MAY 2007 CALENDAR

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<th>Sunday</th>
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<td>APRIL 29</td>
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<td>MAY 1</td>
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<td>A Bold Venture: The 10,000 Days Ministry</td>
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<td>6pm: Music &amp; Drama</td>
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<td>A Bold Venture: Pentecost Church Sunday</td>
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<td>4pm: Purple Dragon Dinner</td>
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<td>5:30pm: Little School Graduation</td>
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<td>3:30pm: Children’s Dinner Theatre (Wise &amp; Joy)</td>
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<td>JUNE 1</td>
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<td>9:30am: Orientation to St. Luke’s</td>
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<td>11am: Worship</td>
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### Little School Brings Color to Bible Stories

The parking lot was overflowing on the evening of April 26th for Little School’s “CREATIVE CRITTER” ART SHOW. Little School was magically transformed into a colorful three dimensional art gallery! Walking from room to room you were able to experience Bible Stories such as: the Creation, Jonah & the Whale, Daniel & the Lion, Noah’s Ark and many more through the creative artwork from our Little School children and staff. Thanks to all who worked so hard to put together this amazing display!

### Serving from the Heart

Last month Lynne shared her dream of a walk through the downstairs during Sunday School where she found happy children engaged in meaningful activities and smiling teachers relating and to individual children. Class sizes would be such that the children would feel safe and important and teachers able to easily manage the activities and the children’s needs. Both would leave their time together happy, fulfilled and excited to come back next week. Smaller class sizes would help and more teachers are necessary to reduce class sizes.

I have a dream where adults come together to engage in fellowship, learn, grow and find self fulfillment as they plan for the lessons they will share on Sunday mornings. A dream where rooms are filled with children and their adult mentors not so concerned in getting the craft done but in making a connection that is an example of God’s love. As we approach our service in Sunday School from a more personal perspective, we will find more personal fulfillment rather than just doing a task that needs to be done. A heart for serving our children is the foundation of our Children’s Ministry mission.

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### SLY Spring Break 2007 Mission Trip

Last week our group to Mississippi was an incredible experience. We stayed at St. Paul UMC, and spread to serve 10 different homes on the Gulf Coast during our week. We painted, tore down porches, painted, built handicap access ramps, painted, cleaned up debris, and yes… painted some more! UMCOR estimates the labor that we donated with our group to be over $25,000. One of the most meaningful sites worked on was a home that had flooded 6 feet in the hurricane where the owner was facing foreclosure and had gotten ripped off by several contractors. Our team swarmed to property, tearing things out, bagging trash, and beginning to drywall as well as mud and tape. The windows of this home needed to be removed because they still contained sea water from the flood!

There is still much to be done on the Gulf Coast, but our group was able to see improvements since 9 months ago. Thank you to St. Luke’s for supporting this mission experience, it was truly life changing for the participants from our church and Littleton UMC, as well as for the families that we served.
ON MAKING A BOLD COMMITMENT
Thinking About What It Means to be a Giver
Rev. Janet Forbes
Senior Pastor
As I meditate on the needs of St. Luke’s in our Jubilee Capital Campaign, I remember another Bold Venture by another growing people of faith.
The story begins about 3500 years ago, during a time when the Hebrews were wandering in the desert wilderness under the leadership of Moses. After a period of time, they determined that it would be important to have a place to worship, a holy place, a sanctuary, even though they continued their nomadic lifestyle.
The story tells of the trials of a tabernacle in the desert. The facility was fairly large, but also fully portable. It had a wooden frame and was bedecked with jewels, precious stones, and hangings of linen. Over the wooden frame, a steel roof was draped. Each time the people ceased moving for a few days, they would apparently set up the tabernacle. When they moved on, it was disassembled and packed up for travel. The whole process was perhaps something like the old circus tent which moved from city to city a few generations ago.
Moses needed gifts to build the tabernacle. So a call went out: “Bring your offerings. Bring money or probably precious stones or wood or fine linens. Bring whatever you can give to the building of the temple.”
And the people responded. The call went out, and the offerings started coming in.
Then, the most peculiar thing happened! There is no other known story like it anywhere in scripture. The people bringing their gifts came to Moses with a request. “Tell the people to stop.” We already have much more than enough to do what the Lord wants us to do. We are being inundated with offerings. Ask the people to stop giving.

And I would stand, in turn, before the congregation and say: “Enough! There is enough. We do not have a profit. We do not have an excess. But there is enough to do what God is calling us to do.”

Wouldn’t that be a great day?

So, on Commitment Sunday, Mother’s Day, May 13, an offering is needed. We seek the kind of bountiful that would allow the preacher to stand in her pulpit and say, “Enough!” Our goal is to really do that which God calls us to do as an invitation, relational, and missional congregation.”

But, back to our story in Exodus. What was the key to the success of Moses’ offering for the Tabernacle? How did Moses get to the point of “more than enough”?

I would like to think that the experiences of the Exodus had changed the people. God had freed them from the bondage of slavery. God had led them into the wilderness and given them food and water, and made them a distinctive people in the 10 commandments. I would like to think that their experience of following God, of trusting God, had made them different, more trusting, more generous, willing to put God to the test to prove enough.

Conversations about a bold venture among people of faith are different. They are different in part because you and I, like the Hebrew people of the Exodus, are being made different. We are being re-constructed.
As important as new youth space, and classrooms, and staff support, and care for our home are, giving is not about the receiver or the gift but the giver. It’s for the giver. One doesn’t open one’s wallet to improve oneself. I give because it’s the only way I have of saying that I’m glad to be alive and that I can earn my daily bread doing what I love. Giving is a way of taking the focus off the money we make it, and say: “Enough! There is enough. We do not have a profit.”

Make Your Checks Are Marked For Your Capital Campaign Contributions. Be sure and mark your offering checks if they are not for the general fund. If they are not marked otherwise on the memo line we assume they were intended for the general fund. Your gift is important to us.

Welcome Spring! Join us–Work Day May 12

In here! Old man winter’s loosening his grip, and we’re finally seeing signs of spring! Would you please plan now to join us on May 12 from 8:00am-noon for our Spring Work Day at St. Luke’s? Wear your grubbies, bring your gloves, bring your rakes, brooms and horticulture supplies for our graduation and summer programs. Bring your friends and family—and we’ll see you lots of help!

Statement on Immigration from the Colorado Council of Churches

The Colorado Council of Churches wants comprehensive immigration reform that recognizes the humanity and value of everyone within our borders, whether they are here legally, or not. As Christians, the call to treat one another with hospitality and compassion is primary, especially when someone is a “stranger”:

• The story of the Good Samaritan;
• The question of who is my neighbor (the answer, everyone);
• What you do to the least of these, you do unto me;
• To treat your neighbor as yourself.

All of these scriptures entreat us to be especially kind to those who are different from “us.” The Council must stand on these values of hospitality, inclusion and compassion taught to us by Jesus Christ, especially in the context of the immigration issue as it faces our state and nation.

As we define the United States in regards to our immigration policy and the myriad issues which are connected to it, we need to stay aware of the human ramifications. We are called to practice mercy and treat others with fairness, kindness and true justice. We need to be aware, as Christians, of how the current immigration system has created hatred and dismissed the humanity of our neighbor, and placed an unnecessary burden on those who seek refuge and safety. We need to remember that this issue of racism and structural inequality that the United States is facing is far too complex to be solved by immigration reform alone.

We, the Colorado Council of Churches will advocate for and support legislation and policy that approaches immigration issues with compassion and respect toward all people and sensitivity toward our deepest values. Approved by the member denominations of the Colorado Council of Churches, March 1, 2007:

Announce Director of Worship & Arts
New Sr. Luke’s Member’s Service
You can sign up for your desire to serve at any time. If you are a new member, you are encouraged to sign up for Service Directory. Let other church members know what you do so they might choose services from our membership. Forms available in the Narthex at the “Get Connected” table. Dave Cupp 303-681-8825

Make Hay While the Sun Shines
Now that the sun is shining, make sure you catch up on any offerings you may have missed during the winter weather. Our contributions are off to a pretty good start for 2007. Through March we have received $79,250 of the budgeted amount. In April we are budgeted to receive $101,000 and through April 20 we have received only $70,000. There are still two Sundays left in April so there is plenty of time to make up the short for the month. Please make sure you are current on your giving for the year.

NEW Changes in the Electronic Funds Transfer Program (EFT): We are in the process of expanding our EFT program to include automatic withdrawal from your checking account. This is a simple and easy way to make your contributions using ACH or credit card. EFT is a service made available because we believe that other items to include and exclude. Grocery certificates will not be included due to the low profit margin. However, other fee based programs such as some of the drama events, youth events and mission trips may be included.

When we are up and running, you will be able to enroll as we have been doing in the past either with ACH or credit card when the program you are participating in allows credits or you can do it online by making your contributions using ACH or credit card. EFT is a convenient service designed to make giving easier. We are in the process of expanding our EFT program to include automatic withdrawal from your checking account. This is a simple and easy way to make your contributions using ACH or credit card. EFT is a service made available because we believe that other items to include and exclude. Grocery certificates will not be included due to the low profit margin. However, other fee based programs such as some of the drama events, youth events and mission trips may be included.

If your child received one of the numbered envelopes in Spring Work Day Sunday School during the Hearts For Ministry Campaign, please let me know the number of the envelope and the full name that goes with the number. We’re working hard to make sure we get credit for each of the contributions and will send the children their individual giving statements just like their parents receive. Our problem arises from the fact that many of them only put their first name on the envelopes and we have no record of who the envelopes were given to. Also, sometimes the name on the envelope is not very legible—this is not necessarily an issue. If you can relay the name and numbers on the envelope we can then pass them by referring to the number even if their full name is not on the envelope.

If you are a member of the children’s ministry and have missed a summer training or are not sure what the children’s ministry plans are for this summer, please contact Phyllis Mason at 303-791-0659 x24.

Sam Johnson – Associate Director of Worship & Arts
Jenita Rhodes – Associate Director of Worship & Arts
Lyneen Butler – Associate Director of Worship & Arts
Kristina Lynn – Associate Director of Worship & Arts
Dave Cupp – Director of Finance
Janet Maxwell – Assistant Director of Finance
Barry Carri – Finance
Kay Sustman – Treasurer/Executive Director

All articles, photos and announcements for the June/July issue of The Chronicle are due May 20th.

Editor: Sharon Oliver chronicle@stlukeshr.com

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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)
        ... – STM Ultimate Frisbee 6pm
6/29 – STM Rafting on Clear Creek
7/1   – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 - SLY PM 6:30-8pm

Rev. Les

Way to go 25 Confirmands! Caroline Armijo Jennifer Ballantini Michael Barlow Denise Bartlett Jon Carrell Kyle Curtis Justin Foy Brinton Hutchinson Karen Johnson Kate Johnson Tyler Kordthoff Alex Lasser Jennifer Lukas Holy Marik Alysa Marikband Ashley Martin Caleb Morrow Joshua Pawley Preston Schimmel Emily Soled Madison Smith Trevor Swenson William Douglas Tournier Danae Trouble Cahlen Whittington

7 Adult Family Group Leaders
    Peter Larson
    Jean Liller
    John Eaton
    Rick Evers
    Freda Fackler
    Chris Fickling
    Kyle Bobkowski
    Krista Evers
    Jan Ballard
    Kristi Pawley
    Susan Johnson
    Danielle Trotter
    Holly Markel
    Annie Larsen
    Tyler Kirchhoff
    Katie Johnson
    Kaitlyn Jensen
    Kyle Curtis

2007 Confirmands

Congratulations 2007 Confirmands!

Wii the game...

Christ’s Corner
Relate Boldly
1 John 4:16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love, lives in God, and God in him.

The Bold Venture will truly begin on Mother’s Day, May 13, when our commitments are made and we can look forward to establishing relationships in a new and powerful way as we explore new ministries because of our relieved debt situation and potential new youth space. Relationships; relating to each other is a cornerstone of a healthy life, and this May SLY will celebrate the relationships as well as those relationships that will transition as we graduate up a grade.

You can boldly relate to others by living a life of love. You can live a life of agape, a selfless kind of love that can make your relationships incredibly unconditonal, and fulfilling. We’ll spend time exploring this concept this month at all SLY activities. It’s the kind of love our graduates need as we put them on the back and send them on to the larger world. It’s the kind of love our youth need as they graduate up a grade and make new friends over the summer, the kind of love we need to experience as the result of our Bold Venture together.

So this month, take a little time to focus on those that need to feel some agape from you, relate boldly, and congrats on moving up! I am so ready for summer!

Life is the ultimate game of Rock, Paper, Scissors.

Remember that as we grow and develop we are able to give or receive much love either!

To Francis, asking for help suggests incapacity, incompetence. Francis is convinced of his own strength and is willing to help his sister “just there.” But we often do have a choice to make when it comes to helping others. We must offer what we can when we see the need, whether we are asked or not.

God bless us all! – Rev. Les

D E C I S I O N S

« God has a Plan. We are not! »

“O, don’t worry, I can handle this myself!”

In dealing with their own struggles, but how many times have we said, affirm our need for help. And we can learn from those who were not alone accepting when help comes to us. We must recognize our weakness and this message for all of us:

Number 7 has a message for all of us:

Number 7 lived because he had the power to save the life of another person! Number 7 had unknowingly helped his sister live. Number 7 was different, he had no ears, but he was valuable. He brought love and life to those close to him! And number 7 would always be different. He could not grow new ears, but he could become a normal adult rabbit in all other ways. Number 7 lived because he had the power to save the life of another, his sister.

You’ll be glad to know that Mariah was able to sell Number 7 as breeding stock to someone else who was also raising Netherlander Dwarf rabbits.

The last I heard about him, he lived to a ripe old bunny age of 7. Number 7 has a message for all of us. We don’t have to be perfect to be valuable, to help someone else. We do not have to reach any arbitrary standard of perfection, or correctness or styliness, but we are worthwhile. And we can be very important for another person! Number 7 had unknowingly helped his sister live. Number 6 didn’t expect it, in fact, she didn’t even know. Only Mariah knew.

Some times, as it was with Number 6, our help can come unexpectedly, from unexpected sources. Help for our day-to-day struggles may come from the least expected places, sometimes from right next to us.

However, we’re different from Number 6 and Number 7, we are aware of our need and we understand when that help arrives. We must be open and accepting when help comes to us. We must recognize our weakness and affirm our need for help. And, we should always be alive in dealing with their own struggles. But, how many times have we said, “O, don’t worry, I can handle this myself?”

Let me tell you of a “p purely hypothetical” person...I’ll use a neutral name of “Francis.”

Francis likes to think he can handle life by himself. Francis tends to put forth a confident face and assure all those within hearing that whatever may be causing frustration or pain is feeling of separations can be handled. To Francis, asking for help suggests incapacity, incompetence. Francis is an island, a rock. No one is going to penetrate that barrier to see any weakness or uncertainty. Unfortunately for Francis, no one is going to be able to give or receive much love either!
We are Called to Serve

Invitation to Serve - May 2007

Inviting God Into Your Life

As the Director of Servant Ministry, I invite you to think about how you can help others. Truly, serving on your life to see where you are called to help others to discover and uncover their gifts/passions, I am dedicated in equipping all who seek to serve as Jesus taught.

Jesus made it clear that he expected people to be actively committed. Jesus made it clear that he expected people to be actively

Director of...
St. Luke’s Welcomes New Associate Pastor July 1

by Bill Wright

With great pride, St. Luke’s announces the appointment of Brad Laurvick as associate pastor effective July 1.

“I am delighted that the appointment of Brad Laurvick is the first fruits of our generosity in the Bold Venture Capital Campaign, especially since the campaign is focused on hospitality and future,” says Senior Pastor Janet Forbes. “Brad is energetic, creative, and bold in the ways he lives and shares the Christian journey. He and I have worked together for four years to bring justice to the larger conversations of faith. Pam and I will relish Brad’s partnership in this place of grace!”

Brad, along with his wife, Meghan (pictured above), and dog, Jack, lives in Westminster. A St. Luke’s member since 1995, Brad earned a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies from the University of Colorado, Boulder. He’ll receive his Masters of Divinity degree from Iliff School of Theology June 1.

Brad currently works at Trinity United Methodist as director of adult ministries, and for the last year and a half as the worship leader for Fusion, an urban and casual new worship service. His other activities include, among many things, interim youth director for First United Methodist Church in Longmont, chair of the Rocky Mountain Conference Council on Young Adult Ministry, delegate to the 2004 Rocky Mountain Conference General Conference, and chair of the United Methodist Student Movement Steering Committee.

“I knew I wanted to go into the ministry since eighth grade,” says Brad. “A lot of things influenced my decision, such as my love of the St. Luke’s community and my positive experiences with the youth group and Disciple Bible study. Also, I had an enlightening, life-changing conversation with Leigh Ramsey several years ago. The conversation was instrumental in that it helped me clarify some of my talents and what I wanted to do with them.”

Brad’s passions are preaching, small group, children’s and young adults ministries, creating new worship ministries, Methodist history, pastoral care to marginalized groups, Bible study, music, and exploring new ministries. A remarkable sequence of events—or perhaps even divine coincidence—brings Brad to us.

“Of all the available appointees, the RMC felt that Brad was the best match for St. Luke’s. Brad was aggressively sought by other congregations in the region,” comments Reverend Forbes. “I am grateful for Bishop-Wagner Brown’s discernment of possibility and promise here at St. Luke’s.”

About his impending appointment at St. Luke’s, Brad says, “I am really, truly excited about coming to St. Luke’s. “The Bold Venture Campaign is also a thrilling prospect. The energy and commitment people are making demonstrates how much they care about what we can accomplish in this world!”

Please join us welcoming Associate Pastor Brad Laurvick to St. Luke’s this July! If you would like to contact Brad directly, please feel free to email him at brad@ outlier.com.

Missions Successes: “You’ve Got Mail” & Opera

The February Mission of the Month, “You’ve Got Mail,” was a church-wide project to collect items to send to the soldiers in Iraq. We filled 32 large boxes and 3 smaller boxes. We also had financial donations that allowed us to pay for the postage and care packages for the soldiers. THANK YOU to everyone who participated! You will make the days brighter for a lot of dedicated men and women!

A BIG thank you goes out to all the participants and donors from the recent St. Luke’s Opera Colorado Concert. The amount raised from this event was $4808. There were also funds distributed as follows: $5250 Bold Venture Jubilee Capital Campaign on behalf of the youth, $1500 John Wesley School, Guatemala, capital fund for second story classrooms, $5500 United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) – toward One Great Hour of Sharing offering held in March, $500 Interfaith Community Services (March Mission of the Month), $588 Denver Urban Ministry (April Mission of the Month), $2000 Sharan Jargba and family, $500 United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) – paid as funds are needed as they become available. Other missions proceeds from Music/Drama fundraisers will go into this fund. Thanks to all for being a blessing to others, near and far, in so many ways!

SLY On-Call-O-Gists: Matching Community Need and Youthful Exuberance!

Need your driveway shoveled? Know of a neighbor who needs help raking leaves? Is there a local organization that could use some teen energy to tackle a one-day project? St. Luke’s Youth are embarking on a new mission project to help communities and organizations in need. We are looking for young people to be an On-Call-O-Gist. Individuals will be contacted to assist in St. Luke’s and in the community at large. As a compliment to the Caring Connection we will take on tasks requiring a little more muscle, more dirt-under-the-fingernails, and overflow when the staff is swamped with support requests. Running errands and short-term babysitting fit into this facet, and we are looking for all sorts of tasks to match with our skills and resources.

Our second facet is a more organized effort to support community organizations, and would complement the Missions Project Teams. On alternate Fridays beginning June 8th through August 17th we hope to field a team of youth for more involved tasks. There will be range from serving meals at the Denver Rescue Mission, to working an afternoon through Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado or REL to sorting and packing food at the Food Bank of the Rockies. We would also like to reach out with “single-day mission trips” to smaller Methodist churches with needs they cannot support.

Our mission requires coordination with you, our congregation. We need to know of opportunities we reserve, we need to coordinate with existing Mission teams, and we will need adult support for various single-event tasks. June is our planned start time, so please consider our request. If you or your group(s) would like to serve the community, please contact us to find out how you can get involved.

Servant Spotlight: Wally Sackett

by Michelle Ellis

Wally Sackett, a University of Texas at Austin alumni, has been looking for in recent years.

In 2005 Wally retired from a lifelong career in banking and financial consulting and began pursuing some of his passions in life which include volunteering at St. Luke’s, bicycling, motorcycling, spending time with his family (he has two daughters, Michelle and Angela) and taking care of his grandsons and grand-dogs. Wally took some time to talk to us about his volunteer work for St. Luke’s.

Which groups are you involved with at St. Luke’s? I just recently became one of three people leading the Spiritual Emphasis Task Force, which is a part of the A Bold Venture: Our Silver Jubilee Capital Campaign. In this capacity, I work with Mike Hutchinson and Bob West to ensure that we make our Capital Campaign decisions with the proper spiritual perspective. As a part of this, we are working to provide each family and individual at St. Luke’s an opportunity to enhance the campaign by focusing on the call of the Holy Spirit. In April we hosted a Prayer Vigil, the Capital Campaign Kick-off Prayer Breakfast and a Prayer Walk. More activities will be planned in upcoming weeks.

I became a Stephen Minister in January. I was drawn to this ministry because I wanted to reach out to others in their time of need. We have a wonderful program at St. Luke’s and are blessed with great leadership. The training, continuing education and peer supervision make this a vital program that is reaching out to many people in our congregation.

I am the leader of the Visitation Committee. We visit people who have attended two or more services at St. Luke’s. People have reacted very positively to our personal visits to their home and the welcome note we give them. I find this very rewarding since we have helped encourage many people to join the church.

In addition, I am involved with the Caring Connection Group. I have taken people to doctor appointments, delivered flowers for Valentine’s Day and have brought meals to families who have a loved one returning home from the hospital.

Why do you volunteer at St. Luke’s? I have found St. Luke’s to be a very loving and caring congregation. We have many wonderful programs for all age groups including our youth program, little school, music ministry, mission work and Stephen Ministry, just to name a few. This is a very active church that is growing and reaching out to those in our community. I like being a part of this excitement.

What do you think is the importance of being a servant? I wish more people could be recognized for their service, but I believe our little church has Ken and me to thank for bringing the word to the world.

Mission Team Family Update: Our first Liberian family the Jargbas (Sharon and the 4 children), are living in Philadelphia and doing well. Sharon works as a nurse at home, has obtained her green card and enjoys being in a large Liberian community. The children: Comfort 15, Roland 13, Darlington 9, and little Grace 4, are doing well in school and seem to have adjusted nicely to PA. They are very happy to have found a church home at St. Luke’s. The Mission Team recently sent them a “Love offering” to help with clothing for the children. For more info, contact Jan Rufien as she talks to them often.

VBS – Lift Off: Soaring to New Heights!

Join us as children become sky scouts and soar into a new relationship with God. Child will experience a panoramic view of God’s love, discover “Power Prayer” Bible verses to fuel their journey, rally with Jesus, who is their friend and fountain of energy to tackle a one-day project? St. Luke’s Youth are embarking on a one-day project? St. Luke’s Youth are embarking on a
CALENDAR

Fri. May 4  Children’s Dinner Theater Dinner 5:30pm, Show:7-9pm
Mon. May 7 Adult VBS Study 9:30-11:00am

Sun. May 6 – Sun. May 13wwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwww...
CALENDAR
Fri. May 4 Children’s Dinner Theater Dinner: 5:30 pm, show: 7:00 pm
Sun. May 6 Sly Jr., 5th & 6th Grade Fellowship 6:00-8:00 pm
Tues. May 8 Children’s Ministry Team Meeting 7:00-8:00 pm
Sat. May 12 Summer Sunday School Workshop 8:30-11:00 am
Wed. May 16 Adult VBS Study Begins 9:30-11:00 am (5 weeks)
Sat. May 19 Rosemary Club: Retreat Program for Special Needs Children and their families
Wed. May 23 Adult VBS Study 9:30-11:00 am
Sun. May 27 Memorial Day — No Sunday School Only NurseryUTTONS to 2’s
Sun. June 3 Memorial Day — No Sunday School Only NurseryUTTONS to 2’s
Wed. May 30 Adult VBS Study 9:30-11:00 am
Sun. June 13 Memorial Day — No Sunday School Only NurseryUTTONS to 2’s
Wed. June 16 Adult VBS Study 9:30-11:00 am
Sun. June 10 Summer Sunday School Starts
Wed. June 13 Wacky Wednesday (1st & 3rd of June & 25 July – Aug 1)
Adult VBS Study 9:30-11:00 am
Wed. June 20 Wacky Wednesday (2nd)
Adult VBS Study 9:30-11:00 am (Ends)
June 23-29 Vacation Bible School

Children’s Ministries

May Makes Memories

By Kay Swanson, Director
May is a time of rejoicing and tears. Our 2007 graduates “Step Forward” in their lives, some on to public and private schools or our very important Explorer’s program. We have seen them grow in stature, maturity and self-reliance. We have guided them to make choices with numbers, letters, writing, reading and most importantly PLAY. They have made great friends and the parents have formed friendships. We feel confident that we have done an excellent job preparing them for their future educational years.

Our graduation ceremonies with be on May 22 and May 23 at 9:30 AM. To complete year of “PUTTING OUR FEET FORWARD”, our graduates will “Step Out” into the big wonderful world! Our thrills will progress to our fours and a whole new group a starry-eyed, dry children will begin their first year at Little School in the fall.

Thank you to the Little School Board for their support and guidance this year. Their expertise has been invaluable! Thanks to Sandi Thompson, Candy Barlow, Sandi Miyaki, Randy Dunn, Elizabeth Baro, Tami Clement, Carol Camarillo, Maria Fox, Carole Sue Woodrich and of course our fearless leader, Jenita Rhodes!

May all children be safe and secure in God’s arms as they venture through life to 2008. May all children be safe and secure in God’s arms as they venture through life to 2008. Thank you for another YEAR OF SUPPORT AND PRAYERS!

This service is for all ages and is open to the public. For more information contact Jenita Rhodes at 303-791-2126 or email at mclarke@att.net.

Sly, Jr. – 5th and 6th Grade Fellowship

We will continue our around the world tour of St. Luke’s mission projects in Zimbabwe on Sunday, May 6 from 6:00 until 8:00pm. Laurie Gilbert is bringing several traditional and dalles for us to try. (We will have “real food” also.) She and Tapiwa Macherera (our former missionary in Zimbabwe) are supporting the Hope Orphanage at Nzapfu Mission for over six years and is hoping to visit again in the near future. We will also be tie dyeing clothes with natural dyes as they do in Africa.

Then on June 3rd we will celebrate our year with a Pet Luick Barbeque beginning at 6:00 and ending at 8:00. We will welcome all our 4th graders and honor our graduating 5th graders! Hamburgers, hotdogs and drinks will be provided.

Families with their last name starting in: A – M are asked to bring a side to feed 10 hungry tweens and adults.
N – Z should bring a dessert to feed 25 (Just kidding – I like dessert!) RSVP’s are necessary! (That means tell me you are coming and how many you are bringing so I don’t have to send Jon Takayama to Safetyway again this year!) Bring lawn chairs or blankets. We will have yard games for all ages.

May 12 and 15 - Summer Sunday School Workshops June and July will be focusing on a 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 from 9:00-11:00 or Thursday, May 15 from 7:00-9:00. Please call Jenita Rhodes at the church office as soon-as-possible to get involved!

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

Promotion Sunday will be June 3rd. All Children’s Sunday School classes, 2yr 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.

May 25-29 Vacation Bible School

Children’s Ministries

Wacky Wednesdays

Children ages 3 (by Sept. 15, 2007) through 3rd grade are invited to join in the fun for six Wednesday mornings beginning in June. This year we will learn about the Parables of Jesus through music, crafts, games, stories and chapel time. The times each day are 9:30-noon and the cost is $15.00 per child for each day. Our Wacky Wednesday will be June 13, June 20, July 11, 18, 25 and August 1. Sign your children up for all six days or only one. Families do not have to be attending St. Luke’s to enroll. Registration forms are available in the church or the Little School offices. The registration deadline is Sunday, May 20th. If you have any questions, please contact Tami Clement at 303-791-2126 or email at mclarke@att.net.

Nursery News

Dear Mom and Dad, I wanted to thank you for taking me to St. Luke’s Nursery. It’s the most magical place on earth! Oh wait, that’s Disney Land. But the nursery comes very close. I see color, read books, build towers taller than me and race cars faster than that Petty guy dad talks about. And that’s only the first 5 minutes. Do you remember that day I was a little sad and they put my very own family number on the screen in church. Wow, they are magic. All you had to do was fill out that registration form and they did the rest. They even said that you could come visit any time you want. But don’t worry if you aren’t inside when you come, they said we can go outside when the weather is nice. So please don’t limit me in the outdoors and I know that our backyard would be the littleest they were little. I would have to get it dirty, and that sand is hard to resist. They also said that I can bring a hat and sunglasses too. Could you put some of that sunscreen on me too? And don’t worry Mom and Dad, I will eat my veggies! I mean, I filled out my very own family number and I will learn all my letters and numbers, lectures, writing, reading and most importantly PLAY. They have made great friends and the parents have formed friendships. We feel very confident that we have done an excellent job preparing them for their future educational years.

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What a gift we have in having so many children! Too many teachers would be a blessing, too.

We need people who can lead a lesson, sing a song and assemble a craft. We also need people to build a tower, listen to a child’s story, pose a question, encourage a creative thought or just be a friend. Servicing our children is not hard. The hard thing is slowing ourselves down enough to make the time to let these little sparks into our hearts. That is what “teaching” in Sunday School is all about. Smaller class sizes? Yes! An hour together that leaves a glow that lasts all week! Priceless!

You don’t need to know the answers. Being a part of a Sunday School is a great way to learn more about the Bible. Did you know that our curriculum Exploring Faith is designed to go through the Bible once every three years? Is your faith important to you? Do you remember a favorite mentor in you spiritual life? How can you pass this on to the children at St. Luke’s?

As we begin to look forward to planning of our next season of Sunday School we are wondering, also, how you are going to minister to the children of St. Luke’s. Is it in one of the classrooms or over the chair in the Sanctuary as a little one peaks back at you?

Some suggestions on ways to serve:

Summer Sunday School – We will be on an “Incredible Race” this summer in both preschool and elementary this summer. Our curriculum of ten turbo-charged lessons will lead us from Moses by the Red Sea through Jonah to Bethlehem and Damascus. The themes will include courage, obedience, forgiveness and faith. We already have planning groups working on lesson enhancers, decorations and crafts. Many of our adults are already scheduled but more help is needed, especially in music and preparation. Please consider getting involved for a few weeks this summer.

11:00 Sunday School Team beginning in September – I am looking for all new curriculum and team for our children in our 11:00 Sunday School this year. I’d like to see it as a high energy, praise worship format with a lesson we can all apply to our lives. There are some great curriculums out there. Come and be on the ground floor of building this exciting new program.

9:30 Sunday School Team – For each class in Joy Trek, ages 2 years through Kindergarten, we have two or three adults each Sunday. One person from the Teaching Team for each class plans and leads the lesson. The assistants are scheduled to help several times during the year.

For PEAK Adventures, our elementary Workshop Rotation we have Workshop Teams for Art, Computers, Storytelling, Games, Science, Cooking and Cinema. These teams meet to plan and develop a schedule for leading the workshop. A member from the Guide Team for each grade level, 1st through 6th, will set up and clean up the attendance sheets and name tags as well as assisting the workshop leader each Sunday.

Each team is designed to provide greater input in planning, reduce the amount of prep time needed and support each other in providing subs when necessary. The more individuals we have on each of our teams, the fewer total number of times each will be asked to serve during the year.

Next month we will talk about the many other opportunities available to each and everyone of you to connect with a young person in our congregation. Stay tuned!

Contact Jenita Rhodes for more information or to sign up Jenita@stlukshr.com or 327.

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St. Luke’s Welcomes New Associate Pastor July 1
by Jill Wright
With great pride, St. Luke’s announces the appointment of Brad Laurvick as associate pastor effective July 1, 2007.

“I am delighted that the appointment of Brad Laurvick is the first fruits of our generosity in the Bold Venture Capital Campaign, especially since the campaign is focused on hospitality and future,” says Senior Pastor Janet Forbes. “Brad is energetic, creative, and bold in the ways he lives and shares the Christian journey. He and I have worked together for four years to bring justice to the larger conversations of faith. Pam and I will relish Brad’s partnership in this work of grace!”

Brad, along with his wife, Meghan (pictured above), and dog, Jack, lives in Westminster. A St. Luke’s member since 1995, Brad earned a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies from the University of Colorado, Boulder. He’ll receive his Masters of Divinity degree from Iliff School of Theology June 1.

Brad currently works at Trinity United Methodist as director of adult ministries, and for the last year and a half as the worship leader for Fusion, an upbeat and casual new worship service. His other activities include, among many things, interim youth director for First United Methodist Church in Longmont, chair of the Rocky Mountain Conference Council on Young Adult Ministry, delegate to the 2004 Rocky Mountain Conference General Conference, and chair of the United Methodist Student Movement Steering Committee.

“I knew I wanted to go into the ministry since eighth grade,” says Brad. “A lot of things influenced my decision, such as my love of the St. Luke’s community and my positive experiences with the youth group and Disciple Bible study. Also, I had a enlightening, life-changing conversation with Leigh Ramsey several years ago. The conversation was instrumental in that it helped me clarify some of my talents and what I want to do with them.”

Brad’s passions are preaching, small group, children’s and young adults ministries, creating new worship ministries, Methodist history, pastoral care to marginalized groups, Bible study, music, and exploring new ministries.

A remarkable sequence of events—or perhaps even divine coincidence—brings Brad to us. The placement of United Methodist ministries is somewhat unique process. When a minister or student approaches graduation, he or she becomes “available for appointment” by the local United Methodist Conference— in this case, the UMC’s Rocky Mountain Conference (RMC). The conference bishop and cabinet then review the talents, strengths and interests of available appointees and match them to churches that have compatible needs.

Of all the available appointees, the RMC felt that Brad was the best match for St. Luke’s. “Brad was aggressively sought by other congregations in the region,” comments Reverend Forbes. “I am grateful for Bishop-Wagner Brown’s discernment of possibility and promise here at St. Luke’s.”

About his impending appointment at St. Luke’s, Brad says, “I am really, really excited about coming to St. Luke’s. “The Bold Venture Campaign is also a thrilling prospect. The energy and commitment people are making demonstrates how we can change the world!”

Please join us welcoming Associate Pastor Brad Laurvick to St. Luke’s this July! If you would like to contact Brad directly, please feel free to email him at bradOutlook.com.

Missions Successes: “You’ve Got Mail” & Opera
The February Mission of the Month, “You’ve Got Mail,” was a churchwide project to collect items to send to the soldiers in Iraq. We filled 23 large boxes and 3 smaller boxes! We also had financial donations that allowed us to pay for the postage necessary to mail the items to the soldiers. THANK YOU to everyone who participated! You will make the days brighter for a lot of dedicated men and women.

A BIG thank you goes out to all the participants and donors from the recent St. Luke’s Opera Colorado Concert. The amount raised from this event was $4808. The funds were distributed as follows: $2500 to Bold Venture Jubilee Capital Campaign on behalf of the youth, $1500–John Wesley School, Guatemala, capital fund for second story classrooms. $550-United Methodist Women’s Committee on Relief (UMCOR) – toward One Great Hour of Sharing offered in March, $500–Interfaith Community Services (March Mission of the Month), $588–Denver Urban Ministries (April Mission of the Month), $200–Sharon Jargba and family, $580–Denver Urban Ministries fund and any money from our Missions proceeds from Music/Drama fundraisers will go into this fund.

Thanks to all for being a blessing to others, near and far, in so many ways!

SLY On-Call-O-Gists: Matching Community Need and Youthful Exuberance!
Need your driveway shoveled? Know of a neighbor who needs help raking leaves? Is there a local organization that could use some teen energy to tackle a one-day project? St. Luke’s Youth are embarking on a new teen ministry project to help those in need on an ongoing basis.

We will be an integrated part of St. Luke’s support to our local community, joining the Caring Connection and Missions Project Teams. Though we are still in the planning stage we have established two facets to our project. The first, as our name implies, is to be “on-call” for specific short-term projects in St. Luke’s and in the community at large. As a complement to the Caring Connection we will take on tasks requiring a little more muscle, more dirt-under-the-fingernails, and overflow when the staff is swamped with support requests. Running errands and short-term babysitting fit into this facet, and we are looking for all sorts of tasks to match with our skills and resources.

Our second facet is a more organized effort to support community organizations and would complement the Missions Project Teams. On alternate Fridays beginning June 8th through August 17th we hope to field a team of youth for more involved tasks. There will be no charge for any of the programs at the Denver Rescue Mission, to working an activity for young men at Westminster, to serving and packing food at the Food Bank of the Rockies. We would also like to reach out with “single-day mission trips” to smaller Methodist churches with needs they cannot support.

Our mission requires coordination with you, our congregation. We need to know of opportunities to serve, we need to coordinate with existing Mission teams, and we will need adult support for various single-event tasks. June is our planned start time, so please consider our project and let us know if we first have a need at your organization.

To register, please contact Lynda Fickling or one of the pastors for more information.

VBS – Lift Off: Soaring to New Heights!
Join us as children become sky scouts and soar into a new relationship with God. Child approach will experience a panromantic view of God’s love, discover “Power Prayer” Bible verses to fuel their journey, rally with Jesus, who is their friend and attendant programs for children and parent dogs.

Bible School is open to children turning 3 by September 15, 2007 through going into 5th grade.

Lift Off: Soaring to New Heights with God will be held at St. Luke’s
June 25-29 from 9:00am until noon

Lunch is available on a daily basis for all who volunteered on that day and their children. A potluck lunch is held on Friday.

Registration is $25 per child or $51 per child for those who volunteer all five days or are a team lead. Free childcare is provided by our paid and trained childcare staff to parents on the days they volunteer. To register, please complete the VBS forms in the church office before returning them. Please complete forms for each child attending VBS. We will need a parental consent form for each child attending childcare. Forms are due by May 31st, 2007 or when our classes are full. At St. Luke’s, we strive to offer the best experience possible for children and parent volunteers.

Since our class sizes at an appropriate number. Because of the pre-planning necessary for our program, we will not be able to accept registrations after June 10. Contact Lynne Bailey at 303-791-0059 x11 or lynne@Outlook.com.

Mission Team Family Update: Our First Liberal family the Jargbas
(Sharon and the 4 children), are living in Philadelphia and doing well. Sharon works at a nursing home, has obtained her green card and enjoys being in a large liberal community. The children: Comfort 15, Roland 13, Darlington 9, and Little Grace 6, are doing well in school and seem to have adjusted to us, PA. They love the warmth and attitude of St. Luke’s. The Mission Team recently sent them a “Love Offering” to help with clothing for the children. For more info, contact Jan Rufian as she talks to them often.
We are Called to Serve
Invitation to Serve - May 2007

Serving God into Your Life
As the Director of Servant Ministry, I invite you to思考 your life on your life to see where you are
inviting God. As a Christian, I understand
giving time to serving in ministry is not an
option and something Jesus calls us to do. He
called his followers to make life changes and
commitments. Jesus made it clear that he expected people to be actively
serving and seeking him. 

Jesus made it clear that he expected people to be actively serving and seeking him.

Here are a few ways to invite God into your life:

• Pray – try sitting still for at least 20 minutes a day. Try not to think about anything (easier said than done!) and listen to your breathing. Listen for God...Psalm 46:10

• Serving Others – How much time are you willing to give to change your life and others? We have many opportunities to guide you... classes, special projects, missions, etc. Be willing to go outside your comfort zone and take a risk. God can’t steer a ship that isn’t moving!

To help you on your journey – contact me and we will sit down to converse your personal spiritual gifts that God has given especially for you! We are the body of Christ, each member is just as important as the other. Discover and uncover your gifts.

Ephesians 4:11-13

Welcome Team: We will be having many First Time Guests (!) joining us through the summer months. This vital team is a friendly extension of our hospitality staff. This team is responsible for dropping a “welcome gift” off at their home after they have visited St. Luke’s 2-4 times. Spiritual Gifts: Hospitality

Contact: Wally Sackett 303-799-4303 wosackett@stlukesnet.com

Greetings: An open invitation for warm, hospitable persons to be on our "staff" for Greeting. This is especially spiritual for those who feel they have not been invited during the summer months and special events. Spiritual Gifts: Helps, Hospitality

Contact: Val Goodstein 303-799-6907 vgoodstein@hotmail.com or Karmen Hillicy harrington@stlukesnet.com or 303-688-6096

Ushers: We are offering you to serve as part of the worship team, to help on Sunday mornings and special events. Our job is to assist in making everyone feel at home during and after the services. We typically serve three months out of the year (e.g. January and September). Also we would welcome those who would like to substitute as needed. Spiritual Gifts: Hospitality, Helps

Contact: Shaun Slade 303-660-6113 dorevoldslade@msn.com or Dick Frame 303-951-4251 rfme@stlukeshr.com

If you feel led to help others Discover & Uncover their gifts/passions, please contact Lynda Fickling at dlufickling@stlukeshr.com or 303-791-0659 x20. Realize your potential for living a God-centered life!

For more on servanthood, “Servant by Design” an 8 week course, is offered through out the year. Contact Lynda for more information.

Guide Book & Directory Opportunity!

It is that time again for our Annual Guide Book and Directory for our congregation and friends who will be updated and delivered to your home early September. This book will help you know about your church and the Why and How of our church. A non-pictorial directory of our members and friends of St. Luke’s, along with our ministry teams and HOPEFULLY, plenty of our own businesses! If you own or manage a business or would like to suggest a business to be included, don’t miss this fantastic opportunity to make your business known to our church family. These businesses should be local. “Guide Book” will be sending a representative to our church in mid-June to place phone calls to all of the interested parties. They will be the first to be called. We need you to send this potential list to them by May 20th. We need the name of the business, Owner/Manager – are they members or not, address/phone. Please contact Lynda Fickling x20 or dlufickling@stlukeshr.com or you may sign up at the “Get Connected” table in the Narthex on Sundays through May 20th to be a part of this year’s successful Guidebook.

Read a good book lately?!
Don’t forget to check out our Library for Adults located in the office!
Or our Children’s library downstairs in the Education area.
Summer is a great time to enjoy a new book or two! Stop by for a visit M-F 8:00am-4:30pm or Sunday Morning!

Update Database Information!

Does our church database have YOUR family information correct? Here is your chance to update your record in our Annual Guide Book & Directory. If you do not have already informed the church about changes to your record, please let Lynda know now so that the information in the Guide Book & Directory is correct. Thanks! Lynda@stlukeshr.com or x20

Music Ministry Auditions and Dates: Coming this fall SHOW DATES: Oct. 26, 27 & 28 is the Wedley Players production of Man Music. Audition dates are:

• Saturday, April 28 at noon

• 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 maximum audition material. Anyone or non-people will audition on either Wednesday, Thursday, or Sunday, for either Six Trombones which will be taught at the audition. Chorus or tour-town 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. For more information or questions about auditions, please contact James Ramsey at 303-791-0659 x23.
May 2007
5/2 – SLAM 6:30-8:30pm
5/6 – Jr. & Sr. High SLAM 9:30am
- Bible Boot 9:30am (9-12 Grades)
- STM Ultimate Frisbee 6pm
5/9 – SLAM 6:30-8:30pm
5/16 – SLAM 6:30-8:30pm
- No SLY AM or PM Activities

June 2007
6/2 – Jr. & Sr. High SLAM 9:30am
- Bible Boot 9:30am (9-12 Grades)
- STM Rafting on Clear Creek
6/3 – Jr. & Sr. High SLAM 9:30am
6/6 – GEMS Day trip to Breckenridge
6/7-24 – No SLY AM or PM Activities
6/17-24 – SLY PM 6:30-8pm
6/17 – Jr. & Sr. High SLAM 9:30am
6/19 – Jr. High to Wyoming from July 14-20
6/20 – Jr. High 5/16-6/19
- No SLY PM
6/22 – Jr. High to Wyoming from July 14-20
6/24 – Jr. & Sr. High SLAM 9:30am
6/29 – STM Rafting on Clear Creek

7/1 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
- SLY PM 6:30-8pm

7/14 – June 2007 Calendar coming in the mail soon!
7/21 – Sign up for Beading & Bible Study, Hikes, Spa-stations.
7/28 – Sign up for rock climbing, rafting and more.

CHRIS’S CORNER
Relate Boldly
1 John 4:16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love, lives in God, and God in him. The Bold Venture will truly begin on Mother’s Day, May 13, when our commitments are made and we can look forward to establishing relationships in a new and powerful way as we explore new ministries because of our relieved debt situation and potential new youth space. Relationships; relating to each other is cornerstone of a healthy life, and this May SLY will celebrate the relationships we have as well as those relationships that will transition as we graduate up a grade.

You can boldly relate to others by giving a life of love. You can live a life of agape, a selfless kind of love that can make your relationships incredibly unconditonal, and fulfilling. We’ll spend time exploring this concept this month at all SLY activities. It’s the kind of love our graduates need as we put them on the back and send them on to the larger world. It’s kind of love our youth need as they graduate up a grade and make new friends over the summer, the kind of love we need as we experience the result of our Bold Venture together.

So this month, take a little time to focus on those that need to feel some agape from you, relate boldly, and congrats on moving up! I am so ready for summer!

T H E S P I R I T O F S T. L U K E ’ S

S L Y : S T . L U K E ’ S Y O U T H

DO N’ T M I S S !

Welcome Rev. Marla! She can be reached at 303-791-0659 x44 or marla©stlukeshr.com.

Rev. Marla Kauzer Consultant in Ministry Development
Rev. Janet and the Staff Parish Relations Committee are pleased to welcome Rev. Marla Kauzer as Consultant in Ministry Development. With thanksgiving for a grant from the St. Luke’s Gift Fund, SPRC has asked Rev. Marla to support the Adult Education Committee as they get ready for the fall 2007 classes. She will also be working with the clergy and congregational care teams to establish ministries for support in life transitions: marriage and relationships, divorce adjustments, and parenting. She will also be joining our Ministry Development as the Executive Board seeks to adjust our governance structure and enhance communications, leadership growth and small group formation. She will be with us working with us through the fall as we get ready to transition these responsibilities to a new associate pastor.

Rev. Marla is an ordained deacon in the Rocky Mountain Conference of The United Methodist Church and has served St. Andrew, Christ (Denver), Hope, and the Colorado Council of Churches. Welcome Rev. Marla! She can be reached at 303-791-0659 x44 or marla©stlukeshr.com.
As I meditate on the needs of the St. Luke’s in our Jubilee Capital Campaign, I remember another Bold Venture by another growing people of faith:

The story begins about 3800 years ago, during a time when the Hebrews were wandering in the desert wilderness under the leadership of Moses. After a period of time, they determined that it would be important to have a place to worship, a holy place, a sanctuary, even though they continued their nomadic lifestyle. The story tells of the distillation of a tabernacle in the desert. The facility was fairly large, but also fully portable. It had a wooden frame and was bedecked with jewels, precious stones, and hangings of linens. Over the wooden frame, a still-erected tent was draped. Each time the people ceased moving for a few days, they would apparently set up the tabernacle. When they moved on, it was disassembled and packed up for travel. The whole process was perhaps something like the old circus tent that moved from city to city a few generations ago.

Moses needed gifts to build the tabernacle. So a call went out: “Bring your offerings. Bring money or jewelry or precious stones or wood; bring whatever you can to give to the building of the temple.”

And the people responded. The call went out, and the offerings started coming in.

Then, the most peculiar thing happened: There is no other known story like it anywhere in scripture. The people came to Moses with a request. “Tell the people to stop. We already have much more than enough to do what the Lord wants us to do. We are being undistributed with offerings. Ask the people to stop bringing them.”

So Moses went out among the people and said, “It is enough. Nothing more!”

And the story ends with these words: “So the people were restrained from bringing; for what they had already brought was more than enough to do all the work.” (67:6-7)

Marvelous! Simply marvelous!

Some day, I would like to preach that sermon. Some day, before I finish my journey as a pastor, I would like to hear a knock at the door from our Finance Director, Dave Fornof, who would say to me, “Rev. Janet, tell the people to stop. We already have more than enough to do what the Lord wants us to do.”

And I would stand, in turn, before the congregation and say: “Enough! There is enough. We do not have a profit. We do not have an excess. But there is enough to do what God is calling us to do.”

Wouldn’t that be a great day?

So, on Commitment Sunday, Mother’s Day, May 13, an offering is needed. We seek the kind of bountiness that would allow the preacher to stand in her pulpit and say: “Enough is sufficient. We are now in a position to really do what God calls us to do as an inspirational, relational, and missional congregation.”

But, back to our story in Exodus. What was the key to the success of Moses’ offering for the tabernacle? How did they know when they were at the point of “more than enough”?

I would like to think that the experiences of the Exodus had changed the people. God had freed them from the bondage of slavery. God had led them into the wilderness and given them food and water, and made them a distinctive people in the 10 commandments. I would like to think that their experience of following God, of trusting God, had made them different, more trustful, more generous, willing to put God to the test to provide enough.

Conversations about a bold venture among people of faith are different. They are different in part because you and I, and the Hebrews of the Exodus, are being made different. We are being re-constructed.

As important as new youth space, and classrooms, and staff support, and care for our home are, giving is not about the receiver or the gift but the giver. It is for the giver. One doesn’t open one’s wallet to improve one’s image, to get a sense of status, to feel that one is doing the right thing. Giving is a way of taking the focus off the money we make and putting it back where it belongs — on the love we lead, the families we raise, the community that nurtures us.

Someone once told me, “If you want to do something that will shape your life and the lives of thousands of people for the next fifty to one hundred years, help build a church.”

I think we’ll find in that end the way that we got far more than we ever had, and did more than we ever dreamed.

Thanks be to God.

New St. Luke’s Member’s Service

We’ll pick up your business card at the door and service directory. Let other church members know what you do so they might choose services from our membership. Forms available in the narthex at the “Get Connected” table. Dave Fornof 303-681-8825

Make Hay While the Sun Shines

Now that the sun is shining, make sure you catch up on any offerings you may have missed during the winter weather. Our contributions are off to a pretty good start for 2007. Through May 13 we have received most of the budgeted amount. In April we are budgeted to receive $101,000 and through April 20 we have received only $70,000. There are still two Sundays left in April to catch up, so we have a month of work ahead.

NEW Changes in the Electronic Funds Transfer Program (EFT):
We are in the process of expanding our EFT program to include automatic transfers of funds from checking or savings accounts. If you have not filled out the form details and procedures to work out before the program is available for use. You will at least be able to make your contributions to the general fund and the capital campaign with your EFT. Funded by your bank, either from direct deposit or from your account when the program you are participating in allows credit cards or other fee-based services such as donations, then you can go online and make your contribution to St. Luke’s!!!

Watch for an announcement when the program becomes active.

New Year’s Resolutions

If your child received one of the numbered envelopes in the Hearts For Ministry Campaign, please let me know the number on the envelope and the full name that goes with the number. We’re working hard to make sure we get credit for each of the contributions and will send the children their individual giving statements just like their parents receive.

Our problem arises from the fact that many of them only put their first name on the envelopes and we have no record of the envelopes that were given to. Also, sometimes the name on the envelope is not very legible–this is not necessarily an age thing. If you can return the name and numbers on envelopes you can pass them by referring to the number even if their full name is not on the envelope.

Email information to me at dave@stlukeshr.com or call me at 303.791.0529 x 24.

Welcome Spring! Join us—Work Day May 12

In here! Old man winter’s loosening his grip, and we’re finally seeing signs of spring! Would you please plan now to join us on May 12 from 8:00am for our Spring Work Day at St. Luke’s. Wear your sandals, bring your gloves, your rakes, brooms and sunscreen and come help for our graduation and summer programs. Bring your friends and family—and we’re ready to use lots of help!

Statement on Immigration from the Colorado Council of Churches

The Colorado Council of Churches wants comprehensive immigration reform that recognizes the human dignity and value of everyone within our borders, whether they are here legally or not. As Christians, the call to treat one another with hospitality and compassion is primary, especially when someone is a “stranger”;

• The story of the Good Samaritan;
• The question of who is my neighbor (the answer, everyone);
• What you do to the least of these, you do unto me;
• To treat your neighbor as yourself.

All of these scriptures entreat us to be especially kind to those who are different from “us.” The Council must stand on these values of hospitality, inclusion and compassion taught to us by Jesus Christ, especially in the context of the immigration issue as it faces our state and nation.

As we define the United States in regards to our immigration policy and the myriad issues which are connected to it, we need to stay aware of the human ramifications. We are called to practice mercy and treat others with fairness, kindness and true justice. We are called to learn, as a country, the lessons of history and to avoid repeating the mistakes of our forebears. We are called to avoid making the same mistakes that led to the rejection of Native American people. As we struggle with the hardships and economic issues that affect everyone–employers, employees, children, schools, hospitals, public services, law enforcement—we must remember that as a nation and a people we are no better than how we treat the stranger amongst us.

We, the Colorado Council of Churches will advocate for and support legislation and policy that approaches immigration issues with compassion and respect toward all people and sensitivity toward our deepest values.

Approved by the member denominations of the Colorado Council of Churches, March 1, 2007.

African Methodist Episcopal • American Baptist Churches

Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ) • Christian Methodist Episcopal Church of the Brethren • The Episcopal Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America • National Baptist Convention USA

Pentecostal Church (USA) • United Church of Christ • United Methodist Church

Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches

Pamphlet from Rev. Janet: I serve as a member-at-large on the Colorado Council of Churches. Our work is mostly educational and relational. When the Council makes a statement on an issue in our political life, the judiciary executives must also participate, which is not the case in the United Methodist Church is Bishop Warner H. Brown, Jr.

Support the Colorado Council of Churches
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- Servant Spotlight
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**Making a World of Difference in Mississippi**

SLY Spring Break 2007 Mission Trip

by Chris Wiltsend

1 week, 2 churches, 43 participants, and a world of difference! Our first-ever spring break mission trip to Ocean Springs, MS was an incredible experience. We stayed at St. Paul UMC, and spread to serve 10 different homes on the Gulf Coast during our week. We painted, tore down porches, painted, built handicap access ramps, painted, cleaned up debris, and yes... painted some more! UMCOR estimates the labor that we donated with our group to be over $25,000!

One of the most meaningful sites worked on was a home that had flooded 6 feet in the hurricane where the owner was facing foreclosure and had gotten ripped off by several contractors. Our team swarmed to property, tearing things out, bagging trash, and beginning to drywall as well as mud and tape. The windows of this home needed to be removed because they still contained sea water from the flood!

There is still much to be done on the Gulf Coast, but our group was able to see improvements since 9 months ago. Thank you to St. Luke’s for supporting this mission experience, it was truly life changing for the participants from our church and Littleton UMC, as well as for the families that we served.

**Serving from the Heart**

by Jenita Rhodes

Last month Lynne shared her dream of a walk through the downstairs during Sunday School where she found happy children engaged in meaningful activities and smiling teachers relaxed and relating to individual children. Class sizes would be such that the children would feel safe and important and teachers able to easily manage the activities and the children’s needs. Both would leave their time together happy, fulfilled and excited to come back next week. Smaller class sizes would help and more teachers are necessary to reduce class sizes.

I have a dream where adults come together to engage in fellowship, learn, grow and find self fulfillment as they plan for the lessons they will share on Sunday mornings. A dream where rooms are filled with children and their adult mentors not so concerned in getting the craft done but in making a connection that is an example of God’s love. As we approach our service in Sunday School from a more personal perspective, we will find more personal fulfillment rather than just doing a task that needs to be done. A heart for serving our children is the foundation of our Children’s Ministry.