

April  
2010



## The Reality of the Resurrection

Sunday evenings we have been discussing the power of grace in our lives and being reminded of the truthfulness of Rom 11:5-6: *chosen by grace, it is no longer by works.* We are comfortable with the amazing gift of grace in our salvation – *it is by grace you have been saved.* However, to think of grace in our daily lives, leading us through sanctification may be an afterthought or a no-thought for some.

In Phil 2:12-13 we read: *continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.* Here we see God's grace and will at the base of the encouragement to *work out our salvation.* Yes, sanctification is a combined work. We pursue the reality of our salvation and seek to do those things that will lead to spiritual growth. However, it all begins with God's grace. It is he who has chosen us, revealed his light of salvation in our lives and as Phil 13 states *works in (us) to will and to act according to his good purposes.* It is God working in us that leads us in our sanctification. God's grace is truly amazing and seen daily.

What made this wonderful grace available to us – the wretched, poor sinners we are? It is the gospel of Jesus Christ. It is the gospel that sets us free from the power of sin and as Henry Blackaby writes, "fills our lives with all the fullness of God." And as Blackaby encourages we must never lose sight that the gospel includes the cross, the resurrection and the sending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. All three are equally important for the believer.

With the beauty of Easter upon us, let us focus on the resurrection. It was the resurrection that was the necessary completion of the work accomplished on the cross. We have heard it said that the resurrection was God's "amen" to the work on the cross. Paul writes in 1 Cor 15, *if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.* The ultimate outcome of the gospel is life everlasting with our Lord God. Therefore, as

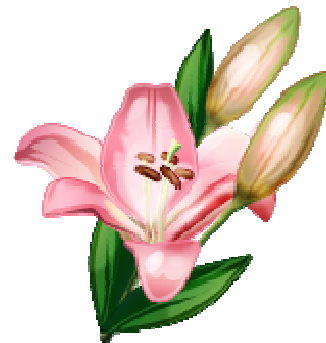
Paul states, if the resurrection had never occurred our faith would be pointless. It took the reality of the resurrection to make the gospel complete.



Let's contemplate the fullness of the resurrection and the completion of our salvation it brings. God the Father's grace is seen in the returning of his Son to life and bringing him home to be with him. God's grace is seen daily in our lives as he matures us to be like his Son, our Lord Jesus, and in the hope given us in our promised resurrection. The reality of the resurrection is therefore a part of our daily lives.

Thank you Lord God for your amazing grace and the resurrection of our Lord Jesus.

In His Service,  
Pastor Tim



**Here and There at  
New Sterling!!!!!!!**



**Bailey Hartness** was crowned princess at the IB School Snow Ball in February.....**Leah Gryder** flew to Europe for 7 days in March.....**Stacy Mrazek** had to travel to Pennsylvania recently due to illness in her family.....**Taylor Pope** sprained his foot and had to miss several baseball games.....**Wayne Waugh** had to have extensive surgery on his ankle due to an infection.....The Women of New Sterling hosted a wedding shower for **Andrea Clarke**.....

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**S**ympathy is extended to Bobby Lail in the recent loss of his father.



## Spring Sunday Family Nights – Transforming Grace

Author Jerry Bridges writes, “My observation of Christianity is that most of us tend to base our personal relationship with God on our performance instead of his grace.” I have seen this as well. Many will accept the free gift of salvation, but then work to seemingly repay the gift. This is not what God desires at all.

Our performance based relationships are not confined to God alone; we seem to be performance driven in our secular relationships as well. We work to gain the love and acceptance of our parents, our spouses and others. We want to be viewed as worthy and so we try to ‘perform’ to meet their approval and therefore gain their acceptance. This is a horrible burden to bear and God does not demand such from us. We are to follow his commandments to show our love for him not to be accepted by him. Our secular relationships should be based on genuine acceptance through love rather than performance.

Beginning on Sunday evening March 7, I will begin a discussion calling on us to live in God’s unfailing love through grace rather than through our performance. We will use Mr. Bridges’ book Transforming Grace as an outline. Coming to grips with God’s grace in our relationship with our Lord will also affect our secular relationship as well, moving us toward freedom from the bondage of performing to gain approval. I would like to invite everyone to join us because we all need to hear and live within the grace offered by our Lord. Remember, it is free.

Pastor Tim

**We will stop taking donations for the Dove House on April 17th. Thank you for all who donated.**

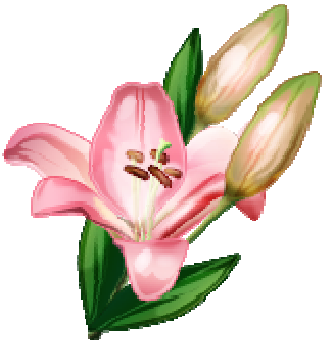
**Bailey**



We need volunteers for the nursery. I has been extremely hard to get volunteers. There is a sign up sheet on the door of the nursery. Please come by and sign up to help.

Thank you, Leann

# News From the Women's Ministries



Thank you to all the ladies on the Sterling Silver Luncheon Event committee. They are: Chairman-Anna Donohoe, Aarene Reese, Jane Mayhew, Judy Watson, Karen Goodman, Pat Price, Susan Pugh, Tena Campbell and anyone else who helped decorate or cook for the Luncheon. I think from the rave reviews the Sterling Silvers quite literally "tasted and saw that the LORD is good." They were also given a plate of food for their supper that night. The Women's ministry just wants to honor the members of Sterling Silvers and anyone who is of that age that would like to attend. We do appreciate you and want to show you.

Our beach retreat theme verse this year was: "There is.....A time to dance..." Ecclesiastes 3:1,4. It was such a beautiful weekend at the beach weather-wise and fellowship wise also. So many ladies helped by taking care of the housing arrangements, food arrangements, music and games.

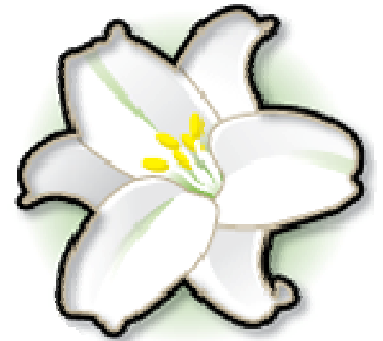
At the retreat we learned that there were ways to come to the alter and praise our Jesus and to grow up in our faith. Now, like infants at the breast we will continue to drink deep of God's pure kindness. Then we will grow up mature and whole in God. We learned how to have clear consciences by following this verse:

"So clean house! Make a clean sweep of malice and pretense, envy and hurtful talk. You've had a taste of God."

We learn not to go fishing for our sin again, because when the circumstances are dark or when the way is unclear we will believe God.

When no one is for you we will believe God. When all hope is lost we will believe God. And this will help us choose not to be bitter. We will continue to wait on God to prepare us to be used by him and then we will step up and accept his invitation to dance in his arms. So I think we have a lot to remember and ponder about the Bible Study at the retreat, don't you?

We want to invite all of you ladies who have never experience a New Sterling beach retreat and the ladies that haven't experienced a beach retreat to come with us the next time and taste and see that bible study can be fun and exciting and good.





# 2010 Beach Retreat



Quiet Time/Study



Eating



Stirin' It Up!





## STERLING SILVERS LUNCHEON

A delightful meal was enjoyed by the Sterling Silvers on March 8. Members of the Women's Council who helped prepare and serve the meal were Pat Price, Tena Campbell, Anna Donohoe and Jane Mayhew.

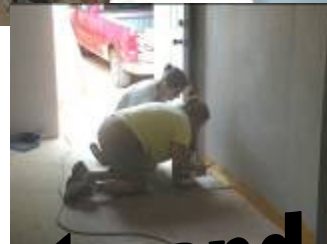
Betty Godfrey led our meeting with Cora Poovey providing the devotions. Plans were made to attend the upcoming "Spring Fling" on March 23, which will be hosted by Linden ARP Church in Gastonia.

We expect "Sarge" Emery to be back from Texas and being with us for our April meeting.

Come and enjoy the fellowship!



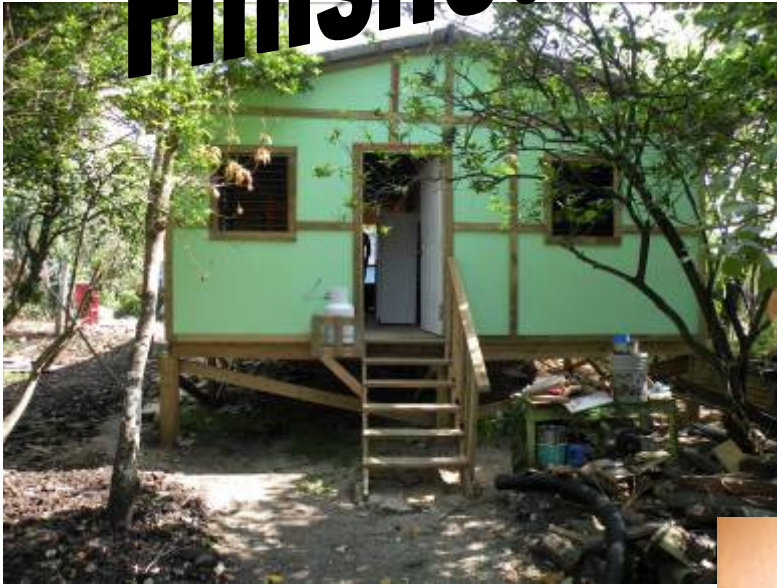
# Construction in Belize



# Home for Henry, Marta and Javier



# Finished Product



**Teacher Appreciation  
Lunch for the teachers  
at St. Jude's School**

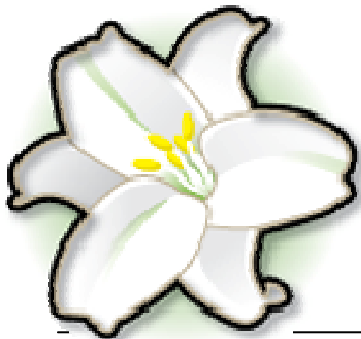


**Bible School at St. Jude's  
School**



# COMING EVENTS

April 1	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Service and Observation of the Lord's Supper
April 3	11:00 am	Easter Egg Hunt
April 4	7:00 am	Easter Sunrise Service Breakfast provided by the Men of the Church
April 5	9:30 am	Golden Christian Circle
	7:00 pm	Knit Wits—Parlor
April 11	3:00-5:00 pm	Baby Shower for Taryn Setzer Mission Committee Meeting
	5:00 pm	C-3 Practice
	6:00 pm	Sunday Family Night
	7:30 pm	Joint Meeting of Elders and Deacons
April 12	10:30 am	Sterling Silvers
	7:00 pm	Evangelism/Membership Committee
April 13	7:00 pm	Treasure Keepers—Missy Withers, hostess Delinda Mauney, facilitator Missy Withers and Michelle Hairyes, meal
April 18	5:00 pm	C-3 practice
	6:00 pm	Sunday Family Night—Presentation by the Belize Mission Team
	7:30 pm	Session Study Group Newsletter Items Due
April 19		Bonclarken Work Week
April 20	7:00 pm	Mary Martha Sunset—Jane Mayhew, hostess; Kitz Emery, facilitator
April 21	9:30 am	Mary Martha Sunrise—Aarene Reese, hostess; Anna Donohoe, facilitator
April 24	9:30 am	Women's Council Meeting Youth Work day for 30 hour famine
April 25	5:00 pm	C-3 practice
	6:00 pm	Sunday Family Night Rada Knife Orders Due
April 26	7:00 pm	Men's Study Group 7:00 pm Property and Maintenance Committee



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

May 16	Families Celebrating Jesus
May 22	Bar-B-Q and Auction
July 18-23	Mission Trip to Harlan, KY



## Pine Tree Crosses

Last Spring on a Sunday afternoon we took one of our "nowhere" drives thru the country. My husband was quietly driving along some back roads. I was occupied in the front passenger seat watching out the window as the scenery went by.

I noticed out of the corner of my eye that my husband was straining to look out my window. This startled me, since his eyes should be on the road in front of him. I asked him what he was looking at out the windows, and he quietly replied, "Nothing. " He could have said he was looking for pine tree crosses for Easter. His eyes went back to the road in front of him.

After a few minutes, I looked over at my husband and noticed a tear running down his cheek. I asked him what was wrong. This time he told me, "I was just thinking about Pop and a story he had once told me." Of course, because it had to do with his Pop I wanted to know the story, so I asked him to share Pop's story with me.

He said, "When I was about 8 years old, Pop and I were out fishing and that's when he told me that the pine trees know when it is Easter."

I had no idea what he meant by that, so I pressed him for more information.

He continued on... "The Pine trees start their new growth in the weeks before Easter -- if you look at the tops of the Pine trees two weeks before Easter, you will see the yellow shoots. As the days get closer to Easter Sunday, the tallest shoot will branch off and form pine tree crosses for Easter. By the time Easter Sunday comes around, you will see that most of the Pine trees will have small yellow crosses on all of the tallest pine shoots."

I turned to look out the window and I couldn't believe my eyes. It was a week before Easter, and you could see all of the pine trees with the tall yellow shoots stretching to Heaven.

The tallest ones shone in the sunlight like rows of tiny golden crosses.

—Author Unknown

**IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN..... FOR.....**

# **NEW STERLING'S**

# **BBQ AND**



# **AUCTION!!!!!!**



**MAY 22, 2010**

**PLEASE COME AND  
SUPPORT OUR  
MISSION WORK .....  
ENJOY A DELICIOUS  
PLATE OF BBQ  
CHICKEN AND  
PARTICIPATING IN  
OUR AUCTION!!!!!!**



**PLEASE PLACE DONATED ITEMS ON  
THE STAGE IN THE FELLOWSHIP  
HALL**

# Those Wacky Junior Highs



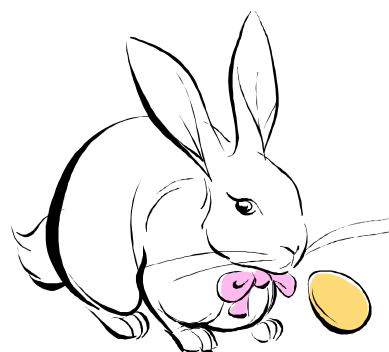
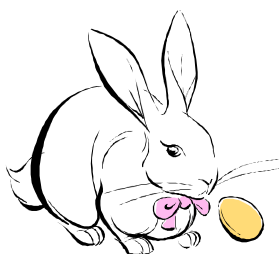
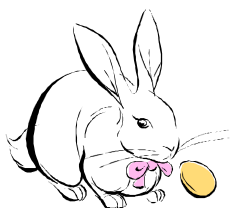
# Junior High Spring Retreat 2010



# April Birthdays



- |    |                |    |                    |
|----|----------------|----|--------------------|
| 3  | Norma Jenkins  | 17 | Jennifer Burchanan |
| 4  | Emily Nash     | 17 | Lilia Jenkins      |
| 5  | Hannah Moore   | 18 | Cody Hairyes       |
| 5  | Blakely Hager  | 19 | Leon Gray          |
| 6  | Emma Moore     | 21 | Lynn Pope          |
| 10 | Anna Reese     | 22 | Alexis Lail        |
| 13 | Cora Poovey    | 24 | Carolyn Byers      |
| 13 | Louanne Watts  | 27 | Scotti McCulloch   |
| 14 | Tony Harper    | 29 | Jaxon Moore        |
| 14 | Amanda Peralta |    |                    |



New Address

**AM Mauney, Brenton T**  
**455 EAM XS/HH60 HMU**  
**APO, AE 09465**



**ESN Clark, Andrea**  
**510 East Washington Street**  
**Lewisburg, West VA 24901**



**Robert Lewis Buchanan**  
**PO Box 189**  
**Polkton, NC 28135**