



Highlands Ranch, Colorado

The CHRONICLE

S T . L U K E ' S U N I T E D M E T H O D I S T C H U R C H

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- and much more!*



Little School Brings Color to Bible Stories

The parking lot was overflowing on the evening of April 26th for Little School's "CREATIVE CRITTER" ART SHOW.

Little School was magically transformed into a colorful three dimensional art gallery! Walking from room to room you were able to experience Bible Stories such as: the Creation, Jonah & the Whale, Daniel & the Lion, Noah's Ark and many more through the creative artwork from our Little School children and staff. Thanks to all who worked so hard to put together this amazing display!



A BOLD VENTURE OUR SILVER JUBILEE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

"How long will you wait before you begin...?" -Joshua 18:3

Growing together at St. Luke's!

Check out www.stlukeshr.com and the enclosed insert for more information about our capital campaign. Now through May 13th.

Making a World of Difference in Mississippi

SLY Spring Break 2007 Mission Trip

by Chris Wilterdink

1 week, 2 churches, 43 participants, and a world of difference! Our first-ever spring break mission trip to Ocean Springs, MS was an incredible experience. We stayed at St. Paul UMC, and spread to serve 10 different homes on the Gulf Coast during our week. We painted, tore down porches, painted, built handicap access ramps, painted, cleaned up debris, and yes... painted some more! UMCOR estimates the labor that we donated with our group to be over \$25,000!

One of the most meaningful sites worked on was a home that had flooded 6 feet in the hurricane where the owner was facing foreclosure and had gotten ripped off by several contractors. Our team swarmed to property, tearing rotten things out, bagging trash, and beginning to drywall as well as mud and tape. The windows of this home needed to be removed because they still contained sea water from the flood!



There is still much to be done on the Gulf Coast, but our group was able to see improvements since 9 months ago. Thank you to St. Luke's for supporting this mission experience, it was truly life changing for the participants from our church and Littleton UMC, as well as for the families that we served.

Serving from the Heart *by Jenita Rhodes*

Last month Lynne shared her dream of a walk through the downstairs during Sunday School where she found happy children engaged in meaningful activities and smiling teachers relaxed and relating to individual children. Class sizes would be such that the children would feel safe and important and teachers able to easily manage the activities and the children's needs. Both would leave their time together happy, fulfilled and excited to come back next week. Smaller class sizes would help and **more teachers are necessary** to reduce class sizes.

I have a dream where adults come together to engage in fellowship, learn, grow and find self fulfillment as they plan for the lessons they will share on Sunday mornings. A dream where rooms are filled with children and their adult mentors not so concerned in getting the craft done but in making a connection that is an example of God's love. As we approach our service in Sunday School from a more personal perspective, we will find more personal fulfillment rather than just doing a task that needs to be done. A heart for serving our children is the foundation of our Children's Ministry mission.



continued on page 7

A MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR

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 Minister

Emergency: 303-241-9312

Rev. Pam Rowley.....x32

Associate Minister

Emergency: 720-348-1528

Rev. Dave Money.....x33

Associate Minister

Emergency: 303-932-1035

James Ramsey.....x23

Director of Worship & Arts

Carrie Mallery.....x35

Associate Director of Worship & Arts

Kay Coryell.....x43

Associate Director of Worship & Arts

Chris Wilterdink.....x14

Director of Youth Ministries

Susan Johnson.....x19

Assistant Director of Youth Ministries

Jenita Rhodes.....x27

Director of Children's Ministry

Lynne Butler.....x11

Assistant Children's Ministry Director

Kristina Linn.....x40

Childcare Director

Lynda Fickling.....x20

Director of Servant Ministry

Bonnie Funk.....x10

Church Secretary

Dave Cupp.....x24

Director of Finance

Janet Maxwell.....x16

Assistant Director of Finance

Barry Curtis.....x39

Facilities Manager

Kay Swanson...303-791-1982

Director of Little School



ON MAKING A BOLD COMMITMENT

*Thinking About
What it Means to be a Giver*

As I meditate on the needs of St. Luke's in our Jubilee Capital Campaign, I remember another Bold Venture by another growing people of faith!

The story begins about 3300 years ago, during a time when the Hebrew people were wandering in the desert wilderness under the leadership of Moses. After a period of time, they determined that it would be important to have a place to worship, a holy place, a sanctuary, even though they continued their nomadic lifestyle.

The story tells of the design of a tabernacle in the desert. The facility was fairly large, but also fully portable. It had a wooden frame and was bedecked with jewels, precious stones, and hangings of linen. Over the wooden frame, a tent was draped. Each time the people ceased moving for a few days, they would apparently set up the tabernacle. When they moved on, it was disassembled and packed up for travel. The whole process was perhaps something like the old circus tent that moved from city to city a few generations ago.

Moses needed gifts to build the tabernacle. So a call went out: "Bring your offerings. Bring money or jewelry or precious stones or wood or fine linens. Bring whatever you can give to the building of the temple."

And the people responded. The call went out, and the offerings started coming in.

Then, the most peculiar thing happened! There is no other known story like it anywhere in scripture. The project managers came to Moses with a request: "Tell the people to stop. We already have much more than enough to do what the Lord wants us to do. We are being inundated with offerings. Ask the people to stop bringing them."

So Moses went out among the people and said, "It is enough. Nothing more!"

And the story ends with these words: "So the people were restrained from bringing; for what they had already brought was more than enough to do all the work" (36: 6b-7)

Marvelous! Simply marvelous!

Some day, I would like to preach that sermon. Some day, before I finish my journey as a pastor, I would like to hear a knock at the door from our Finance Director, Dave Cupp, who would say to me, "Rev. Janet, tell the people to stop. We already have more than enough to do what the Lord wants us to do."

And I would stand, in turn, before the congregation and say: "Enough! There is enough. We do not have a profit. We do not have an excess. But there is enough to do what God is calling us to do."

Wouldn't that be a great day?

So, on Commitment Sunday, Mother's Day, May 13, an offering is needed. We seek the kind of bounty that would allow the preacher to stand in her pulpit and say, "Enough! It is sufficient. We are now in a position to really do what God calls us to do as an invitational, relational, and missional congregation."

But, back to our story in Exodus. What was the key to the success of Moses' offering for the Tabernacle? How did the people get to the point of "more than enough"?

I would like to think that the experiences of the Exodus had changed the people. God had freed them from the bondage of slavery. God had led them into the wilderness; given them food and water, and made them a distinctive people in the 10 commandments. I would like to think that their experience of following God, of trusting God, had made them different, more trusting, more generous, willing to put God to the test to provide enough.

Conversations about a bold venture among people of faith are truly different. They are different in part because you and I, like the Hebrew people of the Exodus, are being made different. We are being reconstructed.

As important as new youth space, and classrooms, and staff support, and care for our home are, giving is not about the receiver or the gift but the giver. It's for the giver. One doesn't open one's wallet to improve the world, although it's nice when that happens; one does it to improve one's self. I give because it's the only concrete way I have of saying that I'm glad to be alive and that I can earn my daily bread doing what I love. Giving is a way of taking the focus off the money we make and putting it back where it belongs – on the lives we lead, the families we raise, the community that nurtures us.

Someone once told me, "If you want to do something that will shape your life and the lives of thousands of people for the next fifty to one hundred years, help build a church!"

I think we'll find in the end that we got far more than we ever had, and did more good than we ever dreamed. *Thanks be to God.*

New St. Luke's Member's Service

Please sign up your business or service in our new Service Directory. Let other church members know what you do so they might choose services from our membership. Forms available in the Narthex at the "Get Connected" table. **Dave Fornof** 303-683-8825

All articles, photos and announcements for the June/July issue of *The Chronicle* are due May 20th.

Editor: Sharon Oliver
chronicle@stlukeshr.com

THE SPIRIT OF ST. LUKE'S



More from Les: #7, The Earless Rabbit

*"For we rejoice when we are weak and you are strong.
This is what we pray for, that you may become perfect."
—2 Corinthians 13:9*

Rev. Les Ludlam
St. Luke's Lay/
Associate Pastor
1993-1997

When she was 12, my great-niece, Mariah raised Netherlander Dwarf rabbits. Partly for fun and partly, I think, to make a little pocket money.

One evening, Betty and I had dinner with the family. After dinner, Mariah brought out her newest baby bunnies. There were two. One was glossy black female and the other a soft gray male.

Beautiful bunnies! They didn't have names, just numbers.

"The black one is number 6," said Mariah, "and the gray one is number 7." They were nothing but cute!

"But," she told me, "Look closely at number 7. See anything wrong? Number 7 doesn't have any ears!"

Number 7 was defective! He couldn't be sold to a pet shop, and couldn't be shown in competition. Number 7 was not worth much as a livestock investment!

But there he was. *Alive!*

Some rabbit producers destroy deformed or defective animals at birth. But not so for Number 7. Infant rabbits have no fur and are very vulnerable to temperature changes. If you separate them from the mother or others in the litter, they will die from loss of body heat. Numbers 1 through 5 had been stillborn. Only two in the litter had survived. So Number 7 was needed for his body heat, to help keep his sister, Number 6, warm and alive!

Number 7 was different, he had no ears, but he was valuable. He brought life to those close to him! And number 7 would always be different. He could not grow new ears, but he could become a normal adult rabbit in all other ways. Number 7 lived because he had the power to save the life of another, his sister.

You'll be glad to know that Mariah was able to sell Number 7 as breeding stock to someone else who was also raising Netherlander Dwarf rabbits.

The last I heard about him, he had lived to a ripe old bunny age of 7.

Number 7 has a message for all of us: *We don't have to be perfect to be valuable, to help someone else!*

We may not match some arbitrary standard of perfection, or correctness, or stylishness, but we are worthwhile. And we can be very important for another person! Number 7 had unknowingly helped his sister live. Number 6 didn't expect it, in fact, she didn't even know. Only Mariah knew.

Sometimes, as it was with Number 6, our help can come unexpectedly, from unanticipated sources. Help for our day-to-day struggles may come from the least expected places, sometimes from right next to us.

However, we're different from Number 6 and Number 7; we are aware of our need and we understand when that help arrives. We must be open and accepting when help comes to us. We must recognize our weakness and affirm our need for help. And we can learn from those who were not alone in dealing with their own struggles. But, how many times have we said, "O, don't worry, I can handle this myself!"

Let me tell you of a "purely hypothetical" person... I'll use a neutral name of "Francis."

Francis likes to think life can be controlled. Francis tends to put forth a confident face and assures all those within hearing that whatever may be causing frustration or pain or feelings of separation can be handled. To Francis, asking for help suggests incapacity, incompetence. Francis is an island, a rock. No one is going to penetrate that barrier to see any weakness or uncertainty. Unfortunately for Francis, no one is going to be able to give or receive much love either!

Francis may feel a bit lonely at times and I think that Number 7 has an important message for Francis: *The warmth of two together is more than two separated.* Where there is a sharing of the burdens of life, there is a synergistic effect. The combination of that which each one brings to a situation can be much greater than the sum of individual parts.

"Francis," we say, "Open up a little! Let your guard down! Accept that which is given freely with no intent or expectation of receiving anything in return. You are missing some great pearls of life!"

Is there not a little of Francis' desire to avoid showing any weakness in ourselves? Can we accept the warmth of an odd, earless Number 7? Do we have the strength and will to ask for help when we need it as we travel the sometimes difficult path that leads to faith?

And, while we may not be perfect, we too can be source of unexpected help for others. Number 7, didn't have much choice in his help for his sister, he was "just there." But we often do have a choice to make when it comes to helping others. We must offer what we can when we see the need, whether we are asked or not.

God bless us all! —Rev. Les



Grant Fund Provides Consultant in Ministry Development

Rev. Marla Kauerz
Consultant in Ministry Development

Rev. Janet and the Staff Parish Relations Committee are pleased to welcome Rev. Marla Kauerz as Consultant in Ministry Development. With thanksgiving for a grant from the St. Luke's Gift Fund, SPRC has asked Rev. Marla to support the Adult Education Committee as they get ready for the fall 2007 classes. She will also be working with the clergy and congregational care teams to establish ministries for support in life transitions: marriage and relationships, divorce adjustments, and parenting. She is also consulting in Ministry Development as the Executive Board seeks to adjust our governance structure and enhance communications, leadership growth and small group formation. She will be working with us through the fall as we get ready to transition these responsibilities to a new associate pastor.

Rev. Marla is an ordained deacon in the Rocky Mountain Conference of The United Methodist Church and has served St. Andrew, Christ (Denver), Hope, and the Colorado Council of Churches.

Welcome Rev. Marla! She can be reached at 303-791-0659 x44 or marla@stlukeshr.com.



Lynda Fickling
Director of
Servant Ministry

We are Called to Serve

Invitation to Serve - May 2007

Inviting God Into Your Life

As the Director of Servant Ministry, I invite you to reflect on your life to see where you are inviting God in! As a Christian, I understand giving time to serving in ministry is not an option and something Jesus calls us to do. He called his followers to make life changes and commitments. Jesus made it clear that he expected people to be actively serving and seeking him.

Here are a few ways to invite God into your life:

- **Prayer** – try sitting still for at least 20 minutes a day. Try not to think about anything (easier said than done!) and listen to your breathing. Listen for God... Psalm 46:10
- **Serving Others** – How much time are you willing to give to change your life and others? We have many opportunities to guide you... classes, special projects, missions, etc. Be willing to go outside your comfort zone and take a risk. God can't steer a ship that isn't moving!
- **To help you on your journey** – contact me and we will sit down to converse your personal needs, passions, spiritual gifts that God has given especially for you! We are the body of Christ, each member is just as important as the other. Discover and uncover your gifts. Ephesians 4:11-13

I am dedicated in equipping all who seek to serve as Jesus taught us to do but more importantly to help you grow and deepen your relationship with God.

Welcome Team: We will be having many First Time Guests (!) joining us through the summer months. This vital team is a friendly extension of our hospitality at St. Luke's. This team is responsible for dropping a "welcome gift" off at their home after they have visited St. Luke's 2-4 times. Spiritual Gifts: Hospitality

Contact: Wally Sackett 303-794-4303 wsackett@comcast.net

Greeters: An open invitation for warm, hospitable persons to be on our "sub" list for Greeting. This is especially needed during the summer months and special events. Spiritual Gifts: Helps, Hospitality

Contact: Val Goodstein 303-799-0907 valgoodstein@hotmail.com or Karmie Hilleary karmie@comcast.net 303-683-4696

Ushers: We are inviting you to serve as part of the worship team, to help on Sunday mornings and special events. Our job is to assist in making everyone feel at home before, during and after the services. We typically serve three months out of the year (e.g. January, May and September). Also we would welcome those who would like to substitute as needed. Spiritual Gifts: Hospitality, Helps

Contact: Shawn Slade 303-660-6113 denverslade@msn.com or Dick Frame 303-91-4251 rframe5492@aol.com

*If you feel called to help others Discover & Uncover their gifts/passions, please contact Lynda to join a new, developing team! Lynda Fickling lynda@stlukeshr.com or 303-791-0659 x20. Realize your potential for living a God-centered life!

*For more on servanthood, "Servant by Design" an 8 week course, is offered throughout the year. Contact Lynda for more information.



Week Ending April 19, 2007

- | | |
|--|--|
| Gerry Wright (Gail Abernathy's mother) | Brenda Schafer |
| Sturgis Wetherington | Elizabeth Peterman (Paul Peterman's mother) |
| Bill Lee, Jr. | Fran West |
| Grant Larson | Rudi Benedix (Peter Walheim's brother-in-law) |
| Janet Blatchford (friend of Samantha Leahy) | Nora Weyand (Grace Fawcett's daughter) |
| John Poole (friend of Joy Damsgard) | Leslie Thompson |
| John Sudol (Joyce Carnes' cousin) | Eileen Law |
| Dick DeWire (friend of Pat Ludwig) | Michelle Viytko |
| Kim Friel (friend of Lynda Fickling) | Kim Uselman |
| Beth Turner | Mary (Brenda Schafer's friend) |
| Al Bierman (Sandi Thompson's friend's husband) | Fanelle Laughlin (Lisa Williams' aunt) |
| Walt Brewer | Becky Williams (Jeff Williams' sister) |
| Jenni Keefer (Mike Hutchins' daughter) | Charles Hardin (family friend of Lisa Williams) |
| Landon Orcutt (Linda Walker's cousin) | Burt Sahli (Diane Whetson's father) |
| Avis Stanley (Joy Damsgard's mother) | Greg Lucero |
| Jim Hertel (Sandy Thompson's father) | Jerry Kirkpatrick (Kerry Lucero's father) |
| Loyle Mason (Jim Ramsey's gr. uncle) | Annie Fuglevand (Sharon Scholle's friend) |
| Brian Day (Eileen Law's nephew) | Katie King (Bobbi & Truman King's daughter) |
| Peggy Dunnigan (Kristina Linn's grandmother) | Mark Breen (Ms. Tushka's husband/LS) |
| Brent Webber (friend of the Harry Cushing family) | Joyce Eyer |
| Sandra York (Pam Rowley's friend) | Richard Keeley (Rachel Nolder's father) |
| Carol Merrill (Sherry Merrill's mother) | Ashley Dreyhouse (Carolyn Warden) |
| Joe Forbes (Janet Forbes' brother) | McKay Smith |
| David Hartman (Jill Wright's brother) | Sherry Merrill |
| Carolyn Lehnus (Lisa Lehnus' sister-in-law) | June Hutchins (Mike Hutchins' mother) |
| David Koch (Kay Swanson's assoc. pastor) | Erin Hornbarger (Patrick Griggs' sister) |
| Peter Quick | Nancy Goodwin (family friend of the Griggs) |
| Jane Riegel | Katie Wieland (Rev. Janet's family friend) |
| Jackie Lehnus (Lisa Lehnus' mother) | Carolyn McIntosh |
| Yates Power (friend of Andrea Mezger's) | Guillermo Rodriguez, Sr. (Guillermo Rodriguez's father) |
| Courtney Nyberg (Kay Swanson's niece) | Ross Barnard's mother |
| Norma Harris | Mike Hutchins' son-in-law Brian Jacqueline Tinsmon (Ms. Michelle's daughter) |
| Betty Kieser (Bonnie Funk's mother) | Will Campbell (LS parents) |
| Kendall Griggs (Susan Hooke's uncle) | Becky Mossman (Kristin Mossman's grandmother) |
| Ross Barnard's grandmother BuBu | |
| Fred Venable | |
| Harold Johnson (Laurie Gilbert's father) | |
| Owen Schoolar (family friend of Wendy Walberg/Henry/Marilyn Ott) | |

Guide Book & Directory Opportunity!

It is that time again for our *Annual Guide Book and Directory* for our congregation and friends that will be updated and delivered to your homes early September. This book will be the Who, What, When, why and How of our church. A non-pictorial directory of our members and friends of St. Luke's, along with our ministry teams and HOPEFULLY, plenty of our own businesses! If you own or manage a business or would like to suggest a business to be included, don't miss this fantastic opportunity to share with your church family. **These businesses should be local.** "Guide Book" will be sending a representative to our church in mid-June to place phone calls to all of the interested parties. They will have the cost breakdowns for you. We need to send this potential list to them by May 20th. We need the name of the business, Owner/Manager - are they members or not, address/ph#. Please contact Lynda Fickling x20 or lynda@stlukeshr.com or you may sign up at the "Get Connected" table in the Narthex on Sundays through May 20th to be a part of this year's successful Guidebook!

GET CONNECTED IN 2007

Servant Spotlight: Wally Sackett

by Michelle Ellis



Wally Sackett, a University of Texas at Austin alumni, happened upon Colorado in the mid-70s due to a job transfer and knew he would never leave. He married his wife Janet at Emmanuel United Methodist Church in Denver and later became an active member of St. Andrew's United Methodist Church. A move to Highlands Ranch brought Wally and Janet to St. Luke's United Methodist Church

in 2004 and Wally says they feel they found the church home they had been looking for in recent years.

In 2005 Wally retired from a lifelong career in banking and financial consulting and began pursuing some of his passions in life which include volunteering at St. Luke's, motorcycling, boating, spending time with his family (he has two daughters, Michelle and Angela) and taking care of his grandsons and grand-dogs.

Wally took some time to talk to us about his volunteer work for St. Luke's:

Which groups are you involved with at St. Luke's? I just recently became one of three people leading the Spiritual Emphasis Task Force, which is a part of the *A Bold Venture: Our Silver Jubilee Capital Campaign*. In this capacity, I work with Mike Hutchins and Bob West to ensure that we make our Capital Campaign decisions with the proper spiritual perspective. As a part of this, we are working to provide each family and individual at St. Luke's an opportunity to enhance the campaign by focusing on the call of the Holy Spirit. In April we hosted a Prayer Vigil, the Capital Campaign Kick-off Prayer Breakfast and a Prayer Walk. More activities will be planned in upcoming weeks.

I became a Stephen Minister in January. I was drawn to this ministry because I wanted to reach out to others in their time of need. We have a wonderful program at St. Luke's and are blessed with great leadership. The training, continuing education and peer supervision make this a vital program that is reaching out to many people in our congregation.

I am the leader of the Visitation Committee. We visit people who have attended two or more services at St. Luke's. People have reacted very positively to our personal visits to their home and the welcome packet we give them. I find this very rewarding since we have helped encourage many people to join the church.

In addition, I am involved with the Caring Connection Group. I have taken people to doctor appointments, delivered flowers for Valentine's Day and have brought meals to families who have a loved one returning home from the hospital.

Why do you volunteer at St. Luke's? I have found St. Luke's to be a very loving and caring congregation. We have many wonderful programs for all age groups including our youth program, little school, music ministry, mission work and Stephen Ministry, just to name a few. This is a very active church that is growing and reaching out to those in our community. I like being a part of this excitement.

What do you think is the importance of being a servant?

If we follow in the footsteps of Jesus, we feel blessed to have the opportunity to serve others. I am so grateful to be at a point in my life when I can give more of my time and reach out to others. The personal rewards of helping others in need cannot be matched.

WELCOME New Members: April 2007

**John & D'rei Coyle
and Bailey Wilson**

"We feel a sense of Faith
community here."



**Ashlee Falivene
(husband Ian), Madelyne**

"St. Luke's offers a warm and friendly family
environment, one of which I look forward growing with."

Joining St. Luke's
Please contact Lynda
Fickling or one of
the pastors for more
information.

VBS – Lift Off: Soaring to New Heights!

Join us as children become sky scouts and soar into a new relationship with God. Children will experience a panoramic view of God's love, discover 'Power Prayer' Bible verses to fuel their journey, rally with Jesus, who is their friend and launch into action serving others. Vacation Bible School is open to children turning 3 by September 15, 2007 through going into 5th grade.

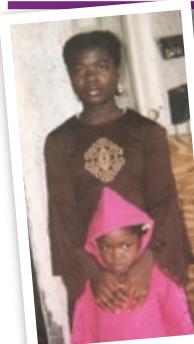
**Lift Off: Soaring to New Heights with God
will be held at St. Luke's**

June 25-29 from 9:00am until noon



Lunch is available on a daily basis for all who volunteered on that day and their children. A potluck lunch is held on Friday.

Registration is \$25 per child or \$15 per child for those who volunteer all five days or are a team lead. Free childcare is provided by our paid and trained childcare staff to parents on the days they volunteer. To register, please complete the VBS forms in the church office and return them. Please complete forms for each child attending VBS. We will need a parental consent form for each child attending childcare. Forms are due by May 31st, 2007 or when our classes are full. At St. Luke's, we strive to offer the best experience possible for our children and parent volunteers by keeping class sizes at an appropriate number. Because of the pre-planning necessary for our program, we will not be able to accept registrations after June 10. Contact Lynne Butler at 303-791-0659 x11 or lynne@stlukeshr.com.



Mission Team Family Update: Our first Liberian family, the Jargbas (Sharon and the 4 children), are living in Philadelphia and doing well. Sharon works at a nursing home, has obtained her green card and enjoys being in a large Liberian community. The children: Comfort 15, Roland 13, Darlington 9, and little Grace 4, are doing well in school and seem to have adjusted to life in PA. They all miss St. Luke's. The Mission Team recently sent them a "Love offering" to help with clothing for the children. For more info, contact Jan Rufien as she talks to them often.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



Jenita Rhodes
Director of Children's
Ministries



Lynne Butler
Assistant Children's
Ministries Director



Kristina Linn
Childcare
Director

CALENDAR

Fri. May 4

*Children's Dinner Theater:
Dinner 5:30pm, Show 7:00pm*

Sun. May 6

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

Tues. May 8

*SChildren's Ministry Team
Meeting 7:00-8:30pm*

Sat. May 12

*Summer Sunday School Workshop
8:30-11:00am*

Wed. May 16

*Adult VBS Study Begins
9:30-11:00am (5 weeks)*

Sat. May 19

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

Wed. May 23

Adult VBS Study 9:30-11:00am

Sun. May 27

*Memorial Day - No Sunday School
Only Nursery: babies to 2's*

Wed. May 30

Adult VBS Study 9:30-11:00am

Sun. June 3

*Promotion Sunday - Summer
Sunday School begins*

*SLY Jr. 5th & 6th Grade
Fellowship BBQ 4th grade and all
families invited 6:00-8:00pm*

Wed. June 6

Adult VBS Study 9:30-11:00am

Fri. June 8

*Sly, Jr. Mission Mania begins
(6/23, 7/7, 7/21, 8/4 & 8/18)*

Sun. June 10

Summer Sunday School Starts

Wed. June 13

*Wacky Wednesday (1) (June 13 &
20, July 11, 18 & 25, Aug 1)*

Adult VBS Study 9:30-11:00am

Wed. June 20

Wacky Wednesday (2)

*Adult VBS Study 9:30-11:00am
(Ends)*

June 25-29

Vacation Bible School

Sly, Jr. – 5th and 6th Grade

Fellowship We will conclude our around the world tour of St. Luke's mission projects in Zimbabwe on Sunday, May 6th from 6:00 until 8:00pm. Laurie Gilbert is bringing several traditional dishes for us to try. (We will have "real food" also.)

She and Tapiwa Macherera (our former missionary in residence) have been supporting the Hope Orphanage at Nipadire Mission for over six years and is hoping to visit again in the near future. We will also be tie dying cloths with natural dyes as they do in Africa.

Then on June 3rd we will celebrate our year with a Pot Luck Barbeque beginning at 6:00 and ending at 8:00. We will welcome all our 4th graders and honor our gradutating 6th graders! Hamburgers, hotdogs and drinks will be provided.

Families with their last name starting in:

- A – M are asked to bring a side to feed 10 hungry tweens and adults,
- N – Z should bring a dessert to feed 25 (Just kidding – I like desserts!)

RSVP's are necessary! (That means tell me you are coming and how many you are bringing so I don't have to send Jon Takayama to Safeway again this year!) Bring lawn chairs or blankets. We will have yard games for all ages

May 12 and 15th - Summer Sunday School Workshops

Its not too late to get in on the fun (*varoom*) we will (*varoooom*) be having (*varooooom*) in Summer Sunday School (*varoooooooo!*) We will be using the Turbo-Charged Incredible Race Curriculum as well as parts of the marvelous movie *Cars!* Final planning and scheduling will be done at our Summer Sunday School Workshops on Saturday, May 12 from 9:00-11:00am or Tuesday, May 15 from 7:00-8:30pm. Please call Jenita Rhodes at the church office as-soon-as-possible to get involved!

Summer Sunday School Begins June 10th.

*There will be No Sunday School Memorial Day,
May 27.*

Promotion Sunday will be June 3rd

All Children's Sunday School classes, Nursery 2's through Senior High will be promoted to their next age or grade on this Sunday. During Elementary and Preschool Sunday School the children and teachers will parade to their new classroom. All teachers and assistants or guides will stay with their class. Please drop your child off at their current classroom and pick them up in their new classroom.

Wacky Wednesdays Children ages 3 (by Sept. 15, 2007) through 3rd grade are invited to join in the fun for six Wednesday mornings beginning in June. This year we will learn about the Parables of Jesus through music, crafts, games, stories and chapel time. The times each day are 9:30-noon and the cost is \$15.00 per child for each day. Our Wacky Wednesdays will be June 13, 20, July 11, 18, 25 and August 1. Sign your children up for all six days or only one. Families do not have to be attending St. Luke's to enroll. Registration forms are available in the church or the Little School offices. The registration deadline is Sunday, May 20th. If you have any question, please contact Tami Clement at 303-791-1982 or email at ma3clement@aol.com.

Nursery News

Dear Mom and Dad, I wanted to thank you for taking me to the St. Luke's Nursery. It's the most magical place on earth! Oh wait, that's Disney Land. But the nursery comes very close. We color, read books, build towers taller than me and race cars faster than that Petty guy dad talks about. And that's only the first 5 minutes. Do you remember that day I was a little sad and they put my very own family number on the screen in church. Wow, they are magic. All you had to do was fill out that registration form and they did the rest. They even said that you could come visit any time you want! But don't worry if we aren't inside when you come, they said we can go outside when the weather is nice. So please don't dress me in that outfit grandma and grandpa wore when they were little. I would hate to get it dirty, and that sand is hard to resist. They also said that I can bring a hat and sunglasses too. Could you put some of that sunscreen stuff on though, my skin is fragile ya know. Anyway Mom and Dad, thanks for letting me enjoy the nursery. You're the best. **Love, Your Baby**

St. Luke's is proud to have a secure nursery with paid childcare workers. All childcare workers are CPR/First Aid certified with complete background checks. We are open for each Sunday service and invite you to stop in anytime.

Nursery Hours:

DAY	TIMES	RESERVATION
Sunday	8:00, 9:30, 11:00	NO
Tuesday	9:00am-noon, 7:30-9:00pm	YES, required
Wednesday	6:00-9:00pm	YES, required
Thursday	9:00-11:30am, 7:30-9:00pm	YES, required
Saturday	8:00am-noon	YES, required

St. Luke's offers nursery care for evening classes held at church during the week. Please call 303-791-0659 x47 to reserve childcare at least 24 hours before the event. This is to ensure that there is adequate childcare providers present. If you need to schedule childcare for an event, all requests are due by the 15th of the month prior. Email your requests to Kristina Linn at kristinalinn@netzero.com. If you choose to schedule an event outside of the above times, there is a minimum of a \$20.00 per hour charge and a nursery room must be available. Please contact Kristina Linn for details.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

**May Makes Memories**

Hard to believe that Little School has almost completed it's 12th year at St. Luke's!

Remembering back in 1995 (or earlier) when

Joy Damsgard and Rev. Bill Selby had a vision for children and it became St. Luke's Little School. The first year began with 84 children and ten teachers in 5 rooms. Today we service 238 children, fill 13 classrooms and have 31 amazing women on our staff. We have seen more than **1700** children grace our school who have been nurtured, loved, cared for, educated and wrapped in the arms of Jesus! We see some of those children return to visit who are now turning 16 and it is almost mind boggling! Joy and Pastor Bill certainly must be happy to see their vision come together and that St. Luke's has been so supportive to our ministry and that we have grown into such an awesome program. My staff continues to grow and learn right along with the children and have fulfilled the needs of so many precious souls. THANK YOU FOR ANOTHER YEAR OF SUPPORT AND PRAYERS!



May is a time of rejoicing and tears. Our 2007 graduates "Step Forward" in their lives, some on to public and private schools or our very important Explorer's program. We have seen them grow in stature, maturity and self-reliance. We have guided them to learn about God, numbers, letters, writing, reading and most importantly PLAY. They have made great friends and the parents have formed close friendships. We feel confident that we have done an excellent job preparing them for their future educational years.

Our graduation ceremonies will be on May 22 and May 23 at 9:30 AM. To complete our year of "PUTTING OUR BEST FOOT FORWARD", our graduates will "Step Out" into the big wonderful world! Our threes will progress to our fours and a whole new group a starry-eyed, shy children will begin their first year at Little School in the fall.

Thank you to the Little School Board for their support and guidance this year. Their expertise has been invaluable! Thanks to Sandi Thompson, Cindy Barlow, Sandi Miyaki, Randy Dunn, Elizabeth Bauer, Tami Clement, Carol Carnahan, Maria Fox, Carole Sue Woodrich and of course our fearless leader, Jenita Rhodes!

May all children be safe and secure in God's arms as they venture forth in this world. We look forward to year 13 which is just around the corner! We know that God will be side by side with us as continue our Ministry for St. Luke's and the wonderful community that surrounds us.

Have a Happy and Blessed Summer from our entire staff!

Blessings, ms. Kay



Kay Swanson
Director of
Little School

continued from page 1

What a gift we have in having so many children! Too many teachers would be a blessing, too.

We need people who can lead a lesson, sing a song and assemble a craft. We also need people to build a tower, listen to a child's story, pose a question, encourage a creative thought or just be a friend. Servicing our children is not hard. The hard thing is slowing ourselves down enough to make the time to let these little sparks into our hearts. That is what "teaching" in Sunday School is all about.

Smaller class sizes? Yes!

An hour together that leaves a glow that lasts all week? Priceless!

You don't need to know the answers. Being a part of a Sunday School is a great way to learn more about the Bible. Did you know that our curriculum Exploring Faith is designed to go through the Bible once every three years?

Is your faith important to you? Do you remember a favorite mentor in your spiritual life? How can you pass this on to the children at St. Luke's?

As we begin to look forward to planning of our next season of Sunday School we are wondering, also, how you are going to minister to the children of St. Luke's. Is it in one of the classrooms or over the chair in the Sanctuary as a little one peeks back at you?

Some suggestions on ways to serve:

Summer Sunday School – We will be on an "Incredible Race" this summer in both preschool and elementary this summer. Our curriculum of ten turbo-charged lessons will lead us from Moses by the Red Sea through Jonah to Bethlehem and Damascus. The themes will include courage, obedience, forgiveness and faith. We already have planning groups working on lesson enhancers, decorations and crafts. Many of our adults are already scheduled but more help is needed, especially in music and preparation. Please consider getting involved for a few weeks this summer.

11:00 Sunday School Team beginning in September – I am looking for an all new curriculum and team for the children in our 11:00 Sunday School this year. I'd like to see it as a high energy, praise worship format with a lesson we can all apply to our lives. There are some great curriculums out there. Come and be in on the ground floor of building this exciting new program.

9:30 Sunday School Team – For each class in Joy Trek, ages 2 years through Kindergarten, we have two or three adults each Sunday. One person from the Teaching Team for each class plans and leads the lesson. The assistants are scheduled to help several times during the year.

For PEAK Adventures, our elementary Workshop Rotation we have Workshop Teams for Art, Computers, Storytelling, Games, Science, Cooking and Cinema. These teams meet to plan and develop a schedule for leading the workshop. A member from the Guide Team for each grade level, 1st through 6th, will set up and clean up the attendance sheets and name tags as well as assisting the workshop leader each Sunday.

Each team is designed to provide greater input in planning, reduce the amount of prep time needed and support each other in providing subs when necessary. The more individuals we have on each of our teams, the fewer total number of times each will be asked to serve during the year.

Next month we will talk about the many other opportunities available to each and everyone of you to connect with a young person in our congregation. Stay tuned!

Contact Jenita Rhodes for more information or to sign up! jenita@stlukshr.com or x27.



St. Luke's Welcomes New Associate Pastor July 1

by Jill Wright

With great pride, St. Luke's announces the appointment of Brad Laurvick as associate pastor effective July 1, 2007.

"I am delighted that the appointment of Brad Laurvick is the first fruits of our generosity in the Bold Venture Capital Campaign, especially since the campaign is focused on hospitality and future," says Senior Pastor Janet Forbes. "Brad is energetic, creative, and bold in the ways that he lives and shares the Christian journey. He and I have worked together for four years to bring justice to the larger conversations of faith. Pam and I will relish Brad's partnership in this place of grace!"

Brad, along with his wife, Meghan (pictured above), and dog, Jack, lives in Westminster. A St. Luke's member since 1995, Brad earned a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies from the University of Colorado, Boulder. He'll receive his Masters of Divinity degree from Illiff School of Theology June 1.

Brad currently works at Trinity United Methodist as director of adult ministries, and for the last year and a half as the worship leader for Fusion, an upbeat and casual new worship service. His other activities include, among many things, interim youth director at First United Methodist Church in Longmont, chair of the Rocky Mountain Conference Council on Young Adult Ministry, delegate to the 2004 Rocky Mountain Conference General Conference Delegation, and chair of the United Methodist Student Movement Steering Committee.

"I knew I wanted to go into the ministry since eighth grade," says Brad. "A lot of things influenced my decision, such as my love of the St. Luke's community and my positive experiences with the youth group and Disciple Bible study. Also, I had an enlightening, life-changing conversation with Leigh Ramsey several years ago. The conversation was instrumental in that she helped me clarify some of my talents and what I wanted to do with them," Brad continues.

Brad's passions are preaching, small group, children's and young adults ministries, creating new worship ministries, Methodist history, pastoral care to marginalized groups, Bible study, music, and exploring new ministries.

A remarkable sequence of events—or perhaps even divine coincidence—brings Brad to us. The placement of United Methodist ministers is a somewhat unique process. When a Methodist seminary student approaches graduation, he or she becomes "available for appointment" by the local United Methodist Conference – in this case, the UMC's Rocky Mountain Conference (RMC). The conference bishop and cabinet then review the talents, strengths and interests of available appointees and match them to churches that have compatible needs.

Of all the available appointees, the RMC felt that Brad was the best match for St. Luke's. "Brad was aggressively sought by other congregations in the region," comments Reverend Forbes. "I am grateful for Bishop Warner Brown's discernment of possibility and promise here at St. Luke's."

About his impending appointment at St. Luke's, Brad says, "I am really, really excited about coming to St. Luke's. "The Bold Venture Campaign is also a thrilling prospect. The energy and commitment people are making demonstrates how we can transform the world."

Please join us welcoming Associate Pastor Brad Laurvick to St. Luke's this July! If you would like to contact Brad directly, please feel free to email him at brad@stlukeshr.com.

Missions Successes: "You've Got Mail" & Opera

The February Mission of the Month, "You've Got Mail," was a church-wide project to collect items to send to the soldiers in Iraq. We filled 23 large boxes and 3 smaller boxes! We also had financial donations that allowed us to pay for the postage and purchase a few more gifts for the soldiers. THANK YOU to everyone who participated! You will make the days brighter for a lot of dedicated men and women!

A BIG thank you goes out to all the participants and donors from the recent St. Luke's Opera Colorado Concert. The amount raised from this event was \$4868! The funds were distributed as follows: \$1000—our Bold Venture Jubilee Capital Campaign on behalf of the youth, \$1500—John Wesley School, Guatemala, capital fund for second story classrooms, \$500—United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) - toward One Great Hour of Sharing offering held in March, \$500—Interfaith Community Services (March Mission of the Month), \$588—Denver Urban Ministries (April Mission of the Month), \$200—Sharon Jargba and family, \$580—Missions general fund used for special needs as they arise—15% of missions proceeds from Music/Drama fundraisers will go into this fund.

Thanks to all for being a blessing to others, near and far, in so many ways!

SLY OnCall-O-Gists: Matching Community Need and Youthful Exuberance!

Need your driveway shoveled? Know of a neighbor who needs help raking leaves? Is there a local organization that could use some teen energy to tackle a one-day project? St. Luke's Youth are embarking on a new ministry project to serve You: the **OnCall-O-Gists**.

We will be an integrated part of St. Luke's support to our local community, joining the Caring Connection and Missions Project Teams. Though we are still in the planning stage we have established two facets to our project. The first, as our name implies, is to be "on-call" for immediate or near-term needs arising in St. Luke's family, and in the community at large. As a compliment to the Caring Connection we will take on tasks requiring a little more muscle, more dirt-under-the-fingernails, and overflow when the staff is swamped with support requests. Running errands and short-term babysitting fit into this facet, and we are looking for all sorts of tasks to match with our skills and resources.

Our second facet is a more organized effort to support community organizations, and would compliment the Missions Project Teams. On alternate Fridays beginning June 8th through August 17th we hope to field a team of youth for more involved tasks. These will range from serving meals at the Denver Rescue Mission, to working an activity through Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado or REI, to sorting and packing food at the Food Bank of the Rockies. We would also like to reach out with "single-day mission trips" to smaller Methodist churches with needs they cannot support.

Our mission requires coordination with you, our congregation. We need to know of opportunities to serve, we need to coordinate with existing Mission teams, and we will need adult support for various single-event tasks. June is our planned start time, so please consider our needs over the next couple weeks. We will have contact and organizational information in the bulletin as we get set up. In the meantime, Steve Treat can be reached at (303) 797-7908.

Through our actions our youth can help bring the word to the world.

MUSIC & DRAMA MINISTRIES



James Ramsey
Director of
Worship & Arts



Carrie Mallery
Associate Dir. of
Worship & Arts



Kay Coryell
Associate Dir. of
Worship & Arts

Weekly Schedule for Music Ensembles

(Summer Schedule may vary.)

tuesday

- 6:30pm Youth Handbell Choir
- 7:30pm Tinntinabulators

wednesday

- 6:30pm Kidz Prayz I and II
- 6:30pm Cherubs Choir
- 7:00pm Tone Chimes
- 7:30pm Sonrise Band

thursday

- 6:30pm Women of Note
- 7:00pm Grace Notes
- 7:30pm Chancel Choir

saturday mornings

- 8:00am Flute Ensemble
- 9:00am Brass Ensemble
- 9:40am Ministers of Swing
- 10:30am Wind Ensemble

sunday

- 8:30am Children's Choir
- 4:00pm Youth Jazz Orchestra
- 5:00pm Off-Notes Youth Choir

Bluegrass/Old Time Gospel Group (Matt Rose) - tbd
Rhythm Saints (Mel Scott) - tbd

All are invited to join the music and drama program. Questions about any ensemble, please contact Jim at x23 or jim@stlukeshr.com or go to our website www.stlukeshr.com to read descriptions about each group.

Read a good book lately???

Don't forget to check out our Library for Adults located in the office!

Or our Children's library located downstairs in the Goliath area.

Summer is a great time to enjoy a new book or two! Stop by for a visit M-F, 8:00am-4:30pm or Sunday mornings!

**Update Database Information!!**

Does our church database have YOUR family information correct? Here is your chance to update your records for our annual Guide Book & Directory. If you have not already informed the church about changes to your record, **please let Lynda know now** so that the information in the Guide Book & Directory is correct. Thanks!! Lynda@stlukeshr.com or x20

Music Man Auditions and Dates:

Coming this fall (SHOW DATES: Oct. 26, 27 & 28) is the Wesley Players production of *Music Man*. Auditions are:

- Saturday, April 28 at noon
- Wednesday, May 2 at 6:30pm
- Saturday, May 5 at noon

Audition material will be chosen from the show for leading roles. If you are interested in a leading or minor role, please stop by the music office after Easter (April 8) to pick up music. The chorus or towns people will audition on either *Wells Fargo Wagon* or *Seventy Six Trombones* which will be taught at the audition. Chorus or town's people may also read for small speaking roles. Children through adult are encouraged to audition. There are a total of 27 named roles in *Music Man*. For more information or questions about auditions, please contact James Ramsey at 303-791-0659 x23.

All Ensembles Concert and Reception - May 12 at 7:00pm come and hear nearly every ensemble in our wonderful music ministry come alive with a few of their favorite tunes. The concert will be a little over an hour with a reception following. All are invited to attend and celebrate another year in music ministry.

Save the Date: Summer Choir Retreat - June 16 8:30 - 11:30am in the Asbury Choir Room - All are invited! Sundays that Summer Choir Sings:

- June 17 - 8:30 practice for 9:30 service
- July 8 - 8:30 practice for 9:30 service
- August 5 - 8:30 practice for 9:30 service

**The Summer Music Theater Intensive** featuring *Honk! jr.*

Classes and Rehearsals: June 4-22

- Monday thru Friday – Group I (Ducklings): 3:45 – 6:20pm
- Monday thru Friday – Group II (Swans): 1:00 – 6:25pm
- Saturday, June 9th 9:00 – noon; Saturday, June 16th - TBA

Age levels (as of 2007-2008 school year)

- Group I (Ducklings): 2nd-6th grade *
- Group II (Swans): 6th-9th grade

Performances: June 21 and 22 at 7:00pm

Honk! jr. Synopsis: Honk! beat *The Lion King* out of the Olivier Award (the British equivalent to the Tony® Award)! *Honk! Junior* is a contemporary retelling of Hans Christian Andersen's classic story, "The Ugly Duckling" and features a *Joseph... Dreamcoat*-like score that kids will enjoy. *Honk! Junior* will be performed with simple sets and costumes.

Themes/Issues Explored: Tolerance, Prejudice, Running Away, and Sibling Rivalry

Group I: Tuition including registration deposit for the three weeks = \$200.00

Group II: Tuition including registration deposit for the three weeks = \$275.00

Younger Sibling Discount = 50% of total tuition (i.e. \$200 / 2 = \$100)

Registration Deposit: \$75. No refunds of deposit or vacation discounts apply

Proceeds from the productions and partial tuition will benefit St. Luke's Mission Team

Complete the Registration, Parental Consent, and Release forms and return with check payment by May 20, 2007 to the Performing Arts Academy file in the main office. Registration Deposit: \$75 (Check payable to St. Luke's UMC). Balance of tuition is due the first day of class.

Questions: Please contact James Ramsey at jim@stlukeshr.com or 303-791-0659 x23

SLY: ST. LUKE'S YOUTH

DON'T MISS!

May 2007

- 5/2 – SLAM 6:30-8:30pm
 5/6 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 - Bible Boot 9:30am (9-12 Grades)
 - SLY PM 6:00-8pm
Concert by Nation of One
 at St. Luke's UMC 6:30pm
 \$2 tix @ the Door



www.nationofone.net



- 5/9 – SLAM 6:30-8:30pm
 5/9 – Senior Dinner RSVP
 chris@stlukeshr.com
5/13 – Mother's Day
 - Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 - Bible Boot 9:30am (9-12 Grades)
 - No SLY PM
 5/16 – SLAM 6:30-8:30pm
5/20 – Graduate Sunday
 - Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 - Bible Boot 9:30am (9-12 Grades)
 - SLY PM 6-8pm **Year End Celebration SLY**
5/27 – Memorial Day Weekend
 - No SLY AM or PM Activities

GET READY FOR SUMMER!**June 2007**

- 6/3 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 - SLY PM 6:30-8pm
Summer KickOff BBQ
 6/10 - Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 - SLY PM 6:30-8pm
6/12 -STM ThrillSeekers
 Rock Climbing 11am
 6/12 - GEMS Swim Pirates' Cove 11am
 6/13 - GEMS Beading & Bible Study (B&B)
 6/17 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 - SLY PM 6:30-8pm
6/17-24 – Sr. High Mission Trip
 to Camp Mechuwana, Maine
 6/24 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 - SLY PM 6:30-8pm
 6/26 – Sub-District Sports Night 6pm
 6/27 - GEMS Day trip to Breckenridge
 6/27 – STM Ultimate Frisbee 6pm
 6/29 – STM Rafting on Clear Creek
 7/1 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 - SLY PM 6:30-8pm



Chris Wilterdink
 Director of Youth Ministries

Susan Johnson
 Assistant Director of Youth Ministries

Congratulations 2007 Confirmands



Way to go 25 Confirmands!

- Caroline Armijo
 Jennifer Ballard
 Michael Barlow
 Danny Beutner
 Jon Coryell
 Kyle Curtis
 Jordan Fickling
 Bria Hutchinson
 Kaitlyn Jensen
 Katie Johnson
 Tyler Kirchhoff
 Annie Larsen
 Jennifer Lukas
 Holly Markel
 Alyssa Markham
 Ashley Martin
 Olivia Murrow
 Joshua Pawley
 Presley Schwisow
 Emily Seale
 Madison Smith
 Trevor Steatry
 William Douglas Tourtillott
 Danielle Trotter
 Colton Willoughby

Youth Sunday
Cirque du SLY-ay:
April 25

CHRIS's CORNER Relate Boldly

1 John 4:16 *And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love, lives in God, and God in him.*

The **Bold Venture** will truly begin on Mother's Day, May 13, when our commitments are made and we can look forward to establishing relationships in a new and powerful way as we explore new ministries because of our relieved debt situation and potential new youth space. Relationships; relating to each other is a cornerstone of a healthy life, and this May SLY will celebrate the relationships to come as well as those relationships that will transition as we graduate up a grade.

You can boldly relate to others by living a life of love. You can live a life of **agape**, a selfless kind of love that can make your relationships incredibly unconditional, and fulfilling. We'll spend time exploring this concept this month at all SLY activities. It's the kind of love our graduates need as we pat them on the back and send them on to the larger world. It's the kind of love our youth need as they graduate up a grade and make new friends over the summer, the kind of love we need to experience as the result of our Bold Venture together.

So this month, take a little time to focus on those that need to feel some agape from you, **relate boldly**, and congrats on moving up! I am so ready for summer!



- ★ **STM Event Calendars now available at SLY info stations.** Sign up for rock climbing, rafting and more. Ultimate Frisbee and Food Wed. nights starting 6/27.
- ★ **GEMS Event Calendars now available at SLY info stations.** Sign up for Beading & Bible Study, Hikes, Spa-Nights, & more
- ★ **Summer Mission Trips:** A couple of spots still open. Contact Chris if interested in joining!
 - **Sr High to Maine from June 17-20**
 - **Jr High to Wyoming from July 14-20**
- ★ **Graduate Sunday on May 20.** Come to worship at 9:30 or 11 to see the Senior Video and receive your gift. Senior Dinner May 9. RSVP to chris@stlukeshr.com to get your seat!
- ★ **Summer 2007 Calendars coming in the mail soon!** Join us for some awesome activities on weekends and weekdays over the summer.

FINANCIAL UPDATE



Dave Cupp
Director of Finance

Janet Maxwell
Assistant Director of Finance

Make Hay While the Sun Shines

Now that the sun is shining, make sure you catch up on any offerings you may have missed during the

winter weather. Our contributions are off to a pretty good start for 2007. Through March we are \$10,258 short of the budgeted amount. In April we are budgeted to receive \$101,000 and through April 20 we have received only \$70,000. There are still two Sundays left in April but we will probably end up a little short for the month. Please make sure you are current on your giving for the year.

NEW Changes in the Electronic Funds Transfer Program (EFT):

We are in the process of expanding our EFT program to include acceptance of credit cards. We have a few more final details and procedures to work out before the program is available for use. You will at least be able to make your contributions to the general fund and the capital campaign with your credit card. Beyond that, we are still evaluating what other items to include and exclude. Grocery certificates will not be included due to the low profit margin. However, other fee based programs such as some of the drama events, youth events and mission trips may be included.

When we are up and running, you will be able to enroll as we have been doing in the past either with ACH or credit card when the program you are participating in allows credit cards or you can go online and make your contributions using ACH or credit card. I envision that when you're in Hawaii on vacation you will cut your beach time short and get back to your room so you can go online and make your contribution to St Luke's?????

Watch for an announcement when the program becomes active.

Make Sure Your Checks Are Marked For Your Capital Campaign Contributions.

Be sure and mark your offering checks if they are not for the general fund. If they are not marked otherwise on the memo line we assume they were intended for the general fund income. This is especially important as you begin making your Capital Campaign contributions.

Help! If your child received one of the numbered envelopes in Sunday School during the *Hearts For Ministry Campaign*, please let me know the number on the envelope and the full name that goes with the number. We're working hard to make sure we give credit for each of the contributions and will send the children their individual giving statements just like their parents receive. Our problem arises from the fact that many of them only put their first names on the envelopes and we have no record of who the envelopes were given to. Also, sometimes the name on the envelope is not very legible—*this is not necessarily an age thing*. If we can relate the names and numbers one time then we can post them by referring to the number even if their full name is not on the envelope.

Email the information to me at davec@stlukeshr.com or call me at 303.791.0659 x24.

TRUSTEES CORNER

Welcome Spring! Join us—Work Day May 12

It's here! Old man winter's loosening his grip, and we're finally seeing signs of spring! Would you please plan now to join us on **May 12 from 8:00am-noon for our Spring Work Day** at St. Luke's? Wear your grubbies, bring your gloves, rakes, brooms and sunscreen and help us to get ready for our graduation and summer programs. Bring your friends and family—we can really use lots of help!

OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH

Statement on Immigration from the Colorado Council of Churches

The Colorado Council of Churches wants comprehensive immigration reform that recognizes the humanity and value of everyone within our borders, whether they are here legally, or not. As Christians, the call to treat one another with hospitality and compassion is primary, especially when someone is a "stranger":

- The story of the Good Samaritan;
- The question of who is my neighbor (the answer, everyone);
- What you do to the least of these, you do unto me;
- To treat your neighbor as yourself.

All of these scriptures entreat us to be especially kind to those who are different from "us." The Council must stand on these values of hospitality, inclusion and compassion taught to us by Jesus Christ, especially in the context of the immigration issue as it faces our state and nation.

As we define the United States in regards to our immigration policy and the myriad issues which are connected to it, we need to stay aware of the human ramifications. We are called to practice mercy and treat others with fairness, kindness and true justice. We must be aware, as well, of the subtle and not-so-subtle issues of racism and hatred that brew beneath the surface on this issue and we must be firm in calling upon Christians not to tolerate such bigotry and prejudice. Today's immigrants are not the first; in fact, ours is a nation of immigrants and how we have treated and mistreated different people is an often painful part of our history, including the treatment of Native American people. As we struggle with the hardships and economic issues that affect everyone—employers, employees, children, schools, hospitals, public services, law enforcement—we must remember that as a nation and a people we are no better than how we treat the stranger amongst us.

We, the Colorado Council of Churches will advocate for and support legislation and policy that approaches immigration issues with compassion and respect toward all people and sensitivity toward our deepest values.

Approved by the member denominations of the Colorado Council of Churches, March 1, 2007.

African Methodist Episcopal • American Baptist Churches

Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ) • Christian Methodist Episcopal

Church of the Brethren • The Episcopal Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America • National Baptist Convention USA

Presbyterian Church (USA) • United Church of Christ • United Methodist Church
Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches

Postscript from Rev. Janet: I serve as a member-at-large on the Colorado Council of Churches. Our work is mostly educational and relational. When the Council makes a statement on an issue in our political life, the judicatory executives must also participate, which in the case of the United Methodist Church is Bishop Warner H. Brown, Jr.



The CHRONICLE

St. Luke's United Methodist Church

8817 S. Broadway • Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

303-791-0659 • www.stlukeshr.com

*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.*

NON-PROFIT
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PAID
PERMIT #7
LITTLETON, CO

MAY 2007 CALENDAR						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
APRIL 29 CONFIRMATION SUNDAY A Bold Venture: "An Eager Faith" 8, 9:30, 11am: Worship noon: YLT 3pm: Smithtonians Benefit Concert 6pm: SLY PM	30	MAY 1	2 6:30pm: Music Man Auditions	3 5:30pm: Children's Dinner Theater (dinner and play)	4 9am: Scrapbook Circle noon: Music Man Auditions	5
 A Bold Venture: PRAYER CHAIN SUNDAY 8, 9:30, 11am: Worship	6 6:30pm: Women's Night Out	7 7pm: Adult Education Team	8 6pm: Graduating Senior Dinner	9	10	11 8am: Work Day 7pm: St. Luke's Ensembles Concert
 MOTHER'S DAY A Bold Venture: COMMITMENT SUNDAY & CELEBRATION BRUNCH 8, 9:30, 11am: Worship 9:30am: Orientation to St. Luke's noon: YLT 6pm: SLY PM	13 14	15	16	17	18	19 Sunday School Workshop 10am: Discovery Club
 GRADUATION SUNDAY 8, 9:30, 11am: Worship 6pm: SLY PM	20 21	22 Little School Graduation 6:30pm: Live, Laugh & Love Club	23 Little School Graduation	24	25	26
 8, 9:30, 11am: Worship 9:30am: Orientation to St. Luke's 6pm: SLY PM	27 MEMORIAL DAY	28	29	30 PHD Mission Weekend	31 PHD Mission Weekend	JUNE 1 PHD Mission Weekend