



# The Pilot Light



April 2009

*"Columbia Presbyterian Church: encouraging you to enter into a life-changing relationship with Jesus, and helping you find your place in God's work."*

DISCOVER  
**HOPE**  
THIS EASTER

Seder Supper  
Thursday, April 9, 7 PM

Good Friday Prayer Vigil  
Friday, April 10  
5-7 PM

Palm Sunday  
***"For Such a Time as This"***

Easter Sunday  
***"A Future & A Hope"***

## One Great Hour of Sharing: sharing resources, changing lives



Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives and work together to strengthen their families and communities.

Recognizing that the hope we have in Christ is lived out in our hope for one another, we respond with gifts that help our sisters and brothers around the world find the hope for a brighter future. We will be taking this offering on Palm Sunday, April 5.

# THE VIEW OUTSIDE MY WINDOW

## A Shift

Sometime in the last 50 years a major shift occurred in American society. It happened with almost no one paying too much attention to it while it was going on, and it was big. Now it's showing up in ways we can't ignore. The shift has been about matters of faith. There was a time when it was assumed that almost every person in our society was a part of some kind of practice of faith. For the most part, that faith was Christian, but if not Christian, then something close to it.

All this changed beginning in the late 50's and early 60's. Though many were aware of the disdain for faith that characterized the late 60's, it was also assumed that those who had seemed to reject faith then would return once they had children. It didn't happen. A few came back, but most stayed away.

I could give you the statistics, since they are regularly repeated in front of pastors, who have watched as their churches have steadily declined over the years. I won't bore you with those, though they are readily available. Trust me, it's all too true.

Recently, a few surveys have uncovered a fresh trend which seems to be taking people even further away from faith practice. It used to be that about 7% of the U.S. population would put down 'no faith' when asked about religion. Since 1990 that figure has almost doubled, to a recent 15% who now say they have no faith at all. Of the remaining 85% who say they do have a belief in God, only about 30% have an association with a worshipping community of any kind. In fact, the largest trend in American faith right now is the trend to practice one's faith in a completely independent and private way. People who say they believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, for the most part, chose to practice that faith alone, never participating in the life of a church.



As we look around us in Vancouver, what this means for CPC is that we are surrounded by a growing number of people who have no faith, who weren't raised in a church, and, if they do believe, aren't connected with a body of believers. This is especially true for anyone between the ages of 17 and 42. This age group is spectacularly missing from churches in general. How will we respond?

## Easter and the Shift

Which brings me to Easter and the 300,000 or so neighbors of ours in Clark County who have no church home, even if they have faith. Easter is the celebration of the resurrection of Christ from the dead and our hope in his power to take us through this life into the next by that same victory over sin, death and evil.

We have something to share in our common life that many of those who have no faith or who practice it all alone would like. We have joy, a place for growth and fellowship, and a dedication to following Christ in every aspect of life.

This Easter I encourage you to invite a friend to come to church with you on Easter. Somewhere around 90% of those who have no church home say they would, in fact, like to find one. Most would like to be invited to church by someone they know and trust. Could that person be you?



**Fitz Neal,  
Pastor**

# ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION

## SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES

**The Adult Spiritual Formation Team has planned four classes for the Spring Session (April 19 – the Sunday after Easter – through June 14):**

**SIGN UP NOW!**

wife, GayLynn, are new to Columbia, and look forward to making new friends through the fellowship and conversation of this experience. This class will meet at 9:30 in the Chapel.

### **Living on Purpose: Finding God's Best for Your Life**

Are you seeking a way of life that is less stressful and more satisfying – a way of life that counts for something? Join us in a study of Living on Purpose and learn how to slow down and simplify life. Using the book by Tom and Christine Sine, consultants to many Christian organizations, Claudia Moreno and others will facilitate discussion about the vital topic of lifestyle, seeking to follow the invitation of Jesus: “Walk with me and work with me – watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me, and you'll learn to live freely and lightly” (Matthew 11:29-30 – The Message). This class will meet at 9:30 in the Cascade Fellowship Hall.

### **The Joyful Christian**

Many consider C.S. Lewis to be the greatest Christian apologist of our age, whose writings for children and adults have been a source of inspiration and encouragement to our generation. This class will look at Lewis through the short essays found in his book, The Joyful Christian. C.S. Lewis was a “joyful Christian” because Christ was at the center of his thoughts, his life and action in both ordinary and sacred ways. Darren Jacobs, a published author, screenplay writer, and speaker for the C.S. Lewis Society, will be the facilitator for this class, which will feature discussion. Darren and his



**Bruce Armstrong,  
Associate Pastor**

### **Prayer: Does It Make A Difference?**

According to the Bible there was a time when God and Adam walked together in the garden and conversed as friends. At that time, prayer was as natural as a conversation with a colleague. Philip Yancey's book, Prayer: Does It Make A Difference explores such questions as: Is God listening? Why do prayers go unanswered? Why does God let the world go on as it does and not intervene? How can I make prayer more satisfying? Yancey backs his answers with clear biblical insight into the importance God places on prayer. This class will meet in the Cascade Fellowship Hall at 11:00, and will be facilitated by Florence Monfore and Armando Gutierrez.

### **From Jerusalem to Rome: A Bible Study of the New Testament Book of Acts**

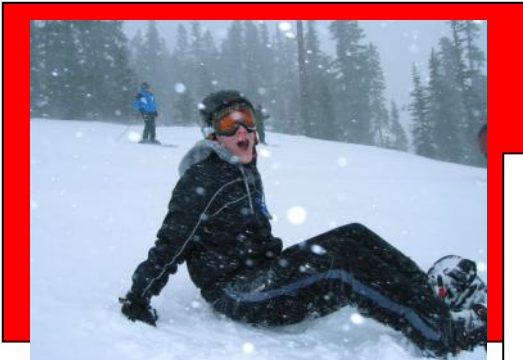
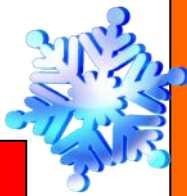
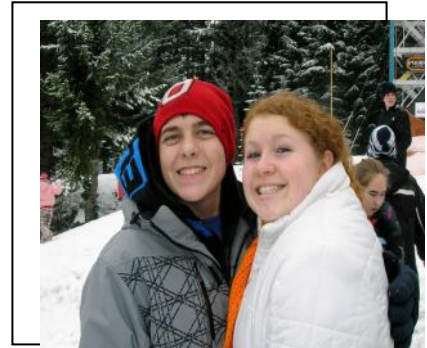
The New Testament book of Acts gives the account of how the Christian Church grew from a humble beginning in Jerusalem to a world religion, beginning with the first disciples of Jesus. This Bible study class, which began in January, will focus on the missionary journeys of the Apostle Paul. Pastor Bruce Armstrong will teach this class, which will meet in the Chapel at 11:00.

### **Cost of Books & Materials**

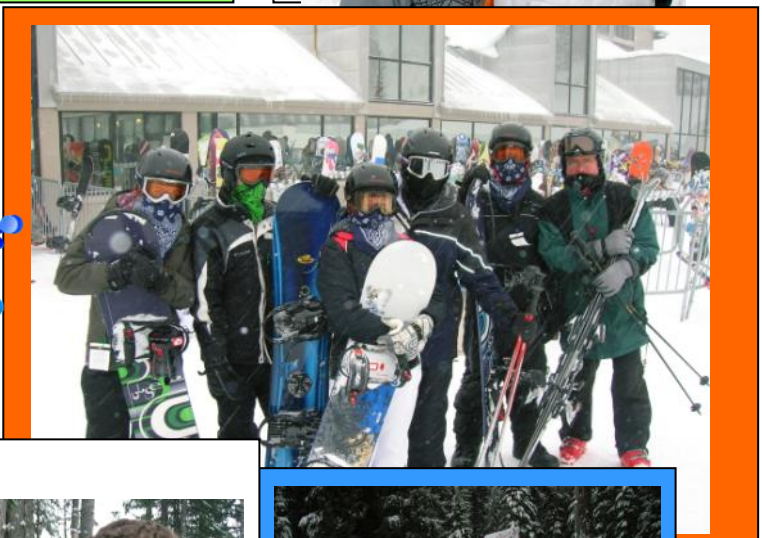
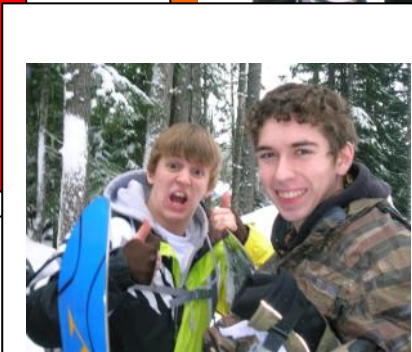
The Spiritual Formation and Discipleship Ministry Team subsidizes some of the cost of books & materials. We ask those who are able, to pay for books and materials as well. If this creates a hardship, please speak with the class leader or one of the pastors.



May these pictures be the start of youth ministry letting you know how wonderful this past winter has been...



And to think...we have the whole spring ahead of us to make more wonderful memories!!!



### Plan Now...

MS Spring Explosion: April 24-26

MS Suttle Lake Camp: June 21-27

MS Bike Hike: August 2-9

MS Youth Group: Wednesdays, 6pm

HS Mission Trip: July 12-19

HS Youth Group: Sundays, 5:58pm



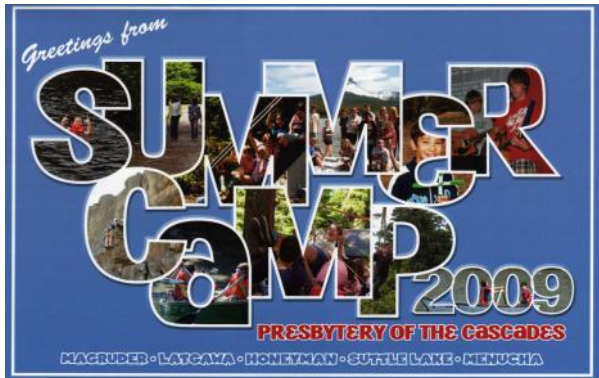
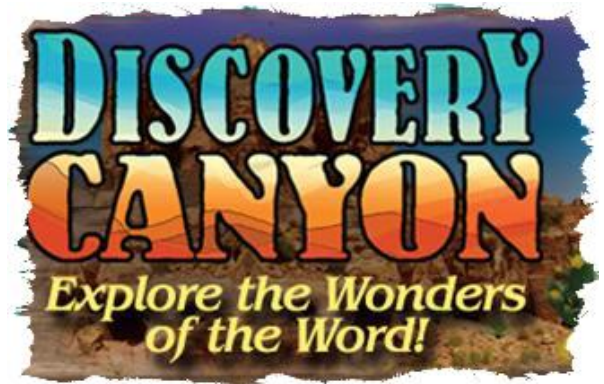
**Suzie Herman,  
Interim Youth Director**

Youth Group will take a break the month of May to train interns and plan for the coming super summer!!

# Children's Ministries



**Palm Sunday Celebration**  
Children will again participate in Palm Sunday celebration activities at 9:30 & 11:00 worship. It would really help Sunday morning leaders if parents can have their children to their classrooms by 9:20 or 10:50 to get organized. Thanks!



## **Camp is Coming!**

Camp brochures are here and now is the time to start thinking about registering. Save money by registering before May 5<sup>th</sup>. Columbia contributes to the cost for each of our kids, also additional scholarships are available. All Presbyterian 3rd/4th, 5th/6th and Middle School Magruder camps are the same week this year! Look for brochures in the Gathering Area, office or children and youth areas. There is no better investment in the life of a kid than camp! Questions? Talk to Sharon Franklin or Suzie Herman.



SHARON FRANKLIN,  
CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES  
DIRECTOR

**Vacation Bible School** – June 29-July 3 – 9:00-Noon  
***Discovery Canyon*** is coming to Columbia Presbyterian Church this summer!

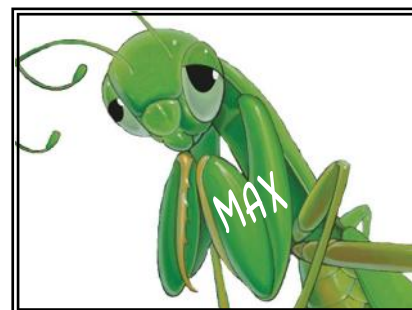
Dig out your hiking clothes and join us as we discover Biblical truths through music & rhythm, games, storytelling, science, crafts and tons of good old fun!

As a leader, you ***give*** your love, friendship, teaching, leading or helping skills and you ***get*** love, friendship, new relationships, bonding with kids, satisfaction of sharing God's love and so much more! The sounds of laughter, fellowship and God's love will echo across the canyons...be there to hear! Let me know NOW that you want to join the team.

All are welcome! If you want to help, we have a place for you. Call me at the church office, 694-7549, ext. 211 or email me:

sharonf@columbiapresbyterian.org.

Registration forms will be available in April from the office, in the Gathering Area or on the CPC website.



# Circle of Friends Preschool

## *Where's the fire?*

The Jellybean class was fortunate to have had the opportunity to visit one of our fire stations. Joey Harrison's daddy, Sam, is a paramedic/ fire fighter for the city of Vancouver. Sam was a gracious tour guide for both the morning and afternoon sessions. He did a wonderful job of explaining many of the intricate details of life as a fire fighter. What a thrill it was for each child to sit on the seat of the antique red engine. He even allowed the children some hands on experiences such as holding a real fire hose while spraying water. Everyone had a terrific time. Thank you Sam for making all of the arrangements and for being such a fabulous tour guide.



## *This is my Dad*

Donut with Dad is a big event at Circle of Friends. This is mainly due to the fact that it is the mommy's or childcare providers that bring the children to school on a regular basis. Our little friends are filled with pride to share their day with their daddy. It can be quite humorous to listen to the children explain to their class, facts about their daddies:

**Olivia's** daddy is 6-years old, has green eyes and black hair. He likes to cook eggs and cheese. At work he gets her toys and works on the "puter".

**Claire's** daddy is 5-years old, has green eyes and black hair. He likes to cook "eggies" and at work he works and goes on airplanes.

**Ella's** daddy is 20. He has blue eyes and brown hair. He likes to cook dinosaur chicken and ginger molasses cookies. He sings at work.

**David's** daddy is 100-years old. He cooks macaroni and cheese pancakes. He goes to work to help people.



Dads bobbing for donuts in the Jellybean class.

## *Water and Preschoolers; a wonderful combination*

What sinks and what floats? That was a recent science lesson. One station involved predicting how many pennies could be placed on a boat that would cause it to sink. The larger water bin with various experimental items was the favored activity.



Sharon Wallenborn.  
Director  
Circle of Friends Preschool



*The Lord has written the promise of the resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in spring time. ~Martin Luther*



# MISSIONS

**Senegal News:** Did you come to the Senegal Feedback session on March 14? If you didn't come you missed some really great news. Many prayers are being answered in the combined federation now known as Kollore Gui. When the Go Team met with the federation leadership this year they were told that the development goals set by the federations over ten years ago have been met and that there will no longer be a need for Columbia or Lake Grove to financially support development needs in the region around Baba Garage. The leaders of the federation told our team, "We can take it from here. We know we will make some mistakes but what you have given us enables us to now be on our own. Also, we are ready for CAPRO (An African Mission Organization) to send missionaries to live among us." Our church goal is unchanged and that is for the Wolof of Kollore Gui to know and worship Jesus and to have the many blessings which come from Christianity. We plan to offer financial support to CAPRO as they move into Baba Garage which will include some money for education but what we need most is prayer that CAPRO will find and post just the right people to Kollore Gui so that the Lord's work can continue there.

**Senegal News Part 2:** Because of the faithfulness of Columbia and Lake Grove both churches have been invited by World Vision to come along side some of their efforts within the Serer people, another unreached people group. This opportunity would allow us to stay connected to our Wolof friends, leverage our knowledge and experience in Senegal, and continue to take God's word to those who do not yet know him. In the area where we have been invited to participate a number of our sponsored children reside and there is already Christian Witness work ongoing. The people are terribly poor and clean water is once again an issue. There is also a possibility to provide encouragement to Christian workers and their families in Senegal through this new involvement. Come hear about this on Sunday Morning, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM and again on April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 PM when Pastor Adama Diouf from World Vision, Senegal will be with us to talk about Christian Commitment work in West Africa. The Mission Team and Senegal Strategy Team would like to hear from you about these new opportunities.

## What Does God Have Planned For Your Life?

Watching tv, shopping, laying on the couch or snuggling up to a good book? Sounds inviting, but is it what God has planned for your life? Is he calling but you aren't answering? There's lots to be done to share the Word of God and minister to those in need. The opportunities are endless. To help you find your place in God's work, the Missions Committee will host Mission Communication Forums that cover both local and world missions supported by Columbia and/or members of the congregation. Each week, a different mission will present what they do, how you can become involved, and answer questions. Columbia Presbyterian Church's mission: "encouraging you to enter into a life-changing relationship with Jesus, and helping you find your place in God's work."

**Time:** 11 AM Sunday mornings

**Place:** the Chapel

**Upcoming Schedule:**

**April 19, 2009: The Naglekirks/Greater European Mission.** Jennifer Naglekirk will share about the work she and Roy are doing in France with their outreach to North African Muslims.

**April 26, 2009: The VanZwols/Mission Aviation Fellowship:** Ted and Nan VanZwol will give an overview of the work they were doing in Indonesia for MAF, and what they are doing now that they are stateside.

If you have questions about these sessions, feel free to ask any of the members of the Missions Ministry Team: Geo Plumberg, Jerry Allin, Dave and Joan Cram, Jerry Kavanagh, Lynne Libby, Glenn Livingston, Florence Monfore, Susan Randolph, Donnetta Spink, Carol Van Zytveld, and Rich Vohs. Please join us in seeing what God is doing locally and around the world, and find out how you can become involved!



**What in the World is  
Columbia Doing in  
the World? How can  
you be a part of it?**



# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

SPRING SALE DATES  
MAY 7 - 9

Will Columbia be up to meeting the needs of our community during this time of economic downturn when many of our neighbors are finding it hard to take care of all their needs? It is our goal for this sale to make it easier for our friends and neighbors to find what they need for a reasonable price.

One of the benefits of the sale has always been to be an outreach to our community. We have given people in our community an opportunity to shop at bargain prices. We will pledge to continue that practice and will not be raising any prices on the items donated. We know that many of the families outfit their children for school and summer at our sales. They are often heard to say that this is the best sale in town. We hope to keep it that way.

If you are new to CPC (either a member or non-member) and would like to meet some new friends the sale is the place to do just that during this week of fellowship, mission and fun. Each day workers are provided with a delicious lunch prepared by our capable kitchen crew.

Another benefit of working at the sale is the fellowship that takes place as we work together. CPC has been blessed with wonderful people who love the Lord and love each other. **We thank the staff for the support they give us. We also thank those who may be displaced or inconvenienced for the week. You are contributing to missions in a big way.**

**Last but not least, we are able to use the proceeds from the sales to give to missions both here in Vancouver and in the far reaches of the world. This is what makes our effort most worthwhile.**

You will be hearing more about the sale as it draws closer. You will have the opportunity to sign up during April with the exception of Easter. Do plan to come and spend some time (and money) with the nice people of Columbia.

If you are willing to help with setup before, use your pick-up truck to collect items, sort items, cashier and do general oversight during the sale or cleanup after, or call workers from home to remind them when they are scheduled, **please take a moment to stop by the sign up table after services March 29 to April 26.**

## Donation Details:

All items should be clean, wearable or in good working order. Please bring your donations on **Sunday, May 3 between 12 noon and 5 pm** or **Monday, May 4 between 9 am and 5 pm. No items will be accepted after that time.**

## Here is a list of items needed:

- Clothing, shoes and accessories for all ages and sizes
- Housewares and dishes
- Furniture and lamps, sporting goods, bikes and toys, tools and hardware items
- Garden equipment, plants, bulbs, and seedlings
- Linens and bedding (**except for bed pillows**)
- Books, magazines, tapes, CD's DVD's and records
- Crafts and remnants, patterns, yarn, sewing supplies and "made by you" items
- Baked goods, jams, jellies and candies (no cream filled items)
- And paper grocery bags of various sizes stacked in a sack bottom side up and going in the same direction.



***We cannot accept computers, monitors or printers.***

**Questions?** Call Donnetta Spink at 944-6716 or Eileen O'Neil at 892-4868

## One-day Prayer Retreat: "Discovering the Grace of God"

A one-day prayer retreat, "*Discovering the Grace of God*" will be held at CPC on Saturday, June 20, from 8:30 to 1:30. The retreat will be led by Pastor Bruce Armstrong. A personal day of prayer provides a wonderful opportunity to bring focus and clarity to our lives – especially in the midst of the challenges, opportunities and perplexities we face. The day of prayer is a gift that enables us to make spiritual and emotional space for an intentional encounter with Christ, through which we awaken the presence of the Spirit in our lives. As we step away from our normal routines and schedules, and choose to this time of prayer, God's Spirit will renew our energy and bring perspective to our busy lives. Safe the date for a special time with God.

HAPPY 90TH  
BIRTHDAY ADELAIDE



# CPC NEWS

## How are we doing?



We are two months into our fiscal year, and I am pleased to report that giving of pledges and offerings through February is approximately \$207,000. This is slightly above our year-to-date projections, as well as giving for the same time period last year. Pledge and offering expenses are just below our projections, so through February we have a modest surplus.

At this point it is too early to discern trends in either giving or expenses. We do however, wish to thank each of you for your prayers and faithful giving to Columbia Presbyterian Church.

Bruce W Farnsworth, Treasurer

### Church Bulletin Bloopers

*Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.*

### Session Member Contact Information

#### Trustees:

Bob Gebhart	991-9362
Glen Baunsgard	834-7991
Bob McFarlin	834-7169

#### Personnel Ministry Team:

Ian McFatrige	571-3225
John Van Dinter	891-0804

#### Spiritual Formation & Discipleship:

Shirley Moore	253-8474
Alan Garcia	360-369-6382
Nancy Bishoprick	695-8589

#### Evangelism & Fellowship:

Dave Nacke	254-8136
Jennifer Mears	737-7952
Susan Murphy	882-1370

#### Preschool, Children & Youth:

Dawn Taylor	835-1557
Marc Hartquist	834-4098

#### Worship & Music:

Sheena Brooke	571-4170
Dennis Gish	891-7443

#### Missions Ministry Team:

Geo Plumberg	260-8096
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#### Clerk of Session:

Donnetta Spink	944-6716
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#### Pastor:

Fitz Neal	597-4298
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#### Associate Pastor:

Bruce Armstrong	887-2573
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## Zambia Plant Sale

Spring is coming and so is the Zambia plant sale. Come by the table in the Gathering Area after services on March 22, 29 and April 19 to place your order for hardy annuals, perennials, herbs, planters, hanging baskets, geraniums and organic vegetable plants. You may view the plants at [www.newleafgreenhouse.com](http://www.newleafgreenhouse.com). Plants will be delivered on Sunday, April 26 and will need to be picked up between 3 - 5 PM. For more information contact Mary White, 258-5673 or [mh.white@comcast.net](mailto:mh.white@comcast.net).

# CONTACT INFORMATION

## How to Reach Us:

Please call the church office at 694-7549 to reach any of the church staff. Staff can also be reached via e-mail by using the person's first name followed by @columbiapresbyterian.org. *Example: [bruce@columbiapresbyterian.org](mailto:bruce@columbiapresbyterian.org)*. The only exceptions to that rule are Sharon Franklin and Sharon Wallenborn. In those cases, use their first name with the first initial of their last name.

		Phone Extension
Fitz Neal	Pastor	x 206
Bruce Armstrong	Associate Pastor	x 209
Jeff Haagenson	Minister of Worship & Music	x 210
Sharon Franklin	Children's Ministries Director	x 211
Suzie Herman	Interim Youth Director	x 208
	<i>Direct Youth Line</i>	823-0220
Terry Robertson	Church Business Administrator	x 207
Jo Coila	Head of Staff Admin. Asst.	x 201
Dana Hanson	Children/Youth Admin. Asst.	x 204
Viva Dennis	Communications Specialist	x 213
Marilyn Roberts	Bookkeeper	x 222
John Ignoffo	Media Ministry Specialist	x 205
Rich Raitano	Facilities Manager	x 216
Diana Gage	Nursery - 833 -1017	
Anna Haagenson	Kingdom Kids - 891-1494	
Sharon Wallenborn	Director, Circle of Friends Preschool - 696-9926	x 212

The *Pilot Light* is a monthly publication of Columbia Presbyterian Church.

The next Pilot Light deadline is April 14, 2009. *Articles turned in after the deadline will not be published and all articles are subject to editing.*

Whenever possible, announcements and articles for publication should be sent via email to: [info@columbiapresbyterian.org](mailto:info@columbiapresbyterian.org).



Visit us online at  
[www.columbiapresbyterian.org](http://www.columbiapresbyterian.org)



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