



Highlands Ranch, Colorado

The CHRONICLE

August 2007

ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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<i>and much more!</i>	

Don't miss our 4th Annual Golf Tourney

This year with added water park fun for the whole family!



Members of the church, plus friends and

family are invited to join in on the festivities.

Where: Award winning Jim Engh-designed Fossil Trace Golf Club

When: Friday, August 24 –lunch at noon and shot gun start at 1:30pm.

Bonus: Spend the day at Splash Aquatics Park, located near Fossil Trace, for a discounted entry fee. That evening everyone is invited to a dinner event, featuring a silent auction, at the Club at 6:30pm.

Funds made from this year's event will again assist in paying for the loan payments and maintenance of the bus.

Info: Contact Dean Conklin 720-987-6745 or dconklin@beef.org.

SLY Mission Trip to Maine

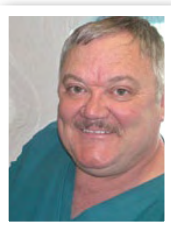
by Meaghan Johnson (SLY - 12th grade)



On June 17, 2007, the St. Luke's Senior High youth group left for Winthrop, Maine for their summer mission trip. This was my first time on a mission trip with SLY and I must admit that I was a little apprehensive about going. Living in a coed space with sixty people for a week is not something to be taken lightly; there is little privacy, which means that all of the people involved are going to see you at your worst and best and everything in between. This kind of closeness causes you to get closer to the people around

continued on page 10

Mission Sunday Guest Speaker



Dr. Phil Plunk

Mission Sunday is August 19. Dr. Phil Plunk will be speaking to us regarding his mission work in Guatemala.

Dr. Plunk is a dentist from the U.S. who is also founder of Proyecto Salud Y Paz (project health and peace) in Guatemala. The project now has two complete medical/dental clinics in continuous operation.

Dr. Plunk hosts over 15 medical and surgical teams in Guatemala each year. Having just returned from a medical mission trip with Mark Ely and a team of wonderful people from Trinity United Methodist Church, I can tell you the need is great and the work is very fulfilling and rewarding. There is a need for both medical and non-medical people on these teams. I hope you will come hear Dr. Plunk speak and visit the tables in the narthex. Listen to God's call and discern where He wants you to serve. You will be glad you did.

—Salud Y Paz, Lorie Martin

Music Ministry Start Up

It's that time of year when many of the music groups are starting back up to get ready for worship services and concerts. If you are interested in joining the music ministry at St. Luke's, please contact James Ramsey or Kay Coryell at 303-791-0659 or via email at jim@stlukeshr.com or kayc@stlukeshr.com. We're looking forward to another incredible year of music at St. Luke's. Come join the fun! **Check out the list of groups and ensembles with their starting dates for the fall inside on Page 9!**

Kick-Off Sunday & Civic Green Celebration September 9!

Kick off our 25th year with services at St. Luke's and then festivities at Civic Green

Sunday, Sept. 9th is our annual Kick-off Sunday. Come and join us for regular worship at 8:00, 9:30 or 11:00am, then head to Civic Green (behind the Highlands Ranch Library) for a fun-filled day of activities for the whole family beginning at 1:00pm. There will be games, bouncy castles, food and much more. Kids can bring their swim suits, too, and play in the fountains. Music from 1:00-4:00pm will include St. Luke's Youth Jazz Band, Ministers of Swing, Sonrise and a Musical Review (featuring songs from past St. Luke's musicals including *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Godspell*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *The Sound of Music* and our upcoming production of *The Music Man*.) To align with our core values, we are inviting you and the entire community to come and enjoy a free meal at 5:00pm for the "Feeding of the 5,000" (Bar-B-Que meal by Wingin' it.) In order to partake in the free meal, we are asking you to donate non-perishable goods, for local food banks including DenUm, that will be collected throughout the day. You may also make a cash donation instead of bringing food items. All items and cash collected will be distributed locally. There will be a concert at 6:30pm featuring "Three Cord Wonder." It's an exciting time for us to have fun and make an impact in our community as we begin the year long celebration commemorating our 25 years in ministry at St. Luke's.



Sunday Worship Services:

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

Summer Sunday School:

Adult: 9:30am & 11:00am

Youth: 9:30am & 11:00am

Children: 9:30am

Nursery available for

9:30am & 11:00am services

Church Office: 303-791-0659

Fax: 303-470-5615

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

Childcare Reservations.....x47

Email: office@stlukeshr.com

Website: www.stlukeshr.com

Staff:

Rev. Janet Forbes.....x13

Senior Minister

Emergency: 303-241-9312

Rev. Pam Rowley.....x32

Associate Minister

Emergency: 720-348-1528

Rev. Brad Laurvick.....x12

Associate Minister

Emergency: 720-296-1251

James Ramsey.....x23

Director of 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 September issue of *The Chronicle* are due August 24th.

Editor: Sharon Oliver
chronicle@stlukeshr.com



Rev. Janet Forbes
Senior Pastor

GOT COMMUNITY?

Living in the Methodist Family!

This summer, I begin to write my dissertation. You just got Dr. Jim through his Doctor of Musical Arts. Now you'll have to cajole me through my Doctor of Ministry

My paper will deal with the notion of "spiritual homelessness". Spiritual homelessness arises when existing or former religious traditions fail to mediate experiences of the Spirit.

As I listen to you, I discover that some of you have been de-churched, hurt and betrayed. One young adult husband, whose Catholic marriage was annulled, tries to joke with me. "It's not safe for me to come to church," he says. "God's got it in for me and you'll all get caught in the crossfire." Others seek spiritual growth and are skeptical about the church's relevance. With real anger, he reflects, "I'm gay and refuse to be labeled 'a mistake'." Some are trying to build interfaith homes and have not been welcomed in other communities. "Will you encourage our family in its multiple traditions?" she asks.

Others suffer the wounds of fundamentalism. "People lied about the Bible. How can any of it be true if it's not all true?" Some are looking for middle ground, a Southern Baptist falling in love with a Roman Catholic, a Lutheran and a Mormon trying to find a church home.

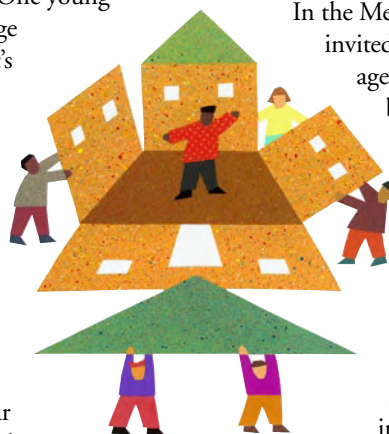
Most are perpetually en route to new places, having left religious traditions to pursue education, careers, marriages, or grandchildren. You are living in the Ranch, or Lone Tree, or Centennial, or Littleton, or Ken Caryl until the next transfer or layoff or venture, trying to keep the children safe and the family healthy.

The spiritually homeless are looking for two things: The first is SPIRITUAL DIRECTION that can bring meaning to life, a sense of fulfillment or devotion to something sacred. The second is HEALING, not simply physical and emotional healing, but the well-being that comes from facing life, coping with the forces that can overwhelm us.

For people on the move, church becomes a crossroads in which we choose the company of other travelers. My writing will grow out of a commitment to form a community at St. Luke's that will honor the diversity of story that shapes us. When we hear our own story

reflected in the stories of others, or in the Christian story, the perpetually homeless are surprised to find a spiritual home!

This summer, we are learning about inclusive, welcoming community. As we share our "growing-up" stories, we learn about the vast differences in our spiritual journeys. The religious background of St. Luke's is one-third Roman Catholic, one-third in a church relationship for the first time, and one-third Protestant. There are approximately 25 interfaith families, so we have Jewish and Muslim and Buddhist members and constituents. Only 10% of the congregation has Methodist roots. In the Methodist tradition, you don't have to stop being who you are in order to be a part of this faith community. You bring all that you. We not only accept your path, but want to cherish it and use its uniqueness.



In the Methodist tradition, all persons are invited to share in the sacraments... all ages and all traditions. Methodist baptize infants, children, youth and adults by sprinkling, pouring, or immersion. In our baptism service, we affirm that baptism is an outward and visible sign of the grace of God demonstrated in the life, teachings, and resurrection of Jesus. Through this grace, we are invited to new life, and welcomed into the family of God. In receiving baptism, we are initiated into the fellowship of Christ's Holy Church.

All persons are welcome to the table of Holy Communion, even our youngest children. Our Sunday school classes regularly teach the story and meaning of the communion experience. As children grow, the spiritual significance enlarges; but they are always welcomed at a table of grace. Infants who came forward with their parents receive a blessing. The invitation to communion is simple: Come, all who wish to live in harmony with God and their neighbor and seek to live a life of faith.

Over the summer, we'll be learning from each other. It is my hope that we will increase our capacity for hospitality. Diana Butler Bass writes: "If Christianity is a faith of travelers, of pilgrims on the way, it should be no surprise that hospitality finds itself at the heart of Christian life." Hospitality opens the possibility of "free space" where strangers become friends and travelers are offered safe passage through dangerous country."

At St. Luke's, let's create open space... free space... gracious space by honoring our stories of coming to faith.



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

More from Les: Lessons from the Clifton Dump, part 2

Last month I said that years ago, the Clifton Dump taught me that things are sometimes more dangerous than they appear on the surface but that we must deal with the uncertain, sometimes dangerous things in life is we are to grow both physically and spiritually.

I also learned from this same dump that one person's trash may be another person's treasure!

My cousin, John, and his wife, Kathy, live just east of Clifton and before it was closed, they would take their trash to the Clifton Dump. They had a lot of it too, because they were renovating an old house that they had purchased a few years before. They had three large fiber drums to collect the trash.

One day at the Clifton dump, as they were dumping trash from the fiber drums, John spotted some old window frames. The frames seemed to be in good shape, they still had all the hardware, and there were only a couple of the panes were broken. John was pleased; he needed some old window frames for some new windows that he wanted to cut into the west wall of the house. He got the tape measure from the truck, and lo and behold, they were just the size he wanted!

Quickly the frames were loaded into the back of the truck, and John triumphantly headed home. On arriving, he displayed his great find to his wife. "Fine, John, but where are our fiber trash drums?" John's mouth dropped! In his haste to gather up his great find, he had forgotten to put the trash drums back in the truck with the windows! He raced back to the dump, drove to the spot where he had dumped his trash, and found... nothing!

One person's trash is another person's treasure. The Clifton dump had just taught another lesson. But this is not all that this dump could teach. Look for this column next month to see that ugly is only temporary. God bless us all. —Rev. Les

Thanks to St. Luke's for Supporting Our Troops!

June 28, 2007

St. Luke's
8817 South Broadway
Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

Dear St. Luke's,



First off I want to send out this letter of thanks and gratitude. It takes special people such as yourself who take time and energy out of their busy schedules to express and support their Soldiers as well as being concerned for their well being during this difficult time. I do however want to apologize for taking so long in responding. As I am sure you are aware, there are days and some times weeks that we do not have the opportunity to sit down and write a short letter of thanks, because of the many different mission and objectives that are placed upon us all daily. At times we only have enough time to eat, sleep and the occasionally email to friends or family, and then it's back to work again. So with that I again apologize for the delay.

The boxes of items you sent went to great use and were distributed to Soldiers within my unit, Third Country Nationals, Local Nationals and Iraqi children abroad. CH (MAJ) Jim Higgins and I speak to and see Soldiers on a regular basis and when we come by just for a visit to bring them the items that were sent and read them the letters that were written, it brings a great joy to their faces and at times a laugh.

Being that this is my third deployment to the Middle-East, I can honestly say that I have personally never seen this much support from any one person or group of people in my life. It is over-whelming and heart filled to know that there are in fact people back in the states that support us in the Armed Forces.

By your gifts and generosity, it has made this deployment and time away from family, friends and loved ones a bearable task for many of the soldiers here, including myself and those that I visit regularly. I can not begin to show or speak of how much it has meant to me and everyone else as a whole, what you have done other than saying Thank you.

Personally, I wish that I had the opportunity to meet and visit with you in person to show and speak of my gratitude towards you, but most of all to just give you a warm squeeze of thanks and gratitude. As a Chaplain's Assistant I have many fruits for my labor, and by your kindness it has been made easier.

As Jesus exemplifies the essence of "giving by sowing your own life", you have done just that. As it is so written, "Give and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put upon you. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you." (Luke 6:38)

In closing, I wish you the very best and good health. I ask and pray that God will grant you blessings and give you peace in all that you do.

Your Friend in Christ,

CPL Mike Swintek
Chaplain's Assistant
36th CAB
HHC 2-135th GSAB
APO AE 09391

"Pro Deo Et Patria"
For God and Country

UMW Kick-Off Event "Pieces of Life and a Slice of Pie"

You are invited!

Mark your calendars

Sept. 23, 2007 – 2:30-4:30pm

*UMW is looking for homemade quilts
to display at this event.*

*Please contact Fran West 303-797-7107
if you would like to share a quilt.*

United Methodist Women



It has been exciting to have eight women step forward to help plan the re-organization of UMW at St. Luke's. So far we have planned the Kick-Off event for September and the Candlelight Dinner for December. The other exciting thing is that four women have agreed to be nominated for the Leadership Team. We have established a bulletin board in Fellowship Hall that will display current and important information. The "working team" is listed on the board so—Please take a look!

—Betty Ludlam

Pastor's Book Club

August 27, 7:00pm – Rev. Janet's office

We will discuss Greg Mortenson's best-seller,
*Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote
Peace... One School at a Time*



Lynda Fickling
Director of
Servant Ministry

Spiritual Gifts

Have you ever heard the use of "spiritual gifts" in your church growing up? Surprisingly, many of us have not. When I am teaching the "Servant by Design" class and we get to this chapter, first we must discuss what spiritual gifts really are.

First and foremost we all have gifts. You may be unaware of them but you are using them!

Secondly, God gives these gifts to us for the use of the common good, not for our own benefit. We are simply stewards of these gifts that we are given.

There are many biblical texts that refer to spiritual gifts: Ephesians 4:11-13, 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, 1 Peter 2:9-10 to name a few. As you begin your search for your spiritual gifts, keep in mind these passages and keep yourself open (discern) to your place in our community and the world.

I invite you to visit www.UMC.org and click on serve, then walk through the Introduction and take the Spiritual Gifts Assessment. It won't take long and you may discover some very interesting things about yourself.

After you take this test, pull out St. Luke's Ministry Catalog (visit www.stlukeshr.com, publications, download ministry catalog) and thumb through what programs/classes we have here to start you on your journey. *Those areas of service that can be gifted are – note Spiritual Gifts at the below the contact info. I would love to talk with you about your results, so feel free to contact me and together we will find a place to start developing those God-given gifts.

If you would like to dig deeper into this subject and discover even more about yourself (life gifts, passions, personality, values) please sign up for the "Servant by Design" class in August. It will begin Sept. 12 for 8 weeks. Class size is limited so don't wait!

I hope that you will take the time for yourself and for the whole body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:21-27) to discover your spiritual gifts and deepen your journey in servanthood.

"Let us, as servants of Christ, live for eternity by living in and for him, now and forevermore. Jesus Christ, through the church is the hope of the world, and servants are the hope of the church. May each of us, as servants of Christ, daily pray: **O Lord, make me a servant today.**

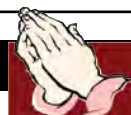
"May we thus be involved in full service, moving from self-serve Christianity to total servanthood." Siang-Yang Tan (Full Service)

To companion you on your journey, please contact Lynda Fickling, Director of Servant Ministry 303-791-0659x20 lynda@stlukeshr.com

Again, the website to visit for your spiritual gifts assessment www.umc.org or follow the link on our home page www.stlukeshr.com

Orientation of St. Luke's

Come Explore St. Luke's on the second and fourth Sunday in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30am. Grab a cup of coffee, a donut and meet some new friends to explore all that St. Luke's has for your spiritual journey. During this 45 min. orientation, we will discuss the ministry programs, fellowship opportunities, and the mission and vision of our church. Along with the information, we will answer any questions you may have. Contact Lynda Fickling our Director of Servant Ministry 303-791-0659 x20 or email Lynda.



Week Ending July 27, 2007

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

Gerry Wright (Gail Abernathy's mother)

Janet Blatchford (friend of Samantha Leahy)

John Poole (friend of Joy Damsgard)

John Sudol (Joyce Carnes' cousin)

Beth Turner

Al Bierman (Sandi Thompson's friend's husband)

Walt Brewer

Jenni Keefer (Mike Hutchins' daughter)

Landon Orcutt (Linda Walker's cousin)

Avis Stanley (Joy Damsgard's mother)

Jim Hertel (Sandy Thompson's father)

Loyle Mason (Jim Ramsey's gr. uncle)

Brian Day (Eileen Law's nephew)

Brent Webber (friend of Cushing family)

Carol Merrill (Sherry Merrill's mother)

Peter Quick

Jackie Lehnus (Lisa Lehnus' mother)

Yates Power (friend of Andrea Mezger's)

Courtney Nyberg (Kay Swanson's niece)

Norma Harris

Betty Kieser (Bonnie Funk's mother)

Kendall Griggs (Susan Hooke's uncle)

Ross Barnard's grandmother BuBu

Brenda Schafer

Elizabeth Peterman (Paul Peterman's mother)

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)

Guillermo Rodriges, Sr. (Guillermo Rodriges's father)

Brian Keefer (Mike Hutchins' son-in-law)

Kris Reif's son, David

Randy Schmitz (friend of Kay Swanson)

Bernie Mezger (John Mezger's father)

Carol Bryden (Kay Swanson's mother)

John Covey (friend of Ross Barnard)

Amber Cunningham (friend of Amy

Antinoro)

Dennis Rhodes (brother of Pam Rowley)

Joyce Martin (friend of Kam Boles/Lise Takayama)

Ernie Wight (Elizabeth Laurvick's father)

Dorthea Fitch (Steve Marschke's aunt)

Dorothy Pastine (Steve Marschke's aunt)

Steve Marschke

Sharon Zona (Bonnie Funk's friend)

Rylie Krenning (grandson of Carleen & Rich Krenning)

Tony Yim (friend of Betty/Les Ludlam)

Jules Tim (friend of Betty/Les Ludlam)

Charlotte Tiernan

Skip Kauerz

Marie Blue

Darryl Griggs (Susan Hooke's cousin)

Heidi (friend of the Hooke family)

John Merchant

Edna Earl West (Bob West's mother)

Jodi Lambert (Bobbi King's dentist)

Devyn Linn

Jamie MacNamara (L.S. family)

Jill Wright's father

Farzan Khan (friend of Manijeh B.)

Gordon Lewis (friend of Ken Fong)

Grace Sanders

Alex Pass (son of a friend of Julie Polikoff)

Melanie's baby boy (friend of Kam Boles)

Carrie Mallery

Nancy Obertier

Tom Hawkins (Virginia Young's brother)

Linda Streaty

Jon Streaty

Susan Hooke

Lonnie Roberts (friend of Susan Hooke)

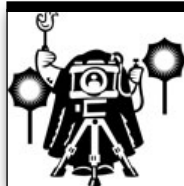
Births:

Baily Koenig born 7/21/07 Parents Jason & Val Koenig and brother Colton

Sympathies:

To Peggy & Bob Fretzs on the passing of Peggy's father, Fred Tucker, July 13;

To Joanna & Chip Meston & family on the passing of Joanna's brother, James Sawyer, July 16.



25th Anniversary Pictorial Directory

The 25th Anniversary Pictorial Directory project is now underway. Portrait sittings at St. Luke's are Sep. 16-23, 2007. However, studio sittings can be scheduled any time between Jun. 3, 2007 and Jan. 5, 2008 at Bettinger Photography, 2431 S University Blvd. Schedule by phone at 303-400-6023 or online at www.bettingerphoto.com. An appointment table will be in the Narthex starting Aug. 6. Please check www.stlukeshr.com/photodirectory/ for updates and information.

Volunteers are needed to greet and sign in families for portrait sittings. Many shifts are available! This is a fun and great way to make a contribution while getting to know other church families. Details/questions contact Jill Wright at 303-927-6345, or photodirectory@stlukeshr.com.

WELCOME

New Members: July 2007

Joining St. Luke's

Please contact Lynda Fickling 303-791-0659 x20 or lynda@stlukeshr.com or one of the pastors for more information.



Jon Hallowell

"I would like to strengthen my relationship with God, and St. Luke's is a great family to do that with."



Julie Polikoff

"St. Luke's is a coming home, where I was welcomed by the family with open arms. And of course, Janet, Pam and Lynda and all the staff, the adult education classes, the missions, the opportunities to serve and the openness and acceptance of all the people."



Peter & Alicia Waldheim

"We feel at home at St. Luke's."



Fred & Penny Jones



Richard & Carleen Krening

"We have found St. Luke's to be a very warm and welcoming church body."



Erik & Karin Weispenning

"The people of the congregation have made us feel welcome and we really like the care given by the nursery staff."



David Whitelaw (& Elijah)

"I grew up in St. Andrew then left Colorado when I joined the navy, when I returned, I moved around a lot due to being a State Trooper. I recently made a career change and moved to Highlands Ranch. I compared St. Andrew and St. Luke's and decided St. Luke's was meant for the place for me to be."

2nd Annual St. Luke's AIDS Walk



With such a successful AIDS Walk at St. Luke's last year (about 40 walkers and lots of donations going to the Global

AIDS Fund of the United Methodist Church), how could I say no to another year? We've tentatively set the date for September 23, 2007, and will most likely hold the walk some time in the afternoon/early evening.

If you are interested in helping in the coordination of the walk (deciding on a route, applying for permission to use the trails, publicity in the church and community, setting up the route on the date, etc.), please attend our planning meeting on Aug. 19 at noon or contact susanrmcintosh@yahoo.com or 303-347-0727.

"For every one person that you put in therapy, six new people get infected [with HIV]." —Dr. Anthony Fauci. There is obviously a great need for more treatment and support. Join us!

Servant Spotlight: Valerie Haase Koenig

by Michelle Ellis



Valerie Haase Koenig is a Denver-metro native and has been living in Highlands Ranch for the past eight years. She graduated from the University of Colorado, Boulder with a degree in Germanic Studies and another in International Business and had aspirations to work and travel internationally. Valerie accepted a position at Accenture in Denver after graduation and later met her husband Jason there. She says that despite her original desire for world travel, she has found her "true home" to be exactly where she is. Valerie is surrounded by family

and a close group of friends and says she can't imagine having as many blessings anywhere else. She and Jason have been married for nearly nine years and have a four year-old son Colton, and a brand-new baby daughter, Baily, born July 21st.

Just days away from the due date of her second child, Valerie took some time to talk to us about her volunteer work for St. Luke's:

When did you start attending St. Luke's? Jason and I needed a church home when I was pregnant with Colton in 2002. We had a rough pregnancy with him, and needed a spiritual base.

Why did you choose St. Luke's? I was raised United Methodist, Jason raised Catholic. St. Luke's offered such an open, inviting atmosphere with a young congregation. We were able to find a spiritual home we both liked and that helped us through our pregnancy. We were completely 'sold' on St. Luke's when Dr. Evans (the lead pastor at that time) came to the hospital to visit us after the birth of our son. We felt incredibly cared for.

What do you like most about St. Luke's? I love the young, dynamic congregation and the huge children's programs. Colton attends preschool and Sunday school at St. Luke's, and I love to see how comfortable he is in the church.

Which groups have you been involved with at St. Luke's? I joined the Mommy and Me group when Colton was 9 months old. 3 ½ years later I am still very close to the group of women I met; they continue to act as an incredible support group and as friends. I have also been involved in the Live, Love, Laugh club.

Why do you volunteer at St. Luke's? I have received so much from St. Luke's, from the accepting, positive congregation, to the mommy and me playgroup. I have such a solid support group through St. Luke's that I want to give back in some way. I enjoy event planning and so try to lend a hand to St. Luke activities where I can. (Valerie has helped to coordinate the Easter fun day each year and has coordinated the Vacation Bible School lunches the past two years. This year she was over 8 months pregnant putting the volunteer lunches together!)

What do you think is the importance of being a servant? I have found that the more I give of myself in time and energy, the more I receive. Volunteering makes me feel fulfilled, and a part of the community. Being a servant expands my horizons and helps me to know what a blessed life I lead.

Living Faith Seeking Justice Conference

Let justice roll down like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream! —Amos 5:24

The General Board of Church and Society (the United Methodist Church's social action arm) is sponsoring four days of worship and workshops centered on building justice into our lives in Ft. Worth, TX, November 1-4, 2007. If you are interested in attending as part of a group from St. Luke's UMC, please contact Susan McIntosh (303-347-0727, or susanrmcintosh@yahoo.com).



Jenita Rhodes
Director of Children's
Ministries



Lynne Butler
Assistant Children's
Ministries Director



Kristina Linn
Childcare
Director

St. Luke's Preschool Play Groups On Friday, August 17, there will be a "Get Acquainted Time" for all our babies through 5 year olds and their parents who are interested in joining a preschool play group. Come to the St. Luke's playground between 9:00am and noon to

meet other St. Luke's families with children in your child's age group. Each playgroup will support families with young children by providing an opportunity for parents to network, share stories and develop playmates for their children. You may join in a group that is already active or help form additional groups as needed. Of course, older siblings are welcomed! In case of rain we will move inside.

So... if you know of any Moms or Dads who would like to get to make new friends and share their parenting adventures with others, call them up and bring them along to this Play Group Get-together.

Sunday School Registration Forms are Due!

We would like all children nursery through 6th grade to be included in all of St. Luke's Children Ministry Programs including our wonderful Sunday morning programs. Please complete the 2007-08 Registration form available in the church office or email and return it ASAP. Also on this form are areas where volunteers are needed and an Interest Survey to provide input for additional programs to support families with information and fellowship opportunities. The information we receive will enable us to provide adequate staff, resources, supplies and room arrangements for the upcoming year. Thank you for helping us to building a nurturing environment for our children to grow in their faith.

Sunday School Volunteers Children's Ministry's 2007-08 Sunday School year will begin on Kick-Off Sunday Sept. 9th and we want to help everyone find a way to be involved. Whether you take a leadership role in planning and presenting the lessons, assist, help greet, take attendance, lead music, check in babies, decorate classrooms, purchase supplies, sort

curriculum or send birthday cards, there is a place for you! Please contact Jenita Rhodes, Lynne Butler or Kristina Linn to find out how you can support the children of St. Luke's.

Sunday School Orientation: 2 Sessions Available This important workshop is for anyone who will be helping with our Sunday School program this beginning in September. We are offering 2 sessions, Saturday August 19 from 9:00 until 11:00am and Tuesday, Aug. 21 from 6:30 until 8:30pm. This year each workshop will have a session for those who need general orientation, including our handbook and general information or a session with more detailed classroom management and lesson preparation ideas. Our Sunday School teams will then have time meet, get acquainted, review their schedules and look over the upcoming lessons. **These Ministry Teams are very important to the Bible knowledge and spiritual growth of our children and each member of the team has a special role to play. Please make every effort to attend one of these workshops.** Childcare is available by calling the Childcare Reservation Line x47.

CALENDAR

Thursday, August 17

*St. Luke's Preschool Playgroup
at the church 9:00am-noon*

Saturday, August 18

*Sunday School Orientation &
Parent Information 8:30-11:30am*

Sunday, August 20

Acolyte Training noon-1:00pm

Tuesday, August 21

*Sunday School Orientation &
Parent Information 7:00-8:30pm*

Wednesday, August 29

*Sunday School Clean-up
9:30am-12:30pm*

Friday, August 24

*Family Movie Night 6:30-8:30pm
in the Fellowship Hall*

Sunday, August 26

Summer Sunday School ends

*Blessing of the Backpacks and
Sunday School Teachers in Worship
at 9:30 and 11:00am.*

Sunday, September 2

*No Sunday School. Nursery care is
available for babies through 3 years
for the 9:30 and 11:00am Worship
services.*

Sunday, September 9

*KICK-OFF SUNDAY & CIVIC
GREEN CELEBRATION*

*2007-08 Sunday School year
begins!*

Nursery News

Come meet our Nursery Staff!

St. Luke's would like to invite all parents of children ages newborn to 11 years to meet the nursery staff on Saturday, August 25th, 2007 from 6:00-8:00pm on the playground. Come and enjoy some cookies and juice and meet the staff who will be taking care of your children. This way, you will always have a name and face to go together and it will give the kids some time to meet one another and know who we are. We look forward to seeing all of you. Please call or email me with any questions you might have. Kristina Linn, Childcare Director for St. Luke's UMC, kristina@stlukeshr.com, 303-791-0659 x40

LITTLE SCHOOL News



Kay Swanson
Director of
Little School

Fall Kick-Off Fun!

OPEN HOUSE FOR LITTLE SCHOOL PARENTS –

Thursday evening Aug. 30th Please attend even if you are a returning parent! (no children please!)

- Mon-Wed-Fri Parents & Explorers 6:00 to 6:35pm with your teacher in the classroom
- Mon-Wed-Fri Parents & Explorers 6:45 to 7:30pm upstairs with Ms. Kay
- Tues/Thur Parents 6:00 to 6:35pm upstairs with Ms. Kay
- Tues/Thur Parents 6:45 to 7:30 downstairs with your teacher in the classroom

CHILDREN'S OPEN HOUSE –

Tuesday morning Sept. 4th Children are encouraged to stop by Little School for a short visit with their new teacher and see their room and meet new friends!

- Mon-Wed-Fri Children & Explorers 10:00 to 11:00am
- Tues/Thurs Parents 11:15am to 12:15pm

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL – September 5th! *CAN'T WAIT! SEE YOU THERE!*

—Lovingly, Ms. Kay & Ms. Carol & Ms. Tami



FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT:

August 24th at 6:30pm

Featuring *Firehouse Dog* and a *Veggie Tales* movie. Bring your jammies, blankets and pillow. Popcorn will be served.

Vacation Bible School Soared!



This year's Vacation Bible School has been a unique experience. We began registration with the expectation of providing the same high quality, enriching week of activities for our children and volunteers as we have in the past. In addition, we were determined to keep the size of the classes "small". Or to a number that would allow our teachers to develop the one-on-one relationship with each of their students that is so meaningful in VBS.

Then circumstances in our community presented us with the opportunity of ministering to a multitude of children. Our first fear was how would we ever find the large number of volunteers needed and still keep our class sizes to a reasonable level. As our registrations soared, we put out the call, "We need your help!" and our congregation answered in numbers that astounded us.

As a result, we were able to staff 21 classrooms keeping our 3 year olds to 5 or 6 children and our 4's to 8 or 9 with at least two adults each day. Every classroom and activity had one adult who served all five days. We served over 230 children, used every available room in the building, provided childcare for the volunteer who had little ones and served lunch to all our volunteers and their children every day. We even added Science as a new activity area along with crafts, games, snack, music and Bible story. This could not have been achieved without the dedicated and unselfish sharing of over 150 adult and youth volunteers. We would like to recognize and thank each of the individuals listed below for rising to the challenge offered us and helping to make this year's VBS the most successful ever.

Fabulous Five Day Volunteers: Michelle Ellis, Joan Gitchell, Cindy Barlow, Marilyn



Ayers, Calli Barlow, Betsy Keyack, Jenifer Noyes, Rev. Brad Laurvick, Jennifer Lang, Laurie Lorenzo, Lindy Ready, Tracy Weaver, Vicki Lauer, Janet Maxwell, Robin Milerowski, Jill Lee, Amy Slade, Jeff Bleye, Carleen Krening, Nancy Bergquist, Renee Ducnuigen, Susan Johnson, Liz Gillespie, Chiara Lorenzo, Jan Ballard, Brandee Tudor, Laura Halpin, Melissa McKittrick, Stacy Baird, Kerry Lucero, Jenita Rhodes, Lynne Butler, Patti Speedy, Edee Worth, Valerie Koenig, Kate Ballard, Jennifer Ballard, Karen Bobkowski, Tamara Thevarajah, Caitlin Bauer, Allyssa Markham, Ryan Hooke, Sara King, Alex Trotter, Chris Strange, Marisa

Takayama, Colby Butler, Bailey Richeson, Meredith Tolleson, Madison Smith, Danielle Trotter, Scott Goodstein, Jake Smoith, Zach Madsen and Evan Oliver.

Volunteering One Day or More is Awesome! Kevin Ashby, David Ashby, Julie Armijo, Valerie Phillips, Sue Kwilman Kim Frazee, Amy Ruden, Mary Harper, Meg Schilda, Christy Wohleber, Lisa Garcia, Kari Polakowski, Sara Hankenson, Jane Jenkins, Amber Obechina, Dianne Hannum, Nicole Pesce, Roberta Hamilton-Griggs, Jill Wright, Kim Marlow, Deb Shupe, Shelly Selover, Chris Goldsberry, Lindy Howard, Laurie Anne Armstrong, Shamina Fletcher, Ruth Smith, Kathleen MacKinnon, Gina Krening, Bobbi King, Laurie Roshak, Linda Palmer, Cindy Raap, Dave Tyson, Lynda Fickling, Erin Brown, Meghan Smith, Amy Cardello, Elozabeth Estabrook, Rachael Owens, Jennifer Turner, Julie Hearnberger, Tricia Ingle, Salome Thevarajah, Carol Frame, Kara Emig, Lisa Donnell, Kami Palm, Natalie Boyle, Rocki Sugrue, Julie Butler, Beth Catchpole, Annie Kim, Jenn Mell, Robin Mundell, Erika Brimberry, Bryn Narcisian Cara Ricci, Laura Richards, Scott Richards, Rev. Pam Rowley, Rev. Janet Forbes, Michelle Garrison, Jeneen Hartshorne, Cliff Brown, Jenny Stevenson, Tracy Frost, Amy McIntosh, Kristin Speedy, Susan Stanley, Carolyn Maddox, Nancy Martinucci, Joely Maddux, Michelle Lloyd, Blythe Schaberg, Lesley Thompson, Melissa Graham, Bonnie Funk, Barry Curtis, Kim Fitzgerald, Kathy Donohoe, Corrin Goudzwaard, Katie Burns, Natalie Tanner, Rebecca Collins, Keri Madsen, Marc Hill, Nancy Betts, Jim Ramsey, Lys Lacy, Andra Brown, Stephanie Modica, Jennifer Smith, Holly Thomas, Sharon Elms, Kellie Flagg, Chris Glazier, Joni Jackson, Tom Wetzel and any of the other fabulous helpers whose names we may have missed. Thank you to the wonderful nursery staff for caring for our youngest children!

Honk!, jr. is a Big Hit!

by Taylor J. Griggs (6th grade)

The St. Luke's Performing Arts Academy version of *HONK!, jr.*, performed on June 21 & 22, was, everyone agreed, great. The actors also enjoyed being on stage, and some I interviewed. These people are Olivia Murrow (Maureen), Lauren Ammer (Goose), and Peri Peterson (The Turkey).

Q: How do you like doing *Honk!*?

Olivia: It's really fun. I like the people and the songs.

Q: Is there anything you especially like about it?

Olivia: I really LOVE the songs and the plot. It's just a fun play to do!

Q: What do you like most about this show?

Lauren: The creativeness of everything.

Q: Which part did you want to play?

Lauren: I am quite happy with my part.

Q: What is your favorite part of the show?

Peri: The songs!

Q: What do you like about playing the turkey?

Peri: She is kind of goofy.



If you didn't see *Honk!*, you probably don't understand this interview.

Honk! is a show based on the Ugly Duckling, where Ugly (played by Grant Larson) is being bullied and teased. He ends up getting kidnapped by a silly cat (Elise Collins) who wants to eat him. Ugly finds a way to get out of the "Kitty Cat Snack Shack", while his mother Ida (Lauren Morris) is worried sick. He goes out to meet Greylag (Jared Nelson) and Dot (Jana Coryell). Meanwhile, Ida is going out to look for her dearest son, and her husband Drake (Jacob Wesson) can't bear staying home with the four ducklings, Beaky (Emily Kinney), Billy (Devin Sharpe), Downy (Gabby Gile) and Fluff (Alaina Dawson). The Self Centered Jaybird, from duck TV's America's Most Feathered (Evan Anne Boose) interviews poor Drake who finds that motherhood is actually very difficult and he should appreciate his wife more. Along the way, Ugly meets a beautiful Swan named Penny (Taylor Griggs) who Ugly falls in love with. He is feeling sad because he thinks Penny will not remember him, when up hops a goofy bullfrog (Hayden Kinney) who makes him feel better about his ugliness. At the end Ugly turns into a swan and meets Penny again. Everyone is amazed how nice "Ugly" looks and they realize that each and everyone of us has the chance to be a swan if we keep our dreams alive and that **being DIFFERENT isn't good or bad, it's just different!** This is a great show to see and if you didn't see it this time, take your family to the next performance of *Honk!*

Thanks to the directors, Roberta Griggs, Jim Ramsey, Kay Coryell, Hannah Wilson and Doug Johnson. Thanks to co-directors Burke Walton, Averill Corkin and Katie Drinkard. Thanks to everyone for a great performance of *Honk!!!!*

Adult Education Fall Offerings – This is the year to find the class for you!

Wow! Never let it be said St. Luke's doesn't offer a variety of classes for Adults! Just look at all we have coming up. Everything from Disciple classes to a guide for living debt free to a class which offers parents ideas for bringing Jesus' love to their children.

Disciple I – Admit it! You'd secretly like to join us and go through the whole Bible in an organized fashion and feel like you know it when you're done. But you're thinking: 1) That's a big time commitment. 2) I'll be embarrassed because everyone else will know more about the Bible than I do. 3) It will be preachy and boring.

The truth is that one evening a week is easier than you might think. We hope you can come each Wednesday evening or Thursday morning and make all the meetings, but we all have families, jobs and things that squeeze our time. Almost everyone misses sometimes. But there's no



grade for attendance or final exam at the end. The reading between meetings is usually an hour or two... but can be as much or little as you want. The group knowledge will range from people who may never have read much of the Bible to those who know it well.

And no matter where you are on that spectrum, you'll get a lot out of the class and from the others in the group. In fact, it will be the group diversity of opinion, theology, and personality that makes the class interesting. In Disciple I the meetings are anything but boring. We have great debates, good insights... and you won't be lectured to.

So take a chance. Stop by the sign up table in the Narthex. Look at the class materials and agree that the time is right. Join us!

Disciple 2, 3 & 4 – If you have taken Disciple 1 and want to continue on, we are offering more Disciple classes. Disciple 2 will be Wednesday and Sunday evening. Disciple 3 will be offered on Wednesday and Sunday evening and Thursday morning. Disciple 4 will be offered on Thursday morning. The reading for each class is about half of Disciple 1 and much more manageable. You read some books from the Old Testament and some from the New Testament based on the focus of the class.

Short-Term Disciple Study – Still wanting to do Disciple, but not for a full year? We have those options too! On Wednesday night, there will be an 8-week short term study of study of the book of Genesis. We will have Bible reading assignments, discussions of the assignments and interpretation write-ups in the student books. We might also have a



potluck or two during the class sessions. After Genesis, an 8-week short term study about John will be offered. You don't need to attend both classes. Les Ludlam is the knowledgeable leader.

Bible Basics – Watch for this coming class by the Rotating Reverends! Rev. Marla Kauerz, Rev. Brad Laurvick, Rev. Pam Rowley, and Rev. Janet Forbes will share teaching an 8-week class on basic Bible knowledge on Sundays at 9:30am beginning on September 23. No previous experience with the Bible needed!

Okay, you want to be involved in Christian study, but not in the Disciple format. Well, look at the class descriptions that come next. Something is sure to catch your eye.

Live, Laugh, Love Club – 4th Tuesday of the month with facilitator Holli Benkelman. Starting August 28th at 6:30pm. Live Laugh Love is a ladies group that focuses on building character traits and family values in children through simple activities and biblical principles. The monthly workshop includes a short reading and discussion about a value such as generosity, dependability, or respect. There is no cost to attend and open to women with children of any age. Supplemental materials are options, but available to purchase before-hand, otherwise contact Holli for the supply list. Contact Holli at 303-470-3394 or HBenkelman3@msn.com.

Gap Group – Do you think outside the box? Have “gaps” in your understanding of theological and spiritual concepts or personal belief structures you'd like to progressively explore? Then Gap Group is for you. This group meets Wednesday evening, at 6:30pm.

Women's Short Term Bible Study – We will meet on Thursday mornings from 9:30-11:30am for a series of 6-8 week studies. The first selection is Great Themes of the Bible – “Called to be God's People.” It is a 7 session study of the ways God calls and empowers us to live out His purpose. The curriculum will evolve during the year with input from class members. We will continue to review different short term studies that utilize scripture readings to reinforce the message of the study guides.

Financial Peace University (FPU) – How would you feel if you had no debt and a solid plan for what to do with your money each month? Would you make different choices? Have different priorities? We have seen it time and time again. Poor financial decisions steal peace of mind and destroy relationships. Proverbs 22:7 teaches us that “The borrower is servant to the lender.” Many people find themselves slaves to debt, struggling to make ends meet each month. Luke 8:14 describes this condition as being “choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of this life.”

What is FPU? FPU is the most important step to changing your financial future. FPU is a 13-week, life-changing program that empowers and teaches you how to make the right money decisions to achieve your financial goals and experience a total money makeover. Who is FPU for? It's for everyone from the financially secure to the financially distressed. Over 350,000 families and individuals have attended FPU at their workplace, church, military base, local nonprofit organization or community group. On average these families have paid off over \$5,300 in debt and saved \$2,700 during this 91-day program! The vision of Financial Peace University is two-fold: to transform our society, giving families hope to find the peace and freedom that comes from financial responsibility; and to find an everlasting peace through a relationship with the “Prince of Peace,” Christ Jesus. FPU will be hosted by Matthew and Penny Rose. They have used the program to become debt free with the exception of their mortgage and they're working on that now! The program has allowed them a sense of being in control of their money, not money controlling them. The program will be offered on Saturday mornings from 8:00-10:00am. Cost is \$90 per family for a membership kit. For more information go to www.daveramsey.com.

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MUSIC & DRAMA MINISTRIES



James Ramsey
Director of
Worship & Arts



Carrie Mallery
Associate Dir. of
Worship & Arts



Kay Coryell
Associate Dir. of
Worship & Arts

Music Ministry Start Up Dates

Brass Ensemble

August 11 at 8:00am

Cherub's Choir

Sept 12 at 6:30pm

Chancel Choir

Sept. 6 at 7:30pm

Primary & Junior Prayz

Sept. 12 at 6:30pm

Flute Ensemble

Sept. 8 at 8:00am

Ministers of Swing

August 11 at 8:30am

Off-Notes

Sept. 16 at 5:00pm

SLYJO

August 19 at 4:00pm

Tintinnabulators

August 14 at 7:30pm

Tone Chimes

Sept. 12 at 7:25pm

Wind Ensemble

Sept. 29 at 10:30am

Women of Note

Sept. 6 at 6:30pm

Youth Handbell Choir

Sept. 11 at 6:30pm

Performing Arts Academy Offers Upcoming Classes In late September, the St. Luke's Performing Arts Academy is moving to the next phase of development in a long term plan to reach out to the community at large by "building skills and confidence through the arts." The Academy will offer individual and group lessons on selected days of the week for children, youth and adults in addition to drama and music workshops throughout the fall and spring terms. Primarily designed as an after school/ after work program, lesson and workshop times are mid-afternoon to early evening. The program is fee structured and will vary according to the type of lesson and/or workshop. Specific information will be available beginning September 1st during the three-week registration period concluding on Sept 23rd. If you are interested, please contact James Ramsey at jim@stlukeshr.com or 303-791-0659 x23.

Drama Ministry Start Up August 19 at 2:00pm rehearsals begin for *The Music Man*! We have nearly 100 children, youth and adults in the cast—the largest ever—and we're very excited to bring this show to our community and support the Missions program at St. Luke's. Because the Sunday matinee is one of the most popular shows that "sells" out first, ***we are adding a Saturday matinee this year for the first time.*** Tickets will go on sale beginning September 30th! Ticket prices are \$10 for adults and youth and \$5 for children 12 and under. The Gala Benefit Dinner is on Saturday, October 27 at 5:30pm and will include special guests (TBA) and a silent auction. The missions that benefit from this years fall production include: Inter-Faith, Guatemala, and Nothing but Nets. *Inter-Faith is a local organization helping families and children with basic needs; Our Guatemalan mission teams will use donations to aid children and families by purchasing housing material and greatly needed medical supplies; and Nothing but Nets is a simple but extremely important project that helps protect children from the spread of malaria by supplying mosquito nets to protect them while they sleep.* Three very important mission projects, both local and international, that the drama ministry will support through *The Music Man* performances this fall.

The Music Man – ***Save the Date!*** October 26 at 7:00pm, October 27 at 3:00 & 7:00pm, and October 28 at 3:00pm.

Primary Prayz and Junior Prayz (Children's Choir and Kidz Prayz)

Something new! We are combining Children's Choir and the Kidz Prayz programs beginning this fall and calling the new groups "Primary Prayz" for grades 1st through 3rd and "Junior Prayz" for grades 4th through 6th. Both Choirs will meet on Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:20pm and include both singing and playing activities to prepare for worship services throughout the year. The start date for Primary and Junior Prayz is Sept 12th. Questions or information, please contact Kay Coryell at 303-791-0659 or kacy@stlukeshr.com

ADULT EDUCATION (cont.)

Servant by Design – Wed. 6:30-8:00pm, The 8-week course begins Sept. 12. Cost \$21. Discover who you are...Why are YOU here? What do YOU do best? What are YOU passionate about? What do YOU value? What are YOUR priorities? *Lifekeys* will help you begin your journey to a God-centered life by discovering how you are designed to serve. Discover your: Life gifts and spiritual gifts (What you do best!), Personality type and values (The places or atmospheres that give you the most energy) and Passion (The purposes God placed in your heart.) Contact: Lynda Fickling 303-791-0659x20 or lynda@stlukeshr.com ***"In entering this journey of servanthood and becoming servants of Jesus, you will become deeply involved in spiritual community as you live and serve God-centered and others-focused ways."*** –Full Service by Siang-Yang Tan

The Study of Christian Thought – This class meets on Sunday mornings all year round in Classroom A at 9:30am. Les Ludlam was the original leader of our class before he left to serve the United Methodist Church in Wheatland, Wyoming. He has joined our class again as a participant and leader. We have come a long way in our spiritual journey as Les will attest. Our class has explored topics from Huston Smith's *Study of World Religions* to Joseph Campbell's *The Power of Myth*. Currently our class has started a study of *Lost Christianities*, which is

about how the books of the New Testament became canonized. We will be looking at other gospels and writings that were eventually excluded from the canon and became lost over the centuries. Our class also likes to do fun things and we get together about 4 times a year and share a meal together. You are invited to come and join our spiritual journey and fellowship! Join us every Sunday morning, in Classroom A, at 9:30. Contact Ann Roadarmel for more information.

Christian Connection – This class is a study of various, topical books. Meets every Sunday morning, in Classroom B, at 9:30am. Class facilitated by Scott Wesson.

Minister's Book Club – This group meets, the 4th Monday of each month, to discuss a book, chosen by our Ministers.

Stop by the Narthex for samples of the studies and sign up sheets. We look forward to seeing you in class! All classes will begin the week of September 12th, unless otherwise noted. Childcare is available for all Adult Education classes. Please contact the childcare hotline at least 24 hours before the class. Questions about classes? Contact the facilitator of the class or Lynne Butler at 303-791-0659 x11 or lynne@stlukeshr.com.

DON'T MISS!

August 2007

- 8/13 – Douglas County School Starts
 8/19 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 - SLY tube 11am
 - SLY PM Messy Games Night 6:30pm
 8/20 – Cherry Creek School Starts
 8/21 – Littleton Schools Start
 8/22 – Jefferson County Schools Start
 8/24 – 4th Annual St. Luke's Golf Tournament © Fossil Trace Golf Club
 8/26 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 - SLYtube 11am
 - SLY PM AMAZINGRACE 6-8pm Sign up your team soon!

September 2007

- 9/2 – NO SLY AM or PM!
 (Labor Day Weekend)
 9/2 – **Chris Wilterdink & Emily Hallowell get married! Woo Hoo!**
 9/3-9/14 – Emily & Chris Honeymoon Vacation! Woo Hoo again!
 9/9 – Kick Off Sunday
 Worship at Civic Green Park.
 Food and Fun all day long!
 SLY PM – Three Cord Wonder
 Concert starts at 6pm! Come for an awesome outdoor free rock experience!
 9/16 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM classes
 - SLY PM: SLY School for youth and parents. Come to St. Luke's at 6pm for information about SLY activities and events. Parents and youth highly encouraged to come. Bring \$2 donation for pizza dinner.
 9/21-23 – Jr. High Retreat! Look for info around church to sign up!
 9/30 – Pumpkins for the Pumpkin Patch arrive!

* **Summer Breakfast Club** is done for now! Mountain Vista kids: watch for announcements about Donut Whole starting in September at your school!

* **Fall Calendars** will arrive before the end of August in your mailboxes. Keep an "I" out for them!



Chris Wilterdink
 Director of
 Youth Ministries



Susan Johnson
 Assistant Director
 of Youth Ministries

CHRIS'S CORNER

The Big "I Do"

July 4, 2006 I proposed to Emily Hallowell at Amy's Acres (outside of Glenwood Springs) and ever since, we've been excitedly planning our marriage and life together. On September 2, we take that step together, share "I Do's", and kick off our married life with a honeymoon that leaves the next day.

Weddings are such a special event; how many other times do you get to add another main character to your life story? For me, saying "I Do" will be the easy part. The tricky part is, figuring out whom to invite to the wedding... Do we keep it a small family affair for the sake of intimacy, or can we keep that intimacy and sacredness of a wedding ceremony while celebrating with a large circle of friends?

Just like Baptismal and Confirmation vows, Wedding vows are made in public so that those in attendance can help the couple live up to the sacred promises they make to each other. Emily and I have come to cherish the roles that the people of St. Luke's play in our daily lives, so we are offering an open invitation to the families and youth of St. Luke's to come and share in our wedding ceremony. (We couldn't afford to bring everyone to the pre-wedding reception that Susan Hooke graciously hosted on August 12th.) We want each of you to help Emily and me to grow closer as a married couple by reminding us to "have and to hold, for better or worse, for richer or poorer, in sickness and in health, and to love cherish" for the rest of our lives as we begin anew as husband and wife because you are members of our church family.

Our wedding takes place Sunday, September 2 at 4:30pm at Trinity UMC (1820 Broadway, Denver), and of course it's a fancy affair, so dress up if you come! Soon I'll become a husband, and I'll finally have a cool ring to show off, too!

Thank you all in advance for being a huge part in our married life.

—Peace & Love, Chris

continued from page 1 you or causes you to never want to see them again. So as the day grew closer, I got more and more nervous. But my fears were not valid. The week we were at Camp Mechuwana was wonderful. We were divided into groups to work on projects throughout the camp. Projects ranged from building bath houses and access ramps to shingling a cabin. Our group completed the foundation for the bath houses and other youth groups arrived after us to complete them. Kyle Bobkowski said he felt he was a part of a group building a foundation for a greater purpose. I was amazed; everyone worked really well with each other and while there was a lot of work to do, there was also a lot of joking around and fun.

Kim Ransick shared one of her experiences: *A bunch of day camp kids—5 or 6 years old—came outside and they were going to do an activity. One of the little boys came up to me and he tugged on my shirt and asked me, "Are you building these buildings for Jesus?" It was so cute because he knew about Jesus and that this was a United Methodist camp. I was just so happy that this kid was learning about this stuff and that he understood it. It was the cutest thing I've ever seen, and I'll never forget it.*

After a hard day of work, we had free time in the evening that allowed us to get some much needed relaxation. Then we would gather in the chapel for devotions before bed. I think the really neat thing about this trip was the devotion time. Our theme was "CIA: Christians In Action" and we were to discover more about ourselves. So when devotions came around, Chris, our youth director, paired us up with another youth to be prayer partners. He would give

us questions to discuss. I know the time I spent with my prayer partner really gave me new insight.

Throughout the week, our groups rotated alternately to work at a food bank. This food bank services the greater part of Maine and is run almost entirely by volunteers. A lot of the people who benefit from it are unemployed or homeless. It was a very humbling experience to help with this because it made you realize how fortunate you are. Kelsey Butler and Mark Godsey added, "this was a good experience because you could see the progress made throughout the week at the food bank. The warehouse was stacked with boxes when we arrived, which needed to be sorted, and by the end of the week, the boxes were gone."

On our last evening, we were invited to watch a play some of the kids at the camp had worked on all week. This evening was their final performance. We found out that most of the kids at the camp came from situations that were not very good. For many, this week at camp is their only chance to get away from their problems and have some fun. Seeing the children so proud of their work and performance was one of the best parts for Josh Pawley.

We spent a day in Boston before catching a plane home to Colorado. Caitlin Bauer enjoyed the whale watch. Others enjoyed looking around Boston and walking The Freedom Trail. While we were all anxious to get home, we also knew we were going to miss the camp. For a week it was our home, and the people there were wonderful. We were able to help make a difference in the lives of others. It was an experience I will never forget.

FINANCIAL UPDATE



Dave Cupp
Director of Finance



Janet Maxwell
Assistant Director
of Finance

The Heat is On – and it shows in our income

We were doing pretty good with our collections until May and June. Just in those two months our collections were nearly \$13,000 less than budgeted. So, at the end of June we are now nearly \$23,623 short on income from collections. It appears that we will be a little short in July but not as bad as May and June. Yes, this is only 2-3% of the anticipated income from collections for the year. However, if our collections were 100% of expectations, we would still be struggling to keep expenses down in order to keep within the expected income. This means 2-3% is bigger than it appears.

I (we) need your help. Somehow we need to stop this trend and get back on track for 100%+. If you are behind in your planned giving or just haven't gotten around to giving anything this year, this would be a great time to help make a difference.

Our EFT program offers you the opportunity to enjoy your summers and keep current with your giving. Now it is possible for you to make automatic scheduled deductions from your checking/savings account or your credit card. You can even go online and do either of these transactions at stlukeshr.com. Twenty percent (20%) of our collections are now coming from this program and the number continues to grow each month.

Please give this problem your prompt attention. A prompt response is needed so we can solidify our plans for the remainder of the year. It is very important that we end the year with a small profit. Granted, we are a “non-profit” organization. It is equally important that we be a “non-loss” organization, too.

Make Sure Your Checks Are Marked For Your Capital Campaign Contributions. Now that we are receiving checks for the Bold Venture Capital Campaign, it is extremely important that you mark your check for its intended use if it is not for the general fund. Some are electing to write one combined check for general fund and Bold Venture. That works well except you need to identify how much goes to the Bold Venture. All you need to do is use “CC” or “BV” for any check amount that goes to Bold Venture. If they are not marked otherwise on the memo line we assume they were intended for the general fund income. Please be sure and check your quarterly statements to make sure we've applied your funds per your intent and let me know if we need to make changes.

TRUSTEES CORNER

Fall Work Day – Saturday, Sept. 8

At St. Luke's the Trustee's organization counts on two incredible forces to help us to maintain the church property and building. The first of which is our incredible staff of volunteers serving as Trustees or simply taking on a task from the work file and getting it finished. The second is our part time staffer, handyman, fixer of all things, Barry Curtis.

To our volunteer crews, please save September 8th from 8:00am to noon for our annual kick-off Work Day. We'll be working to clean-up landscaping and give a really great clean and shine to St. Luke's so we're all set for our fall celebration and the start of the season. Everyone is welcome—our success is entirely dependant on our volunteer work force and their dedication.

Imagine the space of more than 10 average Highlands Ranch homes all packed into one building—including a bunch of bathrooms, sinks, furnace filters, doors, windows, light bulbs and everything needs to work properly every day. Now you can understand how very blessed we are to have Barry Curtis on staff working part-time to keep these and any number of maintenance elements inside and out operating properly, and safely. In fact, Barry provides such proactive attention to detail and reliability that we hardly notice any of it. Isn't that a sign of incredible quality and care? We think so too!

Please offer your thanks to Barry the next time you see him—and plan now to join us for our fall work day so we can launch our kick-off celebration with great success as we open our doors to new and returning friends and families of St. Luke's!

—Sandi Miyaki

FROM REV. BRAD



Rev. Brad Laurvick
Associate Minister

Greetings! What a joy it is to greet you as your new Associate Minister. It is quite humbling to become a part of such a wonderfully active ministry. St. Luke's is a blessing to our community, to our denomination, and to the world. It is also wonderful to know what a blessing St. Luke's is to so many of you. Already, people have begun to share their stories of what makes St. Luke's a holy and meaningful community for them. I treasure these stories as they help me come to know you and our church better.

Though I am not new to ministry, it is something all Christians are called to through baptism, I am new to Ordained Ministry. Hearing the the four year olds I worked with during Vacation Bible School call me 'Reverend Brad' was a humbling way to experience this new 'title'. This new form of ministry is something I have been preparing for for the last ten years, and look forward to growing into through the day I retire.

Part of this preparation and growth has been in finding good mentors. There are so many people I have such great respect for (many of whom I now work with on our staff) that the problem is not finding mentors, but figuring out which person to talk with next. The one consistent theme throughout all my conversations is—listen. Listen, listen, listen. And so it has become my main focus for my new beginning here at St. Luke's. I want to share with you how I hope to engage in “holy listening” here at St. Luke's

- Listen to what is being said, for what is needed, and in a way that honors each story and person
- Listen for what is not being said
- Listen to people and groups who are often not listened to
- Listen for more opportunities to listen
- *and above all,*
- Listen to God—personally and with others.

I look forward to listening to you and with you.

Be blessed and be a blessing, —Rev. Brad





The CHRONICLE

St. Luke's United Methodist Church

8817 S. Broadway • Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

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*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.*

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2007 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
AUG 12 "GOT COMMUNITY?" Growing up Jewish! -Rev. Janet Forbes 8, 9:30, 11am: Worship 9:30am: Orientation to St. Luke's 6pm: SLY PM	13 6:30pm: Women's Night Out	14 7pm: Adult Education Team	15	16	17 ON CALL Friday 9am: Playgroup Extravaganza	18 Peaches Delivery 8:30am: Sunday School Orientation
19 MISSION SUNDAY -Dr. Phil Plank, Salud Y Paz, Guatemala 8, 9:30, 11am: Worship 6:30pm: SLY PM	20 Staff Retreat	21 Staff Retreat 7pm: Scrapbook Circle 7pm: Sunday School Orientation	22	23	24  4th Annual Invitational Golf Tournament 6:30pm: Family Movie Night	25 6pm: Nursery Meet & Greet
26 "GOT COMMUNITY?" Growing up Mormon! -Rev. Janet Forbes 8, 9:30, 11am: Worship Blessing of the Backpacks for all students and teachers 9:30am: Orientation to St. Luke's 6:30pm: SLY PM	27	28 9am: Little School Staff Kickoff	29	30 Little School Open House	31	SEPT 1
2 Rev. Brad Laurvick preaching 8, 9:30, 11am: Worship 6:30pm: SLY PM	3 LABOR DAY Church Closed	4 Little School Open House	5 Little School Begins	6	7	8 8am: Work Day
KICK-OFF SUNDAY SILVER ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION 8, 9:30, 11am: Worship 1pm: Celebration at Civic Green 5pm: Feeding of the 5,000 6:30pm: Concert "Three Chord Wonder"	10	11 7pm: Adult Education Team	12	13	14 Choir Retreat	15 Choir Retreat 10am: Discovery Club