

The Meadowlark Messenger

*Meadowlark Church of Christ
Glorifying God, sharing Christ, encouraging one another*



Fort Collins, Colorado March, 2005 Published Monthly

Meadowlark Family Reunion 2005

On Sunday, April 24th, the Meadowlark family is inviting all former members to join us for morning worship services at 10:00am, and a catered lunch immediately following.

This year's theme is "Renew, Reconnect, Reunite"!

*God is working, and we invite you to join us in celebrating
His family.*

Please make plans to join us by making your RSVP today.

*To do so you may go to our website at: meadowlark-
church.org or by calling the church office.*

We hope to see you there!

Meadowlark Church of Christ
2810 Meadowlark Ave.
Ft. Collins, CO 80526
Phone: (970) 223-7788
Fax: (800) 832-5789
Website:
www.meadowlarkchurch.org
E-Mail:
office@meadowlarkchurch.org

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| Sunday Bible class | 9:00am |
| Sunday Worship | 10:00am |
| Sunday Evening | 5:30pm |
| Life Groups | 5:30pm |
| Wednesday Bible Study | 7:00pm |

Elders:

Dale Alexander 223-2663
Milt Brown 221-3256
Tim Brown 223-1949
Paul Cooper 221-4073
Don Fike 229-0676
Don Kyle 225-8958
* **Marvin Martin 484-8385**
Gary Richards 223-9663

* Elder chairman for the month of March

Ministers:

Doug Hall, Pulpit Minister
377-9863

Russ Whitten, Campus Minister
494-0999

Wes Kohring, Youth Minister
225-1173



Hall-Marks

Bless You

There are some things we know through common sense that eventually get documented by researchers. Here's a case in point.

An ongoing study at Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh supports the view that one's physical health is directly related to his or her spiritual well-being. The ability of people to throw off common illnesses versus being laid low by every passing bug correlates directly to their ability to laugh — particularly at themselves — and to build positive relationships with others.

The Carnegie-Mellon study has focused on the common cold. For sixteen years now, researchers have been exposing volunteers to colds by spraying rhinoviruses into their noses. Persons are then quarantined for five days to see who gets sick and who doesn't. Guess what . . .

- * High-strung, anxious, and unhappy people are three times more likely to get sick than those who are relaxed and contented.
- * When happy people do get sick, their symptoms are milder.
- * The most likely persons to get sick in the lab are those under personal or work-related stress for the previous thirty days.
- * A positive social life — including one that involves diverse roles such as friend, spouse, parent, church member — improves resistance to illness.

Some of these factors are obviously beyond a person's ability to control. I can't help a company downsizing that eliminates my job. You can't avoid the stress that comes with your mother's death, your son's posting to Iraq, or an automobile accident in which you were the victim. Even in these situations beyond our control, though, there are positive and negative reactions to choose.

Avoid negative, whining souls. Pick friends who smile easily and like to laugh. Don't just "attend church," but find a Sunday School class, join a singing group, or — if you're tone-deaf — watch for "Volunteers Needed" in the church bulletin. Go to an open meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous — even if you don't drink. Join a civic club. Volunteer at a nearby nursing home. Exercise. If you're overextended from volunteering too many times already, give yourself permission to scale back.

"A cheerful heart is a good medicine, but a downcast spirit dries up the bones" (Proverbs 17:22). Your ability to reflect authentic joy is a partnership with God. It is a form of gentle courage to look for rays of his light in life's dark places.

-- FAX of Life



Is a Student Center on Campus Really a Good Idea? The Student Center Committee wrestled with this question long and hard as we began our work in 2003. We talked to Meadowlark members who had experience with student centers at universities. We called and talked to people who managed student centers around the country. We talked to our college group, and they continue to provide input. The only conclusion we could reach was that a student center on the CSU campus was the best of all the alternatives we considered. Here are the ways it will be used and the ways it will help: It will be used for midweek Bible classes. Being closer to campus than the Meadowlark building will make it easier for Christian students to bring friends and improve attendance.

It will be used for our Campus Minister's office. An office near campus will make it easier for his one-on-one Bible studies with non-Christians. He will be more accessible to Christian students as well, improving their connection with him and our campus ministry. It will be open for students to drop by any time. We'll keep a pot of coffee on, and maybe have some game tables and study areas. It will be a good place for Christian students to build connections with each other. It will be a place of refuge to escape the dorm or any other unwholesome environment. It will express our support of Christian college students. It is hard to be a Christian at a university, and the years spent there can be the most critical time for Christians to become grounded in their faith. Our support of them by providing a student center will say we are there for them. There can be no understating the importance of a successful campus ministry. For the Meadowlark church to be teaching Christianity to future leaders of America we need a successful campus ministry. To be touching lives of students with the message of God's love and Christ's sacrifice we need a successful campus ministry. If we want to be taking advantage of the opportunity God has placed before us at CSU and FRCC, we should make every effort we can to provide our campus ministry with all the resources it can use. There are many more questions to be answered beyond "Is a student center on campus really a good idea?" The student center committee will use future bulletin articles to present answers to questions that we have debated among ourselves. We'll be answering questions like: "How much will the student center cost? "Who will pay for it?" "How will the money be raised?" "What kind of facility will it be?" "Who will be making the decision to go ahead?" and "Who will own and operate the student center?"

As always, if you would like to help, contact Russ Whitten or Mike Von Gunten, or watch for the announced meeting times in the Sunday announcements. We meet every 2 or 3 weeks and would like to see you there. Mike Von Gunten

A Word About a Very Important Battle

Wes Kohring

The world is at war. We may not see fighter jets buzzing over our neighborhoods or hear missiles being launched at enemy targets, but make no mistake about it; our world, God and His children, are at war. The problem is that we are either unaware of it, lack the sense of urgency required, or are just unwilling to fight. Ephesians states it clearly: "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms." Sounds like war to me.

And students are main targets. Satan may be evil, but he is no dummy. He knows that the overwhelming majority of people who accept Christ as Savior will do so during adolescence, between the ages of twelve and twenty-two. So he starts working early. He offers something today's teens have a difficult time refusing. Evidence that they have accepted Satan's "attractive" proposal is spread all over teenage culture. The music they listen to, the shows and movies they watch, the clothes they wear, the language they speak, their standards of what is cool and popular, the rebellious spirit that distances them from their families. The list could go on and on. America's teenager is being drawn to worldliness like Anakin Skywalker was drawn to the dark side of the evil empire in *Star Wars!* What can we do?

From the beginning of time, Satan has consistently and constantly countered the invitation from God to His children. Because of sin and the crafty persistence of the evil one, we are locked into a dangerous game of Red Rover. The Father repeatedly, with wonderful and unmatched determination offers the abundant life that every single human soul is thirsting for. "Red Rover, Red Rover, send Wes right over!" Satan in turn, counters, offering something totally different, but appealing to the sinful human spirit. And our teenagers are taking it. One by one, they are falling to Satan's lie that this world offers you everything you could ever want or need. In our churches, we must reclaim each of these precious souls one by one. We must stand and fight even the toughest of battles. We do not want to see **even one** of our kids lost, swallowed up by the world. "*Onward Christian soldiers, marching as to war...*" May we not forget our identity as warriors, fighting battles by God's strength in the war He has already won.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Prime Timer's breakfast will be Friday, March 4th, at 8:00am. It will be at The Egg & I (on Harmony and Lemay.)

First Sunday Singing: March 6th. If you would like to have an opportunity to do a bit more singing than we do in our regular services, please join us at 4:45pm before our evening service.

Meadowlark Family Reunion Planning Meeting luncheon will be held Sunday, March 6th at noon at the church building.

Savage Triplets Party—The ML congregation is invited to Kate, Jack and Joey's first birthday (we survived!) party. It will be held Sat., March 5th from 2-4pm at the Savage's, 550 Kim Drive, Ft. Collins. No gifts, please!

Come join us for our Ladies Day at Windsor Church of Christ on March 5th. The address is 102 Elm St. Time is 8:30am-3:00pm. "The Woman of Noble Character", Proverbs 31 is the theme. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Check in/breakfast 8:30-9:00am. Lunch at noon. Games and prizes. Please RSVP by Feb. 26 to Maxine Tamlin. We will try and get a car pool together.

There will be a bridal shower for Hayley Brown on Sunday, March 6th at 2:00pm at the home of Martha Wells. Hayley and Joel are registered at Target, and Bed, Bath and Beyond. If you have any questions, please call Martha at 493-9746.

Annual Critter Dinner, March 6th—Please join us for a short devo on Sunday, March 6th at 5:30pm followed by the dinner about 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. This past year, more hunting was done than harvesting by Seth and Randy. We will have plenty, but we are looking for contributions—either you prepare the dish or give the food to Seth or Randy so that we will have good diversity. We have duck and goose, but are looking for deer and elk. Please let Seth Meyer or Randy Robinette know if you have a contribution. Thank you.

In memory of Robb Mankin's sister, her family has set up the Lillian Montague Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship is for all current college students, and those entering college in the fall. Two, \$1,500 scholarships will be awarded. The two recipients will be chosen from the three churches that the families attend: Highlands Ranch Church of Christ, the Arvada Church of Christ, and the Meadowlark Church of Christ. The deadline to turn in the application is March 15, 2005. Please see Robb or Julie Mankin, or the church office, during office hours, to pick up an application. You can turn it in to the Mankin's or the church office.

A big thank you to the ML congregation. The birthday rose was just beautiful, and thoughtful! Love Mabel Dowse.

To Meadowlark: Thank you for the beautiful rose, and for being so caring. Love Verlene Kraxberger.

Thank you Meadowlark family for the birthday rose. I appreciate your thoughtfulness.....Virginia King.

TEEN ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Mother/Daughter event will be held on Saturday, March 26th. More details to come!
- Spring Retreat coming up! Mark your calendars for April 1-3, a weekend your teenager will not want to miss. This spring's retreat will be held at Highlands Presbyterian Camp in Allenspark, CO. The cost for the weekend will be \$75. Applications coming soon.
- Just a reminder that teen lifegroups are now held at the building at 5:30 each Sunday evening unless otherwise stated.

PRAYER REQUESTS

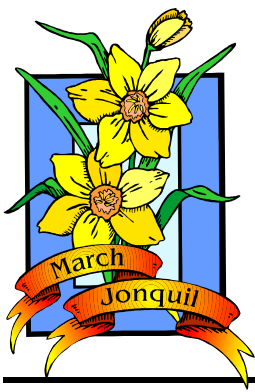
Continued prayers for: *Jack Poland, Geri Cooper, Bob Lang, Mable Dowse, Elnora Boone, Joan Taylor, and Eunice Young.*



HAVE A HAPPY EASTER!



March 2005

Meadowlark Church Of Christ



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---|------------------------------|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| | | 1 Ladies Bible Class 9:30am- CLOTHING BANK-NOON | 2 Bible Class 7:00pm | 3 Dynamic Marriage Course 7-9:30pm @ ML Rooms 8 & 10 | 4 Teen Prayer Breakfast 8:00am Prime Timers Breakfast | 5 |
| 6 Coins for Christ <i>ML Reunion Planning Mtg.—Noon</i> <i>Devo & Critter Dinner-5:30pm</i> | 7 College Men and Women's Bible Studies 6:30-8:00pm | 8 Ladies Bible Class 9:30am | 9 Bible Class 7:00pm | 10 | 11 Teen Prayer Breakfast Date Your Mate 6-10pm | 12 |
| 13 3:30-4:30pm Sign Language Class, Rm. 10 | 14 College Men and Women's Bible Studies 6:30-8:00pm | 15 Ladies Bible Class 9:30am CLOTHING BANK-NOON | 16 Bible Class 7:00pm | 17  St. Patrick's Day | 18 Teen Prayer Breakfast | 19 |
| 20 3:30-4:30pm Sign Language Class, Rm 10 | 21 College Men and Women's Bible Studies 6:30-8:00pm | 22 Ladies Bible Class 9:30am | 23 Bible Class 7:00pm | 24 | 25 Teen Prayer Breakfast | 26 Mother/Daughter Event—Teens |
| 27 3:30-4:30pm Sign Language Class, Rm 10 EASTER  | 28 College Men and Women's Bible Studies 6:30-8:00pm | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |
| | | | | | | |

Meadowlark Church of Christ
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MEN SELECTED TO ASSIST IN WORSHIP
MARCH

| | <u>Mar. 6</u> | <u>Mar. 13</u> | <u>Mar. 20</u> | <u>Mar. 27</u> |
|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Song Leader | B. Shumate | W. Kohring | B. Hall | S. Hollingsworth |
| Opening Prayer | B. Shumate | W. Kohring | B. Hall | S. Hollingsworth |
| Elder Prayer | M. Martin | M. Martin | M. Martin | M. Martin |
| Closing Prayer | | | | |
| Communion | D. Wheat | L. Brown | E. Boone | M. Martin |
| Server 1 | N. Wheat | N. Wheat | N. Wheat | N. Wheat |
| Server 2 | Adam B. | Adam B. | Adam B. | Adam B. |
| Server 3 | D. Young | D. Young | D. Young | D. Young |
| Server 4 | R. Donahue | R. Donahue | R. Donahue | R. Donahue |
| Take Count | T. Connors | T. Connors | T. Connors | T. Connors |
| Communion Coordinator | Wylie Smith | Wylie Smith | Wylie Smith | Wylie Smith |
| PM-Worship | B. Hall | | | |
| Nursery | E.&M.Williams | K.Gillen | L.Bolin | _____ |
| Attendants | C. Schmitz | S. Dotson | S.Murphy | _____ |
| | E. Walden | C.&K.Nance | D.&S.Walker | _____ |
| Children's | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Bible Hour | | | | |

Please meet in the back of the auditorium on Sunday morning before worship service at 9:45am. Be punctual. Please contact *Todd Gillen*, or the song leader if you cannot serve. He will arrange for a replacement.

| FAMILY RECORD—FEBRUARY | | | | |
|------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | <u>2/6</u> | <u>2/13</u> | <u>2/20</u> | <u>2/27</u> |
| Attendance-- | | | | |
| Bible Class | | | | |
| Worship A.M. | 297 | 303 | — | |
| Sunday P.M. | | | | |
| Life Groups | | | | |
| Weekly Contribution— | | | | |
| This Week | 10,062.00 | 5,801.00 | 6,531.00 | |