



The Chronicle

A NEWS & INFORMATION EXCHANGE FORUM

APRIL 2003



New Life in Christ

Lenten Calendar

Over the next few weeks leading up to Easter, we invite you to join us for special events including Wednesday evening services and Wednesday Night Live (WNL) classes and activities to help discover new life in Christ.

Wednesday - April 2

Lenten Service: 6:15-6:30 pm

WNL activities begin at 6:30 pm

Sunday - April 6

Sunday Services: 8, 9:30 & 11 am

Wednesday - April 9

Lenten Service: 6:15-6:30 pm

WNL activities begin at 6:30 pm

Friday - April 11

Kidz Prayz/Cherubs Concert: 7 pm

Saturday - April 12

Children's Easter Celebration: 10 am-noon

Sunday - April 13

Palm Sunday Services: 8, 9:30 & 11 am

Wednesday - April 16

Community Dinner: 5:30-6:30 pm
Meditation: 6:30-7 pm
Seder Meal: 7 pm

Thursday - April 17

Maundy Thursday Service: 7 pm

Friday - April 18

Good Friday Service: 7 pm

Sunday - April 20

Easter Sunday Services: Sunrise (6 am) 8, 9, 10 & 11 am

(No Sunday School on Easter. Nursery will be provided for 9, 10 & 11 am services.)

Celebrating 20 years!

The congregation was treated to a cake and lemonade reception on Sunday, March 16th to kick off St. Luke's 20th Anniversary Celebration. This is the first of many special Sundays to come this year!



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...AND MUCH MORE!

Pastors notes

from Reverend Richard Evans

Spring's Hope Eternal...

During this time of Lent, beginning with Ash Wednesday and a recognition of our mortality, we prepare ourselves for the celebration of Easter. Most of us want to get there too quickly; that is, to get there without any time in the wilderness listening for God's voice, without any Good Fridays, without death. But there is no other way to get to Easter, really.

Death is strong. It is destructive. It does more than interrupt. It ends a primary source of our happiness and meaning. So if God's love really is stronger than death, then we must deal with it not as some monkey wrench thrown into the gears of life, but as one of the gears itself. Then we are ready to experience Easter—Spring's Hope Eternal. This means that Easter is more than a nice time of tulip bulbs and bunnies and colored eggs. It is the story of the power of God's love to bring good out of everything. Even in such a violent spring as this one threatens to be, we walk on with hope, because we never walk alone.

Thank you to Kristi Frush and Steve Riley. In this issue of *The Chronicle*, we say goodbye and thank you to Kristi Frush, as Director of Ministries Development, and to Steve Riley, as Executive Administrator. Kristi brought lots of enthusiasm, and a special interest in adult learning, to her position. This was evident in her part of Next Steps and in helping people find their place at St. Luke's. Unfortunately, some health considerations, and the realization, as she put it, that "I couldn't be the kind of mom I want to be, and work full time," slowly led to her decision. Thank you Kristi, for all you brought to St. Luke's. Enjoy being a mom!

Steve Riley took on the position of Executive Administrator, rolled up his sleeves, and began taking care of everything from staff retreats to broken water mains, from coordinating financial data to developing a Resource Guide for all our leaders and small groups. And a lot in-between, working days, nights and weekends. He has decided to return to the property and casualty insurance industry, and looks forward to being able to volunteer again at St. Luke's. "Our family will remain active in the church we love so much."

Thank you Steve, for the care, commitment and ministry you brought to your position. You made a nearly impossible job possible, and made us better and more organized in the process.

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee and the Ministries Development Team are evaluating these positions, and how best to staff for their responsibilities.

Shalom,

Dick

Experience the Music at St. Luke's:

Palm Sunday:

8:00 am - Sunrise Band
9:30 and 11:00 am - Children's Choir,
Chancel Choir and Brass

Easter:

6:00 am and 8:00 am - Sunrise Band
9:00, 10:00 and 11:00 am - Brass,
Chancel Choir and Women of Note
(featuring music from the *Messiah*)



Prayer Chain

Please keep these members, friends and concerns of St. Luke's in your prayers:

- Chris Mudron;
- Trudy Mathews' friend, Ron Hastings;
- Delia Maher and family;
- William Cronin;
- Norma Harris;
- Kenneth Payne;
- Katie Wilkes-Ball, friend of Aaron Shipman;
- Earl Dedman, friend of Sharon Scholle;
- Michael Parr, friend of Wendy and Scott Adams;
- Jane Shane, David Funk's aunt;
- Raymond Cooper, Bonnie Funk's uncle;
- Sarah Connolly, friend of Kari Wangness;
- Candy Temby, friend of Kari Wangness;
- Bobbie Eaton, Sarah King's aunt;
- Judy Jarred, friend of Tim and Annette Ericson;
- Olivia Murrow;
- Trudy Turner;
- Ann Necker's mother;
- Ben Srischkorn, Paula Havens' friend's son;
- Claire Flater;
- Becky Jonell;
- Courtney Chudd, friend of Jan Rufien;
- Lola Johnson, mother of Jimetta Pyles; and
- Louise Smith.

We continue to pray for:

- Earl Lawrence's sister, Lee; and
- Corina Hall's friend, Freddy Arch Page.

We extend our prayers and sympathy to:

- Corina Hall and family on the death of her father, Alejandro Almeida;
- Anita Gilman and family on the death of her mother, Mary Ann Gasperino;
- Adele Givens and family on the death of her brother, Delbert Merritt;
- Dean Markham and family on the death of his father;
- Carl Johnson and family on the death of his mother, Iona Johnson; and
- Nancy Becker and family on the death of her father.



We extend our congratulations and add our prayers of joy to:

- A son, Jack Matthew, to Jenny and Rob Hanna on 2-11-03;
- A son, Evan Marshall, to Mary and Brett Romke on 2-22-03;
- A son, Joseph Aaron, to Amy and Greg Montgomery on 2-28-03;
- A son, Caleb Rolland, to Shelley and Brad Bonjean on 3-1-03;
- A son, Luke William, to Leslie and Jeff Johnson on 3-3-03; and
- A son, Adam Joseph, to Amy and Dan Holton on 3-7-03.

If you have a prayer concern, please contact the church office or Dianne Johnson (303-791-3477)



Welcome!
**New Members:
 February
 2002**

Audrey Elling
 1247 Eureka Court
 Highlands Ranch
 (Erik and Marina)

Kim and Garret Gifford
 4735 West Danzig Place
 Littleton
 (Charlie, Jack and Hope)

Marcia Hannan
 1492 E. Beacon Hill
 Highlands Ranch
 (Taylor and Leslie)

Jeanette and Hal Newville
 7710 South Huron Place
 Littleton

Brett and Mary Romke
 7661 Chickaree Court
 Littleton
 (Kylah)

Doug Wagner
 1541 E. Mineral Place
 Centennial

Michelle Lamoreux
 6640 Green River Drive
 Highlands Ranch

THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON RECEIVING

Caring Connection *By Jennifer Jiang*

There is a group at St. Luke's that has touched some of your lives, but would like to touch many more. That group is the Caring Connection. It is a group of individuals from St. Luke's, who provide support services to people in the St. Luke's community in times of need. Services the Caring Connection can provide include: bringing meals to families with new babies, illness or loss in the family; running errands or providing transportation to appointments for the elderly or "shut ins"; and companionship for individuals experiencing serious illness or recovering from surgery. Lay volunteers provide these services as a ministry of St. Luke's. Now I'd like to share with you some personal examples of some of the things we do.

When my daughter Jacqueline was about one and a half we began visiting Lola Johnson at the Hallmark Nursing Center. She had recently lost her eyesight and moved from Kansas. I was told that she was very depressed and needed some cheering up. After a couple of visits we became friends. Her voice is now full of joy each time we arrive and announce "Lola, its Jennifer and Jacqueline". She loves to talk about her family and hear all about ours and what we are doing. Lola loves to "love her up", make sure she gets a cookie, and listen to her constant chatter. But most of all, I think she likes to brag to the other residents and the workers about her special friend. She is always commenting, "they all know she's (Jacqueline) here, and are watching her like crazy!" I think the pride of having visitors perked her spirits and give her something to look forward to. We were told that after a few weeks of visiting her depression had gone and that it was in large part due to our visits. That gave me a very warm, happy feeling to know we made a difference, although, I don't like to take much credit as it was more my daughter Jacqueline. Jacqueline talks about her often and enjoys going to visit. And I feel she is learning a little about how to be caring in addition to how to relate to someone with a disability.

After my son Benjamin arrived, I received a call from Shelly Selover with the Caring Connection. She brought us a wonderful meal that really helped in our newly hectic schedule. She was also very considerate of my older daughter Jacqueline by bringing her chocolate cake and a special balloon, which then became her special designation "remember, she's the one who brought you the cake and balloon!" Following this, my neighbors also provided a meal chain. I had it all planned out that when my husband left for two weeks on a business trip, I wouldn't have to worry about meals. However, there were a couple of days that were not covered. Then Susan Hooke came to my rescue with two more meals. I don't think we would have survived those two weeks without the additional help!

And yet another example, we received this wonderful recount from Jane, Sean, William, and Andrew Damsgard Cronin:

A week or so prior to William's initial hospitalization Sean and I were discussing the meaning of Church. To me it has always been more than just about the Bible, God, Jesus, the Trinity and Sunday worship. Church has always been there for me whenever I needed a fun outlet, my family moved to a new home, or when I needed friends and a place to belong. Church is a family and community. I told Sean if anything ever happened to us that my Church would be there. And... I have not been disappointed. The members of St. Luke's have been there for every moment of Will's illness and for our families' needs. The Caring Connection ensures we do not have to think about meals and delivers them without fail every week. They follow up often to see if there is more they can do and visit with us when they come. It is nice to see familiar families and meet new faces who care even though they we have never met. The St. Luke's Little School sends William fun toys, pictures, and cards. Rev. Dick and Rev. Dave always call and/or visit the hospital to check on us. Church members have set up blood drives and/or singularly donated blood to replace what William uses for his care. Church friends take care of baby Andrew and visit the hospital to give us a break when needed. They also visit and leave messages for us on Will's website to check in and send some cheer. I have been attending St. Luke's since attending college. I have never had to utilize the Church for a major emergency before but I am so appreciate of the help, kindness, and good thoughts ya'll always send our way. St. Luke's and its internal organizations are our community and family.

Now that you have heard about the wonderful things we do, I ask that you keep us in mind on two accounts. First, please call us if you know someone or are someone in need. Sometimes it's hard to ask for help, but I can assure you we love to do it and it is kept in confidence. Second, if this sounds like something you feel a calling for, more helping hands are always welcome.

Spring Greetings from Little School

Little School is busy enjoying our spring weather and learning about God's seasons. With the nice weather we are able to play outdoors and to explore the world around us. We are also always surprised by the weather that God chooses to send us, so we try to be very flexible!



March is a month of St. Patrick's Day fun and the little leprechauns always sneak into our classrooms to conduct mischief and leave us treats! Fat Tuesday is a day when we celebrate the beginning of Lent with Mardi Gras fun. In March we also take a well deserved spring break (from the 24th to the 28th) in order for our teachers to rejuvenate!

April keeps us busy with spring activities and watching trees and flowers grow and making things for the birds to eat! This time of year is when we really appreciate our wonderful playground! **OUR BIG ANNUAL CREATIVE CRITTER'S ART SHOW WILL BE HELD APRIL 10th** in the evening. Everyone is welcome to come and see the wonderful work that our students are doing!

It is hard to imagine as I write this our school year is running at full speed and before we know it, another year will come to a close. Little School is blessed with a full enrollment for fall of 2003, but we always welcome those that would like to be on our active waiting list. Please call the school (303-791-1982) at any time.

Easter Blessings to you from all of us at Little School!

Lovingly,
Ms Kay ☺



Spring is a time of New Beginning

UMW is celebrating spring this year with real new beginnings—Baby's. Our Spring Fling event is collecting items for Denver Medical Health Center's Layette Program. Throughout the month of April, we are asking for new or gently used baby layette items. Please bring items listed below to the collection box in Fellowship Hall under the UMW bulletin board. All items must be at the church by April 26th.

The Layette Program aids families with newborns born at DMHC. These babies may be going into foster care or to families with no insurance. Start your spring off right with love and giving.

- ♥ 3 onesies (undershirts)
- ♥ 1 long sleeping gown
- ♥ 1 short sleeping gown
- ♥ 3 pairs of baby booties
- ♥ 3 pairs of socks
- ♥ 1 receiving blanket (36" x 36")
- ♥ 1 quilt
- ♥ 1 small stuffed animal
- ♥ 1 cap/bonnet

- ♥ Newborn or preemie diapers
- ♥ Wipes
- ♥ Baby lotion, shampoo, oil
- ♥ Diaper rash ointment
- ♥ Drops for gas
- ♥ Bottles with nipples for newborns
- ♥ Pacifiers
- ♥ Baby toys
- ♥ Bibs

Items can be purchased, hand sewn, knitted or crocheted.

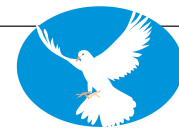


UMW Spring Fling Brunch

- Saturday, April 26, 2003
 - 10:00 am–noon
 - Fellowship Hall

Please bring a brunch item to share

See You There!



A Women's Spiritual Retreat

"Fill My Cup, Lord"

Sponsored by UMW
Led by Pam Rowley

May 16th: 6:30-9:00 p.m.
May 17th: 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Dinner will be served on Friday evening and breakfast on Saturday morning.

This Spiritual Retreat will "fill your cup" with fun, fellowship, and spiritual experiences. It will be a time of personal spiritual renewal as we pursue a closer and more intimate relationship with God and His Son.

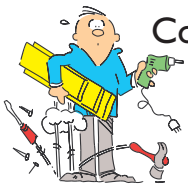
Don't miss this opportunity for fellowship with our Christian family and to discover our spiritual selves and explore how we can "fill our cup" with the presence of God.

Please register by May 1st by calling the church office or Pam Rowley at 720-348-1528.

Child-care available upon request.

PLAYGROUPS For Kids!

UMW is organizing new playgroups for children newborn to 4-years old. We'll be organizing groups based on children's ages during April and May. It's a great way to meet other moms and provide fun for your children. For more information, contact Linda Walker at 303-470-6145.



Corner

Work Day Thanks

By Sandi Miyaki

Thank You For A Terrific Work Day with a Bonus!

After enjoying a fantastic breakfast, we really had a very successful day, and I'll bet you hardly noticed... but peek behind a bunch of closet doors and you're going to notice quite a difference. Even the long neglected music room got some important attention—some might even say—with this help, they'll Stay Tuned! The closet crowd really cleaned up our classrooms, Thank You Very Much!

Tim and his crew of thrill-seekers made the quarterly pilgrimage to the fellowship hall ceiling—Let There Be Light! And clean fixtures too, what a treat! Dan tackled the electrical stuff a little closer to the floor. Of course, Dennis and Brian worked with the destruction crew of volunteers on removing the old signs out front (and yes, they dug the hole on purpose, the water woes continue, please pardon our shovels and step around the hole). Be sure you check out our new LIGHTED sign on things to come by taking a look as you drive by!

Our very best news came when our custodial angel volunteer, Bill offered to join the trustees! We're just thrilled... Now THAT'S what we call a really successful Work Day! Sound like fun? We always enjoy our quarterly gatherings with a bunch of friends as we work on Our House! Thank you so much to all of our angel volunteers! We're always interested in growing our team, so if you're interested, call Ken Fong.

Can't wait to do this again? Well, then, mark your calendar, our next party is scheduled for May 31st 8:00 am-noon.

Speaking of growing, come on gardeners! Jenita's got a group event planned for the back yard, bring your yard stuff and let's get our patio ready for summer fun!

Thank you all again!! We sincerely appreciate your help!!!!

Practicing Forgiveness

By Fred Venable, Associate Minister

My first experiences in church were very long ago, and in a far away place called Alabama, and under a stifling national atmosphere called the Depression. It was a simple life, no frills. And church was simple. No worship bulletins, hymn numbers on a board up front. No ministerial robes, not even choir robes. And the theology was simply: you are a sinner, and must be saved by Christ, so you can go to heaven. Even as a kid I knew where I was headed, and third letter in the place's name was "l" and not "a." I knew of no Catholics in our town, so talk of "giving up something for Lent" was never heard. And, hey, what was Lent, anyway? We knew about Easter, but Lent? Similarly, we knew about Christmas, but Advent?

Well, I now understand a bit about Lent. But I'm puzzled, if something is bad enough to "give up for Lent," why not give it up for good? If it is worth giving up temporarily, maybe it should be given up permanently.

A similar thought came to me during our Ash Wednesday (never heard of that as a kid) service. If we should "do something for Lent" maybe we ought to do it all the time. Forgiveness was mentioned, so I latched onto that. Lent is an excellent ambiance in which to practice forgiveness, so we can keep up the habit

all year long, and you may be sure we'll have need for it all year long.

Forgiveness is often misunderstood as having to do with the "other person." Essentially, my forgiving him or her has nothing to do with them, it only has to do with me. If they get involved fine and good, but the action of forgiveness happens within me.

Recently, I've come across three new definitions of forgiveness. One is "permission to move forward." My forgiving someone gives me (and perhaps him) permission to move forward. Another definition I dearly love, but am still working on, is "allowing someone harmless passage through your mind." The person who harmed me can come to my mind, and I simply let him "pass on through" without any emotional rehash on my part. No anguish, no regrets, no anger, he just passes on through. Last Friday night while watching 85 year-old Billy Graham preach in Dallas I heard him give a good hi-tech theological understanding of forgiveness: "when all of your files are deleted."

Work on this idea during Lent, your forgiveness of others is not primarily for their benefit, but for your benefit. Forgiveness keeps your spirit and your mind free. And keep it up all year long.

SLY Beat

Carpe Diem

By Stephanie Babcock

(Always easier with a couch to sleep on in church!!!)

Huge thanks go out to all of the youth that participated and every member of the congregation for making this year's Youth Sunday on March 2nd a huge success. I'm not quite sure how you measure success of a Sunday service; is it the number of people you make cry besides your parents? is it the number of mouthed "amen's" you see during the sermons?, or is it maybe the feeling that you, yourself have been changed during the process of preparing and presenting the sermons and songs? I think that however you want to measure the success, this year's Youth Sunday truly was a HUGE one!!!

Being active through the entire planning process and execution (big surprise, I know!), I realized how very personal this topic was for our youth. We had a few people share personal stories after hearing about our theme, we had a few people acknowledge that they had a story, but wanted to wait to share it, and we even had a few people who said, "I don't think that I have a story, but may I hear yours?" Seizing the day is



Your Community Needs You!

Urban Peak: For several years, St. Luke's has been providing dinner twice a month to the youth at Urban Peak, the shelter for homeless teenagers in Denver. We are in great need of more individuals and small groups to help with this ministry. Volunteers can sign up at the Missions kiosk to bring the main dish (2 volunteers), side dish/salad, dessert or breakfast items. The food is collected at church and then delivered by another volunteer. It would be wonderful if your family or small group could provide the entire meal for one or two of our scheduled days! Urban Peak really appreciates our help! For more information, please call Patti Hildebrand, 303-470-9990.

Refugees Need Your Help:

St. Luke's recently received an urgent letter from Ecumenical Refugee Services. They are looking for more churches to help refugees settle in the Denver area. Volunteers from churches work with assigned case workers to provide whatever support they can to a refugee family (church members do not need to arrange for housing).

Refugees are people who must flee their homeland, fearing death or persecution because of their race, religion or political views. These people must leave everything behind, including family members, material possessions, and cultural identity for the chance to rebuild a life with personal safety, individual freedom and peace. Each refugee who comes to the U.S. is carefully screened by the United Nations High Commissioners for Refugees and the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service. Refugees die from hunger, disease or exposure to the elements if they do not receive help. With the U.S. going to war means there will be even more refugees.

Many thanks go to the St. Luke's Children's Choir and others who have helped refugees in the recent past. If you would like to give of your time or money, please contact Genevieve Cruz, Ecumenical Refugee Services, 303-860-0128, x12.

Help Juvenile Offenders Develop Spiritually:

The Colorado Division of Youth Corrections is looking for volunteers to serve as role models to young men 12 to 18 years of age who are in criminal treatment facilities. Volunteer men and women are needed to establish a relationship with an individual boy while he is in the facility and work with him after he is released. The adult volunteer(s) would help the young man develop trust, self-confidence and a spiritual life. Time commitment would be weekly to monthly contact for a period of at least 9 months. Training is provided. If you think that God may be calling you to this type of ministry, please contact Larry Grauberger, 303-794-7318.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) Needs You!

Volunteers are needed in Louisiana to help repair physical damage to homes caused by Hurricane Lili last November. Both individuals and mission teams are appreciated. To volunteer, please call 1-866-870-1449. In addition, the UMCOR Depot in Balwin, Louisiana is in need of various types of kits, bulk supplies that can be made into kits, or monetary donations for supplies. For more information, please call 1-800-554-8583 or see the web site www.gbgm-umc.org/umcor/kits.cfm.

Missions Minute "THANK-YOU"

St. Luke's receives countless thank-you letters from community agencies that we support through the generosity and compassion of you, the members of the congregation. Interfaith Community Services sent us a letter of appreciation for our participation in the Christmas Giving Trees last December.

Here is an excerpt from a thank-you letter from one recipient family:

"I have to share with you that although some of you who are receiving this letter have never even met me, you gave from your hearts to me and my children more than I could have ever asked for or even have imagined. I not only received enough to provide for my children financially at this time of year, but more importantly I received the joy and extreme gratitude of knowing that people like you exist. This knowing is the biggest gift that I could have received. For this gift is the gift of renewed faith and hope... love and joy."

Dear members of St. Luke's, thank you for all you do to share your time, talents and finances with our fellow human beings in the larger community. May you always feel God's presence and love in your life.

- Betsy Keyack

DenUM and "Denim" Sunday Coming April 6

DenUM and Denim Sunday is coming – April 6!! Tammy Mulligan, Executive Director of DenUM, will be with us at all three services. After the 11:00 service, we will be delivering the donations from our Lenten Food Campaign to Denver Urban Ministries. Everyone is invited to participate in the trip to DenUM. Thanks to all who have volunteered their vehicles for the various food categories!



After we unload the food, Tammy will give us our own St. Luke's tour of DenUM. To get in the spirit of the event, everyone is encouraged to wear denim to church on April 6 (get it??).

So keep the food (and diapers) coming! Let's fill all the blue bins to overflowing! And don't forget to wear denim on April 6!

Finance Report

By St. Luke's Financial Team

The general financial health of St. Luke's is fair, although there is some uncertainty with anticipated giving for 2003 that may result in a reduction in the 2003 budget.

At the beginning of 2002, the leadership of the church determined that a budgeted deficit was in order due to some anticipated increases in giving over the course of the year. The budgeted giving for 2002 was \$907,780 and included General Pledges, Loose Plate Collections, Grocery Coupons, and Interest Income. The budgeted expenses for 2002 were \$955,729, for a budgeted deficit of \$47,949. The beginning cash balance on Jan. 1, 2002 was \$178,540 (adjusted for stock holdings), and the budgeted cash balance for Dec. 31, 2002 was \$130,591.

Although giving increased by more than \$25,000 versus budget, the anticipated increase in giving did not happen to the degree hoped for. The end of year actual giving (including other income) was \$933,351. Actual expenses came in at \$967,817, or \$12,088 more than the 2002 budget of \$955,729. This was due in large

part to the unanticipated water main break. Repairs exceed \$12,000. The deficit for 2002 was \$34,466, and the ending cash balance is \$144,073. So the year end summary is that we did better than budgeted, but not as well as hoped for.

In part, this is due to shortfalls in giving. While pledges for 2002 totaled \$863,580, we received only 83% of those pledges. This compares to an Actual:Pledge ratio of 89% for 2001. This difference of 6% represents a gap of \$49,000 in giving.

The initial proposed budget for 2003 was \$1,076,000, representing a 12.5% increase over 2002. The budget was contingent on achieving similar giving estimates based on the 2002 Stewardship campaign. Unfortunately, as described in the Stewardship section, the campaign did not yield sufficient funds to support the proposed budget. The budget for 2003 has been revised down to \$934,200. This represents a reduction of nearly \$142,000 from the proposed budget, and a reduction of 3.5% from 2002 actual spending. As stated in the letter to the congregation dated late Feb., there will be significant impacts to ministry programs.

Continued on Page 8

OPPORTUNITY ALERTS!

s t . l u k e ' s w a n t a d s

Sunday School Teachers

Do you like children? Then you would make a great Sunday School teacher! We need teachers for ages 2-6th grade for the 9:30 and 11:00 services. We provide training and the lessons are planned for you. You just show up ready to spend time with the children. Salary is lots of hugs and the appreciation of our children. If you would like more information please contact Lynne Butler (classes for 2yrs.-K) - 303-791-0659 ext.11, lynne@stlukeshr.com or Jenita Rhodes (classes for 1st grade-6th grade) 303-791-0659 ext.27, jenita@stlukeshr.com

Adult Nursery Caregivers

Do you like spending time with children and want to get paid? We are in need of adult workers for our nursery. The nursery supports the programs for St. Luke's including music programs, small group meetings and church Services. We offer childcare on Sat. and Sun. mornings and Tues., Wed., and Thurs. evenings. For more information contact Lynne Butler - 303-791-0659 ext. 11, lynne@stlukeshr.com

Vacation Bible School Teachers and Helpers

Are you interested in spending a fun, laughter filled week at the county fair? Then join us as we transform St. Luke's into Son Harvest: County Fair - June 23rd - 27th. We need teachers and others to help with music, games, snacks, crafts and more. Last year we helped 180 children age 3-5th grade learn about God's Word through fun and fellowship. This year we hope to have more than 200! The only thing missing is YOU! So come on down to the fair and have a fantastic time. For more information contact Lynne Butler - 303-791-0659 ext.11, lynne@stlukeshr.com

Easter Fun Day Helpers

Easter Fun Day is Sat., April 12th, 10:00 am-noon. There will be Easter egg hunts, fishing booths, cookie walks, tattoos, face painting, crafts, prizes, balloon animals, petting zoo, and of course, the Easter Bunny and much more! Please sign up to help by going to the board at the bottom of the stairs and checking for available slots. Or contact Lynne Butler - 303-791-0659 ext. 11, lynne@stlukeshr.com

Finance Committee Member

Needed, member with financial or legal background to participate in the Finance Committee. Must have facility with financial statements and cash management, financial analysis and reporting. Time requirements are monthly Team meeting and monthly sub-committee meetings. At times, immediate response to requests is required. A 3-year commitment is desired. Please contact John Merchant at 303-791-6251, jwmerchant@attbi.com

Kitchen Team Member

St. Luke's needs a member or constituent who is interested in helping keep our kitchen in top condition. Tasks needing to be performed periodically include helping others use the kitchen, stocking the kitchen, cleaning the kitchen, and removing old food. Time requirements and length of membership are flexible. Please contact Ken Fong at 303-346-7057, kfong@att.net

Coffee Team Member

St. Luke's needs someone who is interested in helping set up the coffee service and donuts before Sunday services. Five to ten minutes of time just prior to either 8:00, 9:30, or 11:00 are required on a rotating weekly basis. Length of commitment is flexible. Please contact Ken Fong at 303-346-7057, kfong@att.net

Custodian/Handy Man

St. Luke's needs a member or constituent who is interested in helping with minor repairs at the church. Some minor repair or installation skills would be useful. Volunteers select from a list of work orders describing maintenance tasks needing to be performed around the church. Time commitments and length of membership are flexible, but we are trying to establish a schedule where volunteers put in time every other week. Please contact Ken Fong at 303-346-7057, kfong@att.net

Communications Team Member

If you enjoy working with the computer, desktop publishing or expressing yourself through the written word, this team is for you! Team members formally meet 3-4 times per year and keep in contact through email. You will work with ministry teams to develop their event planning and with staff and other Communications team members to develop church-wide communications. Your commitment is flexible with most work done at home from your own computer. Please contact Yvonne Amrine at 720-733-1491, yamrine@usa.com

www.stlukeshr.com

Have you visited our website lately? We keep it up-to-date with information of interest to the congregation. This includes a list of upcoming services and other events, the latest Sunday bulletin, and copies of the flyers on the information table (Prayer Concerns, Weekly Calendar, UMW, Children's Ministries, and Education Ministries). We've recently added a series of brochures, such as the Spring/Winter Adult Education brochure, plus the new St. Luke's logos. Current information about our youth activities is also available. You may find useful the St. Luke's Resource Guide, the Catalog of Ministries, and the various ways to communicate information to the St. Luke's community. We also have various on-line resources, such as nursery reservations and access to the Career Net, and on-line registrations for upcoming events. Find out about Special Events at St. Luke's, plus future, current, and past mission activities. You can look up the email address of many of our members, and you can take advantage of group mailing lists. We have an archive of *The Chronicle* and photos of St. Luke's activities. Finally, you can help St. Luke's earn money by first visiting us before buying at web sites such as Amazon.com.

As always, we're willing to add new content for your group to help further your information reach to St. Luke's members and constituents.

Please let us know how we can better serve your needs by filling out the Feedback form at the website.

Please come see us at www.StLukesHR.com !

The "Lay"test News: A Message from our Lay Leaders - By Monty Hoffman

The Wesleyan Tradition—Part IV: God’s Love for All People

Because Methodism is not strongly doctrinal, Methodists sometimes have trouble coming up with a short answer when asked, “What do you believe?” Here are two short answers that state our distinctness, our tradition, and the ideas that many of our beliefs are grounded in.

We believe that God loves all people even when they are undeserving of that love. We believe that God’s grace is active in all people’s lives, even when they are unaware of its presence.

These two statements present a vision of a God who is active in our lives, a God who wants to establish a relationship with all people. It is a vision of a God who does not pick and choose based on predetermination or doctrine, but a God who loves all that he has created.

When John Wesley was in his boyhood, student years, and early priesthood, the predominant doctrine of salvation was the Calvinist doctrine of election, the idea that those who were worthy of God’s Love were predetermined and all of the rest were damned. Wesley himself felt only a sense of despair, failure, and anxiety about his relationship with God as he tried to make himself worthy of God’s Love through his actions. What made Wesley recognize God’s Love for all people?

First of all, his study of the scripture prepared him. Wesley was strongly influenced by Paul’s letter to the Romans. Second, tradition played a part. Through the Moravians, he was introduced to Martin Luther’s Treatise on Romans as a study guide to the Epistle. Third, it was the experience of God in his life. Through faith and grace, Wesley felt the assurance of God’s Love in his life, but he did not feel that this was because he was special but rather because God’s Love was special. God’s Love for him was proof to Wesley that God’s Love was for all people.

I hope that you see St. Luke’s core values in these two statements. We are invitation- al because God loves all people and through his grace invites all people to his church. We are relational because that is how we help each other live faithfully and invite God’s grace into our lives. We are missional because God calls us to care for all of his children, whether they are across the street, across town, or on the other side of the world.

Remember, God loves you and there is nothing you can do about it. Pass it on.

Continued from Page 7

Against this expense budget, we anticipate giving and other income to be \$930,600. This assumes an Actual:Pledge ratio of 85%, and additional giving in excess to pledges of almost \$190,000. This additional giving comes from members and constituents who give, but do not pledge, and from pledges from new members (100 new members for 2002). This estimate equals 2002 experience.

There are also additional areas of income that are tied to specific budget areas. Specifically, there are three significant areas where additional programs are funded by incremental giving specific to those programs. These programs are Music, Missions, and Youth Ministries/ Missions.

In each of these areas, fundraisers occur frequently to augment the amount budgeted from General Giving. Additionally, St. Luke’s receives over \$20,000 in building use fees that augment the Trustees budget. Similar to 2002, we anticipate that we will receive \$66,000 in additional funds for 2003. The effect of this \$66,000 is to provide additional funds to the General Budget, increasing the overall budget to \$1,000,200, from than \$934,200, which is the net amount that is funded by pledges and other giving.

St. Luke’s staff has also succeeded in transitioning the accounting to a new software package (Church Windows). This will allow for more detailed reporting of the financial status of the church.

Charge Conference

By Fred Venable, Associate Pastor

On Sunday, Mar. 9th, St. Luke’s had a Charge Conference. We did two pieces of required CC business: approved the senior pastor’s compensation package, and elected officers. As information vital to our congregation, but not requiring CC action, we looked at the budget, which had been previously approved by the Executive Board, and looked at a partial review of how it is going with St. Luke’s.

An annual Charge Conference is required by The Discipline, our administrative “bible” in the United Methodist Church. It is conducted by the District Superintendent, or in his/her absence, by an elder of the superintendent’s choosing. Since our D.S. could not be here, Dick presided over the meeting, only to turn it over to me when we got to the senior pastor’s compensation (a protocol), and for the election of officers submitted by the Committee on Lay Leadership, of which Dick is chairperson (another protocol). Dick and I are the only elders in our church. Being an elder has nothing to do with age, it has to do with our being ordained as an Elder.

Normally, our Charge Conferences are held in the fall, which ours was, and this second one on March 9 was just to “clean up” some old business. If you could not be present, don’t lose any sleep over it, but put it in your mental registry to be present at our next one in the fall. A Charge Conference is similar to your annual physical with your physician. It is a check up, a “how are we doing,” a “where are we going,” in addition to doing some nitty gritty business. Officially you should be there because regardless of whether you hold any “office” or not, our Charge Conferences are almost always held as Church Conferences, and that means all full members of St. Luke’s have a vote.

Additionally, more church group accounts are being consolidated under Finance management, although the restrictions on the funds are being maintained (e.g., youth funds are still restricted to youth missions). During 2003, we will define the new reporting requirements and will be able to present a more detailed and complete financial view to the Charge Conference.



Children's Ministries *By Jenita Rhodes*

VBS Son County Fair June 23-27 9:00 am to noon
Ages 3 years to 5th grade. Cost \$20.00 per child. We ask
parent to help one day. Youth are welcomed to help.
Registration to begin May 1st.

Seven Summer Fun Days June 10, 17,
July 9, 16, 23, 30 and Aug 5th 9:30 am to
noon. \$12 per day per child. Registration to
begin in April. Forms will be in the church
office or Little School office. Contact Pat
Dunnigan or Jenita Rhodes for more
information.

4/12 - Children's
Easter Celebration:
Saturday, April 12 - 10:00 am to noon.
Games, crafts, balloon tying cookie/jellybean walk,
Easter egg hunt and the Easter Bunny!
Sign up to help in one hour shifts in one of
these fun areas. Call Lynne Butler or Jenita
Rhodes for information.

Sunday School Teachers needed

for three exciting and fun units of study this summer for PEAK:

- John Wesley's 300th Birthday Celebration - June 15, 22, 29.
- Special Needs—Discovering Your Gifts - July 6, 13, 20, 27. This will be an extension of the Special Needs Sunday we have done the last two years. We will discover the needs and gifts of individuals who are blind, hard of hearing, are dyslexic or autistic.
- Lighthouse Kids - August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31. We will use this engaging program to learn how Jesus and the Bible can light up our world and lead us down a safe path.

Each unit needs 8 to 10 adults or youth to help lead our kids.

4/13 - Parade of the Palms on Palm
Sunday for Preschool in David during
Music and for Elementary during the 9:30
service. Meet in you classrooms as usual
and we will go up as a group and return
for our Celebration Sunday activities.

PEAK 6th Rotation: "Community—Are
you my neighbor?" training will be April 17
7:00 pm in the Cooking room downstairs.

No Sunday school on Easter Sunday.

Continued from Page 5 something that many people strive for, some achieve, but very few can. To quote Ben Miyaki, "go to bed and know that if they died in their sleep, they would do so with a smile on their face."

We thank God for all He gives us. He has blessed us with so many wonderful gifts, resources, and beautiful people to work with and share with. All of the youth who participated in Youth Sunday shared their gifts with everyone. All of the adults who helped not only with Youth Sunday, but with any event that the youth have ever done, are some of our most treasured resources and many of the beautiful people God has given us to work with. I would like to extend a HUGE thank you to everyone who was involved. Kevin and Ben, you touched so many with your sermons! Kellie, Jamie, Laura, Erin, Beth, David, you touched so many with your beautiful music! Kevin, Kristine, and Adam, you're our sound heroes!!! Ken Fong and Jim Ramsey, thank you for giving up time to help the youth, we couldn't have done it without you! To all of our great ushers, you guys rock!!! And to Aaron Shipman, thank you for letting the youth spread their wings and fly without you in front of them. Thank you for giving all of us the opportunity to truly put together a Youth Sunday, planned, written, organized, and almost entirely executed by just youth! And thank you to the congregation for your continued support and for your kind words, hugs, tears, and laughter that you share with us, it makes us want to plan Youth Sunday and strive to make it better than years past. And the biggest thanks to God for blessing me with the opportunity to be a part of such an amazing community all gathering to praise Him. God Bless!



nursery news

Our Nursery
Caregiver of the
month for April is
Doreen Farnes.
She has been at

St. Luke's for a short time but she is
already proving to be a valuable member
of our nursery staff. She is caring and a
very nice person to be around.

Thank you to the Milerowski family for
helping us find a glider for the nursery.
It is so nice to be able to rock the babies
in a glider and we really appreciate them
finding it and bringing it in.

Remember—you may make reservations
from the link on the St. Luke's website or
by calling 303-791-0659 ext. 47.

Our new Parents Night Out group
has gotten off to a fantastic start! There
are about 16 regular couples and we
would really like to find more. The group
meets the second Friday of each month
from 6:00 to 10:00 pm and children from
birth to twelve are welcome. Each couple
works in the nursery three or four Fridays
per year and have the other Fridays to
have an evening out alone. There are at
least three couples in the nursery and we
maintain a maximum four child to one
adult ratio. So far, we have met three
months and the parents working in the
nursery and going out have loved it.
Suzanne Sharp, a parent who worked the
very first Friday night said "It couldn't
have gone more smooth!" If you would
like more information please contact
Lynne Butler at 303-791-0659 ext.11 or
lynne@stlukeshr.com

From a Teacher:



We all have gifts and talents to share.
Having four children and wanting to be a
part of their spiritual growth has driven me
into the Sunday School classrooms at
St. Luke's to share my own gifts and talents.
And in these classrooms I have found joy:
praising God by singing with preschoolers,
helping new families find their way,
guiding third graders through the PEAK
experience with movies, computers, science,
drama, cooking, and more. Every experience
here has nurtured my own personal spiritu-
al growth. I love working with the children
and serving the families of St. Luke's.

- Karin Wesson



Music Notes: Be a Part of Our Spring Music!

Wednesday Nite Live Kidz Prayz and Cherubs Concert

When: Friday, April 11
 What Time: 7:00pm
 Where: St. Luke's Sanctuary

Come and enjoy a wonderful evening of songs and instruments that each group has been working on throughout the spring. Hope to see you there.

All Ensembles Concert

On Sunday, May 18th at 2:00pm, an all St. Luke's Music Ensembles Program will feature every group in the music program. We encourage everyone to attend and support the hard work and effort that everyone has given through many volunteer hours over the past year. In many cases each group has learned new songs to produce a truly unique concert. Come and have a great time listening to the sounds of many different types of musical genres.



Women of Note concert: Thanks to all of you who attended the Women of Note concert on Saturday, March 15. It was a huge success in many ways. Sallie, Lisé, Pam, Susy, Yvonne and Leigh want to thank everyone for their generous support at the concert. We raised nearly \$1,200 for the music program as well as the mission programs that will be designated by Women of Note later on in the year. Blessings to all!



Variety Show

Attention all Variety Act performers! On Saturday, May 3, the annual St. Luke's Variety Show will take place in fellowship hall. If you've never been, you're missing out on a great evening with laughs and just plain family fun!

All those wishing to produce an act for the Variety Show should contact Carrie Mallery ASAP at the church. Nearly anything can count!

Valentine's Dinner Dance: For those of you who missed the Valentine's Day Dinner Dance, don't make the same mistake next year! We broke attendance records with over 175 people attending. Dan Washbourne provided a dinner of lemon-pepper chicken, rice pilaf, tossed greens, etc. and it was delicious. Dinner was served in the fellowship hall and the bands set-up in the sanctuary. Sonrise opened for the Ministers of Swing and they were both great. Sonrise was laid-back in Hawaiian's and played some great stuff from the '60's and '70's. The Minister's were decked-out in period clothing and just cranked. Carrie was playing like "balls o'fire" on the piano, Dave Rhodes blew the trumpet, Janet Harm strummin' that base—it was a sight to behold 25 of the best swing players in Denver at our church! Can I hear an "amen"? Aaron Shipman was swing dancin' and, of course, Jim is seriously in his element at such gigs and well...you can just imagine. The dance raised over \$900 for St. Luke's music programs! Thanks to everyone who helped out with the event!!! Next year the V-day dance will be held on a Saturday night so we expect an even bigger turnout. Get your tickets early!



St. Luke's Music Ministry

Music Team Coordinators & Directors:

James Ramsey, Director of Music Ministries
 Jim@stlukeshr.com
 303-791-0659 x23

Carrie Mallery, Associate Director of Music
 Carrie@stlukeshr.com
 303-791-0659 x48

Tinntinabulators

James Ramsey, interim director

Flute Ensemble

Ruth Smith

Brass Ensemble

Erik Wangsness

Ministers of Swing

James Ramsey

Cherub's Choir

Stacey Baird

Children's Choir

Kay Coryell

Joy-full Noyz Youth Choir

James Ramsey

Chancel Choir

James Ramsey

Kidz Prayz I and II

James Ramsey/Carrie Mallery/Janet Harm

Sonrise

James McCurry

Women Of Note

Sallie Suby-Long

Rehearsals Week at a Glance

Sunday

Children's Choir 8:45-9:30am
 Joy-Full Noyz Youth Choir
 5:00-7:00pm

Tuesday

Tinntinabulators Handbell Choir
 7:00-8:30 pm

Wednesday

Cherub's Choir 6:15-7:00pm
 Kidz Prayz I 6:15-7:15pm
 Kidz Prayz II 6:15-7:15pm
 Sonrise Band 7:30-9:00pm

Thursday

Women Of Note 6:30-7:30pm
 Chancel Choir 7:30-9:00pm

Saturday

Flute Ensemble 8:00-9:00am
 Brass Ensemble 9:00-10:00am
 Ministers of Swing 10:00-11:15am

SLY Activity Calendar

APRIL

- 5-6..... Up With Youth for Senior High
 6..... Regular SLY Schedule
 8..... Highlands Ranch Breakfast Club
 6:30-7am. Einstein's Bagels in the Safeway Shopping Center
 9..... Arapahoe Breakfast Club 7-7:15am.
 Einstein's Bagels across from AHS
 WNL/WMDBS 5:30 dinner
 Confirmation Class: 7:15-8pm
 10..... Swing Dance! Beginner: 6-7pm.
 Intermediate: 7-8pm
 12..... Children's Easter Celebration 10am-noon
 SLY is helping out.
 Confirmation Retreat
 13..... PALM Sunday; Regular SLY Schedule
 15..... Highlands Ranch Breakfast Club
 6:30-7am. Einstein's Bagels in the Safeway Shopping Center
 16..... Arapahoe Breakfast Club 7-7:15am.
 Einstein's Bagels across from AHS
 WNL/WMDBS 5:30 dinner
 17..... Swing Dance! Beginner: 6-7pm.
 Intermediate: 7-8pm
 20..... EASTER Sunday
 Sunrise Service 6 am - Aaron preaching!
 NO SLY ACTIVITIES.
 22..... Highlands Ranch Breakfast Club
 6:30-7am. Einstein's Bagels in the Safeway Shopping Center
 23..... Arapahoe Breakfast Club 7-7:15am.
 Einstein's Bagels across from AHS
 WNL/WMDBS 5:30 dinner
 27..... Regular SLY Schedule
 29..... Highlands Ranch Breakfast Club
 6:30-7am. Einstein's Bagels in the Safeway Shopping Center
 30..... Arapahoe Breakfast Club 7-7:15am.
 Einstein's Bagels across from AHS
 WNL/WMDBS 5:30 dinner

MAY

- 4..... Regular SLY Schedule;
 Confirmation Sunday
 6..... Highlands Ranch Breakfast Club
 6:30-7am. Einstein's Bagels in the Safeway Shopping Center

Regular SLY Sunday Schedule

- 8, 9:30, 11am..... Worship
 9:30am..... Sunday School
 9:30am..... Youth Disciple
 5pm..... Joy-Full Noyz Youth Choir
 6pm..... Youth Dinner
 6:30-8pm..... SLY Evening Fellowship

SLY-Line: 303-791-0659 x45
 Youth@stlukeshr.com

Aaron Shipman: 303-791-0659 x14
 aaron@stlukeshr.com

✿ SLY - a place to grow, love, pray and laugh ✿

Dear Youth:

Greetings! Spring is upon us, and that means one thing: time to wear shorts again. Oh, and it is also Easter. As we continue to journey through the season of Lent, we prepare ourselves for Easter through reflection and prayer until we celebrate on Easter morning the new life we have received in Christ.

For our youth activities through May, we will be engaging in fun, fellowship, and worship.

Up With Youth for Senior High is April 5-6. Registrations are available from the youth office and due NOW!!!

Confirmation class will finish in April and culminate on Confirmation Sunday, May 4.

The Children's Easter Celebration will be on Saturday, April 12. So please speak with Jenita Rhodes if you are interested in volunteering to help out. You can reach Jenita at (303)791-0659 x27.

April 20 is Easter Sunday. We will not have evening SLY activities this day. There will be a sunrise service at 6am, and I will be preaching. If you would be interested in helping out with this service, please give me a call at x14.

Class of 2003, we will be planning our Senior Banquet this year to be sometime in May, so have your schedules in mind when I call, and plan to join us for an evening of memories and dreams.

Kristine Fong has done a wonderful job with the website. She posts weekly updates, so visit the site at www.stlukeshr.com and click the "Youth" link. You can also get youth program updates by calling the SLYline at (303)791-0659 x45.

Your new quarterly calendar is coming out the mail, so be watching for it. If you don't get one, please contact the church office to make sure you are on the mailing list. Extra copies will be available on the information table and youth bulletin board.

Grace and Peace,



2003 Youth Sunday Carpe Diem

Thoughts from Ben Miyaki

Walking down that lonesome road can sometimes be a difficult task. It is not easy to practice what you preach, especially when what you preach is an improbable dream. One cannot usually live life as if it were its last day, because we have learned to live and function on waiting for tomorrow as a way of living. Make sure to tell the one your heart belongs to that it is theirs for the taking, and be afraid of nothing but missing the opportunity. If you were to silence the cry of destiny, you may regret it as the one that got away. You may look down the road not taken, and regret the fork back any point in time. You may be faced with many challenges of faith, love, and trust.

Remember that character is tested when times are tough, not when times are easy. Do not be afraid of living each day to its fullest, for you may not see tomorrow. If you do not wake from that sleep, your time has come not as an omen, but as a reward. I believe you die when your job or task has been completed. The karma of the world depends on every soul being important and effecting one life. Make sure your life is lived so you may fill the roll set by your higher light. It is not fate or destiny, for fate is what you make it. No one lives your life except for you. It is not God's life, nor any member of the Trinity. Only that it is delivered into being through your reincarnated soul. Face each day as if your soul were to flee from the Earth. Peace, love, and do not be afraid of the lonesome road.



