ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2020

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THANK YOU, Rev. Ryan!



On January 26th we celebrated Rev. Ryan, thanking him for $7^{1/2}$ years of leadership as one of our pastors. Sandy Larson, SPRT Chair, thanked Rev. Ryan and Tami and their children Selah, Shiloh, Breck and Brix and presented them with gifts from our St. Luke's community. We offered our blessing as Rev. Ryan and Tami continue in their dynamic ministry leading FREE on a full time basis. **THANK YOU & WE'LL MISS YOU!**





THE FACES OF JESUS

LENT 2020

Lent/Easter 2020

Arguments abound about who Jesus was, what his purpose was, and what we should believe about him. The reality is Jesus wasn't simply one 'thing.' When we read scripture seriously, without an agenda, Jesus fits quite a few different roles and images. He can't be narrowly defined as simply a teacher, a healer, a rebel, or a prophet. He was, and is, different things to different people. Which is okay, as long as we don't forget he was more than any one image, or one role.

During Lent, we'll look at seven different roles Jesus fulfilled during his life – Prophet, Healer, Rebel, Teacher, God Incarnate, King and Messiah. Each of these roles played a part in why Jesus was executed by Rome; why the religious leaders of his community were fearful of him; why the people weren't sure what to believe; and why he gained such a following by the peasants and the marginalized. These 'Faces of Jesus' do not by themselves give us a full picture of him, and even together they fall short of defining or explaining him. They are simply a few of the faces of Jesus that led him to the cross.

Join us this Lent as we explore who Jesus was to the people of his time, and who he is for us today.

February 26 – Ash Wednesday: 7:00pm service

March 15 – Youth Sunday: Don't miss this Sunday as our Youth lead us in music, prayer, and message

March 29 – Confirmation Sunday: Join us in celebrating our youth at 11:00am as they take their membership vow and complete their confirmation journey

April 5 – Palm Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am Easter Fun Day: Family fun 12:30-2:30pm

April 9 – Maundy Thursday: Traditional Maundy Thursday worship with Communion at 7:00pm

April 10 – Good Friday: Tenebrae worship with stripping of the altar, beginning at 7:00pm

April 12 - Easter Sunday: 6:15, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am

Sunday Worship Services 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am

Sunday School

Adult, Youth & Children: 9:30am & 11:00am

Nursery

8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am services

Office Hours:

MON-THU: 8:30am-1:00pm & 1:30-4:00pm FRI: 8:30am-12:00pm

Church Office	?303-791-0659
Email	office©stlukeshr.com
Website	www.stlukeshr.com
Little School	Office303-791-1982







Rev. Dr. Sallie Suby-Longx132 Lead Minister of Spiritual Life
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Director of Little School

Editor: Sharon Oliver chronicle@stlukeshr.com

The Chronicle is published 6 times per year and is emailed to those on our email blast list, and it can be found on the church website. Printed copies are available at church entrances. To receive The Chronicle via US mail. please call or email the Church Office.



Rev. Jessica Rooks Lead Minister of Community Life

A Season of **New Beginnings**

John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, wrote a prayer for the beginning of a new year called the Covenant Prayer. This prayer continues to be read on New Year's by Methodists around the world. The prayer goes like this:

I AM NO LONGER MY OWN, BUT THINE. PUT ME TO WHAT THOU WILT, RANK ME WITH WHOM THOU WILT. PUT ME TO DOING, PUT ME TO SUFFERING. LET ME BE EMPLOYED FOR THEE OR LAID ASIDE FOR THEE. EXALTED FOR THEE OR BROUGHT LOW FOR THEE. LET ME BE FULL, LET ME BE EMPTY. LET ME HAVE ALL THINGS, LET ME HAVE NOTHING. I FREELY AND HEARTILY YIELD ALL THINGS TO THY PLEASURE AND DISPOSAL. AND NOW, O GLORIOUS AND BLESSED GOD, FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT, THOU ART MINE, AND I AM THINE. SO BE IT. AND THE COVENANT WHICH I HAVE MADE ON EARTH. LET IT BE RATIFIED IN HEAVEN. AMEN.

This prayer was written in the 18th century, and the language reflects that time period. For many, it is this old language that connects us across time and geography. For

others, the old language is a barrier to the prayer itself. A clergy colleague, Rev. Jeremy Smith, adapted the language of Wesley's prayer to connect with our current language. It goes like this: I AM NOT MY OWN SELF-MADE, SELF-RELIANT HUMAN BEING.

IN TRUTH, O GOD, I AM YOURS. MAKE ME INTO WHAT YOU WILL. MAKE ME A NEIGHBOR WITH THOSE WHOM YOU WILL. GUIDE ME ON THE EASY PATH FOR YOU. GUIDE ME ON THE ROCKY ROAD FOR YOU. WHETHER I AM TO STEP UP FOR YOU OR STEP ASIDE FOR YOU; WHETHER I AM TO BE LIFTED HIGH FOR YOU OR BROUGHT LOW FOR YOU; WHETHER I BECOME FULL OR EMPTY, WITH ALL THINGS OR WITH NOTHING; I GIVE ALL THAT I HAVE AND ALL THAT I AM FOR YOU. SO BE IT. AND MAY I ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT YOU, O GOD.

AND I BELONG TO EACH OTHER. AMEN.

Whether you connect with the original language or the updated language, this covenant prayer is a beautiful way to begin - begin a new year, begin a new journey, or just begin a new day.

St. Luke's UMC is beginning a process of clergy transition. We are beginning something new, and there will be various moments of new beginnings throughout the year. As we journey together through this transition, I will be reciting this prayer each day. I will be grounding myself in Wesley's invitation to remember the covenant I have with God, and the covenant we have in relationship with each other. I invite you to join me, so that together we open ourselves to the possibility of what God has in store for St. Luke's, and for each of us.

Grace and Blessings, Rev. Jessica

CLERGY CHANGE:

Bishop Karen Oliveto announced in January these appointments to the Mountain Sky Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Appointment of Rev. Jessica **Rooks as District Superintendent** of the Mile High Metro District: effective July 1, 2020. Rev. Jessica will continue to serve at St. Luke's as copastor until July, when she will begin her appointment with the conference. This is a great honor for Rev. Jessica. As District Superintendent, Rev. Jessica will support more than 50 local churches.

Appointment of Rev. Ryan Canaday to FREE Spiritual Community as the full-time pastor: starting February 1, 2020. For more than a year, Rev. Ryan and his wife, Tami, have nurtured FREE as a spiritual community breaking the silence of addiction while creating space for healing, recovery, and spiritual connection. In 2019, Rev. Ryan dedicated half of his time to developing FREE, and this work now requires his full-time attention. His appointment as a co-pastor at St. Luke's will end on January 31, 2020. We will remain connected because FREE is an extension ministry—a satellite church of St. Luke's.

Rev. Sallie Suby-Long will continue to lead at St. Luke's as co-pastor. For more than 10 years, St. Luke's has been blessed by Rev. Sallie's presence and her remarkable gifts. We are fortunate and grateful that she will provide continuity and visionary leadership in this time of new possibilities for St. Luke's. Rev. Sallie will continue to provide leadership and guidance for St. Luke's successful Center for Spiritual Engagement, which she founded 10 years ago and has nurtured and grown. She will supervise our congregational care staff to ensure the compassionate, consistent pastoral care we depend upon. In addition, Rev. Sallie will see exciting changes in her role in coming months as she focuses on leading much-needed health and well-being initiatives for St. Luke's and the wider community.

We realize this will be a bittersweet time of reframing our relationships with beloved pastors while celebrating their accomplishments. We will continue to share with you in coming weeks and months as we collaborate with the Mountain Sky Conference on the appointment of new pastoral leadership for St. Luke's.

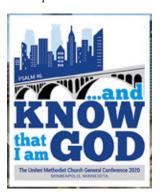
We ask for your prayers, your trust, and your faith in guiding St. Luke's during this time. We honor this community, and we embrace our vision and the shared principles that define our lives together!

St. Luke's UMC Transition Team: Jay Van Hoosen, Sandy Larson, Michelle Mallory, Mike Hollyman, Ken Fong, Marty Davidson, Bryan Hutchinson

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United Methodist Church Happenings

The United Methodist Church was in the news in early January after the release of a new proposal, "The Protocol of Reconciliation & Grace Through Separation." Various media outlets reported that a decision was made, and separation was finalized. It is important to know that no decision has been



made at this time. The Protocol is a proposal going before General Conference in May, along with other proposals for moving forward as a denomination. Here are a few things to keep in mind:

- General Conference is the only official body of the church who can make this decision. Nothing will be finalized until after the May 2020 General Conference meeting.
- 2. There are multiple proposals for moving forward as a denomination and most include some type of separation by churches, clergy and laity who do not wish to remain connected in the denomination. How that separation might unfold is still to be determined.
- 3. St. Luke's will continue to live out our mission and values no matter the decisions made at General Conference.

St. Luke's member Susan McIntosh and Rev. Jessica Rooks are members of the Mountain Sky Conference delegation to General and Jurisdictional Conference. The delegation has been working since June in connection with delegates from around the UMC connection. Susan and Rev. Jessica will be available for conversation and questions on Sundays, Feb. 23, Mar. 22, and April 26 at 12:15pm in the Chapel if you would like more information on the latest developments and what they mean for St. Luke's.

The Mountain Sky Conference has a resource page on their website with links to articles, proposals, and other happenings related to General Conference. Visit mtnskyumc.org/general-conference for those resources.

Please contact Susan McIntosh or Rev. Jessica with any questions.



Suby-Long
Lead Minister of
Spiritual Life
Director - Center for

Director – Center for Spiritual Engagement

A Community of Compassion St. Luke's Stephen Ministry

"Therefore encourage one another and build up each other" –1 Thessalonians 5:11.

Stephen Ministers listen, pray, and encourage others through confidential, one-to-one conversations when a person is in the midst of life's challenges or changes. Stephen Ministers offer

kindness and presence when you or someone you care about can benefit from attentive listening and support. In short, our Stephen Ministers extend God's grace in everyday situations. We have a remarkable group of Stephen Ministers! They have completed specialized training in providing listening and care. Confidentiality is always a top priority.

Here are some comments from people in our community about their Stephen Ministry experience:

"Without my Stephen Minister, the quality of life for me and my family would have been hindered."

"There were times I was crippled with my illness, and my Stephen Minister always gave me a sense of hope and strength."

And some comments from our Stephen Ministers who love serving in this ministry:

"The process of talking things out is helpful for many people whether in a formal Stephen Minister caring relationship or in conversation with a friend. So often I've listened to someone talk about a situation weighing on them, and after a while they find they've solved the problem on their own!"

"One Sunday it was announced there would be a new Stephen Minister class. I was excited to be part of the class but my husband had cancer at the time and he needed me to care for him. Before my husband passed, he wrote a letter to me telling me to be sure I was in the next Stephen Ministry class so I could walk with others during their times of need. It was the most loving advice he could give and it has meant a great deal to me to be a Stephen Minister."

"Often people find it more comfortable to share thoughts and frustrations with an impartial Stephen Minister than with family members. I have been told many times, 'I love that I can tell you anything and you never tell me what to do'."

Stephen Ministers are a vital part of our care ministries and are central in fulfilling our vision of being a community of healing, health, and connection. Our congregational care team works in close partnership with our Stephen Ministers to offer care for our St. Luke's community. Their expertise extends our ability to respond to our community's needs with competence and compassion.

My sincere thanks to all who serve our community as Stephen Ministers and all who are open to receiving their compassionate care. If you would like to talk with a Stephen

Minister, you can text, email, or call me or anyone on our pastoral team, or any of our Stephen Leaders (names listed below). We will help you connect with a person who will meet with you for about an hour once every week or two to offer compassionate listening, spiritual care, and connection.

Blessings Always, Dr. Sallie Suby-Long sallie©stlukeshr.com (303) 475-0141 Stephen Ministry Leaders:

Nancy Abbott (303) 995-9537 Melinda Davidson (303) 324-5965 Laura McCarthy (303) 579-8058 Bob West (303) 906-5613





Get Connected at St. Luke's. To learn more about opportunities to get involved, contact Renae at renae©stlukeshr.com or x117

Renae Parra Director of Servant Ministry

How Big is St. Luke's?

I often get asked "how big is St. Luke's? How many members do you have?" Good questions! For the past few years our membership number has held steady around 1230 members and 450 constituents. What's the difference between a member and a constituent? A member has taken the vow of membership in our membership ceremony (held quarterly.) A constituent is a regular attender and is often a very active participant in the church but has not taken the membership vow.

Membership with the community of St. Luke's is about recognizing our shared need for belonging to one another. We come together as a group but listen to you as an individual. We want to know who you are, what you are about and what you need from this community as an active participant in

Once a quarter we offer The Gathering which is an informal conversation with the clergy. This is an opportunity to learn more about St. Luke's, to ask questions of staff and to decide if membership is right for you. Look for information in the bulletin for our next session of The Gathering coming soon on a Sunday after church.

With upcoming transitions in our clergy team, many of you have expressed uneasiness with change. Remember, YOU are the heart and soul of St. Luke's. Our clergy may be changing, but the 1230 members and 450 constituents are the community that make up St. Luke's and that's what remains the same.

Welcoming our newest members

of St. Luke's and their reasons for joining our community.



Craig, Amy, Carson and Anna Brice - "St. Luke's has been our church home for four years and we felt it was a great time to join"

Mike Harris, Charlotte Min-Harris and Raymond - "We have found a loving community, reflecting our values and faith"



Judy Weiler (with husband Walt) - "St. Luke's is a vibrant and dynamic church with outstanding ministry, mission and music. I feel comfortable with the theology in action here."

Seth, Brandi, Avery and Bradley Petterson



Interested in making a deeper commitment by joining St. Luke's? Please contact Renae Parra x120 renae©stlukeshr.com or visit www.stlukeshr.com

Staff Update @ St. Luke's

Welcome, Stephanie & Jana!

St. Luke's is excited to welcome Stephanie Kirk and Jana Wesson as our new Office Administrators! Stephanie will be in the office on Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays. Jana will be in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Stephanie and Jana grew up at St. Luke's and are active members in the community, along with their families.



Stephanie is currently the administrative support for the Music and Arts program; was formerly part of our Children's Ministry staff; and has previous experience working in church offices. She brings with her a

wealth of knowledge about our community and a passion for St. Luke's.



lana is active in the Chancel Choir; is a member of the Wesley Players (don't miss her in the spring performance of The Music Man); and has volunteered in our front office. She also brings an excitement for the church

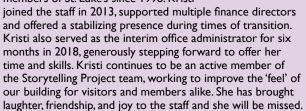
and a desire to serve the community.

Please take a moment to welcome Stephanie and Jana when you see them on Sunday or around the building.

Thank You, Kristi!

The Staff Parish Relations Team is sad to announce that Kristi Pawley, Finance Assistant/Accounting Clerk, will be leaving our staff at the end of January.

Kristi and her husband Bruce have been members of St. Luke's since 1998. Kristi



We hope you will take a moment to offer words of appreciation to Kristi when you see her at church. We are grateful to Kristi and her service to the St. Luke's community.

Easter Lily Sales

Sunday service.



Flowers are Celebrations of Life

The Altar Team invites you to help us decorate our altar each Sunday by celebrating, honoring, or remembering a loved one or special event. Sign up in the office, pay \$40 for both arrangements and take the flowers home after the 11:00 service. Vases can be returned later. There are many open Sundays.



Thank You From Rev. Ryan

My St. Luke's Brothers and Sisters,

I want to take a moment and say thank you. Thank you for journeying with me and allowing me to journey with you over these past 7.5 years. When I reflect back on my time here at St. Luke's—and I've been doing a lot of that lately—I am truly filled with nothing but gratitude. Thank you for loving me and my family so well. When I first arrived at St. Luke's I was just a young buck, 30 years old. We only had one kid at the time; Tami was pregnant with our second little girl [and now we have four children]....I had so much to learn about ministry and being a pastor. You all have taught me so much, and you showed me lots of grace along the way. Thank you for



that. Thank you for creating space for us to live into our St. Luke's mission and values—especially that word BEYOND—to go beyond the walls of this church and reach an entire new demographic of people. Thank you. The pastors coming after us are really lucky to have ya'll!

I shared these four things vith you again... four things I

with you in my last sermon, and I want to share them with you again... four things I urge you to keep doing:

- Keep extending GRACE to others, even when they disappoint you.
- Keep COURAGEOUSLY opening your heart to God and others, even when you're not sure it's going to work, even when your fear tells you the exact opposite.
- Keep WONDER close by—embrace the mystery of God working and providing in your life. You don't need neatly wrapped intellectual and theological answers for the deepest mysteries of Christ.
- Keep moving toward the voice that's inviting you to hit the rock, and hit that
 rock as hard as you can even if it makes you look ridiculous—because God is so
 often experienced **BEYOND** the usual, the typical, and the expected.

I am so grateful to have served among you. Once again, with as much love as I can possibly muster— Grace and Peace be with you, *Rev. Ryan*

Christmas In The Park 2019

More than 60 folks from St. Luke's joined many other volunteers to provide Christmas gifts and joy to those less fortunate in Denver. We delivered 700 IKEA bags, 200 homemade loaves of banana bread and 450 personalized greetings cards in addition to clothing, hygiene essentials, sleeping bags, coats and shoes and much more to more than 800 folks. The opportunity to be a light in the midst of darkness offered hope to many. Thank you to those who supported this meaningful day to many. *–Sam Leahy*



a story form again... and again...and again

Advent and Christmas 2019 was quite the season at St. Luke's. It all started with Hanging of the Greens – our annual Christmas decorating event – followed by the Pageant and Christmas Tree Lighting event. The St. Luke's clergy, along with the children of the church, recounted one of the greatest stories ever told in the birth of Jesus. That was followed by an incredible Cantata Sunday, Candy Cane Sunday, movie night and Holiday Shop, UMW Dinner, holiday parties, and finally Christmas Eve candle lighting. The season ended with our 15-foot puppets celebrating the arrival of the Kings.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered throughout the season! The story of Jesus' birth is a story about God's love for all people and a celebration of community. Thank you for being part of our community this Christmas, and for offering the light of Christ to others.









Children's Calendar Praise, Play & Prayers

(check website for full calendar)

- February 9 (SUN) SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 & 11:00am
- February 9 (SUN) Children's Dinner Theater AUDITIONS (1st-6th grade) 10:45am. Contact Sharon for more
- February 16 (SUN) NO SUNDAY SCHOOL - Enjoy Family Worship
- February 23 (SUN) SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 & 11:00am
- February 26 (WED) Children's Dinner Theater REHEARSAL 6:00-7:00pm (before Ash Wednesday Service). Contact Sharon for more info.

MARCH 2020:

- March I (SUN) SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 & l l:00am
- March I (SUN) SLY, Jr. IKEA CAVENGER HUNT! 4:00-6:30pm: All 5th & 6th graders welcome. Contact Sharon for info. Bring \$ for dinner at IKEA.
- March 4 (WED) Children's Dinner Theater REHEARSAL 6:00-7:30pm. Contact Sharon for more info.
- March 6 (FRI) Parents' Night Out 6:00pm. Contact Sam for more info.
- March 6 (FRI) **FAMILY MOVIE** NIGHT "Frozen 2" 6:45pm. Bring your pillows. wear your pis, we'll make the popcorn.
- March 7 (SAT) -Parent's Time Away 9:00am. Contact Sam for more info and to rsvp.
- March 8 (SUN) SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 & 11:00am
- March II (WED) Children's Dinner Theater REHEARSAL 6:00-7:30pm. Contact Sharon for more info.
- March 15 (SUN) SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 & 11:00am
- March 18 (WED) Children's Dinner Theater REHEARSAL 6:00-7:30pm. Contact Sharon for more info.
- March 22 (SUN) SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 & 11:00am
- March 25 (WED) Children's Dinner Theater REHEARSAL 6:00-7:30pm. Contact Sharon for more info.
- March 29 (SUN) SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 & 11:00am
- March 29 (SUN) SLY, Jr. TBD: All 5th & 6th graders welcome. Contact Sharon to RSVP.

APRIL 2020:

• April 5 (SUN) - EASTER FUN DAY 12:30-2:30pm



Sharon Oliver Director of Children's Ministry



Samantha Leahy Director of Early Childhood Ministry

St. Luke's K ds Growing with God Welcome to St. Luke's Kids - our ministry to children birth through grade 6.

In caring for the children of St. Luke's and their families, we seek to nurture and develop faithful loving lives, modeled after the Love, Acceptance, Justice, and Hope of Jesus, through relationship and learning. We strive to create sacred spaces and experiences for children to discover and be inspired by God's love.

Join us for Sunday School at 9:30 & 11:00am and register online any time throughout the year. We run on volunteer help. Sign up online to serve our children. Thank you!

Hearts for Honduras

Thanks to Rev. Sallie for sharing with us what the upcoming Honduras mission trip is all about and how our kids can



connect with the children at the Abundant Life Christian School there by sponsoring books for the school's library and making Valentines.



- **CHILDREN'S DINNER THEATER "SPACE PIRATES" -**
 - May I dinner 6:00pm, show 7:00pm
- **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL June 22-26**
- WACKY WEDNESDAYS June 3, 10, 17, July 8, 15, 22



Easter FUN DAY

SUNDAY

April 5 12:30-2:30pm

Grab your family and come join us for Games, Easter egg hunts, Balloon animals, Photos with the Easter bunny, Cotton candy, Bouncy castle, Crafts, Cookie walk, Live bunnies and MORE! \$5 per family suggested donation

Sign up online SOON to volunteer!! We need lots of folks to help.

If you can help, we need you. Drop off cookies and candy donations. This is a great and FUN way to serve our church and our kids!

Thanks so much!



On Jan. 31, 34 5th & 6th graders gathered to discover how each of our epic stories is connected to one another and that God is with us each step of the way. At the "My Story is EPIC" lock in we made crafts for the kids in Honduras,









Kelly AmadeoDirector of
Little School

ST. LUKE'S LITTLE SCHOOL

LittleSchool News:

Winter Fun at Little School

Our annual Christmas program was fantastic this year. We had almost 800 parents, grandparents, and friends of Little School attend the program. Our amazing music teachers, Ms. Laura, Ms. Sheri, and Ms. Michele did a fantastic job. They appropriately integrated the typical Christian Christmas songs and some fun songs such as "You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch." Our Christmas programs are always open to the church congregation as well. If you would like to kick-start your Christmas season with adorable children, dressed in Christmas outfits, singing Christmas carols, plan to join us next year on December 17th.

And our Family Fun Night in January was so much fun with our Frozen theme. Thanks to all who made that night so great. Check out the photo of our amazing staff!



Just as we settle into a routine at Little School, we start preparing for the following school year. We are excited to announce that we will be offering some new options for classes for the 2020/2021 school year. We will have a few different Monday-Friday options and a brand new private kindergarten class. The kindergarten class will be taught by a teacher who is fully licensed by the state to teach Kindergarten-8th grade. In addition, they will follow the DCSD curricula for kindergarten with a Christian emphasis. The class will be limited to 12 children which is excellent for those children who would benefit from more one-on-one attention as they form those early literacy skills. If you or anyone else you know is interested in this half-day kindergarten option or any of our preschool options, please register ASAP. Our registration forms can be found on our website and registration is open now.

We look forward to the coming months as we celebrate Dads' or Other Significant Adult's Saturday, Valentine's Day, and the Bookfair. We are wishing you a wonderful end to the winter season, and best wishes for a springtime full of peace, happiness, and calm.

Grace and Love, Kelly Amadeo, Director St. Luke's Little School

We are United Methodist Women - What do we do?

We are a community of women who know God; We experience freedom through Jesus Christ; We develop a creative and supportive Fellowship; We are advocates for Justice; We expand the concepts of Mission; We support Women, Children and Youth. And We do all this with prayer through faith, hope, and love in Action.

To simplify - we surround this above stated purpose with friendship, enjoyment, laughter, fun, food, and the satisfaction and gratification of being one of God's servants ~ God gives to us, we give to others.

We invite you to you to join our team and assist us in our mission to help women, youth and children domestically here at home, nationally around the United States, and internationally.

All of our missions 'lift up and give a helping hand' in assisting women to become self sufficient; youth at risk of becoming homeless; advocates for healthy family atmospheres; assisting therapists to aid children of abuse; keeping the homeless warm.



"The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church."

UMW Interest Groups:

Looking to expand your participation in our community? Join in!

Book Club – Fourth Monday, Room 206, 7:00pm. Come at 6:15pm for a monthly potluck followed by our Book Club meeting at 7:00pm.

- February 24 The Wives of Los Alamos by TaraShea Nesbet
- March 23 An Invisible Thread: The True Story of an 11-year-old Panhandler, a Busy Sales Executive by Laura Schroff

For more information about book club or to receive a list of the 2020 books, contact Teri Burget, teri0962©gmail.com.

Common Thread – Friendship/Fellowship/Caring/Sharing. First Thursday of each month, 10:00am. Meets at the church. Contact: Caroline Butler carolinebutler@q.com **Itch to Stitch** – Projects of Crochet, Knitting, Sewing, Quilting donated to charities. All skill levels are welcome! Contact Fran West 303-797-7107. Check out our Facebook page – "St Luke's UMC Itch to Stitch Guild".

For more info: Visit: www.stlukeshr.com

Email: bettyludlam1718©gmail.com
Like us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/stlukeshrumw

The United Methodist Process for Clergy Appointment

As St. Luke's is preparing for clergy transition, the popular question being asked is how does the UMC appoint new clergy and who is involved. The primary church team involved in this process is the Staff Parish Relations Team (SPRT). This team is the 'human resource' team of the church, responsible for staff oversight and a healthy relationship between the staff and congregation. Our SPRT is working in partnership with the Bishop and Annual Conference by providing information about the church and congregation, and what we need in clergy leadership. If you have questions about the process, please feel free to reach out to members of this team.

Sandy Larson, Chair Linda Hollyman, Vice Chair

Keri Madsen Paul Peterman

Debi Ransick Marty Davidson

Pam Wiethoff Ryan Rairigh

Judy Weiler

Andrew Campbell, Lay Leader Rep





CSE Purpose:

To foster healing and wholeness of mind, body, heart, and spirit through experiences that inspire connection and wellbeing.

Take a look at our website:

stlukesCSE.org

CSE OUTDOOR ADVENTURES:

We are all so blessed to live in Colorado. There are so many beautiful places to explore in our state that are just a short distance from St. Luke's. Consider the Marjorie Perry Nature Preserve (18 minutes), Roxborough Park (20 minutes), Dawson's Butte and Flying J Ranch (36 minutes), Burning Bear Creek, Silver Dollar Lake, and the Colorado Paint Mines (1.5 hours). These are just a few of the places that we have explored through our CSE Outdoor Adventures during the



past 7 and a half years. Descriptions and photos of all these hikes can be found at www.stlukescse.org/outdoor-adventures. A new year of Outdoor Adventures begins March 17, with a snow shoeing adventure at Echo Lake. And we have a full calendar of new hikes that our group can experience for the first time. We welcome all to join us. Watch for details in the St. Luke's Bulletin. **For further information** about CSE Outdoor Adventures, contact Jane (janestaller@gmail.com) or Julie (julie.polikoff@msn.com)

Save these upcoming dates:

- Tuesday, March 17 -Snowshoeing Echo Lake
- Saturday, April 25 -Mayhem Gulch in Centennial Cone
- Wednesday, May 13 -Mt. Galbraith
- **Saturday, June 13** Beaver Brook/Chavez Loop

Hearts for Honduras Book Collection

The Center for Spiritual Engagement is deeply grateful to the St. Luke's community for your generous support of our efforts to provide library books for the Abundant Life Christian School in Yamaranguila, Honduras. You donated more than \$2,000 to purchase eleven sets of books for classroom use, and through the Giving Tree you purchased more than 50 individual books for the school library. Books will be delivered to the school by our St. Luke's team, who are traveling to Honduras February 12-19. When our team returns from Honduras, we hope to provide an opportunity for our St. Luke's community to gather to learn more about our work in Honduras. There will continue to be opportunities to enrich the library at the Abundant Life Christian School. A portion of the proceeds from Music Man will support growing music/band opportunities, which we hope to sustain and grow. The CSE team is especially grateful to Nancy Abbott and Melinda



Davidson, our "librarians," who manned the CSE book collection table every Sunday to share information about the Abundant Life Christian School and to accept your generous donations. Thank you for the many ways we offer our generous St. Luke's hearts to Honduras.

CSE CLASSES & EXPERIENCES:



On Purpose: Friday, April 17th (8:45am-4:00pm) Dr. Sallie Suby-Long and Renae Parra will guide this exploration and reflection on life narratives, purpose, and story. The day-long experience will be held in the beautiful peacefulness of the Hideaway Retreat Center where you can begin to discover, to clarify, or to celebrate your unique and individual purpose. We'll engage in small group and individual experiences to discern how awareness of purpose can guide our actions and create more fulfillment and meaning in life. Sallie

has done in-depth research, teaching and coaching on the transformative power of reflection on purpose and she loves to guide individuals in this process. Renae has guided many people in the process of identifying their individual gifts and is skilled in connecting people with opportunities to share their talents. We hope you'll join us for this retreat experience! Cost is \$99 and includes a follow up session with Sallie or Renae. To register contact Renae. (renae©stlukeshr.com)

Introduction to the Enneagram - Sixteen of us met in the chapel on January 26th with Revs. Schawn and Sallie for an afternoon of learning with the Enneagram. The Enneagram is a time-tested roadmap to better understand who we are. It's a soul-map for growing spiritually and for enhancing our communication and relationships with others. We had lively discussions, shared stories, and walked away knowing a little more about our core beliefs and how we engage in life.

Advanced Enneagram Workshop - February 16, 2020 (1:00-4:00pm)

Rev. Schawn and Eric Kellogg have designed this class as a follow-on for those who have taken Introduction to the Enneagram, or have a foundation in the Enneagram. This class offers greater depth, understanding, and application of the Enneagram. We'll learn about "wings" and personal instinct preferences, which help to define further our individuality. Register with Rev. Schawn (schawn6©hotmail.com) Your \$49 registration includes workshop, materials, and snacks.

Thursday Morning Yoga - Join in any Thursday in the Chapel (9:00-10:00am) Sharon Oliver, certified yoga teacher, is now leading our morning yoga that combines yoga poses and gentle vinyasa flows with mindfulness meditations to refresh and restore. All levels are welcome to this weekly class that offers an inclusive, relaxed yoga environment, and we invite you to drop in whenever your busy life allows. Bring a yoga mat. Suggested donation is \$10/ class. For more information, contact Renae. (renae©stlukeshr.com)



Les Ludlam Retired Clergy

More from Les: The Blind Date

College students tend to be known for some of the rather bizarre and sometimes poorly thought out stunts they perform. I confess to having been no different. During my sophomore year of college my two best friends, Bob and Russ, were dating two girls, Sue and Patty, students at Loretto Heights College, a Jesuit all-girl college in southeast Denver. I regularly went out with the four or them because I had the car.

Sue and Patty's classmate, Jill, had a reputation as a creative practical joker. They suspected that Jill was the one who had short-sheeted their beds the weekend before. They wanted to get even. She had been complaining about her lack of success with meeting nice boys. This generated an idea! Sue and Patty would line Jill up with a blind date, but in this case the date would really be blind! They'd love to see how she might squirm in that awkward situation!

Since I wasn't known on their campus, I (foolishly) agreed to play the blind date. Sunglasses with side guards, were painted black so my eyes couldn't be seen. I practiced with them a bit to learn how to get around without seeing; which wasn't hard because my eyesight was so poor, I could barely see without my glasses on. Then the girls arranged the date. To add a little twist to the scam, they decided to go to the Egyptian movie theater near downtown Denver!

We arrived to pick up the girls; Russ drove my car since I was "blind." Bob and Sue went to get Jill while I waited in the car. As they approached the car, too late for Jill to back out, they explained my "condition" to her. I was told later that Jill stiffened a bit, and then continued on as if nothing were out of the ordinary. We drove to the movie: Jill led me to my seat by the hand and then explained the scenes that had no dialogue. She was an angel! Afterward we went to the White Spot Coffee shop for a coke. She turned to Patty and said, "I just wish people wouldn't stare so much! It's really unkind!"

The date finally came to an end and I was exhausted, I had played the charade and it seemed that Jill had bought it. But somehow, I didn't feel all that great. I didn't sleep very well that night. I tossed and turned. I thought, "She was really nice, we took advantage of her!" I decided I had to call Jill and tell her the truth if I was going to have any rest. I called the next afternoon after classes. "Jill, the date last night was a practical joke, I'm not really blind!" After a painfully long, silent moment, She spoke, "You jerk!" She hung up. Boy, did I ever feel great! But I knew I had done the right thing.

A month later, we had all but forgotten our prank. One evening I went with Bob and Russ to Loretto Heights to play some pool at the Student Center. We were quite engrossed in the game when a girl I hadn't seen before started watching the game. When Bob and Russ left for a moment to get a couple of Cokes, she walked up. "Hi," she said, "I'm Jill. Glad to see you got your sight back!" I recognized her voice and I could feel my face beginning to glow cherry red. I stammered something incomprehensible, dropped my pool cue and began looking for the door. "Oh, It's OK, after you called me that morning, Patty and Sue explained that they had put you up to it." She smiled, "But you'd just better not leave your car parked on campus or I'll let all the air out of your tires!" When Bob and Russ returned, they looked a little sheepish when they saw Jill and me talking. Later, we started a new pool game with four players.

I had been forgiven! The weight of a thousand elephants was lifted from my shoulders. I solemnly vowed never to try the "Blind Date Scam" again! But I'll always wonder... was she onto our game all the time? Who was really the butt of this practical joke?

I learned a lesson about the pain of guilt, about the need for forgiveness. About the freedom that comes when we know we are forgiven. *God bless us all, and God bless Jill, wherever she is today.*



James Ramsey Director of Music & Arts Ministries



Kenrick Mervine Associate Dir. of Music Ministry/ Organist



Kay CoryellDir. of Handbells
& Children's Music
Ministry



Chris RigoliniDirector of
Instrumental Music

Music & Arts News:

Amazing Jazz Evening

THANK YOU to all who came out for the wonderful evening of Jazz with Gabe Mervine! We had over 150 people join us for a night of incredible music, good friends, delicious food, and hot coffee. This was an opportunity for our



Music and Arts Ministry to say Thank You to our entire community for your continued support of our programs, our missions, and our desire to bring people together through music and drama.

Spend Valentine's with US!



Sweetheart Dinner Dance will be Friday, February 14th! Please join us for a wonderful night of food an music. An Italian Dinner Buffet will be open for dinner at 6:30pm. The Ministers of Swing will play a wonderful variety of Big Band Era music from 7:00-9:00pm and invite you to dance along!

Please purchase tickets online or on Sunday mornings before Feb. 10.

St. Luke's Got Talent - March 7!

Are you a fan of America's Got Talent? Do you have a secret talent you're excited to share in a fun and supportive environment? We want YOU! Join us on Saturday, March 7th in the Fellowship Hall for a night of fun! ALL are invited to participate and attend. Please submit your act by e-mailing Stephanie (musicartsadmin@stlukeshr.com). All variety of acts are encouraged! Please submit your name, the title of your act, the type of act, and the length (please limit to 3 minutes). If you need a piano accompaniment, let Stephanie know.

The Music Man Feb. 21-23!



Performances:

Friday, Feb. 21 at 7:00pm Saturday, Feb. 22 at 2:00pm and 7:00pm Sunday, Feb. 23 at 2:00pm

Tickets available online now or on Sunday mornings in the Narthex or at

the door! \$12/adults and \$10/seniors and youth in advance; \$15/adults and \$12/seniors and youth at the door. SATURDAY DINNER at 5:30pm with VIP SEATING - check for ticket availability.

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Recurring & Upcoming Events!

- * SUNDAYS SLY AM
 9:30-10:30am Youth Room:
 SLY AM Sunday School
 Coffee Cart: If you would like to run the coffee cart on Sunday mornings before and after services, let me know.
- * SUNDAYS SLY PM 5:30pm Dinner (\$2) 6:00-7:30pm Youth group fun stuff
- * **WEDNESDAYS** 6:00-8:00pm Youth Group Bible Study & FOOD!

* Confirmation 2020

* Jan. 5- Mar. 29 Sundays 9:30am-Noon This is for all 8th graders or anyone in high school not yet confirmed.

* Mission Trips

- * High School Mission Trip: Clendenin, West Virginia!!! Trip dates are June 12-21. Trip cost will be \$450.
- * Middle School Mission Trip: The location is still being worked on. Trip dates are July 5-11. Trip cost is \$220. Applications are next to the Youth Office!
- * Guatemala 2020: The first of the SLY mission trips is open for applications! Ask for more details! This is a yearly SLY trip at the beginning of the summer open to the youth and their parents. We have a great group going so far but there are more slots available!

*Announcements

- YOUTH SUNDAY March 15: (Planning Meeting #2 Sunday Feb. 9 at 5:30pm) For those of you who don't know what Youth Sunday is, this is where the youth program puts on the ENTIRE Sunday morning worship service. This is a huge opportunity for us to showcase the passion and talent that exists in the deep, dark, hidden dungeon that is the youth room. I could not be more excited to bring this service and opportunity back to the youth BUT, I need to know availability and interest in participating in this service. Whether you want to play music, share a story, do a funny skit, give a mini sermon...or (mostly) anything else... Let me know!!!
- * Sign up for SLY dinners. If you are willing to help with dinners in any way I need lots of help!
- * Sign up to receive our emails and Check stlukeshr.com and click on "Youth" or "SLY" for up-to-date info on programs, activities, opportunities and more!



Jake SmithDirector of
Youth Ministry

ON THE SLY: 7th-12th grade adventures

Hello 2020!!! We wasted no time in starting the decade off strong. With confirmation classes starting up right away! If you see any bright-eyed confirmands be sure to quiz them on John Wesley. Also, mission trip applications are alive and well. Be sure to grab yours outside the youth office. There are limited spots for both the High School trip (current 8-12th graders) and

time for

Pancakes!!!

PANCAKE DINNER for

It is time for the annual

MARDI GRAS!!! On

will be putting on our

February 25th the youth

annual Fat Tuesday Pancake

Dinner to fundraise for our

summer mission trips! This

is a great event, fun for the

whole family, and we would

love your support! We need

volunteers, donations and

come hang out that night!!!

most of all everyone to

Pancakes will be served

starting at 5:00pm.

the Middle School trip (current 6-7th graders).

In January so far, we have begun planning for a top secret youth mission. The church will know soon so shhhhh. Also, we took a trip to St Andrew UMC to show off our musical talents in the district karaoke night. And of course, we all rejoiced in the **Chiefs** Super Bowl win. Well, at least Jake did.

Looking forward we have our confirmation retreat to Ponderosa, and then Confirmation Sunday is the 29th of March. Please keep these wonderful youth in your prayers as they learn about and engage in their faith journeys and decide to become active members of the St. Luke's Community.

Also our SLY website is up to date, but do sign up for the weekly emails so you can stay in the know!

We still meet Sundays 9:30-10:30am for Youth Sunday School, Sundays 5:30-7:30pm for Youth Group with dinner provided, and Wednesdays from 6:00-8:00pm for Bible Study and Fast Food. Come hang out!! If you have any questions track down Jake!

Yours in Christ, Jake







SLY Ministry begins and ends with youth from grades 7 to 12 learning, modeling, and living out what it means to be an inclusive Christian community. We have a beautiful youth area downstairs that provides us with the space to come together as one large group or break out into multiple small groups. We learn what it means to reach out to others in love, acceptance, and joy through fun, fellowship, Bible study, educational events and mission experiences. Whether you know what you believe, are trying to figure out what you believe, or have given up on believing, you are welcome to walk with other youth on your faith journey so that we can all grow together as we discover the power of God's spirit in our lives.





Seasoned Voyagers is a ministry for our 55 and older crowd.

A 55+ MINISTRY

We schedule at least one event per month. Most events are away from the church and we use our church bus for transportation. No need to worry about driving or parking; simply meet at the church and join the fun. Each Sunday we have a table set up in Fellowship Hall with information and sign ups for our upcoming events. Be sure to sign up so we know you intend to join us. It is a great time to get out into the city and have fun and develop friendships.

Our most recent event, on February 1, was at St. Luke's - a spectacular visit by birds of prey! The birds were brought by Nature's Educators, a non-profit that takes care of birds who have been injured and can no longer live in the wild. We saw a precious little Eastern Screech Owl, a Harlan's Hawk, a Kestrel and an Osprey. Many children and adults of all ages enjoyed this educational and fun program!



Upcoming Events:

- · Thursday, Mar. 19
 - Tour of the Denver Police Museum and Department. This is a free tour. We will meet at the church at 9:15 and have lunch afterwards at Homestead Grill which is one of our favorite places to eat.



• Thursday, April 16 - Tour of the Ralph L. Carr Judicial Center. This is a 90 minute tour of the Colorado Supreme Court. Meet at the church at 8:45am for our 10am tour. We plan to have lunch at Racine's afterwards.

Sign up for any of these events at our table in Fellowship Hall on Sundays.

If you have ideas for future activities or want more information about our group, contact Rich Krening at 303-794-2540 or Renae Parra (renae©stlukeshr.com).

Trustees Corner:

A Quick Look at the Work of our Trustees....

The end of 2019 was a busy time for our Board of Trustees and the church building. In December, the Trustees authorized **replacement of the church roof** due to hail damage. The normal deductible for roof replacement on a building our size is \$100,000. Thanks to the diligence of our Trustee Chair, Ken Fong, and hours spent in conversation with the conference office, Ken discovered a one-time opportunity which dropped our expense by half. Thanks Ken – for saving the church \$50,000 with a phone call!

Life inside the building was just as busy in December. It started with **Hanging of the Greens** – the annual Christmas decorating event. A huge thank you to church members and Boy Scouts who spent their Saturday hanging the greens and listening to Christmas music over the church sound system. And, a very special thank you to those who helped take down the greens at the end of the holiday season. Taking down the greens is not quite as fun, but this year was a success thanks to the many volunteers. This is a major project coordinated by a few of our Trustees, and we are grateful for their time and dedication.

Life became very interesting on December 26 when a water pipe burst and flooded the church parking lot, which then became a sheet of ice. The pipe was replaced in about 36 hours and the parking lot eventually dried out. We are hoping for a quieter new year in 2020.

The Trustees continue to replace **light bulbs and batteries** on a never-ending schedule, as well as maintain the building and property. **Our first Service Saturday is scheduled for the morning of April 4**, and everyone is invited to sign up as we prepare inside and outside for Holy Week and Easter.

Thanks to everyone who offers their time and service to assure that our church is a welcoming space for the community!



Friday, July 17 through Friday, July 24

Come join us for this exciting St. Luke's tradition at beautiful Snow Mountain Ranch in Granby, Colorado! Come for the whole week or just for a few days. There will be campfires, hiking, tie dye, tubing, and fun for all ages! Sign up online at stlukeshr.com/familycamp. For more information, contact Caroline Merchant at 303-596-7026 or caroline@merchant-us.net.



MISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES:

MONDAYS IN THE PARK: Mondays 10:30am. Help feed 100+ individuals. Support this ministry by donating chips (ind. bags), creamy PB, and strawberry jam.

SEDALIA ELEMENTARY - VOLUNTEER NEEDS: Math for 2-3 grades 10-11:30am; Literacy 12:30-2pm any day; Library help afternoons. Email bkeyack©att.net.

CAN DONATIONS: Bring a can of food weekly for the Blue Bins. With Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, we feed homeless vets as they transition to a self-sustaining life.

LOVE INC. - LOVE IN THE NAME OF CHRIST: Love INC offers a one-hour orientation at their office bi-weekly (2nd Wed. at 1pm and 4th Mon. at 6:30pm). Partner through volunteering, email kris©loveinclittleton.org or call (303) 794-5683.

RENEWED TREASURES THRIFT SHOP: (720) 446-1877 6512 S Broadway, Littleton, CO. 9:00am-5:00pm Tues.-Sat. Award-winning resale shop! Proceeds benefit Love INC. Consider donating children's used, outgrown clothing. Volunteer, kris©loveinclittleton.org or call (303) 798-0037.



St. Luke's United Methodist Church

8817 S. Broadway \bullet Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

303-791-0659 • www.stlukeshr.com

GRACE • COURAGE • WONDER • BEYOND

Because of the life and teachings of Jesus, we exist to deepen people's connections with God, show compassion for all, and reflect God's love in a way that changes lives.

GOLF!

Save the Date: September 12, 2020

Mark your calendars because the St. Luke's Annual Golf Tournament is coming! It will be located at Redhawk Ridge Golf Course! Watch for more info to come.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE



PRAYER CONCERNS

Contact Rev. Sallie Suby-Long or the Office Administrator if you have any additions/removals $303-791-0659 \times 132$, leave a note at the front desk, or email sallie@stlukeshr.com

LATEST ENTRIES TO PRAYER LIST:

Tiffany Alverson	Bonnie Garrett	Rob Ludington
Ross Barnard	Rev. Jim George	Inge Verhaegen Lyons
Andrew Campbell	Mark Godsey	Dean Luallen
Sarah Cleary	David Goodin	Jerry Lubben
Dale Cleveland	Ron Halderman	Lara Magyar
Karen & David Corson	Warren Heaton	Will Maniatis
Bill Dale	Christian Holder	Katie Mueller
Todd Davis	Brian Holder	Richard O'Neil
Charlie and Diane Dokmo	Suzanne Humphreys	Robin Peterson
Ted Dreyer	George and June Hutchins	Bob Phillips
Christy Edwards	Brie Katz	Jackie Phillips
Carrie Enloe	Patricia Lindsay	Julie Polikoff

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Bill and Pat Nottingham on celebrating their 71st wedding anniversary!

SYMPATHIES TO:

Sally Gradeless and family on the passing of her mother, Ella Mae Ransbottom. Sam Leahy on the passing of her uncle, Herb Richards.

Erin Wright and family on the passing of her aunt, Jean McCarter.

Marty Davidson and family on the passing of his father, Tom Davidson.

Kerry Kirkpatrick and family on the passing of her uncle, Ruben Kirkpatrick.

The Nolder Family on the passing of their brother in law, Kit Navarre;

The Smith Family on the passing of Betty Smith.

Brian Reamy Justin Schnackenburg Dr. Martin Smith Kay Tabor Edith Walters Marrilyn Ware John Wohlleber Amy Weiske Zander

Don't you be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you...

–Isaiah 41:10

Grief Support Group

If you are experiencing grief after the loss of a loved one, please consider joining me, Rev. Pat Shaffer, and Stephen Minister, Nancy Abbott, for the following **Sundays, March 8, 15, 22, 29, 12:15pm**, in room

210. The heart of this Grief Support Group is sharing your grief story after

the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend with others who are on the same



journey and understand what you are feeling and experiencing. Group values are listening, caring, and keeping confidence. Helpful resources are shared as well. Please email Pat at prshaffer04©yahoo.com or call 720-988-5430 to register or if you have questions.