



December
2007

New Sterling Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

The Stirling



Putting Things in Perspective

In early November Scott Snyder and the Property and Maintenance Committee hired a gentleman to clean the mildew material off the roof. You have probably noticed it; it looked like black substance running down the shingles. He was there from 8 am until about 6:30, until it was almost too dark to see.

As I watched him I began to realize how small he was as he stood on the roof of our sanctuary. Now he is of average size like any of us so that wasn't what caused the image. It was that he was on top of a building twenty feet in the air and was standing on a roof beside a steeple that extends maybe 60 feet into the air. His surroundings made him look smaller.

Well you know how preachers do, we can make an illustration out of most anything, and I did. As I watched him and snapped this picture I realized just how small I am when compared to God and the things of God. I am by nature a strong, confident person, sometimes to a fault. I

remember in class at Erskine we had to conduct evaluations of our classmates. One said of me that I was confident, outspoken, and not afraid to say what needs to be said. He continued to say that

These attributes are positive attributes but could also be a negative. Yeah, sometimes they are.

But seeing things like this and having God bring to mind the relationship we have with him brings me back to reality. I ain't much when compared to the Almighty.

The Psalmist wrote in chapter 8 - **When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him?** And then in I Corinthians 1, Paul asks - **Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?**

Passages such as these and the visual I had from the gentleman on the roof really put things in perspective. I can be outspoken, strong and confident and God can use those things in me but when the day is done and I look back on all he has given me to do, I must realize that it is only him in me that causes any good to be done.

Something to think about.

In His Service,
Pastor Tim



CONGRAGULATIONS TO
Amanda (Pope) and Ray Patterson
in the birth of a son
Evan Christopher Patterson
On October 5, 2007

CONGRATULATIONS TO
Erin and Greg Hudgins
In the birth of
Justin Timothy Hudgins
On November 1, 2007
8'8" and 21" long



Sympathy is Expressed to the
family and
Friends of
ROY FRANKLIN BEATTY
May 14, 1921—November 1, 2007



"He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good;
and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to
do justly and to love mercy and to walk
humbly with thy God?
Micah 6:8



NANCY AND CARROL MCNEELY



Carrol and Nancy Sherrill McNeely were married on October 22, 1949 at New Amity ARP Church. Carrol saw Nancy at a restaurant and then came to one of her basketball games at Scotts High School to meet her. Carrol is a lifelong member of New Sterling and Nancy moved her membership from New Amity after their marriage.

Carrol parents were Ralph and Fannie Dagenhart McNeely and he was raised at the end of New Sterling Road. He graduated from Scotts High and then left for the Merchant Marines to serve during World War II.

Nancy's parents were Jacob Emmit and Lois Austin Sherrill. She graduated from Scotts High and was raised on Scotts Creek Road. Nancy and Carrol remodeled and moved into Nancy's childhood home in 2005.

Carrol and Nancy have three children, Susan, Patti, and Jeff. They also have five grandchildren, Caroline, Lauren, Leah, Jacob, and Maddie. The whole family gathers every Sunday for lunch at "Mama Nancy's" house. Also a new addition to the family from New Mexico are Patrick and Taryn McNeely. Patrick is the grandson of Carrol's late brother, Ray.

At New Sterling, Nancy and Carrol have always been very active. Through the years, Carrol has been a Deacon, Congregational Chairman, Sunday School Teacher, and now Elder Emeritus. Also Nancy was Nursery Director for years, active in the Dorothy Dagenhart Circle, and is treasurer of the Chapel Bible Class.

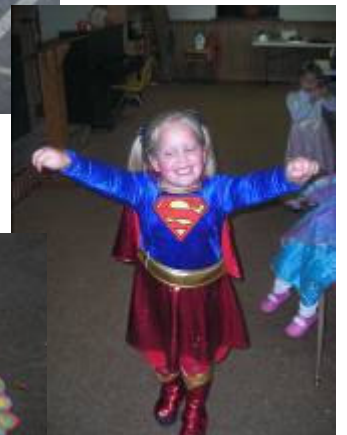
Carrol and Nancy started G&M Milling Company almost 50 years ago. Carrol is now retired, but Nancy still works full time running the office. G&M Milling is a real family affair with their son Jeff running the mill and daughter Patti helping in the office part-time. Nancy does not plan on retiring anytime soon - just ask her.

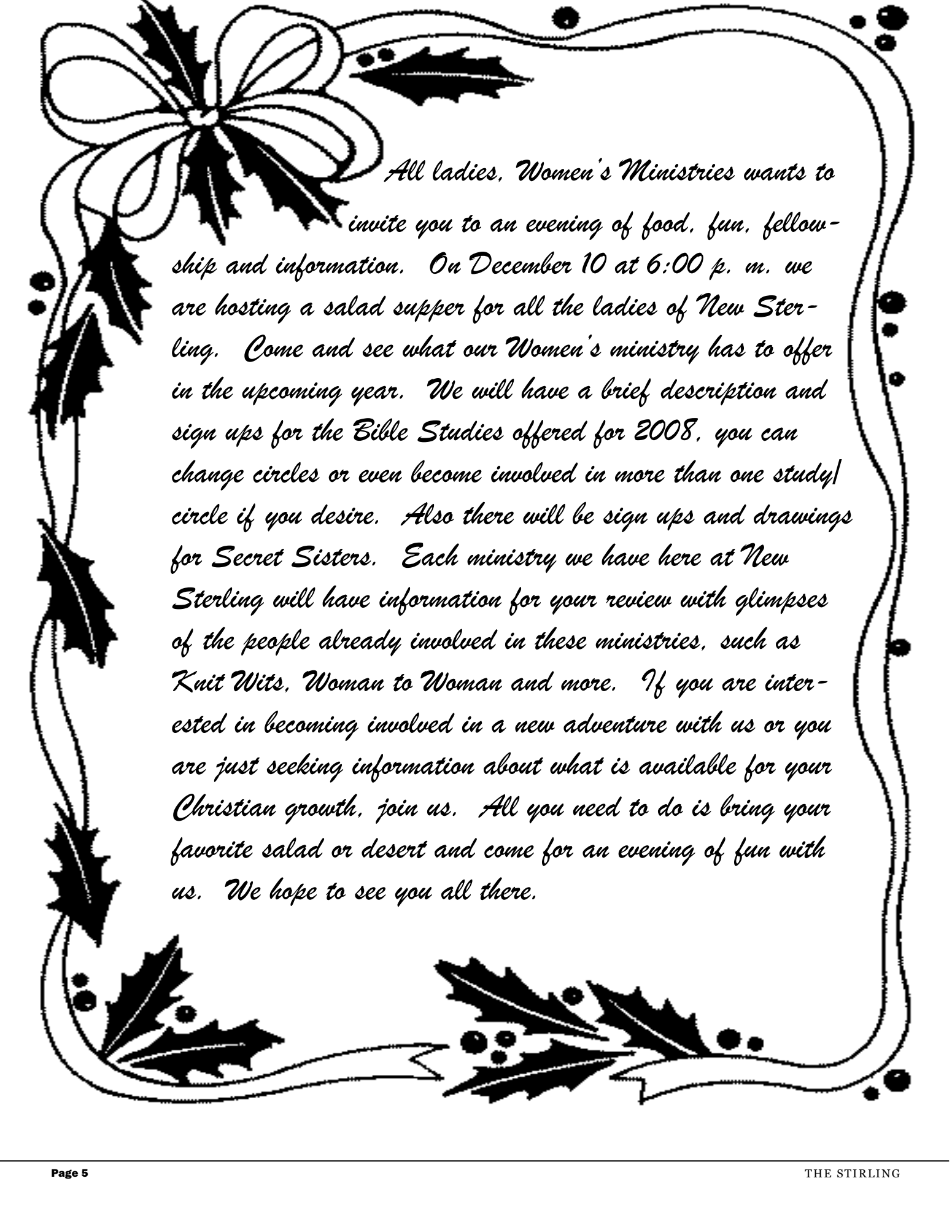
When they are not at G&M Milling, Nancy and Carrol enjoy being with their children and grandchildren. They also enjoy going to the beach. Nancy loves to garden and is a huge Major League Baseball fan. They also love New Sterling and enjoy the Christian fellowship with friends and family.

Trunk R Treat Fun



SOME WEIRD GUESTS





All ladies, Women's Ministries wants to invite you to an evening of food, fun, fellowship and information. On December 10 at 6:00 p. m. we are hosting a salad supper for all the ladies of New Sterling. Come and see what our Women's ministry has to offer in the upcoming year. We will have a brief description and sign ups for the Bible Studies offered for 2008, you can change circles or even become involved in more than one study/ circle if you desire. Also there will be sign ups and drawings for Secret Sisters. Each ministry we have here at New Sterling will have information for your review with glimpses of the people already involved in these ministries, such as Knit Wits, Woman to Woman and more. If you are interested in becoming involved in a new adventure with us or you are just seeking information about what is available for your Christian growth, join us. All you need to do is bring your favorite salad or desert and come for an evening of fun with us. We hope to see you all there.



Here and There at New Sterling

What “**Red Hatter**” was trying to take a plate of bread sticks from the “Olive Garden” along with her take out box?.....**Lynn Jenkins** was sporting a black eye after a fall while working at the Angel House....**Mara Hairyes** layed a brick in the foundation of the Angel House.....**Wayne Waugh** suffered a fall recently....The Sterling Silvers toured the Billy Graham Library. Those who went were **Helen Cashion, Virginia Brady, Lonnie & Carolyn Elliott, Pat Sherrill, Earl & Harriet Linderman, Florence Brookshire, Edith & Clark Milholland, Lynn & Muriel Jenkins, Minnie Pope, Juanita Massey, Frank Emery, Melderine Pope, Roy & Cora Poovey, and Pauline Charles.....Harold Sherrill** has recently spent time in the hospital.....**BJ Brewer** has started a new job at Lowes. She will be working at night.....The **Watson twins, Jonah and Caleb** celebrated their birthday with a party here at the church.....**Barbara Jo Reid** spent some time at Catawba Valley Living at Rock Barn for recuperation and help regaining her strength.....**Virginia Brady** was recently involved in an automobile accident.The **Ken Hauck’s** traveled to Pennsylvania for Thanksgiving.....**Stephanie Watts** passed her Certified Nursing Assistant exam.....The last brick was laid on the Angel House foundation on November 17Those who traveled to Biloxi to take furniture and accessories to **Miss Bernice** were, **Todd & Derek Winters, Tim & Judy Watson, Lori Compton, David Brady, Jim and Jane Mayhew,Taryn & Brian Setzer** spent a few days in Las Vegas after Thanksgiving.....**Lauren Gryder**, a sophomore, made the Varsity Tennis Team at Davie High. Her team won the Central Piedmont 4A Conference regular season and tournament championship. Lauren went on to play doubles at the Regionals in Greensboro..... **Leah Gryder** played on Ellis Middle School’s softball team. The team had an impressive season for a brand new school.....**Mabel Brady** fell and injured her hip and spent time in the hospital.....Those attending the Junior High Retreat: **Julie and Derek Winters, Davey Winters, Davis Emery, Kourtney Hauck, Jacob McNeely, Billy Paul Clippard and Chase Sharpe.....** Those attending the Women of Faith Conference were: **Taryn Setzer, Delinda Mauney, Michelle Hairyes, Missy Withers, Jane Fulbright, Sheila Snyder, Aarene Reese, Sherry Garland, Jessica Graham, Kelly Miller, BJ Brewer, Nikki Campbell, Linda Pope, Kendra Watson, Jill Hager and Carey Furr.....**

Christmas is most truly Christmas when we celebrate it by
giving the light of love to those who need it most.

Ruth Carter Stapleton

Women's Ministries Love Gift Recipients



The first Love Gift of the evening was from the Mary-Martha Sunset Circle and was presented to Pat Price. She is a lady who hears God's leading and then follows through with conviction and energy.

About 4 years ago Pat and Clay Price were looking for a new church home when Linda Harper invited them to New Sterling. They immediately (according to Pat) liked the welcome they received. They even liked that Sunday's preacher who wasn't even a preacher. It was our own David Sides.

But—since they lived in the distant big city of Taylorsville, they thought perhaps they should choose a more nearby church home in order to be more active. BUT the Lord stepped in again that Sunday and seated them beside—of all people—Patti and Doug Gryder who drive about 40 miles from Advance to New Sterling. This made Taylorsville seem manageable.

And so they came and joined us with energy and Christian talents. Pat became a Women's Ministry member and led Beth Moore study groups. Another really big job she and Clay have been responsible for is the nursery during the worship hour for the past 2 years. She is also a member of that lively group, the Knit Wits and is an active participant in Woman to Woman which is our women's mentoring program. She is also a former member of the Seekers Bible Study.

Besides all of this, her cheerful presence and engaging personality make her more than worthy of this love gift. It is with much love and appreciation that we present this Love Gift to Pat Price from the Mary-Martha Sunset circle.

Harriet Smith Linderman came to New Sterling Church the first Sabbath of January 1979. She has been an active part of the church and community. It did not take very long for us to know what dedicated minister's wife she was. Harriet has reached out and touched all of our lives and hearts with her love and kindness.

Dr. Earl and Harriet are the proud parents of three children who all graduated from Erskine College. Carol is married to Marvin B Bennett and they have two children, Kate and Sam of Advance, NC. Bill lives in Bristol, Tenn. and Susan lives in Charlotte, NC.

Harriet graduated from Erskine College and was a former high school math teacher. She has devoted a lot of her time to involvements in church activities. She is a former Sunday School teacher, church pianist and children's choir pianist. Over the years she has supported the work of the Women of New Sterling in many, many ways. She has been New Sterling WOC President, Circle Chairman, Bible Study leader and President of the Sterling Silvers. In 1983 the WOC yearbook was dedicated to Harriet and in 2003 she was awarded the Life Membership Award.

She has been active in First Presbyterian work including two different terms as Treasurer and other Synodical Presbyterian Committee assignments along with serving on the ARP Foundation Board.

Harriet is Dr. Earl's right-hand man. Past manse hostess, helping with finance committees, newsletters and much ministering we probably will never know about. In 2001 Dr. Earl and Harriet retired their New Sterling post. They keep busy traveling, spending time with their family and other area church families. They continue to attend New Sterling when they are not serving other area churches. They say they will always call New Sterling home!

For her faithfulness, dedication and leadership to the church and its members, the Golden Christian Circle is happy to honor Harriet S. Linderman with the 2007 Love Gift Certificate.



Women's Ministries Love Gift Recipients



Peggy Gray has been a member of New Sterling for 52 years. She is married to Reid Gray and they have four children, Kitz, Jimmy, Andy and Kirk, and eight grandchildren.

Her talents and areas of service are many. She has always had a passion for child development and Christian Education. She has taught numerous Sunday school and Sunday evening classes through the years. When New Sterling offered a preschool years ago, she served as chairman of the Board of Directors. She sang in the choir for 20 years, chaired our Bicentennial Celebration in 1987, and has served on decorating committees during each building or remodeling phase here at New Sterling. More recently, she has served as Sunday school superintendent for nine years and chairman of the C.E. committee for several years.

She is a woman God has tapped to be in leadership roles. One whopper of a leadership role is one she has just completed, namely, the President of Women's Ministries for our denomination. She served as president of First Presbyterian in 2003, was ARP Women's Ministries president for two years, and is currently vice president. This has been an exciting but all-consuming job. God has used her during a most critical time in our denomination's history to lead the restructuring of the Women's Work. She was able to have hands-on experience with local restructuring; she assisted New Sterling's president Sheila Snyder with implementing God's special plan for our church, which is thriving.

We, the women of New Sterling, have grown to depend on her as a knowledgeable and always helpful mentor. With much love and gratitude we present the 2007 Mary-Martha Sunrise love gift to Peggy Gray.

Michelle Hairyes is the love gift recipient from the Treasure Keepers Circle. She and husband Richard have two children, Cody, ten, and Mara, six. Michelle works at Pneu Mech Systems handling accounts payable and administrative assistant duties.

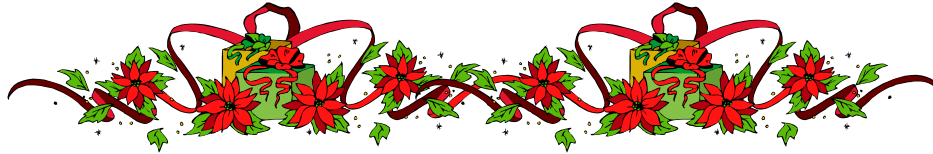
Michelle wears many hats here at New Sterling. She has been a choir member for many years, is the Sunday evening pianist, and fill-in Sunday morning pianist. She has taught Sunday school and VBS in the Nursery II classroom and has served on the Personnel Committee for the past three years. On a broader spectrum, God has used her to share her gift of music with another church. She has served as pianist at Bethel Methodist Church for eleven years now.

Almost two years ago, God gave Michelle an idea that she excitedly shared with many women here. Her vision was a prayer shawl ministry which would give comfort and express love to those in need. God has blessed her vision and used her as his enthusiastic instrument. Over 25 women are involved in Knit Wits, a group which meets twice monthly in member's homes. These ladies crochet and knit shawls and blankets not only for members of our own church family and community, but also for abused children through the Dove House.

Michelle is currently Women's Ministries treasurer, serving on the Women's Council. She is involved in Woman-to-Woman Mentoring and is a cooking mentor for Treasure Keepers circle. Always one of the first to sign up for the Women's Beach Retreat and Women of Faith, Michelle takes an active, vital role in Women's Ministries here at New Sterling. It is with love and appreciation that we present Michelle Hairyes with the 2007 Treasure Keepers Love Gift.



COMING EVENTS



- | | | |
|-------------|-------|--|
| December 1 | 9:00 | Knit Wits with Missy Withers
Hanging of the Greens |
| December 2 | 9:15 | Praise & Worship |
| | 10:00 | Sunday School Classes Decorate Fellowship Hall Christmas Tree
Refreshments provided by Friendship Class - All Classes Invited |
| | 11:00 | Samaritan's Purse Shoe Boxes Due |
| | 12:00 | Elder Election |
| | 12:30 | Immediately after worship service Jr. and Sr. High deliver shoe boxes |
| | 5:00 | Children's Choir/C3 Choir |
| | 7:00 | Session Meeting |
| December 9 | 9:15 | Praise & Worship |
| | 12:00 | Congregational Meeting |
| | 5:00 | Children's Choir/C3 Choir |
| | 7:00 | Deacons Meeting |
| December 10 | 10:30 | Sterling Silvers Meet |
| | 6:00 | Women's Ministries Salad Supper |
| December 16 | 9:15 | Praises & Worship |
| | 11:00 | Choir Christmas Cantata
Newsletter Items Due |
| | 7:00 | Children's Choir Christmas Program |
| December 17 | 7:00 | Knit Wits with Delinda Mauney |
| December 19 | 6:00 | Youth Shepherds Christmas Caroling |
| December 24 | 7:00 | Christmas Eve Candlelight Service |
| December 25 | | Christmas — JESUS BIRTHDAY |



A perfect Christmas begins with Christ. The holiday season is, first and forever, a time to rejoice in God's blessing and to praise God's Son. Yet sometimes we may find ourselves caught up in the relentless commercialism that accompanies the celebration of Christ's birth. Whenever we are encouraged to place Jesus in a position of secondary importance, we must pause to remember the One whose birth we celebrate. After all, it is Christ who, through His sacrifice on the cross, offers every human being the possibility of life abundant and eternal.

So the real message of Christmas is this: God loves all of us so much that He sent His Son to live and to die for each of us.

During this holiday season, keep your eyes and heart lifted upward, always upward, as you remember that Christmas always begins with Christ....and it always will.

Comedy Corner



One Sunday morning, everyone in one bright, beautiful, tiny town got up early and went to the local church.

Before the services started, the townspeople were sitting in their pews and talking about their lives, their families, etc.

Suddenly, Satan appeared at the front of the church. Everyone started screaming and running for the front entrance, trampling each other in a frantic effort to get away from evil incarnate.

Soon everyone was evacuated from the church; except for one elderly gentleman who sat calmly in his pew, not moving... Seemingly oblivious to the fact that God's ultimate enemy was in his presence. Now this confused Satan a bit, so he walked up to the man and said,

"Don't you know who I am?"

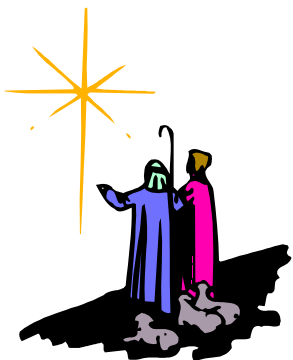
The man replied, "Yep, sure do."

Satan asked, "Aren't you afraid of me?"

"Nope, sure isn't," said the man.

Satan was a little perturbed at this and queried, "Why aren't you afraid of me?"

The man calmly replied, "Been married to your sister for over 48 years."



*Christmas began in the heart of God.
It is complete only when it reaches the heart of man.*

Anonymous

Sterling Silvers



The Sterling silvers will meet at 10:30 am Monday, December 10 in the Fellowship Hall. The Christmas meeting will include gift exchanges, a few carols and a luncheon prepared by the Hospitality Committee.

We are were privileged to have the Troutman's Traveling Handicapped Group of Performers give us a challenging and inspirational performance at our Thanksgiving meeting. They performed with eagerness and accepted our accolades with enthusiasm.

It was an outstanding program and it was a delight to have them joint us for luncheon. The Chicken Dance was so overwhelming that some of the Sterling Silvers joined the performing group. Thank you Swannie and Jim Snyder for booking the special entertainment for us. The covered dish effort was magnificent. We also invited the Angel House workers Lynn Jenkins, Dale Massey and Pastor Tim to our luncheon. There will be not meeting for the month of January.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The Sarge Director

Women of Faith



Angel House Construction



Construction after
week 1



Construction
After week
2



Construction after week 3—the foundation is complete

Our **Angel Tree** is up and ready so pick up your “ornament” today. Our families are:



Our **Yellow Star family #1** consists of:

Female age 28 – Shirt size small, pant size 5, coat/jacket size medium, shoe size 9

Male age 20 - Pant size 34, shirt size large, coat/jacket size large, shoe size 11

Female age 8 - Pant size 10, shirt size 9/10, shoe size 3 **Wish list** - art stuff, Barbie, movies

Female age 3 - Pants size 6, shirt size 6, shoe size 1 **Wish list** - a doll and Barbie



Our **Blue Bear family #2** consists of:

Female age 11 - Pant Size 11 Junior, shirt size adult medium, coat/jacket size medium junior, shoe size 8.5 women She gave no **wish list**

Female age 47 - Pant size 3 junior, shirt size small, coat/jacket size medium, shoe size 8

Male Age 34 - pant size 34/34, shirt size X-large, coat/jacket size X-large, shoe size 9.5
His wishes were for jeans and shirts

Male age 20 - Shirt size medium, shoe size 8.5



Our **Red Heart family** is our own Judy, Angel and Shanda of our **Angel House**

Angel - Pants (elastic waist) size 14-16, adult medium pullover shirts (no button ups),
Shoe size 2.5 (If you are interested in undergarments, see Delinda or Jill)

Wish List – instrumental cassette tapes, children’s tapes, noisy stuffed animals, talking dolls
(remember Angel is blind)

Judy Tallent - Dress size, 22-24, button up tops size 46, shoe size 8

Shanda - Jeans, size 16/regular long with flare leg, t-shirts XX-large, 18-20 long dress shirt,
shoe size 10.5-11 **Wish list** - jewelry, fairies, Irish stuff, flags, décor, toiletry items and
Paper products, gift cards

Angel’s family still has trouble with contaminated water. Bottled water or gallon containers of water would be good. I have other gift items for Angel and her family but felt we could do things later as the house comes along and moving in time gets closer.

If you do not have an “ornament” for canned goods and wish to get them, just mark your package which family your items are for. We put lots of Walmart gift cards on the angel tree. We will divide the gift cards between the families when we receive them. If you have any questions, please see Delinda Mauney. Thank you for your support.

December Birthdays

2	Betty Sides	17	Doris McNeely
3	Linda Harper	17	Austin Williams
4	Shaun Thompson	18	Dawn Keller
4	Larry Watts	19	Martha Harding
5	Tena Campbell	19	Jim Snyder
5	Pressly Reese	20	Stacey Johnson
5	Betty Thorne	21	Jeff Waugh
6	Jaime Moose	22	Marvin Bennett
7	Matthew Selves	22	Craig Pugh
10	Kent B. Brady	23	Olean Deal
10	Trent Brady	23	Mallory Garrison
12	Barbara McClure	23	Brandon Gray
12	Clark Milholland	23	Aric Pope
13	Estelene Jenkins	25	Don Brady
13	Peggy Pope	26	Peggy Gray
14	Phyllis Shoemaker	27	Jim Benfield
14	Dalton Winters	27	Lori Pope
15	Anthony Brady	29	Natalie Sherrill
16	Kate Bennett	30	Ed Henderson
16	Dorothy Beatty	31	Laura Chambers
17	Doris McNeely	31	Juanita Massey
17	Austin Williams		



*The miracle of Christmas is not on 34th Street,
Its in Bethlehem.*

Rick Warren