



February
2007

New Sterling Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

The Stirling

In Our Worship, Are We Awe-Struck?

Awe-Struck, there is a word you probably don't see very often coming from the pen of a pastor and theologian. Awe-Struck, what does it mean? The thesaurus on my over-priced laptop gives the following synonyms: enthralled, fascinated, rapt, captivated, mesmerized. I like the word rapt – it makes me think of being knocked over the head by something to get my attention. Rapt means to be engrossed, absorbed, or fascinated. What does it mean to be awe-struck, or to be rapt by something and what am I getting to as I speak of being awe-struck in our worship?



There are those who say our worship of God is missing a vital ingredient – being awe-struck with God (Warren Wiersbe – Real Worship). Have we lost the sense of being enthralled or the sense of wonder with God? Has God become mundane and commonplace in our lives? Many will confess to praying and repeatedly thanking him for this or that. They will even speak of a belief in God but is it more an idea that has been created to suit or is it in reality the Lord God Almighty who with a word created all things and in the end the only reason creation exists. In my experience I have talked with those who have made a god that fits into a box of their own design and he then is a sentimental crutch to be pulled out when desired. It seems God has become something we have made rather than someone who, when thought of, takes away our very breath. We, the fallen beings, must recover the sense of awe in our relationship and worship of God.

Another word that will cause an eyebrow or two to rise is predestination. Inevitably, when discussing God's predestined will I hear the question – 'how

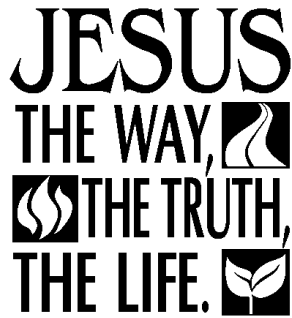
can God choose some people and not choose others?' This is a valid question but at the root of this question for many is the idea that people are too important and God in his design will not, in the end, turn us away. Well, there is so much I could say in response but here I simply want to reply – that is really the wrong question to ask. The real question is – why would God choose anyone? We are all sinful, dreadful, ugly people and deserve nothing but a devil's hell. Why would God want any of us in his perfect heaven with him? The Psalmist wrote in chapter 8, verse 4 – *What is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you would visit him?* When you stop to ponder this reality the sense of being awe-struck and fascination should begin to overwhelm you! Why would God choose to spend eternity with you?

Like you know who you are, I know me and I know me well. I know my thoughts and my actions, I know my past and I am ashamed of some things. Yet, even with my past, God has said to me, 'I want you to be my child, I want you to be in my heaven forever, I want to sit with you and talk with you, hear your questions, show you my love and have you be a part of my wonderful creation.' God has said, 'I know you better than you know you and I love you because I want to.' For me, thinking on these things, I become awe-struck!

Being awe-struck is where worship begins. We, in our worship, are to be overwhelmed with God, overwhelmed with the simple fact of who he is. T. F. Torrance, the great Scottish theologian, said that, 'worship is the exercise of the mind in contemplation of God in which wonder and awe play an important part in stretching and enlarging our vision ... opening our conceptual forms to take in that which by its nature far outruns them' (outruns our ideas of God). Torrance is saying that when we perceive God rightly our thoughts of God are changed, our vision of God becomes broader and fuller and we are mesmerized with what we discover.

Let your mind run and become engrossed with God using his attributes, his characteristics and most importantly to fill your thoughts. Think on him alone not ideas of him. Realize the overpowering flood of his nature that can completely overtake you. Being awe-struck and full of wonder should soon follow and, with that, true worship of the Sovereign God Almighty begins.

In His Service,
Pastor Tim



News from our dear friend Joseph Alghrary

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus,

I spoke at a Church in Chicago on December 10th and later received an e-mail from Tanya. She was dating a Muslim named Yaseen. She had contacted me for advice.

Today I sent her a book recommendation and this was her reply. In short, thanks to the prayers of many, Tanya's Muslim boyfriend accepted Christ at the Church Service one week after my visit. We thank God for His mighty work and for we thank you for your prayers. Please continue to pray for Tanya and Yaseen.

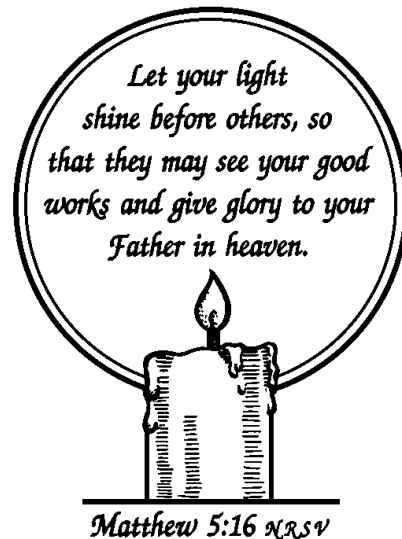
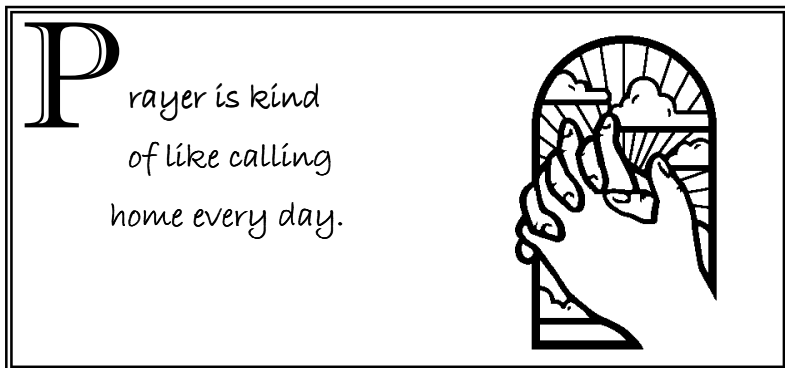
[Tanya's e-mail]

I will get a copy of this book to also help other women that may have questions. I am so happy on December 17th Yassen attended a service with me that Jim was the speaker, at the end of the service he invited everyone to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. At the end of the service I was looking for Yassen and he was talking to Jim in the welcome center. He came out crying and told me he accepted Jesus Christ (after a lot of prayer, and talking to a lot of Christians, and after you attending Christ Community). Please just continue to pray for us that we can both develop a stronger relationship with Jesus. I have a lot of my own issues I deal with. Like my childhood and things that have happened where I have a lot of anger, and tend to slip away easily. I really cant thank you enough for the prayers from you and everyone you know that has prayed. I could go on and on, but again thank you!! Tanya

The Book I recommended was: "Cry of the heart and Quest of the Mind" by Anees Zaka

Thank you again for your prayers and support.

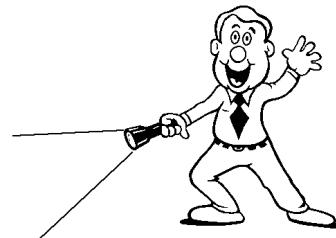
God IS BRINGING MUSLIMS TO HIMSELF through your prayers and support!!!





Schedule of Upcoming Events

February 2-4		Teachers/Youth Workers Conference
February 3	9:00 am	Knit Wits with Michelle Hairyes
February 5	9:30 am	Golden Christian Circle
February 7	6:30-7:30 pm	Youth Shepherds
February 11	5:00 pm	Session Meeting
February 13	10:30 am	Sterling Silvers
February 13	7:00 pm	Treasure Keepers with Judy Watson
February 14		No Youth Shepherds
February 18		Newsletter Items Due
February 19	7:00	Knit Wits with Cindy McNeely
February 20	7:00 pm	Mary & Martha Sunset at church
February 21	10:00 am	Mary & Martha Sunrise with Kitzi Emery
		Ashe Wednesday Service
		No Youth Shepherds
February 23	7:30	Seekers Bible Study with Tony & Linda Harper
February 25		The Lord's Supper
February 28	6:30-7:30 pm	Youth Shepherds
March 2-4		Sr. High Retreat
March 11-17		Biloxi Mission Trip
March 16-18		Jr. High Retreat



When someone says "Life is hard,", ask them,

"Compared to what?"

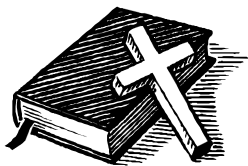
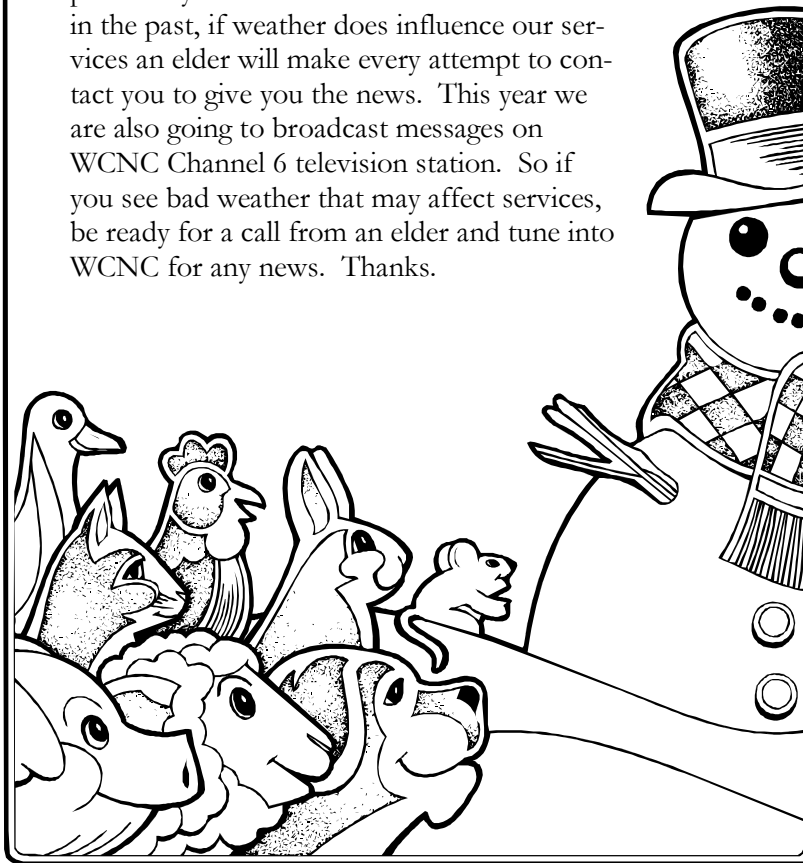
WE WANT TO BE # 1...on your reading list!

Finding reading material that is spiritually uplifting and biblically informative should be at the top of each ARP member's reading list. Read about the great things God is doing in our denomination in the ARP Magazine. Our goal is to keep you informed, spiritually uplifted, and challenged. Colorful, informative, full of ideas, news and history; it should be a "must read" for every ARP. To subscribe, simply call 800-849-2771, 864-232-8297, or e-mail arpeditor@arpsynod.org.



Inclement Weather!

It is that time of year when the weather can potentially affect our services at church. As in the past, if weather does influence our services an elder will make every attempt to contact you to give you the news. This year we are also going to broadcast messages on WCNC Channel 6 television station. So if you see bad weather that may affect services, be ready for a call from an elder and tune into WCNC for any news. Thanks.



The Worship Committee is prepared to place new Bibles in our pew racks. If you would like to purchase one or more as a memorial or honorarium, there is a sign up list outside the Chapel Bible Class or contact Jeff McNeely at 704-872-7494.



New Sterling Love Gift Presentation
Dorothy Dagenhart Circle Recipient
December 31, 2006



From left to right: Pastor Tim, Dorothy Beatty, Angela Beatty, Dorothy Dagenhart and Louanne Watts

LOVE GIFT

Dorothy Halyburton Beatty

Dorothy Halyburton Beatty, daughter of John and Mary Halyburton, grew up near Stony Point. She graduated from Scotts High School. Dorothy and Franklin Beatty were married on July 6, 1940. Franklin had a bread route and a milk route. Primarily he was a dairy farmer and sold milk to Sealtest. Dorothy helped with the farm work.

Dorothy and Franklin have two daughters. Mary Jean Watt is a retired teacher. Angela Campbell, a teacher at Scotts Elementary School, is married to Ellis Campbell and is a member of New Sterling. Mary Jean has two children. Jamey Watt, who works for the EPA, and his wife Patty live in San Francisco. April, who is a veterinarian assistant, is married to Jeff Hartz and they live in Roanoke, Virginia, not far from Mary Jean. Dorothy has three great grandchildren, Haily, five years old, Hunter, three years old, and Heidi, almost a year old. They are the children of April and Jeff.

Dorothy and Franklin were active members of Monticello Methodist Church for 49 years before joining New Sterling on March 6, 1994. They became very involved in the life and work of New Sterling. Franklin is an elder. Dorothy is a member of the Eula Pressly Class, the Golden Christian Circle and the Sterling Silvers. Some of her hobbies are working outdoors, gardening, and working jigsaw puzzles.

Dorothy is a very kind and humble lady. It is with love and appreciation that the Golden Christian Circle presents this love gift to Dorothy Halyburton Beatty.



New Sterling Love Gift Presentation

Dorothy Dagenhart Circle Recipient

December 31, 2006

LOVE GIFT

Dorothy Eugene Dagenhart

Dorothy Dagenhart was born on March 1, 1924 . She grew up in North Carolina in the western part of Iredell County in the Scotts Community. Her parents were the late Marshall Cornelius and Maggie Beard Dagenhart. Her father was known as Neil. In addition to her parents, her family consisted of two sisters and two brothers. One sister, Katheryn Goble lives in Newton. Her other sister Ruth Brown and her two brothers, Herman Dagenhart and John Dagenhart, have gone to be with the Lord.

Growing up in Scotts, Dorothy was a member of Concord Presbyterian Church and attended YPCU (Young People's Christian Union) meetings at New Sterling ARP Church. After high school, she attended a 3 year program for Nurses Training at H.F. Long Hospital in Statesville, NC. She graduated from that program in September on 1946. Her degree included work completed at Children's Hospital of Nursing and the Sibley Hospital in Washington, DC. Dorothy continued to work at H.F. Long Hospital for one year. During these four years of training, she attended First Statesville ARP Church.

Also, during these growing up and training years, family, friends and area churches knew of her interest in missions and they prayed for her placement on the mission field.

In 1947, Dorothy received an appointment as a career missionary and nurse. She traveled to Montgomery, Pakistan in the company of fellow missionaries, Reverend and Mrs. B.L. Hamilton.

Dorothy was then sent on to the Nancy Fulwood Hospital in Sahiwal, Pakistan. Here she served as a missionary nurse in the surgery and obstetrics department. Dorothy received additional training in anesthesiology and became responsible for the entire general anesthesia administered in the hospital. She also served as a midwife, delivering babies in the mother's home, often under extremely difficult circumstances.

In 1989, she returned home to Iredell County after serving 41 years as a missionary nurse in Pakistan. She joined New Amity ARP Church in Scotts, NC. Dorothy continues to visit area ARP churches and attends special activities and celebrations there.

Besides being honored here today at New Sterling with a love gift, she has been honored in Pakistan and Due West, South Carolina.

In 1990, she was surprised with an invitation to return to Pakistan to receive an Award of Service from Pakistani President Ghulam Ishaq Khan. Dorothy also received a framed certificate from Pakistan's government estimating the delivery of 5,000 babies during her career in Pakistan.

On May 13th of this year, she received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters at Erskine College. We are proud and honored here at New Sterling to add our certificate of a love gift in Dorothy Dagenhart's name to her list of honors and remembrances.



HERE AND THERE AT NEW STERLING

We are glad to have **Milderiene Pope** back with us after spending some time in the hospital.....**Harriet Linderman** recently had surgery.....If you drive by **Steve and Judy Stewart's** house, watch to see who is jumping on her new trampoline. It seems **Judy** had a very unusual gift request on her Christmas list. Can't wait until she tries the flips.....**Melissa Donnelly** has almost recovered from her recent back surgery.....**Brent Mauney** has started classes at Mitchell Community College.....The **Friendship Sunday School Class** recently had their holiday dinner in the fellowship hall. There were approximately 65 present including children. They had some very special guests in that **Julie, Joseph and Josiah Alghrary** came and joined in the festivities... **Tim Hager** was "**Chef Tim**" manning the barbeque grill with lots and lots of supervisors helping him.....**Doris Ingram** has recently spent time in the hospital.....**Dylan Deal** attended the Winter Formal at West Iredell High School. It was quite a dressed up affair with dinner and dancing.....**Taryn Setzer** spent 5 days at Disney with friends from work. What a way to spend a few days in January!.....**Robert Fulbright** had surgery on his foot.....January was the first month for the new **Women's Ministries** Bible Studies and circle groups. There were approximately 62 women which participated in one of the 4 study groups.....**Judy Watson, Kim Brady** and **Kitzi Emery** visited Sandy Plains ARP Church to present the Women to Woman Mentoring Ministry.....**Jennifer Buchanan** recently had surgery.....**Pauline Pope** has recently spent time in the hospital....

The Friendship Class recently elected new officers for the 2008 year. They are:

President	Todd McCulloch
Vice President	Delinda Mauney
Treasurer	Patti McNeely
Social Chairman	Judy Stewart

Whoever gossips to you will gossip of you.

Spanish Proverb

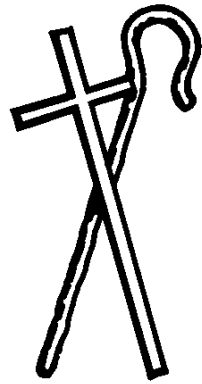
We would like to express our sincere appreciation to Mrs. Ruth Foy for all of her dedicated work to the choir and to New Sterling. Besides the beautiful performances she leads each Sunday morning, there are a lot of "behind the scene things" that she does that goes unnoticed by most of us.

We appreciate her time, her talent, her willingness and ability to bring out the best in the New Sterling Choir.

Lynn and Muriel Jenkins
The Mauney Family
The Hairyes Family
The McCulloch Family
Taryn and Brian Setzer



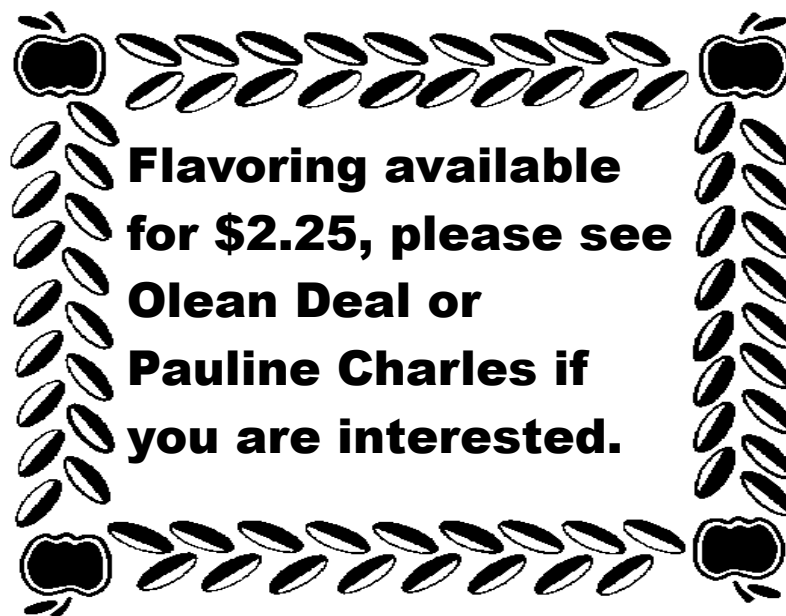
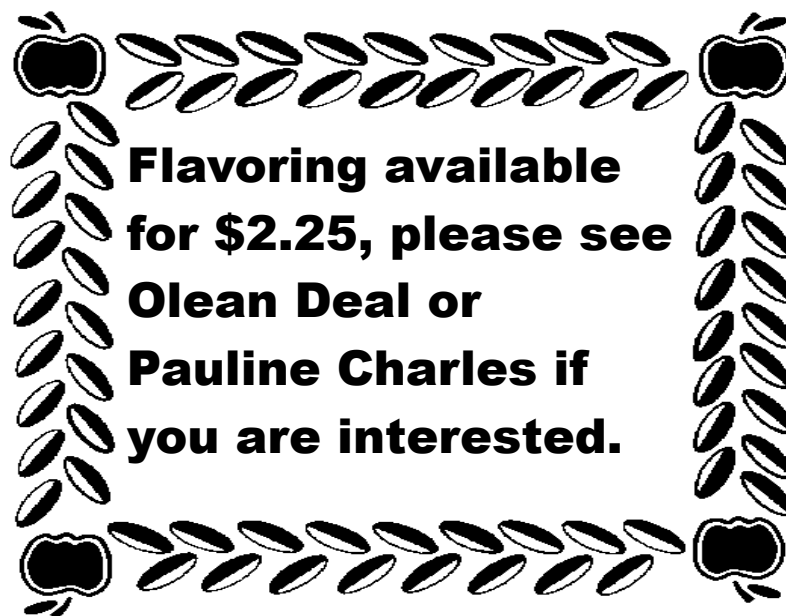
Ordination and Instillation of Elders



ORDINATION



(Top): Doug Gryder was ordained as elder. He and Harvey Reese were installed as elder.
(Left): Kent Clarke was ordained and installed as elder.

 **Flavoring available for \$2.25, please see Olean Deal or Pauline Charles if you are interested.** 

A group of professional people posed this question to a group of 4 to 8 year-olds, "What does love mean?" The answers they got were broader and deeper than anyone could have imagined. See what you think:



"When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love."

Rebecca- age 8

"When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You just know that your name is safe in their mouth."

Billy - age 4

"Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each other."

Karl - age 5

"Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your French fries without making them give you any of theirs."

Chrissy - age 8

"Love is what makes you smile when you're tired."

Terri - age 4

"Love is when my mommy makes coffee for my daddy and she takes a sip before giving it to him, to make sure the taste is OK."

Danny - age 7

"Love is when you kiss all the time. Then when you get tired of kissing, you still want to be together and you talk more. My Mommy and Daddy are like that. They look gross when they kiss"

Emily - age 8

"Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen."

Bobby - age 7 (Wow!)

"If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate,"

Nikka - age 6
(we need a few million more Nikka's on this planet)

"Love is when you tell a guy you like his shirt, then he wears it everyday."

Noelle - age 7

"My mommy loves me more than anybody. You don't see anyone else kissing me to sleep at night."

Clare - age 6

"Love is when Mommy gives Daddy the best piece of chicken."

Elaine-age 5

"Love is when Mommy sees Daddy smelly and sweaty and still says he is handsomer than Brad Pitt."

Chris - age 7

"Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day."

Mary Ann - age 4

"You really shouldn't say 'I love you' unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget."

Jessica - age 8

Continued on page 10

"Love is like a little old woman and a little old man who are still friends even after they know each other so well." Tommy - age 6



And the final one -- Author and lecturer Leo Buscaglia once talked about a contest he was asked to judge.

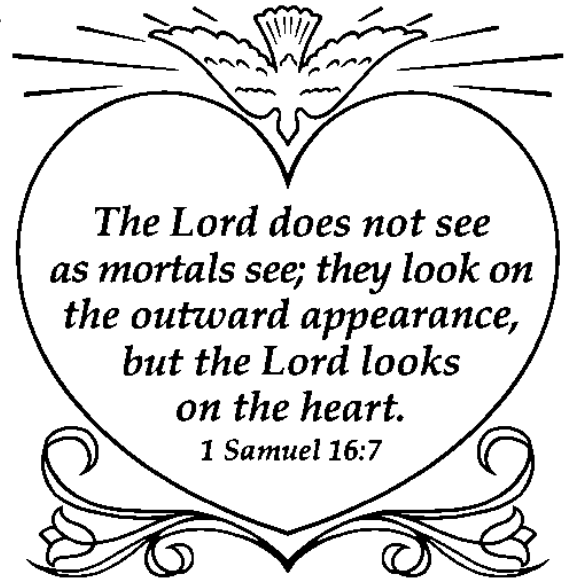
The purpose of the contest was to find the most caring child.

The winner was a four year old child whose next door neighbor was an elderly gentleman who had recently lost his wife.

Upon seeing the man cry, the little boy went into the old gentleman's yard, climbed onto his lap, and just sat there.

When his Mother asked what he had said to the neighbor, the little boy said,

"Nothing, I just helped him cry"



With Sympathy

Our sympathy is expressed to Sally Brady Clanton in the passing of her husband, Gary Allen Clanton on January 4, 2007.

We also express our sincere sympathy to Pauline Charles and Pressley Reese in the loss of their brother, Clarence Reese.

Our sincere sympathy is expressed to Kathy Pope in the passing of her sister, Barbara Smith on January 28, 2007





Knit Wit News

The Knit Wits recently delivered prayer shawls and lap blankets to:



Leon Gray



Franklin Beatty



Mabel Brady



Wayne Jenkins

Since the first meeting of the Knit Wits in May of 2006, we have dedicated and delivered 19 prayer shawls and lap blankets to New Sterling church members. We have 3 ready to deliver at present.

We have dedicated 12 to non-church members which also have been delivered by those who made them especially for these friends and family.

We at present have 4 shawls and 1 lap blanket in our closet.

We have had donations of yarn, money, cards to give with the shawls/blankets, labels to sew into the shawls/blankets, gift bags and lots of outside prayers. If anyone would like to make donations or monetary contributions for our new upcoming projects for the new year, please see any member of the Knit Wit group.

We currently have a roster of 24 Knit Wits and are always looking for more to come and join in the fun and fellowship.



LOT'S WIFE

The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt when little Jason interrupted, "My mummy looked back once while she was driving," he announced triumphantly, "and she turned into a telephone pole!"

COMEDY CORNER

Evangelist Billy Graham was returning to Charlotte after a speaking engagement, when his plane arrived there was a limousine there to transport him to his home. As he prepared to get into the limo he stopped and spoke to the driver.

"You know" he said, "I'm 87 years old and I have never driven a limousine. Would you mind if I drove it for a while?"

The driver said, "No problem. Have a go at it."

Billy gets into the driver's seat and they head off down the highway. A short distance away sat a rookie State Trooper operating his first speed trap. The long black limo went by him doing 70 in a 55 MPH zone. The trooper pulled out and easily caught the limo. He got out of his patrol car to begin the procedure.

The young trooper walked up to the driver's door and when the glass was rolled down, he was surprised to see who was driving. He immediately excused himself and went back to his car and called his supervisor.

He told the supervisor, "I know we are supposed to enforce the law... But I also know that important people are given certain courtesies. I need to know what I should do because I have stopped a very important person."

The supervisor asked, "Is it the Governor?"

The young trooper said, "No, he's more important than that."

The supervisor said, "Oh, so it's the President."

The young trooper said, "No, he's even more important than that."

The supervisor finally asked, "Well then, who is it?"

The young trooper said, "I think it's Jesus, because he's got Billy Graham for a chauffeur!"

News From The Women



There is excitement in our Women's Ministries as the changes have been made. There are 62 women total within the 4 circles. The bible studies, fellowship and doing the Lord's work is a great blessing. This month the Golden Christian Circle will meet at 9:30 am in the fellowship hall on February 5th with Juanita Massey having the devotion and Harriet Linderman continuing the study on Luke. Apples of Gold, now named the Treasure Keepers Circle, will meet at 7:00 pm on February 13th at the home of Judy Watson with Cindy McNeely having the study. Mary-Martha Sunset Circle will meet at the church on February 20th at 7:00 pm with Sherry Clarke facilitating the study and Pat Price as the hostess. Mary-Martha Sunrise Circle will meet on February 21st at 10:00 am at the home of Kitzi Emery with Aarene Reese facilitating the study.

The emphasis for the month of February is Missions. Please remember our Missionary's in prayer as they continue the Lords work. Continue to work on items for the Bonclarken Gift Shop. Remember your Secret Circle Sister.

NS Women's Ministries

Sheila J. Snyder, President



Spiritual
Growth

New Sterling Church is listed as a partner with Sharon Elementary School. In being a partner with the school, we are given the privilege of helping the school out in many ways. At this time we know they are very low on the number of volunteers they have there. You can be a parent, a grandparent, aunt, uncle, sister or brother, any age to go over to the school and let the children read to you, math tutoring, work in Kindergarten centers, help with parties they may be having, etc. Some teachers do not have assistants, so they could always use help. If we can just give an hour a week or an hour a day, they appreciate any time we can give. We can even just go to lunch with one of the classes as a visiting "parent or grandparent". The children love to have older people come and do things with them.



They have a small clothes closet for those who have "accidents", they need school supplies, Kleenex, hand soap, chap stick just to mention a few ongoing things they need.

We will be gathering more information, but for now if you have any questions or you have a group that may want to do some "missions" work at the school, call Delinda Mauney.

News from Sharon School:

February 20th, 6:30p.m. at West High, Iredell Statesville Schools will have a "Parent Area Advisory Meeting". The meeting is just for an hour or so, and it's a very low key, let's get acquainted and talk type of meeting. West Middle, Celeste Henkel, Monticello, NB Mills and Scotts parents will also be invited to this meeting.

Kindergarten registration is May 4th at Sharon. If you know of any child who will be 5 before October 16th, please inform them of registration for next year.

Homebound and Assisted Living

Norma and Johnsie Jenkins
1753 Midway Road
Stony Point, NC 28678
704-585-6960

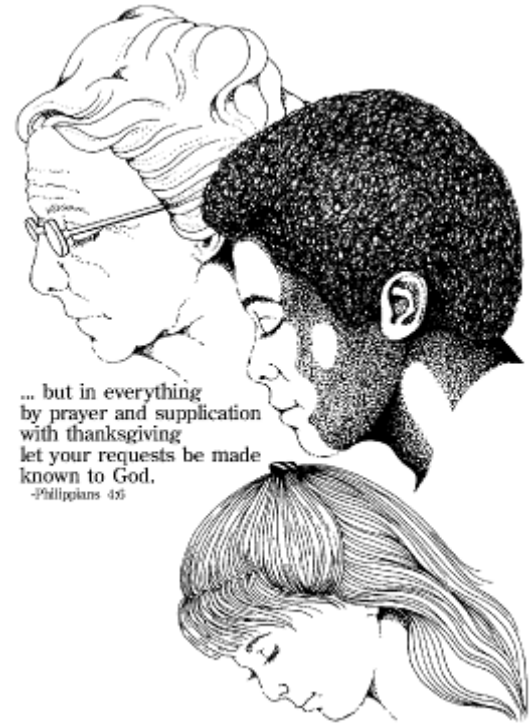
Leroy Johnson
Autumn Care
2001 Van Haven Drive
Statesville, NC 28625
704-878-2321

Doris Ingram
Statesville Place
2441 East Broad Street
Statesville, NC 28625

Pauline Pope
Autumn Care
2001 Vanhaven Drive
Statesville, NC 28625

Mary Deal
Autumn Care
2001 Van Haven Drive
Statesville, NC 28625

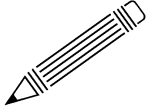
Edith Reese
PO Box 346
Buford, GA 30515



If we have missed anyone or you would like to have your name listed here, please contact Delinda Mauney at 704-880-0527 or Taryn Setzer at 459-2637

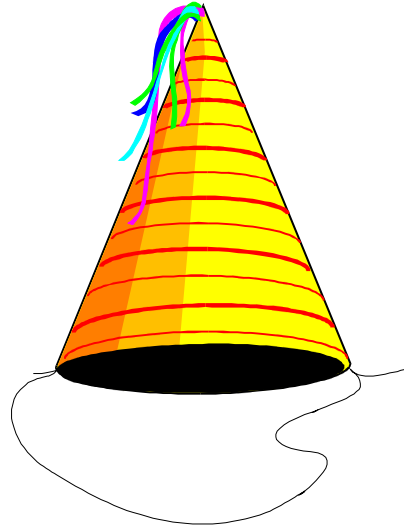
Address for Bobby Buchanan:

Robert Lewis Buchanan
PO Box 310
Polkton, NC 28135



- 1 Swanie Snyder
- 1 Jimmy Winters
- 5 David Brady
- 6 Kelli Johnson
- 6 Vickie Johnson
- 7 Robin McCall
- 7 Larry Walker
- 8 Daniel Pugh
- 9 Susan Pugh
- 14 Shelby Bustle
- 14 Wayne Jenkins
- 15 Judy Chambers
- 15 Kenneth Hauck
- 15 Harrison Jenkins

February Birthdays



- 16 Dylan Deal
- 18 Pauline Charles
- 18 Carolyn Elliott
- 19 Devan Winters
- 20 George Brady
- 20 Jesse Keller
- 21 Sheila Jenkins
- 23 Lauren Gryder
- 27 Christopher Jenkins
- 27 Michelle Hairyes

Sarah Watts
 Campus Box 15880
 Lee Hall
 Raleigh, NC 27607
 NC State University

Erin Waugh
 UCC
 245 Memorial Drive
 Suite 6770
 Cullowhee, NC 28720
 Western Carolina University

Kelly Pugh
 9238 Campus Edge Circle
 Charlotte, NC 28262
 University of NC Charlotte



**Remember our College
 Students with a note or a
 card.**

Clifton Mauney
 1401 Riverstreet Apt. #52
 Wilkesboro, NC 28697
 Wilkes Community College

Erica Harper
 9238 Campus Edge Circle
 Charlotte, NC 28262
 University of NC Charlotte

Andrea Clarke
 CPO 679
 Erskine College
 PO Box 1001
 Due West, SC 29639