



October
2007

Do You Know God Intimately?

Deuteronomy 6 instructs us to teach our children the ways of God. This command extends from the covenant made with Abraham that God would be the God of the people and that they would be his children. Part of the responsibility the people have is to pass on to their children the commands of God. In Judges 2:1 and following the angel of the Lord said to these same Israelites, **I will never break my covenant with you and you shall not make a covenant with the people of this land... Yet you have disobeyed me.**

The book of Judges covers the time between Moses and Joshua to the coming of the first king of Israel, Saul. This period of time shows a people who did not witness personally the mighty acts of God as he rescued his people from Egypt. Their knowledge of God depended on the telling of such acts by the ones who witnessed those amazing feats. But as the passage above says they disobeyed. Repeatedly, in Judges we are told that **the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord.** God told them not to make any arrangements with the people who possessed the land he led them to take. Yet they let the people live, worshipped their gods, and gave their children in marriage to a people outside the nation of Israel. God told them specifically NOT to do these things. Why did they not do as God had directed?

We could ask ourselves the same thing? Why do we, as a society, not teach our children who God really is? Why do we sit quietly while other religious activities are influencing our lives? There is a great mixing of religions today.

It is called Syncretism. We do it. Driving into Statesville there is a billboard advertising Iredell Hospital – on it are three pregnant women sitting in same Lotus position.



This is a mixing of Far Eastern religions with our Christian values

– and we really don't care! This same hospital will use the Old Testament icon of a snake wrapped around a staff to represent healing. So who do they call on, our Lord God Almighty or the gods of those who practice yoga?

How many of you read your horoscope each day? Did you know that horoscopes have their roots in ancient Egyptian religions? This is the same Egypt where God told our ancestors not to serve their gods.



Why are we so easily won over to these influences? One answer to all this may be that it is just easier to go along rather than make a fuss. We have been taught by our liberal society to allow our children to be free thinkers. Let them make their own decisions. Well, the people of Israel thought similarly and God gave them over to their enemies. Will we one day be given over to the enemy?

In the book of Judges, which I am preaching from, we see repeatedly the pattern – worshipping other gods, blending religions, doing evil in the eyes of God, God's sending of a judge to rescue them, peace while the judge rules and then almost immediately falling back into evil when the judge dies. Why can the people not live peacefully with God in a consistent way? Did they not know what he said?

For these people I see two things that caused them to do evil in the eyes of God – they did not know well enough the ways of God and the activities of their 'neighbors' looked too inviting. Why did they not know God? They were not taught. As mentioned earlier the children of Israel were commanded to teach the children who God is. This did not happen and the people of the time of the judges, just a few generations removed from Moses, did not follow God's ways. So, not knowing God, they felt that there was no real danger being involved with the attractive events of other religious activities. It all seemed innocent to them.

What of today? Can we say that those who are easily influenced by other religious

activities do not know God intimately? This is hard to resolve. There are so many factors involved that an easy answer is difficult to come by.

So to cover both sides of this issue, on Sunday mornings we are working our way through the challenging book of Judges and on Sunday evening discussing the desire to increase our intimacy with God. I pray that as we see what happens to people who do not know God intimately this will affect and cause us desire to know him better. Then, discovering this, I pray we will search for ways to grow closer to him. In the Psalms many times we read of where David is writing of his pondering of God. He is not writing about any particular request or need – he is just contemplating God. And through this exercise he comes to know God more closely, more intimately. David is referred to as the apple of God's eye. This is what I want!

How about you? Are you easily swayed by the activities of your neighbors that may not be of God? Are you easily distracted by the fads of the day? Do you know God through Jesus Christ intimately? And please know –

there is a difference between knowing about God and knowing God intimately. These are serious issues that will not only affect your life but it will also affect those who follow along behind or beside you who are influenced by your actions.

Let us not be guilty of allowing the following generations to claim they did not know God intimately.

In His Service,

Pastor Tim



***Our sincere sympathy is
Expressed to the family
And friends of
Birchie Little Pope
03/25/15-09/23/07***



LADIES,

Those who are attending Women of Faith, there will be a meeting after church Sunday October 14 in the Chapel. Please try to attend.

Thank you ,

Taryn Setzer





The Grays

Jimmy and Amanda Gray met at an outdoor volleyball tournament in Columbia, SC. Jimmy asked Amanda to play on his co-rec team. They played two seasons of co-rec volleyball together before they went on their first date. They were married on May 24, 1997.

Jimmy is a life long member of New Sterling. He has served as deacon and is on the Property and Maintenance Committee. He was made chairman in 2006. "The committee really took me on as a new member and showed what was going on at New Sterling to keep it running—That was a busy and rewarding time." Amanda joined New Sterling in 2002. They both are members of the Friendship Sunday School Class.

Jimmy is partners in a family farming business—Gray House Farms. He is an avid hunter, enjoying turkey, deer and duck hunting as well as training their yellow lab Powder to be a good hunting dog. Jimmy enjoys working to improve wildlife habitat and has been involved in the farm's building of four waterfowl impounds. Jimmy is the Chairman of the Iredell Water and Soil Conservation District, committee member of the Dogwood Chapter of Ducks Unlimited and Chairman of DU's Greenwing Committee. Jimmy and Amanda plan and host "Greenwing Day" annually on the second Saturday after Labor Day. Greenwing is the youth division to Ducks Unlimited. Lots of family and friends help with the outdoor activities, cookout and prizes. This year will be the seventh year of the event. It is held at Jimmy and Amanda's house and down at the pond.

Amanda has worked as a customer service representative at WM. T Burnett for 22 years. She enjoys family night out every week, looks forward getting back into cross stitching and taking up scrap booking, and especially loves going to the beach.

Jimmy and Amanda have a son, John Roby who will be five in November. He attends Salem Sloan Child Enrichment Center and next year will start Kindergarten at Sharon Elementary School. John Roby loves going to the beach, jumping in the waves and playing in the sand. He also enjoys going to the pool, adventures to Carowinds and Tweesie and helping dad train Powder. (The Grays also have a black lab named Jack.) He is a part of the Preschool Sunday School Class and Children's Church.

Jimmy and Amanda both feel very fortunate to have such supportive families. Amanda's parents played a big part in remodeling their house. Jimmy's parents Reid and Peggy have sacrificed much to build the family farm.

Jimmy and Amanda have been to St Croix and San Diego, but family trips are usually closer to home. The last Family trip was to Ocean Isle, NC in May. Jimmy goes on a hunting trip out west every year. This year he is planning a return to Nebraska. Amanda and John Roby are planning to go back to Ocean Isle while Jimmy is out west.





Sterling Silvers



A Sunday date will be announced during the first portion of October for a meeting in the Chapel Bible Classroom after church to discuss a date for a trip to Billy Graham Museum outside of Charlotte, N. C. A consensus on the date and time will be the agenda of discussion.

The first meeting of the season in September was devoted to new business of electing new officials and the agenda for the remainder months.

Elected were: Director: Sarge Emery; Vice Director and Sunshine Lady: Betty Godfrey; Hospitality Committee: Emily Nash, Juanita Massey, Cora Poovey and Pat Sherrill; Devotions: Edith Milhouland. Treasurer: Swanee Synder.

Agenda for the season: October-Trip to Billy Graham Museum. November- Covered Dish- Thanksgiving. December-Gift and Bingo. January - No Meeting. February through June to be announced.

A photograph was taken of members surrounding the Ten Commandments Tablets which was forwarded to Statesville Landmark Editor with members enumerated for publication.

Fourteen members attended the Fall Fling at the First Gastonia ARP Church on Thursday 27 September 2007. The hospitality and friendship extended by the church was outstanding.

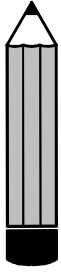
A Special Invitation for the following to join us in November Meeting on 12th at 1030 AM. For Luncheon and Holiday Hospitality.

Reid and Peggy Gray	David and Betty Side
Lynn and Muriel Jenkins	Nancy and Carol McNeely
Clay and Patricia Price	Dillard and Faye Walker
Don and Tena Campbell	Hart and Dixie Waugh
Kenneth and Becky Gray	Tony and Linda Harper
Alan and Kay Flowers	Ruth Foy
Steve and Joyce Elder	Tim and Judy Watson

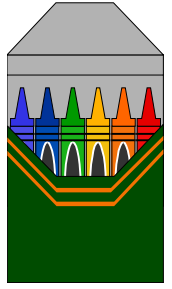
(This invitation is also extended for any who wish to attend. Please give your name to Sarge Emery)

Director: Sarge Emery Phone 704 871 1232

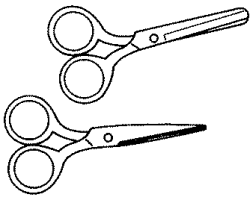




SUPPLIES FOR SHARON SCHOOL



As we are still in partnership with Sharon School, the Evangelism Committee would still like to send them supplies occasionally. As cold and flu season begins, they will be in constant need to Kleenex, hand sanitizer, antibacterial soap, Clorox wipes, etc. As you shop if you could pick up an extra one for the school, we would greatly appreciate it.



You can drop it off in the Friendship Sunday School class room and just put it on one of the tables there. About once a month, a committee member will drop off the supplies.

We thank you for your continued support. If you would like to help at the school tutoring, letting students read to you, helping with math, etc, let a member of the Evangelism Committee know and we will tell you who to get in touch with.



October

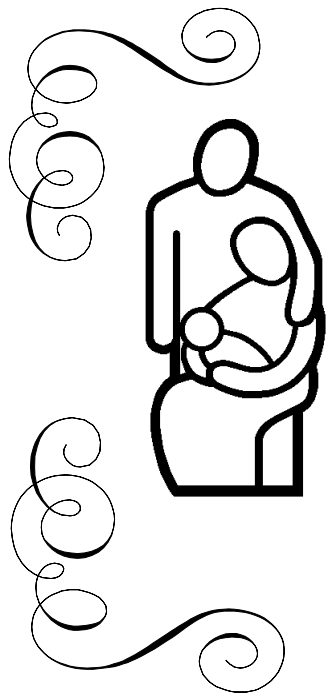
is Clergy

Appreciation Month. Everyone please take a moment to let Pastor Tim know just how much we appreciate everything he does for us at New Sterling.



Here and There at New Sterling!!!!

Mrs. **Lucille Billings** recently suffered a stroke and spent some time in Forsythe Hospital. She is now at home with her daughter and son-in-law, **David and Camille Simmons**.....**Betty Godfrey** fell over a gate to keep Sassy blocked off and broke her foot.....**Olean Deal** spent some time in the hospital recently.....**Louanne Watts'** mother, **Pearl Munhenki** is now a resident at Autum Care.....**Hannah and Justin Moore** are expecting their second child.....A big welcome to the New Sterling family goes to **Ed, Anna, Adam and Sarah Donahoe**.....**Lucille Billings** celebrated her 102nd birthday on September 4....



Congradulations

to Adrian and Amber Jarrett
in the birth of their daughter

Ava Lanette Jarrett

Born on August 30, 2007

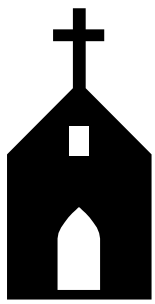
Weighing in at 8 lbs 5 oz

Sue Moore's new address is:

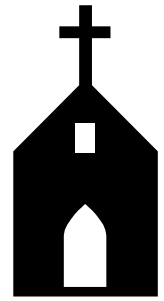
**Crest of Clemmons
6010 Meadowbrook Mall
Clemmons, NC 27012
336-766-4047**

Address for Bobby Buchanan:

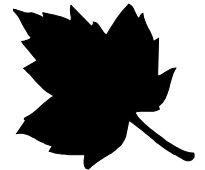
**Robert Lewis Buchanan
PO Box 310
Polkton, NC 28135**



Coming Events



- | | | |
|---------------|-----------|--|
| October 1 | 9:30 | Golden Christian Circle |
| | 7:00 | Men's Bible Study—Study of Nehemiah with David Brady |
| | 7:00 | Property/Maintenance Committee |
| October 2 | 7:00 | Finance Committee Meeting |
| October 6 | 9:00 | Knit Wits with Sherry Stewart |
| | 9:00 | Women's Council Meeting |
| October 7 | | World Wide Communion |
| | | Mission Committee Meeting |
| | 1:00 | Fulbright Reunion in Fellowship Hall |
| | 5:15 | Children's Choir and C3 Choir |
| | 6:00 | Sunday Family Night |
| October 8 | 10:30 | Sterling Silvers |
| October 9 | 7:00 | Treasure Keepers with Judy Watson |
| October 14 | | Missions Emphasis Sunday |
| | | Discipleship/Nurture Committee Meeting |
| | 5:15 | Children's Choir and C3 Choir |
| | 6:00 | Sunday Family Night |
| October 15 | 7:00 | Knit Wits with Delinda Mauney |
| | | Bonsenior 2007 at Bonclarken |
| October 16 | 7:00 | Mary & Martha Sunset with Judy Stewart |
| October 17 | 10:00 | Mary & Martha Sunrise |
| October 18 | 7:00 | Men's Life Issues with Jeff McNeely and Tra Watson |
| October 21 | 5:15 | Children's Choir and C3 Choir |
| | 6:00 | Sunday Family Night |
| | | Newsletter Items Due |
| October 22 | 7:00 | Men's Roundtable with Pastor Tim |
| October 26-26 | | Women of Faith |
| October 26-28 | | Trip to Bilouxi to deliver items for Miss Bernice Otis |
| October 28 | 5:15 | Children's Choir and C3 Choir |
| | 6:00 | Sunday Family Night |
| October 31 | 6:00 | Fancy Fall Fest |
| | 6:00-6:45 | Free hot dog supper sponsored by the Friendship Class |
| | 6:45-7:30 | Cake Walk |
| | 7:30-8:30 | Trunk Treats and Treats by the fire |



ATTENTION Jr. and Sr. Highs!!!!

bonfire

CRUSADES

Sunday thru
Tuesday

OCTOBER
7-9, 2007

6:30pm
to 9:00pm

*His word is in my heart like a fire,
a fire shut up in my bones.
I am weary of holding it in;
indeed, I cannot.*

Jeremiah 20:9

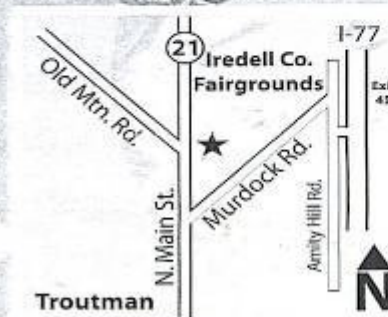


Speaker:
Clayton King



Music by:
Group 1 Crew
& local hands

PIZZA Monday Night BLAST



Iredell County Fairgrounds
Hwy. 21
Troutman



bonfirecrusades.com
Iredell County Fairgrounds

**Oct. 7-9
2007**

Please be at the church on Sunday October 7 at 5:45pm, we will leave the church at 6:00pm. If you have and queations, contact Ken and Jeanette Hauch, Scott and Jessica Grahān or Taryn Setzer.

Hey!! Jr. and
Sr. Highs.....

What Do You Need for an Awesome Lock-in?

A Place? New Sterling

A Time? 7pm Friday– 10:30am Saturday

When? October 12-13

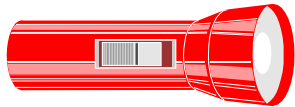
What are we doing?



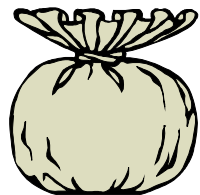
VIDEO SCAVENGER HUNT



GAMES



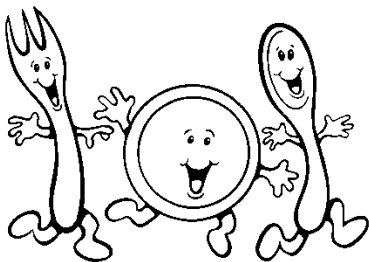
HIDE and SEEK



**SERVICE
PROJECT**

AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!!!!!!!!!!

Don't forget your sleeping bag, pillow, tooth brush, clothes to sleep in and comfortable clothes with tennis shoes for Saturday morning.



We are in the process of planning a Progressive Dinner for the Jr. and Sr. Highs on Saturday November 17, 2007. If you are interested in hosting or have questions please contact Jessica Graham or Taryn Setzer.



Everyone is invited to the wedding

Of

Jessica Ciccarelli

And

Anthony Brady

On

October 20, 2007

3:00 p.m.

At New Sterling ARP Church

Reception will follow immediately

After the ceremony at the

Statesville Civic Center.

Please RSVP to

(704) 657-5455

If you plan to attend

*As autumn leaves turn their brilliant hue, two young people in
Love will join and say I do*



CONGRATULATIONS TO

Sarah Elizabeth

And

Brandon Wayne Smith

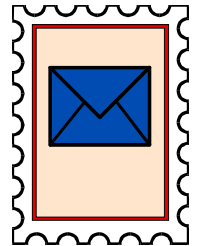
who were joined together in a holy union on

September 29, 2007



**Pastor Tim's new
email address is
watsontr@hughes.net**

Address for Erin Waugh
WU School of Pharmacy
Campus Box 4009
Wingate, NC 28174



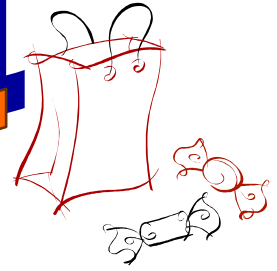
Any other college student who would like to have their address published, please contact Delinda or Taryn



When God takes something from your grasp, He's not punishing you, but merely opening your hands to receive something better.

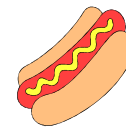


FANCY FALL FESTIVAL



Come join us at New Sterling Church located at 580 New Sterling Road on Wednesday, October 31.

6:00—6:45 Free hot dog supper



6:45—7:30 Cake Walk



7:30—8:30 Trunk Treats and "treats" by the fire



Dress up, dress your kids up and come join us for supper and lots of fun as you get treated by our trunk treats in the parking lot.

Enjoy the fire pits with S'mores, hot chocolate and cider.



See you there!!!!!!

SUNDAY CLOTHES

A little boy was walking down a dirt road after church one Sunday afternoon when he came to a crossroads where he met a little girl coming from the other direction.

"Hello," said the little boy

"Hi," replied the little girl.

"Where are you going?" asked the little boy.

"I've been to church this morning and I'm on my way home," answered the little girl.

"Me too", replied the little boy.

"I'm also on my way home from church."

"Which church do you go to?" asked the little boy.

"I go to the Baptist church back down the road at Cozy Corner" replied the little girl.

"What about you?"

"I go to the Methodist church back at the top of the hill," replied the little boy.

They discover that they are both going the same way so they decided that they'd walk together. They came to a low spot in the road where spring rains had partially flooded the road so there was no way that they could get across to the other side without getting wet. "If I get my new Sunday dress wet my Mom's going to skin me alive," said the little girl.

"My Mom'll tan my hide too if I get my new Sunday suit wet," replied the little boy . "I tell you what I think I'll do," said the little girl. "I'm gonna pull off all my clothes and hold them over my head and wade across."

"That's a good idea," replied the little boy. "I'm going to do the same thing with my suit." So they both undressed and waded across to the other side without getting their clothes wet. They were standing there in the sun waiting to drip dry before putting their clothes back on when the little boy finally remarked ...

"You know, I never did realize before just how much difference there really is between a Baptist and Methodist."



BEST POEM IN THE WORLD!

I was shocked, confused, bewildered
as I entered Heaven's door,
Not by the beauty of it all,
nor the lights or its decor.

But it was the folks in Heaven
who made me sputter and gasp--
the thieves, the liars, the sinners,
the alcoholics and the trash.

There stood the kid from seventh grade
who swiped my lunch money twice.
Next to him was my old neighbor
who never said anything nice.

Herb, who I always thought
was rotting away in hell,
was sitting pretty on cloud nine,
looking incredibly well.

I nudged Jesus, "What's the deal?
I would love to hear Your take.
How'd all these sinners get up here?
God must've made a mistake.

"And why's everyone so quiet,
so somber - give me a clue."
"Hush, child," He said, "they're all in shock.
No one thought they'd be seeing you."

~~~~~  
JUDGE NOT.

1 Lonnie Elliott  
 1 Kenneth Gray  
 3 Judy Watson  
 3 Elizabeth Moose  
 3 Richard Williams  
 4 Dean Melton  
 5 Sylvia Denman  
 6 Bryan Pope  
 7 Lynne Benfield  
 7 Michael Pope  
 8 Melissa Kuelbs  
 8 Bill Linderman  
 8 Chris Pope  
 8 Judy Pope  
 8 Brice Reese  
 9 Andy Gray  
 9 Kathy Pope  
 9 Davey Winters  
 10 Linda Pope  
 11 Harvey Reese, Jr  
 11 Amber Snyder  
 12 Bobby Buchanan  
 12 Michael Campbell



13 Maggie Emery  
 13 Lillian Jenkins  
 13 Lynne Pope  
 13 Pauline Pope  
 13 Jennifer Waugh  
 14 Alexandria Buchanan  
 14 Paisley Graham  
 14 Jason Brady  
 14 Connell Gray  
 15 Samuel Donnelly  
 16 Sherry Boggs  
 16 Gray Emery  
 17 Avis Pope  
 18 Roger Stewart  
 19 Maude McNeely  
 21 Bob Shoemaker

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23 Earl Linderman  
 23 Sheila Warren  
 23 Tra Watson  
 25 Mandy Patterson  
 25 Ruth Talbert  
 26 Mark Deal  
 26 Jared Hauck  
 28 Delinda Mauney  
 29 Dorothy Dancy  
 31 Melissa Donnelly

