

## Indonesian Earthquake, March 6

Eddy, Pak Tofan (our Minang co-worker,) and Pak Pen (Pak Tofan's brother) headed to Solok around noon today. From what we had heard, the earthquakes we experienced yesterday (6.3 & 6.1 on the Richter Scale) were centered under Solok. The family home of Pak Tofan of Pak Pen was in Solok. It caved in during the earthquake but fortunately no one was hurt. The news reports 70 dead and 500 homes destroyed at this point. As in most disasters, it is difficult to get accurate information at the beginning and know who needs help the most. Later today we heard that the greatest damage was around Lake Singkarak. At this point we plan to move out some of our Relief and Development Teams (Well-drilling and Compressed Earth Blocks Teams) from Aceh to this area to help with the rebuilding and water concerns.

We spent last night in a tent in our yard as it was not yet safe to return to our homes. Tremors continued through the night but so far today they have lessened. Our yard (a rarity here) became a parking lot last night as a few of our neighbors and friends parked cars here and slept in them. Our helper slept in our children's bamboo open air playhouse. Almost everyone slept outside. The hospital down the road is reporting that seven persons died yesterday as a result of the earthquake and 55 injured, some coming in from surrounding areas. We have not heard any reports from other hospitals. Patients have all been moved outside to the sidewalk. There were landslides in the nearby canyon and housing near the canyon is in danger. The road between our home and Padang where the nearest airport is located has been closed due to landslides.

Although we had felt tremors before in our town, we had never experienced one centered so close to where we live. It is hard to get out of a house that is shaking to its very foundation. Yet, we recognize how blessed we are. Our house stood strong. Most of our damage came from cabinets opening and things falling off shelves. Glasses, CDs, a couple of lamps and a lot of books came crashing to the floor. There appears to be no structural damage to our home. That is not true for most people who live in houses in the *kampung* (village neighborhood.) Many of these homes cannot withstand an earthquake without extensive structural damage. Our helper told us that two girls who live in the housing where she lives were hurt by falling walls and debris from neighbors' housing as they ran to get out of their *kampung*. Both girls have played in our home with Kaela. I still have an image of them doing a make-over with Kaela. Anisa was hit by a falling brick wall and sustained an injury to her head. Sindi received cuts to the lower part of both legs.

- Please pray for these families and for the many others who have sustained injuries and loss of property.
- Pray that the aftershocks will stop and that there will be no more injuries and damage.
- Pray especially for those who have lost family members or await news of a missing loved one. Houses can be rebuilt. Loss of life is infinitely harder.
- Pray for the transition and safety of our Relief Teams which will be moving in to help.
- Pray that God's presence will be felt by us all in a way that restores the sense of security that has been lost—especially for the children who no longer feel safe.

Being in this earthquake underscored for me how quickly one's sense of security can be obliterated as I looked into the eyes of our very frightened eight-year old daughter. I realized that the peace and sense of security I felt in the midst of

these earthquakes didn't come from our circumstances. It came out of relationship with God who holds our ultimate security.

Please pray that the worst is over and that God will help us to bring good out of the bad.

Blessings,  
Eddie & Cindy Ruble

## Missions

Perfect English is not required. Have you wanted to get more involved in church but haven't found just the right place to apply your talents? The Missions Committee is exploring the idea of our church offering English classes to speakers of other languages. There is great need for language instruction, especially among the older population of immigrants, so these people can become full participants in our society. Don't let lack of experience hold you back; training and materials will be provided. If you are interested in becoming a language instructor or want more information, contact Deborah Hill (273-3095 or thaifrog@earthlink.net).

## Montreat

It's not too late to come along and enjoy a week of spiritual renewal during the Music and Worship Conference at Montreat. Registration forms are available for all who are going to MONTREAT outside of Rydell's office. A \$50 deposit is due with your registration form by March 30th. For those adults who are interested in going to Montreat and having a "mini-vacation" but not registering as a participant, please see Rydell.

## New Members Bio

Deanna Holt is originally from Burlington, but has lived in Greensboro for 3 years now. When asked what led her to College Park, she said "location" since she lives very near the church. She works in marketing/public relations and is engaged to Brian Miller. In her spare time (whenever that happens) she enjoys shopping at Chez Target, cooking, spending time with family and friends, traveling, and calling her fiancé on the telephone. Her ideal vacation is Australia. You might not expect this but Deanna has an interesting talent: she can intertwine her toes without the use of her hands.

Brian Miller is the fiancé of Deanna Holt. He originally hails from Winston-Salem but currently lives in Jamestown. His hobbies include target shooting, Carolina Hurricanes hockey, running, and movies. When asked how he found College Park, he simply said "Deanna showed me the way". One thing you might not expect from Brian: he enjoys ballet. The super power he wishes he had is telepathy...so he can finally know what his fiancé is thinking!

## Male Bake-Off Committees

A big **thank you** to the following people for all their hard work in making this year's Male Bake-Off such a success.

Cooking for lunch:  
Lisa Shortt

Social Committee:  
Penny Chambers  
Nancy Cravey  
Darcie Thompson

Set Up:  
Paula Burch  
Mike Cumbus  
Brent Dawson  
Vernon Jordan  
Barry Shoemaker  
Kevin Shortt  
Joel Stockard  
Pam Stockard  
Adam Team  
Sue Ellen Team

## Parking Shortage on Sundays

Have you noticed lately how difficult it is to find a parking spot on Sundays? We have 103 parking spots in our lot and they frequently are completely full on Sundays.

UNCG allows us to park across Aycock in their lot, but that lot is usually full on Sunday mornings. We could park on the streets surrounding the Church, but "Good Luck" in finding one, given all the students parking on the streets.

The Deacons have been discussing this parking shortage for the past year. It is a concern, not just because lack of parking is a hassle, but because we have actually seen visitors decide not to visit College Park and drive off due to lack of parking.

Yes, parking is a problem, but it is a good problem because it says more people are worshipping at College Park. And that is why the Deacons have been developing a parking solution. This solution is made easier by the foresight of faithful Church members years ago, who recognized the possibility of such a problem and purchased four houses that abut the Church building. For a number of years, we have been renting out all four houses or using them for missions-related resettlement houses. This has let us protect for future parking (or other) needs while realizing income for the Church.

The time has arrived to use one of those houses (the two-story wood house adjoining the parking lot) as space for additional parking. At the request of the Diaconate, Denver Lennon is developing a plan to do so. All of the plan details are not complete, but the basic plan is to:

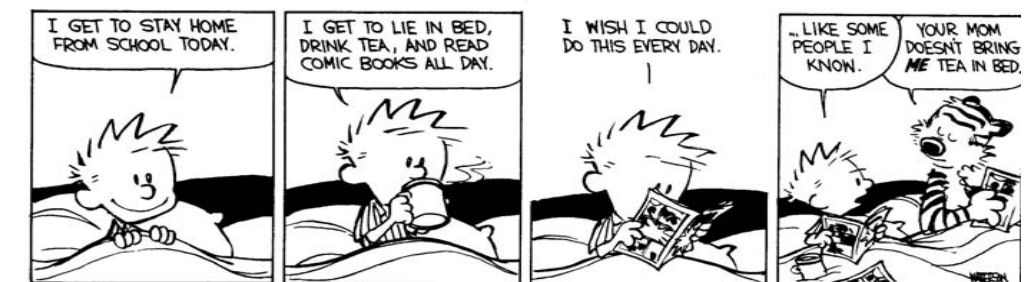
- 1) remove the two-story house (hopefully by selling it for \$1 to someone, who would move it; (this would save us thousands of dollars to tear it down);
- 2) grade that then vacant lot to the level of our parking lot;
- 3) pave it.

Denver is also getting bids to repave the entire parking lot, since that need is very apparent.

The economics for adding the parking are interesting. When we rented out the two-story house, we netted income of about \$3,000 per year for use by the Church. We have been unable to use this one house for over a year due to its deteriorated condition. Tammy Shaney, who maintains the four houses, says it would cost thousands of dollars to repair it enough to be used. Denver estimates we could add 20 to 25 parking spaces by removing the house and paving that lot. If we were to rent out 20 additional parking spaces to UNCG staff or students (rentals do not permit parking on Sundays), we would realize income of \$5,000 per year.

At the January Business Meeting, the Church authorized the Deacons to spend up to \$1,000 to remove the two-story house as a prelude to providing more parking. As soon as the plan is completed, it will be brought to the Church for further action.

Frank Kendall



## *Habitat for Humanity*

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My home, job, and church are all within a ten minute drive from each other. Within this same ten minute diameter, my family shops, eats out, explores the parks, and visits the museums.

There are other parts of Greensboro I rarely go to. Parts that I'm not comfortable in. If my truck is low on gas and I am in these areas, I will keep driving until I find a "safer" gas station. I keep driving until I find stores and houses that look more like "My" part of town. I know I am trying to be smart and safe, but as a follower of Christ, I also feel a little guilty and ashamed.

How can I serve my neighbors if I am afraid to get out of my truck in their neighborhood? What good could I do anyway once I got there?

Next Saturday there is an opportunity to do something for your community, and like so many other opportunities to serve your fellow man, you are going to have to get your hands dirty.

I am not a handy guy around the house. Simple repair jobs around my house usually involve seven trips to Lowe's, a moderate amount of First Aid, and more swearing than a Samuel L. Jackson movie. How could God use someone like me to build a house? Yet whenever I spend a day working with Habitat for Humanity, I feel like I am exactly where God wants me to be.

When you arrive in the morning you may find a frame of a house, but when you leave in the afternoon there will be walls. When you arrive in the morning, you may find a wooden roof, but when you leave in the afternoon, it will be covered in shingles. When you arrive in the morning, you may find a lot filled with trash and weeds, but when you leave in the afternoon, there will be a landscaped yard, ready for a family to enjoy.

When I return to the Habitat neighborhood, I see houses I worked on in the past and am amazed to think, "I shingled that roof, or planted that tree, or hung that vinyl siding." By giving up a few Saturdays over the last few years, I helped create a neighborhood which will be here for generations.

Spending a day working for Habitat will surprise you. Where else can Muslims, Christians, and Jews from around the world all work together peacefully on something so positive? Even more startling is that conservative, moderate, and liberal Christians can spend a whole day together getting to know each other and enjoying the process!

Not only do you get to meet people from other walks of life, but you get to spend time with fellow College Parkers in a completely different setting. I believe that one of the best ways to make friends out of acquaintances is to spend time with them when you are both out of your element. One of the first times I got to hang out with my good friend Seth Colaner was at a Habitat workday. I remember an insightful conversation with Anna Marie Rogers at a work site about why parents have children in the first place. I've spent an afternoon in blazing heat shingling a roof with Lynn Sasser. I've hung vinyl siding with Janice Kirkman. During one afternoon break, someone brought a couple of watermelons to share onto the roof where Kevin Shortt and I were working. It was a surreal feeling to be sitting on a roof eating watermelon while right next door Louis Farrakhan was holding a meeting. And once you see it, you can never forget the gleam in Mike Cumbus' eye whenever someone gives him a power tool.

My understanding of God's will for my life has evolved in the last few years. I used to think of "God's plan" in terms of a larger picture. I now understand that God gives us small opportunities everyday to make the world better, and with

God's sense of humor, you may think that you are completely unqualified to take on tasks you are presented with. Another revelation I've had about serving God is that it is almost always surprising.

If you have ever worked at Habitat before, please come next Saturday and help out. If you have never spend a day working for Habitat, I urge you to come.

A commonly used, and completely unacceptable excuse for not coming is: "I don't know anything about construction or I'm not strong enough to help." I assure you, there is something for you to do. If you don't want to do construction, you can help make lunches. I have to add, College Park is known among Habitat volunteers for the lunches we provide.

I urge you to take a risk, go somewhere you don't normally go, meet people you wouldn't normally meet, do work you wouldn't normally do and be surprised at what you learn about yourself and your neighbors.

Sign up to work for Habitat for Humanity on Saturday, March 10. There is a sign-up sheet across from the nursery.

Matt Cravey

## *Do You Just Belong*

Are you an active member,  
The kind that would be missed,  
Or are you just contented  
That your name is on the list?

Do you attend the meetings,  
And mingle with the flock,  
Or do you stay at home  
And criticize and knock?

Do you ever go and visit  
A member that is sick?  
Or leave the work to just a few  
And talk about the clique?

Come to the meetings often  
And help with hand and heart.  
Don't be just a member,  
But take an ACTIVE part.

Think this over, member,  
You know right from wrong.  
Are you an active member,  
Or do you just belong.

Author Unknown

## *Thank You*

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Dear Partners in Mission:

By choosing to make a donation to Heifer International this holiday season, you will be changing the lives of people like Teddy Nayiga of Uganda.

You see, this 61-year-old single mother of seven has seen four of her children die of AIDS. Her story is not unique in Africa, where HIV/AIDS has left millions of children without parents to care for them.

Before she became a Heifer International project partner, Nayiga struggled to feed her children and school was far too expensive to afford. But now, the family enjoys a nutritious diet, and the extra milk can be sold to pay for tuition and school uniforms.

Because of caring friends like you, families around the world now have the chance for a bright, healthy future. Thank you for your gift to Heifer International.

Jo Luck  
President & CEO

Dear Friends at College Park,

Thank you for your recent contribution to our ministry. From the stories you've heard us tell, you know the funds will be put to use training Roma leaders, supply Roma congregations, feeding Roma families, clothing Roma children, and the list goes on.

Thank you for partnering with us and being a supportive force behind our ability to serve here. We appreciate your prayers.

Ralph & Tammy Stocks

PS: Can you believe February will marks our 12th year?

Dear College Park Church,

Thank you so much for your generous donation to Heifer International this holiday season. Your gift has given hope for a future free of hunger and poverty to families all over the world.

If our regional office can ever be of assistance, please don't hesitate to let us know.

Yours for a Better World,  
Kate Merrill

## *Gas Grills*

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Is your gas grill, oh, so last season, and now you're looking to upgrade to a bigger, hotter, fancier grilling machine? Fine by us 'cause we'll be happy to take your serviceable cast off! College Park is looking to acquire at least two gas grills so please consider donating your used gas grill to the church. Call Lisa Shortt at 294-2867 if you have a grill you're willing to donate.

## Prayer

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I have been reading about prayer a lot lately. Madeleine L'Engle describes it as, "Taking someone in your heart and putting them in God's hands." Quakers often say, "I am holding you in the light" (and many of you have said that to me as well). And Vinita Hampton Wright asks the question that we all wonder from time to time when she says: "Will this [prayer request] make any difference? Will the cancer disappear now that we've mentioned it?"

I have been reading about prayer because it always seems so mysterious to me. Does it ever really do any good to pray for other people? Does it do more than soften and change my own heart? Do other people really benefit? What does it mean when we say that God is listening? I have thought about this a lot in the past few months, because so many people, so many of *you* said that you were praying for me and my family through my father's illness and death last year. I can't explain it, but I know that I felt carried along by those prayers. The outcome didn't change, but the love and support of people, those prayers, somehow made it easier to deal with everything that happened.

With that in mind, I wanted to join the prayer team as a way to give back. In his new book on prayer, Philip Yancey said that prayer is "joining in with God's work in the world." My own experiences with prayer over the past year made me believe that to be true – that talking to God is one of the ways that we learn how to align our priorities with his. When I pray for my brother, I sense more of God's love for him instead of being filled with my own frustrations about our relationship. When I pray for missionaries I know, I am surprised to find my heart more generous and my mind paying more attention to the needs in their particular part of the world. When I pray for world leaders, I want to get off the couch and be active in the political process. In that way, I see that it does change and benefit me to pray, and through that, God uses me in small ways to change the world by making me more generous and compassionate.

Philip Yancey also talked about how giving our best work to God is a form of prayer, of communicating with him. An artist's painting can be a prayer, or an encouraging note in the mail, or serving at GUM, or teaching Sunday School. Using our gifts in God's work is another way to communicate with him.

With that in mind, I'd like to ask you to consider joining the prayer team as we try to care for this congregation and learn how to align our priorities with God's this year. We could use your help as we strive to make prayer more a part of our daily lives. We want to make sure that anyone who needs prayer after Sunday worship has a place to go. We want to rethink the ways we compartmentalize prayer. And we want your ideas. If you are interested in joining us, please contact me or Lexi Eagles or other members of the prayer team.

I am excited about thinking about prayer this year, because, to use more of Madeleine L'Engle's words, it isn't meant to be magic, but is, instead, an act of love.

Kari Baumann

## Winter Wednesdays

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The list of options for winter Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. are:

- ◆ Book discussions: *Letter To A Christian Nation* by Sam Harris and *Simple Christianity* by N. T. Wright, both of these are led by Cheryl Prince
- ◆ *God of the Universe: Astronomy & The Stars* led by Chris Griggs
- ◆ Yoga in the Fellowship Hall

These sessions will run through March 28<sup>th</sup>.

## Ettie Usey Scholarship

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Michael and his sister Elaine have created a scholarship in her memory. The scholarship is for education students who are in financial need at the Tift School of Education at Mercer University. If you wish to contribute, send checks to:

Office of University Advancement  
Mercer University  
Attn: Jennifer Barfield  
1400 Coleman Avenue  
Macon, Ga. 31207

Make check payable to Mercer University and, in the for line, write "Usey Scholarship".

## Eco-Stewardship

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Global warming. Air and water pollution. Disappearing open spaces. What is the Christian's response to environmental issues? What is the Christian's *responsibility*? If you would like to investigate these ideas, share knowledge, and take action, consider joining the new Eco-Stewardship Team at College Park. The format of the conversation will be up to the group, but the basic idea is to learn, think, discuss, and brainstorm our way to an approach for earth ministry in this congregation and beyond. If you're interested, contact Peter Ohlms: pohlms@gmail.com or 379-7232.

## Prayer of Praise & Thanksgiving

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God of grace, mercy and wonder, You formed us with the sound of your voice and the desire of your will. You crafted us to live and love in this world you created, and it is a wonder God. The beauty and grandness of it all. From music that moves us to mountains that cry out in praise. From the incredible show in the sky to the sweet tender touch of a child. For your life lived and lessons taught to your life selflessly given. God, you take our breath away.

You wanted us God and created us to be your family. You the God of absolute love, weren't really even able to fully express love until you had someone to love.

How amazing that you chose us God and that we are the recipients of the complete amazing love that is You. We are your family and you are ours.

Kristy Myers

## Student Fundraising, Friday, March 16th

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The Walker Street Fiddlers invite everyone to celebrate your Irish! This student fundraising event features great Irish music by The Walker Street Fiddlers and special guests The Jolly Seven. The evening begins at 7 PM with spotlighted performances and an open bar of home made desserts. Featured concert begins at 8 PM. There will also be door prizes, a silent auction, raffle and dessert walk. Tickets are: Ages 10 through adult—\$10; kindergarten through age 9—\$5; preschool and under are free. Family limit is \$30. Call 852-5332 for advance tickets sales.

## Hey! What's for dinner?!?!?!? CPC Wednesday Night Fellowship

March 7, 2007  
Pork Stir Fry  
Basmati Rice  
Chocolate Macaroons

March 14, 2007  
Greek Ziti  
Kids: Mac & Cheese  
Mixed Green Salad  
Lemon Poppyseed Cake

March 21, 2007  
Grilled Tandoori Chicken Over Salad  
Kids: Chicken Tenders  
Couscous  
Bread Pudding

March 28, 2007  
Hawaiian Chicken  
Succotash  
Spiced Carrots  
Turtle Cake

Vegetarian Alert: To the extent possible, all meals will have a vegetarian counterpart or sufficient vegetarian sides to make a perfectly delicious meal.

Kid Alert: In addition to any meal made especially for you, peanut butter & jelly is ALWAYS an option!

## Prayer for the World

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God has given us one call on this earth and that is to love God and love one another. Why do we often find that such a difficult task? Or do we just let it slip by and lose it? Shouldn't we stand on a mountaintop and cry out to the world: God loves me and God loves you?

We can't take care of the whole world by ourselves. That is why we have each other. God's family extends outside of our immediate families and out of the comfortable worlds in which we live. Aren't we to consider our fellow humankind as brothers and sisters, no matter how they look, no matter what language is spoken from their mouths, no matter what God they claim to profess? We are all in this together.

This is a beautiful world in which we live, even in all its struggles. God, help us to live gently in this world in which you have entrusted us; and to live and love with all of our might.

Help us to believe these words and to pray humbly the prayer Jesus taught us saying . . .

Kristy Myers

*2007 Male Bake-Off Awards*

Boys' 1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Jesus Walks on Water	Xavier & Zachary Harrison
Boys' 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Colt's Express	Drew Westervelt
Boy's 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Collin's Colts	Collin Boatman
Boy's 4 <sup>th</sup> Place	Go Colt's Cake	Mark Thomas

Young Men's 1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Caramel Apple Cheesecake	Kevin Lowrance
Young Men's 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Chocolate Sacrifice	Naethan Burch
Young Men's 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Strawberry Cake	John Pendergraft
Young Men's 4 <sup>th</sup> Place	Molten Middle	Nathan Usey

Men's 1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Millionaire's Pie	Steve Styers
Men's 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Cherry Cheesecake	David Soyars
Men's 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Pumpkin	Mike Ferris
Men's 4 <sup>th</sup> Place	Eggnog Custard	Bill Hurt

Weirdness Cup	I Can't Bear This Colt	Steven Jones
Fruit Frenzy	Adam & Steve's Apple Pie	Brent Dawson
Best Pie	Ebony & Ivory Bi Pie	Tom Hardin
Poison Control Alert	Cake to Chow Chow	Zachariah Usey

Super Bowl Theme	"Souper" Bowl Sunday	Joshua Davis
Best Looking	Golden Anniversary Cake	Kevin Shortt
Muy Macho	Whore of Babylon	Mike Baumann
Best 1 <sup>st</sup> Time Entry	Job's Cheesy Chocolate Revenge	Peter Ohlms

Best Returning Entry	One Bite Will Do U	Mike Cumbus
Best Chocolate	No Frills Fudge	Seth Colaner
Most Biblical	Lake of Fire	Wes Isley
Most Creative	Crown of Many Crowns	Michael Nance & Rydell Harrison

Best Tasting	Devilish Torte	Adam Team
Best Non-Chocolate	Just a Little Sum Tum	Tim Lowrance
Burnt Offering	Sin of Men Muffins	Michael Usey
Judges Award	Heathen Cake	Hayden Ireland

1 <sup>st</sup> Place People's Choice	Chocolate Yummy	Jeff Sasser
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place People's Choice	Colt Express	Drew Westervelt
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place People's Choice	Tiramasu	Jeremy Fox
4 <sup>th</sup> Place People's Choice	Orange Anise Cake	Nathan Aaron

Best Of Show	Pecan Caramel Cream	Joel Stockard
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It's easier to be wise for others than for ourselves.  
 Francois, Duc De La Rochefoucauld

Life is either a daring adventure or nothing.  
 Helen Keller

Deeds are fruits, words are but leaves.  
 English Proverb

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*Looking Ahead*

- March
- 10 Jennifer Ingold's Wedding  
Habitat Cook & Work Day
- 11 Dorisanne Cooper Preaches
- 18 4th Sunday Lent -  
The Fifth Word—Thirsty  
Cook for GUM
- 25 5th Sunday Lent -  
The Sixth Word—Finished  
Children's Lunch & Egg Hunt
- 30 Forever 39 Club—12 Noon
- April
- 1 Passion Sunday -  
The Seventh Word—Commend
- 5 Maundy Thursday Service
- 8 Easter  
(Bring flowers for flowering  
cross.)
- 10 Tuesday Night Bible Study on  
Galatians Begins, 6—7 PM
- 22 Church Wide Picnic—  
Country Park, Shelter #1,  
4:30—7:30 PM