



The Steeple

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

Volume XX, Number 19

May 18, 2016

SENIOR SUNDAY, MAY 22

Our 2016 graduating seniors will be recognized at both the 8am & 10:30am services on Sunday, May 22. The Young Disciples youth group will also be assisting with lay leadership responsibilities during both services. Following the 10:30 service, there will be a reception in honor of our 2016 Graduates in Metcalf Hall. Join us in congratulating them at this special time in their lives.



Our 2016 Graduating Seniors are:

Anneke Borg, daughter of Amy Borg and Brad Borg
Elizabeth Boyle, daughter of Heather & Rob Boyle
Spencer Heald, son of Ellen & Randy Heald
Rachel Wade, daughter of Nancy & Jim Warring
David Wiseman, son of Robin & Wayne Wiseman



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Important Dates To Remember

Senior Recognition/Youth Sunday, May 22 (see article this pg.)

Memorial Day, Monday, May 30, church office closed. Holy Eucharist celebrated at 5:30pm

Family Promise Families at St. Luke's, June 12-19 (see pg. 2)

WACKY WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS

What do terrariums, nerf balls, and kaleidoscopes have in common? They are all part of the plans for our Wonderful Wacky Wednesdays. This year we are exploring God's Beautiful Earth through stories, songs, projects, games, and even snacks! It is time NOW to sign up your children, grandchildren, and neighborhood children for our Wednesday programs. We meet from 3-5:30 every Wednesday, beginning on June 15, and running through July. For more information, contact Erin Perry, erinperry@episcopalbartlesville.org or Lauri Watkins, lwatkins@episcopalbartlesville.org. Registration sheets are available in the church office and online on our website, www.episcopalbartlesville.org.

Prayer for the Selection of Our New Rector

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



In case you missed it, Pentecost was a wonderful celebration – red everywhere, windsocks with the children (and Rector), and of course the Kite of the Holy Spirit. A highlight for me was the combination of the children’s bell choir and the adult choir – great music and fun woven together. I wish everyone could have seen the one young lady who was every emphatic in ringing her bell – absolutely delightful.

My challenge was to come up with a sermon for Pentecost – the birth of the Church and the coming of the Holy Spirit. Much can be said pro and con about the Church as a whole today – which tends to lean toward the negative. It is true that many people have been hurt by their experiences in church life which have left scars on their souls. Other folks just don’t see the value and simply stay away.

However, I love the Church – specifically, I love St. Luke’s. This year for Pentecost I decided to make the sermon very personal – my observations and experiences of Church and the Spirit at St. Luke’s.

Our experience with Natural Church Development certainly was affirming of our parish. You will remember that in November of last year we engaged in this program by having thirty very active people take an inventory which has been used to evaluate thousands of churches of varying kinds around the world. The assessment involves eight characteristics of church life: empowering leadership, gift-based ministries, passionate spirituality, effective structures, inspiring worship, holistic small groups, need-based evangelism and loving relationships. Our scores were very positive and encouraging. There is certainly room to improve – especially in small groups, spirituality and evangelism. Still, we came out as a healthy parish positioned for growth.

NCD provided a good objective look at our parish, but I wanted to be more personal in what I have experienced and witnessed in our church. Here is a condensed version:

1. You are a sacramental church becoming a sacramental people – what you experience in worship not only blesses you but is transformative in your daily walk with Christ.
2. You are a welcoming and inclusive people – repeatedly affirmed by visitors. In addition, you provide a safe place for people be themselves without judgment.
3. There is a genuine commitment to our children and as well as the elders among us. That was certainly evident this morning.
4. Many people in the parish are seeking a deeper relationship with God through Bible studies, spiritual discipline groups, special studies and personal efforts.
5. You have an amazing capacity for caring and supporting each other with prayer, food, rides or whatever the need may be.
6. There is also willingness to “hold” people prayerfully and lovingly who are going through a wilderness time in their journey.
7. You are able to grapple with social-justice issues in ways that inform and encourage people without hurting each other.
8. People of St. Luke’s are known for their involvement in the community and making a difference personally.
9. With Arms Wide Open, the parish is an alternative for people struggling with their faith and needing another place to be and grow.

I could keep adding to the list and could provide more specificity, but you get the idea. I think as a parish you are an extension of Jesus mission and ministry today – Prisms of Christ – blessed and empowered by God’s Spirit. Thank you for being the church you are and are becoming. And, thanks be to God.

Blessings,

Fr. Lee+

Weekly Activity Calendar

Sunday, May 22, 2016
Youth Sunday
8:00am Rite I
9:15am Sunday School Classes
10:30am Rite II
12:00pm Reception honoring our Graduating Seniors, MH

Monday, May 23, 2016
9:30am Church Staff Mtg.
5:30pm Holy Eucharist

Tuesday, May 24, 2016
10:00am Spiritual Discipline Group, Library

Wednesday, May 25, 2016
10:00am Regional Clericus Mtg., Claremore
7:00pm Choir

Thursday, May 26, 2016
6:45am Men’s Fellowship, MH
12:00pm Holy Eucharist

Friday, May 27, 2016

Saturday, May 28, 2016

Sunday, May 29, 2016
8:00am Rite I
9:15am Sunday School Classes
10:30am Rite II

Monday, May 30, 2016
Memorial Day, church office closed
5:30pm Holy Eucharist

SAVE THE DATE FOR FAMILY PROMISE

June 12-19

Our next week to host Family Promise families here at St. Luke’s is June 12-19. Your opportunity to sign up to volunteer to help will be after both services on Sunday. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jen Peterson, jenr1971@gmail.com or 918-397-7779.

ST. LUKE'S PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following 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.)

Glenn, Steve, Jim, Camilla, Natalie, Tracy, Devin, Bob, Linda, Shelly, Jacob, Amber, Dortha, Helen, Sarah, Max, Linda, Emma, Joseph, Sue, Mark, Becky, Cory, Roy, Jean, Lisa, 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.

Summer Sunday School



We will have "Summer Sunday School" (aka...SSS) starting June 5th through July 31st. This class welcomes 4 year olds through Junior High. We are integrating all the classes together and using our "older disciples" as our helpers. We will start in our Godly Play classroom promptly at 9:15 and enjoy a seven week story Knowing Jesus in a New Way. There will be snacks and other group activities. SSS has been designed to offer a place for our younger children so that parents may join Father Sean's Sunday School class in Metcalf Hall. If you are interested in volunteering for this class, please email Erin Perry at erinperry@episcopalbartlesville.org.

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY (EfM)

Interested in church history, the Bible, or theology? The EfM program goes a long way to addressing all these topics. In this study there is emphasis placed on working in community and seeing the hand of God in our lives.

EfM is an educational tool for equipping us to be ministers of Christ regardless of our walk of life. With the new EfM format people who have previously taken the program may re-enroll in desired terms. You do not need to start at the beginning.

Next term's class is forming and must be in place by the end of July. For information contact Lauri (lauri-watkins@sbcglobal.net; 918-766-2473) or Mike (mike.watkins@sbcglobal.net; 918-336-1430).

CRAFTING OUR PRAYERS



Come sew with us! We are on a mission to make 25 more dresses to send to Africa. These are simple "pillowcase" dresses that provide much needed clothing for little girls who have nothing. On Friday, May 20, we will be meeting at 9:00 a.m. to spend the day sewing, praying, and chatting (of course). If you have a sewing machine, or want to just cut and iron, we can use you. Please come and join us for the day or part of the day. Fabric is provided. Double fold bias tape is needed. Contact Lauri Watkins if you have any questions, 918-766-2473 or lwatkins@episcopalbartlesville.org.



Sincere Sympathy and prayers to the friends and family of William Rex Bohon who died on May 11, 2016. The funeral service for Mr. Bohon will be on Wednesday, June 8, 2016 at 11:00am at St. Luke's.



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

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LAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE 5/22/16 through 5/29/16

Volunteers: Please make your own substitutions.

Acolytes

May 22

Servers

Spencer Heald, Ruth Todd

May 29

No Acolytes scheduled today

Layreaders

Sunday, May 22

8:00am

Jeff Birk, Darian Kedy

10:30am

Nick Conner, Carol Murphy
 Juanita Green, Lauren Green

Sunday, May 29

8:00am

Judy Currey, Scott Williams

10:30am

Juanita Green, Penny Williams
 Bob Wesneski, Carol Murphy

Nursery Volunteers

May 22

Anneke Borg

May 29

Diana Crawford

June 5

Elizabeth Boyle

Scripture Lessons for

Sunday, May 22

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31; Psalm 8;

Romans 5:1-5; John 16:12-15

Music for Sunday, May 22

#178 – "Alleluia! Give Thanks to the Risen Lord"

GATHER #285 – "The Servant Song"

GATHER #291 – "Here I Am"

GATHER #346 – "One Bread, One Body"

GATHER #287 – "Lord of the Dance"

Coffee Fellowship Hour

May 22

Senior Sunday

May 29

Diana Farris

June 5

Wendy Hall

Bereavement Committee

Team 4

Ada Grillot, Jo Baughman,

Kris Bonner, Jen Peterson,

Melinda Wesneski

Sunday Plate Counters

May 22

Jim Grillot, Jim Malone

May 29

Jim Grillot

June 5

Amy Borg

Greeters

Sunday, May 22

8:00am

Sally Canfield

10:30am

D. J. & Jerry Nezam

Jim & Nancy Warring

Sunday, May 29

8:00am

Gretchen Hoyt

10:30am

Beck & Jim Liehr

Carol Murphy

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!

Ushers

Sunday, May 22

8:00am

Robert Babcock, Dean Zervas

10:30am

Jim Grillot, Max McCreary

Sunday, May 29

8:00am

Ace Gardner, Dean Zervas

10:30am

Jeff Birk, Jim Warring

Children's Chapel

May 22

Jeanne Julstrom, Travis Sutton

May 29

Heather Boyle, Bob Tedstrom

June 5

Heather Boyle, Bob Tedstrom

Agape Mission

4th Thursday,

May 26, 2016

9-11am

Jim Liehr, Fr. Lee Stephens

10:45am-1pm

Jeff Birk, Molly Ferguson,

Glenda Garrison, Darian Kedy,

Jen Peterson

1-2:45pm

Carol Murphy,

Radomir Petrovich