
The Lifeline

The Monthly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Shawnee, Kansas

March 2009

Come to our Lenten Series: "Simply Christian"

SAGES OF DAYS PAST and days present have noted the ancient and persistent human quest for justice, spirituality, relationship and beauty, but what is their source? Could the source be as basic as the source of everything? To sate your curiosity, and learn more about the source of that quest for justice, spirituality, relationship and beauty, join us for the Lenten Series Tuesdays in March from March 4 through March 25 in the Parish Hall as we learn from and discuss "Simply Christian" by Anglican Bishop and noted theologian N.T. Wright. We will meet for a light dinner at 6:00 p.m., and then the content and discussion will start at 7:00. If you have any questions, please ask Shawn Streepy at church or call him at 913 631-8548.

– Shawn Streepy

Field Work & Ordination

The bishop has confirmed that Shawn Streepy will be ordained to the priesthood on Saturday, June 6, 10:30AM, at Grace Cathedral, Topeka. A simple meal will be served immediately afterwards. So please mark your calendars, and make plans to attend. But before Shawn can be ordained, there is one final thing he must do: field work. Shortly after Easter, Shawn will be spending two months at St. Aidan's Church, Olathe, assisting the rector and working on a special project, or whatever else needs to be done. Please keep Shawn and Marcia in your thoughts and prayers.



Inquirers' & Confirmation Class: "The Episcopal Church"

BISHOP WOLFE will be making his next "episcopal visitation" to St. Luke's on Sunday, May 17. As is usually the case, we will be presenting to the bishop any candidates for Confirmation, for Reception into the Episcopal Church, and to Reaffirm their Baptismal Vows. In addition, there will be a baptism. A few words of explanation may be in order:

Confirmation is the rite in which we express a mature commitment to Christ, and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop. Through Confirmation, the candidate is allied with the Episcopal Church. **Reception into the Episcopal Church** allows a person Confirmed in the Catholic or Orthodox churches to be admitted into the Episcopal Church. **Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows** can be compared to renewing your marriage vows, in that the candidate renews or reaffirms the vows made at their Baptism and/or Confirmation.

As I mentioned earlier, we do have one baptism (adult) in the plans. I would recommend any adults seeking baptism to attend this class as well.

Fr. Jim will offer an Inquirers' and Confirmation class for everyone interested in Confirmation, Reception, Reaffirmation, adult baptism preparation, or even simply a refresher course on the Episcopal Church. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex.

Saint Luke's Church

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Office Hours: Tuesday–Friday
9:30 AM – 2:30 PM*

**Other hours with the Rector
are available by appointment.*

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Parish Delegates

& Alternate Delegates

Christy Keller (Delegate, 2012)

christykeller81@hotmail.com

Marcia Streepy (Delegate, 2011)

mkstreepy@streepy.net

Steve Mann (Delegate, 2010)

mamm1500@stlukes.net

Jim Carl (Alternate, 2012)

jbcarl@stlukes.net

Kate Wood (Alternate, 2011)

cwood@gilmorebell.com

Victor Clarke (Alternate, 2010)

bajan@stlukes.net

Youth Group News!

Hey Everyone! The weather is getting nicer and can you believe that it is already March? There is a lot going on this month!

We will be having a game night on March 15th. Bring \$3, and we'll have pizza, video games and lots of fun. Bring as many friends as you would like!!

Also, on March 22nd we will be doing R.A.K.S. (which stands for Random Acts of Kindness) – We will go around with just \$5 per team to do as many cool things for people in the community as possible. The more creative the better! Bring friends for more fun!

There will be no youth group on Easter.

Lastly, it is not too soon to be thinking about summer camp! If you would like to go, but need a little assistance, please ask! We have some funds available for you! Look forward to seeing you, as always friends are welcome!

Christina

Christina Waggoner, Youth Group Coordinator
youth@stlukes.net

*If you do not receive e-mails from me, then I do not have your correct e-mail address.
Shoot me an e-mail if you would like to get e-mails about upcoming events!*

It's a good time to be a youth at The Luke!

Contacting Our College Freshmen

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Olin Templin Residence Hall, #501

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Taplin House, #407

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lizzy_6428@yahoo.com

*Please contact the parish secretary to add
other names to this list.*

Parish News 'n Events

The Dinner Club

This month, our hosts, Tom & Rose Schrempp, invite you to join them Monday, March 23 at 6:30p.m. at the *Nordstrom's Café*. It is located on the 3rd floor of Nordstrom's Department store in Oak Park Mall. A Menu & sign-up sheet will be posted shortly.

The Book Club

Join us Friday, March 27, 7pm at the home of Fr. Jim and Peggy Cook (1833 E. 152nd Ct., Olathe) as we discuss *The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother* by James McBride.

Jr/Sr High Sunday School

We're beginning a study of the Gospel of Mark, the first gospel that was written, and the gospel that served as a basis for two of the other three gospels. One of the resources we're using is the Serendipity Study Bible, which we're confident will make our conversations lively and interesting. If you've never been to Jr/Sr High Sunday School, this is a great time to start. We meet each Sunday, at 9:15 a.m.. Please contact Peggy Cook or Melissa Neufeld.

Lenten Kids Program

Our youth will also partake in the Lenten Series; after dinner (see above) there will be activities about Lent and Holy Week in the basement. See Melissa Neufeld or Pat Jones for more information.

Magnetic Church Conference

Equip your church to help attract, welcome and retain new members. At St. Michael's (67th & Nall) Friday evening May 8 and Saturday, May 9. There is information on this conference in the narthex.

Honoring St. Paul's Volunteers

St. Paul's is sponsoring another Volunteer Recognition Dinner for March 14th at 6 PM. As before, there will be a very short service and then dinner. We are asking each congregation to get a count of their volunteer folks who will be coming. If you wish to attend, please tell Mike or Maxine Jones, who will then contact Pat Murphy.

Baby Formula Ingathering

At our annual meeting/dinner in February, the Outreach Committee decided to extend the baby formula drive until "the Ides of March" (March 15). If at that time we have reached 5,000 ounces, the Outreach Committee will ask the vestry to authorize matching funds for the purchase of an additional 5,000 ounces. (Father Jim may keep his hair this time!) We have currently collected over 2,500 ounces. Most of this has been delivered to Cross-Lines where it is being distributed to needy families. Thank you all for your generosity. Remember that checks made out to St. Luke's and designated "baby formula" are tax deductible.
— Debra Callaway

Cross-Lines Prom Attire Collection

We seek prom dresses, suits, sport coats, and tuxedos for young people in the Cross-Lines neighborhoods who can't afford them. We are asking that the items be current styles that are clean and in excellent condition. Accessories are also sought such as dressy handbags, ladies' dress shoes, Men's dress shoes, dress shirts, ties, and cummerbunds. One section of the coat rack in church lobby will be used for donations until Sunday, March 15th. See Nancy Long: 745-4590

Community Food Pantry

In March we're asked for *canned & dry fruit*. And, as always, Best Choice labels with the bar code included can be redeemed by the pantry for 3¢ each. They can also use empty (and cleaned!) 16-32oz water bottles. There are lots of ways you can help our food pantry.

Wednesday Refresher

You're invited to our weekly Wednesday Refresher, in the Parish Hall, 12-1 PM. Bring a sack lunch, and enjoy time talking, learning, and praying. We'll finish our discussion of *Velvet Elvis* by Rob Bell, and will begin watching the video *The Gods Aren't Angry*.

You're Invited to Join the Choir!

Those who sing, pray twice.

A Moment of Meditation ...

Submitted by Vincy Abraham

As we begin our Lenten Series “Simply Christian”, let’s reflect on being an “Incredible Christian!”

The current effort of so many religious leaders to harmonize Christianity with science, philosophy and every natural and reasonable thing is, I believe, the result of failure to understand Christianity and, judging from what I have heard and read, failure to understand science and philosophy as well.

At the heart of the Christian system lies the cross of Christ with its divine paradox. The power of Christianity appears in its antipathy toward, never in its agreement with, the ways of fallen men. The truth of the cross is revealed in its contradictions. The witness of the church is most effective when she declares rather than explains, for the gospel is addressed not to reason but to faith. What can be proved requires no faith to accept. Faith rests upon the character of God, not upon the demonstrations of laboratory or logic.

The cross stands in bold opposition to the natural man. Its philosophy runs contrary to the processes of the unregenerate mind, so that Paul could say bluntly that the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness. To try to find a common ground between the message of the cross and man’s fallen reason is to try the impossible, and if persisted in must result in an impaired reason, a meaningless cross and a powerless Christianity.

But let us bring the whole matter down from the uplands of theory and simply observe the true Christian as he puts into practice the teachings of Christ and His apostles.

Note the contradictions: The Christian believes that in Christ he has died, yet he is more alive than before and he fully expects to live forever. He walks on earth while seated in heaven and though born on earth he finds that after his conversion he is not at home here. Like the nighthawk, which in the air is the essence of grace and beauty but on the ground is awkward and ugly, so the Christian appears at his best in the

heavenly places but does not fit well into the ways of the very society into which he was born.

The Christian soon learns that if he would be victorious as a son of heaven among men on earth he must not follow the common pattern of mankind, but rather the contrary. That he may be safe he puts himself in jeopardy; he loses his life to save it and is in danger of losing it if he attempts to preserve it. He goes down to get up. If he refuses to go down he is already down, but when he starts down he is on his way up.

He is strongest when he is weakest and weakest when he is strong. Though poor he has the power to make others rich, but when he becomes rich his ability to enrich others vanishes. He has most after he has given most away and has least when he possesses most.

He may be and often is highest when he feels lowest and most sinless when he is most conscious of sin. He is wisest when he knows that he knows not and knows least when he has acquired the greatest amount of knowledge. He sometimes does most by doing nothing and goes furthest when standing still. In heaviness he manages to rejoice and keeps his heart glad even in sorrow.

The paradoxical character of the Christian is revealed constantly. For instance, he believes that he is saved now, nevertheless he expects to be saved later and looks forward joyfully to future salvation. He fears God but is not afraid of Him. In God’s presence he feels overwhelmed and undone, yet there is nowhere he would rather be than in that presence. He knows that he has been cleansed from his sin, yet he is painfully conscious that in his flesh dwells no good thing.

He loves supremely One whom he has never seen, and though himself poor and lowly he talks familiarly with One who is King of all kings and Lord of all lords, and is aware of no incongruity in so doing. He feels that he is in his own right altogether less than nothing, yet he believes without question that he is the

apple of God's eye and that for him the Eternal Son became flesh and died on the cross of shame.

The Christian is a citizen of heaven and to that sacred citizenship he acknowledges first allegiance; yet he may love his earthly country with that intensity of devotion that caused John Knox to pray "O God, give me Scotland or I die."

He cheerfully expects before long to enter that bright world above, but he is in no hurry to leave this world and is quite willing to await the summons of his Heavenly Father. And he is unable to understand why the critical unbeliever should condemn him for this; it all seems so natural and right in the circumstances that he sees nothing inconsistent about it.

The cross-carrying Christian, furthermore, is both a confirmed pessimist and an optimist the like of which

is to be found nowhere else on earth.

When he looks at the cross he is a pessimist, for he knows that the same judgment that fell on the Lord of glory condemns in that one act all nature and all the world of men. He rejects every human hope out of Christ because he knows that man's noblest effort is only dust building on dust.

Yet he is calmly, restfully optimistic. If the cross condemns the world the resurrection of Christ guarantees the ultimate triumph of good throughout the universe. Through Christ all will be well at last and the Christian waits the consummation.

Incredible Christian!

— Excerpt from "That Incredible Christian"
by A. W. Tozer

Keep Your Eyes Open for Our New Banner!

Sometime during the first week of March the people driving north on Nieman will be able to see our new banner that announces our 50th anniversary year. (This grayscale version doesn't do justice to the real thing, which is in full color!) The banner was designed by Charles Werly. Thank you, Chuck!



Remember in Your Prayers ...

Our Health & Strength Prayer List

Our Agape Family, Linda Ahrens & Family, Alan, Vanessa Allen, Bill Allen, Mika Allison, Don & Blanche Anderson, Larry Andrews, Rob Arend, Family of Asher Arcand, Julie Ball, Terry Ball, The Thomas Bickle Family, Bob, Joan Boyd, Amy Breidenthal, Jeanette Burris, Brian Busch, Caydence, Paul Chastain, Laine Clements, Amanda & Jason Coleman, Darrell Corson, Theophilus Cumberbatch, Diane Damro, Virginia Davis, Pat DeLong, Christa Devonshire, Joanna Diviney, Angela Evans, Theresa Fletchall, Dr. Wayne Fowler, Sr., Jack Francis, Heidi Gentry, Marsha Gribble, Christie Gutierrez, John Habley, June Harlow, Barbara Hart, Mary Hayselden, Tom Hayselden, Ona Hein, Valeria Henderson, Sherry Holtman, Kathy & Zach Hudon, The Hoffman Family, Colleen Hurley, Tim Janicke, Merle Johnson, J.R. Katelyn, Gail Kent, Bob Kuemmerlein, Elizabeth Laird, Fr. Arleigh & Betty Lou Lassiter, Anne Liebst, Roger Liebst, Vic Lenoir, Jurie Lindley, John Long, Harold Luttrell, Steve Lynch Family, Tom McAnerney, Alan McDonald, Tasha McDonald, The McElwee Family, Elizabeth McGranahan, Niki McKechnie, Karlee McQueen, Marcheschi Family, Maria & Andrew, Maugham Family, Alex Mathew, Leo & Donna Mealman, Vickey Meyers, Bruce Miller, Natalie Miller, Sid & Mary Morris, Chris Mueller, Jason Mueller, Ellene Nash, Colten Newman, John Owen, Barb Parkhurst, Lilly Passler's Great-Aunt, Ann Perry, Lauren Perry, Amy Pfannensteil, Liz Pfeiffer, Milly Pfeilsticker, Jerre Plunkett, Deb Quintero, Sarah Reese, Chris Roesner, Dwayne Sax, Edith Sheahan, Jimmy Shelton, Kirsta Sherman, Jason & Autumn Smart, Steven Smith, KT Speicher & Family, Pat Smith, Helen Stambaugh, Ivan Straker, Ethel Thomas, Laura Tindel, Paisley Ann Trickey, John Urnes, Mary Ann Wagner, Nellie Wangari, Kaleena Warrick, Brad Wright.

✠ In Memoriam ✠

Evelyn Leicht, Rosa Longdon, Jeremy Pechanec

Homebound & Shut-In

June Harlow, Wanda Kirkham, Annette Redler

March Anniversaries

David & Nancy Kahn	7
Tom & Caren Grandgenett	7
Jason & Kelly Wymer	11
Mark & Melissa Neufeld	19
Jim & Marla McCain	25

March Birthdays

Dave Kissane	1
Laura Jordan	1
Annette Redler	3
Nona Howard	6
Christina Waggoner	8
Betty Lou Lassiter	9
Diane Schrempp	11
Carol Garton	13
Macauley Garton	18
Bill Harlow	20
Anne Kniggendorf	20
Art Woodman	21
Taylor McCain	23
Tom Grandgenett	24
Gene Avery	24
John Hoffman	26
Michael Jones	28
Vic Weaver	29
Steve Sullivan	29
Jim Darnell	30
Ellis Kniggendorf	30

In the Armed Forces

Beth Behn, John Belshe, Jonas Brown, Brett Casey, Sean Connelley, Michael Cook, Nathan Craft, Peter & Nathan Durand, Amity Feliz, Brian Fiffer, Wayne Fuller, Charles Garcia, Michael Green, Harvey Hayselden, Robert Heraldez, Josh Jonas, Benjamin Karpinski, James LaVine, Kurt Littlejohn, Greg Marsh, Greg McBride, Kelly Morris, Kyle Nobsch, Sam Nobsch, Rodney Martin, Daniel Ohlstein, Barry Palmer, Quentin Peach, David Rodgers, Matt Schiffel, Bill Simiser, Jayson Smith, Andrew Stemm, Bobby Stallings, Chris Still, Nathan Tacha, Alan Walker, Kevin Wright.

Ministry Schedule: March 2009

	March 1	March 8	March 15	March 22	March 29
Altar Guild 8:00	B Carl	D Wallower	P Jones	B Carl	V Clarke
Altar Guild 10:15	C Uhrmacher	R Cantwell	C Uhrmacher	C Keller	C Uhrmacher
Acolytes 10:15	Lexi Riddle Lily Riddle	E Cook E Sullivan	T Wrede P Kariuki	G Rohrer J Rohrer	A Garton C Garton
Ushers 8:00	S Holmberg	S Holmberg	S Holmberg	S Holmberg	S Holmberg
Ushers 10:15	V Clarke M Jones	S Jarvis C Smith	J & B Carl	A & E Mathew	G & C Keller
Greeters 8:00	S Holmberg	S Holmberg	S Holmberg	S Holmberg	S Holmberg
Greeters 10:15	D Breidenthal	D Fowler	D Kissane	S & B Jarvis	M Jones
Lay Ministers 8:00	V Clarke . . . L/Ch	C Werly . . . L/Ch	U Prescott . . L/Ch	J Carl L/Ch	R Jones L/Ch
Lay Ministers 10:15	T Gordon . Ps/Ch J Carl Cr/Ch B McGuinn . . . L/I	B Carl Ps/Ch T Jones . . . Cr/Ch C Speicher . . . L/I	C Burris . . Ps/Ch K Wood . . Cr/Ch J Darnell L/I	M Neufeld Ps/Ch R Wrede . . Cr/Ch P Jones L/I	C Werly . . Ps/Ch K Wood . . Cr/Ch K Wymer L/I
Lay Eucharistic Visitor	R & P Jones	S Mann B McGuinn	B & J Carl	C Werly V Clarke	M & M Neufeld
Counters	J Darnell D Callaway C Ball	R Knabel S Sullivan	J & B Carl C Werly	J & C Speicher C Keller	J Darnell D Callaway C Ball
Coffee Hosts	Zone 1				

Legend: D = Deacon
 L/Ch = Lector, Chalice (usually at 8 A.M. only)
 Ps/Ch = Psalm, Chalice
 Cr/Ch = Creed, Chalice
 L/I = Lector, Intercessors

If you cannot serve when scheduled, please try to find a replacement, or contact the parish office no later than the Friday that you are scheduled. We appreciate it very much!

Saint Luke's Episcopal Church

5325 Nieman Road • Shawnee, KS 66203-1939

www.stlukes.net



It has been long known that the most effective way to grow a congregation is simply to invite a friend to come to church with you. So what are you waiting for?

BackSnack Program Invitation

Did you know that roughly one in five children in the United States lives in poverty? We know that poverty goes hand in hand with hunger. Schools have become a primary source for helping alleviate hunger for these children for the obvious reason that a hungry child is less able to learn. But school is only in session five days a week leaving weekends for families to struggle through on their own for food. In Within the Shawnee Mission School District a growing number of grade schools have more than half their students taking part in the free or reduced lunch program. Some of these schools are pushing over 75%! Jesus repeatedly tells us to feed the hungry, and to take care of the poor. There are no options. Through the work of Harvesters and Episcopal Community Services we at St. Luke's have been providing thirty students at Apache Elementary with enough food to get them through each weekend of the school year through the Back Snack Program. Beginning in late March we will add an additional thirty students at Shawanoe Elementary. Join us during the coffee hour after the 10:15 service. Cleaning one backpack and filling it with food takes less than two minutes. By this simple act you are providing one hungry child with enough food to supplement eight meals over a weekend. That's pretty remarkable when you think about it. "... for I was hungry and you gave me food..."
Matthew 25:35
