



Highlands Ranch, Colorado

The CHRONICLE

ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Inside This Issue:

Welcome Joely.....	2
Children's Ministry.....	6
UMW Update.....	7
Missions.....	8
Music&Drama.....	9
SLY.....	10
Trustees Corner.....	11
Bold Venture Update...	
<i>and much more!</i>	



Fall Festival Fun in the Sun!

We had a glorious day on Sunday Oct. 19. The St. Luke's Youth held it's annual Fall Festival open to the community. It is a fund raiser held in conjunction with the Pumpkin Patch to raise money for youth missions. We were honored to have live entertainment provided by the St. Luke's Old Time Gospel Band. They did a fantastic job engaging the kids in music and activities.

They were a great addition this year and we are grateful to have them. Many thanks to the Fellowship Events Team for grilling hot dogs and hamburgers.

The food was delicious and filled the air with the aroma of a good old fashioned cookout. The children had a fun time in the bouncy castle, decorating cookies, playing games, having their faces painted, making crafts and decorating pumpkins.

Of course, none of this could have happened without the many volunteers that gave their time to help out and we are so blessed to have them.

Thank you!

With Glad & Generous Hearts

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. –Matthew 6:21



HEARTS FOR MINISTRY

"Hearts for Ministry" is the theme of our campaign to encourage us to be faithful in ministries envisioned for 2009. It is more than a theme – it's an effort to show how our congregation can make a lasting different in the lives of children, youth, adults, and families.

Stewardship always asks the question: What do I really care about? In what will I invest my life and my resources? I would like for more and more families to enter into the joy of investing in St. Luke's and spiritual formation. **Commitment Sunday is November 16 – With Glad & Generous Hearts.**

continued on page 3

40,000 lbs. of Food for DenUM!!

by Jen Utter

The idea that there are some things that can only be accomplished when people come together could not have been more true as members of the Highlands Ranch community volunteered over 2,000 volunteer hours for the Feeding of the 5,000 raising 40,000 pounds of food for Denver Urban Ministries (DenUM) the first weekend of October. The three-day event brought in enough non-perishable food for DenUM to supply food to Denver's hungry for over five weeks.

St. Luke's ended its celebration of its 25th year as a congregation by inviting the community to make a difference in the world. "Or helping to make the world different," said Rev. Janet Forbes of St. Luke's.

"It was freaking phenomenal," said James Ramsey, Director of Music Ministry and the Arts at St. Luke's.

Volunteers from St. Luke's United Methodist Church, St. Andrew United Methodist Church, Parker United Methodist Church, the Highlands Ranch and greater Denver communities came together in many different ways to make this event possible. Volunteers helped distribute



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continued on page 3

Let your Heart be Light

Celebrating Advent & Christmas at St. Luke's 2008

In our hearts the Christmas flame,
Glow with a love like His who came,
The infant Christ of lowly birth,
To bring good will and peace to earth.

Saturday, November 29

Hanging of the Greens/Work Day
8:00am-noon

Sunday, November 30

Tree Lighting
6:34pm

Tuesday, December 2

Candlelight Dinner
6:00pm

Saturday and Sunday, December 6 and 7

Holiday Shop
9:00am-1:00pm

Sunday, December 7

Christmas Cantata
9:30am and 11:00am

Sunday, December 14

Children's Christmas Pageant
3:00pm

Wednesday and Thursday, December 17 and 18

Little School Christmas Pageant
9:30am

Sunday, December 21

Candy Cane Sunday
9:30am

Wednesday, December 24

Children's Christmas
1:00pm and 3:00pm

Choral Christmas
5:00pm and 7:00pm

Contemplative Communion
10:00pm

Sunday, January 4

Epiphany Kings Service
8:00am, 9:30am, and 11:00am

Sunday Worship Services:

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

Sunday School:

Adult, Youth & Children:
9:30am

Nursery available for
9:30am & 11:00am services

Church Office: 303-791-0659

Fax: 303-470-5615

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

Childcare Reservations.....x47

Email: office@stlukeshr.com

Website: www.stlukeshr.com

Staff:

Rev. Janet Forbes.....x13
Senior Minister
Emergency: 303-241-9312

Rev. Pam Rowley.....x32
Associate Minister
Emergency: 720-348-1528

Rev. Brad Laurvick.....x12
Associate Minister
Emergency: 720-296-1251

Laura Hehner.....x49
Pastoral Intern

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 Mallory.....x35
Assistant Fusion Worship Leader

Chris Wiltedink.....x14
Director of Youth Ministry

Susan Johnson.....x19
Assistant Director of Youth Ministry

Marcus Carlson.....x27
Minister to Children and their Families

Joely Maddux.....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
December/January issue of
The Chronicle are due
December 1

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 were visiting a cousin during summer vacation. Granny called us to dinner. After washing up, we stormed the kitchen and slid into our seats. Our ravenous appetites were thwarted for a moment when Granny silenced us and said, "Before you can eat, you must share one thing you are grateful for."

At best, it was an unfair interruption. At worst, it was a gross violation of the rhythm of the day. We played hard in those days. We were hungry. It was time to eat. We squirmed as each of us gave an answer, then dug into our meal. I do not remember how my sibling and cousin responded to the question. I do remember my muttering something about being grateful for Granny Fannie!

Every now and then, when my brother and I are together as adults, one of us will say, "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.*"

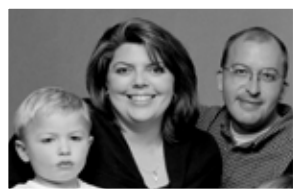
Thanksgiving is rooted in the experience of God's radical love for each of us, no matter what. When we come face to face with God's mercy, all we can do is give thanks, even when it is in the midst of consternation, despair, grief, or confusion. Thanksgiving assumes a "receiving" rather than a "taking"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

In this season of uncertainty and hope, ponder your own thanksgiving. For what are you grateful?

Janet

—Rev. Janet

Welcome Joely! Joely Maddux is our newest addition to the St. Luke's staff. She will serve as the Assistant Director of Children's Ministry, coordinating the 9:30 Sunday School programs (pre-school-6th grade) along with other children's events throughout the year. "I am excited to watch children grow in their relationship to Christ and getting to know the outstanding parents and teachers serving Children's Ministry."



Joely has been at St. Luke's since January of 2001. She has been married to Steve for 16 years, and has one son, Sam (6), and a dog, Bongo, and a cat, Jasper. She grew up in this part of Colorado and graduated from Arapahoe H.S., went to CSU and lived in Fort Collins from 1988-2000, then moved back. "I found St. Luke's and fell in love with the energy and atmosphere. It felt like a people's church not a pastor's church."

Joely has taught Sunday School for 7 years and has been involved with children's ministry events, Disciple classes and Hospitality teams. "I have really loved the Disciple classes I have taken and am also a HUGE fan of our music and drama ministries." She also enjoys cooking, gardening, walking, and triathlons! The kids' Sunday School science rotation will surely appreciate that Joely has 14 years in the bio-tech industry, working as a molecular biologist/biochemist in research laboratories and pharmaceutical companies across the state. When the church position opened she felt it was a calling and was at the right place at the right time in her life.

Rev. Janet remembers during the interview process, "Her big smile and deep confidence in God's love were so compelling. She loves children and has a passion for nurturing their faith." Marcus Carlson adds, "Joely has been a part of children's ministry for a long time and brings a deep passion for God and children along with great organizational skills, ideas and vision." In this month of 'thanksgiving', we are grateful for you, Joely!



STEWARDSHIP

"Hearts for Ministry" continued from page 1

Our Hearts for Ministry Team is asking each of us to consider disciplined, proportional giving. The tithe represents 10% of the bounty with which God blesses us. It is also the symbol that Paul uses when he writes to the young churches of the first century. He calls for "PROPORTIONAL GIVING". We are to give in proportion to what we have earned, in proportion to what we have accumulated, in proportion to what we possess. We are to give in proportion to how we have prospered under the grace of God. So, "tithing" is a symbol for planned giving. Tithing helps us give significantly in a systematic way. It is a planned share in the purposes of God. Tithing reminds us that we are all stewards and not owners. A tithe is a guide toward responsible, healthy, significant faith-promise giving.

A TITHE represents what you plan to give to the ministry and mission of the church. It is your plan – freely decided upon. It is promised out of your financial means, and cheerfully given. The tithe is the amount we bring weekly or monthly as an act of worship.

Next we are enjoined to bring our OFFERINGS. The Bible knows at least two kinds of offerings which have connection with our lives today. First, there are the "votive offerings". Votive offerings are part of a vow or promise, or they represent a specific act of thanksgiving to God, or a personal act of devotion. Seasonal offerings, missional giving, bequests, and memorials are in the category of votive offerings.

The biblical witness also speaks of free-will offerings. It is an unplanned, unstructured, unexpected out-of-pocket offering on the spur of the moment. The free-will offering is giving out of a sudden impulse of love, out of a felt need. It is the envelope in your worship bulletin when you arrive on a Sunday morning that invites a response for a special cause. It is the call for a special disaster relief offering due to flood, or hurricane. It is the spontaneous gift to the pastor's relief fund for homeless persons.

Bring your tithes and your votive offerings and your free-will offerings to the house of worship. The text is an amazing ancient writing with a high level of contemporary relevance. It all adds up to a single central truth: As we give of any monetary amount, we are primarily receivers and transmitters of the love of God in the world. Ultimately, that's what any giving is all about.

FROM REV. BRAD



Rev. Brad Laurvick
Associate Minister

Finding the Meaning

Meghan and I will be hosting our first Thanksgiving this year. Both her family and mine, about 35-40 people, will descend upon our home later this month.

I can see it now... all of the tables up, food being passed, and hardly any room to move around. Of course all of the craziness will be preceded by hours of preparation: up early getting the turkey ready, so many place settings, let alone the shopping before hand... And of course all of the craziness will be followed by hours of clean up: all the pots and pans, the serving dishes, so many place settings, taking down all the tables...

Come to think of it, this is crazy! Are we out of our minds? Why are we doing this? Oh yea, we are doing it because we love our family and want to spend time being thankful together.

In fact, all of the prep work is a chance to be together in anticipation. And the clean up is a chance to remember what a good time we had. Yes, I recognize I'm being a little over-optimistic here, but work with me... because these things really are true, and not just for big family gatherings. Most of what we do together at St. Luke's can have the same characteristics- the crazy ones and the meaningful ones. Whether it's Sunday mornings, the Feeding of the 5000, youth dinner, family movie night, the musicals, the building projects, these are all things that take a lot of work before and after, and if we only recognize the meaning during the event itself we are missing out.

There are so many things going on in our life together as a community and they are in all different phases. And so, I invite you to not only participate in these amazing opportunities, but to appreciate and recognize the meaning of every phase.



"DenUM" continued from page 1

paper bags to houses in local neighborhoods, collect food at the grocery stores and load donated food into semi trucks to take to DenUM.

"The Feeding of the 5,000 wasn't just a success in the amount of food we raised but in the effect that it had on the community," said Rev. Brad Laurvick of St. Luke's.

The sense of community continued on into Saturday and Sunday evenings with special worship services. The theme of the food drive and the services was U2, indicating that the event needed everyone in order to make a difference. St. Luke's Fusion band played songs by U2, combining worship and communion for two memorable nights.

"The services were an amazing fusion of music, social justice issues, and the care and love of the community," said Laurvick.

Local community members weren't the only ones getting involved in the food drive. Transportation Logistics Management provided the semi trucks to take the food from St. Luke's to DenUM. Four local King Soopers opened their storefronts to allow volunteers to collect donations and further bring people together.

The success that came from this food drive has left the community eager to start thinking about the possibilities of next year's annual event.

"This is the first time that the (Highlands Ranch) community has had a food drive of this magnitude," said Laurvick. "With the experience from this year, we can involve more people next year, harnessing the excitement and watching it grow." Laurvick said that the event did not solve hunger in Denver but addressed needs and hope for tomorrow.

"In the Feeding of the 5,000, an ancient story from the Bible, we celebrate the feeding of family after family, first on the shore of the Sea of Galilee in the first century and in Denver in the 21st," said Rev. Forbes.

CARE & SUPPORT



Lynda Fickling
Director of
Servant Ministry

Lending a Helping Hand

Here is a small list of our support groups:

Cancer Support Group: A gathering of those on the cancer journey, for information, support and hope. Those who are recently diagnosed to long term survivors are all welcome to attend. Group will be lead by 10-year cancer survivor, member Marcia Pessemier, and Rev. Pam Rowley. Meeting on the Third Tues. of the month, 7:00-8:00pm. Contact Marcia 303-944-8838 marcia@limelightpresentation.com

Success Connection: What did God have in mind when he called you to your business? How do you do business as a Christian in a "dog eat dog" world? What does God want to achieve through your life? Join others in the business world for this interactive support group that will uncover the Biblical principles of what God has called you to do and how it impacts your greater purpose through your business. Meeting the Third Tues. of the month 7:30-8:30am. Contact Lynda Fickling 303-791-0659x20 lynda@stlukeshr.com

Divorce Recovery Support Group: Now forming. If interested please contact Susan Hubbard 303-470-6762 susan@sage-re.com

Stephen Ministers: Lay persons who have received 50 hours of training in caring ministry skills by our Stephen Leaders. "Christ is Caring for People Through People." If you have the need of a caring Stephen Minister, please contact Rev. Pam Rowley, 303-791-0659x32 pam@stlukeshr.com

Grief Support Group: Holidays lived in the absence of someone dear can be very difficult times. 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.



Tuesdays from 5:15-6:15pm on November 11, 18, December 2, 9, 16 Please register with Rev. Pam Rowley at x32 pam@stlukeshr.com

Discovery Club: This is a joint effort by Easter Seals of Colorado and St. Luke's Children's Ministry. This is a Respite Program for Special Needs children and their siblings. It provides the specialized care needed for children with a disability while their parents have some time for themselves. Adult and youth volunteers are needed to be a companion and helper to the kids during the day. A professional director and staff provide the activities and any training necessary to provide a safe environment for the children. Please contact Marcus Carlson 303-791-0659x27 marcus@stlukeshr.com

Outside Support Groups which meet at St. Luke's UMC:

- **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Contact: 303-322-4440 Denver Central Office or www.daccaa.org

- **Highlands Ranch Family ALANON**

Contact 720-344-2854

- **Narcotics Anonymous**

Contact Bob D. 303-781-1638

PRAYER CONCERNS



Week Ending October 31, 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)	Barney Kirkpatrick (Kerry Lucero's uncle)
Beth Turner	Dustin Baird (family friend of the Lucero's)
Jennie Keefer (Mike Hutchins' daughter)	Helen Bartz (Bev Tripple's mother)
Norma Harris	Ken Ready
John Covey (friend of Ross Barnard)	Janet Wilson (Betty McIntyre's sister)
Norm Keller (Candy Keller's father)	Richard Beaman (friend of Jenny Stevenson)
Pat Clem (neighbor of Doug Wagner)	Jeff Bryden (Kay Swanson's brother)
Alberta Haas	Myrtle Jones
Jim Bailey (Melissa Moberly's father)	Jordan Obertier
Ronda Olson	Shirley Quail (Kay Swanson's friend)
Paula Strader (Sandi Miyaki's sister)	Marcia Enger
Judy Austin (Mary Jo Weber's sister)	Charles Annett (LS-Suzanne MacCorkell's grandfather)
Gail Carlson (Mike Hutchins' neighbor)	Sharon Johnson (Laurie Gilbert's mother)
Pat Dublin (Bob Davis' mother)	Ginny Sparks (Caroline Butler's sister-in-law)
Robert Abbott, Sr. (Nancy Abbott's father-in-law)	Carol Burtton (Melissa Hemphill's friend)
Al Tulenko (Bobbi King's neighbor)	Scott Goodstein
Matthew Peterman's cousin, Matthew	Alice Johnson (Karin Wesson's mother)
Julie Hayes (friend of Susan Werthington)	Jackie Durban
Susan Johnson	Dean Warkentin (family friend of the Takayama's)
Jan Lanham	Leigh Ramsey
Stephanie Stanley (Jane Damsgard's aunt)	Edgar Wieland (Bobbi King's cousin)
George Hutchins (Mike Hutchins' father)	Jan Stanley (Joy Damsgard's sister)
Sharon Liston (Cindy Raap's mother)	Debby Carlson (Marcus Carlson's mother)
Maureen Hoffman (Monty Hoffman's mother)	Shirley Sutcliffe (Leigh Ramsey's mother)
Beverly Dodds (Terri Korpall's mother)	Dolphia Dawson (Melinda Dawson's sister)
Bob Ross (Edee worth's brother)	Daniel Lund (family friend of the Miyaki's)
Brent Webber (friend of Nancy Cushing)	Mac Nelson
Diane Baker (Mary Romke's sister)	Ryan Fielger (LS Karen Engler's nephew)
Grace Hagman (friend of the Cushing family)	Sharon Smith
Alice Brimberry (John Brimberry's mother)	Makenzie Aiken (young relative of Kay Oscai's)
Vicky Stone (LS teacher)	
Jennifer Valdez (Gov. Lucero's cousin)	
Paula Peterson (friend of Rachel Nolder)	
Amy Spicher (Doug Spicher's mother)	
Carol Bryden (Kay Swanson's mother)	
Lori Lieberman (friend of Jane Damsgard)	
Thelma Ready (Ken Ready's mother)	
Thelma Hodge (Meryl Cupp's mother)	
Herb Stewert (Heather Swanson's uncle/Ms Kay)	
Diane Wieland (friend of Bobbi King's)	
Lorraine Berg (friend of Bobbi King's)	
Brenda Schafer	
Harriet Smith (Dewey Smith's mother)	
Charlie Rufien	
Dylan Church	
Jack Allison (Jim & Joy Damsgard's friend)	
Janusz Daszuta (pastor from Poland)	
Andrew Jones (friend of Renee Sanek)	
Rey Lucero (Gov. Lucero's father)	

SYMPATHIES:

To Ed & Eileen Law on the passing of Eileen's nephew, Brian Day, 10-28-08;

To Jim and Linda Allen and family on the passing of Jim's father 10-25;

To Dan & Cindy Raap and family on the passing of a friend's mother, Helen Miller.

CONGRATULATIONS:

To Greg & Eden Burks on the birth of a daughter, Kylee Kroeger Burks, born on Oct. 5

To Ed & Eileen Law on the birth of their grandson, Jackson Lowell Edwards, born Oct. 29. Parents are Sarah (Ed's daughter) and Adam Edwards.

THE SPIRIT OF ST. LUKE'S



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

More from Les: Keep on Playing

Stories are a means for us to keep memories alive, convey traditions and knowledge to others who may follow the same path we have traveled. Stories tell who we are and what we believe. This is one of those stories.

Earl Ferguson was a member of the Roman Catholic Church next door to the United Methodist Church in Wheatland, Wyoming where I served, from 1997 to 2004.

Earl and I became friends through our membership in the local Lions club and participation in the "Senior Men's Golf League" at the Wheatland golf course.

Earl died after a long battle with cancer and the memorial service for him was held at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Wheatland last Saturday.

During the service I recalled a conversation that Earl and I had had shortly before I left Wheatland for another church appointment in Thornton, Colorado.

We talked about life one day, after a particularly tough round of golf.

Earl and I were sitting in the Country Club bar, nursing our emotional wounds by talking about the round and our individual aches and pains and the gradual loss of our ability to play golf well, (according to standards we knew we could achieve). Earl was recuperating from a round of chemotherapy and I had just started a new injection therapy to slow the progression of my MS symptoms. The time was ripe for a "pity party" but Earl would have none of it. Earl took a long draught from his tankard of beer and smiled at me.

"Les," he said, "Living life is a lot like a golf game."

"Think about this course, there are nine holes to play. The objective is to complete the course in as few hits of the ball as possible."

He continued; "So, let's suppose you do fairly well on the first hole. But on the second hole, hitting directly into the wind, you hook the ball badly. It goes into the back yard of one of the homes along the side of the fairway. You're upset but you don't quit! This is a 9-hole course and you have seven more holes to complete. You take a penalty, drop a new ball and keep on playing."

"Likewise, let's suppose that on the short third hole, you get lucky and land the ball on the green. It rolls into the cup and gives you a hole in one! You celebrate, get the hole-in-one witnessed, but you don't quit there, you still keep on playing."

Earl put down his tankard and looked off into space as he contemplated his next words.

"And life is like that! We keep on playing the game whether bad things or fortunate things happen to us. We take what ever is given to us one hole at a time. The objective, the goal, is to finish the game, regardless of the score! Whether you win a few bucks or pay a few bucks to someone else is secondary.

Winning or losing just makes the game more interesting."

There's an old saying, "It's not whether you win or loose that counts, it's how you play the game." You are right, Earl, thanks! We will keep on playing this game we call life, regardless of what comes!

God bless us all! —Rev. Les

CELEBRATE THE SEASON OF ADVENT

Candlelight Dinner



know any men who would love to serve the Ladies, give their names to us when you buy your tickets.

Ladies, it's time once again for the annual **Women's Christmas Candlelight Dinner Tuesday night, December 2.** We begin at 6:00pm with light appetizers and a string trio playing soothing Christmas carols. This will be followed by a festive 4 course dinner cooked and served by our men folk! During the dessert we'll have special entertainment. The ticket sales will start Sunday, November 9. We look forward to our little Christmas uplift and if you

NEW MEMBERS

WELCOME



**Andy & Kristi Amick,
Tyler and Logan**
*"The people have been very
warm and welcoming!"*



Laurel Hansen
*"I loved the music and the
great sermons."*



Marylou Lee
*"A friendly place where I can
feel closer to God."*



**Travis & Stephanie
Starns, Maile**
*"We just started our family
with the birth of our little
girl and recent marriage. Our
family wishes to bring religion
to our new life."*

CONGRATS



Danny McIntosh is congratulated, during the Oct. 19 service by Rev. Janet, on receiving the University of Denver Scholar/Teacher of the Year award. This honor was established by the United Methodist Church and conferred at colleges and universities historically affiliated with it, recognizing outstanding faculty members for their dedication and contributions to the learning arts and to the institution.



Marcus Carlson
Minister to Children &
their Families

CHILDREN & FAMILY CORNER:



Five Things You Can Do to Strengthen Your Family

1. Pray Together Perhaps the hardest of all five of these things is to pray together. We often struggle with prayer as individuals and certainly as groups and in public places. Prayer is simply conversing with and connecting with God in your own language. Studies show that families who pray together are significantly less likely to face high levels of stress and dysfunction. This can start with something as simple as praying at meals together. It can also mean praying with your children and other family members before bed and before the day starts. The more you do this, the stronger your family will be.

2. Play Together Simply put, we all have some level of dysfunction in our families; it is the nature of doing life together. So, why not put the fun back in dysfunctional! Families that play together, stay together, so be sure to play. This could mean a special trip, or it could mean taking a day to go bowling or to the park. One of the best traditions families can have is to have a family movie and game night on a regular basis.

3. Serve Together Nothing brings people together more than serving with each other for a greater good. Our family will be going on family mission trips and service projects once the kids are a couple years older. This could mean going to a food pantry or shelter to help once and while, or taking a family mission trip together. Maybe it means helping a neighbor in need together. There are more opportunities than time, so find one that is good for your family.

4. Attend Church Together An easy option for all families is to attend church together. One suggestion that I make to families is to find a way to be a 2 hour family. We give plenty of time to school activities, work, and television. Why not take 2 hours to be in community with God each Sunday. My hope is that at St Luke's we would create an environment where families can and will be here for two services each week; taking one service to worship together as a family (which is important for both for family unity and to help children to learn to worship) and taking the other service hour to have the children in a learning environment while the parents serve in some way or take a class themselves. Life is busy and full of pain, stress, and surprises. Each of us deeply needs to experience and understand the love and Grace that Jesus Christ offers us!

5. Hold Family Meeting Times (Perhaps the cheesiest of all of these ideas.) Lack of communication is one of the major reasons families struggle. Take some time on a regular basis to sit down as a family and talk about schedules, roles, and other things impacting your family. —Marcus

Children's Ministry News & Notes

Welcome Joely! We are thrilled to welcome Joely Maddux to the St Luke's staff team and to our children's ministry staff team. Joely is our new assistant director of children's ministry and her primary roles are the management and coordination of 9:30am



Joely Maddux
Assistant Director of
Children's Ministry



Kristina Linn
Director of
Childcare

Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. Joely has been a part of St Luke's for many years and has wonderful ideas, character, and passion for our children and God. Please take the time to welcome Joely and get to know her!



Christmas Pageant preparations have started. Children will start learning music and auditions for speaking roles and nativity scene members will be Sunday November 2nd at 9:15 and 10:30 in the Goliath area.

For more information, please contact Linda Walker lindawalker@comcast.net or Marcus at the church. Mark your calendar for our annual Children's Christmas Pageant on Sunday December 14 at 3:00pm!



SLY, Jr. continues to meet the first Sunday of each month downstairs from 5:30-7:30pm for an interactive lesson, game, discussion, and dinner. Volunteers to assist and help prepare dinner are still needed. Don't miss out on SLY, Jr!

Third Grade Bibles were presented in service on Sunday

October 12. We had 38 children receive Bibles so far this year! It was a great time of celebration and an important rite of passage in the faith journey of our third grade children. If you have a third grade child and did not get a Bible, please contact Marcus. If your child participated on October 12, Marcus has some pictures that he can email you; all you need to do is to let him know and he will pass them on!

Children's Ministry E-mail Newsletter Starting sometime in November we will be adding a weekly e-mail newsletter for the children's ministry for families. It will include family activities & devotions, information about upcoming events, and much more. Sign up by subscribing to the children's ministry email list under e-ministry and email lists at www.stlukeshr.com. Don't miss out on this great resource for families!

Childcare Reminder Please be sure to reserve any childcare needs during the week with kristina@stlukeshr.com even if childcare is already scheduled, we need to have as accurate a count as possible and don't want to have workers come if there is not a need. Questions? Contact Marcus or Kristina! Thanks for your help and understanding.

Help Needed: We have three areas where we are most in need of help right now:

1. We need **extra greeters/superintendents** for 9:30am Sunday school. Time commitment is only 9:15-9:40 each week. Training is provided and all you need to do is greet and direct families! Please let Marcus or Joely know if you can help with this!
2. We still need folks to **help with SLY, Jr.** as assistants, teachers, and cooks. Please contact Marcus for more information
3. **Data entry** help needed! We have a new database system and need to get families entered. This system will save us time with attendance, nametags, and registration. It will also allow us to better communicate allergies and special needs to teachers. This can only be done at the church. We also need folks to do some data entry with MS Excel. This is simple entry of past attendance so we can make that electronic. This can be done from home. Please let Marcus know if you are able to help with either of these tasks.

Many Blessings to you and your family!

Your Children's Ministry Staff Team: Marcus, Joely, Kristina, & Ms. Kay

CALENDAR

November 15 Discovery Club 10:00am

November 25 Children's Ministry Team Meeting 7:00-8:30 pm

December 7 SLY, Jr. 5:30-7:30pm

December 6 & 7 Holiday Shop

December 13 Kids' Christmas Pageant Rehearsal 10:30am-noon

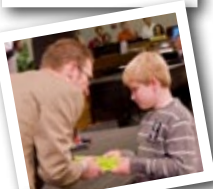
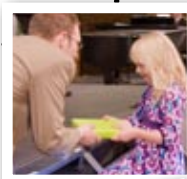
December 14 Kids' Christmas Pageant 3:00 pm

December 20 Holiday Haven
Discovery Club 10:00am

December 21 Candy Cane Sunday in Sunday School

December 24 Family Christmas Eve Services
1:00 & 3:00 pm

December 28 No Sunday School!



**Some of Our
Third Graders
Receiving
Their Bibles**

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



LITTLE SCHOOL News

November Happenings

November is a fun time as we watch the final colors change and the cooler weather begin. Our little ones are learning about how God changes our seasons and how our animal friends begin to prepare for winter. Lots of beautiful colors in oranges, reds and yellows dot our walls to celebrate autumn. Everyone is watching for our first snow! The students had a great time making all the decorations for the Pumpkin patch, including fun scarecrows and Mr. and Mrs. Spider! We hope you had an opportunity to visit the patch and see our handiwork! We are very excited to watch the construction of our new building and the children love the excitement of seeing the progress! Thank you to Mr. Don (the construction foreman) who has become a friend to us all!

Our Chapel theme for November is *"Grateful Friends"* and Rev. Janet will help us focus on how thankful we are to have wonderful friends in our lives. We will celebrate Thanksgiving with our school feasts on Nov. 24, 25 and all the children will wear their Thanksgiving costumes after learning about our pilgrim and native American friends! This is a very important time to thank God for all the blessings that we have received!

We will have our first **Scholastic Book Fair** from Nov. 3-7. **Everyone is welcome** to shop at our fair and it is a great time to purchase wonderful books and gifts for the upcoming holidays! We will be off for our fall break Nov. 26-30 to spend time with our families!

We wish you all beautiful days with family and friends. We remember in these hard economic times to be grateful for even the smallest of blessings! We count each and everyone of you among our joys!

Happy Thanksgiving from Little School!

—Ms. Kay & Staff:—



Kay Swanson
Director of
Little School

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



"The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church."

St. Luke's UMW Mission Team meets the 2nd Sunday of each month, following the 11:00am service. Everyone is invited to attend. We currently have openings on the UMW board. If you are interested in serving on the board, please contact Fran West.

Current officers: President – Fran West, Vice President – Sharon Smith, Secretary/Communications – Lori Lockrem, Treasurer – Amy Curtis, Spiritual Growth Coordinator – Janet Johnston, Secretary of Program Resources – Renae Parra, Education Interpretation – OPEN, Social Action – OPEN, Conference Liaison – Betty Ludlam

UMW Mission Project

We have chosen UMCOR as our on-going mission project. We are collecting supplies for Bedding Kits, Sewing Kits and Layette Kits. These are the kits UMCOR needs the most. They are needed for Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia. Supply lists and a collection box can be found by the UMW bulletin board.

Mark your calendars:

- November 3 6:30pm – Wild Basil: Women's Night Out
- November 9 noon – Conference Room: UMW Mission Team Meeting
- November 24 7:00pm – Conference room: Book Club – *Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson
- December 2 – Women's Candlelight Dinner
- December 15 7:00pm – Conference room: Book Club – *Sugar Cookie Murder* by JoAnne Fluke

Subgroups of UMW at St. Luke's UMC:

- **Evening Book Group:** Fourth Monday of the month, 7:00pm Conference Room
New book choices are being made for the fall. For more information, please call Fran West at 303-797-7107.
- **Itch to Stitch:** Second Wednesday of the month, 7:00-8:30pm Mark Room
Come enjoy the fellowship of others while crocheting and knitting to benefit those in need. We give handmade items to Warren Village, nursing homes, homeless shelters, hospitals and Missions, as well as provide prayer shawls for people at St. Luke's. We can use all your left-over washable yarn; just place it in the big blue basket in the Narthex. We also continue to collect Care Squares – any size, color, or shape (as long as it's washable) – to be assembled into afghans. Need a refresher course? Several members are patient teachers! Drop in any time between 7:00 and 8:30pm. For more information, please call Fran West at 303-797-7107.
- **Scrapbooking Circle:** Every other month, 7:00-10:00pm Fellowship Hall
For more information, please contact Christy Wohlleber at 720-344-3516.
If you have many unfinished albums on the shelf, you are finishing your first, or your pictures are piled in boxes, join us! Bring all your cropping materials and get some pictures in an album. Hours of uninterrupted time with lots of space to work. Just think of the possibilities!
- **Women's Night Out:** First Monday of the month, 6:30pm various locations
 - » Oct. 6: Shanghai Garden, 2500 E. Arapahoe, Centennial
 - » Nov. 3: Wild Basil, 8247 S. Holly, Centennial
 - » Dec. 2: Candlelight Dinner, St. Luke's
 - » Jan. 5: Romano's, 32 W. Springer Dr., Highlands Ranch
 - » Feb. 2: Treo, 9070 Maximum Dr., Lone Tree
 - » Mar. 2: Elephant Bar, 8121 E. Arapahoe, Greenwood Village
 - » Apr. 6: Brickyard BBQ, 311 E. County Line Road, Littleton
 - » May 4: Las Brisas, 6787 Clinton St., Englewood
 For more information, please contact Lynda Fickling at 303-791-0659x20 (lynda@stlukeshr.com) or Renae Parra at 303-683-0872 (renae@stlukeshr.com).

If you have ideas for new groups, please contact a member of the UMW Mission Team.

Holiday Haven

Who: Children ages 3-9

What: Parent's morning out, with crafts, games and other holiday fun for the kids.

When: Dec. 20th 10:00 am-1:00pm
(A healthy snack will be served)

Where: St. Luke's UMC – downstairs in the David Area

Why: To give parents a chance to have time to catch up on last minute holiday preparations.

Cost: \$6 per child to be paid upon arrival. (Includes snack and craft materials) \$12 max per family

Registration will be online at www.stlukeshr.com

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 or send an e-mail to caitlin_215@hotmail.com.



Mission Team Gleans the Potatoes! *by Betsy Keyack*



The aspens were in their golden October glory, complimented by the rust orange hue of the scrub oaks scattered along the hillsides, as we made our way over La Veta pass. There were ten of us in the St. Luke's bus, driven by our superb pilot Bob Utter and co-pilot Ken Fong. Following in her own vehicle was Laurie Gilbert with three of her family members. Our destination was the La Puente mission in Alamosa. Our goals were fellowship, learning and gleaning potatoes to bring back to the Denver Inner City Parish Food Bank. Our group ranged in age from 7 to 87 years old!

Before we left St. Luke's at 7:45am, Rev. Brad led us in prayer. We talked about how this annual gleaning trip to the agricultural San Luis Valley always reminds me of the Old Testament practice of leaving behind some of the Fall harvest for the poor and in particular, the beautiful story of Ruth, Naomi and Boaz. Did you know that the San Luis Valley is the second largest potato producing area in the country? In the Alamosa area, once the farmers harvest their crops mechanically it is not economically practical to make a second pass to pick up the missed vegetables. That is where the

volunteer gleaning program comes in!

We arrived before noon at the La Puente homeless shelter in Alamosa. Annually providing over 9,500 nights of emergency shelter to families, seasonal farm workers and local individuals, it is the only agency within 120 miles that meets this critical need. Our mission team was invited to join residents of Alamosa for a delicious hot lunch. La Puente volunteers cook three free meals, seven days a week, year round for people in need of food.

After lunch, we shopped at the Farmer's Market and bought local apples, pears, apple butter, raspberry jam, as well as homemade pies and pastries. There was a big rotating drum containing roasting peppers. We also went to the La Puente thrift shop, called Rainbow's End, where Bob bought a suitcase to take supplies to Guatemala. Following an educational talk at the La Puente Food Bank, our host, Ben Bear, led us to an organic potato farm about 30 minutes out of town. On the way we saw migrating sand hill cranes, which was a treat for the bird watchers in the group!



As we disembarked from our vehicles at the farm, we were met with hail, blustering winds and a 3-foot deep trench that we needed to go through to get to the fields. We were dressed in our winter finest. I thought, "If each one of us collects one 10-pound bag of potatoes, that will be OK." But the whole team was amazing! The hail soon stopped and we persisted, with the wind at our backs. Some of us, though, periodically looked up to make sure the rest of the group was still out there! In about 75-90 minutes, we collected over 600 pounds of red potatoes! We left half for the San Luis area food banks and brought the rest home for Inner City Parish.

The "must-do" after gleaning is to go to Milagros, the local coffee shop, for hot chocolate, coffee and lattes. All the profits from Milagros go to La Puente. Several members of our group not surprisingly migrated to the cafe's computers, which are used in La Puente's Job Readiness Training Program. After we were refreshed and warmed, we headed home, feeling that we had had a wonderful day.

"What a wonderful experience. I found it interesting that I felt rejuvenated and refreshed spiritually after digging and crawling around in that rich dark earth, digging for potatoes, who would have guessed," said Laurie.

Thank you to the following mission team members: Bob Utter; Ken Fong; Mike, Lori, Annajulia and Hope Preble; Kevin O'Neill (who delivered the potatoes to Inner City Parish); Laurie and Alaina Gilbert, Laurie's granddaughters Kearstein and Emilee; John and Jan Burnett from Washington Park UMC. I invite you to talk with any of the team members about their experience. I'd be happy to organize a gleaning trip next year on request!

November-December MISSIONS

FILL SANTA'S BAG: Not many weeks 'till Christmas, and Santa needs 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 will 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 PEAK: Young people being given a hand up through URBAN PEAK also have their names on THE GIVING TREE. Share your Christmas and help a troubled teen.

Need more information? Call Jan Rufien 303-979-3491
jc.rufien@comcast.net

Dear Christian Brothers and Sisters,

We use this opportunity to extend our thanks and appreciation to the St. Luke's family for accepting us as members of your Church and also for your humanitarian assistance that you people continue to render toward us.

We pray that God will continue to richly bless you for making this sacrifice to help us during our time of needs.

We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciate to Jan, Betsy, Susan, Laurie, the mission team and the Church for their prayers and support.

I really appreciate everything you guys are doing for us because had it not being you, my family would still be in Africa suffering from the out-break of malaria and poverty. Again, thanks so much.

I'm also pleased to extend our thanks and gratitude to those of you who made it possible for Aletha to receive the gift cards and the household things that were donated during the party at Betsy's house.

I really don't know how much to thank you, but all I can say is, thanks for your warm welcome, acceptance and Spiritual Love.

Yours truly, Aloysious Fahn and family

MUSIC & DRAMA



James Ramsey
Dir. of Music
Ministry & the Arts



Kay Coryell
Associate Dir. of
Music Ministry



Ken Mervine
Organist/
Accompanist

WITY & SLIP are Back!

After a great win against WITY, SLIP is back and gearing up for our next improvisation competition event against the youth. We will perform on January 17th and if you have ever wanted to check this group out, now is the time. We will be learning new games every week and laughing as much as possible.

We meet every Tuesday night downstairs in David from 7:30-8:30pm. No experience required. All you need is a willingness to laugh, play and learn. Come one, come all! Any questions? Just email or call Jenna Wilcox 303-520-8774 blondie@bretwilcox.com

Spirit of St. Luke's CDs on Sale SOON!

Beginning later this month, the *Spirit of St. Luke's* CD featuring the Chancel Choir and Grace Notes will be available for purchase. Both ensembles have worked very hard to create an incredible CD of enjoyable spirituals, gospel tunes and spirit filled selections that will enhance your work week! Also included on the CD are James Ramsey singing "*Spirit of Life*" and Ken Mervine playing "*Palladio*" by Karl Jenkins. Each CD is \$20. Proceeds from the sales of all CDs benefit the music program at St. Luke's. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

St. Luke's Annual Christmas Cantata – December 7th

Mark your calendars for St. Luke's popular Christmas Cantata that features over 150 children, youth and adults singing and playing new and old songs of the Advent and Christmas season. This year's Cantata will occur during the 9:30 and 11:00am services. Usher in the Christmas Season on Dec. 7th with the Music Ministers of St. Luke's!

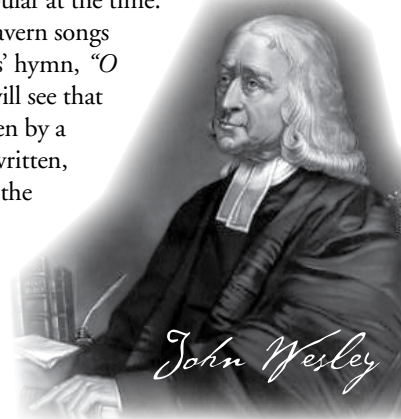


**Dancing
for DenUM
postponed
until
January 24**

Monty's Methodism Musings by Monty Hoffman

Why do we put a strong emphasis on music at St. Luke's? Since our beginning in 18th century England, Methodists have been a singing people. When John Wesley started preaching on the street corners of industrial cities in England, the people who came to listen to him were the urban poor. They were mostly illiterate and uneducated and the Wesley brothers set their theology to music so that the listeners would remember it. Just like the advertiser wants his product to remain in your head from a jingle, they wanted the message of God's love for all people to stay in the heads of people who could neither read nor write.

While Charles Wesley wrote the words to over 6000 hymns in his life, he wrote very little music. His concern was conveying a message, not a stellar musical performance. Instead, the hymns were sung to tunes that were popular at the time. Some were folk tunes, but most were drinking and tavern songs that people were familiar with. If you look at Charles' hymn, "*O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*" in the hymnal, you will see that he wrote the words in 1739 and the music was written by a different author in 1839. When the hymn was first written, it was sung to a tune popular at the time. Only after the Methodist movement became mainline and more "respectable" do people start writing "church music" to sing the Wesleyan hymns to. If Jim Ramsey ever has us singing one of Charles Wesley's hymns to the tune of "*100 Bottles of Beer on the Wall*", he would just be following a Methodist tradition.



CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY SHOP



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 and others on their shopping list. They avoid mall shopping and get great gifts at discounted prices ranging from \$1.00 - \$7.00. Adult volunteers will help children shop and will wrap their gifts while they wait. The shop will be held on December 6 and 7 from 9:00am-1:00pm.

Adult volunteers are needed to help set up on Friday, Dec. 5 from 9:00am-noon and to help during the shop on both Saturday and Sunday. Shifts on Saturday, Dec. 6 will be from 8:30-11:00am and 11:00am-2:00pm. Volunteers are needed on Sunday, Dec. 7 from 8:30-10:30am and 10:30-1:00pm. Your help is greatly appreciated!

If you would like to volunteer, you may sign up in the Narthex between services beginning November 2, 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, men's gifts especially (new items please)
- Scotch tape
- Gift tags

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 toward scholarships and volunteer lunches for Vacation Bible School, 2009. Please call Amy Antinoro if you have any questions (303) 663-6656.

WHAT'S
HAPPENING

November 2008

- 11/5 – SLAM 6:30pm
 11/6 – Donut Whole 6:45am
 11/9 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 - Bible Boot 9:30am
 - WITY Improv 11am
 - SLY PM: *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* Matinee, 3:00pm
 Free tix for youth.
 11/12 – SLAM 6:30pm
 11/13 – Donut Whole 6:45am
 11/16 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 - Bible Boot 9:30am
 - WITY Improv 11am
 - SLY PM: *Serious Stuff: Homelessness in Denver*
 11/19 – SLAM 6:30pm
 11/20 – Donut Whole 6:45am
 11/23 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 - Bible Boot 9:30am
 - WITY Improv 11am
 - SLY PM: *More Than Thanks*
 11/26 – SLAM 6:30pm
 11/30 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 - Bible Boot 9:30am
 - WITY Improv 11am
 - SLY PM: *Tree Lighting Ceremony and College Care Packs*
 12/3 – SLAM 6:30pm
 12/4 – Donut Whole 6:45am

December 2008

- 12/3 – SLAM 6:30pm
 12/4 – Donut Whole 6:45am
 12/7 – Cantata Breakfast 8:30am
 - Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 - Bible Boot 9:30am
 - WITY Improv 11am
 - SLY PM: *Christmas Crazyness pt 1*
 12/10 – SLAM 6:30pm
 12/11 – Donut Whole 6:45am
 12/14 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 - Bible Boot 9:30am
 - WITY Improv 11am
 - SLY PM: *Christmas Crazyness pt 2*
 12/17 – SLAM 6:30pm
 12/18 – Donut Whole 6:45am
 12/21 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 - Bible Boot 9:30am
 - WITY Improv 11am
 - SLY PM: *Christmas Crazyness pt 3*
12/24 Christmas Eve Services
 (all with candles)
 - Children's Services 1 & 3pm
 - Evening Services 5 & 7pm
 - Contemplative Service 10pm
12/25 Christmas Day
 12/28 No SLY AM or PM Activities
 1/4 – Jr. & Sr. High SLY AM 9:30am
 - Bible Boot 9:30am
 - WITY Improv 11am
 - SLY PM: *Youth Worship © St. Andrew*
 1/7 – SLAM 6:30pm
 1/8 – Donut Whole 6:45am



Chris Wilterdink
 Director of
 Youth Ministries



Susan Johnson
 Assistant Director
 of Youth Ministries

CHRIS'S CORNER

New Space: New Thanks

This time of year, in part because of Thanksgiving and Christmas, we dedicate our energy and reflections on those things that we are thankful for. Over the past year, SLY has had much to be thankful for: Becoming a safe place no matter what is going on in life; A group of friends that can pick you up when you feel low; And up until now, a group that thrived despite the rooms we had available to us at St. Luke's. As a direct result of

St. Luke's vision and generosity, the construction on our new addition is almost complete, and SLY can begin to dream big about having new (finished!) space to meet in. If you experienced the old youth rooms, the smell of old couches, the flash of bargain bin paint colors, and the crunch of seldom cleaned carpets probably still remains in your mind...

With the completion of the addition, SLY can begin relying on our new space to become a strength of our program, not a detraction. We will thrive and grow because of the incredible capabilities that this new construction will give us, not in spite of the space we are relegated to. However, walls, windows, and floors do not alone make a space, just like your home, our new rooms need to have feeling, and furnishings help create atmosphere, and the comfy-cozy feel we would like to exude for youth meetings. We also strive to make wise decisions with colors and furniture so that other groups of St. Luke's will want to use our space, and not avoid it like the plague (as sometimes happened with our old rooms)!

On Sunday December 7, for the above listed reasons, SLY and the Tween group will combine to offer a breakfast to help raise money to be used for furnishing the new youth space. SLY and the Construction Planning Crew feel very strongly that this new space is not only a huge blessing for our youth, but that all of the new space should become a blessing of useful meeting space for every group at St. Luke's. A classroom needs to have tables and chairs, a lounge needs comfortable seating, a holy space needs to feel sacred, living rooms need to feel inviting to families and new guests alike, and our new rooms need to become all of these things! Help us to create a welcoming and thoughtful atmosphere by staying for breakfast on December 7 before, during, or after either of the Cantata Worship Services. All food will be offered on a donation basis, let us continue to give each other much to be thankful for! *—Peace & Love, Chris*



- ✱ **Cantata Sunday Breakfast:** 8:30am-12:30pm
 Sunday, December 7. Donations gladly accepted to aid furnishing the new youth spaces.
- ✱ **College Care Packs:** Cookies and care notes are getting packed on November 30. We have several needs for this event!
 - » If you have a college age youth who would appreciate cookies before finals week, please email their name and mailing address to chris@stlukeshr.com ASAP!
 - » If you can bake cookies, we need families to craft appx. 2 dozen cookies each. If you are willing and able, bake up a batch of cookies and bring them to church before 5:30pm on Nov. 30.
 - » We send these packages in shoeboxes. If you have old shoeboxes you can donate, bring them by the church office before Nov. 30!
- ✱ **Homelessness: An Informational Night.** Lynda Drake, who has worked in the Denver Metro Area for years with people at risk of homelessness will come and talk about risk factors and share stories from her experiences for SLY PM on November 16. It will be a great night, please make it a priority!

Thank You!



The Pumpkin Patch had another great year! Thank you to all who worked at the Patch, volunteered at the Fall Festival, and

those who put on the Warren Village Haunted House and Carnival. Couldn't have done it without you!!!

CONFIRMATION

INFO: If you have a teen who is in 8th grade or up and your family is interested in Confirmation, watch your mailbox this month! There will be an informational meeting for youth and their families in January, and classes will begin on Sunday mornings at 11:00am in February. Classes will run through April.

TRUSTEES CORNER

The King is Coming! *Let's Get Ready!*

Save The Date – please join us for our annual pre-holiday Hanging of the Greens and SLUMC Work Day on:

Day: Saturday, November 29
Time: 8:00am-noon

All ages are welcome. We need your help as the Trustees and Altar Team work to get our church home ready for all of our holiday celebrations. All ages and skills are needed. With your help we'll be done in just 4 hours! Thank you! –*Sandi Miyaki*

The Bold Venture Leaves a Mark!



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 completed with new paint and floor coverings. Little School and Sunday School enjoy the new, clean space for learning and play.



The youth wing and chapel/adult education additions are taking shape with walls, windows, and roofing. On Sunday, October 26, the congregation was invited to leave their mark by writing their name, or blessing, or prayer on the exposed walls. Carpeting has been selected for the Fellowship Hall, Narthex, classrooms, and administrative offices.

The addition of a new water hydrant for safety concerns will add at least \$50,000 to our expenses as it will involve working under Broadway. The Building Committee is hoping to delay the installation of the hydrant to the summer season when the loss of parking is less detrimental to worship and program.

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.



FINANCIAL UPDATE



Dave Cupp
Director of Finance



Lisé Takayama
Assistant Director of Finance

How Are We Doing Financially?:

September was another good month even though it was not quite good enough to catch up our expected giving for the year-to-date. However, we're down to around the \$15,000 mark. With two months to go, we are well within reach of having another break even year. I remain confident we will be able to reach our goal.

Don't Forget the Extra \$100 Challenge: Several families have met this challenge. As you know, I've been encouraging everyone to find an extra \$100 to help bring our giving back in line with what was projected. If all our families gave an extra \$100 or so, we would reach our goal for the 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.

Ira Charitable Gift Roll-Over Provision Is Reinstated for 2008 and 2009: I have received information from a couple of sources that this provision has been extended for 2008 and 2009 as part of the recent "Bail Out" bill that was passed. This will be good news to some of our families. Especially to those who participated in the program for 2006 and 2007. I don't have any procedural details yet. However, I will share any information as I receive it. Check with your tax preparer for the latest information.

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. Plus, we sell about \$70,000 dollars of grocery cards each year through these methods. You may want to consider one of these convenient methods for your contributions.

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.



Café St. Luke's:

Join us for Coffee & Conversation about our community 9:30am the 2nd Sunday of the month. Meet your Barista Lynda Fickling at the coffee station located in the Fellowship Hall.



The CHRONICLE

St. Luke's United Methodist Church

8817 S. Broadway • Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

303-791-0659 • www.stlukeshr.com

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LITTLETON, CO

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

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

Cantata Sunday Breakfast!!!

Sunday December 7, 8:30am-12:30pm



Stay with your family and friends for fellowship and some warm breakfast during the musical celebrations of Cantata Sunday. Food will be served in the Fellowship Hall during and after each worship service on December 7.

This breakfast will raise funds to help

purchase furnishings for the new youth wing. We are upgrading from the garage-sale-style couches that filled our old youth rooms and purchasing new chairs and comfortable seating furniture to make the new youth rooms feel welcoming and cozy for all of St. Luke's.

All foods offered on a donation basis.

Suggested of \$5 for adults and \$3 for kids.

NOVEMBER 2008 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship - Rev. Janet Forbes 5:30pm: SLY, Jr. 5:30pm: SLY PM 7:34pm: Fusion	3 6:30pm: Women's Night Out	4	5 6:30pm: SLAM	6	7 7:00pm: You're a Good Man Charlie Brown 	8 7:30am: Men's Breakfast 7:00pm: You're a Good Man Charlie Brown 
9 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship - Rev. Janet Forbes 9:30am: Cafe St. Luke's noon: UMW Mission Team Mtg. 3:00pm: You're a Good Man Charlie Brown 5:30pm: SLY PM 7:34pm: Fusion 	10 5:30: Little School Board 7:00: Trustees	11 7:00pm: Emmaus Reunion Group	12 6:30am: SLAM	13	14 SLY Retreat	15 10:00am: Discovery Club SLY Retreat
16 Stewardship Commitment Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship - Rev. Janet Forbes SLY Retreat 5:30pm: SLY PM 7:34pm: Fusion	17	18 7:30am: Success Connection 7:00pm: Cancer Support Group	19 6:30pm: SLAM	20	21	22
23 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship - Rev. Janet Forbes 5:30pm: SLY PM 7:34pm: Fusion	24 Little School Thanksgiving Feast 7:00pm: UMW Book Club	25 Little School Thanksgiving Feast 6:30pm: Live, Laugh, Love Club 7:00pm: Emmaus Reunion Group	26 No Little School 6:30pm: SLAM	27 Thanksgiving Day No Little School	28 No Little School	29 8:00am: Work Day 8:00am: Hanging of the Greens
30 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship noon: UMW Mission Team Mtg. 5:30pm: SLY PM 6:34pm: Tree Lighting 7:34pm: Fusion	DEC 1	2 6:00pm: UMW Candlelight Dinner	3 6:30pm: Church Conference 6:30pm: SLAM	4	5	6 9:00am-1:00pm: Holiday Shop
7 Christmas Cantata 8:00am: Chapel Service, 9:30 & 11:00am: Cantata 8:30am-12:30pm: Fundraising Breakfast 9:00am-1:00pm: Holiday Shop 5:30pm: SLY, Jr. 5:30pm: SLY PM 7:30m: Fusion	8 5:30: Little School Board 7:00: Trustees	9 7:00pm: Emmaus Reunion Group	10 6:30pm: SLAM	11	12	13 7:30am: Men's Breakfast 10:30am: Children's Christmas Pageant Rehearsal