



The Chronicle

A NEWS & INFORMATION EXCHANGE FORUM

FEBRUARY 2003

Cambodia: Mission Possible II *By Steve Riley for the CMPII Team*



"All authority has been given me in heaven and on earth. You are to go and make followers of all peoples. You are to baptize them in the name of the Father and the son and the holy spirit. Teach them to observe everything I commanded. I'll be with you day in and day out, as you'll see, so long as this world continues its course." *(Matthew 28:18-20)*

This text is what theologians call the "Great Commission." Whether these are literal words from the lips of the resurrected Jesus is subject to debate. What matters is that Christians from the first days of the early church have acted this way. For two thousand

years, Christians have gone out into the world proclaiming the presence of the Kingdom of God.

For many Christians, past and present, this going out means conversion: change from some other faith tradition to one of the various "flavors" of Christianity. However, for your Cambodia Mission Possible II (CMPII) missionaries, conversion had little or nothing to do with what called us to Cambodia. We were compelled by our love for human beings everywhere, even in a poor rural village in north central Cambodia. We are created for relationship with God and with each other.

Love and the need for relationship is what guided and motivated your mission team throughout our preparation and during the trip to Cambodia. Remember the fundraisers?

Since the CMPII team members each paid their own travel expenses, all the proceeds from "Bells From Shells", "Bulbs", "Bricks", "*Joseph*" and the dinner/silent auction went directly to provide financial assistance to the Methodist congregation at the Siemreap Training Center.



Love and relationships infused all our worship, work, and play in Cambodia: the singing, praying and preaching at local Khmer Methodist Church; the belly laughs and hijinks of the St. Luke's and Khmer teenagers; the dusty, concrete splattered, sweaty bucket brigades hauling concrete to form the new office building; the quiet evenings sharing stories, pictures and smiles around rough tables and benches; the spontaneous laughter as we tried to pronounce each others' native language; the graciousness and love expressed by the cooks, the girls doing our laundry and the young men who created a protective ring of hammocks surrounding the compound at night; visiting our new friends' homes and villages; attending a local wedding celebration; the loving hand holding and eager faces at our ad hoc English classes. These are some of the memories and images that your CMPII team carried from Cambodia and will cherish for the rest of our lives.

Thank you, the people of St. Luke's, who made this mission experience possible and who are making a difference in the lives of so many people at the training center outside of Siemreap, Cambodia. Thank you for responding to the "Great Commission" here and across the world.

Twenty Years Young

By Jack Kennedy

My wife Kathleen and I are new to Colorado, new to Highlands Ranch, and new to St. Luke's. What a pleasure it was to interview Charter Members Dave Cupp and his wife Meryl about the 20-year history of our church.

St. Luke's was chartered as a United Methodist Church on March 13, 1983. There is a list of 95 charter members in the Narthex of which Meryl and Dave Cupp are the only members remaining. Dorothy Day, who recently passed away, was a third charter member and was in attendance probably at the very first meeting. Larry and Betty Dunlap, from that initial group, attend our services when in town.

Dave and Meryl are always glad to share their memories of the very beginnings of St. Luke's, and Dave was gracious enough to answer some of our questions as we think about our 20th anniversary year.

What can you tell us of the very first meetings and services?

The first meetings took place in homes north of County Line road in what they called 'cottage meetings.' Betty once shared with me that they didn't have an altar. However, she had a crocheted table doily that had a cross in the center which she would take to the cottage meetings and hang over the edge of a table and that was their altar.

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...AND MUCH MORE!

Pastor's notes

from Reverend Richard Evans

Twenty Years Ago...

Where were you twenty years ago? I was two years away from becoming a daddy. *Terms of Endearment* won the Academy Award for best picture. Washington won the Superbowl. N.C. State won the NCAA basketball tournament. Lech Walesa won the Nobel Peace Prize. Music groups had names like "Air Supply," "Culture Club" and "Toto." And on a vacant lot along Broadway there was a sign: "United Methodist Church Site."

In 1982, a few people began meeting in homes. As the numbers grew, they moved to Powell Middle School, and later Northridge Elementary School. Ninety-five members chartered St. Luke's on March 13, 1983. In 1985, they were down to about fifty-eight members, but they had a new building... and a million-dollar debt. The "economic boom" of the time busted. The bank refused a loan. "Not a good risk," they said. Someone, not even a member then, said, "It is a good loan," and personally secured it. In 1995 Phase II was built. And in 2000 we moved into Phase III. We are now a large church, in the top 10% in America.

But building and size are not the most important feature of the story. That has to do with people—people, lives, LIFE. There is an old hymn, "I Love To Tell the Story." There are some wonderful and incredible stories to tell. Our 20th Anniversary Team is going to be telling these stories in a variety of ways during the year. If you have a story, write it down and send it to me. Let's tell them.

Shalom,

Dick

Pam Expands Her Ministry at St. Luke's

You know her as one of our Lay Leaders, and as the occasional director of the Chancel Choir, but for the last six years, Pam Rowley has also been a seminary student. After an unavoidable call to ministry, Pam enrolled in seminary, and will graduate in June with a M.A.T. (Master of Arts in Theology). For the next four months, as a part of her degree, Pam will be participating in a program of Clinical Pastoral Education. CPE is experiential learning in ministry, where the focus is "living human documents," including herself, rather than primarily books. Her setting for this experience will be St. Luke's, where she will be working in a variety of ministries. She hopes to offer a class relating film and theology; a class on spirituality; relate to small groups; call on members and constituents; and offer pastoral care. Welcome Pam.



Prayer Chain

Please keep these members, friends and concerns of St. Luke's in your prayers:

*William Cronin;
Thom Wild's parents, Sue and Jerry Wild;
Lynn Butler's friend, Vonnice Stransky;
Brad Chase;
Charlie Williams;
Ann Scott;
Sandi Thompson's brother's father-in-law,
Ron Moore;
Susan McIntosh's mother, Carole Gabert;
Louise Smith;
Yvonne Amrine;
Kathy Swier's granddaughter;
Nancy Obertier;
Delia Maher and family;
Marie Blue's mother-in-law, Jean Blue;
Chris Richard's mother, Alvis Denny;
Norma Harris;
Meryl Cupp's father;
Bonnie Funk's friend, Pat Carlson;
Bobbi King's niece, Shari Neece;
Dave and Janet Bebell's son, Patrick Dougherty;
Monty Hoffman's mother, Maurine Hoffman;
Sharon Scholle's friend, Earl Dedman;
Dick, Judy, and David Evans;
Vickie and Bob Ferguson's grandson, Eric Furth;
Corina Hall's father, Alejandro Almeida;
Gayle Larkin, friend of Don and Marcia Enger;
Kay Swanson's son, Dain Swanson; and
Julie Travis' mother, Wanda Boggs.*

We continue to pray for:

*Tami Clement's mother, Betty Nelson;
Earl Lawrence's sister, Lee;
Corina Hall's friend, Freddy Arch Page;
Candi Temby, friend of the Wangsness family,
and Coleen DeGroff's grandmother.*

We extend our prayers and sympathy to:

*Sharon Williams and family on
the death of her mother;
Tami Clement and family on
the death of her nephew, Dustin;
Chris Richards and family on
the death of his cousin, and
Delores Gardner and family on
the death of her husband, Paul Gardner.*



We extend our congratulations and add our prayers of joy to:

*Carolyn and Brad Becker on the birth
of their son, Bryce Duncan, on 12-6-02.*

If you have a prayer concern,



Welcome! New Members: December 2002

Paul and Tammy Dunlap
9542 S. Castle Ridge Circle
Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

Phillip and Susan Hardy
3484 W. White Oak Street
Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

Ronald and Suzanne Humphreys
9742 S. Westbury Circle
Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

William Lance
8571 W. Cannes
Littleton, CO 80127

Lisa Lehnus
4570 E Weaver Place
Centennial, CO 80121

Bill and Jenifer Mell
1578 W Briarhollow Lane
Highlands Ranch, CO 80126

Bryan and Amarillys Thomas
769 E Redwood Court
Highlands Ranch, CO 80126

Stan and Sharon Williams
5499 Wickerdale Lane
Highlands Ranch, CO 80130



The Faith Harder Memorial Library

is always open! CHECK IT

OUT in Goliath (the Elementary/Youth open area). Books and Videos may be checked out for a three-week time period. Parents, please look around your homes for items that might be over due and return them as soon as possible. Donations of new or used books and videos are always accepted.

THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON RECEIVING

Up at Sunrise *By Lawrence Seep*

St. Luke's is truly blessed. It is a community comprised of members who give to one another through a wide variety of talent and commitment. One of the brightest aspects of the Church is its Music Ministry. On any given Sunday, parishioners can hear and participate in an amazing repertoire of music that encompasses almost any style imaginable from around the world. From the excellent choirs to

the highly skilled ensembles, it would be almost impossible to find someone who cannot gain some delight and inspiration from these groups. One of the shining stars of St. Luke's Music program is the Sunrise Band, a staple at the 8 a.m. services for over six years, and at the core of that group is Jim McCurry (far right in above photo).



To Jim, music is therapy for the soul. It is a way for him to give back to the community with the musical talent that God has given to him. Despite the enormous pressures and demand for his time that his job requires, Jim is devoted to St. Luke's and to the Sunrise Band. Growing up, Jim was inspired by his father who worked for NASA during the Mercury and Gemini space programs. In 1979, he received his Masters Degree in Aero-Space engineering and shortly after moved with his wife, Wilda, to Houston where he worked for NASA on the Space Shuttle program. Soon after the Challenger disaster, Jim started to work for Lockheed. The merger of Lockheed and Martin-Marietta brought the McCurry's to Colorado and to St. Luke's in the fall of 1996.

Music has been an important part of Jim's life since he was 15 years old. Like many kids at that time, Jim started playing in a rock band first on drums and then teaching himself to play guitar and piano. He participated in music programs at his church and has continued to be involved ever since. Jim was very involved with his church in Houston and would lead all the Sunday School classes in song while playing his guitar.

In the fall of 96, Jim answered a notice in the St. Luke's bulletin placed by Steve Riley about forming a band for church services. Along with Carrie Mallery, the Associate Music Director, the Sunrise band was born. The group is comprised of two guitars, bass, drums, keyboards and singers. Each member brings his or her ideas for songs to the weekly practice sessions and there they work on trying to play a wide variety of music. By offering such a large selection Jim hopes that at some point a particular song might resonate with someone out in the congregation.

The Sunrise Band extends an open invitation to anyone who wants to participate with the band. At the moment they are in need of additional singers as well as backup musicians who can fill in for when one of the regulars cannot perform. They also encourage anyone who just wants to "sit in" on occasion or has a particular song they would like to hear performed to join in. Some of the more notable guest appearances with the Sunrise band has been Dick Evans who is very talented on harmonica, guitar and banjo and Jim's son, Jim, who is coming into his own as a member of the All State Choir as a tenor. Singing and performing together is a particularly special occasion for the two of them. (Jim Jr. also aspires to be an aerospace engineer carrying on the profession into a third generation).

The band has performed special concerts for St. Luke's on occasion. Look for them to perform between sets with the Ministers of Swing at the annual Dinner Dance that will take place on Valentines Day, February 14.

St. Luke's is extremely fortunate to have such talented and committed members like Jim McCurry who has become involved. Jim feels that each of us has a special God-given talent and that one of the true missions in life is to find that talent, develop it and give back to the community. We are very grateful to Jim for devoting his time and performing with the Sunrise Band every Sunday. He encourages anyone to get in touch with him whether they want to join or just make a comment or suggestion about the group and its music. They strive to get better all of the time.

Lots of Love at Little School



February is a month filled with lots of Love at Little School. We celebrate Valentine's Day with many crafts and fun parties. The school is decorated with hearts and red, white and pink! We are also talking about our Presidents. Little School will observe President's Day as a holiday! February is the time we take class pictures to remember our fun days with our classmates! ALSO, watch for our Scholastic BOOK FAIR 6th through the 12th. It is a great opportunity to help Little School and encourage early readers!

REGISTRATION for Little School has already begun for fall of 2003! Can you believe it? CHURCH MEMBERS SHOULD HAVE ALREADY REGISTERED ALONG WITH OUR CURRENT FAMILIES and forms were due by JAN. 31st! New families may pick up a registration from Monday through Friday starting JAN. 20th and forms are DUE BACK by February 15th. Tours are available on Wednesday and Thursday mornings at 10:00am. No appointment is necessary.

Little School has made some new changes this year. We will no longer be offering a Parent's Day Out program for 2 1/2 year olds. We are excited to offer more three year old classes, which will help with our huge demand for that age. Parents interested in a program for their younger children, should contact St. Luke's (303-791-0659 ex 27) and talk with Jenita from Children's ministries. The church is interested in starting a program for Moms and Tots—so please let them know if you would like to be a part of this exciting new venture!

Little School wants you to know that we love all of you and we hope that you will continue to keep us in your prayers!
COME VISIT!!!

Lovingly,
Ms. Kay ☺



UMW Candlelight Dinner



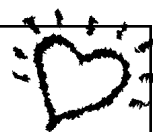
UMW Ladies Night Out Circle meets the FIRST TUESDAY of each month at local restaurants. Please join us for dinner, fellowship, and relationship building at one of our upcoming dinners:

- February.....Ruby-Tuesday's (Broadway & Springer Dr.)
- March.....No-No's Cafe (County Line & Broadway)
- April.....Little Holly's Asian Grill (2223 W. Wildcat Reverse Parkway)

For information and/or reservations, contact Sharon Williams at 303-470-0034 or by email at sharonewilliams@juno.com.

We welcome new people and new ideas. No cooking, no work, just friends. We'd love to have you join us. It's a great way to develop friendships within St. Luke's.

Dear Family of St. Luke's,



It is with great gratitude we offer our thanks to all of you for keeping our family in your prayers and for your gift offerings of love, blood, meals, child care and visits to the home and hospital to help us through William's illness. William still has several weeks of treatment remaining. William has a personal website if you would like to check on his progress:

www.tlcontact.com/ServeCarePage?cpid=21410

—The Family of William Damsgard
Cronin: Jane Damsgard, Sean Cronin,
Joy and Jim Damsgard.

Women: You Can Add Friendship to Your Sunday Service

Do friendly smiles and hellos bring you enjoyment in life? I'm pretty sure they do for most people. Would you enjoy your Sunday worship service more if you knew people to sit by, share a hello and visit with?

St. Luke's is a relational church—not only in programs, but also in people. However, if you're one of the few that like to attend church, but are not ready or don't have the time to get involved in church—how do you get to know the others around you in worship?

For women of the church, the United Methodist Women (UMW) Social is that opportunity. Join us Tuesday, February 11 at 7:00pm in Fellowship Hall for a social gathering. This is a casual, get-to-know others fun evening. We'll have food and a forum for you to meet the people you often sit by in worship. I promise it will make your Sunday mornings more enjoyable.

Coffee and drinks will be provided, please bring a dessert to share if you desire. If childcare is needed, please contact Lynn Butler at (303) 791-0659, ext. 47. For more information, please contact Carolyn Becker at (303) 683-7887.

We look forward to meeting you!



Corner

Spring Work Day

By Sandi Miyaki

Trustees

TWENTY YEARS!!! Can you believe it? This is really exciting, especially when you consider our earliest days as a church. We're bound to have a few guests, so let's do our part to make them feel welcome!

You guessed it, it's Spring Work Day Time! Please mark your calendars now for March 1st from 8-noon. We'll be working inside, mostly cleaning and some carpentry skills, getting up into the high places, and down into the low places. So if you and your family would plan to come and help us we'll be done pretty quickly, and pretty happy that you decided to join us for the morning!

We're still looking for additional people who would like to volunteer to become a trustee. It's a pretty good group of people volunteering time to take care of the odd and not so odd jobs that keep our St. Luke's home presentable for everyone who comes and goes. Please call Ken Fong on (303) 346-7057 or email him using kfong@worldnet.att.net. We meet every second Monday of the month in the 7th/8th Grade classroom beginning at 7pm.

See you there!

How We Doin'? *By Fred Venable, Staff Liaison to the Stewardship Team*

You wouldn't believe the scurrying, the meetings, the e-mails, the phone calls, the maybes, the lists, the what-ifs, the revisions, all with one grand purpose in mind, to create a credible and realistic budget for 2003 that keeps St. Luke's functioning healthily, yet within the confines of the results of our Stewardship Effort. (Wow! What an opening sentence!! No "A" for this journalism student.) Yet what the sentence says is accurate.

The amount expended on budget items during 2002 was \$967,817.48. The 2002 pledge yield of \$879,180.39, plus other revenues of \$39,738.81, gave us a total income of \$918,738.81. Obviously, that is \$49,078.67 short of the amount spent. That shortage was made up out of the beginning cash balance at January 1, 2002. These are exact, although non-audited numbers.

Well, how are we doing for 2003? A hint is in that first sentence. The scurrying, the lists, the whatifs, the revisions, all done by the Finance Committee, the Ministry Council, the Executive Board, the Stewardship Team, and the staff, are an effort to heal the hurt of pledges for 2003 which are far below what we experienced last year, which obviously was not enough even then. As of this writing, 2:00 pm, Tuesday, 21 January, 317 pledges have been received amounting to \$776,921.16. If, and a big if it is, if these pledges yielded a 100% collection, which would be highly unusual, it would still be \$100,000 less than last year.

What is next? There is in process a follow-up on those who have not pledged. As of this writing, 110 persons/families who pledged last year have not renewed their pledges for 2003. We know this is not a comfortable year, economically. We certainly empathize with some hard employment realities within some of our families. Our follow-up will be a simple reminder. And if there is some need for pastoral help Dick and I stand ready. We would like to hear from everyone. Even if one can't pledge a definite amount, our follow-up will ask for a simple response. In the meantime, the persons responsible are working diligently to craft a positive future financially for St. Luke's during 2003.



PEAK's Operation Christmas Child Gift Collection



Charter Members, Meryl & Dave Cupp, right, help new member Jack Kennedy feel part of the St. Luke's tradition by telling him of our humble beginnings 20 years ago.

Continued from Page 1

These meetings started sometimes in 1982. I've heard but cannot confirm that they moved to a school north of County Line, maybe at Powell Middle School, before moving to the new Northridge Elementary school in Highlands Ranch.

When did you first attend a St. Luke's service?

Our first attendance was in July, 1983, at Northridge. They were meeting in the cafeteria and I guess there were about 20 in attendance that first Sunday we attended. I remember they were using an old organ and it was being played very slowly and of course the hymns were very slow. We moved from the cafeteria to the gym very soon after we started attending. We met at center court every Sunday. We had to get the chairs and organ out and then put them up—that got to be a tiring chore.

What was Highlands Ranch like 20 years ago?

Meryl and I visited Highlands Ranch the first weekend the models were opening. We were living in east Aurora and she was teaching at Wilder Elementary in Littleton—trying to find a home closer to work. We were not impressed but we moved here in July '83 and have loved it ever since.

Mission Viejo was the developer and they were offering new homes in three price

ranges with the amenities of a good home owners association and rec centers. Northridge Elementary was the first school and it was ready about 20 years ago—very soon after the Ranch opened. The Northridge Rec Center followed close behind but was about half what it is today. You had to go elsewhere to get groceries, entertainment and restaurants—what a change 20 years has brought!

County Line road was the only east/west road at that time and it was very crowded during rush hours. Now, C-470 is equally crowded during rush hours.

Who were the first St. Luke's members?

Mission Viejo had a rather aggressive building program, so most of the new members were new residents of Highlands Ranch. We have always had a few new members come from surrounding United Methodist Churches but that has never been our primary source. Even the assistance we received from St. Andrew's over on University Avenue was more financial and leadership support than members moving to the new St. Luke's Church.

What can you tell us about the first ministers at St. Luke's?

St. Luke's has not had many senior ministers—just four. Iliff School of Theology has been very supportive of St. Luke's and in the early years we usually had one or more ministerial students from Iliff work-

ing with our senior minister. That was a very interesting program and was very helpful to us. Some were very good assistants who have gone on to become strong ministers and leaders in the United Methodist Church.

Harold Raines was the first senior minister and served until 1986 or so. Harold was liked by the congregation and conducted traditional United Methodist Church services. He was an experienced minister who had a passion for starting a new United Methodist Church in the new community of Highlands Ranch. He convinced Russ Brown, the minister at St. Andrew's, that St. Andrew's should help get the Highlands Ranch church started rather than continuing with their plans to expand their facility.

Billy Martin, retired, served an interim term of one year before Bill Selby was assigned as our senior minister in 1987. Bill Selby left to do consulting work for the conference and commercially in 1995. He was followed by Dr. Evans, who had been Associate Pastor while Bill was serving.

We are proud of our music program. Was it always this strong?

Well, the first choir was five or six of us standing together and singing a hymn from the hymnal—no director—we just watched each other and nodded when it was time to start singing. Then, just as now, the congregation was made up of members with many talents. The music program has grown progressively as the church has grown. It started with all volunteers and today is a combination of very dedicated volunteers and paid staff. I believe Bill Fethke was the first designated choir director.

We also have a strong commitment to community outreach. Is that a long church tradition?

From day one, it has been the discussion of so many people who helped us get started that we must always have the goal of giving back. The 'missional' program at St. Luke's has been very strong since very soon after we moved into the new building. We started a program where we actually designated a portion of our pledges to do mission work rather than

the typical dependence on collecting a few dollars and change at communion for outreach programs.

We're all very proud of the church building itself, but it certainly wasn't here 20 years ago.

It was always the plan to meet at Northridge until we could financially arrange to build the new building at the present site. I'm not aware of how the present site was reserved or if it was identified before the church formed—I think it was. Mission Viejo had our site and the site next door designated as church sites in the original community plans.

When we opened the new building in March of 1985 we only had about 125 members and we owed about \$350,000 for the land and the building construction contract was for about \$345,000—not a small obligation for a group of 125 or so. Obviously, it was built on faith and not on a sound business plan.

Our growth didn't really get going until about 1988 or so. Just after we opened we had the big oil bust and many people were leaving Highlands Ranch, new homes were not in much demand and values were not increasing. That lasted for about three years and then things started getting back on track.

It wasn't long until the first phase of the building was overflowing. We had about 50 fifth graders who were supposed to meet in one of the small class rooms downstairs—obviously 100 percent attendance was not encouraged.

We were able to add the Narthex area in 1995. This was a much needed space which filled rapidly. And then, in 2000, we were able to add the sanctuary addition.

I've had the privilege of serving on all three of the building committees.

You and Meryl have certainly experienced a lot of church history. How would you compare St. Luke's now and then?

I would say that we have progressed as we have aged. We still do pretty much the same things we did when it all got started. We are very proud to be a part of such a dynamic group of Christian friends who do their best to be invitational, relational and missional.



The Christmas Family Tree Children's Musical



St. Luke's 101

Thanks to thirty-five daring individuals, I have three sessions of the second presentation of 'St. Luke's 101' up and running. I say "daring" because '101' is not like any other class or course. We don't have a history of success, a tried-and-true curriculum, or a leader (me) who is content to do "business as usual." Rather than an "information" class, where one learns lots of material, we take the material one does know, and we try to rework, to rethink it. Most all of us are victims of religious teachings we were given while young, when we did not know we could say, "Now, wait a minute. I don't have to accept that just because you say it." Now we can say that, and we will be learning to do it. It is quite an exciting adventure. I go away from each session really jazzed. This presentation will end about the first of May, but there will be other presentations. I invite you to give '101' some serious consideration.

- Fred Venable, Associate Minister



The "Lay"test News: The Wesleyan Tradition—Part III: Grace

A Message from our Lay Leaders - By Monty Hoffman

"The Activity of love and forgiveness which God extends to every human being is his 'grace' and it is active to some degree in every person at every stage of his or her life." -*Proclaiming Grace and Freedom, Two Centuries of American Methodism*

It is a Methodist belief that grace is an important part of entering into a new relationship with God through Christ. As Paul tells us and John Wesley discovered with his Aldersgate Experience, faith and grace are the elements of salvation, not actions or doctrinal beliefs. Methodists believe that grace is active, seeking us out even when we are unaware of it, and that God's grace is available to all people, given as a gift.

In my experience, grace is not just forgiveness, but also that loving guiding influence that helps me determine my calling and achieve my calling in life. It is also my experience that grace is subtle, as it has to be if free will has any meaning. I make the decisions of my life, but, if I listen, God's grace will help me.

I understand grace in my life best by looking backwards and seeing the results of seemingly unconnected events. A word of encouragement at a difficult time, a bit of information that helped me solve a problem, or an opportunity at a key moment. All of them seem subtle, but the sum of them has helped me make decisions that have directed parts of my life.

That does not mean that grace has made my life easy. Indeed, at times it has directed me to very difficult places that test my trust in God, but it has always directed me to meaningful places.

Wesley believed that to fully comprehend grace we have to prepare ourselves to receive it. Wesley thought that there were things that we could do in our lives to achieve this, called means of grace. These include, but are not restricted to, study of the scriptures, prayer, fasting, communion, Christian community, and acts of mercy. As you can see, almost every activity at St. Luke's fits into one of these groups.

It is also my experience that in the noisy and busy world that we live in, we have to stop and listen for grace. I am excited that St. Luke's, with Leigh Ramsey's guidance, is spending more time on discernment. We are taking more time, as a church and as church members, to listen for grace in our church and in our lives. If you haven't taken part in one of Leigh's discernment classes, I encourage you to do so.

Grace is a part of your life, even when you are not aware of it. Take the time to prepare for it and to listen to it. If you do, it will help you do God's will in your life.

Next issue: God's Love for all People

Who/What is SPRC?

St. Luke's Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC for short) are members of our congregation responsible for selecting, nurturing and assisting the St. Luke's Staff. Our nine members meet monthly to discuss the staff's health and welfare. SPRC's focus is helping each staff member be as successful and effective in their position as possible in fulfilling St. Luke's tri-part mission to be Invitational, Relational and Missional. Each year three new members are added to the SPRC as three members leave the Committee. The Class of 2005 will soon be selected by the Church Nomination Committee and begin serving on the SPRC in February 2003, when the Class of 2002 "retires".

During the past year SPRC has hired 6 new professional staff members: Aaron Shipman, Beth DeBonis, Dave Money, Fred Venable, Kristi Frush, and Steve Riley. These new staff members are helping St. Luke's grow along with our congregation and facilities, implementing new programs, and strengthening current ones such as Wednesday Night Live and Adult Education. Additionally, SPRC, with staff input, updated the Staff Administrative Handbook that provides essential guidelines and procedures for our staff members.

In addition to guiding and hiring, each SPRC member serves as a liaison to one or more staff members, to help ensure that their ideas and concerns are understood by all. Please help us keep the communication flowing from the congregation by sharing your staff-related joys and concerns. We invite your communication to either directly to the Staff or a member of the SPRC Committee.

Thanks for the opportunity to serve you and our Church,

Your Staff Parish Relations Committee:

- Roy Palmer (*Class of 2002*) retiring January 2003
- Elizabeth Laurvick (*Class of 2002*) retiring January 2003
- David Necker (*Class of 2003*)
- Dave Murrow (*Class of 2003*)
- Caroline Merchant (*Class of 2003*)
- Sean McCurdy (*Class of 2004*)
- Connie Shoemaker (*Class of 2004*)
- Dave Bebell (*Class of 2004*)

WNL Dinners:

Please join us for Community Dinners on Wednesday nights at 5:30 pm.

We would also **love** your help!

Contact Julia Murrow 303-791-7437.



Children's Ministries *By Jenita Rhodes*

St. Luke's Children's Sunday School Program (PEAK and Little PEAK) is a wonderful opportunity for our children to learn about God's Love. It includes classes during the 9:30 and 11:00 worship services for nursery through 6th grade year around. Classes are held in the classrooms on the lower level. A superintendent is on duty during both services to answer any questions and provide directions to classrooms.

Our programs are designed and use materials that lead children to apply biblical teachings to their everyday lives. Our teachers are all dedicated volunteers who are eager to share their love for Christ with our children. We encourage parents to time their own Sunday School classes with their children's and attend worship service as a family.

In Little PEAK and PEAK Adventure's 4th Rotation we will be learning about Jesus and His Miracles and how each of us can be part of little miracles everyday by reaching out in faith to help others. Our mission project will be collecting small toys, clothes, books, school supplies, hard candy, gum, fun trinkets for GOODIE BAGS for the kids of DenUM and Gateway. Donations may be dropped off in the box on the information table in the narthex or the table in Goliath downstairs.

February/March Calendar of Events

2/10 - Interest meeting for a Two year old Program to help provide activities to replace the Mom's Day Out Program for 2's no longer being held through St. Luke's Little School. We will meet in Classroom A at 9:30.

2/12 - WNL Kid'z Club: We meet for fellowship and service in room 114.

2/19 - WNL Kid'z Club: 6:15-7:15

2/18 - PEAK Ministry Team will meet at 7:00pm in room 119 to look over curriculum samples to use for summer and fall. We will discuss some interesting changes for our summer Sunday School classes, including developing an active worship and praise service for 9:30. This is a great time to get involved, offer you ideas and help develop another exciting alternative to Sunday school and worship. We meet the third Tuesday of every month. Feel free to join us any time!

2/20 - PEAK Training Meeting for all volunteers involved in the 5th Rotation "The Good News Scrapbook" of PEAK Adventures Sunday School at 7:00 in room 119.

2/21 - Parent's Night Out: This new group is a cooperative sitting service at the church to support a once a month evening out for parents of kids 0-12 years. Call Lynne Butler for more information.

2/23 - PEAK CELEBRATION SUNDAY: Grades 1-6 will conclude their study of "The Miracles of Jesus" by stuffing their Goodie Bags.

2/26 - WNL Kid'z Club: 6:15-7:15

3/4 - Children's Ministry Team Meeting will be meeting at 7:00 in room 119 (the CINEMA room off Goliath). The major topics of discussion will be finalizing the planning for Lent and Easter Fun Day to be held on the Saturday before Palm Sunday, April 12 from 9:00 until 12:00 and begin planning for Seven Summer Fun Days and Vacation Bible School. We meet the first Tuesday of every month. Join us any time!

3/5 - Ash Wednesday Service: 6:15-6:45.

WNL Kid'z Club: 6:45-7:30.

3/9 - Girl Scout Sunday: All Girl Scouts are invited to wear their uniform and be recognized in worship. Those girls interested in helping with the service by ushering or reading scripture, please contact Jenita Rhodes.

3/12 - Lent Service: 6:15-6:30. **WNL Kid'z Club:** 6:30-7:30.

3/14 - Parent's Night Out: Call Lynne Butler for more information.

3/18 - PEAK Ministry Team will be meeting at 7:00 in room 119 to discuss how to promote and staff our summer and fall programs. New ideas and energy are always welcomed! We meet the third Tuesday of every month. Feel free to join us any time!

3/19 - Lent Service: 6:15-6:30. **WNL Kid'z Club:** 6:30-7:30.

3/20 - PEAK Training Meeting for all volunteers involved in the 6th Rotation "Are You My Neighbor" of PEAK Adventures Sunday School at 7:00 in room 119.

3/26 - Lent Service: 6:15-6:30. **WNL Kid'z Club:** 6:30-7:30

For more info about any Children's program or to volunteer, please contact Jenita Rhodes (ext. 27 or jenita@stlukeshr.com) or Lynne Butler (ext. 11 or lynne@stlukeshr.com).



nursery news

Our Caregiver of the Month for February is David Fox. He has worked several

years in the nursery and is always caring and reliable. He is also involved in many other activities including Boy Scouts.

Please continue to make reservations for the nursery when you need childcare. The nursery wants to do its part to help with the budget. When you make or cancel a reservation we can make sure to only have as many caregivers as we need. We also greatly appreciate your voluntary donation when you use the nursery. For information about this ask a caregiver, Lynne Butler or Jenita Rhodes. (You never need to make a reservation or donation for Sunday services.)

Thank you for your help!

The nursery is in big need of diapers and wipes. If we have more diapers than we need we will donate them to the mission group so they will not go to waste!

Remember—you may make reservations from the link on the St. Luke's website or by calling 303-791-0659 ext. 47.

The LITTLE PEAK Program: Sunday school for 2 yrs - K

If you have a child in Sunday School age 2-5 you will soon be receiving a letter asking

you to sign up to teach Sunday School at either 9:30 or 11:00.

Volunteers teach all Sunday School classes and there is an opportunity for everyone to help. No one teaches by

himself or herself and you will be given a lot of support. We cannot effectively run our

program without the help and

support of all parents. If you would like more information about teaching Sunday School please contact Lynne Butler.

A big THANK YOU goes out to Jack Schneider. He is responsible for making all of the little wooden churches the children put their offerings in each week. Also, he made the Noah's Ark in the nursery, the beautiful cross hanging the main office and has done several repair jobs for us. We are very thankful for his wonderful donation of time and talent!

3/2 - First Sunday in PEAK Adventure's 5th Rotation, "Lent-The Good News Scrapbook." Join us as we look at Jesus' life through Mary's Scrapbook. Children will hear the good news and be offered hope by Mary, the mother of Jesus. Workshops for this rotation will be cooking, drama, cinema Bible knowledge, art and computer. Adults are needed to help! See Jenita or sign up!



Music Notes: Upcoming Events!

Valentine's Day Dinner Dance

• Friday, February 14, 6:30-10pm
Treat your sweetheart to a romantic evening with great food, fun, and the swingin' sounds of St. Luke's Ministers of Swing Big Band. Dinner will start at 6:30pm. A free swing dance lesson will be offered at 7:00. Tickets are \$15 per person and include dinner, drinks, dessert and entertainment. Tickets go on sale February 2nd and will be available in the church office during the week. Childcare will be available for a fee and with a reservation that can be made on the web site www.stlukeshr.com.

Great Britain Concert Tour

The Chancel Choir is planning a concert tour this summer in England from June 27 through July 6, 2003. The tour is part of an "American Celebration of Music in Britain". The year 2003 marks the tercentenary of John Wesley's birth and we will be visiting several historic sites relevant to his life. There are a limited number of spots still available to folks interested in participating in this opportunity. Both singers and non-singers are welcome to join the tour. For more information, please contact Jim Ramsey.



Christmas Cantata 2002



Upcoming concert:
Women Of Note
Saturday, March 15
7:30pm

All proceeds benefit the Music Ministry program at St. Luke's.



Christmas Caroling 2002



St. Luke's Music Ministry

Music Team Coordinators & Directors:

James Ramsey, Director of Music Ministries
Jim@stlukeshr.com
303-791-0659 x23

Carrie Mallery, Associate Director of Music
Carrie@stlukeshr.com
303-791-0659 x48

Tinntinabulators

James Ramsey, interim director

Flute Ensemble

Ruth Smith

Brass Ensemble

Erik Wangness

Ministers of Swing

James Ramsey

Cherub's Choir

Stacey Baird

Children's Choir

Kay Coryell

Joy-full Noyz Youth Choir

James Ramsey

Chancel Choir

James Ramsey

Kidz Prayz I and II

James Ramsey/Carrie Mallery/Janet Harm

Sonrise

James McCurry

Women Of Note

Sallie Suby-Long

Rehearsals Week at a Glance

Sunday

Children's Choir 8:45-9:30am
Joy-Full Noyz Youth Choir
5:00-7:00pm

Tuesday

Tinntinabulators Handbell Choir
7:00-8:30 pm

Wednesday

Cherub's Choir 6:15-7:00pm
Kidz Prayz I 6:15-7:15pm
Kidz Prayz II 6:15-7:15pm
Sonrise Band 7:30-9:00pm

Thursday

Women Of Note 6:30-7:30pm
Chancel Choir 7:30-9:00pm

Saturday

Flute Ensemble 8:00-9:00am
Brass Ensemble 9:00-10:00am
Ministers of Swing 10:00-11:15am

SLY Activity Calendar

FEBRUARY

- 2..... Regular SLY Schedule in the am; District Worship at Grace UMC.
- 4..... Highlands Ranch Breakfast Club 6:30-7am. Einstein's Bagels in the Safeway Shopping Center
- 5..... Arapahoe Breakfast Club 7-7:15am. Einstein's Bagels across from AHS WNL/WMDBS 5:30 dinner Confirmation Begins!!! 7:15-8pm
- 6..... Swing Dance! Beginner: 6-7pm. Intermediate: 7-8pm
- 9..... Regular SLY Schedule
- 11..... Highlands Ranch Breakfast Club 6:30-7am. Einstein's Bagels in the Safeway Shopping Center
- 12..... Arapahoe Breakfast Club 7-7:15am. Einstein's Bagels across from AHS WNL/WMDBS 5:30 dinner Confirmation: 7:15-8pm
- 13..... Swing Dance! Beginner: 6-7pm. Intermediate: 7-8pm
- 14..... Sweetheart Dinner Dance!!! 6:30pm. Free Swing Lesson before the dance!
- 15-17.... Senior High Winter Mission. Check in with Aaron for details.
- 16..... Regular SLY am schedule; NO EVENING SLY ACTIVITIES.
- 18..... Highlands Ranch Breakfast Club 6:30-7am. Einstein's Bagels in the Safeway Shopping Center
- 19..... Arapahoe Breakfast Club 7-7:15am. Einstein's Bagels across from AHS WNL/WMDBS 5:30 dinner Confirmation: 7:15-8pm
- 23..... Regular SLY Schedule
- 25..... Highlands Ranch Breakfast Club 6:30-7am. Einstein's Bagels in the Safeway Shopping Center
- 26..... Arapahoe Breakfast Club 7-7:15am. Einstein's Bagels across from AHS WNL/WMDBS 5:30 dinner Confirmation: 7:15-8pm

Regular SLY Sunday Schedule

- 8, 9:30, 11am Worship
- 9:30am Sunday School
- 9:30am Youth Disciple
- 5pm Joy-Full Noyz Youth Choir
- 6pm Youth Dinner
- 6:30-8pm SLY Evening Fellowship

SLY-Line: 303-791-0659 x45
Youth@stlukeshr.com

Aaron Shipman: 303-791-0659 x14
aaron@stlukeshr.com

✿ SLY - a place to grow, love, pray and laugh ✿

Dear Youth:

Greetings! I hope the first month of the new year has been good to you. As most of you know, I accompanied **Kyle Colman, Joel Helman, and Steph Datson, on the Mission Possible II Team to Cambodia**. We had a great experience living and working in a different culture. We learned a lot, and we will share our experiences with you.

More importantly, there are **more mission opportunities coming up for youth**. There is a Junior High Mission June 8-14, 2003. You can sign up with Beth DeBonis by getting a registration form from the youth ministries office or from the downstairs bulletin board. For **Senior High, we will be going with the Appalachian Service Project** to do home repair and weatherization July 27- August 3rd. You can sign up by getting a registration form from the youth ministries office or from the downstairs bulletin board. I know summer seems like a long way off, but space is limited and to arrange transportation and housing, you need to sign up now! If you have questions, or need more details, please call Aaron Shipman or Beth DeBonis at the church, or email Aaron at aaron@stlukeshr.com.


Also coming up are **Conference wide youth gatherings** like **Youth Quest for Junior High and Up With Youth for Senior High**. Information and registration forms are available for both of these events and you need to register now. Please stop by the office or the bulletin board to pick up a form today.

Finally, don't forget **Youth 2003**. This is an **international gathering of youth July 23-27 in Tennessee**. There will be worship and workshops, fun and fellowship, and an opportunity for a once in lifetime experience with 10,000 other United Methodist Youth. Registration forms are available (though you will have missed the early bird rate by the time you get this), and it is not too late to sign up.

Confirmation Classes begin February 5th, following the World's Most Dangerous Bible Study, from 7:15 to 8:15pm. The class is for youth 9th grade on up. Registration forms with class details are available on the information table in the Narthex. This is a great way to explore your faith and what it means to you, and how you choose to relate to a larger community of believers.

Of course, in addition to these wonderful retreats and mission events, we still gather weekly in Bible Study, Sunday School, and Fellowship. Check out our youth website (**thanks to Kristine Fong!!!**) for calendar updates and changes, and don't forget the SLYline, (303)791-0659 x45 for up to the minute information about SLY activities.

Grace and Peace,


Aaron J. Shipman
Dir. Of Youth Ministries



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

Sunday Worship Services

8:00 am 9:30 am 11:00 am

Sunday School Classes

9:30 am & 11:00 am - Adult, Youth & Children's Classes
Nursery available for all services.

Ministers

All people of St. Luke's.

Staff

Dr. Richard Evans.....Senior Minister - ext. 13
Rev. Fred Venable.....Minister (1/2 time) - ext. 12
Rev. Dave Money.....Minister (1/4 time) - ext. 33
Dalai Dy.....Missionary in Residence - ext. 19
Steve Riley.....Executive Administrator - ext. 22
Kristi Frush.....Director of Ministry Development - ext. 20
Bonnie Funk.....Church Secretary - ext. 10
Jim Ramsey.....Director of Music Ministries - ext. 23
Carrie Mallery.....Associate Director of Music Ministries - ext. 35
Aaron Shipman.....Director of Youth Ministry - ext. 14
Jenita Rhodes.....Director of Children's Ministry - ext. 27
Lynne Butler.....Pre-school & Childcare Coordinator - ext. 11
Carole Sue Woodrich.....Financial Treasurer - ext. 49
Tammy Heister.....Financial Secretary - ext. 16
Kay Swanson.....Director of Little School - 303-791-1982

All articles for the MARCH/APRIL
issue of The Chronicle are due

February 20th

Please place them in The Chronicle
folder at St. Luke's or e-mail to
chronicle@stlukeshr.com

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www.StLukesHR.com

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The Chronicle

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