



# ST. LUKE *epistle* PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NAN KEMP & HELEN THORSHEIM, CO-EDITORS | VOLUME 60, ISSUE 5 | MAY 2024

## LET'S STAY CONNECTED!



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## Christian Education

The CE Committee has paused  
Children's Church until further  
notice.

## All-Church Workday -

May 4<sup>th</sup> 8 am—12 pm

The Property Committee invites everyone to join us on the morning of May 4<sup>th</sup> to help spiff up our church, inside and out! We will start at 8 a.m. and hope to finish by noon. There are weeds that need to be pulled or treated, trees and bushes to trim, walls that need spot-painting, and some work at the manse, if we have the people power. In addition, sadly, quite a few of our rose bushes on the north side must be dug up because of a virus that does not have a cure. We have lots to do, so please plan to join us. Contact Helen Thorsheim with any questions.

## Celebrate Spring with Us...

May 12<sup>th</sup> ~9:15 am

The trees are greening, flowers are blooming, butterflies are flitting here and there, and the Panhandle wind is howling! Spring is here! Let's celebrate! Come join the Fellowship and Congregational Care committees on Sunday, May 12 at 9:15 or so and pay tribute to this glorious season at the "Celebrate Spring Tea." Lots of goodies to munch, coffee, tea and juice to sip, and friends to visit. You can even take a family photo or two if you'd like. You don't want to miss this!

## Mission Message

Over 1,000 loads of laundry! That's what your support of Laundry Love has accomplished just this year alone. If you're new to St. Luke or are just not familiar with LL, we would welcome your involvement in this rewarding endeavor. We host the event the third Saturday of each month from 8-10 a.m. at the 10<sup>th</sup> St. Laundry. It seems so simple to show up and offer to put coins in washers and dryers for people, but the face-to-face interactions create beautiful moments of humanity, humanity that's experienced through the ordinary task of cleaning clothes. A gentleman at the April event told us: "I can't tell you how nice it is to have not just clean clothes, but clean blankets, too – thank you." If you'd like to come experience this joy, let someone on the Mission Committee know and come be the hands and feet of Christ's love.

**Kary Wingo**

[p.s., The Personnel Committee is signed-up to help in May!]

# SMALL GROUPS & GATHERINGS

## PW Study & Annual Salad Luncheon

Date: Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>  
Time: 10:00 a.m.  
Place: Fellowship Hall

This will be our annual salad luncheon. Each member is asked to bring a small salad to share. Beverages and dessert will be provided. **Nan Kemp** will lead a short business meeting, then **Sharron Fitzner** will present the devotional. The final lesson of the study is #9, "People Encounter Jesus Through the Work of the Disciples." All women of the church are encouraged to attend.

## Men's Breakfast & Devotional

Date: Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>  
Time: 7:00 a.m.  
Place: Hud's 4411 Bell (east side of the street)  
Devotional by: **Kaci Jones**

## A note from the Hadley Family

We are so blessed to be able to share the amazing news that **Leslie Hadley**, **Kyle's** mom, has completed her LAST cancer treatment and everything is looking great going forward! We cannot express enough gratitude to our St. Luke family for all the prayers and love you have shown us during this past year - thank you all.

With love, the **Hadleys**

## Young at Heart Lunch & Program

Date: Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>  
Time: 12:00 noon  
Place: Fellowship Hall

**Melodie Graves** will be our speaker. Melodie hosts the podcast Made with Pressure locally, as well as being a motivational speaker and community activist here in Amarillo. Her podcast focuses on motivation, affirmations and cultural change as she is a strong believer of self-improvement, justice, and supports local, state, and national government accountability. Bring your own lunch and see you there!

## Wednesday Night Live

Another semester of Wednesday Night Live is in the books (except for the Adult Bible Study, which will continue through May 8<sup>th</sup>)! We had a wonderful time enjoying meals, fellowship, and studies over 12 weeks' time. Thank you to everyone who made this program a success this semester. We appreciate all the study teachers, cooking team members, **Kary Wingo** for coordinating and planning our dinners, and the committee for staying flexible to best serve our congregation on Wednesday nights!

The committee will be meeting on Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30 p.m. to discuss some potential summer activities for both the youth and GAP, so be on the lookout for any announcements.

MATTHEW 25:31-46

**We Are the Church, Together...**  
*Let's Build God's House*





# St. Luke Library

The library continues to receive volumes for inclusion in the permanent collection. It's not too late for some spring cleaning! If you have books lying around that are related to religion and human affairs that you think might fit with the library's holdings, please let me know about them. Thank you! --**Doug Tanner**

## Recent Additions

- 📖 Brierley, Justin. *The Surprising Rebirth of Belief in God: Why Atheism Grew Old and Secular Thinkers Are Considering Christianity Again* (2023).
- 📖 DeSteno, David. *How God Works: The Science Behind the Benefits of Religion* (2021).
- 📖 Mariani, Mike. *What Doesn't Kill Us Makes Us: Who We Become after Tragedy and Trauma* (2022).
- 📖 Miller, Walter M., Jr. *A Canticle for Leibowitz* (2019; originally published 1960).
- 📖 Spurgeon, Charles. *Morning & Evening* (n.d.)  
Devotional readings for every month of the year.
- 📖 Yalom, Irvin D. & Marilyn. *A Matter of Death and Life: Love, Loss and What Matters in the End* (2022).

## Did You Know?

St. Luke has a "Take One, Leave One" little library; it is located in the farthest left (southwest) room in the education wing. Books of all genres, jigsaw puzzles, and DVDs are available.

# Epistles

**Dear St. Luke,**

Thank you to every individual and committee who made Easter so very special! Our little ones felt so much love with the goody bags, the visit by the Easter Bunny (Cailyn at her Cottontail best), and children's sermon. We appreciate you all!

**Paige Hadley**

**Dear St. Luke Family,**

I want to thank everyone for all your support; the spiritual guidance and prayers, the conversations and comfort, and the financial gift before I left. You are an amazing group of people. I can't express my gratitude to all of you enough.

The funds were a godsend. It paid for all the fuel for the two U-Haul trucks from Amarillo to Bowling Green. Your prayers are felt and help us make it through our days and the comfort from your kind and generous hearts got me through the move.

My husband, **Steven**, is set to have surgery on May 24<sup>th</sup>. They will be removing his pacemaker/defibrillator and adding 2 additional leads, so he will have 3 now going into his heart. The doctors are not guaranteeing that this procedure will work, so we are taking it one day at a time.

My son and his wife are doing as well as can be expected and look forward to next month as everything continues to improve.

Please know that you are all in my heart and prayers every day. Thank you, **Dynette Hofmann**

[Contact information is available in the church office if you wish to drop her a line.]

**Dear Friends,**

I didn't think I would be doing the tasks of the office secretary for as long as it's been, but I'm very blessed that it lasted long enough to include Admin. Professionals Day! Thanks to everyone who gave me gifts, flowers and cards! Hopefully, I'm a short-timer, but it's a pleasure to help out as I can as we go through these transitions.

Your friendly office helper,

**Helen Thorsheim**

## Joys and Concerns

**suzi Tracey** is scheduled for hip surgery May 21<sup>st</sup> and appreciates all prayers for everything going well with surgery and subsequent recovery.

**Joyce Baughn** wants all her St. Luke friends to know how much she loves and appreciates them.

**Robin Dunn, Lucille's** daughter-in-law, had successful surgery on April 22<sup>nd</sup> and is recovering.

**Sam Burnett** is recovering from kidney stones.

# SESSION REPORT

Below is a short summary of the Stated Session Meeting on April 24:

## Clerk's Report

1. March average attendance for worship - 69
2. Active membership as of March 31, 2022 - 145
3. Communion was celebrated on March 28, with **Stacy Clopton** presiding.
4. **Julie Johnson** was welcomed into active membership at St. Luke, by letter of transfer from First Presbyterian Church, Hereford.

## Commendations:

- **Donna Clopton** for all she does for the teachers and staff at Mesa Verde Elementary, especially the meal served upon their return from spring break.
- **Kaci Jones** and **Helen Thorsheim** for their work making sure the church office runs smoothly during the time of transition with office staff.
- Thank you to all who have helped make WNL a success this semester. We appreciate all the study teachers, cooking teams, **Kary** and **Gina** for coordinating dinners, and the committee for staying flexible to best serve our congregations.
- **Cailyn** (aka the Easter Bunny) and **Aubrey** for helping with Easter festivities for the children.
- The Choirs, Orchestra, Dr. **Bob Hansen**, and **Mila Abbasova** for the beautiful Easter cantata.
- The individuals who filled the pulpit so capably in March and April: **Dave Kemp, Doug Tanner, Wesley Wingo, Phillip Periman, Rev. Lynn Brack, Rev. Robert Burke, Rev. Rebecca Vardiman, and Tim Lacey.**

## Birthday Offering

The Endowment Committee encourages you to celebrate your birthday and the church together 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.



# THANK YOU

*for your faithful giving!*

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

## YEAR-TO-DATE

Actual <b>Income</b> for 3 months	\$ 53,150
Budgeted Income for 3 months	55,310
Amount less than expected income	<u>(2,160)</u>
LESS	
Actual <b>Expenses</b> for 3 months	\$ 38,069
Budgeted Expenses for 3 months	57,305
Amount under expected expenses	<u>19,236</u>
EQUALS	
Sub-Total	\$ 17,076
PLUS	
Budgeted deficit for 3 months	<u>\$ (1,995)</u>
<b>Revenue exceeds Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 15,081</b>

## May Birthdays

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

3 Judy Conner	21 Ann Hefner
9 Michele Sivets	21 Jeslyn
10 Susan Barnes	24 Mary Graff
10 Corbin *	26 Michael Hoy
11 Daron Payne	27 Elvis Acha
13 Alice Cooke	28 Emin Abbasov*
14 Daina Redpath	31 Donna Phipps
19 Meredith Kemp-Pappan*	* friend of St. Luke

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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# May 2024

EACH SUNDAY

9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship  
 9:45 am Adult Sunday School Class (ends 5/18)  
 10:15 am Choir Rehearsal  
 11:00 am Worship - live and streaming on Facebook

			1	2 National Day of Prayer 10:00 am Exercise Group 2:00 pm Threads of Love	3 May Friendship Day	4 8:00 am - noon Property Workday
5 <b>Communion</b> Elder Dave Kemp will fill the pulpit. 5:30 pm Mission Com. Mtg.	6 10:00 & 11:00 am Adult Piano Class 4:00 pm Cong. Care Com. Mtg. 5:30 pm Mission Com. Mtg.	7 10:00 am Exercise Group	8 10:00 am St. Luke Women Study 5:30 pm WNL Com. Mtg. 6:30 pm Final Adult Bible Study	9 <b>Ascension of the Lord</b> 10:00 am Exercise Group 12:00 noon Finance Com. Mtg. 2:00 Threads of Love	10	11
12 <b>Mother's Day</b> 9:15 Celebrate Spring Tea Ruling Elder Helen Thorsheim will fill the pulpit. 5:00 pm Meditation Service	13 10:00 & 11:00 am Adult Piano Class	14 7:00 am Men's Breakfast & Devotional 10:00 am Exercise Group 12:00 noon Finance Com. 5:45 pm Worship Com. 6:00 pm Property Com.	15 12:00 noon Young at Heart	16 10:00 am Exercise Group 2:00 pm Threads of Love	17	18 8:00 - 10:00 am Laundry Love @ 10th St. Laundry
19 <b>Pentacost</b> Epistle deadline 4:00 Stated Session Mtg.	20 10:00 & 11:00 am Adult Piano Class	21 10:00 am Exercise Group	22	23 10:00 am Exercise Group 2:00 pm Threads of Love	24	25
26	27 Memorial Day Church offices will be closed. 10:30 am No Piano Class	28 10:00 am Exercise Group 7:00 pm Farkle Group	29	30	31	