



A new feature....

The button above is available for you to click on should you wish to forward this message to a friend who might find this worthwhile. When you forward an email from St. Luke's, it will allow them to subscribe to all of our email communications. Chat with Monica or Fr. Todd should you need more information.



ST. LUKE'S
Episcopal Church

BUFFALO,
Wyoming

The Seekers- April 2024

April Calendar

Follow [this link](#) to the April events calendar.

Copies are available in Onderdonk Hall

If you have a meeting in the church, hall or kitchen, please email the church office at stlukeswyo@gmail.com

Ministry Schedules

Ministry Schedule for April can be found [HERE](#) and on the table in Onderdonk Hall.

We are always looking for more service participants. If you would like to serve as acolyte or reader, please call the church office.

Vestry Minutes

Read the minutes from the February vestry meeting [HERE](#).

Ministry Coordination Team

The next meeting is April 17th at **10:00AM**

The next vestry meeting is **Tuesday**,
April 16th at 5:30PM.



Communion Protocol

The chalice will continue to be offered for those who choose to drink from the common cup.

For those who are uncomfortable with drinking from the chalice and would rather intinct your host, a Eucharistic Minister will be at the Communion rail with a small bowl of consecrated wine. After you receive your host, you may dip your host into the bowl provided. Please note, however, that if you accidentally drop your wafer into the bowl, you may not fish it out.

For those who choose not to drink from the chalice or intinct a wafer into the bowl, you may remain at the altar rail with arms crossed and I will give you a blessing as I always have.

Blessings,
Todd+

Message from the Standing Committee re: Bp. Chandler and the Title IV Outcome

Greetings,

Presiding Bishop-Designate Mary Gray-Reeves announced she and Paul-Gordon Chandler have entered an accord which includes the sentence of deposition. This means he shall be deprived of the right to exercise the gifts and spiritual authority of God's word and sacraments conferred at ordination. As of March 26, he is no longer serving as Bishop of Wyoming.

The standing committee continues to serve as ecclesiastical authority and will remain in partnership with the Office of Pastoral Development to determine our next steps.

We are saddened by this news yet are thankful for the resolution. Lift up your prayers for the Chandler family and all who are affected by this outcome.

We enter into Holy Week remembering the servanthood of foot-washing, the terrors of Good Friday, and the piercing anxiety of Holy Saturday. Our suffering is intimately known by God; our hope of resurrection lies there as well. We belong to this God whose green blade rises from even most arid field. May we all continue to till and plant as part of God's faithful work in Wyoming.

Megan Nickles
Standing Committee

Click [here](#) for the official statement from The Office of Public Affairs for The Episcopal Church.

This message has been sent to various contact lists. You may have received it multiple times. We apologize for any duplication in our communications.

This message was sent from Standing Committee to saintlukeoffice307@gmail.com.
The Episcopal Church in Wyoming | 123 S. Durbin St. | Casper, Wyoming 82601 | (307) 265-5200 .
You can modify/update your subscription via the link below.



Title IV update on bishop of Wyoming

March 27, 2024

Office of Public Affairs

The Rt. Rev. Mary Gray-Reeves, acting in her role as presiding bishop-designate for some Title IV matters, announced today that she and the Rt. Rev. Paul-Gordon Chandler, bishop of the Episcopal Church in Wyoming, have entered an accord resolving the [Title IV charges against him](#). The Disciplinary Board for Bishops has approved this accord as required by church canons.

Under the terms of the accord, Chandler has voluntarily submitted to a sentence of [deposition](#), which deprives him of the right to exercise the gifts and spiritual authority of God's word and sacraments conferred at ordination.

Please keep the diocese and all impacted by this matter in your prayers.

Message from Paul-Gordon Chandler re: Title IV Outcome

Greetings and I trust each of you, as well as your families and loved ones, are doing well. It has been very difficult for me to have been away from you these last months.

You will have received a letter from me sent out today from the Diocese, sharing that I will not be able to continue to serve as your bishop, and that I voluntarily decided to leave ordained ministry in The Episcopal Church. For our friends in Wyoming, knowing this news has come as a shock, I wanted to be in touch with you to share a little more context that may be helpful in providing greater understanding - plus share our personal contact information.

I realize that many of you are not aware of the specific allegations. It is important for me that you know that my decision is not an admittance of the specific allegations by a third-party complainant, nor of the resulting charges.

Many of you are aware of the climate in the Episcopal Church at this time, which has received criticism for having been too lenient in the past in their discipline of bishops. None of the options given to me allowed me the opportunity to continue to serve as your bishop. This has been deeply heartbreaking.

Lynne and I prayed long and hard about the various options presented to me. Of the several options presented, only one of them allowed me to be able to have contact with you and some closure. This was the option of leaving ordained ministry in the Episcopal Church. It was also the only option that I feel allows me to stay true to myself, as well as to continue to be faithful to my calling: "Seeking to enable others to enter a deeper dimension spiritually and experience the beauty of God in fresh ways."

I have been reminded during this difficult time, that our highest calling is to Christ, and following his way. While one's role in ministry changes, it does not change either who we are nor our callings. Personally, as many of you are already aware, I never aspired to be a bishop. Rather, for me it was a sense of calling to serve with you in Wyoming.

Serving among you has been among the greatest honors of my life. I thank God for the inestimable gift I was given of ministering alongside you over the last three years, as we together sought to follow the Christ of the Wyoming Road, and be open to whatever new frontiers he led us towards.

Thank you for welcoming us with open arms and hearts, for which we are profoundly grateful. We have been deeply inspired by you. I also want to thank you for your love, support and prayers that have sustained us during this wilderness time. There are some beautiful desert flowers that have emerged. We

have experienced God's presence throughout this challenging time in profoundly moving ways. And I know what it means to experience the power of grace.

Again, I know this has come as a shock, and it is natural to be confused. However, it is important for us all to be reminded that none of us is ever truly defined by what happens to us, but rather by how we respond and who we choose to become as a result of it all. I encourage us all to feed grace, and not anger or resentment, and cherish anew the spirit of kindness, gentleness and generosity.

Please know you will be in our thoughts and prayers as you enter into a transitional phase. Also, we have lived all over the world and have never lost touch with anyone who wanted to stay in touch with us. And we would cherish staying connected with whomever would desire to do so. We will be back in Wyoming for several weeks beginning April 10 to close down and say goodbyes.

You will undoubtedly have some transitional leadership until a new bishop is elected. Whomever they are, they will be blessed by your Wyoming welcome, as we so movingly were.

Thank you for blessing us with the beautiful gift of your presence in our lives over these last three years. As I journey on into this next chapter of life, your love and light will continue to shine in my heart. Let us continue to journey in the Spirit.

"Take Hope, Hold Joy, Be Love – Always Journey"

Your friend,
Paul-Gordon

Contact Information:

Address:

P.O. Box 360
Winfield, IL 60190

Emails:

Paul-Gordon – paulgordonc@cs.com

Lynne – leschandlers@gmail.com

Websites:

Paul-Gordon – www.paulgchandler.com

Lynne – www.lynneechandler.com

Dear Wyoming friends,



Ramblings from the Rector on . . . Pick One

Due to the timing of things, this particular Ramblings is just that . . . a Rambling.

Lent Madness:

This is a fun Lenten activity put together in bracket form like the March Madness NCAA basketball tournament. It pits various saints against each other and people vote for their favorite, ultimately coming to the winner of the Golden Halo. This year's winner was Julian of Norwich. I hope you played along and learned something about the saints.

I understand this was the first year for doing this at Saint Luke's. In talking with another priest about it, I picked up an idea that might make next year's tournament more exciting.

Holy Week:

This is my first Holy Week with the people of Saint Luke's. There are some things that will be different for all of us as we journey together to the cross and beyond for the first time. I have pre-planned enough so that this week isn't too stressful for those participating, and especially for Monica who has to make sure all the bulletins are ready to go.

Because I'm writing this on the morning of Maundy Thursday, I have to hope that all went well, and that the snow my weather app is predicting on Easter will not come.

Read more [HERE](#)



The View of Heaven Changed

My view of heaven changed that morning as I sat on a sturdy backless bench in a small mud church and gazed out the window. As I looked around me and then out the window I realized I was looking at two different worlds; one created by people and the other created by God –

and they were poles apart.

The church where I was sitting was a testimony to the human need for a place of sanctuary and a desire to honor God. It had been built with love, sacrifice, dedication and hard work from materials that were readily available. The little church had a dirt floor and was built of local adobe; a special kind of dirt mixed.....[READ MORE](#)

April Birthdays, Baptisms and Anniversaries



Birthdays

Kristin Ellis (2)
Cameron Jerry (2)
Karl Rubottom (6)
Tavia Skaggs (7)
Tom Rubottom (8)
JoAnn Palmer McKenzie (10)
Kathy Born (13)
Vivianne Ostheimer (13)
Elyse Parker (25)
Scott Killian (27)

Anniversaries

Scott & Susie Gruntmeir (6)
Mike & Mandy Mader (21)

Baptisms

Emily Whipple, Pat Miller, Greg Born, Travis Millhouse, AJ Bartlett, Jim Shambaugh, Jack Killian (3), Zachary Jerry (3), Nancy Straight (3), Jerry Eastwood (5), Jay Walter (5), Pam McFadden (9), Brett Goodson (9), Brooke Goodson (9), Dennis Boggs (11), Nicole Wonka (15), Donna Naill (18), Susan Palmerlee (21), Kim Harvey (21), Joan Smith (21), Mary Alice Gurney (24), William (Cody) Grubb (24), Todd Millhouse (28)



The St. Luke's chapter of the Daughters of the King have resumed their book study sessions at 1:00 pm on Thursday afternoons in Onderdonk Hall. The new book for Lenten study is *Life of the Beloved* by Henri J.M. Nouwen. Everyone is welcome.

Meals for the Soul



Our goal is to prepare a supply of healthy, nutritious meals for those who need to supplement their meal options in the Onderdonk Hall fridge. If you, or someone you know, is in need, please enjoy a meal with a small donation, if possible. We are truly thankful for all donations to the ministry which allows us to purchase food and containers.

Thank you also to our wonderful, dedicated volunteers who make the meals happen.

Our cooking days for April are the 4th and 18th.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Open time for knitting/crochet is on the first Wednesday afternoon of the month from 1:00 to 3:00 in the Onderdonk Hall.

Join us on April 3rd or create from home.

The intention of the prayer shawl ministry is to create a supply of items that have been blessed for people in the congregation to distribute to friends and family in need of comfort.

Contact Monica at the church if you would like more information or to pick up a yarn kit or pattern.





Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Onderdonk Hall if you are available to help serve patrons on Fridays in April at the Food Pantry.

The poster has a dark blue background with a pattern of colorful stars in yellow, orange, red, and white. At the top center is the Bread of Life Food Pantry logo. Below the logo, the text reads "You and a guest are invited to a" followed by "VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON" in a dark blue box. To the left of the box is a pink starburst that says "Come and let us celebrate YOU!". To the right is a red starburst that says "Lunch & Prizes!". Below the box, the text specifies the date and time: "April 27th - Noon", the location: "St. Luke's Episcopal Church - Onderdonk Hall", the RSVP deadline: "RSVP to Cindy by April 20th", the contact information: "Call or text (307) 217-2269", and the email address: "Email: opmanagerblfp@gmail.com".



Youth Group

It was decided that youth group would meet every second and fourth Sundays of the month from 4:00 to 6:00pm. For more information contact Marie Miller, Joelene Young or Father Todd

Save the Date!

April 27th - Bread of Life Food Pantry Volunteer Appreciation Lunch at noon
See Above for RSVP Information



A few thoughts from your Parish Administrator

I came into the office the other morning to find this calm girl just hanging out getting warm in the sun. I enjoy all of the touches of nature I get to observe through my office window....next will be the budding of the trees.

It has been a great first year as your PA coming full cycle now. I started on March 9, 2023 and had Nancy's big shoes to fill. I appreciate everything I have learned with Rev. Camie's direction and look forward to learning more under the guidance of Fr. Todd. I have more confidence now in my role and am always

looking for ways to serve our church family while reaching out to people I meet to come and join us. I greatly appreciate your prayers, encouragement, hugs, and stopping in to the office to chat. I am grateful for Fr. Todd being a terrific support this month in getting all of the necessary documents prepared well in advance so that the biggest week of the whole church year (topped off with a horrible cold) happens as smoothly as possible.

I also look forward to the coming spring and moving through the liturgical year again while witnessing God's wonderful touch on our world through my office window and our wonderful mountain area. *Monica Smith*

Photos from the Maundy Thursday service of footwashing.



Vestry Members Contact List 2024

Fr. Todd Young	541-659-8151	rectorstlukesbuffalo@gmail.com
Tom Berry, Senior Warden	307-684-5848	tom_susieberry@hotmail.com
Bob Kessler, Junior Warden	307-217-1057	abckessler@gmail.com
Marilyn Novotny, Treasurer	307-620-1337	b4unovotny@gmail.com
Marie Miller, Clerk	307-620-1552	mgmiller54@gmail.com
Jim Wood	307-683-6705	james.wood2@woodplc.com
Joey Killian	307-620-0569	joelekillian@gmail.com
Charlotte Velasquez	406-585-8738	locotocharlie@yahoo.com
Perry Smith	307-223-9655	psmith427@mailbox.org
