
Our Hope and Care Ministry



March

2008

Recently the Hope and Care Ministry Committee and Ministry Teams met to discuss our plans to better serve a very important part of our church family. This part of our family includes those who are affected by a crisis or tragedy, those who have lost loved ones, and those in prison. Another segment of our family included, and ones we will target first, are the shut-ins, those with extended illnesses and our widows and widowers. We will not stop what we have been doing with all these individuals but, we want to increase our attention to these mentioned. We want all of New Sterling to be aware of our work so below for your review is the first letter mailed to our shut-ins, those with extended illnesses and our widows and widowers.

To the Members of New Sterling,

Recently the Session approved a new ministry called The Hope and Care Ministry. Our desire is clearly identified in our vision statement, which is 'Take the Church to the People.' Although your particular circumstance may not allow you to attend church like I know you would like to do, it does not mean you are any less a part of the body of New Sterling. This ministry will allow you see visibly that you remain a part of the body of Christ.

In the past we may not have done as well as we should and I ask for your forgiveness. But with this ministry I pray we meet and exceed your needs. There are dozens of your fellow New Sterling members who are being prepared and trained right now in ways to better meet your needs. Several have consistently visited and called and that will not stop. But we want to do more.

Our first priorities are centered on those who are considered shut-ins, at home with extended illnesses and those who are hospitalized. Also, our widows and widowers have special needs that we desire to support. Just because some of you cannot be with us on Sundays does not mean you should not receive the love of Jesus Christ through the fellowship of the church. We desire to extend that love and care to you.

So, beginning over the next several weeks, you will see and hear more from us. As we visit and call please let us know if there are any special needs you may have. We have so many people that want to help but sometimes we do not know what to do. Please tell us.

If the future we hope to grow this ministry so that we will be ready to better serve those who have suffered through tragedies such as the loss of a home, death of a family member, those imprisoned or any other significant event that may occur. Our Lord has placed a burden on the hearts of the people of New Sterling to be better care-takers of those who call New Sterling home. You are at the top of that list.

The Hope and Care Ministry is here for you. Please let us know how we can better support you at this time of your life.

Pastor Tim

In the book used for women's mentoring, Becoming a Vessel God Can Use, by Donna Partow one of the chapters we studied was speaking about how we can fall into great danger when we fail to take action when God has directed us.

“Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do” James 2:14-18

What good is a faith that never touches another human life? Listen carefully and when God shows you what he wants you to do, get involved immediately.

“I Will Do More”

- I will do more than belong, I will participate.
- I will do more than care, I will help.
- I will do more than believe, I will practice.
- I will do more than be fair, I will be kind.
- I will do more than forgive, I will love.
- I will do more than earn, I will enrich.
- I will do more than teach, I will serve.
- I will do more than live, I will grow.
- I will do more than be friendly, I will be a friend.



Think and pray on this.....and then act. *

**From St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Sassamansville, Penn*

Dear New Sterling,

Thank you for the socks. They will make a ton of people warm this winter. I have more socks than I can count. I probably have at least have hundred pairs.



LOVE,
Lorin Donelly



Is God Calling You?

The Christian Education Committee needs you.

It is that time of year to begin preparation for Bible School. We need energetic, creative and hard working people for Bible School directors and co-directors.

If you are interested in looking at materials and choosing our Bible School theme for this year and coordinating the activities of the week, please see Delinda Mauney as soon as possible.

This is a wonderful and rewarding opportunity especially for our children here at New Sterling but a wonderful outreach to children in the community.

Please Pray, Pray, Pray and if God is leading you to help with this important part of our church, please let us know. We need directors, craft leaders, music leaders, teachers, helpers, meal organizers and much more. There is room for everyone.

There are lots of needs to please be in prayer and listed to God as he leads you where you can and need to be used. There are too many talented people in our church not to have a massive volunteer list.

The Christian Education Committee needs you!

Our children at New Sterling and in our community needs you!!

IS GOD CALLING YOU?

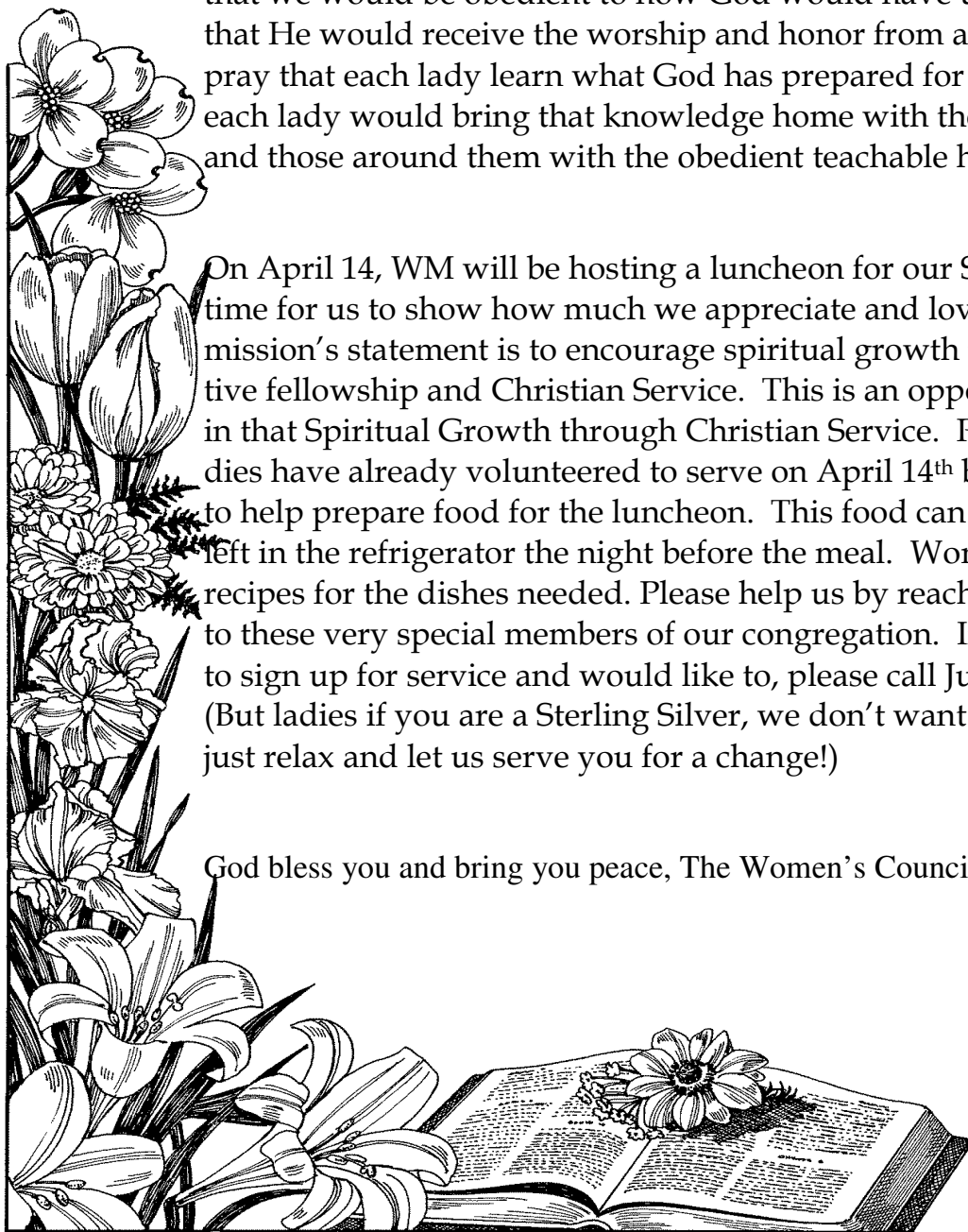
News from Women's Ministries

Ladies, we have several events planned in the upcoming months. Please take note of them and prayerfully decide if you can get involved. Our offering this month is Prayer Emphasis Offering it is an offering used for local evangelism and education. Our offering will be sent directly to Outreach North America. Circle chairmen; why not challenge your circle to pray for Outreach North America the week directly following your circle meeting in March?

The Women's Beach retreat is scheduled for March 7-9. Many women are able to attend but many will not be with us for various reasons. Please pray for all the women who will attend. We need prayer for the leaders and organizers. Pray that we would be obedient to how God would have us conduct this weekend so that He would receive the worship and honor from all the ladies attending. Also pray that each lady learn what God has prepared for them in advance. Ask that each lady would bring that knowledge home with them and impact their lives and those around them with the obedient teachable heart God desires us to have.

On April 14, WM will be hosting a luncheon for our Sterling Silvers. This is a time for us to show how much we appreciate and love our Sterling Silvers. Our mission's statement is to encourage spiritual growth through Bible Study, creative fellowship and Christian Service. This is an opportunity for **you** to take part in that Spiritual Growth through Christian Service. Please help us. A group of ladies have already volunteered to serve on April 14th but we still need volunteers to help prepare food for the luncheon. This food can be prepared in advance and left in the refrigerator the night before the meal. Women's Council will provide recipes for the dishes needed. Please help us by reaching out in Christian service to these very special members of our congregation. If you have not had a chance to sign up for service and would like to, please call Judy Watson at 704-871-1030. (But ladies if you are a Sterling Silver, we don't want you to volunteer this time, just relax and let us serve you for a change!)

God bless you and bring you peace, The Women's Council.



Our Women's Ministry will be taking a road trip to Bonclarken in July. In the past we have taken many road trips with our Women's Ministry. We attend Women of Faith, we go to the Beach Retreat, and we visit Mrs. Billings and several other trips. This summer, we would like to make special effort to attend The Family Bible Conference our denomination sponsors in July. We will meet at the church and ride together on Tuesday July 22, 2008 to Bonclarken. We will enjoy fellowship with each other on the way there and attend the events planned by the ARP Synodical for our Women's Ministries. Please read the following information and see if you would be interested in joining us.

Susan Hunt, Noted Author, to Speak at the Family Bible Conference

ARP Women's Ministries has invited Susan Hunt to spend two days, July 21-22, at Bonclarken as one of the keynote speakers during the Family Bible Conference. Susan Hunt, former Director of Women's Ministries for the Presbyterian Church of America is an active mother and grandmother, a pastor's wife and the Women in the Church Consultant for PCA.

Hunt is nationally known for her early work related to women mentoring women with one of her books, *Spiritual Mothering*, which in the words of Elisabeth Elliot, "...is a fine treatment of a subject very close to my heart. May older women heed the call to mother the younger, and may the younger women be teachable." Susan spoke at FBC four years ago on the topic, "Biblical Womanhood".

True Woman, another book will be the subject of her keynote speech on Monday, July 21, at the ARP Women's Ministries Meeting at 1:00 pm. This book which has been adopted as the Spiritual Life book for next year goes to the center of all that it means to be a godly woman. Susan Hunt says that if you want to be one of those women who by her virtue, wisdom, dignity and faith makes an impact in her home and community, let this book be your encourager and companion.

An exciting session on Tuesday morning, July 22, will be led by Susan Hunt and J. Ligon Duncan as they discuss the highlights of the book they co-authored, *Women's Ministry in the Local Church*. C. J. Mahoney shares, "What sets this book apart is not only the authors' careful thought but their compelling personal examples. It will greatly benefit not only women, but pastors as well."

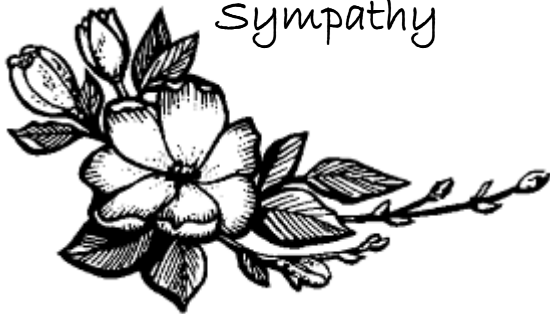
That afternoon following lunch, another seminar on the study book, *Paul's Letters to Maturing Churches*, written by Hunt and adapted by Lynn Brookside is in the making. The Women's Showcase, composed of 20 plus stations where folks can visit with ARP Women's Ministries officers, agencies and missionaries, ask questions, and pick up materials for program ideas will be held in Convocation Hall. Two powerful spiritual speakers, Dr. Sinclair Ferguson, will teach the Bible Study each morning and Dr. J. Ligon Duncan will be the Evening Worship Leader. This FBC, is one that the whole family would enjoy!

- Submitted by Peggy Gray

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend with us.

Pastor Tim will drive the bus for us and if we have more attend than the bus will hold we will also provide someone to drive the van so that we can spend the whole day relaxing and taking time out to do something just for yourselves and spiritual growth. We all love to spend this time of refreshing fellowship together and the trip getting there together is part of the fun and excitement. If you are interested please contact Judy Watson or Kim Brady.

With Heartfelt
Sympathy



Our sincere sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Pauline Pope who passed away on February 14, 2008.

We also express sympathy to Avis Pope in the passing of her sister, Eva Pritchard

And

To Faye Walker in the passing of her Brother, Paul Lambert

Have you heard

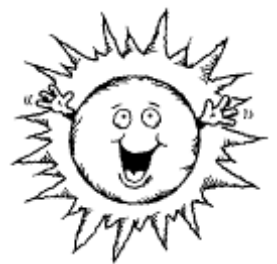
What's going on at New Sterling?

Becky Gray's son Bobby was involved in an accident.....**Avis Pope** and **Esteline Jenkins** have been hospitalized recently.....**Pastor Tim** and **Judy Watson**, **Tim** and **Jill Hager**, **Kim** and **David Brady**, and **Delinda Mauney** attended the Billy Graham Rapid response Seminar in Charlotte.....**Jessica Graham** started a new job at the Monessori School in Statesville.....The Deacons and Elders recently Attended Officer Training in Gastonia those who attended were: **Tony Harper**, **Frank Emery**, **Steve Stewart**, **Bud Nash**, **Ken** and **Jeanette Hauck**, **Harvey Reese**, **Dale Massey**, **David Sides**, **Todd McCulloch**, **Adrian Jarrett**, **Brian Setzer**, **Derek Winters**, **Jimmy Gray**, **Bobby Lail**, **Pastor Tim** and **Lynn Jenkins**.....Communicates class has started and those attending are: **Kristen Griffen**, **Sarah Donohoe**, **Loren Donnely**, **Madee Campbell**, **Garrett Deal**, **Brandon Sutton**, **Cody Hairyes**, **Maggie Emery**, **Bailey Hartness**, **Madison Winters** and **Madelyn McNeely**.....**Dylan Deal** celebrated her sweet sixteen birthday recently and soon will be getting her drivers license, WATCHOUT!!!.....**Anna Donahoe's** father had a stroke and her step-brother was killed in a car accident.....**Avis Pope** was diagnosed with colon cancer and recently suffered another stroke.....**Casey Clarke** and **Daniel Pugh** participated in the State Swim meet finals in Raleigh, representing West Iredell High School. They finished 10th.....**Kim**, **David**, **Jeremy**, **Jessica**, and **Anthony Brady** and **Jessica Hollman** went on a Caribbean Cruise.....**Andrea Clarke** "pet-sat" for the Brady's while they were on their trip and **Kurtis Hauck** helped out with the feeding schedules.....**Wayne Waugh** had several heart blockages and had stents placed.....**Scott** and **Jessica Graham** spent a weekend at Tybee Island.....A parent picking up her child at Sharon School one afternoon overheard a teacher telling **Darrell Elliott** that he had been a little rowdy at school that day and was about to lose one of his 'stars'!.....**Lauren Gryder** celebrated her 16th birthday also—Guess we have 2 to WATCH OUT for now.....**Ruth Foy** fell at the mall recently. Nothing was broken—only very battered and bruised....**Barry Dagenhart** was recently diagnosed with a blood clot in his lower leg and must be absent from his pulpit for a while to recover.....**Robert Byers** started radiation therapy.....**Esteline Jenkins** has started a new chemotherapy medication.....The tooth fairy came to see **Addie Graham** for the first time.....



Please pray for those who have been suffering from cold, flu, pneumonia, bronchitis, strep throat, etc

Youth Event Schedule

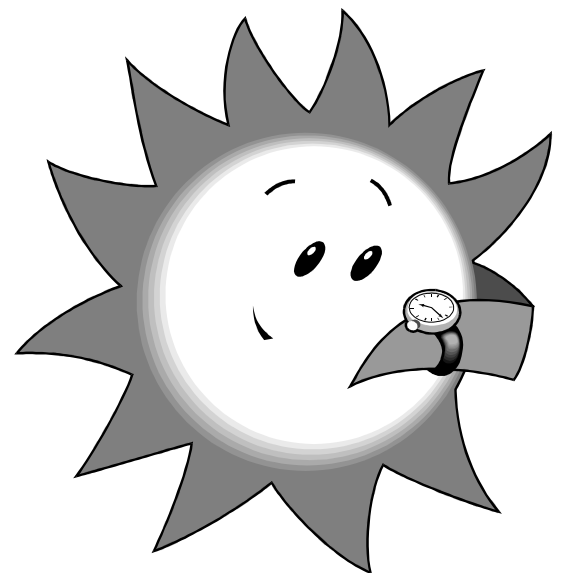


- March 2** Sunday Nights Starts
- March 14-15** Jr. and Sr. High Lock In
- March 22** Easter Egg Hunt
- March 23** NO YOUTH (Easter)
- March 28-30** Senior High Retreat at Bonclarken
- April 12** BBQ/ Auction
- April 18-20** Junior High Retreat at Bonclarken
- April 25-26** Jr. and Sr. High 30 Hour Famine
- May 4** Prom Breakfast
- May 11** NO YOUTH (Mothers Day)
- May 17** Virginia Creeper Trail Trip
- May 18** Sunday Night Fellowship ends
- June 1** Graduation Breakfast
- June 14** White water rafting trip (Jr. and Sr. High only)
- June 16-20** HORIZON
- June 18** Skating (4yr old-5th grade)
- June 23-27** QUEST
- June 29- July 5** Harlan Mission Trip
- July 9** Dan Nichols Park (4yrold- 5th grade)
- July 19** Pool Party at David and Kim Brady's
- July 29** Sliding Rock trip (Jr. and Sr. High only)
- July 28-August 1** Vacation Bible School
- August 1** Family Fun Night
- August 13** Water Day at church (4yr old-5th grade)
- Augsut15-16** Jr. and Sr. High Lock In



COMING EVENTS

March 1	9:00	Knit Wits @ Judy Stewart's
March 2	9:15	Praise & Worship
	4:00	CE Committee
	5:15	Children's Choir
	6:00	Sunday Family Night begins
March 3	9:30	Golden Christian Circle—Edith Milholland, Devotion and Harriet Linderman, Bible Study
March 4	7:00	Men's Bible Study
March 7-9		Women's Beach Retreat
March 9		Daylight Savings Time Begins
	9:15	Praise & Worship
	5:15	Children's Choir
	6:00	Sunday Family Night
March 11	7:00	Treasure Keepers—Delinda Mauney Hostess, Judy Watson Facilitator Taryn Setzer, Jessica Brady and Delinda Mauney Meal
March 14-15		Youth Lock-in
March 15	5:00	BBQ Fundraiser for Lee Ann Sherrill at New Amity ARP Church
March 16		Palm Sunday
	9:15	Praise & Worship
	5:15	Children's Choir
	6:00	Sunday Family Night
March 17	7:00	Knit Wits at Emily Nash's
March 18	7:00	Mary Martha Sunset—Judy Stewart Hostess and Linda Harper Facilitator
March 19	9:30	Mary Martha Sunrise—Cora Poovey Hostess and Aarene Reese Facilitator
March 20	7:00	Maundy Thursday Service
March 22`	11:00	Easter Egg Hunt
March 23		EASTER—He Is Risen!
	7:00	Sunrise Service
	7:30	Breakfast
	9:15	Praise & Worship
March 24	7:00	Men's Roundtable
March 27	8:00 am	Senior Adult Spring Fling
March 28-29		Senior High Retreat
March 28	7:30	Seekers Bible Study
March 30	9:15	Praise & Worship
	7:00	5th Sunday Night Sing at Pressley Memorial ARP Church
April 3	6:00	Scrapbook/History Committee at Delinda Mauney's
April 12		BBQ and Auction



Comedy Corner



A new pastor visited a children's Sunday school department. After standing quietly at the back for a few minutes, he asked the youngsters, "Who tore down the walls of Jericho?"

"It wasn't me," shouted young Tommy.

The pastor was unfazed and repeated, "Come on now, who tore down the walls of Jericho?"

The teacher took the pastor to one side. "Look, Pastor, Tommy's a good boy. If he said he didn't do it, he didn't do it. I believe him."

The pastor couldn't comprehend what he was hearing, and later that day he related the story to the Director of Christian Education. The director frowned. "I know we have had trouble with Tommy in the past. I'll have a word with him."

By now totally baffled, the pastor left and approached the deacon. Once again he told the whole story, including the response of the teacher and the Christian Ed director.

The deacon listened patiently and smiled, "Yes, Pastor, I can see your problem. But I suggest we take the money from the general fund to pay for the walls and leave it at that."

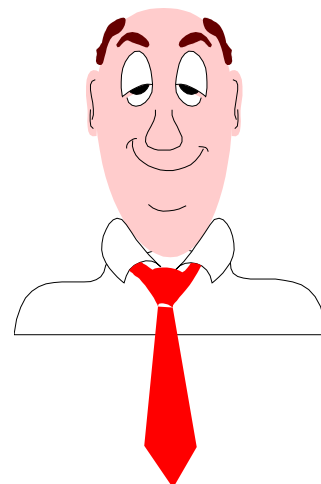
Missing Deacon

Deacon Roberts was leaving the morning service on Sunday morning. At the door, the pastor reached out and shook Robert's hand. "By the way, Deacon, you need to join the army of the Lord."

"I'm already in the army of the Lord, Pastor."

"Then why do I see you only at Christmas and Easter?"

Deacon Roberts whispered back, "I'm in the secret service."



BBQ FUNDRAISER

Saturday, **March 15th** Beginning at 5:00 pm

New Amity ARP Church located off Hwy. 90
150 Logan-New Amity Road
Scotts, NC

Pork BBQ, Baked Beans, Slaw, Roll,
Dessert and Drink

Take Outs will be available

Boston Butts will be available by pre-order for \$25.00 each
Orders need to be in by March 8
Call 704-585-2789 to order

Proceeds will go to help with the medical needs of

Lee Ann Sherrill

Iredell Citizen/Reporter

And Multiple Sclerosis (MS) patient

You are invited to attend

First Presbytery's Spiritual Life Conference
DATE OF CONFERENCE: Sunday, September 7, 2008

(The Date in the ARP Plan book is incorrect)

Place: First ARP Church, Gastonia

TIME of CONFERENCE: 3:00 - 6:30

The Theme of the Conference is:

"THE WORD: Inspiration, Education, Transformation"

Registration begins at 3:00 or earlier.

We will have a keynote address by **Dr. Mark Ross** from 3:30 to 4:05, (35 minutes)

There will be two seminar options:

4:15 to 5:15

5:25 to 6:25

Then people will be dismissed to the Fellowship Hall for a snack supper that begins at 6:30.

- 1) Begin praying that God will inspire, educate, and transform all of us who are leading and teaching as well as those who will attend, and need to attend.

Here are the **speakers** committed to coming so far:

1) Dr. Bob Cara

2) Dr. Dick Belcher

3) Dr. John Currid

4) Dr. Mike Kruger

5) Dr. Mark Ross

6) Someone will teach the Women's Ministry book:

"Paul's Letters to Maturing Churches" by Lynn Brookside.

We will also have a **KID'S DAY OUT** program for the younger children.

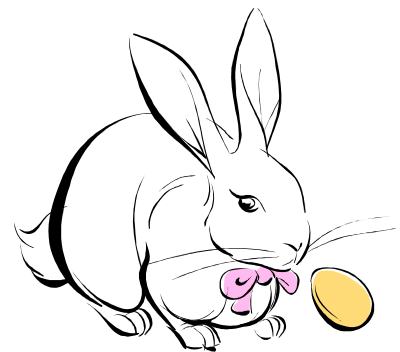
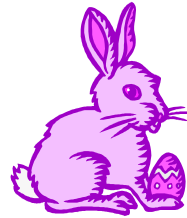
Mark Tankersley, Conference Director



Easter and Spring Riddles

Answers listed below

1. How does the Easter Bunny stay fit?
2. What is the best way to find the Easter Bunny?
3. What does the Easter Bunny become after Easter is over?
4. How does the Easter Bunny style his fur?
5. What do you get by crossing a parrot and the Easter Bunny?
6. What do fashionable frogs wear in the spring?
7. What is the best way to send a letter to the Easter Bunny?
8. Why did the Easter Bunny miss the Easter Parade?
9. What is the Easter Bunny's favorite kind of music?
10. Why are rabbits so good at math?
11. What did the pink rabbit say to the blue rabbit?
12. Why does the Easter Bunny have a shiny nose?
13. What do you call a group of Easter bunnies walking backwards?
14. How do you know that carrots are good for your eyes?



1. EGGS-ercise and HARE-robics!
2. Eggs (x) mark the spot
3. Tired
4. With hare spray
5. A rabbit who will tell you where he hid the eggs
6. Open toad sandals
7. By hare mail
8. He was busy getting his hare done
9. Hip-Hop!
10. They love to multiply
11. Cheer up!
12. His powder puff is on the wrong end!
13. A receding hare line
14. Have you ever seen a rabbit with glasses?

COMING SOON!!!!

The Missions Committee



and



April 12, 2008

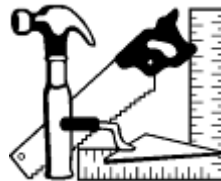
Mark your calendar!!!



Stir up the
gift of God
which is in
thee.

-2 Timothy 1:6

Now accepting new or
newly used items,
hand made crafts,
home baked items, etc.



Please place donated items for the auction on the
stage in the fellowship hall