

St. Luke Presbyterian Church

EPISTLE

VOLUME 60 ISSUE 10 | October 2024

Nan Kemp & Brittany Forney, CO-EDITORS

Young at Heart

Young at Heart will be hosting **Dana Watson** with Junior Achievement of the High Plains on October 16 at noon. JAHP proudly operates the JA BizTown within AISD's AmTech. BizTown allows 5th graders to experience in-class learnings on how to operate banks and credit unions, manage restaurants and other retail, along with a day-long visit to a scaled down version of the City of Amarillo. This unique program is truly remarkable, and I can't wait for everyone to hear all about it! As usual, please feel free to bring your own lunch if you'd like. **Paige Hadley**

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

We will use the Great Courses video series, Comparative Religions. Class facilitated by **Cruse Messer and Kendra Jones**. They will begin at 9:45 in the Education Wing, Classroom A.

Dates:

October 6 | October 13
October 20 | October 27

PW to discuss "Land Justice" in Bible study

St. Luke Women (PW) will meet Wednesday, Oct. 9th, at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The brunch is being provided by **Kendra Jones**, who will also serve as moderator of the meeting. **Susan Barnes** will present the devotional. The lesson is "Land Justice" from the Horizons Bible Study, and it will be led by **Mary Holmlund**. All women of the church are invited to attend.

Men's Breakfast

Men of the church are invited to attend the monthly breakfast on Tuesday, Oct. 8 that 7 a.m. at Hud's (4411 Bell). In his absence in September, **Bob McCracken** was voluntold to do the devotional this time.



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-  Get St. Luke Pres., Amarillo TX on Google Play



Coming this November

Have you ever wondered what to say to people who are going through hard times – whether due to bereavement, illness, being homebound, or having mental difficulties? If so, please join the Congregational Care committee as **Rev. Robin Gantz** discusses with us what to do and say when we visit someone who is sick or hospitalized, homebound, or bereaved. We'll meet Monday, Nov. 4th, at 4 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We look forward to seeing you.

Priscilla Sheets



Congregational meeting held 15th

There was a congregational meeting held on Sept. 15th to hear the Officer Nominating Committee's report and to vote on their nominees for the Session Class of 2027. Approved by acclamation were **Sam Burnett, Julie Johnson, Kaci Jones, and Mary McCracken.**

Library News

The St. Luke library has two new bookcases to accommodate our ever-growing holdings. In reshuffling the books to fit the space available, I took the opportunity to scan all the titles for topics of interest. I was surprised by their diversity, and I ruminated on the laborious effort it must have taken for authors to write all those 1500 or so books over the years. Our Presbyterian heritage is on full display.

If you need a refresher, I hope you will do the same. Set aside an hour, or half an hour, of quiet time to acquaint or reacquaint yourself with our wealth of books. Gain new inspiration and new perspectives on your religious beliefs and concerns. The books are shelved by topic, so it is easy to find related works. Make notes or check out any that you want to delve into more deeply. A world of reading pleasure awaits!

Doug Tanner

JOIN US FOR A
CELEBRATION OF

*Stacy Clopton
+ David Craig's
Marriage*

SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 19TH

IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
FROM 4 PM TO 6 PM

They ask that we not bring gifts. If you really want to give something in their honor, they ask that you donate to any of these charities: Friends of the Library, High Plains Food Bank, Doctors Without Borders, and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

ENGAGE

All are invited to **Maxwell's Pumpkin Farm** on Sunday, **October 27** from 4:30pm to 6:30pm! Come enjoy all of the activities there are to offer along with a private/reserved campfire spot for hot dogs and s'mores provided by St. Luke and AUMC. Tickets will be free for our families, but are required to enter the pumpkin farm. Please let **Paige Hadley** know by Wednesday, October 23rd if you and/or your family would like tickets.

TRUNK OR TREAT

DATE: OCTOBER 26TH, 2024
TIME: 5PM - 8PM
LOCATION: 3001 BELL ST.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

A colorful Halloween-themed graphic featuring a pink spiderweb with a pink spider, a purple pumpkin, a witch in a black hat, and a sign that says 'HAPPY HALLOWEEN'. There is also a logo for the 'HARLEO AREA TRANSFORMER ASSOCIATION'.

Growing in Gratitude Fall Stewardship Campaign

We look forward to growth in many areas of our lives here at St. Luke in 2025: Growth in our understanding of God's purposes for us and for our church, in our pastoral leadership, in our mission projects and involvement in our community, and especially, in our gratitude for all the gifts we have been given.

It is now time to provide your information on how you can help St. Luke grow in 2025, by filling out and returning your Estimate of Giving and Time and Talent forms. We are hoping to receive most of the forms online through our new mobile app "My Church" through Ministry Brands. If you have not yet downloaded the app, any member of the Finance committee can help you, or contact Helen and she can email you step-by-step instructions. We also have a tablet available on Sundays that can be used to fill in the forms- someone will be under the TV with it after worship to help. If you really prefer to fill in a paper form, there will be forms available in the Narthex on the table under the courtyard window.

For a little inspiration, here is what one anonymous giver says "What I think about and pray about before I fill in the boxes: I want to be obedient. I want to give as the scriptures and the still small voice of God tells me. I want my giving to be my private expression of what is important in my life. I want my giving to be an expression of gratitude for all the good that has showered into my life. I want my church to reflect the same things in its life and my giving helps to make that possible." Please prayerfully consider how you can help our church grow and flourish in 2025. **Stewardship Committee**

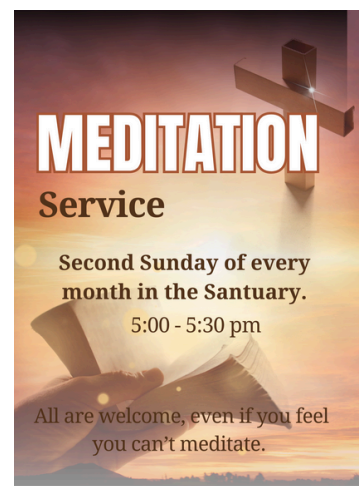
- Jarvis M. - 10/02
- Henry S. - 10/03
- Camille H. - 10/04
- Bea B. - 10/06
- Teresa B. - 10/06
- Jennifer D. - 10/12
- Andy C. - 10/13
- Linda P. - 10/17
- Nathan Hoy - 10/19
- Abby M. - 10/20
- Margaret H. - 10/21
- Marilyn S. - 10/22
- Pat W. - 10/24
- Dynette H. - 10/26
- Roger C.- 10/27

HAPPY
birthday



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

Do you have a birthday coming up? 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. Stop by the church office during regular hours and request to examine the previous month's financial documents.

For 8 Months of the Year

Joys and Concerns

PLEASE PRAY FOR :

- Please pray for **Emin Abbasov**. He is still in hospital, but his lung infection has slowly disappeared and he's feeling somewhat better. He thanks St. Luke for their prayers.
- Please pray for the family of **Scott Bates** (friend of the **McCrackens**), who passed away in a car accident. Prayers for his wife and two daughters.
- **Camille, Steve, Karen** and the families of **Dorothy Baggerly** expressed their heartfelt gratitude for the lovely service, the warm and friendly welcome they received, and the special meal that followed. To read the complete message they sent, check the bulletin board outside the Fellowship Hall.


| Class of 2024 | Class of 2025 | Class of 2026 |
|-----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Jennifer Denham | Ross Clopton | Paige Hadley |
| Kendra Jones | Robert Hansen | Priscilla Sheets |
| Cruse Messer | Barbara Taylor | Tim Sougstad |
| | Kary Wingo | Helen Thorsheim |

Session Summary

Clerk's Report

1. August 2024 average attendance for worship – 54
2. Active membership as August 31, 2024 – 144
3. Communion celebrated September 8, 2024 – Rev. Robin Gantz presiding
4. Grace Acha entered the Church Triumphant on August 14, 2024. Services pending.
5. Dorothy Baggerly entered the Church Triumphant on August 16, 2024. Services were August 20, 2024 at St. Luke with Rev. Robin Gantz presiding.
6. The session has approved changes to the committee structure for 2025 to improve work efficiency and avoid duplication of functions. Mission and Outreach will combine as will Finance and Personnel. LOGOS will be eliminated, but LOGOS funds will be retained for future use for events involving children, youth and adults. Seminar committee remains under Christian Education. Congregational Care will now oversee all funeral meals and 90th birthday celebrations. Fellowship will oversee all church-wide gatherings, including GAP.
7. Jennifer Denham will be St. Luke's commissioner to the presbytery meeting at the end of September in Lubbock.

Farkle Fun

“But I don't gamble.” Neither do we; we use dice as a way to have conversations with our friends, old and new. FARKLE gametime at St. Luke is held on the **last Tuesday afternoon every month**. Join us at 2:00p.m. for fellowship. 

Commendations

- A. **Camille and David Hoy** for appearing in a video about Laundry Love to be shown at the upcoming Presbytery meeting. **David Kemp** also participated.
- B. Logos Committee for helping with Laundry Love in August.
- C. **Donna Clopton, Ross Clopton, Terry Boulware, and Mary Holmlund** for delivering tea to Mesa Verde Elementary.
- D. The congregation for their donations of tissue paper and wipes for Mesa Verde. Two large deliveries have been made to the school.
- E. **Mary Holmlund** for filling in for **Mila Abbasova** on Aug. 25.
- F. To **Brittany Forney** for all her work learning all the church's office procedures, and for working so hard to build the new website. She is doing a great job!
- G. **Linda Peirce and Mary Holmlund** for taking care of our Side-lined Saints with phone calls and visits.
- H. **Robin Gantz, Stacy Clopton and Dave Kemp** for taking communion to our side-lined Saints each month.
- I. **Brittany Forney and Helen Thorsheim** for their work on the St. Luke website and apps.
- J. **Helen Thorsheim** for reinvigorating and cleaning up our Youtube channel.
- K. **Doug Tanner, Eldon Wingo, and Nona Fulton** for doing the annual review of St. Luke's financial records (2023). No irregularities or areas of concern were reported.

Mission Committee to Collect Tarps and Ponchos

The Mission Committee, working with Amarillo Housing First, will be collecting small tarps (approx. 10'x10') and ponchos to help the city's homeless population this winter. Please bring your new or gently used items through the month of October. There will be a collection box set up in the Fellowship Hall for your donations. Thank you!



POST Scripts

- Amarillo Meals on Wheels recently presented **Susan Barnes** with a jacket at their annual volunteer appreciation luncheon in recognition of over 24 years of service. Susan's participation began as a coordinator of MoW volunteers at her company (a program she started) and these many years later she has a weekly route she shares with **Kendra Jones** and **Mary McCracken**. She invites new volunteers to deliver meals and is happy to talk with anyone who might be interested. Congratulations, **Susan!**
- The recent seminar was a resounding success, with a large, enthusiastic group of Presbyterians and Methodists in attendance. The speaker, **Dr. Alyce McKenzie**, led a very interesting study of "Holy Humor" and a combined worship service on Sunday. Many thanks to all who made the weekend happen, as a committee of St. Luke and AUMC members joined talents and energies – and that's no joke! Kudos and thanks to all involved!
- Thank you to Property Committee for the beautiful resurfaced parking lot.
- Church Mouse
- You are encouraged to attend Young at Heart luncheons on the third Wednesday of each month. September's program about Transformation Park (a non-profit that helps the homeless in Amarillo) was so informative and interesting. The Y@H sponsors work hard to provide good programs for us and we appreciate them. Hope to see you in October – just bring a bag lunch and an interest in your community. - Church Mouse

October 2024

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|--|---|--|---|--|-----|---|
| | | 1 10 am Exercise Group | 2 8:30 am Yoga Practice | 3 10 am Exercise Group 2 pm Threads of Love | 4 | 5 |
| 6 World Communion Sunday  | 7 10 am Piano Class 11am Piano Class | 8 7 am Men's Breakfast 10 am Exercise Group 5 pm Property Comm. | 9 8:30 am Yoga Practice 9:30 am St. Luke Women 12 pm Finance Comm. | 10 10 am Exercise Group 2 pm Threads of Love | 11 | 12 |
| 13 5 pm Meditation Service | 14 10 am Piano Class 11am Piano Class 4 pm Congreg. Care Meeting | 15 10 am Exercise Group | 16 8:30 am Yoga Practice | 17 10 am Exercise Group 2 pm Threads of Love | 18 | 19 8-10 am Landry Love 4-6 pm Marriage Celebration for David and Stacy. |
| 20 4 pm Stated Session Meeting <i>Epistle deadline</i> | 21 10 am Piano Class 11am Piano Class | 22 10 am Exercise Group | 23 8:30 am Yoga Practice | 24 10 am Exercise Group 2 pm Threads of Love | 25 | 26 5-8 pm AA-TAG Trunk or Treat  |
| 27 ENGAGE 4:30- 6:30 pm @ Maxwell's Pumpkin Farm  | 28 10 am Piano Class 11am Piano Class | 29 10 am Exercise Group 2 pm Farkle Game afternoon | 30 8:30 am Yoga Practice | 31 10 am Exercise Group 2 pm Threads of Love | | |

HALLOWEEN

EACH SUNDAY
 9:30 am Coffee & Fellowship
 9:45 Adult Bible Study Classroom A
 10:15 am Choir Rehearsal unless otherwise stated
 11 am In-Person Worship and service will stream Live on Facebook