



November
2008

New Sterling Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church

The Stirling

It was written by an 8-year-old named Danny Dutton, who lives in Chula Vista, CA. He wrote it for his third grade homework assignment, to 'explain God.' I wonder if any of us could have done as well?

EXPLANATION OF GOD:

'One of God's main jobs is making people. He makes them to replace the ones that die, so there will be enough people to take care of things on earth. He doesn't make grown-ups, just babies. I think because they are smaller and easier to make. That way he doesn't have to take up his valuable time teaching them to talk and walk. He can just leave that to mothers and fathers.'

'God's second most important job is listening to prayers. An awful lot of this goes on, since some people, like preachers and things, pray at times beside bedtime. God doesn't have time to listen to the radio or TV because of this. Because he hears everything, there must be a terrible lot of noise in his ears, unless he has thought of a way to turn it off.'

'God sees everything and hears everything and is everywhere which keeps Him pretty busy. So you shouldn't go wasting his time by going over your mom and dad's head asking for something they said you couldn't have.'

'Atheists are people who don't believe in God. I don't think there are any in Chula Vista. At least there aren't any who come to our church.'

'Jesus is God's Son. He used to do all the hard work, like walking on water and performing miracles and trying to teach the people who didn't want

to learn about God. They finally got tired of him preaching to them and they crucified him. But he was good and kind, like his father, and he told his father that they didn't know what they were doing and to forgive them and God said O.K.'

'His dad (God) appreciated everything that he had done and all his hard work on earth so he told him he didn't have to go out on the road anymore. He could stay in heaven. So he did. And now he helps his dad out by listening to prayers and seeing things which are important for God to take care of and which ones he can take care of himself without having to bother God. Like a secretary, only more important.'

'You can pray anytime you want and they are sure to help you because they got it worked out so one of them is on duty all the time.'

'You should always go to church on Sunday because it makes God happy, and if there's anybody you want to make happy, it's God!

Don't skip church to do something you think will be more fun like going to the beach. This is wrong. And besides the sun doesn't come out at the beach until noon anyway.'

'If you don't believe in God, besides being an atheist, you will be very lonely, because your parents can't go everywhere with you, like to camp, but God can. It is good to know He's around you when you're scared, in the dark or when you can't swim and you get thrown into real deep water by big kids.'

'But...you shouldn't just always think of what God can do for you. I figure God put me here and he can take me back anytime he pleases.'

And...that's why I believe in God.'



News From New Sterling Women's Ministry

November will be a busy month for the ladies. On November 2 the Women's Council will be responsible for the Sunday Night dinner. We are going to bring special attention to the missionaries we are supporting through the White Cross offering. The missionaries are serving in Pakistan and Mexico, therefore our theme for the decoration of the fellowship hall will have a Mexican flair and our meal will all be Mexican dishes. Anyone who would like to help cook, clean or serve please contact Kim Brady. We will collect an offering from anyone who would like to contribute to our ARP missionaries in these countries.

Our October Women's Council meeting has been changed to November 8. All of you ladies who are serving on the council please mark your calendar to attend. This is our annual planning meeting and we need all of you to help us with your advice and ideas. It will be from 9:00 a. m. to 11:30 a. m. Please make plans to attend.

Our Thanksgiving celebration will be Sunday night November 23 at 6:00 p. m. This will be a time for our church family to celebrate and give thanks to our Lord. It will be a time to just fellowship together and oh yes, like always we ask all of you wonderful cooks of New Sterling, men and women alike to bring your covered dishes to share. We ask that any woman who would like to help set up or clean up contact Kim or Judy.

Here are a couple of upcoming events to mark on your calendars:

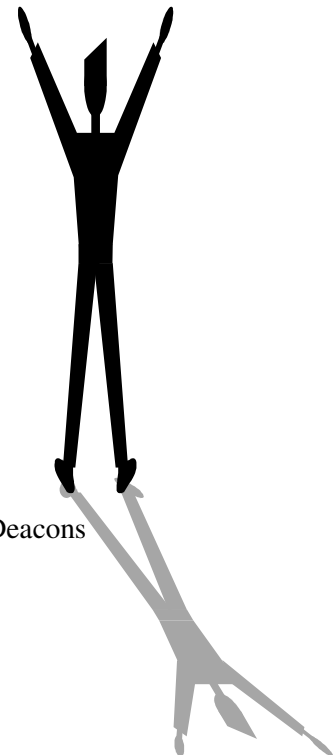
✦ Our annual Salad Supper/Christmas celebration will be Monday, December 8 at 6:00 pm.

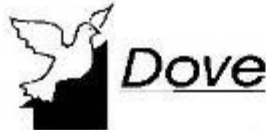
The annual Women's Beach Retreat will be March 20-22, 2009

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to be Co-chair of the Women's Council this year, Judy Watson

Coming Events

November 1	9:00 am	Knit Wits with Aarene Reese
November 2		Election of 3 Elders
	5:00 pm	C3 Practice
		Children's Christmas Program Practice
November 3	10:30 am	Golden Christian Circle—Virginia Brady Study Leader
November 4	7:00 pm	Men's Bible Study
November 7-9		Junior High Retreat
November 8	9:00 am	Women's Council Meeting
November 9		Announce election of Deacons; publish list of candidates willing to serve
	5:00 pm	CE Committee Meeting
	5:00 pm	C3 Practice
		Children's Christmas Program Practice
November 10	10:30 am	Sterling Silvers
November 11	7:00 pm	Treasure Keepers—Emily Nash, Hostess. Cindy McNeely facilitator. Judy Watson, Kim Brady meal
November 16	5:00 pm	CE Practice
		Children's Christmas Program Practice
November 17	7:00 pm	Knit Wits with Delinda Mauney
November 18	7:00	Mary Martha Sunset
November 19	9:30 am	Mary Martha Sunrise—Peggy Gray, Hostess
November 20	7:00 pm	Men's Life Issues Study with Jeff McNeely
November 21-22		Marriage Retreat
		Youth Progressive Dinner/Lock In
November 22		Angel Tree up
November 23		Congregation meeting to nominate Deacons
	6:00 pm	Holiday Thanksgiving covered dish dinner
November 24	7:00 pm	Experiencing God Bible Study
November 26	7:00 pm	Community Thanksgiving Service
November 27		THANKSGIVING DAY
November 29	9:00 am	Hanging of the Greens
November 30		Commitment Sunday; Congregational meeting to elect 4 Deacons
	5:00 pm	C3 Practice
		Children's Christmas Program Practice
	7:00 pm	5th Sunday Night Sing at New Amity
December 7		Ordination and/or installation of Deacons and Elders
December 14		Annual Congregational meeting





Children's Advocacy Center

P.O. Box 825 • 328 E. Broad Street • Statesville, NC 28657
Phone 704.883.9814 • Fax 704.883.9328
E-mail: info@dovehouse.us • Website: www.dovehouse.us



October 14, 2008

New Sterling ARP Church
580 New Sterling Road
Stony Point, NC 28678-9466

Dear Friends in Christ,

On behalf of our staff and Board of Directors, and the children that we serve, I would like to thank you for selecting Dove House Children's Advocacy Center as your mission for bible school this year, resulting in a donation of \$75. We are so very humbled by the generosity this community continues to show to our organization. God has truly blessed our mission, and He constantly provides for our financial and material needs through faithful support such as yours. We are most thankful that God has placed on your hearts our mission of working with sexually abused children and their non-offending family members.

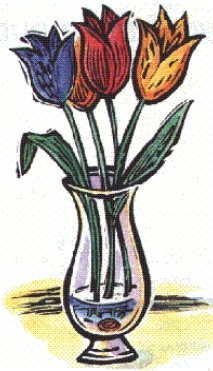
As you know, Dove House is a fully accredited, non-profit organization providing a safe and child-friendly facility that is supporting the investigation, prosecution and therapy / follow-up of reported child sexual assault cases that have occurred in Iredell and Alexander Counties, North Carolina. Since opening in September 2002, we have received 1,276 cases, have provided services to over 3,900 primary and secondary victims, and our current trend is approximately six new cases each week. Our community's coordinated response, facilitated by Dove House, has resulted in much higher quality investigations, and we are experiencing an 83% successful prosecution rate – up from less than 20% prior to Dove House's existence.

You are so right – there is something so wonderful about children helping children. Your donation will be a blessing to the children that we serve. May God continue to bless your generosity and servant hearts.

In His Service,

Brenda C. Deal
Executive Director

Dove House Children's Advocacy Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.
No goods or services of substantial value are provided by Dove House in return for this contribution.
Please consult your tax advisor for more information.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN'S MINISTRIES IN 2009

This has been such a wonderful year for Kim and I to see the spiritual growth, fun, and service that God has placed on each woman involved in New Sterling's Women's Ministries. I would like to challenge each one of you to pray about next year and what God is doing in our women's ministries.

How can you join him as he works around you? First pray for how you can join him in possible service through the Women's Council. I think I can speak for each lady that has joined the Council. It has been rewarding but also it has been FUN! Yes, there has been work involved but our Council meetings have had the spiritual aspect of prayer and devotions with Christian fellowship and eating, yes we have wonderful breakfasts before each meeting.

We have organized our meetings so that there are only 4 scheduled meetings throughout the year with called meetings when necessary. We still have much to do next year and would like each woman who feels called to serve by being the Biblical woman that Susan Hunt has challenged us to be in her study books adapted from the Synodical, to come and join us on the Women's Council.

Another opportunity that is available to you is to prayerfully consider if you are being called to serve as a co-chairman of your own circle. We have 4 different circles and each circle will elect co-chairmen in January. I am including the responsibilities for co-chairmen for your review:

DUTIES OF CO-CHAIRMAN

Each circle co-chair is elected in January at the first meeting of the year. The co-chair terms are from February to January of the following year.

- Responsible for spiritual life leadership of circle. (this means that co-chairs get possible bible study book or copies of book reviews to present for review before vote in October)
- Responsible to have circle vote on Bible Study in October for the next circle year
- Responsible to get a Bible Study leader/facilitator for each month**exception Golden Christian who have a designated Bible Study coordinator
- Responsible to get a hostess home and/or hostess for food for each month
- Responsible for one co-chair to attend Women's Council as representatives from circle to present business from Women's Council and Vice Versa.
- Each officer and Committee Chairman shall keep a notebook of responsibilities and current activities and pass the notebook on to her successor.
- Take up offering and give to treasurer.
- Responsible to present business from Women's Council to deliver to all Circle members
- Responsible for beginning and ending circle meetings on time.

Continued on page 6

Please all I ask is that you pray for the women of New Sterling and how you might join us as we fulfill our purpose statement:



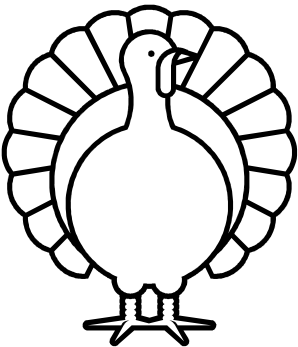
New Sterling Women's Ministries encourage spiritual growth through Bible study, creative fellowship and Christian service

Please ladies, help us through your prayers, we started our year with focused prayer, let's also end it the same way. Prayer is a vital part of everything we do in our women's ministries please take a few minutes and pray for us to have God's wisdom and guidance in all we do.

STERLING SILVERS NEWS



The November meeting on the 10th will meet in the fellowship hall at 10:30am. Continuing the tradition of the past November meetings, we will have our Thanksgiving cover dish dinner. The food committee will coordinate the meal. We will discuss the December program at this meeting.



We hope all will be in good health and some members have recovered from recent illnesses and can attend.

SARGE



Our deepest sympathy is expressed to Terry Hoke and her family in the passing of her mother Maxine Mullis on October 9, 2008.

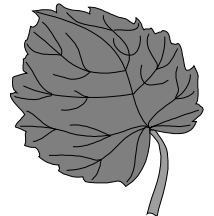
YOUTH FALL



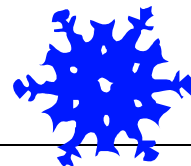
- November 14-16 Junior High Retreat
- November 21-22 Jr.– Sr. High Progressive Dinner/Lock– in
- December 6 10am-12pm Shoe Box Packing Day
(Youth all ages welcome)
- December 13 6pm– 9pm Deliver Shoe Boxes (Sr, High adult)
- December 17 6pm-7:30 Caroling (All ages welcome)
- December 21 Children’s Christmas Program with C3

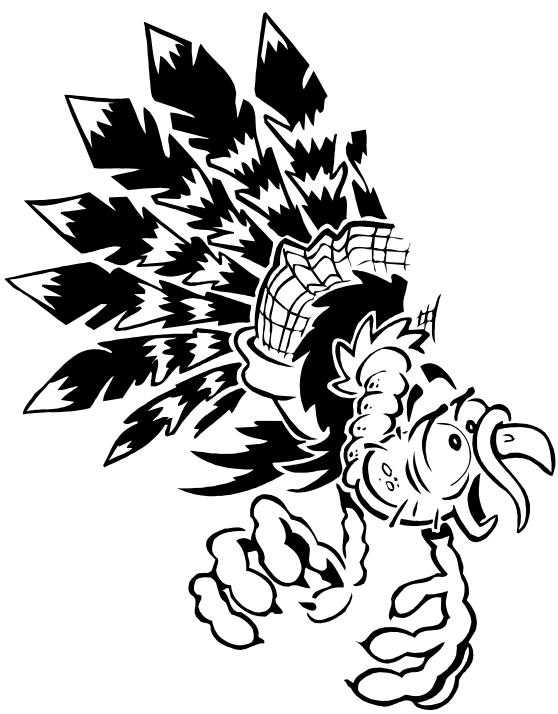


Youth Sunday Nights Will Continue until November 16. Our Youth leaders will then decide the dates to continue our studies. (This includes younger youth as well as Jr. and Sr. Highs with Dare to Be Daniel).



Fun Winter activities await us. Our Youth leaders are working hard to find new activities for the youth to enjoy. Remember to always be in prayer for our youth and their leaders.





Rumor has it that West Iredell Middle School has a new Drama Queen - our own **Felicia Woodall**. After her performance in VBS this year it brought out the old drama feelings she had while in college and is now teaching a drama group at the middle school.....

Kim and David Brady spent their anniversary in Costa Rica.....**Cindy & Madelyn McNeely, Kitzi & Maggie Emery, Leanne & Bailey Hartness** attended the "You and Your Girl" conference in Spartanburg, SC recently. They enjoyed speakers, music and fellowship.....

Ken and Marilyn Sides spoke and sang recently during the morning Worship Hour.....**The Frank Emerys** have a new addition to the family—a furry friend named **Nemo**.....**Clarke Milholland** suffered a heart attack and was found to have 3 major blockages. He underwent the placement of stints, did very well and came home a couple of days afterwards.....**Melderine Pope** suffered an "episode" and has spent a relative amount of time in the hospital having tests run to determine the cause.....14 women attended the first Women's Retreat at Bonclarken. **Kim Brady, Jan Jackson, Delinda Mauney, Felicia Woodall, Jeanette Hauck, Susan Pugh, Barbara McClure, Pat Price, Kitzi Emery, Peggy Gray, Aarene Reese, Jane Mayhew, Jane Fulbright and Juanita Massey** attended. There were 149 women there from several different churches there.....**Dylan Deal** was a Junior representative of the West Iredell homecoming court on October 18. Her Dad, **Todd Deal**, was her escort. She was nominated by football player **Lewis Walker** and the Junior class.....**Jimmy Winters and Lynn Jenkins** did a brick laying project for a church in Mooresville recently. **Davey Winters** was a helper also. Ask **Jimmy** what happened to the ham biscuits **Marcia** made for their snack. I think **Lynn** was ready to give him a thorough tongue lashing when he found out that **Jimmy** threw them away!!!!.....Some of our youth went to the Angel House recently to plant flowers.....**Scott, Jessica, Addie and Paisley Graham, Taryn and Brian Setzer, Kortney Hauck, Kristen Griffen, Tim and Samuel Donnelly** found their way out of a corn maze on October 18.....In September, **Mara Hairyes** competed in the first cheerleading competition for Tilley's To in Charlotte. They placed 3rd in the Mini-level division. She looks forward to more competitions in the next few months.....**Caleb Watson** had an injury during a soccer game. The dentist was able to save his tooth.....**Allie Buchanan** had to have surgery for cellulitis after a spider bite....**Cody Hairyes** finished his fall baseball tournament season playing for the Cubs in Mooresville. He also recently attended his first Carolina Panthers football game.....**Betty Sides** recently spent a night in the Emergency Room....**Jessica, Scott, Addie & Paisley Graham** took a trip to Texas to attend a wedding recently.....**The Sterling Silvers** took a trip to Victory Junction.....

New Sterling Bulletin Board

RADA KNIFE SALE

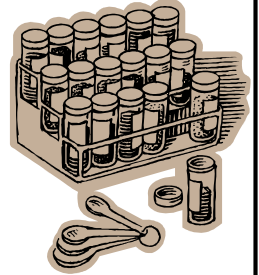
The Women's Council will continue their Rada Knife sale. Orders will be sent in once a month.



All orders are due with money by the last Sunday of each month. Shipping and Sales tax are included in the price of the items. Make checks payable to New Sterling Women's Ministries. Turn in orders and money to Delinda Mauney.

REMINDER:

The Women's Ministry has flavoring for sale for all of your baking needs. We have several different flavors. Stock up now for your upcoming holiday bakings!! See Olean Deal.



Congratulations

to

Tim and Melissa Donnelly
of the birth of their son
JAMES CALVIN DONNELLY

On October 7 ,2008



What a joyful thought to realize that you are a chosen vessel for God - perfectly suited for His use.

Joni Eareckson-Tada

Felicia Woodall has agreed to be New Sterling's Nursery Coordinator; please pray for her and our use of newly established and approved New Sterling Nursery Guidelines as they are implemented over the next several weeks. Anyone volunteering in the nursery is strongly encouraged to review these guidelines. Copies are in the nursery. Thank you for your support and cooperation in this matter.



It is our goal to have enough volunteers to be nursery care-givers that no one could have to stay more than 2-3 times a year. If you are interested in being on our Nursery Worship Hour rotation, please see Felicia. If you have never been on the schedule or never been asked but would like to be a part of the care of our children at New Sterling, please call and volunteer. You will be blessed for the time you give.

*"Sons are a heritage from the Lord, children a reward from him.
Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are sons born in one's youth.
Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them. They will not be put to shame when they contend with their enemies in the gate."*

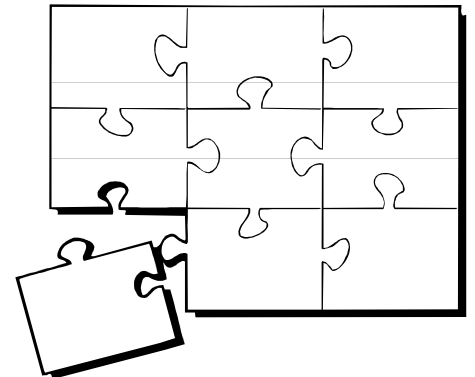
Psalm 127:3-5

God

knows and is interested both in the hardest problems we face and the tiniest details that concern us.

He knows how to put everything in place, like a jigsaw puzzle, to make a beautiful picture.

Corrie ten Boom



And that's when the fight started.....

I heard my wife crying in the bathroom. 'Honey? What's wrong' I asked.

'Oh, George! Just look at me: I'm getting so old! I have more gray in my hair than blonde, I have varicose veins on both of my legs, and I'm just fat and wrinkled all over! I really need someone to say something positive about me right now!'

I looked deeply into her eyes and said softly: 'Your vision's real good, honey. That's something, isn't it?'

And that's when the fight started....

My wife and I were sitting at a table at my high school reunion, and I kept staring at a drunken lady swigging her drink as she sat alone at a nearby table. My wife asked, 'Do you know her?'

'Yes,' I sighed, 'She was my senior year girlfriend. I understand she took to drinking right after we split up those many years ago, and I hear she hasn't been sober since.'

'My Goodness!' says my wife. 'Who would think a person could go on celebrating that long?'

And that's when the fight started....

I asked my wife, 'Where do you want to go for our anniversary?'
It warmed my heart to see her face melt in sweet appreciation.

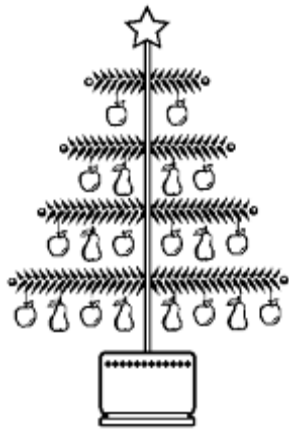
'Somewhere I haven't been in a long time!' she said.

So I suggested, 'How about the kitchen?'

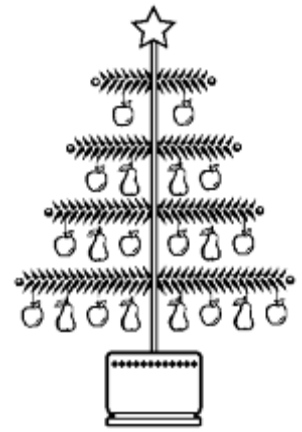
And that's when the fight started....

**C
o
m
e
d
y

C
o
r
e
r**



We would like to invite any child in grades K-5 to participate in this year's Christmas program. If you would like to participate please contact Erica Harper or Julie Winters. Practice will begin on November 2.



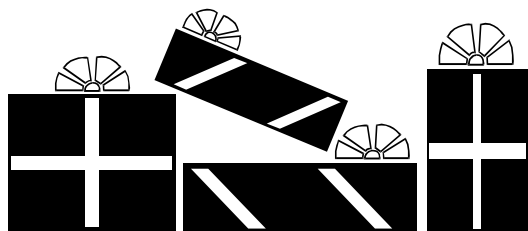
While Pastor Tim is away please place announcements for the church in the office, call the church or email Pat at (secretary@newsterling.org). The deadline for the bulletin is every Thursday at noon. For hospitalizations contact either Jeff McNeely at 704-902-4958 or Doug Gryder at 336-655-9533. Thanks.

Mark your calendar

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox

volunteer to pack

Boxes in Charlotte, December 13, 6-9 pm.



The Youth Counsel has decided to have a shoe box packing day on December 6, 2008 from 10am-12pm. If you would like to donate items to pack in a shoe box please place them in the Young Adult class. On December 6, the youth will pack the items in the shoe boxes. Do not bring boxes, we will be receiving boxes from Samaritans purse. BUT if you still would like to pack your own from home, please have them at the church on December 7.

Things you can donate are: **School supplies** (pencils, crayons, color pencils, coloring books, pads, stamps and ink pads) Now is a good time to buy school supplies with the back to school sales. **Toys** (Choose toys for the age you want, remember to supply extra batteries for electronic toys), **Hygiene items** (NO LIQUIDS OF ANY KIND, put bar soaps in plastic bags, tooth brush and paste, hair brush and combs, wash cloths) **Candy** (Gum, hard candy, lollipops, NO CHOCOLATE OR LIQUIDS, remember to double bag candy), **Others** (Socks, t-shirts, hairclips, play jewelry, sunglasses, stuffed animals, watches, flashlights, with extra batteries)

NO NOT SEND damaged items, war related items, play money, liquids chocolate or food, medications, breakable items like snow globes or glass containers, aerosol cans, etc.

If you would like to give a **personal note or picture** to the child, just place it in an envelope, seal it and put it in the bag with the items you donate.

With each box we make there is a **\$7 shipping fee**. If you would like to donate money for the shipping fees, please put your \$7 in an envelope and write "Donation" and the amount on the top of the envelope. You may give this to **Taryn Setzer, Jessica Graham or any of the Youth Counsel members**. If you do not wish to donate items but wish to donate money to the shipping fees that is OK. We would like all the shipping fees to be covered for all the boxes we make. Pamphlets for Operation Christmas Child will be placed in the church vestibule soon.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT. ALL DONATIONS OF ANY KIND LISTED ABOVE ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED!!



NOVEMBER

- 2 Angela Campbell
- 3 Carl Teague
- 4 Casey Clarke
- 5 Muriel Jenkins
- 6 Eddie Compton
- 7 Sheila Snyder
- 8 John Roby Gray
- 9 Adeleigh Graham
- 10 Roger Pope
- 11 Caleb Watson
- 11 Jonah Watson
- 13 Derek Winters
- 13 Brianna Little



- 14 Brian Pope
- 17 Ashley Clark
- 17 Sandra Moose
- 18 Adam Donohoe
- 19 Vivian Gray
- 19 Taylor Pope
- 20 Jessica Lambert
- 21 Amanda Gray
- 23 Julie Winters
- 24 Tracy Jenkins
- 25 Frank Emery, III



Mark Your Calendars!

Officer Training will be held on Saturday, January 31. Dr. Mark Ross will present "The Keys to the Kingdom".

This addresses the role of elders in admitting/dismissing to/from membership, and church discipline; also admitting people to baptism and the Lord's Supper and a presentation of "Why We Baptize Infants."