



# The Longs Peak Link

Resourcing Churches in North Colorado

February– March 2010 VOL 3 Issue 1

## Hands that Give Also Receive

by Travis Heady



### A Community Outreach Christmas Story



God touched many lives in our community this Christmas season, and the people of Canyon Ridge Baptist Church received

the blessing of being a part of it. We held our first Living Nativity Tour. Although we had considered this previously, we decided to do it 2 months prior to Christmas. Our church budget which we set in August, left no allowance for this event, however many people pitched in and worked hard.

Eric and Amy Espedal led the entire event. We set up different scenes of the Biblical narrative around the outside of our building, and used live actors and animals to create them. A guide would take a small group of guests through the tour, helping them to interact with the various scenes and learn the significance of the first Christmas. Finally, the guests were invited to come into the building for hot drinks and cookies. I must admit, as pastor, I was pretty skeptical. It seemed like a lot of work with little payoff. I thought we might see 30 - 50 people beyond our church family if we were lucky. I heard others hoping for 100. I thought if we kept at it, it might build a following after a few years, the way some other events have. I saw that it was drawing our people together as they worked, if nothing else. I just wasn't sure it was an outreach event that could work in our rural communities of LaPorte and Bellvue. God had bigger plans for this event, however. John and Beth Morris, church members who had to be out of the country during the performance, set up and paid for radio ads leading up to the event. The ads were a great



success, and the radio station interviewed Eric Espedal on their morning show on the day of our opening.

I was amazed by the turnout Friday night. I was shocked by the turn out Saturday night. I was blown away by the turn out Sunday night. For the 3 nights we did the tour, 625+ people came through our church doors! I'm still reeling. We received awesome feedback from almost everybody, and many came back a second night and brought friends. I still can't believe we had enough hot cocoa and cookies for everyone (maybe something like the loaves and the fishes, I'm not sure). God has shown me that I need to pay more attention to what He is saying and doing through other people in the church. He doesn't always let the pastor in on what He is doing! Perhaps if I had trusted them more, I would have experienced even more of the blessing.



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LPBA Executive Board Meeting

Monday  
February 8  
6:00 PM

Orchards Baptist  
Church  
Loveland

Childcare Provided



## Networking News. . .

As we begin a New Year and decade, we have new opportunities to collectively advance God's Kingdom as an association of churches. I've learned this year that the fellowship among our churches and ministries is a vital ingredient allowing us to work together. It is an ingredient that I truly value and continue to pray for.

Last October, in an unprecedented occurrence, the Directors of Missions from "Peak to Peak" (Longs Peak, Mile High, and Pikes Peak) associations got together to explore whether we had enough in common to come up with a united strategy for what is commonly called the Front Range of Colorado. Each of our associations has teams designed to meet the needs/vision of our churches. We are the three largest associations in our state as well. After two meetings and a lot of prayer, we came up a holistic strategy. We call it "Go WEST" and it is outlined below. As you can see, each of our teams are assigned to each of these aspects/actions that are a true comprehensive "health" plan for Kingdom impact.

**W**in people to a personal relationship with Christ and witness to the unreached. We assist in this way through our *Church Outreach/Planting Team*.

**E**stablish new congregations and strengthen existing congregations where believers are made disciples in their faith and the truth of the Gospel. We assist in this way through our *Church Strengthening Team and Church Outreach/Planting Team*.

**S**erve people in our communities to help churches engage their Jerusalem. We assist in this way through our *Mission Partnership Team*

**T**rain and develop healthy leaders who start and strengthen groups/churches. We assist in this way through our *Church Leader Care/Development Team*.

Besides providing oversight in the area of administration, each of us as Directors of Missions (Area Missionaries) see this as part of our jobs to provide oversight in each of these areas as well. I am thankful that I have teams to help me assist your church in each of these elements. This is the template by which I am going to guide my work among the churches of the Longs Peak Baptist Association.

Going "WEST,"

John Howeth  
Area Missionary



What if the network of churches we call the LPBA could set up a system or network where our cooperating churches could borrow resources from one another so that our churches could save their money for other ministries?

That question or idea has surfaced in a number of different ways over the last several years. Recently a couple of our pastors again made that suggestion when the *Church Strengthening Team* did a survey asking our pastors how they may pray for their church and what needs their church has that might be resourced by the LPBA.

Out of that, *oneSHARE* was born as a resource sharing network among our churches. This tool is biblical. This is was a practice of the early church as we read in Act 4:32: "All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had."

We recently went to another vendor for our website and changed the LPBA website from [www.longspeakba.com](http://www.longspeakba.com) to our new website name: [www.lpba.us](http://www.lpba.us). Why? It was for several reasons but the main reason was so that we would have a website that could support this resource sharing network.

Here is how it will work. The LPBA office, along with the *Church Strengthening Team* is using a survey form to collect updated data from our churches concerning what video Bible studies and training material that LPBA churches have. Once we collect several of those surveys from cooperating churches, we provide a link at <http://www.lpba.us> to a document stating the resource items and the churches where they can be found so that direct contact can be made to the church that has that resource.

So, please request a survey form and help us gather a list of resources that can be shared among our churches. We ARE "better together."

# Pastor/Staff & Wives Luncheon



Thursday, March 11  
Longs Peak Church  
Longmont

12:00  
NOON

RSVP by  
Monday, March 8  
970-532-1083  
office@lpba.us

# TURKEY BOWLING!



## Just Another Fun Sunday at New Life Community

**S**unday evening, Pastor Ken Mowery, threw a 10 pound frozen turkey through the wall of the sanctuary at New Life Community Church in Greeley. Actually, "the bird" only flew part of the way through the wall according to Mowery. Mowery, who has pastored the church since its beginning in 1999 stated, "There was no ill will toward the turkey or anyone else. I was simply demonstrating to church members the proper way to bowl with a frozen turkey." Having a "turkey bowling" event was one church member's brain child as a means for raising money for state missions, although weeks later no one could remember whose idea it really was. According to Pastor Mowery, "During a church leadership meeting we were brainstorming ideas about how to raise money for missions when somebody blurted out that we should do a turkey bowl." "Although, none of us knew how to do 'turkey bowling' and we certainly had no idea how it could ever relate to missions, we decided it might be fun. So, that is what we did". The group determined that each pin (a liter soda pop bottle filled with sand) was

worth a nickel. Participants would donate one nickel to missions for each "pen" knocked down.



"When it came time to start the 'bowling', no one really knew what to do, so I grabbed the bird and lofted it toward the 10 pens." "Well, I knocked a few of the pens down, but the turkey kept going. It didn't stop until it had lodged itself in the wall. Its surprising how far a frozen turkey can actually fly" admits Mowery.

Reportedly there was a slight awkward silence for a moment or two followed by a sudden and extended outburst of laughter. Mowery later conceded, "It was really funny and I'm glad that I'm the one who did it. It sort of freed everything up because the worst that could happen had already happened. After that everyone relaxed and had fun."

It should be mentioned that about \$100 was raised for a State Missions Offering. The church decided that the nominal costs of repairing the hole in the wall was a small price to pay to be able to participate in the broader work of God's Kingdom.

**GPS**  
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ACROSS NORTH AMERICA

EVERY BELIEVER SHARING  
EVERY PERSON HEARING



### FEATURED ON DAY 5 . . .

During this years Annie Armstrong Easter Offering season the North American Mission Board has chosen to feature Bill and Carol Lighty, Area Missionaries from the Pikes Peak Baptist Association in Colorado Springs

LIVE WITH URGENCY  
SHARE GOD'S TRANSFORMING POWER  
ROMANS 1:16

Annie Armstrong Easter  
Offering  
Week of Prayer  
March 7-14

NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS EMPHASIS



## UPCOMING EVENTS ON THE CALENDAR...

February and March are GPS  
Prayer Walking Emphasis  
Months

2/8	Executive Board Meeting
2/14	Valentine's Day
3/7-14	Week of prayer for Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
3/11	Pastor/Staff & Wives Luncheon
3/14	Daylight Savings Time
3/16	GPS Media Kickoff

## FEBRUARY

11 Jose' Ramirez  
13 Heather Heady  
16 Carolyn Huffman  
18 Paula Misloski  
22 Bertha Chavez  
23 Amy Gilliland



# it's your BIRTHDAY!



## MARCH

3 Robert Timmons  
4 Jim Misloski  
17 Conley Shelander  
23 Joye Ross

*The purpose of the LPBA is to resource and network churches and ministries together as they make disciples of their world through gospel saturation and fulfill their distinct, God-given vision for carrying out the Great Commission.*

### Featured in this issue...

- *Live Nativity Event at Canyon Ridge*
- *Turkey Bowl Missions Fund Raiser at New Life Community*
- *One Share Resource Sharing for Churches*
- *LPBA Executive Board*
- *Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North America Missions*
- *Go WEST*



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