



The Chronicle

ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

OCTOBER 2013

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and much more!



"The Importance of Being Earnest"

Oct. 25 at 7:00pm
 and Oct. 26 at
 3:00 & 7:00pm

St. Luke's Giving Tree

offers hope and Christmas joy to families from Interfaith Community Services as well as youth from Urban Peak. Every November the Giving Tree goes up in the Fellowship Hall lighted and tagged with names and wishes of children and adults who, without our generous support, may not have a gift to open on Christmas morning. Help St. Luke's continue this wonderful tradition.

Look for the
 Giving Tree
 November 10.



Picnic, Pumpkins and Pallets

Fall has arrived at St. Luke's!

The St. Luke's Community gathered for our annual **PICNIC** on Sunday, Sept. 8. Thanks to everyone who took part and made it such a fun time. Courtesy of our Fellowship Events Team, we were treated to delicious homemade food! Co-Leaders Lisa Lehnus and Mona Daniels did a superb job at organizing this event! Chef Dave Rhodes and his lovely assistant Jenita cooked a mean pulled pork! Thanks to the rest of the team Stephanie Kirk, Linda Babcock and our mini-chef Isaiah! Thank you to Barry Curtis, Bruce Pawley and team members for setting up and cleaning up the event. The music by our new intern Thomas was awesome!! And thanks to Ken Fong for setting up the sound system! Thanks to our Children's Ministry Team and Youth for providing games for us to enjoy.

Thanks also to all who came out to unload **PUMPKINS** on Oct. 2 for our annual Pumpkin Patch.

And **BIG** congrats to our **FEEDING OF THE 5,000** event - more details to follow in our November issue - we filled more pallets of food than ever - it was a huge success!!

Service, Sacrifice & South Dakota

by Anna Fisher (9th Grade) & Alyssa Philips (9th Grade)

*motivation • hope • understanding • courage
 meaning • difference • thankful*

Mission trips are often life altering, a week away from your phone, facebook, Instagram... etc. You might say, "Oh my gosh! Mount Rushmore," elongate your arm towards the key to a manufactured world, sudden panic then remember, you are on a mission trip, no phones to distract you, no checking social networks

during lunch, no fake fill to your time. Just you, and about 54 other people, 7th-9th grade youth, serving others.

Everyone comes for a reason, whether to serve, to

have fun, or to advance spiritually and religiously. With activities every day, two teams to learn from, warm up to, get to know, and share good times with, times have just got to be great! Service to appreciative receivers, and generosity soaked pool time, that's a recipe worth tasting!

The daily schedule, altered for each work team, goes something like this: Each team goes to an activity, to serve others varying from a soup kitchen to sorting at a Thrift Store to a food drive to a disabilities home to bagging hygiene packets.

Once finished, in the afternoon, after some down time, dinner, night enjoyment, and devotions, comes storytelling, silent times, and a few questions to quiz yourself and others with.



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Old Concepts for a New Day

"You shall go there, bringing... your tithes and your donations, your votive gifts, your freewill offering..."

—Deuteronomy 12:5-6

When we have conversations about investing in the ways that St. Luke's is making a difference, Revs. Sallie, Ryan, and I are often asked about the origin of the biblical phrase "tithes and offerings". Even though these biblical images have been celebrated in Christian community for centuries, they still name the vibrant ways we grow our faith journey and our life together.

The **TITHE** represents 10% of the bounty with which God blesses us. It is also the symbol that Paul uses when he writes to the young churches of the first century. He calls for "PROPORTIONAL GIVING". We are to give in proportion to what we have earned, in

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Sunday Worship Services:

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

Vine 4:00pm (Check website for locations)

Contemplative Service

(Check website for dates & 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

Email.....office@stlukeshr.com

Website.....www.stlukeshr.com

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

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Associate Minister Emergency: 303-475-0141

Rev. Ryan Canaday.....x12
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Samantha Leahy.....x40
Director of Early Childhood Ministry

Stephanie Kirk.....x11
Children's Ministry Coordinator

Dave Laurvick.....x14
Director of Youth Ministry

Amy McMullen.....x19
Assistant Director of Youth Ministry

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

Dr. James Ramsey.....x23
Director of Music & Arts Ministries

Kenrick Mervine.....x33
Associate Director of Music Ministry & Organist

Jennifer Ferguson.....x37
Associate Director of Music Ministry

Kay Coryell.....x36
Director of Handbells & Children's Music Ministry

Ernie Rodgers.....x44
Vine Worship Leader

Carrie Mallery.....x35
Assistant Vine Leader

Brenda Schafer.....x10
Office Administrator

Dave Cupp.....x24
Director of Finance

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

Barry Curtis.....x39
Facilities Manager

All submissions for the
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Rev. Janet Forbes
Senior Pastor

Draw the Circle Wide in Astonishing Ways

God can pour on the blessings in astonishing ways so that
you're ready for anything and everything, more than just
ready to do what needs to be done. —2 Corinthians 9:8 (*The Message*)

No one stands alone. Standing side by side,

Draw the circle, Draw the circle wide!

You know Mark Miller as the composer of our 30th anniversary song, *The Justice Suite*, premiered at our birthday party last April. When Mark was here for the celebration, he taught many of us this song.

Jim and I thought that the song might have come out of Mark's growing up in a family of twelve adopted children of diverse racial backgrounds. However, it was actually composed for a Yale University chapel service, remembering the death of a student. Since that time, the song has become a **RALLYING CRY FOR A MORE INCLUSIVE, GENEROUS WORLD**, saying that God's love is much wider than we can ever imagine!

At the heart of the song is a commitment to relationship... **THAT NO ONE STANDS ALONE.**

Susan was a high school senior, serving as president of the Youth Council at the Methodist church. She fell in love with a young man of the Mormon faith. She began to attend both churches, asking questions about the different beliefs. She met with me, the Associate Minister, the youth sponsors, and with friends and parents. We talked about Mormonism and Methodism and about the role of women. We reminded her that if she married in the Temple, her family and friends could not attend. So, when Susan was baptized into the Mormon faith, she didn't invite any of us to the celebration.

Sweet Susan, dear disciple of Christ and daughter of my heart, did not know how much I loved her, no matter her choice. Instead of telling her what I loved about my expression of the Christian faith, I told her what was wrong with hers. In asserting my perspective, I lost Susan. It broke my heart.

On that day, I decided to **VALUE RELATIONSHIP OVER BELIEF**, to **ACT WITH COMPASSION** and **REFRAIN FROM JUDGMENT**, to **PRACTICE RADICAL HOSPITALITY**, to **DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE**. The way to save the world is not through more rules to live by, but through right relationships to live for.

When we see what God is already doing among us, fueling our future, opening doors to deeper friendships, compassion, and welcome, I want to jump into that energy!

GOD'S ASTONISHING LOVE FOR US!

- Celebrate what is already happening with fulltime ministry in Spiritual Care and Youth Ministries. We are hungry for vibrant communities in which to grow our spiritual journeys, during times of trauma, vocational change, and grief and as our young people navigate adolescence. We must expand our capacity to receive the people who are coming!
- Congratulate and honor a gifted staff with raises.
- Invite a Director of Communications and Social Media to introduce us to our 21st century netted connections.
- Support our youth in confirmation. We want make the confirmation experience available to every young person, regardless of their ability to pay for the resources, retreat, or mission immersion.

St. Luke's is living the commitment to be a part of drawing wider circles. **CONSECRATION AND ALL-SAINTS SUNDAY** is planned for *Sunday, November 3* with a service of Holy Communion, a remembrance of loved ones, and the commitment of gifts. Let this be our song! Celebrate the astonishing blessings of our community. No one stands alone. Standing side by side, draw the circle, draw the circle wide!

With much heart and hope, —Rev. Janet





Rev. Ryan Canaday
Associate Minister

Vine: Bearing Fruit

Big things have been happening on our Sunday evening gatherings! We've been doing some visioning together, asking questions like: *What is "church?" Who are we? Where is God leading us?* We've been meeting a local park all summer. It's been a great experience and it taught us that "church" can happen in some pretty cool ways even outside

of the walls of a church building. Long story short, we're moving in a new direction and we have tons of excitement and passion about this...and we want to keep you in the loop because the truth is, we need your connection and support.

After doing some work in John's Gospel, we came across John chapter 15. It's all about the vine and branches and when they work together, all kinds of fruit is born. When we bear fruit, we are being disciples of Jesus. What does this fruit look like? It's going out into the world, doing life together and loving people (John 15:12-17.) Simple. But sometimes we do a great job at complicating the simple.

So, we've decided to go with the name **Vine**.

We're no longer Revolution, but Vine. And

Vine intends to be a mobile faith community that gathers throughout the South Denver area. Ideally, several and various Branches will become part of the Vine (and we've already got some really cool ideas). A vine can exist on its own but its branches cause it to thrive. These Branches can be described as small, intentional communities, led by the people. Some of these Branches will climb from within St. Luke's, while others will climb from within the broader South Denver/Highlands Ranch community. You may be interested in a Branch... let's talk!

How will this thing work?

Vine will gather at various locations throughout the South Denver area weekly on Sunday afternoons at 4:00pm (**YES, this indicates a time change.**) We will rotate on a monthly basis. During the month of October we'll be at the Corner Bakery (1601 Mayberry Dr, Highlands Ranch.) In November we'll be at Lil Ricci's (44 Centennial Blvd, Littleton.) Each individual Branch will decide their meeting time and location (location examples: coffee shops, homes, restaurants, bars, etc.) I will provide training for Branch leaders and oversight of each Branch.

We will host our "Big Vine Gathering" on the first Sunday of each month at 4:00pm in a location in the South Denver area that is sizable enough to host Vine and Branches, or the Fellowship Hall at St. Luke's. On these Sundays, all of the Branches will gather for a shared meal, participatory worship, and storytelling (stories from the Branches about how God is moving in and through a particular Branch.)

It is essential for Vine and Branches to be engaged in some sort of service project in the community. We will refer to these Sundays as "Practical Worship" and we intend to do this with the most vulnerable in our community. We are committed to engage in practical worship on a regular basis (every 6-8 weeks.) On these Sundays we will still gather at 4:00pm but our gathering will consist of some sort of service project—serving with the least of these—the least, the last, and the forgotten. These service projects will be planned in advance.

I know this is a lot of information. You may be thinking to yourself: "Wait, you're going to be where, and doing what on what Sunday...?" I get it. So let me make this easier. You can follow us on our Facebook page as well as our website. Both of these will stay up to date. God is on the move... we're just trying to keep up. What a blast of a journey! Stay tuned with more news from Vine.

Vine website: www.vineandbranches.us

Vine Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/vineandbranches.us>

Grace & Peace, Rev. Ryan



Rev. Dr. Sallie Suby-Long
Associate Minister

A Ministry of Presence: Spiritual Direction

Rev. Janet and I have been observing something amazing that is happening at St. Luke's! Over the past 5 years, we have had 6 people in our community pursue specialized, intensive training to become Spiritual Directors! To have 6 people in one congregation, independent of one another, choose to follow this call is quite remarkable! It's exciting to see how God is leading us in this ministry.

Spiritual Direction is a reflective practice of intentional listening that supports people in discernment, gaining greater self-awareness, and connecting more deeply with what is sacred in life.

Often people seek spiritual direction when they are trying to make important decisions, dealing with life transitions, or looking for new ways to experience God's presence. The role of a Spiritual Director is really as a guide... to create a safe, welcoming place for you to explore questions and to engage in important inner work in a prayerful setting.

Spiritual Direction is actually an ancient spiritual practice that has become especially relevant in the midst of our busy and fast paced culture. One of my colleagues described it this way: *"Spiritual Direction provides a way to slow down long enough for your soul to catch up with you!"*

The process is facilitated by professionals who are trained in this ministry. The individuals in our community who have completed professional certification in the practice of Spiritual Direction include Lynda Fickling, Leigh Ramsey, Janet Johnston, Jenita Rhodes, Marshall Kuhn, and myself.

You're invited to contact any one of us if you'd like to meet with a Spiritual Director or participate in our future Group Spiritual Direction experiences.

—Dr. Sallie, sallie@stlukeshr.com



The Gathering
*Where new friends
at St. Luke's connect*

Whether you are new to St. Luke's or have been connected for a while now, we invite you to be our guest on **Sunday, Nov. 3 from 12:30-2:00pm at the home of Rev. Janet Forbes & Bob Davis.**

We will eat and join in conversation with new friends and the leadership of St. Luke's. RSVP to Lynda Fickling Lynda@stlukeshr.com.

We encourage you to attend the 11:00am service that day and after service, meet in the Fellowship Hall to carpool to Janet's home. All are welcome!

"They spent their time learning from the apostles, and they were like family to each other. They also broke bread and prayed together" —Acts 2:42-47 (CEV)



Lynda Fickling
Director of
Servant Ministry/
Spiritual Director

Get CONNECTED Welcoming the Stranger

We are entering a new phase of radical hospitality (radical meaning fundamental, or the root) and have discerned with the leaders of our Hospitality Teams and Staff to revise the way we welcome folks at the beginning of the Sunday services. Everyone who enters the doors of St. Luke's, needs to feel comfortable and welcomed. We do not wish to cause anyone anxiety by asking them to point themselves out as being "new" to our community. The root of being hospitable is to offer that space in which all people feel at peace and welcomed whoever they are and wherever they are on their journey in life.

Instead of Jim Ramsey asking folks to raise their hands, he will verbally welcome them and invite them to visit the Get Connected Center and our website for information about our community. The most important thing is that they are here with us today.

We invite you to seek those who may be a stranger to you that day, welcome them, engage in conversation and grab a purple Welcome Bag from either the Guest Service area (in the foyer) or the Get Connected Center – whichever is closest to you, and hand this gift to them. Please make this as natural and authentic to you as possible. If you are uncomfortable doing this, you do not have to. The key is to do what God encourages you to do at that moment. The idea is to make our welcoming more personal and more relational. A gracious moment of welcome vs. a large (put me on the spot) welcome. This gives the new folks a chance to feel our hospitality and feel welcomed at a level in which they are comfortable. And this puts the welcome ministry into the hands of the community vs. just a few.

Join us as we continue to celebrate our delicious homemade breads, baked with care by our Bread Team and expand our hospitality ministry into the body of our community.

Thank you St. Luke's, for continuing to amaze me at your openness to welcome the stranger among us.

"One of the peculiarities about really hospitable people is that they don't go out looking for ways to be hospitable; they simply give it a try when there's a chance to do so. It isn't about results; it's about changing the universe by becoming available to one person in one sliver of time." Lonni Collins Pratt with Father Daniel Homan, OSB, from the book "Radical Hospitality, benedict's way of love."

Join us for Coffee & Conversation



about the History of St. Luke's, the United Methodist Church, our programs and ministries. **9:30am any 2nd Sunday of the month** *excluding December. Meet Rev. Sallie & Lynda Fickling In Room 212. All welcome!



Brenda Schafer
Office Administrator

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

LATEST ENTRIES TO PRAYER LIST:

Olivia Murrow
Joe Forbes –
Rev. Janet Forbes' brother
Kathy Hutchinson –
Dave Laurvick's sister
Jan Lindquist
Dean Luallen
Jozie – Trudi Mathew's co-worker
Betty Nelson
Pete Lepore –
Gina Lowrey's brother
Madeleine Hendreschke
Julia Klug
Tyler Young –
Kathy Swier's grandson
Dorothy Weir

Linda Fligg
Joe Miyaki
Mark Stahlman
Jim Wolff's mother
Beth Turner
Brian DeGiorgio
Joe DeGiorgio
Jennifer Mullin

SYMPATHIES TO:

Dennis & Debbie Hofer on the passing of Debbie's mother, Elizabeth Reed
Kathy Swier on the passing of her uncle, Frank James
Row Helman and Roxie Morris on the passing of their father, David Morris

continued from page 1

proportion to what we have accumulated, in proportion to what we possess. We are to give in proportion to how we have prospered under the grace of God. So, "tithing" is a symbol for planned giving. Tithing helps us give significantly in a systematic way. It is a planned share in the purposes of God. Tithing reminds us that we are all **STEWARDS** and not owners. A tithe is a guide toward responsible, healthy, significant faith-promise giving.

A **TITHE** represents what you plan to give to the ministries and future of St. Luke's. It is your plan – freely decided upon. It is promised out of your financial means, and cheerfully given. The tithe is the amount we bring weekly or monthly. Whether given by electronic funds transfer, or by a rewards card, or by check in the offering plate on Sunday, it is an investment in our community and an act of worship.

Next we are enjoined to bring our **OFFERINGS**. The Bible knows at least two kinds of offerings which have connection with our lives today.

First, there are the **"votive offerings"**. Votive offerings are part of a vow or promise, or they represent a specific act of thanksgiving to God, or a personal act of devotion. Seasonal offerings, missional giving, bequests, and memorials are in the category of votive offerings. On Sunday, Nov. 3, we dedicate new bequests on the Tree of Life in the hallway beside the Chapel, celebrating the many families who have dedicated gifts in honor of loved ones.

The biblical witness also speaks of **"freewill offerings."** It is an unplanned, unstructured, unexpected out-of-pocket offering on the spur of the moment. The freewill offering is giving out of a sudden impulse of love, out of a felt need. It is the envelope in your worship bulletin when you arrive on a Sunday morning that invites a response for a special cause. It is the call for a special disaster relief offering due to flood, or hurricane. It is the spontaneous gift to the pastor's relief fund for homeless persons. It is a breakfast burrito to support a Guatemala Mission Team, or a college student planning to be a missionary, or our Boy Scout Troop.

Bring your tithes and your votive offerings and your freewill offerings! The text is an amazing ancient writing with a high level of contemporary relevance. It all adds up to a single central truth: As we give of any monetary amount, we are primarily receivers and transmitters of the love of God in the world. We draw the circle wide! Ultimately, that's what any giving is all about.



Journey toward Wholeness

Spirituality and Wellness

Connection. Inspiration. Transformation.

Courage in Today's World –

Bryan Hutchinson and team. Nov. 12, 6:30-

8:30pm. The Spirituality and Wellness Team invites you to join us on November 12 for the launch of our annual speaker series. Bryan Hutchinson and team will address the topic of “courage.” Our normal perceptions of courage are that it is “what hero’s have” and that courage is something that occurs

in moments of unusual circumstances. We will challenge that belief - and explore the courageous acts that occur throughout our daily lives. We will explore the courage it takes to live moment to moment, hour by hour, day by day. We will also identify how everyday people are as courageous as war heroes, people who have acted courageously under abnormal circumstances and those who have been courageous in the face of horrendous situations - in other words, we are going to spend an evening acknowledging that living our lives takes great courage - every day! We will also spend time exploring the concept of courage - what it is, how we can develop courage when we need it, and how we can become courageous when we are feeling most vulnerable. Oh—and we might have to spend some time dealing with all of those voices in our heads telling us how afraid we are!

Future Speaker Series Events:

- An evening with Donald Miller, author of *A Million Miles in a Thousand Years: What I Learned While Editing My Life*. A collaboration with area churches, coming April 2014

Spiritual Direction:

- Group Spiritual Direction. Sundays, September 29-October 13 from 12:30-1:30pm in the St. Luke’s Chapel – The reflective practice of Spiritual Direction supports individuals in discernment, gaining greater self-awareness, growing in faith, working through challenges and transitions, becoming inspired with new perspectives, and connecting more deeply with what is sacred in life. All are welcome. (sallie@stlukeshr.com)
- Individual Spiritual Direction. Ongoing. (sallie@stlukeshr.com, Lynda@stlukeshr.cm)

Classes and Experiences:

- Daring Greatly: Wholehearted Parenting. This Sunday morning series has considered what it means to enhance our parenting through modeling authenticity, courage, and faith.
- Mindful Presence. Mondays at 9:15am in the St. Luke’s Chapel.

Outdoor Adventure Team:

- Harvest Moon Hike. September 21. Due to flooding, our Harvest Moon Hike was relocated at the last minute to nearby Mt. Falcon Park. From our picturesque picnic spot, we watched the sun set, roasted marshmallows for s’mores, and experienced the transitional twilight as we waited for the harvest moon to rise. The star-filled sky, wayfinding by the light of the moon, a shooting star, and a curious and haunting herd of deer, all created sacred experiences of connection and inspiration.
- Upcoming Adventures: (*See the bulletin for details*)
 - o Mallory Cave Hike. October 12
 - o Explore the Colorado Paint Mines, a “Romp in the Rocks”. November 16.
 - o We invite all St. Luke’s members and constituents to share with us your sacred Colorado spaces.



Monty's Methodism Musings: A Different Methodist Church, A Traditionally Wesleyan Church - pt. I

by Monty Hoffman

In 2012, the Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church did a survey of vital congregations. At the recommendation of our District Superintendent, St Luke’s was included. The interviews were conducted by Rev Tom Barlow. The preliminary report that we received back suggested that we were a different type of Methodist church from our peers, that we were an outlier. It also stated that we were the most traditionally Wesleyan United Methodist church that was surveyed.

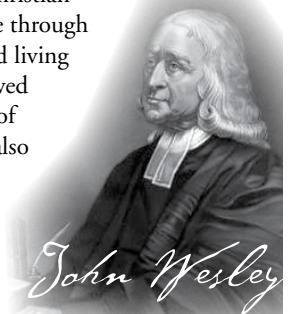
At first look, this would seem to be a contradictory statement. After all, the Wesley brothers were the founders of the Methodist movement and much of the guidance on what it means to be Methodist comes from the preaching and writings of John Wesley. How we are different from our peers and a very traditionally Wesleyan church is something I am going to try and explain. It is important because the guidance that the Wesleyan tradition gives us and how we use it at St Luke’s to help us understand what it means to be a Christian in the 21st century goes to the heart of who we are as a church.

The Methodist movement is unique in that it was planted and prospered in two entirely different social settings, the working class slums of industrializing England and the frontier of an expanding America. Different groups of Methodists in both places have interpreted the Wesleyan message in different ways, but there are some common themes that run through those interpretations.

21st century America provides yet another setting. We at St Luke’s UMC look again to the Wesleyan tradition for guidance. As we do so, we need to try and understand what the common themes are and what they tell us about being Methodist and Christian in Colorado today. First of all, it is important to understand what John Wesley did and did not tell us about being Methodists and Christians. We are a non creedal or non doctrinal church. There is not a doctrinal statement that we all have to agree to if we want to call ourselves Methodists. Within a broad range of Christian thought, we are free to agree or disagree with each other on our beliefs. Rather, we are all called upon to use scripture, the experience of God in our lives, reason, and the traditions of all of the Christians that have come before us to help us develop a set of beliefs that helps us understand our relationship with God. Despite our differences in beliefs, we are called to live together in a Christian community together.

Rather than being defined as Methodist by a doctrinal statement, John Wesley told us that being Methodist is defined by an experience, striving to live a life of Christian perfection. Wesley’s definition of Christian perfection is to live our lives for the love of God and to have that love reflected in all of our other relationships. He also tells us that perfection is defined by intent, not by action. Wesley originally thought, after his Aldersgate experience, that entering into a life of Christian perfection occurred at a moment in time through an assurance experience. As he continued living and experiencing God in his life, he viewed it as more of a journey filled with times of imperfection and doubt, but that there also times of Christian perfection in his life during which God had accomplished great things through him.

Part 2 in our November Issue





Woof! Woof! Meow! Jake, Max, and Shea here to bring you up to speed on what's happening in our Children's Ministry. First, **welcome back to Sunday School** for those that have been gone, we are so glad to see you!! The last few weeks we've had record numbers of kids attending Sunday School - well over 100 children downstairs - and things are hopping! We are learning cool Bible stories like Esther, David & Goliath and the Feeding of the 5000! We are also pleased to announce -thanks to your 30th Anniversary monetary



gifts- the addition of a brand new flat screen TV in our Cinema room AND a **new oven** in our Cooking room that we've named Roberta!

Here's a picture of the Sunday School Cooking Team around Roberta, the oven. She's already cooked up some cookies and they were delicious!!

SLY, Jr. is in full swing! We've already had our kick off and helped with the Feeding of the 5000. We meet on Sunday Oct. 13 (5:30-7:30pm) to decorate jars for the Walk for Sudan and learn about the incredible work being done in Africa and on Oct. 20 we are manning the Pumpkin Patch for 2 hours (5:00-7:00pm). 6th graders can get credit towards the summer mission trip if they work 10 or more hours in the patch. Check out our complete schedule for the year online!

*******SLY has CHALLENGED us to a contest.** They are making 100 Thanksgiving Dinner boxes for Food For All and SLY, Jr. needs to gather **200 cans of corn** and Sunday School kids need to get **100 cans of mushroom soup**. Start bringing in your cans now on Sunday mornings. Let's show them we are up to the challenge!!



Friday, Nov. 1 at 6:45pm Family Movie Night "Monsters University". Wear your pj's and bring your pillows. We'll provide the movie and the popcorn! Bring a friend!

Register now for Sunday School! You can do it online at www.stlukeshr.com/children or just fill out a yellow form on Sunday mornings. It's going to be a great

year! ALL families must register each year. AND sign up to serve - the schedule is out each Sunday and posted online. Thank You!

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

Love and Furry blessings!



Sharon Oliver
Director of
Children's Ministry



Samantha Leahy
Director of Early
Childhood Ministry



Stephanie Kirk
Children's Ministry
Coordinator

We're Bringing the Light!

We are excited to welcome 6 new Acolytes to our Acolyting family after our latest training. Congratulations to Alexander & Rachel Phair, Mitchell Jones, Trevor & Devon Dumpert and Charlotte Emig!

St. Luke's Kids Growing with God

We have some IMPORTANT NEWS to share: We wanted to let you know that the timing of when the Acolytes bring the light into the service has changed. **The Acolytes will now light the altar candles at the "Call To Worship & Bringing the Light"**, this is just after "A Time with our Children". The job of bringing the light and reminding our congregation that God is with us is very sacred and we wanted to honor our Acolytes and this important symbolism by changing the time in the service and having this moment listed in our bulletin. Our pastors are very supportive of this move and hope to see Acolytes at every service possible. Your support of this ministry is greatly appreciated. All Acolytes please sign up on line to fill any open spots.

We also have new Acolyte stoles courtesy of the talented Victoria Mason. About the design she says, "I chose the needlecraft style to reflect the molas, women in Central America make, because I wanted children who could not see to be able to touch it and know what the symbols are. One panel has the Methodist Church symbol showing the cross and the flames of the holy spirit; and the other panel has the fish symbol from early Christianity. You can say that these were made in heaven as 95% of the handwork on the symbols was done at 40,000 feet in the air while I flew across the country for my work." Thanks Victoria!! We love them and will wear them with joy and reverence.

(Slight) Changes to Family Camp Registration

Now that fall is upon us, it is important to start thinking about... summer vacation plans?! Yes, you read that correctly. Changes are coming to our Family Camp registration process, so mark your calendars!

For those of you wanting to be a part of our 2014 Family Camp Family, we will be heading to beautiful Snow Mountain Ranch in Granby, Colorado from July 18-July 27, 2014.

Registration begins early this year - starting Jan. 12. Family Camp slots are limited. Registration is based on a first come, first serve basis, so be sure to sign up early and lock in your dates. We look forward to seeing you at Camp!



Deep Blue Bibles

On Sept. 22 we blessed and handed out 29 new Bibles in our annual St. Luke's tradition of gifting our 3rd graders with a Bible. This year we again gave out the

amazing Deep Blue Kid's Bible CEB version. It's a wonderful study Bible for children (and adults love it, too!) We also have other Bible versions for those



children with special requirements. Thanks to Rev. Janet for spending time with the kids exploring their new Bibles. Many thanks also go to Val Clark for her generous help to fund the purchase of the Bibles. Her passion is sharing her great love of the scriptures. It started when she was a young girl in Idaho when she recieved her Bible and continues now by helping us give the gift of scripture to our St. Luke's children.



Kay Swanson
Director of
Little School



Little School News:

We Love Fall!

Everyone at Little School loves the Fall. Not only, do we usually have fantastic weather, but we take our fall nature walks, collect all kinds of seeds, grasses, sticks and sometimes cool bugs! It is always amazing to see what nature provides! It is a great way to combine the outdoors in our artwork and paint with a variety of creative things! Fall also means the pumpkins arrive and that is such an exciting time for us all.

REMEMBER that Little School collects Halloween Costumes for our youth to take to Warren Village (due Oct. 25) and we accept ALL leftover Halloween Candy, which is donated to the Colorado AIDS Project. Candy may be dropped off the week or two after Halloween.

We are excited that Little School has a new website in the works, which should be up and running this month! Please check us out and refer new families that you meet. We STILL have openings in our 4's ~ so spread the word!

Take a family walk and enjoy God's creation!

Blessings, *Ms. Kay and Staff*

"Children go where there is excitement and 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

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 Fall Kick-off Celebration:

Thanks to everyone for supporting our Fall Kick off. School supplies and monetary donations were collected and sent to Missionary Rev. Donna

Pewo serving children of the Cheyenne-Arapaho nation in Oklahoma. Special thanks to Betsy Keyack for presenting on the ministry and lives of the Cheyenne-Arapaho nation in Oklahoma. Betsy has been in a covenant relationship with missionary Donna Pewo for over a year and went to visit Donna and the children prior to her presentation at the Fall Kick off.

2013-14 Reading Program: UMW has been at the forefront of education for years; The reading program is a carefully selected group of books designed to give readers exposure to a range of current topics. Participants read one book per year from each of five categories. UMW purchases books that anyone may borrow. They are on the top, left shelf of the library inside the church office.

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

Women are welcome to attend a subgroup of UMW anytime during the year!

Itch to Stitch - Second Saturday 10:00-11:30am. Meet in Goliath area of church basement. We are active in making prayer shawls, lap robes for veterans and caps for cancer patients. All skill levels welcome! Contact Fran West 303-797-7107 mfranwest@gmail.com for more info.

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

- November 4 - Romano's - 32 W. Springer Drive, Highlands Ranch
- December - No dinner out on Monday; join us at the UMW Candlelight Dinner on Tuesday Dec. 3

Simply Saturday Helping Hands

- First Saturday, 9:00am; Room 206. The calendar of events has been set; pick up a flyer at the Get Connected center. The group is concentrating on mission activities this year. Also, watch the bulletin and emails for upcoming outings.

- November 2 - Room 206

Contact Tennie Christman at mydammie@comcast.net or Linda Osborn at lmosborn5@gmail.com for more info.

Book Group - Fourth Monday, Room 206, 7:00pm

- Oct. 28 - "In the Garden of Beasts" by Erik Larson
- Nov. 25 - "Wild" by Cheryl Strayed

Contact RenaeParra@aol.com to for more info.

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

Save the Dates:

Annual Candlelight Dinner - Tuesday, Dec. 3 6:30-8:30pm.
We always need MEN to help serve the meal.



Common Table - Planning with God

This September's Common Table discussion focused on looking forward. How do we, as a church in the 21st century, plan for the needs and desires of our community, when information now flows so freely and richly that we can hardly keep up? The answer comes in the concept of **"Casting a Vision."** Gone are the days when our church pastors would retreat to envision what the church would look like in 30 years. Now, they are asking for input from the congregation, and seeking information for shorter time frames (next year, next month). Rev. Janet shared how this feels like the community is standing on the threshold, holding hands, listening for God's guidance in our next step. That step is taken and we evaluate how it went. This process is quite similar to **agile project management**, a newer process taking place in IT-heavy organizations. In fact, one of the founders of the agile movement is married to a Unitarian minister, who uses agile practices in managing staff and volunteer activities. Some examples of Casting the Vision were provided by a variety of teams from within the church, all also seeking to "Draw the Circle Wide" (our fall theme).

- SLY is focusing on mission opportunities, large and small, including some as immediate responses to the recent flooding in Colorado
- Revolution, *now* "Vine", is in responding to the needs of the community, focusing on smaller communities with missional opportunities allowing multiple groups to find support and nourishment within the larger structure.
- Feeding of the 5000 continues to learn ways to improve processes and increase its reach.
- PAA is seeking larger space and more ways to provide opportunities throughout the school year as they are bursting at the seams.
- Hospitality - While we'll still supply purple bags and fresh-baked bread to visitors, we will be providing it in less noticeable ways. And all members of the congregation are encouraged to introduce themselves to people they don't recognize during fellowship times.
- Spirituality and Wellness Team discussed many of the upcoming activities including starting a Center for Spiritual Engagement.
- Children's Ministry is focused on fostering children's spirituality throughout all of their programs.
- Morning Worship environment is changing slightly as we seek to ensure that worship opens people to the presence of God, striving to maintain a balance between stimulation and centering, gravity and levity, traditional and new.

Join us again on **November 18, from 6:30-8:00pm**, for a community meal and discussion. **All are welcome!**

MISSIONS OF THE MONTH

OCTOBER:
*Pumpkin Patch and
Urban Peak*

Highlighting Mission Opportunities: For more about missions supported by St. Luke's, please contact Jerry Hertzler 720-480-0476, jmhertzler@comcast.net or Scott Hetherington 484-883-0778 scott.g.hetherington@gmail.com

Urban Peak – St. Luke's to be Honored with Maverick Thinker's Award

Urban Peak is the only non-profit organization in Denver that provides a full convergence of services for youth ages 15 through 24 experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk of becoming homeless. Their goal is to meet youth where they are and to provide them with the assistance and support they need to become self-sufficient or obtain the necessary services they need to maintain a safe existence. Urban Peak provides numerous programs and services to assist youth in reaching their potential and living a successful life off of the streets. Services include street outreach, a 40-bed shelter for youth ages 15 through 20, a daytime drop-in center, transitional housing, education and employment services, case management, life skills courses, mental health evaluations, meals and more.

St. Luke's has been providing meals to Urban Peak for many years. Almost every group within St. Luke's has provided meals to Urban Peak over the past few years. As a result of our long term relationship with Urban Peak, St. Luke's has been selected to receive The Maverick Thinker's Award from Urban Peak at their annual fund raising event on March 6, 2014 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel downtown. We've been asked to help staff a committee that will coordinate advertising and help to promote the event between now and March. If you'd like to participate in that effort, please contact Jerry Hertzler at 720-480-0476, or jmhertzler@comcast.net.

HAAT Force Beginning its 4th Season

HAAT Force held its Fall Kickoff celebration on Sept. 19. It was a huge success with over 60 individuals attending, fantastic music and of course Café 180's great food.

It's hard to believe we have served our clients for three years already. We look forward to another year of providing much needed shelter this year. We have a number of changes coming this year and I will provide details as we move ahead. One thing, we are in desperate need of volunteers to help in distributing the shelter requests. If you can help please contact us!!!!

Also we have several other fund raising events coming up. First the ever so tasty Duffy's cinnamon rolls. And an electronic recycling event that will take place at St. Timothy church on Oct. 26.

Again, any questions please contact me, Peter Reif, President HAAT Force, 303-219-6060



Creating Connections

Last week Nancy and Brian Jackson, Michael Streevy and Lynda Fickling volunteered at United Way's Project Homeless Connect. Twice a year, United Way of Metro Denver coordinates a day where any and all of Denver's homeless can come to the Denver Convention

Center and volunteers help them on a one-on-one basis to navigate through an incredible array of support services to get the help they need. Housing, legal advice, Colorado ID's, health check-ups, clothing assistance, food assistance, job help, haircuts, vision and dental check-ups—you name it, the referral or support was there. About 1,800 homeless folks spent a day with a 1,000 volunteers getting assistance and being heard. Here are our stories:

Nancy & Brian Jackson: Nancy has done this for a few years and I thought I would follow her lead this year and volunteer. Though I have been very involved with United Way, this was a real and different hands-on experience for me to see the face of poverty and homelessness in Denver, up close and personal. Nancy worked with three "guests" to get what they needed and at the very end, helped a newly homeless mother with two young boys to get some motel vouchers to tide her over until she could find a more permanent housing solution. I spent all day with one homeless couple, who basically had given up hope. We eventually got them temporary housing, clothes, medical attention, food assistance and a lot more. I was profoundly impacted by the day!

*Here is the couple's response to the event: Today I met a man named Will. He shared with me that he had lost all HOPE; he was crying, broken and on the desperate, suicidal end of his rope. He was with his girlfriend, Spring who had not one whole tooth in her mouth, skinny as a rail and trying to be positive. Their support volunteer was our board chair, Brian Jackson. Today, they left with a housing option, clothes, eyeglasses, socks and an understanding about how to get their benefits. At the end of the day, I saw them again and they both told me they had HOPE back for the first time in quite a while. Brian was beaming and they had tears in their eyes and they were smiling BIG smiles. You made that happen. Thank you for your hard work. My heart is full tonight. With much gratitude. Jerene

Michael Streevy: Poverty, it's complicated, you know? What does it mean to become close to 'it' even if you can go home to the normal comforts while the 'other' goes where?

Actually, I don't know where, but I do know I just want poverty to go away, far, far away. Poverty robs one of emotional energy, some would say it robs one of their 'soul'. But, we all have heard of those that go on mission trips to other countries working with those who are poor return saying 'they have such great faith/joy' or something like that. Is it because we recognize what we long for, that great joy? All I can tell you about my time at this great event (I never saw so many kind folks helping others) I came away with a mixture of emotions, hope for those who were helped and deep sadness seeing humanity in all forms of brokenness.

One point of amazement is the fact that there were 500 students that came to help, that is another first for me. I haven't asked the person (D) I spent the day with if it is okay to talk about the situation(s) that D has to face each day. All I can do is to be open to do what I can do to work in some small way to ease D's existence on the streets of Denver.

Thanks to Lynda for the invitation to go and to talk with about the effects of poverty and my feelings. May God continue to bring Hope and Justice to all without exception.

Creator God, the Giver of life, the Source of strength, and the Hope of our tomorrows, we thank You for the possibilities within this team/church. You have given us friends and colleagues, and we are grateful. Move our gratitude to become compassion for the friendless and companionship for the lonely. You have given us meaningful work, and we are grateful. Move our gratitude to become generosity toward those who are empty and patience with those who are without purpose. You have given us a bounty of food, and we are grateful. Move our gratitude to become outreach to the hungry and energy for greater service. We offer our heart to You, not to hear Your favor but to honor Your presence. We offer ourselves to You, not to claim goodness but to say thank you. And that is our word for this time: thank You. Amen.

Pastoral Prayers in Public Places by F. Belton Joyner, Jr.

continued on next page



Women of Faith

Seventeen women from St. Luke's made our way downtown for an amazing Women of Faith conference on September 6th and 7th at Pepsi Center! This year's theme "Believe God Can Do Anything" 2013 Tour was much more than your average revival! The atmosphere was filled with messages of encouragement and support, the line-up of world-class talent including well-known Christian authors and performers, including Sheryl Brady, Christine Caine, Patsy Clairmont, Kari Jobe, Mercy Me and Lysa TerKeurst. Women of Faith delivers life-changing messages of encouragement and as Patty Clairmont stated, "You are more than you know!" This is an unforgettable experience that you don't want to miss. Save the date for next year's Women of Faith "Revival" held on September 5-6, 2014. (Friday: 7:00-10:00pm and Saturday: 9:00am-5:00pm at Pepsi Center.)

Connections continued from page 8

Lynda Fickling: The couple I was blessed to walk with all day had a story of life that was filled with challenges. We became partners quickly and walked through the event managing to complete the most necessary needs. Lawyers and Judges gave of their time to help with "Homeless Court," tickets that were mostly relieved by community service. We went there first and it only took... 3 hours. Next we had a 2 hour wait for medical services but it was well worth it for them. Due to the recent heavy rains their shoes and socks were soaked, causing many issues with their feet. And since they are on their feet all day – this was an issue. They received attentive care and new socks that were a necessity. We had a lot of down time waiting for services but that was okay. As they ate their lunch and we just sat together, they blessed and trusted me to share their story. And you know what, we are not so different. There is a basic need in all of us to be acknowledged, to know that others do care about us, that we have the basic needs of health insurance, food, clothing and shelter. The next time you see a homeless person walking on the street, take a moment to look into their eyes and see that they, too, are a child of God. Smile at them, recognize that they are there and then, and say a prayer for them. I urge you to continue to realize the extreme need for shelter in our city and partake in as many volunteer opportunities to help your neighbor, near or far. This is the second year I volunteered and will continue to do so every year because of the transformation my soul receives from my neighbors that allow me into their story.

Perhaps we will see you next year at Project Homeless 2014!



James Ramsey
Director of Music
& Arts Ministries



Kenrick Mervine
Associate Dir. of
Music Ministry/
Organist



Jennifer Ferguson
Associate Director
of Music Ministry



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

MOS helps raise money for Operation Walk

On Saturday Sept. 21, the St. Luke's Minister's of Swing were invited to provide dinner music at a fundraising banquet for Operation Walk. Operation Walk is a private, not-for-profit, volunteer medical services organization which provides free surgical treatment for patients in developing countries (and occasionally in the US), that have no access to life-improving care for arthritis or other debilitating bone and joint conditions. St. Luke's member Lisa Fitch helped organize this very elegant and lovely event at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Denver. The MOS played jazz standards and dance tunes while the diners enjoyed the black-tie event. That evening, Operation Walk raised around \$250,000 for this most excellent cause. St. Luke's music ministry team and the Minister's of Swing were thrilled and honored to be a part of this great outreach event.

Jazz Psalms Experience: Sunday Nov. 10 at the 9:30 and 11:00 services! Don't miss it!

ALSO... St. Luke's FALL JAZZ CONCERT is Sunday, Nov. 10 at 3:00pm in the Sanctuary. We will be

featuring special guests from Music Serving the Word along with MOS, Chancel Choir, Soul Purpose, Kidz Prayz and the St. Luke's Youth Jazz Orchestra. Cost: FREE! See you there at this swinging family special event!

The Colorado Women's Chorale will be returning to St. Luke's on Friday, November 8 featuring Benjamin Britten's 100th birthday with his festival cantata "Rejoice in the Lamb". We will be welcoming guest organist Cindy Lindeen Martin. Join us in the sanctuary at 7:30pm! Tickets are \$24/\$15/\$8 and sold at the door or at www.augustanaarts.org.

Dinner Event to Benefit the Performing Arts Academy

Join us for "The Sound of Music" Sing-A-Long Supper and Silent Auction, at the home of Rick and Robin Fort. Hosted by Jim Ramsey and the Performing Arts Academy Board of Directors, this event welcomes all adults in our community who have a passion for the arts and want to spend a fun evening, dining and singing with friends. Guests are encouraged to dress casually or come in costume. Silent Auction items include: a commissioned sketch of St. Luke's glass windows, unique services, jewelry, photo prints, pottery, Broncos jerseys, Rockies jersey, wine and assorted gift baskets. Tickets will be sold in Fellowship Hall on 10/6 and 10/13, or can be purchased online at www.stlukespaa.org. Seating is limited.

DETAILS:

When: Saturday, October 19 5:00-9:00pm

Cost: \$30/person

Location: 4601 Preserve Parkway,
Greenwood Village, CO 80121

Contact Jim Ramsey, jim@stlukeshr.com, or

Karin Wesson, karin@thewessons.com, 303-683-0196



Upcoming Events!

- * **Oct. 26: Halloween Party at Warren Village!**
- * **Nov. 1-3: Ignite Sr. High District Retreat**
- * **Nov. 24: DenUM Food For All- Thanks Giving Boxes**
- * **Sign up to receive our emails and Check www.stlukeshr.com and click on "Youth" or "SLY"**

Sundays:

- **9:30-10:30am – SLY AM**
Talking about teen life and the bible!
- **5:30-6:00pm – SLY Dinner**
We need help feeding these hungry teens! Sign up to help on our website.
- **6:00-7:30pm – SLY PM**
All sorts of fun activities are going on this month including fundraising for the Walk for Sudan, a night with our Puppet Team, Movie Night and more!! Check out our website for details.

Wednesdays:

- **5:30-6:30pm – Homework Hour**
- **6:30-8:00pm – All sorts of fun and 'chill' activities including Pictionary, Laser Quest, and Making Homemade Pizza**

ON THE SLY: Outreach October!

October brings more than just the Feeding of the 5000, all sorts of outreach opportunities are going on in the youth area. First off... THE PUMPKINS ARE HERE!! The Pumpkin Patch is the most important fundraiser for youth mission trips. These trips are so important to the youth and their faith journeys and would not happen without the Pumpkin Patch. The youth will be working at the patch all month so make sure to check it out!

Also in October, the youth will be going down to Warren Village to host their annual Halloween Party! Our youth look forward to this event every year. Not only do we provide dinner, games, and a good time, but we provide the children at Warren Village with a free costume that they get to keep. This is not only a fun time for the kids, but the parents of Warren Village are always so overjoyed and grateful to see their kids playing and having a good time. To make this event happen we need donations of children's costumes and Halloween candy.

Finally, this month we will begin gathering food items for our thanksgiving boxes. Every year, hundreds of people go without a meal on Thanksgiving. Last year the youth group was able to fill 100 boxes, which gave 100 families a thanksgiving meal! This is a huge number and the youth were very proud. We learned however, even though DENUM was able to feed 500 families last year, another 1500 were turned away (enter sad face!) The youth took this as a challenge and decided to fill even more boxes this year, but they need your help! Look for the list of items we need.

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!

—Yours in Christ, Dave & Amy



Dave Laurvick
Director of
Youth Ministry



Amy McMullen
Assistant Dir. of
Youth Ministry



South Dakota continued from page 1

Moving and motivational, stories sprout from seedlings unseen and unpredictable. Here are just a few:

"At Sam's Club a positive reaction from a lady leading turned to a cart full of food with no thanks given in time before she left with nothing for herself, so modest."

"With it storming, customers went crazy, so my team offered to help in any way, as I did, one lady and I found common interests. Her story developed to fulfilling a bucket list because of need for a liver transplant which wasn't coming. Moving and inspirational, I will never forget it."

"When at the disabilities home, one person would circle around. Looking reserved, I learned his name, and then told him he looked stylish and he danced. After, he continuously snuck up and scared me with such joy."

With the constant temptation flitting in our ears to make this about us and not the people we were serving, we were put on TV and a select few interviewed. Following our being on TV and promoting the food drives we were conducting, an ordinary citizen decided to lend a helping hand. Prior to his generous donation in league with our temporary St. Luke's Organization, the man gave each of the ministry youth and adults a two dollar bill to thank us for our service.

The transition is incomparable from Monday through until Friday, with emotional baggage unpacked and sprinklers let loose. It's easy to

take communion for granted because its easily a part of Christian life, and maybe so, but on this trip it was emotionally intense and extremely



important, especially when some needed words were said. Taking the blood and body of Christ always reassures us of our faith. On this mission, it was just that with a hint of tears and gratitude. To meet so many fabulous people,

share motivation and experiences is priceless. Sharing emotions with loving friends will always be a great memory as will the laughter, success, and infinite friendship.

Mission trips are most commonly thought of as enjoyable or a lengthy week long sleepover with peers. The 2013 Rapid City Mission was definitely one to remember. Not only did we get the privilege of going to sleep every night next to the ones we love, but we also gave our hearts and fulfilled time to the citizens of Rapid City. This trip was for sure unforgettable and meaningful and will always be remembered and cherished.

More from Les: How far, how fast, how long? by Rev. Les Ludlam



This is an old story, a really old one!..... Two eastern boys, Billy and Jimmy, had never been out of the city. But they decided one day they were fed up with urban living. They yearned for the wide-open spaces of the West. So they withdrew their savings from the bank with the intent to buy a small ranch somewhere in the western part of the country. They wanted to “live off the bounty of the land” like their ancestors and as soon as they could, they departed the city and traveled westward by train. After they got off the train, they bought an old pickup truck, and began to look for a piece of property that suited their fancy.

They found one and made a down payment on it. The next thing Billy and Jimmy did was to drive out to their new place. Upon arriving, they decided they would need a mule for the farming. They went to a neighboring farmer and asked him if he had a mule to sell.

The farmer answered, “No, I’m afraid not.” They were disappointed, but as they visited with the farmer for a few moments, Billy saw some large honeydew melons stacked against the barn. He asked, “What are those?” The farmer, seeing that they were hopeless city dwellers, and having a good sense of humor, he decided to have some fun.

“Oh,” he answered with a straight face, “those are mule eggs. You take one of those eggs home and wait for it to hatch and you’ll have a mule.”

Billy and Jimmy were overjoyed at this, so they bought one of the honeydews, put it in the back of their pickup, and headed down the bumpy country road back to their new farm. Suddenly they hit an especially treacherous bump, and the honeydew bounced out of the back of the pickup. It hit the road, and burst open. Jimmy saw in his rearview mirror that the melon had bounced out of the back of the truck, so he slowed down, stopped, and turned the truck around. He drove back to see if they could retrieve their mule egg.

But, while the truck was turning around, a big jackrabbit came hopping by and saw this large melon burst in the road. He hopped over to it and, standing in the middle of that mess, began to eat the honeydew.

Now, here came Jimmy and Billy in their pickup. They spied their mule egg burst open on the road and this long-eared creature in the middle of it.

Billy shouted, “Our mule egg has hatched! Let’s get our mule!” They jumped out of the truck. But, seeing the two men coming toward it, the jackrabbit took off, hopping first in one direction and then, another. Jimmy and Billy followed, in hot pursuit. They used everything they had to catch him, but finally they could go no farther. Both men fell wearily onto the ground, gasping for air, while the jackrabbit hopped off into the distance.

Rising up on his elbow, Jimmy said to Billy, “Well, I guess we lost our mule!” Billy nodded grimly, “Yes, but you know,” he said, “I’m not sure I wanted to plow that fast anyway!”

God has created this wonderful place for us to grow and live and work and play. God has also given us the responsibility to take care of all that has been given to us. It’s up to each of us to decide just how much we will do.

Each of us has to decide just “how fast we are going to plow.” Each of us has to decide how much effort we are going to put in to the task. For, “the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.” (2 Corinthians 9:6)

And, we must remember that God is present with each one of us. *God bless us all!*



Dave Cupp
Director of Finance

Financial Update

**Happy 30th Anniversary
St. Luke’s – BELATED
PARTICIPATION IS**

ENCOURAGED! It is not too late for you to participate in our 30th Anniversary Celebration. And keep

in mind that participating in the grocery card program is a way for your 30th anniversary participation to continue giving at no cost to you. All you do is get your free starter card you picked up at our grocery card table reloaded as needed at the grocery store service counter using your credit card, check or cash.

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.

WILL-POWER.

Will Your Will Be Known? The Planned Giving Team is proud to announce that they have arranged for a Will-Power seminar that will be presented in **Fellowship Hall, 2:00pm, Sunday, October 20.**

On average, a person works more than 40 years to accumulate assets and spends ten years conserving what has been earned, but does not spend even two hours to plan for distribution of those assets. The chaos that often occurs following the death of a loved one can be burdensome. This burden can be eased, however, through proper planning which includes the implementation of an estate plan. The basic document in any such plan is a will or a trust.

At this seminar you will have a chance to learn how an estate plan can shape your family’s legacy. Dale Levy, a planned giving director of the United Methodist Foundation and an attorney will lead.

A packet of information will be provided to each participant at the seminar. One publication will be **A Christian Guide to Wills and Trusts.** This publication will encourage you to think about how you want your assets to be distributed at death and assist you in gathering the information your attorney will need to prepare a will or trust that accomplishes your goals.

Where? by Sylvia Brady

*I was thinking this morning –
wondering, you know – where, just where
does a lifetime go?*

*Where’s the little girl who went skipping
about, laughing and playing
and learning to shout*

*And that young lady lost in great books,
glancing in minors,
concerned about looks*

*The wife and the mother with life in a
whirl, happy, secure, a woman, not girl*

*Children moved on, each built a new
home, hubby retired, we started to roam*

*He roamed too far, he just couldn’t stay,
and that’s why I wonder
and that’s why I say*

*It happened so fast, does anyone know,
where, oh where does a lifetime go?*

Rediscover and share your memories of yesteryears with Wesley Writers. We meet 10:00am the third Saturday of each month in the Conference Room. All writers—fiction, non-fiction, poets and playwrights—invited to come and share.



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.*

Monday Mornings at McDonald's (MMM)

Here's an open invitation to you! Meet me (Lynda Fickling) at the Highland's Ranch McDonalds (Broadway & Highlands Ranch Parkway) 8:30-10:00am. I want to get to know you better and help answer questions you may have regarding St. Luke's, including our activities, programs and anything else that comes up! Consider this Café St. Luke's outside the building! **Looking forward to Mondays!**

Seasoned Voyagers

Save Sunday, Nov. 24

at 2:00pm for

the Denver Concert Band

Christmas Performance

Lone Tree Arts Center \$17 per person



for the most up-to-date calendar check www.stlukeshr.com

OCTOBER 2013						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
13 8:00am: UMW Team Meeting 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship -Rev. Dr. Janet Forbes 9:30am: Adult Sunday School Classes 9:30am: Youth & Children's Sunday School 9:30am: Café St. Luke's 11:00am: Godly Play 3:30pm: SLYJO Rehearsal 4:00pm: Vine 4:30pm: Soul Purpose Rehearsal 5:30pm: SLY, Jr. 6:00pm: SLY PM (Dinner 5:30pm)	14 9:00am: Mindful Presence 6:30pm: Finance Team 7:00pm: Trustees 7:00pm: SLIP Improv	15 6:00pm: Youth Bells 7:00pm: Tintinnabulators 7:30pm: Planned Giving	16 5:30pm: SLY Homework Hour 6:30pm: SLY Wednesdays 6:30pm: Children's Choirs 6:30pm: Gap Group 6:30pm: Parents of Teens/Young Adults with Depression/Bipolar 7:25pm: Tone Chimes	17 6:00pm: Love & Logic 6:30pm: Children's Ministry Team 6:30pm: Contemplative Fellowship 7:00pm: Young Adults 7:00pm: Puppet Team 7:00pm: Adult Choir Rehearsals	18 9:00am: Playgroup 10:00am: Compassionate Life Discussion	19 8:00am: Instrumental Group Rehearsals 10:00am: Wesley Writers
20 8:15am: Contemplative Worship 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship -Rev. Dr. Janet Forbes 9:30am: Adult Sunday School Classes 9:30am: Youth & Children's Sunday School 11:00am: Godly Play 2:00pm: Will Your Will Be Known? 3:30pm: SLYJO Rehearsal 4:00pm: Vine 4:30pm: Soul Purpose Rehearsal 5:00pm: SLY, Jr. Pumpkin Patch 6:00pm: SLY PM (Dinner 5:30pm)	21 9:00am: Mindful Presence 6:30pm: Equipping Ministry Team 7:00pm: SLIP Improv	22 6:00pm: Youth Bells 7:00pm: Tintinnabulators	23 5:30pm: SLY Homework Hour 6:30pm: SLY Wednesdays 6:30pm: Children's Choirs 6:30pm: Gap Group 7:25pm: Tone Chimes	24 6:00pm: Love & Logic 6:30pm: Contemplative Fellowship 7:00pm: Young Adults 7:00pm: Puppet Team 7:00pm: Adult Choir Rehearsals	25 10:00am: Compassionate Life Discussion 7:00pm: The Importance of Being Earnest	26 SLY at Warren Village 8:00am: Instrumental Group Rehearsals 3:00 & 7:00pm: The Importance of Being Earnest
27 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship -Rev. Ryan Canaday 9:30am: Adult Sunday School Classes 9:30am: Youth & Children's Sunday School 11:00am: Godly Play 3:30pm: SLYJO Rehearsal 4:00pm: Vine 4:30pm: Soul Purpose Rehearsal 6:00pm: SLY PM (Dinner 5:30pm)	28 9:00am: Mindful Presence 7:00pm: SLIP Improv 6:15pm: Women's Evening Potluck & Book Club	29 7:00am: Men's Group @The Egg & I 6:00pm: Youth Bells 7:00pm: Tintinnabulators 7:00pm: SPRT	30 5:30pm: SLY Homework Hour 6:30pm: SLY Wednesdays 6:30pm: Children's Choirs 6:30pm: Gap Group 7:25pm: Tone Chimes	31 6:30pm: Contemplative Fellowship 7:00pm: Young Adults 7:00pm: Puppet Team 7:00pm: Adult Choir Rehearsals	NOV. 1 9:00am: Playgroup 10:00am: Compassionate Life Discussion 6:45pm: Family Movie Night "Monsters University"	
3 All Saints & Consecration Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am: Worship -Rev. Dr. Janet Forbes 9:30am: Adult Sunday School Classes 9:30am: Youth & Children's Sunday School 11:00am: Godly Play 12:15pm: Seasoned Voyagers 3:30pm: SLYJO Rehearsal 4:00pm: Vine 4:30pm: Soul Purpose Rehearsal 6:00pm: SLY PM (Dinner 5:30pm)	4 9:00am: Mindful Presence 6:30pm: Women's Night Out 7:00pm: SLIP Improv	5 2:00pm: Conversations with Rev. Janet 6:30pm: Youth Bells 7:00pm: Tintinnabulators	6 5:30pm: SLY Homework Hour 6:30pm: SLY Wednesdays 6:30pm: Children's Choirs 6:30pm: Parents of Teens/Young Adults with Depression/Bipolar 6:30pm: Gap Group 7:25pm: Tone Chimes	7 10:00am: Common Thread 6:30pm: Contemplative Fellowship 7:00pm: Young Adults 7:00pm: Puppet Team 7:00pm: Adult Choir Rehearsals	8 10:00am: Compassionate Life Discussion 5:45pm: Parent's Night Out	9 8:00am: Instrumental Group Rehearsals 10:00am: Genealogy 101 5:00pm: Colorado Women's Chorale Concert 6:45pm: Bridge Club