



Finding Your Story within the Story

St. Luke's UMC Fall 2020 Worship Series
 SEPTEMBER 13 - NOVEMBER 1, 2020
WATCH VIA LIVESTREAM SUNDAYS AT 9:00AM
OUTDOOR WORSHIP AT 10:30AM (sign up online to attend)

Behind every face, there is a story, and behind every story, there is a sacred theme that can be found in the biblical stories. No matter where we are in life, no matter how crazy things get, our stories can be found in the scripture stories. Maybe not at first glance, and usually not under the same circumstances, but when we sift out the holy message, we just might find ourselves saying, "That's the story of my life!"

Journey with us this Fall and find your story in the story.

September 13
KICK OFF SUNDAY
 Rev. Michele preaching
The Story of Joshua: God is with us in all the ups and downs of life.

September 20
CONFIRMATION SUNDAY
 Pastor Liza preaching
Deborah's Story: The power of boldly following God's direction.

September 27
3rd GRADE BIBLE SUNDAY
 Rev. Michele preaching
King David's Story: The least likely are chosen and do well.

October 4
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
 Rev. Michele preaching
Esther's Story: In order to be strong and do what's right, we have to fill ourselves with God's love.

October 11
 Pastor Liza preaching
Abigail's Story: Making a difference through radical hospitality and grace.

October 18
LAITY SUNDAY
 Rev. Michele preaching
Nehemiah's Story: God is our foundation and helps us rebuild.

October 25
 Rev. Michele preaching
The Story of Daniel: Daniel has four visions. What do we envision for our lives?

November 1
ALL SAINTS DAY
 Pastor Liza preaching
The Story of Ruth: Establishing a legacy by living a faithful life.



OPERATION: Love Your Neighbor OUTDOOR WORSHIP LAUNCH

At St. Luke's, loving our neighbors, both locally and globally, is something we do well! Whether we are collecting food for our neighbors, praying for them, worshiping with them or building them homes, we are truly loving them as God has so wonderfully called us to do. And while that looks a little different than normal right now, we are still loving our neighbors! And this holds true with how we are continuing to imagine our worship time together. Introducing OUTDOOR WORSHIP at St. Luke's! **If you are interested in finding out more about our outdoor worship service, here are the answers to some commonly asked questions:**

When will St. Luke's outdoor worship begin? The outdoor worship at St. Luke's will begin with three test runs on Aug. 23, 30 and Sept. 6 in order for us to work out the kinks and to make sure we have all of the appropriate safety guidelines and protocols in place. Following these test runs, we will open the worship service for sign ups and officially begin outdoor worship on Kick-Off Sunday, September 13 at 10:30am.

Where will the outdoor worship take place? The outdoor worship service will take place in the backyard on the stage that was built for PAA's summer camp. It is a beautiful stage and we are excited to be able to utilize it.

What time is the outdoor worship service and when am I expected to arrive? The service will start at 10:30am. Worshipers are asked to arrive at 10:15am so ushers can get everyone seated safely and with proper social distancing.

How many people can participate in the outdoor worship service? We hope to maximize the outdoor space with as many people as we can safely social distance. We do not yet know how many people that will allow, but as we learn more in the test runs, we will be able to have a maximum capacity number available.

How long will the outdoor worship service last? The actual worship service will be 30-40 minutes in length, however you will need to allow time for seating upon your arrival and dismissal upon your departure. Therefore we suggest planning on a total time of 60-75 minutes at the church.

What if I am not comfortable participating in an in-person worship service just yet? We recognize everyone has their own comfort level with in-person activities, and this worship service is strictly optional. We will continue to livestream our 9:00am service the entire time the outdoor service is being offered.

When will we be able to worship in the sanctuary? The answer to this question is delicate. While we recognize the holy significance of our sanctuary, the symbols and memories it holds and the beauty it embodies, we also recognize that we can meet God outside of those walls. Our goal is to connect with God and with each other in safe and meaningful ways, and right now, this looks very different than what we are used to. How long will it be before we gather in the sanctuary again? That is unknown at this time. The good news is, this COVID situation is temporary. The not so good news is, it is a long term temporary, and that means, we will continue to find creative ways to stay connected in small groups, classes, mission work, activities, livestream worship and outdoor worship.

Our building is currently closed to non-essential persons.

Worship services will be live streamed on Sundays at 9:00am
Outdoor worship on Sundays at 10:30am as weather permits - attendance is limited, please sign up online to attend.

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Website.....www.stlukeshr.com
Little School Office.....303-791-1982



Staff

Rev. Michele Kaminsky.....x105
Lead Minister

Pastor Liza Stoltz Hanson.....x107
Associate Minister

Rev. Dr. Sallie Suby-Long.....x132
Minister of Healing & Wellbeing

Dr. James Ramsey.....x123
Director of Music & Arts Ministries

Kenrick Mervine.....x133
Associate Director of Music Ministry & Organist

Kay Coryell.....x136
Director of Handbells & Children's Music Ministry

Chris Rigolini.....x146
Director of Instrumental Music

Sharon Oliver.....x127
Director of Children's Ministry

Samantha Leahy.....x140
Director of Early Childhood Ministry

Jake Smith.....x145
Director of Youth Ministry

Renae Parra.....x117
Director of Servant Ministry

Stephanie Kirk.....x110
Office Administrator M/W/F

Jana Wesson.....x110
Office Administrator T/TH

Rex Gradeless.....x124
Director of Finance

Jessica Shelton.....x116
Financial Assistant

Barry Curtis.....x144
Facilities Manager

Kelly Amadeo.....x115
Director of Little School

Our next issue of **The Chronicle** will be the Fall issue.
Content due October 20.
Please send inquiries and submissions to:
chronicle@stlukeshr.com

Editor: Sharon Oliver

The Chronicle is published 6 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. Michele Kaminsky
Lead Minister

We Are Still the Church

Dear Wonderful St. Luke's,

What a blessing and honor it is to be in ministry with you. It has been a true joy for me to get to know this community, to worship with you and to navigate how we do things during this time. Because, no matter what, we keep moving forward and God's love doesn't stop. I have been so impressed with how involved we continue to be, even with all of the limitations that have come before us. Did you know all that has been going on? Here's just a few of the

ministries happening right now:

Sunday School Videos
Moms Biweekly Virtual Group
Preschool Prayer Time via Zoom
Little School Preschool Classes
E-learning Pod for Little School Teachers
Musical Recordings with GraceNotes, Sisters of Soul, Men's Chorus, Brass Ensemble and Other Various Recordings by Members for Worship

Youth Group Meetings
Youth Group Bible Studies
Center for Spiritual Engagement (CSE) Hikes
CSE Yoga
CSE Retreats
Executive Team Meetings
Leadership Team Meetings
Lay Leadership Team Meetings
Completed Floor Install for the Fellowship Hall Remodel
Blue Bin Food Donations

Midweek Pick-Me-Up Videos in the Wednesday Emails
Friday Morning Bible Study
Sunday Morning Bible Study
PAA Fall Classes
The Completion of Two Houses in Guatemala
Meals for Our Homeless Neighbors
Meal Donations for Giving Heart

I know I've missed so many others, so please forgive me if your ministry was not mentioned. The point is, we are still the church, and we will continue to be the church in great and amazing ways as we are called to do, because so many more ministries are coming! Ministries like:

Outdoor Worship at 10:30am in the Backyard
St. Luke's in Community (SLIC) Small Groups
SLY, Jr. Gatherings
Seasoned Voyagers Meetings
Mission Opportunities
Third Grade Bibles
HAAT Force Mission Opportunities

Feeding of the 5000
Youth Pumpkin Patch
Outdoor Worship in the Parking Lot
Advent Tree Lighting/Children's Pageant
Holiday Shop for Children
Advent Cantata
Beautiful Christmas Eve Services

We are blessed despite all the protocols, procedures and precautions. So grab back onto hope, and prepare your entire being for God to keep moving in and among us!

In the Love of Christ, Rev. Michele Kaminsky



Brave Spaces

Join our new 6-week session

Over the summer, St. Luke's began an online opportunity called BRAVE SPACES for those who wanted to **engage in conversations to learn more**

about anti-racism and actions that address racial injustice. The conversations have been deep, meaningful, and challenging. In the Fall, the Center for Spiritual Engagement will continue to offer BRAVE SPACES inviting people into these critical, ongoing conversations of learning together and supporting one another in the work of in-depth learning and discernment of individual actions of integrity. To join in the conversations or for more information, contact Sharon Oliver, Jane Staller, Sallie Suby-long or Julie Polikoff - julie.polikoff@msn.com

Mondays 5:00-6:00pm via Zoom (Sept. 14, 21, 28, Oct. 12, 19, 26)



Pastor Liza Stoltz Hanson
Associate Minister

Centered in the Moment

Dear St. Luke's Family,

It has been a whirlwind few months but what an incredible joy to have met so many of you either on

Zoom or at one of the socially distanced in-person gatherings we've had recently. Your kindness and welcome to me and my family has been so touching. We are so happy to be part of the St. Luke's community.

In early July, I jumped into leading a Bible study that had already been meeting regularly. That group graciously welcomed me and we began at the beginning together: reading the Hebrew bible book of Genesis along with a supplementary book, *Genesis for Normal People: A Guide to the Most Controversial, Misunderstood, and Abused Book of the Bible* by Peter Enns and Jared Byas. During our Bible study, we have laughed and wrestled and pondered... and we have come back again and again to the idea that the ancient Israelites were writing down their history and stories in order to look back and better understand their

relationship with God. They were trying to figure out their current situation by looking backward.

It makes me think about how we are living with COVID right now and how often I hear friends eagerly anticipating 2021 and the future when we are beyond the realities of pandemic life in 2020. I absolutely understand that forward thinking as much as I understand the tendency to focus on backward-looking thoughts.

Yet, I wonder what we miss from the present day if too much time is spent planning an unknown future or trying to understand a past that has passed. I have found that my openness and awareness to God's presence is enhanced when I am centered in the moment. This poem by Mary Oliver recently came across my desk. I have found it to be a really helpful tool for greeting each day in the present, finding gratitude for the consistency of nature, and thanking God for the gift of life. I pray it might be a blessing to you in the coming days.



Why I Wake Early

*Hello, sun in my face.
Hello, you who made the morning
and spread it over the fields
and into the faces of the tulips
and the nodding morning glories,
and into the windows of, even, the
miserable and the crotchety –*

*Best preacher that ever was,
dear star, that just happens
to be where you are in the
universe
to keep us from ever-darkness,
to ease us with warm touching,
to hold us in the great hands of light –*

*good morning, good morning,
good morning.*

*Watch, now, how I start the day
in happiness, in kindness.*

—Mary Oliver, 2004

Peace be with you, Pastor Liza Stoltz Hanson



Rev. Dr. Sallie Suby-Long
Minister of Healing
and Wellbeing

Director – Center for
Spiritual Engagement

*Dear St. Luke's
Friends,*

I'm sending my best to you during these last days of summer and the beginning of the school year. I know there is so much happening for everyone during this time as we navigate many new ways of engaging in life. You remain close in spirit and you're always in my prayers.

I want to update you on my plans for this Fall. Over the past 7 months, in collaboration with Staff Parish Relations and the Transition Team, I have been planning a sabbatical that will begin in September and continue through December. I'm looking forward to this opportunity and I am confident you are in excellent care with the capable leadership of Rev. Michele Kaminsky, Pastor Liza Stoltz Hanson, and our outstanding staff team.

In case you are wondering, my sabbatical time will include research related to our wellbeing ministries, continued work in counseling and spiritual direction, and mentoring my graduate students in the Interdisciplinary Leadership Doctoral Program at Creighton University. I'm especially looking forward to time with my husband Thomas and our three daughters. Our family is also happily anticipating our daughter Sarah's upcoming wedding!

While I'm away, our excellent pastoral leadership team and staff will continue to be available to you. I care deeply about our St. Luke's community and each of you and I will greatly look forward to seeing you soon. Every blessing!

Kindest regards always, Rev. Sallie

Financial Update

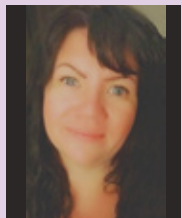
- July 31, 2020

St. Luke's is weathering the storm in good financial condition. Giving is holding up remarkably well and there have been some cost savings. There were no layoffs or furloughs. We have a PPP loan that has provided a cushion for unexpected expenses. The amount of the loan forgiven will be determined later in the year. The loan is not accounted for as income until forgiveness is calculated. Look for ways to give to St. Luke's on page 12 of this issue. **Thank you for your continued support and prayers.**

	Actual	Budget	%
Income			
Offering	\$597,826	\$585,017	102%
Other income	32,847	37,514	88%
Total income	\$630,673	\$622,531	101%
Expenses			
Administration	\$ 17,845	\$ 20,358	88%
Program and Ministry	74,095	67,432	110%
Staffing	399,055	452,255	88%
Facilities and Occupancy	187,044	193,621	97%
Total expenses	\$678,039	\$733,666	92%
Net income	(\$47,366)	(\$111,135)	235%

Staff Update @ St. Luke's

Welcome, Jessica!



Jessica Shelton
Financial Assistant

Jessica Shelton joined the staff in January of 2020 as the Finance Assistant. She processes payroll, payables, and donations for St. Luke's. She has lived in Colorado for six years with her husband of 21 years, and her two daughters ages 13 and 14. She is originally from Chicago, but has lived all over the country in the last 20 years.

"Colorado has been my favorite place to live thus far, and we plan to stay. I have enjoyed meeting new people here at St. Luke's and being able to help whenever possible. I especially love the various music programs and being able to hear them while in my office."

Welcome (back), Barry!



Barry Curtis
Facilities &
Maintenance/
Custodian

Barry Curtis (Mr. Barry) is a St. Luke's member since 1991. After graduating from Ft. Lewis college with a degree in Geology, he entered flight school and graduated with his Commercial Pilot Certificate, Flight Instructor and Multi Engine ratings. He enjoyed working as a flight instructor in Cheyenne, WY before moving to Denver in 1990. Barry is married to his beautiful wife, Amy (a teacher at Little School), and has two awesome children, Kyle and Hannah. He loves outdoor activities like camping, hiking, fishing, biking, flying and is currently working on building a 2-person airplane. Barry was our facilities guy several years ago and likes the challenges this job requires, "doing my best to make things work with what's available." We're so glad you're back!

Thank You, Leon!



We also extend our sincere thanks to Leon Hrcsek who has cared for our building and community, bringing his optimistic attitude, cheerfulness and commitment. We have loved having Leon on our team, and the Little School Director, Kelly



Amadeo, and Office Manager, Amanda Lewis, even dressed up as Leon on the day the Little School dressed up as someone

else! We wish Leon all the best as he now enjoys his love of fishing and the great outdoors. Thank you, Leon, for serving our community with care.



Renae Parra
Director of
Servant Ministry

Equipping Ministry

Despite our building closure, most of our teams are still very active in service to St. Luke's. The adaptations of our leadership has been remarkable! Teams such as Finance, Missions, Trustees and Staff Parish Relations meet regularly via Zoom virtual meetings to continue the business of the church. Our Ushers and Greeters quickly re-trained for Outdoor Worship. Our small group leaders are learning about our new safety protocols for small gatherings. Thank

you to our leaders who have continued to step forward and do the work of the church. Each fall, the Equipping Ministry Team looks to find new leaders to join the teams that serve our church. One of our team members may be contacting



you to discuss your interest in serving our church for three years on a leadership team. Our team leader is David Garrett; he is an outstanding servant for our community. Other members of our team are: Becky Mayka, Patti Speedy, Kam Boles, Pam Burke, Jay Lee, MaryAnne Eagelston, Roberta Hamilton-Griggs

and Vicki Lauer. Anyone on our team would welcome conversation about opportunities to serve at St. Luke's. I also invite you to let me know directly if you have specific interest in serving in leadership (renae@stlukeshr.com). Let's continue to care for and serve our church, no matter the circumstances. Thank you, thank you, thank you!



Les Ludlam
Retired Clergy

More from Les: Being Able to Let Go

If we are to keep our children close to our hearts, we must be willing to let them go. As children grow, we must give them as much freedom as they are mature enough to handle safely. Experience, painful as it can sometimes be, is the most profound and lasting teacher. If our children are to grow, they must have the freedom to try, to fail and to try again. This kind of freedom, however, is very tricky. How much freedom is appropriate to a

particular age? There is no formula, it takes wisdom and judgment and a lot of patience. I dealt with the result of giving a child that kind of freedom years ago as I was preparing to move from our California home to a job in Alaska.

It was October 1987; I had returned to Seal Beach from Anchorage after starting my new position with ARCO. Betty had been preparing for the move from Seal Beach. Our daughter, Cindy, was a junior in High School. While we hoped that she would come with us as we moved, Betty and I realized that the move would mean a significant life change for her. We talked about it at length and prayed about it. We decided that it would be best to give her the options of moving with us or staying in Seal Beach with close family friends to finish High School. We told Cindy about our decision and her response was "I'll think about it." Not much more was said for a few weeks. I continued to commute back and forth to the new job. Prior to my return from Anchorage one trip, Cindy had arranged to pick me up when I arrived. After we had loaded my bags in the car, I relaxed in the passenger seat after the long flight and let Cindy drive us home. After a few minutes had passed, she spoke, in a rather stern voice. "Dad, I want you to just listen quietly and not interrupt what I have to tell you." That certainly grabbed my attention! "I am going to move with you to Alaska. Family is very important to me and I think we all need to be together until I leave home to begin college in a couple of years. Now, don't get all emotional and sloppy!" I swallowed hard, gathered my emotions, and replied, "Okay, good!" Hugs, tears and emotional outpourings would come after we got to our Seal Beach home.

Recently, Cindy and I talked about her decision 30 years ago. "Probably the best decision I've ever made," she said, "My best friend forever, Kim, and I met at Service High School my Senior year." Yes! If we are to keep our children close to our hearts, we must give them the freedom to grow.

God bless us all, Les

continued from page 1

What do I need to bring with me to the outdoor service? Worshipers are asked to bring their own lawn chairs and face masks. We ask that you put on your face mask before you get out of your car. You may also want to have your cell phone with you to view the announcements and bulletin on our app. A QR code will be provided at the Welcome Table. Please be sure to silence your cell phones during the service.

Why are we being asked to wear a mask if worship is outside? St. Luke's UMC seeks to ensure the safety and comfort of all worshipers. Wearing face masks when gathering as a group, even social distanced outside, reduces the spread of aerosol droplets in the air, which is one of the ways this highly contagious disease is transmitted. We recognize that wearing a mask can be annoying and inconvenient, however, anything we can do to reduce the risk of even one person contracting COVID is worth it. Bishop Karen Oliveto has charged the Mountain Sky Conference with not losing a single person from this disease due to gathering together. We take this seriously at St. Luke's and we want each and everyone of us, high risk or not, kept safe. Therefore, we have adopted the Love Your Neighbor concept for our gatherings, and if you sign up for an outdoor worship service, and forget your mask, you will receive a free mask from St. Luke's. Thank you for understanding the delicate nature of wearing masks.

If my child is three years old or under, will he/she be required to wear a mask?

Studies indicate that children three and under do not project enough aerosols far enough into the air to reach beyond the social distanced seating we will have during the service, therefore if your child/children are three or under, they will not be required to wear a mask, but we ask that you keep them safely within your seating area.

What if I forget my lawn chair or my mask, will I be asked to leave? We know how easy it is to leave the house without everything you need. We ask that you make every effort to bring your lawn chair and mask with you, however, should you forget, you will not be asked to leave. We will have a sanitized chair and disposable mask available for you. We hope we will not have to utilize these often, but should this happen, we've got you covered!

Where should I park for the service? Entry to the outdoor worship service will take place on the north side of the building only, therefore parking as close to the north side of the building makes sense. If you pull into a parking space and notice another family is getting out of their car, we ask you to please wait until they have moved away from their car before you get out of yours, and be sure to put your mask on before you get out of your car.

Where should I go once I have my mask on and have my lawn chair in hand? When you exit your car, you can line up on the side walk on the north side of the building. Markers will indicate a safe social distancing between each worshipping family. When you reach the Welcome Table, a greeter or an usher will welcome you, will check you in, will make sure you have signed our waiver, and will take you to a space in the backyard where you can set up your lawn chairs and get comfortable as you await the service.

Will the backyard seating be social distanced? Our ushers will ensure you are seated at a safe social distance from other worshipping families. Our backyard will be spaced out ahead of time so there is no confusion.

Will there be a Children's Time at the outdoor service? Children will have a designated time during the outdoor worship, however they will not be asked to come forward. We will recognize them from where they are seated, and a Worship Bag will be available for them to pick up at the Welcome Table when they arrive that they can keep and take home with them.

Will I be able to hear? Our Tech Team has worked hard to ensure proper sound projection in the backyard, and we are confident you will be able to hear the service no matter where you are seated. If you find you do have difficulty hearing, please let an usher know so you can be re-seated.

Will there be singing during worship? The outdoor worship service is designed to offer a positive, inspirational and safe experience for all, and music is a vital part of this experience. The outdoor worship service will offer music, however we politely ask you to refrain from singing with our song leaders. Aerosols emitted from singing, even with masks, pose an infection risk indoors, and the Mountain Sky Conference guideline is to eliminate indoor singing. While the risk is likely less outdoors, we are erring on the side of caution. Yes, this will be difficult for some of us who love to sing, but yes, we can do this to ensure the safety and comfort of all. All song leaders will be masked and will remain on the stage at least 15 feet from the front row of worshipers. Thank you for respecting the comfort level of those around you as you Love Your Neighbor, and we invite you to hum and tap your toes as you wish!

What about inclement weather? We ask that you come to the outdoor worship service dressed appropriately for the weather that morning. As we know in Colorado, things can change rather quickly, so bring layers and umbrellas as needed. If it should be raining heavily on Sunday morning, we will email you to let you know of our intention to cancel the service. If it should begin to rain heavily during the service, we will bring worship to a close and have the ushers dismiss you.

Will we still worship outside when the weather turns cold? The stage in the backyard is a beautiful setting for outdoor worship in good weather. However, when it starts to get too cold to do this, we will look into parking lot worship so you can stay inside your vehicle for the duration of the service. More information on that will follow later in the Fall.

How do we get back to our cars after the service is over? When the service is completed, we ask that you remain in your lawn chairs until an usher comes to you to dismiss you. This will ensure everyone can stay properly social distanced upon departure. The ushers will dismiss those seated at the back of the yard first. If you happen to arrive at your car and another family is getting into the car next to yours, we ask that you wait until they are in their car and have closed all doors before you approach and enter your car.

Will there be a time for fellowship after the service? Connecting with each other is so important, however, we will not be providing a fellowship time following the service for safety reasons. Our focus for our time together will be to connect with God in a communal setting. If you desire a more personal connection with the St. Luke's community, please consider joining or starting a small group.

Will there be an opportunity for an offering? Giving back to God is an important part of being a faithful steward, and we will provide two opportunities for you to give at the outdoor worship. As you exit the service at the direction of the ushers, you will pass the Welcome Table which will have a Donation Jar. You may place your cash or check in the bucket on your way out, or you can use your cell phone to scan the QR code near the jar which will take you a donation page on our website to make your offering at any time.

Do we have a system in place for contact tracing? Yes. When you sign up to attend an outdoor worship service, you will be asked to list the people who will be attending with you, and you will be asked to provide your contact information at that time. If we need to contact you for any reason, you will be notified of the situation and any action you might need to take.

Will we be taking communion on the first Sunday of the month at the outdoor worship service? On the first Sunday of each month we will take communion. A sanitized, prepackaged communion set consisting of a wafer and juice cup will be provided at the Welcome Table for you to pick up when you enter. When it is time for communion during the service, you will be instructed to open your packet and partake of the elements. We ask that you hold on tight to the wrapper and any unused contents until the end of the service when you can throw them away as you exit. A trash can will be available by the welcome table.

How do we sign up if we want to attend an outdoor worship service? You can sign up online for an outdoor worship service. We are using Sign Up Genius, and you will be asked how many will be in your group, the names of the people in your group, the contact information for the people in your group and each member of your group will be asked to sign a waiver or to verify that every one has already signed a waiver. *If you sign up for a worship service and realize you will not be able to attend after all, we ask that you cancel your reservation using the same link.*

What if I have to sneeze or cough? We can't always predict when we might sneeze or cough, therefore we ask that you keep your mask on at all times when you are outside of your car. Should you sneeze or cough during the service, not to worry. Please leave your mask on, and cover your mouth. Hand sanitizer will be available at the Welcome Table, and we ask that you disinfect your hands. Going to the Welcome Table will not disrupt the service in any way.

What if I have to go to the bathroom? We ask that you take care of your bathroom needs before you arrive, however should you need to use the bathroom at any time during the service, a porta-potty will be available on the southwest side of the building for your use. A bathroom attendant will sanitize the bathroom after each use. A ten minute waiting period is required for full sanitization between each use, so you may be asked to wait until it is safe to enter. Thank you for your patience and understanding with this.

What if I am not able to carry my lawn chair or cannot walk unassisted? If you are unable to carry a lawn chair or cannot navigate the lawn unassisted, please check the BOX on the sign up form and we will reserve a parking spot for you so you can remain in your car and view the service from your car by rolling down your window. We will have three parking spots available for in-car needs, and you will need to wear your mask when you roll down your window. When you pull into the parking lot, go to the end of the north lot, put on your mask, roll down your window and alert an usher that you are signed up for one of the in-car parking spots.

Will we be allowed to enter the building? St. Luke's building will remain closed to worship participants before, during and after the outdoor worship service. Only worship leaders, staff, tech assistants and clergy will be allowed to enter the building. Our goal in this is safety, and limiting building use ensures our safety and reduces the amount of sanitization required following building entry and use. Thank you for your understanding in this.

No matter how we have to do it, we will continue to love our neighbors and to worship God! Thank you St. Luke's for your grace, courage and wonder that goes beyond the walls of our building! -Rev. Michele



Come Visit the NEW BLUE BIN

How have you **BIN**? Are you **BLUE**? Well, you **CAN** change that by adding a **CAN a WEEK** to the new **BLUE BIN** outside the front entrance to **St. LUKE'S!**

These are tough times for everyone, and as the ability and the opportunity to give has been drastically altered it unfortunately is those who need the help the most are the ones who are feeling it the most pain.

But, thanks to a tremendous team of volunteers, one segment of the Denver needy is getting some much needed food by delivering the non-perishable food that you contribute to the Veterans in our downtown community who are striving to become food and shelter stable. In partnership with the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, St. Luke's has continued to deliver food to our housing challenged Veterans, and given the ravages of COVID your help is needed more than ever.

"I hope your church knows how needed this food is. It has been so difficult, so many are struggling and it just keeps getting harder for them. Please, please tell everyone how grateful we are and how much this is helping the veterans."

These were the words of our contact at the Veterans Reintegration Program when we arrived with a carload of food. Thanks to your amazing generosity and dedication to dropping off non-perishable food each week, we are making one small part of the veterans struggle out of homelessness a bit easier.

But, aside from the plea for your continued Can A Week donations, we want to take this opportunity to thank those who have continued to collect food and deliver it to the needy downtown.

The Blue Bin Project, a mission of St Luke's for about two years now, has gotten even "BLUEer". With the church building closed, it was getting to be a concern to get food protected from the elements and the delivery team getting inside to load up. A HUGE THANKS goes out to: Walt Weiler, Jim McKeown, Dave Laurvick, Lance Willoughby and Steve Blue for continuing to contribute their time and effort to make these deliveries possible. Thanks to the St. Luke's staff for their support.

And a tremendous HUGE thank you goes out to STEVE BLUE, who conceived, designed, built, and funded the new weather-resistant (and quite handsome, I might add) enclosure for the BLUE BIN which is now outside St. Luke's front door. When you once again see Steve, please give him a hearty thanks and job well done for all the work he put in to making the donations easier for all of us. And thanks to Sharon Oliver and Ken

Fong for our new signage.

The drop box is located by the front doors of St. Luke's. PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE continue to support this mission by GENTLY setting your donations into the barrel inside the box. Just lift the lid!

From the people at the Center, and from the delivery team, Thank you!

—Dave Laurvick & Lance Willoughby



Virtual Missions

At St Luke's, we have always taken pride in the fact that our mission work is relational. We don't just write checks and drop them in the mail. We interact with the people we serve. We try to convey to them that they are a part of who we are, a part of our community. This has become difficult during the current pandemic. We are having to reimagine how we do missions.

First, see exciting news about the Blue Bin (article on the left.) Thanks to Steve, Lance, and Dave for guiding this project to completion.

Giving Hearts is a day shelter for the homeless.

You can sign up to provide meals for the shelter. This is something you can do with family and friends to help the homeless. Giving Heart has continued to provide meals for those experiencing homelessness during COVID. This opportunity is perfect for those that would like to serve in a socially distanced manner. Sign up to take a meal to the shelter to feed 40-50 people. You can drop off a meal at the facility with very limited contact and in a socially distanced way. There are other great opportunities at Giving Heart to teach a class to develop life skills, become a mentor, or help with transportation during severe weather situations. If you feel called to serve in this way, please go to their website www.givingheartenglewood.com/ volunteer or contact Betsy Keyack bkeyack@att.net for more information.



One of the biggest changes is going to be in how we do Feeding of the 5000.

We will not be allowed to gather food at the grocery stores. We are to reimagine a food drive that is virtual and perhaps with delivery to the church. Stay tuned as we prepare to do this later in the fall.

I miss all of you, even though I see many of you on Zoom. If you see a need in the community that we can help with, let me know. Keep thinking of new ways to reach out to the community around us. - Monty Hoffmann

HAAT Force South Metro Update



We are getting ready for our 11th severe weather season starting in October. We will be continuing our mission to provide motel shelter to families and people with disabilities experiencing homelessness. **We invite you to be part of a vital community in solidarity with our neighbors in need of shelter!**

During the 2019-2020 season, HAAT Force served 104 families with children, disabled adults and their pets: *35 men, 35 women, 34 children, 9 dogs and 1 cat.* From mid-March to mid-May we continuously sheltered 33 people in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. With the generous support of individual donors, faith-based organizations and community partners, we ended the season having provided 2,216 person-nights of shelter.

During the month of October, we will be having our virtual Fall Fundraising campaign. Please consider giving. The fundraiser will help us ensure that we will be able to shelter families and people with disabilities through April 2021. Stay tuned for weekly email updates with education, inspiration and a silent auction! Come join us! *With appreciation, Betsy Keyack and HAAT Force Board of Directors* website: haatforce.org - email: info@haatforce.org

Trustees Corner/Storytelling Update

Although our building has been closed for a number of months, the trustees continue maintaining and upgrading the building. The old, vinyl Little School sign in the front of the building was falling apart, so Steve Parra replaced it with a sturdy metal sign encased in a wood frame. The Storytelling team has replaced the old vinyl tile in the south end of the Fellowship Hall with new, modern tile (see more below). And Mike Wimett has built plexiglass shields for the Church Office and Little School Office. —Ken Fong



The St. Luke's Storytelling Project completed a milestone – our new flooring for the Fellowship Hall was finally installed! The normal challenge of finding a time for installation in this frequently used space, was not a problem due to the current building closure. What a perfect time to install new flooring! The Storytelling Team collected the final donations needed to purchase the flooring during the shutdown. The Storytelling Project is funded entirely by donations (raised outside of the church budget). Thank you to our donors, including the final few, who pushed us up to the amount needed for the flooring. The purpose of this team and project is to tell the story of who we are to those who enter our space. The new, heavy-duty flooring looks inviting with our warm wood wall, updated décor, and gathering tables. The goal? A space that says welcome and stay awhile to all who enter. We are excited for you to see the beautiful new space when we re-open our doors! Welcome and stay awhile!! —Kristi Pawley

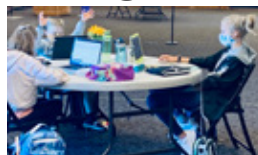
Monthly Suppers for Unhoused Friends



St. Luke's is partnering with AfterHours Denver and Interfaith Alliance to provide meals to our unhoused friends in Denver. Twice a month 6 families from our church are preparing meals for 10 and we are delivering to Interfaith locations in Denver to feed 60 food insecure individuals. If you are interested in supporting this mission contact sam@stlukeshr.com or look for our sign up in the Wednesday "This Week at St. Luke's" email. St. Luke's goes beyond to offer the bread of kinship and hope to others.

Little School Teachers Learning Pod

Many working parents are challenged with the new hybrid schedule for students whose schedule is now part in person learning and several days of online components. St. Luke's found a solution for the Little School preschool teachers whose schedules clashed with their children's school schedules. Our church created a learning pod to support the preschool teachers. A learning pod is a small group of students who learn together with an adult supervisor. These students get to come to work with their parents and are provided with a space for them to access online learning. Sam Leahy is supporting the time for these students and teachers. "Having Ms Sam help with us with our school work has meant a lot to our family." St. Luke's community works together to help us be better in challenging times.



Summer Worship Series 2020 Recap HIDDEN BLESSINGS

For the last two months we have been discovering all of the Hidden Blessings we have in God, and we have grabbed a seat on the hillside with Christ and have listened when he said:

- **"You're blessed"** when you're at the end of your rope, with less of you, there is more of God.
- **You're blessed** when you feel you've lost what is most dear to you, only then can you be embraced by the one most dear to you.
- **You're blessed** when you're content with just who you are, no more, no less. That's the moment you find yourselves proud owners of everything that can't be bought.
- **You're blessed** when you've worked up a good appetite for God. He's food and drink in the best meal you'll ever eat.
- **You're blessed** when you care. At the moment of being care-full, you find yourselves cared for.
- **You're blessed** when you get your inside world, your mind and heart, put right. Then you can see God in the outside world.
- **You're blessed** when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That's when you discover who you really are and your place in God's family.
- **You're blessed** when your commitment to God provokes persecution. The persecution drives you even deeper into God's Kingdom. Not only that, count yourselves blessed every time people put you down or throw you out or speak lies about you to discredit me. What it means is that the truth is too close for comfort, and they are uncomfortable." (Matthew 5:3-12, The Message Bible)

As we've listened to his teachings, and as we've discovered all of the blessings we have in God, we come to the beautiful ending of Jesus's beatitudes and we find one more hidden blessing. **Ourselves! We are to be a blessing to others, and we are to bring blessings to others.** For Jesus said: "You're here to be salt-seasoning that brings out the God-flavors of this earth. If you lose your saltiness, how will people taste godliness?... Here's another way to put it: You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world." (Matthew 5:13b, 14a, The Message Bible)

As we celebrate Kick-Off Sunday, September 13, with our new worship series, Finding Your Story within the Story, may we never forget the blessings we have in God, and may we always see the hidden blessings in our world.



CSE Purpose:

To foster healing and wholeness of mind, body, heart, and spirit through experiences that inspire connection and wellbeing.

Take a look at our website:

stlukesCSE.org

NOURISH: Wholehearted Being & Living with Melinda Davidson

Melinda has creatively adapted her healing Nourish program, so that we can experience it in a safe, "virtual" manner.

Nourish offers a 2-part experience:

1. One individual Reiki session (including pre and post consultations) that you can experience either via internet or phone connection, or in-person with social distancing. Reiki's healing, integrative power can be experienced using a "no direct touch" technique.

2. A one-time virtual, interactive cooking class on Saturday, November 7 from 10:00am-12:00pm. Meet in community via zoom to prepare nourishing foods in your own kitchen. Melinda will provide a follow-along recipe booklet and ingredient list. Optionally, you can purchase a pre-assembled "market basket" of ingredients for an added fee.

Price is \$120 – includes both Reiki and cooking experience; additional fee for market basket. Partial scholarships are available.

For more information or to register: renae@stlukesbr.com



Center for Spiritual Engagement 10th Anniversary Celebration

August 16, 2020: Thank you, St. Luke's, for joining us to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Center for Spiritual Engagement! The celebration was on the front lawn of St. Luke's where we all enjoyed smoothies, nature activity bags for the children, cookies, great music and the dedication of a beautiful Hawthorne tree for our community.

CSE started as an idea. It came into being with a very simple conversation as we wondered, "What if we created opportunities for people to experience God's grace in the beauty of nature - through cultural and service travel, retreats, spiritual direction, coaching, and new learning experiences that would refresh and inspire?" The verse that guided our first conversations and vision was Isaiah 43:19 *"I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."* Then, something miraculous happened. People began stepping forward to be part of this "new thing". They offered their talents, passions, resources and excitement. CSE began to take root and grow. Now, 10 years later, we continue to thrive!

To commemorate our 10-year anniversary, the CSE Leadership Team wanted to present a gift to St. Luke's as a thank you for ongoing support and participation. We decided on a tree representing our growth as a community through the past ten years and what we know will be our growth in the next ten. **We chose a Hawthorne tree for its beauty and sacred meaning of love and protection.**

The commemorative rock next to the tree symbolizes the spiritual path that we honor for each other and our community. Engraved on the rock is an image of a tree and a flowing design. To some this will resemble a path - a journey. Others may see flowing water - a place to refresh. For some it may appear as a gentle breeze reminding us of the Spirit's presence. Whatever it signifies for you, the CSE team is thankful for a community that honors everyone's spiritual path.

In celebration, the tree and commemorative stone were dedicated to the St. Luke's community with gratitude for the journey of the last 10 years and hope for the journey ahead. We pray that this beautiful tree will forever be a symbol of love and protection for all who are part of our community now and for all who will be part of our community in the future. Dr. Jim closed our anniversary celebration by singing "The Trees of the Field". *"You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace; The mountains and the hills will break forth before you; There'll be shouts of joy and all the trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands."*

In peace and celebration, may we all go forth with joy and peace. Thank you St. Luke's!

The CSE Leadership Team: Renae Parra, Melinda Davidson, Bryan Hutchinson, Janet Johnston, Suanne Ediger, Julie Polikoff, Jenita Rhodes, Jane Staller, Michelle Lamoreaux, Sam Leahy, Jennifer Smith, Nancy Abbott, Sharon Oliver, and Sallie Suby-Long



OUTDOOR ADVENTURES: Last month we had a fabulous hike at Flying J Ranch which included forest bathing among the trees. All of us who hiked discovered that spending just 15 quiet minutes in nature evoked feelings of peace, happiness and relaxation. Additionally, it was sharing community that made this hike feel so special. **Our next scheduled hike is Wednesday, Sept. 16 at Reynold's Park.** Our destination is Eagles View and we want you to know the trail is very steep. The elevation gain is 1,100 feet in approximately one mile.

The total distance of our hike is slightly over 4 miles. We will hike through a beautiful canyon with moss covered tree trunks. As our tradition we will allow time for photographs, breathing in crisp fresh air and sharing in moments of gratitude for nature. If you're thinking about joining us please contact julie.polikoff@msn.com.

YOGA: Thursday Morning Yoga with Sharon continues with weekly videos throughout the fall. We had a wonderful summer "7 chakras" series and those videos are all available. We will be exploring our favorite poses for the fall series. Please contact Renae renae@stlukeshr.com to get on the email list to get the video links and to share your favorite pose. We are looking at opportunities for an in-person class (most likely outdoors) and will let you know if and when that can happen. You can make donations online on the St. Luke's website.





Kelly Amadeo
Director of
Little School



Little School News:

Welcome Back to School!

Little School is in session! It has been no easy feat to get here! Little School is a fully licensed preschool, and it means we report to a variety of entities. With the support and guidelines from Tri-County Health, our nurse consultant from Children's Hospital, the Office of Early Childhood Education of Colorado, the Mountain Sky Conference of the United Methodist Church, the leadership at St. Luke's, and the administration of Little School, we have created plans and protocol to ensure the safety of our staff, students, and the church community. Some of our plans include children and teachers in masks, temperature checks, outdoor drop-off so no extra adults are in the building, social distancing among adults, and extra disinfecting and sanitizing. We have air purifiers in each classroom. Our music class is happening outside on the beautiful outdoor stage. We have children socializing at safe distances, but what's important is that they are socializing together! I want to thank Ken Fong, Kenneth Schroll, Jim Ramsey, Rev. Michele Kaminsky, Janet Deutsch, Larry Gustafson, Mike Wimett, Amanda Lewis, and Tushka Breen who all took a very active role in installing, researching, and purchasing items to help Little School function safely.

We are very blessed to have the connection we do with the church. We love sharing a building with a church who supports our ministry in many ways and who share special connections with our staff. As we began our first day of school, Melinda Davidson and the Stephen Ministers donated and put together the most loving gifts for each of our teachers. Their kindness and support of our teachers is appreciated more than words can say. Many of our teachers were brought to tears at the thoughtfulness as we navigate a year that holds stresses we never anticipated. Thank you.

While some of our events and activities will look a bit different, we are blessed to have the opportunities to offer early childhood education and opportunities to children in our community. Our normal looks a bit different, but we are embracing the positives and feeling blessed for the village that is embracing us during these times.

Here is a song I found from teachingmama.org for your handwashing enjoyment. Songs always make things more fun.

Grace and Love,
Ms. Kelly



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



Samantha Leahy
Director of Early
Childhood Ministry
sam@stlukeshr.com

St. Luke's Kids
Growing with God

Welcome to St. Luke's Kids – our ministry to children birth through grade 6.

In caring for the children of St. Luke's and their families, we seek to nurture and develop faithful loving lives, modeled after the Love, Acceptance, Justice, and Hope of Jesus, through relationship and learning. We strive to create sacred spaces and experiences for children to discover and be inspired by God's love.

Please register for the 2020-2021 Sunday School year online to keep our records current and help us stay connected. *Thanks!*

It's time to kick off the new Sunday School year! Even though we are not yet in person for Sunday School - we hope that you still feel the love of your church community when you participate in our **online Sunday School lessons and videos.** JoyTrek Preschool Sunday School is continuing with it's wonderful Spark curriculum and PEAK and Tweens combined K-6th Grade Sunday School will have a new curriculum called "Celebrate WONDER" starting Sunday Sept. 13. Since we can't do our workshop rotations like we have in the past, we found a new curriculum that offers a fresh approach to Biblical stories and applying them to our own lives through eyes of wonder. We are so excited about the new lessons! Please remember to register for Sunday School online so we can keep our database current and stay connected. Thanks so much!

We had a great time at our first ever **Drive-Thru Blessing of the Backpacks** event, on August 30. Kona Ice was here and Rev. Michele and Pastor Liza were on hand to give out back-to-school blessings. We loved seeing you! And we collected 2 bins full of school and craft supplies for Warren Village's Early Learning Center. Thank you for your generous hearts!



And in July we had our first **VIRTUAL Vacation Bible School!** Our "Knights of North Castle" week-long expedition to find the armor of God was

a blast with fun videos of crafts and science experiments and we sang songs and danced and learned Bible stories and more! We even got to Zoom with Sparky the dragon! From one of our participant families: "Thanks Ms. Sharon for all of your work to make VBS so special. VBS is the highlight of our summer and it was awesome this year!" Big

thanks to all who participated and donated to our VBS Blue Bin mission.

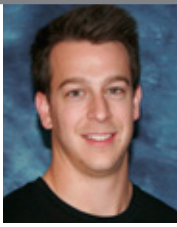
Third Grade Bible Sunday is Sept. 27. If you know a third grader who would like to take part in this beloved St. Luke's tradition of receiving a gift Bible, please let Sharon know by Sunday Sept. 13.

Also, **SLY, Jr. (5th & 6th grade fellowship) Kicks Off** for the school year Sept. 20 at 4:00pm in the church backyard. This year will look a little different with COVID restrictions but that doesn't mean we can't learn, grow and have tons of fun together and give back to our community. RSVP to attend and also have a consent form and waiver on file (they are good for the year and are on our SLY, Jr. webpage.)

Contact us ANY time! **We miss you and send blessings!** –Ms. Sharon & Ms. Sam

Prayers and Blessings for the Staff of Little School:

Julie D'ascoli	Kelly Amadeo	Dawn Burger	Sandi Thompson	and
Missy Hart	Amy Curtis	Chanda Stiles	Katie Devlin	Mr. Barry
Amy Goings	Maria Fox	Laura Butler	Tushka Breen	of course!
Deon Zitek	Carrie Houglund	Sheri Urdiales	Kerrie Maas-Baldwin	
Holly Marx	Cali Miodonski	Kara Overman	Jennfier Smith	
Kristi Tomlinson	Michele Costa-Phair	Carol Verk	Diana Ropollo	
Amanda Lewis	Shelley Ritchie	Katie Wolfe	Annie Van Hoosen	



Jake Smith
Director of
Youth Ministry

ON THE SLY: 7th-12th grade

SLY!!! What a time to be alive! Also, what a great time to come to YOUTH GROUP!!! We have a brand new schedule for this fall and I would love for everyone to

come check it out! We have been doing the Zoom thing for a while now and it is time to add to that. We are doing a zoom/in-person hybrid schedule (Yay for the buzz word hybrid!). Remember, there is a Signup Genius for EVERYTHING. So, if you want to come to Bible Study on Wednesday (you do) you have to sign up on the Genius (link is in my weekly emails, or contact me directly). If you want to come to Youth Group on Sunday nights (you do) you have to sign up on the Genius. There are lots of Geniuses, but that's just how things have to be done right now. Also, you need a waiver to participate, this is also in my emails or on the church website. There is a zoom option for everything we do and if you would like to stay at home but still participate just let me know and I will send you the zoom link so you can still be a part of the group!



CONFIRMATION SUNDAY is SEPT. 20! This had to be rescheduled from last Spring and we are so glad to now be able to celebrate our 2020 class of confirmands.



PUMPKINS ARE COMING!!!! Put September 19 on your calendar at 9:00am to help unload the Pumpkin trailer. We will need tons of help this year to get the pumpkins unloaded! Then starting on the 20th we have so many VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES to work the patch and help the Youth Ministry

raise money! Remember every hour you volunteer is \$\$\$ you earn towards your mission trip fees!!! **And, YES! WE ARE PLANNING ON 2021 MISSION TRIPS!!!**

This is a crazy time in a lot of different ways and I want to make sure that this youth ministry can be a resource for all families at St. Luke's. Please feel free to reach out to me and let me know how I, or the group can support you. We are here for you!!!

Yours in Christ, Jake

SIGN UP FOR THE WEEKLY YOUTH EMAIL.

It's on the church website or email jake@stlukeshr.com

Here's the NEW SCHEDULE:

SUNDAYS:

Youth Group 5:30-7:30pm

Bring your own dinner 5:30pm
Events, activities, devotions and MORE
ZOOM options are available!

WEDNESDAYS:

Bible Study 5:00-6:00pm or 6:00-7:00pm

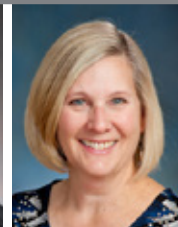
Anyone and everyone is invited to this Bible Study
Come grow in your relationship with God
and learn about the Bible with us!
2 Groups available every week
ZOOM options are available for both times!



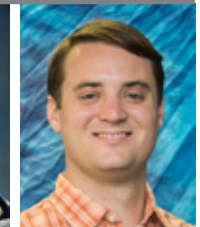
James Ramsey
Director of Music
& Arts Ministries



Kenrick Mervine
Associate Dir. of
Music Ministry/
Organist



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



Chris Rigolini
Director of
Instrumental Music



Submit Your Favorite Hymn!

While our streamed services at St. Luke's always aim to include a Hymn of Praise and Community Response, we all deeply miss coming together in full participatory Liturgy.

The etymology of "Liturgy" actually means a linking of people to work together.

"Where Words fail, Music speaks." Hans Christian Andersen is credited with this thought-provoking statement.



"Where Words inspire, Music can elevate." I'm not sure who penned that quote, but they both seem to capture the intent of our first Virtual Hymn Sing! **Please**

submit your favorite Hymn(s) via Facebook or office@stlukeshr.com. We will do our best to incorporate them in (what we hope will be) an Informal, Informative, and Inspiring virtual gathering.

Since, at this time, singing in public is deemed unsafe, you will have the opportunity to sing full breath, with all your heart and soul in the safety of your home sanctuary.

Stay tuned for further details, but in the meantime....please submit those beloved Hymn tunes. From the words of Leonard Bernstein: *"Music... can name the unnameable and communicate the unknowable."*

Be well, Ken Mervine

Music Rehearsals are Back!



Music is important to St. Luke's. It is with great joy and excitement that I am able to announced that we are starting music ministry

rehearsals again!!!! Bringing live music back to St. Luke's has been quite the process. We got the green light to practice inside and outside as long as we stayed within some very strict parameters that have been sent out to all participants. Our rehearsal schedules (and beginning dates) are as follows:

- **Joyful Noise Youth Bells** Tuesdays 6:00pm - Sept. 15
- **TinTinabulators Adult Bells** Tuesdays 6:00pm - Sept. 8
- **Kidz Prayz** Wednesdays 6:30pm - Oct. 21
- **Tone Chimes** Wednesdays 7:15pm - Oct. 21
- **Worship Band** Wednesdays 7:00pm - Continuing
- **Adult Choirs (2 smaller groups)** Thursdays 7:00pm - Sept. 10
- **Brass** Saturdays 9:00am - Sept. 12
- **Wind Ensemble** Saturdays 9:00am - Oct. 10
- **Orchestra** Saturdays 10:00am - Oct. 10
- **Soul Purpose Youth Choir** may begin in Oct./Nov.
- **St. Luke's Youth Jazz Orchestra** may begin in Jan/Feb.
- **Ministers of Swing** may begin in Jan/Feb.
- **Cherubs Choir** may begin late spring

For questions please contact, me, James Ramsey.



A 55+ MINISTRY

and older crowd

Seasoned Voyagers is a ministry for our 55 and older crowd

Our Seasoned Voyagers Ministry has certainly taken a turn this year! We had so many fun and educational outings planned. Although we may be away from each other and unable to go on our tours and outings, we can still participate in Seasoned Voyagers Missions Ministry! Betsy Keyack leads this area of our ministry; please contact her for info on giving to the missions listed below (bkeyack@att.net). You are also encouraged to donate to UMCOR at any time to assist with U.S. Disaster Response.

September - donate toward Walmart gift cards for families at Sedalia

We have been in touch with Jeff Johnson, the principal at Sedalia Elementary. He said there is a need for financial assistance for families in need right now. For example, Jeff heard from a couple who recently were laid off from their jobs. It's "simply crushing every time we hear this," according to Jeff.

October - HAAT Force - monetary donations

HAAT Force (Homelessness Awareness and Action Task Force) South Metro is one of our long-term supported missions. HAAT Force provides motel vouchers to families and people with disabilities during severe weather. They will be having a month-long fundraising campaign in October. There will be weekly emails with education and inspiration. There will also be a virtual silent auction, with some of the items donated by our people at St. Luke's!

For 2020 we have already contributed \$770 to Littleton Meals on Wheels! Great job Seasoned Voyagers!

Our **CONVERSATIONS WITH THE PASTOR** is returning via Zoom starting in September! On September 8 we will have the opportunity to chat with our new Senior Minister, Rev. Michele Kaminsky. Monthly meetings are scheduled at 2:00pm on the second Tuesday of each month. Meet our new pastors, ask questions, see one another via Zoom! I hope many of you will join us.

If you have ideas for future activities or want more information about our group, contact Rich Krening at 303-794-2540 or Renae Parra (renae@stlukeshr.com).

Molly's Trip to Africa

Molly Howard, one of our amazing St. Luke's young adults, recently spent 3 months serving in Africa. Here is a little bit about her story.

Unfortunately, my 6 month trip was cut short and I was sent home due to the global Coronavirus pandemic. Although this was the case, I am overjoyed with how God worked while I was overseas. Since being home, I have been able to reflect on my trip. It is difficult for me to summarize 3 months, but here are some of the most common questions answered (as fully as possible):

What did you do?

The first two weeks were full of World View training; understanding the "lenses" we put on based on our culture. Training was an eye-opening part of the trip, because it taught me how to more efficiently serve on mission trips and reminded me the importance of dignifying and affirming others.

There were 14 people on my team. Each of us were placed into a host family. I was placed in a home with my teammate, Emma, where we lived with our host mom and dad, host brother (22) and sister (17), host aunt, host grandpa, and two host dogs. We got to see what life was like from the local's perspective by trying many different South African meals and enjoying 5k runs every Saturday.

We spent 7 weeks in a community called Vastfontein where we volunteered at the local primary school and did some work projects for Tannie Annetje and Tannie Isabelle. Work projects included painting, slashing grass, cooking, and most importantly sitting beside these women and their families, listening to their stories.

At the school, we led assemblies where we told Bible stories and sang songs. In the afternoons, we assisted students in their reading and English skills. We played LOTS of games. We worked along teachers as they organized a sports day for the students (which was basically an entire day of running!)

After Vastfontein, we went to a community called Darling which is on the Western Cape of South Africa. We stayed in a church for the 3 weeks we were there. We attended after school clubs where we played games with primary school children, we were asked to share testimonies and sermons at Bible study groups with adults, and we volunteered with the youth group as well! During our free time, we went on walks on the beach with church members and got to explore Cape Town.

Who did you meet?

Tannie Annetje: (Pronounced "Tah-Nee Hi-Ne-Kee") We first heard about Tannie Annetje from her neighbors, who told our ministry director that there was an incredible woman nearby who is known for feeding anyone who comes to her door hungry. They said that she has a huge heart, and serves many people, but that she had a lot of work to do and might be able to use some help. So, we paid her a visit, and she happily showed us around her home. We learned that she doesn't just feed people, she gives many people—sometimes over 25 people a night—a place to stay.

Tannie Isabelle: Isabelle is Annetje's next-door neighbor. Tannie Annetje mentioned to us that her neighbor is a strong woman who works very hard, and also might be able to use some help. At 77 she still has to work hard every day to cook, clean, and provide for her family. She is absolutely one of the strongest women I have ever met.

.... clearly there are MANY more people who influenced me on my trip, but these are just a few!

What did you learn?

While I was gone, God taught me more and more about His unconditional love. My teammates, kids at Vastfontein, Tannie Annetje, Tannie Isabelle, and the EM Africa staff taught me more about what it looks like to be unconditionally loved. This is something I have brought with me as I have been home in trying to show those around me this unconditional love as well.

There is so much more to say than what I can write in this letter. If you are interested in hearing more about my trip, I would love to connect! You can email me at mollyh44@comcast.net

Thank you, St. Luke's, for your encouragement and support!





St. Luke's United Methodist Church

8817 S. Broadway • Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

303-791-0659 • www.stlukeshr.com

GRACE • COURAGE • WONDER • BEYOND

Because of the life and teachings of Jesus, we exist to deepen people's connections with God, show compassion for all, and reflect God's love in a way that changes lives.

Moms Virtual Group

Over the summer St. Luke's began a moms with young children virtual group that meets over Zoom every other Tuesday at 8:15pm. We find comfort and support through making personal connections with other parents. In this time of social distancing, the emotions that we and our children are all experiencing may become more extreme and it is important to find innovative ways to continue connecting with others. Our next Zoom gathering is on September 15, put your little ones down for the evening and take a deep breath with us. For more detailed information please contact Beth Unger (elizabeth.ann.unger@gmail.com)



Thank YOU!

In this time that has been very different for all of us, we continue to celebrate God's amazing love and we thank you for your kindness and your generosity. In these unique days we trust that God continues to care for us and is present with us.

Here are the different ways you can give to St. Luke's:

1. **Mail** your donation to: St. Luke's UMC, Attn: Finance, 8817 S Broadway, Highlands Ranch, CO 80129
2. **Visit the church website** and click the 'donate' button, then click 'make online contributions.'
3. **Download the EasyTithe app** to your phone or mobile device and set up an account linked to 'St. Luke's UMC'.
4. **Add St. Luke's** to your list of monthly payments with your personal mobile banking procedures.
5. Visit the church website and click the 'donate' button, then click '**EFT form.**' Download this form, follow the instructions, and mail the completed form and voided check to St. Luke's.

Please contact Rex (rex@stlukeshr.com) if you have any financial questions.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Contact Pastor Liza Stoltz Hanson or the Office Administrator if you have any additions/removals 303-791-0659 x107, or email liza@stlukeshr.com

<i>Tiffany Alverson,</i>	<i>Mark Godsey,</i>	<i>Jon Link,</i>	<i>Richard O'Neil,</i>
<i>Valerie Charney,</i>	<i>David Goodin,</i>	<i>Jack Lowney,</i>	<i>John Rawls,</i>
<i>Helen Cox,</i>	<i>Linda Harris,</i>	<i>Dean Luallen,</i>	<i>Kay Tabor,</i>
<i>Karen & David Corson,</i>	<i>Tom Harper,</i>	<i>Jerry Lubben,</i>	<i>Glenn Turner,</i>
<i>Todd Davis,</i>	<i>George Hazelwood,</i>	<i>Betty Lubben,</i>	<i>Marilyn Ware,</i>
<i>Ted Dreyer,</i>	<i>Warren Heaton,</i>	<i>Lara Magyar,</i>	<i>John Wohlleber,</i>
<i>Sarah Dunlap,</i>	<i>George & June Hutchins,</i>	<i>Will Maniatis,</i>	<i>Jerry & Joan Woody,</i>
<i>Carrie Enloe,</i>	<i>Mary Keyack,</i>	<i>Marilyn Miller,</i>	<i>Amy Weiske,</i>
<i>Charles Freese,</i>	<i>Brie Katz,</i>	<i>Katie Mueller,</i>	<i>Baby Zander,</i>
<i>Bonnie Garrett,</i>	<i>Dennis Laber,</i>	<i>Margo Naranjo,</i>	<i>Xavier</i>

Sympathies to:

Greg & Nancy Boyer on the passing of Greg's brother, Terry Boyer;
Cindy Johnson on the passing of her son, Jay Jorgensen;
Rev. Michele Kaminsky & family on the passing of her stepfather, Jerry Haney;
Rev. Pat & Bill Shaffer and family on the passing of Rev. Pat's mom, Agnes Simmons,
who lived a remarkable 103 years;
Andrew Campbell & family on the passing of his grandmother, Doris Campbell;
The family & friends of Norm Veach on his passing;

Congratulations to:

Hannah (nee Curtis) & Ryan Boudreau on their wedding;
Lisa (nee Coryell) & Zach Kramer on the birth of their son, Casey Ross Kramer on September 7;
Ed & Kay Coryell on their 36th wedding anniversary;
Bennett & Marina McIntosh on their wedding;
Brad & Janet Bradbury on the birth of their great grandson, Beckett James Richey on June 2
Shelly (nee Richards) & Matt Karp on the birth of their son, Leon, on September 7.