



Epistle


March
2024


Nan Kemp & Helen Thorsheim, Co-Editors | Volume 60, Issue 3

St. Luke
Presbyterian
Church




Stay in touch!


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E L D E R S	Class of '24 Jennifer Denham Kendra Jones Tim Lacey Cruse Messer
	Class of '25 Ross Clopton Robert Hansen Barbara Taylor Kary Wingo
	Class of '26 Paige Hadley Priscilla Sheets Tim Sougstad Helen Thorsheim

*"I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."
~ John 14:6*



St. Luke Library

The following books have been added to the St. Luke Library. They are on the Recent Additions shelf to the left of the door. Check 'em out! Doug Tanner

-  Bidwell, Duane R. *When One Religion Isn't Enough: The Lives of Spiritually Fluid People* (2018).
-  Daly, Richard. *God's Little Book of Life: Words of Joy, Peace, and Hope to Live By* (2021).
-  Drane, John. *Introducing the Bible: Second Edition* (2012).
Ibid. Introducing the New Testament: Fourth Edition (2019).
Ibid. Introducing the Old Testament: Third Edition (2011).
-  Friedman, Richard Elliott. *The Exodus* (2018).
-  Holland, Tom. *Dominion: How the Christian Revolution Remade the World* (2019).
-  Renan, Ernest. *Christ in Art* (2010).
-  Schiffman, Lawrence H. and others. *The World's Greatest Book: The Story of How the Bible Came to Be* (2017).
-  Tolkien, J.R.R. *The Hobbit; or There and Back Again* (1997; originally published 1937);
Ibid. The Lord of the Rings Trilogy: The Fellowship of the Ring, The Two Towers, and The Return of the King (2001; originally published 1954-1955)
-  Wolpe, David J. *Why Faith Matters* (2009).



Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour at 2 a.m. on **Sunday, March 10** (or before you go to bed Saturday night).

Endowment Fund

The Endowment Fund encourages you to celebrate your birthday and the church together by donating the amount of your age every year.

Your gift is added to the St. Luke's Perpetual Endowment Fund to continue the mission of the church in the years ahead.

Deadline for April Epistle

The deadline for the next edition of the newsletter is March 24. As always, send your news items to **Nan Kemp**, Committee Moderators, please update our church family with info about your committees activities and/or events.

THANK YOU for giving joyfully!

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.

Year-to-Date

Actual Income for 1 month	\$
Budgeted Income for 1 month	_____
Amount over expected income	
LESS	
Actual Expenses for 1 month	\$
Budgeted Expenses for 1 month	_____
Amount under expected expenses	(((---
EQUALS	
Sub-Total	\$
PLUS	
Budgeted deficit for 1 month	\$
BUDGET EXCESS 01/31/24	\$

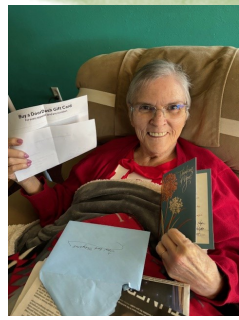
MARCH Birthdays

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

- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1 Ki H | 15 Bob M |
| 1 Myra M | 15 Scott T |
| 1 Daisy M | 15 Sharon R |
| 3 Harry G | 17 Jessica L |
| 5 Gregory T | 17 Blayne M |
| 7 Travis K | 18 Donna C |
| 8 Szak B | 19 D M |
| 8 Tim G | 26 Wesley W |
| 9 Marcie D | 27 Daryl H |
| 15 "Bo" F | 27 Andrew R |

Happy News!

The Easter Bunny will be in the Fellowship Hall on Easter morning, March 31st, at 10:30 with treats for the children. Look for the guy with floppy ears and a big Easter basket.



Epistles...

Dear Presbyterian Women,

Ann Hefner dropped by my parent's house and put a card in the wreath.

My mom opened it and is very appreciative of the DoorDash gift card that the St. Luke Women gave her.

It will come in very handy.

Thank you so much,
Jennifer Denham

Dear St. Luke,

Hello everyone. I'm **suzi tracy**. I had oral surgery on Feb. 15th. A lot of people were very kind to buy food that I could eat after my surgery. I would love to say thank you to everyone who not only were so kind to buy me food, but also for everyone's prayers for my surgery and recovery. The surgery was brutal, however I was able to handle it. I'm grateful to everyone at St. Luke. Again, thank you all for the food and prayers. Love with all my heart,

suzi

Postscripts

Szak B competed in the Skills USA competition in February. He is the silver medalist in the field of auto mechanics, light maintenance and repair, and will be advancing to state competition!

Congratulations, **Szak!**

Per Capita Giving

The Finance Committee is suggesting that members pay their own per capita – that is, contribute \$9.80 right now to cover St. Luke's expense for 2024. (Per capita goes to the General Assembly for the support of the whole denomination.) And, since the presbytery does not receive any of the per capita, we are asking each member to go the extra mile and add a little to your additional contribution to send to Palo Duro. For example, instead of \$9.80, consider giving \$20.00 for the support of PC(USA) both nationally and regionally.

We look forward to your participation in per capita giving, an expression of your commitment to ministry both within our congregation and beyond.

Young at Heart

Young at Heart will be held on Wednesday, March 20, at noon. **Chandra Perkins**, the founder and director of Storybridge, will be coming to visit with us. Storybridge is an Amarillo grass-roots effort to change the story for local children by investing in their access to literacy as early as possible through programs such as Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, Kinderbridge, Storybridge Book Distribution and Little Free Libraries.

We hope you are able to join us for a brown bag lunch and to hear about their mission and impact in our community!

The following is a short summary.

- A. Clerk's Report
 1. January 2024 average attendance for worship – 57
 2. Active membership as January 31, 2024 – 145
 3. Communion was celebrated on February 11, 2024 - **Stacy Clopton** presiding.
 4. Elected **Cruse Messer** and **Kendra Jones** to serve as elders on the Church Nominating Committee.

Commendations:

- ♥ Thank you to **Bob Hansen**, Fellowship Committee, Worship Committee and Mission Committee for serving up a delicious pancake dinner!
- ♥ **Kendra Jones** for a Minute for Mission regarding Souper Bowl Sunday.
- ♥ Mission Committee members that provided lunch on Jan 27 to Hope and Healing Place.
- ♥ Pulpit Supply volunteers.
- ♥ Special music by **Rebecca Vardiman**.
- ♥ **Stacy Clopton** for faithful service enlisting liturgists.
- ♥ All pledgers who have caught up on their 2023 pledges.
- ♥ Committee moderators for timely reports.

One Great Hour of Sharing

Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed.

This Lenten season, please give generously to OGHS.

Ways to give:
Through the offering plate
Online at pcusa.org/give-oghs
Text OGHS to 91999 to give


You also can help sustain the important ministries and programs that are supported by OGHS by making an online gift at any time in the year. Checks may be sent to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A); P.O. Box 643700; Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

- ◆ **Hillary Carrington** and her 7-month-old son, **Wyatt H, Ann Hefner's** step-granddaughter and great grandson. They were in a car accident and **Wyatt** is in ICU. Please pray for the entire family and hold them all in your hearts.
- ◆ **Steven Hofmann, Dynette Hofmann's** husband has been placed on the heart transplant list. Please pray for him and the family.
- ◆ **Travis Ellis** entered the Church Triumphant on January 23. Please remember his son **John Ellis** of Oklahoma City and the rest of the family in your prayers.

March 2024



3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<p>Elder David Kemp will fill the Pulpit, with communion. 3rd Sunday of Lent Mesa Verde Sunday</p>	<p>10:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Adult Piano Class 5:30 p.m. Mission</p>	<p>10:00 a.m. Exercise Group 4:00 p.m. Congregational Comm Mtg</p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Yoga Practice 6:00 P.M. WNL Soup for Dinner</p>	<p>10:00 a.m. Exercise Group 2:00 p.m. Threads of Love Ministry 6:00 p.m Bible Study at Taylors</p>	 World Day of Prayer	

10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<p>Elder Doug Tanner will fill the pulpit. 4th Sunday of Lent Mesa Verde Sunday 5:00 p.m. Sunday Meditation</p>	<p>10:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Adult Piano Class 6:30 p.m. Outreach Comm Mtg</p>	<p>6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast 10:00 a.m. Exercise Group</p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Yoga Practice 9:30 a.m. St. Luke Women's Brunch & Bible Study No WNL</p>	<p>10:00 a.m. Exercise Group 2:00 p.m. Threads of Love Ministry 6:00 p.m Bible Study at Taylors</p>	International Women's Day	8:00 a.m. till 10:00 a.m. Laundry Love @ 10th Street Laundry

17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<p>Elder Wesley Wingo will fill the pulpit.. 4th Sunday of Lent 4:00 p.m. Stated Session Meeting St. Patty's Day</p>	<p>10:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Adult Piano Class</p>	<p>10:00 a.m. Exercise Group</p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Yoga Practice 12:00 p.m. Young at Heart 6:00 P.M. WNL—Mission Night (No Meal)</p>	<p>10:00 a.m. Exercise Group 2:00 p.m. Threads of Love Ministry 6:00 p.m Bible Study at Taylors</p>		

24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<p>Elder Phillip Periman will fill the pulpit.. BEGINNING OF HOLY WEEK</p>	<p>10:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Adult Piano Class</p>	<p>10:00 a.m. Exercise Group 7:00 p.m. Farkle Group</p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Yoga Practice No WNL</p>	<p>10:00 a.m. Exercise Group 2:00 p.m. till 4:00 p.m. Threads of Love Ministry 6:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Communion (no bible study)</p>	GOOD FRIDAY 6:00 P.M. Service	

31	EACH SUNDAY
<p>EASTER SUNDAY Rev. Lynn Brack will fill the pulpit The Lord has Risen 10:30 am Easter Bunny in Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship 9:45 am Adult Lenten Study 10:15 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal 11:00 am Worship and Children's church after the Anthem</p>

Wednesday Night Live

LENTEN/EASTER SCHEDULE

☀️ March 6th - soup and cornbread night! Several people from both our congregation and the AUMC congregation will be bringing crockpots with their favorite soups to share with everyone.

☀️ March 13th – no WNL for spring break

☀️ March 20th – Mission night at High Plains Food Bank – no meal served. Youth and adults will grab fast food before arriving at the Food Bank.

☀️ March 27th – no WNL for Holy Week

Women Meet for Brunch and Bible Study

Presbyterian Women will meet Wednesday, March 13th, at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. **Linda Peirce** and **Priscilla Sheets** will provide the brunch. **Kendra Jones** will lead a short business meeting, then **Mary McCracken** will present the devotional. **Nan Kemp** will lead a discussion of Lesson 7, “An Ethiopian Eunuch Encounters the Good News of Jesus” from the Horizons Bible Study. All women are welcome to attend.

The Souper Bowl mission project yielded over \$300. The Amarillo College Food Pantry thanks you for your generosity.

Palm Sunday, March 24

Hosanna! Alleluia! Palm Sunday begins Holy Week with our morning worship service at **11 a.m.** We will enter the sanctuary with palm branches to commemorate Christ’s triumphal entrance into Jerusalem.

Maundy Thursday, March 28

Come share Communion during our Maundy Thursday Service at **6 p.m.**

Good Friday Tenebrae, March 29

The joy of Palm Sunday and the celebration of the Passover are past. We will share this somber day’s service at **6 p.m.**

Easter, March 31

He has risen! He has risen indeed! Put away the gloom of the grave; Christ is no longer there! The Easter Sunday service will begin at **11 a.m.** Arrive early so you can place a blossom on the cross in the sanctuary as part of our annual Flowering of the Cross tradition.

For the younger ones, the Easter Bunny will make an appearance in the Fellowship Hall at 10:30. Bring your Easter baskets.

April 7

The combined AUMC and St. Luke choirs, accompanied by an orchestra, will present **Faure’s Requiem at 10 a.m.** This is not to be missed.

Men Meet to Eat

All men of the church are invited to meet at 7 a.m. on March 12th (Tuesday) at Hud’s, 4411 Bell St., (east side of the street, where the sun will be trying to come up).

Breakfast and fellowship are on the bill of fare.

David Kemp will deliver the devotional.

See you there!



Twenty-ninth Annual “Bach’s” Lunch Series

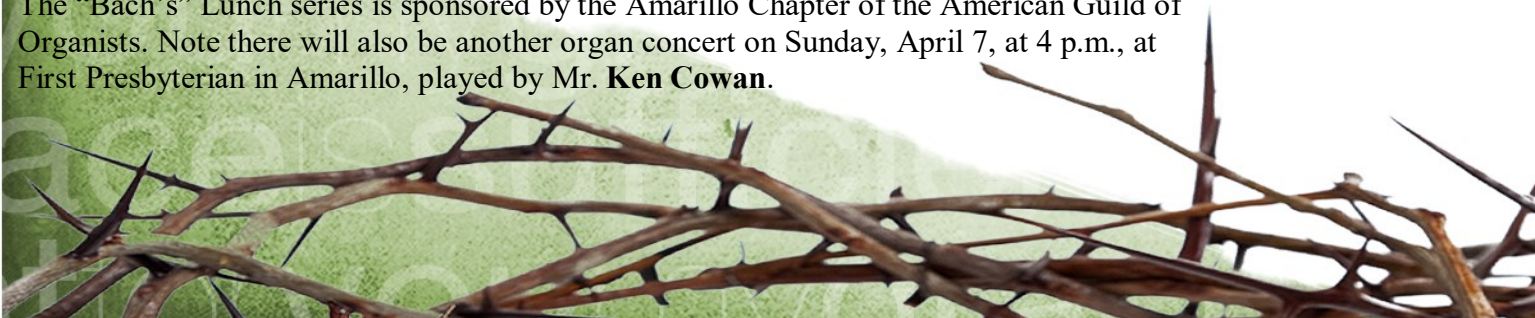
The “Bach’s” lunch series is back (Bach) by popular demand! Bring a “box” lunch and some friends with you. The Bach’s lunches are a wonderful time for Lenten reflection and good music among friends. Held at various churches in Amarillo and Canyon on selected Fridays during Lent, each program will begin promptly at 12:05 p.m. with a 25-minute organ recital. Following the recital, if allowed, the host church will provide tea, coffee and a place to eat. You’ll have plenty of time to get back (Bach) to work by 1:00 p.m. This event has been very well received for the last 28 years, so make plans now to attend.

Friday, March 1; St. Ann’s Catholic Church, Canyon, TX, Dr. **Elizabeth Gotlund McKee**, Organist

Friday, March 8; St. Andrews Episcopal Church, Amarillo, TX; Mr. **Michael Mitchell**, Organist

Friday, March 15; Mary Moody Northen Hall, WTAMU, Canyon, TX; Mr. **Michael Raillard**, Organist

The “Bach’s” Lunch series is sponsored by the Amarillo Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Note there will also be another organ concert on Sunday, April 7, at 4 p.m., at First Presbyterian in Amarillo, played by Mr. **Ken Cowan**.



God's love has poured into our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit. Trusting in God's overflowing grace, let us confess our sins.

Romans 5:5



Pancake Supper Benefits Mesa Verde Elementary

The proceeds (in the amount of almost \$400) from the recent Shrove Tuesday supper will go to the Mesa Verde Elementary mission fund. Thanks to all who helped and participated.

A tip of the chef's hat goes to **Bob Hansen**, as well.



GAP News

GAP News

Wesley Wingo is leading a Bible study at Wednesday Night Live, 6:45-7:30 p.m. using the book *Pause, Spending Lent with the Psalms*. Meeting place will be the library and/or sanctuary.

In February, GAP volunteered for the Meals on Wheels AniMeals program. We helped package 1,000 pounds of dog and cat food to be delivered to 300 pets in Amarillo.

GAP is definitely invited to help during our March Mission Night with WNL at the food bank!

GAP News

GAP News

St. Luke Tote Bags Available!



The Finance Committee thanks the congregation for their generous giving during last fall's stewardship drive. If you haven't picked up your complimentary carry bag, please do. We have plenty. (Look for them next to the office.)

Farewell

Dynette Hofmann has informed us that she will be leaving her position as Office Administrator on or before March 5th. She will be moving to Kentucky to be with her husband while he is dealing with major health issues. We have appreciated all her help, will miss her, and wish her all the best.

We have already begun our search for a new administrator. The position has been posted on Indeed under **Office Administrator, Saint Luke Presbyterian Church** and we are interviewing candidates. A few volunteers will be assisting between now and when someone is hired. If you are interested and willing, please let **Helen Thorsheim** know if you could help answer phones. If you have any questions, you can talk to Ross Clopton or any other member of the Personnel Committee (**Camille Hoy, Kaci Jones, Phillip Periman, Doug Tanner, Barbara Taylor** and **Helen**).