

The Meadowlark Messenger

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



Fort Collins, Colorado September, 2005 Published Monthly

MSN Has Begun!

The Men's Support Network (MSN) has officially launched, and we are praying that all the Men of Meadowlark will get involved.

Activities include weekly A-Teams (Accountability Teams), Monthly Men's Support Lunches, Frequent Fellowship Opportunities, Yearly Men's conferences, and much, much more!

MSN is for all the Men of Meadowlark! If you are not yet a member of MSN, please contact Dale Alexander, Damond Dotson, Doug Hall, or Wes Kohring today!

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
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 September

Ministers:

Doug Hall, Pulpit Minister
377-9863

David Greer, Campus Minister
226-0568

Wes Kohring, Youth Minister
225-1173

Gena Neise, Church Secretary
223-7788



Hall-Marks

The Autumn of Opportunity!

It has always seemed to me like September is the beginning of the year for churches. It makes sense because autumn is the time that school starts, and everyone gets back from vacations. Ministries are revived and people seem more ready to get back in the swing of things.

This September is no different. Last Sunday, college students from all over the country arrived to begin their year at CSU; public schools began their year; and new ministries are being launched at Meadowlark and some other vital ministries are being revived.

David and Sarah Greer are off to a great start as our interim campus ministers, and great things are happening at CSU and Front Range. A large number of new students were at services last Sunday morning. All of the “beginning of school” activities have been well attended and great plans have been made for the future. We are thrilled at the possibilities! There are so many ways you can be involved in our college ministry at Meadowlark, so call David and let him know you are available.

Wes and Cristal continue to lead our teens in a dynamic way. Just like last year, the teen’s schedule is full of prayer, praise, fellowship, and fun. All kinds of activities have been planned for this fall, and the Kohrings need your help! Is the Lord tugging at your heart to be a mentor and a helper to our teen ministry? Why not respond!

The women’s ministry at Meadowlark continues to grow and challenge the hearts and minds of our ladies. We are so thankful for the leadership of Stacy Dotson, and others who are such an encouragement to our women. I hope that all our ladies will get involved and grow in the image of Jesus!

The Men’s Support Network (MSN) is being launched this week! We are encouraging all the Men of Meadowlark to get involved with accountability teams, monthly men’s support lunches, and other kinds of activities that will help us to be better men of God. If you are not able to make it to our kickoff breakfast, please contact me, Dale Alexander, Wes Kohring, or Damond Dotson for more information about how you can get plugged in. Men of Meadowlark! God is calling us to be Men of God!

One of the most powerful ministries at Meadowlark is our Small Group ministry led by Eric and Michelle Williams. Some of our Life Groups are thriving and some have fallen on hard times. Maybe it is time for us all to recommit ourselves to this great ministry. Yes, it takes time and effort to get together with brothers and sisters, but it is well worth the effort. We need each other, and we need the great help close fellowship provides. If you are not now in a Life Group, please prayerfully consider becoming a member of a group. If you are now a member of a Life Group, why not call someone, and encourage them to join you and make sure you make Life Groups a priority in your weekly calendar. Call Eric Williams for more information or talk to a Life Group leader.

There are so many other vital ministries that are going on at Meadowlark that space and time do not allow me to mention. The point is, there is a place for you to use your talents at Meadowlark. What are you waiting for? Get involved in ministry today! God needs you to use what he has given to you for His glory. If you want more information on Meadowlark ministries or how you can get plugged in, let me know. I can direct you to the place to go to find out! God bless us as we try to be like him.

Stand Firm!!!
Doug Hall



The first week of classes at a new University is probably the most exciting, terrifying, and chaotic week a student will ever have. One student summed up the shock this week by telling me that she had graduated from high school with dozens of students, and now just one of her classrooms is filled with hundreds of students. On top of the class work and sheer numbers, every organization on campus is actively recruiting new students right now. Therefore many freshmen find themselves pulled in a hundred different directions and frankly, just overwhelmed.



But thank you Meadowlark for being a shelter in the storm. Many thanks go out to all of you who baked cookies for the students this week. We gave out 50 bags of your cookies, and each time the student on the receiving end was surprised by the love. And the 15 new students we welcomed on Sunday were amazed by the meal you laid out before them. Nearly every one of them told me "Thank you" and told me to tell you the same. So from them I send a hearty "Thank you!" Thank you for your kindness and love and hospitality. Though we may never make the connection in this life, I believe you made an eternal difference last Sunday, just by caring for a few people in a time of need.

David Greer
Campus Minister

In His Arms of Love

Wes Kohring, Youth Minister

One night Jonah would not go to sleep. Cristal and I were trying to get a few winks before one of us would have to wake up to feed him. We could not figure out why he was crying. He was not wet, we was not dirty, he had eaten not long before. My wife tenderly rolled over and asked me in a sweet and polite manner to go and try to soothe him. Thinking it would probably be an uphill battle, I got out of bed, put on my glasses and walked next door where my son was screaming bloody murder for goodness knows why.

I walked over to the crib, leaned down, and wrapped my boy, all swaddled up, in my arms. I looked around for his pacifier, but before I could locate it, Jonah's crying ceased. He quickly closed his eyes, nestled in my chest and got very quiet. I sat down in the rocker and spent just a few quiet moments with Jonah, just me and him. Peace. Quiet. Stillness. All elements that my Father seeks to find in me, just as I found in Jonah that night.

Jonah is just learning my voice. He is getting accustomed to my touch, the roughness of my face when I have not shaved, and the rhythms of my patting his back when he is less than calm. We are coming to know one another more and more each day. I had heard it said that I would learn more about my own relationship with my heavenly Father when I became a dad, but I never knew what it would look like. Right now, I am receiving glimpses in a journey with my son that is only beginning; a journey that I believe looks something like the journey we are on with our Lord, our Daddy. How I long to be as quiet, as trusting, and as still with God as Jonah is with me when he is in my arms! Psalms 46:10 says, "Be still and know that I am God." Until the other night, I do not think I understood the scripture. My son does not understand *why* he needs to be still, but for the most part, when he is in his young daddy's arms, he just IS. Something wonderful and comforting comes over him and his whole body, and instantly, his young heart understands that everything is going to be just fine. Daddy's here. Nothing can hurt me.

I want to be like my son. I want to trust that God is there, that he is in absolute control and that because of his undying and unconditional love; nothing can separate me from him. Oh I know the scriptures. I can quote them. I can teach from them. But sometimes I still get a little squirmy in the arms of my God. I once heard it said that the only problem with a living sacrifice is that it can crawl off of the altar. I am guilty. Guilty of thinking that I can soothe myself. Thinking that I can control my own life when all the while the answer God whispers is found in the middle of the Bible - "Be still - I am God!" My son does not yet know the shortcomings and sins of his father. One day he will discover that his daddy is not perfect. But we know the opposite is true of our heavenly Father.

A song was sung on June 14, 2003 - the day that my wife and I said "I do." Read the relevant lyrics:

My heart is glad that you've called me your own

And there's no place I'd rather be

Than in your arms of love

In your arms of love

Holding me still, holding me near

In your arms of love

May all of us nestle snuggly into the arms of our Father. May we find peace and stillness in those arms, knowing that he is God - perfect strength, perfect peace, perfect love.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Good News! Jim and Peggy King are the proud grandparents of a grand-daughter, Skylar Faith, born August 2, in Conway, Arkansas. Her parents are Marcus and Timpy Vess. Skylar, her parents, and grandparents are all doing well!

Congratulations to Lindsey and Andy Annan—We're happy to announce the arrival of Lily Mae Annan. She was born on Aug. 17th. She weighed 6lbs. 12 oz and is 21" long. Both parents, and Lily are doing well.

The next Prime Timer's breakfast will be Friday, September 2 at 8:00am. It will be at The Egg & I (on Harmony and Lemay.)

The Battle Belongs to the Lord—Wed. night ladies class taught by Karen Richards. Please plan to join us on Wed. nights in Room 10 beginning Sept. 7 for this exciting topic. Class description follows: "The battle belongs to the Lord, yet most of us struggle on a daily basis with issues involving our marriages, our families, our church or our circumstances. We can become overwhelmed, anxious, fearful, discouraged or discontent. God has given us the spiritual weapons to be victorious in every circumstance, so why do we fail? Far too often we allow our thought patterns, our emotions, or our weaknesses to lessen the effectiveness of God's power in our lives. Let's get together on Wed. nights to discuss how we can develop a Godly perspective and gain victory over the spiritual battles we face in our everyday lives."

How are you coming with your Change-A-Life cans? The deadline is Sept. 12th. Any change you can spare will be appreciated by the children at Mountain States Children's Home.

Teaching Opportunities - There is now a bulletin board hanging up in the hall between the two teacher workroom doors. On it you will find lists of all our children's classes and a place to sign up to teach or assist. All classes from Nursery to 6th grade are there and you can sign for any of the next four quarters. Please check it out and sign up for what works for you. Due to the growing number of school age children we will have more classes and need more teachers. Call Karen Shumate if you have any questions.

Mark your calendars for a very special shower for Lindsey Annan, and baby Lily on Sat., Sept. 10, 2:00pm at the ML fellowship hall. We're going to be creating pages for Lily's baby scrapbook, so please bring your creativity and \$10 to cover the cost of the book, and a few baby "supplies" that Lindsey still needs.

Is your marriage what you want it to be? No matter where your marriage stands right now, most people want to enhance their love, rekindle it, or raise it from the doldrums of despair. Meadowlark is offering an eight-week interactive course called **Dynamic Marriage** developed by Family Dynamics founded by Joe Beam. This course begins with an informational pre-session on **Monday, September 19, 7:00pm** in Room 10. Up to 12 couples can participate in the Dynamic Marriage curriculum which is led by trained facilitators. The eight week interactive class starts on **Monday, September 26, 2005, @ 7:00-9:30pm**, and will be held at the ML church building in Rooms 8 & 10. Couples interested in participating in the Dynamic Marriage course should contact Damond or Stacy Dotson by Sunday, September 11 (ph: 204-9509 or email: dotsonfamily@comcast.net). The cost is \$150 per couple and space is limited to 12 couples. Please visit www.FamilyDynamics.org and click on "Dynamic Marriage Class" for more information. Financial assistance is available if needed -- see Damond Dotson or Milt Brown. Also, child care will be provided. Those who have previously completed the course are welcome to enroll in the course for no fee. Please share this opportunity with friends, co-workers, neighbors or any others. Don't miss this opportunity to make a bad marriage good, and good marriage great.

The Whittens will be leaving for England Sept. 3rd. Their new address is: 9 Elsfield Road, Old Marston, Oxford OX3 OPR UK

Kari French has a new address: 9451 Welby Road, #413, Thornton, CO 80229. Ph: 970-988-3596. Her email is: klynf21@yahoo.com

Jennifer and Joe Goldman have new email addresses: Joe's is: J-JGoldman@mywdo.com and Jennifer's is: jennifergoldman@msn.com

Please note that the home phone number in the *picture directory* for Doug and Carole Hall is incorrect. The correct number is: 377-9863

Attention Meadowlark Family! The Adult Education Committee has confirmed that our upcoming teacher training seminar is now scheduled for **Saturday morning, October 1, 9:00am to 12 noon**. We know that many of you have expressed an interest in additional training in the area of teacher education, and this seminar is being hosted as a direct response to that request. Please mark your calendars for this date and watch for more details in the near future!

PRAYER REQUESTS

Continued prayers for: **Billie Harvey, Anika Bott** grand niece of **Anita Schiebel, Bob Lang, Geri Cooper, Barbara Herron, Elnora Boone, and Joan Taylor.**





SEPTEMBER 2005

Meadowlark Church Of Christ

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Prime Timer's Breakfast—8:00am	3
4 <i>Beginning of fall quarter</i> Coins for Christ <i>3:30pm- Sign Language Class, Rm. 10</i>	5 Labor Day Holiday	6 Clothing Bank noon-3pm Adult Ed Committee Mtg @ ML 7-8:30pm	7 Bible Class 7:00pm College Bible Study-7pm Rm 10	8	9 DATE YOUR MATE	10 Scrapbook baby shower for Lindsey Annan & baby Lily @ ML 2-4pm, Fellowship Hall
11 Youth ministry parent meeting @ noon <i>3:30pm Sign Language Class, Rm 10</i>	12 Change-A-Life can deadline for MSCH	13	14 Bible Class 7:00pm College Bible Study-7pm Rm 10	15	16 College cook-out @ Dotson's 6:30pm	17
18 <i>3:30pm Sign Language Class, Rm 10</i>	19 "Dynamic Marriage" informational mtg. 7pm @ ML, Rm 10	20 Clothing Bank 12-3pm	21 Bible Class 7:00pm College Bible Study-7pm Rm 10	22	23	24
25 <i>3:30pm Sign Language Class, Rm 10</i>	26 Dynamic Marriage course begins @ ML 7-9:30pm Rms. 10, 8	27 Clothing Bank 12-3pm	28 Bible Class 7:00pm College Bible Study-7pm Rm 10	29	30	

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Fort Collins CO 80526

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MEN SELECTED TO ASSIST IN WORSHIP

SEPTEMBER

	<u>Sept. 4</u>	<u>Sept. 11</u>	<u>Sept. 18</u>	<u>Sept. 25</u>
Song Leader	D. Herrington	B. Hall	W. Kohring	D. Greer
Opening Prayer	D. Herrington	B. Hall	W. Kohring	D. Greer
Shepherd's Prayer	D. Fike	D. Fike	D.Fike	D. Fike
Communion	D. Greer	G. Bolin	M. VonGunten	N. Wheat
Server 1	W. Smith	W. Smith	W. Smith	W. Smith
Server 2	M. Brown	M. Brown	M. Brown	M. Brown
Server 3	R. Shumate	R. Shumate	R. Shumate	R. Shumate
Server 4	B. Shumate	B. Shumate	B. Shumate	B. Shumate
Take Count	D. Walker	D. Walker	D. Walker	D.Walker
Communion Coordinator	D. Walker	D. Walker	D. Walker	D.Walker
PM-Worship				
Greeters	Poland/Koch	Tamlin	Walker	Wheat
Nursery	D.Alexander	S.Watson	J.Girard	
Attendants	R.Burnam	H.Donahue	C.Schmitz	
	D.&S.Jones	K.&S.Wheat	D.&C.Herrington	
Children's Bible Hour for September:			Jones	Jones

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—AUGUST				
	8/7	8/14	8/21	8/28
Attendance--				
Bible Class				
Worship A.M.	---	---	---	
Sunday P.M.				
Life Groups				
Weekly Contribution—				
This Week	\$5,707.00	\$5,178.00	\$9,113.00	\$
Budget	\$6,910.00			