



**2024**

# **Annual Parish Meeting**

**St. Luke's Episcopal Church**  
427 W. Woodard St.  
Denison, TX 75020

**February 4, 2024**

# Agenda for 2024 Parish Meeting

Place: Kohfeldt Hall

February 4, 2024

12:00 pm

- I. Opening Prayer & Call to Order
- II. Introduction of New Rector Father Jacob Nichols
- III. Minutes from 2023 Annual Meeting
- IV. Appointment of Clerk for the Meeting
- V. Approval of Minutes of the 2023 Annual Meeting held on February 5, 2023, at 12:13pm
- VI. Reports
  - a. Senior Warden – Stephen Walker
  - b. Junior Warden – Debra Gardner
  - c. Treasurer – Alvin Bailey
  - d. Altar Guild – Mary Hooker
  - e. St. Luke’s Parish Day School –School Director Kiry Davis
  - f. D.O.K – Cynthia Gudgel
  - g. Priest-In-Charge – Father George Joseph
  - h. Choir – River McKee
- VII. Election and Commissioning of Delegates to the Diocesan Convention: (3 Delegates)
- VIII. Any other Business

Prayer and Adjournment

## **Annual Parish Meeting Minutes of 2023**

### **February 5, 2023 at 12:13 pm**

- Opening
  - Father George Joseph opened it in prayer.
- Call to Order
  - The motion to approve 2022 minutes was called by Doug Hayes and 2nd by Tom Redwine.
- Reports
  - Senior Warden Stephen Walker spoke of his appreciation of the congregation, being patient with the numerous rectors this year and the stability with Father George.
  - Junior Warden Debra Gardner spoke of the numerous projects completed last year - Memorial Garden, Front entrance, new crosses, Streetlights, Kitchen, Rented storage buildings, new doors, turf, and overall cleaning of the church. She announced the clothing pantry is permanently closed and that space will now be used by the Boy Scouts. Thanks to volunteers for helping, with special thanks to Darla Carpenter and Deborah Webb for their work with the Food Pantry and Manna Meals.
  - Treasurer Alvin Bailey discussed expenses. The spending was down in 2022, but the finances are still relying on investments and trusts rather than annual giving. Investments are down due to the stock market. Special thanks to David Munson for the financial gift of \$50,000 to be used on projects.
  - Altar Guild Mary Hooker thanked all those who helped, and reported the Guild has two new members. All parishioners are welcome to join the Altar Guild.
  - Junior Warden Debra Gardner spoke on behalf of the Parish Day School. A new three-year-old class has opened. The school is full. Interim Kiry Davis is doing a good job, recently replacing Whitney Farris as Head of Day School.
  - Interim Rector, Father George Joseph spoke on how much he is enjoying his time at St. Luke's and his appreciation for the support he has been given.
- Closing Thoughts
  - Stephen Walker thanked Noelia Conejo for teaching Sunday School Class.
  - Stephen Walker thanked Richard Hoogstra for all his help working around the parish, and also to Tom Redwine for working on the projects from the volunteer project list.
  - Choir Director River McKee spoke on the return of the choir. He spoke to the goals of the music program, and the improved quality since it has begun. He also said he will continue to plan additional services featuring music and provide fundraising opportunities.
  - Stephen Walker asked for volunteers to attend the convention in November. The delegates will be Stephen Walker, David Fleming, and Mary Hooker. Alternates will be Dennis Diller and Ellie Melson.
  - Doug Hayes expressed his appreciation for all those who work behind the scenes.
- Closing Prayer
  - Father George Joseph closed in prayer.

## **Sr. Warden's Report**

### **February 4, 2024**

The life of a parish is led daily under the direction of the Parish Priest. The Priest, of course, performs their regular duties on Sundays with our church services and leads us on our spiritual journey and is also responsible for many other aspects of daily church life. But during this past year it has fallen upon your Vestry to fill the vacancies left by the absence of a full-time Rector. I believe our church has not only continued on its path of spreading the Word of God and the gospel but have added much more daily interactions with our community and our congregation. Examples of this can be seen in the added ministry of streaming Morning Prayer on social media. Another example is the work taken on by our LEM's to ensure the sick and homebound can continue to receive communion whether they are members of our church or not. To date, we have 15 recipients on our list who receive communion in their homes. This has led to wonderful relationships to some who have no connection to St. Luke's at all!

We have also coordinated with the Parish Day School to perform the Blessing of the Animals and Blessing of the Backpacks. We have continued to host numerous activities for community groups including Mono Drama that meets here quarterly, the Boy Scout Troop 403 that meets here weekly and the Scout Pack that meets here monthly. We provide meeting space for the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Master Gardeners, a meeting of the leaders of Downtown Denison, a dance school and of course our weekly meeting of the Denison Rotary Club. We have also celebrated three birthday parties and hosted a complete Thanksgiving luncheon for the Parish Day School and all of the parents.

This past year has also seen the formation of our children's Sunday school class complete with a regular curriculum. We had a most wonderful time at our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a joyful celebration, which brought some familiar faces to our gathering such as Fr. Neal Michell and Fr. David Petrash. Altogether we had over one hundred people attend the celebration as it was live streamed on social media. Mr. Tom Redwine and I were the representatives of St. Luke's to receive our proclamation from the Mayor of Denison recognizing our achievement of 150 years of service to this community. All of this was coordinated through our office and overseen by your Vestry.

In addition to these achievements, some of our active congregants have formed a Craft Circle and a Quilting Group. Our sanctuary has witnessed one wedding, 8 confirmations, a baptism and a funeral this past year. We have also sent two new delegates to the Convention this past year and they relayed to me the joy they had in

attending such an important event and representing all of us with their voice and vote. We have also said our goodbyes to Fr. George Joseph as his time with us has come to an end. I sincerely thank him for all he has done for us and I, as well as all of us, wish him the best and bid him Godspeed.

I would like to thank you all for continuing to support your church through your generous tithes and donations. Our ministries such as the food pantry and Manna Meal would not be possible without your financial support and the help of our volunteers. May this new year bring new hope, new joy, and new life to our beloved St. Luke's.

Stephen Walker, Senior Warden

## **Jr. Wardens Report**

### **February 4, 2024**

It has been my pleasure to serve for a third year as your Junior Warden. As with the last two years, there was a long list of maintenance and upgrades needed. With the help of many volunteers and generous donations we were able to maintain and update our church and grounds. Every time we requested help to complete a job, parishioners provided the funds and/or time. Without their help we would not have been able to make this list of improvements in 2023:

- Memorial Garden restoration and seasonal refresh
- Roof replaced over Kohfeldt Hall and Parish offices replaced, and overhang repaired.
- Screens replaced on the windows along Woodard St.
- Restored the sound baffles on the walls of Kohfeldt Hall
- Replaced all locks/keys in the Church and School and added a keypad and fob reader.
- Solar Screens installed on the windows in the Parish hallway.
- Grab bars were added to the Altar Closet for safety.
- Duplex clean up and repairs to the outside siding – Sliding Door replaced.
- Repaired the siding and removed a dead tree at 409 Gandy.
- Updated the landscaping along Fannin St.
- Replaced the office camera, added an Internet Mesh and Updated the Parish website.
- The sidewalk in front of the Parish office was repaired.
- Painted the Rector's office, the Church office and the Sunday School room.
- Two donated Magnolia trees were donated and planted on Fannin St.

Our first Parish Workday was organized. A small group of parishioners showed up, but got a lot accomplished on the church and school grounds and enjoyed a lunch provided by Stephen.

Additionally, I want to provide an update on the church Food Ministries. The Food Pantry is managed by Darla Carpenter and provided meals for 2,332 individuals (double the number served last year) with the help of food donations from the Boy Scouts, the City of Denison and St. Patrick's Catholic Church. Manna Meals and St. Luke's kitchen is run by Deborah Webb. She, along with many volunteers, provided weekly hot meals for a total of 1,682 clients.

Thank you to everyone who helped maintain our beautiful and historic church in 2023.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Debra Gardner, Jr. Warden

# Treasurer Report February 4, 2024

## 2023 Year End Report

<b>Revenue</b>	
Current Giving	\$100,573.20
Investments & Trusts	\$142,841.98
Designated Funds (Food Pantry, Flowers)	\$103,237.69
<b>Expenses</b>	
Personnel	\$132,723.88
Physical Plant	\$160,357.07
Office	\$12,677.53
Ministries (Food Pantry, Outreach)	\$14,379.30
Overhead (Dioceses, Taxes)	\$25,207.58
Worship	\$7,527.89
<b>Bank Balances 12/31/23</b>	
First United Parish Operating	\$56,499.59
First United Ministry Fund	\$2,146.63

<b>Investments &amp; Trusts</b>		
	<b>Value 12/31/23</b>	<b>Income Received</b>
Wells Fargo (I)	\$162,158.85	\$24,346.90
Panola County Oil & Gas (I)	\$54,780.00	\$12,580.00
Hughes Estate (T)	\$957,853.48	\$36,919.52
WJ Smith (T)	\$317,030.77	\$35,199.19
Sue Dophied (T)	\$132,565.15	\$14,442.65

St Lukes Episcopal Church					
YTD Actual vs December 31, 2023				1/1/23 - 12/31/23	
			<b>December</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Budget</b>
<b>Revenue</b>					
<b>Current Giving</b>					
	Pledge		\$6,987.00	\$ 95,827.69	\$ 100,000.00
	Feast Day		\$550.00	\$ 2,110.00	\$ 3,000.00
	Other		\$108.00	\$ 2,635.51	\$ 2,500.00
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>\$7,645.00</b>	<b>\$ 100,573.20</b>	<b>\$ 105,500.00</b>
<b>Investments and Trust</b>					
	WJ Smith, Dophied,		\$50,658.49	\$ 142,841.98	\$ 132,410.00
Hughes, Wells Fargo, Oil & Gas					
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>\$50,658.49</b>	<b>\$ 142,841.98</b>	<b>\$ 132,410.00</b>
<b>Designated Funds</b>					
	Altar Fund		\$0.00	\$ 60.00	\$ -
	Building Fund		\$1,050.00	\$ 80,272.72	\$ 5,000.00
	Flower Fund		\$530.00	\$ 3,734.00	\$ -
	Food Pantry		\$1,115.26	\$ 15,400.26	\$ -
	Memorials		\$0.00	\$ -	\$ -
	Music		\$0.00	\$ -	\$ -
	School		\$194.64	\$ 194.64	
	Other		\$2,000.00	\$ 3,576.07	\$ -
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>\$4,889.90</b>	<b>\$ 103,237.69</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>
<b>Total Regular Revenue</b>			<b>\$63,193.39</b>	<b>\$ 346,652.87</b>	<b>\$ 242,910.00</b>



Expenditures					1/31/23- 12/31/23	
				<b>December</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Budget</b>
<b>Personnel</b>						
	Rector			\$ 3,090.22	\$ 45,980.30	\$ 67,500.00
	Supply Priest			\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00
	Staff Wages			\$ 4,787.77	\$ 65,186.07	\$ 61,698.00
	Nursery			\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00
	Payroll Processing			\$ 55.41	\$ 788.27	\$ 1,000.00
	Service Awards			\$ 950.00	\$ 950.00	\$ 2,000.00
	Organist			\$ 1,620.00	\$ 10,100.00	\$ 10,440.00
	Workers Comp			\$ -	\$ 545.00	\$ -
	Travel Reimbursement			\$ 628.80	\$ 9,174.24	\$ -
	<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>\$ 11,132.20</b>	<b>\$ 132,723.88</b>	<b>\$ 159,138.00</b>
<b>Physical Plant</b>						
	Building Main/Repair			\$ -	\$ 20,403.56	\$ 16,000.00
	Equipment Main/Repair			\$ 220.00	\$ 56,733.02	\$ 6,000.00
	Building Security			\$ 45.00	\$ 7,592.06	\$ 700.00
	Building Insurance			\$ -	\$ 33,774.98	\$ 12,210.00
	Janitorial Supplies			\$ 250.00	\$ 1,982.72	\$ 10,000.00
	Lawn Maintenance			\$ -	\$ 1,731.48	\$ 3,600.00
	Pest Control			\$ 600.00	\$ 2,214.91	\$ 1,000.00
	Utilities			\$ 2,657.24	\$ 35,924.34	\$ 36,675.00
	<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>\$ 3,772.24</b>	<b>\$ 160,357.07</b>	<b>\$ 86,185.00</b>
<b>Office</b>						
	Equipt Lease			\$ -	\$ 5,960.75	\$ 6,900.00

	Office Supplies		\$ 219.46	\$ 1,661.93	\$ 2,400.00
	Advertising		\$ -	\$ 1,050.46	\$ 900.00
	Annual Mtg		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250.00
	Postage		\$ -	\$ 388.10	\$ 900.00
	Communication		\$ 264.74	\$ 3,616.29	\$ -
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>\$ 484.20</b>	<b>\$ 12,677.53</b>	<b>\$ 11,350.00</b>
<b>Ministries</b>					
	Christian Edu		\$ 20.84	\$ 263.95	\$ -
	Celebrations		\$ 100.00	\$ 1,025.31	\$ -
	Adult Classes		\$ -	\$ 193.58	\$ -
	Evangelism		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	ECW		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Stewardship		\$ -	\$ 200.63	\$ -
	Outreach		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	St. Luke Parish Day		\$ -	\$ 194.64	\$ -
	Food Pantry		\$ 606.98	\$ 4,233.13	\$ -
	Kitchen Supplies		\$ 267.74	\$ 3,013.07	\$ 500.00
	Manna Meal		\$ 27.91	\$ 5,254.99	\$ -
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>\$ 1,023.47</b>	<b>\$ 14,379.30</b>	<b>\$ 500.00</b>
<b>Overhead</b>					
	Assessment		\$ -	\$ 22,410.00	\$ 22,410.00
	Convention Fees		\$ -	\$ 225.00	\$ 500.00
	Dues & Memberships		\$ -	\$ 129.00	\$ 500.00
	Oil/Gas Taxes		\$ -	\$ 899.14	\$ 4,000.00

	Bank Charges		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300.00
	Financial Review		\$ -	\$ 750.00	\$ 1,500.00
	Software		\$ 64.47	\$ 794.44	\$ 500.00
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>\$ 64.47</b>	<b>\$ 25,207.58</b>	<b>\$ 29,710.00</b>
<b>Worship</b>					
	Altar & Music Supplies		\$ 50.00	\$ 1,784.52	\$ 1,500.00
	Music/Choir		\$ 220.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 7,820.00
	Forward Devotionals		\$ 48.75	\$ 164.25	\$ -
	Flowers		\$ 240.00	\$ 3,735.91	\$ -
	Organ Repair		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Other/Designated		\$ -	\$ 443.21	\$ -
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>\$ 558.75</b>	<b>\$ 7,527.89</b>	<b>\$ 9,320.00</b>
<b>Expenditures Total</b>			<b>\$ 17,035.33</b>	<b>\$ 352,523.25</b>	<b>\$ 296,203.00</b>

# Treasurer's Report

## February 4, 2024

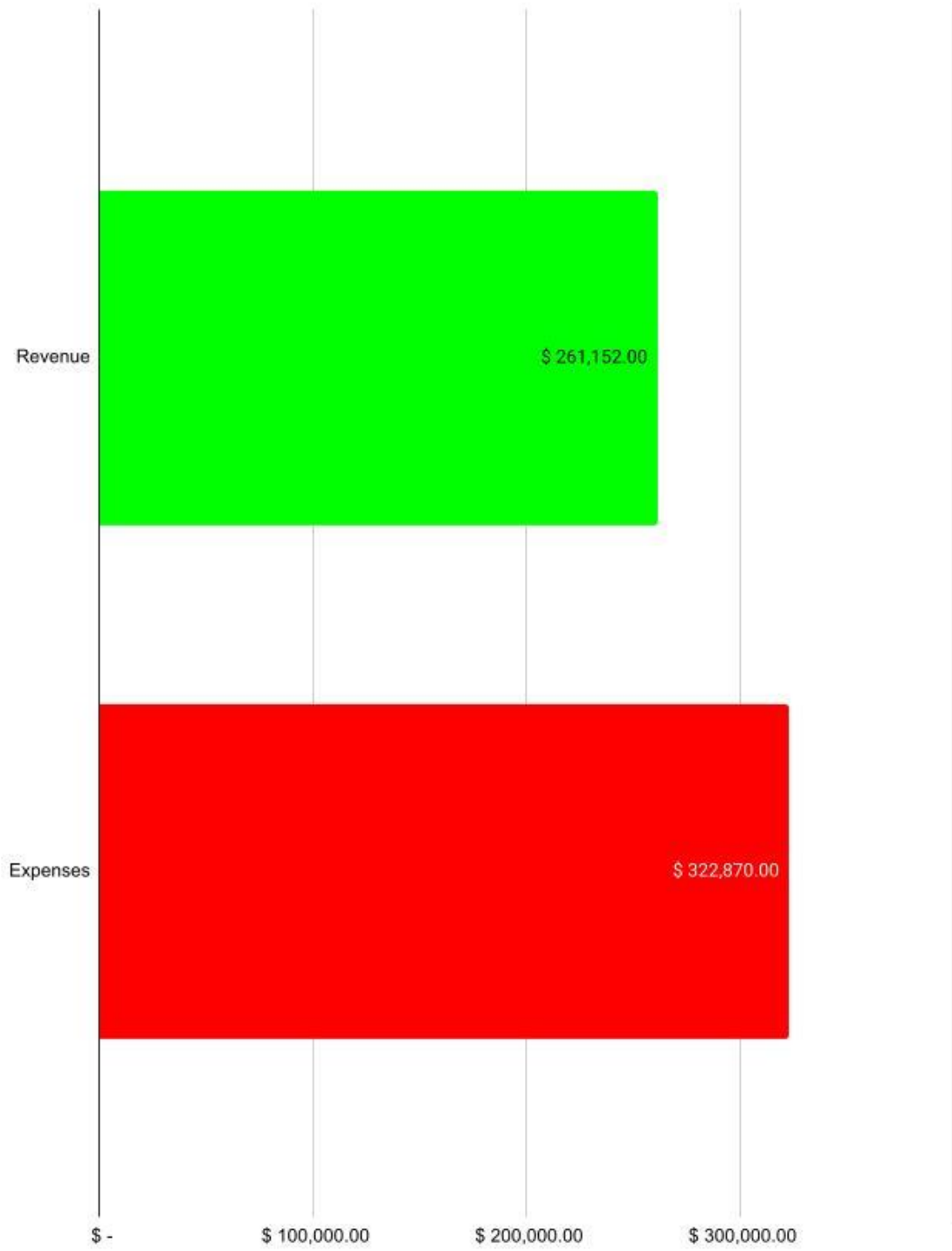
### 2024 Budget

<b>Current Giving</b>			
Offerings and Tithes(+Tithly)	\$ 105,000.00	(Pledges=\$70,000)	
Feast Day/Celebrations	\$ 3,000.00		
Open plate	\$ 2,500.00		
School contribution	\$ 10,000.00		
Other			
<b>Total</b>	\$ 120,500.00		
<b>Investments &amp; Trusts</b>			
JP Morgan	\$ 10,000.00		
Oil & Gas Royalties	\$ 40,000.00		
Wells Fargo Advisors	\$ 8,000.00		
Hughes Estate	\$ 70,152.00		
<b>Total:</b>	\$ 128,152.00		
<b>Designated Funds</b>			
Building Fund	\$ 2,500.00		
Flower Fund			
Food Pantry	\$ 10,000.00		
Music			
Altar Guild			
Rectors Ministry Fund			
Memorial			
Other restricted	\$ -		
<b>Total</b>	\$ 12,500.00		
	\$ 261,152.00		

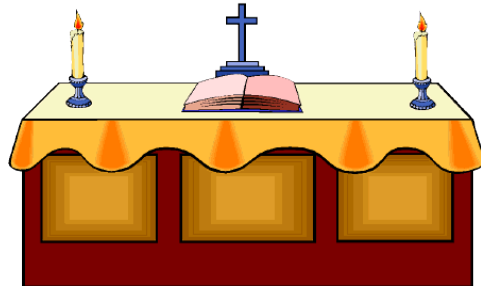
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Personnel			
	Rector stipend	\$ 30,000	\$ 92,275
	Rector Housing &	\$ 26,000	
	Rector health insurance	\$ 21,000	
	Rector pension	\$ 10,080	
	Rector phone	\$ 900	
	Rector professional	\$ 2,000	
	Rector social security	\$ 2,295	
	Moving Allowance	\$ 3,500	
	Credit for January	\$ (7,800)	
	Supply priest	\$ 5,000	
	Staff wages (2)	\$ 68,223	
	Staff social security	\$ 5,219	
	Staff pensions	\$ 3,411	
	Organist	\$ 10,440	
	Nursery/Sunday School	\$ 1,500	
	Payroll processing ADP	\$ 1,000	
	Service awards	\$ 1,500	
	Workers' comp		
	Travel Reimbursements		
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>\$184,268</b>
Physical Plant			
	Building main/repair	\$ 16,000	
	Equipment main/repair	\$ 6,000	
	Building security	\$ 700	
	Building insurance	\$ 25,000	
	Janitorial supplies	\$ 10,000	
	Lawn maintenance		
	Pest control	\$ 1,000	
	Utilities	\$ 33,000	
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>\$ 91,700</b>
Office			
	Equipment leasing	\$ 6,900	
	Office supplies	\$ 2,400	

	Advertising	\$	500	
	Annual meeting	\$	250	
	Kitchen supplies	\$	500	
	Postage	\$	900	
	Communication	\$	3,600	
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>\$ 11,450</b>
Ministries				
	Chrsian education			
	Celebrations			
	Adult classes (WBS)			
	Evangelism			
	ECW			
	Stewardship			
	St. Luke Parish Day			
	Food Pantry	\$	10,000	
	Stewardship			
				<b>\$ 10,000</b>
<b>Subtotal</b>				
Overhead				
	Assessment	\$	20,152	
	Convention fees	\$	500	
	Dues & Memberships	\$	500	
	Oil/Gas taxes	\$	1,000	
	Bank Charges	\$	300	
	Software	\$	500	
	Financial review	\$	1,000	
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>\$ 23,952</b>
Worship				
	Altar supplies	\$	1,500	
	Music Choir	\$	-	
	Flowers			
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>\$ 1,500.00</b>
<b>Expenditures TOTAL</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>326,470</b>	

## 2024 Budget Revenue versus Expense



## St. Luke's Altar Guild February 4, 2024



Our year began under the leadership of Father George Joseph, our Priest-in-Charge. The Altar Guild, known as St. Monica's guild, had three loyal teams. We were kept 'on our toes' by dutifully assisting where needed.

Our responsibilities were setting up two Holy Eucharist services every Sunday. That included setting the Lord's table with a vested Chalice, as well as setting our Credence Table with Wine, Bread, and Water. We put fresh flowers on the Retable each Sunday except during Lent and Advent. We made sure the 'colors' were changed as required. We were responsible for laundering the small linens, and occasionally taking the larger items to the cleaner. Our other duties included changing numbers on the Hymn Boards, filling the Altar candles with oil, changing out the used Prayer candles, etc. Before Palm Sunday, we made Palm Crosses for the congregation, and we decorated the church at Easter with Easter Lilies and at Christmas with Poinsettias.

I thank each and every one of the dedicated ladies who gave their special time to our Lord's work.

If anyone is interested in joining, please contact me or the parish office. We will welcome you with open arms.

Mary Hooker, Directress



# St. Luke's Parish Day School

## February 4, 2024



### St. Luke's Parish Day School: Where Faith and Education Meet.

January 17, 2024

Dear St. Luke's Church Family,

St. Luke's School thanks you for your continuous prayers and support as we continue to pour into the lives of the youth in our community! This letter is to provide an update on the happenings of our 2023-2024 school year.

I assumed the position of Interim Director in January 2023, taking on the role of School Director in April 2023. Currently, the school is adequately staffed, and all our full-time teachers have either obtained or are actively pursuing their Child Development Associate credential. Additionally, a few are progressing towards earning their associate degree. Our collaboration with Texoma Workforce remains excellent, facilitating ongoing education and ensuring the delivery of high-quality care.

Projects we have completed this past year include a bathroom remodel for our two main restrooms, a half wall built to better secure our playroom, additional camera security coverage, and updating our internet mesh system. The latter two projects came on after an electrical storm in August 2023. This also resulted in a new HVAC system installed as well as a new color printer/copying machine.

Project areas of focus for this next year include lighting for outside of the school, potential additional HVAC system, and looking into plumbing upstairs. Our upstairs restrooms are currently out of order. Additionally, we are seeking a new laminator and dye cut parts.

Our biggest struggle this year has been enrollment in lieu of a tuition increase. We sadly saw a few long-term families leave our facility. While we have onboarded new families who have shown great joy, the increase did not have the effect we had hoped. We currently have 42 students with 3 prospective students. We have lowered tuition, which our families have been appreciative. In addition, this semester will be focused on family involvement, marketing strategies, and community outreach. With dedication and persistence, we are hopeful for new families to join our sweet school!

Best,

Kiry DiPaola

# Daughters of the King

February 4, 2024



Our chapter of the Order of the Daughters of the King is not meeting regularly at this time. We provide refreshments after the 10:30AM service when there is a 5th Sunday in a month.

In addition, every few months, I ask members to email me a list of people who need our prayers. When I receive these, I combine them and email them to our members. There is a blue box at the back of the church on the credenza with cards in it. People may fill out the card and put it in the offering plate or back in the blue box and we will add it to our list.

Our form which I send out has the following categories: (1) For health and healing; (2) for help in aging; (3) for direction in God's will; (4) for the repose of the soul/s of and comfort for the family/ies of (the deceased person's name); (5) for travel; (6) for peace and military safety; (7) for relationships; (8) for careers and job situations; (9) for faith in Christ/spiritual growth; (10) for special concerns (which can cover many situations); (11) thanksgiving for prayers answered.

If people need prayer in these categories, we will welcome your submissions on the cards.

DOK is an Order for women who are communicants of Episcopalian and Anglican churches as well as some Lutheran and Roman Catholic churches. It was first organized in 1885 in New York City and there are now chapters around the world with approximately 25,000 members. We undertake a Rule of Life pledging ourselves to prayer and service. A quarterly magazine, "The Royal Cross", is sent to members and there are also monthly online columns. Prior to joining DOK, there is a required study course. and upon completion, members receive the unique cross of the Order which is supposed to be worn at all times.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia R. Gudgel, Secretary

# Rector Annual Report

## February 4, 2024

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As a priest for twenty-two years, I had received a lot of love from people everywhere I served. Nothing different here at St. Luke's. I have been well loved by the St. Luke's Parish family. Everywhere I served, people hated me going away and so do I. But during my ministry, I have realized that that is what God wants of me. When I understand that truth, I am content.

St. Luke's always stood by us. It asked little, gave much, and proved solicitous and understanding, caring and accepting. We have experienced authentic love. St. Luke's is different from other parishes. We will cherish every bit of our time here. A big thanks to you all. I will miss you. You will always be in our hearts and prayers.

What brought me in here was the vacant position of the Rector due to the retirement of Fr. Don. Hope that the vestry will be able to find the right person for this job soon. Bishop George Sumner has put much effort to facilitate this. I thank Bishop Sumner for his visitation, confirming and receiving new members and reaffirming of faith for the faithful.

Together as a parish we all can feel somewhat satisfied with what we are today. New members were received and confirmed. My prayers for all of them and hope they will find this a great place for their spiritual growth and fellowship.

I saw a great deal of enthusiasm among the parishioners in attending the Sunday Masses and all other events. I am happy that we didn't have to cancel a single service during last year. Praise God for His mercy and Grace that enabled us to celebrate God's love through our lovely traditional service. New congregation members do quietly join us.

I would like to thank so many individuals. So, my thank you to everyone not only for the past year, but for the past twenty months during my life here.

One of my great love and joy at the service here is the choir. My sincere appreciation to each choir member. They made a big difference in our worship. We had a lot of fun together and some outstanding music making. We are proud to have River as our choir master. Many thanks for his dedication, commitment, and hard work.

My appreciation to all those who attended the Bible Studies. It was a time that we always looked forward to. Hope this will continue. We could take communion to those who are homebound and sick. I appreciate Stephan Walker, our senior warden for his effort ever since he became a LEM. He visited Nursing Homes and kept a loving eye upon those in need and kept me informed.

My ministry is assisted by LEMs, Acolytes, Altar Guilds. Shout out to all who are part of these ministries. May God bless them. I thank all who have volunteered to read and usher. Thanks to all those who work behind the scenes, especially our Office Administrator Rachel. My appreciation for all those who are involved in the food pantry, Manna meal and scouts, you all have contributed to the ministry of the church.

Parish life has much to do with belonging, communion, and fellowship. All those who had been involved in making the breakfast are commendable. They were regular, and did it with enthusiasm, love and commitment. My appreciation to all of them. I commend the work of the women's ministry for chipping in to donate altar flowers. I appreciate Judy's Flower shoppe for providing altar flowers at a very reasonable price.

I thank God for blessing us with amazing leaders, staff, and busy bees. My task as a priest in charge would have been impossible without them. My appreciation for the Vestry members, especially Sr. Warden, Jr. Warden, and the Treasurer for their tireless effort in the administration of the church. Thank you for your love and support.

As the parish faces change in the person of a new Rector. It is ready for change; it is time for change. The new Rector will have a good place to teach and learn, good people to lead and be lead.

God be with you all. Blessings.

Fr. George Joseph

Interim Priest-In-Charge

# St. Luke's Music & Choir

## February 4, 2024



### Successful Programs

This Year, the music program has participated in multiple successful events for the various feast days and special services, e.g.: Easter, Trinity Sunday, All Saints', Lessons and Carols, Candle Lighting, and many others.

### General Updates

The newly renovated space for the choir is being utilized fully for rehearsals and music-related activities. The cubbies and vestments in the space have been organized fully with labels, tags, and binders for each member.

Communications are received through our text group and all bylaws are being maintained.

### 2024 Goals

With Fr. George's leaving, the Choir is ready to resume planning for the hymns each Sunday and is open to any requests that comply with the ordinary and seasons.

This year, the choir has gained substantial experience singing hymnody in both accompanied and acapella context. We're excited to use this experience to recruit more members, improve the quality of worship, and keep providing musical opportunities to the congregation.

River McKee