

# NINEVEH NEWS

March/April, 2008

**Praises:**

We praise the Lord for the following lives impacted by this ministry:

- Ninety-four Professions of Salvation
- Sixty-seven Rededications
- Numerous Responses for:
  - Better Witnesses
  - Apathy and Indifference
  - Doing more for Christ

*We praise God for our military and their families who selflessly defend the freedoms we cherish. Thank you for your service.*

**Brad Borders to Speak at 2008 Fall Outreach**

Wake Up America, Inc. ministry's 2008 fall outreach will be held at Fellowship Baptist Church in Willow Springs, North Carolina. It is scheduled for two nights, Friday, October 3rd and Saturday, Oct 4th, 6:30PM to 8:00PM each evening. Brad Borders will be this year's featured speaker.

For those who may not be familiar with Brad, he is from Statesville NC. Brad is married to wife, Tammy, and has two boys, Tori (12) and Jack (8). Brad is currently serving in the US Army as a Chaplain.

Brad loves anything outdoors. He is a graduate of Appalachian State University (1990) and Southern Evangelical Seminary (2002) in Charlotte NC.

Brad has been teaching and preaching for 11 years both itinerantly and as a youth pas-

tor. Brad is passionate about defending the faith and bringing the Gospel to the world. Brad's preaching has a wide appeal whether a group of



middle-schoolers, bikers, soldiers, hunters, or a church congregation. As one Senior Pastor commented after Brad spoke at his church, "Brad is a great storyteller, which makes him unique among today's Bible teachers, but very much like the teachers in the Bible. His deep understanding of doctrine and firm grasp on reality give him an uncanny ability to apply the Scripture to common life situations. Engaging, provocative, and often leaving hearers with their ears and mouths open.

Brad is a High-Definition teacher for today's culture." The Bible is Brad's source of strength and authority and the saving messages of the cross and the resurrection are his joy.

We praise God for Fellowship Baptist Church hosting this year's event and ask that you join us in praying that God will work through this event to reach the lost and touch lives for Christ. But don't stop there; respond to God's command in Luke 14:23, which says "And the Lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that My house may be filled." Commit to the Lord that you will invite "unchurched" family, friends and coworkers who need to hear the Gospel declared with power and clarity, "... that the Lord's house may be filled."

**Inside this issue:**

National Day of Prayer (cont'd)	2
Death Meets His Match	2
Mornings After	3
Our Vets	3
Lightside	4
Youth Forum	5
Happy Trails	5
"god or God?"	5
March/April Quote	6
March/April Scripture	6
Director's Corner	6

**National Day of Prayer** by Mike Macon

American presidents dating back to George Washington have rallied our nation to prayer, but it wasn't until 1952 that President Harry S. Truman signed a joint resolution of Congress establishing an Official Day of Prayer for the purpose that "we may beseech God to grant us wisdom to know the course which we should follow, and strength and patience to pursue that course stead-

fastly." Each succeeding president proclaimed a National Day Of Prayer (NDOP) of his choosing until 1988 when President Reagan amended the law to set aside a fixed date for national observance, the first Thursday in May of each year.

With issues such as the war on terrorism, upcoming elections, a divided country, and the numerous social and economic challenges, a National Day of Prayer is more compel-

ling than ever.

On Thursday, May 1, millions of Americans across our country will observe the 57<sup>th</sup> NDOP. This year's theme is "Prayer! – America's Strength and Shield," with Ps. 28:7 as the key verse, "The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in Him, and I am helped..."

Wake Up America, Inc. is  
(Cont'd on Page 2)

### National Day of Prayer (cont'd)

co-sponsoring the Fuquay-Varina NDOP observance in partnership with Regina Kenton, our local area coordinator. Fuquay-Varina's observance will be held Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup> from 12 noon to 1PM at the Fuquay-Varina Town Hall (401 Old Honeycutt Rd.). The keynote speaker will be Rev. Bill Simpson who currently works with Staub Leadership Solutions as a leadership/organizational coach and consultant. Community ser-

vices will emphasize areas of prayer for the government, educational system, families/youth, police/military/fire, and the church. The event will include a variety of community participants from different denominations and local government.

This event transcends denominational, racial and cultural differences. Whether you belong to a church or not, if you love our country and believe in an-

swered prayer, you are urged to attend.

To find an NDOP event near you go to "www.nationaldayofprayer.org" and click on the banner "State Events." You can also call the National Day of Prayer Task Force at (719) 531-3379.

Wherever you are located, please join the millions of other Americans who will be lifting up our nation and communities before God.

### Death Meets His Match (author unknown)

Father Time met pale King Death  
Sittin' by a tomb  
"Hello, old friend, I guess you're here  
To seal somebody's doom."

"You might say that," Death replied  
A smile slid up his face.  
"Inside lies in repose that Jesus man  
Who said He'd save the race."

"And you, Time, why you stoppin' here?  
Don't you have things to do?"  
Father Time said, "I come each day to  
draw the veil  
and let the morning through."

Time said, "Why you watchin' jus' one  
grave,  
With all your vast domain?  
Looks like you'd be ramblin' round  
An' smitin' folk with pain."

"Well," said Death, "this one's something  
special;  
He challenged me, they say,  
Said He'd rest here just three days  
then stir and walk away."

"Now I'm the Conqueror, you know,  
They don't talk up to me  
When I steps in to cut 'em down,  
It's for eternity."

"I sure can testify to that,"  
Responded Father Time,  
"I ain't seen one shake off the dust  
Since you been in your prime."

"Well," said Father Time, "I got other  
things to do,  
I must be on my way,  
I'll see you when I come back by  
To make another day."

So whiskered Time when up the hill  
To bid the sun to rise  
And left Death standin' by the tomb  
Lookin' strong an' wise.

Next day, Time ambled by again,  
"An' how are things?" he queried.  
"Kinda quiet," Death replied  
"I'm startin' to be wearied."

"I wont be here when you come by  
About this time tomorrow,  
I'm anxious to be on my way  
An' spread some grief and sorrow."

Now Father Time was quite surprised  
When he came back to see  
Death a-quiverin' on the ground  
In frightful agony!

His eyes were set, his throat was  
marked  
His clothes in disarray.  
It wasn't difficult to see  
That Death had had his day.

"What happened, Death?" asked Father  
Time,  
"What makes you look so bad?"  
"I've never seen you shake this way  
Or seem so scared and sad."

Death pulled himself up on a rock  
A-lookin' sick and humble.  
He hung his head an' wrung his hands  
And Time could hear him mumble.

King Death said, "I was sittin' here be-  
fore the dawn,  
About to take a stroll,  
When all at once this whole wise world  
Began to reel and roll."

"That rollin' stone jumped off the door  
An' skipped on down the hill.  
Then everything grew dark and quiet,  
Seemed like the earth stood still.

"I saw Him standin' in the door  
He didn't move or speak  
Just looked at me an' all at once  
I felt so tired and weak.

"He come and got a hold on me  
An' threw me to the ground  
Put His foot here on my neck  
And then He took my crown.

"Two angels came to talk with Him,  
They glistened like the sun."  
He said, "The plan's all finished now,  
Redemption's work is done.

"As they passed the garden gate  
I heard Him say, just then,  
He's settin' free the captives,  
And giving gifts to men."

Time and Death met once again  
Off yonder by the gate,  
"It's good to see you," said Old Time,  
I've wondered 'bout your fate."

Old Death replied, "I'm just a lowly  
servant now,  
There's little time to roam.  
I just push open this old gate,  
And help the saints get Home!"

*"He will swallow up death in vic-  
tory;...And it shall be said in that  
day, Lo, this is our God; we have  
waited for Him, and He will save  
us...we will be glad and rejoice in  
His salvation."* (Isaiah 25:8, 9)

## Mornings After by Mike Macon

It was early morning. I just finished taking my shower. My cell phone rang. I thought to myself, "Who would be calling so early?" Experience whispered, "Something's wrong; someone's in trouble." My cell phone's caller ID displayed "Restricted Number," which didn't serve to lessen my sense of foreboding. I tentatively reached out, picked up my phone, and answered it.

The person on the other end was weeping and talking so fast that I could barely understand what they were saying. Then, I recognized that it was one of my friends. I asked him to slow down and tell me what's wrong. I'll never forget what he said next. But first, let me describe the events of the previous day that led to this moment.

I received a call from my friend's wife. She pleaded with me to pray with her for her brother's salvation. We had been praying for her brother to receive Christ for some time. My friend's wife said she sensed that God was working in her brother's life like at no other time before. Her brother's marriage was going through some difficulty and he was intensely troubled. We prayed together over the phone, asking God to use what appeared to be a hopeless situation to reveal the only true hope anyone has—the hope that comes when we accept Christ as our Lord and Savior.

A few moments later, I received an-

other phone call, this time from my friend. I told him that his wife had just called concerning her brother. My friend explained that his brother-in-law was coming to dinner that evening. My friend specifically requested that God would grant him the wisdom and the words to help his brother-in-law clearly see his need to receive Christ. We prayerfully searched scriptures together for verses that God could use. Then my friend and I earnestly prayed for God to use him, God's Word and the Holy Spirit to reach his brother-in-law with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

What happened that evening at dinner? Not only did the brother-in-law accept Jesus as his Lord and Savior, but so did his ten-year-old son, who was present when God worked His miracle of salvation.

Now, early the following morning, after seeing God work in such a powerful way, my friend was in prayer giving God the glory for all that happened the evening before. As he prayed, he felt the Holy Spirit sweep over him. An unspeakable joy flooded his soul and he began to weep uncontrollably. Immediately following his prayer time, still weeping, he called me. He said he just had to tell someone "what great and wonderful things the Lord hath done."

As I write this, I'm confident that the joy my friend experienced was the joy

that comes when our faith and our reality become one. These are those precious moments when we experience a first-hand encounter with God. These moments usually follow prayer, an earnest expectation that God will act, and a willingness to be used as God leads.

There is a "morning after" for all who put their faith in Jesus. Mary experienced this "morning after" moment when her faith and her reality became one in the person of the risen Christ just outside the tomb that first Easter morn. We experience what Mary experienced each time we walk by faith to the tombs of others and expectantly watch the SON rise, calling those entombed in darkness into His glorious light.

"Mornings after" are encounters with our risen Savior and are always filled with an unspeakable, overwhelming joy.

My friend said that in the midst of that "morning after" prayer time, God impressed two simple words on him, "Step Up." Step up and follow where I will lead you! Step up and experience My very real presence. Step up and experience My blessings. "Step up", for "*The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and He delighteth in his way.*" (Psalm 37:23)

## Our Vets



I received this photograph just after Veterans Day. The elder vet pictured is a Pearl Harbor survivor. The other is a Marine Staff Sergeant who lost a leg, an arm and an eye defusing a bomb in Iraq.

As a veteran myself, words alone cannot express the emotions and deep sense of gratitude that this photograph awakens. Generations of service men and women have given so much for the freedoms we enjoy. Suffice it to say, "Thank you for your service and willingness to selflessly sacrifice so much."

### Honor The Vet

By Sunny Paula Barnhart, USMC  
Veterans are easy to recognize  
By their special swagger  
And their shattered eyes

By the way they stand so tall

When the flag is raised

And how they bow their head

When the Lord is praised

They may have clabbered voices

And brown mottled skin

A missing arm or leg or eye

But you can see youth within.

What horrors did they see

What hell did they endure

To keep my flag and liberty secure?

What would our nation be like

Without veterans such as these?

Let us remember each of them

When we bow our knees

And may we give all reverence due

To the brave men and women

Who defend the Red, White and Blue.

## Lightside

***The names of 16 books of the Bible are in the following paragraph. How many you can find?***

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu; kept people looking so hard for facts... and for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the names of the books were not capitalized. But the truth finally struck home to numbers of our readers. To others it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help them. I will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so that she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax now, for there really are sixteen names of books of the Bible in this paragraph.

A little boy, not accustomed to seeing a priest in his "work uniform" went up to the priest and asked, "Why do you dress so funny?" The priest replied, "This is the uniform that I wear when I work."

The child, still staring at him, asked, "Do you have a boo boo?" The priest was somewhat puzzled, but quickly figured out that the child was looking at his white and black Roman collar. The priest pulled out the white plastic insert and showed it to the child telling him that it was also part of his uniform.

On the back side of the collar there was some writing: "Wash with warm soapy water." The priest showed this to the little boy and then asked him "Do you know what these words say?"

The little boy, obviously much too young to read, stated, "I sure do." The priest a little taken aback then replies, "OK then, tell me what they say."

The little boy responded, "Kills fleas and ticks for up to six months."

A couple of redneck hunters are out in the woods when one of them falls to the ground. He doesn't seem to be breathing, his eyes are rolled back in his head. The other redneck starts to panic, then whips out his cell phone and calls 911.

He frantically blurts out to the operator, "O my gawd! Help! My friend just died. He's Dead! What can I do?"

The operator, trying to calm him says, "Take it easy. I can help. Just listen to me and follow my instructions. First, lets make sure he's dead."

There's a short pause, and then the operator hears a loud gun shot!!!

The redneck comes back on the line and says, "OK, now what?"

One Sunday morning, everyone in the tiny town of Johnstown got up early and went to church. Before the services started, the townspeople were sitting in their pews and talking about their lives, their families, etc. Suddenly, Satan appeared at the front of the church. Everyone started screaming and running for the front entrance, trampling each other in a frantic effort to get away. Soon everyone was evacuated from the Church, except for one elderly gentleman who sat calmly in his pew, seemingly oblivious to the fact that God's ultimate enemy was in his presence.

Now this confused Satan a bit, so he walked up to the man and said, "Don't you know who I am?"

The man replied, "Yep, sure do."

Satan asked, "Aren't you afraid of me?"

"Nope, sure ain't," said the man.

Satan was a little perturbed at this and queried, "Why aren't you afraid of me?"

The man calmly replied, "Been married to your sister for 48 years..."

A pastor was crossing a road one day when a frog called out to him and said, "If you kiss me, I'll turn into a beautiful princess." He bent over, picked up the frog and put it in his pocket.

The frog spoke up again and said, "If you kiss me and turn me back into a beautiful princess, I will stay with you for one week"

The pastor took the frog out of his pocket, smiled at it and returned it to the pocket.

The frog then cried out, "If you kiss me and turn me back into a princess, I'll stay with you and give you anything you want."

Again the pastor took the frog out, smiled at it and put it back into his pocket.

Finally, the frog asked, "What is the matter? I've told you I'm a beautiful princess who will stay with you for a week and give you anything you want. Why won't you kiss me?"

The pastor said, "Look I'm a pastor. I already have a wife, but a talking frog, now that's cool!"

An elderly woman walked into the local country church. The friendly usher greeted her at the door and helped her up the flight of steps. "Where would you like to sit?" he asked politely.

"The front row please." she answered.

"You really don't want to do that", the usher said. "The pastor is really boring."

"Do you happen to know who I am?" the woman inquired.

"No." he said.

"I'm the pastor's mother," she replied indignantly.

"Do you know who I am?" he asked.

"No." she said.

"Good", he answered.

A man lay sprawled across three entire seats in the posh theater. When the usher came by and noticed this, he whispered to the man, "Sorry, sir, but you're only allowed one seat."

The man groaned but didn't budge. The usher became impatient.

"Sir, if you don't get up from there I'm going to have to call the manager."

Again, the man just groaned, which infuriated the usher who turned and marched briskly back up the aisle in search of his manager. In a few moments, both the usher and the manager returned and stood over the man.

Together the two of them tried repeatedly to move him, but with no success. Finally, they summoned the police.

The cop surveyed the situation briefly then asked, "All right buddy, what's your name?"

"Sam," the man moaned.

"Where ya from, Sam?"

With pain in his voice, Sam replied, "The balcony."

## Youth Forum

### Kinder and Wiser by Mike Macon

"Youth is wasted on the young" A quote from George Bernard Shaw. I remember my great grandmother speaking these words in her crackling, well-aged voice. She would "often" use this phrase as a stern warning to my brother or me just before a cane came out of nowhere at ridiculously fast speeds for a 90 plus year-old lady.

I was eight or nine and my brother

three years younger. As I read a Helen Steiner Rice devotion entitled, "Kinder and Wiser," I was reminded of those great grandmother moments as a child:

#### Kinder and Wiser

May we try to do better and accomplish much more and be kinder and wiser than in the day gone before.

*"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy one is understanding."* Proverbs 9:10

Today establish a deeper understanding of situations confronting you. Temper all responses with wisdom and kindness.

*O, how I wish that great grandma could have read this devotion!*

### Happy Trails by Valerie Macon

This weekend my husband and I went for a bike ride. We entered the trailhead and had not even traveled a thousand feet when we came to a fork in the trail and a choice to turn left or go straight. We choose the straight path. The scenery was beautiful. The trees made a tunnel above us, and the sun peaking through the leaves cast mosaic patterns on the path. But not too far along, to our dismay, the trail we chose began to climb steadily uphill.

It was a tough peddle under the best of circumstances, but almost immediately, the gear shift on my husband's bike malfunctioned and would only operate in one gear. This made climbing the steep hills a tortuous exercise for him. He would

have to walk his bike up the hill as I peddled steadily ahead of him on my functioning bike. When the trail leveled out, he would jump on his bike and try to catch up.

This is just how life is. It is a lot of uphill, a lot of breaking down and having to get off and walk the trail instead of riding along smoothly. If you live on this earth, things are going to go wrong; things are not always going to be flat and smooth. At times, you are going to have to struggle up hills.

But, along the way, the beautiful presence of the Lord casts sunshine on our path that keeps us from sitting down alongside the trail in despair. It may

come in the form of a surprising answer to prayer, a word of encouragement from a friend, or even a hug when we're most discouraged. One way or another, He will make known His presence with you.

When you are about to give up from the hard peddle up the steep trail, know that the Lord is helping you up that hill. Know also that the arduous climb will certainly reach a peak and start to smooth out.

The Lord will lead you to a placid lake, one of calm and serenity and a place of rest from the hard trail.

Psalm 46: 1, *"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."*

### "god or God?" by Mike Macon

If man could create a god for himself, what would that god be like? History teaches that such a god would be designed to satisfy man's most fundamental human desires. This god would bring wealth, health, prestige, power, and even sexual gratification. Some today would argue that the God of our Bible is humanly conceived. How likely is this?

The cross reveals God in terms of His meekness, His lowliness and His suffering; humanly speaking, this seems absurd. Jesus is portrayed as a lamb, in the most timid, most gentle, and most vulnerable of all living creatures. The God of our Bible is defined by His mercy, His grace, and, most of all, His unconditional love that declares, *"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved"*. (Romans 10:13)

"The God of our Bible could rightly call Himself, Jehovah, Yahweh, Most

Holy and High, King of Kings, Lord of Lords, and the Alpha and Omega. All of these and a dozen others would have been appropriate. But, Jesus didn't use them. Instead, He called Himself the Son of Man." [Max Lucado, *"And The Angels Were Silent,"* 1992]

I am so thankful that God created me and not the other way around. As my Creator, my Lord, my Redeemer, and my Savior, Jesus is Who I want my God to be. For of Him, and through Him and to Him I am declared worthy, I am declared sinless, I am made a new creature, I am made a child of the living God, I am more than a conqueror, I have eternal life, I have hope, and I have unspeakable joy and a peace that passes all understanding.

Who do you worship? A false-god of your own creation or the one and only true God revealed in the Bible. The Bi-

ble is God's personal letter to you. In it God says, *"But these [things] are written, that ye [your name] might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through His name."* If you haven't done so before, won't you go to God in prayer, confessing your desire to receive Jesus as *your* Lord and Savior? Jesus is waiting for you to do just that, for His Word also declares, *"Behold, I [Jesus] stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear My voice and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me."* (Rev. 3:20)

If you prayed to receive Jesus as your Lord and Savior, please write us and let us know of your decision. We have free materials we would like to give you as you begin your new life in Christ. To God be all glory for ever. Amen.

# WAKE UP AMERICA,

P. O. Box 1187  
Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526

Phone: 1-877-SEEK HIM (877-733-5446)

Fax: 919-552-1611

Email: [htart@wakeupamericainc.org](mailto:htart@wakeupamericainc.org) or  
[mmacon@wakeupamericainc.org](mailto:mmacon@wakeupamericainc.org)



*"Reclaiming America Through Jesus Christ"*

## **March/April Quote:**

*"The bible is worth all other books which have ever been printed"* Patrick Henry-Revolutionary Leader (1736-1799)

## **March/April Scripture:**

*"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."* (John 3:16)

## **Director's Corner** by Mike Macon, Executive Director

Who, what, where, when and how are the basic elements of a story. Looking at the events of Easter through these elements we discover: "Who" is Jesus! "What" is His crucifixion and resurrection. "Where" are Calvary's cross and an empty tomb. "When" is over two thousand years ago. And "How" is through God's power and Christ's obedience. But, the most important element is missing—WHY? Why did Jesus have to die?

Jesus, speaking to a man named Nicodemus, revealed God's "Why" in perhaps the most cherished words of our faith, "*For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*" (John 3:16) The "Why" is to demonstrate God's limitless love towards all mankind and to save those who are condemned to death that they may experience God's forgiveness and everlasting life.

Why were the words of John 3:16 spoken to Nicodemus? Perhaps, Nicodemus is a symbol of all that would confuse and reject Christ's Gospel message.

Nicodemus was a Pharisee, a ruler, a member of the Sanhedrin, a wealthy man and a great teacher. You see, earthly

speaking, Nicodemus had it all. Yet, he was destined to hell. Nicodemus stands as our shining example of what we should not entrust our eternal destiny to.

One writer illustrates worldly wisdom this way: "I want you to imagine stumbling onto an old, run-down farmyard. It is windswept and nothing more than hard-baked ground. There is a well, and over the top of the well, is a wooden platform and an old, rusty pump.

You are dying of thirst. So you go over, step up onto the platform, and begin to pump the handle. It squeaks and complains with every push, but nothing happens.

What do you do? Well, I'll tell you what mankind has done. It has scraped all the rust off and painted the handle. No, better yet, it has replaced the old handle with a brass handle, shining in the sun with class and dignity. People from all around have come to look at the pump. Songs have been composed about it; an artist has come and painted its portrait. It looks wonderful and many people have worked to make it attractive.

However, nothing can be done to that pump that will ever change the fact that it

will never bring one drop of water to quench your thirst. Why? Because it is sitting on top of an empty well!"

Trusting in religion, wealth, power, an education, or social standing are spiritually empty wells. But Jesus tells us what we should put our trust in. He said, "*For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world should be saved through Him.*" (John 3:17) Jesus wasn't sent into the world to judge, why? Because the world, that's you and I, have already been judged—we are already condemned by our sin. If we do nothing we are destined to an everlasting existence in hell.

Praise God, "*But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*" (Romans 5:8) "*God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son!*" God's love is available to all—from the most religious to the atheist; from the richest to the poorest; from the powerful to the meek; from the wise to the foolish. That's the Easter story we need to tell others. It is the same message the angels declared at His birth, "for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior..." Not a judge, not a teacher, not a wise man, not a rich man....A SAVIOR!