VUTATIONAL The Chronicle ATIONAL Highlands Ranch, Colorado OCTOBER 2015

LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ST.

Inside This Issue:

All are Welcome at the **Common Table**

Oct. 26 at 6:30pm Be a part of the Common Table, a church-wide gathering for discussion, learning, and fellowship, on Monday, Oct. 26, 6:30-8:30pm in Fellowship Hall. Through Common Table we share and deepen our understanding on topics of broad interest in our vital faith community. For the fall gathering, we'll reflect further on the theme of "Communitas" and how it anchors our experiences at St. Luke's.

Whether you are new to St. Luke's or have been a part of the community for a while, this is a great way to connect, discern, and help shape discussion

Common Table is best for adults and teens. For child care reservations, please contact sam©stlukeshr.com at least 48 hours in advance.

Bring a dessert to share and join us at the **Common Table!**

Learn more by contacting Michelle Mallory, Facilitator, at sosamallory©gmail.com, or Lynda Fickling, 303-791-0659 x20 or lynda©stlukeshr.com .



The first weekend in October, it's always a special one. Someone recently commented on my Facebook page, "It's my favorite weekend of the year!" What makes this weekend so great? It's Feeding of the 5,000-our annual community food drive! Now, I could lay out all the facts for you, and no doubt, these facts are stunning. cont. on page 3



Pumpkins Are Here and We Need Your Help!!

The Pumpkin Patch his our youth group's **BIGGEST** fundraiser for our summer mission trips!! The money made from the patch goes towards bringing down the overall price of the trip for those who work it BUT... if you would like to go, working the patch



can also bring down YOUR cost of the trip!! Here's how it works

Working 10 hours = discounted trip price Working 15 hours = additional \$100 off!!

(If you don't work the patch you can still go, but will need to pay the full price)

Also... We need ADULT help too! Each shift needs at least one adult to help. And we'll count half the hours your parent works towards your total!! Sign up at www.stlukeshr.com click on SLY.

Can't work it? Come buy a pumpkin and support our youth that way!!

New Worship Series:

Tracking the Adventures of

Communitas through the Book of Acts



–Dr. Janet Forbes

THE ADVENTURE THAT STARTED LONG AGO October 18 – Rev. Ryan Canaday

THE ADVENTURE OF TAKING RISKS October 25 - Dr. Janet Forbes

THE ADVENTURE OF WALKING AWAY FROM FAMILIAR PATHS November I – Dr. Janet Forbes

THE ADVENTURE OF CHANCING FAILURE November 8 - Dr. Janet Forbes

THE ADVENTURE OF CRISIS November 15 – Rev. Ryan Canaday

THE ADVENTURE OF TAKING BETTER **ADVENTURES** November 22 – Rev. Ryan Canaday

Communitas is deep, meaningful, authentic community in which God's Spirit lives in us and all cont. on page 4 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

Church Office	
Fax	
Email	office©stlukeshr.com
Website	www.stlukeshr.com
Preschool Office	e



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Stephanie Kirkx11 Children's Ministry Coordinator	
Dave Laurvickx14 Director of Youth Ministry	
Amy McMullenx19 Assistant Director of Youth Ministry	
Jeremy Brown	
Kay Swanson	
Dr. James Ramseyx23 Director of Music & Arts Ministries	
<i>Kenrick Mervine</i>	
Kay Coryellx36 Director of Handbells & Children's Music Ministry	
Brenda Schaferx10 Office Administrator	
Sheri Henryx24 Director of Finance	
Kristi Pawleyx16 Accounting Clerk	
<i>Lynda Ficklingx20</i> Director of Servant Ministry/Spiritual Director	

Facilities Manager

All submissions for the November 2015 issue

of *The Chronicle* are due Oct. 20 Editor: Sharon Oliver **chronicle**©**stlukeshr.com**

The Chronicle is published 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.



Biblical Generosity Old Concepts for a New Day

Rev. Janet Forbes Senior Pastor When we have conversations about investing in the ways that St. Luke's is making a difference, Revs. Sallie, Ryan, and I are often asked about the origin of the biblical phrase "tithes and offerings". Even though these biblical images have been

celebrated in Christian community for centuries, they still name the vibrant ways we grow our faith journey and our life together.

The TITHE represents 10% of the bounty with which God blesses us. It is also the symbol that Paul uses when he writes to the young churches of the first century. He calls for "PROPORTIONAL GIVING". We are to give in proportion to what we have earned, in proportion to what we have accumulated, in proportion to what we possess. We are to give in proportion to how we have prospered under the grace of God. So, "tithing" is a symbol for planned giving. Tithing helps us give significantly in a systematic way. It is a planned share in the purposes of God. Tithing reminds "You shall go there, bringing... your tithes and your donations, your votive gifts, your freewill offering..."

-Deuteronomy 12:5-6

us that we are all STEWARDS of God's creation, and not owners. A tithe is a guide toward responsible, healthy, significant faith-promise giving.

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

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

First, there are the "votive offerings". Votive offerings are part of a vow or promise, or they represent

a specific act of thanksgiving to God, or a personal act of devotion. Seasonal offerings, missional giving, bequests, and memorials are in the category of votive offerings. We dedicate new bequests on the Tree of Life in the hallway beside the Chapel, celebrating the many families who have dedicated gifts in honor of loved ones.

The biblical witness also speaks of "freewill

offerings." It is an unplanned, unstructured, unexpected out-of-pocket offering on the spur of the moment. The freewill offering is giving out of a sudden impulse of love, out of a felt need. It is the envelope in your worship bulletin when you arrive on a Sunday morning that invites a response for a special cause. It is the call for a special disaster relief offering due to flood, or hurricane. It is the spontaneous gift to the pastor's relief fund for homeless persons. It is a breakfast burrito to support a Guatemala Mission Team, or a donation to the Feeding of the 5,000, or our Boy Scout Troop.

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

Thank you for your biblical generosity! *Rev. Janet*

Are you interested in joining St. Luke's 2016 mission trip to Guatemala?



Is this the year you will decide to join us as we journey to Guatemala to work with local

people in building homes in the Lemoa area? We will also be spending time in activities with village children. Prior construction experience is not necessary.

Trip dates will be Jan. 23-31, 2016.

This trip is open to anyone (ages 15 and up) who might want to join us in making a difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters in Guatemala.

Hopefully, this is YOUR year to join us. Applications can be found online at www.puravida.org. If you have any questions, contact John Williams (johnpwilliams©comcast.net).

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FROM REV. RYAN



Rev. Ryan Canaday Associate Minister

cont. from page 1 Consider this: we once again filled almost two semi-trucks and collected nearly 100,000 pounds of food. Incredible, right? What does this mean? Thousands... literally thousands of hungry Coloradans will be given meals. Pretty huge considering 1 in 7 Coloradans struggled with hunger in 2014, and nearly 1 in 5 Colorado kids may not always know when or where they will get their next meal. All of the food collected

goes to the food pantry at Denver Urban Ministries (DenUM) where it is distributed to families and folks in need. Oh, and by the way, the food that was collected this year will stock their pantry for almost the entire year! Other important facts: it takes 350 volunteers to pull off this project. That's a big deal (and sometimes a coordination nightmare)! These folks invest their time and energy to come together for a weekend to make a difference in our community. These facts alone might be enough for us to sit back and think "job well done" while waiting in anticipation for next year. But I want to return for a moment to the original question: *What makes this weekend so great? And this question moves the conversation beyond facts.*

One of the members from the Feeding of the 5,000 Leadership Team shared with me an experience she had on the Friday evening of the food drive. It had been a long day, she and her family stopped by a local diner for a bite to eat. She was encouraging the waitress to stop by St. Luke's with some food for the food drive. For this waitress, giving was a first impulse as she began to tell her story of what it was like to live in poverty and go to bed hungry and how much local food pantries helped her during this time in her life. Yep, she stopped by later in the weekend to drop off several bags of groceries. This kind of generosity is moving. It's inspiring! It's contagious!

Surprising generosity made this weekend great.

There were points throughout the weekend when the St. Luke's parking lot and several storefronts were flooded with children. It was a beautiful site, really. They were collecting food, they were loading and unloading trucks, they were smiling and laughing and playing—while we adults stood in envy of their never-ending energy. The children brought a freshness to the project. Wasn't it Jesus who said, "Let the children come to me"? I think I better understand this now. They remind us the beauty of the deep sense of awe and mystery. As we drove home Sunday evening I was explaining to our 5-year-old daughter, Selah, who helped with the food drive throughout the weekend, that there are kids in our community who don't always have something to eat and sometimes they have to go to bed hungry. I also explained that because of everyone's hard work this weekend, lots of hungry kids would be given food from the trucks that we loaded. Her eyes lit up. She paused for a moment, then said, "Poppy, I bet God and Jesus are smiling... let's do it again tomorrow!" Children just kinda get it, don't they!

Children helped make this weekend great.

I'm also reminded of the handful of families that stopped by the Feeding of the 5,000 throughout the weekend. They weren't there to volunteer. They were in need. They were hungry. The words of Mahatma Gandhi come to mind, "There are people in the world so hungry, that God cannot appear to them except in the form of bread." Some of our volunteers began filling bags with food then gave them to these families. I can't help but think God was in that moment, appearing to hungry people–appearing to volunteers too, through the the practice of community and togetherness. THIS WAS COMMUNITAS; I SAW IT WITH MY OWN EYES–a community formed in the context of a mission, a community that experiences a togetherness that happens only among people inspired by the vision of a better world and attempting to do something about it.

Communitas. It's what made the weekend so great.

Grace & Peace, Rev. Ryan



Learn. Explore. Connect.

Rev. Dr. Sallie Suby-Long Associate Minister

I love fall. I also love to learn and connect with people. This time of year always launches me into

that "school" mode where I literally want to dive into learning or experiencing something new. Maybe it's all those years in formal education both as a student and as an educator where fall signified new books, new ideas, new people to meet, and new opportunities to explore. I've been affectionately called a geek when it comes to learning. I consider that a huge compliment. Who is with me?

This is all a long way to say, I'm excited about what is happening at St. Luke's this fall. Through our new Communitas Groups and our Center for Spiritual Engagement classes, retreats, and outdoor adventures there are lots of ways for you to learn and explore. Whatever opportunities you choose, I promise there will be a chance to connect more deeply with yourself and others and in meaningful ways. *Below are just a few opportunities and there many more listed throughout this issue of The Chronicle.* Hope to see you soon!

Your Story (an adapted version of *Storyline*) Clarify your aspirations and see how faith and your life experience can make an impact in the world. There is power and healing in sharing our stories in a small trustworthy community.

Class Format: Thursday evenings 6:00-8:30pm with Sage Felux (sagew©gmail.com) and Marilyn Watson (mawatson48©aol.com). Beginning Oct. 22. Or

Retreat Format: At the Hideaway Retreat Center near Monument with Julie Polikoff and Sallie Suby-Long (sallie@stlukeshr.com) Oct. 23-24.

Outdoor Adventures

- October 17: Hike to Mallory Cave Near Boulder
- November 14: Hike the Seven Bridge Trail near Colorado Springs (janestaller©gmail.com)



Yoga with Gargi Agarwala

Thursday mornings, 9:00-10:15am St. Luke's Chapel (janestaller©gmail.com)

Rev. Sallie



JEINNECTED Being the Church... Joining St. Luke's Sunday, November 1

Lynda Fickling Director of Servant Ministry/ Spiritual Director

| |:00am-2:00pm Membership with the community of

St. Luke's is foundationally about recognizing our shared need for belonging to one another.

We come together as a group but listen to you as an individual. We want to know who you are, what you are about and where you need this community as an active participant in your life.

We will share our stories, share a meal around the table and learn from one another what it means to belong to the Body of Christ here at St. Luke's and how we approach Methodism in and through this body.

We will begin at 11:00am in room 206, 12:00pm we will break and return at 12:15 for lunch and conversation around the table. Questions are not only welcome but necessary during this gathering, so come prepared! After this time together, you may choose to join the community of St. Luke's at our intimate worship celebration together in the Chapel. That will be your discernment and your choice.

Please register online at www.stlukeshr.com, under 'About Us', 'Join our Community'. We invite you to stay with us and make St. Luke's your home.

"Going to church teaches us how to craft a home for the world."-Erin S. Lane



Welcome Pastor Tonya!

Tonya has been attending St. Luke's since August 2014 and recently joined the staff as our student pastor. She will complete her Masters of Divinity with the Iliff School of Theology,

Student Pastor

November 2015. She is a cradle Methodist from North Western Pennsylvania. Tonya has served as a hospital chaplain, a disability advocate and speaker across the US and Canada, an instigator of creating inter-disciplinary teams and as a first responder during several natural disasters across the US.

Her calling is to be ordained as an Elder with the United Methodist Church. She is looking forward to exploring her understanding, personally and professionally, of the workings of our St. Luke's community and to better understand her journey of being a pastor. This includes deepening her spiritual journey, experiencing areas of worship and preaching, expanding awareness of order and service in the life of a faith community, and sharing in areas of rites of passage.

She earned her Bachelor's of Arts degree from Point Park University in Pittsburgh, PA. She enjoys spending time with family and friends, cooking, traveling, outdoors, stained glass, water color and mixed media art.

Welcoming our newest members

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



Jim & Pam Burke

Reason for Joining: "We were looking for a church that would accept our whole family!! We finally found it!"

If you are interested in connecting to our community, please contact Lynda Fickling lynda©stlukeshr.com 303-791-0659 x20. We look forward to sharing our stories and growing together in faith.

cont. from page 1

around us, in everything, everywhere. There is always that invitation to step across a threshold of possibility because we are God's mission in the world, God's hands and feet to each other and to our neighbors.

The image for our fall series is a sailing ship. Ships represent travelers together, communities that are headed somewhere, communities that experience adventure and risk. Every ship has a small piece of metal in the steering mechanism called a trimtab. The trimtab creates leverage, allowing a small effort to affect the direction of the large vessel.

In our worship conversations, we are discovering the trimtab factor—the small but crucial element that orients each of us, individually, and all of us, together. The trimtab we are seeking is relationship and its power to orient all life. In Communitas, a community is formed among people inspired by the vision of a better world and who are attempting to do something about it.

One of my first communitas adventures formed in the 1988 in the Republic of Haiti. I was a part of a team who was building an elementary school. While working side-by-side with Haitians, we un-covered a story of sacrifice by the Methodist Church. The Bishop of the Haitian Methodist Church was asked by the United Nations to participate in planning the first democratic elections. However, the money that was promised to fund the election process never reached the local officials. The Methodist Church printed the ballots for the national election on their copy machine. Methodist pastors served as couriers to the polling places throughout the country.

On election day, the United Nations observers were detained at gunpoint in their hotels. Methodist pastors were killed en route to the polls. The military police massacred over 3,000 citizens as they stood in line waiting to vote. The home of the Bishop was torched. He and his family are rescued by UMCOR, the United Methodist Committee on Relief, and flown to Miami.

Our group was the first Volunteer-in Mission team to get into the country since that aborted election day, exactly one year earlier. We found ourselves giving comfort to an isolated, grieving people.

Several of us became investigative reporters, recording the story on video tape. When we returned to the United States, we found grant money to produce a documentary on the faithful witness of the Haitian Methodist Church. We distributed the video to every Volunteer-in-Mission coordinator in the United States, encouraging their support for projects in the Republic of Haiti.

Those of us who come home impassioned were never the same. We became communitas! I vowed to become a citizen of the Kingdom of God, committing my congregations to global mission. Another colleague left a career in real estate to work as a fund raiser for World Vision. A draftsman travels with Engineers without Borders.

Communitas is not only a notion for St. Luke's... but for all the communities in which we live, and work, and have our being. We become the trimtab, creating connection in our families, in our places of work, in our schools, in our neighborhoods. As a bearer of communitas, we know that faith is more than beliefs to be learned; it is bonds to be lived.

Join us in worship for the ADVENTURE OF COMMUNITAS THROUGH THE BOOK OF ACTS.



Our Mission:

To promote healing and wholeness by creating

connection • inspiration • transformation

opportunities for authentic connection, and by providing experiences that inspire and transform.

Visit our website **stlukescse.org** to learn about upcoming opportunities.

The Center for Spiritual Engagement invites everyone to celebrate Communitas with us, as we explore the beauty of autumn in Colorado, consider new ways of thinking, and connect deeply with one another through conversation and shared experiences.

SPIRITUALITY AND WELLNESS SPEAKER SERIES:

Rev. Dr. Leanne Hadley filled St. Luke's Fellowship Hall on Tuesday, September 14 with parents grandparents, teachers, and others interested in learning about how the integration of faith and psychology can work together to heal hurting children. Rev. Hadley shared the evolution of her "Holy Listening Method," and the shape of transformation (often referred to simply as the "U,"). The methodology invites children to share their stories, provides



symbolic language tools to aid them when words are hard to find, and uplifts with prayers and blessings. In surveys following the presentation, 95% of those responding

indicated that they plan to apply strategies from the presentation to support hurting children and/or teens. Respondents indicated they will "listen more," be "authentic," "encouraging, "validating," "use [symbolic] language tools to help children talk about the things that are hurting."

SPIRITUAL ENGAGEMENT FOR CHILDREN & TEENS - FIRST STEPS:

Our CSE team welcomed Rev. Dr. Leanne Hadley as she lead a transformative all day session and training for folks who wanted to learn more about Holy Listening. This methodology is not professional counseling but is the spiritual gift of listening to a child in a special way using tools that allows them to feel God's presence and comfort. Using objects as a focus helps children get to the heart of what they are feeling and may need to talk about. As we enter into Holy Listening there is an air of holiness and sacredness where God is present. We continue to offer Holy Listening to our children during Sunday School and are now offering this program to St. Luke's Little School preschool. The invitation is given every Sunday to the children in Sunday School and as a parent you can request Holy Listening time for your child or contact us directly to set something up. We are always looking at opportunities to strengthen the spiritual formation, healing and wellness for our children and families. Contacts: sam@stlukeshr.com or sharon@stlukeshr.com

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE MINISTRY:

All are invited to join us to rejoice in and celebrate the beauty of Colorado's autumn. Visit our website at www.stlukescse.org for more information, as well as to view our Photo Gallery of past adventures.



September 19. Under glorious Colorado blue skies and a sun that transforms yellow into glistening gold, we hiked some four miles along Section 6 of the magnificent Colorado Trail. We enjoyed beautiful aspen groves,

Kenosha Pass -



deep evergreen bowers, and spectacular views of South Park and the Mosquito Range beyond. A short detour off the trail led us to a clearing where Julie Polikoff shared inspiring words from Mark Nepo. We concluded our fine autumn morning with conversation and connection over lunch at the Kenosha Café.

Save the date for these upcoming Outdoor Adventures:

- October 17 Hike to Mallory Cave Carson and Michelle Mallory will lead us to the cave that Carson's father discovered. Carson and Michelle will share family stories about this beloved man.
- November 14 Seven Bridges Hike, near Colorado Springs – This trail follows North Cheyenne Creek and is named for the bridges that cross it along the way. We'll celebrate our gratitude as we cross each bridge.

CLASSES & EXPERIENCES:

Morning Yoga with Gargi Agarwala (Back by popular demand!) - Join us Thursdays from September 24 – November 19, 9:00–10:15am, in the St. Luke's Chapel for yoga, mindfulness and an introduction to the seven Chakras, or energy centers. All experience levels are welcome. Recommended donation: \$10/session.



Communitas Retreat - YOUR STORY Oct. 23-24 Join us for a new retreat format of YOUR STORY! Share meaningful conversations and enjoy time for personal reflection at the Hideaway Conference and Retreat Center. Retreat begins at 9:30 am on Friday and concludes at 3:00 pm on Saturday. The \$175 fee includes lodging (single rooms), meals, snacks, and retreat materials.

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CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Woof! Woof! Meow! Jake, Max, and Shea here to bring you up to speed on what we are sniffing out for children at St. Luke's.



FRIDAY Nov. 6: FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT: 6:45pm.

Grab your pillows, wear your pjs and join us for the delightful Disney Pixar film "INSIDE OUT" rated PG we'll provide the popcorn!

NEW! GOLIATH GATHERINGS - Our new and improved Servant Training. All servants must be trained annually. Choose your training Sunday! Come join us in Goliath (the large open area downstairs)

from 11:00am-noon on one of these SUNDAYS: Oct. 11 or Nov. 8. We'll have yummy snacks! Volunteering with children is awesome!

SUNDAY Nov. / ACOLYTE TRAINING - 11:45am-1:00pm. 2nd-6th graders come learn how to bring the light as a part of the worship service. Email Sharon to sign up!



WELCOME 6 NEW **ACOLYTES!** Congratulations to Torrence Bosanko, Bailey Koenig, Manuel Rodriguez, Eloise Emig, Madeline Blum and Isabelle Turner on completing Acolyte Training in September.

SUNDAY SCHOOL Registration is OPEN

for the 2015-16 Sunday School year online www.stlukeshr.com and paper forms are also available at the church. Children need to be enrolled for each new school year. Our Sunday School year kicked off Sept. 13 with the kids moving up to their new grades. We are so excited to share God's love with your kids. AND we can't do it without our wonderful volunteers. Thanks to YOU for sharing your gifts with the children each year. Now is the time to sign up to serve for the coming year. Come serve with us – one Sunday or lots! We need to fill 20 servant spots each week(!) so there's plenty of room for all. Sign up ONLINE!! Thanks so much!!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: (check our website for full calendar) Oct. 11 (SUN) - 11:00am "Goliath Gathering" SERVANT TRAINING

- Oct. 13 (TUE) Children's Ministry Team Meeting 6:30pm All are welcome!
- Oct. 16 (FRI) PLAYGROUP 9:00am All are welcome!
- Oct. 18 (SUN) 9:30am PEAK K-4th Grade SUNDAY SCHOOL begins 4-week lesson:"Money & Time"
- Oct. 18 (SUN) 2:30-6:30pm SLY, Jr. CORN MAZE RSVP with Ms. Sharon
- Oct. 25 (SUN) 9:30am SUNDAY SCHOOL: Joy Trek (PreK: 2-4 yrs.) begins 3-week lesson:"Ruth"
- Nov. I (SUN) 11:45-1:00pm Acolyte Training NEW DATE ADDED! 2nd-6th graders
- Nov. 6 (FRI) PLAYGROUP 9:00am All are welcome!
- Nov. 6 (FRI) 6:45pm FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT "Inside Out"
- Nov. 7 (SAT) Parent's Time Away 9:00am-noon
- Nov. 8 (SUN) 11:00am "Goliath Gathering" SERVANT TRAINING
- Nov. 8 (SUN) 5:30-7:30pm SLY, Jr. "Life Skills" & GAME NIGHT

UPCOMING - DON'T MISS: Nov. 29 (SUN) - TREE LIGHTING SERVICE & CHILDREN'S

and Furry Snuggles, CHRISTMAS PAGEANT 5:00pm - All children welcome to participate in this fun 'impromptu' service. A wonderful ^L Blessinges St. Luke's tradition - We'll sing Christmas carols and act out the Christmas story. (Costumes provided!)





Sharon Oliver Director of Children's Ministry Samantha Leahy Director of Early Childhood Ministry

Stephanie Kirk Children's Ministry Coordinator 🌙



Parents Time Away Program

Our caring Nursery staff along with our Children's Ministry want to do all we can to support your journey as parents and are offering a morning to get away together for breakfast, a hike or a chance to reconnect. The purpose of Parents Time Away is to encourage parents to take time to refresh and renew, spend quality time together. Our next PTA will be Saturday, November 7 from 9:00am-12noon for children 1-8 years of age. Space will be limited, make your reservations early to sam©stlukeshr.com. Cost for the morning will be \$15 per family.

Attention 5th & 6th graders -SLY, Jr. is Going Strong!

SLY, Jr. (St. Luke's 5th & 6th grade service and fun club) spent Oct. 4 helping out with Feeding of the 5,000 Food Drive. The kids were awesome and worked hard sorting food. Our next event is the CORN MAZE on Oct. 18 at 2:00pm (bring \$10 and a sack lunch). RSVP to sharon@stlukeshr.com

3rd Grade Bibles & Study!

Bibles were presented to 26 third graders on Sept. 20 such a wonderful St. Luke's tradition. And new this year, we've added 4 Sundays of Bible Study with our Pastors and other Bible Scholars to help the class go deeper and get to know their Bibles even



better. Feedback has been wonderful and we are excited to make this another 3rd grade tradition.





Little School News: October is a BoOooOtiful Month!

Little School is in full swing with

256 children and 34 teachers! We

Kay Swanson Director of Little School







October is always such a fun month for us. We will have lots of fall learning crafts, outdoor nature walks and playing outside. We will help collect food for Feeding of the 5,000 and in chapel we will be talking about "LOVE", our

second Fruit of the Spirit chapel time! This follows "Kindness" in September. All year long we will be studying "Fruits of the Spirit" with the help of our Pastoral staff and our exuberant music team!

October will be packed with special activities, including a visit from 'Katie The Firefighter' and the fire trucks. Always a great time to learn about fire safety! It's also time for individual school pictures and of course ~ our Harvest parties and Costume parade! A real favorite for all the kids and parents. We will visit the pumpkin patch and take home a mini pumpkin for the season!

Don't forget that we still collect left-over Halloween candy for several different organizations, including "Lunch In The Park" on Mondays. You may leave donations in the main office or in the box downstairs by the office. People love getting that added surprise and it will save your thighs!

Some words of wisdom from one of our 3-yr-olds: "Ms. Carol don't open your lunch until we pay, we always have to pay before we eat." Pretty sure she is learning that we "pray" before we eat!

Happy Fall to everyone from all of us at Little School! Blessings,

Ms. Kay Blessings from Ms. Kay and 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

United Methodist Women Interest Groups of United Methodist Women at St. Luke's:

Begin this wonderful Autumn season and join one of our UMW Interests groups.

They supply you with RENEWAL.

- Supporting you thru friendship and fellowship
- Reveal reflections from reading books
- Enhance your quilting/knitting or crocheting skills

Women are welcome to attend an Interest Group of UMW anytime during the year!

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

- Oct. 26 "Where the Wind Leads" by Vinh Chung
- Nov. 23 "The Invention of Wings" by Sue Monk Kidd

Common Thread: Friendship, Fellowship, Caring, Sharing, Fun. 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: Mission: Crochet, Knit, Sew, Fun. Meets 2nd Saturday in church basement. All skill levels welcome! Contact: Fran West (mfranwest©gmail.com) or 303-746-1117.

Congratulations to Itch to Stitch. They have enjoyed a busy summer in continuing to donate lap blankets to the VA hospital; Baby blankets and layettes to Children's Hospital; Fleece Blankets to Urban Peak; and finished a few more summer quilts for the homeless to give out at Mondays in the Park.

Save the Dates: Join in our Celebrations, Educational Studies and Volunteer Mission Projects.

- **OCT. 2:** Women's Bean Project Tour.
- OCT. 23-24: UMW Annual Conference, Alamosa, Co.
- OCT. 25: 7:00am Serving Breakfast for the homeless at St. Paul's UMC. We invite you to join us in this wonderful caring/ serving event. We will carpool from the church at 6:20am. Contact: umwinfo©stlukeshr.com

Save This Very Special Date: DEC. 1, 2015 ~ 6:00pm Candlelight Dinner: Begin Your Advent Season in

the Candlelight Ambience and Soft Lights of Christmas, Enjoying a Delicious Dinner, Catered by our Fantastic FET, Elegantly Served by our St. Luke's Men, Surrounded by your Friends in our Wonderful Community of St. Luke's Women.

Enjoy the Sounds of the Season. Learn about our Mission Recipient ~ Women's Bean Project.

And... there is so much more!

We invite you to join in a beautiful and delicious beginning to the Advent Season.



"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."

Seasoned Voyagers

On Thursday September 24, the Seasoned Voyagers boarded the church bus and left for our annual leaf peeping

tour. This year we went through Evergreen and over Squaw Pass to Mt. Evans. Along the way we stopped to enjoy the panoramic

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A 55+ MINISTRY



vistas and the colorful leaves. The colors this year were vibrant yellows, oranges with some reds mixed in. This was a special year for the colors in the high country. We then stopped at Echo Lake Lodge for lunch and their delicious homemade pies for dessert. We stopped at Echo Lake to enjoy the views and feel the fresh clean mountain air. Boarding the bus, we headed back to Idaho Springs for our trip back to the church. This was truly a wonderful and beautiful fall trip. Next year we hope to see many more of the Voyagers as we once again hit the road in search of fall colors.

Mark your calendars for Oct. 22 as

we will be going to Union Station to see all the changes that have occurred. We will have time to shop and eat lunch before heading to the Women's Bean Project. Once there you will have time to shop and enjoy everything the organization has to offer. It will be a fun filled trip. We'll see all of you voyagers at the church at 9:15am for the bus ride to Union Station.

-Rich Krening

More *from Les* by Rev. Les Ludlam:



When Tomorrow Comes

been the meaning of life, for each of us? My recent 75th birthday

reminded me of my own mortality. So, I asked myself, "Les, what good have you

brought to this world? How is it better for your having been here?"

We are not islands. We were created to live in community with others.

The things that I may think I have accomplished, were not done alone, but with the collaboration and help from someone else. And I have learned that the simple things we for others are more important then the things done for our own advancement, enrichment, self-worth, pleasure and comfort.

I love to talk about the technical, physical world activities I have been involved with. I'm an engineer! They were fun! My employer compensated me fairly for the work done and I'm both grateful for and proud of it. But oil shale went away; synthetic crude from coal went away, Xanthophyll from alfalfa went away, and sea-going tugs now escort outbound, loaded marine tankers in Alaska. Some things have changed forever; others remain the same.

However, my non-technical activities have tended to bring more satisfaction and sense of accomplishment over the long run.

One or two particular situations, seeming fairly mundane at the time, now stand out as particularly important, as examples of "changing the world" in some small way. When tomorrow comes – and it will...

Will those who have known my love and guidance remember my advice?

Will the young seek wisdom?

Will hatred and selfinterest be overcome?

Will patience and perseverance be the maxim of those who seek change in their world?

> I do not know, but I can hope.

The sun will rise.

Consequences will follow decisions.

Some things will be changed forever.

Some things will remain the same.

Lives will go on.

And God's grace will persevere.

I'm proud of my mentoring an employee, Claudia, by encouraging her to move to a supervisory position. I celebrated her successes and was there to listen to her as she dealt with unexpected obstacles. Her own initiative and creativity and work ethic led to her blossoming as a manager long after she had left my group in the company.

I'm glad that on a business trip to Dallas in the 1970's, I took the time to help my friend's son, Jerry, finish the engine overhaul of his Mustang and assist him in getting the engine started. His confidence was reinforced and over time he would become quite good at diagnosing mechanical problems.

The experiences that I'm proudest of are those where I did not insist on control and allowed myself to be changed by others and the circumstances.

Such was the case when I agreed to accept the appointment as pastor for the Palmer UM Fellowship. My two goals were to help the parishioners know the presence of God in their lives and to assist them in understanding what was necessary to establish a new UM Church in Alaska. I had no clue what path should be taken to fulfill these goals. But, by 1991 the Palmer fellowship had become a small but true community of faith, an extended family. They were beginning to reach out and serve the community of Palmer. Looking back, however, I realize that they had ministered more to me than I may have done for them. My time at Palmer was transforming and reinforced my decision to seek to become an ordained United Methodist minister.

Believing in someone and taking action to support them gives that person a boost of encouragement that can reinforce their self-confidence and back their willingness to take action when an opportunity is presented.

May we all be blessed to have such opportunities to serve others and help change the world.

God bless us all. -Les

A Future With Hope: CONSECRATION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

The first thing I do every morning is turn on the television to catch the weather forecast for the day.

On Sunday mornings, the Weather Channel provides the local weather on the 8's of the hour. In between the day's predictions are conversations about changes in the climate: the effects of drought, the winter moisture patterns, slow-moving hurricanes that bring torrential rains. There is a difference between the immediacy of weather and the climactic patterns over time.

In a similar contrast, we think we understand the larger spiritual climate by looking at the weather in our own congregations. Now, after almost a decade in this congregation, I can see how the changing climate has enhanced the vibrancy of St. Luke's.Yet, our unique community can shield us from the changes that are happening, especially if we were to stop attending to each other, or to the world, or to God. So, I want to invite you to look with me at the larger patterns of unpredictability as we seek to make a difference.

In the religious climate of the United States, there has been a falling barometer for the last forty years. But, in the last twelve years, it has been plummeting.

Let's look at belief in God. In the year 1960, 99% of people believed in God. The most recent survey in 2010 showed belief in God at 91%, a pattern of loss over the last five decades. If you push the certainty factor (How certain are you of the existence of God?), 64% is more realistic. Older Americans have a higher belief than younger generations. For people under the age of 30, only 44% believe in God.

On the flip side of that coin, interest in all things spiritual continues to rise. We know there is a vacuum inside us that will draw upon an infinite supply of thrills and goods without satisfying the heart. We are aware of needing a transcendent compass.

Religious writers say that we are in the midst of a Fourth Great Awakening, a time of cultural re-orientation. The whole church project is falling apart and being put back together in a different way. For the last 20 years, 30% of Americans have defined themselves as spiritual, but not religious. This percentage has not changed significantly over that time. However, there is a new group that has grown from 9% to 48% that claims to be both spiritual AND religious, blending traditions in multi-faith families, elevating the EXPERIENCE of faith, longing for new connections to the authentic self, to the neighbor, and to God.

At St. Luke's, we are trying to ask the right questions and are working toward a renewed Christianity, both spiritual AND religious, creative, inclusive, flexible, diverse, building new patterns and practices.

On CONSECRATION SUNDAY,

October 25, Bob and I will join you in bringing gifts to grow our life together and respond to what God is already doing among us.

- We will respond to the TREMENDOUS GROWTH in our children, youth, and young adult ministries, especially as our young people respond to holy listening and double their days of mission response.
 We must expand our capacity to receive the families who are connecting!
- We will continue to explore WORSHIP RE-DESIGN, deepening our experience of God's presence, Our MUSIC STAFF is re-aligning its leadership to expand the Performing Arts Academy and the role of the worship band on Sunday mornings.
- We will define a **LEAD CLERGY TEAM** model of leadership, sharing spirituality, vision, and oversight in ways that invite new partnerships across our ever-expanding **NET**.

In the midst of deep change and a new cultural landscape, we have a **FUTURE WITH HOPE.**

–Dr. Janet Forbes

United Methodists Helping with European Refugee Crisis

United Methodists have been helping refugees migrating from the war-torn Middle East to Europe. This is considered the worst refugee crisis since World War II. Our small Methodist churches in Macedonia, Hungary, Austria and Germany are working with their community partners to provide food, shelter, hygiene items, clothing, baby items, blankets and towels. In Hungary, Methodists are helping at a baby bath center at a railway station.

UMCOR, the United Methodist Committee on Relief, is also actively engaged in helping the refugees. For



years, UMCOR has worked with partners in serving people displaced by fighting in Syria and Iraq. These are persons temporarily living in other Middle Eastern locations, such as Lebanon, or those making their way westward. UMCOR has allocated \$2 million for working with partners to provide the basics of life to people displaced in Syria, Iraq, Lebanon and Turkey. It is working with partners in Greece, Italy and Sicily to provide food packets, emergency food vouchers, hygiene kits and school kits. It you would like to contribute to this work of compassion, you can write a check to St. Luke's UMC with "UMCOR International Disaster Response" on the memo line.

The United Methodist denomination is also active in advocating for the welcoming of 100,000 refugees to the United States. If you would like to keep up to date on the refugee crisis, go to www.umcor.org or www. umcmission.org. MT Cup



- Oct. 11: 6:00-7:30pm SLY PM - Walk for Sudan Containers
- Oct. 14: 5:30-8:00pm Wed. SLY - Laser Quest (note time change-no Homework Hour)
- **Oct. 17: More Pumpkins Arrive © 9:00am!!!**
- Oct. 18: 6:00-7:30pm 芩 SLY PM - TBD
- Oct. 21: 6:30-8:00pm 芩 Wed. SLY - Crayon Art
- Oct. 24: WARREN VILLAGE **HALLOWEEN PARTY!!** Meet at church at 1:00pm, we'll return around 8:30pm. We need LOTS of youth to help, RSVP ASAP!!!
- Oct. 25: 6:00-7:30pm SLY PM- Halloween Party!
- Oct. 28: Wed. SLY -Homemade Pizza Night
- Nov. I: 12:00-1:00pm **Confirmation Info Meeting** 6:00-7:30pm SLY PM-TBD
- Nov. 4: 6:30-8:00pm Wed. SLY - Swimming at Northridge - bring your rec card or \$6

Sign up to receive our emails and Check www.stlukeshr.com and click on "Youth" or "SLY"

for up-to-date info on programs, activities, opportunities and more!



Sundays:

- 9:30-10:30am SLY AM Exploring life issues and the bible
- 5:30-6:00pm Community **Dinner** - \$2 per person.
- 6:00-7:30pm SLY PM All sorts of fellowship and fun activities are happening Sunday nights in the youth room! Check out our website for details.

Wednesdays:

- 5:30-6:30pm: Homework Hour
- 6:30-8:00pm Wednesday SLY Activities

ON THE SLY: **Big Things You** Need to Know!

Wow, we have so much going on, and we want to share with you!!



Dave Laurvick Director of Youth Ministry





Amy McMullen Assistant Dir. of Youth Ministry

Assistant Dir. of Youth Ministry



Coffee - Our MT (Mission Trip) Coffee Cart is officially up and running! This is a fundraiser for our summer mission trips and is open in the fellowship hall on Sunday Mornings. Come get a delicious flavored cup of Joe and help our youth help others!

Warren Village Halloween Party - If you didn't know, Warren Village is an amazing organization that strives to help end the cycle of homelessness for single parent families. On October 24th, the youth are throwing the children of Warren Village a Halloween Party! To help us make this happen, we need a few things from you! First of all, children LOVE candy, and we need candy donations to give the kids! Also, one of the most important aspects of this event is that we provide gently used children's costumes to help ease the financial burden on the parents. Our supply however

is running low and really need donations of toddler and children costumes! You can bring all donations to the youth room through the end of October.

Pumpkins - We are already half way through our pumpkin season! Sign up to work "The Patch" or come buy a pumpkin to help our youth get the money needed for our summer mission trips! Open 11-7 every day until Halloween Night!



Turkey Boxes - I know it seems far away, but Thanksgiving will be here before we know it! Once again our Youth have signed up to

fill 100 turkey boxes to feed 100 families on Thanksgiving! Look for the list of items we need and get ready to start shopping! We will be heading down to DenUM November 22nd to box them up so bring your donations to the youth room by then!

Yours in Christ, Dave & Amy



cont. from page 9

Here is an excerpt from a United Methodist prayer for the refugees: "God of Shalom, grant us hearts that cry like Yours at the sight of dead boys on beaches, packed train cars, and long lines of families on the move. Grant us feet that walk with those whose feet search for a new home, a new job, a new life. Help us understand how had things must have been, and how much vision these survivors must have had to make this terrible trek. Grant us vision to see what they see: Your shalom where there is no more violence. Where life is full and abundant for all. Where no one is hungry, and everyone is welcome at the feast. Amen."



"Love Letters" Delivers

On Saturday and Sunday, September 27-28, Ann



Smith and Jack Kennedy read A.R. Gurney's Love Letters. The play centers on two characters, Melissa

Gardner and Andrew Makepeace Ladd III and their lifetime correspondence. This was a first performance of Readers Theatre pieces produced by The Wesley Players. It's a great way to produce more theatre without a strain on resources and the facility. Experiencing the intimate setting in the Fellowship Hall is a different feel than other productions. Two characters and two podiums... that's it. Ann Smith and Jack Kennedy became Melissa and Andrew and the audience traveled with them. Something new and we hope to bring Reader's Theatre to St. Luke's several times a year.

And the actors thoughts on Reader's Theatre?

Ann Smith admitted "It ended on Sunday and all I could think was 'let's do it again!' I was honored to bring the sassy, irreverent and ultimately broken Melissa to the St Luke's stage. I hope this is just the beginning of this simple yet powerful form of theater at St Luke's."

And from Jack, "I was reminded while we worked on 'Love Letters' that great theater often requires nuance, and that returning to the words over and over is sort of like peeling an onion. Melissa, particularly through Ann's terrific portrayal, was a tragic figure who produced most of the best laughs. I wasn't a fan of Andy's at first, but the more I tried to 'be him,' the more I sympathized with him. Somehow we created a universe in under two hours! I wasn't sure how readers' theater would go over, but I'm a believer now. It was a moving experience on many levels. Thanks for allowing me to be part of it."

Kudos from the audience were heard over

and over. "Love Letters was such a treat! In the intimate setting of Fellowship Hall, and through the masterful performances of Ann & Jack, you felt instantly drawn in to the characters and the story. Thank you St. Luke's Wesley Players for always giving us new and varied ways of storytelling entertainment that illuminate our souls."

"It's my favorite performance of Jack Kennedy and Ann Smith. I loved the simplicity and tenderness of the play and hope to see many more Readers Theatre."

Stay tuned for more information on the next Readers Theatre and in the meantime, mark your calendars for Broadway on Broadway, November 13-15 in the Sanctuary.



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

"GRACE WILL LEAD" Joel Raney in concert OCT. 10 at 7:30pm St. Luke's UMC \$12 door/\$10 advance www.stlukeshr.com

Portion of proceeds to benefit The European Migration Crisis



Save the Dates!

Fri., Nov. I 3 © 7:00pm Sat., Nov. I 4 © 7:00pm Benefit Dinner © 5:30pm

Sun., Nov. 15 © 2:00pm

Advance tickets for \$10 will be available mid-October in the Fellowship Hall as well as online. Tickets at the door will be available for \$12. Proceeds will benefit Pura Vida and Urban Peak.

The Wesley Players are celebrating their 15th Anniversary with the *Broadway* on Broadway 2015 production! Come one, come all to this fabulous musical of Broadway favorites! Enjoy songs from Kiss Me, Kate; Anything Goes; Chitty Chitty Bang Bang; West Side Story; Fiddler on the Roof; Will Rogers Follies; Mary Poppins; Bye, Bye Birdie; Newsies; Grease; The Lion King; You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown; Matilda; The Pajama Game; Annie, Get Your Gun; Wizard of Oz; A Chorus Line; Little Shop of Horrors; Gypsy; Spamalot; Into the Woods and A Little Night Music. It's a Broadway buffet!!!

Music Ensembles



Autumn is here and it's the perfect time to join the Music

and Arts Ministry! With 17 ensembles, there is something for everyone, ages 3-100. How do you get involved? Contact the following:

Kay Coryell at kayc©stlukeshr.com -Children's Music or Handbells

James Ramsey at jim©stlukeshr.com - Adult & Youth Music *(Choral & Instrumental)*

For more information, visit the Music and Arts page on the St. Luke's website www.stlukeshr.com

Cantata

Believe it or not, Christmas is right around the corner! Mark your calendars for **Sunday**,

December 13 – you won't want to miss the Christmas Cantata. Speaking of calendars, a Music and Arts Master Calendar is now available on the St. Luke's website (Sept. – Dec.).

M



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.

For the most up-to-date calendar of events check www.stlukeshr.com

CONGREGATIONAL CARE



YOUNG ADULTS



Contact Rev. Sallie Suby-Long or Brenda Schafer if you have any additions/removals. 303-791-0659 x32, leave a note on the front desk, or email sallie©stlukeshr.com or

PRAYER CONCERNS

brenda©stlukeshr.com LATEST ENTRIES TO PRAYER LIST:

Brenda Schafer Office Administrator

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* Holly Thorpe – Deb Ward's cousin Bernie Battaglin Roberta Towell Robert Stickel – Jon Streaty's friend Jimmy Kristoff – Lynda Fickling's nephew Mattie Price– Sharon Oliver's niece Jan Rufien Charlie Williams Maureen Hoffman – Monty Hoffman's mother

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Gary & Laurie Gilbert on the birth of their granddaughter, Adelyn Rose Hovland Paul & Shannon Connolly on the birth of their son, Corbin Lukas Connolly

SYMPATHIES TO:

Debi Sheppard

Natalie Murrow

Havana Gilbert

Grant Larson

Orie Roberts

Dan Keyack

Nicolette Vega

Beckie Veach

Jane Riegle

Kent & Linda Osborn on ths passing of Kent's mother, Doris Osborn Brian & Jennifer Smith on the passing of Brian's sister, Shannon Fuller Doug, Kimberly, Kaitlyn & Madeline Blum on the passing of their family friend Jerry & Terry Hertzler on the passing of Terry's father, Frederick Rausch Friends & Family of Ashley Moore Ken & Andrea Kerby on the passing of Ken's father Fran Keleher on the passing of her husband, Pat Keleher Jon & Lisé Takayama on the passing of Jon's aunt, Masai Saito



New: St. Luke's Young Adults!

Our New Group, St. Luke's Young Adults, is for anyone 19-29ish! We meet every Tuesday night at Lodo's Bar and Grill for TRIVIA!! No.... Our team, the

"Victorious Secret" is not good – but we sure have fun! Join us Tuesday nights at 6:30pm at the Lodo's off Quebec and C470! Just show up or contact Jeremy Brown or Amy McMullen for more information. amy©stlukeshr.com