

# 'Twas the Night Before Jesus Came

'Twas the night before Jesus came and all through the house  
Not a creature was praying, not one in the house.  
Their Bibles were lain on the shelf without care  
In hopes that Jesus would not come there.

The children were dressing to crawl into bed,  
Not once ever kneeling or bowing a head.  
And Mom in her rocker with baby on her lap  
Was watching the Late Show while I took a nap.

When out of the East there arose such a clatter,  
I sprang to my feet to see what was the matter.  
Away to the window I flew like a flash  
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash!

When what to my wondering eyes should appear  
But angels proclaiming that Jesus was here.  
With a light like the sun sending forth a bright ray  
I knew in a moment this must be THE DAY!

The light of His face made me cover my head  
It was Jesus returning just like He had said.  
And though I possessed worldly wisdom and wealth,  
I cried when I saw Him in spite of myself.

In the Book of Life, which was held in His hand,  
Was written the name of every saved man.  
He spoke not a word as He searched for my name;  
When He said "It's not here" my head hung in shame.

The people whose names had been written with love  
He gathered to take to His Father above.  
With those who were ready He rose without a sound  
While all the rest were left standing around.

I fell to my knees, but it was too late;  
I had waited too long and thus sealed my fate.  
I stood and I cried as they rose out of sight;  
Oh, if only I had been ready tonight.

In the words of this poem the meaning is clear;  
The coming of Jesus is drawing near.  
There's only one life and when comes the last call  
We'll find that the Bible was true after all!

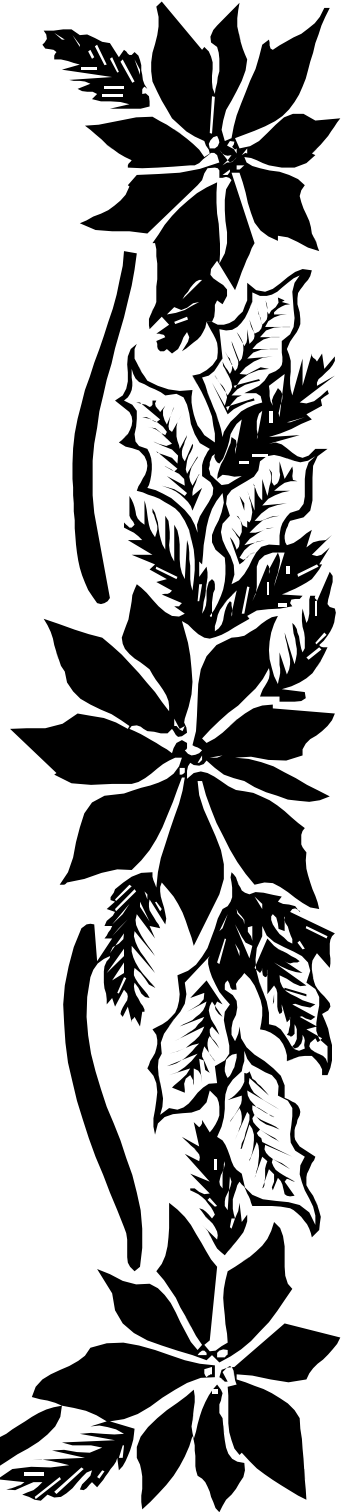
[Author and claimant] Dianne Frances Donenfeld , 1947-



December  
2005

New Sterling Associated Reformed Presbyterian Church

# The Stirling





Brian and Wendy Pope bring their daughter, Abbie Shea for baptism on November 20, 2005. Big brother Taylor watches.



Alexandria Grace-Inez Buchanan was baptized November 27, 2005 as her parents Bobby and Jennifer stand proudly by. Big sister Brianna stands with her parents.



# WELCOME

## NEW MEMBERS

Jessica Ciccorelli and Becky Gray joined our church family on November 20, 2005.

Did you notice the spiffy new choir robes the choir was wearing last Sunday? What a beautiful way to begin the first Sunday of Advent.

A special thanks from the choir and the congregation goes to Mrs. Pauline Charles for her generous donation in memory of Mr. Rob Charles to allow the choir to purchase these bright and beautiful new robes.

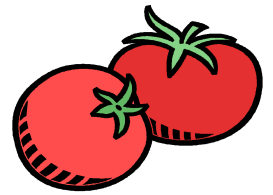
We would also like to welcome our new choir members, Kattie Compton and Jeanette Hauck. We are especially glad to have Hannah Moore back in our choir.





# Women of Faith

October 28-29, 2005



River of Fear-

In order to make it to His Promise Land, you must not be afraid to get your feet wet.

- Beth Moore

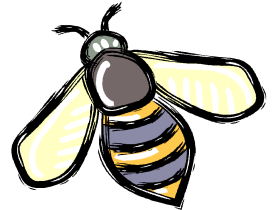


And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Romans 8:28

**Spanx**

(Top row from left): Michelle Hairyes, Missy Whithers, Paula Sloan (Second row from left): Lori Compton, Kim Brady, Yvonne Toliver, Cindy McNeely, Cora Poovey (Third row from left): Judy Watson, Jeanette Hauck, Delinda Mauney, Judy Stewart, Betty Godfrey (hiding behind Taryn), Taryn Setzer (Front Row from left): Aarene Reese, Jan Jackson, Vicki Elfin (Not pictured): Kitizi Emery, Pat Price, Julie Winters, Jane Fulbright



What a weekend! Was it not loaded with action packed events? We were tested and tried from the time we gathered on Friday morning until we returned Saturday night. Satan worked some serious overtime on us. But we can stand tall— these girls definitely know **God is in control**. There were so many special moments in this short weekend. Friendships were formed, souls bonded, “bodies broken”, rivers flowed and many prayers lifted. No spirits were broken. Through everything, the blessings were abundant with every tear and every laugh. Adding the pre-conference this year to our agenda was a definite plus. God places us where we need to be, who we need to be with. We just thank you for being the all knowing Father of our lives. We are his children and we go where he leads us.

As Aarene helps us make preparations for our 2006 Conference— let us keep her in our prayers.

Love in Christ,

Michelle



*We are women  
Women of faith  
United in God's love  
Sisters in grace  
Looking to Jesus  
To lead us each day  
We are women  
Women of faith.*

**DID I MISS  
BETH  
MOORE?????!!  
!!!!????????!!!!!!**



**Huh???????**

*We are bound in love  
For one another  
We share faith in God  
And we're committed to each other  
We are sisters in Christ Jesus  
Desiring to serve  
Leaning on God's promises  
Standing on His Word.*



**Did she say what I think she just said?**

**I don't know...  
.....  
What'd she say?**

**Oh no... there's Delinda with that camera again.**



*We will glorify the King of kings  
We will glorify the Lamb  
We will glorify the Lord of lords  
Who is the great I AM.*



*From the recording BRING BACK THE JOY*



**Yeah..... they're pretty good!**

**Yummmm.....these are some good chips!**



# Sterling Silvers

The Sterling Silvers will have their Christmas Meeting on Monday, December 12, 2005 at 10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. Luncheon will be provided.

Please bring a gift for the Bingo exchange game. Wear something RED for the Holiday Spirit.



Thanks galore ladies for the outstanding covered dish dinner provided for Thanksgiving.

See you on the 12th!

Frank Emery, Sr. (Santa in Charge)



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## Yokefellow Coat Drive



The Yokefellow Ministries of Greater Statesville is still collecting coats for citizens of the Statesville area. Please donate your new or gently used coats of all sizes. Yokefellow will be collecting the coats through Christmas. Leave donated coats in the fellowship hall or you can drop them off at:

Yokefellow Thrift Store  
720 S. Mulberry St.  
Statesville, NC  
704-872-1459



**Don't Forget!**

**Operation Christmas Child Boxed Due  
Sunday December 4, 2005**

**On Saturday December 10, 2005 a group from New Sterling will be traveling to Charlotte to help pack the boxes for Samaritans Purse. If your are unable to bring your box on Sunday Dec. 4, you can still bring it to the church by Friday Dec. 9.**

# The Women of the Church



**Avis Alexander Pope**, daughter of Ernest and Allie Alexander, grew up in Alexander County very close to her present home. She graduated from Sharon High School.

On August 31, 1941, Avis married Hall Pope. Soon afterwards she transferred her church membership from Stony Point Methodist Church to New Sterling.

Avis has one son, Danny and a daughter-in-law, Chris. Danny recently got an electrical degree from Catawba Valley Community College and now works for Draka in Newton. Chris and Danny also operate four chicken houses. Avis had a granddaughter, Micki, who is married to Wesley Howard. They have two young children, Lauren and Landon and live in Denver, North Carolina. Her grandson, Bryan Pope, works at Carolina Tractor.

Avis retired after working for 35 years at Uniglass. Uniglass honored her after 25 years of service and again after 30 years. In later years she worked at Emerald Health Care in Taylorsville. While there, she was named Employee of the Month.

Avis is an active member of the Eula Pressley Bible Class, the Golden Christian Circle, and the Sterling Silvers. She has served as secretary of her Sunday School Class, co-chairman of a Women of the Church food committee and took Meals on Wheels to shut-ins in Stony Point.

One of her hobbies is talking to her many friends on the telephone.

It is with love and appreciation that the Golden Christian Circle presents this love gift certificate to a very sweet and gentle lady, Avis Pope.



The Women's Ministries of New Sterling ARP Church through much prayer and the seeking of God's Word find it an honor to present **Minnie Drum Pope** a Love Gift. This is a gift of love and appreciation for the past 50 years of service to God, and all of us here at New Sterling. For the cakes you baked, the dishes you washed, the many grieving families you served, we thank you. For you and Pop Pope helping your children to find their way to God, we celebrate you. For the phone calls and the warm cards you send, for caring and giving when the need arises, we thank you. For spending time with God in prayer, for reading His Word through and through several times, we celebrate you. So in closing we Thank and Celebrate you **Mom**

**Pope** for your LOVE....

LOVE...

Is patient and kind;

Love is not jealous,

Or conceited, or proud

Or provoked,

Love does not keep

A record of wrongs.

Love is not happy with evil,

But is pleased

With the truth.

Love never gives up;

It's faith, hope and patience

Never fail.

And all God's people said .....Amen





## Here and There...

At the recent fifth Sunday night service, **Pastor Tim** played the “bad guy” or the “shady guy” in a Reformation skit. Some of the children were scared to tears...**Jeanette Hauck** has been seen drive the high school bus. We are not sure why she has graduated to the high school...**Linda and Tony Harper** spent their wedding anniversary with the daughter, **Erica**, which was very nice, but they went shopping! What is up with that????...**Robert Fulbright** and **Lynn Jenkins** attended Scotts School for a Veteran’s Day supper for all the veterans of war that had attended Scotts School. Their names, along with all of the other school attendees, which were veterans, will appear on a plaque which will be placed on a monument to be displayed at the school...Congratulations to **Kelli Johnson** who made the basketball team at West Middle School...**Pat and Natalie Sherrill** attended the incredible, amazing, “you won’t believe your eyes”, Cirque Du Soleil in Concord, NC...**Garrett Deal** will be playing his first year of basketball with Sharon School...**Dylan Deal** will be playing JO Volleyball with the IC Stars team...**Muriel Jenkins, Delinda, Scotti, Michelle and Taryn** had their 26<sup>th</sup> annual Shop Til U Drop Day! They have so much fun on these shopping trips that **Brian** and **Clifton** actually joined them for the evening hours. **Delinda, Scotti and Michelle** shopped until 1:00 am... **Ladies Conference news**...We hear that **Arene Reese** had to take a picture of her room number to keep with her so she would remember where she was staying...**Cora Poovey** and **Betty Godfrey** got lost in the parking lot looking for the van...**Kim Brady** may need a little training on parking and backing the van with the luggage trailer attached before the next church excursion. In all fairness, we heard that the women in the van were not much help...**Kitzi Gray, Julie Winters and Pat Price** were awestruck with Beth Moore...**Michelle Hairyes, Delinda Mauney, Taryn Setzer** and two other guests wandered the streets of Charlotte looking for a place to eat dinner after the Conference on Friday. We heard that they stopped at the corner bar and grill and had some very sinful chocolate desserts!!!!...**Trunk or Treat News**...**Pastor Tim** was caught trying to coerce the children out of their chocolate candy. When he called the children over asking them to see what they had in their bags, most learned quickly to go the other way!...**David and Kim Brady** had a very proud moment as **Anthony and Jessica** came in and had switched clothes! Jessica didn’t look too bad, but some of us are still wondering how in the world Anthony got into those tight jeans????????? **David** was speechless...**Reid Gray** was reprimanded by **Michelle Hairyes**, as he did not recognize the Halloween Costume that she was wearing... The most popular costume of the night was that of a princess. Our church family is filled with many princesses and we enjoyed seeing them in their beautiful gowns!... Be sure to watch for pictures of all of those, young and young at heart that dressed up for the occasion... The **Youth Shepherds** honored **Pastor Tim** with a dinner for Pastor Appreciation Month in October. They served Taco Soup and brought out a cart full of chocolate desserts after dinner. Everyone enjoyed the dinner and had a nice evening, especially **Pastor Tim** who tried only four (4) of the six (6) desserts! The youth presented cards with sentiments of love and appreciation.....

Remember to keep us posted on your Holiday travels and family events. Please see me on Sundays or call and leave a message on my answering machine... Scotti

- 1 1 Corinthians 9-11
- 2 1 Corinthians 12-14
- 3 1 Corinthians 15-16
- 4 2 Corinthians 1-4
- 5 2 Corinthians 5-9
- 6 2 Corinthians 10-13
- 7 Acts 20:1-3; Romans 1-3
- 8 Romans 4-7
- 9 Romans 8-10
- 10 Romans 11-13
- 11 Romans 14-16
- 12 Acts 20: 4-23;35
- 13 Acts 24-26
- 14 Acts 27-28
- 15 Colossians; Philemon
- 16 Ephesians
- 17 Philippians
- 18 1 Timothy
- 19 Titus
- 20 1 Peter
- 21 Hebrews 1-6
- 22 Hebrews 7-10
- 23 Hebrews 11-13
- 24 2 Timothy
- 25 2 Peter; Jude
- 26 1 John
- 27 2 John; 3 John
- 28 Revelation 1-5
- 29 Revelation 6-11
- 30 Revelation 12-18
- 31 Revelation 19-22

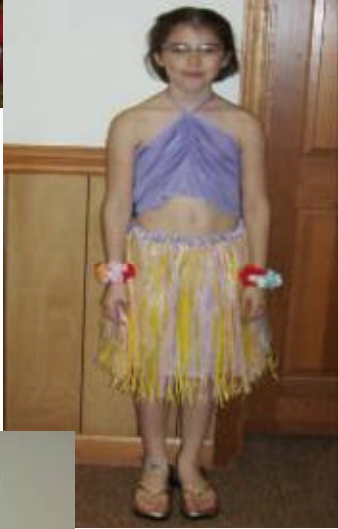
# D e c e m b e r



## CHURCH DIRECTORY

If you have any changes or corrections to the Church Directory before the 2006 directory is published, please make sure you get the information to the church office as soon as possible. You can place your corrections in the secretary’s mailbox or in the office.

# Fall Fancy Dress Fest



# CHURCH BULLETIN BLOOPERS

Bertha Belch, a missionary from Africa, will be speaking tonight at Calvary Methodist. Come hear Bertha Belch all the way from Africa.

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

The sermon this morning: "Jesus Walks on the Water." The sermon tonight: "Searching for Jesus"

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

The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to a conflict.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say "Hell" to someone who doesn't care much about you.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang "I will not pass this way again," giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Barbara remains in the hospital and needs blood donors for more transfusions. She is also having trouble sleeping and requests tapes of Pastor Jack's sermons.

The Rector will preach his farewell message after which the choir will sing: "Break Forth Into Joy."

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What Is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.

**NO  
W  
A  
Y  
S**

The deacons would like to thank the deacon-elects, Scott Graham, Leann Hartness, Jeannette Hauck, and Todd McCulloch, for their willingness to serve and invite them to our December meeting. We will meet at 7:00 pm on December 4<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to working with you in our service to the Lord and to New Sterling.

We would also like to thank, Kent Clarke, Eddie Compton, Ken Hauck, and Derek Winters for their three years of dedicated service. They have quietly contributed greatly to our work. Thank You!

**N  
E  
W  
S**

# College Student Addresses

**Sarah Watts**

Campus Box 15881 \*\*\*  
Lee Hall  
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wildfish@statesville.net  
(NC State University)



**Kelly Pugh**

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kmpugh@uncc.edu \*\*\*  
(University of North Carolina -Charlotte)

**Clifton Mauney**

865 Shew Ridge Mission Road \*\*\*  
Wilkesboro, NC 28697  
(Wilkes Community College)

**Nolan Winters**

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(Lenoir Rhyne College)

**Erica Harper**

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(University of North Carolina—Charlotte)

**Erin Waugh**

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**Jesse Keller**

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**Andrea Clark**

CPO 679 Erskine College  
PO Box 1001  
Due West, SC 29639  
(Erskine College)

**Preston Tolbert**

prestontolbert@yahoo.com  
(Western Carolina University)

## Our Church Family in Iraq



**PFC Charlie McClure**  
E Battery 13B 2nd Plt  
6204 NW Rothwell Street  
Fort Sill, OK 73502-8112



**LCPL Kirk Dagenhart**  
212 F Company Plt 73075  
FPO AE 09509-3075

(Kirk is in Karma, Iraq which is 8 miles north of Fallujah)

*Kirk is Jim and Eleanor Dagenhart's grandson. His father is Steve Dagenhart.*

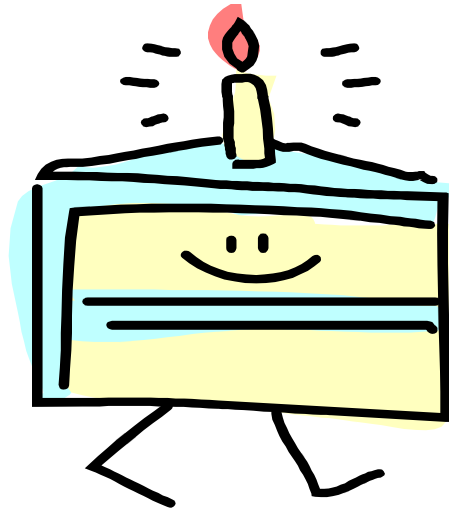
**GSGT. David Leonard USMC**  
HMM-266  
UIC 77081  
FPO AE 09509-7081

*David is Art and Dixie Waugh's son-in-law.*



\*\*\* Correction

2 Betty Sides  
 3 Linda Harper  
 4 Shaun Thompson  
 4 Larry Watts  
 5 Tena Campbell  
 5 Pressly Reese  
 5 Betty Thorne  
 6 Jaime Moose  
 7 Matthew Selves  
 10 Pat Price  
 10 Kent B. Brady  
 10 Trent Brady  
 12 Barbara McClure  
 12 Clark Milholland  
 13 Estelene Jenkins  
 13 Peggy Pope  
 14 Phyllis Shoemaker  
 14 Dalton Winters  
 15 Anthony Brady  
 16 Kate Bennett  
 16 Dorothy Beatty



# December

17 Doris McNeely  
 17 Austin Williams  
 18 Dawn Keller  
 19 Martha Harding  
 19 Jim Snyder  
 20 Stacey Johnson  
 21 Jeff Waugh  
 22 Marvin Bennett  
 22 Craig Pugh  
 23 Olean Deal  
 23 Mallory Garrison  
 23 Brandon Gray  
 23 Aric Pope  
 25 Don Brady  
 26 Peggy Gray  
 27 Jim Benfield  
 27 Lori Pope  
 29 Natalie Sherrill  
 30 Ed Henderson  
 31 Laura Chambers  
 31 Juanita Massey



If you have information for Delinda or Taryn for the newsletter, please note phone number changes:

**Delinda - (704) 880-0527**

**Taryn (828) 459-2637**

December 3 Reid & Peggy Gray 50th  
 Wedding Anniversary  
 2:00-5:00 pm at the Gray  
 House

December 4 9:15 Praise & Worship  
 7:00 Deacons Meet

December 5 Joint WOC Christmas  
 Dinner 6:30

December 7 7:30 Adult Choir

December 10 Pack Operation Christmas  
 Child Boxes in Charlotte

December 11 9:15 Praise & Worship

December 14 6-7:30 Youth Shepherd  
 Christmas Party  
 7:30 Adult Choir



December 18 9:15 Praise & Worship  
 1 1:00 Choir Cantata  
 7:00 Children's Christmas  
 Program  
 Newsletter Items Due

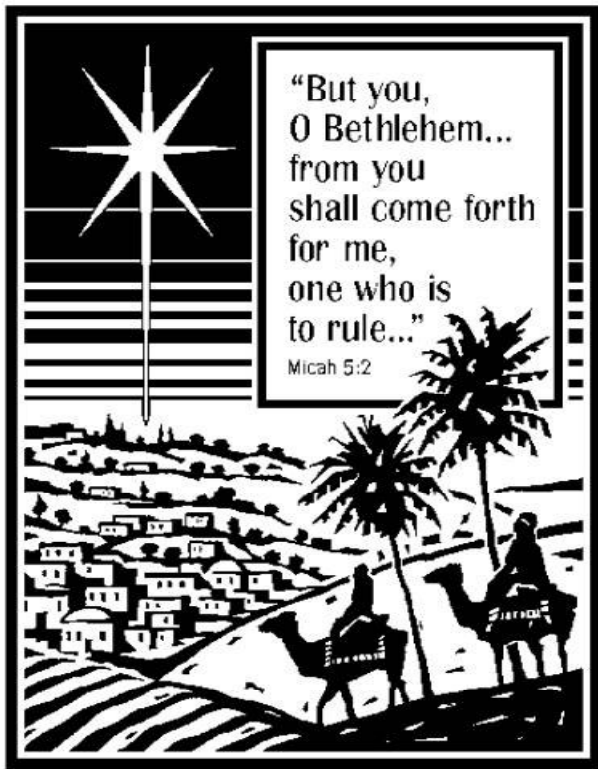


December 19 6:00 Seekers Bible Study  
 Group Caroling

December 21 7:30 Adult Choir

December 24 7:00 Christmas Eve Service

December 25 9:15 Praise & Worship



## New Sterling ARP Church

580 New Sterling Road  
Stony Point, NC 28678

(704)872-2561 ~ Church Office  
(704)929-0104 ~ Pastor Tim's Mobile  
(704)871-1030 ~ Manse  
watsontr@juno.com

### Pastor: Tim R. Watson

Pastor Emeritus: Dr. Earl Linderman

Secretary: Pat Caskaddon

Choir Director: Ruth Foy

Organist: Kay Flowers

Pianist: Susan Pugh

Newsletter Co-Editors: Delinda & Taryn Mauney

Newsletter email: [sterlingnews@hotmail.com](mailto:sterlingnews@hotmail.com)

### Sunday Service Time

9:15 am	Praise and Prayer Time
10:00 am	Sunday School (all ages)
11:00 am	Worship

### Wednesday

6:30 pm	Youth Shepherds
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*His name shall be called...  
Prince of Peace.  
Isaiah 9:6*



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Visit our website at [www.newsterlingarp.org](http://www.newsterlingarp.org)  
580 New Sterling Road Stony

Point NC 28678

*New Sterling ARP Church  
Established 1787*

