



Highlands Ranch, Colorado

November 2006

The CHRONICLE

ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Inside This Issue:

- Education.....3
- Servant Spotlight.....5
- Church & Society.....6
- Children's Ministries.....8
- Music & Drama.....9
- SLY.....10
- Financial Update.....11

and much more!

Candlelight Dinner, Dec. 5!



Please join us for the annual Women of St. Luke's Candlelight Dinner!

This event is always filled with holiday spirit and the warmth of fellowship with the women of our church. Come and enjoy a wonderful meal while socializing with friends, old and new. This year we will also be enjoying a short performance of *Scrooge!* Tickets will be available for sale beginning Nov. 12th in the Narthex. Gather your friends, family, neighbors—any women you'd like to join in this beautiful evening!

This year's event is on Tuesday, December 5th beginning at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. The cost of the event will be \$20 per person. If you have any questions, please contact Amy Ash at 303-799-6079 or aash71170@comcast.net.

Fall Fellowship at St. Luke's



HEARTS FOR MINISTRY

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. —Matthew 6:21

Celebrating St. Luke's and Planning our Future

Be on the look out for St. Luke's purple prayer bracelets! Everyone is invited to wear the bracelets as a reminder of our commitment to our church community and it's future, and the positive effect we have on others locally and around the world. St. Luke's is embarking on our "Hearts for Ministry" stewardship campaign and the bracelets are part of this special three-week emphasis focusing on St. Luke's ministries. You make a difference in the lives of people throughout the year as you worship God with your tithes and offerings. Begin to pray now that God will show you how you can share in "Hearts for Ministry" for others to know and experience God's forgiveness, grace and love. Through prayer and discernment, seek to answer the question, "What shall I render to the Lord for all these benefits toward me?" —Psalm 116:12. Take time to look through the Hearts for Ministry Prayer Journal and the St. Luke's VISION pamphlet. Think about what makes St. Luke's special and what your favorite things are about St. Luke's. From recent surveys, we've heard a wide variety of responses to that question: "Janet's sermons", "Small groups, like Disciple", "The Music", "The People", "The Warmth", "The Opportunities", "Kids' Fellowship", "Education", "Inclusiveness", "SLY!", "Family Fellowship" and more! As we move forward together, let us pray together and build our future together. Join us for worship and brunch on Nov. 19th for Celebration Sunday.

Don't miss
**"Hearts for Ministry"
 Celebration Sunday**
 Worship and Brunch
 on November 19th

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 Mallory.....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
Assistant Children's Ministry Director

Kristina Linn.....x40
Childcare Ministry

Lynda Fickling.....x20
Director of Servant Ministry

Bonnie Funk.....x10
Administrative Assistant

Dave Cupp.....x24
Director of Finance

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

All articles, photos and notices for the December/January issue of *The Chronicle* are due November 15th.

Editor:
Sharon Oliver
chronicle@stlukeshr.com



Rev. Janet Forbes
Senior Pastor

HEARTS FOR MINISTRY – WHAT DO YOU REALLY CARE ABOUT?

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. –Matthew 6:21

“Hearts for Ministry” is the theme of our upcoming campaign to encourage us to be faithful in ministries envisioned for next year. It is more than a theme – its an effort to show how our congregation can make a lasting different in the lives of children, youth, adults, and families.

Stewardship always asks the question: What do I really care about? In what will I invest my life and my resources? I would like for more and more families to enter into the joy of investing in St. Luke's and spiritual formation.

Celebration Sunday is November 19 – “A Day of Great Thanksgiving”. A Celebration Brunch will be served in the Fellowship Hall following each service. The congregation is our “guest”. We will gather in table fellowship and enjoy blessing, conversation, music, and entertainment for the children.

Our Hearts for Ministry Team is asking each of us to consider disciplined, proportional giving. For those that give a percentage of their income now; take another step to two this year toward the biblical goal of the tithe or 10% of the household income for God's work.

Stewardship is not about money, it's about what we do with our money. Our team will be teaching what God has to say about the vital role of stewardship in our personal lives. Author Rich Cunningham has described the four purposes of giving.

- * **Give to honor God.** *“Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” –2 Corinthians 9:7*
- * **Give to serve the needs of others.** *“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, as I have loved you.” –Matthew 35:40*
- * **Give so that you may grow in your Christian maturity.** *“Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries.” –I Corinthians 4:1*
- * **Give out of gratitude to support the life, ministry, and mission of Christ's church.** *“Remember the Lord you God for it is the Lord who is giving you power to make wealth that God may confirm a covenant.” –Deuteronomy 8:18*

Our giving and our sharing of our money is a deeply spiritual, devotional act. Giving is a spiritual exercise, a spiritual discipline just like prayer is a spiritual discipline. Prayer is not something optional if we have decided to follow Christ. It comes with

the job description. Serving other people is not something optional. It is one of the spiritual practices. Worshipping God is not something we vote on. It is one of the spiritual practices. It is the same with giving. It is an act of devotion. It is a spiritual discipline for all Christians just like praying or serving or worshipping. And that is why we call the act of bringing a portion or our resources forward to dedicate to God's work an offering, instead of a collection. It is an offering of our lives and ourselves and our treasure. The money symbolizes our lives and our work. It is a very spiritual thing. We are not balancing the budget here in this act, we're balancing our lives.



HEARTS FOR MINISTRY

GROWING OUR HEARTS FOR MINISTRY – PLANS FOR 2007

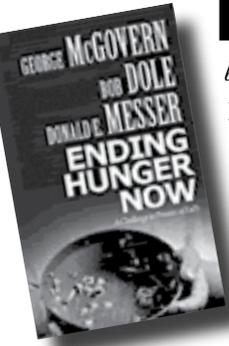
St. Luke's will celebrate our Hearts for Ministry in 2007. We continue to grow our ministries with attention to the wise use of our gifts and God's bounty. The budget for 2007 proposes a 9% increase over 2006. Let us join in prayer for these opportunities to grow in faithfulness and future.

- * The largest single request for 2007 is a full-time Associate Minister (beginning July 2007) serving ministry development (small group ministry), adult education, men's ministries, and young adult ministries.
- * The Trustees are anticipating utility increases, some computer upgrades, and a part-time day custodian.
- * Staff Parish is planning for cost of living raises, increasing insurance premiums, and additional childcare costs.
- * Youth and Children's Ministries plan to increase security measures and support for the new programming, such as Bible Boot, GEMS and STMS, Live B.I.G. and SLY, Jr.
- * Our growing Music Ministries needs to upgrade sound equipment and support new music and drama groups.
- * We plan to increase our growth toward wider mission giving by 3%. We currently meet only half of our apportionments to the United Methodist Church.

Ending Hunger Now

by Susan McIntosh

For the past several weeks, a new adult study class has been studying the book, *Ending Hunger Now*, co-authored, by George McGovern, Bob Dole, and Don Messer (yes, the Don Messer who is a member of our congregation). We have learned many amazing stories and facts about hunger across the globe, and have prayed and thought about how we as individuals can respond.



We realized that part of the message of this powerful book is that people just don't know all the facts around hunger. Certainly, we know that there is hunger in the world, and even here in Colorado. However, it became clear that the more we learned, the more we wanted to do something about it. As part of our ACTION in finding a way to faithfully respond to the world-wide hunger crisis, we felt called to write an article to explain some of those facts, as well as some of the ways we will respond.

- Don Messer and his distinguished co-authors note that **more than 21,000 people die every week because of hunger**. That's like a deadly tsunami sweeping the earth every week. While we do well to respond to major catastrophes (tsunamis, earthquakes, hurricanes), our response to the continual killer is not as aggressive.
- While that statistic is astounding, another way to view it is that **one person dies of hunger every three seconds**.
- If the world population were condensed to a village of only 100 people, it would look like this:
 - 26 people would be severely malnourished
 - 34 others would always be hungry
 - 16 people would have to skip meals several times a week
 - 24 people would have enough to eat
 - 75 people would have access to clean water
 - 60 people would have adequate sanitation
 - 68 people would breathe clean air
- Hunger and poverty, lack of education, and increased risk of HIV/AIDS are all intertwined. If a person is not properly fed, they cannot hope to get out of poverty. Even if education is provided, an empty stomach doesn't help a child focus.
- One of the major issues that people addressing hunger is **apathy**. Either people hear the information and think "I can't do enough to make a difference" or think that Someone Else will help.
- The US responds by providing foreign aid, which is extremely important in many areas. And while the monetary amount may seem large, less than 1% of the US budget actually goes to foreign aid, and that includes aid in the form of military armaments. Another statistic estimates that the US government gives .13 per day per US citizen to foreign aid.

How are we responding? Our class has decided on several different ways to respond, as each individual feels called. Some of these responses include:

- Continue to support local food banks by donating and volunteering (Epworth, Inner City Parish, St. Paul's, Shannon's Hope)
- Educate St. Luke's about the hunger crisis (thanks for reading!)
- Promote economic development through UMCOR, Heifer Project, Cambodia economic development initiatives, investigate ways to help economically in Zimbabwe
- Buy more fair trade products (including coffee and produce) – The fair trade program helps local growers earn a reasonable living based on their crops, and helps them and their families learn to produce more in ways that will keep their land healthy. (see <http://equalexchange.stores.yahoo.net/> for additional information)
- Encourage the government to raise the minimum wage so lower income workers can afford food for their families
- Encourage continued growth of the UN's international school lunch program.
- Ask the US to increase its budget by 1% to provide for basic needs (such as food, shelter, education, and healthcare).

Faith in Action – Class Schedule:

The new study and activity class, Faith in Action, is finishing up their discussion on hunger, with several field trips and other action items planned. We will be starting a new book, *Breaking the Conspiracy of Silence: Christian Churches and the Global AIDS Crisis*, by Don Messer, on October 29. We plan to visit Project Angel Heart and perhaps the Colorado AIDS Project as we discuss the book. During Advent, we will use a study guide prepared by the General Board of Church and Society. Please join the class on Sunday evenings from 6:30 to 8:15pm. For more information, contact the co-leaders, Betsy Keyack and Susan McIntosh.

FELLOWSHIP

CROP FOR THE CURE

Saturday, November 11, 2006
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

\$20 donation for
The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation

Join us in fellowship hall at St. Luke's UMC for a great cause!

Grab your album supplies, pictures and your girlfriends for an entire day of cropping!
Bring a sack lunch to enjoy.

Contact Chris Goldsberry to R.S.V.P. or with any questions
Phone: 303-791-6099 ✉ E-mail: chrisgolds@myexcel.com

Join us at St. Luke's for "Crop for the Cure" from 9:00am-5:00pm. A donation of \$20 is requested – all of which will go to the Susan G. Komen Fund. Lunch and snacks are on your own. **We are hoping to fill Fellowship Hall so tell all your friends.** RSVP to Chris Goldsberry 303 791-6099 or email chrisgolds@myexcel.com

Women's Night Out

Please join us for a fun night of fellowship and food! Monday, Nov. 6, 6:30pm Romano's ~ Highlands Ranch. No reservation needed! Any questions-Kathy Eccles 303-798-9188, kateccles@msn.com; or Cheryl Wolfe 303-683-2593 cwolfricsd@aol.com .
*Note: December we will attend the Women of St. Luke's annual Candlelight Dinner!



Lynda Fickling
Director of
Servant Ministry

We are Called to Serve Serving Opportunities November 2006

*A Ministry of serving others is an act of love for
and devotion to Christ.*

Biblical Passage this month ~Romans 12:3-8

Puppet Ministry Team: This ministry has been a wonderful addition to St. Luke's. If you love participating in a highly unique way to convey Biblical stories to a diverse community and audience, then this is he ministry for you! Come and join in the fun. ALL are invited (adults are especially needed!) Contact: Steve and Cathy Collins 303-346-0275 sccollins@earthlink.net

Grocery Certificate Team: We need folks that can sell these certificates between services on rotating Sundays. Great way to meet new people and help St. Luke's at the same time! Contact: Terri Church all@coloradochurch.net 303-768-0197

**Spiritual Gifts: Administration, Helps*

Altar Team: If you enjoy a creative team, this is it! Not only do they help organize the communion supplies (set up/clean up); they help create the beautiful banners and altar cloths. Contact: Elizabeth Laurvick 303-973-1591 dlaurvick@aol.com or Kathy Swier 303-683-4620 kathy.swier@dscdk12.org

**Spiritual Gifts: Helps, Hospitality, Administration*

Guest Service Station: Great way to meet people and be helpful at the same time! Positioned at the foyer, you are the information central for St. Luke's. Choose to serve one Sunday a month – before or after the service you attend. Contact Lynda Fickling 303-791-0659 x20 lynda@stlukeshr.com

**Spiritual Gifts: Helps, Hospitality, Evangelism (welcoming those in Christ's name!)*

Usher/Greeter Team: Help serve on Sunday mornings with a handshake and a warm smile. If you are here on Sunday, this is the job for you! Ushers typically serve on a quarterly basis. Greeters serve once a month. Prayerfully consider contacting: Shawn Slade denverslade@msn.com 303-660-6113 or Dick Frame rframe5492@aol.com 303-791-4251 regarding Ushers. And Karmie Hilleary karmie@comcast.net 303-683-4696 or Val Goodstein valgoodstein@hotmail.com 303-799-0907 regarding Greeters.

**Spiritual Gifts: Helps, Hospitality*

***As we list the Spiritual Gifts, you may have one or more than one in each area. For further information regarding your Spiritual Gifts/Passions contact Lynda Fickling lynda@stlukeshr.com or 303-791-0659 x20. Realize your potential for living a God-centered life! Join us for the "Servant by Design" class.**

THANK YOU to Deb Payne for her many, many years of devotion to our Grocery Certificate Team. She has been a wonderful leader and very gifted servant. Deb has seen this program grow and change many times over! Thank you, Deb, you are a blessings to St. Luke's!



Week Ending October 13, 2006

- | | |
|--|---|
| Gerry Wright (Gail Abernathy's mother) | Landon Orcutt & parents Mark, Gretchen, brother Mike (Linda Walker) |
| Carolyn Dean | Glenn Barta (Natalie Barnard's dad) |
| Nancy Rawls (Betsy Keyack's sister) | Joseph Streaty (Jon Streaty's brother) |
| Dorothy Lloyd (Sheri Shea's mother) | Eric Edelen (Lisé Takayama's nephew) |
| Jack Taylor (Loree Kohrs' friend) | Carol Taylor |
| Bob Lanham (Ann & Jan Lanham's son/brother) | Beta Collins (Barb Decker's friend) |
| Lisa Maciejewski (Jennifer Jiang's sister) | Sally Morton (Lisa Williams mother) |
| Erienne Romaine (Raap family friend) | Bob Streaty (Jon's brother) |
| Karen Gumz (Sandy Thompson's friend) | Natalie Murrow |
| Wendy Walker (friend of Sheri Shea) | Erin Ortiz (Walter's family friend) |
| Cindy Barlow | Norm Keller (Candy Keller's father) |
| Sturgis Wetherington | Julie Monroe (former member, friend Laurie Gilbert) |
| Jerry Heinz (Rachel Nolder's father-in-law) | Heather Abul-Hawa (Ken & Ann Reck's daughter) |
| Bill Lee, Jr. | Maureen Genger (Sharon Scholle's friend) |
| Grant Larson | Avis Stanley (Joy Damsgard's mother) |
| Linda Kercheval (sister of Tony Palizzi) | Jim Hertel (Sandy Thompson's father) |
| Susan Fritz (friend of Kay Swanson) | Kathryn Bauer (Elaine Carlstrom's mother) |
| Richard VanderKooy (brother-in-law of Rick and Robin Fort) | Loyle Mason (Jim Ramsey's gr. uncle) |
| Janet Blatchford (friend of Samantha Leaby) | Nancy Deardorff (Lisa Lehnus' friend) |
| Jan Winter (friend of Jenny Stevenson) | Tammy McLeod (Betty & Amiel Smith's friend) |
| Shaun Van Dyke (Bobbi King's great nephew) | Theresa Dugan Mentzer (LS mom/ Karen Meade) |
| Louis Pressel (Carolyn Warden's cousin) | Courtney Clement |
| Kathy Eccles | Diana Stephens |
| John Poole (friend of Joy Damsgard) | Brian Day (Eileen Law's nephew) |
| Chris Goldsberry | Mark Roper (friend of the Miyaki's) |
| Kris Kinney | Daryl Schiff (Marya Arnett's uncle/ Lynne Butler) |
| John Sudol (Joyce Carnes' cousin) | June Hutchins (Mike Hutchins' mother) |
| Jan Dickson (Bobbi King's friend) | Brad Ash |
| Jessie Meyer (friend of Gail Abernathy's) | Janice Van Hoosen (Jay Van Hoosen's mother) |
| Dwight Griggs (Susan Hooke's father) | Maria Fox |
| Delores Gardner | Jan Sutcliffe (Leigh Ramsey's sister) |
| Dick DeWire (friend of Pat Ludwig) | |
| Joey Miyaki | |
| Kim Friel (friend of Lynda Fickling) | |
| Amy Curtis' sister, Kay | |
| Beth Turner | |
| Pam Taylor | |
| Al Bierman (Sandi Thompson's friend's husband) | |
| Walt Brewer | |
| Marcie Weeks (Jenita Rhodes friend) | |
| Julia Muse (Karin Weispfenning's friend) | |
| Jenni Keefer (Mike Hutchins' daughter) | |

Sympathies:

- To Scott & Loree Kohrs on the passing of their friend, Jack Taylor, October 6
- To Diane & Bob Whetson on the passing of their friend, Marlyn Gaskins, October 12
- To the Matt Geisenhaver family on his passing, October 11

Looking for a babysitter? Not sure who to call.

No worries, the St. Luke's Babysitters List and Mother's Helper List is here. The list will be available at the nursery counter anytime the nursery is open. Please feel free to stop in and pick one up today or contact Kristina Linn at kristinalinn@netzero.com

NEW MEMBERS



Ove Boldt & Monika Pongratz (Arwen and Zoe)
"Joining a church after moving from Germany."



Patrick Griggs & Roberta Hamilton-Griggs (Taylor and Kylie)
"The people, the music and drama ministries. We wanted to find a place where we could serve and felt served--this is it!"



Monica Lester (husband Chris) (Logan and Jenna)
"We've attended St. Luke's for several years as visitors and decided to take the next step to membership."



Brian & Jennifer Smith (Hannah, Grant and Tessa)
"We are inspired by the mission and service of the people of St. Luke's."



Joseph & Salome Thevarajah (Tamara, Shanelle and Ethan)

WELCOME to St. Luke's!

We invite you to become members of St. Luke's United Methodist Church. **Our "Next Step Class" will be Nov. 5 from 11:00am-2:30pm.** Lunch with Rev. Janet is provided. Childcare is available by making a reservation at least 24 hrs prior to the event at x47. To register, contact Lynda Fickling x20 or lynda@stlukeshr.com

CONNECT IN 2006

Servant Spotlight: Shawn & Amy Slade *by Jill Wright*



Hometowns: Shawn is from Denver. Amy is from Holdrege, Nebraska. The two met in Nebraska, lived briefly in Salt Lake City and have lived in Denver since 1999.

Family: Shawn and Amy have been together for 17 years and married for 11. They have two daughters: Riley, 5 ½, and Emily, 2.

Careers: Shawn sells mapping software for Leica Geosystems. Amy, a former benefits and compensation manager, is a consultant for Creative Memories and a part-time St. Luke's nursery aide.

Joined St. Luke's because: "We were looking for a Methodist church and felt very welcomed and accepted from the beginning," says Amy. "We were impressed with the children's programs which was important to us because we were planning to start a family."

St. Luke's Activities: Together, Amy and Shawn participated in the Home Improvements group for six years, serving as co-leaders the last three. "We joined this group of parents when we were expecting Riley," shares Amy. "Through it we received valuable parenting and relationship support and also grew in our faith and commitment to the church and community."

Amy has been teaching Sunday school for four years and Vacation Bible School for two years. Last year she took on the task of coordinating the St. Luke's family picnic, and this year she coordinated the fall hayride. She has also helped with the Holiday Shop for several years.

Shawn has been serving as an usher for two years and currently co-leads the usher team. He has been assisting with Sunday school for the past year and recently co-founded the St. Luke's cycling club with Brion Antinoro.

Hobbies: Shawn enjoys running, biking and triathlons. He tries to compete in at least one marathon and one triathlon a year and has a goal to run a marathon in every state. Amy enjoys scrapbooking, reading and is actively involved in daughter Riley's school serving on the PTO. The Rileys love to have family time when they can simply hang out and play together.

St. Luke's is special because: "Having such a strong St. Luke's family is very important to us and provided us so much support over the last year and a half during the uncertainty as to whether or not we would be relocating through Shawn's work. Through all the different scenarios and changes, we are very happy to be staying right here amongst all of our close friends and family at St. Luke's."

Hay, Horses, SLY and S'mores!

Despite a little early drizzle and cooler temperatures, we had a very good turn out for the all-church hayride and were also joined by the Youth Group making this year's event fabulous. Everyone was treated to a scenic horse drawn hayride through a meadow filled with cottonwoods, which were still changing colors and were quite beautiful. The fellowship continued with roasting of hot-dogs and everyone's favorite event, toasted marshmallows and S'mores!

Thanks to Christy Wohlleber, Susanne Sharpe, Amy Antinoro, Scott, Karen, Jonathan and Rachel Meade for all of their help in putting this event together.



And a big thanks to Amy and Shawn Slade for organizing this wonderful event. Without their excitement and passion, this event truly would not have happened! Thank you for your servanthood and thank you to those who also helped. We hope to see you all again next year!

God's World is One World

by Susan McIntosh

This is the last in a series of articles about the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church.

"...And we, though many, throughout the earth, we are one body in the one Lord." We sing that phrase often during communion. There is much talk of unity at church. The final section of the United Methodist Social Principles also addresses this unity as it relates to the entire world – our world community. The introductory paragraph lays this out:

God's world is one world... We commit ourselves as a Church to the achievement of a world community that is a fellowship of persons who honestly love one another. We pledge ourselves to seek the meaning of the gospel in all issues that divide people and threaten the growth of world community.

The themes of social justice, unity, and care for those around us that have been mentioned in previous sections are restated here, as they relate to the world at large. Rejection of war is reiterated, respect for other nations and cultures is encouraged, the responsible use of national power is emphasized, and the role of the United Nations is endorsed.

Throughout his ministry, John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, emphasized that the world was his parish. Wesley refused to believe that only those who worshipped in church had a relationship with God; he encouraged his fellow ministers to go out to the world and minister to those in need where they were, rather than expecting them to come into the church building. Additionally, Wesley did not feel that Christianity itself was limited by any boundaries.

I have truly enjoyed writing these summaries of the Social Principles, and hope that they have provided some fodder for discussion, thought, and prayer. Throughout this examination, I have also discovered new and interesting pieces about the Social Principles, and how they fit into the global United Methodist church, and the St. Luke's community.

I would like to end this series the same way I started – by repeating the Social Creed. However, this time, I'd like to provide a work-in-progress creed. The General Board of Church and Society is hoping to revise the creed so that it is more rhythmic, and easy to remember – perhaps one that can be put to music. The current working draft is below.

Our Social Creed

God in the Spirit revealed through Jesus Christ calls us by grace to be renewed in the image of God, that we might participate in God's love for the world.

Today is the day we accept that

- God embraces all hues of humanity,
- cares for the plight of the world's children, and
- weeps as we undo earth's goodness,

And so shall we.

Today is the day we accept that

- God values the health, healing, and wholeness of all life,
- delights in difference and diversity, and
- favors hospitality turning strangers into friends,

And so shall we.

Today is the day we accept that

- God cries at the flood of starving people,
- abhors the rapidly increasing disparity between rich and poor, and
- yearns for the just treatment of workers in the marketplace.

And so shall we.

Today is the day we accept that

- God deplores the violence in our homes and streets,
- rebukes the world's warring madness, and
- humbles the powerful on behalf of the powerless,

And so shall we.

God in the Spirit revealed through Jesus Christ calls us by grace to do those things that make for God's Shalom in our homes, churches, communities, nations and world.



Thoughts About My Church & Stewardship

My favorite thing about my church is:

All the activities available for families to participate in – offering things to do together as a family, as well as having adult and kids' fellowship activities scheduled simultaneously.

I believe it is important for me to be faithful in giving because:

God has blessed my family so much. I need to give time and money to help others to show my appreciation.

I encourage everyone to participate in ministry by giving of themselves and their financial resources to God because:

God has been so good to our country and to us individually. We all can give something back.

-Patti Speedy

My favorite thing about my church is:

The warmth of the messages.

I believe it is important for me to be faithful in giving because:

The group support provided to me in various ministries can only happen with the support of the structure.

I encourage everyone to participate in ministry by giving of themselves and their financial resources to God because:

The more I give, the more I gain: in understanding myself, my community and the world's inhabitants.

Additional comments:

Belonging to "something" is critical to our inner sense of wellbeing. This Christian community offers the like-minded engagement of openness in which I can safely grow.

-Jim Wolff



SLY: ST. LUKE'S YOUTH

"Hoo R U" Retreat - Fun in the Mountains*by Kristen Wangness*

On Friday, September 22nd, 22 junior high kids and 5 adults left for a retreat to Highlands Camp. The girls' cabin was 'Antelope' and the boys' cabin was 'Black Bear'. The theme for the weekend was, "Who Are You and Who Are You Going To Be?" We had fun going to the chapel to do activities to learn more about ourselves and others.

"We experienced a look at ourselves through the eyes of our peers. We also did an exercise where we set goals for our future. It was fun and I learned a lot," said 7th grader Evan Oliver.



We also had quite a bit of free time in which we rock climbed, played games, and hung out in our comfortable cabins. Free time was a time where we explored nature and got to know each other even better than we did before. Everything was beautiful, including the view of the neighboring mountains, the aspen trees with their yellow leaves, the pond, the wildlife, and just about everything else.

Each morning, a group went out for a run (mostly girls) and most of the boys were too tired. Saturday, everyone was woken up by the wonderful magnificent singing Chris, but on Sunday, all the boys were woken up by music from some of the girls. For our meals, we walked down to the lodge, where we had delicious meals. We had s'mores around a campfire Saturday night. On Sunday morning, we had communion.

We were sad to leave on Sunday afternoon, but everyone was glad that they came.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

**LITTLE SCHOOL
News**

Kay Swanson
Director of
Little School

November News

Little School will have a thankful month, celebrating all the gifts that God gives to us daily, in family, friends and food! Chapel time will be centered around our theme, "Put your best foot forward", talking about our fore-fathers and how we appreciate all that they did for us. It will be interesting to see what kind of shoes they wore!

Our annual traditional Thanksgiving Feasts will be held on Nov. 15th and 16th, with a costume lunch, complete with Pilgrims and Native American attire! Lunch will have all the trimmings from Turkey to Pumpkin pie! It is a wonderful time to eat together and share with our friends. The following week of Nov. 22nd to Nov. 26th, will be our Fall Break, and it will give our children and teachers time with their families and a chance to eat LOTS of yummy food!

Once we return to school, our attention will turn to preparation for the Birthday of Baby Jesus! It seems like just yesterday we started school and already we are heading towards Christmas! As we reflect on all the blessings that we have, we count many of you at St. Luke's among those blessings! May each and every one of you have a fabulous thanksgiving (and may the turkey and pie stay off of your thighs!!!)

Blessings, ms. Kay ☺

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Grief Support Group

Holidays lived in the absence of someone dear can be very difficult times. Customary routines are adjusted, some never to be repeated in quite the same way. Easy-going laughter, once so natural, may become awkward or even altogether missing. Gift-giving, once so filled with fun, may seem somehow empty and sad. Familiar songs, once so comforting, may catch in your throat or bring tears to your eyes. Significant loss, rather to death, divorce, or estrangement, brings about many changes in life and how we go about functioning during the holiday season. People who are grieving have many questions: How can I make it through all the events of the holidays while missing so desperately the one I love? Would I be better off to ignore the holidays this year? Should I act as if everything were normal? Should I make major changes in my holiday rituals?

If you are grieving a loss, this Grief Support Group is for you. If you have questions about how to go about this holiday season in the midst of grief, this group is for you. If you have experienced loss in the past, and have suggestions for others coping with "first" holidays, this group is for you.

When: Wednesdays 5:15-6:30pm, Nov. 15, 29, Dec. 6, 13, 20.

Co-Facilitators: Pam Rowley and Sallie Suby-Long
Please register with Pam at x32 or pam@stlukeshr.com

This Advent season we are asking families to donate a star or angel ornament with their family name on the ornament. Bring to the Tree Lighting Ceremony on Nov. 26 at 6:30pm.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



Jenita Rhodes
Director of Children's
Ministries



Lynne Butler
Assistant Children's
Ministries Director



Kristina Linn
Childcare Coordinator

Sly, Jr. – Operation Christmas Child

On November 5th Sly, Jr. our 5th & 6th Grade Fellowship Group, will be assembling shoebox filled with gifts for Operation Christmas Child. These boxes will be sent

all over the world be given to children who might not get any other present for Christmas. Please bring a shoe box or two, a roll of wrapping paper, \$7.00 to cover the cost of shipping and as many of the following items as you want. **Small toys:** cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, harmonicas, yo-yos, hand held electronic games with batteries included. **School Supplies:** pens, pencils with sharpeners, crayons, markers, stamps and ink pads, writing pads or paper, calculators and books.

Hygiene Items: toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap combs, washcloths. **Treats:** hard candy, lollipops, mints, gum, sunglasses, ball caps, necklaces, bracelets, hair clips, socks, T-shirts. *Please NO used items, war toys, perishable items or breakable items and NO liquids of any kind.*

Our Sly, Jr. kids need help for the people of St. Luke's: **WE NEED YOUR SHOE BOXES** – Especially if you have big feet!!! Please drop your boxes by the Missions display in the Narthex. We are also accepting items to go into the shoeboxes (see the above list) or contact Jenita Rhodes for more information.

St. Luke's Worship Bags

Children's Ministry at St. Luke's is providing Worship Bags for the children attending worship to use during the service. The Worship Bag Tree can be found at the back of the sanctuary by the sound booth. They may pick up a bag on their way to their seat or after Children's Time. The bag contains drawing paper, crayons, a little toy or book, a monthly Children's Bulletin to take home and at times a special seasonal activity. Parents are asked to help their child return the bag and it's contents to the Tree after the service. It is our hope that the Worship Bags will not only provide a little something for the kids to do during worship, but also a bit of a lesson in and conversation at home. *Enjoy!*

Discovery Club begins Second Season with a Full House!

Saturday, October 21 saw the lower level of St. Luke's filled with happy faces, loving caregivers and great fun as Discovery Club of Highlands Ranch began again. Discovery Club is a opportunity for children with special needs and their siblings to play games, make friends or create a craft while their parents enjoy some free time. They meet on the third Saturday of the month from October through May from 10:00am until 4:00pm. A joint effort of St. Luke's, Colorado Easter Seals and several area agencies, Discovery Club of Highlands Ranch provides the specialized care needed

in a safe caring and fun environment. Pre-registration is advised by contacting Nancy at 303-233-1666 x. 237 or nhanson@eastersealcolorado.org. There is a minimal fee for each child. St. Luke's supports Discovery Club by providing the facilities and extra volunteer help. You can volunteer for one or all sessions by contacting Nancy or Jenita Rhodes.

Third Graders Receive Bibles

During Worship on October 15 the following third graders of St. Luke's were presented a Children's Bible; Nick Birkholz, Logan Bonjean, Gracie Daniels, Ryan Gabriel, Hayley Funk, Nathan Gothard, Matthew Hagan, Christian Holton, Molly Howard, Jeff Ingell, Chris Jordan, Ashton Kohrs, Jacob Madsen, Chelsea McManigal, Chloe McManigal, Madison Moberly, Emma Richards, Maya Rodgers, Thomson Rose, Parker Schroeder, Kayla Sheppard, Hannah Smith, Kathryn Smith, Michael Smith, Jordan Stevenson, Abby Suntken, Keith Waldheim, Brooklyn Walker, Brent Wester and Adam Venable.

The Bible they received is a newly published New Revised Standard Version especially for children. It contains "callouts" with Icons that highlight scripture or provide additional information. The Icons stand for; PATH – God's Path or the will of God or message of Jesus, COMPASS – Finding the Path. What the Bible says about how to align your life with God's will. FLASHLIGHT – Light on the Path. Key verses worth memorizing and the POINT SIGN – Points along the Path, Facts about Bible lands and life in Bible times. If you would like a copy of this Bible for your older children, several are available to buy in the Children's Ministry office or from Cokesbury Book Store.

Children's Hanging of the Greens

Saturday, Nov. 25 - 9:00-11:00am in Goliath while adults are involved with the decorating of the church's main floor, our children will be happily involved with decorating the Elementary/Youth Sunday School area downstairs. They will also have an opportunity to make a snowflake picture frame, complete a life sized nativity scene, enjoy a snack or watch a Christmas video. Please come and share the first event of the Advent Season with you children. For more information, please contact Jenita Rhodes at the church office.



Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony - Nov. 26th

Join us on Sunday, Nov. 26 at 6:30pm for fun as we begin the Christmas Season at St. Luke's, (and admire our hard work of decorating the day before). We will gather in the Narthex to be entertained by several of St. Luke's amazing musical groups and the Cherubs Choir. We ask each family to bring lots of cookies to share following the ceremony.

CALENDAR

Sun. Nov. 5

Sly, Jr. 5th & 6th Grade Fellowship 6:00-8:00pm. Dinner Provided

Sat. Nov. 18

Discovery Club, Respite Program for Special Needs Children and their siblings

Sun. Nov. 19

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

Sat. Nov. 25

Hanging of the Greens 9:00-11:00am in Goliath

Sun. Nov. 26

PEAK Adventures 9:30am Elem. SS 3rd Rotation – The Gift of Jesus Tree Lighting 6:00-7:30pm

Sun. Dec. 3

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

Sun. Dec. 10

Candy Cane Sunday

Sat. Dec. 16

Discovery Club, Respite Program for Special Needs Children and their siblings

Sun. Dec. 17

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

Christmas Pageant 6:00pm

Sun. Dec. 24

Christmas Eve services: 1:00pm, 3:00pm (Children's) 5:00pm, 7:00pm & 9:00pm

Mon. Dec. 25

Merry Christmas!

MUSIC & DRAMA



James Ramsey
Director of
Worship & Arts



Carrie Mallery
Associate Dir. of
Music Ministry



Kay Coryell
Assistant
Music Director

Upcoming Christmas Events – *Mark your Calendar!*

Hanging of the Greens

Before you decorate or get your tree for home, come join the fun with families and friends decorating St. Luke's on Saturday, November 25th from 8:00am-noon

Tree Lighting

Bring the family to celebrate and watch the 18' Christmas tree light up on Sunday, November 26 at 6:00pm. The Cherubs Choir will sing and carols will be sung. In order to "spruce" up the tree this year, we're asking families to donate one new Christmas ornament.

St. Luke's Annual Christmas Cantata

The 130 Music Ministers will usher in the sounds of Christmas on Sunday, December 3rd at 9:00 and 11:00 services. You won't want to miss this favorite St. Luke's tradition!

Candlelight Dinner

Dec 5 from 6:00 - 9:00pm. Please join us for the annual Women of St. Luke's Candlelight Dinner! This event is always filled with holiday spirit and the warmth of fellowship with the women of our church.

Puppet Show

The Puppet Ministry is having a puppet show on December 10 at 7:00 in the Sanctuary. Come and enjoy one of our children's (and adults) favorite new ministries at St. Luke's.

Christmas Caroling

Dec 15 at 6:00pm

Gloria by John Rutter

During the 9:30 and 11:00 services, the Chancel Choir and Brass will present John Rutter's *Gloria*. You won't want to miss this incredible musical presentation on December 17th.

Children's Christmas Pageant

The children of St. Luke's will be hosting our first Children's Christmas pageant on December 17th at 6:00pm. Watch this amazing spectacle and listen to your favorite story of hope.

Upcoming Events

THE SOUND OF MUSIC

The Sound of Music – Nov. 3rd & 4th at 7:00pm and Nov. 5th at 3:00pm
Don't miss the "Edelweiss Singers" preshow before each performance.

Christmas Cantata – Sunday December 3rd at 9:00 & 11:00am

Music News

Benefit Concerts Raise Nearly \$1,500

During the last two months, the music ministry has presented two very successful benefit concerts. The Sound of the Rockies and Prism (the Brass Ensemble, Wind Ensemble, Ministers of Swing, St. Luke's Youth Jazz Orchestra and Mel Scott Group) concerts raised nearly \$1,500 for the Poland missionary church, the Zimbabwe Orphanage and the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless. Thanks to all the music ministers for their dedication to make an impact on our local and global community through their gifts and musical talents! And thank you to the community of St. Luke's who come to support these wonderful concerts!



Christmas Cantata Retreat - November 11

For this Christmas Season, the music ministry is hosting a Christmas retreat for all singers on November 11th from 9:00-noon. The retreat is designed to focus primarily on music for the Christmas Cantata. If you'd like to join this year's annual Christmas Cantata on December 3, please contact Jim Ramsey at jim@stlukeshr.com or call the church at 303-791-0659 x23. Rehearsals after the retreat are Thursday, November 16 and 30 at 7:30pm with the final dress rehearsal on December 2 at 9:00am. Child Care is available by reservation on the website or by phone. In addition, the Youth Choir and Children's choir will be joining us during the morning as well. I look forward to seeing some new faces in the choir for Christmas this year. Are you one of them?

DON'T MISS!

November 2006

- 11/3-11/5 – Youth Leadership Conference (Registration & \$150 due Oct. 11)
- 11/5 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
- Bible Boot 9:30am (9-12 Grades)
- SLY PM *The Sound of Music* 3pm
- 11/7 – Bible Boot 5:30pm (7-12 Grades)
- 11/8 – SLAM 6:30-8:30pm
- 11/12 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
- Bible Boot 9:30am (9-12)
- SLY PM 6:00-8:00pm Youth Led Worship © LIFEspot
- 11/14 – Bible Boot 5:30pm (7-12)
- 11/15 – SLAM 6:30-8:30pm
- 11/17-11/19 – “*Get Outside Your Self*” Sr. High Retreat in Allenspark, CO for all 9-12 graders. (Registration & \$75 due Nov. 5)
- 11/19 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
- Bible Boot 9:30am (9-12)
- SLY PM 6:00-8:00pm YLT
- 11/19 – *DenUM Food For All* 1:00-5:00pm
- 11/21 – Bible Boot 5:30pm (7-12)
- 11/22 – SLAM 6:30-8:30pm
- 11/26 – *Confirmation Info Mtg.* 12:30pm
- 11/26 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
- Bible Boot 9:30am (9-12)
- SLY PM 6:00-8:00pm *Christmas Tree Lighting & Advent Devotion*
- 11/28 – Bible Boot 5:30pm (7-12)
- 11/29 – SLAM 6:30-8:30pm

December 2006

- 12/3 – No SLY AM – Cantata Sunday
- SLY PM 6:00-8:00pm YLT
- 12/5 – Bible Boot 5:30pm (7-12)
- 12/6 – SLAM 6:30-8:30pm
- 12/10 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
- Bible Boot 9:30am (9-12)
- SLY PM 5:00-8:00pm *Christmas Video Scavenger Hunt*
- 12/12 – Bible Boot 5:30pm (7-12)
- 12/13 – SLAM 6:30-8:30pm
- 12/17 – Jr. High & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
- Bible Boot 9:30am (9-12)
- SLY PM 5:00-9:00pm *ZooLights*
- 12/24 – NO SLY AM or SLY PM – *Christmas Eve*
- 12/31 – No SLY AM
- *New Year's Eve*
- SLY PM – *Masquerade Ball*

SLY: ST. LUKE'S YOUTH



Ann Smith
Assistant Youth Director

Chris Wilterdink
Director of Youth Ministries

• Thanks for Pumpkin Patch Success!

We'll have an exact figure in December for how much we raised, thanks for all your time and energy in this year's Patch!

• DenUM Food For All:

Bring Thanksgiving Dinner related items to donate by Nov. 19.

CHRIS'S CORNER

Photos from Chris: Enjoy!



FINANCIAL UPDATE



Dave Cupp
Director of Finance

OOPS! OOPS!! OOPS!!! Now we have a double OOPS!!!! Neither August or September were great months for finances at St Luke's. We did better but still missed the target by about \$10,000. This means we may be down as much as \$30,000 for the year by the end of October even though we were ahead at the end of July.

Today is October 17 and the offerings from Sunday the 15th have been posted. It was a very good offering and maybe \$2-3,000 more than I expected. Seems it was an indication that "we're back." Even the attendance was much better on the 15th.

However, after posting three of the five Sundays in October, my prediction is that we won't quite make it back to the plus side in October but will be closer than the two previous months' progress. If we can keep up the good results we had on the 15th, we will be able to overcome our year-to-date shortage and still make our goal of at least breaking even for the year. The key is everyone catching up with their giving for the year.

My instructions to staff and those who are responsible for spending has been and is to spend what you have to within your budgeted amount – but, don't try to figure out ways to spend more than is absolutely needed.

I always like to say "Thank You." So, I'll go ahead and "Thank You" for catching up on your giving for the year.

Year End Planning: It isn't too soon to start analyzing your year end tax situation. I have some suggestions that may be helpful:

- **This year December 31 is on a Sunday.** Offerings we receive on that day will be recorded as 2006 contributions even though we will not count and deposit them until January 2. Any offerings received on or after January 2, via mail or in person, will be recorded as 2007 contributions.
- **If you plan to transfer stocks or bonds** to St Luke's for your contributions, you should get that started well in advance of December 31. Sometimes it takes a few days for the transfer to post. If the transfer is posted to the St Luke's account on or before December 31, it will be counted as received in 2006. We have an account at Schwab which you can use for these transfers. Contact me for the account number and assistance.
- **If you are 70½ or older and have an IRA,** you can roll over up to \$100,000 per year to St Luke's tax free. This is especially helpful if you are in a situation where you don't need the income but must take a mandatory distribution from your IRA. Contact me or your tax professional for more information.

Electronic Funds Transfer Program (EFT): This program continues to grow. Each month we have more participants in the program both for general pledges and for grocery certificates. Don't forget that you get a free \$25 certificate if you sign up for the grocery certificate EFT program. See the announcements about this free certificate program for details.

TRUSTEES CORNER

Mission: De-clutter

Our spruce up and de-cluttering continues this month. We thank you all for your patience as we completed the vinyl floor replacements throughout our kitchen, most of our bathrooms, and the "John" classroom! When you see him, please help us to extend a big thank you to Barry Curtis who has done an amazing job installing new wainscoting and trim in several bathrooms. His professionalism and attention to detail really made such a difference!

Trustees continue to support straightening and cleaning efforts in anticipation of the holiday celebrations and events. We recognize the efforts of the staff for their attention on all of the classroom and office spaces. What a difference some paint, organization and sorting has done for our building!

Speaking of cleaning – the Trustees have engaged Nancy Cerica-Joens, a professional janitorial service. Lisé Takayama, a recent addition to the Trustees team, will serve as primary contact between the Trustees and the service. Because the service works nights and most of us are in and out of the church during the day, there is a notebook in the office where janitorial related questions or concerns should be written. The service will provide responses overnight on any new entries. By the same token, if they have questions of the church, they'll write them and we can respond during the day. Our hope is through on-going communication between the parties we'll be successful in maintaining a much cleaner church home.

Our next project will be to provide pictures and instructions for everyone using our spaces to be able to refer to and help to keep our de-cluttering and cleaning momentum going! These will be posted prominently within each space. If you'd like to participate in this effort, or join the Trustees team, please let us know by checking in with Ken Fong at kfong@att.net. As we continue to grow we always welcome more hands in helping us to keep things well cared for at St. Luke's.



At the Puppet Appreciation Dinner on Oct. 14th, those who adopted puppets were treated to a puppet show, a tasty spaghetti dinner and a photograph with their adopted puppet. At left, Angela Alderson and members of her family pose with their puppet.



The CHRONICLE

St. Luke's United Methodist Church

8817 S. Broadway • Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

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*St. Luke's United Methodist Church
welcomes you to our Christian family,
where we share life. Wherever you are in
your faith journey, you are accepted and
encouraged to grow spiritually.*

*Join us in growing together toward
full humanity through living
the teachings of Jesus:
Love, Acceptance, Justice and Hope.*

NOVEMBER 2006 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
October 29 Hearts for Ministry All Saints Sunday 8, 9:30, 11am: Worship noon: SLY YLT Pumpkin Patch 6pm: SLY PM	30 Little School Fall Harvest Festival Pumpkin Patch	31 Little School Fall Harvest Festival Pumpkin Patch	November 1 WNL (No Kidz Prayz or Tone Chimes)	2 7pm: The Sound of Music	3 7pm: The Sound of Music YLT Conference	4 7pm: The Sound of Music YLT Conference
5 Hearts for Ministry 8, 9:30, 11am: Worship 11am: Next Step Class 3pm: The Sound of Music YLT Conference 6pm: SLY PM	6	7	8 WNL	9	10	11 CROP for the CURE 9am-5pm
12 Hearts for Ministry 8, 9:30, 11am: Worship 10am: Fall Festival 6pm: SLY PM	13 7pm: Trustees	14 7pm: Adult Education meeting	15 WNL (No music program)	16	17 Senior High Retreat	18 Sunday School Workshop Senior High Retreat 10am: Discovery Club
19 Hearts for Ministry CELEBRATION Sunday with Brunch 8, 9:30, 11am: Worship Senior High Retreat 6pm: SLY PM	20	21	22	23 HAPPY THANKSGIVING!	24	25 8am: Hanging of the Greens
26 Christ the King Sunday 8, 9:30, 11am: Worship noon: SLY YLT 6pm: SLY PM 6pm: Tree Lighting	27	28 7pm: SPRC	29	30	December 1	2