RETHINKCHURCH



LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SΤ

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and much mo	re!



A memoir is a memory, a description of an event from the past. It is written in the first person and told from that person's point of view. It is always based on the truth but might hold a bit of embellishment to enhance the story. A memoir reveals the feelings of the writer and has meaning. It shows what the author learned from that one event in the his or her life. And it is more about the author's experience than about the actual event itself.

Rev. Les Ludlam and Sylvia Brady have combined their years of teaching, leading, and moderating memoir writing groups to refocus Wesley Writers into a "learn how" mode. We invite you to join us in this journey down the paths of yesterdays.

Wesley Writers meet 10:00am the third Saturday of each month in the Conference Room. Bring a notebook and a pencil!



"St. Luke's Cross" 2013

Designed and pieced by Paula M. B. Pahl. Hand-quilted by Elizabeth Yount, Fran West, and Paula M. B. Pahl

This quilted wall hanging was created especially for the Chapel of St. Luke's United Methodist Church, Highlands Ranch, CO. The design was first and foremost made to complement the stained glass windows in the Chapel. Beyond that, much symbolism was incorporated into the quilt. One major focus was on the number three, representing the Trinity. Three colors were used, with a light and dark shade of each-blue, red, and yellow-the primary colors from which all other colors on the color wheel can be created. The three colors together with pure white also remind us of the four teachings of Jesus that are foundational to the St. Luke's family—love, acceptance, justice, and hope. If you look closely you can see groups of three crystals, three quilting lines, three circles. The three undulating quilting lines in the blue border represent the breath of God moving in and through our lives.

Circles, representing the completeness and eternity of God's love, are also featured prominently in the quilt. Two Celtic knot designs were included. Like circles, the Celtic knots have no beginning and no ending. The Celtic Trinity knot knot is often used to represent the Holy Trinity. Here it was used both alone and also with an intertwined circle. A The Celtic heart represents the never ending love of God.

Finally, crystals were added to show how the light of God's love shines not only on us, but also through us.

This quilt is lovingly dedicated to the St. Luke's congregation as they continue to grow in the spirit of God.



Dear St. Luke's,

The many music ministers and the staff of the Music and Drama Ministry want to wish you a very happy 30th birthday! To celebrate the occasion we hosted a concert on April 13th to a large and excited crowd. We heard selections from 8 of St. Luke's many wonderful ensembles, as well as special performances by Ken Mervine and guest composer Mark Miller. After a night of celebrating our gift of music, we returned to the Sanctuary on Sunday, April 14th to premiere Miller's commissioned work written especially for St. Luke's, "Justice Suite". The "Justice Suite" joined together the forces of the Tinntinntabulators, the St. Luke's Orchestra, the Chancel Choir, and Kids Prayz. The singers and musicians did a fantastic job, and all in the Sanctuary were touched by Miller's compositions and performances. It was a special occasion for all involved. Thank you, St. Luke's, for being so supportive of the Music and Arts programs. Happy Birthday!

Love, The Music and Arts Ministries Staff

Sunday Worship Services: 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am 6:30pm: Revolution 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

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All submissions for the June/July 2013 issue of *The Chronicle* are due June I Editor: Sharon Oliver chronicle©stlukeshr.com

The Chronicle is published 10 times per year and is emailed to those on our email blast list, and it can be found on the church website. Printed copies are available at church entrances. To receive *The Chronicle* via US mail, please call or email the Church Office.



Give 30th Birthday Gifts to St. Luke's Thirty and Counting!

Rev. Janet Forbes Senior Pastor

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.



Relationships are the ties that bind us together as a congregation. We are a people who live tied together by our belonging to the body of Christ.

The net is a symbol of these ties - persons of different ages, meeting in groups of differing interests, worshiping in different services, gathering from different backgrounds, longing for different spiritual journeys who are all linked together. The net also catches us in times of uncertainty as St. Luke's holds us up in

times of growth, transition, and change.

Our anniversary celebration will help our family strengthen the ways that we are woven together, cherishing each other, becoming a way station for those who come together with their own unique stories, diverse by generation, vocation, faith tradition, gifts, and backgrounds. Our community grows closer. The horizon beckons!

GIVE A BIRTHDAY GIFT... IN MULTIPLES OF 30!

Every friend of St. Luke's is invited to give a gift in honor of our 30th birthday. Whether \$.30, or \$3.00, or \$3.00, or \$3.00, or \$3.00, we have imagined some spontaneous gifts that would enhance our open hearts, open minds, and open doors!

The children would like some contemporary media equipment to enhance their learning and play together. The youth are building a conversation center for hanging out with sturdy denim bean bag chairs! The leaders of the congregation would love to replace our aging front doors with an accessible, easy-to-open, welcoming entrance. Look for the birthday envelopes in the Friendship Pads or write "Happy Birthday, St. Luke's!" in the check memo.

LET YOUR GROCERY SHOPPING MULTIPLY MINISTRY!

You are invited to become one of 300 new families to participate in the Grocery Card Ministry. These additional shoppers at area grocery stores could provide an additional \$100,000 for ministries of care, music, drama, and communications.

- We are growing in ways that stress our ability to attend to expanding pastoral care requests from our families.
- We need to lower the cost of participating in ministries with children and youth so that fees never keep any child away from our commitment to radical welcome.
- We hope to expand our communications capabilities in the digital world.
- We want to recognize the excellence of our staff with long-overdue compensation and benefits.
- We want to maintain the dynamic, growing ministries in drama and the arts.
- The re-loadable grocery cards are free for your use and re-use! Join the challenge!

THE NEXT THIRTY YEARS!

At the heart of who we are is the commitment to making a difference in the world. As I like to say it, our commitment to make the world different.

We know that we live interdependently. And so, the great mission of our lives is to move our congregation, our neighborhood, our nation, and the world toward creating communities of care. With the Performing Arts Academy, Revolution, and the Center for Spirituality and Transformation pulling us forward, growing up in faith looks so very exciting.

God has been faithful for thirty years among us! Now God is calling us to a new spiritual depth as we anticipate the next thirty years! –Grace, *Rev. Janet*

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You Lost Me

Recently, several members from our St. Luke's staff attended "You Lost Me. Live!" an all day conference/conversation presented by the Barna Research Group. The conference was based on David Kinnaman's [president of Barna] new book,

Rev. Ryan Canaday Associate Minister

"You Lost Me: Why Young Christians Are Leaving

Church...And Rethinking Faith." Kinnaman's research challenges the church to start a new conversation; to ask a new set of questions. He identifies three categories to describe the experience in which younger people are simply giving up on the church project.

1. Nomads: walk away from church engagement, but still consider themselves Christians [often referred to as backsliders, spiritual wanderers, church dropouts].

24% of them say "I may return to church when I'm older but I have no interest now.'

23% of them say "I used to be very involved in my church but I don't fit there anymore."

2. Exiles: are still invested in their Christian faith but feel stuck (or lost) between culture and the church [often referred to as creatives, reformers, culturally engaged].

38% of them say, "I want to find a way to follow Jesus that connects with the world I live in.

32% of them say, "I want to be Christian without separating myself from the world around me."

29% of them say, "I want to help the church change its priorities to be what Jesus intended it to be."

Prodigals: lose their faith, describing themselves as "no 3. longer Christian" [often referred to as skeptics, faith dropouts, ex-Christians].

21% of them say, "Christian beliefs just don't make sense to me." 18% of them say, "I don't plan on ever returning to the church." 18% of them say, "When I was a Christian, I wasn't encouraged to think for myself."

So, what do we do with all of this information? We can mumble and grumble about how the emerging generation has lost its way ... and its faith. We can insist on having all the right answers, keep inviting them to church [even though they won't come] in hopes that we can fill them with our correct answers. OR we can take this as an opportunity to ask OURSELVES some tough questions and engage in some self-reflection. Perhaps we could give up on the idea of wondering how we can get them to join us, and maybe we can start with this question: how can we join them? When I take a serious look at the Gospels, I am constantly seeing a Jesus who went out into the world to be with the people. I'm thinking Jesus wasn't saying: "I'll just sit here in this synagogue and think of some creative ways to get some people to come join me in here..." No way, Jesus went out to be with the people.

Want to get know the nomads, exiles, and prodigals? Well, we can't do that sitting in the pews of the church. We have to go out into the world...get to know people...love people. Our neighborhood. Our local restaurants, coffee shops, bars, parks, rec centers. Simple. But not always easy.

How are you getting out into the world today? This week? This month? This year?

Grace & Peace, Rev. Ryan



Honduras – **Open Hearts, Open Homes**

Rev. Sallie Suby-Long Associate Minister

Thanks to all of you for praying for our daughter Rachel as she has followed a

call to teach in Honduras. Your interest in her ministry has meant a lot to our whole family.

Rachel has been very grateful for your thoughtfulness, too. In March, Tom, Sarah, Rebecca, and I had the opportunity to travel to Honduras. Seeing Rachel and meeting many of her friends, colleagues, students and students' families were the highlights of our trip. Over and over again, we were warmly welcomed. The gracious hospitality, extended so freely, was inspiring and humbling. While in the little village of La Union, the pastor of Vida Abundante Church welcomed our stay at the church's peaceful retreat center. The Director of the school in the same community invited us to his home to meet his family and enjoy freshly brewed Honduran coffee. The owners of the local comedor (a small cantina) welcomed us into their home for conversation and a delicious meal of baleadas -fresh flour tortillas with delicious fillings. Yes, we were grateful to have daughters who are fluent in Spanish! After spending a delightful afternoon playing with children from a little village outside of Copan, we were welcomed into the small cinder-block home of two

Although there were many memorable experiences throughout our trip, such as visiting the Mayan Ruins and seeing the creation of intricate alfombras (colorful sawdust carpets) for the Holy Week processions, nothing compared to the gracious hospitality of the people we met. They opened their hearts, they opened their homes and they touched us with memories we will always cherish. They truly reflected God's grace.

of Rachel's young students for a typical Honduran meal of

beans, tortillas, rice and banana soda!

As we saw how much Rachel loves her students, how much they love her, and how much she appreciates the Central American culture, we were not surprised to learn of her hopes to return to Honduras for a second year of teaching. Thank you for your continued prayers for Rachel and for her students and their families. And, just so you know, you are always welcome in our home! -Pastor Sallie

Mondays in the Park

Thank you to those who spent their first day of spring break handing out lunches to the homeless. We loaded the bus and spread love and peanut butter and jelly to some grateful folks in Civic Center Park. Our Revolution service provides about 50-75 sack lunches weekly and are taken to the park every Monday. Join us in the park or you help support the lunches by donating the supplies (granola bars, chips or peanut butter). Look for the bin in the mission closet labeled Mondays In The Park. It's really about all of us, those who need and those who give-provides nourishment to both souls. It's about being more human together. –Sam Leahy

CONGREGATIONAL CARE



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CREANNECTED **Fresh Ideas** to Connect -Let's Chat!

Lynda Fickling Director of Servant Ministry/ Spiritual Director

I just returned from the LCI 2013 (Large Church Initiative) Ignite

Conference Growing Disciples to Transform the World and my mind is swimming with fresh ideas for our community! A few things I'm pondering, how is your spiritual practice? Where are you serving? How can we help you connect? As we head into our summer and my "R & D" time – please let me know if you'd like to have coffee and chat about your practices and how you have experienced God in your life by serving. Or you'd like to help others on this journey. OR you have no idea and would love to chat about your journey!

And as always, check out our spiritual gifts assessment on our website: www.stlukeshr.com/SpiritualGifts/ and our catalog of ministries for ideas to serve in the community, in the world. We experience life everyday but how are you experiencing God every day?! Let's chat!

Join us for Coffee & Conversation

about the History of St. Luke's, the United Methodist Church, our programs and ministries. 9:30am July 14 in Rm 213. All welcome!

New! AGELESS SINGLES group

A social group for unmarried, divorced, widowed, men and women of all ages.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Saturday June 8:

Sipping and Painting 6300 E. Hampden Ave. Denver, CO 80222 6:30pm, register by May 31, cost \$30.

Saturday June 15:

Bike ride on the Platte River to REI, starts at 9:00am.

Sunday July 7:

Little River Band concert at Hudson Gardens. Purchase ticket by June 23. Gates open 5:00pm, show starts at 6:30pm.

Saturday July 13:

Evening hike - Lone Tree Bluffs Regional Park, starts 6:00pm.

Saturday August 10:

Drive up to Mt. Evans, picnic lunch at Echo Lake. Meet at St Luke's at 9:00am.

RSVP Edee Worth, Ann Smith or Allison Wright, allisonwright303©yahoo.com or 720-371-6760.



Brenda Schafer Office Administrator

LATEST ENTRIES TO PRAYER LIST:

Joe Forbes Leslie & David Wildrick Joan Ponds Alec and George Hayllar Kathy Hutchison Tony Zaragoza Jan Brace Julia Klug Molly Driver Estelle Edwards Cheryl Broyles Carol Kennedy Art Kain Bill Wells Marilyn Ary Zelda Suby Peterson Fran West Rob Walker Whitney McGehee Pam (Reid) Catlett John Catlett Holly Hughes Sharon Scholle Sharon Smith

PRAYER CONCERNS Please stop by the Information Center,



by the front door, where you will find the complete and updated Prayer Concerns list or view the listing on our website. Contact Rev. Sallie Suby-Long or Brenda Schafer if you have any additions/removals. 303-791-0659 x32, leave a note on the front desk, or email sallie@stlukeshr.com or brenda©stlukeshr.com

Olivia Murrow

SYMPATHIES TO: Chuck Smith & Carol Gill on the passing of Carol's mother, Ethel Taylor Bob & Sharon Oliver on the passing of Sharon's uncle, Charles Mahan Tom & Sallie Suby-Long and Joanna Murray on the passing of their good friend's husband, Louis Tamberelli The Suby-Long family on the passing of family friend, Mary Demoret Jason & Becky Mayka on the passing of Jason's grandmother, Barbara Nadine Duran Dave & Elizabeth Laurvick on the passing of Dave's uncle, Harold Laurvick Floyd & Connie Shoemaker on the passing of Floyd's brother, Lt. Col. Rollin Shoemaker Tushka, Nick & Amy Breen on the passing of husband/father, Mark Breen Karl & Buffy Krantz on the passing of Buffy's father, Wallace Moore Michael, Emily, Lucas & Lydia Norton on the passing of wife/mother, Patricia Norton Bill & Kendra Lee on the passing of Bill's father, Bill Lee, Sr. Mark & Cathy Johnson of the passing of Mark's mother, Effie Johnson Mike & Laura Richards on the passing of Mike's mother, Phyllis Richards CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Jason & Becky Mayka on the birth of their son, Ronald Fredrick Mayka, and to big brothers Colby & Lain too; Peter & Linda Young of the birth of their granddaughters, Sage, Scarlet & Samantha Hughes

St. Luke's: Your Spiritual Community We invite you to experience community with St. Luke's.

To connect in a deeper way, please contact one of our Pastoral staff or Lynda Fickling, Director of Servant Ministry lynda©stlukeshr.com 303-791-0659 x20 We look forward to sharing our journeys together.





Spirituality and Wellness

In this season of renewal, as we observe the return of green, and birdsong, and lengthening days, the Spirituality and Wellness Team invites the St. Luke's community to join us for activities to enrich your experience of God's presence in the returning spring.

Journey toward Wholeness

Mindful Presence every Monday from 9:15-9:45am in the St. Luke's Chapel

continues to provide quiet space and thoughtful messages to begin each new week. When we close our eyes, choose to slow down, quiet our minds and turn within we feel grounded. Within these moments is an invitation to simply know God. Every week we encourage others to join us as we take time to return emotional balance into our lives and be reminded that our point of power is always in

the present moment. For more information contact Samantha Leahy (sam©stlukeshr. com)

The Outdoor Adventure

Team invite all to "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow..." as we



stalk the early Colorado wildflowers on May 11, hiking the South Mesa/Big Blue Stem/Towhee loop trail near Boulder. Wildflowers visit the plains and foothills only briefly, before moving with their rainbow colors further into the high country. Rocky terrain bursting with color makes it easy to imagine God's voice (probably a gentle one) saying, "Let there be..." and the wildflowers were. For more information contact Jane Staller (janestaller©gmail.com)

July 11 we'll follow a cascading creek up through the forests and meadows of Herman Gulch, to Herman Lake nestled in an alpine basin surrounded by Pettingell Peak and Hagar Mountain. See the St. Luke's bulletin for details. More outdoor adventures are being planned for the summer.

Save the Dates:

- July 13 Japanese Tea Ceremony at Denver Botanic Gardens
- August 1 Canoeing with a Naturalist at Chatfield

Recommended Reading for the Journey. The Spirituality and Wellness Team recommends:

- Let Your Life Speak by Parker Palmer With wisdom, compassion, and gentle humor, Parker J. Palmer invites us to listen to the inner teacher and follow its leadings toward a sense of meaning and purpose. This is a great companion for our journey toward authenticity.
- *Embracing the World* by Jane Venard A book filled with practical guidance for finding a deeper relationship with God through prayer and seeing how prayer can further peace and justice in the world

Service Saturday Success!

At your home, do you and your family spend all day Saturday cleaning your home like crazy for your Holiday Celebrations, and then on Sunday morning when you wake up everything sparkles and smells incredible? Such a fantastic feeling! On the Saturday before Easter, an unlikely group of people who care for St. Luke's rolled up their sleeves, scrubbed and hand dried about 225 folding chairs, painted walls, scrubbed handrails, balusters, woodwork, and doors, took on several paint projects, changed over a 100 light bulbs, patched and protected corners downstairs, pulled weeds, swept sidewalks, repaired classroom cabinets, replaced batteries, cleaned our bus, climbed on scaffolding to clean and repair ceiling light fixtures, dusted window blinds, cleaned sanctuary chairs, polished our altar, and strapped on a vacuum so you would have that same kind of wonderful experience from the moment you and your family stepped inside our church home for Easter services.





Along with the help of many of their children and spouses, our Trustees Team, St. Luke's new Cub Scout Pack 620 and their leaders, our Sanctuary Care team, some of our staff, tech team, musicians, and a handful of 1st time volunteers came together to make a difference for You! We are truly grateful for the help of all of our hard-working volunteers - and very proud to help you have a terrific Easter morning experience at St. Luke's! Didn't it smell fantastic? Did our sunlight sparkle remind you of wonderful celebrations?

Well, have we got GREAT NEWS for you! On Saturday May 11, from 8:00am-noon, we're moving our focus outdoors as we prepare for Mother's Day with our 2nd Church-wide Service Saturday morning! And this time, You're ALL Invited! Please mark your calendars now, grab your gloves, bring along your friends and family, and join us rain or shine as we complete our spring clean up in honor of all of the Mom's, Grandmas, Aunt's, and special women and men who have made a difference in your lives by mothering you! Let's do it up right! Hope to see you there !Thank you for making St. Luke's a priority, and helping us to make a difference for our Mother's Day visitors!

–Sandi Miyaki

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Woof! Woof! Jake and Max, here! April and May are in full bloom here at St. Luke's Children's Ministry! Can you smell it?? We can! Even through the occasional snow storm, we sniffed out amazing Sunday School lessons learning about Love and Pentecost



and the Holy Spirit!...AND, oh boy, is that popcorn?!?..... that must mean Family Movie Night!! Come join your St. Luke's family on Friday May 17 for "Wreck-It Ralph" at 6:45pm. Wear your pajamas and bring your pillows and we'll provide the popcorn.



Our hearing is super good, too, and I think I hear harp music ... ?? Oh, yes, that's Kaila Davidson treating the Joy Trek Sunday School kids to beautiful music during their lesson on The Lord is My Shepherd.

Wow!! Thanks Kaila!!

Can you believe our Morning VBS filled up in just a few hours!?! We are so blessed to have so many families who love VBS! Our Evening session is still open! Sign up online.

Thanks so much to everyone who has served this past year or has signed up to serve in Children's Ministry - you are all blessings in the lives of our children. Servant training with a special guest speaker will be held Sept. 10. It's gonna be awesome. Don't miss it!

Summer is a great time to serve in Sunday School and at VBS - the kids need YOU! And you will find it's one of the most rewarding ways to serve God and share your gifts. Help create lasting memories and grow in your spiritual journey with us! Sign up online or email Sharon or Sam.

Don't forget our great website www. stlukeshr.com/children. You can check out upcoming Events, and the Sunday School Servant Schedule! Please let Sharon & Sam know if you have any questions.

Love and Doggie blessings!





Sharon Oliver Director of Children's Ministry

Samantha Leahy Stephanie Kirk Director of Early Childhood Ministry Coordinator



3 of the little pigs homes and the enchanted woods made the show quite a spectacle. Every year in a very condensed amount of time, even less this year as we worked around spring snow storms, our remarkable St. Luke's kids put on an entertaining show and provided lots of

Children's Ministry

laughs and raised lots of money for our missions. We raised money and collected personal care items for Love INC to help families in our very own community. It meant a lot to the kids to be able to help. We will present a check and the care items later this month during a worship service. BIG BIG thanks to the Cherubs



"A Walk in

the Woods"

left us smiling

Our annual Children's Dinner Theater held on May 3 was

a big success. Forty-one kids,

lots of dedicated volunteers, a

Bears house, the Gingerbread

house, Grandmother's house, all

set that included the Three

yummy dinner and an oversized



Choir and our volunteer teams for dinner, costumes, props, set, missions, publicity, stage management, tech, hair/makeup and to our staff team. Our church family came together for our children and for our community in a beautiful way and created memories for a lifetime. Our theme was LOVE and we sure felt lots of it that night and throughout this process. Thanks for your support!



SLY, Jr. (5th & 6th grade)

had a great time learning some hip hop dancing moves and then we enjoyed an amazing Cinco

de Mayo meal at our Progressive Dinner. Big thanks to our bus driver and expert navigator - Ann & McKay Smith!! Our last SLY, Jr. get together for the year is May 19 at 5:30pm - we will say goodbye to our 6th graders (boo hoo!) with a pizza

and cake celebration and then go on a geocaching adventure! Time to get outside and search for hidden treasures!!!! RSVP to Ms. Sharon.



Kay Swanson

is Little Schog

Director of Little School

Little School News: May Memories from Little School

Here we are at the end of another year at St. Luke's Little School and I am amazed that I have been blessed to be the Director of such an important ministry that St. Luke's offers. I remember being a very naive Director, new to administration

and asking that God guide and bless this school. And, look what has happened! 18 years later, from 87 children, 10 teachers to 264 students and 32 teachers! Many of our children have or are now graduating from High School or attending college! So many memories of God's little children that have passed through our program and so fabulous to see them so successful. We are extremely grateful for all of the loving support from St. Luke's, the amazing staff and the beautiful facilities that we are blessed with. It is truly an honor to be selected as the BEST preschool in the Highlands Ranch, Parker and Castle Rock area!

May will fly by with all kinds of fun activities planned; our "Letterland Parade" for 4's, our "Spring Sing" for 2 1/2 - 3's, Mother's Day teas, Field days, picnics, and of course graduation May 21. We are making memories for sure! We always end on a bitter sweet note, as all of our families become so near and dear to us! It is hard to see some of them move forward, but we know that they are off to "Paint their own Rainbows!" God has truly continued to guide and bless Little School!

Our 17th ANNUAL CREATIVE CRITTER'S ART SHOW was a huge success!! THANKS for coming!



Blessings, -Ms. Kay and Staff "Kids go where there is excitement. They stay where there is love."



"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 LOVE IN ACTION 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."

UMW Spring Tea & Fashion Show - The UMW held their annual Spring



Tea in April complete with a fashion show coordinated with Renewed Treasures Thrift Shop. St. Luke's is a partner church with Renewed Treasures so it was important to us to highlight what they can offer and stir up interest and support for the shop. This was the first fashion show that Renewed Treasures has put on and they did

a fantastic job! The clothes they chose for our outstanding models were stylish and fit the personality of the models! A special thanks to the voice talent of Audrey Elling who emceed the fashion show. The beautiful purple and white decorations were chosen to highlight the

connection to St. Luke's 30th Anniversary weekend. Thanks to all the women and girls who attended for making this such a fun afternoon. Thanks to your generosity a financial donation will be made to Renewed Treasures.

Save the date for Rocky Mountain Conference Mission U (formerly known as School of Mission.) It will be held at St. Andrew again this year Aug 1-3. Such a convenient location! Topics this year include: Spiritual Growth-Living Sacramentally, Walking Justly; Geographic Study-The Roma of Europe; Mission Study- Poverty. Please talk to Betty Ludlam or Renae Parra (RenaeParra@aol.com) if you are interested in registering for this very educational event.

UMW Breakfast at Annual Conference - June 15th at Marriott Tech Center, Greenwood Village. Tickets are \$19. Please contact Betty Ludlam for more info.

Recent Mission Work - Common Thread recently collected food to donate to St. Paul's; The UMW Board took a turn serving breakfast at St. Paul's in April; Simply Saturday Nursing Home visit, and of course the Tea to raise money for Renewed Treasures.

Subgroups of United Methodist Women at St. Luke's UMC:

Women's Night Out - First Monday, 6:30pm

no meetings planned for June and July; Restaurant planning night in August Contact Elaine Carlstrom at ecarlstrom@comcast.net for more info.

Simply Saturday - First Saturday, 9:00am; Room 206

- June and July no meetings planned.
 - Watch for information on Ubuntu Day of Service

For information contact: Janet Sackett jsackett@comcast.net or www.stlukeshr.com, Quick links, Email Lists, to add your name to the email distribution list.

Book Group - Fourth Monday, Room 206, 7:00pm (Potluck Dinner 6:15pm)

- May 20 (3rd Monday) "Lots of Candles, Plenty of Cake" by Anna Quindlen
- June 24 "Hedy's Folly" by Richard Rhodes

Contact RenaeParra@aol.com to for more info.

Itch to Stitch - Second Saturday 10:00-11:30am. Meet in Goliath area of church basement; Call Fran West 303-797-7107 for more info. New mission: knitting caps for the homeless in Denver.

Common Thread - meets First Thursday at 10:00am, usually at the church. Call Caroline Butler for more info 303-797-3225

MAY: Inter-Faith Community Services & our Garden MISSIONS OF THE MONTH

Highlighting Mission Opportunities: Our Focus for May is **IFCS Backpacks and our St. Luke's Community Garden**. For more about these mission opportunities or any other missions supported by St. Luke's, please contact Jerry Hertzler 720-480-0476, jmhertzler©comcast.net or Mike Preble 303-997-7474, mikepreble©yahoo.com.

Backpacks

We know the school year isn't even over yet, but it's time to start soliciting sponsors for the



Inter-Faith Community Services Backpack program for the next school year! Inter-Faith Community Services (IFCS) is a program that was designed to help meet the basic human needs of food, clothing and shelter. IFCS has grown into the largest emergency

and continual support system in South Metro Denver for low income families, children, seniors and the homeless.

The backpack program provides school supplies and a new outfit to children from these families. This help is invaluable in starting these children off on the best foot possible for the coming school year. Imagine the joy on their faces when they leave for school on the first day with their new backpack full of school supplies, wearing their brand new outfit!

We ask that backpack sponsors provide each child with a NEW:

- Backpack
- Grade appropriate school supplies (list will be provided)
- Outfit
- Socks
- Underwear
- Gift Card for shoes (i.e. Famous Footwear, Target, Payless, Kohl's, etc.) with amount written on it

The backpack program has been selected to be one of the Missions of the Month in May. We will be in the Fellowship Hall each Sunday in May to gather sponsors and to answer any questions. The backpacks will need to be returned to the church by June 30 at 1:00pm. If you would prefer not to shop for these items, a monetary donation can be made to this mission and we will do the shopping for you. Thank you again for all your support with this very worthwhile mission. If you have any questions, call or email Val Goodstein, valgoodstein©hotmail.com, 303-799-0907, or Karmie Hilleary, karmie©comcast.net, 303-683-4696.

Grow with our Garden Ministry!



Spring is here! The St. Luke's Garden Ministry team is in the process of preparing for the upcoming growing season. People often say, "I didn't know we had a vegetable garden at St. Luke's?" Well, we do. The raised-bed gardens are on the west side of church next to the children's playground.

We grow vegetables and donate them to those is need of fresh produce. One organization that has benefited from the food we grow is Warren Village. The parents and children who are residents of Warren Village have greatly appreciated receiving fresh vegetables.

This summer marks our third season. The Garden Ministry Team consists of individual volunteers as well as groups within the church. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate. In the near future there will be opportunities to plant, weed, and water the garden. Later this season there will be opportunities for harvesting and delivering the produce.

To sign up for these opportunities, go to the Garden Ministry Calendar on St. Luke's home page. Opportunities to volunteer in the garden will be available from approximately May 1 through the fall.

If you would like to support the Garden Ministry in other ways, we welcome cash donations! Please direct your contributions to "The Garden Ministry Fund". If you have any questions, you may contact Thomas Suby-Long (tsubylong©comcast.net) or Todd Land (tland©applewoodseed.com).

A Letter from DenUM to St. Luke's

Dear St. Luke's United Methodist Church,

I have some news that might sound bad – but bear with me for just a moment, and you'll see why at DenUM we're grateful. According to a recent nationwide study, more than half of the nonprofit organizations surveyed reported that they were unable to meet demand for their services. The good news? At DenUM, we haven't turned away a single qualified individual from our food pantry for the past four years. That kind of success is only possible because people like you care enough to help.

Like all nonprofit organizations, we're under tremendous pressure to stretch our resources. But we're up for the challenge because you are. With your support, we can help people like Nikki, a former client who spoke at our most recent Hope Benefit. Nikki's son was born with a severe disability, and after years of struggle his medical bills had finally gotten to be too much. We were able to keep Nikki from being evicted and help her get financially stable again. Her son's health issues will continue, but Nikki's back on her feet and making sure he gets the care he needs.

Nikki reminds us all of why our work is so important. "Without DenUM, I don't know what I would have done," she told us. "I can't thank you enough." Your recent gift, listed below, provides help and hope to people like Nikki and her son. And because you've contributed in April, you've helped DenUM earn more of the \$1,000,000 matching gift offered by the Feinstein foundation for March and April! We're inspired by your compassion and generosity, and we're thankful to count you as part of the DenUM community.

Date: 4/15/2013 Amount: \$330.89 Description: Food 203 lbs x 1.63 = \$330.89 In Gratitude, Tammy Mulligan, DenUM Executive Director

Mission Opportunity for Families, Couples and Singles

Love In the Name of Christ (Love INC), a national ministry that operates in 30 states, addresses unmet needs in local areas. Love INC of Littleton, our local affiliate, is presenting an opportunity to serve the elderly. They arrange for individuals, couples, and families to visit a nursing home resident. Bessie's Hope, a local non-profit, matches visitors with residents, and Love INC takes care of the training, orientation, and visit. The next scheduled opportunity will be at 1:00pm on Sunday, June 9 at Cherrelen Nursing Home. For more info, contact Doug McKinney at doug©loveinclittleton.org, Jan Munoz jsmunoz48©hotmail.com, or Linda Streaty linstreaty©yahoo.com.

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Thank You For Your Continued Financial Support

Happy 30th Anniversary St. Luke's! One of the ways we're celebrating our 30th anniversary is by encouraging more families to start using our reloadable cards to purchase their groceries at Kings and Safeway. When you enroll in the program

Dave Cupp Director of Finance

by getting your free starter card here at St. Luke's, we will get at least a 5% rebate to go into our general fund. If you do the math you will immediately see how much this rebate program can add to our general fund annually We now have around 75 families participating in the program and we're hoping to increase that number by another 300 families. When we do an all church family mailing the number mailed is usually around 850 families. So you can see that this 300 number would still have less than a 50% participation rate and is a realistic number to set as a goal.

I did a review of the report that came with the last check we received from Kings. The findings were rather interesting. The report showed the following:

- The total sales from reloadable cards for the 26 day period covered in the report were \$18,365.63.
- The rebate check amount for these sales was for \$918.28 which represents a 5% rebate on the total sales. This is a rather typical report and would translate into \$11,000 for a year.
- There were 56 user families on the report for an average reload amount of \$328 which would be an average rebate of \$16.40 to St. Luke's for the months activity.
- \$16.40 seems like a very small amount to get excited about when our budget is more than a million. But---if we have 350 participating families for 12 months---it becomes a very large number---nearly \$70,000 annually.---a significant impact on our annual income.
- The reload amounts varied from \$17.63 to \$325 with the majority being over \$100 at each reload. Some reloaded their cards as many as four times during the period.
- Thirty five of the transactions were from reloadable cards issued in 2009, 18 were issued in 2010, 16 were issued in 2011 and 31 were issued in 2012.

Participation is so easy. All you do is get your card reloaded as needed at the service counter using your credit card, check or cash. If you forget to stop at the service counter they can reload at the cashier if you let them know before they ring-up your purchase. You can use the card to purchase store items and gas. Unfortunately, you can't use it to purchase gift cards.

Thanks to your commitment and generosity, 2012 was another successful financial year at St. Luke's.

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 eft from checking accounts.

3. Special Events: Depending on the event, may include cash, check, PayPal and online credit card transactions.

4. Plus: We'd consider any reasonable method you know about that we haven't adopted.





James Ramsey Director of Music & Arts Ministries

Kenrick Mervine Je Associate Dir. of As Music Ministry/ of Organist

Jennifer Ferguson Associate Director of Music Ministry Kay Coryell Dir of Handbells & Children's Music Ministry

Summer Choir!! Worship services at St. Luke's are enhanced greatly by the hard work of our Chancel Choir. Have you ever thought that you might like to sing as part of the group? Summer Choir is a great chance to get acquainted with the ins and outs of choir at

St. Luke's! The summer kick-off is a Summer Choir Retreat on Saturday, July 20 from 9:00-11:00am. Summer Choir will sing at the 9:30 and 11:00 services on both July 21 and August 11. For more information about singing with the choir, contact Jim Ramsey at jim©stlukeshr.com.

Easter Reviews The Music and Drama Ministry program at St. Luke's would like to thank all of the many musicians who made Easter very special. A special thank you to the Women of Note and to the members of the St. Luke's Brass Ensemble for braving the crisp Easter air at 4:00am to play at the Easter Sunrise Service at Red Rocks. It was an amazing experience that the groups got to share with a crowd of 11,700 attendees. Thank you all for your work and dedication!

Rocky Mountain Conference UMW Spiritual Life Retreat at Estes Park

A few of us from St. Luke's attended and were inspired. The Retreat's guest leader was Jorge Lockward, director of the Global Praise Program. A native of the Dominican Republic, with residence in NYC, Jorge has an impressive biography, centered on a musical background of talent and leadership. He led us in a lively chorus of songs and message.

On Saturday, Jorge's inspiring program "SINGING THE HEART OF GOD," focused on us being "A Feather in the Breath of God" and how the presence of God in all things is a gift. He said you are not supposed to GET the Spirit of God. Instead the Spirit of God is supposed to GET you. He said the UMW are healing friends. And we are thankful for our healing friends. He added when you disagree one with another do not argue, instead say, "Tell me more."

Jorge told of a NM Wesleyan student who said of his group, 'We are the rejects. When there seems to be no place left on campus to turn, they come to us, to God's banquet, for they know we know and share God's grace. We know how much one needs God. We know banquets are not for those who are full but for those who are hungry.'

As we serve others, Jorge reminded us, remember there are people in need, but don't get lost in that need. Remember, always remember, "It's me ole Lord standing in the need of prayer." Our life problems are gifts from God, roads to His grace. They help us understand the like-needs of others.

Our bodies bounced and swayed to the music in non-UMW fashion, as we smiled and celebrated life. I will leave you with this line of *Hymn of Promise* by Natalie A. Sheeth, one of my favorites:

There's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me. From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery, Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

Amen to that. Amen to that!

-Sylvia Brady



Upcoming Events!

Check out our summer mission trips:

- May 3 I-June 9: Guatemala Trip for Juniors, Seniors, and College Students
- June 22-30: Yakima, Washington Trip for Sr. High Students
- July 28-August 3: Rapid City, South Dakota Trip for Jr. High Students
- August 4-11: New Jersey Trip for College Students
- Sign up to receive our emails and Check www.stlukeshr.com and click on "Youth" or "SLY" for up-to-date info on programs, activities, opportunities and more!



ON THE SLY: We're Fun, We're Crazy, We're Youth!!

And now a special report: On April 21, 2013, the Sanctuary and all three worship services were taken over by strange beings known as the St. Luke's Youth. These





Dave Laurvick Director of Youth Ministry



Amy McMullen Assistant Dir. of Youth Ministry

strange creatures danced, and sang, and two even dressed up as Lion King Characters. This extraordinary phenomenon occurs once every spring. Scientists call it... Youth Sunday!!

Yes, Youth Sunday was definitely a 'unique' experience, but that's what these youth are.. unique! They took the stage and shared with the congregation the fun and crazy way that they like to worship God. Everything, from the songs they sang,

to the prayers they prayed, reflected the youth and their relationship they have with God. Two of our youth, A.J. Preble and Anna Fisher, wrote and presented an absolutely wonderful sermon on how God is everywhere in their lives. It was very moving. I hope the congregation enjoyed experiencing the service, because I know the youth loved planning it and putting it on!

May brings both joy and sadness as we say goodbye to our graduating seniors. We have youth going all over the country for college and jobs, and we couldn't be more proud! The passion and faith that these seniors brought to youth group will surely be missed.. but we can't wait to watch them grow! Please join us May 19 for Graduation Sunday where we will say goodbye and bless them on their journey.

We are SLY (St. Luke's Youth) and we are an inclusive group for all 7th-12th graders that focuses on fellowship, fun, and finding out what this God thing is all about! As always, we have lots going on and are so excited to grow closer while having fun and being the hands and feet of Christ! See below for a snapshot of what coming up. We are blessed to be able to work with the youth of St. Luke's and we love to watch their relationships grow with God and each other!

-Yours in Christ, Amy (& Dave!)

Sundays:

- SLY AM (9:30-10:30am) Beginnings and Endings. Welcome to new 7th graders on June 2!
- SLY PM (6:00-7:30pm) In May we are celebrating our graduating seniors with a Graduation Party as well as having an Arcade Night and enjoying the weather with some Outdoor Fun! All sorts of fellowship and fun activities are happening Sunday nights in the Youth Room! Check out our website for details.

Wednesdays:

- Homework/Tutoring Hour (5:30-6:30pm, ends May 22) A chance to get your homework done and even get help if you need it! On Wednesday May 15, a member of our congregation, and former math teacher, has offered to come and help with math homework and help you get ready for finals!!
- Wed. SLY (6:30-8:00pm, ends May 22) Youth directed fellowship activities! Coming up we have a food and talks, dinner out, and an end of the year party!

Summer Happenings:

Summer is just about here, and with the end of school, comes some changes in our schedule! We will be moving to our summer programming of GEMs (Girls Enrichment Ministry) and STMs (Shortcuts To Manhood) on June 12! These gender specific activities run all summer on Wednesday nights from 6:00-8:00pm. Look for the schedule in the Youth Room or online!

Seasoned Voyagers News Upcoming Activities Roxborough Revisited



Seasoned Voyagers, our 55+ ministry, sets sail for a picnic and evening of music at Roxborough State Park Wednesday, June 26.

We meet at the church at 5:00pm to car pool and make sure that everyone who signs up gets a ride. The guitar and mandolin concert starts at 6:30pm so we will have plenty of time for a look around and a picnic supper. Bring your own folding chairs and picnic.

Sign up begins Sunday, June 2 at the church to let us know if you can drive your car or if you will be a passenger. We could use one pickup truck driver to carry big things that won't fit into smaller cars.

Sign up fee: \$ 5.00 to cover car entry fees. The remainder will be donated to the Roxborough State Park which is the purpose of this benefit concert.

For more information call Judy Dearasaugh at 303-814-3304 or email Joyce Rovetta at: rovetta©juno.com

To always be aware of activities such as this for our 55+ members, get on the Seasoned Voyagers email list at StLukesHR.com.

From home page, go to quick links and go to email lists. Scroll down to Ministry Email Lists where you will be able to "select a list" and go to Seasoned Voyagers and enter and submit your name and email address.

You will then get all email updates about Seasoned Voyager activities.

More from Les: Where's God When We Fail? by Rev. Les Ludlam



I was desperately in love that summer in the late 50's with my future wife, Betty Hoback, and wanted her to be part of everything in my life. I couldn't bear to be far away from her, and I thanked God that we had found each other! I was planning to buy an engagement ring and "pop the question."

"We're going up to Vega Reservoir," said my dad one Saturday, "and bring your girlfriend along. She'll have fun." My mind whirled, "I don't know if Betty likes riding in the boat that much. She's never water-skied. And then the clincher, "Oh, yeah, she'll be wearing her swimming suit!" That did it! So, my answer was "OK, I'll ask her to come." But I knew Betty was not comfortable around deep water.

I learned later that there had been a very frightening accident with a bicycle when she was in elementary school; she had fallen into an irrigation ditch and when her brothers pulled her out, she had cried out, "I thought I was drowned!"

The day was bright and sunny and hot in Grand Junction. But Vega Reservoir was about 2,000 feet higher in elevation, so the temperature was much milder and the water temperature much colder than in town. Dad put the boat in the water and tried a few laps. Then he was ready to pull a few skiers. First Leo, then Mary Lee, then Jerry and finally I took a lap or two. "Hey, Betty," Dad called out, "you'd better try this, the water's perfect!" "But I don't know how to water ski," she replied. Then, I foolishly stepped in. "Betty, he's going to keep bugging you until you say yes." There was a sharp look and then the words. "Oh, all right, I'll try it, just to make you happy."

Betty waded out into the water and a few instructions were given. "Walk out till it's deep enough that you can crouch till your waist is below the surface of the water. Keep your legs bent slightly, and when the boat begins to pull you lift your feet and lean back, let the boat pull you up." "Don't let the tow rope go slack, —and remember to let go of the handle when you fall." This last instruction, suggesting that she would eventually fall into the water, did not help at all for someone who, to begin with, wasn't all that thrilled about this. We helped Betty put on the skis and when she was ready, she walked out, crouched, gripped the towrope handle tightly, and then called out, "Go!"

The throttle went forward; the towrope pulled tight, the boat surged ahead with Betty holding firmly to the handle. She slowly moved forward and upward in the water, her skis not quite breaking the surface. But then she tilted sideways and began falling. She hit the water headfirst, still holding fast to the towrope.

The boat stopped and Betty bobbed to the surface. "Get your legs under you and we'll try again!" Dad put the boat into gear for another try, but with the same results. Her head went under, but she held on as long as she could. The boat was dragging her around in the water and it seemed like my father was trying to drown my girlfriend! Dad gave up. He shut the engine down to an idle, turned the boat around and picked her up to bring her back to the shore. Betty was clearly shaken and pretty angry. She was angry with Dad, at me, and at anyone who might think this had been a good idea. She spent the rest of the day wrapped in a towel. The ride back to her home was frighteningly quiet. This is obviously not how one reinforces a blossoming romance! And when I heard the story of her bicycle experience, I felt awful!

Where was God in all this? Why didn't I ask about her discomfort with deep water ahead of time? Why had Dad been so insisting? Why didn't I stick up for her a little more? Why didn't she just say "no" and then be finished with it? Looking back today and reflecting on this incident, I'm thankful that her love was stronger than her anger.

God was present and active that day! I believe God used the water skiing incident to teach me something about the love one person has for another. There was bravery, courage, and willingness to risk demonstrated that day at Vega Reservoir. And, fortunately for me, there was also forgiveness shown.

God will nourish us during the times where we have met our limits and experienced failure. God walks with us in our struggles. And while but God doesn't "fix" things we the way we might want them to be, we are not alone. God's gift to us is the provision of all that we need to complete our tasks and solve our problems by ourselves.

God bless us all! –Les



St. Luke's United Methodist Church

8817 S. Broadway • Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

303-791-0659 • www.stlukeshr.com

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.

		MAY/	JUNE 2013			
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	<u>Fr</u> iday	Saturday
Happy Mother's Day Happy Mother's Day	6:30pm: Finance Team 7:00pm:Trustees	6:00pm: Spirituality & Wellness 7:00pm: Missions Team	5:30pm: SLY Homework Hour 6:30pm: SLY Wednesday 6:30pm: Parents of Teens/Young Adults with Depression/Bipolar	6:30pm: Contemplative Fellowship 7:00pm: Young Adults	6:45pm: Family Movie Night "Wreck-It Ralph"	9:00am: Sanctuary Care Team 10:00am: Wesley Writers
19 3000 Graduation Sunday 8:00,9:30,11:00am:Worship -Rev. Dr. Janet Forbes 8:00am: UMW Committee Mtg. 8:15am: Contemplative Worship 5:30pm: SLY, Jr. 6:00pm: SLY PM 6:30pm: Revolution	20 7:00pm:Women's Evening Book Club	6:30pm: Children's Ministry Team	22	6:30pm: Contemplative Fellowship 7:00pm: Young Adults	24	2!
26 8:00, 9:30, 1 1:00am: Worship -Rev. Dr. Janet Forbes 6:00pm: SLY PM 6:30pm: Revolution	27 Memorial Day Office Closed	28 7:00am: Men's Group @ Egg & I 7:00pm: SPRT	29	30 6:30pm: Contemplative Fellowship 7:00pm:Young Adults	3 I Mission Trip to Guatemala	JUNE Mission Trip to Guatemala
2 Mission Trip to Guatemala 8:00, 9:30, I 1:00am: Worship <i>-Rev. Dr. Janet Forbes</i> 9:30am: Promotion Sunday - 6th grade and up 11:00am: Learning with St. Luke's Mtg. 12:15pm: Seasoned Voyagers Core Team Mtg. 6:00pm: SLY PM 6:30pm: Seasoned Voyagers at Hudson Gardens 6:30pm: Revolution	PAA Mission Trip to Guatemala	4 PAA Mission Trip to Guatemala	PAA Mission Trip to Guatemala 9:30am: Wacky Wednesdays 6:30pm: Parents of Teens/Young Adults with Depression/Bipolar	6 PAA Mission Trip to Guatemala 10:00am: Common Thread 6:30pm: Contemplative Fellowship 7:00pm: Young Adults	PAA Mission Trip to Guatemala 9:00am: Playgroup	Mission Trip to Guatemala 10:00am: Geneology 101 10:00am: 1tch to Stitch 1:00pm: Respite Day Out 6:45pm: Bridge Club
9 Mission Trip to Guatemala 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am:Worship -Rev. Dr. Janet Forbes	10	11	12	6:00pm: PAAPerformance	Willy 14	15