



Highlands Ranch, Colorado

# The CHRONICLE

November 2007

ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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and much more!

## Candlelight Dinner Tuesday Dec. 4!



The United Methodist Women are presenting the Women's Candlelight dinner Tuesday, Dec. 4. The evening begins at 6:00pm and features a program from the 135th anniversary of UMW presented by Emily Dawson Peterson, director of the women's division of the United Methodist Church. All members of the church are invited to attend, tickets cost \$15.00 per person and will be on sale outside the sanctuary.

Sunday mornings beginning on Nov. 11. *Join us for this St. Luke's tradition. Enjoy an evening of fellowship and the warmth and joy of the season with your St. Luke's family!*



## Celebrating St. Luke's— Planning Our Future

*The purple prayer bracelets are back!*

Everyone is invited to wear the bracelets as a reminder of our commitment to our church community and its future, and the positive effect we have on others locally and around the world. St. Luke's is embarking on our "Hearts for Ministry" stewardship campaign and the bracelets are part of this special three-week emphasis focusing on St. Luke's ministries. You make a difference in the lives of people throughout the year as you worship God with your tithes and offerings. Begin to pray now that God will show you how you can share in "Hearts for Ministry" for others to know and experience God's forgiveness, grace and love. Through prayer and discernment, seek to answer the question, *"What shall I render to the Lord for all these benefits toward me?"* —Psalm 116:12.

Take time to consider the Hearts for Ministry prayer card and the St. Luke's VISION pamphlet. Think about what makes St. Luke's special and what your favorite things are about St. Luke's. From recent surveys, we've heard a wide variety of responses to that question: "Janet's sermons", "my Disciple class", "the music", "the people", "the warmth and welcome", "my Sunday school class", "the opportunities", "kids' fellowship", "education", "The Music Man and the Wesley Players", "inclusiveness", "SLY!", "family fellowship", "The new FUSION service", and more! As we move forward together, let us pray and build our future together. Join us for worship and brunch on November 18th for Celebration Sunday.



## HEARTS FOR MINISTRY

## GROWING OUR HEARTS FOR MINISTRY – PLANS FOR 2008

St. Luke's will celebrate our Hearts for Ministry in 2008. We continue to grow our ministries with attention to the wise use of our gifts and God's bounty. Let us join in prayer for these opportunities to grow in faithfulness and future.

- The largest single request for 2008 comes from Staff Parish Relations in support of our gifted staff. The Bold Venture capital campaign allowed us to fund the first year of a full-time Associate Minister serving ministry development (small group ministry), adult education, men's ministries, and young adult ministries. In 2008, we will assume one-half of that portfolio in the operating budget. After no raises in 2007, SPRC is committed to honoring our staff for their excellence.
- We plan to continue increasing our growth toward wider mission giving by 3%. We currently meet only half of our apportionments to the United Methodist Church.
- The Board of Trustees are projecting increases in the cost of utilities and snow removal.

## Church Conference Set for Wed., Nov. 28

The annual St. Luke's Church Conference is scheduled for Wednesday evening, November 28, at 6:30pm in the sanctuary. Rev. Olon Lindemood, Mile High-Pikes Peak District Superintendent, will be present to preside. We will review the Bold Venture building plans, review membership statistics, elect leadership, approve the pastoral compensations, and receive candidates for the ordained ministry. All members of St. Luke's have voice and vote at this annual business session.

**Sunday Worship Services:**  
8:00am, 9:30am & 11:00am**Sunday School:**  
Adult, Youth & Children:  
9:30am & 11:00amNursery available for  
9:30am & 11:00am services**Church Office: 303-791-0659**  
Fax: 303-470-5615St. 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.....x36**  
Associate Director of Worship & Arts**Chris Wilterdink.....x14**  
Director of Youth Ministries**Susan Johnson.....x19**  
Assistant Director of Youth Ministries**Janita Rhodes.....x27**  
Director of Children's Ministry**Lynne Butler.....x11**  
Assistant Director of Children's Ministry**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 December/January issue of *The Chronicle* are due December 1st  
Editor: Sharon Oliver  
chronicle@stlukeshr.com

**Rev. Janet Forbes**  
Senior Pastor**Thanksgiving is a Way of Life**

I remember it as if it were yesterday. My brother and I are visiting a cousin during summer vacation. Granny Brown calls us to dinner. After washing up, we storm the kitchen and slide into our seats. Our ravenous appetites are thwarted for a moment when Granny silences us and says, "Before you can eat, you must share one thing you are grateful for." At best, it is an unfair interruption. At worst, it is a gross violation of the rhythm of the day. We play hard in those days. We are hungry. It is time to eat. We squirm as each of us gives an answer, then dig into our meal. I do not remember how my sibling and cousin respond to the question. I do remember my muttering something about being grateful for Granny Brown!

Every now and then, when my brother and I are together as adults, one of us will say in memory of our moment with Granny Brown, "What are you grateful for?" While our childhood answers have faded, the question stuck. It is a part of our family formation.

We express gratitude in lots of ways. Sometimes our offering of appreciation centers on that which pleases us. When something we consider good happens, we give thanks. At other times, our thanksgiving is set in sharp relief to those who are not as materially blessed as we.

Thanksgiving takes a curious turn when it is put in the Christian context. The author of I Thessalonians (5:14-18) says, *"And we urge you, beloved, to... encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them... Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."* Giving thanks in all conditions of life is quite different from thanksgiving for that which is pleasing to us or better than what others might have.

In the Christian scheme of things, thanksgiving is a way of life. It is an attitude toward life. It assumes that all of life is a gift. When we live as if we deserve what we have been given, we live from the notion that we are creator. We place ourselves over life in an arrogant way. G.K. Chesterton, when asked to write one sentence that describes what life is about, said, *"The critical thing is whether we take life for granted or whether we take it with gratitude."*

Thanksgiving is rooted in the experience of God's radical love for each of us, no matter what. When we come face to face with God's mercy, all we can do is give thanks, even when it is in the midst of consternation, despair, grief, or confusion. Thanksgiving assumes a "receiving" rather than a "taking" posture to life. It extends hands wide open rather than fists clenched tightly.

Ponder your own thanksgiving.  
For what are you grateful?

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

**Orientation of St. Luke's**

Dates to choose from:

**November 11 or 25**  
**December 9 or 23**

Come Explore St. Luke's on the second or fourth Sunday of the month. We meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30am. Grab a cup of coffee, a donut and meet some new friends. Then explore all that St. Luke's has for your spiritual journey. During this orientation, you will discover the many ministry programs, fellowship opportunities, and the mission and vision of our church. This is not just for the new folks to St. Luke's... we invite all that are seeking to "Get Connected" to join us! Contact Lynda Fickling our Director of Servant Ministry 303-791-0659 x20 or email lynda@stlukeshr.com

**Help Send the Staff to School! Breakfast Fundraiser on Dec. 2**

The St. Luke's staff is planning to study together at the Large Church Initiative Conference, "Making a World of Difference", hosted by St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Orlando, Florida, January 21-24, 2008. Located close to the Disney and Universal Studio attractions, St. Luke's (Orlando) vibrates with creative ministries: a full-time, year-round performing arts academy for all ages, extensive ministries with children and youth and adults that focus on spiritual formation, music and drama ministries, capital campaign projects, a second-campus new church start, and a worldwide missional presence. Our staff will engage in peer learning with the staff of St. Luke's and 600 other participants from large churches across the country.

You can help send the staff to school by participating in their fund-raising breakfast on the morning of the Jubilee Christmas Cantata, Sunday, December 2. Our operating budget has very limited funds for professional staff development. Help make this once-in-a-lifetime learning and community building opportunity a reality!

## FROM REV. BRAD



**Rev. Brad Laurvick**  
Associate Minister

Hello everyone! I would say we have come to a busy time of year at St. Luke's, but so far in my time here, I haven't found a time that is not busy... nevertheless, we have come to a busy time of year! With all that is going on, I have been trying to find a way to do more personal reflection. I also am always one to have plenty of observations and random thoughts about all sorts of things.



### People, I am starting a blog.

Seriously. What better way to reflect, share random observations, and talk about all those things I couldn't fit into my sermons. Since blogs can be interactive, I also look forward to a relational side of blogging—getting some feedback on ideas and well, we will see what develops. Here's what I am thinking — by the time the Chronicle arrives at your house — which it has, because you are reading this — all you will need to do is go to **StLukesHR.com** and click on **Fusion**. There will be a blog link right on the Fusion site.

In a recent study a TechMag (that's a Technology Magazine) found that "66% of surveyed blogs had not been updated in two months... with an average blog-life of 126 days"

I am not sure what to think about this... if the glass is half empty I should be scared that I will become one of the many flashes in the pan who disappear into the Google archives, but if the glass is half full, as long as I post an update more than once every two months for 127 days, I will be a very successful blogger. I figure at least three posts a week, we will have to see... I will see you online people! —Rev. Brad

## A BOLD VENTURE

## A Bold Venture UPDATE:



### **BUILDING COMMITTEE RECEIVES FIRST DRAFT OF CONSTRUCTION PLANS**

Building Committee Chairperson, Scott Kohrs, reports that our architect, Jim Morgan, is ready to review a draft of the construction plans. Once reviewed by the Committee, there will be opportunities to share the plans with the staff and congregation, District Committee on Church Building and Location, and Douglas County Planning Commission. Our team continues to plan for breaking ground in the spring and opening the new addition in September 2008.

Elected to lead us in the planning and construction of the new youth/education/chapel addition off the west side of the current facility were: Scott Kohrs, David Rhodes, Randy Larson, Joyce Carnes, Dee Duncan, Ken Fong, Sandi Miyaki, Marge Harper, Peter Waldheim, Tim Krening, Terri Ary. Dave Cupp and Janet Forbes will serve as staff liaison.

The other projects of the Bold Venture Campaign have been prioritized for approval by the Executive Board, once we have determined the final cost of the construction. The Staff Parish Relations Committee is preparing their requests for compensation and benefit plans for our staff team. The Board of Trustees is determining exact costs for the refurbishment projects, especially carpeting, air conditioning, and additional security measures.

## ADVENT AT ST. LUKE'S

## *Celebrating Advent & Christmas* AT ST. LUKE'S

### A JUBILEE CHRISTMAS: PREPARE THE WAY

### Upcoming Christmas Events – *Mark your Calendar!*

#### Hanging of the Greens

Before you decorate or get your tree for home, come join the fun with families and friends decorating St. Luke's on Saturday, November 24th from 8:00am-noon.

#### Tree Lighting

Bring the family to celebrate and watch the 18' Christmas tree light up on Sunday, November 25 at 6:00pm. The Cherubs Choir will sing and carols will be sung.

#### Holiday Shop

A Christmas shopping experience for children up to age 12. They can purchase gifts for family members, teachers, friends and others on their shopping list. Avoid mall shopping and get great gifts at discounted prices from \$1.00-\$7.00. Adult volunteers will help children with shopping and will wrap their gifts while they wait. The shop will be open on December 1st and 2nd, 9:00am -1:00pm.

#### St. Luke's Annual Christmas "Jubilee Cantata"

The 130 Music Ministers will usher in the sounds of Christmas on Sunday, December 2nd at 9:00 and 11:00am services. You won't want to miss this favorite St. Luke's tradition!

#### Candlelight Dinner

Tuesday, December 4 from 6:00-9:00pm. Please join us for the annual UMW Candlelight Dinner! This event is always filled with holiday spirit and the warmth of fellowship with women of our church.

#### Christmas Caroling

December 21st at 6:00pm.

#### Holiday Haven

Parent's morning out while children ages 3-9 stay at the church with crafts, games and other holiday fun. December 22nd 10:00 am-1:00pm.

#### Children's Christmas Pageant

The children of St. Luke's will be hosting our first Children's Christmas pageant on December 23rd at 6:00pm. Watch this amazing spectacle and listen to your favorite story of hope.

#### Services of Carols and Candles

"A Jubilee Christmas: Prepare the Way" – Come and experience our Christmas Eve worship services held at 1:00, 3:00 (Children's), 5:00, 7:00, and 10:00pm.

#### Epiphany Sunday and Celebration of the Kings

Join us on Sunday January 6th as our 15 ft. tall Magi present their gifts to the Christ child in a family worship experience at 8:30, 9:00 and 11:00am.



## SERVING ST. LUKE'S



**Lynda Fickling**  
Director of  
Servant Ministry

## We are Called to Serve

Visit [www.stlukeshr.com](http://www.stlukeshr.com) and take the mini-assessment under *Serve* then contact Lynda Fickling [lynda@stlukeshr.com](mailto:lynda@stlukeshr.com) who will walk with you through the process of applying your gifts to serving in the world!

**Acolytes** Contact: Jenita Rhodes  
303-791-0659x27 [jenita@stlukeshr.com](mailto:jenita@stlukeshr.com)

The Children's Ministry Team strives to create an invitational atmosphere for children to learn more about worship and building a faith-based relationship with God and each other and prepare them to serve in worship. \*Especially need 9:30am

### Stephen Ministry Training

Contact: Rev. Pam Rowley 303-791-0659x32 [pam@stlukeshr.com](mailto:pam@stlukeshr.com)  
Our next training class will begin on Tuesday, Jan. 8. Applications and information are available from Rev. Pam and between services in the Narthex. Please return all applications by November 11. We encourage you to prayerfully consider joining this ministry.

### Hospitality Teams:

**Ushers** Contact: Shawn Slade 303-660-6113 [denverslade@msn.com](mailto:denverslade@msn.com)  
Dick Frame 303-791-4251 [rframe5492@aol.com](mailto:rframe5492@aol.com)  
Assist in the weekly Sunday worship by ensuring worshippers are attended to before, during and after services. We typically serve on a quarterly basis. If you would enjoy serving our community as an Usher please contact Shawn or Dick. *Spiritual Gifts: Hospitality, Services, Helps*

**Greeters** Contact: Karmie Hilleary 303-683-4696 [karmie@comcast.net](mailto:karmie@comcast.net)  
Valerie Goodstein 303-799-0907 [valgoodstein@hotmail.com](mailto:valgoodstein@hotmail.com)  
Be the first smile and handshake our guests receive on Sunday mornings. We are the hosts and our mission is to make all who come to our community feel comfortable from the minute they walk through the front doors of St. Luke's. *Spiritual Gifts: Hospitality, Services, Helps*

**Guest Calling Team** Contact: Lynda Fickling 303-791-0659 x20  
[lynda@stlukeshr.com](mailto:lynda@stlukeshr.com)  
Make a phone call to thank and welcome our guests for visiting with us for the first time. Choose one Sunday a month to make the calls (avg. 1-3 calls a month). Easy to do from your own comfy couch! *Spiritual Gifts: Hospitality, Helps, Services*

\*As we list the Spiritual Gifts, you may have one or more than one in each area. For further information regarding your Spiritual Gifts/Passions contact Lynda Fickling [lynda@stlukeshr.com](mailto:lynda@stlukeshr.com) or 303-791-0659 x20. Realize **your** potential for living a God-centered life! Plan on attending the next "Servant by Design" class in February 2008!

### All proceeds from Nov. 15 Jazz Benefit Concert will go to the Nuba Water Project.

For more information, contact Steve Riley, a member of St. Luke's or go to [www.nubawaterproject.org](http://www.nubawaterproject.org). Are you wondering what Nuba is? The Nuba Water Project is a non-profit organization committed to bringing a better life to the people of the Nuba Mountain region of Sudan. By providing an adequate supply of water, especially potable water, Nuba will improve the health and sanitation of the area and will open the doorway to economic and social development for the Nuba people.

## PRAYER CONCERNS



### Week Ending November 2, 2007

To add or remove someone from the prayer chain,  
contact Bonnie Funk 303-791-0659 x10 or [Bonnie@stlukeshr.com](mailto:Bonnie@stlukeshr.com)

Gerry Wright (Gail Abernathy's mother)	Norm Keller (Candy Keller's father)
John Poole (friend of Joy Damsgard)	Jeanine Quick
Beth Turner	Kami Lamb (friend of Cindy Barlow)
Al Bierman (Sandi Thompson's friend)	Beverly Parmalee (friend of Betsy Keyack & Ken Fong)
Walt Brewer	Scott Ransick (Eric Ransick's brother)
Jenni Keefer (Mike Hutchins' daughter)	Craig (Joy Damsgard's friend)
Avis Stanley (Joy Damsgard's mother)	Pat Clem (neighbor of Doug Wagner)
Jim Hertel (Sandy Thompson's father)	Joel Breneman (Lynda Fickling's nephew)
Brian Day (Eileen Law's nephew)	Cathy Collins
Brent Webber (friend of Cushing family)	Alicia Waldheim
Peter Quick	Bruce Thompson
Norma Harris	Theresa Arbogast (friend of Eileen Law & Roberta Hamilton-Griggs)
Betty Kieser (Bonnie Funk's mother)	Tracy Haffner (friend of Eileen Law)
Kendall Griggs (Susan Hooke's uncle)	Gene White (Fran West's nephew)
Fanelle Laughlin (Lisa Williams' aunt)	Bruce & Lois Thompson's niece
Becky Williams (Jeff Williams' sister)	Gramma Ruth (Adam Hutzell's grandma)
Charles Hardin (family friend of Lisa Williams)	Leslie Davis (Yvonne Amerine's friend)
Burt Sahli (Diane Whetson's father)	Mary Ann Bauer (Brian Bauer's mother)
Brian Keefer (Mike Hutchins' son-in-law)	Alberta Haas
Carol Bryden (Kay Swanson's mother)	Bailey Koenig
John Covey (friend of Ross Barnard)	Doris Berg (Jennifer Jiang's grandmother)
Amber Cunningham (friend of Amy Antinoro)	Randy Staton (friend of Bonnie Funk)
Joyce Martin (friend of Kam Boles/Lise Takayama)	Warren Goss (Charlie William's friend)
Ernie Wight (Elizabeth Laurvick's father)	Brenda Schafer
Sharon Zona (Bonnie Funk's friend)	Jim Bailey (Melissa Moberly's father)
Rylie Krening (grandson of Carleen & Rich Krening)	Brandt K. (Susan Johnson's nephew)
Jules Tim (friend of Betty/Les Ludlam)	Kenneth Smith
Darryl Griggs (Susan Hooke's cousin)	Ronda Olson
Heidi (friend of the Hooke family)	Paula Strader (Sandi Miyaki's sister)
Edna Earl West (Bob West's mother)	Julie Ramsett
Jamie MacNamara (L.S. family)	Dorothy King (Truman King's mother)
Jill Wright's father	Bonnie Berardi (Bobbi King's friend)
Farzan Khan (friend of Manijeh B.)	Dewey Smith
Gordon Lewis (friend of Ken Fong)	
Alex Pass (son of a friend of Julie Polikoff)	
Tom Hawkins (Virginia Young's brother)	
Lonnie Roberts (friend of Susan Hooke)	
Patricia Ludlam (Les Ludlam's mother)	
Ed Herring (Les Ludlam's nephew)	
Kristi Fesler (Mona Daniel's friend)	
Terri Gaertner (Kam Boles/Lise Takayama's friend)	

### Sympathies:

To Erin & Cliff Brown and family on the passing of Erin's grandmother, Grace Dalby, Oct. 27;  
and to Paul Shea and family on the passing of his father, Charles Shea, Nov. 1.



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

## More from Les: Self-Fulfilling Prophecies

An older couple were sitting on a bench, outside the Alaska Railroad station in downtown Anchorage, waiting to board the train to Denali National Park and Mt. McKinley.

A typical Alaskan summer rain was falling, not heavy enough to really soak you if you kept moving but

just cold enough to make you uncomfortable if you didn't have on warm clothing. The Chugach mountain peaks were dappled with light where the clouds were broken, the snowy peaks, were just whitened with what locals call "Termination Dust." (The first snow of the season and time for summer workers to get passage back to Seattle.)

The conversation between them was loud enough that just about anyone standing nearby could hear...

"Why you ever suggested we come to this god-awful place is beyond me!"

"Me suggest? You were the one who said we needed to get out of the heat and humidity!"

"You were the one who wanted to get some fishing and sightseeing!"

"I never wanted to come in the first place!"

"It's been cloudy the whole trip, we haven't seen a thing."

"I just knew we wouldn't enjoy this cruise!"

"Well, now's a fine time to tell me!"

"We could have made reservations to go to Mexico or Hawaii!"

## MISSIONS

### November & December Missions: Fill Santa's Bag!

Christmas is just around the corner and Santa need your help! Generous members of St. Luke's have always shared with children and families less fortunate by taking "wishes" off of THE GIVING TREE. We have approximately 120 names of children, teens and adults who would love a gift to open Christmas morning. Giving to others can be as rewarding for you as it is for the one receiving.

#### URBAN PEAKS

Young people being given a hand up through URBAN PEAKS also have their names on THE GIVING TREE. Share your Christmas and help a troubled teen.

#### MILK FOR GUATEMALA

For only \$2, you can provide a month's supply of milk for an entire family. Look for the MILK FOR GUATEMALA tree in the narthex.

#### THE HEIFER PROJECT

Want the perfect, unique gift for Aunt Bessie or Cousin Earl? Visit the HEIFER TREE, and give a llama, pig, ducks or other animals, in their name, to help families in poor countries all over the globe.

Need more information?  
Contact Jan Rufien at  
jc.rufien@comcast.net

**WANTED:**

**Gently used children's shoes for Guatemala.**

"Oh, I don't like those places either!"

Willard and Anna were from Florida and were part of a Princess Cruise tour group that had just arrived in Anchorage after leaving their ship in Seward and riding the train to Anchorage. They were not enjoying themselves. They weren't particularly impressed with the weather, they were getting tired of seeing the trees, snowy mountains, glaciers and expanses of water day after day, they hadn't been able to get a decent night's sleep on the ship; they were eating too much on the ship and on-board telephone calls were just too expensive!

They were tired! And now they were getting cold and wet waiting for a train to depart on the Alaska Railroad from the Anchorage rail station for a two day side tour to Denali National Park. Travel in Alaska does require flexibility and except, for the cruise ships, where everything is planned carefully and controlled exactly, changes are common and often nothing will go as expected. Those who live in the state know that contingency plans are the order of the day.

Distances are long between stopping places, the weather, particularly in August and September, can be alternatively warm and cloudy or cold and rainy, with some snow occasionally mixed in.

If you go the state with a sense of adventure, with an expectation that you will have a good time no matter what comes, and with a willingness to adjust with the weather changes and other circumstances, you will have a good time. But if you go expecting trouble, you will have plenty of opportunities to have those expectations fulfilled.

There is in this a profound truth about life.

As Dr. Roy Smith puts it, "Life usually comes out to meet us in about the form we expect it. We usually find what we look for."

Maybe that was what Jesus meant when he said, "seek and ye shall find."

If we start out in the morning confident that something bad will happen, chances are that we shall end the day quite satisfied that we have met disasters aplenty; self-fulfilling prophecies!

On the other hand, If we start out assuring ourselves that all is going to go well, the majority of the day is apt to fit pretty well into that pattern.

Life has a way of rewarding us with the things we expect, for our expectations become the lenses through which we look at life. These lenses color everything we perceive.

Will Rogers exhibited this attitude with his famous quote, "I never met a man I didn't like!" He also said "There is no bad weather; only different kinds of good weather."

Face a thunderstorm or a blizzard with that attitude and you will discover beauty in it. Face it with fear and its threat increases.

There's an old, simple poem:

Twixt the optimist and pessimist  
The difference is droll,  
The optimist sees the doughnut,  
And the pessimist the hole.

Life has its fair share of holes, and it also offers a good many doughnuts.

**We cannot control the things that may happen to us, but we can control how we respond.**

Don't let your reaction to the irritating stuff blind you to the glorious stuff right beside you!

God Bless Us All, -Rev. Les

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



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



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



**Kristina Linn**  
Childcare  
Director

### Sly, Jr. 5th & 6th Grade Fellowship

On November 4 from 6:00 to 8:00 Sly, Jr. explored the Buddhist traditions of living and worshipping. After our dinner, we will be acting out a short skit, creating a bird feeder, doing a few "team" games and even have a few moments of meditation. All the activities will help us better understand the beliefs of the Buddhist community. On December 2 we will celebrate Kwanzaa! Adult volunteers are needed to support our



group by providing the meal and being in relationship with our children as they learn to appreciate worship traditions that are different from those we know at St. Luke's. To volunteer, please contact Jenita.

### Children's Hanging of the Greens

**Saturday, Nov. 24 - 9:00-11:00am in Goliath**

While adults are involved with the decorating of the church's main floor, our children will be happily involved with decorating the Elementary/Youth Sunday School area downstairs. They will have an opportunity to make an ornament for one of the many trees that will be decorating our church, complete a life-sized nativity scene, enjoy a snack and watch a Christmas video. Please come and share the first event of the Advent Season with your children. For more information, please contact Lynne or Jenita at the church office.

### Tree Lighting Ceremony

**Sunday, Nov. 25 at 6:00pm**

Join in the fun as we begin the Christmas Season at St. Luke's. We will gather in the Sanctuary to sing Christmas carols, listen to a few of St. Luke's amazing musical groups including the Cherubs Choir before we light the Christmas Trees decorating the Narthex and Fellowship Hall. Our celebration will continue with fellowship, cookies and punch. We ask each family to bring a generous plate of cookies to share.

### St. Luke's offers Respite program for parents through Discovery Club

**Saturday, October 21** began Discovery Club's third year as the lower level of St. Luke's was filled with happy faces, loving caregivers and great fun. Discovery Club is a opportunity for children with special needs and their siblings to play games, make friends or create a craft while their parents enjoy some much needed free time. They meet on the third Saturday of the month from October through May from 10:00am until 4:00 pm. Discovery Club of Highlands Ranch is a joint effort of St. Luke's, Colorado Easter Seals and several area agencies. It provides the specialized care needed in

a safe caring and fun environment. Pre-registration is advised by contacting Nancy at 303-233-1666 x237 or [nhanson@eastersealcolorado.org](mailto:nhanson@eastersealcolorado.org). There is a minimal fee for each child.

St. Luke's supports Discovery Club by providing the facilities and extra volunteer help. You can volunteer for one or all sessions by contacting Nancy or Jenita.

**Did you know that...** Studies have shown that we retain information better when we experience it through more than one process. For example, we retain;

- 10% of what we READ
- 20% of what we HEAR
- 30% of what we SEE
- 50% of what we SEE and HEAR
- 70% of what we SAY
- 90% of what we SAY and DO
- 100% of what we EXPERIENCE!

Our goal in PEAK Adventures Sunday School is to have our children experience each lesson in such a way that they not only remember the story, but learn how to apply it's lesson to their life.

Be a part of our PEAK Adventures Team on Sunday mornings by joining a workshop team. We currently are looking for adults interested in presenting a Biblical lesson through our SCIENCE, CINEMA, COMPUTER, AND STORYTELLING WORKSHOPS. The curriculum provides all you need, but you'll find your creative juices will begin to flow as you discover for yourself how fun it is to learn and experience God's Love in each of these workshops. Please contact Jenita Rhodes and find out how you can become part of this program.

### PEAK Adventures Rotation 2

We will continue to learn about Stewardship "Samuel, Called to Serve" through most of November. Our lessons will tie in with this year's Stewardship theme, "Hearts for Ministry." In this unit our children will learn Samuel's boyhood story, explore ways we hear God's message today; and discuss ways we can serve God and help other people today, as Samuel did.

On November 25th we will begin our Advent Rotation, "In the Manger." In the unit we will be reminded of Jesus humble birth and of God's great love for us.

By the end of this study our children will:

- Know that Jesus is called Emmanuel and explore the meaning of "God with us."
- Learn that Jesus is the Messiah and talk about what that means.
- Discover the significance of the Messiah's coming not as a king or warrior, but as a baby born in a humble place.
- Understand why Jesus has a special love for the weak and the poor.
- And be able to locate the story of Jesus' birth in the Book of Luke.

## CALENDAR

### Sat. Nov. 17

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

### Sat. Nov. 24

*Hanging of the Greens 9:00-11:00am*

### Sun. Nov. 25

*PEAK Adventures 3rd Rotation - Advent: In the Manger*

*Tree Lighting 6:00-7:00pm*

### Sun. Dec. 2

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

### Sun. Dec. 9

*Candy Cane Sunday in Children's Sunday School 9:30 & 11:00am*

### Sat. Dec. 15

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

### Sun. Dec. 16

*God & Country Program 12:15-1:30pm*

### Sun. Dec. 23

*Regular Worship and Sunday School Children's Christmas Pageant*

### Mon. Dec. 24

*Christmas Eve Services 1:00 & 3:00 (Children's), 5:00, 7:00 & 10:00*

### Tues. Dec. 25

*Merry Christmas!*

### Sun. Dec. 30

*Regular Worship times No Sunday School Nursery at 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am*

### Tues. Jan. 1

*Happy New Year!*

### Sun. Jan. 6

*Epiphany Sunday No Sunday School Nursery at 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00*

*SLY Jr. 5th & 6th Grade Fellowship 6:00-8:00pm Catholic Tradition: Three King Sunday*

### Sun. Jan. 13

*PEAK Adventures 4th Rotation - Bible Knowledge: The Beatitudes*



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



**Children's Christmas Pageant** This year's Christmas pageant, "Christmas with the Star" is Sunday, December 23rd. All first- through sixth-graders are invited to participate. Practices begin Sunday, November 4. For more information, call Linda Walker at 303-470-6145 or contact Jenita.

**There will be NO Sunday School on Dec.30 or Jan. 6,** Epiphany Sunday. We hope to you will take this opportunity to attend worship as a family. Our Special Candlelight and Carols Children's Service for Christmas Eve will be at 1:00 and 3:00pm on December 24th.



## LITTLE SCHOOL News



**Kay Swanson**  
Director of  
Little School

### We Give Thanks to God

Little School will spend the month of November celebrating all the blessings that God has given us! The classrooms will be learning about our heritage and the month will be topped off with our annual "Thanksgiving Feast" (Nov.19, 20) with turkey and all the trimmings! This is always a very special event and the children and staff enjoy all of the great food! Little School will be closed from Nov. 21-25 to celebrate the holiday with our families.

This year our school is learning about the "Children's Ten Commandments". In September we talked about "Thank God For Each Day", and in October we talked about "Be Kind In Everything You Do and Say" and this month we will be "Share Your Things Cheerfully". These commandments are helping the children learn how to be godly children in a simpler more child-friendly way. Jacque our chef is always with us in chapel to make our learning very fun!

**Please remember that we are collecting leftover Halloween candy the first week of November for our AIDS project and starting in December we will be collecting "UNDIES" and items for refugee children who attend Whiteman Elementary School in Denver. St. Luke's proudly supports this school and the children are in need of many things. We want to help them have a wonderful Christmas just like you and teach our children the gift of sharing!**

As always, you are welcome at our Little School to help out in the classrooms, read stories or do art projects! Just check in at the main office of the school!

Thanksgiving Blessings from all of us at Little School!

*—Blessings, Ms. Kay :-)*

### Third Grade Children Receive Bibles

**October 14, 2007 – 9:30 & 11:00 Services**

At St. Luke's we value the children of our community and welcome any opportunity to help in their knowledge of the teachings of Christ and to enrich their spiritual journeys.

As part of this commitment, it is a tradition to present all third grade students in our church with a Bible. It is our hope that these Bibles will always hold a special meaning and be used for many years to come.

The following children were presented Bibles this past October:

Reid Becker	Meg Bleyle
Alyssa Brown	Ashley Butler
Christian Butler	Lindsay Chaplin
Justine Cunningham	Eliza Ducnuigeen
Jakob Fletcher	Evan Hannum
Spencer Harned	Mychaela Hodous
Samantha Hooke	Megan Howard
Ben Husa	Kaitlyn Johnson
Mimi Keegan	Drew Kessel
Emily Kinney	Andrew Linn
Anthony Lorenzo	Boston Lucero
Heidi Markel	Jonathan Meade
Joshua Merchant	Margaret Mitchell
Jenna Nolder	Annajulia Preble
Christopher Raap	Brooke Richeson
James Sawyer	Grant Smith
McKay Smith	Paige Tolleson
Ransom Tyson	Eric Wild

Without the support of our members and constituents, we would be unable to give these Bibles. We would like to graciously thank each and everyone for contributing to St. Luke's and Children's Ministries through their time, talents and treasures.



**We have  
Hearts for  
our Children's  
Ministries!**



# WELCOME New Members: October 2007



**Michele Cost-Phair**  
(husband Carl)  
Alexander, Rachel



**John & Kristi Dale**  
Mats, Kaia



**Adam & Jackie**  
Hutzell  
*"Lynda told us to!"*



**Adam & Megan**  
Snyder  
*"We were looking for a church with a warm sense of community and an open mind. We found just what we were looking for at St. Luke's!"*



**Bob von Normann & Mercedes McClure**  
*"We live close by and were looking for a church close to home. We felt at home here."*

**Zara Kruska**  
**Vargues** (in picture with parents at left)  
*"I want to learn more about God and when I came here Rev. Brad made me feel like an equal."*

## Joining St. Luke's

There is a place for you here! Please contact Lynda Fickling 303-791-0659 x20 or [lynda@stlukeshr.com](mailto:lynda@stlukeshr.com) or one of the pastors for more information.



Sign up on our website to come to:  
**St. Luke's Holiday Haven**

**Who:** Children ages 3-9  
**What:** Parent's morning out while children stay at the church with crafts, games and other holiday fun  
**When:** Dec. 22nd 10:00 am-1:00pm  
(A healthy snack will be served)  
**Where:** St. Luke's UMC – downstairs in the David area  
**Why:** To give parent's a break around the holidays  
**Cost:** \$6 per child, \$12 per family max

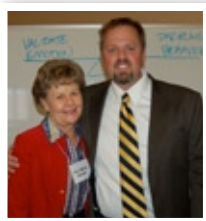


Registration will be online, on the website, **[www.stlukeshr.com](http://www.stlukeshr.com)**

If your child is involved in the children's pageant, they can still attend Holiday Haven. Just come sign them in when the rehearsal starts, and we will get them safely downstairs. Volunteers are needed

to help with activities and play with the kids! Youth ages 12+ can volunteer to help, and adults are always needed! For additional information or to volunteer contact Caitlin Bauer at 303-683-5247.

## St. Luke's 25th Anniversary Speaker's Series: Building Strong Families with Jonathan Sherman



The first in our series of speaker events was held Nov. 9 & 10th at St. Luke's in the Fellowship Hall. Over 70 people came out to hear Jonathan Sherman, a sought after speaker and licensed marriage and family therapist, talk about Building Strong Families with ACCCTS. Rev. Marla Kauerz, who has much experience bringing about these types of events and is working as a consultant with



St. Luke's, helped organize the 2-day event which will be one of several held during our 25th Anniversary year. St. Luke's is bringing the experts to you!

"We all know that building a strong family in today's world is perhaps more challenging than ever before. Jonathan Sherman's class was

many things all at once: interesting, amusing, educational, and perhaps most of all just reassuring that we are not alone and that there are tools and resources available to help. We're so happy to have attended and believe it was a day well-spent. Thank you."

—Nancy & Matthew Martinucci

"The ACCCTS is very easy to remember (Appreciation, Commitment, Creative Problem Solving, Communication, Time Together, Spiritual Wellness) and provides a great framework for good relationships. Jonathan Sherman was dynamic and engaging. I came away with many gems of wisdom, reinforcement of the positive things I already do, and more insight on how I could be a better person to my family." —Betsy Keyack

"It was awesome. What I loved was the fact that he gave practical advice that anyone can start to work on immediately. I also loved the fact that he presented the material in a Christian light, reminding us of our responsibilities as Christians and pointed us to appropriate scriptures. Mr. Sherman is a family man, well experienced and had lots of wonderful ideas and suggestions anyone could use." —Linda Streaty

"It was great to walk away with a feeling of hope while realizing that it is never too late to affect positive change in my family! Jonathan provided a safe, humorous, creative and supportive atmosphere which enabled us to absorb the content and come up with ways to implement what we've learned with our families. It was an event well worth attending and I would encourage all families to look into the resources that Jonathan provides. Thank you, SLUMC!" —Cathy Schufreider

Look for information on upcoming speakers in the series in the next issue of *The Chronicle*. You won't want to miss these unique, insightful and educational opportunities.



## MUSIC &amp; DRAMA



**James Ramsey**  
Director of  
Worship & Arts



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



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

## Jazz Benefit Concert

*Thursday, November 15*

*Jazz at St. Luke's Benefit Concert 6:30pm*

featuring the CU Jazz Ensemble I with Dr. John Davis and the Ministers of Swing and the St. Luke's Youth Jazz Orchestra. A Suggested Donation: \$10



## St. Luke's Annual Christmas Cantata

*Sunday, December 2 at 9:00 and 11:00am*

Come and hear the Music Ministry usher in the Christmas Season with this yearly favorite!

MEREDITH WILLSON'S  
**THE MUSIC MAN**

Look for a recap of St. Luke's production of *The Music Man* in our next issue of *The Chronicle*. What a show!



## FELLOWSHIP &amp; CARE

## Grief Support Group

Holidays lived in the absence of someone dear can be very difficult times. Customary routines are adjusted, some never to be repeated in quite the same way. Easy-going laughter, once so natural, may become awkward or even altogether missing. Gift-giving, once so filled with fun, may seem somehow empty and sad. Familiar songs, once so comforting, may catch in your throat or bring tears to your eyes. Significant loss, rather to death, divorce, or estrangement, brings about many changes in life and how we go about functioning during the holiday season. People who are grieving have many questions: How can I make it through all the events of the holidays while missing so desperately the one I love? Would I be better off to ignore the holidays this year? Should I act as if everything were normal? Should I make major changes in my holiday rituals?

If you are grieving a loss, this Grief Support Group is for you. If you have questions about how to go about this holiday season in the midst of grief, this group is for you. If you have experienced loss in the past, and have suggestions for others coping with "first" holidays, this group is for you.

**When:** Tuesdays from 5:15-6:30pm  
November 13, 20, 27 & December 11 (A Service of Remembrance)

**Where:** Classroom B

**Facilitator:** Pam Rowley, please register with Pam at x32

*Child care will be available with 48 hr. advance reservation.*

## Children's Holiday Shop



St. Luke's Children's Holiday Shop provides a Christmas shopping experience for children up to age 12. They can purchase gifts for family members, teachers, friends and others on their shopping list. They can avoid mall shopping and get great gifts at discounted prices ranging from \$1.00-\$7.00. Adult volunteers will help children with shopping and will wrap their gifts while they wait. The shop will be open on December 1 and 2, 9:00am-1:00pm.

Adult volunteers are needed to help set up on Friday, November 30 from 9:00am-noon and to help during the shop on both Saturday and Sunday. Shifts on Saturday, December 1 will be from 8:30-11:00am and 11:00am-2:00pm. Volunteers are also needed on Sunday, with shifts being 8:30-10:00am, 10:00-11:30am and 11:30am-1:00pm. If you would like to volunteer, you may sign up in the Narthex between services beginning November 4 or call Amy Antinoro at (303)663-6656.

Thank you to all the volunteers who signed up during the Ministry Fair. If you are one of those wonderful people, you will be contacted to arrange specific times for volunteering, or you may visit the table in the Narthex in November.

### Donations needed:

- Gift items to add to the shop (new items please)
- Wrapping supplies, especially tape and gift boxes

Donations may be dropped off in boxes marked Holiday Shop located in the Narthex or church office.

Proceeds made through the Holiday Shop will go towards scholarships and volunteer lunches for Vacation Bible School, 2008.

Please call Amy Antinoro if you have any questions; (303)663-6656.

## DON'T MISS!

## November 2007

- 11/14 – SLAM 6:30pm  
 11/15 – Donut Whole 6:45am  
     - Youth Disciple 6:30pm  
 11/16-11/18 – **NUTS Fall Retreat**  
     All grades register asap!  
     \$100 for the weekend  
 11/18 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am  
     - Bible Boot 9:30am  
     - SLY PM: *SLY Dance w/Brad*  
     *Laurvick as the DJ!* 6-8pm  
 11/21 – NO SLAM (*Thanksgiving*)  
 11/24 – *Hanging of the Greens* 9am-noon  
 11/25 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am  
     - Bible Boot 9:30am  
     - SLY PM: *Tree Lighting & Carols*  
 11/28 – SLAM 6:30pm  
 11/29 – Donut Whole 6:45am  
     - Youth Disciple 6:30pm

## December 2007

- 12/2 – No SLY AM (Cantata)  
     - SLY PM: *College Care Packs*  
     6-8pm  
 12/5 – SLAM 6:30pm  
 12/6 – Donut Whole 6:45am  
 12/9 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am  
     - Bible Boot 9:30am  
     - SLY PM: *Christmas Video*  
     *Scavenger Hunt* 5-8pm  
 12/12 – SLAM 6:30pm  
 12/13 – Donut Whole 6:45am  
 10/16 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am  
     - Bible Boot 9:30am  
     - SLY PM: *White Elephant*  
     *Gift Exchange* 5:30pm,  
     Finals Cramming Session with  
     Tutors 6:30pm  
 12/19 – SLAM 6:30pm  
 12/20 – Donut Whole 6:45am  
 12/23 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am  
     - Bible Boot 9:30am  
     - SLY PM: *Zoolights* \$10, 5:30pm  
 12/24 – **Christmas Eve:** Children's  
     Services at 1 & 3pm, All Ages  
     at 5, 7, & 10pm. All services are  
     candlelight.  
 12/25 – **Christmas Day Hooray!**  
 12/30 – No SLY AM or SLY PM  
 1/7 – No SLY AM or SLY PM



**Chris Wilterdink**  
 Director of  
 Youth Ministries

**Susan Johnson**  
 Assistant Director  
 of Youth Ministries

## CHRIS's CORNER

## November to Remember

OK, so October was super-busy!

Between the Pumpkin Patch, Fall Festivals, Snow, Fall Breaks, *The Music Man* performances, and the rest of the SLY Life we were running around like crazy. And now of course, you go shopping and it seems like the world has already moved on to the Christmas season. With us looking toward the gifts and giving of December, it's easy to leave November out of our minds as kind of a "gap-filler month."



So what can you do to make this November one to remember? Well, here at church you can come on the NUTS Retreat in the middle of the month. In the community, how about donating time at a shelter or soup kitchen? Could you help the less fortunate have a Thanksgiving meal? At home, you can take some time to make life easier for the rest of your family. Help a sibling with their homework (or even chores if you're feeling ambitious!), help your parents cook some meals (Thanksgiving anyone!?) or clean up around the house, maybe take some extra time with your pets to make sure they know that you love them. Tell someone in your life just how important they are to you!

The months that aren't as jam-packed in your personal life are just as important (if not more so) as the ones where you run your self ragged. You can recharge your own batteries, and pay attention to the things you really think are important.

Take some time this November to appreciate yourself and those that you care about. It can turn into a month where you give and show thanks for all that you have and all those you love because you aren't soooo busy with a ton of special activities. Jesus had it right in Matthew 6:34 - *So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.* Appreciate today because it gives you every opportunity to catch up to life, show your family you love them, and center yourself for the adventures and busy times ahead!

—Peace & Love, Chris

- ✧ **College Care Packs:** SLY will be packing finals week care packages to send to our college age youth on Dec. 2. We need volunteers to bake cookies and bring in old shoe-boxes to SLY on 12/2. If you can do either, please contact [chris@stlukeshr.com](mailto:chris@stlukeshr.com)  
*If you have a college-age youth that would like to receive a finals care package, please email their name and current address to Chris as well.*

- ✧ **NUTS Fall Retreat:** We are taking last minute adds to the retreat if you'd still like to come. Contact Chris or Susan ASAP to get added for the retreat (Nov 16-18)
- ✧ **Thank You** to everyone who bought pumpkins, and to those worked the Pumpkin Patch and put on the Haunted House at Warren Village. Your work is love made visible, and you helped us raise over \$15,000 for youth missions.
- ✧ **Confirmation** registration materials are now available. Classes begin Jan. 27 & run January-April at 11am on Sundays for 8th graders and up. Deadline to register is Jan 13.



## What an awesome time at Warren Village!

If you have never been to Warren Village, it is a non-profit organization aiding single-parent and low income families located in Denver. Every year, we put on a Haunted House, organize a costume drive, order pizza and play games with the families at Warren Village.

This year, we had a lot of little kids come to the festivities for the first time, and it was such a great experience. To see families on a limited income be able to give their kids a halloween costume for the first time is incredible. It makes you appreciate what the "little extras" in life can mean... a costume, a tiny prize, some candy... Things that we take for granted put genuine smiles on their faces!

A huge thank you to the 30+ folks who organized and worked the Warren Village Haunted House this year!



## S L Y

## 2008 Revolve Tour Register NOW!

The Revolve Tour is February 15-16 at the Denver Coliseum. It's a weekend (Friday evening-Saturday) event for teen girls from Women of Faith. It's a fun, fast-paced, action-packed time when thousands of teens pile into an arena to hear about how much God loves them. Come hear dynamic speakers and fabulous music and experience faith fellowship. To get the early bird group discount, registration must be complete before Dec. 15th. Pick up an information sheet by the youth room or see Susan for details (or contact her at x19 or [susan@stlukeshr.com](mailto:susan@stlukeshr.com)) and don't miss this amazing event!

## T R U S T E E S C O R N E R

## Emergency Evacuation

Do you know what to do if St. Luke's ever had to evacuate the building in an emergency? Do your children?

On October 28th, we provided answers to these questions and tested our evacuation procedures with our first-ever evacuation drills at the end of all 3 worship services. The evacuations were announced over our paging system. Sunday School teachers escorted their students to designated spots on the west and north sides of the building. Worshipers in the Sanctuary were directed to leave by 3 different routes: those in the northwest part of the Sanctuary go down the stairs and exit through the northwest exit doors, those in the northeast part of the Sanctuary go out the exit by the Choir Loft, and those in the south part of the Sanctuary go through the Narthex to leave through the main (west) doors. Those in Classrooms A and B and the Fellowship hall exit via the deck, and those in the Conference Room and Brad's Office (Classroom C) leave by the South exit.

Parents should NOT go downstairs to retrieve their children; their children will already be outside. Parents should meet their children at their designated spots; the children will not be released by their teachers until parents meet them. Also, please do not leave the parking lot until after emergency equipment has arrived (otherwise, exiting vehicles may block their arrival).

Our goal was to clear the building in 3 minutes or less. The evacuation at the 9:30 service took the longest – 1.5 minutes. So the drill was a success! We also learned we needed to clarify our instructions for those on the main floor who might have trouble going down stairs: these people should leave by the main exit.

Maps of evacuation routes, including the locations where children will be waiting for their parents, are online at [www.stlukeshr.com](http://www.stlukeshr.com) under "About Us."

## F I N A N C I A L U P D A T E



**Dave Cupp**  
Director of Finance



**Janet Maxwell**  
Assistant Director  
of Finance

## Another Good Month!

September was another good offering month. We exceeded our collections goal by about \$8,000 for the month of September. That makes three months in a row with positive results. If we continue at this pace or improve just a little, we will be able to finish the year at breakeven. My projections at the end of September indicated we will be about \$20-25,000 short at the end of the year unless we

continue to increase our collections or find some way to decrease the expected expenses between now and the end of the year. I've worked with the staff in trying to keep our expenses at a minimum for the entire year and for the remainder of the year. At this point, I believe our best approach is to have good collections for the remainder of the year—and hope we don't have to be in competition with the snow. I can't overstress the importance of all of us working collectively to make sure we have a breakeven year.

This would be a great time for everyone to consider giving just a little more than planned between now and the end of the year. If our collections increased about 8% for October, November and December it would make up the \$20-25,000 projected gap between expected income and expected expenses.

**So Many Choices Makes Giving Easy And Convenient.** Cash, check, card (and card holder) present credit card transactions, scheduled automatic withdrawals from checking or credit card accounts and online credit card transactions are all available to you for doing transactions with St Luke's. The following is a general summary:

- General Fund and Capital Campaign: All methods except card present credit card transactions.
- Grocery Cards: Cash, Check, Scheduled automatic withdrawal from checking accounts.
- Special Events: Depending on the type of event may include cash, check, card present credit card and credit card online transactions. The method(s) available at each event will be announced at the time of the event and are at the discretion of the sponsor. i.e., *Music Man* methods included cash, check, online credit card reservations and credit cards for the silent auction. It appears about 40% of the reservations were made online.

**Have You Started Your Financial Planning For The Year End?** Shame on me for mentioning "year end." We haven't even celebrated Thanksgiving and Christmas. However, it is less than 60 days away. Here are some things you may want to consider:

1. You may want to pay the remainder of your pledges to the general fund and the capital campaign fund by transferring securities to the church and taking the advantages of the tax benefits of doing that. You could include your future year(s) pledges in the one transfer. The amounts for the future year(s) would be put in prepaid and applied in the appropriate time period. Contact me for assistance and to get the routing information your broker will need to make the transfer.
2. If you need more deductions in 2007, you might consider prepaying future pledges. The amounts for the future would be put in prepaid and applied in the appropriate time period. Just mark your checks accordingly.
3. Make plans to get your last minute giving to the church on or before December 31. We will consider all collections received during 2007 as 2007 contributions unless instructed to apply them to a future year. Contributions received in the mail after December 31 will be posted to 2007 only if they are post marked on or before December 31 and we are not instructed to apply them as 2008 giving.
4. If you are 70 ½ years of age, you may be able to roll some of your IRA funds to the church and reduce your taxable income. Check with your tax adviser for this one. Also, as of now, 2007 is your last opportunity to take advantage of this benefit.





# 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.*

### NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2007 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>11</b> Native American Sunday Rev. Janet Forbes preaching <b>8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship</b> <b>9:30am: Orientation of St. Luke's</b> <b>5:30pm: SLY PM</b> <b>7:34pm: Fusion Worship</b> 	<b>12</b> <b>7:00pm: Trustees</b>	<b>13</b> <b>7:00pm: Adult Education Team</b>	<b>14</b> <b>7:00am: Communion &amp; Morning Prayer</b> <b>6:30pm: SLAM</b>	<b>15</b> <b>6:45am: Donut Whole</b> <b>6:30pm: Youth Disciple</b> <b>6:30pm: Jazz at St. Luke's Concert</b>	<b>16</b> <b>6:30pm: Chick Flick</b>	<b>17</b> <b>10:00am: Discovery Club</b>
<b>18</b> "Hearts for Ministry" Celebration Sunday & Brunch Rev. Janet Forbes preaching <b>8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship</b> <b>6:00pm: SLY PM</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <b>7:00pm: Scrapbook Circle</b>	<b>21</b> <b>No Little School</b> <b>7:00am: Communion &amp; Morning Prayer</b> <b>6:30pm: SLAM</b>	<b>22</b> <b>HAPPY THANKSGIVING</b> Church office closed <b>No Little School</b>	<b>23</b> Church office closed <b>No Little School</b>	<b>24</b> <b>8:00am: Hanging of the Greens</b> <b>9:00am: Children's Hanging of the Greens</b>
<b>25</b> Rev. Janet Forbes preaching <b>8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship</b> <b>9:30am: Orientation of St. Luke's</b> <b>6:00pm: Tree Lighting</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <b>7:00am: Communion &amp; Morning Prayer</b> <b>6:30pm: Charge Conference</b> <b>6:30pm: SLAM</b>	<b>29</b> <b>6:45am: Donut Whole</b> <b>6:30pm: Youth Disciple</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>DEC 1</b> <b>9:00am: Holiday Shop</b> <b>9:00am: Cantata Rehearsal</b>
<b>2</b> <b>Christmas Cantata</b> <b>9:00 &amp; 11:00am: Worship</b> <b>8:30am: Holiday Shop</b> <b>8:30am: Breakfast Fundraiser</b> <b>6:00pm: SLY PM</b> <b>6:00pm: SLY, Jr.</b>	<b>3</b> <b>Little School</b> <b>St. Nick Day</b>	<b>4</b> <b>Little School</b> <b>St. Nick Day</b> <b>6:00pm: UMW Holiday Candlelight Dinner</b>	<b>5</b> <b>7:00am: Communion &amp; Morning Prayer</b> <b>6:30pm: SLAM</b>	<b>6</b> <b>6:45am: Donut Whole</b> <b>6:30pm: Youth Disciple</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>