

"Deeper Discipleship
& Closer Community
with Jesus"



St. Luke's **MESSENGER**

March/April 2017

PASTOR'S CORNER

"Go and make disciples..." (Matthew 28:19).

The great purpose of the church is to make "disciples" (or "students" or "apprentices") by Baptizing people into God's new reality and teaching them to obey everything Jesus commanded.

As we embark on the journey of developing the 32 acres we have acquired, I have become deeply convicted that its purpose must center around this great task of the church. I believe this property and its development will play a key and central role in what it means for St Luke's to be part of Jesus's church in Kansas City, KS, in the coming decades.

Making disciples (educating and teaching others to join Jesus's story) is the greatest gift we can offer this city. Giving food to the hungry and shelter to the homeless are very good things (and we as the church will always participate in that as we love our neighbors as ourselves). But even more important than food and shelter is the gift of Jesus himself--the "Bread of Life" that connects us to God's daily presence, provision, and protection.

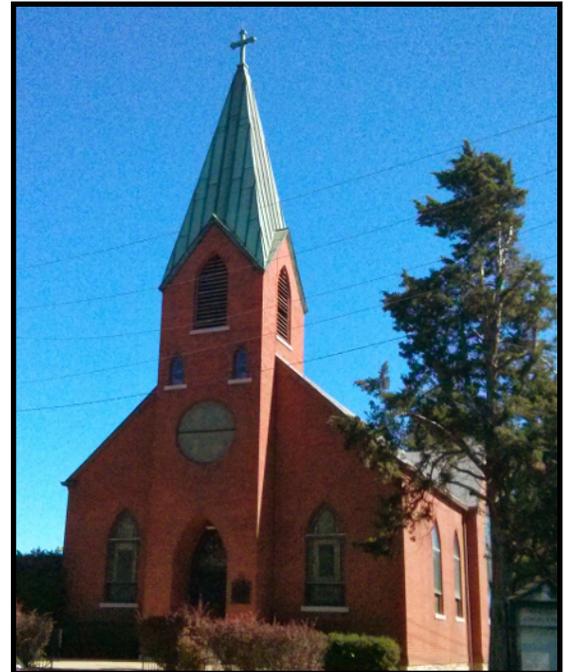
As Peter and John were entering the Temple in Acts 3, they came across a beggar who was asking for a handout. Peter and John had no money to give, but they had something much more important to offer to this man: community and healing through Jesus. It is my prayer that St Luke's will be able to

offer this greatest gift to our city as we share life together on the new property. It is my prayer that we will be able to offer the poor and broken of our world, a community of belonging as well as new life and freedom through obedience to the teachings of Jesus.

As such, I see this new property ("The Disciple Garden of St Luke's") as a place where we, the people of St Luke's, will devote ourselves to educating and teaching people about Jesus in a hands-on and immersive way. We will do this by learning from God's creation (Jesus himself said the birds and plants can teach us how to live by faith!), by practicing compassion and hospitality for others, and by being a community that centers its whole life around listening to Jesus.

As we embark on this journey, we ourselves will have a lot of learning to do, but we will make every effort to also intentionally share this learning with those in our city and neighborhood. Our broken and hurting world desperately needs more people who live like Jesus. May we ourselves be part of this as we daily follow Jesus while encouraging others to join us on this life-changing and life-giving journey.

Pastor Luke



Worship and Bible Study Schedule

Sunday

9:30 am Worship Gathering
10:30 am Food & Fellowship
11:15 am Text of the Week Study
 & Jesus Time

Monday

12:30 pm Pastor Mike Bible Study
6:00 pm "Son's Trust" (Mar 6-Apr 10)

Wednesday

4:00 pm Jesus Time
6:15 pm Choir

Baptism Anniversary

- Stephen May (3/6)
- Donna Hopkins (3/26)
- Kathy Polzkill (3/26)
- Roxanne Deines (4/5)
- Yvonne Brown (4/10)
- Merilee Lea (4/13)
- Marcus Dierks (4/24)
- Makayla Deines (4/28)

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

- Gavin Frazell-Nelson (3/5)
- Roxanne Deines (3/6)
- Makayla Deines (3/18)
- Ann Hauser (3/21)
- Mike May (4/6)
- Marcus Dierks (4/8)
- Yvonne Brown (4/12)
- Naomi Glynn (4/14)
- Lois Keller (4/17)
- Chloe Bridge (4/18)
- Lisa Dierks (4/24)

Wedding Anniversary

- John & Karen Wagner
(3/15/1980, 37 yrs)



Community Council Corner

The driveway at the new property has been cleared and a gate has been added, as well as a parking area just outside the gate. We give Rick Wagner and Bob May a hearty thank you for their help and work on this part of the project. Pastor Luke has been using his spare time to clear trails on the property for a couple weeks and is looking to create a system of hiking trails that encircle and criss-cross the property. Hopefully as the weather warms up some of you will be able to make use of the walking trails as a place for retreat, prayer, and reflection. In the next couple of months we also anticipate accomplishing two projects on the property: 1) Getting the two abandoned cars removed and 2) getting a lot of the trash and old tires removed with the help of a group of volunteer youth from Wichita, KS. Some of these steps may seem small, but they are exciting movements towards the final dream for this property.

Over the next couple of months we also anticipate finalizing a rough budget estimate for the property development. Once we have this budget we will begin launching our fund-raising campaign in order to raise the necessary support to get the infrastructure of the development in place. This will be a large and monumental undertaking for our small congregation, but we will look to God and not to our own powers to make this happen. Please begin praying about the sacrificial ways you might contribute to this development and also which family, friends, and business connections you might encourage to participate as well.

Property Corner

We will gather on the Saturday before Easter, April 8, at 9:00 am for a spring cleaning work day around the sanctuary and parsonage. Please bring tools and feel free to join us for breakfast beforehand in the basement at 8:30 am. Call John Wagner if you have questions: (913) 208-8344

17th Annual Golf Tournament!

On Friday, May 5, we will be having our 17th Annual Golf Charity event at Painted Hills! Check in is at 7:00 am and we will tee off at 8:00 am. We will have a lunch gathering immediately following the tournament. Please go to our website to find registration forms!



Community Ministry Corner

Winter Basketball wraps up March 4 with our final games at 9:40 am (lil' dribblers) and 4:30 pm (middle dribblers). Practices were held Thursday nights at the Argentine Community Center with games each Saturday. It has been fun to watch the youth of our neighborhood develop this season.

On February 26, Karole Bradford (the director of our partner ministry Riverview Health) spoke to us about the mission and needs of their ministry. During Lent this year, please consider bringing Depends and Ensure to church as a way to support their work with those in need.

Also as we journey through Lent, please remember to bring Easter candy and eggs for the Easter egg hunt on Sunday April 16. Thank you for your generosity with these donations each year.

Ascension Lutheran from Wichita, KS, will bring 20 high schoolers and a few adults during their spring break (Monday, March 20 to Wednesday, March 22) to support St Luke's with service projects. Their group will sleep in the sanctuary and provide support for our church by cleaning pews, reorganizing the Kids Room supplies and converting that room into a game room, stocking MLM shelves, and helping cleanup the trash off of St Luke's new property. They will also listen to presentations about the dreams for "The Disciple Garden of St Luke's," the work of Riverview Health, the work of MLM, and about Pastor Luke's study on "The Way of Jesus." We are thankful for this mutual opportunity to serve and to be served by these Wichita kids.

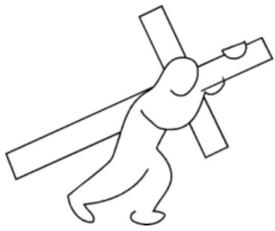
Hollis Renewal Center's director, Dave Mareske, has reached out to St Luke's to invite our community kids to attend their Summer Camp, June 12-16. Our Council desires to support our neighborhood kids in attending by supplementing the Hollis scholarships with additional financial assistance, transportation, and lunch for this weekday camp experience. Families will be asked to pay \$10 of the \$100/child cost. Hollis is offering to cover the majority of the rest of the camp registration. Next newsletter we'll update you on the list of kids desiring to attend. Please email if you would like to supplement the coverage of these kind scholarship offerings. Their summer camp theme is "Hope Abounds."

St Luke's VBS is scheduled for Sunday, June 18, to Thursday, June 22, this summer. We thank you for your annual interest in being involved in this week of adventure. The Group VBS theme is "Created by God, Built for a Purpose." We look forward to making the lessons come alive and deepening our kids understanding of the call to daily worship through obedience to Jesus. If you desire to help during this year's VBS, please email Kevin. Also, a list of needed supplies will be available in April.

A Women's Day Retreat is being scheduled for July at Sanctuary of Hope Retreat Center. The date is tentatively set for Saturday, July 29. If you have a preference for this date or would prefer a Saturday in August, please review your summer plans and email your thoughts. St Luke's will cover the cost of this retreat location, including breakfast and lunch. We look forward to this opportunity for the women of St Luke's to be served and fed as they continue deepening relationship with each other as women in Christ.

Next Fall, St Luke's Anglican and St Luke's Lutheran are looking to partner together to create an aftercare setting on our campus for our neighborhood school, ME Pearson Elementary. Priest Gene Flanery and Kevin attended a "Caring for Children" coordination meeting this month with ME Pearson's principal and community liaison, and we are taking notes on how director Raquel Lara runs a similar aftercare ministry in Wyandotte County. For the first year our target is to gather with 3rd and 4th graders from ME Pearson from 3:45-5:45 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. Kevin will provide leadership along with Priest Gene's wife (Gloria), who is an educator retiring from JC Harmon High School this summer. Priest Gene is seeking a grant to cover the cost of Gloria Flanery as staff and curriculum materials. St Luke's will provide Kevin as well as transportation and snacks. The Council will review Kevin's presentation in April to recommend supporting this new ministry and the projected expenses of a van and snacks. If approved by St Luke's, both Priest Gene and Kevin are seeking volunteers to help run games, read books, serve snacks and/or tutor the kids on any of these afternoons. Please email if you desire to support this outreach next school year financially or with volunteer hours on one of these weekly afternoons.

Kevin Dierks



Come check out our website and find access to great resources like the church calendar, sermons, online-giving, a full-color newsletter, and more!

www.stlukeskck.org



Holy Week Schedule

Maundy Thursday - **Thurs, Apr 13, 6:00 pm**
Good Friday - **Fri, Apr 14, 7:00 pm**
Holy Saturday - **Sat, Apr 15, 7:00 pm**
Easter Sunday - **Sun, Apr 16, 7:00 & 9:30 am**
Easter Breakfast - **Apr 16, 8:00 to 11:30 am**
Easter Egg Hunt - **Apr 16, 11:00 am**

Upcoming Dates

Ash Wednesday - **Wed, Mar 1, 7:00 pm**
Lent Midweek Potluck - **Wed, Mar 8, 5:30 pm**
"Son's Trust" Study - **Mon, Mar 6 to Apr 10, 6:00 pm**
St. Luke's Council - **Tues, Mar 14 & Apr 11**
Work Day - **Sat, Apr 8, 9:00 am**
Golf Tournament - **Fri, May 5, 8:00 am**

Kansas City Medicine Cabinet Jan/Feb Emergency Assistance

- Prescription Drugs: 56 individuals
- Medical Supplies: 8 individuals
- Dental Care: 16 individuals
- Vision Care: 45 individuals

Metro Lutheran Ministry Jan/Feb Emergency Assistance

- IDs: 130 individuals
- Food: 996 individuals
- Utilities: 82 individuals
- Housing: 77 individuals

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