



THE MESSENGER

A PUBLICATION OF NIWOT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2008

WE ARE CALLED TO HAVE OPEN MINDS, OPEN HEARTS AND OPEN DOORS

Another Day Make It A Joyful One

“Be glad in the Lord and rejoice you righteous.”
Psalm 32:11

Another day “which the Lord has made,” another day granted to us by God in which to live and to work, to love and to worship, to laugh and to play, to suffer perhaps and possibly to die--make it a joyful one. Each new day is a new beginning. How do we meet and greet each new day? Are we excited and joyful about the opportunities which lie before us? Or do we encounter the day with anger, tiredness, depression, apathy? We are given a gift each morning and we can decide “on the wings of the morning” how we are going to live that day and accept and bear with joyful hearts all the coming hours may bring.

The hours between dawn and dark can be joyful or sad, a blessing or a curse, happy or wretchedly unhappy. It is as we choose. In the early morning hour, we can praise God “that another day has been added to our lives” and dedicate ourselves anew to God and to the Lord’s service, let us set our purpose each day to serve God and to be joyful for God’s honor and glory.

Into Your hands, O God, we commit ourselves and all who are dear to us, this day. Let the gift of Your special presence be with us even to its close. Grant us never to lose sight of You all the day long, but worship and to pray to You, that at eventide we may again give thanks to You; through Christ Jesus. Amen.
Gelasian Sacramentary

Merlene



ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent. It is a time for us to focus on our relationship with God. It is a time of seeking for the well-being of our spirits. A custom of the early church, which is still followed today, was to practice self-denial. One denied oneself through fasting, abstinence from eating meat, milk, cheese, etc., or by denying one’s self something you enjoy as a personal sacrifice: going to the movies, chocolate, etc. I prefer looking at Lent as a time of growing, of giving. I encourage you to take time to read scripture, or a spiritual guide, and spend time on reflecting on your relationship with the Holy One. I would also invite you to add to your spiritual journey by reaching out to others with a gift of your presence in their lives. It may be going for a walk with your children or playing a game with them. You might choose to volunteer at Our Center in Longmont. You might choose to participate in Sunday School. There are so many ways in which we can reach out that will not only enrich the lives of those around us, but enrich our own lives, as well.

We will hold an Ash Wednesday Worship service on February 6th @ 7 p.m. This will be a service of music and meditation with Communion and the Imposition of Ashes.



Helping God’s Family

- ♥ Attend next UMW meeting, *Feb. 14th*
- ♥ Sign up for Wesley Meal, *Feb. 17th*
- ♥ Donate a small/med Bulletin Board
- ♥ Sign up for next Sager Brown Mission Trip
- ♥ Attend next Lay Ministry Training, *Mrch 1-2*

Thanks For All You Do

Thanks to all who helped with taking down our decorations and storing them for next year. It was a time of fellowship and good food.

Thanks to Biff Warren for his leadership as Administrative Council Chair as he moves from that position to serve as Membership Chair.

Thanks to Fred Smith as he begins serving as the Administrative Council Chair.

Thanks to Alice Haverstock for her leadership as the Membership Chair, as she moves to serve as our Lay Leader.

Thanks to Bea Hill for becoming the Chair of Adult and Family Ministries.

Thanks to Ted Barna for his leadership as Chair of Trustees. He will continue on Trustees, but is now the Treasurer/Checkwriter for the church.

Thanks to Doug McCallum as he begins to serve as Chair of the Trustees.

Thanks to Katherine Ann Webster for serving as Co-Chair of Outreach.

Thanks to Minetta Knowlden as she begins to serve as Co-Chair of Outreach with Mary Byrne.

Thanks to Gail Weiss for her leadership as Worship Chair. She will continue on the committee.

Thanks to Karen Simpson who cleans and straightens up the sanctuary following worship each week.

Thanks to Dixie Piland, Ilona Weiss, John Kemp, Yolanda Meiler for their time in preparing lessons and teaching Sunday School for our children.

Lectionary Readings February 2008

Sunday, Feb. 3rd

Exodus 24:12-18
Psalm 99 (UMH 819)
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9

Sunday, Feb. 10th

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
Psalm 32 (UMH 766)
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11


Sunday, Feb. 17th

Genesis 12:1-4a
Psalm 121 (UMH 844)
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
John 3:1-17

Sunday, Feb. 24th

Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 95 (UMH 814)
Romans 5:1-11
John 4:5-42

February Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Ana Liston
 - 3 Dann Radostis, Liz Smith
 - 4 Donna Sinor
 - 6 Ruth Whitehead
 - 9 Diana Neff
 - 12 Allison Hankey
 - 13 Brock Anderson
 - 15 Susan McNeal
 - 17 Charlotte Gates
 - 21 Craig McNeal
 - 26 Rebecca Hankey, Bob Strand
- 
- 13 Rick & Susan McNeal
 - 18 Bob & Beverly Strand

Memorial Gift

We have received in memory of Donna Guy new candle lighters and a new candle lighter stand. We give thanks for this gift to our Worship Ministry.

NUMC BOOK CLUB

Our next meeting will be *Monday, February 11th at 6:30 PM* at the church to discuss Imperium: A Novel of Ancient Rome by Robert Harris.
Contact Dixie Piland dpiland@aol.com

UMW News

Our next meeting will be on **Feb. 14th at 9:30** in the church library. Mary Byrne has invited a speaker from the Boulder Homeless Shelter. All women of the church are encouraged to attend. Let's have a great showing!

UMW will be providing the Wesley dinner on Feb. 17. Please sign-up for salad, entree for 20, vegetarian entree for 6, or dessert. Penny will take the food over that Sunday. Please remember to bring your food in throw-away containers.

UMCOR SAGER BROWN

If you have been thinking about a mission trip, the UMCOR trip may be the one for you. Merlene and Donna Hite (Englewood UMC) are leading a team *April 13-18*. You will be preparing the various kits sent to UMCOR for shipment to disaster areas, you may work with one of their community outreach programs, etc. You need to sign up by the *first of February*, so we can send one-half of our fees. Let Merlene know right a way if you want to go.

Other Mission Opportunities in 2008

Beaumont, TX in April Relief from Hurricane Rita

Trip to Kenya in July

Possible trip to Guatemala in the fall or in 2009

Possible trip to Greensburg, KS following a tornado

OUTREACH

We are looking for a small-med bulletin board. We are also looking for a picture, name or short bio about ANYONE you know in our community (friends, family, neighbors), who is serving in the U.S. military.

Please see Kris Green 303- 530-4026 or Mary Byrne 720-299-7822. Thanks!

LAY MINISTRY TRAINING

Leading Small Groups March 1st-2nd

Rev. Dr. David Dalke will facilitate a special ten-hour class for all Peaks Sub-district church leaders which will assist church leaders of small groups to better understand their role and the power their leadership can have in the success of the group and its mission. It is open to all laity, and is an approved lay speaking ministries advance course. Registration forms are available from Ray Batch (970) 224-0400, or email, rmlbatch@aol.com. The \$30 fee includes Saturday lunch, textbooks, and other take-home materials.

Lights Off, including downstairs!

Why does the sign say to turn off the lights in the restrooms? Because the light switch and the fan switch are the same. When you leave on the lights the warm air gets pulled up the vent.



Below is a listing of the ministry team chairs and their contact information:

Ad Council	Fred Smith	fls@ieee.org	303- 530-3356
SPR	Jennifer Hayes Frank Landis	gordonswhale@netzero.net franklandis880@msn.com	303- 588-1881 303- 926-4463
Trustees	Doug McCallum	dougmc@3acres.org	303- 651-1743
Finance	Ron Kiel	ronkiel@msn.com	303- 652-3569
Stewardship	Diana Neff	neff@3acres.org	303- 651-1743
Worship	office	niwotumc.org	303-530-0241
Outreach	Mary Byrne Minetta Knowlden	ptmarybyrne@comcast.net dgkNYyankees@msn.com	303- 673-9983 970- 532-5039
Christian Ed	Diana Neff	neff@3acres.org	303- 651-1743
SLRP	Pete Byrne	pete.byrne@comcast.net	303- 673-9983
Membership	Biff Warren	bwarren@niwotlaw.com	303-746-2900
Hospitality	Donna Darland		303- 530-2523
Adult & Family Ministries	Bea Hill	coloradobea@netzero.net	303- 651-1498
Lay Leadership/Nominations	Rev. Merlene Barner	mbarner@niwotumc.org	303-530-0241
Communications	Janet Smith	janetsmith_niwot@yahoo.com	303- 652-3645