

The Chronicle

ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 2009

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September Leadership Seminar

SATURDAY SEPT. 26 2:00-4:00pm



St. Luke's is excited to present our first leadership seminar on Saturday, September 26 from 2:00-4:00pm in Fellowship Hall. The seminar is for group leaders within the church as well as any person from the St. Luke's community who is interested in learning more about our leadership model. We will hear how leadership from the St. Luke's net looks different from traditional models of leadership as well as having opportunities to discuss and practice the model Jesus gave us for servant leadership. Please RSVP to lynda@stlukeshr.com. Childcare is available with a 24 hr. notice at 303-791-0659 x47.



Faith Day at Coors Field: Aug. 23. Rockies 4, Giants 2. Some 40 or so people from St. Luke's came. I heard that there was 100+ churches there and some from as far away as Cheyenne, Colorado Springs and Grand Junction. It was very HOT! (98°) We were in the outfield box stands (behind Right Fielder, Brad Hawpe) and in the full sun. The Giants scored two runs first, but Todd Helton scored from second to get the Rockies on the board then Seth Smith hit a 2-run homer in the 6th inning to give the Rockies the lead. The concert afterwards from MercyMe was incredible! They played some of their more popular tunes ("I Can Only Imagine", "God With Us", etc..) and the crowd (22,000) sang along and lifted up their hands to the Lord. One of the wishes from MercyMe was that we would leave this place with a "better feeling" of Christ and God and of our faith and maybe a life changing experience. Their concert made me feel closer to God than I have in a while. If they come again next year, I'll be going again! -Diana Stephens

We Need U2... Again!

Imagine 5,000 families. The parents, the children, the grandparents, whatever the configuration. Imagine their surprise when they walk to a cupboard they expect to be empty and instead find what they need to make it through a tough time. No more empty cupboard, no more empty stomach. That is what our community accomplished last year in the **Feeding of the 5000:**We Need U2. It was awarded as one of the best actions against hunger in the state. It was also celebrated by all those who participated as, "one of the best things my family has ever done together" and "the neatest way to get to know more of the St. Luke's community."

So we're doing it again. The **Feeding of the 5000: We Need U2** will take place **October 2, 3 & 4.** Our goal will be bigger- 7,500 families. 60,000 pounds of food. A semi and a half. More people involved, more lives changed. Once again proving, "there are some things that can only be accomplished when people come together." So here's our invitation to you:

1. Help us distribute bags. The more bags out there, the more food comes in. We will have teams canvas neighborhoods, but you know your better- and they know you. Take bags to your

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Who Will We Become?

by Jim Wolff, Vision Team

RETHINKCHURCH

There are those experiences that

pierce our facade, challenge our beliefs or open doors to worlds we would just as soon not see. Watching the movie *The Soloist* was one of those experiences. For me it melded many past experiences and brought a point of focus on the challenge of visioning what St. Luke's will be to its members and neighbors in the future.

When I was a kid I was exposed frequently to the poverty of the Native American reservations in South Dakota. In later years I worked among those struggling to create a better life for their families in northern Mexico while they rented abandoned box cars. More recently it was walking past the homeless

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Why Contemplative Worship? by Mercedes McClure

For centuries we have turned to God's home in search of a place to worship, a supportive hand to lead us



through hard times, or even as an opportunity to find new friends. But above all, isn't it the beginning of a journey to find our inner self?

Reverend Sallie Suby-Long has always been fascinated by the human ability to grow and to move forward. She has a degree in Higher Education and Human Development and over the years has supported adults of all ages to find their authentic place in the world, discern their vocational call, and move toward fulfilling their dreams. She is a dedicated advocate for girls and women's education and leadership development.

About seven years ago her life took a new turn when in a discrete way, she received God's call to serve in ministry. Wasn't this just a natural way to progress? Isn't spirituality an important part of human development?

Contemplative worship can be an important aspect of our journeys toward understanding who we are by nurturing our inner growth,

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Sunday Worship Services: 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am 7:34pm: Fusion (6:34pm beginning Sept. 13) 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
Rev. Brad Laurvickx12 Associate Minister Emergency: 720-296-1251
Rev. Sallie Suby-Longx32 Associate Minister Emergency: 303-475-0141
James Ramseyx23 Director of Music Ministry & the Arts
Kay Coryellx36 Associate Director of Music Ministry
Ken Mervinex42 Organist/Accompanist
Josh Carr
Carrie Malleryx35 Assistant Fusion Worship Leader
Chris Wilterdinkx14 Director of Youth Ministry
Susan Johnsonx19 Assistant Director of Youth Ministry
Marcus Carlsonx27 Minister to Children and their Families
Joely Madduxx11 Assistant Director of Children's Ministry
Kristina Linnx40 Director of Childcare
Lynda Ficklingx20 Director of Servant Ministry/Spiritual Director
Bonnie Funkx10 Church Secretary/Office Manager

All articles, photos and announcements for the October issue of The Chronicle are due September 20 Editor: Sharon Oliver chronicle@stlukeshr.com

Dave Cupp.....x24
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Assistant Director of Finance

Barry Curtis.....x39

Facilities Manager

Kay Swanson......303-791-1982
Director of Little School

Lisé Takayama.....

MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR



Rev. Janet Forbes Senior Pastor

De-mystifying the Bible (at least a little bit)

The Bible—the Holy Scriptures—is a book of books about God, what we have experienced of God over many centuries, what we have recorded about God's activities and interactions with Israel and the ancient world.

To those who are unacquainted with the Scriptures, there may be a certain mystique about what the Bible is, what it says, and what it means. Even those of us with a seminary education or who have been thoroughly immersed in the Scriptures can't agree on everything! So, whether you are a novice or expert at the Bible, if it seems mysterious to you, there is good reason. At the same time, God longs to be known, and the Bible is one of the means by which God is revealed to us.

Here are a few pointers to help with the new discoveries.

First, and most important—don't be afraid to read it and try to figure it out on your own. If scholars haven't come to consensus for hundreds of years, there's no fault to you if something seems strange or unclear. Remember that we are 2000 years away from the historical Jesus and much, much farther from the Old Testament events. Someone from the 40th century picking up a 2009 whodunit might need some help understanding the idioms, 21st century stuff (what's a gun?), and history, at the least. So, use a good study Bible with notes and cross-references to help understand customs, terms, history, and context. Since the Bible is one of God's many ways to speak directly to you, also try to leave your mind and heart open to what that word might be. Then check it out with others you trust.

The Bible is a book of books, written over time. There are many understandings of who wrote the Bible, and there are numerous contributors. Much of the Old Testament, at least, was shared as oral history before being written and collected. When it was collected in writing, it was copied and tweaked (with and without copyist mistakes) over and over again. The texts of what we know as the Old Testament were centuries old before they became "official," over time, around the end of the first century.

The Bible books are not in chronological or historical order (which is sometimes highly inconvenient!). Everything in the Old Testament happened before the New Testament, and the first five books of the Old Testament are roughly in some chronological order, but not the prophets, for example. All of the Gospels were written after the letters of Paul, and Paul's letters are in order of length, not date. What this means is that you need to do a bit of historical homework by reading the introduction to the biblical book in a good study Bible to help get oriented to the time and culture.

The chapter and line verses were not original to the texts, but added to aid in our reading and organization. Scripture references note the book, then the chapter, then the verse or verses, such as John 3:16—the Gospel of John, chapter 3, verse 16. Bibles include a table of contents, and it's there to be used.

There is a multitude of translations and paraphrases of the Bible, and they are not all equally good. You might want to have more than one "flavor" to help with understanding. The New Revised Standard Version and the New International Version are the two biblical translations used in the highly acclaimed The New Interpreters Bible commentary series which is the St. Luke's library. Those Bibles were translated from the original texts of the ancient Scriptures from (mainly) Hebrew and Greek. The Message, for example, is a paraphrase that started with the English translation and reworded it into colorful and colloquial, English-based phraseology and idioms. This does not carry the same weight or accuracy of an actual translation, though the different twist of phrase can bring some insight.

Any Bible in English (or Spanish or French or something other than the original languages) is at least one step away from the original biblical text. It is subject to the nuances of the language into which it is translated, and that language itself changes over time. Compare, for example, the King James Bible (ca 1611), which was actually a revision of earlier Bibles and the New Revised Standard Version (1989).

The Bible means what it means, but not necessarily just exactly what it says. Virtually any specific text is interpreted somehow. While this statement can open a debate on how to interpret the Scripture, we can probably agree that Scripture should be studied. When it says something happened in 40 days or 40 years, for example, that may really mean a generation or a general passage of time.

You may want to consider a Disciple Bible Study this year. In a community of fellow pilgrims, we review issues of culture and history, seek each other's wisdom, and weigh what we read against our best understandings of love, grace, accountability, and justice.

As United Methodists, we consider another set of filters, which we refer to as the **Wesleyan Quadrilateral**: Scripture, tradition, reason, and experience. We consider Scripture to be primary and also recognize that we understand and filter our doctrine of Scripture (as a whole) and certain texts (in particular) through our traditions, experiences, and reasoning. Scriptural interpretation is formed and informed by those three filters and those three filters are informed and formed by Scripture. To understand the pieces, we must also look at the whole.

So, in short form, keep these questions in mind:

- What do I think this Scripture passage means?
- What do I know of the history, culture, and context of this passage and time period?
- How is God/Jesus/the Holy Spirit presented in this passage and is it consistent with the broad range of what we know and have experienced?
- How does it square with a biblical/theological understanding of love, grace, accountability, and justice?
- What might God be saying to the community and also to me through the Bible?
- How does the community confirm (or not) what I think is true about it?

Prayerfully consider a time of Bible study this year!



REV. BRAD FROM



Rev. Brad Laurvick Associate Minister

Norma

In just a month, our St. Luke's community will come together with the community around us to raise over 7,500 pounds of food

during the Feeding of the 5000:We **Need U2.** Please read the special invitation to participate in this issue of The Chronicle. In addition to that invitation, I wanted to share one of the reasons this event is so special. Her name is Norma.

Norma and her daughter hit some rough times. There were circumstances, there were needs, and she had them met at Denver Urban Ministries (DenUM). What I find most striking about Norma's story isn't the circumstances that led to her crisis. What was most striking wasn't even her crisis itself. What was so powerful was Norma's reaction and reflection. "If we don't have faith, we have nothing" she said. If we don't have faith, we have nothing.

This woman knows the definition of nothing, and her response is faith. I sit here struggling to find words to reflect on a statement so powerful. In fact I don't really believe it is my job to say anything more about it-just to repeat it, to tell Norma's story, and to let her be a testament to the power of faith and the need for others to care. And there are thousands of reasons just as unique, just as meaningful, just as personal as Norma. When we say we hope to feed 7,500 families just like Norma's. We hope to build on their faith, and let them build on ours.

Be Blessed and Be a Blessing, -Rev. Brad



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

More from Les. Experiencing Forgiveness

Have you ever experienced being truly forgiven by someone you have hurt or disappointed? When it happens, there's no doubt about it. It's as if a tremendous weight has been lifted from your shoulders. I know! I've been there!

As a sixteen year-old high school student, I probably had more enthusiasm than good sense. My dad had agreed to let me buy my own car with the money I made working at the family service station in Grand Junction.

The car was a 1950 Chevrolet Bel Air Hardtop Convertible. Wow! I named her "Betsy," for no particular reason, it just sounded nice. I had made promise upon

promise to take good care of the car, not mess it up, drive carefully, etc. etc.

But then, there was this one day... It was time for the annual Colorado High School Band Tournament and Grand Junction was host city for the Western Slope competition. There would be lots of new girls in town so I decided one morning to drive a few friends downtown before classes started to see who might be around. We didn't see any new girls but we were able to use up nearly all the time before our first hour class started. Ron said, "Les, we'd better get back in a hurry, Mr. Chaves has that trig test waiting for us!" "Yeah," added Quincy," we've gotta save some time!" "Take this alley, it's a short cut!" came from another voice. I responded, without thinking. Who needs to think? Any teenager will tell you, "It's all in the reflexes!"

Twisting the steering hard to the left, I turned Betsy toward the alley. But, my judgment of distance and turning radius was not quite right. Instead of going down the alley, I impaled an old cement trash incinerator at the side of the driveway! Concrete flew everywhere, Betsy's hood buckled right in the middle, and we lurched to a stop! Quincy's knee was scratched, Ron had bump on his head, Dan was mumbling, "I never should have..." and I just sat there, staring at the crumpled hood! Several of us missed Mr. Chavez' trigonometry test that day.

The city police and my father and were called, in that order. My friends were driven to school while I sat and waited... When Dad arrived, the first thing he said was, "You OK?" He didn't yell; he was frighteningly quiet. But I could tell he was angry! He was all business with the tow truck and the police.

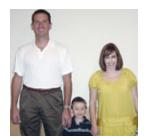
But the patrolmen who had arrived started laughing! They thought the whole thing was funny! The incinerator belonged to the aunt of the Chief of Police! And they knew my father very well; two of them were his stock car racing buddies. They began kidding him unmercifully! "Hey Vern, how'd you teach your kid that trick? Never seen such a neat job of completely destroying that old incinerator!" Dad grimaced and said nothing. "And look, he hit that thing dead center with his hood, right on the seam! That took some kind of talent!"

Dad didn't say much to me and the ride home was long and very quiet. I knew that I had disappointed my father, and I knew I had been the cause of his humiliation! His only comment to me was made as we pushed Betsy into our auto shop. He looked directly at me and quietly stated, "You wrecked it, you fix it before you drive again."

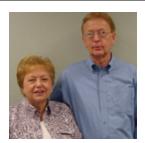
For the next six weeks, I was grounded. When I wasn't going to school or doing homework, I was busy repairing Betsy. Dad would come by occasionally, and just watch. He didn't say much. Then one evening, as I was finishing up attaching the new hood panels to the car, Dad came up, stood quietly beside me

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NEW MEMBERS: AUGUST



Audie & Tiffany Wright, Mason Reason for joining: "Spiritual Growth"



Jay & Jean Dunn

'We have attended St. Luke's for about 8 months and enjoy the Sunday messages, music and inspirational atmosphere of this church. We wish to belong to a church in the Highlands Ranch community.'



Jack & Betty Jones

"Even though we do not plan to participate in many of the varied activities at St. Luke's, we are looking forward to the social and religious fellowship of our church.



Pamela Nowak

"St. Luke's is welcoming with a variety of social, cultural and educational opportunities and an excellent spiritual leadership team.



(no photos)

Iulie Bevier

Lynette McKinney (Rev. Doug McKinney)

"I've chosen St. Luke's as my new church home because of the fine preaching from the spirit-filled clergy, the welcoming atmosphere created by the staff and caring congregation and the inspirational music ministry."



We Need U2 continued from page 1

neighborhood, your classes at school, the teams and clubs your family is connected to, take them to work. Please take them everywhere. And if you can, attach a personal note letting them know you are their connection. Bags will be available by Sunday September 27.

- **2. Help us collect the food.** We need countless people to help gather, sort, and manage the food we collect. There is work for all ability levels and ages. Work as a family. Bring friends. Encourage your workplace to sponsor a volunteer shift. We need families at St. Luke's, we need families at more than 8 grocery stores, we need drivers to deliver food loads. This is sincerely one of the best ways to meet new people, connect more deeply with your own family, and change people's lives together. Sign-ups will begins mid-September.
- 3. Celebrate the event and worship in community. We once again will be blessed to have an amazing team of musicians lead us in worship and communion through the powerful music of U2. You don't have to know their music to participate, in fact, even if you think you know their music, you will be blown away by the powerful meaning and lyrics. This is our chance to remember that "there are some things that can only be accomplished when people come together" applies to worship as well. The special U2 service will happen Saturday and Sunday nights, October 3 & 4 in our sanctuary at 6:34pm.

We need your help to make a difference in the lives of so many. We want your life to be changed by being a part of one of the greatest hands-on experiences of love and service in St. Luke's history.

Who Will Become continued from page 1

every workday for six months in Oakland, California. On St. Luke's mission trips I was able to work among the poor rural residents of Guatemala who eek out a subsistence life. Now I see the homeless in downtown Denver each day.

But I was not prepared for the reality of the homeless and mentally ill depicted in *The Soloist*. This is a real story of a newspaper writer befriending a homeless man. His mission is to fix the man, get him on medication and into an apartment, all the while avoiding personal responsibility. Los Angeles has 90,000 homeless, Colorado less than 20,000. But the need is the same everywhere: every person is made in God's image and deserves our love and acceptance, our friendship, hope for safety and food and shelter, and a community that acts with compassion in the face of difficulties and not one that turns its eyes away.

The Soloist turns into a morality play that resonates the foundation of St. Luke's: Love, Acceptance, Justice and Hope. As we look faithfully to our future as the body of Christ, I invite everyone to take a few moments to contemplate your desired spiritual growth over three, five or ten years. How can your St. Luke's family assist you in this journey? How can we and you be more accepting, more loving, more challenging of injustice, give birth to stronger hope? What excites you about St. Luke's, draws you back and leaves you hungry for more? What would you like to see less of?

St. Luke's offers many avenues to connect, grow our faith, find support and shed grief or express joy. There are many more ways we can provide connection to the body of Christ. Help us define the future. Send your thoughts and comments about new or improved roads to faith and community to Jim Wolff at jwolffrcsd@aol.com. Help us grow in love, acceptance justice and hope.

PRAYER CONCERNS



Week Ending August 23, 2009

Please stop by the Information Center, by the front door, where you will find the updated Praye 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 Amy Spicher (Doug Spicher's mother) Lori Lieberman (friend of Jane Damsgard) Diane Wieland (friend of Bobbi King's) Marcia Enger Carol Burtton (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) 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 Hutchin's cousin) David Joseph (Friend of Bobbi King/Marie Blue)

John Larsh (friend of Rick & Louise Jasper) Robert Miller

Karen Chaun (Linda Fligg's friend) Robert Towell (Jon Streaty'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) Jim Freeman (Patti Speedy's brother-in-law) William Lewis (DenUM director - Betsy Keyack) Mike Maciejewski (Jennifer Jiang's brother-in-law) Gordon Lewis (Ken Fong's friend) Alberta Haas

Darrell & Billie Aderman (friends of Rick & Louise Jasper) Ross Magaughey (friend of Rick & Louise Jasper)

Daniel Winkle (friend of Gail Strawn)

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 Shrewsberry (Kerry Lucero's friend) Nancy Melia (friend of Bonnie Funk) Mildred Johnson (Connie Shoemaker's mother) Ray and Shirley Sutcliffe (Leigh Ramsey's parents) Sandy Gibbons Jackie Lehnus (Lisa's mother) Bob Halderman Jerry Miyaki (mike's uncle) Don Pascal Jackie Durban Jay Brown (Sue Brown is LS teacher) Kathy Jensen (friend of Elizabeth Laurvick) Karmie Hilleary Peggy Johnson (Erin Wright's sister) Ryan Severns (Bob McBride's grandson) Fred Strawn Wes Schroeder Bob Fretzs Pat Keleher

Gov, Kerry & Boston Lucero Michelle Mallory Louise McGill (Sharon Oliver's mother) Heidi Prentup (friend of Hooke family) Bob Muthart (friend of Jan & Charlie Rufien) Ruth Baumeyer (friend of Jan & Charlie Rufien) Amy McDowell (LS Mother)

ARMED FORCES:

Corporal James "Jim" Harding (Bonnie Funk's nephew) Ed Herring (Les Ludlam's nephew) Josh Brady (Sylvia Brady's grandson) Jeremy Brady (Sylvia Brady's grandson) Colin Gabriel (son of Val Gabriel) Dustin Ellington (Jayne Dunham's nephew) Lt. Jeff Harner

SYMPATHIES:

To the Cushing family on the passing of their friend Brent Webber,

To Lois Hail on the passing of her father George James,

To the family, friends, and Craig Hospital extended family on the passing of Dr. Mark Cilo,

To the Tripple family on the passing of their mother/grandmother Helen Bartz,

To Mike & Gwen Riggle on the passing of Mike's mother Clurcy Riggle,

To Ed & Dara Hein on the passing of Ed's father

Café St. Luke's:

We invite you to explore the community of St. Luke's. Join me for coffee and conversation about the history 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

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



Lynda FicklingDirector 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.

Get Connected Ministry Team: Our "Get Connected Center" is our information stop for all members and guests. Our vision/mission is to help each person to connect with St. Luke's. To serve on this team, all you need is the ability to talk to everyone about everything! Serve for 30 minutes before or after services, one Sunday a month. Spiritual Gifts: Helps, Service, Hospitality Contact: Lynda Fickling 303-791-0659 x20 lynda©stlukeshr.com

Guest Services: Information central for St. Luke's! Great way to meet people and be helpful by answering simple questions, give direction to classrooms... all in all, be our minister of concierge! Choose to serve one Sunday a month (at the service convenient to you) 30 minutes prior to the service time.

Spiritual Gifts: Helps, Hospitality, Evangelism *Contact:* Debbie Miller 303-791-8921 mills1414©aol.com

Ushers: Assists in the weekly worship service by ensuring worshippers are attended to during the services. We also provide ushers for the Holiday services and special events. Ushers typically serve on a quarterly basis, serving at the service in which they enjoy attending! If you are welcoming and can help your community, we would love to have you!

Spiritual Gifts: Helps, Hospitality
Contact: Greg Nolder 303-915-9087 greg@nolders.com or
Dick Frame 303-791-4251 rframe5492@aol.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

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

Did you know...

Once a month Mary Kuritani prepares our beautiful purple guest bags for us? *Thank you* to our Quiet Servant.

Epiphany King Puppets to be Redesigned and Enhanced!

After a season of spiritual discernment and listening to the congregation at our Common Table gatherings, the Executive Team voted on August 17, to re-design the large Epiphany puppets and enhance our twenty-year celebration of the Three Kings.

We will recruit a team of persons who would be willing to construct new (lighter-weight) puppets and rehearse the puppeteers. We have received a gift to help fund the creation of new puppets.

Since worship attendance is consistently over 700 on this day, the Executive Team felt that we should keep the tradition at all services. Some families bring their grandchildren from other churches as a special outing. We will keep the service family-friendly with storytelling sermons and lots of singing with communion.

Thanks to all who participated in the conversation of discernment to shape the decision.

The next Common Table is on Monday, October 19.

Yoga Class Coming to St. Luke's

On Tuesday, September 29 we will hold our first yoga class here at St. Luke's. Emily Wilterdink, an experieced yoga instructor, will lead us in a Christ-centered yoga experience. The class is open to everyone 12 and older. The class is an 8-week session on Tuesday evenings starting September 29 through November 17 however, drop in students are welcome. The tuition for an 8-week session is \$65 and the drop in fee is \$10 for each class attended. A session card will be available for purchase on Sunday mornings 9/13 and 9/20 or in the office during the week. Bring a yoga mat and water bottle.

Childcare is provided with a 24 hour advance

notice (call 303-791-0659 x47 or email kristina©stlukeshr.com) For information call Susan Johnson 303-791-0659 x19.

Contemplative Worship continued from page 1

taking the time to listen to the moment, develop our senses and be able to appreciate that which is sacred to us.

In our rushed lives so much gets taken for granted! We invest in endless efforts to please others, to keep up with demanding cultural expectations and never ending responsibilities, often losing ourselves in the process. Who am I? What are my hopes and dreams? How do I experience God's presence in my life? Is this person that I have worked so hard to become, is it really me?

In Contemplative Worship, Reverend Sallie encourages us to experience silence, reflection, and the beauty of sacred space. Enjoy a spiritual moment, reach out to nature and listen... listen to the voice within you, listen to God's word... and let the melody help you reflect as your soul finds peace and healing. Share in holy communion, prayer, and turn to that quiet space within where the holy may be found strengthening your mind and heart in the comfort of knowing that you are not alone!

A service in the contemplative tradition will be offered in the Chapel each month on Sunday mornings 8:15-9:00am: Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15, Dec. 20, Jan. 17, Feb. 21, March 21, April 18, May 16. *All are welcome!*

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Marcus Carlson Minister to Children & their Families

Children & Family Corner: Make some noise!

I have a confession to make. I really love to do Children's Time for church worship services. I love children and enjoy their presence. I love being in front of people and sharing my heart. The real reason that I love to do Children's Time is because it helps me to think in new ways. Having gone to

a Christian college then on to seminary for masters in theology I tend to think about God in big and abstract ways wrestling with the big theological issues and concepts. In doing so, I often miss that faith like a child that Jesus talked about. That's why I really love doing Children's Time, because thinking with a childlike faith opens my eyes to new ways of thinking. Recently during Children's Time I challenged the kids to yell "I love you" as loud as they could. I shared with them that God indeed loves us and our job is to love God and others. I shared with them that the loudest way to say "I love you" to God and to others is to take something that you are good at and/or love to do (and that is a gift that comes from God) and use that to care for and show love to God and others. One of the beauties in the Methodist Church is the recognition that we are all ministers. As the apostle Paul outlined in Ephesians 4; each of us has a gift to be used for the greater good. Each of us is called to do ministry in our church, community, and world. We are all ministers whether we know it or not! You do not need to have a masters in theology or any special training to do ministry. Your life is ministry and ministry is simply using who you are (and who you have been created to be) to point others towards God. Simply put, God is love. We do ministry by using our gifts, personality, journey, and life experience to show others love. The loudest way to say "I love you" to God is to love others by being who you are. We are all called to be ministers and we have the opportunity to give of what we have and more importantly of who we are. So what is your ministry? What is your call that will lead you to shout the love of God to the church, community, and world?

Calendar:

September 129:00am Can Land Saturday
September 13Kickoff Sunday!
September 20 10:35am Breakfast with Mr. Marcus
September 216:30-8:00pm The Spiritual Formation and Development of Children class for parents
September 226:30-8:00pm Children's Ministry Leadership Team Meeting
September 27Fall Hayride
September 286:30-8:00pm The Spiritual Formation and Development of Children class for parents
October 42:00-5:30pm SLY, Jr.: Feeding of the 5000 5:30-SLY, Jr. dinner and program
October 5
October 1110:35am Breakfast with Mr. Marcus
October 126:30-8:00pm The Spiritual Formation and Development of Children class for parents
October 18Fall Festival
Third Grade Bibles
5:30-SLY, Jr. dinner and Fusion worship
October 196:30-8:00pm The Spiritual Formation and Development of Children class for parents

Children's Ministry Leadership Team Meeting

October 20......6:30-8:00pm

October 25......11:00am Servant Safety training

News & Notes:

The Spiritual Formation and Development of

Children This fall we will be offering a new class for parents, grandparents and any other interested adults! 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 starting September 21.







Kristina LinnDirector of
Childcare



We will be looking at how children develop and form spiritually and morally and will be learning about and discussing how to best equip our 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.

SLY, Jr. News We are excited about the kickoff of SLY, Jr. on October 4. This year brings some fun new changes to SLY, Jr. We will be mailing out a packet to all parents of children in grades 5 & 6 in late August or early September. To make sure you are on the list please email Marcus. This year we will add fellowship and service events back into our SLY, Jr. program. We will also be meeting twice a month! On the first Sunday we will have our regular program with game and lesson. On the third Sunday of the month we will be worshipping together at Fusion which will now start at 6:34pm. We will have a game in between dinner and the start of Fusion. Watch your mailbox for more information!

Blessing Recap On Sunday, August 16 we had the opportunity to bless and commission our Children's Ministry servants and our Little School teachers during the 9:30am service. It was a wonderful moment and we are thankful for the support of the St. Luke's community. Please continue to pray for all of those who work with our children during the week and on Sunday. We are grateful for all who have answered the call to serve our children and point them towards God!

Fall Kickoff and registration Our Fall Kickoff will be Sunday September 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. If you have not registered, please do so we can accommodate your family this year!

Don't forget to check out the website! The children's section of St. Luke's website (www.stlukeshr.com/children) is updated regularly and is filled with information, flyers, and much more. Be sure to check it out! Our 2009-2010 calendar is now available online.

Newsletters Don't forget about our weekly *Servant* and *Families First* 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 on upcoming events. 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.



Kay SwansonDirector of
Little School

Little School News:



Little School opened it's doors on the 31st of August for its

15th year with an enrollment of 296 children and 35 on staff. We have a beautiful new classroom (in the former John room) and our music has moved to a new spot (in the former Matthew room). We have added three four-year-old classes and we are very thankful that the economy is still allowing us to have a full enrollment!

Thank you to the clergy at St. Luke's for the wonderful commissioning of our teachers on Sunday August 16. It was such a touching service and so welcoming to our teachers. We anticipate another fabulous year of partnership in ministry and Christian preschool education.

We have several new teachers that have joined our staff this year. Christy Wohlleber and Jennifer Smith, St. Luke's members, will be teaching 3's, Nan Fisher and Michelle Swartz have joined us from Grace Presbyterian (their preschool has closed), Julie D'ascoli and Amy Goings (parents of Little Schoolers) will also join our 3's team and Sue Brown is a new addition to our music as an assistant to Ms. Laura! Missy Hart has graduated to teaching after seven years of being an excellent assistant and Shelley Ritchie has returned to teach full time as well as Vicky Stone who is completely cancer free after a year of treatment! Little School has a very impressive staff of highly qualified teachers and we are very proud to be a part of St. Luke's Children's Ministry.

Visitors are always welcome to come to Little School and we encourage those who have a teaching background to consider substitute teaching for us (a paid position!) if you have any free time.

We pray that all children beginning school will have a blessed year, enriched with learning, joy and accomplishments!

Blessings, -Ms. Kay and staff

PS: LOOKING FORWARD: Remember in October we collect out-grown Halloween costumes for the Youth Halloween party at Warren Village (Oct. 24) and left over Halloween candy for the Colorado AIDS Project... so be thinking ahead!!!

St. Luke's has Playgroups! St. Luke's now has not one but two wonderful playgroups to choose from for families with infants and children.

Parents do you want to join a playgroup but are just too busy during the week and can never find one on the weekend? If so, then St. Luke's would like to introduce Families at Play! **Families at Play** will meet one Saturday a month where parents and children can socialize and have fun. Families at Play will kick off Saturday September 26 at 9:00am at the St. Luke's playground and continue to meet the 4th Saturday of every month.

If your Saturdays are full there is the **Weekday Morning** playgroup that will meet at parks and venues in the community. The days and locations can vary week to week so please contact Debbie Davidson-Stanfill for the latest times/dates/locations!

For more information on the playgroups contact:

Weekday Morning: Debbie Davidson-Stanfill 303-987-2365 dclardavidson©comcast.net **Families at Play:** Brittany Scheble 720-840-3248 brittscheble©aim.com

Or contact Joely Maddux joely@stlukeshr.com for questions or info about either playgroup. See you there!

Greetings St. Luke's Families, Fall is approaching quickly and we cannot believe how exciting things are getting in the Children's Ministry. As we have been preparing both in our work, our conversation, and our prayers we sense that the Spirit is indeed moving in, among, and around us. We wanted to share some of the exciting things that are happening!

Our biggest change is the transition to a gift-based leadership model where we are inviting adults into ministry to and with children based on their gifts, passion, and schedule. Our hope is that we can invite adults into positions of service and leadership that are fulfilling and not just another obligation. We have redefined all of our roles with clear job descriptions, commitment levels, priority and other information. There are many roles for anyone who wants to serve and we are encouraging every family to find at least one role that best fits them. *You do not have to be a parent to work with children, so we encourage grandparents, other adults, and youth to consider serving as well.* We have worked hard to provide a more complete support structure for all who are connected to St. Luke's Kids.

We have been talking about this change and transition at our *Growing with God Gatherings*. At this gathering we shared some changes to our 9:30 Sunday School and SLY, Jr., Vacation Bible School programs as well as discuss our new leadership model. We will also have the opportunity to share our vision for the future and get some meaningful feedback about your dreams, desires, questions, and concerns as we move forward. We heard some wonderful ideas and suggestions and have already implemented some great changes based on the feedback from our gatherings. *Thank you to all who were able to participate!*

A common theme in our meetings is that our children need more fellowship and desire a deeper connection to each other and to the adults that lead them. We also heard that our parents want that connection for themselves as they serve. We have already started a plan to implement ideas to meet these needs and will be adding to them in the future. We will be having at least two parent classes this year. We will offer Love & Logic this winter. Starting in September we will have a class on Monday nights called the Spiritual Development and Formation of Children, a sixweek class meeting from 6:30-8:00pm. For children we will be encouraging teachers to take time to allow the kids to get to know each other at the beginning or end of each class. Additionally we will be having some special Sundays where we take the Sunday School time for special lessons, activities, games, and other times for fellowship. This way we can help our children get to know each other in a safe and positive way. The most significant change to come out of these meetings was the development of a new role in Children's Ministry. Our new role is the role of shepherd. This will be replacing all of our assistant and guide roles. The shepherd is meant to be in relationship with the children so that no child goes unnoticed or uncared for. We are excited about this new role as we know there are many among us who are willing to come and care for our children and we know it will transform lives, both for the shepherds and for our children and families. We are encouraging everyone to consider being a shepherd.

We know that with God all things are possible and we are getting ready to be amazed by what will happen. Please join us as we continue our adventure with the children and families of St. Luke's. If you have any questions or need more information, please do not hesitate to contact Marcus or Joely. *Blessings, Marcus & Joely*



Adult Education & Spiritual Formation Classes Preview

As we approach fall, 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

CLASSES:

Intro to the Bible – 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.

Sundays 9:30am

Christian Traditions

Wednesdays 6:30pm

Just Faith – This 30-week class invites you to delve into the many issues of justice and social change that face people of faith today. *Wednesdays 6:00pm*

Led by Rev. Doug McKinney, Laurie Gilbert, and Betsy Keyack

OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLE:

We are again offering a selection of the 32- to 34-week Disciple classes:

Disciple I - "Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study"

Offers an overview and introduction to the Bible as a whole. Wednesdays 6:30pm with Elena Lynch
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

<u>Disciple 3 – "Remember Who You Are"</u> Invites you deeper into the scriptures including the work of Paul and the Prophets of the Old Testament.

Thursdays 9:30am with Nancy Abbott and Grace George

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**

START DATES: All Wednesday classes begin on Sept. 16, Thursday classes on Sept. 17. Disciple classes have a \$40 fee to cover book and other materials, please see Rev. Brad for scholarship information.

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.)

NOTE: This page does not include classes that are not considered "sign up" classes. For a complete listing of class offering see our Catalog of Ministries online at www.stlukeshr.com.

SHORT TERM CLASS OPPORTUNITIES BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER:

Short Term Disciple: "The Gospel of John" - Enjoy the

learning and community of Disciple Bible Study with only an 8 week commitment.

Wednesdays 6:30pm with Rev. Les Ludlam Beginning September 16

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 Beginning September 17

Servant by Design – 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? Begin your journey to a God-centered life by discovering how you are designed to serve. Sundays 6:30pm with Lynda Fickling and Brenda Schafer Beginning September 13

Centering Prayer Workshop/Course – Two long-time centering prayer practitioners, Julie Saad & Bob Albrecht, from Contemplative Outreach of Colorado will present the workshop. It will include instruction on the method of Centering Prayer and 2 sessions of actual practice of prayer.

September 19 - 8:30am-1:00pm (Workshop-\$10)

For those who are interested in further exploring this practice join us for an 8 wk. course, to continue what we begin in the workshop.

Thursdays 6:30pm (Workshop course & book-\$25) Beginning September 24

<u>Spiritual Development & Formation of Children</u> – We

will be looking at how children develop and form spiritually and morally and will be learning about and discussing how to best equip our children to have a full and abundant life.

Mondays 6:30pm with Marcus Carlson Beginning September 21

"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.



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 Godcentered 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.

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

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."

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 4 "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. 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.

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. To register or for more information, you can contact me at 303-346-7057, bkeyack@att.net.

continued from page 3 and said, matter-of-factly, "It's looking pretty good!" "You go ahead and sand the whole body all down and we'll give the car a new paint job." I could feel a two-ton weight being lifted from my shoulders! I wanted to say something really important, but all I could think to say was "O.K."

My father was never good at open, public expressions of affection, but I knew I was forgiven. He had conquered his injured pride from the teasing by the patrolmen. His anger with me was gone. The accident was not forgotten but it was no longer of any consequence; I had learned my lesson. I had paid the fine for the "Careless Driving Ticket with Accident," but my real payment was in the effort I put in repairing Betsy.

We are human; sometimes we miss the mark, sometimes we fall short of other's expectations of us, sometimes we make the wrong turn at the alley and crash into a cement incinerator. Not only do we often fail to see when we have been forgiven, we also tend to be self-judgmental, not willing or able to forgive ourselves. For by doing so, we are forced to admit that we are weak, that we are human, that sometimes we aren't the best, the greatest, or always in the right.

In order to receive forgiveness, we must first make ourselves vulnerable. And that, my friends, can be very hard. And, it can be very rewarding! I love the quote "God knows all our faults and our failures, and loves us anyway!" We need to develop the habit of recognizing when we have been forgiven. We need to be able to respond in thanks when we recognize that forgiveness has been given. And we need to be able to forgive ourselves, accept the forgiveness from others and leave the past where it belongs. *God bless us all.* —Rev. Les

U M W



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. As we begin our new year (starting in September), we are looking for new board members to join us. If you are interested in serving on the board, please contact Fran West.







WAYS WE PRAY

United Methodist Women Annual Fall Kickoff PIE & PRAYER WORKSHOP

••• SUNDAY SEPT. 20, 2:00-4:00pm •••

The UMW Fall Kick Off Pie and Prayer

event will be held on Sunday, September 20 from 2:00-4:00pm. 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.

These sheets will be at the "Get Connected" table. Reverend Sallie Suby-Long will be our facilitator. The workshop will include the mandalas, 5-Finger Prayer, prayers for hands and feet, walking a labyrinth, and blessing the prayer shawls. The chosen mission for this event is UMCOR, see below.

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 ensure it doesn't expire before being sent out.)

For more information about UMCOR and the different kits they need, go to http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umcor/getconnected/supplies/

Fellowship Groups of UMW at St. Luke's UMC:

Evening Book Group: Fourth Monday of the month, 7:00pm Conference Room. For more information, please call Renae Parra at 303-683-0872.

Itch to Stitch: Third Wednesday of the month, 7:00-8:30pm downstairs near the Children's Library. For more information, please call Fran West at 303-797-7107.

Women's Night Out: First Monday of the month, 6:30pm various locations. For more information, contact Lynda Fickling Lynda 303-791-0659 x20 or lynda@stlukeshr.com or Renae Parra 303-683-0872 or renaeparra@aol.com. Here is the new calendar of restaurants:

- Sept. 14–Merle's 2609 W. Main St., Littleton
- Oct. 5-Garcia's Mexican Restaurant, 5050 S. Syracuse, DTC
- Nov. 2-Bucci's Greek and Italian, 8030 S. Holly, Centennial
- Dec. 8-Women's Candlelight Dinner
- Jan. 4-Shanghai Garden, 2500 E. Arapahoe, Centennial
- Feb. 1–California Pizza Kitchen, 8343 S. Park Meadows Center Dr., Littleton
- Mar. 1-Thai Basil, 8345 S. Park Meadows Center Dr., Littleton
- Apr. 5-Bucca de Bepo, 7301 S. Santa Fe Dr. #810, Littleton
- May 3-Mimi's Café, 9155 Park Meadows Dr., Littleton

UMW Needs You! The United Methodist Women 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 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! 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.

Mark your calendars:

- Sunday, September 13–UMW Mission Team meeting
- Monday, September 14—Women's Night Out: Merle's, 2609 W. Main St., Littleton
- 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 Hoesseini
- Monday, October 5-Women's Night Out: Garcia's Mexican Restaurant, 5050 S. Syracuse, DTC

Looking ahead:

- Tuesday, December 8 6:00pm-Annual Women's Candlelight Dinner
- Saturday, February 20-Women's Winter Retreat: Sweet Life Café

Upcoming District UMW Events

September 19 8:30am- 2:30pm: Mile High Pikes Peak District UMW Annual Meeting: Who's At the Table: A Panel Discussion on Immigration and the Effects on Children. (Mountain View UMC, Woodland Park)

Upcoming Conference UMW Events

October 23-24: Rocky Mountain Conference UMW Annual Meeting: Who's At the Table: An Introduction to Ministry in the Postmodern Era, presented by Reverend Dr. Janet Forbes (First UMC, Pueblo)

Upcoming National UMW Events

April 30-May 2: 2010 Quadrennial Assembly: Faith, Hope, Love in Action (St. Louis, MO)





Simply Saturday, Simply For Women A new monthly women's group that is going to focus on what women of faith need. After two meetings this is what we the women of faith have decided: We want to do mission

work but at the same time have time for faith and devotion and we are encompassing both with "Simply Saturday." We are meeting one Saturday a month 8:30-10:00am depending on the mission that month.

KICK OFF September 12:

"A Godly Hour" Time for Bible/Faith/Devotion.

October 3: Come help us support "Feeding of the 5000"

November 7: "Financial Planning for the Holidays" What's important, what's not—you decide, but here is some help and guidance.

Please come and join us. Women of all ages welcome!

OUR COMUNITY



Rev. Patricia Westlake was recognized on July 5, 2009, on her retirement after 40 years of ministry. She was one of the pioneer women pastors in the Methodist Church.

I was born in Oklahoma City, OK and loved the big city life until age 11. We then moved to Enid, OK, a small rural town in northwest Oklahoma.

While attending Enid High School I was elected Secretary of State - Oklahoma Girl's State, 1959. I was also president of the Oklahoma Conference Methodist Youth Fellowship 1959-1960. I attended Phillips University and SMU (Perkins) and received my MRA in 1965. I received my M. Div in 1969. I was ordained a deacon in 1965 in the North Texas Conference and ordained an elder in the Rocky Mountain Conference in 1969.

I am the mother of two and have two grandchildren. My hobbies include enjoying music of all kinds, live theater, musical theater, reading, playing with grandchildren and writing. *Great is Thy Faithfulness* is my favorite hymn.

Forty years of ministry in the Rocky Mountain Conference have blessed me with life long friendships and enriching opportunities beyond my wildest imaginations. Traveling all over the world, and studying with Conference leadership, as well as invaluable experiences of spiritual formation through The Academy of Spiritual Formation and The Center for Pastoral Effectiveness have broadened my horizons and expanded my vision and hope for our great church. Sharing sacred life experiences and Holy moments with seven congregations have kept my faith solid, strong and growing from the time of my call in 1958 and throughout these 40 years.

The relationships shaped through our Covenant Community of Colleagues have been a support system of strength and sustenance through all the changing circumstances of my life. I am deeply grateful.

It was my honor to represent the Rocky Mountain Annual Conference at the World Council of Churches, Nairobi, Kenya in 1975, and to travel and study with the Board of Global Ministries throughout Africa.

My most valued achievement was to write the legislation and move the adoption to form and fund The Commission on the Status and Role of Women before the legislative body of the Rocky Mountain Annual Conference in 1974; and to receive the Barrier Breaker Award in 1990.

One of my highlights was planning and implementing Annual Conference Worship 1984-1992. Another highlight was to serve on the Board of Ordained Ministry for 4 terms (16 years), and in the early days on many occasions to act as an Advocate for women in ordained ministry.

As the only woman ordained Elder in our Conference in the 1960's, I am reminded of the important role of the pioneer and all those women who went before me blessing me as role models. However, the real thrill is watching the glass ceiling as it continues to be shattered for women in ministry in our Conference, not only by the sheer numbers responding to God's call upon their lives, but also by the influential, strong and challenging appointments being received by women today.



Thank you to all my special colleagues, congregations, mentors, and leaders and especially to my current pastors: Rev. Janet Forbes, Rev. Pam Rowley, Rev. Sallie Suby-Long and Rev. Brad Laurvick who have transformed my faith and my life and been gracious, empowering spiritual leaders during my Incapacity Leave. It has been, and continues to be, an adventure that keeps on giving and giving and giving, and all because of being grounded in the amazing Grace of God.

My plans for the future include the completion of a book, travel as I am able and spending time with my grandchildren. *–Rev. Patricia Westlake*

St. Luke's Fall Hayride Sept. 27 - Join Us!

Join us for an evening of Fall fun in the beautiful Colorado outdoors. We will enjoy a hayride, campfire, food, s'mores and fellowship!



Date: Sunday, September 27

Location: Stockton's Plum Creek Stables 7479 W.Titan Road (West of Santa Fe on Titan)

Time: Arrive by 4:00pm for a 4:30pm hayride departure



After the hayride, we'll have a campfire, cook hot dogs and make s'mores. A beverage and chips will also be provided. Bring a blanket, flashlight and hangers for roasting hotdogs and marshmallows.



Sign up before and after the 9:30am service on Sept. 6, 13 and 20. Cost is \$10/adult, \$8/child ages 2-11 and free for children under 2.



Volunteers are needed for shopping, set up, clean up, etc. Questions or to sign up to help, please contact Amy Slade at 303-660-6113 or denverslade@msn.com.

Missions Opportunities

Starting on Kickoff Sunday, September 13, you will notice a new method for collecting donated items at St. Luke's. Instead of having bins and boxes in various locations around the church, all donated items will be collected in the Missions Closet, located next to the front entrance. Each Sunday, these doors will be open and it will be easy to deliver all of your donated items at one time in one location. For the month of September, the following items are being collected:

- **DenUM** Food of the Month: canned meat
- **Guatemala Missions Team –** Children's shoes, new or gently used... school shoes, sandals and tennis shoes are especially needed
- **UMW** Items for UMCOR health kits, including hand towels, washcloths, combs, nail files, soap, toothbrushes and Band-Aids.

In the spring of 2010, St. Luke's will be sending another missionary team to Lemoa, Guatemala. The team will be building adobe homes and chicken coops as well as hosting several bible camps for Guatemalan children. Trip dates are March 19-March 28, 2010. For further information, contact Laura Richards at corichards©aol.com. Our first planning meeting will be held in mid-October. —Laura Richards

St. Luke's Email Lists



Lists for many of the groups at St. Luke's are available on our website. For example, you can send an email to everyone in the Chancel Choir, on the

Trustees, the Staff Parish Relations Committee, UMW, the Jobs Seekers group, etc. Most group leaders, and many members, use these lists to communicate with their groups.

If you want to be added to a list, go to:

www.stlukeshr.com

- > eMinistry
- > Email lists

In order to reduce spam, you need to join a list before sending to that list.

Please use these lists ONLY for information related to the group's activities; don't send unrelated advertisements or other information that might be interpreted as spam. For general advertisements, we have created the "Bulletin Board" list, which may be used for messages of a more general nature.

FACE Concert - Sept. 25 - Don't Miss It!



Those who attended last year are still raving about the amazing all-vocal performance from FACE.
You've got to see it to believe it!

The second annual FACE Concert fundraiser for the John Wesley School in Guatemala will be held at the Soiled Dove (7401 E. 1st Avenue

in Denver) on September 25 at 7:00pm (doors open at 6:00pm.) Sponsored by Pura Vida, the cost to hear this nationally recognized all-vocal rock group is only \$20.

St. Luke's is a major supporter of The John Wesley School. Missionaries visit it every year, and many students there are sponsored by church members. This concert is the primary fundraiser for completing the replacement of the old school structure, providing a base for a new computer lab on the second story.

Many St. Luke's members attended last year's concert, had a great time, and helped raise nearly \$40K to start a second story at the school, providing badly needed additional classrooms. Get your tickets early and get better seating! They may be purchased by visiting www.puravida.org (a link is also on the St. Luke's website.)

Don't forget your name!... Oh, okay, that probably won't happen but how about purchasing a St. Luke's nametag so that others can call you by that name (vs. "hey you".) For \$4.50 we can have yours ready for you in one week! Sign up today at the "Get Connected" center.



CONGREGATIONAL CARE

MUSIC





DRAMA

James Ramsey Director of Music Ministry & the Arts

Kay Coryell Associate Dir. of Music Ministry

Ken Mervine Organist/ Accompanist

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

Care Ministries of St. Luke's

We all experience challenges in life-times when we could benefit from extra support and care. St. Luke's has an excellent care ministry network that is designed to meet people's needs in a variety of circumstances. If you or someone you know may benefit from these ministries, I encourage you to contact me so we may have a confidential conversation to connect you with the care ministry or resources that may be helpful to you. You may

reach me at 303-475-0141 or sallie@stlukeshr.com -Rev. Sallie Suby-Long

- **Stephen Ministry –** provides confidential, one-on-one care to individuals in our congregation and community who are experiencing difficulties in their lives. Stephen Ministers are ready to provide the emotional and spiritual care we often need when faced with a difficult or challenging time such as loss of a loved one, hospitalization, divorce or separation, loneliness, parenting struggles, caregiving challenges, unemployment or work-related challenges, aging, relocation, chronic illness, life transitions, birth, adoption, miscarriage, or infertility, recovery after illness or surgery and many other life circumstances. Stephen Ministers are lay persons with gifts for caregiving who have completed specialized training in providing emotional and spiritual care.
- **The Caring Connection –** provides support to members of St. Luke's and the community by making companion visits, taking meals to families in need, running errands or providing transportation.
- **Prayer Chain –** supports our church family through a prayer ministry. Requests for prayers may be called in to the church office, sent through the website, or written on a prayer request card.
- **Care Team –** gathers weekly to pray for concerns of the congregation, families, friends, and the community. The Care Team ministers together with The Caring Connection, Pastoral team, and Stephen Ministry.
- **Pastoral Team –** Rev. Brad, Rev. Janet, and Rev. Sallie offer shortterm care, counseling, and referrals for individuals, couples, and families experiencing many life circumstances.
- **Spiritual Direction –** supports individuals who are discerning vocational and life decisions, embracing change and new chapters of life, negotiating challenges, recognizing and celebrating important insights, enhancing self-awareness and being attentive to what is sacred in all aspects of life. This ministry is offered by individuals who have completed specialized, professional training as Spiritual Directors.
- **The Samaritan Fund** provides financial support and assistance for those who are part of our St. Luke's family.
- **Benevolence Fund** provides support for those in need who are not directly connected with the St. Luke's family.
- **Support Groups and Classes –** St Luke's offers support groups and classes focused on a variety of topics such as job loss/transition, divorce recovery, and grief.

If St. Luke's does not offer the type of support you may need, we will make every effort to connect you to additional resources, support networks, and care providers within our community.



by Thornton Wilder

October 16 7:00pm October 17 3:00 & 7:00pm

Admission is Free

Donations will benefit the Missions and Drama Ministries

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.

Youth Music Opportunities:

- Joyful Noise Youth Handbells: Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm, starting Sept. 25
- St. Luke's Youth Jazz Orchestra (SLYJO) Sundays 3:30-4:30pm, starting Sept. 13
- Off-Notes Youth Choir Sundays 4:30-5:30pm, starting Sept. 13

Contacy Kay Coryell with questions - x36 or kayc ©stlukeshr.com

SLY: ST. LUKE'S YOUTH



Sept. 3 – Donut Whole at Mountain Vista HS begins!

New time (7:15am) but the same donuts and great conversations! Open to all MVHS students! In Room L408 with Chris W & Mrs. McMullen. Contact Chris with any questions! Every Thursday!

- Sept. 6 No SLY AM or PM. (Labor Day Weekend)
- Sep 13 SLY PM Fall KickOff. \$2 pizza dinner. Parents invited for informational meeting.
- Sep 20 Container Party for the Lost Boys of Sudan. Come and craft a container to help raise funds to support the Lost Boys and learn their story.
- Sep 27 Feeding of the 5,000 Grocery Bag Distribution.

Support St. Luke's largest food drive of the year by spreading fillable bags around Highlands Ranch.

- Oct 4 We Need U2 (worship with the music of U2 + communion) A fantastic worship experience for youth, with awesome live music!
- Pumpkin Patch All youth who will be involved with mission trips next summer can sign up for Pumpkin Patch shifts this month to

earn credit for next summer's trips! 8 hours of work = \$50 trip credit and 15 hours = \$100 credit! Parents who work the Patch can also earn hours for their youth.

- Fall Retreat We are planning a weekend long retreat (Fri-Sun) November 6-8. Look for registration forms around church starting late this month!
- Check out www.stlukeshr.com/sly for up-to-date info on programs, activities, ministry opportunities and more!





Director of Youth Ministry

Assistant Director of Youth Ministry

CHRIS'S CORNER All About Fall

Autumn always gets me excited. In grade school I was one of those kids who was always excited for the beginning of school, new teachers, new classes, even my annual pair of new shoes. I know that all of you are settling in to new grade levels, new homework loads, and preparing to face a whole

new set of challenges for the school year ahead.

If you are just starting 7th grade, I want to extend a special invitation to you to visit either SLY AM (9:30am) or SLY PM (5:30pm dinner, 6:30pm program*) this month. Our Sunday mornings in September will focus on the role of community and peer pressure in your world. Sunday nights will be filled with fun programs meant to help you meet and keep excellent friends.

September 13 is turning into a busy night!!! We are inviting youth and parents to SLY PM and will welcome the Fusion worship group to their earlier time, and what better way to welcome them than to share a meal? Dinner before SLY PM will consist of pizza and salad, and is open to all youth and their parents. We are asking for a \$2 donation per person for dinner. We will talk over many SLY programs you'll see this Fall, including the Pumpkin Patch, Warren Village Haunted House, Fall Retreat, and more!

If you have hung out with SLY over the summer, of course we're looking forward to seeing you this Fall. If you are thinking about checking out SLY, September is a great time to start!

-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!



As the days shorten and the kids are back in school, I am reminded that fall is upon us. And when it is fall there are pumpkins for sale at St. Luke's. Yes it is pumpkin patch time again. St. Luke's Youth will once again host the Pumpkin Patch from October 4 through the end of the month. Pumpkin arrival is expected around noon on the 4th. Please watch for opportunities to sign up to help unload the pumpkins and work shifts in the patch starting in Sept. The sign up sheet will be in the Fellowship Hall by the youth bulletin board. All proceeds go to help our youth mission work.



New Wednesday Night Experience!

As we rethink our youth programs, we are closing the door on SLAM (SLY at the Movies) and welcoming a new program for St. Luke's Youth. Wednesday Night SLY will be a small group combination of devotions, scripture study and fun activities. It will be driven by the interests of the youth who attend, kind of a custom-fit program. A book study, Bible study, mission opportunities and fun outings are all ideas that have been discussed. Please join us and help us shape the future of this program the way you would like to see it. Our first meeting will be Wednesday, Sept. 16 at 6:30pm. Please join us and bring all your ideas for a fun group.

FINANCIAL UPDATE







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.

Planned Giving Program Is Near. I'm very pleased to announce that Rich Spong,

a member of our church family, has agreed to lead our steering team to do the preliminary steps in getting our much needed planned giving program started. This has been a major missing element of our total financial stewardship program. It will provide you the opportunity to participate in a user friendly memorials and honors giving program and provide you with information about the many ways you can include St Luke's in your financial planning to the benefit of yourself, your estate and St Luke's.

Rich recently retired from US Bank where he spent his career as an officer working with clients in managing their trusts, wealth management, wills and endowments. In addition, he has served on the Rocky Mountain Conference United Methodist Foundation Board (RMCUMF) where he is now serving as president of their board of directors. RMCUMF is charged by the Rocky Mountain Conference of the United Methodist Church with the responsibility of providing educational materials to local churches and individuals regarding their estate planning needs and providing investment opportunities for those churches and individuals who wish to use their services. They also make loans to local churches that have qualifying needs that fit within the foundation's requirements. This will be one of the sources we will check with when we are ready to refinance our loan in August 2011.

I'm extremely excited that Rich accepted this challenge and opportunity to help get this program started. His wealth of knowledge and experience will be invaluable in making sure our program will be the very best.

Four Great Years—But Who's Counting: August 1 marked the fourth anniversary for me as your Director of Finance. I want to thank each of you for your support during these exciting four years that have passed very quickly. I look forward to continuing in my role here and continue making improvements in out total financial stewardship program. I also want to thank Lisé Takayama, our Assistant Director of Finance, for her contribution to our program. Not only does she do a lot of the task work during her 12 hours of work each week but she contributes great ideas and helps resolve some of the technical challenges we face have from time to time.

Have Questions? 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::

- I. 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.

More "Green" Initiatives Underway!

Our thanks to Randy Larson for many months of data gathering on all of our furnaces and air conditioners. He successfully completed our application and design proposal for XCEL and won approval to deploy an automated Energy Management System (EMS). Once it's installed, the EMS will automatically balance the electrical demand across our largest electrical devices (e.g., furnaces), by turning some off for short periods, to reduce the maximum peak electrical energy used by St. Luke's. This will result in significant savings on our electric bill. XCEL will give us an estimated \$5,100 rebate on the project, representing nearly half of our deployment expense!

We'd like to recognize Steve Riley and his Nuba Water Project for leadership in designing and building a new shade structure in our playground. Many thanks also to Rich Boon for providing structural engineering specifications so the finished units will last a very long time in our windy environment. Sponsored by St. Luke's Little School and built by Nuba Water Project volunteers, the structures will provide the shade needed to put the St. Luke's Little School in compliance with requirements for pre-schools by the state licensing authority.



The Nuba Water Project plans to build these structures as roofs for housing in third world countries, since they will provide higher-

quality roofing than current alternatives. The units in our playground will be used as demonstrations to generate support for these housing projects. The playground structure consists of two square hyperbolic paraboloids. These "Hypars" are very efficient load-bearing forms. They support heavy loads and can be built at low cost with common labor. Without using any factory forms, light tree stems are used to form the frame; this is covered with

common chicken wire and muslin cloth, to which thin layers of cement are applied. (Of course, the St. Luke's



roofs were constructed somewhat more elaborately.)
—Sandi Miyaki & Ken Fong



St. Luke's United Methodist Church

8817 S. Broadway • Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

303-791-0659 • www.stlukeshr.com

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

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

Are You Leading an Inspired & Intentional Life?

"Be the change you want to see in the world." –Ghandi

You are invited to an interactive and engaging talk encompassing Health, Head, Hydration, Heart & Humor.

Wed. Sept. 30, 10:30-11:30am

Sponsored by: Highlands Ranch Senior Outreach Services and Visiting Angels Living Assistance Services

SEPTEMBER 2009								
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
8:00, 9:30, I I:00am: Rev. Brad Laurvick 5:30pm: NO SLY PM 7:34pm: Fusion	Labor Day Church Office Closed					7:30am: Men's Breakfast 8:30am: Simply Saturday 8:30am-4:00pm: Chancel Choir Retreat		
Kick Off Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Rev. Janet Forbes 9:30am: Cafe St. Luke's 5:30pm: Community Meal 6:30pm: Servant by Design 6:34pm: SLY PM	6:30pm: Women's Night Out	15	16	17	18	19		
6:34pm: Fusion	7:00pm:Trustees		6:30pm:Wed.SLY			8:30am: Centering Prayer		
8:00, 9:30, I1:00am: Rev. Olon Lindemood 8:15am: Contemplative Worship Service 10:35am: Breakfast with Mr. Marcus 2:00pm: UMW:"Ways We Pray" - Pie & Prayer 5:30pm: Community Meal 6:34pm: SLY PM 6:34pm: Fusion	21	6:30pm: Children's Ministry Leadership Team Meeting	23 6:30pm:Wed. SLY	24	7:00pm: Pura Vida Fundraiser: FACE Concert	9:00am: Families at Play 2:00pm: Leadership Seminar		
8:00, 9:30, I1:00am: Rev. Janet Forbes 5:30pm: Community Meal 6:34pm: SLY PM 6:34pm: Fusion	28	29 6:00pm: Yoga	30 10:30am: Inspired and Intentional Life 6:30pm: Wed. SLY	OCT I	Feeding of the 5,000	Feeding of the 5,000 8:30am: Simply Saturday		
Feeding of the 5,000 4 Pumpkins Arrive 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship Services 11:00am: Discover Your Spiritual Gifts 2:00pm: SLY, Jr. Service Project 5:30pm: SLY, Jr. 5:30pm: Community Meal 6:34pm: SLY PM 6:34pm: Fusion	6:30pm: Women's Night Out	6:00pm: Yoga	6:30pm:Wed.SLY	8	9	7:30am: Men's Breakfast 10:00am: Craft Fair		