

**Collister Communicator
Boise, Idaho**



February 2006

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(Attention: If you are on our Newsletter mailing list and wish to be removed, please call the church office at 344-0051 and either leave a message with your name & address stating that you would like to be removed or talk directly with the staff member who answers the phone. Thank you for your attention to this.)

ANNOTATIONS FROM AMY

When the song of angels is silent
 When the star in the sky is gone
 When the kings and princes are home
 When the shepherds are again tending their sheep
 When the manger is darkened and still
 The work of Christmas begins. . . .
 To find the lost, to heal the broken
 To feed the hungry, to rebuild the nations
 To bring peace among people
 To befriend the lonely, to release the prisoner
 To make music in the heart.
 -- Howard Thurman

And you thought the Christmas season was over! According to Howard Thurman, and according to Scriptures that follow the beloved Christmas story, the Christmas work has really only just begun. It is interesting how January (and parts of February) are referred to as the *low* months.

There is the habit of settling back into the *normal* routine, whatever that may be for each one of us. We might anticipate the next holiday--especially if we get time off to relax!--and begin counting down the days until then.

What Thurman addresses here is that each year, when we approach January, we have hopefully taken in enough of the Christmas story to feel motivated to carry on what

the Biblical figures did after they ran into this prophesied miracle baby. They went and told others about this wonderful and strange appearance. And the whole scenario changed their lives dramatically. You see, a story like this should NOT cause us to return to our everyday lives. It should rather wake us up to wonder where we each fit into this event. Thurman captures the charge that Jesus accepted when he read from Isaiah 61:1+ while seated in the synagogue. This is the charge that we are given as well when we become Christ followers--or disciples--and the Holy Spirit, residing in our hearts, nudges us to reach out beyond our habits and ordinariness.

To continue the motivation of the Christmas story I have invited us all to read (or re-read) the Book of Acts. This adventure story illustrates broadly how Jesus' followers carried out the work of ministry to the nations. (See Matthew 28:18+) When you finish reading Acts, you are invited to write your name on the poster board in the sanctuary, begin reading it again in another translation, and begin to pray about what ministry the Lord places in your heart (i.e., what is a burden you have held concerning others, or a passion or concern you have noticed that you will *get to* sometime when you *have a moment.* I would love to hear what that is for you. See me if you need a good translation. Now go back and read Thurman's quote again. I look forward to walking with you this year. Blessings, Amy

PRAYER LIST

Prayers for:

- *the Allen Family
 - *the Plischke family
 - *Mary Kims, family
 - *Loa Perin's-sister-in law- Carol
 - *the Dick Hoefer family
 - *Charlene Kidner req
 - *Verna Deams and for Martha Wallace
 - *Prayers for Nick
 - *Loa Perin
 - *Aphril Guyton 's friends Doris Vogelpohl
 - *Helen Cowan, and Doris Slye
 - *Margaret Brown
 - *Charlene Kidner req; Tanya & Tony
 - *Jan Robertson
 - *Dan Paradis
 - *Everett Kidner
 - *Hope Bernick & Jo Ann Bernick
 - *Aloha White & Swanson family
 - *Bruce Irving & friend Roger
 - *Barbara Hammond
- *just wanted you to know that Jan Robertson is one of my sisters. She lives in California. She and I thank you for your prayers. God bless you all. Amy

KEEPING IN TOUCH PROGRAM

A few months ago, Collister Church initiated and launched a fairly new program called "keeping in touch". As of now, we have 8 participating volunteers called "Church Call Leaders" to help with this program. But, we would like to have more volunteers to keep in reserve as a support back-up team to call in case one of these people cannot continue the program. If you are interested in helping with this project please see me at church for more details and I will be happy to explain what we are doing. Thanks,
Mary E

THE COLLISTER SURVEY

The Promise Team will be concluding the Collister Neighborhood Survey on Saturday March 18. Keep this date open – we'll meet at 9:30 for coffee, hot chocolate and rolls and go out starting at 10:00. We'll all return for 12:30 lunch at the church and turn in the surveys. The Promise Team needs everyone to help so we can get the best survey possible. Our goal is to reach out into our neighborhood and determine how we can meet its needs and make a difference! We can and must make a difference!!!!

Our Ash Wednesday service at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, March 1.

Men's Support Group

Due to time conflicts we are changing the schedule for meeting together. We are proposing a twice per month dinner meeting. We will plan to meet the first and third Wednesdays of each month and begin dinner at 5:30 and be done by 7:00. We will finalize the exact structure at the first meeting in March (the 1st) **Please note: On March 1st we will finish by 6:30, in time to join others for the Ash Wednesday service at 6:30 pm. Ash Wednesday marks the first day of Advent, the season which precedes Easter.** All men are invited to participate and grow in their faith and fellowship. Watch the bulletin boards for more info.

CONGRATULATIONS

... to Paul Bennett on his recent promotion to Director of sales and service for Tates Rents. And they even mentioned that he served on the Collister Promise Team as well!

An announcement:



Our Ash Wednesday service will be at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, March 1st.

THANKS! WHAT WOULD WE DO WITHOUT YOU?

Thanks to the families and church members who assisted with the Advent candle readings and candle lighting. Your participation made this a very special holy season. God bless you!

Donna Cartee and Gloria Goade, for being the brains behind the spectacular decorations for Advent and Christmas. And thanks to Claire Mendonca and George Cartee for help in decorating as well. (If I'm missing any names, someone please let me know!)

Brian Allen, Floyd Brown, John Nickerson, and the others who cleaned up the grounds outside as a Christmas present to us all. (As above, if I'm missing names, please let me know.)

Dody Edwards and Betty Marsh for the wonderful gift of poinsettias for the sanctuary this year. We are blessed by your generosity!

2005 Financial Review

The past year saw tremendous achievements and commitments and a renewed focus on maintaining God's Earthly Business – The Body of Christ—THE CHURCH! The gifts we are granted include Grace, Forgiveness, Salvation, Love--and much more. These gifts are personal and represent the closeness that God has for each and everyone. THE CHURCH is God's business of creating a structure that can support our efforts to deliver God's word to all who need to hear it – that's all of us! THE CHURCH includes the infrastructure that support our efforts and is comprised of professional leadership, backroom support, programming, meeting locations, local-regional-global mission work and a long list of individuals and programs that comprise the foundational support for all we do. We all committed to the Consecration Sunday program and collectively said the future of GOD'S CHURCH rested prayerfully in our hands.

I want to give everyone a big Thank You!!!! for all you did and ask everyone to prayerfully maintain their commitment to GOD'S CHURCH, which needs constant support and nurturing so a healthy Collister UMC can support our mission work. Please see the financial postings in the back of the sanctuary, as they report in greater detail and also contain 2006's projected budget.

Keani White and Erin Dawson, who used their special artistic talents to make Christmas posters to hang up in the sanctuary. Thanks be to God for giving them their giftedness, and for their willingness to contribute to the decorating.

The office staff-- consisting of Mary Erickson, Virginia Pierce, Anne Hart, Donna Mitchell, Loa Perin, and Faye Miller. Also David Heath, our trusty editor of the monthly newsletter. Also, Carol Kelly (Mary's sister), the person who keeps our building clean.

The leaders of worship who offer to read, pray, and in other ways direct the flow of worship. Your participation is a tremendous gift.

The choir participants who help bring the presence of the Lord to those who worship during Christmas. Your voices are a gift to us. AND the accompanist and choir director, without whom we would not be a choir.

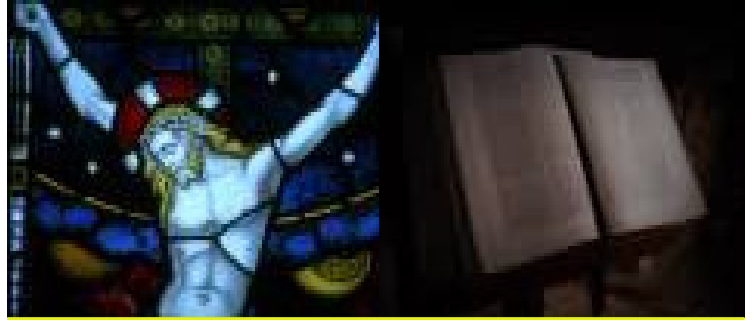
John Nickerson--for the gift of a good bargain and a new sound system!

Current Events Discussion Group

We plan to kick-off this open discussion group the 2nd Sunday in March. This 10:00 open fellowship is designed for everyone who wants to explore God's Word and how it applies in our world today. I challenge Jr. High, Sr. High, Young Adults and everyone who wants to explore today's challenges and how we as Christians can make a difference. We will explore Politics, Middle Eastern Issues, the Homeless, Wealth, Leadership, Boise Issues, National Issues, Aged Issues and much more. Brian Allen will lead these discussions and he guarantees that he will not have all the answers, but he will get you to look at the issues differently, help you to see them through different eyes and many time he will challenge you by taking unpopular positions. The world is complex and we need to understand how we as Christians fit in.

BIRTHDAY WISHES FOR JANUARY

Barbara Brown	4th
Bruce Martindale	6th
Frank O'Very	6th
Tanner Pierce	6th
Eloise McDaniel	13th
Rev. Amy Pearson	22nd
Jacki Vanoski	26th
George Pierce	30th



BIRTHDAY WISHES FOR FEBRUARY

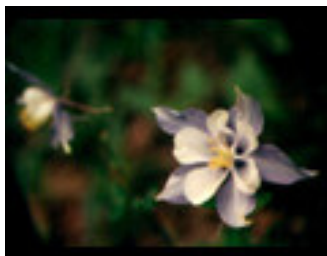
BIRTHDAY WISHES FOR MARCH

Dylan Reed	3rd
Linda Dyer	6th
Shamara Wheldon	9th
Bruce Irving	12th
Keith Brudevold	20th
Kara Dunstan	21st
Faye Miller	26th
Virginia Pierce	29th

Betty Luginbill	1st
Barbara Hammond	2nd
Tom Bernick	4th
Marjorie Elias	13th
Ann Stickler	13th
Betty Biscoe	19th
Julie Bearman	20th
Lisa Lam	25th

EASTER LILY'S

If you would like an Easter Lily
call the church
at 344-0051



Every Sunday:

Worship Services @ 9:00 am for a more traditional service;

Family Worship Service With Daily Bread Praise Band @ **11:00 am** in the Church Sanctuary. Sunday school for children is held downstairs in the classroom.

Collister Expansion Needs

Julie Stauts is coordinating the activity of many individuals who are working on getting new equipment for our church mission work. We are taking great strides in getting the resources to address our needs. The following are a few of the projects we're working on:

- 1) A Laptop Computer and Digital Projector for the Sanctuary Upgrade
- 2) 2 New 7 to 8 Foot Conference Tables for the Upper Room
- 3) Bass & Electric Guitar Amps & Speakers for the Hot 103's
- 4) Funds and Supplies to Complete The Fellowship Hall Rebuild
- 5) An additional Refrigerator and Electric Stove for the Kitchen Upgrade
- 6) Funds to Expand the Front Reader-Board Sign
- 7) A New Desktop Office Computer
- 8) Re-Topping the Parking Lot (2") and asphalt-ing the gravel lots

These are just some of the upgrades we're implementing so our work here at CUMC can continue to grow and expand. We must re-invent ourselves so we are relevant in today's world. We must first get peoples' attention before they can hear our message, we must position the Church to be a so-cial focal point for our community. We must become so we can grow and spread the word! Talk to Julie and see how you can help grow the Church.



Collister United Methodist Church

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***Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors...the
People of the United Methodist Church***

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