

The Chronicle

ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MAY 2017

Inside This Issue:

From Rev. Ryan	.2
From Rev. Jessica	
From Rev. Sallie	.3
Thank You, Rev. Pat	
Children's Ministry	6
UMW Update	
CSE Update	
SLY (Youth Ministry)I	
Music & ArtsI	
and much more	

BIG SERVE

St. Luke's and St. Andrew are joining together for a day of volunteer service called

The Big Serve on Saturday, May 13.

We will provide volunteer services to over 30 agencies through 50 different projects throughout Denver. We have a variety of projects and want you to be a part of the transformation. One of the volunteer opportunities will be right here at St. Luke's for our

Service Saturday 8:00am-12noon,

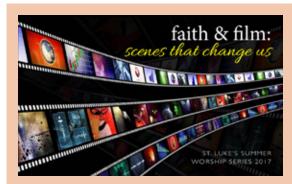
supporting projects in and around our beloved Church.
Volunteers of all ages are welcome and encouraged to serve! Details about the projects are listed under The Big Serve on our home webpage and information can be found in the confirmation email you will receive after you register!
Booklets can be found on the get connected area in the Narthex. Thank you for your help to make this collaborative day of serve come to life.

From Ms. Kay: What a Blessed Journey!



What a blessed journey I have been on since coming to St. Luke's in 1995. A new preschool was being planned and they took a chance and hired me as the Director. Little did I know that my life was about to change dramatically. Each step of the way has been an adventure, a learning process, a few tears and of course many joys! We started with 84 children and 10 teachers the first fall and are now serving 248 children with 33 on staff. In the beginning we only had 5 rooms and now we have 14 classrooms full of bubbling children. I have worked with 7 clergy and been through 3 construction projects and a playground overhaul! We have sent out well over 2,200+graduates and now have the pleasure of seeing them graduate from college!

I have never in my life looked at this as a "job". I have always felt that it was my call to ministry. I have always worked with children and found that this was a way that I could serve the Lord. He gave me a crazy sense of humor and talents to make it all work. I find that the return to me has been far greater than the effort I have put forward. Each family I have met, each child I have hugged and each teacher I have mentored has given me more blessings



Join us for our Summer Sermon Series: June 4-Aug. 27

Faith & Film: Scenes That Change Us:

Plato said, "Those who tell stories rule the world." Who are our primary storytellers today? Not philosophers, but filmmakers. Movies have enormous entertainment potential and culture-shaping power. There's nothing like watching a good movie. We're caught up in the story, on the edge of our seat. We long for adventure. We long to find our way out of the audience and into the action. Great movies inspire conversation, imagination, wonder, and reflection. When the screen goes dark and the lights go up we find ourselves smack-dab in the middle of our own story. A good film consists of so many great scenes—scenes that call us to be heroes, face villains that plague us with fear, rescue the neighbor or stranger in distress, stand for justice, and to leave a legacy that's more than just a shadow riding off into the sunset. But there's usually a particular scene that grabs you. It sticks with you. This scene causes you to see yourself, the world, God, and faith differently. These are the Scenes That Change Us.



that I could have ever imagined. Our staff has been together for so long that we have seen each other through our children growing up, graduating high school and college, getting married and now many of us are grandmothers! Where else can you imagine more longevity, spiritual support and friendship? Along with attending St. Luke's for worship, I have had the pleasure of being in the Adult Choir, singing at the Kennedy Center in Washington DC and performing in many Wesley Player productions. I have made many caring and loving friends and am honored to call this home.

It is with bitter sweetness that I announced my retirement. There will be a huge space in my heart for St. Luke's Little School and the church. I feel proud of what we as a church and staff have accomplished and leave with a grateful heart! Little School is in great hands with Kelly Amadeo as the new Director and an incredible staff. I am excited about a move to Minneapolis MN the end of this summer to be with both my sons Dain and Derek their wives Heather and Michelle and four grandkids Caleb (4), Hannah (4months), Mia (4) and Ebbe (2). (pictured above.) A part of me will always remain here at St. Luke's and I thank each and every one of you for the joy you have brought to my life. Blessings, Ms. Kay



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

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All submissions for the June/July 2017 combined issue

Director of Little School

of *The Chronicle* are due June I Editor: Sharon Oliver

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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. Ryan Canaday Lead Minister of Worship & Missional Life

Project Freedom Forward Finding Peace & Healing in a Prison

I have been working with a small team of people on what we're calling Project Freedom Forward. This idea came together so organically. It didn't take pushing and prodding and forcing, it just kind of happened. It's amazing what happens when a group of people come together with a simple passion to change the world and stand in solidarity with some of the world's most forgotten people. However, Project Freedom Forward is a bit more focused. We want to love, support, and assist those in prison through honest and authentic engagement.

We have been working together for the past several months and our first time on the "inside" was on Monday morning, May 8. We spent the morning in the federal prison in Florence, Colorado. It was an incredible experience. In fact, it was the most moving experience I've had all year. "Seriously, your most moving experience this year was in a maximum security prison?" Yep.

I didn't know what to expect. Our team met at 5:00am to make the two hour drive down south. My hands were sweaty, my heart was beating a bit faster, the butterflies were swirling... and I was excited. Often times in these kinds of situations, I will plan out exactly what I'm going to say and where I'm going to stand and how I'm going to say what I'm going to say. But not this time. Sure, I did lots of prep work—I learned my lesson a long time

We shared the importance of knowing our stories and asking big, hard questions along the way...

ago when it comes to not prepping for a talk—it's ugly. But instead, this time I did lots of praying: "God keep me open and aware." It's been a favorite prayer of mine lately.

We made it through the security check points and made the long walk through the prison yard, then walked into one of the buildings where there were approximately 100 prison inmates. They didn't know most of us. That didn't matter, they still gave us a standing ovation. Wow... wasn't expecting that... that will do something to your interiors. That will cause your heart to expand in the most beautiful and indescribable ways. We shared the importance of knowing our stories and asking big, hard questions along the way like "who are you" and "why are you here" while providing centering tools and exercises along the way. This audience was engaged; they exuded energy and a passion for growth. They held onto our words, even when we wondered if those words were enough. Then we had over an hour with those men... over an hour of dialogue through questions/response. No masks. No BS. No one-upping the next guy. Just honest questions and real conversation. Some laughter, many tears, and lots and lots of gratitude.

After the session we stuck around for a bit and talked with the guys as long as they were free to mingle. Many of them were quick to share their stories. They all wore lanyards around their necks and most of the guys had a picture of their child/children tucked inside. They were Pops' like me. They loved their kids like me. They smiled and laughed and experienced heartache like me.

Something really powerful happens when we get a glimpse into the shared human experience—we're able to see the face of God in the one standing next to us. And you know what that does, don't you? Yeah... it swells the heart up with the deepest kind of joy and all sorts of gratitude!

Some of the guys will be graduating one of the prison programs in just a couple of weeks. They've worked hard... real heart and soul work. One of the guys was so proud—and a bit nervous—to let me know that'd he would be giving the graduation speech. I told him he was going to completely rock it! As we were leaving, he approached me again. This time he had a few folded up pieces of paper. He handed them to me and said: "Here, I hope you enjoy it." It was a copy of his graduation speech. I read it that evening when I got home. Tears rolled down my face as I turned each page. His closing line will stay with me for a long time: "It has been said to me that I'm exactly where I am supposed to be at this moment—and I need work. How I translate that to my life is: I'm not who I used to be, but I'm not yet who I want to be."

I can't wait to go back Florence Prison in September!

Grace & Peace, Rev. Ryan

Join us for our 14th
Annual
Golf Event
Saturday,
August 5, 2017
at Arrowhead Golf
Club nestled in the beautiful foothills
of Littleton near
Roxborough State
Park. Watch for sign ups coming soon!





Rev. Jessica Rooks Lead Minister of Community Life

Being the Church...

In April, the Judicial Council (JC) of the United Methodist Church released their ruling concerning the legality of Bishop Karen Oliveto's nomination, election, consecration and assignment as Bishop. The ruling was 19 pages long, and quite confusing. Immediately stories were written,

by the church's media outlets, as well as the mainstream media. Many of these stories conflicted with others, and differing interpretations of the ruling began spreading around social media and the Church.

The bottom line is that Bishop Karen remains a Bishop in the UMC. The Judicial Council had questions of law related to the consecration of an openly gay or lesbian Bishop, but could not legally declare her individual situation against the law, or strip away her election as Bishop. There are many layers to this ruling, and I am happy to talk through those layers and their future impact with church members at any time.

The United Methodist Church as a unique structure, process and language, which can make situations like this hard to understand. As a global church, we often differ on our understanding of Biblical interpretation, and on our call to live out our faith in our unique cultural contexts. The church is struggling to figure things out, and with any institution as large as the UMC, change is slow.

In response to the Judicial Council ruling, the Western Jurisdiction Bishops released a statement. Below is a piece of their letter.

"We, the Bishops of the Western Jurisdiction, speak from the reality of our social location.

"Our area is a place of great diversity of races, cultures, languages, ethnicities, sexual orientations and gender identities. God inspires our hearts to create a home for all God's people, gathered around a table of reconciliation and transformation. We dream of a United Methodist Church that is multicultural and inclusive, engaged in the life of its communities, with confident, effective lay and clergy leadership who, in diverse ministry settings, form disciples who live out the Good News of Jesus as global citizens....

"Our Christian experience teaches us that God's love is wide enough for all of us.

It is not always easy for us to hold relationship with those whose understandings differ from us, but John Wesley encourages us to remember: "We don't have to think alike to love alike." There is much work to be done before we the church are able to love as Jesus has loved us.

"We in the Western Jurisdiction will continue to be a home for all God's beloved as we strive to be faithful disciples of Jesus the Christ. We shall continue to pray for the work of the Commission on a Way Forward, as they lead us into a new vision for our life together as The United Methodist Church. Our church."

As a St. Luke's community, I have faith we will also continue to be a home for all of God's beloved creation. I have faith we will continue to spread the love and grace of God in all we do, and I give thanks for this community.

Grace & Blessings, Rev. Jessica



Rev. Dr. Sallie Suby-Long Lead Minister of Spiritual Life

Our Community CARES

Our St. Luke's community has an amazing network of ministries for your health and wellbeing. As we move into a new season, I simply want to remind you of some great opportunities that are available to all. I welcome your emails,

calls, or texts and I am always happy to connect you to any of the following ministries.

- **Stephen Ministry –** provides confidential, one-to-one care to individuals in our congregation and community. Stephen Ministers are volunteers who have specialized training in listening and providing emotional and spiritual care. Contact a pastor or Stephen Leader if you or someone you love would benefit from this ministry.
- Counseling Rev. Sallie, Rev. Jessica, and Rev. Ryan, offer short-term, solution-based counseling, pastoral care, and referrals for individuals, couples, and families seeking support. Confidentiality is always respected.
- Center for Spiritual Engagement Ongoing opportunities for experiences promoting well-being, connection, healing and inspiration. Join us for workshops, retreats, seminars and classes featuring excellent facilitators. We offer outdoor adventures, meditation and yoga classes, and creative experiences that engage participants in learning new practices that contribute to health and wholeness. We also have a new ministry of Sacred Travel! Check the website at stlukescse.org and the CSE article in this issue.
- **Spiritual Direction/Mentoring/Coaching –** Spiritual direction supports people in managing transitions, enhancing self-awareness, gaining new insights, making desired changes, and proactively addressing life challenges.
- Support Groups and Classes St Luke's offers support groups and classes focused on a variety of topics including 12-step programs, divorce recovery classes, and grief support groups. Information about current groups is available on St. Luke's website and in the Care Ministries brochures in the church entry.
- **Faithful Friends** offer care and friendship to individuals in care centers, those who may be dealing with long term health challenges, and individuals who may have difficulty getting to St. Luke's on a regular basis.

Wishing You Peace, Rev. Dr. Sallie

Thank you for 150+ Issues of *The Chronicle*, Sharon!

We extend a huge thank you to Sharon Oliver who has faithfully offered her talents and creativity to reach the milestone of publishing 150 issues of *The Chronicle* over 18 years! (The March 2017 *Chronicle* was her 150th issue.) We appreciate this ministry that keeps us

connected regarding all the happenings in our community and helps us document the life of St. Luke's and tell the stories of who we are and where we are going. Thank you for continuing to share your creative expertise. Let's keep sharing our stories. We look forward to the next issue!

Rev. Sallie, Rev. Ryan, Rev. Jessica and the St. Luke's Community





Seasoned Voyagers Update

Summer Fun!

In April we had a great tour of the Highlands Ranch Mansion. Teri Burget from St. Luke's was the guide for our group. She knows so much



history of the area and Mansion.

We celebrated Cinco de Mayo on Thursday, May 11 at the church beginning at 11:30am with a catered meal of authentic Mexican food from Potrillos. Donations were taken for the mission, the Denver Inner City Parish helping the Seniors in the Latino community of West Denver.



On Thursday June 22, we visit Denver on Banjo Billy's bus taking the light rail to the big Blue Bear at the convention center

for the 90-minute tour around down town. Cost is \$22 and Billy's bus only holds 25 people so sign up early. June Daniels is heading this trip.

July 30, a Sunday evening performance of the Colorado Music Festival, a Classical Jazz program in Boulder's Chautauqua auditorium, is our destination. Pick up a brochure or stop at the sign-up desk on Sundays, or see Joyce Rovetta for more details.

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

Attention Gardeners!



Want to help in our Community Garden in the back yard? Saturday May 20 at 9:00am is a planting day. Other days throughout the

summer are available for work as well. Call Fran West for info or details (303)797-7107.

by Rev. Les Ludlam

More *from Les:* Thank God for the Wisdom of Elders

It was mid-1989 and I had just starting to work with the newly formed industry task force charged with developing a new, more effective Tanker Oil Spill Prevention and Clean-up plan for the Prince William Sound in Alaska. I was the only team member from ARCO Pipeline and probably had the least amount of experience in marine oil spill response and cleanup of any on the team. I was assigned to the task of helping develop a working relationship with Native and local community members, to establish a new "Regional Citizen's

Advisory Council."

This citizens' advisory group was to have three primary tasks: review and comment on Alyeska's new oil spill prevention and response plan, develop the bylaws needed for a permanent citizens advisory group, and negotiate a funding agreement with Alyeska Pipeline Service Company, the operator of the Trans-Alaska pipeline and Valdez marine terminal.



Developing communications was not simple at first; there were strong feelings and difficult questions about the oil industry's true desire to openly communicate and cooperate with the Native corporations.

I was nervous as I prepared for the first meeting with representatives of two Native Village Corporations: Tatitlek (the village is shown here) and Nuchek. Both are located about 30 miles south of Valdez, Alaska, where the Alyeska Marine Terminal

is located. Both communities' subsistence food supply and commercial fishing had been severely impacted by the oil spill. I expected strong expressions of anger at the meeting.

My expectations became reality as the meeting started. Fishermen told stories of lost fishing income, polluted food supplies for their families and damaged boats and fishing equipment. I knew that there had to be these expressions of grief and loss in this public forum, but I hoped I would have the opportunity to review proposed radical new prevention measures in the response plan our task force was working on and get their response. But the time allotted for the meeting was growing short as participants expressed their anger.

When my turn finally came, I began describing Alyeska's plan to use two seagoing tugboats to escort loaded oil tankers to the exit of Prince William Sound, but suddenly I was interrupted by loud voices in the crowd. When the protest against the oil industry wound down, I started again, but was interrupted again.

The assembled crowd was getting unruly! Then, an elder of the Alutiiq tribe, the Mayor of Tatitlek, stood up. The room suddenly became quiet. "I don't like the spill any less any of you here today." he began, "I'm angry too that the oil companies' mistake caused it. But this young man from Alyeska here today didn't cause it, and he probably wishes it had never happened. But he wants to tell us about what the oil industry is proposing to do to prevent this from happening again and I suspect he wants our reaction to what they propose to do." He paused for a moment to let his words sink in, "The oil companies say they want to do things better to avoid another spill, I say they must and am willing to listen to what they propose. They're asking for our advice so let's use this advisory council to give it to them."

That changed the whole mood of the meeting and we began focusing on the proposed response plan. One of the fishermen from Tatitlek turned to another, "They want to use big tugs to escort the loaded tankers. That puts more boats in the sound with each shipment!" "Yeah, but the tugs don't have any crude oil on them and they could carry cleanup equipment and deploy protective booms if needed." Was the reply, "Maybe that's not such a bad idea."

The Mayor glanced at me and I think I detected the glimmer of a smile. Thank God for the wisdom of elders!

The non-profit Regional Citizen's Advisory Council was formally established as a non-profit corporation that year and it continues to operate today, funded by Alyeska Pipeline Services Company.

God bless us all. -Les

Thank you, Rev. Pat Shaffer!

We want to express our gratitude to Rev. Pat who has served as our Visitation Pastor for the past 2 ½ years. As you all know, her care and compassion are unparalleled! She has served with such grace and kindness with our community and with our staff team. Our deepest thanks to you, Rev. Pat! While Pat decided to resign from her part-time position in early January 2017 (and officially "retire" for the second time!) she will still be very engaged in our St. Luke's community in a volunteer capacity, assisting the pastoral team with grief support and occasional weekend on call responsibilities. We wish Rev. Pat and her husband Bill and family every blessing. We're grateful that they will remain engaged in our St. Luke's community!

Rev. Sallie, Rev. Ryan, Rev. Jessica and St. Luke's Staff Team



A Message from Rev. Pat

My deepest gratitude to the staff and community of St. Luke's UMC for the opportunity to serve you as Visitation Pastor over the last few years. I am humbled by the trust and confidence you have given me to hear your story, hold your pain and

your sorrow, to celebrate with you, and to pray with you. These have been sacred moments. Thank you. As Sallie wrote, I will continue to serve as a volunteer moving forward and our family will continue to be a part of the St. Luke's community. We feel blessed.



Are you single by choice or circumstance and looking fo

activities that don't revolve around dating?

The Ageless Singles are a group of women and men who get together monthly to enjoy each others 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, like-minded 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 (resources/email lists).

Saturday May 20: Enjoy the morning at the Denver Zoo. Meet at St. Luke's at 9:00am to carpool to zoo.

Saturday June 10: Come see the Vikings Exhibit at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Purchase your ticket in advance for the 3:00pm entry to the exhibit. We will meet at St. Luke's at 2:00pm to carpool to the museum. The exhibit closes at 5:00pm and we will have dinner in the area after the exhibit tour.

Sunday July 2: Join us for a trip to the Cherry Creek Arts Festival. We will meet at St Luke's at 1:00pm to carpool to Cherry Creek.

Friday July 28: Enjoy the Culture on the Green, Mudra Dance Studio performing drums and dance of India at Civic Green Park in Highlands Ranch from 6:30-8:00pm. Pack up your dinner or snack, beverage and lawn chair. We will meet at St. Luke's at 5:45pm and carpool to the park.



Renae Parra 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

Serving Our Church

It is the cooperative spirit of our volunteers that keeps our church running smoothly. I have only been on staff five months, but I have witnessed countless examples of people pitching in to help this place hum like a fine-tuned engine. Some of you serve on appointed teams and commit to serving our church in that way. Others of you notice where we need help on a Sunday and step in to help. It truly takes a village to keep our church going and I am so grateful for the people in this village. Thank you for taking pride and ownership in our community! Are you listening to where God is calling you to serve? Take time to pray and to be silent to hear the nudge of the spirit. Know that God pulls you into places where your gifts can be used for the greater good.

Take a look at the NEW opportunities to participate or serve! We would welcome and appreciate your participation.

Sanctuary Care Team

The Sanctuary Care Team works several times per year to help maintain a welcoming atmosphere in the sanctuary with straightening out the hymnals and bibles, replacing Kleenex boxes, dusting and other duties as time allows. All ages are welcome and community service slips are gladly signed. Dates vary due to the needs of the church and availability of the team. *Spiritual Gifts:* Helps, Hospitality *Meeting Time/Place:* Various Times/St. Luke's Sanctuary

Meeting Time/Place: Various Times/St. Luke's Sanctuary (flexible to meet team's availability)

Memorials Support Team

This new team will support the pastors on the day of funerals or memorial services. This is separate from the Bereavement team which takes care of the food for receptions after the services. Assist the pastor to prepare and clean-up the Narthex, Chapel and Sanctuary for services. Be available to greet/assist guests who are visiting our church for services. *Spiritual Gifts:* Hospitality, Mercy, Helps *Time Required:* varies; as needed

Communion Servers

Would you like to serve Communion on an upcoming Sunday? We would welcome your participation in this holy experience. No experience is necessary.

If you are interested in sharing your gifts by serving on any of these teams, please contact renae©stlukeshr.com.

Career Counselor Coaching

Are you looking for some career counseling or support with job seeking? Do you need coaching help with your resume or interview skills? We have a long-time Career Counselor who has graciously offered his expertise. Contact renae©stlukeshr.com if you are interested.

6

Children's Ministry News

Praise, Play & Prayers

CHILDREN'S CALENDAR:

(check our website for full calendar)

Summer is a great time to serve in Sunday School! We need YOU!

SIGN UP online stlukeshr.com

May 12 (FRI) - PNO Parent's Night Out 6:00pm Contact Ms. Sam for more info

May 12 (FRI) - Family Movie Night "Moana" 6:45pm

May 14 (SUN) - 9:30am PEAK (K-4th grade) Sunday School "Pentecost"

May 17 (WED) - **STORY TIME** 9:00-10:00am

May 21 (SUN) - 9:30am PEAK (K-4th grade) & JOY TREK Preschool Sunday School "Year-End Celebration"

May 21 (SUN) - 5:30-7:30pm SLY, Jr. - YEAR-END PARTY! Potluck dinner with SLY.

May 28 (SUN) - Memorial Day - Family Worship (No Sunday School)

June 3 (SAT) - Parent's Time Away 9:00amnoon Contact Ms. Sam to rsvp and for more info

June 4 (SUN) - 9:30am JOY TREK (PreK: 2-4 yrs.) & PEAK (K-4th grade) Sunday School begins 4-week lesson "VBS; Hero Central Bible Lessons" Sign up to serve!

June 7 (WED) - 9:30am-12noon Wacky Wednesdays Contact sam@stlukeshr. com to rsvp and for more info

June 9 (FRI) - PNO Parent's Night Out 6:00pm Contact sam@stlukeshr.com to rsvp and for more info

June 14 (WED) - 9:30am-12noon Wacky Wednesdays Contact sam@stlukeshr. com to rsvp and for more info

June 20 (TUE) - 6:00pm VBS Volunteer
Training Contact Sharon©stlukeshr.com
to rsvp and for more info

June 21 (WED) - 9:30am-12noon Wacky Wednesdays Contact sam@stlukeshr. com to rsvp and for more info

June 24 (SAT) - 9:00am VBS Decorating!
June 26-30 (MON-FRI) - VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - Morning Session 9:00am-noon - Sign Up to Volunteer



Each week children will enjoy music, crafts, chapel and games.

The theme this year is:



Open to all children age 2 1/2 years through entering 3rd grade!* (Must be potty-trained to attend.)

TIME: 9:30am-noon
WEDS.: June 7, 14, 21
July 12, 19, 26

Registration is \$25 per day per child.

If you have any questions regarding registration contact: Tami Clement at tami@stlukeshr.com

Registration forms available now!

*Young Toddler Option 18-30 mos. Contact cam@stlukeshr.com for info



Sharon Oliver
Director of
Children's Ministry
Sharon Ostlukeshroom



Samantha Leahy
Director of Early
Childhood Ministry



Stephanie Kirk Children's & Family Ministries Coordinator

St. Luke's Kads
Growing with God



sign up online

MORNING session: June 26-30: 9:00am-12:00pm

EVENING session:

July 11-13: 5:45-8:00pm (need minimum of 30 registrants by July 1)

www.stlukeshr.com

Monstrous Success!

Our 13th annual Children's

Dinner Theater was a huge success! Forty six amazing kids (1st-6th grade) came together to put on the musical "We Are Monsters" and raise money for our Guatemala Youth Mission water filter project. The children were awesome and the crowd was generous. Final donation \$ will be in soon. Thank you to ALL who helped out including dinner, costumes, hair/makeup, backstage help, set, tech, house and our fabulous director team: Lisa Coryell, Angela Alderson, Kay Coryell and Sharon Oliver. This event is a highlight of the year!









Kay SwansonDirector of
Little School











Little School News:

Merry May Mischief

The end of the school year is upon us and we have had a remarkable year. I don't think we realize how the kids have grown, changed and learned, when we see them each day. I was giving a tour to a new family that have a little summer 3 year old, and we walked in to visit the appropriate age class for them and the mom was amazed when she saw how tall they were. "Well, this is where your child will be in a year!" She could hardly believe it! I know that we feel the same way, but we are so PROUD of how independent they have become and we are just certain that they will do well in the future!

Our 22nd Annual Art Show topped off the month of April! We hit a record of 1,048+ people going through the show even in spite of the rain! Thank you to Rev. Jessica who gave us a plug in the announcements on Sunday morning, we had several church members come through who had children who attended our program many years ago and some were Grandparents that were looking for fun ideas to do with their own grandchildren! It is so gratifying to see the beaming faces of the kids as they dash to show their family all of their artwork. You can imagine that with 248 students we have over 3,600 pieces of amazing art work! I am so impressed and proud of my staff, which makes this eventful evening a success!

May is a merry month of all kinds of fun and learning. We will have our annual Spring Sing for our 3's, our field days outside for the entire school and the Hot Dog lunch for the 4-5's.

It is also a time of preparation for Graduation for our oldest classes and we are excited to graduate 120 wonderful students on to kindergarten or Explorers.

GRADUATION IS MAY 23 at 9:00am and 11:00am in the Sanctuary.

Ms. Kay will be retiring the end of this school year (June 30) and Kelly Amadeo is already hard at work learning all the ropes. She is amazing and you all are going to enjoy her so much!

We still have openings in a few classes, so tell your friends and family. They can find out all about us on our website Stlukeslittleschool.org

Blessings from Ms. Kay and the Staff

"Children go where there is excitement and stay where there is love."



St. Luke's Little School -Best Preschool in Douglas County 2013, 2014, 2015

& 2016!

Jeremy's Big News!

Some of you may be wondering about the Assistant Youth Director Position that is now on the church website as well as a few job boards. Below is a note from Jeremy which will explain whats happening. We are sad to lose him at St. Luke's but are very thrilled and excited for him... and for the people that will be blessed with his presence, his energy, his experience, his wisdom, and his faith.

Hello everybody,

Man, what a journey it has been! These past two years working at St. Luke's and SLY have brought about some of the greatest joy, pain, and growth opportunities. When I started in May 2015, I was a fresh-faced college graduate who had very little experience dealing with youth. Now, I am a "slightly" less fresh-faced master's graduate with some incredible memories and tons of involvement with youth development. I couldn't possibly have done this alone and I cannot thank all of you enough. The parents, staff, volunteers, congregation, and (most of all) youth of St. Luke's have forever changed my life for the better. I cannot imagine where I would be and what I would have been doing without this opportunity the past couple of years. Therefore, I thank God every day for putting me in this position and for putting all the wonderful youth in my life. I truly am the luckiest guy in the world and I never take my experiences here for granted. Hopefully, we will continue to stay in contact because I can't wait to hear about how each of you will continue to grow closer to God and use His calling on your life to change the world!



As for me, I have felt God calling me into international development and service in

developing countries around the world. This has been a dream and vision of mine for as long as I can remember. This career path allows me to live out my faith by putting it into action (James 1:22) and to serve the "least of these" (Matthew 25:31-46). Therefore, one step on this journey is for me to join the Peace Corps. To this end, I have been accepted to serve in the Peace Corps for two (2) years starting September 24, 2017. I will be serving in Lesotho (a country completely surrounded by South Africa and one that I have done significant research about). The projects that I will be working on include HIV/ AIDS awareness and education, WASH (water, sanitation, and hygiene), as well as youth development. If you have any questions please feel free to email, text, or ask me in person! I would love to talk to you about it more.

Finally, I will be in my position at St. Luke's until I leave in September. Therefore, I will be going on all three mission trips this year (Guatemala, Sr. High, and Jr. High), as well as attending Family Camp. However, during this summer, the St. Luke's staff will be looking for my replacement. I will do everything in my power to make the transition as smooth as possible. Additionally, I will be praying daily that God will provide SLY with someone far more qualified and remarkable than I am (if that is even possible lol JK). But seriously, these youth deserve nothing but the best. However, let's not say goodbye just yet! I'm still here and in the present moment. Thank you for all the love and support, and I'll need your continued love/support/prayers as I venture out to pursue my passions. All I can say now is: man, what a journey it has been!

With all my love, Jeremy (J-Money) Brown



Baby Haven, Kidz Prayz and Fabulous Food Featured at UMW Annual Spring Event

In lieu of the traditional annual tea, the St. Luke's United Methodist Women hosted a Spring Baby Shower, featuring a wonderfully delectable lunch, fabulous entertainment and an eye-opening presentation from Baby Haven. This is a licensed child care facility, at Fort Logan in Denver, for women who have their children living in residential treatment with them. The keynote speakers representing The Haven were Bill Winn, President and Founder; and Iulianna Nelson, Executive Director. Ms. Nelson engaged the audience by taking the time to answer numerous questions about the organization, explaining that the mothers, who have had criminal backgrounds, are now sober and transitioning towards independent living.

The event attendees generously donated diapers, wipes, clothing, bottles and more for the infants at Baby Haven. In addition to the speakers, the St. Luke's Kidz Prayz choir, led by Angela Alderson and Kay Coryell, presented a number of delightful musical renditions, impressing all. An exquisite and plentiful lunch, consisting of quiches, fruit, homemade cookies and

made-from-scratch breads were enjoyed by all. Thanks to chief organizers - Peggy Fretzs, Maggie Giardina, Jan Munoz and the UMW Team for a most enjoyable afternoon.

Save the Dates:

Join our Celebrations, Educational Studies and Volunteer Mission Projects

- May 13 ~ The Big Serve: Volunteering
- May 14 ~ Mother's Day and United Methodist Women's Sunday
- May 21~8am-9:15am, Room 206: UMW Leadership Meeting (All are welcome.)

United Methodist Women enhance your

spiritual journey; support you in friendship and fellowship; keep you in prayer, satisfy mission needs, and supply you with renewal. Let us be a part of your journey. We are open to ALL women.

If you would like to join us at any of these events, please contact umwinfo@stlukeshr.com

The Emblem of the United Methodist Women

The official

emblem for the

the cross and a

the Holy Spirit.

The emblem

for the United

United Methodist

Church combines

flame, symbolizing

Methodist Women

likewise includes

the cross and

flame, ancient

symbols of the

church dating

of Christ and

back to the days

Pentecost. Each

evokes images of

sacrifice, witness

and service. Both

remind us of the

opportunities and

discipleship. Paul's

obligations of

ancient words







in Timothy have fresh and contemporary meaning:

"... I now remind you to stir into the flame the gift of God which is within you..."

–II Timothy 1:6a NEB

The shape of the emblem is likewise symbolic. It is fluid and free flowing, suggesting change and mobility. As organized groups of women, this has been our heritage, often at the forefront of movements for change, at time supporting the projects initiated by others, always aware of the times and striving to move with them rather than be overwhelmed by them.



"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 at St. Luke's:

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

- May 22 ~ "The Light of Paris" by Eleanor Brown
- June 26 ~ "The Magic Strings of Frankie Presto" by Mitch Albom
- July 24 ~ "Winter Garden" by Kristin Hannah

Common Thread

~ Friendship/Fellowship/ Caring/Sharing. First Thursday of each month, 10:00am. Meets at the church. Contact: Caroline Butler carolinebutler@q.com or Betty Smith 303-797-3225

Itch to Stitch ~

Projects of Crochet, Knitting, Sewing, Quilting donated to Charities. Meets 2nd & 4th Saturday from 10:00am-12:00pm in church basement. All skill levels welcome Contact: Fran West 303-797-7107. Check out Our Facebook page!!! - "St. Luke's UMC Itch to Stitch Guild"

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" Also, for info about the United Methodist Women Rocky Mountain Conference and Mile High Pikes Peak District - www.rmcumw.org





Our Mission:

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

Visit **stlukescse.org** to learn more!

Classes, Experiences & Workshops: Coming in June!

June 6 - "Reiki Intro with Suzanne Rainey": Curious about



what Reiki is and how it is used? Never heard of Reiki but want to learn about something new? Suzanne Rainey, a member of St. Luke's and a Reiki Practitioner, will hold a one hour introduction. This will be in partnership with Stephen Ministry and their Continuing Ed program, but it is open to anyone who is interested learning about Reiki. Come learn the benefits and

practical uses of healing energy and how you can share this gift with friends and family. Additional opportunities for in depth training

will be available later this summer for those who want to learn to use Reiki. Tuesday, June 6th (6:00-7:00pm) in the Chapel. Contact sallie@stlukeshr. com for more info



June 9 - "Gracious Space with

Jenita Rhodes": is a gathering of spiritual seekers looking for a place to enrich their daily walk through life by exploring different spiritual practices, reflect on and discuss writings from various spiritual writers and participate in an artistic activity designed to widen their perspective of who they are as spiritual beings. We have been meeting on the second Friday morning of each month since February in the home of Jenita Rhodes. So far we have explored the topics of Creation and created a 'Big Bang Collage", compiled a list of our Anam Caras (soul friends) and blessed their presence in our lives and on Good Friday we embraced the Mucky things in our lives and planted them with a gladiola bulb with the hope of beautiful blooms in the future. The unique experiences and perspectives that each person brings to the group provide a bountiful opportunity to share and learn from each other. If you are interested in joining the group, please contact Jenita Rhodes at Jenita Opcisys.net for more information. Our next gathering will be Friday June 9 from 10:00-11:30am. We hope you can join us!

June 28 - "Rituals of Restoration": Join us on Wed., June 28



for a delightful evening at Capital Tea in Englewood to hear author and meditation and life coach, Gargi Agarwala, speak about "Rituals of Restoration". Gargi has taught yoga and life coaching at St. Luke's for two years and is now a highly sought after speaker and life coach. Capital Tea will be perfect setting to bring a friend for an inspiring night out. Gargi's speaking

engagements are always meaningful, fun and restorative. You will walk away having learned something new! Tickets will go on sale soon. \$40 includes a copy of Gargi's book "Wellthy Ways", our guest speaker Gargi and tea and desserts provided by Capital Tea! Contact renaeparra©aol.com for more info.



June 24 - "Summertime Effortless Entertaining Cooking



Class": Join Melinda Davidson in her kitchen on Saturday, June 24 10:00am-1:00pm for her "Summertime Effortless Entertaining Cooking Class" experience and breathe a sigh of confidence to host your next family celebration or neighborhood gathering.

Through "The Art of an Entertaining Heart" cooking experience, I will guide you through

the step by step process of creating a featured multi-course appetizer, signature beverage, main entree with complimentary side and capped with a decadent dessert. All will feast upon these festive foods atop of a nature-inspired tablescape that will set the stage of complete hospitality.



Reserve your spot in this hands-on cooking event that will allow you to expand upon this menu based formula that bridges my philosophy of ease and fun into entertaining all from the heart. Cooking class fee is \$35, pre-payment required, (includes a recipe book) and is limited to 8 guests. Please email Renae Parra (renaeparra@aol.com) to secure your reservation.

Save the Date!



July 29 - Yoga on the Rocks: We have a block of tickets for Saturday, July 29 for this awesome event at Red Rocks. We will carpool and arrive in time for sunrise, then enjoy the one hour yoga class. A delicious breakfast tailgate will follow. This is a wonderful opportunity to bring your daughter to one of our events, but anyone

is welcome! Tickets are sold at face value (\$17) and will go fast! Email Renae Parra (renaeparra@aol.com) to reserve your ticket.

Sept. 15-17: A couples weekend!:

A Collaboration of the CSE and Project I am For You (Tami Canaday).



Outdoor Adventures:

HIKE

May 20 – Wildflowers & Birds After

canceling our April hike because of poor weather (the first cancellation in 5 years!) our outdoor adventure team is excited for the May, double feature hike, Wildflowers and Birds. We will be hiking the South Mesa/Big Bluestem/Towhee Loop Trail which winds along the base of the Flatirons near Boulder. Two of our team leaders will share their extensive knowledge of wild flowers (Jane Staller) and birds (Janet Johnston). The trail can reveal as many as 80 wildflower species at peak bloom and supports more than 60 species of nesting birds during different seasons of the year.

We hope you will join us for this 3.7 mile (easy to moderate) hike on May 20. Please meet at St. Luke's at 7:00am to carpool.

Future Outdoor Adventures:

June 10 – Matthews/Winters Park Hike (rescheduled after April 22 cancellation, due to inclement weather)

July 15 - Hiking at Lake Isabel

August 19 - 5-year Anniversary Celebration TBD



Upcoming Events!

- May 14 -No SLY AM. It's Mother's Day, honor all of the women in your life. No Choir rehearsal No SLY Dinner No SLY PM—enjoy the evening with the women in your life.
- May 17 Wednesday Happenings: 5:30-6:30pm: Homework Hour the Youth Room 6:30-8:00pm: WED SLY ~ Ultimate **Groundies Tournament**
- **GRADUATION SUNDAY** 9:30-10:30am: SLY AM 5:30-7:30pm: SLY End of Year Cook Out Celebration Dinner \$2
- 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!



ON THE SLY:

Summer is Here!

We've just about made it through all the tests, all the graduations, and all the graduation finals. Now its time for the real fun to start, and of course we're talking about SUMMER!!! The summer programing in SLY is always a blast as we do some activties both as a big group and gender specific, all working around our THREE mission trips!!

GEMs and STMs, also known as the Girls Enrichment Ministry and Shortcuts To Manhood, are our gender specific Wednesday summer programing. We meet every Wednesday starting in June from 6:00-8:00pm. The guys typically go out and enjoy some outdoor activities and then head to a local fast food joint for dinner and devotions with Jeremy. The girls engage in a variety of activities including a paint night and yoga night while engaging in conversation of faith. We will also

be having a few Wednesday events together this year as we meet with some of the other churches in town for a night of volleyball and fellowship! Look for the summer GEMs and STMs schedule coming soon!

Mission trips are of course the other highlight of the summer for SLY. At the end of May our youth Guatemala team will be headed down south to build homes and bring hope and clean water to the local villages. Then nearly 70 Sr High youth and adult volunteers will be driving to Moore, OK to do tornado relief. In July our Jr High team will be headed to Albuquerque, NM to work at a food bank and shelter. We still have some room on the Jr High trip if you know of someone going into 7th-9th grade who would like to go! Contact Dave for more info on trips and for ways to help us reach our fundraising goals!

Yours in Christ, Dave, Amy & Jeremy



Dave Laurvick Amy McMullen Assistant Dir. of Director of Youth Ministry Youth Ministry



Jeremy Brown Assistant Dir. of Youth Ministry





Congratulations 2017 Confirmands!

We are so proud to anounce that we had 29 young people who were confirmed into St. Lukes UMC at the end of April. These youth worked hard attending 12 weeks worth of classes and conversation as well as participated in a weekend retreat. As usual, we were in awe of the depth of their questions and understanding when it came to their faith and God. After completing the classes all 29 young people decided to uphold the covenant of their baptism and become full participating members of St. Luke's and the United Methodist Church as a whole. We are confident in these youth and are so excited to watch them continue to grow on their faith journey.

Quinten Raymond Alderson, Jack Anthony Ary, Conner Anthony Donnell, Francesca Annmarie Emig, Ben Fletcher, Allison Marie Groustra, Alex Pope Hauser, Colton Haase Koenig, Terra Patricia Leiber, Joshua Daniel Lowrey, Alexandra Isabel Lucero, Boston Mitchell Lucero, Nicole Mary Lucero, Anders Thomas McCarthy, Lauren Joy Middleton, Laura Rose Miller, Matthew Peterman, Ethan Michael Rael, James Robert Ramsey III, Morgan Rooks, Liam Derick Roth, Lilly Katherine Smith, Juliana Leigh Speedy, Tayler Allen Stegman, Abigail Avery Strickland, Christopher Michael Swanson, Ethan Shane Thevarajah, Silas Walker, Sydney Mae Welch

Passing Love On Through Confirmation

By McKay Smith

I went through confirmation 4 years ago as an 8th grader. I had heard about how much fun my older friends had during their time in confirmation and was excited to do it too. The confirmation retreat has always been the highlight of the class, but for me it was not in the way I expected. Of course the fun and social parts of it were great, but I had no idea that God would reveal His love to me in such a powerful way that weekend. One of the high schoolers who was helping with confirmation unknowingly let God shine through her actions and made me want to seek a relationship with God like hers. I truly felt called that weekend to let God into my life so that other people could see God through me. Every year since then I have had the opportunity to volunteer with the confirmation classes.

Not only have I met some really cool kids, but I have also gotten to help some of them experience God's love. It has been amazing getting to do for them what someone had done for me when I was in 8th grade. This past confirmation class was bittersweet knowing I will be graduating this May. It is sad knowing that my volunteer experience with confirmation has come to an end, but I am excited to continue spreading God's love wherever I go and am hopeful that I have inspired some of the younger kids to do the same!

Hola! Bonjour!



Join us for the 2018 Concert Tour in Spain and France!

Members of the Brass Ensemble, Chancel Choir, and

Tintinnabulators are headed to Spain and France to perform in Barcelona (Cathedral of Santa Eulalia & Santa Maria del Pi), Arles (Eglise Saint Cesaire), and Nice (Basilique Notre Dame).

YOU can join us for this amazing trip! Travel to Barcelona, Montserrat, Perpignan, Arles, Aix-en-Provence, Nice, and Monaco from May 31 to June 9, 2018! The cost of the trip ranges from \$4000-\$4500 (airfare included) or \$2400-\$2700 (self-arranged airfare). Prices include accommodations, most meals, ground transportation, excursions, insurance, and much more.

Get ready for beautiful music in beautiful places. It will be an incredible experience and we hope you will be there with us! Interested? Contact Kristi Pawley at kristi©stlukeshr.com.

Wesley Players Show Dates and Auditions - 2017-18 Season



December 2, 2017

Christmas on Broadway is a musical celebration to kick off the Advent season. 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 others. There will be ensemble. featured and solo opportunities for children and adults aged 8 to 80. No dancing required.

AUDITIONS

Sunday, Sept. 17, 2017 1:00-5:00pm Sanctuary



March 2-4, 2018

Directed by Roberta Hamilton-Griggs

One of the most enduring shows of all time, Tim Rice & Andrew Lloyd Webber's Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat is the irresistible family musical about the trials and triumphs of Joseph, Israel's favorite son.

AUDITIONS

Wed. Nov. 8, 2017 6:00-9:00pm Sanctuary

Sat., Nov. 11, 2017 10:00am-1:00pm Choir Rm



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

Upcoming Events:

Arapahoe Philharmonic –

Saturday, May 20 at 7:30pm

Denver Bronze Hand Bell Concert -Sunday, May 21 at 3:00pm



Meet the Music **Ministry** Welcome back to our series Meet the Music Ministry!

MINISTERS OF SWING

Welcome to our series Meet the Music Ministry! This is our last article of the series. We have enjoyed sharing the



different ensembles with you! This month we highlight MOS! Who and what is MOS? MOS stands for Ministers of Swing, St. Luke's Big Band Ensemble. This ensemble began over 15 years ago when a church member who loved big band music recognized the plethora of musical talent and decided to take action. St. Luke's first big band ensemble was born! They've been making music together ever since. MOS has shared their music with the community at MS Walkathons, Civic Green concerts, Dinner Dances, PAA Galas, Jazz at St. Luke's and birthday celebrations! If you're a swinger looking for a playing opportunity, please join us. Contact Kay Coryell, kayc@stlukeshr.com, for rehearsal details. For information on all the music groups, please browse the Music and Arts brochure at www.stlukeshr.com/PDFs/brochures/MusicArts.pdf.



Denver **Bronze Hand Bell** Concert May 2 l

St. Luke's UMC is proud to host the Denver Bronze professional hand bell ensemble for a concert on Sunday, May 21 at 3:00pm in the sanctuary. St. Luke's Adult and Youth hand bell choirs will ring with the Denver Bronze, as well as share selections of their own. Tickets are available at the door - \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Proceeds from the concert will benefit St. Luke's Music Ministry.

Questions should be directed to 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



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

PRAYER CONCERNS

Contact Rev. Sallie Suby-Long if you have any additions/removals 303-791-0659 x I 32, leave a note at the front desk, or email sallie@stlukeshr.com

LATEST ENTRIES TO PRAYER LIST:

Fran West Debi Sheppard Caroll Gabert Peggy Link Shawn Sheppard Marj Mack Linda Harris Kay Swanson Peg Pascal Phil Keyack

Ellen McGrath Jeanne Beitscher Kay Mervine

SYMPATHIES TO:

Phil & Chris Goldsberry on the passing of Phil's mother, Joan Goldsberry Betty Halderman and family on the passing of her husband, Bob Halderman Jensen & Cassy Meier on the passing of Jensen's grandmother, Susie Torrez Ann Newton on the passing of her cousin, Bill Barrett Alan & Carrie Mallery on the passing of Alan's father, John Mallery Betty Halderman on the passing of her sister-in-law, Carol Halderman McAlister Friends and family of Rose Templar (Friend of St. Luke's Community - 105 years old!) Leigh Ramsey and family on the passing of her father, J. Raymond Sutcliffe

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Grandparents Rich and Carleen Krening and parents Derrick and Sharlene Krening on the birth of Maesin Gunnir Krening

Agnes Simmons who recently celebrated her 100th birthday

