

## NEDERLAND COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*"The Little Brown Church with the Bell"*



***We are a Congregation of***

*Open & welcoming doors*

*Open & growing minds*

*Open & faithful hearts*

P.O. Box 467, 210 Jefferson Street, Nederland, CO 80466  
(303) 258-3579

[www.nederlandcpc.org](http://www.nederlandcpc.org)

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## Enjoy An Abundant Year!!

Think of the possibilities of what you can do with this gift of a New Year. Ahead of us there are 12 months, 52 weeks, 365 days, 8,760 hours, 525,600 minutes, 31,536,000 seconds – all is a gift to you from God. You and I do nothing to deserve it, earn it, or buy it. Like the air we breathe, the span of our lifetime, each and every year, comes to us as a necessary part of life. And it is not ours alone. The gift of time is equally given to each person: rich or poor, educated or ignorant, strong or weak – every man, woman and child has the same twenty-four hours every day.

Like receiving a windfall of cash, or winning the lottery, we don't want to blow through this year and find ourselves standing at the other end looking back and asking ourselves, "where did it all go?" We want to experience life fulfillment; to find meaning and purpose in the days ahead; we want to enjoy the love of families and good friendship. We want to experience the deep meaning of truth and beauty, goodness and love found in good books, on mountain tops and in concert halls.

The path to finding deeper meaning in each and every moment is to first recognize that we are not the center of it all. There is one great center, one source, one creator, one God who is the giver of all good things, including the days of our lives.

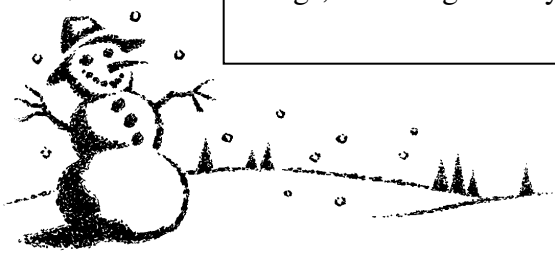
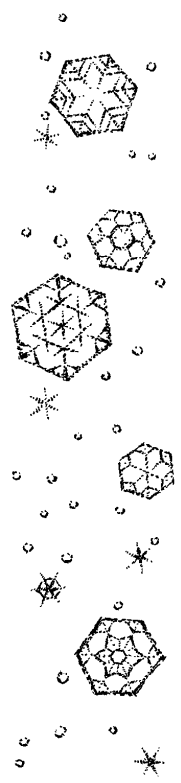
Living with God at the center leads us to worship and praise... and then to respond.

Each of us has an individual journey to make called a lifetime, and we know that God wants for us to experience fulfillment in our lives. Jesus said, "I have come that you might have life, and have it abundantly". We want for many things in life, but the amazing paradox is that when we live life with God at the center, we find that "enough" is satisfactory. We may even discover how God provides us with more than "an abundance" - even enough to share.

Many studies have shown that people live longer, happier, and experience more rewarding and fulfilled lives when they live for a purpose beyond themselves. That is a verifiable fact. But people of faith have known that for centuries. Jesus teaches us that sharing and serving others is the path to joy and fulfillment, and life's deepest meaning.

Whether it be sharing time and resources with family and friends, volunteering for your church or another helping organization, or simply practicing acts of random kindness, compassion and generosity; it is in giving of yourself that you will experience deep meaning and experience the greatest fulfillment. Consider it in your list of resolutions, and experience a Happy New Year!!

- Don -



## Happy New Year!



## NCPC Choir Newz and Thank-youz:



### THE GIFT OF MUSIC

**Thank you Choir!!** December was an incredible month for the choir. We desperately wanted to prepare our special Christmas Music for our worship service on the 20<sup>th</sup>, and prepare for Christmas Eve, but the weather and scheduling conflicts with our accompanist whittled away at our opportunity to begin rehearsals. Finally we connected with John McDowell who agreed to serve as our accompanist for the Christmas season. The choir usually spends 6 to 8 full rehearsals preparing a cantata, but this year they did it in just four rehearsals, and the Christmas cantata, “New Birth, New Beginning” was ready to sing on December 20<sup>th</sup> and it was sung so beautifully! That could not have happened without the tremendous effort and dedication of each and every choir member. So, on behalf of all of us who were there in worship to enjoy their Christmas offering, thank you choir!!

**And welcome to John McDowell!** John did such a fine job with the Cantata, that we asked him to continue on. He has agreed to serve as our regular accompanist, which makes us all very happy. He lives in Lafayette, so it is a bit of a drive for him, but he drives a 4WD Honda and is very familiar with driving in the snow...and the canyon commute. John and his lovely wife, Christian, have two children: John Christian (4), and Adelaide (2), and one more on the way!! Be sure to welcome John and his family into our community.

## Counselor's Corner

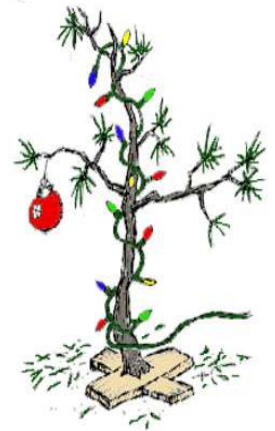
Whether your holiday was a joyous occasion full of lively festive traditions, a quiet, meditative interlude at home, or a poignant time filled with memories of celebrations past, the Christmas season has come and gone. Family and friends returned home, the cards slowed to a trickle, and the cookies found their way from the counter onto the bathroom scale. The hope and anticipation of Christmas has transformed into the daily routine of January.

For some, January comes entirely too soon. If only life could be a string of parties; if only you could eat like this all year around; if only the excitement could last a little longer! Or, maybe the thought of returning to your normal life is overwhelming, and you wish January found you somewhere else.

Some of us find relief at the end of the holiday season. Whether you are one whose calendar was overstuffed with celebrations, or one that wished more people had called, the calm and

familiarity of January can offer a reprieve. The habit of daily life begins again, and you find comfort in the routine.

Maybe this January, in the midst of missing Christmas and feeling thankful Christmas is over, we can bring some of the heart of the season into our daily lives. Every Christmas, our faith tradition reminds us how common elements of daily life—stars, stables, births—can be transformed into divine miracles. As we return to our own daily lives of picking up our children, getting ready for work and sharing a meal with a friend, maybe we too can be open to the possibility that we are indeed experiencing the work of the Divine in each small task. Perhaps this can be our New Year resolution: seeing the holy manifest in the ordinary work of life.



Amy Hartman – [peaktopeakcounseling.com](http://peaktopeakcounseling.com)

**January Birthdays**

Cheryl Wiles	5
John Allen	8
Aimee Tomlinson	11
Dorothy Whalen	15
Barbara Hardt-Zeman	18
Jenny Murray	30

**January Anniversaries**

Claudia & Michael O'Neill	11
Violet Aandres & Rich Deubel	13
Barbara & Matt Hardt-Zeman	17
Doug & Joyce Trostle	29

**In our prayers:** Continued prayers for the Hubbard family upon the death of Jim’s brother, Vern and prayers of peace and comfort for all who lost loved ones in 2010. Prayers for Erica Phelps after an emergency appendectomy. Prayers of joy for the expected birth of Christian & John McDowell’s baby due this month, and continued prayers for the healthy high-risk pregnancy of Kathy Brantley. Ben and Kathy are expecting in June. Continued prayers of recovery and healing for, Frank Irwin, Frank Lutz, Judy Hubbard, Jim Stevens and Rhonda Skeie’s father, Lew Holland. Continued prayers of comfort and peace to Susan Morrison’s mother, Irene and to Aaron Berkeley’s grandmother, Lucille Smart and as always, prayers of comfort and love to all those who are unable to worship with us on a regular basis including Florence Gruchy, Jane Bauder and Gloria Fraiser, as well as those serving in the military and away at school.

**Pot Luck Luncheon and Annual Meeting of the Congregation  
January 17 following worship**

A kindergarten teacher gave her class a “show and tell” assignment. Each student was instructed to bring in an object to share with the class that represented their religion. The next day one little boy got up in front of the class and said, “My name is Benjamin and I am Jewish, and this is a Star of David.” Then a little girl proudly came forward with a string of beads and said, “My name is Mary. I’m Catholic, and this is a Rosary.” Then a third student stood in front of class and said, “My name is Tommy. I am Presbyterian, and this is a casserole.”

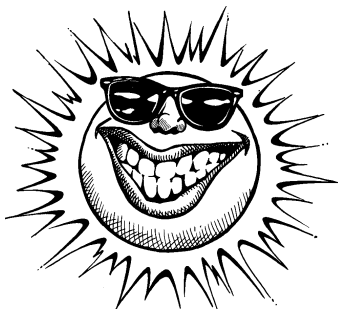



It’s so true. Potluck dinners are a long and abiding tradition in Presbyterian circles. So, what better way to begin the new year than sitting down with friends and family for a good old fashioned Pot Luck Luncheon after worship on January 20. Following our New Year feast, we will gather in the Sanctuary for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation. The Annual Meeting is our opportunity to review the past year and talk about the future and beyond. In addition to the regular business of approving the terms of call for the pastor, electing officers, and receiving the approved budget for 2010, the congregation will receive the written reports of our Session Committee Moderators. There will also be the traditional “NCPC in Review – 2009 edition” slide show. Everyone is invited to join us for this important time of fellowship, remembering, and giving thanks.

**January 13, 7:00 - Climate change: the science and the uncertainty**

We are so pleased to have Dr. Tim Spangler as part of our church family. Tim has a PhD. in Biometeorology and is a former professor of meteorology. He currently leads the science continuing education program for the US weather agencies and represents the USA to the World Meteorological Organization about meteorological education.

In recent months we have heard a lot about Climate Change from politicians and pundits. Tim has agreed to join us on January 13, at 7:00, for a presentation and discussion about what the scientific community now knows to be scientific fact, what is yet uncertain, and what is simply nonsense. You will find Tim knowledgeable, entertaining, and a natural teacher.



~ January 2010 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p>+ Remember to bring canned food and other non-perishable foods for our Food Pantry on Communion Sunday, the first Sunday of every month. + Don't forget the Annual Meeting and Potluck on January 24</p>					1	2
<b>3</b> 9:00 Choir 10:00 Worship and Communion <b>FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY</b>	<b>4</b> 12pm NAS Lunch	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 9:30 – Painting 12pm NAS Lunch	<b>7</b> 10:00 Food Pantry	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 9:30 – 11:00 USDA and Food Pantry
<b>10</b> 9:00 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:30 Church School	<b>11</b> 12pm NAS Lunch	<b>12</b> 1-3 CWS  <b>6:30 Choir Rehearsal</b>	<b>13</b> 9:30 – Painting 12pm NAS Lunch 1-3 Writing Wkshop <b>7:00 Tim Spangler on Climate Change</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 9:00 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:30 Church School <b>11:00 Annual Mtng. and Potluck Lunch</b>	<b>18</b> 12pm NAS Lunch	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 9:30 – Painting 12pm NAS Lunch 1-3 NAS Board	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 9:00 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:30 Church School	<b>25</b> 12pm NAS Lunch	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 9:30 – Painting 12pm NAS Lunch 1-3 Writing Wkshop	<b>28</b> 10:00 Food Pantry	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 9:00 Choir 10:00 Worship 10:30 Church School						



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