



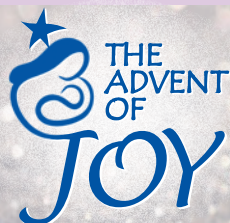
The Chronicle

ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

DECEMBER 2010/JANUARY 2011

Inside This Issue:

Centering Prayer.....	3
Missions Opportunities.....	5
Children's Ministry.....	6 & 7
Wellness Workshop.....	8
UMW Update.....	8
Music & Drama.....	9
Guatemala.....	9
SLY.....	10
Trustees Corner.....	11
<i>and much more!</i>	



FRIDAY DECEMBER 24 CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES: THE ADVENT OF JOY

Experience the joy of the season through one of our services of carols and candles:

CHILDREN'S: 1:00 & 3:00pm
"Joyful Stories"—Chris Wilterdink
Children's Christmas service featuring the Puppet Ministry, Cherub's Choir, Primary and Junior Prayz, Soul Purpose Youth Choir, and Joyful Noise Youth Handbells

TRADITIONAL:

5:00 & 7:00pm

"Tidings of Great Joy"

—Dr. Janet Forbes

Carols service featuring the Chancel Choir, Organ, Brass Ensemble, and Tintinnabulators Handbell Ensemble

COMMUNION: 10:00pm

"The Lord is Come"

—Rev. Bradley Laurvick

Contemplative Communion service featuring Soloists and Organ

SUNDAY DECEMBER 26

(NO SUNDAY SCHOOL OR SLY AM/PM)

WORSHIP:

8:00, 9:30, 11:00am

"Sing We Now of Christmas"

—Dr. Janet Forbes

FUSION: 6:34pm

BRINGING JOY TO Life

Join us during the season of Epiphany for a practical series about everyday life! Our clergy team, Revs. Janet Forbes, Sallie Suby-Long, and Bradley Laurvick, join with our student interns, Erin Laurvick and Stephen Collins, from the Iliff School of Theology for an exploration of spirituality and wellness.

*Along the road to your dreams
The wisdom that springs up along the way
Will add joy to your life
And hope to your journey.*

**SUNDAYS JAN. 9–MAR. 6, 2011
WORSHIP.....8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am**



SERMON SERIES:

JAN. 9 "What's your status? Faith and Facebook"—Rev. Bradley Laurvick

JAN. 16 "Fueling Sparks! The Art of Thriving"—Dr. Janet Forbes

JAN. 23 "Safari of Love: Building Relationships in a Wild World"—Erin Laurvick

JAN. 30 "Half Empty or Half Full: Growing Optimism in a Cynical Age"—Dr. Janet Forbes

FEB. 6 "How to Look Good Naked"—Rev. Bradley Laurvick

FEB. 13 "The Gift of a Lifetime is Being Who You Are!"—Stephen Collins

FEB. 20 "Sandwiching Generations: Caring for Children and Parents"—Dr. Janet Forbes

FEB. 27 "Riding the Roller Coaster: Finding Balance in the Midst of Change"—Rev. Sallie Suby-Long and Dr. Janet Forbes

MAR. 6 "May I Walk You Home? Gifts for the Final Journey"—Dr. Janet Forbes



Music and joy filled the air on Cantata Sunday, December 5.

Over 150 musicians welcomed in the Advent season with fanfare as well as gentle reflective moments for our record attendance crowd. And our new King puppets made their debut appearance. Thanks to all who made this glorious morning possible.

You are invited to "A Christmas Festival" Dec. 17-19

The Wesley Players welcome you to "A Christmas Festival" featuring *Amahl and the Night Visitors*—A story of a little boy transformed by the Holy Child. This special Christmas production will open with vocal and instrumental selections that will set the mood. Members of the Chancel Choir and Youth Choir and many of our instrumentalist will present a few of our favorite Christmas carols and a couple of unique numbers which will prepare hearts of all ages for our second act, *Amahl and the Night Visitors*. Amahl is a young boy who walks with a cane and lives with his widowed mother in a small town around the time of Jesus birth. When we meet Amahl and his mother they are at the end of their material means and Amahl's mother tells him that they may have to become beggars. Three majestic kings arrive and ask for accommodations for the night. The kings are visited by a shepherd chorus and teach Amahl and his mother about the Holy Child they seek. This is a powerful story which will touch your heart and warm your spirit.

Performances are Friday Dec. 17 at 7:00pm, Saturday Dec. 18 at 7:00pm and Sunday Dec. 19 at 2:00pm. For those who would like a night out, plan to purchase tickets this week at the church for dinner and the show. The Benefit Dinner is at 5:30pm on Saturday and the cost for the evening is \$40 per adult (\$30 is tax deductible) and \$20 student 18 & under (\$10 tax deductible) with a premium reserved seat. Childcare (5 and younger) will be available for Saturday night's performances at no additional cost. Admission is a suggested donation of \$10 per adult and \$5 per child for all performances. Don't miss it! Questions, contact James Ramsey.



Sunday Worship Services:

8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am

6:34pm: Fusion

Contemplative Services also offered

(Check website for dates and times)

Sunday School:

Adult, Youth & Children:

9:30am & 11:00am

Nursery available for:

8:00, 9:30 & 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

Preschool Office.....303-791-1982**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

Emergency: 303-475-0141

James Ramsey.....x23

Director of Music & Arts Ministries

Ken Mervine.....x42

Associate Director of Music Ministry & Organist

Kay Coryell.....x36

Director of Handbells & Children's Music Ministries

Matthew Rose.....x36

Director of Instrumental Music Ministry

Carrie Mallory.....x35

Assistant Fusion Worship Leader

Chris Wilterdink.....x14

Director of Youth Ministry

Susan Johnson.....x19

Assistant Director of Youth Ministry

Joely Maddux.....x11

Co-Director of Children's Ministry

Sharon Oliver.....x27

Co-Director of Children's Ministry

Samantha Leahy.....x40

Director of Childcare

Lynda Fickling.....x20

Director of Servant Ministry/Spiritual Director

Brenda Schafer.....x10

Office Administrator

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

Interns:

Dr. Stephen Collins.....x22**Erin Laurvick.....x41**

All submissions for the

February 2011issue of *The Chronicle* are due **Jan. 20**

Editor: Sharon Oliver

chronicle@stlukeshr.com

A MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR

**Rev. Janet Forbes**
Senior Pastor**Advent Adventurers**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" (Matthew 3: 1-3)

John the Baptist is an Advent adventurer, stalking through the wilderness of his time on the trail of the messiah. He's the original hellfire-and-brimstone preacher, but he also offers hope to the community he rakes over the coals. A willingness to hope is a willingness to enter the wilderness. Hope is not a domesticated state of mind. It seems to camp out in odd places, crops up at the worst possible times. Just as we resign ourselves to the minimum wages of life with no benefits, hope whispers that we shouldn't settle for despair's bottom line. Hope thrives in the barren places of our lives.

As an Advent proponent, I love John the Baptist – at least from afar. (I'm not sure I would have been comfortable hanging out with a locust-eating, camel-hair-wearing prophet.) But John the Baptist's message to us during this frantic season of the year draws me in. I mean, here's this guy out in the wilderness proclaiming God's word, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." Who wants to hear the word, repent? And who wants the extra work of making paths straight and all?

Yet we Advent journeyers also find ourselves in a sort of wilderness, a wilderness of excess, of noise and clutter and busyness, a wilderness of secular, consumer culture giving us the message that Christmas will be perfect if we buy the right presents – and do it now! We Advent people are crying out in this wilderness, trying to prepare the way in our own lives, trying to make a place, a holy space for the coming of the Christ child. We are called to prepare the way in the wilderness of pre-Christmas chaos, where rushed schedules and commercial chatter drown out silence and prayers.

And hope goes with us, is with us, in this wilderness of chaos. Hope becomes a critical part of our Advent survival kit, guiding us through the distractions, reminding us of our single task: to prepare the way.

God of hope, help me prepare the way for you in the wilderness of chaos. Give me strength, wisdom, and patience to clear a path for you through my cluttered heart and life. Amen.

Enjoy the simple pleasures of the advent of joy.

Blessings, **—Rev. Janet**

A Christmas Service of Baptism**Sunday, December 19 at 12:30pm**

Christmas Sunday is a traditional and joyous time to celebrate the sacrament of baptism, an experience of faith in Jesus Christ, the rite of initiation into the family of God, and an act of grace. Following the 11:00 service on Christmas Sunday, December 19 at 12:30pm in the Chapel, we will offer a special service of baptism for persons of all ages. Please call Brenda in the church office 303-791-0659 to indicate your desire to visit with a pastor about this opportunity.

MINISTRY FAIR

Ministry Fair for January 9: Come to Fellowship Hall

between and after services on January 9 to celebrate **Missions and Support Teams** as they share their ministry with St. Luke's! This is a great way to meet the people who serve on these teams, find information about service and support and to see how our congregation ministers to our community and to our world.

For more information on how St. Luke's serves, check out our Ministry Catalog at the website under 'Ministries' or at the Get Connected Center at church.

Questions? Contact Karin Wesson 303-683-0196, karin@thewessons.com or Lynda Fickling 303-791-0659 x20, lynda@stlukeshr.com.



Rev. Brad Laurvick
Associate Minister

Joy All Around Us!

As we launched the Advent of Joy this season, I invited our entire community to seek out the joy present all around them. On FaceBook, in conversations, and through emails, you have been responding with the joys of your season. There are nearly 100 people from our St. Luke's family that have shared #joy on FaceBook alone here are some joyful examples.

...seeing the smile on my baby's little face first thing in the morning #joy (a new mom in our congregation)

...[my daughter] gave me an excellent book report tonight complete with all the facts and the author's name! #joy (a dad speaking of his young daughter)

...finishing an essay I'm proud of, and promise of spending my evening by a warm fire with my favorite movie and my favorite person :) ... #joy (one of our youth)

...having a wonderful weekend in colorado with my family, eating delicious food, shopping, a movie and attending a new church and being inspired #joy (a first time guest to St. Luke's)

These are a few of the hundreds, literally hundreds, of joys St. Luke's has been sharing this season. I invite you to continue your awareness and to share as much joy as you can. For as much as we celebrate and receive Christ's birth as the Advent of Joy, God invites us to celebrate and offer the Advent of Joy to the world. As we transition out of Advent and into Epiphany, we will begin our work to "Bring Joy to Life". This is not just a sermon series, but is an encouragement to take what we celebrated this Advent into the new year. So let's share joy and be joy together! #joy

St. Luke's "Team" Kick-off

It's "More Than a Meeting"! Save Saturday, Jan. 29, 8:30-11:00am for the Team Kick-off event. Learn how St. Luke's serves in ministry through teams, living the mission and being a blessing to the congregation and community. If you are on a team at St. Luke's, you are invited! Light Breakfast will be served. Childcare available by reservation at sam@stlukeshr.com 303-791-0659 x47 Questions? Contact Karin Wesson 303-683-0196, karin@thewessons.com or Lynda Fickling 303-791-0659 x20, lynda@stlukeshr.com.

2011 Pictorial Directory:

Tick-Tick-Tick! The clock is running out if you still want to be photographed for St. Luke's 2011 Pictorial Directory. Bettinger Photography's studio is taking appointments through January 8, 2011. Book your appointment online at bettingerphoto.com, or call Bettinger Photography at 303-400-6023. More info at stlukeshr.com/photodirectory.

YOUNG ADULTS: *Second Saturdays with a twist!*

Hey! It's Erin, your Iliff intern again. Thanks to all of you who came to our first Second Saturday in November. I'm here to share with all of you what's going on for Young Adults in December and January.

December's 'Second Saturday' gathering is moving to December's 'Third Tuesday'. Tricky, I know... but, in hopes of getting to gather together with those who will be back in town for Christmas break, we will be pushing back our meeting until Tuesday, December 21. This month, we will be meeting at Old Chicago on Broadway from 8:00-10:00pm. All of you between the ages of 18 and 30, come share some Italian nachos and great conversation with one another.

In January, we will be back to normal and gathering on Saturday, January 8. The time and location will be decided at our December gathering, so please send me your email address to get on the YA email list or check the YA section in the bulletin.

Hope to see you all there! Erin erin@stlukeshr.com or 720-201-1285

Is God inviting you into a deeper relationship?

Join us here at St. Luke's, for an experiential workshop 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
Saturday, January 22**

9:00am-1:00pm Registration will begin at 8:30am

Cost: Workshop \$15.00 (includes light breakfast and snacks)

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. For those who are interested in further exploring the prayer practice, join our Contemplative Fellowship Group, Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:00pm.

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

Evening Prayers with Communion Wednesdays from 5:45-6:30pm in the Chapel

Each Wednesday the Chapel will be open for evening prayers, music, and to receive holy communion. Everyone is welcomed.



Lynda Fickling
Director of
Servant Ministry/
Spiritual Director

We are Called to Serve

We invite you to stop at our Get Connected Center to discover more about our programs and ministries

Join one of our Christmas Teams!

We are looking for people to serve on Dec. 24 at 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm or 10:00pm.

Ushers: Assist in welcoming and assisting with various duties during the service. We have many people that day and need many extra hands! Contact Shawn Slade 303-660-6113 denverslade@msn.com

Greeters: We are the hosts and our mission is to make our guests (and members) feel at home on Christmas Eve. Contact Karmie Hilleary 303-683-4696 karmie@comcast.net or Valerie Goodstein 303-799-0907 valgoodstein@hotmail.com

Refreshments: Help serve and maintain our Hot Cider and Cookies table! Needed after our 1:00pm (includes set-up), 3:00pm, 5:00pm and 7:00pm (includes clean-up) services. Contact Lynda Fickling 303-791-0659 x20 lynda@stlukeshr.com

Parking Lot Attendants: We need a little help directing traffic in our parking lot in between the 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, or 7:00pm services. Contact Lynda Fickling 303-791-0659 x20 lynda@stlukeshr.com

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

NEW! Senior Program Team

St Luke's is an inclusive community where members can grow in their faith journey. Being able to meet the needs of all members of the congregation is a challenge in and of itself and when a need is voiced it requires a leap of faith to say, "I hear you".

With the demographics changing not only across America, but also in our own backyard; those voices are asking to be heard. Responding to these needs and helping our "seasoned members" in the next phase of their lives is an important and worthwhile journey. It is one that will provide opportunities for growth for everyone involved as you learn what it means to grow older and see all that wisdom waiting to be shared.

Starting in mid-January a Core Team will be needed to help plan and bring to fruition programs meeting the needs of our "seasoned members". Please prayerfully consider being part of this endeavor and contact Ann Roadarmel 303-792-5110 alroadarmel@gmail.com



As of December 4, 2010

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 Rev. Sallie Suby-Long know if you have any additions/removals from either list. 303-791-0659 x32, leave a note on the front desk, or email at sallie@stlukeshr.com

Lori Lieberman (friend of Jane Damsgard)	Michael Van Baal (Lucero's Kindergarten teacher's brother)	Mike Quinn (Pat Ludwig's nephew)
Schelly Thompson (Sandy Thompson's sister-in-law)	Betty Kieser (Bonnie Funk's mother)	Dick Dunham
Mark Bartellina (Mike Hutchin's cousin)	Bill Havens (Walt Havens' brother)	Janet Lehman (friend of Caroline Butler)
David Joseph (friend of Bobbi King/Marie Blue)	Jennifer Havens	Katie Drake
Daniel Winkle (friend of Gail Straun)	Roberta Towell (Jon Sreaty's sister)	Courtney Wieberg (Kay Swanson's niece)
Darrell & Billie (wife)	Bob McCorkle (family friend of Kay Oscai)	Anne Thomas
Aderman (friends of Rick & Louise Jasper)	Mandy Paul (family friend of Kay Swanson)	Deacon Harrison
Ross Magaughey (friend of Rick & Louise Jasper)	Scot Veach (Norm Veach's nephew)	Annie VanHoosen
Jerry Miyaki (Mike's uncle)	Todd Smith (Lori Smith's husband)	Ashley Martin
Rosie Shaw (friend of Eric Ransick)	Jeff Lee	Kenny Sharpe
Zach Bingham (nephew of Ashlee Favilene)	Norma Harris	
Bill Harold (Nancy Obertier's cousin)	Scott Ragan (Brian & Tonya Stegman's cousin)	ARMED FORCES:
Donna Craven (friend of Cindy Barlow)	Jacob Dunman (Brian & Tonya Stegman's nephew)	Corporal James "Jim" Harding,
Maria Viera Harris (friend of Cindy Barlow)	Janet Stegman (Brian Stegman's mother)	Mark Thompson, Ed Herring,
Mary Hogan (friend of Sharon Scholl's)	Bob Dover (Cindy Gothard's father) —	Maj. Steve Wereszynski,
Norma Whitaker's mother, Jane	Kathy Rich (Ms. Kay's friend)	Josh Brady, Jeremy Brady,
Denise More (friend of Jenny Stevenson)	Mary Severns (Bob McBride's Son-in-Law's mother)	Colin Gabriel, Dustin
Thelma Noah (friend of Rachel Nolder's)	Mel Ludlam (Les Ludlam's uncle)	Ellington, Lt. Jeff Hamer,
Joan Dixon (friend of Eileen Law)	Jane Riegel	Christopher Gardner,
Keaton Wong (friend of the Takayama's)	Curtis Hall (Debbie Newby's brother)	Shane Boeding
Chris Kellams (friend of Joely Maddux)	Bob Worth (Edee Worth's husband)	SYMPATHIES TO:
Jack Fleming (Julie Brower's father)	Bernie Battaglin	To Melissa Wester on the passing
Richard Swier (Dan Swier's father)	Linda Keller (Candy Keller's mother)	of her mother, Suzanne Burk
Brenda Zachek (friend of Kathy Swier's)	John Thompson (Julie Ramsett's father)	Ron Miller on the passing of his
Dean Mathena (Rick Jasper's friend)	Dick Laurvick (Dave Laurvick's father)	mother, Doratha Miller
Terry Bohn (friend of Lisé Takayama, Kam Boles, & Joely Maddux)	Rick (Rachel Nolder's co-worker's brother)	Kathy Benoit on the passing of
Helen Mueller (Cindy Markham's mother)	Joyce Buchanan (Joan Goddard's mother)	her mother, Phyllis Clark
Bertha Roth	Gerry Wright (Gail Abernathy's mother)	The Stephens family on the
Annie Schoenhals (friend of the Muscianisi family)	Bob Lucero (Gov Lucero's brother)	passing of their friend, Elna
Jan Rufien	Ed Murrow (Dave Murrow's father)	Tuffield
Jason Ritter (Ryan Hooke's teacher/coach)	Roger Schoenwald (Val Clark's friend)	The Carvalho family on the
Sonia Cajanda (Mercedes VonNormann's sister)	Stanleigh Chism (Val Clark's friend)	passing of their son, Joe
Brian Rovetta	Don Leidig (Bob & Christy Rowe's friend)	The ThunderRidge HS family
Cherie Hill	Betty Dunlap	on the passing of Science
Erika Waldheim (friend of Peter & Alicia Waldheim)	Patty Norton	teacher, Scott Cambell
Dustin Baird (friend of Lucero's)	Cathy Horvath (friend of Lise Takayama's)	David Lamoreaux & Michelle
	Tom Gabel (family friend of the Haas's)	Lamoreaux on the passing of
		his/her mother/grandmother,
		Victoria Cardinale
		Lynn Schnakel on the passing of
		her father, Gil Knutesen
		Elizabeth Bauer on the passing
		of her cousins, Christopher
		& Staci Burger's twin sons,
		Rafe Austin & Rhett James

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Larry & Stacey Wheeler on the birth of their son, Kellen Quinn
Todd & Kristina McNamara on the birth of their grandson, Brison Felix Romero
Ken & Barbara Mervin on the birth of their granddaughter, Emmaline Celeste Edwards
Gary & Laurie Gilbert on the birth of their grandson, Nathan Riley Overman



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

More from Les: "Holiday Rituals"

It was the beginning of the Advent season, 1957. Betty and I had been dating for only a few weeks when she invited me to come to her parents' house one Saturday evening for a meal after the family returned from the annual Christmas tree party. "You won't be alone," she said, "Jim will be here too." I had been dating Betty for a couple

of months and Jim's presence was probably more for my comfort than anything else. From this visit, I discovered something about her family and about myself as I experienced one of their family traditions.

Betty's parents, Loyd and Barbara Hoback, were part of a group that had been close friends for years. The group included Dan and Ortha Courter, Cookie and Nelda Courter, Jackie and Frank Thompson, Shirley and Berk Nay and 10 kids! They would get together for card parties, birthday celebrations and a variety of activities such as dancing, and bowling. One of these activities, as I was to learn this weekend, was the group's version of Christmas tree hunting and cutting.

So, that afternoon, I cleaned up, put on nice clothes, and drove to the Hoback home. As I arrived at the front door, feeling a bit nervous, I was somewhat taken aback!

The tree-cutters had already arrived and some were in the living room working on a stand for Loyd and Barbara's tree. The house was pretty warm from all the cooking and the men had stripped down to their long johns as they worked on the tree stand.

The women were in the kitchen, putting together the meal. They too had stripped off outer layers of clothing in the house. *Informality* was the watchword for the moment.

I felt pretty overdressed in my jacket and slacks, but was immediately welcomed into the group and invited to join in with the singing. When the tree was in its stand, each person took a turn hanging an ornament. Brothers Cookie and Dan, singers in the local Methodist choir, sang a couple of carols. Cups of cider and hot chocolate were handed around.

Jim Hansen, and I agreed to perform a couple of the acts that we had done at a recent High School talent assembly. I had brought my 45rpm record player and Jim and I "lip-synched" a couple of popular songs such as "All I Want for Christmas is My Two Front Teeth" and "I Ain't Gettin' Nuttin' for Christmas!" We generally made fools of ourselves, and the group loved it!

Style, stylishness and "proper" were not part of this group's way of celebrating together. How you looked and acted were not key elements of a successful tree cutting and decoration party. Enthusiastic participation and warmth were!

Rituals are important, they help us affirm and celebrate who we are and what we believe. Participating in the Hoback, Courter, Thompson, Nay Advent ritual helped me understand what sort of community I might be joining. And I loved it! Fortunately, they, and Betty, liked me too!

How does one fall deeply in love with another? How does a person become part of a family? What remains after initial attraction begins to wear off? When do things like trust and commitment begin to take hold in personal relationships?

For me trust and commitment began to grow that Advent evening with the Hoback family and friends.

God bless us all! Rev. Les

Love INC Toy Ministry

The Need: Love INC has several clients who are having to choose paying rent or offering toys for Christmas with their children. Several past sources for help in the community are no longer available. **The Plan:** Love INC is responding to this need by collecting ready to give toys from individuals and hosting a Toy Shop at St. Luke's on December 15 from 5:00-8:00pm. Clients will be welcomed, select toys for their children, and enjoy refreshments while teens wrap their gifts. It will be a joyous and relational evening. **Donate toys:** Several churches are

collecting toys! A collection has been placed in St. Luke's Fellowship Hall for all donations. Toys should be ready for use and ready to be wrapped. Gloves, scarves, and hats will also be helpful.

Help with the event! Help is needed to represent Christ well! Help with:

- Picking up items and delivering to the site after Dec. 12.
- Setting up tables, displaying toys, creating the "atmosphere"
- Hospitality- greeting clients, refreshments, loading cars
- Clean up-packing up and loading toys. Putting tables away
- Delivery the next day of any toys not selected to local agencies.

Get Connected: Cindy Raap, our clearinghouse coordinator, is working with the team. Contact her at cindy@loveincittleton.org or 303-732-5925. The need is great with the gap in services larger than before and Love INC is here to help!

Love INC's "Brighten an Elder's Day" ministry is in full force!

We've gotten a great response from adults, teens, and families volunteering to visit local nursing homes. This heartwarming experience creates a unique bond and team spirit among the volunteers and the elderly residents have embraced them all with open arms. Every time we finish a visit, they're asking when we're coming back again! With the holiday season ahead, it is more important than ever, that we don't forget these elders. We'll be singing Christmas carols and eating homemade Christmas cookies! Please join us... I promise that it'll be the most rewarding thing you've ever experienced. The following are the next visits scheduled for December:

Saturday, Dec. 11 - 9:30-10:00am (Orientation) 10:00-10:45am (Visit) at Cherrelyn Manor House Care, 5555 S. Elati St., Littleton, CO

Tuesday, Dec. 14 - 5:45-6:15pm (Orientation) 6:15-7:15pm (Visit) at Clare Bridge of Highlands Ranch, 9160 S. University Blvd.

Please contact Cindy Chumacas 720-320-7255 or cac1162@yahoo.com if interested in any or both of the dates!

Help Needed: You might remember us from the Bronco's "sweep the suites" but now, We Don't Waste at the Denver Inner City Parish is excited to partner with Revolution Cleaners in a toy and clothing drive this Holiday season. We are in need of volunteers to assist at the DICP once a week to sort and organize donated items for delivery to those in need. If you can help, please contact Andrea at akirchhoff6652@yahoo.com.



The Bongo Beat!

Woof! Woof! Hello it's me Bongo, your Sunday School Lhasa Apso! Well I've been hearing a lot about **Joy** these last several weeks, and boy has there been a lot of Joy around St. Luke's! On November 19 there were about 100 of us who gathered together for **Family**

Movie Night! There was a lot of Joy in that popcorn! Then on November 30 there was Joy in the music and lights and laughter of children at the **Tree Lighting service**. I believe one or two of the cookies shared afterward had some Joy stuffed in there as well, yummy!

Do you know how to say "Joy" in a different language? At the **Children's Christmas Pageant** "Joy Around the World" on December 12, our children explore Christmas traditions and Joy throughout the planet! Do you know how to say Joy in Lhasa Apso? TREAT!

I am also joyful about our **new projector system in Goliath!** We now have a big beautiful screen and projector that really helped the kids learn their Christmas song lyrics this year. My seasonal favorite is "Bark! the Herald Angels Sing!"

Ok, we all know I like my treats but one thing I've learned at St. Luke's is that Joy comes in all different ways, shapes, sizes, experiences. It doesn't have to be flashy or exciting; it can be as simple as a hug, or a pat on the head. But what is important is that we prepare our hearts and our lives for the Joy the God brings us. The Joy that God gave us in a beautiful, fragile, and amazing infant child. Please join us for our **Children's Christmas Eve services at 1:00 & 3:00pm** on Dec. 24.

Merry Christmas! Love, Bongo



Joely Maddux
Co-Director of
Children's Ministry



Sharon Oliver
Co-Director of
Children's Ministry



Samantha Leahy
Director of Childcare

St. Luke's Kids
Growing with God

News & Notes:

Candy Cane Sunday in Children's Sunday School

Come to Sunday School on Dec. 19 and learn how the Candy Cane represents the Christmas Story. Every child will receive a candy cane to take home.



Becoming a Love & Logic Parent is coming to St. Luke's February 2011: America's most practical and entertaining parent training. Would you like to feel more confident as a parent? Would you like to have more fun parenting? Would you like to feel more relaxed at the end of the day? Join us for this fun and entertaining practical course in parenting. The nationally known class by Jim Fay and Foster Cline will be held at St. Luke's over four Thursdays beginning Feb. 3: 6:00-8:00pm. Cost is \$69 per person/\$130 per couple. For registration information please contact facilitator Suzanne Crawford at 303-883-8800, or coloradocrawfords@comcast.net. Childcare is available, contact sam@stlukeshr.com.

Children's Dinner Theater - Auditions for our annual spring play for children in 1st-6th grade will be Feb. 20. Look for more information coming soon!

Left over wrapping paper?? After you've finished your Christmas wrapping, please consider donating your left over supplies (tape, wrapping paper, gift bags, tissue paper, boxes and gift tags) to St. Luke's Holiday Shop. Just drop it off in the office and we'll be happy to store it till next December when Holiday Shop comes around again.

A big **THANK YOU** to all of the amazing volunteers for Holiday Shop! It went so smoothly because of all of our "elves" - and it was lots of fun! Holiday Shop will donate proceeds to 2011 VBS this year to provide scholarships to kids and lunches to volunteers. A **very special thanks to Amy Antinoro** for organizing this huge event!

Antinoro for organizing this huge event!



SLY, Jr. will be meeting Dec. 19 at 1:45pm to watch our very own SLY, Jr., Devin Sharpe, perform in "Amahl & the Night Visitors". Afterwards we will have our Gift Exchange. Don't spend more than \$5 on a silly gift or you can bring something from home to exchange.

SLY, Jr. Lock In - January 14! All 5th & 6th graders are invited to join us for our annual SLY, Jr. Lock In at the church! We'll meet at 5:30pm on Friday night and stay at the church until 8:30am Saturday morning! We have lots of fun activities planned and friends are welcome. Please contact Ms. Sharon if you are going to be at the Lock In so we can plan accordingly, thanks! sharon@stlukeshr.com

SLY Jr. also is collecting toothbrushes for our Guatemala missions team. Please drop off packaged toothbrushes on Sundays in Goliath. Thanks!

Visit www.stlukeshr.com for upcoming events. If you have any questions about Children's Ministry programs contact Joely Maddux x11 joely@stlukeshr.com or Sharon Oliver x27 sharon@stlukeshr.com.

Upcoming Events Calendar:



Sunday Dec. 19 - Candy Cane Sunday

SLY, Jr. 1:45-4:30pm "Amahl & the Night Visitors" & Gift Exchange

Friday Dec. 24 - Children's Christmas Eve Services

1:00 & 3:00pm - featuring Puppets, Cherub's Choir, Kidz Prayz Children's Choirs, Joyful Noise Youth Bell Choir, Soul Purpose Youth Choir & more!

Sunday Dec. 26 - NO Sunday School

Sunday Jan. 2 - Special PEAK Sunday School

Sundays Jan. 9-Feb. 6 - PEAK Sunday School 5-week rotation: "Occupations in Bible Times" 9:30am

Friday Jan. 14-Saturday Jan. 15 - SLY, Jr. LOCK IN!!

Tuesday Jan. 18 - Children's Ministry Team Meeting 6:30pm - All are welcome to help us plan and vision



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Kay Swanson
Director of
Little School



Little School News: Winter Greetings from Little School

December is an amazing time with children, the sparkle in their eyes, the wonder of days to come and the promise of a baby boy. How innocent and special these winter days of joy! Little School will be full of merriment and song, pajama days, pancake breakfasts and gingerbread! St. Nick will pay us a visit to tell the story of how gift giving began and how we can help others less fortunate. Santa will also arrive to share the excitement of wishes from every boy and girl. Our Christmas

program "God Bless Us One and All" will be held on Dec. 15 and 16, delighting parents with songs, poems, skits and traditional Christmas carols. Our winter break will follow from Dec. 17 to January 2. We will be anticipating many days of family activities and festivities. When we return on January 3, we will ropin' and ridin' our way through Western Stock Show Days. Cowpokes will be headin' for the choral to wrangle them horses, learn to be a ranch hand and gather at the campfire for some old fashioned singin' and marshmallow cookin'! Spaghetti Western Night for our families will be held on January 25 so our cowboys and cowgirls need to be sure to bring their dancin' boots! Sure hope to see our families there!

January brings Little School REGISTRATION! It is time for registration for Fall of 2011. Little School enrolls children age 3 by Oct. 1, completely potty trained and fully immunized. Registration for our current families, church members and alumni will begin on January 9! Forms will be available at the Get Connected Desk, the main office of the church and the Little School/Sunday School office downstairs. This year, registration forms are also available on line by going to the church website (stlukeshr.com). PLEASE DO NOT DELAY, AS WE FILL QUICKLY! Forms are due with a registration payment of \$70.00 per family NO later than January 19! Tours are available on Wed. or Thurs. mornings at 10:00am, no appointment necessary and your children are more than welcome. Questions? littleschool@stlukeshr.com

As 2010 comes to a close, we look back at how much our Little Schoolers have grown already, and we can't wait to see what is in store for 2011!

Blessings, -Ms. Kay and Staff:-)



Our Tree Lighting Service on Nov. 28 was the perfect way to kick off the Advent season—a story of "true gifts" from Rev. Brad, bells, carols, cookies, hot cocoa, and our St. Luke's family!

OPPORTUNITIES

Start 2011 off right....get your finances in order.

Financial Peace University is a biblically-based, video-driven small group study that teaches families to beat debt, build wealth and give like never before! This program is for you if....

- Your credit cards ARE your emergency fund.
- You want to know what God says about money.
- You have to sell your house to put your kids through college.
- You want to beat debt, build wealth, and give like never before.
- You want to make a budget that you will understand and use.
- You want to communicate with your spouse about finances.
- You want to invest with confidence.
- You want to change your financial future.

Preview Sessions are Jan. 9 at 9:00am, 10:30am and noon in Brad's office.

Classes start Monday, Jan. 31 at 6:30pm. Cost \$99.51. For more info contact Kimberly Blum at kimberly_blum@hotmail.com or 303-325-3517.

GETTING A NEW WASHER AND DRYER for Christmas?

St. Luke's Little School (preschool) is in desperate need of a new or used (good or great working condition) washer and dryer. After about 15 years ours have died and we use them daily! If you are getting a new one please consider a donation to Little School! Questions? Contact Ms. Kay 303-791-1982

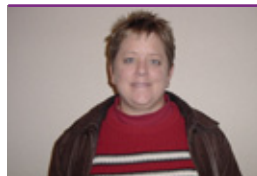
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Welcoming our newest members of St. Luke's and their reasons for joining our community:



Val & Elizabeth Billups

"We look forward to more fully connecting ourselves to such a wonderful Christian body as St. Luke's"



Vicki Bryant

"To join a spiritual community with many opportunities to serve and continue my spiritual journey."



Richard Hage

"We visited and liked it."



Todd & Ann Speer

"Fellowship, spiritual growth and give our kids a solid spiritual foundation."

To become a member of St. Luke's United Methodist Church:

Fill out the membership card located in the Friendship Pad or at the Get Connected Center. Simply hand the membership card to one of our Pastors or staff members at any time.

Contact Lynda Fickling for more info:

303-791-0659 x20
lynda@stlukeshr.com

Welcome!

FAMILY CAMP REMINDER:

Sign up for Family Camp now! If you want to be guaranteed a spot for our annual summer camp just send your name to Amy Antinoro by Dec. 31 at rkymntnrph@hotmail.com or 303-663-6656 or contact Amy if you have any questions at all. Thanks!



to develop a creative supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church."



"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;

"Joy, Joy, Joy"

Joy was all around at the 2010 Women's Candlelight Dinner sponsored by United Methodist Women. Joy in fellowship and conversation. Joy in words and song. Joy in a delicious meal. Special

thanks to the Fellowship Events Team, the delightful men and women and youth who served, the UMW Mission Team and Grace Notes for their musical contribution. Joy was heard in the words from representatives of Love INC about their passion for the work they do for others. Because of the generosity of many in attendance UMW is proud to present a check for \$450 plus many, many items donated by the attendees to Love INC.

It was a pleasure and Joy for our Local Unit of United Methodist Women to present a Mission Recognition Pin to Caroline Butler for her outstanding service to the church and others. A monetary gift is given in mission in her name. Caroline does many quiet things around the church, is co-lead of the bereavement team and Common Thread, she also volunteers at Love INC.

Warren Village Family Night - The UMW will again sponsor a Warren Village Family Night on Tue. Jan. 25. Assistance is needed in any of these areas: preparing the food here at St. Luke's that morning, serving the meal at 6 that evening at Warren Village, or donating positive uplifting books for the parents and children's books. Contact Fran West at 303-797-7107 for more information.

Annual UMW Women's Retreat - The annual St. Luke's retreat will be Sat. Feb. 26 9:00am-2:30pm. Our theme will be Food and Faith: feeding our body and soul. Come join your church sisters for laughter, fellowship, prayer, scripture and food. Watch for further details from Fran West and Renae Parra.

Subgroups of UMW at St. Luke's UMC:

Simply Saturday: Meets first Saturdays. **Jan. 8,** 8:30-10:00am. Join us for a presentation on "Purseperity" - a fun and interactive workshop that helps women see how the contents of their purses reflects their current finances and their future financial success. Bring your favorite purse to show off. *Mission:* Uplifting adult and children books for Warren Village. Bring a breakfast item to share. Childcare 24 hrs. in advance sam@stlukeshr.com
Host: Elena Lynch elenaclynch@gmail.com

Evening Book Group: Fourth Mondays, 7:00pm Conf. Room.
• December 20 *The Christmas Bus* by Melody Carlson
For more information, please call Renae Parra at 303-683-0872.
To be added to the email list, send a request to RenaeParra@aol.com

Itch to Stitch: Third Weds. of the month, 7:00-8:30pm downstairs near Library. More info Fran West 303-797-7107.

Women's Night Out: First Monday of the month, 6:30pm
Jan. 3 Brickyard BBQ 311 County Line, Littleton
Feb. 7 Little Basil's 7923 S. Broadway, Littleton
For more info, please contact Sandy Sandy.Frasier@yahoo.com or Elaine Carlstrom at ecarlstrom@comcast.net.



Journey toward Wholeness

ST. LUKE'S UMC SPIRITUALITY AND WELLNESS WORKSHOP SERIES 2010/2011

A Workshop Series responsive to St. Luke's Wellness Inventory.

For more information
contact Rev. Sallie or any
member of the Spirituality
and Wellness Team.

sallie@stlukeshr.com

The Spirituality and Wellness Team invites the St. Luke's family to join us on Jan. 18 for our second Spirituality and Wellness Workshop - **Living in Gracious Space: Strategies for Managing Stress**

Our facilitator will be Andi Pusavat, Counseling Psychologist and Director of the Iliff School of Theology Counseling Center. Andi will direct us in large and small group activities that will provide opportunities to consider new strategies for managing stress and moving toward a sense of wholeness in our lives. Through planned, interactive exercises, we will work together to identify stresses in our lives and recognize how we respond to those stresses. We will share techniques for managing stress, and we'll practice helpful approaches to reduce stress, all within the context of the Gracious Space we strive to create for one another. We hope you will join us as we continue our journey in Gracious Space.

**Tuesday, January 18, 2011, 6:30-8:30pm
- St. Luke's Chapel**

Living in Gracious Space: Strategies for Managing Stress

*Andi Pusavat, Counseling Psychologist
and Director of the Iliff School of Theology
Counseling Center*

As an outgrowth of our first Spirituality and Wellness workshop in September, "Creating Gracious Space: Enhancing a Spirit of Compassion and Understanding" we are forming a new group at St. Luke's, to explore the practical steps toward (and the challenges to) creating Gracious Space in our relationships with others, including those relationships characterized by conflict. Our first meeting was December 5. If you are interested in joining this group, please talk with Reverend Sallie.

*Finally, mark your calendars for future workshops in this series of
Spirituality and Wellness Workshops: Journey Toward Wholeness*

Sunday, February 20, 2011, 5:30-7:30pm - St. Luke's Chapel
**Building in Gracious Space: Developing Assets -
A Strength Based Approach to Helping Kids Thrive**

*Facilitator: Dana Max, PsyD., Clinical Psychologist specializing in
Youth and Families*

It takes a village to raise a child. Parents, grandparents, teachers, and all those who care about children and youth are invited to attend, as we learn specific ways to encourage our kids' healthy growth and development.

Tuesday, April 5, 2011, 6:30-8:30pm - St. Luke's Chapel
Growing in Gracious Space: Living a Wellness Lifestyle

Facilitator: Jane Mountain, M. D., Author, Speaker, Retired Physician

Dr. Mountain will help us identify ways that our faith can support us in growing more resilient, managing challenging life circumstances, and integrating spirituality and wellness into all aspects of our lives.

Boulder Philharmonic in Concert

Featuring the world's
foremost clarinetist,
Richard Stoltzman

Feb 20, 2011
3:00pm at St. Luke's

Tickets are:
\$10 student general admission
\$15 adult general admission
\$25 premium seating

Tickets are available at
St. Luke's UMC beginning
January 15.

Program:

Leonard Bernstein—Three Dance Episodes from "On the Town"
Aaron Copland—Clarinet Concerto
Bill Douglas—Afro-Cuban Baroque for Clarinet and String Orchestra
Bill Douglas—Feast
Antonín Dvořák—Symphony No. 9 "From the New World"

Richard Stoltzman is a two-time Grammy Award winning clarinetist. His virtuosity, technique, imagination, and communicative power have revolutionized the world of clarinet playing, opening up possibilities for the instrument that no one could have predicted. He was responsible for bringing the clarinet to the forefront as a solo instrument, and is still the world's foremost clarinetist.

Stoltzman gave the first clarinet recitals in the histories of both the Hollywood Bowl and Carnegie Hall, and, in 1986, became the first wind player to be awarded the Avery Fisher Prize. As one of today's most sought-after artists, Stoltzman has been a soloist with more than a hundred orchestras as well as a recitalist and chamber music performer, innovative jazz artist, and prolific recording artist. A two-time Grammy Award winner, he has amazed critics and audiences alike in repertory spanning many musical genres.

Stoltzman's talents as a jazz performer as well as a classical artist have been heard far beyond his annual tours. He has performed and recorded with such classical, jazz, and pop greats as Emmanuel Ax, Yo-Yo Ma, Gary Burton, the Canadian Brass, Chick Corea, Judy Collins, Eddie Gomez, Keith Jarrett, the King's Singers, George Shearing, Wayne Shorter, Mel Tormé, and Spyro Gyra founder Jeremy Wall. Stoltzman frequently performs with his son Peter John Stoltzman, a talented classical and jazz pianist and composer.

Stoltzman graduated from Ohio State University with a double major in music and mathematics. He earned his Master of Music degree at Yale University while studying with Keith Wilson, and later studied with Kalmen Opperman at Columbia University. He makes his home in Massachusetts and is a passionate Boston Red Sox fan. He is also a Cordon Bleu-trained pastry chef whose specialty is the Linzer Torte.

Under the vision and leadership of Music Director Michael Buttermann, the Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra is celebrating its 53rd year of providing outstanding orchestral music in Boulder. Michael Buttermann is making his mark as a model for today's conductors with his commitment to creative artistry, innovative programming, and true engagement of audiences and communities in which he works.

Founded in 1958, the Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra is a critically acclaimed, fully professional, year-round symphony orchestra. Each season the orchestra presents a dynamic mix of masterpieces and promising new works, highlighting both accomplished and emerging guest artists with a special emphasis on Boulder's own creative community.



James Ramsey
Director of Music
Ministry & the Arts



Ken Mervine
Associate Dir. of
Music Ministry/
Organist



Kay Coryell
Dir. of Handbells
& Children's Music
Ministries



Matthew Rose
Dir. of Instrumental
Music Ministry

Save the Date! "Broadway On Broadway" March 4, 5 & 6!

The Wesley Players are working now on an original compilation of great Broadway hits from the past and present. Interwoven by our very own Jack Kennedy, these acts will have something for everyone. Hear some of your favorite songs from musical theater ranging from *South Pacific* and *Annie* to *Ragtime* and *Grease* we are covering Broadway's history and including numbers for children, youth and adults. This is a not-to-miss show!

Don't miss our NEW King puppets: Sunday January 2, 2011

EPIPHANY CELEBRATION OF THE KINGS.....8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am

"Welcome the Kings"—Dr. Janet Forbes Join us as our NEW life-sized Magi puppets and their entourage present their gifts to the Christ child in a family worship experience featuring our Primary and Junior Prayz ensembles (*Burrito breakfast between services to benefit Guatemala missions.*)



Guatemala & YOU!

Each year a group from St. Luke's travels to Lemoa Guatemala to do mission work. In the past we have worked on an orphanage, built chicken coops, built an expansion on a retreat center and we have begun building adobe homes for women left widowed by the violent Guatemalan conflicts of the past. In March 2011, St. Luke's will be sending 2 mission teams to Guatemala with plans to build 4 new adobe homes for the widows of Lemoa and 8 chicken coops! In order to raise funds for this project, the mission team is inviting members of the

St. Luke's community to a Burrito Breakfast on the morning of Jan. 2. All funds raised will be used to purchase the building supplies for these projects.

In Guatemala rural children are only able to complete up to 6th grade at the most, with many dropping out before 3rd grade to work for their families. Through the Pura Vida sponsorship program, you can help a student continue on in school beyond these early grades. The \$400 annual sponsorship fee covers their tuition, transportation costs, uniform, books and a small stipend to help support their family. For some students, they may be the only person in their family to complete an education beyond Elementary School. During the month of December, we will have a table in the Fellowship Hall where you can learn more about the sponsorship program and select a student to sponsor.



Upcoming Events

- ★ **December 12 – SLY PM © ZooLights.** Special end time – 8:30pm. Bring \$10 – this will cover admission and a snack at the Denver Zoo, where the annual ZooLights display will be in full effect. Dress weather appropriate!
- ★ **December 19 – SLY PM White Elephant Gift Exchange.** Bring a wrapped gift worth less than \$5 for this exchange. It can be a great gift or very silly, either way you're going home with something you didn't bring!!!
- ★ **December 26 & Jan 2 – No SLY PM.** Enjoy your winter breaks!
- ★ **Regular SLY PM schedule (5:30-7:30pm with dinner) January 9, 16, 23, & 30.**
- ★ **January 30 – Coffee House © Parker UMC.** Come with us to check out several local youth bands, and watch our own WITY Youth Improv Team play for the crowd!
- ★ **SLY PM Dinner** every regularly scheduled Sunday night at 5:30, \$2. Donations appreciated! You can now sign up to help provide dinners online www.stlukeshr.com/sly/sundaydinners. Having parents help provide a group meal in the middle of 4 hours of youth activities allows our youth to set aside blocks of time at church! We thank you for your help!
- ★ **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



2011 Ski Retreat!

Register by December 19 for the best prices! The retreat is to Breckenridge

January 14-16. We'll arrive Friday night, ski/board/hang out on Saturday, then shop a little on Sunday before coming home Sunday afternoon. \$75 for food & lodging. \$45 for a lift ticket (if ordered) \$15 for trip shirt (if ordered). Max trip cost of \$135.



Pumpkin Patch Success!

Our October Pumpkin Patch is the single largest fundraiser dedicated to youth missions for the year. Thank you to all the youth and adult volunteers who unloaded pumpkins, staffed the patch all of October, and helped clean up at the end!

This year we raised just over \$12,000 to use for youth missions! As

the 2011 Summer Mission Trips get planned, this money will be used to offset costs for all participants and purchase building materials. What an amazing testament for youth missions!



- ★ **Youth Sunday Success** on Nov. 14 - We "Dug Into Youth" and we liked what we found! Thanks to all who brought us such a fun service!

CHRIS's CORNER Shift



The end of the old year, and the coming of the new year... a time to reflect and prepare for new journeys ahead. If SLY had a keyboard, it would be time to hit

the shift key and find new ways of looking at our ministry. For the past 3+ years, Chris Wilterdink and Susan Johnson have made up our youth staff, totaling 60 hours of dedicated staff time for youth ministry. In January, as you may know, Chris is preparing to welcome his first child – and will go to part-time, 20 hours per week. So, how will SLY staff stay at 60 total staff hours? Erin Laurvick (who currently interns with us from Iliff School of Theology) will join the youth staff working 20 hours a week. This will give St. Luke's Youth a staff leadership trio from January through May, and keep the total staff commitment to youth ministry at 60 weekly hours.

With the shift in hours, responsibilities will shift too. Chris will mainly focus on Confirmation, Mission Trip preparations, and Youth Leadership Team. Susan will mainly lead SLY PM, Wednesday Night SLY, and youth communication. Erin will mainly lead SLY AM and specific one-time events. This will be an exciting time for St. Luke's Youth as new staff often gives new energy and life to a ministry.

December and January are both filled with fun and exciting moments in youth ministry, including traditional SLY PM activities like Video Scavenger Hunts and ZooLights, the annual Ski Retreat (Jan 14-16), and the launching of Confirmation classes (Jan 30). With so much going on, we hope you can find the time to make up part of your holiday season and your 2011!

– *Peace and Love, Chris*

2011 Confirmation Classes

Informational meeting for all families interested in Confirmation at St. Luke's on January 9, 11am in the youth room. In depth presentation on the class and Q & A time.

Registrations for 2011 Confirmation Classes available outside the youth room, at the Get Connected table, and at stlukeshr.com/sly. If you (or your youth) are in 8th grade or up, they can participate in this spring's Confirmation classes which take place from 11am to noon Sunday mornings. Classes begin January 30. Confirmation Sunday on May 1. Retreat March 11-13. These classes help youth learn more about their personal faith, and whether they want to become members of the United Methodist Church. Registrations due by Jan 23.

FINANCIAL UPDATE



Dave Cupp
Director of Finance



Lisé Takayama
Assistant Director
of Finance

Thank You For Your Continued Support. Our budget performance continues to go as planned. Thank you for making this happen. Even though this is what you see every time you look at this update, it's good to be reminded and thanked.

"Be Blessed and Be a Blessing"

Stewardship Emphasis. Thank you for the strong response you've made to this stewardship emphasis. The pledged amount to support our 2011 budget is substantially ahead of the numbers we had last year at this time. If you haven't turned in your card please do so as soon as possible. Our challenge every year is to translate your intentions for giving into a workable financial plan for the coming year. The more information we can gather the better the process works.

Year End Giving Reminder. If you haven't finished your planned giving for this year, we encourage you to do so before December 31. We will consider all collections received during 2010 as 2010 contributions unless you instruct us to apply them to a future year. Contributions received in the mail after December 31 will be posted to 2010 only if they are post marked on or before December 31 and we are not instructed to apply them as 2011 giving. You can make an online credit card transaction as late as 2:00pm, our time, on December 31 and it will still be applied to your 2010 giving record.

If you need assistance or information for getting your transaction processed, please give Lise or me a call. We will be glad to assist you.

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.

NEW CLASS



Finding and Following God's Will by Jane Kise

Author Jane Kise writes: *"Discovering God's will is a lifelong journey; when you're on a journey, a straight line isn't always the most pleasant route between where you are and your destination. Sometimes it's the detours that are the purpose of your trip."* We will review 12 key questions through dozens of powerful true stories. You'll

be inspired and learn how people have found God's will in the large and small issues of life. Thursdays Feb. 3-March 17, 6:30-8:00pm. Sign up at the Get Connected Center or contact either Brenda Schafer brenda@stlukeshr.com or Lynda Fickling lynda@stlukeshr.com

TRUSTEES CORNER

Your Trustees Say Thank You for an AMAZING Year!

Because of your blessings and uncommon generosity, coupled with memorials and other special gifts, the following enhancements have been completed in 2010:

- 1. Upgraded security, including alarm monitoring and electronic door locks**
- 2. Added a video monitor in our main entry to improve communication & logistics**
- 3. Through Little School donations, we replaced the last of the old carpet in our children's classrooms and improved children's fitness by adding new playground climbing structures**
- 4. Renovated the parking lot, and added more handicapped parking spaces**
- 5. Added an electronic energy management system to reduce Heating and AC costs**
- 6. Replacing lighting with more energy efficient bulbs through routine maintenance**
- 7. Upgraded window coverings in the Fellowship Hall and new Main Floor Classrooms**
- 8. Improved stage lighting, video, and sound systems for our music and drama ministry**
- 9. Through generous Memorial and Honorarium Gifts, the Chapel has been completed with the addition of stained glass, drapes, sound, water feature, video and lighting systems**
- 10. Paid off the Ministry in Motion Church Van, thanks to the Golf Team**
- 11. Replaced the north fire escape stairway**
- 12. Added a projector and video screen in Goliath for our Children's Ministry**



We sincerely appreciate all of the hard work our Trustees team members and our countless volunteers complete on each workday, special project, and general maintenance all year long. We are truly blessed to have so many people who share their gifts of time, talent, and service to St. Luke's. We are successful because of YOU!



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

NON-PROFIT
ORG
**U S POSTAGE
PAID**
PERMIT #7
LITTLETON, CO

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

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



Little School Registration:

**Current Family, Church
Member & Alumni:** Jan. 9-19

New Family: Jan. 16-Feb. 7

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

DECEMBER 2010/JANUARY 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Advent Sunday 3 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship "The Coming of Joy" - Dr. Janet Forbes 9:30am: Cafe St. Luke's 3:00pm: Children's Christmas Pageant 5:30pm: Community Dinner (\$2) 6:00pm: SLY PM 6:34pm: Fusion	13 7:00pm: Trustees	14 6:30pm: Finance Team 7:00pm: Missions Team	15 9:30 & 10:45am Little School Program 5:45pm: Evening Prayers with Communion 6:30pm: Depression/ Bipolar Support Group 6:30pm: Wed. Night SLY	16 9:30 & 10:45am Little School Program 9:30am: Children 'n Chattin' Playgroup	17 Little School Break 7:00pm: "Amahl & the Night Visitors"	18 10:00am: Wesley Writers 5:30pm: Amahl BBQ Dinner 7:00pm: "Amahl & the Night Visitors"
Advent Sunday 4 - Candy Cane Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship "Joy to the World" - Dr. Janet Forbes 12:30pm: Christmas Service of Baptism 1:45pm: SLY, Jr. 2:00pm: "Amahl & the Night Visitors" 5:30pm: Community Dinner (\$2) 6:00pm: SLY PM 6:34pm: Fusion	20 Little School Break 7:00pm: Women's Book Club	21 Little School Break 8:00pm: Second Saturday	22 Little School Break 5:45pm: Evening Prayers with Communion	23 Little School Break 6:30pm: Contemplative Fellowship	24 1:00 & 3:00pm: Children's Christmas Eve Service 5:00 & 7:00pm: Traditional Christmas Eve Service 10:00pm: Christmas Eve Communion Service	25 Christmas Day
Advent Sunday 5 (No Sunday School/SLY AM/PM) 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship "Sing We Now of Christmas" - Dr. Janet Forbes 6:34pm: Fusion	27 Little School Break	28 Little School Break	29 Little School Break 5:45pm: Evening Prayers with Communion	30 Little School Break 6:30pm: Contemplative Fellowship	31 Little School Break	JAN 1 Happy New Year!
Epiphany King's Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship "Welcome the Kings" - Dr. Janet Forbes 8:30am: Guatemala Mission Benefit Burrito Breakfast 12:15pm: Gracious Space Group 6:34pm: Fusion	3 Little School Starts 6:30pm: Women's Night Out	4	5 5:45pm: Evening Prayers with Communion 6:30pm: Depression/ Bipolar Support Group 6:30pm: Wed. Night SLY	6 9:30am: Children 'n Chattin' Playgroup 6:30pm: Annual Church Conference 6:30pm: Contemplative Fellowship	7	8 8:30am: Simply Saturday
BRINGING JOY TO LIFE Epiphany Sermon Series 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship -Rev. Bradley Laurvick 8:30am: Ministry Fair 9:30am: Cafe St. Luke's 11:00am: God & Me 5:30pm: Community Dinner (\$2) 6:00pm: SLY PM 6:34pm: Fusion	10 6:00pm: Live, Laugh, Love Club 7:00pm: Trustees	11 6:30pm: Finance Team	12 5:45pm: Evening Prayers with Communion 6:30pm: Wed. Night SLY	13 6:30pm: Communications Team 6:30pm: Contemplative Fellowship	14 SLY Ski Retreat 5:30pm: SLY, Jr. Lock In 5:45pm: Parent's Night Out	15 SLY Ski Retreat 10:00am: Wesley Writers
Epiphany Sermon Series 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship - Dr. Janet Forbes 8:15am: Contemplative Chapel Worship 11:00am: God & Me 12:15pm: Spiritual Form. Team 5:30pm: Community Dinner (\$2) 6:00pm: SLY PM 6:34pm: Fusion SLY Ski Retreat	17 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Office Closed Little School Break	18 Wellness Workshop- Managing Stress 6:30pm: Children's Ministry Team 7:30pm: Planned Giving Team	19 5:45pm: Evening Prayers with Communion 6:30pm: Depression/ Bipolar Support Group 6:30pm: Wed. Night SLY	20 9:30am: Children 'n Chattin' Playgroup 6:30pm: Contemplative Fellowship	21	22 8:30am: Intro. to Centering Prayer