

# The CHRONICLE

Highlands Ranch, Colorado

MAY 2009

## Inside This Issue:

- Rev. Brad.....3
  - Common Table.....5
  - Children's Ministry.....6,7
  - UMW News.....8
  - Grocery Team Spotlight...8
  - Easter at Red Rocks.....9
  - Requiem Recap.....9
  - SLY/Confirmands.....10
- and much more!*



## Easter FUN Day!

If you missed it, you really missed it! Easter Fun Day was a wonderful day for children and families. We are thankful that the "big storm" never came. We had over 200 children and over 100 families participate in this day. Several parents, youth, and other adults worked hard to help make this great day happen and it truly was wonderful. Karin Wesson showed us a whole new fashion in headwear using cotton candy and who could forget the cute baby bunnies! Even though we were not able to be outside, the space downstairs worked perfectly as children searched for eggs, colored eggs with family members, had balloon animals made, played games and so much more. It was a great way to kick off Holy week.

## Blessings of Hope in Guatemala *by Brad Martin*



On a warm, bright early spring morning at 3:30am on March 20, a team of twenty six missionaries met in the parking lot of St Luke's to head for DIA on the church bus. We were warmly greeted to coffee and hugs by our senior pastor, Janet Forbes. A few had been to Guatemala before but the works of the next week would change all of us forever. After a short prayer we were on our way to Guatemala to touch the lives of many by our deeds and blessings of hope.

John Williams who is a veteran having been on all the trips led our team throughout the week by lining up the projects and making assignments to ensure everyone had a chance to experience the people and the vast need. Upon arrival in Guatemala City we met one of our interpreters and our bus driver for the week; then we were on our way to Antigua where we would spend the first night before departing early Saturday morning for Chichigastenago. Upon arrival in Chichi and after settling in, we headed to Lemoa to tour the work sites for the two adobe homes that we funded and would complete. Also, we had cookies with Sisters

*continued on page 3*



## SPRING WORSHIP SERIES:

### NOTHING BUT (SON)NETS: *Songs of Change*

In this season of *uncertainty and cultural shift*,  
in this time of *recession and loss*,  
in moments of *graduation and transition*,  
songs of change unsettle life.  
There is sun and shadow,  
sweet and bitter, progress and regress,  
falling and rising, life and death.

Transitions abound this spring...  
confirmation, graduations, empty nests, farewell  
and welcome to new clergy, job losses and gains.

Join us during the Sundays after Easter  
for spiritual encouragement and practical  
resources for emerging from change to new life.

## WELCOME SALLIE SUBY-LONG TO THE ST. LUKE'S CLERGY TEAM



The Staff Parish Relations Committee of St. Luke's is pleased to welcome Sallie Suby-Long to the clergy team as Associate Minister. Michelle Mallory, chairperson, said in her announcement

to the congregation on Sunday, April 26:  
*"For many of us this is a busy time of new beginnings, milestones, and transitions. It is just that way in the Methodist tradition, with ordinations and clergy appointments set in motion. Today, it is my pleasure to tell you that 'one of our own' has been appointed to serve on the clergy staff of St. Luke's."*

Sallie Suby-Long will begin her appointment on July 1 as our new Associate Minister. Many of us already know Sallie and her husband, Tom, and their daughters Rachel, Sarah, and Rebecca. The family has been a part of St. Luke's for more than 12 years.

*continued on page 2*

**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

Laura Hehner.....x49  
Pastoral Intern

James Ramsey.....x23  
Director of Music Ministry & the Arts

Kay Coryell.....x36  
Associate Director of Music Ministry

Ken Mervine.....x42  
Organist/Accompanist

Josh Carr.....x44  
Fusion Worship Leader

Carrie Mallery.....x35  
Assistant Fusion Worship Leader

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

Susan Johnson.....x19  
Assistant Director of Youth Ministry

Marcus Carlson.....x27  
Minister to Children and their Families

Joely Maddux.....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

Lisé Takayama.....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 June/July issue of *The Chronicle* are due **June 1**  
Editor: Sharon Oliver  
chronicle@stlukeshr.com



**Rev. Janet Forbes**  
Senior Pastor

## Listening to God: Corporate Discernment

Most people ask, *How do we know what God wants us to do?* and *How do we know when God is speaking and it is not our voice echoing our own desires?* Spiritual discernment is about finding God's yearning for the direction to live, not a once-and-for-all answer to all questions. When we engage in spiritual discernment, we continually seek to know God's longing and to accept the invitation to live into the abundance of life God so freely offers.

At the first gathering of the COMMON TABLE, we began to practice a process of spiritual discernment concerning one of the questions that faces us in the future: **the celebration of the Kings Service on Epiphany Sunday.** We listened to one another for the signs of God's leading. This is the process that engaged us.

- 1. Framing** identifies the focus for discernment of God's will. The matters to be included are arranged into a unified whole. The focus of the exploration is briefly described.
- 2. Grounding** in a guiding principle jump-starts the process of discernment. The guiding principle is informed by the values, beliefs, and purpose of the discerning community. Boundaries are set.
- 3. Shedding** lays aside ego, preconceived notions, false assumptions, biases, and predetermined conclusions so that persons involved in discernment can openly consider the matter.
- 4. Rooting** in the tradition connects religious and biblical stories, themes, and images with the situation at hand. The tradition may confront, confirm, nudge, or even transform the direction of the discernment process.
- 5. Listening** enables hearing the promptings of the Spirit of God, the voices of all in the discerning community, and the needs of others who may be affected by our discernment.
- 6. Exploring** frees our playful imaginations to identify possible options and paths that lie within the guiding principle.
- 7. Improving** works in consultation and prayer to improve each option under consideration until it becomes the best that we can imagine it to be within the yearning of God.
- 8. Weighing** sorts and tests the options or paths in response to the leading of God's Spirit.
- 9. Discerning** brings the explorations to a conclusion, moving toward the selection of an option which is given weight by the Spirit of God and the process in which the community is engaged.
- 10. Resting** tests the decision by allowing it to rest near the heart to determine whether it brings primarily feelings of consolation (a sense of peace and movement toward God) or desolation (distress and movement away from God).

This process of discernment is adapted from *Discerning God's Will Together: A Spiritual Practice for the Church* by Danny Morris and Charles Olson

When the Executive Team meets on Monday, May 18, they will define the next steps for our discernment as we seek a decision about our King puppets.

The next gathering of the COMMON TABLE is Monday, July 20 where we will turn our listening to toward the short-term and long-term vision for St. Luke's.

Welcome Sallie *continued from page 1*

We have come to know Sallie through lay leadership, Stephen Ministry, or Music Ministry. Soon we will know her as the Reverend Sallie Suby-Long, as she will be commissioned toward Deacon's Orders at the Annual Conference this June. A Deacon is ordained to a specialized ministry that seeks to connect the people of God to the needs of the world. Sallie will be our church's first Deacon—and she brings a depth of professional experience in leadership and human development. She will continue to serve as a senior associate at Ki ThoughtBridge working occasionally with organizations in communication, leading change, resolving conflict, and identity. She also has served as a certified spiritual director.

In her new role, Sallie will guide pastoral care, counseling, and spiritual direction. She will also serve as staff liaison to the Stephen Ministry.

We are grateful to Bishop Elaine J.W. Stanovsky for Sallie's appointment as Rev. Pam Rowley begins her transition from St. Luke's and seeks an appointment in the Northwest Texas Conference so that she can join her husband, Dr. Doug Rowley, who is a physician in Sweetwater, Texas.



**Rev. Brad Laurvick**  
Associate Minister

## Finding Space

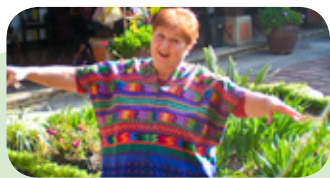
I spent some time the other day in the new chapel. It really is a beautiful room. The windows, the ceiling, the quiet, the altar... it is a wonderful room to just sit in. I hope you too will make your way there for some personal reflection or time away. I made my way there looking for sacred space. In fact, I was looking for ANY space. And I found myself sitting and taking in a beautiful moment with God.

While I was sitting there, I started to reflect on the lack of 'space' in my life. Not just sacred space, but any space. Where in my life did I have space emotionally, spiritually, mentally... and what was I missing without these spaces. If God was looking for a place to be known in my life, would God be able to find any room?

Think about your day, your week, your month... where has the space been? And not just, "I don't have anything better going on right now" space. Real space. Intentional space. Space that will allow you to BE. Is there a place in your life for that? Is there time in your schedule for that?

I spent some time the other day in the new chapel. I left feeling just as new.

Be Blessed and Be a Blessing in Your Ministry, —Rev. Brad



### Guatemala Highlights:

**Dawn Branch:** Salvador is a twelve-year-old young man who learned of the John Wesley School because he worked on its expansion as a member of a construction crew. But Salvador's hopes of furthering his education have been fulfilled through Pura Vida's scholarship program. Within weeks of having been a construction hand, Salvador was attending classes in one of the classrooms he had helped build. A missionary team member met Salvador while he was working on the John Wesley School, learned of his desire, and made it his hope a reality.

Guatemala continued from page 1

Helen and Connie who have been missionaries in Lemoa for many years. Their stories of the suffering after the civil war were moving. Lastly we visited the Hogar Del Nino Orphanage and fell in love with the children. After a long day it was back to the hotel for a tasty dinner and nightly devotion led by our own Brad Laurvick.

On Sunday evening after shopping, the team attended the local Methodist church where we were warmly greeted. After dinner and the nightly devotional, John made our work sites assignments. We were in very a special treat Monday morning at the John Wesley School in Santa Cruz del Quiche. Upon our arrival at the school all the children formed a welcoming committee for us as we walked in. The children surrounded us and held our hands as they sung to us, smiled and clapped. Amilcar welcomed us and thanked us for the support for the school. For the moment we felt like dignitaries but then we realized we were just like them just older. The children performed for us and many of us got to meet our sponsor children and their families. It was a special time for us. After the ceremony we had bible school for the children. They enjoyed the events and games of the morning but we probably had as much fun as they did. This morning was one of the highlights of the trip and words cannot describe the blessings we all felt. It was truly touching. After saying our goodbyes we headed for Lemoa where adobe houses 6 and 7 awaited us. We reported to our assignments and eagerly carried bricks, shoveled dirt and handled mud for the balance of the day. By night the team was tired but thankful for the experience to have made a difference.

For the rest of the week the team had various work assignments. We sent teams to work on adobe houses 6 and 7, and to paint at the orphanage and the John Wesley school. Everyone experienced a diversity of assignments which enriched our experience for the week. Then, late Thursday afternoon Brad led the team in blessing the new homes. Family members joined hands with us, we cried and thanked God for our gift. What a moving experience, and amazing how much an adobe brick and dirt floor home can mean to a family. On Friday we headed for Chontala, another very poor community. We were greeted by the local Methodist pastor who warmly welcomed us at his church. Then we divided into 3 teams and headed out to build chicken coops. After completing our projects we met back at the community center for lunch then we had bible school for the children. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the bible school, and after a closing prayer we headed back to the hotel for our last night in Chichi.

We concluded the week with a relaxing day in Antigua enjoying the local culture. Then, Sunday came and we walked out of town to board the bus. Why did we walk? Well, Easter celebrations had begun and many of the street were closed to traffic. So we headed out on foot with our suitcases in tow for the bus and the short trip back to Guatemala City. Many on the team will head back to Guatemala to complete God's work, others will be inspired to travel to Guatemala for the first time. They will experience what we experienced; the spirit of God and the blessing each of us had during the trip. We were called to be ambassadors to the people of Guatemala.

The people of Guatemala through us have a blessing for everyone at St Luke's because without your financial backing and prayers our work would have not been possible. Our community, the net, made this a reality. The difference St Luke's has made to these children and many families is priceless. We are the hands of God. God bless and pray for the people of Guatemala.

**Edee Worth:** My highlight would be the loving warmth of all the people of Guatemala. Especially the children. Lots of smiles and hugs. We were so wonderfully welcomed by those lovely Guatemalans... and our group, too! They were so wonderful and helpful and fun and funny. What a great week!! Can't wait to go again!!!

**Ken Fong:** The highlight for me was visiting the John Wesley School. Although I've been there several times before, I was able to spend a lot of quality time on this trip, and I came away more impressed than ever with the great work being done there.

**Jeff Suntken:** The highlight of the trip was meeting my sponsor child, Juan, for the first time. He and his mother were so gracious, thoughtful, and loving; I had no idea what the

scholarship really meant to them. That's now the easiest check I'll write all year. Other highlights of the trip: hearing stories from and seeing the dedication of Sister Helen & Sister Connie, the evening devotionals and the breakfast alliances.

**Brad Martin:** I was touched by the people especially the children, their smiles are so warm. Everyone is so appreciative of what they have and what we did for them. God's work is everywhere. My dream is to fund an annual scholarship for two members of St. Luke's to be able to join a Guatemalan trip who otherwise would not be financially able to make this happen. Since I returned I have thought about this many times and the thought keeps coming up that everyone should have the opportunity to have this life changing experience.

**Bev Ashworth:** The morning we all entered the John Wesley School and we were encircled by the children, I knelt down looking into the sparkling brown eyes of three or four children directly in front of me. My eyes welled up with tears of joy desiring to embrace each and every one of them (even though I could not speak a word of Spanish). I knew right there and then, I wanted to sponsor a child (before that moment I had been hesitant about sponsoring.) Their smiles and looks stole my heart. (Added **Tony Ashworth:** I believe witnessing to this moment with family and friends when we returned home, has recruited at least four or five more sponsoring families. Praise God!)



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

## More from Les: Expectations and Perceptions

In the late 1950's, my father needed to hire a new mechanic at his auto repair shop in Grand Junction. Business had grown to the point that he couldn't do all the work by himself. He began to look for a mechanic that he could rely on and finally he hired a young man that he knew from our church. Bill was handy with cars, had some experience as a mechanic, and seemed to be quite reliable. Also, Bill had just gotten married to Sally and was looking to setting down into a regular job now that he had a wife! Bill and Sally moved their small trailer house on to a lot not far from the repair shop. Sally was working half-time at a local school and would stop by the shop in the afternoon after she got off work. Things were going pretty well for the young couple. And they were so in love! But there must have been some little tiff one morning, for we saw Sally leaving for work without her usual friendly "Hello, Good morning!" And Bill didn't quite seem himself at the shop that day. That afternoon, Sally appeared at the door of the shop with a small box of Bill's favorite candy and some flowers in her hand. Reconciliation was in the air! She looked around the shop and spotted the familiar grey-green coveralls, but all she could see were back and legs. He was bent over the fender of a pickup, working down deep in the engine cavity. Seized by inspiration, Sally put down the flowers and candy and quietly walked over to the pickup where he was working. She cautiously looked from side-to-side, then stepped forward, bent over, and bit him on the backside! "Whaah!" came the shout from the engine compartment of the pickup. He straightened up suddenly. Bong! went the hood of the pickup as it was struck by a human head!

Bill had really liked those grey-green coveralls, ever since he had seen Dad wearing a pair. They were rugged, inexpensive and since the two men were about the same size, Dad had offered to loan him a pair until he could buy some of his own. The man stood up and turned around with a look of pain, surprise and disbelief, to see Sally's face equally contorted with disbelief, panic and embarrassment! "I... I..." she stammered, "Oh, Dear God!" The man in the gray-green coveralls, working on the pickup, was not her husband but my father! Sally started to explain when she heard laughter! Bill had just come in the door as the bite was being applied. Dad was still in a little shock, but he quickly realized the mistake. He smiled, and rubbing the back of his head with his left hand, took Sally's hand with his right. "That's OK, it was getting pretty dull this afternoon anyway!"

Everything ended on a positive note; they all had a good laugh; but Sally didn't seem to come by the shop in the afternoon quite so often after that. Sally hadn't tested her assumptions before she took action, and the result was at least very embarrassing. But how often do we size up a situation, then take action without asking ourselves if our assumptions are correct? How often do our expectations distort our perceptions? How often do we size up a situation, and then take action without asking ourselves if our assumptions are correct? The "real" Jesus was quite different from the messiah expected by his disciples and the people of Israel. Israel had anticipated a messiah for centuries, looking for a leader that would bring back the golden days of King David. The bible gave them clues of what to look for: 2 Samuel 22:3 "My God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold and my refuge, my savior; you save me from violence." Isaiah 19:20 "It will be a sign and a witness to the LORD of hosts in the land of Egypt; when they cry to the LORD because of oppressors, he will send them a savior, and will defend and deliver them." Is it no wonder that the Israelites, during Jesus time with them, had a notion that their messiah would be a military or political leader; that's what they wanted! And these expectations were so strong, that

## PRAYER CONCERNS



Week Ending April 24, 2009

Please stop by the Information Center, by the front door, where you will find the updated Prayer Concerns List (on yellow paper) and the Armed Forces Prayer List (on blue paper). Look it over and Bonnie know if you have any additions/removals from either list. 303-791-0659 x10, leave a note on the front desk, or email at bonnie@stlukeshr.com

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Gerry Wright (Gail Abernathy's mother)               | Alon Wieland (Bobbi King's brother)            |
| Jennie Keefer (Mike Hutchins' daughter)              | Cindy Hamilton (Mike & Diana Stephen's friend) |
| John Covey (friend of Ross Barnard)                  | Jennifer Morgenthaler                          |
| Norm Keller (Candy Keller's father)                  | (Teacher friend of Mike & Diana Stephen's)     |
| Pat Clem (neighbor of Doug Wagner)                   | Kirk Watkins (Keith & Marilyn Ayers son)       |
| Jim Bailey (Melissa Moberly's father)                | Bill Dearasaugh                                |
| Ronda Olson  | Jill (Jenny Hanna's friend)                    |
| Paula Strader (Sandi Miyaki's sister)                | Susie (Joy Damsgard's friend)                  |
| Judy Austin (Mary Jo Weber's sister)                 | Frank Stanley (Joy Damsgard's brother)         |
| Robert Abbott, Sr. (Nancy Abbott's father-in-law)    | Sandy Johnson (Melissa Hemphill's sister)      |
| Al Tulenko (Bobbi King's neighbor)                   | Daniel Gaul (Jennifer Richeson's brother)      |
| Matthew Peterman's cousin, Matthew                   | Andrew Kent                                    |
| Julie Hayes (friend of Susan Werthington)            | (10. yr. old family friend of the Richeson's)  |
| Brent Webber (friend of Nancy Cushing)               | Olivia Murrour                                 |
| Amy Spicher (Doug Spicher's mother)                  | Mark Bartellina (Mike Hutchins' cousin)        |
| Lori Lieberman (friend of Jane Damsgard)             | David Joseph (Friend of Bobbi King/Marie Blue) |
| Thelma Hodge (Meryl Cupp's mother)                   | The communities of Fargo & Moorhead, ND        |
| Diane Wieland (friend of Bobbi King's)               | (Bobbi King's family area) river rising        |
| Loraine Berg (friend of Bobbi King's)                | Beth Turner                                    |
| Janusz Daszuta (pastor from Poland)                  | Glenn Turner                                   |
| Andrew Jones (friend of Renee Sanek)                 | MaryJo McGrath (Monty Hoffman & Raina          |
| Dustin Baird (family friend of the Lucero's)         | Powell's sister-in-law)                        |
| Janet Wilson (Betty McIntyre's sister)               | Chuck Wilcox (Brent Wilcox's father)           |
| Shirley Quail (Kay Swanson's friend)                 | Rey Lucero (Gov Lucero's father)               |
| Marcia Enger   | (LS) Lynn Schmackel's father, Gil              |
| Charles Annett (LS-Suzanne MacCorkell's grandfather) | Patricia Sailors Westlake                      |
| Carol Burton (Melissa Hemphill's friend)             | John Larsh (friend of Rick & Louise Jasper)    |
| Jan Stanley (Joy Damsgard's sister)                  | Mike Stephens                                  |
| Shirley Sutcliffe (Leigh Ramsey's mother)            | <b>ARMED FORCES:</b>                           |
| Dolphia Dawson (Melinda Dawson's sister)             | Josh Meissner, William Bader, Zac Henshaw,     |
| Kajsa Gotlin (Susan Hooke's friend)                  | Denton & MaryBeth Dye, Joseph Plumb, Kenneth   |
| Helen Mueller  | Berube, Erick Munoz, Joel Fritts,              |
| Karen Edwards (friend of Eileen & Ed Law)            | Robert Radle, Brian Armstrong, Matthew Gurley, |
| Dwain Barcellini (Mike Hutchins' uncle)              | Jeffrey Ransick, James "Jim" Harding, Amber    |
| Dwight Griegs (Susan Hooke's father)                 | Marshall, Graham Thorne, Jerry Mendiaz, Mark   |
| Cate Hootman (friend of Ed & Eileen Law)             | Thompson, Sean M. Pippitt, Jeff Hamer,         |
| Lucille Hallowell (friend of Nancy Abbott's)         | Josh Brady & Jeremy Brady, Colin Gabriel       |
| Lauren Nelson (family friend of the Weispenfennings) | <b>SYMPATHIES:</b>                             |
| Chrissy Booth (Kam & Tim Bolé's friend)              | To Jenny & Jake Stevenson and family on the    |
| Suzie Burk (Melissa Ester's mother)                  | passing of their friend, Richard Beauman,      |
| Kay Conklin (friend of Peggy Olson)                  | April 6.                                       |
| Schelly Thompson (Sandy Thompson's sister-in-law)    | To Cindy & Dan Raap and family on the          |
| Nancy Jackson  | passing of Cindy's mother, Sharon Liston,      |
| Betty Kieser (Bonnie Funk's mother)                  | April 14.                                      |
| Jed Bennett (Fred & Jean Bennett's son)              | To Emily & Chris Wilterdink on the passing     |
| Tammy Hess (Bonnie Funk's friend)                    | of Emily's grandmother, Maxine Goodloe,        |
| Marilyn Whitelaw (David Whitelaw's mother)           | April 17.                                      |
|  | To Devin & Betsy Brawn and family on the       |
|  | passing of Devin's grandmother, Julia Raye     |
|  | Roberts and his great-uncle, both on           |
|  | April 20.                                      |

even Jesus disciples could not fully grasp Christ's spiritual kingship until after his resurrection. The people of Jerusalem did not test the validity of their expectations; Wanda had not stopped to ask herself in that figure in the gray-green coveralls was really her husband; and so often we too, fail to take that critical first step when we encounter something new, unexpected, or incongruent. We fall back on our old familiar symbols and risk seeing the new and unique. Ask yourself when encountering something new or unfamiliar, "What in me may be influencing what I am hearing and seeing? Is there something other than what seems obvious to me?"

As we do so, we may gain the opportunity to learn, grow in understanding, make a friend, or help someone in need. We may see and experience the presence of God!

**God bless us all.** —Rev. Les



**Lynda Fickling**  
Director of  
Servant Ministry

## We are Called to Serve

*Getting connected through serving helps you discover a deeper relationship with Christ and a renewed sense of joy!*

*Here are a few opportunities to serve.*

**Get Connected Center:** This is our information center for our community. Answer questions regarding our ministry programs and special events. Work one Sunday a month for 30 minutes! Contact Lynda Fickling 303-791-0659 x20 lynda@stlukeshr.com

**Handy person:** Help us re-finish our benches outside the front doors! They are in the need of an "extreme-makeover!" Contact Trustee Lead: Ken Fong kfong@att.net

**Fellowship Events Team:** These team members attend meetings to prepare for events and work in conjunction with other ministries to provide guidance and tactical support for special events. They may cook, plan, decorate, setup/cleanup for special fellowship events along side the ministry team hosting the event. This team also includes our Sunday morning fellowship of coffee/donuts. Contact Lisa Lehnus 303-346-8114 lehnu1@yahoo.com or Mona Daniels 720-348-1662 moandroy@msn.com

If you are searching for a place to connect at St. Luke's, please contact Lynda Fickling, Director of Servant Ministry  
303-791-0659x20

lynda@stlukeshr.com or  
Karin Wesson, Team Leader  
for Lay Leadership,  
303-683-0196  
karin@thewessons.com

### Café St. Luke's:

Join us for Coffee & Conversation about our community 9:30am the 2nd Sunday of the month. Meet your Barista Lynda Fickling at the coffee station located in the Fellowship Hall.

## Discover your Spiritual Gifts

Sundays | 1:00am  
June 7, 14, 21, 28

The gifts you have are uniquely yours. God gave them to us for one reason: to put them to use! You are no doubt, already using these spiritual gifts everyday. Come discover, develop and affirm the gifts God has given to you to serve as his hands in this world. Sign up at the Get Connected Center or drop in on June 7. All are welcome! Contact Lynda Fickling 303-791-0659x20 lynda@stlukeshr.com

### Are you a woman who enjoys planning fun events?

Do you support raising money for different Mission groups? UMW would love to have you. Please call Fran West at (303) 797-7107 or Renae Parra at (303) 6830-872 (email RenaeParra@aol.com) for more information or to offer your service.

## Common Table Report: **The Net is Cast**

*by Audrey Elling* The first meeting of the Common Table was held on Monday, April 13, welcoming over 50 people to partake of an evening of shared food and new ideas. Attendees were made aware of the dynamics of this different, open way of communicating that St. Luke's is embracing, and everyone was given an opportunity to participate in a guided and spirited discussion about the Three Kings service as it pertains to the state of the puppets. Starting at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall with a dinner of soup and bread, the meeting officially began at 6:30 and continued until 8:00pm, with folks able to stay for a little informal question-and-answer session until 8:30 or so. Many of the group filled out feedback forms with their comments, which will be used in planning the next sessions. Future meetings are scheduled for July 20, October 19 and next January 25.

If you've missed the video on Sunday mornings, the Common Table is the practical coming-together of our community as a Net. Imagine a fishing net – distinct loops and knots all tied into one another, all connected, which forms something larger – but a net without boundaries. The community of St. Luke's is like that kind of net and, as we grow, we want an effective way to plan, discuss, communicate and discern the will of God – collectively and individually. And, instead of a traditional hierarchy, we looked for a method which would give everyone a voice. The Common Table is that method. All are invited: first-time visitors, long-standing members of the congregation, staff, lay leaders and anyone involved in our church. We welcome you!

At this first meeting, Reverend Janet began by explaining The Common Table in an Organic Community; basically it's not a decision-making body, but rather a venue to provide the congregation a sense of direction, vision and priorities for our church. We all introduced ourselves, and heard a brief presentation on the function and goals of the lay leadership; a booklet showing the current leadership teams was made available to the participants. Reverend Janet then led a discussion of "what is discernment?" and the attendees participated in a practical exercise to learn how discernment by a group can be accomplished. Our topic was "What is the future of the Kings Service on Epiphany Sunday?" So much good information was presented and discussed! The Executive Team will weigh all the information when they complete the last part of the discernment process, and present their determinations at the next meeting of the Common Table. In concluding our first meeting, we heard a discussion about Calendaring for an organization of our size (how to make that happen effectively for all groups), and were presented with a report on the celebration of our fiscal health.

The comments from the feedback forms are being reviewed and tallied, and the overwhelming theme is clear: The Common Table is a good thing, and its time is definitely *Now!* We'll be looking forward to your participation on July 20 – *please join us!*

NEW  
MEMBERS

*Welcome*

**New Members April 2009**  
**\*32 Confirmads!**

Please see our Youth - page 10



**Shel Stanfill & Debbie Davidson-Stanfill, Laura**

*"Ken Mervine brought us here. Good music, liberal theology, good children's programs."*



**Marcus Carlson**  
Minister to Children  
& their Families

## Children & Family Corner: Celebrate!

As a child of the eighties I have an affinity for both 70's and 80's music, the last time music was remotely decent. As a result you will find on my ipod several tunes from both of those decades. My son, Micah who will turn 4 in July loves to have me play my ipod. It is odd to think that my son knows what an ipod is at 3, and that email did not exist for me until college, but nonetheless I digress. One of the songs that Micah has requested (in fact I had to buy it for my ipod after he heard it on the radio) was the song Celebrate by Kool and the Gang. He requests it daily, many times more than once. He has learned the words and loves to sign, dance, and pretend he is playing guitars or drums to the song. He will ask Abby to join in with him and she shouts and kicks her feet high in the air. Besides feeling very accomplished as a parent that my child will know 70's and 80's music, I have caught something else from this experience. When Jesus said to have faith like a child; he was not kidding. In fact, I think Jesus meant everything that he said. To have faith like a child is to see the world for what it is and what it can be, to see the Kingdom of God (or God's dream) as simply as possible. Life is already complicated enough. That's why I love being a parent and working with kids; they show us God in ways we cannot see or have long forgotten. May is a month of celebrations in my house. We will celebrate Abby's second birthday, my birthday, the birthday of my parents, Mother's Day and our children will be baptized this month at St. Luke's. It will be the one-year anniversary of my lap-band surgery that has changed and saved my life. All of that will happen between May 7 and May 18. One May 31st, we celebrate Pentecost Sunday, the birthday of the church as well as our promotion of children and youth. There will be many reasons to celebrate in our household in May and I am thankful for each of these celebrations. What my children have reminded me is that there is much to celebrate, and its not just the holidays, birthdays, big victories, or wonderful moments; it's the simple things. It's the spring snowstorm that comes after a winter of little to no snow getting us all to slow down. It's the face of a child who gets excited over a small toy, bug, or bird. It's the family meal in between the moments of chaos. It's the time of laughter at day, and tucking in at night. Its that one dinner per year you get with your spouse where you can be. Even in a time of uncertainty and in the midst pain, suffering, and doubt, there is much to celebrate and as the children around us remind us; it's the little things! Take some time to celebrate.

—Mr. Marcus & the Children's Ministry staff

## St. Luke's Kids Growing with God

### News & Notes:

**Palm Sunday** Thank you to all of the parents and other helpers who helped us move 180 people into the sanctuary to wave Palms on palm Sunday. It was one of our biggest Sunday school groups of the year and the kids loved being part of the service.

**Don't forget to check out the website!** The children's section of St. Luke's website ([www.stlukeshr.com](http://www.stlukeshr.com)) is updated regularly and is filled with information, flyers, and much more. Be sure to check it out!

**Wacky Wednesdays** Wacky Wednesdays registration has begun. Children must be 3 by September 15, 2009 and need to be independently potty trained to attend. Dates are June 3, 10, 17 and July 8, 15, & 22. Registration is \$15.00 per day per child. Contact Tami at 303 791-1982 for more information. Visit the website for a flyer and more information.

**Breakfast with Mr. Marcus** Mr. Marcus (Minister to Children & their Families) will host 6 children for breakfast in the conference room at 10:30. Breakfast will include doughnuts, orange juice, bananas, and a breakfast sandwich. This is a great opportunity for children to ask Mr. Marcus questions and for Mr. Marcus to get to know them. We would like at least one parent to join their child(ren) for the breakfast. Upcoming Breakfast Schedule: May 17-Grades 4-6 (5 spots left), May 24-Grades 1-3 (5 spots left) No Breakfast in June or July.

**TWEENS ROCK!** **SLY, Jr.** On June 7 we will be having a special event for our new SLY, Jr class (promotion Sunday is May 31). We will be having a game night for the new group from 5:30-7:30pm. Dinner is included. Come for a great time of games and other fun!

**Serving Opportunities!** We are gearing up for our fall ministry and the start of a new school year and we are excited for the many opportunities to serve; some new, some old, some revised and changed. Our biggest needs right now though are for Vacation Bible School and for our tween ministry (5th & 6th grade). Let us know if you can help out.

### Promotion Events 2009

- May 17** SLY kids come to Tweens ROCK Sunday School class to tell them about SLY
- May 31** Promotion/Celebration Sunday
- June 7** Summer Sunday School Starts – Children move up to new classes (based on age/grade for October 2009) • No 2 year old class until the fall • 4th graders move to Tweens/SLY, Jr. • 6th graders move up to SLY • Game night for new SLY, Jr. group (5:30-7:30pm)

### For All Parents of Preschoolers!

Are you CandyLanded out?

Have you found yourself talking about what happened on Teletubbies this morning?

Sounds like you could use some adult time and your kids could use some kid time.



### Come join a St. Luke's Playgroup

For all parents and their children ages 0 to 5 years.

Contact Debbie Davidson-Stanfill

[dclardavidson@comcast.net](mailto:dclardavidson@comcast.net) or

Kristina Linn at [Kristina@stlukeshr.com](mailto:Kristina@stlukeshr.com)





**Kay Swanson**  
Director of  
Little School



### Little School News: May Goodbyes

Time to say goodbye to many of our children as we prepare for our last weeks of Little School and sending our 4's off to

Explorers or kindergarten! My how time flies when you are having so much fun! We are planning lots

of fun activities for outdoors so we are hoping that Mr. Weatherman graces us with warm days. We will be educating our children about SUN SAFETY and the importance of wearing sunscreen and protecting ourselves in the high altitude of Colorado. This summer will give us time to revamp the playground with new sod, new shade structures and surfacing. We want to make our playground a very fun and safe place for the whole church to enjoy! Thanks to Candy Keller and Steve Riley are helping us to make it the best we can!

Chapel this month will be about "Making Time For Our Friends" as we head into a busy summer season and not forgetting our wonderful friends that we have made at preschool. **Graduation May 19 & 20** will be centered on our Friendship theme with "A Friend For All Seasons" featuring fun songs that our children have learned throughout the year. Graduation is a wonderful program that is the culmination of a year of smiles, laughter and milestones.

We are blessed to be a part of such a vibrant community at St. Luke's and we look forward to our 15th year beginning 9-5-09! (Ms. Kay and Ms. Maria will also celebrate the beginning of the 15th year here as well!) We look forward to seeing many of our families at Wacky Wednesdays and Vacation Bible School over our break. May you have a blessed summer with sunny days and happy days!

Blessings, -Ms. Kay & Staff:-)

#### Please note:

**Parent Open House August 27**  
**Children's Open House August 28**  
and **School begins August 31!** SEE YOU THEN!

## Gear up for Camp E.D.G.E. VBS



Those walking into St. Luke's on June 22 will think they have made a serious wrong turn as St. Luke's will be transformed into a mountain campground in preparation for this year's Vacation Bible School-Camp E.D.G.E. During this week, children from St. Luke's and around the community will go on an action-packed, adrenaline-filled expedition where they will learn to Experience and Discover God Everywhere!

Each summer VBS becomes an important part of many children's faith development and this year will be no exception. At Camp E.D.G.E. VBS, children 3 years old through 5th grade will experience God through rockin' new music, cool crafts, mind-boggling science activities, and larger-than-life games!

Want to join in the fun? We are looking for people from all backgrounds and ages (6th grade and older) to lend their time, talent and gifts to make this year a success. We have volunteer positions of many varieties and commitment levels. Maybe you are interested in a classroom position to actively witness a child's discovery of God? Or perhaps a more behind the scenes position is more your style. Would you like to be active in the planning strategy? Or do you prefer to just pop in for one morning? No matter what you bring we have the perfect opportunity for you to serve! Area's of serving include 8 different planning committees of decorations, snack, discovery, craft, games, music, mission, and lunch; teaching and assisting in the classroom; and assisting with each committee.

New for VBS this year we will have a gift tree, where cards listed with special and general items needed for VBS (e.g. craft or snack items) will be hung on a tree in the fellowship hall to allow the congregation to contribute to this wonderful ministry. This will allow us to keep costs and registration fees down this year to just \$25/child and a \$75 family maximum. Plus this will enable us to offer parents/guardians on a planning committee or volunteering to serve all 5 days to have their children's registration fees waived!

In addition to joy of guiding a child's development of a personal relationship with God, all volunteers (and their children) receive lunch on the day they help and there is free childcare provided by St. Luke's trained childcare staff for children too young to attend VBS.

You may sign up your child and volunteer to serve simply by going to [www.stlukeshr.com](http://www.stlukeshr.com) and click on Camp E.D.G.E. or contact Joely Maddux [joely@stlukeshr.com](mailto:joely@stlukeshr.com) or Marcus Carlson [marcus@stlukeshr.com](mailto:marcus@stlukeshr.com) with any questions.

- What:** St. Luke's Camp E.D.G.E. VBS
- When:** June 22-26 9:30am-noon
- Who:** Children 3 years through entering 5th grade
- Cost:** \$25/child \$75 family maximum
- Serving opportunity:**

Many available to suit your specific time and gifts!

#### Calendar:

- May 16** *Discovery Club*
- May 17** *10:30-10:55am Breakfast with Mr. Marcus, grades 4-6*
- May 24** *10:30-10:55am Breakfast with Mr. Marcus, grades 1-3*
- May 26** *Children's Ministry Team Meeting 6:30-8:00pm*
- June 3** *Wacky Wednesdays 9:30-noon*
- June 7** *Game Night for new SLY, Jr. group, 5:30-7:30pm*
- June 10** *Wacky Wednesdays 9:30-noon*
- June 17** *Wacky Wednesdays 9:30-noon*
- June 22-26** *Camp EDGE Vacation Bible School*
- July 5** *No Sunday School*
- July 8** *Wacky Wednesdays 9:30-noon*
- July 15** *Wacky Wednesdays 9:30-noon*
- July 22** *Wacky Wednesdays 9:30-noon*



## Small Group Spotlight: Grocery Certificate Team Three Cheers for the... Grocery Certificate Team!!!

by Katie Newell Ahhh...Spring is here, the grass is greening up and fans are gearing up for a great season. No doubt, your favorite team is taking the field somewhere, but there's a team at St. Lukes you should know about. Not only do they boast quite an impressive line-up, but they are always excited to have new players on both sides of the fence (okay...

make that the GCT table!) And for some minor league effort, you can be part of a major league success- with all of the proceeds benefitting the St. Lukes general fund! Last year, the group raised \$8,000 and hopes are high that even more can be raised with additional awareness.

Here's how the program works: King Soopers and Safeway certificates can be purchased in \$50 increments and return 5% to the church. Tony's Meats has a 10% return to the church. You can use these certificates towards anything at the store, including groceries, gift cards, flowers, etc. Some people plan ahead at holidays or birthday and use the certificates to purchase gift cards for movies, clothing, presents, etc. The church can take cash, checks, or do an EFT from your checking account make the process easy and streamlined.

Joanne Cleveland has been part of the program for 19 years and has seen it evolve into an efficient and fun process. There are sellers, and then there are teammates who come in and do the accounting side of things. "We used to have to do everything from selling, to reconciling, to depositing the money. Now, we just sell." Plus, she enjoys the interaction she has with her teammates. "One of the advantages to being at the table is that you get to know people. You get to chat and people tell you a bit about themselves!"

Co-chair Terri Church jokes that "it's a really good fundraiser, and I was hoping that it would help me remember names!" And luckily, there have been a few new names on The St. Lukes roster in the last few months, which helps because there are times when their bench gets empty. "Joanne and I are the back ups if people cancel, but after so many years, we have a good system and we work really well as a team." Their teamwork makes the process run smoothly and they also coordinate the schedules and train new sellers.

Now, here's some statistics, you just can't ignore: If a family purchases \$100 in grocery certificates a week, (\$100 X .05 X 52 weeks) that's a donation to St. Lukes annually of \$260. If even 100 families were participating at that level, that's \$26,000 to the general fund...and that, folks, isn't peanuts!

So how can you be part of the St. Lukes Grocery Certificate Team? Well, you can join their fabulous bunch, selling certificates between services (and you don't have to be a math genius!) You also don't have to commit to a schedule, and you can literally check on the online calendar and pick days you're available.

And for all of us fans of St. Lukes, we can step up to the plate and start buying some certificates. There's no possible way to strike out and it can be a real home run for everyone!

START THE ORGAN MUSIC!! AND... Here's Your St. Lukes Line Up:

Sunday Sellers –Barb Chapman, Bill & Judy Dearasaug, Carol Frame, Caroline Butler, Kathy Swier, Marilyn Bacon, Nancy Cushing, Paula Severseik, Peter Northrop, Terri Church, Joanne Cleveland

Office Seller – Bonnie Funk

Accounting & Purchasing – Linda Palmer, Traci Frost

Staff Liaison – Dave Cupp, Lynda Fickling

If you would like more information on selling or buying grocery certificates, please call Joanne Cleveland at 303-791-3874, or Terri Church at 303-768-0197.



## St. Luke's 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."*

**UMW Needs You!** The United Methodist Women plan events throughout the year for the women of our church. They organize occasions such as the Candlelight Dinner, Pie and Prayer afternoon, Spring Tea, and Parking Lot Sale. This year they added the Chocolate Boutique as an all day Spiritual Retreat for women. Proceeds from events are donated to many different Mission groups. All of these fun and meaningful experiences require man power (actually, woman power.) If you are interested in helping plan and organize these types of events for women, we could really use your talents! Please call Fran West at (303) 797-7107 or Renae Parra at (303) 683-0872 (email RenaeParra@aol.com) for more information or to offer your service.

**UMW Spring Tea** The Spring Tea was planned for Sunday, May 3, 2009. This get together for ladies of all ages will be written up in the next edition of the Chronicle.

**"Let Us Pray"** The UMW Annual Pie and Prayer Meeting will be on Sunday, September 20th from 2:00-4:00pm. Audrey Elling will be our guest speaker. We will again bring in a labyrinth and have a blessing of the prayer shawls.

### Mark your calendars:

- Monday, May 4 – Women's Night Out: Las Brisas
- Sunday, May 17 – UMW Mission Team meeting
- Monday, May 18 – Evening Book Club: *The Last Lecture* by Randy Pausch

### Looking ahead:

Please note date changes on the following events:

- Sunday, September 20 2:00-4:00pm – Annual Pie and Prayer Meeting: "Let Us Pray"
- Monday, December 8 – Women's Candlelight Dinner

### Subgroups of UMW at St. Luke's UMC:

- **Evening Book Group**  
Fourth Monday of the month, 7:00pm Conference Room. For more information, please call Fran West at 303-797-7107 or Renae Parra at 303-683-0872.
- **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 knitting, quilting and crocheting to benefit those in need. We also continue to collect Care Squares – any size, color, or shape (as long as it's washable) – to be assembled into Afghans, lap robes and Prayer Shawls. Need a refresher course? Several members are patient teachers!
- **Scrapbooking Circle** Every other month, 7:00-10:00pm Fellowship Hall. For more information, contact Christy Wohlleber 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 your cropping materials and get some pictures in an album. Enjoy hours of uninterrupted time with space to work. Think of the possibilities!
- **Women's Night Out** First Monday of the month, 6:30pm various locations. For more information, please contact Lynda Fickling Lynda at 303-791-0659 x20 or lynda@stlukeshr.com or Renae Parra at 303-683-0872 or renaeparra@aol.com.

## Easter at Red Rocks

by Jim Allen Easter Sunday 2009 was a day of outreach for St. Luke's United Methodist Church, as we responded to the honor of being invited by the Member Denominations of the Colorado Council of Churches to participate in, and lead the Easter Sunrise Service at Red Rocks Amphitheater.



Our Senior Pastor, Rev. Janet Forbes delivered a spirited sermon, entitled "Grave Clothes or Angel Robes" to the gathered assemblage (estimated at nearly 10,000), who braved a damp, foggy, 35-degree morning to partake in celebrating the Glory of the 3rd Day.

St. Luke's Women of Note provided the inspirational music, performing a collection of eight contemporary songs, including the rocking-of-Red Rocks with soloist Jack Kennedy in the finale with the theme song from "Jesus Christ SuperStar". Carrying the vocals for the Women of Note were Susy Halloran, Sherry Merrill, Leigh Ramsey, Rev. Pam Rowley, Sallie Suby-Long, and Lisé Takayama. The Women of Note were supported instrumentally by the band: Ed Coryell-acoustic guitar, Sean Plum-electric guitar, Jeff Johnson-percussion, Dr. James Ramsey-keyboards, Jon Takayama-drums, and Jim Allen-bass guitar.

Dr. Ramsey also sang "Spirit of Life" as the Call to Prayer, a soft, clear and beautiful rendition, with which we at St. Luke's are very familiar.

Ken Mervine, organist for St. Luke's and Wizard of the White and Black 88's, led the crowd in the Congregational Hymn "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" (very powerful), provided Post-Service music entitled "Amazing Grace", as well as bringing depth and dynamics to "Jesus Christ SuperStar".

As much of an honor as Sunrise at Red Rocks was for us, the overwhelming sense of inspiration was the blessing we all received that morning. Hearing the Lord's Prayer recited in unison by 10,000 people was very moving. And participating in a Denver community tradition of this magnitude truly brought our Music Ministry to the people, en masse.

Now for the fun stuff... we gathered our thoughts in the same dressing room so many major acts have relaxed (i.e. The Beatles). Walking down the Hall Of Fame, and seeing the names of the kings and queens of music that Red Rocks has hosted was a bell-ringer. Stepping out in front of a crowd that large was daunting, until we broke the ice, then strangely a sense of calm and assurance seemed to take over, and we proceeded to "rock the house". The crowd joining in on our gospel version of "This Little Light Of Mine", when the cold just seemed to melt away. Krispy Kreme glazed donuts and coffee at 5:30am was more than appropriate (and necessary). And... just how fast it all went by.

A special word of thanks goes out to our technical support team of Tim Boles, Ken Fong and photojournalist Bob Oliver (proof of delivery!!) Without carriage this could have never happened, so "Thank You" Bob Utter for getting up at 3:00am to drive us there, on the "Long and Winding Road" to Red Rocks.



**James Ramsey**  
Director of Music  
Ministry & the Arts



**Kay Coryell**  
Associate Dir. of  
Music Ministry



**Ken Mervine**  
Organist/  
Accompanist



## Requiem for a Superstar –

### One stop on our Lenten journey

by Jenna Wilcox *Requiem for a Superstar* was a production of original design. The music was a combination of selections from *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Requiem* by Karl Jenkins. The monologues performed were a combination of existing material and newly written accounts of the women who were touched by Jesus in his life and ministry. This particular show was also a departure from the traditional offerings of the Wesley Players. While it was a dramatic portrayal, it was also a worship opportunity and many who came experienced it as just that. Some left in tears and said that after the experience they were truly ready to embark into Holy Week with a new understanding.

Through the process of writing, editing, casting and rehearsing it became clear that this show did not belong to any one person and that we were indeed taking part in a much bigger story, being told Sunday by Sunday and moment by moment as we marked our calendars to Easter morning. At the very least, this experience was transformative. I was indeed lead through this journey by a loving Lord who was faithful to the very last moment.

This collaborative effort was unique in its demands on all, not just vocally but also emotionally. Stepping in and out of contrasting roles, the cast told the story of Jesus' ministry though his final moments on the cross. We are blessed to have tremendous depth of talent in our community. The performers and technical crews answered the call of *Requiem* and laid their time and talents out as an offering of service and worship to all who attended. Thanks to all who served this ministry.

*Requiem* netted \$2,550 for Music & Drama Ministry and Nothing But Nets. Thank you for your generosity as we work together to rid the world of malaria. This world is better because we shared our gifts.

## St. Luke's at HR Music Arts Festival May 16

May 16 at 7:00pm the St. Luke's Youth Jazz Orchestra (SLYJO) and the Ministers of Swing (MOS) will participate in the Highlands Ranch Music Arts Festival. This event takes place at Civic Green Park from 10:00am-9:00pm Saturday. The St. Luke's jazz ensembles will take the stage at 7:00pm. All are welcome to stop by and enjoy some jazz!

**Host Families Needed** June 1, the St. Luke's Off-Notes Youth Choir is hosting the Boston Avenue United Methodist Chapel Choir from Tulsa, OK. The concert takes place at 7:00pm. Following the concert, our congregation will be housing the youth. We'll begin asking for those that can help with housing soon so watch for details. Having extra teenagers in your home overnight is always a great opportunity! Don't miss the concert or the fun!

# Don't miss

- ✦ **Graduating Senior Dinner May 13, 6:00pm.** If you haven't yet RSVP'd to Chris, do so ASAP! We will share a catered meal and great memories and advice from former youth on how to survive and thrive in college!
- ✦ **Graduation Sunday: On May 17, a video presentation will be a part of worship at each service.** We will use pictures we have been collecting from proud parents. High School and College graduates (and their families) are welcome to share in worship and receive a gift and recognition from our congregation.
- ✦ **Youth Sunday School in May focuses on 'Spiritual Intimacy',** how do we get closer to God and why does God want to get to know us too well. There will be classes every Sunday, including Memorial Day Sunday.
- ✦ **SLY PM in May :**
  - » **May 10 – No SLY PM** (*Make your Mom happy, it's Mother's Day!*)
  - » **May 17 – Graduation Celebration.** Cook out and outdoor games in the park.
  - » **May 24 –** *What do we memorialize on Memorial Day?*
  - » **May 31 – Welcome to Summer!!!**
- ✦ **There still may be spots available on this summer's mission trips.** Contact [chris@stlukeshr.com](mailto:chris@stlukeshr.com) to check in and get on a trip! Do you remember if you earned a scholarship by working the Pumpkin Patch? Email [susan@stlukeshr.com](mailto:susan@stlukeshr.com) to find out.
- ✦ **Car Wash May 30!!!** Support our youth scholarship fund and youth missions by getting your car washed and dried between 9:00am and 3:00pm. No set price, only free will donations.
- ✦ **Mission Trip Giving Boards:** Can you help support our youth mission trips without leaving the comforts of home? YES YOU CAN! Look for two 'Giving Boards' in the Fellowship Hall this month and next month. Each board has 100 envelopes on it, numbered 1-100. If you and your family can support youth missions this summer, you are invited to remove an envelope and return it with a donation matching the amount on the outside of the envelope. We would also like you to return a photo so that we can display pictures of St. Luke's folks who have been supporting youth missions in replacement of the missing envelopes. The Giving Boards will remain available and on display until all envelopes have been claimed and replaced with photos. Envelopes can be taken any time and returned any time to the church office.



**Chris Wilterdink**  
Director of  
Youth Ministry



**Susan Johnson**  
Assistant Director  
of Youth Ministry

## CHRIS'S CORNER Making Firm

In April, we got to share together in the journey of this year's Confirmation Class, culminating in their becoming members of St. Luke's on April 19. Much of their class-time was spent creating friendships, and on something else that is equally important: Making their relationship with God more firm.

For all of our youth, this is a season of great transition. Going from school to summer, moving up a grade, perhaps changing schools, maybe even leaving home for the first time as college classes appear on the horizon. When life's changes are all around us, it highlights just how important it is to have a firm relationship and understanding of your own, personal, faith. This year's confirmands have taken a great step in collecting tools they can use in future spiritual endeavors, and the better grip they have on these tools, the easier their navigation through seasons of change will be... Take time this month to celebrate your own milestones from your faith journey, looking at where your relationship with God become more firm (or confirmed?) Also, get yourself ready to celebrate more changes and transitions in the month ahead as we prepare for graduations and celebrations of new milestones!

—Peace & Love, Chris

### WELCOME CONFIRMANDS



**Gus  
Auran**



**Brian  
Bacon**



**Kate  
Ballard**



**Jeremy  
Brown**



**Megan  
Brown**



**Jana  
Coryell**



**Danielle  
Cushing**



**Parker  
Cushing**



**Alaina  
Gilbert**



**Spencer  
Hayward**



**Caleb  
Heaton**



**Luke  
Heaton**



**Ryan  
Hooke**



**Kelly  
Jackson**



**Grant  
Larson**



**Lorelle  
Lynch**



**Zach  
Madsen**



**Mica  
Mallory**



**Natalie  
Murrow**



**Liza  
Nolder**



**Laura  
Northrop**



**Bailey  
Richeson**



**Kate  
Sanek**



**Rachel  
Santee**



**Madi  
Schroeder**



**Jackie  
Severseike**



**Matthew  
Smith**



**Marisa  
Takayama**



**Meredith  
Tolleson**



**Ryan  
Uselman**



**Lauren  
Willoughby**



**Emily  
Wright**



**Dave Cupp**  
Director of Finance



**Lisé Takayama**  
Assistant Director  
of Finance

**Important General Information About Writing Checks.**

Writing checks continues to be a common way to pay when we make purchases and pay our bills. In fact, we've written so many of them over the years

that we have a tendency to be a little sloppy in the process. Banks process so many checks they have to use technology in order to process them in a timely fashion. Gone are the days when the bank employees took each individual check and reviewed it for all the details and made sure the numbers and the written amount matched. The scanner machines they use today scans the date and the amount you entered in the number box and that is about all they check.

Missing signatures, payees, etc, doesn't seem to matter much anymore until the amount of the check reaches a large amount. Only when a check is disputed does these detail items become important. They do not compare the numbers and the written amount on a routine basis.

How clearly you enter the numbers in the number box can have a great impact on what happens to your checking account balance. We've deposited some checks for small amounts that have been read by the scanner at the bank as a large amount and recorded in your bank account accordingly. *i.e., \$30 becomes \$3,000, etc.* It is all in how you enter the dollar and cents amounts and separate the two so the scanner can read them correctly. If you put the two zeros for the cents value too close to the dollar amount it may get scanned as all dollars—regardless of what you wrote for the amount. The most common things we see in processing checks here are the lack of clarity between the dollar numbers and the cents numbers and letting your pen drag when you write the numbers making unusual loops and shapes which may scan as different numbers than you intended.

When we see a questionable number entry, we attempt to clean it up for clarity as long as the number matches the written amount. However, we process hundreds of checks and don't have the time to make this a priority part of the processing. Luckily, I only know of a very few incidents with our checks and we're happy to assist you in resolving any problems you incur. However, your exposure is much larger than the checks you write to St. Luke's since you probably write checks at many other places such as the grocery store, etc.

Bottom line, make sure you write the number amount on your checks very clear so the bank scanner will read them correctly. Otherwise, you may receive some surprise notices from your bank regarding overdrafts, etc. In the cases I'm aware of, the bank has been very cooperative in fixing the problem. But, why go through the hassle.

I shouldn't pass up the opportunity to encourage you to use one of our alternate methods of giving. Using one of these alternative methods could help you avoid this check amount issue.

**Thank You For Your Continued Support.** Income for the first three months of 2009 has met our budgeted expectations. For that, we continue to be very grateful to you for your part in making this happen and insure we're able to continue our ministry programs at the levels we've grown to expect.

We've been very busy since the first of the year transitioning to new accounting software. Thank goodness that process is about complete

so we can start enjoying the efficiencies we expect to receive from the new system and get back to communicating to you about how well we're doing financially.

I'm looking forward to providing you detailed information about the budget and how we're doing in the giving record mailing we will be sending to you in the next few weeks. Remember, I'm here most all of the time and I welcome your emails and phone calls when you have questions [davec@stlukeshr.com](mailto:davec@stlukeshr.com) or 303-791-0659 x24.

**Pick and Choose Your Method Of Giving to SLUMC.**

We have many ways for you to make your giving to SLUMC easy and convenient. You may want to consider one of these convenient methods for your contributions. In addition to cash and checks, we offer online credit card transactions, stock transfers and scheduled automatic withdrawals from checking or credit card accounts. The following is a general summary:

1. **General Fund and Capital Campaign:** All methods.
2. **Grocery Cards:** Cash, check, scheduled automatic withdrawal from checking accounts.
3. **Special Events:** Depending on the type of event may include cash, check, PayPal and online credit card transactions. The method(s) available at each event will be announced at the time of the event and are at the discretion of the sponsor.
4. **Plus:** We're anxious to consider any reasonable method you know about that we haven't adopted.

**Attention All Crafters!**

St. Luke's Youth are hosting a fall craft fair just in time for holiday shopping. Please make your calenders and stock up on your crafts. The event will be held October 10. There will be spaces for rent and free advertising. Watch for more information and sign-up forms coming soon!

TRUSTEES CORNER

**Spring Work Day is Scheduled!**  
Please join us Saturday May 30, 8:00am-noon

All ages and abilities are most welcome!  
Projects we want to complete include:

- Installing safe steps for the staff entrance
- Painting the playhouse so the HRCA is happy
- Rototilling, amending and re-sodding the pumpkin patch yard
- Pulling weeds, sweeping walks, general clean up

We'd truly appreciate your help, tools, machines, and expertise as we work together to make our outside play and worship spaces look as neat, nice and inviting as our newly renovated interior. Please contact Ken

Fong if you have any questions: [kfong@att.net](mailto:kfong@att.net) or call the church office and leave a message with Bonnie or Barry.

**6th Annual St. Luke's Golf Tournament**  
**Mark Your Calendar**  
The tournament will be held at Highlands Ranch Golf Club on Sat. August 15, 2009—Shotgun start at 2:00pm. Youth are invited!



# The CHRONICLE

**St. Luke's United Methodist Church**  
 8817 S. Broadway • Highlands Ranch, CO 80129  
 303-791-0659 • www.stlukeshr.com

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 LITTLETON, CO

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.

MAY / JUNE 2009						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Rev. Janet Forbes 2:00pm: UMW Spring Tea 5:00pm: SLY PM - SLIP vs. WITY 5:00pm: SLY, Jr. 7:34pm: Fusion	4 6:30pm: Women's Night Out	5	6 6:30pm: SLAM	7	8	9 7:30am: Men's Breakfast
10 Mother's Day 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Rev. Janet Forbes 9:30am: Cafe St. Luke's NO SLY PM 7:34pm: Fusion	11 7:00: Trustees	12	13 6:00pm: SLY Senior Dinner	14 LS Graduation Rehearsals	15 LS Graduation Rehearsals	16 10:00am: Discovery Club 6:00pm: Contemplative Worship Service 7:00pm: SLYJO/MOS HR Music Festival Civic Green
17 Graduation Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Rev. Bradley Laurvick 5:30pm: SLY PM 7:34pm: Fusion	18 LS Graduation 6:30pm: Executive Team	19 LS Graduation	20 LS Cleaning	21	22	23
24 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Rev. Janet Forbes 5:30pm: SLY PM 7:34pm: Fusion	25 Memorial Day	26 6:30pm: Live, Laugh, Love Club	27	28	29	30 8:00am: Work Day
31 Pentecost 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Rev. Pam Rowley 5:30pm: SLY PM 7:34pm: Fusion	JUNE 1	2	3	4	5	6
7 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Rev. Janet Forbes 11:00am: Discover Your Spiritual Gifts 5:30pm: SLY PM 7:34pm: Fusion	8 Performing Arts Academy 7:00: Trustees	9 Performing Arts Academy	10 Performing Arts Academy	11 Performing Arts Academy	12 Performing Arts Academy	13 7:30am: Men's Breakfast Performing Arts Academy