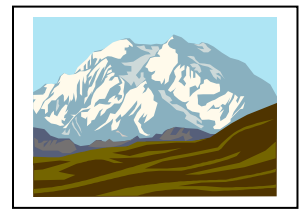


The Meadowlark Messenger

Glorifying God, Sharing Christ, Encouraging One Another
Fort Collins, Colorado February, 2008 Published Monthly



NEW BABY RECOGNITION DAY!



Ty Walker



Wyatt Annan



William Albiston



Natalee Neill

MEADOWLARK CHURCH OF CHRIST
FEBRUARY 3, 2008

Train Up a Child

“Jimmy, you come and sit over HERE and Sally, you come and sit over HERE. Now, both of you please sit there and look at your book while daddy and I finish getting ready for church.” “Bring up a child in the way that he should go” -Proverbs 22. “Impress these commandments that I give you, on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home, when you walk or lie down or when you get up, etc.” -Deuteronomy 6. “Fathers, do not irritate your children, instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord” - Ephesians 6. There are a great number of scriptures that refer to the training and rearing of children. This, like so many other things in life, is easier said (or should we say read) than done. It is a great challenge to rear children to where they can know a mature, Christian life. How good it is, to hear an eighteen-year-old say, “I have always gone to church as far back as I can remember.” This statement does not come without a high price on the part of parents, or parent, or grandparents. For a child to learn that going to church on Sundays and perhaps a couple of times during the week is “something we always do,” and is best learned when a baby. Getting a child or children “ready for church” is sometimes frustrating and tiring. But if you take “going to church” out of a child’s life you do not have much of anything left on which to build character and develop standards or establish faith.

At first, going to worship on Sunday and other church related activities on week days is just a habit for them. Almost anything in life, first must become a habit to us before it can develop into a permanent feature or become a life style. Just “going to church” consistently, of course, does not save a child or anyone eternally, but we become like that which we are surrounded with or exposed to. The long term exposure to the Bible, truth, love and the practical principals that Jesus taught and to Christian friends and fellowship, does give them the opportunity to develop their own Faith and build their own close relationship with God. I am aware that local sports sometimes compete with Sundays. This needs to be a case by case matter that has to be resolved by the parent. There are a good many of us in our Meadowlark family who have been “down the road” that you younger parents are traveling now. Yes, it is a “chore” to get one child ready for church and it is an even “bigger chore” to get three or four children “up and ready to go”. Though the frustrations seem to come often and the challenges abundant, please, have Faith to know that the rewards can be priceless and eternal.

-Bob Bland

TEEN NEWS

Encouragement and Challenge

Last month, Derek and I had the amazing opportunity to attend the National Conference of Youth Ministers. During the conference, we heard many incredible speakers and were challenged in our faith in more ways than we could ever explain. We are so appreciative of the opportunity we were given. I want to share a little something I learned there and was challenged to do.

How often have you spent an entire day praying for our elders and ministers? How often do you send them a note thanking them and encouraging them as they lead our church? I don't know about you, but when I was asked these questions I was personally convicted about the amount of time I take to thank God for the men He has put as leaders at Meadowlark. Not only do I not spend enough time thanking God for them, I don't even come close to spending enough time letting each of them know how much I personally appreciate all they do. Meadowlark has been through a rough year with the amount of families that have chosen to leave our body. If we were a church that was known for how we encourage and thank one another, what difference would this make in our body? Would we be losing people or would people be irresistibly drawn to us? God tells us in Colossians 3 that we should build one another up, forgive one another and give thanks. God wants us to be people who overflow with love and thanksgiving for one another.

Now for the challenge: I would like to challenge each of us to spend one day a month praying specifically for our elders and ministers. I would like us to take it one step further: Not only should we pray for these men but I would like to see us shower these men with notes of encouragement. Here is how it would work: We would each take the day of the month we were born on and use that day as the day we would spend in prayer and writing. For example, I was born on the fourth of the month so on the fourth of every month I would pray for the leaders of our church and send them a note of encouragement. Can you imagine how much easier our jobs would be if we were showered with encouragement? It is no different for these six men. It is much easier to lead a church of people who are praying for you and encouraging you to do your best!

I know God has great things planned for this church. This could be a wonderful step in making Meadowlark a place that overflows with love and thanksgiving for one another. It is my prayer that each of you will join me in this challenge.

In Christ's Love,
Shelli Walker





RAMS FOR CHRIST

February Schedule



Saturday, Feb 2	Broom ball & dinner at Corey Rosenberg's
Sunday, Feb 3	Super Bowl party at the Frei's
Wednesday Feb 6	Dinner & Recharge
Sunday, Feb 10	Life Groups at the Whitten's
Wednesday, Feb 13	Dinner & Recharge
Sunday, Feb 17	Life Groups at the Whitten's
Wednesday, Feb 20	Dinner & Recharge
Friday, Feb 22-24	College Retreat at Beaver Meadows!
Sunday, Feb 24	No Life Groups (Because of Retreat)
Wednesday, Feb 27	Dinner & Recharge / Celebrate Feb birthdays!

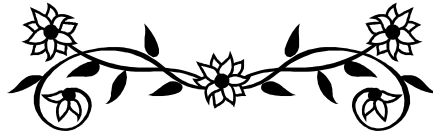
COLLEGE RETREAT AT BEAVER MEADOWS!!!

Feb 22-24



Join us as we seek to grow closer to our Lord and each other!
More details coming soon!





Reflections

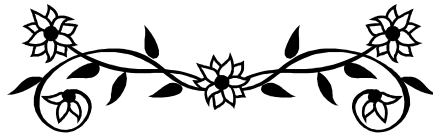
God gave us the song of a robin,
in early spring she sings.
She tells of her love for this season,
can you hear the joy that she brings?

God gave us the snow capped mountains
where the cool crisp air surrounds them.
As they refresh your soul in splendor,
did you ever stop to thank Him?

God gave us a perfect sunrise
to begin our day anew.
Did you stop for a moment and wonder
that He did it just for you?

Take time to reflect on these moments
and think of Him as you do.
God created them all for your pleasure,
because of His love for you.

-Shirley Adley





UPCOMING EVENTS . . .



Prime Timer's Breakfast



Prime Timers join us at the Egg and I on Harmony and Lemay at 8:00 am on Friday, February 1.

Bunko Group



The first Bunko meeting will be Friday night February 1, at the Wingers. If you would like to join, please contact Beth Winger.

Parent and New Baby Recognition Day

Join Meadowlark on February 3 as we celebrate the new babies in the congregation. There will be a brisket lunch to follow.

Life Line Screening

Life Line Screening will be at Meadowlark on Wednesday, February 6. Life Line will be screening for arterial abnormalities which could lead to a stroke. The complete wellness package will be available for \$139 (which includes a free osteoporosis screening). Please invite anyone who might benefit from this. Pre-registration is required by calling 1-800-324-1851. For more information: www.lifelinescreening.com

Memorial Service

There will be a memorial service honoring Polly Anderson's life on Saturday, February 16 at 2:00 at Meadowlark.

Sweet Heart Banquet



The teens will be hosting a Sweet Heart Banquet for the Prime timers on Sunday February 17 for lunch in the fellowship hall. Prime timers, please sign up on the sign up sheet in the foyer, if you will be attending.

Ladies Retreat



Ladies, sign up for the retreat to be held February 9 & 10 at the St Malo Conference Center in Estes Park. Forms are located in the foyer.

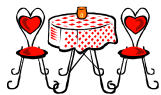
Blood Drive



Meadowlark will be hosting a blood mobile in the parking lot on Tuesday, February 26, from 2:00-6:00. Please sign up on the bulletin board. We need 20 people on the list for the Blood drive to take place.

Play Groups Starting

Good news parents and caregivers of young children! A play group is going on at Meadowlark on Thursday mornings from 10:00 to noon. For parents of elementary kids, there will be a play group starting on Saturday, February 9 also from 10:00 am to noon. All are welcome.



Date Your Mate

One of the personal ministries that many Meadowlark members have in common is that of their own marriages and families. We want Meadowlark marriages and families to be successful, and speak to the glory of God. Most marriage enrichment programs encourage couples to set aside time for a regular and consistent date night. This is especially critical for families with young children. Meadowlark offers help to couples with young children through the Date Your Mate co-op. On the 3rd Friday of each month, participating families can drop off their children at the building from 6:00pm - 10:00pm for no cost. Families "pay" for this service by sharing in the childcare duties on a rotating basis. We currently have six participating families, which means two nights of childcare duties for 8 free date nights a year! We are currently looking to add more families to Date Your Mate, increasing the health of Meadowlark marriages, as well as decreasing the nights of childcare service per family per year! Singles can also help Date Your Mate out by volunteering to help the monthly babysitters out with childcare. Your donation of time one Friday night could make a huge impact! If you are interested in signing your family up for Date Your Mate, please contact Heather Meyer 391-7468 Hoot_and_seff@hotmail.com or Sue Jones 482-5481 jones7119@msn.com. Do it for your marriage. Do it for your kids!

♥ -Heather Meyer



February Service Schedule



Nursery Attendants:

2/3 (B) Debbie James & Janie James
(T) Kristy Nance & Chet Nance

2/10 (B) Angela Tourney & Angel Galvan
(T) Heather & Seth Meyer

2/17 (B) Bonnie Fike & Irene Fisher
(T) Beth Winger & Shelley Prior

2/24 (B) Jane Kyle & Cathy Brown
(T) Dan & Sue Jones

Greeters Schedule:

2/3 Seth & Angela Tourney
(A) Derek & Shelli Walker

2/10 Derek & Shelli Walker
(A) Harold & Betty Brewer

2/17 Harold & Betty Brewer
(A) B. Harrison & Z. Colwell

2/24 B. Harrison & Z. Colwell
(A) Farice & Genie Bruce

Song Leading:

Communion:

2/3 Don Fike
2/10 Don Kyle
2/17 Duane Fisher
2/24 Tim Brown

Elder:

Randy Robinette



Meadowlark Church of Christ
2810 Meadowlark Ave.
Ft. Collins, CO 80526

The Meadowlark Messenger is published monthly. If you would like to receive the bulletin via e-mail, please contact the office. If you are unable to receive e-mail, please pick up your copy in the foyer.

Help Wanted!

Blood Donors – Meadowlark is hosting a blood mobile in the parking lot on February 26. We need 20 donors in order to make this happen! Please sign up on the bulletin board in the hall.

College Ministry – If you would like to help with meals for the college group this semester, please sign up on the bulletin board. Also, we are in need of friends of the college ministry. Please pick out a student or two, and make it a goal to get to know them. You will be glad you did!

Clothing Bank - If you would like to help once a month in the clothing bank, please contact Maxine Tamlin. This is a fantastic ministry to the needy of our community. Even one hour per month would be a wonderful help.

Children’s Bible Hour—Volunteers are needed for teaching Children’s Bible Hour. If you can help, contact Loyce or Gary Bolin.

Are you looking for a way to serve? Please contact Chuck Van Kull, Don Kyle, or Brian Winger if you are interested in serving as a song leader, sound booth attendant or can help with communion.

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:
charlene@meadowlarkchurch.org

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

Shepherds:

Milt Brown, 221-3256
 Tim Brown, 223-1949
 Chuck Grenier, 482-3984
 *Randy Robinette, 493-7427
 Chappy Wells, 493-9746

* Elder chairman

Ministers:

Russ Whitten, Campus Minister
 223-3755

Administrative Assistant:

Charlene Whitten, 223-3755

<i>Family Record—Sept.</i>	1/6	1/13	1/20	1/27
<i>Worship Attendance</i>	244	221	250	252
<i>Contribution</i>	\$6,682	\$4,516	\$4,782	\$7,310
<i>Budget</i>	\$6,641.00			