



The Steeple

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

Volume XX, Number 48

December 14, 2016



SCHEDULE OF CHRISTMAS EVENTS & SERVICES

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

The Children's Christmas Pageant "How to Teach a Lamb to Sing" will be presented during the 10:30 Eucharist.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, CHRISTMAS EVE

5:00pm Holy Eucharist, with the baptism of Cate Mueggenborg, granddaughter of Debbie & Dennis Mueggenborg.

10:30pm Pre-Service Music

11:00pm Midnight Mass. Fellowship will follow this service in Metcalf Hall with homemade goodies. Please bring a plate of goodies to share and leave them in the kitchen as you come in for the service. Hot cider and eggnog provided.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, CHRISTMAS DAY

One service today: 10:30 Eucharist, *no nursery provided today*.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2017

One service today: 10:30 Eucharist, nursery provided.

Please Note: The Church Office will be closed Friday, Dec. 23 & Monday, Dec. 26 for the Christmas Holiday, and Monday, Jan. 2, 2017 for the New Year's Holiday.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

Weekly Calendar	2
From the Rector	2
Ugandan Orphan Sponsorships	2
Prayer for Rector Search Process	3
Christmas Flower Remembrances	3
Sing in the Christmas Choir	3
Supper Club Sign-Ups	3
Bishop's Visit & Confirmation	3
Monthly Financial Summary	3
Lay Ministry Schedules	4



Important Dates To Remember

Children's Christmas Pageant Rehearsal, Sat., Dec. 17, 10am, nave

Children's Christmas Pageant, Sun., Dec. 18, during 10:30 Eucharist

Church Office Closed Dec. 23 & 26

ST. LUKE'S BOOKSTORE

Be sure to shop in our Bookstore for your last minute shopping needs! Selected Stocking Stuffers will be 25% off on Sunday, December 18.

The Bookstore is open between services, and after the 10:30 service every Sunday.



SPECIAL REMINDERS FROM ERIN and THE KIDS....

- This Saturday, Dec. 17 at 10:00am practice for all involved in the Christmas play!!!
- The Children's Play will be performed at the 10:30 service on Sunday, Dec. 18!
- Sunday School will happen this Sunday Dec. 18 and it starts at 9:15 (Senior High starts at 9:30).
- NO SUNDAY SCHOOL on Christmas or New Year's Day.
- NO Children's Chapel or Nursery on Christmas Day.
- Sunday School will resume on January 8, 2017 (be on the lookout for our new schedule!).
- Have a wonderful Christmas and enjoy little ones around you.



From the Rector...



In case you do not know, St. Luke's has an incredible Vestry. Actually that has been true all through my years in our parish. Recently I discovered a folder with lists of Vestries-Past and enjoyed the trip down memory lane. The current Vestry members have demonstrated remarkable commitment, love and wisdom in fulfilling their responsibilities – and even have fun.

The members of the Vestry serve in a three-year rotation. Here is St. Luke's Vestry by class: 2016 – Lauren Green, Wendy Hall, Dennis Mueggenborg and Glenda Garrison; 2017 – Steve Clark, Rita Childers, Doug McIver and Tim Simmons; 2018 – Dan Droege, Miriam Petrovich, Scott Peterson and Kelli Bradshaw. Plus we have the leadership of Kathy Zervas as Senior Warden and Amy Borg as Junior Warden.

These are the people who will receive three recommendations from the Search Committee to interview and select one as the next Rector for St. Luke's. As a part of the process set out by the Bishop, this Vestry will continue to serve in 2017 until the new Rector is elected – including those who would have rotated off at the end of this year. Tonight, with the blessing of the Bishop, the Vestry voted to "suspend" the Bylaws to allow each of the Vestry members to serve an additional year. This will allow continuity and support as the new Rector begins her or his ministry in the parish.

The Vestry also voted to have the Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 5th. This again will be a Pot Luck Dinner following the 10:30 service. The meeting will begin about 12:30. It was noted by one devoted Vestry member that the fifth is also Super Bowl Sunday. The leadership vowed to keep the meeting to less than an hour – plenty of time before the Super Bowl parties begin.

The financial picture for the parish is encouraging, but needing a good finish for the year. Bob Wesneski, Treasurer, told us that we still have some outstanding pledges and still need to see increases to underwrite the \$40,000 increase for maintenance, salaries and outreach. We want to provide a good financial foundation as the new Rector comes on board.

The Vestry approved a contract for the power doors for the north doors – the parking lot entrance. The doors have already been ordered and the finances promised for both the doors and the power equipment. This will be a great benefit for our elders and people with disabilities. Steve Forsythe, the Parish Administrator, has provided wonderful leadership in his "Adoor St. Luke's" project and I am grateful.

On occasion we have had a problem with members, who with good cause, but troublesome results, have entered our buildings when the alarm has been set. This involves calls to staff members and the police to make sure everything is in order. Tonight the Vestry set a new policy that no one is to be in the buildings between 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. when the alarm is set without authorization of a staff member. Please be aware.

My column isn't very "Adventish," much less "Christmasy" this week, but I thought these things were important for the parish to know. Now I can look forward to Sunday – the Fourth Week of Advent. Our children will provide a Christmas Play at the 10:30 Eucharist this Sunday, Dec. 18, which will fun – and touching – even inspiring. Then I will get some special time with my Youngest Friends – I'm pumped and ready.

Blessings,

Fr. Lee+

Weekly Activity Calendar

Sunday, December 18, 2016

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00am Rite I

9:15am Sunday School Classes

10:30am Rite II & Children's Christmas Play

Monday, December 19, 2016

9:30am Church Staff Mtg.

5:30pm Holy Eucharist

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

10:00am Spiritual Discipline Group, Library

6:00pm Altar Guild Christmas Party, 2601 Georgetown

Wednesday, December 21, 2016

3:30pm Green Country Eucharist

7:00pm Choir

Thursday, December 22, 2016

6:45am Men's Fellowship, MH

12:00pm Holy Eucharist

Friday, December 23, 2016

Church Office Closed

9:00am Altar Guild Workday

Saturday, December 24, 2016

Christmas Eve

5:00pm Holy Eucharist

10:30pm Pre-Service Music

11:00pm Midnight Mass. Fellowship following in Metcalf Hall.

Sunday, December 25, 2016

Christmas Day

10:30am Rite II

Monday, December 26, 2016

Church Office Closed

5:30pm Holy Eucharist

UGANDAN ORPHAN SPONSORSHIP GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFTS – ONLY \$400

The 2017 school year in Uganda begins in February. Now is the time to step up once again to sponsor at least six orphan students in Uganda. Thankfully, as of today, Dec. 13, 3 sponsorships have been fulfilled! With a sponsorship gift of \$400, the student is provided tuition, room, board and clothing for the year. Matching gifts from employers can make this two for one for sponsors. This is managed through BARHD (Bushenyi Alliance for Rural Health & Development in Southwest Uganda). The schools are Anglican and were started over twenty years ago in this rural and impoverished district in Uganda.

Pictures and letters of two students are on the bulletin board in the main hallway. This is also where you can sign up to be a sponsor. One can sign up for the full sponsorship or just half – or even less. Together we should be able to sponsor at least six. To date St. Luke's has sponsored at least 174 students. If you have any questions or are ready to be a sponsor, contact Fr. Lee.

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.)*

Mary Lou, Thelma, Peggy, Mike,
Lynette, Rose, Jenny, Joseph, Trudi,
Patty, David, Kristen, Elizabeth,
Mary, Jeanne, Max, Emma, Helen,
Cory and 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.*

St. Luke's Supper Clubs



St. Luke's Supper Clubs
will start up again after
the New Year. The
Clubs were quite

successful last year and many have
asked when we will start them up
again. After those interested sign up
on sheet in the main hallway at the
church, the Vestry Fellowship
Committee will put together groups
of 8, both couples and singles.
These groups, once formed, can
plan to have "supper" once a month,
usually at one of the participants'
homes, but not mandatory-- some of
the groups decide they want to go to
a restaurant. It is up to the group. If
you wish to participate again or for
the first time, please put your
name(s) on the sign-up sheet on the
bulletin board in the hall. If you have
any questions, give either Rita
Childers (918-519-8470) or Tim
Simmons (918-841-1120) a call.

PRAYER FOR THE NEW RECTOR SEARCH PROCESS

We ask you to pray for the rector
candidates, Search Committee,
and Vestry during our mutual
discernment process for our next
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.*

*All this we ask through our
savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

MONTHLY FINANCIAL SUMMARY

	November			November Year to Date		
	MTD Actual	MTD Budget	Variance (unfav.)	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance (unfav.)
Income						
Pledge Payments	27,076	32,083	(5,008)	336,753	352,917	(16,164)
Non-Pledge Payments	2,390	2,250	140	28,691	24,750	3,941
Other Income	409	942	(532)	14,445	13,195	1,250
Total Income	29,875	35,275	(5,400)	379,889	390,862	(10,972)
Expenses	30,304	39,450	9,146	378,996	392,854	13,858
NET INCOME/LOSS	(429)	(4,175)	3,746	893	(1,993)	2,886

♫ COME SING IN THE CHOIR FOR CHRISTMAS! ♫

Christmas Eve Choir is open to all who love to sing! Would you enjoy singing with our choir for the late Christmas Eve Eucharist? We would love to have you come sing with us. There will be one special rehearsal for the music for Christmas Eve 11:00 p.m. Eucharist. It will be Wednesday, Dec. 21 at 7 p.m. If you can sing most of the familiar Christmas carols, and if you want a really, really good "front-row" seat for the service you should come sing with the choir! And, yes, your presence in the choir would be a gift to all of us!

**MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED SO GENEROUSLY LAST
MONTH ON UNITED THANK OFFERING INGATHERING SUNDAY.
THE TOTAL COLLECTED FROM ST. LUKE'S WAS \$530.01.**

THE BISHOP IS COMING – THE BISHOP IS COMING! Sunday, January 8, 2017

Bishop Ed (The Rt. Rev. Dr. Edward Konieczny) will make an episcopal visit to St. Luke's on Sunday, January 8, 2017. This visit will be of particular importance for Confirmation, but also for this time of transition in our parish. Everyone will want to hear what he has to say about the process and the future of St. Luke's. He will also join us in commissioning Jeff Birk for his mission trip to Uruguay.

This will be a time for Confirmation and Reception. A list is being generated for children (sixth grade and above) and adults who are joining St. Luke's. If you want to experience Confirmation or Reception, please contact either Fr. Lee or Fr. Sean. They will help with preparation for this sacramental experience.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER REMEMBRANCES & SPECIAL CHRISTMAS OFFERING



Last week offering envelopes for Christmas flowers and the Christmas offering were mailed out. Please make sure your Thanksgiving or Remembrances and donations are received in the parish office no later than **Thursday, Dec. 15** in order for your remembrance to be included in the Christmas Eve bulletin. Extra offering envelopes are in the narthex & church office. If you have any questions, contact Cheryl Fregin, 918-440-0040.

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 12/18/16 through 12/25/16

Volunteers: Please make your own substitutions.

Acolytes

Dec. 18

Servers

Nick Olsen, Greta Olsen

Torchbearers

Kyle Peterson, Madelyn Stuart

Dec. 25

No acolytes scheduled today

Layreaders

Sunday, Dec. 18

8:00am

Judy Currey, Jeff Birk

10:30am

Nick Conner, Kate Carroll

Penny Williams

Sunday, Dec. 25

10:30am - one service today

Lauren Green, Bob Wesneski

Nick Conner

Nursery Volunteers

Dec. 18

Barbara Todd

Dec. 25

No Nursery today

Jan. 1

Erin Perry

Scripture Lessons for

Sunday, Dec. 18

Isaiah 10:7-16; Psalm 80:1-7,

17-19; Romans 1:1-7;

Matthew 1:18-25

Music for Sunday, Dec. 18

#56 – "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

#268 – "Ye Who Claim The Faith of Jesus"

#81 – "Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming"

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

WLP #724 – "People, Look East"

Coffee Fellowship Hour

Dec. 18

Young Disciples

Dec. 25 & Jan. 1

No coffee hour

Jan. 8

Confirmation Reception

To volunteer, contact Rita

Childers, 918-519-8470 or

puvey45@gmail.com

Sunday Plate Counter

Dec. 18

Steve Clark

Dec. 25

Jim Grillot

Jan. 1

Amy Borg

Greeters

Sunday, Dec. 18

8:00am

Monica Martin

10:30am

Carol Murphy

Steve & Maureen Forsythe

Sunday, Dec. 25

One Service Today

10:30am

D. J. & Jerry Nezam

Jim & Nancy Warring

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, 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, Dec. 18

8:00am

Michael Kemp, Dean Zervas

10:30am

Glenn Bonner, Jim Warring

Sunday, Dec. 25

10:30am - one service today

Jim Grillot, Max McCreary

Children's Chapel

Dec. 18 & 25

No Chapel

Agape Mission

4th Thursday, Dec. 22

9-11am

Jim Liehr, Fr. Lee Stephens

10:45am-1pm

Jeff Birk, Molly Ferguson,
Glenda Garrison, Darian Kedy,
Jen Peterson

Bereavement Committee

Team 3

Wendy Hall, Connie Freebern,
Glenda Garrison, Gretchen Hoyt,
Becky Liehr, Carol Murphy