



September  
2008

## Revelation: A Book of Encouragement

This past Sunday we covered the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter of Revelation. In this chapter is the most drastic, revealing language citing God's furious displeasure with the sin of this world. The description of the plagues poured out on humanity, the earth and the dragon's beasts is moving. As I said Sunday it is almost like seeing a side of God that doesn't match what we have been taught of him. And that may very well be the case.

This kind of language along with the hard to understand symbols has caused many to steer clear of this book and not read it all. Some within the church have said that they were either very uncomfortable with the book, have been told to stay away or thought that if read something unspeakable might happen.

Well, these are very real concerns that I pray can be overcome. I actually hope we have already overcome them during our lengthy study. In support of my hope and prayer let me remind you of a couple of verses in the first chapter of this extraordinary book: Verse 3, *Blessed is the one who reads the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it.* In verse 4 these words follow: *Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come ... from Jesus Christ.*

First of all, verse 3 says that if we read this book, hear this book and take to heart what is in the book then blessings will be ours. Then follow that with a sentiment of the grace and peace given by Jesus Christ to those who do what verse 3 encourages. So let me ask you, does this sound like a book we should fear, reject or stay away from? No, it does not.

So rather than avoiding this book we should take the invitation from our Lord, read the book and gain the blessing, grace and peace the author has to offer. This is a book of encouragement to the follower of Christ not one that should lead to fear.

Yes, the language is tough and sin is dealt with decisively, sometimes with too

much description but, is that not what we hope for? Do we not desire for the sin of this world to be authoritatively dealt with once and for all? Yes! Well, that is exactly what happens through the descriptions given in the Book of Revelation.

And along the way, our Lord takes great pains to encourage the believer in the midst of the judgments being handed out. Let me point out a few ways He does this:

- First, at the end of each of the 7 letters to the 7 churches, our Lord states that there is a particular eternal promise for him who overcomes. They are there. Read them. However, the question may be for some, "Will we overcome?" The answer is yes because it is the Lord who promised and it is the Lord who will secure the victory over the dragon and his beasts. Read 17:14. It says the Lamb will defeat the beast and we who are chosen will accompany him in victory.
- Secondly, there are 7 beatitudes in this book. Just as the beatitudes of Matthew 5, here the Lord Jesus encourages with sentiments of blessings. These 7 beatitudes are found in chapter 1 as well as 14:13; 16:15; 19:9; 20:6; 22:7, 14. Read them.
- Thirdly, John uses a technique to encourage the believer repeatedly through the book. Each time a significant judging act is about to be revealed from God, the Lord Jesus through John encourages the believer.
  - Before the breaking of the seventh seal which portrays God's judgment, we read in chapter 7 of the sealing of God's people. Sin will be destroyed but the people of God will be OK.
  - Before the blowing of the seventh trumpet we have the story in chapter 11 of the two witnesses that are slain by the world BUT then they rise again. These two witnesses represent the Church. Yes, it will be tough for the Church but ultimately here is the resurrection.
  - Then we have chapter 12, which

is my favorite. It is a micro-story within the story which allegorically tells us of the intent of Satan to harm the child, then the Church. But the Church, the lady, is swept off into the desert where she is protected by God himself.

These are but a few, but I hope you can see that our Lord intends to encourage you even when he is giving details about the destruction of evil and this sinful world. His first goal is to bless you.

Then one more from among many: the final 6 chapters detail the destruction of evil, the ultimate victory by our Lord Jesus Christ and the believer's eternal reign with the King. This book tells us definitively the end of the story – God wins! What more does a believer need?

Yes, there is much in the book of Revelation that will challenge the believer. But I hope and pray that

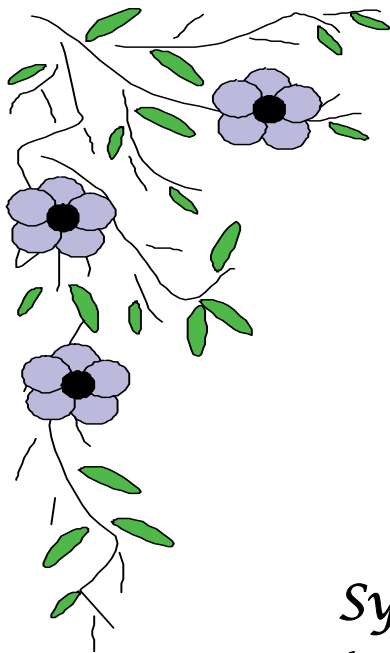
now and more so after we have completed our study that you will come to rely on the blessing of the book rather than be adversely affected by the mystery of the book.

We believe that every word of God written in the Holy Text is good and that is it perfect for every matter whether in life or in the practice of our faith. Well, believer, this statement must include the book of Revelation.

So, believer read on and take it to heart and be blessed!

(For those of you who cannot join us each Sunday for this sermon series, you can hear the sermons on our website, [newsterlingarp.org](http://newsterlingarp.org))

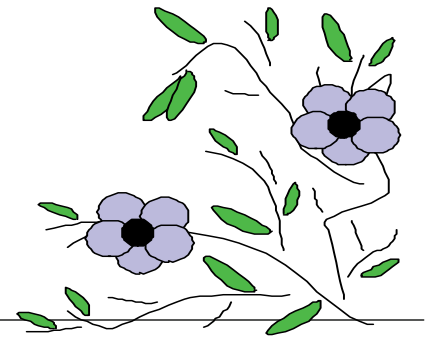
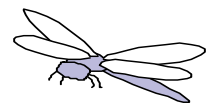
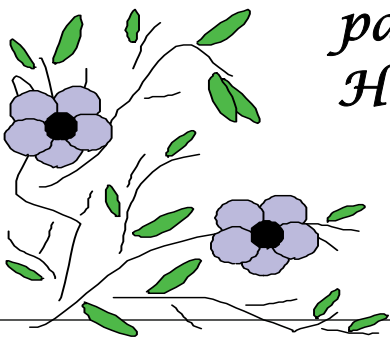
In His Service,  
Pastor Tim



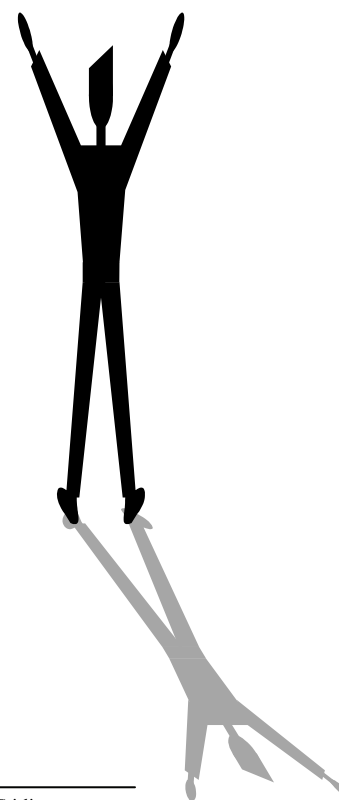
*Sympathy is expressed to the family  
and friends of Mrs. Edith Milholland.*

• *April 5, 1922—July 28, 2008*

*Sympathy is also expressed  
to Mrs. Ruth Foy in the  
passing of her sister, Kay  
Hawkins.*



September 1		Labor Day
September 2	7:00	Men's Bible Study with David Brady
September 6	9:00 am	Knit Wits with Aarene Reese
September 7		National Grandparents Day
September 7		Promotion Sunday
September 7		Spiritual Life Conference
September 8	9:30 am	Golden Christian Circle—Pat Sherrill, devotions; Betty Sides, study
September 8	10:30 am	Sterling Silvers
September 9	7:00	Treasure Keepers—Missy Withers, hostess; Michelle Hairyes, facilitator; Missy, Taryn and Delinda meal
September 12	7:30	Seekers Bible Study—Friendship Classroom, Study of John 15. Bring a snack
September 13	5:00	Reception/shower for Kristinia and John McClure
September 14	5:00	C3 Choir
September 14	5:00	CE Committee Meeting
	6:00	Sunday Family Night—Harlan Mission Team report
September 15	7:00	Knit Wits with Jane Mayhew
September 16	7:00	Mary/Martha Sunset—Linda Harper, hostess; Sherry Clarke, facilitator
September 17	9:30 am	Mary/Martha Sunrise—Virginia Brady, hostess; Peggy Gray, facilitator
September 18	7:00	Men's Life Issues Study with Jeff McNeely
September 22	7:00	Experiencing God Bible study
September 25		Senior Adult Fall Fling
September 26-28		Senior High Retreat



# Coming Events

# News From the Women's Ministries

*It's the time of year when our old Bible studies are coming to an end and we begin thinking about studies for 2009. I know personally the Treasure Keeper's Bible study of Bad Girls of the Bible has been an awesome study and we hate to see it come to a close.*

*But it is time to prepare for the new year and all circle chairmen are asked to have your circles review and vote on the upcoming studies chosen for the new year. We would like to have your decision made by the end of your October meeting. Please make sure you get your choices to Judy or Kim by October 26 to have time to get approval from the Session and make sure the materials are ordered to be here on time. I know our studies next year will be just as wonderful as they have been this year.*

*Remember the ongoing Rada Knife sell. Orders are due the last Sunday of each month. They make great Christmas presents so make your Christmas list early. Give orders and money to Delinda. Checks payable to New Sterling Women's Ministries.*

*Delinda Mauney*

*Women's Council Member*



## **Sterling Silvers News**

The Sterling Silvers will meet Monday September 8 at 10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. I hope everyone has had a good summer. This year our senior citizen's group has suffered sorrowful events with the passing of Birchie Pope, Avis Pope and Edith Milholland. We as a group extend our sympathy to the families in their loss. We shall miss their presence.

The program for this meeting will be centered around a memorial remembrance. Dr. Earl and Harriet Linderman will conduct a program of songs that had been previously planned by Edith before her passing.

We invite anyone who can attend this special program with the Sterling Silvers at this scheduled meeting. A luncheon will be served and the agenda for the upcoming sessions will be discussed.

Frank Emery  
Director

# First Presbyterial Women's Retreat

**WHO:** All women of First Presbytery who wish to attend!

**WHAT:** A weekend in the mountains with a great speaker, activities and meeting other ARP ladies.

**WHERE:** Bonclarken in Flat Rock, NC

**WHY:** It's an opportunity to be spiritually refreshed and experience fellowship with other women in a beautiful mountain setting.

**HOW:** Our speaker, *Renee Swope* (from Proverbs 31 Ministries) will lead us in a study called "A Walk to Remember: Living and Leaving a Legacy".



OCTOBER 24-25,  
2008

For more information, contact your Spiritual Life Chairman,  
Women's Ministry President or church contact person!

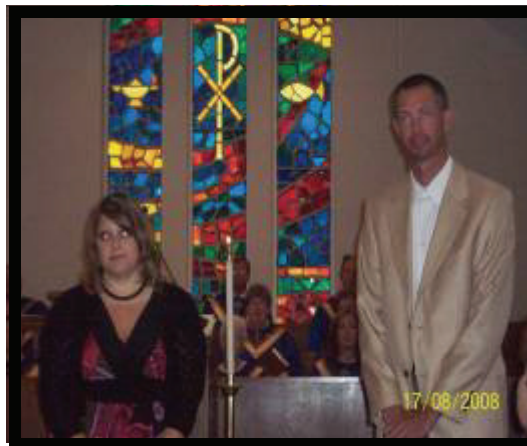
# HOMECOMING AUGUST 3, 2008



Thank you to the kitchen and decorating committee and others who cooked, served and decorated the fellowship hall.



Kurtis Hauck receives the Marli Watson Son Shine Scholarship presented by Pastor Tim and Judy



**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!!**

**Andy Mayhew and Stacy Mracek  
Joined New Sterling  
August 17, 2008.**

**C**ongratulations to Kristina Hull and John McClure who were married on July 5, 2008.

Please join them for a luau reception/shower in celebration of their new life together on September 13, 2008 at 5:00 pm.

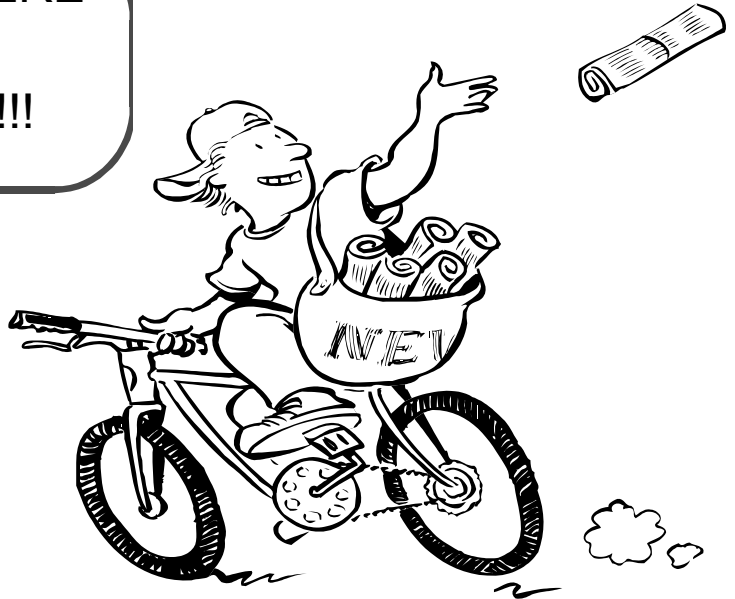
The celebration will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roger Stewart, Jr  
244 Nifong Road  
Clemmons, NC 27012

Please RSVP (336) 764-9584



Jaxon Carter Moore was baptized on August 24, 2008.  
His parents are Justin and Hannah Moore, with big sister Emma  
Elder Ken Hauck assisted Pastor Tim with the baptism.

HERE AND THERE  
AT NEW  
STERLING!!!!!!



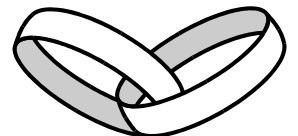
The **Brady** pool was full at the youth swimming party....The **McCulloch/Deal family** enjoyed a fun family vacation at Myrtle Beach. They did lots of things during the week including visiting the new Hard Rock Amusement Park. Not being crowded they were able to ride all the rides with no waiting. The favorite was the 'Led Zepelin Roller Coaster'. It was a very fast ride with lots of steep hills and loops. The adults rode 3 times, **Dylan** 6 times and **Garrett** rode it 10 times!!! .....**Marcia Winters'** mother, **Mary Davis**, fell and broke her hip and is recovering.....The **Richard Hairyes family** spend a week at Myrtle Beach also.....**Kurtis Hauck** was recently presented the **Marli Watson Son Shine Scholarship**.....**Taryn Setzer** attended a 3 day conference with her work in Charleston, SC.....**Jill, Tim, Blakely and Allie Hager** vacationed at the beach.....**Lucille Reese** celebrated her 90th birthday.....**Wayne Waugh** at a recent session meeting was welcoming our new member, **Andy Mayhew**, into our congregation and stated, "Welcome to our church but I know you are looking down on me." Andy looks down on everyone—He's probably the tallest member of our church!!!!.....**Samuel Donnelly** was awarded the "God and Me" Cub Scout award on August 10. Samuel is a member of Cub Scout Pack 607. He has worked very hard this summer and we are very proud of you!!!!.....**Joe Morrison** is home from the hospital.....**Erin Hudgins** will have having a heart catherization soon.....**Addie and Paisley Graham** had a sleep over with **Brian and Taryn Setzer**.....The **Jr. and Sr. Highs** had a blast at the campout at the church, but did not appreciate being woke up at 4am by screeching peacocks!!!!.....The white water rafting trip was a great success with 33 attending.....**Muriel Jenkins** is having problems with her stomach and may have her gall bladder removed.....**Scott and Jessica Graham** is currently looking for a new house.....**Doris McNeely** recently spent some time at Baptist Hospital and had to have gallbladder surgery.....



The New Sterling marriage retreat will be held Friday, November 21—Saturday, November 22. It will be at the Best Western in Banner Elk. The sessions will begin on Friday evening and end Saturday afternoon with snacks and Saturday lunch provided. There is a restaurant there that you can have breakfast.

The cost per couple will be \$105.00 for those returning and \$113.00 for those attending for the first time. The difference in cost is from the cost of materials.

Please see Cindy McNeely for information and to make reservations. The deadline to register is Sunday, October 26.



# 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.



New catalogs will be available after August 1. See Delinda.

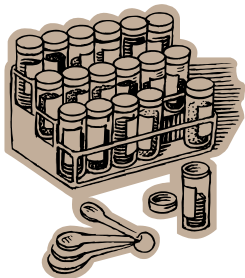
### *Redecorating?*

Or just want to spruce up or just change some home décor, call Michelle Hairyes, sales representative for Signature Home Styles.

Visit her Website at  
[mhairyes@love2organize.com](mailto:mhairyes@love2organize.com)  
or call her at 704-871-0994

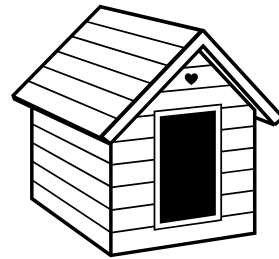
**AVON CALLING**

Michelle is also your local Avon representative



## 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.



**Need a Dog House?**

**Need a Used Lawn Mower?**

See Lynn Jenkins. He has dog houses he has made displayed by the road side at his house. He also refurbishes

old riding lawnmowers for sale.

704-872-6696



### ***Tutoring***

**3rd-8th Grades**

**Reading, Writing, Math and Science**

**Licensed Teacher**

**Over 2 years tutoring experience**

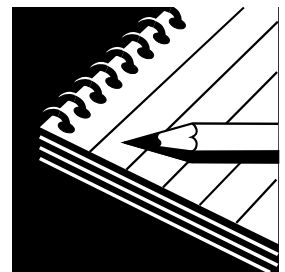
**4 years teaching experience**

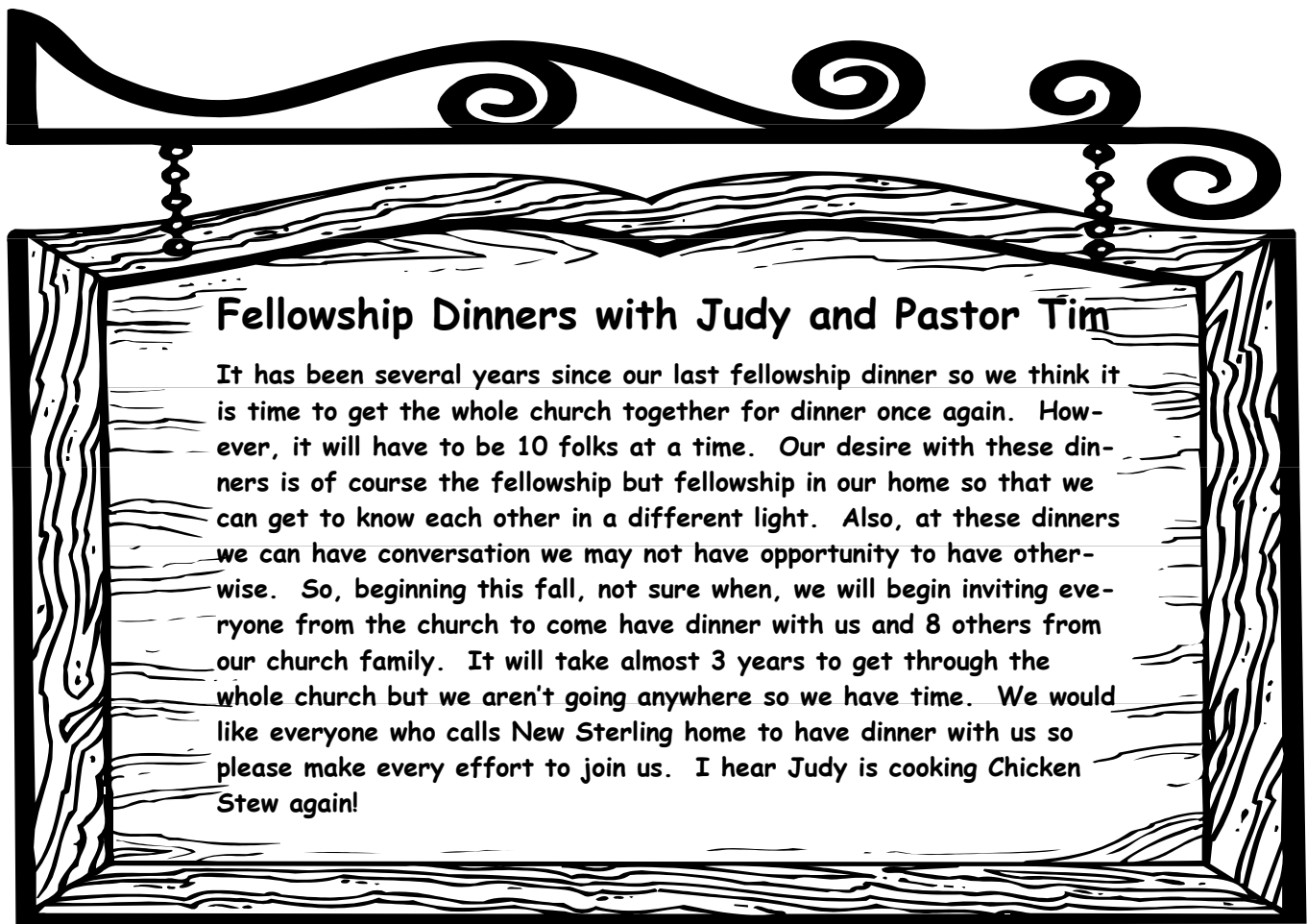
**Felicia Woodall**

**Sports**

**704-585-9289**

**\$25/hour**





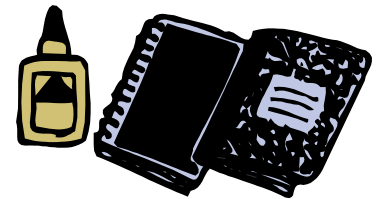
## Fellowship Dinners with Judy and Pastor Tim

It has been several years since our last fellowship dinner so we think it is time to get the whole church together for dinner once again. However, it will have to be 10 folks at a time. Our desire with these dinners is of course the fellowship but fellowship in our home so that we can get to know each other in a different light. Also, at these dinners we can have conversation we may not have opportunity to have otherwise. So, beginning this fall, not sure when, we will begin inviting everyone from the church to come have dinner with us and 8 others from our church family. It will take almost 3 years to get through the whole church but we aren't going anywhere so we have time. We would like everyone who calls New Sterling home to have dinner with us so please make every effort to join us. I hear Judy is cooking Chicken Stew again!

## *School Supplies for Sharon School*



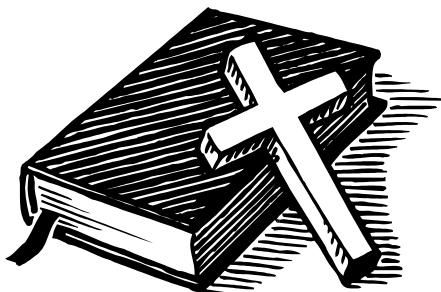
The Evangelism Committee is again collecting school supplies for Sharon School. Any school supply item including pencils, pens, notebook paper, erasers, book bags, etc will be greatly appreciated.



Hand soap and Kleenex will also be appreciated.

Remember that you can also sign up to help them tutor, be a reading partner or a lunch buddy.

Supplies can be left in the Friendship Sunday School Classroom.



The Seekers Bible Study will meet on Friday, September 12th at 7:30 pm at the church in the Friendship Class. All who attend are asked to bring their favorite snack or dessert to share in the fellowship hall after the Bible Study.

We will be studying the 15th chapter of the Gospel of John.

All are invited to attend.



# CE COMMITTEE NEWS

After many years of faithful service and wonderful performances led by our Children's Choir under the direction of Sandy Moose, she has decided to step down and take a break. Her shoes will be very hard to fill but we thank her for many years of hard work and dedication.

The CE Committee is, therefore, seeking to find a new director for the Children's Choir. If you are interested, please see Delinda Mauney as soon as possible. The Children's Choir will not begin practice this fall until a new director is found.

We are still in need of a Nursery Coordinator. The duties of this person would be on more of an administrative level. The goal we have attempted to accomplish is that we have enough volunteers to stay in the nursery during worship service that no one would have to stay more than once a quarter and hopefully only twice a year.

The Job Description for the coordinator is basically:

- Make a schedule each month for the 11:00 Worship Hour
- Schedule a staff for Sunday Night services when in session
- Make sure nursery is supplied with needed items at all times
- Make sure proper policies and procedures are understood by all who do nursery duty
- Guidelines for the nursery have been approved by the Session and the CE Committee. Make sure these policies and procedures are followed
- Have nursery available and staffed for any church service event at New Sterling
- Work out a procedure if someone is unable to keep nursery on a scheduled Sunday

Under no circumstances is this coordinator to take the place of someone who needs to change a nursery date, etc. Their responsibility is to have it staffed, not to staff it themselves.

If anyone is interested or wants to talk about the position, please call Delinda Mauney at 704-880-0527.

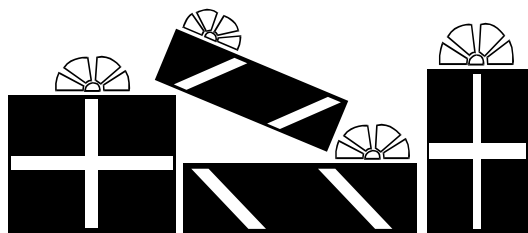


# Mark your calendar

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.

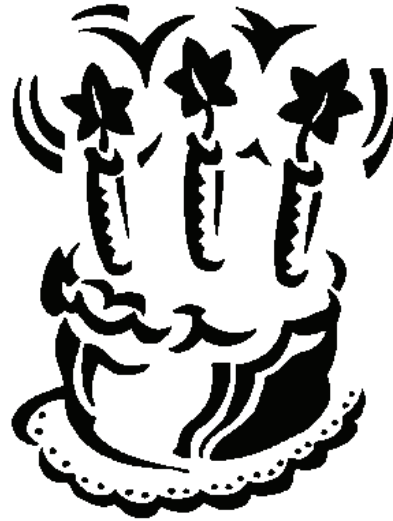
If you would like to give a **personal note or picture** to the child, just place it in an envelope, seal it and put it in the bag with the items you donate.

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!!**

# September Birthdays

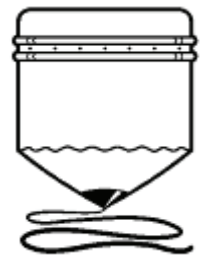
- 1 Milderine Pope
- 1 Clay Price
- 3 Stephanie Watts
- 4 Lucille Billings
- 10 Mike Warren
- 11 Taryn McNeely
- 12 Scott Graham
- 12 Patti Gryder
- 13 Dylan Pope
- 14 Judy Stewart
- 14 Reid Gray
- 15 Kattie Compton
- 16 Jeff West
- 21 Mabel Brady



- 21 George Chambers
- 24 Kelly Pugh
- 27 Melissa Henderson
- 28 Frank "Pop-Pop" Emery
- 29 Kortney Hauck
- 30 Kitzi Emery

---

**Committee Chairs**—Please begin working on your calendar of events for 2009; our desire is to have the 2009 Calendar available at our Annual Meeting in December



**Congratulations to Amber Snyder in the birth of a son, Ayden on August 21, 2008.**