



# The Steeple

St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
210 SE Ninth St., Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74003  
[www.episcopalbartlesville.org](http://www.episcopalbartlesville.org)

Volume XXI, Number 1

January 4, 2017

*Please Join Us for...*

**THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY**  
Friday, January 6, 2017  
Holy Eucharist  
will be celebrated at 6:00pm.

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## Important Dates To Remember

**Crafting Our Prayers Group**, Thursday, Jan. 5, 10am

**Feast of the Epiphany**, Friday, Jan. 6, 2017.  
Holy Eucharist, 6pm

**Bishop's Visitation & Confirmation**, Sunday, Jan. 8 (see article this pg.)

**Monthly Vestry Mtg.**, Mon., Jan. 16, 7:15pm

**"Souper" Bowl Sunday**, Feb. 5, YD collect food for CONCERN

## CONFIRMATION & BISHOP'S VISITATION 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.

Bishop Ed will celebrate and preach at both the 8am & 10:30am services.

The schedule for the day looks like this:

- 8:00am Rite I Eucharist and the Commissioning Jeff Birk for his mission trip to Uruguay.
- 9:15am The Bishop will be available for questions and conversations in Metcalf Hall
- 10:30am Rite II Eucharist with Confirmation and Reception of new members.
- 12:00pm Reception honoring our new members, Metcalf Hall
- 1:00pm Luncheon and meeting with St. Luke's Vestry, off sight.



**CRAFTING OUR PRAYERS**  
We will meet on Thursday,  
January 5, 10am in the  
Vestry Room.

## From the Rector...



The holiday season was interesting, eventful and joyous. The Fourth Week of Advent was a full week and that rarely happens. Then Christmas Day and New Year's Day were on Sundays – that makes things interesting (even Protestants had church on Christmas Day). The way things lined up the season longer than usual – at least seemed that way. Lynda and I had to leave early for Kansas City on Christmas in order to see our oldest granddaughter before she left for Australia – I had never missed a Christmas Day Eucharist. That meant we were back early and I was at the New Year's Day Eucharist. Usually, our Christmas decorations are down before we leave, but this year we are enjoying them until Epiphany.

All in all this has been a wonderful Christmas Season, but there have been three special moments for me. One was in the early Christmas Eve service in the Baptism of Cate Mueggenborg – likely my last Baptism at St. Luke's as Rector – the nuances are too many to name. Then I got back in time to witness the Baptism of Dax Wolfe – son of a young couple with family ties in our parish – and water from the Jordan River. Plus, I was delighted to watch Fr. Sean provide the Sacrament of Baptism for the first time – he did well and I was a proud Father in priesthood.

As we move on to the First Sunday of the Epiphany Season, Bishop Ed will be with us for a Visitation and Confirmation/Reception. As of this writing, I believe he will be confirming and receiving eight or so adults – wonderful additions to the Episcopal Church and St. Luke's. During the 8:00 Holy Eucharist he will commission Jeff Birk for his place on the mission team going to Uruguay. In addition, the Bishop will be available for conversation during the Discipleship Forum at 9:15 in Metcalf Hall.

Back in January of 2016 I met with Bishop Ed and Canon José concerning my retirement in twelve months. The process was outlined by the Bishop which would allow the parish to start the search for a new Rector before my retirement. He also said that was not the time to start saying “Goodbye” – just keep doing what we do at St. Luke's. That is what we have done.

I am aware that January 2017 will change that. In fact, this evening (Mon.) the folks who regularly attend the Monday Holy Eucharist took Lynda and me to dinner after the service. The “Goodbyes” have begun. I have taken Holy Eucharist to almost all of our homebound members and will finish this week – something I needed to do myself. There three boxes of books from my office are home and Fr. Sean and our Deacons are taking what they want for their libraries. My big leather bound calendar is now history – replaced by a simple Office Depot calendar. And I have a new email address:  
[frleestephens@gmail.com](mailto:frleestephens@gmail.com).

People are asking me how I am doing with the retirement thing. Well, I love what I have been privileged to do for forty-seven years – twenty at St. Luke's. I have been blessed in more ways than I can say. I think I am glad the “Seventy-two Rule” is there, because I am not sure I could have made the decision. Yet, I know this is right for me and for St. Luke's and I am experiencing a positive acceptance – at least so far. When Bishops retire they considered “unassigned. I like that. I will be “assigned”, but will find ways to continue living into my priesthood. So let's enjoy this month and trust in the future God has for all of us.

Blessings,  
Fr. Lee+

## Weekly Activity Calendar

### Sunday, January 8, 2017

Confirmation & Bishop's Visitation

8:00am Rite I

9:15am Sunday School Classes

10:30am Rite II

12:00pm Reception honoring

Confirmands, MH

### Monday, January 9, 2017

9:30am Church Staff Mtg.

5:30pm Holy Eucharist

### Tuesday, January 10, 2017

10:00am Spiritual Discipline Group, library

### Wednesday, January 11, 2017

6-8pm Young Disciples, RH

7:00pm Choir

### Thursday, January 12, 2017

6:45am Men's Fellowship, MH

10:00am Crafting Our Prayers, vestry rm.

12:00pm Holy Eucharist

### Friday, January 13, 2017

### Saturday, January 14, 2017

### Sunday, January 15, 2017

8:00am Rite I

9:15am Sunday School Classes

10:30am Rite II

### Monday, January 16, 2017

9:30am Church Staff Mtg.

5:30pm Holy Eucharist

7:15pm Vestry Mtg.

## TREASURE SALE COMING SOON!

That proverbial “Word to the Wise” only works when wise people take heed and follow directions! “What directions?” you may be asking. Simple!



We're getting ready for our **5<sup>th</sup> Bi-Annual TREASURE SALE** and we need YOUR help! Search high, low, in between, over, under and any other place where you might find wonderful treasures you no longer need. You may have the very treasure another person has been trying to find!

Treasures will be accepted by the TS committee beginning Monday, Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> through Thursday, Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>. Not sure what a “treasure” is? Ask a TS committee members: Becky Liehr, Kris Bonner, Kate Carroll, Dolores McCreary.

Be sure to mark your calendar for Treasure Sale Dates: Feb. 17 & 18. And watch *The Steeple* for news about our wonderful TREASURE SALE. All proceeds (yes, ALL net proceeds) go to Outreach!

### 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.)*

Marty, Jim, 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](mailto:TPBGEN@aol.com) or the church office at 918-336-1212 or [annbell@episcopalbartlesville.org](mailto:annbell@episcopalbartlesville.org).*

### Welcome Little One!



Please help us congratulate Amalie and Travis Sutton's new bundle of joy! Dare Estelle was born Wednesday, December 28<sup>th</sup> weighing 7.5 lbs. Dare looks as adorable as her two sisters! We can't wait to meet you Miss Dare!

### 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.

*Father,*

*It is time to find a new spiritual leader to guide us. We pray individually and together to further this search process. We know that you have already chosen a path for St Luke's. We pray earnestly for your guidance in seeking out Your plan for us.*

*We ask You to send the Holy Spirit to fill each of our hearts and minds, keep our arms wide open, and guide us to find the new Rector who will lead us on this path.*

*Father, we ask that You bless the hearts of our Rector candidates and each member of our parish family to ease this transition for them. All this we ask through our savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.*



### Thank You Shawnee Discount Liquor!

Many thanks go to Jim Hess of Shawnee Discount Liquor for providing all of the wine for our celebrations of the Holy Eucharist. Jim has been providing our communion wine at St. Luke's for many years, and we are very appreciative! Thanks, Jim!

### ANNUAL REPORTS NOW DUE

**Annual Meeting is Sunday, February 5, 12:30pm**



If you are a member of the Vestry, or the head of a committee, your annual report of activities and results from your areas of responsibilities within the parish in 2016 are due in the office no later than Wednesday, January 18 for inclusion in St. Luke's Annual Book of Reports. Email your report to [annbell@episcopalbartlesville.org](mailto:annbell@episcopalbartlesville.org), or submit your report to the church office. Copies of last years' Annual Report are available in the church office.

Also, if you have been nominated for Convention Delegate or Nominating Committee, you are asked to submit a brief autobiography (maximum 4-5 sentences) of your faith journey & church activities. This information must be submitted by Wednesday, January 18, 2017. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 918-336-1212.

Our Annual Meeting is **Sunday, February 5** at 12:30pm (preceded by an All-Parish Potluck at 12noon) in Metcalf Hall. All members are encouraged to attend.

The Annual Meeting serves as a time of reflection on the past year and also a time to review the 2016 Annual Report and focus on our goals for 2017. We will be voting for our candidates for Vestry, Diocesan Convention Delegates and the Nominating Committee. Everyone in the parish is urged to attend.

**St. Luke's Episcopal Church**  
**210 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74003**  
(Return Service Requested)

<http://www.episcopalbartlesville.org/>

The Rev. Dr. T. Lee Stephens, Rector ([leestephens@episcopalbartlesville.org](mailto:leestephens@episcopalbartlesville.org))  
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The Rev. Douglas Freebern, Deacon ([dfreebern@yahoo.com](mailto:dfreebern@yahoo.com))  
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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 9<sup>th</sup> St., Bartlesville, OK 74003

**LAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE 1/8/17 through 1/15/17**

*Volunteers: Please make your own substitutions.*

**Acolytes**  
**Sunday, Jan. 8**  
*Servers*  
Ruth Todd, Grace Mitchell  
*Torchbearers*  
Keaton Mitchell, Evan Mitchell  
**Sunday, Jan. 15**  
*Servers*  
Nick Olsen, Greta Olsen  
*Torchbearers*  
Madelyn Stuart, Charlie Olsen

**Scripture Lessons for Sunday, Jan. 8**  
Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17  
**Music for Sunday, Jan. 8**  
#119 "As With Gladness"  
#121 – "Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized"  
#508 – "Breath On Me Breath of God"  
#139 (text) – "When Jesus Went to Jordan's Stream"  
#438 – "Tell Out My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord"

**Greeters**  
**Sunday, Jan. 8**  
*8:00am*  
Don Doty  
*10:30am*  
Debbie & Dennis Mueggenborg  
**Sunday, Jan. 15**  
*8:00am*  
Monica Martin  
*10:30am*  
Carol Murphy  
Maureen & Steve Forsythe

**Ushers**  
**Sunday, Jan. 8**  
*8:00am*  
Don Davidson, Michael Kemp  
*10:30am*  
Brian Ferguson, Hugh Harrison  
**Sunday, Jan. 15**  
*8:00am*  
Michael Kemp, Dean Zervas  
*10:30am*  
Glenn Bonner, Jim Warring

**Layreaders**  
**Sunday, Jan. 8**  
*8:00am*  
Nick Olsen, Jeff Birk  
*10:30am*  
Judy Currey, Lynda Stephens  
Kate Carroll, Lauren Green  
**Sunday, Jan. 15**  
*8:00am*  
Jim Grillot, Judy Currey  
*10:30am*  
Lauren Green, Nick Conner  
Juanita Green, Kate Carroll

**Coffee Fellowship Hour**  
**Jan. 8**  
Confirmation Reception  
**Jan. 15**  
*Volunteer needed*  
*To volunteer, contact Rita Childers, 918-519-8470 or [puvey45@gmail.com](mailto:puvey45@gmail.com)*

**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](mailto:mcwesne@gmail.com).**

**Children's Chapel**  
**Jan. 8**  
Jeanne Julstrom  
**Jan. 15**  
Blair & Chad Ellis

**Agape Mission**  
**2nd Thursday, Jan. 12**  
*9-11am*  
Jeanne Julstrom, John McCollum  
*10:45am-1pm*  
Kris Bonner, Rita Childers, Becky Liehr, Kathy Zervas, Marcia Zervas

**Nursery Volunteers**  
**Jan. 8**  
Natalie Conner  
**Jan. 15**  
Barbara Todd  
**Jan. 22**  
Diana Crawford

**Sunday Plate Counter**  
**Jan. 8**  
Bruce Ramzel  
**Jan. 15**  
Steve Clark  
**Jan. 22**  
Jim Grillot

**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!*

**Bereavement Committee**  
**Team 3**  
Wendy Hall, Connie Freebern, Glenda Garrison, Gretchen Hoyt, Becky Liehr, Carol Murphy