



Highlands Ranch, Colorado

January/February 2006

The CHRONICLE

ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Inside This Issue:

- Message from Janet.....2
 - Spirituality Wheel.....3
 - Trustees.....5
 - Children's Ministries.....6
 - Fellowship.....8
 - Music & Drama.....9
 - SLY.....10
- and much more!*

Join us for Worship at St. Luke's

Sermon series:

Rev. Janet Forbes

1/29 - Head Spirituality

2/5 - Mystic Spirituality

2/12 - Heart Spirituality

2/19 - Kingdom Spirituality

Don't miss:

2/26 - Youth Sunday

Going through a tough time?

Struggling with a crisis? Or, do you have a friend, neighbor, relative, or co-worker going through a difficult time? Consider letting a Stephen Minister help.

A Stephen Minister is a member of our congregation who is trained to listen, care, encourage, pray, walk alongside, and provide emotional and spiritual care to people who are hurting. To receive help from a Stephen Minister, please contact Rev. Janet, Rev. Pam, or our Stephen Leaders, Sue Townsend, Sallie Suby-Long, Sherry Merrill, or Doug Rowley. Our Stephen Ministers are here to care!

Family... it's who we are!

Results are in from St. Luke's Appreciative Inquiry

by Jerry McLeland

You don't need to listen to the rumors anymore, the results have been tallied. The most popular program at St. Luke's is...

Early this past fall St. Luke's kicked off a new visioning process called Appreciative Inquiry. The program includes a process of discovery, dreaming, design and delivery resulting in the creation of a new future. As part of the discovery phase, many of you were asked a series of questions to help determine those aspects of our church that are the most life giving to both you as an individual and to our community of faith.

The results, which are posted in Fellowship Hall, were simply amazing. Its clear that people come to St. Luke's because they feel welcomed and accepted. There are programs for children, youth and adults. It is a place you can call home, it is a place to raise your family. There is energy, there is life!

As a congregation we are the most moved when we were serving others. Events that have changed peoples lives included trips to Cambodia, support of Urban Peak, Shannon's Hope funding the surgery for a young girl who drank lye and responding to others in need. We are nurtured when we participate in worship, when we are moved by music, challenged to think, when we baptize a child. Our time together has changed the way we interact with co-workers, the way we treat our children, interact with our youth, the way we witness our faith and how we seek Christ.

Oddly enough the results of the discovery phase of appreciative inquiry do not point to a select group of programs that make St. Luke's unique. They point to a group of people that collectively serve as the body of Christ. They point to a church family.

As we move into 2006 we will begin to dream. We will dream of what we can become and the lives we can change. We will dream of a journey and how we all will be needed to achieve an ultimate goal. We will dream for the future of our youth, our family... its who we are.

Stay tuned.



A very special thank you to all who participated in the Three Kings service on January 8th. It takes a lot of folks to make those giant puppets come to life. The Cushing family has been involved with this service for the past 4 years. Thanks to Harry, Nancy, Parker, Danielle, and Rebecca Cushing for being so dedicated to the service. Nancy says "Our entire family participates because it is so rewarding spiritually. Jim Ramsey did his usual outstanding job organizing the event. Everyone did a great job, and I also believe felt the Spirit of the Moment."

New Cancer Support Group

The purpose of this group is to meet the spiritual and emotional needs of those who are touched by cancer. We minister to cancer patients, survivors and support people who are looking to share their stories, laughter, tears and wisdom. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, from 7:00-8:30pm at the church. You are most welcome to join us at any time! Next meeting is on February 24. Contact: Rev. Pam Rowley, 303-791-0659, pam@stlukeshr.com

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

Sunday School:
(Adult, Youth & Children)
9:30am & 11:00am
Nursery available for all services

Church Office: 303-791-0659
Fax: 303-470-5615
St. Luke's Youth.....x45
Childcare Reservations.....x47
Email: office@stlukeshr.com
Website: www.stlukeshr.com

Staff:

Rev. Janet Forbes.....x13
Senior Pastor
Emergency: 303-241-9312

Rev. Dave Money.....x33
Associate Pastor
Emergency: 303-932-1035

Rev. Pam Rowley.....x32
Pastoral Care
Emergency: 720-348-1528

James Ramsey.....x23
Director of Worship & Arts

Carrie Mallery.....x35
Associate Dir. of Music Ministry

Kay Coryell.....x43
Assistant Music Director

Chris Wilterdink.....x14
Director of Youth Ministry

Ann Smith.....x19
Assistant Youth Director

Jenita Rhodes.....x27
Director of Children's Ministry

Lynne Butler.....x11
Pre-school Ministry

Kristina Linn.....x40
Childcare Ministry

Lynda Fickling.....x20
Dir. of Membership Ministry

Bonnie Funk.....x10
Administrative Assistant

Dave Cupp.....x24
Director of Finance

Dan Kuhl.....x44
Facilities/Custodian

Kay Swanson...303-791-1982
Director of Little School

All articles, photos and notices for the March issue of *The Chronicle* are due February 10th.

Editor:
Sharon Oliver
chronicle@stlukeshr.com



DISCOVER YOUR SPIRITUAL TYPE WORSHIP SERIES FOR EPIPHANY: "SEARCHING FOR SPIRITUALITY"
- REV. JANET FORBES

Rev. Janet Forbes There is a hunger abroad in our time, haunting us. Like an empty stomach aching beneath the sleek coat of the well-fed, it reveals that something is missing. The diet of secular culture does not satisfy. A hunger for spiritual food is gaining momentum.

During the season of Epiphany, I am inviting you to share a spiritual journey. We want to name our spiritual hunger, so we can set the table with food for the soul. We are going to explore the nature of spirituality as it is practiced within this community of faith.

What is spirituality? I prefer to use a more biblical phrase, "the spiritual life." Scripturally speaking, the spiritual life is simply the increasing vitality of God's Spirit in us. It is the choreography of the Holy Spirit in the human spirit, moving us toward communion with both Creator and creation. It has to do with God's way of relating to us, and our way of responding to God.

I want to invite us to assess our spiritual type. This simple approach delineates differences among us; it does not rank the content of faith. There are no right or wrong answers, just preferences. This ASSESSMENT TOOL will help each of us to answer two questions:

- Who am I as a spiritual person?
- And, what is the best way for me to grow in my spiritual life?

Knowing how we are spiritually different from or the same as other people can help us understand where our strengths are and possibly acknowledge

the strengths of others. Such knowledge may suggest new ways in which we can grow so that spiritual experience becomes richer.

Notice that within the SPIRITUALITY WHEEL the lines intersect forming separate quadrants. The quadrants identify the types of spirituality. Corinne Ware based her assessment tool, The Spirituality Wheel, on these types.

The vertical axis of the circle is labeled thinking-feeling (or intellectual-affective) with "thinking" being at the top of the circle. These two poles pose the question of how one goes about knowing – through the activity of the rational mind, "Head", or by accessing feelings, "Heart". People are inclined to gain their information about God through (1) emphasizing logic and accumulated facts or (2) emphasizing instinct and intuitive feeling. Both modes of learning and knowing are needed by the worshipping community. However, within any given group, there will usually be a preference for one mode over the other.

The horizontal axis raises the question of how one conceptualizes God. The left pole presents an emptying way of praying. It refers to the tendency of a person to think of God in non-concrete ways; that is, to think of God as mystery. I like the word, transcendent, beyond what we can know.

The opposite end of this scale refers to imaging God as revealed and knowable, immanent. The Christian hymn, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus", is a natural expression of the tendency to think of God in human images, in concrete terms, experiencing God both as friend and as incarnate in the person of Jesus.

I invite you to respond to the assessment and plot your style on the SPIRITUALITY WHEEL. Our worship planning team will be designing experiences (January 29-February 19) that will reflect the nature of each form of spirituality.

We will enjoy both immersing and stretching ourselves in spirituality. *—Rev. Janet*



Congratulations Newly Commissioned Stephen Ministers: Sallie Suby-Long (leader), Doug Rowley (leader), Cheryl Wolff, Steve Treat, Jan Stull, Julie Ramsett, Andrea Metzger, Joy Markley, Carolyn McIntosh, Eileen Law, Jennifer Jensen, Bryan Hutchinson, Suzanne Humphreys, Marcia Enger, Kris Eckberg, Nita Dunn, Jean Ann Duncan, Lynne Butler, Yvonne Amrine.

THE SPIRITUALITY WHEEL

The purpose of this exercise is to DRAW A PICTURE of your personal style of spirituality. Read through the set of statements. Choose the statement or statements that describe what you personally prefer as part of your spiritual experience. You may select one statement or more than one. Match the chosen statement number with the quadrant number in the circle. In that quadrant, draw a spoke-line. If you've chosen two statements, draw two spokes, each in a different quadrant. The result is a portrait of your personal spiritual style. An explanation of the Spiritual Typology follows on the next page.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

1. A carefully planned and orderly worship program is a glory to God.
2. A deeply moving and spontaneous meeting is a glory to God.
3. Simplicity and some silence are important elements needed for worship.
4. It is not a service, but ordering ourselves to God's service that is important.

TIME

1. Stick to announced beginning and ending times of worship services.
2. It is important to extend the meeting time if one feels led to do so.
3. All time is God's time. A sense of timelessness is important.
4. Gather whenever and as long as you need to in order to accomplish the task.

PRAYER

1. Words express poetic praise; we ask for knowledge and guidance.
2. Let words and feelings evoke God's presence in this moment.
3. Empty the mind of distractions and simply BE in the presence of the Holy.
4. My life and my work are my prayer.

MUSIC

1. Music and lyrics express praise to God and belief in God.
2. Singing warms and unites us and expresses the soul's deepest heart.
3. Chant and tone bring the soul to quietness and union with God.
4. Songs can mobilize and inspire to greater effort and dedication.

PREACHING

1. The Word of God, rightly proclaimed, is the centerpiece of worship.
2. The gospel movingly preached is the power of God to change lives.
3. Proclamation is heard when the spirit of God speaks to the inward heart.
4. What we do is our "preaching" and speaks louder than anything we say.

EMPHASIS

1. A central purpose is that we fulfill our purpose (calling) in the world.
2. A central purpose is that we learn to walk in holiness with the Lord.
3. A central purpose is that we be one with the Creator.
4. A central purpose is that we obey God's will completely.

SUPPORT OF CAUSES

1. Support seminaries, publishing houses, scholarship, preaching to others.
2. Support evangelism, missions, spreading the word on television and radio.
3. Support places of retreat, spiritual direction, worship reform.
4. Support political action to establish justice in society and its institutions.

CRITICISM

1. Sometimes we (I) are said to be too intellectual and "dry".
2. Sometimes we (I) are said to be too emotional and anti-intellectual.
3. Sometimes we (I) are said to be escaping from the world and are not realistic.
4. Sometimes we (I) are said to have tunnel vision and are too moralistic.

DOMINATING THEMES

(If necessary, circle the words that apply and select categories with the most circles.)

1. Discernment, discipline, knowledge, order, grace, relationship with God.
2. Love, conversion, witness, spontaneity, growth, community.
3. Poverty, humility, wisdom, letting go, transcendence.
4. Simplicity, purity of heart, action, temperance, obedience, martyrdom.

MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA (What you believe is necessary)

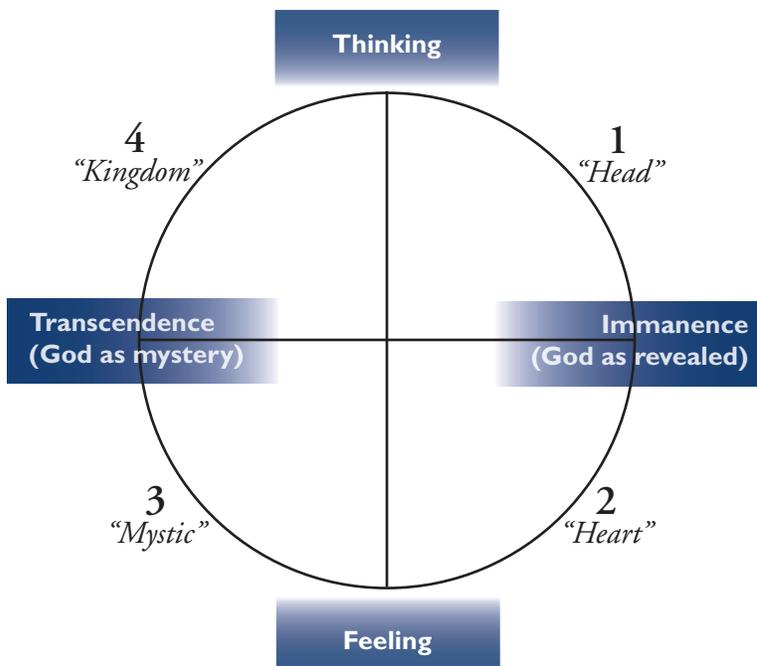
1. Assent to questions of membership, baptism, welcome by congregation.
2. A personal inward experience of God, baptism, public profession of faith.
3. All who face Godward are incorporated in the Holy.
4. Solidarity with humankind in membership in God's kingdom.

RITUAL AND WORSHIP

1. Ritual and worship evoke memory and presence, teaching traditional truths.
2. Liturgy and worship ceremonies are not of great importance.
3. Ritual and worship are ways in which God becomes present to us.
4. Ritual and worship are one way we make statements about inner conviction.

CONCEPT OF GOD

1. God is revealed in scripture, baptism, communion, and in Jesus Christ and his cross.
2. I can feel that God is real and that Christ lives in my heart.
3. God is mystery and can be grasped for but not completely known.
4. We participate in the mystery of God when we become partners with God in the world.



THE SPIRITUALITY TYPOLOGY

SPIRITUALITY #1 –**HEAD SPIRITUALITY (THINKING–IMMANENCE)**

This is an intellectual “thinking” spirituality that favors what it can see, touch, and vividly imagine. The spoken/written word is the primary means of telling the story. This style produces theological reflection. It supports education and publication and causes us to examine the texts of our hymns to see if we are singing what we actually believe. Content is primary with this group, as is systematic congruence of thought and belief. Prayer is almost always formal prayer, language or word-based, whether aloud or silent. The spiritual agenda for this type is fulfilling their purpose in daily life. When practiced to excess, this style produces “rationalism”, an over-intellectualization of one’s spiritual life with a consequent loss of feeling, often perceived as rigid and dry.

SPIRITUALITY #2 –**HEART SPIRITUALITY (FEELING–IMMANENCE)**

This spirituality is all heart, combined with concrete, real-life stuff. Here theology still emphasizes the incarnational representation of God and the centrality of scripture, but this is now combined with a more affective, sometimes charismatic, spirituality whose aim is to achieve holiness of life. The transformational goal of type #2 is personal renewal. God is perceived by heartfelt intuition. This spirituality emphasizes invitation and changed lives: witnessing, testimonials, and especially, music marks corporate worship. Prayer is often extemporaneous. Their contribution to the whole is a warmth of feeling, energy, and freedom of expression. Excess for this group is “pietism”, a exclusive mentality that does not acknowledge the spiritual experience of others, especially if it differs in any way from a type #2 experience.

SPIRITUALITY #3 –**MYSTIC SPIRITUALITY (FEELING–TRANSCENDENCE)**

The aim of this spirituality is union with the Holy. People attracted to this spirituality are often by nature contemplative, introspective, intuitive, and focused on an inner world as real to them as the exterior one. This is most often the home of the mystic. Instead of a God who possesses characteristics similar to human ones, God is ineffable, unnamable, and more vast than any known category. This style emphasizes “hearing” from God, instead of “speaking” to God. A life of austerity and asceticism is appealing, because simplicity of life quiets outside distractions and enables one to attend more fully to the inner voice. Fulfillment is found in the journey toward God. Their agenda is the renewal of the inner life. The gift of this spirituality is inspirational, theological writing. The excess of this style many lead to “quietism”, a reclusive retreat from reality and from interaction with the world.

SPIRITUALITY #4 –**KINGDOM SPIRITUALITY (THINKING–TRANSCENDENCE)**

The mystic coupled with an intellectual mode of gathering data makes for an active visionary who is single-minded with a deeply focused, almost crusading type of spirituality. People of this spiritual type care less about affiliation with organized religion. Their aim is simply to obey God and to witness to God’s kingdom. There is a courageous and sturdy idealism that takes responsibility for change; they have a passion for transforming society. They equate prayer and theology with action. They lead us in the difficult issues, caring little about how others may judge them. An excessive spirituality in this type is characterized by “moralism”, guilty of unrelenting tunnel-vision.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Week Ending January 13, 2005



- Bob Abbott*
Gerry Wright (Gail Abernathy's mother)
Rex Cochran
Madilyn Johnson (Katie Johnston's cousin)
Carolyn Dean
Clarine Ransick (Eric Ransick's mother)
Jeff Patefield
Nancy Rawls (Betsy Keyack's sister)
Jackie Durban
Linda Heister (Tammy Heister's mother)
Jennifer Emerson-Roy (Harry & Nancy Cushing's niece)
Deb Murphy (Little School mom)
Syd Harrison (friend of Brad Chase)
Erin Morgan (the Walter's family friend)
Julie Reagan (Christine Harris's sister)
Marge Snoddy (Kam Boles's friend)
Dorothy Lloyd (Sheri Shea's mother)
Jim Lloyd (Sheri Shea's father)
George Murphy (Barb Decker's mother's friend)
Jack Taylor (Loree Kohrs's friend)
Ernie Wight (Elizabeth Laurvick's father)
Loretta McFarlin (Meera Goel's friend's mother)
Bob Lanham (Ann & Jan Lanham's son/brother)
Frances Boles (Tim Boles's mother)
Ellen Riley (Steve Riley's mother)
Natalie Murrow
Andy Bingaman (friend of Joy Dams-gard)
Lisa Maciejewski (Jennifer Jiang's sister)
Erienne Romaine (Raap family friend)
Marlyn Gaskin (Diane Whetson's friend)
Betty Kieser (Bonnie Funk's mother)
Karen Gumz (Sandy Thompson's friend)
Nancy Obertier
Don Craig (Marcia Benshoof's father)
Wendy Walker (Sheri Shea's friend)
Shaun VanDyke (gr. nephew of Bobbi King)
Olivia Murrow
Eileen Williams (John Williams' mother)
Pat Swanson (Jenita Rhodes' mother)
Ingrid Warden (Carolyn Warden's sister-in-law)
Bernie Mezger (John Mezger's father)
Guillermo Rodriquez & family (Gail Abernathy's son-in-law)
Edith Walters (Terry Walters' mother)
Cindy Barlow
Pat McManaway (Christine Harris' mother)
Fran West's daughter Elaine
Tom Eurton (Amy Holton's uncle)
Carol Eckberg (Kris Reif's mother)
Margaret Hinchey (Kay Swanson's friend)
Rebecca Brown
Kari Goosman (D-in-L of Sue Townsend's friend)
Cheryl Smith (Joy Damsgard's friend)
Eric Homyak (Dan Kuhl's friend)
Rosie Kovak (Joy Damsgard's relative)
Bill Ryan Lee
Elise Coffey (student of Kim Joseph)
Yvonne Schmidt (Laura Kuhl's mother)
Sturgis Wetherington
Rita Phair (Bob Varto's mother)
Jerry Heinz (Rachel Nolder's father-in-law)
Sandy Ray (Ellen/Lynda Fickling's niece/cousin)
Edith Allen (Susan Stanley's mother)
Alyssa Penrose (Patti Speedy's neighbor)
Sharon Oliver
Norma Harris
Jon Coryell
Louise McGill (Sharon Oliver's mother)
Bill Lee, Jr.
Susy Halloran
Marie Fornoff's mother, Beth Fumiyo Yamamoto (Jon Takayama's grandmother)
Patti Anderson (Nancy Obertier's friend)
Grant Larson

Sympathies:
To Dave & Meryl Cupp on the passing of brother-in-law Charles Ingles

YOU DESERVE A BREAK TODAY–CALL MARIE

Our Liberian friend and regular St. Luke's attendee, Marie Sehkar, has been training with a professional housekeeper and is now ready to build her own clientele. She is anxious to begin working in order to help pay her own way. Anyone interested in having Marie clean for them should call Marie at 303-639-3212. Marie may need transportation. You can get two “rewards/bonuses” for the price of one. A clean house and the knowledge that you are helping Marie become more independent.

Marie also does beautiful, ethnic braiding, all patterns and designs. If you know someone who might be interested, call 303-639-3212.

Marie and Maima, our Liberian family are moving to an unfurnished apartment in January. They are in need of the following items: towels, sheets, kitchen items, dishes, lamps and a vacuum. If you have items to donate, contact Jan Rufien at jc.rufien@comcast.net or 303-979-3491.

Help Wanted

Candidates Needed to Join the St. Luke's Trustees Team

Duties include caring for this incredible building, the operating systems, exterior landscaping, and generally managing the facility that hosts everything from our weekly worship services, and educational programs to small group ministries and scout troops. Active team members:



Ken Fong, Team leader – St. Luke's LAN and phone system

Ken provides oversight and guidance on every kind of decision imaginable on the structure and its operating systems including gas, electrical, water, and even the Architectural Review Committee when necessary. He finds experts, or those who know the experts consistently working to secure the best pricing and service to maintain our investment in our church home of St. Luke's. Ken, Betsy, Kristine and Kara also commit significant time supporting the work of our various mission outreach programs.



Ken Decker – kitchen, stucco, landscaping

Ken hails from a long career in real estate. His extensive detective work in successfully finding woodpecker-proof stucco is expected to save us significant repair costs—and not one bird was harmed in the process! Ken and Barb are devoted bridge players at St. Luke's. We're expecting with his new hips successfully on the mend, you'll catch them at the next big band dance night!



Randy Larson – outside signage

Randy is in power construction planning—and a real asset to this team. The multi-talented Randy, his wife Sandy and their three children are very active in our drama ministry as well.



Karen Meade – interface to Little School and Children's education, insurance

Karen's professional experiences as a lawyer has prepared her well in caring for the insurance management needs of St. Luke's. Married to Scott, her favorite role as mom to Rachel and Jonathan helps her to expertly represent the physical requirements of our children's programs.



Sandi Miyaki – writer of the Trustees Corner in The Chronicle, landscaping

A real estate agent by trade, Sandi most recently project managed the design and completion of our memorial garden. Husband Mike and son Joey are caregivers in the nursery on Sunday mornings, and son Ben an occasional music and drama ministry participant is pursuing music education at UNC in Greeley.



Eric Ransick – long term facility planning and capital replacement plans

Eric and Debi actively serve as leaders to Matt and Kim's scouting troops. Matt's completion of his Eagle Scout project—the new deck in our memorial garden is a source of pride for our whole trustees' family.



Doug Rowley – insurance, gift fund team

As a physician Doug cares for local patients health, bringing his day to day operations experience in the world of insurance at St. Luke's. Through his wife, the Reverend Pam, and Sean and Lindsay he brings close links to the leadership team!



Brian Sorsby – stucco, exterior signage, water feature

A problem solver for a national builder, Brian is our go-to guy on any number of tasks where we find ourselves needing industrial strength reinforcements—whether constructing the memorial garden fountain or completing roof and gutter repairs. Brian's wife, Lynne, and their children Ryan and Courtney are all active with drama and music ministry programs.

Between us we are retired, a lawyer, two realtors, a doctor, an electrical engineer, a CPA, and a builder. If you can meet with us at 7:00pm on the second Monday of the month and help us to keep our investment in the physical building sound, we've got room for you—two openings, actually. Please reach out to Ken Fong via email or telephone to learn more about how your life experience is a match with our team. The return on your investment of time and talent is absolutely welcome and very much appreciated here.

St. Luke's Holiday Shop 2005 was a Great Success!!

Thank you to all of the many wonderful people who generously volunteered their time, made cookies, gave donations of wrapping supplies and gifts, and to those of you who brought your children to shop! St. Luke's family—you are wonderful!! Our original goal was to have enough profit from the Holiday Shop to purchase new patio furniture for the deck outside of the Fellowship Hall. When we were notified that budget cuts would negatively affect Vacation Bible School (VBS) for summer, 2006, it was agreed that the Holiday Shop money would be given to Children's Ministries specifically to provide volunteer lunches during the week of VBS and to provide partial scholarships to children, which has never been done before due to budget constraints. We are so pleased to be able to help out with such an important program! Because of you, the Holiday Shop was incredibly successful, earning enough to donate \$550.00 to VBS. Thank you all so much! A special thank you goes to Amy Slade, who volunteered her time to coordinate advertising and help out with every other part of planning and running the Holiday Shop! Thank you!

Planning is already taking place for Holiday Shop 2006. If you are interested in volunteering either now or later this year, please call the number below. Also, if you have found old wrapping paper, new items that you were planning to re-gift, extra ribbons, gift boxes, tissue paper, etc. as you were putting away your holiday things, please think about donating them to the Holiday Shop. We accept donations any time during the year! Please contact Amy Antinoro at 303-663-6656 if you have any questions, would like to volunteer, or have a donation. *Again, thank you!!!*

—Amy Antinoro

Dear Friends of St. Luke's,

Thank you for the beautiful prayer shawl, the wonderful pumpkin bread, your visits, and your thoughts and prayers over these past few months. I can't tell you how much it means to me. I would like to thank the Yarn-n-Yak Circle for the lovely shawl and to let you know that I'll be thinking of you every time that I use it; to Patti Speedy and the Care Team for the lovely loaf of pumpkin bread and Thanksgiving visit; to my choir friends for their many cards and prayers, and to the pastoral staff for their visits and calls. My deepest appreciation to you all! God's blessings to all and have a blessed New Year!

—Norma Harris

Sun. Jan. 22

PEAK Adventures
9:30am Sunday School
4th Rotation – *The Ten Lepers*

Fri/Sat. Feb. 3 & 4

SLY Jr. 5th & 6th Grade
Fellowship Lock-in
6:00pm Friday-10:00am Sat.

Wed. Feb. 8

Children's Ministry Fellowship
Team Meeting 9:30-11:00am

Sun. Feb. 12

Boy and Girl Scout Sunday

Sat. Feb. 18

Discovery Club, Respite
Program for Special Needs
Children and their siblings
10:00am-4:00pm
Registration required.

Sun. Feb. 19

God & Country Program
12:15-1:30pm

Tues. Feb. 21

CPR/First Aid Recertification
Class 6:00-9:00pm

Sat. Feb. 25

CPR/First Aid Training Class
8:00am-1:00pm

Sun. Mar. 5

PEAK Adventures
9:30am Sunday School
5th Rotation –
The Garden of Gethesmane

SLY Jr. 5th & 6th Grade
Fellowship 6:00-8:00pm

Sat. Mar. 18

Discovery Club, Respite
Program for Special Needs
Children and their siblings
10:00am-4:00pm
Registration required.

Tues. Mar. 21

Children's Ministry Education
Team Meeting 7:00-8:30pm

PEAK Adventures - 9:30am Sunday School for Elementary grades 1-6 (Jan. 22-Feb. 26)

The Ten Lepers unit uses the Bible story included in Luke 17:11-19. Luke 17 begins with Jesus teaching his disciples about behavior, forgiveness, the power of faith, and a disciple's responsibility.

While Jesus was traveling toward Jerusalem, ten lepers stood at a distance and cried out to Jesus for mercy and healing. Jesus, following the dictate of Jewish law, told the men to present themselves to the Temple priests who could confirm their healing. The ten men did as they were told. While on their way, their leprosy was cured.

Only one man, the Samaritan, returned to Jesus. With enormous gratitude, the man shouted his thanks and bowed down before Jesus. In response, Jesus told him, "Your faith has made you whole."

In the workshops the children will explore the following concepts:

- Jesus healed ten lepers, but only one returned to say "thank you" to Jesus.
- God provides wholeness in mind, body, spirit, and in social relationships.
- God does many things for us and we can be grateful.
- Saying "thank you" is an act of praise to God.
- We also say thank you to people who do things for us.

Nursery Reminder:

Please make your Childcare reservation at least 24 hours before an event, rehearsal or meeting you will be attending. Reservation can be made by calling the Childcare Reservation line at 303-791-0659 ext. 47, on the website at slukeshr.com or on the reservation sheet by the music room. To help use our budget more efficiently, childcare will be cancelled if there have been no reservation received. Thank you so much for your kind consideration for our caregivers efforts in being here for you when plan on using this service.

New program for our most special kids is a hit!

Discovery Club is a fun interactive program for children with special needs and their siblings. They meet from 10:00am until 4:00pm on the 3rd Saturday of the month through May. Participants, ages 6-18 meet new friends, enjoy recreational and craft activities in a professionally supervised and loving environment. This program is co-sponsored by St. Luke's Children Ministry and Easter Seals of Colorado. To register, please contact Nancy at 303-233-1666 ext. 237. Volunteer opportunities are available for persons over the age of 15.

CPR and First Aid Training come to St. Luke's

The techniques for applying CPR have recently changed. In February there will be two opportunities for you to learn the new procedures and brush up on your first aid skills. Tuesday, February 21 from 6:00-9:00pm is for those persons who want to recertify. Those needing first time training or if it has been several years since your last training can come on Saturday, February 25 from 8:00am-1:00pm. The cost is \$25.00 for the Tuesday recertification class and \$35.00 for the Saturday training. Please call or email Jenita Rhodes to register.

SLY, Jr Lock-in!!

St. Luke's 5th and 6th graders, sign up NOW to attend this years Lock-in Feb. 3rd and 4th. We will begin on Friday at 6:00pm with our favorite food, PIZZA! Our theme is "A Hobbit's Adventure". We will be on a quest for treasure and fun. A list of what to bring is available in your Sunday School classroom or the Children's Ministry office. YOU MUST REGISTER BY PHONE OR EMAIL JENITA RHODES TO ATTEND! You are welcomed to bring a friend. The registration deadline is January 31 so don't delay. Also let me know if you have a domed tent that we could borrow for the Lock-in. They would make a perfect Hobbit Hole to sleep in!

Contributions Needed for the Lock-in Mission Project

Our mission project for the SLY, Jr Lock-in will benefit the Children's Cancer Center. We will be collecting and packaging item for the kids to enjoy during their treatments. This would include, NEW hats, caps, scarves, small toys, picture or short story books, lap games, puzzle books, pencils, crayons markers, individually wrapped candies or snacks. Contributions are welcomed by all. A box will be available in the Goliath area.

Family Movie Night—Friday, Feb. 17 at 7:00pm

The movies will be the new *Lord of the Beans Veggie Tale* movie and the soon to be released *Wallace and Gromit: Curse of the Were-Rabbit* which are both rated G. Daffy scientist Wallace (voiced by Peter Sallis) and his heroic dog Gromit are doing well with their business, Anti-Pesto, a varmint-hunting outfit designed to keep their English town safe from rabbits chomping on prized vegetables. Taking a chapter from classic horror films, a giant were-rabbit is soon on the prowl, and the town is up in arms. This film will delight young and old alike. Bring your pajamas and blankets and come enjoy the movies and popcorn with us.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



Jenita Rhodes
Director of Children's
Ministries



Lynne Butler
Preschool Ministry
Coordinator



Kristina Linn
Childcare Coordinator



Kay Swanson
Director of Little School



LITTLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR FALL 2006 BEGINS!

January is a very busy month for Little School. We come back from Christmas break ready to learn and enjoy our winter weather. We find out how animals survive the cold snowy days and do lots of art work around our winter wonderland themes! Western Stock show will be cowboy and cowgirl fun, with visits from real ponies and horses and a (pretend) campfire with lots of marshmallows!

January is registration month at Little School. Current families, siblings and church members will register the third week in January for FALL 2006.

Tours are available on Wednesdays at 10am, no appointment is necessary. To register as a church member, you must be a current, active member of 6 months or longer, attending regularly. Registration forms and information may be picked up at the preschool office or the main church office. **DO NOT MISS OUT, PUBLIC REGISTRATION BEGINS THE END OF JANUARY!!!!** Little School is very blessed and **FILLS UP QUICKLY!** Children must be 3 by Sept. 15th, totally potty trained and fully immunized—so plan ahead!

Little School will be working very hard on social and academic learning and looking forward to the fun busy months ahead! Please feel free to come and visit or volunteer!

Little School is having their first "Spaghetti Western" night. Families of Little Schoolers are invited to a fun western night, complete with spaghetti dinner and a fun, family show called "A Cowboy's Tail"! Reserve by Tuesday, January 17 at 6pm. Reservations are required. Please sign up with your teacher!

February Fun at Little School

Lots of love is felt through the halls of Little School when we celebrate God's love and the love we have for families and friends. We will be making special Valentine's for lots of people! Dad's will be having a day at school, Saturday, February 11th at 9am to make a special craft activity with their kids and experience a morning at Preschool! Plan to be here **DADS!** We will have Valentine's parties and learning centers in each classroom centered around **LOVE!**

In February we will also see what Mr. Groundhog has to say about winter and we will learn about our early Presidents. Little School will have a holiday on Monday Feb. 16th.

In March we will be having a career day at our school! If you have an interesting career that you would like to share with our children, please let Ms. Kay know! (303-791-1982 or littleschool@stlukeshr.com)

Blessings of Love from our school to YOU!

—Miss Kay

Children's Ministry – On the Cutting Edge Or What's so Special about PEAK Adventures Sunday School?

by Lynne Butler

Did you notice the big changes that happened in Elementary Sunday School a few years ago? Do you wonder why your child is in a different classroom each week? We know it can be a little bit confusing so this article hopes to help you understand what PEAK Sunday School is all about. PEAK stand for (Purposeful Experiences and Activities for Kids) and it is the name of St. Luke's Workshop Rotational Sunday School for 1st-6th graders.

The Workshop Rotation Model allows children opportunities to know God and understand God's Word through multi-dimensional learning experiences. Educational research conducted by Howard Gardner has shown that instead of having an intelligence measured by a singular, numerical IQ we all have multiple intelligences or multiple ways in which we process information and learn. To date, he has identified eight intelligences: **Verbal/Linguistic** - the capacity to use words effectively, **Logical/Mathematical** - the capacity to use numbers and reason well, **Spatial** - the ability to visualize, **Bodily/Kinesthetic** - the capacity to use one's body to express ideas and feelings, **Musical** - the capacity to express musical forms, **Interpersonal/Relational** - the ability to be perceive and be aware of the moods and feelings of others, **Intrapersonal/Introspective** - the ability to act adaptively on the basis of self-knowledge, **Naturalistic** - the attraction to and skill with plants, animals and the environment.

PEAK Adventures offers five or six Biblical units or Rotations throughout the year and each unit incorporates the Multiple Intelligences ways of learning. Children will remember and enjoy learning more because their dominant intelligence will often be accommodated.

Workshops offered at St. Luke's include: **Games** - linguistic/verbal, logical/mathematical, inter-personal; **Storytelling** - intra-personal, linguistic/verbal; **Art, Science and Cooking** - visual/spatial, naturalistic, bodily/kinesthetic, inter-personal, logical/mathematical; **Music** - musical, bodily/kinesthetic, naturalistic, inter-personal; **Computers** - verbal/linguistic, bodily/kinesthetic, logical/mathematical, visual/spatial; **Drama and Puppetry** - linguistic/verbal, musical, bodily/kinesthetic, interpersonal, visual/spatial; **Cinema** - visual/spatial, intra-personal, linguistic/verbal.

Are our children still learning about God and Jesus and the stories in the Bible? Of course! The curriculum we use is published by Cokesbury, the Methodist Publishing House in Nashville Tennessee. Sound theology of God's love and Grace is at the very heart of all of our lessons.

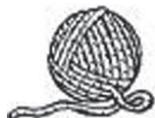
Does this sound a little high tech? Well, we hope so. But guess what? The curriculum and team support for all our workshop leaders made it very easy for adults to just step right in and help. So don't be scared. Come join us or if you just want to see what is happening we would love to welcome you at the PEAK!!!



Holding his brand new Bible, Tyler Harned participates in 3rd grade PEAK Rotational Sunday School.

Meals for New Moms

St. Luke's takes care of it's own—no doubt. Especially the women at St. Luke's. Remember those first few days alone with your newborn baby? A nice warm meal brought to you and your family was the best thing a new mom could ask for in those sleep deprived days. Caring Connection sees that this happens for each St. Luke's newborn's families. It is our congregations responsibility as well as the members of Caring Connection to see that this need gets met each time a baby is born. St. Luke's has a lot of babies being born each month so the meals can be many. If you would be interested in offering your help from time to time in providing a meal to a family please contact Shelly Selover at shellyselover@msn.com or Lynda Fickling at lynda@stlukeshr.com. Thanks for making St. Luke's members feel loved and cared for.



A Thank You Note

The Yarn 'n Yak group (formerly known as The Crochet Circle) would like to thank all of the participants in the Care Squares program that has been ongoing since last year. Members of our church have been donating knitted and crocheted shapes which were then joined together to make lovely and unique afghans. On December 19th, a contingent from the group delivered 15 lap afghans to residents at the Life Care Center of Colorado located on Mineral Boulevard. The recipients of these afghans were delighted to say the least, and some of them were actually reduced to tears of joy. Many of the residents still do not have afghans so we will be continuing the program throughout the next year. The residents requested shawls and scarves as well as afghans so.....get busy St. Luke's!!!

We would also like to extend a hearty thank you to everyone who has donated yarn to the group. We have received many skeins and all are much appreciated.

Yarn 'n Yak is now in its fifth year at St. Luke's. The group has provided over 200 items such as baby hats and afghans to local shelters and hospitals throughout the Denver area. They gather together the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at 7pm in Room C (Bride's Room). The new contact person is Eileen Law (303) 683-8780.

We are Called to Serve Serving Opportunities January 2006

Prayerfully consider where to serve at St. Luke's

"The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ."—Ephesians 4:11-13

Sunday Morning Office Help: Seeking someone to serve as our receptionist during our 8am service. Answer important Sunday morning questions (what time is service, Sunday school...) and take messages off our phone system to deliver to the pastors and staff. Please help our church be as invitational and welcoming as possible by offering your time. This job can be shared with others, pick a Sunday-once a month (or more!) and we will build our new Team! Contact Bonnie Funk 303-791-0659 x10 or bonnie@stlukeshr.com

Bookstore: Need people to help organize, purchase and maintain our newest bookstore located in the narthex. If you like books and are organized, please contact Terri Beecher 303-791-5009 or pittwife@aol.com

Fellowship Events Ministry: Seeking persons to join our new ministry team! Plan, decorate, set up/clean up for special fellowship events at St. Luke's (Dinners, Breakfasts, Picnics, meetings or banquets, Ministry Fair, Hanging of the Greens...) Team members attend meetings to prepare for events and work in conjunction with other ministries to provide guidance and tactical support for special events. This team also includes our Sunday Morning Fellowship-Coffee & Donuts Team, who provide the enjoyment of food and fellowship on Sunday mornings. Let's get our parties rolling! Contact: Lynda Fickling 303-791-0659 x20 or lynda@stlukeshr.com

Calling all Cooks: Seeking cooks (as a part of the "Fellowship Events Ministry") to prepare meals for our special events here at St. Luke's. If you have a passion to cook in a large kitchen for lots of people(!) Please contact Jim Ramsey 303-791-0659 x23 or jim@stlukeshr.com

Kitchen Team: A part of the "Fellowship Events Ministry", we need persons who like to organize and maintain our kitchen! Can't keep the cooks in-line without a clean kitchen! Contact lynda@stlukeshr.com or 303-791-0659 x20

Sunday Morning Fellowship-Coffee & Donuts Team: Help maintain the coffee and donut area during Sunday morning OR clean up after the 11am service (need to prepare our fellowship hall for others to use during the day...does it get messy!!) Please contact Lynda Fickling 303-791-0659 x20 or lynda@stlukeshr.com

"Called to Serve" Orientation

Are you searching for a way and reason to get connected at St. Luke's? Whether you have been attending for awhile or you just arrived here, we invite you to attend one of our monthly discovery classes. In this class "Called to Serve", we learn that we are born to serve God and follow in Jesus' footsteps by serving those around us. We grow by giving and grow by receiving. Let me help guide you on how you can change your life by serving through and at St. Luke's.

On the first Sunday of each month, I will give an orientation of the programs offered at St. Luke's and help to clarify your spiritual journey towards living a God-centered life. Plan to attend one of these days:

Date: First Sunday of every month (Jan.-Dec.)

Time: 9:30-10:30am

Location: Conference Room

Contact: Lynda Fickling 303-791-0659 x20 or lynda@stlukeshr.com

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



Carol & Jimmy Taylor



Tim & Kim Fitzgerald



Ed & Dara Hein



Gwen & Mike Riggie



Deb Jensen



Bob Davis

We will be offering the following dates for our "Next Step" class. This class covers the History of Methodism, discussions about the people of the United methodist Church and information about the many ministries of St. Luke's and how you can serve. Lunch or dinner will be provided. Childcare is also available b making reservations at 303-791-0659 x47. If you are interested in joining the St. Luke's family, the membership ceremony will be within the same month at the service of your choice. Please select the class you would like to attend and call Lynda Fickling for reservations 303-791-0659 x20 or lynda@stlukeshr.com

Next Step Classes:

Sunday, Jan. 22, 11am-2:30pm
Membership Ceremony: Sun. Jan. 29

Sunday, Feb. 12, 11am-2:30pm
Membership Ceremony: Sun. Feb. 19

Sunday, March 12, 11am-2:30pm
Membership Ceremony: Sun. March 19

Sunday, April 30, 11am-2:30pm
Membership Ceremony: Sun. May 14

MUSIC & DRAMA



James Ramsey
Director of
Worship & Arts



Carrie Mallery
Associate Dir. of
Music Ministry



Kay Coryell
Assistant
Music Director

DRAMA

Auditions for *Godspell*:

January 29th from 2:00-4:00pm. Audition music will be taken from the show. The cast size is 11 adults. The production will take place during the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Services on April 13 and 14. Contact James Ramsey with questions at jim@stlukeshr.com or 303-791-0659.

MUSIC

St. Luke's Benefit Concert

featuring:

- Ministers of Swing
- Youth Jazz Orchestra
- St. Luke's Wind Ensemble (debut)
- Ken Mervine and Carrie Mallery, organ and piano

Saturday, February 11th, 2006, 7:00pm
Benefit Proceeds for our Mission Program

Swing Dance Lessons

Beginning in February, we will be offering Swing Dance Lessons on Tuesday nights from 6:30-8:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. No experience necessary. Come to learn or come to brush up your swing dance steps. Steve and Cathy Collins will lead the class. Sign up to reserve a spot with James Ramsey or jim@stlukeshr.com

Dinner Dance

Saturday, March 4 at 6:00pm
Eat, Dance and be merry at St. Luke's Annual Dinner Dance. Join in the fun and the tradition! Tickets will be available beginning February 12th. The cost for Dinner and the Dance will be \$15 per person. Proceeds benefit the music program.



The Christmas Cantata featured over 150 musicians.

January 2006

1/25 – SLAM
 1/27-1/29 – Confirmation
 Retreat
 1/29 – Regular SLY AM
 Regular SLY PM

February 2006

2/1 – SLAM
 2/5 – SLY AM - Worship
 SLY PM - District Worship
 2/8 – SLAM
 2/10 & 11 – Faith & Sexuality
 Weekend Workshop
 2/12 – Regular SLY AM
 Regular SLY PM
 2/15 – SLAM
 2/17-20 – Sr. High Ski Retreat
 2/19 – Regular SLY AM
 Regular SLY PM
 2/22 – SLAM
 2/26 – SLY AM - Youth Sunday!
 SLY rocks Worship
 8, 9:30, & 11am
 Regular SLY PM
 3/1 – SLAM

YouthQuest

St. Luke's invites all youth in 6th, 7th and 8th grades to join us at the 2006 YouthQuest weekend sponsored by the Rocky Mountain Conference of the United Methodist Church. YouthQuest will be held March 10-12, 2006 at Frontier Ranch in Buena Vista Colorado. The weekend is a great opportunity for young people to meet other youth from around the area, and learn ways to bring vitality and spirituality back home to SLY. Workshops, meals, games and activities are fun and active!!

Interested youth and adults are asked to register by January 20 by completing an application which can be found on the Youth boards downstairs and in Fellowship Hall. Cost for the weekend is \$140 and includes meals, lodging and conference materials.

We'd love to take a large group of youth to represent St. Luke's and help us lead our Youth Group into the future!! Please contact Ann Smith with questions or for more details, 303-791-0659 x19, ann@stlukeshr.com.

SLY: ST. LUKE'S YOUTH

Ann Smith
 Assistant
 Youth Director

Chris Wilterdink
 Director of
 Youth Ministries

CHRIS' CORNER

New Year, New You?

Welcome to the new year, where New Year's Resolutions & new directions begin! I'll wager that a bunch of you made some kind of decision to change something in your life between Christmas and January 1. Sometimes the things that we would like to see change are within ourselves: to do better at school; to play nicer with our families; to bulk up; to slim down. Sometimes, we resolve to make to world a better place by taking care of ourselves, or making sure we have time and energy to give back to

the community by volunteering, taking up a cause, or participating in missions.

There are two things that all these resolutions have in common, you and God. You have realized that you want to make a change in your life. God will help you to make some of the changes you are looking for. But don't be surprised if God has made a few resolutions that God will help make happen in the new year.

My resolution was this: To better intertwine and balance the things that I do for myself and the things that I do for God. Really, shouldn't most of them be the same if I've got the right balance anyway?

I'm very excited to share this new year with all of you, and I look forward to seeing you at our various SLY events this spring! Catch up with me if you ever want to discuss your resolutions, things you want to see change, or the changes you see ahead for yourself.

Peace & Love, *–Chris*

D O N ' T M I S S !**December was a great month for Youth**

Missions! We baked 42 pizzas for Urban Peak during the 2nd annual Boston's Pizza Bake, raised \$355 for St. Luke's with the Boston's Fundraiser, and raised over \$420 to buy animals through Heifer International! Thank you everyone for your support in youth missions!

You can still sign up for **Confirmation classes** and get your curriculum. Look for registration sheets on the information walls both upstairs and downstairs. Turn in your registration sheets to Chris before our first class on January 8 at 11 am. Confirmation is for all youth 8th grade and up and their families. There is a class fee of \$75.

Spring Calendars are available this month! Watch out for them all over the place and in your mailbox at home!

Youth Disciple begins on January 22 for any Sr. High youth who are interested. This Bible Study runs for 8 weeks during the 11am service in the Sr. High Room, and there is no cost for materials! Sign up on youth bulletin boards before January 18.

Let's Be Real: A workshop focusing on teenage sexuality will take place on February 10 & 11 in partnership with St. Andrew. This 2-day event will help to answer questions & curiosities youth have about sex, while exploring how sexuality and choices that you are forced to make every day can become blessings and burdens in your life. There is a small fee for the weekend, registrations will become available in mid-January. 6-8th graders from SLY will meet with other 6-8 graders from St. Andrew, and 9-12th graders from both St. Luke's & St. Andrew will meet together.

The weekend will be co-led by Chris Wilterdink and Mike Ratliff, who wrote the teenage sexuality curriculum for the United Methodist Church. We are still in need of adults who would be willing to help lead small-discussion groups for the weekend. Training & materials are provided. If interested in helping lead discussions, please contact Chris ASAP!

Sr. High Ski Retreat February 17-20 in Steamboat Springs. Registration sheets are available, and can be turned in any time before Feb 8. Youth have the opportunity for two days of skiing on Saturday and Sunday. The retreat will leave Friday Jan 17 at 4pm and return on Monday, January 20 in the afternoon. Retreat cost is \$90, not including lift tickets or equipment rentals.

Spring Retreats! March 10-12 YouthQuest for 6-8th graders. Register for this retreat by Valentine's Day. This is an excellent weekend in the mountains full of worship and wackiness, with over 500 other middle schoolers at the weekend! We want as many middle schoolers as possible to go on this retreat, so contact Chris or Ann if you want to go! March 31-April 2 **Up With Youth** for 9-12th graders. Registrations for this Sr. High retreat will be available in the middle of February so watch for them soon!



We had a blast at last year's ski retreat in Steamboat. Will you make this year's trip even better?

MINISTRY BEHIND THE SCENES: FIDDLER ON THE ROOF

St. Luke's Wesley Players November production of *Fiddler on the Roof* was a resounding success! More than 125 people gave approximately 7000 hours in service to the production. After paying production expenses, the Wesley Players donated \$12,000 to the St. Luke's Mission Team Chairs: Gene and Dawn Branch and Peter Reif to benefit International Missions and Gulf Coast Relief.

Clearly, drama ministry is about outreach and mission. We seek to minister to those attending a production through our message and the donations we raise directly benefit St. Luke's missions. What may not be so evident is the "invitational and relational" ministry occurring "behind the scenes".

As an honorary member of St. Luke's by employment, I was privileged to participate in the "Fiddler" production. At first it took some time to feel comfortable, but as we began rehearsals and people began to figure out that I was "Ms. Kay", I felt a part of the family of St. Luke's. Drama has been a part of my life from a very young child, but having a family of my own put that part of my life on hold. It brought back such happy memories and it was fun to bring so much pleasure to others. The big pay off for me was when I came to the Cantata and recognized so many faces and felt a connection! Thank you for making me feel a part of it all! —Blessings, Ms. Kay

Fiddler on the Roof was a very special experience for me. Pris and I watched the original cast of Fiddler in London in 1967, and it had always been meaningful for us as we raised two girls to be married to sons-in-law. When we discovered the church was seeking a large cast of Fiddler participants, we decided I should try out. My resume read "I have never done anything even remotely like this ever before in my 63 years" (when I was in high school and college, my extracurricular activities centered on football and track). I was quite surprised to be cast as a Jewish father, but I truly enjoyed the experience and the camaraderie. It was exhausting as it was exhilarating to learn to do something so new for me. There is a parallel in the relationships in athletics compared to this performance, especially when the quality of the "team" is as exceptional as the Fiddler cast.

Two days after the completion of the final performance of Fiddler on the Roof, Pris and I left with eleven others from the church and my sister from New York state for a trip to the Holy Land. Also on the trip was Bill Dearasaugh, when we were in the Old City of Jerusalem in a church (Church of St. Anne in Jerusalem) known for its exceptional acoustics, Rev. Janet Forbes asked Bill and me to sing "Sabbath Prayer" for our tour group. My sister and Rev. Janet said it brought tears to their eyes, it was a great experience to sing "Sabbath Prayer" in such a setting. Thanks for all you do to make the music at St. Luke's beyond my wildest expectations. —Rich Spong

Drama Ministry is both a family and an intergenerational ministry and **many** families participated in *Fiddler*. Husbands and wives, brothers and sisters, parents and children, grandparents and grandchildren all worked together to tell the story of Tevye, the dairyman and his family and friends learning to find a balance between important traditions and inevitable change.

It's easy to interact with others having common interests in the same age group. Drama Ministry is unique, because it offers the chance to meet and get to know so many church members across all ages and interests. I'm so thankful for the chance to be friends with Meredith, Ryan, Molly, and Samantha! —Judson Byrn

Just wanted to say that it was particularly fun for Bill to share the Fiddler experience with our granddaughter, Molly Howard. Since this was her first production, it was a great introduction, to do it with her grandfather, and then see how the whole cast became her family. Molly, age 8, has plans for lead parts in upcoming productions! —Judy Dearasaugh

BECAUSE St. Luke's Drama Ministry is invitational, relational and missional, it is a "safe" place for kids to try something new and still be accepted by their peers. My kids LOVED being a part of the "Fiddler" cast. It gave my son more self confidence being in front of people. He also had the chance to get more acquainted and friendly with some of the kids he will be with in SLY (Youth Group) in a couple years. I loved meeting more friendly faces from church and experiencing the fellowship and friendship in the air during production week, when I helped out behind the scenes. My kids still see their "Fiddler" friends, adults and children alike, and call them by their "Cast Names." I appreciate everyone that took my children under their wings and made their first Drama adventure so rewarding and positive. I know they are eager to be a part of the next production here at church! —Susan Hooke

Of course, Fiddler was a special opportunity to get to know people we had never met before and to know our friends better by chatting, mostly backstage or in the pews while we waited for our scenes to come up. I had the very interesting experience of getting to know someone while on stage. Each time we rehearsed "The Rumour", we shared the items in our baskets with each other. At first, I didn't have much of anything beyond a piece of cloth, while she had an interesting black napkin with a nice design. Next rehearsal I had an appliquéd towelette. She had the same napkin. Meeting again in the village, I proudly showed a hand-crocheted sachet bag from the twenties. Her basket held a deep red cloth. Well, I added an antique potholder that my grandmother gave me, then some real grapes...ho hum. She had a filthy novel under her napkin! Our on stage chat had become a private game which we never planned or discussed. My favorite was when she revealed a hockey puck nestled in her shopping basket, and said in a perfect Russian accent "You know those Russian hockey pucks, they are the best." —Debbie Lawrence

What a treat it was to portray Tevye! Not only could I relate as a father of daughters who will all-too-soon be coming of age, but it gave me the chance to really dive into a story of dealing with change. It was enlightening to discover and cultivate Tevye's relationship with God: a deeply intimate, personal, loyal, and at times argumentative friendship that could withstand all sorts of trials and challenges. What an example for us and what an inspiration to me as this past year I had my employer acquired by another company and I lost my father to a long battle with heart disease. Being able to express my love for my dad and to worship God through this artistic expression was a most needed and appreciated gift at a tender moment in my life.

Artistic expression is essential in my own spiritual life. Whether singing, praying, teaching, coaching, acting, playing an instrument, I have always needed an outward means of sharing myself. Everyone has different needs and gifts to share in this big tent we call church. Find your voice! Share your song or story! For me, the music and drama ministry here fulfill that deep need. —Kevin Larsen

Thank You to all who supported *Fiddler* on stage, behind the scenes and in the audience—we couldn't have done it without you!

—James & Leigh Ramsey



FEBRUARY 2006 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
January 29 8, 9:30, 11am: Worship - "Head Spirituality" 2pm: Godspell Auditions	30	31	February 1 6-9pm: WNL	2	3	4
5 8, 9:30, 11am: Worship - "Mystic Spirituality"	6	7 6:30-8pm: Swing Dance Lessons	8 6-9pm: WNL	9	10	11 7pm: Benefit Concert
12 8, 9:30, 11am: Worship - "Heart Spirituality"	13	14 6:30-8pm: Swing Dance Lessons	15 6-9pm: WNL	16	17	18
19 8, 9:30, 11am: Worship - "Kingdom Spirituality"	20	21 6:30-8pm: Swing Dance Lessons	22 6-9pm: WNL	23	24	25
26 8, 9:30, 11am: Youth Sunday	27	28 6:30-8pm: Swing Dance Lessons	March 1 6-9pm: WNL	2	3	4 6pm: Dinner Dance

St. Luke's United Methodist Church invites you to find new life through Jesus Christ. Engage your heart and mind within a community of faith that seeks to integrate scripture, tradition, reason and experience. Wherever you are in your life, you will be accepted and encouraged to grow spiritually, live relationally and walk in mission, as you relate your daily life and your faith. Join us in growing together toward full humanity through living the teachings of Jesus: Love, Acceptance, Justice and Hope.


The CHRONICLE
 St. Luke's United Methodist Church
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 303-791-0659 • www.stlukeshr.com

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