

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. 46
Bonnie Funk.....Church Secretary - ext. 10
Jim Ramsey.....Director of Music Ministries - ext. 23
Carrie Mallory.....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 JUNE/JULY issue of *The Chronicle* are due

May 20th

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

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The Chronicle

A NEWS & INFORMATION EXCHANGE FORUM

MAY 2003

Easter Fun Day Celebration

By Lynne Butler

The weather was perfect for Easter Fun Day on Saturday April 19th. Even with soccer and other weekend activities going on around town, lots and lots of kids and their parents came and enjoyed the fellowship, games and, of course, the traditional Easter egg hunt at St. Luke's Annual Children's Easter Celebration. And Easter Fun Day would not have been the same without the Easter Bunny. He visited with the kids and posed for many pictures. Children could get their faces and fingernails tattooed, decorate bags for the Easter egg hunt and get a balloon twisted into flowers and bunnies and parrots. Some tried their hand at the cookie walk, bean bag toss, and fishing booth. "I like the whole thing!" said Shane Cunningham when asked what he enjoyed the most and Colby Butler said, "I loved the petting zoo."

Thanks to many donations, we were able to have this event at almost no cost to St. Luke's. John Seeberger and his company, Masterfoods USA, donated candy and filled eggs. Cindy Raap donated hundreds of Easter Eggs and Liesje Johnson donated the funds necessary for the always popular petting zoo. Because of their generosity and the generosity of so many others, we were able to give the leftover candy and the cash contributions donated at Easter Fun Day to The Gathering Place in downtown Denver. This is a wonderful facility where people can get help finding jobs and getting an education. They can also get food, take showers and feel cared for. We could not have put this event on without the help of so many volunteers and staff including Keri Madsen, Christy Wohlleber, Amy Holton, Susan Harned, Karen Meade, Donna Trunz, Karin, Jacob and Kelsey Wesson, Laurie Roshak, Lauren Adams, Jenelle Rhodes, Bonnie Funk, Tiffany Clement, Arianna Hutchinson, Susan and Danny McIntosh, Nancy Betts, Sheri and Andrea Larsen, Kendra Lindahl, Deb and Carrie Whitelam, Mike Outcalt, David Fox, Kelsey Butler, Adam Funk, Jill Wright, Patti Hildebrandt, Terri Beecher, Rachel and Sarah Suby-Long, Linda Babcock, Aaron Shipman, Suzanne Sharpe, Stacey Baird, Zach Alexander, Kevin and David Ashby, Kerry Lucero, Ben and Lisa Coryell, Diane Tolleson, Becky Hutchins, Bob and Sharon Oliver, Jenita Rhodes, and Lynne Butler. This event is a great way for our Church to invite other families from the community to join us for fellowship. Thanks, in part, to this special day, St. Luke's was able to begin Holy Week as Invitational, Relational and Missional.



Cambodia Mission Possible II

Saturday, May 10th

Please come to a special evening of gratitude for all who made Cambodia Mission Possible II possible!

Schedule of Events:

- Pot Luck Dinner
- Commentaries from Missioners
- Video

More details to come, check out our poster at church!



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ST. LUKE'S UMC / 8817 SOUTH BROADWAY / HIGHLANDS RANCH, CO 80129 / 303-791-0659

The Chronicle

ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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from Reverend Richard Evans

Room For You...

I was going through some old files this week, and came across a brochure for the God's Church/Our Future capital stewardship campaign, which we began in 1998. Included in that brochure were some interesting statistics regarding Easter worship attendance.

1990..... 664
1994..... 1185 (+521)
1998..... 1703 (+518)
2003..... 2375 (+675)

Worship attendance at Easter isn't the only gauge of a congregation's vitality, but it is an important one. It is also a gauge of who our potential congregation is at that point.

When there were 300 people in this congregation, some said that St. Luke's was getting too large. My response to someone who says we're getting too big is, "People said that when we had a fourth as many as now... and they made room for you." The fact is, as a church consultant told us several years ago, "If you are doing something right, you can't keep people away."

As we get larger, we are also looking for ways to be "smaller," in terms of how we relate to one another—not only small groups, but more occasions when the church family gets together. Churches, like individuals and families, need to have balanced lives (if you remember my sermon on balance!): Love and work and worship and play.

But being a church isn't about size. It is about ministry and a vision for that ministry. Our vision is to be Invitational, Relational and Missional. IRM. As we become larger and smaller, I invite you to keep looking for ways, inside or outside "the box," for us to live out that vision, individually and as a church.

Shalom,

Dick Easter Sunday



Prayer Chain

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

*Sarah Connolly and twin boys,
friends of Kari Wangness;
Trudy Turner;
William Damsgard Cronin;
Megan Murray;
Sharon and Bud Scholle's nephew, Joel Jensen;
Janet Maxwell's mother, Amy Shank;
Ann Scott;
Pam Zajac's brother-in-law,
Christopher Rabassi;
Eric Ransick's father, Clarence Ransick;
Bob Whetson's father, Lawrence Whetson;
Bob Whetson's boss, Bob Phlegg;
Gail Carlson;
Anastasia Parkin;
Janet Johnston;
Terri Beecher's father, Bob Smith;
Erik Wangness' aunt, Dar Jensen; and
Louise Smith.*

We continue to pray for:

*Earl Lawrence's sister, Lee;
Norma Harris;
Corina Hall's friend, Freddy Arch Page;
Delia Maher and the Maher family;
Katie Wilkes-Ball, friend of Aaron Shipman;
Crystal Arndt's parents;
Michael Parr, friend of
Wendy and Scott Adams; and
Earl Dedmon, friend of
Bud and Sharon Scholle.*

We extend our prayers and sympathy to:

*Tim Crowley and family on
the death of his father;
Jan Rufien and family on the death
of her mother, Marie McCormick;
Pam Zajac and family on the death
of her father;
Craig Heflin and family
on the death of his mother; and
Jimetta Pyles and family on the death of her
mother, Lola Johnson.*

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

*A son, Tyler Lee Fredericks,
to Rodney and Kristi Fredericks on 3-1-03;
and
A son, Colton Koenig,
to Jason and Valerie Koenig on 3-30-03.*

If you have a prayer concern,
please contact the church office or
Dianne Johnson (303-791-3477)

SLY Activity Calendar

MAY

- 4..... Confirmation Service at 11am
Regular SLY Schedule
6..... Highlands Ranch Breakfast Club
7..... Arapahoe Breakfast Club, WNL
World's Most Dangerous Bible Study
11..... Mother's Day: Regular SLY am schedule;
no evening SLY.
13..... Highlands Ranch Breakfast Club
14..... Arapahoe Breakfast Club, WNL
World's Most Dangerous Bible Study
16..... Senior Banquet. All Seniors watch the
mail for a special invitation to an evening
of dining and remembrance in LoDo.
This is a gift from the church to you.
18..... Baccalaureate Service celebrating our
graduating seniors. Shea Stadium 2pm.
19-25... NO YOUTH ACTIVITIES/LAST
WEEK OF SCHOOL & MEMORIAL
DAY WEEKEND
28..... Summer Breakfast Club begins in
combination with Midweek Missions

JUNE

- 1..... Regular SLY Schedule
Wet and Wild Games for SLY; prepare to
be soaked! Parents of Teens at 6pm
4..... Summer Breakfast Club/Midweek Missions
7-14..... Jr. High Mission Trip
8..... Graduation and Promotion Sunday!!!
Graduation Service at 8, 9:30, 11am
No Sunday School at 9:30, come to
worship. Sock Hop to benefit CETAV
from 3-7pm in the South Parking Lot.
Kool 105 Band to play, classic cars, good
eats and Bronco Cheerleaders!
10..... District Volleyball Begins! Meet at
St. Luke's at 6:15pm and return by 9pm.
Check the SLYline for location/changes.
11..... Summer Breakfast Club/Midweek Missions
15..... Father's Day: Regular SLY am Schedule,
No evening SLY programs

FOR UP TO THE MINUTE SLY SCHEDULE
CHANGES, DON'T FORGET TO VISIT THE SLY
WEBPAGE AT **WWW.STLUKESHR.COM**
AND CLICK ON THE "ST. LUKE'S YOUTH LINK"
OR CALL THE SLYLINE AT (303)791-0659 X45

Regular SLY Sunday Schedule
8, 9:30, 11am....Worship
9:30am.....Sunday School/Youth Disciple
9:30am.....Friends in Faith
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:

It is already May, and Summer is almost here! We have several events lined up for the month of May to help move us into our fun summer months.

You should have already received your Spring Calendar in the mail which is good through June. If you haven't, it is reprinted here in The Chronicle.

To highlight some of the upcoming events:

Our confirmands will be taken into the membership of the church on May 4th at the 11 o'clock service. In the evening, St. Luke's Youth will lead the final District Worship at Grace UMC.

There will be Sunday School, but no evening SLY activities for May 11. It's Mother's Day, so do something nice for your mom.

On Friday, May 16th, we will host our second annual Senior Banquet for our graduating seniors. If you are a Senior, you will receive an invitation in the mail, along with a letter highlighting our other Senior activities. On Sunday the 18th, there will be a community wide Baccalaureate service for youth who attend school or church in Highlands Ranch. This is an event which honors seniors and their accomplishments and also gives thanks to God for keeping you on the journey so far. It will be at 2pm at Shea Stadium, and your family and friends are invited to attend. Sunday, June 8 is Graduation/Promotion Sunday. I will preach like last year on the theme, "No Such Thing". We will be asking for Senior and 1st Grade pictures for this service, so please have some you can loan us.

Memorial Day weekend, there will not be any SLY activities, but we will be back in full swing beginning on Wednesday the 28th of May with our first mid-week mission. You can also look forward to district volleyball each Tuesday, along with Summer favorites like Elitches, Water World, SLY at the Rockies, LaserTag lock-ins, and more!!! See you in church!
Grace and Peace,

Aaron Shipman, Director of Youth Ministries

SLY Beat

What a Year! *By Kelsey Butler, 7th grade*

This year in SLY has been so much fun! We've experienced many challenging activities like going on mission trips. For example, the most recent one was the Sr. High mission trip, Up with Youth on April 4, 5 and 6th, where youth from all over the state get together to learn more about leadership and to just have fun. Two of St. Luke's youth that went are Katie Johnston and Adam Funk. Adam said, "I enjoyed meeting new people."

The Jr. High Summer Mission Trip will be in South Dakota from June 7-14. We will be helping out where needed as well as learning about and experiencing the culture and traditions of the Sioux Nation on the Rosebud and Pine Ridge Indian Reservations. There will be a Youth Sale on May 10 to raise money. Youth 2003 brings together over 10,000 United Methodist Youth from all over the country this year will be held in Knoxville, Tennessee on July 23-27. I'm told the Sr. High Summer Mission Trip to Appalachia Service Project is already full. That's July 27-August 3, 2003.

Paintball on April 27 was a lot of fun. "It was probably the most fun event I've been to all year," said Mike Outcalt. Midweek Missions will begin this summer with breakfast then we will go to various mission sites around Denver to volunteer our time. Wet and Wild games are on June 1. Events include parking lot rafting and water balloon fights. Tuesday nights this summer through July will be District Volleyball. For information on times and dates check the SLYline (303-791-0659 Prompt 5 or extension 45) or check our SLY bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

This year we have done other things, like working with the Youth Leadership Team and helping out Children's Ministries with the Easter Fun Day. We have had many game nights this year playing games such as Car Lot (a more mature version of sharks and minnows – which would not be complete without music director Jim Ramsey's plaid jacket) and Human Foosball (this is just what it sounds like). While playing these games you not only have tons of fun but you experience the fellowship and love of your church family. As you can probably tell, we've had a great time in SLY this year and the summer youth events should be even more fun to come. Join us!



Music Notes:

Summer Choir Begins Soon!

On Saturday June 14th, Summer Choir begins with a short retreat from 9-11:30 that morning. I strongly encourage you to join us because we'll learn all the music for the summer during the retreat. But if you can't make the retreat and would still like to sing, just talk to me and you can take the music home and practice it. The Summer Choir only sings once a month during the summer. The first Sunday we sing is Father's Day, June 15. Then once in July and once in August during the hymnfest. The choir will sing at both the 9:30 and the 11:00 services with a small rehearsal at 9:00am on those Sundays. I encourage anyone who wants to sing or has always had a problem with Thursday nights or whatever to join us this Summer!!! - Jim

"Pops in May" featuring the Ministers of Swing
May 10th at 7:30pm • Littleton United Methodist Church
Tickets are \$7 in advance and \$10 at the door

St. Luke's Chancel Choir goes on European tour!

On June 27th, members of the St. Luke's Chancel choir as well as some family members will be heading off to England for our first European tour. As many of you may already know, the year 2003 celebrates John Wesley's 300th year anniversary. In recognition of Wesley's 300th birthday, the Chancel Choir will be touring John Wesley's stomping grounds at Epworth, Oxford, Bristol and London. In addition we will also be visiting other famous places like Bath and Stratford-upon-Avon (Shakespeare's birthplace). Places we will be performing include Wesley Memorial Church in Epworth, Christ Church Cathedral in Oxford, Bristol Cathedral in Bristol, Wesley Chapel in London and St. Paul's Church Covent Garden in London. The Chancel Choir will return on July 6th. We're excited about the opportunity not only to perform in England but also learn more about our Methodist heritage and the father of Methodism, John Wesley. We also ask that on our trip you keep us in your thoughts and prayers for a safe journey. I'll give a full report in the August Chronicle. Blessings. - James Ramsey

All Ensembles Concert

On Sunday, May 18th at 3:00pm, an all St. Luke's Music Ensembles Program will feature every group in the music program. We encourage everyone to attend and support the hard work and effort that everyone has given through many volunteer hours over the past year. In many cases each group has learned new songs to produce a truly unique concert. Come and have a great time listening to the sounds of many different types of musical genres.

Ministers of Swing play with the Littleton Chorale on May 10th

On Saturday, May 10th, the Ministers of Swing will be guests on the Littleton Choral concert: Pops in May. They will accompany the Chorale as well as perform new numbers like Tuxedo Junction, American Patrol, Bei Mir Bist Du Shoen and others. Come and support the band!



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

Tintinabulators

James Ramsey, interim director

Flute Ensemble

Ruth Smith

Brass Ensemble

Erik Wangsnes

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

Summer Rehearsals

Summer Schedule is in effect after May 18th which means most groups won't meet or are meeting sporadically throughout the summer. If anyone wants to be involved with any of the music programs for this summer or next fall contact James Ramsey and he will hook you up!

THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON RECEIVING

Invitational, Relational, Missional – All at Once *By Yvonne Amrine* "Serve the Lord with gladness; Come before God with joyful singing." Psalm 100:2

Mission Statement: The Women of Note are committed to connecting with people in a meaningful way through God's gift of music in our lives; radiating our belief in Christ; and celebrating life and our faith in the ministry of God.

If you've ever wondered about the power of a vision statement read on... It started with a group of people here at St. Luke's defining a direction for the church as a whole. Rev. Dick Evans has said it many times, "Here at St. Luke's, we live out our vision every day... The true power of it comes from living it all at once."

It's been about a year since the "Women of Note" was formed. It began with a conversation between Sallie Suby-Long and Leigh Ramsey. The intent was to do three part harmony with a small group of women who enjoyed singing a specific genre of music. It has grown into much more than that. We knew that we had something special because of the bond that formed when spending time together and the support we each felt for each other.

In January we decided to take our ministry a step further and define our mission and set some goals. We chose the scripture and mission statement you see above. One of our goals is to share our gifts as a ministry of outreach to hospitals, care centers, prisons, churches and community organizations who could benefit from a spiritual connection through music. That meant first memorizing our songs and preparing a concert for our best audience, the family and friends of St. Luke's.

In the past three months we have accomplished much more than any of us ever thought possible. We performed our first concert on March 15, 2003 to a crowd of friends and family. Those who attended generously contributed \$1200 dollars to support our St. Luke's music ministries. With that kind of support, we all felt we needed to share our music beyond the walls of St. Luke's. Jim Ramsey made mention of our goals to Dick Evans and he connected Jim with Chaplain Bob Toll at the Jefferson County Detention Center in Golden, Colorado. Little did we know our ministry would give deeper meaning to our St. Luke's vision statement of being "Invitational, Relational and Missional."

On April 12th, Chaplain Bob invited us to come and sing for two groups of women in his chapel. "It was the first, higher security group of women that made the greatest impression on me. Here were women, who were patted down for weapons upon entering the chapel, feeling the joy of the Lord's love," said Lisé Takayama "I was moved to tears touched by the Holy Spirit! I was physically drained after two concerts, but spiritually 'jazzed,'" said Lisé.



Welcome!

New Members: March 2003

Bill & Kelly Goering

450 W. Burgundy St. #217
Highlands Ranch

Jennifer & John Turner

8235 S. Jackson St.
Centennial

Phil & Jill Wright

9580 Bellmore Lane
Highlands Ranch

Ian David & Antoinette Lamor

7800 South Monroe Way
Centennial

Jodi Embley

98 W. Sylvester Pl.
Highlands Ranch

Brett & Mary Romk

7661 Chicaree Ct.
Littleton

Jim & Ben Jonell

6789 Solana Dr.
Castle Rock

Janet Bebell

7237 Shoreham Dr.
Castle Rock

"I didn't really know what to expect and I was overwhelmed with the warm reception the women gave us. More than ever, I felt God's loving presence with and among all of us. It was like the doors of heaven opened and God poured out love and grace to each person in the room. I felt so humbled. The hugs, tears, music and laughter connected us with the women in a way that was sacred. I only hope they were blessed half as much as we were! I believe God has led us to a place where our ministry can deeply touch lives. I'm so grateful for this opportunity," said Sallie Suby-Long.

We all felt God's grace descend upon us. It was truly amazing to watch some of the stonier faces, one by one, melt away. It was as though they had forgotten—or maybe never knew, that God loves them—no matter what! It was as if, the words were flowing from God's lips to their ears. Even Chaplain Bob was moved to tears watching this group of women interact with us. At the end of each performance, we received hugs and handshakes from all the women thanking us for sharing our gift of music with them.

Director, Jim Ramsey, had prepared us for a range of reactions from yawns and indifference to genuine smiles. I think even he was surprised at the level of acceptance our performance received. At one point during rehearsal our sound system was creating a very loud buzzing noise that made it difficult to hear ourselves or each other. Jim worked hard to try and figure out what it was as the women filed into the room. All at once, when we started to play for the first group, the buzzing went away. For those two hours the room became acoustically perfect! The feeling in the air was almost electric. I choose to believe it was the Holy Spirit. If any of us had a doubt that our gift of music is a ministry of God, we are now believers.

On behalf of the Women of Note, I want to thank our St. Luke's family for supporting us in our first year of growth. You have given us a safe place to test our wings and make mistakes. Your love and faith has enabled us to take the next step in our ministry. We would not be able to live out our mission without the gracious support of our St. Luke's family and friends, nor feel the power of St. Luke's Vision at work: Invitational, Relational and Missional – All at once.



May Days Are Fun Days

Little School is winding down it's 8th year and we reflect back on all of the wonderful days that we have had with our children! Our fun fall festival days with pumpkins and Halloween, and our big Thanksgiving feasts including pilgrims and native Americans! Christmas was a joy celebrating Baby Jesus' Birthday! Winter brought us fun days in the snow, Valentine hearts, leprechauns and plenty of indoor games and fun! April was a big month with our outstanding Art Show, traveling through many vacation states with incredible art work by the children! We finished off the month with a wonderful Easter celebration and the brightness of spring! Now, we focus on getting ready for summer with lots of outdoor days, spending time with our wonderful friends and classmates. Graduation will be held Wednesday and Thursday the 14th and 15th and our last fun Little School day will May 16th!



We have again appreciated all of the love and support we feel from St. Luke's, especially Jenita who has been there for us through thick and thin, Bonnie from the office who helps out a lot and Joy Damsgard who has been our faithful Chapel leader and has done many excellent children's talks with out kids! We are successful because of our beloved teachers and the prayers of all of those around us!

May you all have a safe and wonderful summer! Enjoy your families and we will see you in the fall!

Lovingly,
Ms. Kay ☺

Senior Ministry

In keeping with our core values of being invitational, relational and missional, St. Luke's would like to form a Senior Ministry for church members and friends over age 55.

The some of the functions of the group would include:

- social and educational opportunities for members
- keeping members advised of issues concerning senior citizens
- senior outreach in the community for those unable to get out independently

Littleton UMC has enjoyed an active seniors group in their congregation since 1996. Their group leader has offered to help St. Luke's start a similar group.

Contact Andrea Mezger if you are interested in this new group: 303-791-7350 Mezgers@aol.com



more Easter Fun Day

A Women's Spiritual Retreat

"Fill My Cup, Lord"

Sponsored by UMW
Led by Pam Rowley

Friday May 16th:
6:30-9:00pm
Saturday May 17th:
8:30-11:30am

Dinner will be served on Friday evening and breakfast on Saturday morning.

This Spiritual Retreat will "fill your cup" with fun, fellowship, and spiritual experiences. It will be a time of personal spiritual renewal as we pursue a closer and more intimate relationship with God and His Son.

Don't miss this opportunity for fellowship with our Christian family and to discover our spiritual selves and explore how we can "fill our cup" with the presence of God.

Please register by calling the church office or Pam Rowley at 720-348-1528.

Child-care available upon request.



Summer Sunday School at St. Luke's

Sunday School this summer is going to be sooooo exciting both kids and adults will want to be involved! The summer session will begin June 8th with Promotion Sunday. Instead of waiting until September, all children, 2's through Sr. High will move to their next age level group. For Preschool this will mean a change in the room they go to each Sunday. Kindergarten be welcomed into the Elementary Workshop Rotation program called PEAK (Purposeful Educational Activities for Kids). And with the proper pomp and circumstance, sixth grade will be moved up to the Sly Sunday School programs.

Summer Sunday School can only happen with the help of volunteers! Sign up downstairs!

June 15, 22 and 29 will provide three hands on lessons about John Wesley, the early Methodist church and what it is to be Methodist today. A team of volunteers is needed to help plan and teach the lessons using a basic curriculum and participate in a Tent Service lead by John Wesley.

During July, we will focus on "Finding our Special Gifts." There will be four workshops designed to experience what it might be like to live with Dyslexia, Blindness, Autism and Deafness. We will learn that through "Special Challenges" we have an opportunity to discover the "Special Gifts" that God has given us. Volunteer are needed to help plan and teach a lesson for one of the special challenges. This lesson will be repeated for a different age level group of children each Sunday. Volunteers for Guides are also needed to accompany a group of children through the different workshops each Sunday.

August will cap off the summer with a five week program called "Lighthouse Kids - Shining God's Light." This program teaches us how God's love works in our lives. This program needs one team to help plan the lessons to be used each Sunday and a set of two helpers for five grade level classes to help with the lessons on Sunday.

Pick your month, pick you subject or pick you your favorite age group. Just don't miss out on this easy, fun, short term time commitment opportunity to get involved with the kids of St. Luke's.

For additional information or to sign up, call Jenita Rhodes at 303-791-0659 ext. 27 or email at jenita@stlukeshr.com.

Calling all busy bee's - elementary aged kid's and adults! The Art Workshop for PEAK Sunday School's is having a Quilting Bee. The squares that are being made in this rotation's workshop need to be sewn together, batted and bound into a class quilt. We will be gathering to buzz through this process Sunday June 1st at 12:00. Lunch will be served before we begin. No experience is necessary! Call or email Jenita Rhodes or talk with Anne Bobkowsky our workshop leader for additional information or to sign up.

Making Crosses in PEAK Sunday School

By Tasia Williams, 6th grade

For the art workshop in the "Lent: Good News Scrapbook" rotation we made collage crosses. First we looked through magazines and cut out pictures that we thought would go with the words LOVE, PEACE, HOPE, JOY, and FAITH. Then we glued the pictures on the cross and got really messy. Then we put the words on and put a layer of glue over everything. After they dry, the crosses were painted with a clear coating. You can see our crosses in the David or Goliath area downstairs or in any of the classrooms upstairs. I liked making these crosses a lot because it was a fun art project and everybody got to contribute. We learned that Easter means LOVE, PEACE, HOPE, JOY and FAITH. PEAK Sunday School is fun! Every kid should think about coming.

Wanted: Couples with kids age 0-12 who would like a "Parent's Night Out" (PNO) once a month. If this sounds like you we would like to hear from you. This is how it works: The second Friday of each month from 6:00-10:00pm you either work with other couples in the Church nursery watching the PNO children or leave your children at the church and have a night out. You sign up to watch the kids 3 to 4 times during the year, then the other 8 or 9 times you have a night out while some of the other parents in the group watch your children in the nursery. Great deal! For more information contact Lynne Butler at 303-791-0659 ext.11 or by email at lynne@stlukeshr.com



nursery news

Thank you to all of our wonderful Nursery workers! They are a great

group of adults and youth who truly do care and try to make your children feel at ease while you are gone.

Kelsey Butler is the May employee of the month. She has worked in the Nursery since January and just loves to hold the babies.

Please be sure to continue making reservations when you need childcare by calling 303-791-0659 ext. 47 or go to the website at www.stlukeshr.com and click on the childcare reservation link. When you make a reservation we are able to have enough caregivers for the number of children attending the nursery. This is critical since we do not like to turn children away from the nursery because we do not have enough caregivers to watch the children. Your child's safety is our primary concern. You do not ever need to make a reservation for Sunday Services. Thank you!



Corner

Summer Clean Up

By Sandi Miyaki

Trustees

Its time to get our yard in order to welcome everyone participating in our packed summer activity calendar! Please plan now to join us on May 31 from 8:00 to 12 Noon for our summer back yard clean up work day. We'll even make sure we've got a tasty breakfast for you - so come on time! Remember to pack along the same tools you use when you attack your own outdoor home projects - gloves, shovel, rake, pruner, string trimmer, you get the idea! Oh, and dress appropriately, we'll be doing some painting, too. In case of rain, come anyway—we'll work inside!

As we grow as a church family, the Trustees team is working to formalize a process for managing special gifts that St. Luke's has been blessed to receive from benefactors outside of our regular pledging processes. The Trustees, working with the Financial Secretary, will be responsible for tracking the receipt and expensing of gifts, insuring the gifts are spent as directed by the giver, and keeping track of unspent amounts. The Trustees will also be responsible for any recognition that the giver requests, and publishing an annual accounting of gifts in the Charge Conference Report.

Once our processes are finalized we'll work to share details with you directly. In the meantime, anyone who has interest in providing input to this process or reviewing current details can contact Ken Fong at kfong@worldnet.att.net or (303) 346-7057.

Thanks for joining us for Wednesday Nite Live Dinners! WNL Dinners are over with for now, but we look forward to seeing you all in the fall. If you have any questions, or want to know more about WNL Dinners, please contact Vicki Lauer at 303-683-7484 or Kerry Lucero at 303-471-2240.

Zimbabwe: How can we help now?

By Laurie Gilbert

It was in 1997, St. Luke's took a team to Zimbabwe Africa, led by our Missionary in Residence at that time, Dr. Tapiwa Mucherera. It was a heartfelt and memory filled trip, one I will never forget. I came home with all too clear visions of hundreds of orphaned children who lacked in the most basic needs, most orphaned from losing parents to AIDS. We visited with them and we held them, some for only brief moments, but it was in those brief moments that my life was changed forever.

Upon our return, the immediate need to act was clear and urgent. Another team member, Amy Stapleton and I, decided to collect gently used and new clothing for the orphans and send them directly to the places we visited. The Fairfield Orphanage, the Baby Fold in Old Mutare, Home of Hope in Nyadire, and to the orphans in Mutumbara. In the last few years we've added to that list and started sending care packages to The Chegutu UMC, to the Hartsell High School in Old Mutare, and to the Ishe Anesu Project. We were blessed with the presence of one of the directors of the Ishe Anesu Project here at St. Luke's, Mrs. Maria Humbane, on March 17th, 2002. She shared with our congregation the even more urgent needs that continually increase every day for the orphans and people of Zimbabwe.

Our Sunday school classes contributed "NEW" underwear and socks to the "Do you like to wear somebody else's underwear?" clothes drive. We've sold hand made wooden crafts made in Zimbabwe sent to us from Chegutu, by Rev. David Mucherera, and we've sent over 300 care packages in the last 5 years, thanks to the Missions generous "Mailing to Zimbabwe" fund and private donations.

I'm sad to share with you today, that because of increased postal costs, it's become obvious that the cost of sending care packages, could be put to better use, by instead sending financial aide to the different locations. When we first started sending packages, I could send 5-6 35-40 lb. boxes for about \$150.00. Now, it's costing about \$120.00 to send 2 30 lb. boxes. After discussing this with Dr. Mucherera and careful prayers, we've decided to stop our packages for the time being. I will seek an alternative root to send packages again one day. We believe giving financial funds at this time will help with the much-needed food at this time. Food, is more needed than clothing today. This is difficult to pass on for me, it's been a task that I've loved doing. However, I always try to find the positive in every day so... for this I'm so grateful, the funds we send can be either directly handed by Dr. Mucherera to our destination (he goes to Zimbabwe each year) and we've also been successful in wiring the funds directly to our contacts. This is a major accomplishment, since Zimbabwe, like so many other countries has such a corrupt system and funds are not always allocated appropriately.

For now, one of our windows has closed, but if your call is to continue being connected to Zimbabwe, please consider a financial donation, knowing ***it will make a difference in the life of a child.***



The "Lay"test News: *A Message from our Lay Leaders - By Monty Hoffman*

John Wesley, an Example for the Rest of Us

Have you ever read a biography of someone like Mother Teresa and been inspired by how easily they seem to discern God's will and live their lives in accordance with it? Have you also had trouble relating to how easily they seem to do it?

If you are like me, you struggle with the distractions of life. Earning a living, raising children, maintaining relationships, and all the other jobs of everyday life consume time and energy and seem to leave little of either for hearing God. I make mistakes, hurt people, and do things that I regret later.

I guess that is why I relate easier to John Wesley than Mother Teresa. John Wesley was an imperfect human being who struggled with life and his relationship with God. His early efforts at establishing a relationship with God through Christ were controlling and compulsive and left him feeling a sense of despair, failure, and anxiety. His early ministerial efforts were a failure and his parish was soon sparsely attended. He considered giving up the ministry.

He was not very good at personal relationships. He didn't marry until in his forties. After a few years, he lived apart from his wife, the 18th century equivalent of a divorce. His relationship with his brother Charles was acrimonious at times.

In spite of these struggles and imperfections, Wesley felt God's presence in his life. God provided John with the assurance of his love when John felt a sense of despair. God gave him peace and comfort when he felt anxious. God's Grace helped John to seek to be a better person and accomplish more than he ever dreamed possible.

John Wesley is an example to me that God's Love and Grace do not just come to the perfect, but to all people that need it. His example helps me to remember that with God's Love and Grace, all things are possible, even for me.

Seven Summer Fun Days

Children will enjoy music, crafts, stories and games featuring a different story from the Bible each week. Registration is \$12.00 per child/per day to help cover supplies, snack, and teacher salaries. Days are June 10, 17, July 8, 15, 22, 19, and August 5 from 9:30-12:00, ages 3 years through 5th grade. Chose one day or all of them. Pick up a registration form from the Church office and turn it in by May 18th. Contact Pat Dunnigan for more information at 303-471-9372 or pdunn62808@aol.com.



Instead of tossing your used eyeglasses into a drawer, bring them to the collection bin in the mission's closet. They will be sent to Medical Ministry International for recycling. MMI takes donated eyeglasses and washes and sorts them. Simple repairs are made and a computer determines the prescription. Then collections are sent to an MMI eye project in a developing country. At an eye project, traveling teams of ophthalmologists and optometrists screen patients, treat them for any infection or disease, and assign your recycled eyeglasses where needed. Often hopeful patients travel great distances and sometimes wait in line several days to be seen by an eye project team. Those eyeglasses can help someone read or sew again, build cabinets or plow a straight row. Often only one pair out of the thousands sent is right for a particular patient, and they say 'Thank God for the person who sent these glasses for me.'

Carol Reif, who passed away two years ago, started this collection project at St. Luke's. The missions committee would like to continue it in her memory.

If you have questions about the MMI eyeglass collection, contact Andrea Mezger at 303-791-7350.

Higher Ground

By Fred Venable, Associate Minister

My guess is that most people imagine having a working relationship with God, though very few would be willing to pay the price, to do what it takes to get it. "Paying the price" sounds like it must be a purchase, a quid pro quo, a deal. The problem with these images is that they exist between equals. These are what I do when I go into a super market, check out my basket, and give some money. The store has groceries, I have money. The store and I are on the same level. They have what I want and have money for: it's a deal.

A working relationship I might try to have with God is not between equals. That's why so many of the deals I've tried to make have fallen through. I've had my problems and anxieties, so I've approached God for a happy solution thinking God understands and has this human empathy, and therefore wants to grant whatever I asked, especially since I soft-soaped him with some heavy promises. Didn't work.

The most productive relationships I've had have been when I forgot the deal making and stepped out on faith, gave what I had to give, and not expected anything in return. That's hard, because we certainly think God has got to be "fair." Isn't that the least we could expect? And it takes real spiritual discipline not to expect any return. The first time you told a girl you loved her you fully expected an "I love you" in return. Not to get that return could tear your heart out.

Maybe that's what God wants, to tear our hearts out. To hang out there somewhere between heaven and earth, as when you jump off a cliff in a "leap of faith." I think that is what's involved in real stewardship. To give and not expect any return, but to trust in the faithfulness that God will respond some way, some how, some time; to have no measurement, no math, no timetable. I've been at this stewardship thing long enough to have experienced that God does respond some way, some how, some time.

So I encourage you in your giving to press beyond the practicality of a quid pro quo, to the impracticality of a "leap of faith," of not knowing where you'll land. My guess is you'll land on higher ground than that from which you leaped.



Dinner for 6/7/8

Hey everybody! Here's a great way to have fun. Meet together in a totally relaxed environment, get to know people in the church better, make new friends, engage in lively conversation, and show off your favorite dishes. Participants are divided into groups of three or four couples (your choice) and each couple hosts one informal dinner, cookout or whatever you like—during the a four month period. The hosts provide the entree and the others bring the rest of the vittles. This program has been successful for years because it's so enjoyable. So if you haven't tried it yet, sign up now—you'll be pleasantly surprised!

Groups are being formed now for June through September. Sign up sheets will be on the bulletin board through May 25, or just pick up the phone and call Dottie or Carl Braun at 303-471-4185. All those who sign up will receive a letter at the beginning of June with the names in their group and instructions. (Note: whenever possible, new participants will not host the first dinner during the period.)

Sign up now and join the fun!

Vacation Bible School

St. Luke's Vacation Bible School presents

Son Harvest: Country Fair
for adventurers 3 years-5th grade
June 23-27 9:00 to noon

Through Son Harvest: Country Fair children will learn that the best way to grow is to know Jesus and to live as He wants them to live. Each day brings surprising new discoveries and exciting challenges. Through the examples of Jesus and His parables, children will grow a crop of love, sprout joy, plant peach, produce some patience and pick a bushel of kindness too. They will do this by singing fun songs, watching skits, creating crafts, playing games, having snacks, and, of course, playing on the farm. Activity fee is \$20.00 per child to help pay for snacks and supplies – scholarships are available. Pick up a registration form from the Church office and turn it in by May 30th. Contact Lynne Butler for more information at 303-791-0659 ext. 11 or lynne@stlukeshr.com

Donation Items needed for VBS:

- plastic bottle caps
- cardboard egg cartons
- empty soup/vegetable cans
- plastic berry baskets
- empty 35-mm film canisters with lids
- empty 20-oz or larger vegetable or coffee cans
- empty square tissue boxes



Easter Beauties!

From a Teacher:



I teach Sunday School for several reasons. Teaching Sunday School is an easy way to fulfill my service commitment to the church. The time involved is minimal and I have lots of practice meeting the expectations of a three-year-old. Teaching Sunday School also allows me to be involved in the Sunday School experience of my own children. It ensures that they will have a teacher and it gives me the opportunity to offer my input into the curriculum presented. Finally, as a relatively new resident of Colorado, teaching Sunday School has given me the opportunity to meet and get to know other members of the church.

- Amy Ash

St. Luke's Turns 20

By Jennifer Jiang

Mark your calendar and save September 7th for the big 20th Anniversary Celebration.

For some it may be easier than for others to imagine that St. Luke's is turning 20 this year. We have lots of history and experiences to share. This is a year to spend exploring, discovering, and sharing all the things St. Luke's has been through, who we were and how we got where we are today. Were we always Invitational, Relational, and Missional? How many members founded this church? Where did they worship before our building was completed?

Here's what two members recall:
We were recruited by Joy Damsgard to teach Sunday school. We taught first grade to 30-40 children in the original basement that was divided into 6 classrooms. There wasn't enough room for anyone to walk between the kids! The kids we taught back then are now in college.

I remember one Sunday before Christmas; Rev. Bill Selby preached his entire service as on of the wise men. He was in character the entire time.

Have you contributed to the St. Luke's timeline, or with a personal story? If not, please look for the gold and white starred box in the narthex by the timeline in Fellowship Hall to submit stories throughout the year. Or email your stories to stories@stlukeshr.com. We are looking for stories about our church, good or bad, funny or serious, things that most of us don't know about our beginnings in 1983. The 20th anniversary committee would like to put together a collection of our history to share with the congregation during this anniversary year.

Family Camp 2003: Greetings fellow St. Luke's campers!

Family Camp 2003 is upon us, and we are now beginning the planning stage of this fourth annual camping extravaganza. This year, we are changing the format a bit. We will be camping from Thursday, July 10, through Monday, July 15 at Golden Gate State Park (north of Golden) instead of our week long August timeframe we've done in the past. So hopefully you can join us!

We need to assemble a leadership team for the planning process, and we need a few good men and women with enthusiasm for Family Camp. We know you're out there! Please contact Caroline Merchant at 303-791-6251



clmerchant@hotmail.com to volunteer. Also, watch for a reservation table in the Narthex starting in April, so start planning your summer vacations for Family Camp.

This year promises to be exciting, with many of the same activities taking place, but also with a few additions. As with last year, we will organize a workday mission trip, have pancake breakfasts, campfires (virtual or otherwise), and crafts for kids and parents alike. We would like to assemble a few knowledgeable volunteers to conduct nature hikes, and perhaps an evening program on Colorado wildlife.

We hope you all can attend for the whole 5 days and 4 nights to get the most out of this wonderful opportunity for fellowship and outdoor fun. We look forward to seeing you at Camp!

OPPORTUNITY ALERTS!

Sunday School Teachers

Do you like children? Then you would make a great Sunday School teacher! We need teachers for ages 2-6th grade for the 9:30 and 11:00 services. We provide training and the lessons are planned for you. You just show up ready to spend time with the children. Salary is lots of hugs and the appreciation of our children. If you would like more information please contact Lynne Butler (classes for 2yrs.-K) 303-791-0659 ext.11, lynne@stlukeshr.com or Jenita Rhodes (classes for 1st grade-6th grade) 303-791-0659 ext.27, jenita@stlukeshr.com

Adult Nursery Caregivers

Do you like spending time with children and want to get paid? We are in need of adult workers for our nursery. The nursery supports the programs for St. Luke's including music programs, small group meetings and church Services. We offer childcare on Sat. and Sun. mornings and Tues., Wed., and Thurs. evenings. For more information contact Lynne Butler - 303-791-0659 ext. 11, lynne@stlukeshr.com

Vacation Bible School Volunteers

Are you interested in spending a fun, laughter filled week at the county fair? Then join us as we transform St. Luke's into Son Harvest: Country Fair - June 23rd - 27th. We need teachers and others to help with music, games, snacks, crafts and more. Last year we helped 180 children age 3-5th grade learn about God's Word through fun and fellowship. This year we hope to have more than 200! The only thing missing is YOU! For more information contact Lynne Butler - 303-791-0659 ext.11, lynne@stlukeshr.com

Finance Committee Member

Needed, member with financial or legal background to participate in the Finance Committee. Must have facility with financial statements and cash management, financial analysis and reporting. Time requirements are monthly Team meeting and monthly sub-committee meetings. At times, immediate response to requests is required. A 3-year commitment is desired. Please contact John Merchant at 303-791-6251, jwmerchant@attbi.com

Kitchen Team Member

St. Luke's needs a member or constituent who is interested in helping keep our kitchen in top condition. Tasks needing to be performed periodically include helping others use the kitchen, stocking the kitchen, cleaning the kitchen, and removing old food. Time requirements and length of membership are flexible. Please contact Ken Fong at 303-346-7057, kfong@att.net

Communications Team Member

If you enjoy working with the computer, desktop publishing or expressing yourself through the written word, this team is for you! Team members formally meet 3-4 times per year and keep in contact through email. Your commitment is flexible with most work done at home from your own computer. Please contact Yvonne Amrine at 720-733-1491, yamrine@usa.com

Sign Helper

Help change the message periodically on the St. Luke's street sign. Be one of a team of volunteers to make these changes weekly. This only requires a few minutes at the beginning of the week. Contact Ken Fong at 303-346-7057, kfong@att.net

Pictorial Directory Team Members

Help make the 20th Anniversary Pictorial Directory a success! We need a team of 15 people to help coordinate, make phone calls, host, and schedule St. Luke's families for portrait sittings. There are many different levels of participation. You can commit to as little as 2 hours of your time. Your commitment will be rewarded with a gift certificate toward portrait purchases from Olan Mills. For more information call Yvonne Amrine at 720-733-1491, or email: yamrine@usa.com

General Office Help

During the week, assist Bonnie & staff with answering phones, stuffing envelopes for mailings, data entry, and other miscellaneous duties. Commitment is 1/2 day weekly or on an "as needed" basis. Contact Bonnie at (303) 791-0659 or bonnie@stlukeshr.com

Leadership Development Team Member

The St. Luke's Leadership Development Team is looking for additional members who are interested in assisting with the development and delivery of focused training for the leadership and congregation of St. Luke's. This training includes areas such as Spiritual Discernment, Effect Small Group planning, Meeting Facilitation, Team Dynamics, Effective Communications and others. If you are interested, please contact Carl Cleveland 303-791-3874 or 303-470-1042 or email: ccleveland@highstream.net or Sallie Suby-Long 303-470-9578.

For Opportunity Alerts updates or to post one, go to: www.stlukeshr.com