

# University Lutheran Foundation Newsletter - Spring 2011

University Lutheran Chapel

1202 Folsom St.

Boulder, CO 80302

303.443.8720

## A Message from the Foundation Board

The University Lutheran Foundation is your alumni organization, made up of you! As a group, we represent the history and heritage of University Lutheran Chapel. And, as a group, we are entrusted by God to help steward His resources.

For the Chapel, this means providing funds for the upkeep of the building, encouraging current students with a thank-you or a meal, and contributing to the costs of operations and Pastor Dan Burhop's salary.

Good things are happening at the Chapel. Students are worshiping on Sunday evenings, with new students coming in regularly. Bible studies take place throughout the week, reaching traditional and international students. And representatives from the Chapel are visiting area churches and schools to encourage new future members.

One of the most amazing stories about grace is the parable of the workers in the vineyard (*Matthew 20*). In it, Christ shows the unbelievable power of generosity as those who are hired late to be workers are given the same reward as those who spent their entire day laboring.

Campus ministry exists because of the grace of God, not in spite of it. It is easy for us, as alumni – probably active in ULC at the time of our schooling – to see ULC's mission as reaching the unchurched or as sustaining those young adults who are already active in home congregations. ULC is reaching those "laboring today."

But ULC provides a function that is also easy to miss. God's visible presence near the rowdy CU-Boulder campus is a touchstone for people in ways we will never know. How many students walk past the building and contemplate their relationship with God? How many young people during their college tenure visit ULC once or twice, only to realize God's grace ten or twenty years later? They are "hired late," but still saved.

We can be guilty of putting God in a box, of seeing His grace and actions only in ways we can measure and see today, next year, or as part of a 5-year plan. As thousands of students descend on campus daily this year, we encourage you to pray for both the visible and not-so-visible impact that ULC has on their lives.

Brad Mueller, ULF President  
Jeff Diehl, Treasurer/Secretary  
Becky Nichols  
Rev. Bob Stuenkel

Holly Nelson Massie  
Harriet Oehlkers  
Rev. Daniel Burhop, ULC

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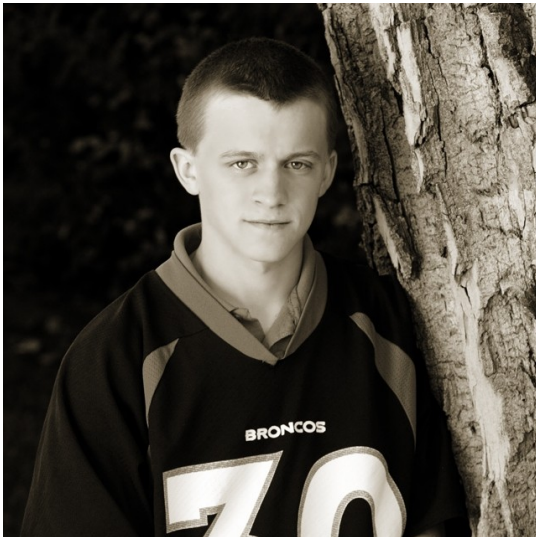


"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

~ Jeremiah 29:11

## ***HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATIONS***

**Clara Eickhoff**, the daughter of **Jean** (DMA '90) and **Mark** (PhD '94) **Eickhoff**, will graduate from high school in Albuquerque, NM, this spring and is planning on entering Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, WA. Clara has already received pre-acceptance for the nursing school in Fall 2012.



**Ian Nichols**, the son of **Becky** (MSc '90) & **Don Nichols**, will graduate from Denver Lutheran High School on 28 May 2011. Ian has enlisted in the U. S. Army with a Military Occupational Specialty (MOS 25S) in the Signals (Communications) field. He will be leaving Colorado on 18 July for Ft. Benning, GA, and plans on taking college courses as part of his military service.

**Matthew Oolman**, the son of **Larry** (MS '84) and **Kris Oolman**, graduated from Laramie, WY, High School in May 2010, and is a first year student at the University of Wyoming.





## REFLECTIONS

This is the second academic year in which the Entryway Cross of our University Lutheran Chapel is serving as a prominent image. The designer Brock Shaw's description of its meaning was featured in the Spring 2009 *University Lutheran Foundation Newsletter*: "The idea is to show the fish moving vertically and swimming through water and to be a symbol of Christ. These forms also give reference to a vine with the leaves showing growth. The cross is tapered towards your doorway leading the eye into the entry of your chapel."

In this past year, our alumni members have been reminded more frequently of the entrance to eternal life by the deaths of loved ones.

**Kenneth Oehlkers** (CU '63), who died suddenly of a heart attack on 11 August 2010, and **Klaus Timmerhaus**, under hospice care at the time of his death on 11 February 2011, were both looking up at the Entryway Cross with Chapel people at the dedication on 4 July 2009. Ken and Klaus were active in the early University Lutheran Assembly, Ken as a CU student and Klaus as a chemical engineering professor and an assistant track coach. They were also members together at Mt. Hope Lutheran Church in Boulder, where the funeral was held for Klaus on 17 February. We were able to celebrate Klaus' marriage to **Jan** of Mt. Shasta, CA, last July, together with daughter **Carol Getty** and family. Earlier in July, we had celebrated Ken's 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday anniversary with his wife, **Harriet**, their family, and a number of friends and ULC alumni.

Actually, the toasting and prayers for Ken's special birthday began with the large Holy Land Tour of June 2010 group led by Harriet — a UL Foundation board member — and her sister **Phyllis Miller** of New Port Richey, FL, at the conclusion to the Israel and Petra, Jordan, pilgrimage. **Jean Mundinger**, **Mira Canion**, and Julie and I were part of the tour group for whom the Lenten journey of this year holds exceptional meaning. We concluded our tour on the eve of Ken's birthday with Psalm 134 — the final "pilgrimage psalm":

"Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord . . .

May the Lord, maker of heaven and earth, bless you from Zion."



*I am the vine,  
you are the  
branches.  
The one who  
abides in me  
while I abide in  
him produces  
much fruit,  
because apart  
from me you  
can do nothing.  
~ John 15:5*

Pastor Bob Stuenkel



## PASSINGS

Our ULC Assembly has also experienced the deaths of other members in the extended family and share in the blessing of memories.

- ✝ **James (Jim) Rauch** died at age 64 on 7 June 2010 in Longmont, CO. Jim's playing of the piano and the recorder in our Student Center and his participation in Agape Meals and in the music of Good Friday Chapel Services will be remembered by members. Jim was wonderfully befriended by students throughout his decades at ULC. I happened to stop by Jim's group home in Longmont on the day before his death to learn of Jim's hospitalization.
- ✝ **Al Schallenmuller**, the father of **Eric Schallenmuller** (CU '87), died in mid-November 2010. I learned while attending a retired pastors gathering at Al's Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Centennial, CO. The wife of **Kris Saline, Deb**, shared this information just before his Funeral Service on 22 November 2010.
- ✝ **Robert Erisman**, the father of **Daren Erisman** (CU '90), died in Lakeland, FL, on 3 February. Julie and I — in Sarasota, FL — were able to stay close to Daren as he came from his home in Carlsbad, CA, to assist in the care of his father.
- ✝ During that same time in late January, we learned of the death of **Terri Miller's** father, **Roy Jacobson**, in the Denver area. Several ULC alumni, including Don and Becky Nichols, were able to attend Roy's funeral at Risen Savior Lutheran Church in Broomfield on 24 January 2011.
- ✝ **J. Albert Bauer's** death was reported in the CU Alumni magazine and shared by Norris Hermsmeyer, who also remembered Jay's active participation in Gamma Delta. Jay received his BA degree (Economics) from CU in 1967 and a JD (Law) in 1972. He had been an attorney in Summit County, CO, for most of his career.
- ✝ An announcement came from **Frank (Terry) Gordon** about the passing of good friend **Raymond Liesman** of Greeley, CO. The obituary begins: "The Lord suddenly called Raymond Samuel Liesman home on March 6, 2011 in Sterling, Colorado." Ray had received his degree at CU in Civil Engineering and had served as Water Referee for the State of Colorado until 2009. Ray's wife, **Wanda**, had died just prior to that time. Ray and Wanda were active members of Gloria Christi Lutheran Church in Greeley, and they participated in a number of key ULC events over the years. Also included is word about the engagement of Ray to **Arlene Bournia** in October 2010.

Pastor Bob Stuenkel

Jesus said,  
 "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes  
 in me, though he die, yet shall he live."  
 ~ John 11:25



## NEWS FROM ALUMNI AND FRIENDS DURING THE 1960's AND 1970's

**Loren Otto** visited the Boulder area in late August from his home in southern Colorado. His interest in aircraft and flying over the years brought him to Rocky Mountain Airport for an air show and a visit with ULA friend **Bob Matheson** (CU '61 & MS '68).

**Norris** (CU '67) and **Teri Hermismeyer** built upon a special friendship from mission service in the 1980s by traveling to Chennai (formerly Madras), India, during Christmas week where they celebrated the marriage of the son of dear friend S. Nelson (who visited ULC some years ago) just hours after their arrival. The Hermismeyers' three children in college accompanied them, in fact, they remained in London for several days on the return trip while Teri and Norris came home to Boulder.

**David Hooley**, a CU physics doctoral student in the 1970s, works in new software development in Louisville, CO, and takes special delight in describing mission service in Ecuador and Peru.

**Michael Lehtinen**, music student at CU and ULC organist 1978-1980, told in his Christmas letter about the meaning in playing for the dedication of the new organ in his "home" congregation, Our Savior Lutheran Church in Aurora, MN. Michael's career as church organist and keyboard teacher & performer is in Charlotte, NC.

## NEWS FROM ALUMNI AND FRIENDS DURING THE 1980's

**Timothy Ullmann** (CU '82) made a major transition last July in his military chaplaincy from Montgomery, AL, to Edwards AFB in California. Tim has also experienced the change from serving as a priest in the Greek Orthodox Church to the Anglican Communion.

**Amy Schirmer** (CU '87) and her husband **Ian** continue their residency in Pristina, Kosovo. What needs to be added from the description in last year's *Foundation Newsletter* is that their late July visit with the **Stuenkels** in Boulder enabled the **Buchholz, Nichols, and Erisman** (visiting from California) families to meet Ian. Amy and Ian also spent the Christmas holidays with the **Firnhaber** family in Pretoria, South Africa. Our most recent communication from Amy came just after her evacuation from Cairo, Egypt, to the Island of Cyprus during the height of the Egyptian democracy demonstrations in February. Amy tells of attending a conference in Cairo in her capacity as a U. S. State Department "Senior Fellow" for the teaching of English.

**Paul Mundinger** (CU '84) experienced transition in his telecommunications work during the past year and now consults largely from their family home in Boulder. Paul has focused more, however, on telling about his volunteer work as an incident commander and communications officer with the Boulder Mountain Fire Protection District. He has given a number of presenta-





tions about the devastating Four Mile Canyon Fire that burned a record number of acres and homes in the foothills of Boulder during the first week of September. Paul speaks about fire prevention from his involvement in fighting the fires as well as from their family experience of evacuating their home more than once.

**Jamie** (MBA '82) and **Chris Adams** responded to evacuations of their home north of Boulder because of fires at the same time. The home that **Kurt Firnhaber** (CU '86) designed and constructed and, then sold in the late 1980s was destroyed by the Four Mile Canyon Fire. It was called "The Shadow Lode Home" and was well known by ULC members.

**Arden** (MS '88) and **Susan Strasser** sent a photo of their daughter **Chloe** with good friends **Stan & Jody** and **Craig Tyler** of Norco, CA. Chloe is a student at the University of California -Irvine. Stan's research position in chemistry was at UC-Irvine since his years with us in Boulder, and he has now joined his wife Jody on the faculty of Norco Community College. The Strasser family spent the summer of 2010 on leave in the U.S. from their medical and ministry service in Zambia, Africa.



*Chloe Strasser, Jody and Stan and Craig Tyler*

## NEWS FROM ALUMNI AND FRIENDS DURING THE 1990's

**Sean** and **Christine Austin** provide delightful periodic pictures of the growth of daughter **Elsa**. Their active family life is in Bozeman, MT, where Christine and Sean are working at Montana State University.

The **Koepke Family** span the decades in Assembly life and were students at CU until recently. **Hoyt** (CU '04) and **Lucas** (CU '06) continue as doctoral students in statistics at the University of Washington in Seattle. **Heidi** (CU '09) traveled from Fort Benning, GA, to join the family on their adventure of late last summer — traveling by motorcycles into northern Canada, even to Inuvik, NWT. **Doris** continues to serve as the coordinating and production point for our *Foundation Newsletter*. She works closely with **Becky Nichols** (MSc '90), the Editor and UL Foundation board member.





## NEWS FROM ALUMNI AND FRIENDS DURING THE 2000's

**Joseph Lopez** is another ULC former member who lives in the Northwest. He wrote a stimulating article which was published on 22 February 2011 in his Vancouver, BC, area entitled "The Media, the Mob, and the Middle East Protests." Joseph, who moved one year ago from Auckland, New Zealand, is described as "a Vancouver-based journalist who has reported from Brazil, Kenya, Thailand, the United States, and other countries."



**Sydney Lorraine Diehl**, the daughter of **Jeff** (CU '03) and **Bekah Diehl** was born on 12 October 2010. By the time of the UL Foundation and Assembly gathering for the CU Holiday Concert in early December, we enjoyed seeing the growth of Sydney alongside her sister **Taylor**.

**Mollie Beth Goings**, whose birth to **Nanette** (CU '82) and **Bob Goings** many alumni remember, celebrated her 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday Anniversary on 10-10-10 back in the Boulder/Longmont area. Mollie teaches in Colorado Springs.

**Jean Munding** was honored on her 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Anniversary in late February, with a celebration hosted by **Paul** (CU '84) and **Amy Munding** in Boulder. Bob & Julie Stuenkel join in this recognition and thanksgiving to God for Jean, who has touched the lives of Assembly people since she and Pastor Gerhard Munding came to ULA in January 1963.

**Julie Olesen Heidt** (CU '82) was surprised on her 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Anniversary in late July 2010 with a party of family and friends arranged by her husband, **Mark Heidt** (CU '77) and two sons on a farm/park near their family home in Brighton, CO.



*Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails . . .* 1 Corinthians 13:4-8a



**Kent Devenport** was married to **Maria Brovick** on 30 July 2010 in Spokane, WA. They make their home in Spokane Valley, WA.

**John Rowe** (MS '83) and **Debbie Romans** were married on 3 April 2010 in Keystone, CO. Their home is in Centennial, CO.

**Kirby Beegles** and **Julia Spalding** (now Julia Spalding-Beegles) celebrated their wedding on 15 October 2010. They make their home in Denver where Kirby is working for The Leffler Group, a structural engineering company in Arvada. Julia is employed at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science.





## ENCOURAGEMENT FROM AN ALUMNI (SORT OF)

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

My name is Chris Asbury. I am a 2002 University of Colorado alum (BA-History). I did not participate at ULC during my CU days, but I now appreciate the blessing of Christ's ministry and mission through the LCMS.

After graduating I received adult catechesis through Mt. Olive in Aurora, CO. I joined that congregation as a new Lutheran.

Two years later my wife Kelly (BA-Math '02) and I were moving to Concordia Seminary in St. Louis so I could prepare for pastoral ministry. Now we're in BIG RED country!?!

Looking back, I see how ULC could have been a helpful place filled with Christ-centered people for me. On my first day of classes at CU, I had Philosophy, Astronomy, and Environmental Chem. Each professor in those classes immediately questioned God and challenged my faith in Him. What a depressing day! Thankfully, God's Word saw me through that time. He has good and faithful promises! But sometimes I doubted.

I did enjoy my various band trips, bowl games, football, and

friends. I also learned quite a bit during my time working in the CU Heritage Center in Old Main. (You've got to appreciate the Glenn Miller collection!) Life on the Hill was nice — we actually missed the two riots on our block because we were at the games — and having Christian roommates was a blessing, too.

I have many good memories, but I continue to reflect on how challenging my freshmen year was; far away from my home in California.

Thankfully God provided several good Christian friends through the marching band, but Christians seemed to be a minority and Christ-centered Lutheran ministry wasn't something I was always looking for (if at all!).

May God continue to bless His ministry to you and through you. He loves you and all the other Freshman, Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors, and graduate students out there in Boulder.

Peace & Joy in Jesus Christ,

Pastor Chris Asbury  
Associate Pastor  
Grace Lutheran  
Norfolk, NE

*"Thankfully,  
God's Word  
saw me  
through that  
time. He has  
good and  
faithful  
promises!"*





*Singing Vespers during Christ on Campus Retreat*



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*ULC Students at CU Football Parking*



*Justin Eagles-Soukup and John Hoversten  
selling concessions at a CU Football Game*





The Colorado Lutheran High School Association (CLHSA) has announced the merger of Denver Lutheran High School with Lutheran High School Parker at the conclusion of the 2010-2011 school year. The new school, named Lutheran High School, will be located at the Parker campus.

The final theatre presentation for DLHS will be "Arsenic & Old Lace." **Ian Nichols** and **Alison Nichols** have been active in the theatre department at DLHS and will be part of this final show.

Please join us on April 28, 29 or 30, to celebrate more than 50 years of Lutheran education at DLHS.

Don & Becky Nichols

DENVER LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL  
THEATRE DEPARTMENT PRESENTS **THEIR FINAL PERFORMANCE!**

# ARSENIC & Old Lace

**Performances:**  
Thursday April 28 @ 7pm  
Friday April 29 @ 7pm  
Saturday April 30 @ 7pm – Alumni Night!

Join us for food, fellowship and a stroll down memory lane.  
Reunite with old friends, share stories, see pictures of all the shows  
from the past 55 years. Celebrate the history of DLHS theatre!  
Fellowship at 6pm, show at 7pm.

**All tickets \$8 presale, \$10 at the door.**

**Reserved Seating**  
To order tickets see a theatre student or call:  
303-934-2345 ext. 1104

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## Four Years

Freshmen; Sophomore; Junior; Senior. The typical length of a college life is four years. It has now been four years since I was called to serve University Lutheran Chapel, and it's amazing how much has changed: the service time, the cross over the chapel doors, and even to the placement of the pulpit (due to a fire code violation).

The biggest change though, is that of the students. As many of you know and experienced during your time at ULC, it's a congregation that is constantly changing, with students moving in and moving out. Four years is a long time in a campus congregation. Over four years, the whole makeup of the congregation changes. In another four years, it will all change again.

Over the years though, more and more are added to our group of alumni. That is one thing that will not change. Those who are currently at the chapel are blessed by the support that we receive from your donations and your prayers.

Thank you for your continued support.

Pastor Daniel Burhop

**Contact ULC by e-mail:**  
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**telephone 303.443.8720**