



The Steeple

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
 210 SE Ninth St., Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74003
www.episcopalbartlesville.org

Volume XX, Number 33

August 31, 2016

CHURCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY PORTRAIT APPOINTMENTS

Tuesday – Thursday, September 13-15, 2pm–9pm
Monday, September 26, 2pm-9pm (new day!)

The St. Luke's 2016 directory pictures will be taken September 13-15 from 2pm-9pm each of those days. We have had such great participation so far that WE'VE HAD TO ADD ANOTHER DAY!! Photo appointments will also be available on **Monday, September 26, 2pm-9pm**. There are sign-up sheets available after both services on Sundays for you to pick your appointment time. If you aren't here on Sunday please contact Fr. Sean Ekberg at 918-336-1212 or 580-977-4969, or seanekberg@gmail.com. Thank you to all who have already signed up! You will view your photos right away, and will have the option to pick one of the photos for free—yes, FREE! You will also have the opportunity to purchase picture packages if you like. Pricing guides will be available upon sign up. For any questions, please contact Fr. Sean. If for some reason you cannot be present on any of the appointment days, don't fret—additional dates are available on September 27th-October 1st and October 4th-October 8th. These sessions will be held at East Cross Methodist Church. Thank you everyone!

Fr. Sean,

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

Weekly Calendar	2
From the Rector	2
Senior High Sunday School	2
CONCERN Food Pantry Needs	3
St. Luke's Prayer List	3
Twice Blessed Sale Coming Soon	3
With Sympathy	3
Search Committee Update	3
Steve's Stuff	4
New Adult Study	4
Lay Ministry Schedules	5



Important Dates To Remember

Church Pictorial Directory photo appointments, Tues.-Thurs., Sept. 13-15, Mon, Sept. 26. (see article this pg.)

Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 5, Church Office Closed, Holy Eucharist 5:30pm

Monthly Vestry Meeting, Mon., Sept. 12, 7:15pm

Twice Blessed Sale, Fri. & Sat., Sept. 23-24. (see pg. 3)



YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY TO BEGIN

If you think, "Cleanliness is next to Godliness" is in the Bible, you might need to join us this **Thursday evening, September 1** at 7:15pm in Metcalf Hall.

For the past year we have had a Young Adult Bible Study and it has been going well. We'd like for some of our new young adults to join us! If you're in between the age of 21-50 and would like to join us, please read 2 Kings and be ready to talk about it with your peers on Thursday night. (Disclaimer: To all people outside this age range, please know that this is an intentional focus group and not meant to make anyone feel left out or excluded. Young adults have difficulty making events during the day and this is a way to incorporate Bible study into a time slot that is beneficial to them while also allowing our younger families the opportunity to fellowship together. I love you all, equally.)

Faithfully,
 Fr. Sean,

From the Rector...



Parables This Sunday we will start a new study series on The Parables of Jesus. We have covered a lot of subjects over the years and each one has contributed to our understanding, growth and experience of our faith. This has involved a wide variety of resources. This time I want to do a Bible study related to the teachings of Jesus – appropriate for the Season of Pentecost also known as “Ordinary Time.”

A fresh experience of Jesus’ parables seems right for both the Discipleship Forum on Sunday mornings as well as the Spiritual Discipline Group on Tuesday mornings. I would like for us to look again at the parables, listen to what Jesus was saying and experience what Jesus is saying to us now. This could be an interesting journey to share with each other.

Over the years I have collected quite a few books on the parables and I plan to use them again, but I wanted to find a new and interesting resource. So, I went to Amazon.com to have a look. Very quickly a book caught my eye that seemed to be a real possibility. With the push of a button it was on its way. I am about half way through the book and very pleased. Let’s see what happens.

My find is [Meditations on the Parables of Jesus](#) by Thomas Keating. He utilizes the biblical studies of Dr. Bernard Brandon Scott who is a professor at Phillips Graduate Seminary in Tulsa. Each meditation begins with a parable separate from the context. Then Keating provides the context for Jesus’ teaching in the Gospels as well as the times in which Jesus taught. This is followed by a brief meditation and an encouragement to explore the meaning for ourselves.

Weekly assignments will be outlined to cover the twenty chapters. These can be readily used for daily meditations, study and prayer. The books should be in the bookstore by Wednesday of this week for \$15. Come and join us in this new adventure with Jesus’ parables on Sundays in Metcalf Hall at 9:15am or Tuesdays in the Library at 10:00am.

Gratitude Note: For the study of Jesus’ parables thirty-six years ago. As I was planning for our upcoming study of Jesus’ parables at St. Luke’s, I searched for resources in my personal library. Quickly six were found on the subject and I started flipping through them. In the process I discovered an invoice for four books on the parables stuck in the yellowed pages of C.H. Dodd’s book. These were purchased for a continuing education course at Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta. I stayed with David Galloway, a friend from my “previous life,” who later gave me my first position in an Episcopal Church (another story). Meanwhile, back to the invoice – it is dated June 20, 1980 and the total for the four books was \$30.52! It would cost at least that much for just one of the books now unless I found them at a Twice Blessed Sale. There is much to be grateful for in this walk down memory lane: special studies, continuing education, Candler, four books, bargain prices, David, 36 years of experience – and Jesus’ parables – which continue to beckon me to experience the Kingdom of God again and again. Thanks be to God!

Blessings,

Fr. Lee,

Weekly Activity Calendar

Sunday, September 4, 2016

8:00am Rite I
9:15am Sunday School Classes
10:30am Rite II

Monday, September 5, 2016

Labor Day, church office closed
5:30pm Holy Eucharist

Tuesday, September 6, 2016

10:00am Spiritual Discipline Group,
library

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

6-8pm Young Disciples, RH
7:00pm Choir

Thursday, September 8, 2016

6:45am Men’s Fellowship, MH
12:00pm Holy Eucharist
7:00pm Bible Study, MH

Friday, September 9, 2016

Saturday, September 10, 2016

Sunday, September 11, 2016

8:00am Rite I
9:15am Sunday School Classes
10:30am Rite II
12:30pm CONCERN Fundraiser, Hillcrest
Country Club

Monday, September 12, 2016

9:30am Church Staff Mtg.
5:30pm Holy Eucharist
7:15pm Vestry Mtg.

SENIOR HIGH SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

If your child is in 9th-12th grade, let them know about their Sunday School class which starts on **Sunday, September 11!** The class begins at 9:15 in Rodgers Hall. This class is designed to have discussions, prayers, Bible study and fellowship. We would love to see a full class of young adults!

9:15-9:30

Breakfast brought by Senior High parents (there will be a sign up e-mail).

9:30-9:50

Read the Gospel in several different versions of the Bible.

9:50-10:00

Open discussion about the readings.

10:00-10:10

Hands on activities for team building or occasionally visit younger Sunday School classrooms.

10:10-10:15

Closing prayer

SPREAD THE WORD!!

ST. LUKE'S PRAYER LIST

Please keep them in your prayers
*Names on the Prayer List are rotated
off every 4 weeks. If there is need for
continued prayers, please let us know.)*
Darlene, Helen, Robert, Doug, Jaden,
Steve, Mary, Elizabeth, Emma, Lida,
Bid, Jim, Scott, Georgia, Glenn, Shelly,
Max, Dortha, Cory, Jean, all members
of our armed forces and their families.
*If you have a prayer request, contact
our Prayer Ministry Coordinator
Thelma Blackburn 918-333-7902 or
TPBGEN@aol.com or the church office
at 918-336-1212 or
annbell@episcopalbartlesville.org.*

CONCERN FOOD PANTY NEEDS YOUR HELP!



The CONCERN
Food pantry shelves
are bare! Please
consider donating
canned vegetables,

fruit, and meat, complete pancake
mix (add water type), dry milk,
mac and cheese, ramen noodles,
and chicken noodle and vegetable
soup, or any non-perishable food.
Your donations may be brought to
the church and placed in the blue
CONCERN tub by Metcalf Hall or
taken directly to the CONCERN
Center, 333 SW Penn Ave. Thank
you so much!



Sincere sympathy and
prayers to Mike & Lauri Watkins
(1118 S. Dewey Ave.,
Bartlesville, OK 74003) on the
death of Mike's mother, *Jean
Watkins Simkin*, of Columbus,
Kansas, on Sunday, August 28.
Funeral arrangements are
pending at this time.

Twice Blessed Sale!

Sept. 23 & Saturday, Sept. 24 will soon be here! Will your gently used, life - left- in- them items be here in time for this major fund raiser for St. Luke's Outreach programs? We'd like to fill Metcalf Hall with a wonderful variety of highly desirable *rummage!*

It would be very helpful if you wait until Monday, Sept. 19th to bring large items, furniture, etc. Storage space for large items is very limited at St. Luke's. However, if you need to bring things before then, please contact one of the committee members listed below for instructions.

Please NO computers; NO appliances or electrical gadgets that are NOT in working order; NO cleaning supplies or opened bottles of toiletries, etc. NO clothing.

Questions? Willing to help in the many responsibilities that will make *Twice Blessed* a success? Contact Becky Liehr, 918-327-5987, Kris Bonner, 918-335-1807, or Dolores McCreary, 918-336-2197. Many thanks to those who have already signed up to help! More people are needed through the sale week to help unpack, sort, price and on the actual sale days. A sign-up sheet is located on bulletin board in downstairs hall.

Our name *TWICE BLESSED* is a reminder to each of us that we are blessed in the sharing while those who continue using our gifts are blessed in the receiving!

GOD'S LOVE TRULY IS CELEBRATED AND SHARED AT ST. LUKE'S!

The **New Rector Search Committee** is entering the next phase of our work. Over the coming month, we will be researching and creating the Parish Profile. The Parish Profile describes who we are, what we want and need in the future and what we will offer a new rector. It is the tool used to recruit interested candidates to our church.

Thanks to all who participated in the Parish Survey process. It is clear that the St. Luke's family engaged your hearts and minds and souls in this vital process.

We continue to ask you to pray for the Search Committee and Vestry during our discernment process for St. Luke's next rector. **Please also pray for the prospective candidates and their families as they begin to enter into their discernment process about St. Luke's.**

We are a strong, active and engaged church family doing good and important things. We have so much to do today and more to plan for tomorrow. And, we have so much for which to be thankful.

God's love truly is celebrated and shared at St. Luke's!

WOMEN NEEDED!!

It would feel a lot better and look really # on Sundays if we had a few more (or several more) sopranos and altos in the choir. If this doesn't make much sense to you ask any St. Luke's Choir member to explain our need!

THE PARABLES OF JESUS AGAIN

The Discipleship Forum, Sundays in Metcalf Hall at 9:15 OR
The Spiritual Discipline Group, Tuesdays in the Library at 10:00

Resources:

The Holy Scriptures

Meditations on Jesus' Parables by Thomas Keating

(Available in the St. Luke's Bookstore for \$15.00)

Open to anyone wanting to experience the parables of Jesus again.



ADOOR ST. LUKE'S PROGRESS Work on the Chapel Door has begun. The contractor has determined that the door must be replaced due to fairly extensive rot on the bottom and dry rot elsewhere.

Choices were:

1. Spend considerable time cleaning up the original, putting epoxy material in rotted areas, refinishing, and so forth—then having a door that will last another 10 or so years. OR...
2. Replacing the door, finishing, and putting on original refurbished hardware—then having a door that will be there for another 50 years or so.

I chose the latter. A replacement door will be ordered soon and joined up with the hardware which is all being refurbished. Molding around the door is being made from PVC which does not rot. Estimated completion time is two weeks.

Other Doors are begging for adoption!

Folks, we need to do a better job of closing up the north end of the church after the late service and fellowship activity. This has is current because yesterday (8/28) Hugh Harrison just happened to come by the church about 3:00 pm to find the north entry door unlocked and all the hall and Metcalf Hall lights on! If he had not happened by the church would have been in that situation until the alarm went off at 11:00 pm (when I get called) or Monday morning when we came in (depending on the wind action on the north door). I recognize that not everyone has a key to lock the door, but that does not inhibit light switch operation! If, for whatever reason, you find yourself left to lock the north door (or other doors), but have no key, you have a big problem because then you will need to sleep in the church (without moving which would set off the motion sensors) until we come in to work! A better alternative would be to insure that you are not left in this situation or call me at 918-914-3791 if you are.

*Steve Forsythe, Parish Administrator
918-336-1212, sforsythe@episcopalbartlesville.org*



**The Church Office will be closed Monday, Sept. 5 for
Labor Day. Holy Eucharist will be celebrated at 5:30pm.**



St. Luke's Episcopal Church
 210 East 9th Street
 Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74003
 (Return Service Requested)
<http://www.episcopalbartlesville.org/>

The Rev. Dr. T. Lee Stephens, Rector (leestephens@episcopalbartlesville.org)
 The Rev. Sean Ekberg, Assoc. to the Rector (seanekberg@episcopalbartlesville.org)
 The Rev. Douglas Freebern, Deacon (dfreebern@yahoo.com)
 The Rev. Lauri Watkins, Deacon (lwatkins@episcopalbartlesville.org)
 The Rev. Mike Watkins, Deacon (mike.watkins@sbcglobal.net)
 In an Emergency, call 918-397-3683, 580-977-4969, 918-766-2473 or 918-914-0525
 Ann Bell, Parish Secretary (annbell@episcopalbartlesville.org)
 Steve Forsythe, Parish Administrator (sforsythe@episcopalbartlesville.org)
 Dolores McCreary, Organist/Choir Director (dolores@episcopalbartlesville.org)
 Erin Perry, Christian Educ. Dir. (erinperry@episcopalbartlesville.org)
 Kathy Zervas, Sr. Warden (kzerv@aol.com)
 Amy Borg, Jr. Warden (amy.a.borg@p66.com)
 Office Phone: 918-336-1212 Office Fax: 918-336-2557
 Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:30am-4:00pm, Fridays 8:30am-3:00pm
 Holy Eucharist: Sunday 8am & 10:30am; Monday 5:30pm, Thursday 12pm

"The Steeple" is a weekly publication of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 210 SE 9th St., Bartlesville, OK 74003

LAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE 9/4/16 through 9/11/16

Volunteers: Please make your own substitutions.

Acolytes

Sept. 4

Servers

Harald Borg, Robert Boyle

Torchbearers

Kimaya Kindred, Emma Boyle

Sept. 11

Servers

Ruth Tod, Grace Mitchell

Torchbearers

Keaton Mitchell, Evan Mitchell

Scripture Lessons for

Sunday, Sept. 4

Jeremiah 18:1-11; Psalm 139:1-6,
 13-18; Philemon 1:1-21;
 Luke 14:25-33

Music for Sunday, Sept. 4

#9 – "Not Here For High and Holy Things"

#628 – "Help Us, O Lord, to Learn"

#306 – "Come, Risen Lord, and Deign to be Our Guest"

#700 (text) – "O Love That Casts Out Fear"

#637 – "How Firm a Foundation"

Greeters

Sunday, Sept. 4

8:00am

Don Davidson

10:30am

Thelma Blackburn

Sunday, Sept. 11

8:00am

Don Doty

10:30am

Debbie & Dennis

Mueggenborg

Ushers

Sunday, Sept. 4

8:00am

Steve Forsythe, Dean Zervas

10:30am

Jim Malone, Tim Simmons

Sunday, Sept. 11

8:00am

Ace Gardner, Michael Kemp

10:30am

Brian Ferguson,
*volunteer needed**

**Contact Steve Clark,
 918-914-9662*

Layreaders

Sunday, Sept. 4

8:00am

Darian Kedy, Scott Williams

10:30am

Kate Carroll, Bob Wesneski
 Juanita Green, Lauren Green

Sunday, Sept. 11

8:00am

Jeff Birk, Kate Carroll

10:30am

Lauren Green, Penny Williams
 Kate Carroll, Nick Conner

Coffee Fellowship Hour

Sept. 4

John Hood & Cynthia Hall

Sept. 11

Volunteer needed!*

**To volunteer, contact Rita*

Childers, 918-519-8470 or

puvey45@gmail.com

Bereavement Committee

Team 2

Barbara Martin, Laura Birk,
 Thelma Blackburn, Sally
 Canfield, Debbie Mueggenborg

Sunday Plate Counter

Sept. 4

Amy Borg

Sept. 11

Bruce Ramzel

Sept. 18

Steve Clark

St. Luke's Bookstore

*The Bookstore is open
 Sundays between the two
 services and after the
 10:30 service. All proceeds
 from sales go to St. Luke's
 Outreach Projects.*

**To volunteer, you may
 contact Melinda Wesneski,
 918-333-7758 or
mcwesne@gmail.com.*

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please have articles that
 you would like printed in
The Steeple to the church
 office no later than
Tuesdays at 10am.

Thank you!

Children's Chapel

Sept. 4

Heather Boyle, Bob Tedstrom

Sept. 11

Erin & Travis Perry

Sept. 18

Becky & Brian Olsen

Agape Mission

2nd Thursday,

Sept. 8, 2016

9-11am

Jeanne Julstrom,

John McCollum

10:45am-1pm

Kris Bonner, Rita Childers,

Becky Liehr, Kathy Zervas,

Marcia Zervas

1-2:45pm

Melinda Droege,

Miriam Petrovich

Nursery Volunteers

September 4 & 11

*Volunteers needed**

**Contact Erin Perry,*

918-766-6166