



Highlands Ranch, Colorado

St. Luke's – Celebrating **25** years! 1983-2008

April 2008

The CHRONICLE

ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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and much more!



Children's Dinner Theater Friday, May 2, 6:00pm

Come see *The Magic in Me*, a musical play featuring St. Luke's children in 1st-6th grade.

Dinner 6:00pm, Show 7:00pm. Dinner will be a Cinco de Mayo theme with tacos, quesadillas and other yummy food. The Cherubs choir will perform before the play. Proceeds from a free will donation will benefit the Kids Mobility Network, a group that accepts used equipment, for children with special needs such as walkers, wheelchairs, etc., refurbishes them and donates them to families in need. No matter how we look or what we can do, we all have a special magic. Questions? Contact Lynne at 303-791-0659 x11 or lynnec@stlukeshr.com

Christ Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed!

Holy Week at St. Luke's



Vince playing the national anthem at Coors Field.

Native American Sunday: April 20

On April 20th, we will be celebrating Native American Sunday with two great events. The first is an

American Indian Market that features jewelry, crafts, clothing, blankets, food and much, much more from noon – 6:00pm. All of the vendors will be there the entire time and a portion of the proceeds from the sales will benefit Native American Ministries. At 3:00pm, we will have a special guest in concert, Vince Redhouse playing Native American flute. Vince has been nominated for 2 Grammys on Native American Flute and performed in some of the greatest music halls. He is without a doubt one of the best Native American flute players in the country. "Most of the recognition that I have gained is from what I have done on the Traditional Native flute, although the tenor saxophone was always my first voice and sound. I really love Classical music and Jazz. What a contradiction of music it would seem. To me, they are both beautiful and musical languages that demand a great study and commitment to be fluent and expressive. I believe beyond the technique and clichés is a place where music becomes the song that transcends all and is the Universal language." Vince is not only an amazing spirit but he will create a musical event that you won't want to miss! There will be a free will offering taken to benefit Native American Ministries in Colorado. Make plans now to attend the concert and the American Indian Market and bring the whole family!

Don't miss our Antique & Collectible Appraisals Event – May 3

Come discuss your collectibles with our on-site experts!



What's it Worth?

Antique & Collectible Appraisals

- American Indian
- China
- Furniture
- Sterling Silver
- Antiques
- Collectibles
- Glass
- Toys
- Art
- Dolls
- Jewelry

*No Weapons/Blades/Firearms

Saturday May 3, 2008 10:00am to 4:00pm

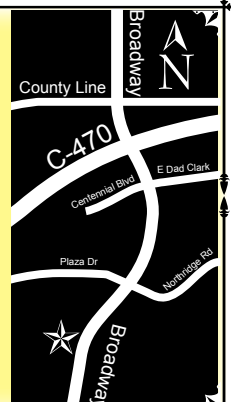
Appraisal Fees: 1st item-\$15 2nd item-\$10

Proceeds to benefit: St. Luke's Youth, Missions, and Pura Vida Guatemala Medical Mission

Reserve your time and place in line at www.stlukeshr.com and click on the "What's it Worth" icon



St. Luke's United Methodist Church
 8817 S. Broadway
 Highlands Ranch, CO 80129
 303-791-0659
www.stlukeshr.com
 EMAIL: office@stlukeshr.com



Sunday Worship Services:

8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am
7:34pm: Fusion

Sunday School:

Adult, Youth & Children:

9:30am & 11:00am

Nursery available for

9:30am & 11:00am 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. Brad Laurvick.....x12

Associate Minister

Emergency: 720-296-1251

James Ramsey.....x23

Director of Music Ministry & the Arts

Kay Coryell.....x36

Associate Director of Music Ministry

Gretchen Martin.....x43

Assistant Director of Music Ministry

Ken Mervine.....x42

Organist/Accompanist

Josh Carr.....x44

Fusion Worship Leader

Carrie Mallery.....x35

Assistant Fusion Worship Leader

Chris Wilderdink.....x14

Director of Youth Ministry

Susan Johnson.....x19

Assistant Director of Youth Ministry

Jenita Rhodes.....x27

Director of Children's Ministry

Lynne Butler.....x11

Assistant Director of Children's Ministry

Kristina Linn.....x40

Director of Childcare

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

All articles, photos and
announcements for the
May issue of

The Chronicle are due
April 20th

Editor: Sharon Oliver
chronicle@stlukeshr.com



Rev. Janet Forbes
Senior Pastor

General Conference: Off to Fort Worth

St. Luke's, I covet your prayers as I prepare to serve you and the Rocky Mountain Conference of The United Methodist Church at the General Conference global assembly from Wednesday, April 23 to Friday, May 2 in Fort Worth, Texas. General Conference is the only body that officially speaks for our 11.5-million member denomination.

During the nine-day session, 992 of us will revise the Book of Discipline, which regulates the manner in which local churches, annual conferences and general agencies are organized. The book also sets policies regarding church membership, ordination, administration, property and judicial procedures.

Delegates also revise the Book of Resolutions, a volume declaring the church's stance on a wide variety of social justice issues. The book contains more than 300 resolutions that are considered instructive and persuasive, but are not binding on members.

I am now wading through 1,564 pieces of proposed legislation to be considered during the meeting. The petitions are assigned by subject matter to one of 14 legislative committees. As committee members, we consider each petition and then recommend approval as submitted, approval as amended, or recommend defeating the petition.

Homosexuality

The issue that seems to grab most of the headlines also received the highest number of petitions. I anticipate that both *The Denver Post* and *Rocky Mountain News* will cover these stories in Fort Worth.

Petitions from 616 groups or individuals ask General Conference to make no change in the existing statements on homosexuality within the church's Social Principles. That statement declares homosexuals to be "individuals of sacred worth," but declares the practice of homosexuality to be "incompatible with Christian teaching."

The United Methodist Board of Church and Society, the church's social action agency, is asking the assembly to delete the incompatibility clause and replace it with: "While Christians of good faith differ on what Christian teaching reveals regarding gender and homosexuality, we affirm God's grace is available to all."

Another 326 petitioners are asking delegates to make no change in the present statement supporting

laws that define marriage as the "union of one man and one woman." However, petitions wanting to delete that clause are from the Board of Church and Society along with the Kansas East, Northern Illinois, Minnesota, California-Nevada, Oregon-Idaho, New England, California-Pacific and New York conferences.

Abortion

The United Methodist Church now recognizes the "sanctity of unborn human life" but also respects the "life and well-being of the mother, for whom devastating damage may result from an unacceptable pregnancy." Seventy-six petitions want to replace the words "an unacceptable" with "a life threatening."

New Hymnal

The Board of Discipleship and the United Methodist Publishing House are asking delegates to authorize the creation of a 27-member Hymnal Revision Committee to "prepare and present to the 2012 General Conference a single-volume hymn and worship book."

Four Mission Priorities

The delegates will be asked to adopt a denominational budget of nearly \$642 million for the 2009-2012 period. This budget will be focused around four mission priorities: 1) leadership development, especially the calling of young leaders of Rev. Brad's generation; 2) church growth, especially the establishment of new churches in new population areas; 3) ministry with the poor; and 4) global health, with attention to the diseases of malaria, tuberculosis, and HIV/AIDS.

During the gathering, you can access daily reports on the United Methodist Church website, www.umc.org.

For more than a century, these assemblies have been conflicted, reflecting the polarization of the global community on the social issues of the day, whether slavery, or temperance, or war, or the ordination of women, or issues of human sexuality. I'm sure there will be protests, marches, rallies, reporters, and lobby groups making statements, creating news, seeking to influence the legislative actions. I invite you to visit with me in person upon my return if you have questions or concerns about the actions of the General Conference.

Again, I covet your prayers. Thank you to Rev. Pam, Rev. Brad, our gifted staff and Stephen Ministers, and the Staff-Parish Relations Committee for sustaining our ministry in my absence.

Grace,

—Rev. Janet

FROM REV. BRAD



Rev. Brad Laurvick
Associate Minister

We are Here to Support You

So two days ago the weather was so beautiful and warm. I was out doing yard work in a t-shirt working up a sweat, trimming trees, cutting grass, all sorts of warm weather stuff. Then yesterday I woke up to snow on the grass. I had to use an ice scraper on my windshield, and my hands almost froze to the steering wheel. Today it is warm again and I am thinking of opening up all the windows in the house.

This comes as no surprise to those of you who have lived in Colorado for any amount of time at all. We all know that adage that “if you don’t like the weather, wait five minutes.” It is amazing how quickly things can change. But I have been reminded recently how life can change even more quickly.

An email, a phone call, a visit, and BAM – life will never be the same. Maybe it’s an e-mail about lay-offs. Maybe it’s a phone call about the condition of an aging loved one. Maybe it’s test results from what was supposed to be a regular physical. Sort of makes looking for my ice scraper not seem like such a big deal. These changes can sneak up on us and leave us reeling.

When these things happen, please let us know. The pastoral staff of St. Luke’s is here to support and care for you. Be it a visit, some meals, a need for prayer, or just wanting someone else to know, we are here to support you. It always makes me sad to hear after something has happened to people that we could have been there supporting a part of our church family if we had just known they needed us.

It isn’t just the sad stuff either. We want to be in the loop on the good, the bad, and everything in between. So please, hear the genuine compassion and care behind these words and call or email whenever life throws you a curve. Because even if it only takes “five minutes”, we will be with you until things change.

May you be blessed and be a blessing, –Rev. Brad

The United Nations Foundation Seeks Global Health Partnership

On March 26th, Jan Rufien, Betsy Keyack, and Rev. Janet Forbes attended a luncheon at the Pepsi Center celebrating the partnership with the United Nations Foundation, Sports Illustrated, the National Basketball Association Cares, and The United Methodist Church to eradicate malaria! Since the initial partnership, American Idol (Fox Network) and the National Hockey Association have joined the Nothing But Nets campaign. Now the United Nations is asking for our help again! Praise God!

The United Nations Foundation wants to partner with The United Methodist Church in a major global health initiative that goes beyond the anti-malaria Nothing But Nets campaign. The organization hopes the denomination’s 2008 General Conference will lay the foundation for an initiative encompassing the diseases of poverty: malaria, HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis.

There is global celebration over United Methodist involvement with Nothing But Nets resulted in collecting \$1.5 million in six weeks and helping the campaign amass more than \$16 million in 18 months to provide insecticide-treated sleeping nets to families in Africa to prevent mosquito-borne malaria. Through its local congregations, The United Methodist Church has a priceless infrastructure of committed individuals who want to *make a difference!*

OUR CONGREGATION

St. Luke’s Youth, Keith Newby, Receives Award



Keith Newby was recently nominated for the Douglas County Metropolitan Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. This program honors young people who have shown initiative and commitment in overcoming adversities that in turn benefited themselves, their families, or their community. This award was given to only 32 youth from all of Douglas County. Youth are nominated by

sheriff’s deputies and school administrators, counselors and teachers. The Metropolitan Selection Committee will select four young people from each of the nine participating counties in the metro area to be additionally honored at a regional awards ceremony.

Keith’s advisor from the Douglas County Sheriff Office Explorers Post, Deputy Ann Walton, and the TRHS Resource Officer, Deputy Vince Fleet, nominated him for this award. Keith says, “I have always had a hard time learning new things because I have dyslexia which makes learning hard in general. Deputy Walton has seen how hard I work at the Explorers Post meetings and events and she knows that she can count on my help whenever she needs it. She knows how hard I work in spite of my dyslexia. Learning everything there is to learn about law enforcement procedures and tactics does not always come easy to me, but I continue to learn and do well. Officer Fleet has seen me handle some difficult situations at school involving helping other students when they were in very difficult situations. He knows that I will not hesitate to report other students’ problems to either him or to the school office. This is why I was nominated and why I received this award.”

The Newby family has been coming to St. Luke’s since 1995, when they moved here from San Diego. Keith is actively involved in SLYJO, Off Notes, SLY, SLAM, Puppets, and enjoyed performing in *The Music Man*, all here at St. Luke’s.



Keith Newby, right, assists with parking morning with Tim Armstrong.

SERVING ST. LUKE'S



Lynda Fickling
Director of
Servant Ministry

We are Called to Serve

*Serving God by Serving
Others in the Church,
Community, and the World*

Fellowship Events Team (FET): We invite you to join this fun team of hard working folks.

We cook, plan, decorate, set/up, clean/up for St. Luke's Special Events and our Sunday Morning Coffee/Donut Team. When you join us... you join a party!! Contact Lisa Lehnus LehnusL@yahoo.com 303-346-8114 or Mona Daniels moandtroy@msn.com 720-348-1662

Puppet Ministry: This ministry conveys Biblical stories to a diverse community and audience. We welcome all to join this team by contacting Steve and Cathy Collins scecollins@earthlink.net 303-346-0275

What's It Worth - Antique Appraisals: We are looking for adult volunteers to help out with our May 3rd "What's It Worth" event! This will benefit the Guatemala Medical Mission trip and our new Youth facility. Contact Susan Hooke 303-791-3968 sehooke@msn.com or Kristi Pawley 303-471-8353 kjpawley@comcast.net

Children

Acolytes: Needed for the 9:30am services. Children in 3rd through 5th grade who are interested, please contact Jenita Rhodes 303-791-0659 x27 jenita@stlukeshr.com

Missions

Mission of the Month – "Support Our Troops": We did an amazing job last year of donating items requested by the men and women in Iraq to help make their deployment a little easier. We will be working with a Chaplain to see that they get all of the "goodies" we send. A "Wish List" will be coming soon – check the weekly bulletin and display in the Narthex. Let's fill the boxes again this year! Jan Rufien 303-979-3491 jc.rufien@comcast.net

Simply Fellowship

Live, Laugh & Love Club: A ladies group that focuses on building character traits and family values in children. The monthly workshop includes a short reading and discussion about a value such as honesty or gratitude, a take home project that will help teach children these values through activities, crafts, writing, scripture readings, prayers and support. Contact: Erika Brimberry 303-470-5752 brimberrygirl@qwest.net



Visit www.stlukeshr.com and take the mini-assessment under **Serve** then contact Lynda Fickling lynda@stlukeshr.com who will walk with you through the process of applying your gifts to serving in the world!

Realize your potential for living a God-centered life!

PRAYER CONCERNS

Week Ending March 21, 2008

To add or remove someone from the prayer chain,
contact Bonnie Funk 303-791-0659 x10 or Bonnie@stlukeshr.com



Gerry Wright (Gail Abernathy's mother)
John Poole (friend of Joy Damsgard)
Beth Turner
Jennie Keefer (Mike Hutchins' daughter)
Jim Hertel (Sandy Thompson's father)
Brian Day (Eileen Law's nephew)
Norma Harris
Kendall Griggs (Susan Hooke's uncle)
Fanelle Laughlin (Lisa Williams' aunt)
John Covey (friend of Ross Barnard)
Amber Cunningham
(friend of Amy Antinoro)
Ernie Wight
(Elizabeth Laurvick's father)
Darryl Griggs (Susan Hooke's cousin)
Edna Earl West (Bob West's mother)
Farzan Khan (friend of Manijeh B.)
Gordon Lewis (friend of Ken Fong)
Alex Pass
(son of a friend of Julie Polikoff)
Kristi Fesler (Mona Daniel's friend)
Norm Keller (Candy Keller's father)
Kami Lamb (friend of Cindy Barlow)
Scott Ransick (Eric Ransick's brother)
Pat Clem (neighbor of Doug Wagner)
Leslie Davis (Yvonne Amerine's friend)
Alberta Haas
Warren Goss (Charlie William's friend)
Jim Bailey (Melissa Moberly's father)
Ronda Olson
Paula Strader (Sandi Miyaki's sister)
Nancy Smith (Ray Godsey's sister)
Judy Austin (Mary Jo Weber's sister)
Mildred Johnson
(Connie Shoemaker's mother)
Gail Carlson (Mike Hutchins' neighbor)
Pat Dublin (Bob Davis' mother)
Robert Abbott Sr. (Nancy Abbott's
father-in-law)
Juanita Owens (Nancy Abbott's friend)
Ralph Owens (Nancy Abbott's friend)
Al Tulenko (Bobbi King's neighbor)
Johanna Singer
(Betty Halderman's aunt)
Matthew Peterman's cousin, Matthew
Michelle Duffy
(Donna Duffy's daughter)
Luke Vogel (Mary Godsey)
Barbara Castlebury
(Charlie William's friend)
Christiana Humphreys
(friend of Susan Hooke)
Patty Hertel (Sandy Thompson's sister)
Jennifer Jiang's neighbor, Julia
Grant Larson
Betsy Keyack

Catherine Rice
(Susan Wetherington's mother)
Julie Hayes
(friend of Susan Werthington)
Marc Hill
The Lanham family
Jule Yim (friend of Betty Ludlam)
Bob Collins (Steve Collins' father)
Susan Johnson
Tim Kessler (Jenny Stevenson's friend)
Craig Ramsey (Jim Ramsey's father)
Shirley Sutcliff (Leigh Ramsey's mother)
Amy Rezvani (friend of Eileen Law)
Jan Lanham
Jim Von Norman (Bob's son)
Bernice Haskell
(friend of Steve Marshke)
Stephanie Stanley
(Jane Damsgard's aunt)
Jennifer McCormick
(Jan & Charlie Rufien's niece)
Steve Pyles
Velma Newby
(Lee Newby's grandmother)
Dolores Hall (Debbie Newby's mother)
George Hutchins
(Mike Hutchins' father)
Sharon Liston (Cindy Raap's mother)
Kelli Michel (former LS aide)
The Todd Horner family
(co-worker of Elizabeth Bauer)
Peg Pascal
Ron Cunningham
Barbara Fielder
(friend of Barb Decker's)
Robert McGill (Sharon Oliver's father)
Jill Wright

Sympathies:

Jenna & Bret Wilcox on the passing of
her great-aunt, Blanche Kennedy,
last week;
Jon & Lise Takayama and family on the
passing of Jon's grandmother, Fumiyo
Yamamoto, Mar. 15;
Edee Worth on the passing of her
nephew.

New Babies – Congratulations:

Chris & Michelle Ellis on the birth of
a son, Colter Michael Ellis, born
Feb. 26;
Corey & Julie Brower on the birth of
a son, Jacob Dillon Anson Brower,
born Feb. 26;
John & Erika Brimberry on the birth of
a daughter, Brilee Addison "Addie"
Brimberry, born Feb. 13.

THE SPIRIT OF ST. LUKE'S

COMMUNITY



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

More from Les: A Hiding Place

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. — Mark 6:30-34

When I was about six years old, I had a "hiding place." It was a place where I could go to be all by myself. I kept my collection of rocks there; my favorite toy airplane was there; lots of the things that were very special to me at that time of my life were kept safely tucked away in my hiding place. I loved my hiding place.

It was in the crotch of a huge old Elm tree not far from our house. I could go there, climb up and look across the yard toward the barn and the fields beyond. I felt like I could see the entire world from my hiding place and I knew I was safe from all the dangers that might lurk out there.

But, one day, my father told my mother that the tree must be cut down. Insects had killed the tree and there was danger of it falling into the power line that brought electricity to our house. I really felt bad when my parents told me to go retrieve the things in my hiding place and bring them back to the house. I knew the end was coming. I cried as I gathered up my treasures.

About a week later, the tree was cut down and my hiding place was gone. I couldn't climb up to see the fields beyond the barn, I didn't have a place to go to be alone. I cried, again!

We all need a place where we can be alone with our thoughts at times. We all need a "hiding place." But a hiding place like this isn't just about protection; it's about refreshment, restoration, rest, contemplation, and holy aloneness.

Jesus saw this need to get away. "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while," he says to his disciples after feeding the 5,000. He understands the need for rest and renewal after spending time and energy helping others, so they go to a deserted place, a "hiding place."

Following the destruction of the elm tree in our yard, I "moped" around the house. Nothing satisfied me, I was ill mannered at the table, I kept forgetting things. I tormented my little brother. I was, in a word, a six-year-old "mess."

One afternoon, my mother took me out to the barn. We climbed the steps up to the loft and she took me to a corner that had been cleared of hay. It was next to a window that looked out to the west. "You can use this if you like," she said. It was dusty and smelled like a Barn but I decided to try it.

I took my rocks and airplane and other stuff up there and after a while I got to liking it. Better yet, my dog, Queenie, could climb up there with me! She couldn't do that in the elm tree.

Months later, Mom told me that Queenie was going to have puppies. She said it might be nice if I used my special place as a nursery when the puppies were born. So we built a box for Queenie; and sure enough, when her puppies were born, she stayed in it!

I would go out to my new hiding place in the barn and just sit, watching Queenie take care of her babies. My new special hiding place had become even more special.

We all need a hiding place at one time or another, a place where we feel safe, a place where we can go to think, a place we can spend time without any worry of being disturbed, a place where we can clear all the noise and clutter of day-to-day living from our heads, a place where we can remember who we are and whose we are and pray. Our hiding place is where we meet God and remember that we are loved and that we are loved, sometimes in spite of ourselves. And hopefully, when we emerge from our hiding place, the problems can seem less threatening and the changes become more tolerable, and we are changed!

So, go there; go there often.

God Bless us all, —Rev. Les

Save the Date!

5th Annual St. Luke's Invitational Golf Tournament

Location: Fossil Trace Golf Club

Date: Friday, August 22, 2008

Time: Lunch – noon

Shotgun Tee Times: Starting 1:00pm

Mission of the Month:
Our mission in April is
"Support Our Troops."
We will have a wish list
available on March 30th

St. Luke's is **seeking an intern Youth Minister** 20 hours per week May through August.

Primary responsibilities will be planning and conducting summer youth programs. There will also be a need for some administrative and pastoral care tasks and help moving into the new youth space. For more information, call Elizabeth Bauer at 303-956-1140 or send an e-mail to ebbauer@comcast.net

The position description is available in the church office or on the website.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Jenita Rhodes
Director of
Children's Ministry



Lynne Butler
Assistant Director of
Children's Ministry



Kristina Linn
Director of
Childcare

The Children's Ministry Team Meeting *Tues. April 1, 7:00-8:30pm* No Fooling! This is a meeting you won't want to miss if you are someone who is interested in the faith development of our children. Items we will begin discussing:

- PEAK Adventure's Workshop

- Rotation curriculum and scheduling for 2008/09
- Summer Sunday School curriculum and Team development
- Registration for 2008/09
- Developing criteria for a Special Kids Ministry
- Sunday School Buddies
- Continuation of Discovery Club
- Discovery – after school program
- Developing a Children's Library Team
- Remodeling of the Supply Closet
- Comments or suggestions about the Children's Ministry Programs
- Developing a way for people who couldn't come to offer their input

This is just the beginning of a very exciting time for our Children Ministry at St. Luke's. If you are unable to attend but still want to give your input or serve in Children's Ministry in some other way, please contact Jenita Rhodes or Lynne Butler.

PEAK Adventures – 9:30 Elementary Sunday School Our Workshop Rotation Sunday School is wrapping up our year with 2 four-week rotations.

Rotation 6: "The Road to Emmaus" began on Mar. 30. This unit uses the Bible story included in Luke 24:13-35. On the first Easter Sunday, two followers of Jesus left Jerusalem to walk to the town of Emmaus. Jesus joined them as they walked along the road, but they did not recognize him! As the men talked with Jesus, they shared their sadness over Jesus' death, and explained how he had been killed. The two men even told Jesus about the women going to the garden and being greeted by the angel. Still the men did not believe, so Jesus began to teach them all that the prophets had said about the coming of a Messiah. When they reached Emmaus, the men invited Jesus to stay with them. At the table, Jesus blessed the bread, broke it, and gave it to them. Suddenly they knew who he was! At that moment, he left them. They were overjoyed at having seen the Lord, and left immediately for Jerusalem to tell the other disciples the wonderful news.

Children will have the opportunity to:

- Study the events of Holy Week
- Explore the story of the walk to Emmaus
- Think about ways that we "meet" Jesus today
- Consider how we can share the joy of Jesus' resurrection with others

Rotation 7: Our final rotation for this Sunday School year will be "Building the Tabernacle" focusing on how the Hebrew people gave generously of their possessions, skills and time to build the Tabernacle, a sacred place to worship God. Today we can use our possessions, skills and time for the church, the special place where we worship God. In one of our workshops, we will have individuals who have visited the Holy Land share their experiences, pictures and souvenirs.

Children will have opportunities to:

- Learn about the Tabernacle, a large moveable tent built as a special place to worship God
- Experience the sanctuary of their church as a special place to worship God
- Discover that there are many different kinds of church buildings today
- Use their time and skills to serve God through the church

SLY Jr. 5th & 6th Grade Fellowship NEW Time!! 5:30 to 7:30pm

After missing last month due to weather, Sly, Jr. will pick up right where we left off! We will have an evening of Jewish festival and feasting, fun and games. In May we will learn more about Hindu traditions and enjoy several dishes and activities from that culture. Don't forget the new time! 5:30 to 7:30pm. We will begin with dinner and end just in time for families to enjoy Fusion at 7:34pm.

Wacky Wednesdays for this summer will be June 18, July 9, 16, 23, 30, and August 6 from 9:30 to noon. This year's theme will be Noah's Ark. Each day children will enjoy music, crafts, chapel time and games. There is an activity fee of \$15.00 per day. You can sign your children up for any number of days. All children ages 3 (by September 15, 2008) through 3rd grade are invited to come. You do not need to be a member to participate. Please contact Tami Clement at 303-791-1982 or email at Ma3clement@aol.com

Vacation Bible School is open for registration. Our theme this year is Beach Party: Surfin' Through the Scriptures. The scripture is "Let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action." 1 John 3:18. We will focus on showing our love not just through our thoughts and words, but also through our actions in how we treat and care for others and the world around us. When: June 23-27 from 9:00-11:30am, Cost: \$27/child (\$17/child for our 5 day volunteers.) Ages: 3 yrs (by 9/15/08) through going into 5th grade. Forms are available in the main office and are due by May 31! Questions? Contact Lynne Butler 303-791-0659 x11 or lynne@stlukeshr.com

Registration forms for both Vacation Bible School and Wacky Wednesdays are now available (church office, Little School office or online www.stlukeshr.com)

CALENDAR

Tues. Apr. 1

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

Wed. Apr. 2

CDT Rehearsals 6:00-7:00pm

Sun. Apr. 6

*SLY Jr. 5th & 6th Grade Fellowship
New Time!! 5:30 to 7:30*

Wed. Apr. 9 & 16

CDT Rehearsals 6:00-7:00pm

Sat. Apr. 19

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

Wed. Apr. 23

CDT Rehearsals 6:00-7:00pm

Thur. Apr. 24

*Little School Art Fair -
Children's Songs 5:30 to 7:30*

Sun. Apr. 27

*PEAK Adventures 9:30 Elem
SS 7th Rotation – Building the
Tabernacle*

Apr. 29, 30 & May 1

CDT Rehearsals 6:00-7:30pm

Fri. May 2

*Children's Dinner Theater –
The Magic in Me
Dinner 6:00pm, Show 7:00pm*

Sun. May 4

*SLY Jr. 5th & 6th Grade Fellowship
5:30 to 7:30pm*

Sat. May 17

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

Wed. May 21

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

Sun. May 25

*Memorial Day – NO Sunday
School – Only Nursery to 2's*

Wed. May 28

Adult VBS Study 9:30-11:00am

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

LITTLE SCHOOL
NewsApril Flowers Bring
Art Showers

April is one of the most anticipated months at Little School because it is time for the ART EXTRAVAGANZA of the **13th Annual Creative Critter's Art Show!** Thursday, April 24th from 5:00 to 7:30pm over the entire lower level of St. Luke's!

Parents, children, siblings, grandparents, neighbors, aunts, uncles, cousins and all church members are encouraged and most WELCOME to come to this amazing evening! Our theme this year is **Children's Music** and many of our favorite songs will be interpreted by our student's art! If you have never attended one of our Art Shows, it is well worth the time and energy! Prepare to be amazed and delighted!

NO TICKETS NECESSARY, BUT COME EARLY AS IT FILLS UP QUICKLY WITH EAGER FAMILIES! Please start at the South entrance of the building at the little white picket fence and follow the directions (notes) to see the whole show.

During the month of April we are very busy getting ready for the art show and Spring. School class pictures will be taken the first week of April and the second week of April we will be welcoming all of those attending the Emerging Worship conference by making special welcome notes to all of them! It will be time to talk about how God brings new life and new birth to spring time and the promise of eternal life from his Easter gift to us! The children will be watching for signs of spring and having fun keeping an eye out for our resident bunnies that play with us in the backyard!

We would like to especially thank all of our Little School parents that came to Little School for our career days on April 26th and 27th to talk about their wonderful jobs! We had everything from a pilot and flight attendant mom and dad team to a geologist that brought really cool rocks for us to see! Ms. Carol (Carnahan), assistant Director, did a fabulous job of putting it all together and the kids had a terrific time!

Little School is fast approaching the end of another school year and it is hard to believe that we have about 8 weeks of school left. Please pray for our school and the church as we head into a very busy summer with new classroom construction and exciting new changes to Little School and the church! We are very excited to work in partnership to make this a reality!

JOB OPENINGS: Little School will be hiring new teachers and assistants for fall. If you are interested in a fabulous job opportunity, part-time, that understand family schedules, please contact Ms. Kay at 303-791-1982.

To qualify you must have a degree in Early Childhood, Human Growth and Development, Elementary Ed, Special Ed or Child Psychology to apply. No current teaching license is required. Assistants, must have experience working with children ages 3 to 6. We would love to talk with you! Come and visit and see what we are all about! Also, please tell anyone you might know about this opportunity!!

Spring Blessings to one and all! —Ms. Kay & Staff:-)



Kay Swanson
Director of
Little School

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



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

St. Luke's UMW Mission Team meets the 2nd Monday at 7:00pm. Everyone is invited to attend. We currently have openings on the UMW board. If you are interested in serving on the board, please contact Janet Sackett or Fran West. Current officers: Co-Presidents – Janet Sackett and Fran West, Secretary/Communications – Lori Lockrem, Treasurer – Amy Curtis, Spiritual Growth Coord. – open, Secretary of Program Resources – open

Our next General Meeting is scheduled for Sunday May 18, 2008. Plan on joining us for a Garden Tea Party from 2:00-4:00pm. Please contact Janet Sackett or Fran West if you are interested in assisting with the planning of this event. Tickets will go on sale mid-April.

We have chosen UMCOR as our on-going mission project.

We are collecting supplies for Bedding Kits, Sewing Kits and Layette Kits. These are the kits UMCOR needs the most. They are needed for Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia. Supply lists and a collection box can be found by the UMW bulletin board.

The UMW 1st Annual Parking Lot Sale is set for June 14th.

Individuals or groups will be able to rent a parking space in which to sell gently used items. Please watch for additional information.

Mark your calendars:

- April 14: UMW Mission Team Meeting
- April 15: Planning meeting for UMW Parking Lot Sale
- April 26-27: Annual UMW Conference in Estes Park
- May 17: UMW General Meeting: "Garden Tea Party"
- June 14: UMW Parking Lot Sale
- June 20: Luncheon for licensed pastors attending Annual Conf.

Subgroups of UMW at St. Luke's UMC:

- **Evening Book Group:** Fourth Mondays of the month, 7:00pm Conference Room. For more information, please call Fran West at 303-797-7107 or Janet Sackett at 303-794-4303. All women are welcomed to come to any or all our meetings. Y'all come and bring a friend!
April 28 – *Stand Like Mountain, Flow Like Water* by Brian Luke Seaward, Ph.D.
May 19 – (3rd Monday) *Eat, Pray, Love* by Elizabeth Gilbert
June 23 – *At Home in Mitford* by Jan Karon
- **Itch to Stitch:** Second Wednesday of the month, 7:00-8:30pm, Mark Room. For more information, please call Fran West at 303-797-7107. Come enjoy the fellowship of others while crocheting and knitting to benefit those in need. We give handmade items to Warren Village, nursing homes, homeless shelters, hospitals and Missions, as well as provide prayer shawls for people at St. Luke's. We can use all your left-over washable yarn; just place it in the big blue basket in the Narthex. We continue to collect Care Squares – any size, color, or shape (as long as it's washable) – to be assembled into afghans. Need a refresher course? We can teach you! Drop in any time between 7:00 and 8:30pm.
- **Scrapbooking Circle:** Every other month, 7:00-10:00pm Fellowship Hall. For more information, please contact Christy Wohlleber at 720-344-3516. If you have many unfinished albums on the shelf, you are finishing your first, or your pictures are piled in boxes, join us! Bring all your cropping materials and get some pictures in an album. Hours of uninterrupted time with lots of space to work. Think of the possibilities!
- **Women's Night Out:** Meets 1st Monday 6:30pm
March 3 – Garcia's, 5050 S. Syracuse, Denver
April 7 – California Pizza Kitchen,
 8343 Park Meadows Center Dr., Littleton
May 5 – Lansdowne Arms, 9352 Dorchester, Highlands Ranch
 For more information, please call Kathy Eccles at kateccles2@msn.com or Lori Lockrem at lockrem@q.com

YOU ARE INVITED...



TO JOIN THE ST. LUKE'S COMMUNITY

We are excited to welcome you into the family of St. Luke's. Please fill out the New Member Card located in our friendship pad and/or at the "Get Connected" table in the Narthex on Sunday.

Then you may either:
Come forward during the "Hymn of Grace" where the community will welcome you or you may simply hand the card to one of our Pastors or to Lynda Fickling, our Director of Servant Ministry. She will then need to meet with you for a few minutes to have your picture taken and complete the process. We look forward to you becoming a member of our family!

Servant Spotlight: Greg & Rachel Nolder



Greg and Rachel Nolder are both from LaGrange Park, Illinois. Their three girls, Liza (13), Laura (11), and Jenna (who will be 9 in April) were all born in Waukesha, Wisconsin. A "job offer we couldn't refuse" brought them to Colorado.

The Nolders have been in Colorado for eight and a half years and have been members of St. Luke's since January of 2000. They chose St. Luke's because Rachel was very impressed that the words to the Lord's Prayer were printed in the bulletin. "It was truly "invitational" by not assuming that everyone knows the words."

Greg is a Risk Analyst and Manager of Business Development for a consulting firm. Rachel works for a commodities trader. Greg enjoys bicycling, Rachel enjoys music and watching the girls Irish dance.

"The staff at St. Luke's and the volunteers from the congregation provide an amazing and unparalleled church home. Being part of creating that experience is very satisfying for our family."

The Nolders are grateful for the many ways to get involved at St. Luke's. Rachel is a bread baker and Greg is involved in ushering for services and Drama Ministry performances. Their girls are especially drawn to the performance opportunities. They are involved in Kidz Prayz, Children's Dinner Theater and Off Notes and they all had a great time performing in *The Music Man* last fall. Liza was

the daughter of the articulate Mayor Shinn and his "spectacular" wife Eulalie Mackechnie Shinn. She also made a big splash as the infamous inmate "Goldilocks" in the Children's Dinner Theater's 2007 production of *Big Bad*.

The Nolders enjoy doing things as a family at St. Luke's. Rachel says, "Although we were unable to attend this year, our family enjoys Easter Fun Day. One of my favorite family photographs is 3 1/2 year old Laura holding a chicken!"



On Palm Sunday, March 16, Off Notes (member Liza Nolder), Junior Prayz (member Laura Nolder) and Primary Prayz (member Jenna Nolder) joined together with the Chancel Choir to sing for the congregation. What a glorious sound! Kudos to the directors, accompanists and singers for a wonderful worship experience.

MUSIC & DRAMA



James Ramsey
Dir. of Music
Ministry & the Arts



Kay Coryell
Associate Dir. of
Music Ministry



Gretchen Martin
Assistant Director
of Music Ministry



Ken Mervine
Organist/
Accompanist



Performing Arts Academy

Summer 2008

Dr. James Ramsey, Founder and Director

Summer Music Theater Intensive I: June 9th-20th
Children 2nd - 6th grade as of the 2008-2009 school year

Monday, June 9th-Friday, June 13th from 9:30am-3:30pm

Monday, June 16th-Friday, June 20th from 9:30am-3:30pm

CLASSES & SUBJECTS for SMT Intensive I (2nd-6th Grade)



VOICE CLASS Establishing breathing and vocal technique through group lessons.

DANCE Rehearse choreography in the current production and practice rhythmic dancing.

ACTING GAMES Have fun building skills that you can use in performance while gaining confidence and self awareness.

REHEARSAL Rehearse all music and blocking for the final full staged performance of *The Jungle Book KIDS*.

Summer Music Theater Intensive II: June 9th-20th
Youth 7th-11th grade as of the 2008-2009 school year

Monday, June 9th-Friday, June 13th from 9:30am-3:30pm

Monday, June 16th-Friday, June 20th from 9:30am-3:30pm

CLASSES & SUBJECTS for SMT Intensive II (7th-11th Grade)

ACTING & IMPROVISATION Continue to build movement and language skills critical for the stage utilizing creative and innovative ideas. Learn and cultivate acting techniques that will help you gain self awareness and confidence in performance.



MUSIC Develop and advance the fundamentals of vocal techniques in

group and individual lessons. Improve musical comprehension and ability through the instruction of music theory.

DANCE TECHNIQUE Further your dancing ability with steps used in musical theater as well as review choreography in the current production.

REHEARSAL Rehearse all music and blocking for the final full staged performance of *Seussical Jr.*

St. Luke's and St. Andrew Choir Festival Saturday, May 10, 4:00-5:00pm

On May 10th from 4:00-5:00pm, St. Luke's will host the first ever Choir Festival with St. Andrew UMC. The Concert is a joint effort to be in community and celebrate our gifts in music. All are invited to attend. The featured choirs are the St. Luke's Chancel Choir, Grace Notes, and Women of Note and from St. Andrew; the Charles Wesley Choir, St. Andrew Sisters, and Chamber Choir. The concert will raise funds for Missions both at St. Luke's and St. Andrews. A reception will follow. Please come and support this community event!

FACULTY The core faculty has degrees as well as advanced degrees in Music Theater, Music Performance, and Music Education. A solid team of professional instructors design curriculum that achieves a high quality experience in an instructional setting and on stage. The SLPAA Faculty will cultivate an excellent learning environment, enhance fundamental skills, and build the character and self-esteem of each participant.

MISSION AND VISION Our mission is to build the skills and confidence of each participant through the performing arts in a safe space for learning. In addition, the Performing Arts Academy also raises funds for local and international missions through performance. Under the tutelage of an experienced and professional faculty, the SLPAA nurtures Christian values and appropriately tailors all educational experiences for each age group. There are no auditions and all members of the community are invited to participate. The SLPAA is under the governing policies and leadership of St. Luke's United Methodist Church and is independently tuition based.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SCHOLARSHIPS A limited number of Financial Assistance Scholarships are available. Each scholarship amount is determined based on need and circumstances. The application process is a one - two page letter describing your reasoning and amount requested. The Performing Arts Scholarship Committee will make final decisions following the application deadline of May 9th and notify each applicant via letter. Scholarship application mailing address:

St. Luke's Performing Arts Academy
c/o Scholarship Committee
8817 South Broadway
Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

TUITION \$325 per student / \$275 per student for members of St. Luke's. Sibling Discount is \$75. Registration & Consent form with \$100 Deposit (checks made out to St. Luke's Performing Arts Academy) are due by May 9th, 2008. You can download the form at www.stlukeshr.com. Either drop the form and deposit in the Music Ministry & Arts Office or mail to:

St. Luke's Performing Arts Academy
c/o James Ramsey
8817 South Broadway
Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

For more information: contact James Ramsey at 303-791-0659 x23 or jim@stlukeshr.com

DON'T MISS!

April 2008

- 4/2 – SLAM 6:30pm
 4/3 – Donut Whole 6:45am
 4/6 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 -Bible Boot 9:30am
 -Confirmation 11am
 -SLY PM
 4/9 – SLAM 6:30pm
 4/10 – Donut Whole 6:45am
 4/13 – **Youth Sunday!** We run worship
 at 8, 9:30, & 11am,
 so no SLY AM activities!
 -SLY PM
 4/16 – SLAM 6:30pm
 4/17 – Donut Whole 6:45am
 4/20 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 -Bible Boot 9:30am
 -Confirmation 11am
 -SLY PM Progressive Dinner

Sunday April 20:

Sr. High SLY PM – The Progressive Dinner. Come at 5:30 in fancy dress to trek around the Ranch to be fed!

Jr. High SLY PM – The Mystery Dinner. Come hungry enough to solve the puzzle of a mystery menu!

- 4/23 – SLAM 6:30pm
 4/24 – Donut Whole 6:45am
 4/27 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 -Bible Boot 9:30am
 -Confirmation 11am
 -SLY PM: *The Body is a Temple*
 4/30 – SLAM 6:30pm

May 2008

- 5/1 – Donut Whole 6:45am
 5/3 – Confirmation
 Dessert Potluck 7:30pm
 5/4 – Confirmation Sunday (11am)
 -Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 -Bible Boot 9:30am
 -SLY PM
 5/7 – Class of 2008 Senior Dinner 6pm
 5/8 – Donut Whole 6:45am
 5/11 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 -Bible Boot 9:30am
 -No SLY PM (**Mother's Day**)
 5/18 – Graduate Sunday
 -Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 -Bible Boot 9:30am
 -SLY PM
 5/25 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 -Bible Boot 9:30am
 -No SLY PM (**Memorial Day**)



Chris Wilterdink
 Director of
 Youth Ministries



Susan Johnson
 Assistant Director
 of Youth Ministries

CHRIS's CORNER

Getting 'Bus'ted

So, if you haven't heard the story about the bus on our Confirmation Retreat, let me fill you in...

On February 29, we loaded up 44 youth and adults for a fun weekend at Temples Hills (a UMC owned camp outside of Woodland Park). The bus is loaded with kids and sleeping bags, it cranks up fine. Our caravan of the bus and 4 family cars stops at Chapel Hills Mall for dinner. We get back in the bus, it cranks up fine again! All 5 vehicles arrive at Pinecrest Lodge, park, unload and have a great weekend with 50-degree weather on Saturday.

On Sunday, March 2 the winds change and a blizzard sweeps over the camp. We share a brief but meaningful (and frozen) communion to end our time together, load up all of our vehicles, go to start up the bus... and then that dreaded sound... Like the sound of a pack of goats hauling too much weight over Donner Pass, the engine of the bus groaned, but did not start.

Plan A: Everything would have started like we wanted and we get home on Sunday afternoon at 1:00pm. (No bus... On to Plan B!)

Plan B: Run in to Woodland Park, buy new batteries for the bus and a bunch of pizza for everyone for lunch. (Check, navigate the snow, get back, drop in the batteries, and... NOTHING! On to Plan C!)

Plan C: Freak out for a second with nobody looking. (Check, on to Plan D!)

Plan D1: Split the group into two halves, sending our four family cars into CO Springs. Call brave (& blizzard-worthy) parents to meet our first half in CO Springs and switch over the youth. Then, our four family cars would come back to the camp and pick up the second half. (Great! Half 1 gets home at 4:15; Half 2 gets home at 6:30. Everyone is home, but what about the bus!? On to plan D1a!)

Plan D1a: Get the bus towed to a mechanic in CO Springs and pick up on Wednesday, March 5. (Finally, the bus is alive and driven back home!)

By Wednesday, I could wrap my head around what a feat it was to get everyone and their luggage home in one piece! In the cold and snow of a spring blizzard, we had parents step up to help get us home, and a group of youth whose flexibility made Mr. Fantastic jealous! We always talk about the church as a family, a community of support. There was no way we could have gotten home or grown as close as we did through adversity if that idea were not true! We are truly blessed to be surrounded by a community of care and support, no matter the situations we find ourselves in! Thank Yous, Shaloms, and I Love Yous for everyone who helped keep us sane and get us home safely from a very memorable Confirmation Retreat!

—Peace & Love, Chris

✦ **Sr. High Summer Mission Trip:** There is still a spot or two available for this trip to Ensenada, MX from July 5-14. The trip cost is \$500 and you can pick up registrations at church or by printing them off the website.

✦ **Jr. High Summer Mission Trip:** Hayman Wildfire Recovery Area, CO. Apps now available and due by May 21. \$275 trip cost. July 20-24, 2008.

✦ **Johnson Family Breakfast** SLY wanted to step up and help with Susan's medical bills because of her cancer. Come hungry on **April 13** for a breakfast organized by the SLY Kids!

✦ **Class of 2008:** Kindergarten & Senior Pics needed for Graduate Sunday. Email them to kfung@att.net or drop them off Chris' office by April 27.

✦ **Senior Dinner on May 7, 6:00pm @ Buca di Beppo:** RSVP to chris@stlukeshr.com by May 4 for a spot!

TRUSTEES CORNER

We're Getting Ready!

Open doors – the first step of our refurbishment projects. Over the last month or so, we've removed the doors on the lower level that have been a bottleneck for families working their way to our children's classrooms while others from music and youth rooms simultaneously work their way upstream. Changes in the fire code allow the removal. Our thanks to Barry Curtis, Bonnie Funk, Tim Krening, and Sandi Miyaki for their hard work on this project.

We held our annual spring work day in March – our thanks to everyone from trustees and our wonderful volunteers for their time and talents in painting, lighting, cleaning, concrete shaving (ask Bob Utter), and the long overdue garage makeover by Candy and Shirley – whew! Lots of projects completed by a small group of volunteers, Thanks!

Trustees have also started identifying refurbishment projects we will incorporate in the new building addition bids. We hope to take advantage of economies of scale, securing the most competitive pricing on many of the items on our list of projects we've got in queue. These include flooring replacements, furnace and AC updates as well as window replacements on our original building, and some exterior concrete work and re-grading to solve drainage problems. Most of these projects will be started after Memorial Day, with targets to be finished between August 1st and Labor Day. *—Sandi Miyaki*

MORE SLY

Retreat to Remember *by Stephanie Hagan*



As it tends to go with any trip away from the parents and home sweet home, I was way beyond nervous as I waited for the bus to depart to Templed Hills for the confirmation retreat. But the anxiety soon faded as we embarked on our mission on faith, surrounded by the warm comfort of friends. It wasn't long until we reached the retreat, surrounded by the breathtaking forests of aspen and pine and the clear, sparkling lake just due east of our cabin. I couldn't help gasping in awe aloud – you don't see that very

often – considering we live in the suburbs of Denver with smog clouds hovering above us. I immediately felt at peace, as if God himself had descended from the clouds and made the trees just a little greener, a little brighter. We had so many suitcases I thought the bus was going to burst. It wasn't long before we were settled and all sitting in the main cabin. At our first session that night, we created a scrapbook-like project to add some personality to our black confirmation binders. I've never had so much fun with *People* magazine. At 11:01pm sharp, we tumbled into our bunks; though I'm pretty sure no one went to sleep right away. The next morning, some of us went on a hike and took a walk to a nearby beaver pond. The beauty of something so natural was overwhelming. The rest of the day consisted of lessons learning about Reason, Experience, Scripture, and Tradition, along with many passages from the Bible. We also participated in a ropes course, where skill and strength were just as important and valued as the trust and faith in our family groups. At some point in the afternoon, a few other kids along with Brad, Chris, and Paul, traveled to the campfire pit where we would roast marshmallows later that night to check and make sure it was all set to go. As we were kicking snow away from where the fire would have to burn, a snowball flew and nailed someone. After that, everything broke loose. Brad was running around dumping a bucket of snow on unlucky children, Chris was sending every snowball back where it came from with a shovel, and Paul was fighting for life. It was great! And that night, when we all gathered around the campfire, warm and snow-free, I felt completely at peace watching the flames lick away at the wood with no city lights glaring up at the stars. It was then that I got the feeling of what it meant to be a part of St. Luke's, and what the confirmation retreat was really all about – forming new relationships, mending old ones, and creating a bond with one another – as the sweet tune of 'Sanctuary' floated up into the stars.

FINANCIAL UPDATE



Dave Cupp
Director of Finance



Janet Maxwell
Assistant Director
of Finance

I was Hoping to Avoid Writing this Reminder in 2008!

But – this year has started off weird and we just haven't gotten into the normal rhythm of giving to St. Luke's. We've had at least one Sunday where snow affected our attendance and giving and then Easter slipped upon us very early this year. I understand it will be more than 50 years before Easter happens this early again. I guess that means it won't affect me again – bummer.

Consequently, at the end of February we were close to \$15,000 or about 9% short in our anticipated receipts and it appears that number may increase a little more by the end of March. My concern is trying to discern if I failed to project the cash flow properly or if this is going to be a trend for the year. As of now, I'm sticking to the "weird start for the year" theory and believe that we will get on track for a successful year.

The monthly projections for income are based upon past giving history. 2008 is set up to basically follow the giving pattern for 2007 with adjustments for some holidays and fifth Sundays being in different months in 2008. If you make the obvious adjustments for holidays and fifth Sundays, it's interesting how close this pattern tracks to the average for the past several years.

In addition to the end of February results, we started the year with our annual expenses exceeding our income projection by about \$70,000 or about 6%. So, not only are we looking at the performance for January and February but for ways to make sure we have another break even year.

When you look at the \$15,000 number or the \$70,000, they seem to be a very large numbers. However, when you spread the amounts among our families the magnitude becomes much less. The \$15,000 number is about \$20-\$25 per family and the \$70,000 is about \$100 per family.

We will be mailing you your first quarter giving statement around April 10th. Please review it very closely to make sure we have recorded your giving correctly and check where you are in your planned giving.

I encourage you to make sure you are up-to-date with your planned giving. Also, I strongly encourage you to plan a small increase in what you had planned to give so we can get through the year as planned. I assure you that the staff and finance committee will keep a constant watch on spending always trying to spend less than planned. Together, we should be able to make it work. I don't think that is an impossible idea, and it would show that we've moved beyond the "weird start for the year".

APRIL 2008 CALENDAR						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
APR 6 Communion Rev. Janet Forbes preaching 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship Confirmation Retreat 5:30pm: SLY PM 5:30pm: SLY, Jr. 7:34pm Fusion	7 6:30pm: Women's Night Out	8 The Emerging Church for the Existing Church Conference 7:00pm: Adult Ed Team Meeting	9 The Emerging Church for the Existing Church Conference 6:00pm: CDT Rehearsal 6:30pm: SLAM	10 The Emerging Church for the Existing Church Conference 6:45am: Donut Whole	11	12
13 Youth Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship 9:30am: Orientation of St. Luke's noon: SLY Sr. Hi Mission Trip 5:30pm: SLY PM 7:34pm: Fusion	14 5:30pm: Little School Board 7:00pm: Trustees	15	16 6:00pm: CDT Rehearsal 6:30pm: SLAM	17 6:45am: Donut Whole	18 7:30pm: Chick Flick	19 9:00am: Stephen Ministry Retreat 10:00 am: Discovery Club 2:00pm: Junior Prayz Choral Festival Service
20 Native American Sunday & Market Rev. Janet Forbes preaching 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship 3:00pm: Vince Redhouse Concert 7:34pm: Fusion	21	22	23 6:00pm: CDT Rehearsal 6:30pm: SLAM General Conference	24 6:45am: Donut Whole 5:30pm: Little School Art Show General Conference	25 General Conference	26 General Conference
27 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship 9:30am: Orientation of St. Luke's 5:30pm: SLY PM 7:34pm: Fusion General Conference	28 General Conference	29 6:00pm: CDT Rehearsal General Conference	30 6:00pm: CDT Rehearsal 6:30pm: SLAM General Conference	MAY 1 6:45am: Donut Whole 6:00pm: CDT Rehearsal General Conference	 2 6:00pm: Children's Dinner Theater General Conference	3 10:00am: What's It Worth? Antique Appraisals 7:30pm: Confirmation Service & Dessert
4 Confirmation Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship Confirmation Retreat 5:30pm: SLY PM 5:30pm: SLY, Jr. 7:34pm Fusion	5 6:30pm: Women's Night Out	6	7 6:00pm: Class of 2008 Senior Dinner	8 6:45am: Donut Whole	9	10 8:00am: Work Day 4:00pm: St. Luke's & St. Andrew Choral Festival