

The Steeple

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

Volume XV, Number 30

August 24, 2011



CHRISTMAS IN AUGUST?



COOL!

The tradition of giving gifts at Christmas will be alive and well at St. Luke's this coming Sunday, August 28! The CONCERN Food Pantry is always in need of being re-supplied. As an expression of our year-round celebration of the gift of Jesus' birth and presence in our lives, **please bring a gift of food for the CONCERN pantry** this Sunday, August 28. **Suggested items include:** Cereal, ravioli, rice, tuna, instant potatoes, shelf milk, sugar, flour, pork & beans, spaghetti, peanut butter, Hamburger helper, powdered milk, oatmeal, canned vegetables (NO corn or green beans), jelly, crackers, baking mix, toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrushes. As always, any non-perishable food items and toiletries are always welcome contributions!



In addition, all of the music for Sunday, August 28th will be Christmas carols!

Read the lyrics for the carols in the order they will be sung. Notice a pattern? The news of this wondrous gift and the possibilities for humankind wrapped in this gift is announced to all who will hear ("*Angels from the Realms*", "*Angels We Have Heard on High*", "*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*", "*It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*").

We are given glimpses of our responsibility as we receive and react to the news of this amazing birth, our privilege to share this promise of God's love revealed through this tiny baby Jesus in the lyrics of "*What Child is This?*" and "*Away in a Manger*".

And, of course, the message which we must carry with us and gladly share every day is found in that great hymn of rejoicing, "*Joy to the World*".

Come sing and rejoice with us as we celebrate the Birth of God's Gift of Love, Jesus!

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Important Dates



To Remember

Godly Play Training, Sat., Aug. 27, 10am-4pm, upstairs classrooms

Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 5, Church office closed

Rally Day Activities & All Church Breakfast, Sun., Sept. 11 (*see pg. 2*)

Sunday, Sept. 18, Pre-K – 12th grades Church School classes begin



The last time I rode a horse was in my childhood. Actually, it was a pony at the Tulsa Fair that went in circles along with other ponies hitched to a steel frame. Nothing I said or did made a difference to the pony. He simply did what he had to do for me and hundreds of children at every stop on the tour of fairs.

When Lynda and I went to Ring Lake Ranch in Wyoming two years ago for a conference, I wasn't interested in riding a horse. I did enjoy looking at them and marveled at their beauty and strength. When we left from the first trip I think there may have been a regret lingering in the back of my mind. As our plans for a return trip developed, I knew I would ride a horse at least once.

That decision turned into a learning experience in ways that surprised me. Gratefully, the ride began with an orientation on how to ride a horse. We were told everything from getting on to getting off. They explained how to use the reins and our feet. The instructions included the importance (necessity) of leaning back in the saddle when going down a hill and forward when going up. We were even encouraged to talk with our horses – mine being Plowboy.

What I thought was to be a “cookie” ride to learn about riding a horse turned into something much more. Though most of us were beginners, the wranglers decided we could handle an hour of riding which included going up the side of the mountain. Suddenly I was way out of my element.

I began talking with Plowboy in a big way. I confessed I didn't have a clue what I was doing, but would try to remember everything I had been told. I asked him to be patient with me. Every once in a while I reached out to pat him and thank him for taking care of me. I was working on trust – for him and for me.


Now, Plowboy was huge. I was clear he could go anywhere he wanted regardless of my wishes. It dawned on me he had been on this trail many times – even with inept people like me. I could trust him even though I might not be as trustworthy.

Then I noticed that it was true what they said about the reins. Even with the slightest movement side to side or forward and back Plowboy would respond. I even tested him by making turns the other horses didn't make. Could it be that Plowboy was learning to trust me as his rider – his friend?

I leaned the right direction (most of time) when we went up and down on the path. I confess to being nervous at times, but never afraid. In fact I had a good time enjoying the views which were spectacular. Even more – I enjoyed the ride with my partner/friend.

As I reflect on the experience, I am reminded of my journey with God. I can even reverse the images and learn. I have so much to learn about responding to the touch of the reins and heels and the shifting of weight. And, there is also more to learn about trusting and communicating – becoming One. The journey is worthy, but the partnership is what makes it work best. While I may never ride a horse again, I pray I will never stop learning how to live into Christ and Christ in me – forever an adventure.

Blessings,
Fr. Lee +



Calendar of Events

Saturday, August 27, 2011
10am-4:00pm Godly Play Training

Sunday, August 28, 2011
8:00am Rite I
9:15am Discipleship Forum, MH
10:30am Rite II

Monday, August 29, 2011
8:45am Morning Prayer
9:15am Church Staff Mtg.
5:30pm Holy Eucharist

Tuesday, August 30, 2011
10:00am Spiritual Discipline Group, library

Wednesday, August 31, 2011
6-8pm Young Disciples, RH
7:00pm Choir

Thursday, September 1, 2011
6:45am Men's Fellowship
12:00pm Holy Eucharist

Friday, September 2, 2011

Saturday, September 3, 2011

Sunday, September 4, 2011
8:00am Rite I
9:15am Discipleship Forum, MH
10:30am Rite II

Monday, September 5, 2011
Labor Day, church office closed
5:30pm Holy Eucharist

Tuesday, September 6, 2011
10:00am Spiritual Direction Group, library

ALL CHURCH RALLY DAY BREAKFAST

Sunday, Sept. 11

9:00-10:15am

Metcalf Hall

**Prepared and Hosted
by our Clergy**

Everyone is invited to enjoy a delicious breakfast served from

9-10am on

Sunday,

September

11 in

Metcalf

Hall in



celebration of Rally Day, the beginning of Church School, and other parish activities for the fall. Our own St. Luke's clergy will have breakfast ready for you at 9am in Metcalf Hall. Also at that time, everyone will have the opportunity to learn more about and sign up for a variety of St. Luke's outreach ministries.

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.)

Chris, John, Alex, David, Robert, Janice, Greg, Linda, Bill, Camden, Hilary, Marie, Stan, Margaret, Nora, Loren, Jan, Isaac, Bobby, Steve, Charles, Judie, Jean, Will, Joseph, Brandon, Greg, 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)

Save the date...

SAFEGUARDING GOD'S CHILDREN

Sept 24, 1:00-4:30pm or

Oct 15, 9am to 12:30pm

If you are a Vestry member or work with children in the nursery, Sunday School, Children's Chapel, or Young Disciples



youth group, you are required by the Diocese of Oklahoma's canons to take this training every four years to maintain an awareness of policies in place to protect our children. The training is offered on either of the following dates, Saturday, Sept. 24 from 1-4pm OR Saturday, Oct. 15 from 9am-12:30pm.

If you are on the Vestry and/or work with children and youth and *you've taken this class within the past four years, you are current* (see me if you have a question about whether or not your time to renew has arrived) and *you DO NOT need to take* this half-day training at this time. Send Mthr. Stephanie an email to register at smitchell@episcopalbartlesville.org.



The Labor Day Holiday will be observed on Monday, September 5. The church office will be closed all day, but the Holy Eucharist will be celebrated at 5:30pm.

St. Luke's Supper Clubs

St. Luke's Supper Clubs are a great dining/friendship experience and an opportunity to get to know more people in our St. Luke's family. The Clubs meet about once a month in a member's home to share a meal together. The Host/Hostess for a given month provides the main course and assigns others in the group to bring accompanying dishes, wine, etc. If you do not wish to host the gathering in your own home, you can use the church facilities or just eat out at a favorite restaurant. The main idea is to get acquainted and/or reacquainted with others in the parish family.

Anyone interested in being a part of this year's supper club will need to turn in their names by September 10 to Deborah Cooper. Send your name by email to deborahjcooper@yahoo.com or phone her at 918-766-5135.

GREEN COUNTRY
FREE CLINIC

SUMMER OPEN HOUSE
500 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.
Friday, August 26,
4:30-6:30pm

Light hors d'oeuvres and
beverages will be served
Raffle drawing for \$300 gift
card to Price's Old
Fashioned Meat Market
(Tickets \$1)

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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 397-3683, 1-405-850-3321 or 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 8/28/11 through 9/4/11

Acolytes
Sunday, August 28, 2011
10:30 a.m.

No Acolytes scheduled
Sunday, Sept. 4, 2011

10:30 a.m.

Servers

Tom Wiseman

Katie Todd

Crucifer

Katie Todd

Torchbearers

Grace Mitchell

Max Mitchell

Layreaders
Sunday, August 28, 2011
8:00am

Kedy, L. Watkins

10:30am

P. Williams, S. Williams

Green, M. Watkins

Sunday, Sept. 4, 2011

8:00am

S. Williams, Kedy

10:30am

Green, Wesneski

L. Watkins, Johnson

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!

Scripture Lessons for
Sunday, 8/28/11

Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105:1-6,
23-26, 45b; Romans 12:9-21;

Matthew 16:21-28

Music for 8/28/11

#93 – "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

#96 – "Angels We Have Heard on High"

#87 – "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

#89 – "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

#115 – "What Child is This?"

#101 – "Away in a Manger"

#100 – "Joy to the World"

Plate Counters
Sunday, August 28, 2011

Grillot, Malone

Sunday, Sept. 4, 2011

Jeanette Wishall

Volunteers: Please make your own substitutions.

Sunday Coffee Hour Treats

All upcoming Sundays are open. Sign up sheet is in the Metcalf Hall kitchen. Please sign up!

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, Aug. 28, 2011

8:00am

Sally Canfield

10:30am

D. J. & Jerry Nezam

Frank & Karen Rukovena

Sunday, Sept. 4, 2011

8:00am

Don Davidson

10:30am

Glenn & Thelma

Blackburn

Jo Oertle

Church Nursery
Volunteers

August 28 – Cordy Liggett

Sept. 4 – Zella Simmons

Sept. 11 – Barbara Todd

Volunteers: Please make your own substitutions. To Volunteer, or to be a sub, you may call Tammy Baughman, 440-8088.

Ushers
Sunday, August 28, 2011

8:00 a.m.

Babcock, Zervas

10:30am

Grillot, McCreary

Sunday, Sept. 4, 2011

8:00am

Gardner, Zervas

10:30am

Malone, Simmons

Children's Chapel
August 28 – Natalie Conner
Sept. 4 – Rosy Zuklic
Sept. 11 – Amy Borg

ECW Bereavement Committee
August 2011
Kris Bonner, Molly Ferguson, Sue Sparks
September 2011
Thelma Blackburn, Becky Liehr

Agape Mission
4th Thursday (8/25/11)
9am-11am

Fr. Lee, Jim Liehr

10:45am-1:00pm

Pam & Fred Pierce, Wendy

Hall, Molly Ferguson,

Deborah Cooper

1:00-2:45pm

Ellen Heald,

Maureen Forsythe