



Highlands Ranch, Colorado

The CHRONICLE

ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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and much more!

Sunday, September 7 Keep It Simple

Serve.

Connect.

Transform.

Serve. Connect. Transform. These are three simple words that really speak to the core of what St. Luke's seeks to offer. We want to offer you ways to be served while at the same time offering you ways to serve others... we want you to connect with other people, connect with a deeper part of yourself, and connect with God... all while experiencing a transformative presence of God's grace in your life. These really are simple words, but they are powerful experiences offered to you through the many ministries of St. Luke's.

So for our Ministry Fair 2008, our theme is "**Keep It Simple - Serve, Connect, Transform**" because it really is simple to experience all of these opportunities in our community.

The Ministry Fair is an opportunity for you to check out and talk with people involved in all of the many ministries of St. Luke's. The best part is, all you have to do is come on Sunday the 7th of September, we'll bring the ministries to you! See, that is simple! On September 7th between each morning service, we invite you to wander through the fellowship hall and see all of the wonderful ways you can further Serve Connect and Transform here at St. Luke's... It's that simple.

Mission Mexico *by Maureen Wright*

Shortly after noon on Saturday, July 5, two buses left the St. Luke's parking lot loaded with youth, adults, and excitement. Driving into the night, we left the famous "Highlands Ranch bubble" behind and transitioned into new territory. Gazing at the rocky, empty Mojave Desert, one could imagine we had already left our comfort zones. However, when we hit San Diego, we found two Starbucks right across the street, along with familiar food chains and fancy cars. Maybe we weren't so far from home. Then we crossed the border, and our bubble exploded. Exploded in such a way that it could never be put back together. It wasn't just the Spanish billboards and signage. It wasn't just the crumbling roads. It was poverty, stark and raw, occurring everywhere. Even in the city of Ensenada, many houses stood unfinished, their naked cement blocks neglected in favor of a more vital task.

We arrived at the Youth Unlimited Gospel Outreach (YUGO) headquarters and settled into our home away from home. The first night, we met the families for whom we would be building houses. YUGO works with local churches and their pastors, who nominate families to receive a house. Through translators, we learned that the families were excited for their houses, and grateful for our fellowship.

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Feeding of the 5000: We Need U2!

Last year the St. Luke's and Highlands Ranch community spent a day at Civic Green enjoying fun, fellowship, music and food – all while raising enough food and money to feed 7000 people. This special even was the official kick-off to our 25th Anniversary Year. And what a year it was. We will continue this special event to feed families in Denver this year, as a conclusion to our Anniversary Year.

This year we have a very special way to engage the community and all of you in the Feeding of the 5000. And we will need all of you. Denver Urban Ministries is receiving more than double the requests than they did less than two years ago, so we are going to double the 5000 and try to feed 10,000 people with the donations from this year's Feeding of the 5000.

As a part of this special outreach ministry, we will be offering a two night event known as a **U2charist**. This name comes from the combining of the word Eucharist, the formal name for Communion, and U2, one of the longest lasting, biggest selling, and socially active rock bands in history.

This special service will be a worship service set to the music of U2, with a special message shared and communion. It is an amazing and transformational evening, as songs you have heard and sung to on the radio become the setting for our connection with God.

You have two chances to participate so put **October 4 and 5 at 7:34pm** on your calendar. It will be at our Fusion service time Sunday and on Saturday. You can come to one or both!

To reach this amazing goal of feeding 10,000 people, we will need U2! (That's you, too! The band is cool and all, but we really want you.)

Under Construction!



The calendar is moving ahead quite well for the Bold Venture construction of a new youth/adult education wing and chapel. The remodeling of the children's ministries rooms is almost completed with new paint and floor coverings. Little School will then begin the re-certification process with the state of Colorado standards for preschools.

The concrete foundation walls are curing with plans to pour the floor of the new youth wing by the end of July. Delivery of the steel framing is anticipated in the next few weeks. The addition should begin to take shape through the month of August.



Check the **TRUSTEES CORNER** for the list of Memorial & Honorarium Gifts that are designated for special giving. If you were not able to give to the capital campaign, please consider a one time gift in memory or in honor of a loved one.

Thank you to the Building Committee for their great leadership with A.D. Miller Construction: Scott Kohrs (chairperson), David Rhodes, Randy Larson, Joyce Carnes, Dee Duncan, Ken Fong, Sandi Miyaki, Marge Harper, Peter Waldheim, Tim Krening, and Terri Ary. Dave Cupp and Janet Forbes are staff liaisons.

Sunday Worship Services:

8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am
7:34pm: Fusion

Sunday School:

Adult, Youth & Children:

9:30am & 11:00am

Nursery available for

9:30am & 11:00am services

Church Office: 303-791-0659

Fax: 303-470-5615

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

Childcare Reservations.....x47

Email: office@stlukeshr.com

Website: www.stlukeshr.com

Staff:

Rev. Janet Forbes.....x13

Senior Minister

Emergency: 303-241-9312

Rev. Pam Rowley.....x32

Associate Minister

Emergency: 720-348-1528

Rev. Brad Laurvick.....x12

Associate Minister

Emergency: 720-296-1251

James Ramsey.....x23

Director of Music Ministry & the Arts

Kay Coryell.....x36

Associate Director of Music Ministry

Ken Mervine.....x42

Organist/Accompanist

Josh Carr.....x44

Fusion Worship Leader

Carrie Mallery.....x35

Assistant Fusion Worship Leader

Chris Wilterdink.....x14

Director of Youth Ministry

Susan Johnson.....x19

Assistant Director of Youth Ministry

Marcus Carlson.....x27

Minister to Children and their Families

Lynne Butler.....x11

Assistant Director of Children's Ministry

Kristina Linn.....x40

Director of Childcare

Lynda Fickling.....x20

Director of Servant Ministry

Bonnie Funk.....x10

Church Secretary

Dave Cupp.....x24

Director of Finance

Lisé Takayama.....x16

Assistant Director of Finance

Barry Curtis.....x39

Facilities Manager

Kay Swanson.....303-791-1982

Director of Little School

All articles, photos and
announcements for the
September issue of

The Chronicle are due

August 20th

Editor: Sharon Oliver

chronicle@stlukeshr.com



Rev. Janet Forbes
Senior Pastor

Methodist Life: Three Simple Rules for Life

This fall, St. Luke's will seek the Methodist way of life in three simple rules.

Bishop Reuben Job wrote a wonderful little volume which, if implemented, will revolutionize our life! John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement, espoused three simple rules for life:

*Do no harm,
Do good, and
Stay in love with God.*

Though these rules sound amazingly simple, practicing them may indeed be the hardest thing we've ever done. This small book shows how difficult the instructions of Jesus (and Wesley) can be in real life, and yet how rewarding they can be, if we simply take them to heart.

The main point is to stay in love with God. If we do this, the rest will follow. As Bishop Job says, "Holy living will not be discovered, achieved, continued, and sustained without staying in love with God."

And while staying in love with God involves prayer, worship, study, and the Lord's Supper, it also involved feeding the lambs, tending the sheep, and providing for the needs of others as recorded in John 21: 15-16.

Feeding the lambs and tending the sheep are the signs of love that we exchange with God. And they are signs of love that our neighborhood, our state, and our world can understand. Spiritual disciplines not only include practices that bind us to God every day but they also include actions that heal the pain, injustice, and inequality of our world. It is impossible to stay in love with God and not desire to see God's goodness and grace woven into the fabric of the human community.

The rules are simple, but the way is not easy. Only those with great courage will attempt it, and only those with great faith will be able to walk this exciting and demanding way.

As we begin the next twenty-five years of our life as a community of faith, let's be guided by three simple rules for life: do no harm, do good, and stay in love with God.

Janet —Rev. Janet

Spirituality: A Core Value at St. Luke's



New Logo

"Spiritual" has been added to the St. Luke's logo. The logo can be found on the Communication team page at www.stlukeshr.com for downloading for use on St. Luke's materials.

There is a hunger abroad in our time, haunting lives and hearts.

Like an empty stomach aching beneath the shiny coat of a well-fed creature, it reveals that something is missing from the diet of our rational, secular, and affluent culture. Both within and beyond our St. Luke's community, a hunger for spiritual depth and integrity is gaining momentum.

For some of us, the hunger is amorphous. Like free-floating anxiety, it lurks just below the surface of consciousness. Perhaps we feel an emptiness that leaves us restless for a larger meaning and purpose in life. Perhaps we sense that we are sailing through life in a rudderless ship. Something is missing. Something is out of balance. But it remains nameless.

For others of us, the hunger is recognizably spiritual. We know there is a vacuum inside us that will draw upon an infinite supply of thrills, good, and successes without satisfying the human heart. We are aware of needing a transcendent compass. Suffering has opened us to questions for which there are no easy answers — perhaps no answers at all. We have come to believe that only a power beyond this life can give meaning to our choices and circumstances.

Yet older patterns of religious life seem antiquated and inadequate. For the first time, people are separating their spirituality from religion.

In the 25th year of our life as a congregation, St. Luke's has added a fourth core value to its understanding of life and ministry. We are now a community that seeks to live as invitational, relational, missional, and spiritual people. Together, we will engage in practices that will help us to attend to the life of God's Spirit in us and in the world.

The spiritual life in Christ is a reality that has already been given to us. It is ours to claim if we have the courage to embrace it. The Christian journey is different from the patterns of the world we know so well. In place of degradation, it means reverence and respect for all of life. Instead of the politics of power, it embodies humble and joyful service. In place of retribution and revenge, it offers forgiveness and reconciliation. Beyond the forces of diminishment, it holds out healing and life. Instead of fear and anxiety, it offers trust in God. This life in Christ provides realistic hope for a realistic life!

SPIRITUAL JOURNEY

Discernment, Spiritual Reflection & Spiritual Direction

by Leigh Ramsey

I used to give a long and complicated answer when people asked: what is Discernment? If you ask me today I will answer discernment is a co-creative relationship between God, you and your faith community. That's it. It is how I experience discernment every day.

That is not to say that I am praying, meditating and cultivating my relationship with the sacred every waking moment. Yet, it does mean that discernment has become a way of life for me. I consciously engage in discernment by participating in co-creative relationships all the time. Co-creative relationships are the life-giving relationships you share with people in your circle of trust, to borrow a term from Parker Palmer.

These co-creative relationships may be cultivated through friendships, shared missions, spiritual direction, Bible studies, book clubs, etc. Anywhere you find your circle of trust you may also find companions for your discernment journey. God's wisdom and guidance is available to us in a number of ways especially through these co-creative relationships. If you listen openly to the wisdom in your circle of trust, you may find people in your life carrying a piece of your puzzle.

One of my favorite discernment quotes is from Philip Yancey, "Faith means trusting in advance what will make sense only in reverse." Discernment requires this kind of faith.

Do you use the words "luck" or "coincidence" when you experience an unexpected, positive shift in your life? When I listen to these "lucky" stories sometimes the hair stands up on my arm. It is clear to me what you experienced was the holy mystery at work. It was no lucky accident you met just the right person, at the right time who told you about (what you later realized was) your dream job!

God blesses us with these delights all the time - sometimes from the Spirit, sometimes from our friends, frequently from folks in our circle of trust. Look for these blessings. Listen for the wisdom, both from within and from your circle of trust. Trust the wisdom and the blessings as they come to you and you will learn how to cultivate a daily practice of discernment. Soon you will begin to make life choices from this discerning place; a place of wisdom, knowledge and grace.

There are opportunities for cultivating co-creative relationships at St. Luke's. If you are interested in deepening your relationship with God and engaging in spiritual reflection consider the following:

"Lynda's class was very helpful as I continue my spiritual journey. The biggest 'aaahaa' for me was to not be shy about using and developing my spiritual gifts. Just because something is a gift and easy does not diminish the significance of your actions." -Kyle

The Servant by Design Class is intended to help you begin a journey toward a God-centered life by discovering how you are designed to serve. The class focuses on helping you discern: Your Life Gifts • Your Spiritual Gifts • What you do best • What you are passionate about • What you value

The Listening Hearts Class (offered this Fall) could also be called Discernment 101. This class is an excellent introduction to the concepts of Discernment and Call and would be a great follow up to the Servant By Design class.

Listening Hearts class topics include: What is Call? • Call to Ministry • What is Discernment? • Conditions for Discernment • Is it God we are hearing? • The importance of Christian Community • The value of Discernment groups • Supporting the ministry of others • Accountability for ministries

Spiritual Direction may be called many things including: Soul Friendship, Spiritual Mentoring or Spiritual Life Coaching! Spiritual Direction is the art of companioning another on the spiritual journey. It involves looking for the energy, presence and movement of God in your life through your sacred stories. St. Luke's has a growing vision for Spiritual Direction including: Spiritual Direction for individuals • Group and organizational spiritual direction • Workshops, retreats, classes, facilitated book studies

"My husband and I took the Servant by Design class together just a month or two after we got married. During the class we learned about ourselves and each other. This new insight really strengthened the foundation of our relationship, allowing us to better understand and relate to each other at a pivotal transition. Beyond that, the class really helped me understand myself and what my spiritual gifts are. While it didn't provide me with the formal answers and directions I might have thought I needed, it taught me how to better listen to God and discern His will for my life. In the months since the class, this has been a life-changing lesson that has allowed me the strength and patience to head down paths I would have never imagined before." -Jackie

MISSIONS

Midwest Floods - UMCOR is involved in helping the people in the Midwest recover from the devastating floods. If you would like to contribute, you can write a check to St. Luke's UMC with "UMCOR #901670 - Midwest floods" on the memo line.

Mission Opportunity - A recent visitor to our church, Kathy Hess, runs a mission to help repair United Methodist churches in San Antonio. She invites all to come and help! Both professionals and non-experienced people needed. See www.churchconnectionstx.com for more details or call 210 872 6329. DenUM Appreciates Our Food Donations!

Food Bank - As a result of our special "Fill the Truck" food drive for DenUM's food bank in May and June, we delivered about 2000 pounds of food to DenUM. Yes, we all really did donate a ton of food! On Thursday morning, July 24, DenUM ran out of food (despite our 1 ton donation) and had to turn people away. They went out and purchased some food for the afternoon. The last time DenUM ran out was last January. In June 2008, 1129 families were served with emergency food compared with 555 families in June 2007 - a 100% increase! DenUM and their clients really appreciate the food we donate!

Pop Cans for Milk! Fourth grader Ransom Tyson's interview with Jan Rufien about the Guatemala Mission Trip and what we can do to help:

RT:What is the mission committee?

JR: St. Luke's has a good team and we have lots of missions to help people in Colorado and all around the world. One of our main projects is to help children in Guatemala.

RT:What were some things you did on the trip?

JR: In the mission team, we went to Guatemala and we took 1,000 toothbrushes because the children have such poor dental health. They don't see dentists, and they drink soda and eat candy all day.

RT:What was the best and worst part of your trip?

JR: I thought the best part in Guatemala was running the Bible Camp. Children's smiles are the same in every language. The worst part of the trip was getting up early every day. And I was upset that the big beverage companies make soda so cheap that children drink soda and their teeth rot.

RT:What can kids do for missions?

JR: The kids of St. Luke's can raise money to buy milk for the children and their families.

RT:Hey fellow kids! Let's get going on raising money by turning soda cans into milk money! There is a place called Can Land in north Denver that pays \$0.70 for each pound of cans brought to them. They are open on Saturdays and we could meet one or two Saturdays this Summer and have a caravan of cans and kids to this place. One giant can of powdered milk only costs \$12.00 and will provide enough milk for a family for 2 months. Let's make a difference in the life of another kid like us!

SERVING ST. LUKE'S



Lynda Fickling
Director of
Servant Ministry



We are Called to Serve

Serving God by Serving Others in the Church, Community, and the World

Ushers: Open invitation to all that are interested in serving as ushers during our worship services. Ushers typically serve on a quarterly basis. If you would enjoy connecting to our community through ushering, please contact Shawn Slade at 303-660-6113 denverslade@msn.com

Guest Service Station: If you enjoy being invitational and relational, please consider serving as our "concierge." After the greeters, you are the next person guests see. Help them locate rooms, answer simple questions and be welcoming to all that enter our doors on Sunday mornings. Serve one Sunday a month for 30 minutes. Please contact Debbie Miller 303-791-8921 mills1414@aol.com

Communications & Outreach: Seeking a team leader/co-ordinator to help the team stay on track and meet deadlines. This team is filled with dedicated, driven and gifted servants needing a project manager who has a passion for this team. Contact Jim Ramsey 303-791-0659x23 jim@stlukeshr.com for more information.

Caring Connection: Looking for a way to get more involved at St. Luke's based on your time and availability? Have we got the opportunity for you! The Caring Connection is a group within the church that serves by taking meals to families in need, making companion visits, running errands or providing transportation for individuals and families at St. Luke's and the surrounding community. As needs arise, we notify the group via email. If you can help, you respond and if not, there's always another opportunity ahead. If you're interested in joining the Caring Connection, we'd love to have you. Please contact Nancy Jackson at nljackson@comcast.net or at 303-798-2713. Thanks in advance for prayerfully considering this outreach.

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

Realize your potential for living a God-centered life!

NEW MEMBERS - JULY 2008

WELCOME



John & Sylvia Brady
"Love everything about it,
especially handicap accessible."



Wally Speers
"Friendly, warm atmosphere
where God can easily find you."

Joining St. Luke's

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

PRAYER CONCERNS



Week Ending August 1, 2008

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

Gerry Wright (Gail Abernathy's mother)	Brent Webber
Beth Turner	(friend of Nancy Cushing)
Jennie Keefer (Mike Hutchins' daughter)	Jack Miller
Brian Day (Eileen Law's nephew)	(friend of Susan/Laura Northrop)
Norma Harris	Diane Baker (Mary Romke's sister)
John Covey (friend of Ross Barnard)	Grace Hagman
Amber Cunningham	(friend of the Cushing family)
(friend of Amy Antinoro)	Susan (Jill Wright's mother)
Gordon Lewis (friend of Ken Fong)	Alice Brimberry
Kristi Fesler (Mona Daniel's friend)	(John Brimberry's mother)
Norm Keller (Candy Keller's father)	Vicky Stone (LS teacher)
Pat Clem (neighbor of Doug Wagner)	Jennifer Valdez (Gov. Lucero's cousin)
Alberta Haas	Paula Peterson (friend of Rachel Nolder)
Warren Goss (Charlie William's friend)	Amy Spicher (Doug Spicher's mother)
Jim Bailey (Melissa Moberly's father)	Richard O'Neill
Ronda Olson	(Becky Hutchins' father)
Paula Strader (Sandi Miyaki's sister)	Carol Bryden (Kay Swanson's mother)
Judy Austin (Mary Jo Weber's sister)	Scott Stephenson
Gail Carlson (Mike Hutchins' neighbor)	(Valerie Goodstein's friend)
Pat Dublin (Bob Davis' mother)	Lori Lieberman
Robert Abbott, Sr.	(friend of Jane Damsgard)
(Nancy Abbott's father-in-law)	Jed Bennett (Fred & Jean Bennett's son)
Al Tulenko (Bobbi King's neighbor)	Joy Archibald
Matthew Peterman's cousin, Matthew	(Fred & Jean Bennett's daughter)
Julie Hayes	Thelma Ready (Ken Ready's mother)
(friend of Susan Werthington)	Margie Stephenson
Susan Johnson	(friend of Kathy Hess)
Tim Kessler (Jenny Stevenson's friend)	Thelma Hodge (Meryl Cupp's mother)
Amy Rezvani (friend of Eileen Law)	Herb Siewert
Jan Lanham	(Heather Swanson's uncle/Ms Kay)
Bernice Haskell	Patty Hertel (Sandy Thompson's sister)
(friend of Steve Marshke)	Diane Wieland
Stephanie Stanley	(friend of Bobbi King's)
(Jane Damsgard's aunt)	Loraine Berg (friend of Bobbi King's)
George Hutchins	Pam Wiethoff
(Mike Hutchins' father)	Sarah Boon
Sharon Liston (Cindy Raap's mother)	Brenda Schafer
Barbara Fielder	Harriet Smith (Dewey Smith's mother)
(friend of Barb Decker's)	Charlie Rufien
Robert McGill (Sharon Oliver's father)	James Hewitt
Maureen Hoffman	(friend of Brenda Schafer's)
(Monty Hoffman's mother)	
Beverly Dadds (Terri Korpall's mother)	
Bob Ross (Edee worth's brother)	
Donald Dancy	
(Friend of Angela Chaplin)	

SYMPATHIES:

To Mitch and Kelly Owens on the passing of Mitch's mother, July 26
To Brenda Schafer on the passing of her friend, Charlotte Hewitt, July 29.

College-Bound Students! Does your church have students heading off to C.U. at Boulder? If so, please provide their names and contact info to the Wesley Foundation campus ministry so we can reach out to them and love them! Contact: Rev. Roger Wolsey, brotherrog@hotmail.com or Wesley Foundation, 1290 Folsom St., Boulder, CO 80302 303.443.3934. www.wesleyf.org

Also... The Wesley Foundation at C.U. Boulder is in dire need of having their parking lot repaved and they need help to do it! If you can help please contact Jean Scraggs or Rev. Roger Wolsey, brotherrog@hotmail.com or 303-443-3934. Financial donations also appreciated!



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

More from Les:

"Lord, I want patience and I want it now!"

Mark 4:26-29: He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

I tend to be very impatient; and sometimes it gets me into trouble.

Years ago, while traveling in rural Alaska for my company, I stayed at a small cabin at a remote lodge. It had been built and remodeled several times over the years, but I had not stayed in this one before. The bath in my room had a shower with a single water spray outlet and a hand-operated mixing valve that blended hot and cold water to control the shower spray temperature. The valve was located several feet from the spray head. And, as I learned later, the hot water was very hot and the cold water near freezing! On the first morning after arriving, I turned on the shower, waited a few moments and then stepped in. The water was freezing! I quickly reached to the mixing valve and moved it towards hot. Nothing happened! I moved the valve again and then, suddenly, the water was nearly scalding! I jumped back, reached over to the valve, and turned it toward cold. When nothing happened, I turned it further to cold; suddenly the water was nearly freezing again!

Through several cycles of trial and error (obviously by a slow learner), I realized that I was making changes too quickly! I wasn't letting the new mixture of hot and cold water reach the spray head before making a second adjustment. I was shooting past the desired temperature. I learned that the desired mixture of hot and cold water could only be reached by slowly making small changes in the mixing valve and then waiting till equilibrium had been reached before I moved the valve again. By allowing several seconds delay, I could reach the desired shower temperature and get comfortably warm water in a steady, reliable stream. (Comfortable, of course, until a person in the cabin next door turned on the shower!) **Patience was the key!**

So many of the things we try to influence in our lives are like that. We exert significant effort to achieve some goal or make some change. But often, we perceive that our efforts have been wasted when we fail to quickly see some notable change.

Our children, grandchildren and others we care for provide as good an example I can think of that demonstrates a significant and well-known fact about the process of growth and change. If we take one snapshot of our kids and their world and another one about a week or maybe even a month later, we would not likely see any change. Even if our efforts have been significant over that short time, we will likely see no perceptible difference. What may seem to be equivalent to a year's worth of work on our part appears to yield no measurable change. They still won't clean up their room, they still watch too much T.V., and they just must absolutely have those new athletic shoes! The older ones continually insist on forgetting to let you know that they're going to be out later that they originally promised. They may have become taller, but they are no more communicative, and they seem to have failed to internalize all those gems of wisdom we have showered upon them! But then, one day, we see a tall, self-confident young woman striding to the platform to receive her diploma. We see nervous, smiling young man reciting his wedding vows. We begin to hear expressions of values and attitudes coming from them that seem vaguely familiar.

Our expectations of quick success sometimes blinds us to the good things that are happening. We need to wait till the temperature of the shower spray has responded to our action, we need to test the outcome before doing something else. Our God sets the stage, we must perform the play. We are called to be the reference point, the safe haven, the source of positive reinforcement and encouragement. This requires no small effort and we cannot accomplish these without patience, hope, and preparation.

"Luck" is described as that which occurs when opportunity meets preparation. Good fortune, positive outcomes, wholeness of life do not happen to us automatically, they are the result of patient effort, a consciousness of the positive actions of our Lord, a commitment to God's service, love of all His children and action on our part when the time is right, and especially the wisdom to know when the time is right.

God Bless us all! —Rev. Les

Take a look at all of the offerings Adult Education will be facilitating this fall! Please stop by the sign up table, in the Narthex, or contact Lynne Butler, at lynne@stlukeshr.com or 303-791-0659 x11, for more information.

Wednesday evening (PM) classes are from 6:30-8:30pm, Thursday morning (AM) classes are from 9:30-11:30am, Sunday morning (AM) classes are at 9:30am and Sunday evening (PM) classes are from 6:00-8:00pm.

Disciple Classes:

Disciple 1 - with Janet Forbes, Thurs. AM

Disciple 1 - with Jack Goodman, Wed. PM

Disciple 2 - Wednesday PM

Disciple 2 - with Mike Hutchins - Thurs. AM

Disciple 3 - with Lynne Butler - Thurs. AM

Disciple 4 - with Randy Dunn - Wed. PM

Disciple 4 - with Steve Collins - Thurs. AM

Disciple 4 - with Ed Heyse - Sun. PM

Non-Disciple Classes:

Success Connection Group - This groups is in the early stages, so no exact time yet decided. It is a problem solving group which supports each other in bringing their Christian values to the workplace.

Live, Laugh, Love Club - Holly Benkleman and Erika Brimberry - the 4th Tuesday PM of each month

Short Term Disciple - Psalms with Les Ludlam, Wednesday PM

Short Term Disciple - Romans with Lisé Takayama, Thursday AM

The Gap Group - with Jim Hemphill, Wednesday PM

Discernment 101: Listening Hearts - with Leigh Ramsey and Linda Fickling, This 9 week class is a great introduction to discernment, call and community. It provides participants an opportunity to grow in their relationship with God; to increase a sense of listening for God in themselves, through others and in everyday occurrences; and to become more aware of the value of the support of a faith community. The facilitated class will explore the relationship of call, discernment and community through weekly reading, shared group reflection, facilitated discussions and group prayer. Tues. 7:00-8:30pm.

Servant by Design - with Lynda Fickling and Brenda Schafer, Wednesday PM. This is an 8-week course to help discover who you are... Why are YOU here? What do YOU do best? What are YOU passionate about? What do You value? What are Your priorities? Discover your life gifts and spiritual gifts, personality type and values and passions.

A new class is forming... - with Steve Treat, Tuesday or Thursday PM. What do Methodists really believe and how does that fit into the post-modern world? This class will explore and discuss the many books and ideas.

Ongoing Classes:

Study of Christian Thought - with Ann Roadarmel - Sunday AM

Christian Connection - with Scott Wesson - Sunday AM

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Lynne Butler
Assistant Director of
Children's Ministry



Kristina Linn
Director of
Childcare



Performers from the Children's Dinner Theater present a check to The Kids Mobility Network in the amount of \$804! In May, the children presented a play called *The Magic in Me*. The Kids Mobility Network is a local organization that accepts used equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers, etc, repairs and refurbishes the equipment, and gives them to children who cannot afford the equipment they need to do basic activities such as leaving their home. The performers, 1st-6th graders, learned a lot about caring for everyone and did a great job helping to raise money. Thanks kids!

An all-new look is coming for 5th and 6th graders and we are calling it "Tween Scene" The new construction, gives us (Children's Ministry) a great opportunity to spice up our program a bit. Kindergarten Sunday School has moved to a classroom in the Goliath Area and will join the Workshop Rotation in September. Seven grades, K-6th, are too many classes to run an effective rotation program. We are taking the opportunity to create a new program for our 5th and 6th graders! They will have their own room, the same one every week, the Matthew room or better known as the "Tween Room at 9:30am on Sundays. They will have their own curriculum, designed especially for the savvy pre-teens of today. We are currently putting this program together. All adults are welcome to become a part of this engaging team. Contact Lynne Butler at lynne@stlukeshr.com or x11.

Exciting events to watch for this fall include: Kick-off Sunday, Discovery Club, God and Country, Blessing of the Animals, Pumpkins, Fall Festival, Third Grade Bibles and much more!!

VBS Starts St. Luke's Recycling Program! Once again, St. Luke's was filled to overflowing with children, parents, youth and other adults participating in Vacation Bible School. Our week was filled with learning how to practice the words of 1 John 3:18 "Let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action." This message was presented through games, crafts, snacks, music, Bible stories and we won't soon forget our daily opening skits with Otto and Spike, two surfer dudes who taught us to be kind, obey, be bold, be forgiving and believe. Our mission, this year, was to kick-off a recycling program here at St. Luke's. You will notice the small blue and large green



bins around the church. These are single stream bins which means we can recycle almost everything – paper, all plastics, aluminum, cardboard, etc. Each room in the building has one of these bins and we would like to encourage you to use them when you discard acceptable products. All of our kitchen products are now recyclable with the exception of the plates. So after you enjoy that cup of coffee and donut, just throw your cup and napkin in the recycle bin instead of the trash can. Our Vacation Bible School proceeds were used to purchase all of the bins and the first few months of recycle service. The children and adults of VBS learned that we can all make a difference if we each do our part. Thank you to everyone for your help to make VBS a huge success. It was a ton of fun!!

LITTLE SCHOOL NEWS

Summer is rapidly coming to a close and I can't believe that Little School will be gearing up for our 14th year! Lots of changes are happening and we are hoping that all of the inside construction will be completed for the opening of school on September 3. We are all trying to be as flexible as possible and are amazed at the progress that they make each day.

LITTLE SCHOOL PARENT OPEN

HOUSE will be held on AUGUST 28. This is for parents ONLY and it is a time for you to meet your child's new teachers and hear all about the year at Little School:

MON/WED/FRI PARENTS and EXPLORERS attend 6:30-6:50pm downstairs in your child's classroom and upstairs (sanctuary) with Ms. Kay 7:00-7:20pm

TUES/THUR attend 6:30-6:50pm upstairs (sanctuary) with Ms. Kay and downstairs in your child's classroom 7:00-7:20pm.

We are hoping that all will attend, but we understand that there may be conflicts.

CHILDREN'S OPEN HOUSE will be held on SEPT. 2. This is a great opportunity to let your child enjoy meeting their new teachers and their new classmates! For those of you who cannot attend parents open house, there will be an opportunity to pick up information that day:

MON/WED/FRI CHILDREN and EXPLORERS - 10:00-10:30 am (DROP IN AND OUT)

TUES/THURS CHILDREN - 11:00-11:30am (DROP IN AND OUT)

REGULAR CLASSES BEGIN SEPT. 3 FOR MON/WED/FRI AND EXPLORERS AND SEPT 4TH FOR TUES/THURS.

We can't wait to see everyone and hear about your summer adventures. If you would like to volunteer at Little School or are interested in being a (paid) substitute teacher or assistant, please email Ms. Kay at kay@stlukehr.com and we will be more than happy to put you to work!

Blessings on the rest of your beautiful summer time! —Ms. Kay & Staff:-)

Editor's Note: Kay Swanson was recently elected to the Denver Metro Board of the Colorado Association of Education for Young Children (CAEYC). This board is representative of Early Childhood leaders that are interested in the future of Early Childhood Education in Colorado and is the line to the National Board (NAEYC) and has a closer connection with the Governor and ECE policies. She also serves as the President of the ECCDA (Early Childhood Christian Director's Assoc.)



Kay Swanson
Director of
Little School

OUR COMMUNITY



AIDS Walk Colorado

Saturday, September 6 - Cheesman Park

Since first being recognized in 1981, AIDS has killed more than 25 million people, making it one of the most destructive epidemics in recorded history. While the rate of infection in the US has dropped dramatically, there is a growing number of people newly infected world-wide, including women and children.

Pretty depressing... But there is hope...

In years past, the Colorado AIDS Walk has conflicted with St. Luke's annual Kick-Off Sunday activities so we've done our own AIDS Walk BUT this year the 21st Annual AIDS Walk Colorado will be Saturday, September 6! A great opportunity for St. Luke's to support the largest fundraiser in the Rocky Mountains (supporting the 10,000-15,000 people living with HIV/AIDS in Colorado, and preventing additional infections.)

The Colorado AIDS Project seeks to improve the lives of those living with HIV/AIDS, and to prevent infection through education and support. In addition, CAP supports other non-profit organizations that provide support to those living with HIV/AIDS. Last year groups that benefitted from the AIDS Walk included:

Angels Unaware
ARTS Special Services
Boulder County AIDS Project
Chesney-Kleinjohn Housing, Inc.
CHIP - Children's Hospital
Immunodeficiency Program
Denver Health – HIV/AIDS Services
Hemophilia Society of Colorado
Hep C Connection
HIV Care Link
Howard Dental Center
Jewish Family Service/Hearts and Hands Homemaker Program
Josh Gomes AIDS Scholarship
Mental Health Center of Denver

Northern Colorado AIDS Project
Orlando's Way
Pieta House
PFLAG Denver
Project Angel Heart
RAIN Colorado
Rainbow Alley
Servicios de la Raza
Shadowcliff HIV Retreat
Southern Colorado AIDS Project
The Yoga Group
Visiting Nurse Association
The Women's AIDS Project
The Women's Lighthouse Project

Susan McIntosh has started a team page at aidswalkcolorado.org and encourages everyone who's interested to register to walk with the team, or to make a donation. T-shirts for the event are given to team members who gather \$75 in pledges.

To get started, go to www.aidswalkcolorado.org and follow the links to join a team (look for St. Luke's United Methodist Church in the list of teams.) Or, just let Susan know that you're interested (303-347-0727 or susanrmcintosh@yahoo.com)

Tentative Schedule:

8:00am	Team St. Luke's leaves from church parking lot
8:30am	Registration Opens
10:00am	Opening Ceremonies Begin
10:30am	Run and Walk Step-Off
11:30am	Run Awards Ceremony
11:45am	Entertainment Begins
12:30am	Closing Commences
1:00pm	Back at church

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



UMW Team Board Meetings The UMW Board has a new meeting day and time. We now meet the 2nd Sunday, noon-1:00pm each month. All St. Luke's women are welcome. Starting with the Sunday, Aug. 10 meeting we're planning the Sept. Kick-off and the Christmas Candlelight Dinner. We want you to be a part of the planning!

Set Sunday, Sept. 14 aside for our **Fall Pie and Prayer Kickoff!** The program will be "Weaving Prayer Into Our Everyday Lives", lead by our own Spiritual Leaders! Look for more details coming soon on our UMW Bulletin Board found in Fellowship Hall.

UMW Book Group (meets the 4th Mon. 7:00-8:30pm each month)
The Aug. book is *Empire Falls* by Richard Russo. Come Mon. Aug. 25 and join us for an enjoyable slice of small town life. With much of the action taking place at the Empire Grill, the book is a blue plate special that appeals to all ages. We will also be picking books for September to January. Please bring your suggestions!

Itch to Stitch (meets the 2nd Wed. 7:00-8:30pm each month)
We continue making knitted, quilted, and crocheted hats and blankets for needy infants and lap robes and prayer shawls when requested for St. Luke's members. Come join our creative caring fellowship.



1st Annual UMW Parking Lot Sale Update

SUCCESS! The weather was perfect, the "Eats" were great, and people cleaned out some nooks in their homes and made some money! The Guatemala Medical Mission team raised some needed funds, a local Scout got closer to his project goals, and the Salvation Army benefited from the left overs. Thanks to all who participated. See ya next year!



Any UMW ?'s call Fran West at 303-797-7107 or email bobandfran7107@hotmail.com

SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION EVENT

The School and Events provide an opportunity for worship, fellowship and the study of the global mission of the church and the responsibility of Christians within it.

- Castle Rock, CO - September 6, 8:30am-4:00pm
- Greeley, CO - September 13, 8:30am-4:00pm

Classes: I Believe in Jesus, Israel/Palestine, Native American Survival

The Rocky Mountain School of Christian Mission is a cooperative effort of the Rocky Mountain Conference United Methodist Church and United Methodist Women.

For more information contact Betty Ludlam at bludlam@wyoming.com

What Stephen Ministry Means to Me

by Jon Streaty

I began Stephen Ministry training in January, 2008 and was commissioned in May, 2008. The first day of class, we were asked why we wanted to be a Stephen minister and what we hoped to gain from the training. At that time I stated that I wanted to give back in some way for all that had been given to me. I hoped that by the end of the training I would be a better person. In the beginning, as Rev. Brad said in his Sunday sermon, I thought giving back would be what Stephen Ministry was all about. However, now I see that it is so much more than that simplified expression of purpose. And I believe that this is good.

In the beginning of training, I believe my motivation was more ego motivated. I was thinking, "What can I do for someone?"

As our training progressed, we studied about such topics as feelings, listening, assertiveness, and confidentiality. There were no problems here: I can deal with the feelings part of it; listening has never been difficult for me; as for assertiveness, that part required a lot more effort, on my part, but I believe I've become better; as for confidentiality, given my employment background, that's a no-brainer (if that's not enough, think of it this way – I'm a male, we don't talk about anything.)

All was well, albeit at times very emotional, until the last two weeks of our Stephen Ministry training class. Then, nerves, doubts, apprehensions or whatever one chooses to call it, set in. Would 'I' be able to do this Stephen Ministry thing?

It seems that every time there is a life challenge, some type of obstacle, or general apprehension regarding anything, the question for me has always been, "What do 'I' have to do to?" And, as always, after banging my head against the wall for awhile, I give up and sit down a pray. Miraculously, the 'weight' is lifted and something happens that either shows me the way or even solves the problem. Then I realize, 'I' had not done anything, I had given it up to God and God showed the way. The fact is, every time I find myself in a quandary, once I give it up to God, the situation takes a turn for the better.

So it has been with my caring relationship: through prayer (a lot of it), I found that 'I' do not have to, nor can 'I' do this Stephen Ministry thing. However, with the help of and working through the spirit of God 'we' will.

So, what does Stephen Ministry mean to me? I can answer that by paraphrasing one of my favorite songs: *There are many people who need the Lord but don't realize that He is the open door at the end of their broken dreams. We are called to take the Lord's light to the world and without considering the cost are willing to share Life with one who is lost. Through the Lord's love our hearts will feel the grief or pain these people bear. They must hear the Words of Life that God has called us to share.*

The next Stephen Ministry training class begins October 7, Tuesday evenings from 6:30-9:00pm. Applications will be available soon! Please prayerfully consider this caring ministry as a response to God's call within you. For more information, talk to any of our Stephen Ministers, Leaders, or Pastors, or call Rev. Pam at x32. Go to www.stlukeshr.com and click on Congregational Care to learn more about our Stephen Ministers.

Micah 6:8: He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Servant Spotlight: Carl Cleveland

by Michelle Ellis



Carl Cleveland, an accomplished Navy veteran, has lived all over the United States, but for nearly twenty years has called Colorado and St. Luke's United Methodist Church home. Raised in upstate New York, he went to the Naval Academy and majored in ocean engineering. He met and married his wife Joanne while attending the Naval Academy and together they have lived in various parts of the country during Carl's time in the service, including Pensacola, Fla.; Oahu, Hawaii; Philadelphia, Penn.; and Rhode Island.

Carl left the Navy in 1978 and was employed by Martin Marietta (now Lockheed Martin).

He initially lived in New Orleans, Louisiana and Maryland with the company and was eventually transferred to Colorado in 1990. He worked for Martin Marietta until 2002 and is now the owner of Profit Builder and is in the process of starting another company.

When Joanne and Carl moved to Colorado they almost immediately joined St. Luke's. It was here where the Cleveland's (Carl and Joanne have two sons in their late-twenties Brian and Kevin) found their church family. "At St. Luke's we really connected with people and have had the wonderful opportunity to make lifelong connections with some great people who have been here for us throughout the years," Carl stated.

Carl began volunteering at St. Luke's in 1992 when he and former St. Luke's member Jack Goodman started the Disciple Bible Class. He taught these classes for thirteen years and then decided to become more involved in missional work at the church. He went on his first mission trip with St. Luke's thirteen years ago when a group of people traveled to Zimbabwe to fund and build a grain mill that helps the community to this day. In the last two years he has traveled on three of the youth mission trips including last year's trip to the Gulf Coast. "Since we lived on the Gulf Coast we wanted to give back to our old community," said Carl. "I was amazed by the hard work and enthusiasm of Chris Wilterdink and the youth of church."

Carl feels that life is about relationships with people and through volunteering he has had an opportunity to meet and get to know people in a different way, "It's nice to help people through volunteering, but the best thing about it is that you get so much back by making enduring friendships and becoming part of a church family."



Members of St. Luke's who tutored refugee children at Whiteman Elementary were honored at the May 25th service. Whiteman Elem. had over 100 children from refugee camps in 5 different continents, speaking 32 different languages or

dialects. These wonderful volunteers helped children in English, reading and math. They were wonderful examples of sharing God's love, one child at a time.

Pictured (l to r) Jeanna Heyse, Jon Streaty, Jan & Charlie Rufien, Jimetta & Steve Pyles, Carleen Krening. Other tutors were Laura Richardson, Shelly Richardson, Jennifer Jiang, Karen Meade, Joyce Rovetta, John Williams, and Renee Ducnuigean.

MUSIC & DRAMA



James Ramsey
Dir. of Music
Ministry & the Arts



Kay Coryell
Associate Dir. of
Music Ministry



Ken Mervine
Organist/
Accompanist

Saying Goodbye: Gretchen Martin Resigns as Assistant Director of Music

As of July 1st, we say goodbye to Gretchen who has served as our Assistant Director of Music since the beginning of this year. Even though our time with her was short, she made a wonderful impression on all of us. We were very thankful for her generosity, her high energy and especially her enthusiasm. Gretchen will be greatly missed and we wish her well on her musical journey with much success!

Music Rehearsal Schedules Begin!

It's that time again! Kick-off Sunday is fast approaching which launches another exciting year in ministry at St. Luke's. It also means that our music schedule will start getting back into the "swing of things", too. If you haven't been part of the fun and fellowship and are interested in joining a music ensemble and becoming part of the Music Ministry at St. Luke's, please don't hesitate to contact James Ramsey or Kay Coryell for more information or questions. Jim is at x23 or jim@stlukeshr.com and Kay is at x36 or kayc@stlukeshr.com. Or go to the website at www.stlukeshr.com to find out about all 18

YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN

Wesley Player Auditions!

AUGUST 25 & 26 at 7:00pm

YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN (REVISED): The Revised version opened on Broadway in 1999. It is a fresh approach to the 1967 classic. Sally Brown joins Charlie Brown, Linus, Lucy, Schroeder and Snoopy in this version. Two new songs, *Beethoven Day* and *My New Philosophy*, have been added to the twelve wonderful numbers of the original version, such as *My Blanket and Me*, *The Kite*, *The Baseball Game*, *Little Known Facts*, *Suppertime* and *Happiness*.

Synopsis: A program note says that the time of the action is "an average day in the life of Charlie Brown." It really is just that, a day made up of little moments picked from all the days of Charlie Brown, from Valentine's Day to the baseball season, from wild optimism to utter despair, all mixed in with the lives of his friends (both human and non-human) and strung together on the string of a single day, from bright uncertain morning to hopeful starlit evening.

It seems to start off all right. After some brief comments on the nature of his character by his friends, Charlie Brown is swept into their center by a rousing tribute of only slightly qualified praise, in the song *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. He is then left to his own musings as he eats his lunch on the school playground, complicated unbearably by the distant presence of his true love, the "little redheaded girl," who is always just out of sight. True love also seems to be the only unmanageable element in Lucy's solid life, which we discover as we watch her try to bulldoze her way through to her boyfriend's sensitive, six-year-old musician's heart, in *Schroeder*. The little scenes then begin to accumulate, and we learn that Lucy's little brother, Linus, is thoughtful about many things but fanatical when it comes to the matter of his blanket; that Patty is sweet and utterly innocent; and that Charlie Brown's dog spends much if not most of his time thinking of being something else – a gorilla, a jungle cat, perhaps a handsome trophy or two – but that mostly his life is a pleasant one – Snoopy. The events continue to trickle on. Act Two roars in with Snoopy lost in another world atop his dog house. As a World War One flying ace he does not bring down the infamous Red Baron in today's battle but we know that someday, someday he will. The day continues and at the end, the gathered friends sing a little about their individual thoughts of happiness and then they go off, leaving Lucy to make a very un-Lucy-like gesture: she tells Charlie Brown what a good man he is.

What is the difference between the original version of the show and this revised version?

In 1998 the authors and producers of the original 1967 musical show, *YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN*, decided it was time for a major revival of the work in a Broadway theatre. The idiomatic, intimate innocence of the characters that is presented in the original stage production has been maintained, but a new perspective has been added by emphasizing the insatiable insouciance of the characters that was held in check in the original. The new cast of six characters includes Charlie Brown, Linus, Lucy, Schroeder, Snoopy and Sally Brown (she replaces Patty). And there are 465 more measures of music in this version. The entire show looks and sounds newly minted.

Auditions will take place soon! If you are interested, please come either Monday, August 25 or Tuesday, August 26. The auditions will begin at 7:00pm and will involve Singing, Acting, and Dancing. Please prepare the music for either a female role or a male role. Music is available for pick up outside the Music office after August 3. You will be asked to read a short scene that is handed out at the audition as well as learn a short dance routine. The St. Luke's version of this show will also include two secondary characters, Peppermint Patty and Pig Pen, who are part of the ensemble/chorus and will augment the original cast to 8 members.

As a side note, please keep in mind that **we are shifting the larger musical to the spring** and smaller shows in the fall. Our spring musical in March of 2009 will be something completely new! We are currently assembling a revue of several musicals that caters to the St. Luke's constituency and talent pool and will prove to be a lot of fun. More to come in the fall!

Questions about the Drama Ministry, please contact James Ramsey at 303-791-0659 x23 or jim@stlukeshr.com

Don't forget your name!...

Oh, ok that probably won't happen but how about purchasing a St. Luke's nametag so that others can call you by that name (vs. "hey you"). For \$3.50 we can have yours ready for you in one week! Sign up today at the "Get Connected" table.



Chris Wilterdink
Director of
Youth Ministries



Susan Johnson
Assistant Director
of Youth Ministries

CHRIS'S CORNER

Back to School, Back to School...

Excited? Nervous? Ready for classes? Filled with dread? Everyone experiences a different set of feelings and emotions as the school year approaches. I'm sure you've heard about how easy it is to lose some of your "book learnin'" during the summer months, but I would venture a guess that catching up on academia doesn't make your list of top 5 concerns for a new school year. No, instead it is the social components...

One of summer's best gifts is that you get to choose when, where, and who you hang out with. Therefore, inevitably, when school starts up you will be in classes with people that you haven't seen in a few months. The people that you have either intentionally or unintentionally avoided will again surround you. So how do you make the transition back to this setting? How do you keep your cool? How do you let others "be themselves" while still keeping yourself happy, healthy, and balanced.

Well, let's start with one simple rule. **Do no harm.** Now, that can mean what you want it to mean, and it sounds pretty simple, but it is very hard to do! You can do harm because of actions you choose, and by those actions you choose not to take. Doing no harm means being ahead of the curve by paying attention to yourself and others and being ready for whatever comes your way.

As school starts up for you this year, think about doing no harm and what a difference it could make in your life, in your classes, even in your school. If you could get everyone in your school to do no harm, what would be different? What would change? Any great movement begins by "being the change that you want to see in the world." Could you make the leap to doing no harm? Think about the differences it could make, and consider adding this simple rule to how you live your life.

—Peace & Love, Chris

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
3 SLY AM SLY PM Chill Out With Other Churches	4	5	6 SLY Paintball Last Survival Series Last Food & Frisbee	7 Breakfast Club GEMS Spa Night	8 STM Win Party	9
10 SLY AM SLY PM Water World Noon, Buy Own Tix	11 Douglas Co School Start	12 Jeff Co School Start	13	14	15	16
17 SLY AM Ultimate Frisbee Tournament	18	19 Littleton School Start	20	21	22 5th annual golf tournament	23
24 SLY AM SLY PM Messy Games	25 Cherry Creek School Start	26	27	WEEKLY PROGRAMS		30
31 Labor Day No SLY AM or PM	AUGUST		SLY AM: 9:30 & 11am VOLLEYBALL: 6PM GEMS Survival Series 5:30pm			SLY PM: 5:30pm Breakfast Club: 10am STM Frisbee: 5:30pm

Misson Mexico continued from page 1

On the first work day, we left the city and found the place "where the streets have no name." Dusty roads arise where they are needed, snaking among dusty houses and dusty gardens. Thousands of people live in this place, trying to survive where it has not been planned for them to do so. The basic infrastructure of a city – roads, a sewage system, trash collection – does not exist in rural Ensenada. No matter how much we had heard about poverty, we didn't understand until we saw the black smoke of the trash fires and the "houses" made of blue tarps. One of the YUGO staff members told me that the worst case she had seen was an entire family living in the bed of a pickup truck.

So that's where we came in. YUGO divided our large group into four work teams and assigned a family to each. Four houses in four days. Once we saw that the work was planned and sub-divided, we dove into the seemingly impossible task and saw instant progress. Our first wall went up within an hour of work; by the end of the day the house had four walls, siding, and a roof frame. With God's help, we were building a little bit of hope where none had been planned.

We quickly learned that while building houses only takes wood and nails, building homes takes much more. The families offered to help with their new homes, painting and mudding alongside us. Word of our work spread, and each day the number of children at the work sites increased. They came out of curiosity, and then stayed when they found friendship despite the language barrier. In a forsaken land, they stood out like stars in the night, little beacons of hope for the future. Many children called us amigos. They welcomed us each day and waved goodbye each evening. Even though everyone we met had so little, they gave us their time, and their hospitality; many groups received homemade lunches from their grateful families. "Despite being poor, [these people] were not only happy, but they were also more than willing to share their happiness and welcome us into their family and share their inspiring faith in God," observed Karen Bobkowski.

Wednesday evening, our groups were invited to attend the churches of the families. The families, and all the people gathered to worship, showed abundant faith in God. We sang and prayed and smiled, and at the end of it all, we felt so privileged to have shared the service with our new community.

On the final day, we finished the house early in the afternoon, leaving plenty of time to make it a home. We presented the family with a house key, and they opened the door to their new life. We all gathered inside, and passed the key around, each of us saying something to the family. As the key traveled, tears fell, and we wished we didn't have to say goodbye. Before we had even left, we were ready to go back. "Hasta luego, ¿posiblemente?" I told Heidi, one of the children who had come to help and had become a friend. "See you later, maybe?"

All of the Americanos, in body at least, came back to Highlands Ranch. But we each left a part of ourselves on the dusty, nameless streets of Ensenada. We left families, friends, and communities, people with small houses but endless faith and love. "In a heartbeat," Kayla Boos and Kristin Mossman agree, they would return to the "the people and the place [that] changed my life forever."

Not a day has gone since our return when I have not remembered my parting words to my quiet, hopeful friend. "Hasta luego, ¿posiblemente?" God willing, we will all meet again.

TRUSTEES CORNER

New Addition Brings Many Opportunities

We're underway with our building addition! Excavation is started and by the time you read this we should be completed with internal classroom and hallway refurbishments! The construction crews will open the west wall once the steel beams are on site to try to help us manage weather and security challenges. Color and material selections are underway with the help of SLUMC staff, Children's Ministries, Little School and Trustees reps. We're very excited to welcome our children and their families into these spaces for Sunday School and Little School in the coming weeks!

Our playground will soon be the recipient for a newly donated playhouse. We'll be expanding the fenced play areas to welcome the crowds of children who will love this new addition. Speaking of special donations, we've had a few inquiries on the possibility of Memorial and Honorarium Gift contributions with our new construction. We've developed our first list of possibilities that we're sharing in this month's *Chronicle*, and we're actively working to secure estimates on these items to be published soon. Speak with Dee Duncan or Ken Fong for more information.

Our new addition brings many opportunities – we'll all be invited to sign our wishes and prayers on framing as soon as the sheathing is in place and its safe for us to take a look inside. At the request of many of our members and constituents, we're developing a wish list of items not included in our construction estimates for memorial and honorarium gifts. These include both large and small components that will help us furnish each of our new spaces and plan new outreach, education, and worship experiences at St. Luke's.

Lastly, we're continuing efforts to upgrade our security – thank you for your patience as we gain experience with our new key card system. A newly formed Security Team has been formed, chaired by Randy Larson, and we're working to gather information from law enforcement and other professionals engaged in the business of security. This fall they'll be sharing information on evacuation and safety procedures in cases of weather or other emergencies. —*Sandi Miyaki*

Memorial & Honorarium Gift Wish List for our New Addition

- Stained Glass for the Chapel windows
- Window coverings – Chapel
- Musical instruments – piano/organ/musical instruments
- Audio/visual needs – both Chapel and new youth room
- Chapel altar furnishings including communion rails/kneelers, lectern
- Risers for Drama Ministry
- Art work – Chapel
- Youth furnishings – new furniture has been selected

FINANCIAL UPDATE



Dave Cupp
Director of Finance



Lisé Takayama
Assistant Director of Finance

HOW ARE WE DOING FINANCIALLY-PRETTY GOOD: We've done pretty good meeting the projected income from collections but not well enough to get us to where we should be at the end of June. Our collections exceeded the projection by about \$5,000 in March and \$2,500 in June with the other months falling a little short. This leaves us about \$15,000 short for the year at the end of June. Not a bad performance except for the fact we started the year with an expense projection that exceeded the income projection by about \$70,000.

We constantly keep an eye on spending and especially so when our income is falling a little short. The good news is the fact that we've been able to spend about \$30,000 less than projected through June. The challenge is to keep this spending trend for the remainder of the year. Everyone on staff and the various volunteer team leaders that are in charge of major budget items are kept aware of how we're doing and understand our desire and need to get income

and expense in line before the end of the year. I'm thankful that they all work toward that goal.

I've been encouraging everyone to find an extra \$100 to help bring our giving back in line with what was projected. I have no way of identifying the results of this challenge other than the fact that we collected about \$2,500 more in June than projected. This could very well be the results of you accepting the \$100 challenge. If all our families gave an extra \$100 or so, it would go a long way toward making sure we have another break even year. The \$100 number isn't a tremendously large number. However, when you consider how many families we have and put all the \$100 together, it becomes a very significant amount—and a big problem solver.

Don't Forget We Have Many Choices To Make Your Giving To SLUMC Easy

And Convenient: We currently have around \$500,000 of our general fund and bold venture capital campaign fund donations coming from the electric funds transfer (eft) and online methods—over 100 transactions per month. You may want to consider one of these convenient methods for 2008.

In addition to cash and checks, we offer credit card transactions (either in person or online), stock transfers and scheduled automatic withdrawals from checking or credit card accounts for you to use in doing your transactions with St Luke's. The following is a general summary:

- **General Fund and Capital Campaign:** All methods. However, you need to call ahead to use your credit card in person here at the office to make sure I'm here to process the transaction.
- **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.

GOLF

Final Chance to Get on the Green

The deadline for St. Luke's 5th Annual Golf Tournament is quickly approaching and there is still space and need for golfers and sponsors. The deadline for signing up is Sunday, Aug. 10 and all those who sign-up prior to this date will be eligible to win a twosome at Fossil Trace.

The invitational begins at 1:30pm on Friday, Aug. 22 at the award winning Jim Engh-designed Fossil Trace



Golf Club in Golden, Colo. All funds raised from the event will go to pay for the loan

payments and maintenance of the church bus. The sponsorship and registration forms can be downloaded at www.stlukeshr.com.



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.*



What a fantastic weekend we had at **St. Luke's 9th annual Family Camp**. With 16 families attending, we had a whole section of the campground to ourselves and through living, eating and playing together, we became a kind of family! Hikes, horseback riding, games, boating, geo-caching, campfires, singing, laughing, playing in the dirt, crafts, pancakes, activities and devotionals with Rev. Brad, quiet time, family time, group time...a wonderful time! If you are interested in joining us for the fun in 2009, please email Amy Antinoro at rkytmnrph@hotmail.com. Next year's Family Camp will be July 23-27, 2009. Hope to see you there!

AUGUST 2008 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 Church Picnic - noon 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship "A Single Altar" - Rev. Forbes 7:34pm Fusion	4 6:30pm: Women's Night Out	5	6 Wacky Wednesdays	7	8 7:00pm: Fiddler on the Roof	9 7:30am: Men's Breakfast 8:30am: Hospitality Breakfast 7:00pm: Fiddler on the Roof
10 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship - Rev. Brad Laurvick 7:34pm: Fusion	11 5:30pm: Little School Board 7:00pm: Trustees	12 7:00pm: Emmaus Reunion Group	13	14	15	16
17 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship - Rev. Pam Rowley 9:30am: Orientation of St. Luke's 7:34pm: Fusion	18	19 7:00pm: Sunday School Teacher Orientation	20	21	22 1:30pm: 5th Annual St. Luke's Invitational Golf Tournament 6:00pm: Family Movie Night	23 8:00am: Work Day
24 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship "Go To Ninevah!" - Rev. Forbes 10:40am: Blessing of the Backpacks 5:30pm: SLY PM 7:34pm: Fusion	25 LS teachers report 7:00pm: Fall Musical Auditions	26 7:00pm: Emmaus Reunion Group 7:00pm: Fall Musical Auditions	27	28 6:00pm: LS Parent's Night	29 Guatemala Medical Mission Trip	30 Guatemala Medical Mission Trip
31 Labor Day - No Sunday School 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship "Daniel's Three Friends" - Rev. Forbes 7:34pm: Fusion Guatemala Medical Mission Trip	SEPT 1 Guatemala Medical Mission Trip	2 LS Children's Open House Guatemala Medical Mission Trip	3 Little School starts Guatemala Medical Mission Trip	4 Little School starts Guatemala Medical Mission Trip	5 Guatemala Medical Mission Trip	6 Guatemala Medical Mission Trip
7 Kick-off Sunday/Ministry Fair 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship 9:30am: Orientation of St. Luke's 5:30pm: SLY PM 7:34pm: Fusion Guatemala Medical Mission Trip	8 5:30pm: Little School Board 6:30pm: Women's Night Out 7:00pm: Trustees	9 7:00pm: Emmaus Reunion Group	10 9:00am: Staff Retreat	11	12 5:00pm: Choir Retreat	13 7:30am: Men's Breakfast 8:00am: Choir Retreat