



Highlands Ranch, Colorado

# The CHRONICLE

April 2007

ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## Inside This Issue:

More from Les.....3  
Called to Serve.....4  
Servant Spotlight.....5  
Children's Ministry.....6-7  
Music & Drama.....9  
SLY.....10  
Financial Update.....11  
and much more!



## God's Favorite - a Smashing Success!

The Wesley Players' production of "God's Favorite" played March 16, 17, and 18 to a larger audience than expected. The cast of eight kept the audience entranced throughout the show, and were all stunned to find that the total proceeds from the show was about \$11,500, thanks in part to a matching donor! \$4,500 is going to Youth Missions (\$2,000 for building supplies and \$2,500 as a donation to the camp for future building supplies) and \$7,000 is going to Guatemala to help with improvements for both the Orphanage and the John Wesley School. Many thanks to all who had a part in making this an invitational, relational and missional success story!

## Easter Has Arrived at St. Luke's

Photos from "Easter Fun Day", March 31 and Palm Sunday, April 1.



## St. Luke's Puts Faith into Action

by Betsy Keyack



"Breaking bread" with homeless teens and adults - rebuilding houses in Mississippi - gleaning for potatoes - "yarning and yaking" - filling shoe boxes with school supplies and toys. These are examples of how the children, youth, adults, small groups and families of St. Luke's put their faith into action last year. In our previous Chronicle issue, I reviewed all the monetary and in-kind donations people of St. Luke's gave to missions in 2006, including the results of our spectacular Music and Drama ministry fundraisers. But there's more!

In 2006, over 100 youth, adults and children from St. Luke's participated in 7 mission trips, amounting to over 400 person-days of work. Two teams went to Mississippi to help rebuild homes destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. A team went to Guatemala to help with construction at the orphanage in Lemoa and the Methodist Retreat Center; they also conducted a Bible Camp for about 350 children. The Ballard and Hooke families went to the United Methodist Church in Olney Springs, to help with a Vacation Bible School and do painting around the church. Both the Staller family and the Christian Connections adult class went for one day to La Puente in Alamosa Springs. There they gleaned potatoes from the fields and brought the fruits of their labors back to local food banks.

One Sunday a month, volunteers from St. Luke's go to St. Paul's UMC in downtown Denver to help serve a meal to people who are homeless and poor. Thanks to Marie Blue for coordinating St. Luke's involvement in this mission. One Tuesday a month, different small groups in the congregation provide dinner and breakfast for Urban Peak, a shelter for homeless teenagers. One group, including Brad and Lorie Martin and Sharon and John Williams, went to serve the dinner and eat with the teenagers. Appreciation goes to Diane Tolleson for leading our Urban Peak dinners. Other ongoing mission ministries include the Caring Connection, which has been a tremendous blessing to the church by providing meals, transportation and other help to whomever needs it. Thanks to Patti Speedy for her leadership. The Yarn and Yak group has a wonderful ministry of knitting and crocheting blankets, hats and prayer shawls to provide comfort and warmth to people in need. In addition, a new class of Stephen Ministers completed training so that we can offer loving, compassionate care to more people.

We had some fun mission happenings in 2006. Last August, there was a great turnout for the St. Luke's AIDS Walk, to raise money for the United Methodist Global AIDS fund. Thanks to Susan McIntosh and members of

continued on page 8

## Sunday Worship Services:

8:00am, 9:30am & 11:00am

### Sunday School:

(Adult, Youth & Children)

9:30am & 11:00am

Nursery available for all services

Church Office: 303-791-0659

Fax: 303-470-5615

St. Luke's Youth.....x45

Childcare Reservations.....x47

Email: office@stlukeshr.com

Website: www.stlukeshr.com

### Staff:

Rev. Janet Forbes.....x13

Senior Minister

Emergency: 303-241-9312

Rev. Pam Rowley.....x32

Associate Minister

Emergency: 720-348-1528

Rev. Dave Money.....x33

Associate Minister

Emergency: 303-932-1035

James Ramsey.....x23

Director of Worship & Arts

Carrie Mallory.....x35

Associate Director of Worship & Arts

Kay Coryell.....x43

Associate Director of Worship & Arts

Chris Wilterdink.....x14

Director of Youth Ministries

Susan Johnson.....x19

Assistant Director of Youth Ministries

Jenita Rhodes.....x27

Director of Children's Ministry

Lynne Butler.....x11

Assistant Children's Ministry Director

Kristina Linn.....x40

Childcare Director

Lynda Fickling.....x20

Director of Servant Ministry

Bonnie Funk.....x10

Church Secretary

Dave Cupp.....x24

Director of Finance

Janet Maxwell.....x16

Assistant Director of Finance

Barry Curtis.....x39

Facilities Manager

Kay Swanson...303-791-1982

Director of Little School

All articles, photos and announcements for the May issue of *The Chronicle* are due April 15th.

Editor: Sharon Oliver  
chronicle@stlukeshr.com



Rev. Janet Forbes  
Senior Pastor

## ON LAUNCHING THE BOLD VENTURE

*Thinking About Tithes, Offerings, and Gifts*

The concept of stewardship begins and ends with God.

The scriptures present a clear understanding of possessions and giving. Even songs of worship contain reference and reminders to the principle: "The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it." (Psalm 24:1-2) This spring, we have great things in store as we discover together new horizons in stewardship and its impact on our daily lives.

Look with me at the difference between your capital campaign gifts and tithes and offerings.

Exodus 36 tells us about the people bringing their offerings, (not their tithes – their weekly gifts) to build the sanctuary of God. There was such an outpouring that Moses had to send word for the people to stop giving. More than enough provision had been made. That would be hard to imagine!

In II Chronicles, when King David assisted his son, Solomon, in building the temple, all of the people, including King David, and led by King David, gave gifts toward its construction above those it would take to run the daily business of the temple. There was never confusion or talk of splitting gifts, or the need to delay worship and ministry while the temple was being built. The king and the people looked upon the opportunity to bring their "building" gifts as a special honor from God.

Think of your capital campaign gift like those given by people in the days of Moses and King David, as freewill donations, above the tithe to build God's house.

Contrast capital campaign gifts with our tithes and offerings for ministry. The tithes and offerings the church emphasizes once a year enable daily ministry – salaries, programs, and opening the church every day.

Perhaps the most familiar passage on the subject of the tithe and its importance as the daily operational provision comes from Malachi 3:10. Here we are told to bring our full tithe to the storehouse (or church). Why? So that there may be food in the Lord's house – so that ministry can occur, uninterrupted – and thus, we put God to the test. "See if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing."

Just as the house of God referred to in Malachi was the source of ministry, St. Luke's is the center for all the ministries we provide for others and ourselves. It is the purveyor of the Good News. Our tithes enable and provide ministries that reach out to people where they are hurting, feed the hungry, spread the gospel of Christian education, strengthen young people and families, gather spiritual friends for worship and put people in touch with God.

We can celebrate two distinctive opportunities:

- Capital Campaign Gifts – Our gifts above and beyond our tithes and special ministry offerings to build the church.
- Tithes and Special Ministry Offerings – Our faithful return of what already belongs to God to make sure that we fulfill our mission to tell others about Christ and represent Christ in this community.

We simply must not confuse the two! Both are needed at this time in our life together and the scripture inspires both.

## Baby Blessing Ministry

The Care Team and Children's Ministries have initiated a ministry of baby blessings for newborns and their parents. Please notify the church of the baby's arrival. One of the pastors will call in the hospital to offer prayer and a special blessing, as well as a gift bag from Children's Ministries.

## Pastor's Book Club – Monday, April 23 7:00pm

Rev. Janet's Book Club will meet on Monday, April 23, at 7:00 in her office to discuss *Traveling Mercies* by Anne Lamott. In this collection of essays, Lamott offers her trademark wit and irreverence in describing her reluctant journey into faith. Every story is framed in plainspoken, real-life, honest-to-God experiences. In our on-going explorations of The Road Where Faith is Found, this is a satisfying armchair-travel experience, highlighting the tender mercies of Lamott's life that nudged her into the Christian faith.

Watch for opportunities to discuss two soon-to-be published titles this summer: *The Solomon Key* by Dan Brown (A sequel to *The DaVinci Code*) and *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* by J.K. Rowling (the last book in the series about Hogwarts.)



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

## More from Les: An End or a Beginning?

*"Nothing has come along that can beat the horse and buggy!" advised Chauncey Depew advising his nephew against investing in Henry Ford's new company.*

*"I think there is a world market for about five computers," said Thomas J. Watson, IBM founder and occasional visionary.*

*"Face it, Lewis, Civil War movies have never made a dime," commented MGM Producer Irving Thadberry, advising his boss, Louis G. Mayer, against buying the rights to the book, Gone With The Wind.*

*"What use would this company make of an electrical toy?" said Western Union President Carl Orton on turning down Alexander Graham Bell's new invention that came to be known as the telephone.*

*"All we need to do is kill their leader if we want to stop this crazy movement," one of the Sanhedrin members said about Jesus of Nazareth.*

The most remembered quotes from history seem to be the ones that were proven wrong by experience. Today, we laugh about what seems to us to be shortsightedness and limited thinking of those from the past.

But the new can and often will come to us in unexpected ways and bring ways of doing things we might not have even thought of before. An old way of thinking or doing ends and, in dealing with that ending, we are being prepared for the beginning of something new, even if we don't realize it.

But we say, "endings can be hard!"

Endings force us to change in some way.

All too often, our comfort with the status quo blinds us to the opportunities that may come to us unexpectedly. Endings do not stand alone; endings also mark beginnings.

The empty tomb of Easter morning changed the world in ways that no one but God could have visualized. God had revealed God's own self to humanity through the person of His Son, Jesus Christ and now that Son had shown us that God has power even over death.

Jesus' death on a cross, burial and resurrection was an end of his mortal existence and earthly ministry but a beginning of new life and wholeness for all of us.

Easter is God's promise of new life to each one of us.

And through that promise we are offered power and strength and hope as we encounter our own endings.

Are you experiencing some ending in your life?

Are there difficult barriers blocking the way you want to go?

Stop and reflect for a moment, "Where is God in all this?"

"Is Christ leading me in some new direction?"

As you pause, look for doors that may be opening as others close.

Let the Spirit guide you in discernment of some new path and take hold of God's promise. Then start moving up that new path.

God bless us all! —Rev. Les

## Faith in Action - Curing Affluenza

How much time do you spend shopping? How much time do you spend in engaging conversation with friends and family? When was the last time you really felt like you were in a connected community?

These are just a few of the questions that the Faith in Action class discussed after reading the book *"Affluenza: The All-Consuming Epidemic."* We learned how our desire to consume (spending) has outpaced our ability to consume (income). We also discussed how the US has become a nation of consumer groups, rather than a community of individuals.

After studying this book, the Faith in Action class has felt moved to do more to combat the affliction of the affluent, especially as it affects our own community. And we'd like to invite you to join us!

Starting April 15, there will be a class at 11:00 on Sunday mornings discussing the video series *"Curing Affluenza."* In this six-week series, we'll view the tapes, and create our own community and learn how to live in balance: balancing our income with our expenses, caring for an wise using the earth's resources, creating a stronger sense of community.

Video topics include:

- 1. Abundant life:** What is it?
- 2. Money:** How poor does Jesus want us to be?
- 3. Time:** How much do I have to give away?
- 4. Stuff:** How much can I have?
- 5. Support:** What will help?
- 6. Next:** What do I do come Monday morning?

*Please join us as we discover how to cure and prevent affluenza!*



**EARTH DAY is Sunday, April 22**

## United Methodist Women are "Green"

The United Methodist Women are committed to improving our environment and living in a just manner. Here are eight principles we keep in mind:

- Practice garbage prevention
- Recycle and buy recycled
- Maintain zero tolerance for producing toxins
- Avoid plastics
- Conserve energy
- Produce and consume locally grown food
- Use safe, natural materials
- Promote the total well-being of participants in our gathering

We want to patronize establishments that are making a good faith effort at become environmentally responsible.

The above is taken from a publication *"Green Guidance, How to Plan Environmentally Responsible Events"* from the office of Environmental Justice, Women's Division The United Methodist Church, Washington, DC

Betty Ludlam, Secretary, Rocky Mountain Conference United Methodist Women





## SERVING ST. LUKE'S



**Lynda Fickling**  
Director of  
Servant Ministry

## We are Called to Serve

### Serving Opportunities - April 2007

*"The Fourth Principle of Biblical Servanthood: As we open our hearts to God's purposes, we become available to move to the places God wants us to be. ("Lifekeys" Servant by Design Class at St. Luke's)*

### Join one of our Ministry Teams

#### Fellowship Events Team: We are always looking for new recruits.

Methodists love to eat and it's our job to feed them. In March we served hundreds of church members chicken, either fried or Kiev at a dinner/dance and at the Saturday night performance of "God's Favorite". We love coming up with new and exciting menus, and if we can set something on fire (like bananas foster) all the better! Right now we're busy planning breakfast events and celebrations for the Capital Campaign. It's a wonderful way to meet church members, as we feed them all! Come join this spirited, fun group as we plan events and food for the soul. If you know your way around a kitchen, or even if you don't, we'd love to have you. Spiritual Gifts: Helps, Hospitality, Administration

**Contact:** *Lisa Lehnus 303-346-8114 lehnusl@yahoo.com or Mona Daniels at moandtroy@msn.com*

#### Wanted by Children's Ministry – A Sunday School Supply Shopper/

**Organizer:** This is a great opportunity for someone to go shopping and not have to spend their own money! This person or TEAM would keep the supplies used in Sunday School (and many other activities) well stocked and organized. An eye for a bargain would be especially appreciated. A peek at the supply closet could be done on a bi-weekly basis for straightening. Shopping could be done on a once a month basis. Spiritual Gifts: Helps, Administration

**Contact:** *Jenita Rhodes, jenita@stlukesbr.com 303-791-0659 x27*

**Welcome Team:** Seeking friendly, outgoing people to serve on a team whose mission is to welcome friends who have been visiting St. Luke's. We drop off a gift of information and a sincere welcome to St. Luke's. If you can spare 5 minutes and no more than 2 times a month, contact Wally and begin serving on one of most valued teams. Spiritual Gifts: Hospitality

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

**Guest Service Station:** It only takes a few minutes for anyone to feel welcome or not welcome to the church. Join one of our "first point of contact" teams, as the "Minister of Concierge". You are stationed in the foyer where you will meet and greet for 30 minutes one Sunday a month. Spiritual Gifts: Helps, Hospitality

**Contact:** *Lynda Fickling 303-791-0659 x20 lynda@stlukesbr.com*

**Ushers:** Assists in the Sunday service by ensuring worshippers are attended to before, during and after the service. Ushers typically serve on a quarterly basis at the service time of their choice. Join this very important "point of contact" team to make guests and members feel at home. Spiritual Gifts: Hospitality, Helps

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

\*As we list the Spiritual Gifts, you may have one or more than one in each area. For further information regarding your Spiritual Gifts/Passions contact Lynda Fickling lynda@stlukesbr.com or 303-791-0659 x20. Realize your potential for living a God-centered life!

## PRAYER CONCERNS



#### Week Ending March 30, 2007

Gerry Wright (Gail Abernathy's mother)  
Sturgis Wetherington  
Bill Lee, Jr.  
Grant Larson  
Janet Blatchford (friend of Samantha Leahy)  
John Poole (friend of Joy Damsgard)  
John Sudol (Joyce Carnes' cousin)  
Dick DeWire (friend of Pat Ludwig)  
Kim Friel (friend of Lynda Fickling)  
Beth Turner  
Al Bierman (Sandi Thompson's friend's husband)  
Walt Brewer  
Jenni Keefer (Mike Hutchins' daughter)  
Julie Monroe  
Avis Stanley (Joy Damsgard's mother)  
Jim Hertel (Sandi Thompson's father)  
Loyale Mason (Jim Ramsey's gr. uncle)  
Brian Day (Eileen Law's nephew)  
Peggy Dunnigan (Kristina Linn's grandmother)  
Brent Webber (friend of the Harry Cushing family)  
Sandra York (Pam Rowley's friend)  
Carol Merrill (Sherry Merrill's mother)  
Joe Forbes (Janet Forbes' brother)  
David Hartman (Jill Wright's brother)  
Carolyn Lehnus (Lisa Lehnus' sister-in-law)  
David Koch (Kay Swanson's assoc. pastor)  
Peter Quick  
Jane Riegel  
Jackie Lehnus (Lisa Lehnus' mother)  
Yates Power (friend of Andrea Mezger's)  
Norma Harris  
Betty Kieser (Bonnie Funk's mother)  
Kendall Griggs (Susan Hooke's uncle)  
Ross Barnard's grandmother BuBu  
Denny Chalus (Ken & Barb Decker's friend)  
Devin Butler (family friend of Angela Chaplin)  
Jerry O'Connor (Irv & Jackie Durban's friends)  
Fred Venable  
Harold Johnson (Laurie Gilbert's father)

Owen Schoolar (family friend of Wendy Walberg/Henry/Marilyn Ott)  
Brenda Schafer  
Elizabeth Peterman (Paul Peterman's mother)  
Fran West  
Rudi Benedix (Peter Walheim's brother-in-law)  
Don Houghtaling (Eileen Law's cousin)  
Joseph Clem (Jen Mell's father)  
Nora Weyand (Grace Fawcett's daughter)  
Bob Halderman  
Jan Rufien  
Denis Buchanan (Joan Goddard's father)  
Lesley Thompson  
Eileen Law  
Michelle Vuytko  
Kim Uselman  
Mary (Brenda Schafer's friend)  
Fanelle Laughlin (Lisa Williams' aunt)  
Becky Williams (Jeff Williams' sister)  
Charles Hardin (family friend of Lisa Williams)  
Burt Sahli (Diane Whetson's father)  
Greg Lucero  
Jerry Kirkpatrick (Kerry Lucero's father)  
Annie Fuglevand (Sharon Scholle's friend)  
Katie King (Bobbi & Truman King's daughter)  
Mark Breen (Ms. Tushka's husband/LS)  
Joyce Eyer  
Richard Keeley (Rachel Nolder's father)  
Ashley Dreyhouse (Carolyn Warden)  
McKay Smith  
Sherry Merrill  
June Hutchins (Mike Hutchins' mother)  
Melissa Hemphill

#### Sympathies:

Sympathies to Jan & Charlie Rufien and family on the passing of Charlie's mother, Mary Gregory, March 31.

#### Congratulations:

Congratulations to Kevin & Heather Harris on the birth of a daughter, Natalie Harris, born March 29. Proud grandparents: Linda and Frank Harris.

## Get CONNECTED

We invite you to stop by the "Get Connected" table in the Narthex on Sundays for all the latest news on our programs, ministries and fellowship for all ages!!

Thank you to our Get Connected Ministry Team:  
Julie Ramsett, Robin Fort, Renae Parra, Ann Smith,  
Scott Peterson and Lori Lockrem.

## Servant Spotlight: Danny & Susan McIntosh *by Jill Wright*



**Hometowns:** Susan was born in Edmonton, Alberta and raised in Salt Lake City, Utah. Danny was born and raised in Midvale, Utah.

**Marriage:** Susan and Danny married in 1986. "We met in a clowning workshop during a youth retreat when we were 13," says Susan, "but we didn't start dating until 1983, just before Danny moved to Denver. We wrote lots of letters!" Danny adds, "I used a typewriter – no email!"

**Children:** Bennett, 12, and Emerson, 9.

**Life in Colorado:** Danny left Utah in 1983 to attend the University of Denver, and Susan followed in 1984. After college, the two headed east where Danny attended graduate school at the University of Michigan; they returned to Denver in 1992.

**Careers:** Susan is a computer programmer at eBags.com. Her educational background is in education and English. Danny is a psychology professor at the University of Denver.

**St. Luke's Members Since:** 2000

**Why did you choose St. Luke's?** Susan says, "We wanted a vibrant church with lots of possibilities for us and our children to get involved." Danny says, "I wanted a church with a great children and youth program that was also large enough that I could hide in the pews and not have to get involved. However, people were so invitational, and St. Luke's so inspirational, that I could not stay uninvolved for long!"

**What do you like most about St. Luke's?** Susan says, "We like all the different options for participating and the diversity of people who make up the church. I may have a completely different world view from the people sitting around me in worship, but we all value the caring, supportive environment of St. Luke's." Danny says, "It's a place that encourages and supports growth, both for me and my children."

**St. Luke's Activities:** Susan participates in the Wesley Players Drama Ministry, PEAK Sunday School, and Faith in Action Adult Education. She contributes regularly to *The Chronicle*, and she organized the Church and Society Group. Last year Susan wrote a multipart series on the United Methodist Church's Social Principles and how St. Luke's is interpreting and incorporating them via the Social Principles Group. (Read Susan's Church and Society series online at [stlukeshr.com](http://stlukeshr.com), under Publications, *Chronicle* issues January through August 2006.) "I enjoy being able to share my faith with others, and sharing the Biblical stories with the children is great fun. Wesley Players also gives me a great outlet for my dramatic side, without having to give up my day job," says Susan.

Danny has previously been involved in the Children's Ministry Team, the Ministry Development Team and the Next Steps new member orientation classes. He is currently a Sunday school guide, a lay liturgist and attends the Gap Group on Wednesdays. "My greatest rewards are contributing to a community that makes a positive difference in people's lives here and across the world, and getting to know and learn from wonderful kids and adults," Danny shares.

## WELCOME New Members: March 2007



**Ed, Jeanna, Sarah and Lucas Heyse**  
"We enjoy the small group Disciple classes and youth programs. We are grateful to have found St. Luke's to continue our Christian journey."



**Marcia Pessemier**  
"Rev. Janet has been helpful to me before I was even a member. The actors in the play have been very inclusive, as have all those I have met here – that's why I want to join this church community. Also, Sandy Larson has been a dear, new friend and neighbor."



**Diana Wood**  
"Enjoying the wonderful sense of community and belonging in such a comfortable place."

## Joining St. Luke's – A NEW Connection

We who call St. Luke's our spiritual home join to form an inclusive church, challenging one another to grow toward full humanity as we see it in the life of Jesus Christ. We seek to live lives that are invitational, relational, and missional. Please contact Lynda Fickling or one of the pastors for more information on joining the church 303-791-0659.

## Mile-High Sub-District Conference

It was our pleasure to attend the area conference last month at First UMC of Castle Rock, as representatives of St. Luke's. We attended the workshop on the Ministry of Hospitality which was facilitated by Dr. Rodney E. Wilmoth, who was also the keynote speaker at the conference. Dr. Wilmoth is a retired UMC minister and he and his wife travel a great deal now. He shared some of their experiences at United Methodist churches all over the country and spoke of how it felt to be a "newcomer" at many of these churches. He relayed how, on various occasions, they were left to find things (even the sanctuary) on their own and how unwelcome it made them feel. He also spoke of many times when they were virtually ignored at various congregations. We then discussed different things that congregations could do to make visitors feel welcome.

One interesting thing that Dr. Wilmoth shared with us was the energetic, welcoming congregation that he found at St. Luke's. He has been here on several occasions, and was very complimentary of our congregation. He spoke of our policy to give out gift bags with church information and home-baked bread to our guests. He thought that was a great policy and made it easier to identify our guests and welcome them to our church. He also spoke very highly of our greeters and ushers and how much their directions and other help was appreciated.

Many of the congregations that were at the conference have been experiencing a decline in their membership. We spent some time discussing ways to attract new members. Some congregations have tried hosting coffees and/or lunches or dinners to welcome guests. Another has tried to canvas the surrounding neighborhoods with information about the church and an invitation to join them the next Sunday, if they do not have a church home.

Upon leaving the conference, we felt very proud of the job St. Luke's does making our guests feel welcome. We hope we can continue improving our greeter ministry and hope the entire congregation will help us out by serving to become a greeter and/or watching for newcomers to welcome to them to our Invitational, Relational and Missional church. If you are interested in joining our greeter ministry, please email or call us: Karmie Hilleary [karmie@comcast.net](mailto:karmie@comcast.net) 303-683-4696 or Valerie Goodstein [valgoodstein@hotmail.com](mailto:valgoodstein@hotmail.com) 303-799-0907





**Jenita Rhodes**  
Director of Children's  
Ministries



**Lynne Butler**  
Assistant Children's  
Ministries Director



**Kristina Linn**  
Childcare  
Director

## Holy Week for the Children of St. Luke's

The Parade of Palms on Palm Sunday begins the events for children and their families this season at St. Luke's. Children in Sunday School classes kindergarten through sixth grade will reenact Jesus entry in to Jerusalem at

both the 9:30 and 11:00 services. Please have your children in their classrooms on time, as we need to be in place for the first part of the service. Elementary children and their families are also invited to attend the Maundy Thursday Communion service and the Good Friday Tenebrae Service of Darkness. Childcare will be provided for those children 4 and under.

The Easter Sunday Services will be at 8, 9, 10 and 11am. There will be NO Sunday School on Easter Sunday. Please enjoy the service together as a family.

## Children's Ministry Education Team

All Workshop leaders and others interested in helping to select the curriculum units to be used in the 2007-08 workshop Rotation Sunday School year are invited to meet on Tuesday, April 17, from 7:00-8:30pm in the Abraham Room downstairs. We will have several units to select from with lots of stories and concepts we haven't done yet. Being part of the PEAK Adventures Team is a great way to get better acquainted with the Bible and the children of St. Luke's. There is no more fulfilling way to serve.

## PEAK Adventures Elementary 9:30am Sunday School

The Psalms and Songs unit, April 15-May 20 will be the last Workshop Rotation for this School year. This unit uses the Bible scriptures found in Psalms 8, 77, 100, 121, and 150, as well as others. Psalm 8 is a hymn celebrating God's glory. Psalm 77 is a personal lament, a prayer asking for deliverance from a miserable yet unspecified situation. Psalm 100 is a joyful hymn of thanksgiving. Psalm 121 is a liturgy of blessing that emphasizes God's protection. Psalm 150 is the doxology that ends the Psalms. Puppets will be featured in the Opening Gathering Time and the Storytelling Workshop.

The children will have the opportunity to:

- experience Psalms as songs and poems;
- discover that the Psalms were written to express a wide range of emotions, from praising God to lamenting bad situations;
- understand it is okay to express joy and anger with God. God is with us when we experience every emotion;
- memorize certain verses of the Psalms;
- explore the Psalms through their senses.

There will be No Sunday School Memorial Day, May 27. Promotion Sunday will be June 3rd. Summer Sunday School Begins June 10th.

## Promotion Sunday will be June 3rd

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

## Summer Sunday School Workshops

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

## Vacation Bible School

Save the Date! June 25-29, Children's Ministry will soar to new heights as we learn how high God's love for us will go. Vacation Bible School will transform the lower level of St. Luke's into a hot air balloon paradise. Registration is now available in the church office.

## CMML! Workshop

Wow! What a day we had! Almost 200 people, who are passionate about Children's Ministry, gathered at St. Luke's on March 3. These people came from all over Colorado and as far away as California. We came for Children's Ministry Magazine Live! And the goal was to learn how to be more effective leaders in Children's Ministry. I believe we accomplished that goal!

Our focus was the millennial generation. Here is what we learned. They are family-oriented, world changers and passionate about missions and helping those in need. They want to make the world a better place. They expect that the world will be a better place and they are willing to put in the time to make it happen.

In the workshop, we learned that it is important to listen to their ideas and value their opinions. We need to be sure we lead them in the right direction spiritually and morally. We learned how they respond to us in Sunday School and how to use their energy in a positive way.

Group Publishing, the sponsor of our workshop, is passionate about caring for children around the world. We stuffed soft little "prayer bears" with padding and then prayed over the bears. Pam Rowley was so inspired that she took the bears on the recent mission trip to Guatemala where she passed out the bears to all the children at the orphanage where they worked.

We learned that there is hope. Our children will do great things and we have much to look forward to. They are excited for the future and we can be too!

## CALENDAR

### Sun. April 1

*Palm Sunday – Parade of the Palms*  
SLY Jr. 5th & 6th Grade  
Fellowship 6:00-8:00pm

### Thurs. April 5

*Maundy Thursday Service 7:00pm*

### Fri. April 6

*Good Friday Service 7:00pm*

### Sun. April 8

*Easter Sunday – No Sunday School*  
Nursery available for babies to 2's  
at all services

### Sun. April 15

*PEAK Adventures 9:30am*  
Elementary SS 6th Rotation  
– Psalms and Songs

### Tues. April 17

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

### Sat. April 21

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

### Fri. May 4

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

### Sun. May 6

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

### Sat. May 12

*Summer Sunday School Workshop*  
9:00-10:30am

### Tues. May 15

*Summer Sunday School Workshop*  
7:00-8:30pm

### Sat. May 19

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

### Wed. May 23

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

### Sun. May 27

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

### Wed. May 30

*Adult VBS Study 9:30-11:00am*

### Sun. June 3

*Promotion Sunday – Summer*  
Sunday School begins

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



## LITTLE SCHOOL News

### April Joy at Little School

Little School is just returning from our spring break and we are so excited that we will actually be in school for Easter this year! The children will hear the Easter story and celebrate the gift of Jesus and learn all about re-birth and new beginnings! (We will be closed in observance of Good Friday on April 6th.) Lots of learning and fun will continue with the beginning of Spring! Last month in Chapel the children learned about animals waking up after a long winter and putting their best "paws" and "wings" forward! We are also very excited to see the flowers and warmer weather coming back! We love God's promises!

### APRIL BRINGS THE EVENT OF OUR "CREATIVE CRITTER" ART SHOW ON THURSDAY, APRIL 26

**5:30 to 7:30pm.** The entire Little School in the lower level will be magically transformed into an amazing three dimensional art gallery with our FAVORITE BIBLE STORIES!

If you have never attended an art show, YOU MUST take time out of your busy schedule to behold this sight! Everyone is welcome and the entrance begins on the south door of Little School.

Please bring your family, friends and neighbors! The children and staff work extremely hard all year long getting ready for this and we would love to have you enjoy this amazing display!

Little School is rapidly winding down to the end of another wonderful year of love, growth and education! By the time you read this we will have about 7 weeks of school left! It is hard to believe, what seems like only yesterday, these adorable children shyly entered our rooms and have blossomed into incredible children of God! Please keep us in your prayers as we continue to put our best foot forward to finish our 12th year of Little School!

Blessings to all and SEE YOU AT THE ART SHOW!!!

*Blessings, ms. Kay ☺*

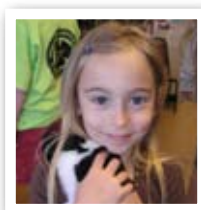


**Kay Swanson**  
Director of  
Little School

### Smaller Classes, Bigger Rewards *by Lynne Butler*

I have a dream! My dream is to walk downstairs and look inside the Sunday School classrooms and see small groups of children engaged with their teachers and each other through crafts, stories, games and music. The children are laughing and smiling and so are the teachers. There may be a few tears, as is common with young children in a new setting, but there is always a teacher's lap available for comforting. When Sunday School is over, the children are excited to tell their parents what they learned and the teachers go home feeling like they made a difference.

But on some Sundays, this is still a dream. The reality is that I go downstairs to find crowded classrooms. Some of the preschool children are engaged while others wander around looking for something to do. When there are tears, sometimes there are available laps and sometimes there are not because there are too many kids. There are smiles, but not as many as I would like to see. When Sunday School is over, the teachers leave wondering if they made a difference.



Six years ago, I taught Sunday School for the first time. My daughter was 3, at the time, and I saw in the bulletin that teachers were needed. So I signed up to help in her class. I remember having around 15 kids and half of them were crying because they were new to Sunday School and they didn't know me. I wasn't sure if I ever wanted to come back. But I did, and things got better. Sometimes I still wondered if I was able to make a difference when we had so many kids in the classroom, but I felt it was important to try. There were six teachers for the entire year and we made it work. When I taught at 9:30, I went to church at 11:00. And when I taught at 11:00, I went to church at 9:30.

Fast-forward four years to Vacation Bible School. We were short a teacher for the 4 year-old class. My youngest child was then in kindergarten and I would have liked to have taught with her, but the need was with the 4's, so I decided to teach in that class. For the past two years, we have held class size to no more than 10 kids in each of the younger classes and no more than around 15 in the older elementary classes. We have even limited class size in VBS to accomplish this. We don't like turning kids away, but we want the experience to be good for kids and teachers. What a difference it was for me to teach that year! I was able to interact with the kids and get to know them. We had plenty of assistants both in the classroom and when we got to other stations such as music, games, crafts and snacks, plenty of laps and there was a lot of laughing and smiling.

So why can't we have the same experience every Sunday during Sunday School? Because we don't want to turn kids away. When families come to church, they need to be fulfilled and their kids need a place to go. So kids are put in crowded Sunday School classes and parents go to worship service or adult classes. Parents have a strong need for spiritual support and we need to do what we can to help them. This includes caring for their children in a safe place where they can also experience spiritual growth. The teachers we have are fantastic and create a wonderful experience for the children. I believe that our children are taught about God's love, I just know we could do so much more with more teachers and smaller classes.

We use a different curriculum at 11:00 than we use at 9:30 so kids that do stay don't have to feel they are doing the same thing two hours in a row. Kids may end up liking it, if they try it.

Sunday School is a more enjoyable experience for everyone when class sizes are smaller and this is what we need to strive for. We have the room, now we just need to have the teachers. It truly takes a village. Please pray for what role you might be able to play in the spiritual lives of our precious children. Please look for another article concerning our hopes for changes in next month's *Chronicle*. In the meantime, please contact me with any thoughts or questions, [lynne@stlukeshr.com](mailto:lynne@stlukeshr.com) or 303-791-0659 x11. I value your input in this critical endeavor.

# BIG BAD

BY ALEC STRUM



Don't miss the annual  
Children's Dinner Theater!

**Friday, May 4**

**Dinner - 5:30pm**

**Show - 7:00pm**

Come and enjoy a Mexican-style dinner, the Cherub's Choir pre-show and the play "Big Bad" performed by our St. Luke's children. Explore with us in our enchanted forest courtroom, the complexity of justice as we witness the trial of the Big Bad Wolf and help us determine the verdict! Free admission. Donations to benefit our Capital Campaign.

Pioneer  
Drama Service, Inc.



## Annual Clergy Evaluation Underway *by Elizabeth Bauer*

Just like most businesses, the Rocky Mountain Conference of the United Methodist Church requires annual evaluations of their workforce – including our clergy members. Each year, the Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) works with our clergy members to evaluate performance and to set goals for growth. This year, the Conference has provided us with a new evaluation process developed out of a Six-Sigma strategy. The guiding principle is that the only way to fully evaluate the effectiveness of our clergy is to also look at the effectiveness of the congregation. A truly effective clergy person should develop an effective, healthy congregation.

In February, a group composed of our clergy, the SPRC chair, Executive Board chair, and lay leaders worked through a six-part assessment of key factors of congregational effectiveness including Worship, Nurture/Education, Service, Evangelism, Stewardship, and Administration. Our final rating of 20.175 on a 24-point scale shows that our congregation is functioning well and clear about our ministry. However, there is still room for growth, particular related to the increased ministry support we would be able to gain from adding an associate pastor.

SPRC serves as the Human Relations department of the church. If you ever want to provide feedback about a member of our clergy or staff, please feel welcome to contact the SPRC committee at [SPRC@stlukeshr.com](mailto:SPRC@stlukeshr.com).



## St. Luke's Recognized by Easter Seals *by Michelle Ellis*

Jenita Rhodes, Director of Children's Ministries at St. Luke's, accepted an award on behalf of the church during the annual Easter Seals Recognition Reception at the Governor's Mansion last month. St. Luke's was recognized for our part in making the

Discovery Club a success. The Discovery Club, founded at St. Luke's in 2006, is a respite program for special needs kids and their siblings. The Club meets at the church from 10:00am until 4:00pm on the third Saturday of the month, October through May, and provides engaging activities for the children and some much needed time-off for their parents. Rhodes said, "The Discovery Club came about when the Inclusive Community of Faith was looking for a way to bridge service providers and religious organizations and realized there was funding in Douglas County to create a program." She continued, "We partnered with Easter Seals to host the Discovery Club at St. Luke's. Ours was the inaugural group, a Discovery Club in Denver opened late last year and the goal is to add even more locations throughout the metro area."

Nearly 30 children attend the Discover Club on a regular basis, Rhodes stated. Peter, Christy and Kayla Kopp are one of those families. Eight-year-old Kayla, (pictured above with her family) who was named the Easter Seals ambassador for the year in Colorado, has been attending the Club since the first day it started. Her mother, Christy, says she immensely enjoys the Club, "Kayla likes the Discovery Club because it is very active and she is a very energetic, recreation-based child."

Christy added, "While Kayla enjoys being with her friends at the Discovery Club and being involved with the various activities, I like knowing that she's in a safe environment." In addition to adult caregivers, nurses are on-hand at all times to attend to children's medical needs, Rhodes explained. Each month, Easter Seals of Colorado, the sponsoring organization for the Discovery Club, coordinates with several additional agencies including nursing student volunteers from Regis and Arapahoe Community College, Tri-County Health, Denver Options and St. Luke's. Please invite families you know who might benefit from this program to call Nancy Hanson at (303) 233-1666 extension 237 and register.

## Tee Off for St. Luke's *by Michelle Ellis*

St. Luke's 4th Annual Golf Tournament, which benefits the church bus fund, will be held at the award winning Jim Engh-designed Fossil Trace Golf Club on Friday, August 24. For those who would like to support the cause, but who are not interested in golfing, this is the first year St. Luke's has partnered with the Splash Aquatics Park, located near Fossil Trace, to offer a discounted entry fee the day of the invitational, stated Dean Conklin, golf committee member. This will be the second year Jim Hajek, Fossil Trace Golf Pro and church member, has hosted the tournament at Fossil Trace Golf Club, the course awarded by the Westword "2004 Best Golf Course in Denver" and voted "Top 10 New Courses you can play" by Golf Magazine in 2003. Last year the event raised around \$10,000 and nearly 100 golfers participated. Chris Wilterdink, director of youth ministries remarked, "The bus costs \$10,000 a year for loan payments and maintenance and the Annual Golf Tournament has completely funded the bus the past two years - we are extremely grateful to all of the participants for making that possible." The St. Luke's Invitational Golf Committee is looking for volunteers to help with the event this year, for more information contact Dean Conklin at (720) 987-6745 or at [dconklin@beef.org](mailto:dconklin@beef.org).

*continued from page 1* the Church and Society team for organizing this event. St. Luke's was very generous in participating in the big summer 2006 food drive for Denver Urban Ministries (DenUM) - several vehicles filled to capacity were driven to DenUM to deliver the donations. We appreciate the efforts of Linda Streaty. The UMW's Scrapbook Circle, led by Christy Wohleber, did a "Crop for the Cure" to raise money for breast cancer research. The Faith in Action class went to visit Interfaith Community Services and Epworth United Methodist Church to learn first-hand about ministries to the working poor. Thanks again to all who came to help assemble kits for homeless people last October! And in November, over 15 people from St. Luke's helped assemble and distribute 6000 boxes of food at Epworth United Methodist Church for the annual Daddy Bruce Thanksgiving Basket Giveaway.

St. Luke's SLY, Jr. group participated in missions by making over 200 hygiene kits for people who come to Denver Urban Ministries for help. The contents of the kits, including extra donations, totaled three hundred pounds! SLY, Jr. also filled 180 shoe boxes with school supplies and toys, to be given to children all over the world through Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child. In addition, last summer, some of our children participated in Missions Mania - day trips of service and fun. They visited Denver Urban Ministries, walked the dogs at the Platte River Humane Society, did projects around the church and decorated for our Vacation Bible School. More Mission Mania days are planned for summer 2007! During April, the Sunday School classes will participate in a "Dimes for DenUM" fundraising project.

Finally, we recognize the ongoing efforts of the Missions Committee for their role in bringing missions alive to the congregation. Special thanks goes to our leader, Jan Rufien. Appreciation also goes to Peter Reif for his many years of service as a co-chair and to Laurie Gilbert for her tremendous initiative and leadership in St. Luke's international mission programs.

In 2007, we are continuing to put our faith into action in many ways. *Dear Lord, with your guidance, may we continue to help and serve to all the people we can, whenever we can, as long as ever we can. Amen*



## MUSIC &amp; DRAMA MINISTRIES



**James Ramsey**  
Director of  
Worship & Arts



**Carrie Mallery**  
Associate Dir. of  
Worship & Arts



**Kay Coryell**  
Associate Dir. of  
Worship & Arts

### Easter Service Music -

6:30 - Off-Notes Youth Choir (Shea Stadium)

8:00 - Sunrise Band

9:00, 10:00, 11:00 - Chancel Choir, Brass Ensemble, Hand Bell Choir, and organ featuring traditional hymns and music by Georg Frederich Handel and Gustav Mahler.

### Music Man Auditions and Dates:

Coming this fall is the Wesley Players production of *Music Man*. Auditions are:

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

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

The *Music Man* is a musical with a book, music, and lyrics by Meredith Willson. Based on a story by Willson and Franklin Lacey, it's set in fictional 1912 River City, Iowa and focuses on "Professor" Harold Hill, a con man whose scam is to convince parents he can teach their musically-disinclined children to play a musical instrument. Taking pre-paid orders for instruments and uniforms with the promise he will form a band, he skips town and moves on to the next one before he's exposed. Hill's modus operandi is compromised when he becomes attracted to local librarian Marian Paroo, who recognizes him for the fraud he is but falls in love with the smooth-talking charmer nevertheless when he draws her self-conscious, lisping younger brother Winthrop from his shell. When Hill's scheme begins to unravel, he is faced with the choice of escaping yet again or staying with Marian and facing the consequences. Does he change his ways?

**Wesley Festival Recap** - Simply an experience I won't soon forget. With almost 800 people in attendance at Avery Fisher Hall in Lincoln Center, we raised nearly \$20,000 for the Angola landmine project. The 275 singers and 55 piece orchestra made incredible and inspirational music throughout the evening culminating in the world premiere of Wesley's "*Directions For Singing*" composed by Andrew Fowler and commissioned by St. Luke's UMC. St. Luke's had 24 people in attendance and was one of 13 methodist church or college choirs represented in the total ensemble that met in New York City. There was so much synergy between so many people that it made the experience just amazing. Our very own Rev. Dave Money outdid himself as John Wesley as he also made his acting debut on a New York stage. The most prominent comment that came from folks as we exited the stage, "so, where are we going next year?" to which I replied, "God only knows." :-). Thank you so much for your support, prayers and well wishes. -Jim

**Dinner Dance Recap** - Dancing the night away! Catered by our very own Fellowship Events Team, many Kudos go to our team leaders Lisa Lehnus, Dave Rhodes and Mona Daniels who did an outstanding job preparing the meal! Simply incredible while the Ministers of Swing played their hearts out swinging songs from the 30's, 40's, up to the 80's. It was a great time, lots of people danced, and we had a ton of fun. If you missed it this year, you won't want to miss it again. It's one of the most unique dinners we do at St. Luke's and will prove to be a night you won't forget. Hope to see you next year! -Jim

**Instrumental Concert Recap** - An amazing concert! Our Brass Ensemble, St. Luke's Youth Jazz Orchestra, Ministers of Swing, and Wind Ensemble did a fantastic job playing incredible charts and great tunes of the past. We raised nearly \$700 for the Mission of the Month in February, which went towards care packages for the troops. Thanks for all of your support and we look forward to seeing more of you at the next concert in May! You won't want to miss the incredible talent of our music ministry being featured in concert again this year. -Jim

**Wind Ensemble** starts up again on April 7th at 10:30am. For more information, please contact Kay Coryell at 303-791-0659.

**Smithtonians Benefit Concert** on April 29th at 3:00pm. If you love Handbells, then this is the concert for you. The Smithtonians are presenting a concert that will benefit the mission of the month featuring favorite works in the handbell repertoire. For more information, please contact Kay Coryell at 303-791-0659. Admission is free but donations will be accepted at the conclusion of the concert.

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

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

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

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

### ADULT ED

#### Help plan the Adult Education offerings for next year.

We will meet April 10 at 7:00pm in the Conference room. Bring any and all ideas for classes. With questions, contact Lynne Butler x11 [lynne@stlukeshr.com](mailto:lynne@stlukeshr.com).

## DON'T MISS!

## April 2007

- 4/1 – **Palm Sunday**  
 - Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am  
 - Bible Boot 9:30am (9-12 Grades)  
 - SLY PM 6-8pm \*Qdoba Taco Bar for Dinner (Bring \$5 for food)  
 - Opera Colorado Performance at 6:30pm
- 4/4 – SLAM 6:30-8:30pm
- 4/8: **Easter**  
 Sunrise Service with St. Andrew Youth ~ 6:30am Shea Stadium  
 \*No SLY AM or PM\*
- 4/11 – SLAM 6:30-8:30pm
- 4/13-15 – Sr. High Up With Youth Retreat
- 4/14 – **Prayer Vigil Lock-In 8pm-8am**
- 4/15 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am  
 - Bible Boot 9:30am (9-12 Grades)  
 - SLY PM 6-8pm Movie Night!
- 4/18 – SLAM 6:30-8:30pm
- 4/22 – No SLY AM (Youth Sunday!!!)  
 - SLY PM 6-8pm
- 4/25 – SLAM 6:30-8:30pm
- 4/28 – **Confirmation Dinner**
- 4/29 – **Confirmation Sunday**  
 - Jr. High & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am  
 - Bible Boot 9:30am (9-12 Grades)  
 - SLY PM 5:30-8pm Progressive Dinner & Mystery Dinner!

## May 2007

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

NATION OF ONE

www.nationofone.net

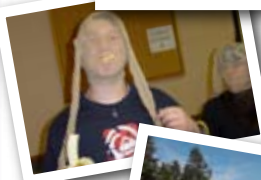


**Chris Wilterdink**  
 Director of  
 Youth Ministries

**Susan Johnson**  
 Assistant Director  
 of Youth Ministries

## Confirmation Retreat

February 2 & 3, 2007



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

GET READY FOR SUMMER!

In early February, the confirmation class headed up for a weekend retreat to Templed Hills. The class experienced great growth through fellowship and study and some messy games. We tried to answer the question: Who is God? We also looked at the life and ministry of Jesus. We continue to look for God in every day life, and try to come closer to an understanding of Jesus as a person and as a Messiah and how that impacts our faith journey. **Confirmation Sunday is April 29! Celebrate with us!**

✦ **NOTE WORSHIP TIMES: Youth Sunday April 22 at 9:00am & 10:45am to celebrate Cirque Du SLY-ay.** A wide array of talents will come together as the body of Christ. An incredible worship experience for the whole family! Show up and support SLY!

## CHRIS'S CORNER

## April: A Month of Character

Where does someone get their character? What experiences eventually form our cores? Can worship give us character? In what ways do we choose to express our character?

In April, we have several worship experiences planned, and they coincide with the launch of our Bold Venture. Making plans for the years ahead of us takes a lot of character, as does making commitments to help lift SLY into new spaces. The youth of St. Luke's want to show you some of our character, and this month you'll have the opportunity to experience it in worship.

On April 8, we have paired with St. Andrew Youth to create an Easter Sunrise worship service, taking place at 6:30am at Shea Stadium. You can bring your coffee and some blankets, and experience the Common Ground that we all share as a community of Christians. Before the Bold Venture kicks off on April 15, SLY will take part in a 24-hour prayer vigil in preparation the night of April 14. On April 22, the annual Youth Sunday worship service takes place at St. Luke's, and we're shaking up worship times. Cirque Du SLY-ay will show how all our different talents come together as the body of Christ at 9am & 10:45am. On April 29, we celebrate Confirmation Sunday, as 25 youth will become members of St. Luke's in response to the baptismal pledges our congregation offers and we celebrate the commitments they've made over the past four months of Confirmation Classes.

We look forward to seeing you in worship this month, and of course, we look forward to finding out more about the character we have as a congregation.

Blessings,

- ✦ **2007 Up With Youth:** Last second registrations can still be turned in! Get one ASAP!
- ✦ **SPLAT:** Youth 2007, July 11-15 Greensboro, NC. Registrations now available. Sign up by April 31 for a guaranteed spot.
- ✦ **Summer Mission Trips:** Applications & info now available at both SLY info sites.
  - » **Sr High to Maine from June 17-20**
  - » **Jr High to Wyoming from July 14-20**
- ✦ **Graduate Sunday comes up May 20!** We need both senior & kindergarten pictures of all our graduating Seniors, along with where they're heading to next year. Please bring them by or mail them to Chris' Office.
- ✦ **Easter Sunrise Service at Shea Stadium 6:30am April 8.** Lead by St. Luke's & St. Andrew Youth. Come and experience a "Common Ground" to celebrate Easter.

## FINANCIAL UPDATE



**Dave Cupp**  
Director of Finance

## Creative Thoughts About Ways to Give to the Capital Campaign

You have already heard quite a bit about our upcoming Capital Campaign. Kick Off Sunday is April 15th and it will be time to start considering your 3-year pledge. Of course, cash and checks are always welcomed gifts—even here at St Luke's. However, there are other ways to give that will yield the church as much for the Capital Campaign and bring tax benefits to you. I am not a specialist in this area but have attended classes to learn enough to at least guide you in the right direction.

The first thing to consider is appreciated assets. You can give them to the church since we are a registered 501(c)(3) corporation, get credit for the gift and avoid some of the tax consequences you may have if you elect to sell the appreciated assets rather than give them to the church. I feel sure that many of our members have some appreciated stocks and/or bonds which would fit beautifully into this concept. There is even a possibility that we could do something with some real estate or personal property holdings should that be something you want to explore.

All you have to do to give stocks or bonds is get our Schwab account number from me and advise your broker to transfer your stocks to the account. When we receive the stocks and/or bonds we will send you a letter recognizing the receipt of the gift for you to use with your tax filings. We do not hold stocks and bonds in our portfolio. We sell them immediately and place the funds in our money market account.

If you have real estate or personal property you want to consider, the church would do its due diligence process to determine the value and the probability that the asset could be turned into cash in a reasonable period of time. You guessed it—the church really doesn't need a piece of swamp land or a contaminated site. Any assets we receive must be something we can change into cash immediately.

If you are 70 ½ years old, you can make a disbursement from your IRA to the church and reduce your taxable income. This must be done in the 2007 tax year unless Congress extends the program.

Please give me a call at 303-791-0659 x24 or email me at [davec@stlukeshr.com](mailto:davec@stlukeshr.com) if you have any interest in any of the above ideas.

**Goodbye and Hello:** Terri Beecher is no longer working for us as Assistant Director of Finance and Database Manager. She has decided to pursue work as a paralegal. This is a field of work in which she has great interest and will be very successful. She has been a part of our staff for several years working with our financial contributions reporting and keeping the databases up and running. I'm especially thankful to her for her assisting me in creating our current systems of financial reporting and control. The old saying that "two heads are better than one" certainly has been true during this time of transition. Please offer her a big "thank you" the next time you see her here at church.



**Janet Maxwell**  
Assistant Director  
of Finance

I'm extremely proud to announce that Janet Maxwell has joined our staff as the new Assistant Director of Finance. She and her husband Scott and sons Tom and Peter have been members of St Luke's for several years. She brings a strong background of education and work experience in the finance and accounting fields. Plus, she has secondary knowledge and skills in Human Resources and Information Technology. Her work experience has been with both large and small companies. She is scheduled to work only 8-10 hours per week and will be working primarily with maintaining our contribution records. Also, she will be learning all the tasks within our department so that we will have two persons trained to do all of our tasks. You may call either of us to get your financial questions answered. Please offer her a big welcome the next time you see her here at church.

**Quarterly Statements Coming Soon:** Please keep a watch for your quarterly giving statement to arrive in the mail about mid-April. I plan to include current budget information in that mailing in addition to a copy of your giving record for the first quarter.

**Duplicate Giving Statements for 2006 Available:** Give me a call or send me an email if you cannot find a copy of your 2006 giving statement as you rush to meet the tax deadline. If you send me an email, I will scan a copy of your record and email it to quickly—usually same day. My email address is [davec@stlukeshr.com](mailto:davec@stlukeshr.com).

**Electronic Funds Transfer Program (EFT):** Don't forget that you get a free \$25 certificate if you sign up for the grocery certificate EFT program. See the announcements about this free certificate program for details.

## TRUSTEES CORNER

## Trustees Trivia...

Did you know St. Luke's has:

Total Square feet:	47,500
Members:	1,312
Light bulbs & tubes:	1,216
(most are energy conserving fluorescents)	
Avg. Weekly Constituents:	433
Little School population:	267
Stairs:	177
Children in Sunday School:	170
Doors:	127
Active groups & classes:	123
Windows:	74
Storage / Closets:	37
Sinks:	23
Toilets:	21
March Workday volunteers:	18
Bathrooms:	11
Furnaces:	10
AC units:	7
Trustees Team members:	7
Workdays per year:	3
Elevator:	1

Cleaning our church is like cleaning the average Highlands Ranch home TEN TIMES EVERY DAY! We contract our cleaning; it's too much for volunteers. Assisted by part-time services of Barry Curtis, Trustees change furnace filters, light bulbs, fix ballasts, unclog sinks, repair toilets, wash walls, paint, etc., everything you would do to maintain a home that's 20+ years old and 10 times as big! We also work to maintain good relations with the HR HOA, continually improve security and oversee lots of cleaning and shoveling.

Thank You March workday volunteers—you



**Kory Nelson**  
cleaning and  
changing  
Fellowship Hall  
lights during  
March's workday.

made such a difference! If any of you are interested in joining the Trustees group please plan now to join us on the second Monday evening of each month at 7:00 in the Matthew room on the lower level. If you can periodically volunteer your time and talent to help us, or join the Trustees, we would truly appreciate it! Email Ken Fong [kfong@att.net](mailto:kfong@att.net) or call 303-346-7057. We've got a place for you here!





# The CHRONICLE

**St. Luke's United Methodist Church**

8817 S. Broadway • Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

303-791-0659 • www.stlukeshr.com

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PAID**  
PERMIT #7  
LITTLETON, CO

*St. Luke's United Methodist Church welcomes you to our Christian family,  
where we share life. Wherever you are in your faith journey,  
you are accepted and encouraged to grow spiritually.*

*Join us in growing together toward full humanity through living  
the teachings of Jesus: Love, Acceptance, Justice and Hope.*



## THE ROAD WHERE FAITH IS FOUND

*The Season of Lent at St. Luke's*

### APRIL 2007 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>APRIL 1</b> PALM SUNDAY 8, 9:30, 11am: Worship "A Tale of Two Processions" 6pm: SLY PM 6:30pm: Opera Colorado Concert Guatemala Mission Trip	<b>2</b> 6:30pm: Women's Night Out	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 7pm: Maundy Thursday	<b>6</b> No Little School 7pm: Good Friday	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> EASTER SUNDAY 6:30am: Sunrise Service, Shea Stadium 8, 9, 10, 11am: Worship "The Places Where Paths Cross"	<b>9</b> Office Closed	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> A Bold Venture: All Day PRAYER VIGIL
<b>15</b> A Bold Venture: KICK OFF SUNDAY PRAYER BREAKFAST 8, 9:30, 11am: Worship noon: YLT 6pm: SLY PM	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 7pm: Scrapbook Circle	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> YOUTH SUNDAY 9:00 & 10:45am: Worship "Cirque Du SLY-ay" 9:30am: Orientation to St. Luke's 6pm: SLY PM	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 6:30pm: Live, Laugh & Love Club	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Little School Art Show	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 6pm: Confirmation Dinner
<b>29</b> CONFIRMATION SUNDAY 8, 9:30, 11am: Worship noon: YLT 3pm: Smithtonians Benefit Concert 6pm: SLY PM	<b>30</b>	<b>MAY 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 7pm: Maundy Thursday	<b>4</b> 5:30pm: Children's Dinner Theater (dinner and play)	<b>5</b> 9am: Scrapbook Circle