

# St. Luke's Episcopal Church

October, 2016

**“To Know Christ and  
Make Christ Known”**

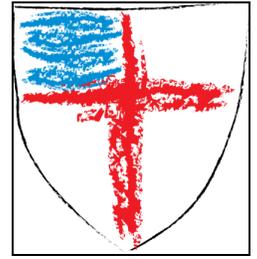
**2016 Parish Theme:**

**“Witness Wamego  
Go Beyond!”**

Our Vestry Mem-  
bers:

Jay Hildreth  
(Senior Warden),  
Doug Elcock  
( Junior Warden  
and Treasurer),  
Cinnie Hill (Clerk),  
Claudia McKinsey.  
Levi Hannan, Ed  
Dillinger, Thomas  
Brown

## St Luke's Newsletter



**Rector's page:**

### **Overcoming Our Separation**

The Apostle Paul, who experienced and wrote about there being no separation between Christ and us, knew this because of what modern scientists refer to as a non-dual state of consciousness. Paul is highly influential in the early development of the doctrine of Christianity, simply by authoring many of the texts that were chosen to be part of in the New Testament. Mostly in letter or epistle form, Paul is certain through his non-dual mindset that nothing, "will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" Romans 8:39).

Let's turn to the great Christian non-dual teacher, Jesus himself. Jesus teaches and fully lives what I call four "moral

equivalencies," which can only truly be understood by the non-dual mind. These moral equivalencies do away with the various walls we've built to separate human from divine, self from other, self from God.

1. There's a moral equivalency between Jesus himself and other people. Jesus says, "Whatever you do to others, you do to me" (Matthew 25:40). Logically, that's not true: there's Jesus and there are other people. Yet he makes them the same. How you treat other human beings is how you treat Jesus. This teaching is at a high level of consciousness that is not rational or logical; it cannot be proven. Many Christians would read this statement and firmly say, "This is the Word of the Lord." But it isn't

their actual experience. As long as they remain at the dualistic level, they can go to church and worship Jesus and be racist an hour later, not seeing any conflict with that at all.

2. The second moral equivalency is between Jesus himself and God. This is Jesus' ultimate non-dual teaching: "I and the Father are one" (John [10:30](#)). From this unitive knowing and experience Jesus says, "Follow me." Jesus doesn't tell us that he and the Father are one so that we'll worship him. No, it's to lead us to have the same experience—that *you* and the Father are also one. But until we've experienced radical union with God, we won't think like Jesus, we won't behave like Jesus. And in fact, most of the teaching of Jesus won't make a bit

of sense. We'll read it, but we haven't tapped into the power to live it. And it's not because we're bad-willed people. We just don't process our experience at the unitive level yet.

3. The third equivalency Jesus makes is between any person and God. For example, "The Spirit is within you" (John [14:17](#) and throughout the Gospels). Jesus has overcome the great gap between God and the individual. He's saying human and divine, matter and spirit, are operating together. It is the principle of incarnation, the heart of Christianity, but it takes a new pair of non-dual glasses to begin to see that.

4. Finally, Jesus teaches there's a moral equivalency between any person and every other person. For example: "In everything you do, treat others exactly as you would have them treat you" (Matthew [7:12](#)). At the non-dual level, there's recognition that how you treat one person is how you treat another. How you love anybody is how you love everybody. How you love yourself is how you love every other self. Love is of one piece.

Once you fall into this ocean of love, you realize that divine love is loving in a quite unrestricted way. It's a different kind of love, without qualifications, criteria, or judgments that are determined by the worthiness of the object. Our imperfect, human love is de-

pendent upon our preferences. If we find someone attractive, nonthreatening, belonging to our race and our religion, and with a compatible temperament, we say, "I love you." Well, as Jesus says, "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them" (Luke [6:32](#)). Like Jesus, we are to love others not because of whom *they* are, but because of who *we* are—all and equally the beloved of God. Adapted from Fr. Richard Rohr and the Center for Contemplation and Action.

Father Matt Cobb

#### Senior Warden's Message:

At our last Vestry Meeting we started plans to send out our annual Stewardship survey of time, talent, and treasure. Doug will be submitting a proposed budget based on last year's performance. I have a few changes that will be made to the survey. Both those items need to be approved by the Vestry at next month's meeting. I will then send the survey and budget out. Once we have the results back in then we will modify the budget to reflect synergy with the actual pledges received. I am enjoying the change in the weather. I find this time of year very uplifting.

Yours in Christ  
Jay Hildreth

#### Junior Warden:

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the financing the additional roof and gutter expenses. We have met our goal. These additions will provide safety and stability for our church building. I do not have a starting date but hope that within the next two weeks replacement of the roof and gutters will begin.

The Vestry would like the exterior lights on the west side of the church off when not in use. If you need them on please use them but turn off when done. We have the sign out front and the west window lights on with a timer and feel that is enough light for the exterior during the evenings.

*Doug Elcock,  
Junior Warden*

#### Sharing Table:

The most recent breakfast served 23 people and raised over \$40 in free will donations!

The next breakfast is Thursday, October 5th and October 20th.

Thanks to all those who have donated food items and donated time to volunteer.

Please remember to invite those in our community to join in the Sharing Table breakfast as guests and/or volunteers.

All are welcome!

*Jac Brown*

### Wednesday Evening Ministry:

We have had so much fun on WE (Wednesday Evening). One particularly fun evening we played The Hat Game. That consists of choosing a bag from numerous bags, which has a hat in it and acting out what the person would do as wearing it. Another night, Claudia performed a magic act and taught everyone how the magic was achieved. On three other nights we have worked on making decorations for the Community Thanksgiving Dinner, which will be served in the Guild Hall on Thanksgiving Day. We drew leaves, cut them out, and wrote Bible verses addressing giving thanks on them. We had puffy animal stickers which we attached to strips of paper and then wrote what we thought that animal would be thankful for. On the other side, we wrote what we would be thankful for. Lastly we started making placemats by cutting out fall colored paper in various small shapes and gluing them around the edges of white papers the size of the mats. We wrote thanksgiving messages in the centers.

Of course, the food is always out of this world good. Quite a few youth from The Outlet Club have joined us and helped make the decorations. That was just so exciting to observe. One person, who has come to WE often, came to church this past Sunday. What a blessing! Remember, all are welcome to attend WE and bring a friend.

*Claudia McKinsey*

**St. Luke's Feast Day:** The feast day for St. Luke is October 18th. We will observe his special day on Sunday October 16<sup>th</sup>, during Morning Prayer and afterwards in the Guild Hall.

### Vestry:

Vestry will meet on Sunday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at 8:15 am. All are welcome to attend.

The Vestry approved paying for an ad in both the Smoke Signal and the Wamego Times at \$12 total per month for six months.

A report was given regarding the roof replacement that it will be covered by our church insurance plan except for a \$ 2,033 needed to include 30 year shingles; gutter helmet; and the ice/water trim. The Vestry approved the additional expense.

The stained glass window has been reviewed by the Hutchinson. This item was tabled for further discussion with Father Matt.

Stewardship was discussed after Father David Hodges joined us. Doug and Jay will continue to develop a new stewardship plan.

St. Luke's will host for the Community wide Thanksgiving Dinner, noon, Thanksgiving Day. The church will prepare turkeys; mashed potatoes, bread dressing, and the other area churches will provide additional side dishes.

Bishop Wolfe will be officiating at our service on December 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Prayers:** We pray for: Anna Lea, Cinnie, David, Doreen, Jerry, Katherine, Martha and family; Alice, Angela, Barb, Bernie, Dana & family, Kay, Lynn, Bill N., Courtney, Dick, KoKo, Jake C. Mickey I. & family, Sherry & family

*We pray for our Military personnel:* Ben, Ian, Luke, Mike, Molly Lynn, and Scott

*We pray for our ministries:* Community Health Ministry/Wamego.

**BIRTHDAYS IN OCTOBER:**

October 8-Laura Hannan    October 16–Emily Cobb  
 October 13 - Judy Hildreth    October 19 – Matt Cobb  
 October 28 - David Warnow

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

October 8-Mike & Kally McConkey  
 October 21 – Richard & Jenny O’Konski

**Treasurer’s Report:**

The following summary reflects the results of the operating fund, income and expense for the month of September 2016, with a budget comparison. (The Year-to-date includes the beginning balance on January 1st)

	Current month	Year-to-date	Budget
Income	\$ 9,127.64	\$ 58,295.20	\$ 62,870.65
Expense	\$ <u>4,798.29</u>	\$ <u>51,543.62</u>	\$ <u>65,270.65</u>
Difference	\$ 7,497.23	\$ 7,497.23	\$ (2,400.00)

Discretionary Fund Sundays in June: Rector’s is the first Sunday, October 2. Any loose money in the offertory goes to support this fund so please help as you are able to. The fifth Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup> loose offertory funds will go into the seminary support fund.

**ST. LUKE’S WEEKLY OCTOBER SCHEDULE**

Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> – Father Matt will officiate.

Guild Meeting after the service

Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>: 6 pm – Social activity at Dillinger’s ranch

Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 til done : Sharing Table

Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>: Father David Hodges will officiate.

Vestry meets at 8:15 am

Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>: St Luke’s Feast Day - Morning Prayer with Claudia McKinsey as

Lay Preacher

Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup>: – 6:30 til done : Sharing Table

Friday, October 21: 5-7 – Annual Fish Fry

**Guild:**

We have many events coming up in the next three months for all of you to volunteer food and personal time to make them successful.

Help With Sharing Tables: October 6 & 20; November 3 & 17; and December 1 & 15<sup>th</sup>.

Help with David Warnow’s Annual fish fry fund raiser October 21<sup>st</sup>, 5-7 pm with the proceeds for the buildings and grounds,

Halloween Café – October 31<sup>st</sup> from 5-7 pm for Community Health Ministry

Help with Community wide Thanksgiving Dinner at St. Luke’s – November 24<sup>th</sup> at noon.

Cookies by the Pound, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9-12am Proceeds for camp scholarships.

Please volunteer to help at each of these events and ask friends/neighbors to come and enjoy the event.

*Cinnie*

**Sunday School:**

Pat will teach the younger students and Claudia will be teaching the older students.

*Myrline*

**Community Health Ministry/  
First Methodist Church Food Pantries:**

Please contribute to the collection box in Guild Hall once or twice a month with a couple cans/boxes of food. Thank you.

**Children's Garden Update:**

We will be dismantling the garden area in October and converting the area back to grass. Please watch for the day we will do this and help to move dirt and plant grass seed. It will be announced in the weekly email.

**Bishop Kemper School for Ministry:**

I have attended six classes at BKSM and want to encourage others to do so. Since I am not pursuing ordination or a license, I am auditing the classes. It costs \$180 for credit and \$100 to audit. Those prices include two nights, Friday and Saturday, at Upton Hall and meals besides the classes themselves. Classes start at 1:00 p.m. on the second Saturday of the months and finish at noon on Sunday. Not only have I gained incredible knowledge about a variety of topics, but I have met some wonderful people and had great conversations with them and the teachers. There is a website where one can get information about what classes are offered each month. Also, feel free to talk to me about them.

*Claudia McKinsey*

To receive the Diocesan News twice a month, send an email with the subject "Dialog" to the Diocese Publications.

[mwoerman@episcopal-ks.org](mailto:mwoerman@episcopal-ks.org)

**St. Luke's Weekly Schedule:**

Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Rite II Holy Eucharist

Mondays: 6:30 a.m. Spiritual Development Book Group – McDonalds

Tuesdays: 9 am – 10am; Sign Language

10 a.m. - 11 a.m. Bible Study

11 am – 1:30 pm 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays – Quilting

Wednesdays: 6 - 7:30 p.m. WE - Potluck Supper and Children's Ministry

Thursdays: 7:30 p.m. Cursillo Reunion Group

**OCTOBER 2016, Service Duty List**

	<b>Oct 2</b>	<b>Oct. 9</b>	<b>Oct.16</b>	<b>Oct. 23</b>	<b>Oct. 30</b>
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Emily Benson, Laura Hannan	Myrline Winkler Pat Frey	Cinnie Hill, Linda Chmiel	Joyce Elcock, Emily Benson	Laura Hannan, Myrline Winkler
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Pat Frey	Judy Hildreth	Eric Benson	Doug Elcock	Myrline Winkler
<b>Chalice Bearer</b>	Ed Dillinger	Myrline Winkler	Larry Hannan	Joyce Elcock	Ed Dillinger
<b>Greeter/ Usher</b>	Erica Cobb	Judy Hildreth	John Chmiel	Doug Elcock	Larry Hannan
<b>Coffee Host</b>	Cobbs	Claudia McKensey	Hills	Elcocks	Pat Frey