

The Beacon

A monthly publication of Lakewood United Church of Christ



June 2011

Volume 56 Issue 6

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Summer Schedules

For many of us, summer means a more relaxed schedule, opportunities for much needed vacation, and a reduction in the number of “have to’s” that occupy so much of our schedules the rest of the year. It also may mean we are finally able to get to some of those goals and projects we’ve put off because we were too busy to get to them.

During our last YAC (youth group) meeting of the program year, Jen Keyes led the group in an exercise designed to help us remember that God doesn’t go on vacation in the summer and that our responsibilities as Christians don’t either. Each of us was instructed to create a list of at least 5 concrete things that we would do over the summer to continue practicing our faith, even though the group would not be meeting. We then wrote them down, shared them with the group, and covenanted to put the list in a prominent place where we would see it regularly. Personally, I found it a meaningful and thought provoking exercise. Some of the youths’ lists included: prayer, reading scripture, volunteering at local non-profits or our VBS, and doing yard work for a needy neighbor. My list includes: Give blood (something I could easily do but never have), buy a few extra canned goods when we go grocery shopping and give them to a food pantry, to commit to 20 minutes of silent prayer on Mondays, to take a guitar class, and engage a service project by going on the church service trip to the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. Any of these are things that I could be doing all year long, except for the service trip, but for some reason I haven’t had or made time in my schedule for them.

What are some of the new opportunities to practice your faith that your schedule allows for in the summer that don’t seem possible during the rest of the year? Could you walk the labyrinth here at church, teach Sunday school, read a religiously themed book, host Fellowship, give some exhausted parents you know a much needed night out, or begin using a daily devotional, or whatever strikes your fancy? I invite you to make a concrete list of a few, to show them to someone else who will help hold you accountable for doing them, and to post them somewhere (on a mirror, car dashboard, refrigerator door) that you are sure to see it. You might also consider inviting another person to do something on your list with you. I’ll report back on how I did on my “summer spiritual to do list” in the fall and perhaps a few braves souls will share some of your experiences with the congregation as well.

May this summer be a time for you of renewal, rejuvenation, and growth!

Blessings,

Curt

Moderators' Reflections

As our term as your Co-Moderators comes to a close, we would like to thank you all for your support and kindness to us this past year.

The slate of officers and committees for 2011-2012 has been filled which, once again, shows the enthusiasm and desire of folks to be a part of our church and its programs.

As we have mentioned many times before, LUCC has much to be proud of under Pastor Curt's leadership and our congregations' commitment to make things happen.

Peace,

Marilyn and Susan

It's time for

SUMMER VACATION!

It's wonderful that vacation time has come again!

**We hope everyone has a fun time. However.....
please don't forget your pledges while you are gone.
LUCC doesn't get a vacation from paying the bills.**

Thank you from the Board of Church Operations



CAMPING TRIP

JUNE 3-5 The camping trip to Golden Gate Canyon SP is just around the corner, June 3-5!

Join us for a Potluck Dinner and Campfire Saturday night, June 4 at 5 p.m. at Site 28 in Loop C at Reverend's Ridge Campground. Bring a side dish to share and your grilling item (our favorite is shrimp in foil!, but hot dogs are traditional!) - we'll have the s'mores fixings there and the fire going! Do remember that Golden Gate is a State Park - you will need a day pass (\$7) if you don't have an annual pass. Please let Brenda or David Zserdin know if you are thinking about joining us for dinner so we know to expect you.

CAMP LA FORET SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE

La Foret is the Rocky Mountain Conference UCC's retreat center near Colorado Springs. Here is the list of offerings for this summer. For more information on these camps go to www.rmucc.org and click the "Camps and Retreats" tab at the top.

Pioneer Age Camp (entering grades 2-4): June 26 - 30

Explorer Camp (entering grades 4-6): July 10 - 16

Arts Camp (entering grades 3-6): July 31 - August 6

Voyager Camp (entering grades 7-8): July 31 - August 6

MADD (Music, Art, Drama, Dance) Camp (entering grades 9-12): July 10 - 16

Contemplative Life Camp (adults): July 17-23

Grandparent & Me Camp (children up to 5th grade): June 30 - July 2



MEN'S MINISTRY

Our Men's Ministry typically meets on the 4th Saturday of the month. If you would like to be on the Men's Ministry email or phone list, please let Curt know so we can keep you informed about future events and activities.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS



On Saturday, May 21 we had a Blessing of the Animals service on the church's front lawn. A dozen dogs, one chicken, and a few pictures of pets were blessed. It was a great time. Thanks to the Board of Mission, Outreach, and Evangelism for sponsoring the event and special thanks to Debbie Dunn for her efforts in promoting and setting up for the event.

SPRING CLEANING



Thank You! to all who participated in the work day on May 21. Thanks to your efforts our church and grounds have a "Spring Cleaned" look inside and out. A special thank you to the crew that changed out the parsonage storm windows and got the swamp cooler ready for summer.

Christian Education Calendar Reminders



- ◆ June 20-24, 2011- M- F **VBS**
(Vacation Bible School) 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
- ◆ July 15, 2011 Friday - Parents Night Out - 5:00- 9:00 p.m.
- ◆ August 12, 2011 Friday - Family Fun Night
(Games and Pizza) 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.

LUCC News

Here is a brief synopsis of our financial picture as April 30, 2011:

Pledged income (\$72,685) was 94% of expectations (\$77,619) for this time of year.
 Unpledged income (\$5,312) was 121% of expectations (\$4,384) for this time of year.
 Total income (\$85,886) was 94% of expectations (\$91,395) for this time of year.
 Total expenses (\$92,649) were 101% of expectations (\$92,079) for this time of year.
 As of April 30, 2011, expenses exceeded income by (\$6,763).

Net income was budgeted at (\$684). The actual was a net loss of (\$6,763). The difference of (\$6,079) was due to pledged income being 6% lower than budget.

Board of Church Operations

TIDINGS



TIDINGS

It was an evening of praise, recognition and levity as 18-year-old Patrick Jorgenson was awarded his Boy Scout Eagle Award on May 13 before family, friends and the LUCC congregation that has embraced him for the past 12 years. Known as one who usually says very little, Patrick was quite the entertainer that evening as he smiled, greeted guests, showed his dance moves, and reacted to congratulations and jokes from scout masters, fellow scouts, and friends. His three-

generation LUCC family was present, including parents Nancy and Craig Jorgenson, his younger sister, Tasha, and his maternal grandparents, Betsy and Robert O'Sullivan. Also, there was close family friend and former LUCC member Kathy (Gorrell) Schultz, who arrived from Chicago with her husband to surprise the young man on his special day.

The major project completed by the high school junior to attain scouting's highest rank was his work on the strip of land between Carr Street and the parking lot, where he, with the help of others, added landscaping, gravel, trees, and a drip line. He also refinished the picnic table on the Balsam Street side of the church. As a scout, Patrick has earned 21 merit badges, as well as special awards. According to one of his scoutmasters, only two of every one hundred scouts successfully attain the rank of Eagle.

Let's Get Acquainted with a retired teacher who made substantial inroads in educating students with special needs. Gerri Wolf taught for 31 years, seven of them in Albuquerque and the rest of the time in Colorado. She was a reading specialist until she was asked to test 1550 students and found that 250 of them had reading difficulties. As a result, she established the first self-contained learning laboratory for learning disabled students in 1970. The students, she said, had above average IQs, but had difficulty with reading, writing, and math. Initially, she had 12 boys in her class, and she developed a behavior modification plan where they would earn points so they could

learn ceramics. (Gerri is an artist, making polymer jewelry and stained glass items as a hobby.) Eventually, the 12 youngsters asked if they might start a band. She granted them permission. The school superintendent later invited the band to perform before the Jefferson County Board of Education. Eventually, 10 more laboratories were opened.

At this point, Gerri says, it was decided to offer a degree in learning disabilities, or ADD. While she didn't go back to school (she had earned degrees in economics and education from the University of Denver), she continued to demonstrate how the learning disabled could be taught. She also began teaching Braille as a path to learning to read; the students weren't blind, but they could not visualize the words. Knowing Braille helped them accomplish this task.

After years of intense teaching, Gerri retired in 1993, but continued to tutor students for several years.

Gerri and her late husband, who was also named Jerry, were childhood sweethearts from the age of seven. He was a commercial mortgage loan officer. Born in Denver, they bought their Lakewood home in 1969, the year they joined LUCC, and she still lives there with her two dogs. The Wolfs and their two sons, William and Paul, were all born at Presbyterian Hospital. Gerri has one granddaughter.

The Wolfs both served as high school advisors for their Albuquerque church, and on the board of deacons at LUCC. Gerri has also served on the pastoral search, maintenance, and Christian Education committees. She has traveled to almost every part of the world, except South America, and may be heading that way someday.

By Tabby Bernardo

Photo by Jenny Merriman



Christian Education

Lakewood UCC - Christian Education (CE) (Children, Youth and Adults)

A. Outreach Summer Sundays - Children's Sunday School

May BBF Thank You Teachers

A special thank you to all the teachers that helped in the May BBF program. Blessings to you all! Many thanks to Tabby Bernardo and Mary Ann Rothenburger for their generous help.

Outreach Summer Sundays – Summer Sunday School Program

Outreach Summer Sundays is based on Knowing God and Serving Others.

All activities and projects are on site at the church during Sunday's Worship services.

Students will be working on projects that will serve various communities.

Projects might include – Cleaning the preschool, planting flowers at LUCC, toiletry bags for homeless, children's programs, cards to nursing home residents, etc...

The goal is to learn to be missionaries in "our own backyard."

June Teaching Series – Psalm 23

June 5, 2011 - God Loves Me

June 12, 2011 - God is With Me and VBS WEEK

June 19, 2011 - God Will Bless Me OR Father's Day

June 26, 2011 – God Comforts Me OR 54th Anniversary of UCC (Party for our church)

Summer Teachers Needed!

JUNE – AUGUST Teaching Needs:

Families teaching Summer program – Outreach Summer Sundays

LUCC Families Needed to teach 10:25 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings.

Dates include: (June 5, 12, 19, 26) (July 10, 17, 24, 31) (August 7, 14, 21, 28)

If you and or your family can help teach, please contact Jen Keyes

Volunteers Needed – jenkeyes@qwestoffice.net - Contact Jen

B. CE Summer Programming for Children and Families

General Sunday - Programming Times

June – August 2011, Nursery (Sundays 10:00 a.m. – 11:15a.m.)

June – August 2011, Outreach Summer Sundays-Sunday School (Sundays 10:25- 11:15 a.m.)

Students will start in Worship and move to student activities during worship service.

Special Event Programming

June – VBS (Vacation Bible School) (9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon June 20-24, 2011)

July-Parent's Night Out (Friday 5:00–9:00 p.m. July 15, 2011)

August- National "Night Out"(Wednesday Evening – August 3, 2011)

Family Fun Night (Friday 5:30-8:00 p.m. August 12, 2011)

(Christian Education Continued on Page 6)

VBS- Vacation Bible School

The Edge – (Experience & Discover God Everywhere) this VBS focus is a powerful concept that will allow our students to know that God is with them at all times. These key concepts will be taught, highlighting various physical fitness and sporting activities:

God is with me – (I will stay close to God) God guides me – (I will follow)
 God teaches me - (I will learn) God loves me - (I will love God and others) God sends me- (I will go)

VBS Program ages: (Preschool - 3-4 years old), (Early Primary - K- 2nd grade), (Middle Primary – 3-5th grade), (Older Students– 6th- 12th grade as Student Teachers)

Volunteers Needed – jenkeyes@qwestoffice.net - Contact Jen

C. YAC – Youth At Church

This summer our youth have many opportunities to serve. Please have your youth consider the following ways to be the hands, feet, and voice of Christ. It is a great way to gather service hours that are needed in both junior and high school programs.

VBS Student Teachers (Pick a few days or the whole week to help.)

- June 20 -24, 2011 (Monday - Friday) 8:30a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Parent's Night Out- Teachers

- *Needing teachers for games and crafts. Nursery teachers, July 15, 2011 Friday 5:00-9:00 p.m.*

National "Night Out" - Lakewood Police Function

- Need student mentors/teachers to help with event
- Will be working with St. Paul's Episcopal Church
- Booth and game operations
- August 3, 2011 Wednesday, time to be announced (afternoon and evening)

Family Fun Night

- Pizza and Game night
- Student leaders to help with food and games
- August 12, 2011 Friday 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Adult Education

NOOMA

Who: LUCC community adults

What: Nooma after church

When: After church 12:00-1:00 p.m. throughout the summer (starts 6/12)

Where: Upstairs in the Stage Room

If you were able to attend Tuesday nights during Lent, you already know what a Nooma is. If you don't, please come and find out. Noomas are brief 10-12 minute DVD talks by contemporary theologian Rob Bell. Noomas are sure to start a conversation. Each one is different and there is no need to make a long term commitment. Drop in anytime during the summer and you, too, can Nooma! Please contact Priscilla Ingebrigsten for more information.

LUCC News

MISSION, OUTREACH, AND EVANGELISM



Strengthen the Church Offering On Sunday, June 12 – Pentecost – we will be receiving the Strengthen the Church special mission offering of the United Church of Christ. This offering builds the UCC’s future. It funds new congregations and renews existing ones. It supports programs for youth and young adults and nurtures current and future leaders.

And it aids the God is Still Speaking Ministry to spread our message of inclusivity.

Directed to local Conferences, Local Church Ministries and the Stillspeaking Ministry, Strengthen the Church gifts help to create vibrant church communities of extravagant welcome. Please plan to give generously.



Pridefest 2011 On June 18 and 19, we will join other metro area open and affirming UCC congregations at the Denver Pridefest to staff a UCC booth, handing out promotional materials and answering questions, and to march in the parade on Sunday morning. Please contact Molly Hughes as soon as possible if you are interested in spending time at the booth or marching in the parade so she can update you on times and meeting places as they become available.



Service Trip 2011 A group of LUCC members and friends are preparing for their quickly-approaching service trip to Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. They have been meeting to learn more about the community they will be serving and making plans for their trip June 12-18. There are still two openings for volunteers who are interested in traveling and joining in this most rewarding opportunity. Please contact Pat Hayes or Curt Preston if you’re interested in participating. Thank you to all who supported this trip through the yard sale fundraiser last fall. We couldn’t do it without you.



PENTECOST CHOIR We would like to put a choir together for Pentecost Sunday on June 12. We will do one rehearsal on Wednesday, June 8, at 7:00. p.m. We are particularly targeting people who like to sing but are not regular choir members. However, we could use the help of a few choir members as well. Please let Joan know by June 5 if you can do this. She may be reached at 720-404-3273, email at jpaw.1@q.com or sign up at the Welcome Center.

SERVICES

Please join us at 10:15 a.m. on Sundays for Worship.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

LUCC office hours are 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon, Monday through Friday. Feel free to contact the office manager if you will need assistance outside of regular office hours.

From Our Shepherds

Please keep the following people in your prayers:


- Henry and Margaret Wiese
- Mary Wise
- Joan Howard
- Joan Wagner

Sunday Schedule
9:30 a.m. Nursery Care Available
10:15 a.m. Worship Service
 (Children begin in worship and transition to Sunday school)
11:15 a.m. Fellowship hour


Large print bulletins and hearing assists are available at each worship service. If you need one, ask the greeter for one as you enter the Sanctuary.

Child Care Available

Child care is available in the nursery from 9:30 a.m. until the end of the service. Sara Ulricksen and Marissa Maestas are our childcare providers. We also have youth assistants in the nursery. Childcare is available for children age 3 and younger. Visiting children are welcome. The nursery is located at the far north end of the upper level.



OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH



Good Grief "Out to Lunch Bunch" will meet on June 12 at Jus Cookin's Restaurant at Simms and Tabor at 12:00 noon. Every one is welcome to join us.



ATTENDANCE

Date	Attendance	To Date	This Was...
5/1/2011	90	7564	Second Sunday of Easter
5/8/2011	96	7660	Third Sunday of Easter
5/15/2011	79	7739	Fourth Sunday of Easter
5/22/2011	131	7870	Fifth Sunday of Easter (Annual Meeting)

OUR APPRECIATION FOR THOSE THAT HAVE SERVED US

Greeters for May

May 1 David & Kathie Nielsen
 May 8 JoAnne Gilmore & Marsha Henry
 May 15 Bill & Barbara Martin
 May 22 Nancy, Craig, Patrick & Tasha Jorgenson
 May 29 Carmen Jaeger and Nicolas Restad

Fellowship Hosts for May

May 1 David & Brenda Zserdin
 May 8 Janet Hehr & Linda Royval
 May 15 Rueters
 May 22 Monday Evening Sacred Circle
 May 29 Jim and Alice Mascenik



Congratulations to **Brandon Smith** of Salida, CO. (pictured on right), grandson of George and Dorothy Fisher. Brandon just earned his Eagle Scout Award. We join the Fisher family in celebrating this accomplishment.

Welcomers for May

May 1- Tabby Bernardo
 May 8- Marilyn Blomberg
 May 15-Janet Hehr
 May 22-Pat Hayes
 May 29-Barb Martin



Nancy and Craig Jorgenson are very proud of son, Patrick, who won the Miles Davis Jazz Award for most improved jazz player this year. His name will have a place of honor in the Green Mountain Band Room. (P.S. Grandma and Grandpa O'Sullivan are proud too!!)



Congratulations to Keylee Anderson, who graduated from the Jefferson County Open school on May 21.

Ila Schellpfeffer's granddaughter, Monica Rainey, University of Arizona, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Optical Sciences Engineering and a minor in Mathematics on May 14, 2011.

Congrats to Del and Julie Fyock's grandchildren, Andrew and Matthew. Andrew graduated with a Bachelor's Degree from Temple University in Philadelphia, PA. and Matthew will graduate with an MBA from Washington University in St Louis, MO.

Thank You!
THANK YOU!

Thank you to our wonderful LUCC family for your support, love, and prayers during my spine surgery and recovery. We are so blessed to be part of this community of faith. Janet Wise and Paul & Max Michalec

The Beacon is published by
 Lakewood UCC (LUCC)
 LUCC is at
 100 Carr Street, Lakewood, Colorado
 80226

Phone: 303-233-4401,
 Fax: 303-233-4406
 Church Email:
lakewooducc@qwestoffice.net
 Beacon email:
lakewoodbeacon@qwestoffice.net
 website: www.lakewooducc.com

BEACON:

How do I submit articles?

Submit an article for use in the *Beacon* via email to the following address:

lakewoodbeacon@qwestoffice.net

You may also place your articles in the *Beacon* folder in the church office.

Email submissions are accepted either in the body of the email or as an attached Word document.

The monthly deadline is the third FRIDAY of the previous month!

The mission of the Lakewood United Church of Christ is to develop our faith in God, enabling us to know the abundant life Christ promised by nourishing our spiritual journey, fostering community, inviting others to join on the journey, and going forth into the world through service to do justice, love others, and promote peace. We are an Open and Affirming church, respecting all God's children regardless of race, color, ethnicity, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, age, or disability. We adopt and embrace the Policy to Protect against Sexual Abuse and Harassment.

LUCC STAFF

Curt Preston, Minister
Tabby Bernardo, Moderator
Jen Keyes, CE Director
Joan Wagner, Director of Music Ministries
Brian Weishaar, Finance Manager
Jean Chavez, Office Manager

BEACON VOLUNTEERS

Jean Chavez, Editor
Mary Menin, Copy Editor
Dorothy Fisher
Ruth Haig
Betsy O'Sullivan
Dorothy Thurber
Betty Touzalin
Jenny Merriman

LUCC Phone: 303-233-4401



Lakewood United Church of Christ

100 Carr St.
Lakewood, CO 80226

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