

St. Luke Presbyterian Church

November 2023

Epistle

Nan Kemp & Dynette Hofmann • Co-Editors
Volume 59 • Issue 11

Ruling Elders

Class of '23

Ann Hefner
Camille Hoy
Bob McCracken
Doug Tanner

Class of '24

Jennifer Denham
Kendra Jones
Tim Lacey
Cruse Messer

Class of '25

Ross Clopton
Bob Hansen
Barbara Taylor
Kary Wingo

Give Thanks



“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

~1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



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LET'S
get
SOCIAL

November Birthdays

11/03 • Kim

11/05 • Miles

11/06 • Darcy

11/06 • Madison

11/10 • Barbara

11/14 • Karen

11/16 • Kaity

11/19 • Helen

11/19 • Stacy

11/24 • Resa

11/25 • Eldon

11/30 • Dean

If we missed your birthday, please let us know. Call the church office @ 806.355.6253 or email @ admin@stlukeamarillo.com

Epistles

Dear St. Luke,

It's been kind of a rough year for us in the Heyde/Denham/Payne households, but we keep on keeping on. Thank you for the meals, gifts, and cards to make us feel like we're with you all. If it weren't for a family like you all, we're not sure where we would be. Thank you again. I am working on getting stronger and Tom is, too, with a little encouragement. And, look at that Hayden, growing into a youngster!

*Bless you all so much.
Margaret and Tom Heyde*

Dear St. Luke,

I want to thank the wonderful ladies that graciously volunteered to fill in for me while I was out of the office; Susan Barnes, Mary Holmlund and Helen Thorsheim.

*God Bless You!
Dynette Hofmann*

THANK YOU

for your faithful giving!

September Finances

Year-to-Date

Library Additions

► Andrus, Marc. *Brothers in the Beloved Community: The Friendship of Thich Nhat Hanh and Martin Luther King, Jr.* (2021). Gift from **Doug Tanner**.

► Burgard, Anna Marlis, editor; illustrated by Richard Krepel. *Hallelujah: The Poetry of Classic Hymns* (2005). Gift from **Doug Tanner**.

► Cooke, Nym, compiler and editor. *American Harmony*, 2 slip cased volumes plus CD (2017). Gift of St. Luke Chancel Choir in gratitude to **Robert Hansen**.

► Florence, Dr. Anna Carter. *A Is for Alabaster: 52 Reflections on the Stories of Scripture* (2023). By recent St. Luke Seminar Leader. Gift from **Doug Tanner**.

► Hagner, Donald A. *How New Is the New Testament? First-Century Judaism and the Emergence of Christianity* (2018). Gift from **Doug Tanner**.

► Shelton, Fran Tilton. *No Winter Lasts Forever: A Memoir of Loving Bob and Loathing Alzheimer's* (2019). Autographed copy. Gift from **David Kemp**.

► *Ibid.* *The Spirituality of Grief: Ten Practices for Those Who Remain* (2023). Autographed copy. Gift from **David Kemp**.

► Sherwood, Yvonne. *A Biblical Text and Its Afterlives: The Survival of Jonah in Western Culture* (2000). Gift from **Phillip Periman**.

The titles listed are recent additions to the St. Luke library. Thanks go to our resident librarian **Doug Tanner** for administering our growing collection.

Session Report

Below is a short summary of the session meeting on October 22

Clerk's Report

- September 2023 average attendance for worship – 65
- Active membership as September 30, 2023 – 144
- Communion celebrated October 1, 2023, with **Stacy Clopton** presiding.
- LifeVac, a choking prevention device, has been placed near the defibrillator.

Commendations

- **Cruse Messer** for faithfully securing pulpit supply each Sunday.
- Fellowship and Mission for all their hard work and food donations and **Kaci Jones** and **Helen Thorsheim** for collecting money and tracking payments for the silent auction to benefit Laundry Love.
- The people of St. Luke and AUMC for purchases and donations to Laundry Love.
- Everyone who served as pulpit supply in October.
- Rev. **Robin Gantz** for moderating the congregational meeting.
- Seminar Committee, moderated by **Kendra Jones**, for the outstanding seminar led by Dr. **Anna Carter Florence**.
- **Melissa Stovall** for providing very helpful and timely AUMC representation at the Worship Committee meeting.
- **Kaci Jones** for his Minute for Mission about stewardship.

Men's Breakfast

All men of the church are welcome to meet at 6:30 a.m. on Nov. 14th (Tuesday) at HUD'S, 4411 Bell St., (east side of the street) for breakfast and fellowship. A volunteer to deliver the devotional is needed, as the previous devotionalist (new word?) will be out of town. **SIDE NOTE:** Kaci Jones volunteered.

Helping Hands Need

Members of the **First United Methodist Church** in Georgetown, TX, will be here on Nov 7th - 9th to assist those with damaged homes in Hereford from flooding this year. Their goal is to get as much accomplished as possible before winter sets in. They are seeking extra volunteers that can help them or can volunteer on their own. Contact **Elizabeth Hunter** from Georgetown @ 000.000.0000 or **Cindy Simmons** from Hereford @ 000.000.0000.



Sunday, Nov 5th @ 2:00 a.m.

Presbyterian Women of St. Luke

St. Luke Women will be collecting donations during the church's annual Thanksgiving meal for the 2023 PW Thank Offering. A portion (\$35,000) of the offering will go to Okra Abbey New Worshipping Community Solar Power for Resilience. Okra Abbey is a female-led, community focused ministry for residents of the Pigeon Town neighborhood in New Orleans. Their sanctuary is a garden where food grows and where people grow through sharing stories, scripture, prayers and relationships. The Thank Offering will provide a full solar power system and allow Okra Abbey to expand their services by having available outlets for power tools, an irrigation system and cell phone charging stations for low-income and often transitory individuals. The solar power will also keep the community refrigerator running and provide reliable electricity during power outages, especially during weather disasters.

Your donations will be greatly appreciated.

Presbyterian Women will meet on Wednesday, Nov. 8th, in the Fellowship Hall. A brunch hosted by Ann Hefner and Jo Ann Jolley will be held at 9:30 a.m. A short business meeting moderated by Kendra Jones will follow. Priscilla Sheets will deliver the devotional. Lesson 3 is "A Bleeding Woman Encounters Christ" from the Horizons Bible Study "Sacred Encounters." Let Nan Kemp know if you don't have a study guide.



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

"Everything that has been created by God is good, and nothing that is received with thanksgiving should be rejected. These things are made holy by God's word and prayer."

~ 1 Timothy 4:4-5

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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Each Sunday

9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship
 9:45 am Adult Advent Study
 10:15 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 11:00 am In person Worship and
 Live on Facebook. Children's
 church after the Anthem

**"Offer unto God thanksgiving; and
 pay thy vows unto the most high."**

~ Psalms 50:14



			1 6:00 pm: WNL • Dinner, Fel- lowship, and Bible Study	2 10:00 am: Exercise Group 2:00 pm: Threads of Love Ministry 6:00 pm: Adult Bible Study @ Barbara Taylor's	3	4 Turn your clocks back 
5 Mesa Verde Sunday Rev Rebecca Vardiman will fill the pulpit.	6 10 & 11 am: Adult Piano Class 5:30 p.m. Mission Comm Mtg	7 10:00 am: Exercise Group 3:30 pm: Congregation- al Care Comm Mtg 6:00 pm: Fellowship Comm Mtg	8 9:30 am: Presbyterian Women's Brunch & Bible Study Noon: Finance Comm Mtg 6:00 pm: WNL • Dinner, Fellow- ship, and Bible Study	9 10:00 am: Exercise Group 2:00 pm: Threads of Love Ministry 6:00 pm: Adult Bible Study @ Barbara Taylor's	10	11
12 Bring a Friend Sunday Elder Bob Han- sen will fill the pulpit. 5:00 pm: Sunday Medi- tation	13 10 & 11 am: Adult Piano Class 6:30 p.m. Outreach Comm Mtg	14 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast 10:00 am: Exercise Group 5:30 p.m. Worship Comm Mtg	15 Noon: Young At Heart 6:00 pm: WNL • Dinner, Fellow- ship, and Bible Study	16 10:00 am: Exercise Group 2:00 pm: Threads of Love 6:00 pm: Bible Study @ Barbara Taylor's	17	18 8:00 a.m. till 10:00 a.m. Laundry Love
19 Elder Barbara Taylor will fill the pulpit. Noon: Thanksgiving Luncheon 4:00 pm: Stated Session Mtg	20 NO - Adult Piano Class	21 NO Exercise Group	22 NO WNL • Dinner, Fellow- ship, and Bible Study	23 Happy Thanksgiving 	24 Church Office Is closed.	25
26 Christ is King Sunday Elder Stacy Clopton will fill the pulpit.	27 10 & 11 am: Adult Piano Class	28 10:00 am: Exercise Group 5:30 p.m. Christ. Ed. Comm Mtg & Seminar Comm Mtg 7:00: Farkle Group	29 6:00 pm: WNL • Dinner, Fellow- ship, and Bible Study	30 10:00 am: Exercise Group 2:00 pm: Threads of Love Ministry 6:00 pm: Bible Study @ Barbara Taylor's	November 2023 	

COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS

Willie Nelson once said, "When I started counting my blessings, my whole life turned around."

The time has come to count your blessings and give as generously -- and joyfully -- as you can to our Fall Stewardship Appeal. If you have not already done so, please fill out the Estimate of Giving form and Time and Talent worksheet that have been made available to you. Return them to the office by November 1st if possible so we can use them in planning the church's budget for 2024. If you prefer not to make a commitment at this time, please indicate in the appropriate box on each form. If we do not receive a form from you, we will give you a reminder call. Be assured that all monetary estimates are confidential.

As a token of appreciation for your continued giving, we will distribute custom printed St. Luke tote bags upon the outcome of this year's appeal. Reserve yours by responding generously. We are counting on you!

- Faithfully, The Finance/Stewardship Committee

JOYS AND CONCERNS:

- ♦ Our dear friend and church member, Medora Williams has entered the Church Triumphant. She passed away October 31, 2023. Please remember her family in your prayers.
- ♦ Louise George: Health concerns.
- ♦ Robin Gantz: Robin has injured her ankle but will not need to have surgery.
- ♦ Colton : Colton has been very ill and has been in the hospital. He is home now but needs your prayers.
- ♦ Richie Grounds: Richie is in the hospital with pneumonia. She is the aunt of Sam and Teresa Burnett.

Continue to remember Dale and Judy Conner; Grace Acha; Dorothy Baggerly; Joyce Baughn; Rev. Bob Carson; Andy Chambers (Steve Parker's husband); Lucille Dunn; Leslie Hadley (Kyle's mom); Mindy Hayden; Margaret Heyde; Tom Heyde; Sarah Kangerga; Roger Osburn; Aaron Parker; Dennis Phelps (Melissa Shields' father); Donna Phipps; Sharon Remling; Marilyn Shillings; Rev. Karl Travis; the St. Luke Session; the Pastor Nominating Committee; the staff and residents at Amarillo Children's Home; the people of our sister church John-son 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.

Silent Auction was a Wonderful Success

WOW! The Silent Auction exceeded all our expectations! It was such a fun event, and we had many positive comments from everyone. We had a huge turnout and raised just shy of \$4,000 for our Laundry Love mission. The donations were so creative and reminded us of our many talented members who graciously share their gifts to help others! Everyone was so generous, and we are so blessed to be able to share these blessings with our community. If you have never attended a Laundry Love event, we invite you to come on the third Saturday of the month from 8-10 a.m. at the 10th Street Laundry. Thank you to all our volunteers who make this mission possible!

~Camille Hoy

Christian Education

Our adult Sunday School Advent Study this year will begin November 5. We will be using the book, "Holy Disruption—Discovering Advent in the Gospel of Mark" by Tracy S. Daub. Holy Disruption presents a fresh understanding of the holiness of Christmas grounded not in a conventional, cozy Christmas message, but through Mark's disquieting Gospel, which invites its readers to experience God's disruptive but transformative love for us and our world. You may order a book through Amazon or Westminster John Knox Press. There will be 5 chapters to explore. We will finish up the study on December 10. There will be no Sunday School on Nov. 24 or Dec. 24.

Young @ Heart

The Young at Heart meeting will be at noon on Wednesday, Nov. 15th. The speaker will be the new director of the Children's Home. Bring your own lunch and be ready for an interesting program.

~Bob McCracken

Wednesday Night Live

We are off to a great start with Wednesday Night Live, our partnership with the Amarillo United Methodist Church. There have been approximately 40 to 50 people enjoying the meal each Wednesday. After the meal approximately 10 children and youth then stay and participate in Bible study and fellowship. Young adults have gathered to do a couple mission-related activities and around a dozen adults have been meeting weekly for the Old Testament study led by Rev. **Margie McNeir**.

Toward the end of November the children and youth will be working on the Christmas pageant, which will take place on December 13th. All children and youth are welcome to participate, whether regularly attending WNL or not. The last Wednesday of the month, November 29th, we plan to hold an advent workshop after the meal, beginning at 7 p.m. Watch for more details in the bulletin.

Meal schedule:

- 11/1 – Pancakes
- 11/8 – Turkey and dressing
- 11/15 – Chicken 'n' dumplings
- 11/29 – Pancakes

~Kary Wingo

Thanksgiving

The annual Thanksgiving luncheon will be held at noon on Sunday, Nov. 19th. Watch future bulletins for more information about what to bring.



The Round Table

The Round Table is gearing up to begin again this fall. We'll be organized into groups of 8 (4 couples or couples and singles) who will dine monthly in the home of the host. Each couple will be asked to bring a side dish and a dessert, while the host will provide the main dish. Those interested in this fellowship at The Round Table, please call or email **Cruse Messer**. 000.000.0000 or ____@yahoo.com

Hope you will join us in this fellowship opportunity.

Holy God,

Hope of the World,
By your Spirit draw us together in
unity and strength. Help us to thrive
in both the good times and the bad,
and to continue to put our trust in
you. Pour out the gifts of your Spirit
that we may mature in our faith,
grow in our ministry, and find
ourselves looking for new
opportunities to serve you and
others.



Amen



Amen

others.
opportunities to serve you and
ourselves looking for new
grow in our ministry, and find
that we may mature in our faith,
you. Pour out the gifts of your Spirit
that we may mature in our faith,
grow in our ministry, and find
ourselves looking for new
opportunities to serve you and
others.

Mission Committee Requests Donations for the Amarillo College Food Pantry

Our mission for November is the AC Food Pantry. We
will be accepting donations beginning October 29 through
November 12. Items may be placed in the marked bin in
the Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, please
contact any member of the Mission committee. Items
needed most are as follows...

FOOD ITEMS

Canned Corn
Canned Green Beans
Canned/packets of tuna
Canned Fruit
Ramen Packages
Bags of Rice
Granola Bars
Juice Boxes
Water Bottles

HYGIENE ITEMS

Toilet paper
Paper Towels
Bars of Soap
Deodorant
Toothpaste

BABY ITEMS

Baby Wipes
Diapers (all sizes)

Veteran's Day • Welcome Home Event

Where: Rex Baxter Building @ the Amarillo Fairgrounds
When: Saturday, November 11th
Time: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

This is a free event, and everyone is welcome. There will be
lots of vendors,
tainment and
Luke Outreach
will have a ta-
will be handing
cards; people
gregation are
volunteer at our
would like. A sign up sheet for volunteers is on the nursery
desk or people can contact Nicole Payne at
____@gmail.com.



Greater love has no one
than this, that someone lay
down his life for his
friends.

~ John 15:13