



The Chronicle

ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

AUGUST 2009

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and much more!

What's Green and Hangs Out in Your Wallet? (Hint...it's even better than cash!)

That's right... the new St. Luke's grocery cards! They are now **RELOADABLE** (you reload them at King Soopers) and **REUSEABLE** (no more purchasing new ones.) Why is this a **REALLY** big deal for St. Lukes? Everyone buys groceries, and every month King Soopers will send St. Luke's a check for 5% of all reloads. Are you **READY** for a convenient way to help the church? These new cards let you pick the amount you want to reload and you can reload it as many times as you want (just tell the clerk that you want to reload your card before you ring up your groceries, or stop by customer service – it's a snap!) Let's **REDUCE** the amount of money slipping through the cracks and **GO GREEN** together!! Stop by the Grocery Team Table and get your card today!! Questions? Call Joanne at 303-791-3874 or Terri at 303-768-0197.



2009 Performing Arts Academy was a huge success!



With nearly 600 people in attendance, the performances of "A Year with Frog and Toad" and "Beauty and the Beast" back in July by 66 incredibly talented young people was simply amazing! Each student had a unique and profound experience. Through teaching classes in voice, acting, improvisation, dance, and music theory, students were able to apply the instruction to music rehearsals, blocking and choreography for each of the shows. The overall experience was "intense" (Summer Music Theater Intensive) but truly a valuable way to build self esteem, skills and character in each one of the participants in addition to building community! The PAA also raised \$1,100 for the Medical Mission trip to Guatemala that takes place in early September.

Kudos to all who participated and many thanks to the wonderful faculty, Jenna Wilcox, Kay Coryell, Roberta Hamilton Griggs, Andra Brown, Karin Wesson, Doug Johnson, Lena Line, Angela Alderson, Hannah Wilson, assembled to teach these students and our student aids, Rosalyn Cole, Jordan Fickling, Katie Drinkard, Lauren Morris, Averill Corcoran and audio visual helpers, Joey Cavanaugh and Emerson McIntosh! I can't thank you enough! For summer 2010, save the dates of June 7-18 for our next Summer Music Theater Intensive. The PAA will be launching their new website by October. For more information about the Performing Arts Academy, contact me, James Ramsey, at jim@stlukeshr.com or 303-791-0659 x23.

What a week – Camp EDGE!



Over 260 children and more than 115 servants came together June

22-26 to *Experience* and *Discover* God *Everywhere*. Many members of St. Luke's and the community worked hard to help children see and learn about God during this week of Vacation Bible School. It was an amazing week from the snack, to music, to the classrooms and crafts. Every aspect was wonderful and we want to thank everyone who helped make it happen! The first year of the giving tree was a huge success and allowed us to lower our price and offer free attendance for many families. God was clearly present and the week was organized, safe, and fun. A very special thanks to Joely Maddux for her leadership and the great job she did her first time leading VBS at St. Luke's. Vacation Bible School serves as a reminder of what we are all about at St. Luke's and how precious the children of the church and our community can be. Thank you for a wonderful week!



Rethinking Sunday Nights by Rev. Brad Laurvick & Chris Wilterdink

Sunday nights at St. Luke's have always offered great chances for fellowship and spiritual growth for youth, and with the addition of the Fusion Worship Experience in January of 2008, Sunday nights also became a time for worship on a regular basis.

RETHINKCHURCH

As Brad and I talked over how our two groups could continue to feed off of each others' energy and still remain relevant to our community, the thought of running youth group (SLY PM) and Fusion concurrently continued resurfacing. After some exciting conversations about how Fusion and SLY could complement each

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

Rev. Sallie Suby-Long.....x32
Associate Minister

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

Joely Maddux.....x11
Assistant Director of Children's Ministry

Kristina Linn.....x40
Director of Childcare

Lynda Fickling.....x20
Director of Servant Ministry/Spiritual Director

Bonnie Funk.....x10
Church Secretary/Office Manager

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 20**
Editor: Sharon Oliver
chronicle@stlukeshr.com

A MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR



Rev. Janet Forbes
Senior Pastor

Celebrating Seasons in Ministry

I was ordained an Elder in the United Methodist Church in 1989. This year celebrates twenty years in ordained ministry. In those twenty years, I have served congregations in Grand Junction, Cheyenne, and Highlands Ranch. For a season, I was on the staff of Bishop Mary Ann Swenson as the program coordinator for Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming in mission, camping, youth, new church starts, media, and congregational consulting. Prior to my ordination, I served as a Christian educator in Nashville, Tennessee, and Colorado Springs. I actually started serving congregations in full-time ministry in 1980.

In the midst of the celebration, I am reflecting on the changes that have been required of those who lead communities of faith. In *A Hidden Wholeness*, Parker Palmer speaks of the tragic gap in which we stand today. The tragic gap can be described as holding the tension between two opposites, or the gap between the way things are and the way we know things ought to be. In these days of epochal change, leaders are asked to stand in this gap every day facing issues of scarce resources with increasing global needs, of demands for accountability while companioning the journeys of diverse generations and cultures, of providing motivation and support to congregations while deeply drained personally.

How do leaders lead in the gap? **Congruence. Convergence. Community.**

Leaders live authentically "as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries" (1 Corinthians 4:1), claiming the integrity that comes from being what you are.

Our leadership is convergent, grafting different relationships, backgrounds, and resources into the story. Control and celebrity are fading banners. The convergent church will be marked with new C signposts: **connect, coalesce, converge, collaborate, and commune.** The counter-balance for the speed and complexity of the digital environment will be a radically, generous heart.

The tasks of congruence and convergence are challenges that cannot be embraced alone, at least, not for long. Leaders need trustworthy relationships, tenacious communities of support, if life is to be sustained in the gap. Every journey has solitary passages and prophetic moments, to be sure. Yet, the gap is simply too arduous to survive without the companionship of others. Gap leadership opens hospitable space across difference. It surprises, breaks open, and disarms. As Ellen Glasgow comments, "*Nothing would astonish me, after all these years, except to be understood.*"

Leaders are called to see the sacredness of the gap, the place where wisdom is bread, all voices are honored, and young men and women dream dreams.

In every part of the church, leaders help people see! They see and season leaders of all kinds, releasing the ministry of God's people. Peter Drucker says that a leader is one who has followers. However, in the church, a good leader has leaders who replicate congruence, convergence, and community... everywhere!

We share a story founded in the hope that sustained Jesus' followers through the gap, those first three days until news of the resurrection forged what would become a new community. We share that ancient hope, rooted in God's constant activity in the world, rooted in God's constant meddling in our affairs, rooted in God's call to make love perfect.

What an exciting time to
be alive and leading!

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other in offering more complete ministry to our community, a new vision emerged.

Beginning September 13 we open St. Luke's doors for you to participate in rethinking Sunday nights. A community meal will be served in the Fellowship Hall from 5:30-6:15, then SLY PM and Fusion will both begin at 6:34 and end at 7:34pm. Not only is Fusion shifting time, but also space; taking advantage of the improvements occurring in the Fellowship Hall. This new time and space excites us, by offering more time for fellowship, an earlier time for young families to share in Fusion, as well as less chair moving (woo hoo!). SLY also shifts space, to enjoy the benefits of the new youth wing afforded by the Bold Venture. This change will also give youth the opportunity to enjoy the laughter of SLY PM, as well as regular worship opportunities in Fusion.

Rethinking Sunday nights will offer wonderful opportunities for all of St. Luke's and our surrounding community to worship, engage each other spiritually, and break bread together.



Rev. Brad Laurvick
Associate Minister

School Supplies

I have always enjoyed shopping for school supplies. And I know I am not alone. The smell of fresh crayons, the point of a freshly sharpened pencil, the crisp edges of new notebook paper... There is something exciting about it all. There is something promising about all of it. When all those supplies are new, it's anyone's guess what you will do and make with them. The pictures you will create, the problems you will solve, the stories you will tell. They all lie before you. Now, I am not saying I always enjoyed using those school supplies. I know that there was work to be done when I used them. However, it was the excitement of getting to use them that helped balance out the challenge of the tasks I was assigned.

I wonder... I wonder how life would be different if we could look at every new situation, every new opportunity, every new day with the same expectant excitement? Somehow in life I think we miss the opportunities to be excited, and skip right to the task at hand – forgetting the promise that lies in the tools we have been given by God, the gifts we possess, the very people we are.

I encourage you to go buy some new school supplies, whatever your favorite might be (it's the crayons for me) and leave them sitting on your desk, your computer table, your night stand, and claim the excitement that lies before you.

Be Blessed and Be a Blessing, —Rev. Brad

RETHINKCHURCH

WHAT IF... “What if we Rethink Church? What if church was less about Sunday and more about the other days of the week? What if church wasn't a place we go, but something we do? A milieu of adventure, and active verb instead of a noun. What if church wasn't a just building but thousands of doors? Each of them opening to a different concept or experience of church, so that whoever knocks might find a journey to call their own.”

—a small transcript of the *RETHINK CHURCH* video from *Common Table*



St. Luke's 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.

Mark your calendars:

- Monday, August 3 6:30pm **Women's Night Out: Sweet Tomatoes**
- Wednesday, August 5 7:00pm **Itch To Stitch**
- Sunday, August 9 noon **UMW Mission Team meeting**
- Wednesday, August 19 7:00pm **Itch To Stitch**
- Monday, August 24 **Evening Book Club: Quaker Summer by Lisa Samson**

UMW Needs You! We plan events throughout the year for the women of our church. We organize occasions such as the Candlelight Dinner, Pie and Prayer afternoon, Spring Tea, and Parking Lot Sale. This year we added the Chocolate Boutique as an all day Spiritual Retreat for women. Proceeds from events are donated to many different Mission groups. All of these fun and meaningful experiences require man power (actually, woman power.) If you are interested in helping plan and organize these types of events for women, we could really use your talents! Please call Fran West at 303-797-7107 or Renae Parra at 303-683-0872 or RenaeParra@aol.com for more information or to offer your service.

UMCOR Kits UMCOR has opened a new depot in Salt Lake City. It is in great need of items for the different kits. St. Luke's UMW is collecting items for the health kits for UMCOR during the summer months. UMCOR will also be the mission for the September Kick-off's Annual Pie and Prayer. Items may be brought to the event or placed in the UMCOR donation box found near the UMW bulletin board. Items needed for the health kits are:

- hand towels (15" x 25" up to 17" x 27", No kitchen towels)
- washcloths
- combs (large and sturdy, not pocket-sized)
- nail files or fingernail clippers (no emery boards or toenail clippers)
- bath-size bars of soap (3 oz. and up)
- toothbrushes (single brushes only in original wrapper, No child-size brushes)
- adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages
- \$1.00 to purchase toothpaste (*UMCOR is purchasing the toothpaste to insure it doesn't expire before being sent out.)

For more info about UMCOR go to <http://new.gbmg-umc.org/umcor/getconnected/supplies/>



“Ways We Pray” The Fall Kick-off event will be Sunday, Sept. 20 from 2:00-4:00pm. Women are invited to join us for our annual Pie and Prayer meeting. There is no cost, but please sign up so we know how many people are coming. There will also be a sign up sheet to bring a pie. Look for the sign up sheets in mid-August. Sallie Suby-Long will be facilitating our afternoon. We plan to bless the prayer shawls and have the labyrinth again this year.

Looking ahead:

- Sunday, September 20 2:00-4:00pm Annual Pie and Prayer Meeting: Ways We Pray
- Monday, September 28 Evening Book Club: A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini
- Tuesday, December 8 6:00pm Annual Women's Candlelight Dinner

Subgroups of UMW at St. Luke's UMC:

Evening Book Group: Fourth Monday of the month, 7:00pm Conference Room. For more information, please Renae Parra at 303-683-0872. To be added to the Evening Book Club email mailing list, send a request to RenaeParra@aol.com

Itch to Stitch: First and third Wednesdays of the month, 7:00-8:30pm Downstairs near the Children's Library. For more information, please call Fran West at 303-797-7107. We are adding extra meeting times this summer to give ladies more chances to come and learn, improve or teach handwork skills. We will be making items for needy infants, Senior Centers, Veterans Hospital, and Youths Fall Craft Sale. All skill levels plus all ages are welcome. We have free yarn and cloth.

Women's Night Out: First Monday of the month, 6:30pm various locations. For more information, please contact Lynda Fickling Lynda at 303-791-0659 x20 or lynda@stlukeshr.com or Renae Parra at 303-683-0872 or renaeparra@aol.com. We will be meeting Monday, August 3 at Sweet Tomatoes, 9445 Park Meadows Drive, Lone Tree to plan our evening for the year. Please bring the name of a favorite restaurant to share with the group.

NEW

Adult Ed/Spiritual Formation Preview

As we approach September, we are excited to give you a preview and invite you to sign up for the many different opportunities to:

- Engage the inspired and inspiring message of the Bible
- Reflect on who we have been, who we are, and who we will be as God's people
- Open ourselves to the ways God is present and active in our lives
- Think through and act on our relationship with God's world

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENGAGING SCRIPTURE:

Intro to the Bible, Sundays 9:30am Come and learn about the Bible as we look at the basics of what it is (and isn't), where it came from, and what it can mean for us today.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR REFLECTING ON TRADITION:

Christian Traditions, Wednesdays 6:30pm

OPPORTUNITIES FOR OPENING OURSELVES TO EXPERIENCE:

Centering Prayer, Thursdays 6:30pm

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THINKING AND ACTING:

Just Faith, Wednesdays 6:00pm This 30-week class invites you to delve into the many issues of justice and social change that face people of faith today. Led by Rev. Doug McKinney, Laurie Gilbert, and Betsy Keyack

OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLE:

We are again offering a wide selection of the 32-week Disciple classes:

Disciple 1 - "Becoming Disciples Through Biblestudy"

Offers an overview and introduction to the Bible as a whole.

Wednesdays 6:30pm with Rev. Janet

Thursdays 9:30am with Rev. Brad and Adam Alderson

Disciple 2 - "Into the Word, Into the World" Invites you deeper into the scriptures including Genesis, Exodus, Luke, and Acts.

Wednesdays 6:30pm with Jack Goodman and Diana Stephens

Thursdays 9:30am with Grace George

Disciple 3 - "Remember Who You Are" Invites you deeper into the scriptures including the work of Paul and the Prophets of the Old Testament.

Wednesdays 6:30pm

Thursdays 9:30am with Nancy Abbot

Jesus and the Gospels A fifth installment of the 32-week Disciple series, this class delves into the life of Jesus as told in the gospels.

Wednesdays 6:30pm

Living the Questions A series that encourages a deep look at questions of faith and life. This progressive study will start a new series and opportunity to enroll every 6-12 weeks.

Thursdays 9:30am with Lynne Butler

SIGN-UP for all of these classes online at stlukeshr.com and in Fellowship Hall at the Spiritual Formation/Adult Education Table. (If you signed the interest sheets for any of these opportunities, you will be contacted and do not have to sign up again.)



Week Ending July 24, 2009

Please stop by the Information Center, by the front door, where you will find the updated Prayer Concerns List (on yellow paper) and the Armed Forces Prayer List (on blue paper). Look it over and Bonnie know if you have any additions/removals from either list. 303-791-0659 x10, leave a note on the front desk, or email at bonnie@stlukeshr.com

Gerry Wright (Gail Abernathy's mother)
 Jennie Keefer (Mike Hutchins' daughter)
 John Covey (friend of Ross Barnard)
 Norm Keller (Candy Keller's father)
 Paula Strader (Sandi Miyaki's sister)
 Judy Austin (Mary Jo Weber's sister)
 Robert Abbott, Sr. (Nancy Abbott's father-in-law)
 Matthew Peterman's cousin, Matthew
 Brent Webber (friend of Nancy Cushing)
 Amy Spicher (Doug Spicher's mother)
 Lori Lieberman (friend of Jane Damsgard)
 Diane Wieland (friend of Bobbi King's)
 Marcia Enger
 Carol Burton (Melissa Hemphill's friend)
 Karen Edwards (friend of Eileen & Ed Law)
 Dwain Bartellina (Mike Hutchins' uncle)
 Cate Hootman (friend of Ed & Eileen Law)
 Lucille Hallowell (friend of Nancy Abbott's)
 Chrissy Booth (Kam & Tim Bole's friend)
 Suzie Burk (Melissa Ester's mother)
 Schelly Thompson (Sandy Thompson's sister-in-law)
 Nancy Jackson
 Betty Kieser (Bonnie Funk's mother)
 Jed Bennett (Fred & Jean Bennett's son)
 Tammy Hess (Bonnie Funk's friend)
 Kirk Watkins (Keith & Marilyn Ayers son)
 Bill Dearasaugh
 Jill (Jenny Hanna's friend)
 Susie (Joy Damsgard's friend)
 Frank Stanley (Joy Damsgard's brother)
 Daniel Gaul (Jennifer Richeson's brother)
 Andrew Kent
 (10. yr. old family friend of the Richeson's)
 Mark Bartellina (Mike Hutchins' cousin)
 David Joseph (Friend of Bobbi King/Marie Blue)
 Beth Turner
 John Larsh (friend of Rick & Louise Jasper)
 Robert Miller
 Jan Rufen
 Karen Chaun (Linda Fligg's friend)
 Robert Towell (Jon Sreaty's sister)
 Bob Worth
 Joy (Susy Halloran's friend)
 Shaun VanDyke (Bobbi King's nephew)
 Larry Tyson (Dave Tyson's brother)
 Bertha Roth
 Sheryl Sommer (Carol Carnahan's sister)
 Marge Weegs (friend of the Halderman's)
 Dusty Stanley (Joy Damsgard sister-in-law)
 Taylor Krenning
 Caitlin Bauer
 Jim Freeman (Patti Speedy's brother-in-law)
 William Lewis (DenUM director - Betsy Keyack)
 Mike Maciejewski (Jennifer Jiang's brother-in-law)
 Jim George
 Gordon Lewis (Ken Fong's friend)
 Alberta Haas
 Daniel Winkle (friend of Gail Strawn)

Darrell & Billie Aderman
 (friends of Rick & Louise Jasper)
 Ross Magaughey (friend of Rick & Louise Jasper)
 Randy Staton (friend of Dave & Bonnie Funk)
 Clare Flater
 Doug Saba
 Cindy Riley (friend of Paul/Susan Northrop)
 Jack Miller (friend of Paul/Susan Northrop)
 Michelle Swanson (Kay Swanson's daughter-in-law)
 Sharon Shreusberry (Kerry Lucero's friend)
 Nancy Melia (friend of Bonnie Funk)
 Mildred Johnson (Connie Shoemaker's mother)
 Connor Thorne
 Karen Herr
 Ray and Shirley Sutcliffe (Leigh Ramsey's parents)
 Sandy Gibbons

ARMED FORCES:

Kenneth Berube (Meier family friend)
 Sgt. William E. Bader (Trudy Turner's nephew)
 Lt. Zac Henshaw (Amy Antinoro's brother-in-law)
 Capt. Denton Dye & Capt. Mary Beth Dye
 (nephew & his wife of David Whitmer)
 Capt. Joseph Plumb
 (Steve & Julie Beekhuizen's son-in-law)
 Capt. Erick Munoz (son of Fred & Jan Munoz)
 SSgt. Brian Holzmank
 (Carolyn Warden's brother's friend)
 Corporal James "Jim" Harding
 (Bonnie Funk's nephew)
 Sgt. Amber Marshall (Chris Richards' cousin)
 Jerry Mendiaz
 (Heather-former LS teacher's husband)
 Mark Thompson (Bruce & Lois Thompson's son)
 Sean Pippitt (brother of Sara Hankenson)
 Ed Herring (Les Ludlam's nephew)
 AMaj. Steve Wereszynski (Kam & Tim Bole's friend)
 Josh Brady (Sylvia Brady's grandson)
 Jeremy Brady (Sylvia Brady's grandson)
 Colin Gabriel (son of Val Gabriel)
 Dustin Ellington (Jayne Dunham's nephew)
 Justin Boggy

SYMPATHIES:

To Bobbi and Truman King on the passing of their friend Lorraine Berg,
 To the Mathis family on the passing of their son.

NEW BABIES:

Coley Reed Wilcox - born 7/20 to parents Bret and Jenna Wilcox,
 Zoe Gail Block - born 7/21 to parents Valerie and Daniel Block and grandparents Terry and Janet Walters,
 Liam Sturgis Weatherston - born 7/27 to parents Lane Weatherston and Laura Wetherington.

"A New Beginning"

a 12-week Divorce Recovery Workshop will begin
Monday, Sept. 14, 6:45-9:00pm at St. Luke's

For those who are separated or divorced, this workshop brings healing from a Christian community where one can experience acceptance, care giving, and the love of God.

Cost is \$100: pick up a brochure at our "Get Connected" table or register by calling Larry Sears 720-524-0440.

Scholarships are available.



Lynda Fickling
Director of
Servant Ministry

We are Called to Serve

Rather than waiting around for God's special plan for your life, you should just go find where God is at work and Join in!" –

Shane Claiborne

Here are a few opportunities to serve.

Usher Team: Assist in the weekly worship service by ensuring folks are attended to before, during and after service. Ushers typically serve on a quarterly basis at one service. If you would enjoy serving our community please contact Greg Nolder 303-915-9087 greg@nolders.com or Dick Frame 303-791-4252

Communications Team: We invite you to explore your creativity and technical skills while helping St. Luke's stay connected. We support staff and ministry teams to communicate their events, classes, missions, worship service and stewardship to St. Luke's and the community at large. Through writing, desktop publishing, web development, graphics, marketing and public relations, they continually make the invitation to get involved in activities that keep Christ at the center of our lives. Contact: Bret Wilcox 303-325-7692 bret@bretwilcox.com

Altar Team: This team has many functions in creating and maintaining a worshipful experience at St. Luke's. They may design, create and change the banners in the sanctuary, plan and implement the Advent decorations, responsible for the elements on Communion Sundays and maintain the altar decorations. We welcome you to the team! Contact: Julia Murrow 303-791-7437 jhmurrow@comcast.net or Kathy Swier 303-683-4620 kathy.swier@dcsdk12.org

Soundbooth Team: We are responsible for the sound system during the Sunday services and special events (weddings, dramas, musicals...) – including slides, lights and videos. Behind the scene work includes preparing the slides, videos and working closely with the Worship team. Contact: Tim Boles 303-791-9643 tmboles@aol.com

Did you know.... Candy Keller and Brenda Schafer Hewett are here every Friday mowing, trimming, and weeding our landscaping?
Thank you to our Quiet Servants

If you are searching for a place to connect at St. Luke's, please contact Lynda Fickling, Director of Servant Ministry 303-791-0659 x20 lynda@stlukeshr.com or Karin Wesson, Team Leader for Lay Leadership, 303-683-0196 karin@thewessons.com



Café St. Luke's:

We invite you to explore the community of St. Luke's. Join me for coffee and conversation about the history of St. Luke's, the United Methodist Church, our ministries, programs and serving opportunities. Whether you have been here for one week or many years, we offer this relaxing opportunity for you to connect with this community. All are welcome!

9:30am, 2nd Sunday of the month, Room 213

Contact: Lynda Fickling, Director of Servant Ministry/Spiritual Director 303-791-0659x20 lynda@stlukeshr.com

Common Table Explores **RETHINKCHURCH**

The Common Table of St. Luke's met on Monday evening, July 20. Sixty-seven leaders, members, and friends gathered to participate in the picnic supper and meeting.

From 6:30 to 8:00pm, we built our community, explored possibilities in re-thinking church and envisioning our future, took the next steps in the discernment process for the Kings Service on Epiphany Sunday, and got an update on calendaring processes. Audrey Elling served as our facilitator.

St. Luke's is living into a new model of organic organization called the Common Table – a model in which relationships are the ties that bind us together as a congregation, not our denominational heritage, or our doctrine, or our beliefs. We are a people who live "tied together" by our belonging to the body of Christ at St. Luke's.

Our congregational governance now reflects the flexibility of our decision-making and ministry oversight. The image of a net provides the symbol of persons of different ages, meeting in groups and classes of differing interests, worshiping in different services, gathering from different backgrounds, longing for different spiritual journeys who are all linked together in the fullness of Christ's body.

Certain persons have the responsibility to keep the net strong, connected, and repaired if there is a lapse in communication. The Executive Team and the St. Luke's staff carry this primary task. The Common Table is an open gathering of the Executive Team, ministry team leaders, and persons from the congregation to share a meal, and to learn and discern, and to communicate and calendar.

The next Common Table is on Monday, October 19.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome

New Members June/July 2009



David & Janet Johnston

Elena Lynch (no picture available)
(Lester) Lorelle (member) and Leila "Sense of being at home. Wonderful community of people."

Members Who Have Moved:

It is always difficult to say good-bye to dear friends. May God's Peace, Grace and Love be with them always, as they begin a new journey away from their St. Luke's community:

Jeff & Natalie Tanner,
Grace and Kostos
Houston, Tx

Melinda Dawson
(end of Aug.)
San Antonio, Tx

Glen & Shelly Selover,
Wesley and Avery
Rio Rancho, NM



Marcus Carlson
Minister to Children
& their Families

Children & Family Corner: Fall is upon us!

I hope that you have had a wonderful and meaningful summer and that you continue to enjoy time with your families and loved ones. I have felt especially blessed by time with my family this summer and it is a great time to re-connect for many families.

As I sit here in Indianapolis, Indiana at United Methodist Church Focus conference (a conference for Children's Ministry that happens every four years) I cannot believe how quickly this summer has moved! It seems like May was just yesterday and now we are gearing up for another wonderful school year. I am especially excited for all of the wonderful changes that this year will bring in the Children's Ministry at St. Luke's. Hopefully you have been able to attend one of the Growing with God Gatherings and you have heard all of the great information. If not be sure that you are on our newsletter list and are reading all of the information that we are sending out. We don't want you to miss out!

The thing that we are most excited about this year is our new leadership model. The adults and youth who serve in the Children's Ministry are the heart of what we do here and none of it would be possible without them. Our hope is to transition to a model that is based on gifts, time, and passion so that everyone can find a meaningful connection to the children's ministry and so that we can continue to offer great opportunities for children and families. Please be thinking and praying about how you might serve this year. There are many roles and opportunities for a wide variety of gifts and schedules. As always we are greatly appreciative of all of your support and prayer! We are looking forward to seeing what God will do in, around, and through us this year!

Calendar:

August 5	<i>New Teacher Orientation 6:30-7:30pm Curriculum Meeting/Orientation 6:30-7:30pm</i>
August 16	<i>Little School and Sunday School Teacher Commissioning in 9:30 service</i>
August 19	<i>St. Luke's Kids Growing with God Gathering 6:30-8:00pm</i>
August 21	<i>Movie Night 7-8:30pm</i>
Sept. 13	<i>Kickoff Sunday!</i>
Sept. 21	<i>6:30-8:00pm The Spiritual Formation and Development of Children class for parents</i>
Sept. 22	<i>6:30-8:00pm Children's Ministry Leadership Team Meeting</i>
Sept. 27	<i>Fall Hayride</i>
Sept. 28	<i>6:30-8:00pm The Spiritual Formation and Development of Children class for parents</i>



News & Notes:

Don't forget to check out the website! The children's section of St. Luke's website is updated regularly and is filled with information, flyers, and much more. Be sure to check it out!



Joely Maddux
Assistant Director of
Children's Ministry



Kristina Linn
Director of
Childcare

St. Luke's Kids & Families Growing with God Gatherings!!

(New one added!)

We are excited to announce a set of gatherings for all parents and grandparents of children age 0-grade 6 as well as anyone who is interested in learning more

about our Children's Ministry at St. Luke's. These gatherings are very important and we encourage everyone to come to one of the meetings. We will discuss our programs, dreams, and vision. We will share lots of information about our program and the new changes coming this year. We will have the opportunity to dream together and share around the table about how we can work together to draw our children and our families closer together and closer to God! Don't miss it. For questions, please contact Marcus or Joely. Next gathering: Wednesday August 19, 6:30-8:00pm. Childcare provided!

New Class This fall we will be offering a new class for parents! It is called The Spiritual Development and Formation of Children. It will be six weeks long meeting each Monday night from 6:30-8:00pm. We will be looking at how children develop and form spiritually and morally and will be learning about and discussing how to best equip are children to have a full and abundant life. Marcus Carlson will be teaching this course and it is open to all parents in the church and community. Join us for as many classes as you can. Contact Marcus Carlson with any questions

Fall Kickoff and registration Our Fall Kickoff will be Sunday Sept. 13, 2009. We will start our 2 year old class back up on this date and move to our regular programs and curriculum for 9:30 and 11:00am Sunday School with some exciting changes. Registration is now available online at the St. Luke's website. We need everyone who plans on attending Sunday School at all this next year to register so we have correct numbers for classes and curriculum as well as updated allergy and contact information. Selecting roles for service in the Children's Ministry will be separate this year and will not be a part of the registration form. Please let Marcus or Joely know if you have any questions or concerns.

Our 2009-2010 Calendar is now available online. Check out all of the great events www.stlukeshr.com/children.

Newsletters Don't forget about our weekly newsletters. If you are not receiving one or both of these and would like to, please contact Marcus. Both are a great way to keep informed. Our *Families First* newsletter provides information about what is happening in Sunday School as well as some tips and a devotion for families. Our *Servant* newsletter highlights one of our servants and provides some tips as well as our needs for Sunday School and other programs.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Kay Swanson
Director of
Little School



Little School News: School Begins Aug. 31!

Summer is speeding up as the days go by and we are eagerly anticipating the beginning of our 14th year of Little School!

Many changes are taking place and we are most excited about the new shade that has been added to our playground by Steve Riley and his crew. This project is an example of Hypar-roofs that are built in countries such as Africa. Little School is one of the first to install these structures and by doing so, we are teaching other people how to build the roofs, which will enable them to take their training into far away countries and help those people who lack adequate housing. Little School will be making a donation to the Nuba Water project for the generously donated labor that went into our new shade! Thank you to all those who have made this possible for us!

Please circle these important dates on your Calendars:

Thursday August 27 - Parent Open House 7:00-8:15pm (7:00-7:25pm MWF parents meet with teachers, 7:00-7:25pm T/TH parents meet with Ms. Kay in the Sanctuary)

Friday August 28 - 10:00-10:45am Open House for MWF students and parents to meet their new teachers, 10:45-11:30am Open House for T/TH students and parents to meet their new teacher

Monday August 31 - SCHOOL BEGINS!

We know that some of you have already begun public or private school and we wish blessings on your new year! We are looking forward to another outstanding year at Little School. We will miss our teachers that have gone on to new adventures; Ms. Laurie, Ms. Jean, Ms. Fran and Ms. Suzanne who returned to Ireland. We wish them all well! See you soon! *Blessings, -Ms. Kay*

St. Luke's Youth (SLY) is hosting a

Craft Fair

OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

Oct. 10, 2009 10:00am-4:00pm

(Crafters may enter to set up starting at 8:30am)

Cost: \$20 per 8'x10' space (includes 1 table and 2 chairs)
extra tables \$15 each and extra chairs \$5 each
If you need electricity, please indicate below, add \$10.

Contact: Cathy Johnson 303-660-5285 to reserve a space.

Reserve your space by September 10.

Small Group Spotlight: Children's Ministry Team

by Jen Utter

No parent's home video collection is complete without those memorable church events in a child's life. Whether it be the excitement of getting to be an angel in the Christmas pageant or getting to hunt for Easter eggs around the church, none of these events would be possible without the Children's Ministry (St. Luke's Kids: Growing with God) Team. The team gives leadership to most of the St. Luke's children's programs, including Vacation Bible School, the Christmas pageant, Easter Fun Day and Sunday School. The team is made up of 6-10 members with a support team of 5-15 members, depending on the event and over 150 parents involved in the ministry.

"Our hope is that we can connect parents, grandparents, youth and other adults to be a part of children's ministry that fits their passion, gifts and time," said Marcus Carlson, Minister to Children and their Families at St. Luke's.

The Children's Ministry has been around since the formation of St. Luke's. The goal of the Children's Ministry Team is to combine the congregation, the community, scripture and families to spiritually develop the children attending St. Luke's.

"It is a joy and honor to serve St. Luke's and help it create a safe and memorable experience for children to know God's love," said Rachael Owens, St. Luke's Children's Ministry Team member.

For information about joining the CMT contact Marcus or Joely.

Monty's Methodism Musings: The World is our Parish

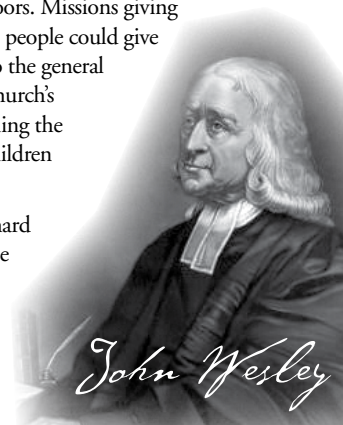
In 1725, John Wesley was ordained a priest in the Church of England. Despite being a leader in the religious revival called the First Great Awakening, this was the only office he held in the Church of England until his death in 1791.

As the leader, of the Methodist movement, Wesley was quite often at odds with the secular and religious leaders of England. From 1739 onward Wesley and the Methodists were persecuted by clergymen and magistrates. They were attacked in sermons and in print and at times attacked by mobs. They remained always at work among the neglected and needy. They were denounced as promulgators of strange doctrines, fomenters of religious disturbances; as blind fanatics, leading people astray, claiming miraculous gifts, attacking the clergy of the Church of England, and trying to reestablish Catholicism. Through it all Wesley remained a priest in the Church of England.

During one of his arguments with clerical authorities in the Church of England, one of the clergy suggested that Wesley, a lowly parish priest, should return to his duties in his parish and stay there. Wesley's reply to this was, "The world is my parish." Methodists have taken up this statement as a call to pursue social justice the world over.

Early on in St. Luke's history, there were many financial difficulties and at times the church's survival was in question. It would have been easy to look inward and take the attitude that the survival of the church was the first priority. To the credit on the members at that time, the decision was made that the reason for St. Luke's existence lay outside its front doors. Missions giving was established as "extra dollar" giving so that people could give to the missions program above their pledge to the general budget. This missions emphasis despite the church's financial problems was a key part of determining the commitment of St. Luke's to helping God's children wherever we sense a need.

I'm proud of our missions program and our hard working missions committee. They help shape who we are as a congregation. I invite your continued support the the mission committee and its program. I hope we can always say, "The world is our parish."
-Monty Hoffman





Servant by Design

**Sundays 6:30-8:30pm beginning September 13,
9 week course Cost \$21.00**

Discover who you are... Why are YOU here? What do YOU do best? What are YOU passionate about? What do You value? What are Your priorities?

Lifekeys will help you begin your journey to a God-centered life by discovering how you are designed to serve. Discover your:

- ☛ Life gifts and spiritual gifts (What you do best!)
- ☛ Personality type and values (The places or atmospheres that give you the most energy)
- ☛ Passion (The purposes God placed in your heart)

"Faith does not need to push the river. The river is already flowing; and we are already in it." - Richard Rohr, OFM

Join us in re-discovering who you are and affirming the person God has made you to be!

Class size is limited. Sign up today by contacting Lynda Fickling 303-791-0659 x20 lynda@stlukeshr.com or sign up on Sundays at the "Get Connected" table.

Just Faith: A Journey into the Gospel Invitation to be a People of Justice and Compassion *by Betsy Keyack*

There is an exciting new class coming to St. Luke's this Fall – Just Faith! This nationally-recognized course will help you discern how you can live the words of the prophet Micah *"What does the Lord require of you? To seek justice, to love kindness, to walk humbly with your God."*

I took the class last year at St. Andrew UMC and loved it. This year Just Faith at St. Luke's will be co-facilitated by me, Laurie Gilbert and Rev. Doug McKinney, Director of Love, Inc. of Littleton.

The course is not only informative but very spiritual. The weekly prayers and devotions are beautiful and inspiring. We will also spend time reflecting on what the Old and New Testaments say about compassion and justice. Just Faith will reach our hearts.

There are 11 wonderful books, 11 videos that will make an impact on you, 7 guest speakers and four "border crossings" in which we go to talk with people who are affected by poverty.

The class addresses domestic and global poverty – in the Denver area, the US and around the world. You will read a book called *"Amazing Grace,"* a powerful first-hand account of life in the Bronx. Another book takes you to slums in countries such as Kenya, Mexico and the Philippines. The book *"Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger"* promotes awareness of the injustices in our world.

The books and videos provide inspiring stories of people who have promoted social justice, such as Ghandi and Dorothy Day. In addition, we will learn about and discuss the activities and policies of US corporations and the US government, immigration, the environment, living simply, racism, government advocacy, and the power of one person to make a difference.

There will be plenty of time for discussion of the issues. As those of you who have taken our Disciple classes know, there are no given answers to the questions. This is a class for learning, sharing ideas and drawing one's own conclusions. We hope to have a class with a rich variety of perspectives and opinions!

Just Faith will also provide you with a thought process and time to reflect and discern the path you want to take in putting your faith into action with compassion and promotion of social justice. I came out of the class with a set of "next steps" for me. I was helped tremendously in terms of inspiration and increased awareness. I realized that the more I know, the more I want to know.

Just Faith is a 30-week class that will be offered on Wednesday nights from 6:00-8:30pm. Childcare will be provided. Participants pay for the cost of the books, but we can provide help with that. To register or for more information, you can contact me at 303-346-7057, bkeyack@att.net.

Centering Prayer: Is God inviting you into a deeper relationship?

Join us here at St. Luke's, for an experiential workshop and 8-week course on **Centering Prayer**, a prayer method where we sit in silence with God, or, as Gregory the Great expressed it we "rest in God." Though we often think of prayer as thoughts or feelings expressed in words, this is only one expression. Centering prayer facilitates the movement from more active forms of prayer into a receptive prayer of resting in God where we experience God's presence. This is traditionally called contemplative prayer. Thomas Keating says contemplative prayer is "the opening of mind and heart, body and emotions – our whole being – to God, the Ultimate Mystery, beyond thoughts, words and emotions."

The method of Centering Prayer draws from ancient prayer practices in the Christian Contemplative Tradition. In the 1970's three Trappist monks, William Meninger, Basil Pennington and Thomas Keating, distilled centering Prayer into a simple method of prayer that helps to quiet our faculties so we can cooperate with the gift of God's presence. Thomas Keating says, "In this resting or stillness the mind and heart are not actively seeking God, but are beginning to experience, to taste, what they have been seeking."

The Introductory Workshop will be held on **Saturday, September 19, 2009, from 9:00am-1:00pm.** Registration will begin at 8:30am. Two long-time centering prayer practitioners, Julie Saad and Bob Albrecht, will present the workshop. They are both on the staff of Contemplative Outreach. The workshop will include instruction on the method of Centering Prayer and two sessions of actual practice of the prayer. **The eight-week course will then begin on September 24, 2009, Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:45pm.**

Cost: Workshop, 8-week course & book \$25.00

To Register: Contact Lynda Fickling lynda@stlukeshr.com 303-791-0659 x20 or sign up at the Get Connected Center or online at www.stlukeshr.com



James Ramsey
Director of Music
Ministry & the Arts



Kay Coryell
Associate Dir. of
Music Ministry



Ken Mervine
Organist/
Accompanist



Servant Spotlight:

Bret & Jenna Wilcox *by Katie Newell*

Act One for creative pair Bret and Jenna Wilcox was somewhat of a romantic comedy, set on an indoor soccer field. Jenna thoughtfully described her athletic audition for her leading man as “really bad,” but it didn’t seem to matter and they’ve

been making beautiful music (and all kinds of productions) ever since. Having both worked at CYT, they “know what each other knows”, complimenting each other’s skills sets, and they choose to give these gifts back in the many productions that the church offers. Giving tirelessly to St. Luke’s of their artistic abilities, Bret (he’s the techie behind the scenes) and Jenna (she’s more of the director) bring St. Luke’s their passion, their expertise, and their love of theatre. Plus, they’ve had a side production newly premiered - a baby boy, Coley Reed, born July 20.

About their background: Jenna has a Musical Theatre Degree from Friends University in Wichita, KS. She’s currently serving as Assistant Producer for the Performing Arts Academy. They are looking to expand the program into a year round type of opportunity with voice, piano, dancing, acting, etc. Bret was educated at the Colorado School of Mines, and was the president of an environmental group called Earthworks. He worked with Brad at the Apple Store. He considers himself “a utility player!”

What Serving at St. Lukes Means: “Being part of St. Lukes gives me the outlet for my creative abilities,” explains Jenna. “It makes me a whole person. If I didn’t have the opportunity to be creative, I wouldn’t be the person I’m supposed to be.” She adds that St. Lukes has given her the chance to be fully supported and to explore and expand her creative abilities. She knows that she is fulfilling “a greater purpose, not just arts for sake of arts.”

For Bret, it’s a chance to use his creative thinking skills. He also says being on the technical sides of things you work with individuals on a rough outer experience to start, and then you see a complete transformation. “You get to know people on a different level, the kind soul underneath, all going towards a common goal.” His favorite production to date was *Requiem for a Superstar*, and he was proud of the lighting in particular. Bret also manages the St. Luke’s Communication Team.

Why They Chose St. Luke’s: “Jen and I came from completely opposite ends of the spectrum when it came to church. She regularly went to church as a child and always had a strong faith. I had limited exposure, and maybe went to a bible camp or two with friends. I definitely came into faith later in life,” Bret explains. And both Jenna and Bret acknowledge that’s one area where St. Luke’s thrives – taking you where you are in your faith journey and letting you be part of the experience in whatever way you can be.

Involving Others: Jenna wants everyone to know they are always looking for volunteers. If you like to be a scavenger, they always need more props. If you can work with wood, desktop publishing, or other creative skills, let them know! If you are a seamstress, or a painter – they need you! Bret adds that you don’t even have to be a good painter – you just need a steady hand! “I always thought that you had a have a certain level of expertise to be involved in productions, but there is no barrier to entry here.” If you have an open mind and are willing to learn, you are welcome to be a part of things.

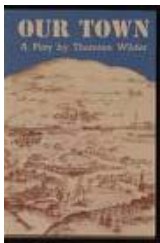
Final Bow: Bret is proud of Jenna and says, “She gives everything she has in everything she does. He also wants people to know what the church has meant to both him and his wife. “St. Lukes is a common ground for a lot of different people. You can come and be loved on and grow together with the rest of the community. It’s as you are, with the common goal of getting closer to God.”

Wesley Players Auditions!

Our Town auditions:

Saturday August 22 – 8:00-11:00am

Sunday August 23 – 2:00-5:00pm



Our Town is coming! Presented by the Wesley Players and directed by Karin Wesson, *Our Town* by Thornton Wilder is a delightful story for all to enjoy. The production goes up on Friday, October 16 and Saturday, October 17 at 7:00pm. Save the Date! You won’t want to miss another stellar performance by the Wesley Players! Admission is free,

however, donations are gladly accepted to support local and international mission projects sponsored by St. Luke’s.

Our Town Cast List:

Character	Age	Description	Time commitment
Stage Manager	Any	Purposeful, wise	Major speaking role
4 Stage Hands	Any		Minimal
Dr. Gibbs	30+	Thoughtful	Major role
Mrs. Gibbs	30+	Nurturing	Major role
George Gibbs	13-18	Playful, sociable	Major role
Rebecca Gibbs	7-12	Animated	Minor role
Mr. Webb	30+	Businesslike	Major role
Mrs. Webb	30+	Serious	Major role
Emily Webb	13-18	Confident	Major role
Wally Webb	7-12	Animated	Minor role
Howie Newsome	20-40	Milkman	Median role
Professor Willard	30+	Self- involved	Minor role
Simon Stimson	30+	Pathetic	Minor role
Constable Warren	50+		Minor role
Mrs. Soames	30+	Comic relief	Minor role
Joe Crowell	7-12	Animated	Minor role
Si Crowell	7-12	Animated	Minor role
Sam Craig	20-30	Friendly	Minor role
Joe Stoddard	20-30	Devoted	Minor role
Townpeople	Any		Minimal

Rehearsal Schedule: Rehearsals will be held on Sat. mornings, Sun. afternoons and Wed. evenings beginning Sat. Aug. 29. Some rehearsals will only be for specific cast members. More rehearsals are required the week of the show.

Join a Music Ensemble!

If you are interested in joining a choir, handbell group or instrumental group this fall, contact James Ramsey at jim@stlukeshr.com or call 303-791-0659 x23 to find out rehearsal dates and times or go to our website. All are welcome to join! Many of the ensembles will begin either late August or early September.

Don't miss

✧ **Cross Culture:** SLY Summer 2009

Discover what it means to be a culture of the cross and discover other cultures around Denver.

- » **Friday Aug 7: A visit to the Latino Arts sidewalk fair in the Broadway Design District.** Meet at church at 5pm, and we'll return by 8pm.

✧ **Special SLY PM Events in August:**

- » **Aug 2 – WaterWorld Day.** Meet in youth room at 11am, bring your own tickets. Youth Groups from all over Denver will be at WaterWorld to chill with us!
- » **Aug 9 – Messy Games Night.** Wear clothes you don't mind throwing away afterwards! Bring a towel and a clean change of clothes for yourself!!!
- » **August 23 – Rockies Faith Day.** Tickets on sale at church (\$22 each for awesome seats), get your family and friends together for a baseball game. Rockies vs Giants, 1:10pm start time. Concert by Christian Band *MercyMe* after the game.

✧ **Summer Small Groups:**

- » **GEMS (Girls Enrichment Ministries)** for girls only! The finale is Wednesday, Aug 5. Please come to the youth room from 6-8pm to enjoy an *Iron Chef* style competition & a discussion with an expert on 'mean girl syndrome.'
- » **STM (Shortcuts To Manhood)** for guys only! Aug. 5: Last Ultimate Frisbee of the summer! Bring your own meat to grill in the park as we do one last victory lap on the grass 6-8pm!!!

✧ **Donut Whole launching Thursday, August 27 at MVHS.**

New time (7:15am) but the same donuts and great conversations! Contact Chris with any questions!

✧ **Mission Trip Post-Parties**

- » **Jr High Mission Trip Post-Party: August 4, 6pm in the youth room.** Open to all trip participants and their parents. Come check out the trip video!
- » **Sr High Mission Trip Post-Party: August 20, 6pm in the youth room.** Open to all trip participants and their parents. Trip video, stories, and laughter in abundance!

- ✧ **Check out www.stlukeshr.com/sly** for up-to-date info on programs, activities, ministry opportunities and more!



Chris Wilterdink
Director of
Youth Ministry



Susan Johnson
Assistant Director
of Youth Ministry

CHRIS'S CORNER Rethink It All

When I was 12, my mom gave me my first taste of grapefruit. I had never tasted such a mouth-puckering, acidic, super-sour citrus taste in all of my life. Of course mom said "But it's good for you, baby!" and I hated it. It didn't matter if it was in slices, cut in half, covered in spoonfuls of sugar, completely liquefied, or even if she let me use the cool little grapefruit knifey-spoon thing, I didn't like grapefruit when

I was 12. Didn't taste like a fruit, and certainly didn't taste anything like a grape!!! After a month of trying, my mom gave up, and I didn't have grapefruit (the fruit or the juice) until my senior year of high school...

I don't remember the exact circumstances that got me to try grapefruit juice again, but I manned up, twisted off the cap to the juice bottle, took a sniff (just in case), and took a swig... Sure enough, I liked the taste! Now it was crisp, refreshing, different than anything I'd tasted in a long, long time. On a hot summer day, it just plain 'hit the spot.'

You may have started to see 'Rethink Church' logos around the church, or even in this *Chronicle*, and I wanted to share this story because I know it is a good thing to 'rethink' every once in a while. **Rethink** what church can be to you and for you. **Rethink** what your role at church or as a Christian is. Let's together rethink who SLY is and what SLY offers to make sure we stay in touch with our souls... After some time passes, your tastes may change, and you're looking for something to 'hit the spot.'

In this vein, we are rethinking what church looks like on Sunday nights. SLY will open the meal time (5:30pm - after Off Notes practice) to the whole church (including SLY Jr. twice a month.) SLY PM and Fusion will run at the same time, from 6:34 to 7:34pm. This will allow Fusion to worship in the Fellowship Hall and SLY to hold youth group in the awesome new youth spaces downstairs. It will also allow more people to experience worship on a regular basis with an earlier start and end time for Fusion. We are rethinking how we can touch as many lives as possible starting September 13, and I hope you, your friends, and your family can rethink and dream with us! Who knows, we may be creating just what you were thirsting for in the first place. *—Peace & Love, Chris*

***Fall Kick off on September 13**, introduces this new format for Sunday Evenings at St. Luke's. Make time for it, we look forward to seeing all the fresh 7-12th graders for some fun that night!

**GEMs Finale!**

On Aug. 5 at 6:00pm we will meet at the church for our last GEMs event of the summer. I invite everyone to participate in our very own GEMs style *Iron Chef* potluck. The secrete ingredient is oranges. You can make an appetizer, salad or entre as long as it contains oranges of some sort. We will sample all the entrees and declare a winner. After our meal, we will welcome Carrie A. Brown, a speaker on relational aggression in girls or "mean girl" syndrome. Relational Aggression is manipulation calculated to hurt or control another child's ability to maintain rapport with peers. She will help us discuss our own experiences and brain storm resolution steps.

There is a hidden culture of girls aggression in which bullying is epidemic, distinctive and destructive. It is not marked by the direct physical and verbal behavior that is primarily the province of boys. Our culture refuses girls access to open conflict and it forces their aggression into nonphysical, indirect and covert forms. Girls use backbiting, exclusion, rumors, name-calling and manipulation to inflict psychological pain on targeted victims. Unlike boys, who tend to bully acquaintances or strangers, girls frequently attack within tightly knit networks of friends, making aggression harder to identify and intensifying the damage to the victims.

Within (this) culture, girls fight with body language and relationships instead of fists and knives. In this world, friendship is a weapon and the sting of a shout pales in comparison to a day of someone's silence. There is no gesture more devastating than the back turning away.

—Excerpt from Rachel Simmons' *Odd Girl Out*, 2002

I think that this is something that all girls are familiar with and will benefit from hearing and talking about! Feel free to bring a friend and your mom. Please don't miss it!!



Dave Cupp
Director of Finance



Lisé Takayama
Assistant Director
of Finance

Thank You For Your Continued Support

Income continues to meet our budgeted expectations. For that, we continue to be very grateful to you for your part in making this happen and insure we're able to continue our basic ministry programs.

I urge you to continue your faithfulness in giving and begin to think about how you

and your family can make sure we continue strong in future years. We will have our annual emphasis on stewardship this fall. That will be a time for reflection upon the needs of our church and our personal call to be good stewards.

Don't Forget To Get Back On Track With Your Giving. If you have not been able to be a regular giver, I encourage you to make this a priority as the summer season begins to wind down and we look forward to the fall. It takes over a million dollars each year to keep our program strong. The only way we can accomplish this is by everyone giving at the level they are able. More than 95% of our income comes from collections given by members and constituents.

Giving Records Recently Mailed. Giving records posted through May were recently mailed to all members and constituents. In addition to the giving record the mailing included a recap of our financial performance through May for the general fund and the Bold Venture Fund and a letter from Pastor Janet. If you did not receive this mailing, please contact Lise' or me and we will make sure you receive a copy. Also, we encourage you to review your giving record and notify us of any corrections that need to be made.

Have Questions? Remember, I'm always available for your calls and visits. You may reach me at 303.791.0659 Ext 24 or davecupp@stlukeshr.com.

Pick and Choose Your Method Of Giving to SLUMC. We have many ways for you to make your giving to SLUMC easy and convenient. You may want to consider one of these convenient methods for your contributions.

In addition to cash and checks, we offer online credit card transactions, stock transfers and scheduled automatic withdrawals from checking or credit card accounts. The following is a general summary::

- 1. General Fund and Capital Campaign:** All methods.
- 2. Grocery Cards:** Cash, check, scheduled automatic withdrawal from checking accounts.
- 3. Special Events:** Depending on the type of event may include cash, check, PayPal and online credit card 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.
- 4. Plus:** We're anxious to consider any reasonable method you know about that we haven't adopted.

WOMEN LISTENING TO WOMEN

Let's get together for a Sunday morning of sharing time! Your community at St. Luke's is just that: YOUR COMMUNITY! What do you need from this community? We are here to listen to one another's passions, interests, and stories. What type of small groups, social justice issues, ministries, programs, classes, are of interest to you? Join me and bring a friend with you on

Sunday, Aug. 16, 9:30-10:30am, Room 213.

Questions, comments, contact Lynda Fickling lynda@stlukeshr.com
303-791-0659x20

Looking forward to spending some time together having fun and listening!

Finishing Touches for Great First Impressions

Now that most of the major renovations and construction projects are behind us, the Trustees are working with representatives from several other teams to complete a few final projects. This effort is known as the First Impressions Team.

We hear you! Improvements we've completed in the Fellowship Hall have already made it possible for St. Luke's to host several large scale events for both our church and our community. In order to make everyone more comfortable in the space, from our experiences and your feedback we know we need to improve our acoustics and sound system so everyone can have the best experience possible and we are all able to hear speakers and each other in this space during large and small events. We've got a plan!

Getting connected – in a whole new way. We're working on a proposal to implement multi-media messages via a couple of flat panel monitors – essentially taking our Sunday Morning Ministry Moments to the next level so its easy for us to share news on upcoming opportunities from all of our resource groups, mission outreach, educational, and social networking groups on a real-time basis.

From the beginning we knew our west-facing windows in the chapel would mean great sunsets and toasty summer afternoons and evenings. We're looking at providing stained glass that coordinates well with those in the sanctuary and draw drapes on the taller windows. In Fellowship Hall, we'd like to replace the mini-blinds with something to offer light and sound control.

Improving storage and reducing clutter – the First Impressions Team includes members from the Fellowship Events Team, Altar Team, UMW, Sound, Drama, our Staff, and our Trustees as participants. We'll work to define processes that will forward the goals of our mission and outreach work while not over-taxing our staff, custodial, and trustees members with additional maintenance chores when well-intentioned donations are left behind long after the collection deadline has passed.

To be successful, we'll need your help as well, and welcome any ideas you can offer as we roll out these projects.

Our First Impressions Team Leader is Sandi Miyaki. We welcome your suggestions and input via phone at 303-913-9993 or email: sandi.miyaki@kw.com.



St. Luke's United Methodist Church
 8817 S. Broadway • Highlands Ranch, CO 80129
 303-791-0659 • www.stlukeshr.com

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 ORG
**U S POSTAGE
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 PERMIT #7
 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.*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

St. Luke's 6th Annual "Ministry in Motion"

Golf Event

The tournament will be held at
**Highlands Ranch Golf Club on Saturday
 August 15 – Shotgun start at 2:00pm.**
**Youth are invited! Sign up Sundays or
 click here!**

AUGUST 2009						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Rev. Janet Forbes 11:00am: SLY Water World Day 7:34pm: Fusion	3 6:30pm: Women's Night Out	4	5 6:00pm: SLY - GEMS/STM 6:30pm: New SS Teacher Orientation 7:30pm: SS Curriculum Orientation mtg.	6 10:00am: SLY Breakfast Club	7	8 7:30am: Men's Breakfast 9:00am: Simply Saturday 9:30am: Can Land Saturday
9 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Rev. Janet Forbes 9:30am: Cafe St. Luke's 10:35am: Breakfast with Mr. Marcus 5:30pm: SLY PM 7:34pm: Fusion	10 7:00pm: Trustees	11	12	13	14	15 2:00pm: Annual Golf Event 5:00pm Contemplative Worship Service
16 SS & LS Teachers Commissioned 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Rev. Janet Forbes 9:30am: Women Listening to Women 5:30pm: SLY PM 7:34pm: Fusion	17 6:30pm: Exec. Team Mtg.	18 LS Teacher Kickoff 6:30pm: Children's Ministry Leadership Team Meeting	19 6:30pm: St. Luke's Kids "Growing with God" Gathering	20	21 7:00pm: Family Movie Night	22 8:00am: Chancel Choir Recording
23 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Rev. Janet Forbes 11:00pm: Rockies Faith Day 5:30pm: SLY PM 7:34pm: Fusion	24	25	26	27	28	29 8:00am: Work Day
30 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Rev. Janet Forbes 12:15pm: Acolyte Information Mtg. 5:30pm: SLY PM 7:34pm: Fusion	31 Little School classes begin	SEPT 1	2	3	4	5