

The Steeple

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

Volume XV, Number 32

November 30, 2011

MANY GIFTS, ONE SPIRIT Pledge Sunday is December 4



A 2011 Budget Summary along with your 2012 pledge card was mailed out earlier this week. Please prayerfully consider your pledge for the coming year and bring your completed pledge card to church on Sunday, December 4,

St. Luke's Pledge Sunday. You may also mail your card in the envelope provided if you are unable to be in church on Pledge Sunday. Extra pledge cards and budget summaries are available in the church office.

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Important Dates To Remember

- Sunday, December 4**, Pledge Sunday (see article this pg.)
- Episcopal Church Women's Advent Tea**, Monday, Dec. 5, 2:00-4:00pm, 5656 Chickering Ct. (see pg. 3)
- Young Disciples Lock-In**, 6pm, Friday, Dec. 9 – 7am, Sat., Dec. 10
- Lessons/Carols & Children's Christmas Play**, followed by Soup Lunch, Sun., Dec. 18 (see article this pg.)
- Christmas Day & New Year's Day** (Sundays Dec. 25 & Jan. 1): One service only at 10am and no Church School classes.



Something Extra for the 4th Sunday of Advent!



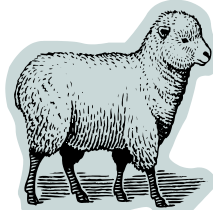
The *Liturgy of the Word* (Bible readings, Psalm and Sermon) for **December 18**, the 4th Sunday of Advent 10:30 Eucharist will be a modified version of Lessons and Carols. We will hear readings from Isaiah and Luke, sing hymns and listen to anthems by the choir. The children and youth will present a short one-act play, *How to Teach a Lamb to Sing*.

Following the **Lessons and Carols** and play, the service will continue with the Prayers of the People, the Offertory and the Eucharist. After the service everyone is invited to a **HOMEMADE SOUP LUNCHEON** in Metcalf Hall. We will also be serving a variety of homemade breads and cookies. Please come!



How to Teach a Lamb to Sing

NEEDED: LOTS OF LAMBS!
For Our Annual Children's Christmas Pageant
No auditions required! Rehearsals: Sunday mornings – 9:15-9:35 in *Joyful Noise Singers* room on the second floor next to the choir room!
All Children welcome!





FROM THE Rector

I was on the road this morning (Monday) well before sunrise. A member was having surgery in Tulsa. I use such occasions for quiet time in my car – mindful of traffic – even more so of Presence. That was the context of an epiphany: I am spoiled priest!

By that I mean...

Dolores was here when I arrived fifteen years ago. I inherited her! She is so talented and creative any church across the country would be delighted to have her as their organist. In addition, she has a deep spirituality that enriches everything she does – including a new children’s Christmas musical – *“How to Teach a Lamb to Sing”*.

Then there is our fifth Curate – Mthr. Stephanie. I realized that two-thirds of my time at St. Luke’s we have had a Curate on our staff – that’s incredible. And, the “Expectant One” has an inspiring eagerness to learn, an enthusiasm for ministry, a creative spirit and fresh perspective. If you didn’t hear her sermon on Sunday, listen to the recording on our website – she was amazing. God blessed the moment. (<http://www.episcopalbartlesville.org/Worship/Sermons/Sermons.html>)

Driving down 75, I thought about Ann Bell – what a jewel she is to St. Luke’s. A smile came to my face in the dark as I remembered my first act of pastoral care at St. Luke’s. I was still in Tyler when Steve Clark called in distress because the parish secretary had resigned. Little did we know that God would bless us with the lead minister of our parish office – Ann.

At this point in my early morning drive to Tulsa I was lost in wonder. Who would have thought that our first Deacon in many years would also become our Parish Administrator? What a wondrous blend of roles. Plus, we have been a part in the ordination of a priest from our parish – now Mthr. Alene. And, Lauri Watkins will become a Deacon in another eighteen months. And, Mike Watkins is an Aspirant and will likely become a Deacon in a few years.

As morning light was appearing in the East, my spirit began to reflect on the host of people in our parish family. Names and faces past and present kept coming to mind and heart. I felt overwhelmed.

I cannot begin to share all the names – there are far too many for this space. To give you some reference point, think of the Senior and Junior Wardens, Altar Guild Directresses, Mission Teams and Acolytes through the years. People who had been here for years and time came to celebrate their lives and faith. Then there are all the folks who have become members during my tenure at St. Luke’s. The circle of friends keeps expanding.

When Lynda and I first arrived in Bartlesville, we fell in love with the people of St. Luke’s. Today that is still true – indeed even more so.

As I arrived at the hospital, the new day was dawning. My focus changed to my ministry of presence and prayer, but my epiphany caused my heart to remain full of joy. Perhaps I am spoiled. Or, perhaps I am simply a priest most blessed. I am grateful and I pray that is true for you also as members of a wonderful parish family.

Blessings,
Fr. Lee +

Calendar of Events

Sunday, December 4, 2011

Pledge Sunday

8:00am Rite I

9:15am Church School Classes

10:30am Rite II

Monday, December 5, 2011

8:45am Morning Prayer

9:15am Church Staff Mtg.

2-4pm ECW Advent Tea,
5656 Chickering Ct.

5:30pm Holy Eucharist

Tuesday, December 6, 2011

10:00am Spiritual Direction Group,
library

5:30pm Adult Bible Study, library

Wednesday, December 7, 2011

6-8pm Young Disciples

Christmas Party

7:00pm Choir

Thursday, December 8, 2011

6:45am Men’s Fellowship

12:00pm Holy Eucharist

Friday, December 9, 2011

6:00pm YD Overnight Lock-In, RH

Saturday, December 10, 2011

Sunday, December 11, 2011

Third Sunday of Advent

8:00am Rite I

9:00am Church School Classes

10:30am Rite II

Monday, December 12, 2011

8:45am Morning Prayer

9:15am Church Staff Mtg.

5:30pm Holy Eucharist

7:15pm Vestry Mtg.

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP FORUM Sunday Mornings 9:15am, Metcalf Hall

Mthr. Stephanie Mitchell is leading us in an overview of the Gospel of Mark. It is suggested that you read Mark’s Gospel in preparation for this class.



CHURCH WOMEN UNITED ANNUAL MEETING & TEA FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1:00PM FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 505 SE Dewey Ave. “Christmas Classics”

by

**Kathy Stewart, Director of Music
First Presbyterian Church
Everyone is welcome to attend
this special event.**

ST. LUKE'S PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following persons in your prayers...

(Names on the Prayer List will be rotated off every 4 weeks.

If there is a need for continued prayers, please let us know.)

Pat, Jan, Richard, Linda, Robert, Nancy, Leanne, Jeff, Paula, Margaret, Lynda, Mark, Crystal, Thelma, Shirley, Joan, Glenn, James, Vicky, Chris, Alex, Noelle, Rachel, Marie, Stan, Margaret, Nora, Loren, Jan, Isaac, Bobby, Steve, Charles, Jean, Will, Joseph, Brandon, Jeremy

If you have a prayer request, please call or e-mail our Prayer Ministry Coordinators:

Thelma Blackburn (333-7902,

TPBGEN@aol.com) or

Richard Chamberlain (333-5591,

Deaconrc@sbcglobal.net)

TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

New Study Begins

Tuesday, December 13

When: Tuesdays from 5:30 to 6:30pm.

What: Stories that include women in the Bible that are often read as a part of our lectionary but are seldom studied or preached on with the companion book *Helpmates, Harlots, and Heroes* by Alice Ogden Bellis.

Where: St Luke's Library

Why: There is much to learn and gain from studying stories with male and female characters - it gives all a chance to get a different perspective and insight depending on which direction you approach the story and is even more enriching with both voices/perspectives in the discussion. Please don't fall into the trap of thinking that looking at stories of women in the Bible is for women only!! Questions? Contact Mthr. Stephanie, 918.336.1212 or smitchell@episcopalbartlesville.org.

With Sympathy

Sincere sympathy & prayers are extended to Jim & Debbie Rutherford (3200 Harvey Rd., 74006) on the death of Debbie's sister, *Karen Morris*, of Michigan, on November 14, 2011.

Episcopal Church Women's Advent Tea



St. Luke's Annual ECW Advent Tea will be **Monday, December 5, 2011** from 2-4pm, at Jeanne Julstrom's house, 5656 Chickering Court. All Women of St. Luke's are invited to this annual gathering for fun, food and fellowship.

Also, please note that the **ECW's Northeast Regional Meeting** is scheduled for **Saturday, December 3, 2011** at 10:00am at St. Andrew's Church, Grove, OK 555 E. 3rd St. Advent Eucharist will be celebrated by the Rev Debora Jennings. Brunch will be served with a short meeting following. Please reserve your spot by Thursday, December 1. RSVP to St. Andrew's Church at 918-786-4113 or saecgrove@sbcglobal.net.

"THE MESSIAH" TO BE PRESENTED

The Bartlesville Choral Society with orchestra and guest soloists will present selected choruses and solos from *The Messiah*, George F. Handel's beloved musical work Sunday, **December 4th, 2:00 p.m.** in the auditorium of the Bartlesville Community Center. Tickets are available in the BCC box office.

Choral Society members from St. Luke's singing in this presentation include: Kate Carroll, Tom Chamberlain, Diana Farris, Ada Grillot, and Charles Lee. Dolores McCreary is accompanist for the Choral Society.

CHRISTMAS STAR TREE

St. Luke's Annual Christmas "Star" Tree is now in the narthex. The tree is decorated with stars, each one representing an area foster child's "wish list" for Christmas. Everyone has the opportunity to take a star (or stars), shop for the requested gift(s), and return the gift (UNWRAPPED and with the star firmly attached) to the church office **no later than Sunday, Dec. 11**. At this time, **THERE ARE OVER 25 STARS REMAINING TO BE TAKEN ON THE TREE**. If you have any questions, you may call Steve & Cheryl Van Aken, 333-5570 or the church office, 336-1212.



Used Computers Needed for CONSTRUCTORES PARA CRISTO

If you have a functioning computer that could be donated to the CPC Preschool/Library in Piedras Negras, Mexico, please contact Jeff Birk by Thursday, December 8. Phone Jeff at 918-333-8089, or email prdadm@cablone.net. Thank you!

YOUNG DISCIPLES CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

Our YD youth group will have their Annual Christmas Party at the Petrovich's house on Wednesday, December 7 at 6pm. We'll have dinner, sharing and a gift exchange.

On Friday, December 9 at 6pm the overnight Lock-In begins! Lots of fun and surprises are in store! Early Saturday morning, Dec. 10 we will help a local organization with a shopping trip for disadvantaged children as they shop for their families for Christmas.

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

The Rt. Rev. Edward J. Konieczny, Bishop of the Diocese of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City
The Rev. Dr. T. Lee Stephens, Rector (leestephens@episcopalbartlesville.org)
The Rev. Stephanie Mitchell, Ass't. to the Rector/Chr. Ed. Coordinator (smitchell@episcopalbartlesville.org)
The Rev. Douglas Freebern, Deacon/Parish Administrator (dfreebern@episcopalbartlesville.org)
In an Emergency, call 918-397-3683, 1-405-850-3321 or 918-914-0525
Ann Bell, Parish Secretary (annbell@episcopalbartlesville.org)
Dolores McCreary, Organist/Choir Director (dolores@episcopalbartlesville.org)
Darian Kedy, Sr. Warden (dariankd@aol.com)
Jim Liehr, Jr. Warden (jimliehr@yahoo.com)
Office Phone: 918-336-1212
Office Fax: 918-336-2557
Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30am-4:00pm
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 12/4/11 through 12/11/11

Acolytes
Sunday, Dec. 4, 2011
10:30 a.m.

Servers
Lauren Heald
Spencer Heald
Crucifer
Spencer Heald
Torchbearers
Harald Borg
Genevieve Miller

Sunday, Dec. 11, 2011
10:30 a.m.
Servers
Jack Wiseman
A. J. Clem
Crucifer
Dave Wiseman

Layreaders
Sunday, Dec. 4, 2011

8:00am
L. Watkins, Birk
10:30am
Sparks, J. Green
S. Williams, Grillot
Sunday, Dec. 11, 2011
8:00am
Lauri & Mike Watkins
10:30am
J. Green, P. Williams,
Grillot, Johnson

Scripture Lessons for
Sunday, Dec. 4, 2011
Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2,
8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15a;
Mark 1:1-8

Music for Dec. 4, 2011
#59 – "Hark! A Thrilling Voice
is Sounding"
#63 (text) – "O Heavenly
Word, Eternal Light"
#75 – "There's a Voice in the
Wilderness Crying"
#334 – "Praise the Lord, Rise
Up Rejoicing"
#74 – "Blest Be the King
Whose Coming is in the Name
of God"

Plate Counters
Sunday, Dec. 4, 2011
Jeanette Wishall
Sunday, Dec. 11, 2011
Jim Malone

Volunteers: Please make your
own substitutions.

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!

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 call**
Melinda Wesneski,
333-7758 or
Barbara Martin, 336-8445.

Greeters
Sunday, Dec. 4, 2011

8:00am
Don Davidson
10:30am
Glenn & Thelma
Blackburn
Jo Oertle
Sunday, Dec. 11, 2011
8:00am
Don & Cheri Doty
10:30am
Truly Johnson
Carolyn Lawrence

Church Nursery
Volunteers

Dec. 4 – Zella Simmons
Dec. 11 – Barbara Todd
Dec. 18 – Natalie Conner
*Volunteers: Please make your
own substitutions. To Volunteer,
or to be a sub, call Tammy
Baughman, 918-440-8088.*

Ushers
Sunday, Dec. 4, 2011

8:00 a.m.
Gardner, Zervas
10:30am
Malone, Simmons
Sunday, Dec. 11, 2011
8:00am
Gardner, Kemp
10:30am
Blackburn, Ferguson

Children's Chapel
Dec. 4 – Rosy Zuklic
Dec. 11 – Amy Borg
Dec. 18 – Jerry Beal

ECW Bereavement
Committee
December
Sue Glass,
Debbie Mueggenborg
January
Sally Canfield, Cordy Liggett

Agape Mission
2nd Thursday, 12/8/11
9am-11am

Cheri Doty, John McCollum
10:45am-1:00pm
Bryson Read, Rita Childers
Marcia Zervas, Kathy Zervas,
Rusty Hoff
1:00-2:45pm
Miriam Petrovich,
Melinda Droege