministry		8:00 am Church Beautification Day (inside and outside projects) 10:00 am PRIDE Worship Svc. & Potluck Brunch @ AUUF
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Ruling Elder Doug Tanner will fill the pulpit. After church Open House at the manse 6:00 - 7:30 pm Confirmation Class	9:00 am* No Yoga Practice 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Confirmation Class 10:00 & 11:00 am Adult Piano Classes	6:30 am Men's Breakfast @ HUD'S 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Confirmation Class 10:00 am Exercise Group 5:45 pm Worship Com. Mtg.	Flag Day 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Confirmation Class 12:00 noon Finance Com. Mtg. 6:00 pm GAP Bible Study & Dinner @ Laceys' house	10:00 am Exercise Group 2:00 pm Threads of Love Ministry	9:00 am - 5:00 pm Fellowship Hall is reserved for the Scrapbook Club	8:00 - 10:00 am Laundry Love @ 10th St. Laundry
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Father's Day	Juneteenth TBA Juneteenth Parade 9:00 am* No Yoga Practice 10:00 & 11:00 am Adult Piano Classes	10:00 am Exercise Group	Summer begins 12:00 noon Young at Heart 6:00 pm GAP Bible Study & Dinner @ Laceys' house	10:00 am Exercise Group 12:00 noon Fourth Thursday Lunch Bunch 2:00 pm Threads of Love Ministry		3:00 - 10:00 pm Panhandle PRIDE @ Starlight Ranch
25	26	27	28	29	30	July 1
	9:00 am* No Yoga Practice 10:00 & 11:00 am Adult Piano Classes	10:00 am Exercise Group 7:00 pm Farkle Group	6:00 pm GAP Bible Study & Dinner @ Laceys' house	10:00 am Exercise Group 2:00 pm Threads of Love Ministry	6:00 pm Neon Nebula @ Starlight Ranch	



JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Mesa Verde Sunday Communion will be celebrated.	9:00 am* No Yoga Practice 10:00 & 11:00 am Adult Piano Classes	Independence Day Church office will be closed. 10:00 am No Exercise Group		10:00 am Exercise Group 2:00 pm Threads of Love Ministry		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Invite a friend to church!	9:00 am* Yoga Practice 10:00 & 11:00 am Adult Piano Classes	6:30 am Men's Breakfast @ HUD'S 10:00 am Exercise Group 5:45 pm Worship Com. Mtg.		10:00 am Exercise Group 2:00 pm Threads of Love Ministry 5:30 pm Seminar Com. Mtg.		8:00 - 10:00 am Laundry Love @ 10th St. Laundry
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	9:00 am* Yoga Practice 10:00 & 11:00 am Adult Piano Classes	10:00 am Exercise Group 6:00 pm Fellowship Com. Mtg.		10:00 am Exercise Group 2:00 pm Threads of Love Ministry	9:00 am - 5:00 pm Fellowship Hall is reserved for the Scrapbook Club	
23	24	25	26	27		
E-pistle deadline	9:00 am* Yoga Practice 10:00 & 11:00 am Adult Piano Classes	10:00 am Exercise Group 7:00 pm Farkle Group		10:00 am Exercise Group 12:00 noon Fourth Thursday Lunch Bunch 2:00 pm Threads of Love Ministry		
30	31	SUNDAY SCHEDULE 9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship 9:45 am Sunday School is on summer break 10:15 am Choir Rehearsal 11:00 am In-Person Worship Children's Church after the anthem 11:00 am Service will stream Live on Facebook				
6 EPISTLE	9:00 am* Yoga Practice 10:00 & 11:00 am Adult Piano Classes					

