

*District of Idaho & Western Montana  
Church of the Brethren*



# A Joyful Voice

Volume 4, Issue 2

March 2009

Sue Daniel, Editor

*Fifth Sunday  
District Worship Service*

*March 29, 2008*

*5:00 p.m.*

*Fruitland Church of the Brethren*

*"God is . . ."*

*Come for an evening of music, celebration,  
prayer, fellowship, drama and Scripture... all  
wrapped up as one big gift to God!*

*Refreshments will be provided by Fruitland  
following worship*

*\*\* Please bring an offering of paper products  
(paper towels, napkins, toilet paper) for  
Hope House.*

*Hope House, located four miles south  
of Marsing, Idaho, provides a home for  
approximately forty-eight young people  
under the age of eighteen and a number  
of young adults with disabilities who  
have grown up at Hope House. "We  
are family. We live, love, laugh, learn,  
work, play, and worship as a family."*



**Nampa Welcomes  
Pastor Bill & Sue Miller**

On January 4, 2009, following a fifteen-month pastoral search, the congregation approved a recommendation to call **William E. Miller** as senior pastor of the Nampa Church of the Brethren. The faces of Bill and his wife, Sue, are not unfamiliar as Bill had served as Nampa's interim pastor since September 2007.



Bill was born in at Ft. Eustis, VA, and grew up in Seattle and Mercer Island, WA. Following high school, he enrolled at Northwest Christian College in Eugene, OR, where he committed his life to Christ. There he met and married Sue Geibel. She graduated in 1970 and he in 1971. Bill completed his graduate studies (M.Min.) at Puget Sound Christian College in Edmonds, WA. He has served as a Christian Church pastor in Elgin, OR, Harrisburg, OR, Grangeville, ID, LaGrande, OR. Music has always been important in the Millers' lives... Bill has written Gospel music during his years of ministry and they have traveled throughout the Pacific Northwest and the Orient presenting concerts. Bill and Sue have four grown children -- two daughters (in Boise and Meridian) and two sons (in Florida and Ohio). They are in the process of moving from Boise to Nampa and are excited about ministering for Christ with the Nampa church.

## Congregational Prayer Partner Connection . . .



At a recent District Board of Directors Retreat, a program was implemented with the hope of stimulating renewed connection, awareness and support among the churches (and their members) in the Idaho District. Each congregation is encouraged to be in prayer for another during a three-month period.

Some specifics to consider in your prayer time might include:

- Congregational health & vitality
- Personal concerns--health, family, relationship, employment issues, etc.
- Special events in the life of the church
- Birthday and anniversary celebrations
- Opportunities to become better acquainted with others in the district

During the months of **March, April and May . . .**

**Boise Valley** will be in prayer for **Community Twin Falls**

**Bowmont** will be in prayer for **Nampa**

**Fruitland** will be in prayer for **Mountain View**

**Nampa** will be in prayer for **Fruitland**

**Mountain View** will be in prayer for **Boise Valley**

**Community Twin Falls** will be in prayer for **Bowmont**

## Idaho Brethren Disaster Ministries Auction

**Saturday, June 13, 2009**

**Meridian Dairy Barn**

**Meridian, Idaho**

**9:00 a.m. – Concert by a Local Musical Group**

**10:00 a.m.– Auction at the Dairy Barn**

**(Next to the Meridian Speedway)**



**Donations are being solicited for the auction.**

**We will accept anything except clothing. We will even come after the larger items!**

**Please call Rex Freeman (452-3990), Howard Garwick (466-2896) or Bud Fillmore (337-5737).**

**The auction committee is issuing a challenge for each member of the district to donate at least one item and to participate in the auction. They are also seeking volunteers for various tasks related to the auction.**

**The funds raised will benefit the work of Idaho District volunteers with transportation to disaster projects, and help transport them as well as feed them as they are there helping others.**



### Boise Valley:

- We celebrate an average worship attendance of 42 for January and February. Bible study groups meet on Tuesday mornings (average attendance 8) and Wednesday evenings (average attendance 12).
- The church Board and Building Committee is engaged in the process of evaluating and planning how we can continue with a modified plan at this time of economic downturn. Our financial campaign, "Miracle of the Stars," continues. It is not a campaign of pledges, but a voluntary giving to add regularly to your "star account."
- Our Holy Week services include Love Feast on April 8, Easter Sunrise Service at 8 am, and Easter worship at 10 am.

### Bowmont:

- In December, Bowmont put on two performances of "It Happened in the Country" to tell the real Christmas message. We had a full house for each performance!
- February 22<sup>nd</sup> was our Annual "Just Because" Banquet. Good food was enjoyed and fun was had by all.
- We'll host the annual community Easter Extravaganza on Saturday, April 11, 1:00-3:00 p.m.
- A Spaghetti Dinner Fund Raiser is scheduled for Saturday, April 25, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

### Community Twin Falls:

- The Youth Group may be small but meets every Thursday evening for supper and Bible Study. They participate in the services on the third Sunday of each month and are in the process of preparing an Easter skit.
- On February 7th we had a churchwide snow day at Magic Mountain with about 25 individuals attending. We had four wheelers to pull people on inner tubes plus tubes and toboggans to slide down the hill, with chili, hot dogs and hot chocolate provided to warm everyone up.
- Maintenance is continuing on the facility; more will be accomplished once the weather warms up a bit. We still have our Tuesday night supper and Bible study and the Thursday morning Bible Study
- Upcoming activities include: March--Game night, Birthday Sunday for those having birthdays in January, February and March, with cake and ice cream; April--Communion Sunday, Maundy Thursday Love Feast and Easter Breakfast

### Fruitland:

- The Fruitland church family is reading through the Bible together as we follow the Essential 100 Reading Plan: 50 Old Testament and 50 New Testament verses.
- Souper Bowl Sunday was a great day for more than just the Pittsburgh Steelers as 273 food units and more than \$150 was donated that day for WICAP.
- Our women's Fellowship Craft Nights on Fridays blessed Holy Rosary Nursery with more than 25 hand-made baby blankets and multiple other layette items!!
- February also featured our 4Hers annual Soup and Bread Supper and we ministered with Wells Springs Assisted Living Community each Sunday afternoon at 3pm.
- March's Pot Luck after worship on March 15 takes on an Irish theme as we prepare "Green Desserts!" Please do come and join us!
- Fruitland will be hosting Easter breakfast after our community sunrise service in the park--all activities are held in conjunction with our friends at First United Methodist Church. April will also feature our annual Kids 4 Christ club Easter egg hunt and Good Friday services. The Lord has been oh, soooo good to Fruitland, and we thank Him!!!!

### Mountain View

- Our Activities director is inviting everyone to get involved at a great upcoming event: **"The Leon Burt Memorial Yarn Spinning, Talent Show, and Cream Dessert Bonanza"** will take place at Mt. View on March 21 at 6:30 pm. Spin a yarn, bake a pie. Come have some fun.
- Our Women's Fellowship will host the District Women's Spring Rally on April 4.

### Nampa:

- The congregation continues its participation in ministry opportunities for Love INC, collecting pantry and clothing items, and providing Christmas for a family which included a single mother and five children.
- In January we welcomed pastor Bill Miller and his wife Sue, and we recently said goodbye to some much loved saints, including Dorothy Hardenbrook, W.L. Lowber and Don Doramus.
- Nampa Women's Ministry will hold an auction on Saturday, April 18, at 6:00 pm.
- On March 12 the Community Lenten Service will be hosted by NCOB (Soup Supper 6pm; service 7pm).
- Holy Week activities include: Love Feast, April 9 6:30pm; Easter Sunrise Service (Walter's Ferry Crossing) 7:00 am; Easter Breakfast 8:30-9:30 am; and a single worship service at 11:00 am.



National Older Adult Conference (NOAC)

**September 7 - 11, 2009**  
**Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center,**  
**Lake Junaluska, North Carolina**

[Register now!](#)

Join the community of sisters and brothers who will gather for National Older Adult Conference 2009, "Legacies of Wisdom: Weaving Old and New."

*"We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory."*

*I Corinthians 2: 6-7*

## 2009 Annual Conference

The 223rd Recorded Annual Conference of the Church of the Brethren will be held in San Diego, California, on June 26-30, 2009. The theme statement, taken from **II Corinthians 5:16-21**, is:

*The old has gone! The new has come! All this is from God!*



**Registration and lodging information is now available online at:**

<http://www.cobannualconference.org/>



District Women's Spring Rally  
 Saturday, April 4  
 Mountain View Church of the Brethren

*There will be an interesting speaker, worship time, crafts and a delicious meal served by the Mountain View Women's Fellowship*

*Plan to attend!*

The **Journey**  
 of **Discipleship** 1 Peter 3:8-15

### Young Adult Conference

**May 23-25, 2009** (Memorial Day Weekend)  
**Camp Swatara**  
 Bethel, PA (north of Harrisburg)

**Activities will include:**

Worship with sermons by Greg Laszakovits, Dana Cassell and Katie O'Donnell  
 Meeting New People!  
 Workshops  
 Music  
 Campfire  
 Coffeehouse  
 Recreation (Swimming, Hiking and Frisbee, oh MY!)

The cost is \$90 prior to April 15. The Youth/Young Adult Ministry will send a letter to the home church of young adults who wish to request scholarship help from their church family.

**Register online at [www.brethren.org/yac09](http://www.brethren.org/yac09)**

**This edition of *A Joyful Voice* is dedicated to the memory of our dear brother and friend,  
Earl H. Traugher (1928 ~ 2008)**

For more than forty years, Earl Traugher (or "the Earl of Trouble" as he often referred to himself) was an icon in the District of Idaho & Western Montana Church of the Brethren. He served selflessly and passionately in various capacities--he was, of course pastor of the Fruitland Church for thirty plus years, and continued to minister in the Fruitland church and community far beyond his retirement. In addition, he served on the District Board and as District Executive for a number of years--providing strong leadership--always supporting, encouraging and inspiring each of the six congregations in the district.

As recently as November 1, when the current pastors of the Community Twin Falls Church were ordained, his commitment to keeping that church a viable entity was recognized. Several years ago that small congregation was struggling with diminishing membership, as well as financially, and closing the doors seemed inevitable. Determined that wouldn't happen, Earl rallied support from within the Idaho district to provide pulpit supply, financial support, prayer and encouragement. He simply refused to let it die! And it didn't.

Earl represented the Idaho District on both the Church of the Brethren General Board and Standing Committee, each with responsibilities for denominational policy and concerns. He was a prominent figure at our Camp Stover and assumed various positions of leadership there. In recent years, Earl's passion was with the denomination's Disaster Ministries program. In addition to directing and physically working on disaster projects throughout the country, he assisted in implementing an Idaho/Brethren District Disaster Ministries organization which supports others in their work with such projects.

Earl often shared his dream that a new Church of the Brethren might be planted in the Idaho District in his lifetime. Though he and others made a concerted effort for that to happen in nearby Jackpot, Nevada, (well, that was *almost* in Idaho!), unfortunately his dream was not actually realized. May that dream and his enthusiasm for the church serve as a challenge for those of us who survive him--and for future generations.

Earl's ministry affected so many lives and enriched the church in countless ways. His passing leaves an immense void in the life of our church and district, but his dedication to the Christian faith, and specifically the Church of the Brethren, has left an indelible imprint on the lives he touched here--and hopefully on the future of the church. Earl stands tall among the saints!



Earl & Lois Traugher  
September 2005

**Church the Brethren  
Idaho District Present**



**CAMP STOVER 2009**

New Meadows, Idaho

**Dates: July 12<sup>th</sup> – July 18<sup>th</sup> 2009**

**"Break Through with Jesus"**

**Registration forms will be to the churches by  
March 15<sup>th</sup>. Plan to attend!**

**Mark Your Calendars!**

**2009 District Conference  
October 9-10  
Nampa Church of the Brethren**

***"Choose to Serve"***

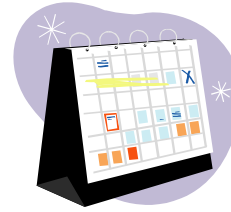
**Keith Goering, Moderator**



# District of Idaho & Western Montana Church of the Brethren

## 2009 Calendar of Events

March 21	Leon Burt Memorial Bonanza @ Mt. View 6:30 p.m.
March 29	Fifth Sunday Worship @ Fruitland 4:00 p.m.
April 4	District Women's Fellowship Spring Rally @ Mt. View
April 7	District Board of Directors Meet @ Mt. View 6:30 p.m.
April 18	Nampa Women's Ministry Auction 6:00 p.m.
April 25	Bowmont Spaghetti Dinner Fund Raiser 5:00-7:00 p.m.
May 31	Fifth Sunday Worship @ Nampa
June 9	District Board of Directors Meet @ Mt. View 6:30 p.m.
June 13	Idaho/BDM Auction @ Meridian
June 14-21	National Senior High Workcamp @ Camp Stover
June 26-30	Annual Conference @ San Diego, CA
July 12-18	Camp Stover
Aug. 30	Fifth Sunday Worship
Sept. 8	District Board of Directors Meet @ Mt. View 6:30 p.m.
Oct. 9-10	District Conference @ Nampa
Nov. 29	Fifth Sunday Worship



*A Joyful Voice* is a quarterly publication.  
Please submit articles or items of interest  
from congregations or individuals to:

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*Ministers Meet: First Friday/month*

Check out the Idaho District Website at: <http://www.idcob.org/>

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