



LOUISVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Grapevine

March 2009

IMPORTANT NOTE:

We are transitioning the delivery of the newsletter to electronic. For the next few months, you will receive it both ways -- via email and via regular mail. If you didn't receive this issue electronically, then we don't have your email on file! Please send a note to courtney_peverley@hotmail.com, with your name and email, to get on our list! Also, if you do not wish to receive the newsletter each month, please notify us via the same email. Thanks!

Two Opportunities For Worship Every Sunday

- 8:00 a.m. Casual Worship Service
- 9:15 a.m. Adult Sunday School
- 9:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School (1 hr)
- 10:30 a.m. Worship service w/ short Sunday school
- Holy Communion 1st Sunday of each month

A Lenten Reflection on the Meaning of Failure

Failure, whether culpable or non-culpable, is a universal human experience. Jesus experienced human failure. He wept over Jerusalem which did not know the ways that bring about peace. His preaching failed to convert his people. His crucifixion was an act of rejection and public disgrace. The hatred vented upon him during his passion and death gave him a profound experience of moral evil. His last moments of life were filled with the consciousness of his failure to communicate his Father's message to his people. And when it was all over, his disciples realized that Jesus' acceptance of failure and death was the divinely appointed way for effectively communicating all that God, whom he called "Father", wanted to communicate, even if Jesus himself might not have realized this in his final moments of consciousness.

The Church, the body of Christ, experiences failure. The Church is painfully aware that among both its clerical and lay members there has been infidelity to the Spirit of God during the course of many centuries. The Church is aware of how great a distance lies between the message it offers and the human failings of those to whom the Gospel is entrusted. Today there is a widespread awareness of failure pervading our social structures which have mitigated against social justice; oppressing millions and impeding their human development. There is no corner of the globe where humankind has not, in varying degrees, experienced the failure of its social structures.

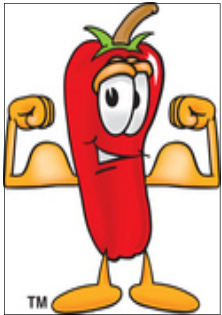
Every generation experiences fresh social injustices, wars, greed and exploitation, in which human beings create tragedy after tragedy. No age has been without a profound experience of historical failure. The historical process has not produced peace and brotherhood. The Church's remembrance of the transcending love of the cross empowers us with a future that transcends the ultimate failure of sin and death; remembering redemption redeems the future, transforming death into a transition in life rather than the ultimate failure of life.

As Christians we affirm that Jesus is the image of God, and that we human beings bear his image, so that Jesus no longer stands alone, but as the eldest of a large family of brothers and sisters. Jesus is the means by which the invisible God is revealed, the divine pattern on the basis of which all human beings have been created. The "Abba" relationship, embodied in the historical Jesus, is the means by which God delivers and heals humanity. This is the meaning of the cross, where the very symbol of failure and death has been transformed into a symbol of love and life. Love overcomes failure by reversing its meaning, by giving it a new meaning — a positive, redeeming meant that becomes the message and good news of the disciples of Jesus. The disciples believed that this meaning explained their experience of the living Jesus after his death on a cross, therefore, the reality of Jesus' death, as well as the reality of the suffering and failure that were linked to it, is rooted in the meaning which Jesus had given it and which the disciples recalled. Failure, suffering, and death had been given new meaning; they had been transformed into a different kind of reality, a new reality, a healing and liberating reality.

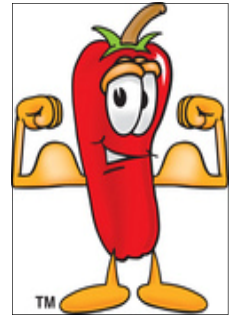
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Pastor's Corner—Continued

Through the power and meaning of divine love, everything is a grace and works for our good; even failure and suffering. In fact, the wisdom of the cross suggests that perhaps the best way of enlightening and healing humankind is through the acceptance of failure, suffering, and death in the name of the absolute truth, love and goodness of God. Influenced greatly by the life and teachings of Jesus, Mahatma Gandhi, believed firmly that our willingness to endure suffering, failure, and death on behalf of truth is not only a test of one's authentic adherence to truth but also an indispensable means for the communication of truth, justice and brotherly love in society. The resurrection of Jesus is the light after the darkness of failure; it is God's loving response to the cry of Jesus on Calvary. Our Christian faith proclaims that a man who died a failure in the eyes of the world was a "success" before God. When we say that Jesus bore the cross for the salvation of humankind, we mean that he endured genuine, radical, humiliating failure for the salvation of humankind. Through the gift of the Spirit of love Christians are called to lay down their lives daily in order to live in the free and unselfish spirit of Christ. Through the mystery of the cross we accept God's call to the higher realization that we can overcome evil with good. May your participation in our Lenten services this year deepen your understanding of this mystery that is the foundation of our Christian faith.



Come to the annual Chili Cook-off Sunday, March 8 at 6 pm to support the LUMC Youth Group!



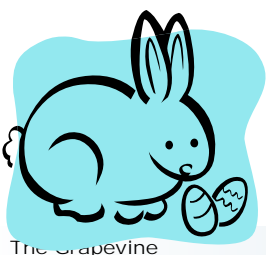
From the Worship Committee:

Per Rev. Bob's request to involve more laity and from the recent survey:

ATTENTION Youth, Young Adults, and other Adults:

Help is wanted for the 10:30 AM Service to lead and co-ordinate the **Children's Message Time**. Someone who has a keen interest in talking to children and finding others to help on a regular basis can contact Nancy Holloway, 303.665.0776 for details!!

Easter Egg Hunt



The LUMC Children's Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Easter Sunday, April 12 at 10:00 am. In preparation, families and individuals are asked to bring 1 dozen plastic eggs filled with soft candies or small prizes, stickers, etc. These eggs are to be left in a decorated box in the church kitchen beginning Sunday, March 15. Depending on the weather, our Youth will hide the eggs very cleverly either in the church or outside on the church grounds. Bring baskets if you have them and come watch the fun!

L'UMC Lenten Schedule 2009



Sundays, March 1 – March 29:

8:00 & 10:30 a.m.: Lenten Worship Services

9:15 a.m.: Adult Sunday School; 9:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School

Tuesdays, March 17 - March 31:

6:30 p.m.: Lenten Movie Series and discussion. Each week there will be a light supper at 6:30 p.m., one of the inspirational movies listed below at 7:00, followed by discussion.

March 17—**"Pay it Forward"** with Kevin Spacey, Helen Hunt & Haley Joel Osment

March 24—**"Miracle"** with Kurt Russell

March 31—**"The Great Debaters"** with Denzel Washington

Thursday, April 2:

6:30 p.m.: Traditional Passover Meal and Seder Service led by Rabbi Marc Soloway from Synagogue Bonai Shalom in Boulder. This is a joint service with the Lafayette, Erie & Niwot Methodist churches and will be held at the First UMC Church in Lafayette.

Palm Sunday, April 5:

8:00 & 10:30 a.m.: Special Palm Sunday Services with the Choir singing the Easter Cantata "Come, Touch the Robe" and procession of children with Palms.

9:15 a.m.: Adult Sunday School; 9:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School

Maundy Thursday, April 9:

7:00 p.m.: Maundy Thursday service with Communion. This is a joint service and will be held at the Erie United Methodist Church.

Good Friday, April 10:

7:00 p.m.: Good Friday Service with dramatic presentation. This is a joint service and will be held at the Niwot United Methodist Church.

Easter Sunday, April 12:

6:00 a.m.: Joint Easter Sunrise Service with nine area Methodist Churches at Thunderbird Park, Boulder (across from Mountain View UMC). This will be followed by breakfast at Mountain View UMC served by Wesley Foundation students.

8:00 & 10:30 a.m.: Special Easter Services with special music from the choir, and a sanctuary beautifully decorated with special banners and Easter lilies.

9:00—10:30 a.m.: All-Church Easter Breakfast

9:30 a.m.: Children's Sunday School (focusing on the Easter message)

10:00 a.m.: Children's Easter Egg Hunt

The Grapevine is a publication of:

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WANT TO GET A HEAD START? The newsletter deadline for the next issue is March 15. Please email any articles, PICTURES, or suggestions, to our editor:

courtney_peverley@hotmail.com

Send mailing address changes to:

sheilaspanglar@earthlink.net

LUMC TALENT NIGHT

Do We Have Talent Or What?????

The dinner and talent night fundraiser for the Jefferson Street Preschool was one of the most fun events *EVER* in the history of the world!!! If you weren't there you can't imagine what you missed. We had it all. First was the international cuisine of the dinner. What a feast for both mouth and eye. The table was brimming with succulent dishes from Ireland and Mexico and all with an American twist. After gorging ourselves on this wonderful fare, we adjourned to the sanctuary for our talent show (acts I might say rival any in Vegas). Fourteen groups or individuals performed some of the most unique acts we had ever seen! We had music!! Classical performed on the violin, jazz on the piano, polka done on the accordion – this accompanied by dancing on the stage by people who were so taken with the music they just couldn't contain themselves!!- and a trombone duet that brought tears to our eyes. There were also several vocalists who would never be voted off of American Idol, including a child prodigy. Offering entertainment were also a stand up comic (watch out Ray Romano and Jerry Seinfeld) who had everyone in stitches, a juggler who was so impressive he almost got a standing ovation and a demonstration of the Tai Chi Chuan form of martial arts performed by our own Marta Klaren. Watch out Grasshopper! To end the evening on a serious note was a dance and recitation of "Ode To a Grecian Urn" by John Keats. Narration by Robin Guildner and performed by Gordon Quillin, DJ Guildner, Steve Spearman and Mark Spangler. We were all so touched by the reverence given to this piece of literary art we could hardly keep the tears from flowing. The evening was a huge success and the money raised will be donated to the new preschool. It was such a great event people are asking "When are we doing this again?"



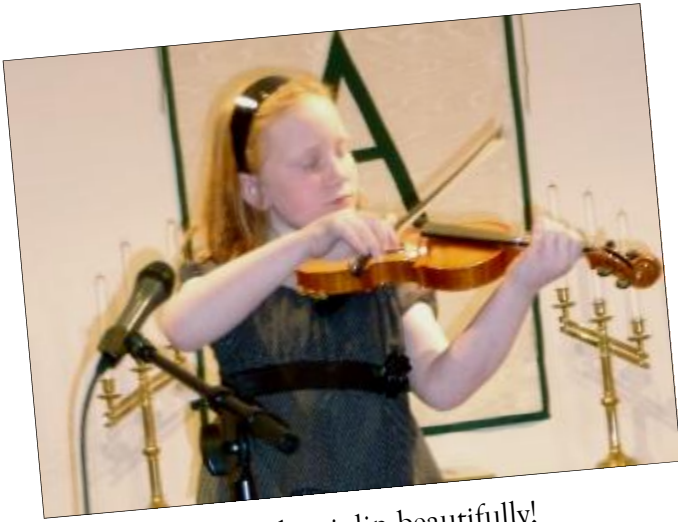
Bradley Spangler becomes the
77th Trombone



Shirah Gifford delights the
crowd.



Yes, Gordon Quillin is wearing
a toga



Kira plays the violin beautifully!



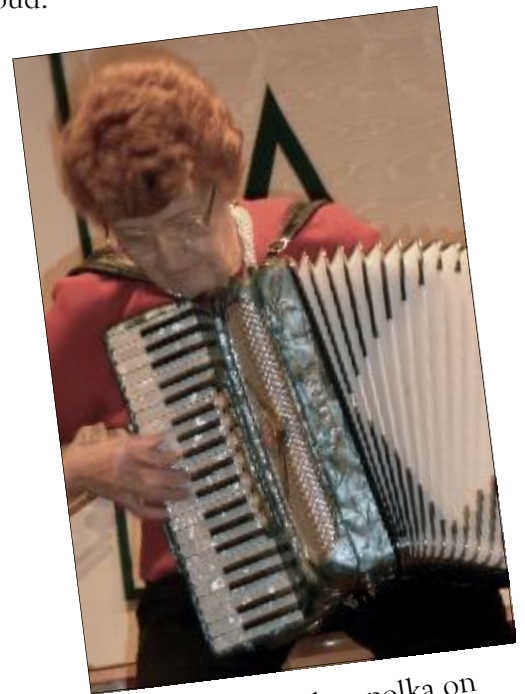
The Bovens say hello!



Jack Dawson would be proud.



Colton Spearman juggles apples



Fran Starck plays polka on her accordion.

Youth News



Andrew Spangler performs
in the youth skit at the
LUMC Talent Night.

This past month, the youth participated met our new leaders! The Malcolm girls have already accomplished feats previously impossible, such as getting us to do a skit at the talent show with astonishingly few glitches! We have also gone to a Valentine's Day dance, assembled care packages for our graduates, and planned future events such as the CHILI COOKOFF on March 8. Two of the Malcolms, Antje Heideroth, Lilly Malcolm, and Courtney Peverley will be venturing off to YLC in the mountains this weekend for an experience with other Methodist youth from across the Rocky Mountain Conference.

Mugs

Are you enjoying the new coffee cups being used for Sunday Morning Fellowship? If you use them, a one time donation of \$5.00 would be appreciated. You can put your money in the basket next to the coffee pots.

If you would like to have a couple for home, pick them up in the office and leave the money (\$5.00 each) in Marta's box in the office. Obviously, our visitors get one for free; but, when you purchase them it helps us raise money to continue this program. Don't you agree that our visitors are very impressed and have something that is a constant reminder of Louisville United Methodist Church?

How to Do Social Justice Ministries in the Local Church

Saturday, March 28
Lakewood UMC
1390 Brentwood St.
9:00 am to 2:00
Lunch included

Morning session includes power point presentation on teaching the Social Principles

Afternoon session will include a panel of folks from local churches who have active social justice ministries sharing "how to's"

Donation for lunch

Contact peacewithjustice@rmcumc.com or call the Church and Society Network at the Conference Office

303-733-3736 ext.152

Jefferson Street Preschool Update

We know that the first thing you want to hear about is the LOGO contest so that is where we will begin. There were so many wonderful entries it was very difficult to choose just one. So we didn't!! We took a combination of a few and made one that we all could agree on. It still may need a little tweaking, but it is a wonderful design. It was unveiled at the talent show and will be used on our preschool advertising and forms. Plus our sign out front will display it. A huge thanks goes to everyone who entered. We appreciate you all so much more than we can ever say.

Our chosen name, 'Jefferson Street Preschool', has been registered with the State and we are now official! It is time to get down to some real work. First, we will have ads coming out in the Louisville Times, Lafayette News and the Erie Review for the next 2 weeks. They have a special page for summer and fall programs and gave us a great deal. We are preparing to receive many calls from parents wanting to place their children in our preschool. We are also working with the Boulder Camera for summer advertising and checking into putting up flyers in many local businesses. If you have any suggestions as to where we can place flyers, please let us know.

Our "Building Blocks For Learning" fundraising campaign will begin on Sunday, Feb. 28. and will be continuing through the next couple of months. We still have not heard from the bank regarding the outcome of our loan application so we will be coming up with a few more fundraising ideas that will hopefully involve the entire community. We have also applied for a federal grant and will apply for a private one in July. We have not heard back on the federal grant application yet and hope it does not take as long as most government applications. The private grant money will not be dispersed until October so we have a while to wait for that. Our bank loan officer told us that it is taking a little longer than normal to process loans right now due to the economy. She also told us that the easiest way for us to get a loan would be for someone to take out a CD at our bank for the loan amount and let us use it as collateral. If the loan does not come through for some reason, we may be asking people to take a leap of faith and invest some of their money in the church's bank and let us use it as collateral. If several families could do this it would not be a big strain on any one family. We are hopeful that this will not be needed but keep it in mind just in case.

Last Saturday, we walked through the preschool building with our soon to be director's husband, who just happens to be a painter. He has volunteered to paint the building inside and out for us for the cost of supplies. A couple of weeks prior to that, a friend of the church called to let us know she had some chairs that we auctioned off from the Denver Public School system. She happily donated 24 little people chairs for our school. They need a little paint but seem to be in good shape otherwise. It seems that people everywhere are looking out for us and we couldn't be happier about it. We have volunteers to make shelving and some little cubbies for the kids to keep their things in. The choir donated their old plastic tubs for storage. We truly believe we were meant to do this and that God is looking out for us. Please continue your prayers for our preschool. Please also remember to address specific questions to the appropriate committee. Nancy Holloway – Personnel/Staff, - Reyenne Guerrero –Marketing, Claire VanMeter- Donations, Sheila Newton- Furnishings/Improvements, Sandy Gormley-Legal/Financial.

Thank you all so much for all your help and we sincerely wish God's blessing upon you.

Your Preschool Committee

Claire VanMeter, Sheila Newton, Nancy Holloway, Sandy Gormley, Reyenne Guerrero, Alan Hill, Eric Guerrero, Jay Holloway and Tom Gormley.

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Wine Into Water becomes *ONLINE* into Water!

The Wesley Foundation at CU- Boulder has been blessed with a bounty of donations for our fundraising efforts. We have found, however, that the economy is affecting potential supporters from participating in the wine tasting event we had planned. In keeping with our original theme of "Wine Into Water," we are now planning an "*Online Into Water*" event which will be an online auction. The proceeds will still benefit the Wesley Foundation programs including the Spring Break Alternative Work trip in which a water system will be installed at an elementary school in Portoviejo, Ecuador. All the details are at <http://tinyurl.com/c5klsm> Find some great deals for yourself and then forward the link to your friends! Contact: Cynthia Carosella 303-748-3037 cynthiacarosella@hotmail.com see also: www.wesleyf.org

TRAVEL, Have FUN & Help Wesley!

*The Wesley Foundation campus ministry at C.U.- Boulder announces an exciting new fundraising program - a **travel & event/concert ticketing website!** This is a full featured travel website private labeled with the Wesley Foundation name and logo. Go check it out! www.wesleyftravel.com*

How it works: Each time travel is arranged through an online travel website, travel companies pay commissions for your reservation. When travel is booked on our new website, the **Wesley Foundation will receive 60% of these commissions paid as royalties. This can have a huge impact on their organization's budget!**

Website Features: *If you're familiar with booking travel online, you shouldn't have any trouble navigating the new website. The website functions in a similar manner to other travel websites such as Travelocity, Hotels.com, Expedia® and Orbitz®. The prices are comparable, if not lower, than these other sites and you get to help our ministry whenever you book your travel arrangements without any extra cost to you! Some of the key features you will find on the website include:*