



Transition Edition The Chronicle

Highlands Ranch, Colorado

ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SUMMER 2020



The In-Between Time

St. Luke's UMC Spring 2020 Worship Series

St. Luke's is entering a liminal space. Liminal spaces are transitional times and spaces. They are the waiting areas between one point in time and space and the next. It is the time and space where we are on the verge of something new.

Theologian Richard Rohr describes this space as: where we are betwixt and between the familiar and the completely unknown. There alone is our old world left behind, while we are not yet sure of the new existence. That's a good space where genuine newness can begin. Get there often and stay as long as you can by whatever means possible... This is the sacred space where the old world is able to fall apart, and a bigger world is revealed. If we don't encounter liminal space in our lives, we start idealizing normalcy. The threshold is God's waiting room.

St. Luke's is entering this liminal space as we transition clergy leadership. We are experiencing liminal space as we wait for a new and transformed community post-covid19. We are experiencing liminal space as we open ourselves to what might be, grounded in the goodness of who we have been. This liminal space is sacred, as together we say goodbye and hello.

WATCH LIVE-STREAM SUNDAYS AT 9:00AM or visit our website to access all of our previous services and watch anytime.

May 31: Pentecost, Rev. Jessica Rooks **The Beginning of Something New**

June 7: Rev. Jessica Rooks last Sunday **Letting Go of the Good**

June 14: Rev. Pat Shaffer **We Have a Story for the In-between:** Our family of faith has gone through several losses recently. We said "goodbye" to Rev. Ryan and to Rev. Jessica. Because of the Covid 19 virus we have lost in person worship and fellowship within our community of faith. People have lost jobs, children and youth have been separated from their peers and their regular activities, and loved ones have died. And finally, we have lost our human dignity with the death of George Floyd. Do you feel the sorrow and grief? Let our faith stories help during this time of grief in-between what was and what is to come.

June 21: Father's Day, Rev. Dave Money **A Disturbing Lack of Faith:** Why do we seem to put so much faith in earthly matters—think of every time you board an airliner—but then demand proof when it comes to anything with a spiritual dimension, anything beyond what our physical senses can tell us? Isn't this a disturbing lack of faith? During difficult times of transition—and whenever we yearn to feel at peace—we can tap into the powerful connection between faith and healing: physical, emotional and spiritual.

June 28: Jake Smith, **Numbers 6:24-26:** May the Lord bless you and keep you, May the Lord make his face shine upon you, And be gracious unto you, May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, And give you peace, NOW AND FOREVER MORE -Amen

FEATURED INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- CHURCH BUILDING REOPENING INFORMATION
- REV. SALLIE'S TRANSITION
- THANK YOU TO REV. SCHAWN
- GET TO KNOW OUR NEW PASTORS
- SUMMER WORSHIP SERIES
- CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!



Rev. Jessica Rooks
Lead Minister of
Community Life

Goodbyes are Hard

Writing 'goodbyes' have never been easy for me. The same is true for writing the conclusions of my sermons – I spend more time on the last two paragraphs than on the previous four pages, and I'm never really happy with the ending. I think I just don't like endings; and I would rather keep the conversation going.

Goodbyes are hard, especially when trying to express gratitude for four years of relationship and community. No words are adequate to fully convey what is resting on my heart and soul. So, it may not surprise you, that when there are no words to fully express what I want to say, I fall back on my Methodist roots. Garrison Keillor once wrote the following about Methodists.

"We make fun of Methodists for their blandness, their excessive calm, their fear of giving offense, their lack of speed, and also for their secret fondness for macaroni and cheese. But nobody sings like them. If you were to ask an audience in New York City, a relatively Methodist-less place, to sing along on the chorus of "Michael Row the Boat Ashore", they will look daggers at you as if you had asked them to strip to their underwear. But if you do this among Methodists, they'd smile and row that boat ashore and up on the beach! And then down the road..."

I do believe this: People, these Methodists, who love to sing in four-part harmony, are the sort of people you can call up when you're in deep distress. If you're dying, they will comfort you. If you are lonely, they'll talk to you. And if you are hungry, they'll give you tuna salad.

Methodists believe in prayer, but would practically die if asked to

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Our building is currently closed to non-essential persons.

In-person Worship Services, Sunday School and events have been cancelled for the foreseeable future.

Worship services will be live streamed on Sundays at 9:00am.

Church Office.....303-791-0659
Email.....office@stlukeshr.com
Website.....www.stlukeshr.com
Little School Office.....303-791-1982



Staff

Rev. Dr. Sallie Suby-Long.....x132
Lead Minister of Spiritual Life

Rev. Jessica Rooks.....x109
Lead Minister of Community Life

Rev. Schawn Kellogg.....x143
Care Pastor

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
Accounting Clerk

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

This is a SPECIAL EDITION of The Chronicle.

Our next full 12-page issue will come soon. 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. Dr. Sallie Suby-Long

Lead Minister of Spiritual Life
Director – Center for Spiritual Engagement

I respect their openness, honesty, willingness not to have answers but to live the questions, to uphold me and each other in trust, to be transparent and to confront unsettling truths in the search for actions of integrity. They are brave, digging deeper, challenging themselves and challenging me - holding up the mirror. It's difficult. It's urgent. I have a lot more to learn. We all do. Sarah shared this poem by Cleo Wade with me and I respectfully share it with you. Sometimes when issues are so deep and painful, it is hard to know where to begin. Perhaps this is one of many ways...

With gratitude and highest regard for each of you,

Rev. Sallie

A Place to Begin

Dearest St. Luke's Friends,

In this time of deep hurt related to racism in our nation, I have turned to conversations with the people I love most – my husband Thomas and our daughters Rachel, Sarah, and Rebecca. I

THE WORLD WILL SAY TO YOU:
WE NEED TO END RACISM.
START BY
HEALING IT IN YOUR OWN FAMILY.
THE WORLD WILL SAY TO YOU:
HOW DO WE SPEAK TO BIAS AND BIGOTRY?
START BY
HAVING THE FIRST CONVERSATION AT
YOUR OWN KITCHEN TABLE
THE WORLD WILL SAY TO YOU:
THERE IS TOO MUCH HATE.
DEVOTE YOURSELF TO LOVE.
LOVE YOURSELF
SO MUCH THAT YOU CAN LOVE OTHERS
WITHOUT BARRIERS
AND WITHOUT JUDGMENT.

continued from page 1 *pray out loud. Methodists like to sing, except when confronted with a new hymn or a hymn with more than four stanzas. Methodists believe their pastors will visit them in the hospital, even if they don't notify them that they are there. Methodists usually follow the official liturgy and will feel it is their way of suffering for their sins. Methodists believe in miracles and even expect miracles, especially during their stewardship visitation programs or when passing the plate. Methodists think that the Bible forbids them from crossing the aisle while passing the peace. Methodists drink coffee as if it were the Third Sacrament.*

Methodists feel guilty for not staying to clean up after their own wedding reception in the Fellowship Hall. Methodists believe that it is okay to poke fun at themselves and never take themselves too seriously. All this means that, if you are to be counted among their numbers, you will know you are a Methodist when: It's 100 degrees, with 90% humidity, and you still have coffee after the service. You hear something funny during the sermon and smile as loudly as you can. Donuts are a line item in the church budget, just like coffee. When you watch a Star Wars movie and they say, "May the Force be with you," and you respond, "and also with you." And lastly, you'll know you've been in the presence of a Methodist, if it takes ten minutes to say good-bye!"

For the countless cups of coffee and donuts, the ability to laugh at ourselves, the miracles that have in fact occurred during stewardship and throughout the years, the conversations that lasted longer than they needed to but not as long as they could have, and of course for the amazing music, worship, Bible studies, and relationships, I thank you.

Thank you, St. Luke's, for who you are as individuals and as a community. Thank you, for the ways you care for one another and the community. Thank you, for the willingness to be adventurous and creative. Thank you, for letting me be a United Methodist Church nerd, and loving me anyway. Thank you, for the opportunity to serve this community! I am forever grateful.

Grace and Blessings, Rev. Jessica



Announcement from Staff Parish Relations

Dear St. Luke's Family,

We have been journeying together through the "In Between Time" and while several transitions have already taken place, the Staff Parish Relations Team is happy to formally announce that Rev. **Dr. Sallie Suby-Long will begin her new role as Minister of Healing and Wellbeing at St. Luke's on July 1st.** Sallie is highly qualified to serve in this role and we are truly fortunate to have someone with her outstanding experience and credentials continuing in ministry here with us.

We are confident that Sallie will bring the same passion and dedication to her ministry that she has exhibited for these past 11 years as she has served on our Pastoral Leadership Team. Please read Sallie's letter, shown at right, outlining her new position and watch for more specific information to follow as Sallie transitions into her new role at St. Luke's.

St. Luke's Staff Parish Relations
Sandy Larson, Chairperson



Rev. Sallie's New Role

Dear St. Luke's Friends,

We're moving into something new and I'm excited to see what God has planned for us. I am grateful for the opportunity I've had to serve our community on the clergy leadership team for the past 11 years. It has been an honor and privilege. Now, in this new chapter, I'm looking forward to some changes in the way I will serve in ministry at St. Luke's. On July 1st, I'll officially move into my position as **Minister for Healing and Wellbeing**. As a Deacon in the UMC, I'm ordained to specialized ministry and I will welcome serving in ways directly related to my calling, experience, and education. My primary responsibilities will be:

- 1) Counseling, consultation, mentoring, coaching, and spiritual direction
- 2) Leadership as Founder and Director of the Center for Spiritual Engagement
- 3) Oversight of healing and wellbeing initiatives

It's a privilege to encourage others in the important process of healing, learning, and development. I've been called to this work in many settings throughout my professional life and I am happy to continue offering work that I love in our St. Luke's community. I earned my PhD in higher education with an emphasis in psychology and transformational learning. I hold a Master of Science degree in education/human development and a Master of Arts in counseling and spiritual formation. I've completed requirements for a State of Colorado permit in counseling and I'm moving toward licensure. Some of the certifications I hold that support my work with individuals and groups are in Appreciative Coaching, Enneagram Facilitation, Spiritual Direction and Myers-Briggs Facilitation. I also serve on the Dissertation Faculty at Creighton University in the Interdisciplinary Leadership Doctoral Program where I teach graduate

"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." Isaiah 43:19

students. My recent research has been in women's leadership development and the connection of calling and purpose in vocational and professional growth. The core of my work is to create learning experiences that encourage development, healing, and spiritual formation. St. Luke's, you are visionary, compassionate people and I learn from your example every day! I'm excited about this time in my life and in the life of our community as we welcome new leadership, new opportunities, and a new chapter in St. Luke's story. Together, we'll continue to live our principles of grace, courage, and wonder – reaching beyond toward all that pours more good into the world. It's an honor to be in partnership with you. *Blessings always, Rev. Dr. Sallie Suby-Long*

Members and Friends of St. Luke's UMC,

I know there are many transitions underway at SLUMC right now (clergy, worship times, COVID restrictions) and that the world is a more uncertain place than it was when we last met together in March. While this issue of *The Chronicle* is full of information about those transitions as well examples of how we have continued to live our mission during this time apart, I also wanted to let you know that the Lay leadership of our church has continued to be hard at work to ensure each of these transitions goes as smoothly as possible. Many of our leadership teams have met multiple times since we were last in the building together to plan for Rev. Michele and Pastor Liza's arrival, as well as, to discuss what we can and cannot do as a community during the pandemic. We have been deeply involved with discussions about financial impacts from COVID to the church budget and what SLUMC's statement would be in regards to Social Justice issues. We have also been hard at work structuring new small group experiences that could fit into this physically-distanced time apart: ones which will drive the stronger sense of community we are all missing in this time. So, while there are many transitions going on, I wanted to assure you, on behalf of the SLUMC Lay leadership, that we are still here, behind-the-scenes, working to ensure that SLUMC continues to be the community we want to be a part of and it continues to be the place where we and our families can answer this question: *What does the Lord require of you?*

In Grace and Peace, Andrew Campbell
St Luke's UMC Lay Leadership Chair

Thank You Rev. Schawn!

Our heartfelt thank you to Rev. Schawn Kellogg who has served with us over these last few years as Care Pastor. Schawn has brought deep integrity, wisdom, and kindness to everything she does and we are grateful. Schawn's primary ministry appointment is as an RN at Littleton Adventist Hospital. She has brought to St. Luke's her passion for connecting with people, creating powerful learning experiences, offering pastoral care, and creating meaningful worship services at Windcrest/Mill Vista. We have been so fortunate to benefit from Rev. Schawn's depth of compassion and her practices of spirituality, knowledge of Biblical Archaeology and the Enneagram, and giftedness in care. At the end of June, Rev. Schawn will be concluding her ministry with us as Care Pastor but, gratefully, she and her husband Eric will remain connected to the St. Luke's community and Schawn will continue to share her passion for teaching and spiritual formation. Thank you, Rev. Schawn, for your outstanding leadership and grace toward all of us!



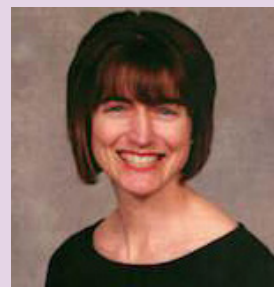
We are excited to share the announcement of Bishop Karen Oliveto's appointment of **Rev. Michele Kaminsky** to St. Luke's UMC beginning July 1, 2020.

Rev. Michele Kaminsky graduated from the Iliff School of Theology in Denver in 1999 with a Master of Divinity and was ordained an Elder in the Mountain Sky Conference in 2002. She is a graduate of the Center for Pastoral Effectiveness and has been a Spiritual Director for numerous area retreats. When she reads the scriptures she's always asking, "What does this mean for us today?" because she is passionate that the Biblical stories of old have real meaning in our lives right now.

Rev. Michele believes worship should be inspiring and should leave us feeling ready to face the week ahead. She believes everyone should have the opportunity to experience God in a holy and refreshing way.

Rev. Michele is coming to St. Luke's after serving Applewood Valley UMC since 2006. Rev. Michele married Steve Kaminsky on October 15, 2016 and has two adult children and two adult stepchildren. She has traveled to the Holy Land three times and loves walking and reading.

Rev. Michele said, "I am so grateful God has called me to such a wonderful church. I had a good feeling as soon as I walked in the building, and then I met the Staff Parish Relations Team and attended one of 'The Music Man' performances, and was embraced by such genuine and loving people. St. Luke's is a blessing, and I am honored to do God's work with you. I look forward to meeting everyone in July, and to being God's love in the world with you." Please join us as we welcome Rev. Michele on Sunday, July 5, 2020.



Welcome Michele!

What are you most looking forward to about being at St. Luke's?

I am so looking forward to being in ministry with each of you. It is a blessing and an honor to be a part of the community at St. Luke's, and I am most looking forward to worshipping God with you. Sundays are my favorite day of the week, and as we worship live-streamed, and as we get closer to worshipping in person again, I am excited and grateful to be immersed in the love and joy of God with you.

What is the hardest part of transitioning to a new congregation?

I think the hardest part of transitioning right now is having to do this virtually, but I am confident we will be able to establish relationships and gain a sense of who we are and how we do ministry together. Outside of the current social distancing and safety requirements, I think the hardest part is being new. There is so much to learn about the St. Luke's community, but what seems new and unfamiliar in the beginning, I know will soon be replaced with that beautiful feeling of being settled in.

How can we help?

Thank you for your willingness to help me get settled in, and I think the biggest help will be your prayers, your love and acceptance, and your patience with me as I learn the ropes. Thank you in advance for gifting me these things.



What brings you joy?

My family brings me joy. I have four adult children, two of my own and two step children. When I am with them and when I am with my husband, my heart soars. I also get great joy when I am walking, writing, doing yoga, laughing and just being outside. The fresh air always hits the reset button for me.

What is your definition of spirituality?

My definition of spirituality is the human spirit connecting with the Divine Spirit. I believe that can happen in so many different ways, but it most often happens for me in worship, in walking and hiking in the mountains, in reading scripture, in prayer, and in conversation with others, as the God-in-me connects with the God-in-them. Those are sacred and holy moments.

Why are you a Methodist?

I am Methodist because when I was church shopping in my early 20's, I attended a Methodist church in Alexandria, VA, and felt a connection with one of the pastors. As I learned more about John Wesley's personal faith and experience with God, I thought, 'He's real. This is real.' and joined the church. I grew up in the ELCA Lutheran church, but the pastors seemed untouchable to me, and while I learned to be a loving person in the world, a certain authenticity was missing. I found that authenticity in the Methodist church.

How would you describe your ministry style?

I would describe my ministry style as personable, relatable, open-hearted and accepting of all people. I strive to live love-based, not fear-based, and that is an underlying theme in my style and approach to ministry.

What are 3 FUN FACTS about you that you'd like the congregation to know?

- I graduated from High School in Taipei, Taiwan. (My father's job was transferred there.)
- I ran two marathons and have crossed that off my bucket list!
- I've been to Israel three times and got to preach in the Garden of Gethsemane one of those times.



We are excited to share the announcement of Bishop Karen Oliveto's appointment of **Liza Stoltz Hanson** as Associate Minister of St. Luke's UMC, effective July 1, 2020.

Liza will be graduating from the Iliff School of Theology this June with a Master of Divinity degree. She also has a Master of Religion degree from the University of Denver.

For the last eight years, Liza served as the Director of the Wesley Foundation campus ministry at the University of Denver, and for five years as the worship leader of a contemporary service at University Park UMC in Denver. This last year, Liza served as a student intern at St. Andrew UMC in pastoral care.

She, along with her husband, Denton, and their two daughters Hazel, (7) and Ruby (3), are excited to join the St. Luke's community.

We are excited to welcome Pastor Liza and her family to St. Luke's UMC. We send her blessings as she completes her time at Iliff School of Theology and prepares to join Rev. Michele Kaminsky and the staff on July 1. Please join us as we welcome Rev. Michele and Pastor Liza on Sunday, July 5, 2020.

Welcome *Liza!*

What are you most looking forward to about being at St. Luke's?

St Luke's has a reputation for being a warm and welcoming congregation - which I have experienced already and cannot wait for St. Luke's to become home for me and my family! I am looking forward to the wonderful music that St. Luke's is known for (although I am not a musician myself!) and I am looking forward to working with Rev. Michele, Rev. Sallie, and all the staff!

What is the hardest part of transitioning to a new congregation?

The hurdle of COVID feels like an exceptionally hard part of this transition. We learn so much about each other by being in the same space and I already feel that gap. I think the process of learning a congregation's DNA takes some time - it isn't something that can always be written down. I look forward to learning more and more about St. Luke's in the coming weeks.

How can we help?

Don't be shy about introducing yourself - I may need to ask your name more than once. Names are super important to me and I cannot wait to get to know you all, but I'm giving myself some grace that the process will take longer than I want. :)

What brings you joy?

I find joy in beauty around me, especially watching things grow (I self-identify as a plant lady...). I delight in children of all ages laughing and discovering the world around them with wonder. I love seeing folks do the thing that makes them come alive.



How would you describe your ministry style?

My ministry style is people-focused and relational, centered always on the gospel message of love and justice. I am drawn to programs and experiences that bring people together in new ways.

What is your definition of spirituality?

The three words that come to mind with this question are openness, breath, and rhythm. I find that without an openness of mind and soul, my desires for spiritual depth are usually squelched. The act of breathing reminds me of my spirit and the Spirit of life, the focus on breath is calming and restorative. And whether a spiritual practice is done daily, weekly, or annually - the rhythm of that is so important for growth.

Why are you a Methodist?

I am a 4th generation Evangelical United Brethren/Methodist and have fond memories of the small country church in rural Minnesota where my grandparents were members. From summer camp to college, I have benefited from so many opportunities for leadership and education because of the UMC. I've also spent years studying world religions and Christian denominations, and while the UMC is not perfect - the Wesleyan understanding of grace

paired with our tradition's commitment to social holiness reinforces again and again that I am Wesleyan to the core.

What are 3 FUN FACTS about you that you'd like the congregation to know?

- I have been trained as a "Master Composter" by Denver Urban Gardens.
- My intention was that 2020 was to be the "Year of Travel"... maybe 2021?
- My love language is 'words of affirmation'and tacos.... and peanut M&Ms.



St. Luke's UMC Building Use Frequently Asked Questions June 1, 2020

Q: Is the church office open?

A: No. At this time the church office is closed. The voicemail and church emails are checked daily, so please don't hesitate to contact us.

Q: Is the building open?

A: No. At this time the church building is closed. Essential worship personnel are in the building for worship. These individuals are required to wear a mask and maintain physical distancing.

Q: Are staff working in the building?

A: No. Staff are working remotely, and you can reach them by phone or email.

Q: Can I still give to the church?

A: Yes, we will gratefully accept your gifts. You can mail your checks to the church; click the donate button on our church website; use the church app; schedule online payments through your bank; or set up regular withdrawals by filling out paperwork found on our church website.

Q: How long will live-stream worship be available?

A: St. Luke's plans to continue live-streaming worship even after we return to in-person worship.

Q: When will we return to in-person worship?

A: That is still unknown. We are currently planning for live-stream worship through July.

Q: When will the building re-open for groups and events?

A: That is still unknown. We are currently following guidelines and policies established by the state, county and the Mountain Sky Conference of the United Methodist Church. We have allowed a small, pre-selected, number of programs to return to the building in June and July in an effort to refine our policies and procedures. These individuals are required to wear a mask, maintain physical distancing, and sign a waiver.

Q: What is happening with Little School?

A: Our preschool is scheduled to open in the fall. To schedule a tour of the preschool, please contact our director, Kelly Amadeo.

Church Building Update

Life at St. Luke's is never dull or boring! Even during Covid-19, safer-at-home orders, and physical distancing, we have not slowed down. We know many have been wondering about summer plans for worship and building re-opening and we want to share with you the most current updates. We also hope you took a few moments to fill out the short survey sent via email. We are reviewing your great responses.

St. Luke's continue to work under guidelines and policies established by the state, the county, and the Mountain Sky Conference of the United Methodist Church. Each week brings new guidelines concerning in-person gatherings in our communities, and we are doing our best to keep up with the current expectations and policies. During this time, the St. Luke's staff has been hard at work planning and imagining what a return to the building might look like, with the health and safety of our congregation as our highest priority.

In May, we hosted two Common Table Zoom conversations regarding the proposed Sunday morning schedule change from three services to two. Overall, we heard support for this change, and while there are still unknowns, we know St. Luke's will not return to the schedule of three Sunday worship services in the future. However, it became clear during these meetings that Covid-19 has shifted the types of changes needed right now and over the next several months.

Here is what we know:

- **We are changing the live-stream worship time from 9:30am to 9:00am beginning June 14. We will continue live streaming even after in-person worship returns.**
- **As we begin to discuss in-person worship, we are considering expanding the number of services, days, and times to ensure limited-size gatherings.**
- **In the future, when it is safe to do so, we will begin a new Sunday morning schedule with worship times at 9:00am and 10:30am.**
- **We are exploring the creation of new small groups and other ways to connect in-person or virtually at this time.**

The church office and building remain closed. Our staff continues to work remotely from home, and all ministry teams are using Zoom for meetings. This month, a few, already approved, ministry events will take place in the building; they will help us test some of our proposed procedures for re-opening the building. These gatherings will follow strict guidelines for cleaning and sanitation, physical distancing, and other safety precautions, including face masks.

We give thanks for the support of this community, and we appreciate your patience and prayers, your generosity in giving, and your trust. This is an ever-changing situation and we are learning new things each day. Thank you for your emails, Facebook posts, messages, and kind words as we all work together to embody the St. Luke's principles of Grace, Courage, Wonder and Beyond.

Grace and Blessings,

Rev. Jessica Rooks, Rev. Sallie Suby-Long, The St. Luke's Staff, The St. Luke's Executive Team

Phased Reopening Policies & Procedures

SAFER AT HOME PHASE beginning June 1	
WORSHIP	Live-Stream Worship
CHURCH OFFICE	Closed
STAFF	Working Remotely. Allowed to work in building. Masks required unless staff are alone in personal office space. Physical distancing required.
CHURCH BUILDING	Closed, except to staff-supervised events after receiving an exemption and following church guidelines. Masks and Physical distancing as required by state/county guidelines.
TEAMS, SLY & GROUPS	Virtual gatherings; exemptions possible for specific staff-supervised events following church guidelines for use and sanitizing.
HIGH-RISK POPULATIONS	Stay home, stay healthy

St. Luke's Building Use Guidelines & Policies

(June 1, 2020)

Building Use Guidelines:

- Building closed except for staff supervised events that have received exemptions:
 - » Exemption policy – staff member submits an exemption request to Ken Fong and Rev. Michele Kaminsky (after July 1); staff member has responsibility for assuring that all building use guidelines and cleaning procedures are followed
- No outside group meetings allowed in the building during this phase.
- Masks required in the building for all persons age 3 and older.
- Physical distancing required in accordance with state and county guidelines.
- Groups are limited to: 10 persons per room with required physical distancing; 25 persons for group for outside event.
- Be aware of entrances and exits and arrange for one-way passages at doors and stairways if needed.
- HVAC will be turned off while groups are using the building to decrease the air flow from one room to another.
- **Note:** Little School procedures are based on state requirements.
- **Note:** The cleaning service will continue their Wednesday and Saturday schedule.

Cleaning/Sanitizing Procedures:

- Bathroom use must follow physical distancing requirements.
- At the conclusion of meeting/event: (responsibility of the staff)
 - » Clean surfaces with provided wipes/spray/cloth etc.
 - » Spray door handles on both sides of door
 - » Spray chairs
 - » Exterior door handles (inside and out) sanitized
 - » Bathrooms cleaned and sanitized
 - » Empty trash
 - » Vacuum carpets and sweep floors in areas used
- Church office doors, counter, and tables cleaned and sanitized after use by staff.
- Sanitize, using disinfectant wipes, any AV equipment used.

Response Plan in Case of Potential or Actual Transmission:

- Tracking of participants, with contact info, required for all events/programs.
- In case of a transmission:
 - » The responsible staff person will immediately contact all participants
 - » Any staff with risk of exposure will self-quarantine for 14 days
 - » St. Luke's will encourage all participants to quarantine for 14 days
 - » Exposed staff and participants will not be allowed in the building for 14 days
- Deep cleaning and sanitizing of the church building including:
 - » sanitizing all surfaces, bathrooms, doors, chairs, etc.
 - » replace all HVAC filters

Outdoor Space Guidelines:

- Meeting in groups outdoors for church activities requires staff supervision with limited group size (25 or less) and social distancing (6 ft. separation) in designated areas.



Summer Worship Series 2020

HIDDEN BLESSINGS

Living in the world as it is today, can get us unsettled and can really test our patience. So many things have changed. So many things are chaotic and confusing. And yet, we are blessed. In this series, we will uncover the blessings we don't always notice. Not the obvious ones like family, friends, food and shelter—but the ones that are like hidden gems lying just beneath the surface.

The series will take us through the Beatitudes, Matthew 5:1-12.

July 5 - *The Blessing of Staying Balanced*, Mat 5:1-3 MSG - When Jesus saw his ministry drawing huge crowds, he climbed a hillside. Those who were apprenticed to him, the committed, climbed with him. Arriving at a quiet place, he sat down and taught his climbing companions. This is what he said: "You're blessed when you're at the end of your rope. With less of you there is more of God and his rule."

July 12 - *The Blessing of Comfort*, Mat 5:4, MSG - "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."

July 19 - *The Blessing of Contentment*, Mat 5:1-2,5, MSG - "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."

July 26 - *The Blessing of Seeing God in the World*, Mat 5:1-2,6, MSG - "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."

Aug 2 - *The Blessing of Caring*, Mat 5:1-2,7, MSG - "You're blessed when you care. At the moment of being 'care-full,' you find yourselves cared for."

Aug. 9 - *The Blessing of Seeing God in Ourselves*, Mat 5:1-2,8, MSG - "You're blessed when you get your inside world—your mind and heart—put right. Then you can see God in the outside world."

Aug 16 - *The Blessing of Being a Child of God*, Mat 5:1-2,9, MSG - "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."

Aug 23 - *The Blessing of Commitment*, Mat 5:1-2,10, MSG - "You're blessed when your commitment to God provokes persecution. The persecution drives you even deeper into God's kingdom."

Aug 30 - *The Blessing of Being at Home in God*, Mat 5:11-12, MSG - "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. You can be glad when that happens—give a cheer, even!—for though they don't like it, I do! And all heaven applauds. And know that you are in good company. My prophets and witnesses have always gotten into this kind of trouble."

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. We are aware that this is a time of financial uncertainty and we honor and respect everyone's circumstances. We also honor and respect the needs of St. Luke's as we continue to create new ways to connect and serve our community, especially during this critical time. Know that your generosity is helping to support the safety and health of our community. 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 at the address above. This will set up a reoccurring automatic payment from your account to the church's account.

We give thanks for your continued generosity as we continue to be the St. Luke's community in this unique and unusual time. Please contact Rex (rex@stlukeshr.com) or Jessica (jessica@stlukeshr.com) if you have any financial questions.



Would you like to receive a daily email devotion offered by the

St. Luke's Staff?

You can still sign up for a daily devotional email, sent out Monday-Friday at 9:00am. If you would like to receive this daily devotion email, **please go to stlukeshr.com to sign up.** These devotions will include scripture, prayers, videos, questions, reflections and connection.

Center for Spiritual Engagement Creative Connections

During all the necessary changes that have been brought to the forefront during "Safer at Home", the CSE team has experimented with creative ways to encourage our community. It is amazing what we can all learn when we are pulled into new ways of thinking and being! We trust you can all relate. A few of the innovations, thoughtfully created by our team have included:

- **Monthly nature videos, writings, photos and paintings** from our outdoor adventure team reminding us of the healing power of nature in our beautiful state.
- **Blessings and Meditations** to help inspire and ease spirits.
- **An Engaging and Interactive Guide for Inspiration** linking all of us to museums, great video collections, and suggestions for fun and exploration.
- **Brand new Yoga classes** with spiritual insights woven throughout!
- **And fresh, beautiful, cooking lesson videos** with step by step guidance for creating nutritious meals for the whole family.
- **Online opportunities for Spiritual Companionship, Counseling and Coaching**
- **Zoom classes on Simple Conversations to Restore Hope**

Many of these can be found on the CSE website. The creating continues! Join us for our new Summer opportunities! **Sign up for CSE emails at stlukeshr.com.**

Wishing you an inspiring summer of exploring fresh new opportunities.

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



BIG THANKS to CSE Hearts for Honduras & Wesley Players Sharing Music with Children in Honduras!

We are thrilled to tell you about the musical partnership of Wesley Players, CSE Hearts for Honduras, and Abundant Life Christian School in Yamaranguila. Wesley Players generously contributed some of the proceeds from *The Music Man* for the purpose of expanding the music programs for children at Abundant Life Christian School in Honduras! The gift will help provide instruments, music, and support so that the children can experience the amazing learning and growth opportunities that music contributes to life. The Center for Spiritual Engagement Honduras Team offers our heartfelt thanks to all who attended and were part of the *The Music Man* production for making this fantastic gift and partnership possible!

Thank you Wesley Players!

Sallie and Tom Suby-Long and CSE Hearts for Honduras Team



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



Renae Parra
Director of
Servant Ministry

Enhancing this Time of Change

Transitions are a part of life. Most of us don't like change, but that is how we grow. We are awaiting the change of clergy at St. Luke's, a true time of transition. May I make a few small suggestions for enhancing this time of change.

End well: Take the time to say good-bye. If you missed the drive-by goodbye celebration for Rev. Jessica, mail or email a note to her to express your appreciation for her ministry.

Accept Transition: Reflect on other changes as St. Luke's; they were not always easy, but the steady factor is always the community. The model of the United Methodist Church is set up for strong community and laity to provide the foundation where clergy can come and go but the roots of the tree are still strong. Accept that not everything will be the same, but new ideas and ministry can emerge to support our needs and give us fresh soil.



Extend a Welcome: Welcoming new clergy is going to be challenging as we will not yet be meeting in the building when our new clergy start their ministry. When an opportunity arises to meet them (such as a Zoom conversation), take advantage and start to become acquainted with Rev. Michele and Pastor Liza. When we return to in-person worship, it is extremely helpful if you wear your name tag! Introducing yourself is always good, but a visual reinforcement of your name will help them remember your names more quickly. If we are all wearing masks upon return, it will even be helpful for the current staff and congregation!

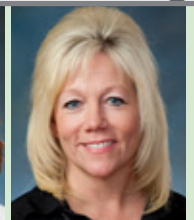
We can't wait to see you soon! –Renae

Connecting with KIDS

Our **online Sunday School lessons and videos** help children keep in touch with their church family and keep their Sunday morning routine. They have been a fun challenge for Ms. Sharon & Ms. Sam!

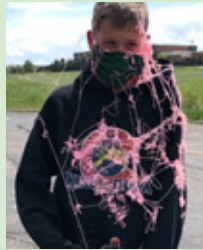


Sharon Oliver
Director of
Children's Ministry
sharon@stlukeshr.com



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

Our **Zoom meetings** for children allow a sense of connection during an unprecedented time. During our preschool zoom prayer time we allow the kids to see and check in with one another and end with each child sharing the prayers of their hearts. By intentionally boosting our super power of connection we are making a meaningful difference in their lives. These sessions lift our own spirits as we do our best to lift the spirits of our children and their families. By harnessing the power of connection as we combat Covid 19, we are also combating loneliness. Together we will get through this season to a brighter future.



SLY, Jr. 6th graders celebrated their graduation up to SLY in a little different way this year. Meeting in the church parking lot at the end of May, we celebrated with our tradition of the spraying of silly string and bestowing of graduation gifts - only this time socially distanced and wearing our masks.



Congrats to this very fun group of 6th graders as they move up to SLY! You guys are special!

VIRTUAL Vacation Bible School "Knights of North Castle" will be held July 27-31. We'll provide at-home crafts and science experiments, fun music and videos, Bible story activities and MORE. You can complete the activities on your own time but still feel like you are part of a group of Knights on a Quest together as we will check in throughout the week for quick Zoom sessions! **SIGN UP ONLINE NOW!** Contact Sharon with any questions.



Contact us ANY time! **We miss you!**
—Ms. Sharon & Ms. Sam



LITTLE SCHOOL GRADUATION!



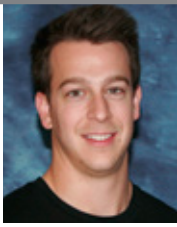
"Well that was unique," has been a phrase I have said multiple times over the last few months, and I definitely said it again when I hosted three graduation ceremonies through Zoom for our Little School graduates on May 21st. We had over 300 people join our Zoom graduation ceremonies. While we would have preferred to celebrate in person, we creatively celebrated our graduates, honored their milestones, and ended the ceremony with an online dance party. We adore our Little Schoolers, and are so proud of their accomplishments.



Kelly Amadeo
Director of
Little School

As teachers who are very connected to our families, we also knew we needed a chance to formally say goodbye to our classes for the summer. We held a **Goodbye Parade** in front of the church, and we were humbled by the 200 cars that passed by to say goodbye to us. It was quite a sight to have our entire staff lined up on the sidewalk (socially distanced of course), wearing our purple Little School shirts, matching masks, and waving goodbye to our families. The parade might just be a new tradition for us whether there is a pandemic or not. It was one of the most special events we have had at Little School. While we have had to adapt to new situations, God truly guided us through the end of this school year with grace and love.





Jake Smith

Director of
Youth Ministry

ON THE SLY: 7th-12th grade

Hello from SLY! It has been an interesting season for everyone indeed! We have moved all regular meetings to Zoom. And what a great time it has been! We spend our time getting to know each other (especially our brand new SLY members!) and playing games like Jackbox and Pictionary! We will stay on Zoom for as long as we must, but we are keeping an eye on ways to meet together in person in some fashion very soon!



Speaking of in person, we had a couple of events where we did get to see each other's faces recently. We held a youth sponsored all church food drive which experienced great success! Thank you to all the volunteers and to the church for their generous giving. We had another fun event which we called SLY Amazing



Race! We raced around Highlands Ranch using our navigational skills to find different locations and complete random tasks to receive clues which eventually led back to the church. 1st and 2nd place got \$20 and last place (17th) got \$1. Congrats to our winners!

Also, another congratulations goes out to all of our Graduates! If you haven't seen this year's church graduation tribute check out the YouTube page and also see the high school and college graduates in this issue! And while you're at it check out the YOUTH Vlog, another fun way we have stayed connected during this time away from the building. **Confirmation and Youth Sunday are postponed until further notice. Both will be rescheduled as soon as we are able to meet in person!**

Weekly Meetings:

Sundays @ 5:30pm: Youth Group

Wednesdays @ 5:00pm: Bible Study and Hangout

Email jake@stlukeshr.com for links to the Zoom meetings!

Yours in Christ, Jake

Monday Lunch Mission

During the stay at home order for the city of Denver we suspended our weekly lunch service in Civic Center Park. We continue to be in ministry, serving the same population, but in different ways. In May, St. Luke's Youth and our generous congregation did a sock drive and more than **200 pairs of much needed new socks** were delivered to area shelters. We will get back to the park as soon as the city of Denver allows us to safely return. Until that time we ask for your prayers for our vulnerable neighbors without the safety and security of home. For info contact sam@stlukeshr.com.



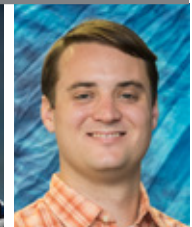
James Ramsey
Director of Music
& Arts Ministries



Kenrick Mervine
Associate Dir. of
Music Ministry/
Organist



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



Chris Rigolini
Director of
Instrumental Music



And the Band Played On...

We are grateful for the commitment of our music ministers to continue being in community throughout this time of physical distance and unknown futures. We continue to gather online and support one another; the Music and Arts team are engaged in conversations and dreams for what the Fall could look like; we bring our smaller ensembles together safely so that we can still share music with our congregation; and we feel deeply the transformative power of music, even when we can't make it together. Please know that you are loved, you are missed, and you are prayed for no matter the physical distance between us! Our team will continue to dream and hope and plan for possibilities this fall. Please reach out to Jim, Chris, or Kay if you would like to join in on our virtual gatherings as they happen, until we can gather again.

The Music Man Update: The proceeds from the Wesley Players' production of *The Music Man* along with a few additional donations was close to \$12,000. We will split the proceeds and give \$6,000 to the Honduras Mission project and \$6,000 to the Guatemala Mission project. Kudos to everyone involved!

Singing Challenges: Jim hyperventilated while recording hymns with 7 choir members who were socially distanced and wearing masks. Marge created a prototype mask to help with air flow. Soon to be tested.



I hope you are all safe and well.

We are (still) in such strange times.

While the plan to resume public worship safely at St. Luke's is still being determined, I would like to schedule those interested in sharing their talents and gifts for...

St. Luke's Summer Music Ministries!

As in the past, this can be sacred vocal or instrumental, solo, duet or small ensemble selection(s). St Luke's will be continue to stream one service, earlier at 9:00am (starting June 14, 2020).

As you've noticed, portions of the streamed services are live as well as pre-recorded. **BIG THANKS** to all who have offered their talents thus far and especially to the Worship Band!

While we are continuing safe distancing and masks, the music portions can be live on Sunday, or recorded earlier in the week, whichever is your preference.

Available Sundays start June 14-August 30, 2020.

Please let me know of your interest as soon as possible, as the calendar does fill up quickly.

Thanks again, for your time, talent and dedication.

Stay safe and be well.

Blessings, Ken Mervine



**Maliah
Atkins**

ThunderRidge
High School
University of
South Dakota

**Natalie
Betts**

University of
Colorado, Boulder
BS, Electrical
Engineering



**Jared
Brendlinger**

Rock Canyon
High School
University of
Colorado, Boulder



**Molly
Howard**

University of
Colorado, Boulder
BA, Speech, Language
and Hearing Science



**Hailey
Lauer**

Highlands Ranch
High School
Missouri
University



**Emily
Maddox**

Columbine
High School
University of
Iowa



**Sam
Maddux**

Highlands Ranch
High School
Colorado State
University



**Rachel
Meade**

Highlands Ranch
High School
University of
Hawaii, Hilo



**Julia
Menzel**

ThunderRidge
High School
Auburn
University



**Josh
Merchant**

Seattle
University
BA, French
BA, Psychology



**Matthew
Merchant**

Heritage
High School
University of
Colorado, Boulder



**Alex
Oliver**

University of
Colorado, Boulder
BS, Applied Mathematics
& BS, Computer Science



**Anwyn
Owens**

Humanex
Academy
Arapahoe Community
College



**Bailey
Piskadlo**

Valor Christian
High School
University of
Denver



**Jack
Ramsey**

Rock Canyon
High School
University of
Colorado, Boulder



**Lauren
Sharpe**

Highlands Ranch
High School
Iowa State
University



**Hannah
Smith**

University of
Colorado, Boulder
BA,
Biology



**Jake
Smith**

Grand Canyon
Theological Seminary
Master's of Christian
Leadership



**Hannah
Staller**

Vanderbilt
University
Master's of
Education



**Bennett
Weddel**

Mountain Vista
High School
(Gap Year)



*Congratulations
to all of our Graduates!*

*Your St. Luke's family
is so proud of you!*



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.

The Caring Connection



is a long-standing team at St. Luke's that is going through a refresh! They provide meals for those with new babies, after surgeries, during cancer treatments, or those just in need during a difficult time. **We need you!** We are collecting new names of people who want to participate in helping members of our community. Our new team leader is Jennifer Schmidt. When there is someone in need, Jennifer will email the team with the specifics. You choose when you are able to participate. Email Jennifer (schmidt.family.denver@gmail.com) and ask to be added to the Caring Connection email list.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Contact Rev. Sallie Suby-Long or the Office Administrator if you have any additions/removals 303-791-0659 x132, or email sallie@stlukeshr.com

Tiffany Alverson, Ross Barnard, Terry Boyer, Josh Burget, Caroline Butler, Andrew Campbell, Doris Campbell, Valerie Charney, Dale Cleveland, Helen Cox, Karen & David Corson, Kelly Daniel, Todd Davis, Ted Dreyer, Carrie Enloe, Charles Freese, Bonnie Garrett, Mark Godsey, David Goodin, Linda Harris, Tom Harper, Warren Heaton, Christian Holder, Brian Holder, George and June Hutchins, Mary Keyack, Brie Katz, Dennis Laber, Jon Link, Jack Lowney, Betty Lubben, Dean Luallen, Jerry Lubben, Lara Magyar, Will Maniatis, Marilyn Miller, Katie Mueller, Richard O'Neil, Bob Phillips, Jackie Phillips, John Rawls, Justin Schnackenburg, Kay Tabor, Marilyn Ware, John Wohlleber, Amy Weiske, Baby Zander

Sympathies to:

*Ed Coryell and family on the passing of his mother, Rose Coryell;
Caroline Butler on the passing of her sister-in-law, Ginny Sparks;
Betty Halderman, Kim Joseph, Jan Lindquist and family on the passing of their son/brother, Ron Halderman;
Eileen Law and family on the passing of her nephew, Mitchell Beckman;
The family and friends of Sister Connie Pospisil who passed away in May: She has served children and families in Guatemala for many years and the St. Luke's community has been grateful for her friendship with us;
Caroline Butler and family on the passing of her sister-in-law Gerlinda Goforth;
The Heaton family on the passing of Lisa's brother, Brian S. Reamy;
The Davis Family on the passing of Maryellen's brother, Michael Clayton McCarthy;
The Weddel Family on the passing of Lisa's mother, Arletta Hanks;*

Congratulations to:

*Nancy and Harry Cushing on the birth of their granddaughter, Quinncy Virginia Ryan born to Rebecca and Michael Ryan on March 1;
Linda and Mark Lukas on the birth of their grandson, Cooper Wyatt Pacenza born to Jessica and Nick Pacenza on March 10;
Steve and Renae Parra on the birth of their grandson, Hudson Stephen Parra, born on May 26;
Agnes Simmons on celebrating her 103rd birthday!;
Rich and Carleen Krenning on the birth of their great-grandson, Wyatt Matthew Fehr, born on April 17 to Taylor and Loren Fehr.*

