

#### LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ST.

### AUGUST 2017

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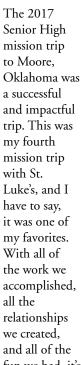


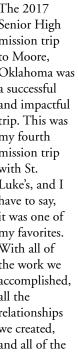
# The Gathering -Sept. 10 at 2:00pm

Would you like to learn more about St. Luke's UMC? Do you have questions for the Clergy Team about the church? Would you like to talk about ways to become involved at the church? Are you interested in joining St. Luke's UMC? Would you like to meet others who are new to the community? Please join us at The Gathering on Sunday, September 10 at 2:00pm in the Chapel. For more information, contact Rev. Jessica.

## **Impactful Mission Trip -**SLY Making a Difference in Moore

by Sophia Groustra, SLY Sr. High





fun we had, it's hard not to see why it was a favorite.

First, a little background. All the work we did was to benefit a 25 year old woman by the name of Katie. The house was originally owned by Katie's great grandmother, who passed away in March and left her the house. The great grandmother never let anyone in the house except for Katie, meaning that there were many problems such as infestations. Katie was preparing to adopt three children of her own, and needed the house to be ready for them. She also happened to attend the same church that we were staying at, so we saw some of her throughout the week.

St. Luke's brought 70 people (16 sponsors, 54 youth) and we broke up into groups at the work site. My work group was very large this year, due to the fact that we had people from Winder, Georgia with us. Our projects for the week were to knock out and rebuild a house wall, repaint rooms, take out the bathroom sink, and finish clearing out the backyard. I was part of the group who tackled the backyard. We pulled weeds for around 14 hours, raked up any mess that we saw, and got rid of vines that had taken over an entire corner of the backyard. On the last day, I spent my time painting a room and putting the finishing touches on the house wall (despite continued on page 10



Join us for our Summer Sermon Series through Aug. 27 Faith & Film: Scenes That Change Us AND August 27

Bishop Karen Oliveto will be our guest preacher (...plus it's Blessing of Teachers and Backpacks!)



**Culture & Connections** 

Sunday Worship Services: 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am, 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

Mon.-Fri. Summer Office Hours 9:00am-12:30pm & 1:00-3:30pm

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Stajj:	
<i>Rev. Dr. Sallie Suby-Longx132</i> Lead Minister of Spiritual Life	
<i>Rev. Ryan Canadayx112</i> Lead Minister of Worship & Missional Life	
<i>Rev. Jessica Rooksx109</i> Lead Minister of Community Life	
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Sharon Oliverx127 Director of Children's Ministry	
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James Puckettx110 Building Maintenance/Custodian	
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All submissions for the	

All submissions for the September 2017 issue of *The Chronicle* are due August 20 Editor: Sharon Oliver chronicle©stlukeshr.com

The Chronicle is published up to 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.



**Rev. Dr. Sallie Suby-Long** Lead Minister of Spiritual Life Last Spring after returning from an amazing trip to Honduras to visit our daughter and son-in-law at Abundant Life Christian School in Yamaranguila, a vision for a St. Luke's trip to this part

**Honduras** 

of the world began to grow. In initial conversations with the leadership team of the Center for Spiritual Engagement, there was enthusiastic support to pursue this possibility. We have envisioned the further creation of "Travel with a Purpose" experiences. And, due to a series of serendipitous conversations and connections, the timing seems right to move forward.

The Center for Spiritual Engagement is happy to announce our upcoming trip to Honduras in early February 2018 (anticipated dates: Feb. 1-11) The focus will be cultural, spiritual, and service-oriented in nature. We have an opportunity to support Abundant Life Christian School in the creation of a new library, visit ancient Mayan Ruins, and connect with the culture, customs, language, landscapes, and people of Central Honduras.

My husband Tom and I will facilitate the trip along with the support of our daughter Rachel and son-in-law Jake Compaan. They are directors and teachers at Abundant Life Christian School. Thankfully, both Rachel and Jake are fluent in Spanish since Tom and I are not! As you may know, Rachel grew up in our St. Luke's community and was inspired to live and teach in Central America after participating in Pura Vida/St. Luke's mission trips to Guatemala almost 10 years ago.

If you are interested in learning more about this unique CSE cultural & service experience, Tom and I will be happy to talk with you! We'll have an informational meeting on Sunday, September 10 at 12:15pm in the Chapel for all who are interested in joining us on this trip or would like to learn more.

It's exciting as we look at the year ahead to see amazing St. Luke's service opportunities internationally in Zambia, Guatemala and Honduras as well as nationally and locally! Thanks to all of you for your openness, your unfailing generosity of spirit and willingness to embrace new opportunities.

Blessings, Rev. Dr. Sallie







Informational meeting on Sunday, Sept. 10 at 12:15pm in the Chapel for all who are interested









## **Psalms:** Living on the Edge

**Rev. Ryan Canaday** Lead Minister of Worship & Missional Life The Psalms speak about the human experience in honest and freeing ways—some of the Psalms affirm God's goodness while offering words of praise. Others express anguish and deep heartache while questioning God's presence in the world. Some proclaim gratitude

and joy as they begin painting a new reality. Whatever the mood, the Psalter speaks about life the way it really is and is not afraid to speak honestly with God. The Psalter functions as a bridge between human and divine. The Psalms are the voice of our own common humanity and they lead us to an authentic encounter with God.

Biblical scholar, Walter Brueggemann, locates each Psalm in one of three categories: orientation, disorientation, and reorientation. In this 7-week worship series we will explore what our lives with God look like through the framework of: 1) Secure orientation; 2) Painful disorientation; and 3) Surprising reorientation. We want to practice authentic speech about and with God. We want to pray honestly and live honestly—from the depths of our being.

#### **Orientation • Disorientation • Reorientation**

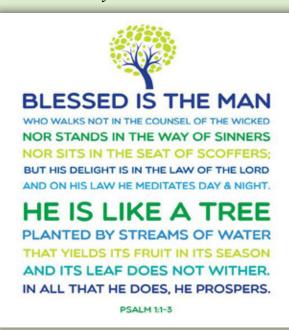
...provides a model for us to challenge consensus, raise hard questions about theology and society, and emerge with a truer picture of the nature of God. Brueggemann suggests

Sermon Series: Psalms: Living on the Edge September 10-October 22 (Celebration Sunday)

that "most Psalms can only be appropriately prayed by people who are living at the edge of their lives, sensitive to the raw hurts, the primitive passions, and naïve elations...entry into the Psalms require a real change of pace. It asks us to depart from the closely managed world of public survival, to move into the open, frightening, healing world of speech with the Holy One."

I hope to see you around this Fall as we dive deep into the Psalms together!

Grace & Peace, *Rev. Ryan* 





### **Racism & White Privilege:** The Faith and Justice Team creates space for hard questions

**Rev. Jessica Rooks** Lead Minister of Community Life The Faith and Justice Team is a newly formed group at St. Luke's, which came to life in response to social tensions and divisiveness, with a purpose of creating space to ask hard questions and engage in difficult conversations across political and

religious party lines.

The team sponsored their first event on July 19, which was an introductory conversation around white privilege and racism. Nearly 70 people attended the evening and participated in the discussion.

FROM REV. JESSICA

St. Luke's congregation member Jon Streaty shared some of his experiences as an African-American man living in Douglas County. Stories of being followed by neighbors as he walked his dog. Stories of being followed home by police cars at night. Stories of racism in our community that most of us will never experience ourselves.

After Jon shared his story, participants were asked to discuss three questions.

- If Jim Ryan (older, Caucasian male) and Jon Streaty (older, African-American male) were coming home from work and stopped by a law enforcement officer, who would you rather be and why?
- 2. Where do you notice racism in your family and community? What do you say or do, if anything?
- 3. How does your faith motivate you in responding to racism?

Listening to Jon's story was disheartening. We like to think that racism is no longer an issue in our community, and yet when we hear stories from individuals we know and love, we are reminded that racism is as real today as it was fifty years ago. These conversations are not comfortable, nor should they be, because they push to us focus on the third question – how does our faith motivate us to respond to racism (individual and

institutional racism)? How do the teachings of Jesus encourage us to confront explicit and implicit racism, in ourselves and those around us?

As a predominantly Caucasian church, what is our role in acknowledging

our 'white privilege,' and beginning to live into a different reality – a reality where we understand that empowerment of others does not diminish our own empowerment?

The Faith and Justice Team is planning future events as we continue to discuss racism and other topics. I hope you will consider joining this conversation and exploring the role of faith in community life.

Grace & Blessings, Rev. Jessica





Taking two trips this month, first, on **Thursday, August 10** is to our milehigh State Capitol building, where we can stand on the designated, carefully

measured Mile High step, gaze at the goldplated dome and learn more about Colorado state government.



At the end of the month on **Sunday**, **August 27**, we drive to Roxborough

State Park for an outdoor, evening concert and picnic among the red rocks as we listen to Hanson and Skanson on their acoustic guitars. Donations will benefit the park.

As always, September is leaf-peeping season and we travel up to two-miles high to see the Fall color on **Tuesday**, **September 19** with a stop at Echo Lake Lodge for lunch and pie.

Check out at the Seasoned Voyagers table in Fellowship Hall on Sundays, pick up a brochure or contact Rich Krening, rkrening©msn.com.

## OUR STORIES



Les Ludlam

## More from Les: Hunter's Story

Let me tell you about my friend. My friend is a retired athlete.

And my friend is about seven times my size!

His name is Hunter and he is a jumper.

Jumping horses tend to be large (Hunter weighs over 1,300 lbs.)

and must be strong enough to jump over fences and across small streams while carrying a rider.

Hunter used to participate in jumping competitions. He even won a few ribbons! But, as with most athletes, he had to retire from the



intense physical stress of his sport and came to live on a farm in Missouri. He is loved by his owner and is part of the family.

Hunter and his owner would go for long leisurely rides on a regular basis. He seemed to be happy in his retirement from jumping, but then, something strange happened! He started bumping into walls and fences. Loud or unfamiliar noises would upset him. Hunter was loosing his sight!

His owner decided to do something about it.

She took him to the veterinarian and then talked to a close friend who happens to be an experienced handler of horses. The friend has had to deal with a variety of unexpected situations that can arise with a horse. At the friend's suggestion, they fenced in a three-acre pasture for Hunter but quickly discovered that this wasn't enough. Coming home from work on evening, his owner discovered Hunter had crashed through the fence, totally destroying one of the fence posts!

Here is where I, and my son "Hank," come in to this story. Just call me "Sadie."

Hank and I are miniature donkeys (or burros) and are known for our strength, patience, and tendency to socialize with other animals. I also have a reputation for "mothering" other animals around me. We resided with Hunter in his pasture and were soon joined by six goats. We were all fitted with bells around our necks and we became Hunter's eyes. He would know he was not alone.

Hunter is smart, and we soon became his "herd", and we could help this blind horse safely navigate the pasture. He can now deal with his new life situation with assurance, and I'm happy for that.

## **Attention Gardeners!**

Weekly Weeders



Needed!

Our community garden is doing well but we need your help to keep weeds under

control. Call Fran West at 303-797-7107 if you can take 1 week beginning now through Sept. to weed. Thanks to members of the Rairigh family for weeding in July!



Hunter's owner writes, "Horses are companion animals. The spiritual connection we can have with them and the partnership they can provide is, on many levels, indescribable." Hunter, Jack and Sadie developed a connection that helps Hunter deal with his new life situation.

This last May his owner took Hunter out for his first ride outside the pasture since he lost his sight. What a joyous time for owner and horse!

God bless Hunter, Sadie, and Hank and their relationship.

### God bless us all. –Les

{Hunter, Sadie, Hank and the goats are all living happily on a farm in Missouri. A big "thank you" goes to Abbie for the story of her horse.}



## St. Luke's is pleased to welcome Kim DeVries as our new Office Administrator

Kim has been married for 27 years to Curt DeVries. Kim and Curt have two sons -Daniel, who lives in Michigan and David, who lives in Maryland.

Kim and Curt moved to Colorado last spring, after living in Michigan for 25 years. Kim grew up in Montana, and she and Curt enjoy hiking, road biking, and being outside. Kim and Curt are members of the Christian Reformed Church, and Kim has spent the last 15 years working in a local Christian Reformed Church, as well as the denominational offices.

We are excited that Kim has joined our staff, and look forward to the contributions she brings. Please take a moment to welcome Kim the next time you are in the church office.

## Bright, Sun"Shine" Summer!



The summer has been wonderfully adventurous and full of community for Shine (our fellowship group for young families)! We kicked off with a Rockies game at the end of May, continued our

monthly Shine Night Outs, and roasted countless marshmallows at our 4th Annual Camping Trip!!!

This year was our first group Rockies game, but I have no doubts that it will become an annual event! We had 37 attendees, got group rate tickets (right next to the playground, I might add!), and even got to participate together in "the first baseball game" for a few of the kids in attendance. Our monthly gatherings have been a bit smaller over the summer, but it has provided some excellent fellowship and opportunity to deepen our relationships – a rare gift for busy parents everywhere!

This year's camping trip was our biggest and most successful yet! We braved not one, but two nights at Golden Gate Canyon State Park for REAL camping; vault toilets, trees, rocks for climbing, and even a few minutes of rain at 8,800 feet of elevation. We traded our 20-minute commute to Chatfield (one night with a single tree) from previous years for a 60-minute commute for two nights with countless trees! No doubt, we'll be returning to Golden Gate Canyon next summer (Father's Day weekend, 2018) and invite you all to join us!

We're kicking off our fall schedule with a Back to School BBQ on Sunday, September 10 from 11:00am-noon in the church's backyard. We hope to see everyone there and hear stories from the group of Shine families heading to Alamosa the weekend before to glean beets.

Keep an eye out for emails and updates on our Facebook Group Page. Contact us by emailing ShineStLukes©gmail.com any time!



Director of Servant Ministry



*Get Connected at St. Luke's.* To learn more about opportunities for you to get involved, contact Renae at renae©stlukeshr.com or 303-791-0659 x117

## **Equipping our Ministries**

It's that time of year again when the Equipping Ministry Team will begin to discern and pray about leadership for our 30+



teams here at St. Luke's. Most teams have approximately nine members, three people rotating off and three new rotating on each year. The Equipping Ministry Team values your recommendations for new leaders (do not hesitate to suggest yourself). We are all gifted with unique ways to serve our church and we value the diversity of all of you. We would appreciate your prayers during this time and as we work to equip our church with leaders.

Members of our team are: *Cathy Collins, John Harper, Lisa Coryell, Salome Thevarajah, Ann Metz, Dori Hauser, Elizabeth Bauer, Paul Connolly, Linda Osborn, Renae Parra and Rev. Jessica Rooks.* Feel free to talk to any of us about opportunities to serve here at St. Luke's. You can also email me anytime at renae©stlukeshr.com.

## The name for the New Fellowship Group for adults is: InBetweeners!

This INBETWEENERS group is for adults who fall between the Shine Group and the Seasoned Voyager's Group. It is for adults who want to gather for Fun and Fellowship between work, family and church.

In August we will be setting up a link for this group on the St. Luke's website and plan activities for the fall. So far the list of suggested activities for this group are: miniature golf, bowling, hiking, trivia, Top Golf, ballroom dancing, sip and canvas, corn maze, Christmas lights at Chatfield, games and Habitat for Humanity.

Join us on Tuesday, August 8th at 6:30pm in the Conference Room as we gather to plan an exciting future for this new group.

If you have any questions call Sandi at 303-791-3407 or email at: silyp©comcast.net

### CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Sept. 10 (SUN) - 5:30pm SLY, Jr. KICK OFF (5th & 6th Grade Fun & Service Club)!
Sept. 16 (SAT) - 9:00am Parent's Time Away
Sept. 17 (SUN) - Third Grade Bible Sunday



This summer our 6 Wacky Wednesdays sessions explored eight different Heroes of the **Bible.** We averaged 60 kids per session and had fun learning virtues of courage, commitment, loyalty and honor. The children learned that following their example they can live heroic lives, too. Thank you to those who participated in this program and a special thank you to the amazing teachers and assistants for their time to engage the children through songs, crafts and stories.

## VBS Success!

A full-to-capacity group of 270 amazing children from our community and over 140 volunteers joined us June 26-30 to learn that God's Heroes have Heart, Courage, Wisdom, Hope, and Power. We learned stories with heroic messages: Samuel anointing young David, Abigail saving the day, young Jesus in the temple, the Beatitudes and Pentecost. This year we collected school supplies for Art class at Sedalia Elementary. Thank you VBS families! And thanks to all of the servants who made VBS possible! You are heroes!

A few words of appreciation from families: "THANK YOU for the wonderful experience my three boys had at VBS. They LOVED it and had such a blast. They were sad it was over!" "Such a great group of people and a wonderful church! We did 3 VBS's this summer and we liked this one the best!"



Sharon Oliver Director of Children's Ministry sharon@stlukeshr.com

Samantha Leahy Director of Early

Childhood Ministry



**Stephanie Kirk** Children's & Family Ministries Coordinator



### **Registration is NOW OPEN** AND our Volunteer Training is Aug. 20!

Register for the 2017-18 Sunday School year on the website: www.stlukeshr.com or paper forms are also available at the church. We ask all families to enroll their children EACH new school year so we can update our records. Our Sunday School year kicks off Sept. 10 PROMOTION SUNDAY with the kids moving up to their new grades. (finally!) We are so excited to share God's love with your kids. AND we can't do it without our wonderful volunteers. Attend training and sign up to serve for the coming year. Come serve with us - one Sunday or lots! We need to fill 20+ servant spots each week(!) so there's plenty of room for all. ONLINE SERVANT SIGN UP for the fall will be available by August 20 at 11:00am when we will have our first "Goliath Gathering" Servant Training. You can also sign up on the bulletin board by the elevator downstairs. We will have 2 more trainings: Sept. 10 & Oct. 15 at 11:00am.

### 3rd Grade Bibles - Sept. 17!



St. Luke's has a wonderful tradition of gifting our 3rd Graders with their very own Bible! They have their Bible presented to them upstairs in the worship service and then get to meet as a class with the pastor and go over their Bible. This is a rite of passage that our families really look forward to. **This year Bible Sunday will take place on Sept. 17.** AND we will continue with 2 additional

Sundays of Bible Study with our Pastors for our 3rd Graders! Sept. 24 & Oct. 2 at 9:30am!! This will be an awesome experience for those 3rd graders to explore this amazing book in depth. If you know of a 3rd grader who would like a gift Bible on Sept. 17 and would like to participate in our 3rd Grade Bible Study Sundays, **please send their name to sharon©stlukeshr. com by Sept. 4.** Thanks!!!



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**Kelly Amadeo** Director of

xe's Little &

Little School

## Little School News: Beginnings

As we begin our 23rd year at Little School, I am reminded of my first introduction about twelve years ago. I had moved to Highlands Ranch, and being a lifelong Methodist, I looked for something that resembled my Methodist church back home. I attended my first service at St. Luke's one Sunday, and I walked away feeling the same rejuvenation, love, and community I had felt at my hometown church. I had found my home of faith. As I walked through the lower level

that day, I thought, "I hope if I have children, they will attend Little School."

Several years later, my son and then my daughter were born and soon attended Little School like I had hoped. Our years as parents at Little School were wonderful. I cried when my daughter graduated preschool. I wasn't ready to let it go. I had no idea that I would be hired as a teacher and eventually as the director within the next few weeks/years. God knew what I needed in life and led me to my purpose; continuing the legacy of Little School and educating the young children of our community. There is no where I would rather be than working with the wonderful teachers, friendly and supportive families, and children who feel like my own! Sometimes when we feel like we are wandering in life, God shows us our why, our purpose, and opens our doors to a different kind of "home." My family and I are blessed.

As we get ready to start school at the end of August, I am thrilled by the excitement I hear in the teachers' voices and the steady stream of new and returning families coming to drop off paperwork and say hello. There is a vibe in the air right now that is indescribable.

One new event this year will be our First Day of School Parent's Tea on August 28th and 29th. When I dropped my son off at Little School years ago on his first day, I remember driving away thinking, "that is it? Now what do I do with myself? Is he crying like I am? I just need a hug!" The first day of school is often harder on parents than it is on the kids. This year to help parents with the first day of school, we are offering tea, coffee, and Kleenex in Fellowship Hall upstairs after you drop off your child. More information about this will be shared at our Parent Open House on August 24th. We are here for you too, parents!

#### **Upcoming Events:**

#### Parent Open House: August 24 - 6:30-7:30pm

**Children's Open House/Meet the Teacher:** August 25 - 9:30-11:00am

#### First Days of School: August 28 and 29

We look forward to having our Little School Family back together again this month.

Grace & Love, Ms. Kelly Director, St. Luke's Little School

## Welcoming our newest members

OUR COMMUNITY

of St. Luke's and their reasons for joining our community.



Rev. Knut Heim - "A vibrant faith here; inspiring fine-art ministry, great preaching, leader, social justice ministry, focus on Jesus and fun."

Tim and Jo Szymanski -"We love the warm, inspiring and joyful community that St. Luke's creates."

Brian and Lindsay Appel -"Community, children's programs, messages and valuable takeaways."

Rick and Pam Pape -"We feel at home in this church and like the ministry team and music."



**Denise Anderson -**"It is a church that welcomes, worships and cares."

Cassandra Meier (and Jensen who was already a member) . "The opportunities to grow in community."







If you are interested in making a deeper commitment by Joining St. Luke's, please contact Renae Parra x120 renae@stlukeshr.com or visit www.stlukeshr.com

"Reiki is love. Love is wholeness. Wholeness is balance. Balance is well-being. Wellbeing is freedom from disease." -Dr. Mikado Usui/Reiki Founder

## **Reiki Level I Class: An Energy Connection**



by Melinda Davidson The Center for Spiritual Engagement provided a forum for knowledge and energy to flow, through touch, that yields healing and wholeness, during the recent Reiki I training offering. Tibetan/ Usui Reiki Master Teachers, Suzanne Rainey and Kathy

J. Pelmo, compassionately imparted a historical, holistic and hands-on healing attunement to a class of St. Luke's members and area community participants.

Reiki is made up of two words "Rei" meaning "Spiritually Guided" and "Ki" meaning "Healing Energy". Interestingly enough, Reiki can be referenced across early origins of Sanskrit, Chinese, Judaism and Christianity. Reiki promotes the healing of our body, mind and spirit through light touch or hovering cupped hands, Reiki energy has its own awareness to connect to one's natural 'life force energy' that flows and is the element that keeps every living thing alive. Yes, any living organism can elicit it's Reiki energy to receive it's highest good. Think of how this process can make our loved ones, our cherished pets and even our growing garden items be at their inner life's best.

The principle tenants of Reiki are simple. Reiki is safe, it can do no harm since it is guided by the spiritual consciousness. We are all made up of life energy and it freely moves through our inner pathways called chakras, meridians and auras. Reiki always heals. Reiki is used to help individuals with stages of healing or relief of many conditions including: stress, anxiety, pain, symptoms of disease, emotional release of trauma, recovery from addiction and many more.

Reiki is a pure form of healing and not reliant on years of learning. Reiki practitioners can teach and train anyone. This recent Reiki I Training of Basic Self Fundamentals class had two 13 year old participants who readily felt and delivered Reiki energy. The Healing Touch, Reiki manual states "The feeling of being connected directly to God's healing love and protection is clearly apparent." This four-hour class, unfolded with a compressive introduction on what Reiki is, how a practitioner is just a conduit to this energy, Reiki itself doesn't take or deplete the one who is delivering the treatment. All trainees had hands-on time to model/practice delivering Reiki to one's self and others in the class.

Testimonial: "I have had persistent foot pain for about 15 years and basically learned to deal with it 24x7. After having a Reiki treatment and attunement, my pain went from a 7 down to a 3 and walking is not as difficult. I'm hoping to return to some of the things I've had on my bucket list for awhile."

# Save the Dates: Join our Celebrations,

Educational Studies and Volunteer Mission Projects

- August 13 (8:00am-9:15am): Room 206: UMW Leadership Meeting (all are welcome).
- August 27 PIE & PRAYER: Enjoy delicious pies, hear the words of Rev. Jessica, and enjoy the old fashion hymns from the Sisters of Soul. Our mission focus for this event will be Health Kits for UMCOR. This event is free but registration will be August 6, 13 and 20 at the Get Connected Table.
- **December 5** Candlelight Dinner: The wonderful Christmas dinner served by the men of St. Luke's.

**United Methodist Women** enhances your Spiritual Journey, supports you in Friendship and Fellowship, keeps you in Prayer, satisfies Mission Needs, and supplies you with Renewal. Let us be a part of your journey. If you would like to join us at any of these events, please contact umwinfo@stlukeshr.com

# **Farewell to Linda Streaty** – Wishing Linda a Wonderful New Beginning in Atlanta

A luncheon was hosted by Sharon Smith July 20 at her home. The UMW committee gathered to give Linda (pictured center) a fond farewell. Linda and her husband have relocated to Atlanta. She has served on the UMW committee as the Education and Interpretation person. In her position she



provided suggestions and information concerning groups that UMW might consider for our mission contributions. The contributions coming from events put on by UMW each year: Spring Tea, Pie and Prayer and Candlelight Dinner. Also at these events she was the "go to gal" for technical support. Her participation and dedication will be sorely missed, along with her friendship. Additionally, over the years, Linda was a weekly volunteer at Sedalia Elementary; she was on the tech booth team for Sunday services and also prepared Sunday announcement slides; volunteered at VBS; made plastic grocery bag mats for the homeless; participated in many classes; was a social justice advocate, and so much more. Her gifts and dedication will definitely be missed by UMW and also the other church committees she has served.

**UMW Recognition Award** Each year St. Luke's UMW recognizes a person who has truly embraced the mission of UMW assisting Women, Youth and Children and / or has answered the call to serve. Our honoree's many affirming gifts encourages Mission Work, Social Action, Education, Bible Study... just to name a few. She quietly serves in all of these avenues and more. She has an energized and open mind; she is dedicated to all she serves. She is hospitable, welcoming, fun. She is unassuming, thoughtful, caring, and is always willing to help or volunteer in any way possible and always with a smile. She "gathers" others to volunteered weekly at Sedalia Elementary for 5 years; she has volunteered at VBS; has worked Project Homeless Connection; Liaison for Love Inc./Renewed Treasures... Volunteered with Urban Peak, Warren Village, Women's Bean Project, We Don't Waste, Feeding the 5,000,... and

so many many more. A financial contribution to the United Methodist Women's Mission fund, celebrating women, children and youth has been given in honor of our recipient.

We are so proud to present a Special Mission Recognition Certificate and Pin

**to Linda Streaty.** We wish Linda and Jon a wonderful new beginning in Atlanta. May God's Blessings be with you both in your new home and church. Thank you for your presence in our lives.



## Count Your Soles and Share Some Blessings

Support the UMW mission projects by counting the number of soles or pairs of shoes in your closet. Some suggestions for donation amounts are: 10, 25, 50 cents per sole or pair of soles. This is a good time to do some summer cleaning and donate any of your soles in good condition to Renewed Treasures or Shoes for Shepherds, A Four Corners Native American Ministry (kyker. bayton©gmail.com). More information can be found at the Get Connected Center.



"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."

## **Interest Groups of UMW**

**Book Club** ~ Fiction/ Non-fiction/Informative/Fun. Fourth Monday, Room 206, 7:00pm (potluck 6:15pm) Contact: Renae Parra (renaeparra©aol.com)

- August 28 ~ "Three Wishes" by Erin Moriarty
- September 25 ~ "Just Mercy" by Bryan Stevenson
- October 23 ~ "Orphan #8" by Kim van Alkemade

**Common Thread** ~ Friendship/Fellowship/ Caring/ Sharing. First Thursday of each month, 10:00am. Meets at the church. Will resume the first Thursday of September. Contact: Caroline Butler carolinebutler©q.com or Betty Smith 303-797-3225

**Itch to Stitch** ~ Projects of Crochet, Knitting, Sewing, Quilting donated to Charities. All skill levels welcome. Meets on the 2nd and 4th Saturday from 10:00am to 12:00pm in the church basement starting in the fall. Summer project kits are available in the Narthex. Contact: Fran West 303-797-7107. Check out our

Facebook page!!! - "St. Luke's UMC Itch to Stitch Guild" Christmas stockings are currently being made for the children of Warren Village. Our goal is to make 250 stockings by Nov. 1. Itch to Stitch held a Christmas in July workshop and provided the stocking pattern, so all will be the same size, along with instructions on how to assemble. If you were not able to attend the session and would like info, contact Victoria at vlm23©q.com.

## Mission Work We continue

to hear from missionaries around the world, and we keep them and their work in our prayers. There are around 450 missionaries working in 100 different countries around the world.

### For more information about UMW:

- Email us at umwinfo@stlukeshr.com.
- Look for our brochure at the church entrance AND we are on Facebook www.facebook.com/stlukeshrumw "St. Luke's United Methodist Women - Highlands Ranch, CO"
- United Methodist Women Rocky Mountain Conference and Mile High Pikes Peak District www.rmcumw.org
- UMW national website: http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org

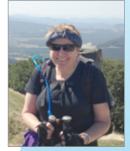




CSE Mission: To promote healing and wholeness by creating opportunities for authentic connection, and by providing experiences that inspire and transform.

## Visit stlukescse.org

### **CSE SPEAKER SERIES** Oct. 17, 2017 6:30-8:00pm



### **Rev. Dr. Janet Forbes "The Spirituality of Pilgrimage**"

Join us for a wonderful evening as Rev. Janet shares photos and stories of her spiritual

journey along the Camino de Santiago in Spain. (Julie.polikoff©msn.com)

### Save the Date

for this future Speaker Series experience:

• February 20, 2018: Chris Wilterdink "Building Spiritual Muscle"

### **CSE SACRED TRAVEL**



February 2018

See article on Page 2 to learn more!

### **CSE CLASSES & EXPERIENCES**



**Morning Yoga** with Gargi resturns on Thursday mornings! 9:00-10:15am in St. Luke's Chapel. This will be our

third year of classes with Gargi. Her class is focused on getting you out of your mind, and in to your body- allowing you to sense and feel what you need physically and emotionally. All fitness levels welcome. Drop in once or as often as your schedule will allow. Suggested donation \$12/class. (renaeparra@aol.com)

#### **Testimonials:**

"My week doesn't go the same if I haven't done your yoga."

"The stretching is great, but what really makes a difference for me is how the breathing and mindfulness exercises relieve my stress!"

Testimonials from Melinda Davidson's "Effortless **Summertime** Entertaining **Cooking Class**"

on June 24: "Many thanks to CSE for offering Melinda's cooking and entertaining class. It was great fun receiving the secret behind designing a beautiful dinner party. The hint: Relax - let food be the star! Thank you Melinda for opening up your sanctuary and kitchen in making this experience so meaningful and practical for each participant." "Melinda is the most gracious of instructors and offers the beautiful hospitality of her own kitchen to us. She provided a wonderful morning that was full of connection, inspiration, and, if not a transformation of me into a great cook, at least I gained a sense that I can learn to be a better cook."

### **Recap of "Rituals of Restoration"**

on June 28: CSE, in conjunction with Capital Tea, held a unique experiential evening led by Gargi Agarwala, author, life coach and yoga/meditation instructor. This event offered an opportunity to explore our



relationship with ourselves. We began our time visiting with 35 other participants and sharing wonderful teas and delicious desserts. Gargi led us in a simple

meditation using the tea as a focus, while

allowing us to experience our senses. We were then guided in a reflective visualization that took us backward through our previous year of experiences, to New Year's Eve 2016, and forward through the remainder of this year. It was a powerful exercise which allowed

us to look deeply at how we are living our lives and at the opportunity to live healthier and happier. The evening was full of fun and practical ideas for enhancing wellbeing. As an added bonus each participant received a copy of Gargi's book, "Wellthy Ways". What a refreshing and fulfilling evening!!



birdsong, rustling breezes, and the occasional knock of tree against tree. After our hike we replenished and reflected together over an abundant "tailgate snack".

Back by popular demand! Group Lyfe Coaching Level I with Gargi Agarwala, Wednesday evenings, starting August 30, 6:30-8:00pm at St. Luke's. This 6-session class is a powerful experience that supports participants to access their inner wisdom, honor their passions and individual giftedness and clear the path to claiming an authentic, purposeful and joy-filled life. \$180/person; class size is limited. For more info or to register contact Renae Parra (renaeparra@aol.com)

Gracious Space with Jenita Rhodes resumes Sept. 8 (10:00-11:30am). This drop-in forum meets every 2nd Friday and offers time and space to renew, refresh and regenerate. Each session includes a devotion/lesson and time to explore through various Arts. Come when you can and see what exciting things Jenita will bring in your day. (jenita©pcisys.net)

Whiteboarding Your Why: A Couple's Retreat - September 17-19, with Ryan and Tami Canaday in the Colorado mountains. This will be an interactive weekend as you discover your "Why" as a couple. Find energy from knowing your purpose. \$399/couple. (Tami at projectiamforyou©gmail.com)

Glow! A Women's Weekend Retreat - Oct. 27-28 in Vail, Colorado. Join us for this women's overnight Wellbeing Experience. We invite you to refresh and renew in the beauty of the Colorado mountains and experience the gracious charm of the Sonnenalp Hotel. You will engage in enriching practices to inspire health and wholeness of mind, body and spirit. The program is facilitated by Sallie Suby-Long, Renae Parra and Special Guests. \$275 fee is nonrefundable and is due by Sept. 10. (sallie©stlukeshr.com or renaeparra©aol.com)

CSE OUTDOOR ADVENTURES (julie.polikoff©msn.com or janestaller©gmail.com) All are welcome to join us to connect with one another and with God's beautiful world.

- AUGUST: Sun., Aug.20 POTLUCK PICNIC & BOATING at CHATFIELD RESERVOIR Come celebrate 5 years of outdoor adventures sponsored by CSEWe'll gather at 4:30 at Roxborough Beach to share our potluck picnic and reminisce. Bring a dish to share and a camp chair. CSE will provide canoes and kayaks to explore the waters of Chatfield Reservoir. We'll enjoy dessert together as we watch the sunset at 7:45.
- SEPTEMBER: Sat., Sept. 23 ARCHAEOLOGY EXPERIENCE
- OCTOBER: Sat., Oct. 14 FALL COLORS HIKE Castlewood Canyon
- NOVEMBER: Sat., Nov. 11 MATTHEWS/WINTERS PARK FALL HIKE near Morrison

#### **Recap of Dawson** Butte hike on Saturday, July 15: We

hiked the 5 mile loop trail through gently rolling ponderosa pine forests and open meadows in the shadow of towering Dawson Butte. We were surprised at the variety and abundance of wildflowers on this mid-July morning. In a quiet clearing, Janet Johnston described how natural "soundscapes" can promote health and wellbeing, and we enjoyed a quiet interval full of



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Amy McMullen Assistant Dir. of Youth Ministry

Assistant Dir. of Youth Ministry

# ON THE SLY: Cheers to Change

Fall is here! And if you haven't heard, that means more changes are in store for SLY! Of course with the start of the school year comes the end of our Summer STMs and GEMs programing and the kickoff of our Wednesday



Night SLY. Just as in the past this night will start with a homework hour, but lots of new and fun activities will be had after that!! We will once again start up Sunday dinners at 5:30 before SLY PM and "Soul Purpose" our youth choir will be resuming Sunday practices at the end of August! Contact Music Director Jim Ramsey for more info.

And then of course there is the big change everyone is talking about.. Our beloved Assistant Youth Director Jeremy Brown is moving on from St. Luke's to fulfill a lifelong dream of serving in the Peace Corps. Jeremy's last Sunday will be September 17th. We will celebrate and thank him in all three services that morning, and then have a big goodbye party that night! We are so excited for this opportunity Jeremy has gotten and will miss him dearly.

But then comes the exciting part! A team of adults and youth have worked diligently over the past few months searching for the perfect person to take Jeremy's place. And although Jeremy could never truly be replaced, we think we found someone who will fit in perfectly with our crazy team! Starting in early August, Jake Smith (pictured at right), a long time St. Luke's member, former SLY member, and current adult volunteer will be joining our team! We are so excited for this opportunity! Look for an article next month to learn more about Jake and feel free to come down to the youth room to say hi!



Make sure to checkout our website to see all the exciting activities we have going on this fall too.. Like our 3rd annual Backyard Camp Out!! In October we'll be setting up tents, roasting marshmallows on the fire pit, and projecting a movie on the church wall. This is an event for all 7th through 12th graders and is definitely something not to miss!! Also, at the end of August we're having a lock-in just for the girls!! GEMs (Girls Enrichment Ministry) will once again be having a fun and faith filled evening including a midnight run to Waffle House! And then before we know it the pumpkins will be here! It's going to be a good fall. Yours in Christ, Dave, Amy & Jeremy

# A Blessing of "Maddie's Place"

If you have visited the Youth Room in the past few months you may have noticed a new addition! On the far south wall, a new cafe area, complete with restaurant style booths and fancy lights, has been completed! This has already become a favorite hang out spot for many of our youth, but the story behind this new area goes far beyond simple booths and lights.

Just over 4 years ago our church community gained a guardian angel at much too young an age. Madisen Wright, a beautiful, fun loving, animal-adoring 21 year old, left this world too soon. Maddie and her two sisters were members of SLY (St. Luke's Youth) in high school and her sweet family wanted funds donated at her memorial to go towards the youth program, thus an awesome booth area, dubbed "Maddie's Place" was created. This is what her family had to say:

"The loss of a child is devastating beyond all else. Enduring this loss would not be possible without our faith and the support of our church family at St. Luke's. We chose to simultaneously memorialize our daughter, and express our gratitude by providing a safe and happy gathering place for the young people of SLY. We appreciate the friends and family whose donations made this possible. May God bless you all."



There will be an official blessing of the space honoring Maddie's Place, it's history, and the Wright family on August 27 at 5:00pm. ALL are welcome.

**Dave Laurvick** Director of Youth Ministry



**Upcoming Events!** 

August 13: 9:30-10:30am SLY AM - Dave 6:00-7:30pm SLY PM - Jump Street

August 20: 9:30-10:30am SLY AM - Karin 6:00-7:30pm SLY PM - Messy Games

August 25-26: GEMs Lock In!!

#### August 27: \* 9:30-10:30am SLY AM - Amy 5:30pm SLY KICK OFF Sly Youth and Parents BBQ

September 3: 9:30-10:30am SLY AM - Jake 6:00-7:30pm SLY PM - Coffee House - Caffeine

September 8-10: Jr. High Retreat

September 10: 9:30-10:30am SLY AM - TBD 6:00-7:30pm SLY PM - TBD

and Conversation

September 17: 9:30-10:30am SLY AM - Jeremy 6:00-7:30pm SLY PM - Jeremy's Goodbye Party

Sign up to receive our emails and Check stlukeshr.com and click on "Youth" or "SLY" for up-to-date info on programs, activities, opportunities and more!



continued from page 1 a slight diversion in the form of a water balloon fight). Because of our hard work, our group, Calvin and the Chop Shop, managed to accelerate the rate of progress to where we were a full week ahead of where they were expecting us to be. We truly saw God work through us during that week.

Not only were we successful in our projects, but we were also successful in building deep relationships with people. Even though our friends from Georgia were only with us for a week, I feel like I deeply connected with all four of the kids who were on my work team. These kind of heartfelt relationships can only be made through

doing the work of Jesus together. I also felt my connection with youth from our church get stronger then I even thought possible. Through the emotional devotions each night, I felt loved and supported by every single person there - something that I have never felt before. I am thankful for the opportunities that this mission trip blessed me with. St. Luke's Youth accomplished the mission we set out to do: Make Moore OK.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, Sept 17, 1:00-4:00pm Auditions for "Christmas on Broadway"

> Week of Sept. 3 Music Rehearsals BEGIN! (Tintinnabulators start Aug. 22)

## A Message from Ken Mervine...

During the Summer months of R & R, many members of the St. Luke's community give of their time and talent to add to the Worship experience. We are very blessed at this church to have so many extraordinary individuals who are willing to share their gift of Sacred Song.

A special and heartfelt "Thank You" to those who have inspired us during these summer months: Men's Chorus; Penny Harris; Patrick, Kylie, Taylor Griggs, Roberta Hamilton-Griggs; Sandy Larson; Summer Choir; Ed Law, and the CrossRoads Gospel Band. Our Music Ministers will continue through the first Sunday of September...

And lastly, a "Thank you" to all of those who have shared their kind words of appreciation.

And St. Luke's says a big **THANK YOU** to Ken Mervine for his leadership and beautiful music this summer (and all year long too)! We are blessed beyond measure!

## **YOU** are invited!



Believe it or not, Fall is just around the corner. It's a great time to join the Music

and Arts Ministry! St. Luke's offers many different ways to share your musical or artistic gifts with our community. You are invited to logon to the website (www.stlukeshr.com) and click on the Music and Arts webpage to learn more about all the ensembles, rehearsal times, and leadership. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Kristi Pawley, Music and Arts Administrative Assistant, at kristi©stlukeshr. com. She can answer your question or find the answer!

### Welcome Back Hand Bell Ringers!

The adult hand bell ensemble, St. Luke's Tintinnabulators, will begin rehearsals Tuesday, August 22, 7:00-8:30pm in the Music Room. If you've been ringing for years or want to begin now, please contact Kay Coryell, kayc©stlukeshr.com for information about joining the group! We'd love to have you ring with us!



## **PAA** Gala

Save the date! The annual PAA gala will be held on Saturday, November 4 at 5:30pm. Don't miss this amazing, one-of-kind event that helps support

the great work that PAA is doing in our community. For tickets and information, please visit stlukespaa.org.



James Ramsey Director of Music & Arts Ministries



**Kenrick Mervine** Associate Dir. of Music Ministry/ Organist

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

Kristi Pawley Music & Arts Admin. Assistant/ Accounting Clerk

### "Christmas on Broadway" - Auditions

Kick off the Christmas season and celebrate the holidays with the Wesley Players as they present the musical, Christmas on Broadway, on Sat., Dec. 2! The Wesley Players will perform Christmas songs from Broadway shows such as Meet Me in St. Louis, Elf the Musical, White Christmas, A Christmas Carol and many, many others. Would you like to be a part of this wonderful production? There will be ensembles, as well as featured and solo opportunities for children and adults, ages 8 to 80. Auditions will be held Sunday, Sept. 17, 1:00-4:00pm, in the Choir music room. Please prepare approximately 32 bars from a song from any musical; bring the sheet music with you to the audition. No dancing is required and rehearsals will be held Wednesday evenings. A complete rehearsal schedule will be available after auditions, factoring in conflicts. Contact Melanie Kirkpatrick at melanie.kirkpatrick©gmail.com





#### 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.

#### CONGREGATIONAL CARE

PRAYER CONCERNS

Don't you be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen **you....** –Isaiah 41:10

Jean Bennett David Funk Carrie Buie Phil Keyack Debbie Davidson-John Lewis Stanfill Ellen McGrath Audrey Elling Jordan Obertier Bob Ferguson Kathy Pinkleman

#### SYMPATHIES TO:

Edee Worth on the passing of her brother, Jerry Ross Shawn Sheppard and family on the passing of their wife/ mother Debi Sheppard

Rich Carnahan on the passing of his wife Carol Carnahan Carl Cleveland on the passing of his mother Mildred Marie Cleveland

Lisa Lehnus on the passing of her sister-in-law Carolyn Lehnus Don Pascal on the passing of his wife Peg Pascal Sallie Suby-Long on the passing of her uncle Rodney Skogerboe Family and Friends on the passing of Minnie Mortimore



Contact Rev. Sallie Suby-Long if you have any additions/removals 303-791-0659 x132, leave a note at the front desk, or email sallie©stlukeshr.com

Mary Richards

Lee Rozinski

Greg Seefeldt

Heather Sisk

Diana Stephens

### **LATEST ENTRIES TO PRAYER LIST:**

Kathy Swier Roberta Towell Kim Tremath Bob Walsh Kathy Ziler

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Parents Matt and Sarah Mussetter and Grandmother Nancy Mussetter on the birth of Mira Claire Mussetter. Parents Erin Hoffman and Scott Reid, Jr. and Grandparents Monty and Raina Hoffman on the birth of Camden Andrew Hoffman Reid.



Are you single by choice or circumstance and looking for activities that don't revolve around dating? The Ageless Singles are a group of women and men who get together monthly to enjoy each other's company and get out and about. Some of us are still working, others are retired, and we're each interested in sharing the fun with friendly, likeminded people. Our activities run the gamut from outdoor activities, to museums, movies and dinner, to exploring local community events.

Our events schedule is distributed via email; all you have to do is sign up. You choose which events are of interest to you, send an RSVP, and join with us on our next outing. We'd love to welcome you to our midst!

To sign up, go to the St. Luke's website: stlukeshr.com.