

The Steeple

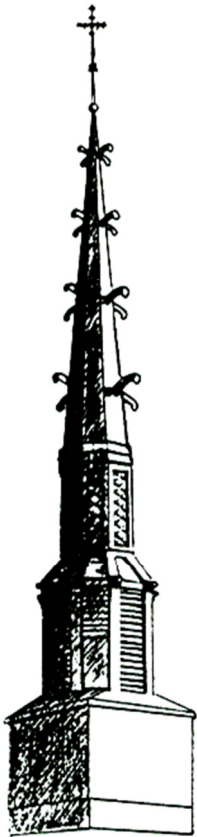
St. Luke's Episcopal Church

210 SE Ninth St., Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74003

www.episcopalbartlesville.org

Volume XXI, Number 28

August 9, 2017



Rally Sunday – August 20

Sunday, August 20, is Rally Sunday. The start of the school year is a great time for renewed commitment about church and Sunday school attendance and outreach programs. The children are in new classes, the backpacks have been distributed to over 2,500 kids, and the summer season is waning.

Come back! Return to church services and Sunday School. Take up a new ministry outside the church, and find a new group within the church. Feel the renewal and excitement of this special place.

WORDS FROM THE WARDEN

Where has the time gone? (I know, that makes me sound old!) But it seems like just a few months ago that 2 young men walked into the Old Parish Hall while the Altar Guild was busy making palm crosses for the Palm Sunday service and were introduced to us by Fr. Lee. One of those young men has remained with us, nurtured us in the absence of our "forever priest", laughed and joked with us, spiritually challenged us, spoken thought provoking messages in his sermons, but most of all, has become a dear friend to everyone. Fr. Sean Ekberg has "wormed" his way into our hearts and lives! Through his own growth as a priest, he has helped us to grow as well. He sees things clearly and seeks solutions to the problems at hand. We will truly miss him and his precious wife, Nicole. She is his rock, his sounding board and his soul mate. To witness them together is like watching the movie, "The Princess Bride"--such commitment and love!!

Little did I know that my role as Senior Warden would lead me to become such close friends with two very remarkable men on both ends of the clerical spectrum and who have strengthened in me my own spiritual growth and faith. I am truly blessed to know Fr. Sean and Nicole and with all of you on this Sunday, I want to wish them well in their new church home in Yukon.

Faithfully yours,
Kathy

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✓ Important Dates To Remember

Farewell Reception & Lunch for Fr. Sean and Nicole, Sun., Aug. 13, Noon, Metcalf Hall (see article on page 2). Please RSVP
YD Lockin, Aug. 18-19
Rally Day, Aug. 20
Family Promise, Sept. 10-17

Some Final Thoughts from Fr. Sean

St. Lucans,



My friends, there are no words. There are no words that can adequately express the depths of gratitude that Nicole and I feel toward the beloved community of St. Luke's, Bartlesville. When we first received news of our placement, we both looked at each other and said, "Where?". What a complete surprise it was to find ourselves immersed in such a rich and rewarding faith walk alongside each of you. I rarely use the term, but I believe the word 'blessed' is as good as I can muster for the way I feel

about you all.

I wish for joy and love to continue growing in your hearts, minds, souls and lives as time progresses. My hope for this community is that the new Rector sees you the way I see you: A faithful family that reaches out and touches the world by virtue of its loving kindness. I can't imagine having spent my first years as a priest anywhere else; this truly was the perfect fit for us. Your church will continue to be extraordinary, you will continue to do God's work and fulfill the mission set before you—of these I have no doubt.

Finally, I want you to know that we love you. That no matter where we go and what we go on to accomplish, you have become our foundation in terms of 'how to do ministry'. We move on with grateful and filled hearts, we move on with confidence, we move on with a mind full of memories, and we move on knowing that we will never be completely separated from you because of the way you loved us.

I leave you as a better version of myself. I came here as a Curate, I leave as a Priest. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Faithfully,
Fr. Sean A. Ekberg

*Fr. Sean and Nicole's New Mailing Address:
212 E. Grand Teton Ct.
Yukon, OK 73099*

Farewell Reception & Lunch for Fr. Sean and Nicole Sunday, Aug. 13th (RSVP Requested)

It's almost here. Fr. Sean and Nicole's last Sunday with us will be August 13th. To celebrate this special time, we are planning a bar-b-que lunch for everyone on Sunday, August 13th after the 10:30 service. Please help out by sending an RSVP (including the number of people attending) either via email to: office@episcopalbartlesville.org or by calling the church office.



WEEKLY ACTIVITY CALENDAR

Sunday, Aug. 13, 2017

8:00am Rite I
9:30am Choir Rehearsal
10:30am Rite II
12:00pm Ekberg Reception & Lunch, MH

Monday, Aug. 14, 2017

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

Tuesday, Aug. 15, 2017

10:00am Spiritual Discipline Group, library

Wednesday, Aug. 16, 2017

Thursday, Aug. 17, 2017

6:45am Men's Fellowship, MH
12:00pm Holy Eucharist
*First Day of School for
Bartlesville Schools*

Friday, Aug. 18, 2017

6:00pm YD Lockin Starts

Saturday, Aug. 19, 2017

7:00am YD Lockin Ends

Sunday, Aug. 20, 2017

RALLY DAY

8:00am Rite I
9:15am Sunday School
9:15am Clergy Forum
9:30am Choir Rehearsal
10:30am Rite II

Monday, Aug. 21, 2017

9:30am Church Staff Mtg.
5:30pm Holy Eucharist
*Solar Eclipse Day: While
Looking toward Heaven,
Please Protect Your Eyes*

Tuesday, Aug. 22, 2017

10:00am Spiritual Discipline Group, library

Thank you for helping "PACK THE BACKPACKS"

Last weekend, several hundred people, including lots of folks from St. Luke's, gathered to pack school supplies into 2,500 backpacks. They were practically gone by Tuesday afternoon. The kids of Washington County thank you so very much for all the great support St. Luke's provides every year.

ST. LUKE'S PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following persons 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.)

Elizabeth, Jenny, Sue, Jim, Kris, Max, John, Samantha, Robert, Lee, Hugh, Ed, Sydney, Henry, Lana, Seth, Jacey, Brandon, J.R., Charles, Etta, Penny, Mary, Kenny, 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 office@episcopalbartlesville.org.



Does the language of music seem impossible for you to read? Kind of like some crazy foreign language that doesn't make much sense?

Don't let that keep you from singing in the Choir! And this Sunday is a great time to find out how much fun, how much you can learn, how really good singing makes you feel!

The music for Sunday has melodies that most of you can hum or whistle or even sing without ever having to read a single musical note. Reading the words is necessary, though!

Come sing with us for this special "Sending Forth" Sunday. Rehearsal in Choir Room at 9:30 before the 10:30 Eucharist. Singing this Sunday does NOT obligate you to "join the choir"!

Although we hope it will be at least a small enticement to bring you back again!

Young Disciples Lockin: Aug. 18

Young Disciples starts up again with a LockIn from 6pm on Friday, August 18 to 7am on Saturday, August 19. YD parents should expect groggy and/or irritable youth during the day on Saturday. This event features food, travel, figuring out a way out from an "escape room", go karts, running around in the middle of the night and, if you so desire, very little sleep.

Family Promise Returns: Sept. 10-17

During our next turn to host families, **we will be testing a new method for signing up volunteers.** Instead of 4 weeks of "sign-up Sunday's" at Metcalf Hall, we are asking folks to check their calendars and sign up through email or phone call to Jen Peterson at jenrpet1971@gmail.com or 918-397-7779. Hopefully, everyone will get their preferred time and date in early, so that the final 2 "Sign-up Sunday's" at Metcalf Hall will merely be to fill in a couple of the remaining spots. Thanks in advance for helping serve in this great ministry!

As usual, we will be asking for 2 volunteers in the following roles for each of the evenings (Sunday Sept 10th through Saturday Sept 16th):

- Dinner prep and service 5:30-7pm
- Evening activity host 7-9pm
- Overnight host 9pm - 6:30am the following morning

Other Volunteer Positions

- Supply donations for breakfast and lunch groceries
- Saturday morning breakfast prep on Saturday Sept 16th
- Setup and takedown on Sunday, Sept 10th and 17th
- Laundry at the end of the week

Have questions? Interested in volunteering or learning more about the program? New to St. Lukes? Please contact Jen Peterson for information.

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.

Some Places to Find Yourself on Sunday Morning

- **Worship Services** at 8:00 and 10:30 will continue. Come worship and be filled.
- **Sunday School** classes for all ages and needs are available starting at 9:15.
- **The Clergy Forum** meets at 9:15 in Metcalf. The next month or so will be spent on the history of the church. Where did we come from?
- **Young Family Sunday School** will begin meeting in the Vestry Room on September 10. Come share a few minutes together while your children attend Sunday school.

Other Ministries at St. Luke's

Choir, altar guild, lay readers, volunteers with the children, visiting the elderly and housebound, Family Promise (coming soon!), helping with the building and grounds (check with Karl).

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
210 East 9th Street
Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74003

(Return Service Requested)
<http://www.episcopalbartlesville.org/>

The Rev. Sean Ekberg, Priest in Charge (seanekberg@gmail.com)
The Rev. Douglas Freebern, Deacon (dfreebern@yahoo.com)
The Rev. Lauri Watkins, Deacon/Chr. Educ. Dir. (lwatkins@episcopalbartlesville.org)
The Rev. Mike Watkins, Deacon (mike.watkins@sbcglobal.net)
The Rev. Bob Gates, Retired Priest
In an Emergency, call 918-766-2473, 918-336-1430 or 918-914-0525
Karl Franks, Parish Administrator. (ktfranks@gmail.com)
Bob Wesneski, Interim Parish Secretary (office@episcopalbartlesville.org)
Dolores McCreary, Organist/Choir Director (dolores@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-12:30pm
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 August 13, 2017 through August 20, 2017

Volunteers: Please make your own substitutions

Acolytes
August 13

Ruth Todd, Grace Mitchell,
Keaton Mitchell, Evan Mitchell

August 20

Nick Olsen, Greta Olsen, Kyle
Peterson, Charlie Olsen

August 27

No Acolytes Scheduled

Layreaders

August 13

8:00am

Judy Currey, Jeff Birk

10:30am

Kyle Peterson, Lauren Green

August 20

8:00am

Nick Conner, Jeff Birk

10:30am

Katherine Powell, Kate Carroll

Nursery Volunteers

August 13

Natalie Connor

August 20

Barbara Todd

August 27

Diana Crawford

Scripture Lessons for
August 13

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm
85:8-13; Romans 10:5-15;
Matthew 14:22-33

Music for August 13

#636 "How Firm a Foundation"
GATHER #344 "Behold the Lamb
of God"

GATHER #346 "One Bread, One
Body"

#477 "All Praise to Thee, for
Thou, O King Divine"

Sunday Coffee Fellowship Hour

August 13

Ekberg Reception

August 20

Glenda Garrison

August 27

Borg Family

To Volunteer see the sign-up
sheet in the Metcalf Hall kitchen
or contact Rita Childers, 918-519-
8470 or puevey45@gmail.com

Sunday Plate Counter

August 13

Bruce Ramzel

August 20

Steve Clark

August 27

Jim Grillot

Greeters
August 13

8:00am

Don Doty

10:30am

Debbie & Dennis Mueggenborg

August 20

8:00am

Monica Martin

10:30am

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, contact Connie
Freebern

connie.freebern@yahoo.com

918-914-1155

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

August 13

8:00am

Don Davidson

10:30am

Brian Ferguson, Hugh Harrison

August 20

8:00am

Dean Zervas

10:30am

Glenn Bonner, Jim Warring

Children's Chapel

August 13

Nicki Ingram, Jeanne Julstrom

August 20

Blair and Chad Ellis

August 27

Erin and Travis Perry

Agape Mission

Thursday, August 24

9-11am

Jim Liehr

10:45am-1pm

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

1:00-2:45pm

Carol Murphy, Radomir
Petrovich

Bereavement Committee

Team 3

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