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and much more!

Women Listening to Women



Let's get together for a Sunday morning of sharing time!

Your community at St. Luke's is just that: **YOURS!**

What do you need from this community?

We are here to listen to one another's passions, interests, and stories. What are you hoping for to make a difference in your life spiritually and socially from your church? What type of small groups, social justice issues, ministry needs, programs, classes, are of interest to you?

Join me and bring a friend with you on one or both of these Sundays,
**June 28 & Aug. 16,
9:30-10:30am, Rm 213.**

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

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

Embracing the Ideas of RETHINKCHURCH *by Jennifer Utter*



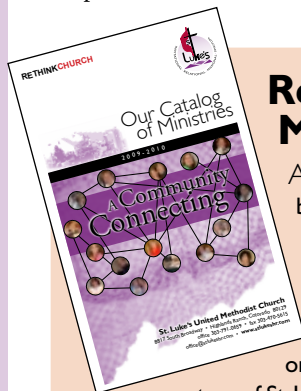
You may have heard the phrase "Rethink Church;" maybe on television, maybe from a fellow United Methodist member or maybe you even heard about it on YouTube. You may be wondering what exactly it means to "rethink church..."

Rethink Church, in conjunction with 10thousanddoors.org, is the United Methodist Church's campaign to make the opportunities that the church offers more available, especially to the 18-34 year-old demographic, by not thinking about church as a place that you go to on Sundays but as something that you do every day. Rethink Church asks, "What if church was a verb? What would that look like? What if church wasn't just a building, but thousands of doors?

Each of them opening up to a different concept or experience of church – and a journey that could change our world. Would you come?" Rethink Church is about taking the Methodist idea

of "open hearts" – the idea of kindness, hospitality and acceptance,

continued on page 5



Reorganizing Our Ministries & Groups:

A COMMUNITY CONNECTING
by Lynda Fickling

Last fall I was moved to full time with the added responsibility of visioning our Small Groups and leadership within those small groups. Does the way we organize ourselves compliment the organic

nature of St. Luke's? Are we moving forward, keeping up with our culture and the Emerging Church movement? How easy is it for folks to see how to connect within our community? So many questions and such an exciting time to vision and create!

After discerning, researching and asking a lot of questions, Rev. Janet and I began the journey of exploring our structure. The result was "The Net" – which you have been hearing all about, especially if you were able to attend "The Common Table." If not, plan on attending July 20, 5:30pm. We then needed to address our leadership—who is where, what are our "term" teams, etc. After discerning, we invited Karin Wesson to be the Team Leader for our Lay Leadership (old "Nominations") Team.

Now we needed to adjust how we organize our small groups, to better reflect how we weave into the netting in a way that is truly organic, moving constantly, and interacting with each other often. We want folks to be able to see the opportunities available to serve and be served, using their spiritual gifts and passions to connect within our netting. You will see our newly organized grouping in our updated Catalog of Ministries. Our goal is that they open the catalog and are able to visualize a place where they fit in. Here is our Net: Spiritual Formation (class opportunities), Support Groups,

continued on page 2

CONGRATS, REV. PAM!



by Lori Smith & Fran West

Since the beginning of the Methodist church in our country the UMW has been the one constant for the church's growth, always there to support their members and community in time of need. UMW reached out to support the first missionaries, supported our troops here and abroad, were leaders in the women's suffrage, and helped start UMCOR.

UMW has a tradition of honoring a woman each year by giving a special monetary gift to the local and worldwide missions in her name. St. Luke's UMW chose Rev. Pam Rowley to receive the Special Mission Recognition Pin. She has served our church in so many areas. She has served on mission trips, as well as a leader and teacher in small groups, Disciple classes, and Stephen Ministry. She has started many new groups and is a staff supporter of the UMW. She does visitations for our sick, often giving them one of our Itch to Stitch Prayer shawls. She helped develop the Saturday evening contemplative services. She gives us all comfort with her beautiful prayers. She has also shared her musical gifts with us as a member of the Women of Note. Her seven plus years at St. Luke's have been inspiring. Congratulations, Rev. Pam! And best wishes with your move to Texas. You will be missed deeply but will always be in our hearts and have a home at St. Luke's!

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
August issue of *The Chronicle*
are due **July 20**
Editor: Sharon Oliver
chronicle@stlukeshr.com

A MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR



Rev. Janet Forbes
Senior Pastor

Summer Worship Series: **Travels With Paul—A Portable Spirituality!**

This is an exciting time to be a part of the St. Luke's community. Together, we have woven a net that is strong enough, healthy enough, and flexible enough to catch God's dream for our future. So this summer as we prepare for a season of visioning in the fall, I want to travel beside the apostle, Paul and learn from him.



He is second only to Jesus as the most important person in the origins of Christianity. There are twenty-seven books in the New Testament, though to call them books is a bit of a misnomer, for some are only a few pages long. Of these twenty-seven, thirteen are letters attributed to Paul. Not all were actually written by Paul, but they bear his name. To these add the book of Acts, in which Paul is the main character in sixteen of its twenty-eight chapters. Thus half of the New Testament is about Paul.

So, we are going on the road with Paul. And we'll need to embrace, like his companions, a rather portable spirituality. In addition to a sack of food, a change of clothes, and the tools of their trade, they carried what might be called, the essentials of abundant life.

They all carried a story, the same essential story about the birth, life, death, and resurrection of a unique person whose mere existence changed everything. It was a story in which Jesus' life, their lives, and the life of the world were inextricably bound together.

When first we meet Saul of Tarsus on the road to Damascus, we know him to be an almost fanatical persecutor of those of the Way, a name applied to Christ-followers before the word, Christian, was used. Often it was a slur against the believer in Christ, for the priests were convinced that the Christian way was a way of heresy. But the term certainly was not always uncomplimentary, for it did say that Christians had a special walk, or manner, or life. How wonderful to be accused of walking after a certain way so that your detractors would be reminded of Jesus... so closely did they pattern their lives after Christ that they could be distinguished by it.

We know that Paul witnessed the stoning of the disciple, Stephen, and then went on a personal crusade against Christians in Jerusalem, invading the privacy of their homes and hauling them away to prison. After ravaging Jerusalem, he looked for more ways to vent his anger against this new sect.

So, learning that many of the Jesus people had scattered to Damascus, Saul obtained orders from the chief priest to continue his mission there. As Paul recounted the story himself, he was on his way, almost there, when suddenly, a bright light flashed, so brilliant in intensity that he and his companions were thrown to the ground. The light was followed by a voice telling him that he was an enemy of God, engaged in warfare against God's own people. When Saul asked for the voice's ID, the speaker identified himself as Jesus. Then the Lord instructed Saul to go into the city where he would be told what to do.

Saul proceeded to obey the voice, but when he opened his eyes he found that he could not see. He was blind. Who knew that before he would see again he would have the eye of his soul enlightened and that was the best illumination of all. Saul of Tarsus was about to become Paul the Apostle, planting new Jesus communities throughout the Mediterranean.

As we journey with Paul, we'll be listening for the stories, some appealing and some appalling, according to Marcus J. Borg and John Dominic Crossan in their new book, *The First Paul: Reclaiming the Radical Visionary Behind the Church's Conservative Icon*.

Join me for summer worship as we get to know this missionary of the Way, seeding our discernment about God's dream for St. Luke's.

Reorganizing our Ministries cont. from page 1

Outside Support Groups, Family Ministry-Children & Youth, Music Ministry & Arts, Opportunities to Serve, Missional Opportunities to Serve, Growth & Development, and Fellowship.

With Ken Fong's gifts and skills, he was able to take my "rough" draft (if any of you know me, you know I lack in the Administration gift) and create a wonderful document. Rev. Brad and I sat down and discussed a theme idea to guide us in this venture and Sharon Oliver was able to put our vision onto paper. We came up with the theme: **"A Community Connecting"** which not only captures our "Net" but utilizes the United Methodist Church's "rethink church" concept that ties us into the larger community.

This work was truly an example of our netting and how we support one another with our gifts and passions building up the body of the church.

Enjoy the new catalog and find your place to connect!



Rev. Brad Laurvick
Associate Minister

Weighing my Stole

Just over a decade ago, I was given a stole. A close friend and mentor of mine, who himself was a United Methodist

Pastor, gave me one of the stoles he regularly wore. As he gave it to me, he said "I want you to keep this. And every time the process doesn't seem worth it, every time you think you'll never get there, every time you find yourself lost, I want you to take this out and remember why you are doing this." I was so excited to receive such a gift. His words didn't mean as much to me that day as they would in the years to come.

See, I have been in the process of being ordained for half my life. It doesn't really take that long, unless you begin as young as I did. The process for ordination is only a matter of years, if you don't count education requirements, but if you hear a call to Ordained Ministry when you are a freshman in high school, there is a lot of time in front of you.

I took that stole home and I put it on a special shelf. Every once and a while I would take it out and look at it. It was a beautiful, traditional, red on one side and white on the other stole. On the red side, the pentecost side, it had a gold embroidered dove. On the white side, the Easter side, it bore a crown and cross. I thought about what it would be like to wear it one day. It would lay atop my robe and I would be an Ordained Minister. As I looked at that stole, I thought of it as a reward. I looked at that stole and saw the prize for completing a long journey toward ordination. I knew nothing of its history, I only knew its future- my future.

When I went to CU Boulder, my stole went with me. I kept it in the top drawer of my desk. Over the next four years I would take it out and think about what it would be like to be down with school and to be in a church. While in college, I began weekly preaching in my role as a student pastor at the Wesley Chapel. Though I didn't wear a stole, I began to experience what it was to share the Word of God in worship. I remember the day my campus pastor called me and asked if I wanted to spend the day with her and "experience a day of being a pastor". I was thrilled. I grabbed my Bible and ran over to the Wesley Chapel. I walked in the door, and there was my campus pastor- a plunger in one hand and a rag in the other. We spent the day unclogging toilets, reorganizing the kitchen,

getting wax out of the carpet, and sorting files in the office. I didn't even get to use my Bible.

I returned to my dorm room that night and opened my desk drawer. Could my vision of being ordained and wearing that stole include all of the "non-stole" moments? Was the prize for all of the years of education, the countless meetings, the psychological evaluations, and the novels worth of paperwork a plunger and a rag? How was that supposed to inspire me? I certainly had more questions than answers as I pulled my stole out of its drawer.

When I finished college, married Meghan, started seminary at Iliff, and moved to our first apartment my stole found its way into my nightstand next to my devotional book and Bible. After long days of challenging class work, late nights writing papers, in addition to all of the church papers I was still writing, I would crawl into bed and as I sat to read my devotional, I would see my stole and think about all of those questions. I still had my dream and vision of what it would look like atop my robe, but that dream was now accompanied by that long nagging list of questions.

As I finished my work at Iliff, I spent a year as a pastoral intern at Trinity UMC in Denver. At Trinity they wear robes every Sunday, and I was expected to as well. I went to Cokesbury and picked out my robe. But there would be no stole atop it. Trinity, being a very traditional congregation, only allowed fully ordained clergy to wear stoles. Even though I was in the process of ordination, my robe would be adorned only with a cross necklace. Week after week of blank robe with stole-less shoulders I began to feel an exclusivity to the stoles I saw my colleagues wearing. It was like a merit-badge I hadn't earned. With only one year left of seminary, I could see the finish line in sight and on the other side, was that stole.

Upon graduation from Iliff, successful completion of my interviews and theological papers, and the blessing of the Bishop, I was commissioned as a Provisional Elder in the United Methodist Church. The Church uses a two step ordination process to allow more growth, supervision, and development of its pastors. As a commissioned Provisional Elder, I was then appointed to St. Luke's.

In St. Luke's tradition, I was allowed to begin wearing my stole-many of my colleagues in other churches still cannot until their full ordination. I anticipated those first few Sundays with robes and stoles and even the ones with our stoles over our regular attire. I had crossed that finish line and would wear my stole just like I had been dreaming about for so many years. But I

experienced something different as I placed the stole around my neck and shoulders.

There was a weight to it.

All of those years, half my life, I had been looking at that stole as a prize for finishing something. Had I spent enough time thinking about what it was the beginning of? As I contemplated my new beginning I found myself thinking of how wearing stoles began.

There are two main theories of how stoles became a part of the wardrobe of clergy. One theory is that it is to serve as a visual representation of "the yoke of Christ" (Mt 11:29). The yoke offered to all people by Christ to guide us in life- a yoke that is not heavy with burden, but gently and lightly guides us in our learning to walk like Christ. Another theory is that it is a representation of the cloth Jesus used to wash and wipe the disciples feet (Jn 13). A symbol of humble service, leadership based in serving others first.

This is what I was beginning. This was the weight I was feeling. A commitment to Christ, to His Church, to all God's people to humbly serve as I seek to live a life like Jesus. How had it taken me so long to realize this! My stole is representation of my call! I chose to go into Ordained Ministry for that very reason. This long process I am finishing is a process of going right back to where I started. In fact my friend's encouragement to "take this stole out and remember why you are doing this" carried in it another piece of implied wisdom- 'take this stole out and realize why you are doing this'.

On June 20 at 2:00pm, after a vote by the other clergy of our conference, I will be fully ordained as an Elder in the United Methodist Church. It is at this special worship service, that will be held in Grand Junction, that I will officially be ordained. While the Bishop's hands rest on my head that gift from all those years ago, my stole, my calling, will be placed on my shoulders. And instead of finishing something I started half my life ago, I will be beginning something that is all my life to come.

Be Blessed and Be a Blessing in Your Ministry,
-Rev. Brad



Attention Crafters!

St. Luke's Youth are hosting a fall craft fair just in time for holiday shopping. Please make your calendars and stock up on your crafts. The event will be held October 10. There will be spaces for rent and free advertising. Watch for more information and sign-up forms coming soon!



Rev. Les Ludlam

St. Luke's Lay
Associate Pastor
1993-1997

More from Les: It's not what you do to celebrate, but why you do it that is important

BOOM! I sat up in bed, blinked and tried to remember where I was. I fumbled for the light switch on the bedside lamp.

WHAM! KABOOM! I finally found the switch and turned on the light and noted that the clock read 6:00am. **POW!** I got up shaved and washed

my face and began to get dressed. And during this time the loud explosions kept coming. **CRACK, BANG, POP-POP-POP!**

Betty and I had traveled from our home in Anchorage to Fairbanks, Alaska, to spend the 4th of July weekend with my cousin, Mel and his wife, Andrea. The drive the day before had been long and we had talked long into the evening and finally retired at almost midnight. At this latitude, bedrooms there are fitted with blackout blinds to darken the room and make sleeping easier since it stays so light for so long.

"Mel, what's all the noise about?" I asked, as I stumbled into the kitchen to get a cup of coffee that Andrea, Mel's wife, had already poured. "It's the Fourth," he replied, "And with Fort Wainwright Army Base and Eielson Air Force Base close by and Fort Greeley just down the Richardson Highway near Delta Junction, the military is well involved in any local celebrations, especially Independence Day." He smiled, "All this is pretty typical, but just wait till noon!"

"I wonder what he's not telling me," I thought. We continued to get ready for the Fairbanks Independence Day celebration to be held at the park near downtown. We all rode in Mel's van to the park, looking forward to participating in the holiday festivities. There was a carnival with the usual rides. There were all sorts of food booths offering local delicacies such as grilled and smoked salmon, wild berry dishes, and reindeer sausage. There was also the standard fare of hamburgers and hot dogs, potato salad, watermelon, ice cream, caramel popcorn and cotton candy. (I really liked the reindeer sausage!)

Fairbanks' Mayor climbed the steps to the podium at the large band shell in the center of the park and welcomed all of us. He then introduced the commanding officers of Eielson and Wainwright. Each took his turn to give a patriotic speech. We were reminded of the need to maintain our sense of readiness to defend ourselves from anything that might threaten us from offshore.

As the speeches began to drone on, I decided to go get another sample of the reindeer sausage. As I walked to the vendor's stand, I could hear the Mayor's words, "And now..." and the band began playing the Star Spangled Banner. We all came to attention and sang along as best we could. Then, as the words, "the land of the free— and the home of the brave," brought the song to a close, a bank of howitzers on the left began firing. **Boom, Boom, Boom, Boom!**

Then a wing of jet interceptors appeared out of seemingly nowhere, flew low over the park, hit their afterburners, and roared upward. The sound was deafening! You could literally feel the roar! For the next five minutes, the air was filled with aerial bombs exploding over the crowd. The band struck up "Stars and Stripes Forever!"

Then the Air Force commander spoke, "let us remember those who have made the supreme sacrifice for this country!" The planes had circled back and came in again, flying in the "missing man" formation. Then everything was silent. Two military wives, holding the hands of small children, were crying. Then Mel turned to me and said, "It's a lot more fun when you don't know what's coming!" He went on, "We don't have fireworks on the 4th because of our latitude. We are only 100 miles below the Arctic Circle and in July the sun is nearly always above the horizon so the colors of traditional fireworks couldn't be seen very well. So the Military celebrates using noise. A lot of it!"

PRAYER CONCERNS



Week Ending June 5, 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)
Pat Clem (neighbor of Doug Wagner)
Jim Bailey (Melissa Moberly's father)
Ronda Olson
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
Julie Hayes (friend of Susan Werthington)
Brent Webber (friend of Nancy Cushing)
Amy Spicher (Doug Spicher's mother)
Lori Lieberman (friend of Jane Damsgard)
Thelma Hodge (Meryl Cupp's mother)
Diane Wieland (friend of Bobbi King's)
Lorraine Berg (friend of Bobbi King's)
Janusz Daszuta (pastor from Poland)
Andrew Jones (friend of Renee Sanek)
Dustin Baird (family friend of the Lucero's)
Shirley Quail (Kay Swanson's friend)
Marcia Enger
Carol Burton (Melissa Hemphill's friend)
Shirley Sutcliffe (Leigh Ramsey's mother)
Dolphia Dawson (Melinda Dawson's sister)
Kajsa Gotlin (Susan Hooke's friend)
Karen Edwards (friend of Eileen & Ed Law)
Dwain Barcellini (Mike Hutchins' uncle)
Dwight Griggs (Susan Hooke's father)
Cate Hootman (friend of Ed & Eileen Law)
Lucille Hollowell (friend of Nancy Abbott's)
Lauren Nelson (family friend of the Weispenings)
Chrissy Booth (Kam & Tim Bolé's friend)
Suzie Burk (Melissa Ester's mother)
Kay Conklin (friend of Peggy Olson)
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)
Jennifer Morganthaler
(Teacher friend of Mike & Diana Stephen's)
Kirk Watkins (Keith & Marilyn Ayers son)
Bill Dearasaugh
Jill (Jenny Hanna's friend)
Susie (Joy Damsgard's friend)
Frank Stanley (Joy Damsgard's brother)
Sandy Johnson (Melissa Hemphill's sister)
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
Chuck Wilcox (Brett Wilcox's father)
Rey Lucero (Gov Lucero's father)
John Larsh (friend of Rick & Louise Jasper)

Helen Wilbur (Jessica Carlson's grandmother)
Robert Miller
Robry Mefford (friend of Robbin Miller)
Jan Rufien
Gail Abernathy
Scott & Jen (friends of Erin Brown)
Karen Chawn (Linda Fligg's friend)
Robert Towell (Jon Strearty's sister)
Bob Worth
Annie Metzger
Joy (Susy Halloran's friend)
Charlie Williams
Dorothy King (Truman King's mother)
Shaun VanDyke (Bobbi King's nephew)
Suzanne Sharpe
Larry Tyson (Dave Tyson's brother)

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)
Sgt. 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 Pippiatt (brother of Sara Hankenson)
Ed Herring (Les Ludlam's nephew)
AMaj. Steve Wereszynski (Kam & Tim Bolé'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 Kay & Ed Coryell and family on the passing of
Kay's grandmother, Edna Zimmerman, May 24
To Jean Ann & Dee Duncan on the passing of Jean
Ann's mother, Marthel Longabach, May 27
To Les & Betty Ludlam on the passing of
Les' cousin's wife, Andrea Ludlam, June 1
To Bobbi & Truman King on the passing of
Bobbi's mother, Eldora Wieland, June 4

NEW BABIES:

Brayden Wallace Fuller born May 27 –
grandparents Wally & Janet Sackett
Liam Truman Xavier Watkins born May 18 –
grandparents Keith & Marilyn Ayers

That evening, we were sitting on Mel's patio remembering the day. It was still light at 11:00pm. He commented, "Everyone who moves up here has to get used to the long days in the summer and long nights in the winter. Our celebrations have to take the environment into account. Not having fireworks on the 4th doesn't seem odd at all once you've lived here for a while." Then Mel grinned, "Come on up at New Years if you want to see a spectacular fireworks show!"

What had seemed to me, at first, as odd, a little overdone and excessively loud celebration now made a lot of sense. This community, living only a few hundred miles from Russia and having almost endless sunlight in the summer had to shape this patriotic celebration to fit the resources available. They did a good job! *Paul says, "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. —Gal 3:28* We were all one in celebrating the United States' birthday; we all one in our love of this country; there are just different ways to celebrate these truths. **God bless us all. —Rev. Les**



Lynda Fickling
Director of
Servant Ministry

We are Called to Serve

Getting connected through serving helps you discover a deeper relationship with Christ and a renewed sense of joy!

Here are a few opportunities to serve.

United Methodist Women (UMW): Seeking women to be on our planning team! If you enjoy event planning and fellowship, please contact: Fran West 303-797-7107 bobandfran7107@hotmail.com

Hospitality Teams: Why not try out one of our many hospitality teams through the summer: Usher, Greeter, Donut/Coffee attendant, Guest Services, or Get Connected Center Team. Try one Sunday for 30 minutes (Usher – one service) and see if this is the team for you! Contact Lynda Fickling 303-791-0659 x20 lynda@stlukeshr.com

Handy person: Help us re-finish our benches outside the front doors! They are in the need of an “extreme-makeover!” Contact Trustee Lead: Ken Fong kfong@att.net

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 to Explore Spiritual Gifts

The Common Table of St. Luke's will meet on Monday evening, July 20.

All leaders, members, and friends are invited to participate. We will gather at 6:00pm for a potluck meal. Bring a dish to share!

From 6:30 to 8:30pm, we will build our community, explore leadership by spiritual gifts, take the next steps in the discernment process for the Kings Service on Epiphany Sunday, and get an update on calendaring processes. Audrey Elling will serve 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.

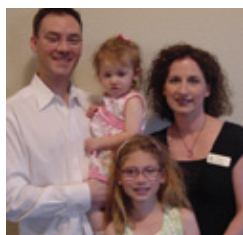
Our congregational governance will now reflect the flexibility of our decision-making and ministry oversight. The image of a net provides the symbol of persons of different ages, meeting in groups and classes of differing interests, worshiping in different services, gathering from different backgrounds,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

Certain persons will 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 will be 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.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome

New Members May 2009



Eric & Casie Crain
Ellie & Olivia

“We see St. Luke's as a great church for our family to grow in Christ.”

Rethink Church continued from page 1

and turning it into a verb – **open** hearts, **open** minds and **open** doors.

The United Methodist Church is looking to expand church beyond the doors of the church building itself and into the community and around the world. Rethink Church's website asks viewers: “How can we rethink church as more of an out-of-building 365-days-a-year experience, where anyone seeking may find a spiritual journey they can call their own? And, what if we invited the world to come?”

“At the same time pray for us as well that God will open to us a door for the word, that we may declare the mystery of Christ,... so that I may reveal it clearly, as I should.”

–Colossians 4:3-4, NRSV

While the campaign is going on all over the world, Rev. Brad Laurvick believes that locally, the St. Luke's family already embraces many of the ideas of Rethink Church.

“St. Luke's looked outside our doors since our inception to offer people opportunities,” said Rev. Laurvick. “Our core values; Invitational, Relational, Missional and Spiritual are all part of Rethink Church.”

Rev. Laurvick hopes that this campaign will resonate with the younger adult age bracket.

“This is an exciting opportunity to take who we are to the next level of engaging people and the world around us,” said Rev. Laurvick.



Marcus Carlson
Minister to Children
& their Families

Children & Family Corner: For everything there is a season...

Summer has finally arrived (I think??) and so brings another season in our year and our lives. Summer is always so different than the rest of the year. The

weather is different, the schedules are different and our activities are different. Summer presents us with so many wonderful opportunities, yet it serves as a reminder that we live life in seasons. Each of us is in a season at all times—a personal season, a season of family relationships, a season in our relationship with God, a vocational season and so many other seasons. Some seasons feel so much better than others, some are scary and filled with uncertainty. The scripture recognizes these seasons in Ecclesiastes.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (TNIV): There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.

No matter what season you might be in now; God is always present and is always writing the story in and around you. Be present in your season and seek the face of God and you will find great transformation and life...and then every season will be one to celebrate!

On the Road... Marcus will be out of the office July 2-25 for a conference and vacation. He will be taking a road trip to New York state with the kids and dogs and will be visiting folks along the way and way back as well as attending a very special children's ministry conference. You can follow his family's adventure at www.roadtrip.coloradocarlson.net! Marcus will have some email access during some of that time, but you can always contact Joely in the office if you need anything or have any questions or concerns.



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

Summer Sunday School starts on June 7. We are excited for this year's Summer Sunday School as we are incorporating some exciting changes. Our two year old class will not meet for the summer so that our new two year olds have the chance to get a little older before leaving the nursery. As always the nursery will be open in the summer for children birth through age 4. All of our children will be joining together for opening music throughout the summer then will return to their classes. We will be having our same special summer mission project this summer; collecting cans to raise money to provide milk to children in Guatemala. Flyers will be posted downstairs with information. Our Tween and PEAK children will be learning the three simple rules.

St. Luke's Kids & Families Growing with God Gatherings!! 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 July 29, 6:30-8:00pm. Childcare provided!

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. Summer Sunday School will continue through that date and registration for Sunday School for the fall will start in July. We are planning to have it simplified and online this year. 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 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.

Leadership Roles We are excited and proud to announce a significant change in our Children's Ministry program. Complete details will be revealed and announced at our June 10 gathering and will be made available via email in June. In the meantime we would love for you to pray for the Children's Ministry and about your role and connection to that ministry. We are inviting at least one parent from each family to be a part of serving with the Children's Ministry in one way or another. Think about your passions, your gifts, and your schedule so that you can be a part of helping the spiritual formation of the children at St. Luke's. If you want to visit with Marcus or Joely to talk about ideas, questions, or passions we would love to meet with you. Our new list of roles will be available starting June 10. We are excited about our new structure and vision and hope that it helps us to continue to have a wonderful and strong Children's Ministry while blessing our servants. The new roles will vary in time commitment and need and will have detailed descriptions. We will continue the expansion of support for all who serve in Children's Ministry. We look forward to sharing more details with you soon; in the meantime please be thinking and praying!



Kay Swanson
Director of
Little School



Little School News:

**See You
in August!**

Please circle these important
dates on your Calendars:

Thursday August 27 - Parent Open House 7:00-8:00pm

Friday August 28 - Children's Open House 10:00-11:30am

Monday August 31 - SCHOOL BEGINS!

The Little School office will be open on Tuesday afternoons and Thursdays from 10:00am-2:00pm. You can always reach Ms. Kay by leaving a message at school 303-791-1982 or by sending an email to kay@stlukeshr.com (this is the quickest way to get a reply!) Please do not contact the main office as they will not have all the answers! Have a safe and wonderful family summer! *Blessings, -Ms. Kay*

Tween Programs We will continue to offer SLY, Jr (Oct.-June) on the first Sunday of each month from 5:30-7:25pm. This will include a meal, lesson, and activity. We will be adding 2 service projects and 2 special fun events as a part of SLY, Jr. Watch for more info. This year we launched the Tweens ROCK class for 5th & 6th grade children at the 9:30 Sunday School hour. This year we will continue to have this class and curriculum with some changes. Our tweens will join us for part of opening and then will return to class. Each week there will be a game and possibly some contemporary worship music before starting the class material. Marcus is looking forward to spending more time outside of church with the tweens this year. We will continue to look at ways to add more opportunities for our tweens!

2009-2010 Calendar will be available in August!

Newsletters Don't forget about our weekly newsletters. We will not be doing these in July and will be revamping how and to whom they are sent over the summer. 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.

Calendar:

June 22-26	<i>Camp EDGE Vacation Bible School</i>
July 5	<i>No Sunday School</i>
July 8	<i>Wacky Wednesdays 9:30-noon</i>
July 15	<i>Wacky Wednesdays 9:30-noon</i>
July 22	<i>Wacky Wednesdays 9:30-noon</i>
July 29	<i>Growing with God Gathering 6:30-8pm</i>
August 5	<i>New Teacher Orientation 6:30-7:30pm</i> <i>Curriculum Meeting/Orientation 6:30-7:30pm</i>
August 16	<i>Little School and Sunday School Teacher Commissioning in 9:30 service</i>

A Hairy Success!! *by Lynne Butler*

On May 1, St. Luke's children performed in the Children's Dinner Theater production of *A Hairy Tale*. The children, who were in 1st through 6th grade, auditioned



in March and rehearsed once a week to prepare for the performance. Costumes were made, a set was created and props were gathered. The play was a comical fairy tale and included such characters as Rapunzel, Cinderella, Red Riding Hood and the Big, Bad Wolf and some royalty and peasants, too. There were also the Lost Spice Girls, UPS Guys and Paparazzi. The story was about finding the meaning of true love. Alyssa Brown had a great time and said, "I love to play a character that is different from my real life! Plus dinner theater can get kids thinking about acting as a career. I also love that we make money for a good cause, it feels good to help others." Her sister, Rebecca Brown, had similar thoughts, "I loved the play and I wasn't even embarrassed in front of all those people! It is really fun to be a rock star. I LOVE BEING IN PLAYS!" The evening began with a delicious dinner of tacos, quesadillas and other yummy food prepared by our own Fellowship Events Team led by Lisa Lehnus and Mona Daniels. The Cherub's Choir started the entertainment with songs about love. The play was very entertaining and the performers and audience alike had a great time. Each year, the dinner theater uses the same theme as the United Methodist Family theme and this year the focus was on "Love". To support this theme, the performers learned about and supported the Denver Dumb Friends League. After the play, some of the children and their families visited the Buddy Center in Castle Rock and



went on a tour. Our mission was to collect supplies for the shelter and we hoped to have some money left over to donate after expenses. Thanks to the generosity of our audience and congregation, we collected four SUV's full of supplies and were also able to donate \$300 cash. Many

of our performers really connected with the idea of performing a play about love and showing love animals. Anwyn Owens had these thoughts, "I liked being on stage the most because I had a lot of fun. I saw all of my



friends and my family. I liked helping the animals by bringing them toys." Ashley Butler said, "The play was great to do and I'm glad we could help the animals at The Dumb Friends League." Our children truly made a difference for animals and showed love to all! Alex Oliver summed it up well when he said, "I liked the theme of

love. It was very meaningful. And I enjoyed spending time with everyone in the play even though many of the kids were a lot younger than me. We had fun together." A big "thank you" to Sharon Oliver, who directed the dinner theater play again. She shows love to the children by allowing them to try something outside their comfort zone in a safe and caring environment. One of the most important lessons that Jesus teaches us is to show each other love and a lot of love happened because of *A Hairy Tale*.



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 are looking for new board members to join us. If you are interested in serving on the board, please contact Fran West.

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 RenaeParra@aol.com for more information or to offer your service.

Denver City Parish Summer Day Camp The St. Luke's UMW is sponsoring one child to attend camp this summer.

UMW Spring Tea The Spring Tea was held on Sunday, May 3. Over 70 women of all ages gathered together with their own teacups to enjoy a light lunch provided by the UMW. The Women of Note sang an opening prayer for



us. After Rev. Pam Rowley was presented with the UMW Special Mission Recognition pin (see cover), Roberta Hamilton-Griggs charmed us with her lovely singing voice. Participants also had the opportunity to bid on a variety of antiques and newer items in a silent auction to raise the money for the day's mission: The Gathering Place. The silent auction and mission donations raised \$689.

The UMW Mission Team would like to thank the following: Women of Note for an impromptu sung prayer, Roberta Hamilton-Griggs for our musical entertainment, Cathy & Katie Johnson for providing photo memories for our participants, Ken Fong & Linda Streaty for technical support, Sharon Oliver for capturing Rev. Pam's special moment on film

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/>

"Let Us Pray" The Fall Kick-off event will be held on 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 we do ask you to 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. We plan to bless the prayer shawls and have the labyrinth again this year.

Subgroups of UMW at St. Luke's:

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

Itch to Stitch First and Third Weds. of the month, 7:00-8:30pm downstairs near the Children's Library. For more info, please call Fran West at 303-797-7107. ***Summer meeting dates: June 3 & 17, July 1 & 15, Aug. 5 & 19.** 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 This group is on break for the summer. The planning meeting will be Monday, August 3 at Sweet Tomatoes, 9445 Park Meadows Dr., Lone Tree.

Mark your calendars:

- Monday, June 22 Evening Book Club: *Home to Holly Springs* by Jan Karon
- Sat. July 11 District UMW Work Day
- Sunday, July 12 UMW Mission Team meeting
- Monday, July 27 Evening Book Club: *The Lovely Bones* by Alice Seybold

Looking ahead:

- Monday, August 3 6:30 Women's Night Out
- Sunday, September 20 2:00-4:00pm Annual Pie and Prayer Meeting: Let Us Pray
- Tuesday, December 8 6:00pm Annual Women's Candlelight Dinner

MISSIONS & SOCIAL JUSTICE

Denver's Road Home – Progress Report

by Susan McIntosh In 2006, I talked to the congregation about a new initiative, Denver's Road Home, created to help reduce homelessness in ten years. Part of that initiative includes a program called "One Congregation, One Family" where Mayor Hickenlooper asked congregations in the metro area to help reduce homelessness by sponsoring families in need. Four years into the 10 year project, Denver's Road Home has made some incredible progress, and I wanted to share that information with you.

According to a May 23 article in the *Denver Post*, organizers of Denver's Road Home have created more than 1,500 housing units in four years, making the goal of 3,000 units within 10 years seem very attainable.

While providing housing for the homeless is by no means cheap, it reduces the need for additional services, such as emergency hospital visits, jail time, and drug and alcohol detox visits, which can be much more expensive to provide. According to Jamie Van Leeuwen, Executive Director for Denver's Road Home, detox admissions for homeless substance abusers fall 84 percent when they are targeted for housing and services, and jail intakes of Denver homeless have dropped 22 percent over the past two years (*Denver Post* article, May 23, 2009).

The Family and Senior Homeless Initiative (the piece of Denver's Road Home plan that asks for help from faith communities) has provided housing to 141 families – almost 500 people.

For the St. Luke's community, these numbers can be made more personal – two families have been helped into homes because of our willingness to help. And a third is also receiving assistance to remain in their home as a layoff looms for the husband. In addition to the specific families that St. Luke's has helped, our continuing support for organizations such as DenUM, the Gathering Place, and Urban Peak also support this initiative. Even in times of economic crisis, St. Luke's UMC continues to reach out to the community, providing assistance and comfort.

For more information on Denver's Road Home, please visit www.denversroadhome.org.



James Ramsey
Director of Music
Ministry & the Arts



Kay Coryell
Associate Dir. of
Music Ministry



Ken Mervine
Organist/
Accompanist

Wesley Players Tackle The Classics

The Wesley Players is proud to announce our 2009-2010 season. This fall we will present "Our Town" by Thornton Wilder. This classic three-act play is a timeless tale of life in community. It is rich with lively and loveable characters as it examines what it means to live in a community and how the people in our lives shape and



change us as we grow. **We will audition "Our Town" on Aug. 21 and 22, performing October 16, 17, and 18.**

This cast has parts for children and adults and is a great opportunity for families to participate together. The cast list is below as well as the rehearsal schedule. Please review both and plan to join us at

auditions! If being on stage isn't your desire, we are in need of support from those who enjoy costuming and props. If you are interested, please contact Jenna Wilcox at blondie@bretwilcox.com or call 303-520-8774. We would love to have any willing person assist us. We are also happy to teach you the skills needed for the job.



Our spring production will be the musical "Little Women". Based on the novel by Louisa May Alcott this story of love and the strength of family will provide tremendous opportunity for the female singers and actors of our community. **We will audition**

"Little Women" on December 11, 12 and 13 with performances February 12, 13 and 14. Mark your calendars and plan to join us for a terrific season!

"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.

St. Luke's
Performing Arts Academy
Summer 2009
presents



July 17
6:00-8:00pm

Admission \$5

Proceeds Benefit
the SLCAA Scholarship Fund

Summer Choir Retreat

Saturday July 11 from 8:00-10:00am
Summer Choir Service Dates are July 12
and August 9. All are welcome!

Easter Pictures at Red Rocks

Thanks to Ken Fong and Bob Oliver, we've posted some pictures and a video of Jesus Christ Superstar with the Women of Note and Jack Kennedy. Check it out! stlukeshr.com

Thank You! Thanks to many of you who came out to support and hear the Ministers of Swing and St. Luke's Youth Jazz Orchestra perform at Civic Green for the Highlands Ranch Arts Festival on May 16. It was a great turn-out and a beautiful evening of fun music!

Monty's Methodism Musings: Moving Towards Christian Perfection

Many Christian denominations define themselves by agreement of their members on common points of doctrine. They are bound together by right belief, orthodoxy, on those points of doctrine. Many people who are members of those denominations have a hard time understanding what binds us together as Methodists.

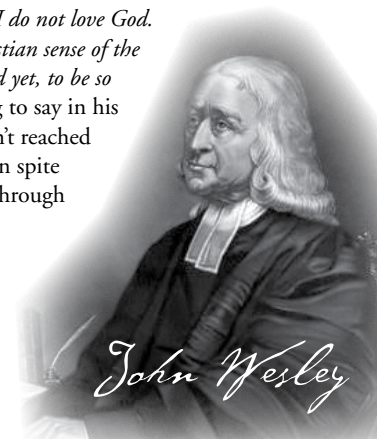
John Wesley was less concerned with right belief and more concerned with right practice, orthopraxy. His direction to the people called Methodists was to live a life that was concerned with moving towards Christian perfection. Wesley felt that the perfect life was one where all our actions were motivated by our love of God and that this love was reflected in all of our relationships with other people. Love God with all of your heart and love your neighbor as yourself.

This is not a mistake-free life. We are expected to be people of action in the world and if you do things, you make mistakes. Rather, it is a life that is perfect in motivation. We are able to put God and put other people's needs before our own needs. It is an unselfish approach to life and a difficult one to live all of the time.

There have been movements within Methodism who have tried to define Christian perfection by "writing it down". My complaint with this approach is that they end up with lists of things not to do. I think that creates a negative style of Christianity. My sense of Christian perfection is that it is proactive. Wesley not only wanted Methodists to do no harm, he wanted them to do all of the good they could. To me Christian perfection is about living the positive example that Christ set for us. If there is no list, how do you tell how you are doing? I think you look in your heart and ask if you are putting others first.

Listen to John Wesley's words at the age of 63. *"I do not love God. I never did. Therefore I never believed, in the Christian sense of the word. Therefore I am only an honest heathen... And yet, to be so employed of God!"* I think that what he was trying to say in his theatrical and self critical way is that he still hadn't reached Christian perfection and he probably wouldn't. In spite of that, look at all the good that God had done through him as he tried to move towards perfection.

I'm with John, I don't think I'll reach Christian perfection. Yet, hopefully good things will come from my attempt and my sense of the abundance of God's grace encourages me to keep trying.
—Monty Hoffman



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.

» **June 16: Mizel Museum.** Jewish Art Museum and Cultural Center. No cost. Meet at St. Luke's at 3pm, will return by 6pm. Discover some history of the Jewish people through art and cultural exhibits at this exciting museum in Denver.

» **Aug 7: Museo de las Americas.** Sidewalk Latin American Art Show. Meet at St. Luke's 5pm, return 8pm.

✧ **Special SLY PM Events in June, July, & August:**

» **June 21 – Elitch's Day.** Meet in youth room at noon, bring your own tickets to get in the park. Bring dad if you want (it is Father's Day)

» **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**

» **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 v Giants, 1:10pm start time. Concert by Christian Band MercyMe after the game.

✧ **Summer Small Groups:**

» **GEMS (Girls Enrichment Ministries)** for girls only! Spa night, yoga training, scavenger hunts, chick flicks and more! Get to know your girlfriends better and meet some new ones from 6-8pm Wed nights this summer! Contact Susan Johnson with questions.

» **STM (Shortcuts To Manhood)** for guys only! Every Wednesday night of the summer, meet at St. Luke's at 6pm to play Ultimate Frisbee and get some food. Come dressed athletically with a water bottle, and \$\$ for a fast food meal afterwards. Get to know some guys better while learning the awesome sport of Ultimate Frisbee. No skills or talent required!

» **Tuesday Night Volleyball –** Area youth groups rotate hosting recreational volleyball Tuesday nights June 30-July 28. Come and play!

» **Breakfast Club –** Thursday mornings, 10:00am June 4-Aug 6. Solve the world's problems by hanging out with Chris W and Lori McMullen at Einstein's Bagels off Broadway & HR Pkwy during the summer. Small group discussion on current events.

✧ **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

June and July are the first months that next year's 7th graders get to start hanging out and doing SLY activities with other big kids! I know it can be kind of weird to go from being one of the oldest kids in Sunday School, to being to youngest, so I asked some older youth for a little help... You see every youth who is in 8th grade or high school has already gone through 7th grade, they remember what it was like, and they want to help you get comfortable as middle school starts. Here are some thoughts from youth who could be your friends very soon...

Things I remember feeling starting 7th grade...

"I was scared of tall people, but then I turned into one"

– Chris Stephens, 10th grade

"The older kids looked intimidating, but then I talked to them and they were very nice"

– Evan Oliver 10th grade

"I was trying to look as cool as possible"

– Austin Merchant, 8th grade

The best advice I can give you to survive 7th grade is...

"Don't stress too much, have fun being yourself and you'll do great!"

– Jordan Fickling 11th grade

"Don't be afraid to make new friends, there is no reason to be insecure around older kids."

– Kara Fong 10th grade

"Grow, don't let yourself be left out, and be confident."

– Spencer Tolleson, 8th grade

My greatest hopes for you are...

"That you become a person you are proud to call yourself." – Christi Thompson, 12th grade

"Make good friends!" – Meredith Tolleson, 9th grade

"Stay active in your faith." – Evan Oliver, 10th grade

The best things SLY does for people...

"Giving you a second home"

– Stephanie Hagan, 10th grade

"You feel accepted, have fun, and experience God"

– Elise Collins, 8th grade

"Deepen relationships with others and God"

– Jacob Wesson, 10th grade

I look forward to getting to know our new 7th graders over the summer and the next school year. We are all so excited to get to know you and have you get to know us! Stay strong, and explore a SLY program or two this summer. I'm sure you'll find something you love! –Peace & Love, Chris



Kelsey Bartling
Heritage HS
Univ. CO, Boulder

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!



Emily Bauer
Colorado College
BA, Music



Laura Boon
Case Western Reserve
BS, Physics



Barrett Boos
Mountain Vista HS
CO St. Univ.



Kevin Frame
Tulane Univ.
BS, Chemistry & Anthropology



Erik Godsey
Mountain Vista HS
CO St. Univ.



Scott Goodstein
Highlands Ranch HS
Univ. CO, Boulder



Joel Graf
Mountain Vista HS
CO St. Univ.



Katie Halloran
Mountain Vista HS
City Year Chicago



Arianne Heaton
Cherry Creek HS
Jacksonville Univ., FL



Sarah Heyse
Cherry Creek HS
Clemson Univ., SC



Catherine Krantz
Cherry Creek HS
Univ. of N. CO



Mary Ludwig
ThunderRidge HS
Univ. CO, Boulder



Kayla Meier
Highlands Ranch HS
Univ. of Evansville, IN



Keith Newby
ThunderRidge HS
Arapahoe Comm. College



Paul Northrop
Mountain Vista HS
CO School of Mines



Jackie Parra
Mountain Vista HS
Univ. CO, Denver



Shelly Richards
ThunderRidge HS
Colorado College



Jake Smith
Cherry Creek HS
Univ. CO, Boulder



Megan Stull
ThunderRidge HS
Univ. CO



Sarah Suby-Long
Mountain Vista HS
Univ. CO, Boulder



Matthew Thompson
Mountain Vista HS
Iowa St. Univ.



Anthony Tyson
Columbine HS



Tasia Williams
Mountain Vista HS
Univ. of N. CO



Lyndsay Woodside-Rowley
Mountain Vista HS
CO St. Univ.



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.

Considering the condition of our economy, this news is good news. However, I must point

out that our level of collections for this year will not be enough to meet our budget needs for 2010 and 2011. Refinancing our loan with the Bold Venture funds in late 2011 won't provide much budget relief until calendar year 2012.

When we started the budgeting process, the recession was really getting started and we had no idea how it would affect our giving. We decided to go with the idea that we would collect in 2009 what we collected in 2008 with some minor know variances. Your giving during the first few months has validated that this was a reasonable assumption.

With some hard work from your finance staff, finance team and the executive team, we were able to develop a spending program for 2009 that will keep our spending within the amount of projected collections. To do that, we obviously had to make some adjustments that were not comfortable to make but would allow us to maintain our basic programs and work our way through what will prove to be a troublesome year for many of our families and St Luke's.

Some of the budget adjustments will work for this year but will require reinstatement in following years. Among them will be the need to pay for any major repairs that may occur that will no longer be covered by the Bold Venture program, making adjustments to the staff compensation and benefit plan to make sure we stay appropriately competitive in that area—no adjustments made for 2009, making sure we pay our tithe to the Rocky Mountain Conference in full each year, etc.

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 the following 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.

Also, if you have not been able to be a regular giver, I encourage you to make this a priority as your individual situation improves. It takes over a million dollars each year to keep our program strong. The only way we can accomplish our goal is by everyone participating at the level they are able. A very high percentage of our income comes from collections given by our members and constituents. We have very few secondary sources of income that make up a very small portion of our total income.

Remember, I'm always available for your calls and visits. You may reach me at 303-791-0659 x24 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.

Work Day Success!

Our spring work day projects kept us out in the sunshine as we completed a few major landscaping projects. Our heartfelt thanks go to St. Luke's



Boy Scout Troop 633 as many of the scouts and their dads, joined forces with our Trustees team members in re-sodding the north island after removing old grass, roto-tilling soil amendments into bare ground, and installing 6 pallets of fresh sod. We were so fortunate to have the guidance of the Bacon family - who brought commercial quality tools and a great deal of expertise to the work that started on Friday and finished on Saturday. We applaud Dee Duncan and Bill Kemman for designing and building the long awaited steps to the staff entrance. Take a bow Lynda Fickling and Jerry McLeland on weed pulling throughout the grounds, and Fred Bennett for installing even more shelving. We are so very blessed that so many volunteers turned out to assist! Thank you all!

GROCERY CARD PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

Purchase King Soopers Grocery Cards with your credit card. Stop by the grocery card table or contact Dave Cupp 303-791-0659 x24 or davec@stlukeshr.com for details.

6th Annual St. Luke's Golf Tournament

Mark Your Calendar

The tournament will be held at Highlands Ranch Golf Club on Sat. August 15, 2009—Shotgun start at 2:00pm. Youth are invited!

Fundraising Procedures

If you are planning a fundraiser, please be aware that certain procedures need to be followed. These are available on the website, www.stlukeshr.com, under Publications. The purpose of the procedures is to insure that the fundraiser itself is appropriate (e.g., no casino nights) and that the timing and use of church facilities don't interfere with other activities (e.g., no yard sales on consecutive weekends.)

Please fill out the Fundraiser Application and get it approved before advertising your event.



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.

Join Highlands Ranch Senior
 Outreach Services and St. Luke's

You Have Choices



Saturday, June 20
 8:30am-1:00pm

A FREE workshop for
 seniors and their adult
 children about housing, healthcare,
 financial planning and legal paperwork.

Please RSVP to Jodie McCann
 at 720-240-4922, or
 jmccann@highlandsranch.org

JUNE / JULY 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
14 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Rev. Janet Forbes 9:30am: Cafe St. Luke's 11:00am: Discover Your Spiritual Gifts 5:00pm: SLY PM 7:34pm: Fusion	15	16 Mizel Museum 9:30am: VBS Orientation	17 6:00pm: SLY - GEMS/STM Annual Conference (Grand Junction)	18 10:00am: SLY Breakfast Club Annual Conference (Grand Junction)	19 Annual Conference (Grand Junction)	20 8:30am: You Have Choices Annual Conference (Grand Junction)
21 Father's Day 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Rev. Tony Ashworth 11:00am: Discover Your Spiritual Gifts noon SLY: Elitch's Day 7:34pm: Fusion	22 Vacation Bible School	23 Vacation Bible School	24 6:00pm: SLY - GEMS/STM Vacation Bible School	25 10:00am: SLY Breakfast Club Vacation Bible School	26 6:30pm: SLIP vs. WITY Vac. Bible School	27 5:00pm Contemplative Worship Service
28 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Rev. Janet Forbes 9:30am: Women Listening to Women 11:00am: Discover Your Spiritual Gifts 5:30pm: SLY PM 7:34pm: Fusion Jr. High Mission Trip	29 Jr. High Mission Trip	30 6:00pm: SLY - Summer Volleyball Jr. High Mission Trip	JULY 1 6:00pm: SLY - STM Jr. High Mission Trip	2 10:00am: SLY Breakfast Club Jr. High Mission Trip	3 Jr. High Mission Trip	4 Independence Day
5 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Rev. Janet Forbes 5:30pm: SLY, Jr. 5:30pm: SLY PM 7:34pm: Fusion	6 Performing Arts Academy	7 6:00pm: SLY - Summer Volleyball Performing Arts Academy	8 6:00pm: SLY - GEMS/STM Performing Arts Academy	9 10:00am: SLY Breakfast Club Performing Arts Academy	10 Performing Arts Academy	11 7:30am: Men's Breakfast
12 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Rev. Janet Forbes 9:30am: Cafe St. Luke's 5:30pm: SLY PM 7:34pm: Fusion	13 7:00pm: Trustees Performing Arts Academy	14 6:00pm: SLY - Summer Volleyball Performing Arts Academy	15 6:00pm: SLY - GEMS/STM Performing Arts Academy	16 10:00am: SLY Breakfast Club Performing Arts Academy	17 Performing Arts Academy	18 5:00pm Contemplative Worship Service
19 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Rev. Janet Forbes 11:00am: Discover Your Spiritual Gifts 5:30pm: SLY PM 7:34pm: Fusion Sr. High Mission Trip	20 6:00pm: Common Table Sr. High Mission Trip	21 6:00pm: SLY - Summer Volleyball Sr. High Mission Trip	22 6:00pm: SLY - STM Sr. High Mission Trip	23 10:00am: SLY Breakfast Club Family Camp Sr. High Mission Trip	24 Family Camp Sr. High Mission Trip	25 Family Camp Sr. High Mission Trip
26 Family Camp 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Rev. Bradley Laurvick 5:30pm: SLY PM 7:34pm: Fusion Sr. High Mission Trip	27 Family Camp	28 6:00pm: SLY - Summer Volleyball	29 6:00pm: SLY - STM	30 10:00am: SLY Breakfast Club	31	AUGUST 1